

Our 175th Year · 1833-2008

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE PAST 1853-1854

As we celebrate 175 years, we take a look at our history and the world around us through News-Sentinel archives.

1853

- ◆ Fort Wayne Gas Light Co. begins artificial gas service in Fort Wayne.
- ◆ Beginning of "free schools" in the city.
- ◆ Charles Whitmore becomes mayor.
- ◆ City council votes to plan Columbia Street.
- ◆ Allen Hamilton establishes Hamilton Bank, a private bank.
- ◆ Colerick's Hall, the city's first theater, opens.
- ◆ The nickname "Summit City" is first applied to Fort Wayne.
- ◆ Fort Wayne receives first mail by railroad.

- ◆ City council orders trimming of shade trees on west side of Calhoun Street opposite Courthouse Square because of obstruction to pedestrians.
- ◆ The New York Mercury publishes the first newspaper story on baseball.

1854

- ◆ Republican Party organized at Jackson, Mich.
- ◆ Fort Wayne goes dry; first prohibitory liquor law goes into effect in Indiana.
- ◆ Commercial treaty between the United States and Japan marks beginning of Japan's modern era.
- ◆ Kansas-Nebraska Bill passes. Law stated that when each territory became

a state, its citizens would decide if the state would be a free or a slave state.

- ◆ The Standard, an anti-slavery newspaper, begins. It ceased publishing in 1856.-- *Compiled by The News-Sentinel library*