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# GENERAL 'LY SPEAKING

Week of April 1, 2019

Dispatches From  
The Eisenhower Memorial Commission

## House Appropriators Tour Memorial Construction Site



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*EMC Commissioner Rep. Mike Simpson (R-CA) (left) and Rep. David Joyce (R-OH) (center) receive a tour of the memorial's construction site by EMC Executive Architect Dan Feil (right). Both Congressman serve on the House Appropriations Committee. Rep. Joyce is ranking member of the House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee.*

Following his visit to the memorial's construction site, [Representative Mike Simpson](#) remarked:

*"It was a pleasure to tour the Eisenhower Memorial and see the progress on the project. It is truly an honor to participate and pay tribute to President Eisenhower who is so deserving of a tangible place in American history. I look forward to the dedication in May of 2020 and I am thankful to the Commission and their staff for the tour."*

## Fred Malek: A Valued

 Website

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## Make a Contribution

Join us in honoring and celebrating Ike's life and legacy by memorializing him in our Nation's capital.

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DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER  
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- Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK)
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Appointment Pending

### Former Commissioners

- Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI) \*
- Sen. Ted Stevens (R-AK) \*
- Sen. Bob Bennett (R-UT) \*

# Advisory Committee Member



Eisenhower Memorial [Commissioners](#) and members of the [Advisory Committee](#) send condolences to the family of our Advisory Committee member, [Fred Malek](#).

Mr. Malek was a strong supporter of Ike's memorial. We thank him for his efforts in private fundraising and his generous financial support of the memorial. He was a truly valued member of the Advisory

Committee and we were honored to have his participation in the memorial to Eisenhower.

# Construction Team Celebrates Milestone



Last Thursday, two (of five) large stainless steel box beams arrived on site for installation. The beams, each ranging in length from 85' - 90', are fabricated in Pennsylvania and Tennessee and trucked to the site. Weighing approximately 50,000 pounds each, they are hoisted in place atop the Ambar stone-clad columns. Once fully installed, the beams will span the entire 435' of the colonnade and will support the cable net system from which the woven stainless steel tapestry will be suspended. You can watch last Thursday's installation via our [live construction camera](#).

- Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)
- Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)
- Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS)
- Rep. Dennis Moore (D-KS)
- Rep. Leonard Boswell (D-IA) \*
- Rocco C. Siciliano \*
- David Eisenhower
- Dr. Bruce Cole \*
- \* *Deceased*

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### Eisenhower Family Members

- David Eisenhower
- Anne Eisenhower
- Susan Eisenhower

# Ike's Timeless Legacy

## Then & Now: Observations on Ike



Eisenhower scholar and professor of history, [Michael Birkner](#), recently published an article in honor of the 50th anniversary of Eisenhower's passing. The article, [Ike was right for his time, and offers insight for ours](#), was published last week by [LNP](#), a newspaper headquartered in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Birkner, a member of the E-Memorial Content Committee and lead scholar for the 2018 [Eisenhower and the Art of Presidential Leadership](#) teacher seminar, is a valued friend of the Commission and supporter of Ike's memorial.

### Ike was right for his time, and offers insight for ours

MICHAEL J. BIRKNER | Special to LNP  
Mar 26, 2019

When Dwight Eisenhower died half a century ago this week, tributes flowed freely, highlighting his role in crushing Nazism during World War II. Meanwhile, Ike's steadiness as 34th president during the height of the Cold War and his pragmatic approach to domestic affairs received less credit.

Leading columnists, including the New York Times' Tom Wicker, called Ike a poster boy for the American dream — the Kansas farm boy made good. But few contemporary observers much appreciated the degree to which that "ordinary fellow" from the heart of America — as Ike liked to describe himself — was a sly and effective politician and a deft, behind-the-scenes puppet master.

[Continue reading...](#)

## Ike and All That Jazz

Mary Jean Eisenhower

### Advisory Committee Leadership

Frank Fahrenkopf, *Chair*

### Secretaries of State

Henry Kissinger

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### Secretaries of Defense

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Frank Carlucci

Bob Gates

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Dirk Kempthorne

Paul Laxalt

Frank Murkowski

### Senate Majority Leaders

Tom Daschle

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Bill Frist

Trent Lott

George Mitchell

### Former Members of Congress

Nancy Kassebaum Baker

Leonard Boswell (1934 - 2018)

In an effort to increase and nurture cultural diplomacy, President Eisenhower signed the [Cultural Exchange and Trade Fair Participation Act](#) of 1956. In honor of April being [Jazz Appreciation Month](#), we would like to point out one of the many acts that traveled abroad for the State Department. One of the United States' most renowned jazz musicians, [Dizzy Gillespie](#), took his inter-racial big band on the first State Department-sponsored jazz tour. Following the 1956 tour in the Middle East, Yugoslavia, and Greece, Gillespie wired Ike informing him of the tour's success and importance:

*"Jazz is our own American folk music that communicates with all peoples regardless of language or social barriers."*

### Test Your Ike'spertise

As we celebrate the long awaited opening of baseball season, let's reflect on Eisenhower and his love for America's pastime. As a young man, Ike had aspirations of becoming a professional baseball player:

*"When I was a small boy in Kansas, a friend of mine and I went fishing and as we sat there in the warmth of the summer afternoon on a river bank, we talked about what we wanted to do when we grew up. I told him that I wanted to be a real major league baseball player, a genuine professional like Honus Wagner. My friend said that he'd like to be President of the United States. Neither of us got our wish."*



- Nicholas F. Brady
- Beverly Butcher Byron
- Bob Bennett (1933 - 2016)
- Tom Downey
- Newt Gingrich
- Paul Laxalt (1922 - 2018)
- Joe Lieberman
- Blanche L. Lincoln
- Ray McGrath
- Frank Murkowski
- Jim Slattery
- Todd Tiaht

### Senior Presidential Officials

- David Abshire (1926 - 2014)
- Erskine Bowles
- Nicholas F. Brady
- William Coleman (1920 - 2017)
- C. Boyden Gray
- Alan Greenspan
- Ed Meese
- William Webster

### Military Leaders

- Lt. Gen. Tom McInerney, USAF (Ret.)
- Gen. Richard Myers, USAF (Ret.)
- VAdm. Ann E. Rondeau, USN (Ret.)
- Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, USAF (Ret.)
- Lt. Gen. Richard Trefry, USA (Ret.)

### Leaders of Industry

- Hank Greenberg
- Fred Malek (1936 - 2019)
- T. Boone Pickens, Jr.

*Dwight Eisenhower, second from right in top row, and his Abilene High School baseball teammates, Kansas, 1908*  
 Image courtesy of the [Eisenhower Presidential Library](#)

**Trivia Question:**

While Eisenhower attended the West Point military academy, he

- (A) played on the baseball team
- (B) played on the football team
- (C) both A and B
- (D) none of the above

(see answer below)

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(1918 - 2011)

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*Sculptor*

Tomas Osinski  
*Tapestry Designer*

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**Trivia Answer:** (B) While at West Point, Eisenhower played football and suffered a bad knee injury that prevented him from making the baseball team. He would later remark, "Not making the baseball team at West Point was one of the greatest disappointments of my life, maybe my greatest."

### Legacy Organizations

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