



November 2015 E-Newsletter


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First Friday Trivia Night: Friday, November 6



Gaye Adegbalola

We're excited to welcome blues performer and Fredericksburg native [Gaye Adegbalola](#) to the role of Celebrity Quizmaster at this month's First Friday Trivia Night! Gaye was a teacher in the Fredericksburg City School system for 18 years and became a full-time performer as a founding member of Saffire - the Uppity Blues Women. She now headlines the band [Gaye and the Wild Rutz](#).

Admission and participation are **free!** Light snacks will be available as well as a **cash bar**. Prizes are awarded for first, second, and last place. We look forward to seeing you there.

28th Annual James Monroe lecture

Monday, November 9, 2015, 7:00 PM

Digital Auditorium, Hurley Convergence Center, UMW

Dr. Samuel Watson, professor of history at the United States Military Academy at West Point, will present "Toward Stability and Subordination: President James Monroe and the U.S. Army Officer Corps." A reception and book signing will follow the lecture.

The only president between Washington and Jackson to have served in the army, Monroe was also the only president before the Civil War who served, albeit briefly, as secretary of war. As president, Monroe advocated an improved system of coastal fortifications, and established schools for the infantry and artillery during his second term. His most significant initiatives were securing a long-term secretary of war and appointing and supporting Sylvanus Thayer as superintendent at West Point, one of



Dr. Samuel Watson

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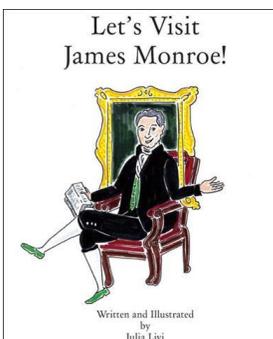
the first major military decisions of his presidency.

Monroe's term as commander-in-chief was not without difficulty or controversy, particularly in the realm of civil-military relations, where he had to work with the popular Andrew Jackson despite that general's resistance to civilian oversight, culminating in Jackson's assaults on Spanish military outposts in Florida during the Seminole War. Despite these problems, Monroe proved the most effective commander-in-chief since Washington, helping to set the army on a path of professional development and growing capability.

The James Monroe Lecture and other public programs of the James Monroe Museum are made possible by support from the Fredericksburg Savings Charitable Foundation; H. Stewart Charitable Jones Trust; James Monroe Memorial Foundation; Paul and Jane Jones Trust (Walter Jervis Sheffield, Trustee); and the Friends of the James Monroe Museum.

What's In Store?

There's exciting news in the James Monroe Museum Store this month!



By the end of November (hopefully before Thanksgiving) we will have on our shelves copies of our new children's book, *Let's Visit James Monroe!* We can't wait to share the James Monroe Museum with readers of all ages through this story of history coming to life! James Monroe himself steps out of his portrait to escort Grandma Mac and her grandchildren, Jessica and Carl, through the museum, sharing the story of his life of service. Readers will get to witness important events, such as the signing

of the Louisiana Purchase, and will learn about how President Monroe and his family used some of the artifacts in our collection. We will also be hosting a book release party in mid-December featuring the author/illustrator of the book, Julia Livi! Stay tuned for details on the party.

We are also thrilled to announce a new Christmas CD exclusive to the James Monroe Museum! The CD will feature 24 songs recorded using the Monroe family's c. 1802 Astor pianoforte. The songs are performed by Heidi Stello, Editorial Assistant for the Papers of James Monroe and a longtime JMM Guide. The CD is still in production, but will be available through the Store in December.

We will send out a special announcement when the book and CD are available.

Now that the weather is turning cooler, our thoughts turn of course to hot chocolate! Luckily we have the perfect thing to satisfy that craving! We have a wonderful hot chocolate drink mix from American Heritage Chocolates available in 12.72 oz. canisters (\$19.95). All the American Heritage chocolates we carry in the Store are made from recipes from the mid-1700s, and are made only with ingredients that were available at that time, including cinnamon, nutmeg, red pepper and vanilla. The finely-grated drink mix can also be used as a substitute for semi-sweet chocolate in your favorite recipes, or in the recipes we have available for free in the Store.

We look forward to seeing you soon in the James Monroe Museum Store!

Upcoming Events

Fri, November 6: First Friday History Trivia Night.

Trivia, cash bar, light refreshments, & 50/50 raffle. 6-8 PM Free.

Mon, November 9:

28th Annual James Monroe Lecture 7 PM, reception & book signing to follow; Digital Auditorium, Hurley Convergence Center, Free.

Fri, December 4: "A Monroe Christmas Holiday Open House." 6-8 PM, Free

Sat, December 5: "Deck the halls" Holiday Floral Decorating Presentation 9:30 AM - Noon, \$30/person (\$25/Friends of JMM) Monroe Hall room 116, UMW

Sun, December 6: Concert "Music for Mr. Monroe" 2 PM \$15/person (\$12/Friends of JMM) UMW students free

Melissa B. Webb

Membership and Special Events Coordinator

Newsletter Editor

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The James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, located in historic downtown Fredericksburg, Virginia, is the largest repository in the country for artifacts and documents related to the fifth president of the United States. The museum was first opened in 1927 by Monroe descendants as a place to house their own personal collections, which had been handed down through generations of the family. Eventually, the museum and its extensive collections were turned over to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the museum is now administered by the University of Mary Washington.

The museum belongs to the American Association of Museums, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Virginia Association of Museums. It is also on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark.

