

Paschal Conley Finally Gets Honor Due - p. 6

FREE

Finding Favor with God - p. 3

Friday
March 3, 2023
Vol. 9, No. 26
ValleyWeeklyllc.com



The Valley Weekly

"The happiest people are those who do the most for others." - Booker T. Washington



FIRM FOUNDATION: The Rosetta James Foundation, represented by board member William Huston, Sr. (left), donated ample books, equipment and other supplies to the grateful students, faculty and staff at Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School, located on Meridian Street in Huntsville, Ala. Cheryl Askew (above, center) serves as the principal of the school.

Drake Holds Program for Vets and Military Active-Duty

Military active-duty, veterans and dependents were invited to join Drake State Community & Technical College last week for a free luncheon and workshop to engage military families on the local services and programs available to them at the college.

The event was held at Twickenham Center, 200 Davis Circle, in Huntsville.

The ACCS Workforce Division sponsored a \$2,000 scholarship for a veteran, active military

member, or their dependent who attended Drake State's College, Career & Apprenticeship Workshop held February 28.

This generous scholarship could be used for credit and non-credit programs at Drake State Community and Technical College, beginning with the Summer 2023 semester.

All entrants had to attend the event and be present at the time of scholarship drawing for the chance to win.

Local Church Hosts Career Prep for College Students

The youth ministry of Fellowship Presbyterian Church recently hosted a career preparation workshop for the college students that worship there.

Janice Taylor (inset), a career coach and consultant spoke with students about means to negotiate through the corporate world.

During the presentation, the Tuskegee alumnus and Atlanta resident shared

experiences from her 20-plus years with the Marriot Corporation, along with the challenges she faced to become the second African American woman to become a general manager of a Marriot property.

The students also engaged into meaningful discussions as they analyzed various ways to handle situations that they may face on the job.

by Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.



The Valley Weekly

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Washington in One Minute



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

1. CONGRESS. The House and Senate are in session this week. The House, among other bills, will take up legislation to require the White House to report on the inflationary effects of any executive action with an estimated impact of at least \$1 billion (such as revoking the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline as an example) and a resolution to overturn the Biden Administration's controversial (some say "woke") Jan. 30 rule that allows private retirement plan fiduciaries to consider environment, social and governance (ESG) factors when making investment decisions for their clients. House Democrats traveled to Baltimore on Wednesday afternoon for a 2-day retreat on Thursday and Friday. The Senate started off its week with the traditional reading of Washington's Farewell Address (this year by Sen. Lankford, R-OK) and then turned back to nominations with a cloture vote on Damar Walker to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

On Tuesday, the Senate Armed Services Committee held a hearing on the war in Ukraine and the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on recognizing the ratification of the Equal

Rights Amendment. In the House, on Tuesday the House Homeland Security Committee held a hearing on the immigration problem at the border and the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee received testimony from Joint Chiefs Director of Operations LTG Douglas Sims on Ukraine funding oversight.

2. THE WHITE HOUSE. On Monday, President Biden and Vice President Harris hosted a Black History Month reception at the White House. On Thursday, the President attended lunch with Democratic Senators on Capitol Hill. Later this week, he was expected to speak at the House Democrats' retreat in Baltimore. On Friday, he met with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz at the White House.

Last Friday, the President hosted a virtual meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and leaders of the G-7 nations (U.S., Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and Britain) on the 1-year anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Also last week, he announced a new proposed immigration rule that would presume those who cross the border illegally are ineligible for asylum and require deportation of anyone who hasn't first applied for protection

in another country they passed through, taken advantage of country-specific parole programs, or used a mobile phone app to schedule an appointment in advance to review their asylum claim once they arrive.

Last Friday, Vice President Harris met with doctors and abortion rights advocates to discuss the possible imminent nationwide ban of the abortion drug Mifepristone in a pending case before a Texas federal district court judge in a suit brought by the conservative group Alliance for Defending Freedom against the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

3. SUPREME COURT. On Tuesday, the Court heard back-to-back oral arguments in a pair of challenges to the Biden

Administration's student-loan forgiveness program. The cases are Department of Education v. Brown and Biden v. Nebraska.

4. JANUARY INFLATION REPORT. On Friday, the Commerce Department reported that consumer prices rose 0.6% from December to January, up sharply from a 0.2% increase from November to December. On a year-over-year basis, prices rose 5.4%, up from a 5.3% annual increase in December. Excluding volatile food and energy prices, core inflation rose 0.6% from December, up from a 0.4% rise the previous month. The report also showed that consumer spending rose 1.8% last month after falling the previous month.

5. CPAC CONFERENCE. A phalanx of GOP

activists and Members of Congress returned to Maryland Wednesday-Saturday for the annual CPAC Conference at the Gaylord Resort at National Harbor, headlined by former President Donald Trump, AZ gubernatorial candidate Kari Lake, and former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley. For the last 2 years, the conference was held in Orlando, FL, with last year's opening speech made by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is notably a no-show at this year's event.

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This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, March 5, 2023

Second Sunday

in Lent

(Track 2, Year A)

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

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VALLEY DEATHS



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Memorial service for MRS. BRENDA FAYE FLETCHER AMEY (b. 1955) will be Saturday, March 4, 2023 at 1 p.m. in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Graveside service for MR. WALTER L. ("SMOKEY") STONE (b. 1955) was held Tuesday, February 28, at Maple Hill Cemetery.

Funeral service for MR. NATHANIEL DONEGAN (b. 1959) was held Sunday, February 26, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Elder Dennis Greene officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. CALLIE HAYGOOD DOUGLAS (b. 1934) was held Saturday, February 25, at Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church with Pastor Brandon Nance officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW
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Funeral service for MRS. FRANCES ROSELL JONES HARRIS (b. 1939) was held Monday, February 27, at the Fellowship Presbyterian (3406 Meridian St N, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Gregory J. Bentley officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. PATRICIA ANN PATTON (b. 1959) was held Sunday, February 26, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Paul Goodridge officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. PEARLIE MAE MALONE MOORE (b. 1942) was Saturday, February 25, at the Round Island Creek Mission Center (13829 Lucas Ferry Rd, Athens, Ala.) with Pastor Damon Betts officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. NORALIE JOHNSON (b. 1960) was Saturday, February 25, at the Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church (2115 Winchester Rd NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Oscar Montgomery officiating.

Funeral service for MS. MARY CURRY HAYES (b. 1953) was Saturday, February 25, at the Springhill Church (1605 Zierdt Rd, Madison, Ala.) with Pastor Roderick Stallworth as the eulogist and Pastor Ricky D. Moreland officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Drive NW
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Funeral service for MR. LOUIS TWITTY (b. 1941) was held Saturday, February 25, at Moses Chapel P.B. Church, 372 Mose Chapel Road, Madison, Ala. - www.serenityfuneralhm.com

THE VALLEY WEEKLY
CHAMPION GAME PLAN
 PRESTON BROWN

Finding Favor With God

Genesis 6:8 says, "But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord."

According to the Bible, during the days of Noah the entire human race had become wicked and evil. So God decided to destroy all the people on earth. Genesis 6:5 says, "Because every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil and yet God found favor in Noah." We should all be thankful for God's grace and favor, because where would we be without it?

Today, it appears that we live in a wicked and evil world, as well. We see that the devil has made his ugly mark on humankind, and it has caused many senseless acts of violence.

We also see the undertones of racism in these violent acts. And then, there seems to be so many people placing political beliefs and political preferences over mankind itself. My brothers and sisters, this cannot be. I believe that now is the time for us to seek out God's favor and live a life that is pleasing to Him.

So, how do we find

favor in the eyes of God in a wicked and evil world? Let us consider the characteristics of Noah. In this scripture, we find that he was a righteous man.

Now, the word *righteous* means that he was in right standing with God. Being in right standings with God means that you are obedient to his word. It also says that he was blameless among his people. Now, it doesn't say he was perfect, it says he was blameless.

Now blameless means innocent of wrong doings. And then the bible also tells us that Noah walked faithfully with God. Now to be faithful means you have to be patient. So if we are in right standings with God and if we are blameless among our people



and if we walk faithfully with God, just like Noah, we will find favor in the eyes of God

as well, as man, even in a wicked and evil world. ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

You can purchase a copy of my book, *A Champion GamePlan for Life*, at amazon.com.

MARCH 3 - CANADA LEE (born Leonard Lionel Cornelius Canegata) was an American actor who pioneered roles for African Americans. After careers as a jockey, boxer and musician, he became an actor in the Federal Theatre Project, most notably in a 1936 production of Macbeth adapted and directed by Orson Welles. Lee later starred in Welles's original Broadway production of Native Son (1941). A champion of civil rights in the 1930s and 1940s, Lee was blacklisted and died shortly before he was scheduled to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee. He furthered the African-American tradition in theatre pioneered by such actors as Paul Robeson. Lee was the father of actor Carl Lee.

- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



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 Making a Financial Plan

Building a Financial Emergency Plan

An emergency financial plan can create a financial buffer that can keep you afloat in a time of need without having to rely on credit cards or high interest loans.

1. *What is an Emergency Fund?* It is a cash reserve that you can use to pay unexpected expenses or financial emergencies, such as car repairs, property damage, unemployment, medical expenses/equipment or family emergencies.

2. *How Much Should You Save?* The size of your savings will vary depending on your lifestyle, monthly expenses and income. The

rule of thumb is to save at least enough to pay three - six months' worth of expenses. Don't be discouraged about

the amount; the goal is to save a small amount weekly, bi-weekly or monthly to reach your goal. Start with an amount that is comfortable for you to make monthly.

3. *Make a Budget.* This will enable you to identify all sources of income and expenses so you can distribute your income more efficiently, as well as determine where you can start saving by reducing or deleting unnecessary expenses.

4. *Where to Put Your Emergency Fund?* The best place is in a high-yielding savings account or money market fund. Shop around for the best rates and incen-



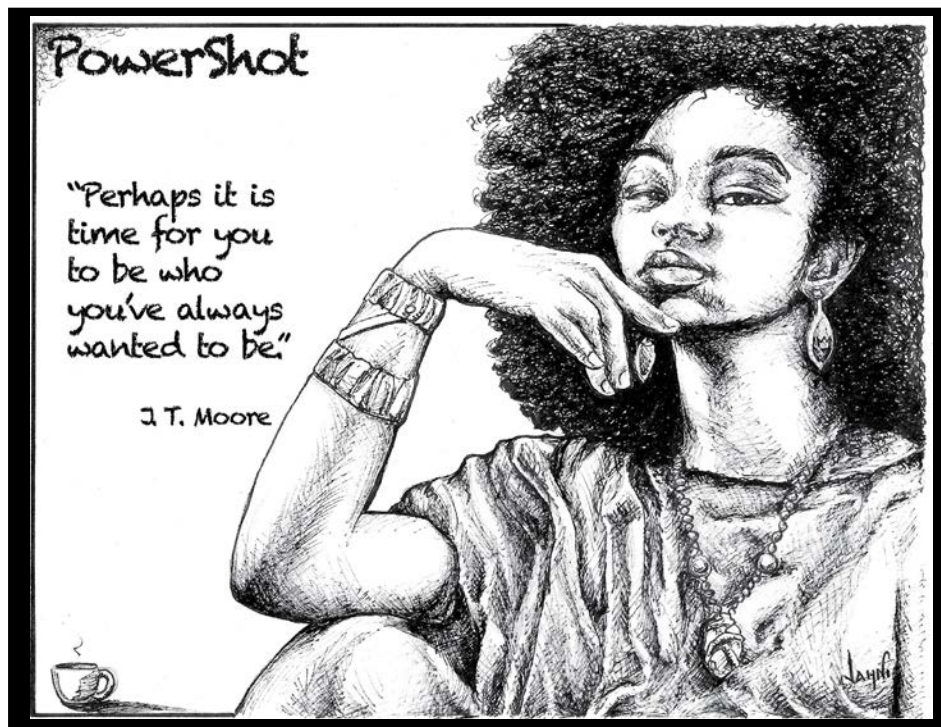
Dr. Margaret J. Kelly

tives. Credit unions, banks and online banks are great places to begin researching.

5. *Celebrate Your Successes.* If you are consistently contributing to your Emergency Fund, identify little ways to celebrate your success each month.

Sources:

- Huntsville Alumnae Newsletter, Economic Development Tips
- nerdwallet.com



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VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

March 3
 Dylan Scott Live
 VBC Mars Music Hall
 700 Monroe Street
 Huntsville, Ala.
 7 p.m.

March 4
 Community Kite Festival
 John Hunt Park
 2151 Airport Road
 Huntsville, Ala.
 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Gala Cocktail Party and
 Silent Auction
 Huntsville Museum of
 Art

300 Church Street,
 Huntsville, Ala.
 7-11 p.m.

March 5
 Broadway Theater League
 Presents "Disney's Al-
 ladin"
 Mark C. Smith Concert
 Hall
 Von Braun Center
 1 p.m. & 6:20 p.m.

March 7
 Dropkick Murphy's St.
 Patrick's Day Tour
 Mars Music Hall
 Von Braun Center

7 p.m.

March 11
 Divide and Conquer! Get-
 ting the Most out of the
 Plants You Have
 In-Person Class
 Huntsville Botanical Gar-
 den
 4747 Bob Wallace Avenue
 Huntsville, Ala.
 35805
 10 a.m.-12 noon

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*"You didn't have a choice about the parents you inherited, but you do
 have a choice about the kind of parent you will be."*

- Marian Wright Edelman



When a Temporary “No” Becomes a Permanent “Yes.”

“Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.” - Hebrews 13:2

Every time you and I are told “No” does not mean it’s permanent; sometimes, it will lead to a “Yes.”

Also, while job titles change, recently I experienced a new one: personal or relationship banker.

Last December, my personal Synovus Banker Ms. Leteria Moses-Waters connected us by speakerphone to corporate relationship banker Robert Livingston. I wanted a Square, the portable device to accept credit/debit card purchases.

Livingston let me down gently, explaining that I was not generating enough revenue to justify that device’s service. I then told him of my goal to take payments for my upcoming book of overlapping jump shots and Jesus.

Even though he didn’t think that the Square was justified, he liked the book’s concept. He then added, offhandedly, “You do know, Tim, basketball was started in a YMCA gymnasium!”

WOW, I had forgotten that! That registered to me that I was on the right track to connecting basketball and the Bible.

Promptly, I declared to him and Leteria, “Livingston: your last seven seconds have outweighed our first three minutes of conversation; that reminder about the Young Men’s Christian Association was so much better for me than my not getting a Square!”

Previously, I had been scribbling random notes for the Where Jump Shots Meet Jesus manuscript. I knew I had a good idea; I just needed an alley-oop to jump-start my slam dunk, . . .

According to the earlier Bible text, the follow-up response from my relationship banker Livingston made him my unexpected angel!



Remember: not only is every “no” not a permanent “no,” but it can lead to a permanent “yes,” and deeper thoughts:

For example: How do basketball and the Bible illustrate a “crossover dribble” - and overlap? More specifically, are there any parallels between the originator of basketball and the originator of Christianity?

Stay tuned for “James of Naismith vs. Jesus of Nazareth”?

(Note: This article is part of my “alley-oop” series of articles leading up to May 2023’s Where Jump Shots Meet Jesus print/digital/audiobook.)

Tim Allston
Leadership Coach & Three-time
Amazon Best-Selling Author
Leading from the Middle
leadingfromthemiddle@gmail.com



The Wrong Punctuation ...

Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell



How many times have you used the wrong punctuation? You know what I mean. Putting a period where a comma went or a period in place of an exclamation mark. What about a question mark where a period belongs? Yeah, you know what I mean.

I always use my morning motivation or workouts as examples. So, why stop now? This morning was a tough day for me. I rested, but my body was fatigued. I am still getting over a health setback, so I am not in the shape I was in last year. I saw the difference this morning. I wanted to slam that period down, but I said, “Nah, it doesn’t belong there.” I got up and got dressed to workout, so I needed to pause for a moment, put a comma there, and keep pressing. How often do we do that? Just say, this is hard, painful, and irritating, so let me just put this period here and quit.

How does that really make you feel? Certainly not accomplished. What about questioning your ability to do something? Instead of saying, “Can I do this?” replace it with “I can do this.” Or possibly, a period where you need to add emphasis! “I think I can” when you should say, “I know I can!”

We all had to go through English classes. Why are you mixing up the punctuation? Why are you applying the negative connotations to your life’s story? If

there ever was a chance to be an author, you have the ability to do it in your life, right now! You have control over the punctuation marks you place in your story. Use the ones that are positive! Apply the ones that celebrate you! Employ the ones that encourage you to keep going!

Look them up if you don’t remember what you were taught. Start using the punctuation that catapults you to the next level! Start harnessing the punctuation marks that give you

strength, endurance, and fortitude! Love yourself enough to make your storyline exciting, memorable, and fun!

Let’s write together, one moment at a time! Try it today. Be intentional with your punctuation.

Make this week amazing. You have the ability to do it! I believe in you. Don’t let me do that by myself!

God loves you, and so do I!

He has given you a gift; open it!

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.



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Huntsville's 19th Century Black History Telling Our Stories

PASCHAL CONLEY

Ollye B. Conley
Researcher

The Circle of Remembrance



Paschal Conley was born in Huntsville, Alabama, in 1858 to Paschal and Mary Steiger Conley. He had five siblings: Fanny, Sally, Mahala, Phelix and Robert. On March 6, 1869, at the

age of nine, he made a deposit in the recently established Freedman's Bank.

On March 25, 1879, he boarded the train at the Huntsville Depot with a ticket to Memphis, Tennessee. Upon arrival,

he enlisted in the United States Army 24th Infantry, Company "H" and was later sent to Fort Supply, a Native American outpost unit. Paschal served five years in what is now Oklahoma and was honorably discharged. On June 7, 1884, he re-enlisted and was stationed at Fort Smith, Arkansas.

In 1889, Paschal was assigned to the 10th Cavalry, a military unit which later became known as "The Buffalo Soldiers." He was a marksman and a member of the Department of Missouri Rifle Team. He later became a Quartermaster Sergeant with the 10th Cavalry. John Lewis of H/10th Cavalry stated in a letter from Lakeland, Florida, on June 5, 1898, that he was an excellent noncommissioned officer who should be commissioned.

At the conclusion of

the Spanish American War, many soldiers came to Huntsville, Alabama, from Cuba to recuperate. At first, they were all stationed at Monte Sano, a place reputed to be great



for healing. However, there was a problem between the Black and white troops. The Black soldiers were sent to what is now known as 10th Cavalry Hill, so named because of the encampment. Paschal was detailed as Sergeant Major for the regiment. It was his responsibility to establish the camp and make records of the troops' arrival.

It was on January 26, 1899, that 1st Lt. John J. Pershing of the 10th Cavalry wrote a letter to the War Department recommending that Paschal be promoted to the grade of 2nd Lieutenant. His letter stated: "Sergeant Conley is an applicant for appointment to the grade of 2nd Lieutenant in one of the colored immune regiments, and I hope that his application may receive favorable consideration. I have known him over three years, and regard him as

one of the most capable non-commissioned officers in his regiment. In all that is said of him and his ability by other officers I cheerfully concur. His promotion would be a fitting recognition of long and honorable service."

He was not promoted.

Between 1899-1902, Paschal re-enlisted as Squadron Sergeant Major, Fort Robinson, Nebraska, in 1902 and as regimental Quartermaster

Sergeant in 1905. Paschal retired in 1906 after 30 years with good character and a pension of \$30.00 a month.

During the 1990s and early 2000s, students from the Academy for Science and Foreign Language and youth from Conley Chapel CME Church, petitioned for a posthumous promotion to no avail. In 2010, the Conley family (the late Dr. Binford Harrison Conley) and his wife, Ollye Ballard Conley, sent a request to the Department of Defense. They were informed that it was approved with the exception of being signed.

Recently, the Conley family received a call from the Alabama Department of Veteran Affairs stating that the request for the promotion of Sgt. Paschal Conley to Second Lieutenant was being revisited. On December 6, 2022,

the Conley Family was informed by Brig. Gen. Jeff Newton (Retired), that Paschal Conley's promotion had been approved and was awaiting one final signature.

On February 22, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., the promotion ceremony was conducted at the Von Braun Civic Center in the Galaxy Lounge. The family was honored with a set of shoulder boards for 2nd-Lieutenant Paschal Conley and a certificate of promotion from the United States Army. Additionally, Mayor Tommy Battle proclaimed February 22, 2023, Paschal Conley Day. The Buffalo Soldiers National Association presented the family with a certificate of honor.

Sergeant Paschal Conley served his country well and earned the promotion.

For approximately 124 years, he was deprived of the honor even in death. The Conley family is extremely proud of his accomplishments. They proudly tell his story and hope that his life achievements will be an example for others to follow.

Congratulations, 2nd Lieutenant Paschal Conley!! Rest in Peace!!

!sopnyK



Bravo!

Good Evening!!

I am so happy to announce that my courses at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College are complete and I will be graduating in May 2023. My goal within the next 3 months is to save up for my Alabama State Board Exam so that I can be licensed cosmetologist.

I am so thankful for the help of the Rosetta James Foundation and the generosity extended to me via the scholarship.

If there's any way I can be of service to the foundation in the future, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Katrina Jeruis

ON THIS DAY

Rodney King, an African American man, was a victim of police brutality on March 3, 1991, by the Los Angeles Police Department during his arrest after a pursuit for driving while intoxicated.

NAAACC Meetings

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.

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- e. e. cummings -

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- Ms. Xantheia Watkins
- Mrs. Barbara Williams
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilson
- Mr. Craig White
- Mr. Gary T. Whitley Jr.
- Ms. Trevite Willis
- Mrs. Tonya S. Wood

Legacy Center

Inaugural Mardi Gras Boule

Fat Tuesday - The Stovehouse/The Royal - February 21, 2023



"2023 Sponsors" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote volunteerism and activism in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at www.rosettajames-foundation.org. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valleyweeklyllc.com.



AAMU Will Host Black Theater Organization in April

Alabama A&M University will host a national, four-day performing arts conference for an organization whose alumni include such stars as Samuel L. Jackson, Taraji P. Henson and the late Chadwick Boseman.

In collaboration with partner institutions Art City Institute and Coppin State University (Maryland), AAMU will host the 85th annual conference of the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts (NADSA) April 12-15. Focusing on the theme "Create. Collaborate. Celebrate." Organizers anticipate that more than 200 students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests affiliated with the performing arts

will attend.

With a membership that includes primarily historically black college and university (HBCU) students, faculty, staff, alumni and performing arts enthusiasts, NADSA is considered the oldest such educational theatre organization in the United States.

Participants will attend workshops, competitions, performances and sessions, concluding with an awards ceremony on Saturday, April 15. Moreover, NADSA provides opportunities for networking, building skillsets and sharing best practices in the field.

Art City Institute (ACI), founded in 2005, is a multicultural, 501(c)(3) ap-



proved, community-based organization in Huntsville, Alabama. The organization's mission is to promote

the pursuit of excellence through engagement in the performing arts. Based in Baltimore, Coppin State

University is an urban, comprehensive, and Historically Black Institution founded in 1900. Its Visual

and Performing Arts unit serves as the administrative host for NADSA.

Registration for NADSA 2023 is open. To register for the in-person conference (members and nonmembers), visit the NADSA website at <https://www.thenadsaconference.com>. The conference hotel is Embassy Suites in Huntsville, Alabama. To receive the NADSA Conference group rate, click the link: NADSA Conference 2023.

For more information, contact Dr. Garey A. Hyatt, president, National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts (NADSA), at ghyatt@coppin.edu or (410) 951-3369.

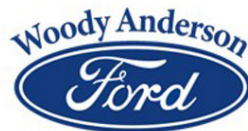


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