

The Warwick Police Department, Mayor Scott Avedisian, the Oakland Beach Neighborhood Association and the city's Department of Tourism, Culture and Development invite the public to attend the annual National Night Out event tonight, beginning at 5 p.m. at the Oakland Beach Commons (Seawall).

The event, which brings law enforcement officials together with the community, is free. Parking is restricted on some streets, but there is designated parking in the ball field, adjacent to the commons, as well as in the surrounding area.

Events include a rock climbing wall, children's fingerprinting, karate demonstrations, free refreshments and kids' prizes (while supplies last), police and fire equipment, neighborhood groups, an opening ceremony featuring the Warwick Police Honor Guard, and a variety of other family-friendly activities.

There will be a fireworks display at dusk (approximately 9 p.m.).

In its 27th year, National Night Out is the creation of the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) and is meant to bring attention to local anti-crime programs; strengthen the relationship among and between community groups and law enforcement; foster a sense of community; and bring attention to drug and crime prevention efforts. The NATW said that over 36 million people throughout the country participated in last year's National Night Out events.

All are invited to attend and help give neighborhood crime and drugs a going away party.