Life In Poetry A Poetic Ode To An **Earthbound 'Superstar'**

BY TED KOOSER U.S. Poet Laureate

It's an ancient and respected tradition: Alfred, Lord Tennyson, wrote "Idylls of the King" to celebrate the life of King Arthur, and dedicated it to yet another of the royals, Albert, Prince Consort to Queen Victoria. How many poems have been written for people the poet admired? Here Carrie Shipers, who teaches in Wisconsin, writes about a contemporary superstar.

LOVE POEM FOR TED NEELEY IN 'JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

(Lincoln, Neb., 2009)

That man's too old to play Christ, someone said when you appeared onstage - thirty years in those white robes, spotlights tracking your graceful sleeves, the attentive angle of your head as you worked a crowd. I agreed that you looked tired, but when Mary Magdalene anointed you, when you cast merchants and money changers from the temple, I forgot your thinning hair and wrinkled brow, forgot how your story ended: your broken voice crying on the cross, your body arched as you ascended. I'd lost track of how many songs were in the second act, thought there might be more — the empty tomb, your appearance on the road, to Peter in Jerusalem - but the cast came out for applause: soldiers, Apostles, and women; Annas, Caiaphas, Pilate; Mary in her red dress; Peter, that sturdy fisherman; Judas, who has all the best songs; and finally you, head bowed at our ovation. I didn't come to worship but you've left me no choice -I don't care how old you are, how many times you've done this act before — you still rock those power ballads, still heal with the same sweet force before you rise. We'll always want too much from you. Tonight, I'll believe until the curtain closes, your tour bus rolls away.

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Early Registration Deadline For History Conference Near

PIERRE — The early registration deadline for this year's annual history conference of the South Dakota State Historical Society is Friday, March 23.

Sports and recreation have strong traditions in South Dakota, and those two topics will be ex-amined during "Playing on the Plains," this year's conference theme, April 13-14 at the Ramkota in Pierre.

Among the featured speakers are Gov. Ďennis Daugaard; John

Department of Game, Fish and Parks; and nationally-known sports journalist Mel Antonen.

You don't have to be a member of the State Historical Society to attend the conference, although society members receive a discount. Twelve continuing education contact hours are being offered towards a teacher certificate renewal credit. For more information, visit

www.history.sd.gov or call (605) 773-6000.

You, Your Mercedes And Urea

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Tom & Ray:

Can this be true, or are my wife and I just gullible? Our dealer claims that we need to add "urea" to our BlueTec 350 Mercedes engine. With 21,000 miles on the car, we have spent almost \$200 with the dealer to add this furea." Why? What is its purpose? Are we being taken for the ultimate luxury-car ride, or is this a legitimate cost? — Dan

TOM: Doesn't urine have urea in it?

RAY: Yes, but only at about 1/10th of the concentration the car requires. So you can't recommend that Dan simply pee into the tank.

TOM: OK, I'm crossing that off my list, then.

RAY: Urea refills are a legitimate expense for this particular car, Dan. And shame on the salesman for not disclosing this to you when you bought the car. It's an added cost and inconvenience of ownership that you had a right to know about. It's like selling someone a dog, and neglecting to mention that you have to feed it every day.

TOM: Here's why you have to add urea to this car: In order to get diesel engines which burn dirtier than gasoline engines to meet new emissions standards in the United States, Mercedes (like all diesel-engine manufacturers) had to add some kind of system to scrub more nitrous oxides out of the exhaust.



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

RAY: The system Mercedes chose is a urea-based system. When the urea is injected into the hot exhaust, it releases ammonia, which helps break down about 80 percent of the harmful nitrous oxides. **TOM**: The problem is, you need a constant

supply of urea. In order to keep car owners from simply letting the urea bottle run dry and forgetting about it, the EPA required that the car stop running if it runs out of urea. So you have no choice, Dan.

RAY: Mercedes says that a 7.5-gallon sup-ply should cover about 12,000 miles of driving. So it suggests that you get the urea tank refilled every 10,000 miles, when you bring your Mercedes in for its regular oil, filter and wallet service.

TOM: Aside from the potential inconvenience of that, Mercedes estimates the expense at about \$1,500 for every 100,000 miles you drive.

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ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net

NEWS DEPARTMENT: news@yankton.net

RAY: Of course, like everything else you do at a Mercedes dealership, you'll pay more to get your urea topped up there. So if the expense is a concern, you might look around for an independent shop that specializes in German cars. You'll pay less of a premium there

TOM: You can buy your own urea (under the Mercedes brand name "AdBlue," or as another brand) and learn how to add it yourself,

if you really want to cut your expenses. **RAY**: Isn't it a good thing you're saving all that money with your high-mileage diesel, Dan? Otherwise, how would you be able to afford all that urea?

Which is cheaper, buying or leasing? Should you keep a car forever or dump it after three years, before trouble starts? Find out in Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next 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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HELP FOR THE RED CROSS



COURTESY PHOTO Minerva's Grill & Bar in Yankton teamed up with the local chapter of the American Red Cross to host the Midwest Dueling Pianos event March 2. Minerva's donated \$915 raised from the ticket sales to the Red Cross. Debra Bodenstedt, the local Red Cross branch manager, expressed gratitude to Minerva's for hosting the event and gave special thanks to outgoing catering and sales director Jeff Steppat for his assistance in organizing the evening. Pictured are (from left): Geoff Fleer, the banquet captain; Kyle Pravecek, the food and beverage director; Janelle Wieseler, the dining room manager; and Amber Riechers, catering and sales manager - all of whom are with Minerva's. Continuing to the right are Red Cross representatives Christine Moore, Catherine Crandall, Bodenstedt, Laurie McKee and Tammy Matuska.

'Farmageddon' Documentary To **Be Shown At Dakota Theatre**

Area WSC Students Take Part In Teacher Acad

WAYNE, Neb. — A collaboration between Wayne State College (WSC), Educational Service Unit #1 and 12 northeast Nebraska school districts has resulted in classroom experience for more than 1,000 WSC education majors while helping to alleviate the substitute

teacher shortage in the area. Sixty-three students are partici-pating in this project. The North-east Nebraska Teacher Academy (NENTA), in its 12th year of existence, is the only program of its kind in the nation.

The NENTA school district consortium was awarded a \$299,900 Education Innovation Fund grant over the three-year period of 2000-2003. Wayne College Professor of Education Tim Sharer Professor of Education serves as the NENTA Director. Johanna Barnes, Assistant Professor of Education, serves as the NENTA Coordinator. Carol James is secretary for the program. Sharer, Barnes and Dr. Neal Schnoor, Dean of the School of Education and Counseling, serve on the NENTA Advisory Council along with the superintendents from each of the participating P-12 school districts. The NENTA Project has been financially self-supporting since 2003. The goals of the Northeast Nebraska Teacher Academy are to increase the number of local substitute teachers, to improve availability and equitable use of substitute teachers, to enhance the quality of instruction delivered by a substitute teacher in the participating school districts, and to positively affect retention of teachers during their first five years in the profession

Cooper, former secretary of the

SCHOLASTICS

IRENE-WAKONDA

3rd Quarter "A" Honor Roll SENIORS Scott Davis Ashley Fuhrer Pearl Gaidelis Rudy Gandara Melissa Hessman Alex Hessman Haley Hinseth Morgan Lee Lexy Schenk Luke Schroeder Sam Smith JUNIORS Dillon Buchanan Jessica Djurkowitsch Lucas Gustad Trevor Hansen Jamie Healy Maggie Kribell Jake Vollmer **SOPHOMORES** Jordan Jorgensen Preston Larson Lexi Logue Sydney Nielsen Justin Ostrem Michael Saffel Shevanne Sorensen FRESHMEN Calla Harper Stephanie Hauger Skyler Heirigs Jessica Johnson Amy Morman Matt Nelson 8th GRADE Gabe King Ben Gustad **7th GRADE** Nate Eli Gabby Hutchison Coddie Neerings Anthony Nelson

3rd Quarter "B" Honor Roll SENIORS Brian Huth Sam Kiger Mike Kirschenmen Lauren Mews Cash Murphy Alex Nelson **Tucker Sorensen** Travis Stevens Tessa Thompson JUNIORS Celeste Fiedler

Barak Hauck Chris Heirigs Trisha Kathol Dustin Livingston Darrick Muilenburg Dylan Ruter Max Schaefer FRESHMEN Allyson Gartner Jesse Gustad Heather Hauger Taylor Lyso Chloe Nielsen Nicole Rudd Stacie Taggart SOPHOMORES Garrett Anderson Rainv Brewer Nysven Daniel Brue **Bailey Hinseth** Ashley Oien Dana Schenk Ashleigh Schroeder Lilly Trawick 8th GRADE Tessa Buchanan Tiffany Devine Erin Hansen Landon Larsen Kyleigh Melstad **Bob Murphy** Autumn Sees Maria Van Driel 7th GRADE Mikayla Heirigs Brady Logue Kobe Murphy

Everyone

The Yankton Weston A. Price Foundation Chapter will be showing the documentary film "Farmageddon: The Unseen War On American Family Farms," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, at the Dakota Theatre, located at 328 Walnut Street in downtown Yankton.

First-time filmmaker, Kristin Canty's quest to find healthy food for her four children turned into an educational journey to discover why access to these foods were being threatened.

Canty is a Massachusetts mom whose 4-year-old son was healed of multiple allergies by adding farm fresh (raw) milk to his diet. She grew increasingly alarmed at the state and federal government's armed raids of farm buying clubs and health food coops around the nation. In particular, the targeting of the very food that restored her son to perfect health, roused this

mother of four children, to document on film the harsh actions against family farms.

What she found were policies that favor agribusiness and factory farms over small family-operated farms selling fresh foods to their communities. Instead of focusing on the source of food safety problems — most often the industrial food chain — policymakers and regulators implement and enforce solutions that target and often drive out of business small farms that have proven themselves more than capable of producing safe, healthy food, but buckle under the crushing weight of government regulations and excessive enforcement actions.

"Farmageddon" tells the stories, in the words of the victims themselves, of the numerous trespasses of the health bureaucrats on farmers and consumers civil liberties.

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Canty also interviews experts on health and nutrition and leading local foods advocates to give a sobering assessment of the plight of farmers who seek to meet the growing demand for healthy, ecologically grown food.

The Weston A. Price Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing information about restoring nutrient-dense foods to the American diet. A healthy diet which includes locally grown produce and pastured dairy and meat can improve your overall well being. For additional information visit

the Farmageddon website: http://farmageddonmovie.com.

Area students participating include:

- Kristen Allen of Bloomfield
- Sarah Oltjebruns of Bloomfield
- Grant Doerr of Creighton
- Curt Guenther of Crofton
- Krista Thoene of Fordyce • Julia Mohr of Newcastle
- Nicolette Kuchta of Wynot

