

The Valley Weekly

"All men are created equal, unless we decide you are not a man."

- Colson Whitehead

FREE

Volume 2, No. 51

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, September 2, 2016

Showers Faces Run-off in October

Local residents will return to the polls in October to determine the fate of long-time Councilman Richard Showers, Sr. (right). Mayor Tommy Battle



and District 5 Councilman Will Culver will remain in their current positions.

City Council District 1 Incumbent Showers will take on newcomer Devyn Keith (3rd column) in a run-off. Newcomer Michelle Watkins outpaced incumbent Laurie McCaulley for the Board of Education's District 1 seat.

Simultaneously, retired educator Pam Hill took on



and edged Carlos Matthews for the District 5 seat, where the incumbent was no longer a candidate.

Local College Students Selected by White House Initiative

The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities announced recently that Atlantan Gabriel Carter (above) and Kedgerie McKenzie (below), of Oakwood University, and Shannon Baldwin (right), an electrical engineering student at Alabama A&M University, are among the 73 students from across 63 HBCUs named as the 2016 HBCU All-Stars. The



All-Stars, comprised of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, are being recognized for their accomplishments in academics, leadership, and civic engagement.

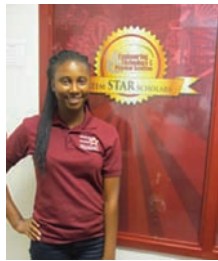
"During the course of one academic school year, the 73 All-Stars will distinguish themselves as exemplars of the talent that HBCUs cultivate and as noble ambassadors of their respective institutions," said U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King Jr.

"The Initiative is looking forward to working with this third class of All-Stars and is confident this opportunity will allow the Initiative to

meaningfully connect with HBCU students and advance academic excellence at their schools," said King.

Over the next year, the students will serve as ambassadors by providing outreach opportunities and communicating with other students about the value of both education and the Initiative as a networking source.

Using social media, relationships with community-based organizations, and sessions with industry professionals, the students will share proven practices that support opportunities for all young people.



TVCWRT Focuses on Homefront Hardships

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Thursday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge at 725 Franklin Street in Huntsville, Ala. The "homefront" was many times an area of divided loyalties and tensions. The presenter will be Greg Wade, who will discuss "Divided Allegiances: Guerrilla Activities and Hardships on the Homefront." For more information, call (256) 278-5533.

Black Farmers Convene in Hazel Green



INTERESTING: NBGC members and presenters check out new farm machinery at the NBGC Model Farm Series event at the Winfred Thomas Agricultural Research Station in Hazel Green, Ala. Billy Bridgeforth of Tanner, Ala., chairs the organization.

Members of the National Black Growers Council met at Alabama A&M University's Winfred Thomas Agricultural Research Station in Hazel Green, Ala., recently as part of NBGC's Model Farm Series.

NBGC is an organization of black farmers

interested in opportunities to expand their operations, as well as to extend the virtues of farming, the importance of agriculture, and the required commitment for success in agriculture.

The NBGC was organized to represent the unique needs of full-time

Black farmers as an integral part of the global food supply.

The organization is headed by Tennessee Valley native Billy Bridgeforth of Darden & Sons Farms of Tanner, Ala. Dr. Ernst Cebert of AAMU coordinated the program.

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Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Garden Cove Produce
Health Unlimited
Huntsville Bible College
Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church
James Smith - AllState Insurance
Lakeside United Methodist Church
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Marshall England - State Farm Agent
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Moe's - Village of Providence
Nelms Memorial Funeral Home
N. Ala. Center for Educational Excellence
Oakwood University Post Office
Phuket's in Providence
Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Progress Bank - Madison
Progressive Union Missionary Baptist
Regency Retirement Village
Rocket City Barber Shop
Sam and Greg's Pizza
Sav-A-Lot
Sneed's Cleaners
St. Bartley PB Church
St. Luke Christian Church
Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)
Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

The Hamm Consulting Group



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 traveled to Nevada on Wednesday (August 31) to give a speech on the environment at the Lake Tahoe Summit. The next day, he flew to Midway Island in conjunction with last Friday's announcement that he was quadrupling the size of the Papahānaumokuākea

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.

Marine National Monument - created by President Bush in 2006 - which will now span 582,578 square miles (4 times the size of California) near the Northern Hawaiian Islands. President Obama will then travel to China and Laos on September 2-9 for a G-20 Conference in China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and East Asia Summits in Laos.

3. The White House kicked off this fall's fight over federal spending, sending

Alabama A&M University Bulldog Football 2016 Season

Sept 3 @ Middle Tennessee - Murfreesboro, TN
Sept 10 @ Mississippi Valley State - Itta Bena, MS
Sept 17 vs. PRAIRIE VIEW (Louis Crews Classic)
Sept 24 vs. SOUTHERN

Oct 1 @ Texas Southern - Houston, TX
Oct 8 vs. ALCORN STATE (Homecoming)
Oct 15 @ Arkansas Pine Bluff - Pine Bluff, AR
Oct 29 vs. Alabama State (Magic City Classic)

Nov 5 vs. GRAMBLING
Nov 12 @ Jackson State - Jackson, MS
Nov 19 @ Auburn - Auburn, AL

to Capitol Hill an initial wish list of items it wants included in a must-pass bill to prevent a government shutdown at the end of September.

The list of so-called anomalies in what otherwise would be an extension of current spending levels includes requests to facilitate more funding on items ranging from border control to the presidential inauguration.

The request will now be subject to scrutiny by Republican leaders in the House and Senate when they return next week, as they work to develop a new continuing resolution that

they can pass before current funds lapse.

4. On August 29, the House Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a field hearing in San Francisco on the status and evolving scope of the California High-Speed Rail Project.

To date, the project has received nearly \$4 billion in federal funding and total project costs are now estimated between \$33 billion and \$118 billion.

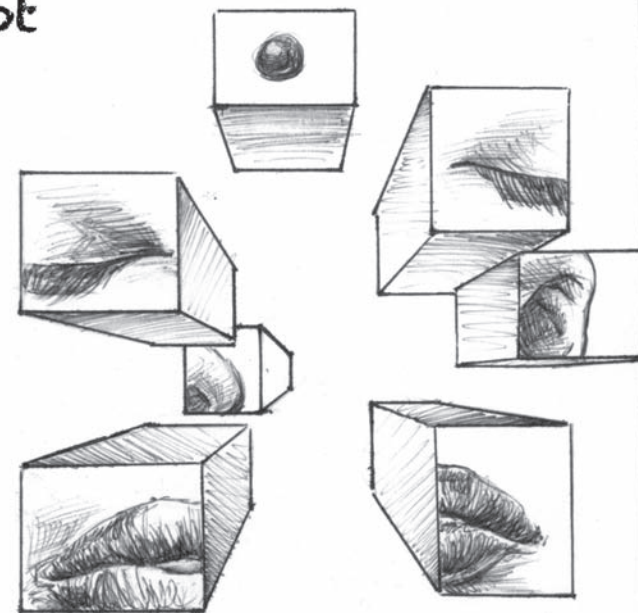
5. 2016 Presidential Watch. Hillary Clinton was in Cincinnati Wednesday to

address the 98th American Legion Convention. Donald Trump addressed the same group on Thursday.

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The Valley Weekly

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Vertical

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**From the Editor****Diversity Leadership Colloquium Launches Cohort VI***Ah, DLC!*

Cohort VI of the Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) will begin on next Tuesday, September 6. This is important work that we have launched in this community. I am telling you all with urgency that we need succession planning in all organizations relative to *who* will lead and approximately *when* transition will occur. Most of us know that experience is the best teacher; yet, we have to reconcile this fact with the inevitability that change is often appropriate and necessary. Change is good. Experience is priceless. However, change for the sake of change is reckless!

Having been a student of leadership and change for over 30 years, these are my insights. Every community, every group of people, every family, and every organization needs a succession plan. The purpose of succession planning is to have a process in place for selecting, training and mentoring people from inside of the group for future positions of leadership in an organizations.

Thus, the community, in my opinion, is no different from other organizations. This type of proactive process helps us increase the number of people who are interested, capable and READY to assume new duties and responsibilities--when, and if, needed. When we fail to plan, other people will plan and execute for us. In a progressive community such as Huntsville, this should never be the case.

In January 2015, we launched the Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium. This endeavor is a short-course for interested citizens who might be interested in building a network of people and organizations for community succession planning--in any number of ways. Participants have the opportunity to take a 'deep dive' into eight topics of interest to the local community. Now with over 50 qualified alumni, we are launching our Alumni Association and Advisory Board. These two entities will help us develop the path forward relative to identifying and training that network of interested individuals.

Cohort VI will begin next Tuesday, and it will end on Tuesday, October 25. We look forward to seeing you around town as we move from places and spaces to learn more about our community and to meet existing and new leadership. Interested individuals should contact us at info@diversityleadershipcolloquium.com or visit our website at www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com. Applications also are being accepted for the class which will begin in March 2017. Talk with our graduates and learn about us. Many times we are surprised at what "we do not know."

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.

*Dorothy*

ValleyScopes

by Melissa Wilson/Seloma

Leo Someone who happens to notice a special talent of yours may be prone to ask you to step up your game by taking part in a group presentation.

Scorpio A marital matter or a pledge of some sort is setting the basis for joyous social engagement at this time.

Virgo A business relationship is profiting from your newly implemented practices and communication techniques.

Sagittarius You will feel a weight lifting as you gain ground in resolving a matter

that concerns you in your life.

Aquarius You'll feel the irony from a light-bulb moment as you move closer to devising additional ways of healing yourself thoroughly.

Taurus Your nurturing ways have provided some much-needed comfort to those closest to you.

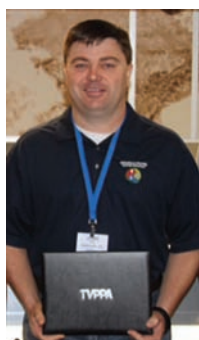
Pisces A vision that you and someone else have had is apt to inspire a coupling between a dependable product and an improved prototype.

Aries You will find a chance to exercise humor in a place where discord abounds.

HU Employee Honored by Association

Huntsville Utilities' System Operations Engineer, Mr. Jamie Woods was recently honored by the TN Valley Public Power Association during the 2016 Engineering & Operations Conference, held August 10-12 in Chattanooga.

TVPPA Education & Training Services presented Woods with a Power Distribution Engineer (PDE) certificate. The presentation was made before more than 500 conference



attendees. Woods earned the recognition by completing a rigorous, comprehensive course of study. The PDE curriculum is a unique program of professional certification specifically designed to significantly enhance the skills and abilities of engineers working in an electric distribution utility.

"The earning of a PDE is an outstanding achievement by any standard," said TVPPA Director of Training John Cooke. "Hunts-

Gemini An alliance may be created, inadvertently, with someone from your past when you help someone with a technological issue.

Capricorn Someone around you may let something slip and give away some information that you were seeking.

Cancer You'll find that your work ethic places you on a much higher level than would-be competitors, and people notice.

Libra You'll find that after working through the pressures from people around you who are not united; entertainment will alleviate some of your mental strain.

ville Utilities will, no doubt, benefit quickly and significantly as a result of the work Jamie did to earn this recognition." Huntsville Utilities President and CEO Jay Stowe added his congratulations.

"Jamie represents the very best of our electric operations department," Stowe said. "He plays a vital role in helping us to do what is best for our system operations and our customers each day."

by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.
Public & Governmental
Affairs Liaison
Huntsville Utilities

Hard Work Deserves Reward!



LABOR DAY

The first Monday in September we celebrate Labor Day. Many of us are excited to celebrate holidays since it means we have a day off, and this particular holiday is to celebrate our hard work by granting us a day off. "Labor Day in the United States is an annual holiday which celebrates the achievements of workers. Labor Day has its origins in the labor union movement, specifically the eight-hour day movement, which advocated eight hours for work, eight hours for recreation, and eight hours for rest." (Wikipedia)

As hard as many of us work, we'll take an extra off day! It's not healthy to be all work and no play. After all, we put in the hard work to be able to

enjoy ourselves. Every once in a while, it's necessary to show your team you appreciate their work and it's nothing like giving a few off days in order for your team to recharge and regroup. Many of us wake up with the mission to contribute to this world, and to make it a better place for future generations.

Our efforts are to be celebrated, and a holiday is a great way to recognize and reward our hard work and labor. Whether we own a business or employed by a business, we're all catego-

rized as workers; we all have some form of labor that requires our time and attention. After all, labor and trade is what makes the world go round. Humans are one of the most valuable resources because our energy can create.

That's why I highly encourage you treat everyone that works for or with you with respect because that person is of worth. Just like Labor Day, it's very encouraging to show your team how much you appreciate their dedication. Every once in a while, it's good to express gratitude in some form to any and everyone who helps to make your business or project to manifest.

All the Best,
Amoi Savage

Photo: www.legis.wisconsin.gov

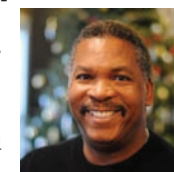
Champion Game Plan for Life

Sometimes, we can be so logical that it keeps us from having a relationship with God. For example, some people view religion as being a crutch for people that can't manage their lives. But the truth is that those people may not be managing their lives so well, either. You see, you may have business success, you may have money in the bank,

you might be well known, but do you have peace in your life - peace that surpasses all human and logical understanding? Do you have righteousness, meaning are you in right standings with God? You see, when we have a relationship with God, it will add meaning to your life.

When we have a relationship with God it adds purpose to your life. Having a relationship with God gives us all a moral foundation for our lives. So, without God, there is no joy and there is no hope and there is no peace ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

by Preston Brown



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Recap of Municipal, School Board Elections



Huntsville Mayor

Tommy Battle 13867
Ken Boyd 1512
Jackie Reed 1798

Huntsville City Council Dist. 1

Robert Hewlett, Jr. 108
Michelda Johnson 1071
Devyn S. Keith 1819
Peter Proctor 65
Richard Showers, Sr. 1280

Huntsville City Council Dist. 5

Jacob Kristopher Anders 121
Thad Clarke 88
Will Culver 1554
John Meredith 1037

Huntsville Board of Educa- tion Dist. 1

Laurie Bone McCaulley 1364
Mary "Jackie" Sawyer 241
Michelle L. Watkins 2703

Huntsville Board of Educa- tion Dist. 5

Pamela Hill 1570
Carlos Matthews 1226

Madison Mayor

Paul Finley 6267
Hanu Karlapalem 782
Troy Trulock 2996

Madison City Council Dist. 1

Buck Clemons 266
James Ross 396
Maura Wroblewski 609

Madison City Council Dist. 2

Steve Smith 1242
Devinti M. Williams 611

Madison City Council Dist. 3

DJ Klein 386
Teddy Powell 514

Madison City Council Dist. 4

Len Bullington 62
Brad Johnson 372
Greg Shaw 676

Madison City Council Dist. 5

Tommy Overcash 928
Dan Shanahan 628

Madison City Council Dist. 6

Gerald Clark 824
Karen Denzine 301
Kathryn (Kat) Norman 218

Madison City Council Dist. 7

John Seifert 755
Lena Sledge 524
Tommy Whitten 474

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On This Day - Friday, September 2 - WALTER MACAFEE - Part of the Project Diana team responsible for the first lunar radar echo experiments in 1946 to determine if a high frequency radio signal could penetrate the outer atmosphere of the earth. - *BlackinTime.info*

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SMILING FANS! Members of Alabama A&M University's softball team welcome Bulldog enthusiasts to the annual Fan Day held Saturday, August 27, at Louis Crews Stadium, where supporters gathered to celebrate the upcoming seasons for more than a dozen athletic teams.

Valley Deaths

- Funeral service for **Mr. Every Erskine** will be announce later.

- Funeral service was held Monday, August 29, at First Seventh-Day Adventist Church for **Ms. Deborah Foster** (b. 1955), with Pastor D.K. Snell officiating.

- Funeral service was held Monday, August 29, at Indian Creek P.B. Church for **Mr. Adrian L. Alexander** (b. 1985), with Elder Christopher Collins officiating.

- Funeral service was held Sunday, August 28, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel for **Mr. James Ragland, Jr.**

- Funeral service for **Ms. Ora B. Townsend** (b. 1931) was held Saturday, August 27, at St. Rebecca Primitive Baptist Church with Pastor Perry Clark officiating.

- Funeral service was held Saturday, August 27, at the Nelms Memorial Chapel for **Master Erik Sanders** (b. 2014) with Minister Willard Baldwin officiating.

- Funeral service for **Mrs. Evie Louise Draper Warner** was held Saturday, August 27, at Eagle's Nest Ministries with Bishop Daniel J. Richardson officiating.

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home
Huntsville, Ala.

BIG Picture Exhibit Site Set for A&M



Alabama A&M University's Drake Learning Resources Center and AAMU's Department of Community and Regional Planning, along with the City of Huntsville Planning Department will hold The Big Picture Exhibition.

The event will take place on September 15 at 11:30 a.m. in J.F. Drake Memorial Learning Resources Center.

After two years of planning, analysis, and community engagement, the BIG Picture has begun to

shape the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Huntsville.

The exhibit will offer a look at the principles that can guide growth, the challenges that the community will need to address, and the opportunities for the future of Huntsville.

For additional information on the exhibit scheduled for AAMU, contact Dr. Annie M. Payton, director, Drake Learning Resources Center, at (256) 372-5007 or annie.payton@aamu.edu.



On August 27, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Metropolitan Atlanta Chapter, honored Dr. Hadiyah Nicole Green with the Distinguished Trailblazer Award! Green is a graduate of the AAMU physics program and former Miss AAMU. She was nominated for the award by Ms. Alicia Guyton of Suntrust Bank.

Extension Specialist Awarded

For four years, various specialists in Alabama Extension's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs unit have received an 1890 Extension in Excellence Award.

This year, the 1890 Award will go to Environmental Specialist Karnita Garner for her body of

work in the area of agriculture and natural resources.

In June 2016, Garner and partners coordinated the first One Health Conference on Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Huntsville, Alabama.

This successful event allowed experts in human, animal, and environmental health to present current

research and national efforts being conducted to reduce the environmental impacts of PPCPs. In addition,

Garner provides leadership to the E-Waste Institute that was established by a consortium of professionals at Alabama Extension, Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical Uni-

versity, and the private sector in 2008, as well as other youth and adult Extension programs in the area of forestry, wildlife, and natural resource management.

As the 2016 1890 recipient, Garner will receive a plaque and a monetary gift during the Southern Program Leadership Network Award Luncheon in Nashville, Tenn.



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Calendar of Events

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
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 Uni-
versity Coronation
Elmore Building, 6 p.m.

October 3-5

Association of the United
States Army
Annual Meeting & Exposit-
ion
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

WBCNA Teams with SBA at Workshop



The Women's Business Center of North Alabama, in partnership with Women Impacting Public Policy, American Express OPEN and the U. S. Small Business Administration, hosted Challenge HER on Friday, August 26, at The Atrium at Redstone

Federal Credit Union.

The purpose of the event was to share opportunities for women in federal contracting.

Thomas Todt, District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration - Birmingham and Ms. Joanne Randolph,

President and CEO of the WBCNA greeted over 100 attendees.

Panelists included Mr. Lee Rosenberg - Director of the Missile Defense Agency's Office of Small Business Programs, Ms. Donna Ragucci, Director of AMCOM's Office of

Small Business Programs, Mr. Brad Bruce - Small Business Liaison Officer with Boeing and Mr. David Brock of NASA-MSFC's Small Business Office.

Attendees had the opportunity to participate in workshops on Research and Marketing, Procure-

ment Buying, Defense Contract Audit Agency Resources and Teaming, and Joint Ventures. In addition, match-making sessions were provided to small businesses with federal agencies.

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