



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council  
**FROM:** Beverly R. Cameron, City Manager  
**DATE:** July 7, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** City Manager's Update

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Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:

***World Police and Fire Games*** – The 2015 World Police and Fire Games were held in Fairfax, Virginia from June 26 to July 5. For 30 years, the [World Police and Fire Games](#) has been an international event that brings together more than 12,000 professional, public safety athletes from 70 countries for an opportunity to show their talents in 65 sporting events. Two Fredericksburg Police Department sergeants and a sergeant with the Fredericksburg Sheriff's Department participated.

Sergeant Josh Lynch and his K9 Max competed in a three-part narcotics detection event and had an outstanding performance. Sgt. Lynch and Max took the Bronze in Room Search, Silver in Locker Search, and Silver for Overall in the K9 Narcotics Search competition.



Sergeant Lloyd Holland won a gold medal in the Push/ Pull Weightlifting event 35-39 year old 75 kg (165 lb.) category. Push/ Pull is a combination of Bench Press and Dead Lift weight. At a bodyweight of 159 lbs. he bench pressed 270 lbs. and dead lifted 441 lbs. His accomplishment is even more amazing because he competed in an age group for athletes 8 to 12 years younger than him due to the lack of competitors at his age.



1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant David Sullivan earned a bronze medal in taekwondo, in a sport he has loved since he was a teenager. An injury prevented him from participating in the final round. Sgt. Sullivan teaches and referees taekwondo around the region. (Photo courtesy of [www.TomRothenberg.com](http://www.TomRothenberg.com))

***New Police Public Information Officer*** – After 24 years of outstanding service to the Police Department and serving as the Public Information Officer for the last eight years, Natatia Bledsoe has retired. The department has hired Sarah Kirkpatrick as the new Public Information Officer to continue Ms. Bledsoe's good work. Ms. Kirkpatrick comes from Stafford County Government where she was a Marketing Associate for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and was responsible for implementing marketing campaigns, and overseeing public relations activities. Ms. Kirkpatrick has a Master of Professional Studies in Strategic Public Relations from George Washington University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Randolph-Macon College.

***July is Parks & Recreation Month*** – Join Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation & Public Facilities in celebrating National Parks & Recreation month. They will have a photo contest and the rules are as follows: 1. Like them on Facebook. 2. Take a picture of how you take advantage of all Fredericksburg Parks & Rec offers like the parks, pathways, trails and other programs, as well as Cossey Pond, Dixon Pool, Motts Run Reservoir, and so many more. 3. Post those pictures on your Facebook page and tag @FredParksRec. A winner will be picked each Friday starting July 10. There are some great prizes ready to be awarded.

***Dixon Park Pool Events*** – On June 24, Dixon Pool hosted one of its largest events to-date, the *Beach Party*. With attendance of over 250 residents swam, listened to great beach music, played a little beach-ball volleyball, and stuck their toes in the sand (well, sandbox is probably more accurate). On Wednesday, July 15, Parks and Recreation will host *Game Night* at the pool. There will be water polo, relay races (on land and in the water), and everyone's favorite – the water-balloon toss. The final event of the summer will be celebrating *Back to School* night on Wednesday, August 19.

***Good Turn Earth Company Has Approvals to Begin Composting Business*** – A Fredericksburg company that turns waste into garden-friendly soil conditioner now has a booth at the downtown farmers market in Hurkamp Park. Working with the Departments of Economic Development and Tourism and Community Planning and Building, Good Turn Earth Company recently secured all approvals needed to operate a small-scale composting business on Downtown Greens' property at 206 Charles St. The company's organic soil conditioner is sold every Saturday at the Fredericksburg Farmers Market. The conditioner's original ingredients include leaf mold, mushroom compost, worm castings and pure organic compost from a blend of pre-consumer food scraps and yard waste. The company plans a grand opening celebration August 1 at the market. Local residents can drop off their kitchen scraps at the company's booth.

***Historicon Returns to the City for the Fourth Year*** – The Department of Economic Development and Tourism staff is preparing for the arrival of Historicon, the miniatures gaming convention that attracts thousands of participants, July 16 to 19 at the Fredericksburg Expo Center. Economic impact is expected to be \$1.17 million for the event. Historicon will be using six hotels with city staff tracking over 1,200 room

nights. New this year, the actor Jason Salkey, who played a main character in the Sharpes Rifles series which has been aired on PBS and BBC will be meeting and greeting attendees during the convention.

***Employees Receive Electrical Safety Training*** – The Safety Office coordinated with



Virginia Dominion Power to provide electrical safety training to City employees on June 18, 2015. This training educated employees from Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Public Facilities, the Wastewater Treatment Facility and Fire Department on safety regulations and best management practices related to working near overhead high voltage electrical power lines as well as downed power lines. Additionally, it prepared City employees to respond safely during emergencies increasing the City's Storm Readiness Response. Dominion Power Safety Specialist Instructor Mr. Bernie O'Bannon, assisted by Mike Breeden and TJ McMahon, provided demonstrations using a simulated high voltage training trailer.