

St. Bartley Celebrates 200th Anniversary, p. 8

FREE

Friday

November 6, 2020

Vol. 7, No. 9

ValleyWeeklyllc.com



ELECTION: New Commissioner Makes History, p. 4

"The Colonel," p. 2

"What labels me, negates me."
- Soren Kierkegaard



A&M Begins Construction on New Event Center

Officials from Turner Construction Company recently announced that construction has begun on the new 132,000-sq. ft. event center and arena at the Alabama A&M University.

The facility will include an arena with a 6,000-person capacity, locker rooms, training rooms, a Hall of Fame honoring former AAMU student athletes, and a kitchen with the capability to provide meals for campus events.

The arena will host sporting events such as basketball and volleyball games, student graduation ceremonies, and other university functions.

"The center will provide the university with a much-needed facility where we can host major functions,



such as commencements, convocations, our annual scholarship gala, and athletic events," said Andrew Hugine, Jr., President of Alabama A&M University. "It will be a state-of-the-art facility just off of North Memorial Parkway, and we are thrilled to be making this addition for our students and the community, which will transform the landscape of north Huntsville."

Turner is representing AAMU as the construction management agent (CMA) for the project.

"We are excited to partner with Alabama A&M on our fourth project together," said Tyce Hudson, project executive at Turner Construction Company in Huntsville. "We have experienced a lot of success together, and there is no doubt that this is going to be the best project yet. It is going to be an excellent facility for Alabama A&M University and the community."

The project is expected to be complete in 2022.



COUNCILL HIGH MEMORIAL PARK: Friends and supporters of the William Hooper Council High School Alumni Association celebrated the recent grand opening of The Memorial Park on the site of the former school on St. Clair Avenue. Council High was once Huntsville's only public school for Black students during the era of segregation, and it produced several distinguished graduates. The Memorial Park features plaques and photos documenting students and activities. A picnic area is set up in the former building's cafeteria, along with a symbolic entrance to the halls of learning. Several city and community leaders, including Mayor Tommy Battle and Alabama A&M University President Andrew Hugine, Jr., attended the event. - HuntsvilleAL.gov

Annual 'Galaxy of Lights' Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Celebrate the 25-year tradition that is Galaxy of Lights at the Huntsville Botanical Garden. Explore 2.5 miles of magnificent light displays weaving together holiday themes, classic characters, and scenes from the natural world.

Galaxy of Lights' 25th Anniversary Season will look just a little bit differ-

ent this year as organizers commit to the community's health and safety. But visitors can expect to be dazzled, just as they always have. The Huntsville Botanical Garden will once again offer both walk-through and drive-through experiences.

Walking Nights:
November 13-November

25
5:15 – 8:30 p.m. (last admission)

New this year: Tickets for Walking Nights must be pre-purchased for a designated date and entry time.

Dog Walking Nights:
November 16, 17, and 23
Driving Nights:
November 27 – January 2
5:30 – 9:00 p.m. (last ad-

mission)

Please note that there will be **no** Galaxy of Lights Bike the Lights, 5k, or 3k this year. However, HBG looks forward to bringing back these special events in 2021!

Pre-purchase tickets online or visit the Garden's front desk during regular business hours.

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Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Col. (Ret) James O. Heyward

A native of Sumter, S.C., James O. Heyward, Sr., was a career Army officer who retired from active service in 1983 with the rank of Colonel. Col. (Ret.) Heyward served in key command and staff positions in the United States and overseas, amassing a diverse background of extensive experience in planning, management and operations to include training, logistics, resource management, counseling and investigative work. His last military assignment was Professor of Military Science at Alabama A&M University (AAMU).

Since his retirement, he held the position of Director of Admissions at AAMU from 1984 to 1997.



In this position, he was responsible for directing and coordinating the University's recruitment effort and administering the academic scholarship program.

He formulated, recommended and implemented recruitment and admissions policies—all crucial to a stable enrollment of quality students. During his work in higher education, he held key positions in the

Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers on the state and national levels, and was affiliated with other professional educators organizations.

Some of Col. (Ret.) Heyward's significant past military assignments were Commander, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Field Element, Fort Monroe, Va.; and Deputy Commander, U.S. Army Military Community, Baumholder, Germany, to name a few.

Heyward holds a B.S. degree from South Carolina State University and an M.A. from Shippensburg State University. He and his wife (Willie Mae Thompson) have two sons.

AAMU to Host Virtual Veterans Day

Alabama A&M University will host its 15th Annual Veterans Day Program virtually on Wednesday, November 11, according to Sanoyia Williams, director of Veterans Affairs and Disability Services. The Veterans Day program will be accessible via AAMU's YouTube link at www.aamu.edu on Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m. (11/11 at 11).

The campus theme is "Vision: Veterans in Focus," the 2020 theme chosen by the Veterans Day National Committee. The program will feature a three-person panel consisting of LTC (Ret) Cary G. Hale, director for Travel Management Operations for the Missile Defense Agency (MDA); Major (Ret) John D. Zehnpfennig II, senior manager of Cyber Operations at the Millennium Corporation; and AAMU Cadet Vivian



Smith.

Hale, a 1985 AAMU graduate, oversees MDA's Worldwide Travel Operations, ensuring that the Agency's personnel are accessible to support its mission to defend the homeland, forces overseas, friendly nations and allies. Hale is also a retired Army Field Artillery and Finance Officer. He was commissioned as a 2LT through the Alabama A&M University ROTC Program in 1985. During his 21-year career, he served in both command and staff officer positions both state side and overseas, in a variety of operational units including the 1st Infantry Division

(Forward) in Germany, the 3rd Infantry Division, and the 24th Infantry Division. He retired in 2006 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Zehnpfennig, currently enrolled in AAMU's Master of Business Administration

(MBA) program, enlisted in the Army in 1995, was Commissioned from West Point in 2004, and retired as the Chief of Operational Plans for US Army Cyber Command Joint Forces Headquarters – Cyber's support to the Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and US Northern Command. Zehnpfennig is senior manager of Cyber Operations at Millennium Corporation.

The third scheduled panelist will be AAMU cadet Vivian Smith. For additional information about VADS services and upcoming events, call (256) 372-4263.

NOVEMBER 6 - WILLIAM WELLS BROWN - Brown was a pioneer in several different literary genres, including travel writing, fiction, and drama. He wrote "Clotel or The President's Daughter," what is considered to be the first novel by a Black American, published in America.

- *BlackinTime.info*



Called 2 Preach

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

"Couch or Throne"

1 Peter 3:15-16

Couches are a common piece of furniture in our homes. I recall in my boyhood days my mom shopping for couches to go in our living room.

Many factors went into that choice I'm sure, among which was the "comfortableness" of it when being sat upon.

Another factor was the

"size" of it, based on how many would be sitting on it at a time.

This was in the day when visitations by our neighbors were not a strange thing. When those families came over, my mother would offer them the couch as the place to sit. What my mother never shopped for however, was a throne.

Thrones were something that we "read" about in



stories that involved kings and the singularity of that seat and their sitting.

Thrones are not like couches. They are made for just one and this is espe-

cially true when it comes to the throne of our hearts.

Our hearts can never be seen as couches if we are desirous of the blessing of God's personal presence in them, which is why Peter said that we are to *sanctify (set apart) the Lord God in your hearts.*

This is the only way that we will be ready to *give a defense to everyone who asks the reason for the hope that is in us.*

When our hearts are "the throne" of God, He will come and abide, but

He will never agree to be "one of," only "The One."



"The last struggle for our rights, the battle for our civilization, is entirely with ourselves."

- William Wells Brown

Washington in One Minute



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

1) The Senate and House are in recess. The Senate will reconvene next week and the House on the following week.

On the last day before the election, President Trump attended five (5) campaign rallies in four

states: North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Vice President Pence also attended two (2) rallies in Pennsylvania. Former Vice President Biden, Dr. Jill Biden, Senator Kamala Harris and her husband Doug Emhoff were all performing events in Pennsylvania on Monday.

However, on Wednes-

day (November 4), the Supreme Court was scheduled to hear arguments in a challenge to Philadelphia's exclusion of Catholic Social Services from its foster-care system because it will not work with same-sex couples in *Fulton v. City of Philadelphia*.

One week after the election on November 10, the justices will hear two consolidated Affordable Care Act cases, which ask whether Obamacare's individual insurance mandate is unconstitutional without a tax penalty and, if so, whether the rest of the law can remain standing. The cases are *California v. Texas* and *Texas v.*

California.

Last Friday (October 30), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued an order allowing a phased resumption of cruise ship passenger operations at U.S. ports beginning on November 1, 2020, to replace a No Sail Order that was put in place on March 14, 2020, and expired on October 31.

The initial phases will include testing and additional safeguards for crew members, adequate laboratory testing facilities for passengers, and simulated voyages to test cruise ship operators' abilities to miti-

gate COVID-19 risk.

According to the University of Florida's U.S. Elections Project, voters had cast 94,006,161 early votes as of Monday morning, representing 68.2% of the total votes counted in the 2016 general election: 34,045,137 in-person votes and 59,961,024 mail ballots returned.

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Huntsville Council Meetings

Huntsville 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 5:30 p.m., Downtown Huntsville.

Watch the meetings live via HuntsvilleAL.gov/HSVTV or on the City of Huntsville Facebook page (@huntsvillecity).

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



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GIVING TUESDAY

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Champion Game Plan for Life

"Is God First in Your Life?"

by Preston Brown

One of the things we need to realize is that God demands to be first in our lives. And when we put Him first, it establishes His Lordship. Because if God is not Lord of all, then He is not Lord at all when it comes to our lives.

For example, if watching football is first in your life, then football is Lord of your life.

If playing golf is first in your life then golf is the Lord of your life. If going shopping is first in your life then shopping is the

Lord of your life.

If your job and your money is first in your life then your job and your money is Lord of your life.

Now, "Lord" is translated as "Adonai," which is equivalent to ruler or master. So, if these things are ruling over your lives then you have entered a dangerous place that is not God's will for your life.

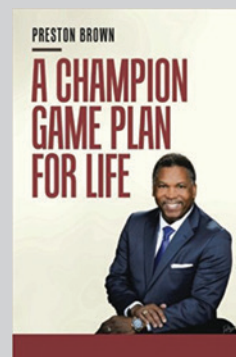
Anytime our will becomes greater than God's will for our lives, it will only end in separation from God. That's why it is important that we seek



Him first, so things don't get out of hand.

Now the definition of being "first" is "preceding all others in time in order of importance. That's why God demands to be first, because He has blessed us so much. Always remember that when we have total obedience, it will produce total reward. So, remember: whatever we decide to seek first will determine the quality of our lives ...

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase a copy of my book, "A Champion Game Plan for Life," at amazon.com.





(L-R) Cheri Wilson, Executive Director of Advancement, Dr. Karen Benn-Marshall, Assistant Provost and a member of AKA, and Dr. Leslie N. Pollard, President of Oakwood University.

OU Receives Gift from AKAs

Oakwood University has received an initial endowment of \$50,000 from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® in partnership with the AKA Educational Advancement Foundation®. The donation comes on the heels of the sorority's recent third annual HBCU Impact Day initiative where more than \$1.5 million was raised in one day for the support of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Last year, AKA began the process of donating to HBCUs through the AKA-HBCU Endowment Fund with the goal to donate \$10 million within

four years. The sorority gifted \$1.6 million to the first 32 of 96 HBCUs at a ceremony in Chicago.

Each HBCU received \$50,000 in unrestricted endowment funds as part of a phased approach to help schools reduce student debt through scholarships, fund industry-specific research, recruit and retain top faculty, and other critical operations.

Many HBCUs have adjusted to the challenges of educating through a global health pandemic, but financial support is still needed to help maintain daily operations.

Edwards Makes History as Madison County Commissioner

The Violet Edwards Campaign declared victory in the race for Madison County Commissioner to represent the 6th district. Ms. Edwards defeated her primary opponent by 10 points on July 14th and was not challenged for the commission seat in the general election. Ms.

Edwards makes history as the first African American woman to be elected to the Madison County Commission.

"I am humbled and honored to be officially elected to the office of Madison County Commissioner for District 6.

I want to take a moment and acknowledge the gravity of this moment. Becoming the first black woman to serve on this commission is an honor, but I hope that is also a reflection to every little boy and girl out there that with god and hard work, nothing is impossible"

"I want to thank my family ... To my husband Anthony, 'Thank you for going on this journey with me,' and to our three children, 'Thank you for your constant and unending support.' To my entire campaign staff and to the

army of volunteers, 'Thank you for helping move our district forward.'"

Edward says "the weighty and awesome responsibility to represent each and every one" of the 58,000 constituents is not lost on her.

"Thank you for trusting me with this responsibility, and know that each and every day I hold office I will fight for our community."

Edwards is a business owner and former journalist who has spent her career helping various non-profit groups in the Huntsville area.

She is a graduate of the



University of Alabama and the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Edwards also is a graduate of Cordova High School, and she is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

WHAT IF? Getting COVID & Flu ... at the Same Time

- Excerpts from Dr. Phillip Gould, BlackDoctor.org

While it was initially thought that getting the flu and contracting COVID-19 were separate, now it appears you can get both infections at once. Having this double whammy might wreak havoc on your immune system and increase the risk of more serious illnesses.

In addition to your personal health, medical facilities may get overwhelmed by people

with both illnesses, potentially wreaking havoc on hospital capacity.

On their own, both COVID-19 and the flu can attack the lungs, potentially causing pneumonia, fluid in the lungs or respiratory failure, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

Each illness can also cause sepsis, cardiac injury and inflammation of the heart, brain or muscle tissues.

Because COVID-19 didn't spread across the US until near the end of the last flu season, it's too early to know exactly how much worse this "twin-demic" as some call it, could be, compared to having each virus on its own.

While getting the flu shot, may or may not prevent you from getting the flu, "the flu shot cannot defend you against coronavirus," says Dr. Sanjay Gupta of CNN.

Just 45 percent of adults in the United States got the flu shot last year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, even though the seasonal version of the disease is deadly, killing an average of 37,000 people every year over the past decade.

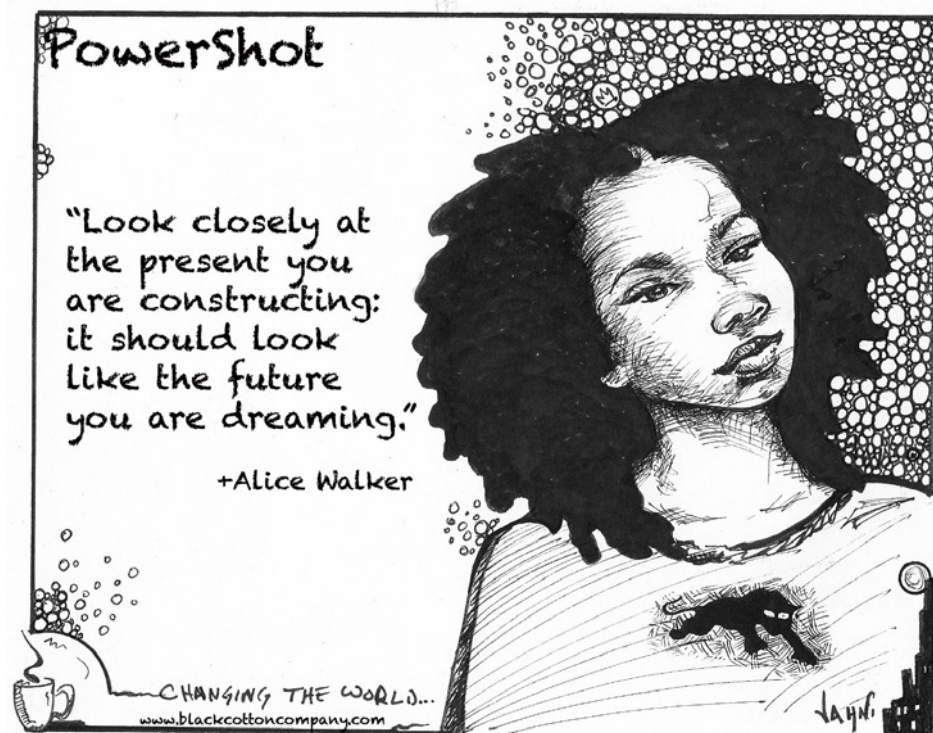
Both the flu and COVID-19 can give you a fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, sore throat, body aches and a runny or stuffy nose, the CDC said.

Even if you have mild

symptoms, don't attempt to ride out a virus on your own, and don't assume that coughing is the only clue you've got COVID-19. You should contact your doctor if you have body aches, fever, a sore throat, or respiratory symptoms so you can be tested for COVID-19. But unlike the flu, Covid-19 can cause a loss of taste or smell.

About half of coronavirus transmissions happen between people who don't show any symptoms. Many of those people are pre-symptomatic and are more contagious before they start showing symptoms.

In doubt, get tested.



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Tennessee Valley
Calendar of Events

November 4-7
Virtual Oakwood Live 2020
Register Now!
apply.oakwood.edu/portal/
oulive
Special Events for High School
Junior and Seniors

November 8
Virtual Grand Opening
The Department of Biological
Sciences
Oakwood University
4-5:30 p.m.

November 11
15th Annual Veterans Day
Program
“Vision: Veterans in Focus”
Alabama A&M University
Panelists: LTC (Ret) Cary
G.Hale; Major (Ret) John D.
Zehnpfenning II; and AAMU
Cadet Vivian Smith

(Click YouTube link at www.
aamu.edu)
11 a.m.

Oakwood University Veterans
Day Ceremony - 11 a.m.

November 13
Alabama A&M University
Black Tie Scholarship Gala
Entertainment: Smoke N
Black Dragons (Dru Hill)
Virtual
7 p.m.

November 14
“The Women of Alabama
Exhibit: A Musical Journey,
1900s-2020s”
The Cooper House
405 Randolph Avenue
Huntsville, Ala.
6-8 p.m.

November 15
Sunday Jazz Lunch Brunch
at Stovehouse featuring Josh
Couts & Friends
Stovehouse
Huntsville, Ala.
12 p.m.

November 16-18
Revival
Guest Evangelist: Pastor Cam-
eron Thomas, Mt.Zion MB
Church, Cropwell, Ala.
Union Chapel MB Church
www.unionchapel-hsv.org
(Facebook, YouTube, Boxcast)
Huntsville, Ala.
7 p.m.

November 22
Pre-Thanksgiving Service
Rev. Tramaine Snodgrass
Blackburn Chapel CPCA
507 Plummer Road, NW
Huntsville, Ala.

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Valley Deaths

NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME -
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(256) 539-8189

Funeral service for MRS. LOIS THOMPSON (b. 1933) will be held Saturday, November 7, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Stanley T. Henderson officiating.

Funeral service for MR. ROBERT WAYNE LOLLAR (b. 1953) was held Sunday, November 1, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Reverend Lorenzo Moore officiating.

Funeral service for MS. ETHEL SMITH (b. 1934) was held Saturday, October 31, at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church (292 Cemetery Road - New Market, Ala.) with Pastor Larry Davidson officiating.

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

Graveside service for MR. MATTHEW LEE JONES (b. 1935) was held Saturday, October 31, at the New Saint Matthew Baptist Church (40 Saint Matthew Road Jackson, Ala.).

Graveside service for MS. CASSIE SCALES (b.1932) was held Friday, October 30, at Faith Memorial Park (8100 Madison Boulevard Madison, Ala.) with Reverend Clint Scales, Sr., officiating.

Graveside service for MR. DAVID LOUIS CARTWRIGHT, SR. (b. 1940) was held Friday, October 23, at Huntsville Memory Gardens (6810 University Drive NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Larry Smith officiating.

Funeral service for MS. LILLIE P. WILLIAMS Lloyd (b. 1965) was held Friday, October 23, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Elder Nate Alexander officiating.

Public viewing for MS. TARRA KEO CRENSHAW (b. 2002) was held Thursday, October 22, at the Royal Funeral Home.

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

Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date for DAVID WHEELER, JR. (b. 1962); SHERWYN HYTEN (b. 1935); MARY COOKE HITE (b. 1978), and MINISTER BARBARA CAMERON (b. 1958).

Funeral services for MR. HUGH BELLMON (b. 1950) was held Saturday October 17, at Mt. Carmel Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Jesse L. Draper officiating.



Forecasting: A Biden-Harris Win - Why?

And a woman having an issue of blood, . . . Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanch'd. And Jesus said, Who touched me? Luke 8:43-45, KJV

In this scene, Jesus asked his disciples this question knowing that, in spite of the crowd pressing on him, someone with a deep need touched him. She got healed because he felt her need for a change.

With Biden-Harris, . . .

History's most-diverse ticket is likely to win the popular vote for the White House, due to Biden's and Harris' personal relationships and acknowledgment of pain and vulnerability.



Joe Biden and Kamala Harris each represent and express openly the feelings and experiences of everyday Americans: both failed previously to win job promotions; Biden experienced family fatalities and Harris encountered racial and gender discrimination. These are experiences common to most Americans.

Conversely, . . .

And Trump, . . .

"45" not only fails to admit errors and pains but insists on portraying an image of invincibility. My last week's column, <https://bit.ly/37SsQNi>, showed how Trump's (alleged) contracting COVID-19 elicited a post-hospitalization response that distanced himself from fellow Americans' C-19 experiences. By continuing to label this deadly disease a hoax, Trump thus devalued their pain and feelings.

More and even clearer evidence of his lack of empathy evidenced at his Tuesday, October 26 campaign rally, in Omaha, Nebraska. Nebraska state senator Megan Hunt tweeted: "Supporters of the President were brought in, but buses weren't able to get back to transport people out. It's freezing and snowy in Omaha tonight, . . . He truly does not care about you."

Biden offered: "He gets his photo op, and he gets out, . . . He leaves everyone else to suffer the consequence of his failure to make a responsible plan. It seems like he just doesn't care much about it. And the longer he's in charge, the more reckless he gets."

And You, . . .

Are you leaving your family, friends, and associates out in the cold, through your lack of empathy and demonstrated care?

Fix it now, before your Day of Election comes.

tim allston is the author of the printed/digital/audiobook, *The U.S. Coronavirus Crisis and the Rise of the "Silver-Mettle" Leaders*, available now at <https://amzn.to/3cx1koV>.



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(800) 659-2955

COVID-19-RELATED UNEMPLOYMENT

Alabama Department of Labor

(866) 234-5382

labor.alabama.gov

MADISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (256) 539-3711

LATEST COVID-19 INFORMATION

Alabama Department of Public Health

www.alabamapublichealth.gov


Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
cdc.gov

TAKEOUT/ DELIVERY RESTAURANTS

<https://hsvchamber.org/restaurant-deliveries-take-out-food-service-providers/>

Noted African Americans Born in November

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 – Ronald Bell, Kool & the Gang | 11 – Lavern Baker, R&B Singer | 21 – Ken Griffey, Jr. – Baseball |
| 2 – Maxine Nightingale, British R&B Singer | 12 – Tevin Campbell, R&B Singer | 22 – Guy Bluford – Astronaut |
| 3 – Michael Evans, Actor, Lionel on “The Jeffersons” | 13 – Whoopi Goldberg, Actress | 23 – Tom Joyner – Radio Personality |
| 4 – Berlinda Tolbert, Sit-com Actress | 14 – Condoleezza Rice, Educator, former U.S. Secretary of State | 24 – Scott Joplin – Composer/Pianist |
| 5 – Ike Turner, Soul/R&B Singer | 15 – Yaphet Kotto, Actor | 25 – Stacy Lattisaw – Singer |
| 6 – William Wells Brown – Writer of first novel by African American | 16 – William C. “W.C.” Handy, Musician/Composer | 26 – Tina Turner – Singer/Dancer |
| 7 – Melyssa Ford, Model/Actress | 17 – William H. Hastie, First Black Governor of U.S. Virgin Islands | 27 – Jimi Hendrix – Legendary Rock Guitarist |
| 8 – Alfre Woodard, Actress | 18 – Don Cherry, Jazz Musician | 28 – Berry Gordy – Motown Records Founder |
| 9 – Dorothy Dandridge, Actress, Academy Award nominee | 19 – Ahmad Rashad, Sportscastr | 29 – Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. – Politician/Civil Rights Activist |
| 10 – Sinbad, Comedian | 20 – Dominique Dawes, Three-time Olympic Gymnast | 30 – Gordon Parks – Filmmaker |



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St. Bartley Launches Celebration of Its 200th Anniversary

Pastor Jaymes R. Mooney and members of Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church, founded in 1820, held a Bicentennial Celebration event (following CDC Guidelines) at The Drive In at The Camp in MidCity District on November 1 at 10:30 a.m. The activity featured musical guest Renee Craig.

Widely known as Ala-

bama's oldest black church, Saint Bartley was organized by the enslaved William Harris, who served as its minister for more than 50 years. The original church was called Huntsville African Baptist Church, and it stood four blocks south in Old Georgia Graveyard, now the location of Huntsville Hospital.

In 1870, Saint Bartley

and three other churches formed the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association. In 1965 the church moved to its location at 3020 Belafonte Avenue NW. Its present name honors Bartler Harris, its saintly second minister.

Other pastors in its history include Felix Jordan, Eli Patton, Richard Moore and Amos Robinson.

Photos Submitted by Peggy Etheridge

