

CONTACT:

Philip A. Strouse
Community Relations
Garfield County Sheriff's Office Annex
106 County Road 333-A
Rifle, CO 81650
Phone: 970-309-9697
E-mail: pstrouse@garcosheriff.com



Tanny M. McGinnis
Community Relations
Garfield County Sheriff's Office
107 8th Street
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Phone: 970-309-9248
E-mail: tmcginnis@garcosheriff.com

SHERIFF LOU VALLARIO
GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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GarCo Sheriff's Office Organizing Local National Night Out Event

BATTLEMENT MESA, Colo. – On Tuesday, August 3rd, the Garfield County Sheriff's Office will join thousands of communities nationwide for the 27th Annual National Night Out neighborhood crime and drug prevention gathering. The Sheriff's Office, along with the Battlement Mesa Activity Center, will be sponsoring a community event in the center's green space and parking area at 398 Arroyo Drive from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of National Night Out is four-fold: (1) heighten crime prevention awareness; (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts; (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and (4) let criminals know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. The event is free for all attendees, and the Sheriff's Office will be providing grilled hamburgers and hotdogs, chips and water as well as entertainment.

Also, since there will be no separate Touch-A-Truck event in Battlement Mesa this year, the Sheriff's Office and Activity Center staff are actively coordinating with area agencies such as the Parachute Police Department, Grand Valley Fire Department, School District 16, National Guard, Colorado State Patrol and others to showcase vehicles/equipment for visitors of all ages.

Displays will include the county's All Hazards Response Team BearCat armored vehicle, Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle and K-9 demonstration, Parachute police cruiser, Grand Valley Fire trucks and firefighting gear, Patriot Guard motorcycles, Toby's water trucks and a Loomis armored truck. The National Guard will erect a climbing wall for the more adventurous as well as a football toss for those willing to test their skills. Garfield County Crime Stoppers will have a dunk booth, and McGruff the Crime Dog is expected to make an appearance.

This year, National Night Out will involve over 14,625 communities from all 50 states and U.S. territories in an attempt to strengthen neighborhood cooperation and law enforcement-community partnerships. National Project Coordinator Matt Peskin said, "This is a night for America to stand together to promote awareness, safety and neighborhood unity. . . . On NNO, we invite neighborhoods nationwide to join us in *Giving Crime & Drugs A Going Away Party.*"

The mission of the Garfield County Sheriff's Office is to provide solutions for the people by utilizing and employing strong morals, good character, untarnished integrity, technical knowledge and fiscal responsibility through professional, ethical and equitable conduct.

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