

The original documents are located in Box 43, folder “Ford, Susan - Events - 7/5/75 - Birthday Party” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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SUSAN-BIRTHDAY

Susan thought you might want to see

Patti

WASHINGTON (AP) -- SUSAN FORD CELEBRATED HER 18TH BIRTHDAY TODAY WITH A PICNIC FOR ABOUT 75 FRIENDS ON THE SOUTH LAWN OF THE WHITE HOUSE. THERE WAS A CHOCOLATE CAKE IN THE SHAPE OF A CAMERA WITH SUSAN'S PICTURE ON TOP TO SALUTE HER INTEREST IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE START OF HER SIX-WEEK SUMMER JOB AS A PHOTO INTERN ON A TOPEKA, KAN., NEWSPAPER.

SUSAN DANCED WITH HER DATE FOR THE OCCASION, BRIAN MCCARTNEY, A FRIEND SHE MET AT VAIL, COLO.

SHE GAVE A BIG HUG AND KISS TO SAMMY RUBIN, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE RUBIN-HUTSON BAND, WHO HAD WRITTEN A SONG IN HER HONOR AND SANG IT TO HER WHILE HER FRIENDS WATCHED.

THE SONG WAS ENTITLED, "LADY IN THE SNOW," HUTSON EXPLAINED, BECAUSE "THAT'S WHERE SHE (SUSAN) WAS ALL THE TIME SHE WAS IN COLORADO -- HEAD FIRST."

SUSAN MET MCCARTNEY AND THE MEMBERS OF THE BAND WHEN SHE WAS ON A SKIING VACATION IN VAIL.

07-05-75 17:53EOT

George Ortiz

For immediate release
Wednesday, July 2, 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Susan Ford will celebrate her 18th birthday a day early Saturday, July 5, by hosting a party on the South Grounds of the White House. The party will be an informal picnic with a country-rock band and will be held from 3-6 p. m.

About 75 guests are expected, many of them Susan's friends from Holton-Arms and their dates.

Entertainment will be by The Rubin-Hutson Band, a group of four musicians based in Vail, Colo. The Band plays a combination of its own material, Top 40, country, country-rock and nostalgia-rock and roll. Its members: Lonnie Hutson, who plays the rhythm, accoustic and electric guitar, the harmonica and is also a vocalist; Sammy Rubin, who plays lead guitar, the accoustic and electric guitar and is a vocalist; Rich Whitney, bassist and vocalist; and John Hyde Barnard, drummer.

The Rubin-Hutson Band was formed in October, 1973, in Vail, Colo. as Rubin-Hutson, a duo with a folk country sound. Whitney and Barnard joined the group later.

Seating will be a picnic tables on the South Lawn, and a dance floor will be set up nearby. Refreshments will be hotdogs and hamburgers, potato salad, baked beans and cake and ice cream.

#

Press coverage: Writers and photographers from 3:30 p. m. - 3:45 p. m. Pickup in press lobby at 3:30 p. m.



Manager for Rubin-Hutson Band - (Susan's Birthday party)

Mr. Jerry Stroud
1726 Griffith Park Blvd.
Hollywood, California 90026

213/ 665-5417



N-3

That First Glass of Beer

Susan Ford drank her first glass of beer Saturday, but was not 18 until four hours later. Mrs. Ford gave her daughter permission to drink the glass of beer at Susan's 18th birthday party on the south lawn of the White House.

Most of the guests were over 18, but the President's daughter personally cautioned four of her guests who were minors not to drink the beer.

Ms. Ford left for Topeka, Kansas Monday, where she will serve for six weeks as an intern photographer for the Topeka Capital Journal. -- UPI (7/7/75)

Man Charged With Threatening Ford

A Michigan man has been charged with threatening to kill President Ford and Vice President Rockefeller, the Secret Service reported. The man is Patrick M. Scott, 26, a Vietnam veteran who twice made threats in June on Bois Blanc Island, near Mackinac Island where the President and Mrs. Ford are to visit this weekend. -- AP, UPI (7/7/75)

Manager for Rubin-Hutson Band - (Susan's Birthday party)

Mr. Jerry Stroud
1726 Griffith Park Blvd.
Hollywood, California 90026

213/ 665-5417

November 3, 1975

Dear Mrs. Gallinger:

I'm sorry for the delay in answering your letter of September 30, but between traveling and working with the press I haven't had much time for personal correspondence. You are right to be perturbed.

Even though you couldn't tell from the reply, I want you to know that Mrs. Ford is made aware of critical comments and considers them carefully. In your case she has been made aware twice, for I personally shared with her your letter.

As for Susan's 18th birthday party, we are sorry you were offended. Although Susan did not have any, it is true that beer was served at this celebration to guests who were of legal age. But it is unfair to say that the First Family's example is that of encouraging young people to drink. The example they set is what they are: a loving family. The President and Mrs. Ford have counseled their children about the dangers of alcohol and agree with you that it's use should be discouraged.

Thank you for taking the time to write. Opinions such as yours are important and your willingness to write a second time is doubly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld
Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ralph S. Gallinger
13100 Shawnee Lane 280-A
Seal Beach, California 90740



13100 Shawnee Lane 280-A
Seal Beach, California
September 30, 1975

Mrs. Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld
The White House
Washington, D.C.

I received the enclosed reply to a letter I wrote to Mrs. Betty Ford, and I have been angry ever since.

Do you call the enclosed letter an answer? It appears to me that my letter was never read.

When I wrote similar letters to President John Kennedy's press secretary, I received thoughtful answers to specific questions of mine, and setting forth the President's views on the subject, thereby proving that my letter had really been read and honestly answered.

Sincerely yours,

Glessner Callinger

Glessner Callinger
(Mrs. Ralph)



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 15, 1975

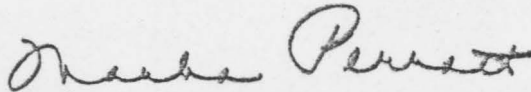
Dear Mrs. Gallinger,

Mrs. Ford has asked me to acknowledge your recent letter in which you shared your views and feelings with her.

Please know that the President and Mrs. Ford are always pleased to have the benefit of comments from fellow citizens, and they appreciate the effort you made to convey your opinions.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Marba S. Perrott
Director of Correspondence
for Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ralph S. Gallinger
13100 Shawnee Lane 280-A
Seal Beach, California 90740



Newsmakers-----

Los Angeles Times

Susan Serves Beer and Birthday Cake

—Responding to an invitation in verse, about 75 young men and women danced on the White House lawn, drank beer and munched hot dogs to celebrate Susan Ford's 18th birthday. Although Susan's birthday is actually to-



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13100 Shawnee Lane 280-A
Seal Beach, Calif. 90740
July 7, 1975

Dear Mrs. Ford,

I was indeed shocked and disappointed to read in the paper that you had served BEER at your daughter's birthday party.

I had such great admiration for you formerly, for having reared your children with a Sunday School and church tradition, so you can imagine my astonishment on reading that you would serve an alcoholic drink to young people, knowing that alcohol is the number one addictive drug used by young people.

What an example for the first family to set for the young people of our nation.

Please, Mrs. Ford, give this your prayerful attention, since our young people are our most precious asset.

Sincerely yours,

Glessner Gallinger
Glessner Gallinger
(Mrs. Ralph S.)



A White House Birthday

By Joel Dreyfuss

There was a lot of effort to make this outdoor picnic like a lot of other nice suburban birthday parties on a Fourth of July weekend. There was a band playing country-rock music and there were hot dogs and hamburgers sizzling on the grill with beer in plastic cups for the guests.

The only difference with this birthday party was that Susan Ford was celebrating her 18th birthday on Saturday and the affair was taking place on the South Lawn of the White House.

Not long after things had gotten under way, the White House press corps was mobilized for a quick 15-minute peek at the proceedings. Trailing their cables, lights, cameras and notepads, the 20 or so weekenders were led across the green lawn to the area where Miss Ford and her friends were trying to forget where they were and have a good time.

A dance floor had been laid down under a clump of trees and most of the 50-odd guests were dancing to the music of the Rubin-Hutson Band, whose members Miss Ford met on her father's ski trip to Vail, Colo.

During the time the reporters were allowed to see the proceedings, Miss

See BIRTHDAY, B3, Col. 6



By Harry Naltchayan—The Washington Post

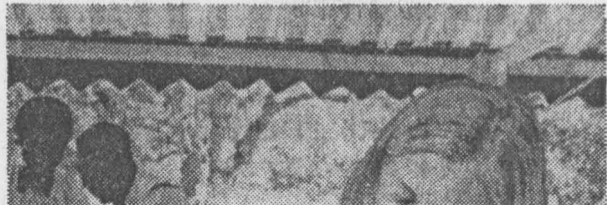
Susan Ford, cutting her birthday cake, and White House maitre d' John Ficklin.

Newsmakers-----

L.A. Times 7/6/75

Susan Serves Beer and Birthday Cake

—Responding to an invitation in verse, about 75 young men and women danced on the White House lawn, drank beer and munched hot dogs to celebrate Susan Ford's 18th birthday. Although Susan's birthday is actually today, the party was held a day early for convenience. But the poetic invitation took no note of that: "On July 5, I'm reliably told, I'll finally be (sigh) 18 years old. So starting at three and going till six, I'm having a party I hope you



Local ski patrolman attends Susan Ford's party

by Jane Riese

Love in Vail is more than a rumor on the slopes, and there may have been a special charm which kindled the affection of Susan Ford.

Little did Brian McCartney know that an everyday

Recently returned from his second trip to the White House after attending Susan's 18th birthday, Brian described the affair as "a fantastic time."

Accompanying him were Bruce Mielke, and Arvin Caspasraitis, mutual friends of the couple, and the Dublin, Utah, country

beer and munched hot dogs in celebration of the occasion.

The party ran late when the President, his wife and Henry Kissinger stopped upon their arrival from Camp David to chat with the guests.

Susan was described by

entire year with Vail Associates and plans to stay with the ski patrol.

According to Brian, dating the President's daughter is "the same as dating anyone else."

"In Washington, we usually go sightseeing and party at night. When Susan's here, we do a lot of

The age difference is of little concern to Brian. "In terms of personalities, there is no problem", he stated, "but at 18 she is expected to do and not to do certain things. She has a lot of responsibility to her family especially helping her mother out. She could split from home but she has

warm."

Susan is planning to join her family in Vail during their summer visit in August. She began work Tuesday as photographer for a newspaper in Topeka, Kansas.

Brian works four days per week in Vail for Vail