

The Valley Weekly

FREE

"What do I care for the opinion of my contemporaries or of future generations? I have done my duty; I approve of myself; that suffices me."
– Jean-Jacques Dessalines

Volume 3, No. 46

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, July 28, 2017

Couple's Business Emerges as Finalist for Small Business Award

A Tennessee Valley area technical solutions operation is one of 17 finalists for the prestigious Small Business of the Year Award by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

PROJECTXYZ, an economically disadvantaged woman-owned small business founded by Kim and Larry Lewis, is a contender in the Chamber's Dream Big Small Business of the Year Awards, which reportedly had a record number of applicants in 2017.

After spending 10 years in the Healthcare industry, Kimberly Lewis started PROJECTXYZ in 2002 to provide

Healthcare Information Technology consulting services to clients around the country. In 2007, Larry Lewis joined PROJECTXYZ, bringing with him 15 years of experience in government contracting. PROJECTXYZ entered the SBA 8(a) program in 2007 and was awarded its first Government contract in 2008. From there, PROJECTXYZ has grown into a company whose core capabilities include Engineering, Logistics, Information Technology, and Alternative Energy.

With not just capabilities, but proven experience in all

four areas, the name PROJECTXYZ was perfect when it was chosen 15 years ago. What began as a one-person company and served as a vehicle for Ms. Lewis' successful Healthcare IT consulting business has grown into a formidable small business now employing more than 85 people. PROJECTXYZ has been recognized on the Inc. 5000 list of fastest growing private companies in the U.S. for three consecutive years and was also named the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce's 2015 Small Business of the Year. In 2016, PROJECTXYZ was a

Blue Ribbon Winner from the US Chamber of Commerce.

The following businesses are finalists for this year's program:

- 3 Daughters Brewing – St. Petersburg, Fla.
- Beau and Belle Littles – Loveland, Colo.
- Brandhoot – Rochester, Minn.
- Charter School Business Management – New York, N.Y.
- Cope Company Salt – Lancaster, Pa.
- DHD Films – Dallas
- Ecolink, Inc. – Tucker, Ga.

- GCC Technologies – Oakland, Md.
- Golden Openings, Inc. – Urbandale, Iowa
- Mid-Atlantic Maritime Academy – Norfolk, Va.
- Nightlight Pediatric Urgent Care – Sugarland, Texas
- PROJECTXYZ, Inc. – Huntsville
- Sage Restoration – Overland Park, Kansas
- Tar Heel Basement Systems – Winston-Salem, N.C.
- TerraCycle, Inc. – Trenton, N.J.
- Valsatech Corporation – Ellicott, Md.
- Xylo Technologies – Roches-



Larry and Kim Lewis

ter, Minn.

The Chamber will announce award winners Sept. 12 during the 2017 Small Business Summit in Washington, D.C.

Award will continue through July 31. Photo by J. Saintjones

HBO Orders Controversial Series, Hall of Famer Visits B&GC

by Reginald D. Allen

Game of Thrones fans may have rejoiced when the critically acclaimed fantasy series returned for its final season on July 16, but the biggest twist didn't come from Westeros. The following week, HBO announced that it had ordered a full series for Confederate.

Helmed by GoT showrunners David Benioff and D.B. Weiss, Confederate "takes place in an alternative timeline, where the southern states have successfully seceded from the Union, giving rise to a nation in which slavery remains legal and has evolved into a modern institution." The show is set to feature characters from both sides of the spectrum, including "freedom fighters, slave hunt-

ers, politicians, abolitionists, journalists, the executive of a slave-holding conglomerate and the people in their thrall." The controversial series is slated to premiere sometime in the fall after GoT concludes in August. Since the announcement, many have voiced their disapproval in the subject matter, calling it inappropriate and untimely. However, controversy is no stranger to Benioff and Weiss. Game of Thrones, which is based on George R.R. Martin's best-selling novels, is known for its constant use of incest, murder and rape. Additionally, the provocative series has been scorned for its use of people of color, having them mostly portray slaves.

Seasoned African-American writers Nichelle Tramble Spellman and Malcolm Spellman, who have lent their talents to Empire, Justified and the Good Wife, are slated to join the series as executive producers and writers. In an interview with Vulture, Malcolm said the showrunners asked him and his partner to lunch, where they pitched the concept, which was originally a film. The project needed "black voices" and the writing duo, who will be tackling the Taraji P. Henson-led Proud Mary, were just the right fit. After hearing them out, the Spellmans were immediately on board.

"We deal with it directly and have for our entire lives.

We deal with it in Hollywood, we deal with it in the real world when we're dealing with friends and family members," Malcolm said. "And I think Nichelle and I both felt a sense of urgency in trying to find a way to support a discussion that is percolating but isn't happening enough. As people of color and minorities in general are starting to get a voice, I think there's a duty to force this discussion."

Despite the backlash, there is no official script or a cast. It appears that the series will be put on the back burner until GoT wraps in mid August.

Hall of Famer Visits Rocket City for Great Cause

The Boys and Girls Club of

North Alabama held their eighth annual Leaders and Legends dinner

at the Von Braun Center on July 20. This year's special guest was former Dallas Cowboys running back Emmitt Smith.

The dinner celebrates Boys & Girls Club alumni who have made great strides in their respective professions. Additionally, this is the organization's biggest fundraiser of the year and the proceeds go to directly toward helping the youth in the North Alabama region. The night was complete with a silent auction of



various athletic memorabilia, including items from Smith.

While many know him for his athletic achievements, Smith has an equally impressive background in philanthropy. In 2012, the pro baller and his wife founded Team 22, a mentorship program geared toward students in the Dallas area.

Over the years, the Leaders and Legends dinner has had their fair share of celebrity guests. Previous guest speakers included Gene Stallings, Nick Saban, Gus Malzahn and Evander Holyfield.

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Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Washington in a Minute



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

1. The House and Senate are in session this week. The House will adjourn at the end of the week for the five-week August recess, but the Senate, per Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), may stay in session for an additional two weeks if there is not significant action this week on its major agenda items ... Over the past week, there was a rollercoaster of voting scenarios touted, including voting on the revised Senate healthcare bill or a simple repeal of Obamacare with no replacement plan. Last Friday, the Senate Parliamentarian ruled that some provisions in the GOP healthcare bill, including defunding Planned Parenthood for one year and banning abortion coverage in Obamacare insurance plans, would require 60 votes to pass. Here are the key details to know:

- Coverage: Per the CBO, voting on a straight Obamacare repeal would result in 32 million more uninsured Americans by 2026 than under the current system. The revised Senate GOP healthcare bill would kick 22 million off healthcare.

- Premiums: With no replacement, average premiums in the individual market would double by 2026 under a repeal. Under the Senate GOP bill, premiums would decrease by 30%, but out-of-pocket

costs would soar for older and sicker people.

- Deficit reduction: an Obamacare repeal would lead to \$473 billion in deficit savings for the federal government through 2026. The Senate GOP bill would result in \$442 billion in savings over the same timeframe. Most of the savings would come from cuts to the federal Medicaid program.

The House will vote this week on a "minibus" appropriations bill combining the FY2018 Defense, Military Construction & Veterans Affairs, Legislative Branch, and Energy & Water Appropriations bills, which will include \$1.6 billion to start construction of the Mexican border wall. The House will also vote on a bill to impose new sanctions on Russia and to give Congress the authority to block the Trump administration from making changes to sanctions policy.

2. President Trump will participate in events for "American Heroes" week. On Monday, travelled to Glen Jean, W. Va., to visit the 2017 National Boy Scout Jamboree. On Tuesday, he hosted a campaign rally in Youngstown, Ohio, and he met with Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri at the White House. On Wednesday, he spoke at the American Legion Boys Nation and American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation events in DC. On Thursday, he par-

ticipated in an event honoring first responders.

3. On Monday, the President's son-in-law, White House staffer Jared Kushner, testified before the Senate Intelligence

Committee in a closed session. Last week, the Senate Judiciary Committee called

Donald Trump Jr., and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort to testify this past Wednesday on their role in arranging a meeting at Trump Tower in June 2016 with officials connected to the Russian government.

4. Last week, the public comment period ended with more than 9 million comments received on a proposal by the Federal Communications Commission to consider overturning a 2015 rule that prohibited internet service providers from prioritizing or blocking internet content

- known as net neutrality. Additional rebuttal comments are due August 16.

5. Last week, the Federal Highway Administration released its latest National Highway Construction Cost Index, a quarterly estimate of the rising cost of domestic highway construction and maintenance over time. It is the first time the Index - now called "NHCCI 2.0" - has been published since the agency made major methodological revisions to improve its accuracy. The latest figures show that highway construction costs today have climbed by 67 percent compared to similar costs in 2003, with key highway components such as asphalt, concrete and metal, increasing at 107 percent, 61 percent and 45 percent, respectively, between 2003 and 2016.

6. The House of Representatives was scheduled to vote Monday on legislation that would expand the educational benefits to veterans under the GI Bill. An identical companion bill was introduced last week in the Senate.

7. According to a recent report on National Public Radio, Supreme Court Justice

Anthony Kennedy has let his clerk applicants for the 2018-2019 term (which begins in October 2018) know he is considering retirement. Justice Kennedy - who turned 81 yesterday - was appointed to the court by President Reagan in 1988.

8. This weekend, July 29 and 30, a number of big DC names will travel to California for the 3rd annual Politicon at the Pasadena Convention Center. Brand new White House Communications Director Anthony Scaramucci will be a panelist, along with folks like The Weekly Standard editor at large Bill Kristol, former Trump advisor Roger Stone, former RNC Chair Michael Steele, and former Clinton advisor Paul Begala.

For more information, contact Ron Hamm at 202-596-8384 or rhamm@hammconsulting.com.

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Champion Game Plan for Life by Preston Brown

1 Samuel 17:48 says: "As Goliath moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle to meet him, and slayed him."

You know, so many people have "good intentions," but never take the initiative to do what they are capable of doing. It can be easy to get into the habit of saying, "I'm going to do this or that," but never really follow through with it.

In the text (1 Samuel 17), we find that David took the initiative to step out, in faith, to slay the mighty Goliath and when

he did, it effected a whole nation of people. Because no one else would do anything.

You see, procrastination is the enemy of so many people, and it will keep them in a place of complacency, which will not provide the abundant life that Jesus died for us to have.

It's not enough to have good intentions. We also have to take the initiative



and take that step of faith and watch God do the rest ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

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The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor

Shoes ... Ahhh, Shoes!

As the youngest of eight girls, we wore and shared shoes and passed them up and down. It didn't really matter if they were a good fit, especially our Sunday and dress-up shoes. We only wore them once or twice a month and as growing children, we made them fit. In other words, we squeezed our heels and toes into them and made it work. When they were too big, we stuffed paper and socks in the toes and made them fit.

Shoes make for interesting conversation. I have heard people say: "If the shoes don't fit, don't wear them." So often we say and hear interesting things. Even when our shoes didn't fit, we *had to* wear them. As a result, many of us have "bad" feet today, including me. Even though the concept didn't work for my feet, it works out very well in life. When people say things, make judgements and assumptions, I decided some time ago when things apply to me and when they do not. When the spoken words or actions don't apply to who I am, I don't put those *shoes* on my feet. I think the world would be a better place if we would stop trying to wear other folks' shoes.

We are each different and unique. We should NOT enjoy the same food, clothing, personality types, seasons, cars, pets, destinations, books, or hobbies. These differences are the things that make us so wonderful and diverse. When we yield to what others want us to be rather than who we really are, we are never happy. Unhappiness is the result of trying to fit our feet in other people's shoes.

Life nor people are perfect, so the fit might not be perfect, but it should be comfortable. During a time when everybody is worried about what everybody else is doing or not doing, I have a piece of old fashioned advice: "If the shoe doesn't fit, don't try to wear it."

As I work on this iPad tonight, I am concerned about the children who are physically challenged with typing, visually challenged with reading from the screen of a computer, pad or mobile device and those of us who just don't fit with being forced to be like everyone else. I worry about elders whose shoes don't fit due to the change in bone structure of the feet with age but due to limited resources are unable to get ones that fit. I worry about people who have insurance but are thrown out of health care facilities because the insurance company dictates the length of your stay. I worry about doctors and professionals who want to do the right thing, but are challenged with the "rules". I worry about "good decent people" remaining silent when they see and know that things are wrong.

Even with our worries and concerns, we know how to manage them. With a deep and healthy faith, eternal optimism, and many great examples of goodness we remain focused on tomorrow. Yesterday, I celebrated another birthday. I have decided to get me a new pair of shoes--a pair that fits. For some reason, all of my shoes seem to hurt my feet. I wonder if it's due to other folks' shoes or because I worry about so many things that I can not change, like iPads, elders and health care.

Until next week ...



Dorothy

Valley Calendar of Events

July 29

July Jam and Bookpack Drive
Alabama A&M University
Agribition Center
Moore's Mill Road
Bookpack: 2-5 p.m.
Jam: 6-10:30 p.m.
Free

Networking Social
Burritt on the Mountain
Huntsville, Ala.
6 p.m.

July 30

143rd Anniversary
Church Street CPCA
Downtown Huntsville
9:30 a.m.

"Taste of Kappa"
Sponsor: Huntsville Alumni
Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi
Fraternity, Inc.

Tickets: \$30/person
Contact: Michael Miller,
(256) 656-7719
Huntsville Museum of Art
7-10 p.m.

August 3-5

Margaret Cho
Stand Up Live
Comedy Club
Huntsville, Ala.

Thru August 13
Dinosaur Uproar Alive
Huntsville Botanical Garden
Presented by:
Toyota Alabama

August 4

Xi Omicron - Omega Psi Phi
Fraternity, Inc.
"Vegas Night" (Semi-Formal)
\$30/\$40 at the door
Von Braun Center
North Hall
Downtown Huntsville
7 p.m.-1 a.m.

August 31-September 3
Comedian Don "DC" Curry
Stand Up Live
Comedy Club

September 14

"2017 Speakers Series for the
Village of Promise"
Speaker: Ruby Payne, Ph.D.
Von Braun Center
North Hall
Downtown Huntsville
11:30 a.m.

August 5

Alabama Women In Jazz Festival
Headliner: Freda Payne
Insanity Complex
1-10 p.m.
EventBrite.com

October 10-15
Motown - The Musical
Von Braun Center
Concert Hall
Downtown Huntsville
Huntsville, Ala.

August 11

Diversity Leadership
Colloquium (DLC)

Samford U. Extends Northward to Rocket City

Samford University of Homewood, Ala., has expanded to the city of Huntsville and elected Jarman Leatherwood, pastor of the House of Hope and Restoration (HHR), to directorship of the new satellite campus.

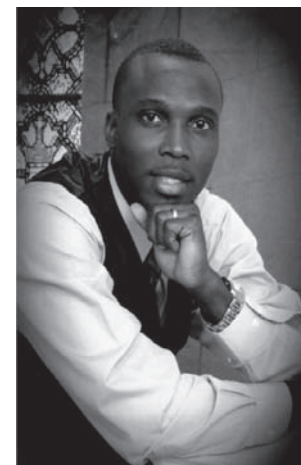
Samford chose Pastor Leatherwood for this venture because he exemplifies excellence in his service to God, to family, and to the theological education of his community.

The House of Hope and Restoration (HHR) and Samford campus are located at 4619 Commercial Drive in northwest Huntsville.

Leatherwood received his Theological degree from Luther Rice College and Seminary.

Samford University is a private, coeducational, Christian university founded in 1841 as Howard College. It is among the 100 oldest institutions of higher learning in the United States.

"I believe God has blessed me with an opportunity to achieve my dream of discipleship," responded Leatherwood when asked about his aims. "Through this campus, I will be able to bring affordable biblical classes to people in an intimate and non-threatening



Leatherwood

environment." Class registration is available online at <https://www.samford.edu/programs/ministry-training-institute>.
by Phyllis Chunn

Valley Deaths

Funeral service for **Mrs. Elmira Battle** was held Tuesday, July 25, at Union Hill PB Church with Rev. Oscar L. Montgomery officiating.

Funeral service was held Saturday, July 22, at Macedonia PB Church for **Mr. Ezekiel Briggs** (b. 1992) with Pastor Theodis Acklin officiating.

Funeral service for **Mr. Lloyd D. Moore** was held Tuesday, July 18, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for **Mr. Nathaniel F. "Sonny" Hurt** (b. 1947) was held Monday, July 17, at Phillips CME Church with the Rev. Keith E. Ellison officiating.

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

NBCC to Hold Fire Convocation

New Beginnings Christian Church and Pastors Errol and Jennifer Davis cordially invite the Tennessee Valley community to the three-night Holy Fire Convocation Revival on Wednesday, August 2, through Friday, August 4, at 7 p.m. each evening.

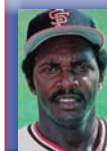


The guest minister will be Bishop Roderick Mitchell of New Life Church of

Cleveland, Miss.

New Beginnings Christian Church is located at 604 Jordan Lane, NW, Huntsville, Ala.

For additional information, contact Vicki Washington at (256) 489-4943 or e-mail vicki@newbcc.org.



July 28 - **VIDA BLUE** - Born in Mansfield, La., Vida Blue is a Cy Young and MVP award winning, six-time all-star pitcher. He was also a three-time World Series winner.

- BlackinTime.info

"Every man is guilty of all the good he did not do."

- Voltaire

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Documentary Underway Will Show Ed Sullivan's Role in Civil Rights

A documentary scheduled for release in 2018 will celebrate Ed Sullivan's subtle role in bringing about positive change in the Civil Rights Movement.

The brainchild of Sullivan's granddaughter (Margo Precht Speciale) and Diahann Carroll's daughter Suzanne Carroll, the film--"Sullivision: Ed Sullivan and the Struggle for Civil Rights"--will delve into Sullivan's role in providing exposure to black artists during times of segregation and racial turmoil.

Harry Belafonte: "It is one thing to look at the transformation of the United States of America through the prism of what Dr. King brought to the table. But the Civil Rights Movement would never have been able to sustain itself with the intensity that it did if there were not subtle forces at play. That subtle force was...Ed Sullivan."

"Sullivision" is a 70-minute documentary taking a surprising look at a man who was once television's most influential personality.

Ed Sullivan is known for creating the longest running variety show and introducing the Beatles to America. What most people don't know is that he was also a risk-taker who booked African-American



EdSullivanDoc.com Photo of Sullivan with 5th Dimension

artists despite threats from Southern sponsors and numerous letters from irate white viewers.

Sullivan showcased acts audiences had never heard of that are household names today — and he treated these artists with grace and dignity back when racism was normal and insidious, challenging America to do the same.

This film tells the story of a man who changed the face of popular culture and the performers and viewers whose lives were deeply impacted by the show.

Based on interviews with celebrities and Sullivan's family members, as well as media analysts, the documentary brings to light a little known chapter in America's struggle for racial justice.

For more information, or to assist in the documentary's completion, visit EdSullivanDoc.com or @

EdSullivanDoc on Facebook.

City Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council Meetings City Council regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. City Council work sessions also held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information, call (256) 427-5011.

Huntsville Happenings

GHS to Become Community Center

The old Grissom High School will be repurposed for a south Huntsville community center after it changes from Huntsville City School System to City of Huntsville ownership.

The proposed Sandra Moon Community Complex, named after the late former councilwoman pending Council approval, will also be the anchor for the new Baily Cove Library.

This new library will feature wi-fi, computer areas, and ample space far surpassing the space of the current facility.

Additionally, the local arts community, via Arts



Huntsville, will make use of the areas of the old school that related to theatre and fine arts.

The old school's gym and sports areas will be assigned to Huntsville Parks and Recreation.

Ownership of the property should be settled in August, while working the facility into the city's budgeting process for renovations and other demolition needs will likely occur in September for the next fiscal year..

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Valley Scopes

by Melissa Wilson/Seloma

AUGUST

ARIES

A cosmic imprint has shaped conditions, where Venus' sextile with Uranus is maximizing your strong personality and natural ability to influence someone during a time when long negative, or unwanted, patterns of behavior are being chipped away or demolished.

AQUARIUS

August 2nd, Uranus turns retrograde in Aries, advocating a crusade of sorts; to move forward, with any important social, political, or religious aspirations that you have now while the likelihood of reform is likely to be high-yielding.

CANCER

Mercury is heightening your mental faculties, and the things that you're giving your attention to are also of tremendous interest to co-workers or pals, and are, therefore, making delightful topics- of motivating conversation.

CAPRICORN

Neptunes' sextile with Pluto,

is underlining your abilities to help make the people around you more at ease with the changes that are being experienced.

GEMINI

The Venus square of Chiron means that you may be experiencing some relationship pain due to a connection being unbalanced in some way, although your open expression, along with your desire to get more from someone than you are getting, is offering a clear objective on how to rectify a situation and steadily move forward.

LEO

With the sun and Mars in the backdrop, the things that you're about are shining through and you are making a relevant impact, where one is needed and thereby, building inner confidence. Additionally, the east point is somehow making your manner of noticeably engaging the public quite evident.

LIBRA

Jupiter and the moon, are accenting the manner in

which you are actively enlightening someone about how you feel and assuring them, on where you stand.

PISCES

With Venus in the picture, prodding you, you're adamant about assuring others that you are willing to go all out, in order to help create conditions that are suitable for growth.

SAGITTARIUS

Saturn's conjunction with Pholus finds you in a position where the feelings of others are affecting you strongly and open a jar that possibly ignores rules and regulations--even though, the situation is likely, guiding you toward a way in which you'll evolve, in some sense.

SCORPIO

The moons' trine of Chiron, is placing you within a definite role-of-healing-teacher, which is coming along with relief that you, yourself, either are: will be or already have gone through--all while you go about pinpointing

someone else's cause of illness and pain, which is likely to be reduced, as you go about promoting the healing of spirit and emotions, in addition to the body.

TAURUS

Mercurys' trine with Uranus, is setting a stage, that is encouraging a meeting of natural ability that you possess with a percolating consciousness; revealing an idea- that you have, which has cutting edge magnificence.

VIRGO

Saturn's trine with the North node, is drawing attention, to the manner in which you receive from others, as well as how you reciprocate, all while you're becoming more aware of your own, momentary irritability- slightly withdrawing, in order to explore ways in which you can further grow, as a person.

A Good Read



by Jerome Saintjones

Antonya Nelson's "Unified Front"

there was a possibility that the child was Jacob's was kept from

Jacob and Cece have been trying to have a child for quite some time. Almost everywhere are instances of children and pregnancies, along with the lingering thought that perhaps they are both being punished for an abortion performed before the two had married.

Too old to adopt, they found some refuge in the possibility of raising the child of one of Jacob's promiscuous, immature and now pregnant high school students. That

Cece at a cost that Jacob probably would have had to pay for a lifetime, but the fickle student left town, torpedoing the couple's chance at parenthood. While Cece really wants to be a mother, Jacob has accepted that it likely won't happen.

At a theme park in Florida, he sees her reach for another woman's child and assumes the worse--that she will make a dash. She only coddles the infant, but he realizes that he would have joined her run in a united front.

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ACTION KIDS: The 2nd annual Action Kids Tennis Camp that began in June wrapped up on Thursday, July 20, after an intense and fun-filled five-week session. The summer program is coordinated by Dr. Janet M. M'mbaha of AAMU's Department of Health Sciences, Human Performance & Communicative Disorders. Students practice on courts adjacent to the T.M. Elmore Building. (Photo by J. Saintjones)



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Coach Joseph Henderson Still Training Olympians

by Melissa Babson

The Huntsville Metro Track Club has five athletes who have qualified for the USA Track and Field Junior Olympics.

USATF Nationals are being held in Lawrence, Kans., from July 24-30, for Shafi Muhammad, Amaya Wells, Juwan Brabson, Malaya Brabson and Laci Turner.

The 51st USATF Hershey National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships will be

held at Rock Chalk Park, the home of Kansas Track and Field, in Lawrence, Kans.

The USATF Junior Olympic Track & Field program is one of the most visible youth athletic development programs in the world.

Many of today's Olympic stars began their track and field careers competing in the USATF's Junior Olympic meets.

Nearly 10,000 athletes are expected to travel to

Lawrence for the 2017 Championships. Entry is based on athlete performances at Preliminary, Association and Regional levels of the 2017 USATF Junior Olympic Program. Competition takes place in six (6) two-year age groups with athletes generally falling between the ages of 7 and 18.

Dr. Joseph Henderson is the founder and coach of the Huntsville Metro Track Club.

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Yard Waste

- First of all, containers must be designed for residential waste collection and placed at the curb by 7 a.m.
- Place boxes, furniture, appliances, household items, tree limbs, junk, and yard waste out for trash collection. All trash or yard waste that is able to fit into a container must be placed in one before it will be collected
- All building material such as planks, boards, siding, and the like, which is the result of home improvements the homeowner has done must be placed in a con-



tainer for collection.

- Containers must not be blocked by vehicles, vegetation or other obstructions, exceed 32 gallons, or weigh more than 50 pounds.
- Yard waste such as grass, leaves, edge and shrubbery clippings, and building material must be placed in 32 gallon cans or bags and cannot weigh more than 50 pounds.
- Tree limbs should not exceed 5 feet in length. Tree limbs up to 10 cubic yards will be collected at no charge, with each additional 5 cubic yards costing \$45 per collection.
- Place all trash items behind the curb for collection. Do not place any

- debris in the road, gutter, on top of storm drains, on sidewalks, or next to utility lines/poles/boxes.
- Containers must not contain debris other than trash or yard waste or unacceptable or hazardous waste such as paint, chemicals, solvents, dead animals, medical or biological waste.
- Common items that are not collected by the City include dirt, rocks, bricks, cinderblocks, shingles, or concrete; tree limbs or trimmings resulting from land clearing.
- The City will not pick up construction debris or any debris resulting from a contractor's work or commercial project.

- City of Huntsville



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Local Chamber Receives National Honor from ACCE

Huntsville, Ala. — The Huntsville/Madison County Chamber has been named Chamber of the Year by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE), an association of more than 7,500 chamber of commerce professionals, and 1,300 chambers of commerce, from around the world.

Chamber of the Year is the most prestigious and competitive award presented by ACCE and is the only globally-recognized industry award that honors top chambers of commerce. Those honored with the Chamber of the Year designation have demonstrated organizational strength and made an impact on key community priorities, such

as education, transportation, business development and quality of life.

Chip Cherry, president and CEO of the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber, accepted the award—along with about a dozen staff members—on July 18 at ACCE's Annual Convention in Nashville, Tenn.

"It is an honor to be selected as the Chamber of the Year for 2017," said Cherry. "To be singled out as the best in our peer group from the many outstanding Chambers in the United States is testimony to how effective our volunteer and staff team have been helping the community advance. I am both honored and humbled to work with such an outstanding group of men and

women!"

Qualifying for Chamber of the Year is a rigorous, multi-stage process. Organizations entering the Chamber of the Year competition must first meet minimum thresholds in at least three of five key performance areas, including net revenue, net assets, membership account retention, and membership dollar retention.

Chambers compete based on meeting key performance criteria on the ACCE Annual Operations Survey. Qualifying chambers enter the competition with a written application addressing all aspects of organizational operation and programmatic work. Applications are scored by peer chamber execu-



tives to determine finalists. Winners are selected from among finalists based on an in-person interview before a panel of experienced chamber professionals.

"This award speaks volumes about our Chamber, its commitment to this community, and the dedication of its members,

employees, volunteers, and Board," said Joe Newberry, 2017 Huntsville/Madison County Chamber Board Chair. "It is confirmation of what we already know—that this Chamber has always done amazing things to make our communities a smarter place to live, work and play."

This year's competition drew entries from chambers throughout the U.S. and Canada. To ensure the fairest competition, applicants are grouped into four categories based on: annual revenue, membership, area population, and several other factors.

- Courtesy of Carrie Rice



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

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