

# The Valley Weekly

"You never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice you have."

- Bob Marley

FREE

Volume 4, No. 32

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Friday, April 20, 2018

## Toyota-AAMU Form Partnership

Alabama A&M University (AAMU) and Toyota Motor North America announced on Friday, April 13, a collaboration to launch a student-led mobility initiative. The aim of the program, which will begin in the fall semester of 2018, is to bring the local community together with students to find better ways to connect people to things like education and jobs, and expand usage of zero or low emission vehicles.

The initiative will bring together an interdisciplinary team of students and faculty to facilitate a project called "Clean Low Emissions Approach & Novel Transportation Innovation Practice" (CLEAN-TRIP). The project is the first of a series of university mobility initiatives across the U.S. to be announced by Toyota. "Creating a clean, safe



**GREEN TEAM:** Leading and acknowledging the new AAMU-Toyota green mobility initiative are (l-r): Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle; AAMU President Andrew Hugine, Jr.; David Fernandes, president, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Alabama, Inc. (TMMAL); and Dr. Lloyd Walker, dean, AAMU College of Agricultural, Life and Natural Sciences (Photo by J. Saintjones)

and more efficient environment for the campus proper, as well as the immediate and larger community, has been a major thrust of AAMU

for decades," notes Dr. Ernst Cebert, facilitator of the project and professor within the College of Agricultural, Life and Natural Sciences.

"Through this project, we will engage students with hands-on learning to address real world problems."

## The Valley Weekly

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

*Champion Game Plan, Page 2*

*Zetas' New 'Hatitude,' Page 3*

*Huntsville No. 7 Best Place to Live, Page 5*

*Valley Conservatory Lyceum Series, Page 7*

*Ellis Island and Discovering "Self," Page 8*

## Community Mourns Death of Noted Musician

Funeral service for renowned musician Cleopha C. Pair, Jr., was held on Saturday, April 14, 2018, at Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church with Pastor Anthony Wheeler officiating. A concert was held in his memory on Friday, April 13, 2018, at Eagles Nest Ministries Church.



## Calhoun Awarded \$1.5 Million EDA Grant

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross announced recently that the Department's Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a \$1.5 million grant to Calhoun Community College to help build an Automotive Technology Program Facility on Calhoun's Decatur, Ala., campus.

According to grantee estimates, the project is expected to create 219 jobs, and generate \$32 million in private investment.

"The American labor force is the engine that drives our national economy," said Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross. "The President and the Department of Commerce are committed to ensuring that American communities have tools available to meet the demand for a skilled workforce."

The Automotive Technology Program Facility will provide entry-level skills necessary to enter into and excel in the automotive service and repair industry. It will expand and strengthen the automotive cluster in northern Alabama and southern Tennessee, enhancing the region's economic resilience. This project was made possible by the regional planning efforts led by the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments.

EDA funds the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Government to bring together the public and private sectors to create an economic development roadmap to strengthen the regional economy, support private capital investment and create jobs.

"The funding will go towards the construction of our new Automotive Technology center," said Dr. Jim Klauber, Calhoun's president.

# Washington in a Minute



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

1. The House and Senate are in session this week. Although the House is scheduled to be in session until Thursday, it is likely to adjourn Wednesday afternoon, a signal that we are heading into campaign season. President Trump left for Florida Monday to participate in a roundtable on tax cuts as efforts continue to sell the GOP tax plan. Some recent polls show that the majority of Americans still don't support the tax law, despite an uptick in sentiment since the end of 2017.

2. With the 2017 tax filing deadline April 17, the House will work on 12 bills to retool the IRS. The bills are part of a broader legislative package the Ways and Means Committee approved last week.

3. The debate over whether online retailers have an advantage over brick-and-mortar shops by avoiding sales tax fees was at the heart of a multibillion-dollar U.S. Supreme Court online tax case argued Tuesday. A ruling for the states would put new pressure on internet retailers and marketplaces that don't always collect taxes -- including Overstock.com, Wayfair, Newegg, eBay, Etsy and thousands of smaller merchants.

4. The House Energy and Commerce Committee is shining a spotlight on net neutrality once more in a telecom subcommittee hearing this week that will examine paid prioritization. In December, the FCC voted to kill Obama-era net neutrality rules that banned ISPs from blocking or slowing internet traffic and from offering priori-

tization deals to speed up paying web companies' content to customers.

5. On Friday, the Department of Education gave final approval to the first partnership in a closely watched experiment that opens up federal student aid for alternative education programs, such as coding boot camps. Brookhaven College, which is near Dallas and part of the Dallas County Community College District, is the first to get the green light for the Educational Quality through Innovation Partnerships experiment, dubbed EQUIP — nearly two years after the department gave initial approval to eight schools to take part in the pilot program.

6. On Friday, the House Transportation Committee leaders introduced a new five-year Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) bill, setting the stage for floor action by the end of the month. The bill largely tracks with what the panel approved last year, minus Chairman Bill Shuster's (R-PA) proposal to spin air traffic control operations away from the FAA and into the hands of a nonprofit corporation.

7. On Last Thursday,

Hamm Consulting Group participated in a Washington event that focused on a conversation about the National Space Council accomplishments thus far and how Congress and the Administration can work collaboratively with the private sector to ensure our nation's supremacy in the new space race. The

event featured Dennis Muilenburg, Chairman and CEO of the Boeing Company and U.S. Reps. Randy Hultgren (R-IL) and Ami Bera (D-CA). President Trump signed an executive order in 2017 reviving the National Space Council to help fuel a new space economy that leverages public and private invest-

ments to return humans to the moon and to Mars.

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## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

James 1:2 says, "Consider it pure joy whenever you face trials of many kinds."

One of the things that used to "bug" me when I was in school was an unexpected test. I can still remember my teachers or professors coming into the classroom with test papers in hand and a quirky smile on their faces. They would always say something like, "This is

not intended to discourage any of you or to make you nervous; it is simply to see what you know, its just a learning experience." In our text, James draws a close comparison to this illustration with his

view of "spiritual test." He opens up with the strangest statement when he says "consider it pure joy" when test and trials come into our lives. So what does this mean to us as believers? Obviously, we should not seek out trials, but we as Christians should know what the outcome of our trials will produce. In other words, what will we profit from our trials? When we look at this scripture,

there are three things that we will profit from when we go through our tests and trials. The first thing we get is a purified faith. Now, to purify something means to remove contaminants from. God is trying to remove all

of the things that hinder us from our spiritual growth. The next thing that we get is an abundance of patience. Because one of the problems that we all have when dealing with our test is the "time factor." If we are believers, we know that good will come from bad circumstances; we just wish it would hurry up. And finally our character is perfected, which means we become spiritually mature in our judgement and understanding. When we endure our tests and our trials, not only will they perfect our character, but they will also make us complete. Being complete gives us the ability to fully serve God, not lacking anything ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.



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**The Valley Weekly**

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**From the Editor**



**Zetas Present 'Hatitude' Luncheon**

Members of Delta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., hosted the 13th Annual Blue Revue: Hatitude Luncheon on April 14 at The Jackson Center. Despite the weather, scores of supporters joined in for an event filled with great fellowship, fashion and food. Anytime I have the opportunity to celebrate scholarship, service, finer womanhood and friendship--while blazing new paths--it's a good time!

Enjoyed the "Back to the Roots." Job well done, Ladies!

Until next week ...

*Dorothy*

# Valley Deaths

## - Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. IRMALENE DAVIS was held on Sunday, April 15, at Oakwood University S.D.A. Mosley Complex with Pastor Carlton Byrd officiating.

Funeral service for MS. SHARON SMITH (b. 1970) was held Saturday, April 14, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for MS. SUE BERTA MARTIN (b. 1933) was held Friday, April 13, at 1st S.D.A Church with Reverend Cornell Martin officiating.

Funeral service for ELDER VERNON HEREFORD (b. 1941) was held on Tuesday, April 10, at 1st S.D.A. Church.

Memorial service for MR. DEREK J. COLLIER (b. 1983) was held on Monday, April 9, at Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church with Rev. Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery officiating.

Funeral service for MR. OTHA L. BERGER (b. 1927) was held on Saturday, April 7, at Hope Community Church with Bishop Dr. Charles Rodgers officiating.

Funeral service for MR. OWEN RADICLIFFE (aka Big O) was held on Saturday, April 7, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

## - Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service was held Tuesday, April 17, for MRS. SHIRLEY NESBITT (b. 1939) at the C.T. Richards Chapel in the Mosley Complex on the campus of Oakwood University (5500 Adventist Boulevard, Huntsville, AL 35896) with Pastor Bobby Mitchell officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. LOUISE PITTS (b. 1948) was held Sunday, April 15, at Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church, (2350 Wall Triana Highway, Madison, AL 35758), with Pastor Mylon Burwell officiating.

Funeral service was held Saturday, April 14, for MRS. ANNIE MAE WADDLE (b. 1921) at St. Andrew Primitive Baptist Church, (1393 Swancott Road, Madison, AL 35756), with Pastor Michael Hartwell officiating.

Funeral service for OFFICER KEITH O'NEAL EARLE (b. 1971) was held, Friday, April 13, 2018, at the Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church (292 Cemetery Road, New Market, AL 35761) with Pastor Larry Davidson, Jr., officiating.

Funeral service was held Saturday, April 14, for MR. ROBERT BOOKER (b. 1941) at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue, N.W. Huntsville, AL 35810) with Dr. Theodis Acklin officiating.

# Huntsville Band Rocks the Apollo Stage

by Reggie Allen

If Paul Janeway, front man of St. Paul & the Broken Bones, taught the world anything, it would be not to underestimate the power of white boy that can sing funk. The same can be said for newcomer Lamont Landers.

The Lamont Landers Band were contestants on Fox's revival of "Showtime At the Apollo," an amateur-style talent competition where the audience makes the final call. Get enough boos from the crowd and not only is your act done, you'll be kindly escorted off the stage. Luckily, the

Alabama band didn't have that problem. Performing a cover of "Use Me" by Bill Withers, spectators immediately got to their feet. Even host Steve Harvey was taken by surprise.

"They came up in here and did the doggone thing in the world-famous Apollo Theatre," Harvey belted to the cheering audience before sending band members down the advancing aisle. The quartet moves on to the next round, where they'll face off with dancers, comedians and singers in the season finale.

Based out of Decatur, the

band is comprised of Landers, Kevin Canada, Bowen Robertson and Jaraven Bowen Hill. The two-minute performance, which is now available online, boasts almost 19,000 views.

Shortly after their performance, the funk ensemble released "Into the Fold," a single off their upcoming record. The soulful track is available on YouTube and iTunes.

Alabama has been making its round on the small screen. "American Idol," which just kicked off its 16th season, featured three



LAMONT  
LANDERS  
BAND

contestants from the Yellow Hammer state, including Arab's own Brandon Elder.

Straight off their television debut, Landers and crew are slated to perform Friday, April 27, at AM Booth's Lumberyard at 8 p.m.

## J.F. Drake State Site of Community Jobs Event

J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College and the Workforce and Economic Development Division of the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) will be partnering with North Huntsville Community United for Action (NHCUA) to host a community event highlighting career opportunities in manufacturing on Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mae Jemison High School gymnasium, 5000 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, Ala.

The Huntsville/Madison County area is experiencing tremendous growth in the manufacturing sector, which is creating demand for skilled technicians. Drake State is focused on meeting this need through its advanced manufacturing programs for traditional, non-traditional and dually enrolled high school students.

The event will be an excellent opportunity to promote and attract the citizens of North Huntsville to businesses.



STEM-oriented and other businesses will be permitted to set up a booth, and through a

two- to three-minute video highlighting the manufacturing process and organization as a whole.

## The Isabelle Brothers Launching "Buffalo Soldiers"

The Isabelle Brothers are bringing an awakening in African-American historic cinema with the new documentary: "Buffalo Soldiers: A Quest for Freedom!"

The movie premiere is scheduled for Sunday, April 22, at 8 p.m.-11:30 p.m. at Regal Cinemas Hollywood

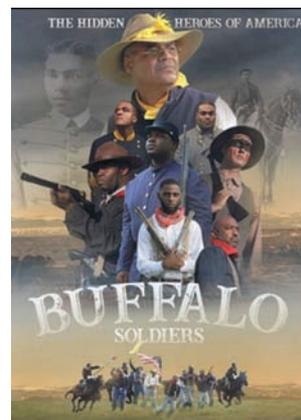
18 in Huntsville, Ala.

Discover the hidden heroes of American battle known as the Buffalo Soldiers. Their bravery and sacrifice saved the country and helped shape the landscape of America.

Experience an edge-of-your-seat journey through

200 years of black excellence and achievement that will leave you cheering long after the credits roll!

Early Bird (\$10) and VIP (\$25) tickets available via <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/buffalo-soldiers-movie-premiere-8pm-showing-tickets-43452256870#tickets>



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- Lakeside United Methodist Church
- Lucky's Supermarket
- Marshall England - State Farm Agent
- Martinson & Beason, PC
- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home
- N. Ala. Center for Educational Excellence
- Oakwood University Post Office
- Regency Retirement Village
- Rocket City Barber Shop
- Sam and Greg's Pizza
- Sav-A-Lot
- Sneed's Cleaners
- Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)
- Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

# Rocket City No. 7 on 2018 Best Places to Live

Last week, in its April-released ranking of 125 metropolitan areas throughout these United States, US News & World Report has placed Huntsville, Ala., in the top 10 of the 2018 Best Places to Live.

“When deciding on a place to settle down, it’s important to understand that where a person lives can impact their well-being,” said Kim Castro, executive editor at U.S. News. “U.S. News created the Best Places to Live to highlight areas across the country that have the characteristics residents are looking for, including steady job growth and affordability. The top-ranked places are areas where citizens can feel the most fulfilled socially, physically and financially.”

At No. 7, Huntsville, Ala., made its top 10 debut in the rankings, thanks to

being able to provide its residents ample science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) employment opportunities, while also holding the highest value score out of all places on

this year’s list.

Huntsville Mayor Tommie Battle publicly shared his pride with the rankings during the announcement of a Toyota-Alabama A&M University green mobility partnership held on campus Friday, April 13.

The top 10 on 2018’s Best Places to Live include the following:

- 1) Austin, Tex.
- 2) Colorado Springs, Colo.
- 3) Denver, Colo.
- 4) Des Moines, Iowa
- 5) Fayetteville, Ark.
- 6) Portland, Ore.
- 7) Huntsville, Ala.**
- 8) Washington, D.C.
- 9) Minneapolis, Minn.
- 10) Seattle, Wash.



## Senior Wellness Expo Scheduled

A Senior Health and Wellness Expo will be held at the Robert “Bob” Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center, 6156 Pulaski Pike, on Tuesday, April 24, 9 a.m.-12 noon.

Cost for a vendor table is \$20 for one six-foot table and two chairs; additional tables are \$10.

The deadline to reserve tables is April 19. A free lunch of tuna fish and fruit will be served.

For further information about the Expo, phone Sabrina Jenkins at (256) 519-2042 or (256) 519-2040, or e-mail [sjenkins@madisoncountyal.gov](mailto:sjenkins@madisoncountyal.gov).

## The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>April 19</b><br/>Senior Fishing Rodeo<br/>Braham Spring Park Lagoon<br/>8 a.m.-12 noon<br/><a href="http://huntsvilleal.gov/recreation">huntsvilleal.gov/recreation</a></p> <p><b>April 20</b><br/>AAMU Annual Black Tie Gala<br/><i>Featured Entertainment:</i><br/>Carl Thomas<br/>Von Braun Center-North Hall<br/>For more information/tickets, call (256) 372-8344<br/>6 p.m.</p> <p><b>April 21</b><br/>Earth Day<br/>Hays Nature Preserve<br/>10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p>The Links 20th Annual Multi-cultural Extravaganza<br/>Ernest Knight Center<br/>Alabama A&amp;M University<br/>1-3 p.m.</p> <p>Meet Your Muslim Neighbor<br/>1645 Sparkman Drive<br/>Huntsville, Ala.</p> <p><b>April 27-29</b><br/>Panoply Festival of the Arts<br/>Big Spring Park Huntsville<br/>Tickets are \$10/day and children 12 and under receive Free Admission<br/><a href="http://www.artshuntsville.org">www.artshuntsville.org</a></p> <p><b>April 28</b><br/>Drug Takeback<br/>Locations:<br/>Huntsville Police Department<br/>CVS Pharmacy - Winchester<br/>Alabama A&amp;M University<br/>Madison Police Department<br/>CVS - Hwy. 231-431N</p> | <p>9 a.m.-12 noon</p> <p>Diverse Educational Life Training Activities, Inc.<br/>Changing Lives Award<br/>Huntsville Marriott<br/>10 a.m.</p> <p><b>April 29</b><br/>Elegance on Any Budget Presents ...<br/>TwistedFork 2018 Vegan and Vegetarian Festival</p> <p><b>May 4</b><br/>Spring Commencement<br/>Alabama A&amp;M University<br/>Speaker: Rep. Anthony Daniels<br/>Von Braun Center<br/>6 p.m.</p> <p><b>May 4-5</b><br/>Whistle Stop BBQ Festival<br/>Huntsville Depot Roundhouse<br/><a href="https://whistlestopweekend.com">https://whistlestopweekend.com</a></p> <p><b>May 6</b><br/>niversity of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) Spring Commencement<br/>Von Braun Center<br/>Propst Arena<br/>2 p.m.</p> <p><b>May 12</b><br/>3rd Annual Classic Car &amp; Truck Show by the Village<br/>Sharon Johnston Park - \$20<br/>New Market, Ala.<br/>9 a.m.</p> <p>Oakwood University Spring Commencement<br/>Von Braun Center</p> | <p>Propst Arena<br/>6 p.m.</p> <p><b>May 19</b><br/>North Precinct Annual Block Party<br/>The Grounds of Alabama<br/>A&amp;M University (Near North Police Precinct)<br/>11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>May 23</b><br/>Fallen Heroes<br/>Huntsville Police Department<br/>815 Wheeler Avenue<br/>5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>May 26-27</b><br/>Alabama Jubilee Hot Air Balloon Classic<br/>Point Mallard<br/>Decatur, Ala.</p> <p><b>June 8-9</b><br/>Rocket City Brewfest<br/>Campus 805 S.R. Butler Green<br/><a href="http://rocketcitybrewfest.com">http://rocketcitybrewfest.com</a></p> <p><b>June 9</b><br/>Speak Out! Write Now!<br/>Every Child Has a Story<br/>Featuring Child Author Kinyah Bean<br/>Embrace Center<br/>3220 Lodge Road<br/>Huntsville, Ala.<br/>9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>June 16</b><br/>12th Annual White Linen Brunch<br/>Alabama A&amp;M University<br/>Knight Center<br/>TBA</p> |
|---|--|--|

### Community Free Dental Clinic

The Community Free Dental Clinic is partnered with United Way and is a non-profit organization that provides free dental services to low income individuals of Madison County. Local dentists and volunteers from the community donate their time and services. You can become a sponsor and keep the clinic operating to provide valuable services to our neighbors. Your contribution is critical to our success. You can make a donation by mailing your **TAX-DEDUCTIBLE** donation to The Community Free Dental Clinic, 2341 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, AL 35801.



## Akridge to Announce Bid for Huntsville City Council

Members of the press and media are being invited to the April 21 campaign launch event of Frances Akridge.

The event will be held at Galen's Restaurant Five Points, located at 607 Andrew Jackson Way NE, Huntsville, Ala.

Frances Akridge, former president of the Northeast Huntsville Civic Association, will hold a meet and greet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to launch her campaign.

Guests will have an opportunity to meet the candidate and hear her talk about her campaign platform.

Mark Russell, who currently holds the District 2 seat, has already an-

nounced that he will not seek re-election.

"Placing my name on the municipal ballot to represent the residents of District 2 is a natural progression of the work I have been committed to since becoming a resident of Huntsville in 2007," says Akridge.

District 2 encompasses parts of Chapman Mountain, Monte Sano, Downtown Huntsville, Jones Valley, and Hampton Cove.

The Huntsville municipal election will take place on Tuesday, August 28, 2018.

For more information about Frances Akridge and

her campaign, please visit [francesakridgeforhsv.com](http://francesakridgeforhsv.com).

*"In life, the challenge is not so much to figure out how best to play the game; the challenge is to figure out what game you're playing."*

-Kwame Anthony Appiah

### 2018 Alabama A&M University Bulldog Football

Date	Opponent	Site	Venue	Time
Sept. 1	Miles College	HOME	Louis Crews Stadium (Crews Classic)	TBA
Sept. 8	University of North Alabama	HOME	Louis Crews Stadium	TBA
Sept. 15	U. of Cincinnati	AWAY	Cincinnati, Ohio	TBA
Sept. 22	Southern University	Neutral	Mobile, Ala. (Gulf Coast Challenge)	TBA
Sept. 29	Jackson State University	AWAY	Jackson, Miss.	TBA
Oct. 6	Texas Southern University	AWAY	Houston, Tex.	TBA
Oct. 13	Alcorn State University	HOME	Louis Crews Stadium (HOMECOMING)	TBA
Oct. 20		<b>OPEN</b>		
Oct. 27	Alabama State University	Neutral	Birmingham, Ala. (Magic City Classic)	TBA
Nov. 3	U. of Ark. Pine Bluff	AWAY	Pine Bluff, Ark.	TBA
Nov. 10	Grambling State University	HOME	Louis Crews Stadium	TBA
Nov. 17	Mississippi Valley St. U.	AWAY	Itta Bena, Miss.	TBA

## TOWN HALL MEETING

### "Legislative Update"

Rep. Anthony Daniels

House District 53 &



Rep. Laura Hall

House District 19



April 30, 2018

Huntsville-Madison County

Public Library Auditorium

915 Monroe Street

Huntsville, Ala.

6-8 p.m.

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# Called Preach

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

## God, Miranda Rights and the 4th & 5th Amendments

If I were to exercise my fifth amendment right, I would 'take the fifth' and not confess that sometimes I 'binge-watch' certain television shows that I like. Most of them involve cops and the courtroom. I'm no expert, but I have picked up on some of the language of the law. For instance, when cops arrest a person, they always make sure that



they read them their Miranda rights; the right to remain silent.

The fourth amendment was written to prevent what is called 'illegal search and seizure' by government officials;

no searching without a warrant. The fifth amendment allows a person to not answer a question while on the witness stand in order to avoid 'self-incrimina-

tion.'

David shows us in Psalm 139:23-24 that when it comes to dealing with God, all of these rights are rendered useless. David literally issued God a search warrant to his heart and his mind. For David, exercising one's Miranda rights with God by remaining silent, meant remaining sinful, because he understood that human eyes are not capable of seeing deep enough into the heart. He realized that sins can sink into the crevices and creases and remain dormant and debilitating. Therefore, he voluntarily issued God a search warrant and rather than 'pleading the fifth,' he pleaded with God for full exposure. I can hear David saying to God, "Slap on the cuffs; take me to the interrogation room; I trust Your Grace and Mercy."

### Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

## Marion Barley Hall

Marion Barley Hall was born in Madison County, Alabama, on December 10, 1936, to the late Daniel and Orell Draper Barley. She attended Councill Training High School and graduated in 1954. Upon completion of high school, she enrolled at Alabama A&M University, where she was an active member of the Marching Band (1954-1955). Hall also received a business school-business education certificate from Manpower in 1963. She was later employed by Marshall Space Flight Center, where she was a Documentation Analyst for over 18 years. A lifelong member of Center Grove United Methodist



Church, Hall served in various ministry areas, including Chancel Choir member, president of United Methodist Women, chairperson and co-chairperson of the Harvest Committee, chairperson of King's Care, chairperson of Stewardship, member of the Finance Committee, and chairperson of Burns-Northside, to name a few. In 1978, she established the first Mother-Daughter Luncheon at Center Grove United Methodist Church.

She also served in various civic organizations in her community that include member, Elk Lodge #977 (Daughter of Elk); member, Corner's

Homemaker and Community Club; member, ABWA (American Business Women Association); member, Red Hatters (Hill Top-Rough Chapeaux); and member, Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Hall's greatest joy in life was caring for the sick and underprivileged, and her adopted motto was, "Let My Work Speak For Me." Her work has spoken, and it is still speaking for her through the tireless care she gave to her family and friends. She always made herself available to assist others with their needs.

In her home, she cared extensively for relatives and other loved ones for a combined span of decades. She and her husband of more than 50 years, Richard Hall, have two adult children, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

### FIT Huntsville Ph.D. Info Briefing Set

Dean Ted Richardson and fellow alumni will present an informational social hour on Florida Institute of Technology's doctor of business administration program April 26 at 6 p.m. at 6767 Old Madison Pike Progress Center, Bldg. 7, Suite 720, in Huntsville. RSVP by April 12 at [tweaver@fit.edu](mailto:tweaver@fit.edu) or 971-9353. Students can earn a doctorate in less than three years. Harry Hobbs, DBA Site Director and Asst. Prof. of Business, FIT, Redstone/Huntsville, 6767 Old Madison Pike Building 7, Suite 720, Huntsville, AL 35806 - Cell 256-783-1793 <http://web2.fit.edu/huntsville/>

### VC, HMA Sponsor Special Music

The Valley Conservatory Lyceum Series and the Huntsville Museum of Art will be presenting "Something Old Something New," a joint venture featuring jazz and baroque music and showcasing the art exhibit of The Life and Art of Mary Petty.

The featured performing artists are The Devere Pride Trio and members of the Valley Conservatory Early Music Society. The event will take place Sunday, April 22, at 2:30 at the Huntsville Museum of Art located on Church Street.

The presentation encourages dialog between artists and audience is open to the public. Admission is required for museum exhibits. Information at (256) 534-3131 or [valleyconservatory.com](http://valleyconservatory.com).

### 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.

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# Celebrating National Ellis Island Family History Day

by tim allston

Tuesday, April 17, was not just "Tax Day" across the U.S.; it was also National Ellis Island Family History Day. On that day in 1907, the largest single number of immigrants (11,747) was processed through that 27-acre island in New York Harbor, in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty.

From 1892 to 1954, 12 million immigrants--most notably Albert Einstein, Bob Hope, Cary Grant, Irving Berlin, Harlem Renaissance writer Claude McKay and Kwame Nkrumah, first president of independent Ghana--entered the U.S. to begin the journey to new, better lives.

Today, more than 40% of Americans--approximately 130 million people--can trace their heritage through that chief U.S. immigration station.

Although Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty are less than a mile apart, each nonetheless represents distinct phases of the journey to U.S. citizenship: • Lady Liberty represented the ultimate goal of freedom, or the "what"; but • For more than 60 years, Ellis Island stood for the process, the "how," for those 12 million immigrants to obtain that freedom from their past.

Even though some 350 babies were actually born on Ellis Island during that process, it was not to be the final home for these newborns or their families. As a port of disembarkation, Ellis Island was merely a milepost, albeit the first "rest area," for these first-

time U.S. visitors. Although these travelers brought with them all of their possessions en route to this first U.S. stop, they could not, for example, plant gardens or hang curtains or family mementos on its walls. Why? Because Ellis Island was just the springboard, only the first step, in launching them to their ultimate goal, freedom, symbolized by the Statue of Liberty.

The same holds true today when you and I consider any pursuit that be-



gins with the word "self": self-esteem, self-worth, self-confidence, self-development, self-image, etc.

As you and I pursue our paths toward freedom and recovering from the old chains that once held or may still hold us hostage -- e.g., pride, arrogance, low-esteem--or just plain 'ol' sin!--remember for many of us our Ellis Island ancestors: they could only stop briefly at that port of disembarkation; could not stay there indefinitely--on average, three to five hours for individual inspections and medical/physical screenings; and then they needed to move on to their ultimate goal of freedom and journey toward op-

portunity in "one nation under God."

Yes, as you and I begin our recovering processes -- i.e., healing and freeing ourselves from the heavy chains that kept or continue to keep us enslaved to sin--that first important and necessary step toward freedom will be the pursuit of the "self's": self-esteem, self-love, self-image, self-development, self-confidence, etc.

But those "self's" are at their very best only the first steps, and too many of us get comfortable and stuck there indefinitely.

Remember: any pursuit that starts (and ends) with "self" is ultimately a dead-end street. Your and my end-goal should not be, for example, self-confidence, but God-confidence - belief and ultimate security in the all-knowing/-loving God; not self-esteem, but rather Christ-esteem, knowing that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13, NKJV).

Let's face it: it's the pursuit of "self" that keeps us mired continually in its quicksand.

It's time now to break free from self.

Remember: let's start at our Ellis Islands, but then you and I must move rapidly to our Statues of Liberty!

*\*Huntsville's tim allston is the author of the free downloadable book, 7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for "Somebody Else," available now at [www.GetEgoHelpNow.org](http://www.GetEgoHelpNow.org).*



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