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August 4, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
on the occasion of the 76th Anniversary of the signing of the Social Security Act
presents a book talk and signing with CHRISTOPHER BREISETH
co-editor of *A PROMISE TO ALL GENERATIONS:
STORIES AND ESSAYS ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY AND FRANCES PERKINS*
and essay contributor STEFAN LONCE
Sunday, August 14, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is pleased to present a book talk and signing with CHRISTOPHER BREISETH co-editor with Kirstin Downey of *A PROMISE TO ALL GENERATIONS: STORIES AND ESSAYS ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY AND FRANCES PERKINS* on Sunday, August 14, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. Stefan Lonce, *Montauk Sun* editor and contributor to *A PROMISE TO ALL GENERATIONS*, will read his essay as part of the presentation. The program marks the 76th Anniversary of the signing of the Social Security Act and attendees will celebrate the occasion with refreshments -- including a special anniversary cake -- and free admission to the Roosevelt Library's current special exhibition, "*Our Plain Duty*": *FDR and America's Social Security* following the presentation. The event will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home and is free and open to the public.

A PROMISE TO ALL GENERATIONS: STORIES AND ESSAYS ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY AND FRANCES PERKINS is a collection of essays by well-known authorities and stories by Americans about the impact of Social Security on their lives. Essay contributors include Nancy Altman, Adam Cohen, Larry DeWitt, Kirsten Downey, Jamie Galbraith, June Hopkins, Eric Kingson, Stefan Lonce, Donn Mitchell, James Roosevelt, Jr. and Karenna Gore Schiff. The book was published by the Frances Perkins Center (www.francesperkinscenter.org) in 2011.

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Christopher Breiseth is a Frances Perkins Center board member and past president and CEO of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, the private partner of the FDR Presidential Library and Museum, serving in that position from 2001 to 2008. He was president of Deep Springs College in California from 1980 to 1983 and of Wilkes University from 1984 to 2001. He earned his B.A. in History at UCLA, a Masters of Literature in Modern British History from Oxford and a Ph.D. in European History from Cornell. At Cornell, he lived at the Telluride House where Frances Perkins was a guest for the last five years of her life while she taught at the University. Together, Breiseth and Miss Perkins organized two seminars for house members, one with Henry A. Wallace, the other with James Farley. Following Miss Perkins' death in 1965, Breiseth wrote an article, "The Frances Perkins I Knew," which provided some of the material on Frances Perkins's life at Telluride House for Kirstin Downey's book, *THE WOMAN BEHIND THE NEW DEAL*. He also served for a year and a half in 1967 and 1968 as Chief of Policy Guidance for the Community Action Program which was part of the Office of Economic Opportunity, President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty.

Stefan Lonce is the editor of the *Montauk Sun* newspaper, which circulates on the East End of Long Island. His story, "Social Security Preserved My Family," is published in *A PROMISE TO ALL GENERATIONS: STORIES AND ESSAYS ABOUT SOCIAL SECURITY AND FRANCES PERKINS*. In his *2012 DRIVING WITH FDR COLLECTIBLE CALENDAR*, Lonce wrote, "Together, Perkins and Roosevelt masterminded the Social Security Act, the New Deal's most important and enduring legacy. I will be forever grateful to Secretary Perkins and President Roosevelt, because the Social Security survivors benefits that my mother, my five brothers, and I received after my father's death made it possible for my mother to preserve our family." Lonce plans to expand the calendar, which begins with a four page essay, "FDR'S Courage and Ingenuity Inspire us Still," into a book.

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Copies of *A PROMISE TO ALL GENERATIONS* and the *2012 DRIVING WITH FDR COLLECTIBLE CALENDAR* will be available for sale after the talk. There is no charge for this program. Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with questions about the event.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is dedicated to preserving historical material and providing innovative educational programs, community events, and public outreach. It is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For information about the FDR Presidential Library call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

Historic Hyde Park is a group of government and private non-profit organizations based in Hyde Park, New York. Each has a unique mission, but all are united in their dedication to extending the legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt to new generations. HHP includes the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site, the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill, the Roosevelt Institute, and Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. For more information about HHP visit www.HistoricHydePark.org.

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