

New 'Gateway' to Downtown Created

Public Art Commission to Serve as a Gateway to Downtown Huntsville

Arts Huntsville, Sealy Property Development, LLC, and the City of Huntsville has announced the commission of a public art installation that will serve as a gateway to Downtown Huntsville.

The pieces, Light Tree and Light Arch, will be prominently featured in the plaza of The Avenue, a mixed-use development along Jefferson Street North and at the southwest corner of Jefferson and Meridian Streets.

Award-winning Birmingham artist Christopher Fennell was tasked with creating a sculpture that will serve as a welcoming gateway to downtown Huntsville with a presence both day and night.

Chris's Light Tree symbolizes an enlightened city, where diverse groups of people live and work together and exchange ideas. Light Arch represents different groups coming together to learn from one another, with the lights intertwining around the center of the arch.

These site-specific pieces feature street lights throughout Huntsville's neighborhoods, with the Light Arch mirroring the Roman arch over St. Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church across Jefferson Street.

Black Banks Feeling Impact of New Deposits

Popular African-American artists and activists' appeals to the black community to show

financially tangible support of black-owned banks is beginning to show up on the books.

The appeals have been many, but more notably and recently by rapper Killer Mike, Solange and others. One major African-American bank has received

thousands of new depositors.

Alabama-born Cynthia N. Day, (above) president and CEO of the nearly 100-year-old Citizens Trust Bank in Atlanta, Ga., acknowledged the growth (8,000 new applications) in a *USAToday*

article. The piece also noted the bank's operations in metro Atlanta; Columbus, Ga.; Birmingham, Ala., and Eutaw, Ala.

Day is a native of Fayette, Ala., and a graduate of The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree

in business administration and accounting.

Alabamians having been making an impact in banking for

more than a century. A single case in point is First Tuskegee Bank, one of the oldest continuously operated minority financial institutions in the United States, dating back to when it was chartered as Tuskegee Federal Savings and Loan Association on Dec. 31, 1894.

Locally, HBCUMoney.com, in its 2015 report on HBCU-based credit unions, cited Councill Federal Credit Union at Alabama A&M University for an 8.5 percent increase in assets, placing it in the lead in terms of growth of a persistent, if weak, pack of similar institutions. In 2016, CFCU was ranked 7th among black college credit unions in assets.

- Jerome Saintjones

Bryant Bank Makes Major Gift to Boys & Girls Clubs



Bryant Bank recently donated \$50,000 to the Boys and Girls Clubs of North Alabama during the board meeting at the Seminole Boys and Girls Club (B&GC) located in the Westside Community Center at Butler Terrace in Huntsville.

This donation will assist the club, along with Huntsville City Schools, to provide academic intervention programs at each grade level in daily after-school programs. It will allow the Boys & Girls Club to continue to provide an employee to the city schools on a daily basis to assist the faculty with relationshipbased support and encouragement as an advocate for the students and their parents. The funds will also provide resources to allow the B&GC staff to provide additional programming to serve even more at-risk children from the Seminole Club location.

Boys and Girls Clubs of North Alabama President Patrick Wynn said, "Huntsville has always had strong corporate partners who invest back in the community and I can't think of anyone who has done it any better than Bryant Bank." He continued, "Since the inception of Bryant Bank here locally, they have been great community partners, and we are very grateful for this incredible investment. This gift to the Boys & Girls Clubs is what allows us to continue to serve our most at-risk segment of the community. On behalf of our Board, staff, and most importantly, our children, we say thank you for investing in our young

Bryant Bank has supported the Boys & Girls Club for many years through event sponsorship, financial support and banker involvement. Bryant Bank President Ken Watson is a former B&GC board member and Bryant Bank Senior Vice President Chris Lindsey currently serves on the board.

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St. Luke Christian Church

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church



Your Washington Recap

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

- 1. The House and Senate are in recess until September 6.
- 2. President Obama was in Philadelphia Wednesday to address the Democratic National Convention. The President's rating stands at 51% in the latest NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll—the 3rd-straight NBC/WSJ survey where his approval has been above 50%.
- 3. On Tuesday, the Federal Reserve started its 2-day meeting in Washington on whether to recommend an interest rate change. Between December 2008 and December 2015, the Federal Reserve held its benchmark Fed Funds Rate in a target range near zero percent in an effort to stimulate the economy and then, at the end of last year, the group raised the target range to 0.25%. Fed experts do not expect a rate change this week.
 - 4. The New York Times an-

"What if I fall?"

What if you fly?

Oh, but my darling

PowerShot

nounced that its research into the 20,000 emails stolen from Democratic National Committee (DNC) computer servers pointed to two Russian intelligence agencies, which were the same attackers behind previous Russian cyber attacks at the White House, the State Department and the Joint Chiefs of Staff last year. The stolen e-mails published on the WikiLeaks site last Friday appeared to show coordinated efforts among Democratic party officials to help Hillary Clinton at the expense of rival Bernie Sanders, which forced the resignation of DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz. Former DNC Chair-and current DNC Vice-Chair-Donna Brazile served as interim chair starting at the end of the convention.

- 5. 2016 Presidential Watch.
- · 32.2 million television viewers watched Donald Trump accept the GOP presidential nomination last Thursday (60% of whom were over the age of 55), which is a boost from Mitt Romney's 30.2 million

viewers in 2012. John McCain set the all-time record for most viewers of an acceptance speech in 2008 at 38.9 million.

- · The Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia gaveled in Monday. Speakers included First Lady Michelle Obama and Senator Bernie Sanders. Tueday was former President Bill Clinton's night, followed on Wednesday by President Obama and Vice President Biden, and Hillary Clinton accepting the nomination on Thursday night. Newly-announced running mate Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) was expected to speak on Wednesday
- · Last Saturday, in a move seen as an olive branch to Senator Bernie Sanders, the Democratic Rules Committee voted 158 to 6 to change the superdelegate rules for future elections to bind about 2/3rds of convention superdelegates to the results from primaries and caucuses. Elected lawmakers and governors would still be unbound delegates. Democrats will create a commission after the November election and make recommendations by Jan. 1, 2018. The changes would then need to be

approved by the full Democratic National Committee.

6. Hillary Clinton's vice presidential pick, Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) has been active in Congress on education issues, particularly when it comes to career and technical education. He's been pushing to expand federal student loans for some career education programs, has worked on a rewrite of the Perkins Act, and founded and co-chairs the Senate career and technical education caucus. In regard to free public higher education, he believes that careful consideration, particularly on the fiscal front, must be given to whether there should be some type of income test with respect to free access to college. He also has said that by making all public university education free, it would result in giving away college education to richer Americans who don't need the assistance paying for it.

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The Valley Weekly

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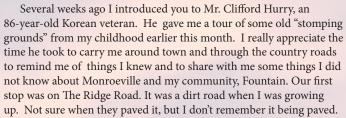
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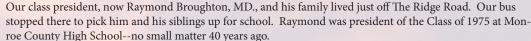
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Ah ... Slop Jars!





One of the things that I remember was the long bus rides. Our bus driver was a seasoned lady. She knew how to handle that bus, and I was impressed. She could back it up so close to poles, trees, cliffs and houses that it scared me sometimes. You knew to be standing at your bus stop when she arrived; otherwise, you stayed at home that day. And, that was never a good day. Mr. Hurry showed me where different families lived--some I remembered and some I had not a clue. I have siblings who did not know where that house was that my mother lived in, along with her family. We passed the Broughton's homestead and went around to his home. He showed me where he and his late wife lived. Mrs. Hurry was a teacher, and he had a good blue collar job in Pensacola. So they lived in a brick house. That was a really big deal in our community. Teachers were the most distinguished professionals we knew. I didn't know a Black doctor, lawyer, dentist, or policeman.

In Mr. Hurry's yard was a large open barn, with many relics of the past: old planters and spreaders that attached to the tractors, wagons and just about everything a farmer used. On the ground was an old slop jar, without the top. I asked, "Mr. Hurry, is that a slop jar?" He said, "Yes--you want it?" I replied, "Of course." I threw it in the back of my SUV, and we drove on up The Ridge Road and over to Fountain. Bill, having grown up in Toledo, Ohio, asked me when we returned to my sister's home, was that a "spittoon in the car?" Amazed at his question, I told him it was a slop jar. Yes, many adults had spittoons, but they were homemade using a can with the top cut off with a knife.

I now know that because of dirt roads, party lines, black and white TVs and no local media other than the radio, one car or truck per family (mostly a truck), there were many places we didn't get to go and many things we didn't get to see. Unbelievable! Social media, cell phones, iPads, laptops, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat. Small cars and beauty shops were things we saw on the cartoons. Most of the cool stuff I remember was on the Flintstones. As far as the beauty shop, we were good with a greasy press and curl by Mrs. Elma Hixon every two or three weeks, especially leading into the first Sunday of each month. We had Sunday School each week, but the preacher came to our church on the first Sunday's to preach. He had other churches on other Sundays during the month. Every home had a sewing machine, and we knew how to use it. All we didn't make on the sewing machine, my mom could stitch it with her hands. I have a quilt she made for me in triangle patterns of pink and green. My niece, Tanisha, asked me to give it to her recently, and I told her that one day, I hope Katie will cherish the time and love in it it as much as I do.

I am not sure why I hold on to any relics of my past. If nothing more, they keep me grounded and remind me each day how blessed I am to have escaped small town, country living, back woods, dirt roads, outhouses and the things I disliked most about living there. I really disliked farming, cleaning other folks houses, raking their yards, picking up pecans and potatoes, hog-killing day, picking peas and shelling beans, shucking corn, passing by places where we could not afford to stop and, more than anything else, slop jars. I'm glad we had a top on ours!

Until next week ...



Mr. Clifford Hurry (right), standing with Mr. Thames, the current land owner where my mother lived



The 'slop jar'

When you can't find a printed copy of The Valley Weekly around town, follow us on-line at www. vallevweeklyllc.com.



Biergarten: Stein and Dine Thru October

"Biergarten: Stein and Dine" will be held on Thursdays through October 20 from 4:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Visit the U.S. Space & Rocket Center Saturn V Hall in the Davidson

Center for Space Exploration for the German Biergarten, featuring authentic German cuisine.

Enjoy the festive atmosphere with imported and domestic beers and delicious wines from the

German region. It's family friendly and leashed dogs are welcome, rain or shine!

Admission is free, and food and beverages are available for purchase.

Spiritual Fitness for the Caregiver

"Spiritual Fitness for the Care Giver" with Dr. Dale Fletcher of The Faith and Health Connection (www. faithandhealthconnection. org) will be held August 20 from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church, 600

Governor's Drive (Entrance 6). The \$35 fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.

CEUs are available for nurses and social workers at no extra charge. The event is sponsored by Health Ministries of

First Baptist Church, the Huntsville Association for Pastoral Care, and the Congregational Health Program, Center for Faith and Health, College of Health Sciences of Samford University.

Champion Game Plan for Life

You know, if you have a job, you get excited about "payday". If you don't have a job then payday is not so exciting.

But every Christian has a job. Whether we are in full time ministry or not, we work for God. And every day, we need to get up and go into the world and work for God.

The way we do this is through how we talk to people, how we treat people, how we behave around people and our attitude towards people.

All of these things are considered "working" for God. Remember: any time we labor for the Lord, the Bible tells us that our labor will never be in vain. And, there will always be a "payday" because God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek him.

Galatians 6:9 says:

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will



reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

Conference **Underway for** Women **Business** Leaders

Alabama State Black Chamber of Commerce "5 for 50 Women Business Owners Symposium."

Join ASBCC at the Watermark Place, 4500 Katie's Way, Bessemer Ala., on August 20 at 8:30 a.m. with five dynamic women business leaders for insight on growing businesses.

For information and registration, call (256) 564-7574.

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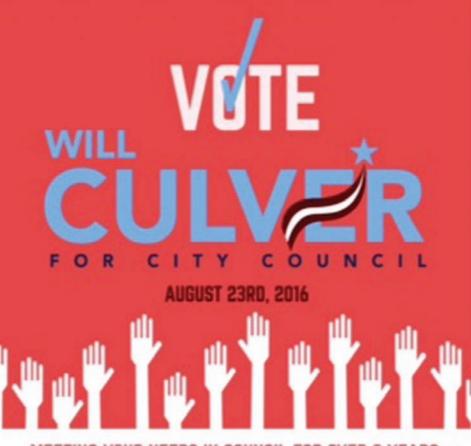
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August 22	Orientation: August 24	First Day of Class	First Day of Class:
	First Day of Class: August 29	September 6	September 6
Applications due by	Applications due by	Applications due by	Applications due l

All applications may be picked up and dropped off at the First Baptist location, 600 Governors Drive in the Church's Front Office OR Inside-Out Ministries, 103 Gin Oaks Court, Madison, OR can be printed from our website at www.cwic.net

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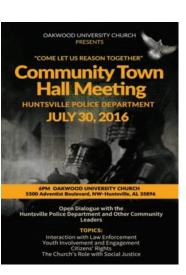
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OU Church Holding Gun Violence Town Hall Saturday



The Oakwood University Church Youth Department will host a Community Town Hall Meeting with the Huntsville Police Department and community leaders on Saturday, July 30, at 6 p.m. at the Oakwood University Church located at 5500 Adventist Boulevard NW, Huntsville, Ala.

In light of recent events involving gun violence, race relations, and heightened tensions between the police and civilians, and in an effort to bring understanding and healing within the community, the Oakwood University Church is hosting a town hall meeting that will address some of the challenging issues facing the Huntsville community and the nation at large.

This event is open to the public, and youth and adults alike are invited to participate in this open, honest discussion. Some topics that will be discussed include the following:

• What are your rights as citi-

- How should you interact with Law Enforcement?
- What is the church's role in matters of social justice?
- How can the community address matters of social justice and inequality?
- How should we speak with our children about current events?

For more information, please call 256.837.1255, or send an e-mail to pgoodridge@oucsda.

On August 13, the Legacy

and the 50th Anniversary of its

closing will be celebrated. This

anniversary event will be held

of William Hooper Councill

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.

Tranquility Base, Huntsville,

AL 35805). Tickets for both

the Legacy Brunch & Gala are

\$75.00. For more information,

contact Brenda Barley Chunn

DLC Fall Class Deadline Nears

The Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium is finalizing arrangements for its eight-week fall class. Acceptance deadline is September 6.

DLC offers inspiring and experienced leaders opportunities to benefit from qualified and seasoned trainers, scholars, and business professionals who share and discuss research and best practices regarding obtaining excellence through diversity.

DLC is designed for individuals interested in gaining access to networks, mentors, and sponsors that have traditionally not been available to diverse members of the broader community. Enrollees will be exposed to topics such as: Understanding and Embracing Diversity, Organizational

Culture and Structural Reform, Racial and Gender Intelligence, Social Justice and Equality, Networking and Mentoring, Politics,

and more. Cost: \$795.

For more information, call (256) 536-9717.

Prayer at the Pole Word of God Christian Ministry A Prayer for All: School systems, administrators, teachers, America We Need To Pray! July 28, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m. 175 West Park Loop, NW Huntsville, Alabama ______ Join us in prayer as "One Body of Believers" In Jesus Name!

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AAMU Ground Breaking in Mid-August

Crump Building, which is located

The new residence hall, sched-

adjacent to the Old Councill

uled for completion in August

2017, will be a 180,000-square-

foot facility with the capability of

housing 580 students. In addition

to numerous amenities, the resi-

dence hall will include a storm

shelter, as well as study areas on

Several campus, community

and public officials, along with

individuals actively involved in

the construction, are expected to

take part in the ground breaking.

We look forward to your atten-

each floor.

dance.

Training Building (ROTC).

Alabama A&M University has announced a Ground Breaking Ceremony at 12 noon for the new residence hall to be constructed on Meridian Street.

The event will be held Thursday, August 18, at the Lionel



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A "True" Success Story

I was thrilled to see an article on "Bossip" stating there was a major business boom for an African-American company on Amazon called True Laundry Detergent. Apparently, they are receiving plenty of positive reviews, which are surely increasing their sales. These are the type of improvements and solutions our community needs.

As I mentioned in an early article, if we want to see change, it must begin with us building our own communities by creating a flow of wealth. I also took an interest in the company because it reminds me of my dad's journey in reaching success. My father, who is a scientist, started his business at an early age. One of the major components of his company was creating, distributing, and selling detergent products. He sold his products in select groceries stores in the Southeast, mainly in Alabama.

Interestingly enough, my mom met my dad while working as one of his saleswomen for his company. She'll often state that my dad did his best in business when he put his scientific skills to work and created products.

I was glad to hear about True Laundry Detergent being black-owned and receiving success! According to True Laundry Detergent's website, "True Products is a startup manufacturing and distribution company that specializes in household cleaning supplies. True Products has over 25 distributors and cur-



rently does business in over 18 states throughout the country. True Products has positioned itself as an international, premier provider of household cleaning products, utilizing a unique approach to providing affordable, quality products and excellent

customer services for consumers, retail outlets and government agencies. True products is an American-based, Veteran-owned corporation with its headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia." (Thetrue-products.com)

True Products was established in November of 2012, and it's so great that they are receiving such an influx in business from Amazon. This is a perfect example of the advancements we should work towards. We should remain focused on the solution where there is a burst of business opportunities within the African-American community!

The internet has made it possible for businesses to be successful because it is easier to get your company's name and products out there for the world to see and purchase. With the web being user-based, people can create their own wealth online.

Remember to use all of the resources that you have access to for your company. Companies such as Amazon, Ebay, PayPal, etc., have made it easier for us to connect with customers worldwide, so that our businesses can be successful!



Marshall England, Agent 600 Franklin Street, SE Huntsville, AL 35801 Bus: 256.539.2014 marshallengland@marshallengland.com





www.marshallengland.com

The Valley Weekly

"In the Heights" Embodies Love, Family and Culture
Story and Photo by Reginald Allen

"Hamilton" is big.

Theatre enthusiasts have deemed it a tour de force. Its unique, contemporary spin on the first U.S. treasurer swept this year's Tony Awards with 11 wins and scored playwright Lin Manuel Miranda a Pulitzer Prize.

Outside of the theatre world, the show has acted as a gateway to the performing arts. Luz Landrillono, a director for Lyrique Musical Productions, has secondhand experience. Her son works in a book store, and spoke with customers constantly mentioning the famous Broadway show.

"People are buying the music [from "Hamilton"], but have never seen a musical, ever," Landrillono said.

In the production company's six years, it has always been the goal to bring more people into the theatre community, and their upcoming



show has a strong connection to the award-winning musical. While the show won't be in Huntsville anytime soon, residents will have a chance to see one of Miranda's previous works: "In the Heights."

Journey to the New York community of Washington Heights, a land rich in culture, bodegas and piragua. Everyone has a dream, many of which won't reach reality. Multiple generations clash on the ideals of tradition, and other must navigate the trials of love.

Like the "Hamilton" production, "In the Heights" scored big at the Tony Awards, winning Best Musical, Best Score, Best Choreography and Best Orchestration in 2008. Calling the production a triple-threat, the director promises great choreography, superb singing and powerhouse acting. In addition to this, Landrillono said patrons will love the contemporary hip-hop elements and Latin

"It's not just hip hop, like you would see on a television show or hear on the radio," Landrillono said. "It's a fusion into Broadway musicals. That is really the unique thing."

Ultimately, the director said, the message of the show is about love, family and finding where one belongs.

"I feel really obliged to share with audience that art reflects life and life reflects art. We have an opportunity to show that we have to find harmony through diversity."

"In The Heights" is being held in the Columbia High School auditorium. Tickets are \$18 for students and \$20 for adults, and they can be purchased at LyriqueMusical Productions.org. The show's remaining dates are July 27-30, with two shows on the July 30.

Caption: Aisha Richardson as "Vanessa"; Christopher Gunner as "Usnavi"; Sarah Altonji as "Carla": Cameron DuVall as "Sonny"; and Basia Marotta as "Daniela."

Photo: Reginald Allen



Funeral service for Mr. Fred Everson was held July 23 at Owens Chapel Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Dr. H. Wendell Thompson officiating.

Funeral service for Mrs. Barbara D. Hurt was held July 22 at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Triana, Ala., with Dr. Emmanuel Kanunu officiating.

Funeral service was held July 18 for Mr. Robert Louis Conley at Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America with Rev. Edward Anderson officiating.

Funeral service for Ms. Mary Stratton was held July 16 in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for Ms. Jessie Mae Williamson was held at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Chaplain Errol McCladdie officiating.

Funeral service for Mr. Michael Wade Bone was held July 16, at Phillips CME Church, with Pastor Keith Ellison officiating.

Funeral service was held July 14 at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home for Mr. Charles E. "Zombie" Harris.

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home



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Calendar of Events

July 28

Boys and Girls Club Leaders & Legends Dinner *Guest:* Evander Holyfield *VIP Reception:* 5 p.m. Von Braun Center-North Hall 6 p.m.

July 29

682-2909

Engineers (NSBE) Professionals-North Alabama Chapter 2nd Annual Golf Tournament The Links at Redstone Arsenal (4-person scramble) \$60 per player/\$240 team Contact: anthonyclan-

caster@gmail.com; (256)

National Society of Black

Friday Night Live *Sponsor:* Thrive Ministry Featuring: Adia, Psalm 3 Mime Ministry, The Comedy of Rev. Rita, DJ Sam Smite, Unanimous and More! St. John AME Church 229 Church Street Downtown (Free), 7 p.m.

August 6

Tuskegee Alumni Association Fundraiser Applebee's

August 12

Annual Taste of Kappa Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity-Huntsville Alumni Chapter Huntsville Museum of Art \$30 huntsvillekappas.com

August 12-13

7-10 p.m.

AshaKiran's 2-Day Language Advocacy Workshop

AAMU Freshman Convocation & Torch Lighting Elmore Building, 12:30 p.m.

August 18

Ground Breaking Ceremony for New Residence Hall Lionel Crump Building 12 noon

August 19

Food Truck Street Festival Sponsor: Jerry Damson Honda Acura Downtown Huntsville The Lumberyard Parking Lot 108 Cleveland Avenue 5-9 p.m.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Vegas Night Von Braun Center East Hall (\$30 advance; \$40) Contacts: Rick Suttle, (256) 655-6709, or Gerald Vines at (256) 682-1071

August 19-21

Saved in the City Conference
Free General Admission
Von Braun Center
www.savedinthecityconference.com

August 23

Municipal Elections

August 25

Deadline to Register for Diversity Leadership Colloquium (Class VI) Contact: info@diversityleadershipcolloquium.com or (256) 536-9717

August 28

Valley Conservatory Jam Session, 5-8 p.m.

September 6

Fall Diversity Leadership Colloquium Begins

September 10

North Alabama Health and

Wellness Fair

September 11-December

11

Exhibition
"Contemporary Art &
Superhero Action"
Huntsville Museum of Art

September 16

Food Truck Street Festival Sponsor: Jerry Damson Honda Acura Downtown Huntsville The Lumberyard Parking Lot 108 Cleveland Avenue 5-9 p.m.

Huntsville Symphony Orchestra "Faure Requiem" Mark C. Smith Concert Hall, Von Braun Center

September 25

Valley Conservatory Jam Session, 5-8 p.m.

September 30

Miss Alabama A&M University Coronation Elmore Building, 6 p.m.

October 3-5

Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting & Exposition Huntsville, AL AUSA.org

October 8

Alabama A&M University Homecoming Day

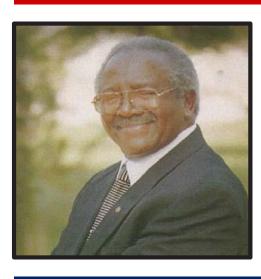
October 23

Valley Conservatory Jam Session, 5-8 p.m.

November 3-4

2016 WEDC Leadership Conference U S Space and Rocket Center www.wedchsv.org

RE-ELECT COUNCILMAN RICHARD SHOWERS, SR.



VOTE

Tuesday **August 23rd**

POWERFUL EXPERIENCED AND EFFECTIVE

THE VOICE FOR DISTRICT ONE!

Paid for by Friends to Re-Elect Councilman Richard Showers, Sr., P.O. Box 3235, Huntsville, AL 35810



On This Day

Friday, July 29 - CHESTER HIMES was the noted author of "Cotton Comes to Harlem" and "A Rage in Harlem" (both made into films). He was born in Jefferson City, Mo. - BlackinTime.info

