

## Home Country

# Oh To Be A Goose During The Winter

The last of the geese went by the other day. The late ones. The big dark geese. Headed south noisily.

I used to envy them, somehow. They go down there to the warm coastal areas where the jacks swim and the nights are chilly but livable this time of year. If they're especially sensitive geese, they'll keep going until there are mangoes and palm trees and the language of the people is Spanish.

But they cross over here in their long, languorous vees, and all we can do is look up and wonder what our lives would be like if we

could go along. To fly over the farms and valleys, to coast along on the rising thermals, to sail down the long way to warmth and sand and comfort, how nice it might be.

But if we did that, we'd miss the snow, and the fire in the fireplace when the work was done in the evening. We'd miss how the snowy world looks just at dusk when the snow is an alpen-glow orange and tells us secrets it has saved for us all these years. It wouldn't seem like Christmas if we were wearing bathing trunks in the tropics, and if we went with



**Slim Randles**

them to the winter-feeding grounds, we wouldn't be able to appreciate how splendid the spring will be with the basking rays of sun on our necks and the swelling of the buds in the fruit trees. To truly appreciate warmth, we must first get cold, and that's evidently a part of our lives that the geese won't ever get to share.

Of course, they seem quite content to sail on down the southern winds to the warm places, leaving us to wrap ourselves tighter in thicker clothes and dream of sandy beaches and snorkels. Have a good winter, geese.

Eat a crab or two for me. You see, I'll be here for you to honk at when you head north again in the spring. I'll be right here, living in the same place. Cold or hot, windy or still, my world and my responsibilities are here, and I'll be right here taking care of them.

It's my way of doing things, and I'm used to it.

**Brought to you by Slim and Catherine Randles and this newspaper, who ask you to remember those who have less this Christmas and enrich your holiday fun with new friends.**

### 1020 Food - Beverage

**Gundy's Farmers Market**, Yankton's only year around market. 804 Summit Saturdays, 9am-4pm. Selling meat & vegetables taking orders for prime rib & ham. (605)660-5922.

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### 1101 Announcements - Events

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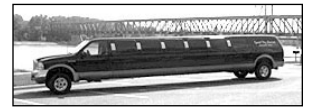
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### 1101 Announcements - Events

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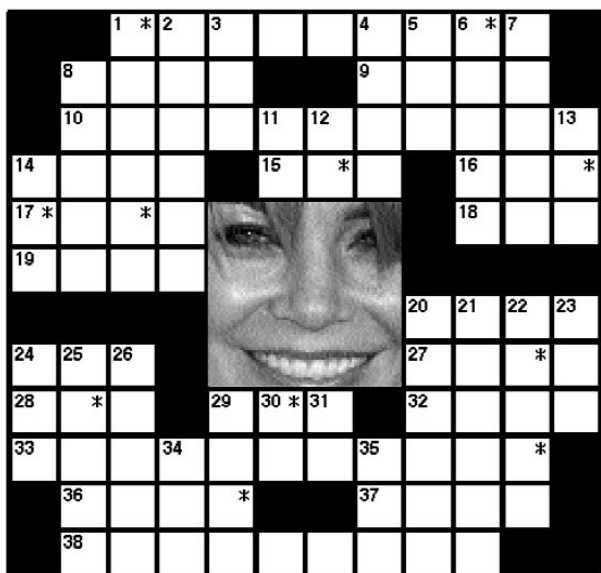
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## Call Classifieds 665-5884



The identity of the featured celebrity is found within the answers in the puzzle. In order to take the TV Challenge, unscramble the letters noted with asterisks within the puzzle.

#### ACROSS

1. "\_\_\_ Time"
8. Smell \_\_\_; suspect trickery
9. Skunk's defense
10. "Last \_\_\_"
14. Campus org.
15. "Ask This \_\_\_ House"
16. Little drink
17. "Birds of \_\_\_"; 2002-03 Shemar Moore series
18. Truly, in the Bible
19. "A Fine \_\_\_"; 1986 film for Ted Danson and Howie Mandel
20. "One \_\_\_ Hill"
24. "\_\_\_ in the Family"
27. "The Incredible \_\_\_"
28. Susan of "The Partridge Family"
29. "\_\_\_ Celebrity ... Get Me Out of Here!"
32. Suffix with kitchen or cigar
33. "Suburgatory" actor (2)
36. Have a meal
37. Actor Cain
38. Actor on "Hawaii Five-0" (2)

#### DOWN

6. Clamorous
7. Palmer, to friends
8. "That's \_\_\_"; signature song for Dean Martin
11. "How \_\_\_ Be a Gentleman"
12. Role of "Married ... With Children"
13. Transcript abbr.
14. Record speed letters
20. "City by \_\_\_"; 2002 Robert De Niro movie
21. Susan of "L.A. Law"
22. Singer/pianist John
23. \_\_\_ out a living; get by
24. Part of speech: abbr.
25. Large English city
26. \_\_\_ poetry; sonnets, odes and other works
29. Part of the title of Jason Segel's series (2)
30. "\_\_\_ Wife and Kids"
31. "\_\_\_ the World Turns"
34. Record producer Brian
35. Ms. Lupino

**Elven Pompee Solution**



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