



# THE BLUE LINE

*The Move to Excellence in the New Millennium*

*Martin O'Malley, Mayor*

*Baltimore, Maryland*

*Edward T. Norris, Police Commissioner*

Volume 35 Number 1

January 31, 2001

## Police Commissioner's Message



**Officer Jamie A. Roussey**  
Western District  
2-16-78 to 3-8-00



**Officer Kevon M. Gavin, Sr.**  
Southwestern District  
10-17-72 to 4-21-00

The year 2000 was historical for the men and women of the Baltimore Police Department. For the first time in more than a decade, there were fewer than 300 murders in Baltimore City. Early in the year, skeptics laughed when Mayor O'Malley and I introduced our plan to reduce violent crime and murders in our city. Now several months later the city of Baltimore has been thrust into the national spotlight, not only because Baltimore is home of the NFL's Ravens, but because for the first time in years, Baltimore is becoming a safer city. We know that the success could not be achieved without the support of the community we serve, but most importantly, it could not be achieved without the hard work of the men and women, both sworn and civilian, of the Baltimore Police Department.

Although violent crime is down in all categories and homicide clearances are on the rise, the success we shared in reducing crime did not come without a horrible sacrifice. Last year, we lost four of our best as they fought to make Baltimore a safer place.

On March 8<sup>th</sup>, **Officer Jamie A. Roussey**, who wanted to be a police officer since he was a child, was killed in an accident while responding to help a fellow officer. A little more than a month later, on April 21<sup>st</sup>, **Officer Kevon M. Gavin, Sr.** was killed when a shooting suspect rammed into his patrol car as he attempted to flee police and avoid apprehension. Kevon had recently returned to the Baltimore Police Department after working briefly for the Prince George's County Police Department. He returned because it was here, in Baltimore, that Kevon felt he could most make an impact. On October 14<sup>th</sup>, we suffered a double tragedy, when a suspected drunk driver ran a stop sign in Northeast Baltimore and took the lives of **Sergeant John D. Platt** and **Officer Kevin J. McCarthy**, as they patrolled the city's streets. The loss of these fallen heroes left an irreplaceable void in the lives of children, parents, friends and the community.

Last Friday, a jury acquitted Eric Stinnett, the driver of the car that killed Officer Gavin, despite compelling evidence. Although this came as a crushing blow, we must try to remember that the vast majority of city residents support the members of this agency as we strive to make Baltimore a safer place to live, work and raise families. I continue to support you in your efforts and am proud of the job you do everyday.

As we celebrate the success of the year 2000, let's never lose focus of the danger involved in the task that you so diligently carry out. We must never forget the ultimate sacrifice that **Jamie**, **Kevon**, **John** and **Kevin** made. As we move forward, and continue to fight the war on crime, we carry with us our memories of these fine men, so that neither the value of their lives, nor the senselessness of their deaths, is ever forgotten.

Thank you for a job well done.



**Sergeant John D. Platt**  
Northeastern District  
12-5-64 to 10-14-00



**Officer Kevin J. McCarthy**  
Northeastern District  
1-7-64 to 10-14-00

*Edward T. Norris*  
Edward T. Norris  
Police Commissioner

Baltimore Police

## Special Awards and Memorial Medals for Departmental Members

All sworn and civilian members of the Baltimore Police Department who worked during the year 2000 will soon be receiving special medals from Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris. The medals are an expression of the Commissioner's appreciation for everyone's hard work and dedication last year as we worked together to reduce violent crime and rebuild many areas of the department. In addition to the special awards medals, memorial medals containing the names of the four Baltimore police officers who died in the line of duty last year will also be distributed. Congratulations to everyone in the department and keep up the good work in 2001!

## Citizen/Police Contact Receipt Procedure Begins

In a proactive effort to allay citizens' concerns of racial profiling, the Baltimore Police Department began issuing Citizen/Police Contact Receipts on January 1, 2001. The issuance of contact receipts will establish a highly visible procedure of police officer accountability and professionalism by documenting the reasons for stopping pedestrians and motorists.

Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris is an advocate of the benefits this procedure will yield for officers and citizens alike: "Our unique Citizen/Police Contact Receipt is intended to build citizen and community trust. Trust and confidence in our integrity is critical to community respect and support for the men and women of the Baltimore Police Department." Likewise, Deputy Commissioner of Operations Barry W. Powell believes the stop receipt should be considered a valuable tool for officers: "Too often, officers are accused of racial profiling because of stopping a person, when race was not a determining factor in the officer's decision to make the stop. The Citizen/Police Contact Receipt, used as intended, serves a dual purpose: (1) to safeguard the rights of citizens from arbitrary stops, and (2) to protect the interests of officers from citizen complaints of racial profiling."

## Baltimore Police Foundation Established

Recently, the Baltimore Police Foundation was established by Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris, with the support of Mayor Martin O'Malley and area business leaders. At two luncheons held in November, Co-Chairs of the Foundation, Mr. H. Furlong Baldwin, President and CEO of Mercantile Bank and Mr. Donald J. Shepard, President and CEO, Aegon USA, Incorporated, joined Commissioner Norris as he hosted the event to help gain support of several business leaders and organizations.

The Foundation's mission is to support new crime reduction initiatives of the Baltimore Police Department by providing funding for essential needs that otherwise would not be met. Some of the areas in which donations may be applied include recruitment efforts, the purchase of technology and equipment, and training. In addition to funding innovative crime fighting strategies, the Baltimore Police Foundation provides a tax exempt vehicle for gifts that fund these programs, and allows the business community and private citizens an opportunity to partner with police leaders to help build and maintain an effective police department.

Since November, the Foundation has raised approximately \$500,000. The goal this year is to raise approximately 1.2 million dollars. To make a donation or for more information about the Baltimore Police Foundation, please call (410) 539-1684.

## Third Annual Baltimore Police Memorial Blood Drive Declared Success

The Baltimore Police Department, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, sponsored the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Memorial Blood Drive on December 28, 2000. The event was held in honor of the four Baltimore police officers who tragically lost their lives in the line of duty last year.

Departmental employees and citizens graciously donated approximately 168 pints of blood. The donations exceeded the Red Cross goal by 23%. The supreme sacrifice of our fallen heroes, Officer Jamie Roussey, Officer Kevon Gavin, Officer Kevin McCarthy and Sergeant John Platt were the inspiration for the outpouring of support for this worthwhile endeavor. The Memorial Blood Drive came at a crucial time of the year in the Red Cross' efforts to replenish the blood bank for the many citizens who will need its assistance throughout the year.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the blood drive. Anyone who wants to schedule an appointment to donate blood should call the American Red Cross at (410) 764-7000, extension 3004.

## D.E.S. Nets Major Cocaine Arrest/Seizure



Colonel James L. Hawkins, Major Jesse B. Oden, Lieutenant Anthony G. Cannavale, and detectives from the Drug Enforcement Section display 2 kilograms of cocaine and \$200,000 in U.S. currency seized in the arrest of a major cocaine supplier from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

## Good News...

The Baltimore Police Department's Youth Choir celebrated its 6th anniversary on December 15th at the War Memorial Building. The choir has 45 members, ranging from ages eight to eighteen, coming from diversified neighborhoods in Baltimore City. The choir sings various types of music and has performed 220 engagements since its inception. The choir is directed by **Officer Roderick Dotson**. Congratulations on another outstanding year!

Congratulations go to **Officer Robin Pruett** who conducted a department wide collection of gifts and toys for the children of local orphanages and shelters. Officer Pruett sends special thanks to **Director Koch, Officer Mello, and Chief O'Connor** and his children, for the generous efforts they made to help make Christmas extra special.

**Sgt. Douglas Womack**, Property Section, was recently featured in the documentary "Flight Line: The Army Helicopter Pilots of Vietnam." The documentary recently won the prestigious Aegis Award for documentaries. **Sgt. Womack** is a highly decorated Vietnam War veteran whose experiences have also been documented in two books, "The Price of Exit," by Tom Marshall, and "Primer of the Helicopter Way," by Charles Holley. "Flight Line" is available on videotape from the National Vietnam War Museum in Mineral Wells, Texas. All proceeds from the sale of the video will benefit the museum.

## 43rd Anniversary Reunion BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT K-9 UNIT

April 14, 2001  
7 pm until 11 pm  
F.O.P. Lounge

Contact Sgt. Michael Dunn 410-396-2475  
And  
Det. Sgt. John Lewis 410-396-2621

## Good News...

### Recruitment Incentive Awards

Congratulations to **Detective Caprice Smith, Child Abuse Unit** and **Officer Donte Preston, Eastern District**, for each referring two new police officers to the Baltimore Police Department. In addition, fifty-one members of the department, both sworn and civilian, have also qualified to receive monetary awards through the recruitment incentive program.

The Personnel Section would like to remind all members of the department the recruitment incentive awards program will continue throughout 2001. The awards are applied as follows:

First Referral	\$100.00
Second Referral	\$200.00
Third Referral	\$300.00
Fourth Referral	\$200.00

For additional information about the incentive program, please call the Personnel Section at (410) 396-2548.



Detective Caprice Smith  
Child Abuse Unit



Officer Donte Preston  
Eastern District



## Birth Announcements!

Congratulations to **Officer Edward Gray, Central District** and wife **Lisa** on the birth of their son **Brennan Michael Gray** on December 1, 2000. **Brennan** weighed in at 7 pounds and 5 ounces.

Congratulations to **Officer Kim Brown, Central District**, and **Mr. Rodney Gross, Sr.** on the birth of their son, **Rodney Christopher Gross** on December 27, 2000. **Rodney** weighed in at 8 pounds and 8 ounces.

Congratulations are also in order for **Lieutenant Rodney Giacomelli, Legal Affairs Section**, and his wife **Katie**, on the birth of their daughter **Alexandra Nicole Giacomelli** on December 27, 2000. **Alexandra** weighed in at 6 pounds.

# GO RAVENS!!



## Scholarship Funds Available



Applications are currently being accepted for the FOP and Frank J. Battaglia Signal 13 Foundation scholarship funds. Three FOP scholarships will be awarded to the children of FOP members; the Lieutenant Owen Sweeney Memorial Scholarship and the Police Officer Vincent

Adolfo Scholarship will also be awarded. Qualified applicants for the Signal 13 Foundation scholarships must attend a college or university in the state of Maryland, and should be dependent children of active members of the Baltimore Police Department. Please contact the FOP at (410) 243-9141 or Signal 13 Foundation at (410) 335-1056 for additional information.

## Fundraisers Scheduled for Fallen Heroes

Several fundraisers are under way to honor the memory of Baltimore police officers who lost their lives in the line of duty. To provide funds for the children of Sergeant John Platt and Officer Kevin McCarthy, Lieutenant Joseph Chianca of the Northeastern District is selling tee shirts with the fallen heroes' photographs on the back. The tee shirts cost \$12.50 and \$13.50 (for XXL) and can be purchased from Lieutenant Chianca by calling (410) 396-2444.

Fundraisers are also being held for the construction of the Baltimore City Fraternal Order of Police Memorial, to be located in Shot Tower Park across the street from Police Headquarters. Angela Halcomb, whose husband, Officer Jimmy W. Halcomb, was killed in the line-of-duty in 1976, says \$500,000 is needed to begin construction of the memorial. Proceeds from the following sales and events will go toward this construction:

- Lieutenant Chianca of the Northeastern District is selling "Fallen Heroes" baseball caps for \$15 and "Fallen Heroes" calendars for \$5.
- On March 18, 2001, a concert featuring Grammy Award-winner Bela Fleck & the Flecktones is being held at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Police Memorial Run, a 5K run or 1K family walk through the streets of downtown Baltimore, is tentatively being held on May 12, 2001.
- "Fallen Heroes Memorial Phone Cards" worth 338 minutes of talk time are selling for \$20 at the following locations: WCBM Radio, Di'Mimmo's Restaurant, Sabatino's Restaurant, Santoni's Restaurant, Santoni's Deli, Jimmy O'Donnell's Pub, and The Fine Grind Coffee Shop.



## "Scenes from the Departmental Holiday Celebration"



# IN THE NEWS...

## Western District Heroes



**Officer Lawang Hyman**



**Officer Michael Minor**

They refuse to call themselves heroes. So we will do it for them. What other word describes two officers who enter a burning building, rescue three people, and do it without any firefighting equipment? We call them heroes, or in this case, members of the Baltimore Police Department's Western District.

On Thursday, December 21, 2000, Officers Lawang Hyman and Michael Minor were waiting for a tow truck in West Baltimore when they saw smoke coming from a row house around the corner. Minutes later they were crashing through the front door, racing up a smoke filled staircase, and rescuing three elderly women from the fire. One of those women was an amputee.

Both officers were treated for smoke inhalation at the University of Maryland's Shock Trauma Hospital. Those rescued by the officers call them heroes, and they aren't alone. "No question about it, their efforts saved at least one life, probably more," said Baltimore City Fire Battalion Chief Hector Torres.



Police officer trainees from Class 2000-05 pose with their class advisor, **Officer Jeffrey Redd**, and the blankets they donated for guests at *Our Daily Bread*.

## Trainees Launch "Community Outreach" Program

In support of the Baltimore Police Department's mission to develop well-rounded, community-oriented police officers, a new component called "Community Outreach" has been added to the academy's training program. According to Major Stanford O. Franklin, Commander of the Education & Training Section, this component will help "ensure the recruits truly understand the meaning of giving and service, and that by the nature of our job description, we are public servants." Each future class of trainees will participate in at least two "Community Outreach" endeavors during the six-month academy.

Class 2000-05, the first class of recruits to participate in "Community Outreach," catered to the homeless on January 9, 2001 at *Our Daily Bread*. According to Kerrie Burch-DeLuca, Director of Communications for Catholic Charities, *Our Daily Bread* is the largest feeding program in the state of Maryland, serving an average of 750 guests per day. The 34 trainees served food and distributed jackets, shirts, and blankets to those in need. All of the clothing items were generously purchased or donated by the trainees.



## Good News Travels Far

It's been all over the news, locally and nationally. *USA Today* ran the story. *The Los Angeles Times* covered it. Both *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* ran feature articles on the good news. Move over Election 2000, make way for the Baltimore Police Department.

When the clock struck midnight on December 31, 2000, it was 'the story' in Baltimore. For the first time in eleven years, the city's murder rate had fallen below 300, and everyone wanted the details. Mayor O'Malley thanked the Commissioner and officers throughout the city. In turn Commissioner Norris thanked the Mayor for his support, and his officers for their hard work. Both thanked the citizens of Baltimore for their support.

Next up, the international media. Look for stories featuring the BPD in Germany, Canada, and beyond.

## Letters to the Commissioner...

I was recently contacted regarding my upcoming court testimony in Rennie v. Lycoming et al. The case has been scheduled for trial at least two times in the past two years. The first time that the court notified me, I immediately contacted the department to obtain my case folder. The file folder was never located, so I requested a letter from the department explaining the missing file. My plan was to use the letter when asked questions that I could not answer without the investigative file.

After being notified a second time by the court, I re-contacted Legal Affairs and spoke with Mr. Sean Malone and explained what had transpired in the past. To my surprise, Mr. Malone contacted me at my home and advised that the file had been located. This was accomplished in less than six hours. Since my retirement in 1994, it appears that many things have changed within the department. Never did I expect to speak with a "Director". Mr. Malone invited me to Legal Affairs to review and take possession of the file for trial.

Whatever motivation methods you use, please continue. In speaking with former co-workers, they seem very pleased with the direction of the department. Please convey my genuine thanks to Deputy Police Commissioner Elbert F. Shirey and Mr. Malone. They were able to accomplish in six hours what former personnel could not do in two years.

Sincerely,  
Tony Petralia  
Retired Police Officer  
Traffic Section

THANKS FOR THE  
GREAT YEARS!



FESTIVUS MAXIMUS  
BALTIMORE RAVENS

### *Final Roll Call*

**Trapasso, Frank**, retired Police Officer, Education and Training, 76 years of age, 25 years of service, November 3rd.

**Berger, Erwin**, retired Police Officer, years of age, 20 years of service, November 8th.

**Gray, John, H.**, retired Police Officer, Pine Street Station, 90 years of age, 27 years of service, November 11th.

**Culotta, Lena R.**, retired Police Officer, Central Records Division, 69 years of age, 17 years of service, November 11th.

**Clark, John P.**, retired Police Officer, Criminal Investigation Division, 71 years of age, 26 years of service, December 5th.

**Andrew, George E.**, retired Lieutenant, Criminal Investigation Bureau, 87 years of age, 34 years of service, January 15th.

### *Retirements*

**Zittle, Michael D.**, Police Officer, Information and Technology Division, 42 years of age, 23 years of service, December 1st.

**Kincaid, Jack W.**, Sergeant, Northwestern District, 42 years of age, 21 years of service, December 2nd.

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION  
601 EAST FAYETTE STREET  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

THE BLUE LINE

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# THE BLUE LINE

*The Move to Excellence in the New Millennium*

*Martin O'Malley, Mayor*

*Baltimore, Maryland*

*Edward T. Norris, Police Commissioner*

Volume 35 Number 2

February 28, 2001

## City Council Issues Resolution Praising Police Department

The crime reduction success of the Baltimore Police Department was acknowledged in a City Council resolution on February 5, 2001. Introduced by President Sheila Dixon and Councilmembers Cain, Curran, D'Adamo, Handy, and Pugh, the resolution concerns "Commendations to Commissioner Norris and Members of the Baltimore City Police Department." It reads, in part:

*The decline in Baltimore's homicide rate can be directly attributed to new police strategies that included concentrating officers in the violent, drug plagued Eastern District and launching an intergovernmental operation that combined the crime-fighting efforts of local, state, and federal governments to get known criminals off our City streets...*

*In recognition of Baltimore's efforts, the outgoing federal administration awarded the City \$28.8 million...*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** that Police Commissioner Norris and members of the Baltimore City Police Department are hereby respectfully commended for their selfless commitment to decelerating the scandalous crime rate, halting the proliferation of the spread of drugs, contributing to the overall feelings of safety for our citizens and visitors, and generally aiding in securing an image of gracious activity for our venerable City of Baltimore.



*Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris presents the Skills Trophy and the Firearms Trophy to Officer Donald D. Diehl, III.*



## Class 2000-4 Graduates

On February 2, 2001, *Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris* joined family, friends and other departmental members to welcome the newest additions to the Baltimore Police Department. Thirty-three new police officers were sworn in during a graduation ceremony held at the War Memorial Building on Gay Street.

Colonel Richard T. Schnell, Director of Military Support to Civil Authorities for the Maryland National Guard, was the distinguished guest speaker for the event. During the graduation exercises Class Valedictorian *Officer Robert L. Himes, III* was presented with the Police Commissioner's Award of Excellence for his overall outstanding efforts while assigned to the Education and Training Division. Also during the ceremony, *Officer Donald D. Diehl, III* was recognized as the Firearms Champion and the Skills Champion for his exceptional physical proficiency. Congratulations to all our graduates and good luck as you begin to patrol the communities of Baltimore City!

## A Chief No More...Now He's a Colonel



*Pictured above: Commissioner Edward T. Norris, Colonel and Mrs. John V. Pignataro.*

In April of last year, *Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris* hired *John V. Pignataro* from the New York City Police Department, and made him Chief of Information and Technology for the Baltimore Police Department. Less than a year later he no longer holds that title. Now, after a promotion ceremony in the Commissioner's Board Room in January, he's *Colonel Pignataro*.

Colonel Pignataro has been in the crime-fighting game for more than twenty years. While with the NYPD, Pignataro was a patrol officer, a personnel officer for the Chief of Detectives, and the creator of the Technical Service Section. He also a Master of Science Degree in Telecommunications and Computer Science.

As the commander of the Baltimore Police Department's Information Technology Division, Colonel Pignataro is responsible for its Management Information Systems, the Emergency 911 system, and the newly formed Technical Assistance and Response Unit. As for Colonel Pignataro's new title, he says he doesn't care what you call him, "Just answer when I yell for help."

## Commissioner Commends Eastern District Initiative



*Commissioner Norris congratulates and thanks Agent Timothy Flaherty during his presentation of Special Service Commendations to personnel of the Eastern District Initiative.*

For the first time since the 1968 riots, Special Service Commendations were awarded on February 21, 2001. In recognition of the outstanding success of the Eastern District Initiative during 2000, Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris awarded medals to the initiative's members at his monthly press briefing. Their efforts between August 22 and December 31 stemmed the tide of violent crime in the Eastern District by reducing murders by 55% and shootings by 66%, as compared to the same time period during 1999. According to Commissioner Norris, "The award serves as a reminder of the department's recognition for the officers' extraordinary dedication to duty and professional competence."

# The BPD Helps Make the Combined Charity Campaign the Best Ever

It's being called "the best overall campaign" in the Combined Charity Campaign's (CCC) history, and members of the Baltimore Police Department played a big part. In 1999, Baltimore's finest raised \$95,165.00; last year our men and women in blue gave more, \$124,929.00. "Every year we ask the Baltimore Police for a lot, and every year they deliver," says Holly Rhodes who manages the annual campaign. Overall, the 2000 campaign raised \$1,118,685 for over three hundred charities that serve Baltimore citizens.

Special thanks to Lieutenant Joseph Darchicourt, the coordinator for the police department. Thanks are also in order for loan executives Monica Pilkerton and Sylvia Hall-Johnson, and all the other solicitors and department coordinators. And last but not least, thanks to all who contributed. Not only can we make a difference, we are making a difference.

## Officers Receive Community Service Award



Pictured left to right: Assistant Principal Charles Johnson, Officer Ryne Robinson, Ms. Ellen Severance, Principal Lily McElveen, Officer Jon Walter.

Officers Jon Walter and Ryne Robinson were surprised, they say, when Walter P. Carter Elementary honored them on February 16, 2001 with a community service award for their commitment to mentoring the school's students. Officer Walter says "We weren't expecting an award or looking for recognition. We just wanted to make the children's lives better." It's clear they have.

Officers Walter and Robinson are assigned to the *Govans Hot Spot Unit in the Northern District*, serving nine community associations. Although their duties include attending association meetings, responding to

community complaints, and preparing drug nuisance abatement cases for prosecution, they have focused their efforts on children.

The officers perform a variety of functions for Walter P. Carter Elementary School's students, parents, and staff. According to Officer Robinson, "We work with the whole school on a variety of issues — anything the school may need our help with. The school works well with us and is receptive to us being there."

The officers visit the school at least twice per week as part of a mentoring program they helped establish for at-risk youth. Initially conceived to provide a positive influence for children whose family members have been lost to violence and drug abuse, the program expanded when the rest of the school's children witnessed the special relationship between their classmates and officers Walter and Robinson. "The kids get excited when they see us," says Officer Walter. "I enjoy how they feel comfortable looking to us for advice."

We can all be proud of the dedication and initiative demonstrated by officers Walter and Robinson; their actions reflect positively on us all. As one Walter P. Carter Elementary School faculty member says, the officers have "changed my concept of police."

## Good News...

Sergeant Roger Nolan of the *Homicide Section* has never taken a sick day since the day he started in the department. He has already been awarded for 14 years without sick leave by the Police Commissioner at that time, Donald D. Pomerleau. Sergeant Nolan attributes his good health to being lucky. "The serious ailments I have had have been manageable, so I wouldn't have to take a sick day." Congratulations and continued good health to you, Sergeant Nolan.

On February 1st through 3rd, detectives assigned to the *Criminal In-*

*vestigation Division/District Drug Units* participated in a drug initiative in the Eastern District. This was a coordinated effort between *DEU, DIS*, those currently assigned to the *Eastern District Initiative, and Eastern District Patrol*. This initiative was conducted to effectively disrupt the sales of narcotics throughout the district, and to reduce the amount of drug related violence. For two days each sector had three Drug Enforcement Unit assigned for the purpose of effecting street level narcotic arrests. For the third day, several reversals were conducted throughout the district. As a result of the three day initiative, 175 individuals were arrested for charges ranging from possession of narcotics to handgun violations. As they were arrested, the arrestees were debriefed and valuable information was obtained.

Initiatives such as this will be conducted throughout the year in various sections of the city. Officers will deploy into areas the department experiences a significant rise in violent crime. As we have proved during these three days, deployment en masse can make a difference in any community.

## Letters to the Commissioner

We would like to thank Ms. Charmayne Payne and the members of the Central Records Division for their recent generous contribution of 35 filled Christmas gift bags for HIV/AIDS patients in area hospitals.

The HIV/AIDS Gift Bag Project is growing as the rate of infection continues to increase, and as more facilities learn of the Project and request bags and as more of God's people respond by filling gift bags! Just before Christmas this year we delivered 651 gift bags to Baltimore area facilities caring for HIV/AIDS patients! This was the first year we were made aware of the participation of the Baltimore Police Department in this project! We at Love and Action are most grateful and we know the patients are too! Please convey our sincere appreciation to the Department and Ms. Charmayne Payne for their compassionate help in bringing some comfort and hope to these lonely patients.

In His Service  
Barbara Ellingson  
Baltimore Chapter  
Love and Action, Inc.

## African American Pioneers



**Lieutenant  
Violet Hill Whyte**

The late 1930's marked an important era in the Baltimore Police Department. On December 3, 1937 **Violet Hill Whyte** was appointed as the first African American police officer in Baltimore. Approximately seven months later, three African-American men followed her lead: **James H. Butler Jr.**, **Harry S. Scott**, and **Milton O. Gardner**.

Their appointments as police officers came during a time of racial intolerance and inequality. However, despite many obstacles and adversities, these brave trailblazers excelled and took pride in their chosen career paths. Due to their fearless and pioneering efforts over 63 years ago, many African Americans have followed their example and continue to make significant contributions to the Baltimore Police Department.

In this new millennium, approximately 1244 male and female African-American officers, represented in all ranks, are now an integral part of the diversity of our police department.

February marks the celebration of Black History Month in our nation and during this time, we should reflect on the rich history of our law enforcement family. In doing so, we truly honor the memory of those who "paved the way" for the future.



**Officer Layla Strand**

## Civilian Employee Makes Transition To Baltimore Police Officer

**Police Officer Layla Strand** has a lot to smile about these days. One year ago, as she was about to celebrate her 19<sup>th</sup> year as a Darkroom Technician in the Laboratory Division, Officer Strand began to seriously consider making the transition from civilian employee to sworn police officer. In May 2000, she successfully made the transition and was hired as a Baltimore police officer. Officer Strand graduated from the academy on February 2, 2001 and is currently assigned to the Southeastern District.

According to Officer Strand, her first day on the street was an eye opening experience. She says, "I had no idea that the stress level could be so high for police officers. My first call was for an open door and the prospect of what dangers may have awaited me inside of the house was very stressful." When asked why she decided to make the transition, Officer Strand replied, "I saw a tremendous opportunity for advancement and a real challenge that I could commit myself to." Officer Strand also says that her twelve years of experience as a foster care parent for emotionally disturbed children helped her to develop a great deal of patience and other problem solving skills.

One of the most important influences that helped Officer Strand make the transition was the words of encouragement and inspiration that she received from other police officers who were also former civilian employees. She says, "Throughout my nineteen years with the department, I have met and befriended a great deal of people. Talking to other people who had successfully made the transition really helped me put my goals and aspirations into perspective."



**Deputy Commissioner  
Barry W. Powell**

## UPN Salutes Deputy Commissioner Powell

UPN is celebrating Black History Month with a salute to **Deputy Commissioner Barry W. Powell**. Viewed as a leader within the department and throughout the city, UPN honors Deputy Powell with a 30 second tribute sharing his thoughts on the significant contributions African-Americans have made to the department, policing, and our city. During the salute, Deputy Powell makes the following comments:

"Everyone needs to know the history. It's important for African Americans to set a period of time to look back to review the progress that they've made. It's important to recognize diversity because everyone in America has made a contribution. I think Baltimore is a great city."



**Director  
Ragina C. Averella**

## Director Averella Speaks in Honor Of Black History Month

On Thursday, February 22, 2001, Public Affairs Section **Director Ragina C. Averella** was the featured speaker for McCormick & Company's Learning and Development Center in Hunt Valley, Maryland. The event marked the first time a woman has ever been a featured speaker at this event. Director Averella is also the first woman to hold the position of Director of Public Affairs for the Baltimore Police Department.

"I've often seen Director Averella on television. She comes across as an intelligent, articulate woman who has a lot to share," says Mary Matee from McCormick and Company. "We've never had a woman speak before; Ragina seemed like a great place to start."

Director Averella has been on the force since 1991, and was named valedictorian of her police academy class. She was assigned to the Public Affairs Section in 1995, and was appointed Director by Commissioner Norris in May 2000.

# IN THE NEWS...

## NFL Superbowl Champion Visits PAL Center



*Baltimore Ravens Sam Adams  
Presents \$5000.00 check to the Police Athletic League*

Following a spectacular performance in Superbowl XXXV, Baltimore Ravens defensive tackle and Pro-Bowler Sam Adams paid a much anticipated visit to the Towanda PAL Center in Northwest Baltimore on January 29, 2001. As part of a charity campaign sponsored by the Samuel Adams Beer Company, \$1,000.00 was donated to PAL for each tackle made by Sam Adams during the Superbowl. Due to the Defensive tackle's efforts, a check for \$5,000.00 was presented to the Northwest PAL football team.

Dozens of children and adults packed the Towanda PAL Center as Sam Adams patiently took pictures with fans, signed autographs and despite his fatigue, gave an impromptu pep talk. Excitement and a sense of awe filled the air as Sam Adams described his Superbowl experience to the eagerly awaiting children that were assembled. He also stressed the importance of supporting programs like the Northwest PAL football team. He said, "With the help of Samuel Adams Beer, it is my pleasure to have this opportunity to make a positive contribution to the lives of young people in Baltimore."

## Ravens, Baltimore Police Department Celebrate Victory



In Super Bowl XXXV, the Baltimore Ravens gave up only three sacks to the New York Giants. That's great pass protection. Two days later, the BPD gave the citizens of Baltimore even better protection.

On a cold, rainy Tuesday afternoon 250,000 Ravens fans flooded downtown Baltimore to celebrate the NFL's newest champions. They screamed, they sang, and they "woofed" until they couldn't woof anymore...and they did it all under the watchful eye of the BPD. How good was police protection? Despite the fact that a quarter of a million people attended the Super Bowl Parade festivities, no arrests were made. None.

"It was a combination of things," said Major Russell Shea of the Tactical Section. "We had a comprehensive plan for protection, officers let fans have fun within reason, and the fans never got unruly. We followed what the Ravens did: it's called teamwork."

## Letters to the Commissioner....

Last month, several of your officers helped to make the holidays special for residents of the YWCA's transitional housing program.

As you may know, transitional housing offers formerly homeless families the opportunity to live in their own apartments while receiving supportive services and continuing to work toward financial stability and independent living. These are families who have experienced some of the toughest times imaginable and who are reclaiming and rebuilding their lives. Still, there is little room in their budgets for items like holiday gifts.

After Pete O'Neil of WMAR-TV News coordinated a drive to secure gifts for children living in transitional housing, he then arranged with the police department to deliver the gifts. The police officers that participated in this effort demonstrated that they are people and care about and connect to the community. They helped create for these children and their families a holiday season that they will never forget. They delivered more than presents last month, they delivered hope.

Congratulations to the Baltimore Police Department, who are such outstanding citizens. Their gifts will never be forgotten.

Sincerely,  
Rosalyn Branson  
Chief Executive Officer  
YWCA of the Greater Baltimore Area, Inc.

I wanted to let you know that one of Baltimore city's finest helped my mother, Mrs. Rose Kyle. This has been a particularly bad holiday season for us because my father, Mr. Thomas Kyle, passed away on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Out of respect to him, we put up Christmas decorations because he looked forward to doing it every year. Unfortunately, there is a bad element of juvenile delinquency in her neighborhood ranging from vandalism to drug distribution. She is one who takes pride in her home and looks out for neighbors. The week leading up to Christmas she was being harassed by some teenagers who showed no respect by yelling obscenities and throwing rocks and ice at her home. After letting it happen a couple times and talking to the teenagers parents to no avail, she finally called the police.

My mother had the opportunity of being greeted by Officer Keith Jones of the Southwestern District. He was courteous, compassionate and respectful. He found out about my father's passing and showed my mother tenderness, which meant a lot to her and me. Since then, Officer Jones has been in her neighborhood for other things and asks if my mom is okay. I can only believe that it's not only a reflection of Officer Jones' character but also the fine job that you and Mayor Martin O' Malley are doing to make a positive change in the fine city of Baltimore.

Thank you and God Bless,  
Thomas J. Lyle

## Retirements

**Wagner, Waler G.**, Police Officer, Education and Training Section, 45 years of age, 20 years of service, January 13th.

**Busnuk, Gerard F.**, Captain, Property Section, 54 years of age, 29 years of service, January 18th.

**Nelson, Tessie M.**, Office Assistant II-T, Western District, 62 years of age, 13 years of service, January 19th.

**Ahrens, Richard B., Jr.**, Police Officer, Northwestern District, 54 years of age, 25 years of service, February 3rd.

**Bush, Richard E.**, Police Officer, Northern District, 59 years of age, 31 years of service, February 6th.

**Russell, Joseph M.**, Lieutenant, Northern District, 51 years of age, 29 years of service, February 6th.

## Final Roll Call

**Andrew, George E.**, retired Lieutenant, 87 years of age, 34 years of service, January 15th.

**Couch, Flan, Jr.**, retired Police Officer, 80 years of age, 20 years of service, January 16th.

**Sanzone, Bernard J.**, retired Police Officer 76 years of age, 21 years of service, January 23rd.

**Tabeling, John E.**, retired Police Officer, 78 years of age, 36 years of service, February 6th.

**Kearney, William L.**, retired Lieutenant, 70 years of age, 36 years of service, February 9th.

**Blow, Collis M.**, retired Police Officer, 57 years of age, 31 years of service, February 16th.

**Fetrow, Clarence E.**, retired Police Officer, 85 years of age, 22 years of service, February 18th.

## Wedding Announcement....



Congratulations to **Officer Marvyn L. Gaynor Jr.**, Western District, on his recent marriage. He exchanged vows with his wife **Dorine** on November 20, 2000 in Negril, Jamaica.

THE BLUE LINE

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION  
601 EAST FAYETTE STREET  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

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# THE BLUE LINE

*The Move to Excellence in the New Millennium*

*Martin O'Malley, Mayor*

*Baltimore, Maryland*

*Edward T. Norris, Police Commissioner*

Special Edition

April 5, 2001

## *In the Line of Duty*



**Police Agent  
Michael J. Cowdery, Jr.  
July 30, 1969 to March 12, 2001**

*"They are surely to be esteemed the bravest spirits who, having the clearest sense for both the pains and pleasures of life, do not on that account shrink from danger."*

*- Benjamin Fowett*

**Baltimore Police**

# *In Life, We Loved You Dearly...*



## **Death of A Hero**

Born and raised as the only son of a Philadelphia police officer, Police Agent Michael J. Cowdery, Jr. admired his father and the uniform he proudly wore. Years later he became the same kind of role model to his son that his father was to him. Agent Cowdery, fondly known as "Mickey" by his family and close friends, began his journey as a police officer in 1996. It was a surprising but almost inevitable career change for the Hampton University graduate who spent his early post-graduate years as a financial consultant.

Four years into his career as a Baltimore police officer, Agent Cowdery volunteered for an obviously dangerous endeavor: the Eastern District Initiative. This task seemed to be an insurmountable challenge. However, the 31-year-old officer and over 100 of his brave colleagues had faith in their abilities and pledged to work diligently to achieve their goals in one of the city's most violent and troubled communities. Due to their tireless efforts, crime was reduced and the residents of Baltimore began to reclaim their neighborhoods.

The extraordinary efforts of Agent Cowdery and his fellow officers did not go unnoticed. In February, Agent Cowdery was one of several officers formally presented with Special Service Commendations for their outstanding achievements. It was a small but significant gesture of appreciation for decreasing violent crime in such a short time period.

On the rainy and cold Monday night of March 12, 2001 at approximately 10:00 p.m., Police Agent Michael A. Cowdery and his fellow officers continued their dedication as they drove in an unmarked vehicle on Harford Road. They saw a group of people they believed were acting in a suspicious manner and exited their vehicle to investigate further. While members of the team began to conduct field interviews of two men, a third individual appeared and began to shoot at the officers.

Agent Cowdery and Police Officer Ronald A. Beverly were wounded as a result of the suspect's gunfire. Officer Beverly, shot in the leg when the shootout began, was able to chase the fleeing suspect as he ran towards Cliftview Avenue. During the exchange of gunfire, Officer Beverly shot the suspect. A loaded .357 caliber handgun and suspected cocaine were recovered from the suspect.

Agent Cowdery and Officer Beverly were taken to Johns Hopkins Hospital. Tragically, Agent Cowdery succumbed to his injuries as a result of his gunshot wounds; Officer Beverly was treated and released. The suspect was charged with first degree murder and released from University of Maryland Shock Trauma.

Agent Cowdery was often described as the "babyfaced" officer who possessed a gentle spirit and kind heart. We will forever remember him as the son, the father, the brother, the police officer, the friend, who "died so that the city of Baltimore may live."

# ...In Death, We Love You Still



## arewell to A Hero

The forces of fate and nature appeared to meet all at once as Police Agent Michael J. Cowdery, Jr. was laid to rest on March 17. On a day reserved for honoring the memory of St. Patrick, Agent Cowdery was led to his final resting-place in a ceremony held at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. The mood of our Irish mayor, Martin O'Malley, and others befitted the gloom of the drizzling rain, yet the green at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens seemed brighter than usual.

Agent Cowdery epitomized the kind of officer the Baltimore Police Department is proud to call its own. Bright, brave, ambitious, kind, and a striking model of professionalism, Agent Cowdery's sudden death was a bitter pill to swallow as Baltimore struggles to halt the violence for which it has become known.

A theme of commitment-to-service linked the day's eulogies. Major Elfrago Moye, assuming the voice of Agent Cowdery, read a poem written by Lieutenant Gregory Eads: "I go where others fear to go. I did what others failed to do." In doing what others have failed to do, the Reverend Richard B. Hilgartner said Agent Cowdery put "his life on the line for justice and for peace, ... for people he didn't even know."

Despite the loss that brought everyone together, the viewing and funeral services offered signs of hope and inspiration for police officers and the duties they perform. Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris acknowledged the community's willingness to reach out to the department during its time of mourning, saying he had "never felt more support in [his] career than now in Baltimore." This was demonstrated, according to Mayor O'Malley, by the long line of citizens standing in the rain at the funeral home to thank Agent Cowdery and his family for their sacrifice to the community.

Notably, the nobleness of policing as a profession was also affirmed. Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy-Townsend recognized that Agent Cowdery's efforts "brought peace and peace of mind" to those he served, all while he accepted the inherent risks of the profession as a means of manifesting his love for his family, friends, and colleagues.

The familiar long procession, ribbon-draped police cars, and parade of fallen heroes' family members, marked the day's enduring images. Perhaps none were more indelible though, than those of Agent Cowdery's son, Matthew. Bearing a striking resemblance to his father, Matthew accepted a United States flag from Commissioner Norris, released doves symbolize the freeing of his father's soul, and offered us hope that the future of our nation's cities is secure with fine young men and women willing to follow in their fathers' footsteps.



## Letters of Condolence



Dear Sir:

I am writing on the tragic occasion of the death of Officer Michael Joseph Cowdery, Jr. It is with sadness that we in Vancouver learned of your loss.

Our staff work very closely with our local police agencies and feel an affinity and bond with our cousins in the related emergency services. And as a police officer myself in a former life, I can feel some sense of the loss that your department is experiencing.

On behalf of the officers, NCOs, paramedics, and administration staff of the British Columbia Ambulance Service in Vancouver, please accept our heartfelt condolences. Our best wishes and prayers go out to Officer Cowdery's family, and his colleagues.

Should there be anything that we may do to assist from across the continent, it goes without saying that we are but a telephone call away.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Harford  
Superintendent - Region 2  
British Columbia Ambulance Service



Dear Deputy Commissioner:

On behalf of the Community Mediation Program I am writing to express my condolences on the loss of an officer. Our thoughts and prayers are with Officer Cowdery's family and friends and with the Department as you mourn his loss.

Sincerely,  
Lorig Charkoudian  
Executive Director, CMP

### Blue Mass

Public service personnel from the police and fire departments of Baltimore City will be recognized in a special community mass scheduled for April 23, 2001 at 6:30 p.m. Intended as "A Service of Prayer for the protection, encouragement, and guidance by the Holy Spirit," the mass will be held at Saint John's Church, 3009 Greenmount Avenue.

## No Last Farewell

*He wished no one a last farewell*

*Nor even said goodbye*

*He was gone before we knew it*

*And only God knows why*

*His life was full of kindly deeds,*

*A helping hand to all in need*

*A pleasant smile, a heart of gold*

*No finer person this world could behold.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you,*

*But you didn't go alone,*

*For part of us went with you,*

*The day God took you home*

*Anonymous*

A Thank You:

The Baltimore City Police Honor Guard Unit wishes to express its sincerest appreciation for assistance received during the funeral detail for Agent Michael Cowdery. Special thanks are extended to Mayor O'Malley, Police Commissioner Norris, Deputies Powell and Shirey, and Colonel Novak for their continuous support. Others of significant note include the Tactical Section, the Traffic Unit under the direction of Lt. Gutberlet, the Education and Training Property sections, the Motor Pool and Quartermaster units for all their behind-the-scenes assistance, and Oscar Requer of the Personnel Section.

Twenty-nine color teams representing fellow agencies from along the east coast proudly displayed colors befitting a hero's funeral. We thank them and the assistance rendered by the Public Affairs Section, Baltimore County Police Department, and the Maryland State Police during these stressful days of memorial services. Finally, for providing logistical and emotional support, thanks are given to the Department of Public Works and the State Highway Administration, Box 414, the First Alarmers, and the Baltimore City and Baltimore County Fire Departments.

We apologize should any group or individual not be mentioned. We feel it is important that the Honor Guard Team pay recognition where it is deserved.

Sergeant Frank Wagner



The Sun, Monday, March 19, 2001

**"Agent Cowdery died in hope that Baltimore City might live."**

Dan Berger - Bergerisms

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THE BLUE LINE



# THE BLUE LINE

*The Move to Excellence in the New Millennium*

*Martin O'Malley, Mayor*

*Baltimore, Maryland*

*Edward T. Norris, Police Commissioner*

Volume 35 Number 4

May 11, 2001

## *Medal Day 2001*



*"Those honored in the ceremony this evening have demonstrated extreme courage; in several cases, they have paid the ultimate sacrifice. We owe it to them and their families to acknowledge their commitment and bravery as well as to honor their lives and memory".*

*Edward T. Norris - Police Commissioner*

*Baltimore Police*

Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris began a well-deserved tradition on April 12, 2001. In an evening ceremony held at the War Memorial Plaza, more than 50 of the department's sworn and civilian employees were honored with medals for heroism, bravery, and dedication to duty. "This is the most important night of the year," the commissioner said. "Medals used to be given out at graduation and promotion ceremonies. That's not the way it's supposed to be done."

Mayor Martin O'Malley proudly accompanied Commissioner Norris in congratulating and thanking the medal recipients. "There is no place I'd rather be, or where I should be, than here tonight," the mayor said.

## *Honorees*

### *The Medal of Honor*

The Baltimore Police Department's most prestigious award is given to members who distinguish themselves conspicuously by gallantry and courage at the risk of their own lives, above and beyond the call of duty, in an extraordinary act of heroism and bravery without endangering or jeopardizing the lives of others and without detriment in any way to their sworn oath.

**Police Officer Ronald A. Beverly**  
**Police Agent Michael Joseph Cowdery, Jr.**  
**Police Officer Kevon Malik Gavin, Sr.**  
**Police Officer Kevin Joseph McCarthy**  
**Police Officer Anthony R. Molesky**  
**Police Officer Jamie Allen Roussey**  
**Sergeant John David Platt**

### *The Silver Star*

Awarded for an exceptional act or execution of duty performed in the presence of great danger and personal risk without endangering or jeopardizing the lives of others, and performed in such a manner as to clearly indicate that the sworn member displayed outstanding ability and judgment in the performance of duty.

**Police Officer Christopher Fallor**  
**Police Officer Timothy Stach**  
**Police Officer Glenn Zinn**

### *Citation of Valor*

Sworn members who have sustained gunshot wounds, stab wounds, or serious injury under aggravated and hostile circumstances which could result in death or permanent disability.

**Detective David F. Azur**  
**Police Officer Ronald A. Beverly**  
**Police Agent Michael Joseph Cowdery, Jr.**  
**Police Officer Kevon Malik Gavin, Sr.**  
**Police Officer Willie W. Grandy**  
**Police Officer Anthony R. Molesky**

### *The Bronze Star*

Awarded to sworn members who distinguish themselves by displaying exceptionally meritorious service to the department and to the community.

**Police Officer Larry W. Armwood**  
**Police Officer Dianna L. Ckyouu**  
**Police Officer Edward D. Colbert**  
**Police Officer Raymond E. Cook, Jr.**  
**Police Officer Andrew F. Corsaro**  
**Police Officer Mark P. Daughterty**  
**Sergeant Schuyler R. Denham**  
**Police Officer David J. DeVincentz**  
**Police Officer Kevin P. Feser**  
**Police Officer Michael C. Guizzotti**  
**Police Officer Michael C. Hall**  
**Detective Brian J. Hance**  
**Police Officer Daraine D. Harris**  
**Police Officer Roy D. Hinman, Jr.**  
**Police Officer Robert L. Jackson**  
**Police Officer Richard B. Landry**  
**Police Officer Harvey E. Martini**  
**Police Officer Vickie Mengel**  
**Police Officer Michael E. Minitor**  
**Police Officer Kurt H. Nagl, Jr.**  
**Sergeant Dean M. Palmere**  
**Police Officer Stacy A. Quinter**  
**Police Officer Steven N. Rose**  
**Police Officer Tiffany D. Walker**  
**Police Officer Richard A. Willard**  
**Police Officer Omar T. Wright**

### *The Bronze Star for Excellence*

**Detective Christopher P. Graul**

### *The Distinguished Service Award*

Awarded to members who have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service.

**Police Officer Gerard A. Heid**  
**Detective Sean P. Jones**  
**Crime Lab Technician Michael M. McGlynn**  
**Detective Roger W. Nolan**  
**Crime Lab Technician Lissette L. Rivera**  
**Detective Lieutenant Michael L. Tabor**  
**Crime Lab Technician Nina White**

### *Unit Citations*

Awarded to commend extraordinary law enforcement performance, attention to duty, contribution to this agency or to the general welfare of the citizens of Baltimore.

**Child Abuse Unit/Missing Persons Unit**

**CID Area I - District Investigative Services**

**CID Area III - Eastern District Investigative Services**

**HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Group 54**

**Homicide Section**

**Laboratory Section's Mobile Unit**

**Northeastern District Hotspot Squad**

**Northwestern District Flex Squad**

**Tactical / Traffic Section**

**Technical Assistance Response Unit**

**Warrant Apprehension Task Force**

### *Certificates Of Appreciation*

**Special Agent Douglas Ellington**  
**DEA Task Force**

**James McCauley**  
**Baltimore City Firefighter**

**Officer Dana Williams**  
**Baltimore County Police Department**

### *Citizens Awards*

**Jeffrey Brandon**  
**Markus Barnes**  
**Quanda Jackson**  
**Margeaux Lopez**  
**Jeffrey Makin**  
**Carl Parker**  
**Councilman Melvin L. Stukes**

## Detective Honored as Officer of the Year



**Detective Ronald Gale**, an eight-year veteran of the department and currently assigned as an applicant investigator in the Personnel Section, was chosen as the Highlandtown Exchange Club's Officer of the Year in a ceremony held on February 7. Detective Gale received the award for his efforts as a patrol officer in the Southeastern District, where he was known for his involvement in the community and for solving several high-profile burglary cases. Detective Gale says he appreciates the honor: "You hear so many negative things about police in the media. It's an uplifting thing to be recognized for a job well done."

Recognition for courageous, dedicated service is nothing new for Detective Gale. He received a Lifesaving Award after rescuing two people from a burning residence in 1994, and was awarded the Medal of Valor after being shot three times during an arrest in April 1995. Despite these dangers, Detective Gale thinks his prior occupation as a printing press operator was more stressful. In that line of work, he says, where as much as \$100,000 is invested in a project, "You can't make mistakes." It appears his previous labors prepared him well for service to the citizens of Baltimore.

## Officer of the Month Southwestern District

**Officer Oboullo Oden** has been chosen as the Southwestern District's Officer of the month for March 2001.

During the month of March, Officer Oden made 15 arrests, handled 152 calls for service, conducted 86 field interviews and issued 107 traffic citations. *Congratulations Officer Oden and keep up the good work!*

## BPD Trainee Teaches Us All

The Baltimore Police Department is always searching for good men and women to make our department better, and if his actions on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> are any indication, **Police Officer Trainee James Robinson** has ALREADY improved the ranks.

While driving home from work, Robinson spotted three teenagers setting fire to a 4-month old female dog. Trainee Robinson immediately jumped from his patrol car as the teens fled the scene. He smothered the flames with his jacket, and then transported the dog to the Eastern District. From there the dog was taken to a nearby animal hospital. Two days later, all three juveniles were arrested and charged with cruelty to an animal.

As for Trainee Robinson's actions, Major Stanford Franklin of the Education and Training Section was not surprised. "This type of compassion and value for life is not taught, but merely part of James Robinson's exceptional character. Trainee Robinson will become an outstanding police officer because he already has the most important ingredient, good character."

## Birth Announcements

*Congratulations to:*

- **Sean Malone, Chief Legal Counsel** and his wife **Gayle**, on the birth of their son, **Kevin Patrick**, born on March 1st.
- **Officer Fred Bland, of the Northeastern District**, and **Sergeant Deanna Bland of Central District** on the birth of their son, **Andrew Nicholas**, born on March 12th.

**Police Officer Trainee Antoine Smith**, and **Detective Caprice Smith of CID/ Child Abuse Unit**, on the birth of their son, **Noah Toriano**, born on March 13th.

## Baltimore City Police

### Fallen Heroes Memorial Phone Card

**Police Memorial Phone Cards are now available!** These phone cards allow calls to be placed to and from anywhere in the continental United States for just 5.9 cents a minute. There is no connection fee and a portion of every phone card purchase goes towards building the *Baltimore City Police Fallen Heroes Memorial*. Each \$20.00 phone card has 338 minutes of long distance talk time.

## Excellence In Law Enforcement Officers Honored



On Thursday, April 12, 2001, the Baltimore Sun held their 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Police Officer of the Year Awards Luncheon. Eight of the BPD's finest were honored for going above and beyond the call of duty: Congratulations to all!

**Det. David Azur**  
**Det. William Burley**

**Det. Sergeant Tim Devine**  
**Sgt. David Engel**  
**Ofc. Ronald A. Gale**  
**Det. Agent Al Marcus**  
**Ofc. Gerald Siedlarczyk**  
**Ofc. John Walker, Jr.**

**Regional Auto Theft Team**  
**Information and Technology**  
**SW Drug Enforcement Unit**  
**Eastern District DIS**  
**Patrol Division**  
**Homicide Section**  
**Northern District**  
**Southern District**

## Buddies' Night Out with the O's



Tickets are available for the annual "Buddies Night Out" baseball game at Camden Yards. Prices for the May 22, 2001 game at 7:05 p.m. between the Baltimore Orioles and the Anaheim Angels are \$9, \$11, \$13, and \$16. Proceeds from the ticket sales will benefit the Baltimore Police Department's Explorers Program and Youth Choir. Tickets may be purchased by contacting Officer Ena G. Cannida in the Community Relations Section at x-2372.

## Western District Honors Its Fallen Heroes



Pictured from left to right - Mayor Martin O'Malley, Commissioner Edward T. Norris and Sgt. Fredrick Roussey, cutting the ceremonial ribbon to unveil the Western District's Memorial plaque for a fallen hero, Officer Jamie Roussey.

Peering in through windows and standing elbow-to-elbow in the roll call room, over 100 people crowded the Western District on Thursday, March 8th to mark the one-year anniversary of Officer Jamie A. Roussey's line-of-duty death. In a special ceremony attended by Mayor Martin O'Malley, Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris, Deputy Commissioner Barry W. Powell, and other police and community leaders, Officer Roussey's name was added to the district's redesigned Fallen Heroes Memorial.

Designed and constructed by Sergeant David Lipscomb and Officer Anthony Demario, the memorial is a striking homage to the officers who gave their lives in service to the citizens of Baltimore. Softly illuminated by track lighting, 14 plaques bearing the names of the district's fallen heroes adorn the concave wall in the roll call room. A burnished, elevated wood floor holds the shift commander's podium and completes the memorial's new look.

Sergeant Frederick Roussey, a twenty-two year veteran and one of four active-duty Roussey family members with the department, unveiled his son's plaque with the assistance of Commissioner Norris. The remaining thirteen plaques, although not new, were restored to their original condition through the volunteer efforts of Mr. John Armiger and his staff at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens.

Major Paula Johnson, the Western District commander, organized and hosted the memorial service as a celebration. And although tears were shed, Major Johnson's wish to celebrate Officer Roussey's life - rather than mourn his death - was granted.

Major Kenneth L. Blackwell, Jamie's commander during his tenure with the department, remembered the optimistic young officer's "very caring spirit," citing his willingness to offer neighborhood children money and food while on duty. Deputy Commissioner Powell recalled Jamie visiting the Western District as a child, and listening fondly as his dad shared stories of what it means to be a Baltimore police officer. These special moments with his dad created in Jamie a dream. Deputy Powell said Jamie "was able to carry out his dream by serving with the Baltimore Police Department."

As we have come to expect with Mayor O'Malley, his attendance was marked by praise for the department and its officers' personal sacrifices. "I consider myself lucky to have served with such a fine young man," he said. Commissioner Norris agreed, summing up his feelings for Officer Roussey and the rest of the department's employees by recalling a conversation he had with the Mayor around the time of Jamie's death: "It was like a revelation for me. We lose the good ones because that's exactly who we hire. Some of the finest young men and women work here. Jamie was one of them."

## Lieutenant Healy Appointed to Major



*Major Donald E. Healy*

On March 2, 2001 Lieutenant Donald E. Healy was appointed to the rank of major and is now assigned as the commander of the Tactical/Traffic Section. A ceremony was held in the police commissioner's Boardroom. Commissioner Norris said, "I wanted to fill the position with someone who would command the respect of the rank and file. I found the right man." Major Healy was overcome with joy as he addressed the large group of family, friends and fellow officers. He said, "It's truly a dream come true. I'm happy that the police commissioner is sending me back to special operations."

Major Healy began his career with the Baltimore Police Department in 1973. After graduating from the Education and Training Division, Major Healy was assigned to the Southeastern District. In 1981, after serving five years at the Northwestern District, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and assigned to the Eastern District. He subsequently served as team leader with the Quick Response Team, supervisory firearms instructor with the Education and Training Division and sector supervisor in the Central District.

In 1994, he continued to grow in his career and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. As a lieutenant, Major Healy completed additional tours of duty in the Northwestern District, Tactical Section the Central District and most recently the Eastern District Initiative.

Major Healy has been married for 29 years and has two children and one grandson. He served four years in the United States Army including a tour of duty with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969. He also holds an Associate of Arts Degree from the Community College of Baltimore.

Major Healy is the recipient of three official commendations including one Unit Citation. In March of 1996, the Pennsylvania State Police presented Major Healy with an official commendation as well as an Honorary Commission as a Pennsylvania State Trooper for assisting a state trooper in a gun battle on Interstate-81 in 1995. The Honorary Commission was the first of its kind bestowed upon a police officer from another jurisdiction.

# Secretary / Office Assistant's Day 2001

## Life Saving Award

Officer John C. Blueford  
Officer Charles H. Carter, Sr.  
Officer John L. Chambers  
Officer Marvin L. Colson II  
Officer Donita R. Davenport  
Officer Paul M. McLain  
Officer Warren D. Porter, Sr.  
Officer Andre M. Pringle  
Officer Timothy T. Spearman

## Commendation

Officer Mohamed Ali  
Officer Marvin L. Colson, II  
Officer George V. Davis  
Officer Michael DeJesus  
Officer Phillip A. Earp  
Officer Parker D. Elliott  
Officer Melissa R. Hyatt  
Sergeant Gary R. May  
Officer Keith D. Merryman  
Officer Helena N. Mills  
Officer Frank A. Nellis III  
Officer Martin R. Pietrayak  
Officer Robert L. Smith  
Officer Jon A. Wobbleton  
Officer Michael A. Wolferman

## Commendatory Letter

Officer Theodore C. Anderson, Jr.  
Officer Louis J. Averella, Jr.  
Officer Freddie E. Bland, Jr.  
Officer Robert P. Brown  
Officer Mark E. Butcher  
Officer Antwann N. Davis  
Officer Francis E. Ebberts  
Officer Arlita A. Fields  
Officer Scott A. Harrold  
Officer Dante N. Hemingway  
Officer Jeffrey M. Humphreys  
Officer Michael L. Lewis  
Officer Matthew S. Logue  
Officer Joseph G. McDowell  
Officer Brokke S. Nice  
Officer James M. Reid  
Officer David L. Thompson



*We honor and thank  
you, for all that you do!*



## Letters To the Commissioner

On February 5, 2001, my cousin John Darda, co-owner of the City Cafe, was shot and killed in an attempted robbery. From the initial call for service, the members of the Baltimore Police Department conducted themselves in a caring, thorough and professional manner.

This case was assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division-Homicide Unit, and within 24 hours three suspects were arrested and charged, statements obtained and the murder weapon recovered. There was also contact with the family that helped all members to handle this tragedy.

As a former member of this unit, I know the dedication and effort it takes to complete this type of investigation. I want to recognize the efforts of these supervisors and investigators:

**Major Robert Stanton**  
**Lieutenant Richard C. Fahlteich**  
**Sergeant Lenny Willis**  
**Detective Gregory Purtell**  
**Sergeant Richard Petrey**  
**Detective Gordon Carew**

**Detective Greg MacGillivray**  
**Detective Kevin Buie**  
**Detective Jim Mingle**  
**Detective Jack McGrath**  
**Detective Don Kramer**

From all the members of the Darda family, especially John's wife, Anita and their three daughters, we thank you and these investigators for a job well done.

Sincerely,  
D.K. Giangrasso  
Sparks, Maryland

Approximately five weeks ago, I was traveling east on Edmondson Avenue, near Loudon Avenue. I observed a man on crutches frantically trying to cross Edmondson Avenue. It was evident that he had trouble maneuvering the crutches and was fearful of the traffic moving before he could cross the street. In the left traveling lane, about three cars back there was a Baltimore City police cruiser. Suddenly flashing lights came on, the police officer got out of his car and ran ahead and made sure that the drivers would not move and ran to help the man across the street safely. The man thanked the police officer with all of his heart. This unselfish gesture by the police officer brought tears to my eyes. Later that day I saw the police car and flagged down the officer. I thanked him in person and I feel that he should be commended for his act of kindness.

**Officer Paul Alexander** is a special person and should be recognized as such. This is not the first good deed I've seen this officer do. He is an exceptional officer and a credit to the Baltimore City Police Department. I am also the mother of one of Baltimore's finest and I am proud of him and the entire department. I feel that Baltimore has the finest force in the nation. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,  
Marie J. Thangadurai

## Retirements

**McCready, Charles., Jr.** Police Officer, Criminal Investigation Division, 40 years of age, 20 years of service, February 23rd.

**Schalizki, Milton H. Jr.,** Police Officer, Communication Section, 55 years of age, 19 years of service, February 24th.

**Blackburn, Kenneth W.,** Police Officer, Southern District, 58 years of age, 32 years of service, February 28th.

**Davis, Ronald W.,** Sergeant, Northern District, 58 years of age, 36 years of service, March 1st.

**Stuhmer, Myrell R.,** Sergeant, Community Relations Section, 49 years of age, 31 years of service, March 8th.

**Williams, Charles,** Sergeant, Eastern District, 46 years of age, 26 years of service, March 3rd.

## Final Roll Call

### ACTIVE

**Cowdery, Michael J. Jr.,** Active Police Agent, Northeastern District, 32 years of age, 5 years of service, March 12th.

### RETIRED

**Sprole, William J., Jr.** retired Police Officer, 71 years of age, 27 years of service, February 21st.

**Hunt, Bingham A.,** retired Police Officer, 80 years of age, 25 years of service, February 22nd.

**Wiegand, Joseph D.,** retired Police Officer, 66 years of age, 23 years of service, February 22nd.

**Hurka, James,** retired Police Officer, 92 years of age, 24 years of service, February 22nd.

**Polland, Natalie,** retired Account Assistant, 80 years of age, 21 years of service, March 4th.

Got a story? Send it to us!



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# THE BLUE LINE

*The Move to Excellence in the New Millennium*

*Martin O'Malley, Mayor*

*Baltimore, Maryland*

*Edward T. Norris, Police Commissioner*

Volume 35 Number 5

July 9, 2001

## National Fallen Heroes Day - Washington, D.C.



On May 15, 2001, thousands of police officers and survivors from across the country came to Washington, D.C. to attend the twentieth annual National Peace Officers Memorial Service and to honor the 150 law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty last year.

Those who were honored from the state of Maryland were officers **Kevon M. Gavon, Brian K. Heiler, Kilonzo M. Masembua, Kevin J. McCarthy, John D. Platt, Bruce D. Prothero, Jamie A. Roussey, John W. Stem, Sr. and Edward M. Toatley.** President George W. Bush was the keynote speaker for the ceremony. Excerpts from his speech follow:

"In the daily lives of Americans, such moments of emergency are rare, thankfully rare. For most, the violent moments never come at all. And there's a reason for this. And it's simply not good fortune. The reason is you, the officers of the law, your bravery, and the courage you show every day in wearing the uniform. And it's always been that way. Every generation of Americans has produced men and women willing to stand watch over the rest of us. Every generation has lived under your protection. And we must never take for granted the police officers of America. We have a solemn obligation to give thanks and credit to law enforcement officers who are no longer with us. We honor as well the ones who have so bravely faced injury and disability. And we are so grateful to those who have retired after honorable careers, and of course to those who are on the job this very day. At times, law enforcement must seem like the most thankless work you could ever do. But I am here to tell you that yours is one of the great callings. And your country thanks you for it."



**"Carved on these walls is the story of America.**

**Of a continuing quest to preserve both democracy and decency and to protect a national treasure that we call the American dream."**

**~ President George Bush ~**

**Baltimore Police**



## *The Graduation Class of 2000 - 6*

***"Despite the distractions, despite the nonsense, despite the rhetoric - we go forward."***

***~ Commissioner Edward T Norris ~***



***~Valedictorian~  
Officer  
Michael Coltogirone***

***Police Commissioner's Award for Academic Excellence -  
Officer Gaynell Harris***

***Skills and Firearms Champion  
Officer Billy Koepke***

One week after making several high level changes to his staff, this was Commissioner Edward T. Norris's first command to his newest officers, "There is no retreating, only advancing." On Friday, May 18, 2001, thirty-six men and women were sworn in as members of The Baltimore Police Department, and the Commissioner's objective was clear, "With this leadership, we are taking this city back. House by house, alley by alley, and block by block. And we are not going to stop until this is the safest big city in the country." And Mayor Martin O'Malley reminded the new officers exactly why they are here, "You are really, really needed by the good, decent, holy, and hardworking people who live in every single block of this city."



### **Major Hilliard Assumes Command of Communications**

***Major Michael H. Hilliard***

Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris appointed Michael Hilliard to the exempt rank of major in a ceremony held on April 24, 2001. Major Hilliard's 25-year career with the department is characterized by a variety of experiences, including patrol in the Eastern District, investigation in the Internal Affairs Division, and time spent in the Personnel Section, Communications Division, Community Services Division, Field Operations Bureau and most recently, the Administrative Bureau.

Major Hilliard considers his appointment to a command the highlight of his career. "Selection to this rank by the police commissioner has been the most rewarding thing that has happened in my 25 years with the department," he said. His goal as commander of the Communications Section is to "develop a team that consistently works toward - and achieves - the mission of directing police services to people who need assistance."

### **Baltimore Police Host 1st Memorial Candlelight Service**

National Police Week 2001 concluded in Baltimore on Sunday, May 20 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Baltimore Police Memorial Candlelight Service. Modeled after the candlelight vigil held each year in Washington, D.C. at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, family, friends, and colleagues filled the headquarters annex to pay tribute to those who have given their lives in service to the citizens of Baltimore. Rain prevented the service from being held at the Shot Tower Plaza, the future site of the Baltimore Police Fallen Heroes Memorial.

**Gary McLhinney, President of the Fraternal Order of Police**, highlighted the importance of the candlelight service. "It's something that was appropriate during National Police Week," McLhinney said. "Our survivors felt it was important to have an event in Baltimore City - the same reason we're building a memorial."

One survivor concluded there is another way we can honor our fallen heroes. Elaine Sweeney, the wife of Lieutenant Owen Sweeney who was killed in the line of duty on May 7, 1997 said, the "best tribute of all" would be for the surviving men and women to continue in service by reclaiming the streets from criminals.

## K-9 ANNIVERSARY

On April 14, 2001 the Baltimore Police Department's K-9 Unit celebrated their 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary. Detective Sergeant John Lewis would like to acknowledge the following people for their contributions. Their participation helped in making the day a success.

**Deputy Commissioner  
Elbert F. Shirey  
Administrative Bureau**

**Lieutenant George Bewley  
Western District**

**Sergeant Kevin Reed  
Southeastern District**

**Officer Jack Simmons  
Special Operations**

**Officer William Kohler Jr.  
Special Operations**

**K-9 Officer Mark Dingle  
K-9 Officer David Gobin  
K-9 Officer John Norman  
K-9 Officer Wali Salaam  
K-9 Officer James Snyder  
K-9 Officer Lawrence White  
K-9 Officer Greg Jones**

## Wedding Announcements!



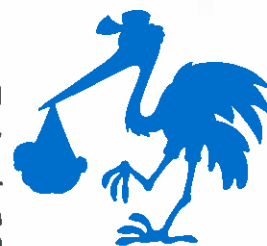
Congratulations to **Officer Tiffany Q. Lynch of Northeastern District** and **Officer Sean C. Brown, of Education and Training**. The couple exchanged vows on June 5, 2001 St. Thomas Virgin Islands. The couple honeymooned throughout the Caribbean on Royal Caribbean's Explorer of the Sea.

## Birth Announcements....

Congratulations to Detective Gary Hartsock of the Criminal Investigative Division and his wife, Dianne, on the birth of their son, **Joshua Patrick**, who was born on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Congratulations are also in order to Detective James Schuler of the Criminal Investigation Division and his wife, Amy, on the birth of their son, **Zachary James**, on May 15th. Zachary weighed in at 9 pounds and 4 ounces.

Congratulations to Police Officer Eugene Bush of the Southwestern District, who is also celebrating the birth of a child. His daughter, **Jessica Michelle**, was born on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Jessica weighed in at 6 pounds and 13 ounces.



## Good News...

A big congratulations to **Miss Tia Vance**, daughter of **Office Assistant III Lizette D. Vance** of the **Personnel Section**. Tia graduated from Western High School, Class of 2001, and has received a full four year scholarship to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore - UMES. In addition, Tia has also won the first place gold medal in the city-wide girls' doubles championships! Congratulations to Tia and Lizette! Way to Go!



*Tia Vance*

A big congratulations are also in order to **Miss Tyonne Robinson**, daughter of **Office Assistant III Lorraine Carter** of the **Public Affairs Section**. Tyonne graduated from Baltimore City College High School, Class of 2001, and has received a Sociology Scholarship to Marymount College in New York City. She also received scholarships from The Irving Berman Fund, and the Maryland State Scholarship Administration. Congratulations to Tyonne and Lorraine! Keep up the great work!



*Tyonne Robinson*

Congratulations to 5 year-old **Gabrielle Rene Spalt**, daughter of **Kim Spalt** of the **Legal Affairs Section**. Gabby or "Gooch," as she is affectionately known to family members and close friends, recently participated in her first beauty pageant at the Harford Mall. In addition to being crowned "Ms. Sunburst" and winning the first place trophy for the 4-7 age group, she also received a trophy for Most Photogenic. Gabby also won medallions for Prettiest Hair and Prettiest Eyes.



*Gabrielle R. Spalt*

Congratulations are also in order to 9 week-old **Alex Robert Schilling**, grandson of **Dolly Dobrzycki** of the **Criminal Investigation Division**. Alex won the Maryland State "All American Baby Boy Sweetheart" title at a pageant held at the Holiday Inn in Timonium on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Due to his big win, Alex has been invited to compete in the National Pageant in White Plains, New York in August 2001.

**Police Officer Angelo Brooks**, assigned to the **Education & Training Section-Walbrook Criminal Justice Academy**, will join a team of coaches from around the country to participate in an International Debate Camp in St. Petersburg, Russia from July 27-August 15, 2001. This invitation was only bestowed upon the most tenacious and dedicated coaches of the Urban Debate League. As a second year coach, Officer Brooks quickly demonstrated his talents. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

**Police Agent William Hotz Jr.**, who is assigned to the **Northwestern District**, was recently awarded an Army Commendation Medal for his work in Airspace Coordination and Deconfliction. This award is the second Army Commendation Medal that Agent Hotz has received in airspace management. Agent Hotz is a member of the Army National Guard's 29<sup>th</sup> Joint Task Force Augmentation Team. Congratulations Agent Hotz.

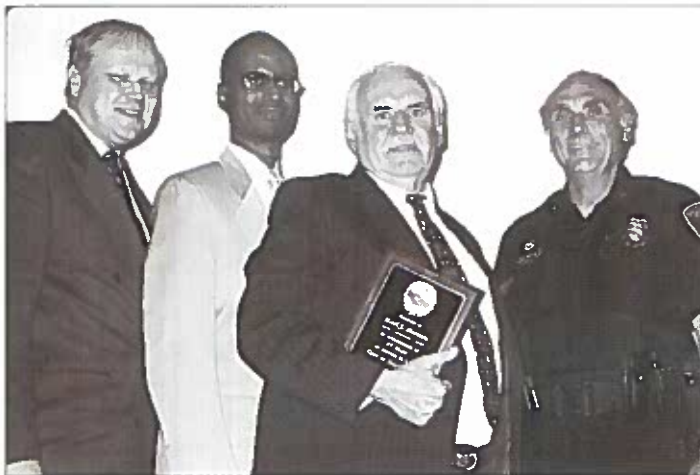
# Baltimore Police Department Employees Recognized



Acting Director of Department of Personnel Robert Wendland, CSO Felicia Knight, Deputy Commissioner Shirey, Public Affairs Director Ragina Averella and Mayor Martin O'Malley



Acting Director Robert Wendland, Deputy Mayor of Operations David Scott, Anthony McGowan and Director of Public Works George Winfield



Acting Director Robert Wendland, Deputy Mayor of Operations David Scott, Earl Boram, Jr., and Deputy Commissioner Shirey

What do Anthony McGowan, Earl Boram Jr., and Felicia Knight have in common? Well...Anthony works hard, Earl won't stop working, and Felicia works with a smile. But that's not all they have in common: all three work for the police department, and all three were recognized on May 24, 2001 at the Baltimore City Employee Recognition Program Awards Luncheon held at The Forum.

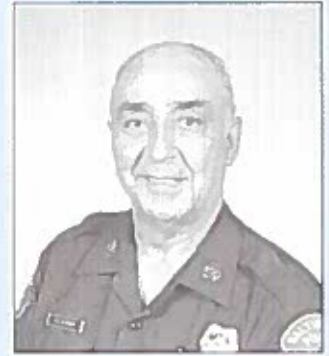
Community Service Officer Felicia Knight may have a voice you recognize. For the past four years, Felicia has been working in the Public Affairs Section, patiently helping the media and the general public with answers to their questions. Felicia has managed the difficult task of being both friendly and professional with callers and makes it seem effortless. When Felicia is not here at her full-time job, she can be found at Morgan State University, where (unbelievably) she is a full-time student.

Anthony McGowan has the difficult task of keeping clean the Western District Stationhouse. After years of neglect, keeping up with the Western is no easy task, but Anthony's dedication and enthusiasm have made a noticeable difference.

Earl Boram Jr. is the Cal Ripken Jr. of the Baltimore Police Department. Earl joined the force in 1956; 45 years later, he is still on the job. He has worked in five different districts and in two other divisions. Today, Earl works in the Southwestern District, and according to Lieutenant Foster, he brings a bit of the past with him everyday "Earl remembers the old time policies of policing-get out of the car, meet the people you work for."

Congratulations to Anthony, Earl Jr., and Felicia. You, and those like you, possess the attributes that make the Baltimore Police Department great.

## Who's #1?



Officer Julius Neveker

Who's the number one man in the Baltimore Police Department? Besides Commissioner Norris, it is **Officer Julius Neveker**. Officer Neveker, as of January 11, 2001, has 47 years of service, more than anyone in the department's history. He has been the number one man since December 7, 1993.

Officer Neveker joined the department as a Police Clerk II on January 11, 1954. After being a clerk for three years, he decided to resign and become a police officer. He was appointed to the position of police officer on June 6, 1957. He has worked in several units including the Southwestern District, Traffic Section, Personnel Division, and Criminal Investigation Division. Currently, Officer Neveker is assigned to the Property Section, where he has been assigned since 1995.

It doesn't matter whom you ask in this department, everyone knows Officer Neveker, better known as "Jules." When he is asked why he always has a smile on his face, he answers, "One day the undertaker is going to wipe my smile away." He also stated, "I always treat people the way I would like to be treated."

The big question that everyone always asks Officer Neveker is when is he going to retire? His answer, "September 5, 2020, I will be 85 years old." Officer Neveker has never been late to work in his 47 years with the department.

"Being a police officer is a very rewarding, but dangerous job. You can make a difference. That's the reason why I chose this profession and why I'm still here today."

## Sixteenth Annual Fallen Heroes Day Memorial Service Held at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens



Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens held their Sixteenth Annual Fallen Heroes Day Memorial Service on May 4, 2001. Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris and Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend were among the several dignitaries and government officials in attendance. At this year's service, eleven Maryland fallen heroes were honored. It was the highest number of public safety servants to be honored at the gardens since 1986-1987. Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend was one of the first speakers to address the large group of family, friends and fellow officers that were assembled. She said, "This ceremony is a tribute to the courage and dedication of our fallen heroes, let our own lives be a tribute to them as well." Throughout the past year, the Baltimore Police Department tragically lost five officers in the line of duty. Three of those officers Sergeant John Platt, Officer Kevin McCarthy, and Agent Michael Cowdery Jr. were honored at this year's memorial service. Agent Cowdery's father, Michael Cowdery Sr., also attended the service. He said, "The pain of my son's death will always be there, but this tremendous outpouring of love helps to ease my loss." Mary Beth Marsden, news anchor at WMAR-TV, served as the mistress of ceremonies and Dr. Frank Madison Reid, III, Senior Pastor Bethel A.M. E. Church, was the guest speaker. Dr. Reid offered words of comfort to the families whose loved ones paid the ultimate sacrifice. He said, "If it wasn't for these men and women who hold to a higher moral truth, our world would be in trouble. Although your loved ones are gone, memories and their honor live on."

## Final Roll Call

Hyde, Ronald W., retired Police Officer, 56 years of age, 27 years of service, March 18th.  
**Luthardt, Fred J.**, retired Police Officer, 76 years of age, 26 years of service, March 18th.  
**Thomas, Bernard A.**, retired Police Officer, 96 years of age, 22 years of service, March 21st.  
**Baker, William D., Sr.**, retired Police Officer, 78 years of age, 29 years of service, March 23rd.  
**Scales, John J.**, retired Sergeant, 86 years of age, 40 years of service, March 27th.  
**Pflueger, John P.**, retired Police Officer, 64 years of age, 29 years of service, April 7th.  
**Patten, Bruce H.**, retired Sergeant, 61 years of age, 25 years of service, April 11th.  
**Dobyns, Griffin S.**, retired Police Officer, 81 years of age, 28 years of service, April 16th.  
**Wockenfuss, George H.**, retired Sergeant, 80 years of age, 26 years of service, April 16th.  
**Williams, Anthony C.**, retired Police Officer, 82 years of age, 25 years of service, April 17th.  
**Barkley, Thomas L. Sr.**, retired Police Officer, 58 years of age, 25 years of service, May 1st.  
**Halford, Walter J. Jr.**, retired Police Officer, 74 years of age, 18 years of service, May 2nd.  
**Francis, Harry J., Jr.**, retired Police Officer, 65 years of age, 27 years of service, May 5th.  
**Readmond, Ronald J.**, retired Sergeant, 64 years of age, 25 years of service, May 5th.

## Letters to the Commissioner...

I am a mother of one of your officers in the Western District, **Roy D. Hinman, Jr.** I arrived from Tampa, Florida to Baltimore to be here with my son when he received the Bronze Star for Valor. What a proud moment for me and my family. Being that Roy is the youngest of my three children, I am blessed to know that he has grown to be such a fine young man. I am proud that he has chosen a profession to help protect and clean-up the streets of Baltimore.

On Friday April 13, 2001, I had the privilege to ride along with my son on the 4 p.m. to 12 a.m. shift. What I observed that night was the finest group of professionals working together. What outstanding teamwork! My observations of all of your officers in the Western District is that they each exemplify the roll of leaders. Each officer that I had contact with showed sensitivity when needed, firmness when necessary and fairness always. These officers worked well with each other. To know that my son is working with individuals who treat each other as if a member of family, I am at ease. Truly these are wonderful people under your command.

Born and raised in the suburbs of Syracuse, New York, I have never seen life like it is in the Western District. I pray every night that my son is safe and now that I have a better understanding of police work, my prayers are extended to all of your officers.

I would like to thank **Officers Larissa Hudson, Freddie Dulin, Caesar Goodson, Pedro Vargas, Chris Faller and Tim Stach** for their professionalism, hospitality and great efforts that they put into this demanding job. God Bless these fine officers as well as the rest of the officers that serve the people of Baltimore City.

Sincerely,

Mary Ruth Williams

## Retirements

**Ossmus, Steven R.**, Lieutenant, Central Records Section, 44 years of age, 25 years of service, March 28th.  
**Roberts, William F., Jr.**, Police Officer, Southeastern District, 52 years of age, 30 years of service, March 31st.  
**Fullagar, Robert L.**, Police Officer, Southern District, 51 years of age, 28 years of service, March 31st.  
**Jenkins, Arlene K.**, Police Agent, Internal Affairs Division, 45 years of age, 19 years of service, March 31st.  
**Edwards, Trina J.**, Police Officer, Central District, 38 years of age, 20 years of service, April, 1st.  
**Malat, Lawrence J.**, Police Officer, Property Section, 67 years of age, 45 years of service, April 3rd.  
**Grant, Roy N.**, Police Officer, Southwestern District, 48 years of age, 23 years of service, April 3rd.  
**Horton, Leonard L.**, Police Officer, Eastern District, 34 years of age, 15 years of service, April 3rd.  
**Brune, John N., Jr.**, Police Officer, Northern District, 40 years of age, 20 years of service, April 6th.  
**Boston, George W., III**, Police Officer, Central District, 53 years of age, 31 years of service, May 1st.  
**Bennett, Lawrence B.**, Lieutenant, Northern District, 54 years of age, 25 years of service, May 3rd.  
**McPherson, Joann**, Computer Operator III, Information Technology Division, 53 years of age, 19 years of service, May 16th.  
**Preece, Donald L.**, Police Officer, Central District, 54 years of age, 30 years of service, May 17th.  
**Anderson, William T., Jr.**, Police Officer, 57 years of age, 28 years of service, May 19th.  
**Bergbower, John L.**, Major, Criminal Investigation Division, 49 years of age, 27 years of service.



Congratulations to the **Northwestern District Bike Unit**. They're faster than foot patrols, more maneuverable than patrol units, and they do their best work in the Northwestern District. **Agent Craig Fulton and Officer John Washkevich** are two of the six members in the Northwestern District's Bike Unit, and on May 12<sup>th</sup> the officers took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in a bike competition sponsored by the Anne Arundel County Police Department. Fifteen teams from both Maryland and Virginia participated in the competition in three categories, including an obstacle course, head-to-head racing, and sprints.

THE BLUE LINE

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# THE BLUE LINE

*The Move to Excellence in the New Millennium*

Martin O'Malley, Mayor

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Edward T. Norris, Police Commissioner

Volume 35 Number 6

July 30, 2001

## *Foxtrot Aviation Unit Rededication Ceremony*

*July 2, 2001*



### **After Long Wait, Foxtrot Returns to the Air**

In an emotional ceremony teemed with optimism and reverence, Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris returned to service Unit 7721 - Foxtrot - after a 31-month grounding. Police commanders, community leaders from across the state, and survivors of the department's fallen heroes filled Foxtrot's new hangar at Martin State Airport to honor the Aviation Unit's inaugural flight.

Mayor Martin O'Malley addressed the guests with words of encouragement. "Today, by getting the helicopters back up in the air, it's more than just getting an Aviation Unit going again. It's saying that the entire department and this

city are going again, that we are going to restore peace and hope to the residents of this city, and we are going to do it through the courageous acts of the men and women of this police department working together with neighbors."

One of the unit's new helicopters, named in memory of Flight Officer Barry W. Wood, took to the air for a ceremonial flight over the city with Officer Mark Keller, Officer Wood's aerial observer during the November 4, 1998 fatal crash. "[Flying] was my favorite job in the police department," Officer Keller said. "I would gladly do it again."

Officer Wood's wife, Martha, expressed deep gratitude for the graciousness of the occasion. "It means so much that Barry is remembered. And for all the survivors it

Continued on next page

Baltimore Police



(Continued from front page)

means so much to us to know that no one has forgotten our loved ones."

The Aviation Unit takes to the air with two Eurocopter EC-120's. Two more are scheduled for delivery by September 2001, at which time the unit will be operational 17 hours

per day. Until then, the unit will support ground units five days per week between 1800 and 0200 hours. Perhaps the most striking feature of the new helicopter is its black, blue, white, and yellow color scheme, designed

*pro bono* by a local advertising agency, the Eurocopter's equipment, however, is what should produce the most profound crime-fighting results. According to Lieutenant Robert R. Richards, commander of the Aviation Unit, "In effect, if you steal a car, we're going to get you. If you rob a bank, we're going to get you. And if you try to run in the dark of night, we can see you and we're going to get you."

The new Eurocopters can travel at speeds up to 140 miles per hour. Unlike the former fleet of two-seat Schweizers, the five-seat Eurocopters operate with an enclosed tail rotor, offering



residents and police a stealth-like operation. Among its numerous other tools, the helicopters are equipped with Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR), a passive means of detection using temperature variation; Auto Stabilization and Tracking, in order to lock on to a suspect or vehicle; the Airborne LoJack Auto Recovery System; an SX-5 Night Sun Search Light, capable of illuminating a two-block area; and MetaMAP, a computer-generated street and address display system which shows the helicopter in relation to a target location.

Commissioner Norris speaks glowingly of the department's newest crime-fighting weapon. "The police department and the city should be very proud of its new helicopters," he said. "They are our 'eyes in the sky,' assisting ground officers in dangerous situations and serving as a powerful crime deterrent. Loaded with high-tech equipment, they perform above and beyond any aerial support the department has had in the past. In my opinion they're the most eye-catching, professional looking police helicopters in the country."



## Crime in Baltimore Continues to Decline

For the first six months of 2001, total violent crime is down 16% in Baltimore while Part I crime has decreased 6%, compared to the same time last year. Commissioner Edward T. Norris says he's most encouraged by the 17% drop in robberies in the first half of this year. "Robbery affects so many aspects of city life: tourism, where people want to live, and where they feel safe to travel. A 17% decline in robberies means almost 600 less innocent victims. This department should be proud."

### Part I Crime Data

\* All preliminary data are effective through June 30, 2001.

	2001	2000	%
Murder	136	141	-4
Shooting	345	384	-10
Aggravated Assault	4,001	4,776	-16
Rape	140	155	-10
Robbery	2,743	3,318	-17
Total Violent Crime	7,020	8,390	-16

# *In the Line of Duty*

## An Angel Amongst Us No More

On June 24, 2001 the Communications Section and the entire Baltimore Police Department suffered the loss of yet another fine employee, Police Communications Assistant Wandalene Green. At approximately 8:00 p.m. Ms. Green was halfway through her shift as a 911 call-taker in the Emergency Communications Center when suddenly and unexpectedly she was stricken with a medical emergency. She was immediately rushed to Mercy Hospital where unfortunately, medical personnel were unable to resuscitate her.

Ms. Green began her career with the Baltimore Police Department in 1987 after completing a twenty-year career with Montgomery Ward Department Store. Admired by many of her co-workers, Ms. Green was considered a skillful, thoughtful, patient and dedicated 911 operator.

Major Michael Hilliard, Commander of the Communications Section says, "The first voice that a citizen hears when they call for police assistance is a 911 call-taker, for thirteen years, Wandalene answered those calls and she did it well. She did so because she was a good person and who believed in what she was doing, and cared about the welfare of those who called for help."

Ms. Green was a loved and well-respected co-worker and the suddenness of her untimely death was a shock to many.

PCA Aloma Taylor says, "The thing that I miss the most is her spirit.



**Police Communications  
Assistant 1**

**Wandalene C. Green**  
October 6, 1941 ~ June 24, 2001

*I always thought of Wandalene as a 'modern day saint' because she had a true and sincere heart for God and it showed in everything that she did. I feel truly privileged and blessed to*

*"My sister was the love of my life. I will really miss her."*

*Detective Robert Winder  
Criminal Investigation Division*

*have had the opportunity to have my life touched by hers."*

Others in the Communications Center echoed this sentiment. PCA Rhonda Logan adds, "I remember her sincere words during my most troubling times. She made a positive impact in my life. She will truly be missed, but she will forever live in my heart."

Ms. Green's thoughtfulness and compassion extended into her personal life as well. She was known for remembering birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions for her loved ones and never missed the opportunity to send a greeting card, make a phone call or acknowledge someone's special day. She was married for thirty-three years to the late William "Buster" Green and although their joyous and committed union did not produce any children, Ms. Green had a deep affection for the younger members of her family and for the children of co-workers and friends. With genuine concern, she would often inquire about the well being of children and at times provided educational tools to help them with their schoolwork.

Family members and friends said goodbye to Wandalene Green at a funeral mass held at Saint Ambrose Roman Catholic Church on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Following the ceremony, mourners lead a procession to her final resting-place at King Memorial Park in Baltimore County. This truly exceptional individual is now gone, but the memory of her bright smile, kindness and positive spirit will always be remembered. She will be deeply missed.

## Letters to the Commissioner...

I would like to commend one of your officers for his kind actions but, unfortunately, I do not have his name.

On June 20<sup>th</sup> at approximately 9:00 a.m., while traveling east on Frederick Road near En Jay Road in Baltimore County, another driver hit me in the rear. Moments later one of your off-duty officers who was driving some type of sports utility vehicle observed the accident and pulled over to offer his assistance. After determining that no one was injured, he stayed around to help the other driver and myself sort things out. He suggested to the other driver, whose car had sustained front-end damage and was leaking fluid, that she have her car towed. She insisted on driving it home as she lived nearby. After all necessary information was exchanged, your officer followed this individual to make certain that she had no further difficulties and that she was able to reach home safely.

To people who lay their lives on the line daily this may seem a very insignificant matter. It is not insignificant to me, nor I believe to the other person involved. This officer could very easily have driven on by since the accident was not a serious one and did not occur in his jurisdiction. Even after he stopped and determined that no one was injured, he still could have continued on to his home, leaving the two of us to sort the matter out as best we could. And then, of course, he was concerned enough that he was willing to further delay his trip home to ensure that the other driver reached her home safely. This man's actions speak highly for himself and, by association, for the Baltimore Police Department.

Sincerely,  
Emily H. Miller

Bombs threats were called into 911 for Sinai Hospital on June 5th and for the Levindale Hebrew Geriatric Center on June 8th. Both of these incidents are currently under investigation by the Baltimore Police Department.

I want to express my appreciation to the members of your department who responded to these calls. As you know, both of these facilities have strong ties to the Jewish community here in Baltimore. Current unrest in the Middle East has heightened all of our concerns about potential terrorist activity against Jewish institutions throughout the world.

Please convey my personal thanks to Detective Robert Brown of the Arson Unit and Officer Derek Ledbetter of the Bomb Squad. I also received a follow-up call from Sergeant Snyder of the Bomb Squad, and members of his staff will be providing training to the security staff at Sinai Hospital on handling bomb threat situations.

I also want to pass on a special thanks to Officer Chris Thomas of the Northern District. Officer Thomas was extremely sympathetic to the concerns of the staff here at Sinai and spent nearly four hours working with my security staff as we searched the hospital for any suspicious packages.

Thanks again, to all of the men and women of the Baltimore Police Department for the great work they do.

Sincerely,  
Roger L. Sheets  
Director of Security,  
Sinai Hospital

## Retirements

Hicks, Michael J., Lieutenant, Criminal Investigation Division / DIS - Administration Section, 42 years of age, 20 years of service, June 4th.

Daiker, Erich K., Police Officer, Eastern District, 36 years of age, 9 years of service, June 6th.

Scipio, Yvonne L., Office Assistant II-T, Criminal Investigation Division, 63 years of age, 6 years of service, June 8th.

Snowden, Shirley E.B., Police Communications Assistant II, Communication Section, 56 years of age, 24 years of service, June 9th.

Staab Theodore E., Police Officer, Communication Section, 64 years of age, 29 years of service, June 15th.

Picarelli, Helen A., Motor Pool Worker I, Property Section, 62 years of age, 21 years of service, June 15th.

Dyson, Kenneth A., Police Officer, Criminal Investigation Division, 44 years of age, 20 years of service, June 22nd.

Hamilton, Joseph M., Police Officer, Southern District, 59 years of age, 34 years of service, June 29th.

## Final Roll Call

### ACTIVE

Green, Wandalene C., Police Communications Assistant I, Communications Section, 59 years of age, 14 years of service, June 22nd.

### RETIRED

Gerbes, William J., Jr., retired Lieutenant, 55 years of age, 29 years of service, May 23rd.

Roth, Henry P., retired Lieutenant, 84 years of age, 26 years of service, May 28th.

Gryctz, Walter, retired Police Officer, 83 years of age, 23 years of service, June 8th.

Wozniak, Helen A., retired Office Assistant III, 60 years of age, 27 years of service, June 8th.

## Good News...



Congratulations to Ms. Mary Hicks of the Central Records Division. On July 20, 2001 she will be honored by Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, located in Northwest Baltimore. The 25-year veteran of the department will be recognized for twenty years of dedicated and outstanding service to her church.

THE BLUE LINE

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION  
601 EAST FAYETTE STREET  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

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## Mobile Enforcement Team Springs into Action

Building on the successes of the Eastern District Initiative, Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris launched the Mobile Enforcement Team on June 12, 2001. Designed as a permanent weapon in the fight against prolific violence and rampant drug activity, Commissioner Norris describes the unit as "a well-trained, highly-motivated, team-oriented force capable of rapidly deploying to designated hot spots throughout the city."

Major Donald E. Healy, commander of the Tactical Section - of which the Mobile Enforcement Team is a part - said, "The team will go where the violence is occurring." Thus far, the team has been deployed to the Eastern and Western districts, replacing the Eastern District Initiative and supplementing the Western District Safe Streets Operation. The team's early performance in these districts is extremely promising. In just its first month of operation the team made 1,297 arrests, 82 percent of which were for narcotics violations, handgun violations, stolen autos, and outstanding warrants. According to Commissioner Norris, "The team is doing excellent police work."

An incident on July 7 illustrates how the enforcement of a minor offense can yield far more significant results. Plainclothes officers working in the 1000 block of N. Bond Street saw a passenger litter from inside a Lexus. Their investigation produced three arrests and seized 1,251 gel capsules of heroin, \$2,240, the Lexus, and \$5,000 worth of jewelry.

M.E.T. is comprised of one captain, four lieutenants, 16 sergeants, and 80 officers. There are four platoons comprised of four squads; five officers and one sergeant make up each squad. As the department's ranks continue to grow through improved recruitment efforts and a reduction in personnel attrition, there are plans to increase the size of the team. This will allow the team to deploy in greater numbers to the city's current hot spots and mobilize to additional areas where violent crime is a problem.

Meeting the requirements to join the team, however, is not easy. "The selection process for the team's members is very stringent," said Major Healy. "We want personnel willing to work bad hours in the most crime-ridden neighborhoods and who genuinely care about improving the quality of life in Baltimore."

## Agent Everett Sets World Record



*Police Agent Carrie Everett with Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris at the Foxtrot Rededication Ceremony*

The Baltimore Police Department has its own world record holder. Police Agent Carrie Everett bested all past and present competition at the 2001 World Police & Fire Games by bench pressing 110 pounds in the Women's Master Division.

Held in Indianapolis June 8-16, Agent Everett's first participation in the biannual Games was very rewarding. "The experience and excitement are things I will not forget," she said. "There are law enforcement personnel and

fire fighters from all over the world. As you talk to them you realize that we all share the same complaints, problems, concerns, and issues within our cities."

This year's Games registered 8,500 participants from 53 countries in 70 different events. Open to full-time and retired law enforcement officers and career firefighters from around the globe, event organizers say, "The Games are designed to promote and recognize physical fitness within the police and fire communities while encouraging friendly competition and a sense of global camaraderie for those involved."

Motivated by a desire to stay in shape, despite the forces of stress and aging, Agent Everett, who is assigned to the Planning & Research Section, says she follows a simple training regimen. "I lift weights in my home while I listen to music or while watching TV. I also lift one or two days per week in the gym."

Agent Everett already has her sights set on the 2003 Games slated for Barcelona, Spain, and is pursuing sponsors to fund her participation. She will attempt to improve on her world record in the bench press and set a new record in the push/pull competition, an event combining the bench press and dead lift. She says she would also like to see the Games come to Baltimore. "Hosting the Games in Baltimore would prove to the world we are an excellent site for the Olympic Games," she said.

## Agent Cowdery Posthumously Honored as Officer of the Year

The Northeast Community Relations Council honored Police Agent Michael J. Cowdery, Jr. as its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Police Officer of the Year. The posthumous honor was made at a bull roast fundraiser held in his memory on Saturday, June 23 at Heritage Gardens. Agent Cowdery's family was in attendance, as were Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris and Northeastern District Commander Michael P. Tomczak. Major Tomczak said, "It was a tremendous honor for me to present the . . . award. [Agent Cowdery] was a young man with a smile on his face always and had tremendous pride in being a member of the Baltimore police family." During the ceremony Agent Cowdery's son, Matthew, was presented with a \$1,000 savings bond to assist with his college education.



*Pictured above: Commissioner Edward T. Norris, with Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cowdery, Sr.*

## Colonel Patten Recognized by *Good Housekeeping* As a Top Woman in Government



*Good Housekeeping* magazine awarded Colonel Margaret W. Patten, Special Assistant to the Police Commissioner, as one of its "10 inspired leaders who prove that good government can change our lives." According to Colonel Patten, "It was an honor to spend time with the other awardees and to meet congresswomen Geraldine Ferraro and Tillie Fowler and, of course, it was wonderful that Senator Barbara Mikulski was able to present me with the actual award." She continued on by saying, "This event was even more special to me because Sergeant Bruce Brooks, who I have worked with so many years in the area of domestic violence, my daughters Karen and Lisa, and my granddaughter, Anastasia, also attended."

Nominees for the award must have developed an innovative program to address a problem, designed the program as an easily adaptable model for use in other jurisdictions, and

demonstrated results that improve the lives of others. Colonel Patten met and exceeded these criteria by establishing a comprehensive domestic violence program that has since been recognized throughout the world. The Baltimore Police Department's standard operating procedure regarding domestic violence, detailed in a general order first issued in 1995, is designed to train officers in the dynamics of domestic violence, assist and protect victims of domestic violence, and ensure officers' compliance with departmental and legal guidelines.

Colonel Patten has also developed an internationally recognized police-involved domestic violence policy. This policy ensures consistent reporting of police officers involved in domestic-related violence, regardless of where they live. She has even been awarded for recognizing the link between animal abuse and family violence. As Colonel Patten says in the July 2001 issue of *Good Housekeeping*, "We need to pay attention to any sign that things are not right in the home. If we get in there early, we can do some good."

In nominating Colonel Patten, Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris recognized the significant impact her efforts have made in the lives of victims: "Colonel Patten's efforts during the past decade show how government can improve people's lives. Her dedication to the victims of domestic violence and her perseverance in fighting for change have resulted in a declining rate of domestic murders in Baltimore and surely helped many other women extricate themselves from abusive relationships." Between 1995 and 1999, although the total number of murders in the city remained fairly static, Colonel Patten's policies were the driving force behind reducing domestic murders by 81 percent.

Colonel Patten received the award at a luncheon held on June 20, 2001 at the Sewall-Belmont House in Washington, D.C., the headquarters of the National Woman's Party since 1929. She is quick to call the award a positive reflection of the men and women of the Baltimore Police Department. "The award," she said, "is confirmation of the hard work and dedication of the many officers who respond to domestic-related calls for service and handle them correctly, to those dedicated officers assigned to the domestic violence units in the districts who provide assistance to victims every day, and to the supervisors and command staff who understand the importance of addressing this crime in an aggressive manner, both in the community and within the agency."

Colonel Patten stands alongside state senators, a United States Air Force colonel, and an epidemiological specialist as one of this year's runners-up. *Good Housekeeping's* 2001 Grand Prizewinner, however, is a fellow law enforcement officer. Detective Lori Gaglione of the Milwaukee Police Department is honored for her pioneering program allowing local prosecutors to issue "John Doe" warrants in unsolved cases of sexual assault. According to *Good Housekeeping*, "These warrants . . . go out not under a suspect's name but under his DNA profile," thereby preventing a case from being closed and increasing the likelihood someone will ultimately be charged for committing a crime of sexual violence.

## Police Officer Trainee and His Brother Rescue Three People From a Burning Car on the Key Bridge

*Police Officer Michael Pinkosz* and his brother John Pinkosz are being called heroic for their selfless and split second action to save three lives on the Key Bridge. According to the Maryland Transportation Authority in the mid-afternoon hours of June 18, 2001, a two-vehicle accident occurred in the northbound lane of the Key Bridge.

The Preliminary investigation revealed that a tractor-trailer rear-ended a pickup truck. The impact of the accident apparently caused a large amount of smoke to begin escaping from the engine compartment. At the same time, Officer Pinkosz and his brother John who were traveling on the same stretch of roadway, observed what was happening and immediately went into action. Officer Pinkosz first assessed the injuries of the occupants in the pick-up truck and told his brother to call 911 for assistance. Sensing an impending outbreak of a vehicle fire, he and his brother began to remove the three people from the truck. Moments after they freed the three occupants, the pickup truck almost instantaneously burst into flames. All of the occupants were treated and released from area hospitals for their injuries.

When asked about his actions that day, Officer Pinkosz says, "My reaction that day was second nature. I didn't even think about what I was doing but as I thought about it later, I realized that my first responder training really came in handy." At the time of the incident Officer Pinkosz was a police officer trainee. He graduated from the Education and Training Division on July 13, 2001.

# THE BLUE LINE

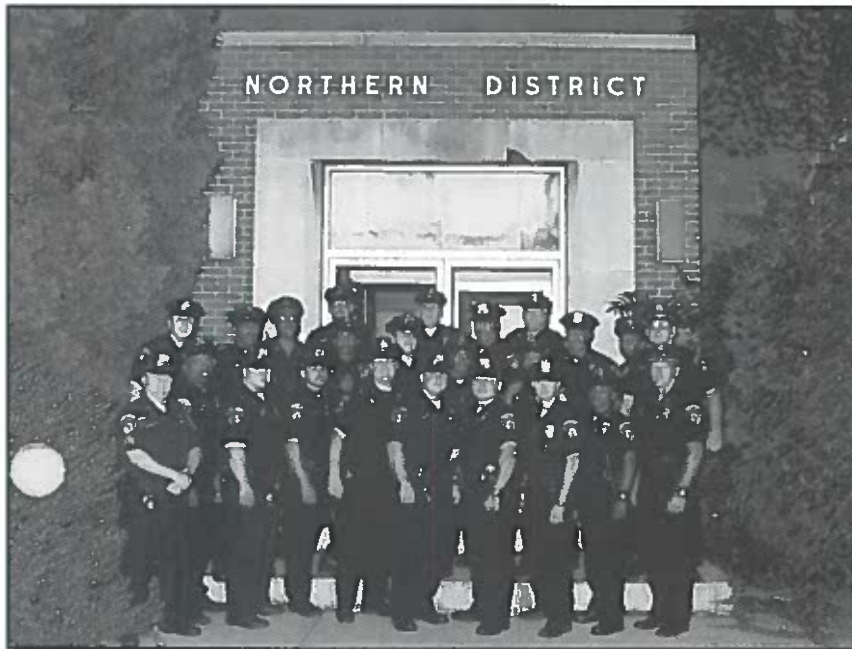
*The Move To Excellence In The New Millennium*

Martin O'Malley, Mayor  
Volume 35, Number 7

Baltimore, Maryland

Edward T. Norris, Police Commissioner  
August 31, 2001

## BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING FOR NEW NORTHERN DISTRICT STATION



On August 3, 2001, Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris was joined by Mayor Martin O'Malley and other city officials and community leaders for the grand opening of the new Northern District police station.

The 26,000 square-foot modernized facility replaced the historic police station at 34<sup>th</sup> and Keswick, which opened in 1899. The new site was chosen because of its accessibility and will serve as a unifying force for the police, residents, and businesses of North Baltimore.

Originally scheduled for completion in mid-1999, ground was broken on this new site in 1998. At a cost of 4.9 million dollars, the same cost estimated to renovate the old building, the new facility has many amenities that enhance the effectiveness of a modern police agency. Some of the improved facilities include spacious and user-friendly interview and conference rooms, locker rooms and showers for men and women, a more effective security system, and an exercise facility filled with equipment donated by area businesses. Commissioner Norris said, "The opening of the new Northern District fulfills our needs as a police department and allows us to build upon our partnerships with the communities we serve." Mayor O'Malley also heralded the opening of the new Northern District as "vital to police and neighbors working together."

The old building at 34th and Keswick will continue to process juvenile offenders until the completion of the Baltimore City Juvenile Justice center at the corner of Gay Street and Fallsway. This facility is scheduled to open its doors in March 2002.



# *Appointment and Promotion Ceremony Held*

In late July, appointment and promotional ceremonies were held at the War Memorial Building. During the ceremony, Major **Kenneth L. Blackwell**, Patrol Division, and Major **Robert Stanton**, Criminal investigation Division, were appointed to the rank of colonel. Major **Stanford O. Franklin**, Education and Training Division, Major **John J. McEntee**, Northwestern District, Major **Steven McMahon**, Administrative Bureau, Major **Odis L. Sistrunk Jr.**, Special Investigations Section, and Major **Walter J. Tuffy**, Police Commissioner's Office, were all appointed to the rank of lieutenant colonel. Lieutenant **Michael H. Hilliard**, Communications Section, Lieutenant **Anthony G. Cannavale, Jr.**, Drug Enforcement Section, Lieutenant **Gregory A. Eads**, Criminal Investigation Division, Lieutenant **Edward C. Jackson**, Community Relations Section, and Lieutenant **Carl Gutberlet**, Central District, were all appointed to the rank of major. Additionally, eight sergeants were promoted to the rank of lieutenant and nine officers were promoted to the rank of sergeant.

## *Appointed to Colonel*

Major **Kenneth L. Blackwell**  
Major **Robert L. Stanton**

## *Appointed to Lieutenant Colonel*

Major **Stanford Franklin**  
Major **John J. McEntee, Jr.**  
Major **Steven E. McMahon**  
Major **Odis L. Sistrunk, Jr.**  
Major **Walter J. Tuffy**

## *Appointed to Major*

Lieutenant **Anthony G. Cannavale, Jr.**  
Lieutenant **Gregory A. Eads**  
Lieutenant **Joseph C. Gutberlet, III**  
Lieutenant **Michael H. Hilliard**  
Lieutenant **Edward C. Jackson**

## *Promoted to Lieutenant*

Sergeant **Charles J. Dixon**  
Sergeant **Reginald Hendrix**  
Sergeant **Roger O. Bergeron, III**  
Sergeant **Donald Walters, Jr.**  
Sergeant **Barbara A. Magness**  
Sergeant **Scott S. Baker**  
Sergeant **Richard v. Piel, Jr.**  
Sergeant **James R. Sharpe**

## *Promoted to Sergeant*

Officer **Duane A. Henry**  
Officer **Thomas A. Lotterer**  
Officer **Mark E. Richardson**  
Officer **Raynard H. Jones**  
Officer **Derwin E. Jackson**  
Officer **Alvin D. Mack**  
Officer **Clifton K. McWhite**  
Officer **Dearl Jackson**  
Officer **Samuel Morant**



## ***Letter to the Police Commissioner.....***

On behalf of the men and women of the Baltimore Police Department and the Board of Directors of the Frank I. Battaglia Signal 13 Foundation, Inc. we sincerely thank you for designating funds to the foundation through the Combined Charity Campaign for Baltimore City.

The generosity and support of individual contributors such as you, enables the Foundation to carry on its humanitarian programs. Funds received through various campaigns account for a significant portion of the monies needed to provide assistance to deserving active members of the Baltimore Police Department and their families. Your contribution ensures that the Foundation's Scholarship program for the children of active police personnel is very successful.

One way of expressing our deepest appreciation for your much-needed support is through this letter. Although you didn't request an individual acknowledgement for your donation, we did want to let you know how much we thank you for donating to this worthwhile endeavor.

Paul G. Wood  
President

Barbara M. Brandner  
Executive Director  
Signal 13 Foundation, Inc.

"Too many times many of us take for granted the efforts of others. Allow me to thank the person or persons responsible for sending me a copy of ***The Blue Line***. I retired from the Department in 1994 after 26 years. I may be gone from the job but my heart and soul remain with the men and women that continue wearing the most beautiful badge in the country. ***The Blue Line*** is my connection, and the most awaited mail I receive."

C. "Mac" McWilliams

We wish to express our appreciation for the dedication, professionalism and exceptional performance that Detective Kevin Hagan brought to the investigation, preparation and trial testimony in this case. Detective Hagan's performance, exhibiting knowledge well beyond his years of actual experience, was exemplary throughout the course of this case. We could not have achieved a successful conclusion against these defendants without his extraordinary contributions.

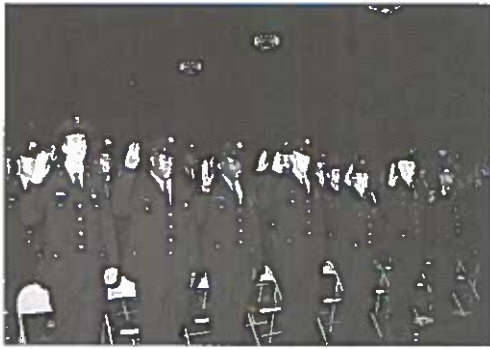
As you are aware, this case involved, among other things, multiple crime scenes, five search and seizure warrants, hundreds of witnesses and five murdered women. The investigation of the case involved over a year of effort before we even got to the stage of trial preparation. Detective Hagan played a primary role in every aspect of the case as it unfolded from the crime through the jury's verdict.

Again, we cannot over-emphasize the importance of Detective Hagan to the successful conclusion of this portion of the case. We look forward to working with Detective Hagan in the future. The citizens of Baltimore should feel lucky and proud to have an officer of Detective Hagan's caliber working for their police department.

Lawrence C. Doan  
Assistant State's Attorney

Roberta G. Siskind  
Assistant State's Attorney

## Class 2000-07 Graduates



*The Class of 2000-7*



*Officer Joshua A. Moody was presented Skill and Firearms Champion trophies by Commissioner Norris*

On July 13, 2001, Police Commissioner Edward T. Norris was joined by families and friends to welcome the newest additions into the Baltimore Police Department. The forty-eight graduates of Class 2000-07 were assigned to patrol neighborhoods and communities throughout Baltimore.

Commissioner Norris was the first to address the graduates and crowd of well wishers. He spoke proudly of his more than twenty years as a police officer: "Seeing this class today lifts my spirits. Police work is the most worthwhile endeavor that one can undertake." The guest speaker was Bishop L. Robinson, Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice, who is also a retired Baltimore Police Commissioner. A native Baltimorean, Secretary Robinson began his career with the Baltimore Police Department as a foot patrolman in 1952. He briefly discussed key factors in maintaining a long and distinguished career as a police officer. He said, "I urge all of you to embrace and articulate the highest ideals of the law enforcement philosophy: honor, and the search for truth."

Several awards were presented to outstanding members of the class. Officer John B. Gorman, the Class Valedictorian, received an award for academic excellence. Officer Darrell A. Hervey received the police officer's Award of Excellence. Officer Joshua A. Moody was the Skills Champion of the class and was recognized as the Firearms Champion as well. Congratulations to all of our graduates.

Adam C. Ahearn  
Adrian R. Akins  
Kevin L. Amy  
Peter An  
Elsa Baez  
Christopher M. Beebe  
Kristin S. Carpenter  
Melba D. Chambers  
Daryll L. Coates  
Andrew C. Davis  
Joseph A. DiCandeloro Jr.  
Kelly E. Evans  
Kara L. Gladden  
Quinn G. Gooden  
John B. Gorman  
Kimberly N. Grinage  
JoAnn D. Harding  
Gregory T. Hellen  
Darrell A. Hervey  
Derwin W. Holland  
Ryan L. Holiday  
Anthony L. Jackson  
Dylan M. Jackson  
James T. Kirksey

Keith P. McGee  
Paul McMillian  
James C. Mitchell  
Joshua A. Moody  
Jarrod L. Moore  
Anthony Nigro Jr.  
Teddy E. Parris  
William J. Peterson Jr.  
Michael L. Pinkosz  
Berdell L. Presberry  
Jermaine A. Raley  
Keith N. Roach  
Richard Z. Roberts  
Ruth M. Santiago  
Christian A. Schaeffer  
Aryne P. Scurry  
Jimmy A. Shetterly  
Kimberly J. Stanley  
Paul M. Steward  
Trina T. Taylor  
Jeffrey E. Taylor  
Edward F. Thatcher  
Damion L. Trotter  
Steven A. Wallring Jr.

## Joining the Family

In an effort to acquaint the families of the city's newest police recruits - Class 2001-01 - to the profession, **Family Day** was held on Saturday, August 18 in the headquarters atrium. More than 150 attendees learned all they could about the department's culture by talking to representatives from throughout the department.

## Good News...

**Police Agent Jacqueline Folio** of the **Education and Training Section** was recently chosen to receive the Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commission's inaugural Instructor of the Year Award. She is described by her supervisors as a "tireless and dedicated employee" who has the respect of her colleagues and students. Agent Folio will be honored with the award at the First Annual Trainer's Conference on October 12, 2001. Congratulations, Agent Folio, and keep up the good work.

Congratulations are also in order for **Ms. Mary McClinton** of the **Management Information Systems Section**. Ms. McClinton was recently recognized as a success story in *Women of Color Conference Magazine* and *US Black Engineer & Technology* magazine. In addition to her recognition in both magazines, she was chosen to receive a Certificate of Merit for her outstanding achievements and contributions in the field of technology, science or engineering. Her accomplishments will be formally acknowledged at the Sixth Annual Women of Color Technology Awards Luncheon on October 12, 2001. Ms. McClinton is an eight-year veteran of the Baltimore Police Department, with more than twenty-five years of experience in information systems and statistical analysis.



## Detective Macer Sings National Anthem at Orioles Game



*Detective Clifton F. Macer, III* brought fans to their feet at the *Baltimore Orioles vs Tampa Bay Devil Rays* game on July 31. Designated by the O's as "Baltimore City Employees Night," the cold-case homicide detective was chosen to sing the national anthem from among 40 city employees who competed for the honor. Standing before thousands of spectators, Detective Macer said he could think of only one thing: "Oh, God, please help me remember the words!"

## Charm City Cinema 2001

Several hundred citizens showed up at Carroll Park on Friday, August 17, 2001 for the summer's second release of Charm City Cinema. Sponsored by both the Baltimore Police Department and Fox 45 & WB 54, Charm City Cinema is a night of free family fun and a time to learn more about crime prevention. Several educational displays and interactive exhibits drew the interest of both young and old Baltimoreans (so did the Mounted Patrol's horses). *Colonel Kenneth Blackwell* was on hand for the festivities, and he knows how important events like Charm City can be for the city: "Citizens often see officers on the street doing their job, but they don't always talk with us. This is the kind of event that lets officers and citizens meet and get more comfortable with one another." When darkness fell, the feature movie presentation about the story of Moses, *The Prince of Egypt*, was shown on a giant screen in the park.

## Detectives Reach Out to Homeless Community to Solve Murders



*Det. William Ritz*



*Det. Lt. Richard Fahlteich*



*Det. Michael Glenn*



*Det. Sgt. Ernest Anderson*



*Det. Donald Kramer*

After four months of exhaustive investigation, homicide detectives arrested three teenagers on charges of first-degree murder in the brutal beatings of three homeless men in South Baltimore. Harold Waterbury Jr., 17, and Daniel Ennis Jr., 16, foster brothers from 1713 S. Hanover Street, were taken into custody at their residence on July 27. Detectives traveled to Wamego, Kansas on August 2 to arrest the third suspect, Michael Farmer, 17. The teens are also possible suspects in the attempted murder of five other homeless men.

Under the supervision of Detective-Lieutenant Richard Fahlteich and Detective-Sergeant Ernest Anderson, detectives William Ritz, Donald Kramer, and Michael Glenn cracked the case. Developing leads, however, proved difficult: witnesses were reluctant to come forward, and the homeless were initially distrustful of police.

Undaunted by these obstacles, the detectives sought food donations from area businesses such as Utz and Esskay, and toiletries from Sheraton and Hyatt hotels. After also collecting approximately 70 bags of clothing from members of the Homicide Section, the detectives set out to serve the homeless community, befriending its members and ultimately gathering information that led to the identification and apprehension of the three suspects. "They did a spectacular job," praised Colonel Robert M. Stanton, Chief of the Criminal Investigation Division.

## More Letters to the Commissioner...

On behalf of the staff, the board of directors and more than 30,000 visitors that we hosted for our fourth annual Day Out With Thomas, I would like to express my deep appreciation for your most generous and helpful participation. Sergeant John Wheeler and your competent, friendly and courteous corps of Southern District officers have become an important part of providing for the public safety and enjoyment for this event. Sergeant Wheeler's good humor and excellent supervision are always a welcome sight to all of us. I am particularly grateful for the use of your motor bike patrolmen and mounted officers as well as your mobile command vehicle. These committed members of your force not only provide a wide range of protection for our sprawling site but are also a great attraction for the tens of thousands of children here during the nine days.

You have been a marvelous supporter and great friend of this museum. You and your officers are a credit to the Baltimore Police Department, and all of us appreciate the community service that you provide for us and our visitors from around the world. Many thanks, again, for your steadfast support and service. Please do not hesitate to call on me if I can be of service to you.

Warmest Regards,

Courtney B. Wilson  
Executive Director  
B & O Railroad Museum



## Wedding Announcements!



Congratulations to **CSO Michelle A. Wilson, Patrol Division**, and **Mr. William L. Richardson, Sr.** The couple was married on July 28, 2001 at the First Baptist Church of Pimlico in Baltimore, Md.

## Birth Announcements!

Congratulations to **OAIII Donna Mabe, Commissioner's Office**, and husband **Mitchell** on the birth of their daughter, **Haley Morgan**, born August 1.

Congratulations to **Officer Michael Riser, Southwestern District**, on the birth of his daughter, **Elise Paige**, born August 17.

## ~Retirements~

**Simmons, John E.**, Police Officer, Tactical/Traffic Section, 60 years of age, 29 years of service, July 3rd.

**Sexton, Theresa I.**, Police Communication Assistant II, Communication Section, 59 years of age, 20 years of service, July 7th.

**Wood, Kate V.**, Police Agent, Eastern District, 55 years of age, 20 years of service, July 14th.

**Armour, Mark F.**, Police Officer, Education and Training Section, 43 years of age, 20 years of service, July 15th.

**McDaniel, Kevin S.**, Police Officer, Eastern District, 40 years of age, 21 years of service, July 26th.

**Greaves, Janet L.**, Detective, Criminal Investigation Division, 38 years of age, 20 years of service, August 9th.

**Pullen, Roderick C.**, Lieutenant, Northwestern District, 50 years of age, 29 years of service, August 11th.

**Johnson, Larry M.**, Police Officer, Western District, 47 years of age, 22 years of service, August 15th.

## ~Final Roll Call~

**Timchlua, Stephan**, retired Captain, 64 years of age, 28 years of service, July 12th.

**Harper, Harry, E.**, retired Sergeant, 52 years of age, 23 years of service, July 15th.

**Boyter, John P.**, retired Police Officer, 80 years of age, 45 years of service, July 15th.

**Perdue, John, D., Sr.**, retired Police Officer, 67 years of age, 38 years of service, July 16th.

**Gummer, Thomas, J.**, retired Police Officer, 68 years of age, 30 years of service, July 17th.

**Krieglstein, Helen F.**, retired Account Clerk II, 88 years of age, 18 years of service, July 19th.

**Kramer, Estella, J.**, retired Office Supervisor, 78 years of age, 33 years of service, July 22nd.

**Crivello, Joseph**, retired Lieutenant, 91 years of age, 25 years of service, July 24th.

## THE BLUE LINE

Public Affairs Section  
Baltimore Police Department  
601 East Fayette Street  
Baltimore, Maryland, 21202

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