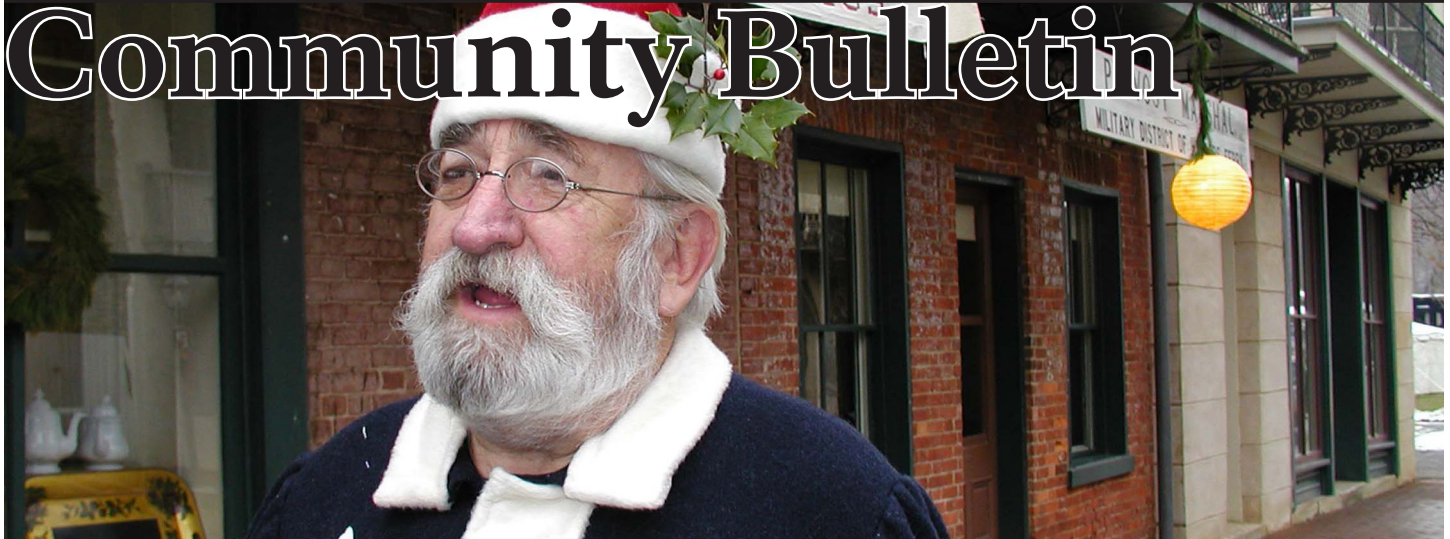




Community Bulletin



Prospects of Peace: A Soldier's Prayer

Harpers Ferry NHP invites the public to attend *Prospects of Peace: A Soldier's Prayer 1864* on December 2-3, 2006. This special program offers a glimpse into our American Civil War past. In 1864, the country was torn apart by war, but families remained hopeful of reunion with their loved ones.

This living history program looks in on the town during its last wartime Yuletide in 1864. Union soldiers attempt to create their own version of Christmas at the front, while living in a town of citizens with questionable loyalties. With prospects of peace still four months away, young Charles Moulton, of the 34th Massachusetts Regiment, stationed in the Provost Marshal's office, muses about happier times at home.

It looks dubious about my coming home for Christmas...
Oh for a silent peek in upon that jovial family circle.

Perhaps for many there is little reason for Christmas cheer. Far from home, soldiers dream of family hearths, while those at home mourn the absence or loss of a loved one. Citizens who recalled years of abundance, now face

hunger and destitution. For others, freedom seemed imminent. The enslaved flooded into Union occupied areas, while the Union moved to consider ordinances to abolish slavery. President Lincoln pressed forward with the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, forever banishing slavery. With Abraham Lincoln re-elected, the nation looked toward a new year, the conclusion of war, prospects of peace, and possibly freedom for 4 million

Saturday, December 2

12 noon "Our Men At Arms" a special tribute to soldiers past and present. Meet at the flagpole near the Information Center.

12-9 pm Historic exhibits open

12:30-2:30 pm "Decking the Halls: Ornaments for the Tree" Make and take a 19th-century style ornament. Experience the new fashionable 1850s parlor decoration--a Christmas Tree. A Civil War era Santa is on hand to greet young and old. At the Lyceum Tent

12:30-1 pm "Mail Call: Packages From Home" Witness local citizens gathering to receive censored mail

from the US Provost Marshal's office. Begins at the Lyceum Tent

1-2 pm "The Perfect Gift: Christmas 1864" What did the people of Harpers Ferry consider as appropriate gifts for this Yuletide? This ranger-guided tour begins at the Lyceum Tent.

2-3 pm "A Cry For Peace. . . On Earth" Soldiers look for disloyal citizens aiding Confederate Partisan Ranger, John Singleton Mosby. A weapons firing demonstration.

3-4 pm "Pulled, Spun and Poured: Decorative Sugar Arts" A 19th-century Yuletide treats demonstration. Meet at Roeder's Confectionery.

3-5 pm "A Grand Military and Citizen's Ball" Join the 34th Massachusetts Officers and their wives as they host a Victorian Dance. Dance instruction provided by the Victorian Dance Ensemble and music by Wheaton's Parlor Orchestra. At the Lyceum Tent

5-6:30 pm "Prospects of Peace: A Soldier's Prayer" A lantern-lit walking tour. Take a compelling journey through the town's turbulent Civil War years. Space is limited. Reserve your

free ticket at the Shenandoah Street Information Center. (304-535-6029) Begins at Lyceum Tent

7:30 pm “How the Yankees Stole Santa Claus” An optical journey through America’s stormy past. A Victorian shadow show for children of all ages. At the Lyceum Tent

Sunday, December 3

11-4 pm Historic exhibits open

12 noon “The Perfect Gift: Christmas 1864” What did the people of Harpers Ferry consider as appropriate gifts for this Yuletide? This ranger-guided tour begins at the Lyceum Tent

12:30-1 pm “Mail Call: Packages From Home” Witness local citizens gathering to receive censored mail from the US Provost Marshal’s office. Begins at the Lyceum Tent

1-2 pm “A Cry For Peace . . . On Earth” Soldiers look for disloyal

citizens aiding Confederate Partisan Ranger, John Singleton Mosby. A weapons firing demonstration.

1-3 pm “Edible Pictures: the Art of Springerle” Join us at the wood stove in Roeder’s 19th-century Confectionery kitchen to bake and decorate this unique German cookie for your Christmas Tree.

2-3 pm “Pulled, Spun and Poured: Decorative Sugar Arts” A 19th-century Yuletide treats demonstration. Meet at Roeder’s Confectionery

2-2:30 pm “Mail Call: Packages From Home” Witness local citizens gathering to receive censored mail from the US Provost Marshal’s office. Begins at the Lyceum Tent

3-4 pm “Ho For Christmas” Carolers, sometimes called ballad mongers, strolled the streets in America tempting pedestrians to purchase sheet music of carols. At the Lyceum Tent


4 pm Special exhibits close.

ATC to Host Holiday Open House

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC) welcomes the public to attend its third annual holiday open house on Saturday, December 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Appalachian Trail Visitor Center, 799 Washington Street.

Join the ATC as they bring awareness to the local community of the conservancy and its mission to preserve and protect the Appalachian Trail. Meet the ATC staff as you enjoy cookies, hot cider, coffee and soda. Take this opportunity to shop for trail-related gifts, guidebooks and maps in our gift shop, which is normally closed on weekends from November through March. Be sure to sign up for the raffle and giveaways while you’re there.

For more information on the ATC log onto www.appalachiantrail.org



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

The history of Harpers Ferry has few parallels in the American drama. It is more than one event, one date, or one individual. It is multi-layered, involving a diverse number of people and events, decisions and actions that influenced the course of our nation’s history. Visit Harpers Ferry and step into history.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
P.O. Box 65
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Visitor Center
304-535-6029

Harpers Ferry Historical Association Bookshop
304-525-6881 or 800-821-5206

Harpers Ferry NHP Home Page
www.nps.gov/hafe/

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Main Street Welcomes New Director

On November 13 Betsy Bainbridge assumed the position of Director for Main Street Harpers Ferry. Prior to moving to Harpers Ferry in 2002, Betsy was a frequent tourist here, enjoying the area’s historical sites and natural beauty. She and her husband, Steven Ramberg, built their house in the historic center in 19th century style using 19th century materials. Betsy returned to Harpers Ferry in November after spending nearly four years in Italy with her husband, Steve, who was employed by NATO. She is looking forward to being an active member of the Harpers Ferry community and working toward the Main Street goals.

Betsy’s past employment was primarily in higher education administration. She has worked with various

stakeholders using technology for better communication among universities, testing agencies, government agencies, banks, and software providers. She was founder and Executive Director of the Postsecondary Electronic Standards Council from 1997 to 2002. In her position on Main Street, Betsy hopes to build on her experience in negotiating solutions for diverse perspectives and to build on the progress of the Main Street project to date.