

The Valley Weekly

“Inevitable is not the same as immediate—and love does not mandate forgiveness.”

– N. K. Jemisin

FREE

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Friday, October 11, 2019



Legacy Continues: Johnson High Gets Updates

The renovations to the former J.O. Johnson gym will be complete in spring 2020, according to Huntsville City Councilman Devyn Keith.

These updates will include a state-of-the-art gym, rock climbing wall, futsal court, coffee shop, community gathering spaces and more. And that's just the beginning.

At the September 26 Council Meeting, officials approved a development agreement between the City of Huntsville and Stanley Developers, LLC, to build a minimum of 45 homes in Phase II of the plan.

These private homes will be between 1,500 and 3,500 sq. ft. and will be within walking distance of what

will ultimately be a mixed-use development on the Jaguar's former campus. Commercial development and multi-family homes will make up the next stage of the project.

This is a transformational project for North Huntsville as District 1 is quickly becoming the place to locate both business and family, says Keith.

Drake Announces Alabama Celebration

Drake State Community and Technical College is pleased to announce its Bicentennial Celebration.

“The Rosenwald Schools in Alabama Traveling Exhibit” will be featured on campus for public viewing.

Along with the traveling exhibit, a panel discussion will be held. The panelists will include a former teacher and former students of



Rosenwald Schools. Special guest will include Ms. Dorothy Walker, Site Coordinator for the Alabama

Historical Commission in Montgomery, Alabama.

The event will be held on Monday, October 21, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. in the Cafetorium on the campus of Drake State Community and Technical College.

For additional information, please call The S.C. O'Neal, Sr. Library and Technology Center at (256) 551-3120.

Sherrod Portrait Unveiling Set for Oct. 28

The public is invited to the portrait unveiling of The Honorable Martha Lynn Sherrod on Monday, October 28.

The unveiling will take place at 3 p.m. at the Madison County Courthouse (Courtroom #1), 100 Northside Square, Huntsville. To RSVP, e-mail JudgeSherrodRSVP@yahoo.com.

The first person of African descent to win an at-large election in North Alabama (2000), Judge Sherrod is a graduate of Fisk University and the University of Houston School of Law. She was re-elected unchallenged for a six (6) year term on November 7, 2005, and retired from the State Court System January 15, 2013.



KFJ Memorial Foundation to Host 9th Celebration

The Kimberly Fails Jones Memorial Foundation will sponsor the 9th Annual Celebration with Breast Cancer Survivors on Friday, October 11, in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center from 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

The Foundation provides encouragement, moral support, breast cancer information and financial assistance to need-based, referred breast cancer survivors.

Come and join us for a night of celebration, fabulous speaker, delicious dinner, entertainment, silent auction, vendors and Fun! Fun! Fun!

Visit the website www.kjfoundation.org for more information about the programs of the foundation.

For more information regarding attendance,

contact Edna Fails at (256) 337-0574 or by e-mail efails@bellsouth.net; or call Sandra Cross at (256) 412-5143.

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The Valley Weekly
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Asha Kiran Holds Human Chain Event on A&M Campus

Asha Kiran, A Ray of Hope held its annual Human Chain Event on Sunday, October 6, on the campus of Alabama A&M University, assisted by AAMU's Honors Program.

This event was part of a statewide effort in collaboration with other domestic violence shelters across the state in observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.

The concept of the "human chain" symbolizes the partnership and collaboration among service providers, advocates, and everyday citizens working to end domestic violence.

The event itself will culminate with attendees joining hands to recite a pledge against



From top: Participants form human chain; Valley Weekly contributor Joshua Baker recites poem; and Rev. Kerry Holder Joffrion addresses crowd. (Photos by J. Saintjones)

domestic violence.

This year's theme, "Silence is violence. SPEAK OUT" remains focused on breaking the cycle of silence and secrecy that not only allows domestic violence to continue, but often

prevents survivors, and those who love them, from seeking the help they need.

For more information, call (256) 694-9092 or e-mail info@ashakiranonline.org.

Friends of the Bradfords Gala Next Week

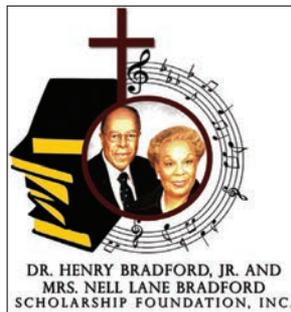
The "Friends of the Bradfords" will host the 3rd Annual Charity Gala on Saturday, October 19, at 6 p.m. in the Von Braun Center East Hall #2.

The gala supports Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr., and Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford Scholarship Foundation. Together, the Bradfords formed a more than 40-year musical dynasty at

Alabama A&M University, where he headed the music program and she directed the AAMU Choir.

The 2019 event will feature the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.'s Delta Choir.

For tickets, e-mail sales@bradfordscholarship.org or contact Andrea Bradford at (256) 289-3965



DR. HENRY BRADFORD, JR. AND MRS. NELL LANE BRADFORD SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION, INC.

and/or Rev. Versey Jones at (256) 529-5565.

Huntsvillian to Receive Tech Rising Star Award

A Huntsville employee of Leidos will be a participant at the 2019 Women of Color STEM Conference and Awards in Detroit, Mich.

Erlene Adams will join other women October 3-5. She is also scheduled to receive special recognition for her work in the Civil Group as a program manager.



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Alabama A&M University Homecoming 2019

Scenes from "The Hill" Throughout Homecoming Week

The Valley Weekly

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National Hook Up of Black Women, Inc. Inaugural Daddy-Daughter Dance "An Evening of Elegance" - Huntsville Botanical Garden



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Fellowship of Faith Church

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Huntsville Bible College

James Smith - AllState Insurance

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Lucky's Supermarket

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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

Perspectives on EGO-holism

by tim alston

Where Have You Gone, Kamala Harris (John the Baptist 2.0)?

"He must increase, and I must decrease." - John 3:30

What a difference a quarter makes.

Then (June 27, 2nd quarter) Presidential candidate Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA) . . .

- Clearly the winner of the first debate, when she sucker-punched front-runner former VP Joe Biden, and
- Raised a whopping \$2 million online in succeeding 24 hours!

Now (September 3rd quarter), . . .

- San Francisco Chronicle, 9/29/19: "Harris is running a distant fourth in the Democratic presidential race in her home state, where she has won three statewide races."
- June's 13% Dem voters' support is now 8%.

Ego-holism Recovering Step #5: "turn your lemons into lemonade"

Perhaps his staffers expected arrogantly that he'd not be attacked on his strong civil rights record, however . . .

Q: John the Baptist 2.0 . . .

John's role was the alley-oop (introduction) for Jesus Christ's salvation slam-dunk. As notoriety, rising-star quality Krazy-glued itself to John, he dismissed it quickly - e.g., "(Jesus) whose sandal straps I'm not worthy to loose" (John 1:27).

Upon baptizing Christ as mankind's front-runner, John faded expectedly and died.



= Kamala Harris

Such paralleling appears to be Kamala's script:

1. Rev up, expand a new base of believers;
2. Bring unexpected attention to the front-runner;
3. Lead him into a wilderness experience (leadership guru John C. Maxwell on wilderness: "... where motives get purified, ... backbone solidifies, and ... calling gets clarified") to fine-tune his game;
4. And then fade from public view.

The strengthening of Biden's front-runner perch can be credited not as much to Kamala's June TKO (lemon), but rather to team Biden's awakening and since responding with a muscularity heretofore atrophied (lemonade).

Kamala: Biden's making sweeter lemonade from his bitter lemons - and you?

Update

9/29/19: Harris opened her first campaign office in California - a newcomer state for the March 3, 2020, Super Tuesday primaries - ahead of Biden and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (#2).

tim alston is the author of the free book, 7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for "Someone Else," free and downloadable now at www.GetEgoHelpNow.org.

Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

“THE REASON THAT JESUS CAME”

Psalms 65:3 says, “When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.”

You know, this whole business of sin has caused the deepest woes of the human race. And, for everybody, sin is the greatest threat to our lives. Just look at all the senseless acts of violence we see going on in the world today. As the psalmist confesses, we are not equal to the sin that’s in the world. He says it’s overwhelming. But you know what? This

is the very reason that Jesus came. 1 John 2:2 says that He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world, because God knew that we were no match for the sins of this world. You see, our sins are stronger than we are if we don’t have the presence of Jesus in our lives. We may think that we can go at it alone, but we can’t. Our sins are stronger than we are because they become “habitual”. Many people play with sin as if they are in control, only



to realize that sin always disguises itself as freedom to do what you want to do, but ends up in bondage. You end up doing all the things that you never thought you would do. Only Jesus can release us from the bondage of sin. We all need Jesus today, because we cannot defeat the sin that is in the world by ourselves. Because our sins are stronger than we are without the presence of Jesus in our lives ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

Thru October 31

Tuskegee Photographer
Prentice Herman “P.H.”
Polk Exhibit
State Black Archives
Alabama A&M University
Wilson Building
(256) 372-4728
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

October 11

9th Annual Celebration
with Breat Cancer Survivors - Kimberly Fails Jones
Memorial Foundation
Von Braun Center
North Hall - 7 p.m.

October 15

Golden Age Talent Show
Proceeds Benefit Senior
Center Programs
\$10 Donation
2200 Drake Avenue
Huntsville, Ala.

October 16

Kiss A Cop-Law Enforcement
Appreciation Day
Crisis Services of North
Alabama - www.csna.org

October 17

Casino Night Fundraiser
Boys & Girls Clubs of
North Alabama
Huntsville Country Club
2601 Oakwood Avenue
NW
Huntsville, Ala.
6-9 p.m.

October 19

Domestic Violence Walk-
A-Thon
Richard Showers Center
Walking Track
4600 Blue Springs Road
Huntsville, Ala.
8 a.m.-12 noon

October 20-27

Johnson/Butler Legacy
Cruise
Departing from New
Orleans
smonquet@yahoo.com

October 24

Madison County Candle-
light Vigil
Oakwood University
Leadership Building
6 p.m.

October 28

Annual Scholarship Golf
Tournament for
Stillman College
Huntsville Country Club
2601 Oakwood Ave NW
Huntsville, Ala.
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Williams, USMC, Retired,
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Consider Some Year-End Investment Tax Moves

Before 2019 winds down, you may want to consider some investment moves that could help when you file your taxes next year. For starters, you might add to your 401(k), if your employer permits it. The more pre-tax dollars you put in, the lower your taxable income. Also, consider putting more money into your IRA. With a traditional IRA, your contributions may be fully deductible, depending on your income.



Here’s one more idea: If you itemize on your taxes, think about making gifts to charitable groups. If you donate investments that have gained value since you purchased them, you will generally be able to deduct the fair market value of the investment, and you can avoid paying capital gains taxes on the appreciation.

See your tax advisor and financial professional before making any of these moves. But if they make sense for you, put them to work – they could pay off when next April’s tax deadline rolls around.

Lillian Henderson

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Member SIPC



Huntsville City Council Meetings

Huntsville City Council's regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Council work sessions are also held in the Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. People can sign up for notices of Council meetings and special sessions online at <https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1825550/1780821/> For more information, call (256) 427-5011.



TFOFC Distributes to Local Community

The Fellowship of Faith Church has partnered with the Food Bank of North Alabama to distribute truck loads of food in the local community almost weekly.

Distributions vary in the community from the Church's main campus at 3703 North Memorial Parkway, along with local sites in Huntsville/Madison County.

The Feeding by Faith Ministry has expanded beyond the homeless population to the larger community.

Future information about this ministry can be found on the church's website at TFOFC.org or on FaceBook at Fellowship of Faith Church.

Pastor Troy L. Garner is the founding pastor of TFOFC.

NAAACC Meetings

The North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce (Huntsville) meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 12 noon.

The meeting location varies. Call (256) 564-7574.



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WHOSE BIRTHDAY TODAY? - OCTOBER 11 - MC LYTE
- MC LYTE was born Lana Michele Moorer in Brooklyn, New York. Her 1993 single "Ruffneck" from the album "Ain't No Other" was the first gold single ever for a female rap artist.

- BlackinTime.info

Called Preach

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

A Precarious Presumption

Psalm 30:6

The Bible's truth expresses a kind of transparency that can be intimidating and unsettling unless one is actually searching for that kind of truth. After all, the word of God has been made analogous to a "mirror," "a two-edged sword," and the "perfect law of liberty."

The book of Psalm is

one of those books where one can find very liberating truths, for it covers just about, if not every, emotion and life scenario that is possible. It is said that "confession is good for the soul." That is what the Psalmist did in this Psalm; he confessed that he made a precarious presumption that led to him saying, "I shall never be moved."

That could have been

a strong statement of faith had it not been based on a "temporary" condition. However, because he was basing his stance upon the sinking sand of presumption, he spent the rest of that Psalm stating how God stepped in and set up some providentially placed problems that opened his eyes to the folly of his presumption.

The Message Bible put it quite succinct. When things were going great I crowed, "I've got it made. I'm God's favorite. He made me king of the mountain."

Then You looked the other way and I fell to

pieces ... I called out to You, God; Help me out of this!"

"You did it"--You changed wild lament into whirling dance...I can't keep quiet about you...I can't thank you enough."

God is faithful!

NEXT WEEK:
"Neither Intimidated
Impression"



"Sometimes being a friend means mastering the art of timing."

- Gloria Naylor

Rocket City High School Scholarship Step Show and Conference Scheduled

Local high school students are invited to participate in the 4th Annual Rocket City High School "Scholarship" Step Show & Youth Leadership Conference on Saturday, October 19. The show will be held at Columbia High School Auditorium, 300 Explorer Boulevard, Huntsville, Alabama 35806. Additionally, any high school fraternity, sorority, or step team is invited to compete, as well.

However, "It's More Than A Step Show." The event provides a platform for students to 1) Learn, 2) Network, and 3) Perform. It is designed to recognize and inspire high school students to act with a positive purpose in life, school, family, and community.

The mission and goal are to create a memorable experience that is fun, vibrant and purposeful. The youth leadership conference provides an opportunity for students to

network with community leaders, businesses and local agencies.

Members from Greek organizations will serve on a panel for an in-depth discussion on college life, academics, social media, campus & community involvement, and the importance of earning a college degree. Lastly, the keynote speaker will educate, motivate and cultivate the

students as they prepare for this ever-changing world of social media and technology.

This is a family-oriented event for adults and children of all ages. Everyone will witness some very talented and creative students showcasing their skills in the art form of stepping.

Teams from all over will compete for trophies, over \$1000 in cash prizes and the ultimate bragging rights. Guest performances will include the Divine 9 Greeks, a stroll-off competition, old school dance

challenge, door prizes, full concessions, and much more.

Tickets are available on our website and Eventbrite. Register today at www.extraordinaireenterprisesllc.com. There are only a few slots available. The team entry fee is \$100, which is due by October 12, 2019. If there are any questions, please call (256) 361-9516.

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Valley Deaths

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

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Funeral service for MR. JAQUARIUS LAMON SMITH (b. 1994) was held Friday, October 4, at Syler Tabernacle (904 Oakwood Avenue - Huntsville, Ala..) with Minister Dorothy Nelms officiating

Funeral service for MR. GEORGE W. REED, SR. (b. 1939) was held Sunday, September 29, at The Church of Christ on the Highway (7494 Wall-Triana Highway - Madison, Ala.) with Brother Walter B. Hartley, Sr. officiating.

Funeral service for MR. STEPHEN BENNETT (b. 1974) was held Saturday, September 28, at Saint Luke Christian Church with The Reverend Dr. T.C. Johnson, pastor and officiant.

Graveside service for INFANT SAVANNAH PATTERSON (b. 2019) was held Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at Huntsville Memory Gardens with Pastor T. C. Johnson officiating.

- Royal Funeral Home -

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(256) 534-8481

Memorial service for MS. DENISE LARUE WILLIS will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, October 20, at the Oakwood Seventh-day Church with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. DIANA McCULLOUGH (b. 1957) was held Saturday, October 5, at Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Adolphus A. Elliott, Sr., officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. ELIZA WASHINGTON will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, October 5, at the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church with Dr. Mylon Burwell officiating.

Funeral service for MR. ARTHUR LEE BENFORD (b. 1952) was held Friday, October 4, at the Pleasant Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (15439 Hastings Road Athens, Ala.) with Pastor Bill Jones officiating.

Funeral service for DR. JOHN ARCHIBALD BLAKE was held Thursday, October 3, at the Oakwood University Seventh-day Adventist Church with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd officiating.

- Serenity Funeral Home -

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(256) 539-9693

MR. JESSE JAMES JOHNSON of Huntsville, AL died on Friday, October 4, 2019. A private Memorial will be held on a later date.

Funeral service for MR. JAYLON JOHNSON (b. 1998) was held Saturday, October 5, at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel, 2505 University Drive, NW, Huntsville, Ala.)

"In the Heat of the Night" Actress a Highlight of SAI Conference

The Virginia Caples Life-long Learning Institute, under the direction of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System at Alabama A&M University, presents the 18th Successful Aging Initiative (SAI) Conference in Madison County on Thursday, October 17, from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

This event will be held at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church,



315 Winchester Road in Huntsville, Ala. The SAI is a free, one-day event that is open to the public and addresses issues impacting Alabama's older adults, family members, caregivers, and senior service providers.

The 2019 theme is "The Art of Aging." It will explore how art improves the health and well-being of older adults. Renowned actress Dr. Tommie "Tonea" Stewart, an artist herself, will deliver the keynote address. Dr. Stewart is also a tenured professor and the dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Alabama State University.

A drug take back drive will be held again this year to collect expired and unused prescription and over-the-counter medication. Please make sure that personal information is removed from all prescription containers and that pharmaceuticals are placed in a plastic bag. Lunch will be provided to conference participants in addition to free health screenings, door prizes, and other giveaways. Visit <https://www.aces.edu/event/successful-aging-conference-2019-madison-county/> to register by Monday, October 14.

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