

June 26, 2017

Case Number: A17-0927

Court Appellate Courts

305 Minnesota Judicial Center

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

FILED

AUG 30 2017

CARVER COUNTY COURTS

Mrs. Martha Samuels

1806 North 8th Avenue

Pensacola, Florida 32503

Honorable Judge Kevin W. Eide,

It will be an honor if you all will consider our proposal for a Park, Statue, and Museum.

I am writing you this letter because I am a cousin of Prince Rogers Nelson. I am 83 years old and live in Pensacola, Florida. I live on Prince Nelsons Rogers Great Aunt's land (Virginia Nelson). My family and I have taken care of our family's land for decades. I am very devoted to God, my Community, and my Family. I would like to petition the court to obtain funding for a Park, Statue, and Museum in honor of Prince Roger Nelson. My children will help with the establishment and maintenance. This endeavor would not only be beneficial to our family but our community. We regret our family never having the chance to meet Prince but we would like to contribute to continue his legacy forever.

Please see additional documents:

Family Tree

Newspaper clipping

*Respectfully yours,
Martha Samuels*

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Family reunites musical roots

When Nelsons gather, there's a lot of singing

By Beth Ramirez
de Arellano

News Journal correspondent

There's always music in the air when members of Pensacola's William Nelson family get together. Usually, they make their own.

Now in the fourth generation, the Nelson clan numbers about 80 descendants in all of tin worker William Nelson Sr.

Constance Nelson Manuel, 69, said she and her siblings chose not to work with sheet metal, but with sheet music.

The family formed "The Music Makers," in the early 1930s, entertaining at house parties, weddings and dances, with 10-year-old Emery Edwards on guitar, his mother Wilhelmina Nelson Edwards on piano, Clarence Nelson on violin, Edward Nelson, drummer, and soloist Catherine Nelson.

Band formed

Although Clarence Nelson lost his eyesight to typhoid fever as an infant, he could "pick up any instrument and play it," Manuel said.

In the late 1940s, Manuel's other brother, Haywood Nelson Sr., who played piano and drums, and Clarence Salter, a saxophone player, formed the "Jump Five" band, bringing in close friends Lucius "T-Model" Dean on trumpet, James Kyle on drums and Eddie Palmer on alto sax.

Other local musicians, including Samuel "Sleepy" Ross and Robert Long, both trombone players, alternated with the base five, and vocalists who sang along with them included Harold Moore.

From 1947 to 1951, the

nal in the Sunday funny papers."

Dean, who retired to Pensacola in 1990 after years in New York, is considered a family member after all this time.

Time to remember

At a recent family reunion, he and Haywood Sr. had time to reminisce about Pensacola places and events of more than half a century ago. They were graduates of Booker T. Washington High School in 1951. They admit to cutting some classes, but agreed that music was one class they never skipped.

"Music was our main thing. We played in the school marching band, played for the football games, and we had gigs as the Jump Five nearly every weekend," Haywood Nelson Sr. said. "We thought we were the best."

Manuel, who arranged the reunion, said she'll do it all again next year.

"My daughters and their cousins talked me into it," she said. "I just kept calling 411 until I tracked them all down in Florida, Michigan, Atlanta, Georgia, Nashville, Tenn., and California — my phone bill was about a hundred dollars."

Family members squeezed in a few rounds of golf, some shopping and some beach time, but a reunion highlight was a day spent at Big Lagoon State Park, where they got to make music together again.

Still singing

Lois Nelson Clayborne, 73, who began singing jazz in her 30s, sang and amazed the youngest attendees.

"My father, Clarence, was a concert violinist. He also played jazz. He wanted me to



Sisters Lois Nelson Clayborne, 73, left, and Constance Nelson Manuel, 69, are members of the musical Nelson family of Pensacola. Manuel arranged the reunion.

Bethune Jazz Big Band. Every member of the group is over 60, she said, and they entertain at large-scale events citywide.

"We have some members in their 90s. Music was in me from when I was a little girl. My voice hasn't changed — it's still young," she said.

"Music will keep you young," Manuel agreed.

Members of the younger generation who attended the weeklong event included Haywood Nelson Jr., a former child television star who had a recurring role on a sitcom. At 6, he began appearing on camera. Now 40, he's putting together a pilot project for HBO, and works in the Internet industry. His sons, all college students, play musical instruments and perform for their church, but none plans a musical career, he said.

Haywood Nelson Sr. said he looks forward to another gathering next year, and the



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- *Myers Aithia, dom, h 321 (319) E Garden
- *Myers Henry, driver, h 911 N J
- *Myers Joseph, lab, h 1812 W Gadsden
- *Myers Susanna (wid), h 1812 W Gadsden
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Pensacola Florida
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