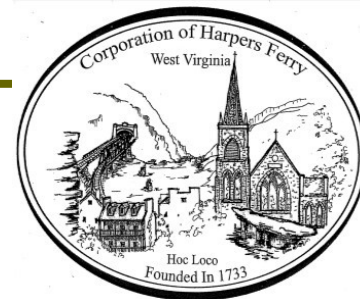


Harpers Ferry, WV Community Newsletter



August 2025

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Message from the Mayor

As we surge through August, the Spring and Summer months are now just a blur in our rear-view mirror. Area schools are now back in session and for the most part vacations have ended. We now begin the slow transition into our winter months that bring a different set of challenges for us to confront. Personally, I will soon begin our annual ritual of re-installing our storm windows, inspecting door and window insulation, reversing our ceiling fans, and switching out our summer clothing. I'm sure that you have your own set of rituals.

I want to briefly mention that at the recent Town Council meeting it was reported that the Town's rate of water loss has declined from recent months. Our assumption is that this decline is directly related to several compromised water distribution lines being replaced. After the meeting, I sent a resolution supporting the Harpers Ferry Job Corps to various Federal and State officials requesting the government's continuation of funding and support. Finally, competitive bids have been issued for paving companies to submit bids to repair several Harpers Ferry streets. I will keep you updated on this initiative.

Please feel free to contact Town Hall or any member of the governing body if you have any questions or need assistance with an issue.

~ Greg Vaughn



Dog Days of Summer



There is a reason why there is a
No Left Turn sign on Church Street.



Community Announcements

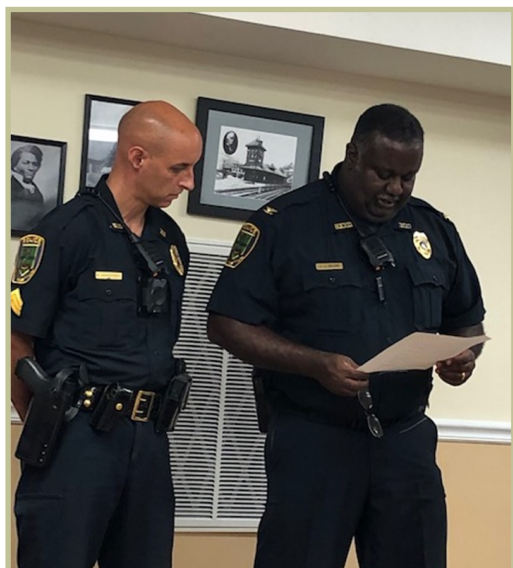
School Buses are Driving Through Again!

Schools in Jefferson County reopened on Monday, August 18th.

Please take some extra time and patience while the buses stop to pick up and return the children from school.



Recognizing Sergeant Michael Armentrout



Sergeant Michael Armentrout was recognized by the Mayor for his outstanding public service during the August Town Council meeting for assisting a recent distressed visitor in lower town. At the meeting, a letter received from the visitor applauding Sgt. Armentrout for going above and beyond was read by Chief Brown. Thank you, Michael, for your dedicated service!

JULY 2025 POLICE REPORT

ACCIDENTS **1**

CALL OUTS **3**

ASSISTS **6**

CITATIONS **142**

Insurance	2
MVI	2
Parking	125
Registration	9
Speeding	4

INCIDENTS **275**

911 Hang-up	3
Alarm	1
Assist Other Departments	6
Be On The Lookout	1
Building Check	8
Citizen Assist	5
Destruction of Property	1
Directed Patrol	58
Disabled Vehicle	3
Disturbance	2
EMS Assist	1
Fireworks	2
Foot Patrol	2
Found Property	2
Missing Person	2
MVA - No Injury	1
Mutual Aid (Law)	1
Out of Car	9
Parking	32
Public Service	8
River Rescue	1
Road Patrol	99
Suspicious Activity	1
Suspicious Person	1
Suspicious Vehicle	1
Traffic Hazard	1
Traffic Stops	20
Trespassing	1
Walk-in	1
Welfare Check	1

Community Updates & Announcements

Reminder!

Harpers Ferry Black Heritage Guided Walking Tour

Learn about the Black community that thrived in Harpers Ferry for a full century after the Civil War through this annual guided walking tour on **Saturday, September 17**, at 10 a.m.

Presenters at tour stops will include current and former Harpers Ferry residents. The tour begins and ends at First Zion Baptist Church, 1030 West Ridge St, Harpers Ferry. An ice cream social at the church property will follow the tour. Proceeds from ticket sales will support the rehabilitation of the historic First Zion Baptist Church as a community and culture center. Tour will be limited to 40 adults. Advance ticket purchase encouraged. Children under 15 receive free admission. Free street parking will be available by the church. Purchase tickets at <https://historicharpersferry.org/event/guidedheritagetour/>. For more information, call 304-535-8235.

The Harpers Ferry-Bolivar Historic Town Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that unites two towns with a vision of inspiring citizens and visitors alike with our history, beauty, diversity and hospitality. The Foundation's initiatives focus on the historic preservation, promotion, and beautification of our towns for the enjoyment and benefit of all. The Foundation seeks to preserve the rich history of Harpers Ferry and Bolivar, learn from its people, and build upon their legacies.

Submitted by The Harpers Ferry-Bolivar Historic Town Foundation

Upcoming Parks & Recreation Events

With fall right around the corner, Parks & Rec is excited to announce the following fun, family friendly upcoming community events. Please mark your calendar with these dates and plan to attend.

Scarecrow Contest—Starts October 1 with judging on Thursday, October 30th.

Art in the Park—October 18th

Halloween Trick or Treat—October 31st

The Great Pumpkin Roll—November 8th

Cookie Walk—December 13th

Holiday Tree Lighting—December 3rd

3rd Annual Film Festival—March, Date TBA

More information forthcoming as events near.



Harpers Ferry Parks & Rec Partners with Town & Trail Alliance

In partnership with Town & Trail Alliance, members of the Commission presented to Town & Trail Alliance signage for the Ridge Street Connector Trail. The signs were created after walking the trail together and identifying areas where signage would be helpful. The signs were made and gifted by Shenandoah Planing Mill in Charles Town.



Pictured above are Holli Van Vliet, (P&R), Jacob Stettes, Chris Craig (T&TA), and Avery Van Vliet, (P&R).

Photo provided by T. Van Vliet

Poetry from The Hills

It's time again for another brief seminar. This time about extended metaphor. Our lecturer is Ted Kooser. In the piece here he sees a metal boat tied up. It's the lightness of the thing that he focuses on. That's something we would all notice too. Happy Summer to you all, George

Bank Fishing for Bluegills

A breeze nudges the empty aluminum boat
as it drifts at the end of its rope,
its lightness wallowing within it like a fat man
who has fished all day and has fallen asleep
and is dreaming of when he was a little boy
and weighed no more than a plastic bucket.
Years of floating alone, fishing far
from the tourist cabins shining like rivets
along the water's edge, have bleached the blue
from his overalls and denim shirt.
His face has the flat gray sheen of a man
with a failing heart, but he is all lightness now,
and tethered only gently to this world.

Quote of the Month

It's not what happens to you, but how you
react to it that matters.

- Epictetus

Reminder....Due to the
Labor Day Holiday,
trash service will be
postponed by one day.
Place your trash out on
Thursday for a pick up
on Friday the week of
September 1st!



VIRTUAL TRIP TO ALASKA



National Geographic Lindblad Expedition: Alaska's Inside Passage

Experience the adventure vicariously!

Discover the highlights of this incredible journey and
enjoy breathtaking photos from an unforgettable cruise
through Alaska's stunning waterways.

September 26, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

The Bolivar Harpers Ferry Library

This is a free program. Walk ins welcome!

Regular Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at the
Town Hall conference
room, 2nd floor, 1000
Washington Street,
Harpers Ferry, WV.

Seating is limited to 35.

Town Council - The 2nd
Monday of every month
at 7pm.

**Historic Landmarks
Commission** - The 2nd
Wednesday of every
month at 7pm.

Planning Commission -
The Tuesday immediately
following the TC meeting
or 3rd Tuesday of every
month at 7pm.

Water Commission - The
3rd Wednesday of every
month at 4:45 pm.

Tree Commission - The 4th
Thursday of every month
at 7pm.

**Parks and Recreation
Commission** - The 3rd
Monday of every month.



Contact Us:

Harpers Ferry
Town Hall
1000 Washington St.
PO Box 217
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
Town Hall

Business Hours:

Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 12:00pm
1:00pm - 3:00 pm
Friday—Closed to the Public

Town Hall Phone:

304-535-2206

Clerk Email:

clerk@harpersferrywv.us

Ordinance Compliance Officer:

khamilton@harpersferrywv.us

Court Date and Deadline Reminders for September

- The next municipal court date is Wednesday, September 10, 2025.
- Agenda item request for the September Town Council meeting are due by 12 noon, Friday, Augusts 29, 2025.
- The September Town Council meeting date is Monday, September 8, 2025.
- September newsletter submissions must be received no later than noon on Wednesday, September 17, 2025. Please email your request to pmorse@harpersferrywv.us.
- The Town has opportunities to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals (3 alternate seats), the Human Rights Committee (2 seats), and the Parking Committee (1 seat). Send your letter of interest to clerk@harpersferrywv.us .

September Office Closure

The Town Hall and Police
Department offices will be
closed on Monday, September
1st in recognition of Labor Day.

The offices will reopen on
Tuesday, September 2nd at
9:00 a.m.



HAPPY LABOR DAY!

Looking forward to September

September 1—Labor Day

September 7—Grandparents Day

September 11—Patriot Day

September 17—Black Heritage
Walking Tour

September 22—First day of
Autum, Rosh Hashana begins at
sunset

September 26—Alaska Tour/BHF
Library



Harpers Ferry Current Administration:

Mayor: Greg Vaughn (gvaughn@harpersferrywv.us)

Recorder: Kevin Carden (kevin.carden@harpersferrywv.us)

Councilmembers:

Chris Craig (ccraig@harpersferrywv.us)

Jesse Z. Melton (jmelton@harpersferrywv.us)

David Simmons (dsimmons@harpersferrywv.us)

Greg 'Storm' DiCostanzo

(stormdicostanzo@harpersferrywv.us)

Christian Pechuekonis (cpechuekonis@harpersferrywv.us)



Visit us on the web at www.harpersferrywv.us, or keep in touch with the Town's Facebook page:

