

The Valley Weekly

"Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school."
- Albert Einstein

FREE

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Friday, August 11, 2017

Rosetta James Foundation Receives TOYOTA Scholarship Grant

Students from Madison County High Schools and local colleges and universities will have more opportunities for scholarships as a result of a \$2,500 TOYOTA Motor Manufacturing Alabama grant.

The Rosetta James Foundation of Huntsville recently received notification of the grant award that will add to the scholar-

ship funding available to students during the next application cycle.

Named for local community activist, Mrs. Rosetta James, the Foundation, established in 2006 has become known for its signature "Honoring Our Elders" gala each spring.

While recognizing local elders in the greater Huntsville/Madison County

community, the Foundation also awards scholarships to local students who are committed to community volunteerism.

Through community

sponsorships and donations, the Rosetta James Foundation has awarded nearly \$75,000 over the past 11 years to

students from local Madi-

son County High Schools who have matriculated at various higher education institutions.

Receiving this grant from TOYOTA will help more students who are committed to community service attain their educational pursuits and maximize their potential for excellence, which is what the Foundation

endeavors to do each year, commented Dr. Dorothy W. Huston, president of the Foundation.

The Toyota grant will support the 2018 Honoring Our Elders gala on March 10, 2018.

Huntsville is home to Toyota Motor Manufacturing Alabama and is led by site president David Fernandes.



Gospel Screen Play Comes to Lee High School Aug. 19



Keeping Dr. Martin Luther King's Dream alive is the main mission of The Southern Christian Leadership Conference. As both a minister and advocate, this was one of the many organizations Dr. King started for community and civil rights. Last year, a Southern Christian Leadership

Conference (SCLC) chapter was chartered here in Huntsville, Alabama.

This year, the Gospel Theatre of Birmingham (GTB) from Birmingham, Ala., is bringing a Christian, gospel play to the Lee High School theatre as the first fundraiser for Huntsville's Chapter of

SCLC.

"Don't Let This Harvest Pass" is a "must see" musical production. The play takes place on Saturday, August 19, 2017, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets can be purchased on SCLC's FaceBook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HSVCSCLC>. Stroll down to

Upcoming Event, and click on "Don't Let This Harvest Pass." Follow the prompt.

Special thanks to Pastor Jerome Bentley, president of SCLC. The focus of presenting leadership through Christian values is the foundation of this organization.

Gratitude is also extended for the support from local churches. Anyone willing to help make a change in the community is invited to join the SCLC chapter. Support SCLC and enjoy a night out with friends and family at a theatrical, musical stage play. "Freedom and Justice for Everyone!"

For more information, contact Dr. Jacob Savage, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) member, at (256) 714-6621 or e-mail jacob.savage@att.net.



BIKING: Taking advantage of the momentum generated by the Downtown Master Plan Update, the City of Huntsville moved quickly to implement improvements to bike and pedestrian facilities in the core. Several individuals reviewed the bike plan for Downtown, and discussed near-term projects, such as the Spragins Connector. Also reviewed were best practices and designs from other communities.
- Huntsville.gov

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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

Washington in a Minute



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

1. The House and Senate are in recess until September 5.
2. This week, President Trump is at his golf resort in Bedminster, NJ, (46 miles west of New York City), where he will stay until August 20.
3. On Monday, the City of Chicago sued the Trump Administration for its recently-announced directive to withhold Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) from communities unless they allow immigration authorities unlimited access to local jails and provide 48 hours notice before releasing anyone wanted for immigration violations. The FY2017 round of JAG grants announced on August 3 - which are due on September 5, 2017 - will award \$257.4 million in funding to state and local law enforcement agencies.

More information on JAG grants can be found here: www.bja.gov/jag/

4. According to the Politico website, Sens. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Patty Murray (D-WA), the top members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, announced last week that they will hold bipartisan hearings on stabilizing the nation's health insurance markets when they return to Washington in September. Their goal is to come up with a plan that can be enacted before insurers have to lock in rates for next year at the end of September.
5. U.S. Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos visited Michigan

last week. During an interview, she discussed her accomplishments during the first six months of her tenure - primarily stopping and rolling back Obama-era policies - and what she wants her legacy to be - expanding school choice and improving outcomes for all students.

6. Last Wednesday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced abruptly that it would reverse course and NOT delay the October 1 implementation of an Obama-era rule

to further reduce ozone emissions from fossil-fuel burning sources. The day before, on Tuesday of last week, 16 states - led by New York and California - had sued the EPA to block it from delaying the ozone rule.



Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

Galatians 6:9 says: Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. You know, tomorrow's successes are dependent upon today's sacrifices. And, your faithfulness in one season has everything to do with how you will experience the next season. Sometimes it can be hard to move forward as it pertains to your spiritual growth unless you learn what God is trying to teach you right now.

You see, all of the opportunities that you have missed in your life, there is nothing you can do about it. But now is the time to seize the opportunities that we do have.

Grace gives us the ability to pick up the pieces of where we are now, and to continue to move forward with full confidence that God is working in our lives.

So, if you feel like you're going through a "test" right now, that might be good, because the testing of your faith produces patience



and perseverance. But we have to be faithful in the meantime and seize the opportunities that are right in front of us.

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

For more information, contact Ron Hamm at 202-596-8384 or rhamm@hammconsulting.com.

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"WE KNOW THE
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City Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council Meetings City Council regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. City Council work sessions also held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information, call (256) 427-5011.



UAH Honors Alumnus Roper for Achievements

A decision he made in high school to remain in Huntsville to be close to his family and get his secondary education at The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) "turned out to be a wise one," says Dr. Everett K. Roper.

Dr. Roper ('09, Industrial and Systems Engineering, PhD; '08, Industrial and Systems Engineering, MS; '97, Computer Science, MS; '93, Electrical Engineering, BS), was one of four "Alumni of Achievement" honored by the UAH Alumni Association on Tuesday, August 1.

Currently, Dr. Roper is assistant product manager/launcher and test set principal engineer at the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile

Research, Development and Engineering Center - Joint Attack Munition Systems (JAMS) Project Office at Redstone Arsenal.

Roper provides technical support to JAMS. His responsibilities include providing leadership, policy guidance and interpretation of program objectives to project office elements in order to meet long range plans and goals.

Dr. Roper also is responsible for planning, coordinating and controlling all functional areas, as well as the allocation and utilization of all resources involved in managing and accomplishing mission objectives for the JAMS Family of Launchers and Test Sets.

Additionally, he serves as Test Set liaison to the JAMS International Program Office (IPO) on all Foreign Military Sales (FMS), and serves as the customer interface to users and potential stakeholders for Test Sets.

Earlier in his career, Roper was an assistant professor at Oakwood University, where he taught computer information systems and engineering courses.

Dr. Roper says he was advised early in his career that obtaining advanced degrees at different levels from one institution was not wise.

But as he matriculated through the degree levels, he was impressed with UAH's academic rigor, as well as the relationships he made.

Mo'Sol Comes to Burritt



Mo' Sol's energetic brand of Motown, funk, soul and hip-hop has become a huge hit at events throughout the Southeast.

At their 7:30 p.m., two-hour inaugural appearance at Burritt on August 11 the crowd will be on the dance floor and jamming on the bluff.

The band is led by Ms. Monique, a veteran Atlanta vocalist who possesses a voice reminiscent of Aretha

Franklin and moves that match Beyoncé.

Backed by a rock solid rhythm section and surrounded by some of Atlanta's finest vocalists, Mo' Sol keeps the dance floor packed from beginning to end.

Mo' Sol brings more than just soul to the table. Whether you'd rather dance to Gladys Knight or Outkast, Mo' Sol's diverse repertoire has something for everyone. Food trucks will be Highway

Kabobery and Brain Freeze.

Concerts will go on rain or shine and food trucks may change at the last minute.

Advance tickets are \$10 members, \$12 non-members. Tickets at the gate are \$15. Admission for children 12 & under is \$5.

The City Lights and Stars Concert Series is sponsored by Redstone Federal Credit Union. This concert is sponsored by Jerry Damson.



August 11 - ALEX HALEY - The author of the best-selling book "Roots" was born in Ithaca, N.Y. Haley is also known for co-writing the "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" with Malcolm X.

- *BlackinTime.info*

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A&M Sophomore Featured in Much-Acclaimed Documentary

How do you overcome a series of adversities that could potentially have long-term negative impact on your life?

Tayla Solomon, a sophomore at Alabama A&M University, (above left) has found the answer in taking one bold step at a time.

Not only is she studying urban planning and minoring in political science, but she is among the young women featured in "Step," a highly acclaimed film being released at select theatres this summer.

Tayla is a member of the

first graduating class of the Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women (BLSYW), whose mission is to "transform Baltimore one young woman at a time."

Born and raised in Baltimore, Tayla had the benefit of a strong and devoted single parent, as well as BLSYW, which helped her make it to college and continue to motivate and inspire her.

"Step" is the true story of a girls' high-school step team set against the backdrop of Baltimore in its

purest form.

The young women learn to laugh, love and thrive--on and off the stage—despite being immersed in a cold and bitter world. Empowered by their teachers, teammates, counselors, coaches and families, they chase their ultimate dreams: to win a step championship and to be accepted into college.

For more, visit: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=uVN4aVYA2eA> or <http://tickets.stepmovie.com/>

Houston Attorney Seeking Public Office

Attorney Toria J. Finch, a former Harris County felony prosecutor, criminal defense attorney, board certified in juvenile law and an experienced litigator, is a candidate for the Harris County Criminal Court at Law No. 9 Bench in Houston, Tex.

Finch has devoted her life and career to seeking out effective ways to inspire positive change in the lives of individuals and the community.

Following graduation from high school, Finch attended Alabama A&M University, where she was active in various civic and professional organizations, including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Gamma Mu Chapter (president); Delta Mu National Honor Society; Mu Kappa Tau National Honor Society; and Phi Beta Lambda Business Fraternity, Inc., XI XI Chapter.



Amazon Answers with Alt-History Program

by Reginald Allen

The internet was shaken when HBO greenlit "Confederate," a controversial series that would take place in an alternative timeline where slavery is legal in modern day society. The show, which would be helmed by "Game of Thrones" showrunners David Benioff and D.B. Weiss is slated to begin production later this year.

However, it looks like the show has some competition. Last week, Amazon unveiled "Black America," a similar narrative with a slightly different outcome. The show was announced last February, albeit sans title and plot details, but it has been in the developing stages for a year.

In a description from Deadline, the series exists in an alternative timeline where the newly emancipated have seized the Southern states as reparations for slavery, founding their own republic, New Colonia. Nearly two centuries later, the once rivaling nations now live in peace. New Colonia is now a thriving force, while America has slowly begun to decline.

Boondocks creator Aaron McGruder and director/producer Will Packer are tapped as show-runners. Over the years, Packer and McGruder have been lauded for their unique take on social issues and pop culture from the black perspective. Packer's latest release "Girls Trip" has been one of the summer's biggest films, raking over \$31 million in its opening weekend; and McGruder's series "Black Jesus" airs on Adult Swim.

Like "Confederate," additional details on the Amazon series are being held tight. However, in an interview with Deadline, Packer said that the program will be an hour-long drama.

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RFCU Awards \$65,000 in Scholarships

Redstone Federal Credit Union* awarded \$65,000 in scholarships to 14 students as part of its commitment to higher education and brighter futures.

Students received \$4,650, which is paid directly to their college or university. Redstone has awarded more than \$400,000 in scholarships since the program's inception in 1996.

Scholarship recipients were announced in July during a dinner event. Joel Guske, Redstone's Vice President of Innovation, spoke during dinner and challenged the recipients to work hard, have passion for their work, and to be open to change and new ideas. Those traits fuel innovation, he said.

The scholarship committee received and reviewed 465 applications. Those students are pursuing associate or bachelor's degrees from colleges and universities all over the country and from RFCU's seven partner schools, which comprises educational institutions located near branch offices.



Students were scored on their essay and their service to others.

The scholarship application process opens each year in late December and ends in early March. Scholarship recipients are announced by May 31. The 2017 recipients are: Rachel Guthrie, Huntsville, Ala.; Rachel Hammond, Elmont, Ala.; Lisa Martina Henderson, Huntsville, Ala.; Maxwell Gardner, Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Christopher Henningburg, Huntsville, Ala.;

Elana Pate, Elmont, Ala.; Mallory Newton, Meridianville, Ala.; William Clark McAllister, Huntsville, Ala.; Ashton Moran, Taft, Tenn.; Leah Sneddon, Harvest, Ala.; Zoe Katherine Myers, Owens Cross Roads, Ala.; Kailey Sanders, Huntland, Tenn.; Elizabeth Whitman, Huntsville, Ala.; Jake Christa, Huntsville, Ala..

With more than \$4.8 billion in assets, Redstone Federal Credit Union is the largest member-owned financial institution in

Alabama and one of the 16 largest federal credit unions in the nation by assets. Based in Huntsville, Alabama, RFCU serves 400,000 members.

Alabama Black Expo Saturday at VBC

The Alabama Black Expo will be held August 12, from 12 noon to 8 p.m. at the Von Braun Center North Hall.

Shows are scheduled at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., while the Miss Alabama Black Expo Competition begins at 5 p.m.

The 2017 theme is "Celebrating and Supporting The Empowerment, The Inspiration and The

Movement!"

The Expo focuses on starting or growing business, trends in social media sharing, building a successful team, exploring new markets and much more.

The objectives of the Alabama Black Expo are to position owners and their businesses for success,

standing out from the competition, strive towards business alternatives for expanding customer base, as well as peer networking opportunities.

For more information, e-mail alabamablackexpo@gmail.com or call 256-929-5073 or 256-929-5812.

Read Online!
valleyweeklyllc.com

A Good Read



by Jerome Saintjones

Tim Gautreaux's "Welding with Children"

It's a hot, hot Tuesday, and a grandfather and part-time welder is stuck with babysitting his four grandkids in a small Louisiana town. He takes a look at his life. Each of his four daughters has a child conceived by playing the other woman. His wife usually takes on the babysitting task, but Tuesday is the day she goes to the casino--hell or high water.

He loads the thirsty grandkids in his car to treat them to an Isee. As

he pulls in, he overhears one of two old men sitting outside the store under the Tree of Knowledge make the comment: "Here comes the bastardmobile." He keeps his cool that day, but later, when invited by the geezer to sit down, the welder decides this would be the time to give the ancient one a piece of his mind.

Instead, the old man not only holds his own but challenges the grandpa/welder to make up for the mess he made in his daughters' lives by saving his grandchildren. He heeds the message.

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Valley Deaths

Funeral service for **Baby Girl Honesti Mi'Angel Wilson** (b. 2017) will be announced later.

Funeral service for **Dianne Alexander Tyler** (b. 1960) was held Saturday, August 5, at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church (292 Cemetery Road - New Market, Ala.) with the Reverend Larry Davidson officiating.

Funeral service for **Mae Frances Kelley** (b. 1963) was Saturday, August 5, at Syler Tabernacle (904 Oakwood Avenue - Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Phillip Ford officiating.

Funeral service was held Wednesday, August 2, at Union Chapel MB Church for **Barbara Jean Humphrey Brewton** (b. 1945).

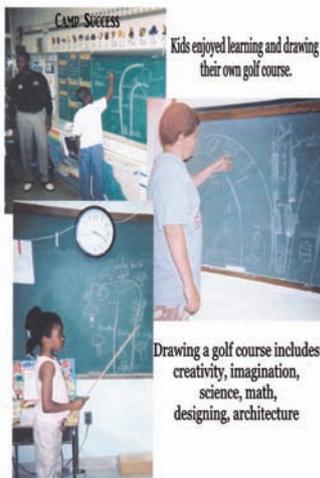
Funeral service for **Elmira Battle** (b. 1929) was held Tuesday, July 25, at Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church (2115 Winchester Road NW - Huntsville, Ala.) with the Reverend Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery, Sr. officiating.

- Nelms Memorial
Funeral Home

CAMP SUCCESS AFTERSCHOOL PUTTING CONTEST



LEARNING: PATIENCE, FOCUS, WHILE HAVING FUN!



Kids enjoyed learning and drawing their own golf course.

Drawing a golf course includes: creativity, imagination, science, math, designing, architecture

A Youth Program that Works

by Howard Bankhead

I met another young man one night at a restaurant who remembered me from Huntsville City School's Campus Success program.

Camp Success was an afterschool program from 2003-2007, including the old Terry Heights Elementary now Hereford Elementary; Colonial Elementary, now Martin Luther King Elementary; Lincoln Elementary, now a private school; Rolling Hills Elementary; Lake-wood Elementary; and West Huntsville Elementary schools.

The afterschool programs consisted of tennis, martial arts, tiny soldiers and golf and life skills development. Thousands of youth in grades 2-5 benefited.

The young man I spoke with is now 20 years old. A nice young man, with 'yes, sir' and 'no, sir.' I asked him about his plans to further his career and he said: "I don't know." He spoke about a Pell grant. I suggested joining the military, i.e., Navy or Air Force, and he said he had no interest in doing so.

I then pressed him on not going into debt, because the Pell grant would not be enough to get a college degree. I shared that I, too, had Pell grants, along with scholarships to play football and run track.

I asked him about his interest and his desires, and he replied with a smile, "I haven't thought about it." He then asked me, "What things can I do?"

I clarified: reading, writing, computers, owning his own business, art, playing an instrument.

He admitted that he had played an instrument in middle school.

"Now, we're getting somewhere," I said. I also let him know that when I was a fresh college graduate with a big ego, I started out in fast food at Wendy's as a manager trainee, and I had to clean up the parking lot and the restrooms.

"Whatever you do, be the best at it," I told him. As I collected my food to leave, I reminded him that I was going to stay on him about his plans. He smiled and said, "Yes, sir," and went on to clean the restrooms.

ReacHsv Boldly Goes Where Few Trod

by Jerome Saintjones

One Sunday morning following worship service at Holy Cross-St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Huntsville, I was invited by Cooper Green to an informal discussion on race and related topics. by ReacHsv (the Racial Equality Action Committee of Huntsville).

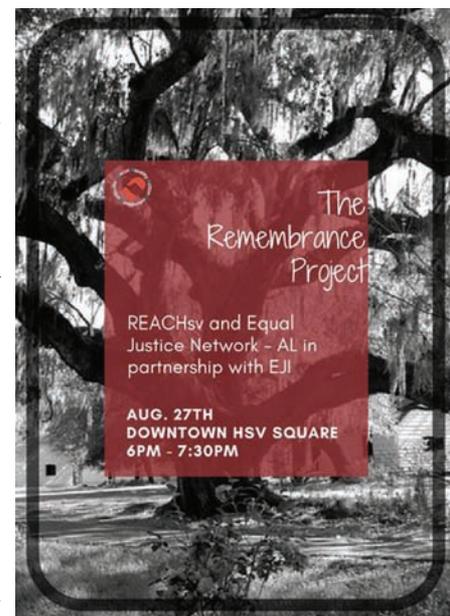
The discussion was held around 3 p.m. on that same Sunday in the Tangled String Studio at Lowe Mill. The group assembled included young and old; black, white and other; as well as people from various professions.

The session was ably moderated by Aaron McNully, Andrea Carter and Dexter Strong.

Among the provoca-

tive topics was "Confederate," the upcoming HBO television and alternate history drama series placed in a timeline where the Confederacy won the American Civil War.

There were additional and equally piercing questions. However, information was also shared about the lynching memorial -- "The Remembrance Project," which will be held at the Madison County



Courthouse on August 27 at 6 p.m. The entire Tennessee Valley community is invited to attend.



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The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

August 11

Freshman Move-In Day 2
Alabama A&M University
Campus-wide

Diversity Leadership
Colloquium (DLC)
Networking Social
Burritt on the Mountain
Huntsville, Ala.
6 p.m.

Christmas Charities Year
Round
"Casino Royale"
Tickets: \$50
Stone Event Center at
Campus 805 - 6-10 p.m.

"Taste of Kappa"
Sponsor: Huntsville Alumni
Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi
Fraternity, Inc.
Tickets: \$30/person
Contact: Michael Miller,
(256) 656-7719
Huntsville Museum of Art
7-10 p.m.

August 12
Alabama Black Expo
Von Braun Center-North Hall
www.alabamablackexpo.com
12-8 p.m.

Summer Concert featuring
Ron Handy
"Musical Moments: Past and
Present" (Free)
Lakeside United Methodist
Church
3738 Meridian Street, NE
Huntsville, Ala. - 6 p.m.

August 13
Dinosaur Uproar Alive
Huntsville Botanical Garden
Presented by: Toyota Alabama

Sweet & Savory Sundays
Belk Hudson Lofts
\$67.23/person
110 Washington Street
1-5 p.m.

August 13-14
AAMU Student Orientation
and Registration (S.O.A.R. 3)

August 16
Birthday Celebration for
Bishop Daniel J. Richardson

Eagles' Nest Ministries
Church - 7 p.m.

August 17
(Each Third Thursday)
Southern Families African
American Genealogy Meeting
Alabama A&M University
202 Wellness Center
6-7:30 p.m.
Dues \$35 per calendar year

August 17-19
Saved in the City Conference
- An Event for Women -
607 Airport Road SW
www.savedinthecityconfer-
ence.com

August 19
Bishop Daniel J. Richardson
Book Release & Signing
Eagles' Nest Ministries-2 p.m.

Southern Christian
Leadership Conference
"Don't Let This Harvest Pass"
Lee High School Theater"
2500 Meridian Street
Huntsville, Ala.
\$25 General - 12 & Under \$15
For Groups: (256) 714-6621
2 p.m. (Matinee)
6 p.m.

August 21
District 4 Town Hall Meeting
with City Council Member
Bill Kling
Meeting Rooms A&B - 6 p.m.

August 24
AAMU ROTC
Bulldog Battalion
Welcome Back Ceremony
Knight Center - 3:30 p.m.

August 30-31
DoD Workshop:
"Taking the Pentagon to the
People"
Oakwood University

August 31-September 3
Comedian Don "DC" Curry
Stand Up Live Comedy Club

September 3
Annual Caribbean Day
at the Park
11 a.m.-7 p.m.
(256) 213-1575

September 10

Grandparents' Day
Celebration
EarlyWorks Children's Museum
Tickets:
\$35 adults; \$15 Children,
Museum Will Be Open
RiahRose Home for Children
(256) 489-4358
1:30 p.m.

September 14
"2017 Speakers Series for the
Village of Promise"
Speaker: Ruby Payne, Ph.D.
Von Braun Center-North Hall
Downtown Huntsville
11:30 a.m.

September 23
The Madison Academy
Finish Line Club
First Annual
Car & Truck Show
Madison Academy
325 Slaughter Road
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Pre-Registration: \$15
Day of Show: \$20
Contact: Wendy Durham
WDurham77@Gmail.com
(256) 682-7365

Louis Crews Classic
Alabama A&M vs. Texas
Southern
Louis Crews Classic

September 30
Alabama A&M University
Homecoming Game
AAMU vs. University of
Arkansas Pine Bluff
Louis Crews Stadium

October 10-15
Motown - The Musical
Von Braun Center
Concert Hall
Downtown Huntsville

November 4
Alabama A&M vs. Alcorn
State
Louis Crews Stadium

November 18
Alabama A&M Football vs.
Kentucky State
Louis Crews Stadium



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www.burrittonthemountain.com

OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm
November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm

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