



On February 22, 2020, the old The People's Bank on the corner of Lewis and Second Street became the *Historic Custom Shoppe*, next door to *Bill's Toggery*. The bank's vault, which still exists, was converted to a dressing room. A mural, depicting Charles Lindbergh's cross-Atlantic flight from New York to Paris in the Spirit of St. Louis was painted in the bank vault! The mural reminds Shakopee of The People's Bank, and the time that Charles Lindbergh borrowed \$900 dollars to buy his first airplane!

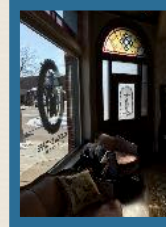
#### Charles A. Lindbergh's Jenny

Charles Lindbergh's first airplane was a Jenny, purchased for \$500 in April 1923. Over the next seven months, the aviator carried 685 passengers aloft, dropped political leaflets across Minnesota during his father's unsuccessful U.S. Senate campaign, piloted parachute jumps, and, alas, endured several crack-ups, including one in which he and his Jenny landed upside down in a swamp near Shakopee. Lindbergh sold the plane in the fall of 1923, saving two broken propellers as keepsakes.

From 1927 until 1970, the aircraft lay in an Iowa barn. Then George Dade, an early aviator, discovered and helped restore it, using a cracked propeller loaned by the Minnesota Historical Society. Lindbergh's Jenny is now on display at The Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City, New York.



BILL'S TOGGERY  
FOR MEN



*"I was attracted to aviation by its adventure, not its safety, by the love of wind and height and wings."—Charles A. Lindbergh*



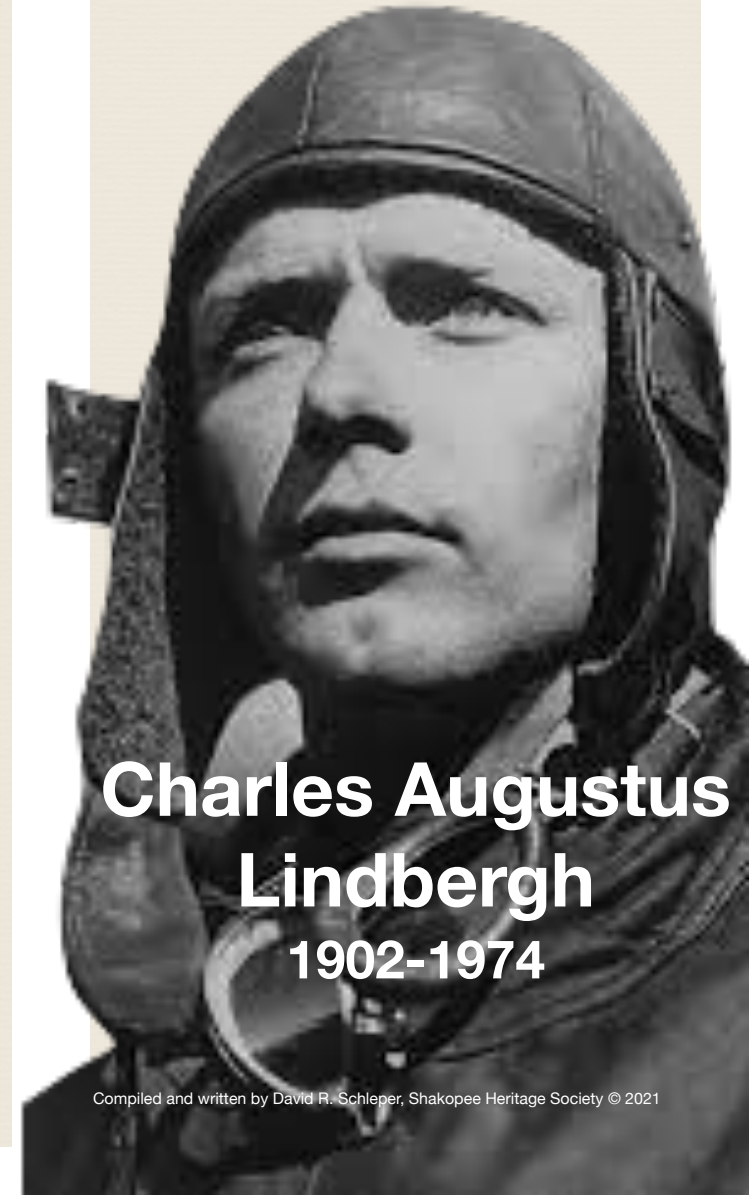
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## SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY



Charles Augustus  
Lindbergh  
1902-1974



On the left side of Lewis and Second Street used to be The People's Bank. It is here that Charles Lindbergh borrowed \$900 to buy an airplane. He only paid back \$50, but a few years later, as he became Lucky Lindy, he finally paid back the loan. The location, including the old bank vault, is located at the Historic Custom Shoppe, located next door to Bill's Toggery in downtown Shakopee.



On the corner of Lewis and Second Street, a building was built in 1893. The building was the post office in Shakopee. In 1920, it was opened as The People's Bank. One of the directors was C.A. Lindbergh, the father of Charles A. Lindbergh.

Charles Augustus Lindbergh, nicknamed *Lucky Lindy*, was an American aviator, inventor, explorer, and social activist. As a 25-year-old U.S. Air Mail pilot, Lindbergh emerged suddenly from virtual obscurity to instantaneous world fame as the result of his solo non-stop flight from New York to Paris, France in a single-seat, single-engine Spirit of St. Louis.

Charles A. Lindbergh borrowed \$900 from the People's National Bank of Shakopee to buy his first large airplane. He used it to get started for himself, according to Julius A. Coller, II in the book *The Shakopee Story*, p. 302.

However, flying had not proved a very profitable business, and Charles had only paid back \$50 dollars on the note at the time when he made the record breaking flight! A few years later, Joseph J. Moriarty went to St. Louis and got the money back from the bankers on this transatlantic flight, according to an article in the **Shakopee Argus Tribune** called "Lindy Pays Back Borrowed Money."

Four years before his transatlantic journey, Charles Lindbergh took his first solo flight. Charles, like Speed Holman, was a barnstormer. He would thrill fairgoers by landing on farms, giving many people their first up-close look at an airplane, and a chance for an airplane ride.



In the summer of 1923, Charles Lindbergh was flying to southeast Minnesota to visit his father in Shakopee. As the 21-year-old Lindbergh approached his landing site, he encountered a thunderstorm so severe he was unable to descend. As he flew around, his engine suddenly gave out causing his to land in a swampy area near the Minnesota River, not too far from Shakopee, according to Nancy Huddleston in *Images of America Series: Savage, MN*, 2012. As his plane touched the ground, the nose dipped into the dirt causing the propeller to crack. Bruce L. Larson, in an article in *Minnesota History* called "Barnstorming with Lindbergh," Charles Lindbergh hung upside down by his safety belt. By the time Charles had climbed out of the ruined airplane while people gathered to witness the wreckage. For three days Lindbergh stayed in the Savage Depot while he waited for his broken propeller to arrive and repairs to be made, according to an on-line article called **Lucky Lindy Charles Lindbergh crashes in Savage**.