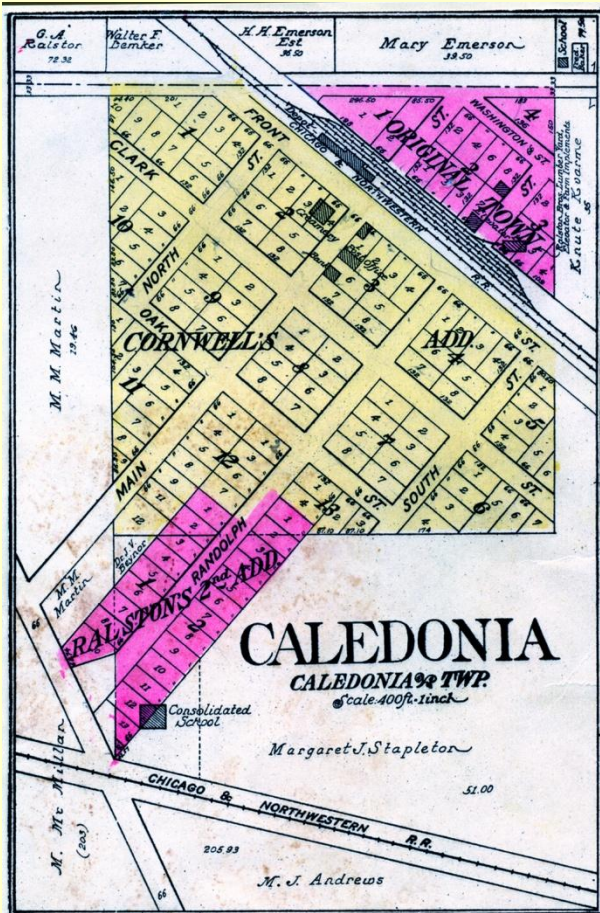
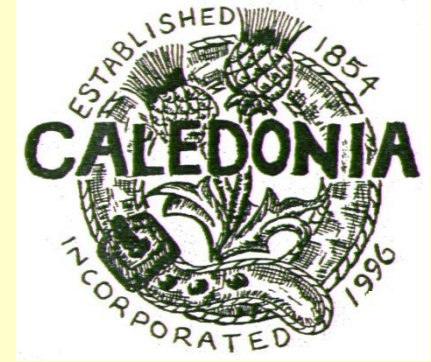


Caledonia History

The Chicago and Northwestern railroad line was laid from Belvidere to Beloit, and Caledonia Center was platted July 8, 1853. Cornwell's Addition was west of the tracks and included most of the present village. Ralston's Addition was added later to the west, land being given by Gavin Ralston, who named the town "Caledonia", one of the poetical names for Scotland. The railroad line to the south of the school was the former Kenosha to Rockford line which was bought by the Chicago and Northwestern.



Village of Caledonia
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Caledonia Community Garden

Our establishment of a village garden at 2341 Randolph Street has been a great success. We have thirteen 8' X 4' raised garden beds and areas to plant vine crops, corn and other larger plantings. Many people benefited from sharing extra produce and getting to know their neighbors better.

Our garden was funded by the City of Rockford Human Services Department, Community Services Block Grant – ARRA, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. We had to rush things along since we received the money at planting time, and we still had to prepare a vacant village lot.

People who live in town are encouraged to be a part of an even better garden next year. We are looking for residents who have time to take care of a low maintenance, raised garden bed and are willing to plant at least one "Row for the Hungry".

Caledonia Village Open House

Caledonia is 156 years old this year, and we held an open house May 1, 2010 to honor all of its past and present residents. There were many former residents who have a tremendous passion for Caledonia and who shared stories and pictures. We plan to make this an annual event since it was so well received. Thanks to everyone who shared their day with us and made it such a rewarding and memorable event.

We are looking for historical pictures or news articles to copy for Caledonia's birthday next year.

Thanks again to the Boone County Historical Society who make pictures and articles available to all of us!

Candlewick Lake Incorporation?

The incorporation initiative is largely being pursued by a citizens' group called 'The Candlewick Voice'. They are circulating an incorporation petition in conjunction with a group of residents who are organized as the 'Candlewick Political Action Committee'. In order for a petition to be submitted to the Circuit Court for consideration, the petitioners will need to obtain the consent of any municipality whose boundary lines lay within 1 ½ miles of the proposed new city. They are requesting Caledonia give them a written response indicating that we have no objections to their incorporation. If we do object, they would like us to describe the nature of our objection so they may work with us to begin to address those concerns.

We heard from another citizens' group called 'The Candlewick Pride' who oppose the incorporation and are interested in improving their existing Homeowners Association. Tony Corso, founder of 'The Candlewick Voice' is on our agenda to speak at our next Caledonia Village Board Meeting at 7PM on August 17, 2010. Call or write to us to share your thoughts and everyone is always welcome to attend our village meetings.

Wind Turbine Regulation?

We are investigating wind turbine issues pertaining to our village. Many villages have ordinances in place that we are reviewing. We welcome your thoughts, ideas or information, please write or call.

Caledonia Village Meetings

All meetings are at the Caledonia Fire Station – 2428 Main Street

Aug 17 - Village Board 7:00 PM

Sept 7 - Committee of the Whole 6:15 PM

Sept 21 - Village Board 7:00 PM

Oct 5 - Committee of the Whole 6:15 PM

New Bicycle Trail - Caledonia to Rock Cut State Park?

We have received a report to review from Wendler Engineering Services, who have been engaged by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Department of Transportation to perform Phase I Preliminary Engineering for a bicycle trail construction project. The trail would connect Rock Cut State Park to the Long Prairie Bike Trail in the Village of Caledonia. Their plan from Belvidere Road is to mostly utilize the former railroad corridor to Caledonia Road, then to Randolph Street to intersect the Long Prairie Trail head and parking lot.

George Bellovics will also be at our Village Board Meeting at 7PM on August 17, 2010 to give a short presentation of the plan and answer questions. He is a landscape architect and the Grand Illinois Trail Coordinator for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Call or write to share your thoughts, or attend our village board meeting.

Caledonia Planning Commission

We are in the process of re-establishing a planning commission. State law provides members shall reside within the municipality or within territory contiguous to the municipality and not more than 1 ½ miles beyond the corporate limits. Let us know if you have an interest in serving or would like more information.

Welcome New Trustee

Marcia Miller is the newest trustee to join our Village Board. We would like to welcome Marcia and thank her for stepping up to help our community. We still have two trustee openings, please call for more information.

**Thank you,
Caledonia Village Board**