A Story of Collaborative Community Revitalization:

PINEVALE
The Pinevale neighborhood is largely residential with commercial and industrial uses on the northern edge of the community. The Patterson Street corridor on the western edge of the community is also largely commercial.
The Pinevale neighborhood is the oldest of the seventeen neighborhoods that combine to create the City of Valdosta. With that being said, the housing stock in this neighborhood is both aged and in most cases, substandard or in need of major repairs. In the southeast edge of the community is Hudson Dockett, which is the largest public housing development in the City of Valdosta.
The Pinevale community has a storied history. The former Pinevale-Lomax Elementary School building served as both a junior high and senior high school for the African-American community during segregation before being utilized as an elementary school several years later.
Many large local churches such as Tabernacle Church of Christ, St. James Baptist Church, and St. Paul’s Baptist Church still serve as beacons in the neighborhood.
Along the current Martin Luther King Jr. Drive corridor, formally known as Branch Street, African-American businesses once thrived. Several of the older, and some newer community based businesses still flourish along the corridor, such as Stevens Funeral Home, Scotts and Roberts Funeral Home, Lona and Gladys Meeting Hall and the Winnersville Barber Shop.
The corridor is also the new home of the Valdosta Chapter of the 100 Black Men organization. The group purchased a historic home from the Valdosta area and moved it to a vacant lot in the Pinevale neighborhood. This location currently serve as their chapter’s headquarters and is the hub for their community outreach projects.
A structure that once housed a movie theater, which served the African-American community still stands on Florida Avenue. This site is now the home of The Quality of Life Association (QUOLA), who is renovating the old theater to provide numerous educational and other social services for the community.
Although the plans for revitalizing this neighborhood and other in Valdosta are far from complete, we know in time and with continued collaboration, our community will see the desired change.
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