

The Valley Weekly

Volume 2, No. 7



Friday, October 23, 2015

FREE

"Unbalanced power poisons introspection. In its vacated space lay living society's imperative questions, unseen, unphrased, unasked, unanswered."

- Randall Robinson

Oakwood University Church to Host Congressman John Lewis

Oakwood University Church will host Congressman John Lewis (D-Ga.), special guest and the winner of its 2015 Social Justice Award, on Saturday, October 31, at 11 a.m. Dr. Carlton P. Byrd will be the speaker.

John Lewis was born the son of sharecroppers on February 21, 1940, outside of Troy, Ala. He grew up on his family's farm and attended segregated public schools in Pike County, Ala. As a young boy, he was inspired by the activism surrounding the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the words of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., which he heard on radio broadcasts.

As a student at Fisk University, Lewis organized sit-in demonstrations at segregated lunch counters in Nashville, Tenn. In 1961, he volunteered to participate in the Freedom Rides, which challenged segregation at interstate bus terminals across the South. Lewis risked his life on those Rides many times by simply sitting in seats reserved for white patrons. He was also beaten severely by angry mobs and arrested by police for challenging the injustice of Jim Crow segregation in the South.

During the height of the Movement, from 1963 to 1966, Lewis was named Chairman of the



Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which he helped form. SNCC was largely responsible for organizing student activism in the Movement, including sit-ins and other activities.

While still a young man, John Lewis became a nationally recognized leader. By 1963, he was dubbed one of the Big Six leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. At the age of 23, he was an architect of and a keynote speaker at the historic March on Washington in August 1963.

Lewis holds a B.A. in Religion and Philosophy from Fisk University, and he is a graduate of the American Baptist Theological Seminary, both in Nashville, Tenn. He has been awarded over 50 honorary degrees from prestigious colleges and universities throughout the United States.

AKAs Focus on Childhood Hunger Awareness

Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (EGO-AKA) and its Target III Childhood Hunger Committee observed Childhood Hunger Awareness Community Impact Day on Friday, October 16.

The organization collaborated with the Monte Sano United Methodist Church to feed dinner to all of the families that participate in the after school program



of the James A. Lane Boys and Girls Club, located at 103 Abing-

don Avenue in Huntsville, Ala.

The AKAs also delivered meals to University Place Elementary School for children transported to homeless shelters after school.

EGO-AKA, Target III Childhood Hunger Committee is appreciative for the public's role in the event's success.

Contact Sharon Greshom for more information at (770) 354-5377.



START-UP: U.S. Congressman Mo Brooks (seated right) was on hand for the first cranking up of Super Lucy, a racecar completely built by students in Alabama A&M University's College of Engineering, Technology and Physical Sciences. (Photo by J. Saintjones)

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St. Luke Christian Church

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church



Kenneth Anderson participating in UAH's "Conversations about Race" (Photo: TVW)

2nd Chance Celebrates 25 Years

"2nd Chance" began in November 1990 at what was then WOCG-FM on the campus of what was then Oakwood College.

The show began airing on a Monday night from 6-6:30 p.m., but it moved to Sundays from 2-3 p.m. a few years later and has been on continuously since then.

During that time, Oakwood College became Oakwood University, so the station, WOCG became WJOU Praise 90.1 FM to reflect the transition and progress. "2nd Chance" has broadcast close to thirteen hundred (1,300) shows, providing information and inspiration. It can now be heard on the Internet at www.wjou.org.

2nd Chance explores a wide range of topics, including community initiatives, local, national and international events and the people behind them. Hundreds of guests have shared stories of courage and stories of success in spite of tremendous odds, most

involving ordinary people with extraordinary experiences who have inspired others along the way.

In November 2010, the show celebrated 20 years on the air, and Kenneth Anderson established the Jack & Annie Anderson Endowed Scholarship at Calhoun Community College, managed by the Calhoun Foundation. In recognition of the 25th anniversary, Anderson is establishing the '212 Community Service Scholarship' at one of his alma maters, Oakwood University.

The scholarship will go to a sophomore, junior or senior psychology student who is currently engaged in community service. 2nd Chance will host a 25th Anniversary celebratory event at Redstone Federal Credit Union in the Atrium on November 1 with a live show from 2-3 p.m. and then the community celebration from 3-4 p.m.

Women's Day of Prayer Set

The Baptist Women World Day of Prayer will be held Monday, November 2, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at West Mastin Lake Baptist Church.

The theme is "Arise, Shine-When We Rise Up, He Shines Through."

The public is invited.

The Fields Will Observe 50th



Fifty years ago, on October 24, college sweethearts Nathan Fields and Clara Scruggs were married on the front porch of her parent's house in Toney, Ala.

Clara was given away by her brother, Earl Scruggs, Jr. The wedding party consisted of J.B. Turner (best man), Marva Tibbs (maid of honor) and Michael Scruggs (ring bearer). The cer-

emony was officiated by another brother, Julius R. Scruggs.

A Golden Anniversary Dinner is planned at the Fellowship of Faith, where tributes and serenades from family and friends will celebrate the couple's 50 years of wedded bliss.

Happy Anniversary to Nathan and Clara Fields!

TED Talk Oct. 27 at Library



A TED Talk is scheduled Tuesday, October 27, from 12-1 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library.

One of the most popular TED Talks ever given, Brene Brown's talk entitled "The Power of Vulnerability," examines how having the courage to show more vulnerability can actually garner more support and legitimacy as

a leader.

Moreover, trust can be elevated as persons find themselves in circumstances that place them in conflict with their own roles and identities.

Exercise mind and enhance comprehension through the library and TED. For more information about this free event, visit hmcpl.org.

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Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to info@valleyweeklyllc.com. Items do not necessarily reflect the views of The Valley Weekly, LLC.

The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor

Happy Halloween!

As we approach the end of October, we hope you are enjoying the season of Autumn. It's delightful to enjoy the nice warm days encapsulated by brisk mornings and cool evenings. Many of us associate October with Halloween. We have important birthdays in our family on Halloween. Bill's mother, Thelma Huston, was born on Halloween and will be 89 years old. My surrogate mother, Rosetta James, was born 90 years ago on Halloween. We were in Ohio a few weeks ago to share with Mom Huston and will be celebrating Mom James' birthday on October 31st here in Huntsville. Both Godly women have lived marvelous lives and continue to enjoy different degrees of independent living. How blessed they are to enjoy such longevity.

Some of you will be enjoying the fascination of the Magic City Classic on October 31st. Get those RVs, tailgates, outfits, costumes and spirits together and enjoy the magic! There are few things more exciting during this Autumn season than enjoying some good football. For many years, I was expected to show up, be present and network. It was akin to work that never ended. Nowadays, my options are different and I really, really enjoy this space. Enjoy the Classic and "Go, Bulldogs!"

Along with many other things, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. According to the website, <http://nnedv.org/getinvolved/dvam/1558-dvam-blog-series-5.html>, domestic violence does not discriminate. Many of us are isolated from domestic violence because it is happening to someone else. In reality, domestic violence occurs in families, workplaces, and neighborhoods everyday. According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), "anyone can be a victim of domestic violence, regardless of race, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or economic status. Abusers control and terrorize our daughters, bosses, sisters, friends, and even our sons – who are most often abused by their male partners and sometimes their female partners." My take: people who are violent have something going on in their 'wiring' system that might be triggered by any number of stimuli. If you do not want someone, leave them alone, let them go, free them. If you are in a situation that is violent, seek immediate help from family, friends, your church, and various community organizations designed to assist victims. By all means necessary, find a way to get out of violent situations. I have never been a victim of domestic violence--thank God--but I am aware of situations close to me. Exit decisions are not easy, but necessary. Find a safe way to exit!



*Mother Rosetta James and
Mother Thelma Huston*

*When you can't find a
printed copy of The Valley
Weekly around town,
follow us on-line at [www.
valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com).*

In Canada, they celebrate Thanksgiving in October, as an annual Canadian holiday. Typically celebrated on the second Monday in October, Canadians celebrate the harvest and blessings of the past year (https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanksgiving_%28Canada%29). Our family had the good fortune of celebrating Thanksgiving earlier this month with Brandon McBride, our newest Canadian friend who visited our home. Katie and I actually baked a turkey and made a lemon cake--one of Brandon's favorites. So, we will have spent time celebrating our harvest and blessings twice in 2015. Actually, everyday is a day of "Thanksgiving" for our family.

Until next week,



Dorothy



MORNING PRAYER: Student/community-based organization Professionals in Christ joined the Baptist Campus Ministries, led by Rev. Willie Alexander (first row, 2nd right). United, the organizations held a free Prayer Brunch on Saturday, October 17, welcoming all who entered the doors, and offering food for the body and soul. The activity was held in the Clyde Foster auditorium in the College of Business and Public Affairs on the Alabama A&M University campus.



Pie in Face: Alabama A&M University Business Dean Del Smith wipes whipped cream from his face at "Pie the Faculty" event on October 16. The activity helped raise funds for students experiencing unfortunate and unforeseen circumstances.

PowerShot

"Don't count the days, make the days count."

-Muhammad Ali

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Rosetta James Scholarship Foundation

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The Rosetta James Scholarship Foundation provides financial scholarship to undergraduate students who demonstrate sound academic principles; commitment to community volunteerism, civic engagement and unselfishness to assist others in Huntsville/Madison County.

The Rosetta James Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization with a 0% Administrative and Fundraising Rate (AFR). For additional information, contact (256) 536-9717 or write P.O. Box 17452, Huntsville, AL 35810.



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OU Site of 3rd Annual Community Health Fair

Oakwood University will host the 3rd Annual Community Health Fair on Wednesday, October 28, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

The event will be held in the Millet Activity Center, located at 7000 Adventist Boulevard.

Attendees will be able to obtain health screenings for cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure, heart rate and height/weight/BMI. Information also will be available on Alzheimer's, hospice

care, diabetes, healthy living and other topics.

The health fair is co-sponsored by Good Samaritan Hospice and will be broadcast live on WJOU-FM 90.1, and door prizes will be distributed among winners.

For additional information, contact Marcia Burnett at (256) 772-8708; Ron Gilbert at rgilbert@oakwood.edu; or Jim Pride at prideinbama@aol.com.

Lakeside UM Holding Harvest Banquet



Lakeside United Methodist Church, located at 3738 Meridian Street, Huntsville, Ala., will hold its Second Harvest Banquet on October 24.

The banquet has been slated for Alabama A&M University's Ernest Knight Center at 6 p.m.

Rev. Donald F. Smith, senior pastor, Center Grove United Methodist Church, will be the speaker. Tickets are \$40; contact (256) 536-9400 for more information.

Transportation provided from the church.

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1. The House and Senate are in session this week. The House will take up a major bill this week – known as a “budget reconciliation” bill - which will repeal major pieces of Obamacare. How this is different from past House repeal efforts is that reconciliation enjoys a special statutory status which requires only a simple majority to pass (i.e., no filibusters in the Senate) and limits debate to 20 hours; meaning it has a real chance of passing both bodies. By passing a reconciliation and sending it to President Obama (who will veto it), the GOP is reportedly trying to show what could be possible with a GOP president. Included in this reconciliation bill will be the following:

- o a repeal of the insurance mandates on individuals and large employers;
- o a repeal of the medical device tax;

- o a repeal on the excise tax on high-cost (“Cadillac”) health care plans;
- o elimination of the so-called “death panel;”
- o elimination of Obamacare’s Public Health and Prevention Fund;
- o a repeal of the auto-enrollment mandate on companies with 200 or more full-time workers; and (last, but not least)
- o a restriction on any federal funds going to Planned Parenthood.

2. The Senate this week will return to consideration of legislation to force local governments to end sanctuary status for undocumented immigrants – the “Stop Sanctuary Policies and Protect Americans Act,” which would withhold State Criminal Alien Assistance funds, Community-Oriented Policing funds, and Byrne JAG funds for the approximately 300 local sanctuary jurisdictions around the nation.

3. President Obama announced that he was dropping plans to withdraw nearly all U.S. forces from Afghanistan by the end of 2016. Instead, under a new plan, which will cost \$15 billion-per-year, the U.S. will maintain its current force of 9,800 through most of 2016 and then begin drawing down to 5,500 late in the year or in early 2017.

4. Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will testify before the House Select Committee on Benghazi. Topics will include Libya, Benghazi, and limited queries into her email system.

5. Last Thursday, Treasury Sec-

retary Jack Lew announced that the federal government will reach its \$18.1 trillion statutory debt ceiling on November 3, which is 2 days earlier than his earlier estimate. Congress will have to approve a higher debt ceiling in order for the federal government to borrow more money to meet its existing legal obligations - including Social Security and Medicare payments, military salaries, interest on the national debt, and tax refunds - a move bitterly opposed by some GOP fiscal hawks.

6. The Federal Aviation Administration will announce a proposal to require the registration of all drones by public purchasers.

7. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will mark up its long-anticipated version of the comprehensive surface transportation bill – which it has named “the “Surface Transportation Reform and Reauthorization Act.” The Senate approved its bill – the “DRIVE Act” – on July 30, 2015, by a vote of 65-34. The current law, known as “MAP-21,” has been extended through midnight on October 29, 2015, while Congress works through a new reauthorization.

8. The White House and the Commerce Department will host the 2nd annual Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) Summit.

9. 2016 Presidential Watch. The first Democratic Presidential Debate last week garnered 15.3 million viewers – breaking the previous record for a Democratic debate of 10.7 million viewers set in 2008. The 2 GOP shows have garnered 24 million (debate #1) and 23.1 (debate #2). The next debate will go back to the GOP side on October 28 at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

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Outside Jobs

by Amoi Savage

It's easy as entrepreneurs and business owners to focus only on our internal affairs. There's enough that goes on behind the scenes and in everyday operations that tend to take our undivided attention. When you're building a business or career it takes so much to get it off the ground. It seems like everything takes a wrong turn before it finally goes in the right direction. We usually don't have time or energy to exert on anything other than the task at hand. We generally become consumed by our careers and we fail to pay attention to occurrences around us that can actually have a major impact on our business. There are situations, regulations, policies, practices and cultural biases, that go on outside of our businesses and establishments, which can either deter or urge customers to enter our buildings.

It is important that we are mindful of what goes on outside of our companies like we do the things that go on inside of our companies. Whether it is city ordinances, community surroundings, parking conveniences, haphazards, police regulations, commotion, or ratings/reviews, people can be turned off or away from your business before ever entering your establishment or trying your product. You wouldn't build your restaurant



at the top of a mountain or a steep hill expecting customers to uncomfortably walk up the slopes. You wouldn't put a snake pit outside of your store knowing most people fear snakes, for it would run business away.

As business owners we must also be cognizant of city ordinances and regulations that could potentially run away customers. I've had some terrible experiences where I was turned off by the trouble I would have to go through when entering or leaving certain businesses. Those bad experiences would be enough for me to never spend my money towards that business again.

Therefore, businesses must take an interest in internal and external affairs. You must have "your ears and eyes to the streets" where your companies are located. If people aren't conveniently and comfortably able to get to and from the area and location of your business, then it's up to the owners to observe and make changes.

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 28

3rd Annual Community Health Fair
Millet Activity Center
Oakwood University
11 a.m.-3 p.m.

October 29-December 3
Mandarin Chinese (Beyond the Basics) Free Continuing Education Class
AAMU Center for Extended Studies
Thursdays, 5:30-7 p.m.
(256) 372-5753

October 31

McDonald's Magic City Classic Parade
Downtown Birmingham
8 a.m.

74th Annual Magic City Classic
Legion Field
Birmingham, Ala.
2:30 p.m.

Walk to Defeat ALS
HudsonAlpha Institute for Bio-

technology

Family style picnic celebration following the walk
Free registration at walktodefeatals.org or 800-664-1242
10 a.m.

November 1-30

Alabama A&M University Designated Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month

November 20

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Around the Valley!



Congresswoman Terri Sewell talks with Alabama State Representative Anthony Daniels.



Atty. Doug Martinson with a copy of TWV, with State Representative Anthony Daniels



Dr. Wilma Ruffin with Congresswoman Terri Sewell



Shirley Brown, Dorothy El-Amin and Elton Akins



State Farm Agent Marshall England with State Representative Anthony Daniels



Gary Whitley with Elizabeth Fleming



Councilman Richard Showers with Calvin Mitchell



State Representative Laura Hall, Alice Sams and Dr. Edwinta Merriweather



Congresswoman Terri Sewell greeting supporters.



Citizens listen to Congresswoman Terri Sewell.



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“Do small things with great love.”

- Mother Teresa