



National Mall and Memorial Parks

Winter 2010/2011 • Volume 4, Issue 2

DAILY INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS



Join National Park Service rangers to learn more about the meaning, symbolism, and significance of the park's many memorials. No prior sign-up is required, and all programs are free. Program length varies. Contact a ranger at each memorial for more information.

Programs are offered at the following memorials...

- World War II Memorial
- Lincoln Memorial
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Korean War Veterans Memorial
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Scheduled Programs are presented on the hour from: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m., staff permitting.

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USS HOUSTON: THE GALLOPING GHOST OF THE JAVA COAST

By Ranger Tim Olling

"Enemy forces engaged." This message sent around 11:30 p.m. on Feb. 28, 1942, started USS *Houston's* final chapter in the Battle of the Java Sea.

The USS *Houston* was launched Sept. 7, 1929, and was commissioned the following summer. After undergoing her sea trials, *Houston* was sent to the Philippines, where she served as the flagship for the U.S. Asiatic Fleet

the rest of the fleet, however, was President Franklin D. Roosevelt's fondness for the ship. From 1933 to 1940, Roosevelt joined the *Houston* four times on inter-ocean cruises to inspect naval bases or review the fleet. For Roosevelt, these trips were as much for down time, a chance to escape the pressures of the presidency, as they were for official duties.

In 1940, *Houston* returned to the Philippines to serve as flagship of the U.S. Asiatic Fleet once again,



The USS *Houston* ca. 1930

this time in a world vastly different than that of the early 1930s. By November of the following year, with war with Japan imminent, the Asiatic Fleet was split up in order to give it a better chance of survival.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, as the situation in the Pacific quickly worsened, the Allies pooled their resources in an attempt to defend their Asian empires, with British Field Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell in overall command of the theatre. In spite of her crew's desire for combat, *Houston* performed the unglamorous yet necessary job of escorting troop and supply

convoys from Australia to the Dutch East Indies. It would not be until Feb. 1942, when *Houston* would finally sortie to intercept Japanese warships.

On the evening of Feb. 3, 1942, *Houston*, in company with three other Allied cruisers and eight destroyers, sortied in an attempt to intercept a Japanese invasion fleet in the Makassar Strait, north of Java. Due to the lack of air cover and the distance involved, the Allied squadron attempted to make as much of the run under cover of darkness as possible.

Unfortunately, the attempt came to naught. Without air support, the Allied ships came under repeated Japanese air attacks the next day. USS *Marblehead* was straddled by bombs, with two striking home, causing damage and casualties. *Houston*, masterfully maneuvered by Captain Albert H. Rooks, managed to avoid all but one bomb. The lone hit caused extensive damage by detonating near and causing a fire in *Houston's* aft main battery. As a result, the ship lost the use of one-third of her heavy guns and sustained nearly 70 casualties. In the face of the damage sustained, the squadron returned to base without ever coming in contact with the Japanese fleet. *Marblehead* would be sent back to the United States for repair. *Houston*, in spite of the damage, would not. Instead, the local dockyard would repair what it could, but her aft turret would remain useless.

Over the next few weeks, *Houston* resumed escorting convoys from Darwin, Australia to the Dutch

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This newspaper is also available online. Visit www.nps.gov/nama and click on NEWS.

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NATIONAL MALL AND MEMORIAL PARKS
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024



Park Headquarters: 202-485-9880
Visitor Information: 202-233-3520

Park Websites: www.nps.gov/nama
www.nps.gov/mall

National Mall Plan Website:
www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan

Radio: 1670 AM

Winter Programs

Don't Forget...

Daily ranger programs presented at the memorials, every hour from 10 a.m. - 11 p.m., staff permitting.

Wednesday, Dec 1, 15; January 5, 12
Where They Once Were:
The Korean War
5 to 6 p.m.

U.S. Military personnel went to a land they never knew to rescue a people they never met, and many paid the ultimate price. Learn about the battles of the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon and the Chosin, and the rugged conditions faced by U.S. troops. Meet at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Contact Victor Pillow at 202-841-1774.

Saturday, December 4
The Bedford Boys
5 to 6 p.m.

The rural town of Bedford, Virginia lost a greater percentage of its sons during World War II than any other place in the U.S. Most were killed in just one day. Come hear their tragic story. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Kathy Kagle at 202-438-5377.

Sunday, Dec 5, 12, Jan 9, 30
Washington and His Monument
5 p.m., 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m.

George Washington has many monuments to his memory. Who was he, and why does his monument look the way it does? Learn the answers to these questions and more, while enjoying the views of the Washington Monument grounds. Admission to the monument is not included. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Don Stanko at 240-375-4857.

Tuesday, December 7
Pearl Harbor: The Day of Infamy
5 to 6 p.m.

December 7, 1941 is well known as the Day of Infamy. The attack by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor brought the U.S. into WWII. Why did the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor? How did the U.S. respond? Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Tuesday, December 14
The Death of George Washington
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Join National Mall staff in 1776 attire while remembering the life and times of George Washington on the date of his death in 1799. Ask interpretive staff how George Washington has affected the park, city and nation. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Mike Rose at 202-438-9667.

Saturday, December 18
The Battle of the Bulge
5 to 6 p.m.

The Battle of the Bulge was Hitler's last offensive in the west in WWII. It was also the U.S. Army's largest campaign in its history, and is recognized in the WWII Memorial. Why was this such an important campaign in the war? Why did Hitler order this attack? Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Sunday, January 2
Art at the Park: Peter L'Enfant's Plan
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Start the year off with a Sunday talk series on "Art at the Park" and explore! Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Sunday, January 9
Art at the Park:
The Washington Monument
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Robert Mills' Washington Monument was to be the centerpiece of it all. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Sunday, January 16
Art at the Park: Pope's Jefferson Memorial
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. John Russell Pope's timeless Jefferson Memorial gives us Greece, Rome and Jefferson. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Thursday, January 20
Elections of the First Three U.S. Presidents
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Join National Mall staff in 1776 attire remembering the election of the first three U.S. presidents. Use a quill pen to wish them well. Ask interpretive staff how the elections of these presidents have affected the park, city and nation. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Mike Rose at 202-438-9667.

Saturday, January 22
The Women of the Civil War
5 to 6 p.m.

They tended soldiers and fought alongside them. They supported President Lincoln and plotted against him. They were nurses and spies, heroines and traitors. Come learn about the many ways that women participated in the Civil War. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. Contact Kathy Kagle or Susan Philpott at 202-438-5377.

Sunday, January 23
Art at the Park:
Henry Bacon's Lincoln Memorial
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Henry Bacon's Lincoln Memorial offers extensive symbolism that extends out into the landscape. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Saturday, January 29
The Great Raid
5 to 6 p.m.

When the Americans were liberating the Philippine Islands there were American POWs that needed to be rescued. A daring raid in January 1945 brought home 500 American POWs. How did it all happen? Did any American soldiers die during the raid? Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O'Brian 202-438-7066.

Sunday, January 30
Art at the Park: Daniel Chester French's Lincoln
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Daniel Chester French's statue of Abraham Lincoln is a masterpiece of American art. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Sunday, February 6
Art at the Park: Guerin's Lincoln Memorial Murals
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Jules Guerin's

Lincoln Memorial Murals, "Freedom" and "Unity" are a "City Beautiful Movement" work. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Sunday, February 13
Art at the Park: Halprin's FDR Memorial
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Lawrence Halprin's Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial broke the grip of the neoclassical on memorials. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Sunday, February 20
Art at the Park: The Sculpture at FDR Memorial
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Tom Hardy, Robert Graham, George Segal, Neil Estern and Leonard Baskin enliven Halprin's FDR Memorial. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Tuesday, February 22
Washington's 279th Birthday
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Join staff in 1776 attire for George Washington's 279th birthday. Use a quill pen to wish him "Happy Birthday." Ask how George Washington affected the park, city and nation. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Mike Rose at 202-438-9667.

Sunday, February 27
Art at the Park: Maya Lin's Vietnam Veterans Wall
3 p.m.

Remarkable city planners, architects, sculptors and painters, in the midst of political quicksand, created an entire city to remind us of our ideals. Maya Lin's masterpiece was immediately famous worldwide. Meet at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

USS HOUSTON: THE GALLOPING GHOST OF THE JAVA COAST

USS *Houston* from page 1

East Indies. In doing so, she missed out on an attempt to intercept another Japanese fleet. Like the attempt on Feb. 3, this Allied attempt was ended by Japanese air attack, with one cruiser and two destroyers damaged, and the Allied ships withdrawing before ever coming in contact with the Japanese fleet.

With time running out, Admiral Karel Doorman, the commander of the Allied naval forces, brought nearly all of his ships together into one fleet. On the evening of Feb. 26, the combined Allied fleet sortied in an attempt to intercept and attack two different Japanese invasion fleets. The next afternoon Doorman received information he needed: the invasion fleet was barely 100 miles away, near Bawean Island.

First contact between the two fleets occurred just after 4 p.m., with opening salvos following 20 minutes later. *Houston*, one turret short but still full of fight, targeted one of the Japanese heavy cruisers (HMS *Exeter* took the other), hitting her repeatedly then turning her guns on the second. Unfortunately, due to an electrical malfunction in her main gun director, *Houston* would score no further hits on either enemy cruiser.

Just after 5 p.m., Doorman's battle line fell apart when HMS *Exeter* was hit in her engineering

spaces and the trailing ships slew out of line to avoid running down the damaged heavy cruiser. Both fleets then broke contact; the Japanese to protect their transports, and the Allies to reform their line and send *Exeter* out of harm's way.

The battle resumed five hours later at 10:30 p.m., with both sides exchanging gunfire and the Japanese again launching torpedoes. This time Japanese torpedoes struck home, sinking both Dutch light cruisers, Doorman's flagship being one. One of Doorman's final acts was to send his last two cruisers, *Houston* and HMAS *Perth*, to Batavia for fuel. From there, they were to attempt to make their way to Australia and safety.

Houston and *Perth* arrived at Batavia in the early afternoon of Feb. 28 and took on what fuel they could from the bomb-damaged port, and then departed at dusk. After the hours-long battles they had been through the previous day, both ships' crews hoped for quiet passage. It was not to be.

At approximately 11:15 p.m., *Perth's* Captain, Hector Waller, spotted the dim outline of a ship, which he challenged. It was Japanese. The two cruisers had stumbled upon another Japanese invasion

fleet disembarking troops and equipment on Java. The surprise was mutual, as the Japanese had lost track of the two cruisers and were not expecting an attack.

Alone, badly outnumbered, and woefully short of ammunition, *Houston* and *Perth* turned toward the Japanese. Facing them were three cruisers, nine destroyers, and 56 transports and auxiliary ships. So long as they remained in a line astern with their guns trained out, neither cruiser had to fear hitting each other—everything else was

and taking hits. Unfortunately, by 12:10 a.m. *Perth* was dead in the water and sinking, the victim of Japanese gunfire and torpedoes. *Houston* fought on for another half hour before she also succumbed to gunfire and torpedoes. Only 368 of her 1,168 man-crew made it ashore, the rest victims of both the battle and the sea.

However, the survivors' battle was truly just beginning. They would spend the next 42 months as prisoners of the Japanese, forced to construct a railroad in Burma,

as well as work in shipyards, dockyards, mines and industrial sites. Due to disease, malnutrition, and abuse, fewer than 300 of *Houston's* crew would survive their experience. Those who did were little more than walking skeletons. Like the rest of the WWII generation, they asked for little, if anything, upon their return home.



Ordeal of the USS Houston

Artwork depicts the CL-81, damaged 14 October 1944, named for the CA-30 USS *Houston* described in this article. (artwork courtesy Jack Fellows)

Japanese.

Both cruisers engaged numerous Japanese ships, giving

Eastern National Bookstores



Serving the Visitors to America's National Parks and Other Public Trusts

National Mall and Memorial Parks is a very inspiring and powerful place, but your experience does not have to end in Washington, D.C. Continue learning more about park sites and American history by visiting the many Eastern National bookstores throughout the park. Capture the moment, take home a book, and explore the ideas and values that make visiting National Mall and Memorial Parks such a stirring experience. Eastern National, a park partner, operates four bookstores located at:

Washington Monument Lodge
8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Lincoln Memorial
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Franklin Delano
Roosevelt Memorial
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Washington Monument Lodge

www.easternnational.org

Park Concessionaires

Guest Services, Inc. manages all retail operations for National Mall and Memorial Parks. This includes refreshment kiosks and gift stores throughout the park. They also operate the following recreational opportunities...



GUEST SERVICES

Tidal Basin Paddle Boats
202-479-2426
www.tidalbasinpaddleboats.com

East Potomac Tennis Center
202-554-5962
www.eastpotomactennis.com



Tourmobile Sightseeing provides live, narrated shuttle tours with hop on/hop off service. You choose where to stop, stay as long as you want, then re-board and ride to another historic location.

Purchase your tickets directly from the driver at any tour stop or any seasonal ticket booth.

Adults: \$27.00
Children 3-11: \$13.00
202-554-5100
www.tourmobile.com

Coming Soon To A National Mall Near You!

By Ranger Don Stanko

There are many changes happening right now on your National Mall. Cranes, fences and dump trucks are everywhere. What is happening and just what is the National Park Service up to, and what does it all mean to you?

It's all a combination of the labor of many Americans and the effects of recent government action. In early 2009, President Obama and Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). This contributed \$750 million to the National Park Service, with just over \$50 million going to the National Mall and Memorial Parks. Additional funding has come from private foundations who support the development of new memorials. Taken together, all of this will add to the history, culture and infrastructure of the National Mall, and make "America's front yard," a more enjoyable place to visit. The map below shows the locations of the major projects that are in progress or about to begin.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial: In 1996, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. asked Congress for the permission to erect a memorial to Dr. Martin

by master sculptor Lei Yixin. Work began at the end of 2009 and is predicted to finish in the fall/winter of 2011. The project is close to 50 percent completed. If you are nearby during your visit, viewing windows are located around the construction site so that you can see the progress.

Reconstruction of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Seawall: This \$12 million ARRA



Stone of Hope Sculpture

funded project is in progress and will repair the seawall on the north side of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial is in progress. Much of what we now call the National Mall was created by dredging



Luther King, Jr. on the National Mall. The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation has been working hard for many years to raise donations for a memorial to honor a prominent civil rights leader of our country. The memorial's goal is "...to honor his national and international contributions to world peace through non-violent social change." Under the direction of the Foundation, close to \$120 million was raised to construct and maintain a four-acre site, located just north of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial and across the Tidal Basin from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. The memorial will consist of several features, with the most impressive being a 28-foot tall statue of Dr. King, carved

the Potomac River, taking soil from the bottom of the river and filling it in on the sides to create dry land. This soil will continue to settle and compress over time, which is why memorials like the Thomas Jefferson Memorial were built on pilings driven down to the bedrock below. Unfortunately, the land around the memorial has sunk more than six inches in recent memory. In December of 2009, construction began by removing the original stone of the seawall, and drilling began on

41 caissons down to the bedrock below. When finished, the original stone will be replaced on the surface of a newly constructed seawall. The project should wrap up in the summer of 2011.

Rehabilitation of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool: This \$30.5 million ARRA funded project began in November 2010. The Reflecting Pool project is planned to last 24 months, and is much needed and long anticipated. The pool leaks thousands of gallons of D.C. water every day, and is stagnant, dirty, bug-infested and frequently needs to be cleaned of animal waste and algae. The largest portion of this project will consist of replacing the existing pool through rebuilding its superstructure and removing the existing leaks. Additionally, the project will include the construction of a new pipeline and water filtration system to fill the pool with water taken from the Tidal Basin. The new water circulation system will be continually filtered and re-circulated, and will result in an overall improvement to the water quality. It is estimated that the pool uses 31 million gallons of city water per year to fill the six million gallon pool. Once finished, it is hoped that yearly use will be around 12.1 million gallons, saving both water and money.

Additionally, there will be a rehabilitation of the steps to the Lincoln Memorial plaza, improved accessibility along the pathways, a resurfacing of the historic elm walks, a new energy-efficient lighting system, and replacement of the dirt paths along the edge of the pool with concrete sidewalks.

Rehabilitation of the District of Columbia War Memorial: This \$7.3 million ARRA funded project began in the fall of 2009. The D.C. War Memorial is a tribute to the fallen servicemen and women of World War I from the District of Columbia. Originally intended as a bandstand in which to celebrate the service of the veterans of the Great War, it had fallen into

Construction Projects
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Proposed Elm Walk
Image courtesy of Sasaki Associates



How to Visit the Washington Monument

Washington Monument admission is free, but does require a ticket for everyone over the age of two. Open daily except July 4 and December 25.

Timed entry tickets are required and may be obtained in two ways:

1. The Washington Monument Lodge, located along 15th Street, opens at 8:30 a.m. for distribution of free, same day, timed tickets on a first come, first-served basis. One person may pick up as many as six tickets as well as select their preferred ticket time from what remains available for that operating day.
2. Reserved tickets may be obtained in advance by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 (for individuals) or 1-877-559-6777 (for large groups). Reserved tickets are often booked 30 days or more ahead of time. Please plan accordingly. All reserved tickets carry a \$1.50 convenience charge.

Operating Hours:

Sept. 7-May 30: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
May 31 - Sept. 6: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

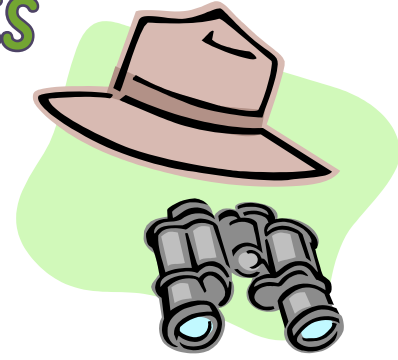
National Mall and Memorial Parks Cell Phone Tours

Lincoln Memorial: 202-747-3420
First Amendment: 202-595-0085
Cherry Blossom Festival: 202-747-3465

KIDS' Column



National Mall and Memorial Parks SCAVENGER HUNT!



Explore the National Mall and Memorial Parks. See how these special places connect to national parks around the country. Bring your completed scavenger hunt to the Survey Lodge Ranger Station for a prize.



Lincoln Memorial

Find the plaque on the plaza in honor of two states.
Name any national park found in each of those states.

Look at the top row of states on the Lincoln Memorial. Count seven from the left to find the state with the most national parks.
Which state is it?

Memorial to the 56 Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Walk out the the island and turn to your right. Starting closest to the water, on the top row, count eight stones in to find the signer whose home is part of Colonial National Historical Park.

Turn to the stones on the opposite side. Starting closest to the water, count 10 stones in on the bottom row to find the signer's home preserved as part of Fire Island National Seashore.



Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Finish this quote from the First Term Room:

"The only thing we have to fear is _____."

Can you identify who is sitting next to the statue in the Third Room?

Continue on to the Fourth Term Room. A unique element here is the statue of FDR's wife. You do not often find first ladies represented at presidential memorials. This first lady named

not only has this statue but also her own historic site in New York.

World War II Memorial

Look at the engraved words on the granite walls. Find who said, "The eyes of the world are upon you... I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle."

Find the gold stars that represent those Americans who died during the war. Look to the state column just to the left of the gold stars to find the only state that does not have a national park. That state is...



Vietnam War Poem, by Iman Kearns

Your valiant deaths were not in vain
I honor you for all your pain
My heart soars for your expertise
And in our hearts you'll never leave
For every beat of our hearts
The closer you come: We'll never part
In that mass of black smooth stone
Your names were written, your sacrifice known
So now in your lofty places
Know we love your honored faces

--For those who died in Vietnam

Iman Kearns wrote this poem after a field trip to the National Mall with her seventh-grade class from Lanier Middle School in Fairfax, VA.

Message from the Superintendent

Winter is a great time to experience your national park. Our ranger staff presents interpretive programs throughout the park including park-wide walking tours and shorter detailed programs of each memorial.

To learn more about the future of the National Mall, visit the National Mall Plan website, www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan to read current alternatives, express ideas, and follow our progress.

Page through this newspaper to find out more about the many fascinating ranger programs offered throughout the park. Our park staff and volunteers will be glad to answer any of your questions. Thanks for visiting, and have a wonderful experience at National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Acting Superintendent
Maria Burks

“Monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

National Park Service Organic Act

August 25, 1916

Potomac Nature Packs

Birds, Bugs and Trees, OH MY!

Discover the wild side of the National Mall with nature packs designed to engage the entire family. Each pack is filled with a sketch pad, binoculars, books, park brochures, maps and activities for the whole family. These self-guided nature packs allow the whole family to put on their eagle eyes and explore the unbelievable sights and sounds of the National Mall!

Packs are available at the Survey Lodge Ranger Station near the southwest corner of the Washington Monument grounds. Packs are available on a first come, first-served basis, and require an adult's drivers license. One pack per family. Call 202-426-6841 for more information.



This unique site stands on Pennsylvania Avenue near the halfway point between the White House and the Capitol. The Old Post Office Tower ranks third in height among the buildings of the Nation's Capital, soaring to a majestic 315 feet. At the 270 foot level, there is an observation deck allowing visitors an awe-inspiring view of Washington D.C. and the surrounding area. Beneath the observation deck is the tower clock, now more than a century old. On the tenth floor are the beautiful Bells of Congress. These bells are replicas of those at London's Westminster Abbey and were a Bicentennial gift from the Ditchley Foundation in England.

www.nps.gov/opot

Operating Hours

Summer: Memorial Day through Labor Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Winter: Labor Day through Memorial Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Ranger Programs:

Park Rangers are available throughout the tower to provide information. Have a question? Just ask!

Construction Projects from page 4

disrepair during the last few decades and was overshadowed by the trees and shrubs around it. The work on this memorial will be a complete overhaul. The memorial will be cleaned, the masonry reset and repaired, the landscape brought back to its original

designed condition, the plaza will be repaved, and a new energy-efficient lighting system will be installed. The goal is to return it to service as a civic space, a bandstand, or for whatever use the public sees fit. Work should wrap up by the end of 2010 or early 2011.

This is by no means a

comprehensive list of the projects and work being done on the National Mall and Memorial Parks and in the surrounding areas. Road projects, like the work to the west of the Lincoln Memorial and Madison Avenue near the Gallery of Art, are in progress. Flood control projects are beginning by 17th Street, near the World War

II Memorial. Areas like the park at McPherson Square are getting a face-lift. All told, these projects will make the National Mall an even better destination. More importantly, it will make this a place to return to again and again. Enjoy!

Be sure to visit the updated Lincoln Memorial website! <http://www.nps.gov/linc>

Highlights include a new Lincoln Memorial Construction Flipbook and an Interactive Site. The flip book utilizes historic photographs to tell the story of the memorial construction from inception to completion. You can experience a virtual walk-through of the memorial, and listen to ranger reflections of the memorial and its history on the Interactive Site.

