

I am here representing the Osseo 150th Celebration Committee seeking your help in preserving the heritage of the City of Osseo, its founders and builders.

Founded in the 1850s, Osseo was formally incorporated by the Minnesota State Legislature as a village in 1875, and we are celebrating this entire year.

Osseo was an early village sandwiched between Maple Grove township to the west and Brooklyn township to the east.

Early state legislators were good enough to create on a map this special area which was platted as a village in 1875.

Just a few years later the Great Northern Railroad came through Osseo and created a lasting service of commerce allowing businesses to be started, succeed and continue to thrive.

We are extremely proud of our heritage (in our past history as well as the present) and have gathered historic information from 1852 when settlers first entered the area to the present by compiling information in a book documenting our history. We are seeking help in the publication of this important history book of over 300 pages. Nowhere else is this historic information gathered in one particular document.

It was done by the committee with the help of the community in the hope that 50 years from now people will look at Osseo and know all of these historic facts.

SHOW BOOKS

The book is this size compared to the book from the 100th anniversary celebration in 1975 and includes many historic photos, a school map of the one-room country schools surrounding the Osseo town school.

SHOW MAP

Some 480 students attended the town school in 1951 before consolidation and now Osseo Independent School Dist. 279 has over 20,000 students. It is about the 5th largest district in the state. This book tells that story in one chapter among many other chapters in the book.

WATER TOWER

We are also hoping for funds to rehabilitate the Osseo Water Tower which is on the National Register of Historic Places and in place since 1915 to serve its residents and for use in firefighting in Osseo, Maple Grove and Brooklyn township from the beginning.

It is the subject art students tend to gravitate to for their art projects.

It is a familiar fixture on the horizon for those traveling in the area.

In conjunction with the 150th celebration we want to hire a lighting firm to shine on the water tower during the main events planned in town during this 150thcelebration year.

We are extremely proud of the history of Osseo and hope that you will help to keep that history alive.

ENTERTAINMENT

We would like to use some of the funds to pay for entertainment at our programs with vocal and instrumental music from the Osseo High School band and from Kevin Kling and James Hirsch,

nationally known story tellers (in the style of Prairie Home Companion) who hone their pieces specifically to the Osseo community.

And we would hope to use some of the funds to raise the platform of the bandshell in Boerboom Veterans Park in Osseo not only for the 150th celebration festivities and ceremony but also to enhance future entertainment events that will draw people to our very unique community.

The Osseo 150th Celebration Committee hopes for your approval of this request.

Thank you!

Carole Larson, Mayor