

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

A Monthly Insight into news of the past and present



Gary (605)272-5233

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Clear Lake (605)874-2191

Lots to Check Out at the Library

There's a new face at the Gary Library. Meet Koyla Kruse, our new librarian. Koyla explains that she was interested in the position as she loves the little Gary library and has always been impressed that it exists in our 'tiny' town. She wants to do her best to ensure that it continues. She fondly remembers bringing her young children to the library and wants to get more young people excited about books and our library in general. And the excitement for books shouldn't stop with kids - Koyla wants to get more people involved with books and activities at the library. A card-making class has already been held and knitting will be taught Saturday, January 27 at 1:30 PM. There are also plans for a painting class and a wool felting project in the future. She's looking for more local artisans to share their talents. Originally from Nunda, SD. Koyla is a graduate of SDSU and holds both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in animal science. She is married to Will Kruse and they are the parents of four children, Stran, Taden, Garon, and Hatti. Koyla considers her most important job to be that of a wife and mother. She loves old houses and old things and her favorite genre to read are suspense thrillers, military espionage, and historical fiction. So come down to the library and greet Koyla. And while you're there, help with the puzzle and pick out a good read.



Library hours are Tuesday 10:30-6 PM and Friday 2 -6 PM.

Did you miss your chance at card making in December? It's back!

Card making at the library!! Tuesday, January 16th at 4:30. Come craft with us!!

Barns, Lots of Barns
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Annual Community Christmas
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Barns in the Midwest

Timber-framed barns were used for hundreds of years and they worked very well. But as the settlers moved westward, there were no large stands of hardwood trees from which to cut the heavy posts and beams needed for those barns. A new design was needed for the Midwest. The gable-roofed barn was the earliest style in this area. It is also called the western prairie barn. The roof is a simple 'A' frame with steeply sloped roof sides. This design stands up well to heavy snow loads as the roof sheds rain and snow well. The available space in the haymow was somewhat limited by the sloped roof that extended to the floor of the mow. The roof was supported by braces that extended from the mid-point of the rafters to the base of the haymow floor. An example of this early barn is on the Kris Hauger farm east of Gary. The lumber from which it is



Kris Hauger's western prairie barn

constructed is heavier than full dimension lumber of the early years. The milled sidewall studs are over 3" thick and the supporting braces are made of 4" by 6" beams. The barn is a basement barn where the animals were housed in the lower level and the hayloft used for loose hay storage.



There is also a feed bin in the upper level. Grain was shoveled by hand through a small door at the top of the sidewall to be dropped through a shaft to the lower level when needed.

Ventilation tubes extended from the lower level through the loft and out under the eaves. The foundation is of rock with later repairs made of cinder block. Kris currently uses the barn to feed young calves.



Ben Denekamp's gambrel roof barn with lean

When most of us think of a barn, we picture a gambrel barn painted red. The gambrel barn is the classic American barn with a symmetrical two-sided roof with two slopes on each side. The upper slopes are shallow and the lower slopes are steep. This self-supporting roof allows for about one-third more storage space than other roof styles without increasing the footprint of the barn. Its advantages are 1- easy construction, 2- efficient use of material, 3- cost, 4- good rain/snow shed, 5- spacious interior. The disadvantages are a slightly weaker roof

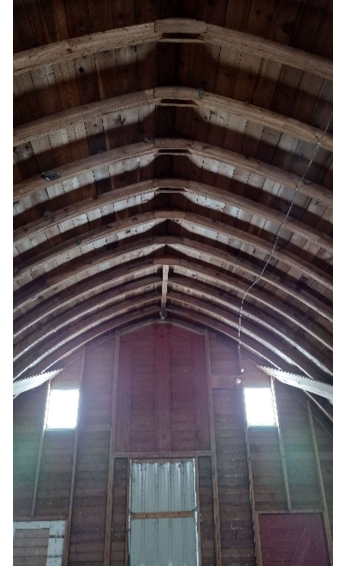
susceptible to heavy snow load and high wind damage. This style originated in Europe and is believed to have been brought to this country by the Dutch but the term "gambrel" is purely American. The gambrel barn was the most popular barn in the midwest. The barn at the Buffalo Ridge Campground is a gambrel barn, as is the one on the Jim Theisen farm. The addition of leans to the sides of the barn adds more storage space and helps to support the barn. This can be seen on the Ben Denekamp farm east of Gary.



Jim Theisen's gambrel barn - a fitting example of repurposing



The Gothic arch roof was developed in Michigan in the late 1900's. Arches were cut from 1"by 8" boards that had been laminated (nailed together). These arched roofs were engineered to be stronger than earlier barn roof designs. The haylofts were more spacious as the arches rose up vertically before arcing to a center peak. The construction of laminated arches did create a lot of material waste though. The Shawver truss utilized the laminated arches supported by diagonal braces to



Rob's - gothic arch barn interior

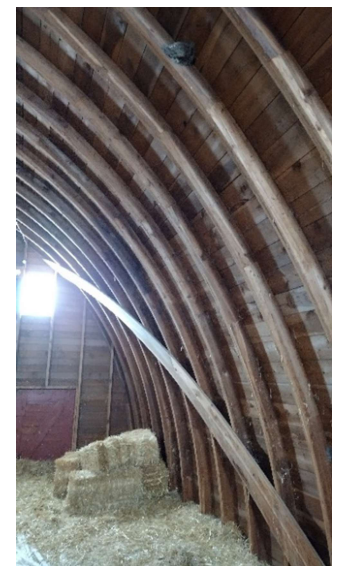
the floor. Later years brought about the bent arch design where layers of 1x4" or 1x3" lumber with staggered joints were bent and nailed or bolted together to form the arch. This method had much less waste. The Gothic arch barns allowed for a haymow or loft spanning the entire width of the barn without any roof supports to obstruct the space.

The University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service offered



Rob Deslaurier's gothic arch barn is the newest in the area because it was rebuilt in 1961 after a fire destroyed the original.

Farm Building Plans in 1926. The farm was likened to a factory where the fields furnished the raw materials and the buildings were the manufacturing plant to turn those materials into products. If the buildings could not adequately shelter the animals and feed stuffs, the farm would not be productive. Young animals would suffer and farm machinery would depreciate if not properly sheltered. Milk and egg production would be impacted. Plans were available for houses, barns, corn cribs, granaries, hog houses, machine sheds, poultry houses, and 'privies'. Barn plans had



only two roof options - gambrel and gothic arch. Plans from the UofM Agricultural Extension Service were found on a family farm built up in the 1920's and destroyed in the derecho in 2022.

Sears, Roebuck, and Co. offered mail-order barns as well as houses in the early 1900's. Barn kits ranged in price from approximately \$600 to \$1000, depending on size and style. The kits included detailed plans and all the lumber, millwork, doors, windows, shingles, nails, screws, bolts, hay carrier, track, rope, and paint. The price also included shipping to the nearest depot. It took as many as five railroad cars to ship a good sized barn. Not included in the price was the cement and labor to construct. Kits for other farm buildings were also available - including the outhouse for \$39.

The Depression ended the barn building era and agriculture began to change. Farmers transitioned from horses to tractors and farms consolidated into larger farms. Metal structures replaced the wooden barns that had been built with future generations in mind. These wooden barns began to be

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THIS BARN has been designed to meet the demands of the farmer who wishes to build a barn with a high masonry wall and does not require a large overhead lift. With sand and gravel or native stone available for the basement wall, this type of barn can be erected for a particularly small order of material. The illustration below shows how masonry is the most economical by building into the side of a hill or next to a wall.

"Honor Bill" Specifications for Barn No. 5298

Plans: Complete plans are furnished with this "HONOR BILL" Barn.

Masonry Work: The basement walls extend 9 feet above the grade line.

Construction: This barn is of a hollow frame and combination shingle roof and treated roof construction. The illustration below shows the type of frame frame. All framing members are spaced 22 1/2 inches apart; the mid wall is 8 feet high; the side and top plates are double. Bases over 24 feet in width have two built-up heavy plank girders running lengthwise through the base. The ground floor height is 8 feet 6 inches.

Framing Lumber: No. 1 Yellow Pine, the strongest and best structural lumber in the country. The framing lumber is already cut and fitted.

Siding: The outside walls are covered with a dressed and matched drop siding of Yellow Pine or Cypress. See page 9.

New Flooring: The new joists are covered with a tongue and grooved No. 1 Yellow Pine.

Roof Sheathing: A good grade of tapered and grooved Yellow Pine roof sheathing is furnished. For asphalt or wood shingles, a square edged sheathing is furnished.

Exterior Trim: All outside trim is Cypress. "The Wood Element." All rafters and gable timbers are of dressed lumber.

Paint: Best quality house paint, enough for two outside coats, is furnished. For color combination see Paint Catalog. Paint mixture is on page 35.

Hardware: The ground floor doors slide on Roll-Rite Hangers, the lightest grade hanger we sell. Latches, hinges, guide rollers, bolts and screws are also included. See page 40.

Nails: Enough nails and spikes are guaranteed.

Changes: The locations of all the doors and the windows can be changed to meet your own needs. Use the included sketch sheet to outline your needs when changes are wanted, and return for a delivered price on your own completion.

Sizes: We can furnish this barn 24 feet, 28 feet, 30 feet, 32 feet and 34 feet wide. The length will depend on your own requirements and the number of stock you wish to stable. Illustration showing construction.

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neglected as the reality of modern farming evolved. Without the diversified farms where everyone had a few cows, hogs, sheep and chickens, many barns sat empty and began to deteriorate. Round bales don't fit in the old barns which were built for loose hay. The buildings were obsolete and farmers couldn't justify putting money into a building that had no purpose on a modern farm. So roofs were not replaced and siding was not painted, insurance companies declined to cover buildings that were not maintained and the cycle continued. Add in heavy snowfalls, strong windstorms, and an occasional fire, and more barns were destroyed.

But do these barns still have value? I think so. But for a barn to have value, it must be maintained. Keeping a good roof on the barn will do the most for saving its structure. The roof doesn't have to be historically accurate, go ahead and cover it with tin - just keep it dry. Some farmers have retrofitted their barns to new purposes. Raising the hayloft floor and installing a larger door allows the barn to be used for storage of machinery and large hay bales. Small livestock producers continue to house their animals in the barns. Some barns have been converted into homes and others are turned into event venues. Still others are being utilized for agri-tourism ventures - think pumpkin patches, hay rides and corn mazes. We took a Sunday drive recently and had a difficult time finding a dozen standing barns and even fewer that were actually being maintained with newer roofs and fresh paint or metal siding to preserve the structure. Even though I understand the economics of this all, I am saddened by the disappearance of the structures that our grandparents took such great pride in building and maintaining.

By Patti Haas

New Projects

Barb's Beauty Shop is officially closed after 48 years of serving customers in Gary and the surrounding area. Barb Miller and her husband, Mike, look forward to doing some home projects and more camping and traveling in their retirement years. Barb has been a licensed beautician since 1966. She graduated from Clear Lake High School in 1965 and then attended Stewart School of Hairstyling in Sioux Falls for the required 2100 hours of training which took just shy of a year to complete. After completing her training, she worked at a salon in Madison SD and later for Lela Tekrony in Clear Lake. Following her marriage to Mike in February of 1969 and his deployment to Vietnam, she returned to work with Lela in Clear Lake. The family was later stationed in Myrtle Beach, SC where Allen was born. When Mike completed his tour with the Air Force, they returned to Watertown SD in 1972. Barb kept her operator's license current through the years, even if she wasn't always working in a shop. In 1975, they moved to Gary. With help from Mike's dad, Walt Miller, the small room on the northeast corner of the main floor became Barb's Beauty Shop. She purchased her equipment from Bernice Jenson who was moving on to other ventures. Haircuts were \$2 and a perm cost \$8 in 1975. Another beautician in town was Marge Mahoney just across the street. They took alternate days off and there was enough business for both. Working from home worked well when the children were small. Some days, daycare was utilized for active little ones but mostly it worked to have them at home. By 2011, haircuts had increased to \$9 and a perm cost \$30. Barb's prices have stayed the same since then. But all good things must come to an end and Barb has officially retired as of December 31, 2023. We wish you well in your retirement and thank you for all your years of service to the Gary community.



Fairchild Farmgirl – December

Hello from the Fairchild Ranchero! As we get ready for Christmas here, there's a certain tame critter here that I will not be getting a gift for but he has certainly brought me many. Tater the cat. Tater is a huge 4 year old male cat that we fixed when he was a baby, and sometimes he's an inside cat for a few hours, snuggled on the couch and other times we've seen him perched on a dead cow defending it from coyotes on our trail camera. Which is truly a sight to see. We had video of it and he had two coyotes that wanted to come up and eat on it, and he'd get huge looking and they'd back off. So funny. For a good month, he's been bringing mice, a rat or two, gophers, birds, whatever he can get up to the front steps. Here's the thing: they aren't dead. So, I watch from the window horrified as I know there's a 50% chance that he's already had a meal, and this one will be another "catch and release" program he's working on. At anytime of the day, you'll see him hauling up his prize and I'm about on top of the chair even though he's outside. He'll sit and roll around playing with it for about 15 minutes and sometimes get sick of it and just lay on his side in the grass, watching it run away and then he'll go up on the steps for a nap. Where, do you think a mouse is going to go? Back down to a cold feedlot, or find a crack the size of a pencil eraser in the foundation of a warm farm house? I'm thinking the latter. And if I ever see one of his rats that he brings up somewhere in the house, oh my gosh, I'm going to lose it. Or burn the house down and move. Just kidding, I'd never burn down my house over a rat, but still...I have definite heebie-jeebies. A few weeks ago, our oldest son Cody was home and watched Tater for a solid half an hour play with a little gopher. He laughed, and couldn't believe how funny it was that the cat did this, then Tater ate it. A little while later he came back up to the house with a mouse. After he messed with it for about 5 minutes the rodent ran under a jack and Tedd went outside to move the jack so the cat could hopefully kill it. He just looked at it, like, "nah, I didn't want that little guy anyway". Thank goodness Tedd threw a board on it and squashed it. Agent Kitty; we like to call her our "Catholic cat" who is pregnant all the time (hey I'm Catholic and I was too). Well she was all too happy to eat a snack that she didn't have to hunt. So what's my cat's deal? Is he rehoming rodents for Christmas, do we have a plethora of vermin down in the lots (probably), or is he being charitable to the other cats (even if they're not around)? Whatever the case, Tater, I want you to know that I don't want those kind of presents for Christmas. One of these days, I'm going to break my ankle jumping on a chair OR I'm going to miss an appointment because I'm NOT going outside while there's a stunned rodent on my porch. Anyway, Merry Christmas from the rodent ranch. I mean the Fairchild Ranchero.

Until next time, Fairchild "lets go buy some sticky traps" Farmgirl

Wise Advice From a Farmer's Wife

- Whenever you return a borrowed pie pan, make sure it's got a warm pie in it.
- Invite lots of folks to supper. You can always add more water to the soup.
- There's no such thing as woman's work on a farm. There's just work.
- Make home a happy place for the children. Everybody returns to their happy place.
- Always keep a small light on in the kitchen window at night.
- Keep the kerosene lamp away from the milk cow's leg.

Continued next page

A Look Back...**100 years ago, January 1924**

Attempt will be made to flood space between Jensen's garage and Frank Banwarths for ice skating

Adolph Sanden is managing cream station

Linemen John Nilsson repairing phone lines damaged due to ice storm

Marriage license is 10 cents

Auction: A D Chaon

Births: Girl to Mr & Mrs Ray Cole

Boy to Mr & Mrs J E King

Death— Infant son of Mr & Mrs JE King

75 years ago, January 1949

Elmer Stoltenberg named baseball manager

Ben Sass heart victim

Polio benefit food sale January 29

Odd Fellows and Rebekahs install officers

Leo Collins now owns dray service

Earl Gordon moves plumbing business to Gary

Moellers sell café to Elmer Rehder

Seniors who who: George Lohr, Darlene

Nuetson, and Allen Lovaas

Auction: Charles Kuecker—Mrs. Ben Sass—

Elmer Rehder

Marriages: Louise Runge and Salmonson

Birth: Girl to Mr & Mrs Elmer Mueller

Deaths: Ben Sass—HA Patterson

50 years ago, January 1974

Cliff Karsten came to town with team and bobsled to give rides to children

Richard Koerlin in top twenty of Pioneer Seed Company

City receives check from Dept of Game Fish and Parks for improvements to city park

Auction: First Ev Lutheran----Heiserman Bros.

Birth: Girl to Mr & Mrs Harlan Benson

Deaths: Lester Riffenberger—Max

Schoonmaker—Robin Ann Schaefer

25 years ago, January 1979

Bruce Mueller installed at First Lutheran

Linda Wier chosen as Star of the month at

Good Samaritan

Death: Joan Bekaert

Wise Advice *continued*

- If your man gets his truck stuck in the field, don't go in after him. Throw him a rope and pull him out with the tractor.

- It's a whole lot easier to get breakfast from a chicken than a pig.

- Always pat the chickens when you take their eggs.

- It's easy to clean an empty house, but hard to live in one.

- All children spill milk. Learn to smile and wipe it up.

- Homemade is always better than store bought.

- A tongue's like a knife. The sharper it is the deeper it cuts.

- A good neighbor always knows when to visit and when to leave.

- A city dog wants to run out the door, but a country dog stays on the porch 'cause he's not fenced-in.

- Always light birthday candles from the middle outward.

- Nothing gets the frustrations out better than splitting wood.

- The longer dress hem, the more trusting the husband.

- Enjoy doing your children's laundry. Some day they'll be gone.

- You'll never catch a running chicken but if you throw seed around the back door you'll have a skillet full by supper.

- Biscuits brown better with a little butter brushed on 'em.

- Check your shoelaces before running to help somebody.

- Visit old people who can't get out. Some day you'll be one.

- The softer you talk, the closer folks will listen.

- The colder the outhouse, the warmer the bed.

Author: Unknown

Fairchild Farmgirl – January

You'd think I was losing my mind. Two things are happening lately: 1. I'm hearing bumps in the night and the day for that matter, 2. I'm watching too much *Peaky Blinders* and I'm scaring myself (a Netflix series about the Irish Mob in England in the late 1800's to early 1900's, seriously fascinating), or a potential 3rd. We have a ghost.

Our old house has a lot of noises and creaks, then when you're running some appliances you hear even more stuff banging and making noises. Sometimes its hard to tell if someone's breaking in, or if one of the kids stepped in cow poop with their school shoes and they thought they were being smart by not telling me by throwing them in the wash themselves (has happened so many times I can't even tell you).

The other night, I had just finished up season three of *Peaky* where the main character get's in trouble with the Russians, I get a scare. So it's midnight, my usual bedtime; but before I turn in, I have to make sure all the kids rotate through showers, brushed teeth, tidy up for the next morning, get the coffee ready to go, switch the laundry one last time, then wander my way through to the shower. Also at this late time, I know I'll get hot water in the bathroom.

As I'm hopping in the shower, I hear a thud, like right.outside.my.bathroom.window. If I didn't just witness some Netflix murdering, I wouldn't have thought anything of what turned out to be Levi just slamming his dresser drawer shut. But no, I thought it was one of two scenarios: Some weirdo window peeker was outside, or someone is trying to break in and kill us, take our dog that sleeps 24/7 and get the keys to my Yukon that has 350K miles on it respectfully and he probably tripped on the ice trying to get in.

Next case: It was 4 AM on Monday. The dog was throwing a fit bumping me with her cold nose. I actually thought it was because a kid was sleeping on the couch. See, we don't have a regular dog that would be thankful just to sleep on the floor at your feet. Nope. We have a dog that huffs and puffs if the kids have their friends over and are all piled on the couch watching tv and didn't leave her a spot. Or last week when she woke me up at 2 AM and wouldn't leave our room until I went out with her to see the situation. There was a kid on the couch and gulp; her dog bed. The dog bed that cost \$150 with memory foam in it that fits her as a 142 lb mastiff, which she is. She got to the living room, sat between the couch and bed, howled, and looked at both spots until I "understood that people were laying on both her options". SO I put a thin blanket on the floor that she could lay on, called it her bed and went to bed. She was fine. She doesn't like carpet? No idea why.

Back to 4 AM: the dog flies to the door and I open it...silently hoping there's no rogue skunk outside, then I see the flashlight that looks like someone is walking away from our feedlot, and shining it in the tops of the trees of our neighbors place. Another night of Netflix, another night of someone stiring up some trouble. I made Ron wake up and drive the pickup around. It must have been the nieghbor letting out there pup or something. But honestly, I'd hate to be the person that gets our dog wound up in the night. She was out for blood, it took all I had to get her back in the house. So at least were safe.

Then last night, Rachel was asleep and came up to the dining room and says, "Is someone in the pickup?" Umm no, it's 11 PM. "The lights are going on and off." I pointed to our bedroom door, "This is your dad's department," I say not getting up to look. After all, I'm on season 4, where the Italian mob from New York comes to England, and they don't mess around. Netflix proves that. Rachel then says, "dad wants us to check." Nope. Sorry, he's the man of the house. Get to it Ron.

But it turned out that after Ron installed the blower fan in his pickup something must have been knocked around, or a wire defaulted or whatever. He unhooked the battery and went back to bed. All was well. It didn't happen again this morning.

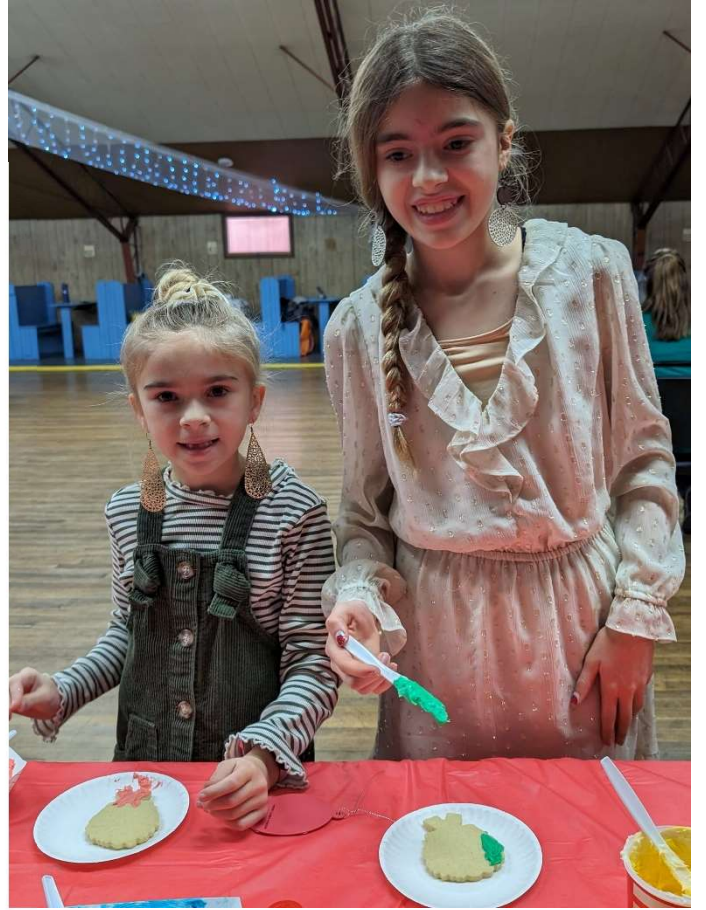
All I can say is, I have 2 more seasons, like 12 episodes left. Then I better watch a comedy. Until next time,
Fairchild "I need to take
up a hobby" Farmgirl

Santa Claus Came to Town

The annual Gary Community Christmas Potluck was held December 17th in the American Legion Dance Hall. The dinner menu included Chef Mick's lasagna along with homemade macaroni and cheese. Community members shared their delicious holiday treats as well. We enjoyed mulled wine, breads, bars, candies and ethnic foods. A demonstration of rosette making was shared by Loran Haas. The community singers provided entertainment including an enjoyable 'Twelve Days of Christmas' skit. The Junior Auxiliary sang carols with Janell Denekamp providing the accompaniment for the program. All the children in attendance were welcomed to the stage to sing along. Joyce Meyer emceed the program with a bit of help from Randy and did a very fine job of it. There were crafts for the kids as well as Christmas cookie decorating. The Grinch stopped by in his grumpy mood but the kids and Frosty the Snowman quickly got him into the holiday spirit. And who should surprise us with their presence but Santa and Mrs. Claus who listened to Christmas wishes while their elves handed out Santa's treat bags from the Gary Historical Association. The winners of the Holiday Decorating Contest were announced. Mike and Barb



Miller were the First Place winners. Second Place was won by Kasey and Jillian Anderson who live south of town by Pleasant Valley. Patty and Doug Hulscher won Third Place and the Spirit of Christmas awards went to Neil and Marlene Schumacher and Mark and Sharon Kloos. A big thank you to all who decorate and bring joy to both young and old alike. Following the party, the Gary Community Club hosted Bingo with Roxanne Raml as the caller. Congratulations to Judy Heth who won the beautiful winter wreath.



Tiny Town, Big News

Check out Gary in the January/February issue of the South Dakota Magazine.



Gary Area Community Club

BINGO & Lunch

Sunday | **Jan 21** | 2024

Gary, SD American Legion Dance Hall

<p>Lunch 11 am - 1 pm Scalloped Potatoes w/ Ham</p> <p>Free-Will Donation Lunch will be served by the Gary Community Club. Takeout orders are available.</p> <p>Concessions Soda & snacks will be available for purchase.</p> <p>Legion Bar Full bar available</p>	<p>Bingo* 1 pm 10 Games + Jackpot Round</p> <p>Book - \$10 10 games</p> <p>Jackpot Card - \$5 Limit 5 cards per player</p> <p>All books and Jackpot Cards must be purchased by 1 pm.</p>
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Jackpot
\$796.25

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. Each blackout player will be limited to five (5) cards. If there is no Jackpot Blackout after the first 54 numbers (This will increase by one each week), the first player(s) to blackout will win 25% of that day's Jackpot Card sales; the rest will stay in the Jackpot for the next Bingo. *The Community Club will be reserving 50% of its portion of book and card sales to be used for repairs and maintenance of the Gary American Legion Hall. Please make all checks payable to the Gary Area Community Club. Some daubers will be available for purchase.

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

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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.