

# The Valley Weekly

Volume 2, No. 3

Friday, September 25, 2015

*"Good habits formed at youth make all the difference."*

- Aristotle

**FREE**

## 'Human Chain' Against Domestic Abuse

In earnest recognition of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Asha Kiran, Crisis Services of North Alabama, SafeHouse, Madison County Coordinated Community Response, and 2nd Chance, Inc., are encouraging Valley-area residents to "Be a Link in the Human Chain" on Sunday, September 27, at Dublin Memorial Park Gym, 8324 Old Madison Pike, Madi-

son, Ala., from 2-3 p.m.

Citizens, social groups and other non-profits are invited to come together to link hands and produce a human chain to kick off the special month-long observance focusing on domestic violence.

For more information, contact Josia Fiore at [josia@ashakiranonline.org](mailto:josia@ashakiranonline.org) or [www.facebook.com/AshaKiranOnline](http://www.facebook.com/AshaKiranOnline).

## Feminist Chorus Concert Scheduled

As part of the celebration of Arts and Humanities Month, The Arts Council is presenting the Huntsville Feminist Chorus in a free public concert on Sunday, October 4, at 2 p.m. at the Huntsville Public Library.

For additional information, call (256) 539-1613 or search for Huntsville Feminist Chorus on Facebook.



## "Sensational Sunday" Featuring J.D. Blair

The Huntsville Community Drumline is sponsoring "Sensational Sunday," featuring "The Groove Regulator J.D. Blair" on Sunday, September 27, at 6 p.m. at the Huntsville Community Drumline Event Center, 1800 Jordan Lane.

The event will also highlight

saxophonist Yuressa Hubbard. While there is no cover charges, donations will benefit the youth of the Huntsville Community Drumline. For additional information, call (256) 430-5566, or visit [www.huntsvillecommunitydrumline.com](http://www.huntsvillecommunitydrumline.com).



**GOOD MORNING, TRENT!** NASA physicist Trent Griffin (center) received a pleasant surprise last week when hundreds showed up at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center to give him a "Good Morning America" salute for his community engagement. Moderating the on-air segment was ABC national television personality T.J. Holmes. (See more on Page 2)

## Engineering Alums Invited to Open House

Thousands of alumni from throughout the country will be returning to Alabama A&M University to participate in Homecoming 2015 activities. A dean wants to make sure his college is well-represented among them.

Dean Chance Glenn and the faculty and staff of the College of Engineering, Technology and Physical Sciences (CETPS) have announced an "Open House & Alumni Fest" at Arthur J. Bond Hall on Friday, September 25.

The activities will begin at 3 p.m. and end at 5 p.m. In addition to highlighting the college's



recently updated facility, alumni and friends will witness the long-awaited presentation of the SAE Formula Racecar.

CETPS is home to nearly 20 undergraduate and graduate STEM-related degrees. The B.S. degree in computer science program is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET; the B.S. degrees in civil engineering,

electrical engineering and mechanical engineering programs are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET; and the B.S. degrees in electrical engineering technology and mechanical engineering technology programs are accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET.



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St. Bartley PB Church

St. Luke Christian Church

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

# Valley Community, "Good Morning America" Honors ...

# TRENT GRIFFIN

NASA physicist and Alabama A&M University alumnus Trent Griffin was honored as a Home-town Hero by ABC's "Good Morning America" and a large group of colleagues, the Alabama

A&M University Band and cheerleaders, family and friends.

Griffin was recognized for his work in the community, especially his work with young men and women. He played an active

role in encouraging youths to remain in school and to live productive lives. He also personally repaired and provided bicycles to poor kids, all while giving them important life lessons on

the importance of respect toward their parents and taking academics seriously.

*(Photos by Jerome Saintjones)*





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# *From the Editor*

Greetings!

According to [HispanicHeritageMonth.gov](http://HispanicHeritageMonth.gov), we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

President Lyndon Johnson started Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan expanded the observance to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. This annual observance was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402. (<http://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/about/>)

During this season of political debates and discussions, it is important for us to remember that most of us originated from somewhere other than here. There is on-going conversation about immigrants and how we got here. If I had to endure the inhumanity and to walk in the shoes of others in certain dire areas of the world, I, too, would likely be trying to cross some border or attempting to escape by getting on a boat to another land. History is important as we attempt to understand and appreciate people who are different from us. Some day, most of us will learn to value and appreciate diversity in people, along with their opinions and thoughts. Pope Francis is visiting America this week; thus, this will be an interesting week as we watch conversations about diversity of beliefs. I have some wonderful Catholic friends who I am certain will enjoy every frame of video broadcast on the daily news. Let's enjoy his visit.

This month, I have attended a few anniversaries and re-read the book "To Kill a Mockingbird" in preparation of reading "Go Set a Watchman" by Harper Lee of my hometown. Maycomb is indeed the Monroeville in which I grew up. Also, I began reading Wil Haygood's biography on Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. It's loaded with history--his story, their stories, our stories!

Once again, Happy 150th Anniversary to Phillips Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, 50th Golden Anniversary to Freeman and Janie Holifield, 47th Anniversary to the contributions of Hispanic Americans to this country and 17th Anniversary to The Valley Conservatory.

"If we want to dance together, we should simply change the music" - (Unknown). Until next week ...

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follow us on-line at [www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com).*



*Trustee Malcolm Thomas  
Phillips CME Church*

*Dorothy*

## Conversation on Race Continues Oct. 1

“Let’s Continue the Conversation: Race Relations and the Faith Community” will be held October 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Charger Union Theater on the UAH campus, sponsored by the Office of Diversity.

Unlike Ferguson and Baltimore, there was a different racial outcome in Charleston, South Carolina when racial hatred was met with love and forgiveness, even with the loss of life.

This faith response baffled the media, stunned those who would have reacted otherwise and caused us to question how this response could have made such a difference.

The Charleston response brought to fruition the long fought battle to remove the Confederate flag from the North Carolina state capitol—something even Steve Spurrier couldn’t do.

A faith response, in love and forgiveness, made a difference in the face of hatred and a lack of love.

Join the third in a series of community discussions on race relations in Huntsville.

### LET’S CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION: Race Relations and the Faith Community

#### Our Community

A Public Forum to promote mutual understanding, dignity, respect, and cooperation among all economic, ethnic, racial, religious, and social groups in the City of Huntsville. The forum panel will consist of campus and community leaders.

#### SAVE THE DATE

Sponsored by Huntsville Area Inclusive Community Initiative (HAICI) in conjunction with the City of Huntsville’s Office of Multicultural Affairs and The Human Relations Commission



#### HOSTED BY

The University of Alabama in Huntsville’s Office of Diversity  
Thursday, October 1, 6:30 pm / Charger Union Theater



## Fall Schedule: City Council Meetings

The Huntsville City Council will hold a regular meeting on September 24. The Huntsville City Council’s 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. Also, City Council work sessions are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. For more information, call (256) 427-5011.

*Huntsville City Council Fall Meetings*  
September 24 - Regular Meeting  
October 1 - Work Session  
October 8 - Regular Meeting  
October 15 - Work Session  
October 22 - Regular Meeting  
November 5 - Work Session  
November 12 - Regular Meeting  
November 19 - Work Session  
December 3 - Work Session  
December 10 - Regular Meeting  
December 17 - Work Session

## Miss AAMU Coronation Held



Joi Nicole Miller

The coronation for Joi Nicole Miller as Miss Alabama A&M University 2015-16 was held Friday, September 18, as a pre-Homecoming event.

The St. Louis, Mo., native is a senior studying biology pre-med. She aspires to become a pediatric oncologist, which will allow her the opportunity to help victims of childhood cancer. She served as junior class senator for the Student Government Association; holds membership in the Southern Belles and the Inter-Residential Hall Council; as well as enjoys affiliation with MAPS.

## “The Hill” Site of Health Fair

Alabama A&M University will be site of an annual Health and Wellness Fair on Saturday, October 3, at 10 a.m. in the Wellness Center.

The event will follow an 8:30 a.m. “New Balance Walk” and will conclude at 2 p.m. The

Health and Wellness Fair will feature medical screenings, health seminars and more.

For more information, contact Earnest Starks (256) 975-5519 or Bhavani Kakani at (256) 698-4446.

## 2015 Homecoming Schedule of Events

Theme: “Maroon & White Above All Others”

### Wednesday, September 23rd

12:00 – 4:00 PM Aspire College Tour (T.M. Elmore Gymnasium)  
7:00 PM Student Concert – Featuring Rich Homie Quan & Jacquees Von Braun Center Arena

### Thursday, September 24th

5:00 PM Homecoming Golf Banquet Huntsville Country Club - \$30.00 per person  
7:00 PM – Comedy Show - DERAY DAVIS  
T.M. Elmore Gymnasium

### Friday, September 25th

8:00 AM - Tee Time-Golf Tournament  
Huntsville Country Club - \$100.00 per player  
2:00 - 6:30 PM - Student & Alumni Day Party  
Featuring GLENN JONES - The Quad

6:00 PM - NPHC Step Show  
T. M. Elmore Gymnasium

7:30 PM – Throwback Party for the Future  
The Lumberyard - \$30.00 per person  
Tickets in the Alumni Office or Purchase Tickets Here

### Saturday, September 26th

9:00 am - Homecoming Parade  
**Campus of Alabama A&M University**  
Dr. & Mrs. Belvie Brice, Grand Marshals

11:00 AM - Alumni Association Homecoming Big Tent Tailgate  
Front of Louis Crews Stadium (paid members free)

1:00 PM - AAMU Bulldogs vs. UAPB Golden Lions  
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Alumni Association Hospitality Suite  
8:00 PM Embassy Suites Hotel 2nd Floor

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# HU, TVA Join Forces to Assist Low-Income Customers

Huntsville Utilities has been awarded \$ 11.7 million through a grant from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to launch the Smart Communities – Huntsville Extreme Energy Makeovers (HEEM) project to perform whole-home, deep energy retrofits for qualified customers in 20-year-old (or older) owner occupied homes. The project goal is a 25% reduction in the home's energy usage.

"This opportunity to reduce the energy consumption for our low-income customers gives us a chance to improve their lives," says Jay C. Stowe, president and CEO of Huntsville Utilities (right). "Each day, we are looking for methods to reduce our costs, maintain low rates, and seeking innovative opportunities to better serve our community."

This partnership between TVA and Huntsville Utilities will improve the quality of life for qualified residents and homeowners by significantly increasing the efficiency and comfort of their homes. Energy audits will be performed to determine which energy saving measures can be utilized to achieve the 25% reduction in energy consumption. Huntsville Utilities will also educate its customers about ways to control their consumption through the practice of energy efficient habits.



Huntsville Utilities CEO Jay C. Stowe

Customers interested in applying for the program should contact Ms. Leigh Bee at Leigh.bee@huntsvilleal.gov 256-427-7498 or extreme@hsvutil.org 256-705-7500.

Huntsville Utilities is a public-ly-owned, not-for-profit utility company providing electric service to over 179,000 customers,

water service to over 92,000 customers, and natural gas service to over 51,000 customers in Huntsville and Madison County, Alabama.

by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Public & Governmental Affairs  
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Huntsville Utilities

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### Pastoral Position:



New Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, 28520 Wall St. Madison, AL (Located in Limestone County). For Job Description and Application, go to [www.huntsvillepresbytery.org](http://www.huntsvillepresbytery.org). Additional information, call (256) 527-0740.

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## Drug Take-Back on Oct. 3

The Partnership for a Drug-Free Community and local law enforcement will offer a three-hour Medication Take Back drive on Saturday, October 3, at the Jaycee Fairground at 9 a.m.

The public is invited to turn in unwanted and expired medications at the event.

The locations accepting medi-

cations are: the Jaycee Building in Huntsville; CVS pharmacy in Meridianville, Ala.; and Madison City Hall in Madison, Ala.

Drop off any unused and/or unlabeled medications at any of the aforementioned three locations. For more information call (256) 539-7339.

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#### NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

The City of Huntsville's Community Development Department will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, October 12, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. to receive input for the 2016 Action Plan Program Year (7/1/16 to 6/30/17). The meeting will be held at the Council Chambers-Municipal Building, 308 Fountain Circle, 1st Floor, Huntsville, Alabama 35801. 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 12 de octubre de 2016, en 6:00 P.M. para recibir la entrada para el plan 2015 de acción programe el año (7/1/16 a 6/30/17). La reunión será celebrada en el Consejo de cámaras municipales edificio fuente 308 círculo, 1er piso, Huntsville, Alabama 35801. 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 25

Concerts on the Dock  
Fall Series (Free)  
Lowe Mill, 6-9 p.m.

#### September 26

Alabama A&M Homecoming and Louis Crews Football Classic  
vs. University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff  
Louis Crews Stadium

#### October 1

Community Forum  
"Let's Continue the Conversation: Race Relations and the Faith Community"  
UAH Office of Multicultural Affairs  
Charger Union Theater  
6:30 p.m.

#### October 2

Concerts on the Dock

#### Fall Series (Free)

Lowe Mill, 6-9 p.m.

#### October 3

Annual Health and Wellness Fair  
Alabama A&M University  
Elmore Building

#### October 4

Huntsville Feminist Chorus (Free)  
Huntsville Public Library  
2 p.m.

#### October 9

Concerts on the Dock  
Fall Series (Free)  
Lowe Mill, 6-9 p.m.

#### October 24

Second Harvest Banquet  
Sponsor: Lakeside UM Church  
Speaker: Rev. Donald F.

#### Smith, Center Grove UM Church

Tickets, \$40; (256) 536-9400  
(Transportation provided from church)  
Ernest Knight Center/AAMU  
6 p.m.

#### October 31

Walk to Defeat ALS  
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# Electric Styles

by Amoi Savage

Extension cords with multiple outlets are a must these days. Along with charging your cellphones, tablets, and laptops, a shoe style is surfacing that requires charging as well. Electric Styles LED Light Up Shoes shine bright at its sole. Many of us probably owned the light up shoes that flashed when we walked as kids.

The light-up shoe game has evolved into a style suitable for all ages. With a full battery life that requires four hours of charging, the shoes will stay lit for eight to twelve hours. With just a click of a button, you can switch through several different colors and styles. Therefore the light at the bottom of the shoes can be altered to match your outfit. The catch phrase that Electric Styles uses, "travel at the speed of light," reminds us that we must get to where we want to go.

Fashion, a fast pace and always evolving industry, requires workers to think ahead of the curve and in a trendy, creative manner. A little adrenaline rush, and constant chaos can be good for you; and most times



that high level of energy is necessary in the fashion world. Just last week, was the annual Fashion Week, which is a tradition that gives designers the opportunity to showcase their pieces. Buyers, press, and celebrities, gather around to make purchase orders and support the designers and models. Having worked high fashion retail and behind the scenes at local fashion shows and fashion events, I can attest to the pace at which you have to maneuver to get things done.

Models even have what you call a "quick change" to keep up with the flow of

the fashion show. Although patience is extremely important in reaching success, there is a need to be abrupt, prompt, proactive and vigilant. Most times, fashion even debuts seasons ahead of itself; you will receive a Fall 2016 catalog in Spring 2016 and sometimes Winter 2015.

Another great thing about fashion is its ability to be timeless and everlasting. There are trends such as the lighted shoes that comeback in style. As entrepreneurs in any career field, we can surely learn a little something from the fashion industry. We realize that we can't wait around and kill time with our goals; we must run full speed after our dreams.



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