



Closer Inspection

The 30-foot-tall **pavilion** is made of mostly white pine; the pillars are red oak. "The structure itself has only about 40 large nails," Tomlinson says. "It is otherwise put together like Lincoln logs."



A **time capsule**, installed in the pavilion's center beam during a dedication ceremony, contains the names of those involved in creating it as well as mementos, such as photos of the work in progress.

Korean bell-master Won Kwang-sik created the **bell**, which took a year to design and forge in Jincheon, South Korea. It was modeled after an 18.9-ton bell completed in 771 in honor of a Korean king.



"The feature that makes this specifically a Korean bell is the **sonic tube** [eumtong] at the top. You will not find those on any other East Asian bell," Tomlinson says. "It's believed to project the sound of the bell even more loudly."



Bell of friendship

In Vienna, garden signifies ties with South Korea

BY KRIS CORONADO

In a metro area packed with monuments and museums, one could easily miss noteworthy landmarks. Case in point: Last May, the Bell of Peace and Harmony, a three-ton bronze Korean bell, made its debut at the Meadowlark Botanical Gardens (Vienna; 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Ct., 703-255-3631, www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark_botanical_gardens). Many area residents still don't know about it. That's an oversight that garden manager Keith Tomlinson wants to rectify. "There are only two of these structures in North America," he

says. "One's just outside of Los Angeles, and then there's this one."

A collaboration between the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and the Korean American Cultural Committee, the bell — and its surrounding 4½-acre garden — signifies a bond of friendship between Americans and South Koreans while emphasizing the natural aesthetic of Korean landscaping.

"This is a culture that has had a structured and revered relationship with the natural world for a very long time," Tomlinson says.

Here, Tomlinson highlights the bell's details.

Along the top and bottom are **carvings** inspired by flora and fauna, including cranes and the hibiscus and the dogwood, South Korea's national flower and Virginia's state flower, respectively.



The bell has a 70-pound white pine **mallet**. When rung, the bell reverberates for a full minute. Tomlinson says it will ring on notable days such as the solstices, the Fourth of July or July 27, the Korean War Armistice Day.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BENJAMIN C. TANKERSLEY