

Arlington prepares to become a Better Hometown community

The city of Arlington is preparing to earn certification as a Better Home Town community. One of the many standards the community must meet is for the board members to attend required

training. Ann Arnold, director of the Downtown Development Authority of Rome, came to Arlington to provide a very informative training Friday, July 17.

In attendance for the training were board members Lee Conner, Linda Halford, Susannah Cowart, Tonya Buie, John Williams and Paschal Brooks. Also attending

were Jean Bostwick, concerned citizen, Sonia Buie, city council woman, and Tami Fincher, Downtown Development Authority manager of Arlington.

Arlington is planning to improve the sidewalks and historical buildings. The second phase of the depot hopefully will soon be started. Naming the

“Patchwork Community” with the focus to be surrounding quilts, their history and artistry is just one of the many ideas the DDA Board is discussing.

The DDA meets the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. and the public is always invited to attend. For more information call Tami Fincher, DDA manager, at 725-4276.



Board members attending Better Hometown training included, front row from left, Sonya Buie, Tonya Buie, Paschal Brooks and Susannah Cowart; and back row from left, Tami Fincher, Linda Halford, Lee Conner and John Williams.

Clarke

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Six Flags backfired. Like the origins of the family joke.

Yes, we have a family joke. It ain't real funny, to be honest. But it has endured for years.

What do you say to a deaf rabbit?

“HEY, RABBIT.”
OK, perhaps that loses something in print. Nonetheless, the stories are all priceless. In so many ways, they tell the history of our family.

I'm afraid, though, that the stories are in danger of dying off. We've already lost my grandmother, my great Aunt Cecile and my Aunt Ann, who all were great storytellers, not to

mention the subject of more than few great stories themselves.

So many of the stories I only vaguely remember. I'm missing key details. For instance, I don't remember exactly what it was Uncle Bubba crashed into when he reached for the missing limb.

I want to know those details, so I'm going to do something about it. I'm going to contact the family and let them know that when we next get together, probably at Thanksgiving, I want to begin a project of collecting audio recordings of these family stories.

My mother points out a potential problem. It's

possible that family members will remember some things differently, and we'll end up with three versions of the same story. But three versions is better than no versions.

I don't really know what I'll do with these recordings. I doubt anyone would buy a book of these stories. Besides, I'm not sure the statute of limitations has run out on some of them.

But I want them kept alive, and I hope the family wants them kept alive, too.

Mitch Clarke is executive editor of The Times in Gainesville, Ga. He can be reached at mclarke@gainesvilletimes.com.

School's In!
DRIVE SAFELY

Date of Notice — July 13, 2009
NOTICE OF REQUEST TO REZONE

Present Zone Classification:
Planned Unit Development

Proposed Change To: Commercial
674 Ft. Gaines Street

There will be a hearing before the Blakely Planning Commission:
July 20, 2009
6:00 P.M.
City Hall Annex

A public hearing will be held by the City Council:
August 4, 2009
6:00 P.M.
City Hall Annex

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WEEKDAY EDUCATION PROGRAM
will have Orientation Tuesday, Aug. 4 at 6 p.m.
Classes starts Wednesday, Aug. 5 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. daily

Children must be three years old by Sept. 1, 2009.

We use the Christian-based A Beka Curriculum in our program. Children get the opportunity to explore and learn new things every day. They are lovingly encouraged in health habits, letters, numbers, music, computer skills and many other social and learning skills.

Theresa White, Teacher • Aimee Ingle, Assistant Teacher
Anyone interested can go by the church office or come to the orientation.

Early Bird Service Offered from 7:45 A.M. TO 8:45 A.M.
Please call the church office at 723-3448 for further information.

You've got to admit it, we love our teams.

Whether they hit home runs, score touchdowns or slam dunk the ball, we give them our support and loyalty.

There's a team in your hometown that turns it around and gives you support and loyalty....your local independent agent and Auto-Owners Insurance Company. As a neighborhood agent we work on your team to provide the best coverage at the right price.

Ask us about *Safe. Sound. Secure.*® coverage from Auto-Owners Insurance Company.

Auto-Owners Insurance

Collier Insurance
150 Court Square • Blakely • 723-3423
Heather Warfield, Buddy Lucas - Agents

— NOTICE —

The Early County School Board does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Early County Middle School on August 18, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

CURRENT 2009 TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

COUNTY SCHOOL	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Real & Personal	276,631,257	282,372,495	279,898,243	472,911,412	476,742,059	483,226,603
Motor Vehicles	40,038,450	34,504,880	32,484,640	33,969,140	33,968,810	35,884,660
Mobile Homes	5,658,911	5,620,792	5,543,685	6,912,677	6,695,445	5,634,156
Timber - 100%	3,958,812	3,667,513	3,712,448	6,310,103	4,028,023	2,720,222
Heavy Duty Equipment						
Gross Digest	326,287,430	326,165,680	321,639,016	520,103,332	521,434,337	527,465,641
Less M&O Exemptions	38,665,661	49,115,068	45,878,219	87,710,738	119,879,040	143,903,534
Net M&O Digest	287,621,769	277,050,612	275,760,797	432,392,594	401,555,297	383,562,107
State Forest Land Assistance Grant Value						22,251,814
Adjusted Net M&O Digest	287,621,769	277,050,612	275,760,797	432,392,594	401,555,297	405,813,921
Gross M&O Millage	16.000	16.00	17.500	13.500	15.000	15.000
Less Rollbacks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net M&O Millage	16.000	16.000	17.500	13.500	15.000	15.000
Total School Taxes Levied	\$4,601,948	\$4,432,810	\$4,825,814	\$5,837,300	\$6,023,329	\$6,087,209
Net Taxes \$ Increase		-\$169,139	\$393,004	\$1,011,486	\$186,029	\$63,879
Net Taxes % Increase		-3.68%	8.87%	20.96%	3.19%	1.06%