

# Noted author to speak at The Belfry

Paulina Springs Books will host bestselling author Garth Stein at The Belfry for an author event on Friday, February 13 at 6 p.m., for his new novel "A Sudden Light."

"We booked this popular venue in expectation of a crowd; it can seat up to 200 people, so there's room for everyone!" said Amanda McNaughton of Paulina Springs.

Stein's book "The Art of Racing in the Rain" was a long-running national best-seller. His new novel, like his others, has a Northwest setting, on Puget Sound, and a splash of magical realism as 14-year-old Trevor uncovers controversy, dark history — and maybe ghosts in his family.

The event is free and open to the public. Food and drinks will be available for purchase from The Belfry's bar.

Before turning to writing full-time, Garth was a documentary filmmaker-directing, editing, and/or producing several award-winning films, including "The Lunch Date," winner of the Academy Award for live action short in 1990, and "The Last Party," starring Robert Downey, Jr.

Born in Los Angeles and raised in Seattle, Garth's ancestry is diverse: his mother, a native of Alaska, is of Tlingit Indian and Irish descent; his father, a Brooklyn native, is the child



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Garth Stein will offer a book presentation at The Belfry.**

of Jewish emigrants from Austria. After spending his childhood in Seattle and then living in New York City for 18 years, Garth returned to Seattle in 2001, and lives there currently with his wife, three sons, and their dog, Comet.

Stein is co-founder of Seattle7Writers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to energizing readers and writers and their communities by providing funding programming, donations of free books to those in need, and generally inspiring enthusiasm for reading.

Doors open for the event at 5 p.m.; program starts at 6 p.m. The Belfry is located at 302 E. Main Ave. For more information call 541-549-0866.

# Letters to the Editor...

*The Nugget welcomes contributions from its readers, which must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Letters to the Editor is an open forum for the community and contains unsolicited opinions not necessarily shared by the Editor. The Nugget reserves the right to edit, omit, respond or ask for a response to letters submitted to the Editor. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. Unpublished items are not acknowledged or returned. The deadline for all letters is noon Monday.*

To the Editor:

Hoodoo Ski Area's 33rd Annual Winter Carnival is Saturday, February 7. Unfortunately, they are experiencing another dismal season. We in Sisters Country know how detrimental the lack of snow has been for businesses in town. Of course, Hoodoo is no exception.

We all have the opportunity to show Hoodoo Ski Area how important they are to our community by attending the Winter Carnival. The events are family-friendly and varied: Frisbee golf, Hula Hoop contest, BBQ, fireworks, and much more.

Come and join in the fun! And pray for snow!

Patti Risley



To the Editor:

You would think with the school district being handed its head in the recent bond vote, the school board would be looking to make some changes going forward. Not so, with the appointment of recycled Jeff Smith to a board vacancy.

Director Stephen King advocated for able candidate Karan Swaner for the position. The fix was in though, as has become fashionable in Sisters these days, with vice-chair Andrew Gorayeb and director Melvin Herburger going along with chair Don Hedrick's choice for the job.

Something to keep in mind when school board elections come around this spring.

Roger Detweiler



To the Editor:

As a resident living near Clemens Park for the past five years, I have watched it grow from a dog park to a family park with the

addition of a nice playground area now surrounded by benches and beautiful trees.

For a long time it was under-used, but now I see groups of children and their parents all through the day at the playground, playing ball, having picnics and birthday parties. A group from the airport has a weekly early morning (ultimate) Frisbee game. Many dads bring their kids to fly kites. I've heard other things being considered like more picnic benches and a volleyball court. How great that we have nice family parks on both sides of town.

The one thing Clemens Park lacks is restrooms, sorely needed if one spends any amount of time there, especially with children. Now I understand there is a grant the City could apply for that would allow restroom facilities to be built at the park and I encourage people to write to the Parks Advisory Board or speak up at the next meeting (February 4 at 4 p.m.) and let them know you support this project. There's not much time left before the grant expires, so please don't put it off.

Diane Goble



To the Editor:

Mayor Gorayeb's laments in a January 28 *Nugget* article describing recent planning department "defections/dismissals" almost brought me to tears. ("Major shakeup in City planning," *The Nugget*, page 1.)

What really prompted "a gusher" was his comment that the reversal of the misguided back-in parking mess was on the "back-burner" and would "need another two to three months to be resolved."

Perhaps he can enlighten my stupefied brain on why it would be that complicated a

See **LETTERS** on page 19

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**RSVP:** Light lunch with RSVP, please call **(541) 382-5882**