

Thanks, Dad, for Life's Alley-oop! - p. 5

FREE

Lessons from My Father - p. 3

Friday

June 16, 2023

Vol. 9, No. 41

ValleyWeekllyllc.com

Gloria B: "NOT TODAY!" - p. 5

SALUTE!

Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Dr. Horace W. Rice



"There's a world waiting for you. Yours is the quest that's just begun." - James Weldon Johnson

ACCS Supporting Drake's Annual 'Jazz in the Garden'

The Alabama Community College System (ACCS) has chosen the Drake State Foundation 2nd Annual Jazz in the Garden showcase and scholarship fundraiser as a featured event in the state's two-year college system for its 60th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee celebration.

The college invited Kayoband featuring Kelley O'Neal to headline the event a second time, with Devere Pride, Huntsville Drumline, and Nina Marie



Live as opening acts. Enjoy live jazz and R&B music, food trucks, and fun on Friday, June 23, at 6 p.m. on Drake State's campus, with gates opening at 5 p.m.

"Drake State is one of 24 community and technical colleges throughout the state bringing you a diverse range of events, from cultural art to music and education," said Drake

State President Dr. Patricia Sims. "Jazz in the Garden is our annual fundraiser, where we come together as a community to support our students. With rising costs, we believe it is our duty to empower students with the resources they need to succeed."

You do not want to miss another family-friendly evening with talented artists surrounding the beautiful tree-lined track on campus. Get your tickets today at drakestate.edu!

Opal Meek Greenway to Connect A&M, Sparkman/U.S. 72 East

A longtime community advocate and North Huntsville resident is the namesake of the Opal Meek Greenway, the first to connect the north and south ends of Huntsville.

The new greenway will connect Alabama A&M University (AAMU) to Sparkman Drive and U.S. 72 East. The 1.65-mile segment includes a raised pedestrian crossing at Mastin Lake Road, as well as a parking area.

Meek, who hails from Hollywood, Ala., retired from working as a government secretary for 42 years. She cited her years of participating in public meetings as the reason for her

activism and volunteerism with Green Team.

"Our community needs a lot of help," she explained. "We should learn what the City can do through coordinating with organizations that provide help citizens need."

The greenway was formally unveiled during a ceremony at AAMU on Tuesday, May 30.

"We are all blessed by the efforts and the impact of one Ms. Opal Meek," said Huntsville's District 1 City Council Member Devyn Keith. "This greenway dedication is just a small moment to recognize how big an impact it is for somebody to connect community with City Hall."



LOVE OF MUSIC: The Second Chance Ministries held its first annual Love of Music Gala on Saturday, June 10, at the Knight Center on the Alabama A&M University campus. Honored were (seated, l-r) Renee M. Knight, Brenda D. Davis, Nell Lane Bradford, Lettye A. Boyd, Carmelita Gandy, Monica Phipps-Stewart; (standing) Dr. Reginald Jackson, Laurent-Daniel Vergnac, Calvin Drake, Rev. William "Billy" Orton, Dr. Michael Hambrick, and the five-member Alpha Ensemble (Anthony Briggins, Charles Briggins, Tommie Lockhart, LeRoy Daniels and Dr. Denver Betts). *Not Shown:* Effie Gaines. *Photo by J. Saintjones*
See Complete Coverage of "Love of Music Gala" in NEXT WEEK'S The Valley Weekly!!

The Valley Weekly

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Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$150
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$75
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$100/Flat Fee

The Valley Weekly

Washington

One Minute



by Ron Hamm

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

1. **CONGRESS.** The House and Senate are in session this week. Last week, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) tried unsuccessfully to quell a rebellion from a handful of conservative members who are displeased with the debt limit deal he negotiated that is keeping federal funding at nearly FY 23 levels, because the GOP rebel members want FY 2024 appropriations bills to be capped at the significantly lower FY 2022 levels. As passed, the debt limit law set a FY2024 defense spending cap at \$886 billion, a 3% increase over this year's level, with non-defense spending capped

at \$704 billion, a 5% reduction from FY 2023. The rebels stopped the GOP leadership from moving any bills on the House floor, causing the Speaker to cancel votes for the rest of the week and send members home on Wednesday night ... In committee news, on Tuesday the House Ways and Means Committee will vote on a bill to give taxpayers a new \$4,000 Guaranteed Deduction Bonus for the next two years, on top of the current standard deduction, which was doubled in the 2017 tax reform law.

2. **THE WHITE HOUSE.** On Monday, President Biden met with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and, on Tuesday, the President and First Lady hosted a concert at the White House in honor of the federal Juneteenth Holiday (which is observed on June 19). On Wednesday, President Biden spoke at the League of Conservation Voters' annual Capital Dinner. On Friday, the President will travel to Hartford, CT to participate in the National Safer Communities Summit.

3. **SUPREME COURT.** The Court will continue to issue decisions from its current docket this week, as it moves to wrap up its 2022-23 term. In a surprising 5-4 decision last week hailed by voting rights advocates and authored by Chief Justice John Roberts (joined by Justices Kagan, Kavanaugh, Sotomayor, and Jackson), the court struck down

Alabama's current congressional map in *Allen v. Milligan*, likely forcing the state to add a 2nd majority Black district. The cases that are still pending include a case on whether the Colorado graphic design firm 303 Creative can withhold services on religious grounds from gay couples wanting to post wedding websites, a case whether Native American children can be forcibly removed from their families by child welfare agencies and placed in non-Native homes, a case on the affirmative action admissions policies at Harvard and the University of North Carolina, and the case on President Biden's student loan forgiveness plan (note: last week, President Biden vetoed a bill that would have cancelled the student loan plan).

4. **FEDERAL RESERVE.** The U.S. Federal Reserve's Federal Open Market Committee met Tuesday and Wednesday and was slated to announce whether it would raise interest rates or hold them steady on

Wednesday.

5. **HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION.** Even before the historic 37-count indictment against former President Trump for his handling of classified material was announced last Friday, House Judiciary Committee Chair Jim Jordan (R-OH) issued a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland opening an investigation into the indictment. On Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. EDT, former President Trump was scheduled to surrender to federal authorities at the federal courthouse in Miami, FL for his arraignment.

6. **SENATE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BRIEFINGS.** Politico has reported that Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) will hold a series of bipartisan briefings this month for senators on artificial intelligence (AI), focusing on 3 questions: (1) where is AI today? (2) what is the frontier of AI and how do we maintain American leadership and (3) how do the Defense Depart-

ment and intelligence agencies use AI today and how are our adversaries deploying AI?

7. **FISCAL YEAR 2024 APPROPRIATIONS.** The FY 2024 Military Construction/VA appropriations bill full committee markup was rescheduled for Tuesday at 10 a.m. and the Agriculture bill likely followed on Wednesday. The Defense and Energy & Water bills may be taken up at the subcommittee level on Thursday ...

8. **HIGHER EDUCATION.** On June 14, the House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development will hold a hearing entitled "Postsecondary Innovation: Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Opportunities."

Hamm Consulting Group
444 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 840
Washington D.C. 20001
T: 202-596-8384
rhamm@hammconsulting.com



ON THIS DAY

Noted American rapper Tupac Shakur was born Lesane Parish Crooks on this day to Black Panther parents in 1971 in Harlem, New York.

"They have money for war but can't feed the poor."

- Tupac Shakur

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UPCOMING CONCERTS

May 26 - Entice

Friend of Burritt

June 16 - Kush

EOS Defense Systems USA, Inc.

July 7 - Eric Essix

Alabama Farm Credit

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Spiritual Game Plan

Valley Weekly
PRESTON BROWN'S



LESSONS FROM MY FATHER

Colossians 3: 16 says, "Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."

When I read this scripture, it reminds me of my father Pastor John M. Brown, who passed away 12 years ago. My father was a great man of God. He also had a beautiful voice. I can remember him every morning waking us up to the sounds of hymns and songs. The gift of song is one of the

things that he passed down to me, my brothers, and my sister.

As we honor Father's Day, I wanted to reflect on some of the things that fathers should pass down to their children. Keep in mind nobody is perfect; however, we should all be striving toward perfection.

The first thing my father passed down to me was his faith in God. He assured me that no matter what I was going through, I must not let my faith waver. All I needed to do was believe that with God all things are possible.

Fathers should also pass down God's standards of excellence. This includes what people will do and

not do, say and will not say around people, or will or will not watch on television and social media. God has a standard that He wants

us to live by. Fathers should let their children know what is acceptable but, most importantly, what is not acceptable.

Finally, fathers need to pass down character. We must be men of character who will stand up for God in our homes. 1 Timothy 6:11 says, "but you, man of God, pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness."

When I think about my father, I think about these wonderful things that he left

me. Now I have an excellent example to follow.

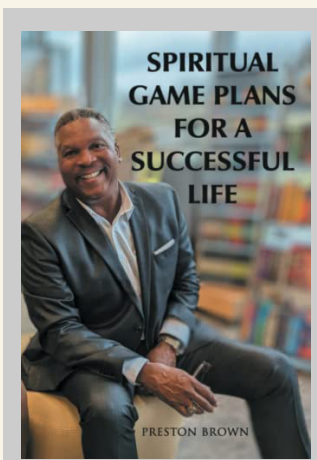
May God grant you the spirit of remembrance, so that you will pass those

standards down to your children.

Question: What are some valuable things that your father passed down to you?

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters,

and make sure you get a copy of my books, "A Champion Game Plan for Life" and "Spiritual Game Plans for a Successful Life," at amazon.com or Westbow books, or you can e-mail me at prestonbrown81@gmail.com, and I will send you an autographed copy.



District VI Commissioner, VEC to Host "Oh, Freedom!"

In partnership with Huntsville-based Vision Excellence Company (VEC), Madison County District 6 will host "Oh, Freedom 2023!" a community discussion drawing from the historical context of Juneteenth. Commissioner Violet Edwards and Dr.

Karockas Watkins (r) will be joined by community leaders to discuss the topic "Can't Stop Now - How to Get to Equal" on Monday, June 19, from 10 a.m.-12 noon at the Robert "Bob" Harrison Wellness and Advocacy Center, 6156 Pulaski Pike, Huntsville, Alabama. From


slavery to Jim Crow to today's CEOs, African American progress has been impressive, but America has many miles to go on the road to true racial equality.

Sharing their expertise are Dr. Beth Richardson, Prog-



ress Bank (finances); Greg Brown, Brown Precision (employment); Dr. Patricia Sims, Drake State (education); Tracy Doughty, Huntsville Hospital (healthcare); and Charles Frye, CNI Solutions (community).

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Funeral service for MRS. JUANITA DEVANCE (b. 1956) was held Friday, June 9, at the Saint Luke Christian Church with Pastor T.C. Johnson, officiating.

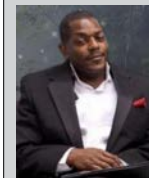


Funeral service for MRS. KAREN HOLLAND (b. 1952) was held Monday, June 5, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Reginald Johnson officiating.

Graveside service for MR. JESSIE KELLY (b. 1945) was held Saturday, June 3, at Valhalla Memory Gardens.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW
Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481



Funeral service for MR. SHELDON EVERETT TAFFE (b. 1975) was held Sunday, June 11, at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church (1303 Evangel Drive NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor William Lee officiating.

Funeral service for MOTHER ROSIE M. FOWLKS CRUTCHER was held Saturday, June 10, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Leon Willis officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. LILLIE MAE HAMPTON SLEDGE (b. 1935) was held Saturday, June 10, at the St. Rebecca Primitive Baptist Church (330 Grimwood Road, Hazel Green, Ala.) with Pastor Perry Clark officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. LUCILLE HAMMONDS LANGFORD (b. 1930) was Friday, June 9, at the St. Bartley Primitive Baptist Church (3020 Belafonte Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Jaymes Mooney officiating.

Funeral service for ELDER PASTOR WILLIE LEE GREEN (b. 1942) was held Sunday, June 4, at the Round Island Creek Mission Center (13829 Lucas Ferry Road, Athens, Ala.) with Pastor Tavaris Townsend officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Drive NW
Huntsville, AL 35816 (256) 539-9693

Funeral service for DEMECO WHITE (b. 1982) will be held Saturday, June 17, at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel at 12 noon.

Funeral service for MS. SHELIA FARRIS (b. 1969) will be announced at a later date.

The Valley Weekly

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

June 14 & 15

Soul Connections ... A
Speed Dating Experience
3311 Bob Wallace Avenue
SW, Ste. 101
Huntsville, Ala.
5:30 p.m.

June 16

Celebrity Themed Talk
Show Mystery Dinner
Theater
InstaSpace Studio
7:30 p.m.

June 17

14th Annual White Linen
Brunch
Ernest L. Knight Center
Alabama A&M Univer-
sity
Contacts: jeanette.jones@
aamu.edu or tonya.
perry@aamu.edu
(256) 714-8170
10 a.m.

Greater Huntsville June-
teenth Celebration
Lakeside United Method-
ist Church
Meridian Street
Huntsville, Ala.
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
FREE

June 18

Father's Day

June 19

Juneteenth

"Oh, Freedom!"

Vision Excellence Com-
pany & Madison County

District 6

(A community discussion
drawing from the histori-
cal context of Juneteenth)
"Can't Stop Now - How to
Get to Equal"
Robert "Bob" Harrison
Wellness and Advocacy
Center
6156 Pulaski Pike
Huntsville, Ala.
10 a.m.-12 noon

June 20

Board of Zoning Adjust-
ment Meeting
6 p.m.

District 3 Drop-in with
Council Member Jennie
Robinson
6:30-7:30 p.m.

June 22

City Council Meeting
5:30 p.m.

June 22-24

Comedian
Erik Griffin
Stand Up Live
Huntsville, Ala.

June 23

Jazz in the Garden
J.F. Drake State Com-
munity and Technical
College
Huntsville, Ala.

June 24

Surviving Sisterhood
Summit
Huntsville, Ala.
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
(256) 203-6782

Summer Block Party with
Huntsville Animal Services
Huntsville Animal Shelter
4950 Triana Boulevard SW
Huntsville, Ala.
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

June 27

Planning Commission
Meeting
5 p.m.

June 28

ILLENIU @ Orion Am-
phitheater (\$58)
7 p.m.

June 29

RuPaul's Drag Race Werq
the World Tour
Mark C. Smith Concert
Hall
8 p.m.

July 7-8

Comedian
Ms. Pat
Stand Up Live
Huntsville, Ala.

July 10

Historic Preservation
Commission Meeting
4:30-6:30 p.m.

July 11

Huntsville Police Citizens
Advisory Council Meeting
5:30-6:30 p.m.

July 12

Zoning Committee Meet-
ing
7:30 p.m.

August 19

Shop Black Huntsville Fest
Butler Green @ Campus
805
Huntsville, Ala.

October 20

Mystic Forest Fantasy
Masque II
Embassy Suites
7 p.m.

PowerShot

"Let us then
consider
replacing hope
with intent. It
has much
deeper roots."

J. T. Moore



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"Discomfort is always a necessary part of enlightenment."
- Pearl Cleage

Not Today ...

Milennials Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell

How many “tomorrows” have your “not today’s” turned into? How many months and years have gone by on a “not today”? What is your lack of gump-tion keeping you from? One “not today” could be the difference in you obtaining your goal by a year or never! The more you push it off, the easier it gets never to do it.

Jim Rohn’s Law of Diminishing Intent states: “The longer you wait to do something you should do now, the greater the odds that you will never actually do it.”

How true is this?

With every passing moment, day, month, and year, we lose our zest to do something. We push it off, and it goes “forgotten.”

Have you ever had a friend or family member say, *Whatever happened to you starting the company or writing that book?* Or ... (fill in the blank).

It has happened to most of us. We stand there making another excuse as to why it never happened. Most often, saying, “Well, something else came up.” “The timing wasn’t right.” “I didn’t have the money.” “I didn’t have the time.” “I



didn’t have the contacts.” ... *Whatever* our weak excuse was.

Do it!
Get up!
Start!
Today is the day, Scaredy Cat! Stop being lazy!
Change your life.
Start now!

God loves you, and so do I.

He has given you a gift; open it.

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WJAB

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“Things may come to those who wait,
but only the things left
by those who hustle.”

- Abraham Lincoln



Thanks, Dad, for My Life’s Alley-oop!

“Teach a child to choose the right path, and when he is older, he will remain upon it.” - Proverbs 22:6.

According to Solomon, when you role-model for children first by example, as they mature they’ll follow that example.

My Dad and namesake, Thomas Gray Allston (1917-2004), served as my role model against the odds.

No More “Papa Was a Rollin’ Stone” Here

Dad never knew his father, as characterized by The Temptations’ 1972 hit song. He instead supplemented that lack with an ironclad faith in his heavenly Father, an unquenchable passion for lifelong learning, and being a below-the-radar servant leader. Those early values and practices paid off.

The Potential 1972 Seismic Shift

After 21 years of marriage and raising us children in the greater Boston area, in 1972 my parents accepted administrative staff positions at Mom’s alma mater Oakwood College. Because of her degree, she received a job there that outranked Dad’s. She then became the family’s primary breadwinner.

In his book, *Why Black Men Don’t Attend Church*, Dr. Emerson Miller recounted that in the 1970s the doors of employment opportunities opened but mostly for college-educated Black women. The income gap widened, creating rivalry and tension often in marriages—but not so with Dad.

Not only did Dad never complain, but he served as Mom’s biggest cheerleader. Consequently, Mom taught for eight consecutive decades. In retirement, she became an educational consultant in Russia, Hatcherchubbee, Alabama and Pensacola, Florida, the Cayman Islands, and finally in northern China. All this happened with Dad’s support for Mom and his role modeling for us kids.

“What They See is What They’ll Be”

Before he headed to work nightly as a Massachusetts General Hospital nurse’s aide, I watched Dad routinely reading his Bible and its study quarterly, and *Prevention* and *Time* magazines; that birthed my passion-turned-profession of pairing news events with Bible study.

Dad influenced my younger sister Tonya’s Crestwood Hospital nursing career. Additionally, my older sister Dawn’s playing piano and clarinet - and my playing piano and saxophone - also came directly from Dad’s example.

While Mom as an educator read vocationally, Dad’s reading avocationally became my lifelong standard.

Thanks, “namesake Dad,” for giving me your name, your standards, and your mantle of silver-mettle leadership.

You can hear my sermonic tribute to Dad, by clicking on <https://bit.ly/3v4HBVe>, and be blessed. Thank you.



Thomas Gray (“tim allston”) Allston, III is the author of the upcoming print/digital/audiobook, *Where Jump Shots Meet Jesus*. Pre-order now at www.timallston.com.

Lakeside UM Will Host Juneteenth Celebration



Lakeside United Methodist Church will once again host another festive Greater Huntsville Juneteenth Celebration. Activities will begin Saturday, June 17, on the church premises from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

This year, the Lakeside Family will educate while celebrating this event through endeavors such as STEM outreach, reading and literacy, health and wellness, nutrition, economics, banking, voter registration, home

ownership, music, cultural arts, dance, and historical reenactments. This is a family event where everyone can be entertained. Admission is FREE. (Photo from Juneteenth 2022 event by J. Saintjones)

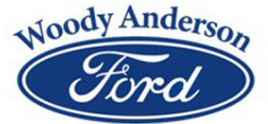


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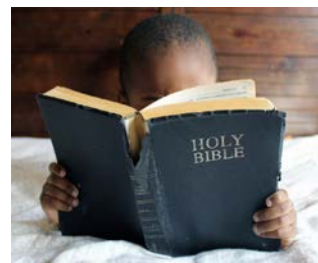
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This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, June 18, 2023

Third Sunday

After Pentecost

(Track 2, Year A)

First Lesson:

Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalm 100

Second Lesson:

Romans 5:1-8

GOSPEL:

Matthew 9:35-10:8, [9-23]

JUNE 16 - EDDIE LEVERT is an American singer-songwriter and actor. Levert is best known as the lead vocalist of The O'Jays. He is the father of Gerald Levert (1966-2006).

A native of Bessemer, Ala., Levert was raised in Canton, Ohio, where he moved at the age of 6. He attended church regularly and eventually joined the church choir. As Levert continued singing into his teenage years, he became a recognized voice in the church choir, sang in school plays and performed regularly on a gospel radio show.



- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com

Happy Juneteenth!

The Valley Weekly Staff



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

Dr. Horace W. Rice

Dr. Horace W. Rice is a professor of business law and ethics in the College of Business and Public Affairs at Alabama A&M University, Huntsville, Ala. He received his AA degree from Chicago City College, his B.S. degree from Alabama A&M University and his J.D. degree from the University of Toledo in Ohio. He has also served as an adjunct professor of business and labor law at Oakwood University in Huntsville and the University of Alabama in Huntsville's School of Business. He has been a visiting professor at the Florida Institute of Technology and Dakar University, Senegal, West Africa. Moreover, he has received invitations to teach summer classes from the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Rapids and Anaheim University in California.

As a certified corporate arbitrator and mediator by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service and the American Arbitration Association, he has adjudicated 100-plus business and labor disputes for corporations and various governmental agencies in the public and private sectors. As a consultant to corporations, agencies and unions, his service has covered venues at the local, state, regional and the national levels.

His professional affiliations include membership in the Academy of Legal Studies in Business, the Society

of Professionals in Dispute Resolution and membership on the following National Arbitration Panels: AAA, FMCS, United States Postal Service, National Football League and the Ohio State Impasse Panel. Further, he has accepted invitations to present his research at the following National and International conferences: Global Conference of Business and Economics, Harvard University; Boston; American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences, Las Vegas; International Academy of Business Disciplines, Las Vegas; American Business Law Association, Atlanta; and American Arbitration Association International Conference, Senegal, West Africa.

Dr. Rice is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and is listed in Who's Who International based on his activities in national and international affairs. He has accepted several invitations from the American Arbitration Association in New York and the Citizens Ambassador Program in Washington, D.C., to serve as an international delegate to lecture and present papers on international business law and arbitration for business and labor organizations and universities in Moscow, St. Petersburg, London, Paris, Stockholm, Senegal, Egypt and Brazil. Other foreign enrichment travels include: Canada, Peru, Mexico, East and West Africa and the Caribbean.



As an author, Dr. Rice has published one book chapter and more than 40 articles, cases and abstracts. Further, he has published in the following national and international journals and conference proceedings: Global Review of Business and Economic Research; Labor Arbitration Awards; Bureau of National Affairs; Labor Relations Reporter; LRP Publications; Faculty Research Journal; Labor Relations Press; American Business Law Association Journal; Federal Labor Relations Reporter; Labor Arbitration in Government Conference Publications; ABLA Regional Proceedings; IABD Regional Proceedings; ASBBS National Proceedings; GRBER International Proceedings; AAAIC International Proceedings. His research interests include the areas of business and labor law, ethics, corporate governance, dispute resolution systems, international business law, labor management relations and white-collar crimes.

"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@valley-weeklyllc.com.

TMCF Adds Drake State, Alabama's Black Community Colleges

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund, a membership organization representing public historically Black colleges and universities, has welcomed Drake State and sister Black community colleges into its network for the first time. The group brought six two-year institutions in Alabama into the fold last week.

Community college leaders who advocated for the move say joining the organization will bring new resources to their students and raise the profile of institutions that too often go unnoticed. The partnership means students enrolled at these colleges will have access to TMCF scholarships, internships and other professional development programs.

Harry Williams, president and CEO of TMCF, described the move as a "perfect marriage ... In talking to our corporate partners, there are a lot of amazing jobs out there that don't require a four-year degree," Williams said. "Part of our mission at TMCF is to provide opportunities for those that have been left out and try to create equity in our country. Historically, [these community colleges] align with what we do here at TMCF, but we've never had a strong relationship with them."

There are a dozen historically Black community colleges nationwide, concentrated in Southern states, including Alabama, Mississippi and South Carolina. Like their four-year counterparts, these institutions are federally designated as historically Black community colleges if they were



established prior to the 1964 Civil Rights Act with a mission to serve Black students.

Williams noted that the Southern University System in Louisiana, a member of the organization, includes one two-year institution. But this is the first time TMCF is intentionally bringing historically Black community colleges into the organization.

Patricia Sims, president of Drake State Community & Technical College, raised the idea to Williams at a convening of HBCU leaders in September. She said the request was born out of a need for more resources. The college in Huntsville, Ala., is one of five higher ed institutions in the city, including a predominantly white university, two HBCUs and another community college. She believes fresh partnerships will help her campus, and other historically Black community colleges, stay competitive.

Neighboring institutions "have very beautiful campuses," she said. "And here's Drake State, a small, underfunded, historically Black college that sits in the middle of a very well-resourced city."

She also wants more scholarships and career-

training opportunities for the students.

The average age of Drake State's student body is 28 years old, most are women and many are single parents, she said. The majority are "just one childcare incident, one car breakdown, one missed rent payment away" from stopping out.

Her pitch to TMCF leaders was that partnering with historically Black community colleges would further the organization's mission to increase access to higher ed for more students by making sure their services reach students on nontraditional education pathways.

Williams traveled to Alabama in March to visit the campuses, met with administrators, faculty members and students, and decided it made sense to grant them TMCF membership. While there are no current plans to bring more two-year colleges into the network, he said he's open to talking with other community college leaders who want to join.

PHOTO: Harry Williams, CEO of TMCF, meets with Patricia Sims (left), president of Drake State Community & Technical College, and Kemba Chambers, president of Trenholm State Community College.



Huntsville's 19th Century Black History Telling Our Stories

Early Mail Carriers A Circle of Remembrance

Ollye B. Conley
Researcher

The Circle of Remem-



Mr. Robert D. Dawson was born in 1856 in Alabama. His parents were born in Tennessee. He married Sarah Dawson. They were the parents of two children; Robert D. Dawson, Jr., and Bruce S. Dawson.

The family lived on Pearl Street in Huntsville, Alabama. Robert was a mail carrier for over 30 years. In 1892, at a meeting held at Lakeside Church, he was elected chairman of the publication committee of Black men. The purpose of the committee was to improve the race mentally, morally and financially.

Dr. William H. Council was one of the promoters. According to an article in the Journal, Mr. R. D. Dawson had a farm of over 100 acres of land under the management of Mr. E. W. McWilliams in Limestone County. It also stated that it was quite remarkable that Mr. Dawson owned the farm on which his parents were enslaved.

Robert Dawson died on January 4, 1926, and is buried in Glenwood Cemetery.

Mr. Charles C. Moore was born in 1868. His mother was Mattie Lee Moore. C. C. Moore married Sallie Smithers in 1887. The Moore family owned Moore's Fruit and Lunch Room at 132 West Holmes Street and pur-



chased a beautiful home from Attorney H. L. Clay on Pulaski Pike in 1903. Their daughter, Louvenia, graduated from Fisk University and taught school at her home. Their son, Columbus was a pharmacist. His drugstore was located on Pulaski Pike near University Drive.

In 1890, C. C. Moore was hired as a substitute mail carrier for the city of Huntsville. After 11 years as a substitute mail carrier, in 1901 he was promoted to mail carrier. C. C. served West Huntsville in that position for over 33 years. C. C. Moore died in 1930 and is buried in the Moore Family plot at Glenwood Cemetery.

Clarence C. Powers was born in 1875. His parents were born in Alabama. He attended Central Alabama Academy, located on Franklin Street. In 1896, Clarence married Rosetta Powers. Their children were William H. Powers,

Susan R. Powers, and Bernard C. Powers. His wife, Rosetta was born in 1876. Ruth Brown was her mother and Shederic McCauley was her step-father. She taught school in Madison County for approximately 40 years. Rosetta died at her home on West Clinton Street, November 21, 1959. She is buried in Glenwood Cemetery.

Clarence, along with **Aaron Smith, George Powers, Frank Ross, Oscar Hundley, J. A. Bradford** and **R. E. Clay**, took the clerks and carriers examination in 1911.

After passing the examination, Clarence Powers was hired as mail carrier, employed by the United States Government. In 1948, Clarence and his faithful horse "Annie" retired after 30 years of commendable service. He died in 1950 and is buried in Glenwood Cemetery.

Above Photo: Huntsville Federal Courthouse and Post Office (HMCPL)

Scenes from Southern Fried Film Festival

Featuring Michael Luwoye

