After a busy summer and fall filming on location throughout the county, Heritage Montgomery’s video, *Life in a War Zone: Montgomery County during the Civil War* is in post-production. Historic and contemporary images of local heritage sites, video of Civil War re-enactors, panoramas of unchanged rural landscapes – all tell the fascinating story of the role our county played in the conflict. Produced by Heritage Montgomery, written and directed by Barbara Grunbaum of G2 Media, and hosted by Washington Revels Executive Director Greg Lewis, the video is as entertaining as it is educational.

We are busy planning the “world premiere” of *Life in a War Zone* for March 2011. As details are finalized, information will be posted on our website.

We are also excited about several companion pieces to the video. A beautiful 32-page booklet, “Life in a War Zone: A Guide to the Civil War in Montgomery County, Maryland, 1861-1865,” highlights individual communities and their stories from the war years. HM is also working on an attractive 18” x 24” commemorative map of the county in the 1860s featuring towns and by-ways as they existed at the time, as well as Union and Southern troop movement and encampments, river crossings, and key Civil War sites superimposed over a “ghosted” map of present-day towns and roads. Finally, we are working with the Washington Revels as they develop the musical soundtrack (and CD) that you’ll hear in the video.

For information about all of our terrific Civil War-related projects, visit the HM website!
Thank you to everyone who participated in Heritage Days 2010 for another fantastic celebration. The weekend was memorable for many reasons, not the least of which was record-breaking heat! We had more sites open free to the public than ever before. The Washington Revels’ performances at the King Barn Dairy MOOseum, Button Farm, and St. Paul Community Church were great crowd-pleasers – and Clarksburg Days was an especially huge success. Mark your calendars now for Heritage Days 2011, June 25th & 26th!

But you don’t have to wait until next year’s Heritage Days weekend to visit these sites—most are open throughout the year. Check the HM website for hours of operation and more details about each site.

On June 22 Heritage Montgomery was the recipient of a Montgomery County Council Proclamation in recognition of Heritage Days Weekend and Heritage Montgomery’s years of service to the residents of the county.
Success Stories

Over the past few months, several terrific local projects have come online, funded in part with MHAA grants through Heritage Montgomery:

- On Saturday, September 25, the new Town of Poolesville Band Shell was dedicated in Whalen Commons Park.
- The Sandy Spring Museum unveiled its new, lighted outdoor sign in October.
- Sugarloaf Regional Trails launched an attractive, highly informative new website with a huge amount of information as well as detailed trail guides for walks and hikes throughout the Up-County area.
- After opening their doors for the first time this past summer, the King Barn Dairy MOOseum held an official ribbon-cutting celebration on October 23.

MOOseum Ribbon-Cutting: MOOseum volunteer Ed Burdette, State Delegate Brian Feldman, Councilmember Mike Knapp, MOOseum Board President Barbara McGraw, M-NCPPC Director of Parks Mary Bradford, M-NCPPC Planning Board Chair Francoise Carrier (front), former Councilmember Nancy Dacek, State Senator Rob Garagiola

Sandy Spring Museum Executive Director Sharon Holt and HM’s Peggy Erickson

View from atop Sugarloaf Mountain

Poolesville Band Shell at Whalen Commons Park
**What’s Happening**

**2010 Maryland Preservation Award Winner**

Heritage Montgomery was the proud recipient of a 2010 Maryland Preservation Award for Preservation Service. The award from the Maryland Historical Trust recognized Heritage Days Weekend as an exemplary program increasing the public’s appreciation, understanding, and involvement in preserving historical resources and conserving our area’s living traditions. The success of Heritage Days is a direct reflection of the fascinating programs presented by Montgomery County’s many heritage sites. The award was presented at the Maryland Preservation Conference in Easton, Maryland in May.

**Check Out Our New Website**

Our beautiful new website is up and running! If you haven’t already, please take a minute to go to www.HeritageMontgomery.org and take a look. In addition to looking fantastic, the site is full of interesting information in a much more user-friendly format. Be sure to explore the new Interactive Map under “Sites” for more info on fascinating places to visit in the county!

**E-Newsletter Coming Soon**

While you’re at our website, please be sure to join our email list. We hope to transition to an electronic newsletter in the near future, but need to have email addresses for all of our supporters we currently communicate with via “snail mail.” We want to be sure that you’re on our list! In addition to being a more cost-effective means of communicating all of our news, an electronic newsletter is also much more environmentally friendly. We look forward to being able to directly notify you about events and activities in our heritage areas, but promise not to over do it! *And please be assured that we will not share your email address with any other group or individual.*

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**Letter from the Director**

It is hard to believe that Heritage Montgomery is starting its 8th year! HM is proud of the work we have done keeping Montgomery County’s history alive and inviting visitors to come and see what the county has to offer. Maryland is a state with a rich heritage and our county has played a critical role in that history.

The nation is about to begin the commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial (1861-1865). Heritage Montgomery will be inviting you to special events during the coming year (and the years to come). We look forward to bringing you programs that will appeal to the entire family! Please check our website for news and updates.

I wish you all a healthy and peaceful New Year.

*Peggy Erickson*
Fundraising Campaign

In the waning days of 2010, Heritage Montgomery is once again reaching out to our friends, asking for their generous financial support for the many important projects and programs planned in the coming year. As Civil War Sesquicentennial commemoration activities begin in earnest, we hope to take advantage of this significant event to spread the word about the fascinating historic sites and programs we have to offer in Montgomery County. Many of these are featured in a new brochure guide to Civil War stories in our area. We hope you will plan to attend the premiere of our *Life in a War Zone* video in March 2011 and join us for live Civil War musical and dramatic performances later in the year. We plan on re-tooling our 14th annual Heritage Days celebration a bit, adding a new twist or two to the already fun-filled weekend.

With our beautiful new website, as well as partnerships with the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County and the Montgomery County Conference and Visitors Bureau, Heritage Montgomery is working to promote the historic, recreational, and cultural resources of the county and encourage more people to explore, enjoy, and help preserve them for future generations.

Heritage Montgomery is primarily supported by state and local grants which require organizations to provide equal matching funds. This means your tax-deductible contribution counts as twice the benefit to Heritage Montgomery. In these challenging financial times, we thank you for remembering us in your year-end charitable giving.

FY 2011 Grants

Mini-Grants

Heritage Montgomery is pleased to announce the first round of FY 2011 Mini-Grant recipients

- Washington Revels – $2500 to develop an Abraham Lincoln “personage” for living history portrayals at heritage sites
- Glen Echo Park – $2500 to research and prepare a report on the historic architecture of the park
- King Barn Dairy MOOseum – $1670 to prepare Welcome and Information brochures
- Warren Historic District – $750 to research and select a Heritage Days speaker and choir

A second grant round specifically for Heritage Days programming will be announced later in the year.

MHAA Grants

Congratulations to the local recipients of FY 2011 Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) Grants. In addition to Heritage Montgomery’s Management and Project Grants ($127,500), MHAA grants were awarded to Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission ($32,000), Washington Revels ($25,000), C&O Canal National Historical Park ($20,200) and Menare Foundation ($8,750).
The Civil War along the C&O Canal

One of the most interesting places to revisit Montgomery County’s Civil War past is along the beautiful C&O Canal. Edward’s Ferry (River Rd. & Edward’s Ferry Rd., Poolesville, C&O Canal milepost 31) is one of the area’s most significant Civil War sites. In June 1863, approximately 75,000 Union troops crossed the Potomac River via pontoon bridges on their way to the Battle of Gettysburg. White’s Ferry (24801 White’s Ferry Rd., Poolesville, milepost 35.5) has been in operation since 1786 and is named after Confederate Col. Elijah Veirs White of Poolesville. At White’s Ford (milepost 39.5), 35,000 of Gen. Robert E. Lee’s troops crossed in September 1862 on their way to Antietam. The nearby Monocacy Aqueduct (Rte. 28 & Mouth of Monocacy Rd., Dickerson, milepost 42.9) withstood Confederate attempts to destroy the seven-arched structure constructed in 1833.

Please remember Heritage Montgomery in your charitable donations.

Every donation has a significant impact and will be gratefully appreciated!

Heritage Montgomery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your contributions are tax deductible.