

Huntsvillian to Lead State HR Organization, p. 4

FREE

Friday

November 20, 2020

Vol. 7, No. 11

ValleyWeeklyllc.com

A&M's Black Tie Goes Virtual, p. 7

"Bob Wilson" p. 2

"People can be slave-ships in shoes."

- Zora Neale Hurston

The Valley Weekly

POSITIVE-INSPIRATIONAL-EDUCATIONAL



AAMU Receives \$5M Award from Dept. of Army

A team of six Alabama A&M University scientists have been awarded a major grant through the Department of the Army.

Scientists Wubishet Tadesse, Zachary Senwo, Dedrick Davis, Venkateswara Sripathi, Govind Sharma, and Dawn Lemke were awarded a new Research and Development Cooperative Agreement grant totaling \$5

million over a four-year period from the Department of the Army, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC).

AAMU, State University of New York (SUNY) at Stony Brook, and Virginia Tech, will engage in scholarly research to investigate using biopolymer additives to strengthen native soils to enhance military earthen

defense structures.

Earthen structures are critical systems directly associated with military missions, especially on battle fields, to serve as barriers, protective berms, defensive positions, and military trainings. The researchers will use innovative techniques that trigger native micro-organisms to generate large quantities of biopolymers/

bio-based additives as potential stabilizers for earthen structures and explore their unique properties to adapt to changes in various environments.

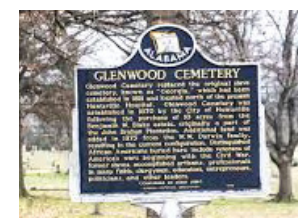
The cooperative agreement will result in enhancing AAMU's research and training of a new generation of professionals. For more information, contact wubishet.tadesse@aamu.edu.

Local Leaders Celebrate 150th Anniversary of Glenwood Cemetery

Mayor Tommy Battle and Huntsville community leaders commemorated the 150th Anniversary of the City of Huntsville's historic Glenwood Cemetery on Tuesday, November 10.

Established in 1870, Glenwood Cemetery is the largest African American city-owned cemetery in the Southeast. As Huntsville's oldest surviving African-American burial ground, it is a storied and vital part of Huntsville's shared history.

Glenwood Cemetery was established by the City of Huntsville following the purchase of 10 acres from the Benjamin W. Blake estate, originally a part of the



John Brahan Plantation. Additional land was added in 1875 from the W.W. Darwin family, resulting in the current configuration. Distinguished African Americans buried there include veterans of America's wars beginning with the Civil War, former slaves, accomplished artisans, professionals in many fields, clergymen, educators, entrepreneurs, politicians, and other leaders.

Restore Your Vote Alabama - By Text!

by Barbara Caddell

President of the League of Women Voters of Alabama

The League of Women Voters is an all-volunteer organization with a passion for protecting the right for all eligible Alabama citizens to be able to vote safely, securely, and confidently, without fear, intimidation, or financial burden. In March 2020, the League of Women Voters of Alabama, in partnership with the Campaign Legal Center, initiated a safe, confidential, and free, text-message based Voter Rights Restoration (VRR) service to all Alabamians who may have lost their voting rights. Working directly with citizens through text messages, League members provide infor-

mation on specific steps, tailored to an individual's situation, to help guide them in reclaiming their voting rights. The League has successfully assisted hundreds of disenfranchised Alabamians in navigating Alabama's complex Voter Rights Restoration process to determine if they can register to vote immediately or need to take additional steps.

As a part of the free VRR consultation, the League's VRR experts can review a citizen's in-state, out-of-state, or federal felony convictions to help determine if a Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote (CERV) is needed and if there are

outstanding fines or fees related to the disqualifying felony. The League will even assist citizens in completing Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles forms that must be submitted to obtain a CERV. The League of Women Voters of Alabama is also available to directly support citizens who don't need a CERV but who have experienced difficulties getting registered to vote in their county.

While League members around the state have helped specific individuals regain their voting rights, this work has revealed some deficiencies in the current re-enfranchisement process. The

League of Women Voters of Alabama is working with other non-profit organizations and government officials in Alabama to advocate for legislative solutions and additional training/guidance for elections officials.

If you are an Alabama citizen who needs assistance to restore your voting rights, please send a text to (256) 203-6827 or call (888) 306-8683. Provide your first name, phone number, and include the word "VRR". If you would like more information about the League of Women Voters and its mission and priorities check them out at LWVAL.org.

The Valley Weekly
INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Champion Game Plan, Page 3
John Moore's "PowerShot", Page 4

Calendar of Events, Page 5

Valley Deaths, Page 5

tim allston: Perspectives, Page 6

Huntsville Makes Top 10 In IT Jobs, Page 8

Called 2 Preach

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

"Jesus the Difference Maker"

John 9:1-3; 16-17; 23-25

Theological debates are nothing new. This is especially true around the subject of sin. It is this fatal, foggy, misinterpretation that has kept many confused about who Jesus is. While He walked the earth, He did and said things that today's so-called "religious right" (which is neither) would have had problems with. Even His disciples

were victims of the popular and polarizing notion of sin and its consequences. We hear it in the question they raised about the man who was blind from birth: "Master, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" It shows just how confused many were; after all, somehow they came up with the notion of a prenatal predilection toward sin in the life of



this man. He had no knowledge of the alleged notions of the Pharisees concerning Jesus as a sinner; no hermeneutical or homiletical hints that he could parse out to

those who questioned the validity of the change in his physical condition. His answer says it all; "One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." Everyone who has been profoundly changed by Jesus has a "was" and a "now" that they can point to and say unapologetically that *Jesus is the difference maker*. If he were here today, the



blind man's message to the debaters would be, "Verification is in the difference not the decibel level of a

debate."

Highlight the difference; hush the debate.

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Mr. Robert Wilson

Robert Wilson was born January 23, 1939, in Gastonia, N.C. Wilson went on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree (1960) in mechanical engineering from North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, N.C. He continued his studies in professional management at Florida Institute of Technology (1975-77).

His work assignments in engineering and management were in the states of New Jersey, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky and Alabama. His winning management style led to numerous honorary and other awards. In 1968, Wilson became a movie star for his role in a movie



titled "Maintainability of Nuclear Warhead Sections," which won an award in an industrial competition.

Wilson retired in 1994. Wilson was raised a Christian at Pleasant Ridge AME Zion Church. As a teenager, he was appointed Assistant Superintendent, Sunday School, and President, Men's Organization.

He became a Presbyterian in 1963, was ordained an elder in 1964 and was ordained a deacon in 1972. He chaired the Christian Education Committee; served as past president of the Presbyterian Men; assisted the staff of the Fellowship After-School Study and Tutorial (FASST) Program; and worked as a member of the Rev. Dr. John Herndon's Moderator Candidacy Team.

Wilson counted among his diverse interests traveling, reading, tennis, golf and spoiling his grandchildren. He married Dr. Patricia Isles Wilson, retired professor of Alabama A&M University. They have one son and four grandchildren.

NOVEMBER 20 - DOMINIQUE DAWES - Three-time Olympic gymnast, born in Silver Spring, Md. Dawes is an Olympic gold medalist and has also won two bronze medals. She will also held more national titles than any other gymnast-male or female.

- BlackinTime.info



MAYHEM IS EXPENSIVE. ALLSTATE IS NOT.



JAMES F SMITH & ASSOCIATES
256-852-7310

415 CHURCH ST NW BUILDING B
HUNTSVILLE
jamesfsmith@allstate.com



Allstate

Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co. © 2013 Allstate Insurance Co.

168974



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

Agent

AL #A-058076

New York Life Insurance Company

200 Clinton Avenue, Suite 600

Huntsville, AL 35801

Tel: 256-517-5922 Direct

Tel: 256-852-7328

Fax: 256-593-1842

ireedus@ft.newyorklife.com

New York Life "The Company You Keep"



MARTINSON & BEASON, PC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1937

**Dedicated To You.
Delivering Results.**

Personal Injury | Auto Accidents | Probate & Estate Administration
Corporate Law | Real Estate Law | Divorce | Criminal Law

Contact Us

Phone: 256-533-1667

Fax: 256-533-1696

info@martinsonandbeason.com

www.martinsonandbeason.com

facebook.com/martinsonandbeason



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.

Washington in One Minute



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

1) **ON THE FLOOR.** The House and Senate are in session this week. The House has 47 bills scheduled for floor action, including the National Apprenticeship Act, which according to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) is one of the “must pass” bills that will receive floor time during the lame duck session. The other bills are: the FY21 defense authorization bill, the

FY21 appropriations package, the COVID-19 relief bill, and the Water Resources Development Act reauthorization. The House will also elect its party leadership positions for the upcoming 117th Congress that starts in January. The Senate will turn back to approving Trump Administration-nominated judges this week.

2) **LATEST ELECTION RESULTS.** The makeup of the Senate is currently 50 Republicans to 48 Democrats

(a net gain of 1 for the Democrats) with the 2 Georgia seats not to be decided until the January 5th runoff elections. To date, House Democrats have lost a net of 5 seats to the GOP and the House currently stands at 219 Ds to 203 Rs with 13 seats undecided, according to The Washington Post.

3) **BIDEN TRANSITION TEAMS.**

President-elect Biden and Vice President-elect Harris have announced 39 agency review teams for all cabinet-level departments, as well as other key agencies. According to Politico, last week the Biden/Harris transition office sent a memorandum to all Democratic chiefs of staff on Capitol Hill asking them for suggestions for new federal employees to take key posts in the new administration.

4) **LEADERSHIP ELEC-**

TIONS. The Senate chose its party leadership positions for the 117th Congress last week with GOP Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) winning reelection. Senate Democrats added Sens. Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) to their leadership ranks and the GOP elected Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL) to take over as chair of the GOP campaign arm from Sen. Todd Young (R-IN).

5) **SUPREME COURT REMARKS.** According to the SCOTUSBLOG, Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito addressed the conservative Federalist Society National Convention last Thursday night and stated that two constitutional protections – the First Amendment right

to free exercise of religion and the Second Amendment right to bear arms – are rapidly becoming “second-class” liberties. He cited coronavirus restrictions on religious gatherings and attacks on the court for taking gun-related cases as evidence of the threat to individual liberties. You can watch his recorded remarks here: Justice Alito remarks.

6) **TELEWORK HEARING.** On Wednesday (Nov. 18), the Senate Homeland Security Committee held a hearing on lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic on federal teleworking. According to Government Executive, about three-quarters of the 2.1 million civilians in the federal workforce remain in telework status.

7) **2020 TOP LOBBYIST**

AWARD. On November 10, the National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics (NILE) announced its 2020 Top Lobbyists awards. Hamm Consulting Group is proud to announce that its president, Ron Hamm, is a recipient of the honor created by and for his peers in the lobbying and advocacy profession. The seven-week nomination process was open to government affairs professionals at the state and federal levels.

Ron Hamm

Hamm Consulting Group
400 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 585

Washington, DC 20001
T: 202-596-8384

rhamm@hammconsulting.com
www.hammconsulting.com

BRONCO

Woody Anderson Ford

RESERVE YOURS NOW AT WOODY ANDERSON FORD

256-539-9441 | woodyandersonford.com

GIVING TUESDAY

On December 1, help us make a difference in the lives of our students.

DRAKE STATE
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

drakestate.edu

Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

“THY WILL BE DONE”

Matthew 26: 39 says, Going a little further, He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

Have you ever been caught between what you want and what God wants for your life? And, it was such a difficult decision that you wanted God to show you another way? You know, God gives us all certain assignments that He wants us to complete-- just like we find with Jesus.

This was a very difficult decision, but aren't you glad that Jesus chose to complete His assignment? Where would we

be if He had not become the savior of the whole world.

Now, some assignments are easier to handle, like getting a new job or deciding to be a coach for your son's football team.

However, some assignments are more difficult, like planting a church or going into ministry or like being a “caretaker” for an elderly person.

So, whatever assignment God has given to you, I pray that you complete your assignment. I also pray that His will be done for your life.



Even if we have to struggle, I pray that God gives you the strength to struggle. And, even if you have to endure some pain, God gives us the strength to endure the

pain. And even if we have our doubts, like Jesus did, God gives us the strength to overcome our doubts Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

Make sure you purchase a copy of my book, “A CHAMPION GAME PLAN FOR LIFE,” at amazon.com.



Huntsvillian to Lead State HR Chapter

A native Huntsvillian and benefits manager in the Office of Human Resources at Alabama A&M University will head a major state-wide human resources organization in 2021.

LaTonya D. Crutcher, who is currently serving out a one-year term as president-elect of the Alabama Chapter of the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR), will officially become the 500-member organization's president in July.

The CUPA-HR chapter is

considered the key resource for higher education human resources professionals, and it is a part of the national CUPA-HR organization. The Alabama Chapter supports CUPA-HR's mission to serve higher learning sector by providing the knowledge, resources, advocacy and connections to achieve organizational and workforce excellence.

"I am very excited about my upcoming term as president of the chapter," said Crutcher, a mother of four and graduate of Oakwood

University. She added that she is "ready to face the challenge" of spreading more information about HR to more college campuses across Alabama.

Crutcher said her one-year term will focus on helping the organization in its shift toward a more virtual environment; increasing membership participation at organization meetings; providing additional opportunities for member engagement; and finding ways to more widely distribute the numerous resources made available to human resources professionals.

Local Poet Completes Chapbook

A poetry sequence by local poet Carey Link is now available for pre-order from FinishingLine Press.

According to visual artist and fellow poet Debbie Dempsey West, Link's latest book, *I Walk A Frayed Tightrope Without A Safety Net*, is "an act of raw courage" which "one must read, re-read, and contemplate to merit an invitation into her special world."

The poems "inspire us with confidence" to handle our destiny and embrace truth, explained West, adding that Link's poems "may seem at times encrypted, but her imagery transcends personal barriers and imbues our world with strength."

A sample follows:

Chronic Signs
*A relentless nomad
leaves a code of colors,*

*where he
travels.*

*My battle
rhythm is
a collection
of chemo-
therapy--
I remember
by an IV
drip,
size, shape,
color,
and the
number of
months it
worked.*

by Carey



To pre-order a copy of the chapbook, visit finishinglinepress.com; write finishinglinebooks@aol.com; or call (502) 603-0670.

Link also entered an international competition

Link called "Embracing Our Differences." Her quote, along with 45 others, was chosen from 15,912 participants from 128 countries. Her quote: "I am not defined by an inanimate object: Look at me, not my wheelchair."

PowerShot

"Kindness eases change.
Love quiets fear.
And a sweet and powerful
positive obsession
blunts pain,
diverts rage,
and engages each
of us in the greatest,
the most intense
of our chosen
struggles."

+Octavia Butler



www.blackcottoncompany.com

REGISTER FOR SPRING

CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 6

drakestate.edu

DRAKE STATE
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

HUNTSVILLE AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Public Meeting Notice

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Huntsville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization will meet **Monday, November 30, 2020** at 5:00 pm. The Metropolitan Planning Organization Board meets on Wednesday, **December 2, 2020** at 4:00 pm. ALL meetings will be held on the 1st floor of Huntsville City Hall located at 308 Fountain Circle. To read the plans up for review at this meeting, visit:

<http://www.huntsvillempo.org/plans-and-reports/>

For all other information on these meetings, visit:

<http://www.huntsvillempo.org/about/meetings-and-agendas/>

The Valley Weekly

Publisher

The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief

Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor

Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial Assistants

Linda Burruss
Phyllis Chunn
William Huston, Sr.
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Advertising Associate

Phyllis Chunn

- Contributing Editors -

tim allston
Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.
Minister Preston Brown
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
Copyright 2020

Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to info@valleyweeklyllc.com. Items do not necessarily reflect the views of The Valley Weekly, LLC.

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

The Valley Weekly
Ad Rates Single Issue

Back Cover	10x10-inches	\$1,000
Full Page	10x10 inches	\$800
3/4 Page	7.5x10 inches	\$600
Half Page	Horizontal 5x10 inches	\$400
	Vertical 10x5 inches	\$400
Fourth Page	5x5 inches	\$200
Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$100
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$50
Classified	1 col.x1 inch (4 col. in. minimum=\$24)	\$50/FFlat Fee
6 Month/1 Yr.-10% & 20% Discount!		

Tennessee Valley
Calendar of Events

November 16-18

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

Patricia Haley Charity & Tuskegee Airmen

THANKSGIVING
Turkey and Food Giveaway
117 Wholesale Avenue
12 noon

November 20

“Managing NSF Research.gov”
REGISTER HERE: <https://www.nsf.gov/>

www.uah.edu/osp/research-education/training-calendar
10 a.m.-12 noon

November 21

Dog Days Outdoor Market
\$1 Car Parking

Skating in the Park Opening Day
Huntsville Museum of Art
4-10 p.m.

November 22

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

November 23

Rocket City Christmas Spectacular
Toyota Field
\$25 per car load
5 p.m.

Watercolor Doodles
(Online & In-Person)
Huntsville Art League
\$10-39 - 6-8 p.m.

November 24

Thanksgiving Food Basket Giveaway
Oakwood University Church
(Rear Parking Lot)
11a.m.

November 26

Thanksgiving Day

VOTING IS FUNDAMENTAL
TO DEMOCRACY!

**WANT TO RESTORE
YOUR VOTING RIGHTS?**

If you are an Alabama citizen we can provide Free Voter Rights Restoration assistance via text!

Has your voter registration application been turned down?
Do you need to submit a Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote (CERV)?
Do you need assistance in determining outstanding fines and fees for disqualifying convictions?
Out of State or Federal convictions?

Text: (256)203-6827
Call: (888) 306-8683

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF ALABAMA

LWVAL.org

**Restore
Your Vote**

A PROJECT OF CAMPAIGN LEGAL CENTER

Woody Anderson Ford

256-539-9441
www.WoodyAndersonFord.com
2500 Jordan Lane, Huntsville, AL

**Woody Anderson
Ford**

Valley Deaths

NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME -

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 -
(256) 539-8189

Graveside service for MRS. MARGARET S. TAYLOR (b. 1934) will be held Saturday, November 21, at 1 p.m. at the Berkley Community Cemetery with the Reverend Joe Kelly officiating.

Funeral service for MR. WILLIAM TONEY was held Wednesday, November 18, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Graveside service for MRS. ELIZA K. STONE (b. 1927) was held Tuesday, November 17, at Maple Hill Cemetery at 11 am with Brother John Branch officiating.

Graveside service for MRS. EDNA GURLEY GIBBS (b. 1935) was held on Thursday, November 12, at Huntsville Memory Gardens with the Reverend Lorenzo Moore officiating.

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

Funeral service for MINISTER RICHARD BRUCE TOWNSEND (b. 1948) will be held 12 noon, Friday, November 20, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Tarvares Henderson officiating.

Graveside service for MR. WILLIE B. “BOONE” AYERS (b. 1943) was held Tuesday, November 17, at Meadowlawn Garden of Peace (450 Mount Lebanon Road Toney, Ala.).

Graveside service for MR. LARRY GENE RICHARDSON (b. 1962) was held Monday, November 16, at Pleasant Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Cemetery (15439 Hastings Road Athens, Ala.) with Overseer John Jude officiating.

Funeral service for MR. CALVIN MICHAEL McDOWELL (b. 1950) was held Sunday, November 15, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Elder T. Marshall Kelley officiating.

Graveside service for MRS. DAISY MAE MITCHELL JOHNSON (b. 1935) was held Saturday, November 14, at Huntsville Memory Gardens (6810 University Drive Huntsville, Ala.) with Elder Curtis Jordan officiating.

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

Funeral services for MR. ANTHONY GEORGE (b. 1956) will be announced at a later date.



Why the White House Election Results' Four-day Delay? Blame Lazarus!

And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes: . . . Jesus saith unto them, "Loose him, and let him go."
- John 11:44, KJV.

Here, Jesus allowed Lazarus to die and to remain entombed four days before resurrecting him.

Similarly, Jesus allowed U.S. presidential election results to remain "entombed" for four days before resurrecting them. Why?

In each instance, Jesus wished to teach patience, post-event character, and posit how to "get loose"!

In what ways are those lessons being learned?

1. Patience

Because a record 160 million Americans voted during this first-ever "voting season," extra time was needed to count, validate ballots.

More importantly, however, extra time will be needed to prepare hearts and minds for a renewed political landscape.

Kandy Duncan, President, League of Women Voters, Lewisburg (VA): "A tremendous amount of work has gone into voter education, voter registration, and getting people out to vote. It is now time to let democracy work!" <https://bit.ly/3lkSJZZ>

2. Post-event Character

Chuck Swindol: "Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it." Following what many viewed as the most important election of our lifetime, Trump filed groundless fraud lawsuits in Georgia, Michigan, and Pennsylvania; Biden instead initiated

his transition team to tackle first Americans' top priorities: COVID-19, economic recovery, racial equity, and climate change, <https://buildbackbetter.com/>.

Viewed by scholars as Jesus' greatest miracle, Lazarus' resurrection was followed by -



3. Pulling off the "Graveclothes"

Verse 45: "Loose him, and let him go." Although resurrected, Lazarus wouldn't be free until his traditional graveclothes were removed.

Similarly, Biden's victory removed some graveclothes of our traditions: male-only presidential running mates; no California Democrats on White House tickets; and too-old-to-preside and too-inexperienced/too-female/too-"colored" -to-win!

Those traditional perceptions, practices have held us back - until now.

What graveclothes do you need now to let go? Prejudice? Lack of motivation? Fear?

Make this your transition period!

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>.

Oakwood Celebrates 124th Anniversary

In recognition of 124 years of transforming lives, Oakwood University celebrated Founders Day at noon on Monday, November 16, at the Oakwood Farms Market Pavilion.

The anniversary event also served as a kick-off for a series of events leading up to the 125th year celebration next year on November 16, 2021.

Oakwood was founded by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1896 to educate African-Americans of the South who had recently been freed from slavery. The property, 375-acres of a former slave plantation,

was dotted with 65 towering oak trees, which gave way to the name "Oakwood."

Originally, the school was called "Oakwood Industrial School," opening its doors on November 16, 1896, with 16 students.

The University's beautiful natural property has grown to approximately 1,100 prime acres, and is considered one of the historical landmarks of the city of Huntsville, a cosmopolitan city of approximately 202,000 people in north central Alabama.

Oakwood University continues to view educa-

tion as indispensable in preparation for wider service to God and to humanity.

President Leslie Polard said, "For 124 years, Oakwood has advanced the mission of Seventh-day Adventist education, creating competent Christian professionals for servant leadership. Since 1896, we have had the honor and privilege of serving the Huntsville and Madison County community, and I am immensely grateful for the 124th year celebration of Oakwood University."

"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why." - Mark Twain

Marshall England, Agent

600 Madison Street, SE - Suite B
Huntsville, AL 35801
Bus: 256.539.2014
marshallengland@marshallengland.com

www.marshallengland.com

State Farm



Design • Print • Mail • Promotional
256-539-1658
www.xcelprint.com

COVID-19 Assistance

UNITED WAY COVID-19

Assistance Fund

Donate:

www.uwmadison-county.org

Get Assistance: Call 211

SMALL BUSINESSES

disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

gov
(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/>

AAMU Virtually Celebrates 20th Anniversary of Black Tie Scholarship Gala

Scenes from Friday, November 13, 2020





SERENITY
FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Dr. NW
Huntsville, Alabama 35816
(256) 539-9693

A New Generation Of Service

Albert's Flowers

Located Downtown in Medical District; Closest Florist to Huntsville Hospital
Free Delivery to Huntsville Hospital and Local Funeral Homes

716 Madison Street - Huntsville, AL 35801

**FLOWERS, GIFTS,
EXOTIC FLOWERS**

Graduate of
American Floral Art School
256-533-1623
256-536-6911
www.albertsflowers.com



JERRY DAMSON

 **HONDA**  **ACURA**



satisfaction
visit us online at damson.com

W&A
WOMACK & ASSOCIATES LLC

"Partnering With You to Make Informed Decisions"

*Comprehensive Financial Planning *Estate Planning *Accounting Services
*Tax Planning and Preparation for Individuals, Businesses, Estates and Trusts

To learn more contact us:

Lori A. Womack, CPA/PFS, CFP®
Managing Member
lwomack@womackassociatesllc.com

4650 Whitesburg Dr S, Suite 101
Huntsville, Alabama 35802
256-534-1360

Huntsville Makes Top 10 for IT Jobs

Another installment of CompTIA's Tech Town Index® provides IT workers, in addition to professionals working in the business of technology, some guidance to choose which cities offer opportunity, affordability and quality of life.

In its list for 2020, Huntsville ranks 9th, moving up a spot from its two-year place at No. 10. CompTIA is the world's leading tech association, and it is considered to be a thought leader and an action leader.

From its IT professional association to its leading certification programs, from its original research to its member communities and councils, CompTIA's unparalleled programs set industry standards, foster skills development and generate knowledge and insight every day.

According to CompTIA, "opportunity continues to flourish" in the Alabama city, and more than 15,000 technology jobs were advertised in Huntsville in the past year.

IT jobs are expected to increase by 2% in the next year and by 8% over the next five years, noted the association, noting that the



Rocket City's IT pros also enjoy a cost of living that is 4% lower than the national average.

IT pros in the Huntsville area earn a median salary of \$97,316—which competes with annual salaries in Denver, Colorado Springs and Trenton, all cities with cost of living rates above the national average.

CompTIA's Top 20 cities for IT jobs are as follows:

20. Trenton, N.J.
19. San Diego-Carlsbad, Calif.
18. Madison, Wis.
17. Baltimore-Columbia-Towson, Md.
16. Boston-Cambridge-Nashua, Mass.-N.H.
15. Colorado Springs, Colo.

14. Columbus, Ohio
13. Durham-Chapel Hill, N.C.
12. Boulder, Colo.
11. Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-Va.-Md.-W.Va.
10. Denver-Aurora-Lake-wood, Colo.
- 9. Huntsville, Ala.**
8. Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, Ga.
7. San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, Calif.
6. Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, Wash.
5. Charlotte-Concord-Gastonia, N.C.-S.C.
4. San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, Calif.
3. Raleigh, N.C.
2. Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Tex.
1. Austin-Round Rock, Tex.

Vet Honored with Customized Flag

Last week, Dr. Harry Hobbs, a veteran and vice president of employee engagement at Huntsville Utilities, was recognized by the Flags of Honor Association and the Secretary of the Army (through his civilian aide) for his military service during combat. A wooden flag was constructed based on his military career and presented to him.

"I feel so blessed to be still alive to experience this humbling event," commented Hobbs. "It was an unbelievable experience that by the Grace of God I am still alive to experience. Many of the Soldiers in my unit have passed away due to the chemical gas that the enemy used on our unit. I supported the First



Marine Expeditionary Force as we led the Gulf War ground attack. I dedicate this award to the Soldiers I led during combat operations and to the Soldiers that gave their full measure of dedication and left their lives on the battlefield, they will forever be in my mind and hearts as I pray for the families that were left without a loved one so we can enjoy the freedoms we have every day. Freedom isn't free and I want to continue to fight for freedom in my new life by treating everyone with dignity and respect."

Hobbs went on to express gratitude to his CEO Wes Kelly and his HU family for allowing "this old Soldier to have a new home for one more tour of duty."

He stated that "True Americans" find common ground and work for the greater good of the community.



*Come Discover
the Magic on
the Mountain!*

No matter what time of year you explore Burritt on the Mountain, there is something delightful and new to see. And no matter how young – or old – you are, there is something for you on the Mountain! If you've never visited, you're in for a treat. If it's been awhile, what are you waiting for? Come on up and let the Magic begin!

NOW OPEN!

3101 Burritt Drive • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 256.536.2882
www.burrittonthemountain.com

OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm
November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm

WJAB
90.9 FM
www.wjab.org