

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. June 2007 issue.

www.garysd.com

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

HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE GARY INTERSTATE.

Have you heard about the celebration?

As most of you know, we are going to have a fun packed celebration in Gary starting June 30 through July 3. Our town is 135 years old this year. The Gary Historical Association is 40 years old. There are several events planned and a schedule is attached. 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 invite and encourage one and all to this celebration.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of you that are stepping up to help with the celebration. We need a lot of volunteers to accomplish all of the events that we will be providing for the entertainment for the celebration. We would also like all of you to participate in the events to make it a lot more fun and interesting.

If you would like to help or participate with any of the events please contact Will Stone at 272-5608 or stohill@itctel.com ; or Amy Grabow at 507-530-5921 or ajgrabow@jacks.sdstate.edu ; or Roger Baer at 272-2207 or rstaer@itctel.com

LION KILLED ON THE STREETS OF GARY

From the Friday, June 1, 1928 issue of the Gary Inter-State:

This writer has been a resident here for fifty years, and during that time has seen the passing of all the larger wild game that was native to this locality in the earlier days. And we have regularly chronicled the usual and unusual doings of this locality which have happened in past years but never before have we been called upon to publish such doings as happened here last Friday afternoon, that of shooting and killing a full grown lioness right in the streets of the city.

Orton's show was here that day, and in the afternoon as the parade was coming down town from the show grounds south, one of the teams ran into the cage containing the animal, and tore the end out, allowing the door to swing open. In less time than it takes to tell it, the big lioness was out and on her first leap landed her on one of the ponies, and she immediately proceeded to make mincemeat of that little horse. The driver gave one look and then jumped. He made for down town at faster pace than was ever before seen and went into a hardware store and asked for a rifle and shells, saying that the lioness was loose and liable to do much damage. He hurried back with the gun and getting quite close to the animal he took careful aim and brought the lioness to the ground.

Had the pony not been in the way of the enraged animal, there is no knowing what might have happened, as the crowd seemed bent on getting as near to the scene of the trouble as possible. The pony was badly cut and lacerated by the teeth and claws of the lioness but later reports seem to bear out the assertion that the little pony would recover. The loss to the circus management is something like \$600, which is quite an amount to lose.

While we do not feel like boasting, we can safely say that very few towns the size of Gary, or even larger, can say that such a large wild animal has been seen and killed on its streets.

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

As a child I had a very dear friend, Ruth Hundertmark. She and her family lived behind our home and we so dearly enjoyed playing house and making mud pies. We had some of the best mud pies in all of Gary. The reason being, we sneaked an egg out of our hen house to make these delicacies. We so carefully mixed the mud, water and egg, shaped them and laid them out to dry. They were decorated with beautiful leaves or pebbles. I think Dad knew we were sneaking an egg, but being the kind man he was, he never scolded us for doing so.

Ruth and I also made pilgrimages to the local dump to see what we could find to furnish our play house. One day we hit the "crown jewel". A prominent citizen of Gary had cleaned the attic and discarded beautiful dishes, home accessories, designer clothing and almost anything imaginable. We would usually pull the wagon for our finds so we loaded up the wagon with our new found treasures and pulled it home. My Dad couldn't believe what we had found at the dump. Some women in town didn't think it advisable for us to keep these treasures for a play house when they could be used in someone's home, but Dad defended us and said we could keep them for playing. After all, someone had discarded them. So the saying goes-- someone's junk can be little girls' treasures.

We created a beautiful play house and we spent hours playing with our dolls, making mud pies and just enjoying being little girls. Our parents always knew where we were--- in our playhouses.

We also enjoyed picking rhubarb and eating it with salt. The Hundertmarks had a rhubarb patch and we couldn't wait till it was ready to eat in the spring. How we enjoyed our rhubarb snacks.

Ruth and I spent many hours of friendship. She has given me many hours of wonderful memories.

Someday, I hope to see her again, till I do, there is a special place in my heart for Ruth. I will always cherish our many hours of making mud pies. I hope all children have gotten to have such moments. It is just so important to be a child and have parents who let you be a child. Children grow up so fast and they do need these years of play time. As a parent of eight children, I have always enjoyed watching our children be children and play, create, improvise, pretend, dance, sing and make mud pies.

Now as a Grandma, I get to watch my Madelyn and Ayla be little girls and hopefully make mud pies.

Be informed of what is going on in your town!

Meetings in June:

135th Planning Meeting, June 5, 7:00 P.M. at the Fire Hall
Gary Historical Association, June 7, 6:00 P.M. at the Museum
Gary City Council Meeting June 4, 7:30 P.M. at City Hall
Gate City Economic Development, June 26, 6:00 P.M. at the Alibi
Community Club, June 21, 7:30 P.M. at the Fire Hall

THANK YOU!!

I would like to say **thank you** to all that have given to the tin ceiling and the band shell projects so far. 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. I hope that you will be pleased when you see the results of our efforts when we get these projects finished. We can still use another **\$500** in donations for these projects. We are about 90% of the way to our goal. Please help us if you can. Your donation is tax deductible and we will give you a receipt for your donation. **Would you like to have your name on the plaque?** Remember that just \$100 will get you or your family name on that plaque. If you split that up among a few children you will accomplish that end result.

Roger Baer

President, Gary Historical Association rstbaer@itctel.com

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

1965 TIGER TALES

SENIOR OF THE WEEK

Name: Merlin Elroy Gilbertson
Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jesme
Birth: January 15, 1948
Birthplace: Canby, Minnesota
Eyes: Hazel
Hair: Brown
Nickname: Merle
Favorites:
Singers: Petula Clark / Elvis Presley
Actor and actress: Peter Sellers/ Doris Day
Movie: "A Shot in the Dark"
Food: Pizza
Book: Psycho
Subject: Chemistry
Color: Blue
Flower: Red Rose
Dance: Modern
Band: "Chivons"
Tv Program: The Man From U.N.C.L.E.
Pastime: Drumming
Saying: "Not really!"
Pet Peeve: People who think they are better than they are
Future Ambition: Psychologist
Prize car: My car

SENIOR OF THE WEEK

David John Law
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Law
January 25, 1948
Gary, SD
Brown
Black
Butch

Leslie Gore/Paul McCartney
Jack Lemon/Patty Duke
"Ten Commandments"
Chili
"Psycho"
Government
Blue
Red rose
Watusi, etc.
"Chivons"
U.N.C.L.E.
Our band- Chivons
"Is that right?"
Bragging

Coaching
My guitar and amplifier
Car-Chevrolet

FATHERS DAY

In this June the twenty –first
Known as Father's Day is near,
The third Sunday of the month
For that Dad of yours so dear.

Perhaps he's spry and youthful
And still in boyhood days,
And has not reached those golden years
And with you so often plays.

Perhaps he's old and feeble
And in later years of life,
But still loves you and adores you
In this world of toil and strife.

He has worked and cared and loved you
In the years that are not here,
There'll be a time of tearful parting
And perhaps it's growing near.

So if he's young or old or crippled
On this day just meant for dad,
Make it so he'll remember
It's the best day he's ever had.

Mrs. Marietta Thomas

Down Memory Lane, by Bernice Jensen

Dear Friends,

This is another story from my book written for my children and I hope you will enjoy it.

The Gypsies Are Coming.



When I was a small child, my parents told us to stay away from the road. My brother and I would take our wagon and transport gravel to our play area and make roads for his trucks and trailers. He would dig out the gravel and make bridges so we needed a lot of gravel.

The reason that we were to stay away from the road was the Gypsies were moving around and they may take chickens and children. My mother's Aunt had a bad experience with Gypsies. They took over the home. It was after dinner when they entered their home, sat down at the table and ate the leftovers, emptied the dresser drawers and took what they wanted. The youngest daughter ran to the field and told her brothers what had happened once they took over. The Gypsy men went through the out buildings. The chickens were put back in the chicken house.

After that my brother and I stayed close to the house and if we saw a wagon down the road, Henry would run for the house. We had to go upstairs and under the bed. After a short while he would wonder if they were up the road. I asked him what about mom. His reply was they just want kids and chickens.

The wagon was a neighbor with grain or animals. We were not taking any chances.

My grandfather, Christopher lived in Southern Iowa where he grew up. He shared stories with us, mostly about the Gypsies. He called them a band of Gypsies. His parents welcomed the band to camp at the far edge of the grove. They were friendly and respected the family. Great Grandfather, would bring them milk, bread, and fresh vegetables and canned meat. They in return would give Grandmother fabrics.

My grandfather was a sociable young man 89 years old. He would visit them. One night he came running home and told his mother the baby was very sick and she should come and help them. Great grandmother brought blankets, towels and home made cold rubbing turpentine and goose grease. There were no store bought medicines. Great Grandmother helped the family nurse the baby back to health. There was a bond between the two families, which shows us that there are good and bad in all nationalities. Another memory from my past. Memory is a great gift, and only remember the good things.

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

Country School Reunion

There will be a District 61 country school reunion held on July 2 at the District 61 school in the museum park. It will start at 4:00. All families and friends are invited to come and reminisce.

GARY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter from the President

Well, we are less than 30 days away from the day that we need to have everything done for the city's 135th celebration and our 40th anniversary. The push is on with a lot more urgency to get all of the things done that we have planned to do.

Hopefully in two weeks the new roof and ceiling for the jail house will be in progress. Then the new paint job and mural can be done. We will be putting new underground wiring from the school house to the museum and then also new underground wiring from the school house to the band shell building. Updated wiring will also go inside the band shell building to accommodate family entertainment that we will have in that facility. Most of the old shingles are off the roof and the new material is on hand to put the new shingles on. The band shell also has a new coat of paint. We also plan to have the two railroad buildings in town by June 15. This will be a celebration that you will not want to miss. Watch for our schedule of events as we put them out.

Pioneering in Dakota Territory Mothers Good Food

A reprint from an autobiography by John Stanley
Contributed by Diane Bartels Doyle

One of the impressed incidents of this journey in the immigrant car was the feast of good things that our dear mother had prepared for us, sufficient at least for a week. It seemed a real picnic for us at the start, but unlike most picnickers we boys could do our own sorting and take first what most appealed to us. Being under considerable excitement, the first day we were not very hungry, but a big, full pan of fruitcake looked good to us, and it served as our first meal. Next day for breakfast, dinner and supper we enjoyed fruitcake, together with milk that our accompanying cow provided. The picnic trip lasted another day and the fruitcake was pretty good again in the morning, but when noon came we found that we had had plenty of fruitcake, and nothing else looked good. That was long ago and somehow fruitcakes have never again appealed to us.

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

Last fall the Gary Historical Association were 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 we are busy replacing the shingles. 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 will be running 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.

Thanks for all your help.

Roger Baer, President