THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

April

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Document of the Month Lake Washington Ship Canal

s early as 1854, early Seattle pioneers suggested building a canal connecting Lake Washington to the Puget Sound through Lake Union. In 1867, the U.S. Navy endorsed the idea so that the Navy could enjoy freshwater moorage. Although the U.S.



calling them the Hiram Chittenden Locks in tribute to man whose early 20th century support led to their completion. The Locks use a special drainage system to keep the Sound's saltwater from damaging the inland lakes' freshwater ecology. They also incorporated one of

Army Corps of Engineers supported the project, the Navy's idea died in 1891 when the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard was built in Bremerton on the west side of Puget Sound.

The Army Corps of Engineers continued to support the idea and in 1906, under the command of Hiram Chittenden of the Corps' Seattle District, some preliminary work began on the project. Work began in earnest in 1911 and by 1916 the Montlake Cut joined Lake Washington with Lake Union which lowered the water level of Lake Washington by nearly nine feet.

Patterned after the Panama Canal, the Ballard or Government Locks were opened on May 8, 1917. The completed ship canal allowed for an eight-mile navigable waterway from the fresh water Lake Washington to the salt water Puget Sound. In 1956, the Corps of Engineers renamed the Ballard Locks,

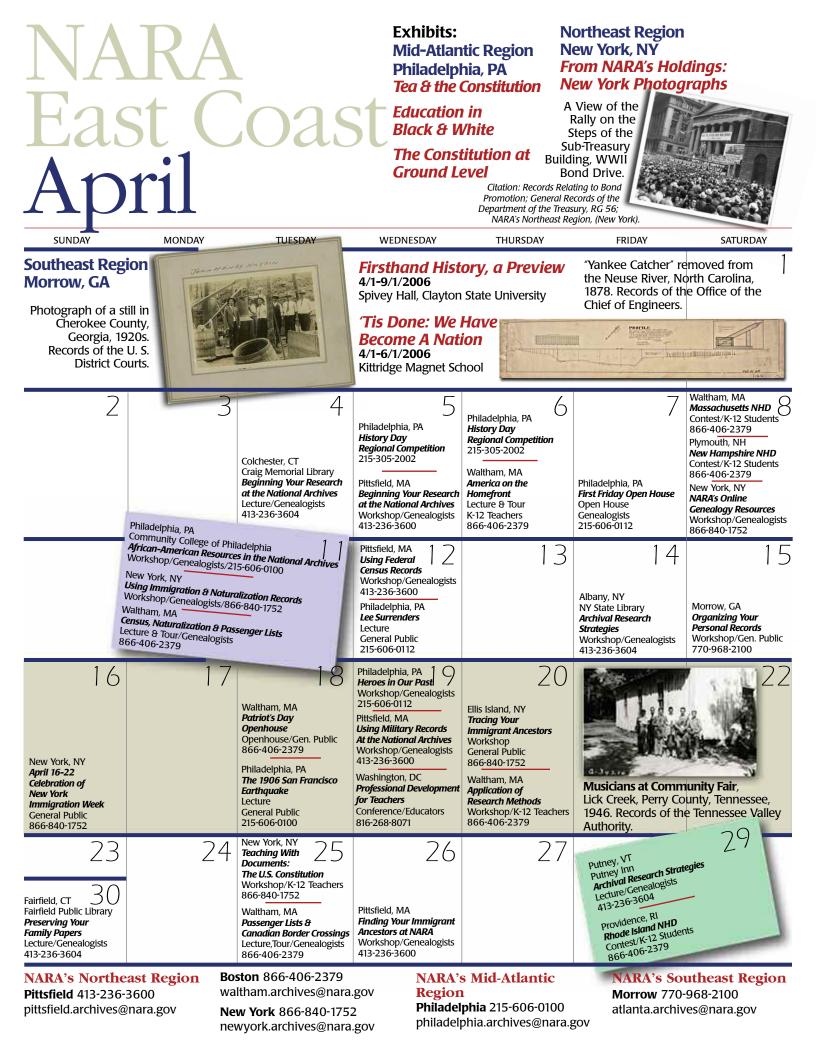


the first fish ladders in the U.S. allowing for the continuation of salmon runs into the lakes.

Currently, over 85,000 vessels use the locks yearly ranging from large commercial vessels that fill the large lock to kayaks or private craft that commonly use the small lock. In addition to the ships that use the locks daily, they are also used to transport other items. Log rafts were routinely transported through the locks; in 1944, a barge was used to transport a B-29 from the Boeing plant in Renton at the south end of Lake

Washington to the Puget Sound where it was loaded on an Army transport; and in the early 1990's, the large lock saw the transport of one of the remaining pieces of the old I-90 floating bridge which had been purchased for use in one of the San Juan Islands.

Citation: Records of the Office of the Chief of Engineers (RG 77), Seattle District; Civil Works Project Photographs, Lake Washington Ship Canal.



NARA Midwest April



Exhibits: Central Plains Region Kansas City, MO WOW: Women Ordnance Workers Kansas City Public Library

U.S. Versus Lee Kim NARA, Kansas City, Missouri

Citation: RG 156, Records of the Office of the Chief of Ordnance, Cornhusker Ordnance Plant, Grand Island, Nebraska.

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| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| | St. Lou The Se Jefferson Exhibit d Merchar | t: Archival Progra tis, MO a Services Barracks Historic Par locuments Navy, Marin th Marine services durin Il periods. 314-544-622 | k es, Coast Guard & g various | Photograph of Major General John Archer Lejeune, former Commandant of the Marine Corps, in his WWI uniform as Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division, U.S. Army, American Expeditionary Forces (AEF). | | |
| ation: Official Military rsonnel Files; RG 127; titonal Personnel Record nter (NPRC) Archival ograms Division (St. Lou | | Beaumont, TX April 4-7 Texas Association of Museums Annual Conference 817-831-5620 | 5 | Kansas City, MO Using NARA Records to Determine Immigrant Origins Lecture/Genealogists 816-268-8014 Witchita, KS National Treasures, Local Audiences Conference/Archivists & Allied Professionals 816-268-8071 | 7 | |
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| 23 | Citation: First and second p of Petition for Habeas Corp the Supreme Court of the L 684, Ex Parte William A. Bo NARA - Great Lakes Region | us and Exhibits to ∠) Inited States; Case owles; RG 21; | 26 | 27 | Jelistist Jelistista | |
| 30 | Orange Beach, MO <i>Education Resources at the</i> <i>National Archives</i> Conference Allied & Archival 816-268-8071 | | Lee's Summit, MO Using NARA Records to Determine Immigrant Origins Lecture/Genealogists 816-268-8014 | Lone Jack, MO Naturalization Records Lecture Genealogists 816-268-8012 | Basketball Tea 1909, Chilocco Citation: RG 75; Records of Affairs, 1793–1989; NARA'S (Fort Worth). | Indian Scho the Bureau of Indian |

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