

WHAT'S *New*

IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

A weekly update for residents, visitors, and workers in the District of Columbia



Friday, December 19, 2008

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MPDC

Chief Cathy Lanier, her Command Staff and all the members of the MPD wish our partners in the community a happy and peaceful holiday season.



MPD ANNOUNCES SAFE CITY PROJECT IN WASHINGTON'S TRINIDAD NEIGHBORHOOD

One of Chief of Police Cathy Lanier's guiding principles is to make good relationships between the Metropolitan Police Department and the City's neighborhoods paramount — tailoring policing to each neighborhood. Chief Lanier understands each of the city's neighborhoods is unique, and often a law enforcement response is insufficient to resolve the long term problems plaguing any one neighborhood.

One such District neighborhood, Trinidad, is a high crime area and is in dire need of increased law enforcement and community outreach programs. Trinidad and its residents will benefit greatly through a set of discrete proposed initiatives. To accomplish these goals, the Metropolitan Police Department, DC Police Foundation, Target Corporation, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, civic leaders, and DC area businesses have established the DC Safe City Partnership to make the Nation's Capital one of the safest communities in America.

There are several objectives of the Safe City Project, including deploying a neighborhood-based closed circuit television (CCTV) network in the Trinidad neighborhood to reduce crime and the fear of crime; increasing the availability of recreational equipment and other associated leisure time materials at the Joseph Cole and Trinidad Recreation Centers of the DC Parks and Recreation Department to better serve Trinidad area youth, families and senior citizens; conducting mobile outreach throughout the neighborhood; implementing the "Light Up the Night" program, which will give away light bulbs to create better lighting at night; introducing the "Live Link" cell phone program to the community; and endorsing and assisting with community-based initiatives such as the "Youth Advocate" program and the "We Can" Program.

- » Read the complete news release about the Safe City Project online at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov>
- » Get more information about the Safe City program objectives and how you can help at:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/safecity>

HOLIDAY REMINDER: DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE IN DC

Metropolitan Police officers are out in force this holiday season, looking for impaired drivers, speeders and other aggressive or unsafe drivers. Several sobriety checkpoints will be conducted between now and New Year's Day, as part of the MPD's holiday traffic safety detail. The MPD is also throwing its support behind both the designated driver and SoberRide programs this holiday season. Sponsored by the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), SoberRide provides holiday revelers with free cab rides home (up to \$50) every evening from 10 pm to 6 am, from now through January 1. Individuals may request a cab by calling (800) 200-TAXI (200-8294); Cingular Wireless customers can access the service by dialing #TAXI. The MPDC reminds motorists that DC has tough drunk driving laws, including a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) standard of .08, zero tolerance for youthful offenders, and penalties that include stiff fines, license revocation and the possibility of jail time, even for first offenders.

- » Learn more about drunk driving laws in DC by going to:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/dui>
- » More details on SoberRide:
<http://www.soberide.com>

VISIT INAUGURATION.DC.GOV FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO PREPARE FOR THIS HISTORIC EVENT

Through the DC Presidential Inaugural Committee (DC PIC), the Government of the District of Columbia provides logistical coordination and support for the inaugural activities, working in close coordination with its federal, regional and private sector partners to ensure seamless oversight and integrated management. Hundreds of thousands of American citizens from across the country will visit the District to take part in this historic event. People planning to visit DC for this historic event should be prepared for large crowds, heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and numerous street closures. The District of Columbia's 2009 Presidential Inauguration website provides a single point of access to a variety of information people may need in preparing to visit the District of Columbia to commemorate the 56th Presidential Inauguration, including lodging information, transportation, security measures and closures.

RESIDENTS REMINDED ABOUT REWARDS IN HOMICIDES, ROBBERIES, OTHER VIOLENT CRIMES

In an effort to enlist even more community support in solving crimes and prosecuting offenders, the MPD reminds members of the public that the Department operates and supports a number of reward programs. These programs offer members of the community substantial cash rewards for information that can help the MPD close cases. For example, the MPD offers a reward of up to \$25,000 to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for any homicide committed in the District of Columbia. The Department also offers an enhanced reward of up to \$5,000 to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for any robbery in DC. The reward amount increases to up to \$10,000 for information in robberies that involve a life-threatening injury to the victim. Anyone with information about an unsolved homicide, robbery, or other crime in DC is asked to call the MPD's 24-hour or the Command Information Center (CIC) at (202) 727-9099. Callers wishing to remain anonymous may call 1-888-919-CRIME (888 919-2746). Anonymous information may also be forwarded to the department's TEXT TIP LINE by text messaging 50411. And, of course, the Department continues to support the Crime Solvers program, which offers rewards of up to \$1,000 for information that leads to the arrest and indictment of the person or persons responsible for other felony crimes. The Crime Solvers telephone number is (800) 673-2777. All calls to Crime Solvers are confidential, and callers need not provide their names.

- » Whether you plan to be on the National Mall, on Pennsylvania Avenue, or at some other venue for this event, be prepared. Visit the DC government's Presidential '09 Inauguration website at: <http://inauguration.dc.gov/index.asp>

- » Get details on rewards offered by the MPD at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/rewards>
- » Learn more about the MPD's 24/7 anonymous crime tip lines at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/tipline>
- » Flyers on unsolved homicide cases are posted on the MPD website at: <http://mpdc.dc.gov/unsolvedhomicides>

DATA BOX

Homicides	as of 12/19/08
2008: 183	
2007: 177	
% Change: 3.4%	
Closure Rate: 69.9% (128 closures)	
Adult Arrests	week end. 12/13/08
Total Arrests: 828	
Weapons: 32	
Robbery: 4	
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle: 7	
Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 25	
Narcotics: 171	
Juvenile Activity	week end. 12/13/08
Total Arrests: 63	
Weapons: 5	
Robbery: 0	
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle: 11	
Narcotics: 9	
Curfew Violations: N/A	
Truancy Violations: N/A	
Firearm Recoveries	as of 12/17/08
December: 94	
2008 Total: 2,464	
Traffic Fatalities	as of 12/19/08
2008: 38	
2007: 52	
% Change: -26.9%	

NEWS & NOTES

Also Noteworthy

Support the MPD Holiday Toy Drive. The MPD and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund are teaming up this holiday season to collect toys for children in need. New, unwrapped toys for MPD's Holiday Toy Drive can be delivered to any of the seven MPD police district stations, police headquarters or

the NLEOMF Visitors Center. For more information, visit http://www.nleomf.org/toydrive_08.htm.

Arts Eve Promises Culture and Entertainment for Youth on New Years Eve. The Commission on the Arts and Humanities is putting on a family event for New Years Eve called "Arts Eve" and are inviting all of DC's families—specifically our youth. The event, to take place at the City Museum, will expose our youth to four completely different

cultural experiences. For more information go to <http://dcarts.dc.gov/>.

Celebrate the Inauguration and Contribute to the Metropolitan Boys and Girls Club. The Inaugural DC Ball at the Old Post Office Pavilion on historic Pennsylvania Avenue will celebrate this festive and historic moment while helping raise funds for the Metropolitan Police Boys & Girls Clubs, the event's beneficiary. For more information, go to <http://inauguraldc.com>.

Information, ideas, or comments about this service?

Send an e-mail to **KAYLIN CASTELLI**, in MPDC's Office of Communications, at kaylin.castelli@dc.gov

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