

# Media Kit

1865 Commemorations



# Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area



## Welcome to the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area!

The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA) is an area rich in history, covering portions of Carroll, Frederick and Washington Counties. It is located just below the Mason-Dixon Line, generally viewed as the dividing line between North and South. With one foot in the north, and one foot in the south, the story of the Civil War, its causes, battles, heroes and villains ... its very meaning can be told nowhere better than in this part of Maryland.

The HCWHA is ideally positioned to serve as “base camp” for driving the popular Civil War Trails and visiting the battlefields and sites of Antietam, Gettysburg, Monocacy, South Mountain, Harpers Ferry, Baltimore and Washington, D.C.



The mission of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area is to promote the stewardship of our historic, cultural, and natural Civil War resources, encourages superior visitor experiences, and stimulates tourism, economic prosperity, and educational development, thereby improving the quality of life in our community for the benefit of both residents and visitors.

HCWHA became certified as part of the Maryland Heritage Areas Program in July 2006. It is an independent nonprofit organization guided by a Board of Directors and an Advisory Council comprised of representatives of local government units, state and national parks, private organizations and businesses, and individuals from all three counties in the Heritage Area. The staff of the Heritage Area includes Executive Director Elizabeth Scott Shatto and Assistant Auni Gelles.

## 2015 Commemoration Media Kit

Spring 2015 marks the conclusion of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area's sesquicentennial commemorations of the American Civil War. 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorations began with the Maryland Campaign (Battles of South Mountain and Antietam) in 2012 and continued with the advance to and retreat from Gettysburg in 2013. During the summer of 2014, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area and partners marked the 150th anniversary of emancipation in Maryland as well as Jubal Early's invasion and ransoming of Maryland towns with "1864: The Final Invasion."

Inside this media kit you will find an array of story ideas, a listing of upcoming events and a historical timeline, tourism facts and figures, and links to help you craft stories about the 1865 commemorations in the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. You can find photos for 1865 commemorations here: [bit.ly/1865photos](http://bit.ly/1865photos).

Let this media kit serve as a guide before, during and after your visit to the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. We encourage you to refer to our website, [heartofthecivilwar.org](http://heartofthecivilwar.org), as well as the sites of our partners at [Carroll County Tourism](http://Carroll County Tourism), the [Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau](http://Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau) and the [Tourism Council of Frederick County](http://Tourism Council of Frederick County).

### Connect with us on social media

- Facebook: [Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area](http://Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area)
- Twitter: [@MDCivWar](https://twitter.com/MDCivWar)
- Instagram: [@MdCivilWar](https://www.instagram.com/MdCivilWar)

### Hashtags for 1865 commemorations

- #BellsAcrossTheLand2015 (April 9 bell ringing)
- #IlluminatingFrederick (April 10 Illumination)
- #BellAndHistory (April 10 Illumination and April 11 programs)
- #cw150 (150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Civil War)
- #civilwarmaryland (Heritage Area)



## Timeline of Events: 1865

### April 2, 1865

Confederate lines at Petersburg breached; Confederate government evacuates capital of Richmond, Virginia.

### April 3, 1865

Richmond and Petersburg, Virginia, occupied by Union. Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Richmond Taken, – by telegraph received here about ½ past 11 ock this forenoon, we have Gratifying intelligence that Richmond Va was captured this morning between 8 & 9 ock (April 3, 1865) – we have no particulars, but they Say Petersburg had been Captured yesterday already – the Bells of our town are all now ringing – and the whole town is in Commotion and all appear to Rejoice – we ought all to Sing Glory Hallelujah, – and to thank God for the prospect of a Speedy termination of this Sinful and wicked Rebellion.”*

### April 9, 1865

Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

### April 10, 1865

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Lee Rebel Army Surrendered – yesterday about ock Lieut General Robert E. Lee of the Rebel Army Surrendered his whole army to Lieut General U.S. Grant of the U. States army, it took place at Nottoway C. H. Va all the Bells of our city are now ringing & have been for Several hours the whole town is in Commotion”*

### April 13, 1865

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Brass Cannon passed up Street to their encampment at Camp B. – they Came from Harpersferry. And were Sent by Gen Stevenson Commanding there, to fire a Salute of 200 Guns to morrow in honor of the Capture of Richmond & also the Capture of Gen’l Lee’s Army, or rather its Surrender to Gen’l Grant – and while I am writing. We have a telegraphic despatch that the U.S. Armies have Captured Lynchburg Va & Selma Allabama I reckon that Rebeldom is about Crossing the last ditch.”*

### April 14, 1865

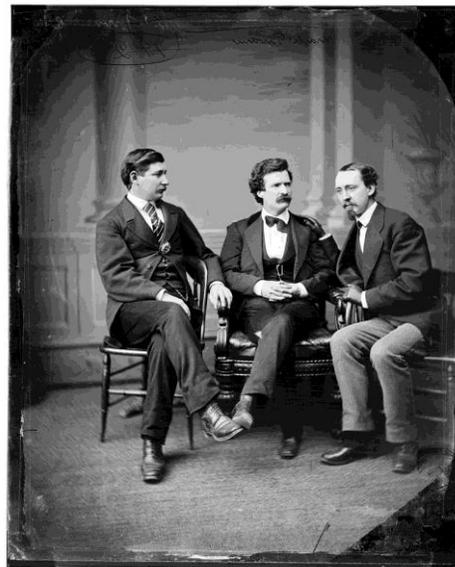
Actor John Wilkes Booth shoots President Abraham Lincoln at Ford’s Theater in Washington, DC. 24-year-old correspondent George Alfred Townsend reports on the assassination for the *New York World*.

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Illumination – our City last night, was Illuminated to its fullest extent every dwelling was Illuminated, with perhaps 2 or 3 exceptions the Military had General turn out – with 2 Bands of Music and Paraded nearly the entire City – the Streets were Crowded with people – a large number were from the Country – on the whole it passed off peaceably & quiet the Liquor Shops had been ordered to be closed all day, by Provost Marshal Baugher.”*

### April 15, 1865

President Lincoln dies; Vice President Andrew Johnson sworn into office. Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Mourn Columbia,*

*Mourn – by telegraph received this morning, we have melancholy information, that President Lincoln, and*



George Alfred Townsend with fellow writers Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens) and David Gray in 1871. Library of Congress photo.

*Secretary of State Wm H. Seward, were both assassinated last night (Good Friday night) at their residences in Washington City – the telegraph Says that Lincoln is dead & Seward was about dying – Remember God the avenger reigns.”* Note: Seward had not in fact been shot or killed.

#### **April 17, 1865**

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Lincoln’s death, on the arrival of the news on Saturday last 15 inst of the assassination & death of President Lincoln the Mayor of our City issued a notice to close all places of Business for the day, & the different Churches to hold appropriate Services at 4 o’ck p.m. – the business places were all closed and flags with Crape and other appendages of mourning, and up to this morning all Continue in the Same way.”*

#### **April 19, 1865**

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“In our good City of Frederick, we had Services in all the Churches at 12 o’clock M. – the Bells all toll’d from 11 to 12 & from 1 to 2 and the places of Business Closed from 11. ock until 2 ock – all are Closed, there Never were funeral Ceremonies, so general before – because there were no Telegraph in former days.”*

#### **April 26, 1865**

John Wilkes Booth captured and killed in the Garrett Barn at Port Royal, Virginia. Townsend continues reporting on the assassination and its aftermath for the *New York World*.

#### **May 1, 1865**

Trial begins for the eight conspirators in the Lincoln assassination.

#### **May 10, 1865**

Confederate President Jefferson Davis captured near Irwinville, Georgia.

#### **May 15, 1865**

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“...The telegraph informing us of Jeff Davis Capture was received in our city yesterday forenoon about the time people were going to church and the news spread like wild-fire – this man Jefferson Davis was one of the Ring leaders of this terrible and wicked Rebellion and we do hope he will be punished to the full extent of the law.”*

#### **June 13, 1865**

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Discharged Solders – our town is now full of Discharged Soldiers, who have served their country faithfully in Crushing out the Southern Rebellion the Boys have come home to enjoy themselves with the comfortable assurance of having their duty of all that left our town.”*

#### **June 14, 1865**

Jacob Engelbrecht of Frederick writes, *“Returned Rebel Soldiers the Past week the following Rebel Soldiers returned from Lee’s Rebel army which Surrendered near Richmond on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 1865 – these are principally from our City & County and appeared before the Provost Marshal & took the oath of Allegiance.”*

#### **July 7, 1865**

Eight conspirators are executed for their role in Lincoln’s assassination. Townsend’s reports on the trial are compiled and published into a book, *The Life, Crime, and Capture of John Wilkes Booth*.

## Selected Commemorations & Events: 2015

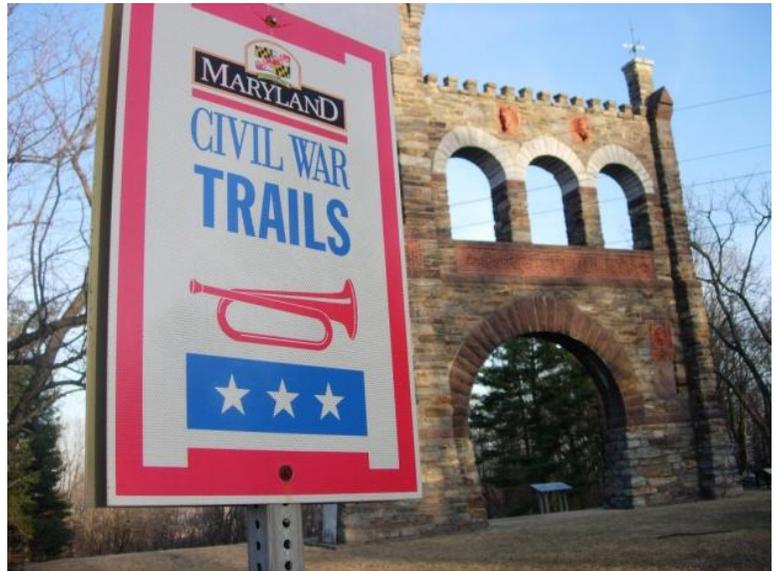
### Civil War Trails Marker Dedication at Gathland State Park

Tuesday, April 7 at 1:00 p.m.

900 Arnoldstown Road, Burkittsville

See appendix for press release

Dedication ceremony for a new marker on the Civil War Trails route, “[John Wilkes Booth: Escape of an Assassin](#)” followed by a reception. Park manager Mary Ironside will introduce 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorations at [Gathland](#)—Townsend’s estate, which became a state park in 1949—including enhanced exhibits, family-friendly Park Quest activities, and special programs for Bell & History Day (April 11 in Frederick County), and the Washington County Museum Ramble (weekends in May). Information about the 2015 Park Quest program will be [released online](#) around April 10.



### Bells Across the Land: A Nation Remembers Appomattox

Thursday, April 9 at 3:15 p.m.

[www.visitfrederick.org/civil-war-150th](http://www.visitfrederick.org/civil-war-150th)

See appendix for press release

The National Park Service invites partners across the country to ring bells for four minutes—one minute for each year of the war—to commemorate Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s surrender at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. Bells will ring throughout the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, including churches, fire halls, and public buildings in Carroll, Frederick, and Washington Counties. Registration is not required to participate. Curriculum materials are available for teachers through [Monocacy National Battlefield](#).

### Illuminating Frederick 1865: from Celebration to Grief

Friday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m.

City Hall, 101 North Court Street, Frederick

[www.visitfrederick.org/civil-war-150th](http://www.visitfrederick.org/civil-war-150th)

See appendix for press release

James Swanson, author of the bestseller *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln’s Killer*, will discuss the assassination of President Lincoln—including the role of correspondent George Alfred Townsend. The evening will also include recognition of partners involved in the Civil War sesquicentennial. Frederick residents illuminated the city in April 1865 to mark the end of the war, and following Mr. Swanson’s talk, participants will be invited to take part in a special 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary illumination in the square. An optional walking tour featuring living history vignettes will follow the illumination. This program is funded in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of Frederick County. Arrangements for the appearance of James Swanson made through HarperCollins Speakers Bureau, NY, NY. Reserve seats in advance for the presentation: [bit.ly/jamesswanson](http://bit.ly/jamesswanson).

### **Bell and History Day**

Saturday, April 11 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Multiple Locations throughout Frederick County

[visitfrederick.org/bellandhistory](http://visitfrederick.org/bellandhistory)

See appendix for press release

The annual opening of the museum season will include tours, hands-on activities, living history interpretations and the Passport to History program with prize incentives. Many participating sites will focus their programs on the end of the Civil War, the death of President Lincoln, and soldiers' return home. This family-friendly, self-guided event is free. Hosted by the Frederick Historic Sites Consortium with support from Plamondon Hospitality Partners.

### **Illuminating the African American Journey in 1865 & Beyond**

Saturday, April 11 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Roger Brooke Taney House, 121 South Bentz Street, Frederick

[www.frederickhistory.org/taney/index.htm](http://www.frederickhistory.org/taney/index.htm)

See appendix for press release

Join the Historical Society of Frederick County for the opening of their newest exhibit, exploring the African-American experience in the postwar years.

### **“Gladness of Heart” Handbell Festival**

Saturday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.

The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, 339 S Seton Ave, Emmitsburg

[www.setonheritage.org](http://www.setonheritage.org)

Handbell choirs from around the region will recall the last address that President Lincoln made—exactly 150 years ago, on April 11, 1865—with performances on the theme of “Gladness of Heart.”

### **Civil War Film Screenings in Hagerstown**

April 17 and June 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Bridge of Life Church, 14 S. Potomac St., Hagerstown

[www.heartofthecivilwar.org/calendar/](http://www.heartofthecivilwar.org/calendar/)

The City of Hagerstown and the Bridge of Life Church are cooperating to mark the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War with the screening of two films. Stephen Spielberg's *Lincoln* will be shown on April 17, coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the assassination. The second—*The Conspirator*, the story of Mary Surratt—will be shown on June 26 to mark the 150th anniversary of the trial.



### **The Final Shots of the War**

Saturday, April 18

Thomas House at Monocacy National Battlefield, 5201 Urbana Pike, Frederick

[www.nps.gov/mono/parknews/2015-special-events.htm](http://www.nps.gov/mono/parknews/2015-special-events.htm)

See appendix for press release

Special programs will focus on two pivotal events of 1865. The first will look at how the people of Maryland reacted to, and were affected by, President Lincoln's assassination. The second will examine how the Confederate surrender at

Appomattox Court House was not the end of the Civil War.

### **Civil War Living History Reenactment**

Saturday, May 2 & Sunday, May 3 at 10:00 a.m.

Carroll County Farm Museum, 500 S. Center Street, Westminster

[ccggovernment.carr.org/ccg/farmmus/Events.aspx](http://ccggovernment.carr.org/ccg/farmmus/Events.aspx)

For more information, contact Joanne Weant: [jweant@ccg.carr.org](mailto:jweant@ccg.carr.org)

The Farm Museum's annual living history reenactment will examine the theme of "Homecoming – Soldiers Return From War."

### **Washington County Museum Ramble**

Weekends in May

Multiple sites in Washington County

[museumramble.marylandmemories.org](http://museumramble.marylandmemories.org)

For more information, contact Betsy DeVore, Director of Marketing and Digital Communications, Visit Hagerstown: 301-791-3246 or

[betsy@visithagerstown.com](mailto:betsy@visithagerstown.com)

The annual opening of the museum season in Washington County will feature free, family-friendly programs related to the end of the War.

### **Trial of the Lincoln Conspirators**

Saturday, June 13

Thomas House, Monocacy National Battlefield, 5201 Urbana Pike, Frederick, MD 21704

<http://www.nps.gov/mono/parknews/2015-special-events.htm>

A retired lawyer will discuss Union General Lew Wallace's role in the Military Commission that tried the Lincoln conspirators. As the only lawyer on the Commission, Wallace was tasked with deciphering the legal facts of the trial through a military lens to determine their fates.

### **Exhibit: the Civil War in Carroll County**

Ongoing

Historical Society of Carroll County, 210 East Main Street, Westminster

[www.hsccmd.org/museum-current-exhibits.asp](http://www.hsccmd.org/museum-current-exhibits.asp)

A special exhibit at the Historical Society of Carroll County tells the story of Civil War veterans' organizations, including the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Civil War in memory in 1865 and beyond.

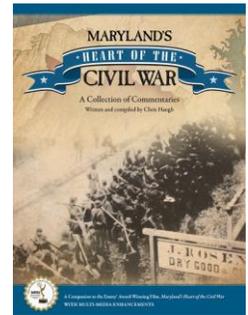


## New Tourism Products for the 2015 Commemorations

### Maryland's Heart of the Civil War: A Collection of Commentaries

[Bit.ly/civilwarflipbook](http://bit.ly/civilwarflipbook)

This interactive multimedia companion to the award-winning documentary *Maryland's Heart of the Civil War* (DVDs are available at the Frederick Visitor Center) provides hours of additional information and interpretation captured during the filming of the hour-long film. This free resource provides an in-depth look at commentary from the region's top Civil War historians. The content is also accessible via the free Visit Frederick smartphone app, and is best viewed on a tablet.



### Civil War Selfies

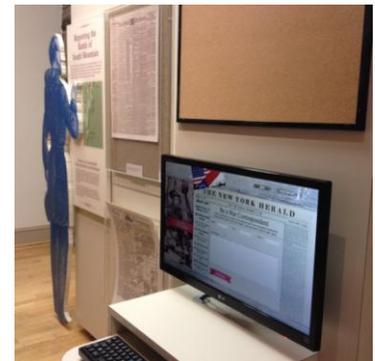
[www.civilwarselves.com](http://www.civilwarselves.com)

Exchanging small printed photographs became very popular during the Civil War, when new technologies allowed photographers to print inexpensive images the size of a smartphone screen. Friends and family traded them almost as much as we share selfies today. In fact, trading this kind of picture, called a *carte de visite*, was so popular that in 1862 the poet and physician Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote, "Card portraits as everybody knows have become the social currency, the green-backs of civilization." While technology may have changed, people have not.

Visitors to participating historic sites and museums (a complete list is available at [civilwarselves.com](http://civilwarselves.com)) can post their photos to the Civil War Selfies accounts on [Instagram \(@civilwarselves\)](https://www.instagram.com/civilwarselves), [Twitter \(@civilwarselves\)](https://twitter.com/civilwarselves), or [Facebook \(Civil War Selfies\)](https://www.facebook.com/CivilWarSelfies) or tag their pictures the hashtag #CivilWarSelfies.

### 1865 Activities at Gathland State Park

After learning about the life of Civil War correspondent and prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century literary figure George Alfred Townsend—who also went by the pen name of "Gath"—at his estate (a state park since 1949), kids of all ages will be able to play the role of journalist through an interactive digital exhibit launching this summer. Correspondents will submit their own reports, which will then be available to take home. Enhancements to this software were made possible through a grant from the Community Foundation of Frederick County.



Townsend's Civil War reporting will also be at the heart of Gathland's participation in the 2015 [Park Quest](#) program. Park Quest is a series of engaging outdoor activities allowing families to connect with Maryland's most beautiful natural landscapes and be immersed in history and culture. Details about this year's program will be posted online in early April.

### New Civil War Trail Comes to the Heritage Area

The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area is already home to three popular [Maryland Civil War Trails](#)—The [Antietam Campaign: Lee Invades Maryland](#); [Gettysburg: Invasion and Retreat](#); and [Attack on Washington: The Last Invasion](#). A brand new marker will be dedicated at Gathland State Park on April 7, as a discontinuous portion of the "[John Wilkes Booth: Escape of an Assassin](#)" trail. This marker will tell the story of George Alfred Townsend's reporting on the Lincoln assassination and trial of the conspirators.

## 1865 Story Ideas

### George Alfred Townsend: Literary Luminary

Although hardly a household name today, George Alfred Townsend—also known by his pen name, “Gath”—gained quite a following in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century for his reporting during the Civil War and the literary career he built afterwards. The *Frederick Post* described Townsend in an October 1946 article as a “glamorous war chronicler, novelist, poet, journalist who at one time represented 100 newspapers, and delightful host who lived in almost baronial style at his Gapland estate in Frederick County.”

Townsend began his career at age 19 as a reporter for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, during which time he interviewed the actor John Wilkes Booth. Booth and Townsend’s paths intertwined again in 1865 when Townsend covered the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln and its aftermath. Townsend was present at the conspirators’ execution in July 1865. His correspondence was compiled into the bestselling volume, *The Life, Crime, and Capture of John Wilkes Booth*. Only 24 at the end of the Civil War, Townsend’s writing took many different forms later in life. He published folklore, novels, poetry, columns, and even plays.

In October of 1885, while researching for his novel *Katy of Catoctin*—in which Booth appears in Western Maryland—Townsend fell in love with the hallowed ground of South Mountain. He purchased the “Gapland” estate at Crampton’s Gap—where the first major battle of the Civil War was fought in Maryland—in December 1885 and began constructing a number of distinctive structures on the property. One of Townsend’s most recognizable legacies to contemporary Marylanders is the unique [War Correspondents Memorial Arch](#). Dedicated to the journalists who have lost their lives in war, from the Civil War to present day, Townsend commissioned this striking stone structure to be built in 1896.



19-year-old Townsend just before the outbreak of the Civil War. Photo: [Library of Congress](#).

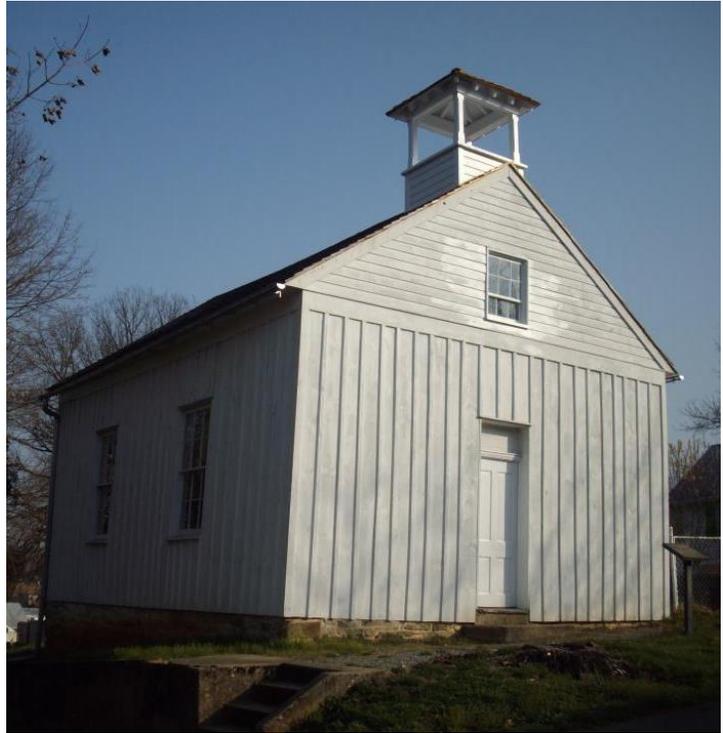
Townsend’s estate was purchased by the Historical Society of Frederick County and the Chamber of Commerce in the 1940s, and was acquired by the state of Maryland in 1949. Today, visitors can enjoy exhibits on Civil War history and recreational opportunities along the Appalachian Trail in [Gathland State Park](#). To learn more about George Alfred Townsend and the history of the park, visit the [Maryland Department of Natural Resources website](#) or read Diane Wiebe’s 2014 book [George Alfred Townsend and Gathland: A Journalist and His Western Maryland Estate](#).

### The Death of a Newspaperman

Just hours after President Lincoln died on April 15, a politically motivated murder took place in Carroll County. Joseph Shaw, the editor of the Westminster newspaper the *Western Maryland Democrat*, was reportedly hung by a mob of angry citizens. The paper had recently criticized Lincoln, and in the wake of the President’s assassination, these citizens stormed the publication’s offices and destroyed the printing machinery before turning their rage to Shaw. For more information about the media during the Civil War, read Michael Powell’s essay “[Civil Liberties in Crisis](#)” on the [Crossroads of War website](#).

### **Post-Emancipation Maryland**

The origins and meaning of the Civil War are still debated, but one unmistakable result of the bloodshed was made manifest on an April morning in 1868, when eighteen young African American children opened Freedmen’s Bureau school books in Tolson’s Chapel, a sacred place built by an independent and proud African American community in Sharpsburg, Maryland. Twelve of the youngsters had been enslaved only four years earlier, before Maryland abolished slavery in 1864. The small board-and-batten church, which was built in 1866, became the spiritual and educational center of a vibrant community of African American families in Sharpsburg after the Civil War, and a symbol of their struggles and triumphs.



Tolson’s Chapel holds a significant place in American history. Virtually on the grounds of the battle Northerners called “Antietam,” which led President Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, stands the beginnings of a free life and a free community – a church and school – for African Americans. Tolson’s Chapel is a tangible reminder of what the Civil War was about for many Americans, particularly for the four million enslaved on the eve of the war – freedom.

Tolson’s Chapel still stands on High Street in Sharpsburg. No longer a functioning church, local historical groups and town residents have pitched in to preserve and save this historic building and adjoining cemetery. For more information contact the President of the [Friends of Tolson’s Chapel](#), Edie Wallace, at [tolsons.chapel@gmail.com](mailto:tolsons.chapel@gmail.com).

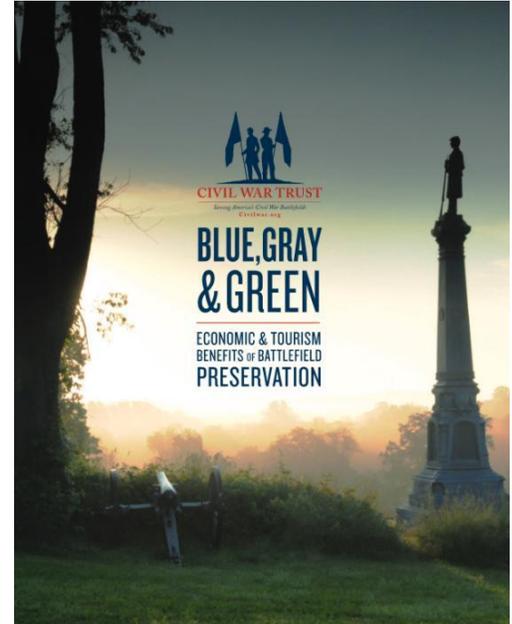
### **The War’s Legacy in Medicine and Beyond**

Branches of the military, government organizations and businesses are still examining the stories of Civil War medicine and their relevance to meeting challenges in our modern day world. [The Letterman Institute](#) is the National Museum of Civil War Medicine’s professional development institute, taught using the innovations of Dr. Jonathan Letterman during the Civil War. Letterman programs at Antietam consist of a systematic preliminary study of the battle, an extensive visit to the actual sites associated with that campaign, and an opportunity to integrate the lessons derived from each. Additional program sites in the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area include Harpers Ferry and the city of Frederick. For more information about The Letterman Institute, contact the [National Museum of Civil War Medicine](#) in Frederick at 301-695-1864 ext. 1009.

## Heritage Tourism & Economic Development

“[Blue, Gray and Green](#)”—a 2013 study by the [Civil War Trust](#), an independent, nonprofit battlefield preservation organization—demonstrated the significant economic impact of heritage tourism. Among the report’s findings were the following:

- Civil War battlefields, particularly when they host anniversary events, draw tourists, whose spending supports nearby jobs and contributes tax revenue to state and local coffers.
- Battlefields are community benefits, boosting property values and creating educational and recreational opportunities for residents of all ages.
- A battlefield community that links its historic sites to other battlefields as part of a state or regional driving tour is likely to attract more visitors than one that does not.
- A battlefield is a powerful magnet for the best tourists in the marketplace. Civil War tourists use local transportation, spend money on admissions, lodging, food and beverages during their visit. On average, they spend \$50 per person per day.
- During the 150th anniversary of the Maryland Campaign, in 2012, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area supported at least 770 jobs.



### Tourism’s impact in the Heritage Area

- The Emmy-award winning documentary Maryland’s Heart of the Civil War, which features a 15-minute travelogue on heritage tourism opportunities in the Heritage Area, has aired on over 100 significant markets through the public broadcasting network.
- Monocacy National Battlefield hosted “The Return of Special Orders 191” from August 1 – October 31, 2012. The battlefield had a 50% increase in attendance for this period as compared to the same time-frame the previous year.
- The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts had a special exhibit of art and artifacts entitled “Valley of the Shadow” to commemorate the 150 anniversaries of the Battle of Antietam and the Battle of Gettysburg, from June 16, 2012, to July 28, 2013. The total visitation for the exhibit was 49,455. It drew visitors from 46 states and 25 foreign countries.
- A new long-term exhibit at the National Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton, exploring the stories of the Daughters of Charity as nurses to soldiers from both armies, “Charity Afire,” had 40,000 visitors in 2012. The Shrine hosted a Civil War social media meetup in conjunction with HCWHA in November 2014, which had a reach of 71,870 impressions on Twitter.
- “The Civil War Comes to Frederick,” an exhibit of six 8x8” panels with historical images and interpretation was used for special events including Frederick’s annual “In The Street Festival.” It was viewed by 50,000 event-goers.

## About the Newcomer House

The historic Newcomer House at Antietam National Battlefield is the site of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area Exhibit and Visitor Center, made possible by a cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau. The house was built in the 1780s as part of a prosperous mill complex and is one of the few original homes on the battlefield that is open to the public.

During its open season (weekends in April, May, October and November; daily June through September), the house is staffed by knowledgeable National Park Service volunteers and offers resources to help plan your visit to the area. Printed guides and brochures provide information about 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. Each room features sites and displays that relate to those themes. For hours and additional information, visit the Newcomer House website, [www.newcomerhouse.org](http://www.newcomerhouse.org).



## Annual Events in the Heritage Area



The Memorial Illumination at Antietam National Battlefield provides a haunting visual of the 23,000 lives lost in the bloodiest one day battle in American history—September 17, 1862. [NPS photo.](#)

**February** – Master Docent Series, Frederick Community College

**Late March** – Civil War Seminar, Hagerstown Community College

**Early April** – Bell & History Day, Frederick County

**Late April** – National Park Week / Junior Ranger Day

**Early May** – Civil War Living History Reenactment, Carroll County Farm Museum

**May** – Washington County Museum Ramble

**May** – The Frederick Keys History Days @ Harry Grove Stadium

**Late June** – Corbit’s Charge, Westminster

**Early July** – Battle of Monocacy (July 9) Commemoration, Monocacy Battlefield

**Mid July** – Battle of Funkstown Reenactment, Funkstown Park

**Mid July** – Civil War Encampment and Living History, Union Mills Homestead

**Mid September** – Battle of South Mountain (Sept. 14) Commemoration, South Mountain State Battlefield

**Mid September** – Battle of Antietam (Sept. 17) Commemoration, Antietam Battlefield

**First Saturday in December** – Antietam Memorial Illumination, Antietam Battlefield

**Late December** – Holiday Tour of Historic Houses of Worship, Hagerstown and Frederick

## Additional Resources

Antietam National Battlefield

[www.nps.gov/anti](http://www.nps.gov/anti)

Civil War Preservation Trust

[www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org)

Crossroads of War: Maryland & the Border in the Civil War

[www.crossroadsofwar.org](http://www.crossroadsofwar.org)

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

[www.nps.gov/hafe](http://www.nps.gov/hafe)

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

[www.heartofthecivilwar.org](http://www.heartofthecivilwar.org)

Historical Society of Carroll County

[www.hsccmd.org](http://www.hsccmd.org)

Historical Society of Frederick County

[www.frederickhistory.org](http://www.frederickhistory.org)

Journey Through Hallowed Ground

[www.hallowedground.org](http://www.hallowedground.org)

Maryland Room, Frederick County Public Libraries

[www.fcpl.org/departments/maryland-room](http://www.fcpl.org/departments/maryland-room)

Monocacy National Battlefield

[www.nps.gov/mono](http://www.nps.gov/mono)

National Park Service – The Civil War

[www.nps.gov/civilwar/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/index.htm)

Newcomer House

[www.newcomerhouse.com](http://www.newcomerhouse.com)

South Mountain State Battlefield

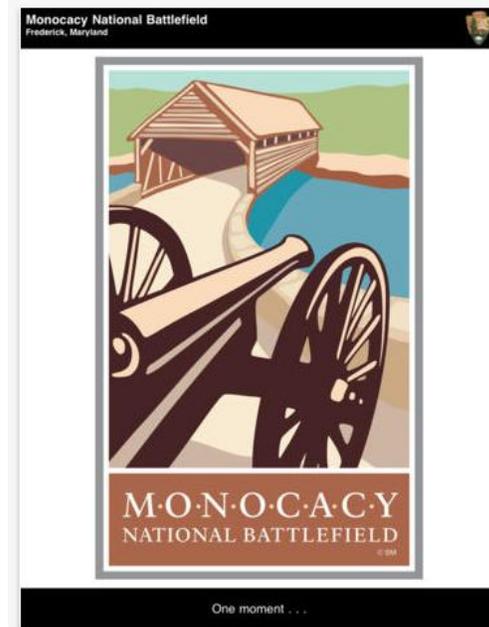
[www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/southmountainbattlefield.asp](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/southmountainbattlefield.asp)

Washington County Historical Society

[www.washcomdhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.washcomdhistoricalsociety.org)

Washington County Free Library, Western MD Rm.

[www.washcolibrary.org/localhistory/westmdroom.asp](http://www.washcolibrary.org/localhistory/westmdroom.asp)



### Interactive Media

Maryland Civil War Trails Mobile App

[App Store](#)

[Google Play](#)

Monocacy National Battlefield

[Virtual Tour of Monocacy](#)

[Multimedia Presentations](#)

[Monocacy App for iPhone](#)

[Monocacy App for iPad](#)

Civil War Traveler

[Podcast Series](#)

Frederick, Maryland Walking Tour App

[App Store](#)

[Google Play](#)

Crossroads of War

[Videos, Maps, and Images](#)

## Contact Information

The first point of contact for journalists inquiring about the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area is Elizabeth Shatto, Executive Director of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. Any press or media planning to visit sites in the heritage area is encouraged to contact the tourism office in that county for assistance. See [heartofthecivilwar.org](http://heartofthecivilwar.org) for more information.

### Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

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### Tourism Council of Frederick County

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### Visit Hagerstown

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