

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 31, 2015

**BELL RINGING IN WASHINGTON SQUARE TO COMMEMORATE
ENDING OF CIVIL WAR**

**REDDICK MANSION ASSOCIATION
OTTAWA, IL**

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The Reddick Mansion Association along with the Canal Corridor Association invites the churches, schools, public buildings, historic sites and all citizens to ring their bells for four minutes to represent the four years of the Civil War. This bell ringing is part of a nation-wide 150th commemoration signifying the symbolic end of the U.S. Civil War. The bells will ring first at Appomattox Court House National Historic Park at 2:00pm (central time) to coincide with the moment when Union General Ulysses S. Grant met Confederate General Robert E. Lee to set the terms of surrender of Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

At 2:00pm, on Thursday, April 9, 2015, the Reddick Mansion Association invites the general public to bring their hand bells or cell phones (visitors can use their cell phone ring tones as bells) and meet in Washington Square in downtown Ottawa. At 2:15pm, the gathered group will ring their bells for 4 minutes. Several churches including Christ Episcopal Church and the First Congregational United Church of Christ will be ringing their bells and Twinkles, the ice cream truck, will also be at Washington Square ringing her bells.

The Choral Group from Illinois Valley Community College will also be in the park singing as part of this event. After the bell ringing, the lower level of the Reddick Mansion will be open and offering free coffee, lemonade, and cookies to all participants.

The Reddick Mansion, built in 1858, is listed in the National Register of Historic Sites. The Mansion, at 100 W. Lafayette Street, Ottawa, IL is open to the public for tours and also has meeting/reception rooms available for rent for special events.