



DAN PATCH *Newsletter*

A Publication of the Dan Patch Historical Society

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INSIDE ...



DAN PATCH



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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DAN PATCH READIES FOR A COMEBACK



Alexa King at Running Aces promoting the Dan Patch Project

St. Paul, Minn. – August 31, 2015

By KARI LUNDEN, Chair of the Dan Patch Project

One hundred and nine years after setting a world's record at the Minnesota State Fair, the great Standardbred Pacer is getting ready to stage a comeback thanks to a grassroots effort by a group of area horsemen. The group formed the non-profit fundraising organization, The Dan Patch Project. Together with renowned equine sculptor Alexa King, they have committed to fund and install a bronze sculpture of the horse at the Minnesota State Fair's west end transit hub in time for the 110-year anniversary of his record. The sculpture will feature Dan Patch with a driver and cart pacing over a bronze track. In warm months, water will flow over the track and past the figure, creating the illusion of movement. On the periphery of the transportation hub, facing the sculpture, will be relief bronzes celebrating the Fair's key exhibits: Agriculture, Government, Education, Natural Resources, Commerce and People. A secondary installation celebrating the kinship between Dan Patch and his owner, M.W. Savage, will be installed in front of the public library in Savage, Minn., where the horse is buried.

King's work has been featured at horse venues and in private collections nationwide, including her bronze of 2006 Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro at Churchill Downs. The group submitted and had proposals approved by the Minnesota State Fair Foundation, Dan Patch Historical Society, and city of Savage in July. The sculptures also have the support of the descendants of Daniel Messner, who bred the great horse, and of the M.W. Savage family.

(the Dan Patch Project, *continued on page 2*)

Mission Statement: The Dan Patch Historical Society was formed for the purpose of collection, preservation and dissemination of historical knowledge and artifacts about the horse, Dan Patch, and it's owner, M.W. Savage.

(the Dan Patch Project, *continued from page 1*)



www.danpatchproject.org

The installations will be given as gifts from The Dan Patch Project to the Fair and city of Savage. Funds for the projects are being raised through donations, as well as the sale of Dan Patch Project t-shirts, and engraved, exact replicas of one of Dan Patch's shoes, which was lent to the group by the Messner family for this purpose. The shoes may be kept as mementoes, or installed at the site of the statues as a way of honoring your own beloved family member or horse, as well as the great Dan Patch.

T-shirts and shoes may be ordered, and tax deductible donations made by contacting the group at www.danpatchproject.org, or through their GiveMN.org crowdfunding site at <https://givemn.org/fundraiser/the-dan-patch-project55d61e153cb41>. To be tax deductible, checks should be made payable to the Dan Patch Project's fiscal sponsor, Springboard for the Arts.

Visit www.danpatchproject.org for more information.



Front and Back examples of the Dan Patch Project t-shirts for sale



T-shirts featuring the artist's first sketch of the State Fair bronze may be purchased at the Dan Patch Project's web site www.danpatchproject.org. The shirts are \$20 plus \$8 shipping and handling. They are cream with a dark brown logo and the record-setting time of 1:55 on the back. Sizes range from small to 2XL.

OWN DAN PATCH'S SHOE!

Now you can own a piece of Dan Patch history when you purchase a personalized replica of the great horse's shoe, scanned directly from one from the Daniel Messner family's personal collection. Expected to be installed near the base of the bronze sculptures of Dan Patch at the State Fairgrounds and in Savage, the personalized shoes will allow fans to forever tie their names to the great horse.

The following three shoe locations are available for purchase:

- City of Savage - \$100 with one line of text.
- Minnesota State Fairgrounds - \$200 with one line of text.
- Commemorative Shoe for home display - \$100 + \$8 shipping, with one line of text
- Buy all three for \$300 and \$8 shipping!

Tax deductible donations may also be made at

<https://givemn.org/fundraiser/the-dan-patch-project55d61e153cb41> or by contacting the group directly at danpatchproject@gmail.com.



Julie Meyers and her husband, Tausha and Amber Chamberland along with Dan Patch and Mr. Savage (Jed Williams)

DAN PATCH DAYS 2015

Dan Patch Days 2015 was a huge success once again. Our booth on Saturday was in a new location this year near the inflatables. We had a successful flow of traffic into the booth from those who wanted to learn more about the history of Dan Patch and Mr. Savage. We had our buttons for sale and our drawing for the winners of the intarsia and of the historical blanket. The winner of the blanket was Grove Bradbury Jr. from St. Paul and the winner of the intarsia was Curtis Gustoske from St. Louis Park. The horseshoe was found at Redtail Ridge Park this year. Julie Meyers, Kaitlyn Meyers, and Brendon Ranagan, long time searchers, found the shoe shortly after the third clue was posted to our site on Friday night. They report the adjacent school property and park was very busy with hunters. Julie and her family also found the shoe in 2009. They are avid hunters and long time supporters of the hunt, Dan Patch Days and Savage. Congratulations to our winners! We participated in the parade this year and once again we were one of the first five floats. We had Mr. Savage and Dan Patch aboard along with our horseshoe winners and some members of the Dan Patch Historical Society.



Curtis Gustoske



2015 Dan Patch Days
Button



Julie Meyers, Kaitlyn Meyers
and Brandon Ranagan

Dan Patch Historical Society New/Renewing Membership

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Street Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

ANNUAL DUES: Student (\$10) Individual (\$20) Family (\$30) Benefactor (\$55) Corporate (\$250 & more)

Please mail completed form and check to: Dan Patch Historical Society • P.O. Box 1:55 • Savage, MN 55378 or visit our website at danpatch.com

Annual renewal date is listed on the address label of your newsletter. Thank you for your support.

Oral History Project Connects Eagle Ridge Students With Savage Community

Published by atinklenberg on Wed, 2015-05-13 13:48 Wed, 2015-05-13 13:48
ISD 191 News

Seventh-grade students who were born in 2002 or 2003 recently had the chance to talk with community members much older than they are. As part of a class project, 60 students from Eagle Ridge Junior High in Savage interviewed local senior citizens, ages 55 to 90, and then wrote a narrative about an event or time period from history. It's an oral history project that bridges the generation gap. Teacher Jacquelyn Gramentz came up with the project as a way to combine communications, writing and historical research for her language arts/social studies block honors level classes. "I want my students to see that history isn't dead, and that they can learn a lot from older people in their community," she said. She connected with Savage Mayor Janet Williams, a long-time resident of the area, who rounded up 20 volunteers from the Dan Patch Historical Society and another 10 from the Savage Senior Center who agreed to be interviewed by students. The experience at the Savage Public Library on May 7 began with Williams and husband, Will Williams, giving an overview of the city's history. Then students met individually or in pairs with seniors and asked twenty questions such as "What technological advance has surprised you the most?," "What are the most significant ways in which the world has changed since you were a student my age?," and "What is the most important lesson you've learned in your life?" "It was a really exciting experience, and I learned a lot about the history of Savage that I didn't know before," said student Kali Lorensen. "I'm also really glad that I had the opportunity to meet my interviewee and hear their stories of their interesting life experiences." "I thought that this was a great classroom project because it brought the students to the library to learn about what a public library of TODAY has for resources, to the Heritage Room to learn about the history and to use social skills to interview older adults about their life experiences," said Mayor Williams. "We hope that it was a field trip that the students will remember." Gramentz will provide the library's Heritage Room with a copy of the students' stories.



Eagle Ridge student Rory Ferrell interviews Frank Wilebski, a long time resident of Savage, veteran of the Vietnam War, and retired Savage firefighter.

DONATIONS

Kathy Allen Bloomquist (Farmington, MN)
Cargill News 1942-1945

Carolyn Markuson Kusuhara (Sakai, Japan)
2 Dan Patch Days mini floats

Tamny McLaughlin Arnold (Savage, MN)
several photos of Cargill shipbuilding, 2 signed
baseballs from old timers games, set of Savage
Reviews all donated in memory of her parents
Pat/LaVonne McLaughlin

Deanne Allen St. Martin (Savage MN)
Platbook of Savage donated in memory of her
parents Pete/Audrey Allen.

Gayle Stewart (Spicewood, TX)
book: 100 Horses in History- True Stories of
Horses who Shaped Our World
(Dan Patch is one of the horses featured)

Kathleen Dempsey (Pompano, FL)
A tote bag and several documents from the Har-
ness Racing Hall of Fame, a guide to harness
racing, Hoof Beats magazine, July 2015, 3 col-
ored, 20 X26 inch, International Stock Food Farm
posters.

Marc Bohn (Burnsville, MN)
Burnsville High School yearbooks, 1960-1965.

Thank You

Dan Patch Day at Running Aces Harness Park in Columbus, MN. Pictured from left to right are Kari Lundin,, Janet Williams, Eric Bolland and Alexa King



DAN PATCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING AND MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**JULY 22, 2015, HERITAGE ROOM,
SAVAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The annual meeting was held on July 22 at the Savage Public Library. George Augustinack, Joe Cade, Jed Williams, Will Williams were reelected to the Board of Directors for a three year term. The Board of Directors meeting followed. Elections of officers was the first agenda item with the same officer slate being elected.

Agenda items included a presentation of the Dan Patch Project by Kari Lundin and sculptor Alexis King. The DPHS endorsed the project that is highlighted in this newsletter. A letter was read from the Carver County Historical Society regarding the donation of a Dan Patch sulky. The board authorized the acceptance of the donation. Reports were received on the new website, the Fort Snelling display on Camp Savage , Dan Patch Day at Running Aces Harness Track in Columbus , MN and the storyboard on Cargill Shipbuilding.

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Nancy Allen, Savage, MN; George Augustinack, Savage, MN; Jens/Joyce Bohn, Savage, MN; Grove Bradbury, Jr. , St. Paul, MN; Tom Brennan, Savage, MN; Joe Cade, Mendota Height, MN; Tausha Chamberland, Savage, MN; Dave Christopherson, Farmington, MN; Bonnie Conrad, Glendale, AZ; Harry Delaney, Dayton OH; Rob/Lori Fendler, Savage, MN; Don Forsyth, Stratford, NJ; Shirley Haley, Neosho, MO; Drema Huston, Anderson IN; Maureen McColl, Fort Orchard, WA; Charles/Helen, Moriyama, Mililani, HI; Richard Nash, New Prague, MN; Dr. Alfred Savage, Mt. Pleasant, IA; Michael Simpson/Sharon Allen, Savage, MN; U.S. Harness Writers Association - Florida Chapter, Pompano Beach, FL; John Vessey, No. Oaks, MN; Jed/Jenny Williams, Savage, MN; Will/Janet Williams, Savage, MN; John Zugschwert, Middleburg, VA

**DAN PATCH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1:55
Savage, MN 55378**

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**Contact us at: 952-890-1669
Email: questions@danpatch.com**

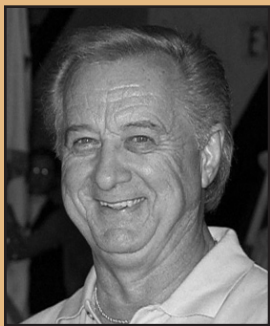
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**VISIT: Heritage Room/Museum
Savage Public Library
13090 Alabama Avenue, Savage, MN 55378**

Hours of Operation:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10am-8pm
Wednesday 1pm-8pm
Friday 10am-5pm
Saturday 10am-4pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

PLACE
STAMP
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FROM THE PRESIDENT...



Jens Bohn

Our volunteer for years in the Heritage Room at the library, Lynda Bickett, is leaving . As a retired librarian she was dedicated to keeping the room in order and up to date. She tirelessly read the papers, copied articles of interest, updated the obituary files and picture files. Every Wednesday you could see her doing her work in a quiet manner with a smile. We will miss her and thank her for her dedication to the history of our city. So now we are looking for someone to volunteer to do the job.

Anyone interested in working for a couple of hours a week to keep the space in order and update the files, contact me. It is rewarding as you learn about our history.

We are disappointed to learn that the Savage Chamber of Commerce decided to cancel their involvement with Winterfest in downtown Savage. It was a fun event for us as we dressed up in early 1900's clothes and took on the persona of Mr. and Mrs. Savage and their friends. We attended the tree lighting and marched in the parade. Perhaps we can come up with something for the statue unveiling.

Thanks for your continued support,

Jens

