

# tim allston: On HBCUs' Apostle Paul? - p. 5

**FREE**

## A&M Founder's Day Recap! - p. 8

Friday  
May 13, 2022  
Vol. 8, No. 36  
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

# The Valley Weekly

**SALUTE!**

Rosetta James Foundation  
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Dr. Mary S. Brown

"Where there is no vision, there is no hope." - George Washington Carver

## Drake Offering Summer Teacher Training

Drake State Community and Technical College is offering a free professional development training course for middle school and high school science teachers. The MUREP/ NASA Summer Teacher Training Program will run June 13-17 at 3421 Meridian Street, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

For one week, teachers will earn a \$500 stipend for participating in a fun-filled, educationally packed immersion into NASA-inspired curriculum.

Plus, the training meets professional development CEU requirements.

The program will equip teachers with tools that will enable them to design and implement lesson plans that are connected to NASA's goals and mission.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for teachers to learn about industry best practices and trends in the science and engineering world," said Dr. Marina Kingsbury, director of

sponsored programs. "The program will expand their knowledge in STEM education and help prepare students for careers in engineering."

For additional information, complete the following form: <https://form.jotform.com/221216920976155>.

Drake offers flexible, affordable university-transfer and technical degrees, certificates, adult and continuing education, and customized skills training.

## HBC Vision Banquet Set

The Huntsville Bible College will hold its 29th Annual Vision Banquet on Friday, June 3, at the Von Braun Center East Hall, 700 Monroe Street in Downtown Huntsville at 7 p.m.

For tickets and additional information about the Vision Banquet, call (256) 469-7536

## Rosetta James Foundation to Resume Annual Gala in 2023

The Rosetta James Foundation Board of Directors announced that the annual Honoring Our Elders Gala will return in March 2023.

The decision was made at the Board's 15th annual meeting in Huntsville on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

The Foundation, through its Gala and other activities, honors active volunteers who are 70 years of age and older. It also provides scholarships. In March 2022, the Foundation awarded some \$40,000 in scholarships to students. Several recipients attend local colleges and



universities.

Board Treasurer Gary T. Whitley, Jr., reported the acceptance of a \$30,000 donation from Fashionably Greek to be awarded for the 2022-23 academic year and distributed in the fall.

Dr. Dorothy W. Huston serves as president of the Rosetta James Foundation.

## The Legacy Center Hosting Annual Kickball Tournament June 4

The Legacy Center will hold its 3rd Annual Charity Kickball Tournament "Legacy Kickback" on Saturday, June 4, at Calvary Hills Community Center, beginning at 1 p.m.

"We are inviting the entire Tennessee Valley to come celebrate this community, participate in the tournament and/or enjoy the local celebrities versus local heroes kickball match," said Morgan Saintjones, executive director of The Legacy Center.



State Rep. Laura Hall (c) is joined at the 2021 kickball tournament by supporters of The Legacy Center, including Board President Chanda Mills Crutcher (r).

Saintjones said the family-fun charity event is a fundraising to assist

the Center's arts-based summer program, "providing piano, vocal, ballet and

drum lessons for elementary children and our adult day program, entitled 'Generations.'"

The accompanying free community block party will feature food trucks, bounce houses for children, live concert, face painting, games and celebrity kickball teams.

For additional information, visit [www.LiveYourLegacyHere.com](http://www.LiveYourLegacyHere.com) or call (256) 777-4224.

## The Valley Weekly

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## Washington in One Minute



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

1. **ON THE FLOOR.** The House and Senate are in session this week. In response to last week's surprise leak of a draft Supreme Court decision that would overturn the right to an abortion in *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992), Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) was expected to file a cloture petition Monday setting up a vote on Wednesday on the Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA), which would create a statutory right to abortion access (a 46-48 vote in February 2022 on this bill in the Senate failed to end a filibuster). The WHPA passed the House in September 2021 by a vote of 218 - 211. Last Thursday, 21 House Republicans, led by Rep. John Rose (R-TN), sent a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland and FBI Director Christopher Wray urging them to launch a criminal investigation into the leaking of the draft opinion written by Associate Justice

Samuel Alito. In other news, Roll Call newspaper reported that over the weekend House and Senate Appropriations Committee staff met to finalize a supplemental spending bill that will include President Biden's \$33 billion request for aid to Ukraine and \$10 billion for COVID funds.

2. **THE WHITE HOUSE.** On Sunday, President Biden participated in a video call with Ukrainian President Zelensky and the leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) countries: U.S., Britain, France, Germany, Japan, Canada, and Italy. On Tuesday, the President hosted a meeting at the White House with Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi. On Wednesday, he traveled to Chicago to address the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) International Convention. On Thursday and Friday, he hosted a summit for the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Also on Sunday, as part of her four-day visit to Romania and Slovakia,

First Lady Jill Biden made an unannounced visit to western Ukraine where she met with Ukraine's First Lady Olena Zelenska. On Friday, the Biden Administration announced that it was sending an additional \$286 million in military aid to Ukraine, including artillery munitions, radar, aerial drones, and laser-guided rockets.

3. **APRIL JOBS REPORT.** On Friday, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 428,000 in April, led by gains in leisure and hospitality, manufacturing, and transportation and warehousing. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.6%. According to The New York Times, the economy has regained nearly 95% of the 22 million jobs lost at the height of coronavirus-related lockdowns 2 years ago and there are now 1.9 job openings for every unemployed worker.

4. **NEW SEXUAL HARASSMENT RULE.** Politico reported last week that the Biden Administration this month will issue a rulemaking at the Department of Education to undo a controversial Trump-era regulation on Title IX that narrowed the definition of sexual harassment and directed schools to conduct live hearings with cross-examination for sexual misconduct investigations. The new Biden rule reportedly will also codify

protections for sexual orientation and gender identity.

5. **EDUCATION.** On Friday, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights announced that it is requesting public comments regarding general feedback on Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 for students with disabilities in K-12 and higher education institutions. The comments are to provide information for a proposal to amend regulations for Section 504, which would then need to go through another round of public input before being finalized by the Education Department. The Section 504

regulations have remained largely unchanged for 45 years, since their release in 1977, according to an Education Department news release. The department said the review of Section 504 effectiveness aligns with President Joe Biden's Unity Agenda, which includes reforms for mental health support in elementary and secondary schools and colleges.

Ron Hamm

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THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

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Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

Graveside service for MR. ERWIN C. FOREMAN (b. 1959) was held Tuesday, May 10, at Valley View Memorial Gardens.

Graveside service for MR. JAMES A. KELLEY, JR. (b. 1995) was held Monday, May 9, at Big Cove Cemetery with The Reverend Endia J. Scruggs officiating.

Graveside service for MR. THOMAS L. HAWKINS (b. 1966) was held Friday, May 6, at Liberty Cemetery with Minister Patricia Strong officiant.

Funeral service for MR. D'ARTAGNAN A. ROBINSON (b. 1978) was held Wednesday, May 4, at Syler Tabernacle with The Reverend Dr. John L. Clay officiant.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue  
Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Funeral service for MOTHER MELISSA MOORE JONES (b. 1927) will be 12 noon Tuesday, May 17.

Graveside service for ELDER ANDREW D. HOLT (b. 1933) will be 12 p.m., Saturday, May 14, at the Madison Memory Gardens (100 Hughes Road Madison, Ala.) with Pastor Juanita Battle officiating.

Funeral service for MR. RAMON REYES VASQUEZ (b. 1935) was held Wednesday, May 11, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.).

Funeral service for MRS. ADDIE MAE WILLIAMS (b. 1946) was held Tuesday, May 10, at the Oakwood University Seventh-Day Adventist Church (5500 Adventist Blvd., Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

Funeral service for DR. YOSEPH BEFECADU (b. 1944) was held Monday, May 9, at Saint Joseph Catholic Church (2300 Beasley Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.) with Father Joseph Lubrano officiating.

Graveside service for MR. TOMMIE LEE BINFORD (b. 1934) was held Saturday, May 7, at the Faith Memorial Gardens (8100 Madison Boulevard, Madison, Ala.) with Pastor Dennis Jones officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

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

Funeral service for MR. BROMLEY MICHAEL TROTMAN (b. 1961) was held Sunday, May 1, at New Life Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3912 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, Ala.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

May 13

Brooks and Dunn  
Propst Arena  
Von Braun Center -7 p.m.

May 17

Huntsville Rotary Luncheon  
East Hall 3

May 24

Huntsville Rotary Luncheon  
East Hall 3  
Von Braun Center  
11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

May 27-29

Affion Crockett  
Comedian  
Stand Up Live Huntsville

May 31

Huntsville Rotary Luncheon  
East Hall 3  
Von Braun Center  
11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

June 3-4

“Lift Every Voice”  
Regional Choral Festival  
hsvmasterchorale.org

June 4

The Legacy Center  
3rd Annual Charity Kickball Tournament  
“Legacy Kickback”  
Calvary Hills Community Center  
1 p.m.

June 5

“Menopause: The Musical”  
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
3 p.m.

June 6

Financial Literacy Course (8 Weeks)  
Huntsville Bible College  
(256) 469-7536  
reg@hbc1.edu

July 7-17

The World Games  
Birmingham, Ala.

August 5-7

DL Hughley  
Comedian  
Stand Up Live Huntsville

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION GAME PLAN

PRESTON BROWN

“A REASON TO REJOICE”

2 Corinthians 4:8 says, “We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed, but not in despair.”  
You know, one of the things that we need to understand is that when we wake up in the morning thinking that all things are working for our good, because we love God and have been called to his great purpose for our lives, it will change our attitude.  
In other words, when we are looking for a reason to rejoice rather than a reason to complain, it will change our entire perspective about life. That’s what the Apostle Paul was saying in this scripture: even though times are tough we can still find reasons to rejoice.  
Now, we all realize that

the last several months have been very difficult for so many people dealing with inflation, rising gas prices and an economy that seems to be out of control. So, it has become easy to complain about so many things and become discouraged. But we have to realize that this is a “trick” by the enemy to get our minds off of praising God for all the good things that He has done and is doing in our lives.  
You see, when we learn to stop complaining about our circumstances, God will give us a different outlook on life. I believe that God will place us in difficult situations to

change them. I also believe that God allows us to be in certain circumstances so that others can see Him glorified in us.  
So, it’s time for all of us to “rise up” and let our lights shine so others can see the good things that God is doing in our lives. And, remember: there is always a time to rejoice! Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.  
Make sure you purchase your copy of my book, “A Champion Game Plan For Life,” at amazon.com.

PRESTON BROWN

A CHAMPION GAME PLAN FOR LIFE



Huntsville, Ala.  
7 p.m.

May 24  
Huntsville Rotary Luncheon  
East Hall 3  
Von Braun Center  
11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

Madison County Schools Graduation:  
Sparkman, 12 noon  
Hazel Green, 3 p.m.  
Madison Co. Virtual, 5:30 p.m.  
Propst Arena  
Huntsville, Ala.



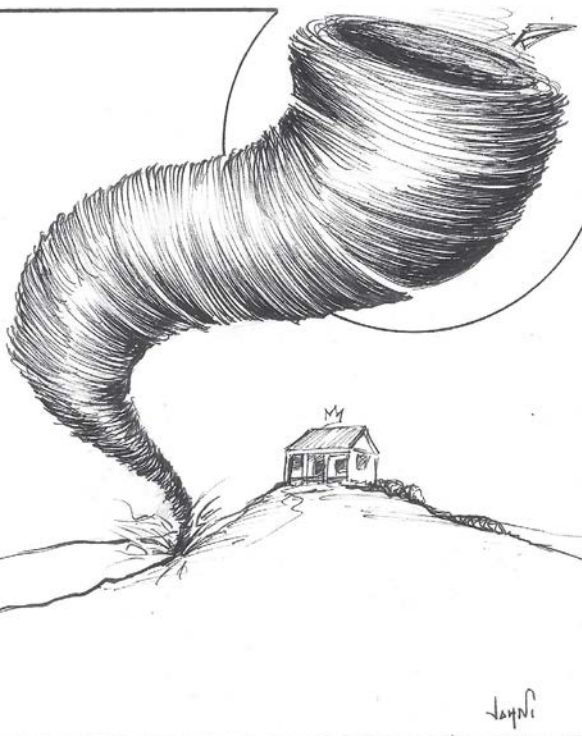
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So, it’s time for all of us to “rise up” and let our lights shine so others can see the good things that God is doing in our lives. And, remember: there is always a time to rejoice! Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.  
Make sure you purchase your copy of my book, “A Champion Game Plan For Life,” at amazon.com.



## PowerShot

"...and having  
done all else  
you can do,  
Stand."

Ephesians 6:13



## Huntsville City Council Meetings

Huntsville City Council Regular Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m., Downtown Huntsville.

Watch the meetings live via [HuntsvilleAL.gov/HSVTV](http://HuntsvilleAL.gov/HSVTV) or on the City of Huntsville Facebook page (@huntsvillecity).

For more information, call (256) 427-5011.



## Wastewater Analysis Could Show Rising COVID-19 Infections

Through the simple act of flushing a toilet, scientists at the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology have learned about the spread of COVID-19 through wastewater analysis.

Their findings are designed to help local health care providers better understand current infection rates while also detecting potential surges.

Their research was made possible through a grant from the Alabama Department

of Public Health (ADPH), which allowed HudsonAlpha to purchase new scientific equipment.

The City of Huntsville provided the specimens, in the form of biweekly deliveries of untreated wastewater.

"Gauging our community infection rate helps our health care providers prepare for a potential surge," Mayor Tommy Battle said.

- [huntsvilleal.gov](http://huntsvilleal.gov)

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Mazda Toyota Manufacturing

**MAY 13 - STEVIE WONDER** - Wonder has won 25 Grammy Awards, as well as a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 1996. He is one of only two artists and groups who have won the Grammy for Album of the Year three times as the main credited artist, along with Frank Sinatra. Wonder is the only artist to have won the award with three consecutive album releases.

- [BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com](http://BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com)







## “Prime Time” Deion Sanders: The Apostle Paul for HBCU? NFL?

*And a vision appeared to Paul in the night, . . . “Come over to Macedonia and help us” Acts 16:9.*

When Christianity needed a celebrated spokesman to blaze the trail for this newfound faith into Europe - starting in Macedonia (Greece) - it sent the Apostle Paul.

Similarly, when historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) needed to re-introduce themselves to the NFL with its 2022 draftable talent, they found no better celebrity spokesman than “Prime Time” Deion Sanders.

Sanders is becoming the “Apostle Paul” for both the NFL and HBCUs; he is “evangelizing” the NFL anew on the value of draftable HBCU talent.

Among those applauding Sanders’ efforts is 1987 Super Bowl MVP, NFL executive, and Grambling State legend Doug Williams, who remarked, “. . . it’s a step in the right direction.”

For example, on April 25, Deion Sanders made a list of HBCU players who should be drafted. Here’s where they landed. While there’s no way to know precisely how many caught the eyes of NFL teams, 11 of the Prime Prospects were either drafted, signed as free agents, or invited to NFL minicamps; no HBCU players were drafted in the 2021 NFL draft.

Since major intercollegiate athletics began recruiting Black athletes en masse in the early 1970s, the NFL seemed to have been less interested in draftable HBCU talent. Previous to that, HBCUs produced many of its NFL prospects - and 34 of its 354 Hall of Famers.

With his unique set of accomplishments and larger-than-life persona “Neon Deion” offers the NFL, HBCUs, and corporate advertisers a can’t-miss lifeline for bridge-building.

Sanders’ profile includes:

- NFL Hall of Fame
- Two Super Bowl championships
- One World Series appearance
- The only player to score an NFL touchdown and hit an MLB

home run in the same week

- 2021 Southwest Athletic Conference Coach of the Year, and
- AFLAC corporate spokesman.

“I’m happy in the role that God has chosen for me, . . . I’m happy to be where I am, and I tell people all the time I know I’m employed at Jackson State, but I’m working for the whole HBCU.”

Like “Neon Deion,” are you leveraging your past successes, partnerships, and passions to bring unrecognized and underserved folks into the prime time of employment and entrepreneurial opportunities?

Trust me: it’s no more than a vision and a handoff away.

- tim allston



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Get Assistance: Call 211

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[disastercustomerservice@](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov)

[sba.gov](http://sba.gov)

(800) 659-2955

### COVID-19- RELATED UNEMPLOYMENT

Alabama Department  
of Labor

(866) 234-5382

[labor.alabama.gov](http://labor.alabama.gov)

### MADISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (256) 539-3711

### LATEST COVID-19 INFORMATION

Alabama Department of  
Public Health

[www.alabamapublichealth.gov](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov)

Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention  
[cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)

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THE VALLEY WEEKLY

# 2 CALLLED PREACH

REV. MICHAEL RICE

## Two Evils

Jeremiah 2:13

*Having raised four of my own, I have been through the experience of what is known as the "terrible two's."*

This is the stage where toddlers are seeking to gain some level of independence from their parents.



It is perfectly normal for children to go through this stage but every loving parent knows that when their children say, "I want to do it myself," there are some things that they will not allow--such as crossing the street. In spite of the constant attempt to wiggle their little hands from the grip of their parents, they learn that that is an exercise in futility. If they were free to "walk away" from their parents, something very harmful could be the outcome. The love of the parent is too strong to allow that to happen. As Jesus once said, If an earthly parent, being evil, knows how to give good things and do good things for their children, how



pxabay.com/janBaby

much more our heavenly Father. That is what God's people of old had done with Him. They were acting like toddlers in their terrible two's. Two evils is

the way Jeremiah described it. One was that they had "turned away from God," and had dug their own cisterns that could not hold water. They had the beauty

of a Niagara Falls but were more excited about watching water being poured from a cup. They wanted God to let go His grip but He didn't. He never does.

## This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, May 15, 2022  
Fifth Sunday of Easter

(Track 2 - Year C)

Acts 11:1-18  
Revelation 21:1-6  
John 13:31-35  
Psalm 148



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

## Dr. Mary S. Brown



met through her Moulton cousins when they were both in high school. They married in 1961 at First Missionary Baptist Church. They were blessed with one son, Rather Maurice Brown, a history teacher and musician. [Her dear husband departed this life in December 2012.]

In 1962, she began her master's work at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College in Greensboro and received her degree in 1964. By 1971, Brown had begun studies for the Ed.D. degree at The American University in Washington, D. C., earning the degree in December 1975.

Brown began her teaching career at Merritt High School in Midway in Bullock County. She later returned to North Alabama to teach at what is now R. A. Hubbard High in Courtland--

founded by her mother's brother, Richard Alexander Hubbard. Following her first year there, she and her husband moved to Greensboro, North Carolina, and she began her master's studies. In 1967, she launched nearly four decades of work at Alabama A&M. During her productive tenure at A&M, she served as chair of the Department of History and Political Science and was the founding director of AAMU's Honors Program, which involved no small amount of work. Navigating the establishment of this program through the various committees and gaining its acceptance was no small feat, she recalls. Over the years, Brown has remained a committed member of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association. Brown has been a member of First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville since relocating in Huntsville in 1967. Dr. Brown says she is grateful for the "Village" (i.e., family and friends, church members in Decatur, the AAMU family and others) that has nurtured and encouraged her.



"Spotlight on Our Elders" 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](http://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@valley-weeklyllc.com](mailto:info@valley-weeklyllc.com).

## MAYHEM IS EXPENSIVE. ALLSTATE IS NOT.



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## Alabama A&amp;M University

## Commencement/147th Annual Founder's Day/Class Reunion

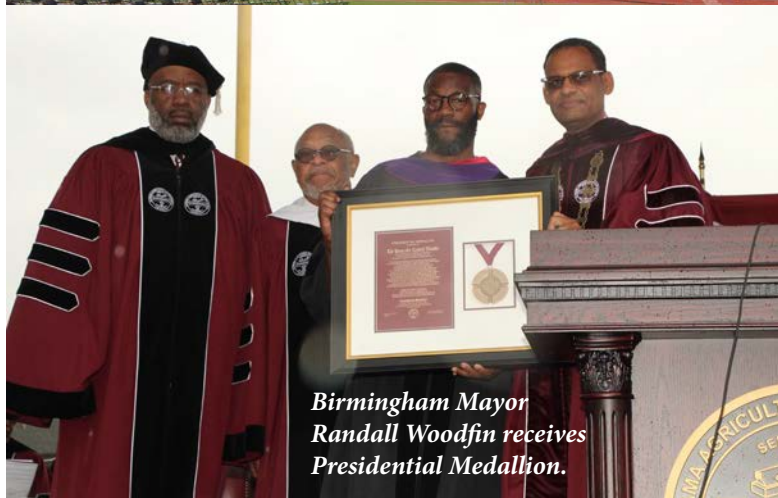
Spring Commencement crowd begins to grow in Louis Crews Stadium.



Friday, May 6, 2022  
Campus Scenes



State Senator Linda Coleman-Madison receives Morrison Award from President Wims.



Birmingham Mayor Randall Woodfin receives Presidential Medallion.



Alumna of the Year  
Henrika Buchanan



Jill Coons



Carol Watkins



The Culpeppers



Sandra Lyles Jackson



Jamal Ali



Mr. & Mrs.  
Michael Miller