

BUSINESS AWARDS

Local companies, state agency up for city recognition at luncheon

By Aaron Cahall
Examiner Staff Writer

Eight Baltimore companies and a state agency will be recognized today at the Mayor's Business Recognition Awards Luncheon, organized by the **Greater Baltimore Committee**.

Honorees include Baltimore Truck Wash, for a commitment to providing a second chance to ex-offenders and substance abusers; Coldwell Banker Real Estate Brokerage, for its Cornerstones of Life program, which encourages volunteerism and charitable donations; the Hyatt Regency Baltimore, for its Family of Responsible and Caring Employees (F.O.R.C.E.) program, including volunteering, fundraising and mentoring; and M&T Bank, for its assistance to the Sharp Leadenhall community with beautification projects.

Other companies to be recognized include the National Aquarium in Baltimore, for restoring a 10-acre tidal wetland bordering Fort McHenry; the National Federation of the Blind, for its Youth Slam program providing blind young people opportunities in a variety of

fields; Reznick Group, for its employee involvement and commitment to neighborhood beautification and Baltimore's youth; and T. Rowe Price Group, for its Day of Caring program, in which associates may take a paid day off to participate in community service activities.

The honorees were selected by a GBC committee for the 33rd annual event based on their community service initiatives, GBC spokesman Gene Bracken said. More than 400 business executives are expected to attend the event, beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore.

The Maryland Port Administration will receive an award for its Masonville project, which will clean up a contaminated former shipyard in the Brooklyn and Curtis Bay neighborhoods to create a wildlife preserve and community space.

"I think the thing that the recognition means most is that the way we've approached this project is the right way to do it," said Frank Hamon, the MPA's deputy director for harbor development. "We approached it as a partnership with the community organizations and maritime industry."

acahall@baltimoreexaminer.com