

# The Valley Weekly

*"If you can be the best, then why not try to be the best."*

*- Garrett A. Morgan*

**FREE**

Volume 2, No. 25

[www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com)

Friday, March 4, 2016

## From the Mayor

### Welcome to High Speed Huntsville!

We celebrate another milestone in Huntsville's storied success. Under the Saturn V rocket at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, I joined the CEO of Huntsville Utilities and the Director of Expansion for Google Fiber in announcing that Huntsville will be a Gig City, thanks to a unique model that may well serve as a new municipal standard.

Huntsville Utilities will be constructing a massive new fiber network to serve our city's growing data needs, and that network will provide something else--extra room for broadband service providers to offer our citizens ultra-high speed Internet at competitive prices.

Google Fiber is coming to Huntsville and will be using part of the municipal fiber network to bring gigabit Internet to businesses and residents.

In the near future, our citizens will have access to the highest

broadband speed available on the planet.

We already know Huntsville is a place where people do cool things, smart things, things that change the world. A rocket city deserves rocket speed, and that means a network that connects to the Internet at 1 gigabit per second. Your Internet will be 50 to 100 times faster than it is today.

Imagine how this will change the way you use the web. Say goodbye to buffering. Download a high-def movie in about 33 seconds. Stream five YouTube videos and still have plenty of bandwidth to surf and answer emails. Consider health care, and mobility-challenged patients that can see their doctor through a video conference. Or, researchers sharing large files instantly with colleagues across the globe and working collaboratively in real time.

Fiber to the home is the Internet infrastructure for the

21st century. It is as vital to our quality of life as roads, water, and electricity. It will become the benchmark for cities vying for talent.

It is difficult for me, as mayor, to wrap my mind around the dramatic changes and opportunities a Gig City will bring to Huntsville in the near future.

One thing is certain. We're working every day to give every corner of Huntsville the best opportunities possible--the best jobs, the best quality of life, the best education, the best future.

We are the smart city that looks far beyond what we can see, and instead looks at what we can do. Our vision is bold. Our plan is solid. Our possibilities are endless. Thank you, Huntsville Utilities. Welcome, Google Fiber. And, to our citizens, prepare for lift off and ultra-high speed Internet connectivity.

Tommy Battle  
Mayor, City of Huntsville



## Commerce Official Speaks at Oakwood

Because of a collaborative effort between Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Dr. Carlton Byrd, senior pastor of the Oakwood University Church; and President Leslie Pollard, a group of almost 300 students and employees had the opportunity to hear Jay Williams, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development (right), speak on February 22.

Students of all majors and backgrounds flowed into the McKee Business and Technology auditorium, filling the room to capacity. Williams shared his journey in public service, which began with his election in 2005 as the youngest and first African-American mayor in the history of Youngstown, Ohio. Although he is not a graduate of an HBCU, he raved about HBCU excellence. Williams encouraged students to not just make a dollar, but to make a difference in the black community, saying that "you cannot be successful without being significant."

## Student Makes National Honor Society

Ardria McDonald was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society on March 8 at the Academy of Science of Foreign Languages.

The ceremony was held in the ASFL gymnasium, located



in Huntsville, Ala. As the Administrator of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA), Williams is charged with leading the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the global economy.

After Williams answered a few questions, President Pollard polled the audience about its interest in public service.

Dozens of students rose to their feet, creating a memorable moment. Dr. Dedrick Blue, dean of the School of Religion, offered the closing prayer asking for blessings upon Williams and his service.

*by Naomi Coggs*

in Huntsville, Ala.

Ardria is the daughter of Mr. Arthur McDonald.



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Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church

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Regency Retirement Village

Rocket City Barber Shop

Sam and Greg's Pizza

Sav-A-Lot

Sneed's Cleaners

St. Bartley PB Church

St. Luke Christian Church

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

## Installation Banquet Held for Wheeler



On February 27, 2016, at 4 p.m. at The Westin Huntsville, the senior pastor of Beacon Hill Worship Center was installed as the Superintendent of the newly formed Legacy District.

Superintendent Anthony Wheeler (above center, with Councilmen Richard Showers and Will Culver) was recently elevated to the office of District Superintendent of the "Legacy District", Alabama First Jurisdiction Church of God In Christ, where Bishop O.L. Meadows is Jurisdictional Prelate. The Church of God in Christ, Inc. is the largest Pentecostal denomination in the United States, with more than 6.5 million members.

Superintendent Wheeler has been the Pastor of Beacon Hill Worship Center in Madison, AL for the past 11 years, The Beacon Center at Madison Square Mall, and now The Beacon Huntsville.

As part of his new role, Superintendent Wheeler has launched Vision 20/20: "The Reintroduction of the Community Church: Planting New Kingdom Minded Community Churches," which will exist for the purpose of reaching the needs of communities, while bringing healing and hope to individuals or families.

In attendance were Madison Mayor Troy Trulock, City Councilman Richard Showers, Huntsville Police Captain JessHenry Malone, City Counsel President William Culver, Alabama 1st Jurisdiction Prelate of Church of GOD in Christ (COGIC) Bishop O.L.Meadows and Huntsville Superintendent of COGIC Dr. Terrell Harris.

Superintendent Anthony E. Wheeler was presented with resolutions from Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle, Huntsville City Council, Madison Mayor Troy Trulock, Senator Jeff Sessions and Alabama Governor Robert Bentley.

For additional information for further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact De'Lisha Clemons at (314) 265-8473 or e-mail at delishaclemons@gmail.com.

## Albert's Flowers and Morris Greenhouses

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*The Board of the Rosetta James Foundation  
-proudly presents-*



**The 10th Annual**

**Rosetta James Foundation**

**"Honoring Our Elders"  
CELEBRATION**



**Dr. Marvin  
CARROLL**



**Mother Betty  
CRAIGHEAD**



**Mr. James  
FOSTER**



**Mr. Freeman  
HOLIFIELD**



**Mrs. Janie  
HOLIFIELD**



**Mrs. Jacqueline  
REED**



**Hon. Richard  
SHOWERS**



*With Special  
"Pioneer" Tributes to*  
**Mrs. Dorothy Davidson  
Rev. Dr. Julius Scruggs**



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

**\$50/Ticket; \$500 Reserved Table**



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## The Valley Weekly

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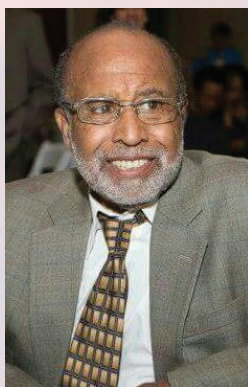
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## From the Editor

Going out and Coming In ...

On Wednesday, February 17, I stopped by Albert's Flowers as I typically do from time to time. Mrs. Katie Morris had indicated to me several weeks ago that Roland usually stops in on Wednesday. I was scheduled to travel on Thursday morning and would not return until last Saturday; therefore, I figured that, although I was on a tight schedule, I still needed to see him. I headed over after my office closed shortly after 5 p.m. and, sure enough, Roland and Albert Morris were there taking care of end-of-day business. Although the business closes at 4:30 p.m. to the public on weekdays, I invariably go by after 5 p.m. on a last minute run to pick-up or discuss a floral need with "Mr. Albert"--as many of us affectionately call him. I needed to talk with Roland about the 10th Annual Rosetta James Foundation "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration. I shared with him what we needed, he agreed to take care of those needs, I hung around for several minutes and teased with Mr. Albert about needing to see him at our celebration this year--since it's our 10th Anniversary. Because he is a consummate gentleman, he encouraged me to call Mrs. Floretta to discuss their attendance with her. He wrote the home number on a business card and I was on my way.



Each year, we light a memorial candle in memory of Elders who pass away from March to March. So, when I returned on Saturday evening, I was looking for Mr. Albert Farrar's information, because I was aware of his recent passing. I looked on the websites of both Royal Funeral Home and Nelms Memorial Funeral Home. I did not find Mr. Farrar on either website; however, I saw the name "Roland Morris" on the Royal site. My first thought was that this could not be Roland. I had just talked to him on Wednesday evening at the flower shop. I messaged his niece, Tonya Morris Douglas, and asked her if she would please call me. She called me immediately and confirmed what I hesitated to accept.



We just never know. Fortunately, we had the opportunity to attend his funeral service this past week. Many of us were blessed to know Roland, and we continue to be blessed to know the Morris Family. They are one of Huntsville's most loving families. To know them is to love them. He will be remembered as a loving, caring, honest, and "laid-back" business professional.

On last Saturday, we had the opportunity to attend a baby shower for Dr. Teneshia Daniels. She and her husband, State Representative Anthony Daniels, are expecting baby Abigail Lee Daniels in April. What an elegant event hosted at the Huntsville County Club on Oakwood Avenue! The lovely mother-to-be was beautiful in a flowing pink dress, adorned with cream roses. The room was adorned with fresh flowers, unique centerpieces, delectable choices of meats, cheeses, extreme desserts, fresh fruits and berries. Over 75 well-wishers enjoyed the food, fellowship, unique games and the opening of gifts by Dr. Daniels and Rep. Daniels, who arrived later.



Rev. John Herndon indicated at Roland's service that grief is a gift. His message was a gift to me. As we celebrate the life of Roland Hayes Morris, a gift that God gave us for almost 76 years, we also celebrate the upcoming birth of baby Abigail Lee Daniels.



"Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21

Welcome home, Roland and Abigail. It is divine! Check out John Moore's PowerShot. When I saw it, I had already written this editorial. Umph-umph!

Until next week!



*Dorothy*

# What You Need to Do with Your Form 1095-B

This year, you may receive one or more forms that provide information about the health coverage you had in 2015. These forms are 1095-A, 1095-B and 1095-C.

Form 1095-B, Health Coverage, provides you with information about your health care coverage if you, your spouse or your dependents enrolled in coverage through an insurance provider or self-insured employer last year. Here are the answers to questions regarding Form 1095-B:

**Will I get a Form 1095-B?**

- You will receive Form 1095-B - which is a new form this year - from your insurance provider if you had insurance for you or your family members.

- The term "health insurance providers" includes insurance companies, some self-insured employers, and government agencies that run Medicare, Medicaid or CHIP.

- You are likely to get more than one form if:
  - You had coverage from more than one provider
  - You changed coverage or employers during the year, or if different members of your family received coverage from different providers

*How do I use the information on my Form 1095-B?*

- This form provides information about your health coverage, including who was covered, and when the coverage was in effect.
- If Form 1095-B, Part IV,

Form <b>1095-B</b>		Health Coverage		<input type="checkbox"/> VOID	560335
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service		Information about Form 1095-B and its separate instructions is at <a href="http://www.irs.gov/form1095b">www.irs.gov/form1095b</a> .		<input type="checkbox"/> CORRECTED	OMB No. 1545-0047
<b>2014</b>					
<b>Part I Responsible Individual (Policy Holder)</b>					
1 Name of responsible individual	2 Social security number (SSN)	3 Date of birth (SSN is not available)			
4 Street address (including apartment no.)	5 City or town	6 State or province	7 Country and ZIP or foreign postal code		
8 Enter letter identifying Origin of the Policy (see instructions for codes):					
9 Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Marketplace (if applicable)					
<b>Part II Employer Sponsored Coverage (if Line 8 is A or B, complete this part.)</b>					
10 Employer name	11 City or town		12 State or province		
13 Street address (including room or suite no.)	14 City or town	15 State or province	16 Country and ZIP or foreign postal code		
<b>Part III Issuer or Other Coverage Provider</b>					
17 Name	18 City or town		19 State or province		
20 Street address (including room or suite no.)	21 City or town	22 State or province	23 Country and ZIP or foreign postal code		

Column (d), shows coverage for you and everyone in your family for the entire year; you can simply check the full-year coverage box on your tax return.

- If you did not have coverage for the entire year, use Form 1095-B, Part IV, Column (e), to determine the months when you or your family members had coverage. If there were months that you did not

have coverage, you should determine if you qualify for an exemption from the requirement to have coverage. If not, you must make an individual shared responsibility payment.

- You are not required to file a tax return solely because you received a Form 1095-B if you are otherwise not required to file a tax return.
- Do not attach Form

1095-B to your tax return - keep it with your tax records.

*What if I don't get my Form 1095-B?*

- You might not receive a Form 1095-B by the time you are ready to file your 2015 tax return, and it is not necessary to wait for it to file.
- The information on these forms may assist in preparing a return, and you,

however, can prepare and file your return using other information about your health insurance.

- The IRS does not issue and cannot provide you with your Form 1095-B. For questions about your Form 1095-B, contact the coverage provider. See line 18 of the Form 1095-B for a contact number.

Depending upon your circumstances, you might also receive Forms 1095-A and 1095-C.

For information on these forms, see IRS Questions and Answers about Health Care Information Forms for Individuals.

by David E. Herron  
DEH & Associates  
Consulting, LLC

## Calendar of Events

**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](mailto: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**  
HOT Coffee  
(Free Networking Organization)  
Huntsville Chamber of Commerce Auditorium  
Contact: Vicki Morris at [faceto-face.vmorris@gmail.com](mailto:faceto-face.vmorris@gmail.com)  
7:45 a.m.

"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 10**  
Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table Meeting  
"The Civil War and the Rise of American Medicine"  
Speaker: Dr. Shauna Devine Historian, Western University (Canada)  
Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin Street  
Huntsville, Ala., 6:30 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**  
HOT Coffee  
(Free Networking Organization)  
Huntsville Chamber of Commerce Auditorium  
Contact: Vicki Morris at [faceto-face.vmorris@gmail.com](mailto:faceto-face.vmorris@gmail.com)  
7:45 a.m.

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 1**  
HOT Coffee  
(Free Networking Organization)  
Huntsville Chamber of Commerce Auditorium  
Contact: Vicki Morris at [faceto-face.vmorris@gmail.com](mailto:faceto-face.vmorris@gmail.com)  
7:45 a.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](http://Osher.uah.edu/Catalog) or 256.824.6183

INAUGURAL EDUCATION BANQUET  
FOR THE  
*Julius R. Scruggs*  
*Child Development Center and Academy*  
SOARING TO SUCCESS THROUGH SCIENCE,  
TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS  
(STEM)  
*Friday, MARCH 18, 2016*  
6:00 PM  
AT THE  
FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST  
CHURCH



GUEST SPEAKER  
*Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D.*  
DEANS VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEDICINE  
AND DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
AT UAH



*Pastor Julius R. Scruggs, D.Min.*  
FOUNDER

Point of Contact: RONNIE AND FLORA DAVIS AT 256-852-4052

# Rosetta James Foundation “Honoring Our Elders” Banquet March 12

Seven distinguished local men and women will be honored at the Tenth Annual Rosetta James “Honoring Our Elders” Celebration scheduled at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 12, 2016, at The Jackson Center, located at 6001 Moquin Drive NW in Cummings Research Park.

Named in honor of a local, long-time activist, volunteer and civil rights advocate, the Rosetta James Foundation recognizes individuals 70 years of age and over who have given consistently, unselfishly and untiringly of themselves in service to mankind, worthwhile causes and institutions.

Comprising the 2016 honorees are: **Dr. Marvin Carroll**, president and CEO of Tec-Masters, Inc.; **Mother Betty Craighead**, former hospital staffer and senior advocate; **Mr. James D. Foster**, retired civilian personnel administrator; **Mr. Freeman Holifield**, former police officer and retired supervisory instructional/educational systems specialist; **Mrs. Janie Holifield**, retired educator and active alumna; **Mrs. Jacqueline Reed**, long-time community activist and columnist; and the **Hon. Richard D. Showers, Sr.**, educator and Huntsville City Councilman.

**Dr. Marvin P. Carroll** is not only known for his phenomenal entrepreneurial skills, but the Howard University graduate has often been dubbed as a “servant leader” who embodies generosity, humility and service. Dr. Carroll has a long giving history to colleges, universities, civic and community organizations, non-profit



organizations, public and private schools, and individuals. He is a philanthropist who believes in supporting the mission statements and goals of the various constituent groups, as well as the potential of prospective young leaders unknown to him.

**Mother Betty Joyce Ford Craighead** amassed decades in the hospital and medical insurance fields, starting out as a unit secretary at Huntsville Hospital in 1965 and ultimately retiring from Humana as a customer service supervisor in 1996. She has also served in numerous positions at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, ranging from the Stitching and Quilting Ministry to the Superintendent of Sunday School. Well-travelled, Mother Craighead has ably taken a lead role in several community service projects.



**Mr. James D. Foster** (James d foster) retired after nearly 40 years of federal government service, primarily in civilian personnel administration. The Birmingham native is the recipient of legions of awards for his contributions and expertise in his professional work environment,

the community, civic groups and other membership organizations, among them Blacks in Government. His two-year Army assignments were based in Europe and Vietnam. He has played an active role in the



support of the Huntsville Tennis Center, the women’s athletic program at Alabama A&M University, and the Vestry at Holy Cross-St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church, where he serves as treasurer and acting junior warden. He is also Past Polemarch of the Huntsville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

**Mr. Freeman Holifield, Sr.**, is a retired supervisory instructional/educational systems specialist from the U.S. Missile Munitions Center and School at Redstone Arsenal. Holifield and a cadre of friends from Alabama A&M University garnered the community support that led to the successful integration of the Huntsville Police Department in 1963. Moreover, his gift for mediation was an asset state-side and abroad when he left



the police department for a 33-year career with the federal government. A life member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Ancient Egyptian Arabic Nobles of Mystic Shrine, Holifield is an avid supporter of AAMU athletics and alumni initiatives.

**Mrs. Janie Adams Holifield** is a retired educator who began her career as a first grade teacher at W.C. Handy Elementary School in Florence, Ala., where she also doubled as a librarian for two years. In the late 1970s, she became the first African-American assistant principal



at Gurley High School in Madison County, Ala. From 1971-74 and from 1980-83, she taught as an elementary school teacher in Germany. Over the years, she has been a long-time and proud supporter of Alabama A&M University and First Missionary Baptist Church. She is a Past Illustrious Commandress and Past Imperial Deputy of Egyptian Parade of Stars, as well as a past member of the Order of Eastern Star, Mizpah Chapter #37 and the Golden Circle.

**Mrs. Jacqueline “Jackie” Reed** is a long-time community activist and advocate who has devoted considerable time to ensuring that the political atmosphere of Huntsville remains fair, balanced and void of “the good old boy club”—even if doing so has meant that she has had to run for mayor and council seats herself. For years, she also has been a consistent contributor to “One Woman’s Opinion,” a regular column in Speakin’ Out



News.

**Hon. Richard Showers, Sr.**, was first elected to the Huntsville City Council in 1988, and he has served as a basic career education teacher for the Huntsville Center of Technology. Showers has earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from AAMU in agribusiness and trade/industrial education, respectively. Showers has served on numerous planning commissions and boards that are instrumental to the successful growth and development of Huntsville. These boards

include: Planning Commission, Metropolitan Planning Committee, Clean Community Committee, Historical Preservation Authority, Zoning Subcommittee, and the Local Emergency Planning Committee and the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments. He is the recipient of many awards and citations for his lifelong service.

The Rosetta James Foundation will also honor two additional individuals for significant career achievements. The recipients of the Foundation’s “Pioneer Award” for 2016 will be: **Mrs. Dorothy Davidson**, noted mathematician and philanthropist, and **Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs**, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala., and former president of the National Baptist Convention.

The Foundation will award scholarships to local current and prospective students of historically black colleges and universities. Tickets are on sale for \$50. For additional information, contact (256) 536-9717.

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168974

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

**Founders Day Gala 2016**  
Saturday, March 19, 2016  
Six o’clock p.m.  
The Jackson Center  
6001 Moquin Drive  
Huntsville, Alabama 35806  
\$50 | Formal Attire

*Featuring: Mrs. Cynthia Butler - McIntyre, Past National President*

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Huntsville, Alabama 35802  
256-534-1360

**Read Online!**  
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**Yard Sale**  
**Moving!**  
Saturday, March 5th  
7AM-5PM  
3514 Delta Avenue NW  
Huntsville, AL 35810

# Learn to Earn

by Amoi Savage

It's no secret by now, that I am a very career-driven individual.

We all have different priorities and passions that drive us. For some it is their family, significant others, friendships, callings/careers, nature, animals, or a combination of all.

For me, it is a combination; however, I am very driven by purpose. I love being active, working, meeting new people, engaging in new experiences, and taking on exciting projects.

As a freelancer in the film and entertainment industry, I can attest that it isn't easy. I began these articles because freelancing, entrepreneurship, and holding executive titles can be a difficult path to take, so offering a little encouragement may be helpful for somebody. Whenever you go out on a limb on occupations that aren't as stable as most or guaranteed like others, it requires some serious faith.

I am a walking testimony to that fact if you truly believe in your goals and apply a little grit, there is nothing that you can't achieve. Accomplishing your goal does, however, require effort.

Success is very seldom handed to you and will require your input. Whether

that's schooling, training, or experience, we all have to learn how things work.

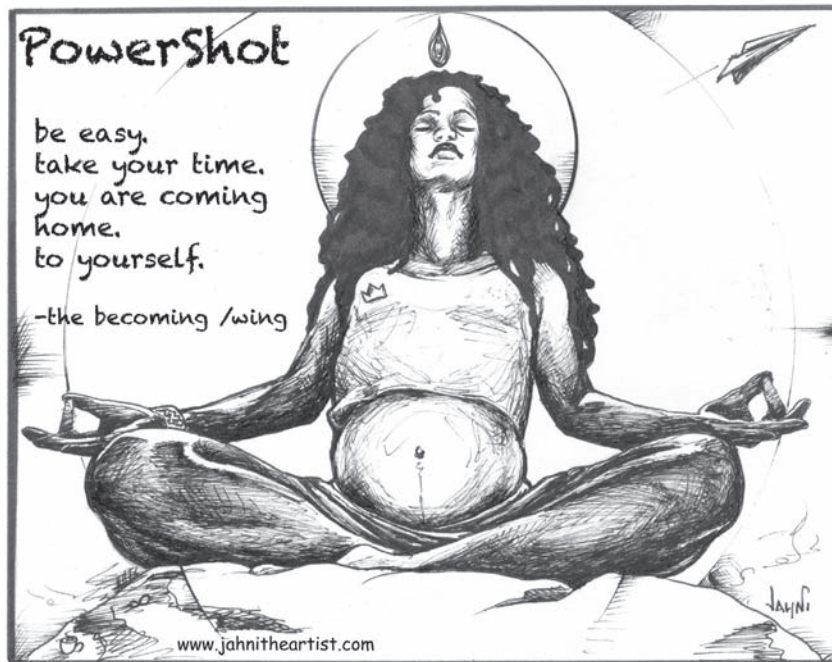
Every entrepreneur, executive, or successful individual started somewhere. Even though they might have taken off running while others are walking, they started off crawling as well. The majority of us started in grade school, followed by college, internships, entry-level positions, and on the job training (OTJ).

I count my blessings every time I am booked for a production gig or offered a new opportunity to exercise what I studied in college, such as: managing multiple events,

working on commercials and pilots, and the opportunity to work with True Entertainment on the Bravo television shows, "Don't Be Tardy" and "The Real Housewives of Atlanta Reunion."

I have grown to realize how many people don't get jobs in the same area of their degree. Don't get discouraged, it has taken me a while and the opportunities can come few and far between in freelance.

Therefore, if you don't get to practice what you prefer or studied right away, know that any experience is still beneficial towards your growth in your career.



## UCMBC Celebrates First Lady's Birthday

The members of Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church hosted a birthday celebration for First Lady Dora Davis on Wednesday, February 24, at 6 p.m.

Hundreds of members joined in for the celebration that included music, presentations by various ministries and individuals, food and fellowship.

In the end, birthday cake was



enjoyed by all. Minister Nettie Pruitt and Sister Anita Weathers coordinated the celebration.



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 <p>"I have used Elite Hoops the past 7 years to train our team in the fall. They are very organized and professional in their approach and I would highly recommend them for individual or team training." - Eddie Martin, Head Coach - Greater Atlanta Christian &amp; 7-time State Champion</p>	<p><b>Saturday Skills Training</b> Mar 19, 26, Apr 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Grades 4-11 <b>\$224 for Skills Training</b></p> <p><b>Sunday Skills Training</b> Mar 20, 27, Apr 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1 Grades 4-11 <b>\$224 for Skills Training</b></p> <p><b>Monday Baby Ballers</b> Mar 21, 28, Apr 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 Ages 4-5 <b>\$140 for Skills Training</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday Rookie Dribblers</b> Mar 23, 30, Apr 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4 Ages 5-7 <b>\$140 for Skills Training</b></p>
 <p>"Elite Hoops does a phenomenal job of developing the skill level of players. Their attention to detail and the way they teach footwork is amazing." - Earl Grant, Head Coach - College of Charleston</p>	<p><b>PLAYERS TRAINED</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Shannon Cranshaw</b> Guard - George Washington 2013 Florida Interstate Player of the Year</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Malik Beasley</b> Shooting Guard - Florida St 2-Time State Champion</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Malcolm Brogdon</b> Point Guard - Virginia Cavaliers 2011 ACC Georgia HS Player of the Year</p> </div> </div>

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# This Week in Washington

Here are the top issues in Washington this week:

1. The House and Senate are in session this week. The House, among other bills, will take up a bill to reform the Federal Advisory Committee process, which has been the subject of much controversy over the years, because of the federal government's heavy reliance on the approximately 1,000 committees (and their 64,000 members) across the government, which often appoint industry executives and other insiders to advise on setting policy and creating new regulations. President Obama made news when he banned lobbyists from the committees in 2010, only to pull back on the ban slightly in 2014 when forced to do so by court order. The House will also vote on a bill to reauthorize the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), including language which will significantly limit FEMA's ability to reclaim funds--to 3 years--when FEMA's eligibility rules change and the agency tries to take back the money. Lastly, the House will vote on a bill to prohibit federal payments for nonemergency services from providers that no longer participate in Medicaid, Medicare or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and a bill to exempt the brick-making industry from having to comply with Clean Air Act regulations for air pollutant emission standards.

2. The Senate will vote to determine if it can move to actual debate on a bill to authorize funding for programs to combat prescription drug and heroin abuse. Senate Democrats have an amendment to add \$600 million in emergency anti-drug spending to the bill opposed by fiscal conservatives. The Senate may also return to consideration of the Energy Policy Modernization Act, which

has been stalled over the past month due to objections over an amendment that would authorize around \$280 million (down from \$600 million) for the water contamination crisis in Flint, Michigan.

3. On Tuesday, President Obama met at the White House with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA) to discuss whether the Senate will hold hearings on the President's upcoming nominee for the Supreme Court. The latest candidate to surface was U.S. District Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, who is related to House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) by marriage (his sister is married to Judge Jackson's brother-in-law). Also attending will be Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Judiciary Committee Ranking Democrat, Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT).

4. Last Friday, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced the first round of grants under its much-anticipated \$4.5 billion Highway/Freight grant program - christened as "FASTLANE" grants - with an application deadline of April 14, 2016. The December-enacted FAST Act authorized \$800 million in funding for the FAST-LANE program for FY 2016, with 25% reserved for rural projects, and 10% for smaller projects (under \$100 million).

5. Undersecretary of Education Ted Mitchell is leading a roundtable discussion on the role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in helping to diversify the STEM pipeline and meet workforce needs. HBCUs produce 27 percent of African Americans with bachelor's degrees in STEM fields, according to the Education Department. The event was held at the National

Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

6. Vice President Biden introduced Lady Gaga at the Academy Awards Sunday night, but not before encouraging the audience to help change the culture of sexual abuse both on college campuses and off. "I'm asking you to join millions of other Americans, including me, President Obama, the thousands of students I've met on college campuses and artists here tonight to take the pledge, the pledge that says I will intervene in situations where consent has not or cannot be given," Biden said. "Let's change the culture." Lady Gaga's song "Til It Happens to You," was used in the documentary on sexual assault called, "The Hunting Ground." The pledge can be found here: <http://bit.ly/1ATexx6>

7. 2016 Presidential Watch. Tuesday was Super Tuesday, with 11 mostly Southern states holding their primaries --the exceptions are MN, VT, MA, and AK (which is holding GOP-only caucuses). There are seven more caucuses and primaries coming up on March 5 and 6 (LA, ME-Dems and ME-GOP, KY-GOP, KS, NE, and Puerto Rico-GOP). A new CNN poll out has Donald Trump leading the pack nationally by more than 30 points and, over the weekend, Trump picked up his first Senate endorsement - Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL).

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# Good Samaritan Introduces New Staffer

Good Samaritan Hospice is proud to announce the addition of Harold King to our staff. Harold joins us as a Community Education and Marketing Specialist. Harold is originally from Birmingham, is a graduate of Faulkner University, and relocated to the Huntsville area with his three adopted children. Harold grew up in a military family and truly enjoys helping our veterans of all ages.

Harold has worked in

the hospice and palliative care field for over 20 years and is well versed in all phases. Through his dedication, work ethic, and commitment to his profession, Harold has earned the respect of his associates and colleagues all over North Alabama.

Harold states: "I am dedicated to supporting hospice and palliative care

for our veterans, our aging population, and their families during this time of need. You can contact Harold by calling our office at (256) 772-8108.



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- Frederick Douglass

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