

**◀MORE THAN SEVENTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO STUDENTS▶**

**"TAKE HOME" BOOKS WERE DELIVERED TO STUDENTS AT TWO SCHOOLS IN MAY**



Every fourth and fifth grade student in two elementary schools received at least one book to take home for summer reading. Ettrick Elementary students are pictured above.



**"FIRST BOOK" PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AT TWO SCHOOLS EVERY MONTH**

Members of the Virginia State University Women's Basketball Team and the Athletic Department staff joined MMHMF members and other community volunteers at Harrowgate Elementary School each month to read to K – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. It was a wonderful experience for all. As expected, the student athletes were a big hit with the children; autographs were in demand! ☺ MMHMF also organized groups to read to students at Marguerite Christian Elementary each month.

**READ MORE ABOUT THE MMHMF OUTREACH PROGRAM INSIDE.**

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*MMHMF is a public all-volunteer organization, exempt from Federal taxes under IRS code sections 501(C) (3).  
 Email address for MMHMF: [mmhmfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:mmhmfoundation@gmail.com)*

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIRMAN



It is gratifying to witness the significant progress the Foundation has made since we began operating in 1998. This was only possible because of the sustained dedication and support of you, our faithful advocates, and the hard work of MMHMF members. With your help, I am confident that the Foundation will be able to continue carrying on the legacy of the great person for whom it was established, Mrs. Martha Mason Hill. I gain significant satisfaction and pleasure from being a part of an organization dedicated to perpetuating her memory and her spirit through community service programs.

The Foundation focuses its efforts and resources on education because we believe that a quality education is the single most important factor in ensuring the success of our youth. We fully recognize that "it takes a village" and with your help, we encourage and support students and assist and enable the efforts of those that prepare them for the next chapter of their lives. The actions of Mrs. Hill clearly indicated that she understood the value of academic achievement and her role in helping students realize their potential. We can do no less.

The Board is currently engaged in the vital exercise of assessing its progress since the Foundation's beginning, paying particular attention to "lessons learned". Our updated vision, mission and strategic plan will chart the path for the next fifteen years. Valuable advice and counsel was given by many past board members, and we cherish the memory of several that continue to guide us only in spirit. Furthermore, I look forward to the input and leadership of those yet to serve as they bring new experiences, renewed energy and sound wisdom.

This community has been a fantastic one in which to work. The Foundation has enjoyed the support of sister foundations, charitable organizations, businesses and committed individuals. We have enjoyed outstanding cooperation from teachers, principals and other educational and community leaders. Clearly, we owe a huge debt of gratitude to the community of faith, especially the home churches of our namesake, our members and supporters.

The community and the Board have set high expectations for the work that we do. With your continued help, we plan to meet and then exceed those expectations. We pledge to continue serving this community. We trust that you will find the work we do worthy of your trust, your support, and your prayers.

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.

100% of your tax-deductible donation supports Foundation scholarships and outreach projects. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

DONATION CARD

I ENCLOSE MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TO:THE MARTHA MASON HILL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**2015 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT**

CONGRATULATIONS

**NANCY SPRAGGINS ROSS**



Nancy is a true advocate of community outreach services and passionate about making a difference in the communities of Chesterfield County and surrounding areas. Now retired from Central State Hospital after serving in various administrative positions, she devotes her time and energy to serving others.

Nancy Spraggins Ross was born and reared in Brunswick County Virginia. She earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from St. Paul’s College in Lawrence, Virginia. Nancy continued her education at Virginia Commonwealth University’s School of Social Work, where she received her Master of Social Work Degree specializing in Program Planning and Community Development.

Nancy can be described as a visionary, a people person and a woman of faith. She often states that there is no greater joy than giving of her time, knowledge and skills to bring hope, resources, comfort and joy to others. She says her passion for helping others originated from her parents as she watched them open their home and shared their resources with others less fortunate both children and adults.

One could go on and on about Nancy’s passion about mankind. She has served as volunteer program Director for The Rudi Johnson Foundation, assisting families in crisis with resources and resolutions to critical family issues. Most recently through her affiliation with Ettrick Neighborhood and Business Association, she has been a primary and motivating force in bringing food distribution to residents of Southern Chesterfield County. Through her initiative with Gathering Grounds, over five hundred (500) families have received monthly allotments of much needed food. Ms. Ross led an effort to replace outdated playground equipment at Ettrick Elementary School in 2013, thereby providing a safe and pleasant playground experience for neighborhood children. Nancy’s non-stop efforts for her community have also included a partnership with **Rebuilding Together** to provide critical repairs to the homes of four area families who could not afford the renovations, making their homes safer and more comfortable.

In the past and present, Nancy has impacted the community by her service in the following organizations and projects: Ettrick Neighborhood and Business Association; field trips for Ettrick Elementary School students; a food distribution program; a community pharmacy program; a Thanksgiving and Christmas food basket project; emergency shelter for misplaced elderly; and handicapped services (home ramps) and transportation (sometimes driving them herself) for the elderly to medical appointments. Many times, she uses her own resources to help others. Nancy certainly fits the profile of a true humanitarian.

Nancy is a member of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church where she is an active member as a Lay Reader, Treasurer for the Episcopal Church Women, and works with outreach programs and projects. She is the mother of a daughter, Carlynn Michelle Ross who resides in Washington D. C.

**2014 DONATIONS**

**\$50 to \$99**

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**2015 DONATIONS**

**\$100 TO \$199**

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**\$300 to \$499**

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**\$500 to \$999**

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**\$1,000 to \$1,999**

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Dr. Adrienne Stith-Butler	Laurel, MD	*Dr. & Mrs. James H. Stith	Mitchellville, MD

**\$5000**

Ettrick Business & Neighborhood Partners	<b>Ettrick, VA</b>
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**SAM'S LIST DONATIONS**

Aberdeen Proving Ground Credit Union	Aberdeen, MD	Ms. Leeann Masters	Abingdon, MD
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**We apologize if any names were inadvertently omitted. Please contact the foundation and your donation will be acknowledged in the next publication**

**THE 2015 ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

2015 Scholarships Recipients:

**KORDELL BURGESS AND ADRIANNA MOORE**

2015 Community Service Award: **NANCY SPRAGGINS ROSS**

Recognition of: **2015 VOLUNTEERS**

Guest Speaker: **REVEREND DOCTOR ROBERT ALLEN DIGGS, SR**

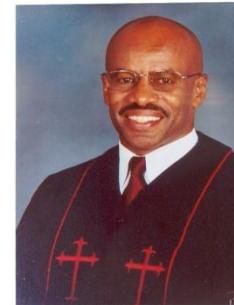
Music: **DR. SAMUEL PERSON**

Saturday September 26, 2015 at 3:00 pm

Union Grove Baptist Church, 19111 Church Road, South Chesterfield, Virginia.



**REVEREND DOCTOR ROBERT ALLEN DIGGS, SR.**



Dr. Robert A. Diggs, Sr. is a native of Matthews, Virginia. He is the son of Frances V. Diggs and the late Robert E. Diggs of Cardinal, VA.

He received his BS Degree and entered the U.S. Army as a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned RA as an Infantry officer in 1975. He was then selected to attend the University of Iowa where he received an MA Degree.

Dr. Diggs was called into the Gospel ministry while in command at Fort Hood, Texas. He preached his trial sermon at age 28 under the instruction of the late Rev. Dr. R. A. Abercrombie of the Marlboro Heights Missionary Baptist Church, Killeen, Texas in August 1980. He received the Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University School of Divinity in May of 1986. He was the founding Pastor of Commanche Chapel of Fort Hood, Texas; the largest chapel congregation in the US Armed Forces; then some 1500 soldier families.

Having completed the Master of Arts in Religious Studies with a concentration in Ethics (May 1993), he served as Ethics Instructor and Chaplain to the U.S. Army Logistics Management College in Fort Lee, Virginia. He attained the Doctor of Ministry Degree from Howard University's School of Divinity in May 1994.

He retired after 23 years of service from the U.S. Army in October of 1998, receiving the Legion of Merit; the highest peace time award one can receive, which was signed by the President of the United States. His other military awards include the Bronze Star Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, the National Defense Medal, the South East Asia Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal; also earning the Parachute Badge and the Air Assault Badge.

He is the Senior Pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Petersburg, VA. His life grounding text is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13).

**SCHOLAR NEWS**

**ALEASIA' MARIE RICHARDSON, 2014 MMHMF Scholar**



Aleasia' is currently a sophomore at Old Dominion University. Her freshman year cumulative GPA was 3.8. She earned a certificate for academic achievement in the fall semester.

She is a member of and is the National Representative for Gamma Sigma Sigma National Service Sorority and is a member of Phi Eta Sigma (Freshman Honor Society). Aleasia' is a Health Science Peer Mentor for freshman students.

She completed the Virginia School for Nurse Aides on June 12, 2015 with a fundamental testing score of 98% and skills score of 95% and took the National State Board Certification test in July 2015. During her studies in the Nurse Aide

program, Aleasia' earned certification in CPR and AED. At the same time she continued to work at Gayton Terrace, a Brookdale Senior Living Facility as a server.

Aleasia' is well on her way to achieving her goal of becoming a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Aleasia' believes keeping God first, loving your family, staying true to yourself and keeping your eyes on your dreams are the best keys to accomplishing your goals.

**Kenneth Wilson, 2014 MMHMF Scholar**



Kenneth is a 2nd year, 5-year MBA major at Hampton University. He says: "My freshmen year at Hampton was a very blessed and successful learning experience. Transitioning to college was difficult for me at first. I had to adjust to my new found freedom.

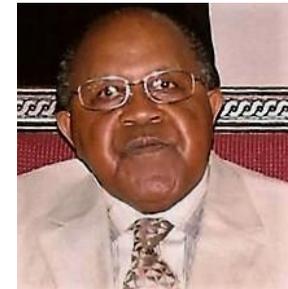
Extracurricular activities were exciting, but I had some trying times too that made me doubt that I was truly ready for college. Later in the semester, I found a renewed focus with my studies. I managed to balance everything, dipping into some activities on and off campus. I finished my freshman year with a 3.21 GPA and made the Dean's List. I participated in a school wide talent show called Battle of The States, involving dance, fashion and music; my group came in second place. During the summer, I had two jobs: a

summer counselor at Hampton University for a weeklong youth program called the Young Diplomats and an overnight stocker at Walmart. I am now back at Hampton to continue my success from freshmen year and strive to do even better by getting involved in more activities and improving myself overall. A huge thing I learned last year was to give everything time and not let others influence me, and God would make a way. I want to thank you, Mrs. Stith and the Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation, for contributing to my education and for your ongoing support. Please keep me in your prayers as I keep you in mine. I truly thank God for all that He has blessed me with, and I tell myself every day that I am nothing without Him which helps me to keep pushing with my academics and striving in all the other areas. As long as I am working hard and doing what I am supposed to do, then God will lead me to my own path of success. I know He has placed me at Hampton University for a greater purpose because I really do love it here and am excited for my future as a Hamptonian."

**MEMORIAL TRIBUTES**

**REV. DR. HAROLD E. BRAXTON**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEMBER**



Rev. Dr. Harold E. Braxton was a very active member of the Board of Directors and the Outreach Committee of Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation. When asked to become a member of the Board, he consented in spite of his religious affiliation and numerous civic and community commitments. He was instrumental in recognizing our namesake, Mrs. Martha M. Hill for sending seven daughters and two granddaughters to Virginia State College, now Virginia State University. His contributions to the Foundation, the community and countless individuals was innumerable. His was a life of service and he exemplified the ideals of our organization and namesake. He was instrumental in obtaining service award recipients and speakers for the Annual Awards Program.

He attended the meetings and events regularly, and supported all of the projects and programs. He sought every opportunity to promote MMHMF and worked diligently to further the Foundation's goals. The MMHMF was blessed to be the beneficiary of Dr. Braxton's Christian spirit, wisdom, service and support. We will always remember his humbleness and sense of humor which was such an inspiration to us. We thank God for the love he showed, inspiration he gave and the tremendous impact he had on the Foundation.

**ALYSSA JOY STITH**

**WEBSITE MANAGER;RECORDER/TRANSCRIBER OF MINUTES, ASSISTANT, OPERATIONS & EVENTS**



Always willing to lend a helping hand, Alyssa was a tremendous asset to the Foundation. She was multi-talented, highly skilled and a willing worker who filled many roles in MMHMF. She was instrumental in the Foundation's transition to QuickBooks financial management system and routinely assisted with numerous administration tasks. Especially critical was her service as recorder of meeting minutes that she transcribed and prepared for Board distribution. As website manager, she completely redesigned and updated the site. She enjoyed working with children and thus joined outreach efforts such as reading to students and collecting school supplies. Alyssa helped plan, organize and execute fundraisers to include the annual golf tournament and theater trips. Additionally, she was especially skilled in helping the Foundation say "thank you" to supporters at social events, whether she was asked to or not. Always stepping in to help was a part of her nature. Her goodwill and cheerful disposition positively impacted many lives and we miss her warm and generous spirit and infectious smile. We were blessed to have her on our team. We thank God for her and for the service she provided to the Foundation and the community.

**2014 DONATIONS**

**\$1 UP to \$24.99**

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Mrs. Sharon Hanley	Waldorf, MD	Mr. & Mrs. Earl Vaughan	S. Chesterfield VA
Mr. Garland Harris	S. Chesterfield VA	Mr. & Mrs. Everett D. White	Aberdeen, MD
Mrs. Joyace Harris	Petersburg, VA	Mr. Frank M. Wilkins	Mitchellville, MD
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Harris	Richmond, VA	Mr. John William	VA
Mr. Thomas Hatchette	VA	Dr. Karen Williams	Ada, OK
Ms. Isabelle Hillard	Richmond, VA	Mr. William Wynn	VA
Mr. Ed Jefferson	VA		

**2015 MMHMF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

**KORDELL BURGESS**



Kordell Burgess is a 2015 graduate of Matoaca High School. Since entering high school, Kordell has maintained honor roll status and is a 3-time recipient of the “Leader-In-Me” award, which recognizes his leadership efforts. He was inducted into the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society for his skills in leadership and academic excellence. He was selected as a delegate to attend the American Legion Virginia Boys State and served as Captain of the Matoaca High School football team. He was also selected as a Junior Marshall for being in the top 25 rank of his class.

He enjoyed playing varsity football at Matoaca High and organized basketball. Kordell is also a big fan of comedies and video games. He has developed a huge interest in the medical field also. Pursuing his passion for the medical field, he has been volunteering at

St. Francis Medical Center and has completed multiple dual enrollment science courses. A strong advocate for hands-on activities, he currently enjoys learning by interaction as opposed to auditory learning. His top choice for his medical career is orthopedic surgery, a field he fell in love with during his junior year of high school while participating in the Southside Health Careers Explorer Program. He is attending the University of Virginia and majoring in Biology.

In addition to his volunteering at St. Francis Medical Center, he volunteered at the Colonial Heights Food Bank, is a mentor for a program known as Project Alpha, was a volunteer at Lucy Corr Retirement Village, worked security during the NFL Washington Redskins football training camp and was a tutor for the KAPS Tutoring Program at Tussing Elementary School. He has participated in the Red Cross Club, DECA Club, the Freshman Mentoring Club as well as the Friends of Rachel Club for anti-bullying

Kordell Burgess is a “military brat” having traveled to many states in his young life. He has lived on military bases in North Carolina, Louisiana, Alaska, Georgia, and Alabama before finally settling in Virginia with his family.

He is the son of Quinton and Melissa Burgess and the youngest of 3 children

**ADRIANNA MOORE**



Adrianna is an honor graduate of Matoaca High School. She is attending North Carolina State University and majoring in biology. Adrianna is a cheerleader for the Wolfpack. Upon completion of her undergraduate degree program, she plans to earn a doctorate degree in Optometry.

While in high school Adrianna was a student mentor (2013-2015), a varsity cheerleader (2011-2015, squad captain in her senior year) and participated in track and field (2012-2014). In the community, she participated in Tri-Cities work camp during the summer of 2014; was a Matoaca Youth Association junior coach (2011-2015) and President of the

Youth Ministry at Union Grove Baptist Church (2012-2015).

She enjoys reading, spending time with her family, and doing crosswords and Sudoku puzzles. Tutoring is of special interest to Adrianna.

She is the daughter of Monica and Andre' Moore.

**FAMILY NEWS**  
**Congratulations to:**



**ALECIA AMOO**, graduated with honors from North Carolina Central University School of Law in May 2015. She took the North Carolina Bar Exam in July and plans to combine her Master of Urban and Regional Planning (Virginia Commonwealth University) degree with her Juris Doctorate to pursue a law career in affordable housing and land use practices.



**JAMES E. HOUSTON, IV**, In May 2015, was hired as a licensed Professional Engineer with Hamilton Associates, Inc. in Chicago, Illinois. Prior to this he was a civil engineer with the Illinois Department of Transportation, since graduating from Morgan State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering in 2011.



**MICHAEL HOUSTON**, was promoted to AT&T Retail Store Manager in Silver Spring Maryland in May 2015. He was hired by AT&T after graduating from Howard University in May 2014, with a Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting Degree, and selected for the AT&T Leadership Development Program.

*Alecia, James IV, and Michael are the daughter and sons of James Houston III and Doretha Gilliam Houston; the grandsons and granddaughter of the late Samuel Gilliam and of Delores Hill Gilliam and the great grandchildren of the late Martha Mason Hill and Thomas Hill.*



**JAVONTE GREEN**, son of Jeffrey Mason and Maxine Green graduated from Radford University this summer with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Javonte is the grandson of Sandra Mason and the late Alfred M. Mason Sr. With the love and guidance of his parents, family and friends, especially his uncle and aunt, Alfred M. Mason Jr and Kim Mason, Javonte successfully maneuvered through the challenges as a parent-student athlete at Radford. He continued to sharpen his basketball skills this summer during his participation in the Reggie Williams Summer League Basketball at Richard Bland College. Javonte continues

his basketball journey as he prepares to travel abroad to play in 2015/2016 Spanish basketball league. His educational and athletic successes are only eclipsed by Javonte's dedication and love for his daughter. We congratulate Javonte on his accomplishments, salute his commitment as a parent and we wish him much success and God's blessings for the future.



**CHRIS STEPHENSON** graduated on May 16, 2015 from the University of Maryland University College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Homeland Security. He currently serves in the United States Coast Guard and will retire next year after 22 years of service. In addition to his upcoming retirement, he is currently pursuing his Master's degree in Project Management at the University of Maryland University College. He currently lives in Toano, VA with his wife Katrina and daughter Nalani.

**2015 MATOACA HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR AWARDS BREAKFAST**  
**SPONSORED BY MMHMF & CATERED BY GARRETT MASON, BOARD MEMBER**



Garrett Mason presented Adrianna Moore, 2015 Scholar, a certificate from MMHMF during the program.



Board member Annie Henderson, presented a MMHMF certificate to Cordell Burgess, 2015 scholar, during the program.



Garrett Mason conversing with a parent.



Annie Henderson, conversing with parents.

**OUTREACH MEMBERS TAKE SUPPLIES TO AN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
**AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME FOR VA BAPTISTS**



Members Annie Henderson, left (left picture), and Felecia Mason (picture on right) delivered a variety of snacks several times during the year. Students and staff were always overjoyed when deliveries arrived!

**2015 MEMORIAL DONORS IN MEMORY OF:  
ALYSSA JOY STITH**

Dr. Gordon & Michelle Albrecht	Delaware, Ohio	Jim's Golf Family in Maryland	MD
American Assoc of Physics Teachers	College, Park, MD	Ms. Pamela Johnson	Upper Marlboro, MD
American Institute of Physics (AIP)	College, Park, MD	Mrs. Nannette Diane Jordan	Fairfax Station, VA
American Physical Society (APS)	College Park, MD	Dr. Unsu Jung & Mr. Andrew Quon	<b>Great Falls, VA</b>
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Anderson, Katherine	Silver Spring, MD	Ms. V. Kapoor & .Patrick Mehi	Cabin John, MD
Ms. Shirley Baugh	Croton-On-Hudson, NY	Mrs. Arlene F. M. Knowles	Elkridge, MD
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Black	Chapel Hill, NC	Dr. & Mrs. Jay B & Jeri E. Labov	Vienna, VA
Mrs. Mary A Bonds	Montgomery Village, MD	Dr. John Layman	College, Park, MD
Dr. Marc H & Vivian S Brodsky	Washington, DC	Leadership Denver Class of 2015	Denver, CO
Mrs. Janice A Burton	Silver Spring, MD	Mrs. Jackie Lenhardt.	Alexandria, VA
Dr. Adrienne Stith-Butler & family	Laurel, MD	Ms. Alison Lindquist	Mansfield, MA
LTC Richard Carey,	Joppa, MD	Mrs. Kim Little	Golden, CO
Mrs. Mabel B. Chavis	Richmond, VA	Mrs. Laverne R. Madison	Brandywine, MD
Mrs. Joan E. Christian	Bowie, MD	Dr. & Mrs. John & Jane Mather	Hyattsville, MD
Mr. Charles Coles	District Heights, MD	Ms. Lucretia Mc Clenny	Spotsylvania, VA
Mr. & Mrs. Carroll Collier, & Alice S	S. Chesterfield, VA	Ms. Alice McKenzie	Landover, MD
Mr. & Mrs. C Cornwall, Jr. & Pat	Garrison, NY	Mrs. Elise Mills	Lewisburg, PA
Rev. Glenn Courtney	Ossining, NY	Mr. Randy Nanna,	Bowie, MD
Mrs. Bobbie Anne Flower Cox	Bronxville, NY	Ms. Annie M. Nichter	Cold Spring, NY
Dr. & Mrs. Vernon O. Crawley	Orland Park, IL	Mr. Thomas Nielsen	Aarhus, Denmark
Mr. & Mrs. Roman & Nancy G Czujko	Silver Spring, MD	Ms. Marilyn Owens	Ossining, NY
Patricia E. Davenport	Bethesda, MD	Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Penn	Baltimore, MD
Ms. Valerie Davis	Bowie , MD	Mr. & Mrs. Percy & Annie R Pollard	St. Stephens Church, VA
Ms. Lorestine Deas,	Fort Washington, MD	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Prather	Laurel, MD
Ms. Wilma DeBrew	Suffolk, VA	Mrs. Joyce Quarles & family	Philadelphia, PA
Mr. Julius Dollison	Laurel, MD	Mrs. Naini Shangloo	Clarksville, MD
Ms. Marie Butler-Dunton -A Silver Thread	Columbia, MD	Ms. Richee-Lori Smith	Upper Marlboro, MD
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Mr. Ronald Edwards	Mitchellville, MD	Dr. & Mrs. Dwight S Springer	Keller, TX
Mrs. Jean W Ellis	Atlanta, Georgia	Dr. Andrea L. Stith	Denver, CO
<b>Ms. Ariel Azul &amp; Mr. Larry B Fenwick</b>	Mitchellville, MD	Ms. Babbette E. Stith	Long Beach, CA
Ms. Brenda Stith-Finch	Fairfax, VA	Dr. & Mrs. James H. Stith	Mitchellville, MD
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Ms. Katharine B Gebbie	Bethesda, MD	Dudley L & Audrey L Tademy	Great Falls, VA
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis T.& Marie G. Gee	Arlington, VA	Dr. Karen Keppler Teles	Dover, OH
Mr. & Mrs. Everette & Sharon Gray	Herndon, VA	Ms. Dowdy& Mr. C.L Toomer	Greenbelt, MD
Dr. T. M. Hakim	Union, NJ	Ms. Clare M. Treichel	North Beach, MD
Mr. & Mrs. .Ralph M. & Almeta L Hansford	Corona, CA	Mr. & Mrs. William & Joyce Ward	<b>Reston, VA</b>
Mrs. Heather Harrington	Maplewood, NJ	Ms. Patricia Stith Watkins	Nashville, TN
Dr. Jack G Hehn	Laurel, MD	Mr. Frank M. Wilkins	Mitchellville, MD
Mr. & Mrs. George Henderson	Ettrick, VA	Dr.. Karen Williams	Ada, OK
Joint Base Andrews Chapel Two	Andrews AFB, MD	MG(R) Ralph & Rebecca Wooten	Fort Washington, MD
Mrs. Lorraine R Hughes	Clinton, MD		

**SCHOLAR NEWS  
CONGRATULATIONS!**

**LATONYA BOWLES, 2004 MMHMF SCHOLAR**



LaTonya was the winner of the NAVAIR's (Naval Air Systems Command) 2014 Women of Color (WOC) Special Recognition Award. LaTonya is an Industrial Engineer for NAVAIR in San Diego, CA. She received the award for her managerial leadership ability during the Women of Color STEM Conference held in October of 2014 in Detroit. She is the Director of Logistics Management Integration Department.

In accepting the award, LaTonya cited her father's influence and wisdom as inspiration for her to succeed. After her older brother and his friends taunted her one day growing up in Virginia, she ran to her father for help. "He said, 'Gal, don't cry, dry ya' eyes, get yourself together and fight back.' His wisdom always resonated with me. I learned to apply perspective and temperament when facing obstacles," she said. "As a team leader, part of my team's success depends on our ability to persevere through adversity while maintaining focus to successfully attain our goals." She received the MMHMF scholarship in 2004 and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering, cum laude, from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 2008.



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**MMHMF 2014-2015 OUTREACH COMMITTEE  
VALENTINE'S DAY TREATS SENT TO COLLEGE STUDENTS  
Members and volunteers below are shown preparing care packages in February**

In any given year, fifty to one hundred boxes are packed with treats and useful supplies. Most are mailed, but for those students nearby, packages are hand-delivered. In left photo (left to right): Barbara Crews, Hilda Hatchette, Gilda Cheatham, George Henderson and Gilda's son, Adam. Right photo (left to right): Barbara Crews, Annie Henderson, and Hilda Hatchette. This project is very popular with students and parents.



**DONATIONS FROM MMHMF MEMBERSHIP IN MEMORY OF:**

Elder Robert Baugh	S. Chesterfield, VA
Ms. Joan Elizabeth Christian	Bowie, MD
Mrs. Bertha M. Knight, Mother of Dr. Woodrow Knight	Carrsville, VA
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis & Charlotte Hill Johnson	S. Chesterfield, VA

### MMHMF OUTREACH HELPS PROMOTE AN APPRECIATION FOR BOOKS

The article below appeared in *The Petersburg Progress Index* newspaper.

'FIRST BOOK VOLUNTEERS'



This past school year members of the Virginia State University Women's Basketball team and members of the Athletic Department staff joined members of the Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation participating in the "First Book Volunteers" program in Chesterfield County. The volunteer readers went into Harrowgate and Marguerite Christian elementary schools and read to pre-kindergarten through third-graders monthly. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# A love for reading

Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation helps promote an appreciation for books

Contributed Report

**CHESTERFIELD** — For the past three years, the Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation has participated in the "First

Book Volunteers" program in Chesterfield County. Each year the Foundation's Outreach Committee organizes a group of readers that include members of the Foundation and individuals from the community.

This year the group was joined by the Virginia State University Women's Basketball team and members of the Athletic Department staff.

Each month during the school year, the group reads to students in pre-kindergarten through third grades at Harrowgate and Marguerite Christian Elementary schools. The goal of the program is to create in students a love for reading, an appreciation for books and to help students become lifelong readers.

Age appropriate books are selected at the beginning of the school

year, one per grade level for each month. Volunteers are directed to classrooms where they read the book to a small group of students while engaging the students as much as possible. An activity sheet based on the book is completed by each child. At the conclusion of the session, each child is given a copy of the book. The book and activity sheets are taken home to share with parents.

### MARTHA MASON HILL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION OUTREACH 2015

"Dedicated to helping students achieve academic success"

The Martha Mason Hill Memorial Foundation continues to hold fast to the guiding principles of its namesake, promoting higher education. In its eighteenth year of service, the commitment has grown stronger; members understand that the key to success is education and it is the responsibility of citizens to help all children receive a quality education. Through numerous outreach projects, activities and scholarships, the foundation is taking steps to ensure that area children take advantage of every opportunity to achieve academically.

The Outreach Committee was very busy this past year offering assistance to five area schools (Etrick Elementary, Harrowgate Elementary, Marguerite Christian Elementary, Matoaca Middle School, and Matoaca High School) and an after school program. Members work diligently to identify areas where Foundation services can be most effective in providing the support students and schools need. Title I schools, where there are large numbers of students who need extra help, are given priority. The committee meets several times a year to assess past programs and plan for future projects and activities.

School supplies are donated every year to the elementary schools and an after school tutorial program. Supplies are purchased and donated by members and community supporters and delivered to the school at the beginning of the new school year and midyear. Supplies for the 2015-2016 school years will be delivered in mid-September and again in February. In February of 2015, care packages were prepared for delivery to college students. These care packages help students by providing snack foods and other supply items needed to complete the school year. The Outreach Committee and friends of the Foundation continue to support the "First Book/Senior Readers Program". Beginning in September and ending in May 2015, volunteers from the Foundation, community, and Virginia State University (VSU) Athletic department staff and student athletes were invited to read to students in grades pre-K - 4<sup>th</sup> grades each month. This program services Harrowgate and Marguerite Christian Elementary Schools.

Etrick Elementary School received support for field trips and school lunches for needy students. The Outreach Committee continues to sponsor the Senior Scholarship breakfast at Matoaca High School. The breakfast was catered by Foundation member Mr. Garrett Mason. In April 2015, the committee hosted a pizza dinner for the VSU Athletic Department staff and members of the Women's Basketball team who participated in the "First Book/Senior Reader Program." All participants received a certificate of appreciation and a bag of treats.

In June 2015, the Outreach committee provided 250 books to two elementary schools (Etrick and Harrowgate) for summer reading. The books were given to the students to take home. This project has taken place over the past ten (10) years.

A new project for fall of 2015 will be two field trips, one to Virginia State University for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and the other to Richard College for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students of Matoaca Middle School. Plans have been completed for both field trips.

#### The Outreach Committee Members

- Annie Henderson Co-Chairperson
- Barbara Crews Co-Chairperson
- George Henderson
- Sarah Cheatham
- Felicia Mason
- Pat Woolfolk

◀Extending Helping Hands with Warm Hearts and Smiles▶

### MMHMF 2014-2015 OUTREACH PROJECTS

#### OUTREACH MEMBERS SORTED AND DELIVERED SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO SCHOOLS



Barbara Crews



Annie Henderson



Sarah Cheatham and Felecia Mason



One of several baskets filled with supplies that each school received.



Etrick Elementary staff and students shown receiving supplies from Annie Henderson (right, standing).



Left to Right-Barbara Crews, Annie Henderson, Felecia Mason, delivering supplies to Harrowgate Elementary.

#### READING TO THESE YOUNG STUDENTS WAS SUCH A JOY! THEY WERE LIKE “SPONGES”, SO EAGER TO LEARN!



Pastor William Johnson III, Union Grove Baptist Church was wonder He really captivated his reading group at Harrowgate Elementary.



After reading the book with students, Outreach Committee member Pat Woodfolk helped students with their individual activity that was designed to reinforce the story.



Dr. Will Lewis, Board member, was a regular reader at Harrowgate. His group is pictured at the completion of the day’s activity that was based on the book read.

### MMHMF MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATED IN THE “FIRST READ PROGRAM”



With books in hand and all smiles, volunteers and MMHMF Outreach Committee members are set to meet with students at M. Christian Elementary. Left to right: Judith Warren, Barbara Crews, Gloria Harris, Joyce Cosby, Annie Henderson and Felecia Mason.



Left to right: Clifton Dickens, Felecia Mason, Pat Woodfolk, Dr. Willie Lewis, Gloria Harris, Bettye Wilkerson, Annie Henderson, Barbara Crews and Carol Jones getting ready to read to K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at Harrowgate Elementary.



Gloria Harris with students at Marguerite Christian Elementary. After reading the book with Mrs. Harris, students participated in an activity related to the book. Each student gets a personal copy.



Left, Joyce Cosby volunteer, and Annie Henderson (right) Outreach Co-Chair with students holding their copies of the book they just read. This is a wonderful program to promote literacy.



Annie Henderson and MMHMF volunteers reading to young students at Marguerite Christian Elementary.



Felecia Mason has captured the attention of these Marguerite Christian Elementary students.



Volunteer Joyce Cosby, on the left, read to students at Harrowgate Elementary each month.