

American Life In Poetry

A Standing O

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

This may be the only poem ever written in which a person claps the mud from a pair of shoes! Michael McFee's poetry is just that original, in all of his books. His most recent is *That Was Oasis* (Carnegie Mellon Univ. Press, 2012), and he lives in North Carolina.

Ovation

He stood on his stoop
and clapped her sneakers together
hard, a sharp report,
smacking right sole against left,
trying to shock the mud
from each complicated tread,
spanking those expensive footprints
until clay flakes and plugs
ticked onto the boxwood's leaves
like a light filthy sleet
from the rubber craters and crannies
where they stuck weeks ago,
until her shoes were banged clean
though that didn't stop
his stiff-armed slow-motion applause
with her feet's emptied gloves,
slapping mate against mate
without missing a beat,
half-wishing that hollow sound
echoing off their neighbors' houses
could call her back.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

First Dakota National Bank Thanks Our Police Officers

First Dakota National Bank employees started their Friday morning by picketing at the Yankton Police Station. This was a very friendly picket in front of the Yankton Police and Sheriff's Office on 4th Street. Bank employees were saying Thank You to our local Police Department for keeping our community a safe place to live, work and play. People driving by honked their horns to show their appreciation.

Saturday, September 19 is National "Thank a Police Officer Day". There are many untold stories of the daily actions of police officers in our area – actions like lifesaving aid as first responders, taking drugs off the street, helping an elementary student cross the street, responding to car accidents, educating our young people and so much more. Most of

these stories are never heard publicly, but chances are, you and your family have been or will be touched by a police officer.

Jane Pugh, First Dakota Relationship Banking Officer states, "Law enforcement at times can be a thankless task. Our employees recognize that and delivered six dozen decorated cookies to the Police Department along with our Thank You picket." Please take a few moments today and the rest of the year to give our local law enforcement a heartfelt thank you for their contributions.

First Dakota was founded in 1872 and holds the first bank charter issued in Dakota Territory. It has 17 full-service banking locations in 13 South Dakota cities. It also has six loan production offices throughout South Dakota and Nebraska.

MILITARY

IAN KOTROUS

Air Force Airman Ian R. Kotrous graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Kotrous is the son of Michelle and Richard Kotrous of Verdigre, Neb.

He is a 2015 graduate of Verdigre Public High School, Verdigre, Neb.

Got News?
Call The P&D
At 665-7811

Car Talk

Why Does Car Appear To Run Cold?

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Car Talk:
I've been driving cars for far longer than I'd like to admit, and I've never had this happen: I drove a few miles to the market in my 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee, and normally by the time I get there, the temperature gauge has climbed to where it should be. This time, it got only halfway there. It was in the same place by the time I got home. The next day, I drove about 70 miles, and the same thing happened. Only when I sit at idle for a few minutes (maybe four to five) will the needle start to climb a bit. But once I start driving again, down it goes. Now, I've had this car overheat a few times (I needed a new thermostat), but never have I had any car stay cold. What's the deal here? Is it OK to keep driving it? And how expensive do you think it'll be to get it back to normal?

—Catherine

You may need another new thermostat, Catherine.

Your old thermostat failed because



Ray
MAGLIOZZI

thermostats exist is to regulate the engine temperature, because engines tend to run most efficiently at right around 200 degrees F.

So don't be surprised if your mileage drops. Although on a 2004 Grand Cherokee, you might not notice the drop from 12 mpg to 11.

Start by having your mechanic verify that your gauge is accurately representing the temperature of the engine. He'll do

it failed to open – and therefore to allow coolant to flow through the radiator and cool off. Your current one may be opening too early, or may be stuck open and allowing too much cooling. That's the most likely explanation for a car that runs cold.

It's OK to keep driving it for now, but the reason

that by using his own pyrometer to check the engine temperature.

If the engine is actually running at a normal temperature while the gauge says it's cold, then you may need a new gauge or a new temperature-sending unit.

But if the gauge is accurate, and the engine really is running cold, then I'd change the thermostat and see if that fixes it. I'm guessing that's all it is, and that's cheap.

Auto repairs can be costly! Save money by ordering Click and Clack's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Car Talk/Ruin, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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.

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AND DOUG BERMAN

SCHOLARSHIPS

ELKS SCHOLARSHIPS

Yankton area high school seniors who plan to further their education after graduation should be aware that Elks National Foundation scholarship applications are now available at www.elks.org/enf/scholars.

Steve Pietila, exalted ruler of Yankton Elks Lodge, explains that this year \$3.74 million in college and vocational education scholarships will be awarded through three scholarship programs made available through the Elks National Foundation. Only the federal government provides more money for college and vocational educational scholarships than does the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

These three levels include:
• Most Valuable Student

scholarships – for high school seniors who are U. S. citizens; deadline for applications is Dec. 4 at the Elks lodge nearest the applicant's home. Yankton Elks Lodge is located at 504 West 27th St., Yankton.

Twenty top Most Valuable Students will each receive \$20,000 plus scholarship awards they had earlier received as result of judging at the local and state level.

• Legacy Awards – for children and grandchildren of dues-paying Elks, deadline for applications is Jan. 29, 2016; and
• Emergency Educational Grants – for children of deceased or totally disabled Elks in the form of renewable, one-year grants of up to \$4,000 a year. Deadline for these applications is Oct. 31, 2015.
Seniors should also be aware

of FastWeb.com a searchable database of millions of scholarships worth billions of dollars. And FinAid.org is an award-winning site including a comprehensive data base of scholarships, advice and tools.

Scholarships.com is a website that allows visitors to browse through 2.7 million free scholarships and grants worth more than \$19 million.

Each year Yankton Elks Lodge selects six scholarship winners, three men and three women, from among local applications submitted to the local lodge from throughout the Yankton area. These winners each receive \$300. Their applications are then submitted to the South Dakota Elks Association scholarship committee for further review for possible state and national scholarship awards.

Last year a student from Verdigre, Nebraska, was selected a local winner and subsequently earned a \$4,000 scholarship from the Elks National Foundation as a result of the state judging process.

Funds for the scholarships are provided through the Elks National Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Members of the Elks donate to the foundation which never spends the donations but rather invests all donated funds and only the interest earned on the endowment is used to fund activities including scholarships, Hoop Shoot contests for boys and girls 8-13 years of age (360,072 participants in 2015) and Veterans Service projects among others.

Attorney General Warns Of Hailstorm Scams

PIERRE — Attorney General Marty Jackley is asking South Dakota consumers to proceed with caution when making home and auto repairs as a result of the recent hail storms that have plagued the state.

Based on several inquiries, the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division is urging consumers to take the necessary steps to evaluate a business before agreeing to a repair job. Consumers who need repairs may be the target of unscrupulous business practices.

Here are a few suggestions when choosing a business to perform repairs:

- Do not be pressured into a quick agreement.
- Ask to see proof of insurance and/or bond.
- Request a written contract specifying in detail the work to be done and the agreed upon price.

ing in detail the work to be done and the agreed upon price.

- Be cautious if cash-only terms are required.
- Do not make full payment before the job is satisfactorily completed.
- Ask for local references and call these references to make sure they were satisfied.
- If time permits get bids from other companies to compare prices.
- Consumers typically have a three day right to cancel on door-to-door sales contracts.

Sellers must provide the consumer with a copy of the contract or receipt at the time of the sale. This receipt must show the date of the sale, the name and address of the merchant, and a statement to the buyer of his or her right to cancel

the contact within three days. After proper cancellation, the seller has 10 days to refund your money.

Consumers should ask to see the business' current South Dakota tax license. State law requires all persons selling products or services to have a current South Dakota sales or contractors' excise tax license. To verify that the license is valid you can contact the S.D. Department of Revenue at 1-800-829-9188. Remember that even though they may have this license it does not mean that you will be able to locate them once the work is done.

Contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office at 1-800-300-1986 or consumerhelp@state.sd.us with questions or concerns regarding questionable business practices.

More Than 600 Railroad Images Added To South Dakota Digital Archives

PIERRE — The South Dakota State Historical Society Archives at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre recently uploaded new photographs from the R.C. Lathrop Collection to the South Dakota Digital Archives.

Visit the State Archives website at history.sd.gov/archives and find the link to "R.C. Lathrop" or search directly at the South Dakota Digital Archives.

More than 600 railroad-related photographs were added to the online photo archives,

with a particular emphasis on railroad depots. Other images include scenes of elevators, roundhouses, tracks, rail yards, water tanks and other railroad-related buildings from several South Dakota towns. The images date from the 1900s to the 1970s.

"The R.C. Lathrop photographs, recently added to the South Dakota Digital Archives, offer an exceptional view of railroad history throughout the state," said Chelle Somsen, state archivist.

Lathrop started working

on the railroad at age 18. He worked 20 years with the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad and an additional 22 years with the Burlington, Northern & Sante Fe Railroad. He was a brakeman, conductor and switchman. He retired in June 2004.

In his spare time, Lathrop amassed a large collection of photographs, research materials and other items connected to railroad history in South

Dakota. He donated these materials to the State Archives in 2011.

The South Dakota Digital Archives, an online resource launched in January 2012 by the State Historical Society Archives, provides researchers digital access to unique historical records. There are currently

More than 53,000 images available online.

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William "Bill" Magera
of Yankton will celebrate his **80th birthday** on September 25, 2015. Greetings may be sent to **606 East 15th St., Yankton, SD 57078.**

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