

For more information, contact:
Samantha Brown
Manager, Development & PR
Historic New Harmony
812.682.4488
sabrown1@usi.edu



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRADITIONAL FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN NEW HARMONY

Patriotic speeches, music and an outdoor picnic make this a family-fun event

NEW HARMONY, IN (June 5, 2008) – The town of New Harmony will commemorate its 193rd July 4th celebration in much the same way that it was celebrated during the early 19th century. The celebration will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Rapp-Owen Granary with patriotic speeches, music, as well as a reading of the Declaration of Independence by community member, Andrew Wilson. This event is **free** to attend and open to the public. The featured speaker is “Miss Jane Addams” founder of Hull House, the early 20th century settlement house in Chicago. “Miss Addams” last spoke in New Harmony in 1899. Her appearance is “re-created” by Dr. Martha Raske, a social work faculty member at the University of Southern Indiana and resident of New Harmony.

The celebratory festivities will move to Maclure Park in New Harmony where the community picnic and decorated golf cart parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. Music is being provided by the Bob Minnette and the Dixieland Society. The picnic will feature a variety of food items for sale, including hot dogs, hamburgers, bratwurst, cobbler, and ice cream. Games for kids of all ages will be available.

In the tradition of New Harmony’s founding Harmonists, free (root) beer will be available for all attendees. During their early celebrations of the Fourth of July, members of the Harmonie Society would invite area residents into their community offering locally brewed beer to their guests.

New Harmony’s Traditional Fourth of July Celebration is sponsored by the New Harmony Kiwanis, the Friends of the Working Men’s Institute, and Historic New Harmony.

About Historic New Harmony:

Historic New Harmony is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve New Harmony’s utopian legacy by inspiring renewal and fellowship between people and communities through its programs and collections. Historic New Harmony is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. For more information on Historic New Harmony, please visit www.newharmony.org.

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