

National Night Out in Leominster a success

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I would like to commend the members of the Leominster police and fire departments, the Worcester County District Attorney's office, and the Massachusetts National Guard in Leominster for the great work during our first National Night Out Celebration in Riverside Village, Leominster.

Without them this event would not have had the success that it did. It was amazing to see how the kids socialized with them. It gave members of the community an opportunity to get to know them better and vice versa. They were able to get to know the person behind the uniform.

Riverside Village community's response to the celebration was very positive, enabling them to step up and join forces to make a strong statement against crime. The celebration marked the beginning of a great community-police relationship that will allow them to conserve their community for years to come. It felt great to see this community finally coming together to do something positive.

I want to praise Mayor Dean Mazarella, Leominster Police Chief Robert Healy, Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis and City Councilor Susan Chalifoux Zephir for taking part in this great event.

Also, we are very grateful to those who provided the financial support for NNO like the Spanish American Center, Leominster Police Association, Market Basket, Utz Quality Foods Inc., Romano's Market, Sunny Delight Beverages Company, Pizza King and Archer Security Agency Inc.

The end of the event culminated with a procession in which residents along with law enforcement, in addition to government officials, made some noise against crime and supported the efforts of local law-enforcement professionals. Many residents came outside to wave, take pictures and show their support for the event.

On behalf of the residents of Riverside Village, thank you for your generous support! Keep up the great work!

SHARON LOPEZ

Leominster