

The Valley Weekly

"I don't want to earn my living; I want to live."
- Oscar Wilde

FREE

Women's History Month

Volume 4, No. 25

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, March 2, 2018

District One Hosts Town Hall Meeting

Councilman Devyn Keith held a Town Hall meeting on February 20 at First Missionary Baptist Church to a crowded Fellowship Hall. The crowd size documents that local citizens are interested in community updates around the district. Keith gave updates on the following topics: 1) District One Clean-Up to be held on April 14 in conjunction with Operation Green Team; 2) Huntsville Utilities Natural Gas Cast Iron Main Replacement Project on Oakwood Avenue is underway (*This project will be followed by a repacking of that entire section of Oakwood Avenue. The fiber backbone ring and the Chase Fiber Hut are complete. Google Fiber is now offering service in North Huntsville*); 3) Council High School demolition will begin this Spring following by the bidding for the construction of the Memorial Site; 4) The following roads in District 1 are scheduled to be replaced: Pueblo Drive, Arcadia Drive, Fountain Row, Holmes Avenue, Kenwood Drive and Melrose Drive; 5) The North Huntsville Library is in the design phase and should move to the bid and construction phases by Spring and Summer, respectively; 6) Commander Jeffery Rice of the North Precinct Huntsville Police Department addressed crime in District 1 (*Stats on breaking-and-entering vehicles, burglaries and robberies are down by 16%, 17% and 17% respectively. Further, motor vehicle crashes is on the radar for 2018 to reduce the number of serious injuries and fatalities. The Resources Officers for North Precinct are Officers Anthony Dykes and Kenny Adams, 256-746-4100*); 7) The North Huntsville Bypass is anticipated to begin construction in 2019; 8) Councilman Keith reported that the AAA School has undergone major renovations and has several community tenants (*Ms. Kristine Harding of the KPS Group is working with the City on the plan for the future use of Johnson High School*). The Request for Proposals is open currently. Interested developers should submit proposals for market-rate residential or commercial uses.



- Dorothy W. Huston

UAH Diversity Chief Set to Retire

Delois Hunter Smith, Vice President of the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at the University of Alabama in Huntsville is retiring on April 1, after nearly 40 years of service.

"It has truly been an honor and my pleasure to serve the university for almost four decades. I have been blessed with a career that has allowed me to work with outstanding students, faculty, staff and administrators who do extraordinary things everyday," said Smith.

She joined UAH in 1980 and has held progressively responsible positions in the areas of Student Affairs and upper administration. In 2000, Smith was named

Vice President for Student Affairs and served as the Senior Administrative Student Affairs Officer for nearly nine years. Smith is the first African American female Vice President to serve in The University of Alabama System (2000, Interim; 2002 Vice President).

In 2009, following her service to diverse student populations, faculty, staff and administration constituents, Smith was appointed by the UAH president to lead and develop the Office of Diversity and Student Support Services for the campus. As Vice President for Diversity, she is responsible for strategic planning, fiscal management, and staffing for the Offices of



Diversity and Multicultural Affairs (ODMA) serving faculty, staff, students and administration.

Areas of responsibility include Affirmative Action, Equity, EEO concerns, federal and state compliance issues, Title IX concerns and diversity programming and training.

Voters Right Restoration Training Set

On Saturday, March 10th from 1:30-3:30 p.m., the Tennessee Valley League of Women Voters Unit will be holding Voter Rights Restoration (VRR) Clinic Volunteer Training.

Blair Bowie from the Legal Campaign Center and Jonathan Barry-Blocker will provide those

interested in conducting a VRR clinic an overview of the Voter Rights Restoration Process, completing the Certification of Eligibility to Register to Vote forms, clinic organizing, staffing, and working with disenfranchised citizens (referred to during the training as constituents)

who need VRR services, and clinics publicity.

During the initial meeting, the group expressed a strong desire to have Voter Rights Restoration Clinics on March 10 while Blair Bowie and Jonathan Barry-Blocker were in Huntsville.

Two clinics are also scheduled March 10 from

9-11 a.m. The first clinic will be at the United Way of Madison County, 701 Andrew Jackson Way NE, Huntsville, Ala. The second clinic will be at the 2448 Shepard Drive NE, Huntsville, Ala. For more info, e-mail govote17@gmail.com or call (256) 829-8416.

The Valley Weekly
INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Washington in a Minute, Page 2
53 Exquisite Diamonds, Page 3
March Valley Scopes, Page 5
Playwright Cancels Huntsville Visit, Page 6
Stillman Head to Speak, Page 7

Washington in a Minute



Here are the top issues in Washington, D.C., this week:

House and Senate lawmakers will return to the Hill today after a weeklong recess, but little action is expected on the two big issues dominating national debate: gun control and immigration. The House is scheduled for a short work week -- it won't vote on Wednesday or Thursday as the late Rev. Billy Graham lies in honor in the Capitol Rotunda. The Senate will maintain its regular schedule. But after

the failed immigration debate on the Senate floor, the chamber is poised to take up nominations this week. Still, lawmakers are likely to begin discussing behind the scenes what -- if anything -- can pass on guns.

Nineteen centrist House Republicans requested that House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) schedule a vote this week on legislation that would improve the national background check system for firearm purchases. "The

bill, which is narrow in focus, would reinforce the requirement that federal agencies report all criminal infractions to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System and create financial incentives for states to do so as well, according to The Washington Post. More than 100 House Democrats plan to co-sponsor legislation this week banning assault weapons. Still, the proposal in all likelihood is dead on arrival because Republicans control Congress and have not expressed support for it.

President Trump hosted a meeting at the White House with governors attending the National Governors Association Winter Meeting, at which he pledged over the weekend to discuss his solutions to stem the tide of mass shootings.

Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto has called off what was to be his first official

visit to the White House next month after a phone call last week with President Trump in which Trump reportedly lost his temper while discussing plans for a border wall. President Peña Nieto scrapped a planned trip to meet President Trump at the White House in January 2017 over Mr. Trump's insistence that Mexico pay for the wall.

Today, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments in *Janus v. AFSCME*, in which a non-union state worker from Illinois challenged the duty to pay "fair share" fees to the union to cover the union's costs to negotiate a contract that applies to all public employees, including those who are not union members (a duty in place since 1977). Many observers expect new Justice Neil Gorsuch to vote against the union position

in the case, giving the court a 5-4 vote to invalidate fair share payments, which could decrease union campaign war chests by up to two-thirds, according to Politico.

Lawmakers will talk net neutrality following last week's publication of the FCC repeal in the Federal Register, which sets up a clock for Senate Democrats to advance a resolution to undo the GOP action.

The Pennsylvania Republican Party is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to block a new congressional map activated by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court last Monday after it ruled that the 2011 map was an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander. The new map, drawn up by Stanford University Professor Nathaniel Persily, is expected to contain more Democratic-leaning

districts, as well as making the GOP seats more competitive, just in time for Pennsylvania's May 2018 primaries.

In a poll of 1,016 adults released yesterday by CNN, President Trump's approval rating stands at 35%, down 5 points over last month. The slide follows a January bump in approval for the President, a finding that appeared connected to a bullish stock market and strong reviews for the economy. His new rating matches a December poll, which marked his lowest approval rating in CNN polling since taking office in January 2017.

Hamm Consulting Group
400 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 585
Washington D.C. 20001
T: 202-596-8384
rhamm@hammconsulting.com
www.hammconsulting.com

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Mrs. Olye B. Conley

As President of Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Olye B. Conley led in the sponsorship of the first Black Heritage Stamp presentation at the Huntsville Museum of Art, honoring Soror Zora Neale Hurston. She also spearheaded the unveiling of each Black Heritage Stamp thereafter.



The 100 Black Men of Greater Huntsville organization was among the impressive list of organizations bestowing honors to Conley.

The educational administrator further distinguished herself as a sought-after speaker and motivator for several churches and civic organizations in Huntsville and surrounding areas.

She served as the past director of the Bo Mathews Center of Excellence, offering help to students in the

field of education throughout northwest Huntsville.

Her numerous organizational affiliations and positions included: principal, Huntsville City Schools (the first African American female since the end of segregation era policies); member, Huntsville Principal Association; member, Alabama Historic Project, Maple Hill Cemetery, Incorporated; 5th District Co-Chair, Huntsville Bicentennial; past president and regional director, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.; member, Conley Chapel CME Church, Huntsville, Ala.; and many others.

Although she retired, Conley participated in numerous church, civic and educational activities.

Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

Psalms 37:7 says, Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when evil people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

You know, there is a song that goes, "If we ever needed the Lord before, we sure do need him now." In Psalms 37, David makes the case as to why we need God in our lives today and why we need religion.

In this scripture he talks about the contrast between the wicked and the righteous. In other words, those who seek to know God and the ones who don't. Today, we live in a society where most of the people don't have any spiritual covering.

This means there is no one to talk about anything that pertains to their spiritual well-being. I be-



lieve that this will continue to produce a generation of spiritually un-educated people.

So there is no doubt we need some "old time religion" in our lives. The first thing we need religion for is, to change the quality of our lives. We need Jesus to change the very nature of our lives, because how can anybody not realize that we are all sinners.

Just look at how many people we have in law enforcement. Look at all the prisons and jails that we have in this country. Look at all the materialism and

greed and self-seeking people that are all around. Human nature is sinful.

Romans 3:10 says, "There no one righteous, not even one." That's why our hearts and nature need to be changed.

We also need religion to change the "ruling spirit" of our lives. You see, the spirit of Christ and the spirit of the world are exact opposites. The spirit of the world is to hate. The spirit of Christ is to love. You see, until Jesus saves us from our sins, and we grow in His grace, the spirit of the world will continue to control us.

That's why it is so important that we get some kind of "spiritual covering" for our lives. It's the only way we can truly see the difference between right and wrong ... *Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!*

Publisher

The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief

Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor**

Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial Assistants

Linda Burruss
Phyllis Chunn
Gary T. Whitley

Advertising Associate

Phyllis Chunn

Writer/Sales/Photography

Reginald D. Allen

- Contributing Editors -

Reginald D. Allen
Minister Preston Brown
Ron Hamm
David Herron
Melissa Wilson-Seloma

Website Administrator

Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:

The Valley Weekly
415A Church Street - Suite 100
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
Copyright 2018

Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to info@valleyweeklyllc.com. Items do not necessarily reflect the views of

Submissions to TVW do not necessarily reflect the belief of the editorial staff and TVW is not responsible for the authenticity of submissions.

The Valley Weekly

Ad Rates Single Issue

Back Cover	10x10-inches	\$1,000
Full Page	10x10 inches	\$800
3/4 Page	7.5x10 inches	\$600
Half Page	Horizontal	
	5x10 inches	\$400
	Vertical	
	10x5 inches	\$400
Fourth Page	5x5 inches	\$200
Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$100
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$50
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$6
	(4 col. in. minimum=\$24)	
6 Month/1 Yr. -10% & 20% Discount!		

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Presents "53 Exquisite Diamonds"

On Friday, February 16, 2018, Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporation, hosted its 60th Annual Debutante Presentation and Ball in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center.

Over 1300 guests enjoyed the exquisite decorations of stately columns swathed in white fabric and adorned with greenery and beautiful flowers in hues of pink and green. Elegant centerpieces were placed on each table with a sampling of light hors d'oeuvres.

Dr. Wilma Ruffin, president of the chapter, welcomed debutantes, escorts, parents, special guests and friends. She also introduced Dr. Terrance Vickerstaff and Ms. Erica Washington to present this year's 53 honorees. The 2018 debutantes are seniors representing a variety of North Alabama schools. The Debutante Presentation and Ball culminated the Debutante Season which consisted of training sessions, social graces workshops, community service projects, and a creative scrapbook.

This year's theme, "Exquisite Diamonds: Poised, Polished, and Unconquerable," was on display as each honoree was presented. "The Debutante Presentation and Ball is a once in a lifetime, breathtaking experience," said Dr. Ruffin. "Each honoree exhibited a graceful, elegant spirit not only on this enchanting evening in their full white gowns, pearls and gloves, but also during the entire Debutante Season. Their intelligence, compassion, and creativity represent our society's great promise to build and sustain the future."

The recipients of this year's scholarships were Morgan Gibson, Natalie Fields, and Raven Griffin totaling \$14,000. The Eva Cathey Award recipient was Morgan Gibson. Debutante bracelets were presented to each of the debutantes by the Ball Chairman, Ms. Angel Baytop and the Co-Chairman, Ms. Katrina Eason. Ms. Baytop indicated that she really enjoyed working with the young ladies and the Ball Committee and "was not ready for this experience to end." Ms. Eason stated, "I am so excited to have played a part in such a wonderful Debutante Season and tonight, I am so proud of all of the lovely young ladies."

The night's Cotillion dance was followed by a toast given by State Representative Anthony Daniels. After the toast, the Debutantes and Presenters had the first dance.



GROUP 1

l-r seated - Cierra Rae' Chelle Bolden, Makayla Tra-niece Betts, Kendall V. Betts, Maci Dominique Battle, Jordan Elizabeth Bailey, Lauryn Alexis Adams; l-r standing - Lyndsi Trenea' Brown, Kimberly Alease Brown, Celeste Olivia Bradley, Jordan D. Bradford, Lauren Elise Boustani, Jessica Nicole Boustani, Amaya Jeanette Booker



GROUP 2

l-r seated: Natalie Clarice Fields, Kyler Grace Evans, Yvonne Marie Ellison, Kindle Keshay Cosby, Te'Yanna Renee Byrd-Evans; l-r standing: Lauryn Dorae Hall, Kortney Janay Hale, Raven Nakai Griffin, Zoe MaKayla Graves, McKenzie Deshawn Gordon, Sydney Nicole Gog-gans, Morgan Leigh Gibson, Kynnedie Lauren Edwards



GROUP 3

l-r seated: Maya Amaka Ifekauche, Milan Nicole Hunt, Audrey Lin'trell Humphrey, Yanci Amaya Horton, Lauryn Makenzye Hereford, Lauren Jessica Heard; l-r standing: Traceline Joyce Moffitt, A'Quazia Unique Lynch, Zoe Amali Landers, Almondrea Lor'Tish Kirby, Kiana Charmise Jones, Jayla Danielle Jones, Maya Nicole Johnson



GROUP 4

l-r seated: Dionna Marie Robinson, Alessea Alexandra Rice, Jaelyn Morgan Reeves, Caya Sherre Perry, Vivica Elise Parker, Kaylan Lyzan Parham; l-r standing: Kyra Nicole Watson, Gerah Mone' Watson, Camaryn Estella Ward, Jessica Katelyn Turnage, Saige Marie Thompson, Jasmine Nicole Stafford, Angel Danielle Sims, and Takhera Raquae Sanders.



President and Chair- persons: President Wilma Ruffin, Chair; Ms. 2018 Debutante Scrapbook Winners - L. Angel Bayton, Co-Chair, Ms. Katrina Eason.



Scholarship Winners: 1st place recipient (center) -Raven Griffin 2nd place (right) - Natalie Fields, 3rd place (left) Morgan Gibson



Scrapbook Winners: 1st Place is far right with scrapbook committee members - Jes- sica Turnage; 2nd place is in middle - Saige Thompson; 3rd place is on far left - Natalie Fields

Photo Credit: Ms. Chris Winston

CHS Ends Season with Rending 5-Point Loss

The Columbia High School basketball season ended Friday, February 16, 2018, with a tough fivepoint loss during the regional tournament at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville, Ala.

The Eagles had a productive season with an overall record of 23 wins and 11 losses. During the season, they received 2nd Place in the Williamson High School Thanksgiving Tournament in Mobile, Ala.; Tournament Champions of the Jones County High School State Bank Christmas Tournament in Macon, Ga; loss to a #1 ranked Mountain Brook team in the 3rd Place Consolation game during



the AL.com Classic; defeated Pace Academy in the Music City Jam Tournament in Nashville, Tenn.; and ended the season as the Area Champions for Class 6A - Area 15.

The Columbia Eagles finished the season ranked #8 in the State. Senior Miguel Williams became the highest scorer in Columbia Basketball History with 1463 total points. Miguel also received All-Region, All-Area, and All-Tournament votes by the

coaches' committees.

The Eagles will lose a solid group of seniors, Ahmad Bartholomew #5, Jhontavious (J.T.) King #2, Cameron Phillips #20, Antonio Potter #12, Daquan Pressley #1, and Captain -Miguel Williams #11.

These seniors led this coaching staff to its best record in four years. The coaching staff consists of Christopher Blanding, head coach; Marcus McCall, Edwan O'Neal, and Larry Ware. The team thanks Principal Clifford Porter, administration, teachers, parents, students, sponsors, and the community for their support all year. #LOCKEDIN

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSOLIDATED/ACTION PLAN

The City of Huntsville, Alabama proposes to amend its FY2016 and the FY2017 Action Plan HOME funding. The amendments are as follows:

- \$49,632.11 Reallocate 2016 CHDO Reserve funds from 2715 Wilson Dr. to 900 Appleby St.
- \$70,380.90 Reallocate 2017 CHDO Reserve funds from 2821 Union Dr. to 900 Appleby St.
- \$23,460.30 Reallocate 2017 CHDO Operating funds from 2821 Union Dr. to 900 Appleby St.
- \$25,000.00 Reduce 2017 Downpayment Assistance Program funding; reallocate to 900 Appleby St.
- \$1,350.00 Reduce 2017 Housing Counseling funding; reallocate to 900 Appleby St.

A 30-day comment period ending on April 2, 2018 is required before amendments to the Consolidated/Action Plan. Comments or suggestions concerning this amendment may be submitted by email to turkessa.coleman@huntsvilleal.gov or by mail to the City of Huntsville, Department of Community Development, PO Box 308, Huntsville, AL 35804.

CIUDAD DE HUNTSVILLE ENMIENDA AL PLAN DE ACCIÓN CONSOLIDADO

La ciudad de Huntsville, Alabama propone enmendar su Plan de acción del AÑO FISCAL 2016 and 2017. Los siguientes proyectos HOME se agregan:

- \$49,632.11 Fonds de réaffecter 2016 CHDO réserve de 2715 Wilson Dr à 900 Appleby St.
- \$70,380.90 Fonds de réaffecter 2017 CHDO réserve de 2821 Union Dr à 900 Appleby St.
- \$23,460.30 Fonds de réaffecter 2017 CHDO d'exploitation de 2821 Union Dr à 900 Appleby St.
- \$25,000.00 Réduire le financement de programme d'Assistance acompte 2017; réattribuer à 900 Appleby St.
- \$1,350.00 Réduire le 2017 Housing Counseling financement; réattribuer à 900 Appleby St.

Une période de consultation de 30 jours s'achevant le 2 avril 2018 est nécessaire avant les modifications au Plan consolidé/Action. Commentaires ou suggestions concernant cette modification peuvent présenter par courriel à turkessa.coleman@huntsvilleal.gov ou par courrier à la ville de Huntsville, Department of Community Development, case postale 308, Huntsville, à la 35804.

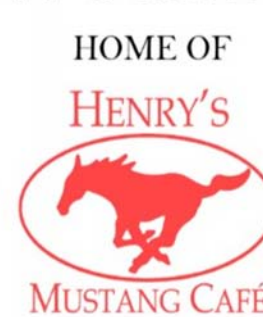


Veterans Honored at Eta Phi Beta, Inc. African American History Month Program:

Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Omega Chapter in keeping with the 2018 African American History Theme: African Americans in Times of War honored local veterans at an intergenerational brunch on Saturday, February 24, 2018, at Fellowship Presbyterian Church. The veterans present were Mr. Lenwood Steven Conway, Dr. Theodore C. Dixie, Sr., Dr. George W. Grayson, Mrs. Constance M. Malone, Mrs. Joann Mixon King McCrary, and Mrs. Cheryl Robinson-Stewart. Also honored but unable to attend were Mr. Allen Ben Cothron, Mr. Del Stevens Morris and Mr. Bobbie Lee Hayden. The chapter had assistance from four local youth: Jaden Vernon Aikerson, Dominique Antoinette Davis, Amya JeNae Poole and Diamond-Cole Elizabeth Williams.



WOODY ANDERSON



2 Sausage Biscuits
for \$4!



2500 Jordan LN NW
(256) 517-1288
Henry'sMustangCafe@gmail.com
Woody-AndersonFord.com
(256) 539-9441



BREAKFAST SERVED
MONDAY THRU SATURDAY
6:30AM UNTIL 11:00AM

LUNCH SERVED
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
11:00AM UNTIL 2:00 PM

Because it's a colorful world...

Xcel Services

Design • Print • Mail • Promotional
256-539-1658
www.xcelprint.com

MAYHEM IS EXPENSIVE. ALLSTATE IS NOT.



JAMES F SMITH & ASSOCIATES
256-852-7310

415 CHURCH ST NW BUILDING B
HUNTSVILLE
jamesfsmith@allstate.com



Allstate

Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co. © 2013 Allstate Insurance Co.

ValleyScopes

by Melissa Wilson/Seloma

MARCH

• **Gemini** The sun, at a conjunction with Neptune, implies that you will be offered plenty of assistance in something that you're being driven to do.

• **Aquarius** The Mercury conjunction of Neptune in your career area indicates that you'll be able to get any messages that you have out there clearly to others and that any recent career dealings will likely have an ideal quality, which will be evident to all.

• **Cancer** The Venus conjunction of Neptune, within your house of siblings and family, show integrated elements of their love and a concerted effort to ideally coincide or work well with

you in some effort.

• **Pisces** Juno, along with the Venus trine of Jupiter, means that opinions about money and expansion are in harmony within your relationship/partnership at this time.

• **Leo** The moons' trine of Saturn signifies that there is a harmony-filled flow going on inside of your home presently, even if there has been some upheaval recently, which is excellent news for you.

• **Virgo** The Mercury trine of Jupiter, in the recreational area of your celestial sky, is indicative of a much-needed time out or break for you now.

• **Libra** Jupiters' sextile of Pluto means that you're likely to make leaps and bounds when it comes to the renewal of something that is health-related, such as a good deal with health insurance rates or something of that nature.

• **Sagittarius** Mars' square of Neptune, in your 8th house, shows a clear link between both the positive actions that you're taking and your desire to thrive, during a time period that has likely been filled with debate.

• **Taurus** The Mars' trine of Uranus, in your 12th house, signals a new truce of some kind with those who you, perhaps, have previously had to emotionally protect yourself from, to

some degree.

• **Scorpio** The Jupiter semisquare of Saturn, in your 6th house, hints at a bit of friction, possibly in relation to a difference of opinion about a health- or pet-related issue.

• **Capricorn** The Uranus square of Pluto, in your 9th house, suggests that your concerns, about why something has occurred, have been the source of some acrimony, so you're on a mission to find answers.

• **Aries** The sun, which happens to be in a semisextile with Uranus, is in transit through your 12th house and an understanding is likely to be reached within an area where you've likely been dealing with a few repugnant characters.

AshaKiran's Annual Cultural Competency Conference 2018:

Improving Outcomes for Individuals with Disabilities Experiencing Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking

March 19 2018 8:30AM
UAH Campus, CTC
1410 Ben Graves Dr.
Huntsville, AL



For more information:
catesashakiranonline.org
(256) 509 - 1882

www.facebook.com/events/1981624252102036

- ✓ Identify & understand the dynamics of abuse among individuals with disabilities.
- ✓ Disability Etiquette: interacting with individuals with a disability.
- ✓ American Disabilities Act (ADA) presentation by keynote speaker: AL Asst. Attorney General Dr. Graham Sisson
- ✓ Interactive self-defense techniques for individuals with disabilities.
- ✓ Resources for caregivers, first responders & advocates of individuals with disabilities.

\$20 General Admission. Lunch Included. CEU, NBCC & CRCC credits available.
UAH Students FREE with registration! Accommodations available upon request.
Registration Deadline March 5 2018. To Register: <https://goo.gl/forms/EbYHb2J0xN7sx5gJ>



We're celebrating our birthday with a CD SPECIAL!

2.00% APY*

24 month term

Progress Bank **10** CELEBRATING YEARS 2008-2018



Member FDIC

Visit myprogressbank.com for more information

*APY (Annual Percentage Yield) is effective as of February 1, 2018 and is subject to change at any time. Minimum to open CD is \$10,000. CD owners must open a new or have an existing Progress Bank checking account to receive this promotional rate. \$1,000 minimum opening balance on new checking accounts. CD interest will be calculated on a 365 day basis, compounded daily and paid monthly with a transfer into a Progress Bank checking, savings or money market account or interest can be added to the CD balance each month. APY assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity. Withdrawals of interest will reduce earnings. Account is not available for public funds or institutional deposits. Penalty for early withdrawal will be 90 days interest on the amount withdrawn. CD will renew automatically at the rate in effect for Progress Bank 24 month CDs at the time of maturity. Limited time offer – ends March 16, 2018.

Called 2 Preach

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

The Story that Has Been Written

In the opening lines of the blockbuster movie, "Black Panther," we hear the voice of the fictitious character, T'Challa asking his father to tell him a story.

The Bible lets us know in Psalm 139:16 that there is a story that has been written in eternity past long before our birth. Just as young T'Challa asked his father to tell him his story, we can ask our Heavenly Father to tell us our story; our individual and unique story, and there is a predetermined destiny that God has already deter-

mined.

Our life should be a search for the contents of the story that has been written and upon discovery, live it out in the power of God's Spirit. Our story is not fictitious; God Himself wrote it.

Just like young T'Challa did, ask your Heavenly Father to tell you your story. Part of what you will hear Him say is, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you ... thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and an expected end.

You will also hear Him

Playwright Cancels Tour Before Huntsville Stop

On the eve of its scheduled performance at the Von Braun Center, playwright Mark. E Swinton announced the cancellation of his national tour for "Guess Who Showed Up at Dinner?" Opening on Feb. 13, the tour was slated to run through April. Before it's abrupt cancellation, the stage play had previous performances in South Carolina and Georgia. Swinton, who currently produces "The Haves and Have Nots," took to social media, explaining that the production's early demise was due to "soft ticket sales."

"I, like most of you, believe that we needed just a little more time," Swinton said in a heartfelt Instagram post. "Still, I appreciate all who walked this path with me. I have taken this week to

reflect. I am encouraged. I am convinced that God is up to something monumental. So, although this chapter has ended, please stay tuned. I

will remount this and many other shows. This is just the beginning."

Directed, written and produced by Swinton, "Guess Who Showed Up at Dinner?" starred Clifton Powell, Tony Hightower

and "House of Payne" alums Cassi Davis and Palmer Williams Jr. The stage play followed Sugarbread Robinson, a Los Angeles musician who ventures to Moncks Corner, S.C., for lyrical inspiration.

Ending his post on a positive note, the playwright promised "The Mark. E Swinton story is yet to be written." Ticketholders can get a refund from their point of purchase.

by Reggie D. Allen



say, "We are His workmanship (work of art), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Our families must become the place where we learn three things: (1) Where our divine heritage is explained; (2) Why divine help can be expected; and (3) How our desires and hope can be experienced. "Papa, tell us a story."

Huntsville City Council Meetings

Huntsville City Council's 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. Council work sessions are also held in the 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.



Dedicated To You.
Delivering Results.

Personal Injury | Auto Accidents | Probate & Estate Administration
Corporate Law | Real Estate Law | Divorce | Criminal Law

Contact Us

Phone: 256-533-1667

Fax: 256-533-1696

info@martinsonandbeason.com

www.martinsonandbeason.com

facebook.com/martinsonandbeason



No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

HELPING ALABAMA BUILD LEGENDARY COMMUNITIES

BRYANT BANK Member FDIC

Downtown Huntsville | 320 Pelham Ave. SW, Suite 100 | 256.535.1045
SE Huntsville | 1804 Four Mile Post Road SE | 256.217.5170
www.BryantBank.com | Banking & Mortgage Services

Albert's Flowers

Located Downtown in Medical District; Closest Florist to Huntsville Hospital
Free Delivery to Huntsville Hospital and Local Funeral Homes

716 Madison Street - Huntsville, AL 35801

**FLOWERS, GIFTS,
EXOTIC FLOWERS**

Graduate of
American Floral Art School
256-533-1623
256-536-6911
www.albertsflowers.com



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

Agent

AL #A-058076

New York Life Insurance Company

200 Clinton Avenue, Suite 600

Huntsville, AL 35801

Tel: 256-517-5922 Direct

Tel: 256-852-7328

Fax: 256-593-1842

ireedus@ft.newyorklife.com

New York Life "The Company You Keep"



Where to Find Your FREE Copies of The Valley Weekly

AAMU Public Relations Office

Albert's Flowers

Alphonso Beckles, Attorney at Law

Bob Harrison Senior Wellness Center

Briar Fork CP Church

Bryant Bank - Church Street

Chris' Barber Shop

Depot Professional Building

Dunkin Donuts

Eagles' Nest Ministries

Fellowship of Faith Church

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Health Unlimited

House of Hope and Restoration

Huntsville Bible College

James Smith - AllState Insurance

Lakeside United Methodist Church

Lucky's Supermarket

Marshall England - State Farm Agent

Martinson & Beason, PC

Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

N. Ala. Center for Educational Excellence

Oakwood University Post Office

Regency Retirement Village

Rocket City Barber Shop

Sam and Greg's Pizza

Sav-A-Lot

Sneed's Cleaners

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

TMMAL Proving a Good Fit for Valley

According to Huntsville's City Blog, one corporate citizen in the Valley is making meaningful contributions to the community.

Toyota Motor Manufacturing Alabama (TMMAL), with its 1.1 million square foot headquarters in North Huntsville that produces a third of all Toyota engines in America, also has contributed about \$8 million to charitable projects in North Alabama in some 15 years.

Toyota has been a major sponsor for Panoply, Hunts-

ville's spring-based arts fest, and it supports other events, notes City Blog.

However, much of its effort is geared toward two important corporate points of emphasis, the environment and STEAM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics), which has become a significant part of the curriculum in local school systems.

David Fernandes has served as president of TMMAL for the past two years.



Dr. Cynthia Warrick, President
Stillman College

Annual Women's Weekend Speaker
Celebrate the Gifts of Women: Women Called to Lead with Love

Fellowship Presbyterian Church USA
3406 Meridian Street
Huntsville, AL 35811

Sunday, March 4, 2018
Worship Service
10:00 a.m.



ADC: The Madison County Unit of the Alabama Democratic Conference (ADC) hosted its Annual Membership Breakfast Saturday, February 24, at the Knight Center on the Alabama A&M University campus.

The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

February 28

Tennessee Valley League of Women Voters Member-At-Large Unit
Huntsville Madison County Public Library
Downtown Branch (Auditorium), 915 Monroe Street
Huntsville, Ala., 6:30-8 p.m.

March 2

Alabama A&M University Executive Committee and Board of Trustees Meeting
Clyde Foster Auditorium
College of Business and Public Affairs
10 a.m.

Ribbon Cutting for New Residence Hall Facility
Alabama A&M University
Meridian Street, 2 p.m.

March 4

Annual Women's Day Celebration
Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Speaker: Dr. Cynthia Warrick, president of Stillman

College, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
10 a.m.

March 8

National Society of Black Engineers
25th Scholarship Awards
Speaker:
Dr. Juanita M. Harris, SES
Executive Director
Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC)
Holiday Inn Madison Square
6 p.m.

March 10

12th Annual Rosetta James "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration
(256) 536-9717; \$50
The Jackson Center
6001 Moquin Drive
Huntsville, Ala., 5 p.m.

March 15

Info Session for UAH Adult Degree Completion Program
Degree is designed for working professionals. Online options available.

UAHComplete.uah.edu or (256) 824-6673, 5:30 p.m.

March 17

Spelman College Glee Club in Concert
Sponsored by the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College Huntsville Chapter
Academy for Academic and Arts, 5 p.m.

March 24

"Healing Workshop: Broken, Repaired and Usable"
Healing and Purpose after the Brokenness
Hampton Inn & Suites, 7010 Cabela Drive, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Valley Conservatory Jam Session

Featuring the Devere Pride Trio
5650 Sanderson Street, Ste. B
Huntsville, Ala., 5-8 p.m.

March 31

Kirk Franklin in Concert
Von Braun Center, 7:30 p.m.

Website Offers Support to Those Impacted by Cancer

(BPT) - Whether you've helped a family member through treatment or are facing a diagnosis yourself, hearing the word "cancer" can make people feel powerless and overwhelmed. For many, the best way to regain control is to be as educated as possible. This desire to be informed can lead to an endless and exhausting search for relevant, trustworthy, and relatable information.

That's why the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson collaborated with leading advocacy organizations

to develop Cancer.com, a new online destination for people impacted by cancer. Cancer.com offers educational information, a powerful coaching tool, and links to relevant blogs and social channels, all in one place.

You can create a profile that serves up content tailored to you. This includes information for your cancer type and where you are in your cancer experience: just diagnosed, undergoing treatment, or living in remission.

Further customize your Cancer.com experience by

learning more about topics that interest you. Cancer.com topic areas were created based on what patients and caregivers search for the most, including: insurance and financial assistance information; tips for effectively engaging with a healthcare team; information about living well; and local support ranging from clinical trial information to travel services.

If you or someone you know is living with cancer, visit Cancer.com today to access useful information and tools to help you along your care journey.

