

# The Valley Weekly

"It's easy to be independent when you've got money. But to be independent when you haven't got a thing -- that's the Lord's test."  
- Mahalia Jackson

FREE

Volume 5, No. 7

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, October 26, 2018



## Local Beloved Nonagenarian Passes Away at 99

Born April 15, 1919, Mrs. Evangeline Spillman passed away on October 9.

A former home economics teacher in local city and county schools, she was a graduate of both Hampton and Tuskegee.

Her funeral service was held on Thursday, October 18, 2018, at the Lakeside United Methodist Church, located on Meridian Street, with Reverend Earla S. Lockhart officiating.

The Ivy Beyond the Wall Ceremony presented by the Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated was held Wednesday, October 17, also at Lakeside United Methodist Church.

## Oakwood Welcomes U.S. Poet Laureate

The Department of English and Foreign Languages at Oakwood University welcomed Tracy K. Smith, Poet Laureate of the United States, as part of the J.L. Moran Lecture Series: Moving the Stones.

Smith, author of *Wade in the Water* and *Memoir*, provided a free presentation on campus at 7 p.m. Thursday, October 25, at Moran Hall



The Falmouth, Mass., native was raised in Fairfield, Calif., with significant Alabama roots. Her mother was an educator and her engineer father worked on the Hubble telescope. She earned degrees from Harvard University and Columbia University.

The Pulitzer Prize winner has served as the 52nd Poet Laureate of the U.S. since 2017.



**HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION:** Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, founded in 1874, is cementing its downtown footprint in the heart of Huntsville with an impressive new structure (see inset) and accompanying ceremonies that will culminate with a dedication program on November 4. Above, Pastor-Teacher Mitchell M. Walker, Sr., (c) addresses a group of jubilant members and various officials at a rainy 9 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, October 20, at 228 Church Street. The early church was characterized by its spirit of caring, sharing and outreach. Within the General Assembly, it was often referred to as the "Mother Church." (Photos by Jerome Saintjones)

## Downtown Huntsville, Inc., Committed to Vibrancy and Diversity

Downtown Huntsville, Inc., champions a vibrant and economically strong Downtown Huntsville.

Its members represent stakeholder groups and Downtown property owners, business owners, tourist attractions, business



organizations, advocacy groups, neighborhood associations and residents from throughout the city. Its initiatives include

urban environment master planning focused on opportunity sites and redevelopment projects; Downtown commercial and residential development; Downtown advocacy and public policy; marketing; and philanthropy and membership.

- downtownhuntsville.org

The Valley Weekly  
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# Washington in One Minute



Here are the top issues in Washington, D.C., for this week.

1. The House and Senate are in recess until November 13.
2. This week, President Trump had three campaign rallies on his schedule with a trip to Houston on Monday, Mosinee, WI on Wednesday and Charlotte, NC on Friday. On Tuesday, the President hosted state officials from Alaska, California, and Hawaii

at the White House for a "State Leadership Day Conference."

On Wednesday, the President spoke on the nation's opioid abuse crisis. According to The Washington Post, the President has held 27 rallies to date for GOP candidates in the 2018 mid-term elections.

3. On Sunday, President Trump and Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin announced that the Administration will release shortly a new tax cut

plan specifically targeted at the middle class, although no other details were released. Secretary Mnuchin said that he has been working with House Ways and Means Committee Chair Kevin Brady (R-TX) on the new plan – but would not say which tax brackets would be affected nor how the bill would be financed.

Last year's \$1.5 trillion tax cut is expected to add \$1 trillion to the national debt, with the latest numbers showing the 2018 federal budget deficit growing by 17% to \$779 billion, largely due to a steep decline in federal revenue because of the tax cut.

4. According to the SCOTUS Blog, for the first time in its history, the majority of the Supreme Court Justices' law clerks are women, including all four (4) clerks who work

for new Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

5. The New York Times reported on Sunday that the Department of Health and Human Services has drafted a memo that would define male and female under the federal civil rights statute (known as "Title IX") as unchangeable determined by the genitals a person is born with, which would largely eliminate the Obama Administration's recognition and protections for the estimated 1.4 million Americans who identify as transgender.

6. Approximately 150 students and their teachers from around the country gathered in Washington over the weekend for a student gun

violence summit organized by gun control groups and teachers' unions. At the summit, attendees adopted a students' bill of rights aimed at making communities safer. The steps include the creation of transparent safety committees at schools and implementing equitable funding to under-resourced schools for after school programs.

7. There are 15 days until the mid-term elections. According to Politico, the most recent round of campaign finance disclosures on Saturday showed a surge of GOP big donor cash, with the national party committees, key House and Senate candidates, and the top super PACs having \$337 million on hand, compared to the Democrats' \$285 million.

The Cook Political Report on Friday predicted a 25-35 net pickup of seats for Democrats in the House (they need 23 to take control), although it noted that the Brett Kavanaugh confirmation battle has energized GOP voters. In the Senate races, Cook has four (4) of the 26 Democratic seats as a tossup (FL, IN, MO, and MT), with North Dakota's Sen. Heitkamp now in the "leans Republican column." On the GOP side, of the 9 seats in the election, 4 are tossups: AZ, NV, TN and TX.

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## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

Genesis 50:20: Joseph tells his brothers, "*You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.*"



When we look at this scripture we need to understand that when we "survive" certain things in our life, it's not just for us. But sometimes it can be for other people, as well. I remember 20 years ago I survived cancer and because of that I was able to be a blessing to others through my ministry, as well as my relationships that I have made with others.

I believe that God not only wants to do things for us; He wants to do things through us, as well. Now when we look at the life of Joseph, we can see that He knew a thing or two about

survival. Remember, he had to survive being sold into slavery, and being falsely accused of being with Potiphar's wife and thrown into prison. But you know what? He survived prison, too. So, his road to success

was not easy. We all need to remember that success does not always come in a straight line. There will be setbacks along the way.

Sometimes we can't see what God has for our lives until we start experiencing life. Matter of fact, the best instruction that we will ever receive will come from actual life experiences. And, let's face it: there will be failures along the way. But the good news is we are all wired for survival. Joseph was wired for survival and he teaches all of us a great lesson about perseverance.

So whatever it is that you really want out of life, you will

have to learn how to survive the trials and the test that try to keep you from what God wants you to do. There will be times when you don't see any progress, but you still have to press on and survive. Then, there may be times where you feel that what you are doing is insignificant. But you have to press on and survive. The enemy will also try to intimidate you with thoughts that you are not good enough. But remember, anything that the enemy tells you is a lie. So you have to press on and survive those attacks. Finally, I pray that God gives you the insightfulness to realize that trials come to make you more aware not angry, stronger not weaker, better not bitter ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters. Make sure you purchase a copy of my book *A Champion Game Plan For Life* at amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com.

## 77th Magic City Classic Dominates Weekend

The Magic City Classic will take on even added "star" force this year through a lineup that includes award-winning actor Don Cheadle as the event's ambassador and rapper Gucci Mane as the post-game performer.

Cheadle will greet the public at a downtown parade that starts at 8 a.m. on game day, Saturday, October 27.



The actor will also be highlighted during the halftime ceremonies at Legion Field, 400 Graymont Avenue, West,

Birmingham, Ala.

Bessemer native Gucci Mane, born Radric Delantic Davis, will headline a concert at Legion Field after the conclusion of the 2:30 p.m. game. The rapper, 38, has a dozen studio albums to his credit, along with mixtapes, singles and EPs. He has collaborated with artists Drake, Lil Wayne, Bruno Mars and others.

## Put Alabama First

Cordially Requests Your Presence At

#WE VOTE  
Women's GOTV Luncheon  
Featuring

Tanya Acker  
TV Personality & Lawyer

October 25<sup>th</sup> - 11:30 to 1:00 PM  
Alabama A&M University Knight Center

\*RSVP By October 22, 2018 Required



# The Valley Weekly

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*Submissions to TVW do not necessarily reflect the belief of the editorial staff and TVW is not responsible for the authenticity of submissions.*

## The Valley Weekly

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Back Cover	10x10-inches	\$1,000
Full Page	10x10 inches	\$800
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	5x10 inches	\$400
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## From the Editor

### An Eventful Homecoming and Much More!

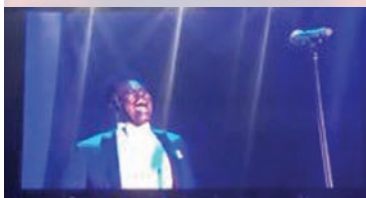
AAMU Alum Arranged and Orchestrated Mercedes-Benz Celebration. On Saturday, October 6, Alabama A&M University graduate, Dr Henry Panion, III, arranged and orchestrated a concert in the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater for Mercedes-Benz USA International, Inc., in recognition of the roll-out of the new GLE.



Oliver Leslie, Dr. Hadiyah-Nicole Green and Dr. Dorothy Huston

The celebration included artists Robin Thicke, LeAnn Rimes, India Arie, Tony Toni Tone, Bo Bice, the Temptations Review, along with a 75-piece Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra. Culminating the concert was the inclusion of the University of Alabama at Birmingham Marching Band and a magnificent fireworks display. Over 5,000 employees of Mercedes-Benz, along with their families and friends enjoyed an evening of never-ending music and diverse talent.

Women of Color in STEM. AAMU graduate Oliver Leslie and I attended the 23rd Women of Color in STEM Gala in Detroit on Saturday, October 13, to support fellow alumna Dr. Hadiyah-Nicole Green, who was honored by Career Communications Black Engineer of the Year for her outstanding cancer research. Green is a physics graduate of AAMU, who went on to the University of Alabama at Birmingham to earn a Ph.D. in physics. She is a research professor at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. To learn more about her research, go to her foundation, The Ora Lee Foundation at OraLee.org or text ORA to 71777 to donate.



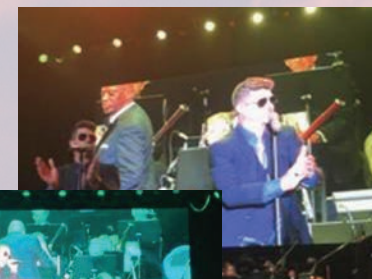
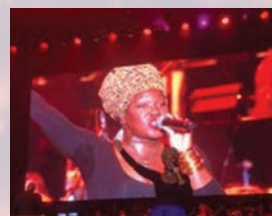
Homecoming 2018. AAMU's homecoming was on Saturday, October 13. Thousands of alumni and friends filled the Louis Crews Stadium for the game and festivities, after the traditional morning parade. Congratulations to Miranda Bouldin, Grand Marshal of the parade, and to all Bulldog fans who support the team--win or lose!

Until next week ...



Etrice Williams, Katie Huston, Dr. Henry Panion III - composer/conductor, Felyicia Jerald-Executive Vice President for Communications at Mercedes-Benz, Jason Hoff-President/CEO of Mercedes-Benz U S International, Dorothy and Bill Huston.

*Dorothy*





## GUEST COLUMNIST Millennial Thought

by Larry Campbell

### Consciousness and the HBCU Experience

Sometimes, it is easy to feel a certain level of societal acceptance when we are embedded within the warm arms of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). There is often a feeling of protection, oneness and a chance to expand and breathe more freely. However, an HBCU is not the world, but its charge is to prepare us for storms and opportunities beyond its borders.

Academics, etiquette and all those things that prepare us for the “real” world are nice, but without a firm foundation in our past, they profit us nothing. Without knowing who we are as a people—grasping as our own the accomplishments of a Marcus Garvey, a W.E.B. du Bois or even the true history of the Black Panther Party, we become—and are viewed by others—as a mere imitation. An African with no ties to Africa. A pseudo-European with no land claims to Europe.

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots,” said Marcus Garvey. But

some millennials feel that the past is not relevant to the present nor as a means toward intergenerational unification. In one sense, we feel that it is not important because of advances in technology. We can look up any person from the past, read about them and quickly study their contributions. That’s not quite the same as having a meaningful relationship with the past that can sustain one’s present and support one’s future.

However, some feel that the past holds the key, imparting important information for the next generation, limited only by HBCUs’ willingness to formally incorporate the black experience into the curriculum and fabric of the institution for the benefit of those to come. This is a task that is not for the weak. This requires a Hannibal.

So, where do we go from here? Do we have to prod black colleges to build black people? Would not doing so serve all of mankind? Why not form a total 100-school HBCU alliance dedicated to assessing where our black youths are and where they

need to be? An alliance transcending state lines and curricular limitations and that is bold enough to mandate two comprehensive semesters of black history—just as a start? This course would transcend the watered-down accounts of Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks received in high schools.

I believe that sometimes we are afraid to hone in on the past because we are somewhat ashamed that we know so little about it. What would happen to us with this new empowerment? Dare we think about how the world would have differed if more black men had crossed the Alps to claim Rome?

Now, some might ask: why is it the college’s responsibility to show the history of our people? I say it is because, minus churches, it is the only institution that spans the generations. And, an HBCU must be more than an acceptable copy of the flagships. It must be an institution with a mission to meet the needs of a student on the inside. Learning our unique history can unify us and prepare us for the world-class leadership deserved by the world’s first people.

*Larry Campbell is a senior at Alabama A&M University and a PR intern under the supervision of J. Saintjones and Grover Journey.*

## The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

**Thru January 13**

**Exhibit**  
“Louis Comfort Tiffany: Treasures from the Driehaus Museum”  
Huth, Boeing, Salmon, Haws & Chan Galleries  
Huntsville Museum of Art  
*A celebration of beauty, Louis Comfort Tiffany: Treasures from the Driehaus Collection features more than 60 objects spanning over 30 years of Tiffany’s prolific career.*

**October 26**

Alabama A&M University Board of Trustees Meeting  
Birmingham Westin  
Birmingham, Ala.  
8:30 a.m.

**October 27**

Live Taping of Christmas Special for ABC Television featuring gospel artist, Kirk Franklin - Oakwood University Church, 5500 Adventist Blvd., NW, Huntsville, Ala. - 11 a.m.

77th Annual Magic City Classic Game  
AAMU vs. Alabama State University  
Legion Field  
Birmingham, Ala.  
2:30 p.m.

**November 1-4**

“The Wall the Heals”  
Replica of Vietnam Veterans Memorial  
Huntsville, Ala.

## Huntsville City Council Meetings



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. Council work sessions are also held in the 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.



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*at Burritt on the Mountain*

**Cocktails at *The View***  
Every Wednesday evening 4:30-8. Bring your friends and watch the sun go down on our NEW overlook. Seating provided, Full cash bar and gourmet food items for purchase.

**Lunch & Experience at *The View***  
Enjoy a presentation by one of our expert guest speakers, followed by a delicious catered box lunch from The Chef Next Door. Tickets are \$25 in advance.

**2Chefs at *The View***  
Join us at our table for an exclusive evening of exquisite dining and wine pairings under the stars. Reservations are limited and prices vary depending on menu.

*For The View event details and tickets, visit burrittonthemountain.com!*

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House of Hope and Restoration  
Huntsville Bible College  
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Regency Retirement Village  
Rocket City Barber Shop  
Sam and Greg's Pizza  
Sav-A-Lot  
Sneed's Cleaners  
Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at  
Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)  
Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

**Jamal's Helping  
Hands, Inc., to  
Hold Event**

Jamal's Helping Hands, Inc., will host a brunch to raise funds in support of our mission. Our First Annual Celebration of Caretakers will be held Saturday, December 8, 2018, at the DoubleTree Suites by Hilton, 6000 Memorial Parkway South, SW, Huntsville, AL 35802. You may support this cause by giving individually, as a group or becoming a corporate sponsor. Donations can be made by visiting our website [www.jamalshelpinghands.org](http://www.jamalshelpinghands.org) or by mail. (Checks should be made payable to Jamal's Helping Hands, Inc., P.O. Box 554, Madison, AL 35758) Madison, AL 35758). For inclusion in the program, all sponsorships to include payments must be received not later than December 1, 2018.

**Valley Scopes**  
by Melissa Wilson/Seloma

NOVEMBER



**LEO**

Your wisdom is likely to be beneficial to you as long as you communicate as clearly as possible. Career work and contracts in law, science, government, politics and the arts are all favorable for you at this time.

**AQUARIUS**

If you feel completely ready, there is someone, who is fascinated with you and is willing to be there for you as a devoted partner as long as you express a determination to actually keep irresponsible tendencies that you may be occasionally giving into at bay.

**TAURUS**

Juno, in your chart, denotes that you are finding immeasurable happiness in typical everyday scenarios and that people find this to be one of your most pleasant characteristics now.

**GEMINI**

Venus is at a quintile with Saturn in your house of service and health. Your current patterns of dealing with adversity are likely to contribute to your money making potential or

health.

**SAGITTARIUS**

Mercury is at a square with Neptune, therefore, there could very well be a disruption that is tied to your house of clandestine affairs.

**VIRGO**

All of the courage that you display, along with all of the self-discipline that you can muster up, is bound to affect the way that others are perceiving you, at present.

**LIBRA**

Venus is opposite Uranus in your house of social status. Your soul purpose is being epitomized by what you are giving your attention to now. You likely hold a certain amount of power, in some respects- even if original takes on a certain situation vary considerably.

**SCORPIO**

The sun is at a conjunction with Jupiter, which could

find you in somewhat of an obdurate mood possibly with associates preset plans or within regards to anything service related.

**CAPRICORN**

Saturn is at a trine with Uranus within the house of soul purpose. Your composed mood exemplifies how anyone truly feels when reaping the consequences of well-made choices as you have.

**PISCES**

The moon is at a conjunction with Neptune, in your sex, death and tax arena. Therefore, your soul purpose in life is factoring into, the very area where your energy is being pulled.

**CANCER**

The node within your sign is drawing attention to the fact that the sea-faring industry is highly favored for you right now. Possible sufferings have offered you a wealth of experience, so you know to keep an eye out for those who may be concocting plans or making arrangements that stem from resentment and are not in your best interests. Vigilance is likely to keep you in a cheerful mood.

**ARIES**

Mars is at a sextile with Uranus, symbolizing the fact that you're actively taking up for something, which exemplifies originality in it's rawest form.

**Valley Deaths**

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

*Funeral service for MRS. MAMIE BERNARD JONES (b. 1930) will be announced at a later date.*

*Funeral service for MR. DERRICK DEWAYNE PARKS (b. 1967) will be announced at a later date.*

*Funeral service for MRS. GAIL BATTLE TURNER (b. 1953) will be Friday, October 26, at 12:00 noon at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor O. Wendell Davis officiating.*

*Funeral service for MR. DARRELL W. BAKER (b. 1959) was held Wednesday, October 17, at Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church in Deposit, Ala., with Pastor William Carter, Jr., officiating.*

- Royal Funeral Home -

*Funeral service MRS. GERTIS E. FORDJOUR-JOHNSON (b. 1944) was held Monday, October 22, at Burns Seventh Day Adventist Church (10125 E. Warren Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48214).*

*Funeral service for MR. LEE J. GAGE (b. 1922) will be held Saturday, October 20, at Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Dave Draper officiating.*

*Funeral service for MRS. EVANGELINE SPILLMAN was held Thursday, October 18, at the Lakeside United Methodist Church (3728 Meridian Street, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Earla S. Lockhart officiating.*

*Funeral service for MS. INGRA A.. CONLEY was held Tuesday, October 16, t the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (315 Winchester Road, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. O. Wendell Davis officiating.*

- Serenity Funeral Home -

*Funeral service for BABY KA'RIYHA HONEY was held on Wednesday, October 24, at 12 p.m. at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel (2505 University Drive, NW, Huntsville, Ala.).*

*Funeral service for MR. MATTHEW BRIAN ADDERLEY (b. 1986) was held on Tuesday, October 16, at 11 a.m. at Oakwood University Church (5500 Adventist Blvd NW Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd officiating.*

**Lowes Chapel United Methodist Church**

Lowes Chapel United Methodist Church is seeking to fill the position of Full-Time Church Musician/Choir Director. The successful candidate must be able to read music as well as "play by ear" and direct all types of Church music. All interested candidates should submit a resume to: Pastor/Parish Relations Committee, loweschapel@yahoo.com, Lowes Chapel United Methodist Church, 460 Sanderson Street, Huntsville, AL 35805 - CLOSING DATE FOR RESUMES IS NOVEMBER 30, 2018 - For more information please contact the church at 256-895-9104

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**State Farm**





## MAXWELL!

Maxwell performed some of his notable hits to a full house Saturday, October 20, at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Ala. For the intimate set, the "Pretty Wings" singer belted hits from his twenty-year discography, including "Bad Habits", "This Woman's Work" and "Get to Know Ya." Marsha Ambrosius, one half of neo soul duo, opened the show.



**BIRTHDAY - October 26 - MAHALIA JACKSON - Born in New Orleans, this legendary and Grammy Award-winning gospel singer was most well known for her versions of "Amazing Grace," "Go Tell It on the Mountain" and "Nobody Knows." - BlackinTime.info**

# Called 2 Preach

by Pastor/Founder Michael D. Rice  
Grace Gethsemane Mission Church

## A Preexisting Condition

In today's political debating, the issue of healthcare is a major concern for many people. Because of political partisanship, the law that was designed to put that to rest by helping those with a preexisting condition, known as the Affordable Care Act, also called Obamacare, has come under attack. Those with preexisting conditions are still on shaky ground. The reality when it comes to healthcare and insurance is that there are some who get "better" rates because they do not have that issue. However, millions of others are no so fortunate; which makes affordable care unaffordable.

The reality regarding humanity and the sin problem is that there is no category for those who do not have a preexisting condition. Everyone has

them listed in the sentences of their lives, like the one found in the story of Naaman (2 Kings 5:1). He had the preexisting condition of leprosy despite his

otherwise stellar resume and needed help that was beyond political capabilities. He did receive the help he needed by following the directions of a little insignificant slave girl who knew the prophet of God.

Leprosy in the Bible is a symbol for sin and, according to Romans 3:23, all of humanity has this preexisting condition and needs an affordable policy to

cover it. Romans 6:23 says that that policy exists, and all of its premiums have been prepaid, and it comes to us as a gift.

That's good news!



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# Three Strikes NOT Out - But UP!

by tim allston

Joseph replied, "Don't be afraid. Don't you see, you planned evil against me but God used those same plans for my good, as you see all around you right now—life for many people. Easy now, you have nothing to fear." - Genesis 50:20,21

The Message Bible.

The US Justice Department's three-strikes law - a.k.a. the "habitual offender law" - derived its name from baseball's three-strikes-and-you're-out tradition.

But now, baseball can no longer authenticate this axiom, according to Julio Daniel Martinez.

On Thursday, Oct. 18, this Boston Red Sox slugger and MVP candidate went 2-for-3 with the lead-off solo home run, leading his team in the American League Championship Series (ALCS) into the World Series, by defeating 4-1 the defending World Series champion Houston Astros - that fired him in 2014, after three seasons.

After striking out in Houston, Arizona and Detroit, "J.D." credits now his ALCS opponent: "My failures in Houston are what made me who I am ... There's really no animosity there. In a sense they did me a favor by allowing me to leave and play on another team."

The key? Martinez kept on swinging, never struck out. Former Detroit Tigers teammate Justin Verlander, a one-time Rookie-of-the-Year/Cy Young/MVP,

recounted being "there from the moment he turned his career around. He went and completely revamped his swing that offseason, and saw immediate dividends. Never stopped hitting. Seeing somebody like that who works so hard and turned their career around to where he's at now, as a fellow player, and you respect it, and I'm happy for him."

As you and I continue recovering from ego-holism - i.e., the addiction to self, either from our big (arrogance, etc.) egos or from our little (low- or no esteem) egos - we must also follow recovering step #5: turn your lemons into lemonade.

Meet Martinez's new I-won't-give-up All-Star teammates:

1. Thomas Edison: "Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. Just because something doesn't do what you planned it to do doesn't mean it's useless. Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work. . . ." After one failed attempt, this electric light bulb inventor consoled a downcast associate, "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work";

2. Sir Edmund Hillary failed multiple times before leading the first team to reach the summit of Mount Everest, the world's tallest mountain, in 1953. After one such failure, he stood at the base of this



3,028-ft. mountain, shook his fist and declared, "I'll defeat you yet, and you know why? You're as big as you're going to get, but I'm still growing!";

3. Defeated resoundingly in 2000 for a Chicago congressional seat, he noticed surprisingly both how his candidly attracted majority white precincts and how systematically small donations added up from neighborhood black churchgoers. Fusing together those two polarized audiences in 2008, Barak Obama became the first US president whose last name began and ended with a vowel! And finally

4. God commanded 100-year old Abraham to sacrifice his lone son, Isaac (Genesis 22:1-19); he aced the test and became ultimately the father of Christianity, Judaism and Islam - now 56% of the world's population or 4.5B Muslims, Jews and Christians.

Q: With what current lemon can God help you make lemonade?

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tim allston is the author of the free book, 7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for "Someone Else," free and downloadable now at [www.GetEgo-HelpNow.org](http://www.GetEgo-HelpNow.org).

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# Sentinel Awards to Be Presented at the *Forever Royal* 100th Anniversary Celebration Gala

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME  
TO HONOR FOUR  
COMMUNITY LEADERS  
DURING THE EVENT  
TO CELEBRATE ROYAL'S  
100TH ANNIVERSARY.  
HUNTSVILLE,  
ALABAMA

On Saturday, November 10, 2018, at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center, East Hall, during the Forever Royal 100th Anniversary Celebration Gala, four community leaders will be honored for their professional achievements and accomplishments on behalf of the citizens of Huntsville and the North Alabama region. Mr. Sid Hutchinson, Mrs. Ollye Doyle Conley, Mr. Thornton Stanley, Sr. and Mr. Hundley Batts, Sr., have been selected to receive Royal Funeral Home's prestigious Sentinel Award for their long-standing, devoted service and exemplary leadership to the Huntsville Community.

"We are absolutely thrilled to honor these individuals for their ongoing relationships with four generations of our family and business. Unfortunately, we could not honor or recognize everyone with whom Royal has collaborated in service and outreach to families throughout our community. But, as we commemorate and reflect upon 100 years of service and advocacy, we deeply appreciate all our community partners, colleagues, families and friends, stated Karen Jones Smith, president and co-owner of Royal. "It was not an easy task to choose only four individuals, but our community panel worked



very hard to finalize these selections".

First, Mr. Sid Hutchinson, a master tailor and accomplished businessman, opened Huntsville's first African-American owned and operated custom tailoring shop in August 1959. His skill and life-long dedication toward producing high quality custom suits, custom shirts, and expert alterations made him a critically acclaimed professional throughout the community. Mr. Hutchinson's original shop was housed in Huntsville's first African-American owned commercial office building, built by Mr. Lawrence Hundley, first generation owner of Royal, who purchased the funeral home from its original owners, The Binford Family, in 1946.

Second, Mrs. Ollye Ballard Conley, a Huntsville native, became the first African-American female principal in Huntsville City Schools and the Academy for Science and Foreign Languages, a free-standing magnet school. An innovative educator and social advocate, she is highly recognized for her devel-

opment of the Alabama African-American Historic Project designed to teach students to document history, and to preserve and protect historical monuments and artifacts.

Third, in 1961, Mr. Thornton Stanley, Sr., proprietor of Stanley's Landscaping and Construction Company, Inc., began his business with two employees, one dump truck and a backhoe that today contributes over \$2 million annually to the North Alabama jobs economy. Fueled by his professional philosophy "Find a Job or Make One" and a strong work ethic, Mr. Stanley received the 2001 SBA National Small Business Person of the Year—a prestigious honor presented by President George W. Bush during a historic White House Ceremony.

And lastly, self-made entrepreneur and media giant, Mr. Hundley Batts, Sr., is managing general agent of Hundley Batts and Associates Insurance Agency and owner of four radio stations in North Alabama and Tennessee. For over half a century, Mr. Batts has served as commission-

er and chairman of various boards and foundations advocating for economic development, providing leadership and resources for disadvantaged youth and giving a voice for underserved audiences.

David W. Smith, Sr. stated, "We are ecstatic to present these awards at our gala. We chose to use the name *Sentinel* for the awards because it symbolizes the nobility of a true soldier or guard who stands watch. These four individuals certainly exemplify longevity and excellence in their various occupations, business and community endeavors directly aligned with Royal's mission of service to our fellow man."

All community members are invited to the gala to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the funeral home and to honor these beloved Huntsville citizens. *About Royal Funeral Home:*

The story of Huntsville's oldest black business began in 1918 with its first operator and owner, Mr. Charles King Binford. A Huntsville native, young Binford hails from a family lineage of educators and civic/politi-

cal leaders. His father, Mr. Henry Claxton Binford, retired as principal of the Colored City School, a Huntsville's Alderman, chairman of the Republican Executive Committee of Madison County, editor of the *Huntsville Journal* newspaper and the Most Worshipful Master of Alabama Colored Masons.

Serving families throughout North Alabama and surrounding communities, Royal's original location was in downtown Huntsville at 230 W. Holmes Avenue and later relocated to 118 W. Holmes Avenue, where Mr. Binford ran the enterprise until his death in 1940. In 1946, Mr. Lawrence B. Hundley, Sr., and Mrs. Amanda Rice Hundley purchased the funeral home from Mr. Binford's widow, Mrs. Carrie Parker Binford.

In 1969, The Hundley's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. James A. Jones, Sr. and Mrs. Barbara Hundley Jones purchased the funeral home, followed by the third generation, Mr. David W. Smith, Sr., and Mrs. Karen Jones Smith, who purchased the funeral

home in 2000. The Smiths are the son-in-law and daughter of the Joneses.

The name Royal Funeral Home is synonymous with superior service. Its professional staff compassionately attends to the individual needs of each family. The newly renovated facility provides a warm, comforting atmosphere with a distinctive regal flair. A Royal funeral is noted as much for the attendee's attire as the modern, pearl-white custom vehicles (less dreary, more uplifting). The gentlemen dress in black tuxedos, with black satin stripes down the legs and black bow ties; while the ladies wear black dresses or suits, perhaps a strand of pearls, gloves and always are adorned with distinctive hats.

The owners and staff are very much aware of the business' historic significance. It is evident as they talk about the firm's mission statement and the company motto, "When only memories remain, let them be beautiful"---coined by longtime owner, James A. Jones.

- [www.royalfh.com](http://www.royalfh.com)

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