

The Valley Weekly

"Heaven is equally distant everywhere."
- Petronius

FREE

Volume 6 No. 8

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Friday, November 1, 2019



Event Will Chronicle Evolution of Gospel Music

The Tennessee Valley Jazz Society-Oneness Committee (TVOC) and a team of sponsors, including The Valley Weekly, will host the program, "Gospel Music: From the Hawkins to the Present ...," on Thursday, November 7, at 6 p.m.

The event will be held at Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church, located at 228 Church Street NW, in downtown Huntsville.

The Oneness Committee is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts agency and youth development organization.

Listed among the program's humanities scholars for its educational symposium are Olye Conley, Dr. Eurydice Osterman, musician Curtis Lundy and Dr. Renee Collins-Williams. Music will be provided by Voices of Triumph.

According to event facilitator

Howard Bankhead, "Gospel Music" will also serve as a memorial tribute to the late Commissioner Robert "Bob" Harrison.

For additional information, e-mail tennesseevalleyjazz@gmail.com.

NAREB Urges Millennials to Become Homeowners

According to the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB), Black GenX-ers and Millennials may be the key to reversing the downward Black homeownership trend and at the same time begin the generations' move toward building wealth.

The "How," and the "Why" serve as the basis for NAREB's new House Then The Car (HTTC) campaign. The campaign kicked off with community events last October 25-26 in targeted cities with a NAREB presence, along with high concentrations of Black GenX-ers and Millennials. The Huntsville chapter will host its events on Saturday, November 2, at Drake State

Community & Technical College, Building 300, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

"NAREB is sounding the alarm. Black homeownership is at a critically low point and could slip even further in large part due to the enormous obstacles faced by Black Millennial households attempting to access mortgage credit as stated in NAREB's 2019 edition of the State of Housing in Black America report," said Donnell Williams, president of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB).

As of the second quarter 2019, the Black homeownership rate slipped to 40.6% representing a full percentage point below the 2018 rate of the same period. In compari-

son, the non-Hispanic White homeownership rate for the same periods held at 73.1%.

The House Then the Car local events assist GenX-ers and Millennials prepare for homeownership and real estate investment.

Participants will learn about the importance of debt to income (DTI) ratios and how it affects the ability to purchase or invest. Attendees learn how to calculate DTIs, how to reduce debt, and how to make real estate investments work, among other topics that de-mystify the mortgage loan process and how to be home purchase ready.

Williams went on to say, "NAREB is taking an ag-

gressive approach to reach Millennials and GenX-ers with the message that wealth building through homeownership makes sense. And, as important, that homeownership is possible. Renting makes someone else rich. Being a tenant makes the owner wealthy.

With the right information and getting a handle on one's current financial position, they might be surprised about what's possible to help start on the road to wealth building."

For more information about attending a nearby House Then The Car event, or to download a copy of the State of Housing in Black America report, visit www.nareb.com.

- April Parker

District 1 Town Hall Meeting Scheduled

Huntsville City Councilman Devyn Keith (r) has announced an "end-of-the-year" town hall meeting set for Tuesday, November 12, at 6 p.m. in the H.C. Blake Company building located at 2007 N. Memorial Parkway, Suite A.

Among the topics and updates to be addressed during the meeting are: 1) the impact of the 2019-20 city budget on North Huntsville; 2) Council High Park; 3) Berachah; 4) Johnson Legacy Phases 1 & 2; 5) the Parkway Mural Project with Arts Huntsville; 6) new Madi-



son County Government Complex in District 1; and others.

In addition to City of Huntsville representatives, Keith will be joined by Madison County Commissioner JesHenry Malone.

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Judge M. Lynn Sherrod's Portrait Unveiling

Monday, October 28, 2019
Madison County Courthouse
Huntsville, Ala. (Photos by Erica Fox)

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Editor-in-Chief

Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor**

Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial AssistantsLinda Burruss
Phyllis Chunn
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.**Advertising Associate**

Phyllis Chunn

- Contributing Editors -
tim allstonLamar A. Braxton, Jr.
Minister Preston Brown
Cody L. "Global" Gopher
Ron Hamm
Pastor Michael D. Rice**Website Administrator**

Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:

The Valley Weekly

415A Church Street - Suite 100
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
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**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
CITY OF HUNTSVILLE**

The City of Huntsville's Community Development Department will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 18, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. to receive input for the **2020-2025 Consolidated Plan, the Analysis of Impediments and the 2020 Action Plan Program Year** (7/1/19 to 6/30/20). The meeting will be held at the Showers Center, 4600 Blue Spring Road Huntsville, AL 35810. The City of Huntsville does not discriminate based on 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; TTY: 256-427-7092.

AVISO A LA CIUDAD PÚBLICA DE HUNTSVILLE

La ciudad del departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad de Huntsville llevará a cabo una audiencia pública Lundi 9 septembre 2019, en 6:00 P.M. para recibir la entrada pour l'horizon **2020-2025 consolidée Plan, l'analyse des obstacles et l'année de programme de Plan d'Action 2020** (7/1/19 a 6/30/20). La réunion se tiendra au centre de douches, 4600 Blue Spring Road 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; TTY: 256-427-7092.



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Have You Planned for Your Legacy?

Like most people, you probably want to leave something behind for your loved ones and possibly to some charitable organizations. In other words, you want to create a legacy. But how?

To leave the legacy you want, you need to construct a comprehensive estate plan, which may include a will, a living trust, power of attorney and a health care directive. In addition, you may want to name beneficiaries on your financial accounts and life insurance policies as part of that plan.

And you may need to update your estate plan in response to changes in your life.

As you incorporate all these elements into your estate plan, don't forget to communicate with your family. Your beneficiaries will need to know how to carry out your wishes – and the more knowledge they have, the fewer surprises will await them.

Here's one more suggestion: Get professional help. To cover all aspects of your estate plan, you will need to work with your financial, legal and tax professionals.

Creating an estate plan will be one of the biggest gifts you could ever give your loved ones – so take action soon.

Lillian Henderson

- Your Edward Jones Financial Advisor -

5045 Memorial Parkway NW, Suite E

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Member SIPC

Perspectives on EGO-holism

by tim allston

Coming Soon (hopefully): Bernie Sanders' Greatest Campaign, No-brainer Victory

Read Mark 5:18-20

The Lemon

On October 4th, presidential candidate Senator Bernie Sanders reportedly suffered a heart attack.

Campaign advisers urged him to use Bishop T.D. Jakes' "setback is a set-up for a comeback" - i.e., use this experience to promote his chief Medicare-for-All policy proposal.

Absent from October 15th's debate was his trademark arm-flailing, finger-pointing energy; however when questioned, Sanders ("I'm healthy, I'm feeling great") swore to a "vigorous (cross-country) campaign" to fend off any concerns

But there's an even greater comeback/campaign awaiting

The Lemonade

"He's not always eager to discuss his personal life. He intentionally kind of avoids the conversations that make it about himself," Faiz Shakir, Sanders's campaign manager, said. "But we see it (recent heart attack) as an advantage to talk about it in those terms - those very human and personal terms ...

A New Lemonade Stand (Platform)?

Shakir: "In my view, there's no avoiding that conversation. You either talk about it now, or you talk about it later. If you're going to have that conversation, I think we all agree, let's just be open and transparent."

While political pundits would view Sanders' heart attack as the final nail in his White House coffin - C'mon: what Dems would nominate for president a 78-year old non-Dem/avowed socialist, now beset with a heart attack, which was only revealed after three days? - healthy lifestyle advocates instead see this as an opportunity for a high-profile celebrity to share his recovering journey. Each year, approximately 735,000 Americans suffer heart attacks, one every 40 seconds. Rather than running improbably for the White House, Bernie could instead be championing this cardiovascular disease campaign--which he can win, starting today.

Bernie's Hat-trick: Ego-holism Recovering Steps 5-7

"Turn your lemons into lemonade" (#5); "The healing's in the revealing" (#6); and "Now that you know go, elevate and grow!" (#7) offer Sanders a no-brainer campaign/victory requiring no teleprompters, opposition researchers, polling data and costly ads.

And no debate opponents, red neckties or navy-blue suits! Only stump speeches from the heart (pun intended).

Q: "Feeling the Bern"?

God has gifted Bernie with a recovering story to share that will outlast every four-year presidential "beauty contests". Just like you, . . .

Q: With which of your setbacks (lemons) can you (water) and God (sweetener) partner to make refreshing lemonade, for all to drink, be refreshed?

Trust me: it'll need no teleprompter - just tell a friend.

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.GetEgoHelpNow.org.



Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

“WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?”

In Luke 10:27 It says” Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind” ; and, “Love your neighbor as yourself.

It goes on to ask in verse 29: “And who is my neighbor?”

You know, when Jesus tells this parable of the Good Samaritan, it is in response to one of the most important questions of all. What should I do to inherit eternal life?

Now this question is a test from a Jewish teacher that wanted to “trap”

Jesus with his answer. You see, back then--and even now-- there was some “spiritual profiling” going on. Now to *profile* means to predict the capabilities of a certain subgroup of people or to group people into a certain category, like the Samaritans.

So, Jesus tells this parable that has an unexpected ending. Remember, after a man had been beaten and robbed, he was passed over by a Priest, then a Levite, but Jesus tells them that of all the people in the world to help this man, it ends up being a

Samaritan that the Jews despised.

You see, the moral of this story is: “be careful,



because you never know who your blessing will come from.” They could be black, white, Asian or Samaritan ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

Rural Alabamians Want Action, Voice on Climate Change

by Rep. Anthony Daniels
Alabama House
Minority Leader

Distrust in politicians, not disbelief in science, is the deciding factor in many rural Americans’ views on climate change. After all, for farmers, ranchers, and those living in agrarian communities in Alabama and across the nation, climate change and the upheaval and uncertainty that comes with it isn’t just a theory, it’s a fact of modern life.

Despite common misconceptions, not only do most rural Americans believe in climate change and recognize its immediate and long-term dangers, but they also understand the need for action. A recent poll released by the One Country Project (OCP) and Third Way surveying rural communities in seven states, including Alabama, finds the majority of rural Americans acknowledge climate change is real, with 48 percent believing it is man-made. Of course, this should not be surprising, given the direct impact rising temperatures, extreme weather, flooding, and drought are having on farms, manufacturers, and outdoorsmen, across the south and America’s Heartland.

While every community has its skeptics, like their urban and suburban counterparts, rural Americans recognize the very real danger presented by climate change and support the need for practical solutions to counter the threat. However, their voices need to be heard, fully understood, and amplified as we move forward.

For instance, the agriculture industry, the backbone of Alabama’s economy is currently weathering some of the economic impacts associated with climate change. In 2017, Alabama farms made a total of \$6 billion in sales. However, this year, rising temperatures

and altered rainfall patterns in the state are forecasting the potential of decreased agricultural output. From torrential rain damaging crop yields to the interruption of supply chains of raw materials and



manufactured goods, extreme weather is a major threat to both rural economies and the rural way of life. That may be why 45 percent of Alabamians polled said that climate change is having a serious impact right now.

This sense of urgency is also reflected in majority support for action to fight climate change. However, as in other issues, a balanced approach is key. Majorities of rural voters, 59 percent nationally and 52 percent in Alabama, believe that an approach that relies on research and investment can improve America’s competitiveness. But, 45 percent nationally and in Alabama are concerned that going too far too fast – the approach laid out in more aggressive proposals like the Green New Deal – is risky. The rallying cry for an all-out mobilization not only fails to resonate with rural voters, especially Obama-Trump voters, it actually turns them off to the issue of climate change period.

Part of the skepticism about sweeping changes is rooted in the fact that many rural Americans just don’t trust politicians to take their concerns into account. More than 70 percent of rural voters say they have an indispensable perspective on climate change

that needs to be taken into consideration. In Alabama, 66 percent of voters believe rural voices should play a leading role in the conversation. However, the majority of Alabamians and rural Americans overall believe Democrats, Republicans, and even the President are ignoring their viewpoints and lifestyle when making policy decisions.

As a result, rural voters trust other groups to handle climate change better. In Alabama, for example, 38 percent of rural voters say they trust farmers and ranchers a great deal to handle climate change the right way, followed by 31 percent for scientists.

Rural voters may well be one of the most misunderstood and underestimated groups in the nation. Democrats who want to lead rural communities, from the presidency down to the local level, ought to put aside “moon-shot” moments and lofty benchmarks in favor of measured solutions that resonate with independent-minded voters. They need to prove they can deliver workable plans like providing more assistance to rural communities for home weatherization and renewable energy development. And they must put forth a comprehensive vision to sustain our climate, preserve and create jobs, and position the United States as a global leader in innovation.

By taking the right approach, and Democrats have an opportunity to make this issue count in rural America. Where others fail or fall short, we can change the political climate of climate change and begin to address the very real threats associated with it.

The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

November 1

Curtis Lundy
“Music of the Civil Rights Movement”
Sponsor: Tennessee Valley Jazz Society
The Cooper House
406 Randolph Avenue
Downtown Huntsville
6 p.m.

November 2

“House Then the Car”
Initiative
Huntsville Chapter-National Association of Real Estate Brokers
Drake State Community & Technical College, Building 300
Huntsville, Ala.

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

November 12

Town Hall Meeting
Huntsville District 1 Councilman Devyn Keith
H.C. Blake Company
2007 N. Memorial Parkway, Suite A
Huntsville, Ala. - 6 p.m.



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Graveside service for MS. BONNIE ANN LARKIN WATSON will be Friday, November 1, at 12 p.m. at Huntsville Memory Gardens with Reverend Melvin Bishop officiating.

Funeral service for MR. KENNETH STRONG, SR., (b. 1946) was held Tuesday, October 29, at Little Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church with Reverend Dr. Jerry L. Crutcher officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. GENEVA F. ROGERS (b. 1936) was held Saturday, October 26, at the Saint James Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Dr. John L. Clay officiating.

Funeral service for MS. ANNIE M. BASS FRIEND (b. 1934) was held Friday, October 25, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Emeritus, Reverend Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, officiant and eulogist.

- Royal Funeral Home -

4315 Oakwood Avenue- Huntsville, AL 35810
(256) 534-8481

Funeral service for MR. DAVID LEE ACKLIN (b. 1954) will be 1 p.m., Sunday, November 3, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.).

Celebration of life service for MR. BENJAMIN FERGUSON SMALLS (b. 1931) will be 12:00 noon, Sunday, November 3, at the C.T. Richards Chapel in the Moseley Complex on the campus of Oakwood University (5500 Adventist Blvd., Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Craig Newborn officiating.

Funeral service for MR. CHARLES EARL "POOCHIE" JEFFERSON (b. 1959) will be 12 noon, Saturday, November 2, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Edward L. Anderson officiating.

Funeral service for ELDER ODELL KNOWLES, SR., will be 11 a.m., Friday, November 1, at the True Light Church of God in Christ (6380 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Bishop Theophilus Knowles officiating.

Public viewing for MR. TIMOTHY WAYNE "MALACHI" CLARK (b. 1968) was held Sunday, October 27, at the Royal Funeral Home.

- Serenity Funeral Home -

2505 University Drive NW - Huntsville, AL 35816
(256) 539-9693

Memorial service for MR. BILLY "MACK" PATTON (b. 1940) was held Friday, October 25, at Serenity Funeral Home.

Funeral service for MR. ROBERT NEELEY was held Sunday, October 13, at Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church, 2350 Wall Triana Hwy., SW, Huntsville, Ala.



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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.

City 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. People can sign up for notices of Council meetings and special sessions online at <https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1825550/1780821/>

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

NAAACC Meetings

The North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce (Huntsville) meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 12 noon.

The meeting location varies. Call (256) 564-7574.



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

Caves and Pits Are Different"

Genesis 37:24;
1 Samuel 22:1a

Joseph and David are two major biblical characters. Both rose to prominent positions; Joseph, second-in-command in Egypt, and David, king of Israel.

They also had experiences along the way that looked nothing like the providential position they

ended up occupying. Joseph was thrown into a pit by his brothers and David went into a cave to escape. That is one of the differences.

The other difference is that pits require someone else to "rescue," but the prophet's word to David was to "depart." Both caves and pits, literal and figurative ones, can be used by God for preparatory

purposes.

The difference between the two must be known, however, in order that the responses do not cause delay in reaching one's destiny.

These four things must be remembered when dealing with a cave experience. One is that cave experiences are filled with doubts and confusion. The second thing to remember is don't concede.

The reason not to concede is the third thing to remember and that is that destiny is calling. David was destined to be king even though he was in a cave.

Finally, it is departure that builds the courage and character needed to fulfill the position of destiny, not deliverance.

Caves are not places to get use to, but rather places that God uses to do a great work in us. The prophet told David to depart to Judah. The word Judah means "praise." Need I say more?



"Life is accepting what is and working from that."

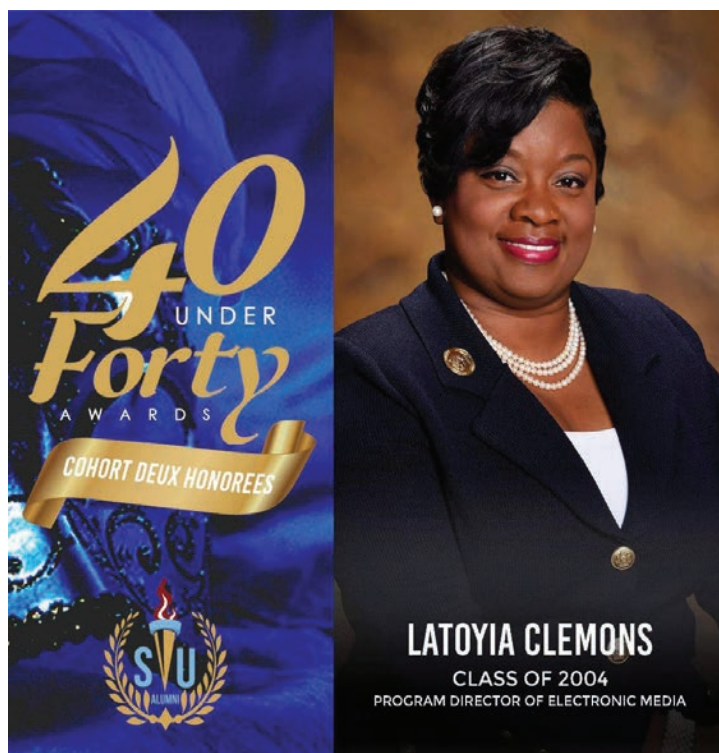
- Gloria Naylor

Huntsville Native Honored Among SU's Top 40 Alumni

Latoya Clemons has been selected as Southern University Alumni 40 Under Forty Cohort Deux. Latoya will join 39 other graduates for an Awards Gala on October 31 in Baton Rouge, La., as a part of the University's Homecoming activities.

She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in mass communications and her Master of Science in communications specialist degree from Alabama A&M University.

Latoya is employed at Alabama A&M University, Electronic Media Communications-WJABTV.



NOVEMBER 1 - RONALD BELL. Born in Youngstown, Ohio, Ronald Bell is a singer, composer and saxophonist. He was also a founding member of the legendary band, Kool & the Gang.

- BlackinTime.info



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Marshall England, Agent

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Washington in One Minute



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

1) The House and Senate are in session this week. The House will take up a bipartisan bill to impose sanctions on senior Turkish officials involved in the invasion of northern Syria and on Turkish banks involved in the defense sector, until Turkey ends its military operations in Syria. In addition, the bill prohibits the export of U.S. arms to the Turkish military for use in northern Syria ... According to Huffington Post, Senate Democrats will force a floor vote this week on a resolution to repeal the Trump Administration's 1332 waiver rule, which allows states to offer insurance plans that do not fully protect people with pre-existing conditions and do not cover essential health benefits such as prescription drugs and maternity coverage.

2) On Sunday, President Trump announced that U.S. special operations forces had

conducted a nighttime raid on Saturday in northwest Syria that resulted in the death of long-hunted ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. On Wednesday, he presented the Medal of Honor to Master Sergeant Matthew O. Williams for conspicuous gallantry during an April 6, 2008, operation to rescue wounded Special Forces soldiers with U.S. troops and Afghan commandos ...

On Friday, Kupperman asked a federal judge to rule on whether he must appear, saying he faced the competing demands of both a House subpoena and the White House's mandate not to cooperate with the impeachment inquiry. Last Friday, U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell ordered the Justice Department to give the House secret grand jury testimony from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation by Oct. 30 and also affirmed the legality of the impeachment

inquiry itself ... On Sunday, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff (D-CA) stated that the Justice Department has not publicly explained why the criminal investigation is necessary with the Inspector General already looking into the beginnings of the Russia probe.

5) On October 25th, the Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS) sent a letter to House Education and Labor Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA) calling the College Affordability Act, the House Democrats' plan to reauthorize and reform the Higher Education Act, "a promising start." TICAS is pushing for further improvements, most which are related to consumer protection. It would like improvements to "provisions to protect students and taxpayers from predatory practices and low-quality colleges." TICAS also requested that Chairman Scott consider making larger investments in Pell grants because of state disinvestment in higher education.

6) On Wednesday, Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg and other Boeing executives will testify before the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in Boeing's first public hearing since 2 fatal crashes of the company's 737 MAX jets in Indonesia and Ethiopia caused the world-wide grounding of the jets in March 2019.

TVJS to Host Curtis Lundy

Curtis Lundy and his world-class group of musicians are excited about coming to Huntsville, Ala., on Friday, November 8, 2019, for a world-class jazz show, "Music of the Civil Rights Movement: The Music of Freedom."

The 6 p.m. show will be held at the cozy The Cooper House, located at 406 Randolph Avenue, Downtown Huntsville.

"Alabama's and America's

rich music history is so important, we, the Tennessee Valley Jazz Oneness Committee in Huntsville, have taken a stance and commitment to continue presenting it in many forms including the spirituals, gospels, blues, and jazz," said Howard Bankhead, head of the Tennessee Valley Jazz Society.

Tickets (\$35) are available at www.tvjs.webs.com or call (256) 604-8172.



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