

## **Main Street N.J. is Visiting Vineland**

**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**

**Staff Writer**

**Bridgeton News**

VINELAND -- Downtown Vineland will soon receive the benefit of an outsider's opinion this week, when a team of representatives from national and state Main Street organizations take a tour of center city beginning today.

The five-member "Downtown Assessment Resource Team" will visit Vineland from today through Friday, and will meet with members of the Vineland Downtown Improvement District (VDID)/Main Street Vineland, as well as city and business officials.

"Anytime we have the opportunity to show off the great amount we have accomplished, I am very excited," said VDID/Main Street Executive Director Todd Noon in a prepared statement.

He added: "I am looking forward to showing the team the real progress being made on Landis Avenue - to celebrate our successes, assess where we stand, and move on with some strategies for the future."

According to Noon, the culmination of the team's visit will be a public presentation of their findings on Thursday, April 2, at 5:30 p.m., in city council chambers.

An open reception will take place to welcome the team on this evening, from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., at Bain's Deli, located at 636 E. Landis Ave.

The visiting team's agenda includes meetings with Noon and other board members at VDID/Main Street, as well as with Mayor Robert Romano and Business Administrator Denise Monaco.

A walk through downtown Vineland and a driving tour of the community are also on the docket, as well as a tour of the Landis Theater - currently being refurbished as part of the redevelopment of the intersection of East and Landis avenues.

The visiting group will include Norma Miess, program officer of the National Main Street Trust Center; Jef Buehler, state director of Main Street New Jersey; Heather McCall, assistant state coordinator of Main Street New Jersey; Darlene Rios Drapkin, principal at the consulting firm Urban Transformation; and Wayne Bell, an architect from the Texas Main Street Program.

For more information, please call the VDID/Main Street Vineland office at (856) 794-8653.

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