

3/21/2003 Moran Announces Funding to Restore Historic Shelter

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\$8,000 Grant for Oberlin Park Building

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that funding to improve the historic stone shelter house of Sappa Park in Oberlin has been included in the final spending agreement for the 2003 fiscal year. \$8,000 has been designated for improvements to the well and septic system for drinking water and functioning restrooms at the historic building.

"Within the walls of this shelter house are not just a place for community meetings, but a part of Decatur County history and a part of our state's history," Moran said. "The people of the Oberlin community have volunteered their time and effort into preserving this piece of history, and this funding will assist them in that endeavor."

The stone shelter house was constructed in 1936. The shelter house has been minimally maintained as a community meeting place, but its condition has deteriorated. In recent years, the Oberlin community developed a plan for the future of the rustic stone shelter house. Last year, the community raised the funds and volunteered their time to replace the roof.

Moran first heard of the community effort and the need for additional funding for the shelter house at a town hall meeting in Oberlin. This grant is a result of that meeting.

"We're very pleased to receive this grant from the federal government, and we appreciate all of Congressman Moran's assistance in making it happen," Jack Benton, Chairman of the Sappa Park Restoration Committee, said. "The community has really come together to make this project happen, and we're looking forward to restoring the shelter to its original condition."

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