

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area Launches 2018 Season of Newcomer House Porch Programs

Keedysville, MD- The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA) will kick off its 2018 season of Newcomer House Porch Programs on Saturday, April 21. Ranger Angie Crenshaw from the new Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park and Ranger Brian Dankmeyer from Monocacy National Battlefield will be presenting on the subject of navigation by the stars. Historic examples of navigating using the night sky will be discussed and attendees will get to view the sun with a solar lens! Presentations will be held at the Newcomer House at 11:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. This program is being held in conjunction with Star Parties by the Tri-State Astronomers, who will hold programs April 20 & 21 from sunset to 11:00 p.m. near the Antietam Visitor Center. See

www.tristateastronomers.org for more.

Porch Programs take place at the Newcomer House each month during the open season (April-December). The May Newcomer House Porch Program will be Civil War photography demonstrations by John Milleker on May 12 and 13. Visitors will have the opportunity to have a tintype of their own made to take home!

The Newcomer House is the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area's Exhibit & Visitor Center, located on Antietam National Battlefield at 18422 Shepherdstown Pike in Keedysville, Maryland. Volunteer docents staff the Newcomer House from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM to share knowledge about the Newcomer House and offer assistance to visitors to the three county Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. The house is open on weekends only in April, May, October, and November, and is open daily from June to September.

For more information, contact Newcomer House Manager Rachel Nichols at rachel@heartofthecivilwar.org or (240) 308-1740.

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