

# The Valley Weekly

Volume 2, No. 36

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, May 20, 2016

FREE

*"But the prejudice of race alone blinded the American people for the debt they owed to the desperate courage of 500,000 Haitian Negroes who would not be enslaved."*

- Henry Adams

## Campus Preservation District Part of Local Efforts



**NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH:** Above: Mayor Battle (center) is pictured with Normal Historic Preservation District Association (NHPDA) members Dr. Chinella Henderson, Dr. Bernice Richardson, Mrs. Patricia Bullard and preservation consultant Jessica White-Blatter. (Photo by J. Saintjones)

Members of the Normal Historic Preservation District Association (NHPDA) were on hand at the Depot in downtown Huntsville Tuesday, May 10, as Mayor Tommy Battle proclaimed May 2016 as National Historic Preservation Month in the city of Huntsville.



During the brief press conference, Battle highlighted the projects throughout Huntsville, while Jessica White-Blatter, his-

toric preservation consultant for the Huntsville Historic Preservation Commission, discussed the heritage development plan for AAMU.

The more than 30-member NHPDA will hold its next meeting on May 18 at 1 p.m. at the Edmondton Heights Family Center.



From L-R: Councilman Richard Showers, Sr., Uzma Gul, Maria Balouch, and Talal Waheed of Pakistan and Manbor Singh Warjri of India, along with Coach Ray Green and Lydell Mitchell.

## Councilman Showers Welcomes Delegation

Councilman Richard Showers, Sr., hosted an international delegation from Pakistan and India at the Dr. Richard Showers Recreation Center on Tuesday, May 10.

The visiting delegation was welcomed by Dr. Showers and Coach Ray Green, superintendent of Neighborhood Services for Huntsville Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Lydell Mitchell, programmer with the Neighborhood Services Division of Parks and Recreation, joined Coach Green in guiding the tour.

Their tour to various cities in the United States is being sponsored by the U. S. Department of State and Global Ties.

## Optimists Honor Law Enforcement Professionals

Recently, six Optimist Clubs from AL-MS Zones 2 and 3 joined together to recognize six individuals who exemplify the high standards of the law enforcement profession. It was a chance for our community to honor the outstanding members of our local law enforcement. They are: Deputy Matthew Scratchard, Madison County Sheriff's Office; Officer J.C. Brown, Fort Payne Police Department; Mr. Robert Becher, Madison County District Attorney's Office; Officer Tory Green, Huntsville Police Department; Officer Timothy Portik, Madison Police Department; and (not shown/military duty) Sergeant Dusty Vaughn, Arab Police Department.



by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

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Maxtin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

## LogiCore's Nonprofit Inspire and Achieve Corporation Awards Scholarships

**Miranda Bouldin**  
Founder and President



**LOGICORE STEM SCHOLARSHIPS:** *Inspire and Achieve Corporation scholarship recipients receive \$1500 scholarship, a laptop computer, and a backpack with college starter kit. Pictured with Miranda Bouldin (c) are (l-r): Andrew Cooper, Danville High School; Matthew Black - Athens High School; Lillie McCullough- Lawrence County High School; Elijah Jackson- West Lime-stone High School; Lila Cook - Lawrence County High School; Alex Dillon- Bob Jones High School; and Jabari Robinson - Sparkman High School (represented by his mother).*



**Awardees:** *Bouldin (center) with (l-r) Callie Giles (scholarship recipient) - Hazel Green High School; Michaela Henderson (grant recipient) - Hazel Green High School; and Brent Greising (grant recipient)- Hazel Green High School.*

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### Your Washington Recap

Here are your top issues in DC this week:

1. The House and Senate have an unusually heavy schedule. Among a large roster of bills, the House will take up its first FY2017 appropriations bill - the Military Constructions/Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill. The House will also take up the FY2017 National Defense Authorization Act, which, for the first time, contains language requiring women to register for the Selective Service. The Senate will also vote on 3 versions of a bill to provide emergency spending to combat the Zika virus.

2. Colleges Announced for Pell 'Dual Enrollment' Program - Thousands of low-income students in nearly two dozen states will soon be able get federal grants to take college courses while still in high school.

3. Last week, the White House announced that President Obama will visit Hiroshima, Japan, on May 27, becoming the first sitting U.S. president to visit the site of the first atomic bombing, after attending the Group of 7 economic summit in Ise-Shima.

4. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced a national competition for the "Leaders of Opportunity Every Place Counts Design Challenge," which will award 4 winners with a 2-day, DOT-led, design session in July 2016 to

communities disconnected by existing transportation infrastructure (such as an Interstate Highway) that are seeking to restore the connectivity of the community to jobs, healthcare, schools, grocery stores, and other essential services. Applications are due on June 3, 2016 and more information can be found here: [www.transportation.gov/opportunity/challenge](http://www.transportation.gov/opportunity/challenge).

5. 2016 Presidential Watch. Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders competed in the Kentucky and Oregon primaries, while GOP presumptive presidential nominee Donald Trump added to his delegate count in Oregon. At a campaign stop in Kentucky, Hillary Clinton told a crowd that as President she would give her husband the task of "revitalizing the economy." The 3 big political forecasters currently show Hillary Clinton beating Donald Trump on the electoral college map in November.

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## From the Editor

Greetings!

ALM Meets in the Rocket City!

Huntsville was the host for the 2016 Alabama League of Municipalities ([alalm.org](http://alalm.org)) during its 81st Annual Convention at the Von Braun Center and Embassy Suites Hotel.

The meeting began on May 14th and concluded on May 17th. Attendees were offered continuing education units for the Certified Municipal Officials Training Program.

On Saturday, May 14th, the Alabama Black Caucus Local Elected Officials (ABC-LEO) hosted a reception for members and guests. Mayor Battle welcomed the attendees to Huntsville and encouraged visitors to the City to enjoy many of the wonderful attractions that we offer. Huntsville City Council President Will Culver and District 1 Councilman Dr. Richard Showers, Sr., were the official local hosts for that venue. Later on Saturday, there was a "Coffee, Craft and Dessert" reception with entertainment by the U.S. Army Material Command's Jazz Band.

There were general sessions, concurrent sessions, roundtable discussions, a municipal flag showcase, exhibits, various receptions, the Annual Business Session and the President's Banquet.

In addition to the sessions for elected officials, Municipal Clerks had their own track, which also offered them an opportunity to participate in the training. The Convention's Keystone Sponsor was Alabama Power Company, along with almost 50 additional sponsors at various levels.

The work of ALM is important because there is an on-going need to have positive, realistic conversations about the critical issues facing towns and cities around the state of Alabama. I had the opportunity to meet elected officials and personnel from various municipalities across the state. Primarily, the convention provided a wonderful opportunity for the sharing and exchange of ideas, local experiences and concerns based on the past and current political environment.

Which brings me to my point for the week. There are a number of elections at all levels coming up in the next several months. Regardless to our political persuasions, we have an obligation as good citizens to vote. Many of us have seen and felt the results of voter apathy and low turn-out. If you know in advance that you will be travelling or unavailable on election dates, a great alternative is to go to the Madison County Courthouse and file your absentee vote. When we look at the history of the voting in America, it is unconscionable that any one who is eligible to vote will not do so. Therefore, we will see you at the polls.

Until next week ...



*Dorothy*

# Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

There are so many people in the world today that are doing things that the world applauds but the word of God is clearly against it.

Rather it be issues about marriage or issues about trans-gender restrooms or even issues about prayer in schools.

We are slowly becoming "of the world". However, we should be in the world but

not of the world. You see, we become worldly when

God is no longer part of the equation in our lives. When we take God out of the equation for some of the problems that we have in our lives.

We are also taking Him out of the solution to our problems as well. Stay encouraged my brothers and sisters.



## Valley Deaths

Funeral service for Deacon **Guerry Dwight Parks** was held at 1 p.m. on Thursday,

May 19, at Chase Park Church of Christ, 1640 Winchester Road NE, with

Brother John Branch, officiating. Interment will be in Valhalla Memory

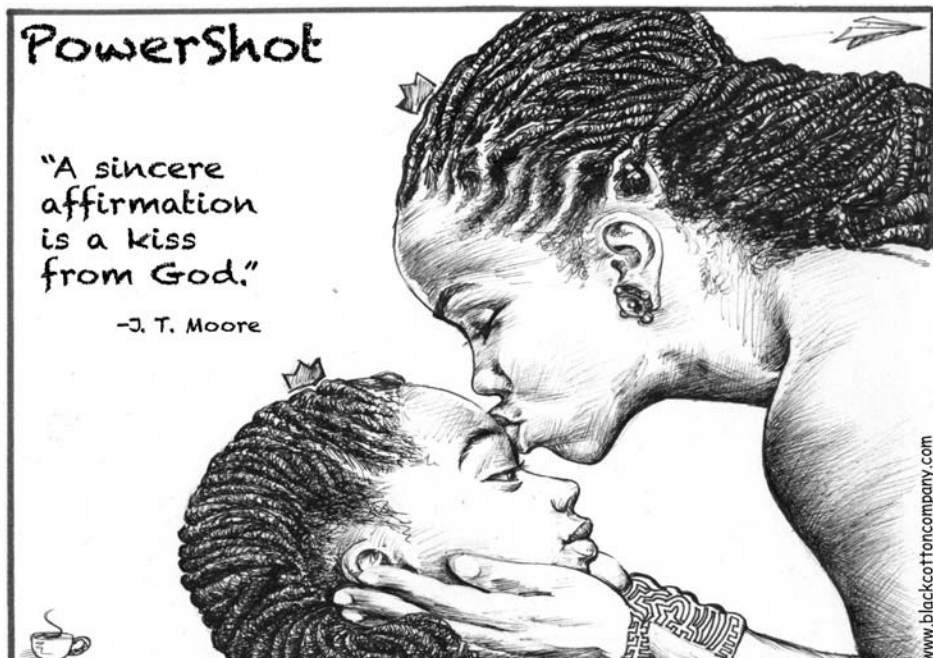
Gardens.

Memorial service for **Mr. James Haygood** was held Saturday, May 14, 2016 at 1 p.m. at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for **Mr. Carl C. Davis** was held Saturday, May 14, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church (759 Pine Grove Road - Harvest, AL) with Reverend Earla S. Lockhart as eulogist. *Interment:* in Pine Grove Memorial Gardens.

Funeral service for **Mr. David Lee Minor** was Friday, May 13, 2016, at 1 p.m. at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel. *Interment:* Blouchers Ford Cemetery.

Funeral service for **Mrs. Lillie Mae Williams** was Thursday, May 12, 2016, at 12 noon at the Apostolic True Temple Church of God (3000 Stringfield Road - Huntsville, AL) with Bishop Jerry Townsend officiating. *Interment:* Meadowlawn Garden of Peace.



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## Success Is Not Always Complex

by Amoi Savage

There is a new product on the market that has caught my eye.

It's no secret that I appreciate people who come up with innovative and creative products. I've noticed it's not always the most complex products that bring in big business, sometimes it's the simplest things that make you ask yourself, "why didn't I think of that?" I was once told that "the guy who invented/patented toothpicks is a billionaire and all he did was cut wood into a small stick." It really puts things in perspective that it doesn't necessarily take rocket science to become successful.

These thoughts came to mind when I was first introduced to the LuMee phone case which lights up adding that good lighting we all search for before a selfie. I said the same thing about the selfie stick, "someone is about to get rich off a stick you can extend and attach your phone to, especially in this selfie-driven society where we are constantly taking photographs and posting them for the world to see."

Any invention that improves phone photography will probably do well in the marketplace. Kenya Moore from "The Real Housewives of Atlanta" first told me and a few others about LuMee a few weeks back, sure enough, a few weeks later, I noticed it on "Keeping Up With The Kardashians." I have seen more and more of these phone cases, so I'm sure it will do pretty decent in generating business.

It's quite natural to overthink things when you're starting a business or thinking of a product to put out in the marketplace; however, sometimes it is the simple things that we overlook when we overthink. People will count themselves out of being an entrepreneur because they figure they have to be a genius, when in all actuality it just takes a good idea; and it doesn't require that you be a genius to have a good idea.

We can all be whatever we want and create whatever we want, as long as we put our mind to it! (Photo cred: www.LuMee.com)



# Elnora Clay Lanier Awards Announced

On Saturday April 30, 2016, Diverse Educational Life Training Activities held the 3rd Dr. Elnora Clay Lanier Grant Awards Breakfast. The awards breakfast is named for one of North Alabama's most respected and well-loved educators, Dr. Elnora Clay Lanier.

The breakfast is held annually to recognize local organizations and youth initiatives designed to change lives and demonstrate the mission of Diverse Educational Life Training Activities, Inc. of "Changing Lives". Recognition this year was given to a monthly children's reading hour, and a middle school mentoring program for girls.

The "Changing Lives" award was presented to Huntsville Community Drumline, which is a 501(c)3 organization started in 2010 because the founder recognized the need for non-academic and non-sports related afford-



able after school youth programs that are fun, exciting and have far reaching benefits. Huntsville Community Drumline is an affordable afterschool program dedicated to providing a community service through instruction, performance, and outreach opportunities for youth 1st through 9th grades.

This year 60 students are involved in the program. Past recipients of the Changing Lives award have been the Grady-Madison AME "We Care" initiative serving Rainbow Elementary

School, and the Huntsville Inner City Learning Center.

Diverse Educational Life Training Activities, Inc also named the four-year scholar book stipend awarded at the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter's Annual Honors Convocation in honor of Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, a lady who has long devoted her life and resources to changing lives in the Madison county Community. Musical entertainment was provided by Mariah Washington, Thornton Stanley, III and Durell Holly.



AAMU President Andrew Hugine, Jr., MCS officials cut ribbon to FEAST Project

## AAMU Launches FEAST Project at Meridianville Middle School

Alabama A&M University's College of Agricultural, Life and Natural Sciences and Meridianville Middle School introduced the FEAST Project to the public via an open house on Thursday, May 12. The FEAST acronym stands for "Fostering Environmental and Agricultural Scientists for Tomorrow."

The brief activity was held on AAMU-owned land that is part of the Winfred Thomas Agricultural Research Station ("The Farm"). The land is immediately adjacent to Meridianville Middle School, which is located at 12975 Hwy. 231/431 North.

According to Dr. Ernst Ceibert, manager of WTARS, the FEAST Project is AAMU's effort to engage with local schools—even at the elementary level—to expose science students to the scientific aspects of agriculture and its fitting place among the STEM areas.

Ceibert added that since the AAMU agricultural research

facilities share property lines with the school, land has been set aside upon which a donated a greenhouse allows field work and agricultural-related learning experiences.

Joining the middle school students were several University and Madison County Schools (MCS) officials and teachers. Among the MCS representatives were Superintendent Matt Massey; current principal David Manning; former principal Tom Highfield; assistant principals Sandra Austin and Lori Shotts; and science teacher Shannon Moore. Representing AAMU officials were President Andrew Hugine, Jr.; Dr. Daniel Wims, provost; Dean Lloyd Walker of the College of Agricultural, Life and Natural Sciences; Dr. Ernest Ceibert of WTARS and FEAST Project coordinator; and several current and retired faculty members.

For additional information, contact Dr. Ernst Ceibert at (256) 828-2114

### Huntsville City Council Meetings

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 6 p.m. City Council Work Sessions also held in the City Council 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.

Save The Date

# Annual Car Show

All Cars & Trucks Welcomed!!

Date: **June 11, 2016**  
**St. Rebecca Church**  
 330 Grimwood Road - Hazel Green, AL 35750

**\$20 Registration Fee 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

- Admission is free to the public
- Registration is open to Cars and Trucks (Classic, Customs or Current Vehicles) from 9 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. day of the show.
- \$30 Late Registration fee after 11:00 a.m.
- Top 20 judging by Car Entry Owners
- Pastor's Choice, First Lady's Choice, Best Work In Progress, People's Choice, Best Car Club Participation
- **NEW THIS YEAR for People's Choice Award**
  - All of our guest voting in this category will be asked to give a \$1 donation per vote.
- Trophies presented at 1:30 p.m.
- \$50 Give-away every hour.
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Rain Date: July 9, 2016

[www.strebeccachurch.org](http://www.strebeccachurch.org)

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 the less people have  
 to live for, the less  
 nerve they have to  
 risk losing nothing."*

- Zora Neale Hurston

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# Young Author Pins New Book

Lance Brazelton is 21 years old, and he's the author, publisher, and illustrator of his newly released book, "What Daddy Didn't Know (Letters of a Fatherless Child)," which debuted on April 24.

The book has four features in the literary magazine MUSE, a literary magazine at Calhoun Community College. The story is about how he overcame his childhood trauma while on the verge of becoming a statistic.

According to the United States Census Bureau, 24 million children in America live in biological father-absent homes. The story is told through letters written to his biological father; and the letters are written out of the inspiration of poems and songs he has written throughout his lifetime.

Brazelton highlights the moments in his life when a father



figure was needed the most, and stresses how decisions were most important in his adolescent years.

Brazelton is a 2015 recipient of the Rosetta James Foundation

Scholarship.

The book is available online at Amazon.com. Visit lancebrazelton.com for more information.



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## Rosetta James Scholarship Foundation

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The Rosetta James Scholarship Foundation provides financial scholarship to undergraduate students who demonstrate sound academic principles; commitment to community volunteerism, civic engagement and unselfishness to assist others in Huntsville/Madison County.

The Rosetta James Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization with a 0% Administrative and Fundraising Rate (AFR). For additional information, contact (256) 536-9717 or write P.O. Box 17452, Huntsville, AL 35810.



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## On This Day - Friday, May 20, 2016

Toussaint L'Ouverture - The legendary Haitian revolutionary leader. Toussaint Louverture began his military career as a leader of the 1791 slave rebellion in the French colony of Saint-Domingue.  
- BlackInTime.info

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# May is Haitian Heritage Month

# Brothers Premiere "The Last Disciples"

The same producers that brought "Grind Nation" and "Throne Society Clothing" will now prove to fellow Huntsvillians that a million-dollar product can be produced without a million dollar budget--all through their latest endeavor-- "The Last Disciples". The film will premiere at Regal Hollywood Cinemas on May 22 at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. (\$10-\$25).

"The Last Disciples" film brings the biblical stories of Cain and Abel, Noah, and Job to life in three short stories. Brilliantly written, it reflects the modern times without compromising the integrity of the biblical stories. "The Last Disciples" is a feature-length film that accomplishes the daunting task of presenting spiritual concepts and principles to a trending new generation.

By taking familiar stories from the Bible, the Isabelle Brothers boldly ask, What would these stories look like in today's modern society? It is no easy approach as the sensitive arena of religion/spirituality has been pretty well defined, and its identity holds standards far above



the ultra-realistic characters and relatable situations found in this film. The film reminds the viewers that the stories of the Bible continue to take place in today's society, by making them more relatable to today's youth.

Finally, solidifying the film's upcoming success, Grammy-nominated singer and actress Ann Nesby places her stamp of approval on the film. Nesby is cast as Ms. Lorraine, the mother figure to leading actor in the Noah short story. As natives of Huntsville, Alabama brothers Jurian, David, and Jeremy Isabelle believe that it is important to keep local dollars here in the community. The film casts local talent, many scenes take place at local venues,

and songs heard throughout the film were created by local music producers. Isabelle Brothers want to show others that success does not mean you have to pack your bags and leave Huntsville, it can be achieved here in your own backyard without compromising your dreams. They continue to involve the Huntsville community in all of their business endeavors by not only using local talent, but by donating portions of the proceeds to the local Boys and Girls Club, support for the homeless, and local foster homes. The Isabelle Brothers believe that God is the plug. With "The Last Disciples" they continue to share that plug with their family, friends, and neighbors.

# Drake State Holds Commencement

J.F. Drake State Community & Technical College hosted its 2016 Commencement Convocation on Thursday, May 12, at 6 p.m. at the Von Braun Civic Center, South Hall 2. The College conferred awards to 153 graduates and 35 GED recipients. Interim President Dr. Kemba Chambers acknowledged the graduate achievements and extended her sincere congratulations and best



Anderson and Drake Interim President Chambers

wishes to the Class of 2016.

The keynote address was delivered by Kenneth Anderson, director of multicultural affairs for the City of Huntsville. Prior to

assuming his current post in 2013, he spent 16 years at Calhoun Community College, most recently as Dean of the Humanities and Social Sciences Division. In his new capacity, Anderson acts as a bridge between the municipal government and the community on a broad range of issues related to gender, faith, race and ethnicity, disability and more. Visit [www.drakestate.edu](http://www.drakestate.edu).



# Huntsville Metro Track Meet

Saturday, May 21, 2016

Starting Time: 8:00 a.m. (Coaches Meeting)  
 Place: Milton Frank Stadium  
 2801 15th Avenue SW  
 Huntsville, Alabama 35806  
 Entry Fee: \$15.00 (Includes All Relays)  
 (Meet will run on a "Rolling" Schedule)

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## Calendar of Events

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

"Mental Health: A Guide for  
Faith Leaders"

Sponsors: Good Samaritan  
Ministries, the Council for  
Faith and Mental Illness, the  
Huntsville Association for  
Pastoral Care and Wellstone  
Behavioral Health  
Contact: frederickwoods@  
gmail.com

4040 Memorial Parkway SW  
7:45 a.m.-3:30 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  
Acts: Johnny Gill and Cameo  
Huntsville Dragway  
502 Quarter Mountain Road  
Harvest, Ala.  
11 a.m.

June 2

AARP Meeting Chapter  
#1023

(Interesting topics, recre-  
ation, trips, etc., for 50+ are  
presented monthly)  
Contact: Dr. Johnny W. McAl-  
pine, Liaison  
The Senior Center  
Drake Avenue  
10 a.m.

June 4

15th Annual Leadership  
Awards Banquet  
Sponsor: AAMU Huntsville  
Progressive Alumni Chapter  
Ernest L. Knight Reception  
Center

Alabama A&M University  
6 p.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

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SATURDAY MAY 28, 2016

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

Old School Blues Festival

HUNTSVILLE DRAGWAY 502 QUARTER MOUNTAIN RD. HARVEST, AL

20TH ANNIVERSARY! 2016

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CAMEO

SIR CHARLES JONES

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Mary's Lounge	2125 McCallie Ave	Chattanooga, TN 37404	(423) 493-0246
Nash Barbeque	1203 Courtyard Cir	Decatur, AL 35603	(256) 260-0512
Pegasus Records	612 E Tennessee St	Florence, AL 35630	(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, AL 35816	(256) 837-5843
Club Envy	200 Oakwood Ave NE	Huntsville, AL 35811	(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
WZZA	1570 Woodmont Dr	Tuscumbia, AL 35674	(256) 381-1862

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OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm  
November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm