

**The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “1976/05/28 - Courthouse Square Community Performance, Dayton, Ohio” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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Final

Courthouse Rally, Dayton, Ohio

~~It~~ Thank you, thank you for that marvelous performance. I love ballet, and you really have an outstanding company in Dayton. Josephine Schwarz and these talented dancers are wonderful.

It ~~gives~~ gives me a special feeling to know Abraham ~~F~~ Lincoln spoke on these courthouse steps and then to see the same building as the center for the activities of 1976.

I believe history ~~helps~~ <sup>helps</sup> gives us courage for ~~overcome today's~~ today's problems. The imagination persistence and ~~of the Wright Brothers~~ of the Wright Brothers inspire us to overcome ~~new~~ today's challenges.

~~It~~ I'm so glad I could share a noontime on your square and see that your pride in ~~the~~ the past keeps you<sup>T</sup> working and striving today.

## Background, Dayton Outdoor Rally

The downtown ~~is a~~ square was designed to provide open space and to serve as a center of community ~~and~~ activities. A ~~variety of~~ activities, ~~including~~ art and fashion shows, ~~and~~ ~~and~~ concerts and other ~~and~~ performances, are held around noon. An expansion is planned which will include an outdoor cafe and an underground restaurant. The focal point of the square is the old courthouse, which is ~~operated~~ operated by the Montgomery County Historical Society. The courthouse is ~~almost~~ <sup>over</sup> 100 years old, and the architecture is Greek Revival. It has historical displays, ~~including~~ including ~~the aviation hall~~ one ~~of~~ on aviation.

Dayton is the home <sup>town</sup> of the aviation hall of fame, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> because of the Wright brothers, <sup>Deer, NCR and several colleges and universities -</sup> Program ~~is~~ Planned for Mrs. Ford

The Wright-Patterson Air ~~is~~ Force Band of ~~the~~ Flight will play before Mrs. Ford arrives. ~~and~~ After her arrival, a short performance by the Dayton Ballet Company is planned. \* (The director of the company is Josephine Schwarz). Then she will speak to the crowd before going across the street to the PFC headquarters.