

# The Valley Weekly

FREE

Volume 3, No. 4

[www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com)

Friday, October 7, 2016

## RFCU Launches New Look

Redstone Federal Credit Union (RFCU) has announced that it is refreshing and updating its look with bolder colors, modern design and a new promise: 'We brighten our members' lives!'

The new look launched Monday, October 3. The changes can be seen in refreshed branch offices, signage, advertising and on digital products.

When a look has been around for 65 years, it is difficult to understand why it should change, said Joseph Newberry, President and CEO of Redstone.

"This is an exciting

time for Redstone Federal Credit Union and its members," Newberry said. "On a daily basis we provide trusted advice, choices, opportunities, and solutions so we can



**REDSTONE**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
*Live Brighter!*

add value and ultimately help our members achieve their financial dreams," he added. "Together, with this fresh, new look, we take the Credit Union into the future."

One of the first things consumers will notice is an

updated logo and colors.

- Red and gold are added for a bright, modern look
- A family crest and star are introduced to honor Redstone's ties to Redstone Arsenal and Marshall Space Flight Center
- The tagline is now "Live Brighter"

Regardless of where they live, members will see the family crest as an emblem that symbolizes that they belong to the Redstone family.

It's a new look, Newberry said, but Redstone remains the same member-owned credit union the community has come to know and trust.

## Small-Breed Cattle Workshop Set

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs unit will conduct a Small-Breed Cattle Workshop on Saturday, October 15, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. This program will be held at the Alabama A&M University Agribition Center, located at 4925 Moores Mill Road in Huntsville.

The Small-Breed Cattle

Workshop will introduce farmers to unique cattle production and marketing opportunities with a focus on nontraditional small-stature breeds. Small-stature cattle, like the Dexter and Lowline Angus, may be an option



for small-farm operations, since limited acreage can affect the success of a cattle enterprise.

Admission and lunch are free; however, participants are encouraged to pre-register. To register online, download the registration form at [www.aces.edu/urban](http://www.aces.edu/urban) and e-mail to Anthony Preyer at [pap0009@aces.edu](mailto:pap0009@aces.edu) or call (256) 536-1578.

## J.F. Drake State Receives On-site Visit Success

J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College is celebrating a successful on-site visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) for reaffirmation of regional accreditation. Regional Accreditation, the highest standard of accreditation, is a voluntary process relying on peer review of the College. Reviewers are selected from similar institutions and evaluate the College on approximately 90 rigorous standards related to instruction, administration and finance.

Additionally Drake State developed a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) as part of the reaffirmation process. Drake's QEP, "Mind Over Math," will be launched in January 2017. According to SACSCOC, the QEP "is a carefully designed and focused course of action that addresses a well-defined issue directly related to enhancing student learning." Mind Over Math uses the innovative

Math Emporium model and growth mindset strategies to improve students' mathematical skills and reduce math anxiety. The College has piloted the project during the past year and has seen positive



results.

On the morning of September 22, 2016, the SACSCOC reaffirmation team met with over 25 faculty and staff members to share the preliminary results of their review. During the exit conference, the committee stated that Drake had cleared all of the standards in the Compliance Certification. While the final decision will be made by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees, this is a

very positive outcome.

"We cleared everything!" exulted Dr. Kemba Chambers, interim president of Drake State. "This is very exciting because we are definitely heading on the right path," she added.

"We plan to celebrate this tremendous achievement in the near future."

Crystal Brown, vice-president of business and investor development at Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce, is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Community College System. Brown was

actively engaged in the on-site visit preparation with Drake State and reported "widespread enthusiasm throughout the faculty and staff as well as the students (she) spoke with."

The report of the on-site committee will be submitted to the SACSCOC Board of Trustees, who will make the announcement regarding Drake State's reaffirmation of accreditation during its meeting in June 2017.

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Sav-A-Lot

Sneed's Cleaners

St. Bartley PB Church

St. Luke Christian Church

Starbucks (Governors Drive, N. Parkway at

Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

# Scenes from STEM Expo at Scruggs Child Development Center and Academy

Dr. Cheryl Davis, Administrator

Wednesday, September 28, 2016



# Miss Alabama A&M University Coronation

Miss Carmen Catrice Wright

Friday, September 30, 2016



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# Local Community Says 'Goodbye' to General and Mrs. Dennis Via

Photos by The Valley Weekly

## FAREWELL DINNER - Wednesday, September 28, 2016



## CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY - Friday, September 30, 2016

After a 36-year career in the Army, Gen. Dennis L. Via passed the AMC colors to Lt. Gen. Gustave Perna, who was promoted to the rank of general prior to the change of command, on the AMC Parade Field, September 30, 2016.

During the ceremony, Gen. Via reflected on his career and family. He expressed gratitude to his lovely wife, Linda, and their sons Brian and Bradley, for being there for him throughout his 36-year commitment to the United States Army.

We will miss his leadership, their loving family and the gracious and kind spirits they have displayed in the Huntsville community.



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## Your Washington Recap

Here are the top issues in DC this week:

1. The House and Senate are in recess for six weeks until after the November election.

2. President Obama hosted "South by South Lawn" at the White House, an event inspired by the "South by Southwest" festival in Austin, Tex., which will be streamed live on WhiteHouse.gov.

3. Google provided more details about how it plans to incorporate data from the Obama administration's College Scorecard into its search results. The search engine will now display graduation rates, post-college earnings information and college tuition costs when users search for an individual college.

4. The Education Department on Friday unveiled a database of the agreements that colleges have with banks and other providers of financial products on campus. Under

new regulations finalized by the Obama administration last year, colleges were required to post online their contracts with banks and financial institutions. The department's database is a centralized list of those contracts. A separate requirement that colleges report how much money they make off of those arrangements - which often include college-branded debit cards or other products that are marketed as easy ways to access financial aid refunds - kicks in next September.

5. The Supreme Court begins its new term this week, still short-handed by the vacancy caused by the death of Justice Scalia on Feb. 13. Judge Merrick Garland, nominated by President Obama on March 16, has now been waiting 200 days for a hearing in the Senate. One of the big cases this term is a case to decide whether state legisla-

tors in VA and NC improperly relied on race when drawing electoral districts.

6. Early voting for the November election has started in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, New Jersey, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin. In total, 37 states and the District of Columbia will allow early voting in 2016.

7. The next Presidential Debate is scheduled for Sunday, October 9, at 9 p.m. EDT at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Some of the questions will be taken from the internet and persons can submit questions for the debate at PresidentialOpenQuestions.com.

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*"Life is to be lived,  
not controlled,  
and humanity is  
won by continuing  
to play in face of  
certain defeat."*

~ Ralph Ellison

## Bus Trip to Spelman Planned

The Huntsville Area Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College (HAC-NAASC) is sponsoring a one-day bus trip to Atlanta, Ga., to tour and learn about attending Spelman College on November 11. The cost is \$65 and includes transportation on a Luxury bus, breakfast, lunch and a tour of the College.

Spelman College promotes academic excellence in the liberal arts by developing the intellectual and leadership potential of its students. Additionally, Spelman strives to equip women within the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

Spelman's student body

comprises more than 2,100 students from 41 states and 15 foreign countries and it boasts a 76 percent graduation rate.

Numerous young ladies from the greater Huntsville Area have graduated from Spelman College and the local alumnae chapter recruits and shares the benefit of a Spelman education.

All young ladies in grades 6-12 interested in learning more about Spelman College are urged to attend this event.

Additional information about this trip and the Spelman chapter can be found on the website [www.HuntsvilleNAASC.org](http://www.HuntsvilleNAASC.org).

Send questions via e-mail to [hsvnaasc@gmail.com](mailto:hsvnaasc@gmail.com).

## 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.

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**On This Day** - Friday, October 7 - ELIJAH MUHAMMAD - Born Elijah Poole in Sandersville, Georgia. He is noted for his leading the Black Muslims and the Nation of Islam from 1934 until his death in 1975." - [BlackinTime.info](http://BlackinTime.info)

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# “Workations”

Travel is a *necessity* in life. It is a beautiful experience to engage in different cultures and tour God's gorgeous Earth. Every once in a while, it does our spirits some good to get out of our comfort zone and explore the world. There is so much to learn from culture and people's differences.

Travel exposes you to new things, food, people, and lifestyles that could shape your views or give you inspiration. The big thing about traveling is separating you from your reality.

It gives you a chance to get away from work, home life, and your reality, unless ... you are traveling for work.

“Workations,” as I call them, are the trips that you take for your job or busi-

ness. Although they aren't as luxurious as a vacation, they do provide a change of scenery from your typical office, and give you the chance to see new places, but not on your own dime. There are definitely perks to workations, and they surely beat being at your desk.

I've taken a few trips on my job in television production, and I will probably take more because the industry is known to constantly

change sets and scenery. I must say, workations are definitely one of the perks to my job and is needed after long hours, and a long season! Although it isn't all fun and games, it's a great



or excitement will cause employees to lose motivation. Travel gives your team something to look forward to, even if it isn't on a tropical island. I'm sure anything beats being stuffed in an office all day.

Some jobs require a quick flight in and out of a city, which isn't much of a workation. I consider it a *workation* when you at least have a weekend or a few days at your destination. That way,

if you have some down time, you can still find a way to enjoy yourself.

Entrepreneurs normally find a way to turn all travels into work opportunities. Whether it's making meetings or meeting new people to promote your product, you can always make the most out of your trips for business. Vacations are definitely better when it is for leisure; however, if you can make progress for your business and enjoy a new scenery, then that is a great way to get your work done!

by Amoi Savage

## A Good Read

by Jerome Saintjones

Stuart Dybek's  
“Paper Lantern”

Written for The New Yorker in the mid-1990s, this short story opens in a makeshift upstairs lab, where the narrator and colleagues are working on a time machine. They had made some progress, although it was sometimes increasingly difficult to define it.

They decided to take a break to eat in a Chinese restaurant that had originally been a laundry. The restaurant offered a wide variety of intricate, almost poetic dishes, along with a large paper lantern. In the laundry-turned-restaurant, the men marvel at how the owners use their imagination to make a dish out of nearly everything imaginable. Their fascination was cut short

by the realization that someone forgot to turn off the Bunsen burner back in the lab.

They rush back to find their lab engulfed in flames, taking down with them their dreams, along with the dreams of other innocent occupants and businesses within the building.

The narrator is reminded of another flame within a flame that symbolized his role in an adulterous affair with a woman married to a hospitalized Vietnam veteran. They, too, watched the flames of a factory building along a Chicago river. They, too, made efforts to capture time for future moments. All of these efforts met an untimely end--possibly because life has to be lived laugh by laugh, wrinkle by wrinkle, snow and cinder.

*“What could be any more correct for any people than to see with their own eyes?”*

-Molefi Kete Asante



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## Valley Deaths

Funeral service was held Thursday, October 6, at Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church for **Elder Charlie Humphrey** (b. 1930), pastor emeritus of Little Flock PB Church.

Funeral service was held Monday, October 3, at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for **Mr. Earl McCrary** (b. 1945) with Rev. O. Wendell Davis, officiant.

Funeral service was held **Mr. Beverly Troy Dunlap** Saturday, October 1, at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. Curtis Strong, eulogist, and Pastor Larry Davidson, officiant.

Funeral service was held Thursday, September 29, for **Mrs. Nannie Mae Battle** (b. 1934) at Briar Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America.

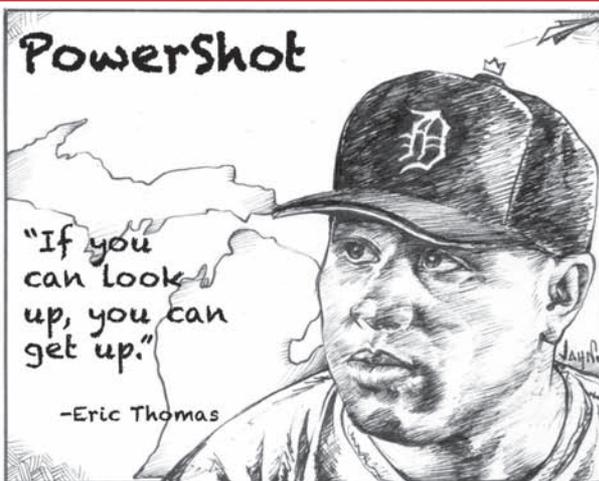
Nelms Memorial Funeral Home will announce services at a later date for the following:

Mrs. Carolyn Charles

Mrs. Virginia C. Morton

Mrs. Mabel Robinson

Mr. Ernest Lee Pope



### Eric Thomas Ten keys to Success

1. Know What you want
2. Work on your gift
3. No excuses
4. Upgrade your values
5. You reap what you sow
6. Education is the great equalizer
7. What is your "Why"?
8. Have boundaries
9. Speak from the heart
10. Want success as bad as you want to breathe

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[www.kfjfoundation.com](http://www.kfjfoundation.com)

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## Young Dolph Headlines A&M Concert

*Young Dolph and YFN Lucci to Headline the A&M Homecoming Concert*

The Von Braun Center will be hosting Alabama A&M's homecoming concert on Friday, October 7. The show's headliner's include Young Dolph, AFN Lucci and a special appearance by Rosco Dash.

The star-studded show will close out the university's homecoming week. Last year, rappers Rich Homie Quan and Jacquees headlined the highly-anticipated concert.

Born in Chicago, raised in Memphis, Young Dolph

rose to fame after getting the coveted cosign from veteran rapper Gucci Mane. Earlier this year, the Tennessean released his debut studio work titled "King of Memphis."

Recently, the rapper can be heard in the smash hit "Cut it" with O. T. Genasis.

Inspired by Hip Hop Pioneers Tupac and Lil Wayne, newcomer YFN Lucci, or Lucci, got his start in the streets of Atlanta, Ga. In

February, Lucci released his first studio album, "Wish Me Well," which includes the Migos collaboration "Keys to The Streets."

Born and raised in

Atlanta, Rosco Dash took the rap circuit by storm with the smash hit "All the Way Turned Up," with fellow Georgian group Travis Porter. Since his debut, Dash has released a handful of hit singles, including 2011's "No Hands" with Wale and Waka Flocka Flame. In 2012, the young performer was featured in XXL Magazine's "Freshman Class" with Iggy Azalea, Kid Ink, Future and French Montana.

The concert is free for A&M students with their campus I.D and \$25 for the general public. Tickets can be purchased on Ticketmaster.

by Reggie Allen  
Photo: AAMU



# SAVE the DATES

### UNCF NORTH ALABAMA CAMPAIGN

#### 2016/2017 Events

#### UNCF Golf Classic

Monday, October 24, 2016, 12:00 p.m.  
The Ledges of Huntsville

#### UNCF Women's Leadership Tea

Sunday, November 13, 2016, 3:00 p.m.  
The Ledges of Huntsville | Ballroom

#### The 39th Annual UNCF Gala

Thursday, April 13, 2017  
VIP Reception, 5:30 p.m. | Gala, 6:30 p.m.  
Von Braun Center | North Hall

For more information on any of our events,  
please call 256-726-7201

## Calendar of Events

**October 8**  
Alabama A&M University Homecoming Day  
AAMU vs. Alcorn State  
Louis Crews Stadium  
2 p.m.

**October 12**  
Mayor's State of the City  
Von Braun Center  
8 a.m.

**October 14**  
The Sixth Annual Breast Cancer Survivors Celebration  
*Sponsor:* Kimberly Fails Jones Memorial Foundation  
VBC North Hall  
7-9 p.m.

**October 15**  
Bill Engvall  
VBC Concert Hall  
8 p.m.

**October 23**  
Valley Conservatory Jam Session  
5-8 p.m.

**November 3-4**  
2016 WEDC Leadership Conference  
U S Space and Rocket Center  
www.wedchsv.org

**November 5**  
AAMU Football vs. Grambling  
Louis Crews Stadium  
2 p.m.

**November 27**  
Valley Conservatory Jam Session  
5-8 p.m.

**February 4**  
Huntsville Symphony Orchestra  
Free Family Concert  
Mark C. Smith Concert Hall  
Von Braun Center  
11 a.m.

# Make-A-Wish Foundation Announces First Fall Event

The Make-A-Wish Foundation's North Alabama Junior Council has announced its first-ever North Alabama fundraising event this fall to benefit "Wish" kids throughout the North Alabama region.

The Punkin Chunkin Fall Festival will be held October 15 from 11 a.m.-3



p.m. at Big Spring Park East. The event will be a family-friendly fall festival full of games, music, food and fun, says Lindsay Laderoute, vice president of the Council.

Those who have questions or who would like to do a feature on this upcoming event are encouraged to

make contact.

"Our Wish kids truly appreciate all that Make-A-Wish is able to do for them, and we're extremely excited to be rapidly expanding in Huntsville and the surrounding areas," said Laderoute.

For more information, contact the Make-A-Wish website or RSVP to the event on Facebook.

## Champion Game Plan for Life

I have found that people do what they really want to do. For example, if you *really* want to exercise, you will find time and a way to do it. If you *really* want to get out of debt, then you will stop spending money that you don't need to spend. Also, if you want to grow more spiritually, then you will find time to read the word of God.

You see, nobody can have everything that they

want, and keep everything they've got. There has to be some give and take. It has been said that our feelings and our emotions are the biggest problems that we have that keep us from doing what we need to do. The reason that it is easy to do that which



is wrong is because it's easy. Sometimes, it's easy to be on that broad path that leads to destruction, but it makes us all miserable later on. Remember: it's the narrow path that leads to life. Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

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