



Gary (605)272-5233

This paper printed for you by  
**DNB NATIONAL BANK**  
Gary and Clear Lake SD  
We want to thank them for this service!



Clear Lake (605)874-2191

## A Farmer's Best Friend

The 100th South Dakota Legislative session will be held in January of this year. The very first session of the South Dakota Legislature was convened in Pierre on October 15, 1889, a full two weeks before South Dakota was admitted to the Union. Initially, the legislature met biannually, thus only 100 sessions in 136 years. Gary has a connection to that very first legislative session – Millard Fillmore Greeley, a leading farmer and stockman from north of town. Greeley was born in Kennebec County, Maine on November 6, 1851 to Levi M. and Beulah Alden Greeley. By 1860, the family had migrated west to Wisconsin where M.F. Greeley grew to adulthood. He attended the common schools only, with the exception of being a student for a short time in Northwestern University. In his boyhood and early manhood he worked on farms, in the pineries, at river driving, surveying, etc., and when twenty-one years of age, was given charge of a crew of eighty men to cut the right of way north to Lake Superior for the Wisconsin Central Railway. The Greeleys were farmers by trade and the younger Greeley homesteaded forty acres in Waushara County, WI, receiving his patent in 1881. He was married to Agnes Blair on December 29, 1877 in Wisconsin and one son, Ronda, was born in Wisconsin before the entire family again migrated west, arriving in Glenwood Township of Deuel County in 1882. They purchased land in and around what became known as Greeley Gulch, two and a half miles northwest of Gary. A second son, Benjamin Alden was born in South Dakota. They also cared for several adopted children and gave homes to others.



M.F. Greeley was a civic minded individual who actively promoted agriculture in the area, proving that Deuel County could be successfully developed for livestock farming especially the raising of sheep. Mr. Greeley was widely known throughout the northwest as an effective worker for agricultural advancement and also earned a considerable reputation as a speaker at Chautauqua

Continued on page 3

**Fairchild Farmgirl**

Page 2

**Who Wants to  
Wrestle?**

Page 5-6

**Happy Birthday to you!**

Did Someone Say Spankings? Ha!

Page 4

## **– Fairchild Farmgirl – Happy New Year friends!**

Let's get right down to the nitty gritty...resolutions? Do you have any? Do you make a list and throw it out by January 15? I know one thing, I never put "lose weight" on mine anymore because I never do it anymore. A friend of mine from college and I named our fat rolls since they've made a permanent home on our bodies. Mine's Priscilla and she's not going anywhere.

In other news, the rancho's kinda quiet except for the two bum lambs I picked up; Harry and Sally. It's kind of fun just having two. I go out to the barn and it's easy just feeding a couple. I can enjoy them, instead of trying to feed 5 pens of ten as you pull your hair out and wonder whose idea it was to buy bottle lambs again, let alone having 50. We've also got some Jersey calves and they are so stinking cute. Too bad my kids will all be graduated before we get to butcher them. LOL. I kid, but it sure takes a while to fatten a jersey. It's nice, even as cattle prices go crazy, the lowly day old jersey calf is still steady at about thirty bucks a head. Or maybe we just know where to get them. I don't know, but once they finally can figure out a bottle, they're fun to have around.

We're also busier than a one legged butt kicker trying to get ready for ten days out at the Stock Show in Rapid City. My kids like to shout out the countdown til we leave. Yeah, they have to work out there, but they still have fun. Every time I hear the countdown I'm reminded that I'm not ready. One of the things that I love to do out there, is teach needle felting classes to kids. I take all of that Wednesday and teach. Today, I learned that I can teach a class the night before at a local knitting shop for adults the night before. That'll be great.

Not to change the subject, but are you in awe that we haven't gotten really any snow other than a dusting and it's already January? I'd kind of like a crazy snow storm where you crawl into bed and you can hear the wind whistling and snow is coming down like crazy. As long as it melts by morning...kidding. I do kind of miss it and honestly as long as we have good weather to get out to Rapid, I'd like one whenever.

So back to resolutions...where are you at with that? I haven't made mine yet, but I will. There's something about them that keeps me on track when they're listed on paper. One will be to finally start something that I've wanted to do FOREVER; a subscription called Letters From the Farm on Cratejoy.com. I'm almost done with it and were hopefully going to get it up and running by February. It's going to be a letter/diary passage from our farm about what's happening and a local treat of some kind, a craft that I will teach you and some other goodies.

Okay, back to work. I hope we all have a good year. Hit some goals, have some fun and love your family...even that crazy aunt Ethel of yours. I'm sure she's got good in her somewhere.

Until next time,  
Fairchild "gotta get out to feed  
Sally and Harry" Farmgirl

**A Farmer's Best Friend - continued**

and similar gatherings. He established and developed his ranch, raising large numbers of sheep and advocating for the advancement of agriculture. Greeley was the first secretary and later president of the South Dakota Wool Growers' Association and served as the secretary of the Deuel County Agricultural Society which organized the County Fair in Gary. He was active in the Farmer's Institute of the Agricultural College at Brookings, a member of the local school board and a county commissioner in the



Ronda Greeley, Gary, S. D.

1880's before serving in the State House from 1889 to 1896 when he moved to the State Senate. He was considered for both the governorship of the state and the US Senate at that time and was appointed to the South Dakota Board of Regents and served at the time of the establishment of the State School at Gary. A writer of more than ordinary ability, Greeley wrote a column on sheep and wool production as well as occasional editorial columns for *The Farmer* magazine published in Huron and Aberdeen. Following the untimely death of the editor, William F. T. Bushnell, in 1900, M.F. Greeley took the helm of the publication for 12 years. During this time, the Deuel County farms were sold and the entire family (mother Beulah, brothers Guilford, Millard, and

Levi I, and their families) moved to Wadena, MN and on to Washington state by 1920. Greeley worked as the associate editor of *The Farmer* magazine while living in Puyallup, Washington until his death in 1928. He was the "farmer's best friend" throughout his life.

No Greeley descendants remain in the Gary area, though several family members are laid to rest in the Grandview Cemetery.

Information for this article was obtained from the archives of the Gary Interstate;

The Dakota Farmers Rural Ideal, 1884-1934, South Dakota Historical Society Press; Millard F Greeley biography, USGENWEB archives.

Hon. Millard Greeley, member of the South Dakota Legislature, and a prominent and successful sheep breeder, says, in a recent issue of the DAKOTA FARMER:

"It is most refreshing in these times to pick up your paper and find it full of suggestions and ideas concerning practical Dakota farming. I must confess I am heartily disgusted with many of our would-be agricultural publications, that give us little beside western politics and eastern farming—if any."

THE DAKOTA FARMER is strictly agricultural and strictly a Dakota publication. It is now published semi-monthly—24 numbers a year. Loyal Dakota farmers should support it, and not send their money for farm papers outside of our own State, that contain little agricultural matter suited to our country. One dollar a year. Address subscriptions to

THE DAKOTA FARMER,  
Huron, S. D.

**A Look Back...*****100 years ago, January 1925***

Roy Thompson returns to McKennan Hospital  
Wide Awake Literary Society holds program  
and social

Gary Fire Department holds masquerade  
dance

Birth: Girl to Mr & Mrs Claude McCormick

***75 years ago, January 1950***

Wilbers Cafe sold to Arnold Wyss

Father and Son banquet January 18

New telephone directory being printed

Births: Girl to Mr & Mrs Warner Volk

Boy to Mr & Mrs Henry Hauger

Marriage: Goldie Siedschlag & William Stone

***50 years ago, January 1975***

Gary receives reimbursement from Game, Fish  
and Parks

Faye Stuerman named Betty Crocker winner  
Senior class to present three act play "Oh,  
Promise Me"

Harold Sillman breaks leg when kicked by a  
cow

Mrs Fred Marsh breaks wrist from fall on ice

Gary Fire dept to receive 2 trucks from  
Forestry Dept

Seniors of the week: Elaine Fairchild, Doug  
Nelson & Kay Oswald

Auction: Patrick McLain

Births: Girl to Mr & Mrs Michael Miller

Deaths: Elmer Mueller and Mrs Wm Landsman

***25 years ago, January 2000***

Benefit for Makayla Norton

Deuel County Commissioners start search for  
Register of Deeds

Plans to celebrate Yr 2000 on July 4<sup>th</sup>

Death: Robert Stangeland



**Darwin Hunt**

will be celebrating his

80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on

Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>

from 11:30 -2:30 PM

at First Lutheran Church

in Gary



Greetings can be sent to

17762 483<sup>rd</sup> Ave

Gary, SD 57237



# **History of the Wrestling Match Between Frank Banwarth and Reinhart Stellmacher**

## **On January 1914, at Gary, South Dakota**

### **(Match Won by Frank Banwarth)**

Written by David M. Banwarth (Grandson of Frank Banwarth) - August 25, 2024

I wrote this because it is an interesting piece of Gary history that might otherwise be lost to time. This is the story of perhaps the most famous wrestling match to ever occur in Gary, happening in January of 1914. This account includes an actual annotated photo and is also based on the oral history of Robert Banwarth (my father) as told to me many years ago.

There were two blacksmiths in Gary at the time (1914), William Banwarth (my Great Grandfather) and Reinhart Stellmacher. William Banwarth's Blacksmith Shop was on Summit Street, next to his house (and next to the site of the Banwarth Garage) on the east end of town. "Stellmacher's" was located on the west end, behind where the Red Owl store building was located. My grandfather, Frank Banwarth, was a son of William Banwarth and was one of the competitors in the match.

While I do not know exactly what led up to the match, the family oral history states that one day Reinart challenged Frank Banwarth to a wrestling match in town, to be attended by the townsfolk. Frank agreed, so long as that once there was a pin by one of them, the match was over.

Reinart was significantly larger and older than Frank, at 36 years old. He was very strong, being a blacksmith. Frank, age 22, was very quick and was strong as well, working with his blacksmith father and performing heavy equipment mechanical repairs. The match took place in January of 1914 (day unknown). A photo taken after the match to commemorate it shows those attending, along with the two wrestlers (pictured in the middle, second row).

According to handwritten notes on the back of the family photo, some of those in attendance are listed below. The handwriting is not entirely legible. Only 17 shown in the photo are named by the handwriting. Some of the illegible names have had the spelling verified using the 1910 Federal Census data of Deuel County.

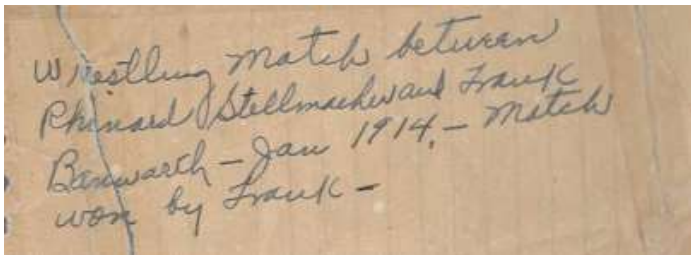


Hans Hensael(?)	Bill Eakins
Art Benner	Bob Benner
Ed Huffman	Lloyd Huffman
Ben Jensen	Leonard(?) Peterson
Earl McPeck	George Mienberg
Jack Matthews	Ben Benson
Ed Sullivan(?)	Albert Larsen
John Larsen	Ollie Burkhard
Clif Gordon	

Frank Banwarth (arms folded, 2nd row, light colored arms, middle, sitting) and Reinhart Stellmacher (next to Frank on right, dark shirt, mustache), along with townsfolk in attendance. The upcoming match became a much-anticipated event, and at least 34 attended.

According to family oral history, the match was unexpectedly short. Frank knew that Reinhart was physically stronger and much larger, so he needed to avoid a contest of simply brute strength as best he could. Frank relied on his relative smallness and quickness as an advantage. When the match started, Frank rushed at Reinhart quickly and moved to secure the winning pin after not much time had elapsed. Frank had won, surprising his larger opponent.

Frank went on to build the Banwarth Garage (AKA “City Garage”), where he operated the automotive, tractor, implement business until his death in 1950, unexpectedly, at only 57 years of age, while undergoing surgery. Reinhart Stellmacher passed away in 1951 at age 73. They are both buried in Grandview Cemetery in Gary. Both were well liked gentlemen and businessmen in Gary. They were friends after the match for many years. My father (Robert Banwarth) told me that as a boy (in the 1920’s) he would go to Stellmacher’s to get free bits of carbide to use in his toy cannon and that “Mr. Stellmacher” was very kind to him and the other kids as well.



Back of photo, showing handwritten names of some of those in attendance (very dark and difficult to read).



## History Help Needed

Can anyone identify this location or this house?



GARY AMERICAN LEGION  
DANCE HALL  
*Accepting Bookings for*

- ≥ Wedding Receptions & Dances
- ≥ Graduation Parties
- ≥ Anniversary Parties
- ≥ Youth Events
- ≥ Birthday Parties

Contact Loran at 507-277-5525  
Or email [garylegionhall@gmail.com](mailto:garylegionhall@gmail.com)



Terry Lee Singaas, 75, of Becker, MN, passed away Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup> after a brave struggle with Lewy Body Dementia and Parkinson's Disease.

Memorial Service was 1:00 pm on Saturday, January 4th, 2025 at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Canby, MN. Burial was at St. Stephens Cemetery in Canby. Visitation was Saturday one hour prior to the service at the church. Housman Funeral Home, Birk Chapel in Canby, MN was entrusted with the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, please consider supporting the Lewy Body Dementia Fund to support diagnosis, treatment, and one day a cure at [www.americanbrainfoundation.org/robins-wish/](http://www.americanbrainfoundation.org/robins-wish/).

Terry Lee Singaas was born in Hendricks, MN on December 16th, 1949 to Thelmer (Temmy) and Erlis Singaas (Mickelson), the oldest of four sons. He graduated from Canby High School in 1967, served in the Army at Fort Bragg, NC., followed by years of service in the National Guard.

On February 5th, 1972, he married Janet Cornell, and together they had three children, Toby, Cody and Megan. Terry began his career in banking in 1975 in Breckenridge, MN - a career that lasted 33 years. He was a man with many hobbies including owning horses, playing cards, painting, woodworking, hunting, and music. His greatest passions were playing pool competitively and fishing with anyone who would join him.

Terry was considered legendary to many people for his witty sense of humor, zingy one-liners, contagious laughter, and he always loved to be the life of the party. He loved spending time at the lake with his family and friends and adored his grandchildren. He was always there to support anyone who needed a helping hand and true friend to many.


He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Janet Singaas, Becker, MN; three children: Toby Broberg (Nate Storms) Becker, MN, Cody Singaas (Heather), Maple Grove, MN, Megan Singaas (Nick Graves), Ham Lake, MN; grandchildren: Luke, Brooklyn, Colin, and Lauren; brothers: Keith Singaas, Paynesville, MN, Bruce Singaas, Gary SD, Ronnie (Maggie) Singaas, Canby, MN. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, in-laws, and close friends.

Terry was preceded in death by his parents Temmy and Erlis, his father and mother-in-law Ed and Doris Cornell, and his son-in-law Matt Broberg.

**NOSBUSH  
PLUMBING  
& HEATING**

**BRADY NOSBUSH**

Cell: 507.829.8267

[nosbushplumbingllc.wixsite.com/website](http://nosbushplumbingllc.wixsite.com/website)  Find us on Facebook

**Since 1961**  
**Viessman**  
CLIFF VISSMAN, INC.  
HAULER OF SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

**WAYNE VISSMAN, CEO**  
Office: 605-272-3201  
Home: 605-272-5251  
Cellular: 507-380-5352  
[waynev@viessmantrucking.com](mailto:waynev@viessmantrucking.com)

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

**SmartWay  
Transport Partner**  
Getting There With Cleaner Air

Corporate: Box 175, Gary, SD 57237-605.272.5241 Fax: 605.272.6666 800.328.2408

## Darrel TeKrony



July 27, 1953 - December 18, 2024

It is with great sadness that we announce the unexpected passing of Darrel William TeKrony, 71, on December 18, 2024, at the hospital in Dell Rapids, SD.

Darrel was born on July 27, 1953, to Garret and Henrietta (Mulder) TeKrony in Clear Lake, SD. After graduating from Castlewood High School in 1971, he worked on the family farm outside of Castlewood, eventually taking over for his dad.

Darrel married Phyllis Wiese and together they had three children: Amber, Shantel, and Chris. Darrel taught his children to work hard, but also find ways to have fun and embrace nature through raising animals on the farm, hunting, fishing, and gardening. He especially loved riding horse, going to horse shows, attending rodeos, and proudly watched his children

participate in their interests.

Darrel worked in industrial manufacturing in Watertown, SD, and after many years retired from Minnesota Rubber. Upon retirement, Darrel enjoyed spending his time on the farm, tending his many animals, his garden, flowers, and trees. He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren, especially having meals together and watching his grandchildren play. He moved to Gary, SD in 2019 and loved living there, always seeking ways to help his neighbors and friends.

Darrel loved watching baseball and high school and college-level football and basketball games, following these closely and giving his kids all the game details. Darrel had a great laugh, and humor was his strong suit. He was generous, caring, and friendly, and easily forged new friendships in Gary. Darrel was especially proud of his yard consisting of fruit trees, flowering trees, and flower beds.

Darrel was preceded in death by his parents, Garret and Henrietta TeKrony. He is survived by his two daughters, Amber (Lucas) Nogelmeier of Watertown, SD, and Shantel (Justin) Ries of Castlewood, SD, and his son Chris TeKrony and fiancée Shania Jackan of Dell Rapids, SD; four grandchildren, Dylan Ries, Sophia and Miles Nogelmeier, and Hudson TeKrony-Spalding; his two sisters Dorothy (David) Van Haaften of Idaho Falls, ID, and Arlys (Kent) Van Groningen of Ripon, CA, and his brother Glen TeKrony of Estelline, SD.

Visitation was held Monday, January 6, 2025, from 5-7:00 p.m. at the Geise Funeral Chapel in Castlewood, SD. Private memorial services took place on January 7, 2025, leading to Darrel's final resting place at the Bemis Christian Reformed Cemetery.

## GATE CITY GENERAL

*A little bit of everything...*

**Monday - Saturday**  
8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

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

Grocery • Hardware • Gifts

227 1st Ave. • P.O. Box 25 • Gary, SD 57237 • 605-272-5779  
www.facebook.com/GateCityGeneral • GateCityGeneral@gmail.com

## Marilyn's Beauty Salon

Open 9am-8pm Mon-Sat call for Appointments

Marilyn {Chaplin} Kompelien

Stylist-Owner-Manager

809 Ring Ave. N.  
Canby, Mn. 56220

507-223-7512  
cell 507-340-1311



Cuts - Men & Women, Perms, Colors



Gary Area Community Club

# BINGO

Sunday | **Jan. 12** | 2025  
 Gary, SD American Legion Dance Hall

**Bingo\* 1pm** 10 Games + Jackpot Round  
**Jackpot \$513.75**  
**Book - \$10** 10 games  
**Jackpot Card - \$5** Limit 5 cards per player

Doors open at 12:30

The Gary Area Community Club will receive 25% of Books and 50% of Jackpot cards sold. The first 10 rounds pay out 50% of book sales; the Jackpot receives 25%. You must play at least one book (10 games) to play the Jackpot Blackout Round.  
 \*The Community Club is raising money for our annual July 3rd Celebration!  
 Please make all checks payable to the Gary Area Community Club.  
 Some daubers will be available for purchase.



**AMERICAN LEGION 109 CLUB**  
 1107 COTEAU ST. GARY, SD 57237

**SERVING** | 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.

TAKE OUT AVAILABLE CALL: 605-272-5832 during serving hours

## Upcoming Schedule:

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> – Prime Rib

Jan 18<sup>th</sup> – Smoked Pork Chops  
 or Rib Eye

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> – Prime Rib

Feb 15<sup>th</sup> – Smoked Pork Chops  
 or Rib Eye

Mar 1<sup>st</sup> – Prime Rib

Mar 15<sup>th</sup> – Smoked Pork Chops  
 or Rib Eye

Mar 29<sup>th</sup> – Ribs

Apr 5<sup>th</sup> – Prime Rib

Apr 19<sup>th</sup> – Smoked Pork Chops

Follow us on Facebook:

[Gary SD Post 109 Supper Club](#)

[Gary American Legion Dance Hall](#)

**The Gary Givers**

# FUNDRAISER



**THURSDAY NIGHTS**  
 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

The winners of the Gary Community Club Light judging Contest!

1st Place- Mike and Barb Miller  
 2nd Place - Kasey and Jillian Anderson  
 3rd Place- Del and Sara Guest



The Spirit of Christmas Award - Doug and Patty Hulscher.

## The Gary Historical Association Museum Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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



PayPal

Have you been to our website?  
[www.experiencegarysd.com](http://www.experiencegarysd.com)

It is loaded with interesting information, including,  
Bill Stone's book at:  
<http://experiencegarysd.com/billstonebook.cfm>

And the Gary High School Orange Book at <http://experiencegarysd.com/garyschoolorangebook.cfm>

Gary Historical Ass'n is on FaceBook  
Please LIKE us there.

**JIM'S MARKET**  
CANBY • SLAYTON

811 St. Olaf Avenue North  
P.O. Box 148  
Canby, Minnesota  
507-223-5305  
[www.jims-market.com](http://www.jims-market.com)

*YOU CAN COUNT ON US FOR*  
Quality • Service • Freshness

# The Style

Hair Studio LLC

217 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Gary, SD 57237

Jodi Mercer  
(605)277-8880

## Visit the Museum

Gary Historical  
WILL OPEN IF YOU CALL AND  
REQUEST A TOUR.  
PLEASE CONTACT:  
**Ellen Schulte**  
605-272-5295  
**Carolynn Webber**  
605-272-5777

**dcfu**  
DEUEL COUNTY FARMERS UNION OIL CO.  
*Truly Cooperative*

**Gary Historical Assn's Officers 2022-2023**  
President – Patti Haas  
Vice President – Ellen Schulte  
Secretary – Gene Hults  
Treasurer – Barb Stangeland

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

**AGPLUS**<sup>TM</sup>  
Agriculture • Energy • Service

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).