

No one like you. No place like this.

**ARTS
AND MUSIC**

**MOCA: Ongoing through Aug. 29
'Tradition Redefined': The Brenda
and Larry Thompson Collection of
African-American Art**

More than 72 works by today's leading African-American artists that document the many expressions of the African Diaspora
MOCA Jacksonville, a cultural resource of UNF
333 N. Laura St.
For days, hours and ticket information, call (904) 366-6911.

**Wednesday, July 7
7 p.m. - Liminal Collusions Live @
MOCA-Jax**

Gainesville sound artists Andrew Chadwick and John David Eriksen come together in a rare collaboration on Art Walk night at MOCA.
333 N. Laura St.
Free
Call (904) 620-1284 for more information.

**COURSES
AND SEMINARS**

**Wednesday, July 7 - Wednesday,
Aug. 11
6:30 - 9 p.m. - Introduction to
Drawing**

Learn to draw or enhance a skill that can bring a lifetime of enjoyment. Over the course of six weeks participants will be introduced to the basics of drawing through demonstration and practice the basic techniques of still life, landscape (weather permitting) and photographs.
University Center
Cost: \$109
Call (904) 620-4200 or e-mail unfce@unf.edu for more information.

**Tuesday, July 13
6 - 8 p.m. - iPad, iPhone and
the App Store**

See how two pieces of today's portable technology can change the way you interact with the world. Discover tips and tricks to maximize your enjoyment and productivity.
University Center
Cost: \$29
Call (904) 620-4200 or e-mail unfce@unf.edu for more information.

**Thursday, July 15
6 - 9 p.m. - Practical Photography -
Hands-on Workshop**

This three-hour hands-on workshop will lead participants around the grounds of the UNF University Center. The instructor-scripted shots will illustrate camera settings. The workshop is intended for digital photographers with intermediate experience.
UNF University Center
Cost: \$39
Call (904) 620-4200 or e-mail unfce@unf.edu for more information.

**Monday, July 19 - Thursday, July 31
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - PMP Boot Camp**

This intense, three-day review class will prepare you for the knowledge areas, processes and professional responsibilities of the Project Management Professional Certification Examination.
University Center
Cost: \$549
Call (904) 620-4200 or e-mail unfce@unf.edu for more information.

**Monday, July 26 - Thursday, July 30
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - SAT Preparation -
Summer Institute**

The right preparation for the SAT positively affects test scores - research proves it. By taking an intensive training program away from the worries and distractions of classroom tests, homework, and peer pressures, students can focus on honing the skills they need to maximize their test results.
UNF University Center
Cost: Early Bird - \$425; After July 12 - \$449
Call (904) 620-4200 or e-mail unfce@unf.edu for more information.

**Tuesday, July 27
6 p.m. - How to STARTUP Your
Own Business**

This workshop gives an overview of the seven basic requirements for business STARTUP: selecting an idea, testing the market, acquiring capital, writing a plan, turning for help, understanding legal requirements, and putting it all together. Registration fee includes a start-up kit for Duval and surrounding counties.
University Center
Cost: \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door
For more information or to register go to www.sbdc.unf.edu or call (904) 620-2476.

**RECREATION AND
SUMMER CAMPS**

**Monday thru Friday,
Ongoing through July 23
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Eco Camp**

Campers in three age groups (6-13) will participate in activities such as hiking, canoeing, exploring nature and identifying wilderness life on campus. The camp also includes swimming.
UNF Campus
Cost is \$225 per week, with discounts offered to UNF students, faculty, staff, multiple children, and military and multi-week sessions. Early drop-off and late pick-up options are available for an additional \$20 per week per child.
For more information, visit www.unf.edu/recsports or call (904) 620-2998.

**Tuesday, July 27 - Saturday, July 31
Eco Camp Expedition**

The Eco Camp Expedition is a weeklong camping and canoeing trip for campers ages 12-16. Campers will have to work as a team to flat-water paddle down the Suwannee or St. Marys River. A pre-trip meeting will be required the Sunday prior to departure.
Cost is \$625.
For more information, visit www.unf.edu/recsports or call (904) 620-2998.

Parking for most events is \$3.

To receive an electronic update of UNF events, sign up for UNF Update, the monthly e-newsletter that keeps readers informed of lectures, concerts, theatrical performances, sporting events and more. To subscribe, e-mail a request to jkwillia@unf.edu.

For more information,
visit the UNF Web site:
www.unf.edu/calendar
or call (904) 620-2125



Our Town

It's no small irony that the city's effort to revitalize older commercial neighborhoods is called the "Town Center" program. Named in 2000, when the Jacksonville City Council originally approved spending \$12 million to spruce up struggling commercial corridors, the project was in many ways an effort to combat the economic impact of places like the *other* Town Center — the upscale mall off Butler Boulevard.

Conceived around the same time as the city program, Town Center [the mall] incorporated many of the aesthetic and historic touches that Town Center [the program] championed: a walkable "Main Street" feel, attractive lighting and streetscaping, pedestrian-friendly promenades. Town Center [the mall] is, in fact, the apotheosis of destination consumerism, which has proven a drain on smaller, older commercial centers — exactly the problem Town Center [program] hoped to counteract.

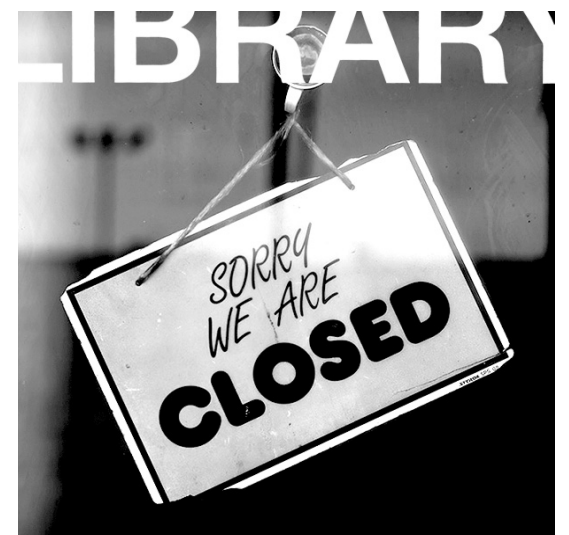
Ten years on, both Town Center undertakings have enjoyed success. The mall has expanded, and thrived so emphatically that — like Regency Mall before it — has rechristened an entire area of town. Meanwhile, Town Center [the program] has seen 11 projects completed, including the *original* Main Street, in Springfield, which has been spiffed up with trees and historic lighting.

But even as the city invests in revitalizing neighborhood centers, it is simultaneously undercutting the viability of some of the community's

lawmakers and newspapers with letters, and are planning a protest march and rally. According to Nancy Morgan, one of the group's founders, the city's treatment of the library is simply "unacceptable. ... Why kick these people who are already down?"

The 40-year-old library is small, tidy and constructed — as nothing is anymore — flush against the sidewalk, as accessible as an open book. Though it is closed for large chunks of the day now, on one recent morning it fairly bustled, with African-American kids, white-haired ladies, and a couple of young professionals who looked like they'd stepped out of a J. Crew catalogue — the very picture of demographic diversity.

The library is valuable not just for who it serves inside its doors, but how it serves the



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richest and most powerful neighborhood institutions — branch libraries. Last week, the city slashed operating hours at five community libraries, and the same five are first in line for permanent closure in next year's budget.

To no one's surprise, those libraries are located in economically struggling and politically marginal communities. Most of the neighborhoods are home to troubled schools, targeted by Mayor John Peyton's literacy initiative. Some are in high-crime neighborhoods, targeted by the city's Jacksonville Journey program. One is located in the New Town Success Zone, a targeted effort that aims to improve education and health outcomes for kids in seriously at-risk communities. And one — the Murray Hill Library — is smack-dab in the middle of the \$1 million Murray Hill Town Center project.

This last, out of all the affected libraries, has elicited more than a blip of outrage. A community group has formed in response to the cuts, and already claims 350 members. They've held meetings, begun peppering

rest of us. By remaining open, it staves off urban decay. It helps a neighborhood the city admits needs help, it creates cohesiveness in a place the city wants to stay together, and it prevents blight from settling on a place the city has spent more than a million dollars trying to revitalize.

And it does so at a cost of only \$107 an hour. The city's financial crisis is real, but it makes no sense to destroy with one budget decision the very places that the city has spent millions trying to revive with other budget decisions. The residents of Murray Hill have too much invested in their library, Jacksonville taxpayers have too much invested in Murray Hill, to sacrifice the beating heart of this Town Center. □

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A march and rally to save the Murray Hill Library will be held Thursday, July 1 at 7 p.m. at the Murray Hill Presbyterian Church. See p. 39 for event details.