

# *my Arlington* MONTHLY

www.MyArlington.org

Connecting Arlington - Building Community

March, 2015

# Operation Dolphin becomes

## RENEW ARLINGTON

### City's **Renew Jax** Initiative Expands to Arlington

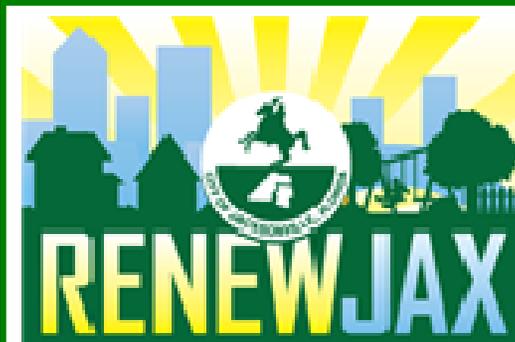
#### Addendum Adds Arlington Road to CRA

Operation Dolphin has resurfaced in 2015 as Renew Arlington, commandeered by the City's Renew Jax initiative launched by Mayor Alvin Brown in November, 2014. Renew Jax is designed to revitalize key Jacksonville neighborhoods and corridors, and according to Mayor Brown, "Arlington is ready for a turnaround."

Renew Arlington will piggyback the year-long work and community input of Operation Dolphin, a City Office of Economic Development [OED] project spurred by campus investments at Jacksonville University and community outreach by its President, Tim Cost. More than \$27 million in campus improvements are already underway including completion of a 30,000 sq. ft. College of Health Sciences building, a \$1.5 million renovation of the new River House student center, a new student housing development, and acquisition of the adjacent 40-acre, former Boys' Home property.

Renew Arlington will continue the pursuit of the designation of a specific section of Arlington as a Community Redevelopment Area [CRA] with a Redevelopment Trust Fund.

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**Renew Arlington Project Information**  
(Source - City of Jacksonville)

**Scope of work:** Create a University Blvd/Merrill Rd. Corridor Redevelopment Area (CRA) Plan for the proposed boundary area. This would include the establishment of a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) to provide a revenue stream to the proposed boundary area for the next 20 years.

**Costs and breakdown:** The City will be funding the development of the CRA Plan. The plan will build on previous studies and planning efforts and include a blueprint for roadway improvements, sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, utilities, signage, future retail revitalization and housing redevelopment.

**Timeline:** The study will be complete with Council approval by the end of 2015. Currently in the planning and engineering phase of the revitalization effort.

**Public-private partnership between:** The City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville Transportation Authority, JEA, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Transportation and Jacksonville University.

**For more information, contact:** Karen Nasrallah, Karenn@coj.net 630-2272.

**Council Members:** Council President Clay Yarborough; At-Large Council Member John Crescimbeni; District 7 Council Member Dr. Johnny Gaffney.

# *my Arlington*

VOLUME 1, NO. 7, MARCH, 2015

## MONTHLY

*my Arlington* MONTHLY is published monthly by Old Arlington, Inc., 6317 Arlington Road, Jacksonville, FL 32211. OAI is a 501(c)3, tax-exempt, organization, formed in July, 1993, to promote historic preservation and community revitalization in Arlington. Free e-mail subscription is available at <http://mad.ly/signups/115910/>

### *Giving Credit Where Due -*

***“There is no limit to what can be accomplished if it doesn’t matter who gets the credit.”***

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

It’s hard to keep the politics out of things, especially in this season ramping up to the City’s spring elections. It’s a time when candidates tout their wares and incumbents point to their accomplishments, in somewhat embellished manners to solicit your vote.

A prime time example of this was displayed at last month’s gathering at the University Park Branch library to announce the Renew Arlington project. You may have previously known it as Operation Dolphin, but after a brief hiatus over the holidays, it has emerged as part of Mayor Alvin Brown’s Renew Jax initiative. A throng of political attendees and wannabes assembled before extensive media coverage to unveil the new moniker.

Not that the Mayor’s Office and the City were not previously involved. The City’s Office of Economic Development Manager Karen Nasrallah is the organizational lead for the project, and several City departments and agencies have been enlisted during this formative past year. But when there’s a gathering of politicians and cameras, you become fearful that expedient politics could foul not only the event air, but the project itself.

Thankfully, the foundational work of Operation Dolphin is not lost in the name change. And make no mistake about it, without the investment and initiative of Jacksonville University, and its President, Tim Cost, there would be no Renew Arlington to parade out to court voters.

The front page article of the first edition of *myArlington Monthly* (September, 2014) looked at JU’s declining role in Arlington’s affairs over the past twenty years and reported of a change taking place. A change involving a relatively new president that was personally spearheading JU’s revival in the community, and Arlington’s revival in City circles as well. President Cost’s assembling of top flight talent empowered with community outreach mandates has fanned the embers of JU’s past isolationism into a growing flame of involvement. JU’s tens of millions of dollars of investment - courted by other areas in the City - will not only remain in Arlington, but will be leveraged to jumpstart redevelopment funding in the area for the next twenty years.

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# *Your Turn* Address correspondence to [info@myarlington.org](mailto:info@myarlington.org)

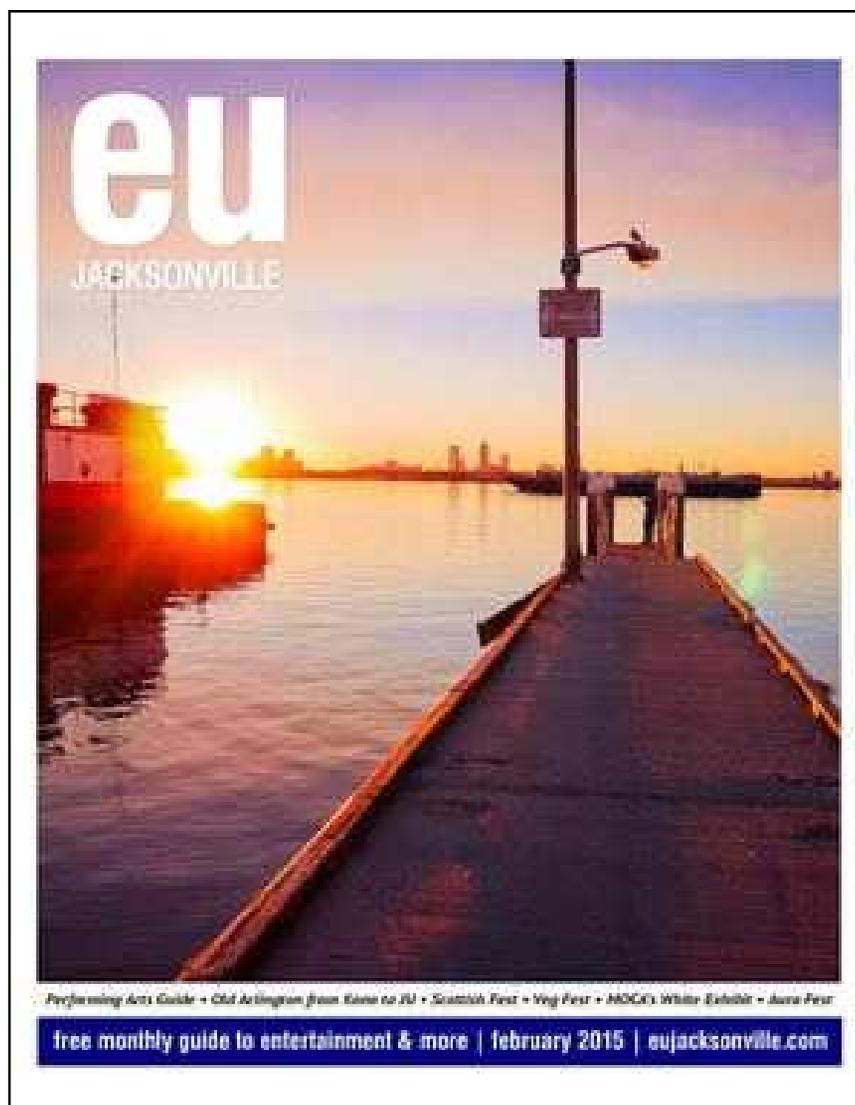
## *Thank You eu!*

Last month's issue of **eu Jacksonville** featured an eight-page spread highlighting the people, places, history, and future of Old Arlington. With an overview from Kona to JU, and special features entitled *History Revealed* and *Old Arlington - The New Place to Be!*, the series of articles is a reflection of the growing awareness to Arlington's assets and charm. Read the entire feature story at [www.eujacksonville.com](http://www.eujacksonville.com), or link directly to their online flip version by clicking <http://en.calameo.com/read/003079928d701791f10fd>.

*The February 2015 issue of "eu Jacksonville" brings you "Old Arlington from Kona to JU"! On pages 12-20, you may recognize some familiar names and places as these pages are filled with information supplemented by Cleve Powell. Arlington's past & present come together. - Jodie*

*I read all of the history, I believe. It's informative, and enlightening. The photography work really high-lights the beauty of the community. - Jody*

*Very Cool - Scott*



## GIVING CREDIT (Continued from Page 2)

To JU's and President Cost's credit, there's no lament expressed in the political hijacking of the project's identity that had been associated with the school's mascot. And given the Arlington-wide scope of the project, its stakeholders, and the City's involvement, perhaps a name more reflective of that scope is appropriate. But it should be known now - and years from now - where the impetus was, and where the credit is due.

Steve Matchett

[editor@myarlington.org](mailto: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!



[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

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

*The Rich History of Arlington - A Unique Place in Time* is a Facebook Group Page that provides historical information about the Arlington community. Just launched last summer, the page has already drawn over 950 members.

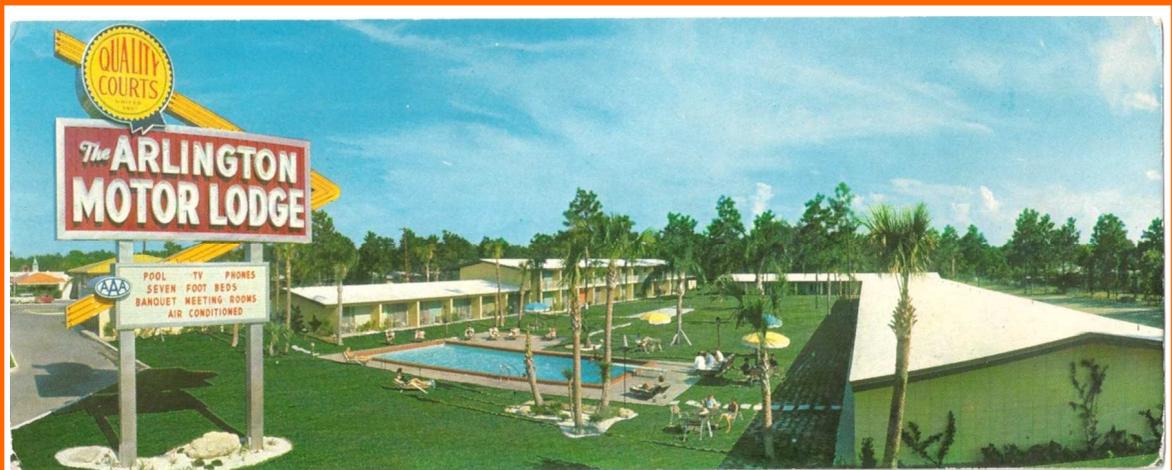
*Old Arlington Inc.* is the Facebook page for OAI and this publication.

*The view from the Ribault Monument isn't as scenic as it used to be. - Rick C.*

*When I began working here in January of 1987, the view was spectacular. No houses on the river's north bank and most of the dredge work was on the island's far eastern side. As for the current dredging, that's the result of Jacksonville becoming a Global City.- Craig*



*Our dear friend Vee G., who is a long time residence of Gilmore at Mill Cove, has the most wonderful recollections of a view, especially at night, when there were no streetlights or the harsh glow of industrial vapor lights on the horizon. The stars and the moon hung over a river that was serenely quiet -- the silence of Mill Cove occasionally broken by the sounds of tarpon jumping under a moon-beamy night. And sometimes when the wind was right you could hear the primal roar of the lions, across the river, at the zoo. - John*



*Signs of the Times - Arlington Motor Lodge, Arlington Expressway, ca 1960s*



*And another Arlington fuel distributor. Anybody still use fuel oil in A-town?*

*These guys have been around forever. - Marvin*

*Arlington Fuel Oil is celebrating 61 years of service to Arlington and Jacksonville this year. Arlington Fuel Oil was sold to Mr. & Mrs. Ade in 1975 and still own the business today. - Ken*



*The Wimpee's sign is still standing. Here is a picture taken with my remote drone this afternoon. If you see my drone hovering around A-town don't be alarmed, I'm just collecting pics. SMILE! - John*  
*Linda Joes, Arlington Fuel Oil and Wimpee's Gulf Oil Distributors supplied most of Arlington with kerosene for all those old furnaces. - Thomas*

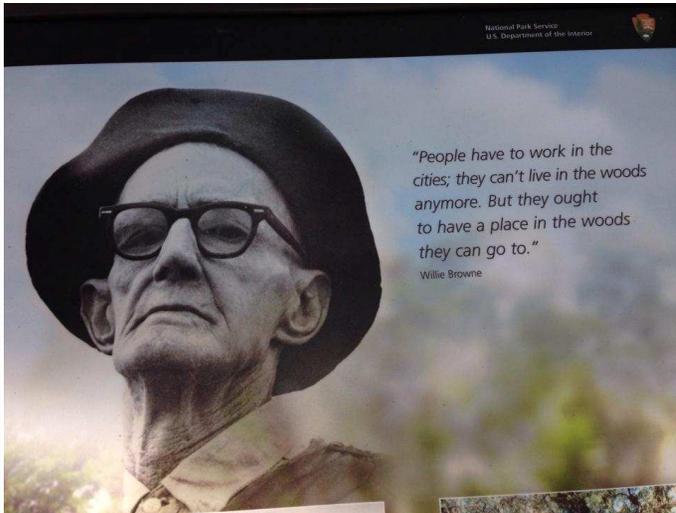
*To all of the members of this great Facebook link: I am so humbled by all the nice comments you have made about the City's resolution. I've posted a few pictures taken at City hall 2-24-15 of me with some of my family (my wife Jackie in green behind me) and a picture of some of the group from old Arlington and others who came down front when they made the presentation. Jodie, Leilani, and Rosemary and others sponsored a nice reception afterwards. Thanks to all of our groups, my family, The Old Arlington Group and most importantly the City Council for your support. I'd better get to work hadn't I! - Cleve Powell*



Many more comments and congratulations were received for Cleve Powell. All three Arlington Facebook pages were flooded with Love and Blessings for Cleve



*Willie Brown and cabin site at Timucuan Ecological & Historic Preserve - Florida Times Union, Jacksonville, February 7, 1995 "Cabin falls to vandals: Park Service to raise benefactor's residence." There is more to this article but my point is to observe the 20th Anniversary of the removal of Willie's Cabin. One of the saddest days in my Park Service career. To see it go made me sick. But watching it be abused by vandals broke my heart. Willie's cabin meant: survival, solitude, the spirit of a pioneer. It was artwork...his artwork. The decision was tough, but had that heart of pine cabin gone up in flames then all those ancient oaks would have gone with it. I think Willie would have wanted the trees protected more so than his cabin. Hard to believe it's been 20 years.- Craig Morris*



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*Another favorite spot of mine. It's in the low canopy area of Spanish Pond Trail. Lots of British Soldier lichens on the forest floor, very dry environment. 100% Old Florida feel in that spot! - Craig*

*What a beautiful, moss-laden oak. The lighting in this photo is lovely. - Valerie*



*It's located on the Spanish Pond Trail a little bit north of the trail head entrance to the Timucuan Trail. - Jodie*





# Cleve's Corner on . . .

*This month's historical spotlight shines on the*

## Helen A. Colcord ~ "The Book Lady"



Helen A. Colcord

"May we live to learn well and learn to live well!" was the motto of the Eastern Shore Woman's Club founded, and organized, April 5th, 1920 by Helen A. Colcord. Born ca. 1869, Helen had a high school education and was married to attorney, Russell E. Colcord, a 2 time George Peabody Merit Scholar in 1892 & 1893, an 1898 Yale Law School graduate and member of the "Yale Union" Literary Club. Around 1900, they moved from Watertown, CN to Jacksonville where they resided at 430 Cedar St. through 1910. Russell worked for the firm of Reynolds & Rogers and served as the Yale Alumni Association Secretary for Florida during this time.

After purchasing the Eggleston Hotel and moving it south to the riverbank in Clifton via a barge down the St. John's River, they moved to Arlington in 1911. Helen had a deep desire to spread literacy and education to her community. In 1919, she founded the Arlington Free Library. The Club's history reflects that Helen procured discarded books from the Watertown, CN Library. She

carried the books in a basket and loaned them to friends who exchanged them for more books on her next visit. As her circulation increased, the need to move her collection from a shelf in a local drink stand, to a shelf in the grocery store, graduated to a need for a building.

Helen presented the idea of organizing a club to support the library to 14 friends invited to her home for a card party. A committee was formed to develop the Charter, Constitution and By-laws with 24 Charter Members. They met on Tuesdays, at 3:00 p.m., as the Eastern Shore Woman's Club in a temporary clubhouse beginning May 3, 1921. Mrs. A. Chapelle was added to the "Honor Roll" as the 25th Charter member in June 1929. They raised money collecting dues, donations, and held card parties. A 2003 documentary interview by Cleve Powell with Richard and Hartley Steeves, who lived at 1711 Almira in Eggleston, reflects, "There was a dock at the end of Floral Bluff [with] a woman's club out on the dock." In March 1922, Captain & Mrs. Lilly donated \$400 for a lot and \$100 for books. They built their own clubhouse at 1222 Clock Street and purchased books from H&WB Drew Co. The Club rented-to-own a grand piano from Edwards Piano which was donated rent-free for a year in October, 1922. Afterwards, a \$5 per month rent was paid.

F.W. Bruce's 1924 publication, *Arlington Past, Present & Anticipated*, page 12 notes, "The Eastern Shore Woman's Club and Free Library, with a library for free circulation of about 2,000 volumes...has been a big factor in elevating and inspiring the mentality of our people." Captain & Mrs. Lilly donated another \$100 on March 31, 1924, with a note to Mrs. Colcord, "Assuring you of our keen interest in this free enterprise." The Club's June 1929 minutes reflect 35 members and a circulation of 4,022 volumes as the "Public was most liberal in donating books and magazines". Concrete walks and a roof for the porch were soon added and other additions and renovations were made to the clubhouse over the next decade.

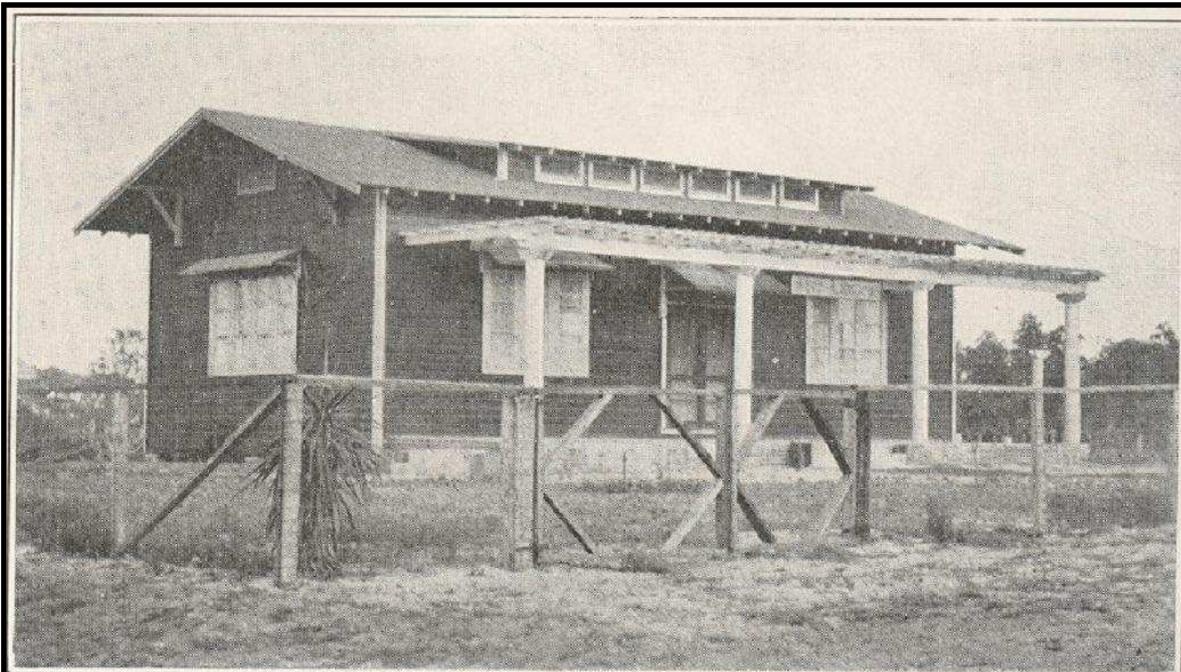
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# The History of Old Arlington

*the women of Old Arlington, and pioneer Helen Colcord*

A 1963 report, by Librarian Lillian Foster, noted that the accessioned books were approx. 11,500. The circulation in 1950 was 5,593 and in 1960, it was up to 25,670. Barnett Bank opened a library on the 10th floor of their "new" annex with approx. 300 volumes and 16 Periodicals on banking topics.

Children of Arlington Grammar School, opened in 1921, and children from the Chaseville Road consolidated school, benefited from the library. The 2003 Powell/Steeves interview fondly recalls how Mrs. Colcord would gather the children on Saturdays for a reading hour and serve them homemade ice cream.



Eastern Shore Womans Club and Free Library

From the 1920s -1960s, this building at 1222 Clock Street served as Arlington's library. An auditorium and kitchen were added in 1936. In 1993, it was home to a newly-formed civic group, Old Arlington, Inc. Below, as it appears today after extensive residential renovation.



(Right) *Tampa Tribune*, December 7, 1922 on the Eastern Shore Women's Club

## EASTERN SHORE CLUB ENTERTAINS SCHOOL FACULTY

The Eastern Shore Club of Arlington, of which Mrs. Russell Concord is president, entertained the entire faculty of the Concordia School Dec. 7, calling it "Concordia Day."

Those entertained were: Mrs. Beulah Warner, Head of the school, Miss Eleanor Rawson, Miss Elsa Butoll, Miss May Franklin, Miss Clovis Culum, Miss Anna Williams, Mrs. Alice E. Ross, Mr. Matilda O'Donald, Mr. Leonie Mumby, Mrs. Ruth Millamx Dixon, Mrs. Marcus Fagg, Mrs. Nalwyn Tolbert Hodgins, Miss Isabel Gains, Mrs. Kingsbury Norton and Miss Ragadale.

The entertainment consisted of a delightful program of music and reading, after which delicious refreshments including sandwiches, salad, home-made cake and fruit punch, were served.

The Eastern Shore Woman's Club is an enterprising group of women organized for community good. These women own their club house, and conduct a free library that is beneficial to the whole of South Jacksonville and Arlington.

community, follows:

Helen A. Colcord, president.  
 Clara F. Bduce, first vice-president,  
 Sadie Wendt, second vice-president,  
 Sadie De G. Collins, treasurer (served two months, resign—account ill health),

Claudia A. Williams, secretary, (appointed treasurer to fill Mrs. Collins' place).

Finance Board, Mrs. Maude Bowie, chairman, Mrs. Louise B. Johnson, Mrs. Mabel Bennett.

Money raised by entertainments, to date, ..... 323.81

Cash and checks contributed by friends ..... 330.60

Commission of sale of lots ..... 25.00

Dues collected to date (year starts May 1st) ..... 56.20

Silver tea ..... 4.90

Miss Brock check towards building ..... 100.00

Check from Mr. and Mrs. Lilly for lot and books ..... 500.00

Money raised by mortgage ..... 900.00

Money handled from May 1st. to date, ..... 2,240.41

Expenditures, Labor and material for building 1,426.73

Rent on old building ..... 34.00

Library expenses, books etc. 165.44

Purchase of lot and kitchen ..... 500.00

Check to Fla. Hdwe & Fleischer 64.40 2,190.57

Cash on hand from card party ..... 42.65

49.84

92.49

## Renew Arlington - (Continued from Page 1)

For a 20-year period, all new revenues generated from increased property values in the redevelopment area would be dedicated to economic development, housing, infrastructure and other projects that benefit the Arlington area. Leveraging JU's tens of millions of dollars of campus investment would provide a significant kick-start for the trust fund. The CRA process follows guidelines set forth in *Florida Statute* 163, Part III, which includes establishing needs, providing solutions, establishment of a Tax Increment Finance District, and defining boundaries. The process is expected to be completed by the end of 2015.



**At the request of Council President Clay Yarborough, an addendum to the proposed Arlington CRA Boundary annexes Arlington Road from University Blvd. easterly to Rogero Road (yellow-shaded area).**

**Key projects identified include:**

- JTA will develop a plan for University Boulevard and Merrill Road, which are part of the JTAMobilityWorks initiative that is designed to improve accessibility and mobility. A corridor plan will be driven by community and stakeholder input. It will consider sidewalk improvements, ADA accessibility, transit shelters, lighting, landscaping, safety enhancements and context sensitive roadway solutions.
- JEA will work with the City and JU in their efforts to enhance the University Boulevard and Merrill Road corridors by improving its utilities to upgrade safety, aesthetics and reliability.
- JU will continue partnering with the City to invest on campus and in the community, along with attracting businesses to link up with education and research opportunities.
- The City will work with local businesses and developers to enhance University Boulevard and Merrill Road as commercial retail corridors.

**[CONTINUED NEXT PAGE]**

Mayor Alvin Brown (L) and Wayne Young, JEA Director of Government Affairs, look on as JU President Tim Cost reiterates the school's commitment to Arlington at the Renew Arlington announcement on February 11th at the University Park Library. "Jacksonville University believes in Arlington and we are investing right now in support of this region," said Cost. "The greatest impact is through close partnerships, and we are committed to making those work."



The latest project developments include:

A Request for Proposals (RFP) for a community redevelopment consultant was approved through the City PSEC (Professional Service Evaluation Committee), and will be advertised for 30 days. The deadline for the RFP was March 11, 2015, but has now been extended to March 25th after a portion of Arlington Road from University Blvd. to Arlington Road was annexed into the proposed CRA boundary at the request of City Council President Clay Yarborough. The CRA (Community Redevelopment Area) will be based on all of the existing neighborhood action plans and vision plans which will be updated in the course of the project. This should be completed and approved by the City Council by December 2015.

A recently completed traffic study by Waitz & Moye, a Jacksonville based civil engineering firm, examined the possibilities of reducing traffic lanes and adding bicycle and pedestrian lanes along University Boulevard and Merrill Road. The study revealed tight corridors that present challenges to such changes. Further options will be explored.

Jacksonville Transportation Authority has designated the University Blvd./Merrill Road corridor as a "Mobility Corridor". They have a solicitation for a consultant to provide insight on two areas of study including, but not limited to, transit enhancements and the Complete Streets program. They expect to have a consultant procured in the next few weeks and will be holding charrettes, or design brainstorming sessions, within the community, possibly in May or June, to get citizen input on the area's needs and desires.



**Dolphin Residence Hall, which will be on land immediately adjacent to the north side of the campus, is a 277-bed housing development with four stories, 70,000 square feet, and a total development cost of \$12 million. The three-wing building is the first new housing construction development for JU in many years and is part of the school's redevelopment of old Arlington in conjunction with the City of Jacksonville. (Source - The Wave, Jacksonville University News Hub)**

# The Communities of Arlington

A monthly spotlight on the building blocks of Arlington

## ARLINGTON WOMEN'S CLUB

Like all vibrant communities, Arlington has a wealth of organizations that meet community needs and provide networking, friendship and service opportunities for our residents. This month we are pleased to feature the Arlington Women's Club.

The Arlington Women's Club has been meeting needs in the Arlington community since 1921 when a group of 14 women met in the home of Mrs. Helen Colcord and decided to formally organize and call themselves the Eastern Shore Women's Club. The new club was born with one purpose in mind: to sponsor a library to serve the Arlington community. In 1952 the organization changed its name to Arlington Woman's Club (AWC).

The club has come a long way in its 95 years. Ultimately the need for a library was met by the county and City of Jacksonville after consolidation, but the club had many other areas on which to focus their energy and resources. As a member of the world-wide General Federation of Women's Clubs, AWC works locally to create global change by supporting the



six areas of arts, preserving natural resources, advancing education, promoting healthy lifestyles, encouraging civic involvement, and working toward world peace and understanding. All this translates into a multitude of benefits for the Arlington community.

While it would be impossible to list all of the good deeds done by the hardworking members of AWC, a select few are:

- Providing two \$1,000 scholarships to deserving area seniors each year
- Supporting Justina Elementary School by serving on the School Advisory Council, providing snack packs for the children, appreciation luncheon for the teachers, and school supplies
- Providing food to the Arlington Food Bank and the Arlington Senior Center
- Providing money and baby needs to the Arlington Emergency Pregnancy Center
- Putting American flags on the graves of veterans in the Arlington Memorial Park cemetery
- Monthly trash pickups along Arlington Road

Club members work all during the year to raise funds for their projects, with the main fundraising activities being a spring garage sale, bridge parties, and monthly Sunday dinners.

General membership meetings are held monthly at the beautiful clubhouse at 5714 Arlington Road, and include interesting speakers, delicious pot luck luncheons and much goodwill, love and friendship among members. Visitors are welcome, but watch out ladies! The energy and enthusiasm of these women will draw you in – all a good thing for Arlington.

# Community Pipeline

## What's happening between Arlington and City Hall

### *Summary Report of the Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC Meeting, February 9, 2015*

#### STAFF REPORTS

**JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office)** – Sgt. Micheal Monts informed the CPAC that YTD property crime is down 15% and violent crime is down 14.87%. Sgt. Monts stated that JSO has not noticed any particular crime patterns or trends in Zone 2. Member Belge informed Sgt. Monts that his neighborhood has had an ongoing vandal problem with a neighborhood park located at the corner on Ashley Manor Way and Fulton Road. The neighborhood has improved the lighting in the park, but vandals continue to cause problems. Member Belge requested that JSO increase their patrols past the park and shine their spot lights into the park.

**Mayor's Liaison** – Dave Roman - guest speaker for the month.

**Duval County Public Schools** – not present

**Regulatory Compliance Department (Code Compliance)**- Elaine Lancaster announced that she and her team have been busy conducting after business hour inspections in the Zone 2. They completed 3 inspections on their way to the meeting and plan to complete 2 additional inspections after this report. Supervisor Lancaster informed the CPAC that they are in the middle of conducting a systematic inspection in the Sandalwood area and they hope to have that completed soon. Supervisor Lancaster also stated that she and her team will be actively working in the Arlington Urban Blight area too. There were a couple of questions about campaign signs. Lancaster informed the CPAC that there are no special exceptions for political candidate signs. All sign violations will be handled the same. It was clarified that you can only have one sign per candidate in your yard, but you can have as many different candidates as you want. Several CPAC members stated that they are concerned about the tires that are being stored all over the property at a tire store located at 6206 Merrill Road, 32211. Supervisor Lancaster stated that she and her team are aware of the problem and that they are working on it. Lancaster encouraged all the CPAC members to call in their concerns to 630-CITY.

**FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green – not present, but asked Rosemary to remind the CPAC that FDOT will hold a Public Hearing on proposed safety improvements along SR 212 (US 90/Beach Boulevard) from F.O.P. Way to east of Ryar Road (approx. 1 mile) including the intersection with SR 109 (University Boulevard). The meeting will be held Thursday, February 19, 2015 at Spring Glen United Methodist, 6007 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32216. The meeting was an "Open House" format between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. to give you an opportunity to review exhibits and talk with Department Staff. A public comment period was held at 6:30 p.m.

**Jacksonville Aviation Authority** – Tiffany Gillem informed the CPAC that the Navy's move to Cecil Commerce Center is going well. To date, the JAA staff has badged over 4000 employees. By June 2015, JAA expects to have all of the entire fleet in Jacksonville and the fleet will have between 12,000 and 18,000 members. At this time the fleet is expected to stay in Jacksonville (at Cecil) for 12 to 18 months. This week at JIA they have a new airline carrier called Allegiant Air and they are providing non-stop service to Pittsburg and Cincinnati. Also at JIA, the Clarion Hotel (on JIA property) has been remodeled and reopened as a Double Tree Hotel; additional information is available on the JIA website. The landscaping at JAXEX is moving along. This week there will be a pre-construction meeting with the contractor to go over the projects details and schedule. There will be a JAXEX Community Advisory Meeting in this room on February 17, 2015 at 9:00 am; all are welcomed to attend.

**Operation Dolphin** – Karen Nashrallah – (see separate article, page 9)

**Housing and Community Development** – Rosemary Wesolowski informed the CPAC that she has reached out to Councilman Yarborough in regard to the CPAC's request in having something named after Johnny Holden at the Reddie Point Preserve. As soon as details are available, they will be shared with the CPAC.

**Planning Department** – Paul Davis stated that he did not have an additional report from the LUZ Subcommittee.

**Public Works** – Steve Long, Chief of Right of way and Stormwater Management – not present

**JaxParks** – Robert Hall – Informed the CPAC that Blue Cypress Community Center will be re-opening from 2-9 pm and he announced that they are looking to partner with a group to assist with programming. If you know of anyone, or if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Hall at 255-7933 or RHall@coj.net

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



*Old Arlington, Inc., is a 501(c)3 tax exempt, non profit organization formed in July, 1993 to promote historic preservation and community revitalization in the Arlington area.*

## *Join Old Arlington, Inc. Today!*

To join or renew your membership for 2015, click on [www.mkt.com/old-arlington-inc](http://www.mkt.com/old-arlington-inc) for online processing, or you may print the form below and mail a check to:  
**Old Arlington, Inc., P.O. Box 15304, Jacksonville, FL 32239.**

### **OLD ARLINGTON MEMBERSHIP FORM— JOIN TODAY!**

Annual Membership Dues (circle one)

**Single (1 person) \$25.00**  
**Family \$35.00**

**Senior (1 person) \$20.00**  
**Friend \$250.00**

**Business \$100.00**  
**Sponsor \$500.00**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

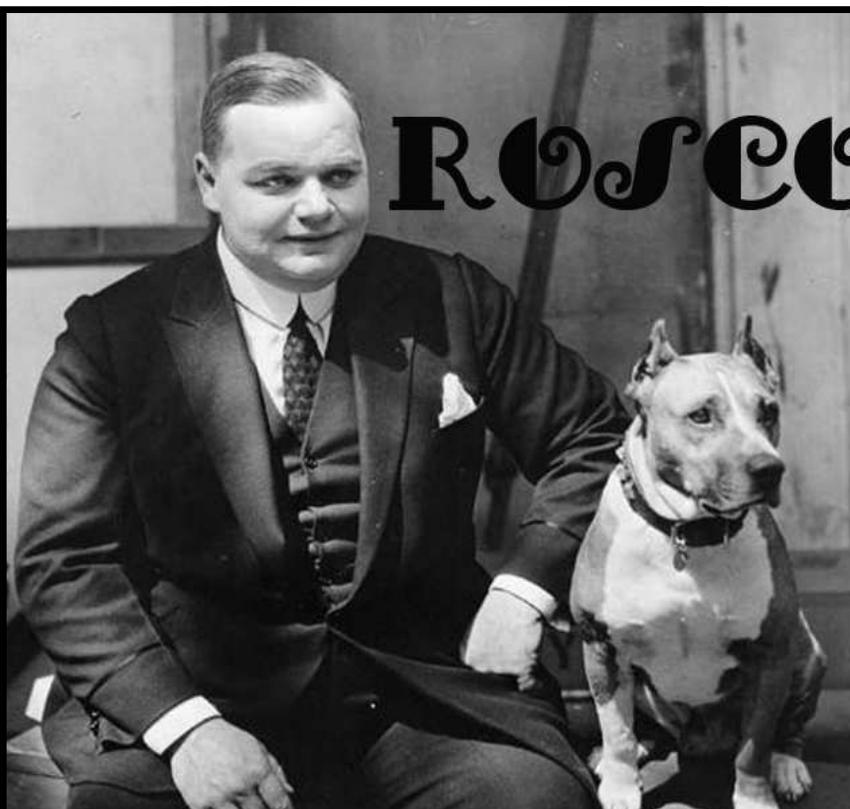
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home/work/cell): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (1 or more): \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to volunteer for OAI projects       I/we have memorabilia or pictures we wish to donate to the OAI Archives

*Please complete and place in envelope with check and mail to: Old Arlington, Inc. P.O. Box 15304 Jacksonville, FL 32239*



Norman Studios Presents

# **ROSCOE & LUKE**

Sunday, April 12

Fatty's Faithful Fido  
Fatty's Chance Acquaintance  
Fatty's Plucky Pup

Starring Roscoe Arbuckle & his famous four-legged friend, Luke

~

*In support of Mad Cowford's  
Comedy for Critters  
Saturday, April 18  
Benefitting Friends of Jacksonville Animals*

www.normanstudios.org



# AD LIB TOURS OFFERING TOURS OF OLD ARLINGTON

When Old Arlington, Inc. member Ann Burt took the Jacksonville “Top to Bottom” walking tour of downtown Jacksonville offered by Gary Sass of AdLib Luxury Tours, she knew she had to get him over to Arlington. For years OAI had been researching the history of the area and even developed tours itself showcasing Arlington’s history. But if Arlington’s history was going to be presented on a regular, on-going basis, it would require a professional approach.

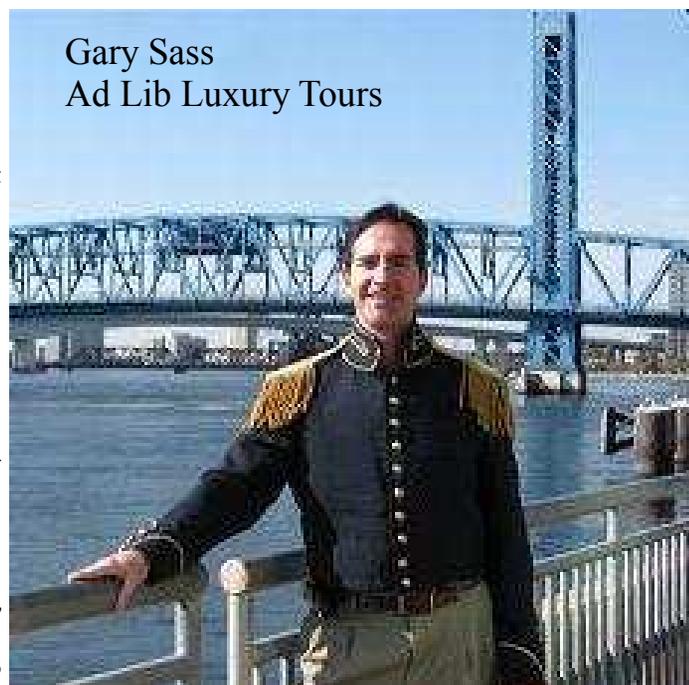
“The history of Arlington began unfolding to me after I became involved with OAI in 1999 and their efforts to save the Norman Silent Film Studios. With the

publication of Dr. Dan Schafer’s book *Anna Madgigine Kingsley, African Princess, Florida Slave, Plantation Slaveowner* in 2003, I realized Arlington’s history is not only fascinating, but of national significance. But when I mentioned this to most people, even those who lived in Arlington, the response would be something like, ‘I didn’t know Arlington had history!’”

So after personally experiencing Arlington and months of research, AdLib Tours offered their first Arlington tour in May, 2014, with additional tours running through January, 2015. The upcoming tour scheduled for May 13, 2015, immediately set a company record by selling out within 24 hours. Tour guests meet their personal guide 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 to disembark is at Reddie Point Preserve. Tours last for three hours and private groups can be arranged.



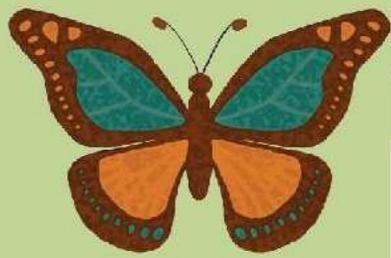
Guests visit the historic Marabanong mansion on Ad Lib’s tour of Old Arlington



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. The owner, Gary Sass, was honored two times by the North Florida Hotels Association with a ROSE award for Service Excellence.

The next Arlington tour offering will be August 5, 2015. You can reserve your spot by calling AdLib at 904-827-1845.



# 2015 Joseph A. Strasser Butterfly Festival

**3:30pm live butterfly release!**  
**Animal encounters!**  
**Bounce house! Face painting!**  
**Local vendors! Garden tours!**  
**And more!**



**10:00am to 4:00pm**     \$5 adult  
**7152 Lone Star Road**     \$4 senior/military/student  
**904-724-4646**             \$3 kids 3-17  
   Under 3 and Tree Hill members

**Saturday, April 25th**



**TREE HILL**  
nature center

A BRUSH WITH  
*Nature*

A PLEIN AIR PAINTING EVENT  
APRIL 16 - 18, 2015



Randy Pitts "Across Lake Ray" 8 x 10 oil on linen panel, Private Collection



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens is once again hosting A Brush with Nature, a juried plein air painting event, where over 30 of the region's finest landscape artists will set up their easels to capture the essence of the Arboretum's beautiful settings. From Thursday, April 16, 2015 through Saturday, April 18, 2015, the artists will paint their favorite scenes from locations throughout the 120-acre site. Visitors can stroll along the trails to watch and interact with artists as they work. There will also be artists' demonstrations, guided nature walks, food, live music and art activities for children.

# Community Pipeline

(Continued from pg 11)

## Mayor's Office Presentation to the Greater Arlington - Beaches CPAC

February 9, 2015

### **Presentation:**

Dave Roman, Mayor's Liaison, City of Jacksonville, informed the CPAC that Jacksonville officials and LISC have committed \$35.5 million to improving housing and infrastructure in some of the city's most chronically struggling neighborhoods. The project is called Renew Jax. Some of the goals of Renew Jax will include road and drainage improvements, water lines, sidewalks, septic system changes in more than a dozen areas of the city, to improve and expand housing opportunities, promote economic development and job creation, and strengthen families. The initiative will empower neighborhoods and improve quality of life. The projects will mingle \$20 million from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, (LISC), with \$15.5 million the city assembled from federal and state funds and the city's stormwater fee.

On February 11, 2015, at 10:00 am, Mayor Alvin Brown, Tim Cost, JU President and Arlington City Councilmembers will meet at the University Branch Library to roll out the Renew Arlington plan. For those that will not be able to attend the meeting, Renew Arlington is focused on rejuvenating private investment by designating a specific section within Arlington as a Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) with a Redevelopment Trust Fund. For a 20-year period, all new revenues generated from increased property values in the redevelopment area would be dedicated to economic development, housing, infrastructure and other projects that benefit the Arlington area.

Mayor Brown has also developed the Jacksonville Community Empowerment Days. The goal of the Empowerment Days is to bring service providers (faith based, non-profit, for profit and government services) from throughout the community and put them directly into the neighborhoods of the residents that need them. The goal is to strengthen families and communities. The Community Empowerment Day in Arlington will be held on April 18, 2015 from 10 am – 2 pm at Caroline Arms Apartments, 6457 Fort Caroline Rd.

The Urban Parks Initiative will also impact the Arlington community. Last year, JaxParks hired a number of retired and active coaches for an 8 week period to focus on 10 parks. The coaching staff were assigned 2 part time teens to staff parks and to organize and referee activities/games for the kids. This year, the program has been expanded to 18 parks and in the Arlington area, Bruce Park will offer these opportunities to the neighborhood kids.

Mr. Roman also mentioned that Parks Department is actively hiring for summer positions at most parks and for a variety of different programs. Applicants must be 18 years of age, unless they are a certified lifeguard.

Five additional community centers will be opening and in the Arlington area, Blue Cypress Community Center will be re-opened in the near future. At Blue Cypress Community Center, they are looking to partner with for-profit and non-profit agencies to offset the expense. The goal of the Blue Cypress Community Center is to offer an afterschool program and mentoring center from 2pm to 9pm.

In Arlington they are also looking to expand Teen Court and the Neighborhood Accountability Boards at Terry Parker High School. These programs follow a restorative justice model, allowing students to be accountable for their mistakes through sanctions such as public apologies, community service, and other rehabilitative measures. Successful completion of these requirements means they avoid a criminal record that could otherwise foreclose future educational and employment opportunities. An overwhelming percentage of students not only fulfill the requirements, but also take to heart the lessons they learned through the experience. 92 percent of juveniles who appear before Teen Court and Neighborhood Accountability Board in Duval County successfully complete the program. Of those students, 91 percent are not rearrested within the next year. Statewide, these programs boast a 4 percent recidivism rate, the lowest of any Florida juvenile justice program.

Waterproof Jacksonville will return and Mr. Roman is currently working with Woodland Acres Elementary School in effort to hold the program there again this year. The goal is to have 4 summer schools involved with this program and to teach kids to swim in effort to reduce drowning.

## CLEVE'S CORNER - HELEN COLCORD (Continued from pg 7)

Richard Steeves was paid 25 cents/week to deliver notes to Mrs. Colcord (50 cents if he called her "Aunt Helen"). Like the Johnson family at Tree Hill, "Mrs. Colcord had a dairy and delivered milk [but], with a Franklin car to Eggleston, and different parts of Arlington, and a children's home...we have to tip our hats to her."

The Club was federated in May 1922 and was a chapter of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs with Mrs. Colcord serving as Chairperson for Section 4 of the State. On October 7, 1926, the club received correspondence from the General Federation of Women's Clubs; a campaign requesting endorsement and assistance in "securing recognition of the Home and the Home-maker in the Census of the United States." Subsequently, the Home-maker classification for an "occupation" was added to the 1930 Census. They assisted the Florida Legislative Council, organized in 1921, with FL House Bill NO. 1001, an amendment to the 1919 "Mother's Aid" bill reducing the residency requirement for eligible recipients from four years to one.

In 1929, one year before her husband's death, Mrs. Colcord submitted a resignation letter as the Civics Chairperson of the Library Board due to complete exhaustion. The meeting minutes in June reflect a "NO" vote "Not to accept...but, to offer her a vacation so long...as she feels she needs it...Mrs. Wendt could substitute in her absence." There are notations in the diaries of Sarah Louise Bruce Johnson dated April 8, 1942, that "Mrs. Colcord [had] gone to Connecticut", reflecting a possible return to Watertown where her husband is buried. Another notation, dated January 14, 1943, depicts a phone call received from Mrs. Colcord. There is an undated resolution, during Elizabeth Petrinovich's term as Club President (1942-1945) honoring Helen Colcord's death, "...called to eternal life in the realm of the blessed and righteous, and whereas, in her passing, our Club has lost a valuable member, friend and co-worker."

## MyJax App Now Available

Your mobile connection to City of Jacksonville services, allows you to:

- ⇒ Report concerns such as blight, potholes, missed garbage collections, animals and a host of other issues
- ⇒ Pinpoint the issue location using GPS, attach photos and receive automatic status updates from your smart device
- ⇒ Link directly to the City's social pages
- ⇒ One-touch dialing
- ⇒ Access to other City mobile apps
- ⇒ Look up garbage and recycle schedules



For download links, click on <http://www.coj.net/mobile-apps.aspx>