

June 18 Marks 100 Years Since Death Of Thomas Rinaker

Son of Civil War Commander Was One of Carlinville's Top Residents at Turn of Century

By TOM EMERY
Enquirer~Democrat Contributor

Though he's obscure today, Thomas Rinaker was one of the foremost residents of Carlinville at the turn of the twentieth century. Several of his accomplishments were part of local lore, as well as state advancement.

June 18 marks 100 years since the death of Rinaker, who died suddenly during a banquet at Hillside Country Club in Carlinville on that date in 1926. He was a member of one of the great families of Carlinville history.

Born on Aug. 15, 1857, Thomas was the son of John I. Rinaker, a regimental commander and brevet brigadier general in the Civil War. The elder Rinaker fell short of the nomination for Illinois governor in 1880 and 1888, and for lieutenant governor in 1884. He won a seat in the U.S. House in 1894.

A brother of Thomas, Lewis Rinaker, was a Chicago judge who was defeated for Cook County State's Attorney in 1912, and was unsuccessful in a bid for the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor in 1924.

Another brother, Samuel, was a Nebraska lawyer and delegate to the 1908 Republican National Convention, while still another, John Jr., was a successful Springfield architect.

Thomas Rinaker taught school near Franklin before reading law in his father's of-

fice. He went on to earn a law degree from the University of Michigan.

Rinaker was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1900 and served two terms. In Springfield, he advocated improvements in the paved highway east of Carlinville, which earned him much local gratitude.

His home on East Main Street had been the former Braley residence, and was a stop on the Underground Railroad. The imposing home was known for its sliding panels and hidden compartments, which concealed escaping slaves. The house was destroyed by fire on March 15, 1911.

Rinaker was one of three commissioners who oversaw the construction of the Centennial Building, immediately southeast of the Illinois statehouse in the Capitol Complex, to honor the anniversary of Illinois statehood in 1918.

The structure was renamed the Howlett Building in 1992. As commissioner, Rinaker's name is engraved in the cornerstone of the building.

Rinaker was attending a dinner for members of the area bar at Hillside on the evening of June 18, 1926 when he was suddenly stricken. He died a few minutes later.

Located in the vicinity of the American Legion home and the Carlinville city pool, Hillside operated from 1921-43. Rinaker is buried in Carlinville City Cemetery.

One of his four children, Dr. Clarissa Rinaker (1882-1957), was an oft-published literary expert who enjoyed a long university teaching career. Another of his children, Thomas Jr., was a delegate to the 1936 Republican National Convention.

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SUDOKU

	5					2	9
2			4				
		3		2	5		
9	1		8		4		2
4							
3			6				1
	6				3	5	
			9				
5			3			7	

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	7	6	8	1	3	2	4	5
4	1	2	9	5	6	8	3	7
8	5	3	7	2	4	6	9	1
1	8	7	4	6	9	5	2	3
5	6	9	1	3	2	7	8	4
2	3	4	5	8	7	6	1	9
7	4	5	2	6	1	3	9	8
3	9	8	6	4	5	1	7	2
6	2	1	3	7	8	4	5	9

FATHER'S DAY FUN WORD SEARCH



T R A D I T I O N N F V I H A B H B G L
W M G B E V K R U N H A V K C T R L I
I B E U C W I S D O M A B A R B E C U E
R G N G N H C A O C L P H W V T T K D
H S E N A K S E N D N I K N W B O T G
C R R F D R E L I A B I L I T Y A R H B
N E O L I R D T Y H S I I H N H E U R Y
L H S S U N E V F W N F M K U L D A Y T
G T I K G C A S G R L O S H A F V P Y I
B A T S D R O W P P B K I T N E G Y G N
U F Y B W C R Y P E K P E T R B L M O R
F A T H E R H O D C D H Y O I T K L E
O K I G L Y C A G E L T T E M V B T A T
A K N O I T A I C E R P P A R I E G E A
D U C E T U B I R T E R F K N I C D N P
S N S L S D E D I C A T I O N Y T I E V
G C L K I G R I L L I N G K D O W A G M
S K W K K N E G N I H S I F A F T E G M
E E W S M E N T O R S H I P Y H V S F E
O G B S L E B D G C E L E B R A T I O N

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

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