

Poplar Grove



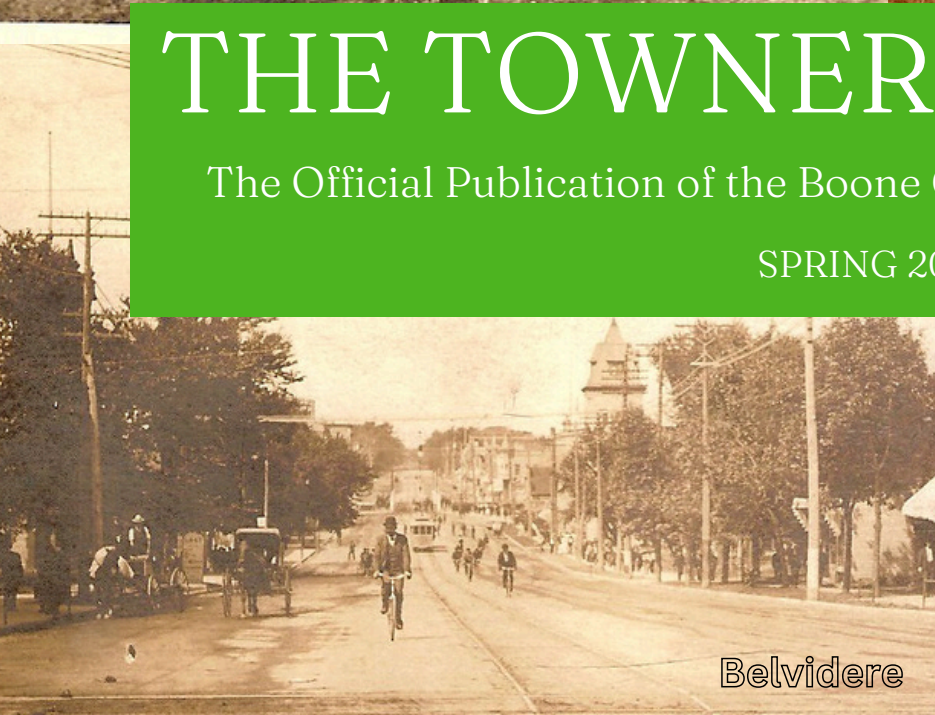
Argyle



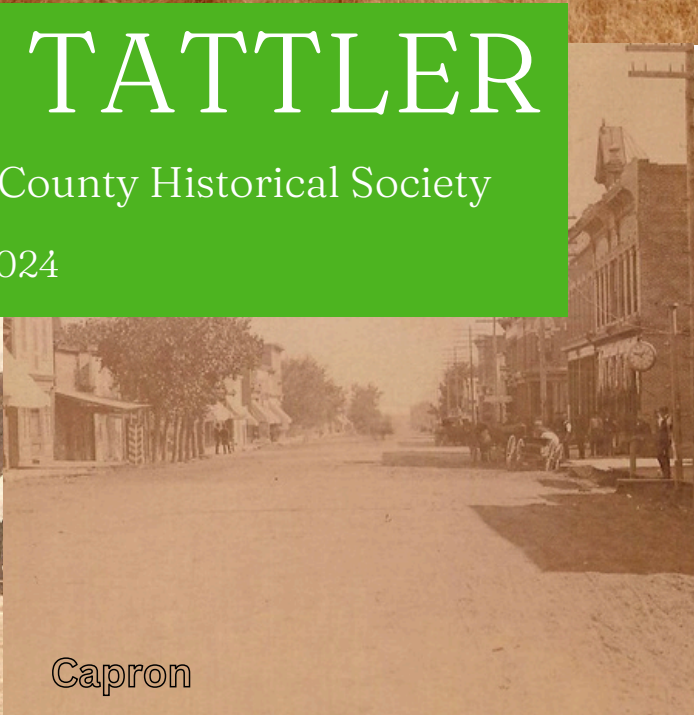
THE TOWNER TATTLER

The Official Publication of the Boone County Historical Society

SPRING 2024



Belvidere



Capron



Caledonia



Garden Prairie

Garden Prairie Views



Artifact Spotlight



This issue's artifact under the spotlight is a Dr. Amos Scott's Civil War medical kit. The tools in this small wooden box were used to perform amputations on those unfortunately injured Union soldiers. You can view this artifact in the Doctor's Office exhibit on the boardwalk at the museum!



Boone County ART Fair

at The Funderburg House

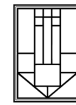
June 9, 2024

11am-3pm

Museum Updates

We are so excited to unveil our new exhibit, "Women's Work" in the Turner Gallery. This exhibit tells the history of the roles of women changing within society. It will feature many textiles from the museum's collection including wedding dresses, quilts, and nursing uniforms. The exhibit is nearly completed, and we are looking forward to hosting a special preview for museum members a grand opening of this new exhibit for the public!

Funderburg House Updates



We are very happy to announce that the new virtual tour is up and running! We are very grateful to the Boone County Community Foundation for awarding us with the grant money for this project. We would also like to extend our gratitude to Audio Engineering for designing and constructing this new asset to The Funderburg House! Be sure to stop by for a tour to check it out!

Follow us on Instagram @bcmuseumofhistory and @the_funderburghouse



Find us on Facebook at The Boone County Museum of History and The Funderburg House



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

To The Society Member,

Here we are in the second quarter of the year already. The staff and volunteers have been exceptionally busy with events, displays, and sorting of artifacts. There is always room for more help in all areas of the museum work. I invite you to reach out in any area that might interest you to get to know more about the operation of the museum. Your membership is important to the functioning of the museum. We provide an educational and vital spot in our community. Thank you for any participation you can provide to contribute to the success of the museum.

Upcoming events are listed in the newsletter. Your support and participation will help to make these events a success. Help me to show our staff that we appreciate all of the fine work that they are doing, whether it be at the museum building or at the Funderburg House.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Carol Rowe
Society President

Follow us on instagram [@bcmuseumofhistory](#) and [@the_funderburghouse](#)



Find us on Facebook at [The Boone County Museum of History](#) and [The Funderburg House](#)



2024 Boone County Museum of

History Lecture Series

All lectures will begin at 6pm in the Grand Gallery at the museum

January 11: "South State Street from the Kishwaukee River to Logan Avenue" with Historical Society Board Member and author, Sonya Dobberfuhl

February 8: "The Underground Railroad had Depots Here" with historian and Mchenry County Board Member, Gloria Van Hof

March 21: "Hedy Lamarr, Actress and Inventor" with historian and storyteller, Lynne Rymarz

April 11: "Obituaries of Boone County" with resident and historian, Cindy Poulter

May 16: "History, Mission, and Purpose of the Boone County Conservation District" with BCCD Executive Director, Joshua Sage

June 20: "Neighborhood Grocery Stores" with Historical Society Board President and historian, Carol Rowe

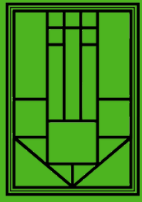
July 25: "Zelda Fitzgerald This Side of Paradise...Her Story" with historian and storyteller, Lynne Rymarz

August 8: "Historical Blacksmiths" with Christopher Hubbard

September 12: "Tilli's Story" with author Lorna Collier and daughter of Tilli, Barbara Schulze-Gorham

October 10: "Legends and Myths Along the Rock River" with author and historian, Kathi Kresol

November 7: "Boone County's Contributions to World War One" with local author and historian, Mike Doyle



2024 Funderburg House

Tour Dates

Tours are held at 10am and 2pm on the following Saturdays



- January 6th
- February 3rd
- March 2nd
- April 6th
- May 4th
- June 8th
- July 6th
- August 3rd
- September 7th
- October 5th
- November 2nd



Arrive 15 minutes before tour starts at Funderburg House,
605 N. State St

Call Museum at (815) 544-8391 to book your spot.

Dates subject to change—please call to confirm

All museum members are able to go on a free tour of the Funderburg House. Members are able to bring one guest on these tours.

Flashback to the Past

Did you know Caledonia has its very own Ralph Waldo Emerson? It's true. Ralph Waldo Emerson was born in 1882 (the same year that THE Ralph Waldo Emerson died) in Caledonia, IL on a farm. After graduating from Beloit College and then the University of Illinois, he started his career in the newspaper business by writing for the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* in 1903. After that, he was hired as a feature writer for the *Chicago Tribune*. He reported on several revolutions in Central America and even followed an embezzler to Africa on an assignment for the *Tribune*. According to his obituary, after leaving the newspaper industry, he went to Washington D.C. to manage the promotion department of the United States Paint and Varnish companies. Emerson died in January of 1960 in Arlington, Virginia.

Leave a Legacy.

The museum relies on the generosity of its members and supporters throughout the community. We are continually grateful to the individuals and families who have established Planned Gifts over the years, leaving a legacy that has benefitted the Museum both during and after their lifetime. Please think of the Boone County Historical Society when planning your will.

Important Dates to Remember

- **Saturday, May 11, 10am-12pm:** Get to Know the Museum with Donuts & Coffee
- **Saturday, May 25:** Paint & Sip at The Funderburg House
- **Sunday, June 9:** The Boone County Art Fair
- **Saturday, July 27:** Clue & Fondue at The Funderburg House
- **Saturday, August 31:** Petals & Pastries at The Funderburg House

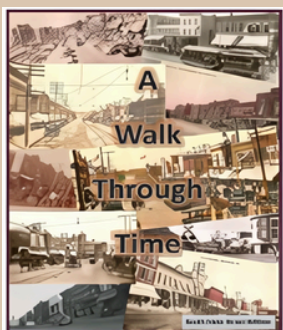
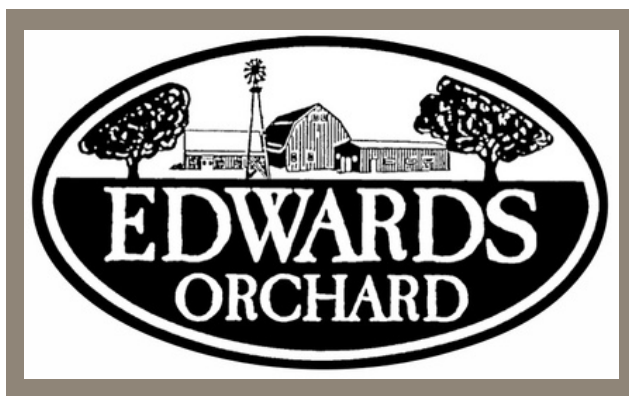
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Thank you to these businesses and organizations for their support of the Towner Tattler and the Boone County Historical Society!



History of South State Street

\$20

Can be purchased at:

- Belvidere City Hall
- Boone County Museum of History
- CTEC Shack

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boone county arts council



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