National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

MEDIA ADVISORY

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CELEBRATING AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH AT THE GATEWAY ARCH AND HISTORIC OLD COURTHOUSE

WHERE: Jefferson National Expansion Memorial – the Historic Old Courthouse and the Museum of Westward of Expansion beneath the Gateway Arch, St. Louis, Missouri.

WHEN: Throughout the month of February, 2007

WHAT: **Company A – 10th Memorial Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers** presented by volunteer historic re-enactors from Fort Concho Historic Site and Museum in San Angelo, Texas. Learn about the vital role the Buffalo Soldiers played in our history. All programs will be at the Museum of Westward Expansion beneath the Gateway Arch.

Thursday and Friday, February 1, and 2: 9:30, 10:30 & 11:30 (School Groups & Public)
Saturday, February 3 at 10:00, 11:00, 1:00 & 2:00 (General Public)

"Mary Robinson and the Grant Family", a slave of Ulysses S. Grant, portrayed by Carole Shelton, will share her stories of her life with the Grant family on their farm in St. Louis County. All programs will be at the Historic Old Courthouse.

Friday, February 9: 9:30 and 11:00 (School Groups & Public)
Saturday, February 10: 10:30 and 1:00 (General Public)

"The Adventures of Jim Beckwourth: African American Frontiersman" presented by Gregory Carr, will explore the colorful life of this famous mountain man who did it all, from mountain man to buffalo hunter to blazing new trails to even being an Indian Chief. All programs will be at the Museum of Westward Expansion beneath the Gateway Arch.

Friday, February 16: 9:30 and 11:00 (School Groups & Public)
Saturday, February 17: 10:30 and 1:00 (General Public)

"Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad" presented by Marlene Rivero, will focus on the struggles and victories of this famous abolitionist and "conductor" as she fought for freedom. These programs will be held at the Historic Old Courthouse.

Friday, February 23: 9:30 & 11:00 (School Groups & Public)
Saturday, February 24: 10:30 & 1:00. (General Public)

WHY: The National Park Service will be hosting a series of free performances and presentations in February which will highlight the central roles African Americans played in some of the most triumphant and courageous moments in our nation's history.

The Historic Old Courthouse, located at 11 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Museum of Westward Expansion, located beneath the Gateway Arch along the St. Louis riverfront, is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. All programs are free and open to the public. **Community and School groups wishing to attend Thursday and/or Friday programs must make a reservation.** To make reservations and for a free calendar of the 2007 African-American Heritage Program Series, call (314) 655-1700 weekdays, or 7-1-1 voice/TTY Telecommunications Relay Service. Visit us at www.nps.gov/jeff.

(1/16/07)