

**Press
Release****The City of Palo Alto**
Public Information Office250 Hamilton Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94301

07/16/2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #071609

Subject : National Night Out, Tuesday, August 4, 2009**Contact :** Susie Ord, Palo Alto Police Department 650-329-2632

Palo Alto, CA - The 26th Annual National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4, 2009. It is a unique crime prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored by the Palo Alto Police Department. Last year, over 37 million people participated in National Night Out across the country, in U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide.

National Night Out is designed, but not limited, to achieving the following:

- Heighten awareness to reduce crime;
- Generate participation in crime prevention programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships; and
- Join together to learn ways to improve the quality of life.

Although the primary theme for National Night Out (NNO) is focused on crime prevention efforts, Palo Alto makes it a time to bring people together and heighten awareness on many levels. This year, City staff from Community Services, the Library, Public Works, Utilities, the City Manager's office, Police and Fire Departments, and elected officials will visit registered Block Parties throughout Palo Alto between 6 – 8 p.m. City staff will hand out fun, informational and useful items to participants as they relate to local events, services and programs.

Last year, approximately 600 people participated in NNO in Palo Alto. Some of the larger venues took place in City parks, while most were on neighborhood streets. Many of the larger parties were organized through their neighborhood associations while others organized a "Block Party" and closed off their streets to hold barbecues, potlucks, desserts and assorted games and activities.

Hosting a NNO party is a simple way for people to get reacquainted, have fun and explore how neighbors might work together to improve the safety and quality of their neighborhood. The City of Palo Alto encourages neighborhoods to organize block parties to promote neighborhood unity.

Registration is free. The deadline to register is 5 p.m., on Friday, July 24, 2009. Only registered groups will be eligible for a visit.

- Registration form and information online: www.papd.org/community_involvement/
- NNO Information: Contact Susie Ord at (650) 329-2632 or susie.ord@cityofpaloalto.org.
- Block Party Permit application (no fee): Call Deanna Eclavea, at (650) 329-2147.

###