

The Valley Weekly

"Lord keep her safe since you can't keep her sane."
- Gloria Naylor

FREE

Volume 5 No. 30

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, April 5, 2019

School Board Member Acquitted of Harassment Charge

Following an almost two-hour hearing before a judge on Friday, March 29, Huntsville City School Board Member Michelle Watkins was acquitted on a December harassment charge.

Watkins has called her heated exchange a few months ago with Dr. Linda D. Burruss, principal of Rolling Hills Elementary School in northwest Huntsville, "a disagreement between two adults" that would in no way impact her support for the school and its principal.



GOLDEN PERFORMANCE: Tuskegee University alumnus and First Seventh-Day Adventist Church member Kim Jones (r) presents plaque on March 30 to Dr. Wayne A. Barr, director of the Tuskegee Golden Voices Concert Choir, for the choral group's role as ambassadors of service, social change and progress and preservation of Negro folk song and culture. Also shown (l-r) are Debleaire K. Snell, senior pastor of First Seventh-Day Adventist Church, and Willie Griffin, president of the Huntsville-Decatur Tuskegee Alumni Chapter. (Photo by Jerome Saintjones)



Spiritual Chorale to Perform

The Huntsville Spiritual Chorale, directed by William and Brenda Davis, will be having its annual concert on Saturday, April 13.

The 2019 event theme is: "The Huntsville Spiritual Chorale Presents a Bicentennial Jubilee Celebrating The Legacy of The Negro

Spiritual."

The activity will also include performances by the Alabama A&M University Choir, The Heritage Group (Baton Rouge, La.) and others.

The event will be held at Fellowship Presbyterian Church (April 13) at 3 p.m. The public is invited.

Family, Church Celebrates Local Matriarch



Mary Crutcher Leslie

Family and friends of a local centennarian recently paid tribute to her on a special date.

Mary Crutcher Leslie was born on March 25, 1919, in Toney, Ala. She celebrated her 100th birthday on Saturday, March 23, at the Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church Banquet Center in nearby Harvest, Ala.

The event was planned by her more than 40 grand children, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

Over 250 well-wishers attended and participated in the celebration.

The Valley Weekly INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

From the Editor, **Page 2**
Washington in a Minute, **Page 3**
Pearls of Wisdom, **Page 4**
Valley Events, **Page 5**
Champion Game Plan, **Page 5**
Homeownership Seminar, **Page 5**
Spotlight on Elders, **Page 7**
Managing Lawns & Egos, **Page 8**

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The Valley Weekly
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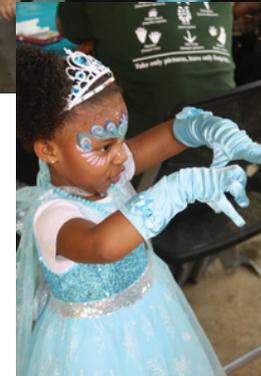
Double Birthday Cheer

Superhero Anthony Daniels, Jr., and Princess Abigail Daniels

Parents: State Rep. Anthony Daniels and Teneisha Daniels, DDS

Saturday, March 30, 2019 - Lincoln Mill Building - Design Lab

BIRTHDAY DUO: Abby and Anthony Daniels celebrated their birthdays on Saturday, March 30, in the Design Lab in Lincoln Mill Building. Abigail is three years old and Anthony has just turned one. About 150 friends and family enjoyed the superhero- and princess-themed affair, which included face painting, balloon characters, a moon bounce with specialty designer cakes, shortbread cookies and exquisite food catered by Tim Smith's Catering. Photos by Shelly Williams



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 continue work on the \$13.4 billion FY2019 emergency supplemental appropriations bill, which was passed by the House in January to provide aid to Gulf Coast states hit last year by hurricanes as well as Midwest states that suffered more recent flooding and additional funding for Puerto Rico to recover from the 2017 hurricanes ... The House will vote on a resolution condemning the Trump Administration's March 25 decision to oppose all provisions of Obamacare, including the protections for pre-existing conditions; a resolution to pull U.S. troops out of Yemen, and a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act.

2. President Trump spoke at the White House Prison Reform Summit, trumpeting the enactment of the First Step Act in December 2018, which reformed sentencing guidelines ... On Wednesday, the President had dinner with senior Pentagon officials, and, on Thursday, he had an event with the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, which was created in December 2018 to direct federal resources to the Opportunity Zone Program and is chaired by HUD Secretary Ben Carson. On Friday, the President heads to Calexico, CA for an event at the border, followed by a fundraising event in Los Angeles. On Saturday, the President will address the Republican Jew-

ish Coalition at the Venetian Hotel in Las Vegas.

3. On Thursday, the Senate Homeland Security/Government Affairs Committee held a hearing on the "Unprecedented Migration at the U.S. Southern Border." According to Axios, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen this week will seek permission from Congress to deport unaccompanied migrant children and hold families seeking asylum in detention longer than currently permitted, citing a system-wide breakdown at the U.S./Mexico border.

4. The Senate HELP Committee is continuing work on legislation to reauthorize the Higher Education Act. Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) has said his goal is to report legislation out of committee by spring so the Senate can consider it this summer. The full committee will hold a hearing April 2 on campus sexual assault, which coincides with the Education Department's effort to write new rules for how schools handle sexual assault allegations under Title IX, the law that bans discrimination on the basis of sex for education programs receiving federal assistance. The department is reviewing more than 100,000 public comments.

5. Last Thursday, the Senate Budget Committee approved its budget for Fiscal Year 2020 without breaking the FY2020 budget cap (set by the Budget Control Act of 2011), which would cut \$126 billion in federal discretionary spending, including a \$73 billion cut at the Pentagon and a \$98 billion cut for domestic spending. On the mandatory spend-

ing side, the Senate would cut spending on Medicaid, children's health insurance and Obamacare subsidies by \$281 billion and cut Medicare by \$77 billion. House Budget Committee Chairman John Yarmuth (D-KY) reportedly will make a decision today on whether to move forward with a FY 2020 budget resolution or just move legislation that will allow appropriators to mark up to higher budget caps ...

6. Last Friday, Attorney General William Barr wrote to Congress saying that his ongoing redactions of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Report will take until mid-April. House Judiciary Committee Chair Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) has demanded that Barr release the full report plus the underlying evidentiary documents to Congress by April 2. According to NBC News, House Judiciary Committee staffers are working on a subpoena if Barr fails to meet the April 2 deadline.

7. A new poll conducted of 640 adults The Washington Post and George Mason University on March 26-29 found that 83% of Americans believe that Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Report should be made public in its entirety and 53% say that Attorney General Barr has not released enough details about the report. When asked whether President Trump committed "serious wrongdoing" during the course of the 2016 election or in the federal investigation that followed, 46% said no, 37% said yes and in their view, it rose to the level of criminal activity, and 6% said that while he may have committed serious wrongdoing, he did not commit a crime.

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1 Woman Can Change the World: Pearls of Wisdom from the Generations

Friday, March 29, 2019

Bob Harrison Wellness and Advocacy Center

Speakers: *Jody Singer, Director of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center; Alice Sams, Director of Project Focus, Madison County District 6; and Latoya Eggleston, Engineer, Department of Defense on Redstone Arsenal*

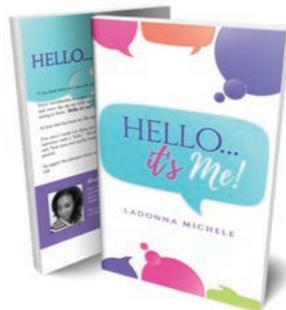


Author Pens New Book

Local author LaDonna Michele McCann has penned her second book, "Hello It's Me: A Memoir."

The sophomore book was released in January 2019, chronicling the "Lessons and blessings" of her life. It starts with her birth in Germany to two Louisiana natives, growing up an Army brat, childhood and adolescence as a G.R.I.T., college highlights at Alabama, early adulthood and parenting.

The book is available on Amazon and signed copies are also available from the



author, who can be contacted at ladonnamccann@yahoo.com

McCann enjoys connecting with readers on social media @ladonnamichelemccann on Facebook,



BIRTHDAY - APRIL 5 - BOOKER T. WASHINGTON - Influential educator, statesman, businessman and leader. He was once considered the most powerful African-American leader until his death in 1915. Best known as the founder of Tuskegee University. - BlackinTime.info

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Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

April 4
The Future & Beyond
Diversity & Inclusion
Symposium
TBA

April 6
Jeans 4 Justice
Lowe Mill A&E Connector
Room
3-6 p.m.

April 13
Zeta Phi Beta Blue Review
TBA

April 18
Alabama A&M University

and Drake State Commu-
nity & Technical College
Community Engagement
Open House
300 Drake Cafetorium
3421 Meridian Street N.
Huntsville, Ala.
5-7 p.m.

April 18-21
Oakwood University
Alumni Weekend
Von Braun Center

April 25
Patricia Haley Charity
2nd Annual Day of Action
Banquet

Advocating for Change
Featuring Comedic Guest
Rickey Smiley
Historical Huntsville De-
pot & Roundhouse
patriciahaleycharity.com
320 Church Street
Huntsville, Ala.
6:30-9:30 p.m.

April 26
Alabama A&M University
Annual Black Tie Scholar-
ship Gala
Von Braun Center North
Hall
Tickets: (256) 372-8344

Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

THE RECIPE FOR SATISFACTION

The Apostle Paul tells us in Philippians 4:11-13, "For I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."

So here is the question: "Are you satisfied with your life?" You know, when we see people that live in nice homes, and you see them drive nice cars and you see them dressed appropriately, sometimes I wonder are they truly satisfied with their lives?

Because today we live in a time when television, social media and the whole world of entertainment has done a "number" on all of us when it comes to things that we think we need. In other words, we have developed

the case of the "I wants". Now, all of these things that most of us want are advertised as things that will make our lives better when we acquire these things. Actually, the opposite is true, because most married couples today are arguing over money rather than anything else.

You know, it is interesting to me that couples that get married today want the same things in three years that took their parents 30 years to obtain. That's why it is easier to not be thankful for what you already have.

The Apostle Paul gives us his recipe for satisfaction in Philippians 4:12. He says: "I have learned the secret of being content, which means satisfied, in any and every situation." So, what is the recipe for satisfaction? Well, it all starts with a personal relationship with God. Paul says: "I can do all things through Him

that gives me strength." The second recipe for satisfaction is our perception of life. Paul said it like this: whether

well fed or hungry or whether living in plenty, it doesn't matter. You see, when we are content, we can say to a person who is very

wealthy that I have more riches than you because I have all that I want.

Contentment leads to peace and having peace is another recipe for satisfaction. You see, God has made all of us in such a way that the things of this world can never satisfy us. It will only leave you wanting more... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters. And, make sure you purchase your copy of my book "A Champion Game Plan For Life" at amazon.com.



Awareness & Education to Prevent Sexual Violence

"Jeans 4 Justice" began in 1999 when a judge overturned a rape conviction because the victim was wearing jeans at the time of the assault.

The judge said it was common knowledge that jeans can't be forcibly removed. Global protests followed, and since then, thousands of people have worn jeans to work to help raise awareness of sexual assault.

Lowe Mill ARTS& Entertainment and Madison County Coordinated Community Response are asking willing artists to decorate and donate a pair of jeans or jeans-related art to be displayed or worn during a reception, where the community is invited to attend and vote for their favorite piece.

The top 3 selections will receive a certificate from the CCR, and the pieces

will be auctioned off, at the artist's consent, with proceeds going toward programs that promote sexual assault awareness in North Alabama.

This event will be filled with local music, snacks, and entertainment. Open to all ages!

Lowe Mill ARTS& Entertainment Connector Room, Saturday April 6, 2019, 3-6 p.m.

Home Ownership Focus of Seminar

The Huntsville Association of Real Estate Brokers will hold a Community Wealth Building Day on Sunday, April 7.

The session will be held at Oakwood University Church Family Life Center, 5500 Adventist Boulevard, Huntsville, Ala., from 1-5 p.m.

A key focus of the seminar is "Building Black Wealth through Home Ownership."

The event will include homebuying workshops and sessions that provide first-time home buyers resources, down payment assistance, mortgage counseling, classes and resources

for faith leaders.

Additional session will delve into mortgage and insurance assistance, foreclosure prevention, insurance and credit counseling.

Dr. Carlton P. Byrd, pastor, Oakwood University Church, serves as the event host.



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Valley Deaths

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. RUBY BONE BUCKNER (b. 1935) will be Friday, April 5, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at Meridianville Primitive Baptist Church with the Reverend Gregory Smith officiating.

Funeral service for MR. WILLIAM H. CHILDRESS (b. 1939) was held Monday, April 1, at Acklin Christian Methodist Episcopal Church with the Reverend Joe Kelley officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. ADDIE MAE PETTY THOMPSON (b. 1931) was held Sunday, March 31, at Zion Progress Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. CAROL KINLEY (b. 1937) was held Sunday, March 31, at the Oakwood University Seventh-day Adventist Church with Pastor Paul Goodrich officiating.

Funeral service for MR. WILLIE B. MASON (b. 1946) was held Saturday, March 30, at St. James Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America with the Reverend Dr. Theodis Acklin officiating.

- Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. LOUIS EDWARD COOPER, JR., (b. 1944) will be 12 noon, Friday, April 5, 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, April 5, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.).

Funeral service for MR. THOMAS N. HALL (b. 1937) was held Monday, April 1, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Norman Miles officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LORENZO AYERS (b. 1961) was held Saturday, March 30, at Saint Paul United Methodist Church (620 Sixth Street Madison, Ala.) with Reverend Dennis Jones officiating.

Memorial service for MR. OLIVER "MISTER" KING, JR., was held Saturday, March 30, at Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Alfonzo Holden officiating.

- Serenity Funeral Home -

Funeral service MS. KATHY MARIE TURNER (b. 1961) will be held Thursday, April 4, at Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church, 380 Indian Creek Road, Huntsville, Ala., at 12 noon.

Called 2 Preach

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

CROWDS

Luke 5:17-19; Mark 5:25-29; Matthew 5:1-2a

Crowds are not an unusual sight in our society. We see them at sports events, church, banquets, concerts and the like. Each of these events can be and usually are for those in attendance, an enjoyable experience. However, crowds can also be a hindrance; they can harm; and they can handicap. So how does one handle being hindered, harmed, or handicapped, especially when the crowd has the potential of keeping them from Jesus?

There are two examples in the above scriptures that help answer that question. In the Luke passage we see four friends working compas-

sionately and cooperatively to get their friend to Jesus, but they were hampered by a crowd. Their solution was to go ABOVE them by going on the roof top and with some creative genius, resulted in the healing and

salvation of their friend. In Mark there was the infamous story of the woman with an issue of blood. She too was confronted with a crowd. How did she handle it? She couldn't go ABOVE them as the four had, but she didn't worry ABOUT them; allowing them to cause her to miss touching Jesus' garment, and because of that



mindset, she was able to extract that self-prescribed power from His Person and also was healed.

How did Jesus handle crowds?

It was not by going ABOVE them; although He could

have. But because He cared ABOUT them, we are told that He ABODE with them and taught them.

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For The View event details and tickets, visit burrittonthemountain.com/

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APPRENTICES: Mr. Shane Cook, director of the Water Pollution Control Department for the City of Huntsville, presented the new Apprentices at City Council meeting on March 28. The graduates represented a diverse group of men and women.

“Not only are our memories of African people untruthful, but the memories we have of Europeans are also untruthful, and the memories we have about the rest of the world are untruthful as well.”
 - Asa Hilliard



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Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Dr. Army Daniels

Dr. Army Daniel, Jr., is a respected mathematician, educator and consultant whose unique talents have been highly sought for decades. He lists among his extensive academic credentials degrees culminating with the doctorate through his matriculation and additional studies at Alcorn State University, Tuskegee University and Michigan State University. Dr. Daniel also excelled in both high school and college sports, lettering in football, baseball, track and tennis.

A retiree of Alabama A&M University, he taught mathematics and physics, directed Special Services and Freshman Studies, and has served as an assistant

provost. He frequently serves as consultant to the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Daniel is president and CEO of DDN Associates, a consulting firm. He has also served as a trustee, policy committee head and past chairman of the board for Bethel University (2009-15). He is also Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Directors of the North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence, based in Huntsville, Ala.

He is a dedicated member of Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The administrator also is the past moderator of the General Assembly of



the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, the highest office in the denomination. Dr. Daniel is a member of the Delta Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and he has been involved in numerous community and civic organizations.

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Springtime ... managing lawns, weeds - egos?

"Can a leopard change its spots, or an Ethiopian his skin?" - Jeremiah 13:23

On Our Lawns . . .

Outside our home's kitchen windows were two "Hi, We're Back!" signs: green and white budding tree branch tips and purple flower-like weeds.

Spring has sprung - and with it, my constant reminder of needing God's management of things that grow naturally - like egos.

Lawn upkeep is not simply an early March one-and-done activity; instead, the best lawncare management requires constant (often weekly) mowing, pruning, trimming, edging and disposing of excesses deemed unnecessary. The lawn will not manage itself.

In February, I even applied weed-killing spray to stop that purple surge. While it's working currently, months from now, however, those purple wanna-be flowers will re-surface and therefore need re-management. They, too, will not manage themselves.

My grass and hedges will neither cut or trim themselves nor will my weeds cure, solve and eliminate themselves. As our lawn's steward, I can and must only manage these natu-

ral growths with consistent watch care . . .

. . . Just like God helps us manage our ego-holism - our addiction to self. States Ryan Holiday, author of *Ego Is The Enemy*: "Your ego is not some power you're forced to satiate at every turn. It can be managed. It can be directed."

. . . And In Our Lives

Q: Are you like me struggling unsuccessfully with such ego-holisms as procrastination, selfishness, arrogance, poor eye contact, blame-gaming (excuse making), dis-organization and even more selfishness?

The Bad News? You and I are stuck forever with those "character potholes." They are embedded in our lives' hard-drives. And try though you and I might, those and other ego problems cannot be cured, solved or eliminated, but . . .

The Good News? Just like the even lengths of your lawn grass; the sculpted shape of your hedges; and the presence of those weeds, our lives' "character weeds" (e.g., lust, pornography, conceit, low-/no esteem, etc.) can only be managed through an ongoing management partnership with God.

Just like your and my lawns

and weeds cannot cut, trim or eliminate themselves but need our regular management maintenance, our character weeds cannot solve, cure and eliminate themselves, but also need our God-us management.

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.

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.GetEgoHelpNow.org.



ETC Organization Focuses on Youth Empowerment

Empowerment Through Change is a not for profit organization which was created by Ms. Rosemary Jordan after the violent death of her son in 2007. The organization actively work within the Title One School community assisting with mentoring, tutoring, out-of-state math and science competition, academic summer camps, Christmas, choir and band departments and a variety of other events for local students.

On Sunday evening, Pastor Jarman Leatherwood of the House of Hope and Restoration Church hosted the Built For This Fashion Show for the group. Ms. Tiara Turner produced the show which featured student models, dancing entertainment from A Place to Dance, dance studio, and a plethora of local vendors. Two local



students received scholarships to help them toward their dream.

To offer your support contact: Rosemary Jordan, Empowerment Through Change Inc. (ETC ...), Executive Director/ Founder
www.empowermentthroughchange.com, Email: etcfourdots@gmail.com, Contact No; 256-468-0756

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