



City of Yakima

NEWS RELEASE

Subject: National Night Out

Contact: Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 901-1142

Release Date: Monday, August 5th, 2013

Yakima Valley Events Will Be Part of 30th Annual National Night Out

Throughout the Yakima Valley and across the nation, communities will be throwing a “going away party for crime” during the 30th annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6th. In addition to numerous neighborhood block parties, several organizations and businesses will be sponsoring National Night Out events.

McGruff the Crime Dog will make an appearance at the Yakima Police Department’s National Night Out event, which will take place at the City’s Law & Justice Center (200 S. 3rd Street) from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Tuesday. The YPD’s family-friendly event will also include free food, music, and activities for all ages.

National Night Out was started in 1984 and is the brainchild of Matt Peskin, who was the executive director of the National Association of Town Watch (“NATW”) at the time. The NATW is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the development and growth of crime and drug prevention programs nationwide. NATW’s membership now includes now more than 6,500 crime, drug, and violence prevention organizations.

In its first year, about 400 communities participated in National Night Out activities. The 30th annual version of the event this year is expected to include more than 15,000 cities and towns and an estimated 37 million people.

While the traditional ‘lights on’ and front porch vigils remain a part of National Night Out, the variety of events that take place in communities has expanded considerably over the years to include block parties, cookouts, parades, visits from police, festivals, neighborhood walks, safety fairs, contests, rallies and meetings.

To learn more about National Night Out activities in the Yakima Valley, contact any of these local law enforcement agencies:

Grandview Police Dept. – 882-2000
Mabton Police Dept. – 894-5178
Selah Police Dept. – 698-7346
Tieton Police Dept. – 673-0200
Union Gap Police Dept. – 248-0430
Yakama Tribal Police – 865-2933
Yakima County Sheriff – 574-2500

Granger Police Dept. – 854-2656
Moxee Police Dept. – 575-8850
Sunnyside Police Dept. – 836-6200
Toppenish Police Dept. – 865-4355
Wapato Police Dept. – 877-3161
Yakima Police Dept. – 575-6197
Zillah Police Dept. – 829-6100

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