

## LIFE IN POETRY

# The Artful Way Of Telling A Story

BY TED KOOSER

U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

Somebody tells somebody else about something that happened. It comes naturally. We've been doing that for as long as our species has been around. But to elevate an anecdote into art requires more than just relating an incident. It requires a talent for pacing, for detail, for persuasion, and more. Here David Black, of Virginia, tells a good story in an artful manner.

## SLEEPERS

A sleeper, they used to call it—  
 four passes with the giant round saw  
 and you had a crosstie, 7 inches by 9 of white oak—  
 at two hundred pounds nearly twice my weight  
 and ready to break finger or toe—

like coffin lids, those leftover slabs,  
 their new-sawn faces turning gold and brown  
 as my own in the hot Virginia sun,  
 drying toward the winter and the woodsaw

and on the day of that chore  
 I turned over a good, thick one  
 looking for the balance point

and roused a three-foot copperhead,  
 gold and brown like the wood,  
 disdaining the shoe it muscled across,

each rib distinct as a needle stitching leather,  
 heavy on my foot as a crosstie.

*American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation, <http://thepoetryfoundation.org>. Createsend5.com/v/v/uuuudut/sljhdht/y/> publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2000 by David Black, whose most recent book of poetry is The Clown in the Tent, Persimmon Tree Press, 2010. Reprinted by permission of David Black. Introduction copyright ©2011 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.*

## SOCIAL SECURITY

## Military Service And S. S.: A Veterans Day Reminder

BY JENNIFER H.

Social Security Claims Representative in Yankton

Each year, on November 11, America observes Veterans Day and honors the men and women who have served in our nation's Armed Forces. Many of our Vietnam era veterans are now nearing retirement age, or already there. It is important that they — and other American service personnel — know just what retirement benefits they can count on from Social Security as they make their future financial plans.

Like most of the civilian workforce, all current military personnel pay Social Security taxes and earn Social Security coverage. Earnings for active duty military service or active duty training have been covered under Social Security since 1957. Also, earnings for inactive duty service in the reserves (such as weekend drills) have had Social Security coverage since 1988.

In addition to regular military pay, Social Security adds special earnings credits to an individual's Social Security record when he or she serves in the military. The extra earnings are for periods of active duty or active duty training. If, for example, a person served in the military between 1957 and 1977, he or she has been credited with \$300 in additional earnings for each calendar quarter in which active duty basic pay was earned. These extra earnings may help someone qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of the Social Security benefit.

The number of credits an individual needs to qualify for Social

Security depends on his or her age and the type of benefit. Any future Social Security benefit payment depends on a person's earnings, averaged over a working lifetime. Generally, the higher a person's earnings, the higher his or her Social Security benefit will be.

And remember that Social Security is more than retirement. If a worker becomes disabled before reaching retirement age, he or she may be eligible for Social Security disability benefits. A disabled worker's spouse and dependent children also may be eligible for benefits. If a worker dies, the widow or widower and dependent children may be eligible for Social Security survivors benefits.

If you, or someone you know, were wounded while on active duty in the military, find out more about what Social Security can do by visiting our website designed specifically for wounded warriors:

www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors. There, you will find answers to a number of commonly asked questions, as well as other useful information about disability benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Veterans and others who are within 10 years of retirement age should begin planning for retirement. A good place to start is with Social Security's Retirement Estimator at

www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. For more information, you can read our fact sheet, Military Service and Social Security, which is available on our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10017.html.

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

www.cartalk.com

Dear Tom and Ray:

I heard a caller on your radio show a few weeks ago ask whether passengers are obligated to pay for speeding tickets, and this prompted an old discussion between my friends and me about a similar situation we had several years ago. Two friends and I went on a road trip throughout the West Coast for six weeks in my brand-new car. Because my car was the most reliable, I agreed that it would make the most sense to go in my car (despite the wear and tear that the long trip would put on my vehicle). While we were in Yosemite National Park in California, we had an incident. One morning we woke up, and when we arrived at my car, the passenger-side window was smashed in and the seats were torn out. My instinct was burglary, until I saw crystal-clear bear paw prints all over the interior and outside of the car. The insurance company looked at me like I was nuts when I told them a bear had done it, but they covered the damage and charged me the \$500 deductible. Were my two friends obligated to pay in whole or in part for the deductible?

TOM: I'd say yes.

RAY: Sure. If you guys had borrowed a car, for instance, from a third party, and a bear broke the window, you all would have been equally responsible, right? I mean, the only reason the car was parked where a bear could break into it was because you guys were collectively enjoying the park. So you should have split the deductible three ways.

TOM: That's a pretty cut-and-dry case. It



## CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

gets a little dicier when you're dealing with car repairs that have no single, clear cause.

RAY: For instance, let's say your car wasn't brand new. Let's say it had 70,000 miles on it and you and your friends took a 5,000-mile trip in it. And let's say that along the way, the transmission died. Well, the trip probably contributed to the transmission failure, but it wasn't necessarily the cause. The transmission could have been failing for 70,000 miles because you'd been driving like an animal all that time.

TOM: So in that case, the passengers aren't each liable for a third of a transmission. It's very hard to determine exactly how much they are liable for, if anything.

RAY: That's why it's always best to steal a car before a trip like this. Just kidding, Craig.

TOM: Actually, one way to handle it is to

## KEEP YANKTON BEAUTIFUL

## Learning To See The Environment Around You

BY PAM FRICK

Keep Yankton Beautiful



Frick

Why am I an advocate for Keep Yankton Beautiful? Let me explain: While serving during WW2, my Dad spent 2 years in France and England. His letters from Europe would go into detail about the beauty he saw in the flowers, trees and green countryside. After the war, he came back to Yankton and built a commercial building in downtown Yankton at 314 Douglas that would house his design business and the new Christopherson Flower Shop that he and my Mother started (it is now the Sherwin Williams building).

One day Dad came racing through the front door of the flower shop and headed toward the corner of 3rd and Douglas. In the late 1940s there was a huge, beautiful tree on that corner. Someone was chopping it down! Of course, Dad was just sick. This was a high crime in his eyes. I will always remember that — the value of a tree.

With Dad opening my eyes to see the environment around me, I grew-up wanting to change the presentation of Yankton. At a young age I became very interested in getting rid of garbage and litter, and sprucing-up our town's commercial and private properties. Aside from a year in Fairbanks, Alaska, 3 kids, a husband and my own business (running the Carpenter's Shop for 20 years), I have spent any time I had on the beautification of Yankton.

In the late 1960s, I led a group of volunteers to clean-up Marne Creek. At that time it was full of tires, garbage, toilets, litter, and worse. It was then the idea of a greenbelt linear park was born. That park is now the Auld Brokaw Trail. When I was on the Yankton Parks Board, I lead a drive to canvass business owners on Broadway to create green

areas on their commercial property. In 2000, I was the Yankton County coordinator of Gov. Janklow's new program "spruce-up South Dakota." Then Bob Cappel came to Yankton as the Director of Chamber Services. Bob invited me and a group of interested people together to see what we thought of forming a local affiliate chapter of Keep America Beautiful.

Not long after that, in 2001, Keep Yankton Beautiful was born. KYB has been active in Yankton for 10 years now. You cannot help but see the difference when you drive down Broadway, downtown Yankton or along Fourth Street. Many businesses have landscaped their own areas, some have asked KYB for guidance, and public areas have been much improved by KYB. And, in the Spring of 2012 in partnership with the City of Yankton, KYB will develop a park at the foot of the Meridian Bridge. This will be a very exciting addition for the City of Yankton.

It has taken a lot of work and incredible investment from businesses and community members

to make KYB and our projects, events and clean-ups successful. Please visit the "sponsor" tab of our website to see a complete list of KYB members and volunteers. We do not receive any operational funds from the city, state or federal government. It is the investment and support of concerned, engaged community members, organizations and businesses that keep us going. Please consider joining them to help us with the upcoming Meridian Bridge Park and our continued operation and growth. We would like to expand our efforts into Yankton County and towards improvements on East Highway 50. I am also very grateful to the Law Offices of Kennedy, Pier and Knoff for their ongoing support in providing us with our office space at 324 Walnut Street.

Our website is www.KeepYanktonBeautiful.org, facebook: Keep Yankton Beautiful, email: info@KeepYanktonBeautiful.org and phone is (605) 838-0665. We look forward to hearing from you!

## SCHOLASTICS

## TRIPP-DELMONT SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

## GOLD (\*4.0 GPA)

## Seniors

Kaitlin Buchholz  
Drake Duplessis  
Macey Fuerst

## Juniors

Liz Bitterman  
Lanae Fuerst\*  
Rachel Mora  
Sophomore  
Cara Finck

## Freshmen

Becca Brown  
Nyssa Fechner  
Dustin Fischer  
Patricia Fischer  
Hannah Just\*  
Jessica Sandau  
Payton Schafers\*  
Morgan Ziegler\*

## 8th Grade

Laura Brown\*  
Kelsey Buchmann  
Tara Droppers  
Ali Hanson  
Kayla Neugebauer  
Lauren Soulek

## 7th Grade

Whitney Fuerst\*

## SILVER

## Seniors

Chris Cap  
Kala Meisenhoelder  
Allison Mora  
Dylan Peters

## Freshmen

Austin Bitterman  
Aaron Torres  
April Torres

## BRONZE

## Seniors

Ricky Brunette

Brittany Smith  
Rachel Soulek

## Juniors

Brice Caery  
Jordan Gregerson  
Kayla Kotalik  
Morgan Polreis

## Sophomore

Rochelle Dicus

## Freshman

Austin Fischer  
Tanner Nuss  
Ashley Sundet

## 8th Grade

Samantha Faas

Ashlea Fischer  
Malorie Fischer  
Jeana Nuss

## 7th Grade

Logan Fechner  
Alexis Gregerson  
Laura Huether  
Noah Schafers

## PERFECT ATTENDANCE

## Seniors

Macey Fuerst  
Katelyn Heisinger

## Juniors

Kelli Batterman

Liz Bitterman  
Lanae Fuerst

## Freshmen

Austin Bitterman  
Hannah Just

## 8th Grade

Samantha Faas  
Ali Hanson  
Kayla Neugebauer  
Lauren Soulek

## 7th Grade

Ashley Cap  
Whitney Fuerst  
Alexis Gregerson  
Laura Huether

## Johnson Electric, LLP

214 Capitol • Yankton, SD

Commercial • Residential • Trenching

605-665-5686

Gary Johnson  
Rick Merkel • Ben Merkel

**Honoring those who protect and serve our country.**

## Veteran's Day

November 11, 2011



To recognize the military veterans and active-duty service members in our community, Avera Sacred Heart Wellness Center is hosting a Wellness Day. Join us on:

**Friday, November 11  
 8 - 11 a.m.**

**Show your Military ID and enjoy a free one-month membership to the Wellness Center!**

- Free bone density screenings
- Free blood pressure screenings
- Free seated chair massages
- Flu Shots (\$20)
- Discount on Biofreeze products
- Recognition wall with a star for your name and military branch
- Light snacks and refreshments

**The event is free and open to the public.**

The Wellness Center is located on the 2nd floor of the Surgery Center.

(605) 668-8357  
 501 Summit Street  
 Yankton, SD 57078

**Avera**  
 Sacred Heart  
 Wellness Center

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 Yankton, SD 57078  
**665-9393**



Tom Cihak



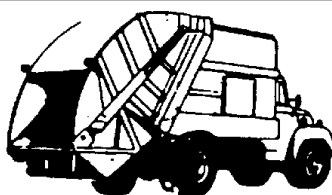
Linda Behl

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**HOLIDAY  
 GARBAGE &  
 RECYCLING  
 COLLECTION  
 SCHEDULE**

## NO COLLECTION Friday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011

All Thursday & Friday routes will be picked up on Thursday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>. All other routes as scheduled.

**TRANSFER STATION WILL BE  
 CLOSED FRI., NOV. 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2011.**

PLEASE HAVE YOUR GARBAGE  
 & RECYCLABLES PLACED BY 7 A.M.

City offices will be closed Friday, November 11