

## Scholarship Awarded Car Talk



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Yankton Area Retired School Personnel recently presented their annual scholarship. This year's recipient is Yankton High School graduate, Nick Raab, who received the \$1,000 scholarship. Nick will be attending Dakota Wesleyan in Mitchell studying elementary and special education. Pictured presenting the scholarship to Nick is Joyce Maggied, President of the Yankton Area Retired School Personnel association.

### American Life In Poetry

## Spring Beach

BY TED KOOSER  
U.S. POET LAUREATE

I love richly detailed descriptive poems, and this one by Barbara Crooker, who lives in Pennsylvania, is a good example of how vivid a picture a poem can offer to us. Her most recent book is *Selected Poems*, (Future Cycle Press, 2015).

#### STREWN

It'd been a long winter, rags of snow hanging on; then, at the end of April, an icy nor'easter, powerful as a hurricane. But now I've landed on the coast of Maine, visiting a friend who lives two blocks from the ocean, and I can't believe my luck, out this mild morning, race-walking along the strand. Every dog within fifty miles is off-leash, running for the sheer dopey joy of it. No one's in the water, but walkers and shellers leave their tracks on the hardpack. The flat sand shines as if varnished in a painting. Underfoot, strewn, are broken bits and pieces, deep indigo mussels, whorls of whelk, chips of purple and white wampum, hinges of quahog, fragments of sand dollars. Nothing whole, everything broken, washed up here, stranded. The light pours down, a rinse of lemon on a cold plate. All of us, broken, some way or other. All of us dazzling in the brilliant slanting light.

*American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Poem copyright © 2015 by Barbara Crooker, "Strewn," from More (C&R Press, 2010). Poem reprinted by permission of Barbara Crooker 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. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts.*

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI  
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

**Dear Car Talk:**  
My Italian water buffalos, African pygmy goats, rescue Thoroughbred ex-racehorses and Rhodesian Ridgeback dogs are requesting your masterful insight, please, for what might be the perfect car for their transportation needs. I have been pondering a replacement for my beloved 1998 Toyota RAV4 (206,000-plus miles) for several years now, but believe it or not, manufacturer brochures don't include animal-friendly ratings. My Toyota RAV4 runs wonderfully, with virtually no repairs needed during its 17-year tour of duty. The only problem is that my human friends refuse to ride with me anymore, given the fur and hay that are imbedded in every interior inch, the dog-claw scratches on windows, chewed seat belts and tiny goat poops tucked into can't-vacuum crevices. And I think I now get about 12 miles to the gallon, even when it's not loaded with goats. Naturally, I want to get a new RAV4 – and I will keep my original RAV4 as a shuttle for the dogs when we go to the beach. My dream is a hybrid for the best mileage, but lordy, it looks like those are \$50,000-plus. I need to save my money for buffalo chow. Can you please offer your recommendation for the



Ray  
**MAGLIOZZI**

perfect vehicle? Something that fills my emotional bond with the RAV4, has its car-handling feel and is not a truck or big SUV, but can fit at least three bales of hay in the back area. Having towing power for a two-horse or one-water-buffalo trailer is a huge bonus (about 2,500 pounds). Thank you so much!

– Carey  
I have news for you, Carey: The reason your friends won't ride with you isn't the hay or the dog scratches – it's the stench. Although I will admit that having to pick goat pellets out of your butt crack doesn't help. So, one suggestion is to separate the people compartment from the animal compartment. There are two ways to do that. One is to buy yourself a car that's just for human transportation. Then you can get anything you want: You can get another RAV4; you can get a Toyota Prius C, which gets a combined 50 mpg, for about \$25,000; or you can get a Honda Fit, which gets a combined 35 mpg or so, for about \$20 grand. You could put a couple of dogs in any

one of those for an outing to the beach. But you'd keep the old RAV4 to shuttle your livestock. Then at least you'd have a fighting chance to hold on to a few friends.

The other way to separate the four-leggeds from the two-leggeds is by getting a pickup truck with a cap on the back. Since you're partial to Toyotas, you could get the new 2016 Tacoma. You and your friends can ride up front (you can get one with four doors if you want), and Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom could ride in the back, in a cargo compartment that can be hosed out. And I hate to be the one to break this to you, Carey, but you desperately need something that can be lathered up and hosed out.

Of course, you'll sacrifice mileage and the small-car feel of your RAV4 that way, but, as you've figured out from your search so far, you're going to have to compromise somewhere.

If you really can't stand the idea of having two vehicles, I'd say the one car that would most meet your needs (except for having humans tolerate riding with you) would be a used Honda Element. They stopped making it in 2011, apparently because the Italian water buffalo transportation market wasn't all it was cracked up to be. But the truth is, the Element's mileage isn't that much better than what you'd get in a new Toyota Tacoma.

Most people get low- to mid-20s, overall, in their Elements.

Given the reality of your needs, Carey, I actually lean toward a pickup truck for you. The 2016 Tacoma, with a new engine and 6-speed automatic transmission, should get better mileage than the current one. It allows you to stay loyal to your Toyota roots, and, most importantly, it provides an impenetrable exterior wall between you and the goat droppings. In fact, be sure NOT to get the optional rear sliding window so you won't be tempted to ever open it.

You have to face the fact that you really are a rancher, Carey. A very weird rancher, yes. But I think you need a ranch vehicle, and that's a pickup truck. Send a picture.

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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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And Doug Berman

## New Sport Marketing & Media Degree Offered At USD

VERMILLION — A new University of South Dakota undergraduate degree in sport marketing & media will help fill demand in the sport and sport entertainment industry, which *Bloomberg News* said is growing at nearly 5 percent annually and is projected to approach \$68 billion by 2017.

The South Dakota Board of Regents last week approved the new program, which will start offering classes this fall at USD's Vermillion campus. It will teach broad skills in marketing, advertising and public relations, event management and law/ethics. New graduates will be prepared to work in high school and college athletic departments, advertising and public relations firms, merchandising companies, professional sports teams, athletic facilities and the news media.

"I think that this new major is a very viable one that has great value in the sports marketplace," said USD

alumnus John Gillis, associate director of development for the National Federation of State High School Associations.

Michelle Van Maanen, chair of USD's Media & Journalism Department, said the program is unique to the region, and the university expects to eventually graduate up to 15 sport marketing students each year. Beyond basic media and marketing principles, the program allows students to specialize and pursue either a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree. Classes will be taught through four existing majors: kinesiology, media & journalism, communication studies and business marketing.

"This sort of combines the best of all those

programs into a targeted degree that all the industry information indicates is greatly needed, not just in our region but everywhere," Van Maanen said.

The major will prepare students for careers in event and facility management, advertising and public relations, sports news, scoreboard creation and leadership and finance. Van Maanen said it will give students the basic skills needed to enter the field but also the background to become leaders in sport management that will make them marketable throughout their careers.

### Czech Days Royalty To Be Honored

TABOR — All Czech Days past Queens and Prince and Princesses will be recognized in Sokol Park during opening ceremonies on Friday, June 19, at 3 p.m. in Tabor. This recognition will take place annually during Czech Days.

All former queens are also asked to be formally introduced on stage in Sokol Park and to participate as Honor Guards during coronation ceremonies of the 2015 Czech Days Queen on Saturday, June 20, at 9 p.m.

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