

Scenes from Annual Sickle Cell Walk - p. 10

FREE



State Black Archives Reopens - p. 8

Friday
June 7, 2024
Vol. 10, No. 40
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

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GLORIA B: "Putting Your Words to Use" - p. 5

SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Bettye Dixie

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." - Frederick Douglass

The Legacy Center Ready for 5th Annual Kickball Tournament Saturday

The Legacy Center will hold its 5th Annual Charity Kickball Tournament & Block Party on Saturday, June 8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Calvary Hill Park, 2800 Poplar Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.

The event will feature 24 kickball teams, music, face-painting, various forms of entertainment, Carlton dance

contest, games for all ages, a job fair and much more.

Booth setup begins at 9 a.m., followed by a team captain meeting at 9:30 a.m. Game time starts at 10 a.m. sharp, and all teams will go to assigned fields, where they will compete in 25-minute games.

Single eliminations start at 12:30



Scene from previous kickball event with Morgan Saintjones, Rep. Laura Hall and Legacy Center founder Chanda Crutcher.

p.m. and the championship game will be held at 3 p.m.

For additional

information, visit LiveYourLegacy-Here.com.

Armed Forces Celebration

A wide variety of activities will be held to honor the military June 8-15.

Saturday, June 8
Armed Forces Night, Wicks Field, 7 p.m.
Monday, June 10
Proclamation Signing Vets Memorial, 8 a.m.

Tuesday, June 11
Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon VBC Saturn Ballroom, 12-1:15 p.m.

Wednesday, June 12
Softball Game (Team Redstone), Toyota Field, 6-7:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 13
Rocket to the Tropics, Saturn V Hall at U.S. Space & Rocket Center's Davidson Center, 5-7 p.m.

Friday, June 14
Armed Forces Prayer Breakfast
The Summit on Redstone Arsenal, 7:30 a.m.
U.S. Army Birthday Celebration Dinner Presented by AUSA VBC-East Hall, 5 p.m.

Saturday, June 15
249th U.S. Army Birthday Celebration Redstone Gate 9, 4-9 p.m.



The Tuskegee Chapel

First Alum Named President of Tuskegee

Tuskegee University has announced Dr. Mark Brown, Class of 1986, as its 10th president. The retired Air Force Major General formerly served as chief operating officer for the U.S. Department



of Education Office of Federal Student Aid, which had a

lending portfolio of \$1.7 trillion. He was responsible for all of the nation's Title IV funding. He also headed billionaire Robert F. Smith's Student Freedom Initiative. He will begin his tenure July 1.

PACKED HOUSE FOR D1 TOWN HALL:

Food City and other commercial and residential projects were key topics at Councilman Devyn Keith's D1 Town Hall on May 14 at Johnson Legacy Center. It was standing-room only as residents asked thoughtful questions and shared concerns about everything from infrastructure to affordable housing. **NEXT:** Tuesday, July 16, Lakeside UMC at 5:30 p.m.



The Valley Weekly
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JUNE 21, 2024

3rd Annual

JAZZ IN THE GARDEN

Ryon Schultz
with Nina Marie Live
and Huntsville Drumline



Enjoy live jazz and R&B music, food trucks, and fun. Proceeds will fund student scholarships, facility and technology upgrades.

Gates open at 5 pm on Drake State's campus, and the event starts at 6 pm.

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General Admission: \$25
Children 11 & under: FREE

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The Valley Weekly

Washington One Minute

by Ron Hamm



Here are the top issues and events in Washington for the week of June 3.

1. CONGRESS. The House will start the FY2025 appropriations cycle with a floor vote on the FY2025 Military Construction Appropriations bill and will also take up a bill to impose sanctions on the International Criminal Court (ICC) following its decision to issue arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant last month ... The Senate will take up the Right to Contraception Act this week. Last Friday, Sen. Joe Manchin (I-WV) announced that he was switching his party affiliation to Independent, although he reportedly will still caucus with the Democrats and retain the chairmanship of the Senate Energy Committee ... Also last Friday, 8 GOP Senators, led by Sens Mike Lee (R-UT) and J.D. Vance (R-OH) released a letter threatening to slow down Senate business in retaliation for what they claim as the White House's role in former President Trump's conviction on 34 counts on Thursday for falsifying business records regarding a payment made to adult film actress Stormy Daniels before the 2016 election.

2. THE WHITE HOUSE. President Biden travelled to Greenwich, CT, Monday for a campaign event and, on Tuesday, hosted the annual Congressional Picnic on the White House South Lawn for Members of Congress. On Wednesday through Sunday, the President and First Lady

will travel to France On Saturday, French President Emmanuel Macron will host the Bidens in Paris for a State Visit ...

3. SENATE ABORTION HEARING. On Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee held a hearing on "The Assault on Women's Freedoms: How Abortion Bans Have Created a Health Care Nightmare Across America," featuring testimony from doctors, patients, and reproductive rights advocates ...

4. SUPREME COURT. Last Thursday, Chief Justice John Roberts declined to meet with Democratic senators to discuss ethics issues in the wake of reports that controversial flags were flown at Justice Alito's primary residence in Virginia and his New Jersey vacation home ...

5. EDUCATION. On May 30, U.S. Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona outlined comprehensive steps the Department is taking to improve Federal Student Aid (FSA) for students, families, borrowers, and schools. These efforts are intended to ensure FSA works better and addresses ongoing management and operational challenges ...

Hamm Consulting Group
300 New Jersey Ave, NW Suite 900

Washington D.C. 20001
T: 202-596-8384
rhamm@hammconsulting.com
www.hammconsulting.com
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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
Phyllis Chunn
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Advertising Associate
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- Contributing Editors -
tim allston
Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.
Minister Preston Brown
Gloria B. Caldwell
Ron Hamm
Margaret Kelly, Ph.D.
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Website Administrator
Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:
The Valley Weekly
2204 Whitesburg Drive-Suite 220
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
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The Valley Weekly
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Fourth Page	5x5 inches	\$300
Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$150
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$75
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$100/Flat Fee

Spiritual Game Plan

PRESTON BROWN'S



The Valley Weekly

"Is Life Fair?"

In Matthew 20:12-15, a hired man says to the landowner, "These who were hired last, worked only one hour and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day." The landowner answered, "I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for one denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do whatever I want with my money? Or are you envious because I am generous?"

Does it ever feel to you that life is not fair? As we read here in the text, God blesses whoever He wants to bless and there is no rhyme or reason to it. The problem that so many of us have is we try to look at the fairness of it all. For example, how many of us felt like those who worked the longest should have been paid the most? Most of us see life from our own limited experiences and our own perceptions. When we feel that life is not fair, perhaps we need to look at the reason we feel that way.

I believe that one of the reasons we feel that life is not fair is because of comparisons. In other words, we are constantly comparing ourselves to other people. This is a trap by the enemy. He will always

make you feel like what you did or what you have is not enough. I pray that you don't fall into this trap.

There is nothing wrong with trying to aspire to be like someone else, but that is completely different from the parable explained in this scripture. When we make comparisons, that will keep us from the blessings that God wants us to have. Remember, what God has for me is for me.

Our pride will make us feel like life is not fair.

Pride has always been the downfall of people. The pride of these hired workers made them feel like they were better than the people who worked for only an hour, even though they agreed to the conditions and the pay.

Whenever we feel that life is not fair, we may need to check our perspectives and ask God for wisdom in this area.

May God grant you spiritual success in seeing life from His perspective.

Prayer: Generous God, help us to see our lives through the eyes of Jesus.

Question: Have you ever been in a situation where you felt like life was not



fair?

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase a copy of my books *Spiritual Game Plans for A Successful Life* and *A Champion Game Plan for Life* at amazon.com or Westbow books.

NEXT WEEK:

"Desire, Discipline and Delight"

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Funeral service will be announced at a later date for MS. LETORIA WHITMORE (b. 1935)

Funeral service for MR. MARKTWIN A. COOPER, JR. (b. 1998) will be Saturday, June 15, at Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church, 1919 Brand Town Road, Huntsville, Ala., at 1 p.m.

Funeral service for MR. JAMES MABON (b. 1963) will be Saturday, June 15, at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel at 2 p.m.

Funeral service for MR. SAMUEL CRAWFORD (b. 1963) was held Monday, June 3, at Serenity Funeral Home, at 1 p.m.

Funeral service for MS. JANICE M. ROBINSON (b. 1959) was held Saturday, June 1, at the Serenity Funeral Home Chapel.

NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189
www.nelmsmemorial.net

Funeral service for MR. MARLON C. PLEASURE was Saturday, June 1, at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 315 Winchester Road, Huntsville, Ala, with Pastor O. Wendell Davis, officiant and Rev. Eurial Turner as eulogist.

Funeral service for MR. BILLY WAYNE BAKER (b. 1959) was Friday, May 31, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Walter Nettles officiating.

Funeral service for MR. ELBERT "PETE" CLARK, III (b. 1984) was Thursday, May 30, at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor O. Wendell Davis officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481
www.royalfh.com

The funeral service for MRS. BETTY DORIS RAGLAND (b. 1952) was Tuesday, June 4, at the Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church, 2115 Winchester Road, Huntsville, Ala., with Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery as officiant and Elder Bobby Battle as eulogist.

The funeral service for MR. JONATHAN BERNARD COLLIER (b. 1966) was Saturday, June 1, at the Royal Chapel of Memories, with Reverend Anthony Stewart officiating.

The funeral service for MR. MICHAEL T. EMERSON (b. 1958) was Saturday, June 1, at the Royal Chapel of Memories

OU Professor Encourages Young Writers

Dr. Ramona Hyman, professor of English at Oakwood University, recently addressed the student winners of the Huntsville Literary Association's (HLA) 56th Annual Young Writers Awards Ceremony at the Chan Auditorium on the campus of the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

After an introduction by HLA President Pamela Briggs, Hyman traced the source of her love for writing to her grandparents, and she praised the student awardees for sharing



from their hearts "the gift" of their poems and short stories.

An author and writing coach, Hyman earned the Ph.D. in English from the University of Alabama. She

is one of a team of nearly 20 individuals who serve as judges for the Young Writers Contest.

Dr. Hyman is also co-chair of HLA's Contest Committee, a role shared with Carol Ashburn Roach.

Following Hyman's presentation, awards were presented to poetry winners at the elementary, junior and senior levels. Awards also were presented to short story winners at the junior and senior levels. First place winners read their works.

Info: [HERE](#)

John Hunt Park
2195 Jaycee Way
Huntsville, Ala.

June 16

The Market at MidCity
MidCity District
Huntsville, Ala.
12-4 p.m.

June 19

Commissioner Violet Edwards Hosts
"2nd Annual Juneteenth-Community Conversation"
Robert "Bob" Harrison
Wellness and Advocacy Center
6156 Pulaski Pike
Huntsville, Ala.
(256) 532-1506

June 20

Campus 805 After 5
Butler Green

June 21

Food Truck Rally
Big Spring Park
Downtown Hsv. Inc.

3rd Annual Jazz in the Garden

J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College
3421 Meridian Street N
Huntsville, Ala.

The Valley Weekly VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

June 8

Black Business Expo
The Sage Lounge
3311 Bob Wallace Avenue
Suite 101A
Huntsville, Ala.
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

12-4 p.m.

June 13-15

AEA Leadership Conference
Von Braun Center
Huntsville, Ala.
(800) 392-5839

June 14

"Utopia"
2024 City Lights & Stars
Burritt on the Mountain
3101 Burritt Drive SE
Huntsville, Ala.
7:30 p.m.

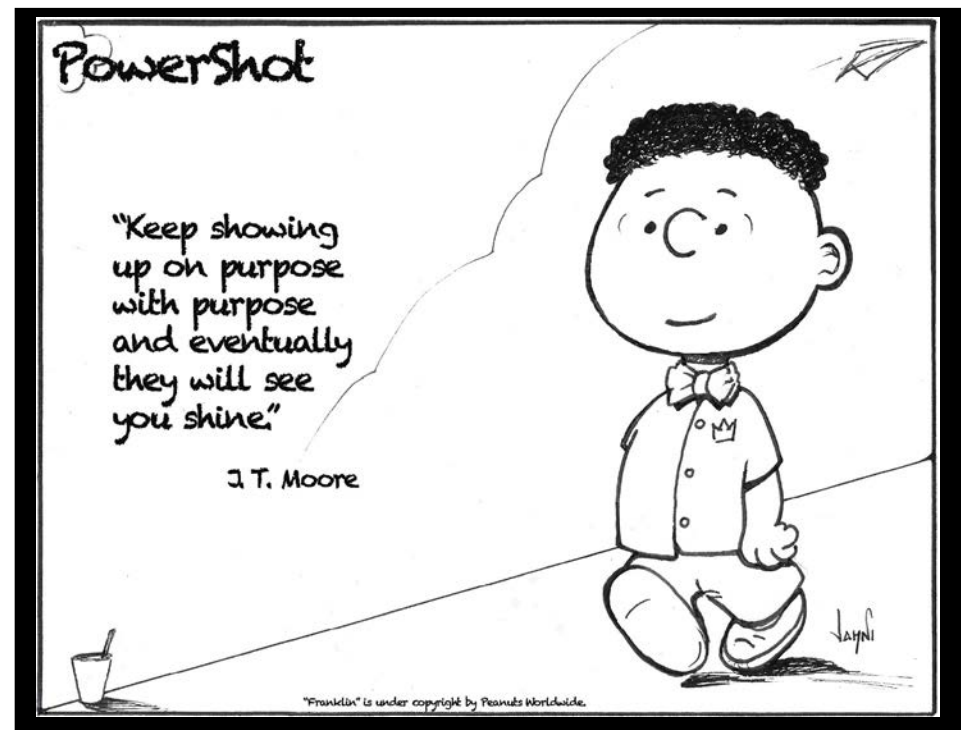
June 15

Shop Black Fest
(Juneteenth Edition)
2620 Clinton Avenue
Huntsville, Ala.
2-7 p.m.

Jazz, Blues & BBQ Father's
Day Festival

June 9

The Market at MidCity
MidCity District
Huntsville, Ala.



"What I love most about fatherhood is the opportunity to be a part of the development process of a new life."

- Seal

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Attention, Fellow Southerners:

The Plant-based, Meatless Revolution is Here to Stay!

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." - 3 John 2, KJV

CNN Business, 5-3-19: "The plant-based protein trend is growing more rapidly than most people anticipated." *Wall Street Journal*, 6-4-19, front page: "Fast-food restaurants are rushing to add meat-free burgers to their menus, hoping these higher-priced alternatives will help them capture additional traffic and dollars even as suppliers have struggled to fill all the orders.

According to those companies, imitation meats made by Beyond Meat Inc. and Impossible Foods Inc. are on sale at nearly 20,000 restaurants across the U.S.

Fifteen percent of U.S. restaurants offered meatless burgers in March, according to a Technomic Inc. study of menus from 6,000 operators, with the number serving them up 3% from a year earlier. Restaurants' embrace of vegetarian-friendly fare reflects competition among fast-food chains to attract younger diners who prioritize sustainability and healthfulness."

Bloomberg News' Deena Shanker: "There are two main drivers right now:

1. Everyone's looking now to eat healthier. . . and
2. A lot of young people now are looking to reduce their carbon footprint. . . . Since meat production is a major driver of climate change, eating less meat is one way to do that."

A "Southern Marshall Plan"?

Southern states claim the nation's:

- Highest rates of preventable deaths;
- Highest obesity, stroke, and diabetes levels;
- Lowest education, life expectancy levels, and
- Highest consumption of meats, fried foods, and fewer vegetables!



"Meat" from the Co-Founder of Alabama's/HBCU's only Meat-free Campus . . .

In her 1905 book *The Ministry of Healing*, Mrs. Ellen G. White, the 1896 founder of Huntsville's Oakwood Industrial School (now University, Alabama's and HBCU's only meat-free campus), wrote: "In order to know what are the best foods, we must study God's original plan for man's diet. Grains, fruits, nuts and vegetables . . . prepared in as simple and natural a manner as possible, are the most healthful and nourishing. They impart a strength, a power of endurance, and a vigor of intellect that are not afforded by a more complex diet."

More Meat from President John F. Kennedy . . .

To update (in parentheses) JFK: "Those who make peaceful (voluntary plant-based, meatless) revolution impossible will make violent (stroke, obesity, cancer, death) revolution inevitable."



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Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell

Putting Your Words to Use ...

Friend, we are so quick to hand out advice, whether solid or not, to friends, family, and even acquaintances. We feel like we are so clever or have it all mapped out, putting our two cents in, sometimes where it is unwanted, or doesn't belong. You feel like you are empowerment King or Queen, don't you? Your light is just beaming "on" in your self-made counselors' office.

However, how quick are we to turn that solid advice into regular practice for ourselves? Easier said than done, huh? Yeah, I know. We can be motivational mafia until it comes to Mastering our mindsets.

So, what do we do about this? Do we just say, "That's just the way it is!" Or, do we try to put it into practice to make our lives make more sense? I say the

that actor or actress, about what to do next? The logic is good, the advice is solid! Stop being afraid to give it and take it for yourself. Quit with the excuses of

why you can't. How hard it is. Easier said than done. No, it's not, especially when you don't even try!

If you don't think your logic makes sense, don't follow it, but also,

don't be so free about giving it out to others!!!!

Govern yourselves in a manner in which you care about YOU!!

Give yourself the best advice.

Then do me a favor ... follow it!



latter of the two.

You are in control of yourself! Ask yourself, "If this were someone else, what advice would I give them?" Envision you're watching yourself on the big screen. What are you yelling, in your head, to

This Sunday's Lectionary

Sunday, June 9, 2024

Third Sunday

After

Pentecost



(Track 2, Year B)

First Lesson:

Genesis 3:8-15

Psalm 130

Second Lesson:

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

GOSPEL:

Mark 3:20-25



Rosetta James Foundation "Spotlight on Our Elders" ... Featuring

Mrs. Bettye Dixie

Mrs. Bettye Williams Dixie is a sociology graduate of Tuskegee University, and she earned the M.Ed. degree in counseling from Pennsylvania State University.

For nearly 30 years, Dixie served as a career counselor of individuals entering or re-entering postsecondary education. Her noble duties included personal adjustment counseling, interpreting tests and interest inventories.

As a dementia expert, Dixie has engaged dementia residents in nursing homes in art and music activities, important functions that have assisted these persons with needed coping skills. Moreover, she has trained nursing home staff and the general public in the unique causes of dementia, as well as how to best work with dementia patients.

The multitalented Dixie has worked in the fundraising sector for nearly decade for at least three worthwhile nonprofit organizations. She has served on the Board of Trustees for the Presbyterian Home for Children in Talladega, Ala., for two years. Since its founding in 1868, the Presbyterian Home for Children has led the state in providing services to Alabama's at-risk children. The organization has provided clients with

services aimed at preserving and reunifying families in their own home. This has been a proven and effective method to end cycles of abuse and neglect. PHC's Secure Dwellings Program provides safe and affordable housing on the PHC campus to homeless children and their female caregiver, while dedicated staff work to minister to their needs by empowering the caregiver to achieve goals and reach self-sufficiency, as well as providing a safe haven for homeless children to rest, grow and play. Finally, the Supportive Housing communities throughout the state serve homeless children with their female caregiver.

Dixie has provided useful expertise for six years to Mission Haven, which offers affordable short-term housing and friendly hospitality to missionary families, as well as for students at local seminars. Her affiliation with RiahRose Home for Children has centered around providing a home for homeless pregnant women and homeless families with young children.

Among her many affiliations are Fellowship Presbyterian Church U.S.A.; The Golden Charmers, an aggregate of older adults focusing on offering support and information on health issues, leisure



pursuits, volunteerism, successful aging, financial well-being and faith in God; Presbyterian Women (moderator and vice moderator), nurturing faith through prayer and Bible study, and advocating for justice and peace; the Chancel Choir; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and the Huntsville Spiritual Chorale, which performs and preserves the coveted Negro Spiritual.

Dixie is also actively involved in the Alpha Omega Chapter (founding member) of Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and its ongoing work to launch services for intellectually and developmentally disabled citizens. She has served as the organization's president, vice president, chaplain and membership intake coordinator.

She is married to Dr. Theodore Dixie, Sr., a retired Alabama A&M University professor, and they have one son, Ted, Jr.

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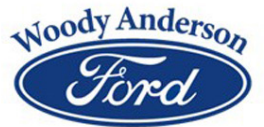


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"Spotlight on Our Elders" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote **volunteerism** and **activism** in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at www.rossettajamesfoundation.org. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valleyweeklyllc.com.



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USDA Awards AAMU, Extension Nearly \$1 Million in Grants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced Alabama A&M University (AAMU), including the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, has been awarded almost \$950,000 in grants.

The awards are part of the USDA's \$30.8 million investment in research and extension at America's 1890 historically Black Land-grant universities.

The investment, made possible through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's (NIFA) 1890 Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants Program, supports research to address the nation's toughest agricultural challenges.

Danielle Rudolph, Site Director for the Virginia Caples Lifelong Learning Institute with Alabama Extension (Co-PIs: Dr. Kimberly Sinclair-



Holmes and John Craft), received a \$350,000 award for her project, "Saving the Family Property: Heirs' Property Prevention, Resolution, and Land Use." Heirs property is real property passed from generation to generation without clear title.

Dr. Tamara C. Warren, Health and Nutrition Extension Specialist with Urban Extension at AAMU (Co-PIs: Dr. Rudy Pacumbaba, Lamar Pryor), was awarded the \$250,000 grant for her project, "Cardiovascular Health, Aerobic, Management and Prevention Initiative Optimizing Nutrition."

The program is designed to build and strengthen

programming efforts focused on cardiovascular health, nutrition, physical activities, digital technology, and using tower gardens.

Environmental Specialist Dr. Karnita Golson-Garner (Co-PIs: Roosevelt Robinson, Paul Okweye, Dr. Pooja Preetha, Alyson Shabel) received a grant for \$249,000 to implement "Minimizing Climatic Impacts through the Environmental Education and Climate Outreach Initiative."

Alabama Extension audiences will learn eco-friendly and climate-smart practices to effectively reduce climate change.

Dr. Yong Wang, Professor in the AAMU Depart-

ment of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, was awarded \$99,976 for his project "Enhancing Graduate Biostatistical

Program at Alabama A&M University." Photo (l-r): Dr. Karnita Golson-Garner, Dr. Paul Okweye, Ms. Danielle Ru-

dolph, Dr. Terence Martin, Dr. Tamara Warren, Dr. Angela Williams, Dr. Yong Wang.

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- University Updates
- Foundation Updates
- Alumni Networking

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Late Registration - 6/8 - 7/6 - \$175.00
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State Black Archives Reopens on The Hill

For a deep dive into Alabama's Black history, visitors can now explore the Alabama State Black Archives Research Center & Museum at Alabama A&M University.

The archives are open for public tours. Established by the Alabama Legislature in 1987, the archives opened at AAMU in 1990. The University collected Black History artifacts both locally and across the state of Alabama before closing seven years ago for renovations.

"Several upgrades were made to the space to enhance the overall look and feel inside the building," says Veronica Henderson, Interim Director for the J.F. Drake Memorial Learning Resources Center and State Black Archives Research Center & Museum. "There was a facelift to the building's exterior, a much-needed refresh, and a campus repaving project that left

the space dormant for the past two years."

The archives are housed in the historic James H. Wilson Building. Formerly the Councill Domestic Science Building, the Wilson building is one of the three oldest buildings on campus, along with the Virginia McCormick Hospital and Carnegie Library. It also has one of the best views in Huntsville.

There are currently several exhibits on display. The exhibit is courtesy of the Historic Huntsville Foundation and its Executive Director, Donna Castellano."

The archives cover three floors. The top floor houses The Velma A. Walker Gallery, an alumna and avid art collector who requested her art be donated to AAMU. And, there is at least one hidden gem, a Buffalo Soldier cavalryman's Stetson hat from a soldier in the U.S. Army, 10th Cavalry, Unit H. Books are also

available for use.

The archives seek community support, and tours are free, but by appointment only. Appointments are available during A&M's summer schedule from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday – Thursday. To schedule an appointment, email veronica.henderson@aamu.edu.

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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JUNE 7 - PRINCE - Prince Rogers Nelson was an American singer, songwriter, musician, record producer, actor, and filmmaker. With a career spanning four decades, Prince was known for his eclectic work, flamboyant stage presence, extravagant fashion sense and use of makeup, and wide vocal range. A multi-instrumentalist, he was considered a guitar virtuoso and was also skilled at playing the drums, percussion, bass, keyboards, and synthesizer. Prince pioneered the Minneapolis sound, which is a subgenre of funk rock with elements of synth-pop and new wave, in the late 1970s.



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November–March: Tuesday – Saturday: 10am – 4pm & Sunday: noon – 4pm

Dance Lab and Community Dance Showcase Set to Inspire Creativity and Inclusivity

Evalyn Washington Humphrey Foundation for Arts and Education (E Foundation) is proud to announce the upcoming Dance Lab and Community Dance Showcase, dynamic arts events aimed at celebrating the diversity and talent within our community.

Scheduled to take place at the Academy for Academics and Arts on June 24-28 the Dance Lab will offer participants in grades 6-9 an immersive experience in various dance styles, including hip-hop, West African dance, and more. Led by experienced instructors, participants will have the opportunity to explore their creativity, develop their skills, and forge meaningful connections with fellow dancers.

The culmination of the Dance Lab will be the Community Dance Showcase, where participants will take to the stage to share their newfound talents with friends, family, and the community at large. In addition to the performances by Dance



Lab participants, the Community Dance Showcase will also feature special performances by local community dance groups. These groups will showcase a diverse range of dance styles, including Chicago Steppin', Irish Folk, Scottish Folk, Flamenco, Bollywood, and more. This vibrant showcase promises to be an inspiring celebra-

tion of dance and unity, featuring performances that reflect the rich cultural tapestry of our region.

"We are thrilled to present the Dance Lab and Community Dance Showcase as a platform for dancers to express themselves, connect with others, and bring our community together," said Kerri-Noelle, Founding

Executive and Artistic Director of E Foundation. "This event embodies our commitment to fostering creativity, inclusivity, and community engagement through the arts. Both the Dance Lab and the Community Dance Showcase are free events, and tickets are available at no cost to attendees. We believe that access to the arts should

be inclusive and barrier-free, and we are proud to offer these events to the community free of charge. Our goal is to broaden the experience and production of live dance performances in Huntsville."

The Dance Lab and Community Dance Showcase are made possible thanks to the generous support of the National

Endowment for the Arts, the Alabama State Council on the Arts, Support the Arts Tag fund, Arts IDEA Grant from Arts Huntsville funded by the City of Huntsville, and Representative Laura Hall and the Madison County Legislative Community Service grants. E Foundation extends its gratitude to these partners for their invaluable contributions to the success of the event.

The E Foundation was founded in 2021, by Kerri-Noelle Humphrey. Our mission is to foster creativity, inspire learning, and cultivate a vibrant community through the transformative power of arts and education. We are committed to providing opportunities that empower individuals of all ages and backgrounds to explore, express, and excel.

For more information about the Dance Lab and Community Dance Showcase, including registration details and sponsorship opportunities, please visit facebook.com/dancelabhsv or Dance Lab website.

Daughter of Zion Ministries Celebrating 5th Anniversary, Commended by Governor

Daughter of Zion Ministries, Inc. (DZM) celebrated its 5th anniversary on Saturday, May 25, at the Connect Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

DZM received an official Commendation from Governor Kay Ivey in recognition of its outreach initiatives. Additional Proclamations were received from U.S. Congressman Dale Strong, Alabama State House



Representatives Anthony Daniels and Laura Hall, Mayor Tommy Battle, Commissioner Violet Edwards, and Brigadier General (retired) Phil Jolly.

Mayor Tommy Battle officially declared May 25,



2024, as Daughter of Zion Ministries Day.

DZM was founded to enrich, empower, and serve God's people through preaching the Gospel and other outreach activities.

For additional information on the ministry, contact the Founder and President, Dr. Toni Savage, at info@dzministries.com or phone number (256) 797-3017.

Scenes from "Rain or Shine" Annual Sickle Cell Walk-A-Thon

Saturday, June 1, 2024 | Big Spring Park (Downtown) | Huntsville, Alabama
Pamela D. Thompson, Executive Director | North Alabama Sickle Cell Foundation
(Photos by J. Saintjones)

