



On Call



A community news publication of the Arlington, Texas Police Department

APD Officers Reiterate the Power and Value of Reading to Young Students

A famous quote by American scholar, teacher and author, Mary Allen Chase says, "There is no substitute for books in the life of a child." Crouch Elementary School is one school that truly values the importance of reading and every year they hold a "Reading Rocks" Day for its students. This day provides working professionals and community stakeholders the opportunity to come in and read books out loud to the school's students. Arlington Police Department (APD) Officers Tim Dillon, Marisa Sandham, Sergeant Mike Skarbek, and Lieutenant Kyle Dishko, participated in this year's "Reading Rocks" Day program.

The officers selected and read books that they felt were fun, engaging and taught valuable life lessons. "I read 'One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish' by Dr. Seuss to a kindergarten class because it was a book I grew up reading. I loved reading it to the kids and I think they really enjoyed listening to me read it," said Officer Marisa Sandham.

APD has continually participated in the "Reading Rocks" Day program because it helps the department stay involved in the community and it gives officers the opportunity to go into the school and build relationships with students in a different way. "Many students seem to fear the police for various reasons and programs like Reading Rocks Day help them see us in another light.

On Reading Rocks Day, we are simply there to teach them about the value of reading and getting an education," Sandham said. "The thing that I hope each student takes away from this program is that what they learn now will benefit them in the future."



Four APD officers participated in this year's "Reading Rocks" Day at Crouch Elementary School. Officers read their favorite children's books to the students.



On Call

Officer Encourages Local Children to Make Good Life Decisions



Earlier this month, Officer Kimberly Fretwell spoke to children at Lil' Images of Blessings Christian Learning Center about the importance of having a positive attitude, making good decisions and online safety. The children were between the ages of 4-12.

Officer Fretwell stressed to the children that the actions and decisions they make in life plays a key role in them accomplishing their goals.

"I told them that they can be an actress, a doctor, a teacher, or anything they want to be if they work hard, have a positive attitude and make good decisions," Fretwell said.

Lil' Images of Blessings Christian Learning Center is committed to providing a positive and caring learning environment that enriches each child's mind and promotes spiritual, personal and social growth.

Miller Elementary B-Ball Team Continues Win Streak Over APD and AFD B-Ball Team

The Arlington Police Department and Arlington Fire Department basketball team recently took on the sixth grade Miller Elementary basketball team at their annual basketball game. It was a tightly contested game and the Miller Elementary team won in overtime when one of the girls from Miller Elementary team worked her way down the court and scored the winning basket. This win earned the Miller Elementary team its 20th consecutive win in a row against the APD and AFD basketball team. The Arlington police and fire department players were in great spirits after the game

and promised to be back next spring to once again try to break the winning streak.

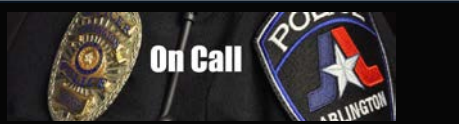


APD and AFD Share Crime Prevention and Home Safety Tips at 22nd Annual Arlington Family Expo

At this year's Arlington Family Expo, several Arlington Police Department (APD) officers and Arlington Fire Department (AFD) members gave presentations, answered questions and provided information to over 400 attendees about crime prevention and fire safety. The Arlington Family Expo allows families and members of the community the opportunity to attend free educational seminars on financial planning, homeownership, education and health awareness. The expo was presented by the Xi Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® in partnership with the Arlington Foundation for Excellence in Education.

APD's Victim Services Program Offers Resources to Those Dealing with Violent Crime

Every April, APD observes National Crime Victim's Rights Week. This annual observance addresses how crime victims have access to services and support; and how professionals, organizations, and communities can work in tandem to reach all victims. One of the programs APD offers the community is the Victim Services Program. The program offers victims of violent crimes and their family members services that help them reduce the short and long-term trauma associated with victimization. In addition, APD staffs on duty Victim Service Counselors who are available seven days a week to respond to a patrol officers' request for immediate crisis intervention for victims of crimes. If you or someone you know needs immediate assistance, please contact the team between 6 a.m. and 2 a.m. at (817) 459-5339.



ON CALL is published monthly by the Arlington Police Department Media Office.
Send story ideas and comments to the Editor:
817-459-5658 or Karen.Standback@Arlingtontx.gov

www.ArlingtonPD.org