

# King David & James Brown? p. 6

**FREE**



april.org

## Welding "Bootcamp," p. 4



Friday  
November 12, 2021  
Vol. 8, No. 10  
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

**SALUTE!**  
Rosetta James Foundation  
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Olye B. Conley

"Without heroes, we are all plain people, and don't know how far we can go." - Bernard Malamud

## NACEE Holds Vets Appreciation Luncheon

The North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence (NACEE) held its 15th Annual Veterans Appreciation Luncheon on Friday, November 5, at the Redstone Federal Credit Union Redstone Room at 220 Wynn Drive.

Retired Major General Patrick W. Burden (Army Future Command, director, Combat System) was the guest speaker.

Burden discussed his leadership philosophy. First on an extensive list is the need to keep people first. Secondly, Burden told the audience of about 75 people



that "integrity is non-negotiable."

The retired major general said it is paramount to be a team player, to communicate, to make honest mistakes, and to set high

standards.

He furthered urged attendees to "never lose" their moral or ethical compass, to treat everyone fairly and with dignity and respect, to build mutual trust, and,

finally, to keep learning.

Burden also praised the role of Alabama A&M University in his success.

Dr. Earnest L. Davis is the executive director of NACEE, and Dr. Denver Bett serves as the chair of the NACEE board.

**Pictured above:** Dr. Earnest L. Davis, NACEE; Maj. Gen. (Ret) Patrick W. Burden, guest speaker; NACEE Board Chair Denver Betts; and LTC (Ret) Audrey Ransom, Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) advisor/counselor, NACEE.

## AAMU Researchers Receive \$4 Million ERDC Award

A new cooperative agreement from the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) has expanded upon an ongoing cooperative agreement between ERDC and



Alabama A&M University (AAMU). The addition of this \$4 million award brings the total awards between ERDC and AAMU for this program to \$9 million.

AAMU scientists—(from top, l-r) Drs. Wubishet Tadesse, Zachary Senwo, Dedrick Davis, Venkateswara Sripathi, Govind Sharma and Dawn Lemke, along with graduate students, will use this additional award to implement field activities investigating soil systems to enhance earthen structures to support military missions.

## Deltas Promoting Virtual Meal on Wheels for Seniors

The Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is hosting a virtual fundraiser on Saturday, December 4, supporting the Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center, located at 2200 Drake Avenue in Huntsville, Alabama.

The fundraiser will be featured during a live broadcast from 10 a.m. –12 noon by Toni Terrell of 94.1 FM WHRP.

To strengthen efforts to eliminate food insecurities, the chapter's President Ovetta Hobson and the event's coordinators, Rosa Kilpatrick, Remika Garrett and Alicia Nunez, are challenging all Greek letter organizations, clubs, churches, and community affiliates to help exceed its goal to raise \$14,000.

The money collected will be donated to Meals on Wheels to ensure that the

seniors who depend on the program will have festive and nutritious meals this holiday season.

The primary food provider for the Senior Center closes during the Christmas season. With support, more than 1,000 meals will fill the gap.

For more information and to donate to this worthy cause, visit the Huntsville Alumnae website <https://www.dsthuntsville.org/events/>.

org/events/.

To learn more about Huntsville Alumnae Chapter, visit the chapter's website at <http://www.dsthuntsville.org>. Visit the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority national website at <http://www.deltasigmatheta.com>.

For additional information, contact Ovetta Hobson at [president@dsthuntsville.org](mailto:president@dsthuntsville.org) or [icc@dsthuntsville.org](mailto:icc@dsthuntsville.org)

**The Valley Weekly**

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## Washington in One Minute



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

1. **ON THE FLOOR.** The House and Senate were in recess this week in observance of the Veterans Day federal holiday on Nov. 11 and will reconvene next week. Around midnight last Friday, the House passed the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act by a vote of 228-206 (with 13 R's voting aye and 6 D's voting nay), sending the measure to the President. Early Saturday morning, the House also passed a rule 221-213 on the \$1.85 trillion Build Back Better (BBB) Act in a straight party line vote that will allow for a vote on that bill later this month. According to The Hill newspaper, House Democrats made changes late Thursday on prescription drug pricing reform to add an additional year of exclusivity before Medicare will be able to negotiate prices for certain biologics, moving the total from 12 years to 13 years and also made a late change to raise the cap on the state and local tax deduction from \$10,000 to \$80,000, and to have that limit be in place at that level through 2030 (a previous version of the bill released Wednesday would have set the cap at \$72,500 through 2031).

2. **THE WHITE HOUSE.** On Friday, President Biden delayed his planned departure to his beach house in Delaware to stay in Wash-

ington to lobby Members of the House on the infrastructure bill, which passed the House that same night. On Monday, President Biden welcomed the Milwaukee Bucks to the White House to commemorate their 2020-21 NBA championship season (the Bucks will be the first NBA team to visit the White House since the Cleveland Cavaliers were honored on Nov. 11, 2016). First Lady Jill Biden was scheduled to begin a nationwide effort by the Biden Administration to encourage COVID-19 vaccinations among children ages 5 to 11 with a stop Monday at the pediatric coronavirus vaccine clinic at Franklin Sherman Elementary School in McLean, Va. CBS News reported on Saturday that 10,000 U.S. children under

age 12 had received the vaccine in its first 3 days of authorization between Wednesday and Friday – with the Biden Administration purchasing 65 million kid-sized doses.

3. **EMPLOYER VACCINE MANDATE ON HOLD.** On Saturday, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans granted an emergency stay of the November 5th mandate by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration that employees in companies of at least 100 workers, including both full-time and part-time workers, be vaccinated by January 4, 2022, or face mask requirements and weekly tests. The mandate was challenged in court by attorneys general from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Utah, which is 1 of 4 separate challenges to the new regulation brought by 26 states (the other states are: AL, AR, AK, AZ, GA, FL, IA, ID, KS, KY, MO, MT, ND, NE, NH, OH, OK, SD, TN, WV, and WY). To read the new regulation, click here: OSHA reg.

4. **STUDENT LOANS.** Last Thursday, the Biden administration on Thursday moved to terminate the contracts of

companies that collect defaulted student loans on behalf of the Education Department, representing the latest shakeup to the student loan program as officials prepare to restart monthly payments early next year. Rich Cordray, the department's student aid chief, said that the decision to end the contracts with the debt collectors was part of a long-term strategy to improve defaulted federal student loan collections. Mr. Cordray stated that the decision would allow the Education Department "to more effectively support borrowers who are at risk of defaulting

on their student loans" and provide streamlined customer service to borrowers. The Education Department has employed outside debt collection firms to recoup money from borrowers who default on their student loans, though the number has recently shrunk.

Ron Hamm

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## Civic Engagement: Huntsville City 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](http://HuntsvilleAL.gov/HSVTV) or on the City of Huntsville Face-



book page (@huntsvillecity).

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



THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY DEATHS



**NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME**  
2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

*Graveside service for MR. CARLOS L. MALONE was held Wednesday, November 10, at Valley View Memorial Gardens.*

*Graveside service for THE REVEREND LARRY BATTLE (b. 1961) was held Sunday, November 7, at Valhalla Memory Gardens with The Reverend Ricky L. Sykes officiating.*

*Graveside service for MR. JAMES EASON (b. 1949) was held Saturday, November 6, at Valley View Memorial Gardens with the Reverend Endia J. Scruggs officiating.*

*Funeral service for MRS. MATTIE LOUISE GURLEY (b. 1933) was held Saturday, November 6, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend Earla S. Lockhart officiating.*

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

*Funeral service for MRS. VENITE CYRIUS MICHEL (b. 1961) will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, November 13, at the West Mastin Lake Baptist Church (4705 Mastin Lake Road, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Willie Hinton officiating.*

*Graveside service for MRS. WENDY SALANDY McMILLION (b. 1968) will be at 12 noon, Saturday, November 13, at Valhalla Memory Gardens (698 Winchester Road NE, Huntsville, Ala.).*

*Funeral service for MR. LLEWELLYN MCDONALD THOMAS (b. 1947) will be at 10 a.m., Friday, November 12, at Royal Chapel of Memories.*

*Funeral service for MRS. ANN SYLVESTER JONES (b. 1958) was held Friday, November 5, at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church (1303 Evangel Drive Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Debleaire Snell officiating.*

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

*Funeral service for MR. THOMAS LUTHER WEEKS (b. 1952) was held Monday, November 1, at Serenity Funeral Home with Pastor Alexander Lampkin officiating.*

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

**November 10**  
AUSA Veterans' Day Dinner  
North Hall 1&2  
Von Braun Center

**November 11**  
Veterans Day Program and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Frank Lewis Gymnasium  
Alabama A&M University  
Sponsor: Military Science  
12 Noon

**November 12**  
"Beethoven Triple Concerto"  
Huntsville Symphony Orchestra  
Mark C. Smith Hall  
Von Braun Center  
7:30 p.m.

**November 12-20**  
"Winter Wondrette"  
Presented by Theatre Huntsville Playhouse  
Von Braun Center

**November 15**  
Gary Clark Jr.  
Mars Music Hall  
Von Braun Center  
8 p.m.

**November 20-21**  
Exotic Pet Expo  
Jaycee Community Building  
Airport Road SW  
Huntsville, Ala.  
4 p.m.

**December 11**  
Retirement Banquet  
AAMU President Andrew Hugine, Jr.  
Featuring Comedian Rickey Smiley  
T.M. Elmore Building  
7 p.m.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION GAME PLAN

PRESTON BROWN



**"WHO'S SIDE ARE YOU ON"**

1 John 3: 10 says, *This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.*

When I was growing up, my great grandmother would always ask me this question, "Whose side are you on?" In other words, are you on God's side or the devil's side? To which I would reply, "I am on God's side." You see, I believe that she understood that the struggle that we all face between good and evil is real and that is why she asked the question.

Living in the state of Alabama, it is inevitable that you will be asked the question, "Whose side are you on?" In other words, do you pull for Alabama or do you pull for Auburn? And, the reason for the question is when these two teams

play, it is one of the great rivalries of college football. So when these games are played, there is a lot at stake. Things like bragging rights for a whole year. But, unfortunately, there is much more at stake when it comes to the decision to follow Jesus or to follow the devil.

It will decide where you will spend eternity. You see, we all need to realize that we are being influenced by God or by the devil.

Now, the problem that we have when we decide to follow the devil is that we end up with a lot of broken promises. For example, the devil will promise us pleasure, but he brings us misery. He promises us fun, but in the long run he brings us guilt and shame. He promises us life but he brings death. 1 John 3: 8 says, *the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.* But we have to choose who's side we are on, because God will not interfere with our free will. The choice is ours. But once we make the

decision to follow Jesus, He will strengthen us toward the direction that He wants us to take. Remember, Jesus will always meet us where we are but He refuses to leave us that way. So when we chose to follow Christ, we will have all the "bragging rights" that we need because we can say with full confidence that we are children of God. Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

PRESTON BROWN

A CHAMPION GAME PLAN FOR LIFE





SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Dr NW  
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(256) 539.9693

A New Generation Of Service

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

# ALL FOR THE FAMILY

Recently, I was viewing a program where the grandparents (GPs) were raising their two granddaughters because their divorced daughter was a drug addict.

In many families, a GP serves as a mentor, family historian, role model, playmate, nurturer, and/or spiritual guide. GPs are often the major providers of childcare for grandchildren, thereby saving parents that high expense.

Nationally, 5.7 million children are being raised by their GPs. Many provide a stable, safe and loving and fun environment for their grandchildren. Additionally, the closeness between GPs and grandchildren may help keep their GPs sharp, ward off depression, boost social connection and solidify an important family relationship.

Unforeseen factors such as

death of one or both parents, divorce, abuse and neglect, mental illness, substance use and abuse, incarceration of a parent, and military deployment of the parent can contribute to this growing phenomenon.

GPs are a priceless gift from God. Our maternal GPs raised my two sisters and me when our 30-year-old mother passed, and our paternal GPs raised our two brothers. Both sets of GPs had less than an elementary school education. However, our maternal GPs armed themselves with a **Pray Hard Daily** (PhD) routine, seeking wisdom, strength and other resources from God to train us up in the way we should go.

~Think It Over~

Oh, the unspeakable joy of being a GP. When GPs have



Dr. Margaret J. Kelly

to parent their grandchildren, it is critical that they seek legal guardianship in order to acquire important documents needed for enrolling grandchildren in school, as well as to receive financial support.

#### Sources

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy  
PEW Research Center

## Drake State Launches Welding Bootcamp



The Bureau of Labor Statistics says there are 49,000 welding-related job openings each year, but these openings are the result of welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers transitioning to different occupations or retiring from the industry. To help employers recruit new workers, Drake State Community & Technical College has launched its Welding Bootcamp to help individuals spark a great career or personal hobby.

"This program has become so popular that we had to rollout another bootcamp," said Workforce Development Director Dr. Karen Ray. "The first bootcamp was filled with potential full-time students and engineers looking to advance their skills in a technical trade."

The Welding Bootcamp is an 8-hour experience for only \$300 and it supports Gov. Kay Ivey's plan to grow certified skilled workers by 2025. Participants will learn materials and welding fundamentals and safety from a certified Drake State welding instructor.

"This opportunity is a pathway that can lead to certifications," said Dr. Ray. "Being certified is a needed qualification for today's advanced manufacturing workforce."

Private group classes for people interested in welding are also available for up to 10 participants for a flat rate. Personal protection equipment for all bootcamps can be purchased or rented at an additional cost.

To register or learn more visit <https://www.drakestate.edu/workforce-development/weldingbootcamp-registration> or call (256) 551-5227. The application deadline is November 12 and the next Welding Bootcamp starts November 19.

Drake State Community & Technical College offers flexible, affordable university-transfer and technical degrees, certificates, adult and continuing education, and customized skills training to fulfill the diverse workforce need of employers. In April 2021, Drake State began a year-long celebration of its 60th Anniversary including multiple campus events for students and the community. Visit [www.drakestate.edu](http://www.drakestate.edu) for more information.

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Forecasting: A Biden-Harris Win - Why?

(Reprint from November 6, 2020, Valley Weekly)

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 discriminations. 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, and now U.S. Politics The Rise of Silver-Mettle Leaders, both Amazon best-selling books.*

COVID-19 Assistance

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Get Assistance: Call 211

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[disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov)  
(800) 659-2955

COVID-19-RELATED UNEMPLOYMENT

Alabama Department of Labor  
(866) 234-5382  
[labor.alabama.gov](http://labor.alabama.gov)

MADISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (256) 539-3711

LATEST COVID-19 INFORMATION

Alabama Department of Public Health  
[www.alabamapublichealth.gov](http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
[cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)

TAKEOUT/ DELIVERY RESTAURANTS

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

Madison Prioritizing Road Projects

The City of Madison has been prioritizing infrastructure improvement projects including the Balch+Gillespie Roundabout, Hughes Road widening, and also Sullivan Street widening.

Madison also announced that the Balch+Gillespie Roundabout is

now open to traffic. As a reminder to drivers:  
-Slow down when approaching the roundabout.  
-Look to the left before entering the roundabout and yield to any oncoming traffic, entering to the right.  
-Engage your turn signal as you approach your

desired exit.  
Along Hughes, pavement tie-ins to the neighborhoods on the East and West side are being addressed. East side storm pipe revisions and utility conflicts are also being evaluated. Also, traffic signal installation at Eastview has started.

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*"Black people are victims of an enormous amount of violence. None of those things can take place without the complicity of the people who run the schools and the city."*

- Toni Morrison

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

# **CALLLED 2 PREACH**

REV. MICHAEL RICE

## **King David and James Brown**

### **Psalm 150**

Back in the day, one of my favorite artists to listen to was James Brown, known as the Godfather of Soul. I owned just about every "45" that he put out back then. During the height of the Civil Rights movement, Brown sought to join in with the advocates of that era to express in music the exhortation for "Black" people to claim their "Blackness" and be

proud of it. That is what he was expressing in the song entitled *Say it Loud!* The



response was "I'm Black and I'm Proud!"

I believe King David and James Brown have something in common when it comes to the imperative to *Say it Loud*. For Mr. Brown, it was all about black pride and not being ashamed to be Black.

For King David it was about *praising God*. Each time David used the word

"praise" in Psalm 150, it was the word *Hallelujah*, which means *Praise the LORD!*

Just as James Brown exhorted his listeners to *Say it Loud*, this was David's version of *Say it*

*Loud!*

That's what Hallelujah is, a loud praise. Both David and Brown were very passionate about their music and message. For Brown, when it came to being proud of being Black, he felt that one should not be timid with the expression of that pride. For David, when it came to *praising God*, that was no time to be timid. Brown and King David both said, *Say it Loud!*



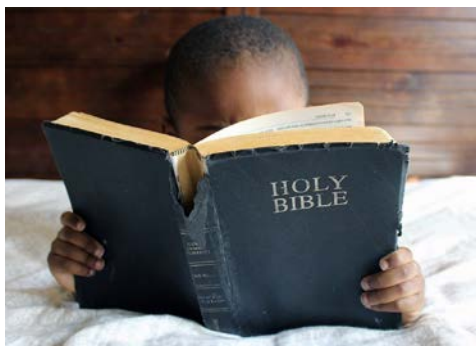
hlsdailydouble.com

**NOVEMBER 14 - REVEREND RUN is a musician, rapper and actor. The younger brother of Russell Simmons, Run is one of the founding members of the influential hip hop group Run-D.M.C. He is also a minister, known as Reverend Run. He founded Run-D.M.C. as a lead vocalist with Darryl "D.M.C." McDaniels and the late DJ Jason "Jam-Master Jay" Mizell. - BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com**



## *This Sunday's Lectionary*

Sunday, November 14, 2021



(Track 2)

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

## **MAYHEM IS EXPENSIVE. ALLSTATE IS NOT.**



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Rosetta James Foundation "Spotlight on Our Elders" ... Featuring

## Ollye B. Conley

As President of Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Ollye B. Conley led in the sponsorship of the first Black Heritage Stamp presentation at the Huntsville Museum of Art, honoring Soror Zora Neale Hurston.

She also spearheaded the unveiling of each Black Heritage Stamp thereafter. Conley was much honored for her educational efforts and numerous successes in the field of education and education administration.

The 100 Black Men of Greater Huntsville organization was among the impressive list of organizations bestowing honors to Conley. The educational administrator further distinguished herself as a sought-after speaker and motivator for several

churches and civic organizations in Huntsville and surrounding areas. She served as the past director of the Bo Mathews Center of Excellence, offering help to students in the field of education throughout northwest Huntsville.

Her numerous organizational affiliations and positions included: principal, Huntsville City Schools (the first African American female since the end of segregation era policies); member, Huntsville Principal Association; member, Alabama Historic Project, Maple Hill Cemetery, Incorporated; 5th District Co-chair, Huntsville Bicentennial;



past president and regional director, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.; member, Conley Chapel CME Church, Huntsville, Ala.; and many others.

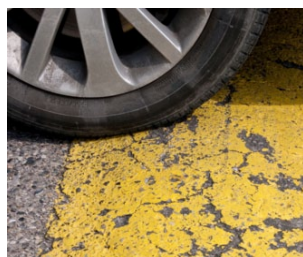
Although she retired, Conley participated in numerous church, civic and educational activities.

"Spotlight on Our Elders" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote volunteerism and activism in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at [www.rosettajamesfoundation.org](http://www.rosettajamesfoundation.org). Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to [info@valleyweeklyllc.com](mailto:info@valleyweeklyllc.com).



## Keeping Neighborhood Streets Safe

Speed cushions, more commonly known as "speed bumps," are just one of the mechanisms the City uses to calm traffic in residential areas.



They are effective in deterring drivers who speed or use residential streets as a

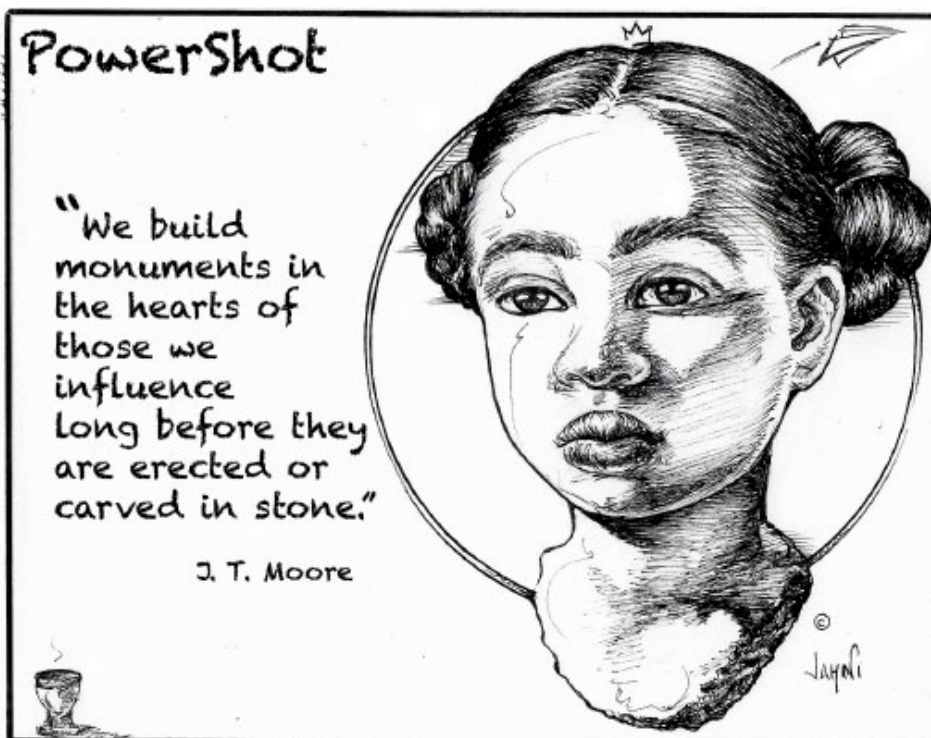
cut-through between major arterials.

The Federal Highway Administration

(FHWA) claims traffic-calming measures like speed cushions can reduce vehicle crashes and create an equitable balance

between vehicles and pedestrians. After all, no one wants to walk or bike on dangerous road.

Other benefits include improved air and noise levels because slower vehicles make less noise and emit fewer pollutants. Finally, traffic calming measures can reduce crime because speed cushions prevent a criminal from making a fast getaway.



*"Not only is your story worth telling, but it can be told in words so painstakingly eloquent that it becomes a song."*

- Gloria Naylor



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# New Sign, New Beginning for New Future



The Daughters of R. E. Nelms Temple #1127, Daughters of Elks (I.B. P. O. E. W.) dedicated a new brick sign in front of the New Futures on Venona Avenue in Huntsville, Alabama.

The Daughters, who perform acts of community service throughout greater Huntsville, took this on as a project in June. They procured the bricks, mortar and other items needed to beautify the sign, which sits on the lawn of the New Futures, and began working to have this completed by November.

Joseph Malone, husband of Daughter Rebecca Malone, donated his time and effort to erect the sign from the ground up.

His masonry skills were unmatched, and his vision for what the sign could be turned out beautifully.

Members of the Temple volunteered to help paint and apply weather-proof sealant on the wooden sign, which was cut and manufactured by BWAY Signs.

They coated the sign and helped with clearing the grounds area surrounding the sign. The Daughters also planned a program to dedicate the new sign to New Futures as part of their commitment to serving the community, as well as the center itself.

The program was opened with a Welcome (Dt. Rebecca Malone) and a prayer (Dt. Lawanda Reese). The

History of R.E. Nelms Temple #1127, was rendered by Daughter Cheryl Ray, and a short biography of the man whose name-sake they bear, the late R. E. Nelms of Huntsville, Alabama.

The Dedication was given by the Daughter Ruler (president) of the Temple, Daughter Angela M. Swain. Tanya Rains gave remarks about the purpose of the New Futures home, and what having the sign recreated means to those who work and live in its facility.

Rains also expressed her sincerest gratitude for what the organization had done, just with the act of dedicating a sign.

Dr. Reginald Pearson, the band director for

Mae Jemison High School in Huntsville, gave a rendition of "If I Help Somebody" (M. Jackson), acapella.

Certificates were given to each member who assisted in some way with the vision for the sign to come into fruition.

Final remarks were made by the Daughter Ruler of R. E. Nelms Temple and the Esteemed Leading Knight Barrington Dames, who both commended the Temple on a very well attended and coordinated program, and

rendered accolades on the sign, which was indeed an improvement.

Cake was served to visitors and attendees.

R. E. Nelms Temple #1127, Daughters of Elks are an auxiliary to R. E. Nelms Lodge #977,

and operate as nonprofit organizations under the auspices and authority of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World. (ibpoew.org)

- Daughter Angela M. Swain  
Daughter Ruler, R. E. Nelms Temple





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