

PRESS RELEASE

RELEASE: ASAP

For more information, contact Ric Prater: 937-962-2446

Harrison Township
Preble County Bicentennial Celebration
Saturday, April 26, 2008
2:00 – 5:00
Tri-County North Multi-Purpose Room
Lewisburg, Ohio

Crossing the northern townships of Preble County is the Road that helped build our Nation. The Historic National Road (running along current day US Route 40) was the first federally funded Highway (1806). As of 2002, the Historic National Road has been designated as a nationally recognized Scenic Byway. This designation runs from Baltimore, Maryland to East St. Louis, Illinois.

Harrison Township's Bicentennial event will include a celebration of the Historic National Road, featuring a presentation: "The Past, Present and Future of the Ohio Historic National Road All-American Scenic Byway" by keynote speaker, **Thea Walsh**. Thea is the Director of the Clark County-Springfield Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC), a locally appointed Metropolitan Planning Organization. Her office holds the contract for administrative services for the Ohio National Road Association. She is the current President of the National Road Alliance.

In the mid 1990's a non-profit organization, the National Road Alliance (a six state organization) formed with the intent to get a National Scenic Byway designation for the National Road. The National Road Alliance has worked to advocate for various multi-state projects on the byway. Since 2002, the Ohio National Road Association (an exclusively Ohio National Road focused non-profit entity) has formed and worked to promote, preserve and enhance the Ohio National Road.

In addition to our keynote speaker, there will be an opportunity for those in attendance to share their memories of our township, as well sharing tales as told to them by their ancestors. Current and former Township residents who are descendants of Harrison Township founding families, including a descendant of Commodore Preble, will be in attendance and available for casual conversation. Additionally, Villages within the township and other organizations of historical interest will be represented.

Harrison Township's Bicentennial event will be held **Saturday, April 26, 2008 at Tri-County North School in the Multi-purpose room**. Doors will open at 1:30 with the program beginning at 2:00. The meal (roast pork, baked beans, potato salad, chips, cake and beverage) will be available after 3:30. Meal donation: \$6.00. Door prizes will be offered.

Come join us as we celebrate Preble County's Bicentennial!



HARRISON TOWNSHIP

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

2:00 – 5:00 PM

(DOORS OPEN AT 1:30)

TRI-COUNTY NORTH SCHOOL MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

\$6.00 DONATION

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 2:00-3:00 PM | “OHIO NATIONAL ROAD”
THEA WALSH |
| 3:00-3:30 PM | TALES OF OUR TOWNSHIP
(REMINISCING WITH THE
AUDIENCE) |
| 3:30-5:00 PM | ROAST PORK, POTATO
SALAD, BAKED BEANS,
CHIPS, ROLL & CAKE,
COFFEE, TEA, ORANGE
DRINK |

REPRESENTATIVES FROM:

**LEWISBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 200 ANNIVERSARY
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 200 ANNIVERSARY
VERONA – BEV REED
LEWISBURG – FRED SCHREEL & HELEN FELTON
PREBLE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE**