

AAMU Holds Board Session - p. 5

FREE



It's Strictly "The Stricklands" - p. 8

Friday
July 1, 2022
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ValleyWeeklyllc.com



SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK

Mrs. Dorothy B. Johnson

"But there are none so frightened, or so strange in their fear, as conquerors." - N.K. Jemisin

AAMU-RISE, GTRI Form Partnership

The key research units of Alabama A&M University (AAMU) and Georgia Tech have formed a partnership aimed at helping sustain the Army's readiness and modernization.

tive Office – Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (PEO IEW&S); and the Project Management Office – Aircraft Survivability Equipment (PMO-ASE).

to strengthen the research and development capabilities of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), such as the public Alabama A&M and the private Tougaloo.



The AAMU-RISE Foundation and the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) have entered into a formal partnership to offer joint services to the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation & Missile Center (DEVCOM AvMC); the U.S. Army Program Execu-

The partnership was facilitated by the Tougaloo College Research and Development Foundation and undergirds efforts by the Biden Administration

Roadmap" that provides mentor/protégé milestones that will lead to a boosting of A&M's research infrastructure and increasing contracting opportunities.

AAMU President Daniel K. Wims hosted a meeting to announce the strategic partnership, calling it an "HBCU Research

UAB's Vickers Named President/CEO of Cancer Center in Manhattan

A long-time Huntsville resident and leader of the state's largest hospital system is leaving Alabama, according to AL.com.

Dr. Selwyn Vickers, senior vice president for medicine and dean of the Heersink School of Medi-

cine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, will become the new president and CEO of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in September 2022.



The renowned pancreatic cancer surgeon is also a member of the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars and served as president of the American Surgical Association.

HMA Featuring Betty Grisham Exhibit, Open Free July 3

The Huntsville Museum of Art has announced opening day for the exhibit "Betty Grisham: A Celebration" on Sunday, July 3, 12 noon-5 p.m. The museum will also be open

free during those hours in recognition of Independence Day.

A North Alabama native, Betty Roper Grisham earned her B.A. degree in fine art and education

at Montevallo College in 1942, and the M.A. degree in fine art education from Columbia University Teachers College in 1945.

Tennessee Valley Remembers Revered Coach



One of Alabama A&M University's most revered coaches received tributes and accolades at First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville on June 23.

Gifted with expertise in football, tennis and track, Coach Ray Greene would develop into an exceptional

collegiate and professional coach. At the college level, he steadily expanded his coaching acumen through stints at Iowa State, Michigan State, Alabama State and Jackson State, moving into the head coach position at North Carolina Central University and

Alabama A&M University.

Professionally, Greene was affiliated with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League. He also served as assistant head coach of quarterbacks and wide receivers for the Jacksonville Sharks and the Tennessee Valley Vipers.



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Washington in One Minute



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

1. **ON THE FLOOR.** The House and Senate are not in session this week, although House committees will continue to meet and vote. The House on a 234-193 vote and the Senate on a 65-33 vote approved major legislation to combat gun violence last week, one month after the Uvalde, TX, school shootings. The bill, which garnered 14 GOP “yes” votes in the House and 15 GOP votes in the Senate, includes the following provisions:

- Closes the so-called “boyfriend loophole” on domestic violence (current law applies only to people who are married to or lived with the victim or had a child with them);
- Provides \$750 million to states for the creation and administration of “red flag” laws that prevent people who have been found by a court to pose a risk to themselves or others

from obtaining a gun; Provides enhanced background checks for under-21 gun buyers and tacks on 10 business days on the background check if the initial 3-day review reveals a possible disqualification;

- Requires more gun sellers to register as Federally Licensed Firearm Dealers, including individuals who sell guns as primary sources of income but have previously evaded registering;
- Creates federal straw purchasing and trafficking criminal offenses;
- Provides \$250 million in funding for community-based violence prevention initiatives;
- Provides \$940 million for children and family mental health services; and
- Provides \$2.35 billion to expand mental health and supportive services in schools.

2. **THE WHITE HOUSE.** Last Saturday morning, before leaving for his European

trip, President Biden signed the gun control bill – the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act – approved by Congress last week. He traveled to Madrid, Spain, for the annual meeting of NATO members on Wednesday and Thursday. On Sunday, G-7 leaders announced a ban on importing gold from Russia, which is Moscow’s second largest export after energy.

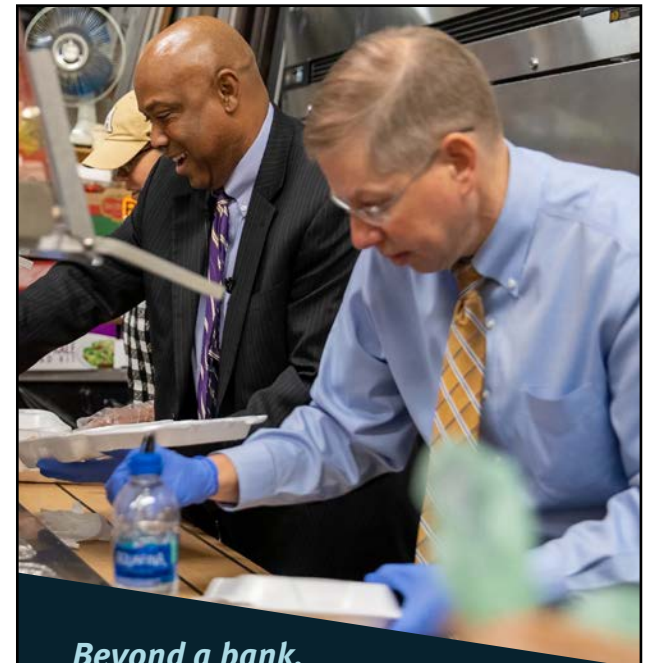
3. **SUPREME COURT.** After major decisions last week striking down Roe v. Wade and New York’s concealed-carry gun law, the Supreme Court issue additional opinions Monday to close out its 2021-2022 term, including a case on whether the Biden Administration must continue the “remain in Mexico” policy for migrants seeking asylum who must remain in Mexico until their U.S. court date and a case to limit the power of the EPA to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. According to an item in the ABA Journal, the Marshal of the Court, Col. Gail A. Curley, is conducting an investigation of the leak of the Dobbs (Mississippi abortion case) draft, which has included law clerks of the justices being asked to reveal their phone records and sign affidavits.

4. **FY2023 APPROPRIATIONS.** This week, the House Appropriations Committee will finish work on

the twelve Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations bills and has scheduled consideration of the following bills in full committee: Energy & Water and Commerce/Justice/Science on Tuesday; State/Foreign Operations and Interior on Wednesday; and Transportation/HUD and Labor/HHS/Education on Thursday. According to Roll Call, the number of House Republican earmark requesters grew in fiscal 2023, with 121 House Republicans (60%) requesting community project funding, which is up from 109 requesters a year earlier. In the Senate, only

16 of 50 Senate Republicans have requested earmarks since they were restored last year and last week Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Patrick Leahy (D-VT) said that some Republicans are pushing to strip earmarks out of the ongoing FY2023 appropriations negotiations.

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JOY is the most exhilarating of the nine Fruit of the Spirit.

The pineapple symbolizes JOY. It appears almost 430 times in the Bible. It produces positive vibes, feel-good energy and encourages us to look forward to the future with high hopes.

It is a choice. The Merriam-Webster dictionary maintains that JOY evokes emotions of well-being, success, good



Dr. Margaret J. Kelly

fortune, or the prospect of getting what one desires.

John 16:22 assures us that even though we will grieve, no one can take away our JOY. It is rooted so deeply down in our hearts that nothing can cause it to waver. The world didn't give it to us and the world can't take it away.

When we are filled with JOY, we are extremely happy, content and delighted. It encourages us to establish connections with other people in life. Interacting with a variety of people can often create positive energy.

Some paths to JOY are: the taste of a favorite food, the sound of music, the feeling of touch, the joy of beauty, being romantic with your partner, putting in a full day of work,

the relief of overcoming challenges and of pride in achievement.

Make a JOY list. What makes you happy? Expose yourself to a variety of activities that can elicit JOYFUL experiences. JOY does not come from earthly possessions, success or earthly relationships.

God is the creator of JOY. Romans 12:12 tells us to be "JOYFUL in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer."

"Ask and receive that your JOY may be full."
~John 6:24~

~Sources~

The Holy Bible - KJV
jamesrivers.church.com
emotioncompass.org
compassion.com

THE VALLEY WEEKLY
CHAMPION GAME PLAN
PRESTON BROWN

"WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?"

1 John 3: 10 says, *This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.*

When I was growing up, my great grandmother would always ask me this question, "Whose side are you on?" In other words, are you on God's side or the devil's side? I would reply, "I am on God's side." You see, I believe that she understood that the struggle that we all face between

good and evil is real and that is why she asked the question.

Living in the state of Alabama, it is inevitable that you will be asked the question, "Whose side are you on?"

In other words, do you pull for Alabama or do you pull for Auburn? And the reason for the question is that when these two teams play, it is one of the great rivalries of college football. So, when these games are played, there is a lot at stake. Things like bragging rights for a whole year. But, unfortunately, there is



much more at stake when it comes to the decision to follow Jesus or to follow the devil. It will decide where you will spend eternity. You see, we all need to realize that we are being influenced by God or by the devil.

Now, the problem that we have when we decide to follow the devil is that we end up with a lot of broken promises. For example, the devil will promise

us pleasure, but he brings us misery. He promises us fun but in the long run he brings us guilt and shame. He promises us life but he brings death. 1 John 3: 8 says, the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. But we have to choose whose side we are on, because God will not interfere with our free will. The choice is ours. But once we make the decision to follow Jesus, He will



strengthen us toward the direction that He wants us to take. Remember, Jesus will always meet us where we are but He refuses to leave us that way. So when we choose to follow Christ, we will have all the "bragging rights" that we need because we can say with full confidence that we are children of God ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

Make sure you purchase a copy of my book, "A Champion Game Plan for Life," at amazon.com.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY
VALLEY DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME
2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

Funeral service for MASTER JOSIAH J. REED (b. 2019) was held Monday, June 27, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for Mr. BRUCE EDWARD BETTS (b. 1950) was Saturday, June 25, at Shawnee Baptist Church (2214 Bank Street ~ Louisville, Ky.). Bruce was the brother of Dr. Denver A. Betts, Sr., of Huntsville, Ala.

Funeral service for MRS. BEADIE WILKES (b. 1937) was held Saturday, June 25, at Fellowship of Faith Church.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME
4315 Oakwood Avenue - Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Graveside service for MR. DAVID LESTER STINNETT (b. 1948) was held Tuesday, June 28, at the Collier Cemetery in Athens, Ala., with Pastor Robert Rice officiating.

Funeral service for MR. JOHN WILLIE PATTON (b. 1947) was held Sunday, June 26, at the Saint Andrew Primitive Baptist Church (1393 Swancott Road Madison, Ala.) with Reverend Calvin Moore as eulogist and Reverend Buford Moore officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. CLARA MARIE DAVIS (b. 1943) was held Saturday, June 25, at Fletcher's Chapel Primitive Baptist Church (30592 Hardiman Road, Madison, Ala. 35756) with Elder Kenneth Langford officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. ERLINE LESLIE MILLER (b. 1939) was held Saturday, June 25, at the West Huntsville Baptist Church (2211 Triana Blvd SW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Scott Gossett officiating.

Funeral service for MR. JESSE LANG (b. 1934) was held Friday, June 24, at Phillips CME Church (2185 Winchester Road NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Dr. Gregory Scott officiating.

Funeral service was held Thursday, June 23, for COACH RAY GREENE (b. 1938) at First Missionary Baptist Church (3509 Blue Spring Road NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Julius R. Scruggs as the eulogist and Dr. Don Darius Butler officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME
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The family will have a private memorial for MR. CALFORD JAMES RIDEAUX (b. 1958).

PowerShot

"Let your passion burn, but equip yourself for the fire that will test to see if you really want what you say you want."

-J. T. Moore



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—Wally "Famous" Amos

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E-mail: y.d.a@att.net

June 27-July 1

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Ages 4-11

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Huntsville, Ala.

July 7-17

The World Games

Birmingham, Ala.

August 5-7

DL Hughley

Comedian

Stand Up Live Huntsville

Huntsville, Ala.

September 17

Bulldog Football vs. Austin Peay

Louis Crews Stadium

Alabama A&M University
2 p.m.

October 1

Bulldog Football vs. Bet-hune-Cookman

Louis Crews Stadium

Alabama A&M University
2 p.m.

October 4

Concert

Earth, Wind & Fire

Orion Theater

www.axs.com

October 8

Bulldog Football vs. Grambling State

Louis Crews Stadium

Alabama A&M University
1 p.m.

November 12

Gulf Coast Challenge

AAMU vs. Jackson State

Ladd-Peebles Stadium

Mobile, Ala.

November 19

Bulldog Football vs. Texas Southern

Louis Crews Stadium

Alabama A&M University
1 p.m.

JULY 1 - WALLACE

AMOS, JR. - Wallace

"Wally" Amos, Jr. is an American TV personality, entrepreneur, and author from Tallahassee, Florida.

He is the founder of the Famous Amos chocolate-chip cookie, the Cookie Kahuna, and Aunt Della's Cookies gourmet cookie brands, and was the host of the adult reading program, Learn to Read.

- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



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Alabama Department of Public Health

www.alabamapublichealth.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
cdc.gov

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AAMU Holds Summer Board Meeting

APPROVED: \$217M Operating Budget; Fifth Doctoral Program in Social Work

The Alabama A&M University Board of Trustees on Friday, June 24, held tight reins on fall tuition, only allowing a \$60 increase to a student meal plan, while launching its fifth doctoral program. A doctoral program in curriculum and instruction was approved earlier this year.

Presidential Notes

In his report to the Board, AAMU President Daniel K. Wims noted that searches are ongoing to fill cabinet-level vacancies, including for the slots of provost, chief information officer, government relations officer and athletics director. Positions have been filled, however, for vice president for marketing, communication and advancement (Jamal Ali, an AAMU alumnus); vice president for student affairs (Dr. Braque Talley, a master's alumnus); dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs (Dr. Charles W. Richardson, Jr.); and head men's basketball coach (Otis Hughley, Jr.).

The University's summer enrollment reflects a substantial increase over previous summer sessions due in part to the availability of hybrid and online course options, said Wims, adding his expectation of a slight increase for fall, as well. While AAMU will purchase 68.2 acres of land behind Hillcrest (a former President's hilltop home) to boost overall campus assets and access, the Board will hold off for now on the sale of lots owned in the Chase Road vicinity.

The President also focused on increased support from the North Alabama legislative delegation via more substantive governmental relations efforts; the success of the April investiture ceremony; and an upcoming

trip (July 1-8) of select HBCU presidents to Israel to establish partnerships with their institutions.

President Pro Tem

Board President Pro Tempore Jerome B. Williams praised the Business and Finance unit for its increased support of faculty and staff. Such support, he stated, will assist in AAMU being "as competitive as possible." Dr. Williams inferred optimal competitiveness stems from increased retention, higher graduation rates, and an ability to attract the best employees.

"I want initiatives, chairs, and professorships to attract thought-leaders, said Williams. He concluded that the University also should set in place a five-year plan to become more "green" and energy conservative.

Committees

In addition to addressing tuition, which remains flat with only a \$60 increase in a meal plan, Dr. Lynda Batiste, interim vice president for business and finance, sought and received approval to rescind the sale of lots on Chase Road to allow exploration of additional options and to accept a \$217 million operating budget.

Under Academic Affairs and Research, Dr. Lena Walton, interim provost, received approval to create four associate dean positions. AAMU's academic offerings are listed under four distinct colleges. Walton also received approval to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AAMU and Dominica State College, Roseau, in the Commonwealth of Dominica, and an MOU between AAMU and the Teachers College, Columbia University.

Additionally, the degree program currently listed as Business Management and Administration will now be listed simply as Business Administration. Meanwhile, the current Department of Social Work, Psychology and Counseling will be restructured into two programs: the (1) Department of Psychology and Counseling and the (2) Department of Social Work.

After nearly 20 years, AAMU requested approval from the Board to establish its fifth doctoral program, the Ph.D. in social work. The University's fourth Ph.D. program in reading/literacy was formed in 2003.

Faculty Senate Report

Faculty Senate President Jeanette Jones called the relationship between President Wims and Faculty Senate "harmonious and productive." She reported that faculty members have been involved in the selection of the administrative team and participate on all major university standing and ad hoc committees, as well as provided input on the selection of new faculty. Besides Jones, Faculty Senate officers include Dr. Joshua Herring, vice president; Dr. Tonya Davis, secretary; and Dr. Elicia Moss, assistant secretary.

Jones added that ongoing activities for 2022-23 will include the Faculty Mentoring Program; round table discussions with the President; faculty handbook review; and a Faculty Senate retreat. The Faculty Senate presented a Citation of Commendation to President Wims for his role in faculty development during his investiture ceremony on April 29.

First Meeting

Jaila Green-Mascotti,

executive president of the Student Government Association wants to give students a needed voice on campus. She will encourage more town halls to help bring about quality advisement and increased retention and graduation rates.

Green-Mascotti lists among likely upcoming projects a student-faculty basketball game during homecoming, Spirit Week prior to the Louis Crews Classic; promotion of registered student organizations (RSOs); and mental health awareness efforts

Council Training Building

The Board granted its executive committee authority to approve an MOU between the University and alumni of the Council Training School, once housed in the campus building of the same name, following additional talks.

Adjournment

Trustees received a special visit from Gordon Stone, executive director, and staff members of the Higher Education Partnership, a decades-old advocacy organization for Alabama's 14 public four-year institutions of higher learning.

The Board acknowledged the stellar service and departures of key administrative team members, including Atty. Angela Debro, general counsel; Dr. Allen P. Vital, executive director, University Foundation; Bryan Hicks, athletics director; and Dr. Malinda Swoope, special assistant to the president. The next meeting of the Board will be held in Birmingham, Ala., on Friday, October 28, 2022.

by Jerome Saintjones



From Worst to First: Recapping the 2022 NBA Finals

"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer, . . . and I will give thee a crown of life" - Revelations 2:10.

The 2022 NBA Finals re-crowned a recent champion and also re-introduced a 17-champion franchise.



Both the winning Golden State Warriors and the runner-up Boston Celtics represent teams that recently traveled from suffering their worst records to becoming their conference's first.

After capturing their first three titles in four seasons injuries, trades, and COVID-19 plummeted the Warriors into an NBA-worst 15-50 record in 2019-20.

"If your culture can't withstand adversity, then you don't have culture," reflected coach Steve Kerr. His nine rings include four Warriors' coaching titles, and playing in three with Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls, and two with Tim Duncan's San Antonio Spurs.

The Warriors resuscitated their winning culture and surpassed their western conference foes.

So did the eastern conference champion Celtics. On January 1, 2022, that 17-championship franchise featured a 17-19 record under rookie coach Ime Udoka; this former NBA player turned All-Stars Jayson Tatum and Jalen Brown into better playmakers, while moving Marcus Smart to point guard and eventually to Defensive Player of the Year.

This helped propel them past their eastern rivals; however, their Finals loss left them tied overall with the Los Angeles Lakers with 17 title rings.

The Lord of the (4) Rings?

For the Warriors, their magic number was four and not just four titles in the eight most recent seasons. Four also represented their four 2nd-generation Black NBA Warriors - Gary Payton II, Andrew Wiggins, Klay Thompson, and Finals MVP Steph Curry.

With their four championship rings, Curry and Thompson now have as many as Shaquille O'Neal and LeBron James - and just one fewer than Kobe Bryant, Tim Duncan, and Magic Johnson!

"You look up and all the work that you put in over the last two years has paid off, . . . And we're back here," beamed Curry.

The hard work and payoff that Curry referenced mirrored Jesus' encouragement to his followers in the leadoff Bible text.

Now, both the Warriors and the Celtics demonstrate that we can overcome suffering and make it to the top!

- tim allston

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CALLED 2 PREACH

REV. MICHAEL RICE

Wounds and Kisses

**Proverbs 27:6;
Matthew 26:34; 48**

On the surface, if one were to be given a choice of one or the other, it is obvious that kisses would be chosen rather than wounds. However, when qualifiers are put in place, *wounds of a friend, or kisses of an enemy*, that makes a difference. The NLT puts it quite plainly: “Wounds from a *sincere* friend are



better than many kisses from an *enemy*.” It is always beneficial to audit the classroom settings of Jesus to learn some valuable lessons and this one concerning wounds and kisses is a case in point. When Peter’s pride made him think he was more spiritual than the other disciples, it took the sincere wound by Jesus to that pride to make Peter aware that he had overestimated his spirituality. He was told that he would deny three times even knowing Jesus.

On the other hand, Judas' kiss identified Jesus as the One who was to be arrested. Although generally speaking, kisses are preferred to wounds, when it comes to how God



uses them, they can both be beneficial. God can be trusted to surround us with friends who will wound us when necessary and help

us not be gullible by thinking that everyone who seems to “like” us is not automatically for us. In this era of social media, “likes”

are signs of a “following,” and the more, the better. Proverbs like the one in the text help us to live with discernment.

This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, July 3, 2022
Fourth Sunday
After Pentecost

(Track 2 - Year C)

Isaiah 66:10-14

Galatians 6:(1-6)7-16

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Psalm 66:1-8



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November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm



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

Mrs. Dorothy B. Johnson

Mrs. Dorothy B. Johnson is the true essence of a lady--quiet, dedicated, loyal, dependable, loving, a leader, unselfish, and always willing to help others. She was born and grew up in rural Dodge County in Eastman, Ga., with nine other siblings, working on their family farm. She relocated to Huntsville in 1961 to pursue a job at Alabama A&M University. She is the wife of Joseph J. Johnson for 56 years; mother of three daughters--Cheryl, Jerita, and Cerisa--and the doting and proud grandmother of three grandsons -- Jeremy, Christian, and Jaylen. Her family is the apple of her eyes and if you want to see a big grin on her face, just ask her about her grandsons. She will be happy to tell you about their latest accomplishments and achievements.

Mrs. Johnson obtained her B.S. degree in home economics from Fort Valley State College (now "University"), her M.S. degree in clothing and textile and psychology from Purdue University, and her Education Specialist degree from Auburn University.

Dorothy, sometimes called "Dot," is a retired educator from Calhoun Community College after teaching and supervising for 31 years.



In her honor, Calhoun Community College Child Development Center named its library the "Dorothy B. Johnson Learning Library" for her dedication and commitment to the child development program. Also, while at Calhoun, Dorothy earned many awards and honors.

Mrs. Johnson has been very involved with her church, Fellowship Presbyterian Church, for over 50 years. For her dedication, unselfishness, and hard work in ensuring the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall was equipped with the state-of-the-art commercial appliances, the Fellowship Hall was named the Dorothy B. Johnson Fellowship Hall. Mrs. Johnson volunteered at the Manna House three days a week, where she was fondly called "Ms. Dorothy." Ms. Dorothy organized and

helped prepare ready-to-eat foods, supervised distribution in the area of ready-to-eat foods, and supported Manna House financially.

Mrs. Johnson joined Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., on April 1, 1954, at Fort Valley State College. In the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter, she has served as the treasurer, and chair of several committees, such as audit, economic development, scholarship, and Ebony Fashion Fair ticket committees. Also, she received several community service awards from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. A visionary, she prepared and filed the papers to establish their 501(c) organization -- Diverse Educational Life Training Activities, Inc. (DELTA, INC.), where she has served as the president and treasurer.

In 2016, the Retired Teachers Association of Alabama presented Mrs. Johnson the Annual Volunteer Award for her services to the community.

Mrs. Johnson enjoys watching sports on TV, fishing, word scramble puzzles, catering, directing and planning weddings, and volunteering. She especially enjoys traveling back home to Eastman, Ga.

"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.



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Lamisha and Terrance Strickland's Wedding Celebration Party

Friday, June 24, 2022

