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### **DEAN WILLIAMS ELKHART DINNER LECTURE AUGUST 31 – THE MAKING OF THE FILM “ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN LOGAN COUNTY” - AN OFFICIAL ILLINOIS BICENTENNIAL EVENT**

Dean Williams presents The Making of a Historical Film, "Abraham Lincoln in Logan County" offered by the Elkhart Historical Society at the Wild Hare Cafe in Elkhart. The doors will open at 4:45 pm and the dinner will begin promptly at 5:30 pm.

This is a special official Illinois Bicentennial project celebrating President Abraham Lincoln and the local community. Elkhart Historical Society is partnering with Lincoln College and the Central Illinois Film Commission to update the film, "From Surveyor to President, A. Lincoln in Logan County."



"It is with the cooperation of the original videographer, Dean Williams, his staff, Lincoln College and the support of Paul Beaver, that the Elkhart Historical Society was able to add additional footage to the 2003 film. Then with assistance from the Illinois Route 66 Scenic Byway organization, the film was added to the Bicentennial Calendar of events. Generous sponsors helped to provide the funding for the re-release of 'From Surveyor to President, A. Lincoln in Logan County' which is part of Logan County's celebration of the 200th anniversary of Illinois' Statehood," said Gillette Ransom of the Elkhart Historical Society.

The film, originally produced in 2003, is being revised to include footage of the new Lincoln Heritage Museum, highlights of the Lincoln/Oglesby connection, and additional information on President Lincoln's support of the university that was to be built and named for him. The entire footage of the original film was shot in Logan County, and many at sites that are still in existence, and many of the extras are from Logan County as well.

"These are exactly the type of events the Bicentennial Commission is proud to support during our 200th birthday year," said Representative Tim Butler, a member of Illinois Bicentennial Commission. "Abraham Lincoln and Route 66 are two of our greatest historical and cultural assets in Illinois. To have this program highlighting Lincoln at a stop right off the Mother Road is a wonderful way to tie together two icons of our State's rich history."

The film will be featured at the August 31st dinner lecture in Elkhart as part of the bicentennial events planned, with video copies available to the public for purchase. The cost of the evening is \$40 per person which includes a donation of \$10 to the Elkhart Historical Society to defray expenses. For complete menu and reservation form, please see the website: [www.elkharthistoricalsociety.org](http://www.elkharthistoricalsociety.org). Reservations are required and should be made by calling 217-947-2238. Seating is limited.