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Hero Thrill Show kicks off with pep rally Wednesday

This year's Hero Thrill Show kicks off with a pep rally Wednesday on Market Street to garner support for the annual event that features the Philadelphia Police Patrol Motorcycle Drill Team, the Strike Force Bicycle Stunt, city police and fire departments, and more.

The Hero Thrill Show features several performances and raises college tuition for children of Philadelphia police officers and firefighters who have been killed in the line of duty.

Those in attendance will get a sneak preview of the event scheduled for Sept. 21 outside of the Wells Fargo Center on Broad Street in South Philadelphia. Attendees to the event later this month include a display of crime-fighting equipment by the Aviation Unit, Bomb Squad, the Crime Scene Investigation Unit, Explorers, the Marine Unit, Firearms Instructors, Police Academy and SWAT.

Tickets for the Sept. 21 event are \$10 each, \$25 for families.

For Wednesday's kickoff, Hero Thrill Show president and CEO James "Jimmy" Binns will emcee with appearances by Mayor Michael Nutter, Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety Everett Gillison and many more.

The event begins at 11:45 a.m. Market Street between 18th and 19th streets will be closed from 11 to 2 p.m..

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