

# The Docket

A quarterly newsletter for Friends of  
The Custer County 1881 Courthouse Museum  
and Members of the Custer County Historical Society

October 2015

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[www.1881courthousemuseum.com](http://www.1881courthousemuseum.com)

## Bookstore/Gift Shop Christmas Sale

The 1881 Courthouse Museum will be having a pre-Christmas sale in the Bookstore/Gift Shop on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from Noon until 5:00 PM. We have a nice selection of books, including "Pioneer Girl", and books written by Jessie Sundstrom. Also included will be books for children, as well as coloring books and wooden kits to make windmills, forts, log cabins, stagecoaches and barns.

We carry a nice selection of hand woven baskets, hand painted tote bags, hand-made jewelry, lots of pottery, and many other interesting items.

This will be a great time to do some Christmas shopping. And.....some items will be marked 15% off regular price.

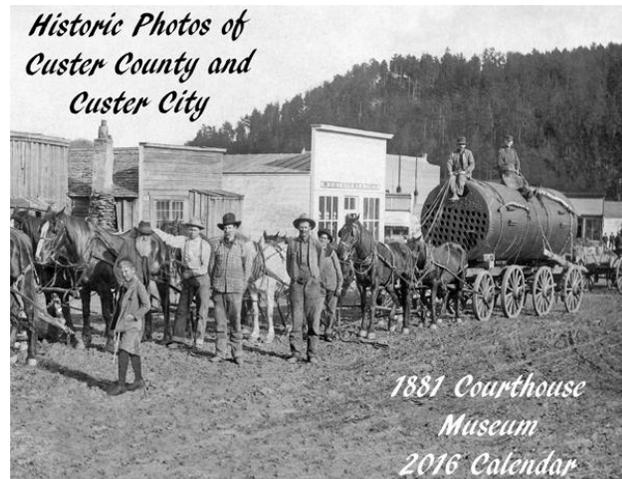
## 2016 Historic Calendar

The Museum still has some of our 2016 calendars with lots of historic pictures of Custer and the surrounding area. These will be available at the Christmas Event on December 5<sup>th</sup> from Noon until 5 PM in the Museum Bookstore/Gift Shop. Calendars make wonderful Christmas presents, and are \$10, tax included.

## Historical Society Meeting

The Nov. 7 meeting of the Custer County Historical Society will feature a free program by local author/photographer Paul Horsted, known for his books about the 1874 Custer Expedition and "then and now" photography of the Black Hills and Yellowstone National Park. Horsted will show images from his current project "Our National Parks Yesterday & Today." A business meeting (open to all) starts at 2 p.m. with the program at 3 p.m.

Horsted's latest work is "re-photography" of historic photo sites in 25 National Parks across the USA. He seeks out locations where photos were taken between 1865 and the 1930s, then sets up his camera to precisely record the same view in today's world. The resulting photo pairs show at a glance what is the same or different at each location, and often reveal much about a Park's history



2016 Historic Calendar

as well. A 2017 date is projected for release of a book based on the project

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### **Museum Joins SDPB Project**

The 1881 Courthouse Museum in Custer is joining South Dakota Public Broadcasting in a project titled *“Images of the Past”*, according to Museum Director Gary Enright.

“The project is a multimedia history presentation of still photos and movies of historical importance to South Dakota. The program will allow viewers to see “eye witness” images that tell stories of South Dakota’s historical past.” Enright announced.

According to a statement from SDPB, this is a weekly online program published as a blog at [www.sdpb.org/imagesofthepast](http://www.sdpb.org/imagesofthepast). The segments are presented in a format coordinated to curriculum standards for use by schools within the SDPB Digital Learning Library.

The 1881 Museum is preparing a series of subjects for consideration by SDPB including historical photographs taken from the archives of the institution. Mr. Enright and volunteers in the Preservation and Collections Department will jointly prepare scripts and select photographs which will be featured in each segment.

Enright added, “The first in the series involving Custer is on the Sidney-Custer-Deadwood Stagecoach which has been displayed on the front lawn of the Museum for the past several weeks. That feature is available for viewing now at the web address above. Other possible subjects to be considered include ‘Horatio Ross’ – ‘The Doctor Flick Cabin’ – ‘Capt. Jack Crawford’ – ‘Sawmills/Lumber Industry’ – ‘Gordon Stockade’ –

‘Ranching in Custer County’ – ‘History of Custer, the *Mother City* of the Black Hills’, and ‘When Presidents Visit’, just to name a few.”

“The 1881 Courthouse Museum receives credit on the web site as the source of the photographs used and offers an excellent opportunity for the Museum to receive statewide exposure as a source of historical information, and to participate in helping educate students across the state and region.” Enright concluded.

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Kidstop youth (K thru 5<sup>th</sup>) gathered for a group photo at the foot of Crazy Horse Monument during their visit to the Memorial as a part of the 1881 Courthouse Museum’s Youth Program.

### **Kidstop Sees Crazy Horse Close Up**

The three dozen Kindergarten through Grade 5 children enrolled in the YMCA “Kidstop” Program in Custer had a rare opportunity to see Crazy Horse Monument close up during their October visit to the 1881 Courthouse Museum. The YMCA Bus loaded with the enthusiastic youngsters met Museum Director Gary Enright at Crazy Horse for a tour of the Native American Museum, a viewing of the history of carving the

**Crazy Horse Monument, and a bus tour to the foot of the mountain.**

**For most of those making the trip, it was the first time they had visited the world famous carving of the image of the Lakota Indian Warrior Crazy Horse. The youngsters were highly complimented by the staff at Crazy Horse for being quiet, attentive and well behaved during the two and a half hour visit to the monument.**

**Following the tour, the youngsters gathered in the picnic area to eat their lunches before returning to Custer after a historical visit to this historical site.**

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**LaVonne Anderson, South Dakota Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution stands by the display of the**

**Museum's Revolutionary War uniform displayed in the Military Room.**

## **Museum Hosts DAR Chapter Display**

**The Harney Peak Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution created a historic display of a hand sewn quilt featuring "Flags of the Revolutionary War" just outside the entrance to the Museum's Military Room next to the Dakota Territory Courtroom on the third floor.**

**Catherine Rosane, Chapter Chaplain, and Robin Fansler, Chapter Regent, created the impressive display which was featured in the Museum during the months of September and early October.**

**The South Dakota DAR Regent LaVonne Anderson of Sioux Falls, visited Custer for the unveiling of the quilt display and dedicated the handiwork in a brief ceremony. The quilt was made in honor of the Patriot Ancestors of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Harney Peak Chapter. The names of those Patriots are documented in a "Revolutionary War Muster Roll, embroidered on the quilt.**

**After the Museum closed for the season in October, The DAR Chapter moved the quilt display to the Custer County Courthouse as a part of the Military Display initiated by the Custer Area Arts Council. The DAR will develop a new display for the 1881 Courthouse Museum for opening day 2016 next spring.**

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Pictured from the Left are Bonnie Searle, Wanda Wheeler, and Millicent Hartgering along with her husband and members of her family, on the steps of the 1881 Courthouse Museum.

### **Massachusetts Visitors Find Great-Grandmothers Clothing at the Museum**

The Hartgering Family originally from Hermosa, SD paid a visit to the 1881 Courthouse Museum in early September and found an assortment of clothing which their Great-Grandmother's had donated to the Museum four decades ago.

Millicent Hartgering and her family live in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts and spent part of their summer visiting Custer area and the Black Hills. Millicent had heard that her older relatives had donated a considerable number of clothing items to the Museum several years ago and was anxious to see if any of them were on display or stored with the antiques.

When she arrived at the Museum with her husband and Great Aunt and Uncle, she found Wanda Wheeler and Bonnie Searle, Volunteer Hostess' more than willing to help search the storage closets. They found several items which pleased the visitors greatly.

In her thank you note to Wanda and Bonnie, Ms. Hartgering said:  
*"....I wanted to tell you that your help in finding our great-grandmother's clothing*

*was so remarkable and incredibly meaningful. You went above and beyond, and deep into that vault for some of the Hartgering women's clothing. It was mind-blowing to see some of her dresses and get a sense of what she liked. I loved seeing all of the items and knowing my great-grandmother loved purple doesn't surprise me because I do too. The beautiful, simple clothes made me feel very connected to her and my great-aunt and I can't thank you enough for that enormous gift.*

*We are so unbelievable lucky that the Custer Historical Society kept these simple ordinary items. Thank you for all the time you spend with us, it was a highlight of the trip for me and I know we'd love to visit again. - Millicent Hartgering".*

Wanda and Bonnie are typical of the 1881 Courthouse Museum Volunteer Hosts who go out of their way to assist visitors in obtaining information or find some article which has meaning in the visitor's family history.

### **Hermosa Arts and History Association – HAHA**

HAHA now has a website – the address is below. Please check it out to find out all that these folks are doing in Hermosa.

<http://www.hermosahistory.org>

### **Fairburn Museum**

The museum does not have a regular staff so if you would like to take a tour contact Sally Nordstrom at 255-4807 or Marie Gruwell, 255-4758 to arrange a time to visit.

## **Friends of the Museum and Capital Improvement Campaign Donors**

**A complete list of these donors is  
available at the museum.**

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### **Fund Raisers**

**Lynn's Dakotamart's We Care Program  
Bring your Lynn's Dakotamart  
Receipts to the Museum and we can raise  
money with them.**

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### **Foundations Who Have Donated to the 1881 Courthouse Museum**

**Deadwood Historic Preservation  
Commission South Dakota State  
Historical Society's Deadwood Fund  
Grant**

**Outside of Deadwood Fund  
Oswald Family Foundation  
Adams Mastrovich Foundation, Mary  
Mastrovich**

**Mary Chilton DAR Foundation  
South Dakota Community Foundation/  
First Interstate Bank  
South Dakota Community Foundation  
SD SHRAB Re-Grant**

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