



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
**CULTURAL
RESOURCES**
WWW.NCCULTURE.COM

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor

Linda A. Carlisle, Secretary

North Carolina
Department of Cultural Resources

News Release

Contact : Terra Schramm (919) 715-3962

Release:

State Capitol Adds Naturalization Ceremony to Traditional July 4th Celebration

RALEIGH – Pack a picnic, bring your lawn chairs and your blankets, and enjoy the Independence Day holiday weekend by attending this annual patriotic celebration on Sunday, July 4. The North Carolina State Capitol will sponsor this free fun-filled family event that has become a downtown Raleigh tradition. New to the program this year is an outdoor naturalization ceremony for approximately 30 new citizens that will take place at 12:30 p.m. on the Capitol steps.

From noon to 4 p.m. the event will offer the public a variety of musical performances, historical and military displays, and several hands-on and play activities for children to enjoy. Visitors will have the chance to listen to patriotic tunes performed by the Raleigh Concert Band, the Moonlighters Orchestra, and the Starcatchers vocal ensemble. Visitors can depart from the festivities on the square to take a narrated trolley ride throughout the historic downtown area to view Raleigh's landmarks.

Reenactors will represent American military might from the Revolutionary period to the Vietnam era. Also, the Capitol will once again sponsor the popular "Old Fashioned 4th" historical demonstration area to examine how Americans celebrated Independence Day long ago.

After the naturalization ceremony, the traditional "Salute to Independence" will feature a reading of Thomas Jefferson's most noble achievement, "The Declaration of Independence." This will be followed by the placement of floral tributes to mark the 1775-1781 War for Independence and the successive wars that have preserved America's freedoms and have continued to spread America's democracy and freedoms globally. Food vendors, including Jonesy's Concessions and Ben and Jerry's ice cream, will be located on the Capitol grounds. The History Museum gift shop will be open from noon - 4 p.m. and the museum's restrooms also will be available to all attendees.

The State Capitol's mission is to preserve and interpret the history, architecture and functions of the 1840 building and Union Square. The State Capitol is at One Edenton Street, Raleigh, NC, 27601. Visit www.nchistoricsites.org/capitol/default.htm or call (919) 733-4994 for more information.

*Office of Information and Marketing Services, 4601 MSC, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4601
(919) 807-7385 Fax (919) 733-1620
www.ncculture.com*

Administered by the Division of State Historic Sites, the State Capitol is part of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, the state agency with the mission to enrich lives and communities, and the vision to harness the state's cultural resources to build North Carolina's social, cultural and economic future. Information is available 24/7 at www.ncculture.com.

###