

# The Valley Weekly

*"Whoever is in control of the hell in  
your life, is your devil."  
- John Henrik Clarke*

**FREE**

Volume 1, No. 28

Friday, March 20, 2015

## A "Women's History Month" Salute to Women Making a Difference in the Valley



Ms. Yvette Banks



Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford



Ms. Barbara Cooper



Mrs. Butch Damson



Mrs. Dora Davis



Ms. Elizabeth Dotts Fleming



Rep. Laura Hall



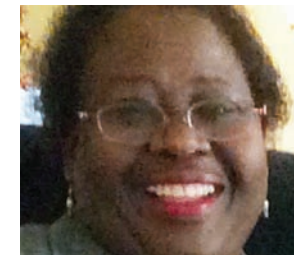
Mrs. Rosetta James



Ms. Bhavani Kakani



Dr. Margaret Kelly



Dr. Harriett Littlepage



Rev. Earla Lockhart



Mrs. Beth Martin



Dr. Helen McAlpine



Mrs. Elizabeth Sloan Ragland



Dr. Wilma Ruffin



Mrs. Alice Sams



Mrs. Sarah Savage



Mrs. Josephine Scruggs



Ms. Delois Smith



Mrs. J. Smothers-Roberson



Mrs. Linda Spalla



Mrs. Georgia S. Valrie



Mrs. Linda Via



## Spelman Jazz Delights Huntsville

On Sunday, March 8, the Huntsville Chapter of Spelman College Alumnae Association hosted its annual fundraiser, featuring the Spelman Jazz Ensemble at the Huntsville Marriott.

The crowd of nearly 300 guests was treated to the smooth jazz sounds from the students comprising the Spelman Jazz Ensemble. As a tribute to March --Women's History Month-- the ensemble featured music from African-American women composers from Nina Simone to Phyllis Hyman.

This year, the fundraiser was co-chaired by Gina Jones and Attorney Jocelyn Jones-Boustani, the daughters of the late Dr. Bessie Washington-Jones, name sake of the Huntsville Chapter Scholarship.

With the amazement of the jazz sounds from the students, chapter president, Rose Kilpat-



rick, brought the house to its feet with the announcement of the \$40,000 gift from Davidson Technologies.

The gift from Davidson Technologies will allow a young lady from Madison County to attend Spelman College for one academic year, covering tuition, room and board, and fees. This donation from Dorothy Davidson added a grand finale to an already wonderful event.

*Submitted by*  
Gary T. Whitley

## Panoply Around the Corner

Panoply is the Southeast's premier arts weekend where Huntsville's innovative spark shines through a festival of art, music and more. Save the date for the 33rd Panoply Arts Festival on April 24 - 26, 2015. Contact our office to learn more about volunteer or sponsorship opportunities.

In 1978 the Junior League of Huntsville was completing work in five concentration areas focused on children in need. Katie Shaver (JLH President) and Andrea Luther Vandervoort (JLH Vice-President) surveyed the League in the fall of '78 to develop guidelines for creating new projects of interest to members. The arts received a large percentage of votes, and Andrea advocated the research and development of an arts related project.

In March 1979, the Junior League of Huntsville's Special Research Committee for the Arts was established, and Committee Chair Amanda Segrest met with the The Arts Council. TAC had just completed a community survey and a survey of its member organizations, and the League stood ready to assist. TAC's member organizations indicated three areas of need: facilities, financial support and publicity/public exposure.

The League felt it could be most effective in the publicity area and TAC accepted their assistance. After completing another survey of member organizations with positive feedback on Junior League of Huntsville involvement, the JLH Special Research Committee decided on a multi-phase program culminating in a large 4-day festival with an emphasis on children and arts education - Panoply.

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# From the Editor



Attending the 9th annual "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration were Dr. Janice Toney, Councilman Wil Culver and Judge Sybil Cleveland



FMBC Pastor Julius Scruggs



Mrs. Rosetta James, FMBC First Lady Josephine Scruggs and Mrs. Catherine Willis of Columbus, Ohio



Rev. & Mrs. Leroy Cole

Snow, ice, rain and now almost spring. Over the past several weeks, we have been challenged with various weather patterns that impacted our schedules, both work and leisure. Today, March 20, 2015, is the first day of spring. Ah, spring!

When I was growing up, spring was a time of 'airing out' and refreshing. We would let the windows up in our shot-gun home, and the fresh air would blow through the curtains and wooden doors at the front and back of the house. We washed all of the curtains, the heavy linen, bedspreads, mattress covers, throw rugs and all of the handmade quilts. We actually had a wash pot outside to heat the water to wash the white clothes and linen that needed to be bleached. We washed for days and sometimes weeks, using our old standup Magtag washing machine with the roll wringer attached at the top. I vividly remember having to put the white clothing in a pot with boiling water and home-made soap. Once they boiled for a few minutes, we would use the 'scrub' board to get all stains out of them. Wow, that must have been some really good fabric to withstand the cleaning we put on them!

The yards in the neighborhood were lined with clothes lines. There was a logistic to hanging the clothes on the lines. All colors were hung together, all like items were hung together and neatly assembled on the lines with wooden pens. Now that I think back on it, it was a bit of logistics getting the line to 'look' right. And, then like everything else around our home, if you did not do it right the first time, you had to hang them again to get it right. The clothes that needed starching were dipped into a mixture of dry starch and water after they dried to get that stiff texture before they were ironed. I couldn't do it now if I had to. I am not sure how my mother knew how to mix that stuff to get it right all the time. The bleach could be real tricky. Most of us rely on the dry cleaners today to get the stains out and starch the jeans. With the advancement in fibers and fabrics, much of what we wear from day-to-day requires little to no ironing. Those advancements make life very different when we are preparing to go places which require one attire or another.

Last Saturday evening was such a time to dress up in our special attire. The Rosetta James Foundation inducted six local citizens into its 9th Class of Elders based on their active work in the community. A crowd of about 450 family and friends came out to The Jackson Center in Cummings Research Park to celebrate with Mrs. Laura Clift, Rev. James Lane, Mother Mary Lane, General (Ret) James Link, Mrs. Judy Link and Mother Pinkie High. In addition, the Foundation honored five pioneers as lifetime achievers, including Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford, Mr. Jerry Damson, Rev. Earla Lockhart, Dr. Annie Grace Robinson and Dr. Charles Smoot. The Red Mountain Theatre Group of Birmingham presented "Nelson Mandela: A Monologue" as the attendees enjoyed dinner. Congratulations to each of the elders and pioneers for their contributions to the community in such meaningful ways. Ah, what an evening!

We missed the 38th annual Ellen McAnelly Memorial St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Huntsville last Saturday morning. It was a celebration of Irish traditions and culture in a positive atmosphere. I hope you remembered to wear your green on Tuesday. If you missed the parade, you can visit the website at <http://www.huntsvillepatricksdays.com> to check out other events around the area.

On Sunday, we had the opportunity to worship at First Missionary Baptist Church, which observed the 38th Pastoral Appreciation for Pastor Julius R. Scruggs and his family. We saw a lot of family and friends. The delight is always ours to fellowship at First Baptist. Abundant Blessings, Pastor Scruggs, Lady Jo and the entire family ... Until next week,

*Dorothy*



# Boys & Girls Clubs' Jones "Youth of the Year"

The Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama congratulates Anfernee Jones on becoming the Star 99/ CAFY - Young Citizen of the Month for the City of Huntsville.

Anfernee Jones was selected as a Youth of the Year Candidate to represent the Williams Boys & Girls Club for his outstanding commitment to volunteer service and helping others succeed.

Jones has now been selected as "Young Citizen of the Month" for the City of Huntsville for his outstanding community service and commitment to academics.

A junior at Bob Jones High School in Madison, Ala., he plans

to dual enroll during his senior year at Bob Jones beginning spring semester 2016 as he decides a school and major at much consideration.

Jones was recognized March 12 at 6 p.m. during the City Council Meeting held at 308 Fountain Circle SW in Huntsville, Ala.

For more information on the competition/event hosted by STAR 99 of Huntsville and CAFY, please visit: <http://mytar99.com/?p=115>.

For more information about the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama, visit [www.bgcna.com](http://www.bgcna.com).

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The Psychological Effects of Racism on African-American Children

DANNY E. BLANCHARD

## Well Water: Not My Real Name

The Psychological Effects of Racism on African-American Children. The Need to Understand Change

Danny E. Blanchard

Racial identity, or the significance and meaning that individuals attribute to race, is recognized as a key factor in how African Americans cope with racism experiences. Unfortunately, however, the few studies that have examined African Americans' responses to racist events have failed to account for differences across situations that African Americans experience, making it difficult to ascertain whether differences in coping are due to person variables, the situation, or both. In my book, I adopted a stress and coping approach to examine the relations among racial identity, racism-related stress appraisal, and coping with lifetime racism experiences.

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- Dorothy Height

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# Local Church to Sponsor Black College STEM Tour

True Light Church of God in Christ of Huntsville, Ala., AL), along with Ms. Paula Y. Taylor, are sponsoring a 2015 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) tour for local high school students, ages 13-17.

The activity will run from March 23-26. The purpose of the tour is to give students increased exposure to the STEM-focused degree programs offered at HB-



Taylor

cus, as well as to attract quality students to the STEM-degree fields/disciplines at HBCUs, while strengthening the nation's pool of candidates for future employment in these areas.

The tour will include visits to Alabama (Tuskegee University and Alabama State University); Florida (Florida A&M University); and Georgia (Clark Atlanta University, Spelman College, Morehouse College, and Albany State).

# U.S. Pays Tribute to Nation's 1890 Land-Grant Institutions



In 2015, 1890 institutions of higher learning will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Morrill Act of 1890 that established Black Land-Grant Colleges and Universities. The 1890 land-grant universities are a major educational resource for the nation, and continue to be a key source of African-American leaders who render valuable service to their communities, the nation, and the world.

Today, there are 19 Black Land-Grant Colleges and Universities in the United States. Under the theme "Providing Access and Enhancing Opportunities," these 1890 land-grant institutions have begun a year-long celebration of the Morrill Act of 1890; marking the 125th anniversary of its passage and their existence.

The state of Alabama is unique in that it has three land-grant institutions overall, two of which (Alabama A&M University and Tuskegee University) which are land-grant institutions. The other, Auburn University is an 1862 land-grant school, established under the provisions of the first Morrill Act.

1890 Day with an 1890 Wellness Walk-Run has been sched-



125 Years of Providing Access and Enhancing Opportunities

uled for April 23, 12-4 p.m. at Alabama A&M University. The national goal is for each university to strive for 1,890 participants who will register for \$1.89 (students), \$18.90, \$189, \$1,890 or more. Registration fees serve to establish the Justin Smith Morrill scholarship fund. Music and refreshments will be provided on the Quad.

An earlier convocation at Alabama A&M University had to be rescheduled because of inclement weather.

Additional Capitol Hill Activities: will be held July 15-16. This two-day event will feature 1890 exhibits, receptions, visits with senators and representatives, congressional testimonials on agriculture with a proclamation honoring the 1890s, and a convocation in the Library of Congress.

# A&M Names New Dean of College of Business and Public Affairs

Delmonize "Del" Smith is the newly appointed Dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs at Alabama A&M University, where he serves as chief executive officer of the college, reporting directly to the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Smith has served in numerous roles throughout his career, including systems analyst in the U.S. Army, consultant for Fortune 1000 firms, economic development commissioner, and

serial entrepreneur.

Dr. Smith launched and later sold his first tech start-up at the age of 25. His most recent start-up, a strategic HR and IT management consulting company, was later sold to a \$750 million Canadian firm.

His experience as a minority entrepreneur has fueled his interest in what it takes for minority-based entrepreneurial firms to reach high levels of success.

Smith's related research has appeared in leading journals,



Smith

such as *Human Relations*, the *Journal of Business Research*, and the *Journal of Information Technology Management*.

Dr. Smith received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Faulkner University, the Master of Science degree in management from Troy University, and the Ph.D. in management from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.





## Tips for Self-Employed Taxpayers

People who carry on a trade or business are considered self-employed. Independent contractors and sole proprietors are a couple of examples of self-employed taxpayers.

If you are part of this category of taxpayers, this may apply to you. There are a few basic things you should know about how your income will affect your federal tax return.

Below are listed six important tips about income from self-employed taxpayers:

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

- **Schedule C or C-EZ.** There are two forms to report self-employment income. You can file a Schedule C, Profit or Loss from Business, or Schedule C-EZ, Net Profit from Business, with your Form 1040. You may use Schedule C-EZ if you had expenses less than \$5,000 and meet other conditions. See the form instructions to find out if you can use the form.

- **SE Tax.** You may have to pay self-employment tax as well as income tax if you made a profit. Self-employment tax includes Social Security and Medicare taxes. You should use Schedule SE, Self-Employment Tax, to

figure the tax. If you owe SE tax, make sure you file Schedule SE with your federal tax return.

- **Estimated Tax.** You may need to make estimated tax payments. Taxpayers typically make these payments on income that is not subject to withholding. You usually pay this tax in four installments for each year. If you do not pay enough tax throughout the year, you may owe a penalty.

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

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

Submitted by  
David E. Herron  
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## Calendar at a Glance

"Quadrupeds of North America" 5-7 p.m.

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April 15  
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Huntsville Botanical Garden

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Grisham Pavilion  
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# FMBC Celebrates Scruggs' Service

First Missionary Baptist Church (FMBC) celebrated the 38th Pastoral Anniversary of the Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs on Sunday, March 15, with the theme "Honoring God's Faithfulness to Our Pastor and Pastor's Faithfulness to Us" -Proverbs 3:5-6. The Reverend Dr. Riggins Earl of the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Ga., delivered the sermon for both services.

Dr. Scruggs became pastor at FMBC in 1977. His servant-leadership style and his personal integrity has allowed the development of several ministries, including the witnessing/evangelism teams, jail ministry teams, scholarship funds, congregation care, children's church, health fitness, recreation ministries and others. In 1982, he started the FMBC Child Development Center for pre-school. Today, the CDCA goes through fifth grade. He also recently completed his term as President of the National Baptist Convention, USA Incorporated.

Dr. Scruggs' journey of pastoring has allowed him to preach



the Good News of the Gospel and provide spiritual counseling that has enriched the lives of many. With joyful hearts, FMBC's Official Board, congregation, elected officials, family, friends, and guests joined forces to commemorate this special day for Dr. Scruggs and First Lady Josephine Scruggs.

by Latoya Clemons

# RJF Pays Tribute to Longtime Pioneers

In addition to honoring its distinguished Class of 2015 on March 14, the Rosetta James Foundation also honored four men and women as Tennessee Valley "Pioneers."

Receiving the 2015 Pioneer Awards were Nell Lane Bradford, who served as choral director at Alabama A&M University for more than 40 years; Jerry Damson, the impetus behind a burgeoning car dealership operation; Rev. Earla Lockhart, staff minister, First Missionary Baptist Church; Dr. Charles Smoot, who was instrumental in helping NASA reach its early diversity targets; and Dr. Annie Grace Robinson, long-time professor of education at historic Alabama A&M University.

## 2015 Pioneers



Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford



Mr. Jerry Damson



Rev. Earla Lockhart



Dr. Charles Smoot



Dr. Annie Grace Robinson

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Bus: 256.539.2014

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www.marshallengland.com

# DLC

## Tennessee Valley

# Diversity Leadership Colloquium



Tuition Payable Upon  
Acceptance

*Accepting Applications  
for Cohort 2!*

### Vision:

The Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) advances leadership excellence by advocating and progressing the affirmation and inclusion of diversity in strategic markets and communities of interest for competitive intelligence.

### Mission:

DLC's mission is to become a premier provider of diversity training for inspiring and experienced leaders throughout the lifecycle.

### Values:

Our values are: Collaboration for Excellence; Appreciation with Insight; Respect for Understanding; and Empathy for all ... C.A.R.E.

DLC offers inspiring and experienced leaders with opportunities to benefit from qualified and seasoned trainers, scholars, and business professionals who share and discuss research and best practices regarding obtaining excellence through diversity.

DLC is designed for individuals interested in gaining access to networks, mentors, and sponsors that have traditionally not been available to diverse members of the broader community. Enrollees will be exposed to topics such as: Understanding and Embracing Diversity, Organizational Culture and Structural Reform, Racial and Gender Intelligence, Social Justice and Equality, Networking and Mentoring, Politics, Heroes and Holidays, Critical Thinking and Self-Affirmation and Living the CARE Values.

Individuals and companies are making sincere efforts in verbalizing a commitment to diversity excellence. However, we must be trained to build the next generation of leaders who have the skill sets, tools and commitment to execute.

### Training Schedule

DLC will run four quarterly, eight week colloquia. The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. Participant cannot miss more than 2 sessions.

Location: 415-A Church Street - Downtown Huntsville

Enrollment limited to: 16 - **Tuition:** \$795

### 2015 Schedule

**Spring** April 7 – May 26 - Deadline to register (March 7, 2015)

**Summer** July 7 – August 25 - Deadline to register (June 7, 2015)

**Fall** Oct 6 – Nov 24 - Deadline to register (September 6, 2015)

### To Apply

- Application Form
- 3 References
- Resume
- Photo

## DLC Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium APPLICATION FORM

**Requirements:** Application Form - 3 References - Resume -  
Photo and Tuition (Both Required upon Acceptance)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ Business/Home \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Citizen?  Yes  No Enrolling Quarter \_\_\_\_\_

### Education

High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Graduated: Yes  No

College(s) Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Career Field \_\_\_\_\_

### References

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this Application Form, 3 Letters of Reference, and Resume to: 415A Church Street-Ste. 100, Huntsville, AL 35801 - (256) 651-9028; visit us at [www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com](http://www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com); or e-mail [info@diversityleadershipcolloquium.com](mailto:info@diversityleadershipcolloquium.com). Tuition and photo will be required only if accepted to participate.