

The Valley Weekly

"Invest in the human soul. Who knows? It might be a diamond in the rough."

- Mary McLeod Bethune

FREE

Volume 3, No. 2

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, September 23, 2016

Hundreds Observe Dedication of Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard

A crowd of several hundred citizens attended the Dr. Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard Dedication and Ribbon Cutting ceremony on September 14, 2016.

Lowery Boulevard connects to Governors' Drive at Harvard and runs into what is considered downtown Huntsville, Ala.

Lowery and his three daughters, other family members and friends, along with members of the Lowery Foundation Board, were in Huntsville for the

Dedication and Ribbon Cutting.

Councilman Richard Showers, Sr., who authored the resolution to name the street in Lowery's honor, presided at the event.

Remarks were made by Mayor Tommy Battle, Council President Will Culver, President Michael Jones of the Greater Huntsville Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship, President Brenda Barley Chunn of the William Hooper Council H. S.

Alumni Association and President Robert Drake of the Delta Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Dr. Oscar Montgomery, Pastor of Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church, presented the official dedication, and Madison County Commissioner Bob Harrison presented the resolution.

Dr. Lowery spoke, without prepared notes, about having grown up in Huntsville, and he thanked the



Mayor and City Council for honoring him in such a manner.

Currently 94 years old, Lowery resides in Atlanta, Ga. He served as the pastor of Cascade United Methodist Church in Atlanta from 1986 through 1992, adding over 1,000 members and leaving the church with 10 acres of land.

Additional comments were made by SCLC President Charles Steele, Jr., and local NAACP President Rev. R. L. Shanklin. The Benediction was given by Pastor O. Wendell Davis of Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. The Ribbon Cutting ceremony was performed by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce. (See Ceremony Photos on Page 2).

Absentee Election Office Opens for General Election

On Monday, September 19, the Absentee Election Office opened on the first floor of the Madison County Courthouse. Office hours will be Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., until Thursday, November 3.

Any qualified elector may vote an absentee ballot by mail or in person at the Absentee Election Office, if he or she makes an application in writing and meets one of the following requirements:

- Out of the county or the state on Election Day.
- Any physical illness or infirmity which prevents attendance at the polls.
- Works a shift which is at least ten (10) hours that coincides with the hours the polls are open.
- A student at an educational institution located outside the county of permanent residence.
- An election officer at a polling place which is not their regular polling place.
- A member of, or spouse or dependent of a member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, or an otherwise similarly qualified to vote absentee pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff.

Applications are available at www.madisoncountytvotes.com or in the Absentee Election Office. Upon presentation of a completed application and I.D., voters may receive a ballot, vote, and turn in the ballot. The law requires that the office only take applications and give ballots to the applicant in person. All others must be mailed to the office. Multiple applications cannot be mailed in the same envelope.

For a ballot to be counted, election officials must receive it by 5 p.m., November 7.

Voter registration and address updates must be completed with the Board of Registrars prior to October 24 for this election. Board of Registrars is located at 819 Cook Avenue, Suite 150.

Questions can be directed to the office of Debra Kizer, Madison County Circuit Clerk and Absentee Election Manager, at (256) 532-3684.

HCS Superintendent Resigns

In an abrupt mid-September announcement, Dr. Casey Wardynski stepped down as the superintendent of Huntsville City Schools, citing a continuing romantic relationship with Pinnacle Schools founder Karen Lee, who he said he plans to marry.

The Huntsville City School system was scheduled to discuss a contract modification involving Lee's private academy.

Wardynski became Superintendent in 2011. His wife Susan died from breast cancer December 6, 2015, after rebounding to finish top of her nursing

class at UAH.

Huntsville City Schools entered a contract with Pinnacle Schools in 2012.

"Over the past five years, Dr. Wardynski has had several great accomplishments in the Huntsville City School system," commented Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle. "We thank him for his work and express confidence in the Huntsville City School Board's continued 'search for excellence' with our school system. I have confidence in their choice of an interim superintendent and their ability to do a quality, nationwide search



for a permanent superintendent to lead what we believe to be one of the best school systems in the nation."

Where to Find Your
FREE Copies of
The Valley Weekly

The Rev. Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard Dedicated

Wednesday, September 14, 2016

AAMU Public Relations Office
Albert's Flowers
Alphonso Beckles, Attorney at Law
Big Oh's
Bob Harrison Senior Wellness Center
Books a Million - N. Parkway/University Drive
Briar Fork CP Church
Bryant Bank - Church Street
Burritt on the Mountain
Chris' Barber Shop
Depot Professional Building
Dunkin Donuts
Eagles' Nest Ministries
The Favour Group
Fellowship of Faith Church
Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Garden Cove Produce
Health Unlimited
Huntsville Bible College
Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church
James Smith - AllState Insurance
Lakeside United Methodist Church
Landers McLarty Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram
Lucky's Supermarket
Mamma Annie's
Marshall England - State Farm Agent
Martinson & Beason, PC
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



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The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor

Ah, Sweet Potatoes!

Whew, it's been a really hot summer. Not sure I remember so many 90+ degree days. But, there's a tad of fall in the air and before long we will wish for the warmth of summer's sun.

Fall always reminds me that it is time to harvest. I looked in the freezer several weeks ago and found some sweet potato fries.

I thought, "Why did I buy those? I must have been hungry when I put those in the shopping cart." I was surprised pleasantly after baking them according to the instructions on the bag. There was orange goodness that I remembered from years gone by.

My dad used to plant a "pretty good" size field of sweet potatoes. We would harvest them in the fall and put them in the cell, a dug-out pit in the ground. Then, all winter long, we would go out to the potato cell and get sweet potatoes to eat. We ate them just about anyway: raw, oven roasted, fried, candied, and even roasted under the hot coals in the fireplace. I love sweet potatoes any kinda way! In my opinion, there were few things better than sweet potatoes. Every now and then, I see them on the menus in various restaurants. I enjoy sweet potatoes every time I eat them. Ah ... goodness!

I sometimes wonder how they harvest sweet potatoes today. My dad would turn them up with the mule and plow and later with the tractor. Then, we would pick them up out of the field in "Crocker" sacks and put them in the potato cell. They are close to what we know as burlap sacks. Our sacks had a shoulder strap on them. We could carry them on one shoulder or run them across one shoulder and to the other side. Today, we call that "cross body." I wonder, but I really don't want to know. I knew when I left the farm that I probably would care less how sweet potatoes would be harvested in the future.

Thank God for Alabama A&M University. In the fall of 1975, I knew as a brand new freshman that I would never return to the farm, except to visit. The farm is the reason I really enjoyed school. I figured, the longer I went to school, the less likely I would have to live and work on the farm. There is also another thing I know: "I still love sweet potatoes!"

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.



*Red Hat Ladies
Enjoying Lunch on
September 15 at
Henry's Mustang
Restaurant on
Sparkman Drive.*



Dorothy

The Hamm Consulting Group



Your Washington Recap

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

1. The issues that remain to be decided include: disaster aid for Louisiana, a Senator Ted Cruz-sponsored provision to block the transition to Internet oversight by an international organization (which would end its oversight of the Internet's master directory of website addresses), funding for the opioid/heroin epidemic, and funding to combat the Zika virus. The Senate scheduled a cloture vote for 5:30 p.m. Monday to limit debate on the continuing resolution. The House put out a large list of bills it will take up this week and may also take up the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which authorizes projects under the Army Corps of Engineers that the Senate approved 95-3 on Thursday. It is expected that the Senate will pass the continuing resolution in the middle of the week and then the House will follow at the end of the week. Both bodies may then recess until after the election.

2. "The Hill" newspaper reported that some Michigan

lawmakers are pushing for \$220 million in funding to assist with the Flint, Mich., drinking water crisis, that was approved by the Senate last Thursday as part of the WRDA bill, to be attached to the continuing resolution to fund the federal government through December 9, 2016 – which will be considered by the House and Senate this week. The Michigan Members are concerned that the WRDA bill may not be enacted soon enough to help Flint.

3. The White House today is spotlighting the need to combat sexual trauma in K-12 schools by releasing an online interactive tool, called a Safe Place to Learn, with information for schools on the topic. It's also putting out guidance for districts to consider when developing a sexual misconduct policy.

4. Tens of thousands of former ITT Tech students are adrift after the school's sudden closure two weeks ago. The Education Department is being criticized by Republicans and Democrats alike for not doing enough to guide students who have no idea what

to do next.

5. President Obama began a 3-day trip to New York City on Sunday with a \$25,000-a-plate fundraiser for Hillary Clinton. Tuesday, he convened a Refugee Summit with leaders from Canada, Ethiopia, Germany, Jordan, Mexico and Sweden, with the aim of securing agreements to pay for food aid and to double the number of refugees resettled in third countries each year. On Tuesday, he will also deliver his 8th and final speech as President to the United Nations General Assembly. On Saturday, he will lead the opening of the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. I attended a pre-opening tour of the Museum on Saturday – What an awesome experience!

6. All eyes were on Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen at a press conference following the two-day Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) policy meeting in Washington. Most observers do not expect her to make a change in interest rates, which were last raised in December 2015 to the 0.25 to 0.5% range.

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Champion Game Plan for Life

You know, one of man's greatest tragedies is to waste what God has given him on earth.

Waste of any kind is sad, and certainly the waste of someone's life is the saddest of all. It's sad when

someone ends up on a walker, gray-haired, and all alone, with nothing but regrets. But we as Christians need to be determined not to live our lives like that. And, the only way to not

have regrets for tomorrow

is to do what is right for today.

Tomorrow can be a dangerous word, especially if God is dealing with us to do something, or to change something, and we keep putting it off for tomorrow.

It's time to get up and start doing something with what God has given you ...

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!



Join us September 22nd to meet your Tennessee Riverkeeper and learn more about our efforts to protect the Tennessee River!

September 22, 2016
5:30 p.m.
Amendment XXI
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Huntsville, AL

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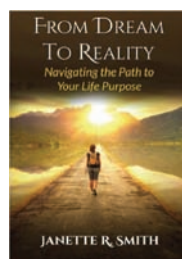


Janette R. Smith is a compassionate and fiery certified life strategist and mindset coach most sought after for being able to help clients "push past stuck."

Smith is also the author of "From Dream to Reality: Navigating the Path

to Your Life Purpose." In this work, Smith answers such questions as: How do I create the life I really want? What is my life purpose? Why do I matter? How do I get to my next level?

This former Emmy, Telly and Aurora-winning journalist and entertainment host interviewed, worked with, for and learned from, some of the great thought leaders of our age (e.g., Oprah, Dr.



Phil, Iyanla, Creflo Dollar, Bishop T.D. Jakes, Fred Hammond and more.)

Having grown up as the daughter of a United States Air Force Lt. Colonel, Smith developed a strong desire to make a difference in the lives of people from all cultures and all walks of life.

She is currently an SI (Strategic Intervention) coach, keynote speaker, and radio host working from Huntsville, Ala.

A Day at the Museum

When the newest Smithsonian museum opens September 24 with a dedication led by President Obama and attended by President George W. Bush, it will weave stories of despair together with those of triumph, packing more than 400 years of history into 105,000 square feet of exhibition space.

The institution's 19th museum, sitting atop five acres of the mall's last remaining museum plot,

opens at a time when race in America has returned to center stage as the country's defining, polarizing point of debate." (<http://www.latimes.com>)

This is a major moment for a museum in the capital of USA to represent African-American history. Museums are large rooms full of knowledge, history, facts, and artifacts.

There is plenty to learn from walking through a museum. They tell many stories and plenty of valuable information is present. I recommend going to museums and other educational attractions every once in a while.

It's a good thing when you're in places that you can digest wisdom and information. The good thing about museums is that you get all the perks of education without being confined to a classroom. You are able to walk around and read at your own pace and desire. If a section in a museum doesn't interest you, then you can move to the next. It's like going to an art gallery, studying pieces to gain understanding. A walk through a museum is great exercise for your brain! Instead of



always doing things for entertainment alone, it's good to entertain and participate in educational activities with your leisure time. It's a great way to develop insightful information that you could possibly use in your career.

If you are in the D.C. area, I strongly suggest stopping by its newest Smithsonian Institute. "The National Museum of African American History and Culture will be a place where all Americans can learn about the richness and diversity of the African American experience, what it means to their lives and how it helped us shape this nation. A place that transcends the boundaries of race and culture that divide us, and becomes a lens into a story that unites us all." (<https://nmaahc.si.edu>)

Photo cred: www.artfixdaily.com

by Amoi Savage



SEEING BIG PICTURE: President Andrew Hugine, Jr., and Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle (back, center) are joined by faculty, staff and planning students following a presentation to launch the "Big Picture Huntsville" exhibit. The exhibit, which highlights ideas for the city's future, is currently housed in the J.F. Drake Memorial Learning Resources Center at Alabama A&M University. (Photo by J. Saintjones)

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Valley Deaths

Funeral service for Mrs. Lois J. Hunter (b. 1937) will be announced later.

Funeral service was held for Mr. Levi Pinchon (b. 1948) on Sunday, September 18, at 1 p.m. at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Elder Dennis Green officiating.

Funeral service was held for Mrs. Margret Bell Mastin Bishop (b. 1937) on Saturday, September 17, at 1:30 p.m. at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Dr. Shirley Fletcher officiating.

Funeral service for Mr. Green R. ("Duck") Jones (b. 1940) was held Saturday, September 17, at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church with Reverend Dr. O. Wendell Davis officiating.

Funeral service for Mr. Isaac W. Rooks, Jr., (b. 1928) long-time educator and administrator, as well as the legendary "Voice of the Alabama A&M University Bulldogs" was held Friday, September 16, at Lakeside United Methodist Church.

SU Alums Host Scholarship Fundraiser

The University of Alabama Head Men's Basketball Coach and Southern University Alumnus Avery Johnson will be in Huntsville for the Southern University Alumni

Federation - Huntsville Area Chapter's "A Salute to Avery Johnson" Scholarship & Louisiana Flood Relief Fundraiser Friday, September 23, 2016.

Kimberly Fails Jones Memorial Foundation, Inc.
presents

The Sixth Annual Breast Cancer Survivors Celebration



Friday, October 14, 2016
VBCC North Hall
Huntsville, Alabama

Tickets are \$40.00
Doors open at 6:00
Event is from 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Tickets are available from any board member or you can call
Edna Fails - 256-337-0574
Dwight Pope - 256-468-1756
Sandra Cross - 256-412-5143

or by visiting the website
www.kjfjfoundation.com

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

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

The City of Huntsville's Community Development Department will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. to receive input for the 2017 Action Plan Program Year (7/1/17 to 6/30/18). The meeting will be held at the Richard Showers Center at 4600 Blue Spring Rd NW, Huntsville, AL 35810. The City of Huntsville does not discriminate on the basis of disability for the admission or access to its programs or activities. If you have any questions, or will need special accommodations, please call Turkessa C. Lacey - Community Development Department prior to the Public Hearing at 256-427-5400.

AVISO A LA CIUDAD PÚBLICA DE HUNTSVILLE

La ciudad del departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad de Huntsville llevará a cabo una audiencia pública el lunes 10 de octubre de 2016, en 6:00 P.M. para recibir la entrada para el plan 2017 de acción programe el año (7/1/17 a 6/30/18). La reunión será celebrada en el Richard duchas centro 4600 azul primavera Rd NW, Huntsville, AL 35810. La ciudad de Huntsville no discrimina en base de la inhabilidad para la admisión ni tiene acceso a sus programas o actividades. Si usted tiene cualesquiera preguntas, o necesita comodidades especiales, llame por favor Turkessa C. De encaje - departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad antes de la audiencia pública en 256-427-5400.



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Calendar of Events

September 23
Black Jacket Symphony
Concert
Von Braun Center

September 23-25
Ars Nova's "Cavalleria"
Von Braun Center,
7:30 p.m.

September 24
Football
Alabama A&M University
vs. Southern University
Louis Crews Stadium
6 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 & Exposi-
tion
Huntsville, AL - AUSA.org

October 8
Alabama A&M University
Homecoming Day
AAMU vs. Alcorn State
Louis Crews Stadium
2 p.m.

October 12
Mayor's State of the City
VBC, 8 a.m.

October 14
The Sixth Annual Breast
Cancer Survivors Celebra-
tion
Sponsor: Kimberly Fails
Jones Memorial Foundation
VBC North Hall, 7-9 p.m.

October 15
Bill Engvall
VBC Concert Hall, 8 p.m.

October 23
Valley Conservatory Jam
Session, 5-8 p.m.

November 3-4
2016 WEDC Leadership
Conference

Cover Band to Perform Iconic Eagles Album

The Black Jacket Sym-
phony will be holding a
two-night concert Septem-
ber 22-23 at the Von Braun
Center, where it will be
performing the Eagles' *Hotel California*.

Based out of Birming-
ham, the BJS are known
for recreating full-length
albums in their entirety.
Founded in 2012, the BJS
features an ever-changing
roster of talented musi-
cians that are handpicked
by the band's creator J.
Wiloughby to match
the unique sounds and
aesthetic of the artists they
are covering.

The performance will be
split into two acts. The first
act will feature a play-by-
play performance of *Hotel California*; the second act

will be a showcase of the
Eagles' greatest hits.

In the past, the BJS has
recreated the celebrated



works of Michael Jackson,
Prince, Pink Floyd, Led
Zeppelin, and Fleetwood
Mac, respectively.

Released in 1976, the
Eagles' fifth studio album
received critical acclaim,

receiving two Grammys for
the titular "Hotel Cali-
fornia" and "New Kid in
Town."

That year the Eagles
lost the coveted Album
of the Year award to
Fleetwood Mac, which
won with its iconic
album, *Rumours*.

Over the years,
various publications and
television programs have
ranked *Hotel California*
as one of the greatest
albums of all time.

To this day, this album
is their highest-selling
record.

Tickets can be purchased
on Ticketmaster or on the
Black Jacket Symphony's
website.

by Reggie Allen

Photo: Black Jacket Symphony

PowerShot

"If you think what you're going through was meant to kick your ass... Finish the sentence. It was meant to kick your ass in gear." Rise and Grind!

www.blackcottoncompany.com



On This Day - Friday, September 23 - **MARY CHURCH TERRELL**
- In 1896, Terrell became the first president of the newly formed National Association of Colored Women. In 1904 Terrell was invited to speak at the International Congress of Women in Berlin, Germany. - BlackinTime.info

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www.burrittonthemountain.com

OPEN: April–October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm

November–March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm

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Marshall England, Agent

600 Franklin Street, SE

Huntsville, AL 35801

Bus: 256.539.2014

marshallengland@marshallengland.com

www.marshallengland.com