

AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY:

Private Pleasures Of A Lost Parent

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

Here's a poem by Susan Meyers, of South Carolina, about the most ordinary of activities, washing the dishes, but in this instance remembering this ordinary routine provides an opportunity for speculation about the private pleasures of a lost parent.

MOTHER, WASHING DISHES

She rarely made us do it—
we'd clear the table instead—so my sister and I teased
that some day we'd train our children right
and not end up like her, after every meal stuck
with red knuckles, a bleached rag to wipe and wring.
The one chore she spared us: gummy plates
in water greasy and swirling with sloughed peas,
globes of egg and gravy.

Or did she guard her place
at the window? Not wanting to give up the gloss
of the magnolia, the school traffic humming.
Sunset, finches at the feeder. First sightings
of the mail truck at the curb, just after noon,
delivering a note, a card, the least bit of news.

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LIFE DIGEST

Photos Contest For 150th Calendar Reopened

The Yankton and Dakota Territory Sesquicentennial Committee is reopening the digital photography calendar contest due to the fact that most digitals received did not meet the specification requirements and are therefore, cannot be used.

The 2011 calendar with the theme "Yankton Landmarks" will be printed as a part of our Sesquicentennial celebration. Twelve digitals will be chosen to include in the calendar and photographers will be credited for their work.

This contest opens immediately and will close at 5 p.m. Sunday May 16. Image size for the submissions must be 12 inches wide x 9 inches tall (300 dpi). Digitals must be submitted on a device that will not be returned to you. All entries should be submitted to Kathy Jacobs at the Yankton Community Library, 515 Walnut.

For further information call the library at 668-5275 or e-mail kjacobs@sdln.net.

Sen. Johnson To Visit Clay Co. Wednesday

From P&D Staff Reports

Sen. Tim Johnson has announced that Erik Nelson of his Sioux Falls office will hold an Economic Development Outreach Day on Wednesday.

Nelson will visit Wakonda and Vermillion, including the University of South Dakota.

If local residents would like to make an appointment with Nelson, they may call 1-800-537-0025.

Johnson encourages South Dakotans to call, write or visit his service offices in Rapid City, Aberdeen, Sioux Falls or Washington, D.C. to share their concerns.

South Dakotans may also call Johnson's office toll-free by dialing (800) 537-0025 or e-mail at <http://johnson.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=ContactForm>.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

YAPG

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haven't been addressed and transportation access issues. When we can address some of those issues up front with preliminary engineering, we look that much better."

Russell recalled an experience he had while working in Kansas where a national firm came to look at what was considered the community's "crown jewel" property for development. No preliminary engineering or other site preparation had been done, however. When the company did its own study, it found a high-pressure gas line running through the middle of the property, nearby roads that weren't engineered for commercial traffic and a railroad spur that had been abandoned decades before but was still on the books.

At that point, the company left and told the community to call back if it could get the railroad issue addressed.

Russell said the better option is for a community to do that work up front so such potential deal-breakers can be avoided.

Similar challenges were uncovered when looking for a place in the community that Dakota Trailer could expand, Russell and others pointed out during Monday's meeting. The company recently announced a deal with the city and YAPG that will allow it to build a new facility on property along Gehl Drive and grow its labor force by 49 jobs within four years.

The site that was selected had issues with sewer capacity, drainage, a potential gas line and electric company easements. Eventually, those challenges were overcome.

"The ideal is to have a construction-ready business park," Russell said.

They are commonplace in

Should I Gamble On A Used Car?

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:
I'm 17 years old and trying to buy my first car, without fiscal help from my parents. I have about \$4,500 to spend, but I'm trying to keep it under that. A neighbor is selling a 1993 convertible Olds Cutlass Supreme. It's in fantastic cosmetic shape, there's not a dent in it, it has a brand-new top and it looks fantastic. The problem is that it doesn't run. It needs a new timing belt, which I know can lead to other problems. However, the owners have all of the records from when it was bought new in '93, including every oil change. It was garaged for 11 of those years. They're asking about \$2,000, but will take anything above \$1,500. Should I buy it, knowing that nothing else is currently wrong besides the timing belt, and that I have the money to fix things that go wrong? — Laura

TOM: Maybe. It has a few things going for it. Buying a car from a relative or family friend can be a great way for a young person to buy a first car, because you know the car's history, and presumably, a friend or relative won't withhold crucial information from you.

RAY: It's also a great way to start a family or neighborhood feud that can go on for generations!

TOM: But let's assume the neighbors are honest, and are telling you what they know about the car.

RAY: That still leaves one major downside to this deal: The car doesn't run.

TOM: Right. And since it doesn't run, it's really impossible to evaluate it. Even if your neighbors are honest, there may be things



CLICK & CLACK

wrong that they don't know about. So you're buying a "pig in a poke," as they used to say.

RAY: Or an "Olds on a lawn," as we say nowadays.

TOM: Here's what I'd do. Since these folks presumably haven't had a lot of offers for this beauty, offer them this deal: Tell them you'll pay them \$2,000 minus the cost of the repairs it needs.

RAY: And get them to agree to let you take it one step at a time.

TOM: As a first step, you pay to have it towed to a mechanic. If it passes a visual inspection (the mechanic doesn't see a crack in the transmission housing or a rusted-out undercarriage) and he thinks it has a chance to be a decent car, then you take the next step.

RAY: The next step is that you pay to

replace the timing chain and get it running. By the way, I think both available engines on this car had timing chains rather than timing belts.

TOM: Once it's running, then your mechanic can do a real "blue plate special" on it. He can drive it. He can do a compression test. He can pressurize the cooling system and check for leaks. He can really evaluate the car and try to identify everything that's obviously wrong with it.

RAY: The best-case scenario, then, is that all it needs is a timing chain. Say that costs you \$800. You give the neighbors \$1,200, and the car is yours. And that's a good deal.

TOM: But if it turns out that the radiator won't hold water, the cylinder head is cracked, the transmission doesn't shift and the steering rack is leaking like Old Faithful, then you give them the car back and walk away.

RAY: But you'll be out the money you spent on the towing, the mechanic's evaluation and the timing chain. Which means you'll have only \$3,500 to spend on your next nutty idea, Laura!

TOM: So it's a calculated risk. But if the sellers are willing to share the risk with you - and I'm guessing they're dying to get this thing off their front lawn - it could be a risk worth taking. But take it a step at a time. And let us know what happens.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

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KAGAN

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At 50 years old and with lifetime tenure, Kagan could extend Obama's court legacy by decades. Her vote could be the difference on cases that shape American liberties and the scope of the government's power.

The choice also makes history for Obama, and he reveled in it. After being the first president to appoint a Hispanic justice last year in Sonia Sotomayor, he would also be the one who ensured that three women would serve on the court at the same time. Kagan would join Sotomayor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Mentioning Kagan's late mother, Obama said: "I think she would relish, as do I, the prospect of three women taking their seat on the nation's highest court for the first time in history — a court that would be more inclusive, more representative, more reflective of us as a people than ever before."

If confirmed, Kagan would not be expected to alter the balance of power on the court. While she might vote the same way as Stevens on a range of issues and has a reputation of bridging divides, she can't be expected immediately to fill Stevens' role as chief emissary to the justice who often is the swing vote needed for a majority, Anthony Kennedy.

systems," he said. "They took a gamble."

The more prepared a community is, the better its chances of landing a deal, Russell explained.

"Site selection is not a process of picking the right one, it's eliminating the ones that don't meet your needs," he said.

Wyoming, for example, because the state recognized that they are important when trying to attract companies, according to Russell.

"They put a lot of money from the state level in the local communities to expand water, sewer, electrical, gas and road

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Child Care Providers Day Is Observed

PIERRE — In honor of child care providers who care for more than 34,300 children in South Dakota, Gov. Mike Rounds declared Friday, May 7, 2010, as Provider Appreciation Day.

"We encourage parents with children in childcare to take this day to show their child care providers how much they appreciate them," said Patricia Monson, division director of the Department of Social Services, Division of Child Care Services. "It takes a special person to work in this field, and these individuals are our state's unsung heroes."

By calling attention to the importance of high quality child care services for children and families, Monson said the Division of Child Care Services hopes to continue and expand efforts to support the improvement and availability of such services. At 47 percent, South Dakota has twice the national average of children under age six in paid child care.

Monson said the availability of quality child care is both vital for the healthy growth and development of the state's children and important for maintaining a strong workforce. Currently in South Dakota, there are 901 family child care providers who provide care in a

home setting, 237 child care centers that offer care to 13 or more children in various types of facilities, and 152 before and after-school programs operating in schools, churches and community centers.

Licensed and registered child care creates more than 4,400 jobs in South Dakota, making child care fundamental to a strong state economy. Monson said quality child care benefits all South Dakota communities by enabling businesses to hire workers, decrease absenteeism and increase productivity.

"Child Care Services encourages everyone to acknowledge

and support those providing child care in every South Dakota community on May 7," Monson said. "It is one of the most important professions."

For information about the services that Child Care Services provides to both parents and child care providers, visit the agency's Web site at www.state.sd.us/social/ccs/ccs/home.htm.

YOU'RE NEWS!
The Press & Dakotan

50th Wedding Anniversary




Kent, Bruce, and Paul De Jong are pleased to announce the 50th Anniversary of Anne and Lawrence De Jong of Yankton, SD. On May 14, 1960, Anna Mae Dennis and Lawrence Ramon De Jong were married in Platte, SD.

In honor of their anniversary, the "boys" request that you shower them with greeting cards at 911 West 13th Street, Yankton, SD 57078.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence De Jong

Announcing...

Brandy Evans

Brandy is available for hair appointments, as well as pedicures and manicures. Brandy joins Carmen, Gerri & Michelle.

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Hair AND Beyond



Meet

Dr. Raval,

Neurologist


YANKTON MEDICAL CLINIC, P.C. IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE ASSOCIATION OF **Jugal T. Raval, M.D.**
Board Eligible Neurologist

Dr. Raval is a graduate of Government Medical College, India. He completed his Internal Medicine residency training at Civil Hospital, India, followed by his Neurology residency training which was completed at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Additionally, Dr. Raval completed a post-residency fellowship in neurophysiology, electromyography and electroencephalography at the University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama.

Please join with us in welcoming Dr. Raval and his wife, Jyoti, to the Yankton area. The Clinic is pleased to bring a Neurologist to our medical community as well as to the many patients he will serve.

Dr. Raval began seeing patients at the Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. on May 10, 2010. Appointments can be made by calling 605-665-1082.


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