

Our Opinion

Statehood Day

A century of music will be recognized here this Saturday. One hundred years. To make music for a century seems remarkable.

It will be Statehood Day, when Ohioans pause for the observance sponsored by the Chillicothe Kiwanis Club. Featured will be the 100-year-old Adelphi Community Band, whose leader is approaching 90 himself. It seems a fitting tribute for the state's 177th birthday to include recognition of the cultural heritage provided by this band and another centennial honoree, Chillicothe cartoonist William (Billy) Ireland.

Statehood Day begins with a prayer breakfast sponsored by the Ross County Ministerial Association at 9 a.m. in the Trinity United Methodist Church. The Rev. Sivaji Subramaniam, president of the association and minister at the United Methodist church at Bainbridge, will preside.

The band presents the Statehood Day concert Saturday night at Chillicothe High School, alma mater of many illustrious performing artists.

The works of Ireland will be displayed at the Ross County Historical Society's museums all weekend. Through his gifted pen and home-honed humor, he gave a world weary of depression and war some chuckles in his 36 years as the Columbus Dispatch editorial cartoonist.

The Adelphi band and Ireland seem to typify what is best in America in devotion to community by seeking the joys of doing.