

American Life in Poetry

The Holy Sounds You May Hear 'In The Dark'

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

Poetry is a good way to capture epiphanies, and this poem by Penny Harter does just that. Harter lives and teaches in New Jersey.

IN THE DARK

At bedtime, my grandson's breath rasps in and out of fragile lungs. Holding the nebulizer mask over his nose and mouth, I rock him on my lap and hum a lullaby to comfort him. The nebulizer hisses as steroids stream into his struggling chest, and suddenly he also starts to hum, his infant voice rising and falling on the same few notes — some hymn he must have learned while in the womb or carried here from where he was before — a kind of plainsong, holy and hypnotic in the dark.

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 © 2013 by Penny Harter, "In the Dark," from The Resonance Around Us (Mountains and Rivers Press, 2013). Poem reprinted by permission of Penny Harter and Mountains and Rivers Press. 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.

SESD SHRM To Be Held In Yankton April 29-May 1

The Southeast South Dakota Society for Human Resource Management (SESD SHRM) Chapter is hosting the annual South Dakota State SHRM Conference on April 29-30 and May 1 in Yankton, South Dakota.

The SESD SHRM Chapter is one of seven local chapters throughout South Dakota affiliated with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), and is the host for the 2015 annual conference.

The chapter's planning committee began meeting and planning for this conference two years ago to create a conference agenda full of top-quality speakers covering a wide range of topics which will interest and educate any and all human resource and business professionals, or anyone who wants to attend.

International speaker, author and former NFL cheerleader, Candy Whirley from Kansas City, will help kick off the conference on Wednesday with her lively presentation titled, "It Takes 4 to Tango," exploring the secrets to connecting and partnering with other personality styles.

Other conference presentations will explore navigating change, team building, legal updates, violence in the workplace, rebranding the HR image and ways for businesses to educate their employees

about health care costs.

Yankton native Alice Dendinger, a senior professional in human resources with more than 30 years of experience in the field, will present a half-day workshop on Friday, examining what it takes to build cohesive and effective teams within your organization. Dendinger's presentation style is engaging, and her subject matter has effective take-away tips and tools you can immediately put to good use.

The conference also features a large vendor exposition, showcasing vendors from businesses, banking, customer service, human resources, health and safety. This expo gives attendees the no-obligations opportunity to explore products and resources which could help them and their employers with their business needs or challenges. Booth spaces are still available for anyone who would like to display your company or products.

The full conference agenda with attendee or vendor registration information can be found at the SESD SHRM chapter website, <http://sesd.shrm.org/>. If questions, contact Lizz Nedved at 605-665-6948. Register by March 31, 2015 to get the best rate. Registrations accepted through April 22, 2015.

SCHOLASTICS

GRETCHEN ROPS

SIoux CENTER, Iowa — Gretchen Rops of Davis participated in the 2015 PAS Conference at Honey Creek Resort in Moravia, Iowa. Rops was a member of the Crop Specialist Team that finished in first place (Rop took 2nd individual honors). She also took first place individual honors for Prepared Speaker in Ag. Rops is a junior majoring in Agriculture; Missions. She also has a minor in Spanish.

This year, 230 students from 11 Iowa colleges competed, and 31 Dordt College Ag

Club members competed on 11 teams and in 13 individual events.

Dordt qualified for 27 spots at the National PAS competition, taking place in March.

PAS, the national Postsecondary Agriculture Student organization, is associated with agriculture/agribusiness and natural resources offering to approved postsecondary institutions. PAS is one of 10 career and technical student organizations approved by the U.S. Department of Education as an integral part of career and technical education.

Car Talk

Moisture Causes Mazda Misfire With Short Circuit

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Car Talk: I have a 2002 Mazda Protege, and it has been fairly reliable all these years. A little more than a year ago, I was driving home from work one night after a heavy rainstorm, and I hit a huge puddle at around 30 mph. A wave of water came over my hood and windshield. My engine light immediately came on, and my engine started to misfire. That continued until I got home. The next morning when I started the car, the engine light came on and the car misfired. After about 10 minutes of driving, the misfiring went away. That pattern continued for about three days. On the fourth day, the engine started normally and seemed fine. A couple of days later, the engine light went out. Things were then fine for a few days, until it rained overnight. The next morning, the light came on again, and the engine started misfiring again. Now it happens whenever it has rained or when it's very humid. My feeling is that when I hit the water with a hot engine, something cooled and cracked, exposing something electrical, and the humidity is causing the problem. Any ideas? — Jim

This sounds like the most basic of



Ray MAGLIOZZI

water-related automotive issues. Jim. This car has an old-fashioned distributor cap and rotor. Most likely, when you forded the Nile that night, you got water inside the distributor cap, and it's causing the misfire by creating a short circuit. And I'd suspect that your problem is exacerbated by old spark plug wires that "leak" electricity

when there's moisture or lots of humidity in the air. This used to happen to cars all the time. Distributors and old wires would get wet on rainy days, and cars would die and strand people. AAA towing service still refers to that time as "The Golden Age." But with distributorless ignition systems now, and fuel injection that prevents flooding, cars that don't start or run in the rain are really rare.

In your case, what's happening is that the moisture that's stuck inside the distributor cap is compromising your spark. The spark is sufficient when all the other conditions are perfect, but once rain or moist air

steal additional energy via the old spark plug wires, the engine starts misfiring.

Eventually, as the engine heats up, the moisture in the distributor evaporates, the plug wires warm up and dry out a bit, and the cylinders all fire. But when the engine gets cold, the moisture re-condenses inside the distributor cap, and on the next rainy morning, you have the same problem.

While you might be able to fix it by simply removing the distributor cap and drying it out really well, I'd recommend replacing the cap, the rotor and the wires. That stuff's cheap, Jim. And it should solve all of your moisture-related problems. Except those bad hair days. Good luck.

Car Talk shares secrets on how you can save tens of thousands of dollars on your cars over the next 20 years in the 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.

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.

© 2015, Ray Magliozzi and Doug Berman

MS All-State Musicians



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Michael Drotzmann, 8th grade trumpet, and Jonathan Wenisch, 6th grade trombone, represented Yankton Middle School at South Dakota Middle School All-State Band held in Huron March 6-7. Both Drotzmann and Wenisch were first chairs of their respective sections in the Festival Band. They had two days of intense rehearsals and the event was culminated by a concert presented to a packed theatre. To be selected to the band, students must prepare and record rigorous audition materials which are then ranked by adjudicators. Hundreds of audition recordings are submitted each year throughout the state. Drotzmann is the son of Jim Drotzmann and Kim Olson, and Wenisch is the son of Brian and Gwen Wenisch. YMS 7th grader Lexi Rust, daughter of Joe and Lori Rust, was also not far from being selected to the band as her audition recording ranked well into the top half of 80 flute players from across the state.

BIRTHDAYS

LLOYD SEGER

Lloyd Seger's 90th birthday celebration has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 28, from 3-5 p.m. at Majestic Bluffs Senior Living, Yankton.



Seeger

Lloyd turned 90 on March 16, 2015.

Food Hub Planning Meeting In Mitchell

MITCHELL — The second day-long planning meeting to establish a food hub in southeastern South Dakota will be held Friday, March 27, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in Mitchell. The group of interested producers and resource providers will meet in Room 503 in the Trades Building at Mitchell Technical Institute. Newcomers interested in selling food they've grown through the hub are welcome.

A food hub is a cooperative

venture between local food producers that allows for aggregation and marketing to wholesale and retail vendors, such as restaurants and institutions. A one-year grant from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service is allowing regional producers to spend time planning for the structure that will work for them.

Agenda items will include establishing values for the hub, thinking about logistics and planning for "Meet the Farmer" receptions for potential clients this spring.

For more information, contact Kari O'Neill, SDSU Community Development Field Specialist, at 685-6972 or kari.oneill@sdsdstate.edu.

Get your hands on a home improvement loan.



Finding the cash to improve your home has never been easier.

Services Center Federal Credit Union...
Yankton · Springfield · Parkston
www.scfcu.net
Federally Insured by NCUA

A prayer in it's simplest definition, is merely a wish turned heavenward.
—Phillips Brooks

Riverview Reformed Church

1700 Burleigh St., Yankton, 665-9204
www.riverviewreformed.org

BONUS CASH DAYS

March 16th to 27th

Lunch will be served in Lesterville, March 26th from 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Take advantage of great new rebates on **MICHELIN** and **Firestone** Ag Tires.

Bonus Cash Day Specials

- \$7 off oil changes
- \$30 off set of 4 passenger or light truck tires
- 50 cents off Package Cenex oil
- 15% Discount on ALL service work

Tabor Lumber Cooperative

104 Main St • Lesterville 605-364-7522
137 N. Lidice • Tabor 605-463-2251