

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING! FREE

## Why Drugs Are Now FOREVER - p. 8

THE BUY NOTHING REBELLION - p. 9

Friday

November 28, 2025

Vol. 12, No. 13

ValleyWeeklyllc.com

**SALUTE!**

Rosetta James Foundation  
ELDER OF THE WEEK

Mr. Rufus Gilmore

*"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." - Aristotle*

## Drake State Marks Enrollment Milestone

Drake State Community and Technical College is celebrating its highest enrollment growth in more than a decade. The college enrolled 1,417 students for Fall 2025, a 19% increase over last year's 1,187, and credit hour production rose 23% to 10,760 hours.

"This remarkable growth is a testament to the

dedication of our faculty and staff, our community partnerships, and our students' belief in the value of a Drake State education," said Dr. Patricia Sims, President of Drake State Community and Technical College. "We are thrilled to have so many new and returning students who are taking the next step toward achieving their

goals."

College leaders attribute the surge to expanded programs, increased outreach to local high schools and industry partners, and enhanced student support services.

"The Drake State on the Road Initiative has been instrumental in driving our strong fall en-



rollment growth this year. By expanding access, providing clearer pathways for prospective students, and meeting learners where they are, Drake State has been able to welcome more students who are ready to take the next step in their education and careers. This initiative reflects

our commitment to innovation and student success, and we're proud to see its impact so clearly in our enrollment numbers," said Dr. Nicole Bell, Dean of Students.

With enrollment climbing, the college is now prioritizing retention and completion.

## Christkindlmarket Returns to The Orion

Arts Huntsville and The Orion Amphitheater announce the return of Christkindlmarket Huntsville, a free community event, for its fourth annual celebration. Presented by Redstone Federal Credit Union, this distinctive holiday market blends German and European Christmas traditions with local flair. The market will feature over 60 juried artists alongside a blend

of seasonal food, drinks, and music at The Orion Amphitheater, running December 12-14.

Christkindlmarket Huntsville offers shoppers a unique shopping experience and the opportunity to find one-of-a-kind holiday gifts, including hand-crafted ornaments, decorations, jewelry, and apparel. Artwork offered by the juried professional artists includes painting, drawing,

mixed media, clay, glass, jewelry, fiber, photography, sculpture, and wood. Christkindlmarket Huntsville details, along with a full list of artist participants, can be found at <http://www.artshuntsville.org/christkindlmarket/>. For more information on Arts Huntsville, visit [www.artshuntsville.org](http://www.artshuntsville.org) and follow @ArtsHuntsville on Facebook and Instagram.

## Fraternity Supports Cancer Foundation with Local Ties

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., announced a \$30,000 donation to the Black tech-based cancer charity, the Ora Lee Smith Cancer Research Foundation, to raise awareness and critical funds to eradicate cancer for nearly 9 million people who die each year.

To celebrate #GivingTuesday and in recognition of their national partnership, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., will match new donations made at OraLee.org, including those made through any custom Ora Lee fundraising pages like OraLee.org/Alphas. This matching opportunity is available from now until December 2, 2025, at 11:59 PM EST, with a total match limit of \$30,000!

In the African American community, Black men have a 67% higher prostate cancer incidence rate compared to White men, and are twice as likely to die from the disease, while Black women and white women are diagnosed with breast cancer at similar rates, Black women are 40% more likely to die from the disease.

Dr. Hadiyah-Nicole Green, an Alabama A&M University alumna, has developed a new cancer treatment specifically designed to destroy cancer cells while leaving healthy cells intact. Dr. Green founded the Ora Lee Smith Cancer Research Foundation to ensure this treatment will be accessible and affordable.

To learn more and donate, visit [OraLee.org/Alphas](http://OraLee.org/Alphas).



## Dist. 6 Voting Restoration Workshop Set for Dec. 15

Have you—or someone you love—lost the right to vote because of a past conviction?

It's time to reclaim your voice in our democracy. Join Beach Law Practice & Madison County Volunteer Lawyers Program for a free, community-centered workshop designed to guide

you step by step through the process of expunging your record and regaining your voting rights.

The event is Monday, December 15, from 5-7 p.m. at the District 6 Commission Office Community Room, 3210 Hi-Lo Circle, Huntsville, Ala.

## The Valley Weekly

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Sunday Lectionary, Page 2

Washington Update, Page 2

Preston Brown's "Spiritual Game Plan," Page 4

Gloria B. & Tim: Perspectives, Page 5

"Jahni" Moore's PowerShots, Page 6

Honoring Our Elders, Page 7

# Washington One Minute

by Ron Hamm

Here are the latest top issues and events in Washington, D.C.:

**1. CONGRESS.** The House and Senate are in recess this week. Several meetings last week among House and Senate Appropriators did not produce any agreements for passing the nine remaining FY2026 appropriations bills, nor did they yet agree on a spending ceiling for the bills (the upcoming deadline is Jan. 30, 2026). According to Punchbowl News, a bipartisan group of 20 House members has been meeting to extend the enhanced Obamacare subsidies that expire Dec. 31 and plans to meet virtually with Senators this week. On

last Friday, Reps. Tom Suozzi (D-NY), Don Bacon (R-NE), Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ), and Jeff Hurd (R-CO) introduced a bill to extend the Obamacare subsidies for two years, while adding a new income cap for families of four earning less than \$200,000 per year and phasing them out for families of four earning between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

**2. EXECUTIVE BRANCH.** Last Thursday, in response to rising commodity prices, the President canceled tariffs on a large portion of Brazilian agricultural goods, including beef and coffee, removing the 40% duty still on those products after he eliminated

Brazil's 10% reciprocal duty on a wide range of food items as part of a separate action two weeks ago. Last Wednesday, he signed a bill—approved by the House 427-1 and unanimously by the Senate—that requires the Justice Department to release the Epstein files within 30 days. On Monday, the First Lady welcomed the Official 2025 White House Christmas Tree. The President and First Lady are expected to spend Thanksgiving at the Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach, Florida.

**3. SUPREME COURT.** In an order issued at 7:30 p.m. on last Friday night, Justice Samuel Alito—who handles emergency requests from the 5th Circuit, which includes Texas—granted Texas a temporary stay from a Tuesday ruling by a three-judge district court that barred

the state from using its newly drawn congressional map in the 2026 elections. Texas is asking the Supreme Court to delay the lower court's ruling until Dec. 1, and Justice Alito instructed Texas to file its response by 5 p.m. on Monday, November 24.

**4. EDUCATION.** The Department of Education has signed six interagency agreements transferring significant operations to the Departments of Labor, Interior, Health and Human Services, and State. Most nota-

bly, the Department of Labor will now administer the \$18 billion Title I program, TRIO programs, and most K-12 and higher education grants. The Education Department retains oversight of student loans, college accreditation, and civil rights enforcement. Administration officials state funding levels will continue unchanged, though internal documents indicate the transfers will create logistical challenges for grant administration.

**5. NATIONAL GUARD DEPLOY-**

**MENTS.** Last Thursday, a federal judge ordered the administration to halt its National Guard deployment in Washington, D.C., while a lawsuit proceeds in the matter. The judge paused her ruling for 21 days to allow the administration time to appeal.

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## This Sunday's Lectionary

Sunday, November 30, 2025

First Sunday  
of Advent



(Track 2, Year C)

First Lesson:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms 122

Second Lesson:

Romans 13:11-14

GOSPEL:

Matthew 24:36-44

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Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/  
Senior Editor**  
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**Editorial Assistant**  
Linda Burruss

**Advertising Associate**  
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**- Contributing Editors -**  
tim allston  
Minister Preston Brown  
Gloria B. Caldwell  
Ron Hamm  
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.  
-and-  
“Aunt Irma” (ChatGPT support)

**Photographers**  
Anthony “Gip” Gibson  
Jerome Saintjones

**Website Administrator**  
Calvin Farier

**Mailing Address:**  
The Valley Weekly  
P. O. Box 893 - Huntsville, AL 35804  
(256) 651-9028  
www.valleyweeklyllc.com  
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# Leaning on Our Shared Humanity!

In moments of uncertainty, it is easy to fall into the familiar patterns of frustration, division, and despair. Yet the words of President John F. Kennedy still call to us with clarity and courage:

*“Let us not despair but act. Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer but the right answer. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future.”*

These words speak directly to our times. In a nation as wonderfully diverse as ours—in culture, in perspective, in heritage, in lived experience—we are strongest when we look beyond labels and lean into our shared humanity. Progress has never been the property of one party, one community, or one generation. It has always been built by people willing to do the hard work of listening to one another, learning from one another, and lifting one another.



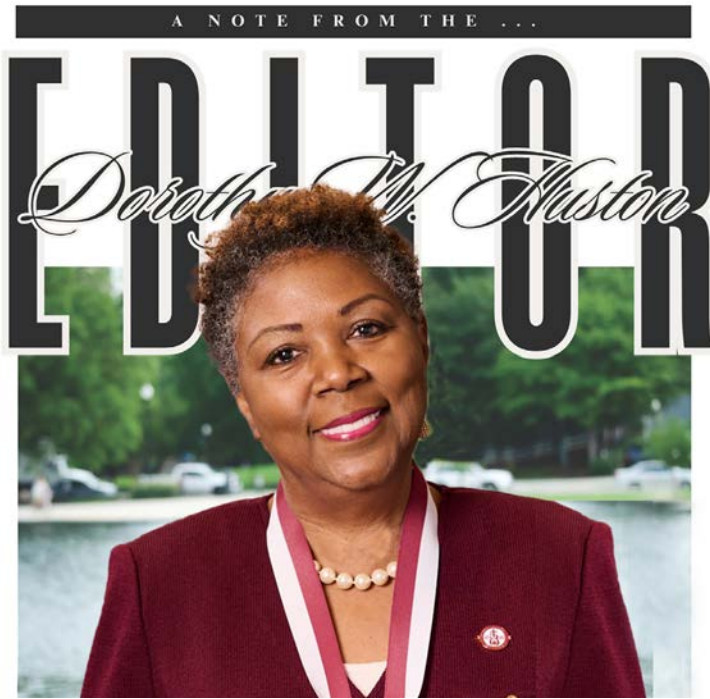
In our neighborhoods, classrooms, workplaces, and faith communities, we are reminded daily that greatness grows when we value every voice. The future we seek won’t arrive because one side “wins,” but because all of us choose to build something better—together. That kind of future requires optimism, accountability, and above all, action.

This is a season that calls not for despair, but for determination. Not for retreat into old divisions, but for a renewed commitment to justice, empathy, inclusion, and truth. If we each embrace our responsibility—with integrity, compassion, and courage—we can create a tomorrow that honors every person and expands opportunity for all.

Let us rise to that challenge. Not the Republican answer. Not the Democratic answer. But the right answer—the one that moves our communities, our nation, and our children toward hope.

Until next week ...

*Dorothy*



**NOVEMBER 28 - BERRY GORDY JR. -** Berry Gordy III (known professionally as Berry Gordy Jr.) is an American record executive, record producer, songwriter, film producer and television producer. He is best known as the founder of the Motown record label and its subsidiaries, which was the highest-earning African-American business for decades. Gordy sold his interests in Motown Records to MCA and Boston Ventures on June 28, 1988, for \$61 million. He later sold most of his interests in Jobete publishing to EMI Publishing. Gordy wrote or co-wrote 240 of the approximately 15,000 songs in Motown’s Jobete music catalogue. However, the true test of the label’s worth would come a few years later, when Polygram paid over \$330 million (Diana Ross was given shares in this version of the label) for the Motown catalog.

- Blackcelebritybirthdays.org





THE VALLEY WEEKLY

# VALLEY DEATHS



## NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

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Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced at a later date for **MASTER JAMAL H. STEWART, JR.** (b. 2025).



Celebration of Life for **MR. MICHAEL HUMPHREY** (b. 1955) was Sunday, November 23, at New Life Seventh-Day Adventist Church with Pastor Nelson Stokes officiating.

Funeral service for **MR. RAYANTHA HORTON** (b. 1958) was Saturday, November 22, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Waymon Moore officiating.

Funeral service for **MR. JAYLAN TRAVON WATKINS** (b. 1999) was Saturday, November 22, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Minister Ricky Leslie eulogist.

Funeral service for **MR. JUSTIN MARLO DAVIS** (b. 2000) was Saturday, November 22, at Springhill Church with Pastor Ricky Morland officiating.

Funeral service for **REV. CHARLES W. POWELL SR.** (b. 1946) was Saturday, November 22, at Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church with Pastor Oscar L. Montgomery, officiating.

Funeral service for **MR. JOHN F. RICE** (b. 1949) was Saturday, November 15, at Big Shiloh Primitive Baptist Church with Pastor Jeffrey Jefferson officiating.

Funeral service for **MR. WALTER CLIFFORD SOBRYAN** (b. 1944) was held Sunday, November 9, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Herbert Cartwright officiating.

Funeral service for **MRS. ROXANN TIBBS BATTLE** (b. 1938) was Saturday, November 8, at First Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Carlos D. Williams officiating and Reverend Earla Lockhart as eulogist.

Funeral service for **MRS. QUENTIN MITCHELL TAYLOR** (b. 1973) was Saturday, November 8, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Elder Gilbert Mitchell officiating.

# Spiritual Game Plan

PRESTON BROWN'S



## Today's Spiritual Game Plan: "More Than Politics"

Luke 15:7 says, "I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

One of the things that I love most about Jesus is that He meets us where we are, but refuses to leave us there. He meets us in our sinful ways and tells us to go and sin no more.

The main theme in the book of Luke is that Jesus came to seek and save the lost. He was especially sensitive to those who were hurting. He knew that hurting people hurt other people. That's why He had no problem eating with sinners and tax collectors. In this scripture, Luke talks about the love that God has for sinners and he explains them in the form of lost things. First there is a lost sheep, then a lost coin, and finally a lost son. In all of these stories, the lost are found; when that happens, everyone rejoices. Even the angels in heaven rejoice. The message here is that God

places great value on one repenting sinner. This clarifies His mission that He "came to seek and save sinners" (Luke 19:10). Jesus came to deal with much more than political issues and financial statements. Jesus also reminds us that there will be more rejoicing over a redeemed soul than in settling any differences of opinions that continue to dominate our way of life.

May God grant you



spiritual success in your desire to be forgiven of your sins.

Question: Is being saved important to you?

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase

a copy of my books, *Spiritual Game Plans For A Successful Life* and *A Champion Game Plan for Life*, at amazon.com.

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*"The Spirit that Rules Your Life"*

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# Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell

## Then Do It Afraid! ...

### Scaredy Cat ...

Hey, You!! What are you afraid of? Scaredy cat!!

I remember, in my day in age, kids used to call you that when you were afraid to try something, or they were trying to coerce you into doing something you didn't want to do. So, in order to get you to attempt it, they would taunt you by calling you a "Scaredy Cat!" Which was normally followed by the, "No, I'm not!"

Then your attempt to do it. Most of the time, it was something you had no business doing; however, what I loved about it was the fact that it would push you to your limits on some things you had no business being afraid of!

So, here I am, now ... 40 years later ... calling you out. Scaredy Cat!! What are you afraid of? Failure? Looking like a loser? Being



told no? What is it that won't allow you to push past your mental block to step out and start that business, non-profit, write that book, produce that song, start that workout program ... whatever it is you fear?

What are you looking for, to keep you from being afraid? Perfection? Well, that's never going to happen for any of us ... so what next, money? That will come. Someone to do it with you? Start, the people

God have put in place will fall in! Do it!! Scaredy Cat!! Do it!

If you fail ... so what? ... Fix it, and try again. If God gave it to you ... it's for you to do! There is a way; figure it out! Study those who are in a similar field, network, find your niche, what would set you apart ... and do it!!

Don't spend the rest of your life, wishing, hoping, and coveting what the next person is doing. Get out here and shine! Guess what? You're perfectly YOU!!! There's your perfection! So now, get to work! Don't be afraid ... and if you still are ... Do it afraid! You're not alone! Let's do it together, afraid, bold ... with faith!! I believe in YOU!!! Mark 9:23: "Jesus said to him, 'If you can believe? All things are possible for one who believes.'"

## 'Tis *already* the Season to Be Grateful, and Give Thanks Still!

"In every thing, give thanks." - 2 Thessalonians 5:18

### Yes, ...

... It's Thanksgiving Weekend 2025 and yes, it's still a good time to pause/reflect, celebrate life, and give thanks.

Yes, each day we can see war atrocities worldwide, "US Department of War" attempted atrocities in blue cities, soaring prices for household necessities, and senseless murders and shootings.

Yet, against these misfortunes, I am nonetheless comforted by the words of Mrs. Charles E. Cowman in her devotional book *Streams in the Desert*: "God never sends thorns without sending accompanying roses."

### And, ...

Buoyed up by such words and related images, may share my abbreviated "thankfulness report card" for 2025? I am grateful and giving thanks for:



The families of the recently furloughed-now-returning 670,000 federal workers and 730,000 work-without-pay feds who will now enjoy a threatened Thanksgiving dinner;

Despite soaring household prices across the board, natural light and natural air remain free, abundant and not taxed;

Personally, I've stopped running from 50+ years of God's calling on my life, and begun my fulltime professional speaking ministry (*more next week, . . .*); and

THERE ARE STILL MORE BLACK MEN IN COLLEGES THAN IN PRISONS, according to [The myth that there are more black men in prison than in college, debunked in one chart | Vox!](#)

### Now, It's Your Turn, ...

When you and I list our positives versus our negatives, we might surprise ourselves that the roses far outnumber the thorns!

And as my Dad used to say so regularly that Mom later memorialized it by inscribing it on a poster with her calligraphy penmanship, from 2 Thessalonians 5:18: "In every thing, give thanks."

Try it yourself today: create today's Good Things vs. Bad Things tally sheet - again, you might surprise yourself.

Then rejoice and be glad in it! It's God's gift to you for today - which is why it's called "the present."



### Tim Allston

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The Valley Weekly

# VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES &amp; MORE!

**November 28-30**

Marcus Wiley  
Comedian  
Huntsville Levity Live  
2012 Memorial Parkway SW  
Huntsville, Ala.  
huntsville@levitylive.com

**December 7**

Christmas with C.S. Lewis  
Mars Music Hall  
Von Braun Center  
1 p.m.

**December 9**

Alabama A&M University  
150th Anniversary Closing  
Ceremony (Invitation Only)  
Huntsville, Ala. - 5:30 p.m.

**December 11**

"Wheel of Fortune"  
Mars Music Hall  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7:30 p.m.

**December 13**

Jeff Dunham  
Propst Arena  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
5 p.m.

**January 16-17**

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban  
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7 p.m.

**January 25**

Fantasia with Anthony Hamilton  
Propst Arena

Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
8 p.m.

**January 27-February 1**

The Sound of Music  
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7 p.m.

**February 1**

Harlem Globetrotters  
Propst Arena  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.

3 p.m.

**February 6**

Diana Krall  
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7:30 p.m.

**February 22**

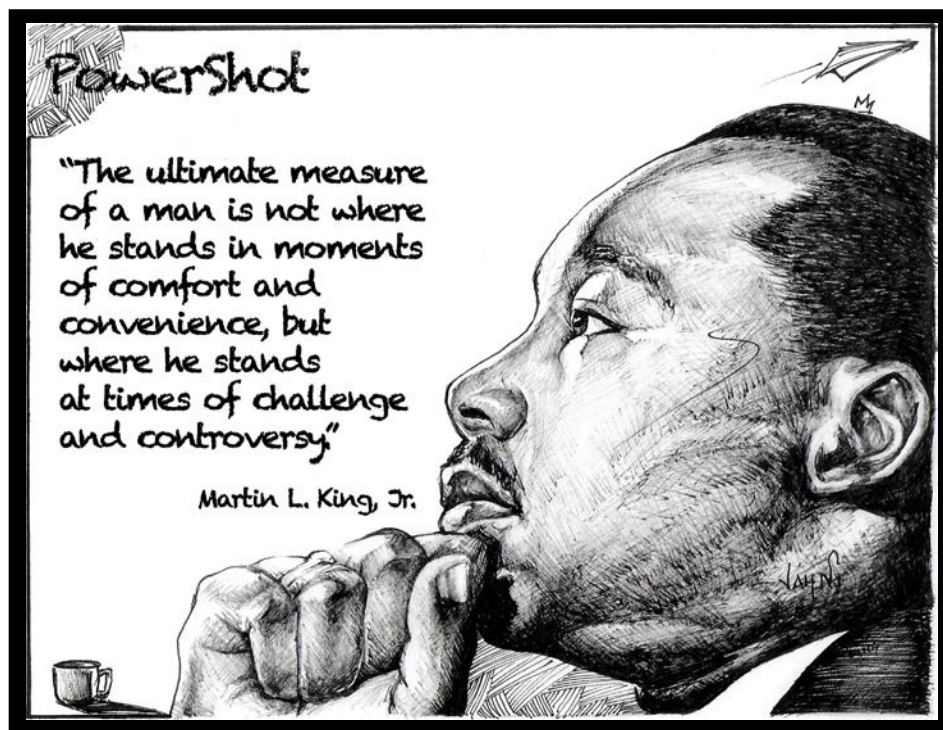
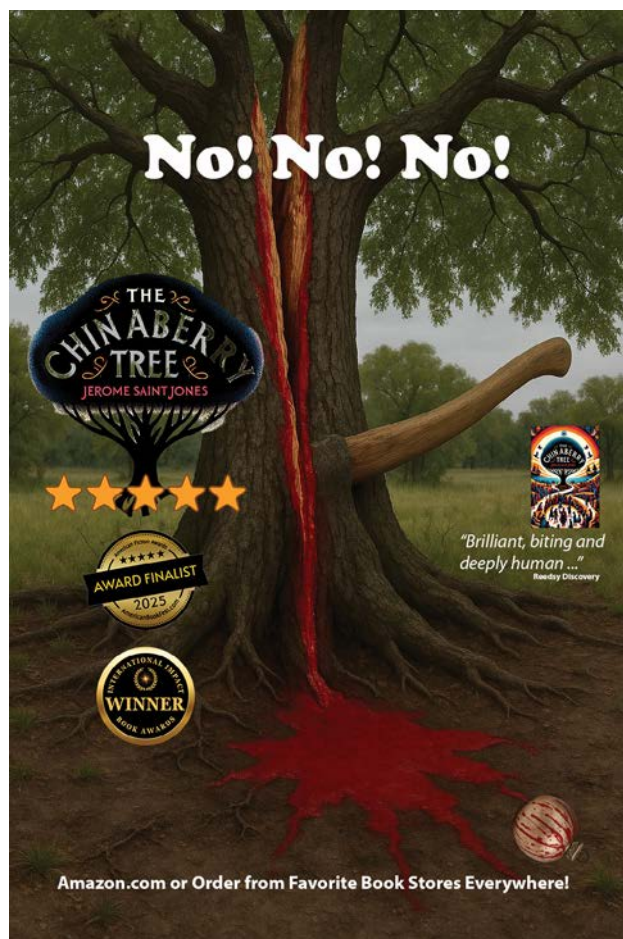
Heart  
Propst Arena  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7 p.m.

**February 28-March 1**

Disney on Ice  
Propst Arena  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.

**March 5**

KC and The Sunshine Band  
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.



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"Your time is limited, so don't waste it  
living someone else's life."

— Steve Jobs





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

## Mr. Rufus Gilmore

Mr. Rufus Gilmore, III, is a product of the Birmingham Public School System and a 1968 graduate of Carver High School. Upon completing high school, he attended Miles College and earned the B.S. degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting. Upon graduating from Miles, he received an offer to work in Student Services in the Office of Financial Aid at his Alma Mater. After working for seven years, he enrolled in Atlanta University and received an MBA with a concentration in accounting in 1974.

In 1976, Gilmore was offered a position at Alabama A&M University as assistant professor of accounting. He advised the Accounting Club and accompanied students to various professional meetings, including the Black CPA Recruiting Conference, where many AAMU students received positions in accounting.

He was later offered a position by AAMU President John T. Gibson to direct the Alabama A&M University Foundation. As director of the Foundation, Gilmore was able to computerize the accounting system and provide reports to the various stakeholders. He also managed the Trust Fund for Educational Excellence with assets of over \$32 million. During his tenure as director, he received a clean audit of his financial records each year by Ernst & Young.

Gilmore is a founding member of the Huntsville/Madison County Miles College National Alumni Association and served for more than 20 years as its president. He currently serves as the Huntsville chapter's treasurer.

In 1977, the multi-talented accountant and musician was offered a position as organist and director of the Youth Choir at St. John AME Church, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Homer L. McCall. During his thirty years as director of music, he served the Gospel Choir, Senior Choir and the Male Chorus. During his tenure as director of music, Gilmore organized the Male Chorus, which became a vital part of the Music Department. Every other year, the Music Department would offer an Easter Cantata for the St. John Family and the Huntsville Community.

An integral part of his work in the Music Department was teaching piano to many of the youth of St. John, including: Brooke Rankin, Bobby Rice, Jr., Christina Sanders, Marissa Owens, Wallace Parham, Shannon & Erin Lott and Christopher Butler. Semi-annually, he would present a piano recital as part of the music program.

Even Pastor McCall honored Gilmore by offering him a position on the Steward Board under the former's leadership. While serving as a steward, he was



given the responsibility of preparing and presenting the annual financial budget for the church. He served on the Benevolent Committee for many years, looking out for the needs of the church and the Huntsville Community. While serving on this commission, he played a major role in writing the Benevolence Policy for the church.

He has served on the board of the Union Chapel School; treasurer of the Alabama New South Coalition; president of the Huntsville Miles College Alumni Association; treasurer and financial secretary of the Miles College National Alumni Association; and manager of Council Federal Credit Union. He is the current treasurer of St. John AME church, and he serves on the Steward Board under Pastor Rev. Maurice Wright, II.

Gilmore and his wife Agnes enjoy reading, working puzzles, and good music.

"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).



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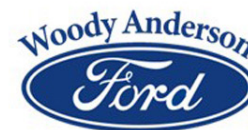
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# AUNT IRMA MAKES IT PLAIN...

## Why Drugs Are FOREVER!

*For most of human history, the idea of taking a medication every day for the rest of one's life simply did not exist.*

Before the mid-20th century, medicines were short-term remedies—herbal mixtures, pain relievers, and crude treatments used to address acute illnesses. Physicians lacked both the tools and the philosophy to manage chronic disease, and patients rarely lived long enough to develop the kinds of conditions that dominate modern health-care. As a result, the pharmaceutical industry operated on **modest profits**, producing small batches of episodic treatments with no expectation of long-term, recurring revenue.

This reality shifted dramatically between the 1950s and 1970s, a period that marks the birth of **modern chronic-disease medicine**. Several revolutionary therapies—insulin, thyroid hormone, antihypertensives, antidepressants, steroids, asthma inhalers—introduced an entirely new concept: drugs that worked only when taken continuously.



At the same time, life expectancy increased, and chronic illnesses such as hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease rose sharply. Physicians began to adopt **a new model** of care: *not curing disease, but managing risk indefinitely.*

For pharmaceutical companies, this was **transformative**. Instead of one-time antibiotic treatment or acute-care remedies, the industry now had products that required daily use for decades.

The correlation with rising profits was immediate. Drug patents became

stronger, mass marketing expanded, and physicians increasingly relied on pharmaceutical solutions. By the 1980s and 1990s, the industry entered the blockbuster era—defined by drugs generating over a billion dollars in annual revenue. Statins for cholesterol, SSRIs for depression, and long-term blood-pressure medications became standard. These were not cures; they were lifelong therapies for widespread conditions. In the same period, changes in insurance structures and federal programs normalized long-term prescription use, making medications

both more accessible and more profitable.

By the 2000s, the pharmaceutical industry had transitioned into one of the highest-margin sectors in the global economy. Biologics, cancer treatments, and autoimmune therapies—often costing thousands of dollars per month—reinforced a **system built on extended or lifelong usage**. In the United States, the expansion of **direct-to-consumer drug advertising** further amplified demand, making perpetual medication a cultural norm.

Taken together, the evolution of chronic-disease treatment and the explosion of pharmaceutical profits are not parallel trends—they are intertwined. The shift from epi-



sodic treatment to lifelong management formed **the economic foundation** of modern pharma. The industry's most lucrative products arise not from curing illness, but from supplying the steady, perpetual need to control it.

-TVW Staff




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# The Valley and the “Buy Nothing Rebellion”

*Across the country, a quiet but powerful movement has been gaining momentum. Known as the “Buy Nothing Rebellion,” it encourages people to step back from constant spending and rethink their relationship with money, possessions, and community.*



While the idea may sound simple—buy less, share more—its potential impact is far-reaching, especially in Black communities where economic pressures are often heavier and generational wealth gaps remain stubborn.

At its heart, the move-

ment is about resisting the cultural expectation to spend as a symbol of success. Many Black households know too well the financial stress caused by rising prices, credit card debt, and predatory advertising

aimed at our desire to “keep up” in a society that rarely acknowledges our economic disadvantages. The Buy Nothing Rebellion offers an alternative path—one that values creativity, community ties, and resourcefulness over

brand names or constant upgrades.

Economically, if more people embraced this mindset, certain sectors like fast fashion, big-box retail, and electronics would feel the impact. But communities might benefit. Instead of money flowing out—to corporations and chains—it circulates locally through repair shops, small businesses, swap meets, and buy-nothing neighborhood groups. Imagine tool-sharing groups for homeowners, clothing swaps for families, or community fridges for food sharing. These initiatives build trust,

reduce waste, and lighten the load on households that are already stretching every dollar.

Environmentally, the impact is equally important. Buying less means less packaging, less trash, and fewer resources extracted from the earth. For neighborhoods dealing with industrial pollution, landfills, and environmental neglect, that reduction matters. The rebellion quietly pushes back against systems that have long placed heavier environmental burdens on Black communities.

On a personal level, many people who have joined the movement

report feeling more in control of their finances and less stressed about appearances. There is freedom in saying, “I don’t need it today.” There is pride in making do, fixing what you have, or borrowing from a neighbor. And there is power in choosing to define success on your own terms.

Whether the Buy Nothing Rebellion becomes a cultural shift or remains a grassroots movement, it offers an invitation—to slow down, to spend wisely, and to rediscover the strength of community.

- TVW Staff





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