

The Valley Weekly

"I merely took the energy it takes to pout and wrote some blues."
- Duke Ellington

FREE

Volume 2, No. 33

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, April 29, 2016

OUC Re-Elects Pollard as Head

Members of the Oakwood University Constituency met on April 17, 2016, for its quinquennial constituency session. The meeting was held on the campus of Oakwood University in its McKee Business & Technology Complex. Themed "120 Years of Delivering on the Promise of Mission," the members of the constituency met to receive reports, elect the Board of Trustees for 2016-2021, and approve amendments to the Articles and Bylaws of the Corporation.

During an executive session of the new Board of Trustees, Dr. Leslie N. Pollard was unanimously reelected as the president of Oakwood University. Pollard was initially elected as President in 2010. Election on April 17 commences Pollard's second term as president.

"I am deeply humbled by the invitation to serve our University, because no individual is sufficient for these responsibilities. At a time when faith-based education is challenged by turbulent crosswinds, Oakwood continues to stand as a tower of spiritual commitment, academic excellence, and social consciousness. My deepest thanks are extended to our talented administrators, our dedicated faculty, our committed staff, and our inspiring students. Across the next five years, we will build our students a health and wellness center. We will launch cutting-edge academic



programs. We will continue our moves toward reducing institutional dependency on tuition as a means of primary revenue. And I personally plan to use the leadership lessons learned during the last five years to improve our institutional performance even more in the next five years," said Dr. Pollard.

"The reelection of Dr. Pollard as president of Oakwood moves the University forward in its positive trajectory. He is a visionary, proactive, and energetic. I am deeply grateful that he continues to be at the helm," said Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division and also chair of the Oakwood University Board of Trustees.

by George Johnson

Extension Schedules Family Day in June

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs unit will hold the first PCREP Family Day of Education and Fun on Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University's Agribition Center, 4925 Moores Mill Road in Huntsville.

Come and bring the entire family and neighborhood youth out for a day of fun educational interactive activities, including exhibits, outdoor games, a water slide, moon bounce, vendors, a petting zoo, food, and music.

The theme this year is "Celebrating Family Literacy." The focus is on activities and events that showcase the importance of family literacy programs and that provide resources for families and communities," said Ronnie Humphrey, event co-chair.

Progress Bank Announces Earnings for Quarter

The Progress Financial Corporation announced its financial results for the first quarter of 2016 and strategic expansion of Progress Bank at its recent Annual Meeting of Shareholders.

Shareholders re-elected Jim Caudle, Jr., Lee Hoekenschneider and Eric Janssen to serve on the Board of Directors. David Nast, President and CEO, announced record earnings for the first quar-

In celebration of family literacy, kids and teens will have a chance to earn play money from each activity they participate in on June 11 to purchase books in an on-site bookstore. Also, while in the bookstore, participants can hear exciting stories and get their faces painted by local volunteers.

The Family Day of Education & Fun is an activity of the Parent-Child Reading Enhancement Program that is designed to enhance reading among children and youth ages 4 to 18. This event



is free and open to the public; however, vendors must pay a \$30 set-up fee. Also, please be sure to bring proper attire for water slide.

For general information, contact Ronnie Humphrey at (256) 372-4969 or Dr. Dorothy Brandon at (256) 372-5458. Potential vendors may contact Nancy McCrary at (256) 372-4937.

ter or 2016.

Nast also announced the bank was approved to open a new office in Birmingham, Ala. The strategic expansion will be the Bank's 6th office, adding to locations in Huntsville, Decatur, Madison and Florence. Sean Johnson, a 24-year banking and investment veteran, was named City President of the Birmingham market.

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Alphonso Beckles, Attorney at Law

Big Oh's

Bob Harrison Senior Wellness Center

Books a Million - N. Parkway/University Drive

Briar Fork CP Church

Bryant Bank - Church Street

Burritt on the Mountain

Chris' Barber Shop

Depot Professional Building

Dunkin Donuts

Eagles' Nest Ministries

The Favour Group

Fellowship of Faith Church

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Garden Cove Produce

Health Unlimited

Huntsville Bible College

Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church

James Smith - AllState Insurance

Lakeside United Methodist Church

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Marshall England - State Farm Agent

Martinson & Beason, PC

Moe's - Village of Providence

Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

North Alabama Center for Educational

Excellence

Oakwood University Post Office

Phuket's in Providence

Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Progress Bank - Madison

Progressive Union Missionary Baptist

Regency Retirement Village

Rocket City Barber Shop

Sam and Greg's Pizza

Sav-A-Lot

Sneed's Cleaners

St. Bartley PB Church

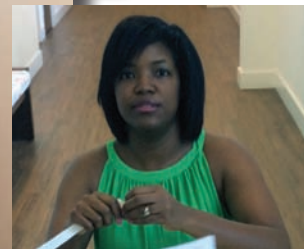
St. Luke Christian Church

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

**Scenes from
Art-N-Soul Key Lime Affair
April 24, 2016 - Bob Harrison Senior Center**



**Burritt Museum
Presents
"ROSENWALD"**

Burritt on the Mountain presented "ROSENWALD," the remarkable story of a Jewish partnership with African-American communities on Sunday, April 24.

The film was free to the public.

**Alabama A&M University
Annual Black Tie Scholarship Ball - April 22, 2016**



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The Valley Weekly

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Fourth Page	5x5 inches	\$200
Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$100
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$50
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$6
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From the Editor

Branches of The Vine ...

Last Thursday evening, we had the opportunity to attend "A Spring Celebration" to benefit The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center. The celebration was held in the Baron Bluff Building at Burritt on the Mountain and presented by The Broadway Group-Commercial Real Estate Development - Title Sponsor.



Virginia Pugh-Gilchrist, Dick Holloway and Rev. Earla Lockhart

My friend, Virginia Gilchrist, is a member of The Vine's Branches of Art Committee. In 2015, The Vine conducted 4,562 counseling sessions, provided 1,262 scholarship hours and an average of 380 sessions per month.



Rev. Earla Lockhart and Maureen Lokken

The celebration supports the scholarship assistance program which provided a total of value of \$36,415 in scholarship support last year. Since 1999, The Vine has served people from over 170 congregations in North Alabama and Southern Tennessee.

The Vine makes pastoral counseling a possibility for all, while bringing emotional healing with the love and grace of Christ.

We enjoyed the evening with family, friends and met new friends. The Center is located at 333 Franklin St SE, Unit 30 in the medical district. They can be reached at 256-533-1828.



Dr. Terrance Vickerstaff, Josephine Grayson and Tommy Grayson

Until next week ...

Dorothy

Valley Deaths

Funeral service for **Ms. Sarah Nell Garth** was held on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at Douglas Tabernacle – 1429 Calvary Street NW - with Pastor Robert Rogers officiating.

Funeral service for **Ms. Catherine Graham** was held on Friday, April 22, at First Baptist Church with Pastor B. J. Brown officiating – Russellville, Ala. Interment in Fairview Cemetery.

Funeral service for **Mr. James E. Pope** (better known as Eddie) was held on Friday, April 22, 2016 at Progressive Union with Reverend Dr. Wayne P. Snodgrass.

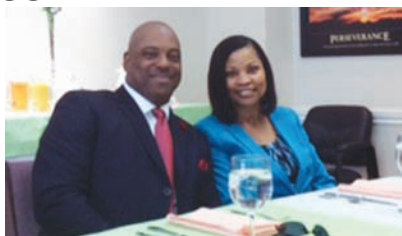
Funeral service for **Mr. Carl L. Robinson** was held on Sunday, April 24, 2016 at Saint Bartley P.B. Church 3020 Belafonte Avenue – Huntsville, AL. Interment in Madison Memory Gardens.

Funeral arrangements for **Mr. Tommy Glasper** are incomplete and will be announced later.

Funeral arrangements for **Ms. Tuscenia “Tina” Townsend** are incomplete and will be announced later.

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

Scruggs CDCA Hosts Donors



The Child Development Center and Academy at First Missionary Baptist Church hosted major donors to the school for breakfast on April 22, 2016. Deacon Ronnie Davis and his wife, Flora, were co-chairs for the CDCA's fundraiser and served as hosts for the donor recognition breakfast.

Above: Pasteena and Jesse Nunn; Below: Bottom Row (L-R) Dr. Cheryl Davis, Administrator, Mrs. Josephine Scruggs and Dr. Julius R. Scruggs. Top Row (L-R) Atty. Kimberly Brown, President of the PTA, along with students Kabria Sweeney and Nadia Tucker.



House of the Harvest, organized by Jennifer and Adam Walker, is tackling hunger by giving food to individuals and families in need.

House of the Harvest started delivering food to the families of some of our neediest students in the Sparkman school district just over a year ago. Before long, they came to the realization that they would no longer be able to continue increasing the number of families they could serve. Fran Fluhler (Director of Huntsville's Manna House), who was providing them with food to serve and encouraged them to seek a permanent location so that they could increase our capability to match the need.

It was at this point that the Harvest Volunteer Fire Department would open their hearts to our community

in a huge way. They were completing up construction on their new facility across the street from their location on Wall Triana HWY. They offered to sell us their current building for \$1.00! House of the Harvest moved into the building the last week of October 2015. There have been so many individuals, businesses, and churches that have contributed to providing for House of the Harvest in so many ways.

On a typical Saturday at 9144 Wall Triana HWY in Harvest, they serve from 150-175 families. Volunteers show up at 8:00 AM to prepare for the 9 am opening. As many as 100 families are already there when they open on Saturdays. On average, they host around 50 volunteers each week with several different jobs that people can choose to participate in.



L-R: EJ Williams, Anna Bannister, Emma Johnson, Caitlyn Arsenault, Adam Walker and Jalen Wilson

According to Adam Walker, “God has blessed House of the Harvest over and over by the donations of our community and one hundred percent of our donations go toward serving our families.” For more information about House of the Harvest, visit their website at houseoftheharvest.org or email them at awalker@houseoftheharvest.org or orgawalker@houseoftheharvest.org.

In Madison County, Alabama, 14.2 percent of the

population lives in poverty. This percent is according to the 2014 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). Encyclopedia Alabama reports that “since the Civil War, Alabama has been one of the nation's poorest states. In the 2000 U.S. Census, for instance, Alabama was the seventh poorest state, with 16 percent of its residents living in poverty, as compared with a U.S. average of 12 percent.

Community Keepers

President Obama met with a few of hip-hop's top artists in regards to criminal justice reform and his mentorship program for young men, “My Brother's Keeper,” at the White House on Friday.

Many of the artists that were present have previously expressed their concerns and views through non-profit organizations and artistic works on social injustices.

President Obama discussed a plan with artists such as J.Cole, Alicia Keys, Wale, Nicki Minaj, Janelle Monae, Common, Ludacris, and more where they would use their platform to further their efforts in criminal justice reform

and help youth get on the right path.

“Keys in February pushed for House Speaker Paul Ryan to have the House move on criminal justice overhaul through a flirty Valentine video. Monae has pushed for voter registration; Common has publicly supported the private-sector efforts of My Brother's Keeper; and Ludacris has started a foundation to foster economic development and teach leadership and education skills to young people.” (www.usnews.com)

Entrepreneurs and entertainers many times step up to some sort of platform when they reach certain heights in their career.

The influence that these people and companies have is tremendous. Companies can change lifestyles through opportunities, employment, beneficial products; and entertainers can change lifestyles by using their voices to evoke change, and their funds to support important causes, issues, and organizations.

Success is sweeter when you're responsible for more than your own success. When you are able to help other people pursue and attain purpose and happiness, it makes your accomplishments worthwhile.

What I admire about President Obama's administration has always been his focus on the people and improving the lives of



Americans.

He has utilized his platform, and even encouraged others to use their platform for progression. That is a fine example of how companies, public officials, CEOs, entertainers, artists, and celebrities should use their influence.

by Amoi Savage



DLC Graduates Cohort V

The Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium graduated Cohort V on April 26.

The Cohort consisted of 17 local leaders and aspiring leaders from across the Valley. The graduates pictured are:

First Row (L-R) Kelsey Roach, Turkessa Coleman-Lacey, Lucracia Points, Arthurine Shackelford, Nicole Fields, Dr. Verlindsey Stewart, Michael May

Second Row (L-R) Starrett Archie, Christopher Kern, Ellengold Goodridge, Caleb Ballew, Pastor Sa'Brina Lampley-Wheeler, Darryl Jackson, Larissa Moore, Tamekia Montgomery, Richard Collie, Pastor Anthony Wheeler

Additional information about DLC can be found at www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com.

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UCMBC Holds Ministry Expo



Pictured (l-r): Mrs. Georgia S. Valrie, Pastor O. Wendell Davis and Mrs. Roberta Battle.

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church presented "A Ministry Expo" on April 24 with the fundamental purpose of sharing information to its members on almost 70 diverse ministries in the categories of Fellowship Ministries, Service and Mission Ministries, Youth Ministries, Music and Cultural Arts Ministries, Training and Education Ministries, Pastoral and Congregational Care Ministries and Community and Media Ministry. The primary goal was to inform and encourage involvement of members with various ministries. The Expo was coordinated by Mrs. Georgia S. Valrie and Mrs. Roberta Battle. Additional information can be found at www.unionchapel-hsv.org.

Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

The Bible tells us that when we love, love always protects, always trusts, always believes in the very best. It is time to believe that God is getting ready to do the very best in your life if you let Him by being in fellowship with Him. Sometimes it can be hard to trust in anyone or anything.

In this world, so many people can be cruel and hard to get along with. But remember God is not asking us to trust people, he is asking us to trust Him.

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.



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North Alabama 2016 Women of Distinction Announced

The entire Tennessee Valley is invited to attend the North Alabama Awards Luncheon on May 12, 2016, at The Jackson Center in Huntsville at 11:30 a.m.

The Women of Distinction Awards program is the premier event for Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama.

First celebrated in 1976, each awards program honors local women who have made significant contributions in their professions and communities.

Proceeds from the Women of Distinction events directly support the Girl Scouts' mission

Nancy George Colin
Huntsville
Community
Leader



Fran Fluhler
Huntsville
Founder
Manna House

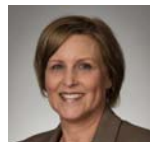


Dr. Dorothy W. Huston
Huntsville
Founder & CEO
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WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

Cynthia L. Nafus
Trinity
Vice President
Quality, Safety and
Mission Success
United Launch Alliance



Janet Saczawa
Madison
Community Leader



Linda Via
Huntsville
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Megan Beattie
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Contact Tonya Mines for
sponsorship or other information
at tmines@girlscoutsna.org.

Boys & Girls Clubs Share Summer Programs

Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama is excited to announce our 2016 Summer Programs and Summer STEM Camps have opened for registration! The 2016 Summer Programs will start June 6, a full list of area Boys & Girls Club locations is provided in attached document.

This year's Summer Program will include STEM activities, Readers2Leaders program, Sports & Fitness activities, Field trips, Character & Education activities, Career prep, Entrepreneurship, and much more!

Clubs will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To become a member, stop by your local Boys & Girls Club

(full list of locations provided at www.bgcna.com) to complete an application, attached with membership fee.

Earlier this year, the STEM Center of Innovation was completed and opened at the Williams Boys & Girls Club. The center is fully outfitted with modern technology, and offers full-time expert mentor -Angela O'Neil to lead Club members in projects that apply the principles of science, technology, engineering, and math.

This summer, we are hosting 7 STEM Camps at the STEM Center of Innovation that will be open to the general public and current Boys & Girls Clubs of

North Alabama members. Camp attendees will use technology such as 3-D printers, high-definition video conferencing, robotics, electronics, and other tools to brainstorm ideas and collaborate on projects.

For more information on the STEM Camps this summer that will run from June 13 through July 29, please contact us. We are currently hosting registration for the camps online. There are only 20 spots available in each camp, when capacity is reached, each camp will be on a wait-list basis.

by *Josh Bray*
256.534.6060
jbray@bgcna.com



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

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On This Day - Friday, April 29, 2016

Duke Ellington - An internationally famous and influential band leader, composer and musician was born. Famous for tunes such as "The 'A' Train" and "Satin Doll."

- BlackInTime.info

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Calendar of Events

April 29
HOT Coffee
(Free Networking Organization)

Huntsville Chamber of Commerce Auditorium
Contact: Vicki Morris at face-toface.vmorris@gmail.com
7:45 a.m.

Pumps & Pearls
Huntsville Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; \$15
Marriott, 7 p.m.

April 29-May 1
Panoply Festival of Arts
Downtown Huntsville

April 30
Civil War Symposium
"Four Bloody Years of War: Policy and Strategy, Sedition and Emancipation"
SpringHill Suites by Marriott
745 Constellation Place Dr., SW
Huntsville, Ala.
9:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

May 6
Founder's Day Convocation
Alabama A&M University

Speaker: Ronald McIntosh
T.M. Elmore Building
11 a.m.

Spring Commencement
Alabama A&M University
Speaker: Rosalind Brewer, President/CEO
Sam's Club
Von Braun Center Propst Arena, 6 p.m.

May 20
Food Truck Street Festival
Sponsor: Jerry Damson
Honda Acura
Downtown Huntsville
The Lumberyard Parking Lot,
108 Cleveland Avenue
5-9 p.m.

May 21-22
Dance Theatre of Huntsville
"Aladdin" - \$10-15
1 & 6 p.m. (5 p.m.-May 22)
Lee High School Main Stage

May 28
Old School Blues Festival
Huntsville Dragway
502 Quarter Mountain Road
Harvest, Ala., 11 a.m.

June 17
Food Truck Street Festival
Sponsor: Jerry Damson
Honda Acura
Downtown Huntsville
The Lumberyard Parking Lot,
108 Cleveland Avenue
5-9 p.m.

July 15
Food Truck Street Festival
Sponsor: Jerry Damson
Honda Acura
Downtown Huntsville
The Lumberyard Parking Lot,
108 Cleveland Avenue
5-9 p.m.

August 19
Food Truck Street Festival
Sponsor: Jerry Damson
Honda Acura
Downtown Huntsville
The Lumberyard Parking Lot,
108 Cleveland Avenue
5-9 p.m.

September 16
Food Truck Street Festival
Sponsor: Jerry Damson
Honda Acura
Downtown Huntsville
The Lumberyard Parking Lot,
108 Cleveland Avenue
5-9 p.m.

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November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SATURDAY MAY 28, 2016

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Nash Barbeque	1203 Courtyard Cir	Decatur, AL 35603	(256) 260-0512
Pegasus Records	612 E Tennessee St	Florence, AL35630	(256) 767-4340
The London Shop	1597 Darby Dr	Florence, AL 35630	(256) 767-1880
Huntsville Dragway	502 Quarter Mtn Rd.	Harvest, AL 35749	(256) 852-4505
Alfred's Hair First	4820 University Dr NW #6	Huntsville, AL35816	(256) 837-5843
Club Envy	200 Oakwood Ave NE	Huntsville, AL35811	(256) 801-9015
Jamie Cut & Style	104 2nd St.	Muscle Shoals, AL 35661	(256) 381-0820
JB House of Fashion	1630 3rd Ave. West	Birmingham, AL 35208	(205) 788-4491
James Records	2422 Memorial Pkwy NW	Huntsville, AL 35810	(256) 270-9199
Mr Shoes	1020 Jordan Ln NW	Huntsville, AL 35816	(256) 536-2538
Zaids	1708 Jordan Ln NW	Huntsville, AL 35816	(256) 721-3366
Haddox Pharmacy	1508 Charlotte Ave	Nashville, TN 37023	(615) 329-3943
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