

# MARTHA MASON HILL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



## NEWSLETTER

Fall 2011

"Promoting Higher Education"

Volume 10 Number1

### 2010 ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM



**Martha Mason Hill**  
1911 - 1985

The Guest Speaker and Community Service Award recipient was The Honorable Roger L. Gregory, the first African American appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit which includes Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. Article continued on page 13.



### 2011 AWARDS PROGRAM



**Dr. Keith T. Miller**  
VSU President

On September 24, 2011, 3:00 pm at Union Grove Baptist Church, South Chesterfield, VA, home church of the late Martha Mason Hill, history will be made. The Foundation announces the MMHMF Endowed Scholarship at Virginia State University (VSU). A presentation will be made to Dr. Keith Miller, VSU President. The 2011 Community Service Award recipients are Dr. Loretta Braxton and Dr. Delores Greene, and the scholarship recipients are April Peterson and Ryan West. A reception followed the program in Union Grove's Memorial Fellowship Hall.

Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation  
MMHMF  
c/o Shirley Baugh  
14 Scenic Circle  
Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520-1658

Congratulations to <b>2011 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS</b>		Congratulations to <b>2011 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS</b>	
<i>Dr. Loretta M. Braxton   Dr. Delores R. Greene</i>		<i>April Peterson   Ryan West</i>	

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*MMHMF is a public all-volunteer organization, exempt from Federal taxes under IRS code sections 501(C) (3).*

**NEW! Email address for MMHMF: mmhmfoundation@gmail.com**

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIRMAN



As I pen this message, I cannot help but think of 2011 as being the year of reflections. Forty-eight years ago, the nation listened to Martin Luther King give his “I Have a Dream” speech. We recently witnessed the culmination of years of work that led to the opening of the King Memorial on the Nation’s Mall – where he joins similar tributes to Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln. Those of my generation undoubtedly reflect upon the civil rights movement of the 60’s, on the words of the various King speeches, of the various sit-ins and other demonstrations in which they participated, and compare where they were then to where they are now. We marvel at how far we have come, but are chagrin at how much work yet remains.

This is also that time of the year when we remember where we were on September 11, 2001. We remember how the Nation came together in the face of adversity (we now wonder where that “togetherness” has gone). 2011 holds special meaning as we reflect upon the power and significance of the recently opened Memorial at the Pentagon and the plans in progress for the Memorials in New York and Pennsylvania. Much has happened since that fateful day in 2001, but I cannot help but ask “What have we learned?” “Are we a better Nation?” “Have we established the right priorities?” Each of us will undoubtedly answer these questions differently. Each of us will probably ask a different subset of questions. But I believe that it is important that each of us reflect and play our part in helping the Nation establish meaningful priorities.

I also reflect on MMHMF – the aspirations that the founders had at the beginning and the progress that has been made in the intervening years. With your help, we have made a significant difference in this community, I believe. The foundation has supported young people who have become successful and have made all of us proud. We have highlighted the contributions of “unsung heroes” who have positively affected the lives of many. The foundation’s focus on education, on children and on community was selected because those were some of the issues that our namesake, Martha Mason Hill, valued and had a passion for. We pray we have done her memory justice. Only you can judge if we have been successful.

Finally, as we come full circle to “fulfilling the dream”, to ensuring that the nation pays the debt that it owes to all its citizens, that the check does not come back marked “insufficient funds”, what will each of us do? Each of us has a responsibility; each of us has a story. The success of the Nation, the strength of the community, is a culmination of all those stories. Our young should hear those stories – they should know that we and our ancestors made a difference. Are you telling your story?

James H. Stith

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### "TO DONATE"

Use the **DONATION CARD** below. **Make checks payable to MMHMF.** Fill in the requested information and mail to: MMHMF, 2013 Clearwood Drive Mitchellville, MD 20721-2511.

Phone: (301) 390-5914 or (804) 590-1493. Email: [mmhmfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:mmhmfoundation@gmail.com).

**100% of your tax-deductible donation goes to support Foundation scholarships and programs. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

### Donation Card

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STREET ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

CITY\_\_\_\_\_ STATE\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_

TWO FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN 2011

Recipient

APRIL PETERSON AND RYAN WEST

The foundation is very pleased to announce that for the first time two graduating high school students were chosen to receive scholarships this year. The recipients are April Peterson and Ryan West, two very promising students.

April graduated, with honors, from Cosby High School in June and is attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is majoring in biostatistics. April was a well-rounded high school student involved in a number of academic, school, community, and sports activities. Her academic affiliations included the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE); the National Honor Society; the National Art Honor Society; Mu Alpha Theta (National Mathematics Honor Society); Health Science Specialty Center (member of the Board and sat on a panel). She was a Student Council Representative; a delegate to Model United Nations; and a member of the Key Club, Beta Club, Red Cross Club, Spanish Club and Varsity Club. She served as a math tutor for Mu Alpha Theta and NSBE. Her sports activities included field hockey (Captain of the team), soccer (Co-Captain), and indoor and outdoor track. She received numerous awards for academic excellence, community service and outstanding athletic performance on the district, metro and regional levels. April participated in Girl Scouts of America and earned several Gold awards. April’s many community service activities included serving as a volunteer at Johnston-Willis Hospital. She was selected to be an intern in the Randolph-Macon College Summer Research Program in Molecular Genetics and worked under Dr. Traci Stevens. April wrote: “Working in this college setting was an outstanding and memorable experience.”

The foundation awards one of its two scholarships to a student who will enter Virginia State University (VSU), the institution that Martha Mason Hill served for 40 years. Ryan West, who is attending VSU, recently graduated, with honors, from Thomas Dale High School. Ryan’s area of study is accounting. A sports enthusiast and athlete, he played junior varsity then varsity basketball at Thomas Dale and served as a scorekeeper for recreational basketball games in his community. Ryan was also a member of Future Business Leaders of America.

The foundation wishes April and Ryan much success as they start their tenure as college students! We look forward to hearing about their experiences at the conclusion of their freshman year.

2010 DONATIONS

—\$50 to \$100—

Mrs. Martha Adams	Chesterfield, VA	Mrs. Naomi Mayo	Aberdeen, MD
Mr.& Mrs. Charles Alston	Aberdeen, MD	Mrs. Jean Miles	Petersburg, VA
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—\$100 to \$200—

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—\$200 to \$500—

Aberdeen Proving Ground FCU	Aberdeen, MD	Mr. Lewis H. Johnson, Jr.	Petersburg, VA
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Mr. & Mrs. Everett Gray	Herndon, VA	Dr. Andrea Stith	Shanghai, China



2011 Community Service Award Recipient  
**DR. LORETTA BRAXTON**

VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer (13 years), **Friends of Chesterfield County Public Library**. Managed financial activities of the organization including maintaining records of income and expenses of the copy and typewriter services provided at each of the nine branches. Managed special programs involving all branches.

Past President (more than 15 years), **Ettrick-Matoaca Friends of the Library**. Coordinates activities of the group in support of library activities and operations. Recruits volunteers and participates in activities for children and adults.

**Coordinator of Community Halloween Party.** Works in cooperation with Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation Department. Recruits volunteers to provide games, activities, prizes and treats for more than 150 children and parents attending the event. Produces correspondence and flyers for the event, and prepares letters and certificates for the college student volunteers. Serves as director for the event.

Charter member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer of **Ministers Wives and Ministers Widows Foundation**. Maintains financial records and prepares monthly reports. Provided financial accounting for a major project involving the publication of the book, On The Sabbath After, which was distributed to families of victims of the September 11, 2001 tragedy. Provides correspondence with applicants and recipients of BOOKS FOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS.

Charter member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer, **Delta Community Service Foundation**. Provides financial support for public service activities of Petersburg Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Prepares invitations, programs, letters, and other materials used to communicate with the public. Organize and facilitates the Board’s Christmas gifts drive for CARES (Crisis Assistance Response Emergency Shelter) clients.

Past Vice President and President (10 years), **Retired Teachers Club of Petersburg and Vicinity**. The organization supports a selected elementary school by providing incentives for children who make progress on SOL (Standards of Learning) exams. Financial support is given to selected Virginia State University students taking the National Teachers Exams.

**Civic and Progressive Action Association Matoaca Magisterial District (CAPAAMMD)**, a civic organization which provides civic and political education in the Matoaca District. Prepares monthly notices, occasional newsletters and brochures for the organization. Maintains mailing lists and interfaces with other community groups in sponsoring the annual Halloween Celebration at the Community Center.

Member of the Board of Directors, **Mary Carter Beacon House**, an adult daycare facility in Petersburg, Virginia. Serves on fundraising and other operational committees.



FALL 2011 EVENTS

ANNUAL BRUNSWICK STEW

Saturday, October 29, 2011  
(Virginia State University’s Homecoming)

*Time and Place: TBA*

Sponsored and Organized  
by  
**GARRETT MASON**

*“To benefit the MMHMF Scholarship Fund”*

**Featuring**

Bernard Jones delicious  
“old fashion” **Brunswick Stew**  
(cooked **on-site** in an iron pot over a wood-burning fire!)

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW! IT GOES FAST!!

For more information and to order, contact us at  
(804) 590-1493 or

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*Great gift for any occasion!*



**“Cherished Family Recipes,  
Anniversary Edition”**

Attractive, hardcover ring binder containing  
1,050 recipes from 124 contributors. Many  
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2011 MMHMF RAFFLE

*“To Benefit the MMHMF Scholarship Fund”*

**Prizes:** 1<sup>st</sup> - \$300; 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$150; 3<sup>rd</sup> – 50.

**PURCHASE TICKETS TODAY!** Contact us at  
(804) 590-1493, or see any member of MMHMF.

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**“SPECIAL THANKS TO 2010 SUPPORTERS”**  
**\$2,575 was raised for scholarships!**

**2010 RAFFLE WINNERS:** Congratulations to Nicholas Butler,  
Laurel MD - \$300; Randy Nanna, Largo MD - \$150; Annie  
Henderson, Ettrick, VA - \$50.

Email: [mmhmfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:mmhmfoundation@gmail.com).

2011 SILENT AUCTION

Just in time for Christmas shopping!

Beginning mid-November

Select from a large variety of  
reasonably priced items.

**SHOP FROM A DISTANCE!**

A catalog will be available  
for distribution and viewing online.

Bids will be accepted online or by phone.

For details, contact

Alberta Stith at (301) 390-5914 or

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**HELP US MAKE THIS A SUCCESS:**

Donate unused items - baked goods and/or your services  
(music lessons, cakes/pies/cookies, dinners, tutoring)

**No item is too small or too large!**

**THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT**





## SCHOLAR NEWS

### 2010 Scholarship Recipient

### RANDOLPH (RJ). BROWN



First, I would like to thank the Martha Mason Hill Scholarship Foundation for their support through my first year in college. It was a successful year, one in which I grew both as a young adult and as a student. Prior to beginning my collegiate experience, I was accepted into North Carolina A&T's Honor's Program, which provides students the opportunity to take more rigorous classes in a smaller classroom environment. It also affords us the opportunity to travel abroad, mentor incoming freshmen who will be placed in the honor's program, and graduate from the university with honor's both in our department as well as the overall school.

In June of 2010, I graduated from Lloyd C. Bird High School, eager to start my collegiate experience at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. My first year was undoubtedly a unique experience, at least for me, being away from home, in an unfamiliar city, while basically being at liberty to do what I pleased when I pleased. This took some time to get accustomed to. I made an effort to make new friends and try to get involved in club activities as well as social activities. During my first semester, I joined North Carolina A&T's chapter of NABA, the National Association for Black Accountants. The university's chapter is called ALOBEAM, which stands for Accounting, the Language Of Business, the Eyes And Ears of Marketing. It is also a widely recognized organization. I also participated in intramural sports. I played basketball during the winter with a group of freshmen from the honor's program. I also plan to play flag football in the fall during my sophomore year.

My first year at North Carolina A&T State University went extremely well. My first semester, I earned a 3.87 grade point average. As a result, I was inducted into the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society as well as the Golden Key International Honor Society. I finished my second semester with a 3.63 average, 3.75 cumulative. Because of my efforts in my first year, I have been awarded the opportunity to serve as an Honor's mentor to incoming freshman for the 2011-2012 school year. I have also been named the Fundraising Chair for North Carolina A&T State University's chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. I am looking forward to returning to North Carolina A&T State University in August to continue my education.

I have also had the opportunity to spend my summer working for two companies. At U-Turn Sports Performance Academy, I worked as a member of their marketing team trying to find new approaches to help bring U-Turn good publicity, as well as continuing to spread the positive influence U-Turn has on young athletes. U-Turn is a sports training academy founded on Christian principles. I also worked at Capital Source, Inc., a small finance firm made up of two people. Here, I filed the financial records of other companies that Capital Source helped finance. I also learned some basic accounting principles, which will help me when I begin taking classes in my major, accounting, next fall. The two positions have helped me better understand how I can incorporate sports and business, whether it be marketing or accounting, together.

Once again, thank you for your support this past year and helping me make this year a success.

Sincerely,

Randolph (RJ) Brown

## "HIGHLIGHTS" 2010 ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM



The Honorable Roger L. Gregory joined the Community Choir and the congregation in singing "The Lord is My Light".

The 2010 program was held at Union Branch Baptist Church, Rev. Dr. Gregory Howard, Pastor, on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. The MMHMF Community Service Award was given to Judge Gregory and Lois Coleman Ellis received the Education Service Award. Randolph (RJ) Brown was the 2010 scholarship recipient. Read about his outstanding performance as a freshman at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical (A & T) State University on page 8.

The Rev. Dr. Harold Braxton who taught Judge Gregory at Virginia State University, introduced him. In his message, the Judge urged the foundation to continue its work and offered a challenge. Invoking the history of the now-famous Heisman Trophy, he encouraged the foundation to grow its scholarship program into one of the most celebrated and sought-after awards and a national symbol of excellence. Expressions such as "wonderful", "inspiring", "down to earth", and "uplifting" were used by those present to describe Judge Gregory and his speech.



Judge Roger L. Gregory (middle) was introduced by Rev. Dr. Harold Braxton (left), MMHMF Board of Directors. Dr. James H. Stith (right), MMHMF Board Chairman, presented the 2010 Service award to Judge Gregory.



Lois Coleman Ellis (middle) receiving the Education Service Award from Dr. James Stith for her decades of service in the field of education. She was introduced by Mamie Willis (left).

## 2010 AWARDS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Jan Hatchette, Co-Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee introduced Randolph (RJ) Brown who was unable to attend the program. His successful year at North Carolina A & T had already begun. Proud parents Mr. & Mrs. Randolph Brown received his award. The program Master of Ceremony was Amigo Wade, Esquire, Senior Attorney for the Division of Legislative Services of the Virginia General Assembly.



Jan Hatchette,(left) Co-Chairperson of Scholarship Committee, Randolph and Charry Brown (center), parents of the Scholarship Recipient shown receiving the award from Dr. James Stith, Board Chairman..



Left Amigo Wade, Master of Ceremony and Dr. James Stith, Board Chairman.

## AFTER THE PROGRAM

A buffet dinner was served by Garrett Mason (member of the MMHMF Board of Directors) and Company and the Union Branch Baptist Church Hospitality Ministry in the Union Branch Fellowship Hall, compliments of the Martha Mason Hill family. The meal was catered by Garrett Mason and Company. The decorations were provided by Nannette Hudson. Patricia Lewis was the photographer



Left to right: Randolph & Charry Brown, parents of the scholarship recipient; Garrett Mason (standing), caterer; Judge Gregory; and Dr. Stith.



Program attendees enjoying the food and the fellowship at the end of a wonderful event.



More program attendees enjoying the food and the fellowship to conclude a successful day.

## 2011 Community Service Award Recipient

### ***DR. DELORES R. GREENE***

Dr. Delores R. Greene is presently Associate Dean for Professional Education Programs in the School of Liberal Arts and Education at Virginia State University. Dr. Greene is a graduate of Virginia State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Music Education and a Master's degree in Elementary Education. She was awarded a Doctor of Education in Curriculum Instruction from University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Her work experience includes teaching on the elementary, high school and college level throughout Virginia. She began her teaching career in 1957 in Prince Edward County. She has taught in the elementary schools in Portsmouth, Petersburg, and Richmond. She has also taught in the high schools of Petersburg, Charlottesville and Henrico. In 1962-1965, she served as Coordinator of Elementary School Language Arts in Westmoreland, Virginia. In 1967-1968, she was the instructor of the Reading Center and in 1993-2004 she served in the School of Education at Virginia Union University. She has also served as the Director of Title IV Communications Center in Fluvanna County and Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education in Richmond Public Schools.

Dr. Greene has many and varied experiences as a consultant, speaker and workshop facilitator. She has served on the Teachers of Tomorrow Steering Committee, Virginia Department of Education and Teacher Education Advisory Board at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. She has been a participant in the NISSAN/ETS Summer Institute for Selected Deans of School Education; Board of Examiners Training, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE); Professional Clinics for Strengthening Teacher Education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities; Leadership Skills for Women Managers and Supervisors, Fred Pryor Institute; the Danforth School Administrators Fellowship Program; Institute for Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents sponsored by The National Alliance of Black School Educators; Institute on Programs for Children at Risk, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; and the Superintendent's Roundtable Leadership Development Program, Richmond Public Schools.

Dr. Greene is very active in her community. She is a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church where she is a soloist in her choir and is a member of the Scholarship Committee. Other community activities include a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and Mentor Program of Richmond Public Schools, and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She is also a board member of St. Peter Baptist Church Child Development Center, Richmond Children's Museum, Friend's Association for Children and Garfield Children's Memorial Fund.

Dr. Greene's numerous awards and honors for service and leadership reflect appreciation from a diversity of support. These include Commitment to Education, Virginia Association of Colleges of Teacher Education; YWCA Woman of the Year in Education; Community Service Award, Richmond Times Dispatch; Outstanding Leadership Service Award, Richmond Chapter Continental Societies, Inc; Community Service Award, Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority; Meritorious Service Award, United Negro College Fund; and NISSAN/ETS Fellow Award and Kappa Delta PI International Honor Award.



## REFLECTIONS

## LEGACY OF A VIRTUOUS WOMAN

“Her children arise up and call all her blessed.” Proverbs 31:28. This virtuous woman had a giving, caring and humble spirit. Her family, friends and church knew her as a woman of faith. Who is this woman? Our grandmother, the late Martha Mason Hill.

When the Youth Ministry of Union Grove Baptist Church honored my twin sister and me as “twin mothers”, we gave the honor and glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We also gave credit to our grandmother and her lessons about life.

We thank God for the youth of Union Grove. Our message to them was: “you can be an “over comer” as well as an achiever. Don’t let any mental or physical disability keep you from reaching your goal. You must put God first, do your best, believe and you can achieve.” These are the things our grandmother taught us.

*Trudy and Judy Stephenson*

## Great-Grandchildren of Martha Mason Hill

*Receive College Degrees In 2011*

**CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO:**



**Jessica A. Harris** 2011  
graduate from Virginia  
Commonwealth University,  
Richmond, VA with a  
Degree of Bachelor of  
Interdisciplinary Studies in  
Early and Elementary  
Education.



**James E. Houston, IV**  
May 2011 graduate from  
Morgan State University,  
Baltimore, Maryland, with  
a 3.2 GPA. He earned a  
Bachelor of Science degree  
in Civil Engineering.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FELICIA MASON**, a long-time supporter and member of the MMHMF Maryland support group for completing her undergraduate studies in May, and for graduating with honors.



After 26 years of military service and 17 months of class work, our very own Felecia Mason earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication Studies, major, and Human Resource Management, minor, from the University of Maryland University College--a journey that began 30 years ago. Her accomplishments were possible by **God's** grace and with the love and support of her mother, Sandra Mason, her father who passed in 2001, her cousin Elaine Forbes who recently passed, her six sisters and brothers, and a host of family & friends; culminating in a 2011 Dean's List recognition for Felecia. On May 17, 2011, her family celebrated these achievements at the UMUC

2011 commencement ceremony and a spectacular dinner at the home of Jim and Albert Stith. A new journey begins as Felecia prepares to enter today's workforce.

## SCHOLAR NEWS

*A letter from*

## Brittany Goodwyn

## 2007 Scholarship Recipient



Dear Members of Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation:

I recently graduated cum laude from Morgan State University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Architecture and Environmental Design. I am also excited to share with you that I have been accepted into the Master's of Art program for Historical and Sustainable Architecture at New York University this fall. It is a nine month program which will allow me to achieve my Master's in half the time of a traditional degree. In addition I will be spending the first six months of the program in London learning about adaptive reuse and taking advantage of the many other architectural resources the UK has to offer. My family is well and they continue to support me in all that I do. I can say with assurance that your scholarship was very beneficial to me. It allowed me to have some experiences that I would have otherwise not been able to afford and I am truly appreciative of the many opportunities that have come my way. I was able to travel and study abroad in India, Italy and Greece while in undergraduate school and it truly changed my life and perspective on the world.

It was lovely to hear from you.

Best,  
Brittany

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## FORMER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS GRADUATE WITH HONORS

**CHARA MOORE - 2000** Recipient, graduated from University of Virginia in May, 2004, William & Mary School of Law in May, 2007, and passed the North Carolina Bar Examination in July, 2007.

**JAVONDA N. TUCKER BEASLEY** - 2002 Recipient, graduated from Virginia State University, May 2006, Master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in May, 2008 in Criminology with a concentration in Justice.

**LA TONYA BOWLES - 2004** Recipient, received her Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering, Fall, 2008, from **North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.**

**LEA TROTTER - 2005** Recipient, earned a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science from North Carolina A&T State University in May, 2009.

**BRANDON BROWN - 2006** Recipient graduated from James Madison University May, 2010, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Communication Studies.

MMHMMF OUTREACH, 2011

The Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation is dedicated to promoting education. One of the many programs we sponsor is spearheaded by the Outreach Committee, that reaches directly into the schools through a variety of activities and programs. The activities convey the importance of staying in school and attending college.

In the initial years the Outreach Committee directed its primary efforts to students at two schools, Etrick Elementary and Harrowgate Elementary. However, in 2010 the activities were expanded to include Matoaca Middle School. The activities at the middle school focus mainly on the Phoenix Achievers Plus Enrichment program. This is an afternoon tutoring program for students who need of help meeting their educational goals.

The Outreach Committee meets regularly to plan and discuss activities and projects to carry out its goals and expand their efforts. Committee members are also in regular contact with teachers and school administrators in order to coordinate efforts and to make sure that we effectively address the needs of the students and staff.

For more than ten (10) years the Outreach Committee has organized “back to school” drives to collect much needed supplies from Foundation supporters, area churches, businesses, and friends. These items are delivered to the schools at the beginning of each school year. In recent years, owing to the reduction of funding to local schools, the program has expanded to include giving additional supplies to schools in January.

Aware that many students are not privileged to purchase books for home reading enjoyment, the committee has donated thousands of books at the end of each school year so students can have their very own books during the summer. This program is greatly facilitated by Read Aloud Virginia , a nonprofit organization that collects slightly used and new books at levels K-College.

The Outreach Committee also makes monetary donations for special school projects, such as; awards given to students for good performance on Standards of Learning (SOL) exams; educational trips; science projects; homework kits; special awards and recognition of honor roll students, and those who achieve perfect attendance. Workshops for middle and high school students on study skills and college financial aid have also been provided. Committee members often make presentations at special programs. In 2010-21011, the Outreach Committee sponsored four workshops for the Phoenix Achievers Plus Enrichment program and presented awards and certificates at the end of each nine-week grading period to students on the honor roll and also to those with perfect attendance. The foundation has also provided Achievers Plus Enrichment students with a variety of educational games, practice books, teaching tools as well as materials for classroom use.

Committee members are also actively involved in school activities. During the summer school session, committee members accompanied more than 300 elementary students on a field trip to Books-A-Million. The members provided supervision for the students, read with them and helped them select books. Committee members also attend special assemblies and assist with the presentation of awards.

In the spirit of Martha Mason Hill, whose life was devoted to helping others, foundation members and outreach committee members are constantly working to improve our outreach activities. We remain committed to all students by encouraging them to stay in school, graduate and attend college.

See 2011 Outreach page 11

MMHMMF OUTREACH, 2011

“Dedicated to helping students achieve academic success”

The Phoenix Achievement Plus Enrichment Program

The Phoenix Achievement Plus Enrichment Program is designed to improve the academic skills of middle school students who need extra help. Collaborating with this program is one of the many ways the foundation seeks to help students succeed academically. We sponsor a number of activities each year; below are pictures of just a few. Studies show that one-on-one interaction is critical to student success. We hope that our direct support and encouragement will motivate the students to greatness. Foundation members find working with this program particularly gratifying, and thus, this collaboration has become one of our “pet” projects. More information about MMHMF outreach can be found on page 10.



This photo was taken at the Achievers Plus end of year program in May. Shown are Outreach members and Program officials. Left to right: Committee members George Henderson; Gwendolyn Davis and Annie Henderson; Dr. Jean Cobbs, Program Director (center); Committee members Rev. Dr. Harold Braxton, and Sarah Cheatham; and Dr. Janice Mack (far right), Program Founder.



Students performing at the January 2010 end of semester.



Students enjoying dinner after the Achievers plus closing ceremony.



Left, Annie Henderson, Outreach Chair ; and Center, Gwendolyn Davis, presenting students award.



Four students displaying certificate received.