



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2017

Contact:

Emma Vodick, 630.305.5250

vodicke@naperville.il.us

523 S. Webster St. • Naperville, Illinois 60540-6517

P: 630.420.6010 • F: 630.305.4044 • W: napersettlement.org

Naperville Heritage Society's Immediate Past Chair receives Philanthropic Leadership Award

Naperville, IL — The Naperville Heritage Society is excited to announce that Sally Pentecost, the board's Immediate Past Chair, has been awarded the West Suburban Philanthropic Network 2017 Philanthropic Leadership Award for her visionary guidance and dedication to the community. Awarded annually, WSPN honors individuals, foundations and corporations for their humanitarian leadership. With an array of experience in formal education and 16 years on the NHS board, Pentecost has worked diligently to better the educational and cultural sectors in the western suburbs.

"Sally oversaw the largest transformation, in vision and in leadership, that Naper Settlement has ever experienced," said Naperville Heritage Society's Board Chair, John Koranda. "Not only has she been a great mentor to me, but she is known for being incredibly thoughtful and receptive to everyone she works with. Her educational background and guidance has helped the institution progress and remain relevant within the City."

With a background stretching almost four decades in formal education, Pentecost has served as a teacher, principal, education consultant, workshop facilitator and administrative leader in area school districts including Naperville Community Unit School District 203, Valley View Community Unit School District 365 and Community Consolidated School District 146 in Tinley Park. Known for her strong, but approachable style as Principal at Madison Junior High School in Naperville, Pentecost transitioned after retirement in 2002 into a student-advocate and expulsion hearing officer for the Naperville and DeKalb school districts, a role she continues today.

Looking to benefit the broader community by sharing her passion for education and h, Pentecost joined the Naperville Heritage Society Board in 2001. Since then, Pentecost has held a variety of positions, including Assistant Treasurer, Vice Chair, Chair and currently as the Immediate Past Chair.

"Sally was instrumental in setting the course in the transformation and forward movement experienced at Naper Settlement," said Naper Settlement's CEO & President, Macarena Tamayo-Calabrese. "She not only led the vision for how to best serve our community in the 21st century, but she recognized the necessary steps in elevating our institution. Sally was the right leader at the right time, and her guidance as I took the helm was indispensable."

Pentecost's imprint on the institution's growth is notable. With her directed focus on early learning at Naper Settlement, Pentecost helped to open the Rita (Fredenhagen) and John Harvard Early Learning Playscape in 2014. Pentecost also helped to guide the vision for the 2016 launch of *Never Settle*, a capital

campaign. The campaign will deliver a true cultural campus for our city.

Most recently, Pentecost assisted in hosting the largest fundraising event in Naperville Heritage Society history, the Barn Raising Benefit. In support of Naper Settlement's Agricultural Interpretive Center, Pentecost's leadership helped to raise \$250,000 in addition to commitments of nine leadership campaign gifts.

Among many other accomplishments, Pentecost has been the quiet but powerful force behind the institutional planning and the philanthropic advancement that have led to dramatic growth of Naper Settlement. Pentecost is deeply honored by the award and recognizes the volunteers she believes are critical in carrying on the values of Naper Settlement.

"I am certainly humbled by the recognition," said Pentecost. "Telling our community's story is important because it values education, honors its growing diversity, fosters economic growth and celebrates our cultural richness. I am honored to represent all the volunteers who give so richly of themselves and join the Naper Settlement staff to tell the narrative of our city."

About Naper Settlement

Naper Settlement is a nationally accredited, award-winning outdoor museum set on 12 magnificent acres in the heart of Naperville, where history comes to play and community comes to connect. For more information, visit www.napersettlement.org or call (630) 420-6010.

###