

LINCOLNVILLE NEWS

Keeping you informed of what's happening in St. Augustine's historic Lincolnville.

SPRING 2016 • ISSUE 5

New Lights in Lincolnville

By: Regina Gayle Phillips

Under new leadership the Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center will come alive in May and June with art, music and theatre. The LMCC's mission is to preserve, protect and promote the historic and cultural heritage of Lincolnville and St. Augustine with emphasis on the African American experience, as a depository of history, art and culture. The museum's board has new leadership, the first since its inception in 2007. Floyd Phillips, recently replaced Lincolnville native, Otis Mason as president of the board of directors. Phillips is working to bring new enthusiasm to the historic venue through art, theatre music and lectures.

1. "Sweet Emmaline," an original play by Deborah Dicky about the Lincolnville native Debbie McDade, aka Debbie Moore, a graduate of the Excelsior school in which the LMCC is housed, debuted on Mother's Day. A Classic Theatre, Inc. a local non-profit group which brought a Tea with Zora and Majorie to the LMCC last February, produced the play exclusively at LMCC, May 8 - 12.

2. A Sunday Afternoon in Lincolnville by The Write people present "A Look at Lincolnville Today," June 12 at 2 pm featuring Lee Weaver, a local playwright and Mama Blue a jazz and blues songstress. Other members of The Write People, including LMCC board member Dr. Dorothy Israel, will participate in a writers theatre.

3. New exhibits and artifacts are being added to the collection of Lincolnville history which will include regional and national items relative to the African American experience.

4. Music, mainly jazz, blues and gospel events will become a part of the Lincolnville experience as LMCC remembers the days of Odd Fellows Hall and other clubs' influence and impact on the people of Lincolnville and the struggle for equality.



President, Floyd Phillips in Main Museum Gallery



USO Dance at Catholic Hall on MLK Ave. 2

Lincolnville was once a hub of activity and entertainment for African Americans in St. Augustine when dances and concerts were held at Odd Fellows Hall on Washington Street and other locations. The people of Lincolnville lived, shopped and socialized mostly within the confines of the area once known as Little Africa, out of necessity. This was mainly because of Jim Crow laws that led up to the civil rights struggles of the 50s and 60s. Prior to that, many Lincolnville residents were a part of mainstream city operations going back to the late 1800's after the Emancipation Proclamation before Reconstructionists ushered in segregation laws.

Phillips a retired insurance executive, is working to raise awareness of the LMCC, restore and repair the upstairs portions of the building for community use, programs and exhibits, and build stronger coalitions with community based groups. "It will take the combined efforts of the entire community to take ownership of the legacy of Lincolnville through volunteerism, financial support and donations of historical memorabilia to promote an appreciation of its rich heritage," Phillips said.

The LMCC is open to the public Wednesday through Friday from 12:30 to 4:30. Private group tours available by appointment. Phillips says he hopes to expand hours when more volunteers come on board. Although much of the second floor of the building needs renovations, there are several areas open for rental for community and private events. A fundraising campaign is underway to make the necessary repairs to the building, beginning with the upcoming programs. Other events include the dedication of a "Power Figure" by Joe Segal, one of the Compassionate St. Augustine 450 commemorative obelisks, recently donated to the museum.

For more information, contact Phillips at 904 824-1191

website: www.Lincolnvillemuseum.org

email: FriendsofLincolnville@gmail.com

Lincolnvile Community Garden Phase II Underway

By : President, Cash McVay



Phase II expansion area

The Lincolnvile Community Garden (LCG) was built in 2009 and recently made a small Phase 2 expansion. The garden plans to fill this area with fruit trees to create an edible grove. The Phase 2 area will

also be home to a small apiary. A special thanks to Hardwick Fence for giving the garden a nice price to install the fencing and for donating a portion of the needed materials. On behalf of everyone involved with the LCG, we also convey a heart-filled thank you to the Dillard family for the generous donation...a donation that allowed the LCG to make this expansion. We'd also like to thank local, City fight fighter and master gardener Guerry Bradley for helping the family connect with us to find a place at the LCG to plant a beautiful Maple Bonsai tree in honor of their son Holden.

The LCG continues to find ways to expand it's offerings to our community. The St Augustine Sunrise Rotary, one of the LCG's sponsors, recently installed a Little Free Library at the garden. L'Ville resident, rotarian & LCG member Rusty Hall helped sponsor this installation. Pedro Menendez High School's Architectural & Building Design students are building these great libraries and spreading them, with Rotary, throughout our community. Thank you Rotary for all the wonderful kindness you do for our community and internationally!



Pictured in photo are Sue Agresta, Judith Seraphin, Kathy Mignerey, Mike Rosenberg, Carolyn Mudgette, Stephanie Helburn, Cash S McVay and photo taken by Brian Miller.

◆ ◆ ◆ LETTER FROM THE LCRA STEERING COMMITTEE ◆ ◆ ◆

New Steering Committee Member Introduction: Nathan Baer

By : Nathan Baer

LCRA Steering Committee

Vice-Chair

A few years ago, my wife and I began scouring the coast in search of our new home, and we quickly fell in love with St. Augustine and all of its charm. Our desires of living downtown were met with a short list of possible houses in our desired price range. Almost giving up hope, we stumbled on our future home, right here in Lincolnvile. Many of the reasons why we fell in love with this neighborhood included the trolleys passing by our home several times a day, wonderful neighbors who stopped by frequently to encourage us as we worked on our new abode; in addition to, the convenient proximity of everything downtown.

Now I have become one of the newest members of the Lincolnvile Community Redevelopment Area Steering Committee, and I am enthusiastic about the direction and growth of this wonderful community.

Although I have not lived here for very long, I hope to bring a fresh perspective to the committee, and a fresh set of ears to hear what you, the residents of Lincolnvile have to say. In my career, I have had the privilege of visiting 95% of the states and a fairly large percentage of the cities within these states.

During my time away, I have learned a lot about community and the people in those communities and what seems to work as the city grows and on the contrary, of what doesn't seem to lend a hand in the development of each area.



I have experienced some of the attributes of each city and how it impacts the people who live there on a day-to-day basis, as well as the tourist coming into the city to escape from their day-to-day routines. I am looking forward to assisting in the redevelopment of Lincolnvile while holding onto the town's historic distinctiveness.

Over the next few years, I look forward to working alongside the rest of the committee and you, the people who reside in this place we all call home. I hope to meet many of you at our next meeting at the Willie Galimore Center at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. Come on out and let your voices be heard!

Sincerely,
Nathan Baer

Community Bulletin Board

BRONZE BUST UNVEILED



Pictured are Ms. Cora Tyson (Housemother of the Civil Rights Movement & ACCORD VP), and tourists from Hethzibah, GA: Felita Williams, Fred Childers, and Tory¹

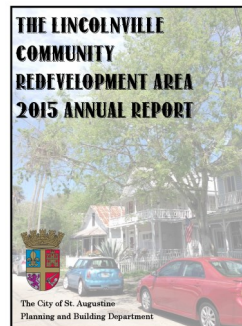
On April 4, 2016: the 48th Anniversary of the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during a ceremony, at the ACCORD Civil Rights Museum and after a moment of silence, this Bronze Bust was unveiled at 6:00 PM. The Bust was donated by Potter's Wax Museum and Dave Chatterton, General Manager of Historic Tours of America to ACCORD, Inc. for their assistance in the creation of the Dr. King wax figure and to bring awareness to the ACCORD Civil Rights Museum: the first and only civil rights museum in the State of Florida. This bust was made from the original mold of the wax statue of Dr. King, which is on display at Potter's Wax Museum, St. Augustine, and FL. Dalonja M. Duncan, President of ACCORD; Mrs. Cora Tyson, ACCORD VP, "Housemother to the Civil Rights Movement of St. Augustine", and friend of Dr. King; Gwendolyn Duncan, President Emeritus; Mayor Nancy Shaver, COSA; Rev. Richard P. Burton, Sr., ACCORD Public Relations and Financial Director; David Nolan, local historian; Dave Chatterton; Monty Trez, sculptor; news reporters, tourists from Georgia (pictured), and a packed house of citizens were on hand for the ceremony.

NEW LINCOLNVILLE BUSINESS—THE PRESERVED RESTAURANT

Preserved Restaurant opened in April and occupies the old M&M Market building at 102 Bridge street. Purchased in 2014 from the City, the building was extensively renovated and moved south on the lot to allow landscaping and parking. Preserved specializes in Southern cuisine, serving lunch Tuesday through Thursday, brunch on Sunday, and dinner throughout the week. Closed on Mondays. Contact: 904.679.4940



THE LCRA ANNUAL REPORT



A comprehensive report of the Lincolnville CRA's redevelopment activities from the 2015 fiscal year is now available. This report provides an overview of the LCRA's funded projects and programs from the past year, as well as a financial statement. The report may be viewed online at the City's website (staugustinegovernment.com) or paper copies may be picked up at the Planning and Building Department (75 King Street, Lobby B, 4th Floor).

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN LCRA MISSION STATEMENT

The LCRA Steering Committee is seeking public input regarding the development of its mission statement. This mission statement should be a brief description of why the LCRA exists, what it does, and whom it serves, as well as incorporate a sense of the vision and values of the LCRA. Four example mission statements for the LCRA may be viewed on LCRA's webpage within the City's website (staugustinegovernment.com). Comments and suggestions are encouraged and should be sent to Erin Minnigan at eminnigan@citystaug.com. A follow-up discussion regarding the mission statement, including the public's input, will be part of the next LCRA Steering Committee meeting on Monday, June 6 at 7:00pm at the Galimore Center at 399 Riberia St.

Lincolnville CRA Information

THE LINCOLNVILLE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Lincolnville Redevelopment Plan guides the actions of the Community Redevelopment Agency, as it outlines the overall goals for the neighborhood's improvement, as well as the specific redevelopment projects and programs. You can find the Lincolnville CRA Plan online at the City of St. Augustine's website: www.staugustinegovernment.com, under "My Government", "City Boards", and then "Lincolnville CRA Steering Committee"

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nicholas Noloboff (Chair)
Nathan Baer (V-Chair)
Reverend Rory Hermann
Carolyn O. Wright
Theresa Segal

MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and take place on the **first Monday of every month at 7pm** at the Willie Galimore Center, 399 Riberia Street

CONTACT US

To contact the Lincolnville CRA, please call or email Erin Minnigan at: 904-209-4283 or eminnigan@citystaug.com

City of St. Augustine
Lincolnville Community Redevelopment Area

FIX-IT-UP & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The City of St. Augustine Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) has designated two home repair programs to help residents in the Lincolnville Area with essential home repairs. The Fix-it-Up Program provides up to \$7,000 for minor repairs, and the Emergency Assistance Program provides funding up to \$10,000 for immediate emergency repairs. The program is funded by the CRA for eligible households. Eligibility review and construction services are provided by the St. Johns County Housing Partnership, Inc.

PROGRAM BASICS

Both programs are intended to assist low-income, owner-occupied households with essential home repairs. The home must be within the boundaries of the Lincolnville CRA. Applicants will have to meet all eligibility requirements administered by St. Johns Housing Partnership, Inc. Available funds will be prioritized for life and safety essential repairs.

APPLICANTS MUST BE APPROVED BY THE CITY BEFORE ANY PROJECT IS STARTED.

St. Johns Housing Partnership, Inc. will evaluate the application after inspection of the home, prioritize the repairs needed and perform the work as an independent contractor. Existing materials will be replaced with similar materials to preserve the architectural integrity of the structure whenever possible.

For application information, call St. Johns Housing Partnership, Inc. at (904) 824-0902



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