

Elbert Williams Memorial Commemoration

Historical Booklet

Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of his death



Elbert Williams

1908-1940

The twentieth day of June, Two Thousand and Fifteen

Nine o'clock ante meridiem

Haywood High School

Brownsville, Tennessee 38012

"Evil is most powerful when it causes good men to do wrongful acts, and yet they believe they are in the right. Evil, no matter how distant in time, survives and can return if left alone in its dark corner. To destroy that evil is to bring it into the light of day, call it by name and banish it from our lives. The focus for me is the evil that can fool good men into doing wrong. Bringing evil out from its dark corner is a reminder to me that a higher spiritual power of Goodness and Truth can trump evil, and gives me the strength to never let evil have that power again".

Bob Ford, March 8, 2015

The Elbert Williams Memorial Committee

We the members of the Elbert Williams Memorial Committee welcome you to Brownsville, Tennessee. This event was over seven decades in the making and it is our sincere hope that this historical booklet will become a treasured keepsake. It documents the will of a determined people committed to a cause greater than themselves. The Elbert Williams' story is as much about good people doing nothing, as it is about evil running rampant.

This event is also a testimony to the will of the citizens of Brownsville and Haywood County to confront a difficult legacy and find a way forward . . . together. The level of support as reflected by our friends and neighbors near and far, and your presence here today signal new hope at a time when our nation seems to be drowning in a sea of mistrust and turmoil.

This was a committee like no other. We broke all rules and crossed all boundaries. Many committee members made major contribution from miles away and never attended a meeting in person. Without intending to, we brought new meaning to the word diversity. We were diverse by gender, age, education, religion, and ethnicity. We learned to discuss a difficult subject and value each participant's contribution without blame or shame.

We hope you are pleased with the results of our efforts and courage. More importantly we sincerely hope we have brought honor and recognition that Elbert Williams so richly deserves. In our minds there can be no greater example of courage than his.

Our sincere thanks for your presence here today.

Committee Members:

John Ashworth, Chairperson
John Duckworth Jr, Vice Chairperson
Jim Emison, Author
Bettye Duckworth, Treasurer
Charlotta Ashworth, Secretary
Rev. Felecia Walker, NAACP
Christy Smith
Rev. Joe Thornton
Dr. Dorothy Granberry
Sharon Green
Dorothy Bond, Taylor Cemetery
Almeta Ellis, City of Brownsville
Jeffery Richmond, Haywood County
Aretha Jones
Fred Silverstein
Hayden Hooper
Juanita Williams
Renee Moss
Albert Harris

Linda J. Higgins
Patty Nolan-Fitzgerald
Glory Taylor-Jubilee
Alma Jean Carney
Martha Lyle Ford
Austin Currie
Sarah Margaret Hooper

Honorary Committee Members

Rep. Craig Fitzhugh
Rev. Clay Evans
Gloria Sweet-Love, NAACP State President
O'Daniel Outlaw, CPA
Dr. Quintard Taylor, Washington State Univ

The Elbert Williams Story

Elbert Williams and his wife, Annie, became charter members of the Brownsville NAACP Branch, formed in 1939, to regain the vote which had been denied to African Americans for decades. In 1940 a white terror campaign to destroy the Branch by kidnapping its leaders and expelling them from the county was led by local police. On June 20, 1940, Mr. Williams was overheard planning an NAACP Branch meeting to be held in his home. This plan was reported to police who that night kidnapped him from his home. His corpse was found three days later in the nearby Hatchie River. His widow identified his body and saw what looked like two bullet holes in his chest. The US Department of Justice initially ordered the case presented to a federal grand jury, but mysteriously reversed itself and closed the case in early 1942. Thurgood Marshall, then special counsel to the NAACP, gathered evidence in Brownsville and became a lifelong critic of the Justice Department's failure to prosecute Mr. Williams' assailants.

Schedule of Events

9:00 - 10:30 am Memorial Service
Haywood High School

11:00-11:30 am Dedication of Historical Marker
Corner of East Main & Jackson Street

1:00-1:30 pm Pilgrimage to Taylor Cemetery



Cornell William Brooks is the president and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In 2014, he became the 18th person to serve as chief executive of the Association, whose members in the United States and worldwide are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities.

A graduate of Head Start and Yale Law School, Brooks considers himself “a grandson, heir and a beneficiary” of the landmark decision *Brown v. Board of Education* argued by legendary NAACP litigator Thurgood Marshall. As a civil rights attorney, social justice advocate, fourth generation ordained minister and coalition-builder, Brooks’ life and experience exemplify the NAACP’s mission to secure political, educational, social, and economic equality for all citizens.

NAACP FOUNDERS 1909



FOUNDERS

Mary White Ovington, John Haynes Holmes, Moorfield Storey, Ida Wells Barnett, Henry Moskowitz, Oswald Garrison Willard, William English Walling and W. E. B. DuBois led "The Call" to renew the struggle for civil and political liberty.

Committed to the cause of freedom and justice, these NAACP members made the supreme sacrifice along side Elbert William.



Harry Moore

Dec 25, 1951



Harriette Moore

Dec 25, 1951



George Wesley Lee

May 7, 1955



Herbert Lee

Sep 25, 1961



Medgar Evers

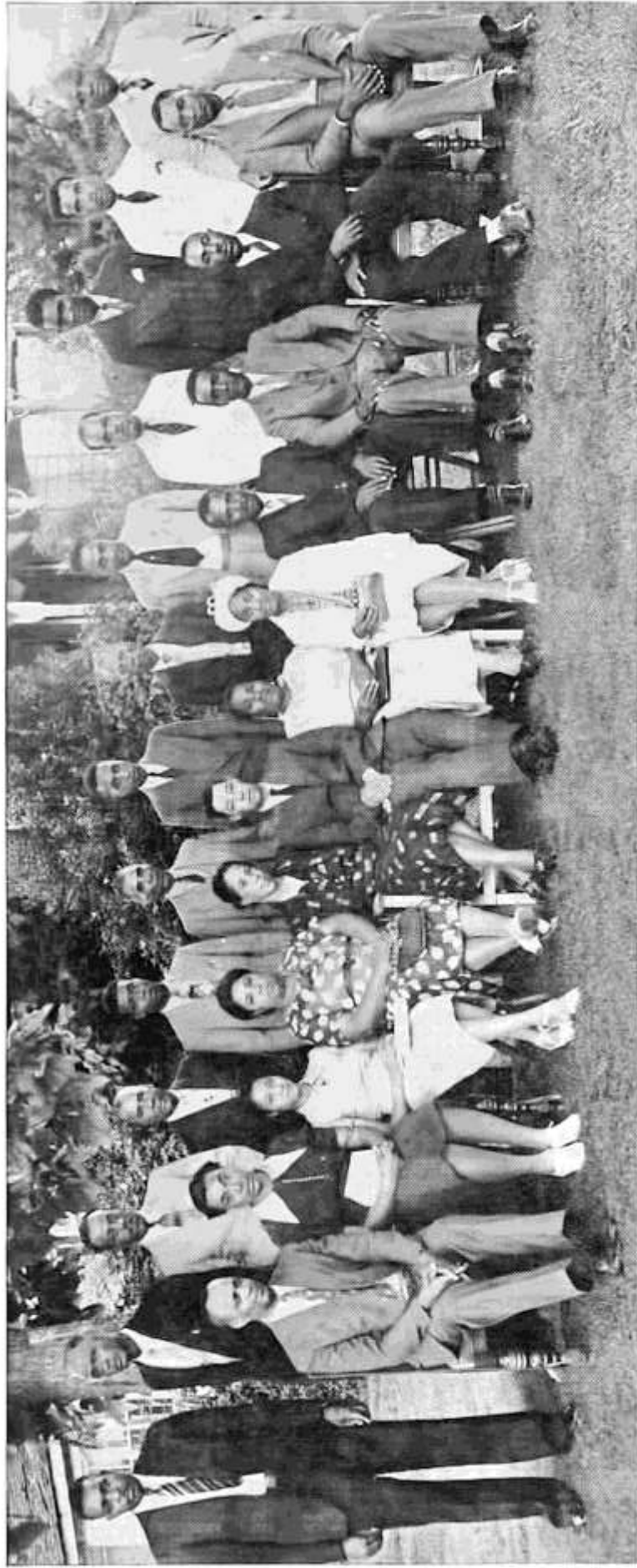
Jun 12, 1963



Viola Gregg Liuzzo

Mar 25, 1965

1939 CHARTER MEMBERS



Some charter members of the Brownsville, Tenn., branch. This unit was formed on March 12, 1939. The present enrollment is over seventy. Left to right, seated: William Williamson, vice-president; Mrs. Justine Harwell; Mrs. Roberta Davis; Mrs. Nannie Hilliard; Mrs. O. S. Bond, secretary; O. S. Bond, president; Mrs. Susie B. Taylor, Mrs. Irma L. Newbern, assistant secretary; Judson Taylor; Dr. John Waller; L. V. Hill; Abe Harris. Back row, left to right: Elbert Williams; Alex Hill; Elisha Davis; Dr. L. D. Thomas; Dewitt Carr; Jim Covington; Joseph Boone, treasurer; Walter Hilliard; Taylor Newbern; Thomas Davis; Silas Covington; Casher Davis; and Rev. Buster Walker

APPLICATION FOR CHARTER

Date of Organization Meeting Mar 12, 1929

To the Board of Directors

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
69 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

WE, the undersigned, having fully and freely discussed the aims and accomplishments of the National Association, and believing that our interests coincide with its efforts for the advancement of colored people, do hereby apply for a charter as the

The Brownsville, Tenn. Branch

with the object of carrying out in Haywood and vicinity, the purposes of the Association, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws for Branches approved by the Board of Directors.

Branch

No.	Name	Address	Occupation	Membership Fee Paid
1	O.S. Bond <small>President</small>	806 Jefferson St	Mortician	1 00
2	Wm Williamson <small>Vice-President</small>	11 Jefferson St	Jeweler	1 00
3	Mattie Bond <small>Secretary</small>	806 Jefferson St	Teacher	1 00
4	Bessie Hill <small>Treasurer</small>	500 Park Ave	Teacher	1 00
5	Alex Hill	500 Park Ave	Porter	1 00
6	D. L. D. Thomas	Brownsville	Physician	1 00
7	Jaylen Newbern	Jays St	Tailor	1 00
8	Jenna Newbern	Jays St	Teacher	1 00
9	Gov R Adreel	503 Park Ave	Teacher	1 00
10	Violet Arkum	Box 114	Teacher	1 00
11	Joe Outlaw	Box 22 R #1	Teacher	1 00
12	La Rue Cleve	214 Bradford	Teacher	1 00
13	Geneva Miller	828 Jefferson	Teacher	1 00
14	Alsie Worble	500 Park Ave	Day Worker	1 00
15	Alisha Davis	Davis Street	Mechanic	1 00
16	Nann H. Davis	"	Wife	1 00
17	Buster Walker	113 Jays St	Minister	1 00
18	S. V. Moses	Brownsville	Day Worker	1 00
19	Roy Murky	608 Jefferson	Operator	1 00
20	Jinny Covington	Brownsville	Day Worker	1 00
21	Alsie Whitlaw	Brownsville	Day Worker	1 00

1939 Charter Members

Note: Mr. Elbert Williams name #49

No.	Name	Address	Occupation	Membership Fee Paid
22	Oil Cartlow	Brownsville	Teacher	1.00
23	Gene Harris	Brownsville	Farmer	1.00
24	Orange Short	R#1 Box 105	Farmer	1.00
25	Rosa Furibank	212 Bradford	Wife	1.00
26	Mazelle Ridd	Wilson St	Teacher	1.00
27	Justine Harwell	Jefferson St	Teacher	1.00
28	Joseph Boone	214 Bradford	Wife	1.00
29	Helie Boone	214 Bradford	Wife	1.00
30	Susan Taylor	108 Jefferson St	Wife	1.00
31	Thomas Davis	212 Bradford	Day Work	1.00
32	Elizabeth Whitford	Brownsville	Wife	1.00
33	Lydia Jackson	212 Bradford	Teacher	1.00
34	Alvina Taylor	604 Jefferson	County Cult	1.00
35	Richard Short	R#1 Box 105	Farmer	1.00
36	Walter Hillard	10 Stehler	Decorater	1.00
37	Nannie Hillard	110 Stehler	Wife	1.00
38	Joseph Rogus	R#3 Brownsville	Farmer	1.00
39	R.B. Bond	R#3 Box 85	Teacher	1.00
40	Jno. Winfield	R#	Teacher	1.00
41	Jno. Waller	R#3 Box	Farmer	1.00
42	B.S. Shane	707 Jefferson St		1.00
43	Joe Taylor	R#1 Brownsville	Farmer	1.00
44	Cash Davis	Brownsville		1.00
45	L.V. Hill	Brownsville	Teacher	1.00
46	Harry Ceter	R#1 Brownsville	Farmer	1.00
47	Wid Carr	318 Cherry St	Cleaner	.50
48	Roberta Davis	707 Jefferson St	Nurse	1.00
49	Elbert Williams	210 Bradford St	Cleaner	1.00
50	Ime Williams	210 Bradford St	Wife	1.00
51	Theodore Woods	Jefferson	Teacher	1.00
52	Leal Brewer	115 Bradford	Wife	1.00
53	Theodore Woods	818 Jefferson St	Teacher	1.00
54	Genevieve Miller	828 Jefferson	Teacher	1.00
	J. Allen Wood	Route #1 Box 49	Farmer	1.00

1939 Charter Members

MEMBERSHIP REPORT BLANK 1939

Name of Branch

Brownsville, Tenn.

Date

1405
1405
Oct 20 - 31

The following members have been enrolled since our last report on (date)

Sep - Oct.

NAME	ADDRESS	Paid by Member	Retained by Branch	To National Bureau
Ray Sisk ✓	Brownsville, Taylor Co. Tenn.	1.00	50	
Ed Vaulx ✓	R#1 Stanton, Tenn.	1.00	50	
Silas Canning	" " " "	1.00	50	
Stacy Jones	R#3 Brownsville	1.00	50	
Tom Sanderlin	R#1 Box 140, Brownsville	1.00	50	
Rev. Robt Reed	R#2 Brownsville	1.00	50	
L.V. Sanderlin	R#1 Brownsville	1.00	50	
Ernest Adneal	R#1 Box 134 " "	1.00	50	
Art. Owens	R#1 Box 135a " "	1.00	50	
Edgar Davis	R#10/ J. King " "	1.00	50	
Geo. R. Bond	R#1 Box 143 " "	1.00	50	
Walt J. Bond	R#1 Box 143 " "	1.00	50	
		12.00	600	60

P.S. Please miss Orington Reed use the names included in the list mailed in sub or Aug. messes

- 1 Carl Waller
- 2 Willie Waller
- 3 Thomas Whitlaw
- 4 Ed Tucker

J.B.
11/1/29

Can't recall the last two, lost my copy but if I mistake, not messes' addresses were on this list. If they were please notify me as their names were sent recently, they have Carl now thanks. (over)



Duplicate
CHARTER

TO THE

MEMBERS OF THE

Haywood County, Tennessee Branch
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

GREETINGS:

Your Application for Admission to the

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF COLORED PEOPLE**

has been passed upon by the Board of Directors of the Association at its Meeting on
March 15, 1961, and granted, and this charter is therefore issued to you.

Your organization is now enrolled as a Branch of the Association.

This Charter is granted on the condition that your organization will endeavor to the best of its ability to cooperate with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in furtherance of the Association's object, namely:

"To uplift the colored men and women of this country by securing to them the full enjoyment of their rights as citizens, justice in all courts, and equality of opportunity everywhere."

The Board of Directors reserves the right to suspend or revoke this Charter at any time the Board shall deem it for the best interest of the Association.

Dated at New York this *thirteenth* day of *March*, 1961.

Chairman of the Board

Executive Director



1961 Charter Members

APPLICATION FOR CHARTER

Date of Organization Meeting _____

To the Board of Directors,

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

WE, the undersigned, having fully and freely discussed the aims and accomplishments of the National Association, and believing that our interests coincide with its efforts for the advancement of colored people, do hereby apply for a charter as the

Branch

HAYWOOD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

with the object of carrying out in _____ and vicinity, the purposes of the Association, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws for Branches approved by the Board of Directors. BROWNSVILLE, TENN.

No.	Name	Address	Occupation	Membership Fee Paid
1	President			
2	Vice-President			
3	Secretary			
4	Treasurer			
5				
6	Mr. Hallie Powell	Route 1		2 00
7	Mr. John Bond	Route 1, Box 163-A		2 00
8	Mrs. Laura Pugh	405 E. Jefferson St.		2 00
9	Rev. Roy Leake	Route 2, Box 327		2 00
10	Mrs. Katherine Leake	Route 2, Box 327		2 00
11	Mrs. Idella Johnson	Route 1, Box 173		2 00
12	Mrs. Emma L. Jones	Route 1, Box 173		2 00
13	Mr. L. A. Perry	Route 6, Box 53		2 00
14	Mr. James Douglas	Route Box 145		2 00
15	Mr. Earl Rawls	404 Rawls St.		2 00
16	Miss Ruby Johnson	1008 North McLemore		3 50
17	Mr. Dailey Walker	Route 5, Box		2 00
18	Mr. Ray P. Morris	331 Bond Ave.		2 00
19	Mr. Dave Mike Jones	Route 3, Box 77		2 00
20	Mr. William Fred Hay	Route 3		3 50
21	Mr. James B. Hay	Route 3		2 00

1961 Charter Members

No.	Name	Address	Occupation	Membership Fee Paid
22	Mr. Mildred Hay	East Jefferson St.		3 50
23	Mr. James B. Hay	Route 3		2 00
24	Mrs. Hadester Gregory	c/o Rawls Funeral Home		3 50
25	Mr. Frank Harper	Route 1, Box 163		2 00
26	Mr. George Graves	Route 1		2 00
27	Mr. Joe S. Taylor	Route 1		2 00
28	Mr. Ed Pender	Route 3		2 00
29	Mrs. Betty R. Douglas	Route 1, Box 23		2 00
30	Mr. Charleston Minor	Route 5, Box 118		2 00
31	Mr. Calvin Douglas	Route 1, Box 23		2 00
32	Mrs. Versie Walker	Route 1, Box 166-C		2 00
33	Mrs. Minnie Sue Walker	Route 1, Box 166-A		2 00
34	Mr. Jessie Walker	Route 1, Box 166-A		2 00
35	Mrs. Lottie Cliff	Route 1, Box 149		2 00
36	Mr. W. G. Hines	Route 3, Box 74		2 00
37	Mr. John Wesley Jones	Route 1, Box 167		2 00
38	Mr. Jessie Jones	204 E. Jefferson St.		2 00
39	Mrs. Ethel Bond Reed	Route 6		2 00
40	Mrs. Ethel Britton	Route 1, Box 138		2 00
41	Mr. Willie Taliaferro	Route 5, Box 280		2 00
42	Mr. F. H. Henning	Tyus St.		2 00
43	Mr. Bill Love	Route 6, Box 54		2 00
44	Mr. J. W. Austin	Route 5		2 00
45	Mr. Julius Tucker	Route 5, Box 78		2 00
46	Mr. Homer Green, Jr.	Route 3, Box 97		2 00
47	Mr. Dossie Bond	c/o Rawls Funeral Home		2 00
48	Mr. George Chism	c/o Rawls Funeral Home		2 00
49	Mr. Charlie B. McFarland	c/o Rawls Funeral Home		2 00
50	Mr. Sammie J. Hall	Route 1		2 00
51	Mrs. Marie Newborn	4 E. Jefferson St.		2 00
52	Mr. James Inez Washington	Route 6		2 00
53	Mr. C. F. Sprinfield	Route 6		2 00
54	Mrs. Ethel Averheart	Route 3, Box 195		2 00

1961 Charter Members

No.	Name	Address	Occupation	Membership Fee Paid
55	Mr. Norvell Turner	Route 1, Box 169		2 00
56	Rev. Eddie L. Currie	1221 Cynthia Dr.		3 50
57	Mrs. Mildred L. Currie	1221 Cynthia Dr.		2 00
58	Miss Cynthia Rawls	1101 Cynthia Dr.		3 50
59	Mr. L. V. Hill	Route 5, Box 66		2 00
60	Mr. William A. Johnson	Route 1, Box 173		2 00
61	Rev. Hiram Newbern	1012 Gay St.		2 00
62	Mr. James T. Bond	Route 5, Box 286		2 00
63	Mr. Dan Nixon	Route 1, Box 163-G		2 00
64	Mr. Joe L. Sanderlin	Route 1, Box 246-G		2 00
65	Mr. Will Edgar Tyus	East Jefferson St.		2 00
66	Miss Evelyn Jones	418 South Hatchie St.		2 00
67	Mrs. Beatrice Dotson	418 South Hatchie St.		2 00
68	Mr. John Frank Bond	Route 1, Box 163-A		2 00
69	Mr. Elsie Mabon	Route 3, Box 74-B		2 00
70	Mrs. Willie D. Nixon	Route 1, Box 163-C		2 00
71	Mr. Z. A. Forrest	Route 3, Box 131		2 00
72	Mr. A. W. Morris	Route 3		2 00
73	Mr. Thomas Brown	Route 3, Box 12		2 00
74	Mr. Julius Mann	Route 5, c/o Harry Estes		2 00
75	Mr. Eliza Davis	10 Jefferson Courts		2 00
76	Mr. Bud Britton	Route 1, Box 138		2 00
77	Mr. Joe S. Moore	1222 Cynthia Drive		2 00
78	Mr. C. P. Boyd	Route 1, Box 182		2 00
79	Mr. Robert B. Owen	Route 1		2 00
80	Mr. Tillie Bond	Route 1, Box 170		2 00
81	Mr. Dairy Mann	Route 5, Box 52		2 00
82	Mr. George Green	Route 1, Box 23		2 00
83	Mrs. Amanda Walker	Route 1, Box 28		2 00
84	Mr. Roosevelt Walker	Route 1, Box 21		2 00
85				
86				



***Best Wishes For a Successful
Commemoration of the Death of***

MR. ELBERT WILLIAMS

**Walmart
1100 South Dupree Avenue
Brownsville, Tennessee 38012**



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Welcome to **Relationship Banking**

We are proud to serve as a sponsor of our community's endeavor to honor a Civil Rights Hero who gave his life in the pursuit of justice.

We are hopeful that all of the events surrounding the Commemoration of Mr. Elbert Williams' death will prove successful.

Haywood County Branch



Presidents Past & Present

First President, Brownsville, Tennessee Branch of the NAACP 1939

Presidents of the Haywood County Branch NAACP 1961 to Present

1. Ollie S. Bond
2. Reverend Eddie L. Currie
3. Mr. Fred Hay
4. Mr. Oran Sanders
5. Mr. Jimmy Lewis
6. Reverend Eddie L. Currie
7. Mrs. Nola-Walker Bond
8. Reverend Freddie J. Powell Sr.
9. Reverend Leroy Thompson
10. Mr. Maltimore Bond
11. Reverend Bates Bond
12. Mr. Joe S. Moore
13. Reverend Tom Averyheart
14. Reverend Allen Morris
15. Mrs. Alma Jean Carney
16. Mr. O. G. Stewart, Jr
17. Mr. Robert T. Green
18. Mr. Aubrey Bond
19. Reverend Dr. O. G. Stewart, Jr
20. Mrs. Alma Jean Carney-Thomas
21. Reverend Felecia Walker

**HAYWOOD COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

District I

Kathy Chapman
Janice Rogers

District II

Allen King
Richard Jameson

District III

Robert T. Green
Charles R. Wills

District IV

James Teddy Waldrop
Jerry Smith

District V

Wally Eubanks
John Gorman Jr.

District VI

Chris Lea
Becky Booth

District VII

Larry Stanley
Bob C. Hooper

District VIII

Jefferey Richmond
Marjorie Vault

District IX

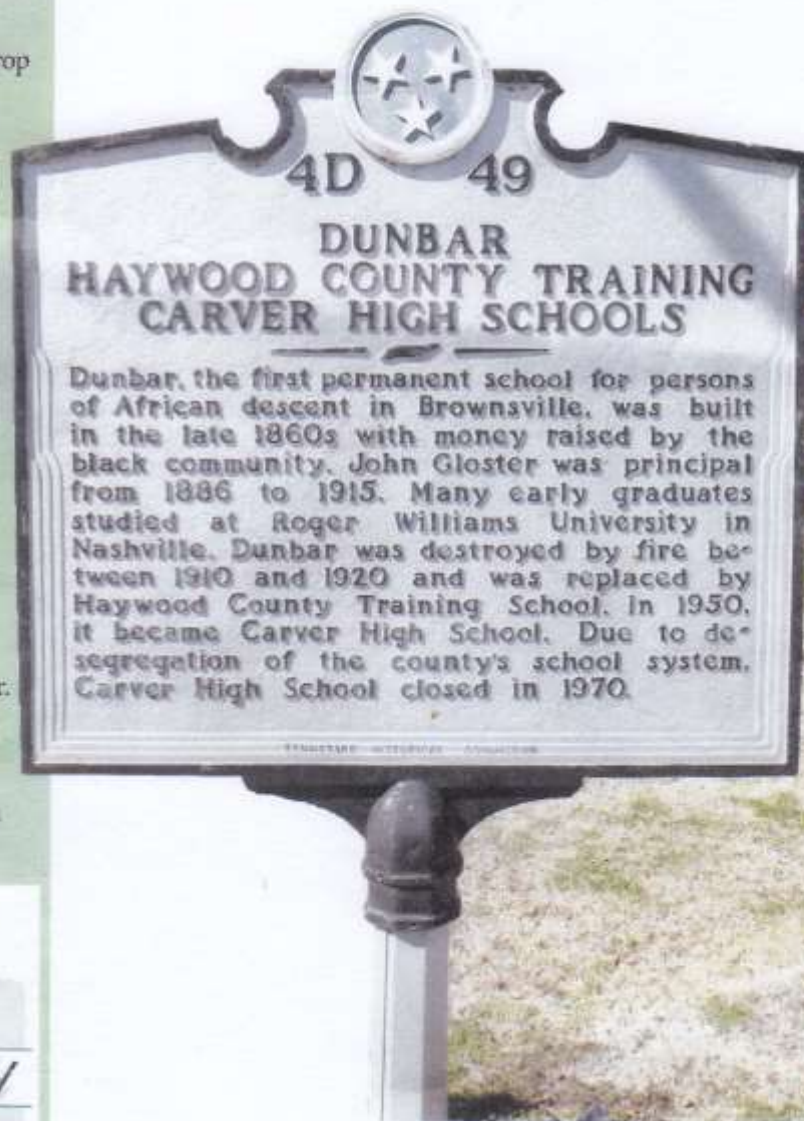
Samuel T. Mathes Jr.
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District X

Robert E. Thornton
Joe Stephens



Preserving the Past ... Building The Future!



Haywood County Government | A. Franklin Smith III, Mayor
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A wise man once said: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation."

(2 Corinthians 5:17-18)



Congratulations to the Elbert Williams Memorial Committee for your hard work and commitment. You are truly helping this city become
"The Beloved Community in a Multi-Ethnic World."

William "Bill" Rawls Jr, Mayor City of Brownsville





Commemorates with Gratitude

The Lives

of

Brownsville NAACP

Charter Members

Elbert & Annie Williams

&

Ollie S. & Mattye T. Bond

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Celebrating our Generations of growing together
The Families of Bond's Crossing, Tennessee



"Proudly recognizing and honoring the memory
and dedication of Elbert Williams."



ELBERT WILLIAMS

first-to-die

Remembering his Sacrifice in the search for Justice and Equal Rights

"If I am not for myself, who is for me?

And if I am only for myself, what am I?

And if not now, when?"

-Hillel the Younger, C. 30 BC

Sandra & Fred Silverstein & Family

We Are **Brownsville**

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Dr. Clarey R. Dowling
Brownsville, Tennessee

Congratulations to the Elbert Williams Memorial Committee on completing a task over seven decades in the making. Your efforts bring new meaning to the expression, *"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed. It is the only thing that ever has."*

IN HONOR OF
ELBERT WILLIAMS
MEMORIAL



400 NORTH DUPREE AVE., BROWNSVILLE, TN 38012

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Emanuel Obi, M. D.

P. Renee Obi, M. D., F.A.C.C.

Krystal S. Turner, FNP



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THE LONG OVERDUE RECOGNITION FOR THIS
UNSUNG HERO OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT."

Mr. William T. Bailey Jr.
Nashville, Tennessee

*"You cannot plough a field by turning
it over in your mind."*

~ Author Unknown ~

75 YEARS AGO

MR ELBERT WILLIAMS

*paid the supreme sacrifice
for justice and equality .*

*My sincere compliments and
gratitude for your courage and
dedication to the much deserved
commemoration of his death.*



United Methodist Church

Brownsville, Tennessee

What shall we then say to these things? If God be
for us, who can be against us? Rom 8:31

"Grace be with you on this important endeavor."



Courtyard Marriott of Jackson, Tennessee

200 Campbell Oaks Drive

"We are proud to support the Elbert Williams
Memorial Celebration."

INSOUTH Bank is proud to be a
sponsor of
**The Elbert Williams
Memorial Ceremony**
commemorating the seventy-fifth
anniversary of his death.



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1119 S. Dupree Ave
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Just Right for You.





Rawls Funeral Home Pays Homage
to

Elbert Williams

Slain Charter Member
of

The Brownsville (TN) NAACP
Branch

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A Tribute to Mr. Elbert Williams

We can not change the past and its regrettable history.

We can change the present by embracing our future through:

- ◆ *education,*
- ◆ *respect for dignity,*
- ◆ *acts of righteousness,*
- ◆ *a spirit of faith and*
- ◆ *working together.*

Mr. Williams' legacy will be known as a beacon of hope and love around the world. To be remembered; is to live on . . .



*With Gratitude,
Aretha Hopson Jones Family and Friends*

"So Quietly"

*So quietly they stole upon their prey
And dragged him out to death, so without flaw
Their black design, that they to whom the law
Gave him in keeping, in the broad, bright day,
Were not aware when he was snatched away;
And when the people, with a shrinking awe,
The horror of that mangled body saw,
"By unknown hands!" was all they could say.
So, too, my country, stealeth on apace
The soul-bright of a nation. Not with drums
Or trumpet blare is that corruption sown,
But quietly — now in the open face
Of day, now in the dark — when it comes,
Stern truth will never write. "By hands unknown.*

By Leslie Pinckney Hill, 1921

Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Bond
Brownsville, Tennessee

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth and Elaine Gardner
Birmingham, Alabama

Mr. and Mrs. Ozell and Willie Delk
Brownsville, Tennessee

Dr. Dorothy Granberry
Jackson, Tennessee

Mr. and Mrs. John and Bettye Duckworth, Jr
Brownsville, Tennessee

Mrs. Elizabeth Haskins
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Alfred Evans
Roswell, Georgia

Mrs. Sharon Hayes
Brownsville, Tennessee

Reverend Clay Evans
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Richard and Linda J. Higgins
Jackson, Tennessee

Dr. Jesse Cannon
Covington, Tennessee

Mrs. Hayden Hooper
Brownsville, Tennessee

Law Office of Gordon J. Houston
Covington, Tennessee

Mr. and Mrs. David and Sarah Levy
Brownsville, Tennessee

Mrs. Patricia Nolan-Fitzgerald
Chicago, Illinois

Loving Your Roots

Family History is a Treasure

Juanita L. Williams

Owner

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Mrs. Elma Rogers

Brownsville, Tennessee

Reverend Joseph and Julia Thornton

Brownsville, Tennessee



Brownsville Family Restaurant

Brownsville, Tennessee

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas and Pamela Russell

Brownsville, Tennessee



Alan Vines Automotive Jackson, Tennessee

"On behalf of Alan Vines Inc., Best Wishes for this monumental and historical event."

Kindest Regards
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"Congratulations and much success on this historic endeavor."



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is proud to be a supporter of such an important historical event. Congratulations to the Elbert Williams Memorial Committee for this endeavor.

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The Elbert Williams' story and the NAACP's story in Haywood County would not be complete without a short note about lifelong friendship and commitment to the causes of freedom for all people. Along life's journey many paths cross and intersect and have a profound effect on history. Such is the story of Mrs. Mildred Bond-Roxborough and Mrs. Cynthia Rawls-Bond. One would go on to become a lifelong NAACP executive, whose father, Ollie Bond was run out of town at the beginning of the reign of terror which ultimately resulted in the death of Elbert Williams. The other would remain a Brownsville resident and the most ardent and active supporter of the NAACP in Haywood County.

Their lives intersected as young children. The picture on the left was taken in front of Ollie Bond's home. He was at the time, the President of the 1939 Brownsville NAACP Chapter. In the picture on the left is Mildred, daughter of Ollie Bond, pushing Cynthia in what appears to be a tub, in front of the Bond family home. This is also the home which serves as the background of the 1939 photograph taken of the members of the original NAACP. It is the only known photograph of Elbert Williams.

In a continuing story of lives intersecting, it was in 1961 that Mrs. Roxborough hand delivered the Charter to the new Haywood County NAACP Chapter, as seen in the bottom picture on the left.

Inside this historical booklet is a roster of the 1961 Charter members. Roster number 58 was Miss Cynthia Rawls, just below her at roster number 59 is Mr. L. V. Hill.

Mr. L. V. Hill was roster number 45 on the original 1939 Chapter and can be seen in the original 1939 photograph in front of Mr. Ollie Bond's home.

The lesson for all of us is, "in the span of time and space, we are all connected in God's sight."



We are eternally grateful and honored that both of these extraordinary ladies are here with us today.

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