MONROE, Mich. – The One Book, One Community of Monroe County officially kicks off on March 11 at the Monroe County Historical Museum with a guided tour and discussion of the Civil War with Steve Alexander portraying General George Armstrong Custer. Local Monroe band Fiddlesix will also perform a re-enactment of historic 19th century music following the discussion. A full slate of more than 18 One Book, One Community events run through April 4.

One Book, One Community of Monroe County, modeled after a program developed by the American Library Association, promotes the value of reading by recommending a compelling book that links community members in a common conversation through readings, group discussions, programs, and other events.

The featured novel, “March,” tells the story of John March, the absent father in Louisa May Alcott’s classic novel, “Little Women.” The story takes place during the Civil War, while Mr. March serves as a chaplain in the Union Army. Brooks’ novel compels readers to examine the harsh reality of war and, specifically, slavery. This historical novel was chosen, in part, to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

(more)
Books are available for purchase at the Monroe County Community College Bookstore, Book Nook and Books-A-Million.

Major sponsors include Monroe County Community College, The Foundation at MCCC, the Monroe County Library System and the Monroe Publishing Company – Monroe Evening News. Major donors include, Siena Heights University, Eastern Michigan University, Books-A-Million, The MEEMIC Foundation, and the Monroe County Historical Society. Additional donors are The Agora, Dr. and Mrs. David Nixon, Diversity Committee of Monroe County Community College, Monroe County Community College Student Government, Monroe County Convention and Tourism Bureau, Monroe County Historical Museum, The Book Nook, and The Sawyer Homestead. Educational partners include, Airport High School, Meadow Montessori, St. Mary Catholic Central High School, and the Monroe Middle College.

For more information, including ways to participate in and support One Book, One Community of Monroe County, visit www.monroecc.edu/onebook.

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