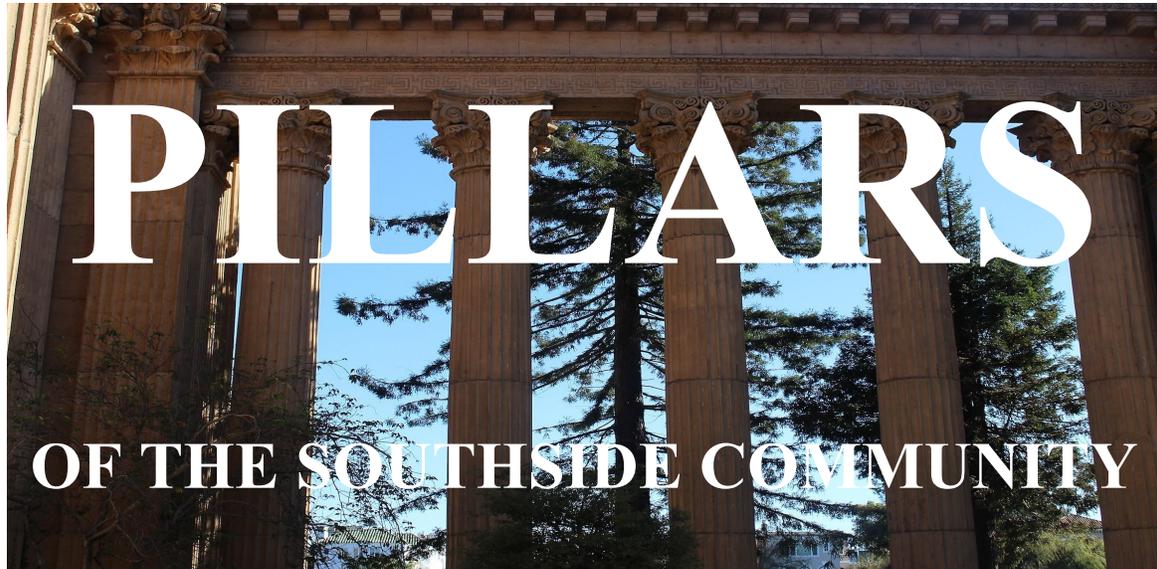


FEBRUARY 24, 2024



The Gainesville - Hall County Black History Society, Inc.

Second Annual Celebration

2024 TASTE OF SOUTHSIDE HISTORY

~EVENING GALA~

Honoring

- ★ **BEULAH RUCKER MUSEUM & EDUCATIONAL CENTER**
- ★ **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF LANIER- POSITIVE PLACE CLUB/TEEN CENTER**
(FOREST HILLS BOYS CLUB Affiliate/Offspring)
- ★ **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 1810 M.L.K. Jr. BLVD.**
- ★ **NATHANIEL SHELTON**

whose enduring contributions have helped build our community.



BEULAH RUCKER MUSEUM & EDUCATIONAL CENTER

The mission of The Educational Foundation and Museum of Beulah Rucker Oliver, Inc., is to memorialize the life of this phenomenal African-American woman through educational (Rucker Industrial School, 1911-1958) and civic activities (1911 -1963) that enhance the quality of community life. The museum is dedicated to preserving African-American heritage and promoting awareness of the contributions and personal sacrifices of Beulah Rucker Oliver. This museum is the first to focus on African-American heritage in Gainesville-Hall County and North Georgia. The life work of Beulah Rucker Oliver will live on through her vision of equal education opportunity and the sacrifices she made in the pursuit of this dream. Her former home and school provide a tangible link with the community's past. On May 4, 1995 the museum was listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of the Interior. On October 26, 1996, at the dedication ceremony, retired educator and keynote speaker Laura Mae Whelchel, spoke of the plight to preserve the history of the school and the pride she felt that her dream had finally come true. On March 8, 2012, Beulah Rucker was added to the Georgia Women of Achievement Hall of Fame. In 2013, the Beulah Rucker Oliver Memorial Intersection was named in her honor, located in front of the Rucker Museum. As of 2023, the new Executive Director of the Rucker Museum & Educational Center is Kyndra Cohen. Appointed in June 2023, Kyndra Cohen is also the first ever Hall County Family Connections Network (HCFCN)/Butler Center Director. Kyndra is the granddaughter of Dorothy Rucker and great-granddaughter of Beulah Rucker Oliver (1888-1963).

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF LANIER- POSITIVE PLACE CLUB/TEEN CENTER

(FOREST HILLS BOYS CLUB Affiliate/Offspring)

In 1954, the Gainesville-Hall County Boys Club was founded at 211 Sycamore Street to provide a fun and safe place for (white) children. In 1956, Rev. Thomas H. Carter Sr, Assistant Pastor of Mt. Calvary Church of God organized the local colored Boys Club. The purpose of the club was to promote, inspire and entertain the youth of the community. The Club was housed in a room in the back of Willie B. Young Funeral Home on Athens Street. In the 1950s, Rev. Carter was Chairman of the thirteen-member Colored Boys Club Board of Directors. In the 1960s, with BOD approval, Mr. Kyles Moorehead, Sr. built the Forest Hills Boys Club on Desota Drive in the Newtown neighborhood. Mr. Ross Harrison served as FHBC Director. In 1970, a nine-member BOD continued to serve the FHBC. In 1962, Jim Smith became Executive Director of Gainesville-Hall County Boys Club. In 1963 the Girls Club program was established. In the 1970s Jim Smith would oversee the merger of the Gainesville-Hall County Boys and the Forest Hills Boys Club into the Chestnut Street Boys Club of America at the current location on Downey Blvd. Two new clubs were opened to accommodate growth. One club at the Blackshear Place, the other at the current location. In 1997, Gainesville-Hall County Boys Club merged with Girls Club to form Boys & Girls Clubs of Hall County and began operating from the Positive Place Club on Downey Blvd. In 2006, the Teen Center was established to provide programs specific to teenagers. In 2017, Boys & Girls Clubs of Hall County became Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier to reflect growing demand beyond Hall County. The Lanier Area includes 26 Club programs in Hall, Habersham, Forsyth Counties, and Buford. Currently, Sean Couch is President of the twenty-five member Board of Directors and five-member Trustee Board. Steven Mickens is Chief Executive Officer of Boys & Girls Club of Lanier, Erica Doughty is Unit Director of the Positive Place Club, and Derrick Caldwell is Unit Director of the Teen Center. The Southside community is proud to claim the Positive Place Club and Teen Center of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier as historic Pillars of the Southside Community.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 1810 M.L.K. Jr. BLVD. (186 years old)

Historian Henry Louis Gates, Jr. says, "No pillar of the African American community has been more central to its history, identity, and social justice vision than the 'Black Church'." The First Baptist Church on Martin Luther King Blvd. is the oldest continuous church in Gainesville. It is the oldest "Black Church" in Gainesville/Hall County. Organized in 1838, twenty years after Hall County was laid out, little is known about the early days of the church because there were no written records. Around 1877 Rev. Jack Nichols, a former slave, was named pastor of the church. In 1901 a new church building was built at the corner of High and Pine streets. In 1906, under the leadership of Rev. William Dorsey, the church became affiliated with the Northwestern Baptist Association (established in 1877). In 1923, one hundred and one years ago, the current sanctuary was built under Rev. Dorsey's leadership. Current pastor, Rev. Isaac Whitehead Jr. became the pastor in December of 1997. First Baptist on MLK Jr., as the oldest, is one of more than thirty-five current "Black Churches" serving the Gainesville/Hall County Southside community. At least twelve of these churches have existed for more than 100 years.

NATHANIEL SHELTON (The Southside's Most Influential Citizen of the past 50 Years)

On Gainesville's Southside in 1974, if someone had asked who Nathaniel Shelton was, the answer could have been summed up in a few sentences. Mr. Shelton was the former E.E. Butler High/Gainesville High teacher who married Ms Janie Hunter. He was also the Gent's Club founder/advisor. This group of young men in the community were doing great things. They sponsored the Teen Center, the Christmas "Toys for Underprivileged Children" project, Men's Fashion show, and the Miss Black Teenager of Hall County pageant and parade. In 2024, anywhere in Gainesville/Hall County, if one were to inquire about "Shelton" on Gainesville's Southside, they should be prepared for at least an hour of commentary. Anyone answering the inquiry would give a personal testimony of the influence Shelton has had on their lives. He has been and continues to be involved in the community, serving on more than 25 boards/committees, and has received numerous awards and honors. Nathaniel Shelton is the first individual to be recognized by the Gainesville - Hall County Black History Society as a Founding/Lifetime Member and a historic Pillar of the Southside Community. He claims Gainesville as his hometown on Facebook. Shelton and Mrs. Shelton are the proud parents of an adult son, Terrance. In Gainesville, Hall County, Georgia, and this nation, Shelton has personally mentored/motivated thousands.

2024 Taste of Southside History Donor Levels

★ \$10,000 - Presenting Sponsor

- A full page recognition ad in the gala program
- Recognition in publicity and social media for the event
- Two reserved front row tables of eight at the February 24 gala
- G-HCBHS BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIP status

★ \$5,000 - Pillar Sponsor

- A half page recognition ad in the gala program
- Recognition in publicity and social media for the event
- One reserved front row table of eight at the February 24 gala
- G-HCBHS BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIP status

★ \$2,500 - Heritage Sponsor

- A quarter page recognition ad in the gala program
- Recognition in publicity and social media for the event
- One reserved table of eight at the February 24 gala
- G-HCBHS BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIP status

★ \$1,000 - Legacy Sponsor

- One reserved table of eight at the February 24 gala
- G-HCBHS BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIP status
- Recognition *at* and Name listed *in* the gala program

★ \$500 - Table Sponsor

- One reserved table of eight at the February 24 gala
- G-HCBHS CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP status
- Name listed in the gala program

\$75 - Individual Ticket- INDIVIDUAL G-HCBHS membership

I would like to pledge my support to the Gainesville-Hall County Black History Society's 2024 Taste of Southside History gala at the following level:

- \$10,000 Presenting Sponsor*
- \$5,000 Pillar Sponsor*
- \$2,500 Heritage Sponsor*
- \$1,000 Legacy Sponsor*
- \$500 Table Sponsor*
- \$75 Individual Ticket

Signature _____

Printed Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone # _____

- Payment is enclosed
 - Amount: _____
- Online/Cash App

CASH APP Code

\$GHCBH3 Gainesville Black History Society



_____ ***I'm donating my Reserved table of eight** at the Feb 24 gala to students/seniors citizens.

_____ Please email me my 2024 G-HCBHS Membership Application (MUST BE RETURNED, TO ACTIVATE)

Mail completed form to:

Gainesville-Hall County Black History Society, Inc.

P.O. BOX 423

Gainesville, Georgia 30503

A 501(c)3 Federal Tax Exempt Domestic Nonprofit Corporation

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