



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2011

Midland County Historical Society presents:

What: Victorian Funeral and Cemetery Tour, and Funeral Tea with Cemetery Tour

When: May 7, 2011

Cemetery Tours depart at 4 pm, 5 pm and 6 pm

Funeral Tea with Cemetery Tour lasts 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Where: Heritage Park, 3417 W. Main St., Midland, MI 48640

Cost: Cemetery Tour: \$15 | \$12 MCHS members

Funeral Tea and Cemetery Tour: \$30 | \$26 MCHS members

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org

Find this on our website: <http://www.mcfta.org/SpecialEvents.html#funeral>

Cemetery Tour: Step back in time and discover fascinating true stories during Midland County Historical Society's **Victorian Funeral Tea and Cemetery Tour on Saturday, May 7**. To complement the exhibition *VOICES: Extraordinary Women of Midland County*, "**Remembering the Ladies**" is the theme of this year's tour, as Midland County ladies of note "return from the grave" to share stories of their lives. The Fairview Inn's double-decker bus will transport participants from Midland's Heritage Park, 3417 W. Main St., to the Midland Cemetery where they will encounter actors portraying women whose lives made real contributions to Midland County. Prior to their trip to the cemetery, guests will visit the 1874 Bradley Home for an opportunity to learn about funerary customs from the past from guest speaker Kim Parr (The Crocker House Museum) and our own local expert, MCHS chairman Floyd Andrick. Tickets are available through the MCFTA Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or mcfta.org. **Cemetery Tours depart at 4 pm, 5 pm and 6 pm**, and last approximately two hours. Tickets are \$15 | \$12 MCHS members. Advance purchase is strongly recommended as this event often sells out.

Funeral Tea: Every culture in every society around the world has established certain foods that hold meaning for them when they experience a loss. Kim Parr, Michigan's own authority on Victorian funeral customs and traditions, joins us to share her wealth of knowledge. A traditional Victorian tea will be served, including delicately prepared treats and perfectly simmered tea, while you hear fascinating stories about traditional funeral foods and customs. A perfect beginning to a Saturday afternoon, bring your best hat (or one may be provided) and celebrate the past with our special guest speaker. The Funeral Tea and Cemetery Tour make an afternoon outing sure to be remembered. **Funeral Tea with Cemetery Tour lasts 1 pm – 5 pm**. Tickets for the Funeral Tea with Cemetery Tour are \$30 | \$26 MCHS members.

The Midland County Historical Society maintains Heritage Park, which includes the Herbert D. Doan Midland County History Center, 1874 Bradley Home Museum and Carriage House and the Herbert H. Dow Historical Museum. The Historical Society was founded in 1952 and is dedicated to fostering the understanding, appreciation and preservation of Midland County's heritage.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, Music Society and Theatre Guild. Activities at

Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

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