



# Press Release

For Immediate Release

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## **Marine Corps Marathon Announces New Running Event**

*Half Marathon presented by the Marine Corps Marathon will be held in Fredericksburg, VA*

**QUANTICO, VA-** The Marine Corps Marathon announced today a new half marathon, to be held in Fredericksburg, Virginia in May 2008. In a presentation to the members of the Fredericksburg City Council on June 12, the MCM proposal was supported with enthusiasm and excitement.

"Fredericksburg is pleased to be the location for the new half marathon," said Kevin Gullette, Director of Economic Development and Tourism for the City of Fredericksburg. "This event serves as a tool to strengthen the relationship between the City and the Marine Corps, and we anticipate the inaugural race in 2008 to be the beginning of a long-term event the City is proud to host."

The 13.1 mile course will be held entirely within Fredericksburg city limits, beginning and ending at the Fredericksburg Convention Center. The May 18, 2008 event will be open to a race field of approximately 5,000 participants. Registration details will be announced in Fall 2007.

"The Marine Corps Marathon team is excited about the partnership between Marine Corps Base Quantico and the Fredericksburg community," said Rick Nealis, Race Director. "I am confident this new event will bring a significant economic impact to the area by promoting tourism, businesses, the city's historic and scenic sights and, of course, the local running community."

Founded in 1976, Marine Corps Marathon is currently the 4th largest marathon in the US and the 7th largest marathon in the world. Known for a commitment to excellence and impeccable organization, the Marine Corps Marathon brings 32 years of planning experience to the creation of a new running event. The new half marathon is the first time in MCM history that the organization will hold a running event outside of traditional race weekend.

*Voted "Best Marathon for Families", the Marine Corps Marathon continues a combined tradition of dedication, sportsmanship and patriotism. Runners from all walks of life have participated in the world's largest marathon to not offer prize money, deservedly earning the nickname "The People's Marathon." The 32<sup>nd</sup> Marine Corps Marathon to be held on October 28, 2007 in Arlington, VA is presented by USAA, Brooks Sports, Inc., and CVS/Caremark. No federal or Marine Corps endorsement implied.*

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