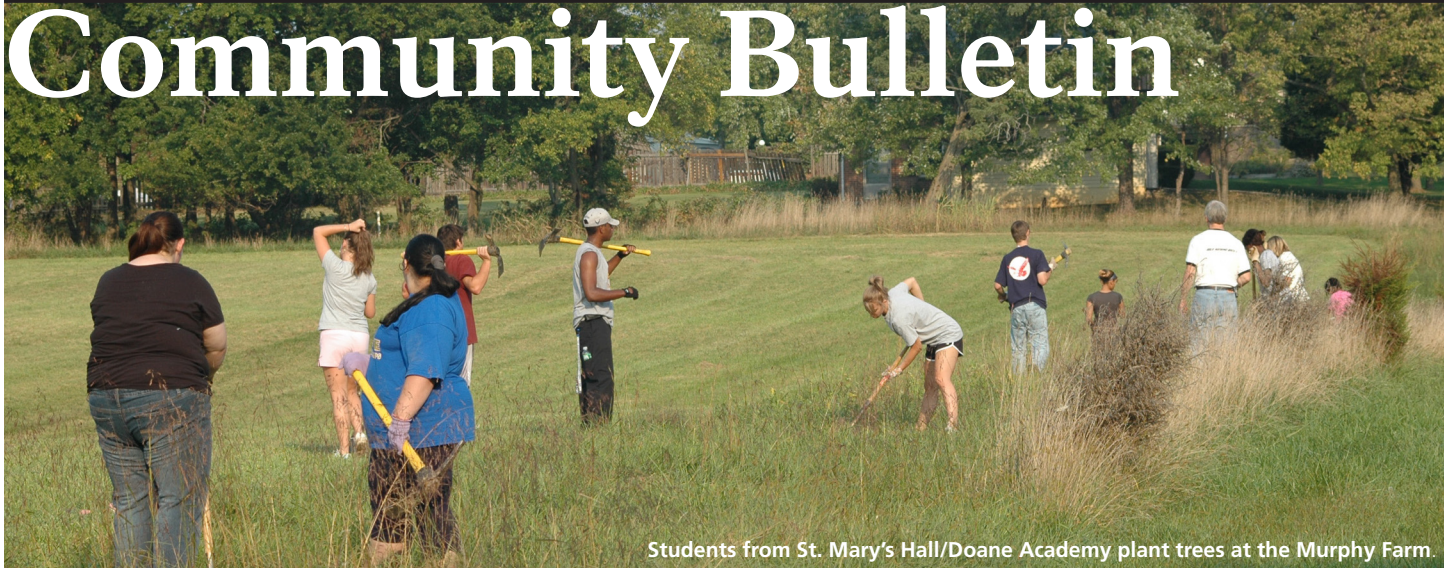




Community Bulletin



Students from St. Mary's Hall/Doane Academy plant trees at the Murphy Farm.

Teamwork in Action

It was hot, humid and buggy--gnats outnumbered the students 25 to 1--at least it seemed that way to the 21 senior classmen from St. Mary's Hall/Doane Academy, Burlington, New Jersey. They arrived at the park early on the morning of September 26 to complete a service project--planting trees on the Murphy Farm and in the Lower Town.

This was the fifth year this academy has completed a service project in the park and, according to the 5 teachers

who accompanied the group, the most difficult one so far.

"We love to come to Harpers Ferry, to convey a sense of history to the students; their actions help preserve history," said Dr. Pamela McCormick, Dean of Upper School Sciences.

Headmaster John McGee said of the students, "Here, working on a project like this, they find out something about themselves as individuals and as a group."

"Good job" and "do you need some help?" were heard from group to group as they dug holes, planted trees and handed out water to each other. Sweat dripped and blisters formed as they worked to move 200 lb. trees along a narrow ledge. Some good-naturedly kidded others about taking too many cookie breaks, prompting them back to work. It was clear, despite the heat, they were committed to the job and refused to quit until the last tree was planted and watered. It was a good lesson--one for others to see--team work in action.



After John Brown: Reacting to the Raid



In October 1859, John Brown, the fiery abolitionist, raided the Harpers Ferry Armory. Although the raid failed, it polarized the nation on the question of slavery. Now, both sides, pro and anti slavery, were willing to resort to violence. Compromise between these factions became impossible, resulting in an “irrepressible conflict.”

On October 13, 2007, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park will present “After John Brown: Reacting to the Raid.” Focusing on the time from the capture of Brown on October 18, 1859 to his execution on December 2, 1859, the program presents Harpers Ferry as a town under martial law, living in fear of other attacks or slave insurrection. Military and civilian living history volunteers and park staff will portray the many reactions of the town’s citizens.

The story of John Brown’s Raid and the nationally significant response to it is an essential part of American history. It hastened the Civil War and the emancipation of African Americans. We still live with the legacy of John Brown’s Raid today. His raid failed, but Brown succeeded in focusing the nation’s attention on the issue of slavery.

For information, please call the park Visitor Center at 304-535-6029.

Upcoming Events

October 20-21 Luxury or Necessity: Victorian Preserved Foods Join the living history staff and volunteers at Roeder’s Confectionery as they demonstrate the differences between tin can and glass preserved foods.

October 27-28 Family Life 1860 in Harpers Ferry: The Frederick Roeder Story Help the Living History staff and volunteers, crush, shred, and squeeze apple cider for Roeder’s Tavern while hearing about the family’s life and times.

November

November 3-4 Under Fire: The Battle of Harpers Ferry 1862 will interpret the battle and surrender of the Union garrison to General Stonewall Jackson. Union encampment and drills.

Mr. Lincoln Returns to Harpers Ferry

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park proudly presents “Mr. Lincoln Returns to Harpers Ferry” on Saturday, October 6, 2007 at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. in the Lower Town District of the park. Our 16th president comes to life as Jim Getty portrays Abraham Lincoln. Getty recounts his homespun stories of youth, recollections of personal and political life and anguishes he suffered.

For years Getty has enlightened and entertained audiences across the county. As a noted Lincoln historian, he delights all ages with his performances and historical detail. Come to see Mr. Lincoln. Laugh along with his special brand of humor and feel the Commander-in-Chief’s own personal torment over the difficult decisions he faced with preserving the Union.

For additional information call the park at 304-535-6029.



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.