



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, July 15, 2025**

The THM Board of Directors met on July 7th at City Hall.

- 1. Tontitown Summer Camp:** The first annual Tontitown summer camp went great! We had three students participate over two days, they learned some Italian from Enrica Ardemagni with the Tontitown Language Center and how to play bocce from Alessandro Palazzuoli-Bevilacqua (our intern from Spring 2024). They stomped grapes and made polenta as well as learned about Tontitown culture while crafting and playing games. We look forward to doing this again next summer, we will begin sharing news about that in early 2026!
- 2. Digitization Project:** The current count for CatalogIt is 2,101. Staff are working through a new labeling system for items in storage to make finding these artifacts easier. We are excited to announce we will be using QR codes to allow visitors to interact and learn more about artifacts on display, we will begin rolling this out later this year.
- 3. New Exhibits Coming:** Staff are working diligently on upcoming exhibits, we ask that any Tontitown Veterans or family members please reach out to staff to see how to be included in the upcoming Veterans of Tontitown exhibit. We welcome photos, stories and artifacts that can be loaned for the exhibit or fully donated if desired.
- 4. Visitors:** 31 for June. 2024 we had 32 visitors.
- 5. Tontitown Business Bingo:** Board President Misty Piazza and museum staff are working to put together a community wide business bingo. We are looking to do a back to school bingo card. If you are a business owner in Tontitown and would like to participate, please reach out to the museum at museum@tontitownar.gov for information. As soon as the board is filled the cards will be available to the public.
- 6. Grape Festival:** THM will be opened extended hours during the Grape Festival. Thursday: 4p.m.-7p.m.; Friday 1p.m.-7p.m.; Saturday: 10a.m.-7p.m.
- 7. New Board Members:** THM Board voted on Rachel Pianalto-Strickland becoming a new board member as well as Katie Jo Piazza and Nikki Mussino becoming Junior Board members. We will be asking the approval of the council later in this meeting.

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 September 8th 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 Pianto	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 Pianto, 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 Pianto-Strickland

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