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William E. Metzger Jr. Memorial is Relocated as Part of Eagle Scout Project

The Allen County Museum is pleased to share information about an important project relevant to the museum collection. Jon Frueh Jr, a senior at Elida High School, is currently engaged in the completion of his Eagle Scout Project. For his project he has taken on the task of redesigning and relocating the William E. Metzger Jr. memorial on Reservoir Road. The original memorial was dedicated in 1956 and was refurbished in 1993.

The new design is in the shape of a three bladed propeller and will include images of 2dLt Metzger, his Medal of Honor citation and the bronze tablet used in the original memorial. The new memorial will be re-located 200 yards to the east of the original and will be easily accessible from the parking lot. The strikingly modern appearance of the design and its close proximity to the off-road parking lot will ensure greater exposure of the memorial and the story of the Last Flight of the Lady Jeanette.

The Allen County Museum displays Metzger's Medal of Honor award as part of our Wall of Valor exhibition located in the lower level of the Museum. William E. Metzger Jr. and Leonard F. Mason were two local recipients of the medal and predecessors for the 22 Medal of Honor recipients in the 21st century who have received the Medal for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in the War on Terror.

A dedication is currently set for Saturday, November 9, 2019 at the parking lot at the northeast corner of Metzger Lake Reservoir on Reservoir Road. The date of the dedication will be 75 years to the day that William E. Metzger Jr. was killed in his last act of valor.

Larry Huffman, who is a Board Trustee for the museum is working to help raise money in support of the project. Several businesses have already agreed to offer support for the project through in-kind donations of materials. If you would like to support this historically significant project, please contact Mr. Huffman at (419)224 1981. Donations of any size are welcome. Checks should be made payable to "Eagle Scout Project" with a notation in the memo that reads "Jon Frueh".

We encourage you to visit the museum to see the artifacts relating to the story of William E. Metzger Jr. The Allen County Museum is located at 620 West Market Street, Lima, Ohio 45801. Museum hours are Tuesday-Friday 1:00-5:00; Saturday and Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m. Contact Amy Craft at 419.222.9426 or visit us at www.allencountymuseum.org for more information.