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**City of Wylie**  
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**SUBMITTED STORY**

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### **Wylie's Unique National Night Out Event Draws Crowds**

**Wylie, TX, Oct. 7, 2015** – Hundreds of Wylie community members gathered in Olde City Park Oct. 6 to celebrate National Night Out Wylie style. Members of the community were invited to historic downtown Wylie for a celebratory evening of public safety displays and activities, free hot dogs and drinks, bounce houses, pony rides, face painting, a petting zoo, cookie decorating, and an opportunity to get up close and personal with a PHI Air Medical helicopter and Wylie PD's MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle.

“Our goal is to bring the community together and raise awareness of crime prevention in our city,” said Crime Prevention Officer Angie McIntosh. “We continue to promote a strong community network of active, involved citizens, working hand in hand with the police to keep Wylie’s crime rate dropping lower and lower.”

The evening ended with a fireworks display, and citizens were urged to return home, turn on their porchlights and meet their neighbors, part of the traditional National Night Out show of unity against criminal activity.

National Night Out is a program developed by The National Association of Town Watch, a nonprofit crime prevention organization that works in cooperation with thousands of crime watch groups and law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Since 1981, NATW has been dedicated to the development, growth and maintenance of organized crime and drug prevention programs nationwide. NATW’s network has grown to include over 6,000 crime, drug and violence prevention organizations.

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Photos by Craig Kelly

6798 - Katie Apkarian snaps a shot of her daughter Hailey, age 3, at the wheel of a Wylie fire truck at the community's National Night Out celebration Oct. 6.

6806 – Cayden Barrett, 3, ducks for cover between his dad, Walter, and his monkey pal as the PHI Air Medical helicopter kicks up dust landing on Ballard Avenue.

6823 - PHI Air Medical landed a helicopter on Ballard Avenue as part of Wylie's National Night Out celebration. Here, RN Medic Kristi Davis-Yarbrough helps 4-year-olds Samantha Gaither and Vincent Torres back to earth.

6826 – PHI Air Medical's helicopter landed in the middle of Ballard Avenue in historic downtown Wylie as part of Wylie PD's National Night Out community gathering.

6829 – Mini Ranger fan Dominick Meaders, age 1, looks on as Amy Moss introduces her son Hudson, also 1, to Finch, a rescue dog with Lone Star Search and Rescue.

6844 – Aaron Dahl, grandson of Wylie Councilman David Dahl, takes a spin on the Olde City Park monkey bars during Tuesday's National Night Out.

6852 – Members of the Wylie Citizens Police Academy and high school members of P.O.L.I.C.E. Club (Practice of Leadership, Integrity and Character Education) man the hot dog table. From left, Sharon DeHart, Madison Brunskill, Lyllie Nguyen, "grill master" Kevin England from Wylie Public Works, Elaine Montoya and Cheyenne Montoya.

6873 – Officer Shea Pickrell helps Angelina Richardson, 7, out of the Wylie Police Department's Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) military vehicle, open for tours during Wylie's National Night Out event Oct. 6.

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About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 44,938) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the state of Texas with a 197-percent increase since 2000. It was named 25 on MONEY magazine's Best Places to Live in America 2015.