

SAVAGE Pacer



Bricks to Help Fund Savage Depot

By Nancy Huddleston; Editor; Savage Pacer; Friday, November 11, 2005

The campaign to "Bring the Depot Home" is entering another phase with the opportunity to buy commemorative bricks for a walkway near the historic depot in the Savage Town Square.

Proceeds from the "Savage Depot Brick Walk of Fame" will primarily raise funds needed to move the depot from Murphy's Landing in Shakopee to downtown Savage, for landscaping around the depot and, possibly, a statue of Dan Patch. The depot fund-raising campaign began with envelopes distributed this summer soliciting donations. Dan Patch Historical Society Secretary Janet Williams said the brick campaign is another aspect of the fund-raising effort.

Bricks will be sold in two sizes – a 4-inch by 8-inch brick for \$100 or an 8-inch by 8-inch brick for \$175. The smaller bricks have a maximum of three lines and 18 characters per line and the larger bricks have a maximum of six lines and 18 characters per line. Gift certificates announcing the gift to the person honored with the brick can be purchased for an additional \$5.

Donations are tax-deductible and forms are available from any Dan Patch Historical Society member, at Savage City Hall, the Savage Library and Razor's Edge Barber Shop. Donations can also be made on line by going to www.danpatch.com.

The deadline for orders is June 26, which is the weekend of Dan Patch Days 2006. Williams said the deadline was necessary so that the work on the Walk of Fame could be completed by September 2006, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Dan Patch setting the world record of 1:55 by pacing 1 mile at the Minnesota State Fair.

Depot RFP

The Savage City Council approved a Request for Proposal (RFP) process Nov. 7 to begin a search for a tenant to lease the Savage Depot.

City Administrator Barry Stock said the process will allow the city to find a possible tenant for the depot, enter an agreement regarding upgrades to the building and set up lease terms.

"We want the prospective tenant to identify how to preserve the historical aspects of the building," Stock said of the RFP. "We also want to know what kind of financial commitment they are willing to put into this."

Stock said the city has not identified a possible user, noting it is open. The deadline for proposals is Jan. 11, 2006, and it is hoped that a contract can be awarded in March 2006.

A parking lot improvement project on the Town Square area is currently under way, as grading and a retaining wall are being constructed. Work is expected to be completed in the spring, with extensive landscaping throughout the lot to accommodate parking for the depot users and surrounding businesses.

Nancy Huddleston can be reached at editor@savagepacer.com.