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## Guernsey County Leaders Attend America 250–Ohio Kickoff at Statehouse

Cambridge, Ohio — January 16, 2026 — Guernsey County leaders joined communities from across Ohio on Wednesday, January 7, at the **Ohio Statehouse** for the official **America 250–Ohio Kickoff Celebration**, marking the start of statewide preparations for the nation's 250th anniversary in 2026.

Representing Guernsey County were **America 250–Ohio Liaisons Guernsey County Commissioner Bill Cowgill** and **Debbie Robinson**, Executive Director of the **Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau**, also in attendance was **Guernsey County Historian Rick Booth**.

The kickoff event featured remarks from **Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Todd Kleismit**, Executive Director of America 250-Ohio, who spoke about Ohio's pivotal role in the nation's history and the importance of local communities in telling America's story. A student perspective was shared by **Dallas Harris** of Cleveland, highlighting how younger generations will help carry the America 250 legacy forward.

A memorable moment of the program included the writing and performance of "*The Ohio Song*" by **90-year-old Silvia Miller**, celebrating Ohio's past and future through music. The event was emceed by **Colleen Marshall**, NBC4 anchor and longtime Ohio journalist.

**"America 250–Ohio gives Guernsey County a once-in-a-generation opportunity to celebrate who we are and share our story with pride," said Robinson. "From our historic downtown and villages and landmarks to the people who continue to shape our community, this year-long celebration allows us to honor our past while inspiring future generations."**

Guernsey County's participation reflects a strong commitment to honoring local history and engaging residents throughout the America 250–Ohio celebration. Planning is underway for events and activities that will showcase and celebrate Guernsey County's heritage and people. A growing list of events and programs can be found at <https://visitguernseycounty.com/local-events/guernsey-county-america-250-ohio/>

For more information about all of Guernsey County's attractions and events, log onto [VisitGuernseyCounty.com](http://VisitGuernseyCounty.com), call 740-432-2022 or contact [destination@VisitGuernseyCounty.com](mailto:destination@VisitGuernseyCounty.com).



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