PROMOTING THE ERA OF GOOD FEELINGS
James and Elizabeth Monroe’s Supportive Partnership

SARAH PARKER REMOND
19th-century Renaissance Woman

INSPIRING GREATNESS
Frances Wright, Forgotten Pioneer of Women’s Rights

OUR PATRIOTS
Prudence Wright

LIGHTING THE SPARK
How to Engage Children in Family History
AMERICA'S FIRST DAUGHTER
by Stephanie Dray & Laura Kamoie

The Untold Story of Martha "Patsy" Jefferson Randolph, the Founding Daughter Who Shaped an American Legacy

"A richly evocative and deeply satisfying novel. Dray and Kamoie have written the first true biography of Martha Jefferson Randolph, Jefferson's daughter, one that will be read with fascination and delight for generations.

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AMERICA'S FIRST DAUGHTER
by Stephanie Dray & Laura Kamoie

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James and Elizabeth Monroe: Promoting the Era of Good Feelings
James Monroe held many titles: U.S. Minister to France, Virginia governor, U.S. secretary of state and fifth U.S. president. Alongside him was his wife, Elizabeth, an ardent supporter of her husband’s climb up the political ladder.

BY DANIEL S. MARRONE

Sarah Parker Remond, Renaissance Woman
Born into a family of free slaves in 1826, Remond grew up to be a crusader for equality and an abolitionist lecturer. A woman before her time, she later received a medical degree in Italy and built a successful practice.

BY COURTNEY PETER

Where Women Learn To Be Marines
Women weren’t allowed to enlist in the Marine Corps until 1918. Today female marine recruits train to serve their nation at the 4th Recruit Training Battalion in Parris Island, S.C.

BY RANDY GADDO

Inspiring Greatness: Frances Wright
The radical Scottish immigrant fought for equal education and voting rights for women, and also acted publicly and ambitiously against slavery.

BY LENA ANTHONY
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BY BILL HUDGINS

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About the cover:
Elizabeth Kortright Monroe, wife of President James Monroe. Oil on canvas attributed to John Vanderlyn.

THE GRANGER COLLECTION, NEW YORK
Welcome to American Spirit’s sixth annual Women’s History Month issue! As in the past, the magazine staff’s goal with this special issue is to shed light on noteworthy, brave women in our past whose engaging life stories haven’t always gotten sufficient attention.

Our cover spotlights Elizabeth Monroe, who accompanied her husband, James, to France when he served as U.S. Minister, then served as first lady during his terms as president from 1817–1825, playing a role in the Era of Good Feelings. Either because she appeared aloof, or because she was constrained by illness, she was more appreciated in France than in her own country; Parisians referred to her as la belle Américaine.

Another feature details the fascinating life of American rebel Frances Wright. She left Great Britain for America in 1817 to advocate for women’s rights and emancipation. She cultivated friendships with Thomas Jefferson and Marquis de Lafayette, and created a utopian society near Memphis called the Nashoba Community to prepare slaves for emancipation. It lasted for three years, after which she continued her activism for women’s causes.

We feature another crusader, Sarah Parker Remond, who was a mid-19th-century African-American abolitionist, suffragette and medical doctor. The Pax Romana DAR Chapter in Rome is working to place a historical marker at her former Italian residence.

The 4th Recruit Training Battalion at Parris Island, S.C., is the only place in the world where young women come for basic training to become enlisted U.S. Marines. The battalion will celebrate 30 years of operation in November 2016, but its historical roots are much deeper.

The Our Patriots department profiles Prudence Wright, who led a group of women to guard the Nehemiah Jewett Bridge in Pepperell, Mass., against British spies after many of the town’s men had marched away to Boston following the battles at Lexington and Concord. The women actually did capture two suspected Loyalist spies—one of them Wright’s brother—as the Revolutionary War flared to life near Boston.

In our Historic Homes department we visit the home of James Iredell Sr., who was a prominent attorney and judge in pre-Revolutionary Edenton, N.C., then served as attorney general for North Carolina during the war. He later vigorously supported ratification of the Constitution and was appointed by George Washington to the first U.S. Supreme Court.

Other features offer ideas for creatively engaging young people in genealogy; reveal important historical landmarks in Morristown, N.J., known as the “Military Capital of the Revolution”; and profile two Daughters in the civil service: Frances Holt and Michéle Hull.
Saluting Civil Servants

They’re not on the front lines, but Daughters Frances Holt and Michelé Hull have dedicated their careers to supporting those who are.

FRANCES GOODWIN HOLT

I t has been 50 years, but Frances Goodwin Holt can still recall her first day of work at the Naval Weapons Station in Yorktown, Va.—that’s how bad it was. From the first person she met when she walked through the door to the supervisor who would later become her mentor, everyone cast doubt on her ability to succeed. She was a chemist, having graduated four years previously with high honors, but that hardly mattered. All they saw was a woman, and they couldn’t fathom the success she would bring to the Navy over the next 48 years.

Dr. Holt worked as a chemist in the Naval Mine Engineering Facility until 1981, when she transitioned to managerial roles. In 2006, she became the executive director of the newly created Navy Munitions Command, designed to align all naval ordnance support operations worldwide into a single unit. As executive director, Dr. Holt provided the strategic vision, leadership, technical knowledge and administrative skills to ensure the U.S. Navy always had access to the right weapons at the right time and in the right place.

For her service to the Navy, Dr. Holt received the Distinguished Civilian Service Award, two Navy Superior Service Medals and a Federally Employed Woman of the Year award. And Building 1959, the 64,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art headquarters for the command, is unofficially known as the Holt Building for Dr. Holt’s involvement as its champion.

Dr. Holt is credited with helping transform naval ordnance operations into a highly effective and efficient organization. But the way she sees it, she was merely the facilitator.

“I had a wonderful team, and it was truly a team effort,” she said. “Good people working together can make great things happen.”

Her sense of teamwork and tenacity was something she acquired early on. She grew up on a tobacco farm and was expected to pull her weight in whatever way she could. “We were encouraged to do any job that we were interested in,” she said. “There were no restraints on so-called male or female jobs. Everyone just did what they could to get the work done.”

She carried those values with her to North Carolina State University, where she was one of 66 women among 6,600 men. She said the environment often was hostile toward women, who were viewed as either strange or as husband-hunters. A heavy course load and a job in the chemistry lab kept her focused, however.

“I was honestly too busy to worry about any of that,” she said. “Luckily, I think the environment is much more receptive and facilitating of women today than when I started. Still, our young women need encouragement, and they need to see that women who go into science and engineering aren’t weird; we just have a curiosity and want to make the world a better place.”

After retiring from the Navy, Dr. Holt took a single day off before joining her husband, Milton, and daughter, Katherine, at the Technology Commercialization Center in Hampton Roads, Va. The company helps match inventors to companies interested in bringing their emerging technologies to market.

Dr. Holt spends her spare time on the same North Carolina farm where she grew up, which has been in her family since her Patriot ancestor, William Goodwin, purchased the land in 1789. She also enjoys her membership in DAR.

“Early in my career as a Navy manager, I was often invited to events sponsored by the Comte de Grasse...
“So many people see contracting as a stumbling block or a nuisance, because there are so many rules and regulations to follow, but I feel immense pride when I see my hard work come to fruition. I became a civil servant in the first place because I fully believe in supporting the United States, and this is how I do that.” — MICHELÉ HULL

DAR Chapter, Yorktown, Va.,” she said. “I always enjoyed attending these events and associating with the amazing members that it was such an honor to become a member of the chapter later in my career.”

Her love of country is what led her to civil service in the first place. “I feel strongly that we have a responsibility to do our part to protect the freedoms our Patriot ancestors fought so hard to win for us,” she said. “I believe we each have an obligation to do our part, whatever that is.”

MICHELÉ HULL

As the branch chief of procurement for the NATO Support and Procurement Agency in Capellen, Luxembourg, Michelé Hull oversees contracting for NATO operations in Afghanistan, as well as Hungary, Iraq, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania and Macedonia. At the height of NATO’s involvement in Afghanistan in 2011, Ms. Hull’s team consisted of more than 40 contract officers. It has since shrunk to 20, but that doesn’t mean her job is any less hectic. She routinely works 10-hour days and spends most of that time interacting with contractors and contract officers in the field.

“I go into work and I never know what will hit me,” said Ms. Hull. “It’s anything but predictable, particularly when you’re talking about a war zone.”

Working for NATO since 2006 and in this position since 2011, Ms. Hull has deployed to Afghanistan five times, most recently in May 2014. While there, she never leaves a force-protected zone, but safety training and protocols, as well as ballistic vests and helmets, keep her safe if the base comes under fire.

Among her proudest accomplishments was her role as the NATO procurement officer in charge during the setup of the Kandahar Airfield in 2007. “It was an extremely challenging situation,” she said. “I was doing massive problem solving with very little oversight or support, and I was dealing with contractors who weren’t used to seeing women in leadership roles. It was frustrating, but I did well.”

Ms. Hull’s post with NATO was not her first experience with high-stakes responsibilities. Previously she worked at NASA in California, Maryland and Washington, D.C., where she was the main contracting officer on a $2.2 billion multi-contract deal that spanned three different NASA centers. She also was the contracting officer for the gloves used by American astronauts on the International Space Station.

“It’s hard work and it’s stressful, but it’s so gratifying,” she said. “So many people see contracting as a stumbling block or a nuisance, because there are so many rules and regulations to follow, but I feel immense pride when I see my hard work come to fruition. I became a civil servant in the first place because I fully believe in supporting the United States, and this is how I do that.”

Fluent in French, German and Italian, Ms. Hull enjoys living and working in the micro-sized Luxembourg, where both French and German are spoken, and where 20 minutes from downtown puts her in a different country. Her 3-year-old daughter, Jordyne, is already fluent in English and French and also understands German. On weekends, they explore the city together and spend time with friends.

Ms. Hull said there are trade-offs to her life in Europe. “It’s different and exciting, but we’re definitely missing out by not being closer to our family,” said Ms. Hull, who grew up in Oregon and Washington. “I can Skype, but nothing replaces that human touch and physical closeness.”

And sure, the Alps are in her backyard, but Ms. Hull said nothing beats skiing and snowboarding in California’s Sierra Nevada, which was a trip she made every year until she became pregnant with Jordyne.

Ms. Hull, who joined the Elizabeth Forey DAR Chapter, University Place, Wash., as a Junior in 1999, doesn’t let an ocean get in the way of her patriotism. “I have the American flag in my office here at work. I always fly the flag on the Fourth of July, and I never hide the fact that I’m American, even when anti-American sentiment exists,” she said. “Working for NATO, I feel very proud to be representing America, and I hope that my strong work ethic, honesty and integrity is helping influence others’ perception of what it means to be American.”
A Political Stitch

PRECEDING WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE by 76 years, this silk patchwork “counterpane” bedspread proclaims its maker Rebecca Lombart Williams’ political leanings. In its outermost border are two silk ribbons from Henry Clay’s 1844 presidential campaign. Clay believed that the annexation of Texas—then an independent republic—as proposed by President John Tyler might lead to war with Mexico. He appealed to the women of America, who, while lacking the legal right to vote, might be inclined to try to influence votes of the men in their families. Clay’s campaign hoped that women would wish to support the party that was trying to avoid a war in which their husbands and sons might be sent to fight. (In the end, Clay lost out due to the country’s expansionist mood.)

Clay also opposed the anti-slavery movement, yet this counterpane quilt was made in 1844 in Philadelphia, a predominantly abolitionist city. But perhaps Rebecca Lambert Williams, then in her mid-20s, cared more for Clay’s foreign policy than his anti-abolitionist stance. A third ribbon printed simply with the word “Abstinence” testifies to Williams’ interest in the temperance movement.

Altogether, this patchwork bedcover reminds us that even without the vote, American women had opinions about the world outside their prescribed domestic sphere. Sometimes they were able to express those opinions in subtle ways; in this case, by stitching them into an object intrinsically both domestic and feminine. 

MARK GULEZIAN

Two silk ribbons from Henry Clay’s 1844 presidential campaign are sewn into the outermost border.
Celebrating the NPS Centennial

Women’s History-Related Sites

Continuing *American Spirit*’s yearlong celebration of the National Park Service (NPS) centennial, our annual Women’s History Month issue features three sites that highlight the historical contributions of America’s women:

**Women’s Rights National Historical Park (Seneca Falls and Waterloo, N.Y.):** With a visitors center and four historic buildings spread across two upstate New York towns, this park tells the story of the first Women’s Rights Convention, held July 19–20, 1848. Organized on just 10 days’ notice by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Martha Wright, Jane Hunt and Mary Ann M’Clintock, the convention campaigned not only for suffrage, but also for women’s ability to own property and earn wages, among other rights.

Attendees articulated their demands, goals and plan of action in the Declaration of Sentiments: “In view of this entire disfranchisement of one-half the people of this country, their social and religious degradation … and because women do feel themselves aggrieved, oppressed and fraudulently deprived of their most sacred rights, we insist that they have immediate admission to all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens of these United States.” One hundred women and men—including Frederick Douglass—signed the document.

**Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Monument (Dorchester County, Md.):** Established in 2013, this national monument on Maryland’s Eastern Shore protects and preserves the area where Tubman was born, and to which she returned repeatedly to free others.

In the absence of on-site buildings, visitors can immerse themselves in the relatively unchanged lands where African-Americans lived in bondage and, in some cases, escaped to freedom.

Additional NPS sites honoring Tubman are taking shape, thanks to a bill passed in late 2014. Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park will encompass the national monument and other nearby properties that help to preserve and promote the history of the Underground Railroad. Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Fleming, N.Y., will include the activist’s former residence and related sites.

**Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park (Richmond, Calif.):** While millions of American men fought on foreign soil during World War II, the United States government recruited women to take on industrial jobs to support the war effort. Collectively, these women became known as Rosie the Riveter, a name borrowed from 

Continued on page 12
ON MARCH 4, 2016, Vermont will celebrate its 225th birthday as a state. But joining the Union wasn’t an easy journey for the Green Mountain State. Algonquin and Iroquois tribes first populated the area, but they were driven out in 1609 by French explorer Samuel de Champlain, who claimed the region for the French. In the late 1700s, brothers Ira and Ethan Allen accumulated 300,000 acres of wilderness between New Hampshire and New York. This land would become the state of Vermont.

When the British won the French and Indian War in 1763, the territory was claimed by both New Hampshire and New York, causing animosity between settlers over land grants. Settlers who received land from the New Hampshire government soon found out that other settlers were given some of the same land from New York.

On July 8, 1777, a group of delegates met in Windsor to sign the Constitution of Vermont declaring Vermont an independent state from the 13 Colonies—complete with its own currency and postal service. However, the Continental Congress—namely, the New York delegation—wasn’t too keen on the idea of allowing Vermont to join the United States.

Fourteen years later, New York finally agreed to allow Vermont to join the Union as long as it paid New York $30,000—a hefty sum in 1791. On March 4, 1791, Vermont became the 14th state, with more than 85,000 people living within the state borders. In 1805, Montpelier became the capital.

On March 4, 2016, the Vermont History Museum will host a 225th birthday party, featuring tastings from Vermont cider makers, a birthday cake, a Vermont history exhibit and luminaries reflecting on the state’s heritage.

Honoring Great Women

This winter, the newly renovated Seneca Knitting Mill will become home to the Center for Great Women and the new home of the National Women’s Hall of Fame. Seneca, N.Y., the internationally recognized home of the women’s rights movement, is the perfect place to house the Center for Great Women and Hall of Fame, said New York Governor Andrew Cuomo in a 2014 press release.

“For generations, the women of New York have led the way in the pursuit of a more equal and fair society, and we are proud to continue to preserve and promote this legacy in Seneca Falls,” Governor Cuomo said.

The center, which is expected to open on the first floor of the Mill in December 2016, will help visitors discover and be inspired by the stories of outstanding American women, past and present. The Mill is also being preserved to honor the workers—primarily women—who worked there until it closed in 1999. The remainder of the Mill renovations are expected to be completed by 2018.
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When Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana in 2005, lives were lost, families uprooted and buildings destroyed.

One such building was the Mental Health Center in Algiers, specializing in children’s psychiatric care. Scheduled to be demolished, this modest structure held a marvelous mosaic mural, nearly 50 feet long, created by Conrad Albrizio, a master of modern art whose work appeared in the Museum of American Art in New York and the San Francisco World’s Fair.

Crafted of multicolored glass, Italian marble and semi-precious stones, the 245-square-foot mosaic depicted life filled with friends, fun and happy fantasy. In spite of the building’s damage, the mosaic appeared to be in perfect condition. It had to be saved.

In 2009, McKay Lodge Fine Arts Conservation restoration experts were hired to remove the mosaic in preparation for storage. To prevent pieces from being dislocated, staff members first applied an adhesive facing before cutting the mosaic into 10 pieces, with bricks from the building’s façade still attached. The pieces were placed on wooden pallets and loaded onto an 18-wheeler for transportation to a storage facility. The mural would remain in storage until a home could be found for it.

In 2013, the Louisiana DAR recognized the importance of placing this treasure in a safe environment where it could be viewed by residents and visitors for years to come. They decided to adopt the relocation of the mural, but encountered their first dilemma: Where to place a 50-foot-long piece of art?

The Louisiana Capitol Park Museum yielded the answer. Though its reception room was rather unremarkable, it did include a blank wall nearly 60 feet long.

The preservation and relocation of the mosaic was achieved through the efforts of the Louisiana Daughters who raised more than $60,000, applied for and received a DAR Special Projects Grant of $10,000, and secured funding from the state of Louisiana.

The mural was removed from storage and shipped to conservators in Ohio where bricks and cement were chipped away and tiles and mortar cleaned. Ten years after Katrina, the Albrizio mural—restored to its former beauty—was unveiled at the Louisiana Capitol Park Museum where it is home to stay.

The NSDAR Special Projects Grants program invites nonprofit organizations to apply for matching-fund grants to support local projects related to historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Visit www.dar.org/grants to learn more.
IF YOU SAID “none of them,” go to the head of the class. The three are examples of many misquoted, misattributed, manipulated or just plain malarkey quotations that circulate widely on the Internet and are often cited to justify a stance or point of view. The bogus attributions lend an air of supposedly unassailable veracity to the statements.

The Founding Fathers are frequently quoted—and misquoted—to justify someone’s personal political or philosophical stance. Aside from outright fabrications or rewrites, accurate quotes may be taken out of context, giving them a totally different meaning, a practice called contextotomy.

For example, John Adams did in fact write, “This would be the best of all possible worlds if there were no religion in it.” However, the context reverses the implied meaning, as shown in the full quotation: “Twenty times, in the course of my late reading, have I been on the point of breaking out, ‘this would be the best of all possible worlds, if there were no religion in it!!!!’ But in this exclamation, I should have been as fanatical as Bryant or Cleverly. Without religion, this world would be something not fit to be mentioned in public company—I mean hell.”

Given their prominence in American history, it’s no surprise that George Washington and Thomas Jefferson are frequently misquoted. In response, the Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association and the Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello maintain web pages debunking the most common fake or unverified sayings.

As for Jefferson, Monticello’s Research Librarian Anna Berkes notes in an essay on the site titled “Top 10 Misconceptions about Jefferson,” that “Everybody wants to claim Jefferson for their political point of view, understandably enough. However, labeling Jefferson as strictly anything is a bit dicey, seeing as how a lot of time has passed and the world has changed quite a bit.”

As with Washington, the faux-Jeffersonian quotations often involve religion, the Second Amendment and the scope and role of government:

- “All tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent.”
- “Christianity is the best friend of government because it deals with the heart.”
- “The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not.”
- “The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government.”

According to Mount Vernon’s “Spurious Quotations” page, the first few words are from Washington’s first State of the Union address, but the rest is fabricated. The actual text from his speech is, “A free people ought not only to be armed, but disciplined; to which end a uniform and well-digested plan is requisite; and their safety and interest require that they should promote such manufactories as tend to render them independent of others for essential, particularly military, supplies.”

Other bogus Washington sayings on the site include:

- “Firearms stand next in importance to the Constitution itself. They are the American people’s liberty, teeth and keystone under independence.”
- “It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible.” (Often attributed to his 1796 farewell address, this misquote resembles a similar, but equally unverified, quote in an 1835 biography.)
- “It’s wonderful what we can do if we’re always doing.” (This appears to be a variation on a sentence in a 1787 letter from Thomas Jefferson to Martha Jefferson: “It is wonderful how much may be done, if we are always doing.”)

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- “It’s wonderful what we can do if we’re always doing.” (This appears to be a variation on a sentence in a 1787 letter from Thomas Jefferson to Martha Jefferson: “It is wonderful how much may be done, if we are always doing.”)
- “The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive how the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.”

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The namesake of Elizabeth Ramsey Chapter, Wheatland, Wyo., was a young woman of courage and resourcefulness. Ramsey visited her father and brothers at Valley Forge where they served with General Washington. During her visit she saw the need for clothing and comfort among the men stationed alongside her family members. Upon her return home, she organized the women of her community into an aid society to knit caps and mittens for the men of the camp.

Ramsey set forth on the journey on a pack horse loaded with two large sacks of clothing and supplies. After traveling mostly at night, she reached Washington’s camp safely. The chapter bearing her name was organized on April 18, 1925. For more information, visit www.wydar.org/eramsey.

The Anna Ingalsbe Lovell Chapter of Batavia, N.Y., was formed in October 2002. Anna was born February 14, 1758, in Shrewsbury, Mass., to Ebenezer and Susannah Robbins Inglesbe. Ebenezer fought for the British in the French and Indian War, but served with the Patriots in the American Revolution. He changed the spelling of his last name to “Ingalsbe” to avoid being caught and tried as a traitor to the British.

Anna married Nathan Lovell on April 5, 1781, in Worcester, Mass. Nathan served as a private in the Revolutionary War from May 1778 to January 1779. She moved with her family to Washington County, N.Y., and then to Cayuga County, N.Y. Nathan died in Sodus, N.Y., in 1813. Anna drew his pension and lived with her daughter and son-in-law until her death in 1853 in the town of Alabama, N.Y., where she is buried in a rural cemetery. In May 2007 the chapter placed a plaque on her stone to honor her.

Thankful Hubbard Chapter, Austin, Texas, honors the ancestor of Florence Anderson Clark, who organized the first DAR chapter in Austin in 1899. Clark requested that the new DAR chapter be named in honor of her great-grandmother, Thankful Hubbard. Thankful’s grandparents were among the founding families of Connecticut, arriving in America in the 1630s and settling in the Hartford, Conn., area.

Married in 1737, she and her husband, Joseph Smith, had four sons: Elnathan, Gideon, Joseph and Gordon, who all served in America’s military forces. Elnathan, Gordon and Joseph served in the Revolution, while Gideon died in Cuba during service to King George III in 1762 during the Seven Years War. Gordon was killed in the Revolution. Elnathan served with the rank of commissary during the Revolution. Joseph was a lieutenant aboard the ship Defense, and served with the Maryland Line as a captain under Colonel Nathaniel Gist.
State Bike Ride Raises Funds, Awareness for Wounded Warriors Project

SUSAN KING REW, Blue Springs DAR Chapter, Blue Springs, Mo., initiated the first “Wheeling for Healing” project for the Missouri State Society DAR on October 3, 2015. The event raised $45,000 for the Wounded Warriors Project.

Rew is an avid cyclist and long-time member of the DAR. At one of her cycling training sessions, she noticed her trainer had a large pickle jar to collect donations for Wounded Warriors Project. As she pedaled through her workout, she realized the impact it could make if all Missouri Daughters helped raise funds for a statewide bike ride event benefitting the project. She contacted the Missouri State Regent, Morgan Lake, whose executive board adopted the bike ride as part of the State Regents Project to Celebrate America! They worked with the State Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Parks and Recreation Department to coordinate a date in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the historic Katy Trail.

Missouri Daughters eagerly accepted the project and recruited riders and sponsors, and sold T-shirts, jerseys and passports that included information about DAR and area history. Donations were received from individuals and company sponsors, and chapters joined together to adopt each of the 27 rest stops along the Katy Trail from Clinton to Saint Charles, Mo. Members provided support, aid and gear to the riders and guests. Following a brief ceremony, riders entered the Trail from all 27 stops and rode as long as they liked, with the DAR stations providing refreshments. More than 300 riders, which included several Wounded Warriors, participated in the event.

— Paula Clyma, Blue Springs DAR Chapter Regent

DAR Museum Clarification:
The New Jersey Room

In the January/February edition we stated that the chandelier in the New Jersey Room was made from “spikes and cannon balls” from the ship Augusta, and “several candelabra” were made from the ship’s wood and metal. Our curators have researched the creation of this room extensively, and while the reclaimed wood was used for the wainscoting and furniture, the central light fixture made by Samuel Yellin does not contain metal salvaged from the ship. Ellen Learning Matlock, one of the women instrumental in the project, published her account of the creation of the New Jersey room writing “little iron was used in [the Augusta’s] construction” and “bars of iron found in the floor of the ship, which it was hoped be incorporated … to form the iron branches of [a] candle standard.” We have found no evidence that specific iron objects, whether spikes, cannon balls, chain or anchor from the ship were remade into items for the room.

— Heidi Campbell-Shoaf, Director/Chief Curator, DAR Museum
The Schuyler-Hamilton House, also known as the Jabez Campfield House, was built in 1760 in Morristown. Dr. Campfield served as a surgeon during the Revolutionary War. The house was purchased in 1923 by the Morristown DAR Chapter, which renamed it in honor of Betsy Schuyler and Alexander Hamilton, who often courted there.
On the manicured lawn of an office park about a mile east of historic Morristown, N.J., sits a Volkswagen-sized boulder. The incongruous rock, called an erratic because of that incongruity, dates back a little further—more than 20,000 years, actually, give or take about 80 millennia—to when the great Wisconsin glacier rolled it south, perhaps all the way from Hudson Bay, and then retreated northward. The southern terminus of the glacier turned out to be in Morristown, and as the ice receded, it left behind a kind of “bathtub ring” that geologists call the terminal moraine. And the boulder was literally one of the last orphans of that retreat.

The glacier also left two of New Jersey’s great rivers, which have their sources nearby, oddly, less than a mile from each other: the Raritan flowing south and the Passaic flowing east. More oddly still, they come together once again when they end their travels in the bays around Staten Island. The gorgeous, hilly, forested land between was full of a “dark metal” the Lenni Lenape (the “first people”) called sacred and the European settlers lusted after. That metal was iron—iron that would someday be mined to make the cannonballs for General George Washington’s Continental Army. Even later, in the 1820s, a canal envisioned by Morristown native George Perrot Macculloch would be dug across the state from Philipsburg to Jersey City, and the transfer of millions of tons of iron and coal along this liquid highway would fuel the area’s growth (although ironically, the canal never came within 10 miles of Morristown).

In the 1700s Morristown consisted of just a series of small, connected farms, along a road running east. There was a beautiful town green that still flourishes—only then it was used to graze sheep. The “skyline” (currently dominated by four actual skyscrapers) then consisted of two churches: one Presbyterian, one Baptist.

Washington at Morristown

During the Revolutionary War, Gen. Washington commandeered those churches to use as hospitals. He chose Morristown as the headquarters of the Continental Army (it’s known as the “military capital of the Revolution”) for much the same reason people choose to live here today: It’s convenient to New York City!

As Benjamin Franklin would later say, New Jersey was a beer keg “tapped at both ends,” its population squeezed in the middle and running out both to New York in the east and Philadelphia in the west. Even today, while Morris County, the county of which Morristown is the seat, is the 10th richest in the United States in terms of household income, it’s a county of commuters.

After surprising, stinging setbacks in New Jersey at Trenton and Princeton, and disappointment at Monmouth, the British, although winning the war on points, began to find the effort a great deal more tedious than they had imagined. They retreated to New York City, which was at least civilized. Washington felt it imperative to keep an eye on the British forces, so he encamped his army twice at Morristown, with its strategic line-of-sight signal fires all the way to Manhattan. (The earthworks his men built, jokingly called “Fort Nonsense” today, were in no way frivolous at the time. On clear days One World Trade Center is easily visible from the site.)

What Washington could not have foreseen, however, was that the British in New York weren’t going anywhere, because the winter of 1779–1780 turned out to be the worst of the
18th century—a winter even worse than the more famous winter spent two years previously at Valley Forge. With its freakishly cold weather the era was called the “Little Ice Age.”

It can be argued that the time Washington’s army spent in Morristown proved to be the severest trial of any faced by an American army in any war since—and just perhaps the most critical days in U.S. history. Had Washington been unable to keep his troops from freezing, starving, succumbing to disease, mutinying, or, most critically, just walking home, all of his future genius as a statesman would’ve been wasted.

And of course, one of the greatest legends of the Revolution has its genesis in the Jockey Hollow encampment (property owned by Colonel Henry Wick and commanded variously by Revolutionary generals “Mad” Anthony Wayne and Arthur St. Clair). When the Pennsylvanians planned their mutiny, they attempted to steal the white horse of Henry Wick’s daughter, Temperance. The horse was then supposedly hidden in Wick’s house. As Park Service employees have pointed out, once a legend grows, it’s almost impossible to discredit. Nevertheless, Temperance Wick was indeed a real person. One of her descendants, Caroline Carmichael McIntosh, was the second wife of President Millard Fillmore. (Another contemporary Morristonian, Anna Tuthill Symmes, was married to William Henry Harrison, the ninth U.S. president.)

After 1780, the war moved north to Canada and south to Georgia, and Morris County saw no further action. But due to that influx of troops, along with the commerce generated by the war, Morristown’s population had swelled temporarily to 13,000. For one shining moment it was the fifth-largest city in America, and held the very center of the world’s stage.

In 1933 two Morristown historic sites—the Jockey Hollow encampment and Colonel Jacob Ford’s beautifully preserved mansion where Washington set up headquarters—were some of the first sites in America to be incorporated into the National Park System. (Along with Fort Nonsense, today they make up Morristown National Historical Park.) A monumental statue by Frederick Roth (of New York’s Central Park fame) was also erected, depicting Washington on horseback. Incidentally, Washington was visited at Ford’s home by Marquis de Lafayette (whom he treated like a son); aide-de-camp Alexander Hamilton (who was courting his future wife, Elizabeth “Betsy” Schuyler, daughter of General Philip Schuyler); and Benedict Arnold (whom Washington later attempted to have tried for treason in Morristown).

In a bit of cosmic mischief, the temperature was minus 10 degrees on the day the parks were dedicated. (One would like to think the great general—the defining figure in Morristown history—had something to do with that.)

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THROUGHOUT NSDAR’S 125-YEAR HISTORY, every President General has faced historic preservation challenges in maintaining our home in our nation’s capital. Each has successfully risen above those challenges to finance restoration needs, often at the expense of other highly visible and worthwhile projects. That is why the time has come to permanently “guard that which is committed to our trust” by establishing a permanently restricted fund to support the preservation and conservation of our National Headquarters’ architecture, the restoration of our historic property and the funding of immediate restoration needs at DAR Constitution Hall.

The Guardian Trust Campaign will support the preservation, restoration and conservation of our historic property and, in turn, will allow NSDAR to focus on projects that go beyond our magnificent marble walls and expand our impact around the world.

Please follow in the footsteps of our Founders and help us preserve their vision for the finest buildings ever owned, managed and run by women. Your gifts will ensure that this investment today will touch countless lives tomorrow and for generations to come.
At the same time the British were occupying Manhattan, a young girl born to a wealthy Episcopal family was growing up there. Called the “most beautiful socialite in New York,” Elizabeth Ann Bayley was a friend of New York’s Gouverneur Morris and Washington himself. In fact, as a teenager she attended his inauguration. She was married soon after to a businessman named Will Seton, had seven children, and by all accounts led a rich, happy life. When Will became consumptive, the family moved to Italy for a supposedly beneficial health effect, but Will died.

Stranded in Europe, Elizabeth embraced French Catholicism. She eventually returned to the United States completely destitute, unrecognizable and, ironically, as an immigrant, the object of prejudice. In Baltimore she founded the American Sisters of Charity, and built the first parochial school system in the United States. She died at age 47 (like her husband, a victim of tuberculosis) while ministering to the poor.

In 1860 the Sisters of Charity of New Jersey moved to their permanent home in Convent Station. Thirty-nine years later Mother Seton’s dream of a college for women was realized, and College of Saint Elizabeth took its place alongside Drew University, and later Fairleigh Dickinson, among the area’s premier learning institutions, as well as being the first Catholic college for women in New Jersey. The site also served as the original home of Seton Hall University, now in South Orange.

In 1975, to coincide with the start of the American Bicentennial celebration, Pope Paul VI canonized Mother Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton—as Saint Elizabeth, America’s first native-born saint. Today, the congregation of the Sisters of Charity numbers more than 800 members and associates. Along with the college, it administers more than 100 hospitals, secondary schools and senior citizen residences in 18 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Canada and El Salvador.

The Willows is a sprawling, dark, Gothic Revival cottage built at the height of the Victorian period to Revere’s flamboyant tastes. In vibrant contrast to its subdued, whitewashed Federal style neighbors, it boasts an interior filled with intricate trompe l’oeil finishes.

Fosterfields, also known as The Willows, is now a living history museum. It contains the house built in 1854 by General Joseph Warren Revere. to the President of Mexico (during which time he saved a Spanish princess from pirates). He also traveled to India and served as an advisor to the British occupation force.

Revere returned to Morristown and oversaw the building of The Willows, designed by nationally known architect Gervase Wheeler. But the Civil War intervened, and he was called up yet again, this time attaining the rank of brigadier general in the Union Army. At the Battle of Chancellorsville, a great Confederate victory, he was court-martialed for pulling his brigades from the field without orders, not to retreat, but to regroup. He came home to live permanently at The Willows, and began quietly lobbying for an appeal. The Revere name still carried considerable weight in Congress, and Joseph Warren was eventually exonerated, and in fact honored for his initiative at Chancellorsville with the heroic title of brevet. He died in 1880.

But that’s only the beginning of the story. The Willows is a sprawling, dark, Gothic Revival cottage built at the height of the Victorian period to Revere’s flamboyant tastes. In vibrant contrast to its subdued, whitewashed Federal style neighbors, it boasts an interior filled with intricate trompe l’oeil finishes.

On Revere’s death it was bought by widower Charles Foster, a New York commodities trader. He enlarged the farm to its present size of almost 200 acres and renamed it Fosterfields. In 1927 Caroline Foster, Charles’ only daughter, inherited Fosterfields and ran the farm herself until her own death at age 102 in 1979. An avid horsewoman—her trademark garb included a gentleman’s skimmer hat and bowtie—Caroline was active in Morris County philanthropy. She bequeathed Fosterfields in its entirety to the Morris County Park Commission. It’s been preserved as a working farm of more than 15 buildings, and is the crown jewel in the county’s vast park system. Today, Fosterfields Living Historic Farm looks just the way it did when Charles and his daughter rode up the drive in 1880.

Jim DelGiudice is a freelance photojournalist and educator in Morristown.

Thanks to the many paintings created during and after the Revolution, we tend to think of the Washingtons as an older couple—he rather dour but ramrod straight in uniform, she in rather plain dresses and enormous caps. George inevitably dominates the scene, as he does in most every painting regardless of the company around him, so it’s easy to imagine Martha retreating into the background.

Nothing could be further from the truth, Fraser writes. Martha was her husband’s soulmate, helpmate, sounding board and inspiration. She was a charming hostess, a devoted and doting mother to her two children from her earlier marriage to Daniel Parke Custis, and, before age and infirmity intervened, as avid a dancer as her husband. And she was a shrewd judge of character, an insightful advisor and often the only person who could raise George out of dark moods.

Fraser’s double biography spends considerable time on George and Martha’s early lives. She was an attractive and rich young widow from an upper-class planter family, who had her pick of many potential suitors. He was from a less-prestigious family, a former soldier frustrated in his quest for a commission in the British Army and also frustrated by several unsuccessful attempts at love.

It’s not clear when he and Martha first met, Fraser notes, but friends on both sides encouraged the relationship as a good match. They were married on January 6, 1759.

Still, though the attraction was definitely there, did they love each other? It’s difficult to say, especially concerning George’s feelings. No passionate love letters exist, and George’s passing references to her early on—“agreeable Partner” and “agreeable Consort for Life”—are circumspect.

As their lives together unfold, Fraser makes the case that their relationship ripened from friendship, affection and mutual respect to the deepest devotion and mutual reliance. He confided in her, seeking her advice and insight to the many thorny issues that arose in war and in peace. In April 1777, Nathanael Greene described their relationship: “Mrs. Washington is excessively fond of the General and he of her. They are very happy with each other.” Excessively fond, Fraser notes, usually described newly married couples still giddy with romance, not couples who’d been married for 18 years.

Certainly Martha’s visits to the general’s headquarters throughout the war helped assuage his loneliness and occasional despair over military challenges. She adopted his military “family”—the aides and others closest to him—and helped make camp life more bearable.

During his long absences from Mount Vernon, she dived into the details of running the complex operation—sometimes butting heads with George’s cousin Lund Washington, who was the nominal caretaker in the general’s absence.

Fraser’s portrayal of Martha often seems more interesting than that of George because his actions are more well-known. But it is fascinating to read of his home life and time with Martha and their family. We see him not only as the meticulous guardian for Martha’s children Patsy and Jacky Custis, but also in a more tender role as surrogate father.

It’s often been noted that uncommonly great men populated the Revolutionary era, but at last the women in their lives are receiving long overdue attention as well. Martha Washington emerges in Fraser’s book as a fitting first lady for our nation—indeed, one sees her standing not behind but alongside her husband as the parents of their country.
The wrong approach also can hinder efforts to engage children in their family history.

“You can’t just hand a kid a book and tell her to read it,” said Mrs. Griffith, who served as registrar of the Cuyahoga Portage DAR Chapter, Akron, Ohio, for almost 25 years. “That is so boring, and will get you absolutely nowhere with kids.”

Instead, the key to successfully engaging kids in their family history is to be intentional—bring it up early and often, and in a fun, interactive way.

Start early.

There’s not a right age to get children interested in their family history. Mrs. Griffith started talking about family history with her great-granddaughter just after they were born. Beller, on the other hand, has engaged children as young as first graders in formal genealogy activities.

When Barbara Griffith’s great-granddaughter, Ellie, was a baby, they often spent time together in front of Mrs. Griffith’s china cabinet. Mrs. Griffith would point out all of the antique teacups and bowls that once belonged to various women in their family. Today, Ellie is 5, and she knows exactly which teacup belonged to whom, as well as many other stories and facts about the ancestors she’s never met.

Having a great-granddaughter who is as engaged in family history as Ellie is may be every genealogist’s dream, but it’s certainly not reality. Just as history teachers struggle to engage their students in understanding the importance of America’s past, genealogists, too, often encounter what seems like indifference toward family history on the part of their young relatives. But it’s probably not a lack of interest at all, said Susan Provost Beller, a Vermont-based genealogist and author of *Roots for Kids: A Genealogy Guide for Young People* (Genealogical Publishing Company, 2010).

“We live in an age where many, if not most, children grow up far away from older relatives and don’t have the opportunity to build a strong relationship with them,” Beller said. “The result is a lack of connectedness to the past—that of their own family and that of the more formal history that they learn in school.”

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genealogy exercises. “I believe that the earlier children can develop the awareness that they and their family have a history and are part of the larger history that we read about in books, the better it is for them,” she said.

No matter the age of the child, your efforts to engage them do have to be age-appropriate. When you’re talking about young kids, “this early introduction is about stories, their own and those of their parents and grandparents,” Beller said.

Tell stories. Mrs. Griffith’s family members lovingly poke fun at her story-telling proclivities, but it doesn’t bother her, because she knows telling stories is an effective way to share interesting details and pique young ones’ curiosity about their ancestors. “It’s something my great-grandmother did with me, so I began the tradition when my grandsons were young,” she said. “I’d be driving somewhere, and I’d just start talking about our family. Whether it was good or bad, I wanted them to know.”

While some people may want to hide the fact that they had black sheep in their family, Mrs. Griffith said those types of stories can end up being more intriguing to children. “Those were the stories that actually kept them interested,” she said. “It also helps to show that their world and the people in it are not perfect.”

Make it about them. Ellie loves tea parties and the color purple, and so did Mrs. Griffith’s great-grandmother. “When we’re playing together, I always try to point out things that she does or that she likes and that her ancestors also liked,” she said.

Whenever you introduce genealogy to a child, make sure that introduction is relevant not just to their age, but also to their lives. “Start with now and work back from there,” Beller said. “Start with them and their place in the long line that preceded them. Start with what things in their lives they would like to remember when they look back later in life.”

Use props. Beller finds that she can often engage study their family history by exploring favorite family foods. Mrs. Griffith used an 11” x 17” map of the 13 Colonies to show her grandsons where their ancestors were born and lived and how they moved there. Dolls, puzzles, picture books and a homemade family tree have helped pique her great-granddaughter’s interest in her family’s past. And when Ellie’s a little older, Mrs. Griffith plans to give her the opportunity to use that tea set she has admired since she was a baby.

Don’t say the g-word. Genealogy is a cumbersome word that can be intimidating to children. In fact, Beller rarely uses it in her workshops. “I don’t even mention genealogy until I have worked with students on the concept of their own role in history,” she said. “If they don’t develop the sense that they are part of history, one can’t expect them to be interested in nameless others who have no relevance to their own lives.”

Don’t give up. Just as tracing your family’s history was a journey, so is inspiring young ones to care about theirs. “Just keep at it,” Mrs. Griffith said. “You may think they’re not listening, but they are. You may think they don’t care, but they do.”

Children of the American Revolution

Need a boost in your efforts to engage your young relatives in their family history?

Consider getting them involved in the Children of the American Revolution, a lineage society composed of boys and girls under the age of 22, who are descended from Patriots. Promoting heritage is one of the key tenets of the organization, with chapters often sponsoring fun family history-related activities. For more information, visit www.nscar.org.
Elizabeth accompanied her husband when he served as U.S. Minister to France, where her sophistication and ease with European society endeared her to the French. She also played an instrumental role in rescuing the wife of Marquis de Lafayette from the guillotine during the closing days of the Reign of Terror.

Serving as first lady from 1817–1825, she played a role in the “Era of Good Feelings” and assisted with the substantial expansion and redecoration of the White House. Yet Elizabeth holds a somewhat damaged legacy as first lady, with critics accusing her of being aloof and detached. What they didn’t know was that she suffered from severe illnesses during the last two decades of her life. Though very little primary source material exists on Elizabeth—James burned their correspondence after her death in 1830, possibly in a grief-stricken state—she deserves closer attention as an important supporter of her husband during his 40-year career as a diplomat and politician.

Promoting The Era of Good Feelings

Though not as much is known about Elizabeth Kortright Monroe in comparison to her husband, fifth U.S. President James Monroe, their strong and steadfast partnership helped them skillfully navigate life in Europe and at the helm of an expanding nation.

Early Lives

Born in Westmoreland County, Va., on April 28, 1758, Monroe entered the College of William and Mary in 1774. After Lexington and Concord ignited the War for Independence, the 18-year-old Monroe joined the Continental Army as a lieutenant. At the pivotal Battle of Trenton, on December 26, 1776, he was shot in the chest; the bullet passed into his left shoulder and severed an artery.

He survived his battle wound and was then promoted to captain. Monroe fought in key battles including Harlem Heights, Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth. In 1780, Virginia Governor Thomas Jefferson promoted Monroe to a full colonel in the Virginia militia.

Three years later, Monroe was elected to the Virginia House of
Delegates, representing the state in the Continental Congress sessions from 1783 through 1786. In early 1786, while in the nation’s capital in New York City, Monroe was introduced to Elizabeth Kortright. Born on June 30, 1768, Elizabeth was from a New York family that could trace its background to the Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam that later would become New York City. Elizabeth’s father, Lawrence Kortright, became wealthy as a privateer during the French and Indian War. Although he took no part in the Revolutionary War, Kortright’s sizable fortune from international trade diminished after the war when many former business associates shunned him for his loyalty to the Crown. Nevertheless, the Kortright family was still well off. Exceptionally bright, Elizabeth received a formal education—rare for women during her time—and excelled in playing the pianoforte. James, 10 years older than Elizabeth, was immediately smitten with this pretty, petite, blue-eyed 17-year-old.

After a brief courtship, they married on February 16, 1786, at Trinity Church on Wall Street. They honeymooned on Long Island—at the time a bucolic, heavily forested isle surrounded by Long Island Sound to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the east and south. One of James’ friends commented: “Monroe d’camped for Long Island with the little smiling Venus in his Arms.” (A portrait of Elizabeth that captures the essence of that remark is displayed at their Highland home, which is near Jefferson’s Monticello estate in Charlottesville, Va.)

The newlyweds first lived in a large Manhattan mansion with Elizabeth’s widowed father. (Elizabeth’s mother, Hannah Aspinwall, died in 1777.) As soon as his term as congressman ended, Monroe planned to bring his new bride to Virginia and earn a living as an attorney. By fall 1786, Elizabeth was pregnant and didn’t want to leave her father, but in a letter to Thomas Jefferson, Monroe wrote: “She left her state and her family and became a good Virginian.” As a Continental Army war hero and with close connections to Jefferson, Madison and Washington, Monroe quickly established a thriving law practice.

In April 1787, voters in Fredericksburg elected him to the Virginia Assembly in Richmond. Devoted to his family (baby Eliza was born on December 5, 1786), Monroe returned to his Fredericksburg home as often as possible. After the December 1787 legislative debate over ratification of the Constitution, Monroe voted against ratification, but the Virginia Assembly as a whole voted in favor.

James Madison and Monroe ran against each other in the first U.S. congressional election representing northern Virginia. Though Madison won, the two remained friends. An unfortunate death in Monroe’s extended family created a potential opportunity for him. William Grayson, Monroe’s cousin, was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1788 and served until his sudden death from a heart attack on March 12, 1790. The Virginia legislature voted for Monroe to complete Grayson’s term, and the 32-year old lawyer was sworn in on December 6, 1790.

The U.S. capital was by now located in Philadelphia. From here, Elizabeth would frequently travel approximately 90 miles to New York City to care for her father, who had become ill. By this time, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe were leading a political movement deeply opposed to Federalist policies. These breakaway anti-Federalist politicians were called “Jeffersonian Republicans” and the political body they formed was called the Republican Party. In 1799, the political entity was renamed the Democratic-Republican Party.

**The Monroes in Paris**

Some idealistic individuals such as Jefferson and Monroe believed that the French Revolution would follow the American Revolution paradigm. In this vision, the oppressed French people would overthrow the unpopular Bourbon monarchy and form a democracy. Instead, a rebellion commenced in July 1789 that lasted a decade and resulted in the beheadings of King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette.

In September 1789, Jefferson vacated his post as U.S. Minister to France, and President Washington proposed that a Federalist colleague, Gouverneur Morris, fill the vacant post, even though Morris was stridently pro-British. After his appointment in 1792, Morris continued his ultraconservative rhetoric and publicly denounced the 1793 executions of the French king and queen. By 1794, the insurrectionists gained control of the beleaguered
French government. One of their first actions was to demand the recall of Morris, who had no wish to remain and hurriedly evacuated his post.

Washington then offered the post to James Monroe, who quickly said yes. James, Elizabeth and 7-year-old Eliza landed in France on July 31, 1794. Here they heard the shocking news that three days earlier a coup d’état resulted in the executions of Reign of Terror leaders Maximilien Robespierre, Louis Antoine de Saint-Just and other leaders of the radical clique known as the Jacobin Club.

The French citoyens then formed a broader-based governing body. The French were at first suspicious of the newly arrived U.S. Minister based on their experience with Morris. Unlike the pro-British Federalist, though, Monroe was ardently pro-French, as was his wife. Stylish, beautiful and fluent in French, Elizabeth was quickly embraced by the French public.

Young Eliza was sent to a Parisian finishing school run by Madame Campan, where she was inculcated in aristocratic manners. According to Monroe biographer Harry Ammon (1990): “Unfortunately, this aristocratic polish was accompanied by a large measure of snobbery. Her pupils, including Eliza Monroe, tended to develop exaggerated notions of their own importance, whatever their origins. Eliza, at this time an only child much indulged by her parents, emerged from Mme. Campan’s school a vain young lady who never forgot (and gladly reminded all and sundry) that Hortense de Beauharnais [later the mother of Napoleon III] had been a school friend of hers. Such open snobbery made her highly unpopular with her contemporaries.” Years later when she was married to George Hay, Eliza named her daughter “Hortensia” after her illustrious friend. Unfortunately, Eliza would affect a similar regal attitude when she later substituted for her ailing mother as first lady. In doing so, Eliza engendered enmity toward the Monroes, especially Elizabeth.

A Smooth Diplomatic Move

Under the Monroes, a growing friendship developed between the United States and France. Adored by Parisians, 26-year-old Elizabeth was named La belle Américaine. In 1794, Marie Adrienne Françoise de Noailles, wife of American military general Marquis de Lafayette, was imprisoned in a Paris jail. Awaiting the guillotine, the fate that befell her sister, mother, and grandmother, the French noblewoman had given up hope of being rescued. Adrienne’s uncle, diplomat Emmanuel Marie Louis de Noailles, asked Monroe to intercede.

Fearing that Monroe’s direct intervention in her release would cause an international incident, Elizabeth volunteered to go to the prison where Adrienne was being held.

In his autobiography, James Monroe said he “procured a carriage of his own as soon as he could, had it put in the best order, and his servants dressed in like manner. In this carriage Mrs. Monroe drove directly to the prison in which Madame Lafayette was confined. … Inquiry was made, whose carriage was it? The answer given was that of the American Minister. Who is in it? His wife. What brought her here? To see Madame Lafayette.” When the mobs learned the identity of the visitor, Elizabeth was permitted to proceed.

Her brave visit swayed public opinion. The French Committee of Public Safety released the French noblewoman from prison on January 22, 1795.

An Encore to France

On July 4, 1796, Monroe celebrated the United States’ 20th birthday amid much symbolic fanfare in Paris. But at the celebration, a brawl between opposing American political parties—the Federalists and the anti-Federalist Republicans—embarrassed Washington, who was already displeased with Monroe for being too pro-French. Washington favored strict American neutrality between France and Great Britain. Shortly after news of the riot appeared in American newspapers, Monroe was recalled as minister.

The Monroe family arrived in Philadelphia on June 27, 1797, and left sometime after July 25 for their Albermarle farm, now known as Monroe Hill, on the grounds of the University of Virginia. Jefferson lived nearby, so he and Monroe often visited. By late summer 1797, Monroe reluctantly resumed his legal career, but politics was still foremost on his mind. He ran for and was elected governor of Virginia and served at the state capital in Richmond beginning in December 1799.

In May 1799, Elizabeth gave birth to their son, James Spence Monroe. His life was short: He contracted whooping cough and died on September 28, 1800. The Monroes’ third child, Maria Hester Monroe, was born April 8, 1802. The end of 1802 signaled the conclusion of Monroe’s third year as Virginia governor.

On January 10, 1803, Monroe received a note from President Jefferson urging him to accept an assignment to purchase the port of New Orleans and secure navigation rights to the Mississippi River. Rumors were circulating, later proven to be accurate, that Spain had ceded the vast Louisiana Territory to France. With France continually at war with Great Britain and its European allies, Napoleon required additional cash to continue his conquests across the continent. As timing was critical, Jefferson pleaded with Monroe to immediately sail to France.

The Monroes visited Kortright family members in New York City before
setting out on their ocean journey. Crossing the Atlantic during the winter of 1803 took 29 days and was particularly difficult, with ice storms and squalls rendering all members of the Monroe family seasick. Elizabeth was also suffering from rheumatism, an ailment that would plague her for the rest of her life.

**Diplomatic Deadlock**

The Monroes arrived in Paris in April 1803. American Ambassador to France Robert R. Livingston and Special Envoy Commissioner Monroe found the French ready to sell the entire Louisiana Territory, an offer they instantly accepted. In return for a land area larger than France, Great Britain, Portugal and Spain combined, the United States paid 80 million francs (the equivalent of $15 million in 1803 dollars) for 828,000 square miles. Monroe was also assigned to purchase West Florida, but the Spanish steadfastly refused to sell their Florida territories.

In mid-1803, James Monroe was ordered to report to London, where he expected to be shunned for his widely known anti-British sentiments. Much to his surprise, the British welcomed him and his family. The British also revealed to Monroe their pleasure in knowing that the Louisiana Territory was now out of the control of their archenemy France. However, there were problems festering between America and Great Britain. The most egregious issue was the forced impressments of American citizens into the British Royal Navy.

The cold, smoggy London air adversely affected Elizabeth’s rheumatism, and baby Maria Hester also experienced respiratory trouble. Stymied diplomatically in London in acquiring West Florida from the Spanish, Monroe and his family returned to Paris. On December 2, 1804, the Monroes attended the sumptuously staged coronation of Napoléon I, Empereur de France. A week later, Monroe set off to Spain and arrived in Madrid on January 1, 1805.

After months of fruitless negotiations, Monroe wrote to Secretary of State James Madison that the only way to obtain West Florida from Spain was through military force, an action that Madison said Congress would never approve. Monroe returned to Paris in June 1805. Shortly thereafter, he reluctantly returned to London with family that the United States would take the opposing side in this war that was rapidly spreading across Europe. As a consequence, the navies of both countries were escalating the seizures of American cargo vessels. Monroe tried tirelessly to resolve some of the contentious issues between America and Great Britain, but the resulting 1806 Monroe-Pinkney Treaty did not end the policy of impressing American sailors. President Jefferson rejected the treaty, and in late June 1807, Madison recalled Monroe from his post.

Arriving in Norfolk, Va., Monroe immediately traveled to Washington to meet with Jefferson and Madison. Jefferson offered Monroe the position of governor of the Louisiana Territory, which he declined. His Virginia friends had no other job or task for him. Given this cold-shoulder treatment, Monroe left Washington deeply hurt. Jefferson later wrote to Monroe explaining his actions, but Monroe remained angry with Madison.

George Hay, a prominent Virginia attorney, was a frequent caller at the Monroes’ Highland home. He and Eliza were married in October 1808. On December 7, 1808, Madison easily won election as the nation’s fourth president. At the same time, Monroe had won a seat in the Virginia legislature. In September 1809, James and Elizabeth welcomed their first grandchild, Hortensia Monroe Hay, to the family. Being elected again to the Virginia legislature and the joy of becoming a grandfather, Hortensia Monroe Hay, to the family. Being elected again to the Virginia legislature and the joy of becoming a grandfather did not alleviate Monroe’s anger toward Madison. Whether for political reasons or simply to reunite former colleagues, Jefferson made repeated efforts to rekindle the friendship between the two men, a feat that was accomplished by 1810.
Mounting Health Issues

In January 1811, President Madison appointed Governor John Tyler to a vacant federal judgeship. The Virginia legislature then elected Monroe to complete Tyler’s term as Virginia governor. Two months later, Madison wrote to Monroe urging him to resign and accept the position of U.S. Secretary of State. Within weeks of assuming the new role, Monroe launched verbal attacks against the British and French for seizing American cargo ships. The French agreed to release ships trapped in French ports. However, the British continued to seize American sailors and ships.

Adding to Monroe’s problems at his new post was a family crisis. Elizabeth was experiencing mounting health ailments, which James described as “indisposition.” Ill to the point of incapacitation, Elizabeth asked Eliza to assume some of the social duties required of the wife of the U.S. Secretary of State, but she was ill-suited for the task.

The War of 1812

By 1812, America was divided by political party affiliation. The Democratic-Republican Party held strongholds in the South, the West and in cities with burgeoning immigrant populations, such as New York City, Philadelphia and Baltimore. The Federalists favored continued trade with Great Britain and were adamantly opposed to war; the Democratic-Republicans favored expanding the power and size of the new nation; and the “War Hawks” led by Henry Clay Sr. of Kentucky were pushing for war with Great Britain. After negotiations with the British failed, President Madison went to Congress on April 1, 1812, and obtained a 60-day reinstatement of a complete trade embargo. In quelling rapidly worsening relations with the United States, the British Parliament voted to end the impressments of American sailors on June 23, 1812. It was too little, too late.

Five days earlier, at Madison’s urging, Congress declared war on Great Britain. The United States had a small standing army and navy compared with the British. By spring 1813, British ships were blockading Charleston, New York City and Savannah, as well as the mouth of the Mississippi River that flows into New Orleans. Though the U.S. Navy won several key battles at sea, the American armies, composed mainly of state militias, were almost always routed with catastrophic casualties. Secretary of State Monroe suggested to Secretary of War Brigadier General John Armstrong that he strengthen land and naval forces defending Washington. Armstrong refused, arguing that the threat of a raid on the nation’s capital was only a strategic ruse by the British, and he neglected the defense of Washington.

On August 18, 1814, the British armada landed on Maryland’s southern shore, targeting Washington for invasion. Six days later, the British invaded Washington and torched many government buildings, including the Executive Mansion. Fortunately a massive, overnight thunderstorm with deadly winds disrupted the British marauders. Heavy torrents of rain doused the fires, preventing many buildings from burning to the ground.

Just over two weeks later, the British launched an attack on Baltimore. They met stiff resistance at Fort McHenry. After two days of unrelenting bombardment, the British observed a giant garrison flag being raised over the fort, signifying unyielding defiance by the stalwart Americans.

On September 14, 1814, thwarted in the attack on Baltimore, the British departed. Also on this date, Madison appointed James Monroe to replace the
While James was achieving major success in his presidency, Elizabeth was suffering from progressively worsening illnesses. Now in her 50s, she attempted to fulfill her first lady responsibilities, but could not match the social élan of her celebrated predecessor, Dolley Madison. Whereas Dolley would doff elaborately feathered, turbaned hats and joyously intermingle with constituents, Senators’ wives and foreign diplomats, Elizabeth was more restrained in her dealings with guests in the newly repaired Executive Mansion. Unable to participate in some social functions due to illness, Elizabeth’s absence was often linked to her being aloof and detached.

Eliza added to her mother’s problems when she substituted as first lady. She prohibited politicians or foreign diplomats from attending her 17-year-old sister Maria Hester’s March 9, 1820, wedding to Samuel Lawrence Gouveneur. The New York City-born lawyer was Monroe’s nephew and also served as the president’s private secretary. Eliza’s autocratic actions spoiled Maria Hester’s wedding, the first event of its kind in the White House for a sitting president. Louisa Catherine Johnson Adams, the European-raised American wife of John Quincy Adams, referred to Eliza in her diary as being “so proud and so mean I scarcely ever met such a compound.”

**Final Years**

On New Year’s Day 1825, James and Elizabeth Monroe held their last major event in the White House. Elizabeth’s appearance was described: “Her dress was superb black; neck and arms bare and beautifully formed; her hair in puffs... Though no longer young, she is still a very handsome woman.”

Though no longer young, she is still a very handsome woman.”

After Monroe ended his second term as president, the couple faced financial troubles and were forced to sell their Highland home in Albemarle County and retire to their Oak Hill home in Aldie, Va. On December 29, 1826, Monroe wrote to nephew and son-in-law Samuel L. Gouveneur that Elizabeth “had a convulsion, which was attended with the most painful consequences.” She suffered a seizure, collapsed near an open fireplace, and was burned over much of her body.

Elizabeth lived only a few more years, dying September 23, 1830. James was devastated by the loss of his wife of 44 years. He moved in with daughter Maria Hester Monroe Gouveneur and his husband in New York City. After

At their last major event in the White House, Elizabeth’s appearance was described:

“Her dress was superb black; neck and arms bare and beautifully formed; her hair in puffs... Though no longer young, she is still a very handsome woman.”
Students of African-American women’s history face a daunting task: to form an understanding of the African-American female experience based on an incomplete historical record. For every celebrated black female activist there are multiple others who have been silenced by history. But during their lifetimes, these women were not silent.

“Records prove that black women, despite their absence from conventional histories, were in fact eloquently present,” writes Bert J. Loewenberg and Ruth Bogin, editors of Black Women in 19th-century American Life (The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1976). “Differing in experience from white women, they spoke as blacks. Differing in experience from men who were black, they spoke as women. Differing from one another, they spoke as individuals.”

Sarah Parker Remond was one of these women. Born in June 1826 into a socially conscious entrepreneurial family of free blacks in Salem, Mass., she became an abolitionist lecturer who addressed audiences on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Sarah later settled in Italy, where she earned a medical degree and practiced as a physician.

The Remonds of Salem

Massachusetts abolished slavery in 1783, a move that brought freed slaves to Salem in search of work. In the late 18th century, Salem was one of the nation’s largest cities, as well as a center of abolitionist sentiment, where free blacks made up nearly 2 percent of the population. “By the mid-19th century, Salem was home to an educated, active and successful African-American community,” notes the National Park Service publication “African American Heritage Sites in Salem.”

“The Remonds, a unique free family of 10, were intricately woven into the social and historic fabric not only of Salem but [also] all of New England,” writes Dorothy Porter Wesley in The Remonds of Salem, Massachusetts: A 19th-Century Family Revisited (American Antiquarian Society, 1986). At the head of the family were John and Nancy Lenox Remond, who married in October 1807. John, born on the Caribbean island of Curacao, immigrated to the United States at age 10. Nancy, a cake baker, was a Massachusetts native with a Revolutionary War heritage. According to Wesley, “Her father Cornelius enlisted in the Continental Army on February 6, 1779, and served as a private in Captain
Nathaniel Heath’s company until March 1, 1781, when he was discharged.”

John worked as a barber and hairdresser, as well as caretaker and primary caterer at Salem’s Hamilton Hall, where he also operated a store. (The historic assembly hall designed by Samuel McIntire and named for Alexander Hamilton still stands today.) As the catering business flourished, John expanded into other ventures, becoming a wholesale supplier for shipping vessels. “By the end of 1848, John Remond controlled a diversified entrepreneurial enterprise,” Wesley writes.

Education, entrepreneurship and activism were core values in the Remond home. Sarah and her siblings were exposed to art, music, books, anti-slavery tracts and newspapers. Frequent visits from anti-slavery lecturers including William Lloyd Garrison augmented this education, as did the fugitive slaves who found refuge in the Remonds’ home.

When faced with instances of discrimination, family members acted. For example, the Remonds moved to Newport, R.I., for the sake of their daughters’ education after Sarah and her sister were forbidden from attending a Salem high school because of their race, even though they passed the entrance exam. (The family returned to Salem six years later.)

“It was this background of family social consciousness that provided the impulse for the anti-slavery activities of the second generation of Remonds,” Wesley writes.

A Crusader for Equality

A product of this unique environment, Sarah worked to free others from the boundaries imposed by theirs. “Sarah Remond grew to womanhood in a free society,” writes Bogin in Black Women in 19th-Century American Life. “She required neither protector nor sponsor; she needed but a purpose to enrich her life, and she had one.”

On May 4, 1853, Sarah, her sister Caroline and a black male friend arrived at the Howard Athenaeum in Boston to attend the opera. When they were directed to the segregated balcony instead of the seats for which they had paid, they refused to go. A police officer tried to forcibly remove Sarah, who filed and won a civil suit against the officer and theater manager.

A note from Sarah to Lucy G. Ives, who at the time of the note was the president of the Female Anti-Slavery Society of Salem.

The most well-known anti-slavery activist in the Remond family was not Sarah, but her older brother Charles Lenox Remond, one of the most prominent abolitionist lecturers of his time. Sarah’s public speaking career began in 1856, at age 30, and she soon became one of the American Anti-Slavery Society's most compelling lecturers. After addressing crowds across the Northern states, she was invited on a speaking tour of Britain.

There, she “made a profound impression because of her color and her womanhood,” Loewenberg and Bogin write. Sarah herself was moved by audiences’ responses. “I have been received here as a sister by white women for the first time in my life,” she said.

Her lectures condemned racial discrimination, slavery and the horrific abuse endured by female slaves. In a speech in Liverpool, England, in 1859, Sarah said, “I appeal on behalf of 4 million men, women and children who are chattels in the Southern States of America. Not because they are identical with my race and color, though I am proud of that identity, but because they are men and women.”

Given that the United States was headed toward civil war, and that the British were significant consumers of Southern cotton, grown using slave labor, it was vital to win Britain’s support for the abolitionist cause. “What is most striking about Remond’s speeches is her keen understanding of British complicity with the American institution of slavery through

“I ask you, raise the moral public opinion until its voice reaches the American shores,” Sarah entreated an audience in Manchester, England, on September 17, 1859. “Aid us thus until the shackles of the American slave melt like dew before the morning sun. … I am met on every hand by the cry ‘Cotton! Cotton!’ I cannot stop to speak of cotton while men and women are being brutalized.”

In three years, Sarah delivered more than 40 lectures in England, Scotland and Ireland, while also taking classes at the Bedford College for Women, now part of the University of London. After the Civil War, she began a new chapter of her own by moving to Florence, Italy, to study medicine at Santa Maria Nuova, a hospital dating to the 13th century. She received a medical degree in 1871 and built a successful practice.

On April 25, 1877, Sarah married Lazzaro Pintor, but their relationship appears to have been short-lived. “She was in her 50s when they wed in Florence, and she was on her own in Rome within three years,” writes Marilyn Richardson in “Sarah Parker Remond: An African American Woman in 19th-century Europe,” published on the Wellesley Centers for Women website. Sarah died on December 13, 1894, in London.

**Sharing Her Legacy**

Today this worldly anti-slavery advocate’s story remains relatively unknown, both in her native country and abroad. Two projects in Italy—one recently completed, the other in progress—aim to change that.

Florence, Italy’s Santa Maria Nuova, where Sarah studied and received a medical degree in 1871.

“I appeal on behalf of 4 million men, women and children who are chattels in the Southern States of America. Not because they are identical with my race and color, though I am proud of that identity, but because they are men and women.” — SARAH REMOND, 1859 SPEECH IN ENGLAND

In 2013, a memorial plaque dedicated to Sarah was installed on the wall of Rome’s historic Non-Catholic Cemetery, also known as the Protestant Cemetery. Richardson, former curator of the Museum of African American History in Boston’s Beacon Hill neighborhood, and Francis Mayo, former president of the Salem Athenaeum, led the effort to place the marker.

Marking Sarah’s gravesite was not a straightforward endeavor, because for many years her interment could not be located in the cemetery’s records. Several years ago, cemetery administrators and historians discovered why: Her burial was recorded under the name Sara [sic] Remond Pintor.

Despite the confirmation that Sarah is buried at the Non-Catholic Cemetery, the exact location of her grave is unlikely to be found. “As is common in many older European burial grounds, if there is no fund maintained by family or others for the upkeep of a gravesite, the remains are eventually removed and respectfully, but anonymously, reburied in a designated communal area,” Richardson writes.

The cemetery plaque inspired members of Pax Romana DAR Chapter, based in Rome, to learn more about the activist and physician who made her home in their city. Initially, “I had no idea who she was,” said past Chapter Regent Cara Kavanaugh.

As the chapter learned more about Sarah’s life, members identified strongly with “the connection between a grandfather who fought for freedom in the Revolutionary War and the granddaughter who fought in Europe for freedom for all Americans,” Ms. Kavanaugh said.

During the course of her research, Ms. Kavanaugh began corresponding with Mayo, who showed her a copy of a letter that Sarah wrote to Frederick Douglass. The return address on the letter read Piazza Barberini No. 4. “That’s when I got the idea to place a marker on the building where she lived,” said Ms. Kavanaugh.

She has been in contact with Italy’s cultural ministry and the cultural attaché at the U.S. embassy, who are helping to secure approval for the marker. Progress continues on other fronts. A marble company already agreed to donate the stone for the plaque and to chisel the inscription. “We’re getting closer,” said Ms. Kavanaugh. “We want as many people as possible to know about her.” 🏄‍♀️
Stem Cell Therapy: A Defining Moment for COPD

By Cameron Kennedy | Staff Writer

At 5:39 a.m. on December 7th, 1972, Apollo 17 took a picture from 286,000 miles up revealing the earthline of Africa and West Asia. Although this image would be officially titled "AS17-148-22729," due to its appearance and size, it continues to be known as The Blue Marble. Upon release, its significance was felt immediately. Not only did it mark the first time humanity could see itself at such a scale, but it changed our vision of our universe and place within it.

Recently, a similar discovery was made; a discovery in stem cell therapy that has the capacity to shift the way we see lung disease forever.

Today more than 600 million people suffer from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) worldwide, and that number is expected to rise. As an incurable disease, COPD is often fatal, with treatment options limited to inhalers that work to alleviate symptoms, but fail to promote healing in the lungs themselves.

Recently, the medical community has been turned upside down with the breakthrough of stem cell therapy. One clinic in particular, the Lung Institute (lunginstitute.com) - specializing in treating lung disease - has established itself as a leading figure by publishing the first white paper of its kind. In a field where information of this scope (encompassing 400 patients) has never been seen, this is a remarkable feat.

Where there was once a lack of published work showing the effects of stem cell therapy on COPD, the Lung Institute has broken new ground with its findings. They discovered that within three months of treatment, 84 percent of patients found their quality of life had improved. The average improvement for the group was 35 percent. Additionally, 48 percent of the 25 patients tested for pulmonary function saw an increase of over 10 percent, with an average improvement of 16 percent over their pre-treatment test results.

Stem Cells: The Next Big Thing

Lung disease accounts for the loss of 150,000 lives every year and is the third leading cause of death in the United States.

Specialists using stem cells from the patient’s own body can offer treatment for people suffering from lung diseases like:

- COPD
- Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Emphysema
- Interstitial Lung Disease
- Chronic Bronchitis

With clinics located in Scottsdale, Arizona; Nashville, Tennessee; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Dallas, Texas; and Tampa, Florida, the physicians at the Lung Institute are able to treat patients from anywhere in the United States and around the world.

If you or a loved one suffers from a chronic lung disease, contact the Lung Institute to find out if stem cell treatments are right for you.

Call (855) 618-4694 to find out if you qualify or visit lunginstitute.com/Info
A member of the 4th Recruit Training Battalion scales down a rope "cargo net" on an obstacle course at MCRD Parris Island in August 2011.
4TH RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

WHERE WOMEN LEARN TO BE MARINES

By Randy Gaddo, CWO-4 USMC, Ret.

According to popular lore, Lucy Brewer became the first female U.S. Marine in 1812, conning her way aboard the USS Constitution and fighting in the yardarms for three years before being honorably discharged. How she managed to disguise her gender for that long in the close quarters and male-dominated environment on “Old Ironsides” was never explained and many questions surround the legend. Some say it’s pure fabrication from the pen of an imaginative author.
However, it’s officially documented that Opha Mae (or May) Johnson was the first woman to enlist in the Marines in 1918. In fact, she was the first of more than 300 women to enlist in the Marine Corps Women’s Reserve during World War I.

Since then there have been many different venues for training women to be Marines. However, beginning in 1986, the 4th Recruit Training Battalion (RTB) at Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD), Parris Island, S.C., has been the only place in the world where women go to earn the title of enlisted Marine.

“Female recruit training was consolidated under the Recruit Training Regiment in 1986, and since then female recruit training has been conducted in alignment with male recruit training,” explained Sergeant Major Angela Maness. She took her post in November 2014 as the first woman to be the senior enlisted advisor to the commanding general at Parris Island.

Before that, from 2011 to 2014, Brigadier General Lori Reynolds was the first woman to command the base; she was also the first woman to hold a combat command post in Afghanistan.

“Because all of the women start here at 4th Battalion … we have been very involved in how we can prepare these young Marines to do whatever it is the Corps needs them to do,” Gen. Reynolds said in a 2014 interview.

As early as 1943, historical records show women training at Parris Island, the Corps’ oldest major base, but never under one roof, never with one home. Their existence would ebb and flow with wartime needs.

Theresa “Sue” Sousa entered boot camp at Parris Island in September 1950. “Our training area was actually near where 4th Battalion is today,” she reflected, having toured 4th Battalion when she visited Parris Island in 2013.

Sousa’s boot camp lasted only six weeks. The recruits were part of a deactivated unit from World War II, the 3rd Battalion, reactivated for the Korean War. Training female recruits focused on basic Marine Corps history, traditions, administration and etiquette, not on infantry skills.

Things were much different for Maness when she went through 13 weeks of boot camp in 1987, just a year after what had been the Women’s Recruit Training Command was redesignated as the 4th RTB. By then, women’s training was beginning to more closely mirror men’s training.

Being a mentor and guide to all enlisted male and female Marines is at the top of Maness’s priority list.

“One on the rare occasion that I do have a captive female audience, it is usually on a Crucible [final exercise] hike at 0300 [3 a.m.] Saturday morning,” said the Marine of nearly 30 years. “I ensure that female recruits see me and hear my voice as I call marching cadences.”

The Marine Corps and the 4th Battalion have seen many changes since Maness finished as her platoon’s honor graduate in 1987. In December 2015, the Secretary of Defense, Ashton B. Carter, declared that women would be eligible for all U.S. military jobs, including direct combat roles.
Carter’s decision overrode Marine Corps requests for exceptions in the infantry and armor (tanks, tracked amphibious vehicles, etc.) occupational fields. The Marine recommendations were based on a yearlong study involving an equally mixed-gender battalion of about 700 Marines conducted by specialists at the University of Pittsburgh Neuromuscular Research Laboratory’s “Warrior Human Performance Research Center” and the Marine Corps.

The scientific study quantitatively showed that integration in these fields could adversely impact combat effectiveness. However, marching orders in hand, the Corps will comply. In the short term anyway, Carter’s decision shouldn’t change the way women are trained at Parris Island’s 4th Battalion.

“The Marine Corps routinely reviews its training and will conduct a holistic examination of the impact of the new policy, to include our entry-level basic training programs,” said Marine Corps officials.

Change comes hard to the Marine Corps. Tradition is important; indeed, it’s critical to Marines’ success. Traditions passed from one generation to the next have been the hallmark that keeps Marines, male and female, bound to one another for life; thus the saying, “Once a Marine, always a Marine.”

This strong sense of heritage has made it an uphill struggle for women to break out of their initial administrative roles and move into direct combat support roles and, now, direct combat potential. In the old days, women’s recruit training was more directed at basic military history and traditions and less at infantry skills.

Maness, who served tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, said the changes she’s seen at 4th Battalion were good for the Corps and great for female Marines.

She mentioned the addition of a Well Women’s Clinic for 4th RTB to deal with women’s health issues during boot camp, as well as the addition of a third training company to 4th RTB along with larger-capacity barracks. Women complete the same 70 training days and the same graduation requirements as men. Female drill instructors are authorized to wear the legendary campaign cover, also known as the Smokey Bear hat, just as men do.

“There has also been an increase in creating a challenging ‘combat mindset’ that includes martial arts, pugil sticks and basic warrior training,” she said. This involves putting women through the “Crucible,” a grueling 54-hour final training test; also, all men and women attend a month of additional basic infantry training after boot camp.

Today, women constitute 7 percent of the Corps’ end strength and are an integral part of the Marine Corps. Lucy Brewer and Opha Mae Johnson would be proud.
Inspiring Greatness
The life of Frances Wright, forgotten pioneer of women’s rights

By Lena Anthony

Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton—these names are synonymous with women’s rights. But before them, there was Frances Wright, who is believed to be the first American woman to speak publicly for gender equality when she did so in 1828.

Wright died in 1852, never witnessing the changes she advocated, but she had a lasting legacy nonetheless, serving as an inspiration for those who would go on to transform women’s place in society.

According to Celia Morris, the author of Fanny Wright: Rebel in America (University of Harvard Press, 1984), both Anthony and Stanton, among other notable American feminists, were familiar with Wright’s writings, and Anthony even had a large portrait of Wright in her home. Morris visited Anthony’s home while researching Wright’s life.

“It was terribly exciting to see that,” said Morris in a recent interview with American Spirit. “I pictured her looking at that portrait, asking, ‘How am I doing, Fanny?’”

But America’s most famous feminists differed from Wright in at least one respect. Whereas they were reformers, she was a radical. In fact, to be called a “Fanny Wrightist” in the 1830s was similar to being labeled a Communist in the 1950s, according to Morris.
Like those who followed her, Wright advocated for equal education, birth control, the right to vote, and more rights for married and divorced women. Less popular were her beliefs that the factory system and organized religion were avenues to suppress women.

“Fanny didn’t take moderate positions,” Morris said. “She was temperamentally extreme. It colored everything that she did.”

Roots of Rebellion

Even in her youth, Wright could have been considered a radical. She was born in Scotland in 1795, but by the time she was 3 years old, both of her parents had died. She became separated from her brother, Richard, who went to live with a great-uncle, James Mylne, in Glasgow, and younger sister, Camilla, who was put into foster care.

“By her own account, Fanny came early to distrust the self-indulgence that made that life so sweet,” Morris writes.

In 1806, Wright moved with her aunt to the seaside town of Dawlish, where she was reunited with Camilla. (Richard died in 1809 in a skirmish with the French, while he was on his way to India.) There, she continued to grow impatient and disillusioned with the privileged world around her and its lack of great expectations for women.

“Her disdain for drawing rooms prompted her to pour her energies into becoming a scholar. She learned French and Italian. She read classical literature. She spent years confronting the disciplines of history, philosophy and mathematics.”

– CELIA MORRIS

College. He provided Frances with access to the library at the university and surrounded her with progressive philosophers. She was particularly influenced by the women around her, including Robina Craig Millar, a friend of the Mylne family.

Wright became fascinated by America, and after reading Italian historian Carlo Botta’s highly acclaimed account of the Revolution, she wanted nothing more than to make the journey there.

While Frances and Mylne did share many of the same views, he didn’t necessarily encourage her social activism and unsuccessfully tried to stop her from going to America.

“Fanny wanted to see if life in a republic was as promising as it seemed, but she made her decision for other reasons as well,” Morris writes. “It was one step further in her rejection of the comfortable role that women of her class were expected to play.”

Coming to America

Wright, along with her sister, arrived in New York in September 1818. Immediately, she was impressed by what she saw.

“ Everywhere she looked, Fanny found things to praise,” Morris writes. “She admired the abundance of comfortable private homes. Every working man seemed honest and industrious.”

The sisters settled into a new routine quickly, which included socializing with members of New York society, to whom they were introduced through friends back home. Just five months after arriving, “Altorf,” a play she wrote about the struggle for Swiss independence, was staged at the Park Theatre.

The reviewers, while writing of the play in glowing terms, assumed a man had written it. Morris writes that, against her better judgment, Wright’s closest friends convinced her that she should keep her identity a secret, for propriety’s sake.

The experience also helped fuel a successful writing career. Wright would go on to publish many other works, including Views of Society and Manners in America (1821), which offered an oftentimes-romanticized peek into American issues large and small, from American Indians to women’s fashions. Later she became what is thought of as the first American woman to edit a journal, when she began working on the New Harmony (Ind.) Gazette in 1828.

Her Most Important Relationships

By the time they set sail for London in May 1820, Wright and her sister had met a whole roster of important figures in American society, including President James Monroe and Henry Clay, as well as Joseph Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon, and José Correia de Serra, the ambassador to Portugal and a close friend of Thomas Jefferson.
But for all the connections that America had offered her, Wright would forge her most important relationship upon her return to Europe. In 1821, Wright met Marquis de Lafayette, which, she said in one of her first letters to him, was “one of the earliest and fondest wishes of my youth.”

Wright’s friendship with Lafayette would last the rest of his lifetime and would be marked by skepticism and scandal, as many believed her to be Lafayette’s mistress. Both Wright and Lafayette insisted that it was more like a bond between father and daughter, and indeed some of her letters to him might suggest that.

“My friend, my father, if there be a word more expressive of love and reverence and adoration I would fain use it,” Wright wrote to Lafayette in 1822. “I am only half alive when away from you.”

Wright and her sister followed Lafayette on his 1824–1825 visit to the United States, where she was able to spend time at Monticello with Thomas Jefferson, whom she regarded as her hero, even more so than Lafayette. In Jefferson, Wright saw someone who shared her ideals of equality for all, including slaves. And she listened intently as he and Lafayette discussed the topic at Monticello.

“It was not wholly untrue, but I think that she felt that she was among peers when she was with them,” Morris said. “On one hand, here she was, a very impressive woman, extremely well-educated, articulate and forceful. But on the other hand, she knew how to play up to people like that. She worshipped them, and they would have been very callous if they hadn’t responded.”

What she discovered, though, was that Jefferson was not as eager as she was in her quest to end slavery, and so she took matters into her own hands.

The Community at Nashoba

Shortly after becoming a U.S. citizen in 1825, Wright became one of the first women in America to act publicly against slavery. That same year she purchased a small tract of land outside of present-day Memphis, Tenn., where she set up the Nashoba Community to foster racial harmony. Inspired by Robert Owen’s New Harmony, Ind., utopian community, where Wright spent some time, she hoped Nashoba would be a place to educate and free slaves with no loss to slaveholders. The experiment failed financially after three years.

“She was deeply offended by slavery and tried to do everything she could to address it,” Morris said. “It’s not surprising that her efforts failed because they were so ambitious. But her willingness to take on huge challenges is something that should always be admired.”

Later Life

In 1831, Wright married a French physician, William Phiquepal D’Aurusmont, whom she later divorced. They had one child, Frances Silva D’Aurusmont. Wright became active in the Popular Health Movement between 1830 and 1840, advocating for women health practitioners and more female involvement in health and medicine.

She spent her retirement years living with her daughter. She died in 1852 of complications from a fall on ice, and was buried in the Cincinnati, Ohio, Spring Grove Cemetery.

Though forgotten for a time, her remarkable life has been revived by historians and others fascinated by her activist-before-her-time outlook. Writes Morris, “She was right in saying that later generations would know that she, and not those who attacked her, spoke for a sane and healthy morality.”

“I dare say you marvel sometimes at my independent way of walking through the world just as if nature had made me of your sex instead of poor Eve’s ... I who was thrown in infancy upon the world like a wreck upon the waters have learned, as well to struggle with the elements as any male child of Adam.”

– FRANCES WRIGHT IN A FEBRUARY 11, 1822, LETTER TO THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE
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THE MINUTEMEN of Massachusetts are legendary, but at least one town had a cadre of women who were credited with capturing two possible Loyalist spies in April 1775 as the Revolutionary War flared to life near Boston.

Led by Prudence Cummings (also spelled Cumings) Wright, 30 to 40 women stood guard at the Nehemiah Jewett Bridge over the Nashua River in Pepperell, Mass., after many of the town’s men had marched away to Boston following the battles at Lexington and Concord.

Rumors abounded that British spies or troops would use the road, which led from Canada to Boston, and the women intended to stop or at least impede them.

Like many accounts from the Revolution, the story of Prudence Cummings Wright blends documented facts with local and family traditions. The earliest published version of the story appears in the 1848 book *History of the Town of Groton*.

Originally from Hollis, N.H., Prudence Cummings married David Wright in 1761 and settled in Pepperell. During their marriage, she gave birth to 11 children, two of whom died in childhood. One of them, a son named Liberty, died in infancy on March 11, 1775, barely more than month before the battles at Lexington and Concord.

Stricken with grief, Prudence went home to her parents in Hollis after Liberty died. Though both she and David were Patriots—he was a private in the militia—her brothers Samuel and Thomas Cummings were Loyalists.

According to the article “Prudence Cummings Wright, Patriot Militia Commander, Captures 2 Spies” on the New England Historical Society website, while at her parents’ house, she overheard Samuel talking with a friend, British Army officer Leonard Whiting, about spying for the British.

*History of the Town of Groton* recounts that Prudence went back to Pepperell and, along with her friend Sarah Shattuck, organized a militia composed of townswomen to guard the bridge. The road was often used to travel between Boston and Canada, so it was a prime route for possible British activity.

The women dressed in their husbands’ clothing and armed themselves with pitchforks and a few muskets “for rumors were
rife, that the regulars were approaching, and frightful stories of slaughter flew rapidly from place to place and from house to house,” according to the 1848 history.

Leonard Whiting soon rode up to the bridge. The women stopped him, made him get off his horse and searched him, finding “dispatches concealed in his boots.” They arrested him and turned him over to the Committee of Observation in nearby Groton for further investigation and possibly trial, according to History of the Town of Groton.

Chapter Regent Mary L.P. Shattuck presented two variations of the story to the Prudence Wright DAR Chapter, Pepperell, Mass., in 1899. The versions were compiled from recollections of descendants of Leonard Whiting and Prudence Wright.

According to Mrs. Shattuck, the female militia formed more or less spontaneously as rumors of British spies using the road spread through Pepperell. Realizing the town was unguarded with their men away, the women armed themselves and gathered at the bridge, where they elected Prudence as their captain and Sarah as her deputy.

A few nights after the Lexington and Concord clash, not one but two horsemen rode toward the bridge. According to a descendant of Leonard Whiting, the riders “heard the women’s voices before they came in sight, and the captain’s [Wright’s] voice above the others. One of the horsemen recognized it as that of his sister [Wright], whose fearless, determined spirit he knew full well.”

The two versions of the story differ on whether the brother was Samuel or Thomas Cummings. One tradition holds that it was Thomas who, knowing his sister’s passionate devotion to the cause of liberty, turned around and fled. In 1898, Massachusetts poet Annie V. Cuthbertson described Thomas’ purported reaction in “Turner’s Public Spirit,” a publication in Ayer, Mass.:

Not one further step I ride!
One who rode with Whiting cried
’Tis my sister Prue! Alas,
She would never let me pass
Save when her dead body fell!
I turn back from Pepperell.

Whiting, however, disdained the women’s attempt to stop him and rode on, only to be halted, forced to dismount, searched and arrested.

In the second version related by Mrs. Shattuck, Samuel Cummings and Whiting tried to turn around and ride away when they saw the guard at the bridge. The women grabbed the reins and Whiting drew his pistol, but Samuel stopped him, saying, “I recognize Prude’s voice and she would wade through blood for the rebel cause.”

The pair dismounted and a search turned up incriminating documents. The women turned them over to Dr. Oliver Prescott, a member of the Committee of Safety in Groton. The men were allowed to go free the next day provided they permanently left the Colony.

Regardless of which version is closer to fact, in March 1777 the town voted to pay the women 7 pounds 16 shillings for their heroics. Since women weren’t allowed to be paid for militia service, they were collectively referred to as Leonard Whiting’s Guard.

The incident at Jewett’s Bridge had different repercussions for those involved.

The Cummings brothers, Leonard Whiting and Whiting’s brother Benjamin remained under suspicion because they were Loyalists. In March 1776, they were charged with being “persons suspected of being inimical to the Rights and Liberties of the United Colonies,” but the case was dismissed for lack of evidence.

In June, Thomas Cummings was indicted on a similar charge. He made bail, then he, Samuel Cummings and Benjamin Whiting abandoned their families and left America. Their property was confiscated, and they were banned from ever returning.

Leonard Whiting was imprisoned in 1777–1778 for “being inimical to the Rights and Liberties of the United Colonies.”

After he was freed, he remained in Hollis for a number of years as a respected citizen and tavern owner.

Though the incident created a permanent rift between Samuel Cummings and his sister Prudence, it eventually led to a wedding between Whiting’s daughter, Nancy, and Prescott’s son, Oliver Jr. Both were 12 years old at the time of the incident and met at some point. In 1791 they married and settled in Groton.

Prudence’s second-in-command, Sarah, would indirectly appear again a few years later in Massachusetts history: Her husband, Job, a well-to-do landowner, figured prominently in Shays’ Rebellion in 1786 and 1787. The armed rebellion protested state and local enforcement of tax collections and judgments for debt, and helped spur calls for reform that led to the Constitutional Convention.

David Wright died on May 22, 1819, at the age of 93, and Prudence followed on December 2, 1823, at the age of 84. Because of her role in defending the bridge, she has been designated a Daughter of Liberty and is the namesake of the Prudence Wright DAR Chapter.
The charming coastal town of Edenton, N.C., was the Colony’s first permanent settlement and Colonial capital, as well as a bustling seaport and trans-shipment center in the trade between Great Britain, the Caribbean and the Colonies. Incorporated in 1712 as “The Towne on Queen Anne’s Creek,” it was renamed Edenton in 1722 in honor of Governor Charles Eden. Designated as one of America’s Prettiest Towns by Forbes magazine in 2011, it’s a lovely setting for a number of historically important homes and buildings.

One of these is the Iredell House at 105 East Church Street, built in 1758 and purchased by James Iredell Sr. in 1778. Iredell Sr. was a devoted public figure, serving as a prominent attorney and judge in pre-Revolutionary Edenton, and attorney general for North Carolina during the Revolution. He was appointed as one of the first Supreme Court justices after the war. The home was also the birthplace of his son, James Iredell Jr., who served as governor of North Carolina.

**ADVOCATE FOR LIBERTY**

Born in England in 1751, Iredell embodied an early vision of the American dream. His family had once been well-to-do but became impoverished after the English Civil War, according to Charles Boyette, a historic interpreter with the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. However, they still had enough connections to secure a position for him as an assistant customs agent for the port of Edenton.

Just 17 years old, he arrived in North Carolina in 1768 and took up the post. He soon met prominent landowner, lawyer, future governor and U.S. Senator Samuel Johnston, who became his mentor. Iredell read law under Johnston and was admitted to the bar in 1770. In 1773 he married Johnston’s daughter Hannah and launched his law practice, which prospered.
In 1774, Iredell was named collector for the port, but his position as an agent of the Crown increasingly conflicted with his growing dissatisfaction with the relationship between the Colonies and Great Britain. Like many with Patriot leanings, he nevertheless hoped differences could be worked out without violence.

That year he also wrote an essay, “To the Inhabitants of Great Britain,” that laid out arguments opposing the concept of Parliamentary supremacy over America. The tract established Iredell, at the age of 23, as the most influential political essayist in North Carolina at that time. His treatise “Principles of an American Whig” predates and foreshadows themes and ideas of the Declaration of Independence.

As time went on, however, he despaired of a peaceful settlement and began publishing anonymous pro-liberty essays. In April 1776, Iredell quit his customs post. He was elected a judge in 1778 and in 1779 was appointed attorney general of North Carolina. When the war ended, he returned to his law practice and continued to write essays on liberty and government.

When the Constitution was submitted to the states in 1787, he wrote in support of ratification. Iredell was elected as a delegate to the state convention and quickly took a leading role in pushing for ratification—provided there was a Bill of Rights added as soon as possible.

North Carolina ratified the Constitution in November 1789. Soon afterward, President George Washington appointed him as one of the first Supreme Court justices under Chief Justice John Marshall. In 1790, Supreme Court justices traveled from place to place to hold court. The demands of the job damaged Iredell’s health, and he died at age 48 on October 20, 1799.

EXPANDING THE HOME

The house he and Hannah bought in 1778 was considerably smaller than the structure that stands today. The original home had only two rooms on the ground floor and two rooms...
upstairs. Before he died, Iredell and Hannah were planning to expand the house. She carried through with those plans in 1800 and lived there until her death in 1826.

Their son James Jr. inherited the house, and in 1827 he completed a major renovation and expansion that produced the current L-shaped structure. Like his father, James Jr. was an attorney and judge. He also served as governor of North Carolina, adding further historical significance to the house.

The house is “an excellent combination of Georgian and Federalist architecture, typical of other homes of the era’s upper-middle-class professionals,” Boyette said. Most of the furnishings are in the Regency, Chippendale or Federalist style and are true to the period, though not original to the house. There are a few original pieces including some tables, silver and portraits.

**TAKING A TOUR**

The front door opens into a small entry hall furnished with Chippendale chairs where guests or tradesmen would have waited to be received. A Bible box, containing important papers such as deeds and wills in addition to the Bible, sits on a table in this hall. Today, such important documents would be hidden, but in an era when fires were common, homeowners occasionally “kept them close to the door where they’d be easy to grab in case they had to flee,” Boyette said.

Off the entry hall is a large, elegant parlor furnished with Queen Anne and Chippendale chairs and a Duncan Phyfe sofa. A reproduction harpsichord dominates one part of the room. “This was a sign of wealth and status,” Boyette explained. “It indicated they not only could afford such an expensive instrument, but also were wealthy enough to have the leisure time to play it.”

From the parlor guests would enter the dining room, with its Regency dining table that could seat eight or more diners and an elegant sideboard, both made from solid Caribbean mahogany. There is a set of imported Staffordshire china, and some silver flatware and serving pieces, including a large Sheffield silver urn that could hold food or flowers. “These are not silver plate—they are solid coin silver,” Boyette noted. The pieces not only indicated status but also served as a kind of wealth that was easy to transport, hide if necessary, or sell or pawn for cash in tough times.

After dinner, the men would retire to the study next door for cigars, drinks and conversation. Relatively spartan,
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On December 16, 1773, after the British Parliament enacted the Tea Act of 1773, Patriots in Boston disguised themselves as “Mohawks” and tossed hundreds of tea chests into Boston Harbor. That event quickly became part of the lore of the Revolution, but it was not the only “tea party” protest, nor, in one respect, even the boldest.

The Edenton Tea Party of October 24, 1774, in Edenton, N.C., is much less well-known than Boston’s, but it reigns as one of the earliest instances of women being involved in organized political activity.

That alone was enough to stir amazement—and outrage—on both sides of the Atlantic. But the women of Edenton went a step further than the men of Boston. While the Bostonians hid their identities, the women signed their names to a treasonable document and sent it to King George III.

As in other Colonies after the Tea Act became law, the provincial deputies of North Carolina called for a boycott of all British tea and cloth arriving in the Colony after September 10, 1774. In Edenton, a busy port and the original Colonial capital, a number of women decided to publicly support the boycott and urge others to do so as well.

Penelope Barker, whose husband, Thomas Barker, was the Colony’s appointed agent in London, gathered women from five counties to sign a letter to King George III pledging to resist “taxation without representation.”

“I send it to you [King George III] to show your fair countrywomen, how zealously and faithfully, American ladies follow the laudable example of their husbands, and what opposition your matchless Ministers may expect to receive from a people thus firmly united against them.”

While Patriots applauded the women’s bravery and outspokenness, the letter caused immediate outrage in Great Britain,

Continued on page 48
Consider membership in the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), a volunteer women’s service organization that honors and preserves the legacy of our Patriot ancestors. Nearly 250 years ago, American Patriots fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today.

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Who is eligible for membership?
Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a Patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. DAR volunteers are willing to provide guidance and assistance with your first step into the world of genealogy.

How is Patriot defined?
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Historic Homes

Not only for its sentiments but also for the decidedly “unladylike” intrusion into politics by women.

The British press widely ridiculed the women, and a cartoon printed in the Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser on January 16, 1775, lampooned the event, depicting it as a bizarre tea party. Ironically, the cartoon played a key role in preserving the history of the event.

According to an essay on the North Carolina Historical Markers website, the Edenton Tea Party held a brief notoriety and then was all but forgotten until 1827, when a naval officer from North Carolina found a copy of the cartoon in a shop overseas. He brought it home, and people began trying to reconstruct what had happened.

Though it’s often said the women gathered at the Edenton home of Elizabeth King, her house was too small for such a large group. Instead, they may have met at the Chowan County Courthouse, which was large enough, writes Hugh Howard in his essay on the James Iredell home in Houses of the Founding Fathers (Artisan, 2007). (Read about the Iredell House on page 42.)

Howard also raises the possibility that there might not have been an actual meeting. The resolution doesn’t specifically mention a gathering, but states only that the women had agreed to those actions, he notes.

Regardless, the women of Edenton did sign the paper and send it to England. And Penelope Barker, at least, paid a heavy price for her boldness. Thomas Barker was in London when the letter arrived and was forced to flee to France to avoid arrest. He did not return home until 1778.

The 1820s-era cabin is being restored as an outdoor kitchen.

THE DAR STEPS IN

James Iredell Jr. sold the house in the 1830s to the Johnston family, who owned it up until around the time of the Civil War. It went through several more owners until the late 1940s, when it was being used for storage.

Shortly after being organized in April 1948, Edenton Tea Party DAR Chapter members determined to save the home and bought it with the goal of renovating it. The task was daunting, however, and in 1951, the chapter donated the building to the state, making it one of North Carolina’s earliest historical sites.

The chapter retained rights to use the house on various occasions and still stores records in a small room that is dubbed “the DAR room.” The chapter holds events there, often in collaboration with Historic Edenton.

“They are wonderful allies and very dedicated to preserving and sharing the home with the public,” Boyette said.

Historic Edenton leads tours of the Iredell House and other sites Tuesday through Saturday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For more information, go to www.visitedenton.com or call (800) 775–0111.

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As in most large homes of the time, the kitchen was separate from the main house. Historic Edenton relocated an 1820s-era cabin to the property and is restoring it to permit historical cooking demonstrations. Another small cabin brought to the site is interpreted as a schoolroom to illustrate how the Iredell children might have been educated at home.

Three outbuildings are original to the property. One is a carriage house currently used as a garden shed, while another reportedly served as quarters for the Iredell’s slaves. The slave quarters are undergoing a major renovation and will become part of the interpretation of the site and the lives of its residents. The third, a necessary, or toilet, is also original to the site.

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“I send it to you [King George III] to show your fair countrywomen, how zealously and faithfully, American ladies follow the laudable example of their husbands, and what opposition your matchless Ministers may expect to receive from a people thus firmly united against them.”

The 1820s-era cabin is being restored as an outdoor kitchen.
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