



## THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

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### 150 Years Later, A Look Back At Lincoln Conspirators' Military Tribunal

by Damien Salas, Pentagonam Staff Writer, May 14, 2015

The abrupt ending of the play *Our American Cousin* on April 14, 1865, marked the beginning of the most sensationalized real life drama in American history and politics—the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln.

Grant Hall, located on the Fort McNair portion of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, is the building where the May through June 1865 military tribunal for the eight Lincoln assassination conspirators took place. This courtroom, located on the third floor of Grant Hall, opened its doors May 9 for an open house in observance of the trial's 150th anniversary.

Authors and Lincoln assassination experts Michael W. Kauffman and John E. Elliott provided briefings about the trial.

Guests were first seated in the cramped courtroom and given an overview of the trial, then taken outside to the tennis courts, where four of the co-conspirators were hanged and originally buried.

Four of the co-conspirators were sentenced to death at the trial June 30, 1865, in what was then known as the Washington Federal Penitentiary and hanged shortly after. They were Lewis Powell, David E. Herold, George A. Atzerodt and the first woman hanged by the federal government, Mary E. Surratt.

Michael O'Laughlen, Samuel Arnold and Dr. Samuel Mudd were given life terms and Edmund Spangler received a six-year sentence for their involvement in the conspiracy. In

1869 President Andrew Johnson pardoned Arnold, Mudd and Spangler. O'Laughlen died of yellow fever in 1867 while still in prison.

Though a tennis court now exists where the gallows were erected, Barry Cauchon, a specialist in forensic analysis of period photographs and one of the presenters for the day, marked the tennis court with blue tape and outlined the gravesites in red in the grass nearby to give the audience a better perspective of where the conspirators were hanged and buried. John Wilkes Booth, a famous actor with Confederate sympathies, assassinated President Lincoln, but was killed April 26, 1865, during his apprehension before he could see a trial. His remains were originally buried just outside of the historic federal penitentiary building along 2nd Avenue on Fort McNair.

In February of 1869 President Andrew Johnson issued an order allowing the bodies to be released to their respective families.

A May 8 reception was held by JBM-HH Commander Col. Mike Henderson at the Fort McNair Officers Club in observance of the trial. The U.S. Army Band String Quartet performed for guests, while they mingled during the reception in the Crystal Ballroom, across the street from Grant Hall. Kauffman, Elliott, Cauchon and author and presenter Betty J. Owensby provided a special presentation about the trial for guests.

"Today is historically significant, as the nine-member military commission first met on this date May 8 in 1865," said Henderson in opening remarks. "This observance will give us all the opportunity to learn in more detail about and reflect on what happened here 150 years ago."

The next open house will be in August. Details, including a firm date, will be announced in the Pentagonam and via JBM-HH online information platforms, including the website [www.army.mil/jbmhh](http://www.army.mil/jbmhh), the JBM-HH Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/jbmhh](http://www.facebook.com/jbmhh) and via Twitter (follow handle @JBMHH).

### Restoring Grant's Glory

By: Laura Condeluci, [aoc.gov](http://aoc.gov), April 27, 2015

The Grant Memorial sits in silent, yet powerful repose beneath the shadow of the U.S. Capitol Dome, serving as a timeless sentinel to the heroism, valor, strength and also the anguish our nation endured when it was torn apart by the Civil War.

During the war, the Capitol was briefly used by Union troops as soldiers' quarters, a hospital and even a bakery. Today, millions of visitors approach the large bronze and marble memorial that honors the Civil War general, Ulysses S. Grant, whose victories as a military strategist are credited with saving the Union and who later became our nation's 18th president.

"Time and the elements of nature have ravaged the monument's surfaces," said Eugene Poole, Jr., U.S. Capitol Jurisdiction and Project Executive in Planning and Project Management, who is managing the Grant Memorial's bronze conservation and Union Square rehabilitation. "We are moving aggressively to conserve, preserve and restore the historic fabric of the Grant Memorial and Union Square to its former glory."



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Photo courtesy Architect of the Capitol

The care of Union Square and the Grant Memorial were transferred from the National Park Service to the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) in late 2011. The Grant Memorial is located by the reflecting pool at the east end of the National Mall, west of the U.S. Capitol.

Upon transfer, the AOC addressed immediate safety issues and repaired the most visibly deteriorated conditions throughout Union Square. Because weather and time have not been kind to the Grant Memorial, AOC staff developed a preservation strategy to restore the Grant Memorial to its original condition.

The preservation effort will begin in the spring of 2015, with the conservation of the 11 bronze sculptural elements. Fencing and scaffolding will surround the sculptural groups. The conservation will include cleaning, repairing, repatinating and protecting the existing bronze. Ninety missing or broken bronze pieces will be recast. After the bronze conservation is complete, stone cleaning, setting and conservation will follow.

"After worrying about the poor condition of the largest and probably most visible and visited sculptural monument in the city, I am thrilled that we will be restoring it so that everyone will be able to see and appreciate the incredible accurate and life-like details and strong emotional impact that have been

obscured by corrosion," said Barbara Wolanin, Curator for the AOC. "In addition to all that it commemorates, the Grant Memorial is a masterwork of American sculpture to which Henry Shradley devoted 20 years of his life and sadly, passed away just two weeks before the memorial was dedicated."

Getting the statue restored to its original brilliance before the bicentennial of Grant's birth in 2022 – a century after its dedication – will properly honor this American hero. Wolanin added, "The conservation of the memorial will demonstrate the commitment of the Architect of the Capitol to preserve and care for our national treasures for current and future generations."

### **Mother's Day Turns 101: Its Surprisingly Dark History**

By Brian Handwerk, National Geographic

As Mother's Day turns 101 this year, it's known mostly as a time for brunches, gifts, cards, and general outpourings of love and appreciation. But the holiday has more somber roots: It was founded for mourning women to remember fallen soldiers and work for peace. And when the holiday went commercial, its greatest champion, Anna Jarvis, gave everything to fight it, dying penniless and broken in a sanitarium.

It all started in the 1850s, when West Virginia women's organizer Ann Reeves Jarvis—Anna's mother—held Mother's Day work clubs to improve sanitary conditions and try to lower infant mortality by fighting disease and curbing milk contamination, according to historian Katharine Antolini of West Virginia Wesleyan College. The groups also tended wounded soldiers from both sides

during the U.S. Civil War from 1861 to 1865.

In the postwar years Jarvis and other women organized Mother's Friendship Day picnics and other events as pacifist strategies to unite former foes. Julia Ward Howe, for one—best known as the composer of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"—issued a widely read "Mother's Day Proclamation" in 1870, calling for women to take an active political role in promoting peace.

Around the same time, Jarvis had initiated a Mother's Friendship Day for Union and Confederate loyalists across her state. But it was her daughter Anna who was most responsible for what we call Mother's Day—and who would spend most of her later life fighting what it had become.

Anna Jarvis never had children of her own, but the 1905 death of her own mother inspired her to organize the first Mother's Day observances in 1908.

On May 10 of that year, families gathered at events in Jarvis's hometown of Grafton, West Virginia—at a church now renamed the International Mother's Day Shrine—as well as in Philadelphia, where Jarvis lived at the time, and in several other cities.

Largely through Jarvis's efforts, Mother's Day came to be observed in a growing number of cities and states until U.S. President Woodrow Wilson officially set aside the second Sunday in May in 1914 for the holiday.

"For Jarvis it was a day where you'd go home to spend time with your mother and thank her for all that she did," West Virginia Wesleyan's Antolini, who wrote "Memorializing Motherhood: Anna Jarvis and the Defense of Her Mother's Day" as her



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Ph.D. dissertation, said in a previous interview.

"It wasn't to celebrate all mothers. It was to celebrate the best mother you've ever known—your mother—as a son or a daughter." That's why Jarvis stressed the singular "Mother's Day," rather than the plural "Mothers' Day," Antolini explained.

But Jarvis's success soon turned to failure, at least in her own eyes.

Anna Jarvis's idea of an intimate Mother's Day quickly became a commercial gold mine centering on the buying and giving of flowers, candies, and greeting cards—a development that deeply disturbed Jarvis. She set about dedicating herself and her sizable inheritance to returning Mother's Day to its reverent roots.



Anna Jarvis was the driving force behind the first Mother's Day observances in 1908.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BETTMANN, CORBIS

Jarvis incorporated herself as the Mother's Day International Association and tried to retain some control of the holiday. She organized boycotts, threatened lawsuits, and even attacked First Lady Eleanor

Roosevelt for using Mother's Day to raise funds for charities.

"In 1923 she crashed a convention of confectioners in Philadelphia," Antolini said.

A similar protest followed two years later. "The American War Mothers, which still exists, used Mother's Day for fund-raising and sold carnations every year," Antolini said. "Anna resented that, so she crashed their 1925 convention in Philadelphia and was actually arrested for disturbing the peace."

Jarvis's fervent attempts to reform Mother's Day continued until at least the early 1940s. In 1948 she died at 84 in Philadelphia's Marshall Square Sanitarium.

"This woman, who died penniless in a sanitarium in a state of dementia, was a woman who could have profited from Mother's Day if she wanted to," Antolini said.

"But she railed against those who did, and it cost her everything, financially and physically."

Today, of course, Mother's Day continues to roll on as an engine of consumerism.

According to the National Retail Federation, Americans will spend an average of \$162.94 on mom this year, down from a survey high of \$168.94 last year. Total spending is expected to reach \$19.9 billion. The U.S. National Restaurant Association reports that Mother's Day is the year's most popular holiday for dining out.

As for Mother's Day being a hallmark holiday, there's no denying it, strictly speaking.

Hallmark Cards itself, which sold its first Mother's Day cards in the early 1920s, reports that Mother's Day is the number three holiday for card exchange in the United States, behind Christmas and Valentine's

Day—another apparent affront to the memory of the mother of Mother's Day.

About 133 million Mother's Day cards are exchanged annually, according to Hallmark. After Christmas, it's the second most popular holiday for giving gifts.

### Fido - The Lincolns' Dog

It was a common sight in Springfield to see Abraham Lincoln walking to the local market with Fido trailing behind carrying a parcel in his mouth. Fido was a floppy-eared, rough-coated, yellowish dog of uncertain ancestry. His date of birth was unknown although 1855 would be a good guess. Mr. Lincoln would sometimes stop at Billy the Barber's for a haircut, and Fido would wait outside with the other customers' pets. Fido was the type of dog who loved attention and would spend countless minutes chasing his own tail.

Mr. Lincoln was elected president of the United States on November 6, 1860. When it neared time to move from Springfield, Illinois, to Washington, D.C., he decided not to take Fido. He worried the dog would not survive the long train ride to the nation's capital. Additionally, Mr. Lincoln had noticed that the clanging church bells and loud cannons, which had announced his presidential nomination, had terrified Fido.

By all accounts Mr. Lincoln's son, Tad, protested. Nevertheless, Mr. Lincoln wouldn't be swayed and looked for a good home for Fido. Finally, the president-elect decided to give Fido to two neighbor boys, John and Frank Roll. They promised to take good care of Fido during Mr. Lincoln's term in the White House. The boys' father, John Eddy Roll, was a carpenter who had helped the Lincolns remodel their house.



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The Roll family was asked never to scold Fido for entering the house with muddy paws. He was not to be tied up alone in the backyard. Additionally, Fido was to be allowed into the Roll home whenever he scratched at the front door and into the Rolls' dining room at mealtimes. Fido was used to being given food by everyone sitting around the table. To make Fido feel at home, the Lincolns gave the Rolls their horsehair sofa. Shortly before the Lincolns left for the White House, they took Fido to F.W. Ingmire's studio in Springfield to have his picture taken (see below). Mr. Ingmire draped a piece of fancy material over a washstand and placed Fido on top. Willie and Tad watched the proceedings but did not get into the pictures.



Photo - Henry Horner Collection at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum

Reassuring news regarding Fido came from Illinois late in 1863. On December 27, 1863, the president's Springfield barber, William Florville, wrote the Lincolns a letter saying, "Tell Taddy that his (and Willys) Dog is alive and Kicking doing well he stays mostly at John E. Rolls with his Boys who are about the size now that Tad & Willy were when they left for Washington."

After the tragic assassination in 1865, hundreds of out-of-town visitors, in

Springfield for the funeral, crowded around the Lincoln home. Old Bob, Mr. Lincoln's horse which had also been left behind in Springfield, was brought back to the martyred president's residence. In the funeral procession on May 4, Old Bob, wearing a mourning blanket with silver fringe, walked immediately after the hearse. Also, on this tragic occasion, John Roll brought Fido back to his original home to meet the mourners that were there.

Sadly, Fido died less than a year after Mr. Lincoln was assassinated. (Fido had an unfortunate encounter with a man who was drunk.)

### **Rare Civil War document, discovered in drawer, outlines rights for NC's ex-slaves**

By Chick Jacobs, The Fayetteville Observer, N.C., May 15, 2015

Sometimes, history can be found in the strangest places.

Like stuffed in the back of an underwear drawer.

That's where Angela Smith-Crumpler, a 61-year-old Raleigh-area lawyer, discovered a rare, crucial document that helped North Carolina stumble to its feet after the Civil War.

And, if things work out, General Order No. 46 - which outlined the rights and responsibilities of newly freed slaves in the state - will be a centerpiece of the North Carolina Civil War History Center planned for Fayetteville.

"It's exciting, really exciting," said David Winslow of the center as Smith-Crumpler gingerly opened the triple-folded paper. "This would be a highlight for any museum, and would be a centerpiece of our Reconstruction area."

The letter, dated May 15, 1865, was written at the command of Maj. Gen. John Schofield. He was military commander for the Department of North Carolina in the turbulent months after the war's end.

"The document essentially is the start of Reconstruction in this state," Smith-Crumpler said. "It was dictated by Schofield, then several copies were printed and delivered across the state."

But until she found the document stuffed in an old Roses department store bag, there was no known handwritten copy. As such, it is believed to be the original order.

The story of the document's ultimate destination is almost as interesting as its importance. It begins with Smith-Crumpler's great-great grandfather, a 55-year-old bachelor who found himself in North Carolina's largest city during one of the most important times in its history.

James Jackson Farmer owned a large farm in Johnston County. Like many prominent landowners, he also owned slaves. His age and importance allowed him to form a local militia before the Civil War ripped the country apart.

When the war started, these groups helped maintain order locally. By 1865, however, the war had reached the heart of North Carolina, and all militia were called by Confederate Gen. Joe Johnston to serve.

"We think that may be how he ended up in Raleigh at that time," Smith-Crumpler said.

As Johnston and Union Gen. William T. Sherman ironed out the surrender of nearly 90,000 Confederate troops, another Union general faced the task of patching the state's fractured government together. Schofield had been named the director, or military



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governor, of the state after his capture of Wilmington in early 1865. Charged with restoring order, he faced an additional challenge: extend basic rights and protection to former slaves who suddenly were freed.

"If a slave returned to the home of his former master, what were the obligations?" Smith-Crumpler said. "It was confusing and frightening both for slaves and former owners as well. There was no blueprint."

General Order 46 became that blueprint in North Carolina. In the order, Schofield says freemen have the right to seek employment and make themselves a home.

"They have gained their personal freedom," Schofield noted. "By industry and good conduct they may rise to independence and even wealth."

He also noted that former slave owners may not turn out aged or infirm freemen. They also are required to see to the needs of minor freemen who were once their slaves.

"His thinking was that since slave owners benefited from this system for so long, they should help with the transition," Smith-Crumpler said.

As the commander of his county's militia, Farmer would be required to carry the instructions back to his home. A railway pass found with the papers indicate he went home a week later.

How Farmer ended up with the original order, rather than a printed copy may never be known.

"But it's clear he was given the orders and brought them back to Johnston County," Smith-Crumpler said.

In time, the order was passed down through the family. It eventually became part of the "family papers," such as deeds and letters of note.

Its importance was forgotten until Smith-Crumpler was cleaning out

furniture after her mother died. As she emptied a bureau that had been in storage, she found an old Roses bag.

Inside, among other papers, was General Order 46, hard creased and a bit yellowed with age.

"But the ink was still clear," she said. "As I read it, I realized that this might be more than just a piece of family history."

She contacted a family friend who got her in touch with the history center. The paper is now completing authentication and an estimate of its value.

"She wants it to be part of our exhibit," Winslow said. "And obviously, we'd be thrilled to share it. We're just jumping through the hoops necessary."

In the meantime, Smith-Crumpler plans to make several donations to the center, adding up to \$100,000.

The center will be the first in the United States designed to interpret the Civil War and Reconstruction by focusing on the lives of people and the challenges they faced. The center, which will be built on the Old Arsenal grounds in downtown Fayetteville, will cost an estimated \$65 million and is scheduled to open in 2020.

Her family's document, Smith-Crumpler said, is an excellent example of learning history through family stories.

"In our case, a former slave owner became a man sent to preserve the rights of former slaves," she said. "It makes me proud to see that cooperation to help rebuild the state."

"It shows that people, black and white, were working together to make things better after a terrible war. Perhaps this message can help us work together today."

## Texas university grapples with campus statues of Confederate leaders

By Marissa Barnett, The Dallas Morning News, May 6, 2015

AUSTIN — A short walk from Martin Luther King Boulevard, there are four bronze statues of Confederate leaders at the University of Texas.

Many students rush by without a second look, but for years the tributes have marked an emotional split between critics who see them as commemorating slavery and defenders who want a key part of Texas history preserved.

Lately, the clash has gotten louder. Red spray paint was splashed last month across the near-century-old Jefferson Davis statue near the famous UT Tower. "Davis must fall," it said of the Confederacy's president.

In March, UT's student government voted to seek the removal of the Davis sculpture, one of seven statues that line the main mall on campus.

That requires the approval of the administration, which has said further action probably will be up to incoming President Gregory Fennes. But the dispute has landed UT in the national discussion of racial issues on university campuses.

"A statue in its intrinsic nature is meant to commemorate a historical figure and represent the ideals and values that the person stood for," said Rohit Mandalapu, student body vice president and a sponsor of the anti-Davis effort.

"He fought vociferously for maintaining the system of slavery, and we don't think that it should be part of the campus climate."

Others say that getting rid of the sculpture would be an overreaction and that it should be viewed as a



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monument honoring the sacrifice of soldiers and their families.

"It's political correctness gone crazy," said former Georgia congressman Ben Jones, spokesman for the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a historical group.

Banishing the statue would be a "massive insult" to freedom of expression and Southern heritage, said Jones, who played Cooter on the TV series *The Dukes of Hazzard*. Also this year, at the University of Mississippi, a student was accused of hanging a noose around a statue of James Meredith, the school's first black student.

UT's school newspaper, *The Daily Texan*, then wrote an editorial questioning whether statues of civil rights leaders, such as former U.S. Rep. Barbara Jordan and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., can coexist with those of Confederate heroes at UT.

The Jordan and King statues were erected in the last 15 years after student initiatives. The Confederate-affiliated statues, besides Davis, are Gens. Robert E. Lee and Albert Sidney Johnston, and John Reagan, a postmaster general.

In a second editorial, the paper called on the university to give Davis the boot:

"Removing the statue would not cause students and others to not learn about Davis; rather, it would allow them to learn about him the right way, critically and in a classroom."

Mandalapu, 21, of Sugar Land said confrontations on other campuses, coupled with events at UT, such as a racist border-themed frat party in February and a series of bleach bombings in 2012 and 2013, have fueled a more serious discussion about race relations.

"People are standing up and protesting and speaking about what is wrong and what is right, and the Jeff Davis statue goes hand in hand with that," he said.

The setting of the statues came about in an unintended way.

George Washington Littlefield, a university regent and major UT benefactor, hired a popular Texas artist, Italian sculptor Pompeo Coppini, to design a memorial on campus, now known as the Littlefield Fountain.

The sculptor's intent was to show, after the divisions of the Civil War, the "reconciliation between the North and South" during World War I, said Don Carleton, executive director of the UT-Austin Briscoe Center for American History.

The fountain symbolized the Atlantic Ocean and U.S. forces going to fight in Europe. In a semi-circle surrounding it were what Coppini called the war presidents of the North and South, including Woodrow Wilson and Davis, Carleton said.

But funding dried up before it was fully complete. Eventually, the statues were instead scattered around UT's South Mall.

It's unclear what will happen to the student government proposal, but Carleton said such conversations about race will remain at the forefront. "This didn't just start with the OU chant. It's an issue that in many ways hasn't gone away since World War II. It ebbs and flows," he said. "We're a place where these kinds of debates are part of education."

### **Removal of Confederate flags from cemetery sparks controversy**

By Lindsey Rogers, FoxCarolina, May 16, 2015

Union SPRINGS, AL - A prominent attorney admits to taking flags from the graves of soldiers, a move that's sparked both positive reaction and calls for him to be arrested and disbarred. He's also received death threats and hate mail.

The lawyer says his actions are meant to promote unity.

A bag of small Confederate flags sits at Union Springs City Hall. They were removed from graves at an old Confederate cemetery downtown, behind the Red Door Theater, near the intersection of Highway 82 and North Prairie Street.

Myron Penn pulled up the flags with his family on Mother's Day. Penn, a founding partner at Penn & Seaborn Attorneys at Law in Union Springs, who served as state senator for two terms and as chairman of the Bullock County Commission, says he did it for his 4-year-old son.

"The reason why we picked them up is because the image of the flags in our community, a lot of people feel that they're a symbol of divisiveness and oppression of many people in our community," Penn said. "Especially with the history that that flag and the connotation and negativism that it brings. I would think that no one in our community would have a problem with this or with my actions at all."

While some support what Penn did, others are outraged. The story has spread on social media.

"I just thought it was great when he did that. He said that he came up there with his little boy and I thought it was absolutely great," said Tchernavia Blackmon, a Union Springs resident. "He did the right thing. I wish I had been out there to help him pick up the flags. He did a great job."

"It's not about race or the flag or anything else. It's about decency and



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respect for the dead. You don't do stuff like that," added Rebecca Atkins. "You got to give respect where it's deserved and those soldiers gave their lives just like any other soldier gives their lives. It's nothing racial and it's not about discrimination. You look at the person who served for our country and that's what matters."

Others say it was criminal, citing Alabama Code 13A-7-23.1 which states that it's against the law to "willfully and wrongfully or maliciously destroy, remove, cut, break, or injure any tree, shrub, plant, flower, decoration, or other real or personal property within any cemetery or graveyard."

Penn responded to the backlash and says no laws were broken since he left the items at City Hall for anyone to claim and pick up. He says the city typically removes the flags after Confederate Memorial Day anyway.

"I invite anyone to say how I've broken the law by removing the flags," Penn said. "They're making my point with the ugly comments and the meanness. It's exactly why those flags shouldn't be there in our community because that's not what our community stands for. We want our community to grow. We want all of our people, especially our children to feel as though they're growing up in a community that is not divided. I would think that everyone here in Bullock County feels the same way."

While the cemetery is inactive, it is city-owned and maintained so we turned to Union Springs officials for comment. Calls to the city attorney were not returned Friday and she was not in her office early in the afternoon. The mayor, Saint T. Thomas Jr., was not in the office Friday, but over the phone, he briefly discussed the matter. He says an outside group came into Union Springs to set the

flags out at the cemetery and that they were in the wrong, not Penn.

"Something happened that should not have happened. The group who put them down should have asked for permission from the city council. They had no business putting them out in the first place," Thomas said, calling it "illegal activity."

He referred all other questions to the city attorney. The Attorney General's Office said they could not speculate on whether a particular circumstance is a violation or not.

Meanwhile, Penn has no regrets. He hopes his actions and the dialogue they started help move Bullock County forward.



Myron Penn and his son removing Confederate flags from graves (Courtesy: Karen Penn)

"The action that I've taken to get the flags up would not be one that divides people. In fact, it's the opposite. It's one that would bring our community together to say this is our community, this is our town, this is Bullock County. We're one of inclusion. We don't want to hurt anybody. We don't

want to remind anyone of an oppressive past. We want to move our community forward economically and socially," Penn added. "I did this not just for my child, but for all the children and all the parents who would want to do the same kind of thing to make sure that they do not grow up in a community that does not appear to be divided."

A group called the Defenders of the Confederate Cross is planning a protest in Union Springs next month. It is scheduled to take place June 19-20.

The Defenders of the Confederate Cross released this statement:

"While we DO NOT CONDONE acts of violence against any one, this has nothing to do with race, slavery, or oppression. This has a lot to do with people walking on and disregarding Confederate heritage. In 1958 congress ruled confederate veterans are AMERICAN veterans and D.C.C. will see that they are treated as such. We will replace the flags that were illegally removed and keep a ever present eye on all Confederate Veterans graves!"

### **ED Bearss congressional medal**

Congressman Gerry Connolly (VA-11) has introduced a resolution to award Mr. Bearss a Congressional Gold Medal for his contributions to the preservation of Civil War history. The resolution has over 100 cosponsors and is pending in the 114th Congress.

H.R.2059 - To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Edwin Cole "Ed" Bearss, in recognition of his contributions to preservation of American Civil War history and continued efforts to bring our nation's history alive for new generations through his interpretive storytelling.