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REVISED
BRING YOUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY

Sarasota, FL: Daughters and sons of City of Sarasota employees including the Sarasota Police Department joined their parents for the day of Thursday, April 25, 2013, to see what their parents do during the workday. The occasion is the 20th anniversary of the annual event promoted by the national Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Foundation. The program is designed to give girls and boys an opportunity to participate in what a parent or mentor does during the workday, demonstrate the value of education, help them discover the power and possibilities associated with a balanced work and family life, share how they envision the future and begin steps toward their goals in a hands-on and interactive environment.

Children received photo visitor badges and were invited in the morning to the Sarasota Police Department (SPD) for a demonstration of the SPD Motor Unit and K-9 Corps and a tour of SPD Headquarters including Criminalistics, Criminal Investigations, the SWAT truck and the SWAT muster room.

Following lunch, which for some included pizza, children were invited by the Office of the City Auditor and Clerk to participate in a Kids Town, U.S.A., mock City Commission meeting and elected a Mayor and Vice Mayor from among their elected Kids Town City Commissioners, ages 8-18. The Commission had the benefit of the appointed Kids Town City Manager, City Attorney, and City Auditor and Clerk, whose roles the children assumed.

During the City Commission meeting members of the public signed up to speak including Shannon Snyder and Paul Caragiulo, current Sarasota City Commissioners, Carolyn Mason, current Sarasota County Commissioner Chair, and Gordon Hornikel, Sarasota City resident. The topics hotly debated included the possibility of closing all the Town parks and whether to keep the Town’s K-9 dogs to save money. “This was an excellent
opportunity for the children to learn about the workings of local government,” said Pamela Nadalini, Sarasota City Auditor and Clerk. You can view the Kids Town U.S.A. Commission meeting at this link.

Following this, the children created a Public Service Announcement (PSA) in the SRQ Media Studio about a new City television program entitled “City Kids” with the message that kids can do great things, too. The program will be available for viewing on the City’s website and Access Sarasota in the near future. The children also viewed a short film entitled “The Future of Technology,” and then met with Mayor Suzanne Atwell and Commissioner Paul Caragiulo in the Commission Office before concluding the work day with more active participation in their parents’ jobs. Commissioner Snyder said: “It was great to see the future of Sarasota growing up.”

For more information, please contact: Pamela Nadalini, City Auditor and Clerk 941-954-4160

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