

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2013

“Arlington at 150”: Events designed to commemorate Arlington National Cemetery’s 150th anniversary

ARLINGTON, Va. – Arlington National Cemetery will host a series of special events from May through June 2014 designed to honor the traditions, remember the sacrifice and explore the history of the cemetery as it commemorates its 150th anniversary.

The commemoration period begins with a wreath laying ceremony on May 13 at the gravesite of Army Pvt. William Christman, who was the first military burial at Arlington, and concludes with a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on June 15, the day Arlington officially became a national cemetery. The cemetery will also host informative lectures and tours that highlight the history of the United States through the eyes of its heroes buried at Arlington and the military conflicts that shaped the cemetery and the nation.

The highlight of the commemoration will be an observance program on the evening of June 13 that will feature historical vignettes and musical performances. The event is free and open to the public.

“Arlington National Cemetery is America’s premier military cemetery and a sacred treasure in our nation’s history. We are pleased to host a series of events to mark this special occasion,” said Patrick K. Hallinan, executive director of Army National Military Cemeteries.

“Arlington at 150” events:

May 13, 2014: Wreath Laying Ceremony at the grave of Pvt. William Christman, the first military burial at Arlington

May 13, 2014: Arlington National Cemetery 150th Anniversary Book Release Reception at the Women In Military Service for America Memorial

May 19, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *The American Civil War*

May 20, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *Uncle Sam’s Little Wars*

May 21, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *World War I: Bringing our Heroes Home*

May 22, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *World War II: The Greatest Generation*

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May 23, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *U.S. Military and the Cold War*

May 30, 2014: Renaming ceremony for the Old Amphitheater, immediately following Decoration Day Observance hosted by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

June 2, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *The American Civil War*

June 3, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *World War I: Bringing our Heroes Home*

June 4, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *Late 20th Century to the Present*

June 5, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *Monuments and Memorials*

June 6, 2014: Special Guided Tour: *Medal of Honor*

June 13, 2014: “Arlington at 150” Observance Program: A tribute to Arlington’s Past, Present and Future

June 15, 2014: Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Memorial Amphitheater, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

Additional information related to “Arlington at 150” events can be found at www.arlingtoncemetery.mil.

Arlington National Cemetery is committed to honoring the legacy of our fallen heroes, veterans and their families through dignified military interment services. The work that Arlington is undertaking today will further enable the cemetery to be a place for people to *Honor, Remember* and *Explore* this nation’s rich history well into the future.

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