

The Valley Weekly

Volume 2, No. 37

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, May 27, 2016

FREE

"You are not an African because you're born in Africa. You're an African because Africa is born in you."

- Marimba Ani

Cigar Box Guitar Festival at Lowe Mill

The Cigar Box Guitar Festival is back for its 12th year at Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment! This event is the longest running Cigar Box Guitar festival in the world, celebrating all aspects of Cigar Box Guitar folk culture. June 3 & 4 will be filled with music, engaging demonstrations and hands on workshops, folk art, vendors, food trucks and more. This event honors the makers, musicians, and fans of these unique, historic instru-

ments. The Friday night event will be part of our Concerts on the Dock series, featuring Microwave Dave.

Concerts on the Dock has grown from a small gathering of music lovers to an institution in the Huntsville music scene since the first note was struck in 2008.

This free, family friendly series is all about creating a laid-back atmosphere for friends of Lowe Mill to enjoy original content and interesting new acts.

Conservatory Jam Session Set

The Valley Conservatory will sponsor its monthly Jam Session on June 26 from 5 p.m.-8

p.m. The Valley Conservatory is located at 5650 Sanderson Street, Suite B, Huntsville, AL 35805

Fraternity Celebrates Father-Daughter Bond

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Decatur-Athens Alumni Chapter, will hold a "Father Daughter Gala" on Saturday, June 18, from 7-11 p.m. at the Best Western Plus in Madison, Ala.

Organizers says the event is especially open to fathers, father figures and their daughters of

all ages as a celebration of the special bond between fathers and their daughters.

For ticket and additional information, contact Anthony Richardson at (256) 289-3292 or visit www.eventbrite.com/father-daughter-gala-2016-TICKETS-246013382565.

Alzheimer's Family Care Fair Scheduled

A special one-day event focusing on those with Alzheimer's disease and their care givers will be held Saturday, June 4, at Huntsville High School, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Topics include research on minorities; avoiding medical bankruptcy; and balancing caregiving and raising a family. For more information, call (800) 272-3900.



POLICE PARTY: Members of the Alabama A&M University Police Department were in full force during the AAMU-HPD-Huntsville Community Watch Association Community Block Party on Saturday, May 21, on the grounds between the North Precinct and Louis Crews Stadium. MORE on Page 4 (Photo by J. Saintjones)

DCI Will Return to
A&M in July



Returning for its fourth year, the Drum Corps International Tour will march through Huntsville on July 15, for DCI North Alabama presented by U.S. Army Bands. Set on Friday July 15, at 7 p.m. (CT), this year's event will feature a lineup of World Class corps competing at Alabama A&M University's 21,000-seat Louis Crews Stadium.

Children's Garden Butterfly Bash in June

The Huntsville Botanical Garden (HBG) will hold its Children's Garden Butterfly Bash on Saturday, June 18, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Children's Garden & Purdy Butterfly House.

HBG parties are fun-filled and unforgettable, so bring out the kids! Enjoy the festive atmosphere, hear live music, release a butterfly, make a craft, share a snack and explore the Purdy Butterfly House, which is stocked with over 12 different species of native butterflies, and a host of other native animals living in Critter Corner!



The event is free with Garden Admission or Membership.

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St. Bartley PB Church

St. Luke Christian Church

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Valley Deaths

Funeral services for **Mr. James A. Collier** were held Tuesday, May 24, at Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church (2115 Winchester Road - Huntsville, AL) with Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery, Sr. officiating. Interment: Valhalla Memory Gardens, Huntsville, Ala.

Funeral services for **Mr. Christopher Harris** were held Monday, May 23, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel. Interment: Valley View Memorial Gardens., Huntsville, Ala.

Funeral services for **Mr. George Fuller** were held Saturday, May 21, 2016 at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral services for **Deacon Guerry Dwight Parks** were held Thursday, May 19, at Chase Park Church of Christ (1640 Winchester Road NE - Huntsville. Interment: Valhalla Memory Gardens, Huntsville, Ala.

Funeral services for **Mrs. Felicia Ann Kelly** were held Thursday, May 20, at Phillips Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (200 Davis Circle - Huntsville, AL). Interment: Gatlin Cemetery in Ardmore, Ala.

- Brenda Friend

Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

**"We are all broken.
That's how the light
gets in."**

- Ernest Hemingway

The Hamm Consulting Group



Your Washington Recap

Here are the top issues in DC this week:

1. The Senate took up the FY2017 National Defense Authorization Act, which for the first time contained language requiring women to register for the Selective Service (the House last week dropped a similar provision in its version of the bill). The House, among other items, should take up the FY2017 Energy and Water Appropriations bill and a bill to smack down a revolt by the District of Columbia, which, for the first time since home rule was established in 1973, has decided to spend its local tax dollars without getting prior approval by Congress per a recent "budget freedom" referendum approved by city voters.

2. President Obama went to Vietnam for the first stop of a week-long trip to Asia, then to the G-7 Summit in Japan, where, on May 27, is expected to become the first sitting U.S. president to visit the site of the world's first atomic bombing in Hiroshima.

3. Last Tuesday, the Department of Labor released new regulations that more than double the pay threshold at which employees qualify for overtime wages. The new regulations increase, to \$47,476 from \$23,660, the level at which salaried employees will be eligible for overtime. The rule also stipulates that the threshold levels will be raised every three years to reflect changes in the cost of living. Community Colleges appear to be the most affected by the new rules

for overtime pay, especially as the sector continues to see dwindling resources from their states.

4. Last week, the House and Senate approved funding to combat the Zika virus, with the House voting for \$622 million and the Senate \$1.1 billion. President Obama has threatened to veto the \$622 million House number, which is well below the \$1.9 billion he requested.

5. In a sign of the continuing 4-4 deadlock at the Supreme Court, it last week issued an unsigned opinion in a highly-anticipated

contraception case, *Zubik v. Burwell*, which directed the lower courts to find a compromise to bridge the gap between religious groups that want no part in providing contraception coverage to their female employees and the Obama administration, which wants to make sure the coverage remains easily accessible under their health-care plans.

6. 2016 Presidential Watch. Last Thursday, Mitt Romney met with Weekly Standard Editor Bill Kristol, who is leading a group of anti-Trump conservatives seeking to get a prominent Republican to mount a 3rd party challenge to Trump and Clinton, saying that such a candidate would have until June 27 to get on the ballot in most states and also citing a new ABC poll indicating that up to 45% of voters would welcome a 3rd choice.

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The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor

Ah, Memories!

Gladys Knight in "Neither One Of Us" says "Oh, memories, those old memories get in my way." It's Memorial Day weekend, and all of us have sweet memories that we can't fake, to which we continue to hold. For me, the old songs of Motown that I grew up listening to are still some of my favorites today. Driving in to work each morning, I meditate with Kirk Franklin on Cirrus Radio, which plays a variety of old and new school gospel and spirituals. This morning, one of my favorite songs popped up: "Precious, Precious, Precious Is His name." Mrs. Carnell Phillips can tear that song up ...

Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) is part of the largest career student organization in the world. Each year, PBL helps over thousands of members prepare for careers in business. At J.F. Drake State Community & Technical College, Phi Beta Lambda students have been very busy preparing for their futures in business. Students have participated in leadership development, academic competitions, educational programs, community service and have received quite a number of awards and recognitions. This year's Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership Conference was held at the Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center in Birmingham, Ala. The winners of Phi Beta Lambda State Leadership are as follows: Administrative Technology - William Patrick - 1st Place; Small Business Management Plan - Nannetta Taylor - 1st Place; and Sales Presentation - Nannetta Taylor-3rd Place. The 1st Place winners from the Alabama State Leadership Conference in Birmingham, AL will be competing at the Future Business Leaders of America - Phi Beta Lambda National Leadership Conference being held in Atlanta, Ga., June 23-28. Go, Drake!

Let's stop and remember the reason we celebrate Memorial Day as a federal holiday. We set it aside to remember the men and women in the United

States who died while serving in the country's armed forces. We will do that on Monday; however, on Saturday, May 28, we will be joining family and friends at the Huntsville Dragway in Harvest for the Old School Blues Festival. Admittedly, I do not know all of the featured stars; however, we plan to enjoy Grammy Nominee Johnny Gill, along with Cameo and about six or seven additional acts that will be on stage. Rain or shine, we will be there on

Saturday. *My, My, My ... ah, ah, ah!*

Get your picnic baskets, lawn chairs and join us for sweet memories. Have a super weekend!

Until next week,



Dorothy

HPD North Precinct-AAMU Hold Block Party

Saturday, May 21, 2016 - North Precinct/AAMU Grounds



Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

What does it mean to be rooted? A tree with deep roots will not blow over in a storm. The wind may blow some leaves off the branches; however, the tree, if it has deep roots, has a chance to withstand the storm.

And the same thing with us, when we are rooted in the truth of God's word ... nothing can blow us over. Not hardships,

or tragedies, or any kind of calamity. The Bible tells us that nothing can separate us from the love that is in Christ Jesus.

There just may be a new direction that God is guiding us to, that will allow us to grow more spiritually, so we can be more productive and fruitful.

Stay encouraged my brothers and sisters.



"If you are filled with pride, then you will have no room for wisdom."

~ African proverb

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First "One Health" Conference in June

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs (Urban Affairs) will host the first One Health Conference on Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) on June 19-21, 2016, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Huntsville, Alabama. The theme is "Utilizing a One Health Approach to Achieve Zero Pharmaceutical Waste."

The One Health Conference is an interdisciplinary initiative that brings experts together in the areas of human, animal, and environmental health to discuss current research and Extension activities being undertaken to minimize societal and environmental impacts of PPCPs. It will offer an array of dynamic keynote speakers, presentations, exhibits, and opportunities to discuss current PPCP issues.

Urban Affairs is hosting this event in partnership with Alabama A&M University's Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences and the Department of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics, as well as Tennessee State University, Kentucky State University, the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant (IISG), the University of Illinois Extension, and the 1890 Universities Water Center.

General registration for the entire event is \$200 per participant, which includes selected meals, breaks, and the reception on Sunday, June 19. Participants will also receive a digital copy of the One Health Conference Proceedings.

Students, farmers, and special partners may attend the entire Conference for a discounted fee. Visit www.aces.edu/urban/documents/final1onehealthconference.pdf to review or download the One Health Conference brochure that contains detailed information, including registration fees. Also, visit www.aces.edu/urban/forestry/SerPIE/OneHealth/ for general conference information.

This event is a part of the Alabama Extension's Synergistic Efforts to Reduce Pharmaceuticals in the Environment (SerPIE) Initiative, which aims to achieve zero pharmaceutical waste. Primary funding for the SERPIE One Health Conference is provided by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and the United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture Capacity Building Project #230670.

For general information, please contact Dr. Karnita Garner at (256) 372-8331 or Dr. Paul Okweye at (256) 372-4931.

Technology Takeover!

Technology is a good thing when we are able to use it for our entertainment, informative updates, connection to our friends and family, GPS/directions, and business advantages; however it has its disadvantages.

Surely, you have heard or noticed by now that technology has taken the place of human resources in many industries. At grocery stores, there are fewer cashiers due to self-checkout kiosks and the ATM at banks can do everything from withdrawals to deposits; therefore there are fewer bank tellers than before. Wendy's has reportedly planned on replacing many of their minimum wage employees that hold positions such as taking orders with self-service kiosks. According to Tech Insider, "Citing concerns about the rising cost of labor, Wendy's President Todd Penegor told Investors Busi-

ness Daily (IBD) about plans to automate the ordering process in company restaurants. Employees who once took orders from customers will be replaced by self-service kiosks. Mobile ordering and payment apps will also cut down on employee hours." (www.techinsider.io) Instead of creating more jobs for people, technology is replacing jobs which can be a downfall for our economy.

Unfortunately these decisions never affect the people in management, advertisements, or other top positions, it tends to effect the working-class employees. From the research I gathered, over the next few years, minimum wage is planned to raise around \$15/hr, especially in areas like California and New York, therefore, companies are looking for ways to opt out of paying employees more minimum wage by replacing their jobs with



technology. That's where I start realizing how truly backwards the world is, where presidents would rather make huge changes to those working minimum wage, as oppose to those making millions.

We have become so dependent upon technology that we depend less and less on each other. This is exactly why I encourage people to have multiple sources of income, or work on their own businesses so that you don't have to rely on your employer for everything. You never know if your job will be the one "replaced by a robot," therefore it's always best to have a side business or creative activity in the works.

by Amoi Savage

Drake Grad Awarded Scholarship to AAMU

J.F. Drake State Community & Technical College is proud to honor Antoinette Jackson, a 2015 graduate of Drake State with an AAS degree in computer information systems, as well as certificates in networking and cyber security.

Jackson received a full scholarship to Alabama A&M University and has maintained a 3.5 GPA. She has been awarded a 10-week research summer internship with NSF-CRTP at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Long Island, N.Y.

She is a research participation scholar with the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Program, aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of students successfully completing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) baccalaureate degree

programs.

"LSAMP has instilled a great sense of confidence and achievement in Ms. Jackson and other students," said Drake State's LSAMP campus coordinator, Ms. Tomeka Cross. The scholars have worked diligently on their research, by gaining great experience and opportunity from faculty and other students through the dynamics of this awesome program we offer to our STEM Scholars."

J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, a student-centered two-year public institution, offers flexible and affordable university-transfer and technical degrees, certificates, adult and continuing education, and customized workforce training to fulfill the diverse needs of the community. Visit us at www.drakestate.edu.

Space Center Announces "Summer Smart Play"

The U.S. Space & Rocket Center opened up a summer season of fun with its newest exhibit, "Summer Smart Play!" on May 21.

The exhibit will remain open through July 25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Try out a working storm shelter equipped with hands-on safety games. Why not experience the shaking and sounds created by earthquakes? Why not even generate electricity to produce light with your own pedal power?

In addition, see the Rocket Center's brand new Magic Planet® interactive, sphere-shaped display that allows guests to see hurricanes in motion, airplanes navigate the globe and witness how the Earth's climate works.

Join us for a summer of fun and new experiences!



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.



"Every emotion that is in the human mind is there for a positive reason."

- Amos Wilson



Save The Date

Annual Car Show

All Cars & Trucks Welcomed!!

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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B&G Clubs Looking Forward to Annual Dinner

The 2016 Leaders & Legends Dinner featuring special guest boxer Evander Holyfield will take place on Thursday, July 28, at the Von Braun Center - North Hall.

A VIP reception will be held at 5 p.m.; the program will start at 6 p.m. Initiated

in 2010, the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama's Leaders & Legends Dinner celebrates Club alumni who have gone on to make a major contribution in their respective fields and to their communities.

The honorees embody and promote the values,

ideals, and character of the Boys & Girls Clubs. Past inductees include former City Administrator Rex Reynolds and former U.S. House of Representative Robert



E. "Bud" Cramer and others. Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is the highest acknowledgment bestowed to individuals by the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama. The

Leaders & Legends Annual Dinner is an experience like no other. The occasion is the single largest Boys & Girls Clubs event in the State of Alabama. It speaks to the importance of the Club's mission to provide youth development services to all youth so they may realize

their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. The honoree's stories are very different but all start out the same--with the life-changing programs, caring and attentive staff, and the fun and safety of the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama.

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

15th Annual Leadership Awards Banquet

Saturday, June 4, 2016
6:00 p.m.

Ernest L. Knight Reception Center
Alabama A&M University

2016 HONOREES



Civic/Community Award
Mr. Trent H. Griffin
NASA



Education Award
Mrs. Joyce L. Rentz
J. F. Drake State Community & Technical College



Corporate Award
Mrs. Cathy Anderson
Woody Anderson Ford



Government & Industry Award
Colonel William L. Marks, II
United States Army



Government Relations Award
The Honorable Anthony Daniels
Alabama House of Representatives



Religion Award
Dr. Charles E. Rodgers
Hope Community Church



Small Business Award
Mr. Michael Miller
MJT Integrated Systems Solutions, Inc.



Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc. Outstanding Alumna Award
Miss Tonita Phipps
Madison County Department of Human Resources



Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc. Outstanding Alumnus Award
Mr. Erskine L. Valrie
Retired, Loan Administrator
Manager
Redstone Federal Credit Union



William Hooper Council Distinguished Alumna Award
Mrs. Alice F. Sams
Retired, Contract Specialist
NASA

~Ticket information: \$50.00 per person - Reserved Tables \$500.00~
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Old School & Blues Festival

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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
WZZA	1570 Woodmont Dr	Tuscumbia, AL 35674	(256) 381-1862

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Calendar of Events

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, recreation, trips, etc., for 50+ are presented monthly)
Contact: Dr. Johnny W. McAlpine, 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 11

Annual Car Show
Sponsor: St. Rebecca Church
330 Grimwood Road
Hazel Green, Ala.
Admission: Free
Registration Fee: \$20
Prizes and Awards!
For more information: Call
(256) 783-6918

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.

July 28

Boys and Girls Club Leaders & Legends Dinner
Guest: Evander Holyfield
VIP Reception: 5 p.m.
Von Braun Center-North Hall
6 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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OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm
November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm