



Press Release

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Marc Goldman
marc.goldman@usmc.mil
703.784.2113

Downtown Fredericksburg Merchants Plan Special Welcome for Marine Corps Historic Half Weekend

Discounts and Specials Await Runners in Downtown Shops and Restaurants

QUANTICO, VA (February 19, 2010) – The Marine Corps Marathon (MCM), organizers of the Marine Corps Historic Half, today announced a partnership with Fredericksburg’s Downtown Retail Marketing Inc (DRMI) to offer in-store discounts, shopping incentives and restaurant specials during Historic Half Weekend from May 14-16.

“The goal is to give the runners a complete getaway experience in Fredericksburg,” said Rick Nealis, MCM Director. “Visit the expo, explore downtown, get a good meal and run your best race.”

A complete list of special offers is featured on the Marine Corps Historic Half website (www.marinecorpshistorichalf.com) on the *Visit Fredericksburg* page. Participating retailers and restaurants include:

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Pennie Rose Massage Therapy | Crown Jewelers and The Jewel | Brush Strokes Gallery |
| Beck’s Antiques | Legacy | The Cats Closet |
| Lydia’s and Write at Lydia’s | Monkee’s | The Museum Store |
| The Griffin Bookshop | Fudge Factory | Bistro Bethem |
| Castiglia’s Italian Restaurant and Deli | Tru Luvs | The Virginia Wine Experience |
| Colonial Cupcakes | Renato’s | Kybecca Wine & Gourmet |
| Courtyard by Marriott Fredericksburg’s Bistro Restaurant | | |

“The Historic Half marathon is an annual event now that has grown in participation and a weekend that the merchants look to with great excitement and anticipation,” said Bonnie De Lelys, DRMI President.

On Saturday, May 15, the City of Fredericksburg will offer a free shuttle service from the Healthy Lifestyle Expo at the Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center to historic downtown Fredericksburg from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Downtown stops will be located at the Hurkamp Park, Williams Street, Fredericksburg Visitor’s Center and Caroline Street.

Online registration for the Marine Corps Historic Half marathon remains open at www.marinemarathon.com. The half marathon held in timeless Fredericksburg, Virginia will be held on May 16, 2010. *Runners can save \$10 on the registration fee by signing up before February 23, 2010.* An additional savings of \$10 is available to active duty military members. Registration is also open for the popular Semper Fred 5K, a race that immediately follows the start of the Historic Half.

The Fredericksburg-hosted 13.1 mile course offers a blend of modern life and small town charm, beginning and ending at the Fredericksburg Expo & Conference Center. Conveniently located on I-95 between Washington, D.C. and Richmond, the Historic Half marathon boasts scenic riverside views, a charming Old Town and colonial and revolutionary landmarks.

The Marine Corps Historic Half marathon will be held on May 16, 2010 in Fredericksburg, VA. The Historic Half is coordinated by organizers of the Marine Corps Marathon. The Marine Corps Historic Half is sponsored by Marine Federal Credit Union, Geico, the Free Lance Star and New Balance. No federal or Marine Corps endorsement implied. For media information, contact Marc Goldman, Marine Corps Marathon Sponsorship and Marketing Manager at (703) 784-2113 or marc.goldman@usmc.mil.

###