

Daylight Savings Time Begins  
 Spring Ahead 1 hour  
 March 11



### Items of Interest

**March 12 and 13 - Variety Show** at the Community Center Theater 7:00 p.m.  
**March 15 - DOT Public Hearing to discuss the upcoming construction project on Lazelle Street.** 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center Theater. The public is encouraged to attend this presentation by the DOT and the Sturgis Water Department. This project will be a two-year construction project and will have a significant impact on traffic using Lazelle Street.  
**March 18 - Grand opening of the New Harmonies exhibit at the Sturgis Public Library.** Ribbon cutting ceremony and exhibit viewing at 1:00 p.m. Followed by a performance of the Lakota Music Project in conjunction with the SD Symphony at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Center Theater.  
**All Month - March Madness at Sturgis Liquor,** join us for special activities all month.



### Upcoming Meetings

**Sturgis City Council:** March 5 and 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Erskine Building. Note: If you want to be scheduled on the City Council agenda, you must notify the Finance Office by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the Council meeting.  
**Sturgis Arts Council:** March 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Sturgis City Hall.  
**Park Board:** March 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Morman Law office.  
**Planning and Zoning:** March 13 and 27 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, Room B.  
**MUB:** March 14 at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall, Room B.  
**Library Board:** March 28 at 4:00 p.m. at the Sturgis Library.

### Officials

**Mayor**  
 Mark Carstensen 490-1044

**Council Members**  
 Ward One:  
 Joe DesJarlais 347-7928  
 Kelly Vasknetz 490-0361

Ward Two:  
 David Hersrud 347-5061  
 Marcia Johnston 347-2483

Ward Three:  
 Clint Brengle 490-9541  
 Jamie McVay 720-5780

Ward Four:  
 Tim Potts 720-4233  
 Dane Sundstrom 490-1172

**City Manager**  
 Daniel Ainslie 347-4422

### Library Prepares for Smithsonian Exhibit

The Sturgis Public Library is proud to announce the opening of the "New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music" exhibit.

*New Harmonies* provides a fascinating, inspiring, and toe-tapping listen to the American story of multi-cultural exchange. The story is full of surprises about familiar songs, histories of instruments, the roles of religion and technology, and the continuity of musical roots from "Yankee Doodle Dandy" to the latest hip hop CD.



A ribbon cutting and a grand opening reception will kick off the exhibit in Sturgis on Sunday, March 18 at the Public Library at 1 p.m. followed by the Lakota Music Project performance at the Community Center Theatre at 2 p.m. It is all part of the collaborative performance between the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra and traditional Lakota drum group - the "Lakota Music Project."

*New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music* is a part of *Museum on Main Street*, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the South Dakota Humanities Council. It is sponsored locally by the Sturgis Rally Charities Foundation, Sturgis Area Arts Council and the Sturgis Public Library.

For a full schedule of related activities, visit the Sturgis website at [Sturgis-sd.gov](http://Sturgis-sd.gov).

### At the Library in March

**All Jean Auel Book Club** - Thursday, March 22 at 5:30 p.m. Join us as we discuss the second book in the Earth's Children series, *The Valley of Horses*.

**History of the Blues** - Thursday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m. with James Van Nuys.

**Free Computer Classes for Beginners** - Every Tuesday in March at 5:30 p.m.



### Pine Beetle Infestation Making Itself Visible in Sturgis

As the beetle infestation makes its way across the Black Hills, visible signs are beginning to show in the Sturgis area. Gene Stock, Sturgis Parks Director has been monitoring the progress of the beetles and is now identifying infected trees within the city.

Approximately 17 trees in the Bear Butte Cemetery were recently identified as being infected. Those trees have been removed. There are also several trees on neighboring BLM property that have been marked and the federal agency will be taking steps to remove those trees.

A recent study was conducted in the city watershed area. That study identified a number of trees that have been affected and recommended removing those trees. According to Stock, once the beetles kill a tree and moves on, the tree dies and often remains standing. The threat of wild fire among standing dead trees is exponential.

Mountain pine beetles affect pine trees by laying eggs under the bark. The beetles introduce a blue stain fungus into the sapwood that prevents the tree from repelling and killing the attacking beetles with tree pitch flow.



Mt. Pine Beetles are about the size of a grain of rice.

Continued inside...

Pine Beetle continued from front...

The fungus also blocks water and nutrient transport within the tree. This results in popcorn-shaped masses of resin called "pitch tubes", on the tree's exterior, where the beetles have entered. The joint action of larval feeding and fungal colonization kills the host tree within a few weeks of successful attack (the fungus and feeding by the larvae girdles the tree, cutting off the flow of water and nutrients). When the tree is first attacked, it remains green. Usually within a year of attack, the needles will have turned red. This means the tree is dying or dead, and the beetles have moved to another tree. In three to four years after the attack, very little foliage is left, so the trees appear grey.



This Lodge Pole Pine Tree has been infected; a pitch tube appears where the beetles entered the tree. An infected tree can have hundreds of visible pitch tubes.

As beetle populations increase or more trees become stressed because of drought or other causes, the beetle population may quickly increase and spread.

Healthy trees are then attacked, and huge areas of mature pine stands may be threatened or killed. Warm summers and mild winters play a role in both insect survival and the continuation and intensification of an outbreak. Adverse weather conditions (such as extreme cold) can reduce the beetle populations and slow the spread, but the insects can recover quickly and resume their attack on otherwise healthy forests.

Beetles develop through four stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult. Except for a few days during the summer when adults emerge from brood trees and fly to attack new host trees, all life stages are spent beneath the bark.

In low elevation stands and in warm years, mountain pine beetles require one year to complete a generation. At high elevations, where summers are typically cooler, life cycles may vary from one to two years.

Land owners are encouraged to check their trees for signs of infestation. County and State funds may be available for mitigation. If you have questions about identification, you can contact the Sturgis Parks Department at 347-9018 or visit the City website at [Sturgis-sd.gov](http://Sturgis-sd.gov).



Sturgis Police Officer Ben Mumm recently provided bicycle safety training to third grade students at Bear Butte Elementary. Students learned the importance of wearing a properly fitted bicycle helmet, identification of traffic signs and signals, use of hand signals and how to be a responsible rider. Children who are permitted to ride in the street without supervision need to have the necessary skills to safely follow the "rules of the road."

## Sturgis Community Garden Hopes to be Ready for Spring Planting

On February 6, 2012, the Sturgis City Council heard a presentation by Sturgis resident Richard Deaver regarding the establishment of a Community Garden north of Tom's T's in the Sturgis City Park. During the meeting, the Council passed a resolution approving the garden site. The City also agreed to help construct a fence and install a water supply line using surplus materials. Local volunteers will be in charge of coordinating the building of the garden, preparing the planting beds and annual site maintenance. The City Finance Office will handle lot rentals.



Residents will be able to rent a 10 x 20 foot spot in the garden for \$25 annually. The rental fees will help cover the costs of water and insurance. The City Finance Office will begin accepting payments for garden spots after April 2.

More information will be made available as the project develops. For more information, contact the City Parks Department or follow the progress on the Sturgis City website at [Sturgis-sd.gov](http://Sturgis-sd.gov).

## 2012 Council Goals set

In a special work session on February 20, the City Council confirmed the Council Goals for 2012. City Manager Daniel Ainslie gave a presentation that named each goal along with examples of how the goal may be carried out. The Council postponed the goal setting session until they had the opportunity to review the results of the latest constituent survey. Those results, along with the Goals presentation, are posted on the City website.

- Goal 1. Build partnerships for greater cost savings.
- Goal 2. Collaborate with area attractions and businesses to create events.
- Goal 3. Capitalize on the *Sturgis* brand.
- Goal 4. Stabilize the City's finances.
- Goal 5. Protect the City's natural resources.
- Goal 6. Enhance the City's infrastructure.
- Goal 7. Improve resident's quality of life.
- Goal 8. Review internal operations of city government.

According to City Manager, Daniel Ainslie, the city will strive to build partnerships and collaborate more with businesses and other government entities. By working together we can leverage our resources and accomplish far more than we could on our own.



## 2012 City Council Election Information

City Finance Officer, Fay Bueno, reports that the following individuals turned in valid petitions and will be placed on the ballot for the City Council election scheduled for April 10, 2012.

- Ward 1, Incumbent Kelly Vasknetz is running unopposed.
  - Ward 2, Incumbent Marcia Johnston is running unopposed.
  - Ward 3, Incumbent Clint Brengle will be running against Randolph LaVasseur and Ronald Waterland.
  - Ward 4, Incumbent Tim Potts is running unopposed.
- The City election will be held on Tuesday, April 10 at the Sturgis Community Center. For more election information, visit the City website at [sturgis-sd.gov](http://sturgis-sd.gov) and click on the *Government* tab.

Watch for the 2011 Sturgis Annual Report in the March issue of the Sturgis Information Publication and on the City website.



The pool, sauna and hot tub at the Community Center will be closed from March 13 - 26 for maintenance.

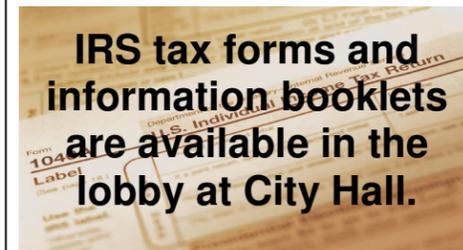
We apologize for any inconvenience.



### Sturgis Liquor

Help us celebrate our One Year Anniversary in our new store. March 23, 3-5 p.m.

Samples - Specials Prizes



## Contact Information

City Hall 347-4422  
City Attorney 347-4422  
Code Enforcement 347-4424  
Community Development 347-4424  
Finance Office 347-4422  
Human Resources 347-4422  
Rally Department 720-0800  
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 Ballpark Road

Library 347-2624  
8:30 - 7:00 Mon. - Thur.  
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.  
1920 Ballpark Road  
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  
8:00 - 4:45 Mon. - Fri.  
After Hour Emergency call  
Police Dispatch 347-2573  
1040 2nd Street  
Drop boxes: 2901 Vanocker Canyon  
and City Hall 1040 2nd Street