

The
Gary Interstate

Established Sept. 6, 1878; the only newspaper in the world solely interested in the welfare of Gary, SD and vicinity.

Owned and Published

By The

GARY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

A monthly newspaper with news of the past and present. July 2007 issue.

www.garysd.com

“The opinions in this paper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gary Historical Association.”

Did you heard about the celebration?

As most of you know, we had a fun packed celebration in Gary June 30th through July 3rd. Our town is 135 years old this year. The Gary Historical Association is 40 years old. Several events were planned and the jail/whistle house was used as an information center for the events and will continue to be used as an information center for our community. Will Stone and the 135th Committee did an excellent job in putting it all together. Comments heard were clean, organized, very well done and the best celebration in a long time. The City of Gary, the 135th Celebration Committee, the Gary Historical Association, the Gary Community Club, the Gate City Economic Development Corp., our businesses and our community would like to thank you for your participation to make this celebration a huge success.

Take time to check out the Band shell in the museum park!

Last fall the Gary Historical Association was fortunate to have the band shell in the park given to us by the City of Gary. There is a lot of history with that building. It was once on the State School for the Blind property. It was then moved a time or two around the Lake Elsie area and then to its present location. The building has two new coats of paint on it and the shingles have been replaced. Starting with the Callen Family Entertainment on July third and Johnny Holmes on July 2, the Gary Historical Association plans to start having some family entertainment in the area of the band shell possibly once a month. It should provide some great family entertainment for our area community. We hope that the residents of the surrounding towns will also join with us. The cost of getting that building up and ready for this has run about \$1200. We are asking for contributions toward this. We will accept all donations, but anyone giving a donation of \$100. or more will have their name put on the plaque that will be hung in the building. Please help support us in this effort. Just make your check out to the **Gary Historical Association** and put “**band shell**” in the memo. We will send you a tax deductible receipt. You can send your donation to 705 Lac Qui Parle Street, Gary, SD 57237

Thanks for all your help.

Roger Baer, President

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**A few thoughts from
Memories of the Heart
By Betty Schafer McCormick**

July 3, what an exciting time to live in Gary, South Dakota, in the fifties and sixties. Art B. Thomas Shows would come to town and there would be rides. Mr. Thomas grew up in the same area of South Dakota, as my father, near Monroe. SD, so there was always a lot of conversation between the two.

It was pretty exciting for us kids. The rides were cheap, about a dime, I believe, and they were long and fun. The Tilt a Whirl was my favorite. The rides were set up right on Main Street.

There were always fireworks stands. I remember Kenny Hubbs sitting up one for the Boy Scouts, I believe. Later on, when I was a teenager, my brother, his wife and I had one on the Three Mile Corner, college fund money.

There would be the Kiddie Parade, The Water Fights between various cities, the Talent Show and the Dance at the Legion Hall. I even remember having a street dance. What fun.

People and cars packed the streets of Gary. Lots of fireworks, laughter, visiting and also lots of drinking. It was a busy night for the Police. I know, my Dad was a policeman, along with Pete Hentges, Mr. Helmberger and Mr. Marsh, and later Leon Webber. I moved away then after graduation, so I don't remember who served as our Policemen after 1965.

There were probably more events, but those are the ones I remember most vividly. The restaurants would be full of patrons; the grocery stores sold lots of food for picnics. It was just a fun time.

It would all come to a halt about two or three a.m., then the next day, lots of clean up in the town and the streets were once again so quiet.

I remember once, walking up town to see if there were any friends out and about and couldn't believe how a town so active a few hours prior, had become so quiet.

Most of the people were now gathered at family homes for picnics or at Lake Cochrane for family gatherings.

The beaches would be packed with swimmers and sun bathers and boaters and water skiers on the water.

Vernon Blaine would have movies to watch later in the evening.

There would always be lots of fireworks lighting up the sky from different directions. It was really a celebration of our Country's Freedom.

Thank you to all Veterans for making these freedoms possible. We live in the most beautiful country in the world. I have visited other countries, and I deeply enjoy my visits, but there is none better than the USA. Happy Birthday America and God bless all our soldiers wherever they are serving and keep them safe and strong.

Please don't ever take your freedom for granted. Many lives have been lost over the years for these freedoms, families' lives torn apart, soldiers coming back with disabilities, the list goes on. Please enjoy your holiday, but do take time out to salute our Flag, better yet, fly your Flag, say a prayer for our soldiers and veterans and thank God we do live in the best country in the world. As Lee Greenwood, the singer would say "God Bless the USA".

TERRITORY DAYS

A century is a lot of years
Which have passed, so slowly by
When this was territory land
Which lay for miles beneath the sky.

Wild flowers were not molested then
By the farmer's disk and plow
The prairie grouse in numbers flew
And one scarcely sees them now.

The skeletons of the buffalo
Were intact where they had died
The prairie fires would burn for miles
Unhindered o'er land so vast and wide.

Our roads were only rutted trails
Across the best of laying land
And trees were few and far between
And Indians traveled in peaceful bands.

Our faithful horses gave us power
And took us where we wished to go
For cars and miles of perfect roads,
These luxuries we did not know.

Things have changed in later years
And a different life we live,
With all this modern work of man
An easy way of living give.

Our prairies lay in patterned fields
And not typical of the west;
With all the cars and jets and planes
I still like days of old the best.

- - Marietta Thomas

From the files of the Gary Interstate 1897

How to Avoid Success in Life

By Rev. G. E. Gilchrist
Don't do anything not absolutely required of you.
Don't volunteer any work that your parent or employer does not command you to do.
Don't do any work that is not entirely to your taste.

Don't acquire knowledge that you do not actually need in your present business, or in vocation which you have chosen.

Don't give up ball, bicycling or any other amusement to attend to a matter of duty or business.

Don't buy or read a good book.

Don't read history, biography, physiology, science, or anything else that will inform you. If you are so unfortunate as to be connected with any good thing, don't take any personal interest in it or put yourself out to help it along.

Don't say no to any companion, who asks you to drink, play cards or violate the sanctity of the Sabbath.

Don't say YES when asked to play a noble part in any good work.

Don't be serious on any subject, whether it be religion, business or school.

Don't show any gratitude to those who have befriended you.

Don't show a willingness to oblige people.

Don't inconvenience yourself on any account.

Don't seek to make yourself independent of others.

If you don't do any of these things you will never be successful. These rules if carefully followed will not fail to make drunkards, gamblers, professional tramps and paupers.

They will help to fill the penitentiary, insane asylum and poor house.

Local News July 1897

John Iverson the wagon maker has left Gary and gone to Tracy, Minnesota.

During the high wind Tuesday night Chas. Lusk's barn was demolished.

Fred Bartells in his new ad offers a variety of goods that our readers will do well to examine.

The man who does the least is mostly in the biggest hurry when he has something for you to do.

Hallie Sturges has been painting his house and barn and otherwise improving his residence property.

Lee Cowden while herding on the Jorgenson farm had the good luck to capture two young wolves.

From the files of the Gary Interstate 1959

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Miller, Michael and Lynn and Mrs. Herman Miller went to Princeton, Minn. and attended the farm sale of Warren Miller on Saturday. They returned home Sunday.

Kenneth Lorenzen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Lorenzen, met with an accident while cutting silage in a field on the Albert Tribitt farm, near Altamont, Saturday afternoon of last week. While cleaning the blower of the silage cutter, he was struck in the head by the silage cutter door, throwing him the width of four corn rows. He received a cut on his chin which required five stitches to close and lost eight teeth.

Be informed of what is going on in your town!

Meetings in July:

Gary Historical Association, August 18, 10:00 A.M. at the Museum
Community Club, July 19, 7:30 P.M. at the Fire Hall

Down Memory Lane, by Bernice Jensen

Dear Friends,

The Fourth of July was a special time in Gary in the 30's and 40's. It was talked about with excitement among the children in our rural area. A large carnival would roll into town and sometimes our father would take us kids in to observe the set up. It seemed like a glamorous life for a six to eight year old child.



The street going North and South in from of the Bartels store which is now the 109 Club were full of food stands, a large Bingo stand with Indian blankets hanging above the players and also other prizes. Those Indian Blankets were the prize I would like to win. There were many games to try, shooting games, the claw to pick up prizes, or the take a sledge hammer and see if you were able to hit the bell at the top of the pole and make the bell ring. On the street where the City Hall is now, were the rides, like the merry go round and the Ferris wheel, the swing, and all the other rides. People came to town and enjoyed picnics in the Park and relatives would gather together for food and there was always a watermelon.

Some would have a lemonade stand, with big glass jars with lemon slices in them. That was Frank Asher's specialty. He and my father were good friends and sometimes my father would help him. He sold other foods, but the lemonade was his drawing card. After the activities of the day children were tired and we would all go to one of the relatives homes.

You all have a very special Fourth of July.

Come along down Memory Lane and we will have a great time.

Cloie Brevik found these articles in the Thursday, May 16, 1935 issue of the Gary Interstate... under "25 Years Ago in Gary - Friday, May 20, 1910"

"School closes next week and none of the present teachers, Miss Scroggs, Miss Stone, Miss Crawford and Mrs. Kerr will return in the fall. Miss Alice Irene Travers of Clark will be the new principal when school opens. (I wonder why they all quit?)

G.R. Cadwell took a bunch of Isaac Waltons to Jorgenson's lake Wednesday. Thursday the town was laden with the aroma of fried fish.

Mrs. H. H. Herrick (wife of Captain H. H.) passed away Monday at Newberg, Oregon, at the age of 61 years. Born in Germany, she wed Mr. Herrick two years previous to moving to Gary in 1872. They were among the first if not the first, to settle here. They moved to Oregon in 1904.

Gov. R. S. Vessey was in Gary a few hours Friday and visited the school for the blind.

J. L. Larson shipped a bunch of 500 sheep to Chicago Tuesday. (Can you imagine what a sight that was in Gary?)

Thanks for all you and the committee did to make the 135th celebration one to remember!

Cloie Brevik

GARY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter from the President

I would like to say **thank you** to all that have given to the restoration project of the jail/whistle house projects. We are very fortunate to have citizens in our community, alumni and members that are so willing to help preserve the history of this town. There are those that have given monetary donations and others have donated a lot of time and those that have donated the use of tools and or materials to help out. This project would not have been completed without you. We hope that you will be pleased when you see the results of our efforts when we get this project finished. We have met our goal in donations for this project. .

Roger Baer

President, Gary Historical Association rstbaer@itctel.com

We had our annual meeting on Saturday, July 7 and elected the following:

Roger Baer – President, Will Stone – Secretary, Pat Denelsbeck – Treasurer, Sharlotte Baer – Director 3 year term, Mary Nosbush – 2 year term and Patti Haas a one year term. Some of the motions made and passed were to look into buying a sound system for future celebrations at the park. Put a new front door on the jail house. Buy a microwave for the south concession stand, and to buy a new air conditioner for the museum. We are already planning ahead to another celebration for July 3, 2008.

Pioneering in Dakota Territory

Dakota's Mild Winters

A reprint from an autobiography by John Stanley

Contributed by Diane Bartels Doyle

The following winter, like the previous one, (our first in Dakota) was, fortunately, also mild and open, with very little snow, four of us children drove from the farm into Gary each morning to attend school, being accompanied by father, who had an office for his medical practice. We were conveyed in a horse-drawn lumber wagon, the box filled with straw, with plenty of robes and blankets. It proved to be rather a hard grind day after day to do the chores, get the team ready, drive two miles to reach school by nine o'clock, care for the stock, do the milking and other chores. Such was the routine until spring work (1880) demanded attention of myself as well as the team, "Prince and Charley."

When you meet someone on the street, smile and say hello! You will feel better!!

If you would like your family history on the web site, just email the information to us.

rstbaer@itctel.com