The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation’s local Grand Rapids trustees met with area business and community leaders on November 9, 2012 to share a vision aimed at creating global access to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum’s and Library’s exhibits and documents through a $15 million capital campaign. The campaign will fund a 10,500-square-foot student learning center at the museum located in Grand Rapids and create interactive exhibits using the latest technologies. Online digital access to a significant number of historical documents in the museum and library located in Ann Arbor are also planned as part of the campaign. The fundraising phase of the campaign is expected to be completed during the spring of 2013.

In addition, a series of special events are also being planned to commemorate President Ford’s 100th birthday. Further details of the special events, expansion, exhibit renovations and digital access to historical documents will be announced in the coming months.

“The vision of this campaign is to attract students of all ages to the museum and provide online access to the museum and library’s incredible holdings,” said David Frey, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Trustee and Campaign Co-Chair, together with Trustees Red Cavaney and Terry O’Donnell. “This expansion will let individuals explore the Ford Presidency, the lives of Gerald and Betty Ford and a significant number of historical documents associated with the history of our nation during the 1974-1977 time period.”

The Foundation is collaborating with the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Grand Valley State University to develop a curriculum that will benefit students and individuals who visit the museum, library or online learning sites.

“Prior to today’s announcement, this plan was shared with the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation trustees, and they collectively agreed to lead the funding efforts by pledging a combined $10 million to get the campaign moving quickly,” said Steve Ford, son of President and Mrs. Ford, and chair of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. “The addition of an on-site student learning center will allow teachers to bring full classrooms into the museum to study history, civics and see first-hand the core values Mom and Dad shared throughout their life.”

Individuals or businesses interested in donating to the Campaign for the Legacy of Gerald R. Ford can do so by contacting the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation at 616-254-0396 or by visiting the Foundation’s website at www.geraldfordfoundation.org.

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum was dedicated in September 1981, and then updated in 1996. It is located in downtown Grand Rapids and is also the site of President and Mrs. Ford’s final resting place. Since January 1, 2012, more than 250,000 individuals have visited the Museum. (Continued on page 10.)
This is an exciting time for the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and President Ford’s extraordinary legacy. We are grateful to our lead donors who will make the Student Learning Center and permanent exhibit redesign a reality. We look forward to the public participation in the Campaign for the Legacy of Gerald R. Ford.

I would like to extend a special thanks to Capital Campaign Co-Chairs Red Cavaney, David Frey, and Terry O’Donnell for their dedication. For more information on the Campaign please contact the Foundation or visit our website: www.geraldrfordfoundation.org.

In 2013, we’ll celebrate President Ford’s centennial birthday. The Grand Rapids Celebration is being co-chaired by Doug DeVos, Bob Hooker, Hank Meijer and Steve Van Andel. Thanks to each of them for planning this special celebration.

Since September 11, 2002, the President Ford Council, Boy Scouts of America, has honored those who gave their lives on 9/11, and those who continue to protect our great nation. Among the attendees of this year’s flag salute at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum included over 1,700 scouts, scout leaders, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and police officers. Steve Ford was the keynote speaker at the morning program. The President Ford Council is the only Boy Scout Council that has honored our heroes on this day for the last eleven years.

On November 9, the United States Air Force Band of Flight performed at the Saint Cecilia Music Center in Grand Rapids. The event was co-sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Museum in collaboration with the Grand Rapids Community College Music Department. The band had the honor to perform at President Ford’s state funeral services at Grace Church in Grand Rapids on January 3, 2007. This was the concert band’s last performance. It was my high honor to welcome the Band back to Grand Rapids.

I would also like to thank the many “Friends of Ford” who donate their time, services and funds to make possible our many activities that sustain President Ford’s legacy. We wish you and your family a healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year.

Looking Back

Foundation Trustees

Carla A. Hills and Roderick M. Hills

The swearing in of Carla A. Hills as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on March 10, 1975 by Justice Byron White in the East Room of the White House. She is joined by President Ford and her husband Roderick M. Hills.

Carla Hills served as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from March 1975 - January 1977. She was the first woman to serve in this position and the third woman to ever serve as a cabinet officer.

Roderick Hills served as Counsel to President Ford from March - October 1975, and as Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission until March 1977.
Susan Ford Bales, Global Ambassador for Susan G. Komen For The Cure, presented the Betty Ford Lifetime Achievement Award to Senator Olympia Snowe at the third annual Honoring the Promise Gala at The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, Friday, September 28, 2012. The gala event honored those paving the way to a cure. The event raised $1.5 million for Susan G. Komen’s breast cancer programs. In addition, Susan was the keynote speaker at the 10th annual Power of a Promise luncheon in Seattle, Washington on October 24, 2012.

Susan said, “As a recently named Global Ambassador for Susan G. Komen For The Cure, I am very honored to officially join Komen in this role. It represents a handing of the baton in a symbolic way from Mother to me, and from one generation of women to another. I often marvel that in just one generation we’ve come from a time when we wouldn’t say breast in polite conversation, to a time when this disease is discussed openly and candidly, just as Mother and Dad had hoped.”

“I know we can stop this disease. Mother believed it; Dad believed it. The baton is now passed to a new generation of women and men who also have the resolve to stand up and defeat this killer.”

On November 8, Steve Ford shared the story of his mother’s inspiring journey of breast cancer survival along with his own story of co-surviving at the Susan G. Komen annual benefit “On The Wings of Hope” at the Goei Center in Grand Rapids. Steve said, “If Mom were here tonight, she’d tell you she was just an ordinary woman stuck in an extraordinary time.”

The event recognized local cancer survivors, volunteers and grantees for their determination, passion and effort in savings lives by fighting to end breast cancer. Money raised at the event will go to fund education, screening, treatment and research in the Grand Rapids community. Over 300 people attended the survivor benefit of which 70 were survivors.

The University of Michigan Athletic Department officially recognized Gerald Ford as a Michigan Football Legend during a pregame ceremony at the Michigan-Illinois homecoming football game on October 13, 2012. The Michigan football program’s plan to honor its legends by having current players wear their jerseys will continue with sophomore linebacker Desmond Morgan (Holland, MI) wearing the famed No. 48 jersey for the remainder of his career.

The number was retired in 1994 and is one of five retired jerseys. Instead of having a retired number, Gerald Ford’s No. 48 will be emblazoned with a Michigan Football Legend patch. “I think it’s a much better way to memorialize and honor these folks,” said athletic director David Brandon. “This program is about tradition and legacy and this is a unique way to honor these great Wolverines.”

President Ford’s sons Steve and Mike, and members of their family were pleased to participate in the ceremony along with 110,000 fans, new and old, inside the stadium where he once played, honoring him as his No. 48 jersey returned to the field. ~

Michigan Football Legend: Gerald Ford
Retired No. 48 Jersey Returns to the Field

The University of Michigan Athletic Department officially recognized Gerald Ford as a Michigan Football Legend during a pregame ceremony at the Michigan-Illinois homecoming football game on October 13, 2012. The Michigan football program’s plan to honor its legends by having current players wear their jerseys will continue with sophomore linebacker Desmond Morgan (Holland, MI) wearing the famed No. 48 jersey for the remainder of his career.

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Courtesy of University of Michigan
Betty Ford was remembered Thursday as a feminist, a pioneer in breast cancer awareness and an advocate for addiction treatment.

But the late first lady, who died July 8, 2011, at age 93, also was a huge Michigan football fan. As her son Mike Ford told it at a tribute to her life and legacy, Mrs. Ford spent part of her honeymoon with the late President Gerald Ford at a Wolverine football game in 1948.

"Throughout their 58 years of marriage and public service, they traveled to Ann Arbor many times," he said. "Mom came to love the University of Michigan because she loved Jerry Ford, the son of the maize and blue."

The 90-minute tribute was sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. It included speeches from Nancy Brinker, a former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary and founder of Susan G. Komen For The Cure; Sanford Weill, former CEO and Chairman of Citigroup; U-M President Mary Sue Coleman, and Ford School Dean Susan M. Collins.

Brinker, who called Mrs. Ford a friend and mentor, said she attended the first fundraising event Brinker put together to find a cure for breast cancer in 1982 — a polo match in Dallas. Her only question was: Would she have to ride a horse?

"Mrs. Ford didn't just lend her name, she lent her leadership, and one of my favorite quotes that guides me even to this day is fairly simple, which is that 'you never know what you can do until you have to do it,'" Brinker said.

Mrs. Ford, she said: "was an extraordinary leader for all women and for our country's culture, because she had the courage to stand up and challenge our society to think about important issues … to change things that were wrong."

Coleman, who considered Gerald and Betty Ford personal friends, said Mrs. Ford's frankness about breast cancer encouraged millions of women to see their doctors, perform monthly exams and get mammograms.

"Mrs. Ford elevated the visibility and awareness of women's roles in the world and their right to be treated as equals," she said.

Miki Orihara, a principal dancer at the Martha Graham Dance Company in New York, performed at the tribute a dance choreographed by Graham in the 1940s around the time that Mrs. Ford danced in her group.

The dance, called "Letter to the World," was based on a poem by Emily Dickinson.

"Even though this is an old piece and the style might be old with its politeness of movement, it is still relevant," Orihara said in an interview prior to her performance.

Orihara, who met the Fords in the late 1980s at a reception after a performance in California, said of the tribute: "I am just honored to be here and dancing." ~ Greta Guest, University of Michigan News Service.

A video of this event is available at: http://fordschool.umich.edu/video/newest/1899360433001/
The American National Tree Challenge

On Monday, September 17, Carter Jimenez-Jenkins, a 15-year-old high school sophomore from JSerra Catholic High School in San Juan Capistrano, CA, and his mom flew to Philadelphia to celebrate the 225th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution at the National Constitution Center. Carter attended the special ceremony commemorating the addition of his award winning essay about an influential American and former First Lady Betty Ford to the American National Tree exhibit.

The American National Tree, a popular exhibit at the National Constitution Center, tells the stories of 100 Americans whose actions have helped write the story of the Constitution. The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers invites all 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students who have earned Gold Keys in The Scholastic Writing Awards to enter the M.R. Robinson National Constitution Center’s American National Tree Award challenge.

To do so, each student must submit a biographical essay about one of the historically important Americans nominated by the center. Choices this year included Al Smith, Betty Ford, Frances Perkins, Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, and Alexander Haig.

“Betty Ford was a first lady who had her own opinions and voice,” says Carter, “and that is something I respect.” - Courtesy of the National Constitution Center.

Betty Ford: Defining the American Spirit
by Carter Jimenez-Jenkins


Betty Ford, an embattled mastectomy survivor and alcoholic, was a First Lady the nation will never forget. With her outspoken irreverence, she defined what it meant to be American. “Mrs. Ford’s impact on American culture may be far wider and more lasting than that of her husband, who served a mere 896 days, much of it spent trying to restore the dignity of the office of the president,” The New York Times wrote. Betty may have looked like an elegantly coiffed First Lady, but she did the Bump dance down the White House corridors, flashed her mood ring, and adopted the handle “First Mama” when she chatted on her CB radio. In an era where women were praised for their domesticity, Betty fought for women’s rights and “mused about drugs, abortion and premarital sex aloud and without regret” (The New York Times). She was adamantly pro-choice, in favor of psychiatric treatment, and opened the door to frank conversations about marijuana and premarital sex. In an era where men and women slept in separate beds, she showed the nation in a televised White House tour that she and Jerry enjoyed the same one. Although some conservatives blasted her as “No Lady” and rallied for her “resignation”, seventy-five percent of Americans cheered her on. Betty said all the things we lacked the courage to speak out loud, and we loved her for it.

She was not “empty fire and sass”. Her words saved lives, especially when it came to breast cancer and addiction. Because Betty Ford went public with her mastectomy, women increased their rates of self-examination. This practice led to increased rates of early breast cancer detection, the “Betty Ford Blip”, which consequently rescued lives. In addition, the drug and alcohol rehab clinic that bears her name saves people to this day.

Despite all she achieved, Betty was humble: “I was an ordinary woman who was called onstage at an extraordinary time. I was no different once I became First Lady than I had been before. But, through an accident of history, I became interesting to people.” It was no accident that Betty shaped not who we were, but who we would be. Betty once said, “You never know what you can do until you have to do it.” She is a woman who defined the American spirit.

2012 award winning essay.
**USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78) Update**

Huntington Ingalls Industries announced that its Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS) division placed a 1,026-metric ton unit - roughly the weight of six Boeing 747 commercial airplanes - onto the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78).

“This is the heaviest unit to be moved during the ship’s construction and the largest lift our crane has ever made,” said Rolf Bartschi, NNS’ vice president of CVN 78 carrier construction. “This lift represents the strategic construction improvements of the Ford-class carriers. The concept during design of the ship was to build larger units than were built on the Nimitz-class carriers, resulting in fewer crane lifts to the dry dock. This lift is a significant achievement for our shipbuilding team on this first-of-class ship and reflects the pride and capability of the entire team.”

Susan Ford Bales, the Ship’s Sponsor, added her congratulations: “This lift is a significant milestone and a shining tribute to the dedication and extraordinary patriotism of the shipbuilders. Dad would share my gratitude and pride in the carrier’s construction. I look forward to the upcoming island landing and to christening her in 2013.”

Gerald R. Ford is being built using modular construction, a process where smaller sections of the ship are welded together to form large structural units, outfitting is installed, and the large unit is lifted into the dry dock. Of the nearly 500 total structural lifts needed to complete the ship, 435 have been accomplished. The lifts are accomplished using the shipyard’s 1,050-metric ton gantry crane, one of the largest in the Western Hemisphere. At 128 feet wide and 128 feet long, the gallery deck to flight deck bridge assembly comprises 14 steel sections and includes firefighting, jet fuel and catapult systems, jet blast deflectors and electrical servicing stations. Construction of the gallery deck to flight deck bridge assembly began in October 2011.

Gerald R. Ford represents the next-generation class of aircraft carriers. The first-in-class ship features a new nuclear power plant, a redesigned island, electromagnetic catapults, improved weapons movement, an enhanced flight deck capable of increased aircraft sortie rates, and growth margin for future technologies and reduced manning. Ford has been under construction since November 2009. The ship is more than 88 percent structurally complete and is scheduled to launch in 2013 and deliver to the U.S. Navy in 2015. ~ Courtesy of Huntington Ingalls Industries, Inc.

**President Ford Council, Boy Scouts of America, 9/11 Tribute**

From sunrise to sunset the President Ford Council, Boy Scouts of America, along with police and firefighters saluted the flag outside the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in honor of those killed on 9/11, and in appreciation of those serving our country today. They are the only group of Boy Scouts in the country who have been doing the flag salute for the last 11 years on the anniversary of the terror attacks. Thousands of people attend this tribute every year.

Foundation Chairman Steve Ford spoke at the ceremony and talked about how proud his dad would have been to know that this special tribute continues at the Museum.
As is evident from the programs and events highlighted in this issue, we have had a busy fall of public programming at the Library and Museum. Attendance rose from 210,000 to 288,000 in FY12. Sixty percent of the rise of visitors can be attributed to the increased attendance for ArtPrize. School group visits to the Museum increased from 67 groups in FY 11 to 139 in FY 12, an increase of 107%, or a total increase of 22% in the number of students visiting the Museum. Some of this increase can be attributed to attendance during ArtPrize, but in addition, numerous schools brought students to the special Freedom Riders exhibit which ran March 6 – April 6. Almost half of the school visits were supported with bus funding from the Secchia-Allen Student Transportation Fund within the Ford Presidential Foundation.

Facility use of the Library and Museum by outside groups brought in nearly $35,000, an increase of 4% over FY 11. These uses by outside groups increase the visibility of the Library and Museum in each of our communities, and also serve to draw attendees to other programs and events.

Our progress with digitization continues, made possible by the Foundation’s support for two contracted staff positions. I am happy to report that 82,000 pages are complete and about 13,000 White House photo contact sheets are also posted on our website. In FY12 alone, 58,000 pages were scanned. This is just a fraction of our 25 million-page collection, but it is wonderful progress and offers researchers from around the world access to our holdings.

We have also begun a pilot project to post images of our artifact collections and selected documents and photos on Wikimedia, the storage site for image files which can be linked with Wikipedia entries. The project was initiated by Bettina Cousineau, our Museum Exhibits Specialist. To date, she has uploaded over 200 artifact images and photographs onto the Wikimedia Commons site. She is working with volunteer Wikipedia administrators at the University of Michigan and nationally who provide technical and coding assistance, and the Library is exploring the possibility of bringing a Wikipedia Ambassador (UM graduate student) on board for the winter term to work on uploading other materials and writing short articles about them to be posted on Wikipedia. This is another way of extending the Library’s global reach, demonstrated by the fact that two of our artifacts have already had articles written about them in France and Japan!

Finally, I want to express the Library and Museum staff’s deep appreciation for the Foundation’s confidence in us as expressed by the Capital Campaign commitment to add a new student learning center, update exhibits and expand the scope of our digitization program. We are all very grateful for the Foundation’s willingness to help us advance to the next level and more effectively reach out to students and the public.

Elaine K. Didier, Ph.D.

Ford Family Visit to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

On October 12, members of the Ford Family visited the Presidential Library in Ann Arbor, some visiting for the very first time. The Library was honored to host Foundation Chairman Steve Ford, Mike Ford and his wife Gayle, and their daughters and their spouses: Hannah and Chad Crafford, and Bekah and Clay Cooke and their daughter, Ever.

Following lunch and introductions, Library staff members showcased the President’s office, research room, collections and audiovisual areas, providing examples of books published as a result of research at the Library as well as items of special interest to the family, such as early photos of President and Mrs. Ford as well as the Ford children. Jeremy Schmidt provided an introduction to the Library’s website, and Stacy Davis demonstrated the scope of materials digitized and available on the website as a result of the Foundation’s support for this project. The tour wrapped up with a visit to the Betty Ford exhibit and Wolverine Corner, which displays materials related to President Ford’s time at the University of Michigan. ~ Elaine Didier, Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum.

Congressman John Mica Tours the Museum

Elaine Didier, Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum, and Jim Kratsas, Deputy Director of the Museum, hosted Congressman John Mica and his wife Pat for a personal tour of the Museum on Sunday, Sept. 30. Congressman Mica is a senior member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee that oversees the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Congressman Mica is a great fan of presidential libraries and was eager to see the Museum during a brief trip to Michigan. Elaine had met the Congressman previously when he served as moderator of a symposium on presidential libraries on February 28, 2011. The symposium, "America’s Presidential Libraries: Their Mission and Their Future," was covered by C-SPAN for national broadcast.

Elaine Didier, Mike Ford, Bekah Cooke, Gayle Ford, Hannah Ford Crafford, Clay Cooke, Chad Crafford, Ever Cooke and Foundation Chairman Steve Ford.

Elaine Didier, Congressman John Mica, Elaine Didier and Jim Kratsas in President Ford’s Foundation office.
Michigan Supreme Court Comes to the Museum
Twice each year the Michigan Supreme Court brings its Community Connections Program to sites throughout the State. On October 25, 2012, the Court came to the Museum, where the seven justices heard oral arguments in the case of the People of the State of Michigan vs. Kurtis Ray Minch.

The Community Connections Program was designed to, “enhance students’ awareness and understanding of Michigan’s judicial system and its vital role in assuring American democracy.” Prior to attending the Supreme Court session at the Museum, students were briefed on the specifics of the case and, as spelled out in the program’s curriculum guide, spent additional time learning about how Michigan’s Supreme Court is structured, the roles of the three branches of government in making, interpreting, and enforcing our laws, and the different responsibilities of the attorneys and justices. Local attorney educators worked with the students before their visit and debriefed them after the Supreme Court session.

Students participating in the “We the People” competition were selected to be a part of this unique program. Well over 200 students and their teachers from Kent, Ottawa, and Muskegon Intermediate School Districts were able to attend. The formal program was followed by a reception where students were able to talk, informally, with the justices and attorneys.


Rocky Bleier, Former Pittsburgh Steelers Running Back
Opening program for Pro Football and the American Spirit Exhibit
Grand Rapids - Tuesday, October 23, 2012

In 1934 Gerald Ford, a University of Michigan senior and All-Star center for the Wolverines’ football squad, was offered contracts by the Detroit Lions and Green Bay Packers to play professional football. He turned them down, becoming instead an assistant coach at Yale and a student in the law school. Had he chosen to play professional football, his name might appear in the exhibit currently on display at his presidential museum, Pro Football and the American Spirit. But he likely would have had no presidential museum to host that exhibit. Assembled by the Pro Football Hall of Fame, the exhibit features players and personnel who served our nation in the armed forces, from World War II through Desert Storm and Afghanistan.

On October 23, the Foundation and the Museum hosted legendary halfback, Rocky Bleier. Captain of the 1967 Notre Dame Fighting Irish team, Bleier was drafted twice in 1968, first by the Pittsburgh Steelers and later by the United States Army. His service in Vietnam would earn him the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. His service to the Steelers, upon his return to the team, would earn him a starting position in 1974 and four Super Bowl rings. At the Museum on that memorable October night, Bleier won over a full audience with his stories about growing up in Appleton, Wisconsin, camaraderie with his fellow soldiers, and gridiron exploits — all of which earned him at evening’s end a well deserved standing ovation. ~ Don Holloway, Curator, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Hauenstein Center

The Untold Story of the U.S. Constitution — and the Lessons for Today
Gleaves Whitney, Director of the Hauenstein Center
September 13, 2012

If citizens think politics are nasty nowadays, they were arguably nastier in 1787 when America’s new frame of government was bruited about. The statesmen who debated the architecture of freedom were not above petty politics, yet somehow they sorted through their personality differences and diverse regional interests to compromise on the essentials. Indeed, the convention offers valuable lessons in bipartisanship that desperately need heeding today. In a story that never grows old in the telling, Gleaves Whitney looked at the challenges the founders stared down on their world historic mission, that of creating a New Republic.

Visit the Hauenstein Center’s website: www.hauensteincenter.org/americanconversations for a video of this presentation. ~ Courtesy of the Hauenstein Center.
Library and Museum News

Ira Shapiro
The Last Great Senate: Courage and Statesmanship in Times of Crisis
Ann Arbor - Thursday, October 25, 2012

Ira Shapiro delighted his audience at the Ford Library with a discussion of his recent book and recollections about The Last Great Senate: Courage and Statesmanship in Times of Crisis. Mr. Shapiro recounted his observations of national policy differences and their resolution through bipartisanship and compromise within the Senate of the late 1960s to early 1980s. The lecture reflected his passion for the “world’s most exclusive club” and presented a portrait of the statesmen and women who helped steer America during the crisis years of the late 1970s by transcending politics. A book signing followed the presentation.

Max Holland
Leak: Why Mark Felt Became Deep Throat
Ann Arbor - Thursday, September 27, 2012

Author Max Holland discussed his fast-paced book revealing intriguing historical insights that retrace Mark Felt’s steps during the crucial initial investigation of the bungled black-bag job in the Democratic National Committee Watergate complex offices. A book signing followed the presentation.

John J. Miller
The Big Scrum: How Teddy Roosevelt Saved Football
Ann Arbor - Thursday, October 15, 2012

Author and University of Michigan graduate John J. Miller spoke at the Library about the history of college football and the social changes in America that made it so popular. The Big Scrum tells the fascinating story of why Teddy Roosevelt thought football was so relevant to American life. A book signing followed the presentation.

Ira Shapiro
The Last Great Senate: Courage and Statesmanship in Times of Crisis
Ann Arbor - Thursday, October 25, 2012

Ira Shapiro delighted his audience at the Ford Library with a discussion of his recent book and recollections about The Last Great Senate: Courage and Statesmanship in Times of Crisis. Mr. Shapiro recounted his observations of national policy differences and their resolution through bipartisanship and compromise within the Senate of the late 1960s to early 1980s. The lecture reflected his passion for the “world’s most exclusive club” and presented a portrait of the statesmen and women who helped steer America during the crisis years of the late 1970s by transcending politics. A book signing followed the presentation.
ArtPrize 2012

A life-sized Tyrannosaurus Rex, penguins, an 8 foot kaleidoscope, and a film noir crime scene were just a few of the twenty-four entries into this year’s version of ArtPrize at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. For 19 days, (September 19 through October 7) ArtPrize officials estimated 400,000 people descended on Grand Rapids to view art works by over 1,500 artists from all over the globe.

For the first time, the Ford Museum was a registration center and attendance at the Museum topped 195,000 visitors, up 36% from last year. And as a registration site, the Ford Museum was able to sell official ArtPrize merchandise. Several of the items sold out quickly and the Museum store’s normal merchandise had a surge in sales.

Twenty-four artists were featured at the Ford Museum – and they fared well with the public vote. Fourteen were in the top 100, ten in the top 50, five in the top 25, and one in the top 10. “The Chase” by Dennis Harris, a taxidermy piece of a full moose being pursued by eight wolves, came in 8th overall. Eight of the artworks were sold by their creators. Ripley’s Believe It or Not purchased two, while “The Chase” was secured by a Sparta, Michigan sporting goods company.

ArtPrize, an open art competition, gives away the world’s largest art prize, $560,000 to both juried and public winners. Each year, ArtPrize has grown in size, popularity, and in attendance. The brainchild of Rick DeVos, grandson of Amway co-founder Rich DeVos, ArtPrize has provided vitality to the downtown and an economic boom for all businesses. ~ Jim Kratsas, Deputy Director, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

Campaign for the Legacy of Gerald. R. Ford

Campaign for the Legacy of Gerald R. Ford

Photos from the Capital Campaign Announcement
(Continued from page 1.)

A Legacy of Integrity

(l-r) Trustee Peter Secchia, Chairman Emeritus Marty Allen and Trustee Bob Hooker.

(l-r) Trustee and Campaign Co-Chair David Frey, Vice-Chairman Hank Meijer, and Chairman Steve Ford at the Capital Campaign announcement.
Air Force One Pilot Visits Museum

Colonel (Ret.) Mark Tillman, pilot and commander of Air Force One from 2001-2009, visited the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on September 26. During his visit, he paid his respects to President and Mrs. Ford by placing a bouquet of flowers at their burial site. During the funeral events for President Ford, Colonel Tillman was the pilot of the Presidential airplane designated as Special Air Mission 29000 from California to Washington, D.C. for the state funeral, and then to President Ford’s final resting place in Grand Rapids. According to the Colonel, “We take care of the President from basically when he is in office to when he lays in state.”

Colonel Tillman was at the controls of Air Force One during numerous prominent events. Most notably, he protected President George W. Bush on September 11, 2001, by keeping him out of harm’s way and connecting the flying Oval Office to the nation’s first responders. ~ Marty Allen, Chairman Emeritus, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Research Travel Grants

Fall 2012 Recipients

Aigner, Peter Christian  
Ph.D. candidate, City University of New York

Andic, Savkar  
Ph.D. candidate, University of Oxford (England)

Barrett, Marsha E.  
Ph.D. candidate, Rutgers University

Bentivoglio, Giulia  
Research Fellow, University of Trieste (Italy)

Byrnes, Sean T.  
Ph.D. candidate, Emory University

Dobbs, Charles M.  
Professor, Iowa State University

Ellinson, Gregory  
Ph.D. candidate, University of California, Berkeley

Gheorghe, Rodica Eliza  
Ph.D. candidate, University of Oxford (England)

Reger, Alexander  
Ph.D. candidate, University of Connecticut

Ronan, Jim  
Ph.D. candidate, Catholic University of America

St. Julien, Danielle E.  
Ph.D. candidate, Binghamton University

Shehu, Karl  
Attorney and independent historian

Stevens, Simon  
Ph.D. candidate, Columbia University

Thompson, Sue  
Lecturer, Australian National University

Yes, I want to be a member of “Friends of Ford” and support “A Legacy of Integrity”

Between now and President Ford’s 100th Birthday on July 14, 2013, all new Friends of Ford membership donations will be designated for the new Student Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. In addition to the benefits of a Friends of Ford membership, all new members, and additional “A Legacy of Integrity” donations will receive a special thank you gift* based on the membership level or additional donation amount. These special gifts are outlined on our website at www.geraldfordfoundation.org. Additionally, all new donors will be electronically recognized in a digital display in the new Student Learning Center for one year. (* While supplies last)

Members of Friends of Ford receive many valuable benefits:

★ Free admission to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum
★ Advance notification of speakers and exhibits at both the Library and Museum
★ Invitation to pre-opening exhibit tours by staff members
★ Foundation Newsletter, 5 issues per year
★ 10% Discount on merchandise at the Museum Store
★ Free admission to other Presidential Libraries and Museums
★ Membership card
★ Members at the Family, Associate, Sustaining, Patron, President’s Cabinet and Legacy membership levels receive additional benefits.

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

Support the Campaign for the Legacy of Gerald R. Ford Today!

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.
Upcoming Events:

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright
Grand Rapids: January 29, 2013 at 7:00 pm

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation and Ford Library and Museum would like to invite you to an evening with former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Ms. Albright will officially open the exhibition of her personal jewelry titled, Read My Pins: The Madeleine Albright Collection. Reservations are required to attend. To make reservations call (616) 254-0396 or email: rsvp@38foundation.org.

H. W. Brands - “What Makes A President Great”
Grand Rapids: March 7, 2013 at 7:00 pm


Save the Date: (Details to follow).

• Grand Rapids Centennial Tribute Dinner to President Ford
  Grand Rapids: May 6, 2013 at 7:00 pm

  Grand Rapids: May 7, 2013 at 9:00 am

Exhibits:

Pro Football and the American Spirit,
Grand Rapids, October 10, 2012 - January 6, 2013

A popular exhibit that has traveled the country tells the story of professional football players and personnel who served our nation in the armed forces from World War II to Desert Storm to the conflict in Afghanistan. Exhibit artifacts include Hall of Famer Art Donovan’s Marine uniform, the career medals of General Ernest Cheatham, pro football’s highest ranking former player and Pat Tillman’s Army Ranger uniform, and many other significant items from the Hall of Fame’s vast collection.

Read My Pins: The Madeleine Albright Collection
Grand Rapids, January 27, 2013 - April 21, 2013

The Madeleine Albright Collection features more than 200 pins, many of which Secretary Albright wore to communicate a message or a mood during her diplomatic tenure. The exhibition examines the collection for its historic significance as well as the expressive power of jewelry and its ability to communicate through a style and language of its own.

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

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 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, as well as conferences, educational outreach and other programs, both scholarly and popular, including at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential 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.