

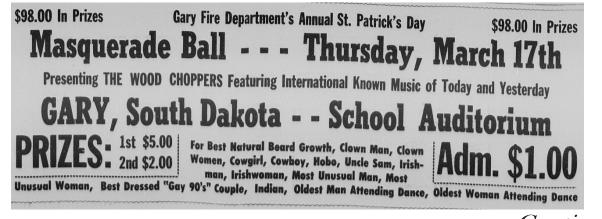
"You buy our tickets; we'll fight your fires."

by Patti Haas

The Gary Volunteer Fire Department Benefit is coming up March 11th at the American Legion Dance Hall. Get your tickets and support the local firemen. This annual event raises funds for the department to operate and purchase needed equipment and supplies. This year's event includes a raffle for a 4-wheeler, a Vanguard Sporter 22-250 w/ scope, and 10 cash prizes. Entertainment will be provided by Dueling Duo!

This annual benefit has quite a history. It began in 1937 as a Masquerade and St. Patrick's Day Dance at the Garden Theatre on Wednesday, March 17th. Dancers were required to be in costume to be on the dance floor. Cash prizes given by the Gary businessmen were awarded in various categories. Ticket prices were 50¢ for men and 25¢ for women. It was always held on St. Patrick's Day, regardless of what day of the week that fell on, except if it fell on a Sunday as in 1940 when it was moved to Monday. Dances were not allowed on Sundays in Gary. The festivities were held at the Garden Theatre and later the Prom Theatre. In 1958, the Masquerade moved to the all-new school auditorium where it was held until the dance moved to the American Legion Hall in 1966 where it continues today. The masquerade was discontinued about that time. In 1972, a Centennial Beard contest was held during the Firemen's Dance. For many years, tickets were mailed to the households in the Gary area served by the local fire department. In recent years, the raffles held in conjunction with the dance have become a major contributor to the success of annual benefit.

March 1927, Gary Interstate



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Fairchild Farmgirl – February Recap

What a February so far!

First of all, the Black Hills Stock Show out in Rapid City did not disappoint. If I ever quit doing vendor shows, I think I'd still do that one. Man, how fun.

This year I decided to take not only my two daughters Rachel and Grace, but we took Rachel's friend and our son Levi. The next day, our eldest daughter Kara and our youngest Jessica came as well.

It was a blast showing Levi everything and I had rented a little bit bigger house than normal, so it was pretty cool, when at the Airbnb; he had the basement to himself, huge tv, ping pong that he would play with his sister, and he also had some great furniture down there. He called it his man cave.

All my kids are excited to go, not only for a little R&R, but we've made some great friends out there that have kids their ages. Left to their own devices, Levi along with his friends Francis and Weston only came back to our booth a few times a day to get money for corn dogs, fountain pop or relieve his sisters or I when we wanted a break to go walk around. One of those times, I came back to three 15-year-old boys selling soap with a sign that said, "Buy \$25 worth of soap and get a free rhinoceros."

Apparently, they had found a stuffed rhino from a booth. LOL. Those boys kept us on our toes. This was Grace's last year going out for the full show and it was a little bittersweet, her and Rachel have been coming to this one for 4 years. Grace is great selling and Rachel is wonderful packing the vehicle both ways. I'm debating on who gets the full-time spot of Grace's next year.

I also did something kind of neat out there as well. I figured it was going to be pretty slow out there on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday as it usually is, so I decided I was going to see if I could teach some needle felting classes. That was a blast, I was able to teach 2 classes to homeschool coops and I gave a lecture at a yarn shop. I was so excited to get a message from the Dahl Art Center out there to give more classes when I go. We shall see.

We got home, got unloaded, filled more orders, and two days later, I went into get a hysterectomy. Wow, this surgery took the wind out of my sails for sure! But with each day it's getting a little better. I needed to have it, so it is what it is. Now in a month or so I can have my right hip replaced and it'll be a new me in 2023!

I have big plans, just you wait!

Until next time, Fairchild "as soon as I can leave this recliner for more than 10 minutes" Farmgirl



STEE ELECTRIC LLC Commercial Residential Farm Wiring Trenching

> 18296 SD HWY 22 GARY SD 57237

Bob Stee 605-272-5370 Jeff Nothem 605-520-6589

Gary Firemen's Dance continued

March 1927, *Gary Interstate* New Fire Truck

A new Ford truck was purchased by the Gary Fire Department at a special meeting of that organization last Friday evening. Two chemical engines will be mounted on this truck. Heretofore the Fire Company have had to carry their hose with them, which is of no benefit when called out of town. This new apparatus will enable them to reach a fire more quickly and be of much more benefit for farmers and towns without a water supply. The Gary Fire Department is fast forging to the head as one of the best in the state and the addition of this necessary equipment will be of untold benefit. The fire boys are surely a live bunch and having on hand the necessary outfit will make them still more efficient.



March 10, 1960, *Gary Interstate*

and St. Patrick's Day THURS., March 17, at the Garden Theatre, Gary THE FOLLOWING PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN BY THE GARY BUSINESSMEN BEST MISS LIBERTY-\$5.00 BEST CLOWN-\$2.25 BEST COWGIRL-\$2.90 BEST DRESSED MAN-\$4.00 BEST SCOTCH LASSIE-\$3.00 BEST DRESSED LADY-\$5.00 \$2.75 EST SWEDE-Do GLE CONTEND, Restric Click) Ga BEST DRESSED UNCLE SAM-\$3.00 \$2.00 BEST SAILOR COSTUME-BEST FARMER-NEW MEMPIFE GREASE GUN, COM \$2,50 PRETTIEST MILKM AID- \$3.00 BEST COWBOY-\$2.50 HOMELIEST LADY-\$2.00 \$2.55 BEST SCOTCHMAN-IN CONTENES COMING THAT THE SERIES THAT THE STATUS BEST NEGRO MAMMY-\$2.00 Positively No Dancers Allowed on Dance Floor Without Costumes Until the Time of Unmasking, 11 p.m. TICKETS: Gents 50c, Ladies 25c MUSIC BY THE MINNEKOTA HARMONIZERS ANOTHER BIG ANNUAL FUN-FEST!

Gary Volunteer Firemen's

This picture shows the new 2 ton, 2 speed axle International Fire truck purchased some months ago by the Gary Volunteer Fire Department to add to its line of trucks. With the acquiring of this truck and some new equipment, it has given Gary and the community sufficient fire protection to enable the Insurance Companies in this area to grant a much lower insurance rate to their policy holders. Part of the funds used to purchase this equipment was raised by your contributions in buying "Donation Tickets" for their annual St. Patrick's Day Dance. As one fireman said recently, "You buy our tickets, we'll fight your fires." The fire truck has a 1200-gallon tank with a 200 gallon per minute power tank off pump. A portable pump capable of pumping 260 gallons per minute, enabling them to fill the tank anywhere and in a hurry, is also on the truck. Recently purchased were 2 air masks with tanks to carry on one's back. So if you haven't sent in your contribution or money for the tickets, do so now. Your dollars are being spent FOR YOUR PROTECTION.

Meet your new neighbors

What is your name and from where did you come?

My name is Art Foster and my wife's name is Becky Foster. We last lived in Blaine, MN, just north of the St. Paul on a small hobby farm. We purchased our home west of Gary in March of 2020 and completed our move in October of that year. After marrying Becky, moving and living in the Gary community is the second-best choice of my life.

Why did you choose the Gary community?

We chose Gary due to its easy access to many parts of SD and some key MN towns. Becky grew up in Clarkfield and her family and family farm are located there. Becky's children also live nearby in South Dakota so it's an easy drive to visit anyone we wish.

What is or has been your life's work?

Both Becky and I were involved in medical devices for our entire careers. I designed pacemakers and other life saving devices, and Becky kept the designers on the straight and narrow through her statistical inspection plans and quality assurance activities. I have been named as inventor on over 400 patents worldwide.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy home improvement projects but am still self-employed part-time by working in my onsite-laboratory making prototype medical devices for small companies. I also have designed a wind and solar system to power our home in emergencies. Becky enjoys home improvement with me, gardening, and visiting with family and friends. She is also a good cook. We especially enjoy our friends and neighbors to the east - the Hunts (Darold and Mary, and their extended families).

What do you like the most about our little town?

Gary is the perfect size. If you need it, Gary has it! If not in Gary, then nearby in Clear Lake. The expanded Clear Lake Building Supply Center has more hardware than ever and has helped me with my major home improvement projects. Having the bank in town is also a huge plus. Small town people are simply the best.

What do you like the least about our little town?

It's pretty minor, but I would wish for a local gasoline filling station. Otherwise, Gary is the best place I could have hoped for to spend my retirement years in.

Are you active in any organizations in town?

No, we're not. But as I meet new people, I usually find ways to help out.

What is one favorite event that you have witnessed since coming to our community? I enjoyed the anniversary event, and the occasional tractor parades that travel past our house. These things keep small town life special, and Gary IS special!

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.

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A Look Back...

75 years ago, March 1948

Gary soon to host YCL speaking contest from 13 rural schools.

Deuel County Farmers Union wins crop show at Brookings.

James Paulsen, Priscilla Griep and Sanora Bursten of School for the Blind stranded in Clear Lake due to weather.

John Runge dies in house fire.

Rev. Harold Hempel installed as pastor at First Ev. Lutheran Church.

Sam Nelson sells garage and residence to C.O. Darby.

Seniors of the Month - Viola Battles and Barbara Dunn.

Births - James Hundertmark and Richard Schulte.

Specials: Cheese 2 lb. box 85¢

2 lb box of macaroni or spaghetti 28¢

1 gallon of catsup 99¢

10 lbs of sugar 98¢

50 years ago, March 1973

Firemen Benefit Dance to be held - Jolly Vikings and Town and Country Swingers bands.

Sexauer fertilizer and seed booking days to be held.

Community sale date set.

Jr. Auxiliary to hear about Americanism.

Gary Housing Ass'n 4-plex open house set. Couples' Party set.

Seniors of the Month - David Thompson and Ronald Volk.

Specials: Catsup 32oz 49¢

10 grapefruit for 79¢

Cash or Card

Why should we pay with cash instead of card?

A \$50 banknote: I take my \$50 bill to a restaurant and pay for dinner with it. The restaurant owner then uses the bill to pay for the laundry. The laundry owner then uses the bill to pay the barber. The barber will then use the bill for shopping. After an unlimited number of payments, it will still remain a \$50 bill, which has fulfilled its purpose to everyone who used it for payment and the bank has jumped dry from every cash payment transaction made...

■ A Credit Card transaction: If I come to the same restaurant and pay digitally with a Credit Card, the fees charged to the seller per payment transaction are 3%, so around \$1.50 for a \$50 meal. If the restaurant owner continues the cycle and pays the \$50 laundry bill with a credit card, another \$1.50 fee is paid by the laundromat owner and so on for each further payment transaction. Therefore, after 30 transactions, of the initial \$50, only \$5 remains while \$45 became the property of the credit card company, thanks to all the digital transaction fees.

Small businesses need your help, and this is one way to help ourselves too. Pull small draws of cash out at a time and use that instead of tap, credit, etc.

When this is put into perspective, imagine what each Retailer is paying on a monthly basis in fees at 3% per transaction through their POS machine.

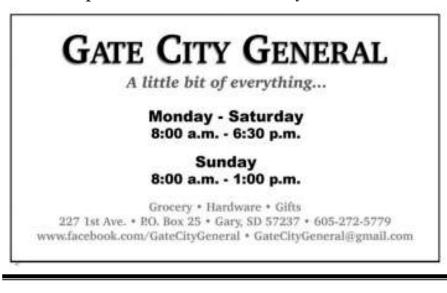
If they have, for example, \$50,000 in sales and 90% are by Card, they are paying \$1500 in fees in ONE Month. \$18,000 in a year! That comes out of their income every month. That would go a long way to helping that small business provide for their family!

25 years ago, March 1998 Mayor Perry Heaton to run for 9th term. Gary Fire Dept engages in practice techniques.

Paint n' Place opens for business.

Ralph Perkins named top weed fighter of 1998.

Senior Citizens cut and sew rags for rugs. Gary Fire Dept raises \$6000 at annual dance.



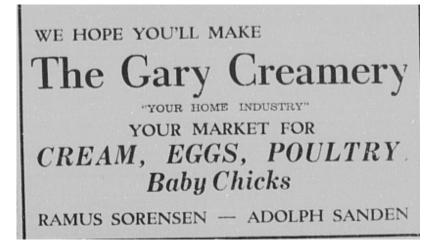
Spring is in the air...

by Patti Haas



It's time to start thinking of spring. The seed catalogs have been showing up for a couple of months. The baby chicks will be in the farm stores in March. Time to restock my backyard flock after the coyotes "visited" last summer. Another result of the May derecho that tore the door off the chicken house. Only six hens survived so I have been buying farm fresh eggs from Fairchild Farm Girl right down the road.

Backyard flocks have become more popular than ever all across the country. People keep backyard flocks for many reasons - for meat or eggs, as a hobby for children or adults or for shows or exhibitions. An increasing number of consumers want to know where their food comes from. Chickens are a great starter livestock for children safe for kids to be around while learning responsibility. The flock can be large enough to generate some income, too.



March 1956, Gary Interstate.

But, first, you must consider the startup costs. Chicks cost approximately \$3 each. Be sure to purchase from a credible source to insure disease-free birds. You can purchase straight-run chicks and will receive both male and female. If you only want laying hens or meat birds, you can purchase sexed birds. Baby chicks need extra care the first few weeks. They need to be kept warm as they don't yet have feathers. Medicated chick feed is also needed to get them



started. Shelter must be provided to offer protection from the elements and predators such as coyotes, raccoons, and fox. The coop must be kept clean and bedded with wood shavings or straw , especially in cold months. There are some pretty impressive "little red barn" coops for sale for about \$6000. That's a lot of eggs to sell! Fresh water and feed must be offered. My birds are free range most of the year, eating bugs, spilled grain and worms. This seems to reduce the number of pests in the garden near the coop. This setup is also convenient for applying chicken litter to fertilize the garden. In the winter months - their period

of confinement locked indoors - they eat shelled corn and vegetable and fruit scraps.

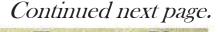
Occasionally, I purchase layer feed for them. The water fountain must be kept heated in the freezing temperatures we have in the Midwest. Nesting boxes for egg laying are needed once the hens get to be about 24 weeks old. Nests can be as simple as a five-gallon bucket laid on its side. Add all this up and it can get pricey. Or you can do it on a budget by building your own coop with salvage materials or reusing an empty granary as I did. We insulated it well and it keeps my girls warm and happy. My nests were inherited from an older gentleman who no longer had a flock. We have hatched our own birds for some years, in the incubator or naturally by the hens. Or my spouse gets too good a deal at the farm store at the end of the season. Not much money invested in my flock, and they still produce well.

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Disease is also a concern. Salmonella is carried by chickens and care must be taken especially with children. Hands must be washed before and after handling chickens or eggs. Avian bird flu is also a concern. Keep the flock separate from wild birds, especially migratory waterfowl.

But what about backyard flocks in town? In years past, everyone had a few chickens in their backyard barn. During World War II, people were encouraged to keep hens and raise a Victory garden to help with the war effort.

But what about today? The city of Gary's municipal code currently allows for chickens if they are contained in an enclosure or coop more than 100 feet from any dwelling or store or occupied building. Free range is not allowed within the city limits. The coops or enclosures must be kept clean and in sanitary condition. In a 2015 review of the 150 most populated cities in the US, 93% allow poultry in some capacity.



Uncle Sam Expects You To Keep Hens and Raise Chickens

Two Hens in the Back Yard for Each Person in the House Will Keep a Family In Fresh Eggs

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In Hawaii, chickens are free range everywhere, even on Waikiki Beach. Most municipalities allow only 6 chickens and no roosters over 6 months of age. I'm guessing that this is when they discover their voice. Often, permission from the neighbors is also required to have a backyard flock.

← March 1954, *Gary Interstate*



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NOTICE

The March meeting of the Gary Historical Association is moved to 6:00 pm, Tuesday, March 14th due to Lenten services conflict.



Gary Happenings

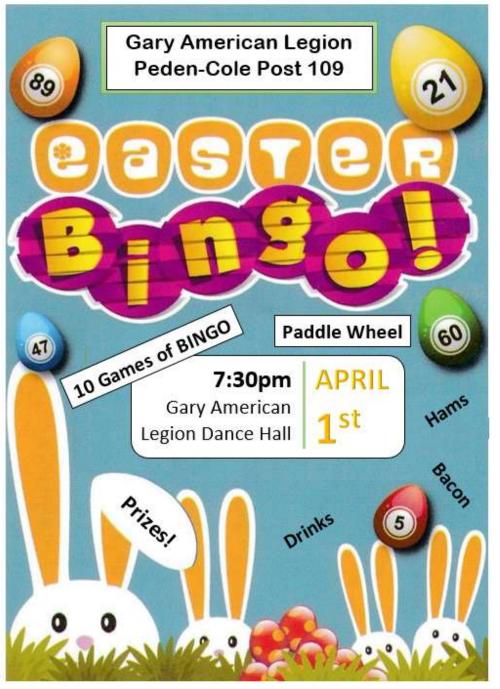


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If you would like advanced tickets for the dance please let Chief Rob Deslauriers, Dave Vogt or Cory Borg know.







2023

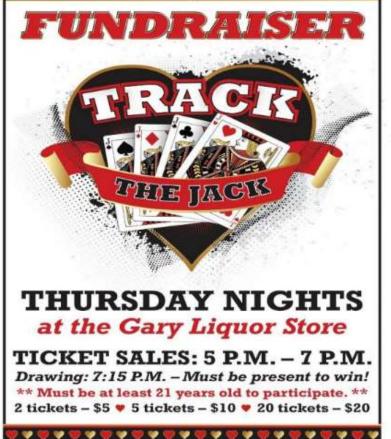
If you would like a ticket, please contact a Gary Firefighter or Venmo @Gary-Fire



Gary Happenings

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The Gary Givers





Sunday | Mar 19 | 2023 Gary, SD American Legion Hall **Bingo^{*} 1 pm** 10 Games + Jackpot Round Book - \$10

10 games Jackpot Card - \$5 Limit 5 cards per player All books and Jackpot Cards must be purchased by 1 pm.

March Gary Givers Bingo Dates

Friday, March 3rd & Friday, March 31st

Bingo book sales from 6-7:00PM. Bingo starts at 7:15PM. Money Rounds and Progressive Pot.



GARY AMERICAN LEGION

A Stamy Night

ADULT PROM - 2023 -

SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH 6:00 - 11:00 PM

GARY AMERICAN LEGION DANCE HALL

TICKETS ON SALE NOW \$25 PER PERSON



THE NIGHT INCLUDES DINNER, DANCING, & POST PROM ENTERTAINMENT

**FORMAL ATTIRE IS NOT REQUIRED

Contact <u>Garylegionhall@gmail.com</u> or send a message through Facebook to Gary American Legion Dance Hall to reserve your ticket. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Alibi and General Store starting March 11th.

ADVERTISEMENTS

2023

