CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 6, 2009 CONTACT: Sheryl Watson (916) 654-7538

## History Comes Alive as Allensworth Celebrates 101<sup>st</sup> Anniversary in Rededication Festival

Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park (SHP) and the Friends of Allensworth host the 101st Annual Rededication Festival in Allensworth, California, on Saturday, October, 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Celebration begins with a 5k Run/Walk for health at 9 a.m. The entertainment starts at 10 a.m. We invite the public to join us as we reaffirm California's African American cultural legacy. The history of Black California will be reenacted by docents in period attire as we celebrate 101 years of African American history at Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park.

The Friends of Allensworth welcomes visitors each October to celebrate the state historic park, which is transformed into a living history museum. In 1909, the *Visalia Delta* headlines declared "Allensworth folks great readers." So as a way of preserving this literary past, our children are presented with a gratifying educational experience as they watch square dancers on the stage, take tours of historic buildings (including the two room school house) and play early 20th Century games. Adults can take free tours and enjoy great entertainment during this fabulous outdoor event. Everyone is encouraged to shop among the arts, crafts and food vendors. The food is some of the best around.

More information and directions to Colonel Allensworth SHP as well as a virtual tour can be found at <u>http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\_id=583</u> or by calling (661) 849-3433. Call association president Thomas Stratton at (530) 949-2168 for more information about the Friends of Allensworth. If interested in the 5K Walk/Run, call (916) 346-4767. Join us on Facebook and Twitter.

The Friends of Allensworth is a non-profit volunteer association. They are responsible for educating the public while preserving the history of Allensworth. The Friends of Allensworth works in cooperation with the California State Department of Parks and Recreation.

Friends of Allensworth P.O. Box 13104, Sacramento, CA 95813-9998 (530) 949-2168 # # #

> For energy efficient recreation – California State Parks on the Internet: <u>www.parks.ca.gov</u>>





