

August 25, 2012

Press Release from Union County Historical Society



September will be an active month at the county museum with special event hours on September 8, 15, 21, and 22.



All Photos by Sandy Baker Hometown Connection

PHOTO: Preparations are underway for special Saturday museum tours and pioneer demonstrations. Costumed docents (Barb, left and Crista, right) harvest herbs in the Victorian herb garden next to the 1891 Queen Anne style, Morey Home and County Museum. On September 22, during the Union County Bridge Festival, docents will be serving ice cream treats, making old-fashioned apple butter in a copper kettle over a wood fire and more.

Come to see what your favorite thing at the Museum is. Ask most visitors what was their favorite thing and the top 3 answers are...

My favorite thing at the Museum is... 1.The Giant's Chair 2.The "secret hiding place" 3.The Big Red Car

Whatever the age of a visitor, 5 or 65 years young, the memory is very vivid of seeing that special thing that sparked their curiosity at the Union County Museum. Visitors are invited to the Union County Museum and Weller Log Home on the third Saturdays of September, October, and November from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

On special September Saturdays, the Union County Historical Society invites the community to tour the museum and 1830's style log home located at 246 West Sixth Street. Cookies and milk will be served. Kids are encouraged to bring their parents, grandparents, or friends to see the exciting collections and curiosities that tell the story of the people and history of Union County. Costumed docents will provide tours.



One of the most popular items in the museum is "The Giant's Chair". The eyes of each child lights when they can say, "I saw the Giant's Chair!" The chair belonged to Noah Orr, the "Union County Giant" (1836-1882). Born in Union County, Noah Orr grew to a height of nearly 8 feet tall (in costume he stood nine feet high) and weighed between 500-600 pounds. Colonel Orr traveled with many circuses and shows including Barnum's Museum in New York City. His large chair, used while on tour and his oversize shoes are on display. The Giant's home is located near the Historical Society at 118 West Sixth Street. He was buried in the cemetery at Marysville in 1882 with one of the largest funerals ever held.

PHOTO: Union County Giant's shoes and photos.

For anyone who has seen the movie "Night at the Museum", you will remember the President Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt riding a horse through the museum. Did you know the Vice-President with President Teddy Roosevelt from 1905-1909 was a Union County man.

Charles Warren Fairbanks (1852-1918) was born in a log home and grew up in Union County. Mr. Fairbanks was a successful lawyer, United States Senator and Vice-President of the United States. Fairbanks School District and Fairbanks, Alaska are named in his honor. Many items are on display belonging to the Vice-President. **PHOTO: Friendly docents (Bo, Crista, and Barb) welcome visitors at the entrance to the County Museum which is the original front door from the boyhood home of Charles Fairbanks.**



Watch for details about museum activities during the 2012 Union County Bridge Festival. For more information about the Union County Museum and Weller Log Home, visit the Union County Historical Society website at www.historyohio.com.

The Museum is open every Wednesday 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. mid-May through mid-November and the 3rd Saturdays of the month from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Special tours are available by request. Call Bo Johnstone at (937)644-0568.