

The Valley Weekly

"The people who know nothing about music are the ones always talking about it."

- Nat King Cole

FREE

Volume 3, No. 27

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, March 17, 2017



COHORT VII: Kenya Russell, Cornelius Woodall, Reginald Allen, Brandi Matthews-Ellis, Tamikah McWilliams, Dr. LaWanna Harvey, Isha Conteh, Johanne Marthone, Stacy Cantrell, Lisa Suggs, Alicia Nunez, Tawana Townsend, Lineise Arnold, Glenda Ambrose, Lisa Chance, Captain Dewayne McCarver and Glen Partlow.

DLC Begins Seventh Cohort

The Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) started Cohort VII Tuesday, March 7.

Founded by local entrepreneur and retired education administrator Dorothy W. Huston, DLC advances leadership excellence by advocating and progressing the affirmation and inclusion of diversity in strategic markets and communities of interest for

competitive intelligence.

Furthermore, DLC aims to become an essential provider of diversity training for aspiring and experienced leaders throughout the lifecycle.

Participants attend an eight-week session of experts and professionals, who address a range of topics from economics to culture. The sessions

are offered twice each year and end with a graduation program.

For additional information on the formation of Cohort VIII, 415-A Church Street-Ste. 100, Huntsville, AL 35801 - (256) 651-9028; visit us at www.diversityleadership-colloquium.com; or e-mail info@diversityleadership-colloquium.com.

Book Drive to Benefit Highlands

A major bank is coordinating a book drive to benefit a local elementary school.

Regions Bank is sponsoring a book drive in support of the Highlands Elementary School Library through March 31.

Book donations may be dropped off at the following locations: Regions Bank at 4003 University Drive NW or Regions Bank at 3027 Memorial Parkway NW. Collection ends and books will be presented to the elementary school on

March 31.

For additional information about the book drive, contact Kenny Anderson, executive director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, at (256) 883-3993 or kenny.anderson@huntsville.gov.

Valley Mourns Loss of Popular Communicator

The Alabama A&M University Family mourns the recent death of Elizabeth Sloan-Ragland, a radio personality and longtime director of the AAMU Telecommunications Center/WJAB-FM 90.9, now Electronic Media Communications.

Elizabeth "Liz" Sloan-Ragland was born in Oxmoor, Ala., in metropolitan Birmingham, Ala. She attended Rosedale High School in Homewood, Ala., and later enrolled at Samford University in Birmingham in 1969.

Sloan-Ragland once said that she majored in speech and drama at Samford because of the influence of

her father, "who signed his name with an X but knew the value of an education." She acknowledged, however, that she stood on the shoulders of others blacks who had sacrificed their lives to open the doors of opportunity for her. She was escorted by her mother and aunt to become the first African American woman in the history of the school to live in a residence hall on campus.

Sloan-Ragland began her employment at Alabama A&M in 1973, following her graduation from Samford. She went on to earn the Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree at Alabama A&M



University.

She served as director for AAMU's Telecommunications and Distance Learning Center in addition to station manager at WJAB FM 90.9, a National Public Radio affiliate.



Kazam: Former professional basketball player and actor Shaquille O'Neal (left) was the keynote speaker for the American Values luncheon on March 10 in Birmingham, Ala. (Photo by Reggie Allen)

Where to Find Your FREE Copies of The Valley Weekly

AAMU Public Relations Office
 Albert's Flowers
 Alphonso Beckles, Attorney at Law
 Big Oh's
 Bob Harrison Senior Wellness Center
 Books a Million - N. Parkway/University Drive
 Briar Fork CP Church
 Bryant Bank - Church Street
 Burritt on the Mountain
 Chris' Barber Shop
 Depot Professional Building
 Dunkin Donuts
 Eagles' Nest Ministries
 The Favour Group
 Fellowship of Faith Church
 Fellowship Presbyterian Church
 Garden Cove Produce
 Health Unlimited
 Huntsville Bible College
 Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church
 James Smith - AllState Insurance
 Lakeside United Methodist Church
 Landers McLarty Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram
 Lucky's Supermarket
 Mamma Annie's
 Marshall England - State Farm Agent
 Martinson & Beason, PC
 Moë's - Village of Providence
 Nelms Memorial Funeral Home
 N. Ala. Center for Educational Excellence
 Oakwood University Post Office
 Phuket's in Providence
 Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church
 Progress Bank - Madison
 Progressive Union Missionary Baptist
 Regency Retirement Village
 Rocket City Barber Shop
 Sam and Greg's Pizza
 Sav-A-Lot
 Sneed's Cleaners
 St. Bartley PB Church
 St. Luke Christian Church
 Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at
 Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)
 Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church



The Hamm Consulting Group

Washington in a Minute

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

1. The House will take up 3 bills to reform the Veterans Affairs (VA) Department, including a bill giving the Secretary increased discretion to remove, demote, or suspend any VA employee, including Senior Executive Service employees, due to performance or misconduct. The Senate is scheduled to approve Seema Verma as Administrator of HHS' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (a key player in the national health-care debate).

2. President Trump's new immigration order issued last Monday was blocked by a federal judge in Wisconsin who issued a temporary restraining order on Friday on behalf of a Syrian family fleeing their homeland. The President is also expected to release the outline for his Fiscal Year 2018 budget this week. The so-called "skinny budget" will likely offer new insights into some of the administration's priorities for the coming years — and might show which programs are on the chopping block as Trump seeks to slash non-defense domestic spending.

3. The week the House Budget Committee will meet in a markup session to combine the 2 GOP national healthcare bills approved in last week's marathon overnight sessions by the House's Energy & Commerce and Ways & Means Committees into one "fast-track" Reconciliation bill (which will only need a simple majority to pass in the Senate). The Politico website reported this weekend

that the Congressional Budget Office may release its estimate of the total cost of the bills. House Budget Committee Ranking Democrat John Yarmuth (D-KY) released a statement on March 7 that cited an Urban Institute analysis which found that the GOP plan's age-based tax credits could drive deductibles as high as \$15,000 for an individual and \$30,000 for a family.

4. Last Wednesday, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin sent a letter to House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) warning him that the federal government will hit its borrowing limit on March 16.

5. Last week, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) delayed its launch of the solicitation for entries to design and build prototype sections of the border wall with Mexico. Since DHS placed a presolicitation notice on the Federal Business Opportunities website in late February, more than 600 interested vendors across the country have signed on for the estimated \$15-\$40 billion project. The Los Angeles Times reported over the weekend that the construction of the wall may impact 111 endangered species.

THE HAMM CONSULTING GROUP LLC
 400 North Capitol Street, NW
 Suite 585
 WASHINGTON D.C. 20001
 V: 202-596-8384
 M: 703-608-1906
 RHAMM@HAMMCONSULTING.COM
 WWW.HAMMCONSULTING.COM
 TWITTER: @HAMMCONSULTING

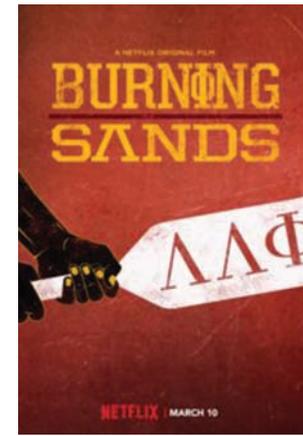
Netflix Releases Controversial Hazing Film, Upsets Greeks

Burning Sands, a controversial film that depicts the severity of fraternal hazing, was made available for streaming on Netflix on March 10.

Since the film's announcement, the Netflix original movie has received a large amount of backlash from the Black Greek community. The National PanHellenic Council, collectively known as the Divine 9, is said to follow a no-hazing policy. Failure to comply could result in a fraternity or sorority being suspended, or "removed from the yard."

Various Divine 9 organizations have asked the film to be removed, stating that it shines a bad light on the membership process and, while some fraternities and sororities have been known to participate in hazing, it does not collectively represent them.

Burning Sands stars Trevor Jackson as Zurich, a pledge in a fictional traditionally black Greek organization, who is



burdened with enduring harsh rituals or exposing the truth. Additional film credits also include: Alfre Woodard (Marvel's Luke Cage), Serayah (Empire), Chike Okonkwo (Being Mary Jane) and Trevante Jackson (Moonlight.)

While the film does not center around an actual NPHC organization, the council has traditionally frowned upon any representation that would tarnish its image. Apart from programs like "A Different World", organizations are usually never directly represented in film or television. In 2015, VH1 released

"Sorority Sisters," a reality drama series that revolved around members in traditionally black sororities. After myriad protests, the show was shortly cancelled and various cast members were either expelled or suspended from their respective sororities.

Directed by Gerard McMurray, the film was greatly inspired by Robert Champion, a Florida A&M drum major that was beaten to death in what appeared to be the result of a hazing ritual. The 26-year-old was not involved in a traditional fraternity. In an interview with the Grio, a popular black entertainment blog, the director said he wanted to apply the same situation to the black Greek community, something that is closer to home for him. McMurray, who served as the executive producer of Fruitvale Station, is also a proud member of Omega Psi Phi, a traditionally black Greek organization.

by Reggie D. Allen

Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

The expressions on our faces say a lot about the condition of our heart. So, if you are happy and you know it, tell your face. Because our faces should reflect the God that we serve. So many people go through life with a cheerless countenance. They may not mean anything by it, they just look that way.



Now I realize, that in life every circumstance is not going to make us happy, but if we are sons and daughters of the living God, our facial expressions should resemble that of our heavenly Father. You see, the way you look at life is written all over your face. In Numbers 6:24, we find the passage: "The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord makes

His face to shine upon you." So, we can't have Him shine down upon us and it not change us. I believe that if we stay in the presence of God, He will turn our frowns upside down. So if you are saved, look like it. If you are blessed, look like it. If you are redeemed, look like it. Remember, you don't have to say a word, because it's written all over your face ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

Publisher
The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief
Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor**
Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial Assistants
Linda Burruss
Gary T. Whitley

Writer/Sales/Photography
Reggie Allen

- Contributing Editors -
Reggie Allen
Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.
Minister Preston Brown
Josh Farmer
Ron Hamm
David Herron
Melissa Wilson-Seloma

Website Administrator
Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:

The Valley Weekly
415A Church Street - Suite 100
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
Copyright 2017

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

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

The Valley Weekly

Ad Rates Single Issue

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



From the Editor



Some Pills are Hard to Swallow!

On Friday, during The Greater Alabama Council of the Boy Scouts of America's Dinner, I received a text that said, "Liz has passed." I was nearly paralyzed. I did not eat anything; I lost my appetite. All I could think of was my dear friend, colleague and professional--Mrs. Elizabeth Sloan-Ragland ...

Actually, I knew Liz's late husband Charles before he married her. My brother, Robert, leased a home in Meadow Hills from him, perhaps back in the 1970s. At that time, Meadow Hills was a community of starter-homes for locals and young African-American professionals who came to Huntsville, graduated from AAMU, had jobs and worked throughout the community. They had jobs, mortgages, health insurance, growing families and an extended Village.

When I returned to AAMU in 1995, Charles and Liz were married and had a young son, Justin. Justin was the apple of their eyes. Later came daughter-in-law Joy and grandson Kennedy Charles. Liz and I shared a skybox in the Louis Crews Stadium from the first game until we decided mutually some years ago that we would relinquish it. Research and Development, as an organizational unit at A&M, was favored with some of the most talented professionals anywhere. I would have put Elizabeth Sloan-Ragland, Georgia Valrie, Jerome Saintjones and Daryush Ila up against any team or group. They are each winners in their areas of expertise. We essentially "rocked" to the goals, objectives, joys and challenges of 'making it happen,' and we cared genuinely for each other. We worked long hours, burned the midnight oil, and we had the "grit and grind, rhythm and rhyme" to get it done. Those were unusual times, when just about everything related to making AAMU great came before self. There will never be another TEAM like ours--bar none! Where one was short, the other was sufficient. Ahhh, we really fit into the seams and grooves of each other!

Liz was a dear friend. She was loving and giving. It was not unusual for her to randomly show up bearing gifts for no particular occasion. You could count on her to bear a smile and a positive attitude, regardless of the occasion. Even after her illness, Liz was a positive, loving colleague. She did not have a pity party or question "why me?" When asked how she was doing, she responded with a smile, "I'm doing fine." Rest in Love, our Friend. Dr. Margaret Kelly and I will miss our annual birthday celebrations each year. You were a brave and loyal daughter. It will take us a while to swallow this pill.

... Back to the Boy Scouts' dinner. Thank you for the Community Service Award. The Whitney M. Young, Jr., Service Awards Banquet was a wonderful event, hosted by Mr. LaVern Spearman and a capable Banquet Committee. Mr. Larry Gist, Mr. Curtis Lane, Mrs. Lynn Sevigny, Mr. Bryant Smith and I received Community Service Awards, along with Mr. Anthony Briggins, Mr. Leroy Cole, Dr. Richard Goodwin and First Sergeant (Ret.) Ernest Smith, Jr., receiving Whitney M. Young Service Awards. Named for civil rights activist and Executive Director of the National Urban League, this award was named in recognition of Young by the Boy Scouts in 1978. Eagle Scout Trenton Charlton of Troop 94, talked about "Scouting for My Life." A 5th generation brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, young Charlton family's association with the Scouts extends 105 years. The AMC Ensemble was excellent. I believe I can speak for others when I say, we appreciate the recognition. Our eternal reward will be on the other side--that is what we strive for each day.

Young Scout Trenton Charlton stole the evening when we talked about the adventures of scouting, including canoeing, whitewatering, caving, hiking, skiing and backpacking. Our hearts are endeared by the time, effort and compassion of the many dedicated men and women who work to instill into boys and youth the essence of their motto: Be Prepared.

Thank you, Major Gen. Allan Elliott, AMC's Chief of Staff, for an inspiring speech to the attendees. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all who attended. Ahhh, we *have* to love the Boy Scouts! Blessings for your work in the community in the past, at present and in the future.

Until next week ...

Dorothy





GROUP 1



GROUP 2



GROUP 3



GROUP 4

Group 1:

Seated Front Row Left to Right: Kiaira A. Anderson, Tales A. Cox, Alexis R. Blue, Tyra Z. Bradley
Standing Second Row Left to Right: Alexandria D. Bell, Kaleigha Boddie, Kayla N. Butler, Jaeda S. Byrd

Group 2:

Seated Front Row Left to Right: Mya C. Hamilton, Ciera Grimsley, Talesiah D. Gideon, Amiya Z. Fuqua,
Standing Second Row Left to Right: Felicity Gurley, Kennedy Grant, Drew Gipson, Sydney N. Edwards

Group 3:

Seated Front Row Left to Right: Aaliyah G. Nichols, Kiera D. Lightfoot, Katelyn J. Hines, Renita S. Harris
Standing Second Row Left to Right: Alexa N. Nunn, Courtney A. McMillan, Dailyn Hereford, Arianna R. Haynes

Group 4:

Seated Front Row Left to Right: Chanel A. Williams, Kyndal L. Wiley, Nadia M. Stewart, Elizabeth F. Scruggs,
Standing Second Row Left to Right: Lyndsey S. Whitman, Jayla D. Walker, Shelby Vaughn, Emry A. Summerville, Kyrstin N. Stanley, Chelsy A. Robinson

AKAs' 59th Annual Debutante Ball Yields Unforgettable Moments

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter held its annual 59th Debutante Presentation and Ball on February 17, 2017, 7:30 p.m. at the Von Braun Center, North Hall.

The North Hall was magically transformed into shades of pink and green with a draped gazebo at

centerstage covered in spring flowers, ferns, and greenery. The theme for the evening was "Unforgettable," where 34 young women were debuted to a crowd of over 900 guests, family and friends.

The evening consisted of the presentation of the debutantes as they were escorted by their parent and/or guardian, the mes-

merizing choreographed cotillion and the award of collegiate scholarships to three aspiring college bound young women.

The winners of the scholarship awards were as follows: Mattie D. Battle Scholarship (\$4,000) to Debutante Alexandria Bell; Mary M. Chambers Scholarship (\$4,500) to Debutante Arianna Haynes

and the Harriet J. Terry Scholarship (\$5,500) to Debutante Shelby Vaughn. The scholarships awarded during the evening totaled \$14,000.

The Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter Eva Cathey Award was presented to Debutante Kyrstin Stanley, who was selected by her peers to receive this distinguished award.

The enchanting evening culminated with a formal dinner and music for dancing. The evening was truly "Unforgettable." Ms. E. Christine Moss served as the chairman of the ball; Mrs. Leteria Moses Waters, co-chairman; and Dr. Wilma J. Ruffin, president, Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter.

The Debutante Program

sponsored by Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter provides young women, who are high school seniors in the Huntsville-Madison County and surrounding areas with opportunities to enhance their skills in educational, cultural, social and service programs.

Calendar of Events

March 23-25
American Association of Blacks in Higher Education Annual Conference
Raleigh, N.C.

Ads & Sponsorship:
Mrs. Veronica Winston - (256) 509-4894
Ticket & Donations:
Mrs. Patricia Ward at (256) 350-9054
5 p.m.

March 25
Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr. and Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford Scholarship Foundation Inc Friends of the Bradfords Inaugural Gala
Von Braun Center North Hall;

Inaugural Scholarship Gala
Sponsor: Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Psi Alpha Zeta Chapter
Holiday Inn Research Park
7 p.m.

April 1
Serving the City as One Alabama A&M University The Quad
www.servingthecity.org, 7a.m.

April 13
39th Annual United Negro College Fund Gala
Guest Artist: Jonathan Butler
Special Award: Tom Joyner
VBC-North Hall
7 p.m.

City Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council Meetings City Council 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.

City Council work sessions also held in the City Council 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.

Harris Home Puts on 'Kool' Fundraiser

The Harris Home for Children is sponsoring an evening of entertainment that will also serve as a fundraiser for an organization that has supported Alabama children for some 63 years.

The Harris Home will be the R&B sensation Kooll and the Gang for a charity concert scheduled on Thursday, April 27. The event will be held at the Von Braun Center beginning at 8 p.m.

The Harris Home for Children was founded and began serving children in

1954. At its inception, the Harris Home was about sharing love, compassion and whatever resources were available to help the neglected and destitute children of Huntsville.

Founder Chessie Harris was born in Tuskegee, Ala., and attended Tuskegee University before moving to Huntsville with her husband and children in the 1950s.

In 1957, Harris Home was incorporated and, in 1960, was licensed by the State of Alabama. Harris

Home became a United Way of Madison County partner agency in 1961.

Thousands of children have been served by the Harris Home through the years.

Many of them are now self-sufficient, contributing members of society as a direct result of the care and training received at Harris Home.

For information about tickets to the event, contact ticketmaster.com or hh4cfundraiser@yahoo.com.

FPC Holding Program

Fellowship Presbyterian Church will be celebrating the African American Experience through music, poetry, dance, and artwork on April 1, 2017, at 4 pm.

by Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.

"Most of all, I dislike this idea nowadays that if you're a black person in America, then you must be called African-American. Listen, I've visited Africa, and I've got news for everyone: I'm not an African."

- Whoopi Goldberg



"Partnering With You to Make Informed Decisions"

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

To learn more contact us:

Lori A. Womack, CPA/PFS, CFP®
Managing Member

lwomack@womackassociatesllc.com

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



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

Agent

AL #A-058076

New York Life Insurance Company

200 Clinton Avenue, Suite 600
Huntsville, AL 35801

Tel: 256-517-5922 Direct

Tel: 256-852-7328

Fax: 256-593-1842

ireedus@ft.newyorklife.com

New York Life "The Company You Keep"



ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1937

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

Contact Us

Phone: 256-533-1667

Fax: 256-533-1696

info@martinsonandbeason.com

www.martinsonandbeason.com

facebook.com/martinsonandbeason



No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.



Unbeatable Service. Legendary Results.™

BANKING & MORTGAGE SERVICES

Downtown Huntsville | 415-H Church Street, Suite 100 • Huntsville, AL 35801 • 256.535.1045

Southwest Huntsville | 1804 Four Mile Post Rd SE • Huntsville, AL 35802 • 256.217.5170



www.bryantbank.com



Omegas Hold Annual Memorial Service



The Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (Xi Omicron Chapter (Huntsville), Psi Kappa Kappa Chapter (Redstone Arsenal and Madison), and Nu Epsilon Chapter (Alabama A&M University) held their Omega's Annual Me-

morial Service on Sunday, March 12, at the Omega Center.

This solemn ceremony memorializes distinguished Brothers who entered eternal rest during the past year. The significant stalwarts who contributed

immensely to mankind, the greater Huntsville community, and Omega to that were honored included the late Dr. Sonny Hereford, the late Dr. Jerry Shipman, the late Mr. Isaac "Ike" Rooks, and others.

UAH/ADRS Plan Ability Career Fair

The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) and the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) will hold the 2nd Annual Ability Career Fair on Wednesday, April 19, at the UAH Conference Training Center, 1410 Ben Graves Drive, in Huntsville, Ala.

Registration is free for job seekers, employers and



vendors. The theme is: "Connecting Employers and Individuals with Disabilities."

Other sponsors include AIDB, NASHRM, and

Phoenix.

For more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/ua-employer>.

Albert's Flowers

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

716 Madison Street - Huntsville, AL 35801

**FLOWERS, GIFTS,
EXOTIC FLOWERS**

Graduate of
American Floral Art School

256-533-1623

256-536-6911

www.albertsflowers.com



The Ivy Center Taking Proposals

The Ivy Center of Huntsville/Madison County Foundation, Incorporated, is now accepting proposals from Non-Profit Organizations for 2017 funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

The project/program submitted must be related to education, health, science, technology, cultural awareness, and/or economics for disadvantaged youth and their families.

The request for proposal (RFP) is now available to download at www.Ivycenterfoundationhsv.org.

The deadline for

submission is April 24. Successful applicants will receive a letter notifying them of the approval of their respective proposals.

If approved, funds will be awarded during the 11th Annual White Linen Brunch on June 17.

The Ivy Center of Huntsville/Madison County Foundation, Inc. is an organization primarily formed to promote healthy family life skills by enriching, sustaining and ensuring the literacy, health and economical survival of disadvantaged youth and their families. In order to

contribute to the formulation of a positive, productive and culturally diverse society, the Ivy Center focuses on family life skills through education, cultural enrichment, health and wellness, and civic involvement. This focus is implemented through strategies such as public information workshops and educational symposiums, economic development and business skills training.

For additional information, contact Sharon H. Butler at jnjsersdshb@gmail.com.

"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."

- T.S. Eliot

Come Discover the Magic on the Mountain!

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

3101 Burritt Drive • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 256.536.2882
www.burrittonthemountain.com
OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5 pm
November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm

Valley Deaths

Funeral service for **Flora M. Davis** (b. 1950) was Saturday, March 11, at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Ricky Sykes officiating.

Funeral service for **Willie B. "Butch" Battle** (b. 1952) was Saturday, March 11, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Johnny Hughes officiating.

Funeral service for **Anthony Jerome Rice** (b. 1973) was held Saturday, March 11, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Elder Clint Sales officiating.

Funeral service for **Leavis J. Ashby** (b. 1943) was held Wednesday, March 8, at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church in New Market, Ala.).

Funeral service for **Minister Steven J. ("Street Bishop) Moore** (b. 1973) was held Saturday, March 4, at Pentecostal Light-house Church in Huntsville with Pastor Sylvia Moore officiating.

Funeral service was held Saturday, March 4, for **Jesse J. Winburn** (b. 1947) at First Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

Funeral service for **Ms. Gloria J. Lang** (b. 1961) was held Friday, March 3, at Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Miss.

-Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

OU Prepares for 39th Annual UNCF Gala

Oakwood University is planning for its joint Homecoming and 39th Annual UNCF Gala on Thursday, April 13, at the Von Braun Center at 6:30 p.m.

Award-winning and Grammy-nominated music artist Jonathan Butler will be the featured entertainment, and special tribute will be paid to radio personality Tom Joyner.

The youngest of 13 children, singer-songwriter and guitarist Jonathan Butler performs music often classified as R&B, jazz fusion, or worship. But no matter what genre, his



South-African roots shine through (that's where Butler, a lefty, got in the habit of picking with the fleshy part of his thumb).

For tickets (\$75 general seating), contact UNCF@oakwood.edu; call (256) 726-7201; or visit www.ougiving.com.

2017 SAVE THE DATE FRIDAY APRIL 7TH

ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY COLLEGE of BUSINESS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS SILENT AUCTION

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00PM, BIDDING BEGINS AT 6:00PM

THE HUNTSVILLE COUNTRY CLUB
2601 OAKWOOD AVE NW, HUNTSVILLE, AL 35810

Come out and enjoy an evening of food beverages, bargain shopping, raffles networking, and fellowship!

Proceeds support the Student Textbook Fund, Travel Fund, Co-op Program, and other educational programs for The College of Business & Public Affairs at Alabama A&M University.

We are accepting business and personal contributions towards the Silent Auction. If you have any electronics, furniture, jewelry, or other luxury items that you would like to donate, please contact our Brand Ambassador, Amoi Savage, at (256) 527-7212 or via email at: aamucoba.brandambassador@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

A Good Read by Jerome Saintjones

Kristin Hunter Lattany's "The Soul Brothers and Sister Lou"

Probably timeless young adult reading in the way it captures vintage 1968.

A story about light-skinned Louretta Hawkins, a nice girl who plays by the rules

until the police raid a teenage club based in her brother's printshop, shooting one of the boys. Her outrage is eased as justice and a return to everyday life seems to finally come about.

She discovers relief from the tumultuous time period through a discovery of soul music and the formation of a success-

ful singing group. The group performs blues that she and a fellow member have written.

The book is a snapshot of its period, capturing the racial attitudes of the late 1960s, overdependence of blacks on a better reward in the next life, and militants looking for a fearless leader who will defend the cause, life or death.

Relax with VC Jazz Sessions

"Developing Better People Through the Medium of Music"

You are never too old or too young to jam. The Jazz Jam sessions at the Valley Conservatory are for everyone.

Whether you are a seasoned player or a student taking beginning piano lessons; the jam session is the place to be to exchange musical ideas, have fun, eat good food and just jam.

So, come out and join in



the fun every 4th Sunday from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. at the Valley Conservatory main studio on Sanderson Street in Huntsville, Ala.

The next session is scheduled for March 26.

The events are sponsored in part by Madison Family Care & Welling Center and First Bank Mortgage.

For more information, call (256) 534-3131.

"In the closing years of the nineteenth century, African American historians began to look at their people's history from their vantage point and their point of view."

- John Henrik Clarke

Marshall England, Agent
600 Franklin Street, SE
Huntsville, AL 35801
Bus: 256.539.2014
marshallengland@marshallengland.com



www.marshallengland.com

The 11th Annual Rosetta James Foundation 'Honoring Our Elders' Celebration

Saturday, March 11, 2017 - The Jackson Center - 5 p.m.



2017 Honorees: The 2017 Class of the Rosetta James Foundation's "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration. Seated (l-r): Mrs. Sibyl Wilkinson, Mrs. Rosetta James, Mrs. Sarah Jones Jamar, Rev. Dr. Hattie Pearl Harris, and Dr. Mary Sanford Brown. Standing (l-r): Mr. Eugene O. Dickerson (Pioneer Award), Mr. William James Davis, Jr., Rev. Leroy Cole; Rev. Dr. Terrell Harris, Dr. James "Jimmy" S. Wall and Dr. Razi Hassan. (Photos by Reggie D. Allen and J. Saintjones)



On This Day - Friday, March 17 - Nat King Cole - Born in Montgomery, Ala., Nat King Cole was a legendary jazz musician and singer. He was the first Black American to have a network television show. - BlackinTime.info



satisfaction
visit us online at damson.com

ALABAMA'S F-150

Woody Anderson
Ford SUPERSTORE

2500 Jordan Ln, Huntsville, AL 35816
(256) 539-9441
www.WoodyAndersonFord.com

UP TO **\$10,500 off**

OVER 100 F-150s!

"Whatever may be the tensions and the stresses of a particular day, there is always lurking close at hand the trailing beauty of forgotten joy or unremembered peace."

- Howard Thurman