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For Immediate Release:

New Civil War Trails Marker for Battle of Monterey Pass To Be Unveiled Sunday August 30th at Pen Mar Park; New Marker Sponsored by CVB and Organized by One Mountain Foundation

(CASCADE, Md.) – A new Maryland Civil War Trails marker for the Battle of Monterey Pass will be officially unveiled at a ceremony this Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at Pen Mar Park as part of the annual Everybody's Day celebration.

The marker was paid for by the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and was made possible by the efforts of the One Mountain Foundation. The Washington County Parks and Recreation Department also assisted with site selection at Pen Mar Park.

Tom Riford, President and CEO of the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau, will serve as Master of Ceremonies for Sunday's unveiling. Gary Muller and Karen Justice of the One Mountain Foundation will also participate; as well as John Miller, renown author and historian, and chairman and founder of the Monterey Pass Battlefield Association.

"The Battle of Monterey Pass is a story which hasn't been fully told, or appreciated," said Tom Riford the President of the Hagerstown-Washington County CVB. "A new marker on the Pennsylvania side of the line was unveiled and dedicated recently, and it's fitting that a marker be unveiled on the Maryland side of the line. We hope that people coming to Pen Mar Park understand what happened here during the Retreat from Gettysburg, and realize the historic importance of this site." The Battle of Monterey Pass caused more than 1,500 casualties, and an almost equal number of prisoners taken. The battle began ten days of conflict in Washington County, Maryland.

The Battle of Monterey Pass started on the evening of July 4, 1863, during the armies' retreat from Gettysburg. A Confederate wagon train of Lt. Gen. Richard S. Ewell's Second Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, withdrew after the Battle of Gettysburg, and Union cavalry under Brig. Gen. H. Judson Kilpatrick attacked the retreating Confederate column. After a lengthy delay in which a small detachment of Maryland cavalymen delayed Kilpatrick's division, the Union cavalymen captured numerous Confederate prisoners and destroyed hundreds of wagons. The battle is known as the only military action that occurred on both sides of the Mason-Dixon Line.

The marker was installed in Washington County in June, as part of the Civil War Trails program, and is one of 800 interpretive markers at Civil War sites in Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee, West Virginia, and North Carolina. This new marker is one of 20 Civil War Trails markers in Washington County, and the annual \$200 maintenance fee for each is annually paid for by the Convention and Visitors Bureau. The marker's design and installation cost the CVB over \$2,600.

The Maryland Civil War Trails program provides four driving tours covering Lee's invasion of Maryland, Lee's invasion of the North and retreat, the escape of John Wilkes Booth into Virginia, and the divisions in Baltimore between Union and Confederate sympathizers. The new Battle of Monterey Pass marker is part of the tour covering Lee's northern invasion and retreat. The marker will also be part of a driving tour that is being developed by the Monterey Pass Battlefield Association. For more information about the battle, see: www.emmitsburg.net/montereypass.

For more information about Civil War Trails, visit www.civilwartrails.org. To learn more about

Washington County, visit the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau website at www.marylandmemories.com. Washington County is part of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (www.heartofthecivilwar.org), and the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area (<http://hallowedground.org>). Washington County is also part of the Quad-State Tourism Coalition, a four-state tourism group along I-81. For more information, see: www.quadstate81.com.

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