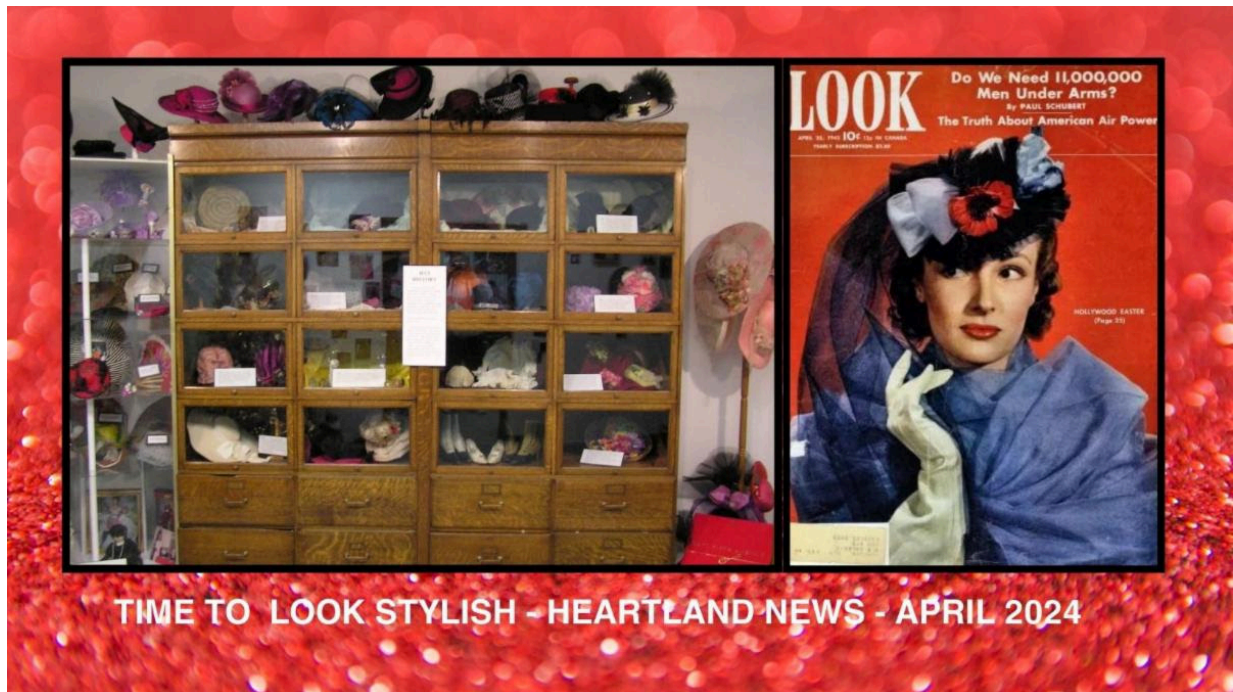


April Newsletter

Heartland Museum Foundation
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Sun, Mar 31, 2024 at 12:44
PM



Alvina's Hat Parlor and Millinery

Alvina Sellers grew up in Clarion, and left a legacy at Heartland Museum. In 1968 Alvina started her "new career" giving talks about hats. Self described as shy, Alvina's cheerful and informative talks got her past the shyness as she gave 5,636 presentations, with the final one being May 2003.

Alvina left over 300 hats at Heartland Museum, and the hat parlor and millinery shop on the Victorian Street were designed to showcase those hats. A favorite spot for our women visitors, we encourage people to (carefully) try on a hat or two and take pictures. And yes, a few gentlemen have also tried on a few! The hats range in age from late 1800's to 1960's time frame.

There are great stories about Alvina, including her visit on the David Letterman show. That show is on tape and can be viewed in the Hat Parlor. Alvina gave

talks filled with hat history and jokes. One of her tidbits that she shared with Letterman was that during the Civil War, women's hats were flat in back so the women could sleep in them. That way, the hats would not be stolen by incoming soldiers.



A stylish hat can set you apart from everyone else, make people notice you. Alvina said she always picked her hat for the day out first - and then chose an outfit to go with it. Learn more when you visit!

The Clarion Cookbook

Well, that takes the cake! (1847) Babycakes (1949) A piece of cake (1930's) It's a cakewalk (1800's) Sell like Hotcakes (1839) You can't have your cake and eat it too (1538) That takes the cake (Greeks) and finally, That's the icing on the cake (1769). From a negative to several positive sayings, these sayings are still in use today! Perhaps that is because cake in it's many forms, remains a popular dessert.

Snow Cake

One cup sugar, half cup butter, one and one-half cups flour, half cup sweet milk, four egg whites, one teaspoon baking powder. Flavor with lemon or vanilla. Frances B.Morton

Heartland Happenings:

We are preparing for the open season. Coming up in April we are pleased to host a group of home-schooled children. May 4th will be the Spring Craft Show - just in time for Mother's Day, graduation, showers, and weddings! Get a unique gift.

We are also checking a date for our Volunteer Appreciation/ recruitment. We need volunteers! We've determined three hour shifts, starting at 10 am until 1 pm would be very helpful to the board member who is working that day.

NEW HOURS: we have reviewed our visitor numbers for the past few years, and determined that Monday and Tuesday are low on numbers. Therefore, we are making Monday and Tuesday visits by appointment only. Be sure to call in advance! Wednesday thru Saturday will continue with opening at 10:00 am and last admission at 2:00 pm; close at 4:00 pm. Also, we plan to open for the season on May 29 and close August 31. We will continue to monitor our visitor numbers. Watch our facebook page and web site for up-to-date information.

NAMES AND PLACES IN THE NEWS 1873 and 1874

Weddings - Our peaceful and generally quiet town of Woolstock was thrown into quite an excitement, by the wedding that came off last Thursday. It appears that the young lady by the name of Miss L....had two lovers, one by the name of W....and the other G...., and all signs indicated that Mr. W. had the consent of the young lady and her parents and was hauling the lumber for his house, for that happy day was to come when the twain was to be made one flesh. Mr. W had purchased her wedding garment and was counting the days as they passed by, but alas, there is many a slip between the cup and lip. While Mr. W thought his love was true, there could be no deception in the heart of his love. Alas, Mr. G appeared at the home of the young lady with a fine team and carriage and the lady let with Mr. G.

Fire - The house of Mr. Henry Fox, a mile south of town was discovered on fire. Joel Aldrich and George Kinson at once ran their teams to the place. Two small children, age four and six were alone in the house and saved. Everything in the house and the house itself was destroyed.

Births - Mr. and Mrs. Dow of township are extremely happy over a ten pound event that appeared at their house Saturday. It's a girl. Another 10 pound occurrence took place down in Wall Lake Township a few days ago. It is a female and lift the beam at ten pounds, and John Gilbert is the male parent. A boy - this time it is C.H. Martin who is a happy father. And Still Another! Mr.

and Mrs. James Grey of Goldfield, have got one -it's a girl, of full standard weight. The happiest and best natured man in town is George Keiller. It's a boy, weight 10 pounds. Still they come - our former townsman O.K.Eastman,Esq., is the happy father of a bouncing boy, brand new.

Accident - .Young Mr. Nelson came near breaking his head by a wall in Woher's barn. Mrs. L. H. Cutler, while out driving one day last week, met with an accident. Coming off the river near the mill, she turned her horse for home. His gait increased as he neared the barn until while turning the corner near the drug store, the sleigh capsized throwing Mrs. C. upon the snow and ice.

Deaths - M. W. T. Haney was walking through a grove of trees west of the barn on William Luick's farm and stopped when he stepped on soft ground, which appeared to have been dug up recently. After digging about 13 inches he discovered the body of a 6-8 pound male child. The decision was made to leave it there, as the parents had left and no one knew where. Eliza, wife of C. Seaman died in Clarion aged 44 years and one month. She bore her lingering sickness with Christian Fortitude.

of Interest - Wright County has supported 79 schools in this past year. Belmond is going to have another saloon, to start with eight kegs of beer. Two loads of brick have arrived for the new treasurer's vault. Carpenters are putting the finishing touches on the new Masonic Hall. It will be, when finished, equal to any hall in this section of country. The Ft. Dodge stage failed to make its regular trip today for the first time, Since Mr. Overacker has had charge of the route, an account of not having a team. Dan Griffith of the Clarion House hostler, has the measles. Enright has had erected several substantial hitching posts in front of his store.

Mr. A L Bare, agent for McCracken & Co of Des Moines attempted to go from here to Belmond Tuesday with a wagon. He got stuck in a snow drift two miles out and had to come back for help.

NOTICE: I would hereby inform Mr. Henry Armstrong, who left his wife at Belmond, Wright County Iowa, two years ago last April, that if she does not hear from said Henry Armstrong in three months to come, will consider him dead and marry again if she choses.

Immigration to Wright Country has already commenced. We can already see, as we write, the prairie schooner's white tops glistening in the sun.

Thievery - Two chaps over on the Boone River stole a fat ox a few days ago and sold it to a butcher in Fort Dodge.



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We accept donations all year long, and appreciate everything you do to keep our farm to town heritage and culture alive. Heartland Museum is a 501C3 organization.



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