

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Community Newsletter

Summer Edition 2021

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Historical Park
Kentucky



Summer Edition

Juneteenth Celebration



Park Celebrates Juneteenth

The Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park celebrated Juneteenth on June 19, 2021, to mark the 156th anniversary of the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation to some of the last remnants of enslaved people in Galveston, Texas. The Memorial Building was illuminated in red, white, and blue lights to observe the anniversary of Juneteenth. Frederick Douglass, as portrayed by living historian Michael Crutcher, shared the thoughts of Douglass on the meaning of Juneteenth and its importance to the African American community and America..

Safety



Remember to stay hydrated if you are out in the sun for long periods of time. Dehydration occurs when your body loses more fluids than it takes in. Dehydration can lead to more severe issues, such as cramps, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and kidney problems. Heat stroke occurs when the body temperature reaches 104 degrees and requires emergency treatment. The lack of treatment can lead to damage to the brain, heart, muscles, and can lead to death. Remember to stay hydrated! Let's Stay Safe!

At the Park

UPDATES FROM IN AND AROUND THE PARK

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Plan Like a Park Ranger is a new NPS park campaign taking place across the country. With parks opening or expanding access and folks spending more time in the outdoors, this new initiative encourages planning the best, safest, and most inspiring experience. NPS hopes to also orient new visitors who are discovering the nation's parks for the first time. A great way to Plan Like a Park Ranger is to download the new free NPS park app where you will find up to date park information, interactive maps, things to do and virtual postcards. Wishing you a safe and wonderous summer adventure!



Park superintendent
Catherine Bragaw.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK



Audience Views Play from Memorial Steps

"All the world's a stage...", even at Abraham Lincoln's Birthplace! On May, 27, 2021, the park hosted the traveling theatre group Kentucky Shakespeare for a free live performance of *Romeo and Juliet*. Over 100 people attended the event, watching the classic play from the steps of the historic memorial to Lincoln. It is fitting that the first play performed at the park would be written by one of Lincoln's favorite authors. Having been introduced to the works of Shakespeare at a young age, Lincoln's admiration for the Bard continued to grow throughout his lifetime. With the success of this event, the park hopes to invite Kentucky Shakespeare back for a new performance next year.

WILDLIFE IN THE PARK



White-Tail Deer

The White-Tail Deer is native to much of North, Central, and South America. They live in wooded areas and their coloration provides great camouflage for protection from predators. The male has antlers and can weigh 150 to 300 pounds. The female can weigh 90 to 200 pounds. A deer's territory is usually about one square mile. They collect in family groups of a mother and her fawns. When a doe has no fawns, she is usually solitary. Male bucks can live in groups of three or four individuals, except in mating season, when they are solitary. Their diet consist of green plants in the summer and corn and nuts during the fall.

Window Into History

REHABILITATION OF THE LINCOLN TAVERN CONTINUES

The rehabilitation of the Lincoln Tavern at the Knob Creek Boyhood Home Unit continues to move forward. The deteriorated logs on the outside of the structure have been replaced and a new roof has been installed. Work has begun on the interior of the structure and the replacement of the windows will soon take place. Much progress has been made toward the conversion of the tavern in to a Visitor Center. The park plans to hold a grand opening on Saturday, October 9th.



Lincoln Tavern
Rehabilitation

THE BOUNDARY OAK TREE



Boundary Oak tree with
sign

Sprouting around 1781, the Boundary Oak was the "last living link" to Abraham Lincoln at Sinking Spring Farm. The Boundary Oak was used as a boundary marker in the original 1805 survey of the farm and served as a boundary marker and survey point for subsequent surveys of the property. The tree remained a point of interest to visitors for many years after the creation of the park in 1916. By the time of its death in 1976, the Boundary Oak had reached a height of 90 feet, with a crown spread of 115 feet, and was nearly 6 feet in diameter. The remnants of the tree were finally removed in 1986, and a portion can still be seen as an exhibit in the park's museum.

NOW HE BELONGS TO THE AGES

Beginning on April 10th and continuing through April 25th, the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park held a special observance to mark the 156th anniversary of the assassination and passing of President Abraham Lincoln. The Memorial Building was illuminated in white lights and the columns were draped in black and purple mourning bunting, a tradition that dates to Victorian times. Following the assassination and passing of President Abraham Lincoln, many homes, businesses, and public buildings were draped in black to honor Lincoln's passing. On April 14, visitors were able to view the special lighting from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm (ET).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Parks & Pages

Join us in reading books on the "battlefields and beyond." Come out to the park at 3 pm ET for a discussion with rangers and other visitors. The book club meetings are the third Friday each month. No reservations or fees are necessary. Check the park's [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page for the year's full book club schedule or contact us.

July 16, 2021

Notes from a Colored Girl: The Civil War Pocket Diaries of Emilie Frances Davis by Karsonya Wise Whitehead (pg. 277)

August 20, 2021

Bleeding Blue and Gray: Civil War Surgery and the Evolution of American Medicine by Ira Rutkow (pg. 320)

September 17, 2021

Junius and Albert's Adventures in the Confederacy: A Civil War Odyssey by Peter Carlson (pg. 288)

A Walk Through Lincoln's Life

September 15th & 16th

Join us for a two-day educational program based on the life experiences of Abraham Lincoln. The event is free and open to all schools and to the public.

The week of October 4 - 8 is full of scheduled events planned by the park and the community leading up to the Grand Reopening of Knob Creek and its new Visitor Center.

Knob Creek Grand Reopening

The Knob Creek Boyhood Home Unit will have a Grand Reopening on October 9th. Make plans to come by and see the new Visitor Center with new exhibits.

If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter or park please reach out to us at abli_superintendent@nps.gov.



STAY UPDATED AND CONNECTED
WITH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

Community Pulse

MEET THE DIVISION OF MAINTENANCE

The maintenance division of the park performs many duties to ensure that the resources of the park are well maintained and in good condition for the enjoyment of park visitors. The division daily cleans the interior of the Visitor Center and Memorial Building, mows the park grounds weekly, and makes repairs within the park as needed. The maintenance division has the skills and tools to ensure that the park will be ready to welcome visitors from across the country and around the world.



Maintenance Staff Members

EASTERN NATIONAL BOOKSTORE LAUNCHES NEW APP

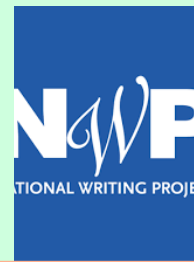


Eastern National Manager
Elizabeth Springer.

Eastern National is a nonprofit cooperating association of the National Park Service. It's very first store was at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park! Now the America's National Parks store at ABLI has started an Instagram account to keep followers updated on news and events about both the store and the park in general. You can follow them at [@lincolnbirthplacenhpsstore](https://www.instagram.com/lincolnbirthplacenhpsstore).

WRITING FOR CHANGE COMES TO ABLI

The Abraham Lincoln Birthplace is proud to welcome a new partnership with the Louisville Writing Project. The Louisville Writing Project is a chapter of a nationally recognized network called the National Writing Project. In July, a dozen students from the Louisville area and beyond will arrive for a two week-long workshop in which they will learn about Abraham Lincoln and his writings and speeches. As a result of their visit, they will be inspired to write their own creative work with the theme of creating positive change. We look forward to what the students create!



National
Writing Project