

Our Tim Allston Remembers Rosalynn Carter - p. 5

FREE



Celebrating Christmas as a Family - p. 8

Friday
December 1, 2023
Vol. 10, No. 13
ValleyWeeklly.com

GLORIA B: "DEALING WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE" - p. 5



See Extensive List of Valley Events - p. 4

SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mr. Freeman Holifield, Sr.

"The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once." - Albert Einstein



MARCHING INTO HISTORY! Alabama A&M University's Marching Maroon and White Band (directed by Carlton Wright) becomes the first black college/university band to lead the nearly 100-year-old Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade in New York City on November 23, 2023. (Photo by Kevin McCormick/GroupPhotos.com)

Deltas "Meals on Wheels" Support Fundraiser This Weekend

Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated will hold a Day of Giving for Meals on Wheels for the Studio 60 Senior Center (formerly known as the Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center).

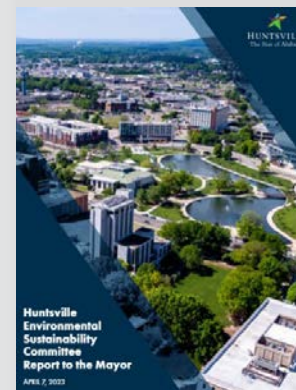
The Chapter is hosting a virtual fundraiser on Saturday, December 2, 2023, to support the Studio 60 Senior Center located at 2200 Drake Avenue in Huntsville, Ala.

To strengthen efforts to eliminate food insecurities, the chapter's President, Alexis Toney, and the event's coordinators (Rhonda Childress-Thompson, Kahala McCaskey, and Cherise Primm) are challenging all Greek-letter organizations, clubs, churches, and community affiliates to help exceed its goal to raise \$24,000. 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 Studio 60 Senior Center closes during the Christmas season. The organization's goal is to provide more than 1,000 hot meals during the holiday season and 250 boxed meals for Juneteenth.

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

City Sustainability Commission Established



The City of Huntsville is elevating its focus on sustainability as part of an ongoing effort to keep a watchful eye on the community's natural and built environment.

To ensure intentionality and continuity in this effort, Mayor Tommy Battle established an 11-member Huntsville Sustainability Commission. The group will work directly with municipal departments in an advisory capacity to help guide recommendations outlined in the City of Huntsville's Sustainability Plan, released earlier this year.

See **REPORT.**
- huntsvilleal.gov

The Valley Weekly

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The Valley Weekly

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The Valley Weekly

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The Valley Weekly Washington One Minute



by Ron Hamm

Here is what's happening in Washington, D.C., the nation's capital, this week:

1. CONGRESS. The House and Senate are in session this week. The Senate started the week with a 5:30 p.m. vote on a Minnesota federal judge nominee and continued internal discussions and vote counting on 2 big issues: (1) a bill to provide aid to Israel and Ukraine and (2) a change to the Senate Rules to end the hold on 359 (by latest count) military officer promotions by Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-AL), who has been protesting since February a Pentagon policy that allows time off and travel reimbursement for servicemembers seeking an abortion when they are stationed in states that restrict it. The House began voting Tuesday evening and considered, among other items, a bill to ban migrant housing on federal lands (that would retroactively cancel the contract between New York City and the Biden Administration to house migrants at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn) and a bill to permanently freeze the \$6 billion of Iranian funds released as part of the Biden administration's 2023 hostage deal. As its newest member, Celeste Maloy (R-UT), was sworn in this week, the House is also expected to take up a resolution to expel indicted Rep. George Santos (R-NY) from the House – which needs a 2/3rds vote to pass. The lighting of the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree was Tuesday on the West Front Lawn.

2. THE WHITE HOUSE. The President made remarks on the release of hostages held by Hamas Sunday and then returned to the White House from his week-long Thanksgiving vacation on Nantucket. On Monday, the President made remarks on strengthening supply chains and on Tuesday, the President and First Lady (and VP Harris and Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff) traveled to Emory

University in Atlanta, to attend a tribute service for former First Lady Rosalynn Carter – for whom flags were ordered to fly at half-staff through sunset on Wednesday. The President then traveled to Denver, CO, for a campaign event on Tuesday, followed by a rescheduled visit to Pueblo, CO, on Wednesday to make remarks on the economy at wind turbine tower manufacturer CS Wind. On Thursday, he hosted a meeting at the White House with Angolan President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço and then participated in the lighting of the National Christmas Tree on the White House Ellipse. On Friday, the Bidens will host a reception for the Kennedy Center honorees before attending the 46th Kennedy Center Honors.

3. SUPPLY CHAIN. On Monday, President Biden convened the first meeting of his supply chain resilience council, using the event to announce 30 actions to improve access to medicine and needed economic data and other programs tied to the production and shipment of goods. The announcement comes after supply chain problems fueled higher inflation as the United States recovered from the coronavirus pandemic in 2021. Although consumer prices are down from last year's peaks, polling shows that inflation remains a political challenge for the president. The federal government will also improve its ability to monitor supply chains through the sharing of data among agencies. The Commerce Department has developed new tools to assess risks to the supply chain and has partnered with the Energy Department on the supply of renewable energy resources. Shipping companies are beginning to use new data resources from the Transportation Department on freight logistics. The council will be co-chaired by Lael Brainard, director of the

White House National Economic Council, and Jake Sullivan, the White House national security adviser. Other members include heads of Cabinet departments, the U.S. trade representative, the chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers and the directors of National Intelligence, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

4. SUPREME COURT. The Supreme Court began its December argument session Monday,

which will include a major bankruptcy case on Dec. 4 at which the justices will hear a challenge to the approved bankruptcy plan for Purdue Pharma, the maker of OxyContin, which released the owning Sackler family from future liability in exchange for paying \$6 billion to settle thousands of lawsuits filed by states, hospitals, and individuals who became addicted to the opioid.

5. HOUSE RETIREMENTS. With the headline "Frustrated Lawmakers Run for the Exits: DC

is Broken," The Hill newspaper reported last week that a notable 30 House Members, 19 Democrats and 11 Republicans, have announced that they will not seek reelection in 2024. On Friday, Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN) became #31 when he announced he would not seek reelection.

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**VALLEY
DEATHS**



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Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced later for MRS. YOLANDA LACY (b. 1973), MS. MAUDE BAKER (b. 1962) and MR. THOMAS STRICKLAND (b.1958)

Graveside service for MR. CLEOPHUS R. MCCAULLEY "PINKY" (b. 1954) was held on Sunday, November 26, from Little Zion Cemetery in Rogersville, Ala., with Pastor Kourtney Wesley officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. BETTIE L. THORNTON (b. 1945) was held Saturday, November 25, from Blue Spring Road Church of Christ with Pastor Floyd Rodgers officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW

Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481 - www.royalfh.com

Funeral service for MRS. PATRICIA LOUISE BARNETT (b. 1948) will be Thursday, November 30, at the Mount Moriah Primitive Baptist Church (820 W. Irvine Avenue, Florence, Ala.) with Elder Curtis Banks officiating.

Funeral service for MR. JERMAINE LEE MOORE (b. 1981) was Sunday, November 26, at the Owens Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (2520 Elton Road NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. H. Wendell Thompson officiating.

Funeral service for MOTHER BETTYE JEAN NOBLES (b. 1936) was held Saturday, November 25, at the Saint James Primitive Baptist Church (1093 Fairbanks St NW.)

Funeral service for MR. DARNELL LAMAR "DJ" JACKSON, JR. (b. 1991) was Saturday, November 25, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Ernest Thomas officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Drive NW

Huntsville, AL 35816 (256) 539-9693 - www.serenityfuneralhm.com

Funeral service for MS. RUTH DAVID (b. 1939) will be held Sunday, December 3, at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel at 3 p.m.

Funeral service for MS. JOYCE JONES (b.1950) will be held Saturday, December 2, at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel at 11 a.m.

Funeral service for MR. RAYMON "RAY RAY" HOLLOWAY (b. 1960) will be Saturday, December 2, at 2 p.m.

Huntsville Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council's regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

Council work sessions are also held in the Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information, call (256) 427-5011.

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NAAACC Meetings

The North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce (Huntsville) meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 12 noon.

The meeting location varies. Call (256) 564-7574.

Spiritual Game Plan

THE VALLEY WEEKLY
PRESTON BROWN'S



Raising Our Standards

Daniel 3:18 says, "But even if God does not (rescue us) we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

In this scripture, we find Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refusing to bow down to the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had made. The reason they refused was they had already established a standard for their lives that would not allow them to bow down to any golden image.

Now a standard is something established by authority, custom, or general consent as a model or example. God has a standard that He wants us to live by, and I believe that He is calling all of us to raise our spiritual standards.

How can we embrace

God's strength when we don't accept His standards for our lives?

We live in a world where our standards are being set by so many different sources. This could be by a famous celebrity, or a famous athlete, or a powerful politician.

Our standards are not being set by God. When we set our standards low, it's easy for the enemy Satan to "come in like a flood," and that's when things go bad. That's when we start living a life of compromise.

Many of our youth today remain isolated in their own worlds with their own thoughts, but who is setting the standard for them to live by? I believe that everyone needs a plan to help them navigate through the good times as well as the bad.

We all need daily reminders to reinforce God's standards for our lives. We do this by reading His word so that His



truth can be revealed to us.

May God grant you spiritual success in raising your standards and living according to his word.

Question:

Has there ever been a time in your life where you were asked to compromise your standards?

What did you do?

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, Westbow Books or, if you have a PayPal account, email me at preston-brown81@gmail.com, and I will send you an autographed copy.

NEXT WEEK: "Irresistible Grace"



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A New Generation Of Service

The Valley Weekly

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

November 30
"Sushi Class 101"

The New Gooch Place
500 Gooch Lane
Madison, Ala.

Vegetarian/Fruit Options
(No Raw Fish)
Jonathan Brumby
RSVP: (706) 363-2158

December 1
NEACA 2023 Christmas
Craft Show
Von Braun Center - 9 a.m.

Candlelight Christmas
Burritt on the Mountain

Tickets
5-9 p.m.

Mrs. Claus' Snow Stroll on
Gas Light Alley
Stovehouse - 5:30 p.m.

December 2
"Embroider with Yarn"
Class
S&R Sewing & Vacuum

Center, 1407 Memorial
Parkway NW
Suite #1
Huntsville, Ala.
9:30 a.m.

"Beetlejuice" (Touring)
Von Braun Center
8 p.m.

December 4-10
Seven Squared Quad Skate
Tour Clinic
Critical Medicine
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/qQiPsB4AGBmfxS398>

December 6
Ms. Lauryn Hill: The Mis-
education of Lauryn Hill
Special 25th Anniversary
Performance
The Orion Amphtheater
theorionhuntsville.com
7 p.m.

December 8
"Christkindlmarket"

The Orion Amphitheater
5 p.m.

Inaugural Scholarship Gala
Sponsor: R.E. Nelms
Temple 1127 Daughters of
the I.B.O.E.W. (\$50)
Stone Event Center
2620 Clinton Avenue W.
Huntsville, Ala.
RSVP: 256.262.7918/ ren-
elms1127@gmail.com

Holiday Fireworks
Presented by Redstone
Gateway
Ditto Landing
7 p.m.

December 9
Holiday Jazz Brunch
The Camp
12-3 p.m.

December 10
Holiday Jazz Event
Campus No. 805
6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 1 - JANELLE MONAE - Janelle Monáe Robinson is an American singer, songwriter, rapper, actress, and model. During her career, Monáe has received six Grammy Award nominations, received one MTV Video Music Award and the ASCAP Vanguard Award in 2010. She was also honored with the "Rising Star Award" in 2015 along with the "Trailblazer of the Year" in 2018 at the Billboard Women in Music. She is signed to her own imprint, Wondaland Arts Society, and Atlantic Records. After her first unofficial studio album, *The Audition*, she publicly debuted with a conceptual EP titled *Metropolis: Suite I (The Chase)*, which peaked at number 115 on the Billboard 200 in the United States. - BlackCelebrityBirthdays.org



PowerShot

"Whatever you can
do, or dream you
can, begin it.
Boldness has
genius, power,
and magic in it."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



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"Idealism is like a castle in the air if it is not based on a solid foundation of social and political realism."

- Claude McKay

Dealing with Difficult People

Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell

As we go about living our everyday lives, we'll inevitably encounter difficult people.

People struggling to deal with themselves will project their frustrations off on you. Sometimes, these people are some of the closest ones to you. People you work for and with, or were married to and have kids with, friends or family members. People who harbor bitterness.

Sometimes, it's over

you; sometimes, it has nothing to do with you ... it's them trying to process their past.

So, the question is,

hatred, rudeness, and frustration?

Do you stand in that foolishness with them?

Do you jeopardize



"How do you deal with these people?"

Do you repay chaos, hatred, rudeness, and frustration with chaos,

your character on their behalf? Do you take the bait and get involved in the "pettiness"?

The initial moments of these encounters may be

to do just that. However, don't waste time, or energy on people or things you can't change.

You need that time and energy to move about your day, reach your goals, and deal with your children, parents, and people who matter.

Don't spend major time fooling with minor people. Stay in peace.

Change your mind-set. Don't allow them to

control you. Don't give them the authority to ruin your day. It's your choice. Stay calm and respectful, despite.

I know you think it's not fair. However, you won't gain

favor with God by returning that negativity. The word says to bless your enemies, despite. Let God deal with them.

Do just that!

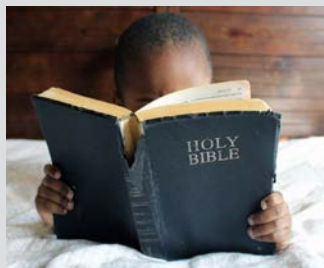
ON THIS DAY



On December 1, Rosa Parks refuses to give her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama and is arrested for violating the city's racial segregation laws, an incident which leads to the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

- Blackfacts.com

This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, December 3, 2023

First Sunday
of Advent

(Track 2, Year B)

First Lesson:

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Second Lesson:

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

GOSPEL:

Mark 13:24-37

"The greatest of virtues are those which are most useful to other persons."

- Aristotle



Remembering Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter: A Model #2 Leader from the Middle!

"Who can find a virtuous wife?"

For her worth is far above rubies." - Proverbs 31:10

With her November 19th passing, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter will be remembered not only as a trailblazer in the White House, but also as a role model for silver-mettle leadership - or, how to be #1 from a #2 position.

Branding herself as "more of a political partner than a political wife," she regularly attended her husband President Jimmy Carter's Cabinet and National Security Council meetings.

Perhaps such initiatives led Congress in 1977 to establish and fund the Office of the First Lady as a federal position.

Her chief legislative initiative, the Mental Health Systems Act, passed in 1980, and its insurance coverage became law in 2008.

The 99-year-old Carter, the longest-living US president, remembered his wife of 77 years - the nation's longest-married presidential couple - as "an almost equal extension of myself."

Carter relied fully upon her to fulfill his earlier business and later political successes. Upon retiring from his naval service and returning to their family's farm supply business, it was she whose second-in-command skills turned it into a thriving business.

Later, she overcame her fear of public speaking and became his campaigner-in-chief in both his campaign for Georgia governor in 1970 and his presidential re-election bid in 1980.

As his closest adviser, she lobbied successfully for elevating more women into federal jobs - from judgeships to even White House honor guards.

President Clinton awarded the 1999 Presidential Medal of Honor to the Carters - one of the few couples to receive the nation's highest civilian honor.

In her honor, this #2 silver-mettle leader from the middle memorializes Mrs. Rosalynn Carter with -

"The Funeral Poem" by Summer Sandercox

"Not how did she die, but how did she live?"

Not what did she gain, but what did she give?"

"These are the units of measure to determine the worth Of a woman as a woman, regardless of her birth.

"Not what was her church, but what was her creed?"

And how she befriended those really in need.

"Was she ever ready with words of good cheer

To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?"

*"Not what did the sketch in the newspapers say,
But how many were truly sorrowful when she passed away."*

Tim Allston, Leadership Coach and Three-time Amazon Best-selling Author, Leading from the Middle (256) 212-0949 - www.timallston.com



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

Freeman Holifield, Sr.



Freeman Holifield, Sr., retired in 1998 from the U.S. Missile Munitions Center and School, Redstone Arsenal, as supervisory instructional/educational systems specialist (Emeritus). He received the Commander's Award (1983) for his outstanding managerial and supervisory accomplishments.

One of six children born in Bessemer, Ala., to the late Fred B. Holifield, Sr., and Essie L. Holifield, he attended Dunbar High School and then joined the U.S. Army, where he proudly served as an administrative specialist, both stateside and in Korea. Upon receiving his Honorable Discharge in 1962, he pursued and earned a B.S. degree in secondary education at Alabama A&M University (AAMU) in 1966 and completed his master's degree in education administration and supervision in 1972 while working full-time.

During the early 1960s, the modern Civil Rights Movement was bringing about great social change in the U.S. and change was coming to Huntsville, Ala., as well. In late 1964, Holifield became the first African American police officer to be promoted to the position of traffic officer in the elite traffic division. Within a few months he trained and was promoted as the first black motorcycle officer.

After leaving the Huntsville Police Department in 1966, he began a new career with the U.S. Ordnance Missile & Munitions Center and School (USAOMMCS) at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., as an electronics instructor. The Civil Rights Movement had extended to Redstone Arsenal, and minorities were employed to work in many of the different agencies. Desegregation was difficult, but over the years many minorities who faced the hardship of working in a hostile environment became outstanding employees.

During his 33 years of employment with the federal government, Holifield held numerous positions at USAOMMCS, where he served as a training instructor/developer in missile electronics. He was the first developer to complete a course of instructions under the new guidelines of Systems Engineering. Throughout his career with USAOMMCS, he also served two tours overseas in West Germany. Upon his return from the second tour to USAOMMCS

in 1983, he was assigned as a Senior Evaluator, and later promoted as the first black Supervisor as Chief of Internal Evaluation Division at USAOMMCS, served as Acting Director, Directorate of Evaluation and Standardization and Chief of Staff and Faculty Development Division at USAOMMCS.

Holifield has been affiliated with numerous organizations in the communities. Over the years, he has been recognized for his job related duties as well as for his volunteer work. He and the late Charles Winslow were the host and co-host of "Talkfest," a community affairs talk show that aired on WAFF-TV 48 (NBC) for 14 years.

He has headed the AAMU Alumni Association, Inc.; the AAMU Community Resource Group; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity (#292), Past Basileus (3 times) of Xi Omicron Chapter; Ancient Egyptian Arabic Nobles of Mystic Shrine (AEANOMS); Honorary Past Imperial Potentate; Past Imperial Deputy of Desert Alabama; Past Imperial Deputy of Oasis Huntsville; Past Potentate Al Azhar Temple 195; Past President of Deep South Shriners; and many others.

He was married to the late Janie Adams of Sheffield, Ala. He is the father of two children, Dr. Quintaniay Holifield and Lt. Colonel Freeman Holifield.



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"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.rossettajamesfoundation.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.

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AAMU Alum, Area Family Farm Partner with Victoria's Secret

Victoria's Secret & Co. has recently embarked on a first-of-its-kind initiative to advance diverse suppliers and responsible sourcing. In a departure from fashion industry standards, the global clothing and beauty brand now purchases cotton directly from four Alabama family farms – one Black-owned, and three women-owned.

The initiative eliminates intermediaries to ensure farmers receive all proceeds from their crops which in turn supports their land and communities.

Alabama A&M University alumnus Billy Bridgeforth and his family-run Bridgeforth Farms in Tan-



ner, Alabama, are helping break down barriers as one of the project's partners.

Bridgeforth Farms holds over 10,000 acres of land across four counties. The fifth-generation farm touches several industries through large-scale production of 6 crops: cotton,

corn, soybeans, wheat, sorghum, and canola using a variety of cutting-edge agronomic techniques and land conservation practices.

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, less than 1 percent of cotton farms

in the U.S. are owned and operated by Black farmers. Bridgeforth Farms has for many years worked to change those statistics as a member of the National Black Growers Council. Alabama's largest

producer of cotton, Bridgeforth was a natural fit for the VS&Co. initiative.

Victoria's Secret purchases 50,000 – 65,000 bales of cotton per year. In the 2022 harvest, about 13

percent of its cotton was purchased directly from Alabama farm partners – a number it expects to double in 2023.

In its annual Cotton Report, VS&Co. acknowledged the history of slavery and recognized that the profitability of the U.S. cotton industry was built on the unpaid labor of enslaved Black people.

“Our dedication to shaping a new cotton supply chain is driven by our commitment to operating with respect and responsibility, while also fostering economic empowerment within the Black community.”

The partnership with Bridgeforth Farms does not stop at cotton farming. Through the relationship, VS&Co and Bridgeforth have created three-year scholarship and internship programs for Alabama A&M University and Tuskegee University students. These educational programs equal a \$150,000 investment into diverse agriculture students.

More on Victoria's Secret & Co. new Supplier Relationships: <https://www.victoriasecretandco.com/news-releases/news-release-details/how-victorias-secret-co-redefining-supplier-relationships>

The Orion Featuring Ms. Lauryn Hill

The Orion Amphitheater will host the “Mis-education of Lauryn Hill Special 25th Anniversary Performance” on Wednesday, December 6, at 7 p.m.

Since its release, the album has been ranked in numerous best-album lists, with a number of critics regarding it as one of the greatest albums of the 1990s, as well as one of the greatest albums of all

time. Among its honors are inclusion in Rolling Stone magazine's 500 Greatest Albums of All Time list, Harvard University's Loeb Music Library, the Smithsonian National Museum of African American history, the 200 Definitive Albums in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Library of Congress' National Recording Registry. In 2021, the album

was certified Diamond by the Recording Industry Association of America, for estimated sales of 10 million copies in the US, making Hill the first female rapper to accomplish this feat. Worldwide, the album has sold over 20 million copies, making it one of the best-selling albums of all time and the best-selling album by a female rapper. Tickets: \$54-\$250.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

The City of Huntsville's Community Development Department has completed its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for FY22. A draft copy of this report may be viewed on line at www.huntsvilleal.gov/residents/neighborhoods/housing/fair-housing/ and at the Community Development Department Office located in the Yarbrough Office Center, 120 E. Holmes Avenue, and the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, located at 915 Monroe Street. Submit comments to Scott Erwin, City of Huntsville Department of Community Development, P.O. Box 308, Huntsville, AL 35804 or scott.erwin@huntsvilleal.gov. Deadline for comments is December 15, 2023. For more information regarding this public notice or to request special accommodations, please call (256) 427-5400. Hearing or speech impaired residents are encouraged to use the TTY line at (256) 427-7092 for requests.

AL PÚBLICO CIUDAD DE HUNTSVILLE

El Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario de la Ciudad de Huntsville ha completado su Informe Anual Consolidado de Desempeño y Evaluación (CAPER) para el año fiscal 22. Una copia preliminar de este informe se puede ver en línea en www.huntsvilleal.gov/residents/neighborhoods/housing/fair-housing/ y en la Oficina del Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario ubicada en el Centro de Oficinas de Yarbrough, 120 E. Holmes Avenue y la Biblioteca Pública del Condado de Huntsville-Madison, ubicada en 915 Monroe Street. Envíe sus comentarios a Scott Erwin, Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario de la Ciudad de Huntsville, P.O. Box 308, Huntsville, AL 35804 o Scott.erwin@huntsvilleal.gov. La fecha límite para comentarios es el 15 de diciembre de 2023. Para obtener más información sobre este aviso público o para solicitar adaptaciones especiales, llame al (256) 427-5400. Se recomienda a los residentes con discapacidad auditiva o del habla que usen la línea TTY al (256) 427-7092 para las solicitudes.





How to Find Much More Meaning on the '8 to 5'

(BPT) - Employees make career decisions for a variety of reasons, but an increasingly popular factor that many consider is whether their work will be meaningful - especially among younger generations.

According to Fidelity Investments, 86% of all workers say it's important to them to work for an employer with values that align with their own and half of all employees are considering changing employers in the next year - with many searching for more meaningful work.[1]

As such, employers are realizing it's more important than ever to connect with their employees on the things that matter most to them and to put their company's values at the front and center.

With so many workers considering a career shift,

employers are turning to workplace giving programs to demonstrate their authentic company values and attract and retain their workforce. In fact, Fidelity data shows nearly 8 in 10 employees at companies offering a workplace giving program say their company's values align with their personal values - compared to only 56% of employees at companies without one. Workplace giving programs include any employee benefit that supports and encourages employees to volunteer or make donations to charities.

Here are three ways employees use workplace giving benefits to find more meaning at work.

* Setting up or attending organized group volunteer opportunities in their communities.

* Receiving a matching donation from their employer when they donate to charity.

* Working with local organizations in need and holding corporate giving drives around the holidays.

These programs not only boost engagement at work, but they also help employees find a deeper sense of connection to their company, and their jobs. Additionally, employees also feel more connected to their coworkers - many of whom are returning to in-office work for the first time in years.

For more information about workplace giving opportunities, visit [Fidelity.com/giving](https://www.fidelity.com/giving).

[1] Fidelity Charitable Giving in the Workplace 2023

THE VALLEY WEEKLY ALL FOR THE FAMILY Celebrating Christmas as a Family

Many people, especially children, believe that Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year. Congruence among family researchers reveal that more families spend time together during Thanksgiving than Christmas. However, a number of individuals, especially children, say that Christmas is their favorite time of the year.

Many say that "Jesus is the reason for the season." They maintain that every aspect of Christmas should

be tied to Jesus. A review of Christian literature explains the meaning of some of our practices during the Christmas Season.

• We put lights on the tree because Jesus is the LIGHT of the world.

• We give gifts because Jesus' life was the greatest gift humanity has ever

received.

• We pray for those who send us and to whom we send Christmas cards that focus on a variety of aspects of the season.

• We decorate with wreaths and trees because ever-

greens in the winter remind us of the perseverance of life in Christ.

• Unfortunately, too many support the view that Santa Claus brings gifts, especially for children.

However, Jesus gives us the gift of salvation and the opportunity to have eternal life.

- Margaret Kelly, Ph.D.



Dr. Margaret J. Kelly

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