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PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY/MANASSAS
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK EVENTS IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY WRAP UP AT
THE #1 REASON TOURISTS COME TO THE AREA!

Manassas National Battlefield Park— The Prince William County/Manassas, Virginia Convention and Visitors Bureau (www.visitpwc.com) wrapped up its observation of National Tourism Week on Friday, May 18, 2007, with an event at the #1 reason tourists come to the area!

The Manassas National Battlefield Park (www.nps.gov) welcomes hundreds of visitors a day from across the country and around the world. From the beginning of April to mid-June is the busiest time for school and other youth groups to tour the internationally-renowned Civil War site.

Today, Convention and Visitors Bureau staff members, along with Carol Ferguson, a representative for John Stirrup of the Board of County Supervisors (Gainesville District), welcomed students, families and history buffs who came to the Visitors Center from as far away as Seattle and Phoenix. A Boy Scout Troop from Long Island, New York stopped to shake hands and ask about other attractions in the area.

“All of the employees and volunteers here want to share our love of history with the public,” said Henry P. Elliott with the National Park Service. “Educating others is what motivates us.”

The park includes more than 5,000 acres where two Civil War battles were fought. The area was a strategic location for both Union and Confederate armies. The park offers self-guided, walking, driving and equestrian tours and a gift shop. Several living history, musketry and artillery demonstrations are planned now through August 2007.

National Tourism Week, observed annually since 1984, is sponsored by the Travel Industry Association of America. It promotes a better understanding of travel as a major U.S. industry, vital to the economic stability and global perception of the United States. Tourism has a \$1.5 billion annual economic impact on Virginia, accounting for 280,000 jobs with an associated payroll of \$4 billion. Virginia welcomes 35 million visitors each year!

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