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IT'S TIME TO VOTE!

"I Do" on the Square

Eighteen Medina businesses are giving away a free wedding. And *you* get to decide which couple wins.

by MimiVanderhaven

Eighteen diverse Medina businesses, each offering products or services of interest to area brides, have joined forces to give away a free wedding to a deserving couple. The promotion, dubbed "I Do on the Square," is also drawing attention to Medina's historic town square, which is where the June wedding will take place.

The judges have narrowed down the many entries to three finalist couples who are being profiled inside Mimi's zoned editions in and around Medina County. However, Mimi is so tickled with the outcome that she wanted to introduce the finalists to more of her readers via this column.

First, here's how to vote:

Simply go to Mimi's Facebook page (find it at Facebook.com/Vanderhaven) and click "I Do on the Square." Then select the couple you feel most deserves a fairy tale wedding. You must cast your vote by April 26, 2012. Want to see them

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by Benjamin Margalit/Margalit Studio

Roger Begue's *Ohio Painting & Pressure Wash* just finished painting the historic Jonathan Goldsmith House located at the Western Reserve Historical Society's Hale Farm and Village. Find out how he did it—and why you might want to have him paint your home, too. See page 5.

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PAINTING Hale Farm AND VILLAGE

COVER STORY



Photos by Benjamin Margalit/Margalit Studio

The Jonathan Goldsmith House, which is now located on the grounds of the Western Reserve Historical Society's Hale Farm and Village, was spared from demolition and relocated from Willoughby, Ohio in 1973.

Here's what happened when the Western Reserve Historical Society chose Roger Begue's *Ohio Painting Pressure Wash* to paint the historic Jonathan Goldsmith House.

by **Patricia Nugent**
Contributing Writer

When *Ohio Painting & Pressure Wash* founder Roger Begue got the word that the Western Reserve Historical Society was seeking bids to paint the Jonathan Goldsmith House, the professional-baseball-player-turned-house-painter threw his hat in the ring.

"I have always admired the work of the Western Reserve Historical Society and I had been through the Jonathan Goldsmith House several times on my visits to Hale Farm and Village," Roger says. "I saw it as an honor that we might have a chance to paint this home."

Roger visited the house again, this time as a potential contractor. He met with the Society's preservation team to learn about the highly specific specifications and procedures demanded in the bid request, then he put together his estimate.

He got the job. "We have a very good relationship with a number of quality painting contractors in the area," explains Siegfried Buerling, Director of Properties Emeritus for the Western Reserve Historical Society. "But we also have a responsibility to our supporters to be good stewards of the financial contributions they entrust to us. Not only did we discover that Roger was qualified to do the work and that he had a good reputation, his bid was the lowest—by far."

But that should come as no surprise. In his 30+ years in business, Roger has painted over 6,000 residential homes in Northeast Ohio, enabling him to develop systems and economies of scale that frequently result in the lowest estimates for painting wood, aluminum, and even vinyl siding.

But this home was different.

"I saw it as an honor that we might have a chance to paint this home."

About the Jonathan Goldsmith House

One of the most important responsibilities of the Western Reserve Historical Society is the preservation of historic buildings. Without this group's efforts, some of Northeast Ohio's most significant architectural treasures would have simply disappeared—victims of time, neglect, and, ultimately, the wrecking ball.

One such structure is the Jonathan Goldsmith House, which is now located on the grounds of the Western Reserve Historical Society's Hale Farm and Village. The home was spared from demolition by the Society and relocated from Willoughby, Ohio in 1973.

Goldsmith, the most significant master builder and architect of the early Western Reserve, designed and built the home for the William Peck Robinson family around 1831. And, as Siegfried points out, it must be preserved properly.

"We typically paint each of our historical buildings about every five to seven years," he explains. "These are very old structures

and they must be maintained carefully, with an eye toward both preservation and authenticity."

For example, unlike most 20th century suburban homes that often need a good pressure washing before painting, the 180-year-old wood siding on the Jonathan Goldsmith House cannot be subjected to that kind of pressure. As a result, Roger and his team hand-scraped the home's siding and its elaborate carvings. He then used a gentle airless spray to deliver the paint and immediately back-brushed it with paintbrushes and rollers to work the paint into cracks and crevices.

"This process not only protects the home, it gives it a solid, uniform finish," Roger says.

Roger, Siegfried, and the preservation team worked with Sherwin-Williams to select the color, which was required to be historically accurate.

"We could not simply flake off an existing paint chip and take it to the paint store for color matching," Siegfried explains. "That would result in the wrong color. The paint had oxidized over the past few years and changed color. Instead, we relied on the original color we determined during the initial restoration. That was based on our analysis of the paint we discovered on the home, combined with our knowledge of finishes available in 1831."

The Jonathan Goldsmith House appears to be yellow with white trim, but look closely and you'll see that the trim is actually a very pale yellow, not a true white.

"That is an important distinction," Siegfried notes.

The specs developed by the Western

Reserve Historical Society also included specific restrictions about painting the windows. "We are not allowed to tape windows because the tape can damage old glass," Siegfried adds. "Roger had to paint the dozens of windows by hand, removing any loose putty and applying a special kind of putty. A home like this must be treated as if it were a piece of antique furniture."

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on the cover

A natural athlete, Roger signed with the Kansas City Royals system in 1978, then played with the Detroit Tigers and New York Mets systems—each time as pitcher. He learned to paint houses in the off-season.

Back to the Future: Painting Your House

The Jonathan Goldsmith House was a special project for Roger. His Ohio Painting and Pressure Wash is an exterior residential painting company, meaning they specialize in aluminum-, vinyl- and wood-sided homes typically built between the end of World War II and today.

“Ohio Painting and Pressure Wash, Inc. warrants the application of the finish coat of paint for a period of fifteen years from the date the final finish coat is applied.”

—Actual warranty statement

“Spray painting aluminum and other more modern siding gives it a finished factory look,” Roger explains. “You spray paint aluminum for the same reason you spray paint a vehicle: You want a smooth look. By

spraying you don’t get brush strokes or roller marks that can easily trap dirt on aluminum siding. And if you prep the surface properly, the paint can last for many years.”

Make that 15 years.

Many contractors are reluctant to offer a warranty over 10 years, especially in Northeast Ohio’s harsh climate. But Roger offers a 15-year warranty certificate, which is signed by both the customer and himself.

The secret to the lengthy warranty, Roger insists, is proper prep work, which includes hand scraping any loose paint then pressure washing (except when historic preservation prevents it).

“Old paint oxidizes and turns into a chalky dust,” Roger reveals. “Just wipe your hand over siding with old paint and the chalk will come off on your fingers. There is also dirt and grime. All of this must be removed so we can paint a clean surface. Otherwise the paint will not adhere correctly.”

Roger’s company also employs proprietary techniques to repair and repaint siding that was not properly prepped and painted in the past. “If the siding is peeling and cracking, we can fix it,” Roger insists. “And the new paint job can still last for 15 years.”

But you can bet the Western Reserve Historical Society won’t wait that long.

For more information about Ohio Painting and Pressure Wash, Inc. call 330-730-8344. You may also e-mail Roger at roger@OPPW.com or visit his website at www.OPPW.com.