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Approximately 300 people gathered at four different sites throughout Burleson Tuesday night to participate in the annual National Night Out celebration.

Neighbors got together for cookouts in the Mistletoe Addition as well as at The Arbors apartment complex. One National Night Out group even had a bounce house. Community Resource Officer Mike Owen and Police Chief Tom Cowan handed out information on everything from pamphlets on identity theft and drugs to coloring books and stickers for the children.

This year, National Night Out was moved from the sweltering heat of August to Tuesday, Oct. 7. National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for and participation in local anti-crime efforts; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships; and, send a strong message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and will be fighting back!

For more information about setting up a Neighborhood Crime Watch group or signing up for e-mail crime alerts, e-mail Community Resource Officer Mike Owen at mowen@burlesontx.com.