

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2020

Suffolk

VIRGINIA

It's a good time to be in Suffolk

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SUFFOLK CELEBRATES “NATIONAL NIGHT IN” THIS YEAR

SUFFOLK, Virginia (October 5, 2020) The National Association of Town Watch (NATW), founder of National Night Out, advised earlier this summer that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they strongly recommended that all National Night Out 2020 areas celebrate on October 6, 2020, instead of this year's previously scheduled date of August 4, 2020.

The City of Suffolk had originally planned to celebrate this year's rescheduled National Night Out on October 6th together at a large, outdoor combined community concert event instead of our usual individual community celebrations since we've been apart for so long. Unfortunately, due to Commonwealth of Virginia Governor's Executive Order 67 limiting large events and directing individuals to social distance when not at home and to take all necessary precautions in response to COVID-19, this event has also been cancelled.

We are extremely saddened and disappointed that we won't be able to come together as a community along with our amazing public safety professionals to celebrate the pride, appreciation, gratitude, and respect we have not only for each other and our City – *but also for these brave and committed men and women that are our neighbors, friends, and family.* In these troubling times across our nation, it is more important now than ever before to share in the

friendship and solidarity that National Night Out brings and to voice our messages of appreciation with those who have sworn to protect us.

Suffolk has proudly ranked first in the nation in our population category in our celebrations in 2008, 2009, 2014, 2016, and 2018, and we've been in the top five in the nation for 14 straight years due to involved, caring citizens.

To mark what we're calling this year's "National Night In", we've compiled a video including snippets of our NNO celebrations from years past. The program will air on the City's Municipal Channel, Spectrum Channel 190, and will be live streamed (http://suffolkva.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=2), on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., and will also be available to view on the NNO website at www.SuffolkNNO.com. Turn on your porch lights in our fight against crime and to show our solidarity in that that we see members of public safety in a *positive light*, then kick back and enjoy a look back at the fun we've had during NNO in Suffolk over the years.

Just as our chosen theme for NNO 2020 stated, we can still CREATE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, even if we can't do so together at this time! Mark your calendars now for NNO 2021 on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

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