

August 02, 2011

News Release

For Immediate Release

Celebrate National Night Out August 26

In 1984, the National Association of Town Watch, a nonprofit, crime prevention organization introduced the first National Night Out, 'America's Night Out Against Crime'.

Over the years, activities have expanded from front porch vigils to include block parties, cookouts, parades, visits from police, festivals, neighborhood walks, safety fairs, contests, rallies and meetings. National Night Out is designed to:

1. heighten crime prevention awareness.
2. generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs.
3. strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.
4. send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

In Springfield we celebrate National Night Out the end of August in order to not conflict with the Ozarks Empire Fair.

National Night Out this year will be held Friday, August 26th hosted by the following neighborhood associations at the locations listed below. It is not too late to register your neighborhood event to ensure police presence. Register @ 888-2020.

- Doling Neighborhood Association, Doling Park, 301 E. Talmage
- Grant Beach Neighborhood Association, Grant Beach Park, 833 W. Calhoun
- Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Association & Bissett Neighborhood Association, Nichols Park, 1900 W. Nichols
- Midtown Neighborhood Association, Washington Park, 1600 N. Summitt
- Robberson, Robberson Elementary, 1100 E. Kearney
- Tom Watkins Neighborhood Association, Tom Watkins Park, 2100 W. High
- Weller Neighborhood Association, Smith Park, 1536 E. Division
- West Central Neighborhood Alliance, McGregor School Park, 1200 W. State
- Westside Betterment Association, Westport Park, 3100 W. Mt. Vernon
- Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association, Lafayette Park, 202 E. Atlantic
- Fulbright Springs, off Old Highway 13

For further information about specific activities at each location, or to register your event, please contact Melanie Billman, Community Partnership, 888-2020.

Media Contact: Acting Public Affairs Officer Lee Walker, phone: 417-864-1786

Release authorized by: Chief Paul Williams