



302 SE Hill Street, PO Box 233, Carlock, IL 61725 – (309)376-2219

5/1/2026

Greetings!

I am excited to announce the Village of Carlock is celebrating the 250th Birthday of the United States. A 50-year time capsule, buried during the Bicentennial Celebration in 1976, is scheduled to be opened on July 4th, 2026. As such, the America250 Committee has planned a celebration to be held Friday, July 3rd through Sunday, July 5th. Events include:

Friday, July 3rd:

- Library Open House – sponsored by the Carlock Library
- Square Dancing, Line Dancing, Dinner, and Fireworks – to be held at Braffet Berry Farm & Orchard

Saturday, July 4th, the main event will be held at the park immediately following the parade:

- Parade
- Welcoming Ceremony, Flag Raising, Citing of the Pledge of Allegiance, Singing of the National Anthem
- Reading of the Declaration of Independence
- Opening of the Time Capsule
- Food Trucks/Vendors, Historical Children Games, Jump House, Face Painting, Duck Race, Picture Booth, Beard Contest, Period Costume Recognitions, Local Artisan Vendors, and more
- Historical Walking Tour of Downtown Carlock & display of historical items.

Sunday, July 5th:

- Pack the Pews - Worship at the Church of your choice.
- Picnic Lunch and Ice Cream Social in the park with the Gibson Sisters Performance

We have also developed a Self-led Driving Historical Tour of the Carlock rural area.

We are seeking engagement from community organizations and businesses in the form of volunteers and/or financial sponsorship. It is our hope your business will participate in the festivities and choose to support the celebration. Sponsors of the event will be recognized repeatedly on social media, our website, print/signage and during the event.

If your organization would like to be a sponsor of Carlock's America250 Celebration, we would be thrilled and grateful. Please contact one of us with your pledge or any questions you might have.

- John Holliger – Co-chair, America250 Committee – jeholliger@gmail.com or (309) 531-3099
- Parade Participation: Dawn Holliger – Co-chair – dawnholliger@gmail.com or (309) 212-8498
- Rhonda Baer – Mayor – carlockmayor@gmail.com or (309) 275-8451

Thank you for your consideration!

Rhonda Baer
Mayor, Village of Carlock