

## TUSCARAWAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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# County Parks Department excited for opening of I-77 Towpath Trail Bridge

The multi-purpose trail system in Tuscarawas County has reached a new milestone that will actually stretch well beyond the county's borders.

The Tuscarawas County Parks Department will dedicate the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and Bridge at Fort Laurens Saturday, October 27, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. Local and regional officials will be joined by U.S. Representative Zack Space and U.S. Representative Ralph Regula in celebrating the completion of the bridge. Parking is available at Fort Laurens State Memorial. The general public is invited to attend this free community celebration and refreshments will be served immediately following the dedication in the Fort Laurens Museum.

The Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and Bridge is an important connection from Bolivar to Zoar on the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. It will connect the county's portion of the trail with the remainder of the system that extends north to Cleveland, as well as offer potential future connections south to the rest of Tuscarawas County.

"Tuscarawas County is an outdoor recreational paradise for hikers, bikers, and horseback riders, and almost any type of activity there is," said Jane Clay, clerk for Tuscarawas County Commissioners and a member of the advisory committee. "This bridge is a visible landmark that will create interest and encourage visitors to seek more information about what is available throughout the county."

Members of the Tuscarawas County Parks Department Advisory Committee believe the completion of the I-77 bridge is an important step in helping trail system visitors discover the many opportunities that also are available in the county.

The Tuscarawas County Parks Department Advisory Committee meets once monthly. The Advisory committee consists of 16 members appointed by Tuscarawas County Commissioners and has been holding monthly meetings. Through the guidance of the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition, the Advisory Committee is implementing the Tuscarawas County Trail and Green Space, including over 25 trail and green space

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