

# On Call



A community news publication of the Arlington, Texas Police Department

## Officers and Community Partners are Honored At Awards Ceremony



APD Honor Guard presents colors at Awards Ceremony.



Pastor Scott Heusel accepts the Citizen Community Award.



The 2016 Business Partnership Award is presented to Arlington Baptist College.

**ARLINGTON CONVENTION CENTER** - In a community partnership with Trinity United Methodist Church, more than 150 Arlington youths enjoyed fun, character-building activities with officers last summer.

For their role in making PAL Camp 2016 a big success inside the church gymnasium, APD presented Youth Pastor Scott Heusel with the Citizen Community Award on Feb. 22.

On one center stage, some of Arlington's hardest working police officers shared the spotlight with the community during an afternoon of awards and special honors.

The Awards Ceremony was presented by the Arlington Police Foundation and the family of John V. and Jerri McMillan. A host of area businesses also contributed, helping to honor excellence.

The Arlington Baptist College was bestowed the 2016 Business Partnership Award for their role in a large-scale training exercise with first responders that tested the region's readiness for disaster recovery. Other Business Partner Award nominees were the Target SuperCenter on South Cooper Street, The Man's Shop, Blue Mountain Equipment, the Walmart Corporation and St. Mark's Soup Kitchen.

Ten officers were honored for the impact they made on public safety and community policing in 2016, including two civilian employees. Chosen from all officer nominees, Corporal Damien Gary was bestowed the 2016 APD Employee of the Year Award.

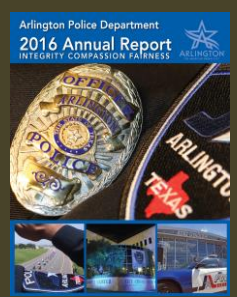
Before an audience of close to 700 guests, Police Chief Will Johnson thanked the Arlington Police Department and community for another great year of accomplishments.

Click [here](#) for more Award Ceremony highlights.

Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson Presented the 2016 Annual Report to the community during the March 7 City Council meeting.

Click [here](#) to watch the rebroadcast.

Read the Annual Report. Click [here](#).



Corporal Damien Gary is assigned to the East Police District and recipient of the 2016 Employee of the Year Award. He joined APD in 2008.



Officer Shardae Spencer is assigned to the North Police District and was presented the 2016 Rookie Officer of the Year.

*"The standard of excellence requires an unwavering emphasis on procedural justice and commitment to serving others with integrity, compassion and fairness. The nobility of our profession demands it. It is an honor to serve the Arlington community with you as your Chief."*

— ARLINGTON POLICE CHIEF WILL JOHNSON



# NORTH DISTRICT

## Officers Show Love for the Community on Valentines Day

At the Claremont Senior Living Facility on Valentines Day, the Arlington Police Department had an opportunity to show love and appreciation for the community we serve.

Officer Brian Hamilton from the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Team took the lead, planning the meal and requesting assistance with setting up and serving.

Officers and supervisors from across the department responded, helping to make the residents here feel special.

There were games and lots of smiles as officers talked with facility staff and residents about all the great work being done by our patrol officers in the community.



Thanks Officer Brian Hamilton.



Senior Living Center on Randol Mill Road enjoyed an afternoon getting to know patrol officers.



This great relationship we have with the Arlington community is important to us. While we created some great new Valentines Day memories, we also made some new connections with the people who depend on us to help keep them safe.

If you live or work in the North Police District and looking for a way to get more involved with your Police Department, contact Officer Kimberly Fretwell.



Working together, we can be great partners in helping to make our community better and safer.

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](mailto:Kim.Fretwell@Arlingtontx.gov).

# SOUTH DISTRICT

## Volunteer is Working to Build Trust Between Police and Youth

This month, the South Police District is proud to spotlight one of the department's newest and most dedicated citizen volunteers.

Hollie Walters is also an elementary school music teacher in the Stop Six community of neighboring Fort Worth. She signed up for the Arlington Citizen Police Academy last fall because she wanted to understand why some of her students are afraid of the police.

Upon completing the 11-week program and becoming a volunteer, Hollie says she is gaining a deeper appreciation for the work being done by the Arlington Police Department to connect better with residents and build relationships.



"Through my volunteering and many discussions with Officer Hayden, I can help rebuild relationships. I believe that building relationships is key to moving forward and changing negative perceptions."

- HOLLIE WALTERS



Since graduating from the Academy, Hollie has volunteered as an office assistant. She helps out with special community events and has recently taken an active role in the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association where she is helping to plan and organize the CPAAA Golf Tournament and Hot Dog fundraiser. She has also accepted a board position with the alumni association.

Hollie has some good advice for anyone looking to better understand policing. Contact a Crime Prevention Officer and enroll in the Citizen Police Academy. There's also a High School Citizen Police Academy for students.

"I believe that building relationships is key to moving forward and changing negative perceptions," she said.

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](mailto:Timothy.Hayden@Arlingtontx.gov).

# EAST DISTRICT

## Patrol Officer Answers Call to Serve And Provide Hope

Arlington officers work hard every day to serve and protect, but there's an officer in the East Patrol District who responds to a different type of call.

Officer Jeremy Lee reports every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. to Greater Community Church. Sebastian Jimenez, a Blanton Elementary fourth grader, is waiting for him.

Sebastian was having difficulty with English until he was paired with Officer Lee last fall. At the church, they complete homework assignments and review spelling words.



A special bond is growing. Sebastian talks openly with the officer about the problems that can cause him to lose focus on school work.

This month, Officer Lee is proud to report that Sebastian's grades are improving.

"I think my presence here is making a difference," Officer Lee said. "He is working very hard and he's proud of his accomplishments."

Sebastian says it feels good to have a police officer in his patrol car show up to the center to spend time with him.

Because of the Arlington Police Department, this officer is providing hope to a child whose future is looking brighter.



Officer Jeremy Lee answers the call to serve at H.O.P.E. Tutoring.

Right: HOPE Tutoring Director of Education Ann Erhune with Sebastian and Officer Jeremy Lee.



H.O.P.E. Tutoring has six locations in Arlington. Since 1996, they have been providing free tutoring services for children in the third through eighth grades. To learn more, click [here](#).

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](mailto:Natalia.Aumedes@Arlingtontx.gov).

# WEST DISTRICT

## Dash and Dine Event Was Planned Especially for First Responders

When officers are on call, there's no time for lunch.

Last month, the residents at the Fox Run Estates Assisted Living Center organized an event to show their appreciation for Arlington first responders who put service before self.

The Dash and Dine Event was a great idea. The chef at the center prepared a healthy lunch to go. Officers dashed through and picked up their sacked lunch if they didn't have time to sit and dine.

The residents said it was small gesture of their appreciation for the service that first responders provide the community.



Arlington officers, first responders and Police Service Assistants gather for a quick photo opportunity.



A special thanks to the Fox Run Estates Assisted Living Center!

The Fox Run Estates Assisted Living Center, located on Little Road, enjoys a great relationship with the West Police District. Over the many years, officers have led safety and crime prevention presentations at the center and enjoyed hobbies, games and friendships.

Delicious chef-prepared meals are a social affair in the center's community dining room. Thanks for always making officers feel welcome and appreciated.

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](mailto:Doug.Glotfelty@Arlingtontx.gov).



## SPOTLIGHT: THE SAFE EXCHANGE ZONE

### Making Online Buying And Selling Safer

The wedding is only a few weeks away and Elaine was still searching for the perfect white dress with a train. On Facebook, she found the gown of her dreams at an affordable price.

Elaine said she hesitated to make the online purchase from a person she didn't know. She sent the seller a message and the two agreed to meet at the Safe Exchange Zone.

At the Ott Cribbs Public Safety Building, Elaine said it was also important to try the dress on. So, they hurried through the lobby and into the public restroom.

"It fits," she said. "It's perfect!" Sergeant Jason Rash with the Robbery Unit says since the Safe Exchange Zone was created in December 2015, officers are seeing a downward trend in robberies resulting from online transactions.

**BEFORE YOU BUY:**  
Research the product you are buying and the person selling.

Plan a meeting in the Safe Exchange Zone located in the parking lot of the Ott Cribbs Public Safety Building at 620 W. Division St.



(At Right:) Thanks to the Safe Exchange Zone, Elaine and Crystal met at the Ott Cribbs Public Safety Building and safely conducted their online transaction. Congratulations! The big day was March 12.



## Look AHEAD

Daylight Savings Time has started, offering plenty of extra sunlight to take your dog outdoors for a walk.

### BEFORE YOU GO:

Check out the NEW Dog Walker Watch program. Neighbors are now training and learning how to observe and report suspicious activity to 9-1-1.

### UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

**Thursday, March 23**

Call 817-459-5725

The 2017 Victory Over Violence Fun Run returns Saturday, April 8 to the Trinity Park Duck Pond.

Benefitting the anti-violence programs of the Tarrant County Women's Center

Join the APD team. Click [here](#).

### CELEBRATING SUCCESS!

On March 8, seventeen young men were presented Certificates of Completion as graduates of Class 1 and Class 2 of the Mentoring Arlington Youth Program.



Coming in the next *On Call* newsletter, see highlights from their graduation and find out what's next for the MAY Program.



Visit the Arlington Police Department on the web.

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

## Every Day Will be Christmas for the Arlington PD K-9 Unit



Although Christmas is over, the gifts from the community continue to bring joy to the Arlington Police Department K-9 Unit. *Thank you, Arlington Animal Hospital!*



Thanks to the Arlington Animal Hospital, every day is Christmas for the APD K-9 Unit.

Last month, hospital staff showered the specialized unit with gifts. Over a 68-day period starting Dec. 1, donations of toys, dog treats, supplies and cash poured in to the hospital lobby located at 1012 W. Division St.

The items were packaged and presented in February.

Members of the Arlington Police Foundation were also on hand for the special presentation.

"With the help of our clients, vendors and citizens, each APD K-9 will have extra supplies of dog food, toys, training equipment and flea preventatives," said Hospital Lab Tech Tara Schaible.

"We are very lucky to have such amazing clients and a caring community with loving hearts."

## It's A Date: Officers Provide Escorts to School Dance



It was a Friday night and every young girl had a date to the school dance on Feb. 17 thanks to the Arlington Police Department.

More than a dozen Arlington officers reported for their assignments at Hale Elementary School's Daddy Daughter Dance.

Each officer presented his date with a single red rose before posing for plenty of pictures.

Lead organizers said it was important for the young girls without fathers or father figures to feel a part of this annual school tradition.

*"True service to your community, gentlemen. This will be a life time memory for these young ladies. Bless you for all you do."*

- A. Vazquez, APD Facebook Post  
Feb. 17, 2017



## On Call — A Police/Community News Publication

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Send story ideas and comments to the Editor:  
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Nextdoor

