

The Valley Weekly

*"I will teach pride if my teaching breaks every
back in my kingdom."*

- Henri Christophe

FREE

Volume 2, No. 24

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, February 26, 2016



EXCLUSIVE! YOU CAN GO HOME AGAIN: *Huntsville native and Emmy Award-winning, talented actor Reginald E. Cathey returned to the Rocket City on Sunday, February 14, to the 60th anniversary program/homecoming of Holy Cross-St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, where he once served as an altar boy. The J.O. Johnson High School graduate shared his memories and experiences. Cathey has had roles in such television shows as "The Wire," "Oz," and "House of Cards." Following his years at Johnson High, he attended the University of Michigan and the Yale School of Drama before embarking on an extensive acting career that spans back to 1984. For exclusive coverage on Cathey's Huntsville visit, along with photos, visit Page 2 of this edition of The Valley Weekly. (Photos by J. Saintjones)*

Rare Diseases Symposium This Week

The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Children's of Alabama and the Center for Genomic Medicine at UAB/HudsonAlpha will present the Rare Disease Genomics Symposium 2016, from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 26, at the Bradley Lecture Center on the fourth floor of the Children's Harbor Building, 1600 Sixth Ave. South.

The symposium, associated with Rare Disease Day, February 29, is also co-sponsored by UAB Medicine Genetics, the Heflin Center for Genomic Sciences,

and the Center for Clinical and Translational Science.

Speakers from UAB, HudsonAlpha and the National Cancer Institute will present on topics such as genome sequencing, pediatric cancer genetic counseling and tuberous sclerosis.

UAB created an Undiagnosed Diseases Program in 2013 and, along with HudsonAlpha, Children's of Alabama and UAB Medicine, is committed to providing patients with access to high-quality care and cutting-edge research. HudsonAlpha

is providing the capabilities for whole genome sequencing as well as the ability to rapidly innovate in this emerging arena of medicine.

Children's of Alabama and UAB Medicine provide access to world-renowned genetic diagnosis and counseling as well as subspecialty care for patients and families with previously undiagnosed diseases.

For more information, contact Margetta Thomas at (256) 327-0425 or e-mail mthomas@hudsonalpha.org.

IMS Names Winner of Annual Racial Harmony Award

Harry Hobbs, formerly of the Huntsville Police Department (now Huntsville Utilities), has been selected as the 2016 recipient of the Marilyn Mabry Racial Harmony Award from the Interfaith Mission Service (IMS).

The Annual Awards Dinner is set for Tuesday, May 3, from 6-8 p.m. at the Exhibit Hall on the University of Alabama in Huntsville campus.

The award is named in memory of Alabama A&M University professor Marilyn Mabry. It is presented annually to an organization or individual who has promoted racial harmony, believ-



ing such is crucial to the community's well-being and continued success.

That certainly describes Hobbs and the work he does with the Police Department in supporting closer relations between police and neighborhood residents, said Jeannie Robison, interim executive director of IMS.

"I believe that Professor Mabry - who, as [some] may know, was a member of the Harris family that founded the Harris Home - would have been pleased with our selection," said IMS' Robison.

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Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Huntsville's Own Reginald E. Cathey Returns Home

"House of Cards" Actor Keynotes 60th Anniversary of Holy Cross-St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Entering the small Episcopal church on Meridian Street immediately brought back numerous memories to the former altar boy who would leave his native Huntsville to venture out into the uncharted territory of the acting profession.

But those memories were long ago, and they were far beyond his Emmy Award and the roles he achieved on "The Wire," the popular prison series "Oz" and even his present role on "House of Cards." They were before current Priest-in-Charge C. Diane Hill and an Episcopal Church that has always sought to ably ne-

gotiate and run just steps ahead of the inevitable.

The parish of his youth was small, but it was punctuated with influential people who to this very day are local household names owing to their impact as servant leaders. Many of the church's founders have buildings named after them at nearby Alabama A&M University.

Nonetheless, for Reginald E. Cathey, those deep memories at Holy Cross-St. Christopher's Episcopal Church are permanently sweet and plentiful. And, with a full heart of joy, he poured them out to his audience of

friends, former classmates, old church members who didn't spare the rod, and to those who sustain the parish in its current form today.

Cathey's visit received a "Presidential Medallion" from Alabama A&M University President Andrew Hugine, Jr., along with warm welcomes from State Representative Laura Hall; the City of Huntsville via multi-cultural affairs director Kenneth Anderson; *Valley Weekly* editor-in-chief and assistant editor Dr. Dorothy W. Huston and Georgia S. Valrie, respectively; and members of the Religious Society of Friends

(Quakers), Lakeside United Methodist Church, Fellowship Presbyterian Church, AAMU drama students and others.

Cathey's visit during Black History Month also spurred reflections on how human beings shape and are impacted by the times in which they live. From an altar boy growing up in a racially charged period to a world-traveled adult who has seen the Episcopal Church USA's first African-American Presiding Bishop in The Most Reverend Michael Curry, there is indeed a balm in Gilead.

by Jerome Saintjones



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The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor

Dear Friend:

We had the wonderful opportunity of attending the U. S. Army Material Command's Logistics Support Activity Black History Month Celebration on February 16. COL Scott J. LoFreddo is the Commander of USAMC's Logistic Support Activity. He provided opening remarks prior to Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell's soul-stirring, keynote speech. Sewell is the U. S. Representative from Alabama for District 7. The Black History Ensemble provided a diverse array of musical selections appropriate for the occasion. The theme for this event was "Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African-American Memories." Also included in the program were "Reflections of a Foot Soldier: Bloody Sunday and the Edmund Pettus Bridge" by Mr. Hugh and Mr. Carl Steward. As this month comes to an end for 2016, we hope you have been as inspired and enlightened as we have been. Thanks, Ms. JoAnn McGraw, for the invitation extended to attend this event.

Later in the week, we had the opportunity to attend the Black Engineer of the Year 30th Annual Global Competitiveness Conference. There, we ran into Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski III, president of the University of Maryland-Baltimore County and Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd, president of Alabama State University. Dr. Hrabowski, was identified by TIME Magazine in 2012 as one of the "World's Most Influential People." He is important to us locally because early in his career, he worked in the Graduate School at AAMU. So, we consider him one of our "brave and loyal sons, sent from the shrine on Normal's Hill." Many of us still remember his positive tenure at AAMU. Hrabowski has written "Holding Fast to Dreams: Empowering Youth from the Civil Rights Crusade to STEM Achievement." A child of the civil rights movement who grew up in Birmingham, Hrabowski joined nearly 1,000 school children to march on Birmingham's City Hall. There, they came face-to-face with Bull Connor, which led to his imprisonment. Dr. King told him and the other children that their courage would make the world a better place for children not yet born.

We have made great progress; however, we have a ways to go. The late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, famous for his uncommon rhetoric from the bench, suggested that black students might belong at "slower-track" universities. For anyone to suggest in 2016 that one group of students are somehow inherently intellectually inferior over other students is unfortunate. The theory has been around for many years. Justice Clarence Thomas, who is black, shared similar views in a 2003 case when he opined that minority students admitted to the University of Michigan were unprepared for the work they faced.

God bless us as we leave the month of February and enter into March. The challenges facing us never stop. I guess if we all thought alike, this would be a very boring world. However, shouldn't there be a few things on which we should all be able to agree? One, we are each wonderfully and diversely made. Two, our past does not determine our future. And, three, with a little "grit" most of us can get it done.

One of my regrets, is that "grit" was not my ideal. When we have it, we can change things, including ignorance. Let's embrace and celebrate our differences without degrading the potential of the children. The burden is too heavy already.



Congresswoman Terri Sewell (r) and Mrs. Linda Via.



Congresswoman Terri Sewell and Mrs. Alice Sams.

Dorothy

Calendar of Events

February 26
 "Symposium on the Future of the City"
 Department of Community and Regional Planning
 Alabama A&M University
 Dawson Building Auditorium
 9 a.m.-12 noon

February 27
 Caregiver's Way Workshop
 www.caregiverswayfeb27.eventbrite.com
 1328 Governors Drive SE
 9:30-12 noon

March 1-April 26
 Mandarin Chinese
 Free Continuing Education Class
 (Learn essential vocabulary, simple sentences and common expressions)
 The Center for Extended Studies
 Contact: Kris Reed
 (256) 372-5753
 5:45-6:45 p.m.

March 3
 Black Tie Dinner/Live Auction
 2016 Gala Art Exhibition
 Huntsville Museum of Art

Abrahamic Prayers
 St. Thomas Episcopal Church
 The Parlor
 Contact: meisterp@uah.edu
 Bailey Cove Road
 7-9 p.m.

March 3-6
 "You Can't Stop that Spiel"
 Tickets: \$10 - (256) 536-4771
 Temple B'Nai Shalom
 183 Lincoln Street
 Huntsville, Ala.
 7 p.m.

March 4
 "Going Through Grief: A Guide to Understanding, Surviving and Supporting the Grief Process"
 301 UAH Shelby Center
 301 Sparkman Drive
 6:30-7:30 p.m.

March 4-5
 Savannah State
 University Southern
 Region Conference
 Marriott Huntsville
 Huntsville, Ala.

March 5
 Asha Kiran and the
 City of Huntsville
 Community Kite
 Festival
 John Hunt Park
 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

March 12
 10th Annual Rosetta James Foundation "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration
 Tickets: (256) 536-9717
 The Jackson Center
 5 p.m.

March 17
 Master Artist Workshop with David Dunlop
 Huntsville Museum of Art
 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

March 18
 Inaugural Education Banquet for the Julius R. Scruggs Child Development Center and Academy

Guest Speaker: Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D.
 First Missionary Baptist Church
 Blue Spring Road
 Huntsville, Ala.
 6 p.m.

March 19
 "An Evening of Academia, Achievements & the Arts" in Honor of Dr. Virginia Caples (Endowment of the Virginia Caples Lifelong Learning Institute)
 Tickets: \$100
 Elmore Building
 7 p.m.

April 2
 First Lady's Scholarship Luncheon

Alabama A&M University
 Ernest L. Knight Reception Center
 Tickets: \$40
 Reserved Tables of 10: \$500
 11 a.m.

April 11-May 20
 Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH Spring Term
 OLLI is a learning community designed for adults 50+
 Daytime and evening classes.
 Details: Osher.uah.edu/Catalog or 256.824.6183

April 22
 Annual Black Tie Scholarship Gala
 Alabama A&M University
 Von Braun Center

April 30
 Civil War Symposium
 "Four Bloody Years of War: Policy and Strategy, Sedition and Emancipation"
 SpringHill Suites by Marriott
 745 Constellation Place Dr., SW
 Huntsville, Ala.

9:15-4:30 p.m.

May 3
 Interfaith Mission Service Annual Awards Dinner
 UAH Exhibit Hall, 6-8 p.m.

June 16-19
 AAMU Alumni Association National Convention
 Crown Plaza-Executive Park Hotel
 Charlotte, N.C.



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Saturday, March 12, 2016
 Five O'Clock in the Evening
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 Tickets: (256) 536-9717

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A Washington Recap

Hello, everyone. Here are the top recent issues in Washington:

1. The House and Senate return to session this week, after being off for the Presidents' Day Recess. The Senate reconvened Monday and the House returned on Tuesday, Feb. 23.

The Senate will vote on the Food and Drug Commissioner nominee, return to consideration of the Energy Policy Modernization Act, which has stalled due to objections over an amendment that would authorize \$600 million for the water contamination crisis in Flint, Michigan, and then take up legislation to provide grants to states to combat opioid and heroin abuse.

The House will consider a large number of bills this week, including legislation mandating a national strategy to intercept traveling terrorists and foreign fighters; a bill to improve certain TSA programs, such as the Pre-Check system and the vetting of airport workers; and a bill to allow federal judges to decide whether a local party is a legitimate defendant in a federal legal claim that would shift the case to a state court. The final bill on the House calendar this week is the controversial Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act, which would eliminate

the federal jurisdiction for toxic substances in ammunition and fishing tackle (such as lead); prevent the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from cracking down on the illegal ivory trade; allow animal trapping on federal lands, and allow the importation of 41 polar bear trophies from Canada killed before the U.S. listed them as threatened in 2008.

2. All of Washington is holding its collective breath awaiting President Obama's pick to replace Justice Scalia on the Supreme Court. Last Thursday, Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid (R-NV) predicted the President would announce his nominee in 3 weeks. Already, 2 GOP Senators – Sens. Dan Coats (R-IN) and Dean Heller (R-NV) – have appeared to break ranks and endorse the idea of holding hearings on the nominee, although Sen. Coats said the nominee would have to be a conservative. On Friday, President Obama telephoned Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley (R-IA), which is the same day Grassley co-authored an op-ed with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) in The Washington Post stating that the next president should pick a replacement.

3. On Wednesday, February 24, at 10:00 a.m., the House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment will hold a hearing to review United States Army Corps of Engineers reports on future water resources development and chief's reports. You can watch the hearing live here: <http://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=399733>.

4. The latest news from the U.S. Department of Transportation is that the solicitation for the new round of the TIGER grant program (TIGER 8) will be released in the next 2 weeks likely on or before March 1.

5. Rep. James Clyburn (D-SC) said Sunday that Democratic presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders plan to make public colleges tuition-free is unrealistic and would have a deleterious effect on private, historically black colleges and universities (HBCU). The third-ranking Democrat in the U. S. House of Representatives who has endorsed Sanders rival, Hillary Clinton, stated these colleges would not be able to compete under the Vermont senator's plan.

6. Small grants with big impact - A growing number of colleges, both community colleges and four-year institutions, have data to prove that microgrants with awards as small as \$300 aimed at students with financial problems can have a big impact in promoting graduation by improving student retention and can even save a college money by preventing dropouts.

7. Last week, the White House announced that President Obama

would be the first sitting president since Calvin Coolidge in 1928 to visit Cuba. The President and Mrs. Obama will make the trip on March 21-22.

8. 2016 Presidential Watch. Jeb Bush abruptly left the race Saturday night after a disappointing performance in the South Carolina Primary, but only after his super PAC spent a total of \$95 million. This week, we'll see the GOP Nevada Caucuses on Feb. 23 and the Democratic South Carolina primary on Feb. 27.

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Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Central North Alabama Alumnae Chapter

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Saturday, March 19, 2016

Six o'clock p.m.

The Jackson Center

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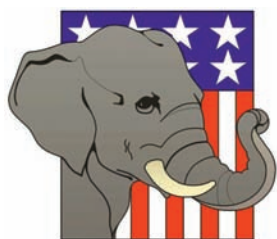
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Presidential Primaries

The presidential primaries are coming up within the first week in March. The front runners for the Democratic and Republican parties will be determined at that time. Primaries are like voting for the finalists; it gets us one step closer to the winner. Therefore, this election is just as important as the November election. As career-driven individuals, we have an invested interest in the



economy and the well being of others. We earn a living every day by making the



lives of others easier.

It is very important to be registered to vote. Whether you own your own business, or work for someone else, you are contributing to the way the world goes round: you are contributing to the economy. Elections are very important because they determine who will control our livelihood. We elect certain people that we entrust to govern and control the major systems in our community; such as the economic system and judicial

system. The presidential election is by far one of the most important elections because it determines who calls certain "shots" in our free world.

Although it's important to vote in state and local elections for

people whose decisions directly affect our surroundings, the power that the president is given is pertinent. Therefore, our voices and our votes matter more than you may think. I am one to fully believe that President Barack Obama served two terms off the strength of support from voters. His ratings in the polls were proof that the more people supporting the candidate, the better the chances are that they will be-



come president-elect. Much like a business, the more people you are able to attract, the more dollars you make, and the more success you attain. Therefore, your support towards your candidate matters now, and later.

Generally, the C.E.O. is the founder, creator, or success of a company. Thus, employees don't have the ability to elect the person that will control the company; however, when it comes to governing officials, we have that ability. It is in our best interest that we take advantage of this opportunity; after all, these are the people who can will changes in our community.

by Amoi Savage

DLC Accepting Nominations

Coordinators are now receiving applications for Cohort V of the upcoming Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) Cohort V.

For candidates to be considered, please refer to the website at www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com for the application form.

Interested individuals should e-mail ([\[colloquium.com\]\(http://colloquium.com\)\) or fax \(256-536-9718\) the application by Thursday, February 25.](mailto:info@diversityleadership-</p>
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Cohort V will begin on Tuesday, March 8. Nominations by a graduate or Subject Matter Expert (SME) of DLC do NOT need additional references beyond the said personal reference.

Organizers are looking forward to successful Spring and Fall Cohorts V and VI in 2016.

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Tips for the Self-Employed

If you are self-employed, you normally carry on a trade or business. Sole proprietors and independent contractors are two types of self-employment. If this applies to you, here are a few basic things you should know about how your income affects your federal tax return.

Here are six important tips to consider:

• SE Income

Self-employment can include income you received for part-time work. This is in addition to income from your regular job.

• Schedule C or C-EZ

You must file a Schedule C, Profit or Loss from Business, or Schedule C-EZ, Net Profit from Business, with your Form 1040. You may use Schedule C-EZ if you had expenses less than \$5,000 and meet certain other conditions. See the form instructions to find out if you can use the form.

• SE Tax

You may have to pay self-employment tax as well as income tax if you made a profit. Self-employment tax includes Social Security and Medicare taxes. Use Schedule SE, Self-Employment Tax, to figure the tax. If you owe this tax, attach the schedule to your federal tax return.

• Estimated Tax

You may need to make estimated tax payments. Try IRS Direct Pay. People typically make these payments on income that is not subject to withholding. You usually pay estimated taxes in four annual installments. If you do not pay



enough tax throughout the year, you may owe a penalty.

• Allowable Deductions

You can deduct expenses you paid to run your business that are both ordinary and necessary. An ordinary expense is one that is common and accepted in your industry. A necessary expense is one that is helpful and proper for your trade or business.

• When to Deduct

In most cases, you can deduct expenses in the same year you paid, or incurred them. However, you must 'capitalize' some costs. This means you can deduct part of the cost over a number of years.

Visit the Small Business and Self-Employed Tax Center on IRS.gov for all your federal tax needs.

Additional IRS Resources:

• Form 1040-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals

• Publication 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax

• Publication 535, Business Expenses

David E. Herron

David E. Herron
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Valley University to Honor Retiring Educator

On Saturday, March 19, 2016, the Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University Family, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, and individuals across Alabama and the nation will gather for "An Evening of Academia, Achievements, and the Arts" in honor of Dr. Virginia Caples, university professor and



1890 Extension administrator, who will retire on March 31 after 38 years of service. This event will also formally mark the kick-off of the endowment fund for the Virginia Caples Lifelong Learning Institute (VCLLI) named in her honor.

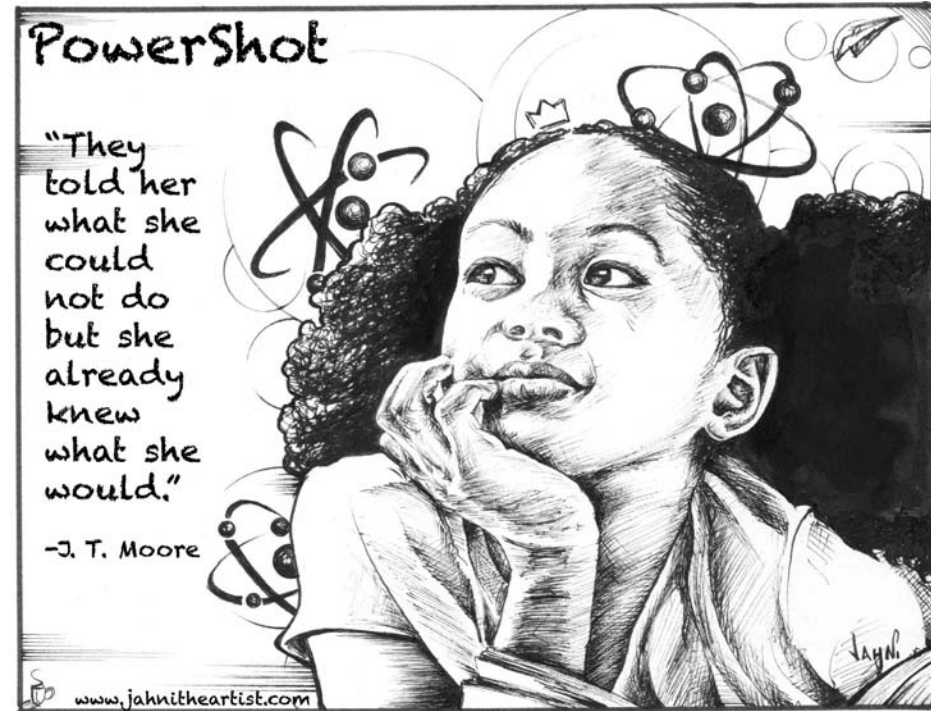
The AAA Gala will be held in the T. M. Elmore Gymnasium (located behind the Ernest R. Knight Center) on the historic campus of Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University. A reception will begin promptly at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

Individual tickets are \$100 each and sponsorship tables seating 10 are \$1,200 each. A portion of the proceeds will go toward establishing educational efforts at the Institute. Visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/>

for/aaui/ or www.aces.edu for other VCLLI endowment opportunities.

The VCLLI will serve as a center to promote research and advocacy for issues that impact older adults. For ad-

ditional information, please visit www.aces.edu/urban or contact Attorney Kevin Crenshaw at (256) 372-4939/khc0001@aces.edu or Dr. Bernice Richardson at (256) 527-1373.



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SCHOOL SHOW:
FEBRUARY 25 • SHOWTIME @ 9:30 AM

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No matter what time of year you explore Burritt on the Mountain, there is something delightful and new to see. And no matter how young – or old – you are, there is something for you on the Mountain! If you've never visited, you're in for a treat. If it's been awhile, what are you waiting for? Come on up and let the Magic begin!

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www.burrittonthemountain.com

OPEN: April–October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm
November–March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm



On This Day - Friday, February 26

Antoine Domonique "Fats" Domino - *Best-Selling R&B artist during the 1950s, according to Billboard magazine. Noted for the Rock 'N Roll classic "Blueberry Hill."* - BlackInTime.info

STAY INFORMED: Huntsville City Council Meetings

City Council regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. City Council Work Sessions also held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

For more information, call (256) 427-5011.



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*"If I were
white
I could
conquer
the
world."*

*- Dorothy
Dandridge*