



NEWS RELEASE

CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 28, 2026

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[Into the Cold Blue: My World War II Journeys with the Mighty Eighth Air Force](#)

Talk and Book Signing by Jared Frederick and John Homan

Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m.

Centre Furnace Mansion, State College, PA

[RSVP Required](#)

Visit CentreHistory.org or call 814-234-4779.

A born daredevil, John Homan joined the Army Air Forces after the Pearl Harbor attack. By 1944, he was co-piloting a B-24 Liberator over Nazi Germany, raining death and destruction on the enemy. He miraculously survived thirty-four combat missions over four months. Nearly eighty years later, he teamed up with Penn State Altoona history professor Jared Frederick to author a powerfully revealing memoir of the air war in Europe.

Join us on March 22, 2026, for an engaging conversation on the camaraderie, heroism, and horror experienced by John Homan and his fellow aviators. Audience Q&A will follow. Personalized, signed copies of Homan's and Frederick's book, *Into the Cold Blue*, will be available for purchase after the authors' presentation.

This program is a part of Henszey-Pyle Distinguished Author Series underwritten by the Anne Hamilton Henszey Pyle and Kenneth B. Pyle Educational Fund for Regional Heritage Preservation (Henszey-Pyle Fund.) The Series is coordinated by CCHS Board of Governors member Dr. Ford Risley.

RSVPs are required and may be made by scanning QR Code below, or by calling 814-234-4779, or reserving online at CentreHistory.org under "Upcoming Events & Programs" on the home page.



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CENTRE FURNACE MANSION

1001 East College Avenue • State College, Pennsylvania 16801 • 814-234-4779 • centrehistory.org



John Homan and Wings
Photos courtesy of Jared Frederick



**Into the Cold Blue: My World War Journeys
with the Mighty Eighth Air Force**



John Homan and Jared Frederick