

Americans for Madison.org



Spring/Summer 2015-Hadley Nagel, Editor/ Publisher –To join us or for more information, visit our website at <http://www.americansformadison.org>—©Americans For Madison, 2015

LUCKY GIRL!

Chicago, IL—Five-year-old Charlotte Gallivan from the Chicago area was studying her American presidents. She wrote President Obama to tell him so. The President replied with a very special gift for Charlotte: he sent her a packet, which included a map of the interior of the White House, so that when she becomes President, she will know her way around. On the cover of the plan was a picture of **James Madison**, with whom Charlotte was already acquainted. She was thrilled to immediately recognize the fourth president right away because she had seen his face in library books, where she had been going regularly to familiarize herself with our nation's history.



The Lucky Girl and her books

Take Action
Write to Congress



Orange, VA—One of the nation's leading billionaires Forrest E. Mars, Jr., whose wealth derives from everybody's favorite candy bar, recently donated half a million dollars to restore a unique landmark at James Madison's Montpelier in Orange County, Virginia.

The unique landmark has been a visual feature of Montpelier since 1810 where it was constructed as both a landscape folly and the estate's ice house. Referred to locally as the Temple, the architecturally significant structure is inspired by a portion of the Roman Forum's **Temple of Vesta**. Given its Roman design origins and association with Madison, it has always been viewed as Montpelier's own special shrine to democracy and the "sacred fire of liberty."



Forrest E. Mars, Jr.: "*James Madison is synonymous with America's greatest ideas, the guarantee of liberty and justice for all. Restoring the temple is a way of preserving these ideas.*"

You Are Invited:

Washington, DC—Join in celebrating the Bi-Centennial of James Madison's Presidency.

Alert your Washington, D.C. representatives of your interest in saluting the Bi-Centennial of Madison's Presidency. Visit our site to transmit emails to Congress—

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DO YOU KNOW WHY JUNE 8TH IS A SIGNIFICANT DATE IN THE LIFE OF JAMES MADISON?

It was only shortly after the April 30, 1789 inauguration of George Washington when, on June 8, 1789, James Madison proposed a Bill of Rights to the House of Representatives. It took Congress over three months to agree on a final list that would be put before the states.

High Schools named for James Madison

Brooklyn, NY—On Sunday, November 22, 2015, the local high school here named for James Madison will be fêted by a gathering of its alumni family as it celebrates its 90th anniversary.

There are many high schools across the United States that are named for James Madison but the one in Brooklyn, New York is the alma mater of three U.S. Senators — presidential hopeful **Bernie Sanders** of Vermont, **Chuck Schumer** of New York and former Minnesota Senator **Norm Coleman** — as well as Supreme Court Justice **Ruth Bader Ginsburg**, composer **Carole King**, and Nobel laureate in economics **Robert Solow**.

Constitution Day takes Center Stage on September 17th

The Hague, NL—The annual excitement is beginning to take shape as educational institutions around the U.S. reveal their plans for their formal celebrations of Constitution Day on September 17. Although mandated by Federal legislation adopted in 2005, the actual form of institutional compliance has never been defined.

Thanks to Madison and others who have shared his political philosophy, Constitution Day is not unique to the United States. Scholars have studied his influence in over **700 constitutions globally** and have divided them into **six distinct groupings**.

While the dates that other countries (and IGOs, MGOs, etc.) chose to celebrate their constitutions are invariably closely aligned with their particular history—here in the Netherlands it is December 15—the form that such celebrations take are inevitably quite similar.

Approaches include essay writing or discussions of seemingly archaic language, spelling and/or punctuation. Other schools might act out a signing ceremony with student signers and reading its text as they perform. Consider even just surfing the web on September 17. AFM Advisory Board Member **Ralph Ketcham** is associated with the highly informative site at: <http://www.consource.org>

