

**Heartland BancCorp Announces
39% increase in 2nd Quarter and Year To Date 2003 Earnings
Directors Boost Cash Dividend 16%**

For Immediate Release:

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Tiney M. McComb, Chairman, President & CEO of Heartland BancCorp, parent company of Heartland Bank, today reported net income of \$1.021 million for the three months ended June 30, 2003, up 39% from the \$736 thousand for the second quarter of 2002. On a diluted earnings per share basis, the Corporation earned \$.77 for the three months ended June 30, 2003, up 40% compared to \$.55 per diluted common share for the 2nd quarter of 2002. The return on average assets and return on average equity for the three months ended June 30, 2003 were 1.23% and 15.36% compared to 1.09% and 13.45% respectively for the three months ended June 30, 2002. Year to date net income of \$1.888 million is up 39% compared to earnings of \$1,363 million for the first six months of 2002. Diluted earnings per common share of \$1.42 improved 39% over \$1.02 for the first six months of 2002. The return on average assets for the six months ended June 30, 2003 was 1.16% compared to 1.09% for the same period in 2002 while the return on average equity increased to 14.21% in 2003 compared to 13.45% for 2002.

McComb stated, "I am extremely pleased with our 2nd quarter and year to date 2003 financial results. They reflect our solid operating performance, asset growth and quality in a challenging economic environment. Improved core earnings resulting in increased net interest income and strong residential loan sales gains in 2003 produced the record quarterly and six month results despite continued historically low interest rates."

Non-interest income totaled \$1.649 million for the quarter ended June 30, 2003, up 59% from the \$1.040 million reported for the 2nd quarter of 2002. For the six months ended June 30, 2003, non-interest income amounted to \$3.021 million, an increase of 51% from \$1.997 million for the same period in 2002. The growth in non-interest income was primarily attributable to the increase in gains on loan sales. For the first six months of 2003 gains on loan sales totaled \$1.871 million, almost twice that reported during the same period of 2002 at \$946 thousand. As a result of continued lower interest rates, Heartland's subsidiary, Heartland Mortgage Corporation, has experienced heavy residential mortgage activity, predominantly refinancings that increase the amount of loans sold into the secondary market.

For the second quarter of 2003, non-interest expense totaled \$3.161 million, up \$485 thousand from the amount of non-interest expense recorded for the comparable period in 2002. For the six months ended June 30, 2003, non-interest expense totaled \$6.174 million compared to \$5.337 million for the same period of the prior year.

Heartland BancCorp recorded asset growth of 11% during the annual period ending June 30, 2003. Assets at June 30, 2003 totaled \$337.767 million, an increase of \$32.398 million over assets of \$305.370 million at June 30, 2002. Net loans increased \$14.664 million to \$232.430 million at June 30, 2003, up 7% compared to net loans of \$217.766 million at June 30, 2002. Deposits increased \$25.280 million during the past year to \$297.019 million at June 30, 2003. Non-interest bearing demand accounts increased 20% at June 30, 2003 compared to the same period in 2002.

Shareholders' equity of \$27.173 million increased 13% at June 30, 2003 compared to shareholders' equity of \$ 24.000 million at June 30, 2002. Shareholders' equity as a percent of assets was 8.04% at June 30, 2003 compared to 7.86% at June 30, 2002. McComb stated that our continued strong financial results have enabled us to repurchase 63,925 shares or 4.6% of Heartland BancCorp common shares outstanding since inception of our repurchase program.

I am further pleased to announce, in recognition of our strong 1st six month's financial performance and enhanced shareholder value, Heartland BancCorp's Board of Directors approved a 16% increase in Heartland BancCorp's quarterly cash dividend and declared a third quarter 2003 cash dividend of 10.35 cents per share to shareholders of record September 25, 2003, payable October 10, 2003. This dividend increase represents our appreciation to our shareholders for their support and loyalty as we celebrate Heartland BancCorp's 15-year anniversary.

Heartland Bank provides a complete line of deposit products from short to long term, insuring each depositor to \$100,000 and are accessible from any of our banking offices and ATMs, as well as from home or office using Heartland's telephone banking at 416-BANK or Internet banking at www.heartlandbank.com.

Heartland BancCorp is a registered Ohio bank holding company and the parent of Heartland Bank, which operates nine full-service banking offices. Heartland Bank operates its wholly owned subsidiary Heartland Mortgage Corporation. Alternative investment services are provided through Great American Advisors Inc. Heartland Bank is a member of the Federal Reserve, a member of the FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender. Heartland BancCorp is currently quoted on the over-the-counter (OTC) Bulletin Board Service under the symbol HLAN.

[HEARTLAND BANCCORP EARNINGS PROFILE ATTACHED]

Heartland BancCorp
Earnings Profile
Second Quarter and Year To Date
June 30, 2003 and 2002

Second Quarter

	2003	2002
Net Interest Income	\$2,985,905	\$2,676,206
Non Interest Income	1,648,600	\$1,040,099
Net Income	1,020,591	736,098
Basic Earnings Per Share	\$0.78	\$0.55
Diluted Earnings Per Share	\$0.77	\$0.55

Year To Date

Net Interest Income	\$5,893,263	\$5,231,066
Non Interest Income	3,021,489	1,997,363
Net Income	1,888,011	1,362,565
Basic Earnings Per Share	\$1.43	\$1.02
Diluted Earnings Per Share	\$1.42	\$1.02