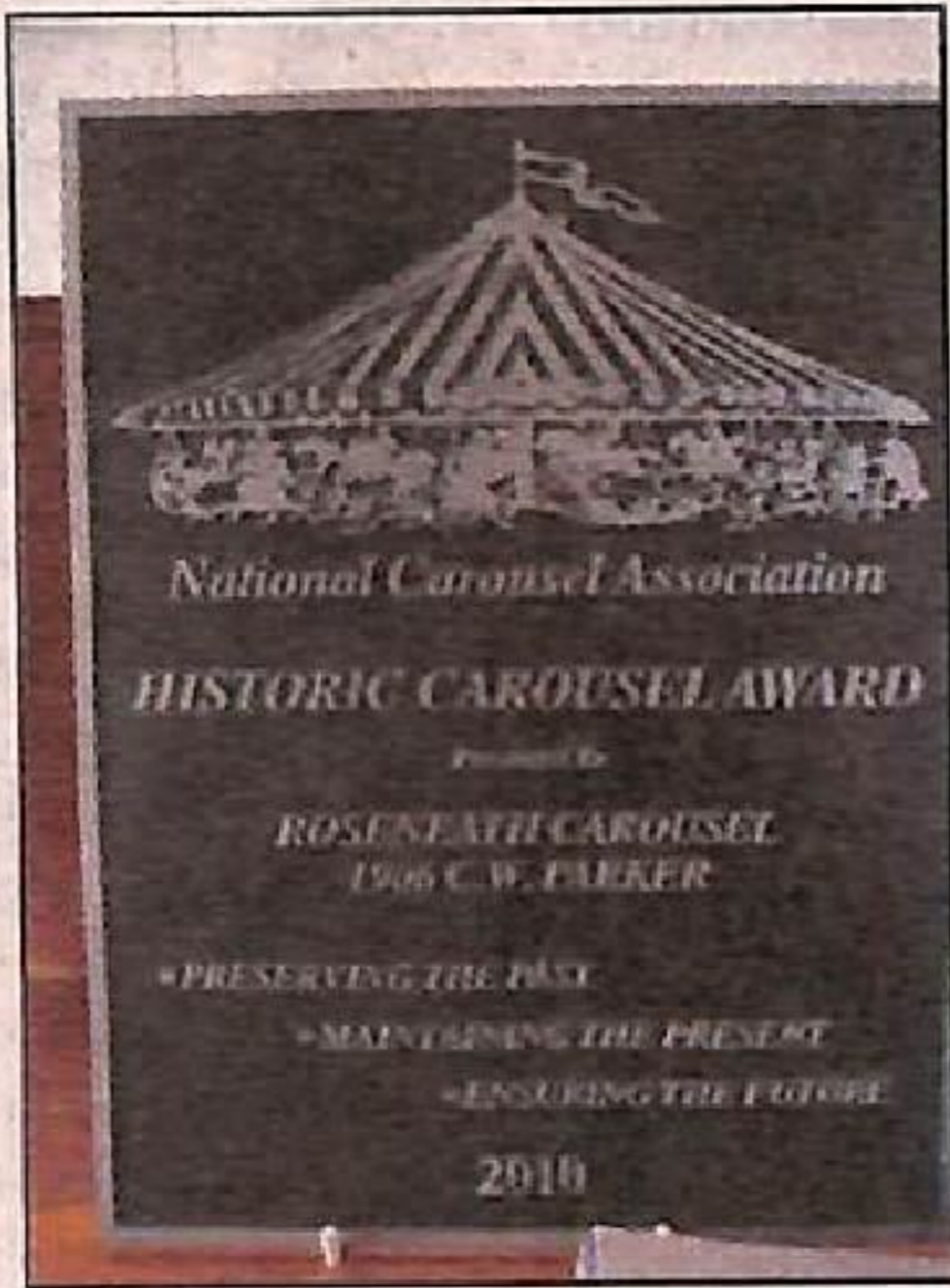


Show N' Shine celebrates a piece of history in Roseneath

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The Roseneath carousel received a Historic Carousel Award from the National Carousel Association in 2010.

most caring staff of operators and volunteers. One ride on the carousel and you know immediately the love the operators have for this machine," he said.

Although they had officially been awarded the plaque back in 2010, RAS members were only able to admire it as a picture on their website until last year, when Wentzel was able to present the award to them in person. This would not have been possible, according to RAS secretary-treasurer Barb Foreman, without the vision and dedication of former society president Allan Gallagher.

"Allan is the heart of the whole restoration committee," she said. "It was always Allan's vision to restore this carousel, and it was under his direction that it was restored."

When the carousel had begun to fall into disrepair, almost to the point of being shut down permanently, it was Gallagher who stepped forward with an idea for how to raise the necessary funds to repair and restore the majestic steeds to their former vivacity. He started what came to be known as the Adopt a Horse program by donating \$5,000 and having his family name engraved on a plaque which now sits astride their horse, Walter. People began to follow his lead, and in a

short time they had the money they needed and it was time to get to work.

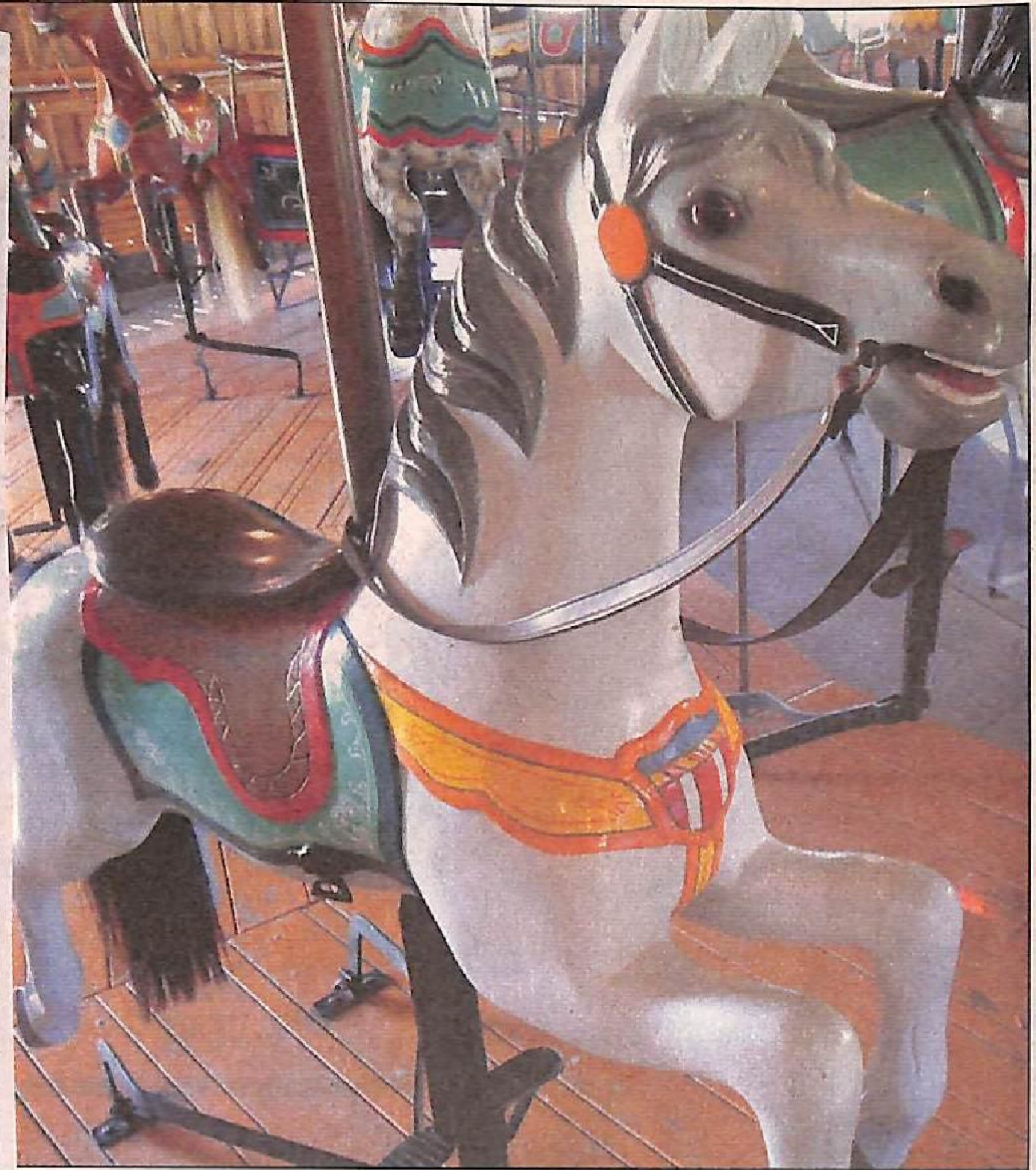
In 1987, they were given the green light to shut down the carousel and commence the restoration, and since then the RAS and volunteers from the local community have continued to keep Gallagher's dream alive, even after his death four years ago. To honour his legacy, the RAS wanted to do something special, and so on July 28 during the 21st annual Show N' Shine, children will have the opportunity to enjoy a free ride on the Roseneath Carousel.

The Show N' Shine is an annual event held at the Roseneath Fairgrounds, where people can come out and enjoy the music of the 1950s and '60s, tour the arts and crafts tables, peruse the various flea market wares, and top the day off with the big car, truck and tractor show. It's a day of family fun, and if you're under the age of 12, you get to enjoy free carousel rides between 12 noon and 1 p.m., sponsored by Gallagher's wife in loving memory of her late husband.

"We don't forget him there, that's for sure," said Foreman, who was a member of the original committee and got the chance to see Gallagher's dream come to fruition firsthand.

The Roseneath carousel remains a site to behold, but a great deal of fundraising still needs to be done in order for it to keep its pristine looks. Unlike most other carousels, which are garbed in jewels and other modern decor, the Roseneath carousel remains true to its roots, with restorations maintaining the original colours and intricate designs. Every dollar that comes from rides on the carousel goes toward future restorations, so that this simple pleasure can continue to bring joy to future generations.

To learn more about the carousel's extensive history, upcoming events at the Roseneath Fairgrounds, and what you can do to aid in their efforts, visit the website at www.roseneathcarousel.com.



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Roseneath carousel offers a ride back in time.

ROSENEATH - The sands of time can wear down even the sturdiest structure to nothing more than a pile of dust. This fate has yet to meet the Roseneath carousel, and thanks to the support of its community, the working staff and dedicated volunteers, it won't be seeing that day for a very long time.

The Roseneath carousel is a beautiful piece of history and culture which has lived through the best and the worst of times since it was built in 1906 by C.W. Parker in Abilene, Kansas. It traveled a great deal before it was finally able to rest permanently at the Roseneath fairgrounds, and even then it took the time and the dedication of the Roseneath Agricultural Society (RAS) to return it to working order and keep it that way.

One would be hard pressed to find another carousel out there like it, which is why the National Carousel Association (NCA) saw fit to bestow upon it the Historic Carousel Award in 2010. This is the first time this award had ever touched Canadian soil, as only carousels in the U.S had ever been considered for the honour. The call from NCA census chairman Patrick Wentzel, announcing the carousel would soon be sporting a brand-new plaque, came as a surprise to RAS members.

"Personally, I was so impressed with the number of fair members that showed up to receive the NCA award," Wentzel said. "On both of my visits to the carousel I had the opportunity to talk with several of the longtime operators and volunteers."

In order to qualify for the award, the carousel must meet an extensive list of criteria, such as being operational, having significance within its local community, and it must be well maintained both mechanically and cosmetically.

The carousel meets and goes beyond all the above qualifications, Wentzel said.

"The carousel is maintained in excellent condition by a