



## **Rice Family Blacksmith Shop to become a reality with timber raising event September 12**

**For Immediate Release – September 9, 2008**

Moreston Heritage Village at Grey Roots is set to grow again with a timber raising event on **Friday, September 12, 2008 at 12 p.m.** The timbers for the Rice Family Blacksmith Shop will be lifted into their new home by a crane near the Bluewater Garage and the 1920s Sawmill.

The new Blacksmith Shop was a project conceived by the Rice family, a local family with a history of blacksmithing dating back to the 1800s. Using authentic timber framing techniques, tools, and donated barn timbers from the Saugeen Conservation Authority, volunteers got to work during weekend building bees that started in October 2007. The Rice family provided a significant portion of the financial and volunteer support needed to bring the Blacksmith Shop to life. In addition to the Rice family's contributions, there has been considerable support from the community and local timber framers. With over 25 dedicated volunteers and over 1250 hours logged toward the project, the Blacksmith shop timbers are ready to be lifted.

"It is exciting to reach this point in time where the timbers are ready to go up. This project has come about through the desire and dedication of the Rice family, and the many volunteers who have worked very hard on the project, it is another great example of the community working together," says Brian Manser, Manager of Grey Roots Museum & Archives.

Volunteers plan to complete the Blacksmith Shop with board and batton siding, pole rafters, and cedar shingling by the winter. Grey Roots plans to open the Rice Family Blacksmith Shop for school tours in the spring of 2009, and to the public next summer with daily blacksmithing demonstrations.

### **Timber Raising Event Details:**

**Date: September 12, 2008**

**Time: 12 p.m.**

**Location: Moreston Heritage Village at Grey Roots, near the Bluewater Garage**

**Details: The public and media are welcome to attend**

**About Grey Roots Museum & Archives:**

Grey Roots Museum & Archives has grown and developed into a unique facility from the County Museum's beginning in 1955 and the later establishment of a County Archives in 2000 in order to promote and preserve the heritage of Grey County. With the consolidation of the Grey County Museum, Grey County Archives, and Tourism in 2004, Grey Roots has become a multi-faceted attraction. Innovative and informative interpretive programs and demonstrations, rotating exhibits, a heritage village, archival resources and superior customer service come together to create an exciting and educational visitor experience.

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