



PRESS RELEASE

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200 Years of History Rolling Down the Road Next Week

Kirtland Hills, OH

Two hundred years of Ohio history will be loaded onto a moving platform and next Wednesday, Aug. 5 and begin its journey to a new future in a new location. The project is the final step in the Lake County Historical Society's move into their home. In preparation stages now, Klier Structural Movers have already raised some structures in preparation for moving the Jack Daniels Living History Village from Kirtland Hills to Painesville Township. The Village contains an authentic 1813 log cabin, replicated one-room school house, black smith shop and Lake County Bicentennial Bell Pavilion. These buildings have been the back drop for lessons in the risk and rewards of pioneer life for nearly 40 years in the shady glens of the previous Lake County History Center.

The log cabin was built in Holmes County in 1813, was moved to Cleveland in 1936 for the Great Lakes Exhibition and following the close of the event, moved to Mentor, Oh. The cabin's second move was made because the building resembled the birth place of James A. Garfield, the 20th president, who was the last U.S. president to be born in a log cabin. Garfield's birthplace was the Cuyahoga County frontier town of Orange, Oh. The log cabin was situated on the grounds surrounding Lawnfield, the home he renovated and enlarged on Mentor Ave. just east of the Great Lakes Mall in Mentor.

In 1938, the Society began operation of the site and introduced a school program called "pioneer school" in the early 1970's. By 1983, the cabin was on the move again.

The Society moved from Lawnfield in 1983 when the National Park Service took over operation of the presidential home site. Moving into a Holden Arboretum property in Kirtland Hills, Shadybrook Farm, the Society quickly made arrangements to once again move the cabin. Move number three was completed and additional buildings were re-furbished to create a Village. Between 1984 and 2009, thousands of children in the second through the sixth grades throughout N.E. Ohio visited the cabin, school house, blacksmith shop and candle barn to learn about life on the Ohio frontier and carry home a precious hand dipped candle. In 2001, on the death of Lake County historian, Jack Daniels, the Village was commemorated in his honor.

The village will make its final move on two separate days. The first move took the small blacksmith shop, previously the playhouse of an historic Lake County family, the Hitchcocks. The building is now named in honor of Richard Muny, Chemsultants International for their financial support of the project. This move will also take the Lake County Bicentennial Bell Pavilion, named after Charles P. Baker, a prominent Lake County resident and the man chosen to be the first to ring the bell after it was cast in 2002. When Mr. Baker passed

away, the LCHS Board chose to name the pavilion in this honor. When the Village has its formal opening, the County Bicentennial Bell will be put back into its place of honor. Currently it is on display at the Lake County History Center museum.

While these buildings are being moved others are being prepared. The stone chimney and fireplace must be removed from the old cabin. The beams must be carefully slid beneath the nearly 200 years-old floor boards and the lift started. A similar procedure will be followed with the Arthur Holden one-room school house between now and August 3. However, these buildings are housed in a heavily wooded setting and Klier Structural Movers must thread the proverbial needle to pull the buildings from their forest environment. Holden Arboretum personnel, under the direction of Roger Gettig, will oversee the removal of the buildings to avoid any environmental impact to the property.

The move will begin at the previous Lake County History Center at 8610 King Memorial (aka Mentor Road) in Kirtland Hills, travel down King Memorial Road to Morley Road, Morley to Rt. 84 – East on SR84 which becomes Bank Street, Walnut, East Walnut and intersects with Riverside Dr., the final destination. However, bringing in the buildings will also involve some navigation. The buildings cannot come up the drive way into the Center, so they will be driven next door to Riverside High School and brought across a field, on a road cut by project partner, Riverside High School.

On arrival the village will be settled onto foundations dug by volunteers from Great Lakes Construction and led by Kerry Deffer, with plans volunteered by E. Tom Marcel Architects in Mentor, on a site plan volunteered by Norm Hoovler of the URS Corporation using drawings by LCHS volunteer Jim Skrocki. The move is made possible by a challenge grant to the Lake County community by the Hershey Foundation promising to match the initial \$15,000 raised for the basic move. A total of \$60,000 is needed to build walking paths, landscaping, signage, lighting and ADA ramps for the buildings. The complete village project will also add a New England town hall, General Store and Native American Whittlesey Focus Village. Funds to complete the Phase I and begin Phase II which includes the paths, landscaping and school rediness have been a subject of a community outpouring as families across the county contribute \$25 towards the project. The current goal is to have 200 families at \$25. The project is still 56 donors short and interested supporters may contact Carrie Plummer, LCHS Youth Education director at 440-639-2945, ex. 12 or contact her at education@LakeHistory.org. For a virtual visit to Pioneer School, go to YOUTUBE and enter Pioneer School Lake County Historical Society.



Charles P. Baker Bicentennial Bell Pavilion



Arthur Holden School House



1813 Log Cabin



Richard Muny Chemsultants Blacksmith Shop

