



# HISTORIC VINEVILLE

## Neighborhood Association

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### **Letter from the President**

by Maureen McCullough

Thank you for being a member of the Vineville Neighborhood Association. As a member you receive the neighborhood newsletters, invitations to all the socials and other special events and opportunities to serve our community. The VNA socials allow neighbors to get to know one another and our service projects, such as the monthly cleanup, help us to come together for the betterment of our neighborhood. Our mission to create an atmosphere that promotes community would not be possible without your continued support.

Our VNA board members are hard at work behind the scenes. We have met the challenge of a matching gift to our Facade Loan Fund, which brings the total amount of money available for loans to \$20,000. The Facade Loan money is managed by Historic Macon and available to residents of Vineville. Also, we are still working on improvements at Oak Haven Park, including a climbing structure for children to be installed this year. To welcome new residents to Vineville, we have gift bags available which you can either pick up and present to your new neighbor, or you can simply give the membership committee the name and address and someone will make the delivery for you. Our properties committee members are vigilantly seeking to maintain the integrity of the neighborhood and to find ways to improve it.

(continued on page 2)

## 2017 VNA Board

### Officers

President—

Maureen McCullough

Vice President—

Erin Lake

Treasurer—David Higdon

Secretary—

Ellen Finkelstein

Historian—

Barbara Stephens

### Committee Chairs

Membership—

Yvonne Stuart

Social—Erin Lake &

Lynda Brown

Monthly Clean-Up—

Barbara Stephens

VineIngle Alliance & Oak

Haven Park—Lars

Anderson

Properties—Ron Lemon

Newsletter—Cindy

Glance

### Members-at-Large

Travis Blackwell

Brad Coman

Michael Caputo

Jared Cozart

Elizabeth Hyde

Angie Jeter

Lee Magnum

Bryant Pardue

Lauren Ragusea

Rennazzo Tharpe

Katherine Waldrop

Janet Williams

### Gazette Staff

Jonathan Glance

## Letter from the President (continued)

Our Yard of the Month sign is hopefully inspiring us to work on our yards so we might get the coveted sign in front of our house one day. Our quarterly newsletter offers the opportunity to keep neighbors informed of what is happening in the neighborhood. There are plans for a Ladies Night Out and an Oktoberfest celebration in the fall so that we can get together and get to know one another. Finally, we are working on the 2017 Historic Vineville Christmas Tour of Homes to be held December 2 and 3.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in any of the areas I have mentioned, please contact me at [maureen2676@gmail.com](mailto:maureen2676@gmail.com), and I will connect you to those in charge.

## Welcome New Neighbors

The Membership Committee wants to welcome new neighbors to the Vineville Neighborhood. If you have a new neighbor please send name and address to: Yvonne Stuart @ [vonniestuart@gmail.com](mailto:vonniestuart@gmail.com)

## VNA mourns our loss

Travis Blackwell, VNA Board Member, passed away unexpectedly Friday, August 3. The entire board is greatly saddened by his untimely death. Travis and his husband, Lee Magnum, have been very active board members since January 2017. A memorial service to commemorate the life of Travis will be held at the Macon Little Theatre on August 26 at 2:00 pm. Travis will be missed by many people in our community. We send our heartfelt condolences to Lee and Travis's family and friends.

# 2017 Historic Vineville Christmas Home Tour

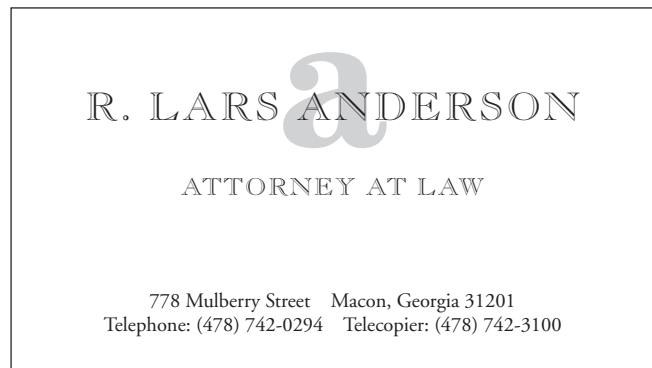
Saturday, December 2 (11:00 - 5:00)  
& Sunday, December 3 (1:00 - 6:00)

By Maureen McCullough

Mark your calendar, save the date, and get ready to participate in our bi-annual Christmas Tour of Homes! The tour showcases our neighborhood as families graciously open their homes and welcome visitors to Vineville. For forty years the Vineville and Intown neighborhoods have alternated years hosting the Christmas home tour.

In 2015 we welcomed over 800 people to Vineville during the tour. We are hoping this year will be as well received and are working hard to make it happen. In addition to the homes, visitors will get to visit the Big House Museum and Strong Tower Church. The trolley will be available to transport tour goers both days. Finally, we are planning several featured events, including a special lunch at the Back Burner restaurant on Saturday.

The tour is a great opportunity to show off our beautiful and eclectic neighborhood. We hope you, as the members of VNA, will invite your friends and family to the tour and promote it throughout the community. We will need volunteers to help during the tour and to do some cleanup prior to the tour. Join us this December and help us make this a fantastic event for the Vineville Neighborhood!



## Social Events Update

By Erin Lake

The social calendar is amping back up after the summer hiatus. As a recap, in June, Jeff and Mary Virginia Gage hosted our Porch Party where over 75 neighbors were in attendance. Attendees enjoyed barbecue, libations and conversations aplenty on the historic home's sprawling front porch. We were also pleased to welcome several new neighbors at this party.



Many thanks to Jeff and Mary Virginia for opening their doors and allowing us to enjoy their newly restored 100+ year old home.

For autumn and the holiday season, we're working on several events:

- Neighborhood Soiree, TBA in September
- Tailgate & Football on the Big Screen in Oak Haven Park, TBA in September
- Oktoberfest, October 14
- Movie Night in the Park, TBA in October
- Ladies Night Out, TBA in November
- Holiday Party, TBA in December

We will announce details of the parties on several platforms: Facebook (Vineville Neighborhood Association), Nextdoor Vineville ([vineville.nextdoor.com](http://vineville.nextdoor.com)) and via the associations membership e-mail list. Stay tuned, these exciting event dates and details will be forthcoming soon!



## Update on Oak Haven Park

by Lars Anderson

To mutate and misapply a great historical quote, “when the Macon-Bibb County Commission sneezes, VNA gets a cold.” Thus, this is why there has been no visible progress at Oak Haven Park.

In the last few months, Macon-Bibb’s former County Manager resigned under allegations of certain improprieties. Not surprisingly, the new County Manager has installed new bidding procedures for County projects, including—but not limited to—the bid process for the paved walking path and other installations in Oak Haven Park. To be in compliance with the new bidding procedures, a topographic map has been made of the park which, apparently, is necessary for a proper bid process. With map in hand, the paving project will be rebid and, hopefully, ground will be broken soon.

On another front, an Eagle Scout candidate has accepted the challenge of building and installing a climbing structure in Oak Haven Park. VNA will provide financial support for this endeavor. This young man will design the climbing structure. Shannon Fickling and an engineer will review the design to ensure aesthetic presentation and structural integrity. The candidate will arrange for the delivery of the necessary materials to Oak Haven Park and VNA will underwrite the cost of the materials. At a date to be announced, VNA members will be called upon to assist the Boy Scouts in the construction of the climbing structure.

# Update On The Vineville Facade Loan Program

by Lars Anderson

The Vineville Facade Loan Program enjoyed both continued success and continued growth this past year. This program provides for low interest loans for repairs and renovations visible from the right-of-way for properties located in the Vineville Historic District. Such projects include—but are not limited to—painting, roof repair and/or replacement, and repairs to windows on those portions of the property which, again, are visible from a right-of-way.

There are currently three loans disbursed, and the outstanding principal balance on these loans is \$7,979.18. There is currently \$8,504.92 available for Vineville facade loans, however, there is one loan application presently under consideration. If this application is approved, the amount available in the Program would be \$3,504.92.

Acknowledging both the popularity and importance of this program, the VNA Board recently voted to give \$1,500.00 to the Facade Loan Program to match the challenge grant of \$1,500.00 put forth by Stephen Reichert. With Stephen’s gift and VNA’s matching contribution, an additional \$3,000.00 will be placed in the Facade Loan Program for qualified lenders.

VNA extends its thanks to Stephen for his many gifts to the Facade Loan Program. Without his efforts and contributions, the Facade Loan Program would not be what it is today.



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## VNA Clean-Up

by Barbara Stephens

VNA clean up events generally take place at 9:00 am the first Saturday of the month and last for exactly one hour. For that one hour, we work hard picking up trash, cutting back weeds, raking up debris, painting and doing whatever that month's selected area needs. We often select areas to help with events or projects such as movie nights and parties at Oak Haven Park, special shopping weekends in Ingleside Village, and of course the upcoming Christmas Tour of Homes. After our work is finished we gather to enjoy some home baked goodies and coffee or juice.

To accommodate the Labor Day holiday, we have moved the September clean up to the 9th when we will meet at Oak Haven Park. We will be cleaning in the areas of the VNA Christmas tour in October and November.

Participating is a good way to meet neighbors, get a little workout, talk about interests you have or catch up on what is happening in Vineville. We ask everyone to bring yard tools and gloves and lots of energy. We can always use more help, so please join us for any of the following clean up events.

- September 9, Oak Haven Park
- October 7, Bateman and Wade Parking Lot
- November 4, Vineville Baptist Church Parking Lot—near Hines Terrace
- December, No clean-up—Please help with the VNA Christmas Tour





## Vineville Neighborhood Association Membership Renewal/Subscription

Circle ONE: **Household (\$30)**    **Individual (\$20)**

**Corporate (\$100)** – Includes 2 Memberships & Newsletter Ad

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Partner's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form to:            **VNA**

**P.O. Box 2704**

**Macon, GA 31203**

**Join online at: [Vineville.org/site/join](http://Vineville.org/site/join)**



**P.O. Box 2704**

**Macon, GA**