



THE BLUE LINE

Martin O'Malley, Mayor
Volume 27 Number 01

Baltimore, Maryland

Leonard Hamm, Acting Police Commissioner
March 04, 2005

Promotions

Eighteen sergeants were promoted to lieutenant and twenty-six officers were promoted to sergeant during a ceremony on December 20 in the headquarters building auditorium. Acting Commissioner Hamm presided over the ceremony. During his remarks, Commissioner Hamm emphasized the value of "accountability-driven leadership" in the department and spoke of the importance of doing the right thing, at all



times, on and off the job. Following is an excerpt of the Commissioner's speech.

"It's important to recognize that doing the right thing is a lot more than not doing the wrong thing. This is really our challenge as I see it: to go beyond our good intentions and make good things happen. As our Mayor has said so many times in every corner of our city, 'More unites us than divides us.' I ask you to adopt that sentiment, embrace it, and apply it to the approach you take to your new responsibilities. It will serve you well."

COMSTAT DATA YEAR -TO-DATE CITY WIDE



| | |
|---------------|------|
| Total Crime | -23% |
| Violent Crime | -22% |
| Homicides | 20% |
| Shootings | -15% |
| Agg. Assaults | -26% |
| Burglaries | -28% |
| Larcenies | -19% |
| Auto Thefts | -26% |



Detective Thomas G. Newman



On December 28, Acting Police Commissioner Leonard Hamm held a moving ceremony in honor of the two detectives and two prosecutors who led the investigation into the 2002 murder of Detective Thomas G. Newman. All three suspects in the case have now been convicted of first degree murder. Two of them have been sentenced to life in prison, the third is awaiting sentencing.

During the ceremony, acting Commissioner Hamm presented Detective Corey Alston and Sgt. Richard H. Petrey II with Bronze Stars, and Assistant State's Attorneys Matthew Fraling and Donald Giblin with certificates of special appreciation. Detective Newman's mother, sister and young daughter were among those in attendance. We will never forget.

Heroin Ring Busted

After three weeks of surveillance and undercover drug buys, 40 detectives from the Organized Crime Division and the Northwest District made simultaneous raids on the morning of Saturday, December 8. In addition to the 11 people who were arrested, the officers seized about \$40,000 in cash, numerous packages of high-grade heroin with a street value of approximately \$80,000, two computers, a money-counting machine and a long-barreled .44 Magnum. Two of the suspects arrested were identified as high-ranking members of the heroin ring. Fantastic work!

Flexing Their Muscle

The Western District Flex Team A, with the help of Flex Team C, executed three search and seizure warrants on January 10. Eight people were arrested and the following was seized: 100 units of crack cocaine, 38.9 grams of crack cocaine, \$319 in cash and ammunition. Job well done. Keep pushing!

Many Medals

There have been two Medals Day ceremonies in the past few weeks. The first one, which was held on January 28, honored 62 officers, including 24 who



received the Bronze Star for Valor, the department's highest honor. The second ceremony, on February 18, recognized the efforts of 34 officers (25 of whom received Bronze Stars) and 10 Baltimore City residents. Congratulations, and thank you, to all.



Shop with a Cop



Two weeks before Christmas, the Baltimore City Police Department and the Hamilton Optimist Club sponsored the increasingly popular "Shop with a Cop" event. This year,

the event teamed police officers with 46 needy kids, who were able to go on \$100 shopping sprees at the Port Covington Wal-Mart in South Baltimore. A great time was had by all, as the accompanying pictures will attest. Thanks to all department members who took part.





THE BLUE LINE

Martin O'Malley, Mayor *Baltimore, Maryland*
Volume 27 Number 02

Leonard Hamm, *Police Commissioner*
April 04, 2005

Hopkins Murder Arrest



Courtesy of the Baltimore Sun

On March 23, members of the Warrant Apprehension Task Force arrested 27-year-old Donta Maurice Allen in connection with the murder of Johns Hopkins University senior Linda Trinh, who was killed on January 23. Allen was arrested without incident

at his house in the 3000 block of Mathews Street. The department would like to recognize the following members for their outstanding work on the case, though it must be pointed out that they were not the only people who contributed to the case's successful resolution. Congratulations to all!

Homicide:

Det. Lt. Scott Baker
Det. Christ Bieling
Det. Joe Phelps

Trace Lab:

Mark Profili
Jennifer Ingretson
Rana Santos

WATF:

Sgt. Jae Kim
Det. Vincent Stevenson
Det. Craig Williams
Det. Julie Pitocchelli
Det. Anthony Lansey
Det. Kevin Buie
Det. Keith Devoe

Command Promotional Ceremony



Two days after he was sworn in, Police Commissioner Leonard Hamm presided over his first Command Promotional Ceremony. Mayor Martin O'Malley was also in attendance, as were several City Council members and



dozens of friends and family members. Of the 27 command staff members who were promoted, Commissioner Hamm said, "In a short space of time, these men and women have proven able to set a new standard of cooperation based on a unity of effort too long absent in the affairs of the

department. Their promotions are a product of their ability to inspire, give direction, and pull people together." Congratulations and best of luck to all.



The New District Commanders

COMSTAT DATA YEAR -TO-DATE

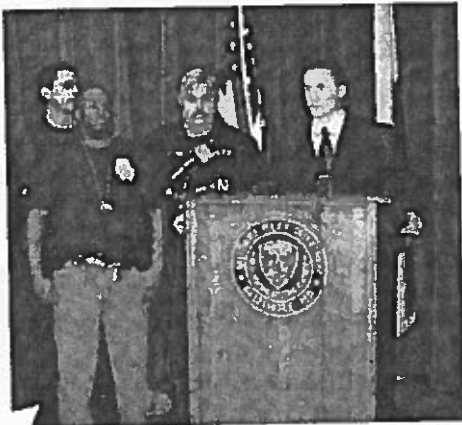
Eastern District



| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Total Crime | -24% |
| Total Part I Crime | -27% |
| Violent Crime | -32% |
| Property Crime | -25% |
| | |
| Homicide | -8% |
| Shootings | -19% |
| Agg. Assaults | -32% |
| Robberies | -33% |

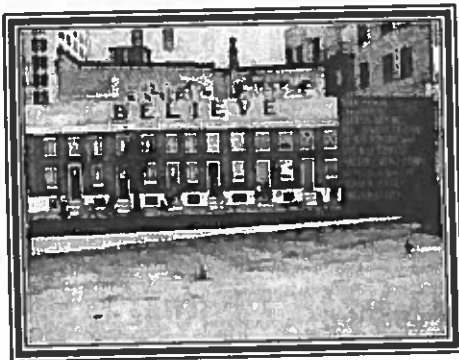


The Long Arm of the Law



It was March 15, just before noon, when RATT Detectives David Azur and Gregory Kovolenko observed a 1994 Honda with a stolen Maryland tag at the intersection of Fulton & Edmondson Avenue. The detectives stopped the vehicle in the 500 block of Mulberry Street and arrested the driver. A check on the car revealed that the driver was the suspect in a recent homicide in North Carolina. Detectives from the Moore County Sheriff's Office arrived in Baltimore soon thereafter to continue their investigation, and to personally thank the RATT detectives for their outstanding work in the case.

National Recognition



BPD and Access Art, a Baltimore youth art center, were recently awarded one of four national "Graffiti Hurts" awards by Keep America Beautiful, Inc. BPD and Access Art teamed up on the Mural Project, which provides a creative outlet for Baltimore youngsters who might otherwise be writing graffiti. The award-winning mural, which is at Saratoga and Liberty, is 25 by 75 feet, and shows Baltimore residents getting involved in and improving their neighborhoods. If you haven't seen it yet, you should. Congratulations to all the award winners.

Communications Welcomes the 21st Century

The Communications Section is stepping into the 21st century. For the first time, 911 call takers are working with flat screens and mapping systems. So far, dispatchers have converted 2 of the 4 computers to flat screens. By the end of March, all of the computer screens in communications are expected to have been converted. The new screens are not only very user friendly, they also give dispatchers more room to work.



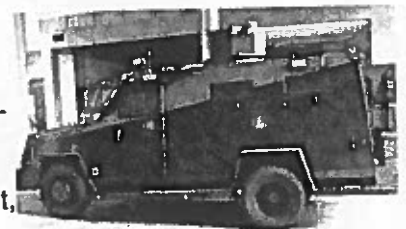
Job Well Done



Police Officer James Steiner is the latest recipient of the Eastern District's Commander's Cup Award. During a recent 28-day period, Officer Steiner made 36 arrests for a variety of crimes. Officer Steiner is the District's secondary OIC and secondary wagon man but, even with all those added duties, Officer Steiner still managed to maintain an extremely high level of productivity. Congratulations!

Fleet News

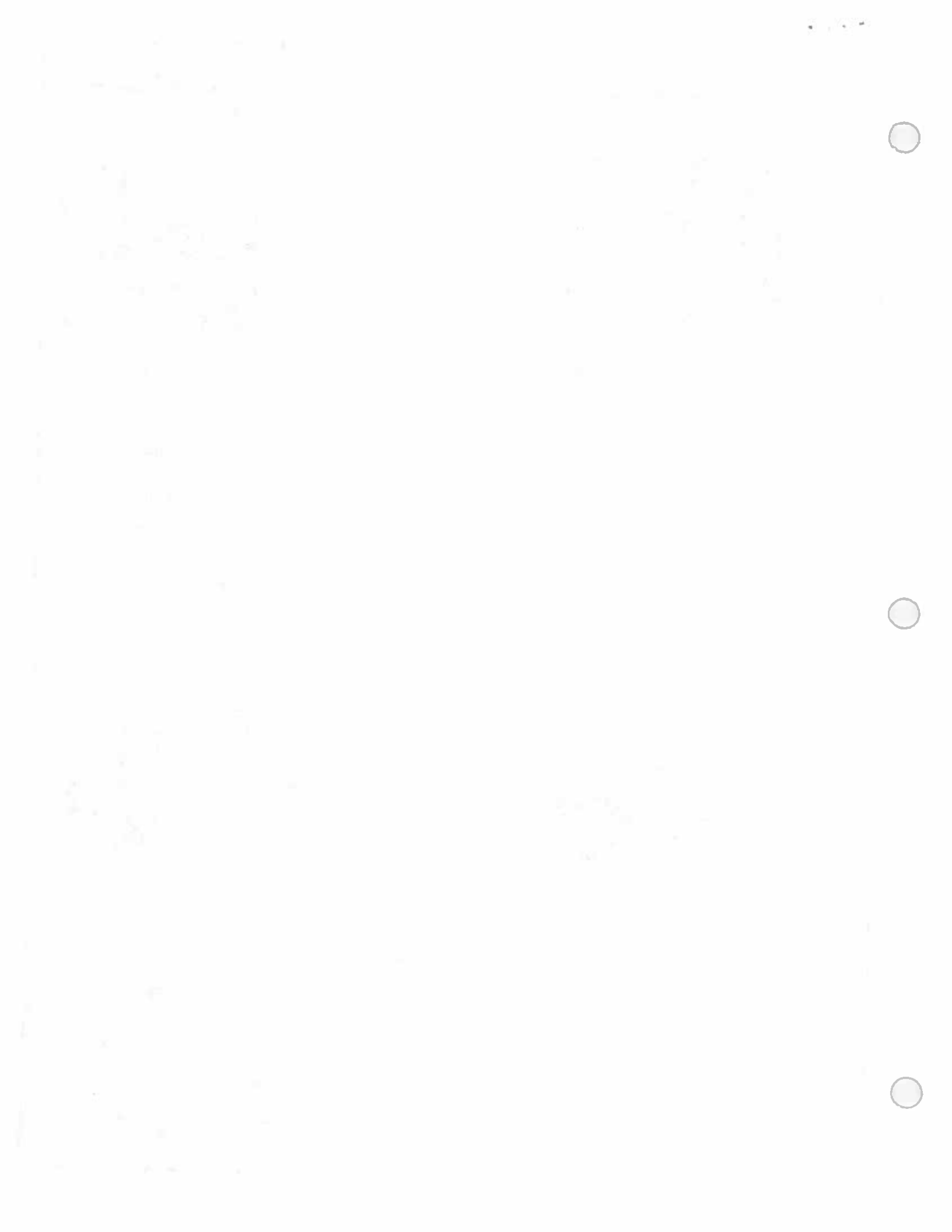
In case you've been wondering what's up with that intimidating-looking truck parked in the Annex parking lot, it's one of BPD's newest, and largest, crime-



fighting tools. The "Bear Cat," which we received on New Year's Eve and which is now being used by QRT, has already been called out for several barricade situations and the execution of search warrants. The truck is also equipped to help in situations such as down officers, the evacuation of civilians, the movement of personnel, and sniper incidents.

Start Stretching

The fifth annual Victim's Fund Run and Walk will be held on April 16 in Patterson Park. The run is 5K, the walk one mile. All money raised will go towards making sure that emergency funds remain available for crime victims. For more information or to register, call 410-396-1897, or e-mail mail@stattorney.org.





THE BLUE LINE

Martin O'Malley, Mayor
Volume 27 Number 03

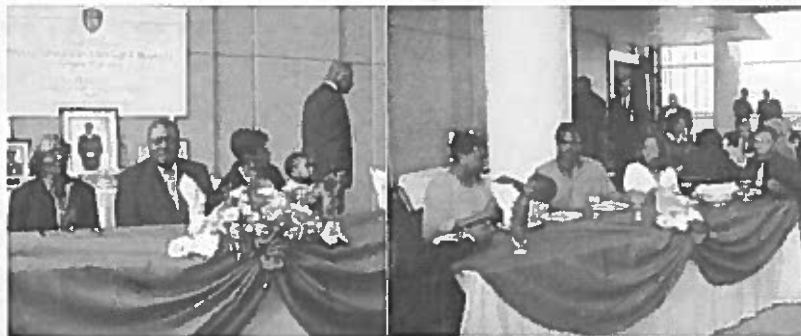
Baltimore, Maryland

Leonard Hamm, Police Commissioner
June 04, 2005

A Legend Retires



After 36 years of dedicated service, Deputy Commissioner Kenneth Blackwell retired from the Department on June 25. Commissioner Leonard Hamm and former Commissioners Eddie Woods and Bishop Robinson were among the speakers at the emotional, and hilarious, retirement ceremony in the headquarters building atrium. The Deputy's long-lost fourth grade teacher also said a few words. Deputy Blackwell, who joined the force in 1969, had 15 assignments during his illustrious career, all of which he carried out with the highest levels of professionalism, integrity, and courtesy. We wish him all the best in his retirement. He deserves nothing less.



COMSTAT DATA YEAR -TO-DATE

Northwestern District

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Total Crime | -18% |
| Violent Crime | -13% |
| Property Crime | -20% |
| Homicides | -40% |
| Agg. Assaults | -5% |
| Burglaries | -34% |
| Auto Thefts | -7% |



The Long Lens of the Law



The PAL marching band led the parade down Laurens Street and Commissioner Hamm was the keynote speaker at the unveiling ceremony of Baltimore's first Portable Overt

Detection System (PODS). A total of 10 cameras have been purchased by the Department, at a total cost of \$300,000, for use in high-crime areas. The money for the cameras came from a federal grant. Kudos to Chief Kristen Mahoney and her staff for the successful rollout of this important program.



High Honors



BPD's Domestic Violence Unit was honored on April 22 with the 2005 Governor's Award for the unit's commitment and dedication to the victims of domestic violence. In 2004, the Domestic Violence Unit, which consisted of twelve detectives and eight community service officers, handled more than 25,000 cases. Congratulations on the well-deserved award.

Torch Run

The Baltimore Police Officer Torch Run, an event that benefits the Special Olympics, will be held on June 15, between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The run will begin at Rash Field and end at HQ with a presentation by Commissioner Hamm. BPD is inviting a few Special Olympics athletes to join us for the event. Maryland Special Olympics t-shirts are available for \$10. For more information, or to order t-shirts, contact Sergeant Thomas Engel at 410-396-2363.

Keep Talking

Members of the Community Affairs Section were in the video business on May 10. That was the first day that the Department's "Keep Talking" DVD was distributed, for free, to the public. The video, which was edited by Officer Raul Alvarez of Education and Training's Media Unit, is the Department's response to the "Stop Snitching" video. So far, nearly 1000 copies of "Keep Talking" have been given out, and the DVD has been prominently featured by the Baltimore Sun, New York Times, all four local television stations, CBS News, CNN, Fox News Channel, MSNBC and the British Broadcasting Corporation.



Courtesy of the Baltimore Sun

Job Very Well Done



On March 25, Police Officer (now Sergeant) Sean Harrison of the Northern District conducted a car stop in the 400 block of East 28th Street. Three people were inside a blue and white conversion van. A warrant check was done on the driver, which resulted in the driver being arrested on a CDS warrant.

Instead of ending the investigation there, however, Officer Harrison began to field interview the van's other occupants. Although warrant checks turned up negative, Officer Harrison felt that the occupants' nervousness and conflicting stories warranted further investigation. Officer Harrison soon determined that one of the suspects had given a false name and was wanted in Baltimore County for several armed robberies. Still not satisfied, Officer Harrison contacted BPD's citywide robbery unit and learned that the suspect was also wanted for several bank robberies in Baltimore City, one of which was committed just days before the car stop. The suspect was then arrested, at which time Officer Harrison found a note in the suspect's pocket that read "This is a holdup." Another armed robbery had apparently just been averted.

Great work, Sergeant Harrison, and congratulations on the promotion.



THE BLUE LINE

Martin O'Malley, Mayor
Volume 27 Number 04

Baltimore, Maryland

Leonard Hamm, Police Commissioner
August 05, 2005

BPD's Youngest Chief

On July 9, the Southern District Community Relations Unit and the Make-A-Wish Foundation helped make the wishes of



four year-old Russell Coleman come true. Russell has neuroblastoma, a form of childhood cancer that occurs in the adrenal gland or in the tissues of the nervous system.

Russell's wish was to have lots of toys to play with and a police car to play in. For starters, Officer Joseph Schultz of the Southern District Community Relations Unit outfitted Russell in a Baltimore City police shirt and hat. The Community Relations Unit then escorted



Russell, his family and a chauffeur-driven limousine to the Toy's-R-Us on Route 40 in Baltimore County, where Russell - who was an made honorary Chief - went

on a shopping spree with money provided by the Make-A-Wish foundation. Russell's dream day ended with a trip to Chuck-E-Cheese. Congratulations to everyone who helped make this incredible day a reality.

Closing Down the Ranch

Score another one for the good guys. On July 22, the Housing Authority of Baltimore City revoked the multiple family dwelling license of the Pall Mall Apartments on Pimlico Road, a notorious housing complex known to many as "The Ranch." This was the first license revocation under the city's new Property Based Crime Solutions Program (PBCS), which provides a one-stop shop for nuisance abatement in Baltimore City and creates a new and improved way of dealing with and resolving nuisance properties. A hearing officer in the case shut down The Ranch after determining that the property was being used "for the purposes of drug trafficking and other criminal activity," and that the owner "knew that the properties were being used for these purposes and failed to take appropriate action."

Congratulations to Major Keith Tiedemann, Deputy Major Mary Eilerman and Officer Cheryl Quomony of the Northwest District, and Alexandra Strubing, PBCS's lead attorney, all of whom worked long and hard on this important case.

COMSTAT DATA YEAR -TO-DATE

Eastern District



| | |
|----------------|------|
| Total Crime | -20% |
| Violent Crime | -24% |
| Property Crime | -26% |
| Homicides | -30% |
| Shootings | -15% |
| Agg. Assaults | -16% |
| Burglaries | -38% |
| Auto Theft | -18% |



Promotions Ceremony



Police Commissioner Leonard Hamm held an appointments and promotions ceremony on Tuesday, July 19, in the headquarters auditorium. Mayor Martin O'Malley highlighted the list of dignitaries in attendance.

Sixteen sergeants, seven lieutenants, two deputy majors, one director, two majors, two colonels, and one deputy commissioner were recognized.

Razamatazz

You've probably noticed all the colorful crabs in and around the city. You may not have noticed that one of the crustacean creations is the work of Liz Mitchell of Metro Crime Stoppers.



"Razamatazz," which is being displayed at the corner of Pratt and Light, was made with 30,000 4mm and 8 mm rhinestones. In its left claw is a 2500-carat diamond-shaped crystal. Several passers-by have said Razamatazz is the finest crab they've ever seen. The editors of the Blue Line agree. Well done, Liz.

Singing Loud and Singing Proud for 10 Years



The Baltimore Police Department's Adult Choir commemorated its 10th anniversary on July 27 with a rollicking party at the Forum on Primrose Avenue.

Originally consisting of only a drummer and several singers, the choir now has more than 20 members. In addition to singing at dozens of police functions, the choir has also performed at Camden Yards, the Convention Center, and City Hall, among many other venues.

Congratulations to all choir members, past and present.

Youth Night in the Safe Zone

The Western District held its "Youth Night in the Safe Zone" on July 13 between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. The event, which was held at the intersection of Walbrook and Payson, focused on kids between the ages of 6 and 14. Five temporary basketball courts were set up so police officers could conduct a basketball skills class, the PAL marching band performed, and there was a moon bounce for small children. In addition, members of the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth, and Families, along with the Baltimore Youth Opportunity Center, were in attendance helping with job placement and giving information about various youth programs.

Department of Biological Chemistry

Dr. M.A. Majid, a criminalist II in the Laboratory Division's Drug Analysis Unit, was invited by the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine to give a 90-minute seminar to a group of professors, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. What's more, in recognition of Dr. Majid's vast experience in the fields of molecular biology and genetic engineering, Johns Hopkins has offered him a visiting scientist position.

Track and Field Competition

On Friday, July 15, the Police Athletic League held a track and field competition between all 17 active PAL Centers. The event was held at Carver Vocational Technical High School. Commissioner Hamm was among those in attendance.

Athlete of the Year

Congratulations to Loch Raven junior Kevin Summers, son of Angie Davis of Central Records. Kevin received the *Northeast Reporter's* "Athlete of the Year" award. As a double letterman, Kevin dominated opponents in both football and track, and led Loch Raven to its first-ever county championship.

Special Thanks

Michone Todd, niece of Police Officer David Milburn and OAIL Myrna Milburn, took part in the Department of Recreation and Park's first citywide Junior Beautillion at Martin's West on June 5. The theme was "Distinguished, Debonair, and Destined to Succeed."

Michone and her family want to thank those BPD members whose generous donations helped make the event such a big success.



THE BLUE LINE NEWSLETTER

Martin O'Malley, Mayor
Volume 27 Number 5

Leonard Hamm, Police Commissioner
October 8, 2005

OCD Does it Again, and Again



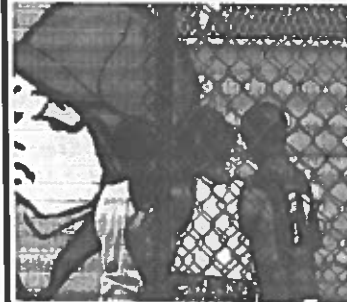
The Baltimore Police Department's Organized Crime Division continues to do what it does best take big bites out of Baltimore City's illegal narcotics trade. As of September 28, OCD had served more than 1022 search and seizure warrants, seized 523 guns, 152 kilos of cocaine, 28 kilos of heroin and 3044 pounds of marijuana, and confiscated more than eight million dollars in cash.

The unit's latest major initiative was completed on September 27. That's when a three-month long investigation culminated in the seizure of more than 200 pounds of marijuana and \$178,000 in cash, as well as the arrests of five people who were supplying marijuana to the northwest, northern and eastern sections of the city. Outstanding work!

A Reminder

The Fire and Police Employees' Retirement System (F&P) has relocated from their temporary offices on the 4th floor of 7 East Redwood Street to their permanent offices on the 18th and 19th floors of 7 East Redwood Street. F&P member services are on the 18th floor, while F&P administration, accounting, information technology and personnel offices are on the 19th floor.

P.A.L. Center Mural



A fantastic mural, entitled "Pick Up a Passion," was recently completed at the Carroll Park P.A.L. Center. The mural, which is located at the back of the center, was designed and painted by a group of children from Tony Shore's Access Arts program, as well as a number of kids from the Bayard street neighborhood in the Southern district. The project is part of the Casey Foundation's "Peace, Safety, and Murals" program, whose goal is to use murals to convey the many dangers and ill-effects of gun violence. Check it out when you get a chance.



COMSTAT DATA YEAR-TO-DATE EASTERN DISTRICT

| | |
|---------------|------|
| Total Crime | -18% |
| Violent Crime | -20% |
| Homicides | -42% |
| Shootings | -16% |
| Robberies | -25% |
| Agg. Assaults | -16% |
| Burglaries | -33% |
| Larcenies | -25% |

Baltimore Police Grab One of America's Most Wanted



Jamel Stevens had robbed 30 New York City hair-braiding stores earlier this year when he suddenly disappeared at the end of April. Fast-forward three months to August 9 and head south two hundred miles to West North Avenue here in Baltimore. That's when

and where another hair braiding store was robbed at knifepoint. Detectives working the case developed sources who identified the suspect as a homeless man. Detective Alan Savage eventually found Stevens at Mercy Hospital, where Stevens had gone to be treated for a toothache. When confronted, Stevens gave Det. Savage various dates of birth, and the only identification he had with him was a New York-issued social security number. Undeterred, Det. Savage then called his counterparts at the New York Police Department, who knew from the sound of the crime that the man in custody was, in fact, the infamous braid store bandit. Stevens is now being held at Central Booking. If the story sounds familiar, perhaps you saw the recent episode of America's Most Wanted that featured Stevens's crime spree. Congratulations to all the officers who played a role in Stevens's arrest. To read more about this case visit: www.amw.com

Attacking the Narcotics Trade from Every Angle

On August 3, Detective David Shields, along with members of the Western District Drug Unit, executed a search and seizure warrant at Tiffany's Mart on West Fayette Street, where they found a large cache of packaging materials. More than 47 boxes of packaging material with an estimated street value of over \$20,000 was seized, which should serve as a reminder that trafficking in any aspect of the drug trade will simply not be tolerated in Baltimore.

Looking for a Few Good Men and Women

The Homewood Campus of the Johns Hopkins University is hiring additional uniformed, off-duty Baltimore City Police officers to provide foot patrols in areas adjacent to the Homewood Campus in the Charles Village area. If you're interested, contact Lt. Tom Douglas at (410) 516-8985 (office) or (443) 224-4679 (Nextel) to arrange to receive an application and an interview. Officers can also pick up applications at the security hub in the lower level of Johns Hopkins's Shriver Hall.

Following Tips

On August 17, members of the Northeastern District Flex Operations Unit received information about a substantial amount of marijuana being stored inside an apartment in the Northwood Apartment complex off Loch Raven Boulevard.



An investigation was initiated and a search and seizure warrant was obtained. When they got into the apartment, officers found more than 75 pounds of marijuana in the floor of the rear bedroom.

An additional search and seizure warrant was then obtained for a house in the Woodlawn area of Baltimore County. The execution of that warrant yielded information that could play a major role in the prosecution of the case.

Job Well Done

On August 3, members of the Western District and Southwestern District Operations Units conducted an initiative in areas that had recently been affected by violent crime. The initiative primarily focused on the North Avenue corridor from Monroe Street to Poplar Grove Street. As a result of the initiative, 50 people were arrested and a total of 28 car stops, 61 stop and frisks, 67 warrant checks, and 2 search and seizure warrants were executed. One of the search and seizure warrants was executed at a business where 43 cases of narcotics packaging materials were seized. What's more, the initiative produced valuable information regarding 3 homicides and 3 non-fatal shootings.

Officer of the Month

Officer Michael Reynolds was chosen as the Southwestern District Officer of the Month for July 2005. Sergeant Michael Guzman reports that in the 31 days of July, Officer Reynolds made 15 arrests, responded to 103 calls for service, issued 26 civil citations and 2 criminal citations. His productivity was all the more remarkable when you consider that Officer Reynolds also took 10 vacation days in July; 10 well-earned vacation days.