



PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE at the soldiers' home



Media Advisory

Contact: Hilary Malson 202-829-0436 x31228 hmalson@savingplaces.org

Open House at Historic Soldiers' Home Campus

- WHEN: Thursday August 29, 2013 from 10:00 am 2:00 pm (RSVP requested by August 26, 2013)
- WHERE: The Armed Forces Retirement Home and President Lincoln's Cottage. Entrance located at the intersection of Rock Creek Church Rd NW and Upshur St NW. (GPS 140 Rock Creek Church Road NW)
- **WHAT:** The historic grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home in NW Washington DC will be open to the public, free of charge, for a day of celebration and entertainment. This program is presented by the Armed Forces Retirement Home in partnership with President Lincoln's Cottage and Friends of Soldiers' Home, in celebration of the newly constructed Scott Building.

10:00 am – Processional and opening remarks.
10:15 am – Armed Forces Retirement Home Residents give tours of the new Scott Building.
10:30 am – 2:00 pm – Campus tours of historic buildings and grounds rarely open to the public, including the Sherman Tower (pictured at right), Governors' Quarters, and the General Winfield Scott monument, as well as tours of President Lincoln's Cottage. All tours begin on the half hour at the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center and are led by President Lincoln's Cottage staff.
10:45 am and 12:45 pm – Military ceremonial performance.
12:00 pm – Live band.



On-going, live entertainment will include carnival games, a petting zoo, food vendors, military displays, and exhibitor booths.

About President Lincoln's Cottage: President Lincoln's Cottage, "the Cradle of the Emancipation Proclamation," is located on the grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, DC. While living here for more than a quarter of his presidency, Abraham Lincoln bonded with soldiers and veterans, made crucial decisions about the Civil War, and, most notably, developed the Emancipation Proclamation his first summer in residence. His daily commute put him in regular contact with wounded soldiers and self-emancipated men, women,

and children. Today, the site offers an intimate, never-before-seen view of Abraham Lincoln's presidency and private life, and new perspectives on the influential ideas Lincoln developed while living here.

Hours of operation: The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center is open 9:30am-4:30pm Monday-Saturday and 10:30am-4:30pm Sunday. Cottage tours are on the hour, 7 days a week. For more information on President Lincoln's Cottage, visit: <u>www.lincolncottage.org</u> or call 202-829-0436.

About the National Trust for Historic Preservation: The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America's historic places. President Lincoln's Cottage is a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For more information, visit: <u>www.preservationnation.org</u>.

About the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington: In 1851 a Trust Fund was formed to establish the Soldiers' Home so that it would not rely on taxpayer dollars for daily operations. Ever since, US enlisted and warrant officers have made small monthly paycheck contributions so they may enjoy a comfortable and affordable retirement. The original Soldiers' Home is now President Lincoln's Cottage, a National Landmark and museum, as it once served as Lincoln's presidential retreat during hot summer months. Today, AFRH-W houses 568 residents across five levels of care (Independent Living, Independent Living Plus, Assisted Living, Long Term Care, and Memory Support). AFRH-W sits high on a hill near the US Capitol in a wooded, rural setting. The Home offers former military a range of amenities such as a 9-hole golf course, walking trails, hobby shops, weekly entertainment, and bus trips. The AFRH also has a new auxiliary home in Gulfport, MS with similar amenities. Learn more about our commitment to US veterans at <u>www.afrh.gov</u>.