

# The Valley Weekly

Volume 3, No. 5

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, October 14, 2016

FREE

"Build you a rainbow. Do it yourself! If you can't do that, build your mind near one."  
- J. California Cooper

## Rocket City Site of National 'Mended Hearts' Conference

Heart patients, family members and caregivers from Alabama, Tennessee, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi and Florida are expected to participate in the Mended Hearts National Training and Educational Conference in Huntsville, Ala., October 28-29.



The conference marks the last of six "on the road" conferences held around the country throughout 2016.

The conference is open to anyone affected by a heart event, including patients, parents of children with congenital heart disease, family members and caregivers. It will feature educational programs by healthcare professionals on heart failure, atrial fibrillation, specialty pharmacies, valve disease/transcatheter aortic valve replacement, chronic angina, and preventing a second heart attack.

Heart patients of all ages will share powerful and motivating stories, and there will be multiple opportunities for networking

throughout the two-day event.

"I am truly excited that we are now bringing our National Conference to multiple communities around the country," said Donnette Smith, president of Mended Hearts. "Participants will learn the latest

in cardiac care, and have the unique opportunity to network with others in their area to share valuable information and insight."

Patients will not want to miss this opportunity to experience everything Mended Hearts has to offer, said Smith, adding, "I'm especially pleased to conduct this final conference in my hometown of Huntsville as we coordinate our meeting with Huntsville Hospital."

For a detailed agenda and to register go to: <http://mendedhearts.org/get-involved/national-education-and-training-conference>

For more information, contact Mandy Sandkuhler, [Mandy.Sandkuhler@mendedhearts.org](mailto:Mandy.Sandkuhler@mendedhearts.org)

Mended Hearts is the largest heart patient support network in the world, with 20,000 members and 300 chapters. Recognized for its role in facilitating a positive patient-care experience, Mended Hearts partners with hospitals and cardiac rehab clinics to offer support through visiting programs, group meetings and educational forums.

## Masons Will Hold 10th Biennial Family Banquet

Evening Star Lodge No. 6, Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama, Prince Hall Affiliated, and Mizpah Chapter No. 37 Order of Eastern Star, will host their 10th Biennial Prince Hall Masonic Family Banquet on Friday, October 21.

The banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel-Madison Square Mall beginning at 7 p.m. The theme for this occasion is "The Masonic Family: The Link to the Past and a Bridge to Our

Future."

The guest speaker will be Reverend Lathan B. Strong, Associate Pastor of St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church in Florence, Ala. Rev. Strong is the Senior Deacon of Morning Star Lodge No. 50, F. & A.M., and he is an active member and officer of several other Masonic organizations.

Additional information and tickets may be obtained by contacting James Lewis at (256) 424-2135; Mrs. Gwendolyn

Phillips at (256) 468-7129; or any member of Evening Star Lodge No. 6 or Mizpah Chapter No. 37.

Proceeds will be used to support scholarships, community/civic activities through the Evening Star Lodge No. 6 Foundation, Inc., a 501 (c) 3 organization. Charitable donations may be deductible on IRS filings.

The point of contact is Willie T. Littlepage, publicity chair, (256) 683-2502.



## TVJS Sponsoring Fall Jazz Event

The Tennessee Valley Jazz Society (TVJS) of Huntsville, Ala., will hold its Jazz Fall for the Arts event, featuring the "real jazz experience" of the New Bop Jazz Alliance.

The activity is scheduled

for Friday, October 28, at 7 p.m. at The Cooper House, located at 406 Randolph Avenue SE in Huntsville. An earlier jazz education clinic has been set for 10 a.m.

The jazz phenomenon

is comprised of the talents of Edward J. Berry, Kelvin Wooten, Devere Pride and Tom Branch.

In addition to being a successful musician, Berry is an attorney and alumnus of Alabama A&M University (AAMU). Wooten, also an AAMU alum, is a sought-after musician, engineer and producer. Bass/saxophonist Pride is originally from Cleveland, Ohio, while Tom Branch is a local drummer and lecturer.

Ticket outlets include the Arts Council in the Von Braun Center; James Music at 2422 Memorial Parkway NW; and The Cooper House.

Purchases can also be made online at [www.tvjs.webs.com](http://www.tvjs.webs.com). General admission tickets are \$20 each and reserved seating is \$30. For additional information, call (256) 534-8446 or visit [tennesseevalleyjazz@gmail.com](mailto:tennesseevalleyjazz@gmail.com).

## Where to Find Your FREE Copies of The Valley Weekly

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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

## Community Free Dental Clinic All About Smiles

The Community Free Dental Clinic (CFDC) aims to provide quality free dental care and education to low-income, uninsured adult residents of Madison County. One of the greatest needs in Madison County is dental care for adults 19 and over.

The CFDC was established in March 2013 to serve the working poor, elderly, veterans, and the homeless in Madison County. The United Way did a survey of the county last year and the standout need was dental care. CFDC is a nonprofit that depends on donations from the community.

Alabama is the sixth poorest state in America. The poverty level in Madison County is 13.9% of the population or about 45,000 people. This population is largely undereducated, working paycheck to paycheck with no money left for dental care.

The elderly live on fixed incomes and are in need of dentures but cannot afford to have their teeth pulled, and some homeless veterans are faced with the same dilemma. All have broken, painful teeth and they can get infected gums or abscesses which are life-threatening. The bacteria can go to the heart and brain and in some cases precipitate a heart attack or stroke. The volunteer dentists can pull the teeth to relieve the pain and give antibiotics for infections all free to the patients. Since 2013, when the clinic opened, over 5,000 people have been helped as of March 2016. CFDC is changing lives and transforming the health of those unable to afford urgent dental care.

The Community Free Dental Clinic--(DBA) "The Free Dental Clinic"--is a 501(c)3 non-profit. Funding comes from organizations, individuals, local businesses, grants, and churches. In addition to monetary donations we receive office supplies, tooth brushes, tooth paste and dental supplies.

The clinic is operated by licensed, volunteer dentists from the local community, licensed nurses who evaluate and help educate the patients in their care, chair side assistants who assist the dentists and the office staff who register the patients and make appointments.

Persons looking for a nonprofit to support should look no further than the Community Free Dental Clinic. The smallest of donations makes a world of difference, and CFDC appreciates all support received over the years. Donations are tax-deductible.

Help turn donations into smiles by making checks payable to the Community Free Dental Clinic. For additional information, contact Ginger Finzel, executive director the clinic, lGngerFinzel@Comcast.com, cell: 256-426-8848

## Planning Session Aims to Attract PWR

Many people and organizations are asking the question, "What can Huntsville do to foster peace here and in the world?" There is an exciting new initiative to bring the Parliament of World's Religions to Huntsville.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 15, 3-5 p.m. at the United Way Building, 701 Andrew Jackson Way, Huntsville.

The Parliament is the oldest, largest, and most inclusive interfaith gathering in the world. It attracts 10,000 attendees from 80 countries and 50 faith traditions for several days of plenaries, workshops, dialogues, sacred music, films and more. Since the first Parliament in 1893, this historic event has taken place in Chicago, Cape Town, Barcelona, Melbourne, and Salt Lake City.

Next steps include the support of additional local organizations, faith groups and individuals. This support is needed in the form of:

1) Letter or e-mail to IMS stating support of the idea of bringing the Parliament gathering to the city of Huntsville.

2) Donations to the second level application fee (\$2,500) are welcome and needed but not required.

3) Checks made to IMS with notation "Parliament of World's Religions" or "PWR".

4) Interested volunteers for planning and development.

The project has strong initial momentum. Unity Church on the Mountain has stepped forward as the

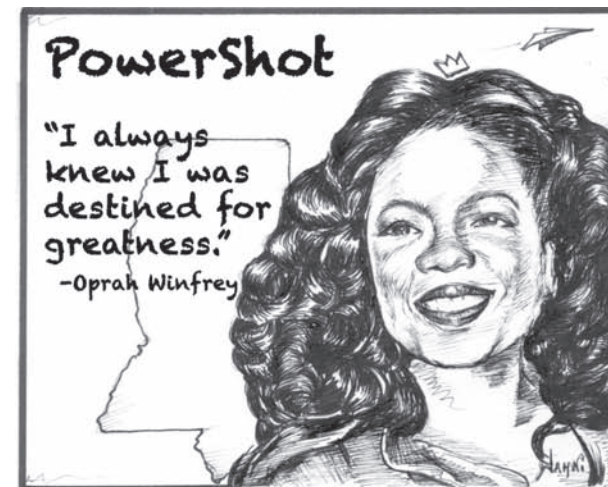
first congregation to write a letter to IMS in support; they have identified a volunteer representative; and they have donated financially.

A core team of volunteers has established a working relationship with the Huntsville Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and the Von Braun Center, both of which are ready and eager to support the

Parliament.

They have raised the \$2,500 needed to submit a first draft hosting proposal. And they have been in communication with PWR leadership, which has offered encouragement and support.

For more information on the Parliament of World's Religions initiative, contact susan.huntsvilleparliament@gmail.com.



### Oprah Winfrey Ten Keys To Success

1. Understand the next right move
2. Sieze your opportunity
3. Everyone makes mistakes
4. Work on yourself
5. Run the race at hand as you can
6. Believe
7. We are all seeking the same thing
8. Find your purpose
9. Stay grounded
10. Relax, it's going to be ok



## Publisher

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## Editor-in-Chief

Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

## Assistant Editor

Georgia S. Valrie

## Editorial Assistants

Linda Burruss

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## Layout & Design

Independent

## Photographer

Eugene Dickerson

## - Contributing Editors -

Hortense Dodo

Dave Herron

Amoi Savage

## Website Administrator

Calvin Farier

## Illustrator

John "Jahni" Moore

## Editorial Consultant

Jerome Saintjones

## Mailing Address:

The Valley Weekly

415A Church Street - Suite 100

Huntsville, AL 35801

(256) 651-9028

[www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com)

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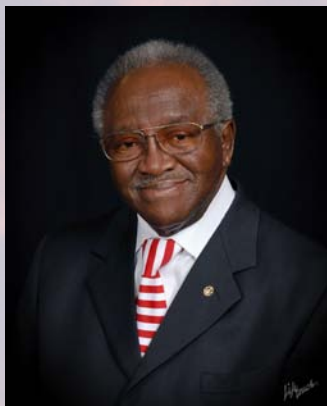
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# From the Editor



## Dr. Richard Showers, Sr.! ... Ah, Job Well Done!



My former biology professor at AAMU, Dr. George Grayson, was the first black resident of Huntsville to be elected to the Alabama House of Representatives. According to his September 28 commentary in Speakin' Out News, he remembers "the lonely feeling of filing the suit for districting." As a result, the City of Huntsville moved away from at-large voting to district voting. With that, he cleared the path for residents in very diverse areas of the City to elect individuals from their communities to represent them on the City Council.

Showers, having served seven consecutive terms, has a long list of accomplishments as the first black Councilman; however, many locals felt that it was time for change. Keith ran on a platform of "Change" and indicated to me early in the campaign that he would 'self impose' a term limit on himself. With that said, Dr. Richard Shower's legacy will forever be cemented in local history. He has served the constituents of District 1 with a "servant's heart" and without fanfare or pomp and circumstance. He has been visible and responsive, working to get as much done as he could within the local political landscape.

Like many of us, he came to study at Alabama A&M University. He is one of our "brave and loyal sons, sent from thy shrine on Normal's Hill, filled with a zeal for tasks well done, anxious thy mandates to fulfill ... blest be thy name. Long live thy fame; long live thy fame! Long may you live to bless the world, for right and justice take a stand, as from your rocky heights you view, your children's work throughout the land ... blest be thy name. Long live thy fame; long live thy fame!" There is one thing for sure, Dr. Showers will continue to serve this community via the diverse organizations with which he is affiliated. After he gets some much needed rest, we look forward to seeing him around town.



Congratulations, **Devyn Keith!** Political campaigns are operations designed to produce success. Not only did he have a solid 'ground' strategy, but he had a strong 'social media' strategy. Keith indicated from the start that he was "destined for this position" and his plan was to win! As humans, our judgment is never perfect. So, he made believers out of many of us. We commend you not only on strategy, but on your passion and craving for service. There is much work to be done, and we stand ready to support you as you work for One Huntsville and the citizens of District 1.

Let's not forget the mandates of our forefathers, those who paved the way for us. As we end an era and embark upon new and exciting initiatives, let's join in unity to make Huntsville the great city it is destined to be. We are not there yet!

Blessings until next week ...

*Dorothy*



# Alabama A&M University Homecoming 2016

Saturday, October 8, 2016



Football Game



Campus Parade



## Veggies for Our Senior Neighbors

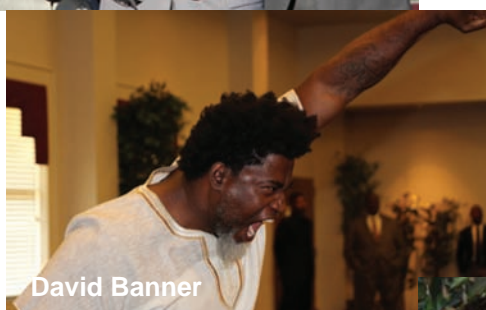
It's a wonderful day in the neighborhood ...

A group of AAMU students in Orientation 102 class helped to plant a community garden as a service learning project. The students were ably aided by personnel from AAMU and Auburn Cooperative Extension offices.

The team planted turnip greens, collard greens,

onions, radishes, and carrots to distribute to senior citizens who live in the nearby Edmonton Heights community. The garden is located in the James C. Crawford Park, off Chase Road.

Marsha N. Clarke served as the Freshman Academy's service learning coordinator throughout the project.



David Banner



Downtown Parade



Day Party



Fonzworth Bentley



# SAVE the DATES

## UNCF NORTH ALABAMA CAMPAIGN

### 2016/2017 Events

#### UNCF Golf Classic

Monday, October 24, 2016, 12:00 p.m.  
The Ledges of Huntsville

#### UNCF Women's Leadership Tea

Sunday, November 13, 2016, 3:00 p.m.  
The Ledges of Huntsville | Ballroom

#### The 39th Annual UNCF Gala

Thursday, April 13, 2017  
VIP Reception, 5:30 p.m. | Gala, 6:30 p.m.  
Von Braun Center | North Hall

For more information on any of our events,  
please call 256-726-7201



### On This Day - Friday, October 14

USHER - "Recording artist and actor. He rose to fame in the late 1990s with the release of his second album, "My Way." - [BlackinTime.info](http://BlackinTime.info)

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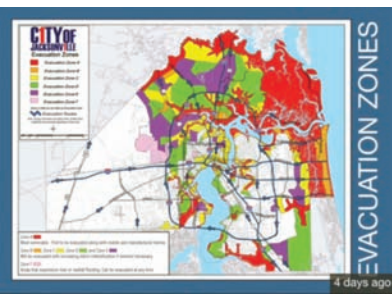
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# Evacuation Strategies and Exit Strategies

The world has been watching and tracking this terrible hurricane coming through the Sunshine State and Haiti.

I am sending my prayers up for those who have lost loved ones, been injured, or have travelled to evacu-



ate due to this disaster. It's not easy dealing with natural disasters; you can never predict the severity or the damage that it will cause.

The only thing we can do is to prepare ourselves. The news reporters are constantly encouraging people to evacuate their homes for safety. Of course, there are those who are willing to take the risk and stay in the comfort of their homes; however, in these situations it's always best to take precautionary measures.

I have seen firsthand that weather is not something you want to play

around with. There comes a time when you have to separate from material things such as homes, cars, and clothes, and during a natural disaster is that time. I appreciate those who work in the news and weather industry to inform us on what's going on around us, and how to properly prepare.

Evacuation plans are a necessity for a community. In times of disaster or danger, it's always best to know the way out. In business, we like to call these "exit strategies."

I was given business advice from a colleague which stuck with me. He said, "I never start a business without having an exit strategy. It's important to see your plan all the way through to the end. When you take a job, you also consider your retirement plan, which is an exit strategy. Just like my last business; when I started it, I knew how much I wanted to sell it for, and what to work towards."

I never really looked at the importance of having an exit strategy until then.

Just like we have evacuation plans and exit strategies for our safety in storms, it's best to have one in your career.

Whether you make plans to be proactive or precautions, it never hurts to prepare for the best and the worst. Whenever you

are making plans for business or life in general, always see the plan through; know your outcome before you focus on the income.

See it to completion, and be well aware of your exit strategy.

All the Best  
Amoi Savage

## Art4Life Paint Session

with John "Jahni" Moore

You've worked hard and now it's harvest season. Are you ready to experience that bountiful harvest? Let's visualize it by being a first-class member of a first of its kind Art4Life paint session with John "Jahni" Moore.

*"We must honor its sacred function.  
We must let art help us."*

-Alice Walker

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6:30-8:30 on October 27

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## A Good Read

by Jerome Saintjones

Deborah Galyan's  
"The Incredible  
Appearing Man"

discovered her off-the-grid, nature boy had been unfaithful.

This short piece originally appeared in the Missouri Review. It is a story about a woman who cannot seem to shake her intense emotional and physical attraction to a man she became deeply involved with during her final college days.

As the story opens, the main character is a married mother of a young child. She is teaching Ovid's "Metamorphosis" to a class at St. Catherine's College for Women. At home one day, she gets a visit from a man who claims to be a plumber. She sees through the disguise and recognizes him as the college lover to whom she had once turned over her entire life, until the day she

Nonetheless, she allows him to constantly re-enter her life, as she helplessly tries to capture and relive a past as entrenched in her memories as the redwoods in which they first lived. The Incredible Appearing Man, as she refers to him, definitely wants what they once had. His willingness to transform himself into any character to reignite their bond -- fueled by what he sees as her current marriage of "practicality and sadness" -- is phenomenal.

After her marriage rockily survives her decision to tell husband Mitch of her unfaithful episodes, she finds the 'otherworldness' she has been craving for decades in the simple making of a cherry pie for her husband.

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## Valley Deaths

Funeral service was held at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, October 13, for **Dr. Phillip Redrick** (b. 1943) at First Missionary Baptist Church.

**Mrs. Mabel Robinson** (b. 1932) will be announced later.

Funeral service for **Mr. Ernest Lee Pope** (b. 1948) will be held at 12 noon Saturday, October 15, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home with Rev. Felix Chew officiating.

Funeral service for **Elder Charlie Humphrey, Jr.** b. 1930, (Pastor Emeritus of Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church) was Thursday, October 6, Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Huntsville, AL) with Reverend Danny Baker officiating and Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery, Sr. as Eulogist.

Funeral service was held Sunday, October 6, for **Mrs. Carolyn "Cookie" Charles** (b. 1945) at Right Way Church of God in Christ.

Funeral service for **Mr. Sherman Lavance Hammonds** (b. 1973) will be announced later.

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

## 'Here's Your Sign': Bill Engvall to Perform in Huntsville

Bill Engvall, the Texan-raised comedian, is scheduled to perform at the Von Braun Center this weekend on October 15. Many fans might recognize him for his work with the Blue Collar comedy troupe with fellow comedians Ron White, Larry the Cable Guy and Jeff Foxworthy.

Like his comedy partners, Engvall is known for his blue collar view on subject matters like marriage, parenting and pregnancy.

After dropping out of college, the Blue Collar comedian moved to California to pursue a career in standup comedy. In his early years, he got his start appearing in television roles like "A Pair of Jokers" and the short-lived Golden

Girls spinoff, "The Golden Palace."

Engvall's rise to fame began after working



alongside best friend and then superstar comedian Jeff Foxworthy on "The Jeff Foxworthy Show" in the late 1990s. The two would later reunite with Larry the Cable Guy and Ron White for the infamous Blue Col-

lar Comedy tour in 2000.

Engvall was initially offered the opportunity to host "Are You Smarter

Than a Fifth Grader," but he turned it down, and it was eventually offered to his comedy partner Jeff Foxworthy.

Throughout his comedy career, Engvall has released 11 comedy albums, one

of which was certified platinum. In addition to his standup work, the comedian has been featured in a cavalcade of feature films, reality shows and television programs, including his own television sitcom, "The Bill Engvall show," which ran for three seasons and helped launch the career of Academy Award-winning actress Jennifer Lawrence.

The show is scheduled to start at 8 p.m. and tickets can be purchased on Ticketmaster or at the Von Braun Center box office. Those who are unable to make it this weekend can also catch Engvall next year for his June 24 performance.

by Reggie Allen

## City Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council Meetings City Council regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

City Council work sessions also held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

For more information, call (256) 427-5011.

*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 - 256-537-0574  
Dwight Pope - 256-468-1756  
Sandra Cross - 256-412-5143

or by visiting the website  
[www.kfjfoundation.com](http://www.kfjfoundation.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

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## Calendar of Events

**October 13**  
Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table  
Chan Auditorium  
Business Administration Building  
301 Sparkman  
6:30 p.m.

**October 14**  
The Sixth Annual Breast Cancer Survivors Celebration  
*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.

October 25  
DLC Graduation  
J.F. Drake State Community & Technical College Cafetorium  
6 p.m.

**October 29**  
75th Annual Magic City Classic  
Legion Field  
Birmingham, Ala.  
3 p.m.

**November 3-4**  
2016 WEDC Leadership Conference  
U S Space and Rocket Center  
www.wedchsv.org

**November 5**  
AAMU Football vs. Grambling  
Louis Crews Stadium  
2 p.m.

**November 27**  
Valley Conservatory Jam Session  
5-8 p.m.

## Champion Game Plan for Life

You know, we should all learn to live life on purpose, for a purpose. God has given us all free will, and He gave it to us out of His love for us.

He wants us to choose His good and perfect will for our lives. When we do this, we can have the abundant life that He wants us to have. So every day

of our lives, we should be fulfilling the call of God on our lives and being the very best version of ourselves that we can be.

And, remember that we are not in a relationship with God so

that we can get everything we want. We should be in a relationship with God to serve Him and bring Him glory ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.



## Meeting Addresses Continuing Impact of Civil War

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table was slated to hold an October 13 session on "How the Civil War Still Lives" by Dr. James I. (Bud) Robertson Jr. The session will set for 6:30 p.m. at the UAH Chan Auditorium Business Administration Building, Rm 125, 301 Sparkman Dr NW.

Dr. Robertson was scheduled to address how many things that are expe-

rienced daily that can be traced to the War Between the States.

Robertson extends the wisdom of the past by showing how history is not only the past, but is also the present.

One of the most distinguished names in Civil War history, Dr. Robertson served as Executive Director of the U.S. Civil War Centennial Commission in the 1960s and worked with

Presidents Kennedy and Johnson.

He taught for 44 years, receiving every teaching award given by Virginia Tech University. At his retirement in 2011, the University named him Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History.

Session fees are \$10-members, \$15-nonmembers, \$20 at door. Go to [www.tvcwrt.org](http://www.tvcwrt.org) for tickets to upcoming events.

## DLC to Complete Sixth Cohort

The Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) will hold the graduation ceremonies for yet another cohort group.

DLC will celebrate the completion of the program for Cohort VI on Tuesday, October 25, at 6 p.m. in the cafetorium of the J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, located at 3421 Meridian Street in Huntsville.

DLC offers aspiring and experienced leaders the opportunity to

benefit from qualified and seasoned trainers, scholars, and business professionals who share and discuss research and best practices regarding attainment of 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 are 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.

Georgia S. Valrie serves as program coordinator. For more information, call (256) 656-4698 or visit [diversityleadershipcolloquium.com](http://diversityleadershipcolloquium.com).



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