

THIS DATE IN

HISTORY

EVENTS OF LOCAL INTEREST

These historical notes were taken from the *Public Opinion* newspaper archives.

WPSB07/27

1919: 100 years ago...

"Yanks will not be permitted to marry German girls until peace is signed," say officials at the war department. There are strict rules in the army against fraternizing with the German civil population. Nevertheless, numbers of our soldiers are billeted with German families, and "friendships cannot be prevented from springing up between them." Officers in the judge advocate general's office say, "Any priest or minister discovered marrying American soldiers to German women will be summarily dealt with." Will public opinion in the United States approve of an American soldier voluntarily marrying a German girl? Hardly a steamer now arrives from a foreign port that does not bring French and British brides of soldiers. But if those steamers take on a German tinge, how will it be received? Will we demand that any man who marries a German girl be made to stay in Germany? At all this talk of international love-making, Cupid merely chuckles.

1944: 75 years ago...

The 44th anniversary of the founding of the South Dakota School for the Blind at Gary was celebrated at a program presented last Wednesday in the school auditorium. The Social Club, a student organization, sponsored the program. The officers of the Social Club are: **Betty Ann Severson**, president; **Julia Ripplinger**, vice president; **Darlene Kelley**, secretary; and **Joy Hafner** and **Philo Frykman**, program committee. **Bernard Orcutt** of the faculty is the club sponsor. The program consisted of a variety of musical numbers directed by **Miss Gladys Woodbury**. Students taking part in the program were: **Wayne Sumner**, **Eddie Joe Ripplinger**, **Joyce Eggleston**, **Delores Hine**, **Elizabeth Held**, **Gloria Moter**, **Marvin Moter**, **Alfred Heinrich**, **Alvin Biegler**, **Jimmy Joe Gillespie**, **Betty Lee Lunderman**, **Betty Ann Severson**, **Darlene Kelly**, **Joe Hafner**, **Lorraine Gall**, **Esther Voight**, **Helen Ripplinger**, **Julia Ripplinger**, **Gladys Johnson**, **George Sumner** and **Frederick Bruse**. Faculty members assisting were **Miss Woodbury** and **Mr. William Warder**. The School for the Blind opened on March 1, 1900.

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1979: 40 years ago...

If you've never walked on a sleeping bear, now is your chance. There is new trail guide for the Bear Butte ceremonial trail, put out by the state's Division of Parks and Recreation, that shows you how. The 20-page booklet describes the geology, history, flora and fauna of Bear Butte, a laccolith or "volcano that didn't erupt", near Sturgis, South Dakota. To the Indians of the plains, this igneous rock formation, rising 4,426 feet above sea level, looked like a sleeping bear, so they named it Mato Paha, "Bear Mountain". It became a religious focal point for native tribes who saw it as a place where the creator communicates with them through visions and prayers. Artifacts found on or near Bear Butte date back 10,000 years. Today native tribes still regard the mountain as sacred. The trail system at Bear Butte, which was established as a state park in 1961, is a National Recreation Trail and the butte is a Registered National Landmark.

2004: 15 years ago...

The runner-up and winner of a \$500 scholarship, was **Christopher Meyer**, a high school senior from Sturgis representing American Legion Districts 10-11-12 which include the counties of Hughes, Hyde, Potter; Stanley and Sully in District 10. Corson, Dewey, Meade, Perkins and Ziebach in District 11 and Butte, Harding, Lawrence and Meade in District 12. In third place and the winner of a \$300 scholarship, was **Leah Menning**, a high school senior from Chamberlain, representing American Legion Districts 2-5-6 that include the counties of Brookings, Kingsbury, Lake, Miner and Moody in District 2. Beadle, Faulk, Hand and Spink counties in District 5 and Aurora, Brule Buffalo, Davison, Hanson, Jerauld, McCook and Sanborn counties in District 6. The fourth-place winner, who received a \$100 scholarship, was **Gabby Cox**, a high school senior from Colome, representing American Legion Districts 8-9-13. Awarded fifth place and a \$100 scholarship was **Miles Krumbach**, a sophomore from Hartford, representing American Legion Districts 1-7 that include the counties of Lincoln, Minnehaha, Turner and Union in District 1 and Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Clay Douglas, Hutchinson and Yankton counties in District 7.

Did today's DIH spur a memory? Do you know where the people mentioned today are and what they are doing? If yes, please email our newsroom at news@thepublicopinion.com and let us know.

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