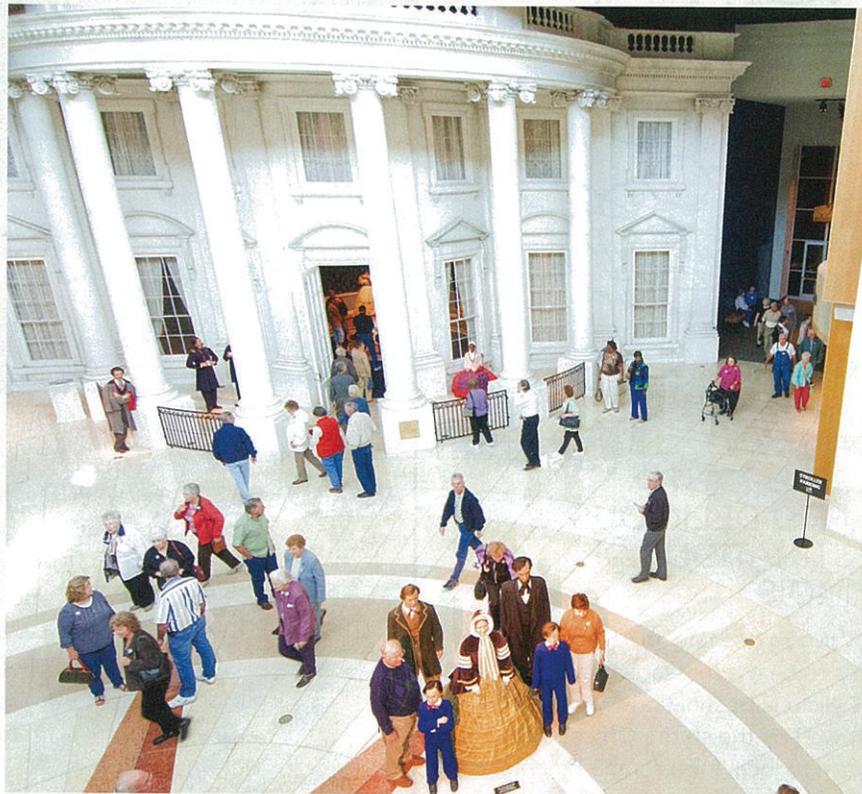


VENUE UPDATES»

Abe Celebrates Anniversary: Presidential Museum Turns 10

The Land of Lincoln has another new milestone to celebrate this year as the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield turns 10. In honor of the occasion, a slew of new exhibits, special events, shows, lectures and programs will be rolled out in 2015. First is *Undying Words: Lincoln 1858-1865*, co-produced with the Chicago History Museum, that focuses on five of the President's speeches uncovering his evolving views on slavery. More than 120 artifacts will be on display, including Lincoln's bloody gloves from the night he was assassinated, the bed he died in and a carriage used by Abraham and Mary Lincoln. It runs through February 2016. This spring, the multimedia *The Battle Hymn Story* presentation will mix music and special effects and be presented in the museum's theater while the summer debut of *To See Jerusalem Before I Die* exhibit in the Treasures Gallery will examine Lincoln's relationships with Jewish friends, supporters and opponents. Other special events include an Easter Egg Roll, "Mary Lincoln Strawberry Party" and "Pets In the White House." tenyearslincoln.com



PEOPLE NEWS»



The Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau has brought on **Caitlin Davis** as an account executive specifically targeting convention, meeting and event business in multiple market segments. She previously served as a conference coordinator for Western Illinois University and holds a Master's degree in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration from Western Illinois University.



The American Bar Association announced **Martin D. Balogh** as associate executive director of the Meetings and Travel Group where he will be

responsible for strategies that create opportunities to strengthen memberships. He has been with the ABA for 33 years and was most recently the director of this department. Balogh is also on the board of directors for the Professional Convention Management Association.



Michael Platt has been named the new general manager for Naperville's Hotel Arista, bringing with him a wealth of experience in luxury hotel management. Previously he was general manager for the boutique Viceroy Santa Monica Hotel and held leadership positions for Hilton Hotels in New York City, Puerto

Rico and Southern California.

Platt is a graduate of Lausanne in Switzerland and Cornell University's GMP Program.



Jeff Buczkiewicz, president and CEO of Park Ridge-based Mason Contractors Association of America, received the prestigious five-diamond Bellagio Diamond Necklace from the Associated Luxury Hotels International (ALHI) at the ASAE Annual Meeting & Exposition in Nashville last August. The jewel is given annually to a planner and spotlights ALHI's diamond-studded portfolio of more than 160 Four- and Five-Diamond quality hotels and resorts worldwide for meetings and incentive programs.