



Mayor Charles F. "Skip" Kauffman
Town of Boonsboro
21 North Main St.
Boonsboro, MD 21713

November 16, 2016

Dear Mayor Kauffman,

As we look to 2017, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA) is poised to make a greater impact than ever before, undergirding the efforts of historical, natural and cultural resource organizations in Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties. You can help us and the communities with which we work with a gift or pledge of support.

Did you know that in our 10th anniversary year, the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area surpassed \$3 million dollars in grants that we helped to make possible for nonprofits and government units in our boundaries? Hear what some people are saying about heritage area grants:

With Maryland Heritage Area Authority grants to develop the National Road Heritage Museum, we are creating a new visitor experience and a reason for travelers to stay a little longer in the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area. Thank you for helping us to secure funding for our projects.

HCWHA is also concerned with nurturing a new generation of those who will enjoy and care for our revered places. We implemented a Preservation Education Initiative this year. We anticipate building on that success, motivated by the enthusiastic responses we hear like this comment from a Maryland educator:

I think this is a great lesson that has a real connection to the 8th grade curriculum. [...] Teachers would find this to be a valuable field trip. I think it would bring sense of validity and realness to this topic.

At our visitor center at the Newcomer House, volunteers help people discover how to extend their Civil War travels throughout the region. A follower of the new Heart of the Civil War GeoTrail had this to share:

...the man working at the Newcomer house was AWESOME! So passionate about the Civil War and the history of this area! He talked to us for as long as he could before more people came to visit. Such a great spot! The man working here is really amazing! Very knowledgeable!!

We know you join us in taking pride in the heritage area's accomplishments. As you plan year-end giving, please consider one, or both, of the following giving options. A donor envelope is enclosed for your convenience:

- Give or pledge a tax deductible donation to be completed before December 31, 2016.
- Pledge a gift of \$500 or more to be made in 2017, qualifying for Maryland State tax credits which return 50% of the donation value as an additional 'payment voucher' towards your Maryland tax obligation.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you at our museums, historic sites, parks, battlefields, and historic districts this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

Sincerely,

Dan Spedden, President

Elizabeth Scott Shatto, Executive Director

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**Consult with your tax advisor, but with the tax credit most gifts at the \$500 level will mean a net cash outlay of less than \$125 to the donor.*

P.S. We are so pleased to partner with Boonsboro interests. Please join the municipalities that make an annual gift to the heritage area. Your support will help us continue to offer benefits such as grants and technical assistance - Thank you! Liz