

# Black History Month: Alabama-Born Notables, p. 8

## When the Bible Reads Us, p. 7

Friday

February 7, 2020

Vol. 6, No. 22

ValleyWeeklyllc.com

## Equal Justice, p. 4

*"If the only time you think of me as a scientist is during Black History Month, then I must not be doing my job as a scientist." - Neil deGrasse Tyson*

# The Valley Weekly



Hank Aaron



## Senator Draws Attention to Radon Levels in Public Housing

U.S. Senator Doug Jones (D-Ala.) has sent a letter to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Ben Carson urging him to respond to media reports that found that tenants of public housing units, including Butler Terrace Addition in Huntsville, Alabama, were exposed to hazardous levels of radon. Radon is a radioactive gas that is created by natural processes and is the second-leading cause of fatal lung cancer in the United States.

The tests detailed by AL.com revealed that three apartments in Butler Terrace Addition had "an average level of radioactivity above the level that radon contractors say calls for specialized ventilation systems to remove it" while two others in the same development were found to be

above the federal standard for radon.

"Given the troubling results of this investigation, HUD should make every effort to ensure public housing across the country is tested for radon and, if found, also mitigated expeditiously," Senator Jones wrote. "HUD must ensure Americans living in federally subsidized housing are free from the risks posed by high radon levels."

Jones' letter continued, "As you prepare the President's Fiscal Year 2021 Budget for release, I ask that you include a request for funds that is sufficient to test for and mitigate high radon levels in federally subsidized housing. HUD must ensure Americans living in federally subsidized housing are free from the risks posed by high radon levels."

Women's Economic Development Council is hosting a seminar featuring bestselling author Roger Seip February 13.

Make each moment more impactful, condition your mind for success, and find your personal freedom at this seminar featuring Roger Seip, co-founder of

one of the world's premier training and personal development firms, and bestselling author of "Train Your Brain for Success."

Roger's book helps you learn to condition your mind, and refine your daily efforts to make each step more valuable.

Join WEDC at the

Jackson Center in Research Park from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. to learn how to make each day more deliberate and valuable.

Stick around from 1:15-2 p.m. for specific strategies that can be implemented immediately with a bonus deep dive session with Seip.

With these fundamental

methods and strategies, you will walk away with clear, actionable steps you can apply in your daily life.

Tickets available online at <https://www.wedc-online.net/events>, or on the WEDC Facebook page.

For more, contact Annalise Harwood at [aharwood@redfcu.org](mailto:aharwood@redfcu.org).

## WEDC Hosting Seminar, Best-Selling Author

## Major Summit Targets African American Males Ages 13-17

The Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will sponsor its 6th Annual Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence (EMBODI) Summit on Saturday, March 21, at the Four Points by Sheraton Huntsville Airport, 1000 Glenn Hearn Blvd SW, Huntsville, Ala., 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

EMBODI, a signature program of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.'s 24th National President, Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre, is designed to refocus Delta's efforts to collaborate with other

established organizations and agencies to address the plight of African American males. EMBODI serves as a mentorship program to address educational, social, and emotional obstacles young men of color may experience.

This year's summit entitled, "Manhood in the Making," will focus on building self-confidence, cultural enrichment, post-secondary education, and address many issues impacting young African American men. The targeted demographic are young African American men of ages 13-17 and in grades 8 - 12.

Applications are now available online at [www.dsthuntsville.org](http://www.dsthuntsville.org). All registration forms must be postmarked no later than Saturday, March 7, 2020.

For additional information, contact the EMBODI chairperson, Taynetta O'Neal, at [embodi@dst-huntsville.org](mailto:embodi@dst-huntsville.org).

## The Valley Weekly

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# AKAs Hold 2020 Mother-Daughter Brunch

First Row from left to right: Dr. Tonya Davis, Mrs. Verra Williams, Mrs. Tonya Wood, Debutante Aja and her Mother An'Janette Yarbrough Contest Winners for "Best Theme", EGO President, Dr. Cheryl R. Davis, Mrs. Cynthia Massey, Chairman, 62nd Debutante Presentation and Ball and Mrs. Margaret Smith, Co-Chairman, 62nd Presentation and Ball. Second Row: Mrs. Blannie Batts, Mother-Daughter Brunch Committee



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Epsilon Gamma Omega (EGO) Chapter celebrated its 2020 Mother-Daughter Brunch on Saturday, January 18, 2020 with 35 lovely debutantes and their mothers at the scenic Botanical Garden in Huntsville, Ala. "Capturing a Garden of Star Studded Memories" was the theme for this year's Brunch. Mrs. Tonya Wood (Chairman), Mrs. Verra Williams (Co-Chairman)

Dr. Tonya Davis (Co-Chairman) and the entire Mother Daughter Brunch committee were elated to honor the beautiful Mother-Daughter bond with delightful tributes, sentimental salutes and fun-filled games.

This year EGO introduced its inaugural Mother-Daughter categorical dress alike contests! The contest winners were "Sunday Best" Debutante Lara Page and her Mother Ann Debro, "Exact Match" Debutante

Ariana and her Mother Donnisia Tibbs, and "Best Theme" Debutante Aja and her Mother An'Janette Yarbrough.

Following the greetings from Dr. Cheryl R. Davis, EGO President, wonderful entertainment was provided

by the renowned Dr. Horace Carney, AAMU Choir Director and vocalist, Ms. Dakendra Jackson, who serenaded the guests in song. Mother-Daughter duo, Debutante China Green and her Mother, Tricelyn Green, surprised guests

with a special praise dance. And, as the guests dined on the sensational menu from the Urban Cookhouse, attendees enjoyed a video highlighting memories of past events during the 2019-2020 Debutante season as they prepare to

be officially presented at the 62nd Debutante Presentation and Ball on February 21st at the Von Braun Center, Huntsville, Ala.

by Dominique Jefferson and Dr. Cheryl R. Davis  
Photo: Chris Winston



A New Generation Of Service

## Advocates Planning Equal Justice Event

Alabama leads the nation, and the United States leads the world for mass incarcerations. Wrongful convictions continue to happen nationwide, and Criminal Justice Reform is long overdue in many states, including Alabama.

Thank God for Attorney Bryan Stevenson and the Equal Justice Initiative, a nonprofit headquartered in Montgomery, Ala.

Everyone should see the recently released movie "Just Mercy" then plan to attend the events on Feb 27 and 28 featuring Alice

Marie Johnson and Wess Morgan in Huntsville, Ala.

Information on the upcoming event appears in the ad (right). Both Alice Marie Johnson and Wess Morgan are advocates of Criminal Justice reform. The upcoming events on Feb 27 and 28, are connected to Criminal Justice Reform Advocacy in Alabama and other states across the Nation.

For information, inbox Pastor Rita Ivy Wiggins at Madison Worship Center or Pastor Patricia Corbitt.

by Rita Wiggins

In Recognition of  
Modern Day Black History



Alice Marie Johnson

Alice Marie Johnson Now a 63-year-old great-grandmother and an ordained minister, Johnson was convicted in 1996 for a first-time nonviolent drug trafficking crime. As a result of the mandatory sentencing laws of the time, she received a life sentence and was expected to live out the rest of her days behind bars. She has a new book of her life's experience "After Life". Her story caught the attention of Kim Kardashian and with Kim's help she was given clemency by the President after 21 years.

Tickets @ Eventbrite

<https://alicejohnsonhsv2020.eventbrite.com>

Product tables available



Psalmist  
Wess Morgan

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The Fellowship of Faith Church

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Woody Anderson Ford

## Perspectives on EGO-holism

by tim allston

### Kobe Bryant's Greatest Winning Shots

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" 1 John 1:9.

January 26th's helicopter crash killing Basketball Hall of Fame shoo-in Kobe Bean Bryant caused many to mourn this tragedy, but also to remember his outstanding on- and off-court accomplishments.

The media covered widely his winning shots in basketball games, but it provided less coverage of his winning shots in the game of life.



#### Kobe's Kudos

- A high school 1080 SAT score and conversance in Italian, French, Dutch, Serbian, Slovenian and Spanish languages;
- First guard to leap directly from high school into pro basketball;
- One of the first Black second-generation NBA players;
- Five championship rings, 18 All-Star Game appearances, and two Olympic gold medals;
- 102 current NBA players wear Kobe 4 sneakers; and
- 2018 Oscar, Sports Emmy, and Annie Awards!

#### Kobe's Calamity

The media will remind us of his July 2003 sexual assault charge from a 19-year old Denver, CO, hotel attendant - charges later dropped and settled out of court following his public apology.

#### Kobe's Comeback

Media coverage, however, was not as widespread in April 2005, when Kobe and wife Vanessa held a recommitment ceremony - his marital apology.

In five years, Kobe rose from the NBA's Most Vulnerable Player to its 2008 Most Valuable Player. "I will not make the same mistakes in the future that I have made in the past. I will make new mistakes, I am sure. And I will learn from them, too."

It's like, God blessed me with the ability to do this, I'm not going to shortchange that blessing. I'm going to go out there and do the best that I can every single time."

Subsequently, his product endorsements returned, and he died as the highest-paid team-sports player in history, worth an estimated \$770 million.

So long, Kobe. And thanks for both the kudos and, more importantly, your comeback from calamity.

Life Coach tim allston is the author of the free book, *7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for "Someone Else,"* downloadable now at [www.GetEgoHelpNow.org](http://www.GetEgoHelpNow.org).



### M&B Atty., DLC Alum Joins Board

Martinson & Beason, P.C., attorney and alumnus of the Diversity Leadership Colloquium Caleb W. Ballew has been named to the Board of Directors of the Madison County Volunteer Lawyers Program, beginning this year. The MCVLP is a local organization that offers free legal services to low-income citizens and families of Madison County, Ala. These services can range from a simple consult, to document preparation, to litigation and court advocacy.

Ballew has worked with MCVLP since 2010. He frequently takes on family law cases through this volunteer program and recently consulted with MCVLP clients during a free Family Law Clinic held at the Madison County Courthouse on January 24, 2020. Caleb joined Martinson & Beason in 2012. He specializes in family law, criminal defense, and various civil litigation matters. In addition to working with low-income individuals and families through the MCVLP, Caleb often serves as a court-appointed attorney for people who have been charged with a criminal offense but cannot afford a lawyer.



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# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

CELEBRATION | 11AM



**FEBRUARY 8**  
Speaker: Dr. Carlton P. Byrd  
Music: Alabama A&M University Choir  
Special Guest: The Honorable Steven Reed, Mayor of Montgomery, AL



**FEBRUARY 22**  
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# FMBC to Hold Prayer-Concert of Healing on March 8

First Missionary Baptist Church (FMBC) will host its first Prayer-Concert of Healing on Sunday, March 8, at 4 p.m.

The Prayer-Concert is being held in observance of the National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS that runs during the first week of March each year.

On March 8, special presentations will be provided by Alabama State Rep. Laura Hall, local media personality David Person, and FMBC member Parisgene Smith, and

Pastor, Rev. Dr. Don Darius Butler. FMBC's Mass Choir will render the music for the evening.

The National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is an initiative of The Balm in Gilead, Inc., that



helps faith-based communities to address health disparities such as HIV/AIDS in the United States and East Africa.

During the National

Week of Prayer, communities of faith are encouraged to engage in prayer and other activities focusing on "the healing of HIV/AIDS."

The Prayer-Concert of Healing will be held at FMBC, 3509 Blue Spring Road in Huntsville, Ala. Admission is free.

For more information, please contact Wendi Williams at (256) 337-4781 or Judy Edmond at (256) 509-4252.

RSVP to the event on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/519854322243732/>.

## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

### WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

Luke 10:27 says: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself." It goes on to ask in verse 29: "And who is my neighbor?"

You know, when Jesus tells this parable of the Good Samaritan, it is in response to one of the most important questions of all. What should I do to inherit eternal life? Now, this question is a test

from a Jewish teacher that wanted to "trap" Jesus with his answer.

You see, back then--and even now--there was some



"spiritual profiling" going on. Now to profile means to predict the capabilities of a certain subgroup of people or to group people into a certain category, like

the Samaritans.

So, Jesus tells this parable that has an unexpected ending. Remember, after a man had been beaten and robbed, he was passed over by a Priest, then a Levite, but Jesus tells them that of all the people in the world to help this man, it ends up being a Samaritan, who the Jews despised. You see, the moral of this story is, *be careful, because you never know who your blessing will*

*come from.* They could be black, white Asian or Samaritan.

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

## The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

### Thru March 22

"Harlem, Hollywood, Broadway: African American Legends" Photographed by Jack Mitchell Chan Gallery - Huntsville Museum of Art Lecture and Preview Party (Jan. 17) - Featuring Alabama A&M University Jazz Ensemble - (\$25/\$50)

### February 2019

Black History Month 2020 Theme: "African Americans and the Vote"

### February 1-29

Alabama A&M University Gallery of Art R.D. Morrison Fine Arts Building Alabama A&M University Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

### February 4 - March 17

"Financial Literacy & Estate Planning for Teens & Adults" (Tuesdays) Sponsor: Alabama Cooperative Extension System; The Links, Incorporated; and Huntsville Housing Authority 5:30-6:30 p.m.

### February 6

"Above the Rim" Basketball (Students vs. Faculty/Staff) Elmore Gymnasium, 7 p.m.

### February 7-8

"Master Artist Workshop with Leslie Wood" Huntsville Museum of Art 300 Church Street Huntsville, Ala.

### February 8

Hon. Steven Reed, Mayor Montgomery, Ala. Oakwood University Church 11 a.m.

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# Valley Deaths

**NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME - 2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189**

Memorial service for MR. LOUIS NETTLES (b. 1959) was held Monday, February 3, at Mount Christian Fellowship Church with Minister Mattie McComb officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. LAVON AYERS MATTHEWS (b. 1955) was held Friday, January 31, at the Fellowship of Faith Church with Elder Billy Jones officiating.

Memorial service for MS. DIANA HARDIN (b. 1967) was held Tuesday, January 28, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Harvest, Ala., with the Discourse by Brother John Donegan.



**ROYAL FUNERAL HOME - 4315 Oakwood Avenue - Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481**

Memorial service for MR. MAKIETH KAWUSI CRAYTON (b. 1981) will be at 12 noon, Saturday, February 8, at Antioch Baptist Church, in Mount Meigs Community, 738 Gibbs Road Pike Road, Ala.

Funeral service for MRS. OCIE JONES SUSSMAN (b. 1935) was held Tuesday, February 4, at Lakeside United Methodist Church (3738 Meridian Street North, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Tomasi Muhomba officiating.

Funeral service for DR. JOHN LAVENDER (b. 1944) was held Monday, February 3, 2020 at Oakwood Seventh-day Adventist Church (7000 Adventist Blvd Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd eulogist and Pastor Bertram Wright officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LEO BANKS, JR., (b. 1951) was held Sunday, February 2, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Reverend Milton Hewlett officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. SANDRA B. BUTLER (b. 1951) was held Saturday, February 1, at Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (228 Church Street NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Terrance Vickerstaff officiating.

**SERENITY FUNERAL HOME - 2505 University Drive NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-9693**

Funeral service will be held on Friday, February 7, for MR. BOOKER T. EDDY II (b. 1962) at Meridianville Primitive Baptist Church, 1173 Mt. Lebanon Road, Toney, Ala., with Elder Terrance Stewart officiating.



Funeral service for MR. CLYDE KELLY (b. 1951) was held Sunday, February 2, at St. Mark Baptist Church, 6475 Moores Mill Road, Huntsville, Ala., with Pastor Jeremiah Chester officiating.

## A Good Read



by Jerome Saintjones



### Charles W. Chestnutt's "Uncle Wellington's Wives"

Set toward the end of America's Reconstruction Period, the story opens with Uncle Wellington attending a meeting in his North Carolina village and hearing a presentation by a statuesque, octoroon man. This man talked extensively about the virtues of living in the North, the freedom, prosperity and the ability to love someone with no regard to their race. A mulatto himself, Uncle Wellington considered his current common law marriage and concluded that he deserved more and could vastly improve his situation by making it across the Mason-Dixon line. He left his woman, taking half of her long, hard savings with him after claiming he was too sick for church. He made it to a town in Ohio, experienced a series of unfortunate events, worked harder than he had in his entire life, married an Irish woman who left him, and returned like a Prodigal Son to North Carolina to seek the forgiveness of one who still loved him.

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**The North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce (Huntsville) meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 12 noon.**

**The meeting location varies. Call (256) 564-7574.**

# Called 2 Preach

by Pastor/Founder Michael D. Rice  
Grace Gethsemane Mission Church

## The Two-Edged Sword

Hebrews 4:11-13; Jeremiah 17:9

We are often exhorted and encouraged to read the Bible. However, there is also the reality of the Bible reading us. What if we allowed the Bible to read us, more than we read the Bible? There is so much that can happen when we read the Bible;

distractions, disturbances, and disinterest. However, when the Bible reads us, we are told that God's word accomplishes what it's sent out to accomplish. It divides, discerns, and discloses. Could it be that that's the reason that reading is easier than being read?

The good news about the

two-edged characteristic of the word is that the same word that cuts also cures; the same word that convicts also comforts; the same word that proves and prods our sin, also provides a Savior.

The reason that one would benefit from being read rather than just reading is human assessment alone cannot suffice because it is tainted by what Jeremiah called a heart that is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. The writer of Hebrews answers the question that Jeremiah raised about our deceitful

and desperately wicked heart, when he asked; "who can know it?"

The answer is, God does, and He has left His word to inform us with the truth about who we are, how we are, and where we can be. God's word is both a GPS and a spiritual Lyft driver. It can be trusted. It has been tried, and it is true.



*The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled.*

- Plutarch

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

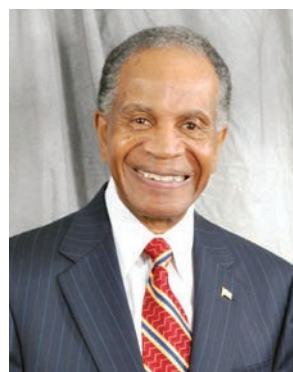
## Dr. Marvin P. Carroll

Dr. Marvin P. Carroll is president and Chief Executive Officer of Tec-Masters, Inc. An electrical engineering graduate of Howard University, he went on to earn a master's and the Ph.D. degree in public administration.

After retiring from the U.S. Army Missile Command, Dr. Carroll founded Tec-Masters in 1988 to provide technical support to the Department of Defense and commercial customers. The company provides a wide range of services, including: Training Systems Technology; Modeling & Simulation Technology; Multimedia Design Technology; Training and Doctrine Develop-

ment; Weapons Systems Technology; Automotive Systems Technologies; Navigation and Telematics; Commercial/Manufacturing Technology; Aerospace Technology; Information Systems Technology; E-Teaching; and much more. He also had the unique experience of serving as a Legislative Fellow for three years for a U.S. Senator, advising him on Weapon System Acquisition policy.

Dr. Carroll has served diligently throughout the community, and he has been affiliated with several organizations, including Huntsville Botanical Gardens, Huntsville-Madison County Department of Health and Human Ser-



vices, Board of Directors of Tuskegee University School of Engineering, the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), Huntsville-Madison County Space and Rocket Center, and many others.

He is especially committed to causes that nurture community growth and youth development.

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**FEBRUARY 7 - Born in Andrews, S.C., CHRIS ROCK is a stand-up comedian, actor, screenwriter, television producer, film producer and director. He is a father of two and the brother of American actor Tony Rock.**

- BlackinTime.info

# Honoring Some of the State's Finest: Alabama-Born African-American Notables

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

by Jerome Saintjones\*

**Hank Aaron**, baseballer, Mobile  
**Joel "JoJo" Adams**, bluesman, Rural  
**Ralph Abernathy**, activist, Linden  
**Arthur Alexander**, singer, Sheffield  
**Inez Andrews**, gospel, Birmingham  
**Robert Avery**, activist hitchhiked to 1963 March, Gadsden  
**Charles Barkley**, NBA star, Leeds  
**Andrew Jackson Beard**, inventor of railroad coupler, Pinson  
**Jo Jo Benson**, R&B/soul singer, Phenix City  
**Herman Blount** aka "Sun Ra," Visionary musician, Birmingham  
**Willie D. Burton**, Oscar-winning sound engineer, Tuscaloosa  
**Clarence and Curtis Butler** "Butler Twins," Detroit blues, Killen  
**George "Wild Child" Butler**, Blues harmonica player, Autaugaville  
**James Anthony Carmichael**, Grammy-winning arranger, Gadsden  
**Johnnie Carr**, activist, Montgomery  
**Clarence Carter**, singer, Montgomery  
**Nell Carter**, actress/singer, Birmingham  
**Reg E. Cathey**, actor, Huntsville  
**John Henrik Clarke**, Pan Africanist, Union Springs  
**Mattie Moss Clarke**, singer, Selma  
**Lorenzo Clemons**, actor, Birmingham  
**Nat King Cole**, icon, Montgomery  
**Burl C. "Jaybird" Coleman**, blues harmonica player, Gainesville  
**Mitty Collier**, singer, Birmingham  
**Marva Collins**, educator, Monroeville

**Laverne Cox**, actress, Mobile  
**William Dawson**, composer, Anniston  
**Anthony Daniels**, Alabama's first black minority House leader, Midway  
**James Reese Europe**, composer, Mobile  
**Maria Fearing**, ex-slave educator and missionary, Gainesville  
**G-Side**, hip hop duo, Huntsville  
**Fred Gray**, civil rights atty. (Rosa Parks Tuskegee Study), Montgomery  
**Albert Hall**, actor, Brighton  
**Vera Hall**, Folk singer, Livingston  
**W.C. Handy**, "Father of the Blues," Florence  
**Lula Mae Hardaway**, songwriter; mother of Stevie Wonder, Eufaula  
**Erskine Hawkins**, trumpeter, Birmingham  
**Alexis Herman**, former U.S. Secretary of Labor, Mobile  
**Andre' Holland**, actor, Bessemer  
**Evander Holyfield**, boxer, Atmore  
**James Hood**, Education pioneer, Gadsden  
**Brittany Howard**, singer, Athens  
**Jimmy Hughes**, singer, Leighton  
**Zora Neale Hurston**, novelist, Notasulga  
**Bo Jackson**, athlete, Bessemer  
**Katherine Jackson**, matriarch of The Jackson Family, Clayton  
**Rosetta James**, activist, Akron  
**Mae Jemison**, astronaut, Decatur  
**Mick Jenkins**, Hip hop artist, Huntsville  
**Angela Johnson**, children's book

author and poet, Tuskegee  
**Orlando Jones**, actor, Mobile  
**Vivian Malone Jones**, pioneer in higher education, Mobile  
**Tom Joyner**, radio personality, Tuskegee  
**Percy Julian**, inventor, Montgomery  
**Eddie Kendricks**, R&B singer/songwriter, Union Springs  
**Coretta Scott King**, civil rights advocate, Marion  
**Mathew Knowles**, talent manager, father of Beyonce, Gadsden  
**Carl Lewis**, track star, Birmingham  
**John Lewis**, congressman, Troy  
**Joe Louis**, famous boxer, LaFayette  
**Joseph Lowery**, minister/civil rights leader, Huntsville  
**Atherine Lucy**, pioneer, Shiloh  
**Simmie Lee Knox**, painter (official portrait of Clinton), Aliceville  
**Gucci Mane**, rapper, Bessemer  
**Willie Mays**, baseball legend, Westfield  
**Jerry McCain**, electric blues musician, Gadsden  
**Iverson Minter** - "Louisiana Red," blues guitarist, Bessemer  
**Johnny Moore**, R&B singer of Drifters fame, Selma  
**Albert Murray**, novelist and literary critic, Nokomis  
**Fayard Nicholas**, "Nicholas Brothers," Tap dancer/choreographer, Mobile  
**Cliff Nobles**, American pop singer, Grove Hill

**Odetta**, folk singer, Birmingham  
**Jesse Owens**, athlete, Oakville  
**Terrell Owens**, football notable, Alexander City  
**Satchel Paige**, pitcher, Mobile  
**Henry Panion**, conductor/professor, Birmingham  
**Rosa Parks**, civil rights icon, Tuskegee  
**Wilson Pickett**, singer, Prattville  
**Condoleezza Rice**, former Secretary of State, Birmingham  
**Maurice "Rich Boy" Richards**, rapper, Mobile  
**Lionel Richie**, singer, Tuskegee  
**Robin Roberts**, television broadcaster, Tuskegee  
**John Solomon Sandridge**, artist/sculptor, Gadsden  
**David Satcher**, former U.S. Surgeon General, Anniston  
**Eugene Sawyer, Jr.**, former mayor

of Chicago, Greensboro  
**Naomi Shelton**, singer, Midway  
**Percy Sledge**, singer, Leighton  
**Broderick "Rickey" Smiley**, comedian, Birmingham  
**James Foster Smith**, teen hitchhiker to the 1963 March, Gadsden  
**Limmie Snell**, soul singer, Dalton  
**Octavia Spencer**, actor, Montgomery  
**John Stallworth**, former Pittsburgh Steeler, Tuscaloosa  
**Ruben Studdard**, former "American Idol", Birmingham  
**Glenn "Doe B" Thomas**, rapper, Montgomery  
**Robert Frank Thomas**, teen hitchhiked to 1963 March, Gadsden  
**Oscar Toney Jr.**, soul singer, Selma  
**Cynthia Tucker**, syndicated columnist, Monroeville  
**Don Varner**, singer, Birmingham

**Sharon Warren**, actor, Opelika  
**Dinah Washington**, blues queen, Tuscaloosa  
**Thomas Weatherly**, poet, Scottsboro  
**Palmer Williams**, actor, Camden  
**Bill Winston**, televangelist, Tuskegee  
**Jameis Winston**, football player, Hueytown  
**Holland Dai'mon "Mr. Envi"** **Witherspoon**, rapper, Uniontown  
**Ella Ramah Willis Wofford**, mother of Nobel Prize winner Toni Morrison, Greenville  
**Roy Wood, Jr.**, comedian and actor, Birmingham  
**Coleman Young**, former mayor of Detroit, Tuscaloosa

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