

Friends of Historic Vineland

Volume 2 Issue 1

FOURTH ANNUAL FOUNDER'S DAY— COMING FRIDAY, MAY 7



Almost 138 years ago it started with a vision by a man with the name of Charles K. Landis who wanted to found an “ideal town” and with a spike driven into what was to become the heart of this city. We celebrate this event as Founder’s Day! (but for the sake of convenience for the school children of Vineland, we will celebrate the day on May 7 this year, instead of the official date of August 8.)

I’m sure everybody remembers last year’s Founder’s Day event. Well, this year promises to be bigger and better. For one thing, there will be more children involved. The 5th graders will join the 3rd graders in more exciting happenings and loads of local and national history. The following distinguished historical characters will speak to our children: Abe Lincoln, Marie Durand, Mary Treat, Thomas Welch, Mathew Brady, Lucille Richardson, Matilda Landis, and Susan B. Anthony. We even hope to have General Lee show up on horseback. They will share their stories and thoughts, which in most cases will include their personal contributions to this great city of Vineland.

This year, we have additional groups participating such as the Buena Historical Society ably lead by Debbie Favoretto, as well as “old” favorites such as Linda Schimmel of the Vineland Downtown Improvement District. Linda has a keen interest in the Founder’s Day events, “To make people aware of the events that occurred in the center of Vineland and help recreate the vital nature of central Vineland. Linda has played a key role in the organization of this event each year.

The activities will continue through Friday evening starting at 6:00 PM. They will offer a variety of activities to continue the day's fun. The Women's Club sponsoring "Ladies Night" will be there dressed in period costume. They will “visit the boys” who we hope to have present as civil war reenactors.

The school children will be invited to enlist in the Civil War reenactment that will take place that evening. Those that present for “duty” will receive a present for their efforts. The children of the Explorers Club under the able guidance of Robert Trivellini will fully participate in these activities.

These will be a barbecue meal, music, and square dancing to which the general public will be invited. Guests can visit the soldiers and take part in their routine chores around the campfires.

Be sure to mark your calendars and join in on the fun for this promising full day (especially for the evening) extravaganza. See you there!!

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- The Friends of Historic Vineland exist for the purpose of increasing public awareness of the rich history of the community of Vineland, NJ. The reason for its existence is to create pride in Vineland for the mutual benefit of all members of the community. It is especially interested in accomplishing this with the youth of Vineland. The young citizens of Vineland have the most to gain from such an experience, and over the years have the most to contribute to the future of Vineland, which hopefully will be even more illustrious than the past.

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Grant, Sherman, Sheridan Avenues—we all know we have them here in Vineland, and probably many know who they were named after. But, I bet you don't know anything about the connection with those generals and Mr. Henry Work and the popular Civil War song "Marching Through Georgia". Well, if you don't know and are interested, don't turn your dial, just stay tuned and read on!

When the Civil War began, the first major battle was the battle of Manassas, or Bull Run as we Yankees call it. It was a disaster for the Union. So, Lincoln picked a new general by the name of McClellan to lead the Army of the Potomac. But the luck of McClellan was no better than the previous general and he became the second in a string of inept Union generals to fall prey to the military genius of Robert E. Lee who led the Army of Northern Virginia.

Lincoln picked and discarded one general after another as one defeat was followed by another. However, in July of 1863, the North finally got lucky. General Meade commanded Union forces that defeated Lee at Gettysburg, and Grant commanded the Union army that had carried out a brilliant campaign that culminated in the capture of Vicksburg. This later campaign resulted in the Union controlling the Mississippi River and in essence cutting the Confederacy in half.

Meade was made commander of the Army of the Potomac and Grant was made commander of all Union forces. The grand strategy developed at this point was for the northern Army of the Potomac to grind away at the Army of Northern Virginia and render it immobile and to reduce its strength by attrition. At the same time, a general by the name of Sheridan was given the task of marching his troops from the Mississippi to the sea. In so doing, he had to go "Marching Through Georgia". In effect, the South would again be cut in half by Sherman and everything that could be used to support the war effort was to be destroyed.

Thus, while Lee was pinned down defending the Confederate capital at Richmond, the infrastructure of the South that was producing war material would be destroyed. It was this effort that resulted in our Vinelander Henry Work writing the popular Civil War song *Marching Through Georgia*.

While this was going on, another general by the name of Sheridan was given the task of destroying the war potential of Virginia. He did this by sending his troops through the richest part of Virginia, the Shenendoa Valley, and destroying it.

It was this strategy and the determined effort of the North to pay any price to win the war that finally resulted in Lee's starving, pathetic army surrendering to Grant at Appomatox. The strategy had worked so well that Lee had to ask for food for his starving army when they surrendered, as they had not eaten for a number of days.

As you can imagine, Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan were the heroes of the day. Vineland was proud of its heroes and named the streets after them. But, few know that we also had a famous song writer who wrote a song about that campaign.

Incidentally, Mr. Work also wrote the song *My Grandfather's Clock*.



A New Hope for Vineland's Landis Theater The Empowerment Zone Grant

With its sweeping lines and original 1930's sign and marquee, the Landis Theater is the best example of an Art Deco movie theater in the State of New Jersey. It is certainly a major landmark of Vineland. Unbelievably, this landmark was almost demolished to make way for a new Rite-Aid pharmacy.

Vineland's struggle to save our nostalgic landmark, The Landis Theater, seems to finally be over with the proposed help from a new and exciting grant from the Federal Government. Urban Empowerment Zones selected from a huge number of applicants put Vineland in the top twenty category by awarding Cumberland County 230 million dollars. This money promises to be a powerful engine that can generate economic growth and prosperity. Included in this dream come true was an allotment of \$500,000 for the reconstruction of the Landis Theater which will hopefully become an Arts And Entertainment center. This will be added to a prior grant of money from the National Register to recreate the original exterior of the building.

"Friends of the Landis Theater," a group of people working together to preserve this historical building, continues with its 13 board members to keep this restoration project alive. Included on this board is Holly Bombecke, a Vineland resident and Intern architect. She continues to have a wonderful vision to save this landmark. Holly recently won a photo contest with pictures of the Landis Theater, the building targeted for demolition, and pointing out the need to preserve historic treasures.

We congratulate Holly for her vision as well as the many others that have worked to move the project to this point. All of us have the duty to help people such as these in their efforts to preserve the history of Vineland, and that of course includes us, the "Friends of Historic Vineland."

EASTER BREAD

Nancy Cenatiempo's recipe for Easter bread.



INGREDIENTS:

1/2 cup of warm water	1 1/2 ounces of soft butter
4 cakes of yeast	2 teaspoons of vanilla extract
9 eggs	10 cups of flour
1 cup of heated milk	1 1/2 cups of sugar
1 cup of oil	

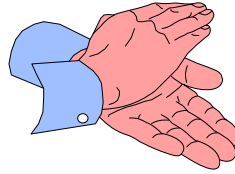
PREPARATION:

Dissolve the yeast in 1/2 cup of warm water. Mix the eggs, milk, oil, butter and vanilla extract. In a separate bowl mix the flour and sugar. Put the flour on a mixing board. Make a hole in the center. Pour the water and yeast mixture in the central hole. Then, gradually add the other liquid ingredients, mixing with the flour. When all the ingredients are added, knead the dough until it is elastic. Add more water or flour as required.

Put the dough in greased pans, or shape as desired and put on a flat pan. Sprinkle some flour on top then cover with a cloth to keep warm and moist. When the dough has doubled in size, put in a preheated oven at 325 degrees and cook for 45 minutes.

Let cool, then serve.

THANK YOU!!



THANK YOU!!

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