

**ANNUAL
SICKLE
CELL
WALK**
JUNE 7 - 7:30 a.m.
Registration
Bob Harrison Center

ALLSTON: Diabetic Wake-Up Call? - p. 5

The Valley Weekly

Friday

June 6, 2025

Vol. 11, No. 40

ValleyWeeklyllc.com

SALUTE!

Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK

Mrs. Jacquelyne Bennett

"Wealth is not the fruit of labor but the result of organized protected robbery." - Frantz Fanon

Huntsville Starts Youth Advisory Council, Apps Available Thru June 20

The City of Huntsville has announced the launch of its first Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, a leadership and civic engagement program designed to empower high

school students to serve as youth ambassadors, policy advisors and community liaisons.

The initiative is led by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and aims to provide

Huntsville's youth with meaningful opportunities to engage with local government, develop leadership skills and contribute to civic initiatives.

Applications for

the 2025-2026 academic year are now open and will be accepted until Friday, June 20 at 10 p.m.

The Council is open to high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and

seniors who live within the Huntsville city limits and attend public, private or homeschool.

To learn more or apply, visit HuntsvilleAL.gov/MYAC.

Drake State Prepares for 'Jazz in the Garden'

Drake State Community & Technical College will host world-class music and culture at Jazz in the Garden, set for Friday, June 27, on the college's scenic, tree-lined campus.

Set against the backdrop of Drake State's walking track, this outdoor jazz festival promises an exceptional night of smooth melodies, vibrant rhythms, and artistic celebration.

The event will begin at 6 p.m.

This year's head-



liner, AJ Ghent and His Singing Guitar, will bring his electrifying fusion of jazz, blues, and soul to the stage, delivering a performance that is both powerful and deeply moving.

Also featured are the dynamic talents of vocalist Nina Marie Live and saxophonist Ryon Schultz, each bringing their unique sound and energy to

the lineup.

In addition to live music, guests can enjoy a variety of local food trucks, including the authentic New Orleans flavors of Forever Grateful, and VIP seating with exclusive perks, all set within a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere under the stars.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at drakestate.edu/jazz-in-the-garden. Early purchase is encouraged, as space is limited.

AAMU-HPAC Leadership Gala This Weekend

The Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter (HPAC) of the Alabama A&M University (AAMU) Alumni Association, Inc., will hold its 20th Annual Leadership Awards Gala (\$60) Saturday, June 7, at

the Knight Center at 6 p.m. The honorees are: Community/Civic Award: Frances Akridge; Corporate Award: Charley Bur-russ, Kudzu Productions, Inc.; Education Award: Mrs. Mar-jorie Battle, AAMU;

Government/Industry Award: Van L. Strickland, Retiree, NASA/MSFC; Government Relations Award: Mr. Earl Wootson, Retired State Trooper; Outstanding Service Award: Rev. Larry Davidson, Jr., Hopewell

MB Church; Religion Award: Rev. Dr. Edward Anderson, Union Hill CPCA; Small Business Award: Atty. Kimber-ly A. Ford, Ford-mas LLC; HPAC Outstanding Alumna: Minister Anita

Weathers, Union Chapel Christian Academy; HPAC Outstanding Alumnus: Mr. Daryl Sharpe, Goodyear Tire and Rubber; W. H. Council Alumna of the Year: Dr. Dorothy A. Downing, USAMC.

BLS: Black Women Hit by Largest Job Loss Among All Groups

In April 2025, Black women experienced a significant setback in the U.S. labor market, losing 106,000 jobs.

This, according to the most recent jobs report released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, pushed their unemployment

rate up to 6.1% from 5.1% in March. This decline occurred despite the overall national unemployment rate remaining at 4.2%, signaling a troubling disparity.

The net job loss among Black women starkly contrasts with the broader economy,

which added 175,000 jobs in the same period.

Legacy Kickball Tournament Scheduled

Get ready to vibe like it's the '90s at the 6th Annual Legacy Charity Kickball Tournament & Community Block Party! The Legtacy

The job losses among Black women were notably higher

compared to other demographic groups. [MORE, BLS.gov](https://www.bls.gov)



Center is turning Cavalry Hills into a live episode of good times, big laughs, and bold legacies on Saturday, June 7, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Valley Weekly

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Washington Update, Page 2

Preston Brown's "Spiritual Game Plan," Page 4

Gloria B. & Tim: Perspectives, Page 5

"Jahni" Moore's PowerShots, Page 6

Sunday Lectionary, Page 7

Honoring Our Elders, Page 7

Local Chef, Drake Alum Opens Boutique Restaurant



J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College alumnus Chef Allen Noble recently celebrated a dream come true.

Noble has turned a childhood passion into a growing culinary career.

The hospitality enthusiast just opened his boutique restaurant, 116 Noble, in Northwest Huntsville.

A 2012 culinary arts graduate of Drake State, Chef Noble's journey began in his grandparents'

kitchen at 116 Elaine Drive, where he learned to cook with fresh ingredients from their garden.

His new restaurant offers curated supper clubs and private dining experiences that fuse

Southern flavors with refined technique.

Rooted in family, tradition, and community, 116 Noble is an exciting new addition to the local dining landscape.

With each dish, Chef

Noble honors the legacy that shaped him—while inviting others to gather, connect, and experience the warmth of his culinary vision.

HMBCC Meetings

The Huntsville Metro Black Chamber of Commerce promotes, creates and fosters economic development opportunities. HMBCC meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 12 noon. Call (256) 427-2650 or e-mail info@hsvblackchamber.org. [VISIT](#)



Council Meetings

Huntsville City Council's regular meetings are held on the 1st floor of the Municipal Building.

The meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m.



State Farm®

Mary F Spears, Agent

(Behind McDonald's)
155 Chestnut Drive
Madison, AL 35758
Bus 256-837-8899 Fax 256-837-8225
mary.spears.cffc@statefarm.com

The greatest compliment you can give is a referral.

thrivent

A personalized financial approach
based on your Christian values



Craig E Satterfeal
Financial Consultant
craig.satterfeal@thrivent.com
connect.thrivent.com/craig-satterfeal
256-883-5509

Advice | Investments | Insurance | Banking | Generosity

Insurance products, securities and investment advisory services are provided by appropriately appointed and licensed financial advisors and professionals. Only individuals who are financial advisors are credentialed to provide investment advisory services. Visit Thrivent.com or FINRA's BrokerCheck for more information about our financial advisors.

27193 R4-24

"Get The S With Khrista Dees"

Khrista Dees, Broker Assoc.
Jay Matthews, Real Estate Advisor

 **256.288.9070**
 DeesRealtyGroup.Kw.Com
 1593 Hughes Road Suite A
Madison, AL 35758

Dees Realty Group
brokered by Keller Williams Realty-
Madison

kw

We Can't Go Back: Why the Future of America Depends on Every Child's Opportunity

Many of my readers know that I am the youngest of 13 children—a daughter born into a family with a long legacy that stretches back to times when our ancestors toiled on plantations. In my family, I was the only one not born into that legacy of hardship. Even so, I grew up witnessing a different kind of struggle: a home shadowed by my father's heavy drinking and a mother enduring in silence, bearing the brunt of it all. Only three of us had the chance to escape that cycle by going to college. I left home at 16 *running*, not out of rebellion but driven by a promise—to myself, to my family, and to the countless others whose voices remain unheard—that there was a better way to live.

My life took a transformative turn when I was given the opportunity to attend an HBCU that believed in me—a place that refused to let my past dictate my future. Alabama A&M University opened doors that I never imagined existed. With the guidance and support of dedicated faculty and staff, I earned a fellowship to The Ohio State University, where I went on to earn my master's and doctorate. Education, as I learned and now firmly believe, is one the most powerful tools we possess to change the course of our lives.

As I reflect on my journey, I know too well the cost of the America we once endured—the America where poor children, especially Black children, are still denied the quality education, affordable housing, and dignified jobs they deserve. I am a testament to the power of opportunity and resilience. But I also stand in solidarity with the countless children still fighting against an environment that too often ignores their talent and promise.



We have seen firsthand that quality education transforms lives. It does not merely change an individual's future. We must demand that every child—no matter the color of their skin or the zip code they are born in—has access to quality education, safe and affordable housing, and meaningful employment that pays a living wage. This is not just about policy—it is about the very soul of our nation. When we invest in our children, we invest in our collective future.


I refuse to accept a return to the America of my childhood—a time marked by inequity, struggle, and unfulfilled potential. Instead, We have come too far to allow the shadows of our past to dictate our future. Let us stand together, move forward with strength and conviction, and create a nation where every child can thrive. Because the progress of our society—and indeed, the progress of our humanity—depends on it.

Too many Americans—especially Black, brown, and poor white children—are still growing up where their zip code determines their destiny; where a child's potential is capped not by ability or ambition, but by bad policy and broken systems.

Let me be clear: we do not want to go back to that America. It was not great for me because I grew up in Monroeville, and we actually lived "To Kill a Mockingbird." I'm still running! Until next week ...

Dorothy

JUNE 6 - JIMMY JAM - James Samuel "Jimmy Jam" Harris III (born June 6, 1959) and Terry Steven Lewis (born November 24, 1956) are an American R&B/pop songwriting and record production team. They have enjoyed great success since the 1980s with various artists, most notably Janet Jackson. They have written 31 top ten hits in the UK and 41 in the U.S. Jimmy Jam is the son of Cornbread Harris, a Minneapolis blues and jazz musician. Jimmy Jam met Lewis while in high school in Minneapolis. They did not meet in class, however, but while attending a TRIO Upward Bound program on the University of Minnesota campus



- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.org



The Valley Weekly

Publisher
The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief
Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor**
Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial Assistant
Linda Burruss

Advertising Associate
Phyllis Chunn

- Contributing Editors -
tim allston
Minister Preston Brown
Gloria B. Caldwell
Ron Hamm
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Photographers
Anthony "Gip" Gibson
Jerome Saintjones

Website Administrator
Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:
The Valley Weekly
P. O. Box 893 - Huntsville, AL 35804
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
Copyright 2025

Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to info@valleyweeklyllc.com. Items published do not necessarily reflect the views of The Valley Weekly, LLC.
Submissions to TVW do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of the editorial staff, and TVW is not responsible for the authenticity of submissions.

**ONLINE NEWS ASSOCIATION**

The Valley Weekly
Ad Rates Single Issue

Back Cover	10x10-inches	\$1,500
Full Page	10x10 inches	\$1,200
3/4 Page	7.5x10 inches	\$900
Half Page	Horizontal 5x10 inches	\$600
	Vertical 10x5 inches	\$600
Fourth Page	5x5 inches	\$300
Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$150
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$75
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$100/Flat Fee

Spiritual Game Plan

PRESTON BROWN'S



Today's Spiritual Game Plan: "Payday"

First Corinthians 15:58 says, *"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."*

If you have a job, you get excited about "pay-day." If you don't have a job, then obviously payday is not so exciting. But every Christian has a job, whether we are in full-time ministry or not—we work for God. And every day we need to get up and go into the world and do the work that God has called us to do. We do this in the way we talk to people, the way we treat people, the way we behave around people and demonstrate our good attitude.

All these things are considered "working" for God as demonstrated in our walk with Him. We also go to work for God when we spend time with Him in our daily devotional time, by reading His word and communicating with

Him during our prayer time. When we do these things there will always be a "payday," because God rewards those who diligently seek him. He rewards us with joy, peace and contentment.

We also work for God when we go through life making an effort of making disciples of others, and we do this through our witness and our love for one another. Remember, Galatians 6:9

says, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Prayer: Most gracious and loving Father, help us to realize that anything that we do for your glory will be rewarded.
Question: Are you on

God's payroll?

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase a copy of my books *Spiritual Game Plans For A Successful Life* and *A Champion Game Plan for Life*, at amazon.com.

NEXT WEEK:
"Take Another Step"



A New Generation Of Service

Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

**"WE CANNOT ERASE THE STING OF DEATH,
BUT WE CAN MAKE IT EASIER"**



2501 CARMICHAEL AVENUE
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35816
(256) 539-8189 • (256) 539-8183 (FAX)
WWW.NELMSMEMORIAL.NET

THE VALLEY WEEKLY VALLEY DEATHS



SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Drive NW - Huntsville, AL 35816
www.serenityfuneralhm.com
(256) 539-9693

Funeral services for **MS. STEPHANIE WILSON** (b. 1992); **PRINCESS HADASA SAWEJ** (b. 2022) and **MR. ALEXANDER DENNIS** (b. 1991) will be announced at a later date.



Funeral service for **MRS. CAROL W. POPE** (b. 1955) will be Saturday, June 7, at 11 a.m. at the First Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. Dr. Temple Ritchie officiating.

Funeral service for **MS. REGINA BROWN** (b. 1965) was held May 31, at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel.

NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816
www.nelmsmemorial.net
(256) 539-8189

Funeral services for **MS. MONTRAE GLOSTER** (b. 1988); **MR. CLAUDE E. DAVIS, SR.** (b. 1945) and **MS. TALE'A BREONE TURNER** (b. 1999) will be announced later at a later date.

Graveside service for **MRS. ELMARIE MCCRARY** (b. 1936) was held Saturday, May 31, at Blatcher's Ford Cemetery with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiating.

Memorial service for **MR. WILLIAM BELL** (b. 1956) was Friday, May 30, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35810 -
www.royalfh.com
(256) 534-8481

Funeral services will be announced at later date for **MR. BRUCE EVANS** (b. 1964); **MR. ONEZEAN OTEY, JR.** (b. 1957); **MR. MACK WILSON** (b. 1961); and **MR. CARMAN ANDRE BOOKER** (b. 1980).

Graveside service for **MRS. EDDIE MAE HARRIS** (b. 1937) was Tuesday, June 3, at the Rock Creek Missionary Baptist Church, 370 Rock Creek Road, Burkville, Ala.

When the Doctor Becomes the Patient: A Diabetic Wake-Up Call

"Be sure your sin will find you out." — Numbers 32:23 (KJV)

The Diagnosis I Didn't See Coming

I never saw it coming.

Despite years of preaching health, balancing nutrition, and even losing weight—my lab results blindsided me.

Diagnosed diabetic.

I'd lectured others on lifestyle change. Advised friends to lower sugar, raise steps, and read their labels. I even warned that chronic illness could quietly creep in if ignored.

But I hadn't applied that wisdom to me.

"I became the recovering ego-holic I'd been teaching about."

When Knowing Isn't Enough

Turns out, I'd become what I call in leadership teaching a "recovering ego-holic." The one who thinks:

"I know better, so I'll do better... eventually."
And eventually never came.

Until now.

Now, every meal, every meter reading, every walk around my property is a reminder that knowledge alone doesn't save—consistent humility does.

"The ego says, 'I've got this.' Humility says, 'Lord, help me manage this.'"

Trading Willpower for Won't-Power

Truth be told, I didn't need more willpower.

I needed more won't-power.

"Won't ignore the signs. Won't fake fine. Won't hide behind a platform while silently collapsing back-stage."

This Isn't Just Confession—It's a Call

So this column isn't just a confession. It's a call.

To myself. Maybe to you.

Have you been preaching more than practicing? Advising others but avoiding change yourself?

Then maybe it's your time, too—

To pause.

To listen.

To receive the diagnosis you've delayed.

To embrace humility over hubris.

To swap pride for presence.

"Because when the doctor becomes the patient, healing can finally begin."

Not just physical healing—but leadership healing. Soul healing.

The kind that doesn't just save your life—but helps you *live* it.



Tim Allston

Leadership Player-Coach & Four-time
Amazon Best-Selling Author
"Leading from the Middle"

(256) 212-0949

<https://bit.ly/4aB9Lwm>, <https://bit.ly/4cYZyuz>

Email Address: leadingfromthemiddle.tim@gmail.com



Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell

Their Decision Doesn't Alter YOUR Destiny!

Their decision doesn't alter YOUR destiny ...

Whew.

I heard this in a sermon from T.D. Jakes. God maps out your destiny. Your willingness to pull greatness out of you to get there is your choice.

You can alter, derail, and delay getting there, but the ultimate decisions are up to you, and destiny is up to God. So one's point of view of you is just that. It doesn't alter anything.

Stop wasting time being upset, pressured, and hurt about someone's opinion of you.

What does that matter?

We chase our tails, trying to get someone to understand where we are coming from and dying



inside, trying to over-show our hearts and intentions. Some people do not care to hear or understand it. You have to shift and move on. You have plenty to keep you busy. Remember, you have a destiny.

Wherever and whatever that is, if they aren't

willing to stop and understand or consider you, they likely aren't a part of it.

God makes no mistakes about who He puts in your life ... and who He removes from your life.

Stop forcing what isn't allocated to that time and what has no merit to you getting to your destiny.

Their decisions will not alter YOUR destiny.

Keep pushing.

Don't worry about them, what they are saying, what they have, what they are doing.

Keep pressing.

Make today amazing! You have the control over your life to do so.

God loves you, and so do I. He has given you a gift; open it.

MAYHEM IS EXPENSIVE. ALLSTATE IS NOT.



JAMES F SMITH & ASSOCIATES
256-852-7310

415 CHURCH ST NW BUILDING B
HUNTSVILLE
jamesfsmith@allstate.com



Allstate

Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co. © 2013 Allstate Insurance Co.

Valley Weekly
**VALLEY
 EVENTS**
 HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

June 6-8
 Comedian
 "Sommore"
 Huntsville Levity Live
 2012 Memorial Parkway SW
 Huntsville, Ala.

June 7
 Legacy Kickball Tournament
 & Community Bash
 Calvary Hill Neighborhood
 Center
 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

"Purple Reign" 80s Party
 Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment
 2211 Seminole Drive SW
 Huntsville, Ala. (\$20-\$25)
 7-11 p.m.

June 13-14
 Jared Freid
 Comedian
 Huntsville Levity Live
 2012 Memorial Parkway SW
 Huntsville, Ala.
 (256) 261-3374

June 14
 Kansas & 38 Special w/
 Jefferson Starship
 The Orion
 theorionhuntsville.com

June 20-22
 Trey Kennedy
 Comedian
 Huntsville Levity Live

2012 Memorial
 Parkway SW
 Huntsville, Ala.
 (256) 261-3374

June 22
 Concert
 Ledisi with Marsha
 Ambrosius
 Von Braun Center

Tickets: \$75-\$150
 Huntsville, Ala.

June 25
 Silent Book Club
 The Orion Amphitheater
 (Backstage/Enter via Artist
 Meadow off Amphitheater
 Drive)
 5:30-7 p.m. (Free)

June 27
 Concert
 No Limit Soldiers Reunion:
 Master P, Silkk The Shocker,
 Mia X, Fiend and Mac and
 More
 The Orion

June 28-29
 DC Youngfly
 Comedian
 Huntsville Levity Live
 2012 Memorial Parkway SW
 Huntsville, Ala.
 (256) 261-3374

June 29
 Rocket City Pickle Fest
 The Orion
 Huntsville, Ala.

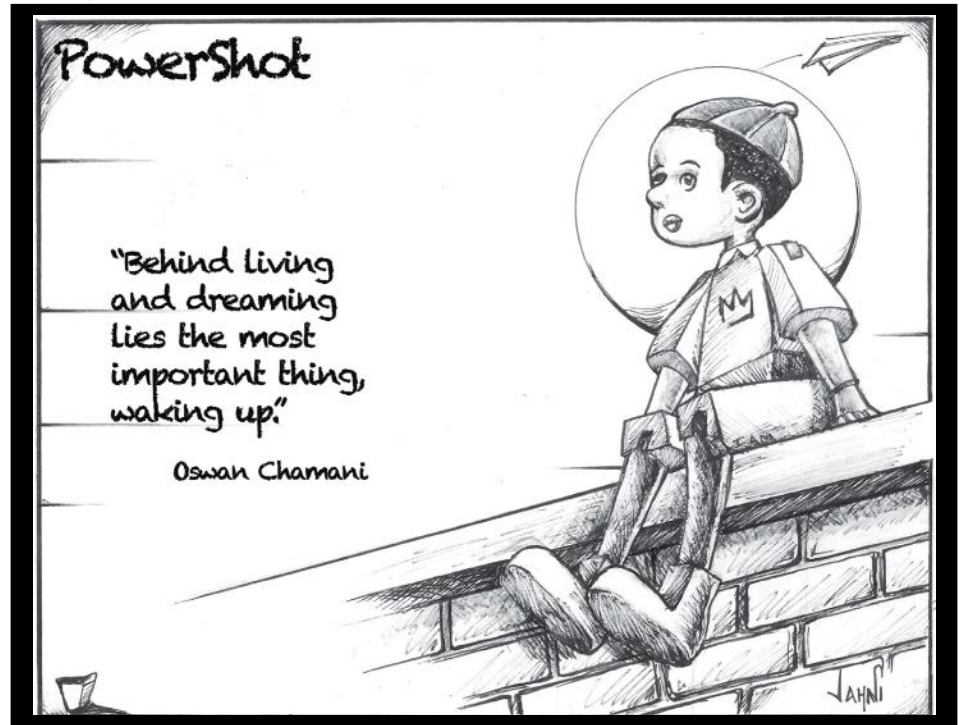


Huntsville Bible College
 Academic Programs
 Programs that equip students to serve in their church and community.

- Associate of Arts**
 - + Business Management
 - + Christian Education
 - + Child Development
 - + Information Technology
 - + Mission & Evangelism
 - + Biblical Studies
- Master of Ministry**
 - + Biblical Studies
- Doctor of Ministry**
 - + Biblical Leadership
- Certificates**
 - Biblical Studies, Christian Education, & More
- Bachelor of Arts**
 - + Christian Education
 - + Mission & Evangelism
 - + Biblical Studies
 - + Social Work

For More Info
 + 256-469-7536 906 Oakwood Ave,
 Huntsville, AL 35806

Apply Now
www.hbcl.edu




Imagine Your Invention

Mechatronics

DRAKE STATE
 COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Apply Now
drakestate.edu



FRIDAY, JUNE 27 | 6-9 PM

4th Annual JAZZ IN THE GARDEN

AJ Ghent & His Singing Guitar
 with Nina Marie Live and Ryon Schultz

Buy Tickets Today!



**THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM
 ALL-ELECTRIC MUSTANG MACH-E**

TEST-DRIVE IT TODAY!
 Woody Anderson Ford
 256-539-9441 | www.WoodyAndersonFord.com
 2500 Jordan Lane Huntsville, AL 35816

*"Sometimes, carrying on, just carrying on,
 is the superhuman achievement."*

- Albert Camus



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

Mrs. Jacquelyne Bennett

A native of Oneonta, Ala., Jacquelyne Kyle Bennett, performed phenomenally as a supervisory human resources specialist in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center of Redstone Arsenal. She served as a personnel management staffing specialist from 1968-69. From 1969-79, Bennett was a supervisory personnel staffing specialist. She served as an employee relations specialist from 1979-84, a supervisory employee relations specialist from 1984 until her retirement in July 2015, with 48 years of government service in Human Resources.

She earned a master's degree in personnel administration and psychology in 1995 from Alabama A&M University, where she earlier received a bachelor's in secondary education/English in 1967.

Elder Bennett has given in service to Fellowship Presbyterian Church for over 45 years. She serves as the Team Convener for The Witness and Service Ministry Team Food Distribution Program of Fellowship Presbyterian Church. During the third week of each month she can be found at Fellowship at various times organizing, preparing, and supervising for food distribution. Bennett and volunteers work to set out over 200 boxes, drive personal vehicles to retrieve food and then unload the boxes at the church, and

then deliver food boxes to infirmed individuals or those without transportation. In addition to the list of families on the distribution roll the distribution program has provided additional boxes to families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Elder Bennett donated a customized storage facility at Fellowship to fulfill a long-standing and dire need for administering the food program and securing storage of food items and materials.

Additionally, her soprano voice has been has been a mainstay for three choirs at Fellowship: the Inspirational Choir; the Unity Choir and the Chancel Choir. One would be hard pressed to find another soloist to ever attempt to sing "Deep River" or "I've Been Redeemed" after 'Ms. Jackie' has put her voice to it.

Her music ministry also serves the community as a member of the Nell Lane Bradford Legacy Choir which sings at the Gala Banquet for the Bradford Scholarship Foundation, Incorporated.

Elder Bennett has served on the Drama Team and Planning Team for many celebrations at Fellowship Presbyterian Church. For the 2019 Black History Month Celebration she portrayed black educator and civil and women's rights leader Mary McLeod Bethune with great passion.



Elder Bennett is also a member of Fellowship Presbyterian Church Presbyterian Women, whose purpose is to nurture faith through prayer and Bible study. She has volunteered to lead many of the Bible study lessons, which require considerable research and preparation.

This loyal daughter of Alabama A&M University celebrated her 50th year college reunion on the campus during Founder's Day and Class Reunion weekend May 2017. Mrs. Bennett and her Golden Class raised over \$50,000 to celebrate their 50 years.

Mrs. Bennett for many years has worked tirelessly as a fund raiser for the Annual Alabama A&M University Black Tie Scholarship Gala, a premier fundraising event designed to close the financial gap of students aspiring toward higher education.



"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.



Personal Injury | Auto Accidents | Probate & Estate Administration
Corporate Law | Real Estate Law | Divorce | Criminal Law

Contact Us

Phone: 256-533-1667

Fax: 256-533-1696

info@martinsonandbeason.com

www.martinsonandbeason.com

facebook.com/martinsonandbeason



No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

This Sunday's Lectionary

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Day of
Pentecost
Whitsunday



(Track 2, Year C)

First Lesson:

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Second Lesson:

Romans 8:14-17

GOSPEL:

John 14:8-17, (25-27)



It's our birthday,
but we're
celebrating
you.



This year, as Bryant Bank marks our 20th birthday, it's our customers who deserve the accolades. For two decades, you've trusted us, believed in us and relied on us to help you meet your financial goals. Without you, there would be no us. So thank you to everyone who has been, and continues to be, a valued part of our family.

ATHENS | DOWNTOWN HUNTSVILLE | SOUTHEAST HUNTSVILLE

BRYANTBANK.COM

AAMU Researchers Receive \$1M DoD Grant for Battery Innovation

Alabama A&M University has received a nearly \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) to lead cutting-edge research in energy storage technology. The four-year project will focus on improving thin film solid-state batteries – a safer, longer-lasting alternative to traditional batteries.

The DoD-funded research, titled “Size Effects on the Ef-



iciency of the Rechargeable Li and Na Thin Film Solid State Batteries,” will be led by Dr. Satilmis Budak (Principal Investigator) and co-investigators Drs. Zhigang

Xiao, Mebougna Drabo, and Aschalew Kassu.

Key elements of the project include:

- Exploring how battery size impacts performance
- Fabricating and testing batteries in various sizes
- Training and mentoring students from STEM fields
- Creating new pathways into STEM careers for students from low-income backgrounds

· Building on prior research supported by a previous DoD equipment grant

Solid-state batteries are considered the next big advancement in energy storage due to their safety, stability, and potential to power future defense systems and consumer electronics.

“This support from the Department of Defense allows us to take our battery

research to the next level,” said Dr. Satilmis Budak, professor of electrical engineering and computer science and principal investigator. “We’re not only advancing technology that could benefit national defense, but we’re also forming hands-on opportunities for students who are the future of STEM innovation.”


The \$999,996 award

runs from March 31, 2025, through March 30, 2029, and will involve faculty from multiple STEM disciplines. The project also demonstrates AAMU’s growing reputation as a center for advanced materials research and workforce development in energy-related fields. (Photo L-R): Drs. Zhigang Xiao, Mebougna Drabo, Satilmis Budak, Aschalew Kassu

WJAB

90.9 FM

www.wjab.org




Woody Anderson Ford

256-539-9441
www.WoodyAndersonFord.com
2500 Jordan Lane, Huntsville, AL



THEY ARE MANY COLUMNISTS, BUT ...

They're Not Like Tim!



The Valley Weekly

"A thought-provoking and insightful take on the latest news and views. Join TIM ALLSTON every week for interesting perspectives you can't find anywhere else!"

ValleyWeeklyLLC.com

Albert's Flowers

Located Downtown in Medical District; Closest Florist to Huntsville Hospital
Free Delivery to Huntsville Hospital and Local Funeral Homes

716 Madison Street - Huntsville, AL 35801

**FLOWERS, GIFTS,
EXOTIC FLOWERS**

**Graduate of
American Floral Art School**

**256-533-1623
256-536-6911**

www.albertsflowers.com





Come Discover the Magic on the Mountain!

No matter what time of year you explore Burritt on the Mountain, there is something delightful and new to see. And no matter how young – or old – you are, there is something for you on the Mountain!

If you've never visited, you're in for a treat. If it's been awhile, what are you waiting for? Come on up and let the Magic begin!

3101 Burritt Drive • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 256.536.2882
www.burrittonthemountain.com

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



ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY

START HERE

Go anywhere.

WWW.AAMU.EDU

