



MEDIA ADVISORY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

For Immediate Release:
January 21, 2009
Release No.: 10-06

Contact:
Alan Dooley, 314-331-8002
alan.j.dooley@usace.army.mil

Congressman Jerry Costello (IL) to attend, speak at Veterans Curation Program opening ceremony, Friday, January 22

ST. LOUIS (January 21, 2010) – As announced previously, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will open the second Veterans Curation Project laboratory, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, in St. Louis, Mo., on Friday, January 22.

Initially, organizers were uncertain if any of U.S. Congressmen from the area would be able to attend, but Congressman Jerry Costello (IL) confirmed this afternoon, January 21, that he is able to break away from his duties in Washington, D.C. to attend and speak at the opening ceremony.

Below is a summary of details from the previous press release:

The St. Louis site, in the Robert A. Young Building in downtown St. Louis, is the second of three Veterans Curation Project laboratories that the Corps will open with \$3.5 million in funding from the \$4.6 billion appropriated for the Army's Civil Works program in the Recovery Act. The first site was opened October 16, in Augusta, Ga. Another will be opened in Washington, DC, on January 25.

The three sites were selected because they are home to relatively large populations of wounded and returning veterans.

Corps specialists and the contractor are working closely with the Department of Veterans Affairs and non-governmental Wounded Warrior groups to fill jobs at the laboratories with veterans and disabled veterans. Jobs are being tailored and rotated to fit the medical needs of those disabled veterans who are unable to work a full day and to offer on-the-job training and work to more veterans. Approximately ten veterans from conflicts spanning from Vietnam to the current contingency operations in Iraq and Afghanistan are being employed and trained at the centers at any given time.

Veterans working at the three labs are being trained in computer, photographic and scanning technologies that are being applied to rehabilitating Corps archeological collections and their associated records. The technical skills learned at the labs will be transferrable to potential future jobs outside the labs.

The ceremony is scheduled at 10 a.m. in the Second Floor auditorium of the Robert A. Young Federal Building at 1222 Spruce St., in downtown St. Louis.

Editors Note: A media availability will be conducted before the opening ceremony from 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. to enable media to tour the facility and to talk to employed veterans and Corps personnel in a less congested environment. Please notify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers St. Louis District Public Affairs Office (314-331-8002 or 8068) if you intend to attend during that time so we may facilitate your passage through building security.

-30-