

In Arlington ...

Star-Telegram

The only Arlington council race without an incumbent is that for Place 3, and property manager Robert Rivera is the most qualified candidate in that contest.

Rivera's devotion to Arlington has been consistent, evident and of high quality. His volunteerism has ranged from serving on his homeowners association board to stints on the library board and the Convention and Visitors Bureau board. He's been a big brother in Big Brothers and Big Sisters and helped create an annual gala benefiting The Women's Shelter.

He's also well-grounded in some of the essential industries of Arlington, having been a former chairman of the Convention and Visitors Bureau and a member of the Great Southwest Industrial District board. He's a current director of the Arlington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He was also a member of the 2025 Futures Committee, which means that if elected he'll show up on the council fully versed on future problems and possibilities.

Few candidates for public office in Arlington have ever had as distinguished a record of community service or been as well-prepared for public office as Rivera.

The *Star-Telegram* recommends **Robert Rivera** for District 3.

Incumbent Councilwoman Kathryn Wilemon has been a witness to many of Arlington's boom years and strongly feels that the city is about to begin an era of consolidation and redevelopment during which economic development and quality-of-life issues will be pivotal.

She's absolutely on target.

Before election to the council, Wilemon was frequently called upon for other forms of community service, ranging from leading bond election drives to serving on the Tarrant County Hospital District board.

She's consistently been tough-minded about spending public dollars yet creative in developing strategies. She's a powerful community asset.

The *Star-Telegram* recommends the re-election of **Kathryn Wilemon** in District 4.

Politicians tend to have ambitions for self or ambitions for the entity they serve. District 5 Councilwoman Lana Wolff's ambitions for Arlington to become a mecca for economic opportunities and quality-of-life amenities are immense and persistent.

This was true before Wolff joined the council -- her record of community service is exemplary -- and remains true today.

Wolff also has a talent for breaking problems and opportunities down into their simplest components -- for lining up objectives and then relentlessly pursuing outcomes. She's also an excellent value seeker who sets high standards for public service.

The *Star-Telegram* recommends the re-election of **Lana Wolff** in District 5.

Incumbent Councilman Gene Patrick has been emphasizing strong interest in a couple of specific areas recently.

First, he'd like to reconfigure the current planning and zoning operation into two separate functions as opposed to the current blended situation, in which items that should not be arbitrary sometimes become so.

And he also wants to develop a solid set of standards for redevelopment of the city's central core, including mixed-use development. Appropriately, this strategy recognizes that redevelopment can be a considerably different animal from conventional development and must be recognized as such.

If Patrick can be instrumental in achieving just those two pragmatic goals during his next term, he will be greatly lauded. Patrick tends to be something of the resident visionary on the council. He's a terrific idea man who also can draw the lines between actions today and results a decade or two or three years hence. That's a valuable skill.

The *Star-Telegram* recommends re-election of **Gene Patrick** in District 8.