



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: February 8, 2018

Contact: Rachel Nichols at [rachel@heartofthecivilwar.org](mailto:rachel@heartofthecivilwar.org) or (240) 308-1740

Web: <http://www.heartofthecivilwar.org/newcomer-house-volunteers>

**Volunteers Sought for Historic Newcomer House Exhibit Visitor Center at Antietam National Battlefield**

Sharpsburg, MD – The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area seeks volunteers for the 2018 season at the historic Newcomer House, the Heritage Area’s Exhibit and Visitor Center at Antietam National Battlefield.

Volunteers handle daily operations at the house, including orienting visitors to the three-county Heritage Area and providing information about heritage tourism opportunities in the vicinity. No specific knowledge or skills are required, though an interest in Civil War history is encouraged. Volunteers will receive orientation training Saturday afternoon, March 24, along with an optional familiarization (FAM) tour in the spring. Volunteers will also receive mentor training on-site during regular visitor hours.

The Newcomer House is open seasonally: daily June-September, and weekends only in April, May, October and November. Volunteers during the fall have no minimum hour expectation. During the summer season, volunteers are asked to work a minimum of six hours per month. Public programs will take place approximately one weekend per month.

The Newcomer House, located at 18422 Shepherdstown Pike in Keedysville, is one of only two historic homes on the battlefield open to the public. Its location along the Antietam Creek and astride the Boonsboro Pike made the house a center point of thriving mill complex in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Joshua Newcomer owned the property during the Battle of Antietam in September 1862, the bloodiest one-day battle in American history. It has been restored to its Civil War era appearance following the Secretary of Interior’s standards.

A cooperative agreement between the Antietam National Battlefield, the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area allows for programming, management and maintenance of the Newcomer House. It is the official Visitors Center for the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, which encompasses portions of Washington, Frederick and Carroll Counties. Three exhibit rooms explore the major themes of the heritage area: In the Heat of Battle, On the Home Front, and Beyond the Battlefield.

Those interested in volunteering should contact Newcomer House coordinator Rachel Nichols: 240-308-1740, [rachel@heartofthecivilwar.org](mailto:rachel@heartofthecivilwar.org).

**CARROLL COUNTY**  
HAMPSTEAD  
MANCHESTER  
MOUNT AIRY  
NEW WINDSOR  
SYKESVILLE  
TANEYTOWN  
UNION BRIDGE  
WESTMINSTER

**FREDERICK COUNTY**  
BRUNSWICK  
BURKITTSVILLE  
EMMITSBURG  
FREDERICK  
MIDDLETOWN  
MOUNT AIRY  
MYERSVILLE  
NEW MARKET  
ROSEMONT  
THURMONT  
WOODSBORO

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
BOONSBORO  
CLEAR SPRING  
FUNKSTOWN  
HAGERSTOWN  
HANCOCK  
KEEDYSVILLE  
SHARPSBURG  
SMITHSBURG  
WILLIAMSPORT

151 S. EAST STREET  
FREDERICK, MD 21701  
INFO@HEARTOFTHECIVILWAR.ORG  
HEARTOFTHECIVILWAR.ORG  
301-600-4031  
800-999-3613 TOLL FREE