

# VISION

## ADDRESSING EDUCATION, COMMUNITY, HEALTH AND PASSION

### RISE FROM THE ASHES

Bob Little - page 3

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in tiny Panola, Alabama, is not easy to find. You take the main interstate out of Birmingham, drive two hours southwest, then wind north over six different county roads.

Once in Panola, population just over 100 people, then take a left on GinHouse Road, 96 Gin House Road, Panola, AL

Nobody comes to Galilee without really planning to come to Galilee; it's not something you could accidentally find."

After the 2006 church burning, all that remained was a pile of ashes, surrounding the concrete stairs and iron railing that once welcomed worshippers.

Pastor Bob Little of Galilee Missionary Baptist said his church would rebuild and it did.

The Board of Directors and volunteers are equipped to build programs that are proven to be successful within the community. "We are eager to spread awareness, motivate and train individuals within West Alabama and East Mississippi."

DeAndrae R. Sewell, along with wife LaKisha Sewell, is co-founder of STRIVE outreach.

*ready*

### PASSION

Author Spotlight

Philanthropist/Entrepreneur  
Blossom Rogers

-From Under a Bridge I and II  
-And They Laughed

Books are available on  
Amazon.

DeAndrae has a Masters in Guidance and Counseling, Bachelor in History, and Associate in Political Science. I taught History for 5 years in the Public School System. Currently, I am a Counselor and Family Marriage and Relationship Educator in Tuscaloosa, AL.

### COMMUNITY

### STRIVE

SEWELL- page 2

STRIVE OUTREACH is a community based program. The purpose of STRIVE Outreach is to spread awareness, motivate and train individuals. The motto is Together we can do more.

# SEWELL

Mr. Sewell is committed to building healthy relationships, mentoring youths, and educating adults on life related issues. He is a Marriage Educator with the FUSE program at Tuscaloosa ONE Place (Tuscaloosa, AL). FUSE is a program of the Alabama Healthy Marriage Relationship Initiative (AHMREI). FUSE offers the following healthy relationship classes in the community:

- Relationship Smarts
- Smart Steps for Stepfamilies
- Together We CAN
- ELEVATE
- Couples Connecting Mindfully

Mr. DeAndrae R. Sewell strives to make a difference in today's society. To connect with the FUSE program contact [tsnider@tuscaloosaoneplace.org](mailto:tsnider@tuscaloosaoneplace.org)

Additionally, Mr. Sewell is a counselor with SPAN (Special Programming for Achievement Network) of Tuscaloosa, AL.

Tuscaloosa County program, a large part of SPAN is making sure students set goals, but not necessarily for their academics. While students, who range from 12 to 20 years old, do attend class at SPAN and have the opportunity to make up lost credits to get back to school or even take the GED test, SPAN also offers opportunities for students to learn about different careers for those who choose to work after high school.

Recently, Mr. DeAndrae has been a guest speaker or instructor at an Annual Men Conference, Youth seminar, taught 4 weeks with the OLLI program through University of Alabama, and currently teaching Healthy Relationship classes contracted with Tuscaloosa One Place.

He has been married for 10 years to Lakisha Sewell and they have three children. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. DeAndrae's undergraduate degrees are in History and



Political Science, and he has a Masters Degree in Guidance and Counseling. He serves on the Deacon Board at St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church where Byron L. Hannah is Pastor. He is also the Co-Founder of Strive Outreach where the goal is to educate, train, and motivate.

# PASSION

Many may think that love no longer lives, but it does. It lives in the hearts of those who dare to create it and keep its fires burning. Love's flames resist temptation and it burns through tough times to strengthen the believer.

-Pam Ryans

**Therefore, we chose to highlight the passion of male writers.**

## OUT OF THE DARKNESS

She inspired me to rethink my street beliefs  
Because she knew I deserved release

She reached into my chest and caressed my soul  
Forever claimed the region around my breast  
Truth be told  
Excerpt from "Passions for Tiki"  
-Author Leon Bradshaw (Amazon)

## I LOVE ME

I love me  
Even though I don't fit in  
I love me  
Even though others pick on me I love me.

Visit Poet Shawn T. Crawford with a Dose of Feel Good on Facebook and on Instagram and YouTube as Poetic Father



Students!! Go from vision to passion. Join Shaping My Path on Facebook.

## EDUCATION

Galilee Baptist Church was one of nine churches set on fire in 2006 in central and western Alabama. Like many of those churches, Galilee was completely destroyed in the blaze.

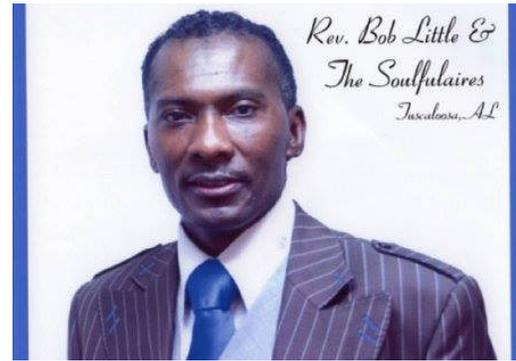
"What God has done has been really nothing but a miracle," he says.

The tiny community of about 400 people made the new church a larger center in the heart of Panola. The 10,000-square-foot structure houses not only the church but classrooms, a library, computers and even a health clinic for people who currently have to drive 40 miles to the nearest hospital.

Pastor Little chose to forgive and heal the community. Part of the healing process included the continuation of Sunday services for some 50 members who met in a trailer.

It should have taken two to three years to build the 10,000-square-foot structure that Panola now knows as Galilee Baptist, Little said. But with the attention that the string of arson fires and destroyed churches received across the nation, waves of donations and volunteers poured in. About 100 volunteers from the organization Carpenters for Christ came to build the church. The project was finished in nine months.

Little is not angry with the three Alabama men who were convicted of burning his church down. He has forgiven them. The way he looks at it, Panola wouldn't be where it is now if the fires had never happened. "It would have taken a lot more time to get the town to where it is," he said. "One of the first things we started doing was forgiving. God has taken this bad situation and led us to help so many others."



Pastor Bob Little is a recording artist and President of Sharper Brothers Records ATL, Dean of Christian Education, New Era Progressive Baptist State Convention of Alabama, Vice Moderator, North Bound Bethlehem District, Chaplain with the Pickens Baptist Association serving (Federal Corrections Institute- Aliceville, Alabama). He is married to his lovely wife, Barbara and a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Join The 52 Experience at [www.youtube.com/transformpam](http://www.youtube.com/transformpam)

## HEALTH

The Daughter of Sarah is seeking to support individuals who are caregivers. The Daughter of Sarah's (DOS) mission is to promote early detection by providing healthcare information, healthy eating options, and resources to caregivers.

Additionally, the organization honors individuals with the "Badge of Care" to individuals who provide care to others with a life threatening or terminal illness who are unable to do so for themselves.

DOS caregivers are not paid and/or have been forced to alter their lifestyle to provide excellent care for their love one.

Register a caregiver at [www.pamryans.com](http://www.pamryans.com)

- \*\*\*June Awareness
- Scoliosis
- PTSD
- Alzheimer and Brain

For a full list visit [www.healthline.com](http://www.healthline.com)

## JOIN US

Email [pamryans@yahoo.com](mailto:pamryans@yahoo.com).

Articles must feature categories relating to community, education, health, and passion. Information must be free of profanity, insulting or demeaning information and be void of political and religious biases.

Articles are subject to approval.

