Special exhibit ‘The Press & The Presidency’ to open

The next special exhibit at the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums will examine the relationship between the president and the news media and how presidents through the years, from George Washington to Donald Trump, have interacted with the media. “The Press & The Presidency” opens to the public on Friday, Sept. 11, in the Hayes Museum large rotating exhibit gallery. It is not just a modern occurrence that the press has played a role in American politics. Since George Washington, presidents have had to respond to negative press and use some media to their advantage.

“It is impossible to escape the role that media and social networks play in shaping opinions about the presidency today,” said Dustin McLochlin, Hayes Presidential Library & Museums historian. “While the depth and frequency of communication has increased in recent years, the relationship that the presidency has had with the press is a timeless topic.”

The exhibit will use Rutherford B. Hayes as an example of how a 19th-century president who operated in a time before radio, television or the internet dealt with many of the pressures that presidents have endured since the creation of the office. Likewise, it will explore how the press has covered the presidency whether through positive or negative coverage.

Access to the exhibit is included with regular admission. Members are admitted for free. Title sponsor: Randolph J. & Estelle M. Dorn Foundation. Partial funding by the City of Fremont. This program is made possible in part by Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed by this exhibition do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

A members-only exhibit opening will take place on Thursday, Sept. 10. Due to COVID-19, it will be different than past exhibit openings. Hayes Presidential is offering visits of 20 minutes in the special exhibit with a maximum of 15 people for each time slot. A maximum of 60 spots for the entire evening are available. Reservations are required and can be made by calling or emailing Meghan Wonderly-Kolbe at 419-332-2081, ext. 237, or mwonderly@rbhayes.org. Time slots are 5:30 p.m., 5:50 p.m., 6:10 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. There will not be refreshments at this event because of the pandemic.

History Roundtable will be online presentations

The Great Black Swamp, lost towns of Northwest Ohio, Ohio ghost stories, presidents and their relationship with the media and more will be explored this fall during History Roundtable with Mike Gilbert. Gilbert, a retired teacher and local historian, shares his historical research and findings during these six sessions on Saturdays in September and October. Sessions are from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, sessions will be live online only through Go To Meeting. Admission is $5 per session or $25 for all six. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. Participants will receive an email with a link to the presentation or presentations for which they registered. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted. To register and pay, contact Julie Mayle at jmayle@rbhayes.org. History Roundtable is sponsored by an anonymous donor.


For full descriptions of each session, please visit rbhayes.org.
Welcome, July new members!
Leslie Bass of Powell, OH; Madonna Gase of Tiffin, OH; Gary Larreategui of Westfield, IN; Krista Roth of Perrysburg, OH; Joseph Stumm of Newton Center, MA; Nick & Mitzie Vance of Oregon, OH

Kids Days @ Hayes features story walk, craft
Hayes Presidential is partnering with Birchard Public Library to offer a story walk, scavenger hunt and craft related to the sassy squirrels of Spiegel Grove. Participants will reach the book “Those Darn Squirrels” while walking through Spiegel Grove. The story walk and scavenger hunt will take place outside, and the craft activity will take place in the auditorium of the museum/library building. Cost is $3 for kids and grandkids of Hayes Presidential members at the major level and higher and $5 for non-member kids. There is no charge for adults who bring kids to this program. RSVPs are required and must be made by 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10. They can be made online at https://www.rbhayes.org/events/2020/09/12/events/kids-days-hayes-grounds-of-spiegel-grove/ or by contacting Education Coordinator Joan Eardly at jeardly@rbhayes.org or 419-332-2081

Volunteer Notes (Joan Eckermann, special events/volunteer coordinator, 419-332-2081, ext. 245; jeckermann@rbhayes.org)

Record your hours
Even in these unusual times, some of you have been volunteering in the library and at events, so please remember to turn in your volunteer hours for July, August and September by Thursday, Oct. 3. You can either record them in the binders in the museum or email them to Joan.

Volunteer Birthdays in September
We wish a very happy birthday to Debra Arnold, Pam Bargerstock, Jonathan Franks, John Ransom and Jeff Sondergeld.