

# The Valley Weekly

"A witty saying proves nothing."  
- Voltaire

FREE

Volume 5 No. 27

[www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com)

Friday, March 15, 2019

## AAA Grant Helps Launch Dance Program

The Academy for Academics and Arts (AAA) is pleased to announce that the AAA Dance Department has received a \$4,000 grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts (ASCA), the state arts agency.

This grant signified that AAA Dance provides programs of artistic quality, serves the needs of the community and demonstrates high-level administration standards, as well as enhancing education



of students at all levels.

This grant awarded by the Alabama State Council on the Arts is made possible through funding from an annual ap-

ropriation from the Alabama Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. This public support allows AAA Dance to demonstrate the importance of arts as a component for quality of life in Alabama.

The Academy for Academics and Arts is Huntsville's first magnet school. The school was established in 1984 at the Cavalry Hill School on Poplar Avenue.

## OUC Presents Annual Spring Revival

A 2017 Pew Research study found that while about half of Americans do not attend church on a regular basis 35% identify as "spiritual."

It is our belief that Americans desire religion that is authentic and relevant to the needs and issues that they face everyday. It is with this in mind that the

Breath of Life Television Ministry in partnership with the Oakwood University Church presents it's annual Spring Revival.

The theme for this year's revival is "Fake News vs. Good News." The revival begins on March 16 at 7 p.m. The opening night will feature the music ministry of the world-renowned



Mississippi Mass Choir.

Also, on the following evening (March 17), Joshua Rogers will be the special musical guest.

## UWC Plans Start Smart Workshop

United Women of Color is sponsoring an Interview Workshop to assist those who are unemployed, underemployed, seeking to change careers, or shy about interviewing to confidently compete in the local job market.

The organization will do mock interviews and provide valuable resources. Bring two



(2) copies of your resume on Saturday, March 30, at the Public Library Auditorium at 915 Monroe St, Huntsville, AL 35801.

The forum will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. The event is free but interested persons must register at Eventbrite.com. Seats are limited and registration closes March 20.

For more information, contact Angela Curry at (256) 527-1013 or e-mail [theunitedwoc@gmail.com](mailto:theunitedwoc@gmail.com).



## Rolling Hills Celebrates Reading Across America

Rolling Hills Elementary School hosted Read Across America Week to celebrate reading and Dr. Seuss from February 25, 2019 to March 1, 2019.

Each day students were encouraged to read. Students and staff participated in fun-filled dress up days that included silly sock day and hat day.

Special guest readers visited classrooms to read to students. Guests included the Superintendent of Huntsville City Schools, Christie Finley; Captain Rice from the Huntsville Police Department North Precinct; Judge (Ret.) Lynn Sherrod; Melody Holt

("Love & Marriage: Huntsville) fraternity and sorority members, and a host of community volunteers.

For more information,

contact Daphne Scott, curriculum specialist, Rolling Hills Elementary School, at (256) 428-7400 or e-mail [daphne.scott@hsv-k12.org](mailto:daphne.scott@hsv-k12.org).

# The Valley Weekly

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# Rosetta James 13th Annual "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration

Saturday, March 9, 2019 - 12 Noon  
- The Jackson Center, Huntsville, Ala.-

Photos by Jerome Saintjones



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**The Valley Weekly**

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# Rosetta James 13th Annual "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration

Saturday, March 9, 2019 - 12 Noon

- The Jackson Center, Huntsville, Ala. -



Seated (Clockwise): Josephine Robinson, Elaine S. Plank, (Standing) Kathy Sieja, Josephine Scruggs, Eugene "Dick" Scruggs, Gladys Branch and Elder John Branch, Carolyn Rice Florence, Jacquelyne K. Bennett, Robert Jackson, Rev. Ethel Y. Delaney, and Mother Elizabeth Smith. Above, Councilmember Frances Akridge, Commissioner JesHenry Malone, and (r) Councilman Will Culver.

Photos by Amanda Kemp



# "WRESTLE"

Sunday, March 10, 2019 - AMC 10 - Huntsville, Ala.



Wrestle, a movie about the 2016 AHSAA state championship wrestling, with four students qualifying from J. O. Johnson High School, premiered in Huntsville at the AMC 10 on Sunday, March 10th. The film debuted at the San Francisco International Film Festival last year. The documentary is set for release on PBS later this year.

Members of the community were invited to attend and meet the coach, former students and producers of the film by Councilman Devyn Keith. Chris Scribner, Founder of Cap and Gown Project was the wrestling coach. He is currently a law student at Vanderbilt University.



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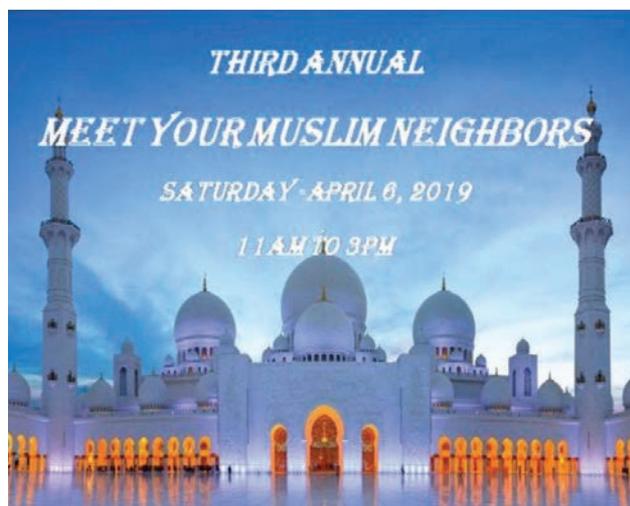
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## HIC Plans for "Meet Your Muslim Neighbor"

It's that time again! Make plans to join the Huntsville Islamic Center this year for the third annual Meet Your Muslim Neighbor's at the Huntsville Islamic Center.

The Center is located at 1645 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville, Ala., and the program will be held Saturday, April 6, from 11

a.m.-3 p.m.

Lots has changed this year. We will have outdoor activities for the kids-inflatables and train rides. Tour the mosque and snack on lots of traditional foods.

This year we are hosting a culture fair. Fun for the whole family! Hope to see you there!

- Huntsville Islamic Center

## Commissioner Malone Addresses Local Church

Madison County District 6 Commissioner, JesHenry F. Malone, gave the 2019 Black History month keynote address at Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Harvest, Ala.

Held on the last Sunday of February, Pine Grove Pastor, Dr. C. Jermaine Turner, introduced Commissioner Malone before the Sunday morning Black History Celebration.

A 2019 Celebration Litany titled "Black Migration," to mirror the national Black History month



theme, was penned by Pine Grove Church member, Sister Carol Drake-Harris.

The program was sponsored by the Pine Grove Christian Workers Fellowship, led by President Mother Idella Hardin.

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# Millennial Thought

by Josh Alex Baker

## The Impact of Introduction

We've all been there. Heart racing. Eyes shifting. A speech being looped continuously in our heads. Everyone in the room has just been directed to introduce themselves.

Introductions are by far one of the most dreaded aspects of any gathering. It breaks the sanctity of our comfort and forces us into new zones that we would much rather bypass.

Alas, we introduce ourselves. Despite our previous belief, the world did not end. Our heart rate normalizes. The loop comes to an end. We have yet again survived. The more I reflected on this widespread phenomenon, I began to ponder what any inquirer does. Why?

I came up with a conclusion. An introduction, whether intentional or not, is a defense. Sharing something as simple as your name can incite fear because there is weight attached to it. With even the most minimal dissemination of information, you are expected to be an expert in all things you.

And above ensuring that we do not stumble and are accurate in what we know of ourselves, there is a fear of being unimpressive. We imagine all eyes devouring and deconstructing all that we are.

I posit a simple question. Are you living a life that makes it easy to defend who you are?

Whether you answer yes or no, both options house potential. If you affirm living a life that makes it easy

to defend who you are, carry that realization with you into the next introduction you make. I am a firm believer in the power of you. If you are confident in who you are and what power you possess, allow it to reflect in how confidently you share that with others.

If you cannot affirm living such a life, there is still time. Invest in you. Invest in developing your potential. Invest in the belief that you are capable. And remember that above all, you define what success looks like to you.

Never tremble in stating who you are because the proclamation doesn't match up to someone else's résumé. You are who you are, and you have the power to be you extremely well. Do not drown in a hand-me-down life when you are continuously being equipped to lead one custom-made just for you.

## "Military Milestoner" Martha McSally Squealed, Revealed - and Healed

"For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" Psalm 30:5, King James Version. (CNN, 3/7/19)

Freshman Sen. Martha McSally of Arizona revealed Wednesday that she was raped while she served in the military.

McSally, who is a Republican, made the revelation during a Senate Armed Services subcommittee hearing on sexual assault in the military.

McSally said to witnesses present, "So like you, I am also a military sexual assault survivor," but she says she did not report and did not trust the system to do so. Welling up with emotion, McSally said she almost left the Air Force over her despair.

"Like many victims, I felt the system was raping me all over again. But I didn't quit, I decided to stay," she said after taking a pause to gather herself.

She called the issue of sexual assault in the military a "deeply personal" topic for her.

"We've come a long way to stop military sexual assault but we have a long way to go," McSally said.

An aide to the senator told CNN that she has spent the past several days working on the testimony. McSally felt the need to come forward because she wanted to speak honestly with witnesses.

McSally rose to the rank of colonel in the US Air Force before retiring. She was the first American woman to fly in combat after a ban on women was lifted.

### Recovering by Un-covering

One of the best ways to heal from tragedies and mishaps is to share openly your challenges and, more importantly, your healing and its process. When shared, it can often be a balm of healing for others similarly affected.

Ego-holism recovering step #6 states, "The healing is in the revealing."

Ask yourself, Got healing? Then, start revealing.



Ego-holism is "the addiction to self" - displayed either as arrogance, boastfulness or pride (big egos), and/or low-/no esteem, insecurity or feelings of inadequacies (little egos); ego-holisms (both big and little egos) equally affect and drain every person, organization, event or activity. God is gifting me to expose my own ego-holism(s) and to share my ongoing recovering journey, by overlapping Biblical best-practices with current events/newsmakers that illustrate characteristics of this addiction.

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tim allston is the author of the free book, 7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for "Someone Else," free and downloadable now at [www.GetEgo-HelpNow.org](http://www.GetEgo-HelpNow.org).

**"If you want to understand any problem in America, you need to focus on who profits from that problem, not who suffers from that problem."**  
- Amos Wilson



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# Valley Deaths

## - Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. GERALD W. HEREFORD (b. 1965) was held Wednesday, March 13, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for MR. JARIS LADELL WINTON (b. 1968) was held Tuesday, March 12, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for MRS. BERTA RICE SCRUGGS (b. 1926) was held Monday, March 11, at Greater Second Missionary Baptist Church, 810 Shallowford Road, Chattanooga, Tenn., with Reverend Dr. Steve Caudle officiating.

Funeral service for DEACON EMORY DRINKARD was held Saturday, March 9, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Bishop Anthony Huggins as officiant and eulogist.

Funeral service for MRS. DORIS BURKS CURRY (b. 1934), formerly of Decatur, Ala., was held Saturday, March 9, at St. John Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Akron, Ohio.

## - Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. LOUIS EDWARD COOPER, JR., (b. 1944) will be 12 noon, Friday, March 15, at the First Missionary Baptist Church with Dr. Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

Memorial service for MR. LEE CHATMAN (b. 1941) will be 1 p.m., Friday, March 15, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW Huntsville, Ala.).

Funeral service for MRS. FLORINE BATTLE (b. 1953) will be Wednesday, March 13, at Acklin Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (209 Cobb Road Berkley, AL 35774) with Pastor Joe Kelly officiating.

Funeral service for MR. FREDDIE ALLEN GOINS, SR., will be 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church (1303 Evangel Drive Huntsville, AL 35816) with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. CATHERINE VANCE FLETCHER (b. 1949) was held Sunday, March 10, 2019 at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church (2562 Bob Wade Lane, Harvest, Ala.) with Pastor Ricky Sykes officiating.

## - Serenity Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. SABRINA RICE "BIRD" HAWKINS (b. 1971) was held Monday, February 25, at Madkins Chapel CPCA, located at 2403 Oakwood Road, NW, Huntsville, Ala.

# Called <sup>2</sup> Preach

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

## Autos Love

**Ephesians 2:4; 1 John 3:1**

Reading this title, one could easily come to the conclusion that this is about a love for cars.

However, this is rather a theological spotlight being placed on the word, His, translated from the Greek word, autos (OW TOS) in verse 4 in describing the "great love" of God. That was the motivation behind His decision to rescue humanity from the death, domination, disobedience and damnation that rested upon all mankind because of sin.

The reason for the spotlight is to bring extra light to the fact that this is a love that resides in the

heart of God. Nothing else or no one would have been able to save mankind other than "His great love." God was not motivated by any "outside" source other than Himself.

## Huntsville City 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.

John in his first epistle described God's love in a way that suggests that he understood that it was not a love that earth produced; rather, only heaven could house this kind of love. It cannot be lobbied or legislated; manufactured or expressed with a meme. It is love that belongs only to God. It's



His possession; His prerogative in what to do with it, and perfect. What He chose to do with it, said Paul in his epistle was to offer it as the emancipation from the slavery of sin. As the Message Bible says: "Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it."



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# Calhoun Announces Results of Nursing Exams

Calhoun Community College officials today announced that the most recent graduates from the college's Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) and Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) programs performed extremely well on their licensure exams, with both groups outpacing state and national passage rates.

According to Bret McGill, dean of Calhoun's Health Sciences division, of the 127 registered nursing students taking the NCLEX (National Council

Licensure Examination) during the 2018 testing cycle, a total of 117 or 92.13% passed the exam on their first attempt, exceeding both the state (87%) and national (88.3%) rates. Calhoun's 3-year average for passage rates for the ADN exam is 92.2%.

Calhoun LPN graduates had even more impressive results, with a perfect 100% passage rate from the 26 students testing, compared to the state average of 94.7% and the national rate of 85.9%. Three-year average for the college's LPN

graduates is 97.14%.

McGill attributed the impressive results to several factors. "We feel that changes made over the last several years in our program such as admissions standards, increased professional development for the faculty, and utilization of best practices in curriculum delivery and assessment from across the Alabama Community College System have contributed significantly to the continued gains we've experienced in our passage rates."

## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

"THE OTHER SIDE OF NO" Philippians 1:6 says: "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

You know, I can remember losing my wife of 30 years, just eight years ago. And we had asked God for healing, time and time again, but God said 'no.' But even though He said no, I had to realize that my journey was not over. As a matter of fact, it had just begun. You see, we all need to realize that there is "the other side of no," if we remain faithful. If God started a good work in you, He is going to finish it. Now perhaps we won't know all the details when we start, but we are not supposed to. Because God sees the beginning, the middle and the end of things. All He says to us is "go," and I'll take care of the rest. It's the same thing he told Abraham, Moses,

and Joshua "go" and I'll take care of the rest. You see, the details will unfold as our obedience unfolds. But we need to have the faith to continue, even when it feels like our progress has

stopped. You see, God will allow our progress to stop sometimes so that we will remain obedient to Him. In Hebrews 12:2 it says, He is the author and finisher of our faith. Now the word *author* means originator or creator of a theory or a plan. So God has already created the plan that He wants for your life. That word *author* in Greek also means "captain," which means God will also steer our lives in the right direction and place people in your life that will help you with the "new

season" that you are in. For example when Linda died, he placed my new wife, Terry in my life, to complete my journey. You see sometimes we can't stay in the same season

that we were in before. Isaiah 43:19 says: "Behold I am doing a new thing, now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" So just remember that He that began a good work in you will bring it to its completion. When God says no it doesn't mean that it's over. Sometimes when God says no it just may mean that there is another opportunity on the "other side of the no" that is greater than the one that you have right now ... Stay encouraged my brothers and sisters.



## Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

# Mr. Bob Petty

Mr. Bob Petty has served in some capacity as an education professional for well over 45 years, utilizing his extensive experience in teaching, training and supervision in various settings to impact the lives of hundreds of young men and women.

Petty earned the Bachelor of Science degree in engineering technology and the M.Ed. degree in industrial technology education from historic Alabama A&M University. He went on to pursue additional studies at Athens State University, Mississippi State University and Winston-Salem State University (N.C.). These institutions equipped Petty with a proven ability to teach electricity, electronics and applied physics, as well as to serve as an able supervisor of both students and other teachers.

The educator traces his long length of service back to his nearly 30-year affiliation with J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College where, from 1972-2000, he ably taught in and ultimately led the Department of Electronics/Electricity, providing able guidance to instructors, supervising the total operations of the unit, counseling and interviewing students for enrollment, coordinating and spurring job placement for graduating students, serving on boards and committees, and even networking with high schools and technology centers.

From 2000-2010, Petty served as an education service provider for AWS Limited,

where he served as a liaison between the firm and various area colleges, in addition to securing tutoring, transportation and housing for international students. During the period, he primarily served as an education service provider for the National Training Board (NTB)-Bermuda, operating as liaison between NTB and Tennessee Valley area colleges and universities.

Further, Petty maintains a nearly 20-year affiliation with the North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence (NACEE), providing tutorial services to high school students, developing partnerships with community industries and agencies, and counseling and interviewing students.



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## Washington in One Minute



Here are the top issues in Washington, D.C., for this week's edition.

1. The House and Senate are in session this week. The Senate will vote on a resolution terminating President Trump's Southern Border Emergency Declaration, which the House approved 2 weeks ago by a vote of 245-182. According to published reports, there are now 4 Senate Republicans who have announced they oppose the emergency declaration – Senators Paul (KY), Murkowski (AK), Collins (ME), and Tillis (NC) – who, if they vote yes on the resolution along with all Democrats, would send it to the President for an expected veto (the first of his presidency). The House, among other items, will vote on a series of bills dealing with Russia and the Putin regime and a bill urging Special Counsel Robert Mueller's report to be made public when it is issued.

2. On Monday, President Trump transmitted his Fiscal Year 2020 Budget to Congress, which was delayed for a month because of the 35-day government shutdown earlier this year. According to White House officials, we should expect at least a 5% across-the-board cut in domestic spending, \$8.6 billion for the Mexican border wall, and a big boost to defense spending – items which will have a hard time moving forward in the Democratic-controlled House.

On Thursday, the President will meet with Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar for the annual Shamrock Bowl Presentation and attend the Friends of Ireland luncheon in the Capitol.

3. According to a report late yesterday, the White House plans to again use its budget proposal to push colleges on the hook for how well their students do after graduation. Although it's unclear exactly how the administration will make its risk-sharing pitch, the report states its FY 2020 budget proposes to hold institutions of higher education accountable for results by requiring colleges and universities to share a portion of the financial responsibility associated with Federal student loans to encourage them to improve performance. The Trump administration also used its fiscal 2019 proposal to endorse the idea of evaluating colleges based on the rate at which their students repay their federal loans. Risk-sharing has drawn bipartisan support in Congress, which is working yet again to rewrite the federal higher education law.

4. On Tuesday, the House Communications and Technology Subcommittee held a hearing on a bill by Rep. Mike Doyle (D-PA) to restore net neutrality protections (which bar internet service providers from intentionally blocking, slowing down, or charging money

for specific online content), which were repealed by the Trump Administration in 2017.

5. Last week, in a noteworthy move for the GOP-controlled Senate, Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Lindsey Graham (R-SC) announced that he will hold a hearing on March 26 on the topic of gun control, focusing on "red flag" laws, which allow family members, school officials or law enforcement officers to seek a court order to confiscate guns from an individual who is considered an extreme risk to themselves or others (currently 15 states have red flags laws on the books). In February, the House passed legislation extending the review period for background checks on firearm purchases and requiring all gun sellers, including gun show sellers, to conduct background checks on firearm buyers.

6. The National Park Service last week issued its initial prediction that peak cherry blossom bloom on the Tidal Basin will occur April 3-6. The buds are currently a bit behind where they were at this date last year, but the current weather forecasts through the rest of March point to warmer temperatures to bring things back up to speed. The Washington Post issued its own prediction of a slightly-earlier peak bloom on April 1-5. In case you're keeping score, the cherry trees reached the "green bud" stage on March 5, with 4 more stages to go before peak bloom.

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Experience



# The View

at Burritt on the Mountain

Cocktails at *The View*

Every Wednesday evening 4:30-8. Bring your friends and watch the sun go down on our NEW overlook. Seating provided, Full cash bar and gourmet food items for purchase.

Lunch & Experience at *The View*

Enjoy a presentation by one of our expert guest speakers, followed by a delicious catered box lunch from The Chef Next Door. Tickets are \$25 in advance.

2Chefs at *The View*

Join us at our table for an exclusive evening of exquisite dining and wine pairings under the stars. Reservations are limited and prices vary depending on menu.

For The View event details and tickets, visit [burrittonthemountain.com](http://burrittonthemountain.com)!

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