

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008**  
**EVENT DATE: AUGUST 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2008**  
**Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival**

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**For Detailed Up-to-Date Festival Information, Visit [www.DanEmmettFestival.org](http://www.DanEmmettFestival.org)**

### **7th Annual Festival Bell Auction features Knox County Bicentennial**

MOUNT VERNON - The 2008 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival will be auctioning its seventh series of Bells this year during the event. As in previous years, the 2008 bell is a bronze casting prepared by the Verdin Bell Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, who also cast the Ohio Bicentennial and the Mount Vernon Bicentennial Bells. The previous auctions have been a tremendous success, raising substantial money for the benefit of the Festival.

Twelve bells are auctioned each year to create a series of annual Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival Bells. The bells are individually cast, are unique, and year specific. They are cast to resemble the 2003 Knox County Ohio Bicentennial Bell and the 2005 Mount Vernon Bicentennial Bell.

The bells artwork is designed and prepared by Gambier artisan Tim Yoder, of Dezin It. The 2008 bell commemorates the county's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday with a beautifully etched Knox County Bicentennial Logo. On the reverse side, the Bell bears the year and a beautiful script of the Festival name. Each handcrafted Bell is 8" tall, individually numbered by grading, and will be provided with a certificate of authenticity. The Bells have become a great collector's item, especially for those who have been able to secure each annual Bell in the series. A photo of this year's bell is on the Festival web site. This is the only Knox Bicentennial bell that will be made, there will not be a series released to the general public as in past bicentennial years.

The "Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival Bell" auction will be held at the 2008 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival on Saturday, August 9th from the First-Knox Main Stage on the Square at approximately 8:00 p.m. preceding the live concert by Micky Dolenz of the Monkees.

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In addition to the bells, a one-of-a-kind item has been added this year. A Micky Dolenz hand painted portrait will be auctioned, with an original autograph by Micky. This is an exclusive and original item that is not available anywhere else, only at this auction, this year, at the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival. There will also be few Monkee's poster replicas, some with original autographs by Micky for auction.

Highlights of the Festival this year include performances by Micky Dolenz of The Monkees, Phil Dirt and the Dozers, the All-Ohio State Fair Band, Knox Idol, and a wide variety of other local musicians and performers. A juried fine arts and crafts fair, a homemades and trades show, a flower show, a quilt show, a motorcycle show, and an antique & classic car show are also scheduled as part of the four day Festival.

The 2008 Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival runs August 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Mount Vernon with various activities each day. For detailed scheduling information, visit the Festival website at [www.DanEmmettFestival.org](http://www.DanEmmettFestival.org). The 2008 Festival is made possible through the contributions of Ariel, First-Knox National Bank, Time Warner Cable, WMVO, WQIO, WNZR, I-Conn Video Productions, Mount Vernon News, and the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau. For additional information, contact the Festival at (740) 392-FEST (3378) or email at [director@DanEmmettFestival.org](mailto:director@DanEmmettFestival.org).

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Bell Photos Attached

Monkees Auction Materials Scans Attached.