

# The Valley Weekly

**FREE**

*"If we give our children sound self-love,  
they will be able to deal with whatever  
life puts before them."  
- bell hooks*

Volume 1, No. 22

Friday, February 6, 2015

## Rehearsals to Begin for Nell Lane Bradford Legacy Choir

The Nell Lane Bradford Legacy Choir will be in concert on June 13, 2015, at Progressive Union Baptist Church. The Choir's first reunion was held in June 2012.

"I will be coming to Huntsville once a month starting in February to rehearse with the members in the Huntsville area as we prepare for June," commented Dr. Anthony



B. Stinson, assistant professor of mathematics at Clayton State University, who directs the choral group.

The first rehearsal will be February 21 at 10 a.m. in the choir room of the R. D. Morrison Fine Arts Building on the Alabama A&M University campus.

For additional information, call (404) 519-8881.

## ASGC Scholarships Available

The Alabama Space Grant Consortium (ASGC) supports undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships for students studying in an aerospace-related discipline at participating universities. The awards are made

to U.S. citizens with proven academics. In Alabama, over \$267,000 worth of Space Grant Scholarships and Fellowships are awarded each year. For more information, contact Dr. Teresa Orok at (256) 372-8667.

## New SPACES Sculpture Trail Begins

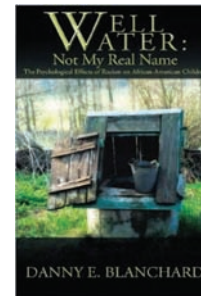
SPACES is a collaborative project developed five years ago by The Arts Council, Inc., Alabama A&M University, Huntsville Museum of Art, Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment Center and UAH.

Now featuring 37 total sculptures, SPACES is designed to engage and enliven the Huntsville/Madison County community through public art. The public is invited to visit the SPACES sculptures at nine locations throughout Huntsville and Madison, and to explore SPACES through walking, GPS and cell phone guided tours.

Among upcoming walking tour sites is Alabama A&M, Saturday, February 21, at 10 a.m. Park at the Morrison Building; tour will also include the Student Gallery.

## Blanchard's New Book Deals with Effects of Racism on Black Children

"Well Water: Not My Real Name: The Psychological Effects of Racism on African-American Children" is the latest book released by local professional counselor and author, Dr. Danny E. Blanchard.



The book was released on January 6, 2015, and is available online at [www.xlibris.com](http://www.xlibris.com), [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), and [www.bn.com](http://www.bn.com). It is available also at local bookstores.

According to Blanchard, "Racial identity, or the significance and meaning that individuals attribute to race, is recognized as a key factor in how African Americans cope with racism

experiences. Unfortunately, however, the few studies that have examined African Americans' responses to racist events have failed to account for differences across situations that African Americans experience, making it difficult to ascertain whether differences in coping are due to person variables, the situation, or both."

In the book, Blanchard adopted a stress and coping approach to examine the relations among racial identity, racism-related stress appraisal, and coping with lifetime racism experiences.

Blanchard previously authored "Black Men Do Cry," which is available at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and [Barnes & Noble Online](http://Barnes & Noble Online). Additional information can be obtained at 888-795-4274, ext. 7879.

## Briar Fork CPCA Pastor's Observance Set for Feb. 9

The Briar Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, located at 2105 Winchester Road, N.E., Huntsville, Ala., will observe its 24th Pastor's Observance of The Reverend Dr. Theodis Acklin on Sunday, Febru-



ary 9, 2015, at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Earla S. Lockhart, staff minister, First Missionary Baptist Church, will be the guest speaker. The public is invited to share in the celebration.



**ILORIN AGREEMENT:** Alabama A&M University officials (President Andrew Hugine, Jr., seated, 2nd from left) join alumni and officials from Nigeria's University of Ilorin in a Memorandum of Understanding.



# A Chance for Permanent Peace: Concordia International University - Part 3

## Missing Chance for Permanent Peace

Shortly after communism collapsed, everyone then looked forward for the collapse of capitalism. The Soviet Union disintegrated and its satellites became independent nations. The USA, the seat of capitalism, could have developed global programs of disarmament and arms control, a drastic step for a lasting world peace. Instead, it embarked on a program of large military build-up. Instead of equipping nations with educational and medical needs, the USA equipped many countries with weapons and military armaments.

The USA proceeded to build many military bases around the world, which were viewed as a threat to the nearby countries. What all people want is to have adequate food and houses, schools and hospitals, along with an ability to live at peace with their neighbors. It is obvious, as Pope John Paul II saw clearly, that the primary purpose of these weapons and military equipment was not the "defense of the nation," but the build-up of a financial empire by the rich at the expense of the people.

Since the human life-span amounts to only a few decades and not to centuries, we need to look forward with hope and enthusiasm to see the present governments replaced by our present students who are being well prepared by Concordia International University and several of its institutional partners. One of the greatest problems we face nowadays in the solid build-up of world stability, characterized by harmony and peace, lies here.

Philosophically speaking, most of those that are eventually in governmental power today were brought up in an environment that views the strength of a nation in military terms. This approach taught us systematically that violence breeds violence and more violence breeds more violence. Pope Benedict XVI made it clear, shortly before he resigned, that "war is absolutely never justified under any circumstance." We are all familiar with the traditional saying that "we catch more flies with honey."

## Perfect Instrument for Permanent Peace

With the arrival of Concordia International University, we

have now at our disposal the perfect instrument in providing the world with permanent harmony and peace in due time. Those who may be interested in establishing contact with this institution may get in touch at one's convenience with the Office of Public Relations. Its e-mail is [info@iconcordia.org](mailto:info@iconcordia.org) and its phone number is: 1-213-342-8558. Every university could learn from this stated institution how to promote harmony and world peace through academic means.

In view of what has been stated, let us always keep in mind that our first mission in life is to create a more constructive world than the one we found. Of course, since we cannot achieve this monumental task overnight merely by ourselves, we need to prepare a new generation of

students for the next two to three decades as to eventually make this great goal and high objective possible. If we do love genuinely and sincerely our children and grandchildren that would be the best gift we could possibly give them.

This wonderful gift could be best described by peace and harmony on the local, national and global scale that would last for ages. Some ascetical writers tell us that "the art of living is the art of giving - the more we give the more we get." This way we become true instruments of inner joy and peace, which will be characterized by mutual love and tangible prosperity as a result. All we need right now is the will-power to move steadfastly forward.

*by Dr. Charles Mercieca*

## Where to Find Your FREE Copies of The Valley Weekly

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## The Valley Weekly

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# From the Editor



Mayor Battle joins Kenny Anderson and Pastor O. Wendell Davis.



Dr. Cheryl Galley of Oakwood University.

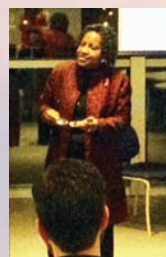
In this week's edition of TVW, John Moore has produced once again a positive and educational PowerShot. When I received it, I emailed him to let him know that I did not 'get it,' meaning I did not get the intended message. Laughing out loud at me, John responded immediately, indicating that African American History should not end on February 28th. Because TVW team encourages intergenerational conversation, PowerShots is a wonderful way to offer something for everyone. Thanks, John, for making us figure it out. I hope our readers are not as 'sluggish' as I was. With your help, I've got it. You are a gifted artist!

On this past Sunday, Mayor Tommy Battle and Kenny Anderson attended the 7:45 a.m. Worship Service at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (see photo left). It is always good to see you, Mayor Battle, when it's not a season of campaigning or controversy. Our 'doors and hearts' are always open.

Wil Haygood, *Washington Post* writer and author of "The Butler," will be speaking for TEAM Redstone's African-American History Month Program in the Bob Jones Auditorium of The Sparkman Center on February 18th at 10 a.m. This should be another awesome program for those who have access, time and interest. Almost every program I have ever attended out there has been worth the time and effort to get there.



The Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium is off to an excellent beginning. Program Coordinator, Georgia S. Valrie, is a master executor. Thanks to Atty. Julian Butler and Rev. Earla Lockhart (Servant Leadership); Rep. Laura Hall, Rep. Anthony Daniels and Councilman Mark Russell (Politics and Government); and Dr. Helen McAlpine, Delois Smith, Dr. Tammy Summerville and Dr. Cheryl Galley (K-12 and Higher Education Issues), the first three weeks have exceeded every expectation. The inaugural class is impressive and engaging. Ah, leadership!



*"African-American history should not end on February 28th."*

We are off to a busy, hopefully productive week. Until next week ...

*Dorothy*



## Healthy Heart Contest Ongoing

Alabama Cooperative Extension's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs unit is running the Healthy Heart Contest, allowing a male and a female a chance to win a "Healthy Heart" basket of goodies thru February 26 in observance of American Heart Month.

How to win: The male and female who gets the most people to "Like" the Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs' Facebook ([www.facebook.com/ACESUrbanAffairsUnit](http://www.facebook.com/ACESUrbanAffairsUnit)) page wins! Simply provide a list of names via e-mail of your

"friends" who "Like" the page. The Friends List will be verified and the winners will be declared. In the event of a tie, a run-off will be conducted between the contestants by extending the contest until March 2. A winner(s) will then be declared.

### Tax Assistance Available Through United Way

The United Way of Madison County, teaming with UAH and the SaveFirst Initiative, is providing tax assistance to students and households earning up to \$52,000 with one or more children (or up to \$20,000 without children).

Services are available throughout the tax season at the Optimist Recreation Center, 703 Oakwood Avenue NE, and at United Way offices at 701 Andrew Jackson Way. To schedule a free tax preparation appointment, call (844) 44-TAX-AL.

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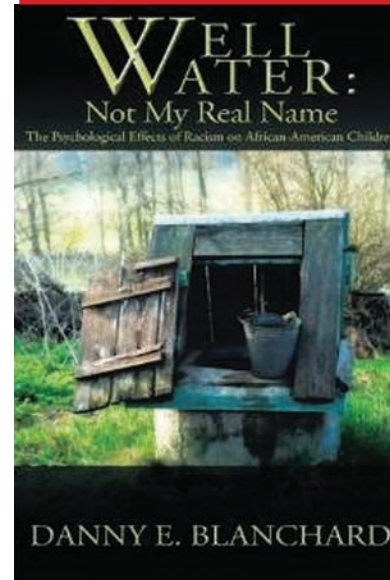


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**2015 Black History Month Theme**  
*"A Century of Black Life,  
History and Culture"*



**Well Water: Not My  
Real Name**

The Psychological Effects of Racism on African-American Children. The Need to Understand Change  
Danny E. Blanchard

Racial identity, or the significance and meaning that individuals attribute to race, is recognized as a key factor in how African Americans cope with racism experiences. Unfortunately, however, the few studies that have examined African Americans' responses to racist events have failed to account for differences across situations that African Americans experience, making it difficult to ascertain whether differences in coping are due to person variables, the situation, or both. In my book, I adopted a stress and coping approach to examine the relations among racial identity, racism-related stress appraisal, and coping with lifetime racism experiences.

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# Portrait of a Civil Rights Hero

During Black History Month, we focus on history-making African-American men and women you made a difference in the life, history and culture of this nation. I walked with one who embodies that theme. I can see "Zeke" Bell back in the 1960s sitting in my family home all by himself, telling my parents about the vision he had for the children of the community and to let go and trust him. He walked from house to house in the Edmon-ton Heights community like the piped pier "collecting" children.

There was a two-lane highway with no sidewalks and 100-150 children at any time followed behind this one man. During the summer months, he would ask the local teachers and stay-at-home parents to volunteer at the church, and we would spend the entire day at the church engaged in discussions, singing, eating, Bible study, baseball games and falling off the jungle gym. He knew everyone's name. In recent years when he returned several years for our church anniversaries he would still say, "You are one of the Burruss girls."

Local college students will



tell you about him picking them up and transporting them to the polling centers so they could vote. Children can tell you about the Christmas he was determined we were going Christmas caroling in freezing conditions.

Stokely Gardner (who sadly we lost last week) tells about the men of Fellowship Church Presbyterian standing watch at his home on Whitney when Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rev. Ralph Abernathy stayed at his home before delivering speeches at First Missionary Baptist Church and Oakwood College. If you needed a ride, get in the green station wagon.

Rev. Bell arrived in Huntsville in the late summer of 1959 to start Fellowship Presbyterian Church on Meridian Street, his

first church. As a student at the University of Chicago Seminary School, he and some other students made a pact to change the world in the next five years. In the house, Bell began the business of changing conditions in Huntsville. Earlier in 1962, he had been named the chair of the Community Service Committee, the city's first civil rights organization. The Community Service Committee held weekly meetings, organized prayer marches and picket lines at stores that discriminated against African Americans. He brought in leaders from other sit-in campaigns, such as Reverend James Lawson from the famous 1960 Nashville, Tennessee, sit-in.

Rev. Bell was the founding president of the Memphis Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He played a lead role in the late 1960s, alongside activists Maxine Smith and Leroy Clark in the nonviolent school boycotts, now known as Black Mondays. Later, as the only Black Presbyterian minister in Memphis, he supported the 1967 strike of the local sanitation workers. Rev. Bell was steadfast in finding ways to open doors for his fellow African Americans and fighting the racism that threatened their pursuit of the American dream.

Thank you for teaching and reinforcing in me that I am somebody!

by Linda Burruss

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# Save the Date!

9th Annual Rosetta James Foundation  
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Saturday, March 14, 2015  
The Jackson Center  
Five O'Clock in the Afternoon



# Huntsville Happenings

by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

# BRAVO!

## CUCINA ITALIANA™

Huntsville's success prompts Columbus, Ohio-based Bravo/Brio Restaurant Group to open its first location at Bridge Street.

Last week, I had the pleasure of dining at BridgeStreet's newest restaurant – Bravo! "Cucina Italiana," which means Italian Kitchen. While many restaurants at BridgeStreet have come and gone, Bravo! is located in a new facility next to DSW Shoes, so hopefully it will last.

While at Bravo! I enjoyed an entrée of tilapia that was stuffed with shrimp and topped with lump crab meat. It was simply delicious.

This entrée was served with sautéed vegetable medley of potatoes, carrots and green beans. I'm sure that this dish was filled with more calories than I needed, but it was a taste of heaven on my palate. Although this entrée was priced above \$20, the menu offers a favorite of non-seafood entrée dishes that range from \$8

up to \$30.

Listed on the menu was a lobster bisque soup, but they were out, so I did not get to taste it as both my server and the restaurant general manager pleaded that their version is better than Connor's – which is the best I've tasted. So, I will have to go back soon to try this lobster bisque. I will be sure to share my review of the soup once I have tried it for myself.

According to the company, "Bravo! Cucina Italiana is a polished casual restaurant offering classic Italian food among the shadows of Roman ruins. Cooking is done in the full view of the guest." Bravo! will be open for lunch and dinner seven days a week, and will offer Brunch on Sunday until 3 p.m.

As with most new restaurants in Huntsville, the first weeks are likely to be crowded, but it will be worth the wait.

# DLC Tennessee Valley

## Diversity Leadership Colloquium



To Apply

- Application Form
- 3 References
- Resume
- Photo

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# DLC

## Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium APPLICATION FORM

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Title \_\_\_\_\_

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College(s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Career Field \_\_\_\_\_

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Please mail this Application Form, 3 Letters of Reference, and Resume to: 415A Church Street-Ste. 100, Huntsville, AL 35801 - (256) 651-9028; visit us at [www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com](http://www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com); or e-mail [info@diversityleadershipcolloquium.com](mailto:info@diversityleadershipcolloquium.com). Tuition and photo will be required only if accepted to participate.

### Vision:

The Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) advances leadership excellence by advocating and progressing the affirmation and inclusion of diversity in strategic markets and communities of interest for competitive intelligence.

### Mission:

DLC's mission is to become a premier provider of diversity training for inspiring and experienced leaders throughout the lifecycle.

### Values:

Our values are: Collaboration for Excellence; Appreciation with Insight; Respect for Understanding; and Empathy for all ... C.A.R.E.

DLC offers inspiring and experienced leaders with opportunities to benefit from qualified and seasoned trainers, scholars, and business professionals who share and discuss research and best practices regarding obtaining excellence through diversity.

DLC is designed for individuals interested in gaining access to networks, mentors, and sponsors that have traditionally not been available to diverse members of the broader community. Enrollees will be exposed to topics such as: Understanding and Embracing Diversity, Organizational Culture and Structural Reform, Racial and Gender Intelligence, Social Justice and Equality, Networking and Mentoring, Politics, Heroes and Holidays, Critical Thinking and Self-Affirmation and Living the CARE Values.

Individuals and companies are making sincere efforts in verbalizing a commitment to diversity excellence. However, we must be trained to build the next generation of leaders who have the skill sets, tools and commitment to execute.

### Training Schedule

DLC will run four quarterly, eight week colloquia. The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. Participant cannot miss more than 2 sessions.

Location: 415-A Church Street - Downtown Huntsville  
Enrollment limited to: 16 - Tuition: \$795

### 2015 Schedule

**Spring**  
(March 7, 2015)

April 7 - May 26 - Deadline to register

**Summer**  
(June 7, 2015)

July 7 - August 25 - Deadline to register

**Fall**

Oct 6 - Nov 24 - Deadline to register (Sep)



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NSSF Facility, 6001 Pulaski Pike | 8 p.m.-1 a.m.  
Music by DraKar and An Experience  
\$35 advance | \$40 door  
Contact: Pat Moore at pdmoore1@bellsouth.net or a Members Only Club member

21  
HBCU College Fair  
Union Chapel MBC Family Life Center, 315 Winchester Road  
10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Financial Aid Workshop at 10:30 a.m.

## MARCH

8  
Spelman Jazz Ensemble Concert  
Sponsored by the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College  
Marriott Hotel  
5 p.m.

12  
North Alabama NSBE Professionals Scholarship Program  
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## New Priest Expecting Gradual Growth

Although she has yet to complete her first full year at Holy Cross-St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Rev. Diane Hill fervently believes growth is definitely in the future for small parish situated on Meridian Street.

The church is only about two blocks from Alabama A&M University, whose faculty founded the facility in 1955. Plans are underway to observe the church's 60th anniversary later this year.

"Rev. Diane," as she is called by members, is a graduate of Fort Valley State University (Ga.) and Lexington Theology Seminary. In addition to service at Episcopal churches Alabama, Kentucky and Virginia, Rev. Diane has served on the police departments of Savannah, Ga., and New Orleans, La.



## Zetas Holding "Blue Revue"

The Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, is hosting the 2015 Blue Revue Luncheon Saturday, April 11, at 11:30 a.m. in the Von Braun Center - East Hall 1.

The theme is "Classic Hatitude Celebration of Derby Crown." The program will include the following features: Showcasing a Touch of Class, Unveiling of African American Derby History, A Royal Derby Performance, and Modeling in Royal Derby Style, both females and males. Tickets are \$45 each from Dr. Harriett S. Littlepage, fundraising chair, at (256) 653-4223 or hslittlepage@gmail.com.

According to Dr. Littlepage, "Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., has formed many wonderful community-based partnerships over the past 86 years."

## Local Alumni Chapter Seeks to Expand Membership



The officers and members of the Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., is inviting area AAMU alumni to consider joining the organization.

National dues are \$50, local dues are \$25.00, bringing total dues to \$75. Additionally, associate members' dues are \$40 per year, but dues for registered life members are only \$25.

Dues may be mailed to: Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc. or HPAC, P.O. Box 330, Normal, AL 35762. Please make check payable to: Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc. or HPAC. For additional information, call (256) 520-8992.

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3703 Memorial Parkway, NW  
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[www.tfofc.org](http://www.tfofc.org)

### WORSHIP TIMES:

- **Huntsville Campus** -  
 Sunday mornings @ 9:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.  
 - **Madison Campus** -  
 132 Maple Street  
 Sunday @ 8 a.m.

**Child Development Center  
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