

CITY OF CUMBERLAND, MD

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March 14, 2013

MAYOR:
Brian K. Grim

Mr. Rick Lore
Maryland Public Television

COUNCIL:
David F. Kauffman
Nicholas J. Scarpelli
Nicole L. Wagoner
David Caporale

Dear Mr. Lore:

CITY ADMINISTRATOR
Jeffrey D. Rhodes

On Saturday, March 9, television screens all across Cumberland suddenly clicked on at 7:00 p.m., glowing with the sights and sounds of our beloved Cumberland, thanks to the efforts and creativity of Maryland Public Television. The televisions didn't just come on by themselves; there was a real excitement and anticipation in the air as a whole community tuned in to see the city that we all know and love brought to us through the eyes of William Macy, over the television airwaves, and bringing smiles to faces at home, in restaurants, and in pubs all over town as we all simultaneously stared at glowing images that we have the special privilege of seeing each and every day with our own eyes.

CITY SOLICITOR
Michael Scott Cohen

Since the airing that evening and the airing that followed the next morning, as well as the broadcast on West Virginia Public Television, I have received dozens of phone calls, text messages, social media comments, and emails, all commending the program, all recognizing the charm, spirit and beauty that define our city. The MPT production, "Our Town - Cumberland," has had an immediate effect of igniting passion and excitement in Cumberland. It has reawakened an acknowledgement of all that we take for granted, living in a beautiful, historic community, alive with the arts, and bursting with potential.

CITY CLERK
Marjorie A. Ehrich

Just as Cumberlanders were watching the program, throughout the state, so were former residents, people who have only just heard of Cumberland but never visited, and those who have neither heard of nor seen Cumberland. The impact of the program on those viewers can only be positive for Cumberland, as the production accurately portrayed our community as "the place to be." It has stirred interest from those who have not been home to Cumberland in many years, to plan a visit. It has generated a whole new interest in our city that translates into visitors, tourists, and ultimately into economic development and business for the small businesses that keep our city alive, charming, and unique.

Thank you for taking the time to share our story with the state, with the nation, and with the world. We might take for granted all that Cumberland has to offer, but we know deep down that this is an exceptional place to live and you've helped us share that message far and wide!

Thank you again for this excellent production. MPT should be proud; Cumberland sure is!



Member Maryland
Municipal League (MML)

Sincerely,

Brian K. Grim
Mayor