

# Bolivar Community Bulletin

Volume 2, Issue 6

www.bolivarwv.us

September 1, 2003

## August Council Meeting

➔ The Council denied approval of Marmion Hill subdivision due to several Council concerns and lack of certain information. Residents reiterated their concerns voiced at July 23 workshop. The plat is to be reworked & resubmitted to Council for review at next month's meeting. ➔ Street Committee – Cheney St. work to be done by Sept. 1: drainage ditches and catch spaces above and below Carter Lane. Town to hire someone to install new town signs. Town to purchase new mower. ➔ Bldg. Committee – Community building to have new locks installed mid-August. ➔ Planning Commission – Special Meeting scheduled for Aug. 20 at 7 pm to address \$5000 grant for replacing Bradford pear trees lining Washington St. .... **For complete Meeting minutes see [www.bolivarwv.us](http://www.bolivarwv.us).** ■

**Next Council meeting:  
Tues., Sept. 2, 7:30 pm**



## Police Report - July:

### Total Calls – 47

- Alarms – 5
- Animal Complaints – 4
- Assault – 2
- Assist DOH – 1
- Civil complaints – 1
- Destruction of property – 2
- Disturbance – 3
- Domestic – 7
- Drug complaint – 1
- Fugitive from justice – 2
- Harassment – 1
- Mental persons – 1
- Motorist assist – 1
- Nuisance complaint – 1
- Phone harassment – 1
- Public intoxication – 1
- Suspicious persons – 3
- Thefts – 4
- Traffic accidents – 3
- Underage drinking – 1
- Unsecured doors – 1
- Welfare check – 1

### Citations – 13

- Speeding – 7
- Vehicular violations – 6

### Total Arrests – 10

- Conspiracy to Transfer Stolen Property – 1
- Domestic battery – 2
- Fugitive from justice – 2
- Public intoxication – 1
- Reporting a false emergency – 1
- Transferring stolen property – 3

**DRIVE SAFELY**

## Planning Commission News



The Bolivar Planning Commission recently approved a building permit, which warrants accolades for its contribution to Bolivar's "downtown." C & R Development, a Bolivar-based business, through a long process and often amended application, finally obtained approval for **Sharp's Overlook**. Sharp's Overlook is a planned three (3) home development located behind the Jackson Rose B&B at the end of Fisher Alley. Each home will have a commanding view of the Shenandoah and surrounding mountain vistas. As part of the development process, C & R worked with both the Planning

Commission and Town Council to address traffic concerns of current homeowners affected by the new development. To this end C & R agreed to place removable barriers at the end of Fisher Alley. Instead, the traffic for Sharp's Overlook will enter and exit via the new design and paving of Fisher Lane, an unusable "paper street," which shall now connect to Jefferson Street. By working with the town and being flexible in their plans, C & R Development has shown that reasonable managed development is possible within Bolivar.

To recognize recent and future achievements in building renovation and commendable streetscape improvements, the Bolivar Planning Commission is investigating the creation of an **award program** for excellence in beautification. Until the program is established the Planning Commission encourages citizens to thank owners of recent praiseworthy renovations. Thank the owners of **Jumpin' Java** for renovating a vacated business, Rob Sharp for **Sharp's Overlook**, and the recent addition and restoration of the **former Frances Tusing House**. Feel free to contact the Planning Commission and add your input into the award process by nominating a property for consideration. (You may call the Town Hall to leave messages for the Planning Commission.)

Y-HZCZ300

► Calling all "junque" collectors! The **Harpers Ferry Woman's Club** is seeking unwanted "treasures" for their **annual Flea Market** in October. Please call Jean Hale (535-2416) or Carole Carter (535-6566) to arrange pick-up of large items, or drop smaller items off at the Clubhouse on Washington St. All profits go directly to charities – there is no overhead whatsoever. ► **"Music in the Mountains"** presents its last performance of the year on **Saturday, September 6** at 6 pm at the Cavalier Heights Park Visitor Center. Harpers Ferry National Park and the Harpers Ferry-Bolivar District Veterans sponsor these free family events. This one, entitled **"Free Country,"** offers music performed by the **US Marine Corps band**. Bring your picnic and lawn chairs and enjoy the evening.



CALENDAR

## In Profile: Jim Albert, Planning Commission Member

This space will feature a new profile of a local town leader each month.

Jim Albert joined the Bolivar Planning Commission as one of its newest members last month. He lives on Washington Street in the big red brick house – a tavern until 1846 – next to the fire hall. Jim was born in Wisconsin, grew up outside of Chicago, and has lived in Bolivar with his wife Sharon for the last four years. They have one grown son.

Jim received his degree in Physics from Purdue University. He

currently works as the US Nuclear Engineering Dept. representative for a Canadian division of an American company that manufactures heavy equipment for nuclear power plants. For the last few years, Jim has partnered with Lisa Phillips in forming the Bolivar History Committee, responsible for digging up interesting tidbits from Bolivar's past. In his free time, Jim enjoys

woodworking, surfing the net, and proving that Christopher Marlowe was indeed Shakespeare.

Jim wanted to participate in the Planning Commission in order "to help make the town a good place to live. Bolivar," he says, "is bigger than Harpers Ferry, but doesn't seem to get the recognition it deserves. I would like to see us improve our traffic and drainage problems, and work to beautify the area."

Special thanks to N.I.C.E. (Neighbors In a Community Environment) for preparing these newsletters for mailing.

## Bolivar Contacts

### Office of the Mayor:

Timothy Collins

### Town Hall Office hours:

**Mon-Wed 8:30-1:30**

Kathy Price, Clerk/Treasurer  
Phone: 535-2476

Clark Draper, Recorder

### Council Members:

Jenny Bruell

Eric Eisenman

John Heafer

Mary Rutherford

Bob Stewart

### Planning Commission:

Elizabeth Blake, President

Mary Haynes, Vice President

Bill Lemley, Zoning

Administrator

Marty Qually, Secretary

Jim Albert

Mary Rutherford, Town  
Council representative



## Speaking of Bolivar...

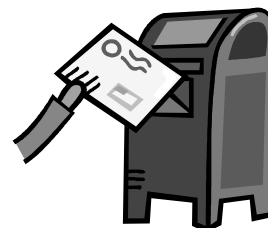
by History Committee Jim Albert and Lisa Phillips, Ph.D.

Within the next year, most of our street addresses will change as a result of upgrades to our 911 emergency response system. Although most of us receive mail at a Post Office Box, this seemed like a perfect time to explore some finer points of our local postal history.

Ben Franklin was the first US Postmaster, but postage stamps were not introduced until 1847. Prior to that time pre-paid mail was either signed or hand stamped by the local agent handling the mail. However, the actual recipient of the mail may have paid for the letter when it arrived. In Bolivar's early days, a list of newly arrived letters was posted in the local newspaper. Recipients went to a central point, such as a tavern, to collect their parcels. In later years, they would go down the hill to the HF Post Office. Early on, mail arrived by wagon over postal roads;

later it was conveyed by the B&O Railroad. According to 1893 newspaper accounts, a service existed that delivered mail to Bolivar from Harpers Ferry. Bolivar even had its own post office (zip code 25426). Legend has it that our mayor was so angry after the Post Office closed that he chose to have his mail sent to Bakerton rather than support the Harpers Ferry station.

When asked why we have limited home mail delivery in Bolivar, the folks at the Harpers Ferry Post Office replied that these limitations were not due to postal requirements, but rather to local preferences. Because Harpers Ferry and Bolivar are considered historical areas, the towns decided that freestanding mailboxes wouldn't be appropriate. This decision also seems logical to



those of us whose houses stand so close to the street - where cars usually park. Although installing door slots or attaching boxes to our houses may seem an option, we are served by rural mail carriers so such deliveries aren't feasible. As a result, many of us collect our mail at a PO Box. House number changes will probably have little effect on our mail delivery, but will affect courier shipments that can only be delivered to physical street addresses. ■

Contact: History Project/PO  
Box 468/Harpers Ferry, WV

**LIBRARY CORNER:** *Summer Razz-ma-tazz participants* may pick up their books anytime after August 18. Call to register your child for any of the following Library programs restarting this fall: **LapBabies** – meets from 10:15-10:45 every Thursday morning beginning September 11. Space is limited. **Story Time** – meets from 11 am until noon every Thursday morning beginning September 11. Space is limited. There is a possibility of a second program in the afternoon if enough interest is indicated (possibly at 2:30 p.m.). **Kids Hour** – meets the second Thursday of each month from 4:15-5:15 pm. This program is for elementary school children only. The first program will be on September 11. Registration required. This includes stories, reading and a craft. **Home School Program** – Morning session meets every first Wednesday of the month from 10:30-11:30 am. This program is for children that are home-schooled and in grades 1 - 3. Space is limited; registration is required. The afternoon session meets every first Wednesday of the month from 1:30-3:30 pm. This program is for children that are home-schooled and in grades 3 and up. Space is limited; registration is required.... **Books Reach Out** offers free local delivery of library materials to homebound residents.... While at the Library, please welcome **Cynthia Staubs, the Library's new Adult Services Librarian**. For more information about these and other programs, please call the Library at 535-2301. ■

*About This Newsletter...* View this newsletter online at [www.bolivarwv.us](http://www.bolivarwv.us). Local non-profit organizations may have a pre-printed one-page flyer included in the newsletter mailing for \$25.00. Have your Community event listed in the monthly Calendar: contact 535-1528 or [jrosebnb@adelphia.net](mailto:jrosebnb@adelphia.net).

Bolivar Town Council

Community Newsletter

P.O. Box 37

Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Standard Bulk Rate

US Postage Paid

Permit #1

Harpers Ferry, WV 25425