



For Immediate Release  
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## Harrisonburg Police Crossing Guard Honored in Statewide Competition

Today is Crossing Guard Appreciation Day through the Safe Routes to School program. The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program has been active in Virginia since 2007 and helps schools and communities across the state make walking and biking to school a safe, convenient, natural activity. Crossing Guard Appreciation Day (CGAD) is a statewide event devoted to saying thank you to those who help students cross the street safely on their way to and from school. The city of Harrisonburg is fortunate to have attentive, caring crossing guards helping our children every day. This year we get to honor one in particular for the work she does.

Every morning and afternoon, Anne Byrd is one of the friendly and attentive school crossing guards at Spotswood Elementary School in Harrisonburg. She greets students, parents, and teachers as they arrive and depart school. Recently, Anne's attentiveness helped to keep a child safe. Anne noticed when a student, a block away from Anne's post, was approached by a stranger who got out of his car. Anne quickly made contact with the student, then drove the student home and worked with the family to file a police report.

Anne Byrd was nominated and selected as one of Virginia's Most Outstanding Crossing Guards for her role in the December 5, 2016 incident. February 8 is also crossing guard appreciation day. The Harrisonburg Police Department would like to thank Anne for her hard work and dedication she provides to the citizens of Harrisonburg every day. The Spotswood Elementary School community is safer because of Anne!

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