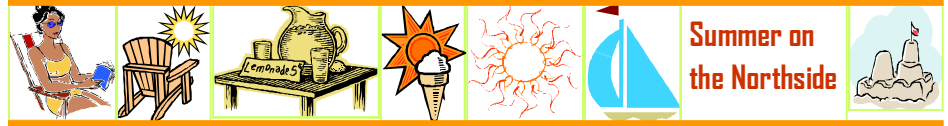


At Home in the Community



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Major Changes for Golfair Boulevard

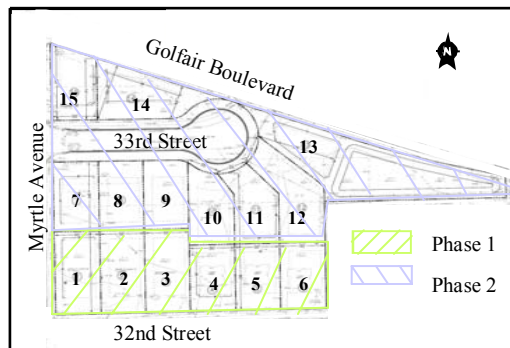


This vacant home is the future proposed site of NJCDC's office and community meeting center.

For a long time, 29th and Chase Residents have struggled with the Civista Inn on Golfair Boulevard. The site was known for prostitution and drug activity. Recently, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, in combination with other community groups, shut down the Civista Inn. The closing of this major

eyesore is only one of the significant changes taking place on Golfair Boulevard.

NJCDC has its hands in the Golfair facelift as well. 1122 Golfair Boulevard is the proposed future site of NJCDC's office building, and the new subdivision, Golfair Estates, will be located at Myrtle



This is the proposed site plan for Golfair Estates, NJCDC's single-family homeownership development at Myrtle Avenue and Golfair Boulevard.



The Civista Inn on Golfair Boulevard has been shut down and represents a major community victory over slum and blight.

Avenue and Golfair Boulevard.

It is the hope of NJCDC and community members that Golfair Boulevard will continue to improve and that slum and blight will be eliminated. As a next step, NJCDC proposes cleaning up the abandoned service station directly in front of the Civista Inn. Together, we are changing the community.



The abandoned service station in front of the hotel should be the community's next target for revitalization.

“Over 100 community residents came out to receive community services information.”

Health and Neighborhoods Day 2005

The first annual Health and Neighborhoods Day was a resounding success for NJCDC and the 29th and Chase community. Over 100 community residents came out to receive community services information from various non-profit organizations and

participate in the free grocery giveaway.

Social Service organizations came to the event and set up tables displaying their information for community residents. Most resi-

dents agreed that the information was helpful and relevant to them. NJCDC organized the grocery giveaway through the Second Harvest Food



Board Members Aileen Williams and Willie Alexander volunteered their services at Health and Neighborhoods Day.

Bank.

The idea behind Health and Neighborhoods Day is to bring needed services into the heart of the community. Many residents do not realize what services are available

through non-profits and city organizations. NJCDC recognized the lack of education and awareness and addressed it with the fair.



Project Manager Dara Davis shares NJCDC information with a fair guest.



This vacant lot at Stuart and 27th Streets will be the site of NJCDC development in the near future.

Summer Sales Frenzy

Summer is usually a slow, hot season, but at NJCDC we're on fire! Since June, we have closed on three homes, and two more are expected to close in September. At the same time, new construction is occurring throughout the target area.

NJCDC will begin construction shortly on two homes in the Grand Park Community. This is an exciting addition to

NJCDC as all past development has occurred in the 29th and Chase Community.

Of course, the most significant NJCDC development to date will begin construction this fall: Golfair Estates. The 15 single-family home development is well underway in its planning stages, and pre-selling of homes has already begun.

NJCDC is set for the sales frenzy to continue even as the weather gets colder!



3625 Stuart Street is one of NJCDC's new homes.

My Life as an Intern *An Interview with Bailey Damico*

Tell us about yourself.

My name is Bailey Damico, I'm 15 and attend First Coast High School. I'm in the ninth grade.

Why did you volunteer at NJCDC?

I wanted to learn new things, earn community service hours, and have something to put on my resume.

What have you learned in your time here?

I learned what community development is and how NJCDC operates. I have enhanced my communication skills, especially over the telephone.

What was your greatest challenge?

My voice is soft and I sound young on the phone, so it was hard for me to make people realize that I am mature and professional.

What is your favorite NJCDC memory?

There were so many good times, and I can't really think of any bad memories, which is a good thing. I had a lot of fun at the last Open House and thought some of the meetings I went to were very interesting.

What are your future plans?

My future plans are to go to college and major in pharmacy. I will always be involved in community service activities like this one.



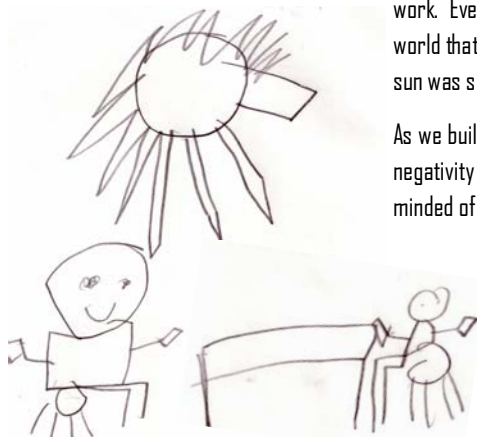
Project Manager Dara Davis with Intern Bailey Damico.

Executive Director's Corner

My Child's Eyes

By Paul Tutwiler
Executive Director

The eyes of our children are forever upon us. They gather strength and encouragement from us. I was reminded about the careful detail that my children pay to me by one of my children's artwork. Sitting at my desk working steadfast upon my never ending duties, he handed me his drawing for the day. I had to pause and



By Alan Tutwiler, age 6

smile. He had witnessed me playing cards over the weekend with friends. The joy we expressed in the neighbor-



Executive Director Paul Tutwiler notes the importance of being good role models for our children.

hood gathering was evident in his work. Everything was perfect in the world that he witnessed. Even the sun was shining inside the house.

As we build community and fight the negativity all about us, let's be reminded of those around us that we affect as we go about our daily lives. Let's resist the temptation of dashing the bright sunshine and changing it into overcast skies of gloom and doom

....murder and despair.

When I was teaching middle school several years ago, I had a rather impassioned conversation with a student about his belief that every adult uses illicit drug. He refused to believe that every adult does not use drugs because his mother, step father, older siblings and neighbors did so. The entire world of his influence was drug users. Imagine if his support cast were advocates for higher education and quality employment or simply advocates of good citizenry. This young man would have had a greater chance of being a productive citizen rather than part of a host of social problems that continues to plague our community.

My fellow community, I challenge you to remember that "Ghetto is a frame of mind and not a place."

"Imagine if his support cast were advocates for higher education and quality employment or simply advocates of good citizenry."

Board Member Spotlight

Mr. Willie Alexander

Willie Alexander is not a Jacksonville native, but he has a long history in this city. Born in a small town outside of Tallahassee, Mr. Alexander came to Jacksonville to attend school. The town in which he was raised did not have its own school; white children were bussed to other towns, but black children had nowhere to go. So Mr. Alexander attended 12 years of schooling in Duval County, including attending Stanton High School when it was

located on Ashley Street

From high school, Mr. Alexander received a degree from Xavier University in New Orleans and later a Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Southern California. He was drafted into the army after graduating from Xavier University and ended up working in California. He worked as a pharmacist in California and Florida before retiring from full-time work in 1992. He has three children and three grandchildren who currently reside in

California.

Today, Mr. Alexander is dedicated to neighborhood improvement. He lives in the house his parents owned on West 23rd Street. He participates actively on the NJCDC board of directors because he sees housing development as the best way of improving the appearance of the community. He is looking forward to the Golfair Estates Development starting and knows that he will continue working towards neighborhood improvement.



Board Member and Area Resident, Willie Alexander.

NJCDC

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At Home in the Community

Northwest Jacksonville Community Development Corporation (NJCDC) improves the quality of life in our neighborhood in a way that embraces economic diversity, makes businesses eager to invest, honors area history, and creates a thriving community for families since 2001.

Congratulations to our newest homebuyers!



Ms. Thornton

Ms. Vivica Thornton

Ms. Diahann Sutton

Ms. Kamala Druamabo



Ms. Sutton

Welcome Home!

Looking Back on a Year of Service

By Katie Prevatt

I joined NJCDC's staff in September of 2004 as a LISC AmeriCorps Member, and I had absolutely no idea what I was getting myself into. As my year of service draws to a close, I reflect on how I have learned and grown during my time. When I started the year, I spent about two months wondering what the big deal was about community development and where exactly I fit into the picture. Around month three, something clicked.

First of all, I began to understand the importance of community development, most importantly that it truly is community-driven. NJCDC does not just talk about working in the community's interests; it truly does. Our board members come from the com-

munity and they ensure that NJCDC's actions are improving the neighborhood in a responsible way. Grass-roots support and drive are what make NJCDC, and all community development corporations, uniquely successful.

Where, then, did I fit into the big picture? NJCDC's major thrust is housing, and it is successful. When we refer to *community* development, however, we must refer to the complete redevelopment of the *community*; not just its housing stock, but its citizens. That is where I played my role: I became an advocate for and honorary member of the community.

I met people in the community who welcomed me and supported me. I am grateful for the acceptance and gra-

teousness of the members of the 29th and Chase Community, who allowed me to join their association and plan crazy-sounding service projects and meetings.

Of all the things I learned this year, what I will carry with me is the importance and power of community. The people I met showed me that commitment to a cause can bring change. I also discovered that every single citizen of a neighborhood must do his or her part. Change doesn't come about from complaining; it arises from planning, action, and cohesiveness. These are the lessons I have learned this year, and I thank Jacksonville LISC, NJCDC Staff and Board, and Community Members for giving me the privilege of spending a year serving this community.

