

Black Wall Street's Ties to Alabama Town, p. 2

FREE



Preston Brown on "Perfect Peace," p. 5

Friday

June 4, 2021

Vol. 7, No. 39

ValleyWeeklyllc.com



SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Eugene H. Scott, DDS

"Men may be spoiled by education, even as they are spoiled by illiteracy." - T. Thomas Fortune



Amazon Fulfillment Center Underway

Amazon is completing a 1-million-square-foot fulfillment center in Huntsville-Limestone County that will employ more than 500 full-time workers.

The state-of-the-art facility is located near the Mazda Toyota Manufacturing plant.

Amazon employees will pick, pack and ship bulky or larger-sized customer items like patio furniture, outdoor equipment, or rugs.

Production is expected to begin this fall.

- huntsvilleal.org

Huntsville Just Misses the Niche Top 30

Niche.com recently ranked Huntsville, Ala., No.31 when it comes to Best Places to Live. The Top 30 list ranged from No. 1 The Woodlands, Texas, to No. 30 Pittsburgh, Pa.



Hobbs to Be Inducted into Distinguished Order

Dr. Harry Hobbs, vice president-employee engagement, Huntsville Utilities, will be inducted on July 9, 2021, into the Order of the Eagle Rising Society, also recognized by many as the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Hall of Fame.

Hobbs will be the 24th Warrant Officer in the history of the Army inducted into the Society, as well as the first Missile Systems Warrant Officer ever inducted into this prestigious Society.

"I will accept this award on behalf of the all the brave professional soldiers I served with and especially the soldiers that are no longer with us," commented Hobbs. "I am humbled by God's grace to me and I will continue to serve our company, community and our Army in any way God allows me to do so going forward."

Since 2004, the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Career College's (USAWOCC)



Order of the Eagle Rising Society (sponsored by the MOAA) annually recognizes one individual who has contributed significantly over his/her lifetime to the promotion of the Warrant Officer Community in ways that stand out in the eyes of recipient's seniors, subordinates, and peers.

These individuals must also demonstrate the highest standards of integrity and moral character, display an outstanding degree of professional competency, and serve the Warrant Officer Community with distinction.



The Valley Weekly

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Regional Conference Elects OU Alum Prez

On Sunday, May 23, the Executive Committee of the Southwest Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists convened at the Dallas City Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church to elect a new president.

After considering a slate of esteemed candidates, the executive committee voted to elect Dr. Carlton P. Byrd, an Oakwood University alumnus and pastor of the Oakwood University Church, to serve as president.

"On behalf of the entire Oakwood University administration, faculty, staff, student body, and alumni network, we extend our best wishes to Dr. Carlton Byrd on his new assignment to the great Southwest Region Conference as President," said Oakwood University President Leslie Pollard. "We are deeply grateful for his service to the Oakwood University community for the past nine and a half years."



Historic Church Marker Unveiled at Redstone Downtown Branch

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A historic marker was unveiled Friday, May 28, in the Twickenham Square district that recognizes and honors Phillips CME Church – Huntsville's second oldest African-American congregation.

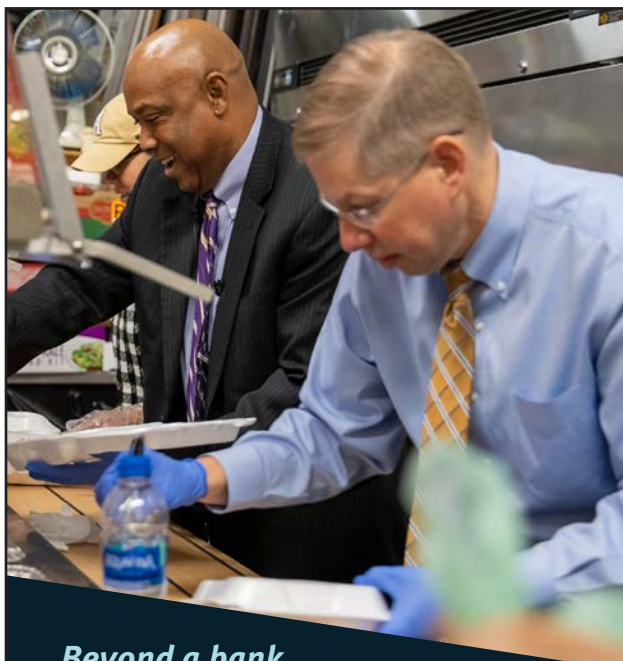
The marker is located at 200 Davis Circle, in front of Redstone Federal Credit Union's Twickenham Branch. It was presented to the church and community by the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Soci-

ety and Redstone Federal Credit Union.

"For over 150 years, its members have been sharing the gospel, serving this community, and the world through its missions' work," said Joe Newberry, Redstone's President and CEO.

"Our building sits on the site once occupied by this great church and we are continuing in their tradition of service," Newberry said.

When the congrega-



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RFCUCME: Above, Members of the Phillips CME Church stand around the historical marker unveiled Friday in honor of their church.

Church Leaders: (from left) Malcolm Thomas, chair of the Phillips CME Church trustee board; Joe Newberry, president & CEO of Redstone Federal Credit Union; Bishop Teresa Jefferson-Snorton, Presiding Bishop of the 5th Episcopal District; Rev. Janice Lewis, Presiding Elder; and Pastor Dr. Gregory Scott.



tion decided to relocate to Winchester Road, it sought a buyer for its property and chose Redstone. In 2018, Redstone broke ground on its newly constructed branch.

The Rev. Gregory Scott, Pastor of Phillips CME Church, said the moment's importance cannot be overstated.

"A church organized by recently enslaved Africans amid the aftermath of the American Civil War and Reconstruction has remained steadfast for 156 years. The heritage and legacy of Phillips CME Church speaks to generations yet to be born about how people who were limited educationally, econom-

ically, and socially were able to overcome and endure by believing in the faithfulness and trustworthiness of God," Scott said.

This church is poised for the future as it imagines new possibilities, he added.

The marker is available for public viewing at any time.

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THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY DEATHS

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Funeral service for MS. VALARIE J. JACKSON (b. 1956) was held Sunday, May 30, at the House of Hope and Restoration (2525 Aspen Avenue - Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Jarman Leatherwood officiating.

Graveside service for MRS. CORA BELL PATTON FARRIS (b. 1938) was held Thursday, May 27, at Blutchers Ford Cemetery with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiating.

Memorial service for MR. CEDRIC DEANGELO HOLLO-WAY (b. 1970) was held Wednesday, May 26, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Graveside service for MR. CARL WAYNE KELLEY (b. 1970) was held Tuesday, May 25, at the Chandler Town Cemetery.

Graveside service for MRS. JULIANNE WHITE LACY (b. 1945) was held Saturday, May 22, at Northside Cemetery with the Reverend Dr. Mitchell M. Walker, Sr., officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

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Graveside service for MR. HENRY HOMER BRIGGS (b. 1928) was held Thursday, June 3, at Oakwood Memorial Gardens (1 HL Cleveland Way Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Prentiss Sorrells officiating.

Graveside service for MR. THOMAS L. BAKER (b. 1918) was held Friday, May 28, at the Alabama National Cemetery (3133 Highway 119 Montevallo, Ala.) with evangelist Reginald Powe officiating.

Funeral service for MS. SHELLIE MAE "Shirley" PRYOR (b. 1948) was held Friday, May 28, at One in Christ Ministries (2131 Highway 72 East, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Danny Baker officiating.

Celebration of Life Service for MR. EDDIE L. HUMPHREY (b. 1945) was held Monday, May 24, at Bushelon Funeral Home (800 14th Street SW, Birmingham, Ala.) with Dr. O. Wendall Davis officiating with Bushelon Funeral Home, directing.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

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Funeral Service for MRS. PATRICIA ANN GRAY (b. 1963), was held Saturday, May 15, at Serenity Funeral Home with Pastor K. Graham officiating.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION GAME PLAN

PRESTON BROWN

PERFECT PEACE

Isaiah 26:3 says, *Thou will keep him in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on thee, because they trust in you.*

You know, the bible has much to say about peace. As a matter of fact, the term *peace* occurs over 400 times in the bible. So, it's easy to say that the bible can be seen as God's testament of peace. Now, when we look at this

scripture, I believe that there are three things that we can take from what the prophet Isaiah is saying about peace.



First, he talks about the "protection" of peace by using the word "keep". Now, the word *keep* means "to hold on to" and not let go. It also means to capture what's on your mind. So, when we keep our minds stayed on him, God will capture our thoughts and make them agreeable with his.

Secondly, he gives us the "description" of this peace. Our scripture defines it as "perfect". Now, when we talk about *perfect peace* that means undisturbed peace. You see, God's peace is unique in so many ways.

The writer Paul tells us that it surpasses all understanding. It also surpasses human capability. In John 14:27, Jesus tells us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you, I do not give as the world gives. So let not your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Another way that he describes peace is that it surpasses human expectations. In other words, God always has a way of showing up and showing out.

Finally, the prophet Isaiah gives us the "conditions" for peace. You see, God's grace is a free gift to all of us, but there are

certain conditions that must be met.

First, we have to have a mind "stayed" on him. Now the word stayed means to lean on or rest upon. It also means to support. Therefore a mind that is at peace is a mind that is supported by God. Philippians 2:5 says, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Also, to be at peace, we need to have a heart that trusts God.

When we place our full trust in him, He will always direct our paths and keep us in perfect peace. Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters. And, make sure you purchase your copy of my book "A Champion Game Plan For Life" on amazon.com<<http://amazon.com/>>



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 or on the City of Huntsville Facebook page (@huntsvillecity).

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

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Tulsa's 'Greenwood' Has Alabama Ties?

by Jerome Saintjones

The murderous demise of the revered Black Wall Street in northern Tulsa, Oklahoma's Greenwood District some 100 years ago is etched in the chronicles of African-American history. Greenwood was considered a booming black utopia, spurred on in part by the heyday of its oil-rich setting. Yet, the flower that was called Greenwood bloomed on a poisonous plant of American life, nurtured by numerous wounds from enriched racial tensions.

What many overlook when combing through the history of Black Wall Street and Tulsa's larger Greenwood District are the strong ties between the Wakanda of pre-1920s Tulsa and the prototype of the black paradise that reportedly was formed around the turn of the century in Tuskegee, Alabama. Booker T. Washington, a young graduate of Hampton Institute, had started Tuskegee Institute and had sown the seeds to a black dreamland within Tuskegee some 25 years before his inspiring visit to Tulsa in 1905.

Scene with 'Farmer Green'

In the early days of the Alabama school, Washington summoned ready assistance from his Hampton classmate, Charles W. Green, who took over as Tuskegee's farm manager in 1888. Some accounts even report that the older Green was Washington's roommate back at Hampton. Green was a gifted farmer and ably served as the lead for Tuskegee's agricultural program prior to the arrival in 1896 of George Washington Carver, the internationally known botanist and inventor.

Not only did Green serve as a precursor to an extension program for black farmers, but he also was the fix-it man behind Washington's vision of an entirely self-sustaining village built for and managed by black people near the town of Tuskegee. This Alabama community was



Early Tuskegee Staffers: Charles W. Green (seated, 2nd left) is seated next to George Washington Carver (c). Booker T. Washington asked Green to facilitate the development of a community in Tuskegee that was later named Greenwood. Blacks in Tulsa named their district "Greenwood" after Washington's 1905 visit. Huntsville native O.W. Gurley (inset) was a key force.

designated in 1901, and it allowed Washington to show the world the capability and economic independence of African Americans. In tribute to Farmer Green, the driving force behind the development of the district, the Tuskegee neighborhood was given the name "Greenwood."

The Nation Builder

The prosperity of the business community north of Tulsa captured the attention of Washington, who visited the area in 1905. While there he discussed his 4,000-acre, black-owned Greenwood district back in Tuskegee. A year after Booker T. Washington's visit, Black Tulsans formally organized their "Greenwood" in 1906. Within 15 years, or 1921, when it was destroyed, black residents in the Oklahoma district numbered about 10,000.

One of the founders and wealthiest black men in the new Greenwood district was Huntsville, Ala., native O. W. Gurley.

The Fragility of Black Prosperity

Sadly, the soil from which Greenwood so proudly blossomed included lingering remnants of the bitterness of the Civil War; the dreams of African-American men

returning from World War I; the fresh talents of some of the first educated graduates of historically black colleges; a resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan assisted by the 1915 film "Birth of a Nation"; and the forced pooling within Oklahoma of Native Americans (and the blacks intermingled with them), pushed from their lands in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Florida.

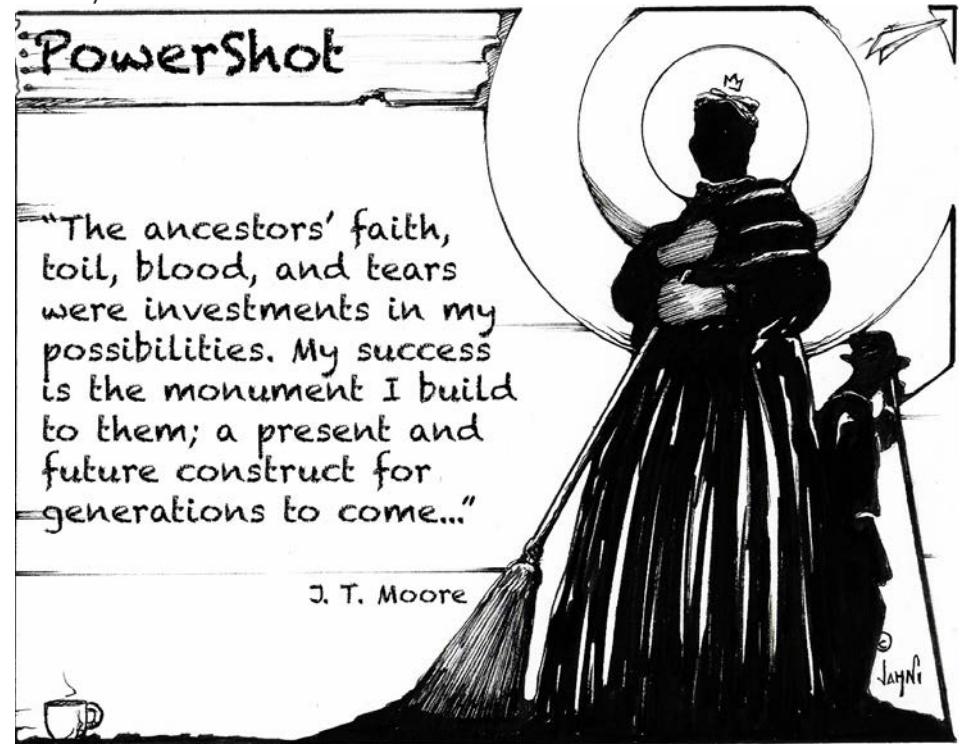
Over a period of two days (May 31-June 1, 1921), mobs of angry white residents—who believed a 19-year-old black shoeshiner had assaulted a 17-year-old white elevator operator—literally burned down nearly 200 black businesses, a junior high school, many churches a hospital and over a thousand houses. More than 200 homes were reported looted. The Red Cross estimated that more than 10,000 people were left homeless.

Perhaps the most sobering panorama of the extensive damage to Tulsa's Greenwood District was the one obtained from the roof of Booker T. Washington High School.

Additional Reading:

Booker T. Washington *Builder of a Civilization*, Emmet J. Scott and Lyman B. Stowe Doubleday, Page & Company (1916) cf. Chapter Eight Booker Washington and the Negro Businessman

"Greenwood Community". The Tuskegee News. 28 September 2000.



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- Ralph Ellison

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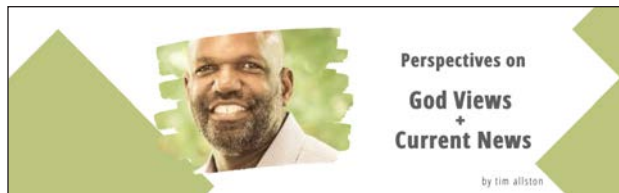
www.alabamapublichealth.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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Stay 'Woke, Class: Ongoing Lessons from Floyd's Grave and Chauvin's Jail Cell

Right before Jesus Christ was arrested and crucified, he warned Peter to "stay 'woke" or he would miss important upcoming events. "When he came back to his disciples, he found them sound asleep. He said to Peter, 'Can't you stick it out with me a single hour? Stay alert; be in prayer so you don't wander into temptation without even knowing you're in danger'" - Matthew 26:40,41

Similarly, "stay 'woke" remains one of the main lessons we need to learn and remember from the George Floyd murder and subsequent Derek Chauvin murder conviction.

Stay 'Woke, . . . on Police Brutality

Despite the outcry nationally from Floyd's May 25, 2020 killing and Chauvin's guilty verdict, there appears to be minimal change in police brutality. Police deadly force in 2021 remains on track to mirror 2020's rate of 1,000 deaths.

Additionally from January through April 2021, police have shot 292 civilians, 62 (21%) of whom were Black; Blacks comprise only 13% of the U.S. population.

Stay 'Woke, . . . Big Defeats typically follow Big Victories

While media covered celebrations worldwide following Chauvin's guilty verdict, what was not covered as widely were the six police killings (five Blacks) within 24 hours of that verdict.

Stay 'Woke, . . . And Keep Hope Alive

Since Floyd's death which highlighted police brutality, 16 state legislatures have now restricted neck restraints, 10 mandated or funded body cameras, five have restricted no-knock warrants, and four now limit police immunity.

A good start aimed at lessening racial tensions in policing occurred last December. Missouri's Lincoln University became the first historically Black college or university to host a police academy, <https://bit.ly/2TfCcgP>.

Yes, change can come, but only if and when we stay 'woke.



tim allston is the author of *U.S. Politics The Rise of Silver-Mettle Leaders* (now on Amazon), and the author-narrator of *The U.S. Coronavirus Crisis and the Rise of the "Silver-Mettle" Leaders* audiobook, with a free sample chapter, when you click on <https://bit.ly/3xiZhP9>.

"The most dangerous creation of any society is the man who has nothing to lose."

- James Baldwin

"The drums of Africa still beat in my heart. They will not let me rest while there is a single black boy or girl without a chance to prove his worth."

- Mary McLeod Bethune

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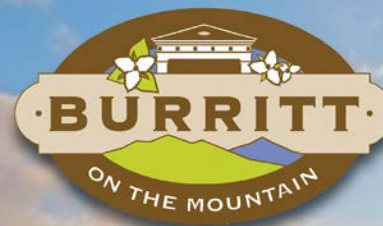
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Side Effects

Acts 4: 13, 18-22

Advertisements of medications are filled with warnings about *side effects*. I must admit that hearing

some of them makes me wonder if it would not be better to just deal with the illness.

One of the major components of the research that



went into the formulation of the vaccine that is now being distributed in our nation, in addition to its

efficacy, was this matter of *side effects*. This issue still lingers in the mind of some to the point that they have decided not to take it.

There are some side effects of being with Jesus that are not harmful but helpful. The text informs us that these side effects are visible, viable, and verifiable.

What were these side effects? One of the most obvious was *boldness in the face of opposition*. Peter and John were told to stop preaching Jesus and their reply was, "We cannot do that." The reason they gave was because of another one of the side effects of being with Jesus. Not only boldness in the face of opposition, but they were *bent on faithful obedience* to the will of God. "We *must* obey God rather than man."

Peter and John told them that the data they had accumulated during their time with Jesus had proven to them the efficacy of the



Power and Presence of Jesus.

One of the verifiable signs was standing right next to them. The man who had *been* lame from birth was healed.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

Thru July 4

Exhibit
"Tell Their Story: Remembering the Scottsboro Boys"

Sponsors:

Burritt on the Mountain, Francis Tate with CEOTA, John Allison and the Morgan County Archives, and The Scottsboro Boys Museum Scottsboro, Ala. The Burritt Museum

June 4

Second Pomeroy Dedic-

tion

Sponsor: City of Decatur, the Alabama Women's Suffrage Centennial Committee and the NCWHS Decatur, Ala. - 2 p.m.

June 10-15

7th Annual Rise Against Hunger Event (Virtual 5k Walk) Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Registration Fee: \$20/ person

Carla Parker, (256) 468-7291 or LaShanda Felton, (256) 810-7012

June 12

Comedian Anjelah Johnson Stand Up Live 2012 Memorial Parkway Huntsville, Ala. 6:30-11:30 p.m.

July 9

Reba McEntire Propst Arena Von Braun Center 8 p.m.

JUNE 4 - EL DEBARGE - Eldra Patrick "El" DeBarge (born June 4, 1961) is an American singer-songwriter, musician and producer. He was the focal point and primary lead singer of the family group DeBarge. Popular songs led by El DeBarge include "Time Will Reveal", "Stay with Me", "All This Love", and "Rhythm of the Night". - BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



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

Eugene H. Scott, DDS

Dr. Eugene H. Scott, Jr., is a well-known and accomplished dentist in the Huntsville-Madison County community. He received his undergraduate degree (Bachelor of Science) in geology in 1958 from Howard University.

Scott pursued additional studies at American University in Organic Chemistry and Physics, 1958-59; and Howard University, Doctor of Dental Surgery, 1963. He completed his General Dentistry Residency in Oral Surgery at Bird S. Coler Memorial Hospital, 1964, and 5th Avenue/ Columbia University Hospital in General Dentistry Residency in Oral Surgery, 1964. He holds state licensure in New York, Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia and Alabama.

He is an active volunteer who has conducted free HIV/AIDS prevention workshops entitled "Lifestyle Revolution" with a focus on changing behavior in the black community for more than a decade. These workshops have been conducted for local churches, community organizations, fraternities and Alabama A&M University. He has taken his HIV/AIDS prevention message to YouTube.

As a humanitarian, Dr. Scott goes beyond the call of duty to help others. He has provided free dental services to local homeless citizens and international students at Alabama A&M University for more than two decades, and he has conducted for more than 35 years free Stop Smoking Seminars in the local community.

In recognition of his many contributions in his profession and to society, he has received scores of honors, awards, citations and plaques. Some of these include: Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army and discharged as Captain in 1967; Award for the design and fabrication of an oral/nasal obturator to treat patients who had a cleft palate (to prevent food from going into the nasal cavity); and voted one of five (5) most outstanding African Americans in the City of Huntsville on two (2) separate occasions.

Dr. Scott's civic and professional affiliations include: member, Madison County Dental Society; member, Academy of General Dentistry; member, America Academy of Implant Dentistry; member, Alabama Academy of



General Dentistry; charter member of Phoenix Group, an interceptive group designed to prevent delinquent/troubled youths from incarceration; life member, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); and member Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Additionally, Dr. Scott has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Huntsville Hospital Dental Board; Board of Director, Central North Alabama Health Systems Agency, and Dental Representative, Head Start North Alabama Region.

Dr. Scott is married to Mrs. Eunice Betts Scott, and they are the proud parents of three children, Kenneth, Gena Lynn and Jody.

"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. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valleyweeklyllc.com.



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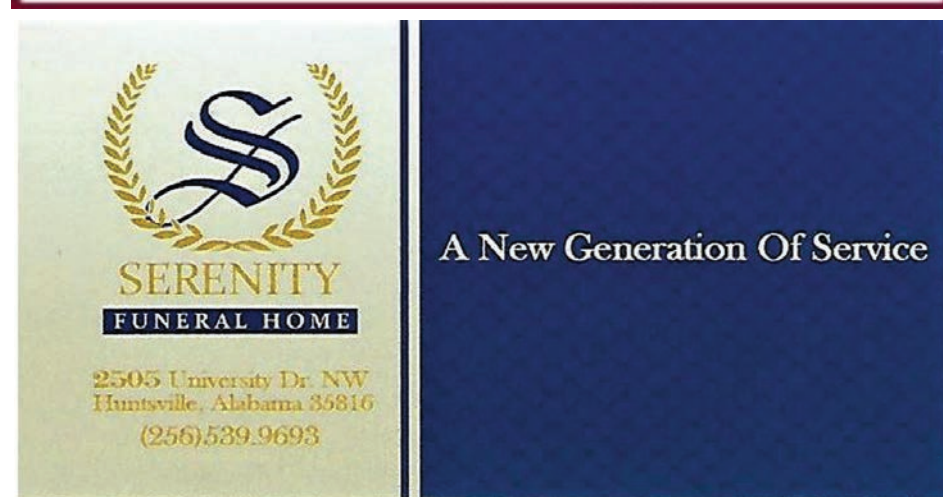
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