

NWCP

Northwest Citizens Patrol

the CITIZEN news & views

Volume 2 – Issue 6

Recognized Nationwide as the Leader in Community Patrolling & Safety

January 2018

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NWCP
Northwest Citizens Patrol

35TH ANNIVERSARY

Overflow Crowd and Dignitaries Honor NWCP, Police and City Officials

On Saturday night, December 9, Northwest Citizens Patrol hosted its 35th Anniversary Reception.

As always, the dinner was an enjoyable evening of friendship and support. An overflow crowd of 300 community members gathered to show appreciation to the

NWCP, police department, and city officials who work hand in hand to help make our community a safer place.

The dinner came at a significant time, as a recent uptick in crime has become a cause of significant apprehension in the community, and several speakers highlighted the NWCP's role in trying to combat this wave of crime. Mr. Yaakov Ottensosser, Emcee, introduced the evening by asserting, "We are facing significant challenges, but tonight, we take a step back and reflect on the dedication of our 'men in blue' who put their lives on the line 24/7 to protect our communities." He welcomed the many Rabbanim, police officers and government officials who attended the event.

Rabbi Tzvi Teichman delivered divrei brachah, emphasizing, "In this community, we all work together with unity and sensitivity to ensure that our community is safe. May we eradicate and not have to deal with crime."



Rabbi Tzvi Teichman



The Community Leadership Award was presented to Jonah Ottensosser. On video, community Rabbanim and others praised Mr. Ottensosser for his willingness to help people in many ways. Of special note was Mr. Ottensosser's initiative to organize a Friday night patrol in which

off duty police officers patrol the streets on Friday nights.



NWCP President Neil "Nachy" Schachter, Rabbi Moshe Heinemann, Jonah Ottensosser

Mr. Nachman Schachter, President of NWCP, took the podium, and thanked all who contribute to fighting crime in the community. He especially thanked the 400 volunteers who rotate to patrol the neighborhood streets each evening. He made special mention of the extraordinary efforts of the Baltimore City and Baltimore County Police Departments in apprehending recent crime suspects.

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Mr. Schachter then presented awards to several officials for noteworthy efforts and accomplishments in fighting crime. These included Assistant State's Attorney Jeff Hann; Assistant State's Attorney Jessica Baldwin Bowes;



Rabbi Shmuel Stoll, Assistant State's Attorney Jeff Hann, Neil Schachter



ASA Jessica Baldwin Bowes, State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby, Neil Schachter

inspiring to see this vigilant and engaged community. If we had more citizens' patrols, Baltimore would be a better place." A highlight of the evening was a presentation of the



Baltimore County Chief Terrence Sheridan, Lieutenant Michael DiCara, Neil Schachter

Outstanding Police Liaison Award to Officer Sam Bennett, who worked as the NWCP's police liaison for nine years,



Baltimore City Deputy Commissioner Darryl De Sousa, Officer Sam Bennett, Neil Schachter

until his recent retirement. Mr. Bennett became a true friend of the community, and often going above and beyond his call of duty.

Mr. David Mitnick, Senior Building Director for the Park Heights Jewish Community Center, made a special presentation to Deputy Commissioner Daryl Desosa of Special Operations and Captain Jason Yerg for their invaluable assistance earlier this year when the Jewish Community Center was plagued with a series of bomb threats.



Commissioner Darryl De Sousa, David Mitnick, Captain Jason Yerg



Councilman Yitzy Schleiffer

The NWCP was happy to have in attendance Councilman Yitzy Schleiffer, Councilman Schleiffer has been instrumental in enhancing the security and safety of our community through his efforts and new initiatives.

Rabbi Ariel Sadwin, Agudath Israel of America's Mid-Atlantic's Representative, presented an award to Mr. Glenn Fuston, from the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and



Rabbi Ariel Sadwin, Glenn Fuston, Neil Schachter

Prevention, which has provided several grants to help keep the community safer. Mr. Fuston expressed great interest in continuing to learn about the needs of our community and how they can be addressed.

Baltimore City Mayor Catherine Pugh addressed the audience, and discussed her efforts to grow the police department, and also presented the NWCP with a citation of appreciation and achievement, in recognition of their years of efforts in fighting crime.



Mayor Catherine Pugh

The evening concluded with an emotional, surprise presentation. Mr. Schachter reminded the audience that at last year's dinner, outgoing Councilwoman Rikki Spector was honored for her years of service to the community. At that time, it was revealed that the previous day, Councilwoman Spector was the victim of a carjacking, perpetrated by two juveniles. This year, on video recording, Councilwoman Spector told the story of the trial for these two youths, and how she ended up reaching out to them and befriending them. During this past year, both youths showed real remorse for their actions and were truly invested in turning their lives around. To everyone's surprise, Mr. Schachter called up Mr. Duncan Hughes, one of these youths, who stepped



Rikki Spector, Duncan Hughes

forward and was applauded for the steps he has taken to become a better person. Hughes was accompanied by Melvin Willingham and Kristina Page, volunteers of UEmpower, an organization that helps inner city youth. Councilwoman Spector was then presented with the Emissary of Peace and Empowerment Award for "raising the bar of selflessness to a new level," in working to rehabilitate the boys. Then with Rikki Spector's blessings, Mr. Duncan Hughes was presented with an award for his efforts this past year to better his life.

It was a heartwarming evening, as all attendees left feeling grateful to all of those who work so hard to make our community a safer place.

The NWCP thanks *Hamodia* for their permission to reprint this article



Melvin Willingham and sons, Kristina Page, Duncan Hughes, Neil Schachter

More Photos from the 35th Annual NWCP Reception



The CITIZEN News & Views

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