

Life In Poetry

Poet Takes Perspective On Life From A Bridge

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

David St. John is a California poet whose meticulous care with every word has always impressed me. This poem is a fine example of how clarity can let us see all the way to the heart.

FROM A BRIDGE

I saw my mother standing there below me
On the narrow bank just looking out over the river

Looking at something just beyond the taut middle rope
Of the braided swirling currents

Then she looked up quite suddenly to the far bank
Where the densely twined limbs of the cypress

Twisted violently toward the storm-struck sky
There are some things we know before we know

Also some things we wish we would not ever know
Even if as children we already knew & so

Standing above her on that bridge that shuddered
Each time the river ripped at its wooden pilings

I knew I could never even fate willing ever
Get to her in time

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Library/Southeast Job Link Sponsoring Classes

The Yankton Community Library is holding two computer classes for adults in partnership with Southeast Job Link. E-mail Basics will be held on Sept. 14 and Microsoft Word on Sept 21. Both classes run from 10 a.m. to noon.

E-mail Basics will cover sending and receiving messages, using the address book and remembering important dates with the built-in calendar. Microsoft Word will cover letters, cards, mailing labels and more.

All classes are held at Southeast Job Link, 1200 West 21st Street. Payment of the registration fee at the library secures your seat in the class. Scholarships are available upon request. For more information, call the library at 668-5275.

Yankton Career Fair Planned For October

The Yankton Career Fair will be held at the Technical Education Center, 1200 W. 21st St., on Wednesday, Oct. 3. The fair runs from 3-7 p.m.

This is an opportunity for individuals to visit employers about local and regional job opportunities. Veterans and their spouses will be given priority of service.

This fair is sponsored by the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulations, the Regional Technical Education Center (RTEC), the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the VFW and VFW Post 791 Ladies Auxiliary, the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Yankton Office of Economic Development.

For more information, call 605-668-2900 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Interested In Racquetball? Call Parks & Rec

The Yankton Department of Parks and Recreation would like to compile a list of people who are interested in participating in a racquetball league in Yankton this winter of 2012-2013. If enough people are interested, then efforts will be made to organize a racquetball league. Please call, 668-5234 to leave your name and contact information, or e-mail tlaronson@cityofyankton.org, by September 30, 2012.

Chan Gurney Airport Breakfast Slated Sept. 16

An airport breakfast will be held on Sunday, Sept. 16, at the Hoffner hangar on the Chan Gurney Airport in Yankton. The event runs from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

The menu will include pancakes, sausage, orange drink, coffee and milk — plus lots of aviation displays and aircraft.

The event is sponsored by the Yankton Regional Aviation Association, Hy-Vee and Crop Dusters LLC. For more information, contact Steve Hamilton at 605-665-8448.

Support Group Meetings Planned At MMC

“Divorced, Separated and Widowed — an interfaith support group sponsored by Sacred Heart Monastery — will meet at Roncalli Center, Mount Marty College, Yankton, each Monday night at 7 p.m. beginning Sept. 17.

The program is a nine-week session created to help divorced, separated and widowed persons work through and deal with the different stages of grief in their lives.

For more information, call Carol Hamvas at 605-665-7158.

Tom And Ray Say Mom’s Right

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate

Dear Tom and Ray:

On a recent visit to my home, my “wonderful” mother expanded her range of “helpful” advice-giving to the manner in which I park my car on my steeply sloped driveway. She was deeply concerned about the order in which I engage park and the emergency brake. She advised me that by placing the car in park first and then engaging the emergency brake, I am sure to ruin the

transmission. Her motherly recommendation is, of course, to reverse the order, thereby saving the world. I’ve been unable to find either a confirmation or a denial regarding the proper order for my parking procedures. Would the brothers be willing to provide a final word on this matter? Thanks.

—Lynnay

TOM: Lynnay, we’re going to use the worst four words an adult daughter can hear: Your mother is right.

RAY: Well, her instructions are right. She’s wrong about the severity of the consequences, but she is correct that the preferred parking method on a hill is to deploy the parking brake first, to hold the car in place, and then put the transmission in park, to back up the parking brake.

TOM: Here’s why. Park works by using a ratcheting mechanism called the parking pawl to lock the output shaft of the transmission. Because of the way the differential



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

works, locking the output shaft allows the driven wheels to turn only if they move in opposite directions. So unless the car is being dragged or it slides (which ain’t easy if you’re a car), once it’s in park, it’s not going anywhere.

RAY: But because of the way that ratchet system is designed, if you put the car in park and then it rolls up or down a hill a few feet, the weight of the car ends up resting on the parking pawl, pushing it in tighter than it needs to go.

TOM: Will that ruin your transmission? No. But it can make it hard for you to get the car OUT of park when you go to drive away. Maybe you’ve even noticed this.

RAY: This is especially true of older cars,

where these parts have started to wear out and create “slop,” or in cars that have been parked incorrectly on hills for many years — like yours! Of course, it matters only on steeper hills.

TOM: By applying the parking brake first, you allow the brakes to do the job of holding the wheels in place, so the car doesn’t roll and push the park mechanism to the point where it’s difficult to remove.

RAY: Then, when you drive away, you do the opposite: You take the car out of park first, and then release the parking brake.

TOM: I know this is a tough blow to absorb, Lynnay. But just remember, this could be a completely isolated case of Mom being right, and have no bearing on whether she also was right about your first three husbands.

Auto repairs can be costly! Save money 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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Colleges Trying To Halt Binge Drinking

BY ROBERT MCCOPPIN
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CHICAGO — Catherine Sedun remembers binge drinking among students when she attended college about a decade ago. Despite an influx of programs to combat the problem in recent years, she says it remains a top concern on many campuses.

“These students work so hard to get into these universities, and once they get here, a lot of them spiral out of control with their freedom,” she said. “It’s time to party.”

In an attempt to save students from themselves, Sedun, a high school teacher and a graduate student at Northwestern University, headed the Red Watch Band program at the Evanston campus last year. The program teaches students to recognize the warning signs of alcohol poisoning — vomiting; cold, clammy skin; the inability to wake up — and to call for medical help.

It’s part of a wave of college initiatives meant to quell the chronic problem. The percentage of college students who binge drink — defined as five drinks for men and four drinks for women in two hours — has held steady at about 40 percent for most of the past decade, consistently more than non-college students, federal surveys show. Combining alcohol with energy drinks has fueled students’ ability to drink more and longer.

One estimate, from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, blames binge drinking for more than 1,800 college student deaths a year, mostly from drunken driving. Research shows that frequent binge drinkers are more likely to miss classes, get hurt, engage in risky sex and have problems in class.

They’re also happier than non-binge drinkers, according to a recent study at one school, but researchers say that seems to be because of their social status. Most often they’re white males involved in athletics and fraternities.

Acknowledging that some students are going to drink no matter what, many schools are practicing “harm reduction” — trying to save students from their own

worst behaviors.

At Northwestern, the issue has particular resonance. Nineteen-year-old freshman Matthew Sunshine died of alcohol poisoning in 2008 after a party in his dorm hall. As part of a settlement with his family, the school agreed to review its alcohol policy. The next year, Northwestern started the Red Watch Band program, developed at Stony Brook University in New York, where Sunshine’s mother worked.

NU also has joined the Learning Collaborative on High-Risk Drinking, in which 32 schools across the country are trying short-term changes to alcohol policy and monitoring the results. As part of its efforts, Northwestern employs BASICS, an assessment of students who get involved in alcohol-related medical or police incidents, and lowered the time for treatment from 30 to 20 days, according to Lisa Currie, director of health promotion and wellness.

“There is no magic bullet,” she said. “It’s small improvements ... that work together.”

Some freshman are subject to the new procedures even before they get to school. At DePaul University in Chicago, for example, students are required to take an online self-assessment to analyze their alcohol use before they get to campus.

Loyola University Chicago and the University of Illinois at Chicago also use the online program, called e-CHUG, or electronic Check-Up to Go.

Meanwhile, schools are working to offer alcohol-free events, like the Beer Free Zone at UIC, and NU Nights at Northwestern, which offered a showing of the movie “Chicago” with related dance lessons, or bingo with prizes such as iPods.

Harper College in Palatine offers a new class about drug and alcohol abuse in college, taught by a teacher who admits drinking once affected her own performance in school. Some schools even offer alcohol-free spring breaks.

At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, binge drinking has been notorious on dates such as Halloween and Unofficial St. Patrick’s Day, a daylong drunk-

Binge drinking among young

More than 38 million American adults binge drink about four times a month. Some of the demographics of that activity:

Drinking that brings a person’s blood alcohol concentration to 0.08 percent or higher:

For men 5 drinks in about 2 hours
For women 4 drinks in about 2 hours

18-34

U.S. age group with the most binge drinkers



42.2% of full-time college students ages 18 to 22 were binge drinkers in 2010



About 90% of the alcohol youth under the age of 21 drink is during binge drinking

35.6% of non-college students in that age group were binge drinkers in 2010

1,700

College students die each year from alcohol-related causes — 1,300 of these from drinking and driving

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

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fest sponsored by bars that were losing money when March 17 fell within spring break. In response, the school and city have tried to crack down on such events, including steps to limit alcohol availability and installing surveillance cameras.

All these efforts are a response to a study by the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcoholism that identified binge drinking as a top problem on campuses across the country a decade ago.

Since then, a survey of 747 college presidents reported by the Center for Science in the Public Interest found that nearly all colleges had implemented some form of alcohol education, with efforts targeting high-risk populations such as first-year students, sorority and fraternity members, and athletes. Thirty-four percent of colleges banned alcohol for all students, and 4 in 5 colleges offered an option for alcohol-free residences.

Still, success has varied. At some colleges, nearly 70 percent of the students were identified as binge drinkers; at others there were none.

It will take much harder work to make a dent in the problem, according to researchers such as Toben Nelson at the University of Minnesota, especially at big

schools with an emphasis on sporting events, which had the most problems. Harm reduction and screening help, he said, but research shows that telling students why they shouldn’t drink does little to change their behaviors.

He says colleges could do much more to limit the availability of alcohol, which saturates college culture. He points to a success story at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, which lowered its percentage of binge drinkers from the 60s to the 40s by limiting alcohol and requiring registration for parties so police could make sure they weren’t getting out of hand.

Research by the Harvard School for Public Health found that underage students in states with extensive laws restricting underage and high-volume drinking — such as keg registration, 0.08 driving laws and restrictions on happy hours, pitchers and advertising — were less likely to binge drink.

Schools may always have binge drinkers, Nelson said, but it’s defeatist to say nothing can be done to cut down on the severity and bad effects.

“You’re not going to stop it,” Nelson said. “The idea is to reduce it and keep a lid on it.”

Airport Breakfast Planned In Bloomfield Sept. 22

BLOOMFIELD, Neb. — An airport breakfast will be held at the Bloomfield airport on Saturday, Sept. 22, running from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

The menu will include pancakes, sausage, orange drink, coffee and milk.

There will also be a Young Eagles Rally from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The event is sponsored by Bloomfield Ag & Aerial Services and the Yankton Regional Aviation Association. For more information, contact Steve Hamilton at 605-665-8448.

65th Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Potts

Frank and Emma Lou Potts will be celebrating their 65th Wedding Anniversary with an open house on Sunday, September 16, 2012. The open house will be 2-4p.m. at Sigel Hall, 300th St. Utica, South Dakota.

They have 1 daughter, 2 grandsons, and 5 great grandchildren. The couple requests no gifts.

Engagement



Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Ibarolle, Yankton, wish to announce the engagement and pending marriage of their daughter, Leslie Diane Ibarolle to Jesse Lewis Mead, son of Kevin and Trina McGaffigan and the late Robert Mead, of Albion, Michigan.

1Lt. Ibarolle is stationed at Travis Air Force Base, Fairfield, California, where she is an RN at the David Grant Medical Center. Mr. Mead is the Director of Outdoor Recreation at Travis AFB. A September 29, 2012 wedding in the Black Hills is planned.

Anniversary Announcement

Orville and Darlene (Lucas) Ellwein are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The couple were married September 12, 1962 in Freeman, SD. Their family wish to congratulate them with a card shower. Greetings can be sent to 28436 436th Ave. Freeman, SD 57029

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A FREE ~ Fin-Tastic ~ Adventure awaits you at

Gavins Point National Fish Hatchery & Aquarium's

Open House

Saturday, Sept. 15
5-7 p.m.

South Side of Hwy 52, 4 miles W of Yankton

Fun, Food, Door Prizes, Free Hot dogs & Pop

Free admission to the aquarium & hatchery tours

Sponsored by The Friends of Gavins Point NFH & Aquarium