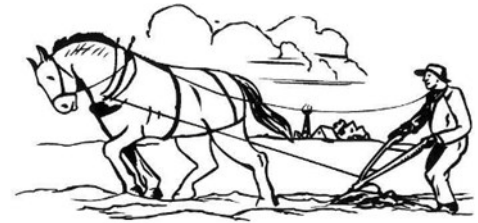


May 2024

Roseville Historical Society

MEMO



Founded in 1977

Tidbits about HarMar Shopping Center By Nancy Adomeit

HarMar was the creation of Harold Slawik and his wife, Marie, after seeing similar malls while vacationing in Florida. Construction began in 1961 at 2100 Snelling Avenue North. Harold would not live to see his dream come to fruition; he died in the summer of 1962. Construction was completed under the watchful eye of Marie in 1963.



Last July during Rosefest, a city-wide celebration was held in Roseville's Central Park. The Roseville Historical Society (RHS) set up information and demonstration tables. The day started beautifully, but storms closed us down early. RHS had kids' activities of handweaving and making yarn dolls. We also had maps of early Rose Township and artifacts from the old days of market farms.

During our brief event, attendee Susan S. asked a question which was only partially answered that day by our historians. Her question concerned a hot air balloon which sailed quite low over her Roseville backyard. She remembered it happened in the 1980s.

RHS member Dallas Leier was quick to remember the event as a celebration put on by the HarMar shopping center celebrating an opening. Clearly, it was not meant to celebrate the center's opening, which had happened in 1963. There were several additional dates, however, on which large celebrations may have been held.

There was an expansion in 1977 and another in early 1981. On the afternoon of June 14, 1981, the HarMar tornado tore through the shopping center. Fortunately, the mall received only cosmetic damage. The mall's ownership took the opportunity to update the facades and fix the damage that had occurred.

Again, in 1988, the mall underwent more updates and theater expansion.



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Please leave a message.

Back to Susan's question about the balloon – when did it happen and why? It is hard to pinpoint either of the answers. This author has tried to follow up with numerous sources but has failed to find the definitive answer. I have several guesses based on information gleaned from my research.

- 1) A celebration of the mall occurred after the hurricane-necessary updates were completed later in 1981 or 1982. As part of that celebration a hot air balloon was brought in by one of the stores, perhaps to promote Wrangler Footwear or jeans.
- 2) Aquatennial – high flying antics.
- 3) Central Park acknowledged the installation of the first handicap-accessible playground equipment.

If anyone has information to share about this mystery, please call the author or RHS. Hopefully a definitive answer will appear in a future issue.

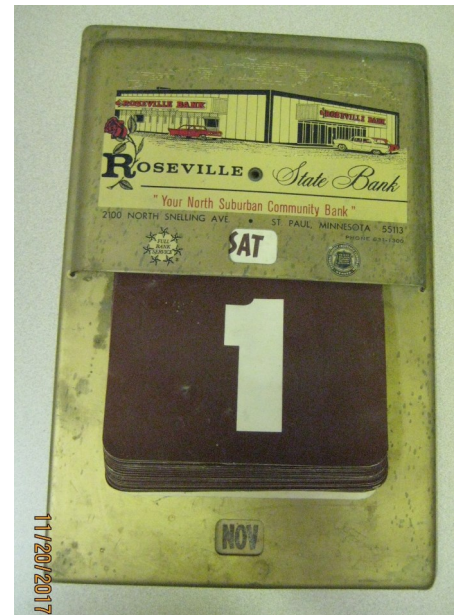
Another tidbit about HarMar...Did you know there is an Indie rock star who uses "Har Mar Superstar" as his stage name? I was not familiar with his work before writing this article, but what I have heard so far, it is quite nice.

According to Wikipedia, "Sean Tillmann-Hauser (born February 6, 1978) is an American singer-songwriter and actor. He has performed and released studio albums as 'Sean Na Na' and as a member of hardcore band 'Calvin Krime' but is best known for his work under the name 'Har Mar Superstar'.

"He is a successful songwriter, he has penned singles for artists like Jennifer Lopez, Kelly Osbourne, and even the Cheetah Girls.

"He acquired the name after spending his youth "watching movies and writing songs about passers-by in the food court". He visited the shopping mall frequently as "it was across the street from where [he] worked in an office job."

Visit harmarsuperstar.com for his albums including the latest titled *Roseville*.



Roseville State Bank
perpetual calendar

Important Dates

Membership Meetings

Monday, May 13, 7 p.m.
Monday, September 16, 7 p.m.
Monday, December 9, 6 p.m. Catered dinner and entertainment. Cost and reservation information will be available in September.

Membership meetings are held in the Fireside Room at the Oval. Door prizes, snacks and fellowship provided at all meetings.

Summer Picnic

Thursday, July 25, 5-7 p.m. Jaycee Shelter, Central Park. Transportation will be available from the parking lot to the shelter. Catered by Jersey Mike's Subs. A postcard reminder will be sent in July. Reservations are required. Concert in the park at 7 p.m.

Board Meetings

Thursday, August 15, 4 p.m.
Thursday, October 17, 4 p.m.
Board meetings are held in the Aspen room at City Hall. All members are welcome.

Newsletter Deadline

Please send your information for the September newsletter by August 31. E-mail to jouwan2420@gmail.com.

May Program—Victorian Hair Weaving

May 13, 7 p.m.

Judy Payne will present a program on Victorian Hair Weaving which is the art of using hair to make jewelry and pictures as a way of remembering loved ones and family.

Jewelry was used to remember lost loved ones. Pictures were made of the hair of loved ones. In the nineteenth century women and families often moved far from home and seldom returned. The picture could be looked at with fond memories.

From the website of the Rosenberg Library Museum we learn that hair jewelry, such as brooches, bracelets and necklaces, was made as a token of love or friendship or to remember a deceased loved one. Hair was also made into other items, such as small wreaths, and was also used in valentines and postcards.

In the United States the craft of hair weaving was popular in the 1800's but became much less so after World War I when women began wearing shorter hair styles. Nevertheless, how many baby books have a lock from baby's first haircut?

Join us as Judy leads a discussion of how the objects were made and used in a time of sentimentality.

Membership meetings are held in the Fireside Room at the Oval. Door prizes, snacks and fellowship provided at all meetings.

<https://www.rosenberg-library-museum.org/treasures/victorian-hair-jewelry>

RHS News

The Roseville Heritage Trail was dedicated in 1976 with 32 sites. A photo of the trail dedication is shown at right.

The trail was updated in 1963, 1991 and 2002 now with a total of 53 sites. Some of the site signage has faded over the years.

In January 2024 the Heritage Trail committee sent letters to let the property owners know that we are in the process of replacing the signs. The committee will be ordering the new signs and hopes to have them in place this summer.



The Roseville Historical Society is working with the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) to digitize and/or microfilm the Roseville Review/Suburban newspapers.

The MNHS has the Roseville papers on microfilm 1950-1963 and 1982-2007. They are missing various issues for the years 1964-1981.

We have in our museum the Roseville newspapers for 1957-2009. So, we may be able to help fill in some of their missed issues.

From the President

The office has been busy getting ready for all our summer fun activities that we have going on. We are looking for volunteers to help at the office. We are in need of some items (any canning jars or wooden hangers).

See the list of wanted items on the next page.

We will see you at the next meeting.

-President Alyssa Kroschel

Introducing RHS Secretary Linda Valois

Linda Valois is the new secretary. She has a Master of Arts degree in Museum Studies from the University of Oklahoma. As part of her degree, she completed an internship with the Minnesota History Center processing new collections.

She also worked in museum management at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area in southern California. While living in southern California, she researched the homesteaders in the Santa Monica Mountains. This included doing oral histories of residents and researching the county records for land records. In California she was active in the L.A. as Subject which is a consortium of archival facilities around Los Angeles.

She is a current member of the Society of American Archivists and the Twin Cities Archives Round Table.

She now lives in Roseville, and her interests are genealogy, biking and hiking. She looks forward to serving as secretary and helping to discover untold stories in the diverse Roseville community.

The Machine

By Mary Overson

Oh, wouldn't it be keen
If there were a machine
That would test our body parts
Our brains and lungs and hearts

Would scan our skin for liver spots
Test the sight of both our eyes
Measure fat within our gut
Our hips and arms and thighs

Would check our blood and organs
For any abnormality
Assess our mental status
For any loss of memory

No more weekly doctor visits
There would be just one
A conveyor belt would slide us through
And then we'd be all done

At the end we'd get a print-out
Of the things that we should be
To change our daily habits
And become a more fit me

Wanted

RHS is frequently in need of materials for archiving and for general office use. Current needs are:

- Quilt batting, polyester, new, any size
- Unbleached muslin, 100% cotton, one yard or larger pieces
- Double-stick tape, acid free, which can be purchased at Blick's Art Supply
- Wooden hangers without the bar for hanging pants

General office supplies often need to be replenished, including postage stamps for both postcards and letters.

Your generosity saves RHS money for other purposes.

Summer Picnic

Our summer picnic will be on July 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. in Central Park at the Jaycee shelter. Golf cart rides will be available from the parking lot to the shelter.

We will have food from Jersey Mike's. The price for members and friends will be \$5 each.

Watch for the reminder postcard closer to the picnic date and be sure to RSVP. You will need to call the office to sign up and pay at the park.

Roseville community band performs at 7 p.m. Below are summer picnic attendees in 1998.



Rosefest photos from previous years



Membership Form

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Mail completed form with your check to: _____ Individual membership \$10.00/year
Roseville Historical Society _____ Family membership \$15.00/year
2660 Civic Center Drive _____ Donation
Roseville, MN 55113

The Roseville Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) organization. Money given above membership amount is tax deductible. All memberships are for the calendar year (January – December).

Roseville Historical Society
2660 Civic Center Drive
Roseville, MN 55113