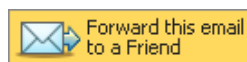


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September 2016 E-Newsletter



Final First Friday Trivia Nights of 2016: Friday, September 2 and Friday, October 7

Our Celebrity Quizmaster for September 2 is Cedric Rucker, [UMW](#) Associate Vice President & Dean of Student Life.

October's Celebrity Quizmaster will be Dr. David A. Sam, President of [Germana Community College](#).

First Friday Trivia Night is from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in the Museum's garden. Admission, participation, and snacks are free! There is a cash bar and a 50/50 raffle.



UMW Family Weekend and Fredericksburg Welsh Festival

If you're planning to attend UMW's Family Weekend celebrations on **Saturday, September 17**, look for us! JMM will have a pop-up Museum on Ball Circle between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM. We will also be your source for Family Weekend t-shirts!



The schedule of events for Family Weekend is [here](#).

Also on **Saturday, September 17**, the Museum and the Welsh Society of Fredericksburg will sponsor the 27th annual Fredericksburg Welsh Festival in the 900 block of Charles Street (in front of the Museum), from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Craft and food vendors; live music; and presentations on Welsh culture, language, and history are part of this downtown tradition.

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Upcoming Events

**Fri, 2 Sept: First
Friday History Trivia
Night.**

Trivia, cash bar,
snacks, & 50/50
raffle. 6 to 8 PM
Free.

**Saturday, 17 Sept:
Family Weekend
Pop-up James
Monroe Museum
on Ball Circle (UMW
campus). 10 AM to
3 PM Free.**

**Sat, 17 Sept:
Fredericksburg**



Visit the Welsh Festival [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

UMW Welcomes 10th President, Dr. Troy Paino!



Please join us in welcoming Dr. Paino and his family to the UMW family and to the Fredericksburg community! We look forward to his vision for the university and to the contributions he and his family will make to our town.

Please take a moment to [view](#) his inspiring address at the All University Opening Assembly on August 17.

Museum Landscapes and Political Landscapes

The museum is currently undergoing an exciting development! Starting September 9, the current Orientation gallery will be switched with the Making of a Revolutionary gallery. The new Orientation Gallery will be a larger, more open space, which will allow for meetings, gatherings, and events as well as changing exhibits.

The next changing exhibit to go into the space is *Conduct in the Public Service: Artifacts of Politics and Government from the Collection of the James Monroe Museum*. The exhibit features artifacts from James Monroe's career as well as the fascinating collection of political cartoons and memorabilia amassed by the Museum's founding director, Laurence Gouverneur Hoes. A preview reception will take place on Friday, September 30 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, and the exhibit will be open formally on Saturday, October 1.



English transfer-printed creamware jug depicting President James Monroe, ca. 1820



Political cartoon featuring potential Republican candidates for the 1952 presidential election

Welsh Festival

Celebrating the culture & history of Wales. 11 AM to 5 PM, 900 block of Charles Street. \$5 suggested donation.

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Curator's Corner

James Monroe's Sideboard and the Empire Style

Located in the Museum's center gallery across from the Monroes' George Astor pianoforte is one of the Museum's most distinctive possessions - the Monroe family sideboard. The circa 1825 sideboard is a magnificent example of American Empire-style craftsmanship. In a 1994 decorative arts research paper, UMW student Carla Hodgson noted the unsigned artifact's similarity to pieces created by Baltimore furniture maker John Needles (1786-1878). Hodgson postulated that, "not only would Needles have been known to Monroe, but he is a likely candidate for [the sideboard's] maker." She further notes that "Baltimore seems a likely market for acquiring furnishings to grace Oak Hill." The sideboard features a dazzling "flame" mahogany veneer, a pitched back rail pediment, Ionic columns, and decorative scrollwork. These elements are commonly found in furniture of this style, including many crafted by John Needles.



The American Empire, or Federal, style is a Neoclassical style of furniture that took its name from the Empire style popular during Napoleon's First French Empire. It gained a solid popularity in the US after 1810, and is notable for its emulation of classical antiquity, decorative inlays, animal-carved feet, and brass furniture mounts. For example, if you look at the Monroe sideboard, an impression is given of a classical Greek temple with its columns and raised pediment.

The sideboard was donated by Mr. Aldrich Dudley in 1981. Mr. Dudley inherited the piece from his father, who had purchased it in an estate sale from Joseph Redd in 1926, who had in turn acquired it from Jonah Hood, who had purchased the sideboard in an Oak Hill estate sale sometime between 1830 and 1860. Joseph Redd's daughter, Mrs. Moore, described in a letter Jonah Hood had "gotten the sideboard from the sale at Oak Hill . . .". In his donation letter, Mr. Dudley states "I am donating the sideboard to you, as I feel that furniture with historical significance such as this should be displayed for the public to enjoy." Thank you, Mr. Dudley, we couldn't agree more!

Museum Staff Takes Field Trip to Highland

Staff members of the James Monroe Museum and the Papers of James Monroe were treated to warm hospitality by colleagues at [James Monroe's Highland](#) during a field trip on August 30. The JMM staff visit reciprocates similar visits by Highland staff to Fredericksburg in recent months.



The newly discovered site of the Highland home

Highland Executive Director Sara Bon-Harper and Education Programs Manager Nancy Stetz welcomed the Fredericksburg contingent, and Guide Jane Francis (UMW Class of 1974) conducted a comprehensive tour of the house and grounds. Of particular interest is the impact that recent archaeological discoveries have had on interpretation of the site.



In front of a 300 year-old oak tree on the grounds at Highland
L to R: Cathleen Romine, Scott Harris, Dixie Cassell, Lynda Allen, Melissa Webb, Pat Baughman, Linda Westerman, Keren Pritchett, Susan Prescott, Daniel Preston, and Charles Tate



With our knowledgeable Guide, Jane Francis

Public Programs Coordinator

The James Monroe Museum is pleased to announce that Lynda Allen was recently chosen as the institution's first Public Programs Coordinator. The new staff position is responsible for all of the Museum's interpretive events, educational programs and facility rentals. Programs are offered on a variety of topics throughout the year, and tours for public and private schools and other groups serve audiences from the Fredericksburg region, Virginia, and a growing number of other states. The Museum's garden is a popular rental venue for private functions including weddings, parties and other social gatherings.



Ms. Allen was hired in September 2013 as the Museum's Office and Store Manager, in which capacity she oversaw office administration, trained Museum Guides in admissions and store operations, and oversaw product development and sales activity.

Contact the James Monroe Museum

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.



James Monroe Museum, 908 Charles Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

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