



# Arts In Action

[www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org](http://www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org)

Volume 40, No. 5

November/December 2019

## *Thank You, Elliott Family!!!*



If you've visited the new Albert and Laverne Elliott Children's Library in our community public library or saw "Annie" last June at the Community Center Theater, you've enjoyed first hand the amazing gifts given to our community by the Albert and Laverne Elliott family.

Al and Laverne (in photo) were graciously and unselfishly giving to this community for years by working and participating after work in many groups and activities. Laverne's participation in the Sturgis Area Arts Council was limitless—from fund-raising to planning events; decorating our gift of a Christmas tree to the Festival of Trees; planning and hosting Tables Beautiful—Laverne did it all.

Unfortunately, we lost Al some time ago, but Laverne only in March of 2018. Their son Mike and his wife Kathy went to work immediately on an amazing legacy for our community. They helped with (and the legacy financed) the remodeling project of the Children's Library which was opened and celebrated in September of this year and created a perpetual foundation with the Black Hills Foundation that is intended to support both literary and arts activity in our community. Our musical "Annie" was generously supported by a gift from that foundation.

The lasting legacy from Albert and Laverne Elliott will live in and assist our community in perpetuity...art is truly the HeART of this community!

## *41st Community Concert will usher in the Christmas Season*

The Sturgis Area Arts Council once again brings the tradition of beautiful Christmas music to the Sturgis community this holiday season.

The 41st Annual Community Christmas Concert will be Sunday, December 8th, at 2:00pm in the Sturgis Community Center Theater. A full house is expected as church choirs from Sturgis and Whitewood share the gift of choral music. Each choir is preparing individual selections and a mass choir number which will be conducted by Marlene Kotab. Marlene is the choir director at the Grace Lutheran Church in Sturgis and coordinator of the concert.

All are invited to this free concert. An opportunity for a free-will donation will be available at the door. Please plan to attend and usher in the Christmas season with this traditional community event.





### *Armchair Travelers Book Club*

The Armchair Travelers Book Club will meet on Thursday, November 7th, to discuss books

about monasteries, convents, nuns and monks. This will be a fun one - bring your favorite book(s) and join us as we talk about them. Need a heavenly suggestion? The Sturgis Public Library always has a display of books relating to our topic - just ask them.

On Thursday, December 5th, our topic of discussion will be book about the major holidays of other cultures. This probably won't be a book as such, but more a search for holidays in other places. It's wide open, so do your research and come discuss as we see how other places celebrate.

Our January 2nd meeting is the choice of each reader. Did you get a new book for Christmas and is/was it good or bad? Have you read a great book over the last year to share with all others? Bring your favorite(s) and we'll have a varied discussion.

This club, co-sponsored by the Sturgis Public Library and the Sturgis Area Arts Council, is open to all interested readers whether they have read on the theme of the day or not. Join in the fun – there is always something interesting to learn.



History at High Noon's November program presenter will be Guy Edwards. His program will be "Restaurants of Sturgis". Guy always gives an interesting and fun program and the audience is invited to share memories too. So be sure to come on Friday, November 15th, at 12 o'clock noon for the last program of 2019 in the new community (formerly program) room in the Sturgis Public Library.

The History at High Noon committee consisting of Diana Hayes, Bonnie Lange, Richard Moeller and Dode Lee have been working on programs for 2020 and already have presenters scheduled through March. We always welcome ideas for programs so be sure to share those good ideas with one of us on the committee. We meet on the third Friday of the month January through May and after summer vacation we meet in October and November in the program room in the Sturgis Public Library at noon.

You are always welcome to bring your lunch and there are now tables available. The coffee pot is always on!!

**We are proud to support the  
Sturgis Area Arts Council.**



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## ***Sturgis Area Arts Council's Upcoming Events***

**Thursday, November 7**

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

**Thursday, November 14**

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting  
Sturgis Library Community Room, 7:00pm

**Friday, November 15**

History at High Noon  
Sturgis Public Library Community Room,  
12:00noon

**Thursday, December 5**

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

**Sunday, December 8**

Community Christmas Concert  
Sturgis Community Center Theater  
2:00pm

**Thursday, December 12**

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

**Thursday, January 2**

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

## ***Artists of the Month***

Our Artists of the month for November ... our Quilt Show! If you haven't been to the library to see them yet, please go - the pictures here don't do them justice!! You may vote for your favorite quilt to win a "People's Choice" prize.



And then ..... Artists of the month for December are the Williams Middle School Art Students of Kristi Cammack. Their work will be on display at the library during the month of December. Come on down and see how much talent these young aspiring artists to share with us have!!

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## 2020 Membership

Membership MEMBERSHIP Membership No matter how it's printed it all means the same: a chance to receive information on upcoming Arts Council events in our community; stories about activities taking place; and a chance to take advantage of events and activities for you and your family! 2020 dues are now due and, for example, for \$25 a year, your family membership provides you with a bi-monthly newsletter packed with information along with monthly postcards with handy reminders of upcoming events! Add an additional \$10; that goes directly to the library as a gift from you!

Please be sure to provide us with your email address. We want to begin sending our monthly meeting minutes to you so, if you want to, you'll be able to read about what is going on from month to month. You'll be in on what's being discussed and planned before it's announced! And other special announcements may be sent to you via email as well. There's a spot on the membership form to add that address or share it now by sending it to [saacpublicity@hotmail.com](mailto:saacpublicity@hotmail.com) or [bigmoe@midco.net](mailto:bigmoe@midco.net). And don't forget to like us on Facebook!

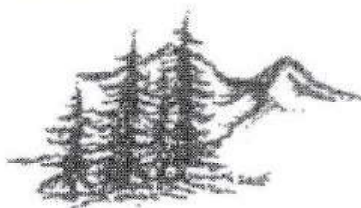
Your membership also allows you to join us at any or all of our monthly meetings. **YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!!** Currently we are meeting in the Sturgis Public Library's community room the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00pm.

Join us now for our new year! Your support and attendance are so welcome and appreciated! Remember...Art is the HeART of our community!

## Progressive Theater Returns by Popular Demand

The Sturgis Area Arts Council Drama Committee is planning its second annual Progressive Theater event. This enjoyable evening will include three one-act plays at three different venues in Sturgis—one play at each local business on Friday, February 21st. Food will be served at each stop along the way. The audience will be limited to 84 people (28 at each venue) and the audience will rotate as the evening 'progresses.' The \$20 tickets will go on sale on Friday, January 24th, at noon and will be available from Marlene or Chris. Keep your eyes and ears out for more information about this upcoming event.

Most especially, we need actors for the plays. Maybe you've thought about getting involved in acting in Sturgis but haven't had the time to commit to some of the 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 information or to try out your acting skills, call Marlene (347-1375), Jen (490-1125), Gary (890-2189), or Chris (347-1795).



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## *Festival of Trees*



Since 1995, First Interstate Bank in Sturgis has hosted The Festival of Trees, one of the most enjoyable and rewarding events in our community. Each year our lobby is graced with dozens of Christmas trees, wreaths, and other holiday decorations. This year, all of the decorations will be auctioned the evening of November 22. The social hour will begin at 5:30 with the auction to follow at 7:00.

What is the Festival of Trees? It's a Christmas tree auction, but it's much more than that. The end result of the Festival of Trees is that it raises much-needed funds for Hospice of the Northern Hills and the Greater Sturgis Area Foundation Permanent Endowment Fund. This foundation annually funds countless non-profit organizations in the Sturgis area.

How does all of this work? Individuals, groups, and businesses from around the area volunteer to decorate trees, wreaths and various other holiday items. All of these folks work diligently decorating their tree to make it just right! Throughout the next several days, the lobby of First Interstate Bank is all a buzz from people strolling around enjoying the beauty and uniqueness of each and every tree, wreath or various other Christmas items. Numerous people that enjoy other Festivals in the area have told us that our trees, wreaths, etc., are second to none!

The trees, wreaths, food, spirits, and holiday atmosphere are all provided. The final ingredient needed to make all this work is buyers. This is where you come in. Whether you do business in town, own a business, or just want to do something that will make a difference, this is your opportunity. They cannot thank you enough for your enthusiasm as they prepare for another wonderful event. They look forward to seeing the amazing creativity that results from their desire to give this "Gift of Love". What a great way for you to support such deserving organizations. All purchases may be tax deductible as well.

If you're not able to join them that evening, don't despair - you may view the trees ahead of time. They'll be on display in the lobby of the bank starting November 18th.

Please help them make this year their best year ever!



### ***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](mailto:saacpublicity@hotmail.com) to let us know of any and all changes, please ~ we would most appreciate it!! :) )

## ***Art & Wine Walk benefits Arts Organizations***

***(No, it's not benefiting SAAC, but it was too good not to share)***

Interested in a little Saturday fun?!?! Join the Allied Art's for their annual Art & Wine Walk on November 2nd from 3:00 - 6:30 pm in Downtown Rapid City!

Attendees will enjoy... \*An afternoon with friends, coworkers, family

\*Free Raffle Entry With Completed Scavenger Quest Form

\*Complimentary Wine Glass AND Swag Bag

Starting at Hay Camp Brewing Company this is a self-guided wine tour in downtown Rapid City – 12 + stops to sample, sip, and stroll along the way. Our Arts' organizations will be present at the different stops with an opportunity to promote upcoming events and sell tickets. We will also offer a "scavenger hunt" to keep the guests moving to each of the locations. Lanyards will be provided with a map of participating locations and a form to list their answers from the "scavenger hunt" challenge. The Post party at Hay Camp Brewing Company will feature scavenger hunt prizes, a silent auction and drawings!

The proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit these local Arts organizations:

Bells of the Hills

Black Hills Bluegrass Festival Assoc.

Black Hills Chamber Music Society

Black Hills Community Theatre

Black Hills Dance Theatre

Black Hills POW WOW

Black Hills Showcase Chorus

Black Hills Symphony Orchestra

Chamber Music Festival of the Black Hills

Dakota Artist Guild

Dakota Choral Union

Minnilusa Historical Association

Rapid City Children's Chorus

Rapid City Concert Association

Rapid City Municipal Band

Rapid City Ranger Band

Rushmore Music Festival

...and local scholarships and micro grants!

This Allied Arts fundraiser will not only help fund local Arts organizations and nonprofits but will bring potential customers and awareness to the downtown local businesses and what they have to offer. The Allied Arts believes the heart of the community is its downtown and we are committed to bringing promotions and events that will connect our organizations and patrons to the Rapid City downtown area. Thank you for your support!



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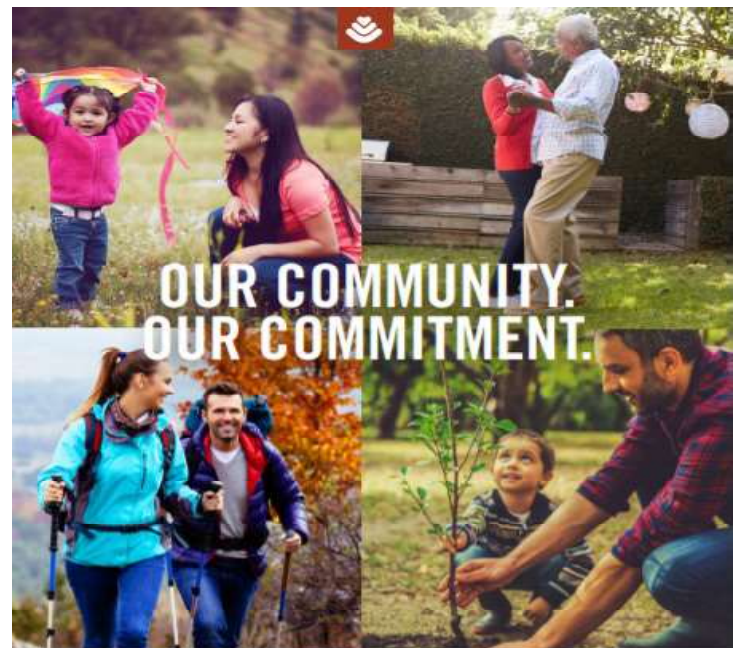
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**History at High Noon** - Dode Lee, Diana Hayes,  
 Bonnie Lange, Rosalee Johnson & Richard Moeller  
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**Literary** - Dorothy Pulscher  
**Membership** - Denise LaRue  
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*Find us in all of these other places as well ....*

The Sturgis Area Arts Council can be found online at  
[www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org](http://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](https://facebook.com/pages/Sturgis-Area-Arts-Council)

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