

The Valley Weekly

*"To understand the things that are at our door is the best preparation for understanding those that lie beyond."
- Hypatia*

FREE

Volume 3, No. 37

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, May 26, 2017

Scouts Will Honor Veterans May 27

The Annual Memorial Ceremony at Historical Glenwood Cemetery will be held on the corner of Hall and Cemetery Streets, Saturday, May 27, 2017, at 12 noon.

The Ceremony was initiated and has been sponsored by the Urban Emphasis Scout Leaders Council (UESLC), Boy Scouts of America since 2004.

A fitting tribute will be rendered in honor of service men and women who have made great sacrifices and served this nation with honor and distinction. U.S.

Flags will be placed on all veterans grave sites.

The ceremony will include a cannon military salute and remarks by Chaplain (LTC) Trenton E. Lewis, USAG, Redstone Arsenal, Command Chaplain.

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band, Brass Quintet will provide music. The Program will end with the playing of Taps and a proper military salute, according to Col. (Ret.) James O. Heyward.

The public is invited to attend and help reflect and honor those veter-

ans who have passed on, but who gave so much to their country to secure the freedom that Americans currently enjoy.

Seating will be provided to seniors and physically challenged persons.

One of the organizers of the UESLC was the late Albert F. Farrar, Sr. Scoutmaster of Troop 400.

Organizers express their gratitude to Nelms Memorial and Royal Funeral Homes for underwriting the cost of this community patriotic event.

by Col. (Ret.) James O. Heyward

Valley Area Locals Finish Florida Tech's First DBA Class



From l-r: Dr. Jeff Cerny, Doctoral Graduate (DG) Harry Hobbs, Dr. Darrell Burrell, DG Tim McDowell, DG Wendy Kirk, Dean of College of Business Dr. Richardson, DG Karen Newsom, DG Robert Grant, Dr. Nick Daher, DG Christine Schaefer and DBA Chair Dr. Vogt.

Florida Institute of Technology's Nathan M. Bisk College of Business proudly salutes the very first Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) graduates in the history of the University.

Beginning in the fall of 2014, these individuals began a journey of hard work and sacrifice, ultimately obtaining their Doctorate degrees in Business Administration (DBA) at the Huntsville Extended Studies site. The main Florida Tech campus is located in Melbourne, Fla.

Florida Tech's DBA program offers business leaders and working professionals higher level learning and exposure to

the latest scholarly research in the executive and corporate management fields.

The three-year program's curriculum focuses on research, strategic management, entrepreneurship and critical thinking for decision-makers.

The DBA program prepares students to excel in leadership roles with a strong understanding of how modern businesses operate, survive, and expand in the market place through better talent management, improved stakeholder relations, and optimized motivational leadership styles.

From their research, these students have created new business models for

use by practitioners and scholars alike and are now equipped to perform future research in various business management fields.

For more information on FIT's DBA program visit www.fit.edu/dba or contact DBA Program Chair, Dr. Emily Vogt at evogt@fit.edu or (877) 582-4941

For more information about FIT Huntsville visit www.fit.edu/huntsville or contact Dr. Harry Hobbs at hobbsh@fit.edu or (256) 783-1793

Congratulations, Drs. Grant, Hobbs, Kirk, McDowell, Newsome, and Schaefer.

by Dr. Tim McDowell

Drake State Holding Robotics Camp

J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College is holding a STEM 3D Robotics Camp for middle school students June 19-22. Interested students must apply by June 1.

The application process entails the completion of an application form, two recommendation forms, parental signatures, student agreement signature, and a return of the application requirements by the deadline.

The free, four-hour-a-



day program focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics is sponsored by the National Science Foundation. It is designed for rising 7th and 8th graders interested in the STEM disciplines as well as those who have interest in the area of robotics.

Each day will include hands-on activities, the opportunity to actually build a robot, in addition to exposure to 3D printing and engineering design.

For additional information about the summer robotics camp at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, contact Tiffany Green by e-mailing tiffany.green@drakestate.edu.

Interested persons can also call (256) 551-7265 or fax (256) 713-9578.

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Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Google Fiber Launches at Lightning Speed in Valley

by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.



President of Huntsville Utilities Tony Owens, with Dr. Edwinta Merriweather, one of the first Google customers in North Huntsville, with Greg McCray, CEO of Access/Google Fiber.



Greg McCray, CEO of Access/Google



Mayor Tommy Battle

Huntsville, Ala., is now a Google Fiber "Gig City!" On Tuesday morning, Ms. Caroline De Gantes, Huntsville Head of Business Operations for Google Fiber announced that it was open for business to residents and small business in Northwest Huntsville.

In February 2016, Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle stood under the Saturn V Rocket at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center and announced that Google Fiber would serve the Huntsville market.

Using a unique model, that will likely become a municipal standard, Google Fiber is leasing excess dark fiber from Huntsville Utilities.

Although Google Fiber is not new in other cities, Huntsville is the first Google Fiber city where construction of the fiber network was not built and owned by Google.

Huntsville Utilities made plans to expand their existing fiber optic system to serve the technological advancements that support utility operations. With excess dark fiber available, Google Fiber became the first to lease from Huntsville Utilities.

Google Fiber will serve

high speed internet and TV to people inside the Huntsville City limits within Madison County.

Following the fiber network build by Huntsville Utilities, Google has started their installation of service lines to the residents and small business in North Huntsville.

The first Google Fiber customer in Huntsville is long-time Huntsville resident, Dr. Edwinta Merriweather, retired higher education administrator (pictured above).

With Huntsville Utilities completing the fiber network in North Huntsville first, Dr. Merriweather was selected as a tester for the Google Fiber service and its first customer. Dr. Merriweather shared an exclusive interview with The Valley Weekly and shared that, "Google Fiber is super-fast - I am able to download movies and video clips in minutes."

Residents and small businesses in North Huntsville interested in becoming a customer of Google Fiber can visit their website to review service offerings and pricing <https://fiber.google.com/cities/huntsville>

Washington in a Minute

The Hamm Consulting Group

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

1. The House and Senate are in session this week and will go out at the end of the week for the Memorial Day Recess (to reconvene the week of June 5). Among a long list of bills this week, the House will take up Rep. Bob Gibbs' (R-OH) "Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act" to eliminate the power of the EPA and the states to regulate pesticides under the Clean Water Act ... On Monday, the Senate voted to confirm on the nomination of Iowa GOP Governor Terry Branstad to be Ambassador to China. On Tuesday, it voted to end debate on the nomination of John Sullivan - a former Deputy Commerce Secretary under Bush 43 - to be Deputy Secretary of State.

2. President Trump visited Israel for the 2nd leg of his first foreign trip as President, which also includes stops in Saudi Arabia, Vatican City, Brussels (for a NATO meeting), and Taormina in Sicily (for a G7 meeting) through May 26. Coinciding with the President's visit to Saudi Arabia over the weekend, the U.S. private equity firm Blackstone and Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund announced a plan to create a \$40 billion fund to invest in infrastructure projects, which,

through the plan's equity plus debt financing, would support more than \$100 billion of infrastructure projects in the U.S. and elsewhere.

3. House Oversight & Gov't Reform Committee Chair Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) - who announced last week that he is resigning from Congress effective June 30, 2017 - is met Tuesday with fired FBI director James Comey to reportedly press him to testify at a committee hearing scheduled for Wednesday (May 24). Last week, Mr. Comey agreed to testify before the Senate Intelligence Committee at an open hearing to be scheduled after the Memorial Day Recess.

4. On Wednesday, OMB Director Mick Mulvaney testified before the House Budget Committee on the long-awaited detailed version of the President's FY 2018 Budget - due to be officially released on the same day.

5. Last Thursday, President Trump hosted a meeting at the White House for television anchors from ABC, CBS, CNN, Fox, MSNBC, and NBC and criticized last Wednesday's appointment of Robert Mueller to be Special Counsel for the Russia investigation as an action that "hurts our country terribly, because it shows we're a divided, mixed-up, not-unified country."



6. The Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates announced on Sunday that they would donate \$100 million to the World Bank's Women Entrepreneurs Fund, an initiative proposed in April by first daughter and senior White House advisor Ivanka Trump, who is currently traveling with her father in the Middle East and Europe. The donation has drawn some criticism for a current White House staffer to be soliciting funds from foreign governments - although she does not control the use of the Fund's money.

7. The Trump administration has selected Steven Menashi, a conservative law professor at George Mason University, to be the Education Department's deputy general counsel overseeing higher education issues.

For more information, contact Ron Hamm at 202-596-8384 or rhamm@hammconsulting.com.

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Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

The two foundations that drive most of our lives is approval and achievement. But we all need to remember that in God's eyes we are more than the "likes" that we get on Facebook. We are more than the "views" that we get on YouTube. We are more than the job that we have or the cars that we drive or the houses that we live in. Remember, if God be for us ... We are more than the approvals and the achievements of this world.

So, for every person that has been in a relationship and knows the pain of being unwanted, God has a plan for you, because God selects what man rejects. In Genesis 29:31, it says:

"When the Lord saw that Leah



was not loved (by Jacob), He enabled her to conceive, but Rachel remained childless." You see, God has a word for the people that don't get chosen in this world, for whatever reason. So, when this world finds no interest in you, remember God finds interest in you and He is interested in everything that you do. That's the kind of God that we serve ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

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The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor



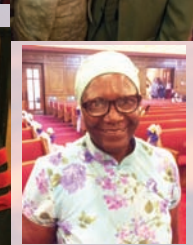
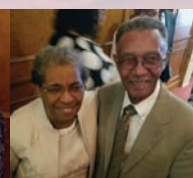
Greetings!

On Saturday, May 20th, Davida Elizabeth Yarbrough, M.D. exchanged vows with Dr. David Ezra John Wilson, Pharm.D, at First Missionary Baptist Church at 2 p.m. The bride's parents are local dentists, Drs. David and Isabel Yarbrough. Wilson is the son of Mrs. Gloria Wilson. Following a traditional Christian ceremony officiated by Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, family and friends joined the couple for an enchanted evening at the Von Braun Civic Center's South Hall.

I have had the good fortune of knowing David and Isabel since undergraduate school at Alabama A&M University. Many of us were impressed with their daily commitment to studying together in Carter Hall. They were indeed a couple with purpose. When we returned to Huntsville, our children attended elementary school together at First Baptist Academy. We knew they would go places and do extraordinary things with their lives. With good Christian foundations and hard work, they did exactly that.

Congratulations, Drs. Davida and David Wilson. I've always known that Davida was delightfully charming. Yet, I never figured she would marry David! And, her father and "Little" David are perfectly okay with it. Only thing, when she gets to be my age, she might have a hard time keeping up with three Davids. At any rate, Dr. Wilson presented himself as quite an accomplished and debonair gentleman. Blessings for many happy years ahead.

Until next week ...



Dorothy

How Valley Residents Can Avoid Heat Stroke

(BlackDoctor.org) — Heat stroke is described as a form of hyperthermia, where the body's temperature is abnormally high (usually 104 F or higher).

Unlike other heat-related injuries, such as heat cramps and heat exhaustion, heat stroke is a true medical emergency that is often fatal if not properly and promptly treated.

Why Does Heat Stroke Happen?

The body normally generates heat as a result of metabolism, and is usually able to dissipate the heat by radiation of heat through the skin or by evaporation of sweat. However, in extreme heat, high humidity, or vigorous physical exertion under the sun, the body may not be able to get rid of that excess heat and the body temperature rises, sometimes up to 106 F (41.1 C) or higher.

Another cause of heat stroke is dehydration. A dehydrated person may not

be able to sweat fast enough to dissipate heat, which causes the body temperature to rise.

Who Does Heat Stroke Affect The Most?

Those most susceptible to heat strokes include:

- Infants
- The elderly (often with associated heart disease, lung diseases, kidney diseases, or who are taking medications that make them vulnerable to dehydration and heat strokes)
- Athletes
- Individuals who work outside and physically exert themselves under the sun.

What Are Heat Stroke Symptoms and Signs?

Symptoms of heat stroke can sometimes mimic those of heart disease or other conditions. Sometimes a person will experience symptoms of heat exhaustion before progressing to a heat stroke.

Signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion include: Nausea, vomiting, fatigue, weakness, headache, muscle cramps/aches and dizziness.

Some individuals will develop symptoms of heat stroke suddenly and rapidly without warning or heat exhaustion symptoms. Also, it's important to note that different people can experience different heat stroke symptoms. Some of the more common symptoms include: High body temperature, absence of sweating with hot, red and/or flushed dry skin, rapid pulse, difficulty breathing, strange behavior, hallucinations, confusion, agitation, disorientation, seizure, coma and treatment.

Victims of heat stroke must receive immediate treatment to avoid permanent organ damage.

Treatment. The essential steps that need to be taken include:

- Cool the victim as quickly as

possible!

- If the person is able to drink liquids, have them drink cool water or other cool beverages.
- Monitor body temperature with a thermometer and continue cooling efforts until the body temperature drops to 101 to 102 F (38.3 to 38.8 C).
- Always notify emergency services (911) immediately.

Prevention. Avoid dehydration and vigorous physical activities in hot and humid weather.



- If you have to perform physical activities in hot weather, drink plenty of fluids (such as water and sports drinks). Remember to replenish electrolytes.
- It is important to avoid alcohol and caffeinated beverages, such as certain soft drinks, tea and coffee, since both alcohol and caffeine cause dehydration.
- Take frequent breaks to hydrate yourself. Wear hats and light-colored, lightweight, loose clothes.
- Keep cars locked when not in use and never, ever, leave children or pets unattended in a locked car.

“Every man is guilty of all the good he did not do.”

- Voltaire



March 26 - PAM GRIER - Born in Winston-Salem, N.C., Pam Grier is most well known for playing the lead role in “Foxy Brown,” “Coffee” and other films of the 1970’s.

- *Blackin-Time.info*

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City Lights & Stars Features Huntsville's “In the Mood”

Burritt on the Mountain's City Lights and Stars Concert will feature “In the Mood” on June 9 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$10-\$12.

Huntsville's In the Mood Big Swing Band is an exciting 21-piece big band specializing in swing and jazz. It also has a variety of other genres to suit all occasions, such as Latin, pop, oldies rock, Motown, and even some funk.

A big band is the ultimate variety band, and with a full rhythm and horn section and three vocalists of differing styles, the possibilities for variety are endless.

The warm harmonies the band produces with the instrumental arrange-

ments fill the air and really create an atmosphere of musical magic. This music will make attendees want to get up on their feet, so come ready to dance!

Food trucks will be Manic Organic and Ice Works.

Concerts will go on rain or shine and Food trucks may change at the last minute. No outside alcohol or dogs please. Advance tickets are \$10 members, \$12 non-members. Tickets at the gate are \$15. Admission for children 12 & under is \$5.

The City Lights and Stars Concert Series is sponsored by Redstone Federal Credit Union. This event is sponsored by Alabama Farm Credit.



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

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Valley Calendar of Events

May 26

Comedy Featuring
Sinbad
Stand Up Live Huntsville
2012 Memorial Parkway SW

May 27

Old School and Blues Music Festival
Huntsville Dragway Grounds, 502
Quarter Mountain Road
http://www.oldschoolandbluesfestival.com/

May 28

Valley Conservatory Jazz Jam Session
5650 Sanderson St. Ste. B
Admission: \$5

June 2 & 7

Jim Parker's Songwriters Series
Playhouse - Von Braun Center
Huntsville, Ala.
6:30 p.m.

June 3

Sickle Cell Walk-A-Thon
Downtown Huntsville
Big Spring Park - 9 a.m.

June 4-11

Follow the Fork: Black Restaurant
Week
@BlkRestaurantWk

June 10

Family Day of Education and Fun
Sponsor: Alabama Cooperative Extension Service
Agribition Center
Moore's Mill Road, 12-4 p.m.

June 17

Fun Festival & Expo (Free)
VBC South Hall

July 13-15

Space Camp SummerFest

Thru August 13

Dinosaur Uproar Alive
Huntsville Botanical Garden
Presented by: Toyota Alabama

October 10-15

Motown - The Musical
Von Braun Center Concert Hall
Huntsville, Ala.

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Valley Conservatory Jam Session May 28

The Valley Conservatory will be hosting its' monthly Jazz Jam Session Sunday, May 28, 5-8 p.m. at the Valley Conservatory studio located 5650 Sanderson St. Ste. B in Huntsville.

The session will feature The Devere Pride Trio and other local jazz artists playing standard jazz tunes and more.

The public is invited to bring their instruments and jam or just come and listen to great music.

There is an admission fee of \$5. The event is sponsored in part by Pros & Pens-Content Writing



and Editing, and Yum Yum's Gourmet Popcorn.

For additional information, visit valleyconservatory.com or call (256) 534-3131.

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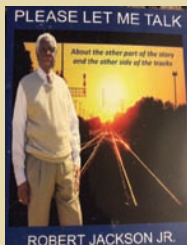


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A Good Read

by Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.



Robert Jackson, Jr.'s "Please Let Me Talk"

Deacon Robert Jackson, Jr., was born in Amite County, Mississippi, in the town of Gloster. At 79 years old, Jackson is the author of "Please Let Me Talk," about the other part of the story and "the other side of the tracks." Self-published last month and printed by Morris Publishing, the book tells the author's story of how he got a job because of the promise he made to his dad that when his father passed he would stay close to home to help take care of his mother and siblings. Thus, he left Gloster for the Big Easy with his "rags in his Army duffel bag," catching a ride with his cousin who lived there.

After 48 Chapters of back and forth, the reader gets a good look at both sides of the tracks, including manner of the families, childhood memories, spiritual development, youthful indiscretions, military service and a rewarding career as a longshoreman and the multiple gratifying jobs that provided for his family.

Jackson indicated that he wrote this book because he "felt compelled to show the world that one could do very well, have a good life, and be successful in the process," basically without a formal education. He has spent most of his life trying to show others that "there are other ways to have success, other than obtaining a traditional education."

I met Brother Jackson more than two years ago. He shared with me that he was working on a book about his upbringing. I never had any idea he would write such a vivid and powerful book. The book signing was held on May 21 at St. Luke Church on Sparkman Drive. He took on this gigantic project with the support of his wife, Bert, of 55 years, and many family and friends who encouraged him along the way.

For information about how to get a copy of Jackson's book, interested persons can write him directly at P.O. Box 162, Madison, AL 35758, or call him directly at (256) 325-0831.

SummerFest Concert 'under the Pathfinder' July 15

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center will host a long-awaited mid-summer musical event.

General admission tickets are \$20.

The 2017 Summerfest concert takes place Saturday, July 15, with another rocking night under the Pathfinder shuttle.

The Black Jacket Symphony presents its "Party of the Year," playing hits from the 1960s to today.

This is Black Jacket



Symphony's answer to the party band, and the concert experience includes videos, full concert lighting and a high-energy performance.

Additionally, food and beverages will be available

for purchase. Among the food trucks scheduled to attend are Rolling Lobstah, Beast Mode and Sugar Belle's.

This is a rain or shine event. No refunds will be given.

Urban Strings Columbus
Will Embark On A...



FREE CONCERT!*

2017 SOUTHERN TOUR

St. John AME Church
229 Church Street, NW
Huntsville, Alabama
Saturday, June 24, 2017
6 p.m.

*Attendees will have opportunity to participate in a good-will offering.

Mission

- Urban Strings Columbus is a youth orchestra of serious, young, talented, suburban, & charter schools
- Celebrating Our 10 Year Anniversary
- Inspiring Your Community To Create A Youth String Orchestra
- Celebrating African-American Music Appreciation Month

Fun Fact: In 1979, President Jimmy Carter created Black Music Month, but the name was changed to African-American Appreciation Month by President Obama



Urban Strings Columbus Premiere



City Council Meetings



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.

Valley Deaths

Funeral service was held for **Mr. Willie L. Steger** (b. 1948) on Sunday, May 21, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for **Mr. Felix Fletcher, Jr.**, (b. 1936) was held Sunday, May 21, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Carolyn Fletcher officiating.

Funeral service for **Mr. Nelson D. Baldwin** (b. 1998) was held Saturday, May 20, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home.

Funeral service was held on Saturday, May 20, at Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church for **Mr. Marques L. Kelly** (b. 1984). Elder Danny Banker officiated.

Funeral service was held Tuesday, May 16, at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church for **Mr. Gerald Lamonte Turner** (b. 1973) with Pastor C. Jermaine Turner officiating.

Graveside service was held for **Mr. Charles Edward Jones** (b. 1934) on Monday, May 15, at Valley View Memorial Gardens in Meridianville, Ala.

Funeral service for **Mrs. Mary F. Garth** (b. 1968) was held Saturday, May 13, at Douglas Tabernacle Primitive Baptist Church (1429 Cavalry Street NW - Huntsville, AL 35816) with Elder Holloway Garth officiating.

-Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

Rapper Roscoe Dash to Return to Huntsville *by Reggie Allen*

Due to popular demand, Rapper Roscoe Dash is returning to Huntsville for a special performance at Campus No. 805 in the Stone Event Center on May 26.

Last year, Dash was a featured artist at Alabama A&M's sold out homecoming concert, where he performed alongside chart toppers YFN Lucci and Young Dolf.

Born and raised in Atlanta, Dash took the rap circuit by storm with the smash hit "All the Way Turned Up," featuring then breakout star Soulja Boy

Tell'em. His second hit "No Hands" earned him "Best Club Banger" at the 2011 BET Awards.

Like his last show in the Rocket City, the 27-year-old is not coming alone. Alabama-based performers Paper Nolasnaym and Brandon Caine are slated to open for the headliner. Recently both artists performed at the SXSW conference and festival in Austin, Texas.

Opened in the fall of 2015, Campus No. 805 is Huntsville's premier local craft brewery center and event venue. The 13-acre

property was formerly Roy L. Stone Middle school before it closed its doors in 2009.

Since its redevelopment, the establishment has

become a staple of Huntsville nightlife, hosting an eclectic number of events ranging from concerts to Alabama Fashion Week. A notable entertainer,

Dash's show is sure to sell out again. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased on www.eventbrite.com or by calling 256-919-4166.



MAYOR'S FINAL "THIS PLACE MATTERS" AWARD: *Jim Hudson was awarded the Mayor's #ThisPlaceMattersHsv designation for his leadership in transforming Lowe Mill into the nation's largest privately owned arts facility. Mayor Tommy Battle (center) also recognized Caitlin Lyon and Michelle Novosel of Pizzelle's Confections, located in the railroad building on the mill's campus.* - HuntsvilleAL.gov

Event to Shed Light on 'Friends' (Quakers)

People adding silence to spoken and sung prayer in their worship repertoire--for example, yoga practitioners in Judaism, and centering prayer participants in Christianity --sometimes wonder how silence is handled among Friends.

On Thursday, June 1, Christine Sears will speak to that query. Abrahamic Prayers meets from 7 to 9 p.m. in the parlor of Saint Thomas Episcopal on Bailey Cove on the first Thursday of most months.

Sears is a member of Huntsville Area Friends Meeting. She is on the history faculty at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, and co-editor of an essay collection entitled *New Directions in Slavery Studies* (2015).

In and out of their silence, Friends did and do as much as anyone except enslaved and free African Americans to oppose, end, and diminish the effects of slavery in the United States.

Persons interested in

attending should register by e-mailing meisterp@uah.edu.

Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc., of Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc.

Sixteenth Annual Leadership Awards Banquet

Saturday, June 3, 2017 ~ 6:00 p.m.

Ernest L. Knight Reception Center, Alabama A&M University

Ticket information: \$50.00 per person ~ Reserved Tables \$500.00 ~

Ticket Information: MarWill49@gmail.com, vanaka1956@gmail.com or 256.726.0432

Music provided by: Dr. Reginald Jackson & Mrs. Monica Phipps Stewart

2017 HONOREES



2017 Honorees, pictured above from left to right: Civic/Community Award, *Mrs. Eula Battle, Free 2 Teach*; Corporate Award, *Colonel (Ret) John Olshefski*, Huntsville Utilities; Educational Award, *Mrs. Delois H. Smith*; Government and Industry Award, *Mrs. Lybrea Ford Woodard*; Government Relations Award, *The Honorable Sybil Cleveland*; Religious Award, *Reverend Perry Clark*; Small Business Award, *Mr. & Mrs. Lurry (Kimberly) Lewis, PROJECT XYZ*.



Huntsville Progressive Chapter, Inc. Outstanding Alumna of the Year, *Ms. Felicia Brown*
Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc. Outstanding Alumnus of the Year, *Dr. Richard Showers, Sr.*
William Hooper Council Distinguished Alumna Award, *Mrs. Mary W. Hurt*

Remembering American Sailor Dorie Miller

World War II war hero Doris "Dorie" Miller was a native of Waco, Tex., born on October 12, 1919, to Conery and Henrietta Miller, who were farmers just outside the city.

Miller grew to 6 feet 3 inches, weighed over 200 pounds, and played football at Waco's A.J. Moore Academy. He dropped out of school at the age of 17 and enlisted in the US Navy in 1939 at the age of 20. He was made a mess attendant, one of the few positions available to blacks at the time. Miller was eventually elevated to Cook, Third Class, and assigned to the USS West Virginia stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Miller was doing laundry as a mess attendant aboard the West Virginia on December 7, 1941, when it was subjected to a surprise attack by Japanese forces. After hearing a loud and urgent summons to bat-

tle, Miller, who made his way from below deck to the ship's bridge, saw Japanese fighter planes attacking US Naval forces, and the harbor already engulfed in flames. He ran to an anti-aircraft station, only to find it shattered by a Japanese torpedo. Miller then pulled a captain and several of his crewmates to safety under heavy enemy fire.

After making sure that his fellow sailors were out of harm's way, Miller returned to the bridge, secured an unattended 50-caliber anti-aircraft gun, and began firing at Japanese warplanes. Although he had no previous training in operating the weapon, by the end of the attack he managed to shoot down at least two, and perhaps as many as six, Japanese

aircraft. "It wasn't hard," Miller recalled, "I just pulled the trigger and she worked fine." Once Miller ran out of ammunition, he was ordered to abandon ship.

Although Miller's courage under fire was initially overlooked, the black press seized his story and pressured the Navy to recognize him. On May 27, 1942, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz honored him by awarding him the Navy Cross, the third highest medal in the Navy. The Navy then promoted Miller to Cook, third class and moved him from the laundry room to the galley.

During the spring of 1943, Dorie Miller was assigned to the Liscome Bay and was still serving as a 'messman' on the



warship, despite his previous heroism, when the carrier was sunk in the Gilbert Islands (now the Republic of Kiribati) on November 24, 1943. At the time of his death Miller was 24.

In addition to the Navy Cross, Miller received the Purple Heart, the American Defense Service Medal - Fleet Clasp, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. In 1973, the Knox-class frigate USS Miller was named for Doris 'Dorie' Miller. Oscar-winning actor Cuba Gooding, Jr. portrayed Miller in the 2001 movie "Pearl Harbor," and in 1991, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority dedicated a bronze commemorative plaque of Miller at the Miller Family Park located on the US Naval Base, Pearl Harbor.

- <http://www.blackpast.org>

June 26 - 30
 Ages 4 - 6: 9:00 am - 11:00 am
 Ages 7 - 15: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 \$125

STRING Camp 2017

Ages 4 - 6:

Introducing general music fundamentals, piano and violin by incorporating the holistic approach to learning. Students will engage in an array of fun-filled activities which will include singing and rhythm instruments. All instruments and materials are included. No prior experience needed.

Ages 7 - 15:

An array of fun-filled activities that are structured according to age group appropriateness for students with no prior experience and for students with 1-2 years experience. Instruments and fundamental instruction will be provided on violin, viola, cello, and bass for students with no prior experience.

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