



National Mall and Memorial Parks

April 2011 • Volume 4, Issue 4

DAILY INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS



Join National Park Service rangers to learn more about the meaning, symbolism, and significance of the park's many memorials. No prior sign-up is required, and all programs are free. Program length varies. For more information contact a ranger at each memorial.

Programs are offered at the following memorials...

- World War II Memorial
- Lincoln Memorial
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Korean War Veterans Memorial
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Scheduled Programs are presented at: 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., and 10 p.m., staff permitting.

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Civil War Beginning and End... Fort Sumter

By Ranger Lowell Fry

Although differing interpretations of Civil War events still exist, and so in part reflect American identity, the occurrence of the events themselves is far less debatable. The bombardment of Fort Sumter began on April 12, 1861, 150 years ago this month.

What happened on that day appeared to trigger a conflict with the intentionally limited goal of maintaining a country of 33 states as a united entity. When the conflict ended, 670,000 Americans, including 50,000 civilians, were dead and the relationship between the federal and state governments had been radically altered. But more significantly, the centuries old "peculiar institution" of involuntary servitude was on its way to legal extinction. On the cusp of the Civil War, more of the nation's financial resources were invested in slavery than those in banking, railroading and manufacturing together. By the time Abraham Lincoln took the presidential oath March 4, 1861, South Carolina had led

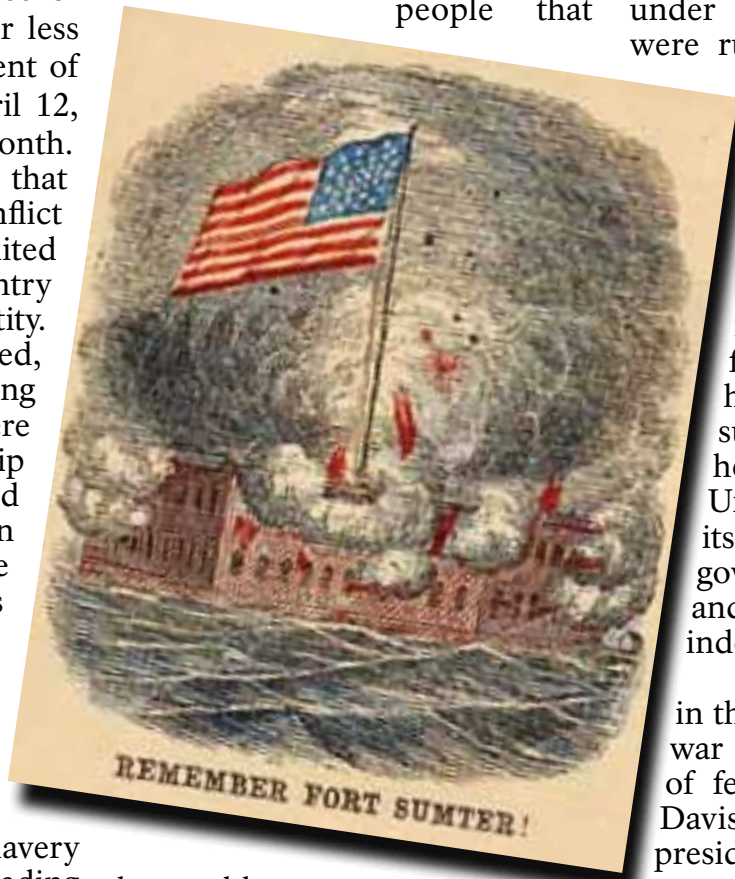
six other states in declaring they had seceded from the United States forming the Confederate States of America. In his first inaugural address the new 16th president told the American people that

tensely and ominously remarked, "Inauguration means war."

When Lincoln went back to the White House, he learned of new political realities-the United States troops at Fort Sumter under Maj. Robert Anderson were running low on supplies.

As an untried president, Lincoln encountered circumstances unknown to any of his predecessors. If he used force of arms without provocation to maintain federal possession of this fort, he would be violating his inaugural promise; if he surrendered Fort Sumter, he would show that the Union could not maintain its territorial viability, that its government was powerless and that the rebel states had indeed become a new country.

The popular sentiment in the northern states favored war over peaceful surrender of federal property. Jefferson Davis, the new Confederate president, was determined to possess Fort Sumter, even if war was the result. What would Lincoln do? By the opening days of April 1861, he had made up his mind. Lincoln gave orders to send a naval relief expedition to Anderson and his men, provisioning them with nonmilitary supplies. He would also inform South Carolina's governor of his intentions. If the plan were successful, the new president in Washington



he would not start a war with those breakaway states, but that he would "hold, occupy and possess" all government properties in them. In the harbor of Charleston, S. C. stood Fort Sumter, a federal military installation. As the president spoke, he mistakenly believed that Sumter was well provisioned and could continue under national authority without the use of military force, unless the South struck first. However, the South was not satisfied with Lincoln's remarks. One ardent secessionist,

Sumter Continued on page 4

NATIONAL MALL
AND MEMORIAL PARKS
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024



Park Headquarters: 202-485-9880
Visitor Information: 202-426-6841

Park Websites: www.nps.gov/nama
www.nps.gov/mall

National Mall Plan Website:
www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan

Radio: 1670 AM

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This newspaper is also available online. Visit www.nps.gov/nama and click on NEWS.

Editor In Chief: Susan Martin
Editor: Ruth Epstein

April

Don't Forget...

Daily ranger programs presented at the memorials, staff permitting: 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 10 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 🚶 8 a.m.
3 🚶 1 p.m.	4	5	6	7	8	9 🚶 8 a.m.
National Cherry Blossom Festival						
10 🚶 1 p.m.	11	12 🕒 10 a.m. 🕒 2 p.m. 🕒 6 p.m. 🕒 6 p.m.	13 🕒 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	14 🕒 12 p.m. 🕒 4 p.m.	15 🕒 5 p.m.	16 🕒 12 p.m. 🕒 4 p.m. 🕒 5 p.m.
17 🚶 1 p.m.	18 🕒 7 p.m.	19 🕒 5 p.m.	20	21	22 🕒 6 p.m.	23 🕒 10 a.m. 🕒 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. 🕒 2 p.m.
24 🕒 10 a.m. 🕒 1 p.m.	25	26	27 🕒 5 p.m.	28	29 🕒 6 p.m.	30 🕒 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. 🕒 4 p.m. 🕒 7 p.m. 🚶 1 p.m.

PROGRAMS

Tuesday, April 12 An Example of Friendship with Japan's John Manjiro 10 - 11 a.m.

2 - 3 p.m.
John Manjiro was a young fisherman who took an epic journey. He was shipwrecked in the Pacific Ocean, picked up by a passing American tall ship, and was the first Japanese person to live in America. This journey marked the beginning of a friendship between the United States and Japan. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Joseph Mohr at 202-359-1532.

Tuesday, April 12 Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Death and World War II 6 - 7 p.m.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's death on April 12, 1945, was a shock felt throughout the U.S. and the world. What impact did his death have the second World War? Did his death make a change in the direction of the war? What was his place in history? Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Tuesday, April 12 Conflict and Remembrance: The Civil War at 150 6 - 7 p.m.

On April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter was attacked beginning the Civil War,

which has been called "our felt history." Learn about America's bloodiest conflicts and the reverberations from it that we continue to feel today. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Lowell Fry at 202-438-9603.

Wednesday, April 13 Thomas Jefferson's 268th Birthday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Join park staff in 1776 attire in remembering Thomas Jefferson's 268th birthday, and the gifts that he gave to the nation. You can also sign a "Happy Birthday" greeting for President Jefferson. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Mike G. Rose 202-438-9667.

Thursday, April 14 Lincoln's Assassination 12 - 1 p.m. 4 - 5 p.m.

Lincoln's death was a blow to a war-torn country in desperate need of a leader, but instead they received a martyr. Hear the story of that fateful night and learn the factors that led John Wilkes Booth to perform his calamitous act. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. For more information Contact Ranger Heidi Dietze at 202-438-7033.

Friday, April 15 Firing at Fort Sumter 5 - 6 p.m.

The firing at Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 began the American Civil

War. President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to suppress the "Rebellion." What brought about the firing at Fort Sumter? What were the consequences of the firing? Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Saturday, April 16 Taxes and the Civil War 12 - 1 p.m. 4 - 5 p.m.

You all know the IRS, but where do taxes really come from? Join a Park Ranger to explore some of the lesser known connections between taxes and major events in our nation's history. The American Civil War, raging 150 years ago, begins this story. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Tim Moore at 240-375-5755.

Saturday, April 16 Operation Iceberg: Okinawa 5 - 6 p.m.

"Operation Iceberg" was the code name for the invasion of the island of Okinawa. This was the last major campaign in World War II. It was a long campaign with many casualties for the Americans and the Japanese. What was the impact of this campaign? Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Monday, April 18 The Silent Service: America's Submarines in WW2

7 - 7:30pm

From Pearl Harbor to VJ Day the American submarine fleet was at the forefront of the war in the Pacific. As the price of their success, 52 submarines were sunk and 3500 American submariners lost their lives. Come hear their story. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Matthew Hornberger at 202-359-7080.

Tuesday, April 19 Lexington & Concord 5 - 6 p.m.

The opening shots of the American Revolution began in Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts. What were the causes and consequences of these famous battles? Did either the Americans and/or the British realize that the Revolution would last until 1783? Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O'Brian 202-438-7066.

Friday, April 22 & 29 WWII Operations and Vehicles 6 - 7 p.m.

The operations and vehicles of WWII proved to be monumental in history and invaluable for the United States' rendezvous with destiny. Come view the WWII Memorial's bronze timeline panels and era photographs to learn about battles and military vehicles. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Victor Pillow at 202-286-1624.

Saturday, April 23
Spring Bird Walk
10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Join a National Park Ranger as we try to locate and identify birds located in West Potomac Park and the Tidal Basin. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Robert Steele at 202-438-9574.

Saturday, April 23
Jr. Ranger Day Scavenger Hunt!
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

It's National Jr. Ranger Day and the National Mall is celebrating with a scavenger hunt just for kids! Clues will lead you to find the answers throughout the park, and prizes will be awarded to the groups with the most correct answers. Pick up a Scavenger Hunt guide from a ranger at the Lincoln Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Dorene Ruffing at 202-438-5805.

Wednesday, April 27
Franklin Delano Roosevelt & Teddy Roosevelt
5 - 6 p.m.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Teddy Roosevelt were distant cousins and famous Presidents. They had similar paths to become Presidents of the U.S., but there were political differences between them. How are they remembered in history? Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Saturday, April 30
1789 Washington Inauguration in New York?
11 a.m - 4 p.m

Join park staff in 1776 attire in remembering George Washington and his gifts to the nation when he first took the oath of office as President of the United States. Sign a best wishes sheet for President George Washington with a quill pen. Meet at the Washington Monument. For more information contact Park Ranger Mike G. Rose 202-438-9667.

Saturday, April 30
Charles Sumner and the Push for Abolition
4 - 5 p.m

Senator Sumner (R-MA 1851-1874) was a fearless abolitionist and rare statesman. He pushed the Emancipation Proclamation, the Fourteenth Amendment and a Civil Rights Bill 80 years before the Civil Rights Movement. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Saturday, April 30
The Lincoln Assassination
7 - 8 p.m.

The assassination of Abraham Lincoln took the nation by surprise. However, it was the result of a deep and complex conspiracy involving numerous characters who plotted attempts well before he was elected for his 2nd term. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Kathy Kagle at 202-438-5377.

 **BIKE TOURS**

All riders MUST provide their own bike, helmet and water. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Richard Ayad at 202-438-3456.

Sunday, April 3 & 10
Cherry Blossom
1 - 4 p.m.

If you want to enjoy the warm weather and experience the famous blossoms without all the traffic, you'll love our ranger-led bike tours! No two tours are ever the same.

Sunday, April 17
A Titanic Impact on Washington, D.C.
1 - 4 p.m.

The tragedy of the RMS *Titanic* sinking struck just as official Washington was erecting memorials destined to herald an enlightened, powerful, and gilded age. From Columbus Circle to the Lincoln Memorial, we will explore the numerous connections between several Titanic passengers and the icons of the National Mall.

Sunday, April 24
Off the Beaten Path
1 - 4 p.m.

In a city full of colossal and iconic memorials to great men and even greater deeds, these statues, urns, and symbolic gestures of friendship and remembrance can be found all over the city, yet, their stories have gone largely untold, until now.

Sunday, April 24
Family Bike Tour
The History of the National Mall: Myth Busters Edition
10- 12 p.m.

Fact or Fiction- Can you tell the difference? Have you heard the story about George Washington's wooden teeth or the other face carved on the back of Abraham Lincoln's head in the Lincoln Memorial? Discover where these infamous stories first started and find out if truth is stranger than fiction!

Saturday, April 30
D.C. People
1- 4p.m.

Get to know the people behind the city. See and hear how the influential personalities of Washington, D.C. have affected the city, the landscape, the architecture, and the culture of the Nation's Capital over time.

 **RUNNING TOURS**

Saturday, April 2 & 9
Cherry Chit-Chat Run
8 - 9 a.m.

Come explore the cherry blossoms in the quiet of the morning with a 3.5-mile run through the park with a ranger. Interpretive stops about these famous trees are included. Please bring your own water. Meet inside the circle of flags at the Washington Monument. For more information contact Ranger Susan Martin at 202-437-1888.



Ranger
Q & A

National Park Service Ranger Neil Koch grew up not far from the National Mall, in Towson, MD. He describes his childhood as "running the streets." A family trip to Acadia National Park, while still in elementary school, changed his life. He said of the visit, "Seeing and interacting with Park Rangers amidst Acadia National Park's gorgeous, rugged, seaside landscape grabbed me. I knew the National Park Service was for me."

Q. Where did you go to college and what did you study?

A. I went to the University of Maine and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism in 2004. After 4 years of study, I was ready for an adventure. I had all my gear with me and a free ride to the Appalachian Trail's (AT) terminus (Mount Katahdin) so I hopped on the AT and started hiking south.

Q. What was hiking the AT like?

A. The most important aspect was the initial challenge of setting long term goals and then achieving them. The longest day hiking was 41 miles; the shortest was 2 1/2 miles so things constantly changed, but the mission remained. I also saw how beautiful

humanity is, how kind, generous, and open-hearted Americans are.

Q. You went on to volunteer for the Peace Corps. Where and what did you do while in service?

A. I chose to serve in order to learn, expand, and share with others. I served as an Environmental Conservation Extensionist and Agro Business Advisor on Pentecost Island in Vanuatu in the Pacific Ocean.

Q. What is one of the most memorable times you recall from your work and travels with the Peace Corps?

A. Earning my custom name, Tarilavao

Ranger Q & A Continued on page 10



Sumter from page 1

would gain time to resolve the national crisis peacefully. If the southern states attacked the relief force, the federal government would be exonerated before the world from starting the war. Major Anderson received instructions to hold out as best he could until he was resupplied, but in order to preserve his men's lives he was not to resist to the bitter end.

From Davis' viewpoint, even Lincoln's nonmilitary intervention was a *casus belli*, an act justifying war. He instructed General P.G.T. Beauregard to demand the fort's surrender. If Anderson failed to comply, the southern general was to pound the federal installation into submission. Clearly the secessionists had the military advantage. South Carolina



April 14, 1865, (four years from the day the Rebels had compelled Major Anderson to haul down the stars and stripes from the flag-staff at Fort Sumter) Major General Anderson raised the same flag over the ruins of the Fort, now again in possession of the United States.

had been preparing for battle—by early April 1861 Charleston's harbor was ringed by forts and batteries, and Beauregard had perhaps 6,500 troops at his disposal, as well as 47 cannons. Anderson had approximately 130 men, of whom 43 were civilian workmen. He did have on his side brick walls at least five feet thick and 40 feet high. But of the 140 ordnance pieces, barely over one-third were battle ready. Additionally, because of low provisions the southern born major with nonsecessionist views could keep Sumter in Union hands only until April 15, unless help came.

In the early morning hours of April 12, Beauregard's emissaries rowed out to the beleaguered fortress. Hearing that relief was coming, Anderson informed them that he would give up the installation three days later unless he received orders to the contrary or if he received more supplies in the interim. His response was unsatisfactory to the Confederates and because Beauregard was aware that the needed supplies were soon to arrive, at 3:20 p.m. his representatives told the near-starving major that his garrison

would soon be attacked. With that, the U.S. flag was raised over Fort Sumter. Confederate Lt Henry S. Farley fired a shot over Fort Sumter from a mortar at 4:30 a.m. giving the signal for the other batteries to begin the bombardment. To one of Beauregard's men, that opening shot of the war had the appearance "like the wings of a fire fly." And so began the attack from 47 southern guns approximately a mile to a mile-and-a-half off from Anderson's installation, lasting for more than 33 hours. With the shells that fell on the installation came visitors—from a distance. The citizens of Charleston watched from the roofs of their homes, peered out windows or took in the spectacle from the waterfront.

How did Anderson and his men respond? Fort Sumter didn't answer until daybreak, around 7:30. The major's immediate subordinate fired the first Union cannon, but that captain, Abner Doubleday, became more well known in baseball annals. With ammunition supplies limited, the federal troops could give only a limited resistance. Even though the relief expedition appeared off Charleston harbor around 1 p.m., it was unable to be of any assistance to the men in the garrison because of the intense cannonade coming from the southern batteries. The following day the shelling seemed to intensify. Because of the intense smoke, Sumter's defenders clung to the ground.

The federals put rags over their faces to help them breathe, periodically getting gulps of fresh air at the cannon embrasures. In early afternoon, the fort's flagpole was destroyed and Beauregard asked Anderson to surrender. With the main gate shattered and the ammunition nearly exhausted, Anderson agreed on condition that the following day he could raise the national ensign again with a 100-gun salute before his troops departed. With Beauregard's acquiescence, he did so. But on the 50th salute, the cannon exploded, killing one of the soldiers. Several others were wounded, one mortally. With 4,000 rounds fired April 12 to 13, amazingly no one else was killed. Robert Anderson and his men departed April 14, leaving a federal facility with a Confederate and South Carolinian flag flying above it. But precisely four years later, the major who had surrendered raised the same battle-scarred flag he had lowered. And a few hours later on that same day, Abraham Lincoln lay dying opposite Ford's Theater.



How to Visit the Washington Monument

Washington Monument admission is free, but does require a ticket for everyone over the age of two. Open daily except July 4 and December 25.

Timed entry tickets are required and may be obtained in two ways:

1. The Washington Monument Lodge, located along 15th Street, opens at 8:30 a.m. for distribution of free, same day, timed tickets on a first come, first-served basis. One person may pick up as many as six tickets as well as select their preferred ticket time from what remains available for that operating day.
2. Reserved tickets may be obtained in advance by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 (for individuals) or 1-877-559-6777 (for large groups). Reserved tickets are often booked 30 days or more ahead of time. Please plan accordingly. All reserved tickets carry a \$1.50 convenience charge.

Operating Hours:

Sept. 7-May 30: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
May 31 - Sept. 6: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

National Mall and Memorial Parks Cell Phone Tours

Lincoln Memorial: 202-747-3420
First Amendment: 202-595-0085
Cherry Blossom Festival: 202-747-3465

Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During WWII

*"Japanese by Blood
Hearts and Minds American
With Honor Unbowed
Bore the String of Injustice
For Future Generations"*

Akemi Dawn Matsumoto Ehrlich

The Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During World War II was built as a lasting tribute to the more than 33,000 Japanese American soldiers who served the United States of America during World War II. The Memorial also pays tribute to the more than 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who were unjustly relocated in American confinement sites during the Second World War.

The memorial acknowledges the nation's error in discriminating against citizens on the basis of their ethnic roots. Further, it is a triumphal statement of loyalty by citizens who never lost faith in America. It is a testament to the greatness of a nation that does not fear to acknowledge its mistakes and darker chapters and emerges to recommit itself to the principles on which it was founded. It underscores the truth that America is a nation strengthened by its diversity, that constitutional rights must be guarded diligently for all citizens regardless of race, religion or ethnicity. This is an American memorial, created through the efforts of the nation's citizens of Japanese origin, celebrating a recommitment to the historic ideals of equality and justice for all.

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation raised more than 14 million dollars to design and build this memorial. The memorial was dedicated on November 4, 2000 and was transferred to the National Park Service two years later as a gift from the Japanese American community to the American public.

The memorial is located in Washington, D.C. at the intersection of Louisiana and New Jersey Avenues and D Street, NW.



Eastern National Bookstores



National Mall and Memorial Parks is a very inspiring and powerful place, but your experience does not have to end in Washington, D.C. Continue learning more about park sites and American history by visiting the many Eastern National bookstores throughout the park. Capture the moment, take home a book, and explore the ideas and values that make visiting National Mall and Memorial Parks such a stirring experience. Eastern National, a park partner, operates four bookstores located at:

Washington Monument Lodge
8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Lincoln Memorial
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
Sept. 7 - Mar. 25: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Mar. 26 - Sept. 6: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
Sept. 7 - Mar. 25: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Mar. 26 - Sept. 6: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.



Washington Monument Lodge

www.easternnational.org

Park Concessionaires

Guest Services, Inc. manages all retail operations for National Mall and Memorial Parks. This includes refreshment kiosks and gift stores throughout the park. They also operate the following recreational opportunities...



GUEST SERVICES

Tidal Basin Paddle Boats
202-479-2426
www.tidalbasinpaddleboats.com

East Potomac Tennis Center
202-554-5962
www.eastpotomactennis.com



Tourmobile Sightseeing provides live, narrated shuttle tours with hop on/hop off service. You choose where to stop, stay as long as you want, then reboard and ride to another historic location. Purchase your tickets directly

from the driver at any tour stop or any seasonal ticket booth.

Adults: \$27.00
Children 3-11: \$13.00
202-554-5100
www.tourmobile.com

National Cherry

National Park Service Programs and Partner Tents



National Cherry Blossom Festival March 26 - April 10, 2011

The National Park Service welcomes you to the 2011 National Cherry Blossom Festival! Start your visit at the Tidal Basin Welcome Area. This convenient location for services offered by the National Park Service and its partners provides visitor services, first aid, food, souvenirs, books and more. Learn about the history of the cherry trees by attending one of the many park ranger programs throughout the park. We have something for everyone! Park rangers and volunteers will be on hand to answer any questions concerning the Festival. For details, consult map on other side.

Festival Tents:

Hours of Operation and Location

Welcome and Information Tents

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Every Day)

Tidal Basin Welcome Area

11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Friday and Saturday)

11 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Sunday through Thursday)

Sylvan Theater

Food Tents

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Every Day)

Tidal Basin Welcome Area

Souvenirs/Bookstore Tent

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Every Day)

Tidal Basin Welcome Area

First Aid Tent

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Every Day)

Tidal Basin Welcome Area

Bloomin' Jr. Ranger Tent

10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)

Thomas Jefferson Memorial

Bicycle Parking - BRING YOUR OWN LOCK!

Thomas Jefferson Memorial &

Independence Avenue between 14th and 15th Streets

Note: Dates and hours of operation are subject to change.

Ranger Led Programs:

Hours of Operation and Location

Cherry Talks

11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. (Every Day)

Learn more about the history of the blossoms on these daily programs.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial & Thomas Jefferson Memorial

Lantern Walks

8 p.m. - 10 p.m. (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)

Enjoy the memorials and blossoms at night.

Departing from: NPS Welcome Tent at Tidal Basin Welcome Area. Bring your own flashlight.

Bike Tours

1 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Sundays)

Enjoy the cherry blossoms without all the traffic! Thomas Jefferson Memorial

Cherry Chit-Chat Runs

8 a.m. - 9 a.m. (Saturdays)

Lace up your shoes and join a Park Ranger for a 3.5 mile run and learn about the blossoms. Washington Monument

Bloomin' Jr. Ranger

10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)

Earn your Jr. Ranger Badge with hands-on activities!

3 p.m. Special Ranger Activity Thomas Jefferson Memorial

Ranger Audio Tours

Dial (202) 747-3465 to learn more about the blossoms.

Bike Tours

Join park rangers for guided bike tours of the cherry trees. Different tours will cover different information, but all reveal the historical and cultural significance of the trees. All riders MUST provide their own bike, helmet and water.

The bike tour season begins during the National Cherry Blossom Festival and continues through fall: Saturday, March 27 – Sunday, November 20, 2011.

Cherry Chit-Chat Runs

If you are interested in a more fast-paced exploration of the National Mall and the cherry blossoms, join park rangers for one of our Cherry Chit-Chat Runs. It's a great way to get your daily exercise and see the park from the perspective of morning's first light. The tour is comprised of a morning run around the National Mall with stops to highlight the history, beauty and culture of the cherry blossoms. While the exact routes and stops along the tour may vary by day, please be prepared for a distance of up to 3.5 miles at a good running pace. Also, remember to dress appropriately and bring water.

Bloomin' Jr. Ranger Activities

Children, ages 6-12, join park rangers at the Bloomin' Jr. Ranger Tent for hands-on activities. Make a paper lantern, color a picture, or write a Haiku poem. Complete three of the many activities to earn a Bloomin' Jr. Ranger badge or earn your badge by participating in a special one-hour educational program offered at 3 p.m.

Free Bicycle Self Parking

Located at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial and Independence Ave. between 14th and 15th Sts. Please bring your own lock.

Cherry Blossom Trail Guide

These guides provide more information on the flowering cherry trees and suggested walking routes. For example, learn about the 350-year-old granite Japanese lantern that was dedicated in 1954, the 100th anniversary of Commodore Perry's opening of trade with Japan. You can pick up a guide at any of our information tents.

In Case of Emergency
Call U.S. Park Police
202-610-7500
Lost and Found
202-426-6849



Remember,
Paddles Says:
"Please Do Not Pick
The Blossoms."

Cherry Talks

Join park rangers to learn more about the history and culture associated with the Japanese gift of flowering cherry trees. How did a shipwrecked 14-year-old boy contribute to the original treaty of friendship between the United States and Japan? What is the link between the samurai and the cherry blossoms? Different talks cover different topics - enjoy more than one.

Lantern Walks

See the blossoms in a new light. Guided by festive lanterns, rangers will lead you on an evening walk around the Tidal Basin. This two hour, two mile tour provides the time to explore a wide range of information about the flowering cherry trees at a leisurely pace. Please bring your own flashlight.



Blossom Festival

Frequently Asked Questions About the Festival

What is the Tidal Basin Welcome Area?

This location provides information, food, first aid and a gift shop for the 2011 National Cherry Blossom Festival. Most services in the Welcome Area are open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Where can I find information once I arrive in the park?

You can obtain information, maps, and publications at the Tidal Basin or Sylvan Theater Welcome Areas, the Survey Lodge Ranger Station or any of the monuments or memorials.

Is there anything to eat around here?

You can find food at the Tidal Basin Welcome Area and at the concession stands throughout the park. Most of the major Smithsonian museums have cafés as well.

Where and when are the fireworks?

The fireworks will take place at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, along the Southwest Waterfront along Maine Avenue.

Where and when is the parade?

The National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade will take place from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday, April 9. The parade route runs along Constitution Avenue starting at 7th Street, NW and ending at 17th Street, NW.

What is going on with all the construction?

This year there are many great additions to, and renovations on, the National Mall. The National Park Service is committed to standing by our mission to "preserve and protect" the great spaces that make up our National Parks. We apologize in advance for kicking up a bit of dust, but we are sure you will appreciate the end results.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial:

As you approach the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, you will see evidence of a long-term construction project. The park is rebuilding the seawall that separates the Tidal Basin from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

Currently, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Plaza and the western walkways around the Thomas Jefferson Memorial are closed. The memorial itself remains open.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial: Construction for this memorial has also begun. The pathways around this construction site are open with minor detours. Just follow the temporary pathways to reach the Lincoln Memorial or the WWII Memorial.

Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool:

This 2-year project will rejuvenate the almost 90-year-old memorial pool. Expect alternating closures of Elm Walk pathways or use Independence Ave. to navigate your way.

District of Columbia World War I Memorial:

This clean-up project will restore this often overlooked yet lovely memorial. The memorial area is temporarily closed.

17th & Constitution and Independence Ave. Levee Project:

This project aims to prevent possible flooding. Expect walking pathway detours in these areas.

Where is the performance stage this year?

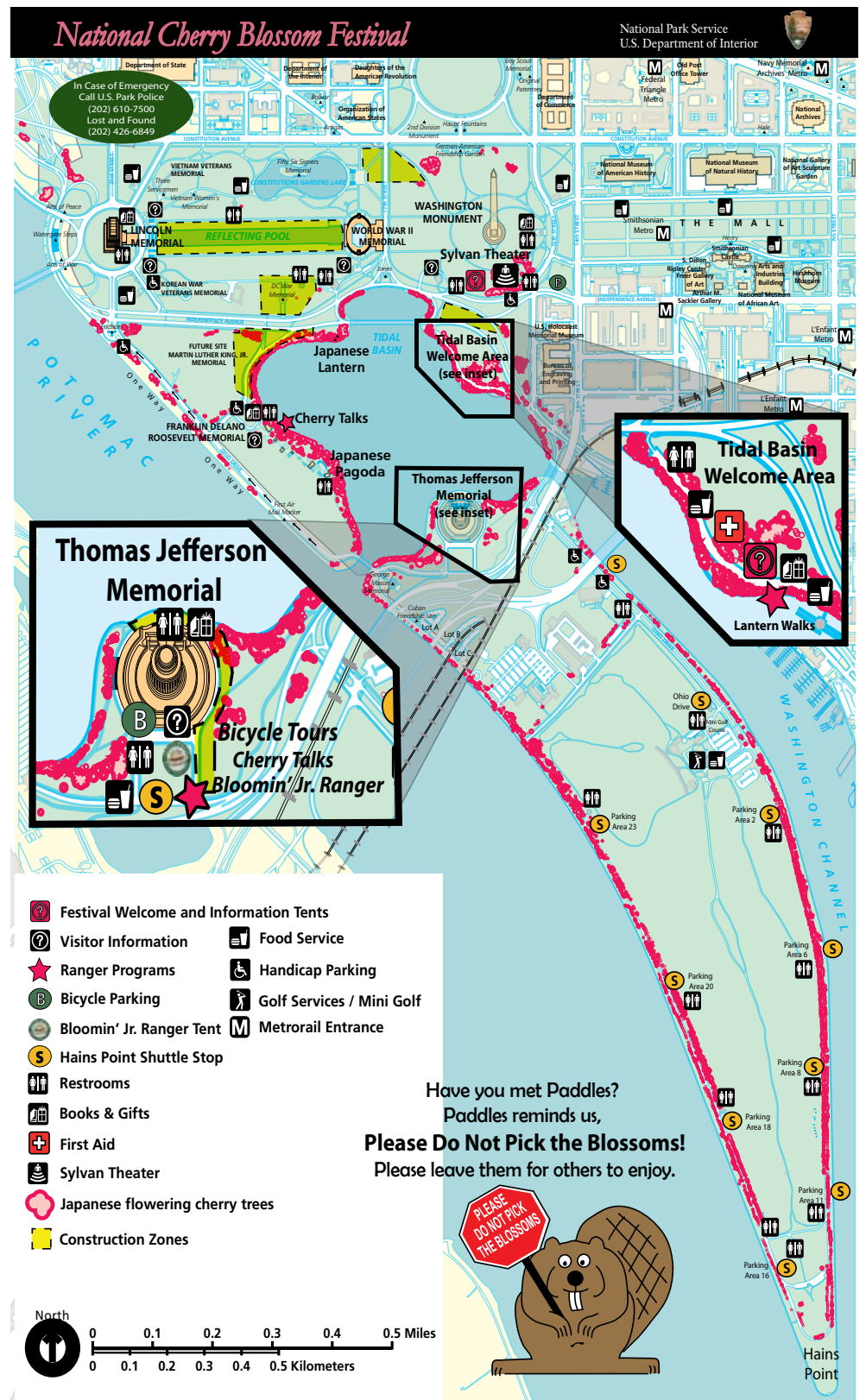
Because of ongoing construction around the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the Performance Stage has been relocated to the Sylvan Theatre on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

Is there a free shuttle bus?

Yes, you can park in the middle of the cherry blossoms along East Potomac Park and enjoy free shuttle service from the Hains Point parking areas to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Shuttles run at 20 - 30 minute intervals.

Hours of Operation:

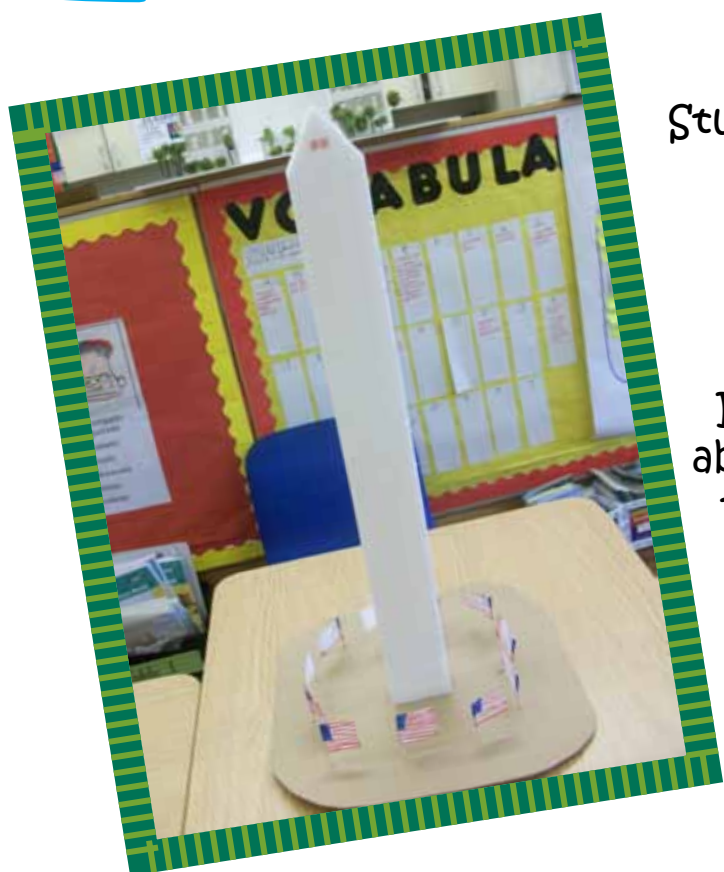
Daily 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
March 26 - April 10 The shuttle is FREE.



**Remember,
Paddles Says:**

**“Please Do Not Pick
The Blossoms.”**

KIDS' Column



Students from Washington, D.C.'s Cleveland Elementary School have been studying the history of their city.

They took a tour, visiting various presidential memorials.

In honor of George Washington's birthday, they learned facts about the first president and his monument. Recently they took the elevator to the top of the Washington Monument to look out over the city!

These third grade students also made models of some of Washington's well known structures. Check out some of their creations!

They are excited to share their projects and encourage others to learn about these special places!



National Jr. Ranger Day! Saturday, April 23

It's National Jr. Ranger Day and National Mall and Memorial Parks is celebrating with a scavenger hunt just for kids!

Clues will lead you to find answers throughout the park, and prizes will be awarded to the groups with the most correct answers.

Pick up a Scavenger Hunt guide from a Park Ranger at the Lincoln Memorial. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For more information contact Ranger Dorene Ruffing at Dorene_Ruffing@nps.gov or 202-438-5805.

Message from the Superintendent

April is a great time to experience your national park. Our ranger staff presents interpretive programs throughout the park including park-wide bike tours and shorter detailed programs of each memorial.

To learn more about the future of the National Mall, visit the National Mall Plan website, www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan to see how the final plan looks, express ideas, and follow our progress. Also take a few minutes to visit our partner's website, www.nationalmall.org to see how they are moving forward to help us make the vision of the Plan a reality.

Page through this newspaper to find out more about the many fascinating ranger programs offered throughout the park. Our park staff and volunteers will be glad to answer any of your questions. Thanks for visiting, and have a wonderful experience at National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Acting Superintendent
Mike Caldwell

“Monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

National Park Service Organic Act

August 25, 1916

Potomac Nature Packs

Birds, Bugs and Trees, OH MY!

Discover the wild side of the National Mall with nature packs designed to engage the entire family. Each pack is filled with a sketch pad, binoculars, books, park brochures, maps and activities for the whole family. These self-guided nature packs allow the whole family to put on their eagle eyes and explore the unbeleaf-able sights and sounds of the National Mall!

Packs are available at the Survey Lodge Ranger Station near the southwest corner of the Washington Monument grounds. Packs are available on a first come, first-served basis, and require an adult's drivers license. One pack per family. Call 202-426-6841 for more information.



Ranger Q & A Continued from page 3

(meaning 1st born son). I was surprised on Pentecost Day 2006 by my village's decision to initiate me as a chief. I am honored and cherish the

thoughtfulness behind the experience. Ask me about the ceremony as it was an amazing event!

Q. What is the best part of being a ranger?

A. It's hard to narrow it down to one thing. Fellow staff here at NAMA are fascinating people with great stories and interesting backgrounds and experiences. Visitors also make the job a lot of fun. It's awesome that folks

travel from all corners of the planet to see our park! I like working in a vibrant park that is constantly changing and I especially enjoy being connected to something much larger than myself (NPS).

Old Post Office Tower

This unique site stands on Pennsylvania Avenue near the halfway point between the White House and the Capitol. The Old Post Office Tower ranks third in height among the buildings of the Nation's Capital, soaring to a majestic 315 feet. At the 270 foot level, there is an observation deck allowing visitors an awe-inspiring view of Washington D.C. and the surrounding area. Beneath the observation deck is the tower clock, now more than a century old. On the tenth floor are the beautiful Bells of Congress. These bells are replicas of those at London's Westminster Abbey and were a Bicentennial gift from the Ditchley Foundation in England.



www.nps.gov/opot

Operating Hours

Summer: Memorial Day through Labor Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Winter: Labor Day through Memorial Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Ranger Programs:

Park Rangers are available throughout the tower to provide information. Have a question? Just ask!

Talk for the Tower on the Half-Hour

Daily at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

The Old Post Office Tower always has time for you. Do you have a few minutes for the Tower? Join a National Park Service ranger to learn what connects Ben Franklin to this fascinating piece of iconic architecture on Pennsylvania Avenue - America's 'Main Street.' Meet at the Ben Franklin statue along Pennsylvania Avenue. Call 202-606-8691 for more information.

Be sure to visit the updated Lincoln Memorial website! <http://www.nps.gov/linc>

Highlights include a new Lincoln Memorial Construction Flipbook and an Interactive Site. The flipbook utilizes historic photographs to tell the story of the memorial construction from inception to completion. You can experience a virtual walk-through of the memorial, and listen to ranger reflections of the memorial and its history on the Interactive Site.

