

Life In Poetry

Poet Remembers Family Vacations

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

As children, many of us played after dark, running out to the border of the reach of light from the windows of home. In a way, this poem by Judith Slater, who lives in New York State, remembers the way in which, at the edge of uncertainty, we turned back.

FAMILY VACATION

Four weeks in, quarreling and far from home, we came to the loneliest place. A western railroad town. Remember? I left you at the campsite with greasy pans and told our children not to follow me. The dying light had made me desperate. I broke into a hobbled run, across tracks, past warehouses with sun-blanked windows to where a playground shone in a wooded clearing. Then I was swinging, out over treetops. I saw myself never going back, yet whatever breathed in the mute woods was not another life. The sun sank. I let the swing die, my toes scuffed earth, and I was rocked into remembrance of the girl who had dreamed the life I had. Through night, dark at the root, I returned to it.

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 ©2011 by Judith Slater from her most recent book of poems, The Wind Turning Pages, Outriders Poetry Project, 2011. Reprinted by permission of Judith Slater and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2012 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.

Scout Troop Hosting Scrap Collection Dec. 1

Yankton Boy Scout Troop No. 133 will hold its monthly scrap newspaper and aluminum can collection Saturday, Dec. 1. Papers and cans will be picked up at the trailer courts and apartment complexes in Yankton. Also, paper and cans will be picked up at Riverside Acres.

Have newspapers and cans secured in sacks or small cardboard boxes and ready to be picked up by 9 a.m. Saturday.

Paper and cans may also be taken to the Riverview Park Reformed Church Parking Lot, 1700 Burleigh, between 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday.

For more information on the newspaper and aluminum can collection, call 665-0685. The Boy Scouts cannot handle tin or plastic. These need to be placed with the recycling the city picks up or taken directly to the landfill for recycling.

SAC To Offer Free Equipment Demonstrations

The Summit Activities Center will be offering free demonstrations on all weight and fitness equipment for both adult and youth ages 12-14 years. The demonstrations will be conducted by Summit Activities Center weight and fitness staff and are open to all SAC members.

Youth weight and fitness demonstrations will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, and 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18. Youth participants, ages 12-14 years, that complete the class will be allowed to use the weight and fitness area at the SAC.

Adult weight and fitness demonstrations will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, and 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 29.

To sign up for the class or request further information, call 668-5234 or stop by the Summit Activities Center at 1801 Summit Street. Remember to follow the Yankton Parks and Recreation Department on our Facebook Page.

Tour Of Homes Slated For Irene Dec. 9

IRENE — The 2012 Irene Tour of Homes will be held on Sunday, Dec. 9, running from 4-8 p.m.

The following homeowners have graciously agreed to open their homes for the event: John and Lauren Thompson, Simon and Amanda Healy, Justin and Tonya Rudd, and Hope Stadin.

The Irene Tour of Homes is coordinated by the Irene Community Club. Proceeds will be used to fund youth activities for the Irene community and all kids in the Irene-Wakonda school district.

Tickets will be sold at Torgy's Fitness Center on Main Street Irene beginning at 4 p.m. on Dec. 9. The tour and "treats" at each location.



AM 1450

MORNING COFFEE

WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY

Tuesday, November 27

7:40 am The Center (Christy Hauer)

8:20 am Welcome Center (Marilyn Schumacher)

8:45 am Dakota Terr. Museum (Crystal Nelson)

Wednesday, November 28

7:40 am Historic Downtown Yankton (Barb Rohde)

8:20 am Hy-Vee Foods (Chef Staci)

Silver Biotics

Immune Protection Against Bacterial & Viral Infections



Human ailments include: Sinus/ Yeast/Thrush, Respiratory, Ear Infections, Bronchitis, Fungal Infections, Strep, Urinary Tract & Retro Viral Infections, Conjunctivitis

Refill Certificates Available

Body Guard

Yankton Mall • 665-3482

Which Hybrid Vehicle Is Best?

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate

Dear Tom and Ray:

I drive a long way for work — about 310 miles round trip. Fortunately, I only have to do that eight or nine times each month, but it is still a long commute. I drive a 2008 Toyota Prius and average about 45 mpg going 70-75 mph and over the mountains to get there and back. I am considering the purchase of a replacement car, and have looked at the new Prius, the plug-in Prius and other hybrid and electric cars. I haven't found an electric-only car that has the range I need (even one way) for a reasonable price, and I am not sure if the additional cost for a plug-in hybrid really saves any money, as they provide electric-only operation for just the first 15 miles or so. My question is this: What is the best vehicle to maximize my fuel economy? I'm used to the Prius, but is there anything better out there that has a reasonable purchase price? Thanks for your help! —**John**

RAY: If excellent mileage at a reasonable price is what you're looking for, you really can't go wrong with another Prius, John.

TOM: I'd skip the plug-in Prius in your case; it's more expensive. And while the plug-in system will improve your overall mileage, it's designed to benefit you more if you do a lot of local driving, during which you can run primarily on the cheaper electric power.

RAY: But since you're driving 150 miles at a time, the regular Prius is going to get you 48



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

mpg on the highway (51 city), which is pretty darn good. And its reliability has been well demonstrated.

TOM: There are alternatives now — many more than when you bought your last Prius, in 2008. There are other Prius models of slightly different sizes, there's an improved (but not as good as the Prius, in our opinion) Honda Civic hybrid. The well-reviewed Ford Fusion hybrid gets slightly lower highway mileage, but it's larger, and you might find it more comfortable. Honda Accord is coming out with a hybrid version soon. And we found the Hyundai Sonata and Kia Optima hybrids very impressive, too.

RAY: There's also the brand-new Ford C-Max, which we haven't reviewed yet, but

which is a mini-minivan from Ford's European market that gets mileage very comparable to that of the Prius.

TOM: You also can look at the Volkswagen line of diesels — Golf, Jetta, Passat. They'll get you something in the low 40s on the highway, but the diesel fuel will cost you more per gallon.

RAY: So the good news is, at least you have more options now. Every year, we're seeing more and more credible high-mileage cars. So if you don't like the way the seat fabric chafes your butt in the Prius, now you can buy something else that's comparable. But if you're happy with the Prius, we don't have any reason to recommend against it.

To buy or not to buy — options, that is. Are options worth what you pay for them, or are you better off just going with the basics? Order Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" to find out. 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.

© 2012 BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI AND DOUG BERMAN

Constitution Subject Of USD Professor's Book

VERMILLION — The United States Constitution sets the framework for our entire political/governmental system, frequently producing heated debates about what this document means especially in an election year like 2012. Rather than arguing further or picking up where political pundits left off, Donald Dahlin, emeritus professor of political science at the University of South Dakota, has chosen to offer a different approach to the Constitution through his own thought-provoking analysis in his book, "We the People: A Brief Introduction to the Constitution and Its Interpretation."

Published by Palgrave Macmillan, the book was an idea that Dahlin, Ph.D, developed a couple of years ago when he decided that the Constitution is such an important document that it deserved an objective ap-



Dahlin

proach. So rather than focus on selling the reader his own interpretation, Dahlin wanted to write a book where, in the end, the reader makes his or her own judgments regarding constitutional issues.

While the first three chapters delve into the Constitution's structure and history, Dahlin devotes more than 80 pages to the "Top Ten Supreme Court Decisions" chapter, outlining a framework of legal decisions dating back more than two centuries interpreting the "supreme law of the land."

"Anyone who takes classes in government in college or a high school civics course is going to be confronted with the Constitu-

tion," said Dahlin, who has taught at USD since the fall of 1966. "I think it's more important for someone reading about the Constitution to be able to interpret its importance, its significance in their own way. It gives them a better inventory to use to change their own mind or reaffirm their own opinion."

The timing of Dahlin's book is also appropriate as its release comes on the heels of the Supreme Court's 2012 decision ruling the Affordable Care Act constitutional. He believes that decision and the state of the current political climate will drive readership of "We the People," which he authored to serve as a supplemental text for undergraduate classes in American Government or political science.

"We're not all going to agree," noted Dahlin, who is a Vice President for Academic Affairs Emeri-

tus at USD and a Fellow of the Institute for Court Management. "This book serves as a platform for our debates and it gives everyone a chance to become more knowledgeable about some of the Supreme Court's most recognizable decisions."

"We the People" is Dahlin's second book. In 1986, Associated Faculty Press published "Models of Court Management." While writing a book is an arduous process, Dahlin isn't ruling out publishing a third book. His expertise and research combined with subject matter derived from "We the People" have gotten him off to a good start, including a title: "The Supreme Court's Constitution: A Citizen's Guide."

For order information or for more about the author, go to www.amazon.com/Donald-C-Dahlin/e/B008HT2FTA/ref=ntt_at_hr_dp_pel_pop_1.

Cramer-Kenyon To Host Open House

Cramer-Kenyon Historic Home will once again offer its Holiday Open House Dec. 14-16. The home is located at 509 Pine St. in Yankton. The hours are 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 14, and 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 15-16.

This year Event and Decorations Chair Ruby Goeden announces that Frosty the Snowman will be in residence in the parlors and dining room to lend a festive welcoming presence. All "Frosties" which will be seen are vintage and some are one-of-a-kind.

The Board of Directors announced that "as our gift to the

community there will be no admission fee to the Eastlake Stick Style historic home this year, although a free will offering will be gratefully accepted".

The home is now handicap accessible with the addition of a lift at the rear entrance.

Wewant to make you a loan!

\$100 - \$3000

GENTRY FINANCE

228 Capital • Yankton

605-665-7955

CONVENIENT LOAN

1818 Broadway Suite D-1 • Yankton

605-665-1640

2 Room



Carpet Cleaning Special

\$75⁹⁵

Up to 300 sq. ft. Not good with any other offer. Must present coupon. Expires 12/15/12

Steamway CLEANING & RESTORATION

665-5700

1-800-529-2450

Travis Wishon IICRC Certified Technician



Purchase Holiday Greeting Cards

Designed by local children to support Newspapers In Education

Share the warmth of the holiday with these unique full color cards!

Only \$6.50 tax included for a package of 20 **While Supplies Last!**

These wonderful cards can be purchased during business hours Monday-Friday 8am-5pm at the

YANKTON DAILY **PRESS&DAKOTAN**

319 Walnut St., Yankton or call 665-7811, 1-800-743-2968

or at the

Vermillion **PLAIN TALK**
Serving our readers since 1981

201 W. Cherry, Vermillion, 624-4429




Holiday Open House Celebration

Thursday December 6th 10am to 7pm

- 50% off New or Upgraded Memberships
- Drawing for Digital Camera
- \$50 off Travel Voucher Giveaways
- Prizes • Cruise Specials

AAA South Dakota is excited to welcome **Jodie Frick** as the new manager of AAA Travel in Yankton! Jodie is a long time resident of Yankton and she is looking forward to helping you with your business and leisure travel needs.



We welcome you to stop by the office at 2503 Fox Run Parkway. Jodie is committed to giving you excellent, knowledgeable customer service!

Warm Air Heat Pumps, Geothermal and Air to Air

Quieter and 22° warmer than any other.

Available exclusively at...

Larry's HEATING & COOLING
920 Broadway • 665-9461

