Oakwood shines commemorating 50th Anniversary of "The March" and "I Have a Dream"

Tennessee Valley TV viewers experienced Oakwood's scholarship and history during the 50th anniversary commemoration of the March on Washington for Freedom and Jobs, and Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech.

**WAAY-TV (ABC):** Two Oakwood Professors Discuss MLK Past...and Future

**WHNT-TV (CBS):** Retired Oakwood history professor remembers eye-witnessing '63 March on Washington
WHNT-TV (CBS): Oakwood retired professor, staff physician remember MLK

WAFF-TV (NBC): Eyewitness, retired Oakwood professor reflects on March on Washington

WAAY-TV (ABC): Oakwood's Dr. Warren reflects, while Tim Allston projects

Fox 54 News: (lead story) Dr. Mervyn Warren on MLK

The official commemorative book, "I Have a Dream: 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington" (pictured) features an ad from Oakwood which you can see at the top of this article.

All of these and other items are being featured on a special section of Oakwood's website.

As a Huntsville civil rights "teen protester," OU's Edna Dailey remembers, . . .

In 1962, at the age of 15, I participated in the civil rights movement in Huntsville, Alabama. College students, junior high and high school students marched day-to-day for
several months, up and down the sidewalks of the city of Huntsville, carrying picket signs, singing freedom songs and old-time gospel songs.

We would go into all of the restaurants in the city and sit down at counters and tables to be served meals. Some of the local churches on Church Street would prepare food for us. After we ate we would go back out and start again. It was almost like a job that we had to do. Our parents never said we could not participate, and we were the only people in our neighborhood participating.

My sister Frances Sims was one of the first two people to get arrested. The policemen would not arrest the young demonstrators, so we continued to march after the policemen would take a group away. We put in a lot of hours of marching, singing and sitting in eating establishments.

We were at Ashby Auditorium at Oakwood College when Dr. Martin Luther King spoke there. We would lead out in songs for people to join in. I have film footage of this event. The film footage was done by Dr. Sonny Hereford, a medical physician in Huntsville.

Dr. King also spoke at First Missionary Baptist Church, at that time located on Church Street in downtown Huntsville. During these times Dr. King was never filmed by Dr. Hereford, he was asked not to. Neither when he spoke in Ashby Auditorium Oakwood College (now Oakwood University).

We were sometimes threatened by the employees of the businesses. People would put purses and shopping bags in the seats to keep us from sitting down but we would ask them to remove them. We never showed any fear when we marched mainly because we did not know how serious the situation was. We were made aware of things that we could do or have at this time in our lives, after that it was no turning back.

Looking back, I know now it was God protecting us that kept us
safe. At that time I did not know Him, and I did not realize the
danger we were in. Huntsville was never filled with a lot of violence
at that time. People would blurt out things at us, but we never said
anything back to them. We just continued to sing and march. We
did not know this was how they felt.

Getting and staying ready: Recapping
OU's Crisis
Communication Management workshop

On Monday, August 26, Elder
Steve Norman,
communications director for
the Southern Union,
conducted a crisis
communication management
briefing for the Office of
Public Relations ("Team PR")
and representatives from various campus divisions.

Norman said not all crises are negative.

The OU "Situation Room"? Norman leads Team PR, division reps in "what
ifs?" of crisis or emergency communications.

What is a crisis? The '73 alum defined it as a "reputation-defining
event in the life of your organization. It's unpredictable, but not
unexpected; has greater impact than an incident; presents danger and opportunity; and it disturbs stakeholder expectations."

During his presentation, he covered:

1) Crisis management and why prepare;
2) Essential documents and tools for effective crisis management;
3) Eight organizational steps; and
4) Resources and references for crisis management.

Norman concluded by giving additional references for higher education institutions:
Academic Impressions, www.academicimpressions.com;
Public Relations Society of America, www.prsa.org;

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**School year opens with First Chapel service**

By Jyremy Reid

The university held its First Chapel/Academic Convocation on August 22 in the University Church. Faculty (dressed in full regalia) and staff members alike lined up in the church to participate in the event.

The line was led by Dr. Timothy McDonald, Provost and Senior Vice President, who gave the invocation. President Dr. Leslie Pollard and USM President Christopher Readus welcomed the audience of Oakwood University students back to their First Chapel service.

Oakwood stands within the tradition proclaimed by our founder, Mrs. Ellen G. White, who was a strong voice in the establishment of this institution. She said, "In regard to this school here in Huntsville, I wish to say that for the past two or three years I have been receiving instruction regarding it...All that is done by those connected with this school, whether they be white or black, is to be done with the realization that this is the Lord's institution..."

With these spoken words of Mrs. White, Oakwood has taken them and put them into full effect. This
especially applies to our recent victory in the "Retool Your School" Campus Improvement Program sponsored by The Home Depot® in May of this year. Dr. Pollard and Ms. Kisha Norris, Executive Director of Advancement and Development, both welcomed representatives from The Home Depot to the stage. They shared the Administration's enthusiasm for OU's next monumental project.

Dr. Pollard gave the address entitled, "Standing with the Stone." He encouraged the students to stay strong in their studies and to never become fragile. Dr. Pollard's words rang with wisdom throughout the sanctuary and every ear that listened would be wise to heed them.

The Aeolians sang "Lift Every Voice and Sing" under the direction of Jason Max Ferdinand. Then an anointing service was conducted in which a few students and faculty were anointed with oil to dedicate themselves for the upcoming year. Dr. Garland Dulan and Senior Pastor Carlton P. Byrd gave prayers of dedication after the anointing, and the recessional proceeded thereafter. The future of Oakwood University is definitely looking bright, and with God's help we are moving forward.
For further information, visit Oakwood's website.
Oakwood Alumni and Friends!

You are invited to attend vespers and a complimentary fellowship reception at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Saturday, September 28th
6:30-9:00 pm

Who will be there?
Fellow Oakwood Alumni and Friends; Drs. Leslie and Prudence Pollard, President and First Lady; the Aeolians; United Student Movement officers; OU Administrators and many more.

Where?
Washington Hilton Hotel
The Georgetown Room
1919 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

Parking is free only upon presenting this Postcard.

For more details, email alumni@oakwood.edu or call 256.726.7039.
Dr. Frank Mullins (MGMT '97), Assistant Professor of Management at North Carolina A&T State University, discusses the autonomy, work/life balance, and influence that one can have as a business professor in a video clip produced by The PhD Project, available on YouTube.

The mission of the award-winning PhD Project is to increase the diversity of corporate America by increasing the diversity of business school faculty.

For more information about The PhD Project, visit www.phdproject.org.

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**Oakwood alum leads surgery program in Haiti**

Stephen Carryl, class of 84, chairman of surgery at Wyckoff Heights Hospital, has spearheaded a laparoscopic surgery program in Haiti to help with minimally invasive surgical techniques.

As President of the non profit organization Overseas Medical Assistance Team (OMAT), he has led yearly volunteer missions to Haiti for the last 14 years.

The first of its kind in Haiti, this is a wonderful way to introduce modern surgical techniques to some of Haiti’s skilled surgeons. Five local physicians have already been trained to operate laparoscopically.

*Submitted to the OU website by JoAnne Carryl*  
omatmission1@aol.com

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**RYS Volunteer Day has been rescheduled.**

The "Volunteers Day" -- for the cleaning and sprucing up of the pavilion's surrounding area -- originally scheduled for Sunday, September 1, has been postponed to a later time. *Stay tuned.*
To the OU? Oh, Yes! Staff,
Thank you so much for this outstanding publication! I look forward to reading each issue; they seem to just get better and better! OU? Oh, Yes! has definitely increased my engagement and sense of connection to my Alma Mater. Keep up the great work!

Patricia McBean Pates (Class of 1983)
Orlando, Florida