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CONTACTS:

Donna DeFalco, Marketing & Sales Representative, (630) 305-5250,
Defalcod@naperville.il.us

Jody E. Ellyne, Director of Marketing & Sales, (630) 420-6017,
Ellynej@naperville.il.us



Chicagoland's Outdoor History Museum

523 S. Webster Street
Naperville, Illinois 60540
P: 630.420.6010 • F: 630.305.5255
www.napersettlement.museum

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Naperville Heritage Society receives IMLS grant

Naperville, Ill. — The Naperville Heritage Society is among the 31 awardees for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Conservation Project Support Grants program. A grant award of \$26,042 with a matching amount of \$39,120 including staff hours' contributions will allow the Naperville Heritage Society to conduct a general conservation survey of its museum's collections and historic structures in an effort to prioritize ongoing preservation needs for structures and collection holdings and further improve care and support in these areas. The grant period runs through May 31, 2012.

The conservation survey will include a review of collections management policies and procedures, identification of at-risk buildings and collections, and prioritization of recommendations on preservation improvements. The survey reports will assist with the development of a new, prioritized conservation plan for collections and assist with updating the institution's long-range preservation plan. Staff will receive special training in the development of a long-range conservation plan for the museum. In addition, the Naperville Heritage Society will host a one-day conservation education workshop for local museums and offer educational information on preserving and conserving collection materials through Naper Settlement's newly expanded website. These grant activities are part of a larger orchestrated plan to continue to improve collections care.

“We are so pleased to be a recipient of the IMLS-Conservation Project Support grant this year,” said Naper Settlement Chief Curator Louise Howard. “It will allow the museum to move forward with the critical work of caring for its historic structures and museum collections.”

History comes to life at Naper Settlement, Chicagoland's outdoor history museum, located in downtown Naperville at 523 S. Webster St. Open year round, for more information about hours and admission prices, visit www.napersettlement.museum or call (630) 420-6010.

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