

Mundelein slates annual National Night Out event

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Mundelein residents will be taking a stand against crime and drugs during the 25th annual observance of National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 5.

The Mundelein Police Department is among 10,000 communities nationwide participating in the annual crime and drug prevention event. The local version takes place at the Santa Maria Del Popolo Church grounds, corner of Seymour Avenue and Courtland Street, in Mundelein.

"The whole community comes out. The event keeps growing and we expect over 1,000 people," said Mundelein Police Sgt. Mark Parrish, who with Officer Katie Smith have organized the annual event for the past 15 years.

Police will grill hot dogs and hamburgers for the free community picnic, which runs from 5 to 9 p.m. Family-oriented activities including a live DJ, a moon walk and other inflatables, dunk tank, pie and watermelon eating contests, raffles and bingo.

The Busy Brain Children's Museum is bringing 12 mobile exhibits so kids can observe science type activities in action. Another vendor will offer to take photographs and prepare children's identification cards.

The flashlight walk against crime and drugs begins at dusk. "Usually we have about 500 people participating. The walk is a community-wide effort designed to show unity among residents who are not going to put up with violence and crime," Smith said.