

**SOCIAL  
MANY**

**76**

**SECURITY  
MORE!**

FDR 1932

PSTRYGDN

**008 - 14 - 1935**

**FDR LIBRARY  
HYDE PARK, NY**

**"A PROMISE TO ALL GENERATIONS"**

**SOCIAL** **76** **SECURITY**  
**MANY** **MORE**

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**A PROMISE 2 ALL GENERATIONS**

# HAPPY 76<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY SOCIAL SECURITY!

Can you spot the 10 differences between Social Security's two birthday cakes?



1



2

**Bonus: Explain the significance of the SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.**

Cakes designed by **DRIVING WITH FDR 2012 COLLECTIBLE CALENDAR** author, **Stefan Lonce**  
[www.DrivingWithFDR.com](http://www.DrivingWithFDR.com)

Cakes baked & donated by **PSTRYGDN** **THE PASTRY GARDEN, Poughkeepsie, NY**  
[www.ThePastryGarden.com](http://www.ThePastryGarden.com)

**Answer Key:**

1. Font is different in the circled "76"
2. **PSTRYGDEN** & **FDR 1932** plates are switched
3. Columns are narrower
4. A flute is missing from each of the columns
5. Quotation marks are missing from "A Promise To All Generations"
6. Space is missing from the outside border
7. ", NY" is missing
8. "TO" has been replaced with "2"
9. "0" is missing from the Social Security Number
10. Exclamation point is missing from "Many More"
- Bonus: 08/14/1935 was the signing of the Social Security Act.

# SOCIAL SECURITY PRESERVED MY FAMILY

By Stefan Lonce  
from

*A Promise To All Generations; Stories & Essays  
About Social Security & Frances Perkins*

My father was a carpenter. He loved building things. He was almost 40 when he married and started building a family.

My mother was a housewife. As part of the rent for our apartment in Buchanan, New York, my father helped maintain the building.

On April 22, 1972, my father had a sudden, massive heart attack, while tending the furnace in our building. I was eight years old; I had three older brothers and two younger ones. As I watched the paramedics wheel my father's body out to the ambulance, I worried about who was going to support my family.

After my father's funeral, my mother applied for Social Security survivors benefits, which we began receiving within weeks.

Each month, after our seven Social Security checks had cleared, my mother, brothers and I headed for the supermarket, where we filled three grocery carts full of nonperishable food – six growing boys ate a lot.

Although she started working after my father died, without the Social Security survivors benefits that we received, my mother could not have afforded to raise my brothers and me together. We would have been split up, and most of us would have been sent to live with relatives, or would have been placed in foster care.

Which is not to say that we lived extravagantly. We were frugal, but there were times at the end of the month when we were just about out of food. My mother always worried that she wouldn't be able to afford keep our family together.

My brothers and I all worked, to contribute to the household. The Social Security benefits, by themselves, just weren't enough, although they later helped me pay for college.



## 2012 COLLECTIBLE CALENDAR BY STEFAN J. LONCE

Together, Secretary of Labor Francis Perkins and President Roosevelt masterminded the Social Security Act, the New Deal's most important and enduring legislative legacy. I will be forever grateful to Secretary Perkins and President Roosevelt, because the Social Security survivors' benefits that my mother, my 5 brothers, and I received after my father died made it possible for my mother to preserve our family.

[www.DrivingWithFDR.com](http://www.DrivingWithFDR.com)



*On August 14, 1935, FDR signed the Social Security Act into law. Frances Perkins is standing behind FDR.*



*FDR in Hyde Park in 1928, driving his Ford, which was equipped with hand controls he designed.*

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library