

Incumbents Come Out Ahead in Election

The City of Sturgis held City elections on Tuesday, April 14. The election included a race for Mayor as well as a race for Ward Three City Council representation. Incumbent Maury LaRue came out the winner in the Mayoral race getting 432 votes over Bill Cissell who received 291 votes.

In the City Council race, incumbent Jamie McVay was awarded a second term with 153 votes followed by Danny Winter with 89 votes, and Randy Lavasseur with 35 votes.

*"The people have spoken and we are moving forward in a positive direction."
 Mayor Maury LaRue*

Incumbent Joe Desjarlais ran unopposed in Ward One. Councilman David Hersrud from Ward Two and Bernadette Usera from Ward Four also ran unopposed.

Even though the weather was beautiful, voter turn out was low for this type of race, according to City Finance Officer Fay Bueno; approximately 14% of the registered voters turned out to cast their ballots.

The 2010 election is set for April 13 and is scheduled to be for City Council offices only. Mayor and Council serve two year terms.



Sturgis Mayor
Maury LaRue

City Wide Garage Sale & Spring Cleanup

Don't Forget the **City wide Garage Sale on Saturday, May 2**. A list of participating locations will be published in the April 28 Meade County Times and will be posted on the City website at www.sturgis-sd.gov.

The City wide Spring Clean Up is scheduled for May 4 - 8. During this time, you may put your unwanted items near your trash totes and the City will pick them up for disposal. The Future Sturgis Community Pride Group is offering volunteer service to assist residents in moving items for pickup out to the curb. If you would like assistance, please contact Brent Tunesvik at 347-1260 or tungesvik@sturgispolice.com before May 1, 2009. For a complete listing of the items that qualify for removal, visit the Public Works website at www.sturgis-sd.gov or call the Public Works Office at 347-3916. Items that are still in good condition may be donated to My Sister's Closet at 1132 Main Street or the Senior Center located at 919 Second Street.

Announcements and Meetings

Tree Care Workshop: April 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

Sturgis City Council: May 4 and 18. Council meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Sturgis Community Center 1401 Lazelle Street. Council agendas and minutes can be viewed on-line at www.sturgis-sd.gov.

Forestry: May 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

Park Board: May 12 at 7:00 p.m. at Morman Law Firm 850 Main Street.

Planning and Zoning: May 12 and 26 at 6:30 p.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

MUB Board: May 13 at 8:00 a.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

Arts Council: May 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

Sturgis Public Library: "Between Fences" Smithsonian exhibit April 4 - May 19.

Officials

Mayor

Maury LaRue 347-4422

Council Members

Ward One:

Mark Chaplin 720-3792

Joe Desjarlais 347-7928

Ward Two:

Sherry Scudder 720-2768

David Hersrud 347-5061

Ward Three:

Clint Brengle 720-0171

Jamie McVay 720-5780

Ward Four:

Dane Sundstrom 490-1172

Bernadette Usera 720-9424

City Manager

Dave Boone 347-4422

The Process of Annexation

Annexation is the process by which lands adjacent to a municipality are made part of the municipality so as to share in the services the municipal government provides and share in the obligation of paying for those services.

The City considers annexation when certain conditions exist. When the City is willing and able to provide the urban services from which an adjacent and contiguous developing area benefits; when there exists a community of interest between the City and the developing area; when it is essential that a City be allowed to exercise proper municipal powers to ensure orderly growth and development; when the development of an area may easily effect the health and safety of the residents of a City; and when a tax inequity exists because of the provision of urban services to the developing area.

In 2006, a study known as the CETEC ANNEXATION STUDY identified the S.D. Highway 34 area as a priority area for annexation. The proposed annexation area consists of un-platted agricultural and platted non-agricultural properties located adjacent to the eastern portion of the City.

On January 12, 2009, after nine months of focus group meetings involving 360 citizens, countless Committee meetings and studies, group presentations and Town Hall meetings, the Future Sturgis Retail Committee presented their plan for commercial growth at a Town

Hall meeting that included an important component for adding economic development capacity to the community: annexation. The Retail Committee recommended that the City employ annexation as a means of adding economic development capacity to the community through both voluntary and City initiated methods. The Committee cited increased jobs, expanded sales taxes, improved shopping choices and less reliance on property taxes as the benefits of annexation. Another Town Hall meeting on March 26, 2009 indicated a clear and broad consensus in the community that annexation is necessary for continued growth of the City and improvement in the quality of life for area citizens.

The CETEC Study contemplates that the proposed annexation areas would add additional economic development capacity by providing land for Highway Service, Commercial and Industrial land uses. This area is experiencing significant growth with the development of the Full Throttle Saloon, Kick Start Convenience Store, Thunder Road, and Glencoe Nation Camp Resort. The Sturgis community is the major point of ingress and egress to this growth area via S.D. Highway 34.

The City of Sturgis has ample and suitable resources available to accommodate the orderly growth and development of the S.D. Highway 34 area.

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(Annexation continued from page 1)

Municipal services to be made available to the annexation area include street and road services, water/sewer services, solid waste collection and disposal services, fire and police protection services, building inspection, community resources/ordinance enforcement and other public service amenities, some of which are currently provided through the 1 mile extraterritorial jurisdiction.

The annexation of this area is necessary to preserve an equitable tax base. As discussed earlier, the City is already providing police, fire and EMS services to the S.D. Highway 34 area of Fort Meade and the Sturgis Brown High School because of the essential need for these services. The residents of Sturgis pay for these services through property and sales taxes collected in the General Fund. The residents of Sturgis bear a burden of property taxes and the proposed annexation will allow the current residents to receive the benefit of a reduced tax burden from increased economic activity taxes such as sales taxes, use taxes, accommodation taxes and malt beverage fees. The citizens participating in Future Sturgis have expressed a desire to lower property taxes by growing the tax base through annexation and the expansion of economic activity taxes.

If you would like to view the entire CETC ANNEXATION STUDY visit www.sturgis-sd.gov and click on the Community Development tab.

Reminder from Public Works

As of April 1, 2009 the City Ordinance (11.05.44) regarding sump pumps requires users to pump water into the street for disposal into the storm drains. Pumping water into the sewer system is prohibited.



Summer Fun & Fitness

Registration for summer activities begins May 18

**Field Trips - Sports - Swimming
Crafts - Bike Trips**

Summer Swimming Lessons and Tennis Lessons
 Summer I - Reg. May 26-29 Classes run: June 1 - 12
 Summer II - Reg. June 8 - 12 Classes run: June 15 - 26
 Summer III - Reg. June 29 - July 3 Classes run: July 6 - 13

For more information contact the Sturgis Community Center at 1401 Lazelle Street (605) 347-6513 or go to our website at www.Sturgis-sd.gov

Adopt-A-Bed Project
 * The Community Pride Committee is looking
 * for residents and organizations to adopt
 * designated flower beds in our park areas
 * and maintain them throughout the summer.
 * If you are interested, please contact the
 * Sturgis Parks Department at 347-9018
 * or E-mail: sturgisparks@rushmore.com

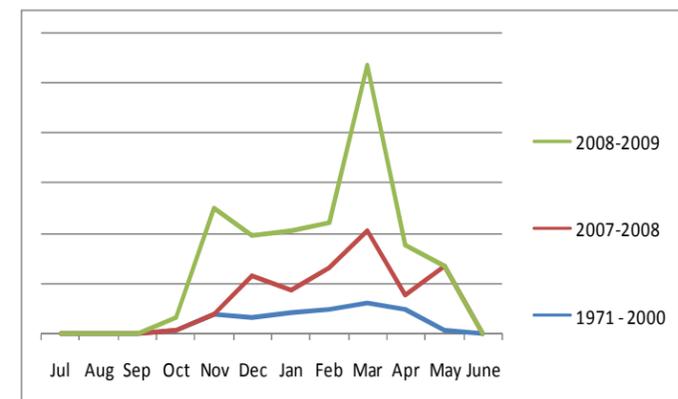


DOT Urges Drivers to be Careful in Work Zones

Story By: The Associated Press.
 PIERRE, S.D.- The South Dakota Transportation Department is urging drivers to be careful when driving through highway work zones.
 Transportation Secretary Darin Berquist says three people were killed and 66 were injured last year in South Dakota crashes related to highway work zones. Nationally, about 1,000 people are killed and nearly 60,000 are injured in highway work zones crashes each year.
 Officials encourage all drivers to follow speed limits, stay alert, pay attention, expect the unexpected, be prepared to stop, avoid tailgating and be patient in highway work zones.

New Snowfall Record Set

If you thought this winter brought more snow than usual, you were right. According to the National Weather Service, we have had a record snow season. The average annual snowfall recorded at Ft. Meade from 1970-2000 was 27.7 inches. Last year we received 51.8 inches, and as of April 13, 2009 we have received 95.4 inches. This beat out the previous record from the winter of 1983 -1984 when 92.6 inches fell. In the winter of 1960-1961 only 17 inches of snow was recorded.



Preparations Underway for Possible Flooding

After experiencing record snowfall this winter, Emergency Managers and the National Weather Service are making preparations in case flooding occurs. The Sturgis area has a history of flash flooding. Even drainage areas that have been dry all year can suddenly become raging rivers with dangerous currents. The best protection from flooding is to be prepared and have the supplies necessary to protect your homes and businesses. Have an emergency evacuation plan in case flooding occurs. Make sure everyone in your family knows where to go to meet if they are not able to make it home and flooding occurs. Have an emergency kit ready. Plan your evacuation route and listen to local TV and radio stations for the most current information. Never drive through running or standing water, the road may be washed out beneath the water. Never drive around areas that have been barricaded or closed.

Protection of property should include moving any vehicles, trailers, lawn furniture or other materials away from waterways. Debris carried in the water adds to the damage to structures such as bridges. Septic tank covers and well covers should be protected from flood waters. If your home has sump pumps they should be checked. Poly sheeting, sandbags and other materials, if purchased and installed properly, can protect homes from flood waters. Propane tanks near waterways should have flexible connectors and should be anchored so they do not float.



Familiarize yourself with these terms to help identify flood hazards.
Flood Watch: Flooding is possible. **Flash Flood Watch:** Flooding is possible, especially in creeks and drainages. Be prepared to move to higher ground.
Flood Warning: Flooding is occurring or will occur soon; if advised to evacuate, do so immediately. **Flash Flood Warning:** A flash flood is occurring; seek higher ground on foot immediately. When flooding starts, do not drive, walk, or play in flood waters; it can contain, debris, dangerous chemicals and sewage.
 Information on how to fill and place sandbags, protect water wells, evacuation tips, and other useful flood information is available on the FEMA website at <http://www.fema.gov>. You may also visit the Sturgis City website at www.sturgis-sd.gov and click on the Government tab.

Now Accepting Applications for Summer Help

Are You Looking for a Summer Job?
 The City is currently seeking 2009 seasonal Parks and temporary Rally employees. Our summer seasonal employees in the Parks Department assist with the general maintenance and landscaping needs in our City parks and facilities to keep them looking beautiful.
 In the Rally department our temporary employees serve as building inspectors, custodial staff, liquor store clerks, and information and registration attendants.
 For more information and to apply, go to the City's website at www.sturgis-sd.gov and click on the "Employment" link.



Contact Information

- City Manager 347-4422
- Community Development 347-4424
- Finance Office 347-4422
- Human Resources 347-4422
- Rally Department 720-0800
- 8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
- 1040 2nd Street

- Community Center 347-6513
- 5:00 - 9:00 Mon. - Fri.
- 8:00 - 8:00 Sat.
- Noon - 8:00 Sun.
- 1401 Lazelle Street

- Fire & Ambulance 347-5801
- Emergency 911
- 7:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
- 1901 Ball Park Road

- Library 347-2624
- 8:30 - 7:00 Mon. -Thu.
- 8:30 - 5:00 Fri.
- 8:30 - 4:00 Sat.
- 1040 2nd Street

- Liquor Store 347-5983
- 8:00 - 10:00 Mon. - Sat.
- 10:00 - 8:00 Sun.
- 1075 Lazelle Street

- Parks Department 347-9018
- 8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
- 1040 2nd Street
- Shelter Reservations call 347-4422

- Police Department 347-5070
- Emergency 911
- 1400 Main Street

- Public Works 347-3916
- 7:00 - 4:00 Mon. - Fri.
- 1057 Dudley Street
- Rubble Site
- 8:00 - 5:00 Tue. - Fri.
- 8:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 5:00 Mon. and Sat.

- Water Department 347-4425
- 7:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
- After Hour Emergency call Police Dispatch 347-2573