Valley Conservatory Hosts Festival

The Valley Conservatory will hold its Early Music Festival on Sunday, September 16, at 4 p.m. at St. Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church, located at 222 Jefferson Street, North in Downtown Huntsville.

The free concert will feature the Valley Conservatory Early Music (VCEM) Festival Artists.

The Conservatory is continuing to celebrate its 20th anniversary throughout the remainder of 2018. To observe Valley Conservatory programs, visit 5650 Sanderson Street, Huntsville, Ala. (35805), call (256) 534-3131.

Research by Local Education Administrator Sets New Record for Sought-After Downloads

Dr. Harry Hobbs’ dissertation on “Millennials in the Workplace: Gaining Their Long-term Employment in News Media Firms in North Alabama” has been requested over 10,700 times since its publication in May 2017.

This qualitative phenomenological study was conducted to understand why millennials are not remaining long-term in news media firms located in North Alabama.

Long-term is defined as three or more years of employment in the news media firm where they are currently employed.

Hobbs found that there is a lack of understanding as to why millennials are not remaining long-term in news media firms, on average, fail to remain employed long-term.

As of March 2015, millennials are the largest working generational cohort in the U.S. workforce. The baby boomer generation is retiring in large numbers, and there are not enough generation X members in the workforce to fill their vacant positions.

Businesses will have to rely on recruiting, developing, and retaining millennial generation employees long-term to fill these vacancies and remain viable. Key factors to attracting, recruiting, onboarding, motivating, managing, developing, and retaining millennial employees in the news media firms of North Alabama will be explored.

Dr. Hobbs is the current site director for Florida Institute of Technology’s Huntsville Campus.
The Valley Weekly
September 14, 2018

Champion Game Plan for Life
by Preston Brown

In Matthew 19:27, Peter answered Jesus, saying, “We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?” One of the new Nike advertisements that is out features Colin Kaepernick. And the ad reads, “Believe in something even if it means losing everything.” Remember, Colin Kaepernick is the ex-NFL quarterback that took a knee at the beginning of the game while the National Anthem was being played. When this happened many people viewed his gesture as being disrespectful to our nation’s flag, as well as those who served in the military. Now many of us know that he was protesting “social injustices” that have been going on in our country. He was not being disrespectful to the flag or to people who served in the military. But that’s not what’s important here. You see it doesn’t matter who’s side you are on, Mr. Kaepernick was willing to pay the cost for something that he believed in even though it cost him his job, as well as his career. You see in life, there will be cost and rewards for everything that we do.

Now as we look at this scripture we read that the disciples were willing to lose everything that they believed in. All of them had left their homes, their jobs and their families to follow Jesus. But they still wanted to know “what was in it for them”. However, Jesus was trying to get them to see that there is something greater than this world has to offer. He was trying to get them to see that there was something greater than “what’s in it for me”. Because sometimes we can’t see pass this world that we live in. A world full of politics, egos, wealth, possessions and compromise.

I applaud Colin Kaepernick for his courage and standing for something that he believed in enough to lose it all. I applaud Nike, the company, for doing the right thing and not worrying about how much money they will lose. When I read this story about Nike making Mr. Kaepernick one of the faces of their “Just Do It” ads, it made me feel good about people. Because there are still people in the world today that are compelled to do the right thing. It also made me realize that there is hope for a nation that seems to be all wrapped up in material possessions. Remember, Mark 8:36 says: “What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul ... Stay encouraged my brothers and sisters.

Make sure you get your copy of my book, “A Champion Game Plan For Life,” at amazon.com or Barnes and Noble.

God bless you.

Mrs. Mary E. Wiggins Lane

Mrs. Mary E. Wiggins Lane was born on August 10, 1924, the daughter of Robert and Lillie Mae Moore Wiggins. A native of Limestone County, Alabama, she was reared in the Monrovia community. After her parents moved to Madison County, she focused on the value of education and diligently pursued it with studies at Union School, where one teacher taught several grades, and Councill Training School. At Councill Training School, she received the “Best Cook Award” and attended classes with the late Dr. John Cashin and Thomas Hereford, and Mr. James Gurley—her friends for a lifetime. She graduated from Councill Training High School in 1945 and enrolled at Alabama A&M University.

After completing her freshman year, she taught at the Union School. Many suitors came calling during those days, but only one won her heart. His advantage was having the ability to ride a bicycle, being a World War II Navy man, and owning a bright red 1940 Dodge truck, complete with an old dog named “Red.” On October 13, 1946, the two were married on the front porch of her mother’s home with many family and community friends attending.

Like so many women of the time, Mrs. Lane was gifted in a number of areas, including farming, gardening, fishing, cooking, baking, sewing and hairdressing.

As the Pastor’s wife, Mrs. Lane participated in all church-sponsored activities, including picnics, outreach activities, museum trips, youth-sponsored field trips, nursing home visits and much more. Not only has she tirelessly supported her husband in his role as Pastor of Taylor’s Chapel Primitive Baptist Church, but she simultaneously fulfilled the role of loving mother to their five children, enjoying countless birthdays, achievements, family celebrations and reunions, as well as lingering memories of grandchildren.

On August 9, 2014, numerous family members and friends gathered at The Ledges in Huntsville, Alabama, to celebrate Mrs. Lanes 90th birthday.
From the Editor

AMIE Meets in Huntsville!

Advancing Minorities’ Interest in Engineering (AMIE) held its 25th Anniversary and Annual Conference in Huntsville at the Westin Hotel on September 4-7, 2018. In addition to the 25th Anniversary celebration, attendees had the opportunity to participate in workshops, seminars and roundtable discussions with prominent speakers and presenters. The theme for the conference was “The Power of Partnerships: Celebrating the Past, Transforming the Present and Innovating for the Future.” Approximately 200 engineers, STEM professionals and diversity leaders from around the United States participated from colleges, universities, corporate, federal and state agencies.

The Council of Engineering Deans of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) met on Friday morning to develop strategies aimed at increasing diversity in the engineering workforce. The Council is comprised of Deans of Engineering at the HBCUs with American Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) accredited programs. Alabama A&M University and Dr. Chance Glenn, its dean of the College of Engineering, Technology and Physical Sciences, were the official hosts for the meeting.

Both Huntsville and AAMU were perfect for such a meeting. Huntsville, an international hub of technology and innovation, has the right mix of government, industry and colleges and universities to increase diversity in the engineering workforce. If it can't be accomplished in a city like ours, it is unlikely that it will happened anywhere. Similarly, AAMU is home of the State of Alabama's first bachelor's program in computer science. Long accredited by ABET, the computer science program opens doors for many University's graduates to enter the local, state and national technical workforce.

During my tenure as Vice President for Research and Development, we partnered with our faculty, staff, alumni, business and industry to earn ABET accreditation for the other programs, including civil, electrical and mechanical engineering. The late Dr. Arthur J. Bond provided the leadership for the ABET accreditation process, along with the construction of the state-of-the-art building to house the programs, during his tenure as dean of the then School of Engineering and Technology. Today, the building bears the name of Dr. Arthur Bond. History will record that Bond was recruited and employed to secure ABET’s accreditation for the School of Engineering and Technology at AAMU; a mandate he fulfilled. A three-time engineering graduate of Purdue University, Bond is recognized as one of the founders of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) while a student there. Few of our epithets will include such accomplishments.

With that said, congratulations, AMIE, on 25 years of advancing diversity through partnerships with academia, corporate America and government. “Thank you,” Huntsville, for welcoming our partners. And, God bless AAMU for the historic and continuing impact it makes in advancing diversity in engineering, technology, mathematics and science. The conference created a wonderful platform for minority students to see and be inspired by minority technology leaders in academia, business and industry.

I did not know a minority engineer as a youth. Sometimes I wonder--had I known and experienced a different world--just what the limits would be. Today, I work in a space where I have the opportunity to engage with diverse professionals of various races, ethnicities, genders, cultures, and beliefs. Such experiences enhance my appreciation for differences and provide me with the signal opportunity to embrace, share and work with some of the least and some of the greatest!

How blessed I am! Until next week ...
OUC Sponsors Women’s Equality Day
Oakwood University Church Family Life Center
August 26, 2018

August 26, 2018, marked the 98th anniversary of women in the United States winning the right to vote. However, the significance of the women’s suffrage campaign has been mostly ignored in the telling of American history. The women remembered offer inspiring stories that provide a better understanding of American history. Dr. Jessie Godley-Bradley (left) gave the occasion.

Get answers, learn how to stay safe at the Fraud Summit set for Monday, Oct. 1

Get answers to questions about financial fraud and how to protect yourself from scammers during a Fraud Summit, set for Oct. 1, 2018, at 3 p.m., at The Atrium, on the Wynn Drive campus of Redstone Federal Credit Union.

Financial fraud is on the rise. Area credit unions are joining together to keep members' safe from criminals aimed at stealing members' money.


For more information, contact Patricia Lloyd at 256-722-3735.
Alabamian Featured at Music Festival

Gospel musician Aaron Freeman was a featured entertainer at the inaugural iPush Foodie and Music Festival, a multicultural throng of art, live music and local cuisine, in the Ensley Live Entertainment District on Sept. 2.

The up-and-coming musician performed his breakout single, “Moving Single,” alongside Gospel veteran Courtney Franklin.

A minister of music for 15 years, Freeman is making great strides in the secular and gospel industries working with notable performers Alicia Keys, Shea Norman and Eddie James as a producer.

This July, the Alabama native signed with Blu Music, a distribution of Entertainment One. Freeman is represented by CJ Entertainment, a management agency based in Huntsville, Ala.

The Birmingham performance was one of three dates on his regional “Moving Forward” press junket tour, which closes out in Nashville, Sept. 22.

The 21+ event featured additional performances from Rocki, Joell Regal, Cereus, Pat Jamar, Dean Priest, and “American Idol” contestant Dominique Posey on the festival’s main stage.

After a day of food, music and shopping, the event shifted gears, closing the night out with a dance-heavy move and groove session.

For one night, the small Birmingham district was transformed into a block party complete with a wide array of black-owned eateries and afrocentric shops.

by Reggie Allen
Called 2 Preach
by Pastor/Founder Michael D. Rice
Grace Gethsemane Mission Church

Soul Talk!

I grew up watching my maternal grandfather’s lips seemingly constantly moving, as if he was talking to himself. As I recall, he had a weighted look upon his brow and appeared to be in his own world.

Whenever we would visit, we would get our usual hugs andhellos and then that was it, as far as granddaddy was concerned.

Now that I am an adult, I understand what possibly he may have been “saying to himself.”

His weighted-ness was no doubt partially due to his watch as a pastor. I believe my grandfather was probably engaging in some “soul talk.” What is that?

That’s when you go to the word of God and allow its nutrients to nurture your soul. It’s when the soul dines at the table of the divine buffet and finds a feast for its famish-ness.

The Psalmist in 116:7 said: “Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the Lord has been good to you.” Did you catch that? It was the contemplation of the goodness of the Lord that rocked his soul back to sleep. Soul talk is an excellent practice. Try it sometimes.

BIRTHDAY - September 14 - FREEMAN MBOWE is a Tanzanian politician and businessman. Mbowe has also served as the chairman of CHADEMA – the Party for Democracy and Development.
- BlackinTime.info
Sensible Tax-Saving Strategies for Retirees-to-Be

(BPT) - Individuals who rushed to prepay property taxes after the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act may have saved some money in 2018, but that's pennies compared to the long-term tax savings taxpayers should take advantage of before the TCJA's individual tax provisions are also expected to expire in 2026, according to Robert Fishbein, vice president and corporate counsel at Prudential Financial.

If your income is more modest, Roth IRA distributions are not considered income when determining whether you are subject to income tax on Social Security benefits.

If anything, a conversion prescribes income limits so high-income individuals may not make a direct contribution to a Roth IRA. However, there are no income limits on converting traditional IRA funds to a Roth IRA.

For more information about the 1890 Extension in Excellence Award or Urban SNAP-ED or UEFNEP efforts in Alabama, please contact Dr. Morris at (256) 372-8082 or e-mail morrison@aces.edu.
2018 Alabama A&M University Bulldog Football

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<td>University of North Alabama</td>
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<td>AWAY</td>
<td>Cincinnati, Ohio</td>
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<td>Neutral</td>
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<td>AWAY</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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