

NEWS

LINCOLN

ILLINOIS BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

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**75th annual veterans ceremony at Lincoln Tomb
February 12 to honor Lincoln on his 200th birthday**

Springfield, IL — An event honoring President Abraham Lincoln on his 200th birthday is having an important birthday of its own this year.

The 75th Diamond Anniversary National American Legion Pilgrimage to Lincoln Tomb will be held Thursday, February 12. Dignitaries will walk to the Tomb from downtown Springfield, arriving about 10:30 a.m. In a touching and patriotic ceremony being repeated for the 75th time, wreaths from Legion posts across the country will be placed at the Tomb in honor of our 16th President. The American Legion National Commander and other dignitaries will address those gathered for the event, and the Sweet Adelines will sing patriotic songs for the occasion.

Springfield American Legion Post 32 continues to be the host organization for this ceremony, which is officially endorsed by the Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Lincoln Tomb State Historic Site in Springfield's Oak Ridge Cemetery is administered by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. It is the final resting place of President and Mrs. Lincoln and three of their four sons, and is open for free public tours.

The Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission is working closely with numerous organizations, tourism agencies and institutions in 2009 to organize events and programming for the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Visit www.lincoln200.net.

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