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On Call

A community news publication of the Arlington, Texas Police Department

Record Numbers Stepped Out on National Night

Kathleen Kelly didn't have to go far to connect with her neighbors.

A National Night Out gathering inside the clubhouse of her North Arlington retirement home brought many of her neighbors together to meet and talk about safety.

This gathering got underway at 1:30 p.m., well ahead of the rainfall that forced many National Night Out activities to take cover.

"This is a fantastic way for us to introduce ourselves to one another," Mrs. Kelly said. "I've lived here three years and don't know many of my neighbors. This event gets us together."

Despite the heavy rainfall on the evening of Oct. 3, National Night Out 2017 continued to shine. A record number of 223 neighborhood gatherings registered with their police department.

Underneath the pavilion, members of the new Julia Burgen Neighborhood Watch Group came together. They were joined by officers from the East Police District as children enjoyed hot dogs and played in the rainfall.

"I am thrilled by the rain and to see so many of my neighbors come out," said organizer Barrie Page-Hill. "We're getting to know one another and we're not afraid to shake hands and say hello."

Now in its 34th year, National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign. The event celebrates police community partnerships and is designed to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

See more highlights, click here.

Thank You, Arlington!

Crime Bulletin Wins International Analytical Contest

For the crime analysis work put into a bulletin about a pattern of residential burglaries, the Arlington Police Department has earned a place in the international spotlight.

On Sept. 14 in New Orleans, the International Association of Crime Analysts presented Katrina Hickman with a Third Place Award for the APD crime bulletin she published in May 2017.

Twenty-eight bulletins from around the country were judged on their overall effectiveness in the Tactical Crime Bulletin Category. The award was presented during the IACA Conference in New Orleans. The IACA is comprised of close to 3,600 members in 59 nations.

Since 1997, Katrina Hickman has been an APD crime and intelligence analyst.

In her bulletin, she included an image of the burglary suspect and noted how the man targeted small items like cash, game systems and food after gaining entrance to homes through a back door and cutting wires to surveillance systems.

From his pattern of behavior, Katrina was also able to forecast a time and day he would strike again.

From her bulletin, an officer identified the suspect. Arlington police put surveillance on the man, secured a warrant and took him into custody.

He later confessed to at least two more burglaries, said Lt. Kyle Dishko, a patrol commander in the East Police District.

The IACA annual awards competition allows agencies to gain recognition for their hard work at the international level.

On Call

OCTOBER CRIME PREVENTION SPOTLIGHT
EAST POLICE DISTRICT

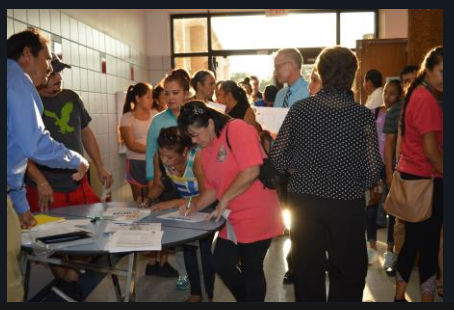
Unidos: United and Informed

When there are changes in state law that impact public safety, it is important for the Arlington Police Department to help ensure that the right resources come together to inform and keep lines of communication open.

Unidos recently hosted a community meeting to discuss immigration. Unidos is a Hispanic community outreach program that provides assistance to Spanish-speaking residents in Arlington. The auditorium at Sam Houston High School allowed hundreds of families to gather information.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials joined legal experts and Arlington police to dispel rumors and clarify misunderstandings about Senate Bill 4.

Amigos En Azul and members of our Hispanic Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association were on hand to assist us in this effort.



COMMUNITY UPDATE:
Senate Bill 4 has not lead to any drastic changes in how Arlington officers and federal agents will continue to work. It impacts law enforcement agencies who have not been cooperating with federal laws pertaining to immigration. In Arlington, we will continue to cooperate with Immigration Customs and Enforcement officials. It is important for Arlington residents to understand that officers may not inquire about the immigration status of a victim of a crime or witness to a crime offense unless the officer determines such an inquiry is necessary to fully investigate the offense. An officer may also inquire in an effort to provide an individual with information about federal visa programs.

Officer Natalia Aumedes is a Crime Prevention Officer in the East District. She can be reached at 817-459-5817 or Natalia.Aumedes@Arlingtontx.gov.

Looking for more crime prevention highlights from police districts? Visit us on the web at www.ArlingtonPD.org.

Four Officers Receive Texas Honors

Governor Abbott: "The Very Best of the Lone Star State"

Texas Governor Greg Abbott honored 42 officers in Austin on Sept. 11, four of them from Arlington.

Star of Texas Awards were presented to Lt. Michael Moses, Corporal Elise Bowden and Officers Edward Johnston and Jason Heisel at a ceremony at the Texas House of Representatives.

Every year on Patriot's Day, the Texas Star Award honors peace officers, firefighters and emergency medical first responders who were seriously injured or killed in the line of duty.

"It is an honor to recognize 42 remarkable Texans, the very best of the Lone Star State," the Governor said.

Chief Will Johnson stood in the Chamber and applauded as each name was called.

Read more about the Star of Texas Awards Ceremony. Click here.

MENTORING GIRLS – A new year has started at Workman Junior High School with Mentoring Arlington Youth activities for girls. This year, APD is partnering with the Junior League of Arlington to expand the MAY Program to include a curriculum for girls age 12-14. The MAY Program kick off on Sept. 13 welcomed 20 boys and girls for 18 weeks of one-on-one mentoring. Other community partners include Arlington ISD, Arlington Juvenile Case Management Diversion Program, Camp Thurman and the Arlington Police Foundation.

SAVE THE DATE …

Drug Take Back is Oct. 28. Four drop off sites. Click here.

Heroes Run is Nov. 11 at Veterans' Park. Click here to register.

Trunk or Treat is 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31 at the South Police Service Center. Lots of fun for the whole family.

The Jillian Smith Gala is Nov. 4. Click here for tickets. Sponsored by the Arlington African-American Peace Officers Association.

www.ArlingtonPD.org

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