



Bond County Bicentennial Committee  
Bond County Historical Society  
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### **Press Release**

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For Immediate Release

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### **Bond County Bicentennial Kick-Off Event January 5 at Courthouse**

The Bond County Historical Society's Bicentennial Committee will hold its first event of the County's Bicentennial year at 7:00pm January 5, at the Bond County Courthouse. Committee Chairman John Coleman announced that the special historical program will take place in the courtroom and will feature presentations by Kevin Kaegy and Judge John Knight. The Bond County Board will also meet to read a special resolution commemorating the historic milestone that night. The event is free and open to the public. The Benjamin Mills Chapter of the DAR will provide refreshments for guests.

"It's going to be a very memorable night with lots of stories about important people and events from the County's history," said Chairman Coleman. "We celebrated Greenville's Bicentennial in 2015, now it's Bond County's turn." Coleman also explained that the event will be streamed live on the @bondcountybicentennial Facebook page so it can be seen by those not able to attend.

Bond County was formed out of Madison County by the Illinois Territorial Legislature on January 4, 1817. Its original borders were six miles further south and east of its present borders, and once included parts of Vandalia. Its northern border stretched up to the shores of Lake Superior. Hill's Fort was the first County Seat, and it was one of only 15 counties that sent representatives to Kaskaskia to make Illinois a state in 1818. It's named for Shadrach Bond, who had been the Territorial Representative to the US Congress, and later became the first State Governor of Illinois.

The committee is planning several events during 2017, including a festival and parade around the courthouse square in Greenville on July 2, in conjunction with the Bond County Fourth Fest. More information is available online at [www.bondcountyhistorical.org](http://www.bondcountyhistorical.org), or on the Bond County Bicentennial Facebook page.