



THE BLUE LINE NEWSLETTER

Martin O'Malley, Mayor
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Leonard Hamm, Police Commissioner
December 11, 2006

Safe Zone Architect Honored



Lt. Col. John Skinner

Lt. Col. John Skinner was named one of the "Baltimoreans of the Year" in the December issue of Baltimore Magazine. Lt. Col. Skinner was honored for his work on BPD's Safe Zone Project, a program that began in late 2005 in West Baltimore. This year, safe zones have been set up in

more than 20 Baltimore neighborhoods and the program was one of seven finalists worldwide for the International Association of Chiefs of Police's prestigious Webber-Seavey Award. Congratulations to Lt. Col. Skinner and to all those who have made the safe zones such a resounding success.



Commissioner Hamm and Lt. Col. Skinner receive Webber-Seavey Award for Safe Zones.

Bigs In Blue



In an effort to increase the number of police officers who mentor children, BPD has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Maryland. A press conference was held on September to announce the MOU, which calls for various outreach efforts within BPD. The program, called "Bigs in Blue," has already been extremely successful; two officers have been matched with "littles," two more will have matches shortly, and about ten more are waiting to be matched. If you're interested in becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister, contact Carley Thimmesch at 410-243-4000 or e-mail her at cthimmesch@biglittle.org.

COMSTAT DATA YEAR-TO-DATE CITY WIDE

Violent Crime	-6%
Property Crime	-3%
Total Crime	-3%
Homicides	-2%
Agg. Assaults	-14%
Larcenies	-7%
Larcenies from Auto	-13%

We Will Never Forget



Family members of Police Officer John R. Phelan were joined on September 29 by members of the Northwestern District to mark the 50th anniversary of Officer Phelan's line of duty death. The ceremony, which was held in the Northwestern District's roll call room, included a presentation of flowers at Officer Phelan's memorial plaque, as well as remarks by Officer Phelan's family. Officer Phelan, who was 21 years old at the time of his death, had been a BPD member for three years when he was killed.

BPD Helping Those in Need

On November 14, Officers Craig Singleterry, Patrick Beverly, and Rod Erick Henry, as well as CSO Erica Vaughn, volunteered their time at the Oasis Homeless Shelter. Also on hand were Baltimore City Council President Sheila Dixon, Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Mark Clayton and former Ravens defensive end Michael McCrary.

The volunteers assisted more than 220 homeless men and women, passing out toothbrushes, toothpaste, wash clothes, soap, deodorant, shaving cream, and various other personal hygiene products. They also gave out blankets and Ravens coats, all of which were provided by the Police Athletic League, the Unilever Brothers Company and the Baltimore Ravens.



Thanksgiving Comes Two Days Early in the Southern District



The Housing Section served Thanksgiving dinner to more than 230 community residents on Tuesday, November 21. The event was held at the Southern District substation on Coppin Court. Major Jesse Oden said special thanks were owed to Officers Mike Gold, Eureka Jones, Sandy Wallace, and Verna Cromer, as well as to the members of the Southern District Community Council.

Photo provided by the Baltimore Sun