Norberg to kick off speaker series at Duncan Hall

LAFAYETTE, IND — Thomas Duncan Hall is launching a lecture series that will explore the history, literature and arts of the Greater Lafayette Community.

The first in the series of "An Evening at Duncan Hall" will feature local author, public speaker and columnist John Norberg at 7 p.m. Nov. 16. The series is sponsored by Duncan Hall and WBAA Radio.

Norberg's talk will focus on the history of Purdue, with stories drawn from his upcoming book "Ever True: The 150 Year Story of Purdue University." The new book will be published by Purdue Press for the university's sesquicentennial in 2019 and is expected to be available next fall in time for the beginning of the year-long celebrations.

Tickets cost $10 for the general public and $5 for students. Proceeds will support Duncan Hall, a Georgian, colonial-style building at 619 Ferry St. that provides event and meeting space for social, patriotic, charitable, educational, and cultural events.

Norberg retired from Purdue in 2013 after serving as the president's speechwriter and communication director for development. During his time at the Journal and Courier, he was known for his humor column and award-winning news and feature stories. He has received more than 50 state and national reporting awards and was inducted into the Journalism Hall of Fame in 2016.

Besides "Ever True," Norberg is the author of seven published book on subjects that include space, aviation, Purdue Bands, and the Greatest Generation. He was honored with the Purdue Boilermaker Award and is an honorary alumnus.

Born April 12, 1948 in Oak Park, Ill., Norberg grew up on the north and northwest sides of Chicago in Skokie and Mount Prospect. He graduated from DePauw University in Indiana in 1970. He started his newspaper career at the Brazil Daily Times before signing on at the Journal and Courier in 1972. He left the newspaper business in 2000 to join Purdue but continued to write his weekly humor column for the J&C. Some of his columns are posted at this website, www.johnnorberg.com.

Duncan Hall was made possible by a $100,000 gift from the Thomas Duncan estate in 1929. Thomas Duncan, inventor and pioneer in the electric meter industry, founded the former Duncan Meter in Lafayette.

Writer: Jeanne Norberg, inorberg@purdue.edu, 765-491-1460

Web sites:

WBAA: wbaa.org
Duncan Hall: duncanhall.org