

The Valley Weekly

It costs you something to do good.

- Zora Neale Hurston

FREE

Volume 4, No. 37

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, May 25, 2018



PLENTY OF HOT AIR! Hot air balloons galore, vendors and entertainment will be part of the free, family-oriented Alabama Jubilee scheduled May 26-27 in Decatur, Ala. (alabamajubilee.net)

Madison Site of New Jimmy Buffett-Themed Hotel

A Jimmy Buffett, Margaritaville-styled hotel will be built in Town Madison, a 563-acre, walkable community/cultural complex.

The existing complex boasts a new experience for living, shopping, working,

dining, and entertainment connecting people with their environment in a more meaningful way than traditional developments.

The hotel project will be undertaken by the nearly decade-old Jackson-

ville, Fla.-based Chance Partners, LLC, which has completed multifamily, retail and hospitality structures throughout Alabama, Florida and Georgia, particularly at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

Vet Memorial Ceremony Set for Glenwood Cemetery

The Urban Emphasis Scout Leaders Council (UESLC) Greater Alabama Council will sponsor a Memorial Ceremony, Saturday, May 26, at noon, in Glenwood Cemetery (2300 Hall Avenue NW) to honor the memory of all deceased veterans, especially those whose final resting place is

one of the historical black cemeteries in Huntsville and Madison County.

Boy Scouts will place a flag at the gravesite of each veteran at Northside, Brandontown, Meadowlawn Garden of Peace and Glenwood cemeteries.

Tribute will be paid to service men and women

who have made great sacrifices and served this nation with honor and distinction. The program will end with the playing of taps and a proper cannon military salute.

For additional information, contact John Cable (256) 527-8667 or LaVern Spearman at 656-1126.

AKAs' ASCEND Youth Program: Start Here ...

Go Anywhere

Hands-on, multi-session student led STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) activities are key aspects of the ASCEND Youth program implemented by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter.

STEM provides limitless opportunities. For instance, the 4-H Alabama Water Watch Program teaches watershed stewardship and water quality monitoring through science-based, hands-on experiences in the classroom/lab setting and at the creek, river, lake, or bay.

Moreover, ASCEND students were introduced to the program with an overview of water chemistry monitoring presented by 4-H and others from Alabama Water Watch, Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

The ASCEND students became certified 4-H water watch members and subsequently conducted a comparative study of a lake on the campus of Alabama A&M University. Through water chemistry monitoring, the students test physical and chemical characteristics of the water to determine pollution sources and long-term trends in water quality.

Six variables are mea-



sured with a customized test kit, and results are compared with water quality standards that define conditions for healthy water bodies in Alabama. Samples are collected monthly by ASCEND students.

Additionally, robotics is an interdisciplinary branch of engineering and science that includes mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and computer

science. It merges design, construction, operation, use of robots, as well as computer systems for their control, sensory feedback, and information processing.

Finally, the ASCEND students built and programmed the robots to perform specific tasks. Engineering design and planning were also incorporated in the project, implemented over three sessions.

The Valley Weekly
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Washington in One Minute



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

1. The House and Senate are in session this week. After a surprising defeat on passing the Farm Bill last week, the House GOP leadership, according to The Hill newspaper, is now moving away from bringing up a resolution to approve President Trump's proposed impound of \$15.4

billion in federal spending, including \$7 billion from the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

According to Politico, a discharge petition being circulated by Moderate Republicans to force a vote on immigration in the House is only 22 votes shy of the required 218. The House will continue chipping away at the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform legislation

with a bill to exempt most banks and credit unions from a number of mortgage reporting requirements.

It will also take up the "Right to Try Act," which would allow terminally ill patients to have access to potentially lifesaving drugs when no other alternatives exist and the FY2019 Defense Authorization bill.

2. On Monday, President Trump attended the swearing in of new CIA Director Gina Haspel. On Tuesday, he met at the White House with South Korean President Moon Jae-In and on Tuesday night he delivered the keynote address at the anti-abortion Susan B. Anthony Campaign for Life Gala at the National Building Museum.

On Wednesday, he hosted a roundtable discussion

on immigration and on Thursday awarded the Medal of Honor to retired Navy Master Chief Britt Slabinski. On Friday, the President traveled to Annapolis, Md., to deliver the graduation address at the U.S. Naval Academy.

3. The Senate Appropriations Committee began its work this week on the FY2019 appropriations bills, starting with subcommittee mark-ups of the FY2019 Agriculture and Energy & Water Appropriations bills. The full House Appropriations Committee marked up the FY2019 Interior Appropriations bill on Tuesday and the FY2019 Transportation/ HUD Appropriations bill on Wednesday.

4. On Wednesday, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

met to mark up the 2018 Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA), which reauthorizes programs and projects of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. According to water industry representatives, the bill is designed to move quickly through the House, with lawmakers omitting controversial provisions that could have held it up.

5. Last Saturday, U.S. and China officials released a joint statement saying the 2 nations agreed to take measures to substantially reduce the United States trade deficit in goods with China and on meaningful increases in U.S. agriculture and energy exports. Then, on Sunday, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said on Fox News Sunday that a trade war with China is "on hold."

6. With the latest mass shooting at a high school in Santa Fe, Texas, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders on Friday said the tragic incident "activated" the White House school safety commission, which was created after the Valentine's Day school shooting in Parkland, Fla., that left 17 people dead. She said the commission would meet early this week. She also stated that she did not have anything to announce on the prospect of new gun control measures at this point.

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Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

James 1: 12 says, "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him."

Now that we've all gotten pass the "Graduation Season," many students are probably saying: "Finally. Now I don't have to take anymore tests!" But I hate to disappoint you, because there will be more tests, and they actually get much harder and the stakes are higher. You see, life is a test that we take every day. There will always be (what I call



the three C's. We will all face challenges or tests in our lives. Then, we will have to make a choice that comes from whatever challenges we face. Then there will be consequences for the choices that we make. If we make good choices, the consequences will be good. Now testing can take on many forms--like what job should you pursue or what person will you choose to spend the rest of your life with or, most importantly, will you choose to follow Jesus. The choice is yours. Just remember one thing: which ever you choose, you will have to live with the consequence of that choice. I believe that when we choose

to follow Jesus, it is the best choice we can ever make. Because when we do, He will provide us with the discerning wisdom that it takes to make good decisions. Proverbs 3:5-6 says: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to Him and He will make your paths straight.*

Remember, life is a test and it doesn't stop with that final exam that you take in college or high school. But if we make good choices in our lives, especially as it pertains to our spiritual life, we can all receive our crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him! Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

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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.

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The Valley Weekly

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From the Editor



Ah ... A Royal Reception!

Mrs. Peggy Etheridge hosted a Royal Reception at her home on Saturday, May 19, at 5 pm, in honor of Duchess of Sussex Meghan Markle. Ladies gathered at her Madison home for an evening filled with celebration, Meghan Markle trivia, wonderful food, fellowship and diverse hats. Even today, it is shocking to see British royalty with a bare head.

Since the work of Prince Harry's mother, Lady Diana, we have been caught up in who she was and her work with charity. Prior to her engagement to Prince Harry, Meghan Markle was an established actress, feminist, and philanthropist who had already defined her space in the world--working with charities. Among these were her charitable work with United Nations Development Programme and World Vision Canada, as well as her advocacy for efforts impacting AIDS & HIV, animals, children, disaster relief, economic/business support, education, environment, family/parent support, gender equality, health, human rights, hunger, miscellaneous, poverty, water, women. She did all of these things while managing the complications of a high-paced career and challenging family relationships.

Unlike in many places, the British people -- from Queen Elizabeth to the street sweepers -- endorsed and embraced her. She gave up her career, her opinions, and her social relationships to wed the Prince. Yet, she knows when to conform and when to walk on the edge--as with the sermon (by The Most Reverend Michael Curry, first African-American Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church), soulful music and the unprecedented diversity demonstrated during the wedding ceremony, originally broadcast last Saturday morning.

When she joined him following her stunning entrance on the arm of his father (Prince Charles), Prince Harry whispered to his bride, "You look amazing." Amazing transcends "beautiful" on so many levels and suggests he sees qualities far beyond physical appearance. Nonetheless, it's a wonderful love story and a lesson to each of us about choosing love. The happy Prince wiped his eyes and nose throughout the ceremony. She has changed his life as he has changed hers. He is likely the lucky one. Ladies, can you imagine being married to a prince? Did Harry ever imagine being so blessed to meet and marry an African-American woman, a naturally beautiful princess, an independent lady filled with intellect, beauty, charm, class and grace?

Thanks, Lady Peggy, for celebrating a lovely, historical occasion. Until next week ...

Dorothy

Valley Deaths

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Graveside service for MR. CHRISTOPHER HUGHES (b. 1979) was held Saturday, May 19, at the Pine Grove Cemetery (Deposit, Ala.) with the Reverend Walter Peavy officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. DONNA R. SEARD-BROWN (b. 1965) was held May 14 at First Seventh-day Adventist Church with Pastor Jones officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. BETTY J. HARRIS (b. 1938) was held Saturday, May 12, at First Missionary Baptist Church (3509 Blue Spring Road) with Pastor Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

- Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. IGUSTA "GUSSIE" SEAY SANDIFER (b. 1936) will be 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 19, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.).

Funeral service for MRS. GUSSIE MASTIN JACKSON (b. 1924) will be 12 noon Friday, May 25, at the First Missionary Baptist Church (3509 Blue Spring Road, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

Huntsville Gets Shout Out on SNL

by Reggie D. Allen

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE

If you blinked, you may have missed the small cameo the Rocket City had on Saturday Night Live Saturday, May 18.

"From Huntsville, Alabama, welcome to Gospel Brunch," announced a fashionably clad Deacon Mac (played by featured player Chris Redd) before the camera panned over to an in-studio church choir, belting a theme song vaguely reminiscent to Rufus & Chaka Khan's "Ain't Nobody." The quick name-drop may have caught locals off guard, but the sketch's subject material may touch a soft spot.

"Gospel Brunch," an obvious jab at Southern cooking programs, starred SNL

mainstays Kenan Thompson and Leslie Jones as Traci and Pervis Scott, Alabama cooks with a penchant for butter and grease. Throughout the six-minute sketch, the eponymous duo boasted their abilities to "make Southern foods with spirit, which included artery-clogging dishes like Honey Butter Fried Pork Casserole and Four Cheese Mac N' Cheese with bacon and potato chips.

The sketch also featured host and comedian Amy Schumer as Kayla Manning, a "Paula Dean" character whose idea of vegetarian biscuits and gravy include "a little bit of chicken and a lot of sausage." A highlight included Manning's

character making a pecan-flavored smoothie with an entire pecan pie. Despite an unscripted blender malfunction, the Food Network lampoon was all laughs. The Southern state is no stranger to the long-running NBC behemoth. In 2016, University of Alabama hot spots Reese Phifer and Bryant-Denny Stadium were used as the backdrop to a sketch starring then host and pro wrestler John Cena, who played a Crimson Tide baller giving his final science presentation. It was clever, albeit incorrect nod to the Tuscaloosa-based university. (Reese Phifer is a communications building.)

Taking a more political

turn, SNL namedropped Roy Moore during the special election. The republican candidate was not only featured in the late-night show's "Cold Open" but was the main topic of "Weekend Update" segment.

Both the "Gospel Brunch" and Crimson Tide sketches, which collectively boast thousands of views, can be viewed on YouTube.

"Don't play what's there, play what's not there."

- Miles Davis

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Worship Services

SUNDAY

8:15 a.m. Faith Institute |
9:15 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Worship

WEDNESDAY

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

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Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc., of Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc.

Seventeenth Annual Leadership Awards Gala

Saturday, June 2, 2018 • 6:00 p.m.

Ernest L. Knight Reception Center, Alabama A&M University

Ticket information: \$50.00 per person • Reserved Tables \$500.00

Ticket Information: Marwill49@gmail.com, vanaka1956@gmail.com or 256.726.0432

Music provided by: Dr. Reginald Jackson and Mrs. Vanessa D. Henderson

2018 HONOREES



2018 Honorees, pictured above from left to right: Civic/Community Award, Mrs. Lee Marshall/Kids to Love; Corporate Award, Attorney Andrew "Andy" Sieja; Educational Award, Dr. Tammy Summerville; Government Relations Award, The Honorable Will Culver; Religious Award, Evangelist Floyd Rodgers; Small Business Award, Mr. James F. Smith



Huntsville Progressive Chapter, Inc. Outstanding Alumna of the Year, Ms. Linda T. Hunt
Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc. Outstanding Alumnus of the Year, Mr. Marvin Williams
William Hooper Councill Distinguished Alumna Award, Mrs. Patricia D. Ford

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- James Smith - AllState Insurance
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- Lucky's Supermarket
- Marshall England - State Farm Agent
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- 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

TMT CEO Addresses FIT Grads

by Dr. Harry Hobbs

The Florida Institute of Technology held its annual spring graduation on May 11.

“The college could not have chosen a better graduation speaker than Dr. Dorothy Huston,” commented Dr. Harry Hobbs, site director for FIT’s Redstone/Huntsville campus. “She is a very accomplished, well-known educator and business leader in the Huntsville/Madison County area.”

Huston stated that a formal education can be the key for anyone seeking to be successful in business and industry in America. She also light-heartedly referenced the Dr. Seuss book “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!”

Dr. Huston further informed the graduates that their education “from a Tier One University like Florida Institute of Technology” could allow them to see the world and to enjoy the fruits of their labor along the way.

Hobbs presented Huston a plaque as a token of FIT’s appreciation for her inspiring words to the graduates.



Benign or Malignant?

I’ve memorized protocol:

Name: Carey Link
Date of Birth: 2-12-75
Last 4 of social: XXXX



Pass.

Bitter-sour
of saline hangs—

I give three vials
of O-.

Pass.

Freeze.

A new typography on the right at 1:00.
What are the shapes of its curves—signs—symbols?

I hear a crooked, homeless puzzle of half-syllables
without strings.
I play Hang Man with strangers.

by Carey Link

This poem has been published in the spring 2018 edition of Months To Years. www.monthstoyears.org I am living with metastatic breast cancer. My illness has taught me not to delay my goals.

Called 2 Preach

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

The Godhead vs. The Bigheads and the Power of Unity

The sovereign sobriquet of *Godhead* is given to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in the Bible record and are presented as working in perfect succinctness and success, from before the beginning of creation until now. It was this same Godhead who confronted the *bigheads* in the story of the builders of the Tower of Babel. Long before the *Trump Tower* and the suspicious stories surrounding that edifice, there was the story of those who decided to, in their own words, *make a name for themselves*. I label them *bigheads* because they were

in violation of the will of God and they verbally verified their intent when they talked about their motive of making a name for themselves.

Com-manded to *be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth*, they instead settled on a plain in the land of Babylonia (Genesis 11:2).

They were unified in language and purpose in

building that tower all the way to heaven but were abruptly shut down by the Godhead. The reason given was with that kind of unity, nothing would have been impossible (11:6).

Had the Godhead not intervened, the bigheads would have accomplished their goal.

The import of the story is we should walk humbly with our God and seek to stay in His will; otherwise, we will have the Godhead to contend with and in the words of the late James Weldon

Johnson, our “arms are too short to box with God.”



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Five Buckhorn Students Receive Scholarships to Tuskegee

by Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.



Jones

Presidential Scholarship, students must achieve a minimum score of 30 on the American College Test (ACT) and maintain cumulative grade point average 3.50 or higher through high school.

Camaryn Ward, Miles Chapman and Jaylen Dupree received the Alabama Incentive Grant, which is valued at \$9,450 per year.

Student photographs were courtesy of Buckhorn High School.

The Class of 2018 was a very fruitful one for Tuskegee University at Buckhorn High School.

In addition to awarding full scholarships to two of Buckhorn's top students, three other students also accepted scholarships.

Raven Nakai Griffin and Sydney Jones were awarded the Distinguished Presidential Scholarship, which is valued at \$32,620 per year.

To qualify for the



Griffin



Ward



Dupree



Chapman

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Dr. Henrene Ellington Smoot

Dr. Henrene Theresa Ellington Smoot was born in Birmingham, Ala. She attended the public schools in that city and studied piano privately with Tourge Debose, who was then Chairman of the Music Department at Talladega College.

Upon graduation from high school, she continued her study of music at Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga, and graduated with a major in mathematics and minors in chemistry and music. The following year was spent in the study of piano with Vivian Rifkin at the Julliard School of Music (New York) and also in completing the

courses required for the Master of Science degree in Abstract Algebra at New York University.

Other advanced degrees conferred subsequently were an M.A. degree in Analysis from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, an Ed.S. in Mathematics from the University of Alabama, and a D.S. from the Southeastern Institute of Technology. She was later the recipient of a Ford-Carnegie Fellowship for post-doctoral study in mathematics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Smoot's teaching career began at Alcorn State University in Lorman, Miss.



She was Acting Head of the Chemistry Department for two years. She has taught at Alabama State University, University of Alabama, Oakwood University, UAH and Alabama A&M University. She retired as professor of mathematics at Alabama A&M and UAH after 30 years of service.

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/

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Diversity Leadership Colloquium Graduation and DLC Alumni Social

Graduation - University of Alabama in Huntsville - May 1, 2018

Social - Hidden Creek Club House - May 8, 2018 (Linda Fowlkes, DLCAA President)



Howard Named Interim Head Men's Coach

Dylan Howard has been elevated to interim head coach of the Alabama A&M University men's basketball program for the 2018-19 season, Director of Athletics Bryan Hicks announced last week.

"This is a great opportunity to continue building something special at a great academic institution. I am truly humbled and excited to lead this program for the 2018-19 season," said Howard.

Howard spent the last year as the associate head coach on the men's basketball staff. He has been integral in the recruitment for the Bulldogs and the development of the big man for the program.

Prior to AAMU, Howard spent five seasons as the associate head men's basketball coach at Morehead State. The team finished second in the Ohio Valley Conference with a 10-6

conference mark. In Coach Howard's five seasons at Morehead State, the Eagles won 89 games. He helped lead the Eagles to a 23-14 overall record and 11-5 Ohio Valley Conference mark in 2015-16, along with a second-place finish in the 2016 College Basketball Invitational.

Howard was the top assistant at Mississippi Valley State from 2008-11. He assisted in putting together two top-50 recruiting classes in three seasons at MVSU. Coach Howard recruited five All-SWAC players, including 2012 MVP Paul Crosby and SWAC Tournament MVP Cor-J Cox.

Howard earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Alabama in Birmingham in 1992 and a master's degree in sports recreation and management from Hardin-Simmons in 2005.



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.

UAH Totals 23 on All-South Region Squad

The field for the 2018 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championships as well as the USTFCCCA All-South Region performers were released, and The University of Alabama in Huntsville will send seven athletes across eight events to Nationals while boasting a total of 23 all-region honorees.



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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		OPEN		
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