

Life In Poetry

Poet Analyzes Two Worlds Colliding

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

There's an old country-western song with the refrain, "That's what happens when two worlds collide," and in this poem by Bruce Guernsey, who divides his year between Illinois and Maine, we see a near collision between two worlds.

BACK ROAD

Winter mornings driving past I'd see these kids huddled like grouse in the plowed ruts in front of their shack waiting for the bus, three small children bunched against the drifts rising behind them. This morning I slowed to wave and the smallest, a stick of a kid draped in a coat, grinned and raised his red, raw hand, the snowball packed with rock aimed at my face.

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Reader Misses Full-Service Stations

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate

Dear Tom and Ray:
I'm an old geezer with fond memories of when you could pull into a gas station and tell the kid to fill it up and check the tires, oil (the kid holding up the dipstick so you could see it: "Sir, you're a quart low") and water. In fact, at one time, I was that kid. Those days are long gone, but that leaves me with a problem. I'm a bit arthritic, and it is difficult for me to bend over and contort myself to check the air pressure in my tires, and much more so to wrestle that air hose that really wants to contract back into its hole. I suppose I could check the oil and water myself, but I'd really rather not. I'd be willing to pay for this extra service, but I can't find anywhere that offers it in my neighborhood, maybe not even in my city. I wouldn't want to pay a lot — it shouldn't take someone who's more nimble than I more than five minutes. I suppose I could take my car to my mechanic's shop, but it seems kind of lame to ask him to check the, you know, air, water and oil. Of course, I am kind of lame! Any suggestions? —Rick

TOM: You're right, Rick, that these sorts of services are rarely provided anymore. What you may not know is that they're hardly necessary anymore, either.

RAY: In the old days, everything leaked: crankcases, radiators, tires. But cars are much better now, and are much more maintenance-free (on a day-to-day, week-to-week basis) than they've ever been.

TOM: And when you do have a leak, there's often an idiot light now to let you know about it. We had an extra set of idiot lights installed in my brother's car just to



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

give the lights a fighting chance against him.

RAY: Nowadays, if you lose tire pressure, all new cars have tire-pressure-monitoring systems that will alert you on the dashboard.

TOM: Most new cars have coolant-level indicators now to tell you if you've lost coolant. That gives you a heads-up that you're a little low before the idiot light comes on to warn you that your engine is about to melt.

RAY: For oil, more and more cars have oil-level lights, in addition to the old oil-pressure lights. And car batteries are all sealed now and maintenance-free.

TOM: So, you just don't need to check those things with every fill-up, like you did in years past. And if you have a well-maintained, modern car with tire-pressure monitoring, you easily can go three to six months between checking that stuff.

RAY: If you have an older car, a high-mileage car or a car with a known problem,

obviously, you'll have to check things more often.

TOM: But whenever it IS time, it's absolutely fine to go to a repair shop and ask them to look at the fluids and tire pressure for you. We have older customers who come in and ask us to do that all the time. We do it for free, as a courtesy, and then we add a hundred bucks to their next repair bill.

RAY: Not true! Usually, the customer will tip the guy who checks everything five or 10 bucks. That makes everybody happy.

TOM: You also can search online (or beg a grandchild to do it for you, Rick!) for "full-service gas stations" in your area. There aren't a lot of them left, these days, but there seem to be at least a few in every city. If you find one of those nearby, take your business there.

RAY: You'll pay for those services there, too, but it'll be in the form of a few extra cents a gallon. And you'll even get your windshield cleaned. Wouldn't that be a treat?

Changing your oil regularly is the cheapest insurance you can buy for your car, but how often should you change it? Find out by ordering Tom and Ray'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.

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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USD To Host Research Conference March 21



Helmer

VERMILLION — The University of South Dakota will host its first Spanish Undergraduate Research (SUR) Conference at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 21, at the Muenster University Center, room 225.

Organized by the Spanish programs at USD, the University of Sioux Falls and Briar Cliff University, the SUR Conference, which is sponsored by the USD College of Arts & Sciences and the Office of Diversity at USD, will provide students a forum to share their research interests in Spanish with undergraduate students of seven universities. Papers will be presented in Spanish using various disciplines of the Spanish-speaking world, including the indigenous cultures of Latin America, Hispanic literature, colonial history of Latin America, social issues, immigration, art and religion.

"This is a great opportunity for our students to be active participants in a conference and to share their intellectual interests, to meet other students and professors, and to network," stated Angela Helmer, Ph.D., assistant professor of Spanish at USD. "It's also a great platform for them to showcase, in Spanish, their research interests and their accomplishments as Spanish majors."

In addition to paper presentations and shared research information, the SUR Conference includes a 4 p.m. lecture, "Making Writing Real," by Harriet Turner, the Harold E. Spencer Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Turner's lecture will focus on fiction writing and its persuasion of the liveliness and truth of what is only imagined. Her examples include "Portrait of a Lady" by Henry James; "La Regenta" by Leopoldo Alas and "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd.

For more information about the SUR Conference, visit www.usd.edu/languages.

SCHOLASTICS

BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

SIoux CITY, Iowa — Briar Cliff University Spanish majors Breann Hansen, Arvada, Colo., and Sydney Hoffman, McCook Lake, S.D., have been selected to present in the first Spanish Undergraduate Research (SUR) Conference on Thursday, March 21, at the University of South Dakota (USD), Vermillion.

At the event, scheduled from 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Munster University Center, 26 Spanish undergraduates from seven universities in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Louisiana will use the Spanish language to present their research.

Hansen will discuss her research on the controversy of bullfighting in Spain with her paper titled "Las corridas de toros en España: arte y controversia" (Bullfighting in Spain: art and controversy). Hoffman will compare educational systems in South Dakota and Mexican region of Zacatecas in her research paper titled "Entre Zacatecas y South Dakota: una comparación de sus sistemas educativos."

Also attending the conference will be a large group of BCU students majoring or minoring in Spanish, led by Dr. Carlos Vargas-Salgado, assistant professor of Spanish at Briar Cliff. Hosted by USD's Spanish Program, the conference is a collaborative effort among the Spanish programs at Briar Cliff University, the University of Sioux Falls and USD.

ica Arens, Mariah Dendinger, Kelsey Sanger
HONOR ROLL: Krista Zavadič
MERIT ROLL: Josh Allen

MEG HENRICKSON

The Concordia College speech team, Moorhead, Minn., received 10 qualifications at the District 4 Qualifying Tournament. Senior Meg Henrickson, the daughter of Andrew and Teresa Henrickson, Yankton, took first place individually in Prose.

Concordia will send students in 44 events to the national tournament at Hutchinson Community College, Hutchinson, Kan., April 6-8, 2013.



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Raffle

From Page 1

"(Student council member Sophie Drotzman) came up with the idea when we were just brainstorming ideas to reward our students for good grades, and they really ran with it," she said. "They took it upon themselves to go out and collect donations from businesses so that we could do a raffle that didn't cost the students any money."

The prizes include four \$10 gift certificates to Bonanza, two \$10 gift certificates to Fryn' Pan, a Starbucks gift card, two Dairy Queen blizzards, seven meals from McDonald's and a \$50 gift card to Fryn' Pan (grand prize).

"We had great responses from the businesses," Tasa said. "We'd like to thank them for all their donations."

Kindle said he wasn't surprised with the student council's effort, as YHS students are always looking for ways to help others. The students have held multiple fundraisers for cancer patients this year, and a shoe drive helped collect more than 1,000 pairs of shoes.

"Our student body is incredible when people are in need or they feel there is an opportunity to recognize their peers," he said. "Yankton High School is full of compassionate students who will put others before themselves."

Tasa said the raffle has be-

come a hot topic at the school, and with the attention it has received, she hopes to continue the raffle in the future as a way to reward students and inspire others. "We hope to encourage some of those students that are 'B' students to work a little bit harder, find some satisfaction from it, and continue to get good grades," she said.

You can follow Derek Bartos on Twitter at twitter.com/d_bartos



Loecker-Jueden
Emily Mae Loecker and Regg John Jueden announce their engagement

and upcoming marriage. Parents of the couple are Keith and Michelle Loecker and Ron and Sheila Jueden, all of Hartington, NE.

The bride-elect is currently attending Mount Marty College in Yankton for Elementary and Special Education. The groom-elect works for Jueden Lawn Service in Hartington, NE.

The couple is planning a May 24, 2013 wedding at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hartington, NE.

Thank you

Our family wants to express our thank you to all who helped with the final days of our mother, **Josephine Kast**. We acknowledge our gratitude to: The staff of Avera Sister James Care Center; Riverfront, Dr. Beth Mikkelsen, Avera Pastoral Care & Sacred Heart Hospice, Kevin Opsahl, Tami Keller and staff at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home for their compassionate care. Thanks to Fr. David Fulton, Fr. Timothy Lange, the organist & choir at St. Boniface Church for the beautiful service. The grandchildren for being pallbearers, great-grandchildren who participated in the service. Thank you to the St. Boniface funeral committee for preparing and serving the meal.

A special thank you to all our families, friends and neighbors who called, sent flowers, brought in food, gave memorials or just took time to share a special moment with us. All your kindness and prayers mean so much. GOD BLESS YOU.

Lawrence & Shirley Kast
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