



# Champion Great NEIGHBORHOODS

QUARTERLY UPDATE FY2016

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## In This Issue

- Page 1 Neighborhood Matching Grant | Neighborhood Program Update
- Page 2 NEW Block Party Trailer | Star of Texas Public Art Project
- Page 3 Inaugural Homeownership Fair June 25 | Texas SmartScape | NEW Camp Viridian
- Page 4 By The Numbers - Get Involved!

## Ten neighborhoods awarded Neighborhood Matching Grants

On April 26th, the Arlington City Council approved projects in ten neighborhoods throughout Arlington to receive a Neighborhood Matching Grant to make improvements in their neighborhood.

In all, over \$168,000 will go back into Arlington neighborhoods to benefit over 5,600 households for improvements such as entryway signage, street toppers, landscaping, and street lights.

To learn about how your neighborhood can be a part of the next Call for Projects, visit [www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods](http://www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods), or email [neighborhoods@arlingtontx.gov](mailto:neighborhoods@arlingtontx.gov).



## Arlington Neighborhood Program Updates

The Neighborhood Program is intended to engage residents with their neighbors, community, and government in a meaningful and impactful way to improve the quality of life for people living in Arlington. The Neighborhood Program will continue traditional components, including neighborhood planning, the Neighborhood Matching Grant, and the Neighborhood Network, while developing new and valuable tools for empowering neighbors in their community.

Neighborhoods throughout Arlington can stay informed of new development and zoning cases by registering for the Neighborhood Network. Neighborhoods not currently registered in the Neighborhood Network can be added to the database by completing the registration form at [www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods/organizations](http://www.arlington-tx.gov/cdp/neighborhoods/organizations).



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# Highlights



## Introducing the NEW Block Party Trailer!

The newest initiative of the Neighborhood Program is the Block Party Trailer. FREE to all registered neighborhoods, the Block Party Trailer includes everything needed to host a neighborhood 'block party'-style event including

- picnic tables,
- folding tables,
- chairs,
- games,
- street barricades,
- trash and recycling cans,
- water coolers,
- ice chests

Neighborhoods can reserve the trailer and City staff will deliver it to a designated location in the neighborhood on a Friday afternoon before a scheduled weekend event, and will pick up the trailer on the following Monday.

Let the City make your next block party be the best one yet!

Make a reservation for your neighborhood to use the Block Party Trailer at [www.arlingtontx.gov/blockparty](http://www.arlingtontx.gov/blockparty).

## “Star of Texas” Project Inspires Arlington Residents to Dream Big

“The Star of Texas” project, officially unveiled by the Arlington Museum of Art as an exhibit in November 2015, celebrates the city’s brand, Arlington: The American Dream City, with each star positioned throughout Arlington’s Cultural Arts District, Downtown area, the Entertainment District and many other places in the city.

The six-foot fiberglass stars were designed by local artist Chris Cunningham, and artists throughout Texas were invited to submit their interpretation of how they would depict what makes Arlington the American Dream City.

The City’s Office of Communication and the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation have produced a video story for each artist, telling the story of their American Dream and the inspiration behind the artwork of their respective star.

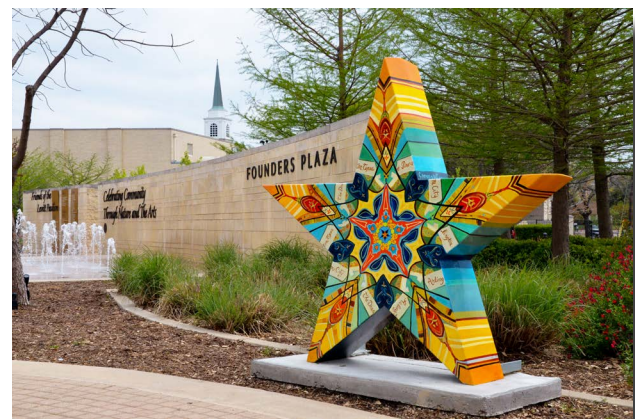
There will eventually be 20 stars placed throughout Arlington. So far, 17 stars have been installed. Learn more about the stars and their artists by visiting the City’s YouTube channel.

“These stars are raising awareness of the cultural arts and the creativity and talent of many local artists here in Arlington,” said Chris Hightower, executive director of the Arlington Museum of Art. “The overwhelming interest in the Star of Texas project has been really positive and we’re hopeful these stars will encourage people to dream big.”

The \$150,000 project was made possible by donations, including \$50,000 by each the Arlington Tomorrow Foundation and Women Inspiring Philanthropy.

In April 2016, the City of Arlington’s Facebook and Twitter pages introduced a scavenger hunt encouraging people to visit and take pictures in front of every star, sharing them on the City’s social media pages using the hashtag #StarofTexas. Once complete, each resident will receive an Arlington: The American Dream City t-shirt.

For more information on the Star of Texas exhibit, and all other exhibits featured by the Arlington Museum of Art, please call 817-275-4600.



# Updates

## Inaugural Homeownership Fair June 25th

This event will offer attendees informational sessions with industry professionals on topics such as homeownership in today's real estate market, down payment assistance programs, mortgage lending, credit repair, foreclosure prevention, affordable housing programs, weatherization, energy savings, insurance, city home repair programs and more.

Lunch will be provided and attendees are encouraged to register online in order to win door prizes. Activities for school-aged children will be available for this family friendly event. For more information, visit [www.arlingtontx.gov/homeownershipfair](http://www.arlingtontx.gov/homeownershipfair).



## Texas SmartScape Plant Sales

Learn how to use native and adapted North Central Texas plants in your yard, get tips from master gardeners, plant experts, and irrigation specialists by attending one of 22 workshops throughout the DFW Metroplex, or visiting the Texas SmartScape website at [www.txsmartscape.com](http://www.txsmartscape.com).

*Did you know?*

*Native plants conserve water while attracting birds, bees, and butterflies to keep your yard beautiful!*

*#ChampionGreatNeighborhoods*



## Arlington Parks and Recreation Announces New Camp Viridian

A brand new adventure awaits at Camp Viridian this summer! This will be the inaugural year for this outdoor adventure Summer Day Camp and it is kicking off with a bang.

Camp Viridian offers a safe and fun program that focuses on the development of outdoor skills through activities, field trips, guest speakers, and additional attractions. Program activities will include sailing, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding, geocaching, and more. There will never be a dull moment with all of these exciting activities.



"I have over 15 years of experience running summer day camp programs but have never seen a camp with so much to offer," said Derek Debusk, Camp Director and Arlington Parks and Recreation Facility Manager. "With fishing, archery, sailing, kayaking, and more I think the biggest challenge we will have all summer is getting the children to go home."

For more information and to register, contact the Dottie Lynn Recreation Center at (817) 277-5001.

# By The Numbers: Get Involved

Great Neighborhoods depend on neighbors who are active and involved in their community, and spring is a great time to find a new way to give back, and be a bigger part of your Arlington!

**171** the number of bags of trash picked up by 170 volunteers during the Annual Lake Arlington Spring Cleanup



**\$3 million**

the amount of funds needed to purchase furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new George W. Hawkes Central Library.

Learn more at [www.arlingtonlibrary.org/donate-now](http://www.arlingtonlibrary.org/donate-now)

**9** the number of Adopt-A-Spots that have been adopted of 12 available spots since the pilot program started in June 2015. 3 spots are left to adopt in Council District 1. Learn more at [www.keeparlingtonbeautiful.com](http://www.keeparlingtonbeautiful.com)



the number of City departments that are always looking for volunteers, including Parks & Recreation, Animal Services, and Library. Learn more at [www.arlington-tx.gov/volunteer](http://www.arlington-tx.gov/volunteer)

**7**

**4** the number of partner organizations that you can volunteer with in Arlington, including the Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Arlington Museum of Art, Volunteer North Texas, and Mission Arlington



[www.arlingtontx.gov/volunteer](http://www.arlingtontx.gov/volunteer)