By Scott Shaffer, News Times Editor

On Saturday, July 2, there will be a celebration from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM in front of the Blackford County Historical Society at 321 North High Street in Hartford City. There will be free hot dogs and ice cream as well as an open house to celebrate the completion of the renovations to the Hartford City Public Library across the street. The highlight of the event will be the dedication and unveiling of the new clock in front of the Historical Society at noon.

The idea for the clock came about as Sinuard Castelo, of the Blackford County Historical Society was visiting the Indiana University campus in Bloomington in the fall of 2019. She took some photos during the visit. The one day she approached Hartford City Urban Greenscape Commission President Dustin George, with a photo of a clock and asked him if he could have something like that done somewhere in Hartford City. "If anyone can get this done, you can," she said.

That was a great deal of pressure, I had a lot on my table and couldn’t do it immediately, but when I found the time, I began looking into companies that make clocks of that sort," explained George. "I looked into a handful of companies before deciding on the Verdin Company of Cincinnati, Ohio," he continued. "I liked the fact that they are family-owned and operated for six generations, and at least relatively local," said George.

The Verdin Company began when two brothers, Francis de Sales and Michael Verdin, came to the Cincinnati area from France in 1835. The brothers started a company, Verdin Brothers, in 1835. The business has been family-owned and operated for six generations, and at least relatively local," said George.

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