

# FOUR PRESIDENTS AND THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN-UP

**Dignitaries and Philadelphians Join for a Summit on Community Service and a Modern-Day "Barn Raising"**

BY DAVID OTHMER

**F**rom April 26th to 29th, Philadelphia will host the "Presidents' Summit for America's Future." In addition to visits by the current president of the United States and three past presidents, the weekend will feature a major community clean-up project, a gala celebration, speeches, and workshops. The point is to show us all that voluntarism and community service is not only fun, it's of vital importance.

Attending the summit will be President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary, past Presidents Gerald R. Ford, Jimmy Carter and George Bush, General Colin Powell and past First Ladies Nancy Reagan and Ladybird Johnson. They will be joined by representatives from over 100 communities across America, all 50 governors, mayors of the 50 largest American cities and other notables and community leaders. Each of these dignitaries, and thousands of Philadelphians, will roll up their sleeves to participate in a modern-day "barn raising" event to celebrate voluntarism and community service in America.

WHYY-TV/Philadelphia will produce a one-hour documentary, **FOUR PRESIDENTS AND THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN-UP**, which will be broadcast Tuesday, April 29th, the day the Summit ends. The program will document the serious and celebratory events surrounding this unprecedented gathering. It will serve as a call to action for America's future by joining in a common purpose to improve our lives, our neighborhoods and our cities.

**FOUR PRESIDENTS AND THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN-UP** will be produced by WHYY's Senior Producer Trudi Brown, with WHYY's award-winning documentary and news producers, includ-

ing Glenn Holsten and Lillian Paulmier. The host will be Harvey Clark, a consultant to New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman and former reporter for the local CBS affiliate.

**Highlights of the weekend will include:**

**1)** A massive project to clean up Germantown Avenue, a 10-mile-long street. Germantown Avenue winds through neighborhoods which represent people of all ethnic and religious groups at every economic level in America — rich and poor, fancy and devastated, clean and trash-ridden, and lined with boutique stores to drug-dealing corners. Every town in America has a Germantown Avenue. **FOUR PRESIDENTS AND THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN-UP** will document how we can all clean up our own Germantown Avenues. The project — taking place Sunday, April 27th — will be a self-contained, before-and-after model project showing how any American community can pull together to create lasting change.

**2)** An entertainment gala that, at this point, will feature big name stars ranging from Boyz II Men to Barbra Streisand, and a huge fireworks display. This event is scheduled for Sunday evening, April 27th.

**3)** Seminars on Monday and Tuesday, April 28th and 29th, highlighting the activities in the local communities of the 110 groups who have come to the Summit.

**4)** An awards presentation on Monday night, April 28th, celebrating the accomplishments of the groups from across the nation.

**FOUR PRESIDENTS AND THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEAN-UP** will combine the excitement of a barn raising, the pomp of four Presi-

dents, the grit of a real neighborhood, and the deliberations of people from all over America. WHYY's program will interweave all those activities into a fast-paced, informative and entertaining hour.

*Tune in to TV12 for this very special broadcast on Tuesday evening, April 29, 9 p.m.*