



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

April 2012



1934 University of Michigan players Gerald Ford and Willis Ward.

Premiere of Documentary *Black And Blue*

*The story of
Gerald Ford, Willis Ward
and the
1934 Michigan-Georgia Tech
Football Game*

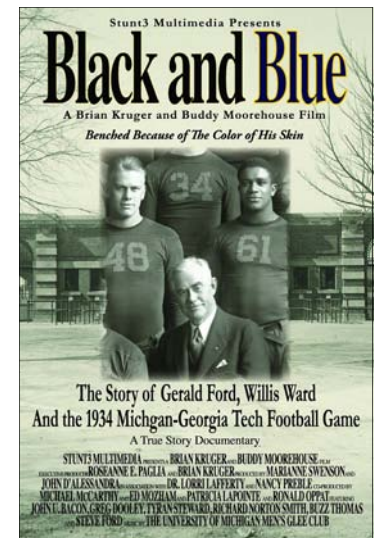
*Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum
February 13, 2012*

In the fall of 1934, America was in the midst of the Great Depression. It was twenty years away from the landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision that overturned the decades-old "separate but equal" ruling by that same judicial body. It was thirteen years before Jackie Robinson took to the field, breaking the color barrier in America's pastime. It was also two years before Jesse Owens shattered Hitler's notion of an Aryan showcase, the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, by winning a record four gold medals in track and field events.

Americans still remember Owens' exploits in sprinting and the long jump with great pride. But maybe Owens would not be so celebrated had he won only one or two gold medals, which could have easily happened if a single football player played in an October game for the University of Michigan Wolverines against Georgia Tech.

The 1934 University of Michigan football season was a dismal campaign made especially discouraging since the Wolverines had just won back-to-back national championships. The team was destined to win but a single contest that year. The victory, however, illuminated three important things...first, that racism still permeated much of the country; second, that a great student-athlete could be benched because of the color of his skin; and, third, that a fellow teammate's high principles and character were evident long before this student-athlete would become President of the United States.

This compelling story came to life in the film, ***Black and Blue: The Story of Gerald Ford, Willis Ward, and the 1934 Michigan v. Georgia Tech Game***, shown at the Ford Museum on February 13, 2012. Brian Kruger and Buddy Moorehouse of



Stunt3 Multimedia produced the documentary, tapping original documents, photographs and video interviews to tell the story of a troubled time for the Maize and Blue. Following the showing at the Museum, Messrs. Kruger and Moorehouse fielded questions from the audience. They also brought on stage Samuel "Buzz" Thomas, Willis Ward's grandson. Mr. Thomas, a former Democratic State Senator, argued convincingly before the Michigan State Legislature to have Gerald R. Ford's sculpture placed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda.

Michigan and Georgia Tech had scheduled a game for the 1934 season. That summer Georgia Tech's legendary Bobby Dowd requested that Michigan bench its best player, Willis Ward, for the contest because the Southern team could not abide playing against a black man. In trade, Tech would also bench its premier player. The Michigan athletic director and former coach, Fielding Yost, reached a "gentleman's agreement" with its foe to make sure the game was played by having Ward sit out the game. (continued on page 2)



(l-r) Brian Kruger and Samuel "Buzz" Thomas discuss the film at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

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*Letter from the Foundation Executive Director,
Joseph S. Calvaruso*



I am so pleased to let everyone know the Oral History Project that was started in 2008 has now concluded with over 170 interviews conducted by Richard Norton Smith, nationally known author and presidential historian. The interviews covered a wide spectrum of figures in President Ford's personal life and career in politics. These oral histories will be made public during the Centennial Celebration of President Ford in 2013.

I was also pleased to learn that Richard Norton Smith will be hosting a bus tour of presidential sites from October 2-9, 2012, titled *Presidents of the American Heartland*, from Niagara Falls to Grand Rapids, MI. If anyone is interested

in American history and has a special interest in the presidents of the United States, this tour of presidential sites with Richard Norton Smith is a real treat. He makes the lives and times of the presidents come alive. For more information about this tour please call 202-621-7250 or visit www.presidentsandpatriots.com.



Richard Norton Smith

On behalf of the Ford Family and Foundation, I would like to thank the 100's of volunteers that supported our efforts last year during the unveiling of the statue of President Ford at the U.S.

Capitol Rotunda, Washington, DC, and numerous other events that took place throughout the year. In addition, I would like to recognize the generous time put forth by the trustees and individuals that serve on the various foundation committees. Our ability to continue President Ford's legacy would not be possible without the tireless support of so many of you. It has truly been an honor to work with you all. Thank you!

Joe



President Ford and the Honorable Willis Ward,
August 9, 1976 at the White House.

Photo courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

continued from page 1

*Black and Blue...The story of Gerald Ford,
Willis Ward and the 1934
Michigan-Georgia Tech Football Game.*

When the decision was made known to the team, it was not well received. Coach Harry Kipke protested and Ward's best friend on the team, center Gerald Ford, said he would refuse to play, citing the injustice done to his friend because of the color of his skin. It was a trying time for the young Ford, who had waited for two years to start for his school and was now willing to give up a dream to fight a wrong inflicted on his teammate and friend. Ford would not have played but for the insistence by Ward that he did. Ford heeded his best friend's decision, playing as a man possessed. With the team and Ford playing its best game of the year, Michigan walked away with its only win that year.

Michigan won that game but the very life of the storied football program seemed drained by Yost's decision to bench Willis Ward. Their pride and energy were sapped and Michigan fell upon hard times for a number of years.

Willis Ward and Gerald Ford remained friends for the rest of their lives and even campaigned for one another for political office, even though Ward was a Democrat and Ford a Republican.

But why might Jesse Owens not have won four gold medals in the 1936 Olympic Games? It seems there was only one person who could best Owens in track and field – Willis Ward, who did it on a number of occasions. As Ward later recalled, the sting of being benched in that Georgia Tech game was still fresh. He abhorred the idea that the same racial injustice might be visited on him again in Berlin and he chose not to subject himself to that same humiliation. ~ Jim Kratsas, Deputy Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

The Grand Rapids Business Journal's "The 50 Most Influential Women in West Michigan" Susan Ford Bales, Keynote Speaker March 7, 2012

Susan Ford Bales was the keynote speaker for an awards luncheon hosted by the Grand Rapids Business Journal. The 50 women honored at the luncheon are leaders in business, education and numerous other professions. They are also seen as women who effect change and provide strong and ethical leadership in their communities.

Susan's inspiring presentation discussed the qualities that make an influential woman. "Truth is not a commodity owned by some special interest group; truth is not a political convenience. Truth is, as Dad reminded the American people, the glue that binds us together every single day. And Mom was only too happy to join him in that reminder."

The biennial luncheon honoring "The 50 Most Influential Women in West Michigan" was held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan on March 7, 2012. Over 700 people attended the sold out ceremony. Some of the this year's honorees shared their thoughts and memories in a video tribute to First Lady Betty Ford during the luncheon. The video can be seen at <http://youtu.be/bAE4Qm7MVz4>. Thank you to The Grand Rapids Business Journal for providing photos and video of this event.



Johnny Quinn

Susan Ford Bales

Looking Back

Foundation Trustees Jim Cavanaugh, Dick Parsons and Sandy Weill



(left) Foundation Trustee **Jim Cavanaugh** is seen in this photo dated January 4, 1977 during a meeting with President Gerald R. Ford and others in the Oval Office. Dr. James H. Cavanaugh served as the Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs and Deputy Chief of the White House Staff. Photo Courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.



From left: President Gerald R. Ford; James Cannon, Executive Director of the Domestic Council and Assistant to President Ford for Domestic Affairs; and **Richard D. Parsons**, Associate Director of the Domestic Council for Justice, Civil Rights, Drugs, and Consumer Affairs. This photo was taken at a meeting on May 26, 1975 regarding the President's Message on Crime. Photo courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.



From left: Foundation Trustee **Sandy Weill**, Joan Weill, Betty Ford, President Gerald R. Ford, and Rebecca M. Black, Dean of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy from 1999-2007. This photo was taken at the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Joan and Sanford Weill Hall that houses the Ford School on the University of Michigan's campus. Photo courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.



Samantha Bodine's elementary class at Trinitas Classical School poses for a picture with Steven Ford at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Photo courtesy of Donna Calvaruso.

Student's Chance Encounter At Ford Museum Leads to Personal Tour By President's Son

Heidi Fenton, Grand Rapids Press and MLive.com
March 4, 2012

White House. "It was just so great, just the kid's excitement, too," recalled Bodine, who said many of the students later told her "it was the best day of their lives."

Thursday's museum visit was a field trip for 17 students in the class at Trinitas Classical School in Grand Rapids. They eagerly asked questions as Bodine showed them through the exhibits.

They had learned about past presidents, including Gerald Ford, but knew the former U.S. leaders as people in history books — figures that are a bit hard for children to wrap their minds around. As Steven Ford walked up and began talking with the group, history really came alive.

"To actually see a president's son living and breathing and talking to them just made them really realize that these are real people," Bodine said.

Many of her students asked for hugs and enjoyed spouting off questions she never could have provided answers to. Among them: Did he have bodyguards as a presidential child? And the Oval Office — what's it really like?

Ford said he did have a few security attachments, though he explained President Obama's children likely have many more today, Bodine recalled.

Ford, who lives in Los Angeles but was in Grand Rapids for a meeting, found someone with a camera and captured a class photo — one Bodine says her students were so excited to have.

For Ford, the chance to share memories with students is likely more rewarding as any excitement they may have walking away, he said, recalling this week's museum memory.

Ford wants young visitors to feel at home, like they are really visiting with his family. The success his father had was largely in part of a good upbringing in Grand Rapids, he said — the same city the kids are growing up in today.

"If you can tell them a story about how you were a teenager in the White House, that's something they can relate to," he said. "I always stop and say hello and try to add something extra, just like Dad would do."

As Samantha Bodine walked through the Gerald R. Ford Museum Thursday with her class of third and fourth-grade students, she showed them pictures of the Ford family and talked of their importance.

Three-quarters of the way through, she turned and saw someone familiar. The man looked an awful lot like one in the photographs.

The next thing she knew, her class was getting an in-depth look at history from Steven Ford, son of President Ford and former resident of the

Albion College Receives First Maquette of U.S. Capitol Rotunda Statue of President Gerald R. Ford

March 7, 2012

The decades-long relationship between President Gerald Ford and Albion College entered a new chapter with the unveiling of a bronze sculpture of the President that will be permanently housed at the College's Gerald R. Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and Service.

The event at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum featured Susan Ford Bales and Albion College President Donna Randall unveiling the one-third-size replica or maquette of the life-size statue that was dedicated in May 2011 in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda in Washington, DC.

"The statue is more than just a piece of metal. It's a lasting remembrance of the life and values of one we deeply admire," Susan said. "Tonight we unveil this first maquette of Dad's Rotunda statue. May it remind us of a leader for whom truth was the guiding beacon and a man whose respect for Albion College was and will forever be boundless."



Standing with the President Ford maquette from left: Albion College President Donna Randall, Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell, and Susan Ford Bales. Photo courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries.

President Randall emphasized President Ford's advocacy for education throughout his life, in particular his commitment to providing access for all to a high-quality education during his time as President.

"At Albion, we like to think his establishment of what is now the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and Service is

one of his very best contributions to education in this country - it shows his extraordinary dedication to preparing our young people for a life of leadership, civic engagement, and service to others."

Along with Susan Ford Bales and President Randall, Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell, Foundation Executive Director Joe Calvaruso, and Ford Institute member Johanna Schulte offered remarks during the program.

President Ford's relationship with Albion College dates back to 1963 when he became a member of the College's Board of Trustees while he was a U.S. Congressman. He served on the board for five years. He was awarded an honorary doctorate in 1965. The establishment of the Ford Institute was announced by President Ford on Albion's campus in October 1977, and the program opened its doors to students shortly thereafter. ~ Courtesy of Albion College.

Letter from the Library and Museum Director, Elaine K. Didier, Ph.D.

At the conclusion of a highly successful 30th anniversary year in 2011, it's a pleasure to look back on so many stellar speakers and other public programs. Through the course of the year, we presented 29 public programs at the Museum and 9 at the Library, for an amazing total of 38 events! These were made possible by the initiative and great teamwork of the Library and Museum staff, working in collaboration with the Ford Presidential Foundation.

Last year brought new partnerships with Cooley Law School's Grand Rapids campus and the Grand Rapids Bar Association to sponsor the first annual Ethics Symposium, *Ethics in Our World*. The Museum's partnership with Cooley continues as we plan for an April 2012 Symposium on health care. A new initiative with Cooley's Ann Arbor campus just sponsored a Federal Youth Law Day event at the Library, which was a great success. We also partnered with Varnum Law to present the inaugural lectures

on Energy issues at the Museum, and an additional program co-sponsored with Varnum features Foundation Trustee Frank Zarb at the Library this spring.

Other Foundation Trustees who spoke included The Honorable William T. Coleman, who, along with his daughter, Lovida H. Coleman, Jr., gave back-to-back talks at both of our sites. The year wrapped up with a wonderful presentation by Foundation Vice Chairman, Hank Meijer, along with producer Michael Grass, who provided commentary and highlights of the new documentary about former Michigan U.S. Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg.

Another area of activity where Foundation support is essential involves our digitization program at the Library. Work is proceeding at a steady pace and we're making wonderful progress, albeit still representing a small fraction of our collections. With doubled support from the Foundation for 2012, we

were able to acquire a second scanner and just hired another master's student from the University of Michigan School of Information's archival program to work on this project. This will make a significant increase in the pace of our digitization efforts. To review the latest additions, click on Digital Collections on our newly designed website www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov.

Thanks to all of the Foundation's members for supporting our efforts to provide educational programming and preserve and make accessible the history of the Ford Administration.



America's Senator: The Unexpected Odyssey of Arthur Vandenberg

Mike Glass, Hank Meijer and Gleaves Whitney

December 8, 2011

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library premiered highlights from Mike Grass' newly-released documentary on Michigan Senator Arthur Vandenberg's life. Live commentary was provided by long-time Vandenberg biographer, Hank Meijer, Vice-Chairman, Board of Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Mr. Meijer was accompanied by Mike Grass, Writer/Producer, and Gleaves Whitney, Director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University.

This film is a joint venture between Mr. Grass and the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. The documentary looks at the life of a forgotten giant in American history who served 23 years as a Senator from Michigan until his death in 1951. For more on this film, please visit the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies website: www.gvsu.edu/hauenstein/.



Gleaves Whitney, Director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. Photo courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.



(l-r) Mike Grass, Writer/Producer and Trustee Hank Meijer during film premiere. Photo courtesy of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

*Visit our website
www.geraldrfordfoundation.org
or follow us on Facebook
for up-to-date event information.*



Zach Hope (l) discusses the exhibit with Foundation member Gary Paul.

Bob Hope: An American Treasure

Zachary Hope

February 8, 2012

Gerald R. Ford
Presidential Museum



Jack Peter from the World Golf Hall of Fame introduces Zach Hope. Zach Hope photos courtesy of Dr. Robert M. Humphries.

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum opened their next great exhibit **"Bob Hope: An American Treasure"** with an entertaining night of stories and laughs. **Zach Hope**, grandson of Bob and Dolores Hope, joined with the World Golf Hall of Fame to kick off the February 8 - June 10, 2012 traveling exhibition in Grand Rapids, Michigan. **Jack Peter** from the World Golf Hall of Fame, creating organization for the exhibit, introduced Zach and discussed how the exhibit came to life working with the Hope Family and Charitable Foundation.

Zach Hope retold stories from his grandfather about the personal friendship between "Pops" and President Ford, including several of the friendly jokes that were told about the President's golf game. Zach provided details into his

grandfather's life, including his golf playing with many presidents and touring the world to entertain members of the American Armed Forces. He shared his grandfather's reasons for entertaining the troops around the world, Pop's love for America, his family background coming from England and growing up in Cleveland, OH.

The exhibit tells the story of the Guinness World Records book "most honored" entertainer through a series of themed modules that celebrate his comedic contributions, achievements in entertainment, relationships with a number of U.S. Presidents and his other passion - golf. It traces his family's arrival at Ellis Island, life as part of an immigrant family in Cleveland, his struggles to succeed as a New York entertainer, the success and family life he found in Hollywood and how

golf and his love for the military took him around the world.

The traveling exhibit includes reproductions of more than 200 vintage photos, six videos and more than 150 items including an original Vaudeville contract from 1922, his Ellis Island medal, the final set of golf clubs used in his life, Emmy Awards, Honorary Oscars, an outfit he wore during USO tours, gifts and awards from Presidents and other celebrities, his Congressional Gold Medal awarded by President John F. Kennedy, and his "Honorary Veteran Citation" from the U.S. Congress, which he called the most important honor of his life. In addition, the exhibit includes a 30-stop audio tour and an educational program. ~ *Jim Kratsas, Deputy Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum*



Roy Norton, Canadian Consul General "225 Years of Canada-USA Relations -in an hour!"

November 7, 2011 and January 26, 2012

Roy Norton, the Canadian Consul General based in Detroit, MI, delivered a comprehensive and entertaining history of U.S.-Canadian relations to a captivated audience. Questions from the audience focused on current events including the creations of a new bridge in Detroit and Enbridge's Oil Pipeline.



Candice Millard Destiny of the Republic - A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President.

January 19, 2012

Candice Millard enthralled the audience in talking about her 2011 New York Times best seller, hailed as "a first rate history, political intrigue, and a true-crime story all rolled into one, capturing the zeitgeist of America during the 1880's, when President Garfield was assassinated".



Shane Harris The New Cold War: Hackers, Drones, and Cyber Spies

February 23, 2012

Shane Harris, senior writer for *The Washingtonian* and author of *The Watchers: The Rise of America's Surveillance State*, spoke to a packed house at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, Ann Arbor, MI. Mr. Harris was the 2010 recipient of the Gerald R. Ford Journalism Prize for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense.

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We wish to thank all of those who have contributed so generously to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Your dedication and continued support honors the principles and values demonstrated by President Ford throughout his life and allows the Foundation to continue sponsoring exhibits, programs, research grants and awards at the Gerald R Ford Presidential Library and Museum.

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We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact Chelsea Knauf at 616.254.0396 or cknauf@38foundation.org with any corrections.

2012 President Gerald R. Ford Essay Challenge



First Place Winner
Grady Sertic, 12th Grade
Portage Central High School
"An Examination of Leadership"



Second Place Winner
Samantha Kay Dickson, 11th Grade
Allendale High School
"Leadership - Guiding the Future"




Third Place Winner
Sarah Hartlieb, 12th Grade
Schoolcraft High School
"Dear Coach"

Each year the theme for our President Gerald R. Ford Essay Challenge reflects on an important part of Gerald Ford's character. During the 2011-2012 school year, students were asked to write about "The Meaning of Leadership Today". Over 400 high school students from public, private, city, suburban and rural areas from Michigan participated. The result was a diverse and thought-provoking selection of essays. The 18 finalists are recognized each year at a special awards program on President's Day at the Museum. The Essay Challenge is a collaboration between The Grand Rapids Press Newspapers in Education, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Visit the Student Essay Challenge webpage at www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/museum/EssayChallenge2012.asp for a complete list of winners and read through their essays. Thanks and Congratulations to all students who participated in this year's challenge!



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For further information, please contact Chelsea Knauf at 616.254.0396 or email cknauf@38foundation.org. Attached is an application envelope for your convenience. Memberships are tax deductible to the limits allowed by the IRS. The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is a tax-exempt 501(C) 3 organization.



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We Look Forward to Seeing You!

Upcoming Events:

Ethics Symposium - Healthcare: What We Want, What We Need, What We Can Afford

Grand Rapids: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 7:00 pm

In its second year, the Ethics Symposium is a joint collaboration between the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Cooley Law School, and the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. Reservations can be made by calling 616-254-0384 or by emailing ford_events@nara.gov.

Museums Free For All

Grand Rapids: Sunday, April 15, 2012

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and other Grand Rapids Museums will open **FREE** of charge. No reservations are required for this event. Support provided by **Amway** and **Fifth Third Bank**.

Remembering Our First Ladies As Seen Through the Eyes of Their Descendents

Grand Rapids: Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 7:00 pm



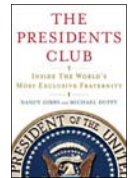
Susan Ford Bales Betty Ford Clifton Truman Daniel Bess Truman Margaret Hoover Lou Hoover

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum is pleased to host "**Remembering Our First Ladies As Seen Through the Eyes of Their Descendents**". The moderator for the program will be CNN correspondent, John Avlon. The panel will discuss the role of the First Lady, challenges of raising a family in the White House and the return to private life. The panel will also share personal insights on their famous mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers. Please join us in welcoming Susan Ford Bales, Clifton Truman Daniel and Margaret Hoover. Reservations can be made by calling 616-254-0384 or by emailing ford_events@nara.gov.

Michael Duffy - The President's Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity

Ann Arbor: Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 7:30 pm

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library welcomes renowned journalist and author, **Michael Duffy**, to discuss his new book, *The President's Club* which reveals the secret history of the private relationships among the last 13 presidents, exploring the backroom deals, rescue missions, secret alliances and bitter rivalries of the men who served as commander in chief. Reception and book signing will follow the program. No reservations are required.



General Brent Scowcroft - 2012 William E. Simon Lecture and Luncheon

Grand Rapids: Friday, July 13, 2012, noon, at JW Marriott Hotel

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is pleased to announce the 2012 William E. Simon Lecture will be presented by **General Brent Scowcroft** during a luncheon at the JW Marriott Hotel Grand Rapids, MI. For information on this event please contact Chelsea Knauf at 616-254-0396.

On Exhibit:

Bob Hope: An American Treasure (On display at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, MI through June 10, 2012.)

Over 400 golf, entertainment and military related artifacts are incorporated within this traveling show. The fascinating story of Bob's life and career is told through six galleries. Hope's friend, Arnold Palmer, welcomes visitors with a brief recorded introduction to the exhibition and life of the famed entertainer. This new feature exhibit is on loan from the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Quilt Show (On display at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, MI June 21, 2012 through September 23, 2012.)



Please visit our website: www.geraldrfordfoundation.org



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The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation fosters increased awareness of the life, career, values and legacy of America's 38th President. It does so through activities designed to promote the high ideals of integrity, honesty, and candor that defined President Ford's extraordinary career of public service. The Foundation promotes the ideals, values, commitment to public service and historical legacy of President Gerald R. Ford and further promotes greater civic engagement and recognition of integrity wherever it exists in the public arena. It supports permanent and changing exhibits designed to promote historical literacy; conferences; educational outreach and other programs, both scholarly and popular, including at the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Joe Calvaruso, Executive Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504-5353.