



251 E. Henri de Tonti Blvd., P.O. Box 144, Tontitown, AR 72770 ~ 479.361.9800

**Tontitown Historical Museum (THM) Report for the COW Meeting
Tuesday, May 20, 2025**

The THM Board of Directors met May 5, 2025 at Tontitown City Chambers Tontitown, AR.

- 1. Tontitown Heritage Day June 1st 12p.m.-2p.m.:** THM Board and Staff invite everyone to an afternoon in the park as we celebrate Tontitown heritage. The theme for this year is the 60's and 70's in Tontitown, we are hoping to encourage visitors and donors to bring their photos, stories and artifacts from these decades of Tontitown. There will be pulled pork sliders (Red Door Sponsoring), sides and Grape Ice Cream (Tontitown Winery Sponsoring), Amici Members eat free, \$10 for non-members. We will have a raffle basket to give away, Michael Pianalto to entertain and lawn games for everyone to enjoy, as well as the museum open for visitors to enjoy the new additions to the museum, including the new interactive table!
- 2. Digitization Project:** 2,079 entries currently entered into CatalogIT. THM had the pleasure of hosting a student volunteer on May 3rd, the student attached around 400 photos to their co-responding entry. If you know of any high school student needing volunteer hours THM would be happy to host them for data entry.
- 3. Tontitown Summer Camp:** THM will be hosting a day camp on June 23rd & 24th from 9a.m.-2p.m. for students 10-14. Students will be given a chance to learn about Tontitown food culture and how Italians ended up in Northwest Arkansas. See the attached flyer at the end of this report for more details.
- 4. Visitors:** 27 visitors for the month of April. This is +1 from 2024 for April. We have had an uptick in visitors of Tontitown descent visiting to learn more about their family's history, these include those whose parents moved out of state during World War II and later.
- 5. Tontitown Business Bingo:** Board President Misty Piazza and museum staff are working to put together a community wide business bingo. This event would start June 1st with participants able to pick up their card at Heritage Day and will end July 31st. We will announce the full details on our social media and through the city social media/website!
- 6. New Exhibits Coming:** 2026 is going to be a big year in American history as we celebrate 250 years of being a nation. THM staff are working on exhibits that will connect Tontitown history with the growing up of America and to also celebrate the nation the Italians flocked to and why; as well as recognizing in a large-scale exhibit the Veterans of Tontitown within the museum.

Regular Museum Hours: Wednesday & Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday & Saturday 1pm-4pm

There will be no regular THM Board meeting for June due to Heritage Day, the next meeting will be July 7th at City Hall.

Board of Directors

Misty Piazza President	Heather Ranalli-Peachee Member
Kara Jo Engle Vice President	Daxton Peachee Member
Megan Taldo McAfee Treasurer	Torrie Pianalto Member
Chelsea Stewart Co-Treasurer	Brittany Berry Member
Allyson Bowen Secretary	Kevin Maestri Member
	Chris Taldo Member
	Billy Morgan Member
	Ashlyn Bowen Jr. Member

Committees: All Committees have a 1 Year Rotation

HR Committee – 3 board members: Kara, Allyson, & Megan

Food Committee- 3 board members: Misty, Allyson, & Ashlyn

Volunteers Committee – 3 board members: Misty Piazza, Kara Engle, Chris Taldo

Newsletter Committee – 3 board members: Torrie Pianalto, Heather Ranali Peachee, Ashlyn Bowen

Expansion Committee – 3 board members: Kevin Maestri, Billy Morgan, Megan McAfee

Collections Committee – 2-3 board members: Chelsea Stewart, Brittany Berry

Fundraising Committee – 2 board members: Misty Piazza, (If approved to board in July), Rachel Pianalto-Strickland

Education Committee – 2 board members: Dax Peachee, Brittany Berry



Campo Estivo di Tontitown "Tontitown Summer Camp"

Registration Fee: \$100

Ages 10 - 14



Students are invited to join Tontitown Historical Museum staff to learn more about Tontitown history and culture. Rising 4th Grade students through rising 9th Grade students are invited to the museum and park grounds from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on June 23rd and 24th. Students will get "feet-on" experience stomping grapes and learn about grape culture in Tontitown. They'll get an up-close look at artifacts brought with the original immigrants from Italy. They will have a chance to learn about Bocce, make some Polenta and so much more during these packed two days!

Museum staff would like to welcome any curious minds, Italian descendants, newcomers to Tontitown who are looking to learn more about their new community.

Limit space available.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating in this camp please register through the below link:



SCAN ME

