

FORT NEGLEY WIG WAG

A Semi-monthly publication of Fort Negley Park
Metro Parks

Volume 2, Issue 3
May/June, 2014

Staff

Krista Castillo
Museum Coordinator

Tracy Harris
Programs & Education
Specialist

Newsletter

Ron Crabtree
Editor

Fort Negley 

1100 Fort Negley Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37203
615-862-8470



Fossils at the Fort, A Big Hit Again!

The second annual Fossils at the Fort event drew large and enthusiastic crowds Saturday, April 5th. The event was attended by approximately 1000 guests. Dr. Molly Miller and students from her "Life Through Time" class (EES220) at Vanderbilt were on hand to identify fossils, give tours and give presentations every twenty minutes in the Visitors Center theater. Subjects included: embryonic fossils, Lyuba the baby mammoth, and other amazing fossils found around the world. Visitors were guided by students as they examined fossils through a microscope and walked a giant timeline drawn on the walkway to the fort.

A new activity this year was a 23 ton fossil pile provided by Vulcan Materials Company. Visitors were encouraged to dig for fossils. This activity was very popular and produced hundreds of fossils the finders were allowed to keep for their own collection. A fossil cleaning station, a fossil identification sheet and experts on hand made identifying fossils easy. Jon Badgett and Kevin McCarty of Vulcan Materials Company displayed a variety of gem stones and minerals.

Due to the popularity of the fossil pile, Vulcan Materials and Fort Negley have formed a partnership to make fossil hunting at the fort a full time opportunity. Visitors are welcome to dig the pile from daylight until dusk every day. Fossil identification sheets are available in the Visitors Center and in the mailbox located near the stone gates. You will need to bring your own tools (hammer, hand shovel, soft brush, flat shoes, collection bag, etc.) as these are not provided by the site. The pile will be renewed periodically by Vulcan so there will always be fossils to dig. Dig it?

If you enjoyed this event and have some great pictures of your day here, we'd like to invite you to post them to Fort Negley's Facebook page with [#fossilsatfortnegley](https://www.facebook.com/fossilsatfortnegley).

Our special thanks goes out to Dr. Molly Miller, her students at Vanderbilt University and Vulcan Materials Company without whom this event would have been impossible. Hope to see you at the third annual Fossils at the Fort next spring!



Explore the pile and discover clues to Middle Tennessee's ancient marine past!
Anything you find is yours to keep!

Sponsored by



9th Ky Volunteer Infantry Regiment School of Instruction

The weekend of March 8th and 9th was an exciting one at the fort. The 9th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry Regiment, USA, Co. B gave an outstanding living history demonstration, illustrating many aspects of a Civil War soldier's daily life. The unit camped on site both Friday and Saturday, and with the help of civilian reenactors, ate, slept and worked as a typical 19th century American soldier would have done. In addition to camp living, the unit held pay call, small arms demonstrations and military formations.

On Saturday, March 8, the Vacant Chair Photography Studio demonstrated the art of 19th century photography, offering sittings for tintypes, ambrotypes and alumatypes to reenactors and visitors.

As always, the 9th Kentucky put on a first class demonstration which was will attended and enjoyed by visitors of all ages. We look forward to having them back next year.

Events at Fort Negley are becoming more frequent and are getting better and better. Keep checking the newsletter for upcoming events and visit our Facebook page for more details. Also, feel free contact us at any time at (615)862-8470.



Alumatype of the 9th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry Regiment, USA, Co. B



The Abolitionists 180 Minutes

Film Screenings

Saturday, June 21	10:00 am	All
	2:00 pm	All
Tuesday, June 24	9:00 am	Part I
	10:00 am	Part II
	11:00 am	Part III
	Noon	Part I
Wednesday, June 25	9:00 am	Part I
	10:00 am	Part II
	11:00 am	Part III
	Noon	Part II
Thursday, June 26	9:00 am	Part I
	10:00 am	Part II
	11:00 am	Part III
	Noon	Part III
	6:00 pm	All

Community Discussion

Friday, June 27	10:00 am
-----------------	----------

CREATED EQUAL: AMERICA'S CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE Film Screening & Community Discussion Series

Metro Historical Commission in partnership with the Fort Negley Visitors Center is delighted to be one of the recipients of a two-year grant program called *Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle* an initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities that uses the power of documentary films to encourage community discussion of America's civil rights history.

One film from the series of four will be shown each month from June through September. Fort Negley Visitors Center will offer several opportunities to view each film. A community discussion held following the film screenings will allow participants to discuss the films, the Civil Rights Movement and other relevant topics.

A light brunch will be provided for those attending the Community Discussions. The screening and discussion series is free and open to the public. Reservations are required for the discussion sessions only. For more information or to make reservations, please contact Fort Negley at 615-862-8470 or fortnegley@nashville.gov.

For more information on
Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle
and to view the films online, visit <http://createdequal.neh.gov>.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities



THE GILDER LEHRMAN
INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN HISTORY





Annual
JUNETEENTH - FREEDOM DAY
Protect · Preserve · Perpetuate Freedom

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Participate in Games and Activities for the Entire Family, Children's Parade, Youth Essay Awards, Display Family Photos and Albums, Door Prizes, Tour Fort Negley, Lunch Provided, Meet Frederick Douglass and the 13th United States Colored Troops!

CELEBRATE FREEDOM, FAMILY and UNITY IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Free and Open to the Public!

SAVE the DATE
JUNE 28, 2014

On June 19, 1865 Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas and informed the enslaved population that the Civil War had ended and that they were forever free. As people contemplated their new-found freedom, they began to gather in jubilant celebration. This celebration became known as Juneteenth.

Over the years, Juneteenth celebrations expanded and spread across the nation and beyond. Much like celebrations held more than one hundred years ago, modern celebrations include speeches, games, prayer, barbecues and other family-friendly activities. Most importantly, Juneteenth continues to embody the spirit of freedom, diversity and African American achievement.

Please join the African American Genealogical and Historical Society of Tennessee, Inc. and their partners on Saturday, June 28 in celebration of freedom, family and unity in our community!

For more information on the Annual event at Fort Negley, please contact 615-862-8470 or fortnegley@nashville.gov. To learn more about the history of Juneteenth, please visit <http://www.juneteenth.com>.



Last fall, Mayor Karl Dean and County Historian Dr. Carole Bucy announced an exciting opportunity to share Nashville's history with a wider audience. The *Encyclopedia of Nashville-Davidson County*, modeled after the online edition of the *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, will launch in early 2015. The finished product will feature photographs, maps, charts, graphics and more than 1,000 entries highlighting Nashville's unique history.

Over the past several months, Dr. Bucy, assisted by the Mayor's Office, Metro Historical Commission, and Metro Information Technology Services, has worked tirelessly creating the structure necessary for such an undertaking. While Metro staff members and volunteers have made great strides in establishing committees, identifying topics, and assigning entries to authors, there is still much more to do.

The Civil War committee is currently seeking volunteers interested in writing one or more of the nearly 250 topics currently identified. While the task may seem daunting, each entry will consist of no more 500 words will serve as a valuable community resource. If you are interested in volunteering your time, your talents and your knowledge, please contact me at krista.castillo@nashville.gov or 615-862-8470. For more information on the project, writing guidelines and entry examples, please visit <http://www.nashville.gov/encyclopedia/writers.aspx>. If you are interested in contributing entries not relating to the Civil War, please contact encyclopedia@nashville.gov for a list of available topics.

A writers meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 13 at 2:30** in the **Auditorium** of the **Downtown Public Library** where you will receive information on the status of the project and have the opportunity to ask questions. Additionally, the staff of Special Collections and the Nashville Room at the Nashville Public Library will be on hand to talk about conducting research in their collections. (The Library validates parking in the attached garage for free or at a reduced rate).



Join us on the third Monday of each month at Fort Negley Visitors Center at 7:00 pm for an exceptional lineup of speakers and presenters.

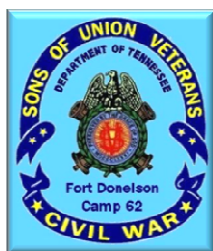
May

Thomas Flagel, historian/author, Columbia State Community College
A Landscape Transformed: Fortifications of Middle Tennessee in the American Civil War

June

Robert Girardi, historian/author, Chicago Police Detective
The Murder of Union General William "Bull" Nelson

Although all programs are free and open to the public, the group encourages membership. Annual dues along with proceeds from the silent auction support programming and local preservation causes. For more information, please visit <http://nashvillecivilwarroundtable.wordpress.com/>. "Like" us on Facebook!



Fort Donelson Camp No. 62, Sons of Union Veterans, meet at Fort Negley Visitors Center on the fourth Tuesday every other month. The next meeting is scheduled for May 27. The business meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. At 7:00 pm, Seth Breon of the 9th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry Regiment will present a program on Adam Himmel, a soldier stationed at Fort Negley with the 85th Illinois in 1862 and 1863. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information, check out the web site at <http://www.tnsuvcw.org/>.

Upcoming Events In and Around Nashville

Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society Meeting and Annual Awards Program, May 17, 1:00 pm, free, Myers Browns lectures on "Loyal Cavaliers: Images of Tennessee's Union Cavalrymen", FiftyForward at the Patricia Hart Building, 174 Rains Ave.

Phil the House with Art & Friends, May 18, 2:00-5:00 pm, free, enjoy an afternoon of music, food, wine and the art of Donelson native, Patricia Johnson, Two Rivers Mansion, 3130 McGavock Pike, <http://www.friendsoftworiversmansion.org/events.html>.

Making Appalachian and Old-Time Music, May 24, 10:30 am, Anna Uptain will discuss Appalachian music and history. Children, for ages 5-12, will have a chance to interact with instruments repurposed from everyday life in Appalachia. Country Music Hall of Fame, 222 Fifth Ave. S. Program Pass with Museum Admission required, www.countrymusichalloffame.org.

2014 Memorial Day Dash Benefitting the Nashville City Cemetery, May 26, 8:00 am. Race begins at Greer Stadium, 534 Chestnut Street. \$30 for early registration. \$35 for the day of the race. Visit www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org to learn more.

Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society Workshop, June 2, 3:30 pm, Virginia Gooch Watson leads "Skeletons in the Closet: Do We Let Them Out or Keep Them In?" and "If There were No Census Records, Where Would You Look?", FiftyForward at the Patricia Hart Building, 174 Rains Ave. \$20 for FiftyForward members, \$30 for non-members. To register with credit card call 615-743-3400.

Interested in Joining Fort Negley's Email Events List?

Please contact Fort Negley Visitors Center at 615-862-8470 or at fortnegley@nashville.gov.



Fort Negley 

1100 Fort Negley Blvd. * Nashville, TN 37203 * 615-862-8470
<http://www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation/Historic-Sites/Fort-Negley.aspx>

