Did your love of history begin at an early age? Do you remember family trips to historic places, many years later? Do you wish to share your passion for the past with someone else in your family? Fostering a love for history across generations is the focus of Battle in Your Backyard, an upcoming Porch Program at the Newcomer House.

On Saturday, June 18 starting at 1:00 PM, history enthusiasts ages eight and above are invited to step into the shoes of the Newcomer family, who lived in Sharpsburg in 1862 and had to abandon their home and mill operation along the banks of the Antietam Creek after the devastation wrought by the bloodiest one-day battle in American history. This Civil War Trust Generations program will explore the civilian experience before, during, and after the Civil War through hands-on activities. Registration for this free program is appreciated but not required: www.civilwar.org/battleinyourbackyard.

This program will also include a special discussion starting at 3:00 PM between renowned Civil War historian Dennis Frye and his father, John, about sharing a passion for history. John Clinton Frye has worked as the curator of the Western Maryland Room at the Washington County Free Library, a repository for books, maps and papers for family and historical research relating to Western Maryland, for nearly 50 years. Dennis Frye is the Chief Historian of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the author of 96 articles and nine books, a popular lecturer, and the founder of several historic preservation organizations.

continued on page 3
DEAR FRIENDS,

A few months ago, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area joined more than 100 other organizations that have endorsed the “Value of History” statement of the History Relevance Campaign (historyrelevance.com). The Campaign is not a formal organization, but rather a community of individuals making the case for history as necessity.

Many of you are making summer plans that will include cultural events, historic sites, museums, battlefields, parks, and historic districts. Whether you are a heritage traveler in the Heart of the Civil War or elsewhere, I hope you’ll discover ways that history is essential, including:

1. It nurtures personal identity.
2. It teaches critical skills.
3. It helps provide vital places to live and work.
4. It stimulates economic development.
5. It fosters engaged citizens.
6. It inspires leadership.
7. It provides a legacy.

I could describe how the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area builds relevance and affirms the value of history, but the truth is that words are not as powerful as first-hand encounters. We’d love to know about your experience of history in this place. How does history resonate for you, your family or friends? How is this past relevant to your modern life? Are historical thinking skills helping you to actively address contemporary issues, especially this election season?

Whether you connect with us on social media, via email, or in person—feel free to stop by the Newcomer House or our offices at the Frederick Visitor Center—we look forward to hearing about how history impacts you. Along with our friends and partners at historic, natural and cultural resources of Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area invites all to witness, discover, and learn about our Civil War heritage.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Scott Shatto
Executive Director

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area
151 S. East Street | Frederick, MD 21701
301-600-4031 | heartofthecivilwar.org | info@heartofthecivilwar.org

P.S. Please join our efforts to serve today’s visitors while nurturing a generation of stewards for tomorrow. A donor envelope is included for your convenience. Or, give online: www.heartofthecivilwar.org. We are grateful for the most meaningful gift you can muster.

FY16 MANAGEMENT, PROJECT AND MINI-GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Grant</th>
<th>Applicant/Purpose</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Total Project Budget</th>
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<tr>
<td>Management Grant</td>
<td>Management Entity/Management of Heritage Area</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<td>Marketing Grant</td>
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<td>Non-Capital Project Grants</td>
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<td>Catoctin Furnace Historical Society: Catoctin Furnace African American Cemetery Commemoration Project</td>
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<td>C&amp;O Canal Trust: Plan Your Visit mobile app</td>
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<td>Capital Project Grants</td>
<td>Historical Society of Carroll County: Restore House Facades</td>
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<td>City of Hagerstown: Signage for City Park to Downtown Trail</td>
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<td>Mini-Grants</td>
<td>Emmitsburg Lions Club: Emmitsburg Community Heritage Day Art Contest</td>
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<td>Main Street Middletown: Local Historic Marker Program and Subsequent Walking/Driving Tour</td>
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<td>National Museum of Civil War Medicine: Downtown Frederick Historic Hospital Sites of the Civil War Walking Tour</td>
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<td>Rose Hill Cemetery of Hagerstown, Inc.: Hagerstown/Rose Hill Cemetery Walking Tour Map Update</td>
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<td>Sykesville Main Street Association: Main Street Heritage Experience Plan</td>
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<td>Thurmont Main Street: Civil War Trail Marker</td>
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The Newcomer House at Antietam National Battlefield, which has served as the Exhibit and Visitor Center for the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area since 2010, will host free, monthly programs throughout the 2016 season. Topics include 19th century cryptology, songs and stories of the Civil War, a living history interpretation of a surgeon Dr. Edward Stonestreet, and traditional children’s games. The house is located at 18422 Shepherdstown Pike (Route 34) in Keedysville, Maryland. It is open from 11:00 AM–5:00 PM daily, June–September and weekends only in October and November. Read more at heartofthecivilwar.org/events.
**NEWS & KUDOS**

- Rick Slade, a member of our Advisory Council, was recently named the Superintendent of Catoctin Mountain Park. He served as Superintendent of Monocacy National Battlefield since 2013, overseeing the park’s 150th anniversary commemorations in 2014.

- Founding board member John Fieseler, Executive Director of the Tourism Council of Frederick County, won the distinct title of “Tourism Person of the Year” from the Maryland Tourism Coalition in November.

- The Newcomer House will continue to serve as HCWHA’s Exhibit and Visitor Center at Antietam National Battlefield until at least 2020, thanks to a new five-year cooperative agreement signed in September by representatives of NPS, HCWHA, and the Hagerstown/Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau. HCWHA hosted a special illumination on the grounds of the Newcomer House, complementing the battlefield’s popular ceremony, in December.

- The Maryland Historical Trust presented a 2016 Maryland Preservation Award in the category of Excellence in Media and Publications to the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA) for its website redesign. The site—which launched in April 2015—was designed by Jean Peterson Design and developed by Orares, both Frederick-based agencies.

**NEWS & KUDOS**

On April 30, members of the Taneytown Heritage and Museum Association, Inc. held a grand reopening for the Taneytown History Museum.

Preservation Maryland honored the Thurmont Historical Society with a “Best of Maryland” Community Choice award in May for the organization’s work to preserve a cabin built in 1929 as part of the Cozy Country Inn and Restaurant.

David Price, an Advisory Council member, was promoted to Executive Director of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine after several years as the Chief of Operations.

- 2016 marks the 50th anniversary of the Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster. Museum staff members are hard at work on a special new exhibit about wormseed oil, once a booming industry found only in this area.

- Congratulations to the Brunswick Heritage Museum and the Carroll County Farm Museum for being selected to host “The Way We Worked,” a Smithsonian traveling exhibition, in 2017.

**MILLENNIAL ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP**

In October, HCWHA invited 15 participants from seven local historic sites—with a mostly Civil War focus—to participate in a workshop on millennial engagement with the internationally known consultants Museum Hack. Museum Hack, based in New York City, describes their style as “a highly interactive, subversive, fun, non-traditional museum tour.” Participants learned how to interpret an object using the “five elements of a hack” and practiced storytelling techniques both inside the Visitor Center and out on the landscape at Monocacy. A lively discussion ensued online, sparking a conversation among museum educators and interpreters across the country. This workshop was made possible by Monocacy National Battlefield and the Maryland Museum Association. Read more about the workshop on our blog: http://bit.ly/hackcannons. Or, search the hashtag #HackCannons on Twitter.

**PRESERVATION EDUCATION INITIATIVE NOW UNDERWAY**

HCWHA has launched a new Preservation Education Initiative, with a goal of developing a dynamic, online education portal that provides high-quality classroom activities, linked to national standards, as a foundation for teaching about the Civil War. This project is made possible by grants from the Delaplaine Foundation and the NPS American Battlefield Protection Program.

11 original lesson plans build upon three existing resources: the Emmy-award winning documentary Maryland’s Heart of the Civil War, its companion flipbook, and the Crossroads of War website. They offer extension visits to National Museum of Civil War Medicine, Union Mills Homestead Foundation, South Mountain State Battlefield, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Antietam National Battlefield, Museum of Frederick County History, Tolson’s Chapel, Monocacy National Battlefield, and C&O Canal National Historical Park. The lesson plans are designed to be as flexible as possible and serve both local teachers well as those across the county.

Thanks to outreach from partners—including the Civil War Trust, the Journey Foundation, South Mountain State Battlefield, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, or breathing in fresh mountain air at Catoctin Mountain Park, there are countless opportunities to find your “park” state of mind. Visit findyourpark.com to find a park experience.

Every Kid in a Park, a White House initiative that provides free access to federal lands for all fourth graders and their families (children under 16 and up to three adults), is designed to foster the next generation of park visitors. Fourth grade students with an EKIP pass—accessible online or at any national park with an admission fee—receive free admission to the area’s national parks as well as state parks and a suite of non-federal sites through August 31, 2016. See www.heartofthecivilwar.org/nps-centennial for a listing of sites participating in the Every Kid in a Park Extension.

**CELEBRATING THE NPS CENTENNIAL**

The National Park Service marks its 100th birthday this year, and you’re invited to FindYourPark in the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. Whether you’re honoring the fallen at Antietam National Cemetery, biking the towpath at the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, strolling through a National Register-listed historic district like Uniontown, taking in scenic vistas along the Appalachian Trail, attending an InstaMeet at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, or breathing in fresh mountain air at Catoctin Mountain Park, there are countless opportunities to find your “park” state of mind. Visit findyourpark.com to find a park experience.

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**FindYourPark in the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, from left: Union Mills Homestead in Westminster, the Godwin warehouse along the C&O Canal in Williamsport, Antietam National Battlefield, and the historic district in downtown Frederick.**

**FindYourPark**