

Good afternoon, neighbors, friends and honored guests. As our Town Supervisor, it is my absolute privilege to welcome you all as we mark this historic milestone. 200 years of the Town of Rose. Two centuries of life, growth and community nestled among our beautiful rolling drumlins. There is a famous saying that perfectly captures a moment as massive as a bicentennial. "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift- that's why it is called the present."

When we look back, our yesterday is rich in history. It reaches all the way back to 1826, when our early pioneers cleared the wilderness to establish what we call home today. As Supervisor, I look at our history and see a legacy of grit, hard work, and deep agricultural roots. We inherit the fruits of their labor, and we honor every generation that kept the Town of Rose moving forward.

As we look ahead, tomorrow is a mystery. We cannot know what the next century will bring to the Town of Rose or the world around us. But leadership is about having faith in people. If the last 200 years have proven anything, it is that the people of Rose face the unknown with the adaptability, strength, and an unwavering commitment to one another. Whatever the future holds, the blueprint of our success remains the same: we will meet it together, as one community.

But most importantly, today is a gift. This bicentennial is our "present". It is a gift to look out and see generations of families who have called Rose home for decades, sitting alongside our newest residents. It is a gift to witness the vibrant community spirit that thrives in our hearts and our daily lives. As your town leadership, it is an honor to serve as the caretakers of this present moment, working to keep our town safe, strong and prosperous.

So today, let us cherish this gift. Let us celebrate the history that shapes us, welcome the mystery of the future, and enjoy the present moment with the neighbors who make this town special.

Thank you all for being a part of the Town of Rose story. Happy Bicentennial Town of Rose.

Christine Rice

Town of Rose Supervisor