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# National First Ladies' Library E-news

NFLL InTouch  
August, 2011

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## Happy Birthday



### Welcome!

Our e-newsletter is another way to keep you connected with the events, exhibits and happenings at the National First Ladies' Library.

## First Ladies in Times of Crisis-New Exhibit



First Ladies featured are: Dolley Madison, Mary Lincoln, Lucretia Garfield, Edith Wilson, Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Kennedy, Barbara Bush and Laura Bush.

## McKinley Opera!

The NFLL research library was pleased this month to welcome **Gabrielle Vehar**, librettist, and writer **Persis Parshall Vehar** who spent a day researching the life of Ida Saxton McKinley for an upcoming opera highlighting William McKinley.



The artists, from Buffalo, NY, last year produced a two act opera titled **Eleanor Roosevelt** which was performed at the Society for New Music Carrier Theater in Syracuse, NY. A copy of that opera is now in the permanent collection in the NFLL research library. The McKinley opera should be ready for performance in the coming year and the

Florence Harding  
August 15, 1860

Rosalynn Carter  
August 18, 1927

Ellen Arthur  
August 30, 1837



*Did you know  
that??*

## First Lady FAQ'S

### Dolley Madison:

After her husband's 1792 death, Mary Payne, (Dolley's mother) briefly opened their home to boarders, including Congressman Aaron Burr of New York. Several years later, Burr introduced the widowed Dolley Todd (Dolley's first husband, James Todd died in a yellow fever epidemic) to Congressman James Madison of Virginia.

She married James Madison at the age of 26 in 1794 at "Harewood" estate, Charleston, WV.

*According to legend, it was at Dolley Madison's funeral that incumbent President Zachary Taylor eulogized her as "First Lady" perhaps thus being the first known use of the title in connection with a president's wife. No record of his eulogy is extant.*

Vehars are hopeful that not only will it be performed in Syracuse , NY, but that there may also be an opportunity for funding and a venue for the opera here in Canton, Ohio. Anyone interested in assisting in bringing this historic opera to Canton may contact Martha Regula at the research center, [regulam@firstladieslibrary.org](mailto:regulam@firstladieslibrary.org).

## Recent Events

### 2011 Scholarship Winners



Caitlin Duckworth, Mary Regula, Molly Craig

### Salute to Women in Uniform



Evelyn Dodich Ruby Gillium Frona Liston Norma McKinney Dona Miller



Louise Maccioli Claudia Westover Carla Petty for Maryann Petty Miriam Wagner

## Lesson Plan of the Month



### On the Brink: The Cuban Missile Crisis

Jackie Kennedy: Law, Politics and Gov't.

One of the most significant events during the Kennedy administration was the Cuban Missile Crisis. This high school lesson plan examines that crisis and the role Jackie

Kennedy played in support of her husband the president.

This and other lesson plans for all age levels are available on our website.

[click here for lesson plan](#)

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