

Christine Nixon with James Lantelme, Chair, Arlington County Civic Federation Executive Committee

## Chris Nixon April 13, 2012

Most of us are familiar with the programs of the Neighborhood Conservation Program and its Advisory Committee which was initiated by the County Board in 1964. Since its inception, literally hundreds of neighborhood projects – sidewalks, curbs and gutters, streetlights, neighborhood parks and beautification -- amounting to millions of dollars, have been approved and implemented.

The program gives neighborhoods the opportunity to identify desired improvements, go through a peer-related review, comply with all applicable country rules and regulations and have their projects presented to the County Board for approval. Funds for these programs are approved by voters as part of the County's Capital Improvement Program.

Forty-nine neighborhoods compete to have their projects approved and funded by the County. Balancing the demands of competing neighborhoods while educating them in the nuances of County code and regulations, and finally coordinating with the County departments responsible for implementation is a challenge.

All of this has been done with a remarkable degree of diplomacy and competence. Fortunately for Arlington, we are lucky to have such a dedicated and competent individual to serve not only as the NCAC Coordinator since 1997, but as Chief of the Neighborhood Services Division since 2006.

It is therefore with particular pride and pleasure that we acknowledge the service of Chris Nixon in making Arlington and its neighborhoods some of the best in the country.