



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Parks of New York Harbor
Public Affairs Office

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Harbor Sides

November/December 2008

Harbor Sides is a bimonthly compilation of park happenings and story ideas from the National Parks of New York Harbor. A new edition will be posted the first week of May, July, September, November, January and March at

<http://www.nps.gov/npnh/parknews/index.htm>. Just click on *Harbor Sides* to access the list. You will also be able to peruse past issues of *Harbor Sides* there.

For more information about individual stories, contact Mindi Rambo at (212) 668-2208 unless otherwise indicated.

Flying High

(Castle Clinton National Monument, Battery Park)

The National Park Service will host the U.S. Air Force Academy Falconry Program from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 10 at Castle Clinton National Monument. Air Force Academy cadets who participate in the program care for and train falcons for free flight performances as well as educational programs. This is a rare opportunity to see these magnificent birds of prey up close and learn about how they are trained.

Veterans Day commemoration

(General Grant National Memorial, 122nd Street and Riverside)

The National Park Service will observe Veterans Day, Nov. 11, with living history displays and demonstrations illustrating the evolution of the American Army during the 19th century. The memorial is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Evacuation Day

(Federal Hall, 26 Wall Street)

On November 25, the National Park Service will mark the 225th Anniversary of Evacuation Day with a full day of special programming at Federal Hall. The Evacuation Day commemoration will examine the military, social and cultural impacts on all groups affected by the end of the Revolution – patriots, loyalists, foreign military, Native Americans and slaves alike. Costumed re-enactors portraying General George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, British officers and regulars, American forces and private citizens will offer the opportunity to hear firsthand what life was like for the people of the era. Numerous period games will be offered for children to try their hand at and there will be an array of talks to captivate the grown-ups as well. Federal Hall National Memorial is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

History and Harmony

(St. Paul's Church, 897 South Columbus Avenue, Mt. Vernon)

At 1 p.m. on November 8, historian Robert W. Arnold III will explore "New York and the War of 1812," the oft-forgotten war that was largely fought on New York's soil. Then at 2:30 p.m., visitors can enjoy a special performance in historic St. Paul's Church by the Mark Morganelli Jazz Forum All-Stars. Light refreshments will be served.

Holiday Happenings at St. Paul's Church

(St. Paul's Church, 897 South Columbus Avenue, Mt. Vernon)

- **December 13:** Opera in the Historic Church – Join St. Paul's Church National Historic Site for a 2 p.m. performance by the Bronx Opera Company, featuring favorite excerpts from classic operas as well as performances and a sing-along of some traditional seasonal carols and holiday favorites.
- **December 21:** Holiday Organ Concert – A recital by Jan Piet Knijff featuring classical music on the historic 1833 pipe organ, including some traditional Holiday favorites will begin at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Arrive at 1 p.m. to hear local storyteller Stephanie Mita share seasonal tales and legends.
- **December 22,23, 26, 29-31:** Family Holiday Program – Historic games, activities, music and demonstrations, designed for children on vacation from school, as well as parents, adults, and others. Schedule is Subject to Change.

Kwanza celebration

(African Burial Ground National Monument, Ted Weiss Federal Building, 290 Broadway. Manhattan)

Details to be announced. Check www.nps.gov/afbg for more information.

Ellis Island World Tree

(Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Immigration Museum)

The Ellis Island World Tree display provides visitors with an opportunity to learn about the ethnic, cultural and religious holidays celebrated around the world and the National Christmas Tree in Washington, D.C.

The exhibit sheds light on what detained immigrants experienced at the Immigration Station and also how the image of the Statue of Liberty has been used during the holiday season. See www.nps.gov/elis for seasonal hours.