

# WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## News Release

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### **Commemorative Washington County Historical Society Medallion Celebrates Sesquicentennial**

#### **Washington County Medallions and Mugs Now Available**

Stillwater, Minn. -- The Washington County Historical Society is proud to join the celebration of Minnesota's 150 years, by offering a limited edition, sesquicentennial collector's medallion which honors Washington County's role as Minnesota's birthplace.

In 1848 a group of area settlers gathered in Stillwater to petition the U.S. Congress for the creation of the territory of Minnesota. The petition was carried to Washington D.C., and in 1849 Minnesota became a territory. That is how Stillwater became "The Birthplace of Minnesota."

#### **Commemorative Items Available Now**

The state's sesquicentennial happens only once. Join the celebration by collecting these limited edition souvenirs of the 150 years of Minnesota statehood.

The circular bronze medallion, approximately one-and-a-half inches in diameter, carries the slogan, *Stillwater, Birthplace of Minnesota*, with an engraving of the Steamer Ben Hur about to depart from Stillwater. The reverse side is imprinted with the motto *150 years of Statehood, 1858-2008*, and an outline of the state's shape with a star marking the location of Washington County and Stillwater.

In addition to the collector's coin, a souvenir coffee mug, which bears an image of the medallion engravings is available, too.

The Washington County Historical Society has teamed with local businesses to help preserve the history of the 32<sup>nd</sup> state, and Washington County's role in that history. The WCHS is proud to team with Cub Foods throughout Washington County in selling the sesquicentennial commemoratives as Cub Foods history is closely tied to that of

Washington County. The medallions and mugs are available at the Cub Foods stores in Woodbury, Cottage Grove, Forest Lake, White Bear Lake and Stillwater.

The commemorative items also are available at these organizations and retailers:

- Warden's House Museum
- Stillwater Area Chamber of Commerce
- Autumn Cottage
- Primitive Blessing
- Images of the Past
- Stella's
- Antiquarian Bookseller
- Rose Floral
- Our Antiques
- Dock Café
- Alfresco Casual Living
- the Afton Bean

Please visit [www.wchsmn.org](http://www.wchsmn.org) throughout the year for the latest exciting news about sesquicentennial activities commemorating our shared heritage.

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*Founded in 1934, the Washington County Historical Society is a donor-supported, nonprofit organization with more than 700 individual, family, and business members. WCHS is supported by individual gifts, memberships and earned income, and government and foundation grants. For more information, please visit [www.wchsmn.org](http://www.wchsmn.org).*