



### NWCP Catches Up With:

#### Councilwoman Rochelle “Rikki” Spector

**NWCP:** Councilwoman Spector, your roots go way back in Baltimore.

**RS:** Born and bred! I was born on Myrtle Avenue, where my parents had a grocery store, and I was raised in Locust Point. When I was 8 or 9 years old we moved to Forest Park, and I've been in Northwest Baltimore ever since.

**NWCP:** So your heart belongs to Baltimore.

**RS:** I love Baltimore. I love the people of Baltimore. Baltimore is a hometown.

People like you who come from New York or somewhere else feel the same way. They love Baltimore as a hometown.

**NWCP:** You came into politics not by design.

**RS:** I never expected it. My husband was in the House of Delegates in the 1960s and ran for State Senate and won. He lost the Senate race in 1970. In 1971, he ran and won the 5th District City Council seat and then was appointed to a judgeship while he was serving in the Council. There were 2-1/2 years left of his council term, so I was chosen to fill in. Being a first-string elected official is where the people have most access to you, you're the one who's most responsive. I became very familiar with the Council through my husband's job because people would call him at home a lot. Things don't happen 8:30-4:30, they happen on the evenings and the weekends, holidays. Incidentally, I am the longest-serving living local elected official in the history of Maryland!

**NWCP:** Can you please give us an overview of your tenure

#### Spotlight on Neighborhoods: Maxine Webb, President, Glen Neighborhood Improvement Association (GNIA)

**NWCP:** Maxine, you've been president of GNIA for a little over a year. I believe you had an extensive background in community organizing before this?

**MW:** Yes, I was a community organizer at Northwest Baltimore Corporation. At that time, there was a very heavy crime and drug problem in southern Park Heights. We were in the news every day for crime,



in the City Council.

**RS:** Nearly 40 years later---and I've been offered at least 9 very good jobs when I retire---my real concern is that I work 9 days a week. That's why women are so good in elected office: they know that the job is never done! We're built for it and we don't get discouraged. You have to be a people person, and if you say you're going to do something, you have to do it. I was raised in business since I was 5 years old; my grandfather didn't eat lunch until I came to watch the store

- at 5 years old! I was raised to give people a dollar's worth for a dollar.

Continued on page 3...



Please join us for an Enjoyable Evening of Friendship and Support for the Police Department, City Officials and the NWCP

In Special Tribute to  
Councilwoman

**Rikki Spector**

For her 39 Years of Devoted Service to Baltimore City and Our Community

Meet-Greet with:

Mayor Elect

**Catherine Pugh**

and

Councilman Elect

**Yitzzy Schleifer**

**Bnai Jacob Shaarei Zion 6602 Park Heights Ave. 21215**

**December 3, 2016 • 8:00pm**

RESERVATIONS BY NOVEMBER 23, 2016 • DONATION - \$40 PER PERSON  
FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CALL 410-664-6927, EXT. 8 OR EMAIL [RSVP@NWCP.INFO](mailto:RSVP@NWCP.INFO)

On behalf of all volunteer members of the NWCP, the editorial staff of the CITIZEN news & views, and myself, we wish everyone a Healthy, Happy and Safe New Year.  
Neil (Nachy) Schachter



Maxine Webb, continued from page 1...



pit bull issues, all kinds of things were going on. But we had trailblazers who forged ahead and headed community associations to preserve communities. Whatever we see today in southern Park Heights is the result of these activists who loved the community, stayed in their homes, and fought to get the funds to turn it around. Now the children of the original activists are taking over.

**NWCP:** How long have you lived in Glen?

**MS:** I've been a resident here since 1970. We were the first African-American family on the block and it was wonderful. We were very warmly received on Glen. We loved it then, I love it now. Luckman Park was the best-kept secret in the State of Maryland. Nobody knew about it; there were tennis and basketball courts there. I love the interaction of the African-American and Jewish population. We were surrounded by wonderful Jewish people, great neighbors. Nobody treated us any differently because of race.

**NWCP:** Why are neighborhood associations important?

**MW:** Great question! First of all, you need to take ownership of where you live. If you rent or buy and think this your neighborhood is a great place to live, you should love it enough to want to preserve it. Keep it safe and clean, keep your home in good repair.



Keep noise levels low. Pick up the trash. Keep your property well lit, clean up after your dog, keep your dog on a leash. Find something you have a passion for, whether transportation, sanitation, crime and safety, housing and zoning--we have a committee for you in GNIA. We are an equal opportunity volunteer organization. There's something there for everybody. When we first moved here, you'd get

a letter if your car leaked oil on the street! We need to get back to that level of care. There's a sense of pride in living here and being involved in the community association. And quality of life issues determine the type of people you attract. If you keep the community up, you attract neighbors that you want to live next door to. I think everybody should ask themselves, "Would I want to live next door to me?" I also love that all 5 community associations in this area work together to keep the community in order, and I love the interactivity of religions and ethnicities, the mutual respect and learning each other's beliefs and lifestyles.

**NWCP:** Can you say a few words about the Northwest Citizen's Patrol?

**MW:** Oh yes. Since we've lived on Glen, the NWCP has always been an integral part of the community. I respect Neil Schachter and his team, and I remember Rusty White. I am very much aware that people come from around the country to learn from them because we have the premier citizen's patrol in the country. When my sister and I went to Las Vegas in August, NWCP kept an eye on our properties and kept everything in good order. My sister has come in the evenings from church and NWCP has watched her go into her house and kept her safe. They give us a sense of protection and comfort and they work in conjunction with the police department for the good of the people. I can't imagine Northwest Baltimore without NWCP! I applaud the men who take time away from their families to take care of us. I applaud the wives who don't harass, and even support their husbands for doing this. Happy wife, happy life! And their holiday event that we attended last year was absolutely 5-star! I can't tell you how much we enjoyed it. Everyone should take the time to say "thank you" to NWCP, and everyone should send checks to help support the vital work that they do.



## Bicycle Helmet Safety Tips

By: Jonathan Libber

Many years ago, I was working in the Consumer Product Safety Commission when the issue of bicycle helmets was getting some attention. The pathologist who studied bike injuries and deaths from bicycle accidents urged me to wear a hockey or football helmet, because the bike helmets back in 1973 were a joke. Fast forward to the present, when wide use of proper bicycle safety helmets has thankfully prevented many catastrophic injuries and deaths.

Until the 1970s, bicycle helmets consisted of a leather thong



wrapped around the top of the head. These helmets offered almost no protection from head and neck injuries, the leading cause of serious injury and death in bicycle accidents. Now, strong, impact-resistant helmets are the norm. In many states, such as



Maryland, they are required by law. Here are a few tips about bicycle helmets worth considering.

### Purchase Only New Helmets

When purchasing any safety helmet, you should avoid purchasing a used helmet. The reason is that the previous owner may have dropped it onto a hard surface, like a sidewalk. While the helmet might look fine, the structural integrity of the helmet may have been compromised. The only way, to be reasonably sure that a helmet will protect the user in the event of an accident is to buy it new.

### Select Helmets that Fit and Are Designed Properly

You need to make sure the helmets you select are the correct size for the cyclist and are properly fitted. The National Safety Council advises the helmet should fit securely and should be worn low and near the eyebrows - not back on the forehead. Since 1999, all helmets manufactured or imported for sale in the U.S.

must carry a label or sticker stating that they meet the requirements of



Continued on page 3.

## Watch Your Home Program

We know that you can't always be at home, watching over your precious belongings. So we will help you out! Each night, a patrol car will drive by your home, checking for open doors or windows, people hanging around your home, or other suspicious activity which may indicate that the security of your home may be compromised.

Sign up for now: <http://nwcp.info/watch-your-home/>



## A Safer Sefer Torah Procession for All

By: Yehuda Fishkind

Darchei Tzedek is happy to announce the acquisition of our very first Sefer Torah (Torah scroll). For decades, the shul has been using Sifrei Torah on loan from members. The procession to



bring the new Torah to the shul began on September 4, 2016 at the Marsh home on Shelburne. With the accompaniment of Aryeh Berkowitz on keyboard in the Torah Truck, we danced the Torah through the streets to the shul.



Darchei Tzedek is located on Seven Mile Lane; a busy thoroughfare. With the help of Baltimore's Finest, assisted by the NWCP, we were able to conduct the celebration safely through the streets.



## Bicycle Helmet Safety continued from page 1...

the Consumer Product Safety Commission. So any helmet you select should have some indication it meets that standard. The National Safety Council further advises that a properly designed safety helmet has four characteristics: 1. A stiff outer shell; 2. An energy-absorbing liner at least one-half inch thick; 3. A chin strap and fastener to keep the helmet in place; and 4. A lightweight design that is cool in hot weather and fits comfortably.

### Make Sure Your Children Know How Important It Is to Wear Helmets When Riding Their Bikes

It goes without saying that you and your children should ride a bicycle only when wearing a helmet. Modeling good behavior means that parents also need to wear helmets when they ride a bike. Just a little attention in this area can mean a safer biking experience for all.

Rikki Spector continued from page 1...

That's how you have to be politically. I never restricted myself to the 5th District because I represent the City. The challenges are when I'm working on something and the political will is not there to accomplish it. Having worked under William Donald Schaefer was huge: do it and do it now!

**NWCP:** Your version of retirement might be to cut back from 9 days a week to 7?

**RS:** I serve on many commissions and boards and sometimes they're at 7:30 in the morning and sometimes 7:30 at night. So I will definitely stay active and interested because that's the way I'm made.

**NWCP:** How do you see the future of Baltimore City?

**RS:** I see wonderful young people who are bright and want a better world, clean air, healthy food, riding a bike—that's really exciting. I work among those young people and I'm excited about them. And they're very attracted to Baltimore. We're a university town: between the University of Maryland, Towson, Hopkins, Loyola, they've brought young people who come here and they stay.

**NWCP:** Do you think Port Covington will be a similar renaissance to when the Inner Harbor was developed by William Donald Schaefer?

**RS:** I was the only Councilperson who "got it" about the Inner Harbor, which was a derelict, hobo place. Schaefer came up with this idea of recreation and conference business, but opponents got 10,000 signatures opposing the Rouse Co. exploring the redevelopment. Now everybody wants to live in the Inner Harbor and it has helped keep Baltimore on the map. That's what we're expecting now with Port Covington. Where would we be without the Inner Harbor? You don't just learn from success, you learn from mistakes. Schaefer learned from other people's mistakes, I learned from other people's mistakes.

**NWCP:** Any regrets?

**RS:** No regrets. When Schaefer was going to run for Governor, I threw my hat in the ring for State Senate. I'm sorry I did it; I'm glad I didn't win. I'm a much better fit for Baltimore City.

**NWCP:** Any words about the NWCP?

**RS:** I wish we could clone the NWCP! I remember when Rusty White was president of the NWCP. The Canadian Mounted Police came down and studied with Rusty White. It really takes something special to get the kind of volunteers the patrol has. The fact is the NWCP has been a vibrant and vital organization for 35 years; Hatzalah came out of the patrol and other organizations as well. Other volunteer services that are invaluable.

**NWCP:** Thank you! For your service and your invaluable work, 9 days a week!

**RS:** Look at the generosity of the many hundreds of people who give of themselves and their time, for no salary! That's what's amazing about the NWCP. Thank you for your selfless service; it's made such a huge difference in my district.



We urge everyone to join the ranks of the NWCP. Especially in these times we need every pair of eyes patrolling our neighborhoods to keep our streets safe. Call 410-664-6927 TODAY!

## It's a Family Effort

By: Andrew Singer

I have been driving for patrol for 13 years and am proud to be counted among those who shoulder the responsibility of keeping our community safe. As an added bonus, my children often accompany me on patrol, and they are excited to be doing their part in helping keep crime down. I am very pleased to be able to give my kids an opportunity to be a part of this mitzvah and to have a hands-on experience in doing their part to help the community.



Andrew Singer and his sons Yaacov & David

### WHAT DOES THE NWCP DO?

#### Neighborhood Patrol

Nightly patrols in the Upper Northwest area.

#### Project Recourse

Helping victims of crime navigate the court system.

#### Watch Your Home Program

We'll watch your home when you are away.

#### Citizen Protection Program

Someone will watch you into your home.

#### Event Protection

Event overwatch and traffic assistance to ensure safety.

#### Auto Theft Protection

Vehicle safety devices for sale.

#### Home Security Surveys

Our police liaison officer can visit your home and suggest ways to make it more secure.

#### Cyber Security

Articles relating to cyber security.

-See <http://nwcp.info> for details-

### The CITIZEN News & Views

Editor/Writer - Betty Cherniak

Writer - Jonathan Libber

Layout - Chaim Rubenstein

Distribution - Ari Winokur

Associate Editor - Sara Schachter

## SECURITY AND THE YOMIM NORAIM (HIGH HOLIDAYS)

By: Neil (Nachy) Schachter, President, NWCP

Bnai Jacob Shaarei Zion was host to a by-invitation only, security briefing by the Baltimore City Police Department on Wednesday, September 28.

One representative from each shul as well as community leaders were invited to attend this important in-depth briefing and update about security for the upcoming Holidays in light of current events around the world.

Representing the police department were Deputy Commissioner Dean Palmere, Detective Jeremy Silbert, Chief Melissa Hyatt, Major Latonya Lewis, Captain Jason Yerg, Sergeant Leo Furman, Detective Bill Currie, Major Richard Worley, Major Sheree Briscoe, Major Marc Partee, and Detective Tom Jugan.



Deputy Commissioner Palmere opened the meeting by stating that while there is no credible threat at this time in the Baltimore area, there would be robust police coverage for the High Holidays in our neighborhoods. He asserted that there would be a lot more resources assigned to our area than usual, including an Operations Center headed by a Field Commander and an Incident Commander to deploy and organize resources as needed.

Major Lewis of the Northwest district spoke specifically about police deployment for the holidays explaining that there would be increased police presence both in patrol cars and on foot. She assured the attendees that the officers know where all the shuls are and the basic schedules for the holidays. She also said that there would be 3 officers on foot patrolling at the following locations: 6221 Greenspring Ave. (Shomrei Emunah) to 6214 Pimlico Rd; 6600 Park Heights Ave to Falstaff Rd; and one stationary officer outside BJSZ. She mentioned that since we do not use phones on the holidays (except in emergencies), the community can report any suspicious activity or concerns to these foot officers. Assurances were also given that the county and city had a plan in place to cover and work together in areas that overlap their jurisdictions.

Local crime was also brought up as a concern especially with 500 additional students



attending Northwest High School. Major Lewis and Captain Yerg said that along with the two officers specifically assigned to our area, there are officers at bus stops outside the school at dismissal times and one officer dedicated to driving around the neighborhoods that surround the school. Captain Yerg added that he is in constant contact with the NWCP and Shomrim about community concerns and also that community leaders can pass along their concerns directly to our new community liaison officer, Bill Currie or call them directly. Major Lewis said that the command staff at Northwest are open to a community meeting to discuss concerns in the neighborhood.

On behalf of the community, both Rabbi Hauer and Rabbi Brull expressed appreciation to the police for their dedicated efforts to ensure the safety and protection for our community.

*This issue sponsored by*



410-653-7411



443 280 1911