Remembering The Ultimate Sacrifice

As National Police Week approaches, the Arlington community pauses with the nation to remember the ultimate sacrifice made by fallen officers and to honor the families they left behind.

At Heroes Park on May 4, the community paid tribute to its fallen heroes, a total of eight men and women in the history of the Arlington Police Department.

The memorial included the singing of the National Anthem, the presentation of colors by the Arlington Police Honor Guard and a National Police Week City Proclamation.

“To the families of our fallen heroes, your sacrifice will never be forgotten,” Police Chief Will Johnson said.

During National Police Week, May 15-19, the APD Honor Guard will also travel to Washington D.C. for memorial tributes. It is estimated that our nation loses between 140-160 law enforcement officers every year in the line of duty. Read more about Arlington’s fallen heroes. Click here.

Officer Goes Extra Mile for Youth

For most of his law enforcement career, Officer Gus Moreno has been providing guidance to Arlington youth as a police officer in the schools.

When he’s not in a uniform, this School Resource Officer’s passion for helping youth succeed in life extends into his church and into the community.

For his dedication, Officer Moreno was presented a 2017 Extra Mile/Servant Leader of the Year Award by First Rate Inc. and the Arlington Alliance for Youth.

Officer Moreno was one of 13 honorees. All are adults who mentor and serve the youth of the community.

First Rate is an Arlington investment and wealth management company and has been sponsoring this award since 2000.

Whether it is helping to organize a sports banquet for student athletes at his church or serving as an advisor to teens exploring careers in policing, this officer goes the extra mile.

He connects with youth in many ways, said Jud Stone, the chaplain for First Rate Inc. and lead organizer of the Extra Mile Awards program. Officer Moreno says he finds the greatest joy in scouting. With his wife, son and daughter, “serving has become a family affair,” he says.

He volunteers with Amigos en Azul and the whole family pitches in to deliver toys at Christmas with the Santa Cop program. This officer “takes advantage of every opportunity to talk with youth about safety and staying away from drugs and guns,” Sgt. Michael Leonesio wrote in his nomination letter.

“Sometimes, all a child needs is someone to listen to them,” Officer Moreno said. “This is an honor to receive this award.”

Along with the Servant Leader of the Year Award comes a monetary reward for the youth organization of his choice.

Store Owner Recognized for Act of Bravery

Officer Gary Jones has been patrolling this east Arlington beat for about 18 years. He has made many friends along the way, including the owner of this 7-Eleven store on East Abram Street.

This store has donated food and drinks for community events and the owner, Mike Oberoi, has supported the families of fallen officers. He also has a background in law enforcement and he used his training one cold morning in January to make a difference.

Officer Jones initiated a traffic stop in the parking lot of this store when he discovered the passenger had felony warrants. While placing him under arrest, a struggle ensued on the ground. Just moments earlier, the officer confiscated a tomahawk and knife from the suspect and he’d placed them on the hood of his patrol car.

“When I walked out, something didn’t look right,” Mr. Oberoi said. “This officer is like my brother. Whatever happens to him, happens to me.”

Mr. Oberoi did not hesitate to act.

“Mike came out just in time to push the female driver back to her car and away from the weapons,” the officer said. “He ran over and helped me get handcuffs on the suspect.”

Had this store owner not intervened, officers say this traffic stop could have had a different outcome.

For his bravery, APD presented its Citizen Certificate of Merit to Mukesh “Mike” Oberoi.

Our Values: Integrity, Compassion, Fairness

Our Mission: Service before self, honor above all
Do Research: Don’t Fall for Fake Employment Ads

APD partnered with the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Council of Tarrant County on April 1 to kick off Autism Awareness Month. The April Cool’s Day was family fun for children and adults with disabilities.

West District Office Coordinator Cathy Whittington helped to organize participation from West Patrol District Officers, Foot and Bike Patrol Officers as well as Arlington Firefighters and police recruits from Academy Class 52.

Events like this provide great training for officers. We gain a better understanding of what autism is and we experience firsthand how the core values of compassion, fairness and kindness can foster better relationships between officers and people in our community who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thanks for including us in this great event.


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

Officer Doug Glotfelty is a Crime Prevention Officer in the West Police District. He can be reached at 817-459-6072 or Doug.Glotfelty@Arlingtontx.gov.

Do Research: Don’t Fall for Fake Employment Ads

When searching online for employment, an unsuspecting individual can fall victim to a scam, according to the Arlington Police Department Economic Crimes Unit.

On the internet, sometimes it’s difficult to tell if a job is real or a scam. APD Sergeant Dana Richerson says taking the time to do research on a potential employer is the key to avoiding a costly situation.

“Fake employment ads are attempts to collect your personal information in order to commit other offenses such as forgery and credit card fraud,” said Sgt. Richerson. “Your best defense is to do your research,” he said.

Never share confidential information such as your bank account, credit card or Social Security numbers.

In other reported scams, victims are mailed a check. The victim is instructed to deposit the check in their bank and wire 80 percent of the balance.

The victim later discovers the check is counterfeit. In some cases, the victim has lost thousands of dollars.

To report a scam, call 9-1-1 or contact the APD Economic Crimes Unit.

APRIL CRIME PREVENTION SPOTLIGHT
WEST POLICE DISTRICT

Community Event with First Responders Puts Spotlight on Autism

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West District Office Coordinator Cathy Whittington helped to organize participation from West Patrol District Officers, Foot and Bike Patrol Officers as well as Arlington Firefighters and police recruits from Academy Class 52.

This was a fun and interactive way for first responders to become more familiar with the many behaviors that are common with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Children and adults were able to interact and become familiar with first responders and their emergency vehicles. There were carnival games, an Easter egg hunt and plenty of photos.

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