

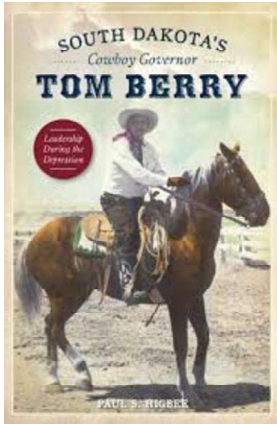


Arts In Action

www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org

Volume 39, No. 6

November/December 2018



Author Paul Higbee to present program

Spearfish author, educator, and playwright, Dr. Paul Higbee, will speak about his latest work, “South Dakota’s Cowboy Governor Tom Berry”, in the program room of the Sturgis Public Library on Thursday, November 1st, from 5:00-6:30pm.

Dr. Higbee grew up in Spearfish, where he still lives and works. He is a feature writer and columnist for “South Dakota Magazine” and the author of “The Phantom of the Opera House,” a melodrama performed each July in the Matthews Opera House. He also has four other non-fiction and I fiction book to his credit.

The Sturgis Area Arts Council and the Sturgis Public Library invite you to join us for this free event. There will be refreshments and the opportunity to ask questions of Dr. Higbee and have him sign your books. Copies of the biography will be available for purchase. This is an excellent chance to get a head start on your Christmas gifts! Please join us.

It's Our 40th Anniversary!



Few community events share the longevity of the Sturgis Community Christmas Concert. It is a pleasure to present the 40th Annual Concert on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 2:00pm in the Community Center Theater. Once again churches from the Sturgis and Whitewood communities will share beautiful music celebrating the Christmas season.

Each choir is busy preparing their individual selections with all choirs rehearsing a final piece which will be directed by this year’s guest conductor, Greg Glodt. Mr. Glodt is the choir director at the First United Methodist Church.

The concert is a gift to the community with an opportunity for a free-will donation at the door. Please plan to attend and begin the Christmas season with this enjoyable community tradition.

Money donated to SAAC

A check for \$797.00 was received by the Arts Council from a Texas Hold'em game that was held at Cadillac Jacks in Deadwood during this year's Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.



The poker contest required each contestant to buy in for \$55. There were several winners; the top three received cash prizes. Half of the buy in fees went to a Sturgis local nonprofit. There was a list provided by the city of local groups that met that category. The winner was not from here. He selected the Sturgis Area Arts Council, we understand, from a recommendation of an employee at Cadillac Jacks.

Whoever you may be out there - we sure do appreciate that you thought of us!! Thank You!! President Dedi LaRue (top right) receives the check from Sturgis Mayor Mark Carstensen

November Artist of the Month



Our November Artist is Bill Cissell. His work will be on display at the library during November. Here's what Mr. Cissell has to say about himself and his work.

"It seems as if I have been lucky enough to be around artists much of my life — people like Dale Lamphere, Dick Termes, Dick DuBois, Bill Fleming and so many others. And, seeing the breadth and depth of their work, is also why I really hesitate to call myself an artist.

Photography has been a part of me since I got my first Kodak Brownie. I even have pictures from inside Army basic training and I am not sure from whence those came. I guess, when you combine my friends with my camera and then account for the Black Hills, it difficult not to view everything from an artistic standpoint.

My basic photography is taken from much of the Black Hills and I was fine with that at first. Then I started looking at what I could do with a standard landscape or water shot using the Photoshop Elements program and things began to get crazy. I cannot tell you how I arrived at some of my images. It is not because I do not want to, it is because I did not keep track of each that led to the final product. I think, now, it was some of that repressed Hippy stuff I went through.

Then, a couple of years ago, after being told by a number of people (at least two or three), who thought my art might look good on clothing, I found Vida. It was an evolving San Francisco company working with thousand of artists throughout the world and using production plants in various countries. It also champions a variety of causes such as literacy and financial training in countries around the globe.

I send them my designs and, through the marvels of the internet, I can go on their site and apply my art to a whole host of items, from sheer wraps to Capri pants and jewelry to glass wear. Much of it is aimed more toward women but I am finally getting to do some items for men.

I have, also, been lucky enough to spend most of my adult life as a journalist, with about half of that time being right here in Sturgis. And, that has certainly come full circle, as I am, once again, your local newspaper editor through my own endeavor with the Sturgis Chronicle.

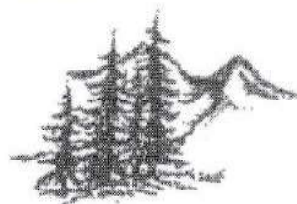
I am a 1966 graduate of Sturgis High School and am a disabled Vietnam veteran, with time twice in Cold War Germany and as a civilian reporter in Bosnia.

Now, in my 70s, I am able to look back and see what a truly wonderful life I have had and all because I turned my life over to Christ when I was 14. It was a hard start at times and sometimes barely visible but that was my fault, not His.

So, I hope you enjoy the various pieces. They are all for sale though I have not listed a specific price. I want to see and visit with a potential buyer.

Thank you ~ Bill Cissell

(The picture - This is one of my tote bags. The art started as a picture of Kilauea Volcano on the big island of Hawaii I photographed during an August 2011 visit.)"



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Armchair Travelers Book Club

The Armchair Travelers will meet on November 1 to discuss *The Lemon Tree* by Sandy Tolan. The book is subtitled *An Arab, A Jew and the heart of the Middle East*. Because so few copies of the book are available locally, it is suggested that members and interested readers should look for information about Palestine from the 1930's to the present. All are welcome even if they have not read on the topic. The meeting will be held in the Lushbough Room of the Sturgis Public Library at noon.

On December 6, the group meets to discuss novels about World War II. Librarians will display some of what the library has available near the check out desk. As always, anyone who is interested should come at noon to the Lushbough Room on second floor of the library.

Fiction set in the ancient world will be the topic of the meeting on January 3, 2019. Again the librarians will displayed some of what is available in the library for readers to select from during December . This open book club is co-sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council and the Sturgis Public Library.

December Artists of the Month

Our December Artists are the Williams Middle School Art Students. Stop at the Sturgis Public Library during December to see what our talented young people have to offer!!

“People need art in their houses. They don’t need Bed Bath and Beyond dentist-office art. They need weird stuff.”

Ezra Croft, art show producer

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History at High Noon will end their 2018 season with a family history program by Joan Harmon

This program will be held on Friday, November 16th, at 12:00 noon in the program room of the Sturgis Public Library. Joan will be sharing memories about her Bestgen family and may also speak of other family ties. Our family history programs are so valuable to the history of the Sturgis area. Be sure to join us and enjoy her program.

We thank all of our loyal history buffs who fill the program room each month. The History at High Noon committee is working on new programs for 2019 and already have three lined up. Give Bonnie Lange, Diana Hayes, Richard Moeller or Dode Lee a call if you have an idea or would like to share one. History at High Noon meets on the third Friday of the month January through May and in October and November. We meet in the program room in the Sturgis Public Library at noon and the library always has the coffee pot on and you are welcome to bring your lunch with you.

We are looking forward to another great year of programs! Thank you to the library staff and you, our loyal audience. If you've never attended we welcome you to come join us and learn more about this place that we call home and the people that live (or have lived) here.

Sturgis Area Arts Council's Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 1

Armchair Travelers Book Club
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

Thursday, November 1

Dr. Paul Higbee discusses
"South Dakota's Cowboy Governor Tom Berry"
Sturgis Public Library, 5:00pm

Thursday, November 8

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting
Library/City Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

Friday, November 16

History at High Noon
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

Thursday, December 6

Armchair Travelers Book Club
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

Sunday, December 9

Community Christmas Concert
Sturgis Community Center Theater, 2:00pm

Thursday, December 13

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting
Dedi Larue's Home, 5:30pm



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Leapin' Lizards! Get ready, Sturgis! One of the world's most-loved musicals is coming to life on our stage on June 20th-24th, 2019. The Sturgis

players are excited to present "Annie" for the summer musical.

The musical will offer roles for both adults and children. Title roles include Daddy Warbucks and his secretary, Miss Farrell, Miss Hannigan, the orphanage's matron and her convict brother Rooster and his girlfriend Lily. Of great importance is the role of Annie (originally designed for a spunky 11-year-old redhead). Annie must have a strong voice—both speaking and singing since the role includes vocal solos. There are other children's orphan roles (boy and girls) with speaking/singing roles for a number of kids ranging from approximately ages 8-13.

Auditions will be held on SUNDAY and MONDAY, May 5-6, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Our normal rehearsal schedule is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. Minimal missed rehearsals are allowed, so make plans now to be in this great theater event for the whole family.

Progressive Theater Coming This Winter

The Sturgis Area Arts Council's Drama Committee is planning a night of one-act plays paired with food and drink at three local Sturgis establishments.



This enjoyable event will include 3 one-act plays at 3 venues in Sturgis—one play at each local business. The audience will be limited to 75 (25 at each venue) and will rotate as the evening 'progresses.' Keep your eyes and ears out for more information about this upcoming event.

Maybe you've thought about getting involved in acting in Sturgis, but haven't had the time to commit to some of our longer plays. This might be the perfect opportunity for you to be part of a short production with minimal preparation and rehearsal time which you can set for yourself. For more information, please call Marlene (347-1375), Gary (890-2189), or Chris (347-1795).

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U. S. Poet Laureate



According to legendary playwright/poet Oscar Wilde, memory is “the diary that we all carry about with us.”

Using that line of thinking, one could assume that the collective consciousness of a roomful of people in a small-town library

probably contains enough unwritten pages to fill the shelves with books. With that in mind, it’s no surprise that when U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith visited the Black Hills on October 5th and 6th to read and discuss poetry with South Dakotans, she broadened her knowledge considerably.

That was the way she planned it. Smith, who spoke in Belle Fourche, Spearfish and Sturgis as part of her “American Conversations: Celebrating Poems in Rural Communities” project, ensured that each event was truly a “conversation” instead of a lecture. Eager to learn about the attendees, she spent nearly as much time asking and answering questions as she did reading poems. While Smith read aloud, others leafed silently through their minds’ diaries and then told her, after each poem was finished, what they had found.

She said the peoples’ reactions to poems are a perfect example of how poems can elicit a wide range of responses, and how a poet learns from such intimate conversations with audiences.

*** *Article reproduced in part from Ryan Woodard and the SD Humanities web page*

2019 Membership

It’s time to renew your Arts Council membership for 2019! To ensure that you continue to receive your newsletters and postcards of upcoming events please send your membership in as soon as possible as we begin the new year. Doing so assures you that you’ll know what’s coming up! A membership also means that you have a voice in the activities of the Arts Council and ensures that the work of the Arts Council continues with no interruption.

We are missing some folks that had memberships in past years and one of those may be you. You’ll find a listing of those who’ve become members this past year to the right --->>> along with a renewal form on the back page of this newsletter.

Membership is important to you and membership is vital to our organization. We can’t do it without your continued sponsorship and support and we thank each and every one of those folks on the list to the right for being involved.

Remember - Art is the HeART of the community of folks, some young and some not as young, that the Sturgis Area Arts Council serves.

Attention Snowbirds (and anyone planning a move)



If you plan on being gone this winter
OR you’re moving from one place to another and you’re on
our mailing list, PLEASE let us know!!

The post office charges us \$\$ if we mail something to you and you’re not home (or no longer at the address we have for you). Even if you’ve filled out a change of address form, they charge us to return the item to us!

It may only be 50 cents here and there, but it does add up after a while,
so if you can help us avoid it, we’d be most grateful.

Contact Linda at 720-6361 or send an e-mail to saacpublicity@hotmail.com to let us know of any and all changes,
please ~ we would most appreciate it!! :)

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www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org
 (please note - it's "org", not "com").

We post this newsletter on our site, just in case you lose this one and need to take another look!

You can also "like" us on Facebook at facebook.com/pages/Sturgis-Area-Arts-Council

Send e-mail to: saacpublicity@hotmail.com