American Life In Poetry A Short Epiphany

BY TED KOOSER

U.S. Poet Laureate

I love short poems, and Wendy Videlock is very good at writing them. This is from her book Slingshots and Love Plums, from Able Muse Press. She lives in Colorado.

A RELEVANCE

One teeny tiny worm

making the earth turn.

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SCHOLASTICS

ALLYSSA SCHROEDER

Allyssa Schroeder of Yankton has been awarded a Dr. Frank Prather Memorial Scholarship valued at \$1,430 to continue her education at Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska. She is the daughter of

Roger and Sheryl Schroeder and was a graduate of Yankton High School in 2013. She is currently a junior at Wayne State College majoring in Secondary Math Education. Her activities at Wayne State College include: Bible study, Wildlife Society, Math club, WSC Navigator and Holland Math Tutor.

life

Car Talk

Basic Scanner Is Perfect For Shadetree Mechanic

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Car Talk:

I'm a shadetree mechanic and recently bought an OBDII/CAN scanner. I chose the cheapest unit I could find (about \$25), and it seems that all it will do is read and/or clear any codes that are set. Since I have the factory service manual for my car, I can look up the codes to see what's wrong or do a Web search if I need more information. What I'm wondering is: If I spent more on a fancier unit, what additional features would I get? Can my basic unit read all codes from all systems in my car? I don't need the unit to tell me what the code means or how to fix it. Thanks! – Larrv

If you don't need to know how to fix the car, then what you bought is absolutely good enough.

Your unit should be able to read all of the codes and, just as importantly, clear the codes so you can turn off the Check Engine light.

If you bought a fancier unit, besides the leather seats and sunroof, you would get some features that we find helpful in the shop. First, it helps you with the diagnosis. If it reads a code on a Subaru for a bad evaporative emissions system, for instance, it might tell you to "check for a rusted filler neck, since that's the most common cause

of leaks in this system."

That's helpful, but you often can find that same kind of information on the Internet. Or you can do what my brother would have done: Put a match to the filler neck and see if it ignites. As a shadetree

mechanic, you have plenty of time to search the Web for answers. But since we're fixing 20 cars

a day, it's helpful to give our guys immediate information like that. Plus, every time they do an Internet search at the shop, they end up spending all day at www.bikinicarwash.com, and none of the cars ever get fixed.

The other nice thing our scanners do is allow us to actuate certain components, which also helps in diagnosis. For example, if we're diagnosing an overheating problem, we can push a button on our scan tool and tell the car's computer to "energize the cooling fan.

That's a quick and easy way to find out if the fan, the wiring and the relay are all working. Otherwise, we'd have to let the car run for 10 minutes until it got hot enough to turn on the cooling fan itself,

and spend a bunch of time with a test light.

These more-sophisticated scanners also can communicate wirelessly with the software in our garage's computer, and pull up wiring diagrams and stuff like that.

But the units we use cost several thousand dollars. And those features are just not worth the money for a shadetree guy working on one car on the occasional weekend.

So what you got is perfect. You'll read the code, and then you run back and forth into the house to look up stuff online. Just bring a rag to wipe the grease off the computer keyboard so your family doesn't lock you out.

Stop the madness! You can stop driving like a knucklehead, and you'll help your car in the process. Learn how your driving habits can harm your car in Click and Clack's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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.

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Name Change For Licenses Available

PIERRE — Effective immediately, same-sex married couples can get their names changed on their South Dakota driver licenses.

Officials of the South Dakota Driver's Licensing Program say for a renewal or name change on a driver license or ID card that has a gold star, individuals need to provide a South Dakota driver license or ID card and two documents proving residential address. Both of those documents must be less than one year old.

Non-US citizens and transfers from other states must provide proof of lawful status in the U.S. Those documents can be a U.S. certified birth certificate, U.S. passport/passport card, certificate of citizenship/naturalization, permanent resident card, employment authorization card or foreign passport with visa/I-94.

To document a name change, individuals are asked to bring documents that connect the name on the identity document they selected to their current full legal name. Selected documents can be more than one if needed to connect the name listed on the identity document to the current name. Acceptable documents are:

Certified marriage certificate

• Court order under petition for name change

• Court order for name change in a divorce

decree or decree of annulment Court order for name change in a decree of

adoption

Any marriage certificate must be issued by the South Dakota Office of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency in the state or country of marriage. It must be a certified copy and have the stamp or raised seal of the issuing authority. A church, chapel or similarly issued certificate is not acceptable.

Any court order must contain the person's prior full legal name, court-ordered full legal name and date of birth. It must be stamped with the official court seal. Date stamps and file stamps are not the official court seal. Photocopies and faxes are not acceptable.

For more information on how to change the name on a driver's license, click onto http://dps. sd.gov/licensing/driver_licensing/obtain_a_license.aspx

Name changes can only be done at driver license exam stations located statewide during regular business hours. Only the Sioux Falls station is open on Mondays. For a complete list of exam stations and schedules, visit http://dps. sd.gov/licensing/driver_licensing/exam_schedule.aspx.

The South Dakota Driver's Licensing Program is part of the South Dakota Department of Public Safety.

He said.

son said.

are typing.

errors

said.

will vary.

Burgeson said.

Even if few tickets are is-

message as part of the cam-

ing, Burgeson said. Besides

paign against distracted driv-

include eating, child care and

However, texting requires

than other distractions, Burge-

"I believe – and this is my

changing the radio channels.

even more driver attention

opinion – that texting takes

distracted driving," he said.

are trying to read what you

texting carry distractions,

voice option, but you are

and looking for the little

"The keys are small, and you

Even alternative forms of

Some people use the

taking your eyes off the road

microphone button," he said.

"Then, (you) usually read the

text message before sending

it to ensure that there are no

will vary, depending on the

and some people can multi-

task better than others," he

have your eyes off the road

said. "The amount of time you

The length of distraction

driver and situation, Burgeson

"Each person is different,

more time than other forms of

The annual Stahlecker reunion will be held Sunday, July 12, 2015, beginning at noon at the Naper Cafe in Naper, Nebraska. Attendees will be able to

order from the specials or from the menu at their own cost. The "California kids" will be at a birthday party in Gregory that day, but we are welcome to go visit with them later if we wish to. If you have any questions, call Peggie at 402-340-7941.

REUNIONS

STAHLECKER REUNION

Rav

MAGLIOZZI

WEISZ REUNION

The Margaretha and Adam Weisz St. family reunion will be Saturday and Sunday, July 11-12, at the fire hall, Tripp.

Saturday, there will be a 10:30 a.m. potluck brunch. Sunday, there will be 10:30 a.m. church services and a potluck lunch at noon. For information, call Diana

Jerke at 583-4328.

AAA Warns Of Travel Risks Over The Fourth Of July

OMAHA, Neb. — AAA projects 41.9 million Americans will journey 50 miles or more from home this Independence Day, the most since 2007 and a 0.7 percent increase from the 41.6 million people who traveled last year. The Independence Day holiday travel period is defined as Wednesday, July 1, to Sunday, July 5. Rising income, driven by a strong employment market, is prompting more Americans to take a holiday trip this year. Despite recent seasonal increases, gas prices remain well below year-ago levels, which has helped boost Americans' disposable income.

ers are using their recent savings on gas to pay down debt and save, overall, Americans are planning to travel in record numbers," said Rose White, public affairs di-rector, AAA — The Auto Club Group. "Independence Day gas prices are expected to be the lowest in at least five years, which is great news for the nearly 85 percent of travelers who plan to drive. Typically, Independence Day is the busiest summer travel holiday, because families can take extended vacations without worrying about rushing their kids back for school," White added.

"Although some consum-

"(They) are highly

lexting

From Page 1

anniversary Wednesday makes texting while driving a secondary offense with a \$100 fine. The secondary offense means law enforcement must first stop the motorist for another violation and cannot stop the driver strictly for texting while driving.

According to the state law, no person may operate a motor vehicle on a highway while using a hand-held electronic communication device to write, send or read a text-based communication. The law provides certain exceptions such as texting in a parked car, contacting emergency personnel or using hands-free technology.

Betzen believes the state legislation, as written, recognizes local traffic laws already in place.

After the Vermillion ban went into effect, Betzen launched an awareness campaign informing people of the new law before focusing enforcement efforts in January 2014. His department had issued 10 tickets through late March 2014.

More recent figures were not immediately available Monday.

In contrast, Lt. Mike Burgeson said the Yankton Police Department has written only two citations during the past year.

"One citation was written after the driver was pulled over for swerving on the roadway, and the other was a result of a crash investigation," he said.

The statewide texting ban is actually considered a petty offense, Burgeson said. Officers cannot stop a vehicle strictly for a suspected texting violation, he said.

Burgeson hasn't received any indication of the number of tickets and warnings issued around South Dakota during the first year of the statewide texting ban. However, a couple of sources seem to indicate a relatively quiet year, he said.

I have not received any feedback from other (police) departments," he said. "I contacted the South Dakota

Department of Public Safety Municipal League, and they haven't received any feed on spokesman Tony Mangan. this issue for a long time.

"At this point, it's difficult to track texting offenses sued, the law sends a powerful because a lot of people won't admit they were texting and driving in a car crash," he said. texting, the driver distractions

In addition, authorities can find it challenging to enforce the law depending on the circumstances, Mangan said.

'It's one of those things where they are more focused on what they can see, and it's hard to see texting much of the time," he said. "It's not like a DUI (driving under the influence) where they can do a breathalyzer.'

Even when tickets are issued for a violation, texting isn't listed as a stand-alone cause for a crash, Mangan said.

"I have only seen two Highway Patrol (tickets), and it wasn't even the official reason for it," he said. "It was just an aside as a contributing factor. The reason is that it's difficult to get people to admit they are texting and driving.

Vermillion uses standard procedures for enforcing its texting ban, Betzen said.

'Officers who witness an offense take action to address the issue," he said. "We also assign small groups of officers to watch a location from a stationary position and call violations out to an officer in a patrol vehicle. The driver is then contacted and appropriate enforcement action taken."

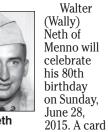
The Vermillion City Council has not changed the

At the state level, figures on texting offenses can be difficult to determine for different reasons, according to

CRACKING DOWN

BIRTHDAYS

WALTER NETH



shower is

requested by his family. Send your greetings to: P.O. Box 402, Menno, SD 57045.

ordinance since its implementation, according to City

Manager John Prescott. The fine remains \$54, although the court costs are not set by the city and can vary over time, he said.

In addition, city officials haven't shown any indication of taking the stricter municipal texting ban off the books, Prescott said.

"The council has not requested the ordinance come back on their agenda for revisiting," the city manager said.

SENDING A MESSAGE

The South Dakota texting ban has helped created awareness of the dangers associated with the practice, even if it is popular, authorities say. The Yankton Police Department uses various outlets

to send the message to the public, Burgeson said. "There is little impact in

general with the texting ban," he said. "It is an issue that we are dealing with and educating the public through PSAs (public service announcements), school talks, and active enforcement such as participating in the national mobilizations on 'distracted awareness.

After implementing its city texting ban, Vermillion officials conducted an awareness campaign prior to issuing tickets and warnings. They used newspaper articles, paid advertisements and speaking opportunities. At the time, Vermillion

Czech Days Kolache Krawl 5K would like to thank the following sponsors:

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officials said the city benefited from a large number of University of South Dakota students who were already familiar texting bans in their home states.

In addition, the Vermillion Police Department continued its distracted driver education program, Betzen said at the time. Under the program, trained police officers set up simulators at various public events allowing participants to text and drive - with possible hazards thrown at the "driver" in the simulation.

The city also put up signs

at entrances to the community informing motorists of the texting ban, Prescott said. "We are letting drivers know this is behavior we do not like to see in the community," he said at the time

At the state level, the outreach efforts on the texting ban fall mainly on the Highway Patrol and the Office of Highway Safety, both part of the Department of Public Safety, Mangan said.

involved in educational efforts regarding all aspects of distracted driving," he said. Both agencies do numerous public service announcements and other campaigns urging people to pay attention while driving.

Prior to the statewide ban, Betzen had pointed out the inconsistencies from one community to another. He noted, for example, travelers would find Vermillion with an ordinance for a primary offense and Yankton with no texting ban at all.

Now, the state law means a texting ban of some sort is found across South Dakota, he said.

"I am not sure it really had any change on how Vermillion enforces this law, except that people should know that texting and driving is against the law everywhere in South Dakota," he said.

Follow @RDockendorf on Twitter.



of you that day and the visitors I have had since then.

Thank you for your love and friendship. That has been the key to reaching 100 years old--an entire Century!

God's Blessings,

Elda Aure

