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Fact Sheet

- **Naper Settlement’s capital campaign, Never Settle, began in 2016. The included capital projects will provide the resources to transform the museum into an immersive, experiential campus of discovery and lifelong learning.**
 - **Heritage Gateway: A New Welcome Center**
 - **Budget:** \$3.7 million
 - 3,200 square foot welcome center located off of Aurora Avenue within the museum campus of Naper Settlement.
 - **Timeline of completion:** Pending fundraising, the Naperville Heritage Society hopes to break ground in 2018 and open the new welcome center later in 2019, in celebration of the NHS’s 50th anniversary.
 - **Project Objectives:**
 - **Establish a cultural connection to Naperville’s dynamic downtown and serves as a direct and indirect economic engine for the vibrancy of our city** - advancing tourism, street-life and city beautification efforts.
 - **Improve site accessibility** with a new entrance, featuring a circle drop-off and reconfigured landscaping, sidewalks and pathways for a more pedestrian-friendly and accessible campus.
 - **Innovation Hall:** The Center will feature digital exhibitions within Innovation Hall, focused on sharing Naperville’s 20th and 21st century stories, like that of the I-88 high-tech corridor. Innovation Hall’s digital wall will give visitors and citizens a place to participate, share and curate their own story to live in perpetuity at Naper Settlement.
 - **Indoor gathering space** for events and social gatherings, also featuring a dynamic educational space for our more than 35,000 school children, changing digital exhibits and content-driven programming.
 - **Other projects in the Capital Campaign:**
 - **Agricultural Interpretive Center**
 - This 5,000 square foot exhibition space will showcase Naperville’s vast agricultural history. The project’s public launch in November 2016 kicked-off with a festive Barn Raising Benefit and raised \$244,000.
 - **Scott’s Block**
 - A modern public square that will feature rotating exhibits, an open space for “pop-up” programs and public events. It will showcase 200 years of American innovation, telling stories of Naperville men and women who built businesses and led movements for the community good.
- **Tellabs Foundation**

- Founded in 1995, when Michael Birck was CEO of Tellabs, Inc., the Foundation began making grants in 1997 primarily in the areas of education, health and the environment. The foundation does not accept unsolicited letters of inquiry.
- **Bios:**
 - **Michael J. Birck**
 - Born in Missoula, Montana and raised in Clinton, Indiana, Michael Birck graduated from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in 1960. In 1975, Birck co-founded Tellabs, Inc. a Naperville-based telecommunications company, with five other co-founders. He was philanthropic and his efforts included gifts to Purdue University's nanotechnology center and its golf complex. After his passing in 2015, Michael is survived by his wife Katherine Birck, sons Chris and Kevin, daughter Joni Stevenson and a host of grandchildren.
 - **Christopher Birck**
 - Christopher Birck is a General Partner at Oak Street Investments, L.P. Birck also serves as the President of his own investment group, Birck Investments, Inc.. He served in various positions at Tellabs, Inc. from December 1988 to April 1999 and was a former Chairman of the Naperville Heritage Society, where he now serves as Advancement and Advocacy Committee Chair. Birck received his MBA in finance from DePaul University.

For more information on the Capital Campaign or to donate (financially, or through oral histories or with artifacts), please email Naper Settlement's CEO & President, Rena Tamayo-Calabrese at calabresem@naperville.il.us or Vice President, Advancement & Campus Development, Debbie Grinnell at grinnelld@naperville.il.us.