Vanport — Richmond’s Forgotten WWII Sister

As a national park that combines history and a spectacular outdoor setting within a major city, Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park engages young people with national parks in an unusual way. In 2016, as we celebrate the National Park Service’s Centennial, we will embrace an initiative to get every 4th grader to visit a national park. This is an opportunity for an even greater reach, as we celebrate the National Park Service’s 100th birthday on August 25th, 2016, as we celebrate the National Park Service’s Centennial, we will embrace an initiative to get every 4th grader to visit a national park. This is an opportunity for an even greater reach, as we celebrate the National Park Service’s 100th birthday on August 25th, 2016, as we celebrate the National Park Service’s Centennial, we will embrace an initiative to get every 4th grader to visit a national park. 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It is great to be back at Rosie after my four-month assignment in the San Francisco Regional Office. Sue Fritzke (Acting Superintendent) and the entire staff did a terrific job keeping the park not only running, but also finding innovative ways to engage new audiences, one of the primary goals of our upcoming NPS centennial celebration. The 70th anniversary of the end of WWII and the Rosie Rally in August were a great way to connect with people not familiar with the complex and critical lessons of the WWII Home Front... and we set a Guinness world record at the same time. As we enter the 100th year of the establishment of the National Park Service, we will continue to look for new ways to connect all Americans with their history and their National Park in Richmond. Working together with you and the Trust we know we can find a way for everyone to connect to the important stories the park represents. Thank you all for your continued support.

—Tom Leatherman

Photo for left: Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front National Historical Park Ranger Betty Soskin welcomes California Governor Jerry Brown to the Park on October 6, 2013. The governor selected the Park's Craneway Pavilion as the site for the signing of the California Fair Pay Act, paying homage to the strong women who labored on the WWII home front.

Photo at left: The Richmond Rosies' reprise their role as 'Good Morning America' stars in a special segment this November. Here, they practice for the cameras at the Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center.