

The Journey Museum

In February a number of residents hopped on our Fun Bus for an entertaining trip to the Journey Museum in Rapid City to take advantage of a free day of educational and interesting exhibits. Some of the displays toured included prehistoric rock, native American history and culture as well as South Dakota historical artifacts. Our Executive Director, led the group and observed that the residents make the trip come alive by spontaneously sharing their personal memories and stories during the tour. Please let us know if you would like to be added to our volunteer list for activities like this in the future. There are many more to come!



Pine Hills Mission Statement.....

"To Provide Quality Assisted and Independent Services for Seniors We Serve in the Community and Surrounding Area. To Promote Wellness and Maintain Independence Safely and with Dignity"

Folk Music For Our Folks

Pine Hills was pleased to recently host a music performance by The Travelers in our comfortable upstairs game room. This husband and wife duo generously shared their talent with a variety of popular songs that had all of us tapping our feet and even participating with various instruments.

The Wild Burro Rides Into Pine Hills

Pine Hills is not just a place to relax and enjoy the scenery. We are also about lifelong learning. So, in addition to our many activities, outings and new Meet the Artist Series, we are starting a new Bookworm Club. Thanks to the generous assistance of Laurel Bidwell, owner of The Wild Burro, a monthly book discussion group for our residents "kicks off" on March 12 with Laurel leading the way.

The Pine Hills Press

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Spring 2008

Pine Hills Announces

"Meet the Artist Series"

Starting in March and for a full year following, Pine Hills has partnered with talented Black Hills artists to offer monthly opportunities to experience the Arts. On the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. a different artist will be at Pine Hills to both exhibit and demonstrate their art and how they create it. Works that are for sale will also be available for viewing. This interactive series is intended to be both an activity for our residents and an event for the public free of charge.

Pine Hills believes that art is stimulating, fun and interesting regardless of one's age or particular artistic preferences. We also believe that our beautiful community is a perfect place to learn about and appreciate art. In fact, several of the participating artists have agreed to loan samples of their fine art to us for display.

The participating artists are identified in the Series calendar printed in this newsletter. All are excited about these events and look forward to sharing their craft with all of you. Please keep this calendar and plan on attending any or all of the programs!

Pine Hills is pleased to host opportunities to experience art in the making that is open to the public and free of charge.



Donna Yonson - Basket/Bagel



Paul Horsted - Lightning From Hamby



McKenzie Deer

Wendy Johnson



Donna Yonson - Jewelry



The Artist Series - Sculpture



Jane Palmer - The Shaggy Dog

MEET THE ARTIST SERIES

AT PINE HILLS (7:00 P.M.)

- 3/13 - Ginger Heinzen, silk scarf painting
- 4/10 - Annie Touliatos Thorstenson, mosaic
- 5/08 - Tom Eastburn, pottery
- 6/12 - Ayesha Burkey, painting
- 7/10 - Gary DuChateau, sculpture
- 8/14 - June Palmer, watercolor
- 9/11 - Margaret Ikonen, beading
- 10/9 - Franz Brown, painting
- 11/13 - Paul Horsted, photography
- 12/11 - Nancy Anne Barker, jewelry
- 1/8 - Grant Standard, metal work/sculpture
- 2/12 - Michael Baker, wildlife photography



Annie Touliatos Thorstenson



Ginger Heinzen



Franz Brown - Wind and Rain



2711 Highway 18 Bypass, Hot Springs, South Dakota - 605-745-5555

Annie Touliatos Thorstenson

Meet the Artist Series

April 10:

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Event

March 14:

Ginger Heinzen

Meet the Artist Series

March 13:

First Meeting of Bookworm Club sponsored by The Wild Burro

March 12:

Announcements:



Hot Springs, SD 57747
2711 Highway 18 West

Event Dinners Sell Out!

Our recent Valentine's Day & St. Patrick's Day Dinners were in such demand that we had to turn people away after our reservations reached 63 people! Wonderful food quickly vanished off each plate. After our Valentines Day dessert our full house enjoyed memorable country music by Custer's Last Stand, from guess where? On St. Patrick's Day the crowd was graced by the lilting Irish music of String Thaw and guest Tenor Peter Roth. The lucky ones were there.



Valentines cookie making and great music by Custer's Last Stand was enjoyed by all.

Pine Hills Profiles....

NELLIE WALL

Just before Christmas I was in the Pine Hills dining room having breakfast with Sarah and George when Nellie Wall strolled over with her walker to join us. As Nellie moved from her walker to the chair I rose to assist her. In the blink of an eye she lost her balance and teetered to the floor before I could catch her. Thankfully, she landed mostly on her arm and quickly sat up and with assistance sat at the table and had a hearty breakfast...with a smile and chuckle over her "dramatic" entrance.

That is typical of Nellie. Despite literal or figurative "falls" in life she responds with a consistent grace inspired by the wisdom of what is important and a spirit that flows from love of family and faith. When I asked Nellie how in the face of adversity she always manages to be smiling and positive she replied: "Faith from when you finally get acquainted with Him."

Nellie was born and raised in the small, northeastern Colorado farming community of Brush. She fondly recalled the restaurants her parents owned and operated such as "Frenchie's Chili Parlor" and the "Checkerboard." While still a young lass of 16 she met and married 20 year old Oren who would be her beloved spouse for 59 years. Nellie generously shared some of the insight that explains such a long lived marriage. Later in their marriage she realized there were times that "men need to talk to men" and Warren apparently really wanted a horse and to join the nearby Saddle Club with his buddies. Nellie agreed and \$500 later Oren had his first horse. Over the next 8 years her husband swapped for and enjoyed 13 different horses.

A fine portrait of Oren at 70 hangs on the living room wall of Nellie's comfortable apartment at Pine Hills. He is wearing a Stetson and in the background are horses, corrals and mountains. Nellie lovingly refers to him as her "Drug Store Cowboy." Nellie's three daughters, Donna, Peggy, JoAnne and son Jim have enriched her life and given her 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren! Jim and his wife, Janet, live in Hot Springs and visit often. Her phone also rings often with calls from friends and loved ones. Sadly, her husband and daughters are no longer with us but their spirit remains. Nellie came to Hot Springs several years ago but after a hospital stay her family decided to move her from the Evans to Pine Hills. She recalled walking into Pine Hills for the first time and saying "I'm going to be so lucky to get to live here." She added that it is "absolutely gorgeous and wonderful, wonderful care."

When asked what she would like people to know about her, Nellie said: "I always try to smile and greet and remember along the way." And she does.

All who meet Nellie, whether resident, staff or guest, would likely say that we are the "lucky" ones that Nellie chose to make Pine Hills her home.

*[Nellie's wish for Pine Hills to be her next to last home was made possible by wonderful staff and family as well as the support of hospice. On the morning of February 19, 2008 she went to her final home...Heaven.]

MANY NEW FACES AT PINE HILLS

Not only have 6 new residents moved into our community since the last newsletter but we have added several fine staff members.

Joe Ferro is our new Activities Director. We are so fortunate that Joe moved to Hot Springs from Colorado a year and a half ago and has now chosen to join our team at Pine Hills. Joe comes to us with a vast background and his most recent venture was with a wonderful senior living community in Rapid. Joe is already creating a buzz with his enthusiasm and great ideas.

Diane Marie is our new Housekeeping Director and is also from Hot Springs. Diane is a charming and professional addition to our team. She sparkles as does Pine Hills after she has finished a day's work.

Barry Epstein has recently joined Pine Hills as our Director of Sales and Marketing. He brings many talents and experiences to the table as an advocate on seniors issues for over 25 years. He has started off here at Pine Hills with a bang by implementing many successful programs (one being the "Meet the Artist" series on the front page) that contribute not only to our residents and their happiness, but which add value to the surrounding Hot Springs community and throughout the Black Hills.

Pine Hills Retirement
 Invites you to enjoy an evening of Dinner and the beautiful Irish music of

STRING THAW!
 with Special Guest Tenor Peter Roth

FRIDAY MARCH 14

Choice of Traditional Irish Fare or Chicken Roumelade
 Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
 Music from 7:00 - 8:30 P.M.
 \$11 per person

RSVP to Kara
 at 745-5555 (extending to Limited)
 2711 Highway 18 West, Hot Springs



Welcome aboard, Barry Epstein, Diane Marie, & Joe Ferro!



The Lemays and Peter Roth from String Thaw had everyone's toes tapping with true Irish gusto.



A Full House for the Saint Patrick's Day