... But Who Is the GOAT?, p. 5





Designed for Dependence, p. 6

November 26, 2021

Vol. 8, No. 12

Valley Weeklyllc.com



"... Everything helps or hurts; everything adds to or takes away from someone else." - Countee Cullen



IT'S OFFICIAL: Alabama A&M University students, faculty, staff and community visitors gathered on The Quad for the recent annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Following the program, Student Government Association officials presented gifts to children assembled by the Huntsville Housing Authority. (Photo by J. Saintjones)

Commissioner Announces Improvements to Harrison Center

Violet Edwards, Madison County Commissioner for the sixth district, announces a \$1.2M improvement project on the campus of the Robert "Bob" Harrison Senior Wellness and Advocacy Center.

This effort will add to the beauty of the campus, located on Pulaski Pike, and make it more user-friendly for those with mobility issues.

"More than ever, people are getting outdoors and enjoying nature's beauty," said Commissioner Edwards. "The Harrison Center has 26 rolling acres. This mobility project will connect the campus to the

neighborhood, allowing people to wheel, walk, and jog in a safe, secure area."

The mobility initiative is a partnership between the State of Alabama Department of Transportation, The Huntsville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the Madison County Commission. It is a two-phase construction project set to begin at the beginning of 2022.

The Harrison Center opened in 2012, offering senior-centric programs and a place for seniors to socialize and exercise. Commissioner Edwards' mobility initiative will make significant improve-



Edwards

ments to include:
• Installation of a sidewalk
and handrail from the Senior Center to Pulaski Pike

- Installation of a retaining wall on Pulaski Pike
- Installation of a pedestrian bridge
- Additional campus lighting
- Curb ramps
- Signage and pavement striping
- Installation of ramps and handrail at classroom entrance

"What I am most pleased about is my office being able to manage and support this project in a fiscally responsible way that sees more than 80% of funds for the initiative is coming from grants," said Commissioner Edwards.

Huntsville Public Transit to Begin New Pay System

A pilot program set for Huntsville Transit should make it easier for smartphone users to ride while also providing a contactless payment method for operators.

The City of Huntsville presented an agreement at the Nov. 18 Huntsville City Council meeting that will allow riders to purchase fares through an app called Token Transit. The free app will allow riders to purchase single-ride Orbit or Access tickets up to monthly passes through the App Store or Google Play.

"This gives riders more options to get on the bus," said Quisha Bryant, Director of Parking and

Public Transportation. "In the world we're living in, people want to use an app, and they have their phone in their hand when they get on a bus."

She said the program is a win-win for the City because it doesn't replace anything. Operators will continue to accept tickets, cash and coins from riders.

The City reportedly learned about Token Transit from the University of Alabama in Huntsville's Office of Public Transportation, which partners with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

alley Weekly

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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 are in recess this week. Before the House passed the \$1.75 trillion Build Back Better (BBB) Act on Friday morning by a vote of 220-213, House GOP Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) overnight Thursday surpassed Speaker Nancy Pelosi's record for the longest House floor speech, speaking against the BBB bill for 8 hours and 32 minutes finally yielding the floor at 5:11 a.m. on Friday (Pelosi's record speech had been 8 hours and 7 minutes in 2018). For a quick summary of the House's Build Back Better Act compiled by the Committee for a Responsible Budget, go

here: summary. The BBB bill must now be approved by the full Senate.

2. THE WHITE HOUSE. On Friday morning, President Biden underwent a routine colonoscopy and temporarily transferred the powers and duties of the Office of the President to Vice President Harris for 1 hour and 25 minutes while under sedation (thereby making her the first woman to serve officially as acting President of the United States). Also on Friday, the White House released a report on the President's health from White House Physician Dr. Kevin O' Connor, the text of which can be found here: POTUS health report. Today (Monday), the President and First Lady will travel to Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, NC for an early Thanksgiving dinner with service members and their families. On Tuesday night, the Bidens will depart for Nantucket, MA where they will spend the Thanksgiving holiday.

3. VACCINE BOOSTERS FOR EVERYONE. Late Friday, the U.S. Centers for Disease

Control approved extra COVID-19 shots for everyone over 18, which came hours after a panel of independent doctors, nurses, and public health experts voted unanimously to recommend boosters for all vaccinated adults - though the recommendation is stronger for adults over age 50. Booster shots are now approved for persons at least six months after their Pfizer or Moderna vaccination and at least two months after Johnson & Johnson shots. See the official CDC guidelines here: CDC boosters.

4. NATIONAL DE-FENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA). Senators have submitted more than 900 amendments to the FY 2022 National Defense au-

thorization bill in efforts to improve the nation's security, and in some cases to link unrelated priorities to the must pass bill. While most of the proposed amendments relate to the Defense Department, including the withdrawal from Afghanistan the supply chain reliance on China, and whether troops should be forced to get the COVID-19 vaccine, some lawmakers are trying to add unrelated changes, including ideas to end the opioid epidemic an new initiatives within the Department of Health and Human

Services. Senate leaders will then decide how many and which amendments will get hours of debate and an individual vote. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has not yet announced which amendments will be considered.

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Public Notice: Huntsville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Meetings

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Huntsville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization will meet Monday, November 29, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. The Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board meets on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 4:00 pm. ALL meetings will be held on the 1st floor of COH City Hall unless otherwise noted on the Huntsville-Area MPO website at www.huntsvillempo.org/plans-and-reports/ For all other information on these meetings visit: http://www.huntsvillempo.org/about/meetings-and-agendas/



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

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

Memorial service for MR. JOHNNY FLOYD JIM-MISON (b. 1958) was held Saturday, November 20, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Graveside service for MS. JOSEPHINE ANN WILSON (b. 1949) was held Friday, November 19, at Valley View Memory Gardens with the Reverend Dawn Harmon officiating.

Memorial service for MR. JAMES CHRISBY JONES (b. 1954) was held Thursday, November 18, at Brothers and Sisters In Christ Missionary Baptist Church (118 Clearvue Road - Huntsville, Ala.) with the Reverend Cornell Martin, officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

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

Funeral service for DR. MARY ELIZABETH BATES STANLEY (b. 1936) was held Sunday, November 21, at Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church (1919 Brandontown Road, Huntsville, Ala.) with Rev. Dion J. Watkins officiating.

Funeral service for MR. WAYNE O'NEAL BATTLE (b. 1977) was held Sunday, November 21, at Meadow Drive Baptist Church (1000 Meadow Drive NW, Huntsville, Ala.).

Funeral service for MR. MARCUS "MARCO" LYNN BURWELL (b. 1969) was held Saturday, November 20, at St. Elizabeth Cumberland Presbyterian Church (104 Perry Street, Madison, Ala.) with Bishop Steve Smith officiating.

Funeral service for MR. MILTON LEROY CASH (b. 1949) was held Saturday, November 20, in Meadowlawn Garden of Peace (450 Mount Lebanan Road, Toney, Ala.) with Reverend Dr. O. Wendell Davis officiating

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

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

Funeral service for MR. SAMMY LEE MCLEOD, JR., (b. 1960) was held on Saturday, November 13, at Serenity Funeral Home.

November 11-28

Galaxy of Lights Walking Nights Huntsville Botanical Garden 5:15-8:30 p.m.

November 25

Annual Thanksgiving Day Hike Monte Sano Nature Preserve 2442 Bankhead Parkway Huntsville, Ala. 9 a.m.-12 Noon

Birmingham Bulls at Huntsville Havoc Von Braun Center Arena Huntsville, Ala. 7 p.m.

November 28

"Music of the Spheres" U.S. Space and Rocket Center 1 Tranquility Base Huntsville, Ala. 2:30-3:30 p.m.

December 2- January 1

Galaxy of Lights Driving Nights Huntsville Botanical Garden 5:30-9 p.m.

December 7

Huntsville Christmas Parade Downtown 127 Washington St. NE Huntsville, Ala. 6 p.m.

December 10

Fall Commencement Alabama A&M University Louis Crews Stadium 1 p.m.

December 11

Retirement Banquet AAMU President Andrew Hugine, Jr. Featuring Comedian Rickey Smiley T.M. Elmore Building THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE

7 p.m.

December 16

"Fresh Wreaths: What to Grow and How to Make Them" (In-person Class) Huntsville Botanical Garden Huntsville, Ala. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

January 1

New Year's Day

January 21

Rocket Awards U.S. Space and Rocket Center 1 Tranquility Base Huntsville, Ala. 5-8 p.m.

January 30

Harlem Globetrotters Von Braun Center 3 p.m.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION GAME PLAN

PRESION BROWN

DESIRE, DISCIPLINE AND DELIGHT

Psalms 37:4 says, "Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart."

I believe that one of the keys to being successful in life, whether it be physical or spiritual, all comes down to these three words: Desire, Discipline and Delight.

In other words, no matter what we want to achieve, it all starts with the desire to make it happen. Because if there is no desire, there is no discipline, which means there is no delight in doing anything. For example, how do we delight in the Lord, if we don't develop a relationship with Him?

When I played professional football, I had the desire to be the very best at my position, but in order for me to do this, I had to be disciplined. Being disciplined will fuel

your desire as well as keep you on a schedule that will create an atmosphere for success.

When we create this atmosphere for success, we will delight in what we are doing, because--let's face it--how can we delight in something that we don't like?

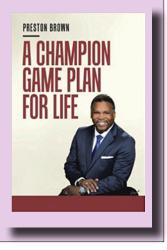
God requires us to love Him more than we love anything else and when we do, He will give us the desires of our hearts. But how do we learn to love God with all of our heart? Well, it starts with creating a place in our house, where we meet with God on a daily basis, a place where we study His word and pray as well as meditate on His word. This will help us develop a routine that we can continue. Then, we need to discipline ourselves until it becomes part of our schedule.

When we do this, it will create an atmosphere for a successful



relationship with God. So, remember that desire leads to discipline and discipline will allow us to delight ourselves in the Lord.

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





AAMU Names Auditorium in Honor of The Bradfords

To pay tribute to a husband and wife duo who remain synonymous with choral music and music education, Alabama A&M University held a ribbon cutting ceremony for a newly renovated auditorium on Thursday, November 18.

The Dr. Henry and Nell Lane Bradford Auditorium is located in Buchanan Hall (formerly Bibb Graves) and recaptures hundreds of fond memories for alumni taught and mentored by Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr., and Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford.

The late Dr. Bradford, a native of New Orleans, La., served as professor and chair of the Department of Music Education and University Chaplain at AAMU for four decades. His wife, Nell, was born in Sand Springs, Okla., and served as associate professor of and director of the University Choir for more than 40 years. She warmly received numerous accolades throughout the ceremony.

Dr. Jeanette Jones, chair of AAMU's Naming Committee, president of the Fac-



ulty Senate, and University Distinguished Professor, presided over the ceremony, which included several tributes and musical performances. Among the program participants were: AAMU President Andrew Hugine, Jr.; Dr. Horace Carney, director, AAMU Choir; Pastor Mitchell Walker, Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America; AAMU Trumpet Ensemble - Matthew Price, William

> Seawright and Antar Fierce; Alumni Affairs Director Emeritus Georgia S. Valrie; Dr. Barbara Anthony, Class of 1958; Tommie Lockhart, Class of 1963; the Alpha Ensemble; and Andrea Bradford, daughter of the Bradfords.

AAMU trustee Chris Robinson, former AAMU President Carl Harris Marbury; Demetra Gilmore, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and Rev. Michael Rice, Class of 1977, also provided remarks.



THE VALLEY WEEKLY

ALL FOR THE FAMILY

Tis the season to be thankful!

On Thursday, November 25th, globally, families and friends will gather together to celebrate Thanksgiving Day. This is a positive and secular day when we express our heartfelt gratitude for the many blessings we have received. 1Thessolonians 5:16-18 tells us that "In everything give thanks for this is the will of God."

Showing our thanks and gratitude can help us feel more positive emotions, relish good experiences, improve mental and physical health, deal more effectively with adversity and build stronger relationships. For many of us, our family is a priceless gift from God. Taking time to show appreciation in words and actions, show signs of a strong, devoted and

loving family, that provides a vital network of love, care, companionship, and support.

In addition to counting our blessings, and enjoying a festive meal together, families can be a blessing to others during this season.

- * Invite a neighbor or single person over for dinner.
- * Cook an extra meal to share with a less fortunate

individual or family in your neighborhood.

- * Volunteer to help serve at a soup kitchen or a shelter.
- * Deliver a meal, gift basket to the elderly in your neighborhood.
- *Write a kind note or send a card, with stuffed with a few dollars, to an ill family member or friend.
- * Donate something from your closet to the needy.
- * Donate money to buy food for the disadvantaged.



~Think It Over~

When we stop and count our blessings, we can proclaim that God has blessed us beyond our highest hopes and fondest dreams. Identify ways you can be a blessing to someone.

Source

Bibles for America.org The Holy Bible thetimesherald.com





Happy 75th, NBA: But Who is the GOAT... or the GOTE? (part 2 of 3)

Who is the National Basketball Association's GOAT (greatest of all times)?

Let's try for once to set aside the issue's emotions and attempt to address the matter based upon a set of known and immutable facts

While others look for GOAT, I look instead for "GOTE."

Just the Facts



1. The main objective of all competitive sports including basketball is winning.

2. Winning occurs by scoring more points than your opponents (offense), and at the same time preventing competitors from scoring points (defense); defense occurs mostly through defensive

rebounds, steals and/or blocking shots (opponents' attempts at offense). Agreed?

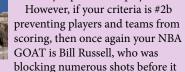
If it's #1, then the GOAT is Bill Russell, the 20th century's greatest winner. When someone once asked him his NBA scoring average, he responded, "11 championships in 13 years."



However, Lew Alcindor-now-Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's high school (79 wins vs two losses) and collegiate (88-2) records also speak for themselves!

Additionally, Jabbar would be the NBA GOAT if your

criterion is #2a;his 38,387 points currently tops all NBA players.



became an NBA statistic.

Can you instead say "GOTE" through the years?

Please forgive the college English major in me, but I believe that when fans tout Michael Jordan, Oscar Robertson, LeBron

James, Jerry West, Larry Bird and Kobe Bryant, for example, they're actually meaning to say not GOAT but "GOTE," the Greatest Of Their Era.



In this NBA 75th year, who's your GOTE? I'll tell you mine (Part 3) based on standards of service Jesus told his "teammates," his 12 disciples.

When they were arguing amongst themselves who'd be #1 with him, Jesus told them that the greatest they could do would be to serve others, "just as the Son of Man did not some to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many" Matthew 20:28.

In the meantime, however, I'd like to hear your GOAT and GOTE choices; tell me at info@timallston.com.



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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-deliveriestake-out-food-serviceproviders/

Designed for Dependence

Genesis 2:7; Psalm 103:14

Of the many devices and appliances and vehicles that one may have, all have been designed by some engineer.

How they operate, how long they operate, and their maintenance, is usually outlined in some form in a manual. There we can find the answer to these three areas.

The design postulates





a designer and all that is needed for carrying out that design is placed within the object.

The manual may carry some diagram of the object in question, but only the

original designer "knows" it without the need for the diagram.

Such is the case of all of humanity. There is but One Designer and He made sure that every human was

designed for dependence on Him. Although the prophet declared that "all we like sheep have gone astray," there is no way for any human to survive that detour without damaging their

entire personhood.

The writer of Genesis lets us know that the very air that circulates in our lungs had its origin in God who "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."

He sovereignly orchestrates life so that mankind comes to the realization that there is no way to live without Him.

His sovereignty includes His mercy, which will not exert expectations upon us that will destroy us.

As the Psalmist noted, "For He knows our frame: He remembers that we are dust."

God can be trusted even when He cannot be tracked.

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born Swiss singer-songwriter, dancer, and actress. Turner rose to international prominence as a featured singer with Ike Turner's Kings of Rhythm before recording hit singles both with Ike and as a solo performer. - BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com

NOVEMBER 26 - TINA TURNER - an American-





"All day long and all night through, One thing only must I do: Quench my pride and cool my blood, Lest I perish in the flood." Countee Cullen



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

Rev. Earla S. Lockhart

Reverend Earla S.
Lockhart has been a Staff
Minister at First Missionary Baptist Church since
January, 1993 when she
left the U. S. Army Space
& Missile Defense Command to join the church
staff. Prior to her SMDC
employment, she was
employed by the Tennessee
Valley Authority.

A graduate of Athens State University, Huntsville Bible College & Kentucky School of Mortuary Science, she is currently pursuing the Master of Ministry degree at Huntsville Bible College.

Rev. Lockhart has been active in the community across the years—having served on boards of directors for the Christian Women's Job Corps of Madison County, the Downtown Rescue Mission, the Alabama A & M University Foundation Board, Girl Scouts of North Alabama, CASA, and the Interfaith Mission Service. Presently she serves on the



Diversity Committee for the local Alzheimer's Association.

In addition to having served as Staff Minister of Congregational Care at First Missionary Baptist Church, she also continued her long-standing part-time affiliation with Huntsville Bible College and Nelms Memorial Funeral Home.



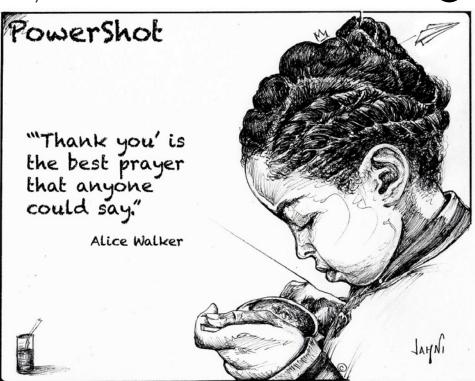
"Spotlight on Our Elders" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote **volunteerism** and activism in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at **www.rosettajamesfoundation.org**. Know an outstanding elder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

This Sunday's Lectionary

HOLY BIBLE

Sunday, November 28, 2021

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-9 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 221:25-36







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"Not being able to express an idea or word will hurt you more. Like a bullet."

- Jamaica Kincaid

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"I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection."

- Sigmund Freud

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

- Nelson Mandela



Progress Looks Like

Taking The Small Steps That Make A New House Home



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