



# Community Bulletin



## Election Day 1860 and At All Times Ready

On Saturday, October 11, 2008, Harpers Ferry NHP invites the public to attend *Election Day 1860* and on Sunday, October 12, *At All Times Ready: The U. S. Marines*. Stroll through the community, see a militia competition, review the issues dividing the country, enjoy a military parade, and vote for the 1860 candidate of your choice.

On November 6, 1860, the American electorate cast their ballots for the next president of the United States. This momentous political contest resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln and provoked secession of southern states. Civil War soon followed.

This year's event depicts the town on that 1860 Election Day. The Republican candidate, Abraham Lincoln, was not on the ballot in the state of Virginia. Politically, the south was Democratic and hatred for the so-called "Black Republican" was intense. The most influential local politician was Armory Superintendent Alfred M Barbour. Barbour was the local elector for the Northern Democrat, Stephen A. Douglas, and held great sway over his Armory work force and their vote for President.

Each of the presidential candidates' political platforms will be interpreted at the Orientation Tent on the park

green. Displays will illustrate the social, economic, cultural and political divisions that permeated the national scene in the 1860s. Polls for visitors and our living history volunteers will be offered in the Dry Goods Store exhibit.

On Sunday, October 12 the park will present *At All Times Ready: The U.S. Marines*. Join the members of the U.S. Historic Marine Company at the Engine House where abolitionist John Brown was captured. Brown's raid further polarized slavery and anti-slavery factions, including national political parties influencing the 1860 presidential election. This living history program will share diverse viewpoints with park visitors.

### Schedule of Events for October 11

11-12 "A Divided Nation Goes to the Polls: The Election of 1860 and John Brown's Legacy" Ranger guided tour. (Local Reaction Tent)

11:30-12 "The Four Pigs: A Political Fairy Tale" A children's program. (Northern Reaction Tent)

12-1 "Defenders of Freedom" A Grand Militia Muster, Parade & Speeches begins near the bookshop and ends at Arsenal Square.

1:00 Polls and Campaign Headquarters open.

1-2 "At All Times Ready: The U.S. Marines" - Visit where the U.S. Marines stopped John Brown. (Arsenal Square)

1-2 "A Crusade For Freedom: The Northern Perspective" A musical performance by the Indiana Brass Band. (Northern Reaction Tent)

2-3 "A Divided Nation Goes to the Polls: The Election of 1860 & John Brown's Legacy" Ranger guided tour. (Local Reaction Tent)

3-4 Election Day Speeches and Debates at the Alcove.

3:30-4 "The Four Pigs: A Political Fairy Tale" A children's program (Northern Reaction Tent)

4-4:30 "Defenders of Hearth and Home" - State and local militia competition. (Arsenal Square)

4:30 Polls and Campaign Headquarters Close

4:30 "Grand Militia Muster and Parade" (Arsenal Square)

5:00 "The People Have Spoken" Election Results (Dry Goods Store)

# Take a Hike: Tiger on the Trail Leaders Wanted

Harpers Ferry NHP is expanding its youth hike program and needs your help. The Tiger on the Trail Program reconnects students with nature in the hope of creating a lifestyle of environmental conservation as well as promoting physical activity to help fight obesity in today's youth.

Created as a community partnership between Harpers Ferry Middle School, Harpers Ferry Family Medicine and Harpers Ferry NHP, this program was field tested with Harpers Ferry Middle School last year and became quite successful. Because of that success, Harpers Ferry NHP is teaming up with local community leaders to extend the program to all four Jefferson County Middle Schools. By instilling a sense of activism and responsibility in youth now, America's natural and historical treasures will be preserved for future generations.

Due to the expansion of the program, additional hike leaders are needed. As a volunteer you can make a difference




Students from Harpers Ferry Middle School participate in a Tiger on the Trail Hike.

in the lives of our children and take steps to improve your health at the same time.

Hike audiences will consist of students, teachers and chaperones. Leaders can choose the topic of their program (health and fitness, history, environment, safety, etc.) provided the program is appropriate for the age of the students. Hike leaders are requested to lead a minimum of two hikes a semester.

All hike leaders are required to provide current contact information (address, telephone number, emergency contact, etc.) and two character references. Leaders must also sign a volunteer services agreement and shadow an experienced hike leader on a hike before leading their own.

For additional information contact the Education Branch of Harpers Ferry NHP at (304) 535-2908.



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/](http://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.

## Upcoming Events

**October 4 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.**  
**Mr. Lincoln Returns to Harpers Ferry with Jim Getty as Abraham Lincoln (Lower Town)**

**October 12:** Harpers Ferry Historical Association will hold a Tent Sale and host visiting authors on The Green from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**October 18-19 Family Life 1860 in Harpers Ferry: The Frederick Roeder Story** Help us crush, shred, and squeeze apple cider for Roeder's Tavern while hearing about the family's life and times. 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**Oct 25-26 Under Fire: The Battle of Harpers Ferry 1862** Members of the

living history groups Baltimore Light Artillery, Fredericksburg Light Artillery, and the Liberty Rifles portray Confederate artillery soldiers. Programs at 12, 2 and 3 p.m.

**November 1-2 Luxury or Necessity: Victorian Preserved Foods** Join staff and volunteers at Roeder's Confectionery as they demonstrate the differences between tin can and glass preserved foods. 11:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**December 6-7 Prospects of Peace: A Soldier's Prayer** presents a special program focusing on Yuletide 1864 when soldiers attempted to create their own version of Christmas on the battle front. 11:00 to 5:00 p.m.