



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Greenlaw and Members of City Council
FROM: Beverly R. Cameron, City Manager
DATE: May 21, 2013
SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Highlights of major activities and other notable developments:

Master Officer Joe Young Receives National Award and Recognition – Each month, the [National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial](#) honors a deserving recipient whose actions went above and beyond the call of duty. Fredericksburg's Master Officer Joe Young has been selected as the NLEOMF Officer of the Month for June, 2013 in recognition of his demonstrated valor on the night of June 6, 2008. Officer Young's actions on that night were an example of exceptional bravery combined with rapid tactical thinking in response to the deadly set of circumstances that cost the life of his squad-mate, Officer Todd Bahr. Despite the clear danger to himself, Joe maximized control of a chaotic situation and never lost sight of his primary objective of protecting the citizens he serves. Officer Young will receive his award from NLEOMF in June and he will also be featured on their calendar and website.



Master Officer Joe Young

Fredericksburg Visitor Center Has a Fresh Look – The Fredericksburg Visitor Center is nearing the end of a series of renovations on both the inside and outside of our building at 706 Caroline Street. Work supervised by the Parks, Recreations and Public Facilities staff began last fall with the construction of new public restrooms. The center now boasts new carpet and paint, re-designed counters, updated storage and break areas, and most recently a fresh front façade. As the summer season approaches the staff of the center is excited to welcome visitors with its efficient and attractive new design.



EDT Publishes Quarterly e-Newsletter – The Department of Economic Development and Tourism published its e-Newsletter on May 15, 2013. The recipient list has more than doubled in size to over 2,800 businesses and individuals in the City and throughout the region. This latest edition focused on four recent state awards: Jason Cohen, President of ILM Corporation named SBA's Virginia Small Business Person of the Year, the Economic Development Authority for an outstanding façade improvement matching grant program and the City for an innovative financing program along with being named the SBA's Virginia Small Business Community of the Year. Other features included the "Sounds of Summer" concert series, construction projects throughout the city, a growing interest in the city-wide HUBZone and the tourism staff's expanded marketing through reunions and attendance at a number of promotional meetings and events. [Read](#) the latest edition of the e-Newsletter.

Gospel Spreading Church chooses Fredericksburg for 2014 Convocation Conference – Gospel Spreading Church has chosen Fredericksburg for their 2014 Convocation Conference. They will be using the Fredericksburg Hospitality House, June 26-29, 2014 and are expecting to bring in 260 room nights to the City of Fredericksburg. This client is a direct booking from Destinations Showcase a trade show attended in March by city staff. Economic impact is approximately \$46,270.

Public Awareness – The City's Community Development Planner, Marne Sherman, was a presenter at the Fredericksburg Area Food Bank's 6th Annual Agency Seminar held on May 16, 2013. Ms. Sherman co-led a session with Meghann Cotter, Executive Director of Micah Ecumenical Ministries, about the Fredericksburg Regional Continuum of Care (CoC) and Best Practices for Reducing Homelessness in the Region. The CoC's successful rapid-rehousing programs and collaboration among member agencies have resulted in many inquiries from service providers throughout the state which are seeking to implement programs. Over 70 homeless households have been re-housed in Planning District 16 since July of 2012, only two have returned to homelessness. Community Development Block Grant program information was also distributed to 111 persons, representing 54 community agencies, who attended the event.