



Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation Newsletter

December, 2020





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Direct from the Director, Gleaves Whitney

Dear Friends of Ford:

Mike Ford introduced me to you in June when I was brought on board to be the Foundation's executive director, and then he welcomed me into the fold after I started work on September 1. I am grateful to Mike and to all of you who have reached out and offered your best wishes, assistance, and prayers. Thanks to you, there is added wind in my sails as I take the helm of the Foundation.

In many ways, the terrific opportunity to serve at the Ford is an extension of 17 years of work I did, across the street, at the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies. Soon after becoming its first full-time director, in 2003, I learned that Ralph Hauenstein literally ran into his future friend Jerry Ford on the gridiron. It was the fall of 1929. Ralph was a wingback for Central High; Jerry was playing linebacker for South High. Ralph got the ball on a right sweep and was nailed for no gain. As Ralph swiped a clump of turf off his face and looked up at his tackler, the big fellow offered him a hand up—and that's how the future President Ford introduced himself to the future Colonel Hauenstein. It was the start of a long friendship.

Now fast forward seven decades. My first priority when I arrived in Grand Rapids back in 2003 was to establish a strong bond between two terrific but separate institutions established by President Ford and Colonel Hauenstein. One year into my work at the Hauenstein Center, President Ford observed, "I am pleased with the extremely successful partnership between the Ford Presidential Library and Museum, the Ford Foundation, and the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies."

One of the highlights of my work occurred in 2005. I was given the opportunity, thanks to Chairman Emeritus Marty Allen, to spend several days interviewing President Ford at the Fords' home in Beaver Creek, Colorado. During our conversations, he was loyal to his friends, gracious to his opponents, and insightful in his observations about America's past as well as her prospects in the future.

Over the years the Ford Foundation and Hauenstein Center have collaborated to bring world-class speakers to West Michigan—Dr. Henry Kissinger, Secretary Madeleine Albright, Secretary James Baker, Robert Caro, H.W. Brands, Kiron Skinner, and scores of others. The Foundation financially assisted the creation of a leadership academy that now boasts more than 400 alumni serving around the world. Together, we began hosting the first Midwestern history conferences in more than four decades, launched the Common Ground Initiative to bring conservatives and progressives onto the same stage to seek greater understanding, and with Trustee Peter Secchia's and Vice-Chairman Hank Meijer's leadership, we established a new series in the field of presidential studies, "Character and the Presidency," which to date has hosted three events and featured such leading commentators as David Brooks and Michael Beschloss.

Even amid the COVID pandemic, the Ford and our partners have not slowed down. We continue to offer world-class programs to Friends of Ford. I hope you will visit our website at www.geraldrfordfoundation.org to see or revisit recent events dedicated to the Greatest Generation, 9/11, Nineteenth Amendment, Trustee James Baker, Gerald R. Ford, John F. Kennedy, and America's "New Normal." I especially want to draw your attention to a lively debate on the national debt in which we partnered with the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School and the West Michigan Policy Forum. A big shout-out to Trustee Mike Jandernoa for making that event happen.

Moving forward, stay tuned for some exciting programs this coming winter and spring. You won't want to miss our special holiday evening, "Wine and the White House," on December 18. In addition, there will be Ford-Hauenstein programs on Richard Nixon, Isaiah McKinnon, Thomas Jefferson, Dwight Eisenhower, Abraham Lincoln, John Brown, and the role of the Midwest in shaping our politics and culture. In these and other programs, we remain dedicated to the values that defined President and Mrs. Ford's lives of public service. Given the current state of politics, people are hungry for the examples of good men and women who have dedicated their lives to the common good. Great individuals do not stop leading when they pass on. The excellence of their character and the prudence of their actions continue to serve as guideposts for what leadership and service should look like in our republic.

Speaking of those who have died, we have been saddened by the passing of two wonderful people whose lives became inseparable from those of President and Mrs. Ford. In October we said farewell to Trustee Peter Secchia, and in November we lost Penny Circle. Tributes to both are in the current newsletter.

I'd also like to acknowledge the good work of Karen VanderArk who is retiring. She has made years of newsletters possible. We will miss Karen's remarkable institutional memory and presidential stories. Also I'd like to thank my predecessor Joe Calvaruso, as well as his wife Donna, for their labors over the past twelve years. They continued the good work of Marty Allen and Brian Breslin on which we will build. In future correspondence with you, I will lay out some exciting new initiatives we will undertake at "the Ford," as well as keep you apprised of the civic traditions the Foundation will continue.

Two new faces at the Ford are Rachel Siglow who serves as the Foundation's deputy director. I met Rachel when we served in Michigan Governor John Engler's administration, and she brings integrity and an abundance of skill to our mission. Also joining our team is Lauren Mohr who is in charge of communication and digital strategies.

Thank you, again, for your warm welcome and strong support as we take the Foundation to the next level. I look very forward to staying in touch with you. Until my next correspondence, stay safe and have happy holidays!



Gleaves Whitney

In Memoriam

Peter F. Secchia

1937 - 2020



(left to right) President Gerald R. Ford, First Lady Betty Ford, and Trustee Peter Secchia at the Foundation's Annual Dinner on February 26, 2005.

Ambassador Peter F. Secchia, distinguished businessman, community and political leader, philanthropist—and much more—passed away on October 21, 2020. He was 83. Peter was a father, husband, friend, proud Italian, and self-made businessman who threw himself fully into everything he did—into every detail of every endeavor. He was legendary for making things happen and for his creative, hard driving, and, yes, candid ways. And for his pink memos and smiling or frowning faces on his notes. He often was described as "larger than life" and he leaves a big hole in the collective spirit of West Michigan and in the hearts of his family and friends worldwide.

Statement from the Ford Family: "We are deeply saddened by the loss of our great friend, Peter Secchia, and our hearts and prayers go out to Joan and their four children—Stephanie, Sandy, Charlie, and Mark. What a remarkable legacy Peter leaves behind. Whether he's remembered as an entrepreneur rebuilding Grand Rapids, or as a philanthropist making life better for the people of Michigan, or as a counselor having the President's ear, or as an ambassador bridging connections to Italy, Peter made things happen. He was bigger than life. Everything he did, he did with gusto. Just look at how he was devoted to his family, generous to his friends, fierce in his beliefs, and unwavering in his support of causes he held dear.

"Peter and our dad first met back in 1964, during one of our dad's congressional campaigns, and it seems he's been part of our family ever since. Dad and Mom treasured his playful sense of humor, good counsel, and abiding friendship; also the good-natured rivalry between a Spartan and a Wolverine. Our family will miss Peter. We will remember his generous spirit and be inspired by his determination to make everything he touched better than he found it. Thank you, Peter, for letting us share in your wonderful life and journey."

Please visit our website to learn more about Peter Secchia and the impact he had on the Ford Foundation, Grand Rapids community, and the legacies of President and Mrs. Ford.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Penny Circle

1940 - 2020

Our hearts are saddened by the loss of our dear friend Penny Circle on November 4, 2020.

Penny began her long career with President and Mrs. Ford on May 1, 1978. Trustee David Hume Kennerly said, "Penny was the indispensable executive assistant and chief of staff to former President Gerald Ford for 30 years." Steve Ford adds that "Penny, as Dad's personal assistant, kept the trains running on time with grace and firmness. She was like family after all those years of working with Mom and Dad."

The Ford family and trustees are ever grateful to Penny for all her years of loyal service. In a world of expanding media, she was protective of the First Family and managed the difficult feat of balancing the Fords' public duties with their private lives. In the face of daily challenges, she was an unflappable adviser. At this difficult time, our prayers go out to Penny's family and friends.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.



Penny Circle views the portrait of President Ford draped in black crepe at the White House during his funeral on January 1, 2007.

Greatest Generation Day



The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, in partnership with the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum, the City of Grand Rapids, the Hauenstein Center, and Armed Forces Thanksgiving, takes great pride in having put on the largest celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War in the continental United States.

Greatest Generation Day was developed by Joel Westphal, former Director, Navy Archives and the current Deputy Director of the Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum. In December of 2019 he began planning an event to honor the Greatest Generation following getting commitments from the Foundation's Executive Director Joe Calvaruso, Armed Forces Thanksgiving of Western Michigan, and the Mayor of Grand Rapids. Joel then put together a special committee of key city, state, cultural, and education leaders across Michigan and the City of Grand Rapids. This committee then began the hard work of organizing a multi-day event to honor our Greatest Generation.

Prior to September, Joel and his assembled Greatest Generation Day Committee worked with local media partners WZZM and WOOD TV as well as the offices of the Governor of Michigan and the Mayor of Grand Rapids. A special proclamation was drafted by Joel Westphal and John Sheehan (Museum Registrar) dedicating September 2nd—Greatest Generation Day for the city and state. Respectively, Mayor Rosalyn Bliss and Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed off on these proclamations for the City of Grand Rapids and the State of Michigan.

During this time, other members of the committee were actively supporting other important events. Michael Van Denend of the World Affairs Council began working with representatives from allied delegations, Consul Generals and others who were all anxious to come to Grand Rapids and honor their country's role in the war. Brian Hauenstein, the grandson

of one of Grand Rapids favorite son's Ralph Hauenstein, a hero of WWII, led the fundraising effort for the committee and raised nearly twenty thousand dollars.

Prior to the big days in September, the Committee was forced to re-imagine the entire event due to the on-going pandemic. Events which had been planned to be in Ah-Nab-Awen Park and Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center were moved to virtual events. The committee worked exceptionally hard at converting these events at the last minute and that work paid off for the community.

Greatest Generation Day officially kicked off on August 31st with an event planned by Margaret Howard of The Village of Heather Hills retirement community along with Brian Hauenstein. Special poster boards were developed and set up to honor more than 75 living World War II veterans at numerous drive-by sites around Grand Rapids. These posters were later converted into a digital display which can now be seen on our Facebook site.

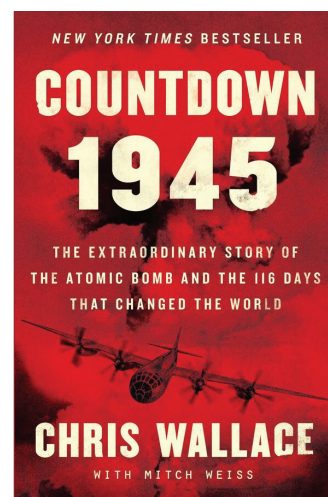
The evening of September 1st featured a virtual "In Memoriam" Bell Ringing ceremony which honored the millions who died during the war. The evening's keynote speaker was Jim DeFelice, author of several books on WWII as well as the co-author of American Sniper. Joining him were over twenty delegates from the allied nations who praised our Greatest Generation while also honoring their own citizens who sacrificed their lives during the war. The event ended with a final bell ringing at 8:08 PM, the exact time 75 years ago when General Douglas MacArthur signed the final Instrument of Surrender on the deck of the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay (photo opposite page) followed by a convocation for the dead by retired Army Colonel, Chaplain David Kennedy. This event was viewed live by over 16,000 on a multitude of virtual sites and to date tens of thousands have viewed this event on our Facebook page as well as other sites on which it is available.

September 2nd witnessed something never seen before in Grand Rapids. A B-17 Flying Fortress, a B-25 Mitchell and a C-47 transport plane from the Yankee Air Museum in Ypsilanti conducted a special flyover statewide and the City of Grand Rapids. This event got wide media coverage across the state and was viewed by over a hundred thousand Michigan residents from the safety of their own homes and other select outdoor locations such as the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

Greatest Generation Day concluded with 16,000 viewers tuning in live on Facebook to listen to a conversation between Chris Wallace of Fox News and Joel Westphal over Chris's first book, *Countdown 1945: The Extraordinary Story of the Atomic Bomb and 116 Days That Changed the World*.



Chris Wallace



The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is extremely proud of this program and we would like to thank the entire Greatest Generation Day Committee and all of the event sponsors who donated to help us put on this very special event. We also wish to thank the Greatest Generation themselves by using the final words of the committee, "We dedicate this event to those who fought tyranny and defended freedom; be it with their labor, military service, or their very lives. You are the best of us all! Thanking you is simply not enough. We will never forget you."

We hope you enjoy viewing the interview of Chris Wallace on our website!



General of the Army Douglas MacArthur signs the *Instrument of Surrender*, as Supreme Allied Commander, on board USS *Missouri* (BB-63), 2 September 1945. Behind him are Lieutenant General Jonathan M. Wainwright, U.S. Army, and Lieutenant General Sir Arthur E. Percival, British Army, both of whom had just been released from Japanese prison camps. Officers in the front row, from Percival on, are (left to right): Vice Admiral John S. McCain, USN; Vice Admiral John H. Towers, USN; Admiral Richmond K. Turner, USN; Admiral William F. Halsey, USN; Rear Admiral Robert B. Carney, USN; Rear Admiral Forrest Sherman, USN; General Walter C. Krueger, U.S. Army; General Robert L. Eichelberger, U.S. Army; General Carl A. Spaatz, USAAF and General George C. Kenney, USAAF.

Photograph from the Army Signal Corps Collection in the U.S. National Archives.

Veterans Day 2020—Letter From Executive Director Gleaves Whitney to Foundation Trustees

Dear Trustees,

Happy Veterans Day. I and the team at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation write to thank those who have served in uniform and also to express appreciation to the loved ones back home who supported their service.

I just re-read the story of when Jerry Ford answered the call to arms. As for so many in his generation, it was catalyzed by the attack on Pearl Harbor. On that fateful Sunday in 1941, the 28-year-old attorney was in his small Grand Rapids office, working alone on a difficult case. When he heard of the attack, he was shaken. Jim Cannon picks up the story:

Pearl Harbor shattered his hope, and the hope of his fellow America Firsters and most other Americans, that the United States could keep out of the war. It had been a delusion—the notion that America could be neutral in a worldwide conflict between freedom and tyranny.

To Ford, passing through the peaceful streets of that Sunday afternoon in Grand Rapids, there was no doubt about what he must do: answer the call to arms. Law and politics would have to be postponed. Indefinitely.

Once home, he walked in and gravely addressed his anxious parents. “Mother, Dad, I’m going to volunteer for the Navy tomorrow morning.” And he did.... On April 16, 1942, Ford was commissioned an ensign.

That patriotic act would launch the pattern of service that characterized the rest of Gerald Ford’s long and meaningful life. It offers the kind of perennial lesson that’s necessary to impart to the youth in a democracy, and we do so at the Foundation in our educational programs in the DeVos Learning Center in which almost 10,000 children are instructed each year.

At the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, we partner with a number of organizations and host a number of events that honor our veterans. Recently, on the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, we joined with the Ford Museum to celebrate the Greatest Generation with Grand Rapids veterans and a World War II-vintage flyover. Less than two weeks later, we continued our tradition of hosting the longest-running commemoration of 9/11 first responders outside of New York City, Washington DC, and Shanksville, PA; many of our first responders, as you likely know, are recent veterans who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan. On November 17, we hosted a virtual program featuring the award-winning historian of the Vietnam War, Fredrik Logevall, who spoke about the impact John F. Kennedy’s service in the Pacific Theater had on his life and worldview. (For more about this event, see <https://geraldrfordfoundation.org/events/jfk-coming-of-age-in-the-american-century-1917-1956/>.)

I should add that, in honor of our veterans, I established an annual conference called the Hidden Wounds of War. It is held every May to help veterans suffering from PTSD understand the biological, psychological, moral, and spiritual dimensions of trauma, and also to assist in connecting them to resources that will further their healing.

It is fitting that Veterans Day is observed during the same month as Thanksgiving Day. Recalling on November 11 the sacrifices our veterans have made on our behalf is perhaps the best preparation for the feast, some two weeks later, in which we count our blessings. The team at the Ford Foundation wishes you and the veterans in your family all the best.

Gleaves



Gerald Ford

Betty Ford and the Equal Rights Amendment

On August 19, 2020, Curator Don Holloway and Archivist Elizabeth Druga discussed Betty Ford's support of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), her advocacy for women's rights, and how her personal experiences shaped the way she approached these issues. This program was presented as part of the U.S. National Archives celebration of the 19th Amendment Centennial.

Mrs. Ford used her platform as First Lady to advocate for the ratification of the ERA. This proposed constitutional amendment, first introduced in Congress in 1923, stated "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." Druga and Holloway noted how Mrs. Ford both spoke out in favor of it and also called state legislators to encourage them to bring ratification of the amendment to a vote in their states. From her perspective as someone who had pursued an independent career and also been a stay-at-home wife and mother, she believed that the ERA would benefit women in both circumstances.

Holloway and Druga also shared the story behind the "Bloomer Flag," an artifact from the Ford Museum's collection that highlights Mrs. Ford's advocacy for equal rights for women.

After noticing the national flags flying on

diplomats' cars as they arrived at the White House as well as the American and Presidential flags displayed on the President's car, Betty Ford had a question: "If the President gets flags, why shouldn't the First Lady?"

In answer Dick Hartwig, then the head of Mrs. Ford's Secret Service detail, and Rick Sardo, the White House Marine Corps aide, presented her with this specially designed flag on June 24, 1975 (photo below). Hartwig's friend Sarah Brinkerhoff handmade the pennant for the First Lady's limousine.



Made of blue satin and trimmed in white lace with blue and red stars, the flag features a pair of red and white bloomers in the center as a play on Mrs. Ford's maiden name, Bloomer. White text above the bloomers reads, "Don't Tread on Me," a slogan frequently used by the

American colonists to garner up patriotism and morale during the American Revolution. The letters "E.R.A." below stand for the Equal Rights Amendment, an indication of Mrs. Ford's strong support for it. She would often talk about the amendment with Hartwig, Sardo, and others who worked at the White House.



Mrs. Ford displayed the flag on her East Wing desk (above) and joked that someday she would like to see the flag in a museum. Today it is on display in one!

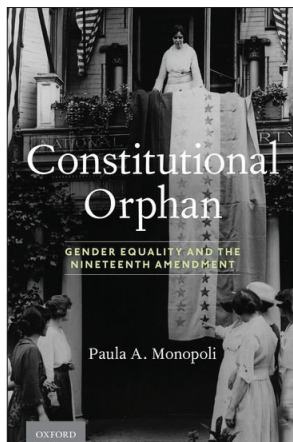
Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4sB6BCElgw&t=50s>

Photos: Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Constitutional Orphan: Gender Equality and the Nineteenth Amendment

Paula A. Monopoli

September 24, 2020



Everyone knows the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment, in August 1920, dramatically expanded women's right to vote. Women had only acquired that right in certain states. Now it promised women in our republic change in their political, civil, and social status. What most Americans don't realize is the degree to which the Nineteenth's constitutional meaning was debated.

To celebrate Constitution Day and the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation in partnership with the Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies welcomed Professor Paula Monopoli of the University of Maryland School of Law on September 24, 2020. In her new book, *Constitutional Orphan: Gender Equality and the Nineteenth Amendment*, Professor Monopoli explored the role of suffragists in the constitutional development of the Nineteenth Amendment.

Moderated by Gleaves Whitney, executive director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Professor Monopoli drew on historical sources, case analysis, and legal scholarship, as she offered broader ways in which the Nineteenth Amendment could be interpreted and used today.



Paula Monopoli

"Photographing the White House: A First Daughter's Perspective" by Susan Ford Bales



The journal of the White House Historical Association, *White House History Quarterly*, published an article by Susan Ford Bales entitled, "Photographing the White House: A First Daughter's Perspective," in their issue organized around the theme, Photographing the White House.

Susan Ford Bales studied photojournalism at the University of Kansas and was mentored by Pulitzer Prize winning photographer David Hume Kennerly. Kennerly was President Gerald R. Ford's personal White House Photographer. David Kennerly's advice to Susan Ford: "Ignore the frustrations and embrace all of this by photographing (whenever and wherever) your experiences as the president's daughter."

To purchase a copy of this issue of the journal, please visit the White House Historical Society's website: www.whitehousehistory.org.



Susan Ford Bales on South Lawn at the White on May 10, 1975.

Gerald R. Ford International Airport and Secchia Family Foundation Community Legends Project Unveil Statue of President Ford

On Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020, the Gerald R. Ford Airport Authority, including Board Chair Dan Koorndyk and CEO Tory Richardson, along with Charlie Secchia, chair of the Community Legends Committee, dedicated the new Presidential Gateway Plaza, which included unveiling a statue of President Ford at the terminal entrance of the airport.

The statue of President Ford is a gift from Ambassador Peter and Joan Secchia, who created and funded the Community Legends Project, which commemorates the lives of significant figures in Grand Rapids history. The statue of President Ford is 12th in the series.

"This statue holds a special place in our family members' hearts," said Charlie Secchia.

"Not only was President Ford an adept and insightful leader in a tumultuous time; he was Grand Rapids' favorite son and someone my parents are honored to have called a friend. We could not be prouder to call him our own and dedicate this memorial as part of the Community Legends Project."

During the dedication, Mike Ford, son of President Ford and chair of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, shared a video message in which he thanked the Airport Authority and the Secchia family for the wonderful ways they have continued to celebrate and honor his parents' legacy.

In Ford's honor, the former Kent County International Airport was renamed the Gerald R. Ford International Airport in 1999, the President Gerald R. Ford Tribute Room inside the airport was dedicated in 2017,



Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation participate in the unveiling of President Ford's statue at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020. Pictured (left to right) are: Trustees David Hooker, J.C. Huizenga, Marty Allen, Maria Cimitile, Robert Hooker, and Foundation Executive Director Gleaves Whitney.

and Betty Ford Drive was unveiled near the airport's corporate hangars in 2019.

"Grand Rapids was a special place of love and devotion for my Dad. The statue is an honor he would be humbled by," said Mike Ford. "The many visitors who come through the airport will now get to experience their favorite son, Jerry Ford."

The bronze statue was created by artist Brett Grill, who also created the statue of President Ford located in the U.S. Capitol's Statuary Hall and the Community Legends statue of Betty Ford outside the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum.

The newest statue depicts President Ford seated on a curved sandstone bench. The Presidential Plaza includes a global map etched into the concrete and includes the American flag and Michigan flag rising from West Michigan.

"This sculpture stands in contrast to many of the existing monuments honoring presidents, which are typically posed and elevated," said Grill. "Although President Ford was certainly ambitious, he was, by all accounts, an Everyman, humble and unassuming, not your typical politician."

"We know that Dad was a very approachable and welcoming person, and this plaza allows those needing to rest after a long day of travel a place to stop and reflect," said Mike Ford. "Brett has done a great job depicting Dad in this way, and I, myself, will stop and sit with him and say a prayer when I travel to Grand Rapids."

Beyond the Walls: Foundation Education Team Goes All Virtual for the Fall

As we continue to navigate the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, our educators have been honing their tech skills to develop virtual field trip options for students.

Leading up to the November 3rd election, many classrooms and Scout troops participated in “Campaigning with Character,” just one of our team’s virtual classes. Through Zoom, students checked out 1976 campaign items like bumper stickers, buttons, and even Frisbees! The classes watched a Ford campaign ad and learned to analyze it as a primary source. In this class, students discovered they can learn a lot about history by examining these sources. Next, participants reflected on the character traits they value in their leaders: if they were able to vote, what would they look for in a candidate? What leadership qualities do they possess themselves? After some reflection, they highlighted these character traits as they played the role of candidate and created a campaign button for themselves. For a full list of virtual classes for students and Scouts, please visit:

<https://devoslearningcenter.org/classroom-visits/>.



Clare Shubert, Director of Engagement and Programming

Common Ground for Action



Students engaging in a deliberative forum in the Museum’s Cabinet Room replica in the fall of 2019.

The success of our democracy depends on the ability of its citizens to communicate and work together to address the problems facing their communities. It is more important than ever that students learn to come together to make sound decisions through the process of deliberation. Through a collaboration with Kettering Foundation, our education team continues to develop educational opportunities for students and community members alike to learn this important skill. The class, “Advise the President: Deliberations from the Classroom to the Cabinet Room,” was introduced in the fall of 2019 for students visiting the DeVos Learning Center. Since last spring we have worked to extend this class into an outreach and virtual program. Participants learn about the process of deliberation and then practice those skills by taking on the role of a presidential advisor, deliberating the possible solutions to the New York City financial crisis during the Ford administration.

As in-person programming and classes continue to be discouraged by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are now offering this opportunity virtually through an online platform called “Common Ground for Action.” Participants work together to thoughtfully consider each possible solution including its strengths and its drawbacks. Through this deliberative process, they are able to see where their values and priorities intersect, giving a starting point for action. While this particular class focuses on a historical deliberation, we are also able to engage learners in forums to deliberate contemporary issues affecting their lives today like voting rights, policing, and education.

**To learn more about this program or to schedule a class, please contact Clare Shubert: cshubert@38foundation.org.
To learn more about the Kettering Foundation and the deliberative process, please visit: kettering.org.**

Inside The Executive Mansion: 200 Years of White House History



On the evening of November 19th, educators from around the country joined us for a virtual workshop presented by the White House Historical Association. Ken O'Reagan, education specialist, treated our diverse group of teachers to an inside look into the history and architecture of the building as well as stories of the presidents who have lived there. He also shared tales from presidential family members and the staff who have enabled the White House to thrive for centuries. Educators came away with practical ideas and lessons to use in their classrooms as well as a whole new understanding of the Executive Mansion! Many thanks to Mr. O'Reagan for sharing his knowledge with us!

Letter from the Library and Museum Interim Director, Brooke Clement

By the time this letter is published, I will have been serving as Acting Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum for about three months. Prior to Elaine Didier's retirement, we spent a good deal of time checking in with one another, which provided me an opportunity to ask questions and learn the ropes. This was instrumental in achieving a smooth transition. Doing all of this remotely due to COVID-19 has brought its own unique challenges, for sure, but we are soldiering on.

Both facilities remain closed to the public due to the pandemic. We unfortunately were unable to open our planned summer exhibit, *Election '76: The Making of a Presidential Campaign*. The museum staff are currently working to turn this into a virtual exhibit, viewable to everyone on the Ford Library and Museum's website. Stay tuned! In the meantime, the Museum Store is available for online ordering which may be accessed through our website.

Speaking of web content ... while working from home, staff have been busy correcting transcripts of videos on the Library and Museum's YouTube channel. And the Library staff have been working on a webpage dedicated to the 1975 Conference on Security and Cooperation in Helsinki, Finland, which will feature links to digitized documents and photos. We hope to make this content available before the end of 2020.

The Library and Museum have had the opportunity to host or co-sponsor some really great virtual programs since September. These have included discussions with authors Peter Baker and Susan Glasser regarding their latest book, *The Man Who Ran Washington: The Life and Times of James A. Baker III*; Chris Wallace on his first book, *Countdown 1945*; and a Library and Museum staff-led program on Betty Ford and the Equal Rights Amendment. We hope you enjoyed these as much as we did! (And if you missed them, you can find links to the recordings on our website.)

Thank you for your continuing support for all that we do! We certainly miss our visitors and researchers and look forward to the day we can welcome you all once again.



Brooke Clement

Virtual 9-11 Community Day of Remembrance/Scout Salute



Scouts gather on the deck of the USS LST 393 Museum Ship moored in Muskegon, Michigan, to salute the flag on September 11, 2020, in honor of the victims of the 9/11 attacks.

This year's annual 9/11 Community Day of Remembrance/Scout Salute looked a bit different. The event was held virtually from sunrise to sunset. Throughout the day, community members submitted photos saluting the Flag in honor of the victims of the September 11th attacks.

At noon, Brigadier General Michael McDaniel (ret.) spoke about the honor of being an Eagle Scout, and in the evening, Tracey Brame, Associate Dean at Cooley Law School, spoke about her love of scouting. Tracey and her husband Kenyatta were instrumental in starting a Boy Scout troop in the inner city.

This year marks the 18th consecutive year the President Ford Field Service Council gathered scouts from across West Michigan for their continuous dawn-to-dusk salute of the American Flag. *Photo left was captured from a video posted to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation's Facebook page on September 11, 2020.*

"America's New Normal"

Grand Rapids: November 19, 2020

"When will our lives get back to normal?" By looking to leaders across society, the United States must think through what a new normal might look like. The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library and Museum, in partnership with The Hauenstein Center, was pleased to present a panel of West Michigan leaders to discuss America's "new normal."

Panelists shared their perspectives on COVID-19, the 2020 election, and other seismic shifts in our economy and society in recent years. The panel included Tina Freese Decker, president and CEO of Spectrum Health; Paul Isely, professor of economics at Grand Valley State University; Winnie Brinks, state senator of Michigan's 29th District; and Jeffrey Polet, professor of political philosophy at Hope College. Gleaves Whitney, executive director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, moderated the panel.

Please check our website for a video of the discussion as it becomes available.

Gleaves Whitney



JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century, 1917-1956

Fredrik Logevall

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

On November 17, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, as well as the Library and Museum, welcomed back Harvard professor Fredrik Logevall to discuss his new book, "JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century, 1917– 1956." Foundation Executive Director Gleaves Whitney and Library and Museum Deputy Director Joel Westphal jointly moderated the discussion.

From John Kennedy's fragile health to the abiding influence of his father, Professor Logevall set the stage for the complex statesman who was our 35th president. The discussion augmented by questions from the audience. Topics ranged from the influence religion played in Kennedy's formative years to his stance on foreign affairs as president. Professor Logevall is currently working on the second volume in this series that will look at the last decade of John F. Kennedy's life.

If you missed the presentation, or would like to listen again, we invite you to view it online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bhz20TWAsw&t=898s> or at geraldrfordfoundation.org.



Professor Fredrik Logevall

Fred Logevall

The Man Who Ran Washington

Peter Baker and Susan Glasser

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

The October 13, 2020 virtual event was hosted by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library and Museum. Brooke Clement, interim director and Joel Westphal, deputy director of the Library and Museum, moderated the discussion.

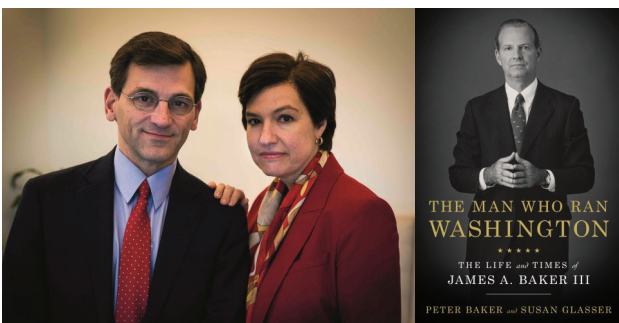
For a quarter-century, from the end of Watergate to the aftermath of the Cold War, no Republican won the presidency without his help or ran the White House without his advice. James Addison Baker III was the indispensable

man for numerous presidents because he understood better than anyone how to make Washington work at a time when America was shaping events around the world. *The Man Who Ran Washington* is a page-turning portrait of a power broker who influenced America's destiny for generations.

A scion of Texas aristocracy who became George H. W. Bush's best friend on the tennis courts of the Houston Country Club, Baker had never even worked in Washington until a devastating family tragedy struck when he was thirty-nine. Within a few years, he was leading Gerald Ford's campaign and would go on to manage a total of five presidential races, including George W. Bush's 2000 campaign which involved the Florida recount. He ran Ronald Reagan's White House and became the most consequential secretary of state since Henry Kissinger. He negotiated with Democrats at home and Soviets abroad, rewrote the tax code, assembled the coalition that won the Gulf War, brokered the reunification of Germany, and helped bring a decades-long nuclear superpower standoff to an end. Ruthlessly partisan during campaign season, Baker governed as the avatar of pragmatism over purity and deal-making over division, a lost art in today's fractured nation.

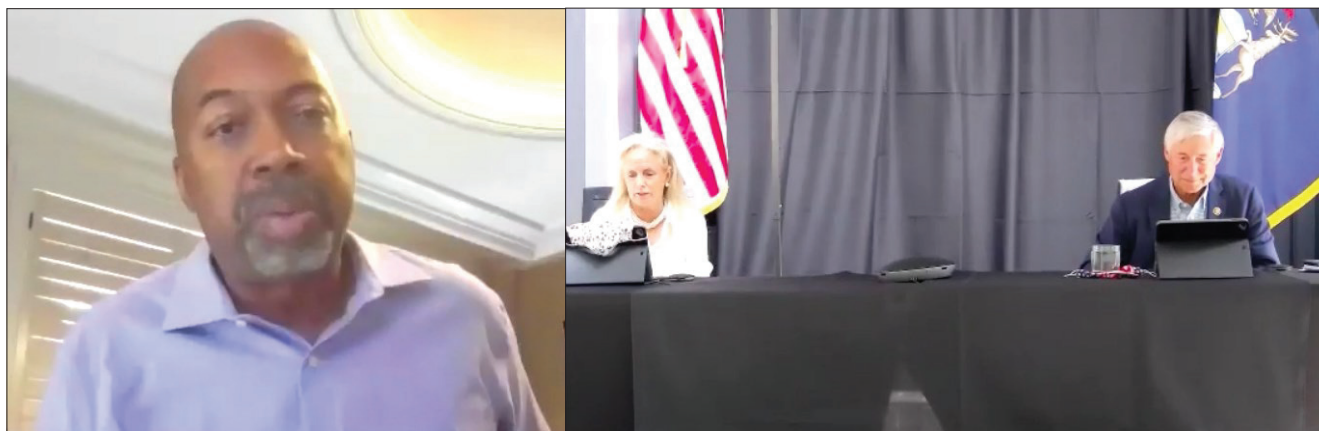
His story is a case study in the acquisition, exercise, and preservation of power in late twentieth-century America. It is also the story of Washington and the world in the modern era—how it once worked and how it has transformed into an era of gridlock and polarization. This masterly biography is worth a close read.

You can view the program on the Foundation's Vimeo Channel at geraldrfordfoundation.org or on YouTube (Ford Library and Museum).



Authors Peter Baker and Susan Glasser. Photo Credit: Doug Mills

A Conversation on Civility and Collegiality August 18, 2020



Screenshots of the virtual discussion, "A Conversation on Civility and Collegiality," with U.S. Representatives Debbie Dingell and Fred Upton (right photo) moderated by Bill Pink, president of Grand Rapids Community College (left photo).

The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation co-hosted a live, bipartisan virtual discussion, "A Conversation on Civility and Collegiality," featuring U.S. Representatives Debbie Dingell and Fred Upton during their visit to Grand Rapids on Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020. The event included Bill Pink, president of Grand Rapids Community College, who moderated the conversation, as well as Mike Ford, son of President Gerald R. Ford and Betty Ford, and chair of the Foundation, joined by Mike Jandernoa, policy chair of West Michigan Policy Forum.

The discussion about the importance of civility and collegiality in today's society was co-sponsored by the West Michigan Policy Forum, Grand Rapids Chamber, and Southwest Michigan First. A video of the discussion can be viewed on our website.



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- ★ Foundation Newsletters
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- ★ Free admission to other Presidential Libraries and Museums
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For further information, please contact Kristy Lecceadone at 616.254.0396 or email klecceadone@38foundation.org.

Attached is an application envelope for your convenience. Memberships are tax deductible to the limits allowed by the IRS.

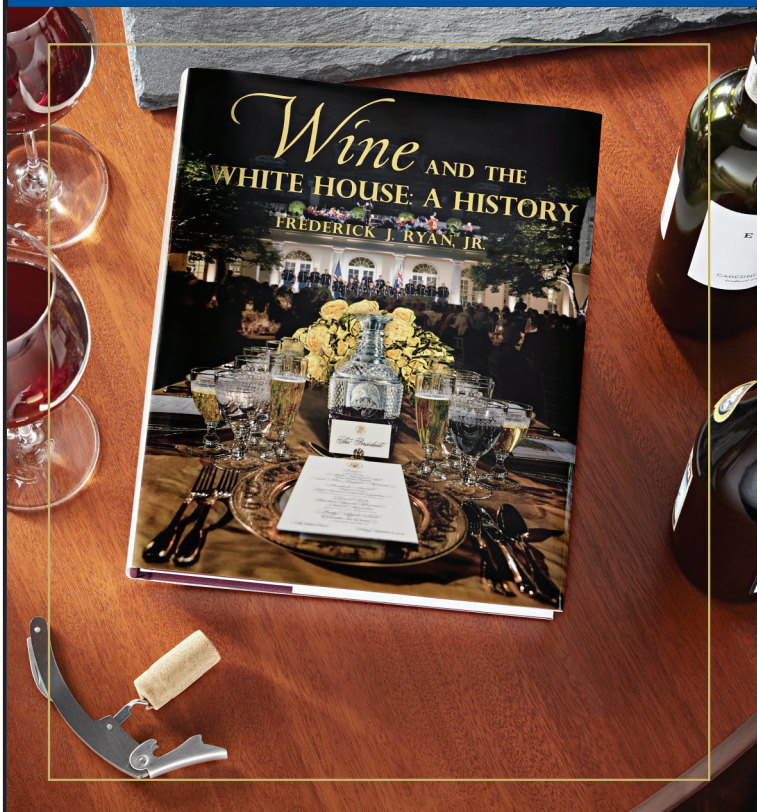
The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization.

**Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504-5353
616-254-0396**



Schedule of Upcoming Events

Please check our website for events as they become available.



Join Your Friends at the Ford for an *At-Home Wine Tasting*

with

Frederick J. Ryan Jr.
and Guest Sommelier, Adam Fortuna

**December 18, 2020
7-8:30 pm**

Join us to hear fascinating tales from Frederick Ryan's latest book, ***Wine and the White House: A History***. You can sip from home along with the program as Grand Rapids sommelier Adam Fortuna provides tasting tips and notes from a selection of wines.

How to Participate:

Register for this free Live Zoom Event:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-EqNrn5FTaWomErPM5TJ2g

or by emailing: rsvp@38foundation.org.

Free Copy: To learn how you can obtain a free copy of ***Wine and the White House*** with a **\$250 new or renewed** Friends of Ford membership, please contact Kristy Lecceadone at kleceadone@38foundation.org.

Purchase an At-Home Tasting Kit: Want to sip along at home during the event? Purchase a \$75 at-home tasting kit from Rishi International Beverage. Kits include three specially selected bottles of wine and can be picked up curbside at store locations in Grand Rapids or Cascade. To order, call 616.942.7240 (Grand Rapids) or 616.954.0262 (Cascade) **by December 4th**. (Shipping is available; delivery dates and rates vary; contact retailer for more information.)

**Sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, Library and Museum
along with the White House Historical Association.**



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The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation fosters increased awareness of the life, career, values, and legacy of America's 38th President. It does so through activities designed to promote the high ideals of integrity, honesty, and candor that defined President Ford's extraordinary career of public service. The Foundation promotes the ideals, values, commitment to public service and historical legacy of President Gerald R. Ford and further promotes greater civic engagement and recognition of integrity wherever it exists in the public arena. It supports permanent and changing exhibits designed to promote historical literacy; conferences; educational outreach and other programs, both scholarly and popular, including at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum.