


The Valley Weekly

Volume 1, No. 1

Friday, September 5, 2014



**The
Undeniable
Impact of the
Rosenwald
Schools**

**New Emphasis
on Respite
Communities**

Julius Rosenwald

Library of Congress

From the Editor

Welcome to the inaugural edition of *The Valley Weekly*!

Our mission is to provide the community with newsworthy information and to provide an outlet for the sharing and exchange of ideas. Our goal is to become your weekly source for local news and balanced information. Our foundation is built upon the principles of integrity, independence and courage. We plan to seek and report the truth, to show compassion, and to accept responsibility for our product.

When I was a child, I was taught respect by the elders in our small community in south Alabama. The respect we learned was deep and wide. Because the family tentacles were not always readily apparent, children knew to obey the family's rules, which were essentially the community's rules.

Everyone knew my parents, so if I were to cross a prohibited path on my way in our out, it was already community information before I even figured it out. Of course, this was the era of black and white televisions, "party line" telephones, and wood-burning stoves for both cooking and warmth for the entire family. I learned in my early years to stay firmly on my path because the few times I decided to divert from it were met by often invisible tentacles that emerged from intricate underground systems I didn't even know existed. Part of the underlying network was the historic institution known throughout many black communities as "The Rosenwald School."

I attended the Rosenwald School in Monroeville, Ala., from the first through sixth grades. And, although neither of my parents attended school for many years, each had a community network that nurtured me toward success. The community knew its teachers, and the teachers had no problem reaching out to parents. The Rosenwald Schools hold a special place in our educational history, and we briefly salute them here. After 56 years and life in four states, I still understand the teachings of those elders and the value of the modest institution set up for us.

In this and future issues, we hope to share the stories of local elders who have established and monitored those family and community root systems. It would be wise to gather together elders from time to time to engage in intergenerational conversations. The reward would surely be a connection that links both past and future. In less than two generations from slavery, our ancestors spawned soul-stirring gospel, Down Home blues, the Harlem Renaissance, thought-provoking literature and thousands of businesses to service their communities.

Let us begin today to unite through conversation and the sharing of our varied experiences. We have so much to learn.

Until the next edition, I am



Dorothy



Monroeville Courthouse

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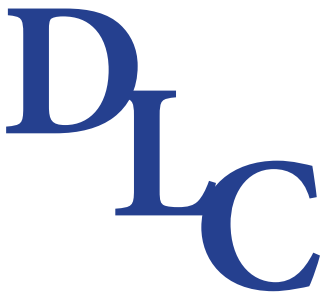
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The Valley Weekly

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<i>Back Cover</i>		
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3/4 Page	7.5x10 inches	600
Half Page	<i>Horizontal</i>	
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	10x5 inches	400
Fourth Page		
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Eighth Page		
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Sixteenth Page		
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Classified	1 col.x1 inch	6
	(4 col. in. minimum=24)	



Tennessee Valley

Diversity Leadership Colloquium

Vision:

The Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) advances leadership excellence by advocating and progressing the affirmation and inclusion of diversity in strategic markets and communities of interest for competitive intelligence.

Mission:

DLC's mission is to a premier provider of diversity training for inspiring and experienced leaders throughout the lifecycle.

Values:

Our values are: Collaboration for Excellence; Appreciation with Insight; Respect for Understanding; and Empathy for all - **C.A.R.E.**

DLC offers inspiring and experienced leaders with 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, Heroes and Holidays, Critical Thinking and Self-Affirmation and Living the CARE Values.

Individuals and companies are making sincere efforts in verbalizing a commitment to diversity excellence. However, we must be trained to build the next generation of leaders who have the skill sets, tools and commitment to execute.

Training Schedule

DLC will run four quarterly, eight week colloquia. The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. Participant cannot miss more than 2 sessions.

Location: 415-A Church Street - Downtown Huntsville

Enrollment limited to: 16 - **Tuition:** \$795

2015 Schedule

- Winter Jan 13 – Mar 3 - Deadline to register (Dec 13, 2014)
- Spring April 7 – May 26 - Deadline to register (March 7, 2015)
- Summer July 7 – August 25 - Deadline to register (June 7, 2015)
- Fall Oct 6 – Nov 24 - Deadline to register (Sep 6, 2015)



To Apply

- Application Form
- 3 References
- Resume
- Photo
- Tuition Payable upon Acceptance

APPLICATION FORM

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Apt. Unit # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Company/Organization _____

Title _____

U.S. Citizen? Yes No Enrolling Quarter _____

Education

High School Completion? Yes No

Highest Degree _____ Field _____

References

Name _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

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Mail application info to: 415A Church Street-St. 100, Huntsville, AL 35801 - (256) 651-9028; visit us at www.diversityleadershipcolloquium.com; or e-mail info@diversityleadershipcolloquium.com.

Burritt and the Rosenwald Schools

Burritt on the Mountain, Huntsville's oldest museum, has a mission to enhance lives and build community through educational, artistic, and recreational experiences while preserving our heritage, land, and historic structures. For almost 60 years, the Museum has been creating programs that address different parts of that statement. But its next project may fulfill the entire mission, all while bringing together several communities in the effort. Burritt plans to build a replica of a Rosenwald schoolhouse.

In 1912, Julius Rosenwald, a Jewish philanthropist from Chicago, was approached by Tuskegee University founder Booker T.



Washington for assistance in funding an educational program for southern rural African-Americans. Washington, a former slave, believed in self-help for African-American southerners that emphasized economic advancement through vocational education. This belief system was in line with the philosophy of Rosenwald, who himself was also a self-made man. This friend-

ship resulted in a challenge grant program that helped over 5,500 communities raise funds for schools.

Burritt on the Mountain has plans to build a replica of a Rosenwald schoolhouse based on designs used by Rosenwald and his architects. This four-room schoolhouse will be used to offer North Alabama schoolgroups the chance to experience a day in the life of an early 19th century child. Students will come to Burritt and step back in time to a world long gone but fondly remembered.

Students will start their day in one of the houses in the Burritt Historic Park. There they will receive a pail or basket in which to pack their lunch and an article of clothing that reflects the time period, possibly suspenders or bonnets. When the school bell rings, they will leave their "homes" and set off to school. The first order of business will be to recite the pledge of allegiance to the flag on the flagpole. But going back to a simpler time doesn't mean the students won't learn! The Education Department of Burritt will have a full day planned for the students with guidance from the students' teachers. Teachers will have a wide variety of lesson plans to choose from to tailor the day to their current curriculum.



Julius Rosenwald

One of the rooms will be an "industrial room" much like in a Rosenwald school in which historic crafts and skills are demonstrated such as tinsmithing, pottery and woodworking. Trades the 19th century students learned by which they became self-sufficient and productive citizens. Many prominent people have ancestors who attended Rosenwald schools including Oprah Winfrey, Spike Lee and Julian Bond. Bobby Parrish Hyder, a local retired educator, attended a one room school much like a Rosenwald school. "I am amazed at how the teacher managed," remembers Hyder, "She would start with the youngest grades and would call them to the front to teach them. While she did that,

the rest of us would work on our subjects. Then she would work with each class one by one."

Burritt on the Mountain is in the early stages of planning the capital campaign for this school and hopes to involve the community just as Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington did. It was their belief that if a community took part in the investment and building of the school, much more would come of it than if it were given to them. Burritt hopes to have the school finished by the State of Alabama's Bicentennial in 2019 to help educate and celebrate this important piece of the African American story.

- Submitted by Caroline Kelly
Development Director
Burritt on the Mountain



Booker T. Washington

The Rosetta James Foundation

Huntsville, Alabama

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Wil Haygood

Washington Post

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Saturday, October 18, 2014

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Family Life Center

600 Governors Drive

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2 p.m.

Acclaimed Biographer - Pulitzer
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Associated Press Award -
National Association of Black
Journalists Award for Foreign
Reporting - Ella Baker Award

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Summer-End Tax Tips

Five Basic Tax Tips about Hobbies

Millions of people enjoy hobbies that are also a source of income. Some examples include stamp and coin collecting, craft making, and horsemanship. However, you must report on your tax return the income you earn from a hobby. The rules for how you report the income and expenses depend on whether the activity is a hobby or a business. There are special rules and limits for deductions you can claim for a hobby. Here are five tax tips you should know about hobbies:

1. Is it a Business or a Hobby? A key feature of a business is that you do it to make a profit. You often engage in a hobby for sport or recreation, not to make a profit. You should consider nine factors when you determine whether your activity is a hobby. Make sure to base your determination on all the facts and circumstances of your situation. For more about 'not-for-profit' rules see Publication 535, Business Expenses.
2. Allowable Hobby Deductions. Within certain limits, you can usually deduct ordinary and necessary hobby expenses. An ordinary expense is one that is common and accepted for the activity. A necessary expense is one that is appropriate for the activity.
3. Limits on Hobby Expenses. Generally, you can only deduct your hobby expenses up to the amount of hobby income. If your hobby expenses are more than your hobby income, you have a loss from the activity. You can't deduct the loss from your other income.
4. How to Deduct Hobby Expenses. You must itemize deductions on your tax return in order to deduct hobby expenses. Your expenses may fall into three types of deductions, and special rules apply to each type. See of Publication 535 for the rules about how you claim them on Schedule A, Itemized Deductions.
5. Use IRS Free File. Hobby rules can be complex and IRS Free File can make filing your tax return easier. IRS Free File is available until Oct. 15. If you make \$58,000 or less, you can use brand-name tax software. If you earn more, you can use Free File Fillable Forms, an electronic version of IRS paper forms. Free File is available only through the IRS.gov website. See Publication 535. IRS.gov

- Contributed by David Herron

www.irs.gov

Caregiving

Aging and frailness do not always coexist but when they do it is usually a biologically related family member who will be the primary caregiver.

The Alabama Lifespan Respite Resource Network (into@alabamarespite.org/www.alabamarespite.org) estimates “31% of households in the United States are involved in caregiving at any time and that 39% of the population will provide care for a loved one at some point during the year.”

Adding to that lift simplified caregiving (<https://www.liftcaregiving.com/>) reports “more than 60% of the family caregivers work full-time while caring for an older loved one.”

Preparing and balancing caregiving responsibilities are more than financial or legal, it is emotional. Resources to address the financial and legal questions are often straightforward, but relationships will require changes that can be rewarding, challenging, confusing and overwhelming.

More and more emphasis is now being placed on “respite communities” for family caregivers. Respite care would be provided by trained volunteers, many being organized by the faith community offering short-term support, sharing the caregiving responsibility and the caregiver getting support and making connections.

- Linda Burruss

Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, INC.

ALUMNI STEPSHOW

SATURDAY
September 20
7:00pm | ADM. \$25/guest
Elmore Health Science
Building Gymnasium
Alabama A&M University

For more information, contact
Tonita Phipps 256-656-1930, Carla Franklin 256-503-0868
and Kamela Tatum 256-541-7029

College Life: Getting Beyond the First Month

by Georgia S. Valrie

As the fall semester slowly begins to gain momentum, thousands of students are coming to terms with life away from home for the very first time. Entering college often mean entering a world of changes. For some students, it can be a daunting experience. Listed are tips to help first-time college students overcome the first month's shock and begin the first of several productive years of college life.

Be Ready to Adapt to a New Living Environment

When you arrived on campus, everything was new to you. You

found a new environment, met new people from various ethnic backgrounds and cultures and adjusted to a new place to live. Continue to adjust to the "news"-engage and communicate with others; tour the facility and become familiar with the main offices and laboratories; and attend meetings and activities designed for first-time college students about the living environment.

Get to Know Your Roommates

It is often said that the best way to get to know an individual is to work with them or *stay* with them.

Expand beyond your roommate to potential friends on your floor, initiate a conversation with other residents; seek information, such as hometown, birthday, hobbies, talents, etc., and schedule time to do (e.g. shopping, attending athletic and social events, etc.). By the end of the first month, you should have communicated with your roommate about your expectations about living together.

Engage with Your Peers

Do not be afraid to engage with your peers or classmates. Engage in conversation with others; you will discover that they share the same questions or concerns. If you communicate with someone that you really like, exchange phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

Manage Your Time

Remember why you are in col-

lege. Manage your time to stay on track. Become familiar with your class schedule and attend classes on time. Maintain a calendar or planner to keep track of important dates, such as deadlines for assignments, exams dates, appointments, etc. Prioritize your activities, determine what activities are most important to you, create a daily "things to do" list, and set a time to meditate and study.

Manage Your Money

Learn now to live on a budget; it

will help you form good spending habits. Develop a monthly budget; balance your checkbook regularly; keep money available for emergencies; and stay away from credit card companies persuading you assume unnecessary debt.

Join a Club

Get involved and interact with others. Becoming a member of an organization is an excellent way to meet a variety of people with similar interest and goals.

Alabama A&M University Football Schedule 2014

8/31/2014 North Carolina A&T Orlando, FL 10:45 am

9/6/2014 Tuskegee Tuskegee, AL 1 PM

9/13/2014 UAB Birmingham, AL - Legion Field TBA

9/20/2014 Texas Southern Houston, TX - BBVA
Compass Stadium 7 PM

9/27/2014 Mississippi Valley State Itta Bena, MS -
Rice-Totten Stadium TBA

10/4/2014 Grambling Huntsville, Ala. - Louis Crews
Stadium 2 PM (Homecoming/Crews Classic)
Hall of Fame Game

10/11/2014 Southern University Huntsville, Ala. -
Louis Crews Stadium 1 PM
Magic City Classic

10/25/2014 Alabama State Birmingham, Ala. - Legion
Field 2:30 PM

11/1/2014 Jackson State Jackson, MS - Veterans
Memorial Stadium TBA

11/8/2014 Alcorn State Huntsville, Ala. - Louis Crews
Stadium 1 PM

11/15/2014 Prairie View A&M Huntsville, Ala. -
Louis Crews Stadium 1 PM Details

11/22/2014 University of Arkansas - Pine Bluff Pine
Bluff, AR TBA Details

12/13/2014 SWAC Championship Houston, TX -
Reliant Center TBA Details

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UCCAF, Inc. Third Annual Educational Gala

The Third Annual Educational Gala of the Union Chapel Christian Academy Foundation, Inc. will be held Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 7 p.m., in the Boone-Lacy Fellowship Hall at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 315 Winchester Road, Huntsville, Ala. The Gala theme is: "Changing the Paradigm: Educational Excellence Through STEM." The 2014 awardees are: Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Civic/Community STEM Award; Future Research Corporation, Corporate STEM Award; Dr. Paul B. Ruffin; Inspiring Young Minds To Succeed STEM Award; and Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) James L. Lord, Jr., Lifetime Achievement Award.

For sponsorship or ticket, contact Mrs. Donna Robinson at 256-489-4259.



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