

**CASS COUNTY  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY**  
Newsletter July 2021

Hello from LaVon

*The Carnegie Libraries in Iowa Project (CLIP)* is an interdisciplinary endeavor that seeks to chart the history of Iowa's Carnegie libraries by creating a digital library of images and other documentary and statistical information. You can see the list and current information on the project web site.

Project leaders have contacted libraries to ask for additional information. Beth Johnson took on that task for the Atlantic Library. She found information about the initial nine members of the Board, all men and the first two librarians. She reported her findings at the June meeting.

Thanks, Beth for your research and your report.

Be sure that your calendar is marked on July 22 for the next Cass County Genealogical Society meeting.

**CELEBRATE BIG**

The pictures are from the Atlantic News Telegraph dated June 30, 1921. Fourth of July was a really big celebration extended to July 2 and 5.

You could buy your fireworks, too. An ad from Henshaw & Marin, The People's Store located at 513 Chestnut Street, Atlantic included a long list of what was available and why.

"We have laid in the largest stock of fireworks that we have ever handled, owing to our orders for several years past having been cut down by shippers. We have this year ordered much more and the shippers nearly filled our orders."

50 gross torpedoes; 20 gross Devil in the Walk, 8 dozen Day-Go-Bombs; 50 dozen pkgs Sparkers 800 pkgs 2 inch salutes; 13 gross Roman candles Everything else in proportion.

A good sized paper balloon 32c; large size 75c; Very large one for 88c

Extra fancy ball Roman candles, either jeweled star or electric bouquet candles, each only 25c Red Fire Torches from 1c to 20c for largest size 2 inch Salutes 10c a dozen pieces

FLAGS - All kinds, silk, wool and cloth - Foreign and American

On next Thursday we place on sale a limited lot of 18 gauge pure aluminum full 8 quart preserving kettles at \$1.08 each; only one per customer. This is the lowest price we ever had on These articles and are worthy of your attention.

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Comment:

- >I wonder if there was a Second Annual Frontier Round-up.
- >Fireworks buyers must have known names of what they wanted.
- >Last item in the ad – isn't it interesting that someone has to continue to work.

Celebrate safely.

Atlantic's First Annual  
**FRONTIER ROUND-UP**  
and 4th of JULY CELEBRATION  
NOT A MOTION PICTURE NOR A WILD WEST SHOW BUT  
A Gigantic, Historical, Championship, Athletic  
**CONTEST FOR COWBOYS**  
IN DARE-DEVIL  
**WESTERN SPORTS**

250 Frontier Horses and Steers  
"America's Most Gripping Sport"  
**CASS COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS**  
THREE WONDERFUL DAYS and NIGHTS  
**SATURDAY, MONDAY and TUESDAY**  
**ATLANTIC, IOWA JULY 2, 4, 5**



Note from Mary

What do a blacksmith and wagon shop, an auto and machine shop, a 10-pin bowling alley, a meat market and the Coca Cola Museum have in common? At some point each business was located at 207 Chestnut St.

Normally I don't do research on houses or buildings. I just don't like to do it. However, I had recently found an old advertisement at home for P. C. Sorensen Blacksmith. At one time it had a small calendar attached to it. I was curious who or why I would have this treasure. As it turned out, Mr. Sorensen was a blacksmith from the Brayton area. My husband's family probably used his services at one time or another. Peter C. Sorensen served in the U. S. Army as a mechanic during WWI. He served with Co B. 334<sup>th</sup> M. G. BN. Also served with 7<sup>th</sup> Co. 338<sup>th</sup> M.G. BN & Co B. He was discharged 3-18-1919. This information was found in the Armed Forces Grave Registrations we have. After the war he came to Atlantic and went to work for Nels P. Brown's blacksmith shop located at 207 Chestnut. In 1921 Mr. Sorensen married Mary Brown, daughter of his boss. In 1929 Peter Sorensen moved his business to 210 Walnut. He died in 1964 leaving a daughter, Mrs. Dee Vernon. That mystery was solved.

Then a few days later, CCGS received a phone call from Jennifer Hopley inquiring about the building in question. The tax list says that 207 Chestnut was built in 1916. Pete's mother, Margaret Emmert Hopley Slepsky, had been the last owner of the building when it became the Coca Cola Museum in 2012. Margaret passed away June 24, 2020. Pete and Jennifer Hopley have recently become the owners of this building and were curious about the building's past. The search was on. Looking through old phone books, our earliest is 1920, digital newspapers 1874-2000, county histories 1906 and 1980, some census records and some family histories, I was able to figure out some of

the different businesses located at 207 Chestnut over the years.

Besides Brown lacksmith there was Lindsey Auto & Machine Shop in 1932. In 1939 W.C. Packard of Red Oak leased the building owned by C. K. Hallock and installed a 10-pin bowling alley. Sometime before 1947, 207 Chestnut became the Atlantic Meat Locker. It remained a meat locker until 2009 when Dale and Shirley Hauptert moved the Atlantic Locker Service to 310 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Margaret Slepsky purchased the building in 2012 and the Coca Cola Museum remained there until it closed. It will be interesting to see what the future has in store for this building.



CCGS VP Beth Johnson has been doing some research on the first board members and Liberians of The Atlantic Carnegie Library. Special interest was given to Miss Pearl Evans. Pearl was born January 8, 1880 in Atlantic to Thomas and Annis Jane Coker Evans. She graduated from the Atlantic High School with the class of 1898 and attended Library School at the University of Iowa. Pearl Evans served as Liberian from May of 1903 until her retirement April 11, 1905. Miss Evans performed in many local theater events and on May 22, 1906 married Andrew Harry Sherwood of Findley, Ohio. The marriage took place in Fairfield, Iowa. For the next ten years Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood traveled from coast to coast and into Canada performing in reginal theaters. After retiring from the stage, the couple returned to Atlantic where Mr. Sherwood took a position with the Post Office. Mrs. Sherwood was active in many community and charitable activities and also ran as the Democratic Candidate for State Senator from Cass-Shelby District in 1944. The Sherwood's were interested in growing Iris and Daylilies. They had a commercial garden at 13<sup>th</sup> and Cedar St in Atlantic known as Cedar Crest. "Pearl Sherwood" was introduced as a new Hemerocallis named for Pearl Evans Sherwood. The flower is described as having wide-petaled, eight-inch blossoms, chartreuse-lemon in color. Pearl Evans Sherwood died 29<sup>th</sup> of Dec 1950.