

Harpers Ferry, WV Community Newsletter



June 2026

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Message from the Mayor

Thirteen years ago, I was first elected to serve as Mayor of Harpers Ferry following a term as a Council member. It was thirteen years ago that my first "Message from the Mayor" first appeared in the 'Harpers Ferry Community Newsletter.' I feel that it is appropriate to share that message again because it is as valid now as it was all those many years ago. I hope that each of you reflect on the message and that you subscribe to the content. Thank you and have a great summer.

"I want you to know how honored and privileged I am to preside over the Town of Harpers Ferry. Our small village is one of the most famous and historically important small towns in the United States. Here is where Lewis and Clarke geared up for their trip west. Later, Union and Confederate generals rode past many of our homes. President Lincoln scanned our rooftops from Maryland Heights. Other remarkable historical events took place on virtually every street in our town.

Since moving to Harpers Ferry, I have increasingly come to appreciate our beautiful town and its rich history, and I hope each of you share my feelings. We are stewards of our town for a short time, and our goal should be to hand it to future generations in better shape than we found it. Our town's government is assisted by the hard work and timeless dedication of a core group of volunteers. I ask each of you to consider volunteer service. Your willingness will be appreciated, and when we all team together, we can make a difference."

~ Greg Vaughn



Harpers Ferry currently has 24 children in residence. Please be mindful of your driving speed throughout town keeping an eye out for their safety.

Thank you.

Community Announcements

Music on the Ridge

On Saturday, June 6th, Parks & Rec held the 16th Music on the Ridge event! This was the 4th year the event was held on the lawn at Mather Training Center. Parks & Rec would like to thank the Corporation of Harpers Ferry for funding this event, the Harpers Ferry National Park Service for the use of the lawn, Welsh Sound for stage and sound, the volunteers who put the event together and to those who attended the event. We were heading for a record-breaking attendance when the unexpected rain interlude flew in just before 6:00 pm. While Section 20's performance was slightly shortened, Souled Out said the show must go on! Once the storm was cleared, Souled Out performed continuously from 6:30–8:00 pm. Thank you to those hardy music lovers who returned after the rain.



TOWN OF HARPERS FERRY
4th of July
CELEBRATION

Join us for a fun afternoon of music, food, and community in celebration of our nation's 250th birthday!

July 4th 2026

Food served 12pm to 3pm
Rohrersville Band plays at 1pm

FREE ENTRY *** Location ***
Harpers Ferry Gazebo
575 Washington Street

The Women's Club of Harpers Ferry will have a grilled hot dog, chips, cookie, & drink meal available to purchase for \$2 (cash or check only). Watermelon and water offered free of charge.

RIVER & ROOTS PRODUCTIONS **CORPORATION OF HARPERS FERRY, W.V.**
Summer Concert Series
- at the -
Gazebo

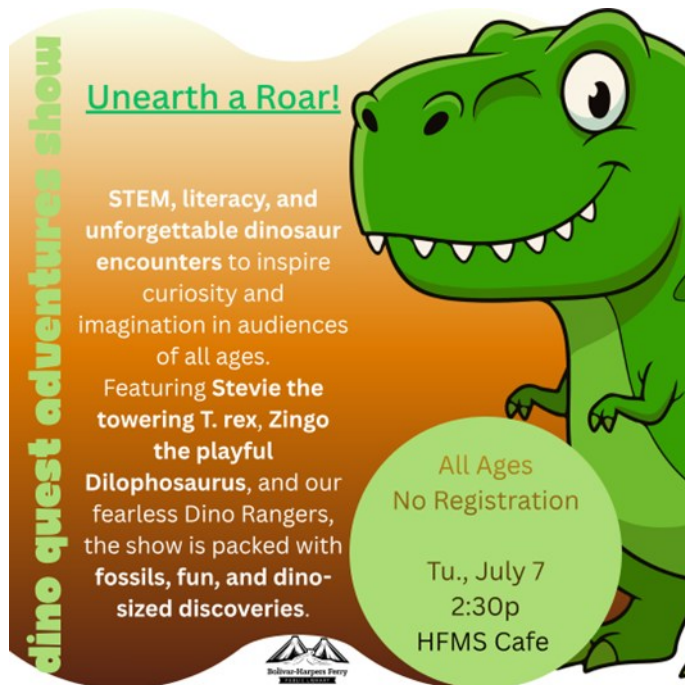
July 12, 19 & 26
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Each week will feature new performances arranged by River and Roots Productions

Bring a chair or blanket and enjoy time with your neighbors.
All are invited!

Community Announcements

Library Happenings



dino quest adventures show

Unearth a Roar!

STEM, literacy, and unforgettable dinosaur encounters to inspire curiosity and imagination in audiences of all ages.

Featuring Stevie the towering T. rex, Zingo the playful Dilophosaurus, and our fearless Dino Rangers, the show is packed with fossils, fun, and dino-sized discoveries.

All Ages
No Registration

Tu., July 7
2:30p
HFMS Cafe

Bolivar-Harpers Ferry
West Virginia

Parks & Rec Fountain Restoration Project

Due to the complexity of refurbishing the antique fountain, the rededication of the Park will not take place on July 4th as planned.

We will announce a new date as we work through the project.

Harpers Ferry Business Licenses

Harpers Ferry Business Licenses expire June 30, 2026. The Town's business license is good for one year based on the Town's fiscal year which is July 1 of the current year through June 30th of the following year.

The application can be found on the Town's web site:

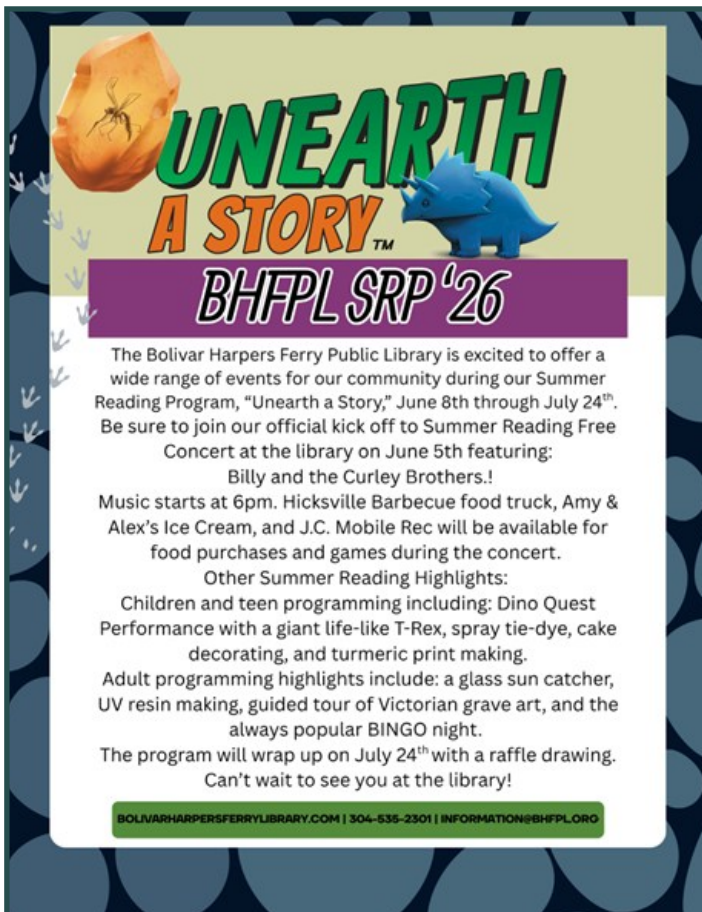
www.harpersferrywv.us

Click on the forms tab at the top of the page. Payment for the license can also be made on line by clicking the payment tab also at the top of the page. Applications can be mailed to the Town Hall at PO Box 217, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425, dropped off at the Town Hall office or be submitted on line to

Pmorse@harpersferrywv.us

Be sure to include all required attachments with the application.

Thank you.



UNEARTH A STORY™

BHFPL SRP '26

The Bolivar Harpers Ferry Public Library is excited to offer a wide range of events for our community during our Summer Reading Program, "Unearth a Story," June 8th through July 24th. Be sure to join our official kick off to Summer Reading Free Concert at the library on June 5th featuring:

Billy and the Curley Brothers.!

Music starts at 6pm. Hicksville Barbecue food truck, Amy & Alex's Ice Cream, and J.C. Mobile Rec will be available for food purchases and games during the concert.

Other Summer Reading Highlights:

Children and teen programming including: Dino Quest Performance with a giant life-like T-Rex, spray tie-dye, cake decorating, and turmeric print making.

Adult programming highlights include: a glass sun catcher, UV resin making, guided tour of Victorian grave art, and the always popular BINGO night.

The program will wrap up on July 24th with a raffle drawing. Can't wait to see you at the library!

BOLIVARHARPERSFERRYLIBRARY.COM | 304-535-2301 | INFORMATION@BHFPL.ORG

Poetry from The Hills

Letter To My Brother

I have gone out to the middle
of my own backyard to sit.
The signalman of night throws

red brushstrokes on the blue sky,
and the green abundance transforms
on the redbud tree to silhouette

like a black and white movie
of a hundred hands of cards
tossed out on a table.

It has gone so quiet in town
I could sit for a slice of pie in the street.
Instead, I am imagining

your house on the shoelace of a mountain
in North Carolina.
What a difference.

I'm under the yellow moon of a streetlight.
I know where our cop is sitting in his car.
You are in the teeth of wildlife.

A river laps at your yard.
You fought a forest fire with a bad heart.
(Forget our sisters. You are a brave man.)

The weather brought hikers this week
with destinations in their eyes.
I have no more destinations

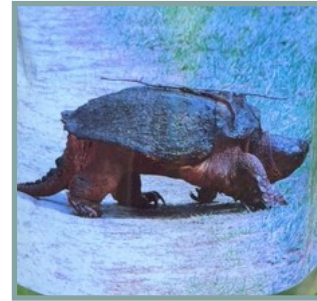
except an open field I make from writing.
I am looking for a few more good words
and a few extraordinary.

There is always something else to say to you.
Let that be the note I stuff
in my shirt pocket to write again.

~ *George Owens*

Turtles are on the Move!

It's egg laying season. Turtles will be leaving the canal in lower town to lay eggs on the banks.



Turtles are also very active on Henry Clay Street.

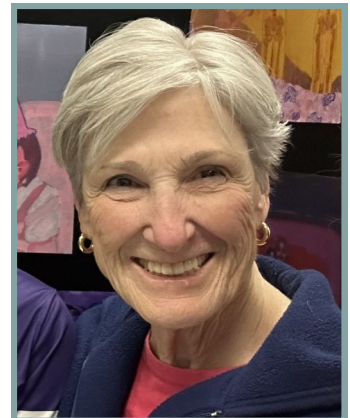
Please be vigilant and give them space.

Thank you!

Remembering Betsy Bainbridge

Lysbeth Grace Bainbridge ("Betsy") of Leesburg, Virginia, died on May 25, 2026, after a full life of love, commitment to justice and peace, and service to others. She leaves behind her beloved husband of nearly 37 years, Steven E. Ramberg, and her daughters, Rebecca G. Cummings and Caroline G. Kelley.

Betsy and Steve built a Victorian house in Harpers Ferry. She became a very active member of the Harpers Ferry community, working on town historical development issues, and served on the Harpers Ferry Town Council from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2017.



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
4th Wednesday of every
month at 5:00 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

Code Enforcement Officer:

Khamilton@harpersferrywv.us

Court Date and Deadline Reminders for July

- The next Municipal court date is Wednesday, July 1, 2026.
- Agenda item requests for the July Town Council meeting are due by noon, Monday, July 6, 2026.
- The July Town Council Meeting date is Monday, July 13, 2026.
- Newsletter Submissions for the month of July must be received no later than noon on Wednesday, July 15, 2026. Please email your request to pmorse@harpersferrywv.us.
- The Town has opportunities to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals (3 alternate seats), and The Human Rights Commission (2 seats). Send your letter of interest to clerk@harpersferrywv.us

Looking forward to July

July 1st ~ Harpers Ferry Business License Applications Due

July 4th ~ Independence Day, Celebration at the Gazebo

July 12th, 19th & 26th Summer Concert Series at the Gazebo



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:

