Video of Township's 1971 Bicentennial Parade to Air on TV 25 & the Web
Release Date: April 16, 2010
Press Release:
For more information: call Tim Stollery (908) 625-8250
Can you imagine seeing a huge parade marching down Route 206 to the intersection of Amwell Road? In this parade, there would be Scouts, floats, clowns throwing candy to children, marching bands, local politicians . . . . the whole deal. Does it seem possible?

Recently, Hillsborough Historic commission members George Redington and Arnold Radi viewed such a parade, but it wasn't in their imaginations: It was Hillsborough's May 29, 1971 Bicenntennial Celebration parade captured on DVD video. Thanks to former township resident David Leinenbach - who donated the priceless video memories to the township - now any Hillsborough resident will be able to watch the parade and reminisce about the days when Hillsborough had more cows than people and you could safely walk across Route 206.

"This video is like a time capsule, and I hope you will share it and preserve it for current and future residents of Hillsborough," said Leinenbach, 44, when presenting the DVD to the commission members. Leinenbach, who currently resides with his wife and two children in Bucks County, PA, spoke of how grateful he is that his parents Dottie and Lee Leinenbach made the effort to film memories of what life was like for himself, his brother and three sisters - growing up in a rural farm town he describes as "...a great place to grow up, where most residents knew each other."

Leinenbach, who lived on Winding Way and moved away from Hillsborough in 1984, said that when he transferred the film clips of Hillsborough's Bicenntennial Parade and saw images of hundreds of people gathered on Route 206 between 7-Eleven and the Hillsborough Middle School (now Hillsborough Elementary School), he knew it would be a matter of interest to the town. He e-mailed Mayor Frank DelCore through the township website, and Mayor DelCore put him in touch with Historic Commission chairman George Redington, who was very happy to accept the valuable donation.

The film clips were digitized and edited with some graphics and music added by Historic Preservation Commission member Tim Stollery. After that, the finished DVD was handed over to township information technology director Jim Haurey, who fed the film into the township's computer server.

The video will air daily on TV25 at 9AM and 9PM. Residents can also view video township's website *here*. In addition, there will be a link to the parade video in the upcoming Hillsborough Township electronic newsletter, and DVD copies will be put in circulation at the library.

Notable scenes from the parade video include the Hillsborough Bicentennial Queen, the 21st Air Force Band from McGuire Air Force Base; Santa Claus tossing candy to kids (yes, Santa made a rare springtime appearance for the big event); Civil War reenactors; and a young woman twirling fire while blind-folded. Township volunteer firefighters and rescue squad members will also enjoy seeing their 1970s counterparts and some of the vintage equipment they displayed for the parade.

**Caption for photo: Hillsborough Township Historic Preservation Commission members George Redington, and Arnold Radi take a look at film clips of the town's 1971 Bicentennial Parade, which were donated by former resident David Leinenbach.*