

# THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IN THE REGIONS...

# June 2009

A MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

*"If there is no struggle, there is no progress."*

—Frederick Douglass

Even before the founding of the United States, our leaders wrestled with the concept, practice, and implementation of personal and collective freedoms. The drama that is the struggle for civil liberties in the United States began in the earliest days of our history. As the nation grew and evolved, so too did the political and social debate over fundamental individual rights.

The records in the holdings of the regional archives throughout the country define this ever-evolving path to attain civil liberties. With the opening of a new exhibit, "Documented Rights," the National Archives presents a selection of original documents from all regions that provide in unsettling, even chilling, detail the struggle many groups faced in attaining the basic human rights guaranteed to most Americans under the Constitution.

NARA's regional offices hold documents that chronicle the struggles of Americans of African, Japanese, Chinese, and Latino ancestry as well as Native Americans to attain the rights promised to all. At the end of World War II, more and more American citizens advocated for the very same civil liberties and equality of hope that they had fought and died for in the European and Pacific theaters of war. Through collective social and economic protests, both nonviolent and violent, Americans raised their voices and moved their feet, demanding an end to segregation and true equality under the measure of all laws.

The story of a man known only as Negro Slave Ben is a prime example of the fact that once individuals with an African American ancestry were considered property, although human property, but no different from tools or cattle. Ben was a runaway recaptured in a Spanish part of West Florida. The U.S. District Court addressed the issue of to whom he belonged, when he entered the United States, and if his entry was lawful or not. Throughout the documents he is referred to simply as "the negro" or in the style of the case "Negro Slave Ben." He has no last name, and the language of the court leaves no doubt that he is simply a piece of property.

In addition to African Americans, numerous other groups suffered discrimination throughout history, including Caucasians. In 1960 a group of white parents who were residents of Koinonia Farm in southern Georgia sued for the right to transfer their children from the Sumter County Schools to the Americus City Schools,

generally a routine request from most parents.

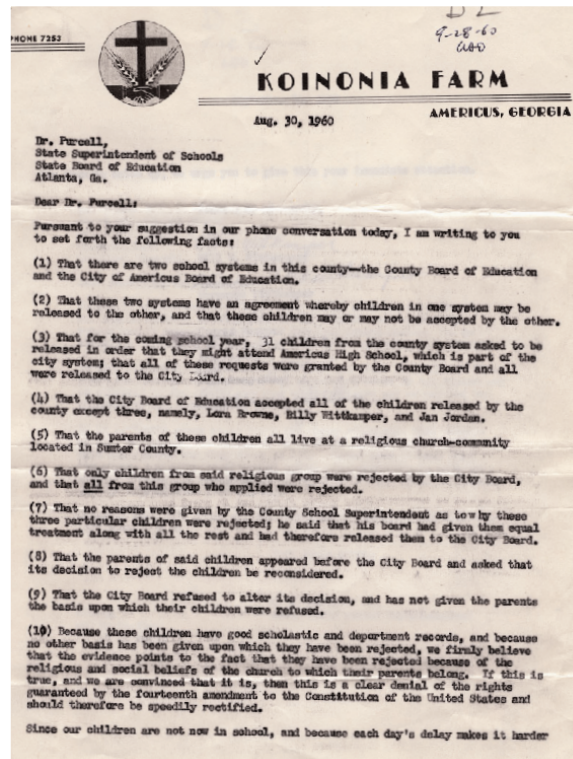
Koinonia Farm, founded in 1942, was a Christian community where whites and blacks lived together. In the 1950s and 1960s that was a situation almost unheard of in the Deep South. The Koinonia residents suffered from various forms of discrimination, including having their children turned down in their application to transfer from the Sumter County Schools to the Americus City Schools.

The concept that eventually became Habitat for Humanity International was born at Koinonia Farm.

The "Documented Rights" exhibit will be in Atlanta from June 13, 2009, to February 23, 2010, after which it will travel to other locations around the country.

**William Wittkamper, et. al. v. James Harvey, et. al. and the School Board of Americus, Georgia, 1960**, Civil Case File No. 486, Middle District of Georgia, Americus Division, Records of United States District Courts, Record Group 21; National Archives Southeast Region, Atlanta.

**U.S. v. Negro Slave Ben, 1816**, Case File No. 59, United States Territorial Court, Territory of Mississippi, Mobile Alabama, Records of United States District Courts, Record Group 21; National Archives Southeast Region, Atlanta.



# NARA WestCoast June 2009

**Household Workers Training Project,  
San Jose, CA (Laundry), 1940**

ARC Identifier 296102; Records of the  
WPA, 1922-1944, RG 69  
Courtesy of NARA Pacific Region, San  
Bruno



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
					Fresno, CA <b>Early Asian American Immigration History/Records</b> Lecture/Federal Agencies 650-238-3485	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Denver, CO <b>Presidential Academies Workshop</b> Workshop and Tour K-12 Teachers 303-407-5749	Colorado Springs, CO <b>Colorado Institute for History TAH Workshop</b> K-12 Teachers 303-407-5749		Seattle, WA <b>Brick Wall Discussion Group</b> Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115	Loveland, CO <b>CO Family History Expo</b> Information Booth and Exhibit/General Public 303-407-5749	Seattle, WA <b>75th Anniversary Open House</b> Open House General Public 206-336-5115
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			Davis, CA <b>TAH Grant Workshop, University of CA, Davis</b> Workshop/Open for Public Registration K-12 Teachers 605-238-3478		San Bruno, CA <b>NARA Military Records: Revolutionary to Civil Wars</b> Workshop and Tour/Genealogists 650-238-3485	Seattle, WA <b>Military Records Online or Not</b> Genealogists Workshop 206-336-5115 San Bruno, CA <b>Volunteer Recognition Luncheon</b> NARA Volunteers 650-238-3485
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
					San Bruno, CA <b>National Archives 75th Anniversary Open House</b> General Public 650-238-3485	
28	29	30	<b>Exhibit: Seattle, WA Blue vs. Gray: The Civil War in the Pacific NW 9/1/08-Ongoing</b>		<b>Exhibit: Seattle, WA Picturing the Century in the Pacific Northwest 5/6/08-Ongoing</b>	

**NARA's Pacific  
Region**

Laguna Niguel 949-360-2641  
laguna.archives@nara.gov

San Bruno 650-238-3501  
sanbruno.archives@nara.gov

**NARA's Rocky  
Mountain Region**

Denver 303-407-5740  
denver.archives@nara.gov

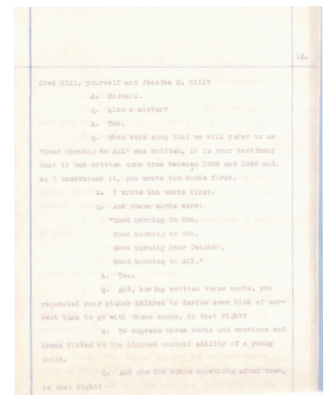
**NARA's Pacific  
Alaska Region**

Seattle 206-336-5115  
seattle.archives@nara.gov

Anchorage 907-261-7800  
alaska.archives@nara.gov

# NARA EastCoast June 2009

**Jessica M. Hill v. Sam H. Harris, Irving Berlin, Moss Hart et al., Equity Case File, Southern District of New York, National Archives at New York City, RG 21**  
Plaintiff, composer of song "Happy Birthday to You," sued defendant for use without permission.  
Courtesy of National Archives, Northeast Region, New York City



**Exhibit:**  
**New York, NY**  
**Bayard Rustin**  
**Goes to Court**  
**4/15-6/15/09**

**Exhibit:**  
**Waltham, MA**  
**RG 110 "Civil War**  
**at Home"**  
**4/24-6/30/09**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	Philadelphia, PA <b>First Friday Open House and 75th Anniversary Party</b> Open House/General Public 215-606-0112	6
					Pittsfield, MA <b>Beginning Your Genealogy at NARA</b> Genealogists Workshop 413-236-3600	Morrow, GA <b>Georgia Genealogical Society</b> Lecture/Genealogists 770-968-2555
7	8	9	Philadelphia, PA <b>Genealogical Series: Naturalization Records, 12 Noon</b> Workshop Genealogists 215-606-0112	11	Pittsfield, MA <b>Using Federal Census Records</b> Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3600	13
		New York, NY <b>Finding Family: Using Newspapers and Mug Books</b> Genealogists General Public 413-236-3604	Millersville University, PA <b>National History Day PA Competition</b> K-12 Students 215-606-2112 <b>5/6-5/7/09</b>		Federal Hall National Memorial, NY <b>New York's National Treasures</b> General Public 413-236-3604	Morrow, GA <b>Documented Rights</b> Symposium/General Public 770-968-2555
14	15	16		17	Ellis Island, NY <b>Ellis Island Family History Game Show</b> General Public 413-236-3604	20
College Park, MD <b>NHD National Competition</b> Other/K-12 Students 215-606-0112 <b>6/14-6/18/09</b>	Pittsfield, MA <b>NARA 75th Anniversary Celebration/Flag Day</b> Open House and Tour General Public 413-236-3604			New York, NY <b>75th Anniversary Evening Reception (5:30-7 PM)</b> General Public 413-236-3604	Pittsfield, MA <b>Using Military Records at NARA</b> Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3600	Morrow, GA <b>Genealogical Society of Henry and Clayton Counties</b> Guided Group Research Visit Genealogists 770-968-2555
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				New York, NY <b>Using Pre-1850 Census to Find Family Relationships</b> Luncheon Series Lecture/Genealogists 413-236-3604	Pittsfield, MA <b>Finding Italian Ancestors P1/2</b> Workshop/Genealogists 413-236-3600	Morrow, GA <b>Yankees in Atlanta!</b> Lecture/General Public 770-968-2555
28	29	30				
			<b>Exhibit:</b> <b>Philadelphia, PA</b> <b>Hidden City Philadelphia!</b> <b>5/29-6/30/09</b>	<b>Exhibit:</b> <b>Morrow, GA</b> <b>Documented Rights</b> <b>6/13/09-2/23/2010</b>	<b>Exhibit:</b> <b>Philadelphia, PA</b> <b>Elusive Freedom</b> <b>8/1/08-9/30/09</b>	

**NARA's Northeast Region**  
Pittsfield 413-236-3600  
pittsfield.archives@nara.gov

**Boston** 866-406-2379  
waltham.archives@nara.gov  
**New York** 866-840-1752  
newyork.archives@nara.gov

**NARA's Mid Atlantic Region**  
Philadelphia 215-606-0100  
philadelphia.archives@nara.gov

**NARA's Southeast Region**  
Morrow 770-968-2100  
atlanta.archives@nara.gov

# NARA Midwest June 2009

**Girl Posing on Kentucky Bridge, 1952.**  
Records of the Tennessee Valley Authority,  
RG 142  
Courtesy of NARA Southeast Region, Atlanta



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			<p>Kansas City, MO <b>Know Your Records: The History of the National Archives</b> Lecture/General Public 816-268-8072</p>			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	<p>Kansas City, MO <b>Know Your Records: How to Use the Archival Research Catalog</b> Lecture/General Public 816-268-8072</p>					<p>Kansas City, MO <b>Indian Study Group: Beginning Indian Genealogy</b> Workshop/Genealogists 816-268-8072</p>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
						<p>Raymore, MO <b>Resources of the National Archives at Kansas City</b> Lecture/Genealogists 816-268-8071</p> <hr/> <p>Kansas City, MO <b>Genealogy Workshop Series: Beginning Genealogy</b> Workshop/Genealogists 816-268-8072</p>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			<p>Kansas City, MO <b>Author Diana Eickoff discusses her book Revolutionary Heart: The Life and Times of Clarina Nichols</b> Lecture/General Public 816-268-8072</p>		<p>Kansas City, MO <b>Indian Study Group: Indians and the Kansas-Nebraska Act</b> Workshop/General Public 816-268-8071</p> <hr/> <p>Kansas City, MO <b>Brown Bag Lunch and Lecture: Military Service Records</b> Workshop Lecture/Genealogists 816-268-8071</p>	
28	29	30	<p><b>Exhibit: Chicago, IL Celebrity Draft Registration Cards 4/1/09-12/31/10</b></p>			

**NARA's Great Lakes Region**  
Chicago 773-948-9001  
chicago.archives@nara.gov

**NARA's  
Central Plains Region**  
Kansas City 816-268-8000  
kansascity.archives@nara.gov

**NARA's National Personnel  
Records Center (NPRC)**  
Archival Programs Division  
St. Louis 314-801-0850

**NARA's Southwest Region**  
Fort Worth 817-831-5620  
ftworth.archives@nara.gov