



On Call



A community news publication of the Arlington, Texas Police Department

Exploring Careers in Policing

A New Year, A Renewed Focus on the Future

They're high school students and they already understand what it means to have a servant's heart.

They enjoy serving in their communities and helping others. These students also have one more thing in common. They are all exploring careers in policing.

"I have always been interested in law enforcement and thought I could get a lot of insight into the profession by enrolling in the Hometown Recruiting Program," said 16-year-old Isaac, a senior at Martin High School.

Isaac is also a hardworking volunteer at the area food bank.

"I am interested in policing because I enjoy helping my community. I want to help people prevent crime and be safer."

While studying the criminal justice system, these hometown high school classmates are learning about procedural justice and community policing.

Working alongside Arlington police officers, they are taking part in scenario-based training to sharpen critical thinking skills.

From presentations led by specialized APD units such as Homicide and Crime Scene, they are being exposed to the vast number of career opportunities that await them in policing.

Officer Fred Kemp is the lead instructor behind the Hometown Recruiting Program.

"What started as a collaboration between the Arlington Independent School District, UT Arlington and City of Arlington is continuing to build the future of law enforcement.

"Together, we're working to ensure this community that we will have compassionate, highly-skilled officers ready to serve."

This year, APD joins the Arlington community in celebrating the grand opening of the new Career and Technical Center. When this state-of-the-art facility opens this fall, it will include training for almost every career path, from policing and broadcasting to welding, cosmetology and healthcare, giving students a real-world look into the future.

Police Chief Will Johnson said the Arlington Police Department is proud to be a part of the vision.

"We believe the future success of our city depends on the time and energy we invest in our youth today," Chief Johnson said.

Learn more about Hometown Recruiting. Visit www.ArlingtonPD.org under the Youth Initiatives section.



The new AISD Career and Technical Center is on schedule to open in the Fall 2017 in east Arlington at 2101 Browning Drive.



The AISD Academy/Hometown Recruiting Program was modeled after the training curriculum developed for the Arlington Police Academy. All core competencies are taught in the classroom and in scenario-based training.



Police Chief Will Johnson leads a classroom discussion at Martin High School about procedural justice and its role in policing. All AISD Police Academy classes will move to the new Career and Technical School when it opens this year.

NORTH DISTRICT

Arlington Police, Volunteers Honored During the Dr. King Celebration

The Arlington Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration continues to be one of the best in the country. Many of the events are held in our North District with the MLK Advancing the Dream Awards Banquet at UT Arlington.

This year, Arlington welcomed Dr. Cornell William Brooks, the president and CEO of the NAACP as the banquet keynote speaker. At the banquet, Police Chief Will Johnson was presented a 2017 MLK Advancing the Dream Award, which is given annually to an individual whose work in the government sector promotes justice and equality.

The Hispanic Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association



Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams (left) and MLK Committee Chair Vera McKissic with Police Chief Will Johnson.



Maria Elena Dougherty, president of the Hispanic Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association accepts a MLK Advancing the Dream Award.

was also recognized for their dedication to helping others.

On the MLK Celebration Committee, officers and professional staff work behind the scenes in many different roles to help plan a celebration that celebrates the life and legacy of Dr. King. It brings our community together.

See more celebration highlights at www.ArlingtonMLK.com.



After a Day of Service, two Arlington youths enjoyed an afternoon of football at the MLK Service Fest. This video was a social media highlight on the APD Facebook page. Like us on FB for more highlights.

Watch for a new crime prevention highlight every month from the North Police District. Contact Crime Prevention Officer Kimberly Fretwell at 817-459-5589 or Kim.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov.

SOUTH DISTRICT

Thanks Explorers! Crime Prevention is a Key Strategy in Holiday Safety

The Parks at Arlington, along with its indoor ice rink, remains one of the leading shopping destinations in the Metroplex. It is the third largest mall in Tarrant County.

Every year at Christmas time, it continues to be a popular destination for holiday shopping, dining and fun for families near and far.

From November 24 through January 1, officers put the focus on safety with the South Retail District Holiday Detail.

Sergeant Juan Rodriguez oversees this public safety operation which involves the Traffic Unit, part-time officers, Fire Department personnel and volunteers all working together in a geographic area.



Police Explorer Post 602, under the direction of APD School Resource Officers Jeff Lee and Kendrick Smith, distributed close to 5,000 Vehicle Burglary Report Cards. The report cards were placed on vehicles as a reminder to motorists to correct problems such as keys left inside the vehicle and unlocked doors. Some people in a holiday



Members of Police Explore Post 602 distributed nearly 5,000 Vehicle Burglary Report Cards at the Parks Mall during the holidays as a reminder to shoppers to take action to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime.

rush also leave packages and valuables in plain view. This crime prevention tool reminds everyone that taking corrective action can reduce the chance of becoming a victim of a vehicle burglary.

With the influx of holiday crowds and vehicles in this area, our number one goal is to keep everyone safe and crime prevention is a big part of that.

Watch for a new crime prevention highlight every month from the South Police District. Contact Crime Prevention Officer Timothy Hayden at 817-459-6468 or Timothy.Hayden@Arlingtontx.gov

EAST DISTRICT

Officers are Role Models in this East Arlington Classroom

Reading is fundamental. It is also fun!

Just ask Officers Courtney White and Jeremy Lee who shared the joys of reading with students at Anderson Elementary School last month.

These officers spent the afternoon with children from different ages and cultural backgrounds. With storybooks, they brought words and photos to life.

Officer White said it is important for children to see officers as positive role models in their classroom and in their communities.



Officer White talked with girls and boys about what it is like to be a police officer. She told them if they continue to be good citizens and study hard they could grow up to become police officers, too.

Helping and serving others is what we do. Officer White recently led a community project at Christmas time in the East District that provided goody bags to homeless families. She collected hygiene products, socks and gloves for the winter months and helped to distribute them.

Anderson Elementary was fortunate on this day to have two of Arlington's finest in the classroom, making a positive impact on learning and serving.

A special thanks to these two officers for going that extra mile for the children at Anderson Elementary School.



(Top): Officer Jeremy Lee captivates kids with a story.

(Right): Everyone gathers for a selfie with Officer White and Officer Lee.



Every month, watch for a new crime prevention highlight from the East Police District.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Natalia Aumedes at 817-459-5817 or Natalia.Aumedes@Arlingtontx.gov.

WEST DISTRICT

Officers and Sixth Graders Meet on the Basketball Court

It's a tradition that continues to generate a lot of excitement in the gymnasium at Ditto Elementary School.

The Arlington Police Department and Fire Department united and returned for the Second Annual Ditto Basketball Challenge. It was the Sixth Grade Class vs. First Responders and everyone was a winner.

Cheering on the sidelines were students, parents and faculty and first responders from across the city. It was a hard-fought competition with the score going back and forth for an entire hour.



As the time clock wound down, the score was tied and our referee, Lt. Russ Green, advised both teams there would be a sudden death overtime session, which meant the first team to score would win.

After what appeared to be a good chance for the First Responder Team to take the win, the Sixth Grade Team was able to maneuver the ball down the court and heave the winning shot into the goal, giving them

a victory for the second year in a row!

A great time was had by everyone in attendance. We can all remember when we were young and how important we felt when adults made time to do the things we enjoyed.

Get ready! We are already training and anticipating the chance to avenge this defeat at the next Ditto Basketball Challenge. See you there!



Thank you, Ditto Elementary School, for a great afternoon of basketball!

Watch for a new crime prevention highlight each month from the West Police District.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Doug Glotfelty at 817-459-6072 or Doug.Glotfelty@Arlingtontx.gov.

Inside the Training Center, Police Recruits Learn From Trailblazer

The Arlington Police Department recently welcomed a trailblazer to the Police Academy Training Center.

Brenda Norwood was only a teenager when she became a member of the first class of African American students to integrate the Mansfield Independent School District.

The year was 1965 and she described the racial unrest in the community as "horrible" as she spoke to the class of recruits on January 5.

The class was gathered to study procedural justice and race reconciliation.

Ms. Norwood spoke about the power of forgiveness. She later returned to work for the school district that would not accept her because of the color of her skin. She spent 45 years with Mansfield ISD before retiring last year.

Twice impacted by violent crime, she thanked each police recruit for the commitment they have made to serve and protect.



New recruits thanked Ms. Norwood for sharing her story of triumph.



Look AHEAD

The Annual APD Awards Ceremony celebrates great police work and the community partnerships that make Arlington safer. Coming next month, see the highlights and meet the honorees inside the February issue of *On Call*.

Do you enjoy taking the dog out for a walk?

If so, consider joining the NEW Dog Walker Watch program in 2017. Participants are trained on how to observe and report suspicious activity.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 31
Thursday, Feb. 23
Thursday, March 23

For more information, call 817-459-5725

"Thank You, APD!"

Across the city, people took time to show their appreciation to Arlington police officers for random acts of kindness. For going beyond the call of duty, residents shared their stories on social media and some were highlighted on television news broadcasts.



On his personal Facebook page, this citizen thanked **Officer Stafford** for helping him on a cold December night. The man posted: "Everyone, please help me say thank you to this police officer. This officer saw my car broke down on the side of the highway. He didn't ask me for my ID. Didn't care who I was or what my name was ... He gave me a ride home. Thank God for this man."



North Patrol Officer Heredia got a hug from an Arlington mother whose Christmas presents for her children were stolen from underneath the tree. **Officers Heredia and Nickell** took the burglary report and then dug deep into their own pockets for enough cash to purchase new toys and clothing. During a news conference, the 9-year-old girl also thanked the officers for the holiday shopping spree.



A single mother of two was thankful when **Officer Gilbert** replaced her children's broken car seats with new ones after a traffic stop in December. Officer Gilbert told news reporters: "It was the right thing to do."

"In a time when reports of police/civilian interactions are mostly negative, actions like those of Officer Gilbert are a delight to see."

- A Proud Citizen

COPS Office Selects Best Examples of Community Policing in Action

Arlington, Texas is a winner!

The Department of Justice and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services have announced the 12 winners of its Third Annual Community Policing in Action Photo Contest. Started in 2015, the photo contest provides a platform for the nation's law enforcement agencies to highlight great examples of positive interaction with the community.

(At Right): The winning photo is of Corporal Damien Gary showing a young man how to tie a necktie during a Dress for Success afterschool workshop at the Man's Shop in downtown Arlington. The workshop is part of the department's Mentoring Arlington Youth boys to men program underway at Workman Junior High School.



NEW in 2017!

Have you ever wanted to go inside the Arlington Police Department?

What is community policing? How are investigations conducted?

Reserve your seat in the Citizens Police Academy. A new class will be starting **February 13**.

To register, contact Officer Tim Hayden at 817-459-6468 or Timothy.Hayden@Arlingtontx.gov

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Send story ideas and comments to the Editor:
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www.ArlingtonPD.org

