

Life In Poetry

# Poet Analyzes Life For An Elderly Person

BY TED KOOSER  
U.S. Poet Laureate

Here's a poem by Robin Chapman, from Wisconsin, that needs no introduction, because we've all known an elderly person who's much like this one.

TIME

My neighbor, 87, rings the doorbell to ask if I might have seen her clipping shears that went missing a decade ago, with a little red paint on their shaft, or the iron turkey bank and the porcelain coffee cup that disappeared a while back when her friend, now dead, called the police to break in to see if she were ill, and have we had trouble with our phone line, hers is dead and her car and driver's license are missing though she can drive perfectly well, just memory problems, and her son is coming this morning to take her up to Sheboygan, where she was born and where the family has its burial lots, to wait on assisted living space, and she just wanted to say we'd been good neighbors all these how many? years, and how lucky I am to have found such a nice man and could she borrow a screwdriver, the door lock to her house is jammed.

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# How To Figure Out Towing Needs

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI  
King Features Syndicate

**Dear Tom and Ray:**  
We do a lot of city driving, but in the summer months we tow a couple of Jet Skis around behind our older Nissan Murano, and it has seemed to do the job just fine. The total weight of the Jet Skis and trailer is about 2,100 pounds. We are considering replacing the Murano with a 2013 Ford Escape with the 2.0-liter, EcoBoost engine. The 2013 Escape claims a towing capacity of 3,500 pounds, which is the same as our Murano. We like the idea of a smaller engine (better gas mileage) for when we are not pulling a trailer, but we are concerned about the strain on a smaller engine when we do. Would you recommend the new Escape for our needs, or should we look at something with a six-cylinder engine or larger towing capacity? We live in Minnesota and appreciate the 4-wheel drive, too. If not the Escape, do you have other suggestions for us? Thank you. —Dave

**RAY:** Get the Escape. Its towing capacity is 3,500 pounds, and you need to tow 2,100.

**TOM:** Your strategy is correct. You want a vehicle that meets your needs for the vast majority of your driving, not a vehicle that will handle every exception. And if you live in the city, a smaller vehicle with better gas mileage certainly makes sense.

**RAY:** You're right to be concerned about the towing. Adding 2,100 pounds of weight to any non-behemoth vehicle makes everything



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

work harder — the engine, the transmission, the suspension, the brakes. But the same was true of your Murano, and it's done fine.

**TOM:** You never want to run a vehicle at or near its limit, certainly not on a regular basis. So if you were planning to tow 3,400 pounds on summer weekends, we'd advise you to get some more wiggle room. But 2,100 pounds is well within the capacity of the 2013 Escape.

**RAY:** You can protect your investment by taking some reasonable precautions. First, drive more slowly when you're towing. The more gently you accelerate, the less strain you put on the engine and the entire drive train.

**TOM:** Similarly, by driving at 60 or 65 instead of 80, you reduce the wind resistance significantly, and reduce the engine's workload, allowing it to run cooler.

**RAY:** And by changing the oil before and after your summer towing season, you'll make sure you're getting the best possible lubrication while your engine is working the hardest, and then you'll drain out any oil that may have been subject to more heat and disintegration because of that towing.

**TOM:** Other than that, following the owner's manual's maintenance instructions for heavier-duty-type of driving (that includes more-frequent scheduled maintenance for people who drive in extreme hot weather, tow things or deliver pizza), switch to a synthetic oil if your car doesn't come with synthetic, and enjoy your new car and the better mileage.

It's NEVER cheaper in the long run to buy a new car. Want proof? Order Tom and Ray's pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or email them by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com.

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# Farm Bill

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than doubled since 2008.

The bill approved by the House Agriculture Committee last month would make much larger cuts to food stamps than the Senate version, in a bid to gain support from those House conservatives who have opposed the measure. The Senate bill would cut the food stamp program, now known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, by about \$400 million a year, or half a percent. The House bill would cut the program by \$2 billion a year, or a little more than 3 percent, and make it more difficult for some people to qualify.

In his statement Monday, Boehner signaled support for the House bill's level of food stamp cuts, saying they are changes that "both parties know are necessary." Other Republicans are expected to offer amendments to expand the cuts, setting up a potentially even more difficult resolution with the Senate version.

On the Senate floor, senators rejected amendments on food stamp cuts, preserving the \$400 million annual decrease. The bill's farm-state supporters also fended off efforts to cut sugar, tobacco and other farm supports.

Senators looking to pare back subsidies did win one victory in the Senate, an amendment to reduce the government's share of crop insurance premiums for farmers with adjusted gross incomes of more than \$750,000. Sens. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and Tom Coburn, R-Okla., said their amendment would affect about 20,000 farmers.

Stabenow argued the amendment would result in fewer people buying insurance and undercut a separate provision in the bill that would require farmers buying crop insurance to comply with certain environmental standards on their land.

Currently the government pays for an average 62 percent of crop insurance premiums and also sub-

sidizes the companies that sell the insurance. The overall bill expands crop insurance for many crops and also creates a program to compensate farmers for smaller, or "shallow," revenue losses before the paid insurance kicks in.

The crop insurance expansion is likely to benefit Midwestern corn and soybean farmers, who use crop insurance more than other farmers. The bill would also boost subsidies for Southern rice and peanut farmers, lowering the threshold for those farms to receive government help.

The help for rice and peanuts was not in last year's bill but was added this year after the agriculture panel gained a new top Republican, Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran. Critics, including the former top Republican on the committee, Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts, said the new policy could guarantee that the rice and peanut farmers' profits are average or above average.

Critics said the bill would subsidize large corporate farms when farm country is in the middle of an economic boom. Scott Faber of the Environmental Working Group, an advocacy group that has long criticized farm subsidies, said the legislation would simply redirect subsidies and "needlessly cut nutrition and conservation programs designed to help the hungry and the environment."

Boehner criticized farm subsidies in the House bill, which are similar to those in the Senate bill, saying his "concerns about our country's farm programs are well known." Boehner, a former member of the agriculture panel, has voted against recent farm bills. But he acknowledged that the rest of the chamber might not agree with him.

"If you have ideas on how to make the bill better, bring them forward," Boehner said in a statement directed to his colleagues. "Let's have the debate, and let's vote on them."

The Senate bill also would:

- Overhaul dairy policy by creating a new insurance program for dairy producers, eliminating other dairy subsidies and price supports. The new policy includes a market stabilization program that could dictate production cuts when oversupply drives down prices. The program faced little opposition in the Senate but a similar overhaul in the House bill is expected to face resistance in that chamber, where Boehner last year called the new stabilization program "Soviet-style." He reiterated those concerns in his statement Monday, saying he will support an amendment on the floor to challenge the proposed policy.

- Make modest changes to the way international food aid is delivered, a much scaled-back version of an overhaul proposed by President Barack Obama earlier this year. Senators adopted an amendment that would slightly boost dollars to buy locally-grown food close to needy areas abroad. Currently, most food aid is grown in the United States and shipped to developing countries, an approach the Obama administration says is inefficient but that has support among farm-state members in Congress.

- Consolidate programs to protect environmentally-sensitive land and reduce spending on those programs.

- Expand Agriculture Department efforts to prevent illegal trafficking of food stamp benefits.

# YHS Class Of 1963 To Celebrate 50th Reunion In Sept.

The Yankton High School Class of 1963 will celebrate its 50th reunion Sept. 12-15, 2013.

On Thursday, Sept. 1, registration and self-guided tours will take place from 3-5 p.m. at the Yankton Middle School (formerly Yankton High School).

On Friday, Sept. 13, a golf outing is being planned for those interested, followed by registration at Yankton High School (1801 Summit Street) from 5-6:30 p.m.; and then attending the football game at 7 p.m. that will feature the Bucks taking on the Brandon Valley Lynx.

Saturday, Sept. 14 will include a picnic at the lake, games, golf, and other activities to be announced, along with times.

From 5:30-7 p.m. Saturday evening, cocktails will be served around the firepit at Hillcrest Golf & Country Club (2206 Mulberry Street), followed by dinner at Hillcrest from 7-10:30 p.m.

Festivities conclude on Saturday, Sept. 15, with the group gathering at the Fryn' Pan (502 West 21st Street), for breakfast at 9 a.m.

For additional information, including providing names of classmates, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc., e-mail Susan Weiger at weigersw@gmail.com.

# Father's Day Event Set For The Center

A Father's Day Event will be held at The Center, 900 Whiting Drive in Yankton, on Friday, June 14, running from 11:30-1 p.m.

Lunch will be served, with special rates for those more than 60 years old.

For more information, contact Christy Hauer at (605) 665-4685 or director@thecenteryankton.org/.

# Elks Lodge To Hold Flag Day Ritual

Officers, trustees and members of Yankton Elks Lodge 994 will present its annual June 14 Flag Day ritual at 5 p.m. in their new lodge home west of Broadway (Highway 81) at 504 West 27th Street.

This most patriotic salute to our nation's banner is open to the public. Specially-invited guests will be members of Ernest Bowyer VFW Post 791 and Auxiliary members, as well as members of Roy Anderson Post 12 American Legion and Auxiliary members.

The veterans' service groups will also present the annual display of American flags in Memorial Park in observance of Flag Day.

Area families are encouraged to bring the youngsters to the Elks Flag Day program. They are sure to enjoy learning the history of the American flag and watching as each of the historic pennants, the fore bearers of the "Stars and Stripes", are introduced. Elks Lodge regular Friday evening menu and serving hours will be provided to members and their guests after the June 14 Flag Day service.

Exalted Ruler Ted P. Mickelson reminds Americans that it was a resolution submitted by the Grand Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in 1927 to Congress for their consideration that solidified the date of June 14 as Flag Day, a special day set aside to honor our flag each year.

# Parks And Rec Dept Hosting Teen Night

The Yankton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its first "Late Night For Teens" of the summer on Friday, June 14 at Memorial Pool from 8-10 p.m. The event theme is "Summer is here, and the living is easy!"

Come dance the night away with this popular teen event. It is sure to be a night to remember. Teen nights are for middle and high school students only.

For more information, call 668-5234 or stop by the Summit Activities Center at 1801 Summit Street, Yankton. Remember to follow the Yankton Parks and Recreation Department on their Facebook page.

# SCHOLASTICS

## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

AMES, Iowa — At Iowa State University's spring commencement ceremonies, May 10, 3,769 students received degrees. Iowa State awarded 3,144 undergraduate degrees, 357 master's degrees, 141 veterinary medicine degrees and 127 doctor of philosophy degrees.

Of the students receiving bachelor's degrees, 918 graduated "With Distinction" (cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude). Three students graduated as members of the Honors Program. Here are the graduates from the area:

- Canton — Matthew James Heinemann, BS, Materials Engineering; M; Matthew James Heinemann, BS, Physics, M;
- Dakota Dunes — Alison Leigh Gamm, BFA, Graphic Design; Kelsey Lenae Gill, BFA, Integrated Studio Arts; Taylor M. McCalla, BAR, Architecture-Professional Degree;
- McCook Lake — Moriah Kay Reich, BS, Child, Adult, and Family Services;

- Newcastle, Neb. — Jacob Ronald Geis, DVM, Veterinary Medicine;
- Yankton — Joel Martin Teachtout, DVM, Veterinary Medicine

## AUGUSTANA COLLEGE

SIOUX FALLS — Augustana College today announced that the following area students have been named to the Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2012-2013 academic year.

- Spencer Hopewell of Yankton;
  - Mallory Schulte of Yankton;
  - Mark Vetter of Yankton.
- The Dean's List recognizes full-time students who have a minimum of 12 credit hours with grade-point averages at 3.5 or above.

# MENUS

Menus listed below are for the week of June 10. Menus are subject to change without notice. The menu listed below was printed incorrectly. Below is the corrected menu.

## Tabor Senior Citizens Center

- Monday — N/A
- Tuesday — Hungarian Goulash
- Wednesday — Roast Beef
- Thursday — Pork Chops & Dumplings
- Friday — N/A

# PLANT ONE ON DAD

Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> is Fathers Day

15% off All Plants

June 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>

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