

my Arlington MONTHLY

www.MyArlington.org

Connecting Arlington - Building Community

June, 2015

RENEW ARLINGTON Consultants Selected

The Renew Arlington working group of city agencies and interested citizens met on May 13th, at which time the City of Jacksonville's Office of Economic Development introduced the consultants selected by the City to lead the way from concept to reality for the Arlington Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) stretching along University Boulevard, Merrill and Arlington Roads.

The energy and excitement in the room was electric.

Strategic Planning Group (SPG), led by Robert Gray, will be responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of the overall project. According to Karen Nasrallah, the City of Jacksonville Office of Economic Development manager, all the firms that submitted bids in response to the Request for Proposals were highly qualified, but SPG was selected because of their expertise in both creating CRAs in conjunction with colleges located within the project boundary (in this case, Jacksonville University), and in housing analysis and land valuations. Gray shared with the committee the success of the SPG project in Tallahassee, citing specifically the Gaines Street CRA, which included collaboration with Florida State University.

Genesis Group has been brought in for their design and engineering expertise and will be working in association with SPG.

Acuity Design Group (ADG) will be responsible for public involvement, stakeholder investment and community "branding." Within the next few weeks and months ADG will be coordinating a series of community meetings to give the public an opportunity to share their vision and ideas for the future of the designated CRA corridors.

The Community Redevelopment Plan will also include an economic development component, which will include projects the community would like to see implemented over the next few years. Consultants will be examining economic viability, sustainability and associated costs and revenues.

Finalization of the CRA boundaries was set for the next day, May 14th, and

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INSIDE ...

Terry Parker

The Man - CLEVE'S CORNER
looks at the man whose name is on Arlington's churches, streets, & its high school.

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The School -
Principal Scott Schneider leads unprecedented turnaround at Arlington's high school.

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my Arlington MONTHLY

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We Gotta Talk -

The conversation has been brewing for about 20 years or so, and now it is finally time. Time for *the* discussion on Arlington's future.

Last month, three consultants were selected to guide and direct the City's Renew Arlington CRA initiative. Strategic Planning Group (SPG) will be responsible for the project's overall planning and implementation, while The Genesis Group will lend design and engineering expertise. The third consultant, Acuity Design Group (ADG), will be responsible for public involvement, stakeholder investment and community "branding".

Within the next few weeks and months, ADG will be coordinating a series of community meetings to give the public an opportunity to share their vision and ideas for the future of the designated CRA corridors. The Community Redevelopment Plan will also include an economic development component, which will include projects the community would like to see implemented over the next few years.

So with nods to the Old Arlington Neighborhood Action Plan (2007) and the Greater Arlington Beaches Vision Plan (2010), community meetings will once again convene to sketch the future. This time, with a CRA in the works, Tax Increment Financing on the horizon, and Jacksonville University as a financial and community catalyst - it's for real.

So, what's in the conversation? Certainly the aesthetics of the CRA corridors - University Boulevard, Merrill Road, and Arlington Road. And there will be much discussion on traffic and pedestrian flows, underground utilities, commercial revitalization, and community projects. But note that the selection of SPG was due in part to their expertise in both creating CRAs in conjunction with colleges located within the project boundary (in this case, Jacksonville University), and in *housing analysis and land valuations*.

And that expertise will need to be tapped to address the elephant in the room, which any serious talk about Arlington revitalization must account for - once and for all.

"It" was one of the first areas of Arlington's decline, but before that, it was a hub of young families, with school days and little league afternoons. School #215 was new, and its elementary-aged kids rode bikes and walked to its grounds. Its Dads' Club baseball league was home to hundreds of players and parents, and even a few major league prospects. And its fields hosted Gray-Y/Pop Warner football, not soccer.

It's where I was when I heard the news that Kennedy had been shot. And where we wore dog tags, learned duck-and-cover, and stored water and rations in the event of nuclear war.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE --->

Your Turn

Address correspondence to info@myarlington.org

To: <info@olddarlington.org>
Subject: Hobby Lobby closing
Date: May 24, 2015 at 1:45:14 PM EDT

I am a 13 year resident of Arlington, residing in the Colonial Park neighborhood.

In reading the paper this morning, I see that another large retailer is closing their store in the Regency area. The article says that Hobby Lobby will be closing by the end of this year. This closing follows Bed, Bath & Beyond and World Market leaving earlier this year. It is very disappointing to see so many businesses leaving the Arlington/Regency area.

The Olive Garden was also going to leave the Arlington/Regency area after their location here burned. But due to the overwhelming positive response they received (including mine) via emails and calls asking them to reconsider and remain in the Arlington area, they decided to stay and rebuild. I could see if they were not making a profit at the Regency location, but I was told that it was one of their most profitable locations in the region and that before the fire they were planning on expanding. The response that I received from them before they decided to rebuild was that the store was profitable but they no longer wanted to be in the Regency area.

I also contacted World Market before they closed. They said that the Regency location was a profitable store, but they were no longer comfortable being in this location.

Maybe if enough residents of Arlington contacted these retailers that are closing or considering closing, they might reconsider their decision to leave.

Does Old Arlington Inc. get involved in these type of issues? I imagine you have quite the ability to contact many Arlington residents (I am on your email list). Would you consider being a part of a “please keep your business in Arlington” campaign?

Regards - Kevin M.

WE GOTTA TALK - CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Growth and people moved away from the area and the school became an island in an ocean of apartment buildings that still line both sides of the street for more than a half-mile in each direction. The transient nature of the neighborhood accelerated the decline. Shootings, crime, drugs. And notorious ranking among Jacksonville's most troubled areas.

There were efforts made over the years, but none that stuck. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and (a few of) the apartment building owners would occasionally band together to throw some attention at the latest outbreak. But mostly, the Arlington community went forward without uttering and addressing the “J-word”.

Part of the CRA's dialogue needs to include Justina, and what to finally do about it. And the talk needs to include the “other Justina” at Bert Road.

And the whole conversation needs to include you.

Steve Matchett
editor@myarlington.org



A-Town . . . What's the Buzz



Arlington Connecting in Social Media

myArlington MONTHLY checks in on several social media sites featuring Arlington people, places, and things. The views and comments expressed may not necessarily represent ours - *but they could be yours!*



I Grew Up in Arlington is a Facebook Group boasting almost 6,600 members providing a way for people who have lived in Arlington to re-connect with others.

Old Arlington Inc. is the Facebook page for OAI and this publication.

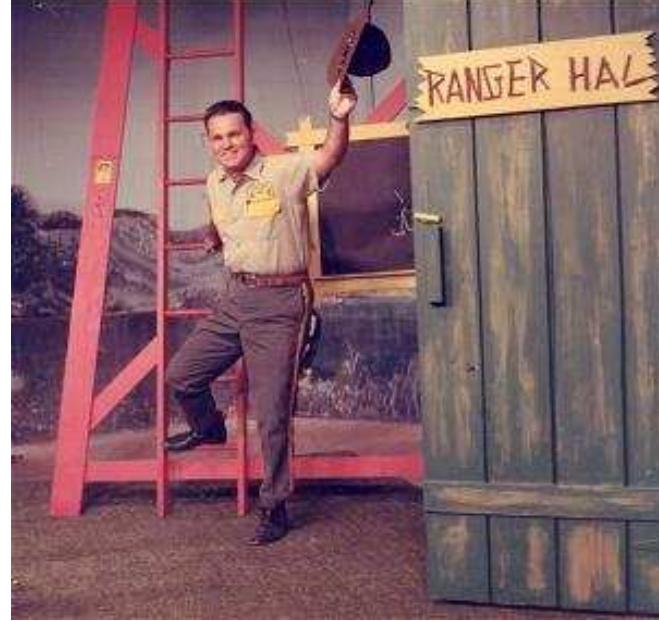
The Rich History of Arlington - A Unique Place in Time is a Facebook Group that invites posts and discussion amongst members about historical topics in Arlington. The group recently celebrated its 1 year anniversary and 1,000th member.

Who remembers Ranger Hal! He lived in Arlington and if you're old enough you watched him before you went off to school. - Walter

Henry Baranek was an awesome guy. We grew up with his kids. His son, David Baranek actually maintains the website. - Tim

Mr. Baranek was a great guy. Besides acting as Ranger Hal, he also was the local Ronald McDonald, and played an Indian Chief (Can't remember the name he used then) for our cub scout pack 5 at Christ the King. I went to school with Steve and Tom. - Chuck

I watched his show. Didn't know that he lived in Arlington. - William



I think in my day it was called the Gulf Wind (or Breeze) - Cleve

I rode this particular train many times, out of Union Station, in the 1960's. Here is a brief history.

The GULF WIND first ran on 7/31/49 and operated between Jacksonville and New Orleans as trains #'s 38 and 39. This was a joint operation between SAL and L&N, with the consist being handed over between railroads at Chattahoochee (River Jct.) FL.

At Flomaton, AL, the westbound WIND was coupled onto the L&N PAN AMERICAN; Eastbound out of 'Nawlins', the WIND was combined with the northbound L&N PIEDMONT LIMITED to Flomaton, where it came off and continued to Jacksonville. – John

SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY COMPANY									
THROUGH SLEEPING CAR SERVICE									
JACKSONVILLE, PENSACOLA and NEW ORLEANS									
TWO TRAINS EACH WAY DAILY									
Dining Car Service on Trains 36 and 37 Serving all Meals Between JACKSONVILLE and PENSACOLA					SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY—LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE RAILROAD				
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 14, 1923					EFFECTIVE JANUARY 14, 1923				
No. 37	Jacksonville	S. A. L.	No. 36	Pensacola	S. A. L.	No. 38	Baldwin	S. A. L.	No. 6
9 00 AM	Lv.	"	8 15 PM	Lv.	"	8 30 AM	"	"	"
9 40 AM	"	"	9 20 PM	"	"	7 45 AM	"	"	"
11 05 AM	"	"	10 38 PM	"	"	6 20 AM	"	"	"
11 50 AM	"	"	11 20 PM	"	"	5 32 AM	"	"	"
12 07 PM	"	"	12 15 AM	"	"	4 37 AM	"	"	"
3 15 PM	"	"	2 30 AM	"	"	3 30 AM	"	"	"
4 45 PM	Lv.	River Junction (ET)	12 45 PM	Lv.	River Junction (ET)	1 00 AM	"	"	"
4 40 PM	"	River Junction (GT)	11 40 AM	Lv.	Creernew	1 55 AM	"	"	"
7 55 PM	Lv.	Crestview	8 00 AM	Lv.	Pensacola	2 15 PM	"	"	"
9 50 PM	Lv.	Pensacola	6 10 AM	Lv.	Pensacola	4 15 PM	"	"	"
10 10 PM	Lv.	Pensacola	5 50 AM	Lv.	Pensacola	6 45 PM	"	"	"
11 55 PM	Lv.	Flomaton	4 15 AM	Lv.	Flomaton	8 45 PM	"	"	"
12 52 AM	Lv.	Flomaton	3 28 PM	11 10 AM	Flomaton	10 25 PM	12 27 PM	"	"
2 55 AM	Lv.	Mobile	1 35 AM	Lv.	Mobile	12 43 PM	10 16 AM	"	"
5 10 AM	Lv.	Gulfport	4 30 PM	Lv.	Gulfport	10 28 AM	7 09 AM	"	"
7 30 AM	"	New Orleans	9 05 PM	Lv.	New Orleans	8 30 AM	4 10 AM	"	"
EQUIPMENT—Trains 38 and 39.									
Sleeping Cars: 12 Section, 1 Drawing-Room, Coaches: Jacksonville and Pensacola, Jacksonville and New Orleans.									
Drawing-Room Parlor Car: Flomaton and New Orleans.									
Dining Car: Jacksonville and Pensacola.									
EQUIPMENT—Trains 36 and 37.									
Sleeping Cars: 12 Section, 1 Drawing-Room, Coaches: Jacksonville and Pensacola, Jacksonville and New Orleans.									
Drawing-Room Parlor Car: Jacksonville and Pensacola.									
Dining Car: Jacksonville and Pensacola.									
EQUIPMENT—Trains 38 and 39.									
Sleeping Cars: 12 Section, 1 Drawing-Room, Coaches: Jacksonville and Pensacola, Pensacola and Flomaton, Flomaton and New Orleans.									
Drawing Car: New Orleans to Flomaton on No. 38.									
Meal Stop.									

Historic Markers of Old Arlington

No.13 The JM&P Railroad



Located at 714 Arlington Road

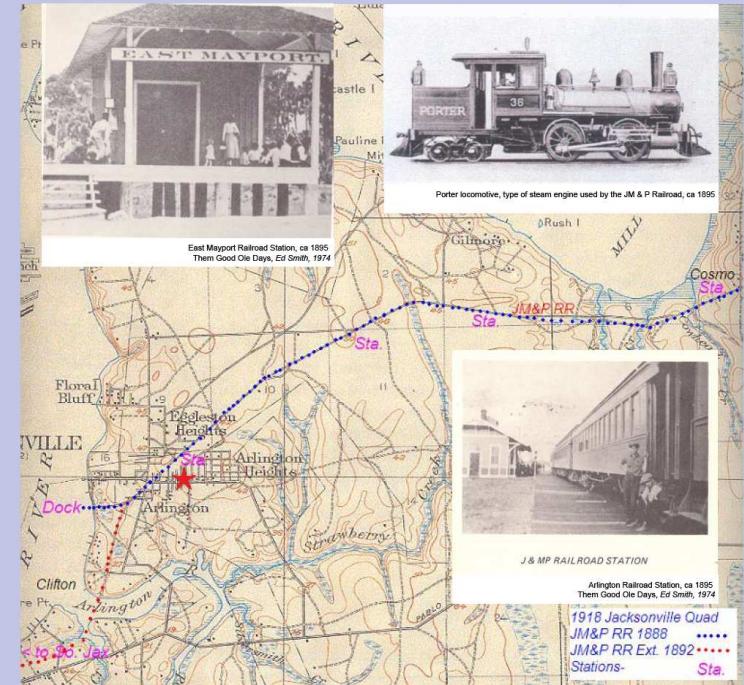
The Jacksonville, Mayport And Pablo Railroad

On the morning of May 17, 1888, residents in the wooded communities of Old Arlington woke up to the new sounds of a chugging steam engine and the rattle of railroad cars. It was on that day the Jacksonville, Mayport and Pablo Railroad and Navigation Company – the "J. M. & P. Railroad" - began twice daily service from Arlington to Mayport and the beaches areas. The railway was chartered in 1886 by Alexander Wallace, a native of Scotland who owned a successful lumber mill in east Jacksonville and believed Mayport had the potential to become the shipping port for all of northeast Florida. As a destination point for passengers, Wallace also built the Burnside Hotel on the ocean where Hanna Park is now located.

The opening of the railroad provided the people of Jacksonville and the Arlington communities with convenient access to the beaches. Passengers from Jacksonville were brought by the steamer Kate Spencer to a dock on the St. Johns River, near where the Mathews Bridge is now located, to board the train for their ride to the beach. Stops were made in Eggleston (a station at the south end of Paine Street which was complete with a waiting room), Verona, Gilmore, Cosmo, Idlewild, and Mt. Pleasant, small communities lying near and east of Arlington. Unfortunately, Wallace died unexpectedly in 1889 and his hotel burned soon afterward. His widow sold the railroad in 1892. The new owners extended the track across the Arlington River in the Clifton area to South Jacksonville, ultimately providing 28 miles of railway to the ocean.

The rail service closed in 1895, but for a while handcars were used on the track to deliver the mail. The rails were taken up in 1900 and reportedly shipped to Cuba. The roadbed became known as the tram road and served as a footpath between the small communities. Today, much of the eastern portion of the rail bed has been incorporated into Wonderwood Expressway.

1918 Arlington Map Including J.M. & P. R.R.



For more historic marker locations, visit www.OldArlington.org

This marker erected in 2009 with a grant from **comcast**
through Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

I live in Fairways Forest, and almost every night, when it's quiet outside, I can hear train horns blowing. Is that from Tallyrand? - Paul

It's a train whistle, I hear it several times a day, sound carries across water. Love to hear it. - Dorothy

It's from around San Marco, north end of Hendricks and around the old Prudential Building. - Buddy

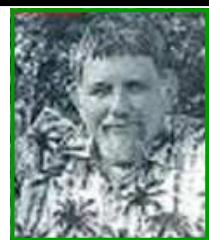
Probably from across the river on the Northside. - Mike

Tallyrand is a good bet. 21st Street is directly across the river from Ft. Caroline Rd. - Mary

I have heard the trains while living in Arlington and always thought they were from Tallyrand. Usually only when the air was cold. Of course your neighbor might have a train set. Lol - Tommy

You are probably hearing the ghost train of the JM&P RR which ran through Arlington in the late 1800's. I have seen the smoke and the light, late at night, and heard the lonesome whistle blow deep in the woods off of Ft Caroline Rd. Could it be.... John C

Thanks John C - now everytime I hear the train whistle - it makes me think of the ghost train of the JM&P RR. LOL! - Leilani



Cleve's Corner on . . .

The man behind the name that's on Arlington's high school,

Terry Parker - The Man: I had the privilege of meeting Mr. Parker when I was about twelve years old. In the days before the Mathews Bridge, Grandfather Johnson took me on a tour of Downtown and he was one of the stops on our trip. What I remember most is that both he and my grandfather wore white suits and spent a lot of time talking about developing Arlington.

The Arlington Story published by the Arlington Volunteer Fire Department in 1959, has a very nice tribute to H. Terry Parker, so I'll only cover the highlights. Born near Savannah Georgia, he was one of eight children. His father, Joseph, a descendent of Governor Treutlen, the first Governor of Georgia, was in the Georgia State Legislature for many years. Several of Terry's brothers became leading lawyers and judges in Georgia.

In 1911, Terry was president and valedictorian of his graduating class at Union Baptist Institute (now Brue-
ton-Parker Jr. College). He moved to Florida that same year working as a teller in the Bank of Hastings. Three years later he became bookkeeper for the Farquhar Machinery Company and remained with them for thirty years. In 1915 he helped develop the Gulf Life Insurance Company and was on their Board of Directors longer than any member.

He was one of the early campaign workers for the Baptist Memorial Hospital, the Southside Baptist Church, and the Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church. He served as a trustee on the boards of both the Baptist Memorial Hospital and the Southern Baptist Hospital Association in New Orleans. The Terry Parker Home for Boys was built on the site of the Baptist Children's home with a \$70,000 donation from the Parkers in 1956.

Parker reportedly started buying land in Arlington in 1943, and in the next sixteen years he acquired an aggregate of 1,800 acres - more than the total 1,100 acres purchased by the Alderman Reality Company in 1912. I was told quite a few years ago that he picked up all the right-of-way interest of the J M & P Railroad, which resolved title problems in developing his properties.

Terry Parker High School: In 1955 Parker donated thirty acres of his land to the School Board to build a high school. (The site now covers thirty-seven acres.) The Arlington Parent and Teachers association voted to name the school after him. Growing up in the Lone Star Road area, it was hard to picture a school being built in the woods where we still hunted and fished in the small ponds. Lone Star Road was the nearest paved road.

The Arlington Post edition of August 29, 1956, was dedicated to the opening of the new school with a picture entitled "Terry Parker School is Model of Efficiency". It was designed by Reynolds, Smith and Hills and built by The Cooper Construction Co. It was originally built to accommodate 1,500 students at a cost of over \$800,000, or a cost of \$540 per student. In 1958, ten classrooms were added to accommodate 2,000 students.



H. Terry Parker 1889-1970

The History of Old Arlington

a church, a subdivision, and several Arlington streets

Terry Parker School Is Model of Efficiency



Photo by Bob-Syl Studio

This view of the new Terry Parker High School inspires a sense of appreciation of modern architectural design for efficiently planned educational structures. Many complimentary expressions have come from school men, builders and civic leaders for this school, in which classes will be at their studies from September 4. The plans were drawn by the architectural firm of Reynolds, Smith & Hills—the building carried to completion by the Cooper Construction Co.

from "The Arlington Post" August 29, 1956

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Mr. & Mrs. H. Terry Parker

Sidney G. Friend was the first principal of Terry Parker High School, having started as a teacher at Landon High School in 1939. The School Board also appointed Andrew Jackson's Athletic Director, Aaron H. Brown Jr. to become TPHS' first coach. Paul G. McCoy became the Assistant Principal, Miss Katherine Holden, previously at Lee and Paxon high schools, was the Dean, and Melville Kelly was the Bandmaster. Boys were requested to go to the new school and help setup furniture - good luck with that today! The Parkers also donated uniforms for football and the band, and contributed half the cost of the lighting for the field.

Terry Parker Baptist Church: Mr. Parker was approached by members of a fledgling Arlington congregation seeking to build a new church facility. Parker was a Deacon at Southside Baptist Church and after meetings with the builder and church members, donated the entire church plant on Merrill Road, including 3 acres of land. It was dedicated on April 12, 1959,

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“JA in a Day” Comes to Merrill Rd. & Don Brewer Elementaries

**Florida Blue
Volunteers
Teach Entire
JA Program to
1100 Students
in 1 Day**



The tests were over, a week of school was left. Normally, it's a time for teachers and students to coast into summer. But not at two Arlington elementary schools this year.

On Friday, May 29th, 130 volunteers from Florida Blue descended into Merrill Road Elementary and Don Brewer Elementary to keep kids engaged with a full day of Junior Achievement lessons. The volunteers spent the entire school day in the classrooms to teach all five Junior Achievement lessons to students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

“JA in a Day” is a unique approach to delivering JA’s core content areas of work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy in one day instead of five weekly lessons. With the army of volunteers, they paired up in classrooms to provide more one-on-one instruction than usual. By the end of the day, the 1,100 students of both schools completed the JA program to earn a Junior Achievement certificate.

The day began with an opening pep rally and remarks by Florida Blue Sr. Vice President Charlie Joseph and Vice President Elana Schrader. They joined with Junior Achievement leaders, school principals and teachers to provide all students at Don Brewer and Merrill Road elementary schools with Junior Achievement materials and training.

Junior Achievement’s programs are instrumental in teaching children of all ages the basics of financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. The North Florida chapter is on track to reach 50,000 students in 2015. Florida Blue’s mission is to help people and communities achieve better health. There is a link between education and health and wellness, so supporting Junior Achievement’s efforts to educate children also supports Florida Blue’s mission. Florida Blue funded the JA Girl\$ program at its inception for two years with a matching grant in 2005 to help it become a reality, and the program is going strong 10 years later.

Community Pipeline

What's Happening Between Arlington and City Hall

Summary Report of the Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC Meeting, May 11, 2015

JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Lt. Nader informed the CPAC that YTD numbers citywide is looking good; crime continues to go down. Citywide property crime is down 9.3% and in Zone 2 property crime is 7.41 and violent crime is down 9.3%. Lt. Nader added that traffic fatalities remain a concern for JSO. Lt. Nader reminded the CPAC to drive safely, observe and maintain the posted speed.

Mayor's Liaison – Dave Roman – not present **Duval County Public Schools** – not present

Regulatory Compliance Department (Code Compliance)- Elaine Lancaster informed the CPAC that she and her team are finalizing their inspections in the Monterey Community and plan to work in the Woodmere community next. In June, Code Compliance plans to work in the University Park and the Charter Point neighborhoods. Ms. Lancaster was informed that they are some code compliance concerns on Leon Road. Ms. Lancaster reminded the CPAC to call all of their concerns into 630-CITY.

FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) – Jim Green – provided a copy of the draft Transportation Improvement Program for Fiscal years 2015-16 to 2019/20 (% year plan). **See page 10 for a separate listing of current and proposed DOT projects affecting Arlington.**

Jacksonville Aviation Authority – Tiffany Gillem – not present, but JAA Lobbyist, Alberta Hipps, reminded the CPAC that the JAXEX Advisory Committee meeting will be held in this room tomorrow at 9:00 am.

Renew Arlington – Karen Nashrallah – informed the CPAC that a consultant has been selected and plans are in place to move forward with the Blight Study. At this time, plans are to review all of the current studies, visions and Neighborhood Action Plans (NAP's) and update as needed and bring them to life. It was stated that there will need to be a Housing Study conducted to assess the apartment on Justina Road. Ms. Nasrallah extended an invitation to the CPAC to attend the next Renew Arlington meeting; the meeting will be held downtown in the Ed Ball Building (214 N. Hogan Street), First Floor Training Room on May 13, 2015 at 9:00 am.

Planning Department:

Housing and Community Development – Rosemary Wesolowski reminded the CPAC that the Jazzfest is a couple of weeks away; hand-outs for the event were provided.

Planning Department – Paul Davis did not have a report in addition to the LUZ Subcommittee.

JTA- Andy Rogers – Mr. Rogers informed the CPAC that JTAMobilityWorks is a program designed to complete projects funded by the extension of the Local Option Gas Tax. Leveraging that future funding, JTA has issued bonds to cover the cost of the projects. With the \$100 million dollars generated through the bond issue, JTA will complete 13 roadway projects and projects in 14 mobility corridors in all areas of Jacksonville over the next five years. The project list was generated by the Jacksonville City Council and will not be altered without their approval. Some of the projects in the GAB area are:

Girvin Road - Reconstruct existing roadway to five lanes between Atlantic Blvd. and Ashley Melisse and 3 lanes between Asley Melisse and Wonderwood Drive, includes curb & gutter, sidewalks and bike lanes.

Kernan Blvd. - This is a roadway widening project to reconstruct Kernan Boulevard from a four lane to a six lane urban roadway between Atlantic Boulevard and Matthew Unger Drive and four lanes from Matthew Unger Drive to McCormick Road. The road will have landscaped medians, curb and gutter, sidewalks, bike lanes, a 12-foot, multi-use path on the east side of the road, utility improvements and a closed drainage system.

JaxParks –Robert Hall – shared copies of the Summer Guide and encouraged everyone that is interested in Summer Camps to review the information & contact JaxParks. This year Parks has cut back on a few camps. Mr. Hall also mentioned that anyone needs to report a violation at the Dog Park to call 630-City.

Principal Scott Schneider Leads Dramatic Change at Terry Parker

School Receives 1st “B-School” Rating

Gains Outpace All Area High Schools

In the four years since Scott Schneider has been principal of Terry Parker High School the school has seen dramatic change – change worth bragging about – which Schneider is happy to do.

While data for the 2014/2015 school year is not yet complete, milestone achievements from the 2011/2012 school year until now include:

TPHS is now rated a B school under the Florida School Accountability System – the highest grade ever for the school in the 12 years since then Gov. Jeb Bush implemented the FSAS evaluation system. With a required score of 1,120 points to be classified an A school, Parker’s score of 1,109 was only 11 points shy of being an A school, a goal Schneider hopes will be realized soon. High schools receive their grade based 50 percent on state assessment-based measured gains in math and reading and 50 percent on other measures, including graduation rates, accelerated curricula and college readiness.

TPHS achieved the highest growth in points in the district, an increase of 123 points from school years 2012/13 to 2013/14. The second highest achieving school was Mandarin High School, with a growth of 83 points.

TPHS graduation rate hovers around 78 to 80%, higher than the District average of +/- 70% for comprehensive high schools in the district, i.e. non-magnet schools.



While all this is great news in and of itself, it does not stop there. In the past three years Parker seniors were awarded over \$10 million in college scholarships. In the past four years three Parker students were named Gates Millennium Scholars, receiving full college scholarships, including a master’s degree, from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Only 1,000 such scholarships are awarded each year from over 55,000 applications received.

In 2014/15 one Parker senior was awarded a Dell Scholarship, one of only 500 such scholarships awarded nationwide, only 10 in Florida, from over 25,000 applicants.

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JUST IN TIME FOR SUMMER !

Ft. Caroline Pool Has Grand Re-Opening

On Thursday, May 21st, City Council President Clay Yarborough and JaxParks joined in ceremonies marking the re-opening of the Fort Caroline Pool.

Located at 4131 Ferber Road in the Fort Caroline Club Estates subdivision, the pool has been closed for the past three years due to damage from Tropical Storm Debbie. Repairs to the pool included the construction of a new pump house, a partial new pool deck, new pool equipment, electrical work, utility work and site work. The project cost was \$197,000. VRL Architects, The Rose Group and the city's Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Community Services departments managed the work.

When JaxParks' outdoor pool season kicked off on Saturday, May 23rd, Fort Caroline Pool was one of 33 outdoor pools open to the public.

— Visitors enjoy spectacular riverfront views from the Ft. Caroline Pool and adjacent Lonnie Wurn Park



SENEGALESE DELAGATION VISITS JACKSONVILLE IN PREPARATION FOR FILM ON LIFE OF ANNA KINGSLEY

A delegation consisting of Daouda Niang, mayor of Rufisque, a city in the Dakar region of western Senegal, Ibrahima Ndiaye Sall, the mayor's financial officer, Sidi H. Camara, president of Unitra Senegal, a University of the Third Age, city of Dakar, capital of Senegal, and film director Alioune Seck spent eight days in May in Jacksonville touring sites associated with Anna Madgigine Ndiaye Kingsley. For Mr. Seck, it was the second visit in six months.

Anta Ndiaye was of Wolof ethnicity, a royal princess whose father was next in line to become the ruler of Jolof, a nation located in the western region of today's nation of Senegal. But in 1806 Anta was captured in a predatory raid and sold into slavery, sent across the Atlantic Ocean to the port of Havana, Cuba, and purchased by wealthy plantation owner Zephaniah Kingsley. Anta became Anna, Zephaniah's wife, and the mother of their four children. Emancipated in 1811, Anna became a free woman of color, plantation and slave owner and matriarch of the Kingsley family in Florida.

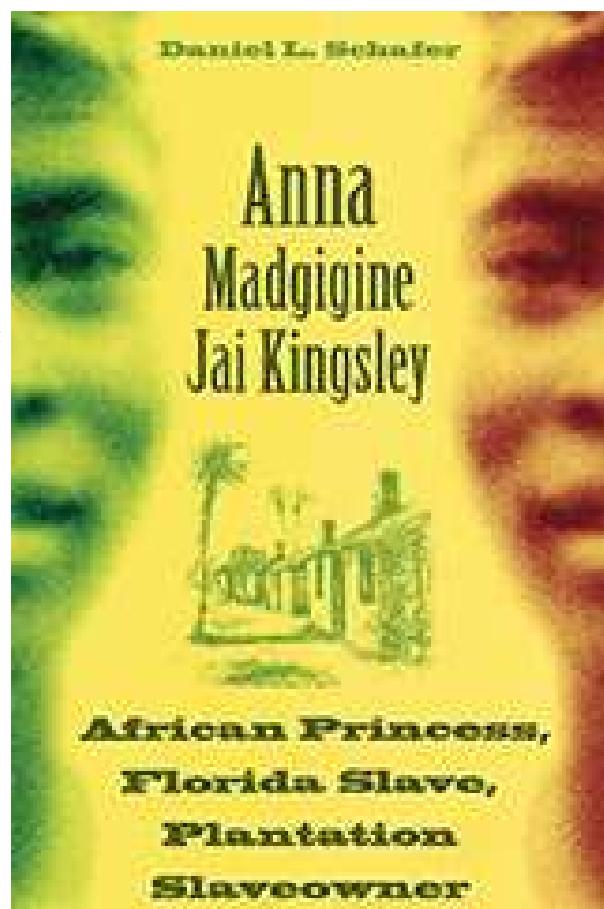
The purpose of the visit by the Senegalese dignitaries was to explore the possibilities and venues associated with the filming of Anna's dramatic life story. According to Dr. Daniel Schafer, author of *Anna Madgigine Jai Kingsley – African Princess, Florida Slave, Plantation Slaveowner*, and the noted authority on the lives of Anna and Zephaniah Kingsley, "In Senegal there is no question that Anna Jai Kingsley is the long lost member of the ruling family, sister of two rulers of Jolof, and someone whose story they are delighted to return to the family history."

Also visiting was Madame Ndieme Ndiaye, like Anna Kingsley, a descendant of the ruling dynasty of the Jolof Empire. Madame Ndiaye flew in from Geneva, Switzerland, where she is a successful businesswoman, for a personal tour with Dr. Schafer of the sites associated with Anna's life in Florida. Madame Ndiaye's father provided Dr. Schafer with a family history linking them to Anna. For Dr. Schafer Madame Ndiaye's visit was a "wonderfully rewarding surprise and gratifying culmination of decades of research and travel."

Among the sites visited were Kingsley Plantation on Ft. George Island, Jacksonville University (site of Anna's Chesterfield Plantation), Anna's burial location in Clifton Cemetery, Fernandina, Mandarin, Orange Park and St. Augustine.

While much still needs to be finalized, including the format of the film, financing, script development, etc., it is hoped that progress will allow for a grand celebration in February, 2016, featuring a visit by the Honorable Macky Sall, President of Senegal, and festivities at Kingsley Plantation during the annual Kingsley Heritage Days.

*Signed copies of Dr. Schafer's book, *Anna Madgigine Jai Kingsley*, can be purchased online from Old Arlington, Inc. for \$20.00 plus tax by visiting the OAI website at www.oldarlington.org.*



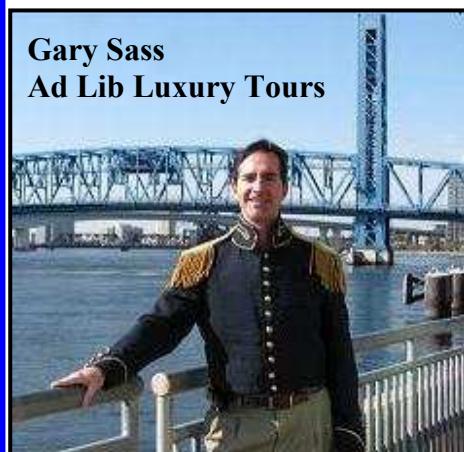
Next Arlington History Tour Scheduled for August 5th

AdLib Tours offered their first Arlington tour in May, 2014, with additional tours running through January, 2015. Featured in the March, 2015 edition of *myArlington Monthly*, their then-upcoming tour for May 13th set a company record by selling out within 24 hours.



Guests visit the historic Marabanong mansion on Ad Lib's tour of Old Arlington

Buoyed by the tours' success and feedback, Ad Lib Tours owner Gary Sass has scheduled the next Old Arlington tour for Wednesday, August 5th. Tour guests meet at Arlington's iconic Donut Shoppe on University Boulevard to board the bus. The tour winds through historic Arlington and the areas of Empire Point, Clifton, and Oak Haven. Guests are treated to a tour inside the historic Marabanong mansion built in 1876, and a stop at the plantation cemetery where Anna Kingsley and family members are buried. The last stop is at Reddie Point Preserve. Tours last for three hours and private groups can be arranged.



**Gary Sass
Ad Lib Luxury Tours**

AdLib Tours is a licensed Receptive Tour Operator in North Florida. Their customized tour programs have been featured on PBS television, history programs, and TV news stories. They have a program called, Jacksonville Walking Tours, which is ranked Excellent by Trip Advisor. Sass has been honored two times by the North Florida Hotels Association with a ROSE award for Service Excellence.

You can make reservations for the August tour by calling AdLib at 904-827-1845, or by visiting their website at www.adlibtours.com.

We cannot express what a wonderful morning we enjoyed. Keep us on the books to know when the next subject is coming on and please keep my name on the next Arlington subject; I need two seats for sure and please let me know the date so that I may let my friend know not to put anything else on the that day. - TOUR PARTICIPANT MAY, 2015



**Need a speaker and program for your next group meeting?
Contact OAI to schedule our presentation
highlighting Arlington's history and future vision.**

Old Arlington, Inc. meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in JU's Gooding Building.

Community Pipeline

(Continued from pg 8)

Florida Dept. of Transportation's
Arlington Projects

Ron Tittle, FDOT informed the CPAC that the City of Jacksonville is located in the area that FDOT refers to as District 2. District 2, in Northeastern Florida, is home to more than 1.9 million residents, 18 counties, and covers nearly 12,000 square miles. Mr. Tittle discussed a few roadway projects in the Greater Arlington area:

Atlantic Boulevard resurfacing from Brookview Drive to Withrow Drive: The 1.7-mile long project includes removing the existing asphalt and repaving Atlantic Boulevard. The repaving is being done in two layers with the last layer coming at the conclusion of the project. Motorists may encounter uneven pavement until the final layer of asphalt is placed. The project also includes repairing sidewalks and bringing them up to current standards, upgrading traffic signals to include pedestrian signals, installing handicap-accessible mats at sidewalk crossings and replacing damaged drainage structures.

Wonderwood Connector drainage project: FDOT is replacing drainage structures and pipes beneath the road along Wonderwood from I-295 to the Intracoastal Waterway. The existing steel pipes are being upgraded to more durable concrete pipes. The completed roadway will still include four lanes with bicycle lanes and sidewalks. Landscaping in medians removed during construction will be restored. A half-mile long traffic shift from Longleaf Pine Way to Gately Road is planned to facilitate construction. Traffic will be shifted onto temporary pavement placed in the existing median area. Construction will also include rebuilding roadway approaches to the Ginhause Creek bridge. The completed roadway will still include four lanes with bicycle lanes and sidewalks. Landscaping in medians removed during construction will be restored. This is the first of two projects currently funded in FDOT's Five Year Work Program to upgrade pipes beneath Wonderwood Drive from I-295 traveling east. The second project is anticipated to begin in 2017.

Mathews Bridge fender work: FDOT is currently doing work on the Mathews Bridge that will have minimal impact to the traveling public. This project includes fender work, access ladder replacement and navigational lighting at the Mathews Bridge. Hal Jones Contractor of Jacksonville began July 28, 2014 and should finish in 360 days (Summer 2015) at a cost of \$1,997,720.

Arlington River Bridge on University Boulevard bridge: Florida Department of Transportation began replacing the University Boulevard/Arlington River Bridge on November 4, 2013. The project extends from Cesery Boulevard to Clifton Avenue. The existing two lane bridge is being demolished and replaced with a new concrete bridge with 6 1/2 foot wide sidewalks and four foot wide bicycle lanes. A temporary bridge is being constructed to carry traffic while the existing bridge is demolished. The new bridge is being realigned slightly to reduce the curve on the east end of the bridge. Other improvements along University Boulevard include:

- Constructing a new signalized intersection at Cesery Boulevard
- Constructing a new intersection at Clifton Avenue
- Constructing a roundabout at the intersection with Colcord Avenue
- Adding decorative lighting and landscaping at both ends of the new bridge

Atlantic/University Boulevard Intersection Safety Improvements: FDOT held a public hearing to discuss safety improvements to the intersection of Atlantic Boulevard (SR-10) and University Boulevard (SR-109), on January 29, 2015. The proposed improvements will provide safer traffic operations through the intersection of Atlantic Boulevard and University Boulevard. The recommended improvements include:

- Additional left turn lane from westbound Atlantic Blvd to southbound University Blvd.(currently single left turn).
- Adding a right turn lane from northbound University Blvd. to eastbound Atlantic Blvd.
- Extend the length of the existing right turn lane from southbound University Blvd. to westbound Atlantic Blvd.
- Relocate existing Lawrence Place (a city street) to provide a safer connection to University Blvd. (move it further north, away from University/Atlantic intersection).
- Replace/upgrade existing signals with new mast arms, and lighting improvements.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Terry Parker HS tripled the number of Career Technical Education (CTE) certificates earned by students in the past four years. CTE certificates are earned while students pursue a regular high school diploma and enhance a student's college readiness skills and job prospects. Students may earn CTE certificates in programs such as Adobe Photo Shop, and Adobe InDesign (desk top publishing software) and culinary arts.

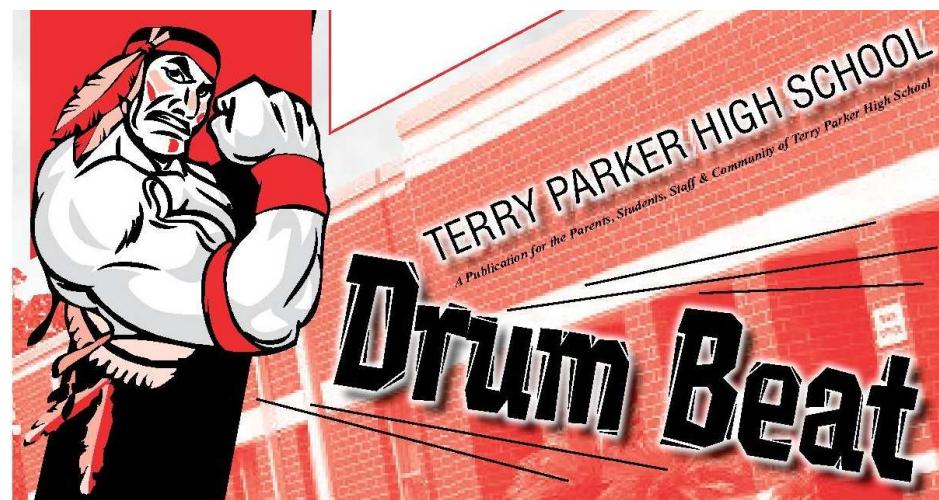
One recent Parker graduate was accepted into the prestigious Culinary Institute of America in New York City.

Parker reduced the number of major disciplinary infractions at the school, i.e., Class II infractions, by 50%, and now has one of the lowest rates in Duval County for a comprehensive (non-magnet) high school.

Schneider attributes the school's success to hiring and retaining great teachers, consistent disciplinary structure, and building a rapport with students and their families. When asked what he hopes for the future of Terry Parker High School, Schneider replied with one word - "Continue."

GO BRAVES!

I encourage community members, parents, Alumni, and business partners to give time and resources to assist Terry Parker High School in helping our students move closer to making their dreams a reality. If you are fortunate enough to support TPHS financially you can make a donation in any amount to TPHS and it is a tax deductible donation. These funds will go directly back to supporting our students with additional tutoring, technology, supplies, and even food for those less fortunate. There is no better way to support our community other than through our youth. Scott Schneider, schneiders@duvalschools.org



Diary of a Lost Girl
starring Louise Brooks
www.normanstudios.org

CLEVES CORNER - H. TERRY PARKER (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

a gift of more than \$100,000 at that time. It has grown nicely and probably has 10 times that area today. Since October, 2012, the Church has been “one congregation in two languages,” welcoming a growing Hispanic ministry into their membership.

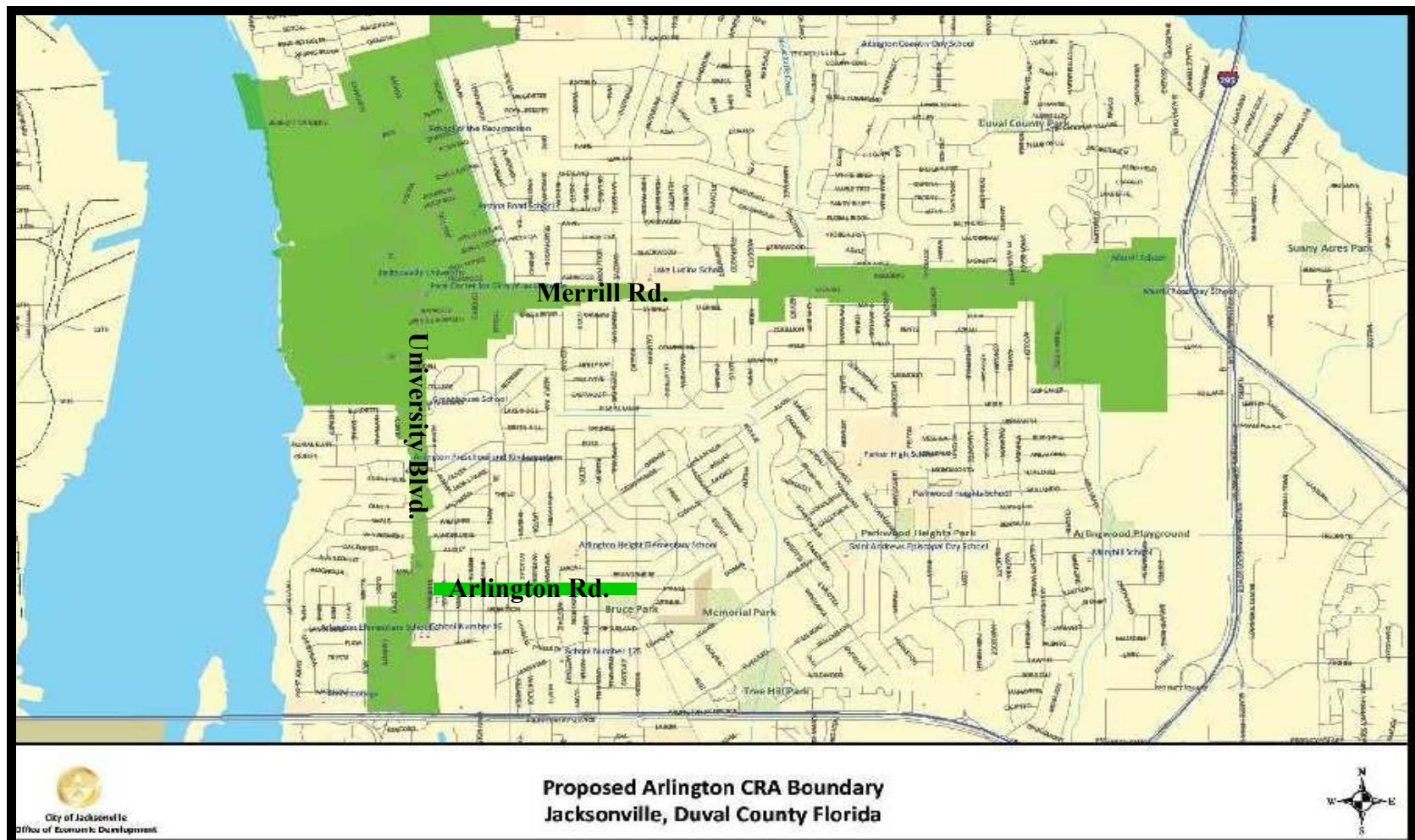
In addition to the high school and church, Mr. Parker has a subdivision and four streets named for him! There is much, much more, but this covers most of his Arlington ties. Cleve

Terry Parker Baptist Church, ca 1969



RENEW ARLINGTON CONSULTANTS SELECTED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Findings of Necessity report scheduled for completion on June 5th. The group's meeting for June will be a branding exercise, beginning the destination-brand process that will ultimately mark the area's identity. The master plan is scheduled for completion by October 25, 2015.



The City of Jacksonville's Renew Arlington initiative is a holistic approach to community revitalization that includes addressing many issues such as transportation, infrastructure, code enforcement, and crime and public safety. Once the CRA process is completed, Arlington stakeholders will have a plan and a funding source to guide future redevelopment and revitalization that will achieve the goals and objectives of the citizens of Arlington.