

Mary Burnette - Education Inductee

Mary E. Burnette was recruited after her 1951 graduation from Florida Agriculture Mechanical University as the first African-American female teacher Okaloosa County, where she oversaw the start-up of the county's segregated schools. later led the fight for school integration, and became one of the first African-American teachers in the formerly all-white public schools. She lobbied for a local Head Start Program in 1967, and directed it for 22 years. She also provided property for the Burnette-Harmon-Wood community center that now operates within Sylvania Heights Front Porch the community. Pioneer, educator and activist, Mrs. Burnette truly made a positive impact on our community.



2013 Hall of Fame Inductees

Mary Burnette-Education Inductee

Rogene Anchors Hasty-Pioneer Inductee

Sam Seevers-Contemporary Inductee



Rogene Anchors Hasty - Pioneer Inductee

Fourth generation Okaloosa native, Rogene Anchors Hasty exemplifies community service. Whether welcoming new residents merchants Crestview's and as first Newcomer Greeting Hostess or working with local business and civic leaders as the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, Rogene has been committed to promoting growth and opportunity. Hasty increased Chamber memberships from fifty to over three hundred, coordinated events, such as the annual Christmas Bazaar, and was appointed by Govenor Bob Graham and former Okaloosa-Walton Junior College President J.E. McCracken special education committees.



Sam Seevers - Contemporary Inductee

Sarah "Sam" Seevers is a long-time resident of Destin and highly active community leader. Since 2002, she has served as a Destin City Council member and in 2010 was elected the first female Mayor of Destin. She has also served as President of the Northwest Florida League of Cities. Sam is currently the President of the Okaloosa County League of Cities. She has received the "Destin Council Member of the Year" award, the "Ann Gibson Community Service Award," and the Destin Area Chamber "Volunteer of the Year" award. Sam volunteers her heart timelessly for positive, beneficial results wherever life and circumstances lead her.



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Congratulations!

