

# National Rd. sign to be dedicated

US 40 is best known as The National Road but at one time many people once referred to it as "The Corduroy Road."

That's because it once was built of logs laid side by side transversely (perpendicular to the direction of the road) and while it was not the smoothest of surfaces, it was better travel than through mud and over ruts.

By 1836 the National Road, which starts in Baltimore, Maryland, ran as far west as the current Ohio 503 in Lewisburg and it was another three years before it was continued on to Richmond, Indiana.

This Sunday, May 23, at 2 p.m., the Ohio National Road Association will be dedicating a National Road interpretive sign at the northwest corner of US 40 and Ohio 503.

State officials and Preble County Commissioners are expected to be on hand for a dedica-

tion that is open to the public.

In conjunction, a circa 1830 house, recently restored, on the north east corner of the intersection will be open to public tours from noon to 8 p.m.

The house, restored by owners Jerry and Jacki Gross, may have been a collection point for the tolls that were once charged for using the road.

There will be a fee of \$3 per person (children age 12 and under are free) to tour the home with proceeds going to Lewisburg Fire Department and Rescue Squad.

Jacki said the house, purchased a year ago, was at one time divided into a double and in deplorable condition, but now has been restored to its original floor plan. She said they are wanting to use the home to benefit non-profit organizations, which could use the house for meetings.