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Seneca Falls

Divider Title: _____

July 12, 1998

SENECA FALLS
WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION SPEECH

Date: Thursday, July 16th
Location: Seneca Falls, NY
Time: tbd
From: Katy Button

I. PURPOSE

To give a speech thereby formally opening, *Celebrate 98*, the 150th anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention where America's suffragist movement first began.

II. BACKGROUND

Seneca Falls Convention

The Seneca Falls Convention, which launched the women's suffrage movement in the United States was held in 1848 from July 19th to July 20th, in Seneca Falls, New York. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott conceived and directed a gathering of over 300 to organize the call for women's political and social rights. At the Convention, a "Declaration of Sentiments," patterned closely after the Declaration of Independence, boldly declared that "all men AND WOMEN are created equal." During the course of the convention 12 resolutions were passed, the ninth demanded the right to vote. Although it barely passed and subsequently subjected the convention to ridicule, it was this ninth resolution that served as the cornerstone of the women's suffrage movement for years to come.

The 19th Amendment

From the founding of the United States, women were almost universally excluded from voting. But, as women like Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton joined together to fight against slavery, they found themselves concluding that the rights of women, as well as those of slaves, needed redress. In July 1848, Mott and Stanton issued a call for a convention to discuss the issue of women's rights. This convention which called for suffrage, and educational and employment opportunities, went on to spur subsequent conventions over the next 20 years.

By 1869, it became clear that the best way to ensure women's suffrage was not by leaving the decision in the hands of the states, but by way of an amendment to the federal Constitution. Accordingly, the National Woman Suffrage Association was formed. In 1890, this association merged with Lucy Stone's American Woman Suffrage Association, and the American Woman Suffrage Association was formed. As a result of their persistence and increasingly political power, individual states began to yield to the movement's demands and enfranchised women over the next 25 years. By 1918, women had acquired the right to vote in 15 states. World War I and the major role played in it, broke down remaining opposition. The 19th amendment was carried by the necessary 2/3 majority in both the House and Senate in 1918 and 1919,

respectively, and on August 18th in 1920, Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify, securing the necessary ratification from the states. On August 26th, the Nineteenth amendment was declared part of the United States Constitution. The amendment reads as follows:

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by an State on account of sex.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Seneca Falls

Seneca Falls is a typically quiet town that just happens to be the birthplace of women's right to vote. In recent years, the town has experienced a rebirth due to the establishment of a Women's Hall of Fame and the Women's Rights National Historical Park. The Women's Hall of Fame, created in 1969, is a place where visitors can go to explore the roles of American women throughout history in politics, athletics, science and art. The museum which currently honors over 135 women, is filled with portraits and memorabilia of various inductees.

Just up the road from the Hall of Fame is the visitor's center at the Woman's Rights National Historic Park. The park, established by Congress in 1980, consists of five properties, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton's Home, the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and Declaration Park. The visitor's center filled with laser disc technology and interactive exhibits devoted to the history of American women, also houses 20 life size statues of those who attended the original Seneca Falls Convention. Along with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Frederick Douglass stand several unidentified figures, meant to represent the Convention's rank and file.

Up the street from the Center is the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel where the original Woman's Convention took place. Not far away is Declaration Park where water falls over a 100 foot long wall of blue stone, on which the Declaration of Sentiments is engraved. Also included as part of the park is the M'Clintock House where Elizabeth Cady Stanton and other suffragist leaders first met to draft the Declaration of Sentiments. The M'Clintocks, like many others involved in the suffragist movement, were abolitionists who boycotted slave products and sold fortune cookies with anti slavery messages in their general store. Also of noteworthy importance in Seneca Falls, is the Seneca Falls Historical Society which has an extensive library and collection of suffragist documents and history.

Celebrate 98

The 150th anniversary of the birth of the women's rights movement will be celebrated in its birth place, Seneca Falls, New York, from June 26th to July 19th. A full schedule of sesquicentennial concerts, exhibitions, lectures, sporting events, worship services and academic workshops are planned. You will speak July 16th -- officially opening the festival -- five days after Maya Angelou, astronaut Shannon Lucid, Secretary of State Madeline Albright, and 18 others, are inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame. Events will include daily dramatizations of the 1848 convention where Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott and Frederick Douglas were among 100 signers of a document demanding the equal participation of women in political and social life.

"Woman is man's equal"

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

1848

To many Americans, including women, the emancipation of women was a radical notion. Inspired by the anti-slavery crusade, the convention that launched the women's rights movement attracted interested women and sympathetic men (including the celebrated abolitionist, orator, and former slave Frederick Douglass [1817–1895]), to Seneca Falls, New York. It called for extensive reforms, particularly changes in the political, economic, and domestic positions of women. The Declaration of Sentiments was modeled on the U.S. Declaration of Independence. Co-organizer Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815–1902), who had insisted that the word "obey" be dropped from her wedding ceremony (she married a prominent abolitionist), argued that natural rights extended to women, who could gain social rights through the franchise. Seventy-two years later, the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution extended the vote to women: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." With a flourish of his ordinary steel pen, Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby (1869–1950) signed the certificate of ratification, declaring, "I say to the women of America, you may fire when you are ready." The ceremony was not witnessed either by a photographer or by a woman. The United States was the sixteenth nation to give women the vote nationally. The proposed Equal Rights Amendment, circulated to the states in 1972, fell three states shy of adoption.

1. Declaration of Sentiments

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one portion of the family of man to assume among the people of the earth a position different from that which they have hitherto occupied, but one to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes that impel them to such a course.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal; that they

are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights governments are instituted, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. Whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of those who suffer from it to refuse allegiance to it, and to insist upon the institution of a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that govern-

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ments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they were accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of the women under this government, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to demand the equal station to which they are entitled.

The history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise.

He has compelled her to submit to laws, in the formation of which she had no voice.

He has withheld from her rights which are given to the most ignorant and degraded men—both natives and foreigners.

Having deprived her of this first right of a citizen, the elective franchise, thereby leaving her without representation in the halls of legislation, he has oppressed her on all sides.

He has made her, if married, in the eye of the law, civilly dead.

He has taken from her all right in property, even to the wages she earns.

He has made her, morally, an irresponsible being, as she can commit many crimes with impunity, provided they be done in the presence of her husband. In the covenant of marriage, she is compelled to promise obedience to her husband,

he becoming, to all intents and purposes, her master—the law giving him power to deprive her of her liberty, and to administer chastisement.

He has so framed the laws of divorce, as to what shall be the proper causes, and in case of separation, to whom the guardianship of the children shall be given, as to be wholly regardless of the happiness of women—the law, in all cases, going upon a false supposition of the supremacy of man, and giving all power into his hands.

After depriving her of all rights as a married woman, if single, and the owner of property, he has taxed her to support a government which recognizes her only when her property can be made profitable to it.

He has monopolized nearly all the profitable employments, and from those she is permitted to follow, she receives but a scanty remuneration. He closes against her all the avenues to wealth and distinction which he considers most honorable to himself. As a teacher of theology, medicine, or law, she is not known.

He has denied her the facilities for obtaining a thorough education, all colleges being closed against her.

He allows her in Church, as well as State, but a subordinate position, claiming Apostolic authority for her exclusion from the ministry, and, with some exceptions, from any public participation in the affairs of the Church.

He has created a false public sentiment by giving to the world a different code of morals for men and women, by which moral delinquencies which exclude women from society, are not only tolerated, but deemed of little account in man.

He has usurped the prerogative of Jehovah himself, claiming it as his right to assign for her a sphere of action, when that belongs to her conscience and to her God.

He has endeavored, in every way that he

could, to destroy her confidence in her own powers, to lessen her self-respect and to make her willing to lead a dependent and abject life.

Now, in view of this entire disfranchisement of one-half the people of this country, their social and religious degradation—in view of the unjust laws above mentioned, and because women do feel themselves aggrieved, oppressed, and fraudulently deprived of their most sacred rights, we insist that they have immediate admission to all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens of the United States.

In entering upon the great work before us, we anticipate no small amount of misconception, misrepresentation, and ridicule; but we shall use every instrumentality within our power to effect our object. We shall employ agents, circulate tracts, petition the State and National legislatures, and endeavor to enlist the pulpit and the press in our behalf. We hope this Convention will be followed by a series of Conventions embracing every part of the country.

2. Resolutions

Whereas, The great precept of nature is conceded to be, that "man shall pursue his own true and substantial happiness." Blackstone in his *Commentaries* remarks, that this law of Nature being coeval with mankind, and dictated by God himself, is of course superior in obligation to any other. It is binding over all the globe, in all countries and at all times; no human laws are of any validity if contrary to this, and such of them as are valid, derive all their force, and all their validity, and all their authority, mediately and immediately, from this original; therefore,

Resolved, That all laws which prevent woman from occupying such a station in society as her conscience shall dictate, or which place her in a position inferior to that of man, are contrary to

the great precept of nature, and therefore of no force or authority.

Resolved, That woman is man's equal—was intended to be so by the Creator, and the highest good of the race demands that she should be recognized as such.

Resolved, That the women of this country ought to be enlightened in regard to the laws under which they live, that they may no longer publish their degradation by declaring themselves satisfied with their present position, nor their ignorance, by asserting that they have all the rights they want.

Resolved, That inasmuch as man, while claiming for himself intellectual superiority, does accord to woman moral superiority, it is pre-eminently his duty to encourage her to speak and teach, as she has an opportunity, in all religious assemblies.

Resolved, That the same amount of virtue, delicacy, and refinement of behavior that is required of woman in the social state, should also be required of man, and the same transgressions should be visited with equal severity on both man and woman.

Resolved, That the objection of indelicacy and impropriety, which is so often brought against woman when she addresses a public audience, comes with a very ill-grace from those who encourage, by their attendance, her appearance on the stage, in the concert, or in feats of the circus.

Resolved, That woman has too long rested satisfied in the circumscribed limits which corrupt customs and a perverted application of the Scriptures have marked out for her, and that it is time she should move in the enlarged sphere which her great Creator has assigned her.

Resolved, That it is the duty of the women of this country to secure to themselves their sacred right to the elective franchise.

Resolved, That the equality of human rights

results necessarily from the fact of the identity of the race in capabilities and responsibilities.

Resolved, That the speedy success of our cause depends upon the zealous and untiring efforts of both men and women, for the overthrow of the monopoly of the pulpit, and for the securing to women an equal participation with men in the various trades, professions, and commerce.

Resolved, therefore, That, being invested by the creator with the same capabilities, and the same consciousness of responsibility for their exercise, it is demonstrably the right and duty of woman, equally with man, to promote every

righteous cause by every righteous means; and especially in regard to the great subjects of morals and religion, it is self-evidently her right to participate with her brother in teaching them, both in private and in public, by writing and by speaking, by any instrumentalities proper to be used, and in any assemblies proper to be held; and this being a self-evident truth growing out of the divinely implanted principles of human nature, any custom or authority adverse to it, whether modern or wearing the hoary sanction of antiquity, is to be regarded as a self-evident falsehood, and at war with mankind.

Daniel Patrick Moynihan
New York

*cc: Brundage
for Book*

United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

July 6, 1998

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

We all rejoice that you will be at Seneca Falls for the 150th Anniversary of the Women's Rights Convention. As you know, the village is now the site of the Women's Rights National Historical Park. You might be interested to know how this came about. It would be 1978, as I recall. I was having a drink with the Democratic county leader George Souhan at the bar of the Gould Hotel there on Fall Street. For no particular reason that I now recall, I just happened to ask him where was that Wesleyan Chapel in which the convention took place. Just down the block, he said. Off we went, and sure enough there was a building with an old plaque stating this was the site. Only the chapel had gradually morphed into a laundromat.

Clearly this would not do. This was the fount of the first major political idea indigenous to the United States. It sprang from the political culture of Western New York then teeming with radical ideas. (The Mormons, 1830, also in Seneca County, the Bible Communists, as the members of the Oneida community described themselves, 1848, a few counties to the east.) Such was the intensity of the evangelical movement of the time that the region became known as "The Burned-Over District" from the sheer exhaustion of it all. In any event, it was clear something had to be done about that laundromat. We came up with the idea of a National Park focused on the site of the chapel, but also including the restored houses of the Ladies of Seneca Falls. Next the McClintock house in Waterloo, down the road, where the Declaration of Sentiments was drafted three days before the Convention. The legislation was passed in 1980, and the dedication took place in 1993. The site looks down at the Seneca-Cayuga Canal, part of the Erie Canal system along which these ideas moved.

Have a wonderful visit.

Best,



Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

11. June 1840.
Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I am pleased and honored to have been chosen to give the Invocation before you speak in Seneca Falls on July 16.

This is to say that you have many, many admiring women and men who will welcome you with all of the warmth we can muster.

In a (vain) effort to find something splendid to wear for the occasion I found the sash lady was from Arkansas, was related to Elizabeth Cady Stanton and spends much

Time telling the "good old boys"
(her description) how much to-
headaried you and Stanton
are.

my invocations are short,
my admiration great.

The Reverend Betty Bone Schiers
July 1, 1998

P.S. I think we have a mutual
friend in Betty Caldwell

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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SECTION: Section 5; Page 12; Column 1; Travel Desk

LENGTH: 3205 words

HEADLINE: In This Park, the Views Span Generations

BYLINE: By AMY WALDMAN; AMY WALDMAN is a reporter for The City section of The New York Times.

BODY:

IN 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton was newly arrived in Seneca Falls, N.Y., and newly desperate. She had left an intellectually rich and materially comfortable life in Boston for a village in western New York State that was much smaller and considerably less developed.

Her new home was isolated, and her husband, Henry -- a lawyer who was an active abolitionist and a budding politician -- often was away on business. Elizabeth, then 32, was left with her three young sons and the servants -- "poor" servants, no less, she wrote later, and frequently sick children, since the area was malarial, too.

Her dissatisfaction bubbled out one summer day when she and four friends -- Ann M'Clintock, Jane Hunt and Martha Wright, who lived in the area, and Estia Mott, who was visiting -- gathered for tea in nearby Waterloo. Right , the story goes, they decided to hold the first known convention on women's ts. A week later, they met again, and wrote the Declaration of Sentiments, a list of grievances and remedies modeled on the Declaration of Independence.

On July 19, just 10 days after their first meeting, they held their convention. Despite receiving some publicity in local newspapers, they were surprised when about 300 people attended, including many men. One hundred of them signed the declaration, which soon became a subject of news reports and editorials. Among the attendees, and the signatories, was the abolitionist Frederick Douglass, an early and fervent supporter of equal rights for women.

That convention essentially launched the first wave of the American women's movement, and it is the focal point of the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, which is near the north end of Cayuga Lake, between Syracuse and Rochester. The national park, which I visited in early June, was dedicated in 1993, and next month it will host a series of events commemorating the convention's 150th anniversary.

On the convention's 75th anniversary, the drive for an Equal Rights Amendment began at Seneca Falls; this commemoration promises no such milestone, but plenty of interest: This summer, park officials expect up to 100,000 visitors, including many school and tour groups, compared with the usual 35,000 a year.

This is not a park along the lines of Yellowstone: there are no glorious natural wonders here. Rather, it is an "idea park," which aims to educate, and ring history alive. It consists of a three-quarter-acre site with a

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monument built around the remnants of the chapel where the convention was held and a visitors center, as well as the former homes of several of the women who participated. Its real strength is not in its physical structures, but in its storytelling.

Any tour should start at the visitors center, with its floor of exhibits on the convention, the period's history and the challenges women have faced and, in some cases, have overcome. You may wince at corsets drawn so tight they could crush internal organs, or perhaps cheer at the dramatic increase in the number of female athletes since Title IX was passed in 1972. There are also interactive exhibits, of mixed quality, which try to draw visitors into debates over the definition of sexual harassment, the constitutionality of abortion and other similar topics.

The exhibits provide an adequate understanding of the events of that time. But the truly interesting question, as the park's rangers point out, is not "What happened here?" Rather, it is, "Why here?"

Finding the answer means exploring the town, the chapel area and Stanton's house on guided tours with the rangers, who are clearly in love with the history of this place. Their ardor is catching: Whether or not you are particularly interested in women's history, you are likely to find yourself drawn into the story of how this small town became the site of feminism's first salvo.

Seneca Falls sits in the lovely Finger Lakes region, full of wineries and waterfalls and gorges, which means there is plenty to do along with a historical tour. There are antique shops, hiking trails and, just a few miles out of town, the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, a marshy haven for birds (and a good deer).

The town itself is friendly, and sleepy. (There is speculation, which Seneca Falls does nothing to discourage, that it was the model for Bedford Falls in "It's a Wonderful Life.") Fall Street, the main street, runs parallel to the Cayuga-Seneca Canal, and is lined with small-town shops and restaurants, and museums. There is the Seneca Falls Heritage Area (also called Urban Cultural Park), which provides an excellent introduction to Seneca Falls' history, and the National Women's Hall of Fame, a privately financed museum that chronicles women's achievements.

Cayuga Street, a pretty, tree-lined road off Fall Street, still has many of the Gothic Revival and Victorian mansions that the town's wealthy industrialists occupied at the time of the convention. It is also home to the Seneca Falls Historical Society, a historic mansion whose features include Victorian rooms, photographs of events and figures in the women's rights movement, and an exhibit on the town's Italian immigrants.

Seneca Falls today has about as many people as it did in 1848 -- around 7,000 -- but none of the ferment. From the 1820's on, this was a hub of the Industrial Revolution, with factories, tanneries and mills producing everything from pump engines to knitted goods, which were moved out by canal. A substantial portion of the town's industrial heart was wiped out when the state decided to widen the canal in 1915, creating Van Cleef Lake, which now spreads off Cayuga Street.

The boom and bustle brought industrialists and entrepreneurs to the area, as well as an eclectic cast of reformers and religionists. It was a particularly

The New York Times, June 28, 1998

rich time in American social history, when long-held ideas about everything from imprisonment to religion to the relation between man and nature were being questioned. Reform movements brought women out of the home and into the public sphere, and the fierce debate over slavery prompted larger questions about equality.

Seneca Falls had its share of traditionalists, including many of the main line churches, but it also had a distinctly progressive bent. Many of the town's most successful citizens were Quakers and abolitionists -- some even knitted wool, not cotton, in their mills to avoid using a product harvested by slaves.

The Stantons themselves were staunch abolitionists: their honeymoon had taken them to the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London in 1840. There, Elizabeth met Lucretia Mott, and they bonded in resentment of the convention's men, who had barred women from participating.

The Seneca area was also home to many religious revivals. The revivals were mainly female affairs, and preachers exhorted the women to interpret Scripture for themselves, and to follow their own consciences. And women were at the forefront of the burgeoning temperance movement, too.

The realities around Stanton -- women overburdened by children and home, without rights of expression, ownership or political participation -- coalesced with the theories she had soaked up as an upper-class intellectual. And those thoughts, in turn, mixed with the spirit of reform that was in the air like so much pollen waiting to land. The result of this heady brew was the 1848 convention.

It is hard to grasp how radical that gathering and the sentiments espoused were, since women can now vote, own property, become educated and, at least in theory, do everything enumerated as off limits in the convention's declaration.

At the time, the convention was roundly ridiculed by newspapers, and the backlash was so severe that many of the women who had signed the declaration removed their names. And it was only the beginning of an extraordinarily protracted struggle: the right to vote was not won for 72 more years and neither Stanton nor Susan B. Anthony, who became involved in the struggle for equality a few years after the convention, lived to see women gain suffrage.

Anthony used to visit Stanton and her seven children (she had two more boys and two girls after her move) at her Seneca Falls home. That house is the only one of the three that are part of the park that is restored and open to the public. Another, Jane Hunt's, where the women met for tea, is privately owned, and the third, the M'Clintock House in neighboring Waterloo, where they wrote the declaration, is in the early stages of restoration. (In summer, the park offers restoration tours, illuminating the painstaking process of peeling back layers of history and wallpaper.)

There is little furniture in Stanton's house (though her wallpaper is reproduced) but a tour still delivers plenty of fascinating material about her intellectual development and domestic routine (her boys helped with housework, her girls played freely). Here, Stanton wrote speeches and planned strategy for Anthony and others until she emerged from her domestic cocoon in the 1860's.

How did she balance work, family and home? you may ask. She found -- and

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could afford -- a good housekeeper.)

The park rangers also conduct walking tours of Seneca Falls, painting the age of the village and its characters in 1848, particularly its women. And you can also visit the old-fashioned printing press on Fall Street and learn about Amelia Bloomer, who founded, edited and published The Lily, the first newspaper devoted to women's rights. She also briefly popularized another concept that was ahead of its time: women in pants (or bloomers).

From the visitors center, it is also worth signing up for a chapel tour -- really just a history lesson with a ranger next door at ~~the~~ remains of Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, where the convention took place. Over the years, a series of tenants, including a self-service laundry, gradually whittled away at the chapel, and it could not be reconstructed because no one knows what it looked like. (The destruction of history for commerce does have a flip side: the visitors center used to be a car dealership.)

So, two architecture students, Ann Wills Marshall and Ray Kinoshita, came up with a design that encased the chapel's remaining brick and timber in a supporting structure, then surrounded it with a wall and plaza of sandstone. An amphitheater next to the chapel overlooks a 140-foot-long wall, on which water flows over engraved excerpts from the declaration and the inscribed names of some of the signers.

The space is inviting, encouraging of reverence. And, in a way, as much as a church destroyed, the chapel structure resembles a barn being raised -- a fitting image for its role in a revolution's origins.

loring a place of history

ing There

Seneca Falls is 15 minutes south of Exit 41 of the Gov. Thomas E. Dewey Thruway via Routes 414 and 20. The Syracuse, Rochester and Ithaca airports are all within an hour's drive.

What to See

Women's Rights National Historical Park includes the visitors center, 136 Fall Street, the nearby Wesleyan Chapel and Declaration Park, and the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House, 32 Washington Street, and the M'Clintock House, 14 Williams Street, Waterloo. Summer hours are 9 A.M. to 7 P.M. daily. Times of house tours vary. Admission: \$2, or \$3 for admission and tours; free for children under 16; (315) 568-2991.

The National Women's Hall of Fame, 76 Fall Street; Summer hours: 9:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday to Saturday, noon to 4 P.M. Sunday, (till 8 P.M. July 16 to 19). Admission: \$3, \$1.50 for students and 65 and older; (315) 568-2936.

Seneca Falls Heritage Area, a 365-acre urban cultural park, has a visitors center at 115 Fall Street, which is open 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Monday to Saturday, noon to 4 Sunday. Free; (315) 568-2703.

Seneca Falls Historical Society, 55 Cayuga Street, is open 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Saturday to Friday, 1 to 4 P.M. weekends July through September. Admission: \$3,

Feminists lay claim to legacy of pioneering suffragettes

Skeptics doubt credentials of Celebrate '98 promoters

By Carole Fleck
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

On a hot July day 150 years ago, a group of ordinary middle-class women met over tea in Seneca Falls, N.Y., and set upon a course that would ultimately change history.

The year was 1848 and women couldn't vote, own property, attend college, work in any profession they desired or share the pulpit.

Led by housewife Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a mother of seven, the women — Maryanne M'Clintock, Jane Hunt, Lucretia Mott and the pregnant Martha Wright — decided to host what would become known as the first women's rights convention in America.

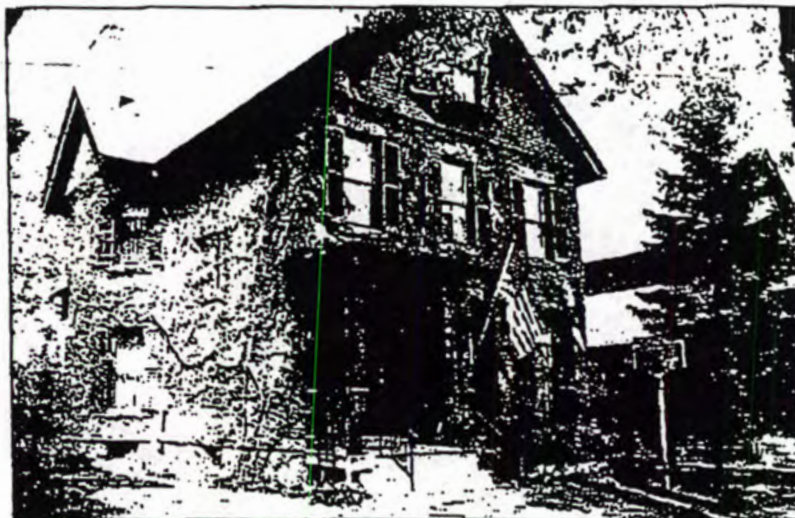
They hastily called a convention that met two weeks later, on July 19. It drew some 300 people, including abolitionist Frederick Douglass, and out of it came 15 resolutions urging equality for women — otherwise known as the Declaration of Sentiments.

Though historians debate which women actually penned the declaration, one thing is certain. It took several generations for the right to vote, as well as other freedoms, to be granted.

This July, Seneca Falls is hosting Celebrate '98, the 150th anniversary of the convention. First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will kick off the monthlong festivities July 16 as the keynote speaker. First daughter Chelsea may also attend.

"What we hope for, with Celebrate '98, is that people will leave Seneca Falls knowing more about women's history, not only the 1848 convention but why they had the convention," says Myriam Contiguglia, executive director of Celebrate '98. "A lot of the wrongs they talked about in 1848 are things we take for granted today."

"That women now can vote; di-



Susan B. Anthony (above, left; her Rochester, N.Y., home is shown at left)

voice an abusive spouse, or any spouse for that matter, and not fear they'll lose custody of their children," she said. "That if their husband passes away they don't have to fear they'll be left destitute because they can't own property."

Not until 72 years later did women win some of the rights outlined in the declaration, the most important of which was the right to vote, says Maryellen Snyder, chief of interpretation for the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls.

"These women were very pragmatic," she says. "No one got killed. No one robbed anybody. It was a civil gathering of people who wanted to make society better."

Women still lack equal opportunities to become religious leaders, she says; they continue to be a minority in Congress, and moral codes and wages differ greatly between men and women in the workplace.

"If you go back and look at the

Declaration of Sentiments that came out of that conference, one of the things they demanded was the right to vote for women, and women do have the vote," says Kim Gandy, executive vice president of the National Organization for Women. "Yet our representation [as political leaders] is far from equal — 9 percent of the Senate, 11.5 percent of the House; 3 women governors. And women, especially women of color, are effectively disenfranchised. Well-qualified women have no access to the kind of money it takes to run a campaign."

Actually, female political candidates are being funded by high-powered political action committees such as Emily's List, which raised \$8.2 million in 1994 for pro-choice Democrats. Pro-choice Republican women can get funds from the Wish List; pro-life women of either party can get funded by the Susan B. Anthony List.

"The declaration in Seneca Falls



Photos courtesy of the Greater Rochester Visitors Association

and Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 1848 led the first organized effort toward legal reform for women's rights.

[said] men had monopolized all available jobs," Miss Gandy says. "That has changed in many ways. We've worked hard to get a foothold in the workplace, but for many women, equal pay remains a dream. Even though women make up half the workplace, only 3 to 5 percent of top corporate officials are women. And ... across the board, our paychecks are lower; maybe we now get 75 cents on the dollar."

NOW will hold its annual summit in July in nearby Rochester to pay tribute to Seneca Falls and to focus on the future of the women's rights movement.

NOW also seeks to attract young feminists to the movement by holding conferences on issues younger women are most concerned with, such as equality in the workplace and how to balance career and family, and by making the movement more responsive to their needs and interests.

"We're drawing women from

campuses, blue-collar young women, young women in the military, young women from all walks of life," she said. "We're not looking to mold them to the movement but for the movement to be responsive to their needs."

Celebrate '98 will also focus on young women.

"There's quite an emphasis on teen-age girls, like roundtable discussions they take part in," organizer Mary Catt says. "We're doing a legacy project where people leave memories of the great women in their lives in the past, present and future tense, in which facilitators and mentors host teen-age-girl discussions about challenges faced by women and girls today."

Michelle Easton of the Clare Boothe Luce Policy Institute in Herndon, a group that works at "exposing feminists," said she was not certain if she will make the trek to Seneca Falls.

"One of our basic contentions about modern-day feminists is that the women at that convention ... couldn't be considered feminists under today's definition of the word," Miss Easton says.

"Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton and their supporters concentrated on legal reforms and their main goal was equity. That's not what modern-day feminists are looking for. They're looking for preferences."

Not so, responds Barbara Findlen, executive editor at Ms. magazine, which is publishing a cover story on the anniversary of the convention in its July/August issue.

"What the women and men of Seneca Falls were working for was the legal 'personhood' of women," she said. "It wasn't just the vote, it was women's right to own property, to dress any way they wanted to, to have religious freedom and a place on the pulpit, in fact the right to exist as a public people."

"Whereas what we'd call the second wave [of feminists] has concerned itself with legal equality as opposed to legal existence — to just get on the map. In the second wave we've fought a lot of battles like married women's right to her own credit, and to keep her (maiden) name was not a legal right in most states."

Festivities will include Forum '98 at the nearby University of Rochester. Former Surgeon General Dr. Antonia Novello is scheduled to moderate a session on women's health issues.

By educating conferees about the five suffragette women who penned the Declaration of Sentiments, Miss Contiguglia hopes the younger people in the crowd understand the link between advocacy and action.

"We hope we energize the teens and young adults and give them the courage to continue working toward human rights — not women's rights, just human rights," she says. "To become part of history and work toward change, that's the most important thing to take out of Seneca Falls."

drums of Champion's Hill," historian F. C. Fuller wrote, "sounded the doom Richmond.") You can drive through the wooded battlefield on public roads, but "No Trespassing" signs limit access to much of the private land where 790 soldiers fought and died.

At Big Black River, the Confederates briefly slowed the Union pursuit. Routed again, they took haven in Vicksburg trenches. The next day, Grant's Army formed a long line only a few hundred feet away.

Amid the steep hills that surround the remains of Rebel strongholds, visitors at Vicksburg National Military Park can see where Grant tried to win a quick victory. After his infantry assaults yielded nothing but massive losses, he opted to bombard and starve the city into submission.

For six weeks, Union guns pelted soldiers and civilians alike. Townspeople crowded into caves, some furnished with heirlooms now on display at the park museum. Respites came at 8 a.m., noon, and 8 p.m., when the cannons paused to eat.

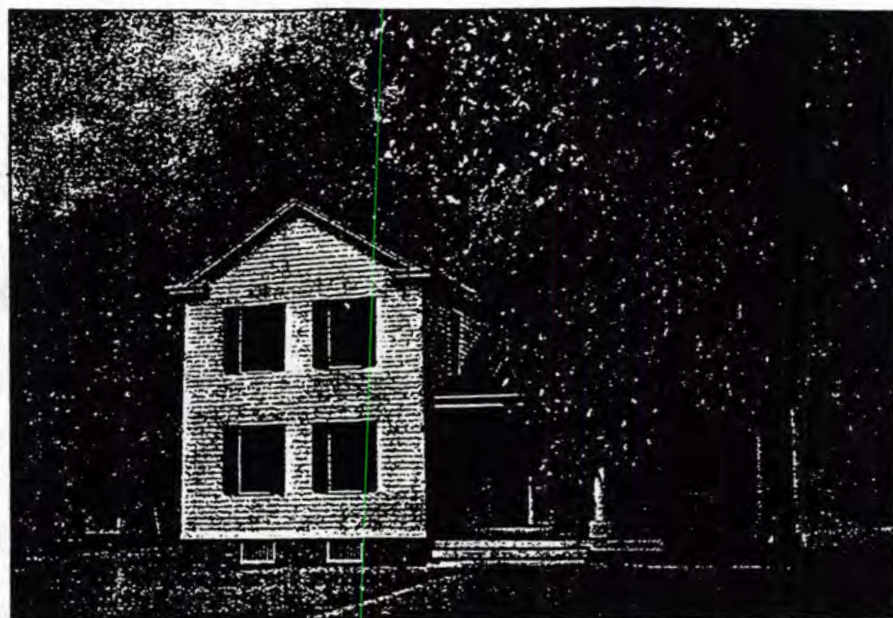
While Union troops inched toward Rebel lines, Grant, who tended to drink when bored, took a gunboat up the Yazoo River and went on a two-day bender. In Vicksburg, Rebel soldiers lived on bits of mule meat and a mush of peas and cornmeal. "If you can't feed us, you had better surrender us," one

Reb wrote to Pemberton. He did on the siege's 47th day. At the county's 1858 courthouse, where the Confederates formally surrendered, the Old Court House Museum today brims with relics: artillery shells, Jeff Davis's rocker, copies of the *Vicksburg Daily Citizen* printed on wallpaper for lack of newsprint.

Mark Twain found at Vicksburg "the most beautiful of all the national cemeteries." Two kinds of tombstones mark the graves of Union dead from Vicksburg and other battles. Markers 1½ feet high show the resting places of soldiers whose names are known. Blocks only inches high designate the unknown. From a distance, tall markers are seen. Closer up, the stubs come into view—and one more horror of America's greatest tragedy sinks in: Of nearly 17,000 Union soldiers buried at Vicksburg, almost 13,000 are known only to God.

Forgotten history in the Finger Lakes

Where American women declared independence



Power house. The home of reformer Elizabeth Cady Stanton

TRIP TIP

TO VISIT STANTON'S HOME, VISIT THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK IN SENECA FALLS, N.Y.

BY DORIAN FRIEDMAN

In the morning silence at Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, N.Y., I was carried back to a hot July evening in 1848, when these brick walls echoed with the cries of reformers out to change the world. Three hundred strong, the group had gathered for the first women's rights convention in America to voice a radical demand: that women be granted equality.

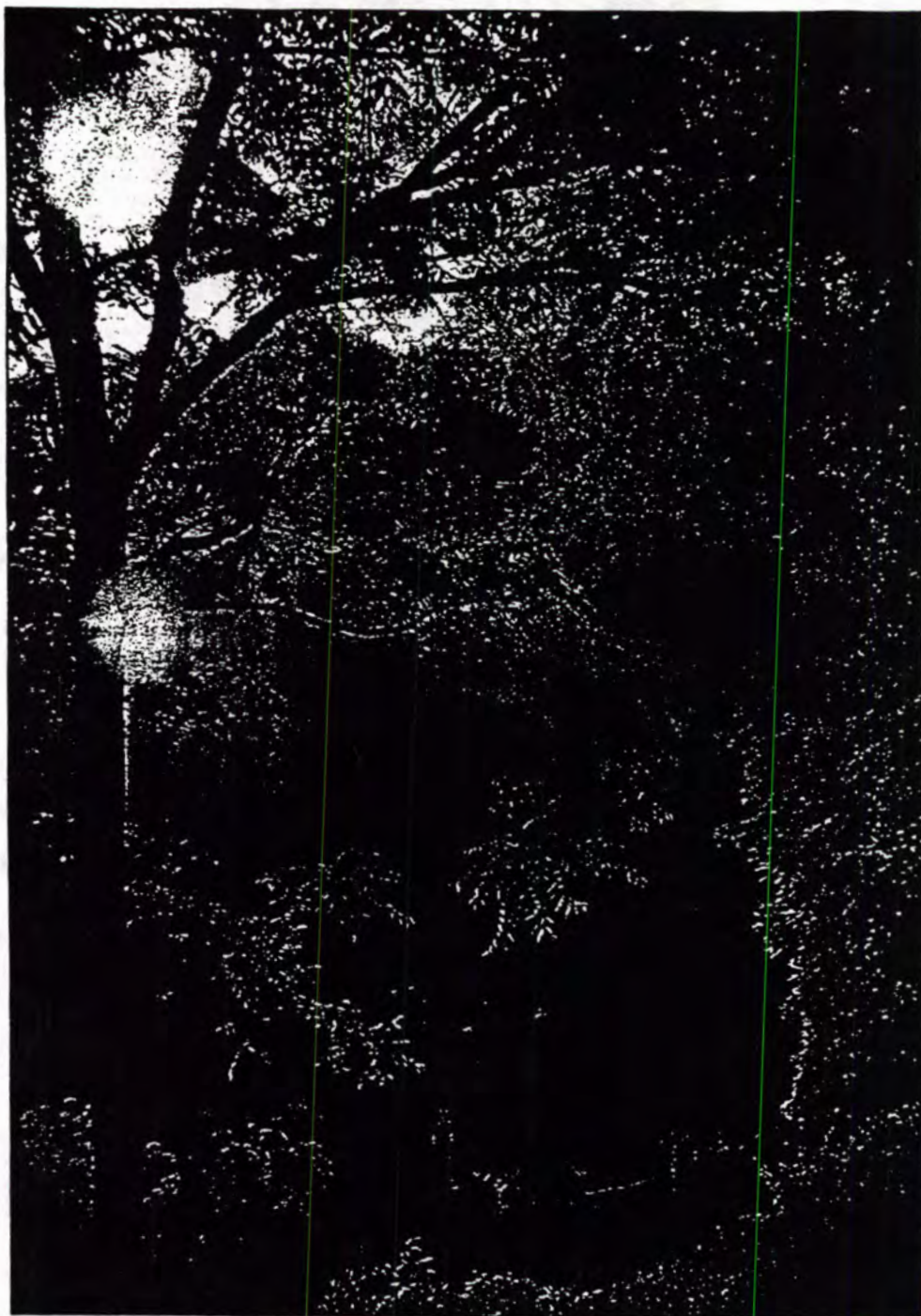
At Philadelphia's Independence Hall, at Concord and Lexington, at Harpers Ferry and Gettysburg and Appomattox, monuments have long immortalized milestones in this nation's evolution. On this hallowed battleground barely a decade ago stood a laundromat and a seedy movie house with audiences keener on women's flesh than women's rights.

A lot has changed in recent years. In 1993, the chapel's two remaining walls became the centerpiece of the Women's Rights National Historical Park, a little-known memorial that will gain wide attention this year. July marks the 150th anniversary of the meeting on women's rights. Celebrate '98, a festival from July 16 through 19, will pay tribute, as will events all summer in Seneca Falls and along the "suffrage trail," winding 50 miles west to Susan B. Anthony's home in Rochester. Visitors can enjoy other area diversions, notably the Finger Lakes and the wineries in surrounding hills.

Sober history buffs may be dismayed by the lighthearted local tourism slogan: "Wine, Women, and Water." But water has a lot to do with this area's evolution as a fertile crescent for 19th-century social reform. Blessed with steep waterfalls to power the textile, lumber, and flour mills



PHOTOGRAPHY BY
THEO WESTENBERGER FOR USN&WR



More than history. The region is also famous for its lakes and wineries.

springing up along the banks of the Seneca River, Seneca Falls was becoming an industrial boomtown by the early 1800s. The Erie Canal and freight railroads soon conveyed local goods to national markets.

But with prosperity came social unrest. Movements against slavery and for alcoholic temperance took root, gaining support among Quakers and other religious progressives in the area. Many were wom-

en and the wives of wealthy industrialists who soon turned to a matter closer to home: their own status.

They found their inspiration in a plump, 33-year-old housewife named Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Raised in a prominent New York family, young Elizabeth was bright and well-educated for a woman of her day, having graduated from finishing school. In 1840, she married an

abolitionist lawyer; they honeymooned at the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London, which voted to exclude women from the debate. One delegate said it would "lower the dignity of the convention and bring ridicule on the whole thing if ladies were admitted." Stanton and other feminists—including her mentor, Lucretia Mott—sat behind a curtain.

Stanton was furious, but for years the demands of motherhood kept her from organizing a campaign for women's rights. Finally, in 1848, Stanton, Mott, and three friends took action, advertising in the *Seneca County Courier* "A Convention to discuss the social, civil, and religious condition and rights of Woman," and drafting a "Declaration of Sentiments." "We hold these truths to be self-evident," it began, echoing Jefferson, "that all men and women are created equal." The prose, mainly Stanton's, grew more radical, particularly in calling for the right to vote. Many men felt women shouldn't be "burdened" with weighty duties of state—and feared that, given the franchise, women would overturn laws that kept them subservient.

Signing on. On July 19, supporters came from miles around to the Seneca Falls congress. Many deemed too extreme the manifesto's demands for equal rights in education, at work, in church—and especially in the voting booth—but 68 women and 32 men signed on. Susan B. Anthony, soon to be known worldwide for the cause of women's suffrage, was not yet on the scene. She and Stanton met a few years later and forged a lifelong partnership.

Today, Seneca Falls is a Rockwellesque lakeside town—the inspiration, some locals claim, for Bedford Falls in Frank Capra's classic film *It's a Wonderful Life*. I arrived on a lovely Saturday at the Women's Rights National Historical Park, which comprises six sites scattered about Seneca Falls and environs.

An excellent visitor center tells what inequality meant for women of the 1800s. Once they were married, they were "civilly dead" in the eyes of the law. A wife could not own any property; even the clothes she wore belonged to her husband. An exhibit on domestic violence notes that 18th-century English common law—and American

BC-NY--Travel-Women's Equality,ADV20-21,0883

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Eds: For release WEEKEND editions June 20-21 and thereafter
Modern women's rights movement surfaced in a New York village in 1848
With BC-NY--Travel-Women's-Calendar
AP Photos

By BEN DOBBIN= Associated Press Writer=

SENECA FALLS, N.Y. (AP) In 1848, a lifetime after Thomas Jefferson declared that "all men are created equal," Elizabeth Cady Stanton uttered her own self-evident truth: "All men and women are created equal."

It was an audacious thing to say, at a time when women in America could neither vote, attend most colleges, practice many trades and professions nor, if married, legally own property or retain their own wages.

Thus began a crusade for equality between the sexes that carries on to this day.

The first Women's Rights Convention, at which 100 women and men signed a Declaration of Sentiments modeled by Stanton and fellow suffragists after the 1776 Declaration of Independence, will be celebrated in splendor next month in sharp contrast to the howls of criticism it drew 150 years ago.

A national park and hall of fame devoted to women draw 35,000 tourists a year to this Finger Lakes village of 7,400, but upwards of 50,000 are expected to converge here each day at the height of festivities in mid-July.

A full schedule of sesquicentennial concerts, exhibitions, lectures, sports events, worship services and academic workshops is planned from June 26 through July 19.

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will speak at the July 16 opening of the Celebrate '98 festival, five days after poet Maya Angelou, astronaut Shannon Lucid and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright are inducted with 18 others into the National Women's Hall of Fame.

A likely crowd-pleaser will be daily dramatizations of the convention on July 19-20, 1848, when Stanton, Lucretia Mott and Frederick Douglass were among 300 people at the birth of an energetic new phase in the women's rights movement. It marked the first time in the United States that women gathered formally to discuss their grievances and draw up an agenda for change.

The convention "is as significant in our history as was the Boston Tea Party," said Celebrate '98 organizer Mary Ann Krupsak, who was New York's first female lieutenant governor. "It paved the way for a revolution in human rights."

Among the resolutions adopted at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was one asserting "that woman is man's equal, was intended to be so by her Creator, and the highest good of the race demands that she be recognized as such."

Douglass, the black antislavery leader, helped Stanton push through the most radical plank of all: women's suffrage. For many, that was too much to stomach, and just 68 women and 32 men signed the declaration.

The convention roused mostly derogatory comments in the press: "A woman is a nobody. A wife is everything," screeched the Public Ledger and Daily Transcript of Philadelphia. But others found it difficult to repudiate a document couched in terms upon which the Republic was founded.

Demanding equal participation in political life "is but the assertion of a natural right, and as such must be conceded," wrote New York Tribune editor Horace Greeley.

The convention caught the imagination of the public, instituting a major tilt in society that eventually carried more women into higher education and all range of careers.

But political change came slowly. It would be another 72 years before the U.S. government granted women the right to vote. And some reforms arrived only in recent decades: the Equal Pay Act of 1963, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, the education amendments and equal-credit laws of the 1970s.

"Many of the grievances at the convention are issues that we still are

dealing with," said Vivien Rose, historian at the Women's Rights National Historical Park, which opened in 1982.

"We look at this as though it's all old, but the fact is that we're still involved in discussions about how we divide our work and what's appropriate for various people to be doing."

"I'm a great admirer of the founding fathers, but they just weren't thinking about women when they wrote the Constitution," said Nan Johnson, director of the University of Rochester's Susan B. Anthony center.

She added, "I can't actually say whoopee about the number of women we have in high political office these days."

Johnson believes education remains the key if women are to continue to make progress. Into the next millennium, she said, "the most important thing for women is economic security," notably for those entering old age or for divorced women struggling to raise a family alone.

At least the landmarks of women's long struggle for equality are being rescued in and around Seneca Falls a place some foresee becoming the heart of a Williamsburg-style tourist trail for women's rights in western New York.

Stanton's home was painstakingly restored in 1985 but more work is still planned there and at the home of Mary Ann M'Clintock in adjoining Waterloo, where the "women's bill of rights" was drafted.

The two remaining partial walls of the chapel, long concealed within other buildings, now stand like sentinels next to Declaration Park, where the rights denied to 19th-century women are inscribed on a blue stone wall.

End Advance

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Office of the Governor

Governor George E. Pataki



Replacing bigger government with smarter government

George E. Pataki, the 53rd Governor of New York State, has shown that firm leadership and commitment to core principles can transform political and popular vision into government policies that position the Empire State for the 21st Century.

New York State's first Republican-Conservative chief executive, Gov. Pataki was elected November 8, 1994 with a mandate to restore hope and opportunity to a state that had suffered under years of failed policies that led to economic stagnation, high crime rates and a loss of optimism in the Empire State's future.

The Governor quickly reversed those failures -- by cutting personal and business taxes, replacing workfare with workfare, enacting the death penalty, lengthening prison terms for violent felons, cracking down on environmental criminals, improving health care for children, and freeing the private-sector to create jobs for New Yorkers.

The formula is working. After leading the nation for so long in raising taxes, New York now leads in cutting taxes. New York has gone from major job loser to a major job gainer. Once saddled with America's worst welfare system, New York has now reduced the welfare rolls by nearly 500,000 people. Once ridiculed for crime in the streets, New York now leads major states in reducing violent crime. Fiscally responsible budgeting has turned record budget deficits into record surpluses.

Three years of conservative fiscal practices and smart economic policies have turned crisis into comeback, Gov. Pataki says. New York is coming back because we are replacing bigger government with smarter government, and we are better meeting the needs of the people.

The Pataki Philosophy

Gov. Pataki's philosophy of governing is simple: believe in people, not bureaucracy; pursue smart ideas that work; and commit to sweeping, fundamental change that prepares New York for the challenges that lie ahead.

I believe in a government that expands personal freedoms, not hinders them, and allows honest and responsible citizens to enjoy the benefits of their hard work, Gov. Pataki says. I believe New York is a place where private enterprise and entrepreneurial spirit can thrive and prosper; where those who need a helping hand not only receive it, but are permitted to lift themselves to a better life.

I believe in a New York in which families feel safe in their communities and people live with hope and confidence. Above all, I believe in raising the government's standards to meet the greatness of its people.

The Governor's vision centers on ensuring today's children have the same opportunities that he and others of his generation were given -- to receive a good education and build a family and a life in New York and, in the Governor's words, to have their dreams come true in New York.

New York was always the place where we knew that tomorrow would be better than today,

that our children would have a better life than we did, and their children's lives would be even better than that, the Governor says. That is what New York has always represented to the country and the world, and what it represented to me as a kid growing up in Peekskill.

The Pataki Record

Upon taking office, Gov. Pataki kept his campaign promises to restore the death penalty, cut income taxes, eliminate unnecessary red tape, require able-bodied welfare recipients to work for their benefits, impose tougher sentences for violent criminals, and reduce the size and cost of state government.

His second year in office built on those accomplishments. Gov. Pataki won historic reforms of New York's workers' compensation system, reducing employers' costs by more than 25 percent. He moved to protect victims of child abuse by giving investigators access to sealed incident reports. He increased protections for victims of domestic violence by toughening penalties for violating orders of protection. He broke years of legislative gridlock by winning new laws that improve the health care system and improve the chances that HIV-positive newborns will receive needed treatment. And the Governor won passage of new laws that remove obstacles that prevented police officers and prosecutors from sending criminals to jail.

In year three, the Governor won major victories in reforming welfare and criminal justice, restraining state spending and cutting taxes. He cut energy taxes, sales taxes, property taxes, health care taxes and he eliminated New York's added-on estate tax.

In achieving these victories, the Governor has been able to forge agreement with a legislative leadership from both political parties.

In July 1996, the respected Cato Institute rated Gov. Pataki the nation's most effective Governor at cutting taxes and controlling state spending. In 1997, Wall Street raised New York's credit rating for the first time in a decade.

Governor Pataki on the Issues

CRIME: Gov. Pataki has restored the death penalty, toughened sentences and ended work release for violent criminals and ended parole for repeat violent felons. As a result, violent crime in New York is falling at twice the national rate, and faster than any other major state. The statewide murder rate has fallen by nearly 50 percent over Gov. Pataki's first three years in office, and survey after survey shows that New Yorkers feel safer than they have in years.

Gov. Pataki has declared zero tolerance for child abuse and domestic abuse. He has signed a Megan's Law to notify communities when convicted child molesters move into the neighborhood, and other laws to help authorities investigate cases of child abuse. And the Governor has won new laws giving victims of domestic violence new rights to ensure the scales of justice do not unfairly tip against them.

Winning the war on crime depends on acceptance of an incredibly simple, yet often ignored, principle: The root causes of crime are the criminals who engage in it, Gov. Pataki says.

TAXES: Once considered a tax hell, New York has led the nation in tax cuts every year Gov. Pataki has been in office. In 1996, New York cut taxes more than all other 49 states combined. The record income tax cut won by Gov. Pataki in 1995 reduces most New Yorkers' state income tax bills by about 25 percent. The tax burden imposed by the state is now at its lowest level since 1972, and falling.

Property tax relief passed in 1997 will reduce New Yorkers' school taxes an average 27 percent; 45 percent for senior citizens. New York State is eliminating the sales tax on clothing under \$100, and was the first in the nation to declare Internet access fees off-limits

from state sales tax.

In three years, Gov. Pataki has cut taxes 25 times, saving taxpayers \$6 billion a year in 1997. Taxpayers will save more than \$11 billion a year when tax cuts in the pipeline take full effect. One newspaper called Gov. Pataki the tax-relief Governor.

Everyone knows high taxes threatens prosperity, and limits freedom, Gov. Pataki says. Today I am proud to say that New York leads the nation in cutting taxes.

WELFARE: When Gov. Pataki took office, one in 11 New Yorkers was on welfare. Three years of fundamental reform have since reduced the welfare rolls by an astounding 479,400 people, an decline of almost 30 percent (through Nov. 1997).

Work requirements and anti-fraud measures such as finger-imaging and drug screening are restoring welfare to its original purpose as a temporary helping hand, and not a permanent handout.

Smart, new child support enforcement initiatives, such as suspending the drivers' licenses of persistent deadbeats, are working to make New York a national leader in encouraging parental responsibility. In three years, child support collections rose \$223 million (39 percent). This alone has helped move 100,000 women and children off welfare.

As a result, Gov. Pataki was honored with the 1997 Golden Heart award from the national Association for Children for Enforcement of Support.

Alt's simple to tout statistics, Gov. Pataki says. Alt's better to celebrate the people's victory over dependency. And in New York, hope is winning.

JOBS: Before Gov. Pataki was elected, New York led the nation in job losses and lost businesses. Now, New York State is creating jobs once again and business confidence is higher than it has been in years. New York's private-sector job growth for 1997 was the highest in a decade; the overall private-sector job count is up 261,800 since Gov. Pataki took office.

In 1994, New York saw only 75 new or expanded businesses. In 1997, there were 809 -- a nearly 11-fold increase. Among the most recent good news, Mercedes-Benz just agreed to move its North American headquarters to New York, and IBM is building a new computer chip research facility in the Hudson Valley.

For the first time in a decade, says Chase Manhattan Bank, the Empire State's private economy is growing faster than Albany's ability to throttle it with more spending, more taxes and more regulations -- and ensuring that it stays this way is priority No. 1 at the Governor's Mansion.

New York is coming back because jobs and opportunity are coming back, Gov. Pataki says. No longer do we say no to jobs; we say 'yes.' We say 'yes' to families, to wage earners, to homeowners, to young people deciding where to build their lives.

EDUCATION: Gov. Pataki has focused attention on rewarding excellence, giving schools the resources they need but also raising standards and expectations. State funding for education has risen dramatically under Gov. Pataki, with greater emphasis being placed on classrooms instead of administration.

Parents are also being given new tools. Gov. Pataki won approval of School Report Cards, which give parents information they need to compare their children's schools against others in New York. And the Governor has proposed creation of Charter Schools, which are public schools that operate outside the traditional bureaucratic structure and can be created by school districts, parents, businesses, universities or others in the community.

The Governor's New York Wired for Education program has wired schools to the Internet and delivered new technology to the classroom, and has vaulted New York into a national leadership role. And it's done so with Lottery funds, reinforcing Lottery's original purpose of helping education. To move the state forward, the Governor has created a New York Wired Task Force, headed by Esther Dyson, to develop a strategy for better use of technology in the classroom.

On higher education, the State University of New York enjoys a growing national reputation as one of the best public university systems in America, and SUNY campuses are regularly rated among the best and most affordable schools.

Nothing in our future holds more promise than the vivid dreams of a child, Gov. Pataki says. And no obligation is more fundamental than the obligation to give them a clear path to those dreams.

HEALTH CARE: Under Gov. Pataki, major advancements have been achieved in improving the health care of New Yorkers, particularly in areas that have vexed the state government for years including battling breast cancer, fighting teen smoking and finding ways to improve health care for uninsured children.

Gov. Pataki has expanded health care for uninsured children, and made New York's Child Health Plus program a national model. He's begun an unprecedented campaign to steer children and pregnant women away from tobacco, and opened treatment possibilities for newborns exposed to the AIDS virus.

New York now has the nation's strongest Managed Care Bill of Rights, protecting managed care patients and the medical professionals who treat them. New York has given victims of breast cancer new rights, along with new research and detection tools that will help in the fight against breast cancer.

In 1998, Gov. Pataki and the Legislature in 1996 solidified New York's reputation as a national leader in quality health care by transforming the state's centralized and highly bureaucratic system of reimbursing hospitals into a system more driven by natural market forces, such as competition. This landmark change in the state's costly and cumbersome reimbursement plan will generate long-term health care savings, and preserves New York's historic commitment to charity care and public health.

We have taken bold and aggressive steps to give New Yorkers the best health care in America, Gov. Pataki says. But we can do better.

FISCAL PRUDENCE: Gov. Pataki has reduced the size and cost of state government like never before. State spending growth has been held to under inflation, and the state workforce has been reduced by more than 20,000 positions since 1995 (10 percent), largely by incentives and attrition, with very few layoffs. Agencies have been consolidated, restructured and re-organized. In 1995, spending was reduced for the first time in 50 years.

The state's A Rainy Day Fund, a buffer against bad economic times, is funded at record levels. In contrast to the \$5 billion deficit inherited by Gov. Pataki -- a figure that by itself was larger than the total budgets of 31 states -- New York has run three consecutive budget surpluses, with this year's surplus a record. And dangerous budget gimmicks have been stopped.

Our fiscal prudence has turned chronic deficits into annual surpluses, Gov. Pataki says. Conservative budgeting and smart economic policies have allowed us to devote our resources to ideas that work.

The Pataki Family File

Gov. Pataki was born on June 24, 1945, on his Peekskill, New York, family farm, which he still runs with his family. He is a 1967 graduate of Yale University and a 1970 graduate of Columbia Law School, both of which he attended on academic scholarships. The Governor, his wife, the former Elizabeth (Libby) Rowland, and their children Emily, Teddy, Allison and George Owen reside in Garrison, NY, along the lower Hudson River.

Gov. Pataki's personal hero is Theodore Roosevelt. Like TR, Governor Pataki loves the outdoors and has taken bold and important steps toward protecting New York's natural resources, while continuing to promote economic growth.

Before being elected Governor, George Pataki served 10 years in the state Legislature and was Mayor of his hometown. He was the youngest mayor ever of the City of Peekskill, and was re-elected with the largest plurality in the city's history.

(updated 2/98)

Updated 1/7/97

Return to the First Family
Return to the Office of the Governor

Daniel Patrick Moynihan

Daniel Patrick Moynihan is the senior United States Senator from New York. First elected in 1976, Sen. Moynihan was re-elected in 1982, 1988, and 1994.

Sen. Moynihan is the Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Committee on Finance. He serves on the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. He also is a member of the Joint Committee on Taxation and the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress.



A member of the Cabinet or sub-Cabinet of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon and Ford, Sen. Moynihan is the only person in American history to serve in four successive administrations. He was U.S. Ambassador to India from 1973 to 1975 and U.S. Representative to the United Nations from 1975 to 1976. In February, 1976 he represented the United States as President of the United Nations Security Council.

Sen. Moynihan was born on March 16, 1927. He graduated from Benjamin Franklin High School in East Harlem. He went on to attend the City College of New York for one year before enlisting in the United States Navy. He served on active duty from 1944 to 1947. In 1966, he completed twenty years in the Naval Reserve and was retired. Sen. Moynihan earned his bachelor's degree (*cum laude*) from Tufts University, studied at the London School of Economics as a Fulbright Scholar and received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Sen. Moynihan was a member of Averell Harriman's gubernatorial campaign staff in 1954 and then served on Gov. Harriman's staff in Albany until 1958. He was an alternate Kennedy delegate at the 1960 Democratic Convention. Beginning in 1961, he served in the U.S. Department of Labor, first as an assistant to the Secretary and later as Assistant Secretary of Labor for Policy Planning and Research.

In 1966, Sen. Moynihan became Director of the Joint Center for Urban Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. He has been a Professor of Government at Harvard University, Assistant Professor of Government at Syracuse University, and has taught in the extension programs of Russell Sage College and the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations. Sen. Moynihan is the recipient of 62 honorary degrees.

Sen. Moynihan is the author or editor of 17 books -- most recently, *Miles To Go: A Personal History of Social Policy* published in 1996. For each Fiscal Year since 1976, he has published an analysis of the flow of funds between the Federal Government and New York State. The analysis -- known as "The Fisc" -- is now published in association with the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at Harvard University and has expanded to include all fifty states.

Sen. Moynihan has served as a member of the President's Science Advisory Committee (1971-73), a member of the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science Advisory Committee (1972), and a member of the Board of Trustees (1969-76) and Vice Chairman (1971-76) of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. He served on the National Commission on Social Security Reform (1982-83) whose recommendations formed the basis of legislation to assure the system's fiscal stability.

As Chairman of the Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy -- created by Congress in 1994 -- Sen. Moynihan led the first comprehensive review in forty years of the Federal Government's system of classifying and declassifying information and granting security clearances. The bipartisan commission released a unanimous report in March of 1997 concluding: "the best way to ensure that secrecy is respected, and that the most important

secrets remain secret, is for secrecy to be returned to its limited but necessary role."

Sen. Moynihan was the founding Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (1971-85). He serves as a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, having been appointed in 1987 and again in 1995. In 1985, the Smithsonian awarded him its Joseph Henry Medal.

In 1965, Sen. Moynihan received the Arthur S. Flemming Award, which recognizes outstanding young Federal employees, for his work as "an architect of the Nation's program to eradicate poverty." He has also received the International League of Human Rights Award (1975) and the John LaFarge Award for Interracial Justice (1980). In 1983, he was the first recipient of the American Political Science Association's Hubert H. Humphrey Award for "notable public service by a political scientist." In 1984, Sen. Moynihan received the State University of New York at Albany's Medallion of the University in recognition of his "extraordinary public service and leadership in the field of education." In 1986, he received the Seal Medallion of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Britannica Medal for the Dissemination of Learning.

He has also received the Laetare Medal of the University of Notre Dame (1992); the Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture from the American Institute of Architects (1992); and the Thomas Jefferson Medal for Distinguished Achievement in the Arts or Humanities from the American Philosophical Society (1993). In 1994, he received the Gold Medal Award "honoring services to humanity" from the National Institute of Social Sciences. In 1997, the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University awarded Sen. Moynihan the Cartwright Prize for "outstanding contributions to medicine;" the first non-physician to receive this honor.

Elizabeth Brennan Moynihan, his wife of 42 years, is an architectural historian with a special interest in 16th century Mughal architecture in India. She is the author of *Paradise as a Garden: In Persia and Mughal India* (1979) and numerous articles. Mrs. Moynihan is a former Chairman of the Board and a Board Member of the American Schools of Oriental Research. She is also a member of the Indo-U.S. Subcommission on Education and Culture.

The Moynihans live near Pindars Corners in Delaware County, N.Y. and in Washington D.C. They have three children: Timothy Patrick, Maura Russell, and John McCloskey and two grandchildren.

BOOKS WRITTEN BY SENATOR MOYNIHAN

- **Miles to Go**, Harvard University Press, 1996.
- **Pandaemonium**, Oxford University Press, 1993.
- **On the Law of Nations**, Harvard University Press, 1990.
- **Came the Revolution: Argument in the Reagan Era**, HB&J, 1988.
- **Family and Nation**, HB&J, 1986.
- **Loyalties**, HB& J, 1984.
- **A Dangerous Place**, AL&B, 1975.
- **Ethnicity: Theory and Experience** (Editor with Nathan Glazer), Harvard University Press, 1975.
- **Counting Our Blessings: Reflections on the Future of America**, Atlantic, Little & Brown, 1974.

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- **Coping: Essays on the Practice of Government**, Random House, 1973.
 - **The Politics of a Guaranteed Income**, Random House, 1973.
 - **On Equality of Educational Opportunity** (Editor with Frederick Mosteller), Random House, 1973.
 - **Toward a National Urban Policy** (Editor), Basic Books, 1970.
 - **Maximum Feasible Misunderstandings: Community Action in the War on Poverty**, Free Press, 1969.
 - **On Understanding Poverty: Perspectives from the Social Sciences**(Editor), Basic Books, 1968.
 - **The Defenses of Freedom: The Public Papers of Arthur J. Goldberg** (Editor), Harper & Row, 1966.
 - **Beyond the Melting Pot: The Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Jews, Italians, and Irish in New York City** (With Nathan Glazer), MIT Press, 1963.

ABOUT CONGRESSWOMAN SLAUGHTER



Tour Louise's Photo Gallery

Congresswoman Louise McIntosh Slaughter is serving her sixth term in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing the 28th Congressional District of New York State. Her district includes the city of Rochester and most of its Monroe County suburbs.

Described as "one of the most powerful women in Congress," Congresswoman Slaughter sits on the influential House Rules Committee and its Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House. She is Vice-Chairwoman of the Research Committee of the Democratic leadership and serves as whip-at-large.

In her 11 years in the House, Congresswoman Slaughter has earned a reputation as a strong proponent of progressive causes, as well as a hard worker for local interests, especially the economic and employment concerns of her district. She has been noted in her district for "her strong constituent service."

In the 105th Congress, she is championing legislation that would encourage airline competition and crack down on anti-competitive practices that are keeping air fares outrageously high for businesses and consumers alike in Rochester and other mid-size cities. She is also fighting trade barriers that keep Eastman Kodak and other American companies out of Japanese markets. A strong promoter of small businesses, Congresswoman Slaughter regularly holds conferences to help them obtain capital and federal contracts.

She is dedicated to enhancing Rochester's business climate and improving its infrastructure, remaining actively involved in projects for which she has secured federal funds, including High Technology of Rochester's business incubator, the Rochester Harbor wave-surge barrier, the Center for Optics Manufacturing, Rochester Institute of Technology's Centers for Integrated Manufacturing Studies and Remanufacturing and Resource Recovery, and the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics.

She regularly goes to bat for such large companies as Kodak, Xerox, Bausch and Lomb, GRS, Gleason's, Hickey-Freeman and Harris/RF Communications and such smaller companies as Pal Plastics, Dimension Technologies, Terry Bicycles and Newtex Industries. She was responsible for the enactment of permanent tax incentives for the creation of new jobs in small and mid-size manufacturing firms.

Realizing that the quality of the workforce is strongly tied to the education and well-being of our children, she has introduced a measure that would increase the availability and affordability of quality before and after-school child care for working families. It emphasizes academics, artistic pursuits and juvenile crime prevention.

Congresswoman Slaughter is also a strong proponent of campaign finance reform. She has introduced a bill that would reduce the cost of political campaigns by requiring radio and TV broadcasters to provide federal candidates free air time in

return for their federal licenses. The measure also aims to reduce negative, slickly packaged campaigning by requiring that candidates who accept free time speak directly to voters.

A bacteriologist with a master's degree in public health, she is intensely involved in health issues, especially those affecting women. She is the author of widely supported legislation that would protect consumers from discrimination by health insurance providers based on their genetic makeup. The bill also would protect the privacy of consumers' genetic information.

She also has won historic increases in funding for women's health. Her legislation guarantees that women and minorities are included in all federal health trials and establishes an Office of Research on Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health.

Concerned about the high incidence of colorectal cancer among Americans, especially minorities, and the mistaken notion that colorectal cancer is primarily a "man's disease," Congresswoman Slaughter has launched a nationwide education and prevention campaign to wage war on this number two cancer killer.

She is responsible for passage of legislation that established the first federal research and education programs on DES, a drug prescribed to pregnant women from 1938 to 1971 in the mistaken notion that it would prevent miscarriage. DES often caused deformities and other health problems in the reproductive systems of their children.

Congresswoman Slaughter has fought hard against government waste. Most recently, she has introduced legislation to cut back on waste and fraud in the Medicare program, targeting abuses in durable medical equipment (e.g., catheters, wheelchairs, ostomy supplies and walkers).

In an effort to reduce crime and promote justice at home and abroad, Congresswoman Slaughter has introduced several initiatives. One initiative would allow the federal prosecution of rapes and serious sexual assaults committed by repeat offenders. It requires that these serial rapists serve life in prison without parole. She also has introduced a measure seeking to reduce the global trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual and other forms of exploitation. And she has authored a bill to allow American Holocaust survivors to seek monetary reparations from Germany for their losses and suffering. In addition, she has secured federal funds used to hire 19 police officers in six communities in her district under the federal Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program.

A leading advocate of women's rights, the Congresswoman has introduced legislation to establish a Women's Rights National Historic Trail that would begin with a route between Boston and Buffalo, N.Y., focusing initially on the New York segment of Rochester to Auburn.

In July 1997, Congresswoman Slaughter was named a commissioner for the Commission on the Security and Cooperation in Europe. That body, also known as the Helsinki Commission, is the American delegation to the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe. This international human rights organization promotes security and cooperation among European nations and monitors compliance with the Helsinki Accords. Slaughter is the only woman commissioner on the 21-member U.S. delegation.

In January 1998, the Congresswoman received the Award for Outstanding Congressional Arts Leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives from the U.S. Conference of Mayors and Americans for the Arts. In March 1998, she was presented the International Health Awareness Network Recognition Award for her lifelong

commitment to women's equality, at an International Women's Day Celebration at the United Nations.

She is the founder and chairwoman of both the Congressional Member Organization for the Arts and the Congressional Working Group on Genetics. She is a member of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues and chairwoman of its Health Insurance Reform Team.

Congresswoman Slaughter is also a member of the Congressional Task Force on Tobacco and Health, the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, the Congressional Pro-Choice Caucus, the Congressional Coalition on Population and Development, the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS, the House Cancer Awareness Working Group, the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus, the Congressional Ad Hoc Steering Committee on Telehealth, the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, the Medical Technology Caucus, the Congressional Task Force on Organ and Tissue Donation, the Older Americans Caucus, the Northeast Agriculture Caucus, the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, the Congressional Advisory Committee on Lyme Disease, the Congressional Prevention Coalition, the Trade Working Group and the Democratic Budget Group. Finally, she is a board member of the Einstein Institute, which educates judges on genetics issues in the courtroom.

Elected in 1986, Congresswoman Slaughter has a Bachelor of Science degree (1951) in microbiology and a Master of Science degree (1953) in public health from the University of Kentucky. Prior to entering Congress, she served in the Monroe County (N.Y.) Legislature (1976-79); as regional coordinator to then Secretary of State Mario Cuomo (1976-78) and to then Lt. Gov. Mario Cuomo (1979-82); and in the New York Assembly (1982-86). She was named House Legislator of the Year by the Vietnam Veterans of America in 1992.

A native of Harlan County, Kentucky, Congresswoman Slaughter has lived most of her life in Rochester's suburb of Fairport. She is married to Robert Slaughter and has three daughters and four grandchildren.

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