NEWS FROM THE FORD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

October 2003

President Ford Turns Ninety!

White House Photo by Eric Draper

Courtesy David DeJonge Studio

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Grand Rapids Press Photo/ Dave Raczkowski

Clearly July 2003 was the most festive July in the Museum's history. President Ford's 90th birthday celebration lasted all month as he traveled from Washington, D.C. to Grand Rapids to greet well-wishers. President and Mrs. George W. Bush threw a party at the White House and television tributes to President Ford abounded.

The Museum marked the occasion on July 10 with the Grand Opening of its new building addition and Education Center, featuring a life-size interactive replica of the Ford Cabinet Room and a Michigan Room classroom. Later in the month President Ford gave a press conference in the new Cabinet Room, joined by Ambassador Peter Secchia of Grand Rapids, Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm, and Martin J. Allen, Chairman of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation. (See photo top right.)

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Letter from the Director

It is always a pleasure to share news about the Ford Library and Museum. Four "C" words come to mind in putting together this newsletter update: change, continuity, commitment, and celebration.

The past year has certainly witnessed considerable change at the Gerald R. Ford Museum. The most obvious is the opening of the new addition. We did a ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 10, giving us the opportunity to say a collective "Thank You" to the people whose funding support made the project possible. The temporary exhibit gallery opened that same day with the arrival of Norman Lear's Dunlap copy of the Declaration of Independence for a three-week run. The record numbers of visitors to the DOI exhibit also were introduced to our newest permanent "display"—a faithful replica of the Ford Cabinet Room, funded by the Peter Secchia family. The Cabinet Room is both an interactive exhibit and a decision-making educational experience for visitors and students alike. Although not as visible to the public, the consolidated staff offices, expanded collection storage, and new Ford Foundation office suite are also significant and valuable changes to the Museum.

Change at the Ford Library in Ann Arbor has been meant an even stronger, renewed focus on processing of security classified material. Executive Order declassification deadlines, preparation for the Department of State's Foreign Relations of the United States series, and State Department review teams have kept the archives staff quite busy working through the papers. There has been an equally strong renewed focus on reference, especially with students from the University of Michigan. Between the Ford Presidency seminar that I teach for the University and several other classes, we had the largest number of student researchers in the Library's history.

A third change, for both the Library and the Museum, has been the coming of new leadership with two support organizations. We are pleased that Bob Gamble, just within the last few weeks, has joined the Ford Foundation as Interim Director. In July, Gleaves Whitney became the Executive Director of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University. The close connections and cooperation between the Ford Library and Museum and these two support organizations has already brought stimulating and expanded programming.

At the same time, there is a strong continuity of plans and programs on both sides of the state. Here in Ann Arbor this fall, I again am teaching a University of Michigan class on the Ford Presidency, always an enjoyable experience for me, an exceptional learning experience for the students, and a challenging and fruitful researcher experience for Library archivists. In Grand Rapids, over the next months the tradition of putting on world-class, Presidential Library-quality exhibits continues with *The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden* from the Smithsonian, and our own in-house created spectacular *All That Jazz: America in the 1920s*. Working with the Ford Foundation and the Hauenstein Center, we will have equally high-quality programs and activities that will complement these exhibits.

The glue that holds together the change and continuity of all we do at the Ford Library and Museum is our commitment to excellence, our commitment to do what is right and good, and our commitment to make both institutions lively places of education and service where history indeed becomes alive. In carrying out this commitment, we fulfill President Ford's vision for the Library and Museum.

2003 has been a year of magnificent celebrations. The new addition truly opens an exciting new era for the Museum. The dinner in the White House in July with President and Mrs. Bush to honor President Ford on his 90th birthday truly was memorable. And then, on July 30, the truly spectacular, and moving, hometown 90th birthday celebration in Grand Rapids, where over 10,000 people turned out to show their love, their admiration, and their affection for Gerald Ford. Indeed, Happy Birthday, Mr. President, and many more!

DENNIS DAELLENBACH, DIRECTOR
GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

NOTICE

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESSES:

Library and Museum:
www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov
Gerald R. Ford Foundation:
www.geraldrfordfoundation.org

Check us regularly as we grow and change. Our two websites remain linked to each other.

NEW PHONE NUMBERS:

Ford Library:	**734-205-0555**
Ford Museum:	**616-254-0400**
Ford Foundation:	**616-254-0396**

More contact information is available on the back cover of this issue.

Grand Opening! July 10th!

The Ford Museum announced the opening of its 8,000 square foot addition and renovation, featuring a new changing exhibit gallery and a unique Education Center, complete with an interactive replica of the Ford White House Cabinet Room and Michigan Classroom, on July 10. The long-awaited and event-packed day began with Museum Director Dennis Daellenbach presiding over a ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by remarks and an arrival ceremony and special program for the first exhibit to occupy the new temporary exhibit space: ***The Declaration of Independence Road Trip.*** The exhibit opened to the public the following day.

Director Daellenbach welcomed the new exhibit and it's sponsors, the Honorary Chairman and members of the Declaration of Independence Host Committee, Grand Rapids Mayor John Logie, Cathy Talifer (Home Depot), Mitch Lyon (AXA Financials), Danny Jackson (USPS) and Molly Enter (Mayor's Youth Council), saying "We are thrilled to have the opportunity to display this rare, original copy of the **Declaration of Independence** as the inaugural exhibit in our new exhibit gallery. It will give the people of Grand Rapids and Western Michigan the opportunity to see and experience the birth of this nation and the very foundation of our liberty. The Declaration is living history, the hallmark of our country. Its enduring principles of freedom and equality continue to uplift and inspire Americans and people around the world."

Daellenbach thanked the special guests who joined him in the grand opening ceremony and represented the families and organizations that had made it all possible: Ambassador and Mrs. Peter Secchia for funding the Cabinet Room, Michigan Secretary of State Terri Land representing the State of Michigan for funding the Michigan Room with a Arts, Cultural and Quality of Life Grant, NARA's Assistant Archivist for Presidential Libraries Rich Claypoole and Gerald R. Ford Foundation Chairman Martin J. Allen. Also attending was Grand Rapids Mayor John Logie who received our thanks for his ever-constant support.

The Michigan Classroom is a multi-purpose education space, complete with distance learning capability. Education specialist Barbara Packer confirmed "The Education Center, adjacent to the new exhibit gallery on the second floor, will add a new and exciting dimension to both the Museum's formal educational offerings and the casual visitor's experience. This one-of-a-kind space will serve as an exhibit, a classroom, and a distance learning site. We are currently developing an extensive hands-on learning experience for secondary students focusing on Gerald Ford's pardon of Richard Nixon." (See page 15.)

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Grand Rapids Press Photo/Anna Moore Butzner

Using interactive technology imbedded in the table and projection screen of the new Cabinet Room, Museum visitors will be able to make presidential decisions in historical cases of the pardon of Richard Nixon, the New York City financial crisis and the capture of the S.S. Mayaguez off the coast of Cambodia.

U.S. postal workers delivered the original copy of the Declaration of Independence to the Museum. Honored by the task postal clerk Paul Spruit said, "The Declaration stands for community, folks working together for something great. After all that's how it got started."

Grand Rapids Mayor John Logie remarked, "To see this piece of history, to see the words, to come face-to-face with our heritage is a once in a lifetime experience."

Gerald R. Ford School Site Dedication Ceremony

President and Mrs. Ford, members of the Ford administration, Foundation and Library officials, students and the general public joined the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy in a public conference on September 18 to dedicate the site for its new building. The new Ford School will be located just one block away from the UM Law School, where President Ford matriculated in summer 1937, at the southern entry to the campus area. President Ford received an A.B. degree in economics from the University of Michigan (1935) and earned his law degree at Yale (1941).

GERALD R. FORD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

As David Gergen said in the conference's afternoon panel, "wherever President Ford goes, his alumni come flocking." The site dedication ceremony was no exception. Paul O'Neill, OMB Deputy Director in the Ford administration, former Secretary of the Treasury and Foundation trustee, delivered the keynote address: *Values as the Foundation for Public Policy-Making.* The morning events also included remarks by UM President Mary Sue Coleman, Ford School Dean Rebecca Blank, Provost Paul Courant and President Ford. Ford administration notables in the audience included James Cannon, Paul McCracken, Jim Cavanaugh, Robert Teeter and Roger Porter.

The afternoon session, *The Buck Stops Here: White House Decision-Making from Gerald R. Ford to George W. Bush,* featured Ford White House veterans and Harvard professors David Gergen, Ford's Special Counsel for Communications and Office of Communications Director, and Roger Porter, Executive Secretary of the President's Economic Advisory Board. Also participating was Anne Lewis, former Clinton White House Communications Director, currently serving as National Chair of the Women's Vote Center.

The University of Michigan named its School of Public Policy the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy in 1999. Since then it has experienced significant growth and program expansion. As it approaches its 90th anniversary, the Ford School of Public Policy finds it both fitting and exciting that the magnificent new building of its future will for the first time put all of its classrooms, offices and research centers under one new roof, as well as provide a cornerstone for the campus. President Ford is equally excited to have made a significant contribution to the furtherance of public policy research and the training of students dedicated to a career of public service. ■

Gerald R. Ford Foundation Research Grants Spring 2003

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation semi-annually awards travel grants of up to $2,000 to support research in the Ford Library's collections. For grant application forms and information, please contact Helmi Raaska, Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, by phone (734) 205-0559, or email helmi.raaska@nara.gov. Application dead-lines are March 15 and September 15. The recipients of the Spring 2003 awards and their topics are:

Daniel Bergan and Brandon Rottinghaus
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
"Inverse" Lobbying: Congressional Lobbying of the President during the Ford Administration

Ken Collier
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Whose Line Is It? The Role of White House Speechwriters

Louis Crust
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS
The New Orleans Legal Services Experience and Its Public Policy Implications

David S. Foglesong
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
The Ford Administration and the Future of the Soviet Bloc: American Thinking about the Liberalization of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in the Era of Détente

Ellen Pratt Fout
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
Rainbow of Women: Exploring Diversity at the First National Women's Conference, November 18-21, 1977

Brian Gratton
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
The Origins of Postwar Immigration Policy

Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
History of the F.B.I.

Andrew L. Johns
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
Hawks, Doves, and a "Wise Old Owl:" The Republican Party's Influence on U.S. Vietnam Policy, 1961-1973

Holger Klitzing
UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG
Henry A. Kissinger and Germany: Perceptions, Networks and Policies from a Transatlantic Perspective

Frances Marquez
CLAREMONT GRADUATE UNIVERSITY
Latino/Latina Political Appointees at the Federal Level

Eliza Matthews
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
American Nuclear Relations Since 1968: A Comparison of United States Nuclear Policy Regarding South Asia, North Korea and the Middle East with a Particular Focus Upon Presidential Opinion

Darby A. Morrisroe
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
First Lawyer: The White House Counsel and Presidential Legal Policymaking

Timothy N. Thurber
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK – OSWEGO
The Republican Party and Black Civil Rights, 1945-1980

Valdis Wish
LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
The United States and the Dissolution of the Portuguese Empire, 1974-75

Speaking with Jim Cannon

James Cannon, President Ford's biographer and Executive Director of Ford's Domestic Council, paid a visit to the Library's research room in September while on a busy tour of both sides of our state. We were pleased to learn from him that work on his second biographical volume on the Ford presidency has resumed, with his publisher's authorization; research is 85% completed. His first volume, *Time and Chance: Gerald Ford's Appointment with History*, told the story of Ford's early life and chronicled the crimes of Watergate and other events and circumstances that brought the 38th President into the White House (HarperCollins 1994; University of Michigan Press, paperback, 1998). Over the years Mr. Cannon has donated to the Library numerous interview tapes created during the course of his research.

James Cannon, President Ford's biographer and Assistant for Domestic Affairs, journalist, political operative and Foundation trustee, sat for a filmed interview by Grand Rapids' WGVU-TV for an upcoming documentary.

Mr. Cannon's highly acclaimed first volume serves as a benchmark in Ford biography. His second volume will highlight the defining aspects of the Ford presidency, consider its unique achievements and legacy, account for his loss of the 1976 presidential election, and point out the extraordinary number of Ford alumni who succeeded subsequently in public life and elsewhere.

Mr. Cannon's agenda in Michigan included other Ford-related events, including an extensive interview for a television documentary, discussions with Ford Foundation Chairman Martin Allen, Library Director Dennis Daellenbach and Library archivist Bill McNitt, and attendance at the site dedication for the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy; all preceded by attendance at the UM-Notre Dame football game.

As the pre-eminent authority on President Ford, Mr. Cannon's interview will play an integral part in WGVU-TV's upcoming documentary on Ford's life and career, weaving together the various segments. Also interviewed for the show were President Ford, Susan Ford, Vice President Dick Cheney, Ford's former economic adviser Bill Seidman, and veteran journalists Tom DeFrank and Mort Kondracke. The show will be broadcast in Grand Rapids on October 28, and offered to stations nationwide. Video tapes can be obtained from WGTU-TV, Grand Rapids' public television station.

Speaking of Books: *Sharp Focus: A First Daughter Mystery*

Susan Ford Bales has produced a second novel in her new First Daughter Mystery Series. *Sharp Focus*, published last July, follows the first book in the series, *Double Exposure*, which was published by St. Martins Press in spring 2002. Ms. Ford isn't the only First Daughter to pen a mystery novel that draws on her intimate knowledge of the workings and floor plan of the White House and Washington, D.C. Most notably Margaret Truman wrote three murder mysteries taking place at the White House, the Smithsonian and Ford's Theatre, respectively. Nevertheless, says Susan, "It's something I never, ever, *ever* expected to do....Let's just say it was not on my dream list."

Susan Ford lived in the White House in her late teens as a student and a budding photojournalist, where life with Secret Service protection was a constant. Elements of her own experience based on stories shared with her co-writer Laura Hayden permeate the plot of what has been called a "sparkling" mystery novel. In the book the heroine "Eve," a First Daughter and photojournalist, returns to the White House on Air Force One to assist her widower father, only to experience what might have been an attempt on her life. As she tries to balance her need for privacy with her White House duties *and* investigate the increasingly real threats on her life, her body guards' task becomes much more difficult. With her real life experience behind her, author Susan Ford is a stickler for realistic detail when it comes to creating a probable plot within the White House environment.

Susan Ford Bales will be at the Museum on October 26 to talk about her life in the White House and her new novel. (See page 18.)

Susan Ford, a former photojournalist who started her craft while in the White House, descends Air Force One in 1975 with her father, his personal photographer David Kennerly, and the Secret Service.

President Ford Presents 2002 Journalism Prizes at the National Press Club

Greg Jaffe of *The Wall Street Journal* Wins Ford Journalism Prize for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense

Greg Jaffe, a Pentagon correspondent for *The Wall Street Journal*, was awarded the sixteenth Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the National Defense at the National Press Club on July 17. The $5,000 award recognizes journalists whose high standards for accuracy and substance help foster a better public understanding of national defense issues.

One of the most important tasks for American journalists in 2002 was to explain the nation's march from one war, in Afghanistan, toward a possible second war, in Iraq. Greg Jaffe distinguished himself with a series of stories that explained – often first and from the field – what the American military was doing. In his articles Mr. Jaffe explained in depth the military's new nation building work from the ground in Afghanistan. He also explained the crucial role new bases in the Persian Gulf would play in any war with Iraq. In another article he discussed the role new technology would play in an innovative war plan for a conflict with Iraq. In giving Mr. Jaffe this year's prize the judges noted how especially versatile, consistently thoughtful, analytically sophisticated and, importantly, anticipatory, was his work. His article on bases in the Gulf was written at a time when the conventional wisdom was that the lack of Saudi infrastructure would cripple the prosecution of a war in Iraq. His article on the civil affairs team engaged in Afghani reconstruction foreshadowed many of the complexities that the United States would face in Afghanistan and now in Iraq. His article on the battle plan for Iraq touched on the shift in military thinking to "effects-base" warfare, the role of technology in modern warfare and the sobering lessons from Operation Anaconda.

President Ford with this year's journalism prize winners. (l-r): Bob Woodward, President Ford, Greg Jaffe and Dan Balz.

The judges for the national defense prize were: Chair, Debra van Opstal, Vice President of the Council on Competitiveness; L. Edgar Prina, author, award winning journalist and former Bureau Chief of the Copley News Service; Sharon Squassoni, Foreign Affairs & National Defense Division of the Congressional Research Service; and Robert Holzer, a former award-winning journalist with *Defense News* now working with the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Bob Woodward and Dan Balz of *The Washington Post* Win Ford Journalism Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency

Bob Woodward and Dan Balz, correspondents for *The Washington Post*, were awarded the sixteenth annual Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency at the National Press Club on July 17. The $5,000 award recognizes journalists whose high standards for accuracy and substance help foster a better public understanding of the Presidency.

Woodward and Balz won the prize for a series of articles, "*Ten Days in September: Inside the Bush War Cabinet.*" The series, an account of the Bush administration's response to the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, was based on interviews with the principals involved in the decision-making inside the administration. It is an account of the conflicts and debates that led to the road map of the American war on terrorism. In awarding the Ford Prize to Woodward and Balz the judges said that in a year that inspired exceptional reporting about the war on terrorism, "Their work stands out for quality of reporting; for insight into events, decisions and consequences. Their stories consistently combine resourcefulness in getting the facts, rigor in analysis, and quality in writing. By relying on an impressive variety of sources Woodward and Balz enlightened their readers with solid, perhaps definitive, information about President Bush's decisions, in the aftermath of September 11, that led the United States in a war against terrorism."

The judges in the reporting on the presidency contest were: Chair, James M. Cannon, author and journalist; Candice Nelson, professor of Government and director of American University's Campaign Management Institute; Mark Rozell, professor of Politics at Catholic University of America; Hal Bruno, journalist and political reporter for ABC; and Gene Roberts, journalist, editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and professor of journalism at the University of Maryland.

Foundation Welcomes New Trustees

Benton L. Becker
TRUSTEE

An attorney who served as counsel to President Ford. Among his involvements were preparation of testimony for Ford's confirmation of Vice President, Watergate matters and personal representation to meet with Nixon regarding the pardon.

Peter C. Cook
HONORARY TRUSTEE

Chairman of Cook Holdings, Grand Rapids, Michigan, retired executive and philanthropist, and long time friend of President Ford

Ralph W. Hauenstein
HONORARY TRUSTEE

Retired executive and benefactor of the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies at Grand Valley State University, which has a close working relationship with the Ford Foundation

Frederik G. H. Meijer
HONORARY TRUSTEE

Chairman Emeritus of Meijer Inc., Grand Rapids, Michigan, generous supporter of the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum, and long time Trustee of the Foundation

In Memorium

Dick Gillett died at his home in Grand Rapids on December 12, 2002 at the age of 79. He was a charter member of the Board of Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation and was named an Honorary Trustee on June 1, 1998.

President Ford issued the following statement:

"Dick Gillett was a tremendous leader in the civic and business community in Western Michigan. Dick was always in the forefront on civic projects for the benefit of Grand Rapids and its neighbors. He was totally unselfish in working to help others.

Dick had a wonderful personality that attracted others to join in business and personal projects. It was always a great pleasure to be with him for the betterment of our fellow citizens.

Betty and I treasured our friendship with Dick and we extend our deepest condolences to his family."

GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

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and Betty Ford
Honorary Co-Chair

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Diane VanAllsburg
Administrative Assistant

Washington Celebrates President Ford's 90th Birthday

President Ford joined John Adams, Herbert Hoover and Ronald Reagan as the only former presidents to become nonagenarians on July 14 of this year when he turned 90 years old. A full round of celebrating included a trip to Washington, D.C. where the President stopped by the Congress on July 16 to receive a standing ovation and well-wishes. Added to that, President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush hosted a White House reception and dinner in honor of the President's birthday on the same day. The Gerald R. Ford Foundation used the opportunity at the festive White House dinner to award the Gerald R. Ford Medal for Distinguished Public Service to its first recipient, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan. ■

White House Photo by Susan Sterner

Alan Greenspan Receives First Gerald R. Ford Medal

White House photo by Alan Draper

This summer the Board of Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation established a new Medal for Distinguished Public Service to recognize individuals who have served the public good in the private and public sectors.

"The criteria for the award are the qualities that President Ford demonstrated in his public service: strength of character, diligence, decisiveness, sound judgment, and integrity," said Martin J. Allen, Jr., Chairman of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation. "All of these qualities have characterized Chairman Greenspan's career."

In making the award President Ford observed "Alan exemplifies what public service is all about. He left a very successful private venture to join my administration, beginning a long and distinguished career of public service."

Chairman Greenspan left his consulting firm, Townsend-Greenspan & Co., to serve President Ford from 1974 to 1977 as chairman of his Council of Economic Advisers. He took office as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in 1987 and has served in that capacity during the administrations of Presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush and Ronald Reagan.

Greenspan's other awards include the Thomas Jefferson Award for the greatest public service performed by an elected or appointed official, presented by the American Institute for Public Service, (joint recipient with Dr. Arthur Burns and William Simon); decorated Legion of Honor (Commander) France; and honorary Knight Commander of the British Empire.

The Foundation extends its thanks to Ambassador Peter Secchia for underwriting the expenses in launching its new medal. ■

National Press Club Honors Ford

President Ford has maintained a long association with the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. In addition to speaking there as President and as a Member of Congress, he has returned sixteen times since leaving office to award the Foundation's annual Journalism Prizes.

On July 17 of this year, the Press Club turned the tables. Instead of speaking President Ford listened, as correspondents, many of whom had covered most of his political career, recalled their past involvements with the former President. On hand to honor Ford were Bob Schieffer, senior correspondent for CBS and moderator of *Face the Nation;* Helen Thomas, columnist for Hearst Newspapers; Hugh Sidey of *TIME* magazine; Tom DeFrank, Washington Bureau Chief for the *New York Daily News*; Phil Jones, former chief congressional correspondent for CBS; and Ron Nessen, Vice President for Communications at the Brookings Institution and President Ford's former press secretary.

It was a birthday salute to be sure, but it was more than that. Each participant had a story to tell. Helen Thomas had the sell-out crowd of over 300 people laughing when she stepped up to the microphone and started her talk by saying, "Oh, to be 90 again." Every one of the speakers described Ford and his presidency by using words such as "integrity," "straight forward," and "honest." Perhaps Bob Schieffer summed it up best when he said, "In four decades as a reporter, Gerald Ford was the nicest and most decent person I ever covered. Mr. President, we love you." The program ended with birthday cake for all and everyone singing "Happy Birthday" while giving President Ford a standing ovation. ■

President Ford thanks former CBS correspondent Phil Jones for his humorous remarks.

Speaking of his travels with Vice President Ford on Air Force One, Tom DeFrank told the audience:

"...One thing I have come to appreciate a lot more than I did at the time was Vice President Ford's commitment to accessibility and openness.... Every trip he took–and he took about 75 or 80—he had at least one press conference. He got a lot of tough questions "Should Nixon resign?" "Why are you defending this guy?" "Should he be impeached?" "Should he turn over the tapes to the special prosecutor?" "What about the Supreme Court?"— not your average softballs, to put it mildly. But he kept making himself available to the press all over the country even though it enormously complicated the political tightrope he was trying to walk. He was always struggling to stay true to his conscience, and we all knew he had serious reservations about what was happening back at the White House, while also somehow being loyal to his president, and also trying to do the right thing for his country and his beloved Republican Party. It was a near impossible task. But he did his best and he did it with good cheer and civility."

On receiving this year's Ford Journalism Prize, Bob Woodward said in his remarks:

"...Twenty-five years later, I had the opportunity to revisit the legacy of Watergate and the Pardon, and read all the documents in Ford Library, the memoirs, the clips—interviewed all of the people involved. It turned out that my best source was former President Ford. He let me come to his home, hotel rooms as he was traveling around, set my tape recorder down and go over the record, time and time again.

In the course of that research, I discovered something that was quite embarrassing. And that is that we didn't understand the Pardon. That I had it wrong. That in fact it was the right thing to do. It was done for reasons that are laid out in various books, but President Ford at the moment – in the first weeks of his presidency – realized that he had to get Nixon off the national agenda. That in a sense Ford had to have his own presidency. He was not short-circuiting the judicial system as much as giving the public an opportunity, as you said Mr. President, to get rid of Richard Nixon. In the course of those negotiations for the pardon what Gerald Ford gave us was much more important than a Nixon indictment or trial or what ever might have occurred. There was immense pressure on President Ford at that time to give Nixon his tape recordings, and send them out to San Clemente where Nixon was living.....When President Ford looked at the ramifications of this and his lawyers said to him, "You will be accused of executing the final act of the Watergate cover-up if you turn those tapes over to Nixon," and Mr. President, you did not. You kept them. There were laws passed that allowed the public to have those tapes, as you know. There are a batch of those tapes released every season and at *The Washington Post* we call it the "gift that keeps giving."

The real understanding of the Nixon presidency is because of you. I want to thank you. It was sobering to review the history and it was humbling to see that the first tape, though we perhaps got the facts right, we did not understand what had occurred and it is again that reminder that you have to go back and back into history to understand history."

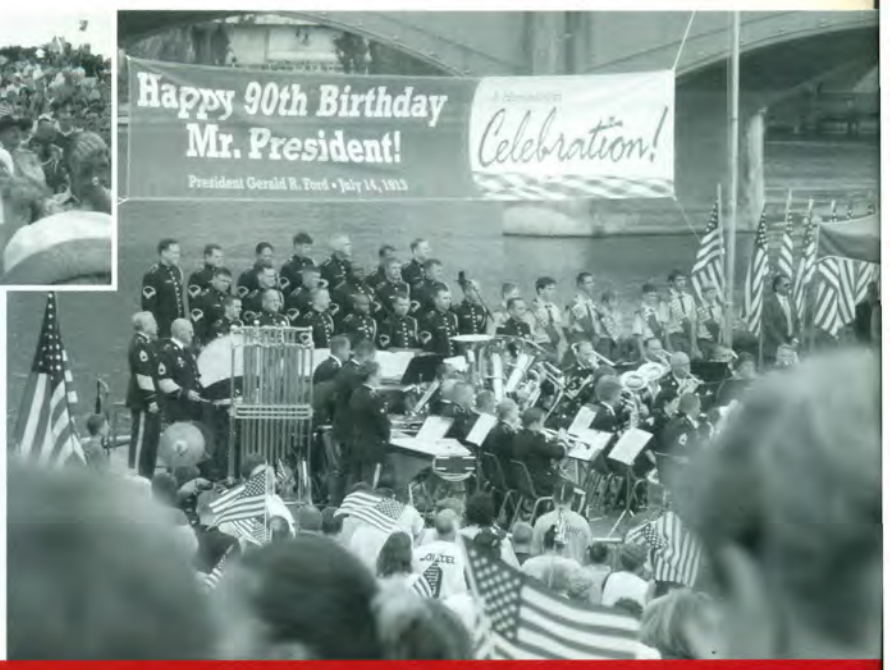
Videotape of the National Press Club Tribute and the 2003 Ford Journalism Prize Award Ceremony is available from CSPAN.

Courtesy David DeJonge Studio

I send greetings to those gathered in Grand Rapids to celebrate the birthday of a great American, President Gerald Ford.

President Ford is a man of character and high achievement. As President, he led our Nation with courage and conviction through a difficult time. No one did more to uphold the dignity of the Presidency than Gerald Ford. With his honesty and integrity, President Ford earned the respect of the American people and an honored place in our country's history.

George W. Bush
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



Grand Rapids Celebrates

On July 30, President Ford traveled to Grand Rapids where an estimated 10,000 persons turned out for "A Hometown Celebration" to give their favorite native son a very personal and enthusiastic Happy 90th Birthday. It was a day of music, food, speeches, photo opportunities and even a military flyover.

Joining President Ford on stage were his daughter Susan and her husband Vaden Bales, and Master of Ceremonies Ambassador Peter Secchia. Speakers included Michigan's Democratic Governor Jennifer Granholm (who, as a young Republican campaigned for Gerald Ford in 1976); U.S. Congressman Vern Ehlers, who serves in "Ford's seat" in Congress; Mayor John Logie, who read a proclamation designating the day as Gerald Ford Day; and David Morren, Chairman of the Kent County Commission. All speakers extended warm and heartfelt birthday wishes.

The Museum celebrated on July 14, the President's actual birth date, giving visitors the chance to write their well wishes.

The 126 Army Band of the Michigan Army National Guard, the United States Army Chorus, and tenor Michael Amante provided stirring musical entertainment. A huge birthday cake fed the numerous party goers. The festivities concluded with a spectacular flyover by United States Air Force F-16s, following the course of the Grand River through downtown and flying over the heads of the celebrating crowd.

After the party in the park the Museum opened its doors free of charge to give people a chance to view *The Declaration of Independence Road Trip* before the exhibit left town on August 1. Over 7,000 people visited the Museum that day.

Two weeks earlier, on July 14, President Ford's actual birth date, the Museum celebrated with free admission, punch and cookies for the first 500 visitors, and special Birthday Scrapbooks for people to write personal greetings to the President or leave him letters and cards. The U.S. Postal Service provided a highlight of the day: a series of four commemorative cachets—three depicting Gerald Ford at various stages in his life and one with the Museum logo—and special, handstamped pictorial cancellations. The cachets and cancellations have been very popular with both collectors and Museum visitors. (See page 17.)

All in all, the Birthday festivities were a smashing success with nearly 9,000 people visiting the Museum on the two days, July 14 and July 30. ■

Courtesy David DeJonge Studio

"It is an honor, on behalf of the people of Michigan, to wish you a very happy birthday, Mr. President. Michigan will always remember your leadership during an extraordinary time in our nation's history, as well as your dedicated service to our state. Everyone in Michigan is honored by the example of your life's work."
Jennifer Granholm, MICHIGAN GOVERNOR

Grand Rapids Press Photo/J. Hamilton*

It was a day of crowds, photo ops and jets flying over.

Grand Rapids Press Photo/J. Hamilton*

Congressman Vern Ehlers addresses the crowd.

President Ford's 90th Birthday

Grand Rapids Press Photo/Dave Raczkowski

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel Chef Doug Orr stands by his work, with President Ford and his daughter Susan Ford Bales.

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"Your long list of achievements reflects the values we in Grand Rapids and West Michigan hold dear: working as a young man in your father's paint store, earning the rank of Eagle Scout, excelling in academics and athletics, defending our country in World War II, opening a law firm, honestly and diligently representing our community in Congress, and helping heal our nation as the 38th President."

Marty Allen
CHAIRMAN,
GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION

"Congratulations on 90 years of remarkable achievements, President Ford! Your impact on Congress was so great that my colleagues still refer to my position as "holding Jerry Ford's seat." Your contribution to our nation, both in the Congress and the Presidency, has set a standard that all of us in public office try to achieve. On behalf of all Americans, and from the bottom of my heart, I thank you for your service."

Vern Ehlers, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

The President Ford Bust

In conjunction with its 40th anniversary celebration, the Gerald R. Ford International Airport paid tribute to President Ford's 90th birthday with the permanent installation of a bronze bust in its main terminal. The bust, a replica of the original Walker Hancock sculpture in the U.S. Capitol Building, was created by Massachusetts sculptor Daniel Altshuler, and made possible by a generous gift of the family of Ambassador and Mrs. Peter Secchia, personal friends of President and Mrs. Ford. The three sides of the base are etched with quotes from the President, one of them being "I hope you never lose the old faith in an America that is bolder, freer, and more just with each passing generation. For America is nothing if not a work in progress." ■

Pulitzer Prize Winning Historian Garry Wills Addresses a Capacity Crowd

The Museum was fortunate to obtain Garry Wills as its guest lecturer to kick off the twenty-one day stay in Grand Rapids of the *Declaration of Independence Road Trip.* Wills is an expert on the Declaration of Independence and the author of numerous books, including *Inventing America: Jefferson's Declaration of Independence,* the Pulitzer Prize winning *Lincoln at Gettysburg,* and other books on Presidents Madison, Nixon and Reagan. On opening night of the exhibit, Wills spoke to a capacity crowd in the Museum auditorium, declaring Jefferson a great and often admirable person with many contradictions and discussing the people and the times that influenced him. The lecture was co-sponsored by Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, the Gerald R. Ford Foundation and the Museum.

In his talk titled *"The Declaration: Still Jefferson's Proudest Boast,"* Wills reminded the audience that, in spite of recent critical essays by historians, Jefferson alone drafted the Declaration and should be viewed as its author. Jefferson

knew he was a powerful writer. He was not a great orator but he pushed himself forward to write many other things—drafts for laws in Virginia, complaints against the King and vast amounts of correspondence. Very happy to be chosen to pen the Declaration, Jefferson was not as happy when other delegates wanted to change parts of "his document."

Jefferson loved looking to the future and, in part, the Declaration is about his trust in progress. However, Wills noted, he also had a tremendous love for the past. He was a great lover of the classics, of ancient masterpieces, and architecture and had a sense that the real lessons of the past are always going to be with us. The idea that Jefferson had to make a choice, to either stick with the past or go with the future, is not something that would ever have occurred to him. Jefferson thought his job, as he looked into the future, was not only to preserve the best things of the past but to

build on them and that, in many ways, is what the Declaration is all about. Jefferson's words are still a beacon in history—not only for America, but for the world.

After the lecture Wills signed copies of a new edition of his book, *Inventing America: Jefferson's Declaration of Independence.* (Mariner Books, November 2002). The following editorial review has been made available on www.amazon.com: "From one of America's foremost historians, *Inventing America* compares Thomas Jefferson's original draft of the *Declaration of Independence* with the final, accepted version, thereby challenging many long-cherished assumptions about both the man and the document. Although Jefferson has long been idealized as a champion of individual rights, Wills argues that in fact his vision was one in which interdependence, not self-interest, lay at the foundation of society. "No one has offered so drastic a revision or so close or convincing an analysis as Wills has . . . The results are little short of astonishing." (Edmund S. Morgan New York Review of Books) ■

Grand Valley State University Teams Up with

Gerald R. Ford Foundation Chairman Martin J. Allen, Jr. and Gleaves Whitney, Executive Director of Grand Valley State University's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, introduce a new collaborative program.

"After September 11: George W. Bush and the 21st Century Presidency"

September 12

The first collaborative conference consisted of two panel discussions and a lecture by presidential scholars, followed by a keynote address by Roger Porter, President Ford's Special Assistant for Economic Affairs and Executive Secretary of the Economic Policy Board. The panel discussions and lecture took place on the campus of Grand Valley State University, while Dr. Porter delivered the keynote address later that evening at the Ford Museum. A book-signing by panel participants Mark J. Rozell and Gary L. Gregg for their new book, *Considering the Bush Presidency*, followed. Dr. Porter, IBM Professor of Business and Government at Harvard University, also served as economic adviser to Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

In opening the day-long conference Gleaves Whitney, Director of GVSU's Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies, noted that it was the world premier for scholarly discussion of *Considering the Bush Presidency*, which is the first scholarly assessment of the effects of 9/11 on the current administration. "The whole day will be filled with lively debate regarding President Bush and the impact of September 11 on our nation ... Dr. Porter is an informed and entertaining speaker. We are fortunate to be able to get his perspective in a keynote address to conclude our conference."

Joining Professor Porter, University of Louisville professor Gary L. Gregg and Catholic University professor Mark Rozell in the morning discussions were Michael Nelson of Rhodes College; Andrew Busch of the University of Denver; Paul Kengor of Grove City College in Pennsylvania; and GVSU political science professors Polly Diven and Randall Doyle. Dr. Gregg, Chair and Director of the University of Louisville's McConnell Center for Political Leadership, delivered the lecture *After the Attack: The Symbolic Leadership of FDR*. C-SPAN 2 BookTV taped the conference, which was open to the public without charge, for broadcast at a later date. ■

Courtesy John Corriveau

Courtesy John Corriveau

Courtesy John Corriveau

The keynote address by Harvard professor Roger Porter was followed by a reception and a book-signing by Mark Rozell and Gary Gregg for their new book, *Considering the Bush Presidency.*

Courtesy John Corriveau

the Museum and Foundation for New Programs

Building on the success of the Declaration of Independence exhibit and Garry Wills' talk, GVSU's Hauenstein Center for the Presidential Studies, the Ford Museum, and the Ford Foundation planned two major programs for this fall: *The Presidency after September 11* on September 12, followed by a lecture on presidential decision-making by historian Robert Dallek on October 2 to kick off the Museum's new exhibit *The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden*. Both programs end the day with book-signings.

"Presidential Decision-Making"

October 2

Kicking off the grand opening of *The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden*, Robert Dallek will address history students on Grand Valley State University campus in the afternoon, then discuss presidential decision-making at the Museum in a special program that evening. Following the lecture Dallek will autograph his latest book, *An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917-1963*, which Douglas Brinkley, author of *The Unfinished Presidency: Jimmy Carter's Journey Beyond the White House* and Director of the Eisenhower Center for American Studies at the University of New Orleans says "...sets the historical record straight...pitch-perfect prose...hands-down the best biography of JFK...a truly remarkable achievement." The book is available for purchase in the Museum's store. ■

News from the Archives

A State Department review team, consisting primarily of retired Foreign Service officers, visited the Ford Library on September 15-19 to review and declassify State Department documents and equities in the Library's national security files. [l-r: declassification archivist Geir Gundersen, Richard Zorn, David Shaw, Ivan "Ike" Izenberg, Alfreda Meyers, Sidney Friedland, and Thomas "Harry" Dunlop. Not pictured is George Thigpen].

The archival program enjoyed great success in the Federal fiscal year that has just ended. This was especially true in three key areas.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT:

Former Secretary of Defense **Melvin Laird** made a large addition to the invaluable collection he had already given to the Library. The Laird Papers now span about 150 cubic feet and encompass his outstanding service as U.S. Representative, Secretary of Defense, Counselor to President Nixon, his post-government activities, and, throughout, his friendship with Gerald Ford. The 1976 Ford campaign organization's general counsel, **Robert Visser**, donated his richly informative papers. Photojournalist **David Kennerly**, whose White House photos have always been the backbone of the Library's photo collections, enlarged his legacy by gift of his work covering Mr. Ford before and after the presidency. **John Milhaupt** gave a wonderful collection of Ford photos acquired during his career as a Grand Rapids photographer and photo lab owner. The oral histories collection of Ford presidency historian **Yanek Mieczkowski** will help fill the inevitable gaps in the records created as events unfolded. A previously-donated collection of special importance, the **Papers of Martin R. Hoffmann**, Secretary of the Army, were processed and opened to research.

STUDENT RESEARCH:

Student research at the Library reached an all-time high, with over 500 course-project research visits. The director's annual seminar course on the Ford presidency remained the cornerstone of the Library's educational ties with the University of Michigan. Supervisory archivist David Horrocks devised a series of collaborations with area instructors, including evening research workshops for new freshmen, research projects for political scientist Hanes Walton's fall and winter seminars, and a document selection and analysis project for students in historian David Smith's lecture course on the Vietnam War. The Vietnam archives project was presented to students as an optional alternative to a book-based research project. After the most intrepid students made early forays, favorable word of mouth eventually lured over 130 of the 200 students in the class. The skillful enthusiasm of Library staff sustained the project as it pressed resources to the limit.

DECLASSIFICATION:

All phases of the declassification review program accelerated as the release deadline of December 2006 marched closer. The State Department twice sent review teams that forged through over 20,000 pages of embassy cables and State and NSC memos. Several teams of State historians made research visits for Nixon and Ford administration volumes in the prestigious *Foreign Relations* series. Lead declassification archivist Geir Gundersen briefed CIA reviewers in Washington as they began review in digital copies of their documents at the Library. The Library's own declassification team coordinated these projects, processed numerous researcher "mandatory review" requests, and neared completion of all work in the four key collections know collectively as the "Presidential Countries Files." ■

Museum Acquires New Art

The Ford Museum has acquired two new works of art, one gracing the Museum grounds and the other presiding over the Michigan Room, the Museum's new educational classroom.

On July 21, a large sculpture of a University of Michigan football player bearing Gerald Ford's number "48" was placed near the entrance of the Museum. The artwork is the creation of Stuart Padnos, a local businessman who has become renowned for his sculptures made from scrap materials he has found at the Padnos Iron and Metal Company in Holland, Michigan.

In Padnos' own words, "I do not start with an image in my mind. I generally start with the scrap and let my mind run freely, trying to create something from what I see…Trying to find the right scrap to make a given sculpture is much more difficult and challenging, and I think, perhaps less creative." Mr. Padnos has been a long time friend and supporter of President Ford over the past 55 years. His art is showcased at several venues, including the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park.

Fifth Third Bank donated a portrait of the late U.S. Senator Arthur Vandenberg, a Grand Rapids native who served Michigan as one of the most influential Senators in history. Senator Vandenberg was a mentor to the young U.S. Congressman Gerald R. Ford who for 25 years beginning in 1949, represented West Michigan.

Artist Fried Pal completed the oil portrait of Senator Vandenberg in 1947. The family of Dr. and Mrs. A.B. Smith donated the painting to Old Kent Bank (now Fifth Third Bank) to grace the halls of the Vandenberg Center. Today the painting hangs as a focal point in the Museum's new educational classroom. ■

Education Programs Updated and Revised

With the opening of the Museum's new Education Center, plans for school programming are well underway. The first educational program planned for the new Cabinet Room is a high school tour based on Gerald Ford's pardon of Richard Nixon. Students will conduct research based on the primary source holdings of the Ford Library and Museum, exploring the various perspectives on the issue: historical, public, congressional, legal and media. Groups will participate in the interactive media presentation, and conduct a press conference based on their research. Additional programming for students will be added to the Cabinet Room offerings over the course of the coming months and years.

The new video conferencing capability takes the Museum's education programming potential into the 21st century, making distance learning programs possible. Thanks to a generous grant from the Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan, the Education Center has a fully equipped portable video conferencing system with which newly developed Cabinet Room school programs will be adapted and offered to classrooms around the country. The system will also be used for professional development training for educators and less formal education initiatives such as discussions with authors and lessons on utilizing primary source materials. We are very excited about this new capability.

Use of the Michigan Room will be limited only by our imaginations. Already on the drawing board are plans to incorporate hands-on activities into Museum tours for students, storytelling, workshops, demonstrations and more.

Democracy in Action is the umbrella under which the Museum's new education initiatives are being planned. The focus of these new efforts is on preparing well-informed citizens who understand the importance of being fully involved participants in our democracy … beginning with our youngest citizens, students. Each new program will be developed based on this philosophy, and firmly tied to local, state, and national Social Studies and History education standards. The first initiatives include not only the new hands-on Cabinet Room programs, but also a new series of tours for early elementary age students based on Ford exhibits currently under development that will include curriculum materials, gallery activities and encompass the full range of special events for children—straw polls and other elections activities, theatrical performances and more. With the wide range of temporary exhibits that will pass through our new gallery and our first-rate permanent exhibition the Ford Museum is in an excellent position to pursue its educational mission. ■

July 4th Festivities

Presidents' Day 2003

Our highly successful collaboration with WGVU public television based on the popular children's television show, *Liberty's Kids,* will repeat on Presidents' Day 2004. Last year, Garrett Doyle of Holland, Michigan, came dressed as George Washington and found himself posing with another George Washington impersonator, John Swartz, one of our featured entertainers who will also return next year.

The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden, October 4, 2003 - January 4, 2004

From the National Museum of American History and SITES

The American presidency: to Thomas Jefferson, it was a "splendid misery;" to Theodore Roosevelt, a "bully pulpit;" to Warren G . Harding, "a hell of a job." Some presidents have stumbled, others excelled. The work and decisions of only a few reverberated long after their administrations ended, but all were challenged and changed. As Lyndon Johnson put it, "The presidency has made every man who occupied it, no matter how small, bigger than he was; and no matter how big, not big enough for its demands." Those who have held the office of president helped shape the United States and influenced international events. Their collective history is greater than the individual stories of the men themselves.

In 2000, the permanent exhibition *The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden* opened at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, Behring Center (NMAH). It is one of the largest and most comprehensive examinations of the office of the nation's chief executive ever attempted within a museum setting.

In association with NMAH, the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) created a traveling version of *The American Presidency*. Like the museum's permanent installation, the traveling exhibition explores the office, the men who occupied it, and their dynamic relationships with the public. Perpetually changing, whether responding to times of prosperity, crisis, or loss, the relationship between the American people and the office of the president is a fascinating one.

The traveling exhibit will stop by Grand Rapids for three months, opening at the Ford Museum on October 4 and closing January 4, 2004. The 4,000 square foot exhibit features items from each of the 42 men who have occupied the office. From George Washington's surveyor's compass to Grover Cleveland's top hat worn at his inauguration and from Warren Harding's silk pajamas to FDR's microphone used during his Fireside Chats visitors will be able to experience the sweeping saga of our nation's chief executives. Video stations examine life in the White House, the various roles of the president, the assassination and mourning of fallen chief executives, the presidency in the popular imagination, and life after the presidency. Photographs and graphics trace the history of the presidency from the creation of the office to the present day. *The American Presidency* offers captivating new perspectives on the job that is arguably the most powerful in the world. A 208-page, full-color companion book, based on the permanent exhibition, is available from Smithsonian Institution Press (2000). The book, a perfect seasonal gift, can be purchased in soft or hard cover at the Museum store.

Brass inkwell used by Abraham Lincoln as he drafted the Emancipation Proclamation.

Electric clock with Franklin D. Roosevelt steering the ship of state, 1930s.

Jacqueline Kennedy Gown

More information about both the permanent and traveling exhibits can be found at the following websites: http://americanhistory.si.edu/presidency/home.html and http://www.sites.si.edu/about/index.htm.

The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden was created by the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, Behring Center and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The national tour has been made possible by the United States Congress, Guenther and Siewchin Yong Sommer, Kenneth E. Behring, the Smithsonian National Board, and The History Channel. ■

Smithsonian Institution

All That Jazz: America in the 1920s

Opening January 24, 2004

As World War I ended, the traditional powers of Europe and the Western World were shaken to their very foundations as Kings, a Czar and a Kaiser toppled, boundaries of nations and peoples changed, and the world shook its head in wonder at the devastation of the first global, mechanized war that left millions dead and maimed.

From the ashes of the Old World rose the United States as one of the world's acknowledged super powers. Americans were repulsed at the destruction of the war and vowed never again to be drawn into a European conflict. The end of the war also marked the beginning of a new era for America—an age of success, excess, heroes and villains.

All That Jazz: America in the 1920s marks our first in-house production in the new temporary exhibit gallery. The 1920s was a decade that set the tone for the United States for much of the rest of the twentieth century. Mass media such as the radio came in vogue, movies became popular icons and sports emerged into public consciousness. Great American writers such as Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Sinclair Lewis were read by all, the music of Louis Armstrong, George Gershwin and Cole Porter blared at dance halls, and we looked up to our heroes Herbert Hoover, Charles Lindbergh, and Henry Ford. It was a decade of sports legends such as Babe Ruth, Red Grange, Bobby Jones, and Jack Dempsey. The silver screen made legends of Charlie Chaplin, Clara Bow and Rudolph Valentino. Prohibition and government scandals created other legendary villains such as Al "Scarface" Capone and Albert Fall.

All That Jazz will portray the 1920s through artifacts such as Admiral Byrd's flight suit and sun compass used on his South Pole exploration, the guns used by Sacco and Vanzetti in their ill-fated hold-up, a Model A Ford, the personal effects of Al Capone, Babe Ruth, Rudolph Valentino, Louis Armstrong, F. Scott Fitzgerald and an original Edison ticker tape machine used to track the stock market. Numerous other artifacts will trace the times such as early radios, "flapper" clothing, movie posters and the manuscripts of Cole Porter, Willa Cather and others. The use of film clips and music will allow visitors to witness the sights and sounds of the era. ■

***The Queen's Messenger*, the nation's first television drama, aired on September 11, 1928.**

Special Issue Gerald R. Ford Commemorative Envelope

As part of the July festivities, the Museum presented special Gerald R. Ford 90th Birthday Commemorative Envelopes for sale in the Museum Store. U.S. Post Office staff were on hand July 14 and 30 to hand cancel the envelopes with a special 90th Birthday cancellation. The Birthday Cancellation (as seen on illustrations) will be available at the Post Office in downtown Grand Rapids for a limited time. Stamp collectors from across the globe have been requesting the cancellation stamp. The cancellation is free with the purchase of a postage stamp. For more information on the cancellation, please call (616) 776-1488. The Museum Store sells the envelopes for $3.00 each.

Robert Dallek Lecture and Book-Signing

OCTOBER 2, 2003

Kicking off the grand opening of *The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden*, Robert Dallek addresses Grand Valley State University history students in the afternoon, delivers an evening evening lecture at the Museum on presidential decision making and autographs copies of his latest book, *An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917-1963.* (See page 13.)

The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden

OCTOBER 4, 2003-JANUARY 4, 2004

(See page 16.)

The George Washington Follies

OCTOBER 8–10, 2003

Face-to-Face Productions of the ever-popular *Grand Rapids Circle Theatre* will again deliver live historical theatre to Grand Rapids area children, grades 3-7. This musical comedy is set on April 30th, 1789, Inauguration Day for the first President of the United States. George Washington is both nervous and exhausted, having been up all night worrying about this new position of leadership. As he begins to dose off, he dreams he is visited by King Charlemagne, Cleopatra and Confucius. Each of these characters shares his/her leadership qualities and philosophies with George, after which he is able to better understand how to lead a nation of the people, by the people and for the people. If last year's record is an indication of future performance the Museum's six performances of *The George Washington Follies* will be over-filled.

An Afternoon with Susan Ford

OCTOBER 26, 2003

Our favorite First Daughter talks about her life in the White House and her new mystery novel *Sharp Focus* at 2:00 p.m. in the Museum auditorium. Afterwards Ms. Ford will autograph copies of both *Sharp Focus* and her earlier novel, *Double Exposure.* (See page 5.) A free program beginning at 2:00 p.m. For reservations call (616) 254-0374.

Creative Encounter with David Small and Sarah Stewart

NOVEMBER 8, 2003

A very special afternoon conversation and demonstration for children ages 9-15 about the joys of reading, writing and illustrating books with award-winning illustrator and children's author David Small, and his wife, children's author Sarah Stewart. Small's book *So You Want to be President* won the 2001 Caldecott Medal from the American Library Association for most distinguished picture book art. A free program beginning at 2:00p.m. Reservations recommended; call (616) 254-0374.

Christmas on the Grand Tree Lighting

NOVEMBER 20, 2003

The Museum kicks off its *Christmas on the Grand* exhibition with an outdoor ceremony complete with music, speeches, refreshments, and free evening hours following the ceremony.

An Evening with the Presidents

DECEMBER 6, 2003

Enjoy an evening of political satire brought to Grand Rapids by humorist Bill Mellberg and pianist Kent Wehman. The duo pokes good-natured, bipartisan fun at our nation's more contemporary leaders. A free program beginning at 7:00 p.m. Reservations recommended; call (616) 254-0367.

Holiday Open House

DECEMBER 7, 2003

Enjoy the Museum's traditional holiday activities including a visit by Santa and Mrs. Claus, crafts, holiday music, storytelling, and refreshments, 1:00-5:00 p.m., with free admission.

All That Jazz: America in the 1920s

JANUARY 24–JUNE 12, 2004

(See page 17.)

Presidential Perspectives

FEBRUARY 4, 11, 18, AND 25, 2004

A new annual lecture series exploring the American presidency in depth. Each evening lecture will be followed by a reception in the Museum lobby.

White House Weekend

FEBRUARY 13–15, 2004

The Museum's annual program will focus on America in the 1920s, in conjunction with *All That Jazz.*

Family Theatre Series

FEBRUARY 14, MARCH 13, AND APRIL 10, 2004

The Museum presents a series of three theatrical performances for families with elementary age children. A free program; for reservations call (616) 254-0367.

Presidents' Day

FEBRUARY 16, 2004

The Museum's annual celebration will include patriotic crafts, presidential birthday cake, and a special collaborative program with WGVU public television tying in with the popular children's television show, *Liberty's Kids.* New on the program is an awards ceremony for the first annual *President Gerald R. Ford Essay Challenge.*

American Political Film Series

MARCH 3, 10, 17, AND 24, 2004

After an absence of many years, a popular film series returns to the Museum, complete with guest commentators. Showings this year will focus on America in the 1920s.

Georgia O'Keeffe

JULY 2–OCTOBER 9, 2004

In one of his last acts as President, Gerald Ford presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Georgia O'Keefe. Truly one of America's greatest artists, her life and career are showcased in this unique Museum exhibition.

Are you a "Friend of Ford"?

Become a member of Friends of Ford and help support the Library & Museum's many exhibits and programs. Join us as we seek to enhance public understanding of American history, government and the presidency.

Members of Friends of Ford receive many valuable benefits:

- ★ Free admission to the Gerald R. Ford Museum
- ★ Advance notification of speakers and exhibits
- ★ Invitation to pre-opening exhibit tours by a Museum staff member
- ★ Foundation Newsletter, "News From The Ford"
- ★ Free admission for two guests per Museum visit
- ★ 10% discount on merchandise at the Museum Store
- ★ Free admission to other nine Presidential Museums
- ★ Membership card
- ★ Members at the Family, Associate, Sustaining, Patron and President's Cabinet membership levels receive additional benefits.

"I am profoundly grateful for the kind words that have been said about me, but the finest tribute of all will be to see the Gerald R. Ford Museum living and growing and constructive and useful."

GERALD R. FORD
MUSEUM DEDICATION
SEPTEMBER 18, 1981

As a member of Friends of Ford you are invited to participate in many special Museum activities that are not open to the general public.

To join the Friends of Ford, please mail the completed application form to the Gerald R. Ford Foundation at the address below or visit our website at http://www.geraldfordfoundation.org. The Foundation's administrative assistant, Diane VanAllsburg will be happy to answer any questions you may have. She may be reached at the address below, by telephone at (616) 254-0396, or by email at geraldfordfoundation@nara.gov.

Date_____

Name of Member_____ Title: Dr./ Mr./ Mrs./ Ms./ Miss/ other (please circle)

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E-mail Address_____ Fax _____

Membership Level Choices *(please check one):*

___ Individual: $35-$49
___ Sustaining: $250-$499
___ Family: $50-$99
___ Patron: $500-$1,000
___ Associate: $100-$249
___ President's Cabinet: *$1,000 and above*

Checks should be made payable to the ***"Friends of Ford."*** If you are using a credit card you may prefer to fax your application to Diane Van Allsburg at (616)254-0403. Please mail your application to:

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation
303 Pearl Street, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353

Payment Choice:

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____ Charge Card (check card type)
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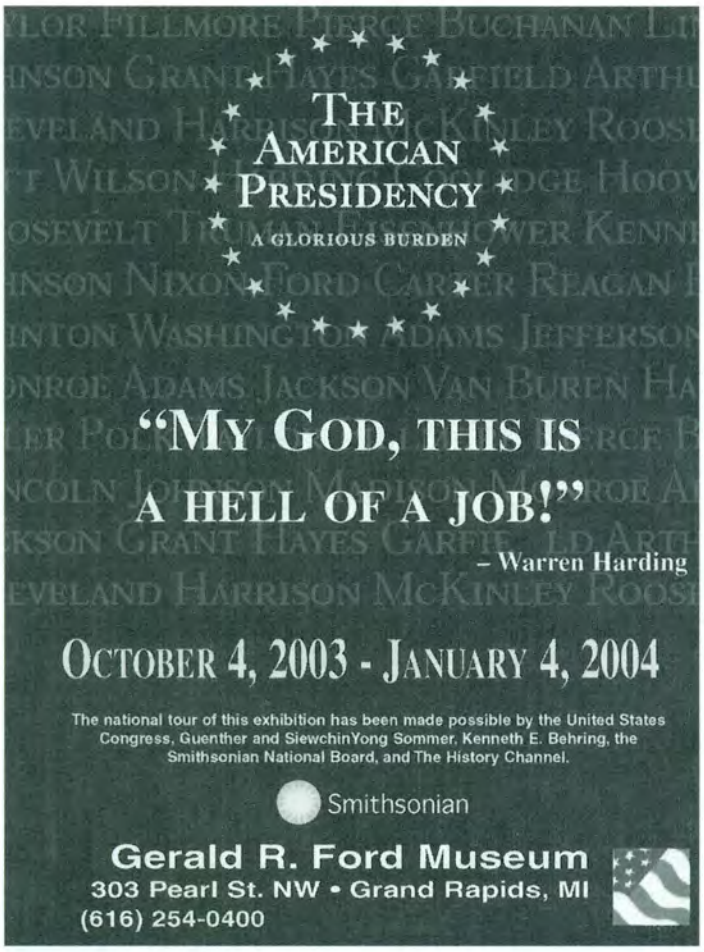
____ American Express
____ Discover

Card number _____

Expiration Date_____

Name as it appears on credit card:

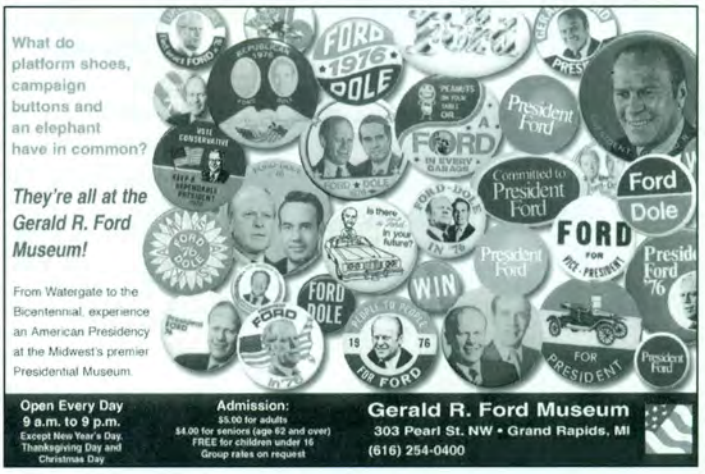
Signature:_____



Remember Someone Special With A Gift Membership!

Give a Friends of Ford membership to a friend or relative and provide them with a year of exciting public programs, renowned speakers and rich history, while supporting the annual programs and operations of the Gerald R. Ford Museum. It's a perfect gift for any occasion and now even more so, with our new temporary exhibit gallery, Michigan Room, Educational Classroom and Cabinet Room.

Use the form on page 19, call (616) 254-0396 or send an email to geraldfordfoundation@nara.gov.



The Gerald R. Ford Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation whose primary mission is to support the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum through historical exhibits, educational programs, conferences, research grants and awards. In fulfilling its mission, the Foundation seeks to honor the principles and values demonstrated by President Ford throughout his public service career. The Foundation also seeks to educate Americans about the unique history and significant events of the Ford presidency. Finally, the Foundation seeks to enhance public understanding of American history and government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Martin J. Allen, Jr., Chairman, Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504-5353.

THE GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER
Editor: Nancy Mirshah

Gerald R. Ford Foundation
1000 Beal Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109

For information about Library programs:
Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2114 (734) 205-0555
Email: ford.library@nara.gov
Website: http:// www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov

For information about Museum programs:
Gerald R. Ford Museum, 303 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353 (616) 254-0400
Email: ford.museum@nara.gov
Website: http:// www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov

For information about Foundation programs:
Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353
Interim Director Bob Gamble (616) 254-0397
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Email: geraldfordfoundation@nara.gov
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