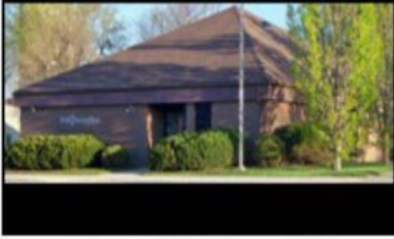


Established Sept. 6, 1878; the only newspaper in the world solely interested in the welfare of Gary, SD and vicinity.

Gary Historical Association

[www.experiencegarysd.com](http://www.experiencegarysd.com)

A Monthly Insight into news of the past and present



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## Laird, Norton & Co: Building a Community

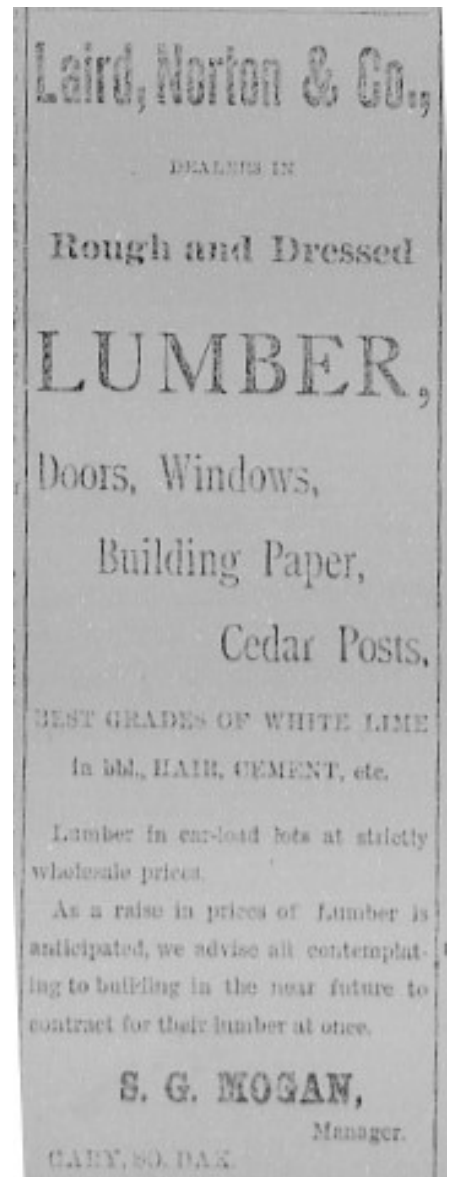
Some early settlers in the Gary area like B.J. Cochrane built their log cabins with the available timber near their claims. Some others lived in dugouts beside lakes and creeks or built their homes from the prairie sod. But the later immigrants and homesteaders had the availability of sawn lumber with which to construct their homes, businesses and farms.

The Winona and St. Peter Railroad came to Gary in 1872, opening this part of the Dakota Territory for settlement. The railroad reached Lake Kampeska, Dakota Territory in 1873. There was weak demand for rail service in the first years, in part due to the Panic of 1873. By 1878, the economy had recovered, and the Great Dakota Land Boom was about to sweep into the Dakota Territory. Towns and farms were springing up where there were no trees. What an opportunity!

The land boom brought a tremendous demand for lumber to build houses, stores, churches and schools in the newly settled communities. Much of the construction would be built of lumber sawn in and sold in Winona, Minnesota. Laird Norton Lumber Company was established in 1855 in Winona on the Mississippi River south of Minneapolis. They added a sawmill in 1857 and a planer mill and sash and door operation in 1868. Laird Norton opened their first lumberyard in what would become South Dakota in Watertown in 1878. By 1880, Laird Norton was operating in Gary, Dakota Territory.

*Laird Norton Lumber Company to Frank Isham, agent at Gary, Dakota Territory, March 27, 1880, "We hardly think it would be wise to sell lumber as low as you state [the] Green Bay man is selling for -\$14.00 and \$16.00. The lumber is worth more money, and if a man is foolish enough to give his lumber away, I don't know that he ought to be encouraged - of course we would like you to hold your trade- but we think there can be no good reasons for selling it at such prices."*

Continued on page 5



July 11, 1890 Ad



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## “I’m not going to get breast cancer” .... A myth

I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2018. It was detected during my annual mammogram. I was shocked as I truly believed that I would never get the disease. Though I always got my mammogram every year, I was never going to get breast cancer. An insurance salesman stopped in one day to sell me cancer insurance and I declined as I was not going to get cancer. *News flash! Anyone can get breast cancer.* The two main risks are age and being female (though men constitute one percent of those with breast cancer).

Breast cancer risks that we cannot control -

- 1- Gender
- 2- Age
- 3- Genetic mutations such as BRCA1 and BRCA2
- 4- Reproductive history
- 5- Breast density
- 6- Personal or family history of breast or ovarian cancer
- 7- Previous history of radiation therapy
- 8- Exposure to DES (diethylstilbestrol) - a drug used before 1971 to prevent miscarriage



October is  
Breast Cancer  
Awareness  
Month

Risks that we can control -

- 1- Physical inactivity
- 2- Being overweight as fat cells release estrogen
- 3- Hormone replacement therapy when taken more than 5 years
- 4- Reproductive history – no pregnancy or pregnancy after age 30
- 5- Alcohol consumption – the higher the consumption, the greater the risk of breast cancer

So now that I was diagnosed, what’s next? The oncologist and surgeon work together to plan a course of treatment. I was recommended to have a lumpectomy and radiation. I did my own research and saw the risk of a recurrence of breast cancer so I opted for a total mastectomy with reconstruction. Following surgery, the tumor was sent off for testing and the results were that it did have a high likelihood of recurring. Chemotherapy was then recommended for my case. I finished chemo in January of 2019 and, yes, I did lose all my hair. Chemo was not too difficult for me but losing my hair was emotionally very difficult. Following chemo, I was put on an estrogen blocking medicine for five years which will be finished in January of 2024. But now, my oncologist is recommending another 5 years of this medicine. Will I continue taking the medicine? Do I want to deal with breast cancer again? No. Do I want to enjoy my retirement years and watch my grandchildren grow to adulthood? Yes.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the purpose of writing my story is to encourage women to get your mammograms and do your monthly self-exams. Pay attention to any changes in your body. Check things out with your doctor. It is easier to treat in the early stages. This goes with all cancers. If there is a test to catch cancer early, take it. I know colonoscopies are no fun but watching someone fight colon cancer and succumb to the disease is much, much worse. Men, get your PSA test. Sixty percent of prostate cancers are diagnosed in men over the age of 65.

Contributed by Patti Haas



## A Look Back...

### 100 years ago, October 1923

Basketball practice starts  
 Mrs. Holdridge Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star of SD visits  
 Wiener roast held at Stankes well attended  
 Mrs. Inlagen donates 20 books to library  
 William Hinsvark breaks ankle when being thrown from tank wagon  
 100 chicken stolen from Mr. & Mrs. Hamman  
 Guy Hersom fell from ladder and breaks neck  
 Marriage: Anna Olsen & Harley Grotjohn  
 Births: Girl to Mr. & Mrs. Howard Gordon  
 Boys to Mr. & Mrs. Chester Merrill and Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Schulz  
 Death: John C. Eakins  
 Specials: 3 lbs. Bulk cocoa- 29cents  
 Husking mittens-\$2.40 a dozen

### 75 years ago, October 1948

Gerald Mason fractures leg in car repair accident  
 Airplane strikes REA wire near golf course  
 American Legion plans for annual turkey fun night November 23  
 Senior who's who: Mavis Benner  
 Marriages: Ella Meyer & Lloyd Braucher  
 Dorothea Jones & Donald Kurtenbach  
 Doris Swanson & Alfred Streich  
 Mr. & Mrs. Guy Norton  
 Mary Anne Thomas & Ward Shepherd  
 Births: Girl to Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Helmbolt  
 Boys to Mr. & Mrs. Henry Winrow-Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Baer-Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Hunt and Mr. & Mrs. Frank Sander  
 Death: Carl C. Nelson

### 50 years ago, October 1973

Dr. Monson Day set  
 Jan Haufchild new grade school teacher  
 Lease to Gary Historical for 20 years on city property  
 Annual Buffalo Supper October 20  
 Jim and Elaine Eng new proprietors of Hardy Funeral Home

Fannie Harkins head cook at school with Mrs. Moeller as assistant  
 Marriage: Diane Bindert & Thomas M. Johnson  
 Births: Boy to Mr. & Mrs. Randy Denekamp  
 Deaths: Mrs. Seffird Nuteson, Mary Ellen Quilan  
 Specials: Lettuce-25cents a head  
 celery stalk-29 cents  
 16 oz .bottle coke  
 8 packs for 89 cents  
 Auctions: John Ohnstad, Hershel McLain, Herb Schmidt, Dwain & Marie Rost

### 25 years ago, October 1998

Doyle and Luann Thompson named to winners circle for Dekalb Seed  
 United Methodist ladies presents quilts for Inn Gathering for World Hunger  
 Kamraths hold annual cattle drive  
 Marriage: Stacey Keimig & Christopher Cullen

## Meet Your Neighbors

Sara Guest and her partner, Del Hutchins, came to Gary for the affordable housing in our small town. It was difficult to impossible to purchase a home in Watertown but a completely different story in Gary. Local housing prices have risen in the past few years as people are moving to South Dakota for the tax advantages and more conservative government. Sara's favorite thing about Gary is the friendly people and good neighbors. She especially loves her neighborhood. They live in the former Agnes and Clyde Helmbolt home in the northwest part of town.

Sara was born and raised in California and traveled west thirty years ago to visit her best friend from high school. She liked it so much that she stayed, much to the chagrin of her parents who remain in California. Sara has a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies from

Mount Marty College and has worked in a variety of fields. She is currently a certified substitute teacher at Deuel School. She has also worked in retail and the hospitality field as well as many years with the Watertown School District. Del is the project manager at Active Heating in Watertown and commutes daily.

Her hobbies are her family (son Riley) and her pets. Sara enjoys lakes and

swimming, Sci-fi movies and thrillers, and baking. Organizing the golf cart parade for the 3rd of July celebration is one way they are involved with the community.

The one thing Sara would like to see in our community is a gas station. This is a recurring wish for most residents.

Welcome to Gary, Sara and Del!

## "Patchwork of the Prairie" and "The Fabulous Feedsack Era"

Yvonne Hollenbeck, presenter

### South Dakota Humanities Program Coming to Gary on November 12th.

Yvonne's programs entitled "Patchwork of the Prairie" and "The Fabulous Feedsack Era" are two of the finest presentations in the heartland. In "Patchwork of the Prairie", Yvonne shows her collections of family quilts, spanning 140 years, including her own prize-winning creations.

"The Fabulous Feedsack Era" is a historical presentation regarding feedsacks, the fabric of choice especially during the Great Depression, in which Yvonne displays actual vintage feedsacks, items made from them as well as quilts made from feedsack scraps. Poetry about quilts and quilters is presented throughout both trunk shows, which is enjoyed by men and women alike!

And throughout the presentations, you will see power-point photos of the quilt makers, their homes, and items of interest to both programs. Both programs are included on the rosters of Humanities programs for both the States of Nebraska and South Dakota.



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**8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

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If you have any story ideas or questions pertaining to the Gary area that could develop into an article, feel free to email them to [ghainterstate@gmail.com](mailto:ghainterstate@gmail.com).



## Laird Norton continued...

The lumber originated in the Great Lakes area including the Chippewa River Valley of Wisconsin. Lumberjacks felled trees all winter using axes and later the cross-cut saw which were more efficient. Large sleds were used to pull the logs over the snow and frozen ground to the rivers. Lumberjacks worked 6 days a week from dawn until dusk and earned \$20-26 per month. Their room and board were included. In the spring when the snowmelt raised the river levels and the speed of the flow, log drivers would float the logs down river to the mill. The drivers would manage the logs on the river by controlling the water flow through the use of dams. These log drivers did their best to prevent log jams and were responsible to break up any jams which did occur. River drivers were paid more than the lumberjacks, but their job was much more dangerous and grueling.



Lumber companies branded the ends of their logs before sending them down river. Once at Winona, the logs were sorted off in pools, waiting to be sawn. Early sawmills were water-powered but by the late 1870's steam power was utilized to operate the mills. This greatly increased the capacity and production. Early sawmills used a circular saw blade that wasn't very true and the cuts were rough. With the

adaptation of the band saw, cuts were smoother and waste was reduced greatly. Sawmill workers earned \$30-50 monthly but that did not include room and board and they often had families to support. Their working conditions were noisy, dirty, hot and very dangerous.

The concept of line-yards - lumberyards located in towns along the railroad line - had developed in the 1850's. These companies were linked to railroads in a mutually beneficial arrangement. Because lumber was one of the commodities that could attract settlers to a community and thus help to generate revenue for the railroad company, the railroad and the lumber companies worked together as partners. Homesteaders and settlers would need lumber for homes, farms and businesses and in return, the railroads would gain valuable business from these new customers.

The preferred location for a lumberyard in a Plains town was on a warehouse lot next to the rail line. This made stocking the yards easy. These warehouse lots were usually on railroad property and subject to railroad preference as to who was located where. Until a company was certain of a town's potential for settlement, initial lumber sales





occurred without the convenience of an office or lumber shed. If early sales were promising, an office and lumber shed were built. If not, the company could load up and move on down the line.

Railroads offered reduced shipping rates to Laird Norton which allowed them to undercut competition. The lumber company would set prices as low as possible to keep out new competition or eliminate competition by buying out the other businesses if possible. Once competition was eliminated, prices could be raised substantially. Laird Norton would also re-grade lumber as a response to a competitor's lower prices so what was actually 3rd grade, now becomes 2nd common. Rather than lowering the price to meet competition, the company would artificially raise the grade of the lumber to compete. Mutual cooperation within a community - "price fixing"- also occurred. Competitors agreed to set prices as low as any area points in competition. These 'pools' would set comparable prices and divide the profits at the end of the year. Laird Norton and Louman's Lumber Companies engaged in this practice at Brookings, Watertown, Redfield and several other eastern South Dakota communities. The company stressed that the agents were to keep these arrangements to themselves because the company did not want customers to think that the prices were being artificially inflated.

Laird Norton also had a sister company – Winona Lumber Company- which operated in the same towns as Laird Norton and gave the impression that these were competing businesses when in actuality, they were all part of Laird Norton. While business practices such as these would be of questionable legality today, these activities went virtually unchallenged in nineteenth century South Dakota.

*"We would say of Lake Preston that there is barely trade enough there to support one yard. We have been running our yard there ever since the town was laid out and while we have sold some lumber, we do not claim that we have made any money there.... It might be better for you and Mr. Coleman to take the points north and south of Lake Preston on your (rail)road which points we would not interfere with by putting in yards or in any other way". Laird Norton used this method to keep competition out of Huron, Gary, Blunt, and Columbia.*

By 1886, Laird Norton was operating 15 yards in east central Dakota Territory which would become South Dakota. It was difficult to find their presence in Gary through the Gary Interstate archives due to the fact that Laird Norton did limited advertising as they relied on being the only game in town and didn't need to advertise. The dates that Laird Norton operated in Gary are difficult to ascertain but we do know they were here in the 1880's.

Some information for this article came from the South Dakota Historical Society, 'Marketing Lumber on the Great Plains, 1878-1887', and the Minnesota Historical Society's collection of Laird Norton Corporate records.







A Sneak Peak At Scary Gary







David Kenneth Denekamp, Jr, age 55, of Minneota, MN, passed away unexpectedly Monday, September 18, 2023 at his home. Funeral Service were held at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 29, 2023 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Gary, SD. Burial was at the Grandview Cemetery, Gary. Visitation was from 5 – 7 pm with a Prayer Service at 7 pm on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at Houseman Funeral Home, Birk Chapel Canby, MN and resuming Friday one hour prior to the service at the church. Houseman Funeral Home, Birk Chapel in Canby, MN was entrusted with the arrangements.

David Kenneth Denekamp, Jr. was born on December 26, 1967 in St Paul, Minnesota to David and Judy (Reinke) Denekamp. The family moved to Gary, South Dakota when he was two years old and he was baptized, confirmed and was a lifelong member at the First Lutheran Church, Gary, South Dakota. David graduated from Gary High School in 1986. Following graduation, he continued his education at SDSU in Brookings, South Dakota.

Following his education, he worked two jobs in Brookings before moving to Canby, Minnesota to begin working at Universal Forest Products in Minneota, Minnesota. On October 14, 1995, David was united in marriage to Kora Hauger at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Gary. They resided in Canby where they raised their two daughters, Abbi and Autumn. David was currently working at Grill Works in Marshall. He passed away unexpectedly at his residence on Monday, September 18, 2023 at the age of 55.

He loved to fish, especially Northern Pike. David also enjoyed hunting deer with his Uncle Don, Cousin Ben, his father and many friends and would mount the antlers from the deer that were shot. David enjoyed gardening and canning. He was an avid sports fan of the Minnesota Vikings, Twins and NASCAR.

David is survived by his wife, Kora Denekamp; two daughters: Abbi (Cole) Eitzen and Autumn Denekamp; parents: David and Judith Denekamp, Sr.; sister, Jacki Cook; sister-in-law, Kim (Tim) Huber and brother-in-law, Kris Hauger and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: John and Esther Denekamp, William and Violet Reinke; Aunt Gloria (Gus) Goltz, Aunt Donna Reinke, Aunt Marjorie Reinke, Uncle Bruce Evans; brother-in-law, Russell Cook and father and mother-in-law, Russ and Sandy Hauger.



**Auxiliary Youth Costume Contest for ages 0 to 10 judging starts at 4pm sharp at the Legion Hall on October 28th with games following!!**

**Get your Ghosts & Ghouls ready for October 28<sup>th</sup>**

4pm Youth Costume Contest and Games at the Gary Legion Hall brought to you by the Auxiliary  
5-6pm Trunk or Treat on 1st Ave sidewalk between Gate City General and the Gary Legion Hall  
7-10pm Youth Dance with DJ Doreen-Costume Contest & Prizes  
7-9pm Haunted House



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 GARY COMMUNITY CLUB

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*at the Gary Liquor Store*

**TICKET SALES: 5 P.M. – 7 P.M.**  
*Drawing: 7:15 P.M. – Must be present to win!*  
 \*\* Must be at least 21 years old to participate. \*\*  
 2 tickets – \$5 ♥ 5 tickets – \$10 ♥ 20 tickets – \$20

American Legion  
 Peden-Cole Post #109  
 Gary, SD

**ANNUAL POULTRY PARTY**

Saturday, October 21, 2023  
 7:30 PM  
 Legion Dance Hall

Fun for All Ages

**BINGO PULL TABS RAFFLES**  
**WIN A TURKEY or a HAM**

#109 Supper Club will be open at 5:30  
 COME JOIN THE FUN!!



See you there!!

Veterans serving Veterans.

27TH OCTOBER FRIDAY NIGHT 8-12pm  
 FREE WILL DONATION



**ADULT HALLOWEEN**  
 DANCE, HAUNTED HOUSE,  
 & COSTUME CONTEST

JUDGING AT 10:30pm

JORDAN RIVER ENTERTAINMENT  
 Gary American Legion Dance Hall  garylegionhall

Gary Junior Auxiliary



*Thanksgiving*  
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ACCEPTING DONATIONS AT THE LEGION POULTRY PARTY

**OCT 21**

ACCEPTING UNEXPIRED CANNED AND NON-PERISHABLE FOODS

**WHAT WE NEED:**  
 CANNED TUNA/CHICKEN, COOKING OILS, FLOUR, SUGAR, CRANBERRIES, SWEET YAMS, CREAM OF SOUPS, STUFFING, GRAVY MIX, PANCAKE MIX, CEREAL



**ALSO NEEDED:**  
 UNOPENED CANS OR BAGS OF CAT /DOG FOOD, TOWELS, PET BEDS, LEASHES, COLLARS, CLEANING PRODUCTS

MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED. FOR ANY OTHER QUESTIONS CONTACT MELINDA JENSON.



Open house for **Lynn Pederson**  
 Sunday, Oct 8 at 1 pm

Sylvan Court Nursing Home Cafeteria  
 (Use the entrance on Haarfager)

No gifts, please. Let your presence be your present!  
 Cake and coffee will be served.

Gary Area Community Club



**BINGO & Lunch**

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024  
 Gary, SD American Legion Dance Hall

<b>Oct 15</b>	<b>Jan 21</b>	<b>Mar 17</b>
<b>Nov 19</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Apr 21</b>
<b>Dec 17*</b>		<b>May 19</b>

**Lunch 11 am** **Bingo 1 pm**  
 \*Following our annual Community Christmas Party!



### The Gary Historical Association Museum Membership

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E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



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It is loaded with interesting information, including,  
Bill Stone's book at:  
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And the Gary High School Orange Book at <http://experiencegarysd.com/garyschoolorangebook.cfm>

Gary Historical Ass'n is on FaceBook  
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WILL OPEN IF YOU CALL AND  
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PLEASE CONTACT:**

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605-272-5295

**Carolynn Webber**  
605-272-5777

### Gary Historical Assn's Officers 2022-2023

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- Vice President – Ellen Schulte
- Secretary – Gene Hults
- Treasurer – Barb Stangeland

**Board Members:** Albert Bekaert, Carolynn Webber, and Pam Hults.

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