

Kimberly Ferguson Poem: 'Put the Guns Away' - p. 3

POSITIVE-INSPIRATIONAL-EDUCATIONAL

FREE

PRESTON: Being Accountable - p. 4

Friday
September 5, 2025
Vol. 12, No. 1
ValleyWeeklly.com

SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Ruby Dickson

The Valley Weekly

"It is the lives we encounter that make life worth living." - Maupassant

U.S. Space Command Moving to Huntsville

Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville has been selected as the permanent headquarters for U.S. Space Command (USSPACE-COM), marking a major milestone in America's strategic

defense posture.

The decision, announced by President Donald Trump, follows a thorough, twice-reviewed site selection process that confirmed Huntsville's ability to support the mission's

long-term objectives and national security priorities. About 1,400 USSPACE-COM jobs will transition to Redstone Arsenal over the next five years. State and local partners have reaffirmed their

original commitments made during the original 2020 site selection process.

Huntsville has invested heavily to ensure mission readiness, noted Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle. - Huntsville.gov

Monte Sano Art Fest Attracts Wide Slate of Artists

Breathtaking views and outdoor adventure will complement one-of-a-kind artwork at the Monte Sano Art Festival, presented by Damson Automotive, September 20-21 at Monte Sano State Park. A Huntsville

tradition, the juried art festival will present over 140 local and regional artists, a selection of local food vendors, and featured musicians.

The Festival will open to the public from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

on Saturday, Sept. 20, and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 21.

Arts Huntsville does not charge admission to the festival; however, Monte Sano State Park will charge \$10 per car

for parking or \$5 per walk-in festival attendee, cash only. All funds go towards supporting the state parks system.

This year's festival is presented by Damson Automotive, with additional support from Torch Technologies, Legacy Health Chiropractic, COLSA, Leaf Filter, Vista, Sam's Club, and Renewal by Anderson.

Visit the Arts Huntsville website or call (256) 519-ARTS (2787). Arts Huntsville can be found on Facebook and Instagram at @ArtsHuntsville.



Drake's FAME Launches First Cohort

Drake State welcomed the inaugural cohort of students in the new FAME (Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education) program. Led by Dr. Myron Parks and Instructor

Jacob England, 15 students attended their first class of the semester and began an educational journey that blends classroom learning with hands-on industry experience.

Through partnerships with leading companies such as Mazda Toyota Manufacturing, Toyota Alabama, Runergy, Bruderer, and Blue Origin, students gain valu-

able skills by "earning while learning." The program equips them with both academic knowledge and real-world expertise while they work toward their degrees.

The Valley Weekly

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DREAM BIG: The Valley Weekly and local artist John 'Jahni' Moore recently unveiled his mural-- "Hills of Dreams"--at Rolling Hills Elementary School, transforming a cafeteria wall into a stunning work of art.

Washington One Minute

by Ron Hamm

Here are the latest top issues and events in Washington, D.C.:

1. CONGRESS. The House and Senate reconvened Monday. The House took up, among other items, the FY 2026 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies considered its FY 2026 spending bill on Tuesday, September 2. Reps. Massie (R-KY) and Khanna (D-CA) were expected to circulate a discharge petition this week (needing 218 signatures) that would force the House GOP leadership to vote on making convicted child sex offender Jeffrey Epstein's files public ... The Senate started the week with a cloture vote (needing 60 votes) on a motion to proceed to the nearly \$1 trillion FY 2026 Defense Authorization bill. On the congressional redistricting front, Missouri GOP Gov. Mike Kehoe alluded the state legislature into a special session on Wednesday to vote on a new map that targets Kansas City Democratic Congressman Emanuel Cleaver and

could give the GOP control of 7 of the state's 8 districts (the current Missouri delegation ratio is 6 Rs to 2 Ds).

2. EXECUTIVE BRANCH. Last Thursday night, the White House transmitted a 15-page notification to Congress that it intends to cancel \$4.9 billion in Congressionally-approved foreign aid funding (including \$445 million for U.N. peacekeeping operations) in what is known as a "pocket rescission." On Friday, Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Susan Collins (R-ME) called the action a "violation of law," which, because it was transmitted very close to the end of the fiscal year when the funds are scheduled to expire, is an "attempt to rescind appropriated funds without congressional approval." The Washington Post reported last week that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is threatening to withhold federal funds from the D.C. public housing authority if it does not immediately share its tenants' citizenship status and also that housing authorities around the nation will soon be ordered to start identifying

"mixed family" units, along with names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and information about their statuses.

3. SUPREME COURT. Last Thursday, the State of South Carolina filed an emergency petition asking the Supreme Court to pause an order by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit that requires a public school in the state to allow a transgender boy to use the boys' bathroom while he challenges a state law that requires students to use bathrooms based on their biological sex at birth. South Carolina cited the Supreme Court's June 18, 2025, decision in *United States v. Skrmetti*, in which 6 justices upheld Tennessee's ban on medical treatments for transgender minors, as the basis to put the appeals court ruling on hold for now.

4. CDC DIRECTOR FIRED. On Thursday, HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was scheduled to be in front of the Senate Finance Committee to testify in a hearing about his health care agenda, but certainly to face questions about last Wednesday's firing of Centers for Disease Control Director Susan Monarez (who was confirmed by the Senate on July 29th) and the resignations of 4 senior CDC officers ... Last Thursday, Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-LA), Chair of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Committee, called for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to indefinitely postpone its September 18 meeting and further stated that "if the meeting proceeds, any recommendations made should be rejected as lacking legitimacy given the seriousness of the allegations and the current turmoil in CDC leadership.

5. FEDERAL RESERVE. Last Thursday, Federal Reserve Board Governor Lisa Cook, who was sworn in on September 13, 2023, for a term ending January 31, 2038, sued the President to block his attempt to fire her. The White House fired Cook on Aug. 25 and has alleged that Cook made misrepresentations on her mortgage documents when purchasing homes in Georgia and Michigan and a condo in

Massachusetts in 2021 (governors may only be fired for cause). The next meeting of the Federal Reserve's Federal Open Market Committee is Sept. 16th -17th.

6. TARIFFS STRUCK DOWN. Late Friday, 7 of 11 judges on the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that most of President Trump's tariffs are illegal under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) of 1977; however, the court allowed the tariffs to remain in place through October 14 to give the administration a chance to file an appeal with the court ...

7. HIGHER EDUCATION. Congressional Democrats are raising concerns after the Trump administration announced it will no longer defend the \$350 million Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) grant program in

court—a move they say could effectively end the initiative. Senator Alex Padilla (D-CA) and Rep. Joaquin Castro (D-TX), co-chairs of the Congressional HSI Caucus, warned that eliminating the program jeopardizes the education of two-thirds of Latino undergraduates and millions of students of all backgrounds nationwide. HSI-designated community colleges and universities serve not only Hispanic students but also White, Black, Asian, and other underrepresented groups, highlighting their importance to educational equity and the economy.

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Letting Go, Holding On

Almost two years ago, my life changed forever when my husband died suddenly in a plane crash. Since then, I have learned what it means to live with grief while managing everything that was once “ours”—our home, our business, our family relationships. Fear and overwhelm became daily companions.

Next week, I will move into a different home. That means sorting through decades of memories—high school proms, football games, college years, wedding albums, children’s artwork, and family treasures. The hardest part has been realizing that what holds deep meaning for me may not hold the same meaning for my grown children. They have their own homes, their own families, and their own memories to build. So, at this point, less is better for me!

This process of letting go is painful, yet it is also liberating. I am learning that the value of these things is not in the objects themselves, but in the love, laughter, and life they represent. My new chapter is not about loss, but about carrying forward the essence of what truly matters—faith, family, resilience, and love.

As I pack each box, I remind myself: letting go of things does not mean letting go of the people or the love we shared. Those live forever in me, and in those who come after.



Dorothy

SEPTEMBER 5 - **CLAUDETTE COLVIN** - Claudette Colvin is a retired American nurse aide who was a pioneer of the 1950s civil rights movement. On March 2, 1955, she was arrested at the age of 15 in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat to a white woman on a crowded, segregated bus. This occurred some nine months before the more widely known incident in which Rosa Parks, secretary of the local chapter of the NAACP, helped spark the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott. For many years, Montgomery’s black leaders did not publicize Colvin’s pioneering effort. She was an unmarried teenager at the time, and was reportedly impregnated by a married man soon after the incident. - Blackcelebritybirthdays.org

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Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$150
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$75
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Put the Guns Away! Violence Ends Today!
by Kimberly Ferguson

Ever since the pandemic
America has had a gun epidemic
Going in schools
Going in churches
Gun madness
Ends in sadness
We could prevent it
With an assault weapon ban and
A hefty fine on gun owners
Because kids are getting access to weapons
In the home
Parents are liable
For not locking them up
Then after your child has brought the gun to school
You recall he's got it
But too late then
This happens again and again
Society has normalized gun violence
The politicians who support the NRA
Are sponsors of mass shootings
You don't really care about children
The number one cause of death in Alabama
For children under 17 is firearms
Alabama do better!
This is a call to action
From every mayor and every elected official
To have a conversation with parents and youth
It's preventable if you pass legislation
In Alabama with stiff fines
I'm going to keep addressing it
In Huntsville
Every child needs to not think guns are cool
Don't let the music industry fool ya
They can take a deal
For gun ownership
And pay a fine
It's time America draws the line
Guns lead to jail
Without bail
Parents continue to fail
Lock up your guns
Or you should be charged with accessory
Because you provided the gun
You put locks on your phone
But not a dangerous weapon
We have gun free zones
I'm thinking you don't care
Because police are not charging you
Which tells other parents
Nothing will happen
Parents you are in the wrong
No children belong in possession
Of a firearm in Alabama
Parents put away your guns
Social media will help us find your children and you
Gun control is a good thing
When you have guns
And you know you should lock them up
Because you know what your children
Are capable of doing
For social media likes
And applause
So it can trend
But like New Edition said this is the end!
They will be in an orange jumpsuit
Charged as an adult
Save your my son didn't do anything
He got the gun
And the system will teach him
It's the only way to reach him
The music industry
Is sending youth
To penitentiary
The lyrics that rhyme
Will get them some time
If you hear the music
It's self-destruction
The more they consume it
It's programming them
Ice Cube said that the music industry executives
Own prisons
You understand the game
When they reach fame
They go to court
Judge has the police report
They have built a case
Add the gun
The system got another one

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY DEATHS



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Funeral services for **MR. WILLIAM HOWARD BRADFORD, II** (b. 1945); **MRS. JOYCE R. SANFORD** (b. 1954) and **MRS. PEGGY JOYCE FORD PARKER** (b. 1940) will be announced at a later date.

Funeral service for **MS. ANGELIA LYNETTE LIGHT-FOOT** (b. 1986) was Tuesday, September 2, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Al Holman officiating.

Funeral service for **MRS. JUANITA R. COLLIER** (b. 1953) was Sunday, August 31, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Danny Baker officiating.

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Funeral service for **MS. MARTHA LOUCILLE FLEMING** (b. 1943) was Wednesday, September 3, at the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 7033 Highway 431 S., Brownsboro, Ala., with Pastor Jonathon Hambrick officiating.

Funeral service for **ELDER HAYWARD EUGENE EASON** (b. 1953) was Tuesday, September 2, at the Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church, 2115 Winchester Road, Huntsville, Ala., with Rev. Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery officiating.

Graveside service for **MR. BILLIE BURROUGHS** (b. 1938) was Saturday, August 30, at the Meadowlawn Garden of Peace, 450 Mt. Lebanon Road, Toney, Ala., with Elder Renada Bonham officiating.

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Funeral service for **REV. LARRY "LIGHTNIN" GORDON** (b. 1952) was Sunday, August 31, at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 759 Pine Grove Road, Harvest, Ala.

Funeral service for **MR. CARL LESLIE** (b. 1956) was Saturday, August 30, at Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church, 3030 Belafonte Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.

Spiritual Game Plan

PRESTON BROWN'S



Today's Spiritual Game Plan: "Being Accountable"

Romans 14:12 says everyone who stands before God will have to give an account for their own life.

Sometimes it's easier to tell someone else what to do than it is to take that advice and apply it to your own life. In other words, it's easy for me to say don't eat this or you need to work out more or read your bible more. But we all need to be accountable for our own actions.

We need to stop saying things like "they made me mad, or they made me do something that I didn't want to. It's time to take responsibility for your life. But applying this idea to our lives requires discipline and self-control.

You see, we all need to realize and understand that it's not just hearing the truth that makes you free; it's applying the truth to our lives that makes you free. James 1:22 says, "Do not merely listen to the word and deceive yourselves. Do what it says." You know all those people that you thought that

you (Matthew 5:16).

Prayer:
Dear God, help us to be accountable for our own actions.

Question:
Is it easier for you to take advice or give advice?

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase a copy of my books, *Spiritual Game Plans For A Successful Life* and A



Champion Game Plan for Life, at amazon.com.

NEXT WEEK:
"No Regrets"



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Like Noah, NBA Hall of Famer Scottie Pippen Saved His Family — and a Dynasty

From overlooked #2 to essential servant-leader, Pippen embodies the humility that sustains greatness.

On August 26, 2025, legendary coach Phil Jackson called Scottie Pippen “He’s the greatest all-around player in the NBA” - Phil Jackson explains why Scottie Pippen was always the better team player than Michael Jordan - Yahoo Sports.

Coming from the winningest coach-player in NBA history — 13 championships combined with the Bulls, Lakers, and Knicks — that statement carries Hall of Fame weight. But it also confirmed something I had written years earlier in my 4th Amazon best-seller, Where Jump Shots Meet Jesus.

In that book, I argued that dynasties are not built by the loudest or flashiest superstars, but by what I call **Silver-Mettle Leaders** — servant-leaders who quietly put the team above themselves.

For the 1990s Chicago Bulls, that leader was not Michael Jordan. It was Scottie Pippen.



Here’s why. When Jordan arrived in 1984, Chicago was entertaining but losing. They didn’t win a playoff series until Pippen came. Together, they won six titles — but as Jordan himself admitted: “Whenever they speak Michael Jordan, they should also speak Scottie Pippen. I didn’t win without Scottie. He was my greatest teammate.”

Pippen proved his leadership when Jordan retired in 1993. He carried the team, finishing third in MVP voting and keeping the Bulls competitive. Then, when Jordan returned, Pippen humbly stepped back

into the #2 role — echoing John the Baptist’s words about Jesus: “He must increase, and I must decrease” John 3:30.

Even off the court, Pippen modeled servant leadership. He chose financial security for his family over chasing a bigger contract — a decision shaped by caring for his paralyzed father and disabled brother. In my book, I compared him to Noah: overlooked, underestimated, but faithful in saving his family.

The lesson is clear: dynasties in sports, business, and life don’t belong to ego-driven stars. They belong to servant-leaders who reflect Jesus’ words: “I came not to be served, but to serve” Matthew 20:28.

Scottie Pippen was that kind of leader. And thanks to Phil Jackson’s recent words, the world is finally giving him his due.



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Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell

Transition ...

Nice and slow ...

When we hear the phrase “nice and slow,” it often evokes songs by artists like Usher and Freddie Jackson, reminding us that life isn’t a race. In times of transition, we frequently desire immediate change, longing for calmness and resolution. However, that’s not how life unfolds. True transformation takes time.

Building new habits and unlearning old ones is a process that requires patience. It’s essential to lay a solid foundation for new beginnings. Remember, anything built on a flimsy base is bound to falter. The saying goes, “the only way to eat an elephant is one



bite at a time.” Embrace this philosophy as you approach your goals.

Whether you’re navigating relationships, career shifts, personal development, or health and wellness, take it one day at a time. Be mindful of your actions and remember why you chose this path. This reflection enables you to move forward with

intention. While it’s important not to overthink, consider potential outcomes and be prepared for the journey ahead. So, take a deep breath, are you ready to dive into something new?

Lace Up! Let’s Go!
God loves you, and so do I.
He has given you a gift; open it.

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The Valley Weekly

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

September 5

Louis Crews Coach's Breakfast

Ernest Knight Center

Featuring guest speaker:

AAMU Head Coach

Sam Shade

Tickets: \$75/Tables: \$1,000

(8 per round) - 8 a.m.

September 5-6

Louis Crews Classic Weekend

Alabama A&M University

September 6

Arts & Culture Exhibition

The AAMU Event Center

11 a.m.-3 p.m. (Free)

Concert

Three Dog Night & Little

River Band

The Orion

September 7

Oakwood University Church

Community Health Fair

OUC Family Life Center Gym

8 a.m.

September 13

Village of Providence Farmers Market

7 Town Center Drive NW

Huntsville, Ala.

9 a.m.-2 p.m.

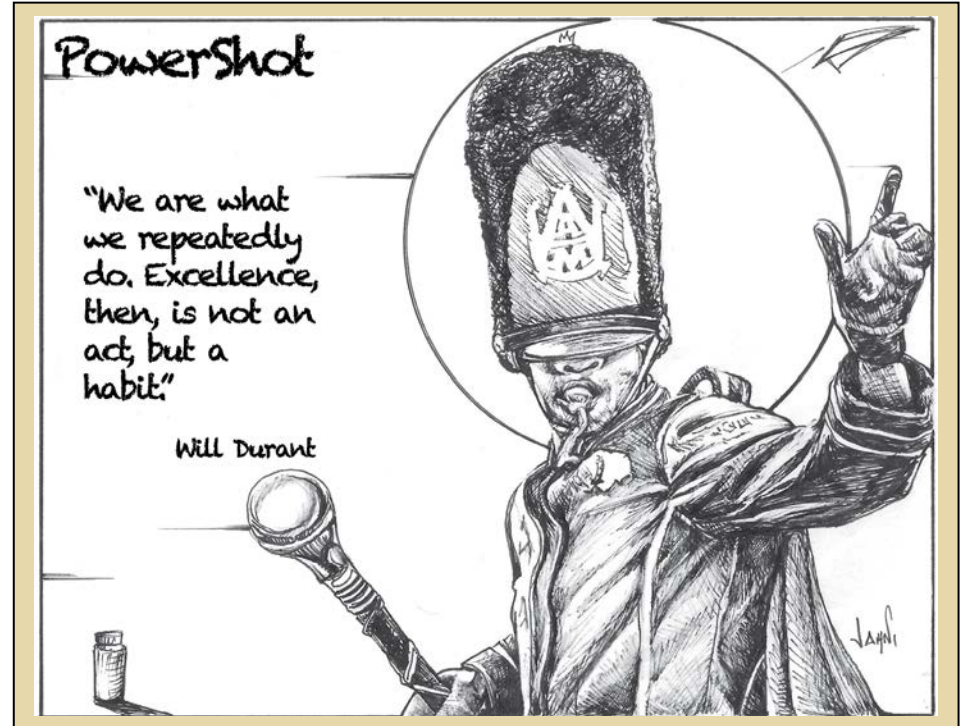
Butterfly Release

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Huntsville Parks and Recreation Starts Male Mentorship Program

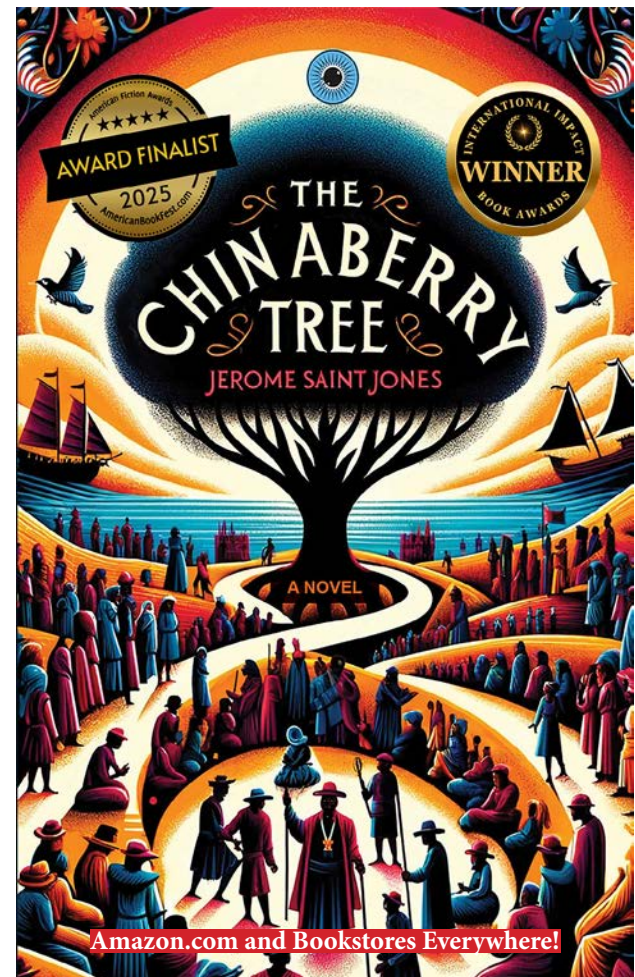
Huntsville Parks and Recreation has opened registration for its popular Male Mentorship Program.

Scheduled throughout the 2025-2026 school year and led by trained recreation staff, the Male Mentorship Program empowers boys ages 8-17 to grow into confident, positive individuals.

Registration (\$25) opened last month and continues through Wednesday, Oct. 1. Due to limited space, interested participants are urged to register early.

Visit HuntsvilleAL.gov/malementorship for more information.

- huntsvilleal.gov



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ON THIS DAY

On this day in Black history, September 5, 1859, Harriet Wilson became the first Black woman in the United States to publish a novel, with her work *Our Nig*, a work chronicling her life of indenture and prejudice. In 1960, Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won a gold medal at the Summer Olympics for his light-heavyweight boxing victory.

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*"There was never a great genius
without a touch of madness."*

- Ben Jonson



Rosetta James Foundation "Spotlight on Our Elders" ... Featuring

Mrs. Ruby Dickson

Mrs. Ruby Jones Dickson was born in Texarkana, Texas, on March 31, 1943, to the Reverend Elmer and Mrs. Nellie Jones. She attended New Town Elementary School and graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School of Texarkana, Texas. She became a Christian at an early age and united with Red Springs Baptist Church. After relocating to the New Town community, she became a member of the New Town Baptist Church. She married the late Edward Ford in 1963, and to this union four children were born: Bridgette Ford May, Edward (Jerry) Ford Jr., Stephanie Ford Shanks, and Byron Ford.

From 1968-1972, she traveled as a military wife. During her travels, she sang with the K-Town (Kaiserlautern) Gospel Singers, which led her twice to (NATO) Belgium, a vast part of Germany, and one appearance on German television. In 1972, she relocated from Oakland, Calif., (via Texarkana, Texas) to Colorado Springs, Colo. There she became a member of the New Jerusalem Baptist Church and worked with the Mission, Sunday School, choir and sang with a gospel group (The Jubilets). She was employed and retired at Hewlett-Packard.

Dickson was inspired to write a meaningful and memorable poem for her mother's retirement. This would be the beginning

of her pursuit to become a God-given gift as a Christian poet. In 1988, it was in the divine plan of God that she would return to her home in Texarkana, Texas. She became an active member of Macedonia Baptist Church. She worked with the B.M. & E. State Convention of Texas Women's Auxiliary.

It was in Texarkana that she wrote and self-published her first three books: "The Holy Spirit Speaks," "O Taste And See," and "Think On These Things." She attended a Christian workshop at the Mount Orange Baptist Church in Texarkana, Texas. The facilitator was from the Sunday School Publishing Board in Nashville Tenn. She asked him to look at the three books. He was very impressed and asked her to send them to Nashville as soon as possible. In December 1998 at the Winter Board in Nashville, Tenn., her first book signing was held.

In 1994, she married the late Reverend Russell Dickson, pastor of the Unity Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday School and the Mission. It would be two years later that she would publish her last book "The Suffering Servant." In 2000, she relocated to Huntsville, Ala., and united with the St. Luke Christian Church, under the leadership of Reverend T.C. Johnson. At St. Luke, she taught the new members class on church membership, facilitated



women's ministries and programs, and served as ward leader for 20 families in the congregation.

She worked in Exodus, Inc., as an administrative assistant and teacher assistant in the computer lab. She attended Calhoun Community College, earning an AA in general education. She was inducted into the National Honor Society, was on the Dean's list, was noted in "Who's Who in Junior Colleges of America," was nominated among the top 10 students of Calhoun and graduated Magna Cum Laude. She attended Athens State University to pursue a bachelor's degree in religious studies and a minor in Christian education.

She is an author published by Townsend Press with four completed works of poetry: "The Holy Spirit Speaks," "O Taste and See," "Think on These Things" and "The Suffering Servant." She now works as a volunteer with the Broken Arrow Ministries, feeding the homeless in Huntsville, Ala.



"Spotlight on Our Elders" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote **volunteerism** and activism in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at www.rosettajamesfoundation.org. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valleyweeklyllc.com.

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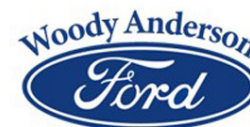


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AAMU's C&I Ph.D. Program Expands ... *Exponentially!*

Alabama A&M University continues to expand its advanced degree offerings with the enrollment of 50 students into the second cohort of its Ph.D. program in Curriculum and Instruction (CUI). The College of Education, Humanities, and Behavioral Sciences hosted the new class for a two-day orientation last week, marking the program's only in-person requirement before students begin their fully online coursework.

Dr. Lena Walton, program coordinator and associate professor of elementary education, emphasized the importance of the orientation experience.

"We bring them here to acclimate them to the

resources that are available on campus and accessible remotely," said Walton. "They learn how to use the library, organize their financial aid, meet their advisors, and form different work groups for student-to-student support."

Launched in Fall 2024, the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction is a 60 to 63-credit hour program that must be completed within eight years. Designed for working professionals, the program offers five specializations: educational administration, mathematics education, reading and literacy, science education, and early childhood/elementary education. Walton noted that the program is rooted



in human security and social justice, encouraging research that addresses equity, innovation, and evolving needs in education.

"This particular program is ideal for professionals who want to broaden their impact," Walton explained. "Graduates can move into curriculum development, higher education administration, or even teaching adult learners. Others may return to the classroom with new tools for transforma-

tive teaching."

For Hovet Dixon, Jr., principal of Accel Preparatory Academy in Huntsville City Schools and a two-time AAMU alumnus, the program provides both flexibility and opportunity.

"For me, the level of convenience is key," said Dixon, now in his 26th year in education. "I'm winding down my career path in K-12, and I've waited quite some time to make the transition to higher education. The position I

have now is rewarding, but I'm ready to prepare for the next chapter."

Kelly Washington, a Birmingham educator with more than two decades of experience, echoed the program's transformative potential. Currently teaching fourth grade mathematics at Oxford Valley Elementary School, Washington enrolled with a desire to shape the future of education.

"I enrolled because I want to be able to change some things I see in education," Washington said. "I've been in education for 21 years, and I need to improve myself to help students deal with new challenges ahead. I feel God has brought me full

circle. When I was in high school, I received a scholarship to attend Alabama A&M, but I stayed close to home. Now, years later, I finally get to pursue my dream here."

As Walton reflected, the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction is more than just an academic pursuit – it is a call to leadership and innovation.

"We hope our students will look at research in areas that no longer serve some populations and develop new, innovative approaches," she said. "Although we are different in many ways, this program prepares us to be successful together in shaping the future of education."

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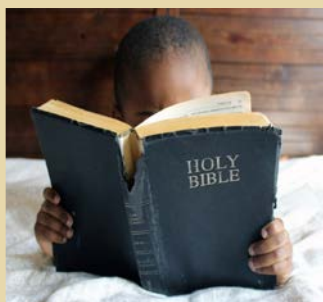
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Thirteenth Sunday
after Pentecost



(Track 2, Year C)

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Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-5, 12-17

Second Lesson:

Philemon 1-21

GOSPEL:

Luke 14:25-33



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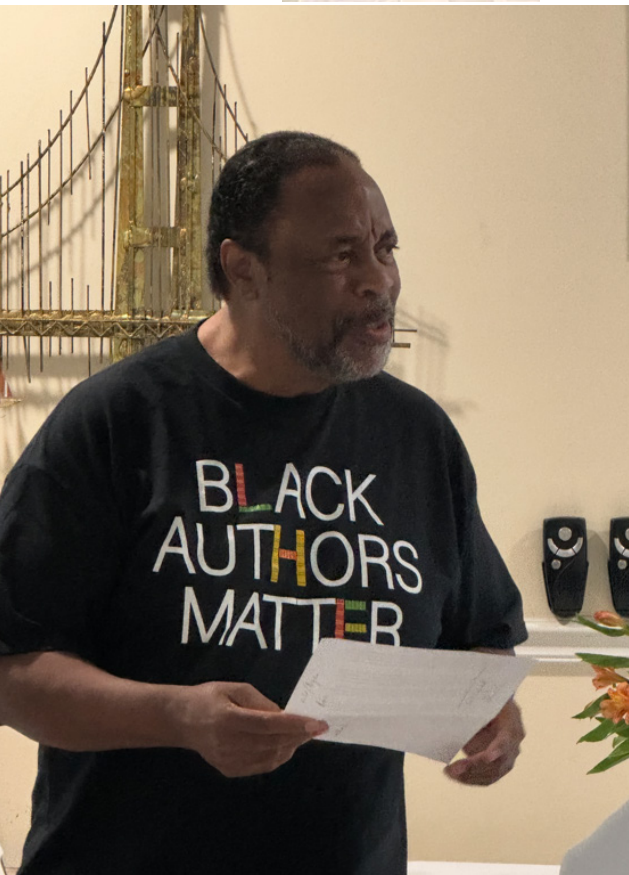
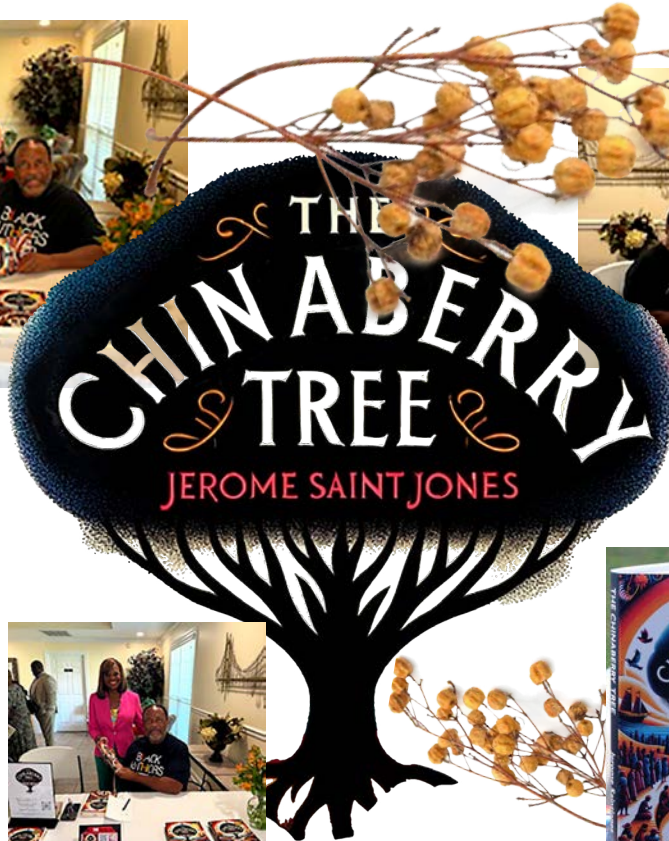
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Scenes from Book Signing for Jerome Saintjones' "The Chinaberry Tree"

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Hosts: Georgia S. Valrie, Felicia D. Wilson, Dorothy W. Huston and Carla Clift



Omega Service for Brother Rev. Dr. Theodis “Ted” Acklin

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Friday, August 22, 2025 - Royal Funeral Home - Huntsville, Alabama

Photography: Anthony Gibson



Phillips CME Celebrating 160th Anniversary

Phillips Christian Methodist Episcopal Church will hold its 160th Anniversary Black Tie Gala, a milestone celebration of faith, heritage, and community service. The black-tie event will be held on Thursday, September 18, at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center South Hall Ballroom in Huntsville, Alabama.



This commemorative evening will bring together members of the congregation, local leaders, and special guests to honor the church's rich legacy and enduring impact. Guests will enjoy a night of formal dining, live entertainment, and reflections on 160 years of spiritual leadership and community outreach.

“This is more than a celebration of history—it’s

a tribute to the generations who built a foundation of faith, service, and unity, said Rev. Dr. Gregory Scott, pastor of Phillips CME Church. “We look forward to an unforgettable evening as we honor our past and look ahead to the future.”

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available now. For more information or to RSVP, contact Clifford

March or visit phillipscme-church.org

Founded in 1865, Phillips CME Church is one of Huntsville’s oldest and most storied congregations. Rooted in faith and community, the church continues its mission to serve, uplift, and inspire through worship, education, and outreach.

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