



# Champion Great NEIGHBORHOODS

QUARTERLY UPDATE FY2017

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## Free Federal Income Tax Help Available Throughout Arlington

As Arlington residents get their documents in order and prepare to file, the Library is ready to help. All Arlington Public Library branches offer a variety of tax resources.

AARP Tax-Aide is returning to the Arlington Public Library to answer tax questions and prepare tax returns. This program is free and confidential. No registration is required, but patrons are seen on a first come, first served basis. Taxpayers are advised to arrive early in order to be seen. AARP Tax-Aide volunteers will be at Library locations from February 1 to April 18. More information at [www.arlingtonlibrary.org](http://www.arlingtonlibrary.org).

## New! Ask Arlington App Makes it Easier for Citizens to Report Problems

Spot a stray dog, a pot hole or litter along the street? The new Ask Arlington app makes notifying the City about these problems quick and easy.

The City of Arlington has officially launched the app, free for Android and Apple devices. Through the Ask Arlington app, users can report common complaints such as overgrown weeds and grass, barking dogs or vehicles parked in a yard. Apartment tenants can also turn to the app to report conditions such as insect infestations, no air conditioning or heat, or lack of hot water, for inspection.

The app allows users, who can remain anonymous, to upload photos and videos to provide City departments more information about the issue they are reporting.

Users can also track the real-time progress of how their complaint is handled, including whether a notice of violation was issued.

“We encourage residents to report problems they see, whether it’s a burnt



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## Ask Arlington App, cont.

out street light, graffiti or a dilapidated fence, to help the City keep our neighborhoods, parks, streets and business areas safer, more attractive and clean," Marketing Communications Manager Jay Warren said.

City officials say the Ask Arlington app is a convenient alternative to the Action Center hotline, 817-459-6777, which receives more than 350,000 calls a year.

"There's no wait time," Action Center Manager Gil Mesa said. "The app is user friendly and very intuitive. Hopefully this will encourage more citizens to become involved and contact us."

The app also makes it easier for non-English speaking residents to make a complaint, Mesa said. Users can submit their information in one of more than 100 languages, which will be translated by the app into English for the City. Responses will also be translated to the user's chosen language.

The Ask Arlington app aligns with the City Council priorities to Champion Strong Neighborhoods and Put Technology to Work by tapping into existing smart device technology to create another way for citizens to become involved in the health of their communities.

Examples of requests include:

- Overgrown weeds and grass
- Request assistance locating a water or sewer line before digging
- Nuisance vehicles
- Overhanging tree limbs
- Loose animals
- Dead animals
- Burned out streetlight
- Traffic signal not working
- Street sweeping
- Trash out early
- Water main leaks



# Highlights

## Unity Arch is Newest Addition to Entertainment District Sculpture Trail



Unity Arch, the newest addition to Arlington's Entertainment District Sculpture Trail, glitters in the sunlight from its hill overlooking Globe Life Park and AT&T Stadium.

The stainless steel infinity sculpture, installed this week in Richard Greene Linear Park, stands nearly 14 feet tall and 25 feet wide and is covered with a mesh made of reflective metal plates.

Renowned artist Owen Morrel said he came up with the design for the sculpture by wrapping chicken wire around a football. But Morrel said he wants to leave the meaning of the piece up to the individuals who view it.

'Unity Arch' is a gathering place for people of all ages and backgrounds. Through the language of pure geometry it creates space where the mind can travel and question, where conversation can emerge between strangers, and positive, inspiring energy called, "Community Spirit", can flourish," Morrel said.

Morrel's Unity Arch was selected out of 21 proposals as the best representation of the community spirit supporting Arlington's growing Entertainment District, which is home to the Texas Rangers, the Dallas Cowboys and the Six Flags Over Texas and Hurricane Harbor theme parks.

Arlington Mayor Jeff Williams said Unity Arch embodies the "can do" attitude of the city and its residents.

"And where better to showcase that "can do" attitude than in our Entertainment District, which took the passion and spirit of our residents to build. Arlington: the American Dream City, is based on our incredible diversity, aspiration and educational opportunities. The Unity Arch symbolizes this through art and

# Updates

## Renovations Begin at Chester W. Ditto Golf Course in North Arlington

A total course renovation, under the direction of famed course architect John Colligan, commenced at Chester W. Ditto Golf Course in mid-December 2016.

The total redesign is expected to take approximately 10 months to complete, with an anticipated re-opening date scheduled for late fall 2017. Renovation includes a complete re-routing of the course, improved turf grasses for the new tees, greens complexes, bunkers and many other updates to benefit all golfers. Colligan will also oversee the expansion of the water collection/retention pond, and the planting of drought tolerant species, to aid in irrigation efforts and water savings.

The new layout will stretch 7,000 yards for low-handicap golfers and potential collegiate events, and feature five sets of tees to ensure a great playing experience for golfers of all ability levels. An expanded driving range and practice facility will allow for additional private instruction and group lessons for adult and junior golfers.

Financing of the renovation comes from multiple sources, including 2008 and 2014 bond funds. Area golfers are encouraged to visit Tierra Verde, Lake Arlington and Meadowbrook Park Golf Course during the closure.



we are proud to have it as one of the foundations of our Richard Greene Linear Park.”

The Entertainment District Sculpture Trail was conceptualized in 2011 when Super Bowl XLV was hosted here in Arlington, Texas. Six years later, this idea is now a beautiful reality.

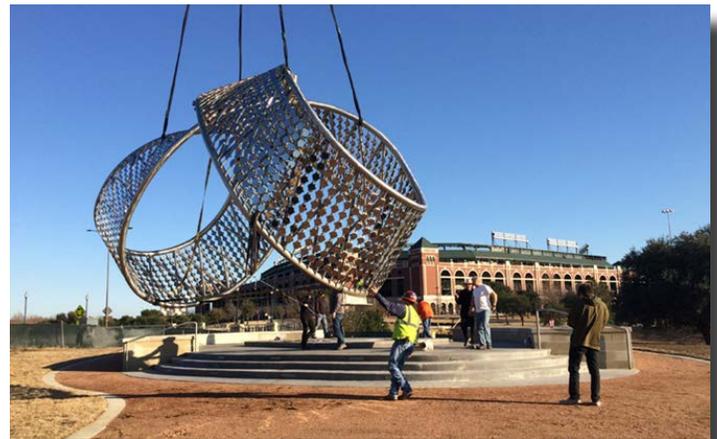
The Sculpture Trail, which spans the length of both the Richard Greene Linear Park and Robert Cluck Linear Park, provides a unique combination of art, nature, and architecture that can only be found here in The American Dream City.

Upon build out, the Sculpture Trail will showcase 15 and 20 sculpture sites at any one time.

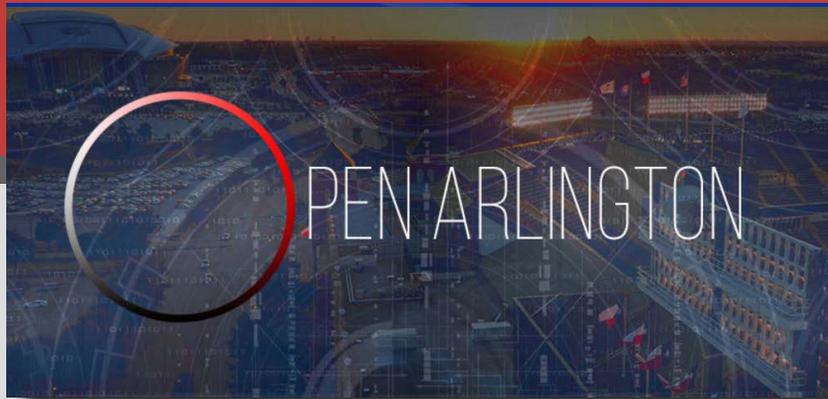
“Art is an important piece of any community,” Assistant Parks Director Gary Packan said. “If we can continue to work to expand that within our park system to celebrate people and events that have happened in Arlington through sculptures, it’s an exciting opportunity for our parks to become more engaging for our residents.”

The artwork for the trail is determined by the Sculpture Trail Committee, which is comprised by members from the City of Arlington, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, Texas Rangers, Dallas Cowboys, University of Texas at Arlington and local artists.

A formal dedication ceremony for the Unity Arch sculpture is tentatively scheduled for April.



# By The Numbers:



In January, the City of Arlington launched the website [www.openarlington.com](http://www.openarlington.com) to be a central clearinghouse for accessing, visualizing, and interacting with public open data sets. It is designed to make it easier for users to find and download information ranging from zoning cases to permits issued.



# 22,000+

the number of permits issued by the City in the last three years

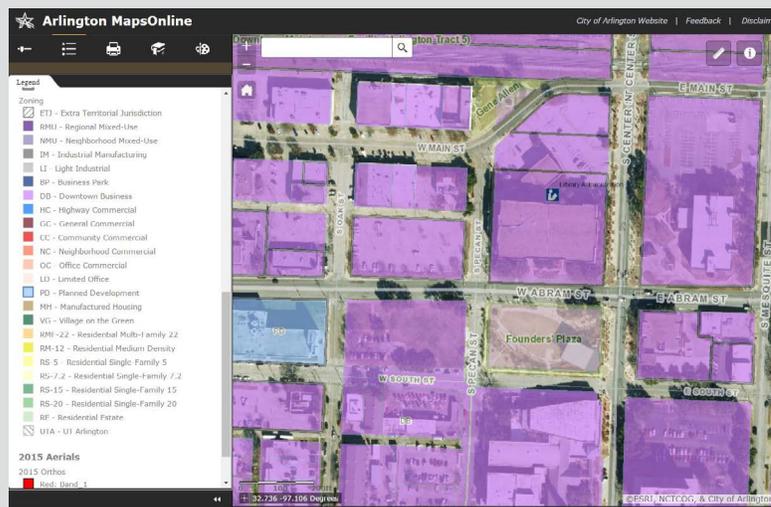


# 25

datasets available - & counting!

# 8

different categories of data to explore



# 4

new applications for accessing quarterly permit data, transformative project updates, Arlington Census data, and property-specific mapping technology

# 1

central location for city data

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