

American Life in Poetry

# Old Music

BY TED KOOSER  
U.S. POET LAUREATE

Patrick Phillips lives in Brooklyn, but in every city, town and village, and at every crossroads, there's an old guitar. Here's one from *Elegy for a Broken Machine*, a fine book from Alfred A. Knopf.

THE GUITAR

It came with those scratches  
from all their belt buckles,

palm-dark with their sweat  
like the stock of a gun:

an arc of pickmarks cut  
clear through the lacquer

where all the players before me  
once strummed—once

thumbed these same latches  
where it sleeps in green velvet.

Once sang, as I sing, the old songs.  
There's no end, there's no end

to this world, everlasting.  
We crumble to dust in its arms.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. *American Life in Poetry* is made possible by The Poetry Foundation ([www.poetryfoundation.org](http://www.poetryfoundation.org)), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2014 by Chelsea Woodard, "The Flower Press," from *Vellum*, (Able Muse Press, 2014). Poem reprinted by permission of Chelsea Woodard and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2015 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Contributing To A Healthier Yankton

Rita Houska of Rita's Purse-O-Nalities has another Biggest Losers challenge in the books.

Congrats to the winners of the second round of Rita's Biggest Losers.

A total of 52 participants worked hard to lose weight and win big money.

A total of 537 pounds were lost.

First Place, \$2,000 prize:

Todd, 24.5 percent of body weight lost.

Second place, \$1,000 prize: Teresa, 21.7 percent of body weight lost.

Third place, \$600 prize: Cheryl, 19 percent of body weight lost.

Fourth place, \$400 prize: Margaret, 15.2 percent of body weight lost.

The next challenge starts Sept. 12.

### SCHOLASTICS

ALEXA JANSSEN

Alexa Janssen of Omaha has earned a \$ 7,500 scholarship from the Scott Family Foundation.

Criteria for qualifying for the scholarship includes strong academic performance and leadership potential. The nominations for the scholarship came from her teachers and classmate at Nebraska Methodist College.

Alexa is in her senior year of nursing at Nebraska Methodist College, she is also on the 2015 Deans List/Honor Roll List at NMC.

Alexa is the daughter of Jennifer and Henry Janssen of Omaha and the granddaughter of Ruth and Ed

Highland of Yankton.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TWIN CITIES

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL, Minn. — Two area students have been named to the 2015 spring semester Dean's List at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average.

- Vermillion — James D. Butler, Sophomore, College of Science and Engineering
- Yankton — Olivia Christopher, Junior, College of Liberal Arts

### REUNIONS

3 J'S REUNION

The 3 J's (Jens, Jorgen and Johan Nelson) reunion will be Sunday July 26, at noon at JoDean's in Yankton. For questions, call 267-4200.

HOVORKA FAMILY REUNION

A Hovorka family reunion will be held Sunday, Aug. 16, at the Dakota Territorial Capitol Replica (South Douglas & Levee Street Riverside Park), Yankton.

A potluck picnic will start at 12:30 p.m. Please bring lawn chairs and lawn games. Plates, silverware, tea, lemonade and coffee will be furnished.

If you have any questions please call Cheryl Hovorka at 605-665-5635 or Joanie

Hovorka Auch at 605-760-0675. All Hovorka relatives are welcome!

YHS CLASS OF 1990 REUNION

The Yankton High School Class of 1990 will be hosting its 25-year reunion during Riverboat Days Aug. 21-23. The central meeting spot will be the Riverside Park picnic shelter immediately east of the Beer Tent Shelter at 7 p.m. Aug. 21-22. There will also be a Happy Hour & Dining at JoDeans, from 5-7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, no RSVP needed. For further information, visit the website: <http://yhs1990.flavors.me/> or the Facebook page "YHS Class of 1990 25 Year Class Reunion."

### Car Talk

# High-Mileage Car Stuck In Gear

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI  
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 2001 Subaru Forester with a manual transmission and about 210,000 miles on it. This morning I started the car, and as I loaded in some things, the car died and lurched a bit. I restarted it. It starts without a problem when the clutch is in and the shifter is in neutral. But as soon as I start to let off the clutch, the idling becomes slow, the car shakes in rhythm with the idling, and as soon as the clutch is all the way out, the car dies. The car ran fine yesterday. What are the potential culprits of this problem? What would related repairs be likely to cost? I plan to purchase a new vehicle soon, and I don't know if it's worth it to get this car repaired. Thanks.

— Rica

It sounds like your transmission is stuck in gear, Rica.

Think about it. If you had put the shift-



Ray MAGLIOZZI

maybe it's just the physical linkage that connects the shifter to the transmission. The shifter is connected to the transmission by a metal bar, and that bar is held in place by a bushing. And maybe that bushing failed for some reason. It might have something to do with those 210,000 miles you've driven.

If it's just the linkage, you're talking about a few hundred bucks. That would

be worth repairing. The more ominous possibility is that the problem is inside your transmission. That'll cost you \$25,000 to fix, which is the price of a new Forester. Have it checked out in case it's just the linkage, Rica, and good luck.

Wait! Don't buy another car without the mechanic's checklist that's included in Click and Clack's pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." It will help you get a good used car and avoid the clunkers. Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Car Talk/Used Car, 628 Virginia Drive., Orlando, FL 32803.

Got a question about cars? Write to Car Talk in care of this newspaper, or email by visiting the Car Talk website at [www.cartalk.com](http://www.cartalk.com).

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## Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza: What Does It Mean For City Dwellers?

BROOKINGS — The emergence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in the spring of 2015 was devastating for many large turkey and egg layer farms, but the virus also affected smaller "household" flocks, explained Russ Daly, Professor, SDSU Extension Veterinarian & State Public Health Veterinarian.

"City dwellers are increasingly turning to backyard poultry flocks for food as well as for the enjoyment of raising these animals. These producers, as well as other citizens who enjoy songbirds, gardening and other activities in their urban backyards, have found themselves needing to increase their knowledge of this devastating disease," Daly said.

While the spring 2015 outbreaks have subsided, Daly said there is considerable worry about a reemergence of the virus in the fall.

With this in mind, Daly answers questions on what urban citizens should know about highly pathogenic avian influenza.

What do we know — and what's left to learn — about these highly pathogenic avian influenza viruses?

They're different from human influenza viruses. The influenza viruses prevalent during "cold and flu" season almost exclusively affect people and not other animal species. Similarly, these highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) viruses exclusively affect birds. They have not caused illness in people — even those with close contact with a lot of affected birds.

They're especially severe for some — but not all — birds. The term "highly pathogenic" refers to strains of avian influenza that can cause severe and rapid illness and

death in affected poultry.

Of all the bird species studied, mallard ducks were found to carry the virus in large amounts while not becoming ill themselves. They (and likely other waterfowl as well) spread the virus through their droppings (influenza viruses in waterfowl tend to affect the digestive tract rather than the respiratory tract).

Turkeys appear to be more severely affected than chickens. For these particular HPAI viruses, the role of other birds has not been well-studied. Songbirds and other non-waterfowl species (including wild pheasants) are rarely carriers of avian influenza viruses in general, but have been implicated in the transmission of some strains of the virus. One backyard pheasant flock in Washington state was affected by the outbreak, but it has not been observed to affect wild pheasants.

How the virus was carried to large turkey and chicken barns is still being studied. Because of the timing of the outbreaks and the ability for waterfowl to carry and spread large amounts of the virus, it's generally accepted that those birds carried the virus to these facilities during their migration in the spring — or possibly last fall (there is evidence that the virus could survive up to months in the right weather conditions).

Farms situated closer to water ponds and cornfields, where migratory birds spend time, tended to be more likely to succumb to an outbreak, especially after windy weather that could have blown contaminated material into barns.

Is there the potential for avian influenza virus to affect poultry in towns and cities?

Because of the presumed

role that waterfowl play in HPAI transmission, anywhere wild ducks and geese congregate could be a potential source for the virus, shed in the birds' droppings. This could include small lakes and ponds in urban parks, retention ponds, or housing developments adjacent to wetlands.

Citizens should keep in mind that these viruses have no effect on people, other animals or the safety of food. A backyard playing host to children, pets, songbirds and gardens will be unaffected — even if the virus somehow gets dropped or blown into that space.

A backyard playing host to chickens, ducks or other domestic poultry is another story, however. Backyard poultry flocks have not been spared by HPAI outbreaks, and infections of poultry within city limits are possible — and more likely if the yard is near a site where wild ducks and geese spend time.

How can I protect my backyard flock?

Backyard poultry should be excluded as thoroughly as possible from contact with wild waterfowl. They should not be allowed access to nearby ponds or water sources that may have been contaminated by wild waterfowl species.

If backyard flocks are housed near these areas, it may be prudent to provide a solid barrier between the poultry and the adjacent wetland, to prevent contaminated dust or plant material from blowing into the housing area.

Even if birds are physically kept away from these potential sources of HPAI, the virus can still enter their yard

if people, vehicles, pets or other animals are allowed to track in contaminated material from outside. Wheels, shoes, boots and paws can all transport HPAI from one place to another if steps aren't taken to clean and disinfect (or exclude) these materials.

All backyard flock owners should follow appropriate biosecurity measures. Examples of these rules, which are meant to exclude new potentially hazardous germs from entering a population of animals, can be found at the USDA Animal and Plant Inspection Service website.

If any unexplained death loss or illness occurs, a veterinarian should be contacted immediately.

We have more to learn.

"We are learning more about the HPAI viruses that recently devastated poultry operations throughout the Midwest. But more remains to be learned," Daly said.

Daly added that influenza viruses are notorious for changing. "For these reasons, it's important for all of us to keep abreast of current information regarding this pathogen, especially as wild bird migration commences this fall and next spring," he said.

To learn more about the avian influenza outbreak, search #AvianFluImpact on social media and visit iGrow. This article is part of a cooperative effort between SDSU Extension, University of Minnesota Extension and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach to provide resources for families struggling with the human challenges brought on by avian influenza.

## Registration Open For Garden Educator Workshop

BROOKINGS — SDSU Extension is hosting a Garden Educator Workshop for teachers and other youth educators in Sioux Falls Aug. 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. (CDT).

"This training will provide hands-on lesson plan ideas and nutrition resources for the garden, information on growing vegetables, tools for evaluation of garden programs, and stories from an area garden project," said Chris Zdorovtsov, SDSU Extension Community Development Field Specialist.

The program is designed

for PreK through middle school teachers, after-school program leaders, school administrators, garden-focused educators, Master Gardeners and wellness committees.

Presenters will share lessons that feature specific fruit and vegetable crops to enhance garden education programs. The class will participate in a hands-on activity involving produce preparation and discuss resources available to promote children's consumption of fruits and vegetables. Participants will identify tools to use for evaluating garden

programs at their school or organization.

An educator from the Baltic School Community Garden will share her experiences with empowering second graders to develop their garden.

The cost of the training includes lunch and handouts. Pre-registration and payment is due prior to class by July 31. A partial Continuing Education Credit (.5 CEU) is also available. Registration

forms are available under the date of the event at the iGrow events page.

Completed registration forms should be emailed or printed and mailed to Chris Zdorovtsov, SDSU Extension, 2001 E. 8th St., Sioux Falls, SD 57103. For questions, contact Chris, 605-782-3290 or by email.

### BIRTHDAYS

ARDA HOFFMAN

Arda Hoffman of Yankton will celebrate her 80th birthday and the family requests a card shower. Send cards to 214 Benedictine Lane, Yankton, SD, 57078.



Hoffman

### MILITARY

BRODY MCCLURE

Brody McClure graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He graduated July 10, 2015.



Ankeny - Kuchta

Marie Ankeny and Ross Kuchta are pleased to announce their engagement and upcoming marriage. Parents of the couple are Kevin and Claudette Ankeny and Rick and Sheila Kuchta all from Yankton, SD. Ross and Marie are graduates of SDSU. Marie is employed as a dietitian for CBM Managed Services in Sioux Falls and Ross is a civil engineer for Stockwell Engineers Inc. in Sioux Falls. The couple is planning an August 8, 2015 wedding at St. Benedict Catholic Church in Yankton.

## GOT NEWS?

CALL THE PRESS AND DAKOTAN AT 605-665-7811