

The Valley Weekly

"Men can starve from a lack of self-realization
as much as they can from a lack of bread."
- Richard Wright

FREE

Volume 3, No. 7

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, October 28, 2016

City Hosting Housing Expo

The City of Huntsville's Community Development Department will host a Housing Expo on Monday, November 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Stone Event Center at Campus No. 805, 2620 Clinton Avenue West.

This half-day event, free to the public, will provide valuable information and guidance for current and potential renters and homeowners in the Huntsville area.

More than 100 exhibitors will be on hand to answer questions and offer resources for homeowners, renters, residents facing foreclosure, credit

counseling, small business owners, seniors, the youth, veterans, and community leaders. There will be prizes and giveaways, too.

"Learning how to purchase your first home or how to find an affordable rental can sometimes be daunting, and our Community Development team wants to help," said Mayor Tommy Battle.

"This free Expo helps connect residents directly with the experts to get the information they need on affordable housing," he said.

The Housing Expo is designed to provide a "one stop shop" for all the re-

sources related to housing and community development. Residents will find answers to important questions: Is it better to rent or own? Can I receive assistance with a down payment or closing costs? What are my rights for fair and affordable housing?

Anyone interested in learning more about the following should attend this free event.

For more information, contact Kelly Cooper Schrimsher, director of communications, Office of the Mayor, 256-427-5006, kelly.schrimsher@huntsvilleal.gov.



IN CONCERT: Huntsville concert-goers had the awesome experience of witnessing the performance of ZZ Top on October 18, almost four years to the date of their last performance in the Rocket City. The American rock band is made up of bassist and lead vocalist Dusty Hill, guitarist and lead vocalist Billy Gibbons and drummer Frank Beard. Photo by Reggie Allen.

Drake Sponsors Dress for Success

As part of its Career Development Month, the offices of Career Services and Counseling Services at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College recently hosted a fashion show entitled, "You Got the Look: Dress for Success Fashion Show."

The fashion show showcased professional appearance and attire and tips on how to make a good first impression.

Student models from



various disciplines showcased career appropriate fashions for their particular majors. Programs of study that were highlighted included Office Administration, Culinary

Arts and Hospitality Management, Nursing, Engineering Graphics, Business Management, and Cosmetology. The show also consisted of student models who showcased the complete professional look to include hair, makeup, and grooming.

The fashion show was an opportunity to educate students on how to dress for success in various work settings.

ASU Fundraiser Scheduled

One of the primary objectives of the Rocket City Alumni Chapter of the Alabama State University Alumni Association is to provide scholarships to deserving students. The Association's banquet is its major fundraiser to support scholarships.

This year the Scholarship Banquet will be held on December 11 at The Jackson Center, located at 6001 Moquin Drive, NW (in

Research Park).

The theme for this year's banquet is "Keeping HBCU's Alive." The guest speaker is the Honorable Dr. John F. Knight, Jr., Alabama House Of Representatives, District 77, and a long-time champion for ASU.

Dr. Knight was instrumental in suing the State of Alabama on behalf of Alabama State University and Alabama A&M University, in the Knight vs. the State of

Alabama.

In it, he fought for the elimination of vestiges of racial segregation in higher education. This lawsuit brought about major changes for ASU and AAMU by allowing the schools to provide better programs and other improvements. Contact Narry Tillman at (334) 717-0305 or Alfreda Green, (256) 655-1587, for tickets. Cost is \$50 each or \$450.00 per table.

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 Rocket City Barber Shop
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 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

The Hamm Consulting Group



Your Washington Recap

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

1. The House and Senate are in recess for six weeks until after the November election.

2. After a campaign stop for Hillary Clinton in Las Vegas, Nev., President Obama was in California for fundraisers in San Diego and Los Angeles and participated in a taping of ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live! On Friday, he will host a rally for Hillary Clinton in Orlando, Fla.

3. According to The Hill newspaper, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, the House Democrats' campaign arm, has launched a new coordinated effort with Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign that will shift millions of dollars to traditionally red states, where party leaders are hoping to upset House GOP incumbents, including Reps. Will Hurd (R-TX), Erik Paulsen (R-MN) and Cresent Hardy (R-NV).

4. The Washington Post reports that the Supreme Court may be deliberately scheduling a light workload of cases through the end of 2016 in the hope that nominee Merrick Garland gets a vote in the upcoming lame duck session of Congress after the election - in time for Garland to join the Court in early 2017.

Last Thursday, Senate Judiciary Committee Member Jeff Flake (R-AZ) called on the Senate to move forward with Garland's nomination in the lame duck session if Hillary Clinton wins the election. Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Chuck Grassley (R-IA) continues to oppose any action on the Supreme Court vacancy until a new president is sworn in.

5. U.S. Department of Education Secretary John King announced that the Education Department's office of Federal Student Aid is rolling out a new initiative to make emergency funds available to students attending minority-serving institutions who need a financial boost to get to graduation day.

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"WE KNOW THE PEOPLE, PLACES, AND POLITICS"

Volunteers Needed for Etowah Visitation Project

The Etowah Visitation Project is a community outreach to immigrant detainees held at the Etowah County Detention Center (ECDC) in Gadsden, Ala.



ECDC, which houses between 250 and 300 male detainees, is part of a large network of detention centers around the country holding men, women, and children.

Its purpose is--through visits and letters to end the isolation experienced by the men--being held. The men at Etowah represent the nations and religions of the world.

Volunteers visit anyone who has indicated a wish for a visit without distinction or discrimination. In the next weeks and months members of the visitation team will share their thoughts and impressions. Immigrant detention is civil in nature yet the reality is that detention is prison with all that implies.

This prison is in the backyard of the Tennessee Valley. As witnesses, it is important to share what has been learned from the men and what we know of the detention system here in Alabama and throughout the nation.

Please see the Face Book page: Etowah Visitation Project.

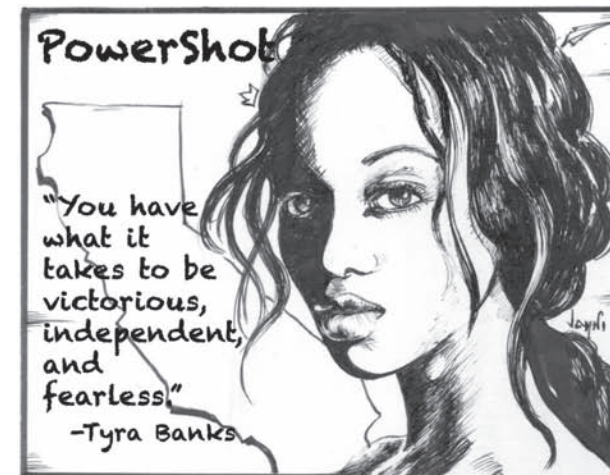
Contributions may be made through IMS to support the EVP. Contributions make possible pur-

chase of approved clothing items, stamps, books, art supplies, Christmas packages. Contributions should be marked for the EVP.

ECDC has a need

for visitors or pen pals with skills in Spanish, English, Hindi, Bangla, French, Punjabi and Farsi.

To volunteer or to obtain more information about the Etowah Visitation Project, please contact Katherine Weathers at (256) 683-8832; Caroline Earhart; (256) 885-2260; or contact June Wilson at (256) 520-2155.



Tyra Banks

Top Ten Keys To Success

- 1.) Watch me
- 2.) Zag when others are zigging
- 3.) Improve through education
- 4.) Find a way to make it work
- 5.) Do what you are passionate about
- 6.) High risk, high reward
- 7.) Prove yourself
- 8.) Think about your legacy
- 9.) Stand up proud
- 10.) Take responsibility for your life



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The Valley Weekly

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October 2016



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On This Day - Friday, October 28 - **TERRELL DAVIS** - A Superbowl MVP and two-time Super Bowl Champion, he was born in San Diego, Calif. Davis played for the Denver Broncos of the National Football League from 1995 to 2001. - *BlackinTime.info*

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Debate and Negotiate

by Amoi Savage

The Presidential Debates were a shady showdown. It was like watching a reality show with an old married couple arguing back and forth, and as usual, the woman wins. Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump dished it out during the debates, following one of the most controversial campaigns. For the first time ever, a female is candidate for president; and is running against not just any man, but a bigoted businessman. Donald Trump is definitely a difficult opponent to deal with, and I applaud Hillary Clinton for remaining full of class and dignity throughout the whole campaign. The debates were an indication of how well Hillary Clinton can handle the pressure and defend her vision and views. Her plans for our nation were backed by plenty of years in politics, and experience as a public official. Clinton's comebacks during the debate were very classy, whereas Donald Trump's comebacks and overall presentations were inappropriate. After hearing speech after speech throughout the campaign, the debate finally brings the two run-

ners face to face to argue why they should be trusted to run our country. Instead of speeches, where they are trying to sell us on their presidential propositions, they have to argue their points with supporting details. To me, that's where Hillary won, her supporting details were backed by precedence. Her résumé alone proves that it actually shouldn't be up for debate whether or not she is more qualified for the position than Donald Trump.

In business, two things are inevitable: you will have to negotiate and debate. When we were taught in grade school the types of papers in English, argumentative and persuasive are two writing styles; argumentative is to debate as persuasive is to negotiate. Most times they go hand in hand. Most negotiations are a debate where each party may not agree on the terms. Having the ability to voice your concerns and take a stance that supports what you believe in, is necessary for

presidency. Whether it is presiding over a company or a country, debates tend to happen in most industries, from attorneys in the court room to the unhappy customers that managers have to keep calm. As long as you are dealing with people who have different personalities and points of view, conflict is naturally going to happen. The best way to handle a debate is by backing up your arguments with solid information, and staying true to the mission- despite the word wars and personal jabs from the opponent, as Hillary Clinton demonstrated. It behooves you in business to develop the skill to negotiate and be persuasive and factual to the point of agreement.

#VOTENOV8

Photo Credit: thrillist.com



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

The City of Huntsville's Community Development Department will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 14, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. to receive input for the 2017 Action Plan Program Year (7/1/17 to 6/30/18). The meeting will be held at the Richard Showers Center at 4600 Blue Spring Rd NW, Huntsville, AL 35810. The City of Huntsville does not discriminate on the basis of disability for the admission or access to its programs or activities. If you have any questions, or will need special accommodations, please call Turkessa C. Lacey - Community Development Department prior to the Public Hearing at 256-427-5400.

AVISO A LA CIUDAD PÚBLICA DE HUNTSVILLE

La ciudad del departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad de Huntsville llevará a cabo una audiencia pública el lunes 14 de noviembre de 2016, en 6:00 P.M. para recibir la entrada para el plan 2017 de acción programe el año (7/1/17 a 6/30/18). La reunión será celebrada en el Richard duchas centro 4600 azul primavera Rd NW, Huntsville, AL 35810. La ciudad de Huntsville no discrimina en base de la inhabilidad para la admisión ni tiene acceso a sus programas o actividades. Si usted tiene cualesquiera preguntas, o necesita comodidades especiales, llame por favor Turkessa C. De encaje - departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad antes de la audiencia pública en 256-427-5400.



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Valley Deaths

Funeral service for **Ms. Brenda Stewart** (b. 1966) was held Wednesday, October 19, at 12 noon at Briar Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (2105 Winchester Road - Huntsville, AL) with Pastor Theodis Acklin officiating.

Funeral service for **Mr. Sherman Lavance Hammonds** was held Saturday, October 15, at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church (759 Pine Grove Road - Harvest, AL) with Pastor C. Jermaine Turner officiating.

Funeral service for **Mr. Percy W. Chapman** was held Saturday, October 15, at Draper Memorial COGIC (313 Bierner Avenue NE - Huntsville, AL) with Elder Dave Draper, Jr. officiating.

Funeral services will be held at a later date and will be announced when available by Nelms Memorial Funeral Home for the following individuals:

- Mr. Steve Persinger
- Mr. Willie Leslie Jr.
- Mrs. Bessie Thurman

- Nelms Memorial
Funeral Home

Rickey Smiley Morning Show to Host Live from Birmingham

Story and Photo
by Reggie Allen

The Rickey Smiley Morning Show is officially en route to the Magic City. Fans of Smiley, Gary with Da Tea, Delicious and Da Brat will have the opportunity to get an up and close experience of the group's wild antics, while being treated to a cavalcade of entertainment and surprises.

A growing tradition in the city, the live broadcast has become one of the staple events leading up to the Magic City Clas-



sic, a game celebrating the rivalry of Alabama A&M and Alabama State University. This classic will mark the 75th year of one of the state's most highly-anticipated college football

games

Throughout the broadcast, patrons are treated to a handful of celebrity guests and surprise performances. Last year's show featured Grammy Award-winning group SWV (Sisters with Voices), Rap Trio Migos and Dalvin DeGrate of the R&B group Jodeci. This year's broadcast already boasts guest appear-

ances from rap newcomer Dae Dae, YFN Lucci, the cast of The Little Women of Atlanta and Love and Hip Hop's Mama Dee.

Due to popular demand, seats to the show are likely to fill up very fast. It is advised that patrons arrive early to the BJCC Concert Hall.

Doors will open at 4 a.m. and the broadcast is scheduled to start at 5 a.m. According to the show's website, those that arrive early will be eligible for several prizes and ticket giveaways.

Those unable to secure a seat at Smiley's broadcast might find luck finding a seat at the simultaneous live broadcast of the Tom Joyner Morning Show across the hall.

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.

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-Alice Walker

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No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Calendar of Events

October 28

Alabama A&M University Board of Trustees Meeting
BJCC-Forum B
Birmingham, Ala.
8:30 a.m.

October 29

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

October 30

Miss Black Rocket City Scholarship Pageant
Registration Deadline
missblackrocketcity.com

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 12

Best of Broadway
Sponsor: Dance Theatre of Huntsville
Academy of Academics and Arts - \$8/\$10

November 21

Festival of Praise Tour
VBC Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.

November 27

Valley Conservatory Jam Session
5-8 p.m.

February 4

Huntsville Symphony Orchestra
Free Family Concert
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall
Von Braun Center
11 a.m.

Straight-Talking Minister's Quest: Tackling Political Goliath

Some people think an incumbent can't be beaten. So they will vote for him, even though they know he's doing a lousy job. They hope that maybe the next two years will be better than the last two years, even though they had been hoping the same thing when they voted for him two years ago.

On Nov. 8, *Valley Weekly* readers in the Fifth Congressional District can vote to break this cycle of failure. You can help replace Mo Brooks – a controversial, ineffective incumbent – with a competent leader committed to servant leadership and to dealing with the real issues facing our district.

And, I'm asking that you choose me, Dr. Will Boyd, to be the Fifth District's new representative in Congress.

In my last article, I introduced myself to you as a husband, father, bishop, pastor, and a former educator and engineer. I told you about my extensive connections to our community through my fraternal memberships and civic leadership.

This week, I want to tell

you about why I believe I can win on Election Day. My campaign hired a research group in Washington, D.C., to do some polling. The results were that 57 percent of respondents favored Brooks; 43 percent favored me.

Some may see this as bad news, but I don't. As the incumbent, Brooks has more name recognition than me. He's been in office for about six years. He's been through three campaign cycles. It's no shock that he has the support of some voters.

The shock should be that I have as much as support as I do. And I believe the reason is that many Fifth District voters are dissatisfied with the representation we've had in Congress.

I hear from them all the time – Democrats, Republicans and independent voters. They don't like the way Brooks has demeaned immigrants. They are disgusted by the way his behavior has made our state look. They say he's been ignoring the economic issues in our district while championing extreme right-wing causes.

These voters have made

it clear to me that they want a change. And I believe that enough of you want change that I can win.

The last time a Democrat challenged Brooks was in 2012. His name was Charlie Holley and he garnered 33 percent of the vote – not bad considering Charlie was new to politics.

I have at least one advantage over Charlie. I'm not new to politics. Before my family and I moved to Florence, we lived in Greenville, Ill. I ran for city council there and won. I understand how to campaign and strategize, even though my campaign isn't as well-funded as Brooks'.

But more important than campaigning or money is this: I'm committed to work hard to get your vote and keep your vote. If elected, my political agenda will benefit all the people in the Fifth District – from Florence to Decatur, Hartselle to Athens, Madison to Huntsville, and Gurley to Scottsboro.

I will be focused on the issues that matter in our daily lives – such as doing my best to ensure that we don't have to go through another sequestration, put-

ting tens of thousands of government and contractor jobs at risk.

And even though I'm a Democrat, my first loyalty will be to the people of the Fifth District – Democrats, Republicans, independents, union members, non-union members, rich, poor, and middle-class.

I will represent all of the people – African-Americans like me, as well as Whites, Asians, Hispanics and people of Middle Eastern ancestry. I will stand up for my fellow Christians, as well as my brothers and sisters who are Jewish, Muslim, Hindu – those of any religion and no religion at all.

I will put the agenda and best interests of the people of the Fifth Congressional District first. I will not be giving interviews on cable news channels to promote



my personal political agenda or to pick fights with the President.

I believe the voters in our district want a representative who makes them proud, not one who makes our state the punchline of a late-night comedian's joke. Vote for me on Nov. 8th, and I pledge to you by God's grace to make you proud – not bring you shame.

I'm Dr. Will Boyd, and with your support I will restore your values and voice to Congress.

by Dr. Will Boyd

Champion Game Plan for Life

You know, sometimes we will never get to the heart of our problems in life until we stop blaming others for our circumstances.

It's time to go from blaming to claiming the responsibilities for our lives. And, we do this by facing and accepting the truth about ourselves. You

see, there may be things that happen to us and there may be reasons why we are the way that we are, but that doesn't give us an excuse to stay that way. The moment a reason becomes an excuse we



become "trapped" in it. Once we face the truth about ourselves, we can begin to have the abundant life that God wants us to have ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

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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

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