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 Gary and Clear Lake SD
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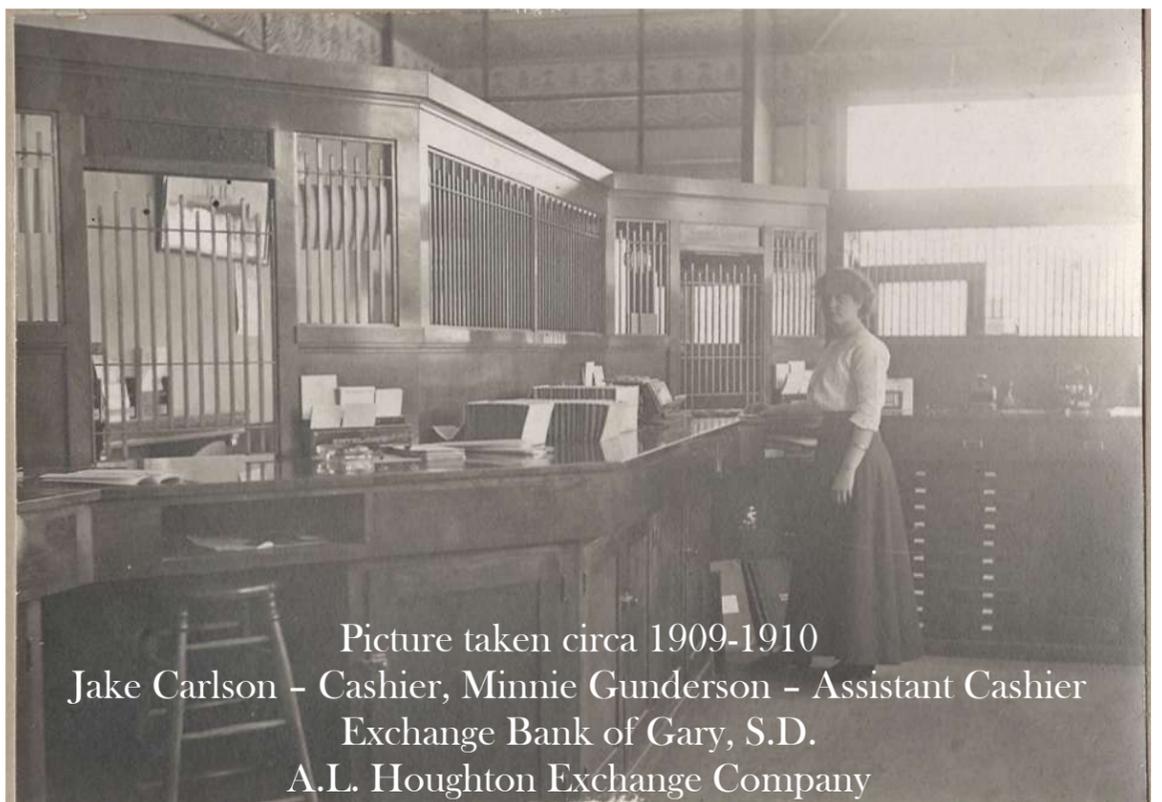
Clear Lake (605)874-2191

100 Years of Dividends

Many of us have enjoyed celebrating 100 years of banking with DNB National Bank of Clear Lake and Gary this past week. I, particularly, enjoyed viewing the photos taken through the years and, as usual, a photo peeked my curiosity to delve into the past.

Banking in the Gary community is synonymous with the Lohr family. Earl Lohr came to the Gary community in the 1910's and worked as an assistant cashier in the A.L.

Houghton Exchange Company/National Bank of Gary which was located in



Picture taken circa 1909-1910

Jake Carlson - Cashier, Minnie Gunderson - Assistant Cashier
 Exchange Bank of Gary, S.D.
 A.L. Houghton Exchange Company

the front of the Lockhart building. Commonly referred to as the "old bank building", this structure was built on the site of the Wells Store lost to the 1908 fire. The Exchange Company became the National Bank of Gary with a charter issued in 1916. The National Bank of Gary was absorbed by the First National Bank of Gary in 1931 - located on the west side of Coteau Street where Rob's Locker is today. Earl L. Lohr married Gladys Thomas in Yellow Medicine County in 1925 and the young couple settled in Gary and had two children - George and Irene. Earl continued to work in the banking industry, starting the Gary Exchange in the mid-1930's. It was located in the rear of the "bank" building which sits on the northeast corner of Coteau Street and Main Avenue in Gary. Gladys partnered with him in their business as a clerk. They operated the Gary Exchange through the financial challenges of those early years, providing the local businesses with a local banking presence.

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Serving Others

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During those years, Earl Lohr served the community with the Gary Exchange, making trips twice a week to the bank at the county seat in Clear Lake to care for the needs of the firms of the Gary community. In 1944, Earl and Gladys obtained a charter for "The Gary State Bank" and they opened for business on January 2, 1945 in the front of the "bank" building which previously had housed the local post office between the years 1931-1944.

New Bank Quarters Completed

The carpentry work of altering the former post office quarters into a bank arrangement, and the refinishing and decorating have now been completed and the work of installing the office equipment and materials is well underway.

-- Gary Interstate, December 28, 1944

Gary Again Has Banking Institution

Tuesday morning, January 2nd, 1945, at nine o'clock the newly formed Gary State Bank opened its doors in the corner structure built thirty years ago for the National Bank of Gary but which in recent years has housed the Gary Post Office. To Elmer Stoltenburg goes the distinction of being the first person to transact business in the new bank, Claire Brevik the first person to have a check cashed and J.M. Mortensen the first to make a deposit.

Tuesday was a cold day, the thermometer being busy below zero, yet the deposits of the opening day totaled over sixteen thousand dollars, a goodly sum in view of the weather and season.

-- Gary Interstate January 4, 1945

The articles of incorporation showed a capital stock of \$25,000 and listed the officers as E.L. Lohr, Gladys Lohr, Fred Hunt, Maurice Peden, O.A. Almos, all of Gary, and Anton Walden of Canby, and S.R. Law of Clear Lake and a number of other Gary citizens. The news of a bank for Gary was most welcome, as it had been ten years since a bank was functioning here in Gary. Earl Lohr was a major stockholder and the cashier of the bank until his death in 1951 from a car accident. Thomas Law succeeded Earl Lohr as cashier. Law worked at the bank for 32 years until his death in 1978. Aloysius "Tookie" Miller, who became employed at the bank in 1953, became head cashier in 1978. He retired for health reasons in 1984. George Carmen took over as cashier until 1989 when Eldon Huether became senior Vice-president from 1989-1993. Earl's wife, Gladys Lohr, had worked at the Gary State Bank from its inception until retiring in 1966.

The Gary State Bank served the community from its original location for the next thirty-nine years until the new bank building was built across the street to the south. The bank business moved into the new, more spacious, quarters during the first week of November 1983.

In 1987, the Lohr family had acquired enough stock to have controlling interest in the bank. It was then sold to HMC Holding Company in December of 1988. It

retained the Gary State Bank name at that time. In 1990, it was merged with the Security State Bank of Madison, South Dakota and the name changed to Security State Bank. BankFirst of Toronto, South Dakota bought the bank in 1993 and again the name was changed. Deuel County National Bank of Clear Lake, South Dakota purchased the bank in 1996 and changed the name yet again. This branch of the Deuel County National Bank is now known as DNB National Bank. The Gary community congratulates DNB National Bank on 100 years in the community banking business. An impressive accomplishment for an impressive business.

A Look Back

125 years ago, February 1901

- ⇒ No idea to dispose of Gary Interstate
- ⇒ Sheriff Inlagen can't resist visit to Gary occasionally
- ⇒ Mrs. Gustav Berke, new county superintendent, visits Gary School Wednesday
- ⇒ Marriage: Maud Thorpe & John Carton
- ⇒ Births: Girls to Mr. & Mrs. EV Coon
Mr. & Mrs. Clem Bradley
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Harkins
Boys to Mr. & Mrs. WH Gordon
Mr. & Mrs. George McPeek
- ⇒ Deaths - James Jesme - Ida Peterson

100 years ago, February 1926

- ⇒ Deep snow causes school bus to tip over
- ⇒ Donald Hicks scalded himself when he pulled over a pot of hot coffee from stove
- ⇒ Gary High School Glee Club presents "Miss Cherry Blossom"
- ⇒ New building at the State School
- ⇒ Moe Drew badly injured by being caught in the wringer of washing machine
- ⇒ Marriages: Amy Denny & David Klein
Clara Eakins & John Thaelke
- ⇒ Births: Boys to Mr. & Mrs. CJ Pinard
Mr. & Mrs. Ingvald Hinsvark
Twin boys to Mr. & Mrs. Wm McLain

75 years ago, February 1951

- ⇒ Robert Banwarth accepts FBI position in Washington
- ⇒ Harry E. Schulte, farmer, wins award for soil conservation
- ⇒ Fr. Henry Sikkes is new Catholic priest
- ⇒ House fire at Herman Matson's
- ⇒ Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Ullman buy Moritz store
- ⇒ Marriage: Deloris Jesme & James H. Aure
- ⇒ Births: Girls to Mr. & Mrs. Claire Brevik
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Nelson
- ⇒ Deaths: Wm Lowry - Emma Battles - George Hemmingson
- ⇒ Auctions: Wallace "Buck" Thomas - Harold Brevik

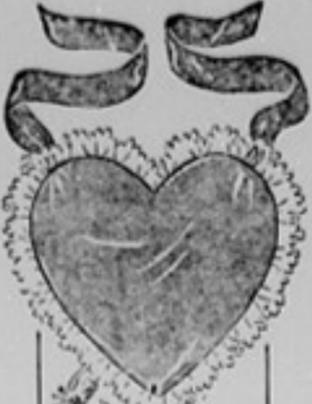
50 years ago, February 1976

- ⇒ Tri County Crop Show on February 28th
- ⇒ Douglas Helmberger fractures arm at basketball game
- ⇒ Seniors of the Week: Nacy Helmbolt, Sherlyn Hook, Jerome Kaiser, and Marlene Lorenzen
- ⇒ Births: Girls to Mr. & Mrs. Mark Stone
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Peterson
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Peterson
Boy to Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Hemmingson
- ⇒ Baby Boy adopted by Mr. & Mrs. Gurard Keimig
- ⇒ Marriage: Mary Jo Dwinell & Dennis Olson

Mail-Order Patterns

A staple for the home sewist

SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLEWORK
Hostess Apron in Heart Design



service wife friends a "sweet-heart" apron. They'll love them!

To obtain complete cutting and finishing pattern for the Sweetheart Apron (Pattern No. 5783) send 15 cents in coin, your name, address, and the pattern number.

Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLEWORK
 310 South Wells St. Chicago.
 Enclose 15 cents for Pattern

No. _____
 Name _____
 Address _____

SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLECRAFT
Sailor Boy Has Gal in Every Port

7076



A popular toy or mascot easily made. Pattern 7076 contains a transfer pattern of doll and cutter, directions, list of materials.

Due to an unusually large demand and current war conditions, slightly more time is required in filling orders for a few of the most popular pattern numbers.

Send your order to:

SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLECRAFT Dept.
 310 W. Randolph St. Chicago 26, Ill.

Enclose 15 cents (plus one cent to cover cost of mailing) for Pattern No. _____
 Name _____
 Address _____

St. Joseph 
ASPIRIN
 WORLD'S LARGEST SELLER AT

Birds Fly When Hatched
 The only birds that are able to fly the moment they are hatched are the megapodes of Australia.

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS
Pretty Frock for Gala Occasions
New Party Frock for Little Girl



1230
 1-5 yrs.

For the Little Girl
EVERY little girl loves a new party frock. Mother can easily and quickly make this dainty one

Party Apron

A **HOSTESS** apron which every one, young and old, admires—it's a big 20-inch heart made of two thicknesses of red organdie and frilled with white organdie ruffling. Wear one at your next party and see what a "conversation piece" an apron really can be. Makes a delightful and unusual gift, too. Plan on giving your

Patterns found in historical copies of the Gary Interstate.

envelopes. The

paper with perforated holes and notches to mark darts and grain lines and matching points. Most were sold in single sizes unlike today's patterns that have the options of multiple sizes. Instructions assumed a high level of sewing skill as only minimal directions were included and many older, pre-cut versions might have no markings or even seam allowances at all.

War-time rationing was reflected in the styles of clothing—shorter, narrower skirts that would require less fabric. Patterns could also be found that included advice for re-making men's suits and older dresses into 'new-to-you' clothing when remaking older garments. By the 1950's, skirts were fuller and gathers and ruffles were back in style.

Today, patterns can be ordered on the internet. Many come in PDF format and are printed on the home computer – no waiting!



-Patti Haas Candycastlepatterns.com

Fairchild Farmgirl

Whew! Back from Black Hills Stock Show! I bet you've got questions. Let's answer some that I get on a regular basis at shows that I do:

Question 1: "Are you crazy? That's a ton of people to have to deal with all day long for eight solid days." That came from my husband, since we're not feeding cattle anymore, he was able to come out first weekend. Needless to say this wasn't his thing, and he was excited to get home. He couldn't believe the vast amount of people that would stop by my booth to make purchases or just to visit.

Question 2: "Do I carve the images on my soap?" For those of you who've never seen my soap, it has cow/calf pairs, goats, sheep, and horses on them. People seem a little disenchanted when I tell them I just pour my soap batter into a mold, but as I brought out 1,000 bars to sell, it'd take a long time to carve all of them. And also, if I did that, I'm going to raise my prices. Hand carved soap doesn't come cheap.

Question 3: Do I milk my own goats? We used to. Then the kids started getting more animals of their own, and I was also sick of the goats getting out and eating the garden, jumping on everything and eating the seat of the side by side. So now I buy my milk from a kid that raises dairy goats.

Question 4: Do you raise your own sheep? Again, we used to. However, when prices were really good, we sold the flock. Now, I buy wool right off the farm. I buy large quantities then scour it in Texas and mill it in eastern Wisconsin. Then Ron and I go out and get it and have a date night on Lake Michigan. It's pretty awesome.

Question 5: Are you a reseller of goods? I actually got asked that a few times this trip to Stock Show because for some reason people thought I'd like to sell their products at shows. No. Well, I do sell crocheted washcloths that I buy from a friend but that's it. I usually have enough inventory of my own.

Question 6: Can you give me your recipe so I can make my own? This floors me every time I hear it. I've started saying, "Only if I can come to your work and try to steal your job from under you." People! Why would I share a recipe that I've developed over years? The sad thing is, many of those asking aren't joking.

Which brings me to **question 7:** How long does it take you to make all this stuff? I try to work on it about 2-3 nights a week. So not terrible. But I also sell on Etsy, Shopify and Faire Wholesale so at times I'm restocking and sending out right away again.

Question 8: Are trade/craft/stock shows worth the hassle? They can be. If you like people, believe in your product and can set up a nice display, that's half the battle. One year I let myself have only one weekend a month off and I had others run booths for me, so I could maximize my reach. Was that worth it? No. If you have someone that doesn't know or know how to sell your story/brand, don't bother. It may end up hurting you in the end.

Question 9: Is your whole business worth the hassle? Selling online, new product development, actually making the product, taking photos, working on my website, writing up directions for my

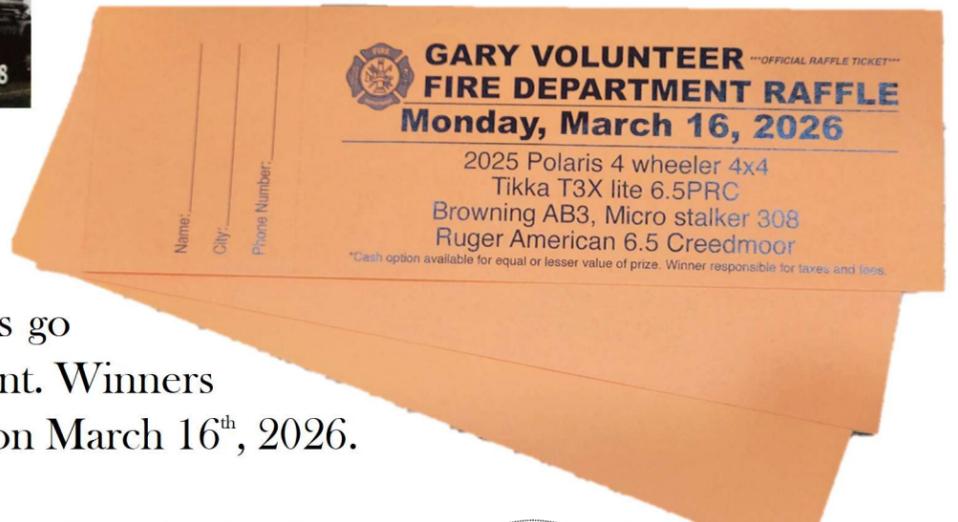
kits, dying wool, making connections with stores, customers, taxes...can be exhausting. But this business allowed me to stay home and raise my kiddos until my youngest was in the 7th grade. I call that a win. Has it been tough? Yes. Long hours after everyone else is in bed is tough, missing kid's events or being away from the husband and family because I'm at a trade show stinks. But in the end, the money has helped. I also have met many friends.

Question 10: Are you going to quit this anytime soon? Not sure. I've got some great customers and friends I've met along the way. But to be honest, I have been thinking about it. The road miles, the hotel and air bnb stays, the late nights, and honestly the weirdos-yes weird people at shows especially the free shows (someday I'll elaborate on this)...it's a lot for this gal. Time will tell, but I'm glad to be back home for now. Quitting writing for papers? **NEVER!**

Until next time,
Fairchild "if you need me,
I'll be in my recliner" Farmgirl



The Fire Department will not be holding a dance this year, instead they are only doing a raffle. The fundraiser donations go towards new equipment for the fire department. Winners will be drawn at the fire department meeting on March 16th, 2026.



- The raffle prizes for 2026 are
- 2025 Polaris 4x4 4-wheeler
 - Tikka T3X Lite 6.5 PRC rifle
 - Browning AB3 Micro stalker 308 rifle
 - Ruger American 6.5 Creedmoor rifle

Winners may also choose the cash option instead of the firearm. The cash option will be \$100 below the value of the

Please make sure to:

- Return the completed stub with your information including your phone member. Print neat.
- Enclose funds- Checks to Gary Fire Department. Raffle tickets are available from any fireman, or at the following businesses: Gate City General Store - Rob's Locker - Deuel National Bank - The Alibi.

Gary Firefighters & Ambulance Members: Mike Hinsvark, Jeff Engesser, Rodney Winrow, Chad Giese, Dave Vogt, Josh Christianson, Brexton Tegantvoort, David Wyman, John Deslauriers, Stran Kruse, Grace Bindert, Eugene Lorenzen, Zach Lorenzen, Kooper Cleveland, Steve Strong, Levi Moeller, Michael Hunt, Darren Engesser, Kelsey Coners, Jaylen Schulte, Titus Vogt, Jordan Hinsvark, Elliot Lorenzen, Dillon Krosch, Austin Crocker, Ashleigh Baker, Scott Moeller, Steve Bohlen, Melinda Baker, Joey Gislason, Rob Deslauriers, Cory Borg

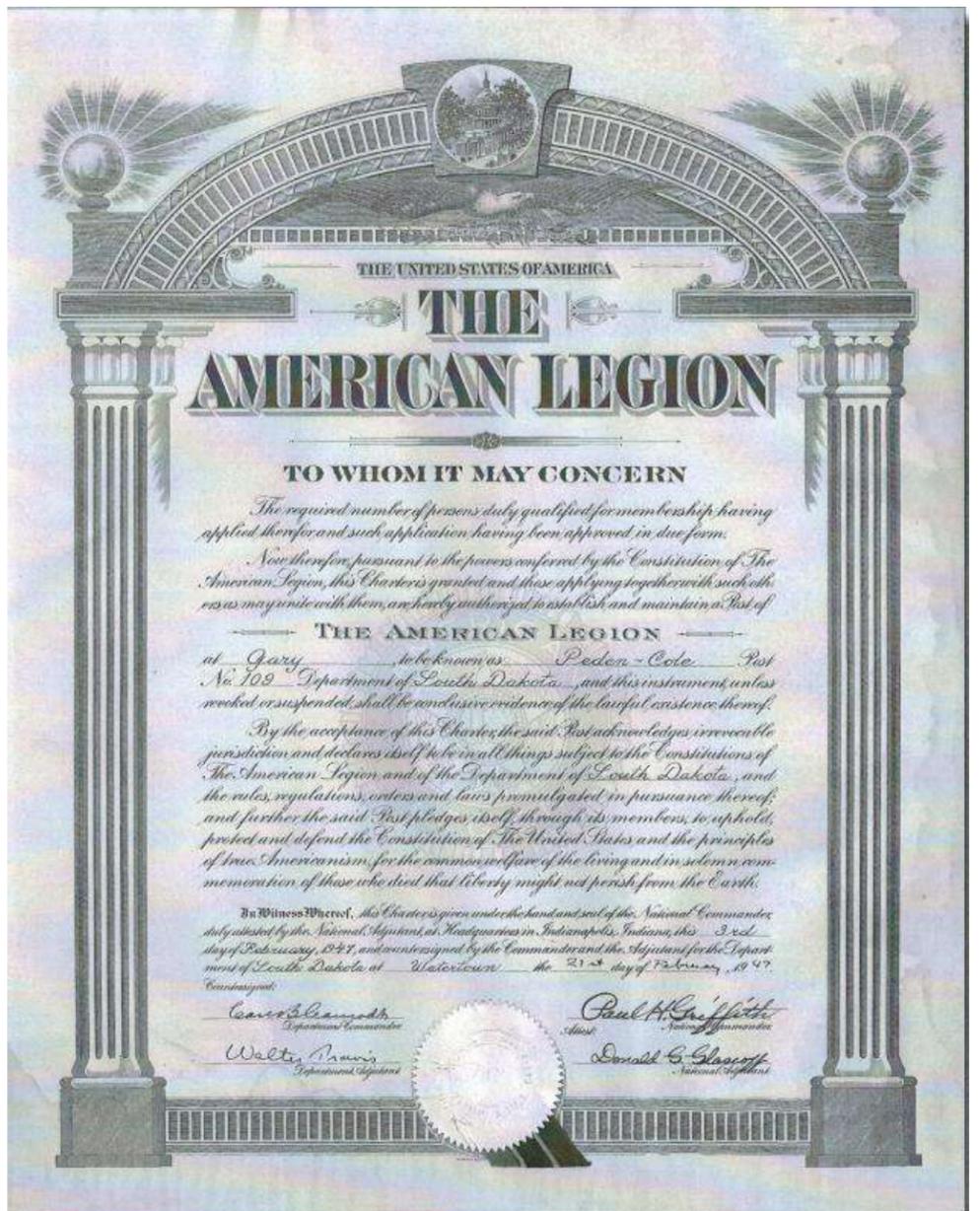
Peden-Cole Post 109 of the American Legion -Part 1

The Peden-Cole Post 109 of the American Legion was organized in October of 1944 while our nation was in the midst of World War II. The post was named in honor of Elmer R. Peden and John W. Cole. They were the first men to die in uniform from our community during World War I and World War II, respectively. Peden had died December 11, 1917, at Ft. Riley, Kansas, the result of the rampant Spanish flu. John Cole died on January 1, 1944, at Fort Douglas, Utah after being struck by a car.

A meeting of former servicemen in the Gary community was held on October 12, 1944, for the purpose of re-organizing an American Legion Post here. Gary had formerly had a Legion Post- the Henslin-Peden Post - at the close of World War I but it had lapsed as an organization in 1930. Since that time, many had kept their membership with the Clear Lake Post.

The Post's first officers were -
Chris Lovaas - Commander
A.T. Nelson - Vice-Commander
A.C. Benner -Post Adjutant
Adolph Sanden - Finance Officer
George Meinberg - Historian
Ernest Webb - Chaplain
I.M. Hinsvark, George Hornstein,
and Phillip Hauger, additional
members of the executive committee.

Regularly scheduled meetings were to be held on the last Thursday of each month. A committee was organized to arrange for a meeting place which possibly may be the city hall jail and voting house. (This would be identified as the whistle house today). The post has acquired the fifteen members required for a charter and it is estimated there were some forty eligible members in the immediate vicinity at present.



October 26, 1944, Gary Interstate - *The newly formed American Legion Post in Gary, the Peden-Cole Post, will hold a meeting at the Gary voting house.*

The American Legion and the Gary Fire Department made plans for a fox hunt in December of 1944. Unfortunately, extreme cold weather interfered with the scheduled event. One fox was shot, one wolf escaped and some really chilled hunters reported a none-too-successful afternoon. The fox hunts appear to have been an annual event for the two organizations. It must have been successful as we no longer see many fox in the area.

The Post sponsored a Turkey Raffle on December 13, 1944, featuring dressed turkeys, geese, and ducks. Another Turkey Raffle was held the following November (1945). This time it was noted the members gathered the prior evening to dress and prepare the large number of Thanksgiving fowl that would be needed. This was the beginning of the annual Poultry Party still held today.



"A G.I. Social Evening" was held at The New Cafe in January of 1946 for all the servicemen, whether or not members of the American Legion. The cafe was closed to the public and each and every soldier, sailor and marine was invited to enjoy the pool room, cards or visiting with the other servicemen.

A movie entitled "No Help Wanted - Can Disabled Veterans Get Jobs?" was presented by the Peden-Cole Post and the Playhouse Theater. This show-cased the many jobs that could be performed by a veteran disabled in service to his country.

A candidate for Boys State, a citizenship course, would be sponsored by the local post starting in 1947. This support of Boys State continues today.

Monthly meetings were changed to twice a month - January 1947.

The Peden-Cole Legion Post has always supported the youth in the Gary community. In the early years, a basketball team was sponsored and then youth baseball was added. A Junior League baseball team of young men under the age of seventeen was organized under the management of Francis Potthoff and Sonny Hinsvark. The Legion purchased Outlot 3 and the north 525 feet of Outlot 2 in the Harris Second Addition from Ernest W. Collins in January of 1947 for the purpose of constructing an athletic field for the men and youth of the community. Generations of baseball and football players (the athletic field included both the baseball field that remains today and the football field that existed to its south) and their families have

enjoyed that field for the past eighty years. The Legion transferred this field to the City in 1987 for no consideration and the City of Gary maintains the field today.



A side note- the Auxiliary to the American Legion in Gary remained active even prior to the re-organization of Peden-Cole Post 109. During the war years, they sent Christmas greetings and boxes to the servicemen from the local area and did whatever they could to support the families waiting at home.

I have read through a lot of the Gary Interstate newspapers, looking for mention of the Legion Post 109 and what they were accomplishing in the early years. The paper was interesting in those years. The war was covered very well on the local, national, and international levels. The Tiger Tales covered the local school news, and Manfred Township news had its own column. Women's fashion trends received an entire page and there was always one or two serial fiction stories to read. National news included labor disputes, disease outbreaks like polio, and farm market theories: there also were the comics and homemaking items - usually mail-order patterns for women and children. With the closing of fabric stores like JoAnn's, I may have to go back to mail-order. -Patti Haas

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DANCE HALL**

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

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Or email garylegionhall@gmail.com

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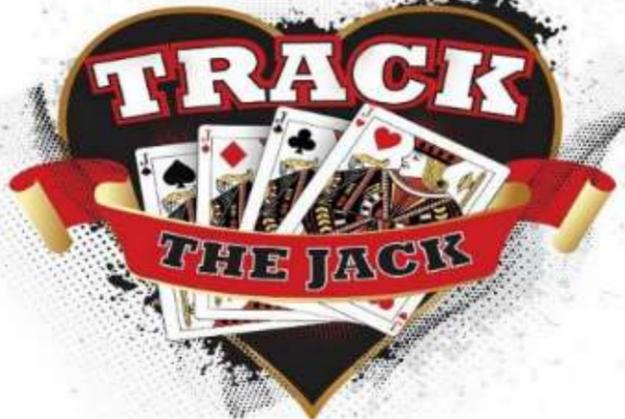
SERVING | 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.

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

2026 Schedule:
 Feb 21st – Smoked Pork Chops or Rib Eye
 Mar 7th – Prime Rib
 Mar 21st – Smoked Pork Chops or Rib Eye
 Apr 4th – Prime Rib
 Apr 18th – Smoked Pork Chops or Rib Eye
 May 2nd – Prime Rib
 May 16th –  s
 May 30th – BBQ Ribs
 June 6th – Prime Rib
 June 20th – Smoked Pork Chops or Rib Eye
 *Hamburgers also available

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

Gary Givers



EUCHRE
 TOURNAMENT

Gary Bar
 \$50/team entry
 100% payback

SATURDAY
February 14, 2026
 Registration 10:30am
 Start time 11am

Please pre-register to guarantee a spot. Call the Gary Bar at 605.272.9743

Even though this is a day (or two) late:

 Happy Valentines Day to those who have found love, in whatever shape or form, and to those who are still hunting, don't give up. If you feel bad, send yourself a card. You must be worth it.

Jeanette Winterson

The Gary Historical Association
Museum Membership

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Gary Historical

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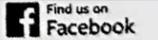
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- ≧ Anniversary Parties
- ≧ Youth Events
- ≧ Birthday Parties

Contact Loran at 507-277-5525

Or email garylegionhall@gmail.com

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.