The Transformation of Franklin Delano Roosevelt

By Ranger Kathryn Williams

Periodically it appears that fate molds an individual for a specific purpose. This seems to have been the case with Franklin Delano Roosevelt. To look at his earlier life, one might think that he had it all: a member of a prestigious political and wealthy family, Harvard graduate, handsome, and promising political ambitions of his own. It also benefited him to have married Theodore Roosevelt’s niece Eleanor Roosevelt, his distant cousin. However, along with the wealth and the aristocratic heritage came an arrogance that probably aided his climb up the political ladder, but left him with little regard for his fellow man. One of the individuals who traveled in the same social circles and knew him in his early political career was Frances Perkins. She thought of him as spoiled and self-centered, “with a deafness to other people’s feelings.” But through great trial, patience and persistence, Roosevelt emerged a changed man.

Yes, life seemed to have given Roosevelt the “world by the tail” until one day it pulled the rug out from under him. He was 39 years old and enjoying a vacation at the family summer home at Portobello, Canada. After swimming in the cold Canadian water, Roosevelt came home feeling unusually tired and complaining that his legs ached. He went to bed thinking that he had overexerted himself and was coming down with a cold. The next morning he noticed that there was something definitely wrong with his legs. They went from weak to immobile and treatment was often experimental. At first Roosevelt believed he would eventually regain the use of his legs, but as time passed he began to realize that he would remain a paraplegic.

For the first time in his life, Roosevelt literally found himself flat on his back, having to depend on others for help until he could adjust to doing for himself and managing a day-to-day routine as independently as possible. There were times when he felt depressed because of his disabilities and how they had changed his whole outlook. His mobility was confined primarily to a wheelchair and occasionally to leg braces and crutches. If he never regained the use of his legs, what possible future did he have? This was the most frightening time in his life – when things seemed to be out of his control. His mother, Sara, wanted him to stay home, isolated from the cruel stares and whispers of a society that misunderstood anyone with a disability, especially those who needed wheelchairs. However, Eleanor argued against shutting him away while encouraging him to not give up. Roosevelt’s doctors recommended that he travel to New England where they diagnosed him as having poliomyelitis (polio), also known as infantile paralysis. At that time there wasn’t a cure for the virus and treatment was often experimental. At first Roosevelt believed he would eventually regain the use of his legs, but as time passed he began to realize that he would remain a paraplegic.

Roosevelt Continued on page 4
May

Don’t Forget...
Daily ranger programs presented at the memorials: 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 p.m. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 6 p.m.
8 | 10 a.m. | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 7 p.m.
15 | 8 a.m. | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 8 p.m.
22 | 1 p.m. | 23 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | 24 | 25 | 26 | 7 p.m.
29 | 10 a.m. | 30 | 31 |  |  |  | 6 p.m.

Memorial Day Concert
The National Park Service promotes BYOWB (Bring Your Own Water Bottle!) to the National Symphony Orchestra Memorial Day Concert at the U.S. Capitol on Sunday May 29.

Saturday, May 7
FDR’s Wild Side
10 - 11 a.m.
President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s New Deal included programs that helped the environment, as well as creating jobs. A park ranger will discuss the history of these programs as well as leading a nature walk through the Memorial. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Robert Steele at 202-438-9574.

Saturday, May 7
V-E Day
7 - 8 p.m.
The Second World War in Europe ended on May 7, 1945. This became commonly known as Victory in Europe Day or V-E Day. Come and learn more about this historical day and the events that led up to and followed it. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Robert Steele at 202-438-9574.

Thursday, May 12
Crete & North Africa
6 - 7 p.m.
The British were fighting for the island of Crete in May 1941 and fighting the Axis at the same time in North Africa. The “Desert Fox” was gaining fame in North Africa. Who was the “Desert Fox”? Come and learn more about this campaign in 1941. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, May 20
Jefferson and the American Revolution
7 – 8 p.m.
Thomas Jefferson during the American Revolution becomes famous. He was a member of the Continental Congress and the Governor of Virginia. How did we connect Jefferson with the American Revolution? Come and learn more about Thomas Jefferson & the Revolution. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Monday, May 23
Commemorate the Anniversary of the Creation of the United States Colored Troops for Kids!
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Join us at the African American Civil War Memorial in the historic Shaw district for a day of special educational programs to commemorate the anniversary of the creation of the United States Colored Troops (USCT). The USCT were regiments of the United States Army during the American Civil War that were composed of African-American “colored” soldiers. Learn about their unique contribution to the Civil War effort. Programs are free, but please call ahead for reservations. For more information contact Ranger Jen Epstein at 202-438-9584.

Tuesday, May 26
The Korean War & The Cold War
7 – 8 p.m.
Four years before the Korean War began the US was already fighting the Cold War. Over time the Korean War became known as the first “hot war” of the Cold War. Come learn more about this temperamental time when the world came to war over the 38th parallel. Meet at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, May 27
The Bismarck
7 – 8 p.m.
On May 27, 1941 the mighty German battleship Bismarck was sunk by the British Navy. This battleship was a power ship and it threatened the convoys in the North Atlantic. Why did the British fear this battleship and make Winston Churchill worry? Meet at the WWII Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Saturday, May 28
Memorial Day Concert Rehearsal - FREE: West Lawn of U.S. Capitol
8 - 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 29
Memorial Day Concert - FREE: West Lawn of U.S. Capitol
8 - 9:30 p.m.

North Africa. Who was the “Desert Fox”? Come and learn more about this campaign in 1941. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, May 20
Jefferson and the American Revolution
7 – 8 p.m.
Thomas Jefferson during the American Revolution becomes famous. He was a member of the Continental Congress and the Governor of Virginia. How did we connect Jefferson with the American Revolution? Come and learn more about Thomas Jefferson & the Revolution. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Memorial Day Concert
The National Park Service promotes BYOWB (Bring Your Own Water Bottle!) to the National Symphony Orchestra Memorial Day Concert at the U.S. Capitol on Sunday May 29.

Saturday, May 7
FDR’s Wild Side
10 - 11 a.m.
President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s New Deal included programs that helped the environment, as well as creating jobs. A park ranger will discuss the history of these programs as well as leading a nature walk through the Memorial. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Robert Steele at 202-438-9574.

Saturday, May 7
V-E Day
7 - 8 p.m.
The Second World War in Europe ended on May 7, 1945. This became commonly known as Victory in Europe Day or V-E Day. Come and learn more about this historical day and the events that led up to and followed it. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Robert Steele at 202-438-9574.

Thursday, May 12
Crete & North Africa
6 - 7 p.m.
The British were fighting for the island of Crete in May 1941 and fighting the Axis at the same time in North Africa. The “Desert Fox” was gaining fame in North Africa. Who was the “Desert Fox”? Come and learn more about this campaign in 1941. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, May 20
Jefferson and the American Revolution
7 – 8 p.m.
Thomas Jefferson during the American Revolution becomes famous. He was a member of the Continental Congress and the Governor of Virginia. How did we connect Jefferson with the American Revolution? Come and learn more about Thomas Jefferson & the Revolution. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Monday, May 23
Commemorate the Anniversary of the Creation of the United States Colored Troops for Kids!
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Join us at the African American Civil War Memorial in the historic Shaw district for a day of special educational programs to commemorate the anniversary of the creation of the United States Colored Troops (USCT). The USCT were regiments of the United States Army during the American Civil War that were composed of African-American “colored” soldiers. Learn about their unique contribution to the Civil War effort. Programs are free, but please call ahead for reservations. For more information contact Ranger Jen Epstein at 202-438-9584.

Tuesday, May 26
The Korean War & The Cold War
7 – 8 p.m.
Four years before the Korean War began the US was already fighting the Cold War. Over time the Korean War became known as the first “hot war” of the Cold War. Come learn more about this temperamental time when the world came to war over the 38th parallel. Meet at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, May 27
The Bismarck
7 – 8 p.m.
On May 27, 1941 the mighty German battleship Bismarck was sunk by the British Navy. This battleship was a power ship and it threatened the convoys in the North Atlantic. Why did the British fear this battleship and make Winston Churchill worry? Meet at the WWII Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Saturday, May 28
Memorial Day Concert Rehearsal - FREE: West Lawn of U.S. Capitol
8 - 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 29
Memorial Day Concert - FREE: West Lawn of U.S. Capitol
8 - 9:30 p.m.

North Africa. Who was the “Desert Fox”? Come and learn more about this campaign in 1941. Meet at the World War II Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, May 20
Jefferson and the American Revolution
7 – 8 p.m.
Thomas Jefferson during the American Revolution becomes famous. He was a member of the Continental Congress and the Governor of Virginia. How did we connect Jefferson with the American Revolution? Come and learn more about Thomas Jefferson & the Revolution. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Monday, May 23
Commemorate the Anniversary of the Creation of the United States Colored Troops for Kids!
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Join us at the African American Civil War Memorial in the historic Shaw district for a day of special educational programs to commemorate the anniversary of the creation of the United States Colored Troops (USCT). The USCT were regiments of the United States Army during the American Civil War that were composed of African-American “colored” soldiers. Learn about their unique contribution to the Civil War effort. Programs are free, but please call ahead for reservations. For more information contact Ranger Jen Epstein at 202-438-9584.

Tuesday, May 26
The Korean War & The Cold War
7 – 8 p.m.
Four years before the Korean War began the US was already fighting the Cold War. Over time the Korean War became known as the first “hot war” of the Cold War. Come learn more about this temperamental time when the world came to war over the 38th parallel. Meet at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, May 27
The Bismarck
7 – 8 p.m.
On May 27, 1941 the mighty German battleship Bismarck was sunk by the British Navy. This battleship was a power ship and it threatened the convoys in the North Atlantic. Why did the British fear this battleship and make Winston Churchill worry? Meet at the WWII Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.
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.

Saturday, May 7
L’Enfant’s Vision 1 - 4 p.m.
13 ½ Street... Really? How did Washington, D.C.’s unique street design come about? Join Park Rangers on an exploration of some of the original design elements of L’Enfant’s Federal City. For more information contact Ranger Tim Moore at 240-375-5755.

Saturday, May 14
The Civil War Begins 1 - 4 p.m.
After the firing on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 President Lincoln asks for 75,000 volunteers. Lincoln, Sherman, Hancock, and Grant become historical figures during this time. You can also find their memorials on the Mall. Come and learn more about these great men. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Sunday, May 22
What Lies Beneath 1 - 4 p.m.
Each year millions of people visit the memorials on the National Mall. Not much thought is given to what supports these beautiful structures. Mysterious canals, tunnels, and secret passageways criss-cross under our feet in their own secret world. For more information contact Ranger Heidi Dietze at 202-438-7033.

Sunday, May 29
A Liquid Look at American History 1 - 4 p.m.
The Boston tea party was not the only time a drink changed American history. From the Revolutionary War through the Cold War, beverages from rum to soda have played an integral role in shaping some of the political decisions in this country. For more information contact Ranger Heidi Dietze at 202-438-7033.

Bike Tours

Running Tours
Saturday, May 14
Chit-Chat Run: Iconic First Ladies 8 - 9 a.m.
Though we may all “Hail to the Chief,” there is no denying the iconic First Ladies. Lace up your running shoes for a 3.5 mile jog, 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. Bike tours are free but reservations are required. For more information, please contact Ranger Heidi Dietze at 202-438-7033.

Sunday, May 29
Chit-Chat Run: Adding Change to the Banks of the Potomac 8 - 9 a.m.
Dash through a few of DC’s scenic sites, and learn about the National Mall and Memorial Parks metamorphosis from river, to swamp, to National Parkland. Interpretive stops included on this approximately 3.5 mile route, and please bring your own water. Meet inside the circle of flags at the Washington Monument. For more information contact Ranger Neil Koch at 202-438-6640.

Walking Tours
Sunday, May 1
Revolutionary Leaders on the Mall 7 – 9 p.m.
There are four American Revolution Leaders on the National Mall. The names of Washington, Jones, Jefferson and Mason are part of the history of the American Revolution. Why they so important? Come on a two hour walking tour to learn more about these men. Meet at the Washington Monument. For more information contact Ranger Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Saturday, May 14
An Evening With a Park Ranger 6 - 9 p.m.
Spend an evening with a Park Ranger and tour the Mall as you learn about the history of the Park and the Memorials. Bring water and a flashlight. Wear comfortable shoes. Meet at the Washington Monument. For more information contact Ranger Kathy Kagie at 202-438-5377.

Saturday, May 21
Bird Walk Around Hains Point 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Join a National Park Service Ranger on a guided Bird Walk around Hains Point to see how many birds we can identify. Binoculars provided. Meet at the George Mason Memorial. For more information contact Ranger Robert Steele at 202-438-9574.

Saturday, May 21
Who Won the Civil War? 5 - 7 p.m.
Appotomax ended America’s bloodiest war with a Union victory. But was the North the true victor? And who were the real losers? Meet at the Washington Monument. For more information contact Ranger Lowell Fry at 202-438-9603.

Saturday, May 28
Lincoln Haunts Jaunts 5 - 7 p.m.
Want to walk in Lincoln’s footsteps and see some of the places familiar with America’s Civil War president? Meet at the Washington Monument. For more information contact Ranger Lowell Fry at 202-438-9603.

Sunday, May 1
What the Tower Saw 2 – 3 p.m.
Discover what the Old Post Office Tower has witnessed since 1899. As you stroll along Pennsylvania Avenue, the stories will be revealed. Meet at the Ben Franklin Statue at the Old Post Office Tower. For more information contact Ranger Julia Clebsch at 202-606-8691.

Sundays, May 5 & 29
African American Life on Pennsylvania Avenue 2 - 3 p.m.
Join a Park Ranger for a one Hour walking tour of the aspects of African American Life on Pennsylvania Avenue. Meet at the Old Post Office Plaza. For more information contact Ranger Shundra Yates at 202-606-8691.

Saturdays, May 7 & 28
Untold Stories of Pennsylvania Avenue 2 - 3 p.m.
There are many untold stories of American sociology preserved in the history of Pennsylvania Avenue. Meet Ranger Early at Freedom Plaza to hear these stories of human and business culture showcased on Pennsylvania Avenue. For more information contact Ranger Titus Early at 202-606-8691.

Saturdays, May 14, 21
The Early Days of Pennsylvania Avenue 2 - 3 p.m.
Take a stroll through time down Pennsylvania Avenue with a Park Ranger. Learn about the earliest visions of Washington, D.C., the wilderness from whence it sprang, and the struggle to put the America's Capital City on the Potomac. Meet at Freedom Plaza. For more information contact Ranger Jason Barna at 202-606-8691.

Saturday, May 7
Who Conquered Latin America’s War for Freedom 6 - 8 p.m.
Have you ever wondered why some of Latin America’s greatest leaders have statues in the heart of the nation’s capital? Join us for a guided tour of the memorials to the heroes that helped liberate Latin America from Spain. Meet at the Foggy Bottom Metro Station. Reservations not required. For further information contact Ranger Michael Balis at 202-438-9710.
Warm Springs, GA to reap the benefits of its mineral waters. Swimming in the warm water allowed him to exercise and strengthen his upper body. At the same time his morale improved. He watched others, especially children afflicted with the same debilitating virus, noticing their determination to live their lives to the fullest despite their physical hindrances. This restored his own determination that never again failed him. When he returned to his home in Hyde Park, NY he made plans to continue his political career.

In 1932 Roosevelt won the governorship of New York. Before his illness he had planned to follow in the footsteps of his famous cousin Teddy Roosevelt, who had also been the state's governor before becoming president of the United States. Now it seemed that Roosevelt was back on track with his ambitions. But there was a noticeable change about him. He had battled his upper body. At the same time his morale allowed him to exercise and strengthen his waist down. Because the old concepts of society hadn’t changed, Roosevelt wanted the people to focus on his abilities rather than his disabilities. As part of the deception, he became the first presidential candidate to campaign from a car.

In 1933, when he delivered his first inaugural address, he spoke to a nation crippled with a Depression so severe that one-third of its people were unemployed, many of them homeless and destitute. His words, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself,” were like his own testimony. He knew the fear that many faced: the fear of lost hopes and dreams; of not knowing what would become of them; of not being in control of their futures. He also saw despair in their faces while he was campaigning, something he wouldn’t have acknowledged prior to his illness. Those who had known him in the past noticed the change in him. President Roosevelt was far different from the Senator Roosevelt they had known. This Roosevelt was compassionate and caring and took a genuine interest in trying to relieve the suffering caused by the Depression. In order to get the country back on its feet and moving toward a healthy economy, he attempted some experimental policies that were designed to create jobs, improve the banking institutions by making them less dependent on the stock market and provide loans for farmers, as well as create unemployment benefits and Social Security. He called this new “medicine” the New Deal.

The New Deal had its share of critics. Some people claimed that it brought socialism into American society while it drove up the national deficit. Others considered it legalized “Robin Hood” – robbing the rich to give to the poor, primarily because it would be the wealthy people’s tax dollars that would pay for these social programs. There were also those who thought Roosevelt had too much power. Obviously Germany came to mind as Americans read about the German chancellor’s rise to a dictatorship. However, the New Deal’s benefits far outweighed its negative impacts. Putting people back to work replaced humiliation and despair with pride and hope. The country was beginning to recover at a critical time when World War II was looming.

Roosevelt’s illness didn’t stand in the way of him moving forward with his life and his political aspirations. If anything, it shaped him into a more effective president to deal with the human side of the Great Depression and the decisions and risks of World War II. He died at Warm Springs on April 12, 1945. Upon hearing of his death, Senator Robert Taft summed up the feelings of a mourning nation: “He dies a hero of the war, for he literally worked himself to death in the service of the American people.” On May 2, 1997, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial was dedicated to the only president elected to four terms and is divided into four rooms to reflect this. There is a statue of Roosevelt in a wheelchair at the front of the memorial, but it is the entire memorial and its exhibits that tell the story of the challenges and triumphs of FDR’s presidency.

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
Vietnam Veterans Memorial: 202-595-0093
By Ranger Heidi Dietze

By the end of the 19th century heavy industrialization in America had resulted in the emergence of a frustrated working class. There were no standardization laws in the factories; the average laborer worked 12 to 16 hours a day, six days a week in unsafe conditions. Workers felt unprotected and exploited.

On May 1, 1886, an estimated 400,000 workers around the country went on strike and demonstrated for a standard eight-hour workday. It succeeded for some, but for many the battle had just begun. Two days later in Chicago, a confrontation broke out between workers and strikebreakers at the McCormick Harvesting Machine Company. Police protecting the strikebreakers fired on the crowd, killing two workers. Local anarchists were outraged and printed up flyers calling for a rally the next day at Haymarket Square, the city’s bustling commercial center. Leading labor activist August Spies opened the rally. Speaking to the large contingent of police officers in the crowd, he reminded them that their purpose was not to incite violence but to gain support for their cause. The rally proceeded peacefully and when it ended the police told the crowd to disperse. At that moment an anonymous pipe bomb was thrown at the police line killing one officer, Mathias Degan. Police opened fire and the crowd rioted in response. When it was over, seven more police officers and four workers were dead. Several officers were injured from the bomb, 60 injured from friendly fire, and an unknown number of civilians were wounded.

Within days police began rounding up individuals who had any connection to the rally. It didn’t matter whether they had actually attended or not. Eight were arrested for the death of Officer Degan, including August Spies. Their trial was internationally publicized, and in the process they became heroes to workers around the world. Though the prosecution agreed that none of the defendants had thrown the bomb, they were all found guilty. Seven received death sentences and one a 15-year prison term. After appeals were made to the Illinois State Supreme Court, four were ultimately executed by hanging on November 11, 1887, and one died in his cell the night before his execution. The other three remained in prison until 1893, when they were pardoned by Illinois Governor John Altgeld, who stated the executed men had been victims of “hysteria, packed juries and a biased judge.”

As a result of the Haymarket riot and executions in 1888, members of international organized labor groups met in Paris to declare May 1 as International Workers’ Day, a day for worldwide labor demonstrations. This annual event would later expand to include equality and world peace in the celebrations.

In the United States it is known as Labor Day, and is commemorated on the first Monday in September. President Grover Cleveland moved it from May to September in 1894 to distance it from the negative connotations of the Haymarket tragedy. In 1958 President Dwight Eisenhower declared May 1 Law Day, or Loyalty Day, “in appreciation of…liberties and the reaffirmation of…loyalty to the United States and of…rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under law in their relations with each other and with other countries.”

---

Eastern National Bookstores

Serving the Visitors to America’s National Parks and Other Public Trusts

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.

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...

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 Park Service Ranger Kristel Nelson was born and raised in a tightly knit immigrant community of Germans and Italians in the Bronx, NY. Her grandparents survived WWII labor camps in Siberia and moved to America in 1952, lured by the promise of streets paved with gold only to be tempered by daily struggles and rewards of working class America. After her parents divorced, Kristel spent weekends with her father, who took her to State and National parks and introduced her to the outdoors: hiking, horseback riding, boating and fishing. She recalls helping dad pack up the cooler with sandwiches and cold drinks, then loading the dogs up to spend the day in the park. Kristel says this about her upbringing: “My childhood memory is one of birds chirping, fish biting, water flowing, horses frolicking, and the sun gleaming. It was quality time; my dad spent with me and my sister, Marlena Giga, Park Enforcement Patrol Sergeant, that still guides our passion and love for the outdoors and the National Park Service.”

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

A. I first went to Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania where I graduated with a BA in Park and Resource Management. Then on to Montclair State University where I studied Environmental Science, and finally ending up at East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania where I earned my Master’s of Science in Biology.

Q. What was your first park experience?

A. My first park experience was a visit to Pelham Bay Park, a neighborhood park in the Bronx.

Q. What was your first park job like?

A. I worked at the Upper Delaware Science Recreational River, as a Park Ranger intern in 2000. I spent my days canoeing along the Delaware River interpreting natural resources such as bald eagles, black bears, and American shad.

Q. How did you merge your education with your passion for parks?

A. It began when I was working in Cape Hatteras National Seashore (CAHA). It was there that I gained a greater understanding of how the natural world functions. CAHA is a barrier island off of North Carolina that is protected by the National Park Service. It has become known as the “Hurricane Alley and Graveyard of the Atlantic” because of all the hurricanes that pass through and all the shipwrecks from early exploration to recent history due to the large shoals off the coast. I enjoyed working as a seasonal Park Ranger presenting programs about endangered sea turtles, pirates, lighthouses, torpedo junction, birds, crabs, and fish. I completed my research master’s degree project by creating an

Kristel and her dad Peter Giga at Cape Hatteras lighthouse.

Detail of the Cavalry Sculpture which is the Memorial’s artist Henry Merwin Shryady.

Ranger Q & A Continued on page 8
African American Civil War Memorial

Did you know?
There are 209,145 names of soldiers who were members of the United States Colored Troops listed on the Memorial’s Wall of Honor.

Break the code to find out the name of the statue at the African American Civil War Memorial:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>!</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>O</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>@</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>^</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+ & $ * $? ^ # # * @ @ ! ^ %

Commemorate the Anniversary of the creation of the US Colored Troops!

Monday, May 23
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Come to the African American Civil War Memorial and join in the activities!

For more information contact Ranger Jen Epstein at Jennifer_Epstein@nps.gov or 202-438-9584.

The memorial is located at 10th and U St., NW, in the historic Shaw neighborhood of Washington, DC.
May is a great time to experience National Mall and Memorial Parks. Our ranger staff are here daily from 8:30 a.m. until midnight to present programs throughout the National Mall and to make your visit safe and memorable. During May we offer a wide variety of programs including bike tours, walking tours, running tours, and ranger talks at each of the Memorials.

As always we welcome feedback from you on your experience so please contact us at the address listed on the front of the Newspaper or email us your comments at: NAMA_Superintendent@nps.gov.

Thank you for visiting, and we hope you have a wonderful experience at National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Acting Superintendent
Mike Caldwell

Potomac Nature Packs

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 unbel-leaf-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.

“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

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

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., 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.

Ranger Q & A

A. I enjoy the flexibility of my Ranger programs, collateral duties, and working special events. However, most importantly I enjoy working with such a wonderful, hardworking, dedicated crew of Park Rangers, and meeting visitors both young and old from around the world. I especially love meeting young children who want to became Junior Rangers as I have a one year old daughter and I love children.

B. I traded in my flip flops and bathing suit for boots and Gortex for my position as a Park Ranger at National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Q. What is the best part of being a Park Ranger on the Mall?

Gortex by A.

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

Highlights include a 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.

Continued from page 3

“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.”

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 unbel-leaf-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.

“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

Ranger Q & A

A. I enjoy the flexibility of my Ranger programs, collateral duties, and working special events. However, most importantly I enjoy working with such a wonderful, hardworking, dedicated crew of Park Rangers, and meeting visitors both young and old from around the world. I especially love meeting young children who want to became Junior Rangers as I have a one year old daughter and I love children.

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

Highlights include a 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.

8 National Mall Times