



# FRIENDS OF HISTORIC VINELAND

## *History of Landisville—Continued*



*This is a continuation of the history written by Mr. Renzulli on Landisville. Mr. Renzulli was my home room teacher in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade in Minotola school. (Frank De Maio, M.D.)*

Around 1915 or 1916 Jonas built a company store just across Central Ave. It was a large two story building and sold a variety of food products mainly to their workers who could buy on credit and have the cost of their purchases deducted from their paychecks. When the glass factory was sold the store too closed its doors. Later it was sold and became a clothing shop. When clothing shops disappeared from our area this shop too closed its doors and the building was demolished. It is now occu-

pied by the EPA for cleaning up chemicals in the under ground water. (The under ground water was contaminated by chemicals used to process the cloth used in the clothing shop). The remaining Jonas building, now vacant, served as a public library for a short time.

In the glass industry there is much waste. A place was needed to dispose of it. Just about in the center of the property now owned by Buena Borough was a pond. It was known as Jonas' Pond and was owned by Jonas Glass Company. It too was a natural drain basin and reservoir. Large quantities of water accumulated in it. It served as the dumping grounds for broken and unusable molten glass.

A horse pulling a 'dump wagon' filled with unusable molten and broken glass, on its way to the 'dump' was a common sight most any day. If one were to dig a few feet deep in certain spots of that land today one would dig up much of the broken glass pieces.

The building, on the corner of Atlantic and Central Avenues, known as the Crowell Building, at one time was owned by Jake Hager. He operated a livery stable. Livery stables were similar to our car leasing agencies such as U Haul. Livery stables leased out horses and wagons of any type needed. Jonas leased the horses and dump wagons from the livery stable and they hauled the unusable glass to the disposal area.

*With this issue ends Volume 7 of our newsletters. That means we have been at it for 7 years. Boy, does time fly!.*

*We hope you have enjoyed them. We are all ready to start Volume 8 with the next edition.*

*The "Friends" continue their efforts to keep alive the great and interesting past of Vineland and surrounding areas, and continue to work on the Historic Calendar, Founder's Day Events, and Web page. Why don't you join us??*

*And—HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY SEASON*

A few hundred feet south from the intersection of the two railroads and Central Ave. a special track was built from a CRR siding to the glass plant. It was a ramp that crossed South Boulevard and led to the ovens that heated the tanks in which the glass was made. Gondola railroad cars filled with coal went up the ramp and emptied the coal in front of the furnaces that heated the tanks used for melting the materials. This made it easier for the workers to shovel the coal into the furnaces. The ramp and railroad siding were removed shortly after World War II. Part of the concrete base that held up the ramp is still in its original spot.

With the coming of the prohibition era in 1918 the need for beer, wine and liquor bottles diminished. The Jonas Glass Company was sold to the Illinois Glass Company about 1920. This new company, just prior to purchasing Jonas Glass Company, built a new plant in Bridgeton and fitted it with the most modern glass making equipment. Since the Jonas plant was old and contained less efficient equipment and its buildings were in bad condition and needed renovation, Illinois Glass Company decided to close the Jonas Glass Factory and moved what equipment was usable to Bridgeton. Some of the workers including the Bondi family, whose children were our play -mates, moved to Bridgeton to work in the new plant.

Rumors spread at the time that

the Jonas Glass Company closed because of strikes by union workers for better working conditions. This just was not the case. The fact was that the physical make up of the plant was in a bad condition; the equipment was outmoded and the demand for its main products was suddenly cut off by the prohibition amendment. Unfortunately the new company built a new and modern plant in Bridgeton just before it purchased the Jonas Glass Company so the Jonas plant was closed. There were strikes, and some were quite nasty, but they were not a contributing factor or reason for closing the plant.

This closing of the glass factory was a big blow to the economy of our community since many of the residents depended on Jonas for their livelihood. If we think about it much has not changed since then with all the mergers and buy outs that go on today with industries suddenly closing their doors, moving to other areas and leaving workers unemployed. .

Minotola as noted above was in its early days a company town. Jonas Glass Company employed a fairly large number of workers as it ran three shifts a day. (The shifts were: 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM; 3:00 PM to 11:00 PM; 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM. All time was based on standard time; daylight saving time went into effect several years later.)

A walk through the streets of Minotola will reveal many du-

plex homes. Most of these homes belonged to the Jonas Glass Company. They were rented to the employees and the rent was deducted from their paychecks. As mentioned previously, Jonas also owned the company store and purchases made by employees at the store also were deducted from their paychecks. The homes have been sold and are privately owned now but an observer might notice that several of the new homes built in Minotola in later years are duplexes following a trend started by Jonas.

In 1913 the First National Bank of Minotola received a charter from the Federal Reserve Board. Residents of Minotola, Landisville, and surrounding communities bought shares to enable the bank to receive the charter. Michael Capizola Sr. of Buena who had worked in a bank in Mays Landing was an early employee of the bank. He later became the manager of the bank. Under his direction the bank grew and became the biggest factor in the growth of the community. During the depression, while many small banks failed throughout the country, the Minotola Bank endured on a solid foundation. In fact, at that time, the Federal Reserve Board classified it as one of the strongest small banks in the country.

Directly across from the Block Factory was located the original Landisville school. The school was T-shaped and had three rooms. Outside were two toilets with multiple seats.

*(To be continued next issue)*

## *The Vineland Weekly*

No, that is not the name of this paper. It is the name of a newspaper that was printed in Vineland years ago. Now that we are a competing newspaper (that's a joke folks!) I thought it would be well to see what the competition is (WAS) doing. So, I got an old paper from the 1870's and checked it out. You have to be very careful how you handle it. They were using acid paper even then, so just touching it makes it fall apart.

The paper sold for 5 cents an issue or two dollars a year. One inch of advertising cost 75 cents.

L. Newcomb (does anyone remember the Newcomb Hospital) had an ad and promised to collect your money if you needed it. He was a lawyer located on Landis Ave.

Dr. Welch (of the Welch Grape Juice fame) was a dentist and said that he was located on "Bailey's New Brick Block." (Where was that???)

H. Z. Ellis & Co. would handle financial problems of people that had purchased land and not used it or paid for it. They would use the land to attract

"good German Gardeners and other industrious people to settle among us."

There was even one from Down's Town (near Landisville) advertising "White and Black Oak framing timber for sale by J. & L. A. Down at Downs Steam Saw Mill. Frames cut to order. Also delivered on the Vineland Tract."

You could get "hair switches" to cover up your bald head, Marshall's Elixir to treat "dyspepsia, constipation, heartburn, headache and list of small diseases." This could be purchased at the Bidwell Drug Store in Vineland for the small price of one dollar a bottle.

There were boots and shoes for sale wholesale for the Vineland merchants, fire insurance by J. E. Taylor of the Aetna Insurance Company, and there was the Vineland Machine Shop that did all kinds of machine work. It was located over the Grist Mill, run by A. H. Blaisdell.

On the front page of the newspaper was a recipe on how to make a Lemon Apple Dumping. Next to it was a news account of how a man messed up putting up a stove and chimney and got soot all over himself.

There was a notice on the health

of the Pope in Rome, the war between Russia and Turkey, an announcement that there were three hangings in the country that week, 44 acres of homes were destroyed by fire in Hong Kong, the Shah of Persia and all the members of his cabinet with their wives were to visit the Vienna Exposition, "but they did not know how many wives that would be."

I also got a copy of the Progresso American (Italian newspaper) of 1903. Now, that paper had a bunch of ads also. One had an ad for wine, "Zinfandel 3 years old, from the hills of Santa Cruz of California. It was limpid, ready to be bottled. It cost 45 cents per gallon, and guaranteed to be pure."

The Italian Cheese Company of 181 Mulberry Street Company of New York, manufacturers of Provolone, Caciocavalli, Mantecche, Scamorze, Cheese, and Ricotta and every other type of food made from milk would ship their products C.O.D. to any part of the United States. They appealed to restaurants, pastry shops, wholesalers, and so forth. The phone number—2339.

Well, that's it folks. If you want to read the whole paper, come over to the office and look them over!!

**The Museum Committee of the South Jersey Health System has published a book on the history of the four hospitals that were responsible for the current impressive new hospital at Sherman and Orchard Roads. If you are interested, you can purchase the book by calling Janet Franklin in the Medical Staff office.**

**Also, the Museum Committee has a number of display cases on the ground floor just off the elevators. That is the "museum wall" of the hospital designed specifically to honor the past and to honor those that have donated to the hospital. Why don't you stop down and see it when you are in the area??**

*Our Christmas Recipe for  
SUGARED COOKIES  
(ZUCCHERINI)  
(For Santa so he  
doesn't leave you of  
his list)*



INGREDIENTS:

DOUGH:

- 12 eggs
- 1 tablespoon of milk
- 1 cup of sugar
- 3 tablespoons of vanilla or anisette
- 5 cups of flour
- 12 teaspoons of baking powder
- 1 cup of margarine

ICING:

- 1 box of confectionery sugar.
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- 3 egg whites (egg whites can carry Salmonella.)

PREPARATION:

DOUGH:

Break the eggs into a mixing bowl, setting aside 3 egg whites for the icing. Beat the eggs and add the milk, sugar, and vanilla or anisette. Mix well.

Add the flour, baking powder, and margarine. Mix well.

Roll out the dough and cut into pieces 1/2 by 4 inches, then roll each one out into round strips. Twist these round pieces of dough around your finger.

Place the formed dough onto a greased cookie sheet. Place in a preheated oven at 375 degrees and bake for about 7 minutes.

ICING:

Beat the 3 egg whites and mix in a box of confectionery sugar. Add the teaspoon of vanilla. Spread on the cookies, then sprinkle "sprinkles" on top of the cookies.

Your support is what makes it possible for us to send you this news letter. We hope you enjoy it, and hope you support it so we can continue to send it to you.

**DO YOU WANT TO JOIN??**

TO BE A MEMBER

- BENEFACTOR.....\$100
- SPONSOR.....\$50
- FAMILY.....\$35
- INDIVIDUAL.....\$30
- STUDENT.....\$5

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO THE:  
**"FRIENDS OF HISTORIC VINELAND"**

The Friends have no connections with the Vineland Historical Society or any other society!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY : \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Friends of Historic Vineland  
C/O Frank De Maio, M.D.  
1047 Almond St.