

National Flag Celebration Inc.

P.O. Box 728
Vincennes, IN 47591

Beautify America



Fly Our Flag

*Old Glory
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JUN 7 1990

June 5, 1990

Enclosed you will find a news release and flyer regarding Flag Day activities to be held in Knox County June 8-10. George Lane requested this information be sent to you for your information.

If you have questions or would like to know more about the planned activities, please contact George Lane , or me

Duane Chattin
Director of Media Relations
Vincennes University

DC/vaa

Enclosures

File for 1991
1991

Knox County, Indiana Flag Day Celebration

P.O. Box 728
Vincennes, Indiana 47591



Old Glory Committee

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DATE: June 1, 1990
SUBJECT: Flag Day Celebration
RELEASE: Immediately

A former U.S. President will be in Vincennes June 8-10 for a series of events celebrating Flag Day. His name is not Nixon, Ford, Carter, or Reagan, however; it's Abraham Lincoln.

Professional Lincoln impersonator Charles Piper, 45, Olney, Illinois, has appeared in over 31 cities before school groups, historical festivals, and on television. During the Vincennes Flag Day Celebration he will take part in a patriotic concert called "I Love America" on Friday, June 8, 7:30 p.m., at Lincoln High School's Ader Auditorium. He will also appear at a Military Exhibition and Demonstration on Saturday, June 9, 10:30 a.m., at Knox County's Ouabache Trails Park; walk in the Flag Day Parade through downtown Vincennes on June 9 at 2:30 p.m.; and deliver the Gettysburg Address at a Flag Day Celebration Program on Sunday, June 10, 2:30 p.m., at Ouabache Trails Park. All of the events are free of charge.

Piper's appearances as Lincoln are noted for their authenticity. Piper wears no makeup; the beard and black hair are all his own, and the costume is realistic. When Piper was in his early twenties, many persons told him that he has a natural resemblance to Lincoln. He thought then that he would like to try doing an impersonation of the 16th President. After a great deal of research, he made his debut on September 3, 1988, at the Indian Hill Museum in Bone Gap, Illinois.

When Piper speaks as Lincoln, it's with all the dignity and reverence that was Lincoln's trademark. Even his mannerisms and gestures are what one would expect from Mr. Lincoln. School children are particularly fascinated by the appearance of Lincoln. School teachers have frequently commented that his visits help make "history come alive" for the school children.

The impersonation of Abraham Lincoln is just one of the many attractions and events during the Flag Day Celebration in Vincennes June 8-10. The celebration will officially begin Friday, June 8, with the General William C. Westmoreland Golf Classic at the Fox Ridge Country Club. The four-person scrambles tournament will begin at 12:30 p.m. with a shotgun start. Preceding the start, two skydivers will descend onto the golf course at noon.

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General William C. Westmoreland, U.S. Army Retired, will participate in the golf classic as well as the other events Friday evening and throughout Saturday. Westmoreland commanded U.S. forces during the Vietnam War from 1964 to 1968 and served as Army Chief of Staff from 1968 to 1972. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1936, later serving as superintendent of the Academy between 1960 and 1963.

Also on Friday, June 8, there will be a Hog Roast at 5 p.m. following the golf tournament. There is no additional charge for persons participating in the golf classic. Persons not playing golf may attend the Hog Roast for \$10.

Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. there will be a program of patriotic music titled "I Love America" at Vincennes Lincoln High School's Ader Auditorium. The concert will feature a community choir of approximately 60 singers directed by Vicki Moreland. The concert is free of charge. Advance tickets are available at all branches of Security Bank in Vincennes. Free tickets will also be available at the door.

On Saturday, June 9, the celebration will continue with military exhibitions and demonstrations at Knox County's Ouabache Trails Park, located just north of Vincennes along the Wabash River. The activities begin at 10:30 a.m. and will include various units of the armed forces, a Black Hawk Helicopter Gunship, and a company of Civil War-era Union soldiers accompanied by Abraham Lincoln.

Saturday afternoon will feature a 2:30 p.m. parade through downtown Vincennes. The Parade Marshall will be General William C. Westmoreland. Other dignitaries include two U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, Sammy Davis of Flat Rock, Illinois, and Matt Urban, Holland, Michigan. Urban is the most highly decorated veteran of World War II. The parade will also include U.S. Representative Frank McCloskey, Mayors William Hudnut of Indianapolis, William Rose of Vincennes, and Jerry Russell of Bicknell; Vincennes native David Goodnow, anchorman with CNN Headline News; the U.S. Air Force Presidential Honor Guard; and the Crackerjacks Navy Drill Team from Memphis, Tennessee. Approximately 70 entries are expected in the parade. The parade route will begin at Vincennes University and proceed on Second Street, Hart Street, Seventh Street, Main Street, Second Street, and back to VU.

Saturday evening there will be a 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. banquet, and 9 p.m. dance at the Vincennes Executive Inn. After-dinner speakers will include General Westmoreland; Congressional Medal of Honor recipients Sammy Davis and Matt Urban; U.S. Navy Command Master Chief David Lane; and Eva Kor, a survivor of the Nazi concentration camps of World War II. VU President Phillip M. Summers will serve as master of ceremonies.

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On Sunday, June 10, the Bicknell United Methodist Church will host a worship service at 10 a.m. with the topic being the meaning of the flag. The church is located at 309 W. Third, Bicknell.

Sunday afternoon there will be a Flag Day Program beginning at 2:30 p.m. at Ouabache Trails Park. The program will be preceded by patriotic music. During the ceremony Lincoln impersonator Charles Piper will deliver the Gettysburg Address.

Except for the Golf Classic, hog roast, and the Saturday evening reception, banquet, and dance, all of the Flag Day events are free of charge. The public is invited to attend all of the events and is encouraged to fly their flags from June 7 through Flag Day on June 14.

Entry forms for the General William C. Westmoreland Golf Classic are available at the Fox Ridge Country Club.

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History of the Flag

The story of the origin of our National Flag parallels the story of the origin of our country. As our country received its birthright from the peoples of many lands who were gathered on these shores to found a new nation, so did the pattern of the Stars and Stripes rise from several origins back in the mists of antiquity to become emblazoned on the standard of our infant Republic.

Late in 1775 a committee of Congress with Benjamin Franklin at the head, after consulting with Washington in command of the army at Cambridge decided upon the form for a new flag. This flag consisted of thirteen stripes, red and white, with the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew on a blue field in the canton or union. This preceded the Declaration of Independence and indicated that the colonies had not wholly broken from the mother country, since the same crosses appeared on the English flag. The thirteen-stripe flag was first unfurled by Washington, January 2, 1776. It was probably this flag which was raised by Paul Jones on his vessel and carried by the American fleet that sailed out of Philadelphia in February, 1776.

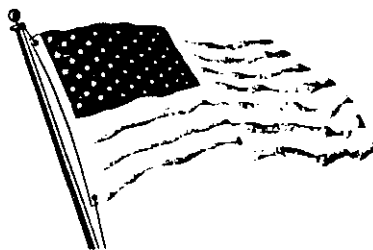
During 1776 and 1777 a number of flags with thirteen stripes came into use and the need of a definite national emblem was realized. On June 14, 1777, Congress passed an act prescribing "That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." June 14th, therefore, is the real birthday of the Flag, and this date is now designated as Flag Day. Half a dozen places lay claim to having first raised this flag of thirteen stripes and thirteen stars. It remained the national standard until 1795.

In the meantime Vermont and Kentucky have become states, and in 1794 Congress voted that beginning May 1, 1795, the Flag should have fifteen stripes and fifteen stars. This flag remained in use for twenty-three years, and it was "The Star-Spangled Banner" of which Francis Scott Key wrote in 1814.

In April, 1818, Congress passed an act providing that the Flag should have thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white, and that the union should display twenty stars, representing the number of states then in the Union. It also provided that on the July 4th following the admission of a new state to the Union a star should be added to the Flag. This has been the regulation ever since, and the result is that now there is a total of fifty stars.

Knox County, Indiana Flag Day Celebration

P.O. Box 728
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The public is invited to a series of events celebrating Flag Day.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

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☆**General William C. Westmoreland Golf Classic**, 12:30 p.m., Fox Ridge Country Club. This is a four-person-scrambles tournament with a shotgun start. A **\$50 donation** includes green fee, cart, food, drink and prizes. Entries available at Fox Ridge Country Club.

☆**Hog Roast**, 5 p.m., Fox Ridge Country Club, **\$10 donation (no charge for golfers)**.

☆**"I LOVE AMERICA" Concert** of patriotic music, 7:30 p.m., Lincoln High School Ader Auditorium. **FREE**

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

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☆**Military Exhibition and Demonstration** featuring U.S. Air Force Presidential Honor Guard, Black Hawk Helicopter Gunship, Civil War soldiers and Abraham Lincoln, 10:30 a.m., Ouabache Trails Park (north of Vincennes on Fort Knox Road). **FREE**

☆**Flag Day Parade**, 2:30 p.m., downtown Vincennes, featuring Parade Marshal General William C. Westmoreland, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Sammy Davis, U.S. Air Force Presidential Honor Guard, Crackerjacks (elite U.S. Navy Drill Team), Civil War soldiers and Abraham Lincoln.

☆**Flag Day Reception, Banquet and Dance**, 6:30 p.m. Vincennes Executive Inn, **\$25 per person**. Entertainment by Miss VU 1989 Regina McCord, "Spirit Connection" Ensemble, and military band. The featured speaker is General William C. Westmoreland, U.S. Army Ret. Tickets available at Vincennes Sun-Commercial, Knox County Daily News, Lawrenceville Daily Record, YMCA, American National Bank North Branch, and Security Bank North Branch.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

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☆**Flag Day Church Service**, 10 a.m., Bicknell United Methodist Church, 309 W. Third St., Bicknell.

☆**Patriotic Concert** featuring military band, 1:30 p.m., Ouabache Trails Park. **FREE***

☆**Official Flag Day Celebration Program**, 2:30 p.m., Ouabache Trails Park, featuring skydiving at 2:15 p.m., Abraham Lincoln delivering The Gettysburg Address, U.S. Air Force Presidential Honor Guard, and area Cub Scouts. *

☆**Farewell Dinner (informal)**, 7 p.m., Vincennes Executive Inn, reservations requested for the dutch treat dinner. Call 882-8607.

*In the event of rain, the Sunday afternoon concert and program will be moved to the Vincennes University Physical Education Complex.