

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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**August 10, 2009**

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## **National Night Out Against Crime**

Page 1 of 2

On Tuesday, August 4, 2009, the Franconia Township Police Department held its 13<sup>th</sup> annual National Night Out Against Crime celebration at the Franconia Township Park on Allentown Road in Franconia Township.

National Night Out is an annual worldwide event in which law enforcement agencies, local officials, local businesses, and citizens get together to increase anti-crime awareness and strengthen community partnerships. Each year millions of people worldwide participate in National Night Out. It is estimated that nearly 2,000 people attend Franconia Township Police Department's event.

With notably the highest attendance recorded in Franconia Township, the night was a huge success. While enjoying the nice weather, guests viewed demonstrations of emergency services and equipment from local, county and regional agencies, including the Mounted Patrol Unit from the State Correctional Institution at Graterford, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department Bomb Squad, and the Telford Volunteer Diving and Rescue Unit.

In addition to the more than 15 public safety organizations distributing literature and give-aways on the "information midway," there was a custom car show, model airplane show, MedEvac helicopter landing, "Dunk-a-Cop" dunk tank, hay ride, food, basket raffle, and children's activities. Pennsylvania State Senator Stewart Greenleaf was also in attendance, meeting and speaking with community members.

(More)

This year, the Franconia Township Police Department introduced its 1st Annual Public Safety bike race, where officers and public safety personnel face off using children's bikes while in their full uniforms. Chief Joseph S. Kozeniewski paired off with Perseverance Fire Company of Souderton's President Jim Gallagher. The large crowd that gathered to watch the race waived their checkered flags and cheered them down the course. While "Chief Joe" took the 1<sup>st</sup> place position, both participants should be recognized for their effort and spirit.

Please visit [www.FranconiaDARE.org](http://www.FranconiaDARE.org) for more information and photos of the event.

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