



Always a lot of attention goes to the children during National Night Out in The Woodlands (TX).

## National Night Out 2024: Neighbors, First Responders Party for Safety!

### Another Great Year for NNO!

Citizens, law enforcement agencies, community groups, businesses, youth organizations and local, state and federal officials from 17,104 communities from all



Louisville Metro Police (KY) made sure that each and every guest had a smile on their face at this year's NNO.

and we thank them for standing behind National Night Out."

Throughout the nation, along with the traditional 'lights on' and front porch vigils, there were tens of thousands of block parties, cookouts, parades, potlucks, ice cream socials, neighborhood visits by local police, flashlight walks, safety fairs, poster contests, festivals and other unique events and activities.

Glen Brooks, Chicago Police Department's director of community policing said, "National Night Out is a celebration of communities coming together with their police officers. Really neighbors coming together and celebrating working in partnership to create safer neighborhoods."

VanDella Menifee, President, Lake Parks HOA said, "I love my city. Grand Rapids is not just a place where you be proud as a citizen, it's a place where you feel welcome as a family. Every year our community plays a part in the annual National Night Out by bringing neighbors, police, fire and city officials together."

David Spigelmyer, UT Dallas Police Department said, "I am so honored to have spent over half of my law enforcement career promoting, organizing and participating in NNO! When people come up to me and call me Mr. NNO, I fill up with such joy knowing that I have been an extension of Matt's baby that he started so many years ago." (Spigelmyer is retiring this year but somehow we all believe that he will find a way to still be a part of NNO.)

Lt. Vanzant of the Weatherford, TX Police Department said, "Involving local organizations provided essential access to community resources, offering assistance

(continued on page 2)

### ★ WHAT'S INSIDE ★

- 1 NNO 2024: The Tradition Continues!**
- 3 Award Winners**  
Roundup of 2024 Winners
- 5 Photos from Across the USA**
- 9 Dog Walker Watch**

### NewSpirit

NATW is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the development and promotion of organized community crime prevention activities and to the groups and the individuals participating in local crime watch efforts.

**NewSpirit** is published as the official newsletter of the National Association of Town Watch. Contact us at P. O. Box 303, Wynnewood, PA 19096. Phone: (610) 649-7055. Fax: (610) 649-5456, [www.natw.org](http://www.natw.org). Email: [info@natw.org](mailto:info@natw.org).

50 states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide joined forces to celebrate the 41st Annual National Night Out (NNO) – a community crime prevention and safety event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch in partnership with ADT, Starbucks, 7-Eleven, Nintendo, Dollar Tree, Associa, L.E.A.D. and Swank Motion Pictures.

"NNO Coordinators did an amazing job of putting together powerful yet fun events," said Matt Peskin, creator of NNO and National Project Coordinator. "The organizational efforts began early in the year and culminated in an array of spectacular celebrations."

He added, "A salute to our amazing corporate partners who help us do what we do year in and year out. Their support and leadership make the NNO engine run



Nat the Knight grabbing some snacks at National Night Out in Coppell (TX).

## NewSpirit

Opinions expressed in **NewSpirit** are those of the authors and contributors and do not necessarily express or reflect official NATW views or policy. Products of service information are not purported to imply NATW endorsement.

© Copyright 2024 by the National Association of Town Watch. Permission to reproduce the contents, but not for profit, is hereby granted provided proper acknowledgment is included. Reproduction for commercial purposes without express permission is prohibited.

Submissions: NATW encourages readers to submit news items and will consider all articles, photographs and manuscripts. Material may be edited at the Association's discretion.



It was all about the young ones during National Night Out in Oak Creek (WI).

(continued from page 1)

to those in need. Families expressed enthusiasm for NNO and often requested extended hours to interact with all of the participating organizations. Many groups have stated that it's their favorite event of the year."

Lt. Colonel Badgerow of the Chesterfield County Police Department said, "Our most precious commodity is our time. We are humbled that each year on National Night Out so many of our residents choose to spend their time with us, and we are honored to spend our time with them. We're thankful for everyone who chose to share a smile, a handshake or a meal with us this year. We can't wait to do it again next year and for years to come."

Joyce Lee of Chino Hills, CA said, "NNO helps to revitalize neighborhood watch groups that have lost their momentum. It also promoted the 'good neighbor' feeling within the community. NNO is a great way for first responders to put a face to the name and engage in face-to-face communications."

Alicia Ayala of the Grand Prairie, TX, Police Department said, "This initiative is designed to reduce the victimization of children in targeted geographic area of our city. We also had food drives, gave away shoes to those in need and even created smiles with new bikes. There is no question that neighborhood participation in our NNO was a point of pride for our community and was one of our largest yet. We can proudly say that NNO has built the framework for quality relationships and has now elevated to a new level of problem solving unlike any other."

Sara Wood of the Kent, WA, Police Department said, "The residents get to know their neighbors better and we hear some valuable discussions about their neighborhood. Neighbors use NNO to put out maps and contact information for setting up a Block Watch. One neighborhood coordinator states that this is only time of year that her neighbors come out and talk to each other."

Jeremiah Ellison of Minneapolis said, "My team and I had an incredible time connecting with neighbors during National Night Out. I am grateful for all of our community members that took the time and energy to organize a NNO block party. It was so lovely to see how much fun the kids were having."

Chief Tony Martinez of the Dimmitt, TX, Police Department said, "I believe that NNO benefits the Dimmitt/Castro County communities by bringing unity for one day. It allows our community to see our law enforcement agencies in a positive setting and not just when they are called for a negative situation. It allows officers to converse with the community about any issues that concern them. NNO also allows entities such as our crisis center, panhandle transit and other available services to introduce to those who might otherwise not know that they exist."

## NATW 2024 AWARD WINNERS

**ARLINGTON, TX** was selected as the top-ranked Category 1 area and received the National Night Out Cup. Orlando was second, Chesterfield County, VA was third and Minneapolis, MN was fourth.

**RICHARDSON, TX** won the Cup in Category 2. Brooklyn Park, MN, won in Category 3 and New Brighton, MN captured Category 4. St. Francis, WI, took Category 5 and Bullard, TX finished first in Category 6.

**TEXAS** was awarded the "National Night Out 2024 State Cup."

The complete list of all of the NNO 2024 Award Winners begins on page 3 of this issue and is also posted on the Awards page on our website at [nno.org/awards](http://nno.org/awards).

\* \* \*

The "42nd Annual National Night Out" will culminate on August 5, 2025. (The Texas/October date will be October 7th.)

Website registration for NNO 2025 will open on February 1st. **All agencies, communities and organizations must register each year.**

NNO coordinators are encouraged to invite cities and towns that were not involved in 2024 to contact NATW now or they can visit the website.

Due to Federal Trademark Regulations, all cities and towns that participate in NNO must register with NATW each year. Anyone with any questions is invited to email or call NATW/NNO at 1-800-648-3688.

**17,100  
COMMUNITIES  
FOR  
NNO 2024!!!**

# ★ NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024 ★

## Award Winners

### Category 1: 300,000+ Population

1. Arlington, TX
2. Orlando, FL
3. Chesterfield County, VA
4. Minneapolis, MN
5. Columbus, OH
6. St. Paul, MN
7. Louisville-Jefferson County Metro, KY

### Category 2: 100,000 - 300,000 Population

1. Richardson, TX
2. The Woodlands Township, TX
3. Grand Prairie, TX
4. Hanover County, VA
5. West Valley City, UT
6. Modesto, CA
7. Kent, WA
8. Waco, TX
9. Edinburg, TX
10. Suffolk, VA
11. Plano, TX
12. Harford County, MD
13. Stafford County, VA
14. Charles County, VA
15. Pasadena, CA
16. Coweta County, GA
17. Allen, TX

### Category 3: 50,000 - 100,000 Population

1. Brooklyn Park, MN
2. Maple Grove, MN
3. Gloucester Township, NJ
4. Cedar Park, TX
5. Pflugerville, TX
6. Chino Hills, CA
7. Jacksonville, NC
8. Victoria, TX
9. Bowie, MD
10. Longview, TX
11. Tinley Park, IL
12. Skokie, IL
13. Chicopee, MA
14. Plantation, FL
15. James City County, VA
16. Meriden, CT



Spring Hill (KS) Police made sure that all of the little enjoyed their evening at NNO this year.

### Category 4: 15,000 - 50,000 Population

1. New Brighton, MN
2. Munster, IN
3. Coppell, TX
4. Bartlett, IL
5. South Brunswick Township, NJ
6. Sanford, NC
7. Oakdale, CA
8. Oak Creek, WI
9. Redmond, OR
10. Midlothian, TX
11. Happy Valley, OR
12. Taylor, TX
13. Mill Creek, WA
14. Olney, MD
15. Weatherford, TX
16. Hamilton Township, NJ
17. Crowley, TX
18. Carmel, NY
19. White Settlement, TX
20. Martinez, CA
21. Plainfield, IL
22. Gardner, KS
23. Seagoville, TX
24. Mauldin, SC
25. Forks Township, PA
26. Centralia, WA
27. Schertz, TX
28. Hewitt, TX
29. Anna, TX

### Category 5: 5,000 - 15,000 Population

1. St. Francis, WI
2. Live Oak, TX
3. Chino Valley, AZ
4. Galax, VA
5. DeRidder, LA
6. Kennedale, TX
7. St. Johns, MI
8. Bellmead, TX
9. Oak Brook, IL
10. Lehigh Township, PA
11. Bulverde, TX
12. Sunnyvale, TX
13. Warrenville, IL
14. Crestwood, IL
15. Van Alstyne, TX
16. Denison, TX
17. Alvarado, TX
18. Bonham, TX
19. Placerville, CA
20. Minooka, IL
21. Caln Township, PA
22. Rochelle, IL
23. Upper Saucon Township, PA
24. Waterford, CA
25. Spring Hills, KS
26. Bloomsburg, PA
27. Kilgore, TX

### Category 6: Less than 5,000 Population

1. Bullard, TX
2. Dutton, AL
3. Moscow Borough, PA
4. Oroville, WA
5. Oregon, IL
6. Spring Valley, IL
7. La Vernia, TX
8. South Hill, VA
9. Chase City, VA
10. Isle of Palms, SC
11. Louisa, VA
12. Middleburg, VA
13. Eureka County, NV

### Category 7: Military

(alphabetical by state)

Marine Corps Base Hawaii  
Joint Base Pearl Harbor/Hickam Air  
Force Base, HI  
Fort Jackson, SC  
Fort Cavazos, TX

### Category 8: Rookies of the Year

Los Banos, CA  
Better Tomorrows Reading Elderly  
Housing Reading, PA  
Sherman, TX  
Terrell Hills, TX  
Wrightstown, WI

### Category 9: State

State of Texas

### Category 10: Neighborhood/Community

(alphabetical by state)

Adonea Community Aurora, CO  
Better Tomorrows Bethel Villa  
Wilmington, DE  
Island Palm Communities, HI  
Campbell Crossing, KY  
Cavalry Family Housing, TX  
Suffolk Obici, VA

### Category 11: Colleges/Universities

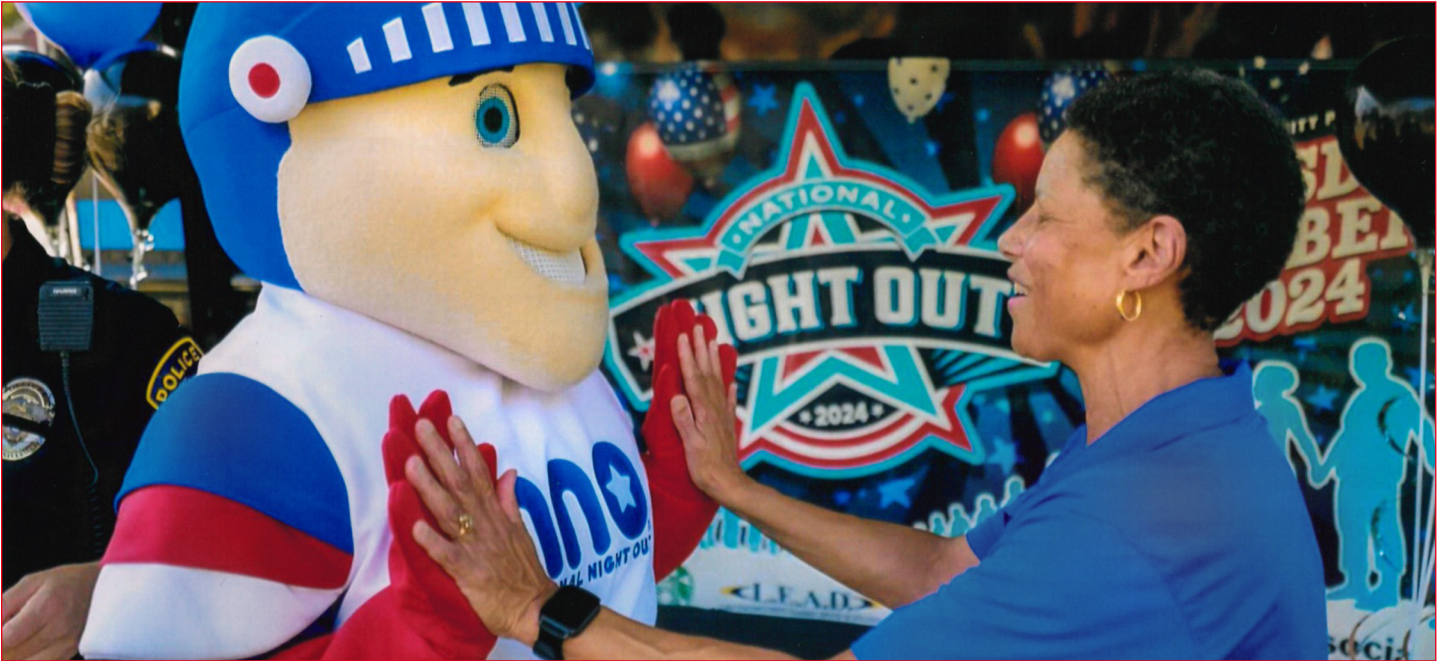
(alphabetical by state)

University of Texas at Dallas  
Southern Methodist University Dallas, TX  
University of Texas Medical Branch Police  
Department Galveston, TX  
Univ. of the Incarnate Word San Antonio, TX





# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024



*Nat the Knight danced with neighbors all day and night at NNO in Coppell (TX).*



*A beautiful display for National Night Out in Happy Valley (OR).*



*CSO Harrington tased during a demo at National Night Out in Rochelle (IL).*



*The local Starbucks team was out in force to assist the folks in Denison (TX) with NNO this year.*





*Squeaky clean at National Night Out in Bartlett (IL).*



*The Drunk Kart was a featured attraction at National Night Out in DeRidder (LA).*



*Recruitment going on everywhere including at NNO in Oak Creek (WI).*



*Fun for all ages at the Lower Merion Township (PA) NNO this year.*





*Dunk the Cop at National Night Out in Redmond (OR).*



*It's those smiles that make NNO so worthwhile in Charles County (MD).*



*Annually, Bartlett (IL) flips over National Night Out.*



*All eight fire stations in The Woodlands (TX) supported National Night Out 2024 activities.*



*The Scouts joined the NNO party in South Brunswick Township (NJ).*



*The Arlington (TX) Police Department promoted Dog Walker Watch this year at NNO.*





*This Bartlett (IL) National Night Out photo just doesn't need a caption.*

---



*Another outstanding National Night Out this year in Plantation (FL).*

---



*Barrel train rides at National Night Out in Denison (TX).*

---

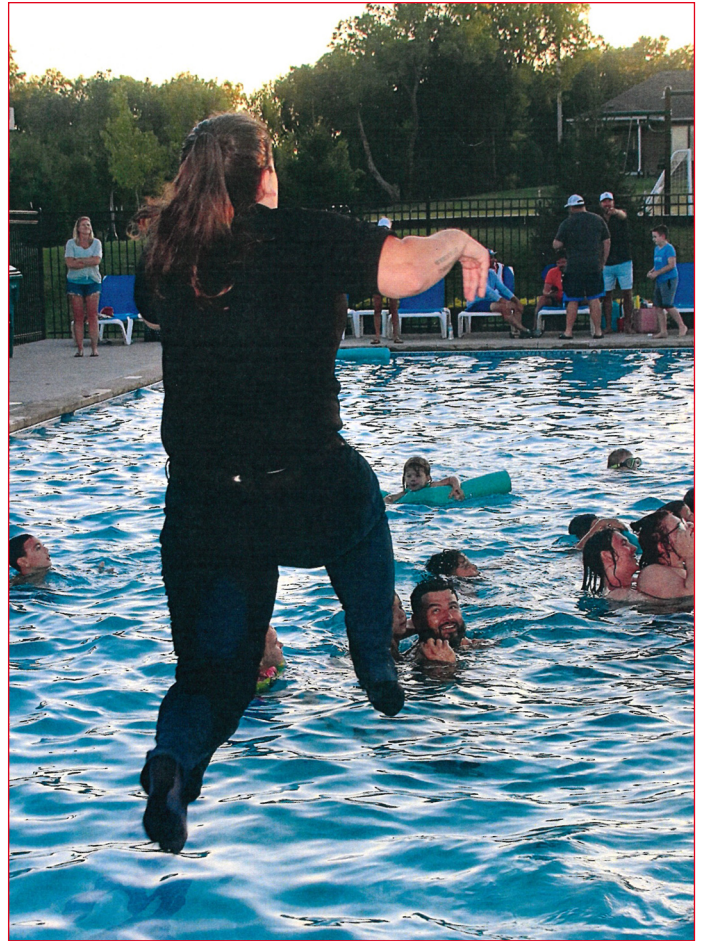




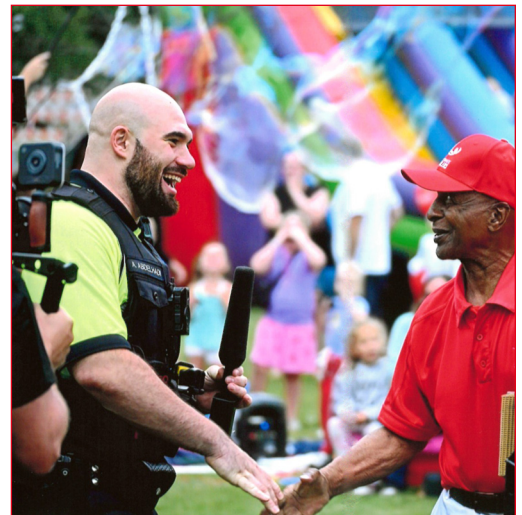
*Slurpees all around courtesy of 7-Eleven for folks during NNO in The Woodlands (TX).*



*Citizens compete against the PD in a doughnut-eating contest at National Night Out in Redmond (WA).*



*Officer Beehler joins the kids in the pool during National Night Out in Spring Hill (KS).*



*(photograph above) Making friends and meeting new friends is what NNO is all about in Bartlett (IL).*

*(left) 7-Eleven and Slurpee joined many National Night Out celebrations this year.*





Plenty for the kids to enjoy during National Night Out Clackamas County (OR).



Grand Prairie (TX) was out in full force this year during National Night Out.

**Dog Walker Watch** (DWW), a crime awareness program created by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) is growing rapidly across the country. There are over 75 million dog walkers throughout the USA. DWW training classes, conducted by local law enforcement, teach citizens how to become more effective observers and reporters of suspicious activity.



If your community has not registered yet, please visit [natw.org/dog](https://natw.org/dog). Ideally, you want your local police or sheriff's department to register as they will be doing the training. A training presentation is available for local law enforcement agencies.



NNO Packet Pick Up day in The Woodlands (TX).



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TOWN WATCH  
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT  
P. O. BOX 303  
WYNNEWOOD, PA 19096

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
UPPER DARBY, PA  
PERMIT NO. 682

To:



*Nat the Knight helps Arlington (TX) to promote National Night Out at Globe Life Field, the home of the Texas Rangers.*