University of Alabama Summer Interns, Making a Difference

For the Foundation, the onset of summer signals the arrival of students serving through its partnership for Walker County with the University of Alabama’s New College and David Mathews Center for Civic Life. The interns spend the summer working with various community partners throughout Walker County and immerse themselves in life in the area.

Currie Blackwell – Senior, Capstone Rural Health Center
Hometown: Petal, MS
Major: New College - Human Rights Law Minors: Public Relations and History

“When you immerse yourself into a community, your hope is to understand the region’s culture. To get to know the folks who are your neighbors. To hear people’s life stories over pimento and cheese sandwiches. To understand the ins and outs of every interaction you see happening before your eyes. But Jasper taught me sometimes— it’s okay to not know the answer. I found myself seeing this summer as a way to focus more on people and less on the facts, to focus more on enacting the change and less on the ‘perfection’ of the product. Leaving is definitely bittersweet, but Jasper will be a reminder to me of the power that occurs when we place our power behind grassroots efforts, believe in the people we call neighbors, and truly advocate for the places we call home.”

Ellie Cochran – Senior, Walker County Health Action Partnership
Hometown: Cumming, GA
Major/Minor: Religious Studies and New College - Environmental Management

“Jasper in particular reminds me of a semi-small town just north of where I grew up. Coal Mountain is where both of my parents were raised, as well as their parents, grandparents, etc. When I was younger, staying with my grandparents and going downtown to run errands with them often made me feel like I was on a movie set, pretending to live a quiet, small-town life. Being in Jasper reminds me of a similar feeling, but in a more beautiful and cozy setting. It seems as though you can choose how involved you would like to be, how much responsibility you would like to have within the community. Although I have never lived permanently in a small, close-knit community like this one, I really love it; everything feels familiar, and every single person that we have met has been incredible.”

Andrew Rutledge – Sophomore, Jasper Main Street
Hometown: Vale, NC
Major/Minor: Nonprofit Management/Rural Development and Creative Media

“From my experience in Jasper, Walker County has cohesion and the feeling of community is strong. A lot of this must be attributed to local nonprofits like Jasper Main Street, the Health Action Partnership, and most of all, the Community Foundation. These local non-profits, along with civic groups like the Rotary and Kiwanis Club have been strong in encouraging civic engagement and pride in Walker County. While I am proud of the place I come from, it could learn a few lessons from what Walker County has achieved thus far.”

Brett McCracken – Senior, Walker County Center of Technology
Hometown: Madison, AL
Majors: International Relations and Economics
Minors: French and Civic Engagement and Leadership

“Our last “community dinner” was at a local restaurant which was great because I feel like I got the true Jasper experience. All summer we have heard about how you will see people you know in restaurants and everyone will talk with each other. By the end of the summer, I saw two people from the community that I knew and talked with, which honestly made me feel like a member of Jasper. This summer has been great, and I am so thankful for all of the opportunities that are provided to all of us during this internship. I would love to be able to come back and do more work next summer if possible because I have genuinely enjoyed my time working in Jasper.”

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Often described as one of “the state’s shining stars,” the John Hollis Bankhead Sr. family is known for its political participation, philanthropy, community service, and dedication to individual human rights, which all remain relevant today.

Emelil Bankhead Humphries, the great-great granddaughter of John Hollis Sr., and the granddaughter of Walter Will was born in Jasper to John Hollis Bankhead III and his wife Martha Ann and raised here along with her siblings Jack, Ginger and Blossom.

We are proud to have one of the remaining “stars” of this family as a volunteer and consultant regarding family history. Emelil is dedicated to her family’s legacy, and her knowledge has played a significant role in the development and growth of the Bankhead House & Heritage Center, a “jewel of Jasper.”

Throughout her lifetime she has been a community servant. She helped start Clean as a Whistle in 1989 under former Walker County Commissioner John Ed Roberts and you can still see this program at work today. In the 1990s she was a member of Project People, assisting those in need and has served as a board member for the Walker County Department of Human Resources.

One of the areas of focus nearest to her heart is literacy as she has been a long time board member of the Carl Elliott Regional Library and has served as chairman for the past eight years. She assisted with founding Hope for Women serving as its treasurer. She remains active with this organization which provides assistance to women with life controlling issues such as drugs and alcohol.

Emelil continues to serve her family’s legacy of giving as an adviser of the Bankhead Fund, a component fund of the Walker Area Community Foundation. Originally founded as the Bankhead Foundation by Walter Will Bankhead it has a long history of providing assistance to our community. For many years she was a WACF grant review committee member.

Emelil is devoted to her family: husband William W. “Billy” Humphries Jr., son Will Humphries, daughter-in-law Amy Hannah Humphries, granddaughter Belle, daughter Sara Frances Dunagan, son-in-law Chase Dunagan, and grandson Brock Dunagan.

We are grateful to have her give of her time, talent and treasure to the Walker Area Community Foundation and the Bankhead House and Heritage Center. She is truly one of a kind and her family’s legacy continues through her.
MEMORIALS:  June 1 – August 31, 2018

Brenda Beard's Birthday
Camille and Fred Bush

Joette Brown
Brenda and Al McAdams

Kay Byars' Birthday
Jean Byars
Hazel Marlow

Pam and Kevin Callahan
Lisa Killingsworth

Segal Edward Drummond
Caroline Drummond
Eddie Miller

Larry Frazier
Robbie and Brack O’Rear

Leroy Gurnagus
Lisa and Ben Reed
Billie Sherer

Alice Hamner
Pat and Keith Lewis

Patsy “Pat” Hardy
Sandra and David Hogg

Richard W. Henton
Beth and Rick Stukes

Philip Hudson
Robbie and Anthony Allen

Mary and Mac Badgett
Sylvia and John Crump

Kerry and Chip Giobetti
Corly Hagen

Sarah and Grant Rolley

Mimi Hudson
Lisa and Eddie Miller

Jane and Sam Murphy
Pat and Stewart Percy

Susan and Grant Rolley

Judith Humphreys
Carol Savage

Landon Chase Hunt
Byars’ Wright Inn.

Reidie and Jerry Redmill

James Ingle
Robbie and Anthony Allen

Gene Birdsong
Mimi Hudson

RE/MAX Elite
Elizabeth and Rusty Richardson

Keith Johnson
Sharon and David Hogg

Donna Baxter Justice's Birthday
Annette and Travis Corbin

Pauline Kiker
Jeanette and Pete Smith

Brenda McAdams
Linda and Bob Maddox

Mary Miller
Lisa and Eddie Miller

Kathryn O’Rear
Corly Hagen

David Rowland
Corly Hagen

Carol Savage
Bob and Rick Stukes

Georgia Otwell
Sabinia Keating

Margaret Parks
Sabinia Keating

Jeanettte Smith

Jeanette Smith – Top 50 over 50
Margery Birdsong
Corly Hagen
Carol Savage
Hugh Smith
Pete Smith

Alicia Stewart
Brenda and Al McAdams

Beth Stukes
Crisy and Lincoln Moody

Thorne Kiddos – Beth, Larry, Becky, and Babes

Rieta Thorne
Buddy Thorne

Betty Underwood’s Birthday
Kay Byars
Hazel Marlow

Sandy Adkins
Carol Savage

Lucille Blakeney
Beth and Rick Stukes

Hilda Brown
June Lambert

Patsy Brown
Robbin and Anthony Allen

Virginia Brown
Kathy and Jerry Byars

Kay Byars
Pam and Kevin Callahan

Sylvia and John Crump
Marilyn Grice

Corly Hagen
June and Bill Hudson

Mimi Hudson
Pat and Keith Lewis

Terri and John Lyon

Linda and Bob Maddox
Hazel Marlow

Brenda and Al McAdams
Barbara Mieders

Lisa and Eddie Miller

Helen and Pat Morrison

Jane and Sam Murphy

Sara and Axford Myers

Robbie and Brack O’Rear

Sudie and Bob Reed

Susan and Grant Rolley

Debbie and Joey Sanders
Marie Sandlin

Carol Savage
Billie Sherer

Charlotte and Bob Sherer
Jimmie Carol Sherer

Alice Short

Jerry C. Byars
Hazel Marlow

Melba Caldwell
Pat and Richard Barnes

Frank Caldwell

Lee and Stan Eppers
Euna Mae Garnett
Karen and Chip Giobetti

Corly Hagen
Sharon and David Hogg

Lisa and Eddie Miller

Debbie and Joey Sanders
Charlotte and Bob Sherer

Beth and Rick Stukes

Tom Camp
Jane and Sam Murphy

Donald Drummond, Sr.
Eddie Miller

Garry Neil Drummond, Sr.
Eddie Miller

Larry Drummond
Gene Birdsong

Eddie Miller

Phyllis Kiker
Hilda and Jimmy Kiker

Mike Kilgore
Lisa and Eddie Miller

Ann Rutledge

Gwendolyn Knight
Tina and Red Wilson

Emnie Laird
Mike Putman

Barbara Lakey
Jimmie Carol Sherer

Marjorie Leptien
Sabinia Keating

Sara Ann Lindsey
Beth and Rick Stukes

John Whitt Long’s Birthday
Pete Smith

Tyler Mahur
Holly and Hugh Smith

Jeanette and Pete Smith

Tyler McClendon
Robbin and Anthony Allen

Matthew Morrison
Robbin and Anthony Allen

Edna Mosley
Sylvia and John Crump

Jane and Sam Murphy

Susan and Grant Rolley

Jerome Newmark
Brenda Beard

Betty Jo Goldstein

Mimi Hudson

Cindy and Bob Roby

Syrus Bank
Julie and Tal Vickers

Rheba Robinson
Hilda and Jimmy Kiker

Alene Rowe
Robbin and Anthony Allen

Marie Rutledge
Dianne Lollar

William Self
Jenny and Henry Smith

Hazel Sherer
Abbe Drummond

Barbara Bankhead Oliver
Virginia Brown

Abbe Drummond
Pam Files

Gayle and Joe Fine

Karen and Chip Giobetti
Corly Hagen

Debbie and Bert Hendrix

Mimi Hudson
Fred May

Gerson May
Barbara Mieders

Cindy and Lincoln Moody
Helen and Pat Morrison

Kathryn O’Rear

Mike Putman

Debbie and Joey Sanders

Carol Savage

John T. Oliver, Jr.

James “Buddy” Tubbs
Sabinia Keating

Bobby T. Underwood
Hazel Marlow

Janet West
Judy and Fred Bowie
Daphne and Jim Bradley

Virginia Brown
Pam and Kevin Callahan

Abbe Drummond
Vick and Mike Drummond

Shelly and Joe Graham
Sharon and David Hogg

Brenda and Al McAdams

Becky McKeman
Barbara Mieders

Lisa and Eddie Miller

Jane and Sam Murphy

Lucy and Bill Richardson

Ann Rutledge

Holly and Hugh Smith

Jeanette and Pete Smith

Betty Underwood
Elizabeth Weber

Nettie Webb
Lisa and Eddie Miller

Elmer Williams
Sabinia Keating

C.B. Wilson
Sabinia Keating
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Steven “Chip” Globetti-Director
Edward R. Jackson-Past Chairman and Director
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J. Douglas Warren-Director

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Visit our website: wacf.org

The Bankhead House & Heritage Center
2018 Remaining Exhibit Schedule

The Magic of Music
October 2-December 28
Opening Reception: October 2, 2:00pm-4:00pm
Walk through our collection of instruments and music related items from local residents and marvel at the evolution of music.

Live Music
Saturday, Oct. 20 11:00am, 12:00pm and 1:00pm
Saturday, Nov. 17 11:00am, 12:00pm and 1:00pm

Save the Date
Holiday Open House
Saturday, December 15
2:00pm until 4:00pm