



NEWS RELEASE

Mayor Proclaims: Play Ball

Mayors Conference Endorses Baseball-Oriented Community Activities

FREDERICK, MD – June 1, 2017: At the June 1 Mayor and Board of Alderman meeting, Mayor Randy McClement proclaimed Play Ball Summer as part of the United States Conference of Mayors' (USCM) continued support of the Play Ball Summer initiative.

The Play Ball program focuses on the fun nature of baseball and encourages an active and healthy lifestyle for youth in all communities. The U.S. Conference of Mayors is supporting Major League Baseball, Minor League Baseball and USA Baseball's initiative to provide play opportunities to youth in communities across America.

During the Summer of 2017, mayors are implementing the initiative throughout cities with the goal of strengthening the connection of communities with the national pastime. Mayors across the country are hosting activities to engage citizens, families, and city departments to organize individual and community events, such as playing catch, running bases in the backyard, family gatherings, park and recreation activities, and business-supported activities. These activities will be focused on exposing children to the sport of baseball and providing a fun opportunity to remain active throughout the summer.

At various times throughout the summer in Frederick, the Parks and Recreation Department plans to offer and encourage special activities associated with Play Ball.

"Play Ball's a great initiative with good goals that are fun to meet," said McClement. "Who doesn't have a good time hitting a few balls, running the bases? This program gets kids outdoors, making friends, playing with family. It builds healthy bodies and community bonds. I enjoy getting out there with them when I can. Since the Frederick Keys are based here in Frederick, we've got an even stronger connection to the Play Ball program."

The Play Ball initiative with the USCM focuses on recruiting cities to promote and support Play Ball through the use of baseball-related activities. Primary targets are cities with Major League and Minor League Baseball clubs.

Local leaders and citizens will report their activities to www.PLAYBALL.org via www.usmayors.org. The site provides parents, coaches and youth with information on how to get involved with Play Ball activities as well as how to join community baseball leagues. Coaching tips and video tutorials from Major League Baseball players and coaches are also a prominent component of the site. For more information and to apply, please visit www.usmayors.org.

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