



Preble County Historical Society, Inc.

7693 Swartsel Rd.

Eaton, Ohio 45320

**NEWS RELEASE**

RELEASE: ASAP

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***40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration & Old Fashioned Independence Celebration***  
**Preble County Historical Center**

The Preble County Historical Society proudly celebrates its 40th Anniversary on Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. 40 years ago, a group of dedicated volunteers had the foresight and wisdom to not only recognize the importance of the history in Preble County, but to preserve that history for future generations. Through generous community donations, the mission of preserving and protecting our natural heritage, as well as artifacts, memories, and ideas continues to this day. We want to thank all of you for the support you have given the Preble County Historical Society over these many years.

We welcome and invite you to join the celebration and participate in the preservation of Preble County's heritage at this year's event. We look forward to continuing our mission and goals for another 40 years and many more. *"There's an Exciting Past in Your Future"*

For those wanting to kick back, relax, and get away from the hustle and bustle of the busy holiday schedule; plan to spend Sunday, **July 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the Preble County Historical Center! A tribute to our country's Independence will be held from 12 noon–5pm. The afternoon is planned for family fun so plan to spend the entire day! The Historical Center is located at 7693 Swartsel Rd., Eaton, OH. (1 mile N. of Gratis, 6 miles SE of Eaton off St. Rt. 122, only 1 mile from St. Rt. 725). Admission is FREE! Call 937-787-4256 for more information, visit our web site: [www.pchs.preblecounty.com](http://www.pchs.preblecounty.com), or visit us on Facebook Email: [preblecountyhistoricalsociety@frontier.com](mailto:preblecountyhistoricalsociety@frontier.com).

The Historical Center opens at 12 noon. The **National Trail Steel Drum Band performs at 1pm**, followed by the sensational group, **Glass Halo at 2pm**. Over the past two years, Glass Halo has made headlines in both local and regional press, making several television, radio, and print appearances. The band is also in regular rotation on both online and broadcast radio stations across the Midwest, and they have received overwhelming support from several Indianapolis area stations, including X103 WRZX, WITT, WSVX, and WHJE. While people seem to have a notoriously difficult time comparing Glass Halo's sound to specific bands, their "inspiring lyrics, anthemic choruses, catchy pop structures, winding, driven guitars, and an excellent stage presence" (Bryan Johnson, [www.funcityfinder.com](http://www.funcityfinder.com)) has resonated with audiences both young and old. Those who have seen the band live always show up with a few new faces in tow, and those new faces invariably become familiar faces. "After having seen them, I was trying to find whom they sounded like. I can't. They are unique. They aren't really rock. They aren't really pop either. They are a mixture of passion and blues tossed into a blender with the Killers and a dash of Wilco," (Ricky Lee Potts, [www.rickyleepotts.com](http://www.rickyleepotts.com)).

In recognition of the Society's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Sara Swartsel Hall of Honor was instituted. Each year a deceased resident or deceased former resident of Preble County who contributed greatly to the county, state, or nation by his or her achievements will be selected for the Sara Swartsel Hall of Honor.

At 3pm on July 3, the Inaugural Recipients will be recognized. The recipients of the First Annual Sarah Swartsel Hall of Honor are as follows: Governor Andrew Litner Harris, Seth D. Schlotterbeck, and Heber and Helen Felton. To qualify for the honor, the person must be deceased and must have lived in Preble County at some point in his/her life. Additionally, he/she must meet one or more of the following requirements: Be outstanding in achievement in agriculture, arts, professions, politics, public service, education, sports, or a reputation that brings honor to the county; or personal commitment and service to the county; or had a lasting impact on the county. As recorders of the history of Preble County, the *Register Herald* and the PCHS are natural partners in co-sponsoring the Sara Swartsel Hall of Honor.

Following the Hall of Honor presentations, the Eaton Community Band will offer a rousing performance beginning at 3:30pm.

In addition, throughout the afternoon: old-fashioned cakewalks, traditional woodworking, kid's games, & contests, activities are offered for everyone's enjoyment!

A lunch stand will be open featuring homemade cakes, pies, homemade ice cream, sandwiches, salads, and drinks. The 1813 Lewisburg Log House, 1860's era Sayler-Swartzel House & Gift Shop, Smokehouse, Bank Barn, Exhibit Hall, and hiking trails will all be open for touring. Visitors will also have the opportunity to hike the trails and take a wagon ride trip to the newly created wetland area. The Preble County Historical Center is a hidden-gem in the southwest Ohio area, 255-acres of forested land, creek, streams, farmland, hiking trails, and historic museum buildings. Please visit our web site: [www.pchs.preblecounty.com](http://www.pchs.preblecounty.com).