A-State Radio Engineer Remembered as 'Gentle Soul'

MELISSA PALUMBO

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After more than three decades of service at Arkansas State and numerous productions at KASU, June Taylor has passed away. Not only was she the first full-time African American employee of the university radio station, but she also impacted the lives of those around her during her career.

A native to Washington, D.C., Taylor's family first questioned why she would do an interview for a job in Arkansas. According to Taylor's sister, Patricia Taylor, the lifestyle of her hometown was far different than that of Jonesboro.

"You realize that Jonesboro, Arkansas, is nothing like Washington, D.C.," Patricia Taylor recalled telling her sister before her interview.

Her response was simple: "I know. That's why I want to come here."

At the time of her death in mid-January, Taylor had spent more time living in Jonesboro than in Washington. Her sister said Jonesboro became Taylor's home.

Being the first female engineer at KASU was one of Taylor's many accomplishments, as she produced multiple programs for the university including the long-running "Tradition," and "Calendar Lore." Taylor was also known as the co-host of "We Wanna Boogie," working alongside the late Sonny Burgess for 12 years.

"She was a joy to work with," Dr. Bill Clements, professor emeritus of English and Folklore, said of Taylor.

Mark Smith, the current manager of KASU, said Taylor's work will be missed.

"After her passing, I was reminded of a line from the classic film, 'It's a Wonderful Life,'" Smith said. "'One man's life touches so many others. When he's not there it leaves an awfully big hole.' We will miss her."



Image courtesy of KASU

Taylor working at her job at KASU

Small Prints Exhibition Hosted in BAM

ERIC MCGEE

STAFF WRITER

The Delta National Small Prints Exhibition is being held at the Bradbury Art Museum from Jan. 23 to Feb. 19. This year's exhibition is dedicated to Les Christensen, former director of the Bradbury Art Museum. Christensen retired last summer after 21 years of service with Arkansas State University.

The 2020 exhibition features 55 prints in which the natural environment and its relationship with humanity are the central theme. Gretchen L. Wagner served as juror for this year's exhibition. The juror is responsible for choosing which prints will be exhibited. Currently, Wagner is a fellow at the St. Louis Art Museum and has been instrumental in completing numerous exhibitions. She has worked with the Museum for Modern Art, the International Print Center in New York and the Pulitzer Arts Foundation.

Prints by artists from all over the world are featured at the DNSPE. However, there are two prints exhibited by local artist, Holt Brasher. A master printmaker, Brasher is practically a life-long resident of Jonesboro, Arkansas. Additionally, he was a professor of art at Arkansas State University from 1963 to 2003. Both his prints are from woodcuts.

Prints are available for purchase at the exhibition. They range in price from $175 to $1800. The museum created a wonderful picture catalogue/program to go with the exhibit, where each artist gives a brief synopsis on how they approach their work. Local artist, Holt Brasher states, "In creating my art, I validate myself, my lands, and my upbringing through using them as parts of a recipe for an artistic soup." Such accompanying statements give the viewer a little more insight into the artist's work.

For more of this article, go to theherald.home.blog



Image by Eric McGee

Haley Voges, BAM educational coordinator, talks about a print.

CAMPUS CRIME

MATTHEW WILLIAMS

NEWS WRITER

Jan. 11th | 12:27 p.m.

University Police received a call regarding a "suspicious person" at a residence on Iroquois Street in the Village. Officers were advised by dispatch that the person had attempted to enter the residence but then left in an unknown direction. On arrival in the area, they noticed a man matching the suspect's description and wearing the same clothes as the suspect. He was at the intersection of Robinson and University Loop.

When officers attempted to make contact he started backing away with his hands raised. As they started moving closer and attempting to talk to him, he took off running northwest through a parking lot. Officers gave chase, and yelled for him to stop running. The suspect ran between two houses and surrendered in a parking lot just west of the houses.

He was taken into custody and transported to the Craighead County Detention Center. At booking, he told the officers that his name was Corvell Robinson, and he gave his date of birth as January 12, 1994. When authorities were unable to identify him with this, the jailer asked for his birthdate. He then responded with December 9, 1994. Robinson is being held for a probable cause hearing, on attempted burglary and fleeing arrest charges. A persona non grata (PNG) was also issued.

Jan. 16th | 9:33 a.m.

University Police made a traffic stop Thursday morning on a car they determined to have "fictitious tags". The car was moving down Marion Berry Parkway. After the car's tags did not return the correct information on the vehicle being driven, the officers conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Matthews and Caraway.

During initial contact with the driver, Quinecia Mays, 27, the officers noted the strong smell of marijuana. After requesting they step out of the vehicle, they asked Mays and her passenger, Nathaniel Watson, 28, if they were in possession of marijuana, or if they had been smoking any recently. Before stepping out, Watson admitted that he'd smoked a little beforehand, and that he had "1 ounce" on his person.

A probable cause search was conducted, and the white plastic bag that Watson informed officers about was found around the passenger seat, as well as a small digital scale. The decision was made to arrest Watson, but due to processing errors in the booking systems at the Craighead County Detention Center, he was fingerprinted and released on bond.

When police processed the marijuana into evidence, they found that the bag they recovered contained individually packaged marijuana. The packaging, along with the presence of a scale and the amount (1.61 ounces) led police to amend the charges to Possession of Schedule VI with intent to deliver, which is classified as a felony.

Jan. 17th | 12:45 a.m.

Officers traveling east on Johnson Avenue saw a white cargo van making a left hand turn from Red Wolf Boulevard onto Johnson. When turning, the van crossed into the opposite direction of traffic flow to drive down Johnson, and officers turned around to pull the driver over.

By the time they caught up, the van was in the process of turning onto University Loop, and in doing so it ran completely over the center raised median dividing the lanes. The officers then turned on their emergency lights to initiate a traffic stop. While turning onto A Street to pull over, the van came up onto the sidewalk before coming to a stop. Approaching the driver, the officers informed him of the reason for the stop and asked him for his license, whereupon he told them that he didn't have a license and also that he didn't speak English well. The officers called for backup.

Once they arrived, the other officers informed the driver, Joaquin Rios, 20, that he was suspected to be under the influence. He told them he hadn't been drinking, but a breathalyser test confirmed he was positive for alcohol. Rios was then given field sobriety tests, including a walk and turn, and a one leg stand.

After completing them, officers determined he was too intoxicated to be operating a motor vehicle, and he was taken into custody. A breathalyser test confirmed a BAC of .134%. A BAC of .08% or above qualifies as grounds for a DWI. Rios was charged with a DWI as well as driving without a license and hazardous driving. He was booked into the Craighead County Detention Center and given a court date for his charges.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 6		
"For all the World to See" Reception	A-State Museum	3-5 p.m.
Meditation at the Museum	BAM	6-7 p.m.
Feb. 7		
Art + Design Print Day	Fine Arts 107	12:30-2 p.m.
Annual S-Tac Soul Food Dinner	Military Science	6-8 p.m.
Feb. 9		
NAACP Week Begins	A-State Museum	8 a.m.
Delta Symphony Orchestra Concert	Riceland Hall	2-4 p.m.
Feb. 10		
Jeron Braxton Exhibit Begins	Fine Arts 102	8 a.m.
Feb. 11		
Study Abroad 101 Workshop	International Programs N230	1-2 p.m.
Grand Slam Banquet	First National Bank Arena	5-9 p.m.
Dear A-State: SGA Forum	White River Room	5-7 p.m.
A-State Polar Plunge	Wolf Creek Apartments Clubhouse	6-6:45 p.m.

IT Store Relocated to Library

DAKOTA MAGGARD

STAFF WRITER

The IT Store on campus was moved during the 2019 fall semester. Originally the store was located in the NYIT building (Wilson Hall) facing Dean B. Ellis Library, but has since moved to the bottom floor of the library. At approximately the same time, NYIT began to take over operations at the Student Health Center. The two may not be linked, but their timing together is unusual. The moving of the IT store itself does not appear to have caused any significant changes on campus. However, NYIT taking over the Student Health Center does have some significant changes for the student population. A few of these changes are a change in staff and a requirement of insurance for referrals and insurance companies. It will be interesting to see how the NYIT building utilizes the space where the IT Store was and to see how the Student Health Center progresses in the future.



Image by Tucker Phillips

The new IT Store location on the first floor of the library