



PRESS RELEASE

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
The Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site
Hyde Park, New York (800) 337-8474 (845) 229-9115**

**January 25, 2007
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT:

**Franceska Macsali Urbin, National Park Service, at (845) 229-6214
or Cliff Laube, FDR Presidential Library, at (845) 486-7745**

Franklin D. Roosevelt's 125th Birthday

Rose Garden Ceremony, Hyde Park, New York

Lt. Gov. David A. Paterson and Christopher du Pont Roosevelt to Speak

January 30, 2007, at 3:00 p.m.

Hyde Park, NY – Honoring the 125th anniversary of Franklin D. Roosevelt's birth, the National Park Service and the FDR Presidential Library and Museum announced that Lt. Gov. David A. Paterson and Christopher du Pont Roosevelt will be guest speakers at a Rose Garden ceremony. The program will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30 at the Home of FDR National Historic Site.

Rose Garden Ceremony

The National Park Service will host the graveside ceremony at the Home of Franklin Roosevelt National Historic Site. Special guest speakers include Lt. Gov. David A. Paterson, New York's first African-American lieutenant governor representing the state of New York, and Christopher du Pont Roosevelt representing the Roosevelt family.

A United States Military Academy at West Point honor guard and color guard will be present in the Rose Garden for the ceremony and Brigadier General (P) Robert L. Caslen, Commandant of Cadets at West Point will present a wreath on behalf of the President of the United States.

Other presenters include the Hyde Park Town Supervisor, the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce, American Legion Post #1303, the March of Dimes, the FDR Presidential Library and Museum, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill, and the National Park Service. The public is cordially invited to lay flowers on the grave and attend all events. The Roosevelt Library invites attendees for refreshments and birthday cake after the ceremony in the Henry A. Wallace Center.

A Day of Events

Preceding the ceremony, the popular morning radio show, *The Round Table* from WAMC, Northeast Public Radio, featuring Susan Arbetter and Joe Donahue, will broadcast live from the Henry A. Wallace Center on January 30. The program, on air from 9:00 a.m. to noon will give listeners a sound portrait of world figures who have visited and the historic events that have taken place in Hyde Park. The broadcast can be heard locally on FM 90.3 or 90.9. For other station listings—or to listen to the program online—visit www.wamc.org.

The day's events will conclude with the sold-out *Happy 125th Birthday FDR* dinner and lecture at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York.

Special Traveling Exhibit: *FDR@125*

The FDR Presidential Library and Museum will display a special traveling exhibit dedicated to the legacy of FDR in the Henry A. Wallace Center on January 30. The exhibit, *FDR@125 His Vision: Our Freedoms Still Alive*, will be available for public

viewing in different parts of the United States as the 12-month celebration unfolds. *FDR@125* will travel next to Washington, D.C.

Please contact Franceska Macsali Urbin, with the National Park Service, at (845) 229-6214; or Cliff Laube, at the FDR Presidential Library, at (845) 486-7745; with any questions about these events.

FDR's 125th Anniversary in Historic Hyde Park

The 125th anniversary of the birth of Franklin Roosevelt will be celebrated throughout 2007 by the four organizations that support the legacy of the Roosevelts in Hyde Park. Known by the collective name, Historic Hyde Park, these include the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, the Home of FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Sites, and two private non-profits—The Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, and the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill. Visit www.HistoricHydePark.org for more information about the year's events and activities.

The impact of Franklin Roosevelt on the 20th and 21st century can be felt most powerfully in Hyde Park, the epicenter of his life. During the 12 years of his presidency, many of the most important figures of the past 125 years visited here—among them Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, King George and Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom, Crown Princess Martha and Crown Prince Olav of Norway, MacKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek of China, and Wilhelmina, Queen of the Netherlands. It was in Hyde Park that FDR plotted World War II strategy with Winston Churchill.

It was in Hyde Park that he developed a lifelong love of the environment that led to the creation of numerous programs to put people back to work and restore the land in the Great Depression. Here that he learned to triumph over his crippling disability and return to public life. From his study in the library, Roosevelt delivered two of his famous

“fireside chats.” It was here that he built Top Cottage, his private retreat. And it was here, following his sudden death in the closing months of World War II, where his body came home.