

## A museum near you

Readers of *The Capital* apparently weren't the only ones amused by Monday's story about county Sheriff Ronald S. Bateman's undercover Valentine's Day warrant sting.

It seems officials with the National Law Enforcement Museum, currently under construction in Washington, D.C., also liked what they read.

Museum representatives contacted Bateman this week and said they'd like to feature Sunday's sting in the 90,000-square-foot underground facility near the National Law Enforcement Memorial. The museum is scheduled to open this fall.

The museum is sending a representative to meet with Bateman next week to pick up memorabilia

for the exhibit, including the Keystone Candigram prop candy box undercover deputies held while making faux deliveries to scofflaws from "secret admirers."

The exhibit also will feature props used in the 2008 Valentine's Day sting, in which deputies dressed as florists, and from the October 2007 sting that nabbed 40 men and women who thought they were collecting a check from the state Comptroller's Office.

"I was extremely taken aback by the phone call," Bateman said. "It's going to be an honor to have the Anne Arundel Sheriff's Office represented in a national museum."

Bateman said he's received e-mails from as far away as Ireland commenting on the latest sting.