



Spring 2026 Newsletter

Official publication of the
Roselle Historical Foundation
39 East Elm Street, Roselle, IL
60172-2026
(630-351-5300)

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/rosellehistorymuseum>

ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM
Historical Evening
Saturday April 25



The Roselle History Museum
presents Historical Evening 2026

Lucille Ball
portrayed by Leslie Goddard

Saturday, April 25
6:30 PM Reception & Wine Tasting
with Lynfred Winery
7:00 Presentation

Trinity Family Life Center
405 S. Rush St, Roselle
\$20 advance/\$25 door



For questions please call (630) 351-5300 or
email marketingmanager@rosellehistory.org

Scan the QR code to
purchase tickets in advance




RAFFLE PRIZES****WINE****
APPETIZERS/SNACKS***



Marketing Manager's Corner

Roselle On the Move:

The relocation of the former Hattendorf estate coach house to the Roselle History Museum complex is perhaps one of the more public moves in Roselle's history. In October 1990, in preparation for the construction of a new Harris Bank facility on Irving Park Road, between Prospect Street and Park Street, the bank donated the former Hattendorf estate coach house to the Roselle Historical Foundation. The building was free, but it cost \$42,000 to move and resettle the building on the Foundation property at 39 East Elm Street. Electrical and telephone wires had to be moved to let it pass. The coach house crossed the railroad tracks on Park Street and turned west on to Main Street. Today, the building houses the administrative office of the museum as well as many artifacts, files, and records of Roselle history.



Haraz Coffee Grand Opening* February 13, 2026

Roselle recently welcomed Haraz Coffee House to the previous Pizza Hut location on Lake Street. A premium coffee experience showcasing Yemeni coffee culture, Haraz offers unique options like Harazi Mufawar (coffee, cardamom, & cream), spiced teas, and a saffron latte. The grand opening featured live entertainment from a violinist, jewelry and flower vendors, face painting, and delicious appetizers and pastries. We are excited for a new cultural addition to Roselle!



"To plant a garden is to believe
in tomorrow."

- Audrey Hepburn



Thank you to Countryside Funeral
Homes & Crematory for being our first
business sponsor



Rose Ambassador 2026



12 talented students participated in the Rose Ambassador Scholarship this year! The participants showcased a wide range of talent including instruments (piano, tuba, and trumpet), classical Indian dance, singing, and filmmaking. Congrats to Rose Ambassador winner Teagan Shake, First Runner Up Liliana Alarcon, and Second Runner Up Sajani Achanta. RHM student volunteer Matt Hudak also competed this year, sharing his passion for filmmaking. The future is no doubt bright for these stellar Rosellians.



Photo Courtesy of Roselle Arts and Culture Foundation

Keri Soukup, Marketing Mgr.

Piece of Roselle History



The Rodewald Farms Dairy Company moved from their farm to Main Street, east of Park St in 1941. Workers gathered for this photo in the 1950's. The dairy was sold in 1968 and the building was transformed into a business space.

A Fond Farewell



We lost a dedicated member of the Roselle History Museum's family. Walt Lotz passed away on January 11 at the age of 78.

Walt's legacy is deeply rooted in his dedication to preserving and sharing the history of Roselle, Illinois. As a long-time board member of the Roselle History Museum, he played a significant role in shaping the community's understanding of its past. His contributions to the museum will be remembered and cherished by the community.

John Binneboese has decided to step down from our board of directors. In his five years of service as a director, John has been a champion for Roselle history and shared his passion for partnering with local businesses. John was employed for 45 years at Itasca Bank & Trust; his father, Art Binneboese was an original employee at the bank's inception in 1948 and served several years as bank president. John, you will be sorely missed by all, but your generosity and leadership will not be forgotten!



Enjoy your family in sunny Florida!





Our "HoneyDoos" so generously donated more of their time and catalogued and sorted our historical newspaper room!

Extraordinary Vice President

While ranking presidents of the United States in the presidency over their hated rival has become a cottage industry amongst historians, ranking vice presidents has not taken off. For one thing, rankings vice presidents make little sense. They do not do much as part of their jobs. Outside of an extraordinary event, from the perspective of a historian, to say someone is the best or the worst vice president is just odd. That being said, a case can be made that Aaron Burr is the worst vice president in history for no other reason than, as far as we know, no other vice president killed a man while serving as vice president. This story, extremely well known even before it became a key plot point in a Tony award winning musical, is enough to get him to the bottom of any vice presidential rankings list.

Of course, he is not alone as vice president in having shot someone, with the late Dick Cheney having joined that exclusive club. Even then, though, the person survived and was also not a former cabinet member. Burr did not just do that, though. In addition to this, Burr is unique in having tried to sabotage the legitimate election of the presidential candidate with whom he was running. While the rules were different during the 1800 election than they are now, with no set candidates for president and vice president and all candidates theoretically running for president, everyone was aware that for the Republicans, Thomas Jefferson was the presidential candidate and Burr was the vice presidential candidate. When they tied in the electoral college, rather than openly supporting Jefferson as president, Burr just let things play out. While he did not push for his own candidacy, he was not going to say no if the presidency came to him. What resulted was a protracted struggle in the House of Representatives that almost upended the fragile new government as the defeated Federalists flirted with placing Burr

Jefferson. Since this technically occurred before he was vice president, it is fair to add actions after leaving office to the equation. For Burr, his most notable post vice presidential activities were his attempts at treason. Oddly enough, he is not alone in this club either, however. John Tyler was elected to the Confederate Congress during the Civil War and John Breckinridge served in various Confederate posts as well, including as the Confederate Secretary of War. Of the three, Burr's treason may have been the most personally grandiose. While he was acquitted at trial on what amounted to a technicality, it is widely believed that Burr attempted to separate part of the western United States from the rest of the country. The exact details vary, with some claims that he was attempting to set up his own country and others that he was attempting to ally with the Spanish. Adding to the confusion of all of this was his association with General James Wilkinson, a double agent serving in the US Army while in the pay of the Spanish government. Overall, whatever the exact details, he was recruiting, provisioning, and arming a group of men with the intention of performing some type of military operation in defiance of US law.

As noted earlier, the only way a vice president can stand out from the pack is if they did something extraordinary. Of course, extraordinary does not mean good. For Aaron Burr, it is fair to say he had an extraordinarily bad run that lasted the better part of a decade, with each event worse than the prior one. He attempted to sabotage an election, killed a man, and then attempted to create his own military force to break off part of the United States, and he did this all in the span of about seven years. By comparison, arguing with a kid about how to spell a word does not seem so bad.

By Tom Piorkowski

Roselle History Museum Newsletter

39 E. Elm St

Roselle, IL 60172

Newsletter generously sponsored by



Itasca Bank & Trust Co.

Together we'll shape the future



Sumner House

“Where flowers bloom, so does hope”
***Lady Bird Johnson**

Mission Statement
To maintain and enhance a historically accurate museum with primary focus on Roselle and surrounding areas
To collect local facts and artifacts of today that will be part of our village history and pride tomorrow.
To provide a dynamic historical and educational resource for our residents and visitors.

Board of Directors & Staff
President: Glenn Spachman
Vice-President: Tim Grasso
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General Meetings
Second Saturday of the Month
10-11:30 am – 39 E. Elm St.
Museum Hours
Sundays: 2-4 pm
Wednesday through Saturday
10 am - 2 pm, by appt
Editor: Janice Wood
editor@rosellehistory.org

CONTRIBUTION FORM

Mail to: Roselle History Museum, 39 E. Elm St., Roselle, IL 60172

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City _____
Email Address _____ State/Zip _____
Circle one: \$30 \$50* \$100 \$250 Other \$ _____

TWO NEW WAYS TO SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION VIA PAYPAL

- 1) Scan the QR Code at the right to donate
- 2) Go to <https://tinyurl.com/PayPalRHM>



_____ *My contribution is at least \$50. Please send me a free copy of the “Remembering Roselle” history book.
The Roselle Historical Foundation is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Your contribution may be fully tax deductible