John Hartman Trio Opens Music Year

Freeport native John Hartman and his trio on June 20 will open the historical society’s three program 2017 music season in the museum.

Kyle and Courtney

The group, featuring Hartman, Kyle Miller and his wife, the former Cortney Alber, will perform a combination of classic country, gospel and a few contemporary country songs.

The 7:30 p.m. Tuesday night program will be in the museum’s second floor LeRoy Wilson Theater. A one button elevator is available for handicapped visitors.

Complimentary snacks will be served after the performance. Information on tickets and the other two season programs is on page two.
Three Live Music Programs in 2017

Tuesday, June 20 — Freeport’s John Hartman and his trio will entertain with traditional country songs made popular by artists such as Hank Williams and Patsy Cline.

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Tuesday, July 18 — special treat when 16 members of the 50 voice Freeport Choral Society perform a selection of popular songs.

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Tuesday, Sept. 19 — An unusual group of five musicians called “Swing Billy RFD” will play “vintage honky tonk to western swing.”

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TICKET ORDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Program</th>
<th>Number of Tickets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 20, John Hartman Trio</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional country and folk</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 18, Freeport Choral Society</td>
<td>$12</td>
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<tr>
<td>An evening of popular music by 16 great voices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 19, Swing Billy RFD</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vintage honky tonk and western swing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One ticket for all three programs above</td>
<td>$33</td>
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TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED

Name

Address

City, state, zip

Phone or e-mail

Make payment to CAHS, P.O. Box 336, Cedarville, IL 61013. For information call Jim Bade at 815-563-4485 or e-mail bonniebade@comcast.net.

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1944 Killer Tornado Destroys Cedarville Farms

Seventy-three years ago on June 22, 1944, a twister slammed an 18-mile path through the Cedarville area killing three persons and injuring dozens of others. In addition, the winds demolished buildings on more than a dozen farms, killed hundreds of livestock and scattered household belongings and harvested crops over a wide area.

The 9:30 p.m. storm was most destructive in the Cedarville, Afolk, Dakota and Winslow areas.

Killed were Mrs. Glenn Hutchison, 22, who lived on the Lloyd Tiellkemeier farm between Cedarville and Afolk; Thomas Cummings, 30, of Rockford, and Deputy Sheriff Kenneth Addams, 34. Mrs. Hutchison's husband, 25, and the couple's 5-month-old son, Charles, survived.

This article is not meant to tell the complete story of the disaster, but to give to give an indication of its destructiveness through some of the photos that were taken during the days after the event.
A touch of Civil War authenticity was added by Austin Bowers left, and Don and Vickie Franz. Don played his fife along the parade route to the Cedarville Cemetery.

The early threat of rain failed to stop several hundred Cedarville residents and visitors from participating in the 2017 Memorial Day parade, cemetery ceremony and picnic lunch at the museum.

Stephen Franklin and Katie McGinnis, drum and trumpet.

Austin Bowers delivered the traditional reading of President Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address. Cedarville American Legion Cmdr. Steve Myers is behind him.

Rev. Bill Blomberg delivered the ceremony prayer.

Trinity Hurley, right, tossed the traditional flowers into Cedar Creek, under the watchful eye of her little sister Aurora.

A pause at Cedar Creek to salute the village’s naval dead.

Around the bend and into the cemetery.

A picnic is made for eating.

Thanks to Narcissa Engle, plenty of sweet things were available.

Photos by Lisa Goodwin.
Cedarville Quietly Edges into WW I: Part Two

By Jim Bade
CAHS President

For the citizens of the United States and by extension the residents of Cedarville, the opening days of the second quarter of 1917 were days of uncertainty bordering on apprehension as the possibility loomed closer that the country would be pulled into the carnage in Europe.

The possibility became reality when U.S. President Woodrow Wilson on April 2 asked congress to declare war on Germany and the senate on April 6 agreed by an 82 to 6 vote.

The senate vote obviously had no impact on the Freeport Journal Standard news column that was datelined April 4. Other than the litany of illnesses, visits and other trivia, the column was very upbeat starting with the news that restoration of the recently acquired community center building (a former church) was going nicely with the installation of a new roof now underway. The column's last paragraph was really full of hope.

"Harry Rutters' garage is nearing completion. With Rutters conducting a first class garage, Fink at wagon repairing and disc sharpening, Smith as painter and finisher and Stanton at plow sharpening and shoe-reshoeing, Cedarville can boast of being prepared to take care of most any kind of trouble that may come her way. If a tire explodes, a horse gets lame, or your wagon breaks, remember Cedarville can help you out."

But the picture of the village as an idyllic place that was safe from the turmoil of the rest of the world began to fade as the weeks of April and early May rolled by.

Yes, the Journal Standard continued to record the often mundane comings and goings of the several hundred residents.

On May 3 the seven young children of Mrs. Mae Smith of Buckeye township were declared dependent children in the juvenile court and were probated to Mrs. Vera Scott, secretary of the Bureau of Associated Charities, to obtain a good permanent home. The children's father had died a year ago and the mother was "not a fit person to care for the raising of the children inasmuch as she has committed deeds which it is alleged are beneath the dignity of a mother."

On May 8 the Chamber of Commerce declared that the road linking Freeport with Wisconsin "was one of the worst in the county and one of the most used."

However, mixed with these comments were items and news stories that recognized the world beyond Cedarville.

May 9: "Cedarville: On Wednesday p.m. of last week our citizens witnessed the raising of our national emblem on the grounds of our high school. A fine flag pole had been erected on school hill by some of our patriotic citizens. Our school children and teachers raised the flag to the singing of our national hymn. An appropriate program was rendered by the school. Several patriotic speeches were made by men of our village and now Old Glory may be seen waving on our school grounds in Cedarville."

May 9: "Cedarville: Chas. Dwyer returned from the west on Saturday, went to Rockford to enlist and on Monday took the examination which we are informed he passed, preparatory to becoming a U.S. soldier. (Dwyer was gassed on the battlefield on October 9, 1918, but he survived.)"

May 9: "Cedarville: Ray and Roy Bollman are both engaged in intensive farming at an early date. Roy at the home of Fred Breech and at Thomas Rigney's, both in the area of Scioto Mills. John Frank will do the clerking stint at the Bollman store for some time. (Roy and Ray were the young sons of John Bollman owner of the meat market on Cherry Street. The building is now a residence. Full time farming was often an accepted occupation for a military service exemption.)"

May 10: "Washington D.C.: In approving the house bill to increase the navy to 150,000 men and the marine corps to 30,000, the senate naval committee today inserted an amendment raising the pay of enlisted men in both services equally with the increase in the war arm bill, which gives a private not less than $25 per month."

May 14: "Freepost: Tearing down an American flag and endeavoring to trample on it resulted in some rough handling of an employee of the Stephens Motor company Saturday afternoon. The man escaped with his life but several of the officials of the company rushed him out of the building. Besides receiving a deserved beating, the man lost his job being immediately released from service by the company."

May 14: "Washington D.C.: Moved by pleas of Marshal Joffre and other members of the French and British war missions, President Wilson has decided to send American troops to the European firing line as soon as possible. (The first troops arrived June 26.)"

Cedarville, along with the rest of the country, just finished marking Memorial Day, a day set aside to honor those who died serving the United States. Originally the event was called Decoration Day and it was always on May 30, regardless of the day of the week. It received the name "Decoration Day" because that was when you decorated the graves of veterans.

This year, as in previous years, Cedarville celebrated the day with a short parade, a ceremony in the Cedarville Cemetery and a picnic lunch on the grounds of the museum. Years ago it was a more complex event that required much more planning and execution.

There was an association that met twice in late spring to organize an event that ultimately involved a Sunday evening sermon prior to a Decoration Day patriotic address in a public hall, a relatively large parade to the cemetery and the decoration of the graves of veterans by veterans.

The hand written minutes of the association for the 1917 event are specific. On Sunday, May 27, at 8 p.m. "the memorial sermon was preached in the Presbyterian Church by Rev. J. W. McGowan. Five old (Civil War) soldiers on the platform."

The second part of the 1917 event was postponed a day because of rain. Then a large crowd filled the Knights of the Globe Hall (once an Evangelical Church on Harrison Street) to endure a one hour and 20 minute address by Rev. James O'Malley. Following the talk, "the male quartet sang three appropriate selections."

Unfortunately the scheduled parade to the cemetery was given up on account of the muddy road. The old soldiers went over in J. Bollman's truck auto and done the decorating.

Thus, May of 1917 ended with a handful of surviving Civil War veterans decorating the graves of their comrades as the battlefields of Europe waited for more casualties of another war.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row

Cedarville World War I army members:

9 Vintage Films Free on Friday Nights

Nine Hollywood movies released during the thirty five years between 1940 and 1975 will be shown during the June and July Free Outdoor Movie Program on the north lawn of the Cedarville Museum.

The series opens Friday, June 2, with McHale's Navy starring the late Ernest Borgnine and Tim Conway. (1964)

The remainder of the schedule:

June 9 — Tammy and the Bachelor with Leslie Nielsen and Debbie Reynolds. (1967)

June 16 — Father of the Bride starring Elizabeth Taylor and Spencer Tracy (1950)

June 23 — Critics Choice with comedians Bob Hope and Lucille Ball. (1963)

June 30 — Apple Dumpling Gang with three laugh makers Bill Bixby, Don Knotts and Tim Conway. (1975)

July 7 — Christmas in July. A real oldie starring Dick Powell and Ellen Drew. (1940)

July 14 — The Shaggy Dog Laugh, laugh, with Fred MacMurray. (1959)

July 21 — Pollyana Young orphan Hayley Mills can solve any problem. (1960)

July 28 — Oklahoma Gordon MacRae, Shirley Jones, Rod Steiger etc. (1956)

Movies start at dusk. Move inside the museum in the event of rain. One button elevator to second floor theater for handicapped visitors. Bring your own lawn chair. Ground fogging for insects. Pop corn, soft drinks, coffee, candy all only 50 cents.