

"In life, the challenge is not so much to figure out how best to play the game; the challenge is to figure out what game you're playing."

- Kwame Anthony Appiah

Friday, September 1, 2017

FREE

# The Valley Weekly

Volume 3, No. 51

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

## Drake Partners to Offer Aviation Tech Training

In accordance with Science and Engineering Services, LLC. (SES) and Huntsville City Schools, J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College has created the Aviation Technology Training for Advanced Manufacturing program.

This collaborative effort will provide direct educational and training opportunities for students in advanced aviation manufacturing. Students will be exposed to a broad range of subject areas that will create multi-skilled employees who will meet the needs of the ever-changing aviation advanced manufacturing.



The Advanced Manufacturing curriculum at Drake State, coupled with resources provided by SES, permits dual enrollment students in the HCS system to be trained in advanced Aviation Technology. The hands-on laboratory environment at SES provides an exceptional educational training for students.

## High School Step Show Set

Extraordinaire Enterprises invites the public to its Rocket City "High School" Step Show, a family-oriented event with some very talented and creative students showcasing their skills in the art form of stepping.

This event will feature high school step teams from North Alabama who compete for cash prizes. and a stroll-off competition.

The show will be held on Saturday, September 16, at 6 p.m. at Columbia High School auditorium, Huntsville, Ala.

"DJ Don Jr." will be on the turntables, and organizers anticipate a large crowd.

For more information, call (256) 361-9516 or info.extraordinaire@gmail.com.



## Utilities Opens New Water Treatment Facility

The Huntsville metro area continues to experience tremendous growth, and Huntsville Utilities is working to make sure its water system is well ahead of the curve.

On Tuesday, August 21, the utility held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the new Owens, Statum and Wall Southeast Water Treatment Plant. This is the

system's third deep water intake, pulling from the Tennessee River.

The \$90 million plant is located on 266 acres on Walker Road in Marshall County. It currently treats 12 million gallons of surface water a day with a potential build-out capacity of 96 million gallons per day.

Construction on the plant started in 2015, but it has

been in the planning stages since 2005, when the system experienced high demand due to extreme heat and drought.

"We hit 80 percent of our pumping capacity," said Huntsville Utilities spokesperson Joe Gehrdes. "That was the trigger for any responsible water utility to increase its capacity."

## OU Hosts 'Pentagon to the People' Workshop

The Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Diversity Management and Equal Opportunity (OD-MEO) sponsors "Taking the Pentagon to the People" at Oakwood University on August 30-31.

"Taking the Pentagon to the People" is held annually for sustaining the DoD's continued goal of exposing minority institutions,

administrators, faculty, staff, and students to business (research and development) and career and workforce opportunities with the DoD.

The best and brightest talents can be found in the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).

"Taking the Pentagon to the People" gives the DoD

the occasion to engage with the best to ensure successful recruiting to develop and retain "highly-skilled Total Force capabilities that will meet the current and future mission requirements.

"Taking the Pentagon to the People" is one of OD-MEO's initiatives that furthers the mission of our Nation's Minority Insti-

tutions as a "Readiness Imperative.

The program develops a comprehensive suite of recommendations to DoD and Minority Institutions to develop new relationships and enhance existing partnerships."

More than 200 people registered for the Oakwood event.

The Valley Weekly  
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Oakwood University Post Office

Regency Retirement Village

Rocket City Barber Shop

Sam and Greg's Pizza

Sav-A-Lot

Sneed's Cleaners

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

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 recess until September 5. House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) said last week that a government shutdown at the end of September over funding for the US-Mexico wall is unlikely and that Congress will likely send the President a 3-month stopgap funding bill to keep the federal government open through mid-December. When Congress returns next week, it will have a busy agenda for the month, including keeping the federal government open, raising the nation's debt limit, reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration, and reau-

thorizing the National Flood Insurance Program (currently \$25 billion in debt).

2. On Monday, President Trump met with President Sauli Niinist of Finland at the White House and then held a joint press conference. On Tuesday, he was scheduled to travel to Texas to tour the hurricane damage in Houston and along the Texas coast and then onward to Springfield, Mo., to talk about a proposal to revamp U.S. tax policy. On Sunday, he convened a cabinet meeting by telephone from Camp David to discuss the Administration's response to Hurricane Harvey.

3. Mayors across the nation will be speaking out in sup-

port of extending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and permanent legal status for Dreamers. Credible rumors are circulating that the Trump Administration soon will be announcing a decision on the future of (DACA) program,



and concern that the President may end it.

4. The Trump Administration's travel ban will be back in court today in Seattle, where a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals will hear arguments about how broadly the ban can be implemented while both sides await a decision from Supreme Court. The dispute is over orders the Supreme Court issued in June and July outlining who would and would not get a short-term reprieve from the Administration's halt on immigration from six majority-Muslim countries and the ban on admission of refugees. The Supreme Court's June order

declared that the ban couldn't be enforced, for now, against people with a "bona fide relationship" with a U.S. person or entity. Hawaii-based U.S. District Court Judge Derrick Watson ruled last month that the Trump administration was interpreting that exemption too narrowly by excluding people whose relatives in the U.S. are grandparents or cousins.

5. Early estimates of the damage from Hurricane Harvey are in the \$40 billion range, but will certainly rise (Hurricane Katrina, in 2005, caused \$160 billion in damage and Hurricane Sandy, in 2012, caused \$70 billion in damage). CNN reports that a number of corporations have already contributed sizeable

funds to the Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund, including Exxon Mobile (\$500,000), Google (\$250,000), and Lowe's (\$500,000). The Washington Post is reporting that White House and congressional staffers are discussing an emergency spending bill to aid in relief and rebuilding efforts. The federal Disaster Relief Fund administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency had a balance of only \$3.8 billion at the end of July, of which \$1.6 billion is already obligated, according to the Post.

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

## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

In Matthew 17:20, Jesus replied: "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for you."

You know, if you've ever had to fly on a small plane, there is a lot that can happen as it pertains to weather. But if you fly on a big plane, no matter the weather, it can fly above most storms. And the same can be said

about your faith. Because if your faith is attached to a big God, no matter what your storms are in life you can rise above it.

You can rise above racism. You can rise above hatred and violence. God is saying to all of us, "Face Everything And Rise Up".

You see, the only way to move forward in our lives

is to look at our future from God's perspective. Our faith gives us the ability to say, "Whatever is next, I'm ready." So it's time to take fear off the throne of your

life and replace it with a God that makes all things possible ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!



**SCHOOL CHOICE:** Television personality and renowned journalist Roland Martin stands outside Bethel Baptist Church where he held a panel discussion titled "Is School Choice The Black Choice?" on Aug. 24. The discussion focused on the subject of school choice and how to remedy Birmingham's failing school system, especially when it comes to charter schools. The panel featured a diverse group of people that were for and against charter schools, including a Birmingham pastor, a parent and a member of the Alabama Board of Education. Martin concluded the event by opening the discussion to the floor, where audience members could voice their opinions and ask questions. *Photo by Reggie Allen.*

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**The Valley Weekly**

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**From the Editor****Lady Marion Draper Honored***Ahh ... Birthday and Retirement!*

I had the blessed fortune of attending the birthday and retirement dinner of Lady Marion Draper on Friday evening (August 25, 2017). Marion and I were colleagues in the Research and Development office during my tenure as Vice President at Alabama A&M University.

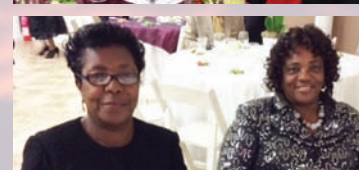
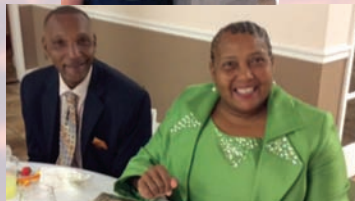
The love of family and friends was demonstrated by the accolades in words, music, great food and even greater fellowship with some wonderful people.

Marion, we hope your days ahead are blessed with good health, much rest and the love of God, family and friends. You are indeed a Proverbs 31 Lady. We love you!

Until next week ...



*When you can't find a printed copy of The Valley Weekly around town, follow us on-line at [www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com).*

*Dorothy*

# Downtown Deck Transformation Gets National Honors

A little imagination and the sacrifice of 15 parking spots were all it took, say officials.

The reward was a retail spot that is helping transform downtown Huntsville and which has now been recognized internationally for its ingenuity.

The Garage at Clinton Row, a municipal parking deck which has incorporated businesses on the ground floor, has been recognized with the Certificate of Merit award by the International Downtown Association.

Downtown Huntsville Inc., which spearheaded the project, is the true recipient of the award. And, it marks the fourth straight year DHI has been honored by the association.

But, as DHI President and CEO Chad Emerson says:



“This is for the team that’s come together between DHI and the City of Huntsville. These programs couldn’t have been done without the City and our third-party developers.”

Wesley Crunkleton at Crunkleton & Associates was the chief developer on The Garage at Clinton Row.

“We got with Wesley and his team, who were able to see past it as more than a well-maintained 30-year-old municipal parking deck with a fence cage on it, that

this could be a great retail destination,” Emerson says. “You had to have just the right developer because it was a very unconventional development.”

“The important thing as we continue to revitalize downtown Huntsville is how to creatively adapt existing buildings and structures to fit the needs of residents going forward. The Garage at Clinton Row is a perfect example of that.”

The ground-level development in the garage

eliminated only 15 parking spots, leaving 482 spaces in the deck.

The current tenants are Honest Coffee Roasters, Elitaire Boutique, Roosevelt and Company Gentleman’s Supply Company and Frios Gourmet Pops. Two other bays are vacant, with new tenants expected to be announced soon.

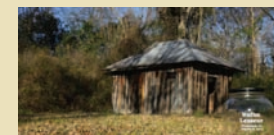
Particularly significant to Emerson is the Garage’s synergy with the other nearby properties.

- Excerpted from Huntsville.gov

## ReacHsv, Partners Launch ‘The Remembrance Project’

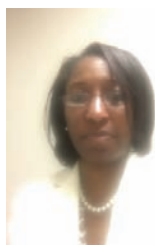
ReacHsv and Equal Justice Network-AL, in partnership with the Equal Justice Initiative, unveiled ‘The Remembrance Project’ on the Downtown Huntsville Square on Sunday, August 27, at 6 p.m.

EJI’s Community Remembrance Project is part of our campaign to recognize the victims of lynching by collecting soil from lynching sites, erecting historical markers, and creating a memorial that acknowledges the horrors of racial injustice.



Between the Civil War and World War II, thousands of African Americans were lynched in the United States. Lynchings were violent and public acts of torture that traumatized black people throughout the country and were largely tolerated by state and federal officials. EJI has documented more than 4000 racial terror lynchings in 12 Southern states between the end of Reconstruction in 1877 and 1950. EJI supplemented this research by documenting racial terror lynchings in eight additional states which accounted for more than 300 racial terror lynchings.

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## 21st Huntsville Metro Track Club Banquet

First Missionary Baptist Church - Huntsville, Ala.

August 23, 2017



**Left:** Amaya Wells was a USATF Junior Olympics finalist in the girls 9-10 1800m run.

**Bottom Left:** Shafi Muhammad received All American (finished in top 8) in AAU Club Championship and in the USATF Junior Olympics boys 15-16 800m.



## Capturing the Rosenwald Schoolhouse Experience

### *Immersive Educational Experience at the Dorothy Davidson Rosenwald Schoolhouse*

Long anticipated, and just in time for the State of Alabama's Bicentennial, Burritt on the Mountain proudly announced the grand opening of the Dorothy Davidson Rosenwald Schoolhouse on Thursday August 24, 2017.

Attendees were invited to a tour of the new building, a view of the special Rosenwald School exhibit curated by Stephanie Timberlake, and a preview into the educational experience students will participate in at the schoolhouse.

Beginning this fall, fourth grade classes will be welcomed to experience an early 1900s school day--from the morning pledge of allegiance to class

dismissal after a day spent studying reading, writing and arithmetic.

"We are thrilled to be preserving this little-known part of Alabama history and offering students an educational experience they will remember all their lives," Burritt CEO, Leslie Ecklund said. "This has been part of the Burritt dream for many years. Being able to add much-needed space for our Burritt Folk School and our educational staff is also exciting and greatly needed in order to expand our mission of enhancing lives and building community through Education, Arts and Preservation."

Begun in 1912, Rosenwald schools were built through a partnership between Julius Rosenwald, a Jewish philanthropist and

president of Sears, Roebuck & Co., and black educator Booker T. Washington, along with support from the local black and white communities.

Between 1913 and 1932, nearly 5,000 new schools were built in 15 states and thousands of students received an education, learned trades and skills, and were awarded better opportunities as a result of this education. Burritt on the Mountain continues this tradition of providing vital educational experiences and preserving the rich history of these schoolhouses.

The building will officially be open for public viewing on September 16, when teachers will receive free admission to the park in celebration of the opening.

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## Phase II Contract Signed for Dream Chaser Spacecraft

Huntsville/Madison County is another step closer to landing a space vehicle at the Huntsville International Airport.

The Airport has signed a contract to apply for licensing through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to land Sierra Nevada Corporation's (SNC) Dream Chaser® spacecraft on one of its commercial runways.

This Phase II contract follows a Phase I contract completed in 2015 that examined the compatibility of SNC's Dream Chaser with the existing runway and taxiway environments at the Airport.

"The preliminary study proved the feasibility of landing, so now we are pleased to announce that we have initiated the permitting process with the FAA," said Rick Tucker, executive director of the Huntsville International

Airport. "... This represents a shared vision of Huntsville as a leader in the commercial space economy as the first community to make a commitment to this vehicle and its role in space commerce."

Local and state support for this project includes funding for the contracts and marketing of the community's assets that support landing the Dream Chaser in Huntsville.

Teledyne Brown Engineering serves as the prime contractor, with subcontracts to be issued to Sierra Nevada Corporation and RS&H. Partners with the Airport include the City of Huntsville, Madison County, the City of Madison, the State of Alabama, UAH and the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber.

"We're excited to continue our progress in this community-wide effort to land the

Dream Chaser in Huntsville," said Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle. "This initiative fits well with our expertise and portfolio as a hub for the fast growing commercial space industry."

"Madison County is excited to move to the next step in bringing Sierra Nevada's Dream Chaser to the Huntsville International Airport," said Madison County Commission Chairman Dale W. Strong. Phase II is expected to take at least 24 months.

One marketing effort underway is the Chamber's sponsorship of a contest with the European Space Agency (ESA). With Scottish aerospace company Astrosat, the Chamber is seeking ideas for utilizing the Dream Chaser beyond cargo transport. Entries are being accepted until September 8 at [www.space-exploration-masters.com](http://www.space-exploration-masters.com).

## 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.



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## Local Editor Writes Book on Vietnam War

"Vietnam Revisited"  
by Skip Vaughn

The United States is commemorating 50 years since the end of the Vietnam War. In January 2015, the *Redstone Rocket* weekly newspaper started an ongoing series of feature articles about Vietnam veterans and Vietnam-era veterans. While writing these articles, I realized how many untold stories these veterans were willing to share. They're telling me things they've kept to themselves for years. When they returned home from Vietnam, they were

shunned for fighting an unpopular war. They were called "baby killers" and ostracized by an ungrateful nation. I have interviewed more than 130 of these veterans so far.

My book serves as an additional platform to share their stories which need to be told. These veterans are finally receiving the respect and appreciation they were denied 50 years ago. Typically they are in their mid-70s. Four of the veterans featured in my book have died within the past year. It's available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble.



Editor's note: *Skip Vaughn is the Editor of The Redstone Rocket.*



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September 1 - **TIM HARDAWAY** - Born in Chicago, Illinois. Hardaway professional career spanned from 1989 until 2003. He played for the Golden State Warriors (1989-96), the Miami Heat (1996-2001), the Dallas Mavericks (2001-2002), the Denver Nuggets (2002) and the Indiana Pacers (2003).. He is known for popularizing the cross-over dribble. - **BlackinTime.info**

## Valley Deaths

Funeral service for **Mrs. Fannye Pearl Watkins** was held Saturday, September 2, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend Columbus Waddle officiating.

Funeral service for **Mr. Tavares Horton** was Friday, September 1, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Jasper Morris officiating.

Funeral service for **Mrs. Annie Patton** was held Sunday, August 27, at Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church (Brock Road - Brownsboro, AL) with Elder Danny Baker officiating.

Funeral service for **Mrs. Juanita Love** was Sunday, August 27, at New Life Seventh-day Adventist Church (3912 Pulaski Pike NW - Huntsville, AL) with Dr. Theodis Acklin as eulogist.

Funeral service for **Mrs. Rachel Holley Ervin** was Saturday, August 26, at New Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (28520 SW Wall Street - Madison, AL) with the Reverend Charles Holley officiating.

Viewing for **Ms. Charlotte M. Osterman** was Saturday, August 26, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home (2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816).

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

## NW Alabama Conference Offers ABC's of Aging

On Friday, September 29, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System Urban Affairs and Nontraditional Programs, will partner with NACOLG Area Agency on Aging, Retired Senior Volun-

teer Program, University of North Alabama, and Shoals Hospital to host the Sixth Annual Northwest Alabama Senior Conference (A Successful Aging Initiative).

The conference will

be held at the Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum. Organizers are preparing for 500 individuals age 50 and above to attend and participate in the conference, which will run from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The conference provides educational updates and creates awareness among the growing aging population on issues that will impact their lifestyles.

Vendor exhibit space is limited, but sponsorships

will be accepted through September 8. Contact Darlene Minniefield to reserve a Special Sponsor area. For more information, call (256) 766-6223, (256) 349-8956 or e-mail minnida@aces.edu.



Alabama A&M University's ladies bowling team participates in annual Fan Day at Louis Crews Stadium, offering face painting to future Bulldogs.

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Kimberly Fails Jones Memorial Foundation, Inc. is an 501(c)(3) tax exempt foundation determined by the Internal Revenue Service, founded in memory of Kimberly Fails Jones by her parents, William and Edna Fails

## Early Music Festival Concert at Local Church Sept. 10

The Valley Conservatory Early Music Festival Concert will take place Sunday, September 10, 4 p.m. at St. Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church on Jefferson Street North in Huntsville. The concert will feature the VCEM Festival Artists performing

works by George Frideric Handel, Henry Purcell and Johann Sebastian Bach. The concert, which is open to the public, encourages

dialog between artist and the audience. Additional information at valleyconservatory.com or by calling (256) 534-3131.

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No matter what time of year you explore Burritt on the Mountain, there is something delightful and new to see. And no matter how young – or old – you are, there is something for you on the Mountain! If you've never visited, you're in for a treat. If it's been awhile, what are you waiting for? Come on up and let the Magic begin!

3101 Burrirt Drive • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 256.536.2882

[www.burritonthemountain.com](http://www.burritonthemountain.com)

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

## The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

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

**September 1**  
Concerts on the Dock  
Lowe Mill  
6-9 p.m.

**September 3**  
Annual Caribbean Day  
at the Park  
11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
(256) 213-1575

**September 10**  
Native Tree Identification  
(6-week series)  
Huntsville Botanical Garden  
Guest Center - \$5  
12:30-2:30 p.m.

Grandparents' Day  
Celebration  
EarlyWorks Children's Museum  
Tickets:  
\$35 adults; \$15 Children,  
Museum Will Be Open  
RiahRose Home for Children  
(256) 489-4358  
1:30 p.m.

The Valley Conservatory  
Early Music Festival Concert  
St. Mary of the Visitation  
Catholic Church  
Jefferson Street North  
Huntsville, Ala.  
4 p.m.

**September 12-15**  
Career Preparedness Week  
Alabama A&M University  
233 Arthur J. Bond Hall  
12:30 p.m.

**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.

**September 16**  
Rocket City High School  
Step Show  
Columbia High School  
Huntsville, Ala.  
[www.rocketcityhighschool-stepshow2017.eventbrite.com](http://www.rocketcityhighschool-stepshow2017.eventbrite.com)

## Former Principal Running for State Senate

Huntsville native and former J.O Johnson principal, Dr. Deidra J. Willis, has announced that she is running for the state senate. Willis is seeking the District 7 seat currently held by Paul Sanford, who has declared that he will not be seeking a third term.

"As a former educator, I am committed to ensuring that we have quality education across our district and that area teachers receive much deserved raises. I support small business development and will work hard for equity throughout District 7."

As Executive Director of DJW Impact Consulting, Dr. Willis successfully assisted her clients build government and commercial partnerships while successfully writing grants securing awards between \$2 million and \$3 million annually from for various agencies, such as NASA, DOD DOE, and HRSA.

Deidra Willis holds a B.S. in accounting and a master's in education from Alabama A&M University and an Educational Doctorate degree in Organizational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Deidra Willis will have a campaign kickoff on September 2, 2017, featuring saxophonist Alex Banks at The Dish in North Huntsville, from 5-8 p.m.

For more information, contact Angela D. Curry at (256) 527-1013.



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