



Support Quality EDUCATION

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Municipal Court / MAY

The Mentoring Arlington Youth (MAY) Program seeks to cultivate an environment that monitors, mentors and motivates.

A component of the new Arlington Juvenile Case Manager (JCM) Diversion Program implemented through Senate Bill SB393, it allows JCMs to provide prevention and early intervention services for at-risk juveniles.

“The MAY program is an excellent example of several City departments coming together to help promote community through the shaping and developing of young citizens,” says Arlington Judge Stewart Milner.

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Mentoring Arlington Youth

This program serves African American and Hispanic male students in grades 7-8. Above is participant **Emmanuel Bear**, a Workman Junior High seventh-grader, with MAY Program Director Lieutenant Tarrick McGuire.

The idea for the program came from a conversation years before with another young man then-Officer McGuire was transporting to jail. Later, the man told him their talk inspired

him to get a job, re-enroll in school and care for his newborn daughter.

“You never know when a few words of encouragement can positively influence someone’s life,” McGuire says.

The MAY program began in October 2015 with other officers stepping forward to mentor and partnerships with Arlington ISD and Arlington Municipal Court.

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MAY Program

(continued from pg. 1)

The program is a partnership between the Arlington Police Department and the Juvenile Case Managers. The JCMs are supervised by the Judge's Office as part of the Arlington Municipal Court system. This gives JCMs a unique role in assisting the judges with juvenile cases. They are able to provide case management services to students and families, monitor the student's progress, and maintain student data on the program.

The 18-month program was designed to work with a small group of students. Currently, there are 10 participants. Based on court data of juvenile referrals, it is focused primarily on east Arlington and Workman Junior High. Student referrals come from the Arlington Independent School District.

Upon successful completion of the MAY program, the anticipated outcome for the participants is a higher potential for success by:

- Receiving life skills training and coaching.
- Developing healthy and supportive relationships.
- Having opportunities to see a different perspective of life, police officers and the community.
- Improving social skills.
- Decreasing referrals for behavior.

To emphasize the importance of giving, this program also includes community service-learning modules.

Updates

AISD Fire Academy

Firefighters traveled from all over the country to Globe Life Park in Arlington to compete in the Firefighter Combat Challenge. The demanding five-event physical challenge took place over two days with AISD Fire Academy students volunteering their time to make the event successful.

Students in classes three and four got into the competitive spirit when they competed against one another on the second day. "It was a close match," says Lieutenant Randy Fulton of the Arlington Fire Department, "but class three came out on top by mere seconds."

The course begins with the stair climb. While the competitor is in full firefighter gear, complete with breathing apparatus, he or she must carry a 42-pound hose up six flights of stairs. Once the hose is secure, the firefighter descends and proceeds to the second event, the hose hoist. The competitor must then be able to pull a 42-pound hose roll up the five-story tower

without losing control of the hose, all while the clock continues to run from the first event.

Forcible entry is the third event in the combat challenge. The firefighter must stand over a 160-pound beam and slam a 9½-pound sledgehammer until the beam moves five feet. This simulates having to break down a door or wall to enter a burning building.

With two events left, the competitor must now tackle the hose advance. The competitor sprints 140 feet to pick up a hose pressurized with water, sprints back and then must release the water onto a small target. The final event is the victim rescue. A 175-pound mannequin is



Updates

picked up from the ground and dragged from behind 100 feet. No small task for high school students who typically weigh less than that! Only when the competitor has passed the 100-foot line with the mannequin in tow does time stop at that point, and the challenge is completed.

AISD Fire Academy students performed well, and firefighters from the United States and Canada were impressed with the physicality and service the students displayed in the largest Firefighter Combat Challenge since its conception in 1991.

[Article and photos from the October 2015 edition of the AISD's *Celebrate Student Success - Career & Technical Education* newsletter; reprint & use permission by Michelle Woodall, AISD CTE Specialist.]



Pictured above (left to right): Dylan Powell, Chris Blanco, Henry Slaughter, Morgan Cudd & Saul Gaucin – Class #4.

Pictured pg. 2 top (front to back): Saul Gaucin, Raul Luvian Sanchez & Nethaneel Bibbs– Classes #3 & #4.

Pictured pg. 2 bottom (left to right): Morgan Cudd, Saul Gaucin, Dylan Powell, Osvaldo Lopez, Henry Slaughter, Chris Blanco, Ben Reswik, Nethaneel Bibbs & Raul Luvian Sanchez – Classes #3 & #4.

“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt,
32nd President of the United States

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STEM Program

The City of Arlington's Information Technology department has teamed up with the Arlington Independent School District as part of its STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) program. It began in fall 2015 and runs the full school year. The two students pictured above (*front-Brandon Nguyen, a senior at Seguin High School; back-Nathan Nguyen, Bowie High School senior*) are participating in the program.

The students will be engaging with various Software Services support teams and completing class assignments. These activities were designed to help participants develop as young professionals well-prepared for college and beyond.

Arlington Public Library



Earns National Designation

Early childhood literacy has always been at the forefront of the Arlington Public Library's (APL) programming efforts, and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) is about to help the Library take that goal to the next level. APL was recently selected as one of 24 Texas libraries chosen to receive financial support to establish the Library as a Family Place Library.

Family Place Libraries is a national network of libraries that helps children's librarians increase their organization's

visibility as centers for child and family development, and establish the library as a hub for parent and community involvement.

"Becoming a Family Place Library will bring our current children's programming and literacy efforts to the next level," Cary Siegfried, Director of Libraries, said. "We are continually looking for ways to further support parents as the first and most important teachers their children will ever have, and the training and resources provided by Family Place will be an invaluable asset in furthering this commitment."

APL will send two staff members to a four-day training in Long Island, NY, late this fall. The grant funding provides tuition for the training, as well as \$6,000 to purchase toys, furniture, shelving and a parenting collection that will help create a family-friendly space in the library where the Family Place Parent/Child Workshops are held.

More Than 8,000 Arlington Readers Participate in Summer Reading Club (SRC)

This summer, superheroes took over The American Dream City, with many caped crusaders getting their powers from the library. The Arlington Public Library's superhero-themed SRC program encouraged 8,431 Arlington readers to track the hours they spent reading during the summer, which totaled to 46,302 hours and 17,874 books.

"Summer Reading Club has grown by leaps and bounds over the past several years, and I'm thrilled by the variety of programming we are able to offer our community each

summer," said Arlington Public Libraries Director Cary Siegfried. "Summer Reading Club is more than a reading program, it's an opportunity to enjoy entertaining, educational events for free right in your own city, and we have options for every age group."

Readers log their time online at MySRC.org and watch the numbers grow throughout the summer. In addition to the reading challenges, Library staff offered 957 programs with 11,000 in attendance.



"We are incredibly fortunate to have support from so many individuals and businesses in Arlington who believe in the value of summer reading," said Siegfried. "While getting lost in a good book is certainly a reward in its own right, the extra incentive of a great prize certainly goes a long way in encouraging people to meet goals and read throughout the break from school or work."