

Davis Joins Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame - p. 8

FREE

More RJF "Honoring Our Elders" - p. 9-10

Friday
March 24, 2023
Vol. 9, No. 29
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Marie Cothron

The Valley Weekly

"The end is almost never far off any time at all." - J. California Cooper

New Commanding General Takes Reins at AMC

General Charles R. Hamilton assumed duties as the 21st Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command on March 16. In this role, he will lead one of the Army's largest commands with 165,000 military, civilian and contractor employees, impacting all 50 states and more than 150 countries.



Fellowship – Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellows Program.

This is his second tour of duty on Redstone Arsenal. General Hamilton assumed duties as the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4 for the United States Army in April 2022.

His previous assignments include duties as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, United States Army; Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, G-3 for AMC; Commander of the 8th Theater Sustainment Command; the Chief Logistics Officer for United States Forces Korea; and the Commander of Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

General Hamilton enlisted in the U.S. Army from his hometown of Houston, Texas. Upon completing basic and individual training, he was assigned to Fort Hood, Texas. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps after attending Officer Candidate School, where he was selected as the Distinguished Military Graduate. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Virginia State University and master's degrees in public administration from Central Michigan University and military studies from Marine Corps University. He is also a graduate of a Senior Service College

He also worked as the Executive Officer to the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics at the Pentagon, as an Assignment Officer in the Logistics Branch in the Office of the Army Chief of Staff and as the Executive Officer to the Vice Director, Defense Logistics Agency. On three separate occasions, General Hamilton held commands in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In 2004, he was Commander, Defense Logistics Agency Contingency Support Team Afghanistan, and in 2010-2011, he was Commander, United States Forces-Afghanistan Support South/ Southwest.

In 2013-2014, he was the Commander of the 101st Sustainment Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. General Hamilton's awards are legion and among numerous others include two Defense Superior Service Medals, four Legions of Merit, two Bronze Star Medals, three Defense Meritorious Service Medals, nine Meritorious Service Medals, and many more.

Sherrod Inducted into ALA Hall of Fame

Judge Martha Lynn Sherrod, District Judge Retired, was inducted into the Alabama Lawyers Association Hall of Fame on March 9, 2023.

The induction ceremony was held at the Retirement System of Alabama Activity Center in Montgomery, Ala. The ceremony featured Attorney Lonita Baker, president of the National Bar Association, as the keynote speaker.

Attorney Baker is internationally known for representing the family of Brianna Taylor and receiving a historic settlement from the City of Louisville, Ky.

Judge Sherrod was recognized for her contributions to the legal profession and the State of Alabama. A lifelong public servant, she is currently a partner in the law firm of Conchin, Cole, Jordan & Sherrod, a firm specializing in personal injury, workmen's compensation and wrong-



ful death.

Judge Sherrod also is a mediator for civil, domestic relations and probate matters and is a nationally registered parliamentarian.

She currently serves as the vice president for administration for the National African American Drug Policy Coalition, and serves on the Presidential Advisory Council for Alabama A&M University. She was elected in 2022 to the Alabama Democratic Executive Committee, and received the A. Leon Higgenbotham Award

from the National Bar Association in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on January 15, 2023. While in Dubai, she conducted a workshop for judges and lawyers on judicial ethics.

Judge Sherrod and her husband, Eddie C. Sherrod, are active members of St. John AME Church. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (91st South Eastern Regional conference chair

February 2023, International Strategic Planning Committee chair 2010-2014), Greater Huntsville Chapter of the Links, Incorporated, charter member of the Ivy Center Foundation, and awards chair for the Judicial Council (35th chair, 2005-2006). She is a member of the American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Judicial Council, Alabama Lawyers Association, and the Huntsville/Madison County Bar Association.

The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor

WELCOMING BACK THE HAMILTONS!

Greetings!

On last Thursday, I had the signal opportunity to attend the U S Army Material Command Change of Command Ceremony on Redstone Arsenal. Huntsville's leaders were there to thank General Edward Daly for this service to the United States for 36 years, while welcoming General Charles R. Hamilton and his family back to Huntsville. He and his wife, retired Lieutenant Colonel Regina Hamilton, have four children, one of which is an active-duty officer serving in the 82nd Airborne Division.

General James McConville, Chief of Staff of the U S Army, was part of the Official Party and participated in the Change of Command Ceremony. I had the great honor of meeting General and Mrs. Hamilton. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Virginia State University.

General Dennis Via & Mrs. Linda Via were there for the Ceremony, along with many other general officers and political leaders. It is always wonderful to see the Vias when they are back in Huntsville. General Via was the 18th Commander of AMC. Via and Hamilton are both graduates of Virginia State University, and both are four-star Generals to Command AMC on Redstone Arsenal. Currently, Via is an executive vice president at Booz Allen, where he leads corporate engagement in the Office of the CEO.

As editor of *The Valley Weekly*, I get the opportunity to meet many awesome people around the Valley! It's unlikely that I will ever meet two African American, four-star generals, HBCU graduates, members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, and who have commanded and are commanding the same organization, with beautiful wives and families on the same day!

Congratulations, General and Mrs. Hamilton. Welcome home!

Until next time,
Dorothy

Photos:

General and Mrs. Charles Hamilton and Dorothy Huston
General and Mrs. Hamilton and Renee Stroud-Quellette
Dorothy and Mrs. Linda Via
Tabitha Malone and AAMU President Daniel K. Wims
Tabitha, Andrea Wiley-Bigelow and Dorothy
Tabitha, Dorothy and Renee Stroud-Quellette



THE VALLEY WEEKLY
VALLEY DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME
2501 Carmichael Avenue NW
Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

Funeral service for **MS. KATE FRANCIS LOVE** (b. 1954) will be Friday, March 24, at 1 p.m. at Morris Chapel Primitive Baptist Church with Pastor Derrick Langford officiating.

Funeral service for **BABY BOY KESHAWN DEWAYNE MC-COBBIE** (b. 2022) was held Saturday, March 18, at 1 p.m. in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Evangelist Lorenzo Moore officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME
4315 Oakwood Avenue NW
Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Funeral service for **MR. JAEDEN JAMES "BUD" MICHAEL SMITH** will be 2 p.m., Saturday, March 25, at the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (315 Winchester Road NE, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Adrian Davis officiating.

Funeral service for **MOTHER VERA L. BENTLEY** (b. 1949) was Tuesday, March 21, at the Briar Fork C.P.C.A. (2105 Winchester Rd NE, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Theodis Acklin officiating.

Funeral service for **MR. CECIL TAFT KIRKSEY** (b. 1949) was Tuesday, March 21, at the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (315 Winchester Road NE, Huntsville, Ala.) with Elder Dr. Larry Smith officiating.

Funeral service for **MR. WILLIE "POOKIE" JAMES BOYD** (b. 1945) was Saturday, March 18, at the St. James #2 C.P.C.A. (2950 Jeff Road, Harvest, Ala.) with Pastor Byron McGlathery officiating.

Funeral service for **DEACON DONNIE DEVEE HUMPHREY** (b. 1956) was Saturday, March 18, at the Meridianville Primitive Baptist Church (1173 Mt. Lebanon Road, Toney, Ala.) with Pastor Terrance Stewart officiating.

Funeral service for **MRS. DOROTHY MANGRUM** (b. 1940) was Friday, March 17, at the Blackburn Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (507 Plummer Road Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Tramaine Snodgrass officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME
2505 University Drive NW
Huntsville, AL 35816 (256) 539-9693

Funeral service for **MS. SHELIA PAM** (b. 1961) was Saturday, March 11, at Big Shiloh Baptist Church, 133 Maple St., Madison, Ala.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY
CHAMPION GAME PLAN
PRESTON BROWN

"IF YOU SAY SO"

In Luke 5:5-6, Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

If you have ever been a parent trying to discipline your child, there will come a time when you will say, "Do it, because I said so!" This is usually followed by frustration on the child's part and a bad attitude, but

hopefully they will obey you. Now, whether or not you had a good reason for saying this doesn't matter. What really matters is you just want your child to be obedient and trust that it is the best thing for them. They may not understand right now, but later it will all make sense.

Jesus makes a similar request to Simon (Peter), when he asks him to cast his net once again, but this time into "deep water." Now, when you cast out into the deeper part of the water, it will require more effort. Also, they had already started cleaning their nets and getting them ready

for the next day. So, Peter realizes this and perhaps reluctantly says, "because you say so I will do it". You know, God can bless obedience even with a bad attitude. And, sometimes your next blessing will

come from the place of your greatest frustration. As we see here in this scripture, Jesus gave Peter and the other fishermen a blessing that they could not achieve from their own efforts.

So many people today are about to give up on some things because they are frustrated and tired of getting the same results. Whether it be a relationship that's not working or a wayward child that continues to be disobedient or hang out with the wrong crowd. But God is asking you to take another step of faith. Stop trying to do things in your own strength. It's time to

put Jesus in it. Even if you have a bad attitude and say things like, "I've



already tried that." It's time to say to Jesus, "If you say so, I will try again." Re-

member: out of all your frustrations, hardships, difficulties, suffering and pain, there may be a blessing just waiting for you if you continue to be obedient and follow the plan that God has for your life ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

Remember, you can purchase a copy of my book, "A Champion Game Plan for Life," at amazon.com.

MARCH 24 - STAR JONES - Starlet Marie Jones is an American lawyer, journalist, television personality, fashion designer, author, and women's and diversity advocate. She is best known as one of the original co-hosts on the ABC morning talk show *The View*, on which she appeared from 1997 to 2006. Jones earned a B.A. degree in administration of justice at American University, where she was initiated into the Lambda Zeta chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She earned a J.D. degree from the University of Houston Law Center in 1986, and was admitted to the New York state bar in 1987.

- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



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A New Generation Of Service

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

March 23
“Houndmouth”
Von Braun Center
Mars Music Hall
700 Monroe Street,
Huntsville, Ala.-8 a.m.

March 25
Garden Prep for Spring
Huntsville Botanical
Garden
4747 Bob Wallace Av-
enue SW
Huntsville, Ala.
\$35-\$60
10 a.m.-12 noon
www.hsvbg.org

Huntsville Havoc
“Military Night”
Von Braun Center-7 p.m.

“Hollywood Hits”
Mark C. Smith Concert
Hall
Von Braun Center
700 Monroe Street
Huntsville, Ala.-7:30 p.m.

March 27
TEDx Talk
Sponsor: The AAMU
Honors Program
AAMU Alum and For-
mer SGA President
Aayana Ingram
“Intersectionality: The
Missing ‘I’ in Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion”
Alabama A&M Univer-
sity
Buchanan Hall-5:30 p.m.

April 1
The 3rd Annual Women’s
Expo Event
Von Braun Center
Huntsville, Ala.

11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Info@studio53huntsville.
com

“Holi”
Presenter: Huntsville
India Association
Colors, Food and Fun!
HCCNA Temple
14800 Vishnu Way
Harvest, Ala.
hiaweb.org
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

April 3-9
Oakwood Alumni
Homecoming
Celebrating the 3s and 8

April 5
“Slam for S.A.A.M.”
Sexual Assault Awareness
Month
Presenters: Alabama
A&M University Depart-
ment of Public Safety and
AshaKiran
Guest speakers, Poetry,
Music, Marching Maroon
and White Band, he Bull-
dog Elite, Food, etc.
Buchanan Hall
4:30-7:30 p.m.

April 6
Virtual Event: Sexual As-
sault Awareness Month
“Knowledge Is the Key to
Unlock Healing”
Presenters: AshaKiran,
Family Sunshine Cen-
ter and Alabama A&M
University
10 a.m.-2p.m.

April 8
Concert
Anthony Hamilton with

Leela James
The Orion Amphitheater
8 a.m.
<https://www.hudsonalpha.org/biasinsideus/>

April 24-May 20
“The Bias Inside Us”
Host: City of Huntsville
HudsonAlpha Institute for
Biotechnology
601 Genome Way
Huntsville, Ala.

May 4-7
The Golden Celebration of
the Class of 1973
Alabama A&M University
Check-In: Embassy Down-
town Huntsville
(May 4) 3-7 p.m.

May 5
Spring Commencement 1
(Graduate Students)
The Event Center - 9 a.m.

148th Founder’s Day Lun-
cheon
Ernest Knight Reception
Center
1:30-3 p.m.

Spring Commencement 2
(Undergraduates)
The Event Center
6 p.m.

May 6
AAMU Alumni Associa-
tion Award & Scholarship
Luncheon
Ernest Knight Reception
Center

May 7
Memorial Walk
St.John AME Church Wor-
ship Service
Downtown Huntsville
9:30 a.m.

May 20
Rocket City BBQ & Soul
Fest
6001 Pulaski Pike NW
Huntsville, Ala.
10 a.m.-11 p.m.

PowerShot

“The choices
we make
today create
the future
that we are
dreaming of.”

Clare Josa



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“Scars are proof of survival, they shouldn’t be hidden—it’s a story someone may need to see in order to believe that beyond their pain and suffering, there is healing.”

- Bernice L. McFadden



Is Ja Morant this generation's "Kobe Bryant 2.0"?

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful, and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." - 1 John 1:9

On March 3, an Instagram video revealed that two-time NBA All-Star Ja Morant of the Memphis Grizzlies was brandishing a borrowed handgun at a nightclub in suburban Denver.

Subsequently, on March 15, the NBA imposed an eight-game suspension on the 23-year-old rising star, for "conduct detrimental to the league," as a last straw from a series of his earlier missteps.



If 20 years constitutes a generation, then Ja Morant is this generation's Kobe Bryant 2.0.

In 2003, then-five-time All-Star 24-year-old Kobe Bryant was charged with sexually assaulting a 19-year hotel employee in Eagle, Colorado.

But God, why Ja? God: why not?

God has typically used fallen icons to teach us all valuable lessons on decision making and example setting.

"I don't condone any kind of violence. But I take full responsibility for my actions. . . . I accept that (NBA suspension), and feel that I deserved that punishment for my mistakes," Morant offered. Ja Morant speaks about meeting with NBA commissioner Adam Silver | SC with SVP.

Our Three-point Play from Morant?

We can learn four key lessons from Morant's experiences:

1. Lights, camera, action: social media and fame remind us that there are no more secrets!
2. God's grace: Kobe fell and got caught after reaching the top - three straight NBA titles and varied league MVP awards - but Ja instead fell and was exposed on his way to the top.
3. Wilderness 101. This suspension can constitute a Morant "wilderness experience." Leadership expert Dr. John C. Maxwell teaches that every (moral) leader must experience the wilderness. Here "motives get purified, backbones solidified, and callings clarified." For Morant, his wilderness seems to be current counseling sessions at a Florida facility "to get help and work on learning better methods of dealing with stress and my overall well-being."

Hopefully, this wilderness suspension will course-correct Ja Morant. Perhaps it's a good time for him to put aside the basketball and instead pick up the Bible.

The Moral of the Morant story?

Let Ja Morant, this generation's, Kobe Bryant 2.0, serve as our poster child of do's and don'ts.



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

There was a statement my father used to say to me, "Baby, sometimes when you want it in the worst way, you'll get it in the worst way!" At the time, I was a child, I wanted EVERYTHING I could imagine. Aside from what came with it. I just wanted what I saw that looked good to me!

Now, we all know, all that glitters "ain't" gold, right? However, as a child, you have no clue. As an adult, I have grown to understand the difference between what seems attractive but isn't good for me, and what my desires are to push for! Some situations/circumstances/relationships arise in our adult lives where we need to be reminded, "if you want it in the worst way, you may get it in the worst way!" If you have to force someone to pay attention to you, love you, respect you, or be kind to you ... that's NOT your soul mate! I know some people say, "Persistence beats resistance ... Yada Yada" ... He/She is not the one!!! Unless you plan on being persistent all of your days to keep this person semi-interested. Now, don't misconstrue this with attempting to get to know someone, and making an effort to give them your attention, etc. ... that's not what I'm saying. You can't be any more than what you are!! Your true self! If it's not a situation where you know you need to change, you're just changing to pacify that person, and YOU'RE doing all the work ... that isn't the one!

That job you "think" you want. Why do you want it? What do you have to gain

Don't Force It ...

Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell



FROM it, or give TO it? Are you willing to do the work? Is it a true fit? Or, are you awe-struck by what it pays, the "clout" you obtain by the title? Possibly you "feel" you need to be in it, but you KNOW you're lazy and not going to do the work! Be honest with yourself! That material item you want! What is it about it that you want? Is it something you like ... or is it trendy? Does it satisfy your needs and desires, or does it make you appear as if you've "arrived"? Can you afford it? Or do you have to buy it (clothing, purses, shoes) on a payment plan just to show you can "keep up" with other people? That has got to be the dumbest thing ever! Yet, people do it. Trust, the industry loves it, because they understand they can milk any weak-minded person out of anything if they dangle any opportunity, at any cost, in front of people! Who is stuck

with that grief or payment at the end of the day? You are! Who is there when those payments hit, and you are no longer excited about the item you are still paying for? Now, most people need credit to buy big dollar items, certain cars, homes, boats, RVs... Some are fortunate to buy them, flat out! But even with that, don't put yourself in a situation where you are stressed out, every month, to drive or live in something you know you can't afford. That's not peace, that's ridiculousness. No one cares, and the only person struggling is you. Someone may say, "That's nice" but, they aren't thinking about it when they lay down at night unless they can't afford it, either, and why are you trying to impress THEM? Side note, there is always someone doing better than you, so stop!

Understand what you want, and why! Pursuing

goals takes hard work, dedication, compromise, time, and discipline. You better know that you want it! To succeed you can't quit! You can't slack! Recognize what you truly want!! Pain comes with it! Long nights come with it! Tough lessons come with it! Be honest with yourself, and your God! Be true to yourself! Above all, be prayerful! Stay in touch with the master! If He gives you signs that a business partner you have chosen is not the one, don't force it. That move is not the one, don't force it! That building is not the one, don't force it! There may be something you can't see right now, that isn't good for you!

Don't force it guys. Don't be lazy, but be prayerful, think about it, understand why you want it, then proceed!

Remember, God loves you and so do I.

He has given you the gift of life, open it.

Huntsville's 19th Century Black History Telling Our Stories

RUTH LOWERY

Ollye B. Conley
Researcher

The Circle of Remembrance



Ruth Lowery was the daughter of Samuel and Adora Robinson Lowery. Her mother's father, John Robinson, was manumitted in 1828. Ruth's father, Samuel Lowery, was not only a free man of color, but also a minister, scientist, and lawyer. In 1880, he was granted the privilege to argue before the United Supreme Court.

In 1875, Samuel Lowery and his daughters Ruth and Annie traveled to Nashville to see silkworms brought from England by his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Theobald. When Mrs. Theobald shared with them methods she used to raise the silkworms, Ruth was fascinated! She begged her father to buy some eggs for silkworms and allow her to experiment with

them. He consented and they opened The Lowery Industrial Academy, about 100 yards south of the foot bridge on Clinton Street, and Ruth started growing silkworms at the school. Using silk from cocoons spun by her worms, she taught the students how to spin the silk and make articles from it. Their silk won prizes over Asiatic and European nations at international fairs.

According to an article in the Charleston Museum Newspaper collection, Ruth made sixteen spools of strong spun silk during her first season and saved about a thousand good eggs for the second season. Ruth's work was so outstanding that she received awards from the Huntsville

Agricultural Fair for her spools. This success attracted considerable attention, which included Reuben Chapman, Governor of the State of Alabama. The city of Huntsville was so impressed that they planted a mulberry tree in the center of the city to provide nourishment for the silkworms. After Ruth's early death, her father continued the silk industry.

For all of you historians and mystery buffs, can you help us find the location of the mulberry tree? It was planted in the center of downtown Huntsville in the 1880s. If you are successful in your search, please e-mail your findings to William Hampton at William@huntsvillerevisited.com.

Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories ...

KAREN STANLEY

Karen Stanley, administrator of the Facebook page "Local History Matters" ...

Karen has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Delta Research and Education Foundation, which was established in 1967 to support the charitable and educational programs of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and other collaborative organizations. Their mission is to identify and address issues that affect Black women, their families, and communities of the African Diaspora.

Vice President of Finance and Marketing at Stanley Construction, Karen is a former Vice Chair for Small Business at the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, where she instituted the inclusion of Small Businesses in the first Huntsville Regional Economic Growth Campaign in 2004.

Ms. Stanley earned degrees in chemical engineering from Vanderbilt University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as an MBA from Harvard University.

In service to her alma maters, Karen is immediate Past Chair of the Vanderbilt University Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering External Advisory Council, and she is the Co-President of the Harvard Business School African American Alumni Association.



This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, March 26, 2023

Fifth Sunday
in Lent

(Track 2, Year A)

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45



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Rosetta James Foundation "Spotlight on Our Elders" ... Featuring

Marie Ann Waters-Cothron

Marie Ann Waters-Cothron was born on January 1, 1951, New Year's Day, in Lloyd Noland Hospital located in Fairfield, Alabama, the oldest of three children born to Percy Lee and Willie Jewel Waters.

As the oldest child, she set the proper example for her siblings in order to make her parents proud. She grew up in the small steel manufacturing town of Westfield, Alabama, where she attended elementary school.

Eventually, all the families in the town had to move to other places because the steel plant expanded. Therefore, her family moved to Ensley, Alabama, where she attended Councill Elementary through the eighth grade.

From 1965-1969, she attended Western-Olin High School, now known as Jackson-Olin High School, where she was placed in the accelerated class because of her good grades. She remains thankful for teachers who challenged her academically. She will never forget the physical education teacher who taught her about better nutrition.

Gradually, while doing

all the exercises in her class and being more selective in what she ate, Marie began to lose weight. By the time she was a senior, she had lost fifty pounds, and her self esteem increased tremendously. Consequently, when she graduated, she was ranked number five out of 195 students, according to grade point averages. She pursued further education by attending the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, along with five other students from her graduating class. When she arrived, she was in awe of the huge campus. During freshman orientation, she scored in the 90 percent range in Spanish on her placement exam, so she decided to declare it as her major.

As a result of hard work, she was inducted into the Spanish Honor Society and received the Instituto Cultural Diploma De Honor from the Spanish government in Madrid, Spain, in 1972. She received the Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish with a minor in English in 1973. She later continued her studies and received the Master of Arts degree in 1981. Naturally, she is a huge Crimson Tide

fan. *ROLL TIDE!*

Her first job was at Scottsboro High School as a Spanish teacher from 1971-1978. While in Scottsboro, she married Allen Ben Cothron on July 27, 1974, and later they were blessed with two wonderful sons, Anthony and Ashley Bryan.

They then decided to move to Huntsville, Alabama, where she proceeded to her next job at J.O. Johnson High School from 1974-2011. At Johnson, she taught Spanish and one year of English, as well. She served as co-sponsor of the Spanish Club and the Spanish National Honor Society and was the Foreign Language Chairperson for two years. On several occasions, she also received awards such as Teacher of the Month, Ninth Grade Academy Teacher of the Year, ROTC Teacher of the Year, The Friendliest Teacher, and The Master Teacher Apple Award. Working at Johnson was so special to her. There was a comradery that is difficult to find in many places, and she was thankful to be a part of it.

During the 33 years at Johnson High, she also worked in the Alabama

A&M University Upward Bound federal program on Saturdays and in the summer for 20 years. One additional teaching job was at Redstone Arsenal in the Department of the Army's educational program for one year.

Mrs. Cothron is a member of the Blue Spring Road Church of Christ, where she actively participates in serving the Lord. She has served as the Ladies' Ministry Chairperson for two years and has participated in numerous edifying seminars, bible classes, motivational retreats, Vacation Bible School and Ladies' Day Programs. She thoroughly enjoys the fellowship with her brothers and sisters in Christ.

Hobbies include sewing, gardening, and reading, but because of her interest in different languages



and cultures, her favorite pastime is traveling. She has been blessed to travel to Paris, London, various parts of Mexico, Jamaica, Belize, the Bahamas, the Cayman Islands, Honduras, and many parts of the United States.

She realizes that God has truly blessed her with many wonderful experi-

ences.

As she looks back, she can see how they molded her into the person she is today. There have been some difficult times, but the good times outweigh the bad ones. At this juncture in her life, she understands what faith, patience, and determination really mean.

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"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.rosettajamesfoundation.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.



Homer Davis Joins Alabama High School Sports HOF

Homer Davis was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame on March 13 at the Downtown Renaissance Hotel in Montgomery, Ala.

Native to the Chatahoochie Valley region, Davis graduated from Central High School in Phenix City, Ala., where he was coached by legendary Alabama A&M University Coach Joseph Henderson, known for his success coaching Olympian track stars. Henderson also coached Davis at Alabama A&M.

Davis was part of Henderson's AAMU Basketball SIAC Tournament Champions in 1975 and 1976, earning an impressive 11 distinct awards during his junior and senior years.



HALL OF FAMER: From l-r: Crystal Smith, daughter; Homer Davis, honoree; Bessie Davis, wife; and son, Homer Davis III.



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.

"If you have no confidence in self, you are twice defeated in the race of life."

- Marcus Garvey

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.

ON THIS DAY

On March 24, 1989, the ExxonValdez ran aground, spilling more than 10 million gallons of oil into Prince William Sound in Alaska.

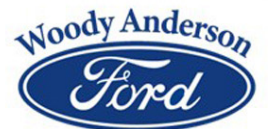


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More from the Rosetta James Foundation "Honoring Our Elders" Day Gala

- Awards \$43,000 in Scholarships! -

March 11, 2023 - Von Braun Center East Hall (Photos by Gregory Miley)



