

2 December 2025

Town of Irvington Town Council and Staff  
Via email



Dear Mayor Harris, Town Council Members, and Town Staff,

The Steamboat Era Museum Board of Directors appreciates the support the Town has provided since the beginning of our time as a museum. The opportunity to host the Annual Irvington Crab Festival, our biggest fundraiser, on the Town Commons is a significant contribution to our ability to share the history of steamboats in this region. Similarly, your annual sponsorship of the Crab Festival and contribution to our Annual Appeal ensures we can enhance our offerings to the community.

I write to request three things, which I will mention during the December Town Council Meeting's Public Comment as well.

First, we wish to host the Annual Irvington Crab Festival on the third Saturday of September, September 19, 2026. As we have done in the past, we will work closely with our vendors to ensure the tent and dumpster are on the Main Commons for as brief a time as possible. We will reach out in 2026 with sponsorship opportunities, but if you know you'd like to continue sponsoring the mallets, feel free to let us know now and we'll set that sponsorship aside for the Town.

Second, our fiscal year ends on December 31, 2025, so our Annual Appeal is underway. Our understanding is the Town planned to donate to our Annual Appeal. We respectfully request \$3,000 this year. We will be adding a new exhibit, *Amusements on the Bay*, for 2026. As a part of that we hope to host members of the community playing games on the Museum's deck – for example during the Farmers Market – and are working with a resident to write and produce a play. We can provide an invoice for your records once we know the Town's donation amount.

Finally, related to the play, we would like to host the play on our deck, with the audience sitting on the Main Commons. At this point, we are thinking of hosting the play sometime during Memorial Day weekend. If you are open to this community event, we will come back in 2026 with a specific day that weekend.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if there are questions you would like us to address prior to the December Town Council meeting.

Thank you for being a part of our community and our story!

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith Kehlbeck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Keith Kehlbeck  
President