

# On Call Inside the Blue



A community news publication of the Arlington Police Department

## ... In the Community

Celebrating Independence Day in Arlington includes fireworks, a parade and Texas Rangers baseball. [Click here](#) for everything you need for a safe & happy holiday.



This summer, Arlington officers continue to make Police Athletic League Camps a rewarding team-building experience for area teens.



**Remember, to always take the time to cross safely at a crosswalk. On busy streets, walk safely. Be alert. It's the way to go!**

A video about the tragic consequences of underage drinking and driving is making its debut on the APD YouTube Channel. Teens from Police Explorer Post #602 have starring roles in this 3:38 minute video. [Click here to watch.](#)

Are you interested in joining the Citizens Police Academy? Class #54 is now enrolling. [Application here.](#) Save the date. **The Craft Fair returns Aug. 10.**



Congratulations! The APD Office of Communication has won a Best of Texas Award from the Center for Digital Government. The award recognizes the department's innovative use of social media and the news program, Inside APD. [Watch the latest edition here.](#)

## "Knock Crime Out of the Park with Law Enforcement!"

### Citizens Prepare to Host CPAAA State Convention

From July 24-26, a contingency of dedicated citizen volunteers from across the state will convene in Arlington for the city's first Texas Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) and Law Enforcement 2013 Convention. The theme is "Knock Crime Out of the Park with Law Enforcement."

Over the past two years, APD has worked with members of the Arlington CPAAA and Region 2 Texas CPAAA to plan the two-day conference. To date, nearly 250 CPAAA members from Texas cities large and small have registered for the two-day event. Sixty-two Texas area Police Chiefs have confirmed their participation in the Chief's Roundtable.

The conference agenda offers sessions on elderly abuse, distracted driving and identity theft. Classes are being offered to certify officers in law enforcement procedures. The agenda also includes plenty of activities, including Texas Rangers baseball.

"There were a lot of good reasons to come to Arlington," said Region 2 CPAAA-North Texas President John



**John Gault, Pat Struble, Sgt. Jakisha Jones (Arlington CPAAA Liaison), Suzanne Kelley and Susan Ernest.**

Gault. "There's a lot of fun here!"

Pat Struble, president of the Arlington chapter, said the expectation is for "everyone to leave the conference with at least one good fundraising idea for their police agency." Since its formation in 1987, the Arlington CPAAA has raised more than \$500,000 for APD equipment and

training. It's estimated that the 150 Texas Chapters of the CPAAA have saved taxpayers more than \$2.1 million.

"Because we care about officers and our community, we support the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association," said Convention Fundraising Chair Suzanne Kelley.

Registration details at [www.Texascpaaa.org](http://www.Texascpaaa.org).

## Nixle Alerts from APD - Are You Getting Them?

If you're not getting Nixle alerts from APD, you are missing important news and information.

Nixle is a free communication service that connects residents and businesses with the agencies that serve and protect them. Subscribers can sign up to receive information ranging from critical crime alerts to community news.

With Nixle, you decide how you want to receive information by SMS text messaging or e-mail.

Messages are created by the Arlington Police Department and assigned a priority level to help ensure that important public safety news and information reaches you in a timely manner.

**Signing up is free and easy at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).**



### How to Subscribe

1. Visit [www.Nixle.com](http://www.Nixle.com) to set up your account or Text "FOLLOWAPD" to 888777.
2. Enter your mobile phone number to receive messages by SMS (text messaging).
3. Choose to receive e-mails or view messages over the web by logging into your account. You Decide!

# On Call

## North District

### Early Intervention and Prevention in Schools Can Prevent Gang Involvement



Students at Roquemore Elementary School "Say No" to Gangs!

Detectives with the Arlington Police Department Gang Unit recently spoke with students at Roquemore Elementary School.

APD Detectives Juan Rodriguez and Adrian Armendariz led great interactive presentations about the importance of staying out of gangs.

These presentations took place during the final weeks of the school year as kids prepared for their summer vacations.

Gang members can begin recruiting kids as young as elementary age and this is why it's important for your Police Department to start the intervention and prevention process early.

During our visit to the school, students told us that they know gang members. Some said they have older siblings involved in gang activity.

As officers, we encouraged Roquemore Elementary students to stay focused on school and getting good grades. We encouraged them to get involved in sports, dance and other positive extracurricular activities.

We also stressed the importance of reporting gang activity to school staff and officers so that we can take immediate action to reduce gang related incidents.

Together, we will continue to teach our kids about the power of positive choice to ensure their successful futures!

Each month in On Call, watch for more public safety highlights from the North District Crime Prevention Officer Kimberly Fretwell. Contact her at 817-459-5589 or [Kim.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov](mailto:Kim.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov).

# On Call

## South District

### Arlington Welcomes a New Partner in South District Crime Prevention

The anxiously awaited, highly anticipated Crime Prevention Officer for the South Police District has arrived. His first day in his new role was Monday, June 24.

Officer Ray Polk has been with the Arlington Police Department for seven years. He started out as a Patrol Officer and has worked in investigations. Before joining APD, Officer Polk attended the University of North Texas where he earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology.

When asked what made him interested in the position of Crime Prevention Officer, he said, "I am a people person and a firm believer in growing partnerships in the community. I have previous experience working with at-risk youth and I enjoy being a positive role model."

"There are many untapped resources in this community that I am eager to engage in," he said.

When not serving the citizens of Arlington, Officer Polk enjoys outdoor activities such as fishing, camping and riding his horses.

Many of his APD co-workers have complimented him on his singing voice. A deeper inquiry into the man himself reveals that in 2005 he auditioned for *American Idol*. Although he didn't become the next Kelly Clarkson or my personal favorite, Ruben Studdard, Officer Polk advanced in this national competition, traveling to Hollywood where finished in the Top 100!

Please join me in welcoming Officer Ray Polk to the APD Community Support Bureau's Crime Prevention Unit.



Crime Prevention Officer Ray Polk is on the job.

Feel free to drop him a welcome message at:

[Ray.Polk@Arlingtontx.gov](mailto:Ray.Polk@Arlingtontx.gov)



Watch for new crime prevention highlight every month. Contact Crime Prevention Analyst Curtice Ervin at 817-459-5732 or [Curtice.Ervin@Arlingtontx.gov](mailto:Curtice.Ervin@Arlingtontx.gov) for more information.

# On Call

## East District

### Community Watch Coordinators Train and Meet in the East District

On June 18, the East Police District welcomed Community Watch Coordinators from across Arlington for the All-City Community Watch Coordinators Meeting.

Assistant Police Chief James Hawthorne attended this gathering of hardworking citizen volunteers and answered their questions about public safety and crime.

During the training session, Community Watch Coordinators learned about online robberies and prevention tips they can share with their neighbors, family members and friends to help them avoid becoming a victim. This informative presentation was led by Sgt. Donald Fulbright and the APD Robbery Unit. Following the presentation, district coordinators divided into groups to meet



Community Watch Groups were created to encourage more citizen involvement in public safety and deter crime by early detection. Volunteers are trained to anticipate, recognize and appraise crime risks in their neighborhoods. They are the extra eyes of the Police Department and we value their partnership.

Organize a Community Watch in your neighborhood. Contact me or [click here](#) to get started today.



Assistant Chief James Hawthorne welcomes coordinators to the East Police Station.



Crime Prevention Officers, Sergeants, Lieutenants and Deputy Chiefs.

Every month, watch for a new Crime Prevention highlight from the East District Crime Prevention Officer Faviola Delgado. Contact her at 817-459-5817 or [Faviola.Delgado@ArlingtonTx.gov](mailto:Faviola.Delgado@ArlingtonTx.gov).

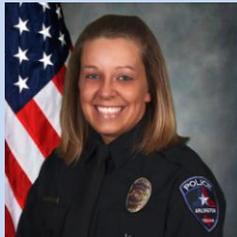
# On Call

## West District

### Kids Club Extends Membership to West District Police Officers



Sergeant Stout



Officer Winkler

When managers of the Willows II Apartments on Park Springs Blvd. formed the Kids Club two years ago, it became a great way for children to help build imaginations during after school hours.

This apartment community is home to about 100 families. Club membership started out small and has grown to about 15-20 members, according to Apartment Manager Lola Kelly.

The Kids Club recently opened its door to officers from the West Police District who were invited in to become mentors.

"We have so much fun together," Lola Kelly said. "These officers are awesome!"

The Kids Club meets on Tuesday evenings. Many of these children have challenging obstacles to over-

come and Arlington officers are there to help guide them along the way. As mentors, Sgt. Matthew Stout and Officers Dillon Haven, Andrea Davis and Brittani Winkler educate club members about the dangers of gangs and drugs. They stress the importance of making good choices and staying in school.

While the club usually meets in the Leasing Office, members recently toured the West Police Station and the Fire Training Center where they were introduced to exciting career opportunities in public safety.

The Kids Club is another great example of how we can all make time to be positive role models for children in our communities.

*A special thanks to these great West District police officers for making a positive impact!*



Officer Davis



Officer Haven



New crime prevention highlights each month from the West District Crime Prevention Officer Doug Glotfelty.

Contact him at 817-459-6072 or [Doug.Glotfelty@Arlingtontx.gov](mailto:Doug.Glotfelty@Arlingtontx.gov).

# Three North Texas Police Agencies Unite to Prevent Online Robberies

Most buyers and sellers who choose to conduct business on the Internet are honest and reputable, but law enforcement officials from three North Texas police agencies have come together to remind the public to be aware of robbery schemes.

"If it sounds too good to be true, it probably isn't true,"

said Sergeant Donald Fulbright with the APD Robbery Unit.

During a joint news conference on June 7 in Grand Prairie, officers shared crime stats and safety information to help keep online buyers and sellers from becoming victims of crime. APD used its social media platforms to spread safety messages to residents, including teens.

## 3 Tips to Keep in Mind:

1. **Research the buyer and seller. Use the Internet to search and uncover any reported problems.**
2. **Meet during the day and avoid isolated or remote locations.**
3. **Don't go alone. Take someone with you when conducting a transaction.**



Arlington, Grand Prairie and Fort Worth police detectives stand united against online robberies.

# The BIG Reward for Good Grades - A Visit Inside Cowboys Stadium



When Foot Patrol Officers from the East Police District signed up to mentor students at Thornton Elementary, they built trust with students and formed bonds with teachers and staff.

In the community, officers established new relationships with parents and guardians. After only a few months, Foot Patrol Officer John Henry said he saw reading scores improve along with conduct. Grades and attendance also improved, said Officer Gary Sims.

At the end of the school year, the big reward for these students was a trip to Cowboys Stadium on June 12. Students played ball with officers and toured the stadium, celebrating their newfound academic successes.

With officers as mentors, 10-year-old Kobe Milligan said he studied harder than ever before.

"I wanted to show I could do it," the fifth-grader said.

Angel Mendoza, age 11, said officers helped to inspire her.

"They gave us good advice. "They told us to be good. Not to fight. Work hard," she said.

Ten-year-old Arlette Rodriguez said her attitude changed. She has earned a spot on the Honor Roll for the first time, according to her principal.

"Every time these officers entered the school, they made a positive difference," said Principal Alicia Rodriguez. "Thank you!"

# Thank You! Charitable Gala Raises Thousands for College Scholarships

A casino-styled charitable event on June 15 at Cacharel Ballroom in Arlington raised more than \$10,000 for scholarships to help deserving young adults attend college and pursue careers in law enforcement.

The scholarships are named in honor of Officer Jillian M. Smith who was fatally wounded while responding to an assault call in December 2010. The Arlington native was a graduate of UT-Arlington.

A special thanks to all who support the African American Peace Officers Association of Arlington and the living memorial established to honor the legacy of Fallen Officer Jillian Smith.



Officer Jillian Smith's family at the Third Annual Casino-Styled Charitable Gala on June 15.



## On Call

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Send story ideas and comments to:

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[www.ArlingtonPD.org](http://www.ArlingtonPD.org)

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