

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY/MANASSAS
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU**

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY/MANASSAS CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
CELEBRATES NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK**

Prince William County, VA – If you check *out* the National Museum of the Marine Corps, take in a Potomac Nationals game, or check *in* to a Prince William County hotel, don't be surprised if you're greeted by familiar faces!

For the first time, during National Tourism Week, local leaders will experience first-hand how tourism impacts the area. Six members of the Prince William County Board of County Supervisors have accepted invitations from the Prince William County/Manassas Convention and Visitor Bureau (CVB) to volunteer at National Tourism Week events in our area, from Saturday, May 12 to Sunday May 20, 2007.

Some of the highlights of the attached schedule include: Dumfries District Supervisor Maureen Caddigan greeting visitors at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, Coles District Supervisor Martin Nohe taking tickets and throwing out the ceremonial first pitch at a Potomac Nationals game, and Occoquan District Supervisor Michael May volunteering at The Hampton Inn front desk in Woodbridge, VA.

“Millions of people from around the world travel to Prince William County each year for a variety of reasons, from weddings and reunions to weekend getaways, to corporate meetings and events. They enjoy the county's attractions and hospitality. That's pretty powerful to the community,” says Tabatha Mullins, executive director of CVB. “It is important to recognize the impact of tourism on Prince William County.”

National Tourism Week, an annual event observed since 1984, is sponsored by the Travel Industry Association of America. It promotes a better understanding of travel as a major U.S. industry, vital to the economic stability and global perception of the United States.

Tourism has a \$1.5 billion annual economic impact on Virginia, accounting for 280,000 jobs with an associated payroll of \$4 billion. Virginia welcomes 35 million visitors each year.

The Prince William County/Manassas Convention and Visitors Bureau is the destination marketing organization for Prince William County and Manassas. Through targeted marketing efforts the CVB promotes the region to potential leisure visitors, tour groups and media representatives to increase tourism and economic growth. The CVB is an independent, not-for-profit organization funded by Prince William County. For more information, call (703) 396-7130 or go to www.visitpwc.com.

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