

# The Valley Weekly

FREE

"I freed a thousand slaves. I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves.."

- Harriet Tubman

Volume 6 No. 10

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Due to Holidays, NO EDITIONS 11/29 & 12/27!!

Friday, November 15, 2019



**In Concert:** The Alabama A&M University Concert Choir, under the direction of Dr. Horace R. Carney (Dr. Mira Kruja, pianist) performed its four-part fall concert and musicale Sunday, November 10, at First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, Ala. The event also included the vocal-jazz ensemble's performance of Anders Edenrot's "Words." (Photo by J. Saintjones)

## Construction Set to Begin on Councill High School Park

It was a memory, then a dream, and a vision fulfilled for hundreds of alumni of William Hooper Councill High School, Huntsville's first public school for African-American students. More than 150 years after the school first opened its doors, and more than 50 years since the school closed, the historic site on St. Clair Avenue will be memorialized with a beautiful new park.

Huntsville City Council tonight approved Mayor Tommy Battle's request to begin construction on the new park which pays tribute to the 2.5 acre site where the former Councill High once proudly stood.

The site plan, designed by Bostick Landscape Architects with input from alumni and the City of Huntsville, pays homage to



the footprint of the original building through carefully define walkways, benches and structures made from the original schoolhouse bricks, groves of trees and landscaping that highlights the school's floor plan, and an school entrance with a sculpture of the first student entering the building.

"I am so proud of the William Hooper Councill Alumni Association for being at the forefront of this project every step of the way," said Devyn Keith, City Council

President and District 1 Council Member. "Their passion and perseverance have ensured that African American history and the role it played in every aspect of Huntsville's history will be immortalized in this park. This place of opportunity – the only place open to black students at the time – will now be a welcome gathering spot for all of our citizens."

Phase one of the historic park will cost about \$1.4 million and should be complete by May 2020. Phases two and three will include additional bronze sculptures.

Councill was the founder and first president of what became Alabama A&M in 1875. A former slave, Councill rose to become a lawyer, newspaper editor, legislator and Alabama Supreme Court Justice.

## Sorority Works to Eliminate Food Insecurity Among Elders

The Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., will participate in a live radio broadcast with Toni Terrell of 94.1 FM on Saturday, December 7, from 10 a.m. -12 p.m. at the Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center, 220 Drake Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.

In its efforts to eliminate food insecurities, the sorority challenges all Greek letter organizations, clubs, churches, and community affiliates to join in to exceed the goal to raise \$9,000.

The proceeds will be donated to Meals on Wheels to ensure seniors who depend on the program will have a special meal during the holiday season. Last year, over 1,200 meals were served.

The Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., chartered in 1954, has a rich legacy of providing service throughout the entire county of Madison.

### 100 Black Men Gala Set

The 100 Black Men of Greater Huntsville, Inc., will host its Annual Holiday Gala on Saturday, December 21, at the Von Braun Center North Hall at 6 p.m. Tables are \$500 each. For more information, call Charles Hyder at (256) 651-0134.



The chapter strives to provide quality programs to educate area youth, steer economic development within the community and be at the forefront of social action.

Ovetta Hobson currently serves as President. To learn more about Huntsville Alumnae Chapter, visit the chapter's

website at <http://www.dsthuntsville.org>. Also, visit the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, national website at <http://www.deltasigmatheta.com>.

For more information, contact Ovetta Hobson at [president@dsthuntsville.org](mailto:president@dsthuntsville.org) or [icc@dsthuntsville.org](mailto:icc@dsthuntsville.org). (Photo: NCI-NIH.gov)

## The Valley Weekly

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# Washington in One Minute



Here are happenings in Washington, D.C., this week.

- Ronn Hamm

1. The House and Senate are in session this week (starting on Tuesday due to Veterans Day). The Senate is expected this week to confirm Chad Wolf to his current acting position as Undersecretary of Homeland Security for Strategy, Policy and Plans, which will allow him to be named Acting Secretary of Homeland Security to replace Kevin McAleenan, who resigned on October 11. The House will take up a bill to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank for the next 10 years (and rename it the U.S. Export Finance Agency). The House is also expected to take up a 2nd Continuing Resolution to keep the federal government open through December 2019 when the current stopgap measure expires on November 21.

2. On Tuesday, the President spoke at the Economic Club of New York and then attended a fundraising event. On Wednesday, he hosted a meeting and press conference with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan at the White House. On Thursday, the President met with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg at the White House and then travelled to Bossier City, La., for an evening campaign rally at the CenturyLink Center.

The President told reporters last Friday that he had not yet decided on whether to roll back tariffs as part of a phase one trade deal with China, despite comments earlier in the week from China's Ministry of Commerce that both sides

had agreed to reduce tariffs in the phase one deal. There are another round of U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods set to go into effect December 15.

3. On Wednesday, the 13 Democrats and 9 Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee began public impeachment hearings with the first 2 witnesses: Chargé d'Affaires Ad Interim in Ukraine William Taylor and the State Department's Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs George Kent. On Friday at 10:00 a.m., the Committee will question ex-Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch. The first 90 minutes of the hearings will be equally divided between Chair Schiff and Ranking Member Nunes for questions (including questions from committee counsel), rather than the usual 5-minute rounds. Under procedures the House approved on Oct. 31, the House Intelligence Committee will be the sole panel participating in the public hearings and, at a later date, the House Judiciary Committee will conduct additional public proceedings for consideration of impeachment.

4. Last Friday, House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) announced that House Oversight Committee Ranking Member Jim Jordan (R-OH) would get a temporary slot on the House Intelligence Committee, replacing Rep. Rick Crawford (R-AR), who will get the seat back after the impeachment hearings conclude. On Saturday, House Intelligence Committee Ranking Member Devin

Nunes (R-CA) submitted a list of witnesses to Committee Chair Adam Schiff (D-CA) that Republicans would like to be called that includes the anonymous whistleblower, former Vice President Joe Biden's son Hunter Biden, and former Democratic National Committee staffer Alexandra Chalupa - all of which are expected to be rejected by the committee.

5. On Tuesday, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell will testify to discuss the economic outlook before the House/Senate Joint Economic Committee and, on Wednesday, he will testify before the House Budget Committee.

6. On Tuesday, the U.S. Supreme Court considered the Obama administration's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA), which has provided work authorization and deportation protections for nearly 700,000 undocumented people. Students and educators are preparing for the outcome of decision on DACA, which could come by next spring after it hears oral arguments on Tuesday. President Donald Trump announced in September 2017 that the program would end on March 5, 2018, a deadline he imposed to get Congress to pass legislation for DACA recipients, which has not happened. As a result, the high court will have to make a ruling on whether the Trump administration illegally ended the program.

7. Last Wednesday at an event at the White House, President Trump announced that over the last 3 years he has nominated and had confirmed 158 federal judges: 2 Supreme Court Justices, 44 Circuit Court judges (which is 1 out of 4 Circuit judges), and 112 District Court judges. The average age of these new judges is less than 50 years, which is about 10 years younger than President Obama's nominees. He also announced that there are a further 61 judicial nominees pending.

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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**  
Phyllis Chunn

**- Contributing Editors -**  
tim allston  
Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.  
Minister Preston Brown  
Cody L. "Global" Gopher  
Ron Hamm  
Pastor Michael D. Rice

**Website Administrator**  
Calvin Farier

**Mailing Address:**  
The Valley Weekly  
415A Church Street - Suite 100  
Huntsville, AL 35801  
(256) 651-9028  
[www.valleyweeklyllc.com](http://www.valleyweeklyllc.com)  
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**The Tennessee Valley Diversity Leadership Colloquium**

**Graduation Ceremony for Cohort XII**

**Madison County Commission District Six**

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019**



# The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

## November 15

Education Banquet  
Featuring Congresswoman Terri Sewell  
Sponsor: R.E. Nelms Elks Lodge #977, Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World General Admission Tickets - \$50; VIP Tickets \$125 (with Private Reception with Congresswoman Sewell)  
Von Braun Center North Hall  
700 Monroe Street, SW Huntsville, Ala.  
7 p.m.

## November 17

56th Annual Harvest/ Homecoming Celebration  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Theron Flowers, Assistant Pastor, Union Chapel Mis-

sionary Baptist Church  
Lowe's Chapel United Methodist Church  
460 Sanderson Road, NW Huntsville, Ala.  
10 a.m.

"Made to Worship"  
Gospel Ensemble Praise & Worship Concert  
Church Street CPCA  
228 Church Street Huntsville, Ala.  
4 p.m.

## December 1

Candlelight Vesper Service  
Alpha Omega Chapter, Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.  
Speaker: Elder Ted Dixie  
New Market PCUSA  
1725 New Market Road New Market, Ala.  
4 p.m.

## December 5

50th Anniversary Celebration of University Designation and Founding of the AAMU Foundation  
Alabama A&M University  
Speaker: Dr. Michael Eric Dyson  
Author, Scholar, Activist  
T.M. Elmore Building  
7 p.m.

## December 6

Fall Commencement  
Alabama A&M University  
Von Braun Center Arena

## December 7

Meals on Wheels Broadcast on 94.1 FM (with Toni Terrell)  
Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center  
2200 Drake Avenue, SW Huntsville, Ala.

## Sustainable Investing Can Pay Off - in Several Ways

Today, many people want their investment dollars to benefit the world. Should you, too, consider sustainable investing? And if you do, must you accept weaker returns from your investments?

First, here's a little background. Sustainable investing can have different names, such as environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing or impact investing. When following a sustainable investing approach, you might seek to invest in companies that address the sustainability challenges facing their businesses, industries and society today. Or you might avoid investing in companies that are falling behind their peers on things like employee practices or natural resource usage.

But can sustainability be profitable to you? Of course, each investment is different, and when you invest, you can expect that prices will fluctuate, and you could lose some of the value of your investment. Nonetheless, studies have shown that sustainable investments can perform just as well as their peers in the general investment arena.

In other words, you can do well by doing good. So, if you do want to follow a sustainable investment approach, you won't be putting a roadblock on the path toward your financial goals.



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## Perspectives on EGO-holism

by tim allston

### re-Focus on the "2020s": From Sprints to Marathons

Read Ecclesiastes 9:11, Matthew 24:13



#### The 2020 Focus and Questions

The words "2020" hold both symbolic fascinations and many opportunities for us to re-focus.

"2020," for example, defines one's visual sharpness and clarity, or acuity. Also, "2020" identifies the upcoming quadrennial leap year, Tokyo's Summer Olympics and the U.S. presidential and senatorial elections.

While leap year gives us that extra (366th) day, the latter three contests - coupled with 2020 eyesight - should cause us to ask ourselves:

Should we focus near or far? And Ought we be sprinters or marathoners?

#### The "Black Marathon Drought" - It Ain't Just in Sports!

African American sprinters Noah Lyles, Christian Coleman, Mrs. Allyson Felix, and hurdler/sprinter Miss Sydney McLaughlin top the list of prospective U.S. gold medalists - but once again, no U.S. Blacks compete for the long-distance races.

More regrettably, too often African American lifestyles mirror our Summer Olympics prowess: stellar in sprints, but no-shows for the marathons of vision execution and political empowerment.

#### 2020 Fruitfulness?

Fruitfulness in 2020 and beyond demand we adhere to the Biblical directives for both daily (Matthew 6:34, TLB) and long-term (Matt. 24:13, NJKV) foci.

The either/or sprint-vs-marathon mindset should not be our lone play; instead, our 2020 vision must be yes/and sprint-AND-marathon living.

But how? Recalibrate your 2020 Vision beyond the "366"!

For example:

**Trump is NOT the Enemy.** Despite his 12,000+ false or misleading claims, Trump is merely mimicking the true enemy. Remember: "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, . . ." (Ephesians 6:12).

Similarly, Malcolm X warned, "Whether you use bullets or ballots you've got to aim well; don't strike at the puppet, strike at the puppeteer";

Sprint to the White House, but Marathon to the Senate. Let's pour more urgency into winning the Senate majority than in recapturing 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Two six-year Senate terms = three four-year presidencies, with only two consecutive White House stays allowed; and

Albeit necessary, impeachment talk and actions only at best serve as a band-aid; the marathon is achieved at the 2020 ballot box!

The 1998 Bill Clinton impeachment and his maintaining the presidency nonetheless should remind us of impeachment's token symbolism.

Remember: "The race is not to the swift, . . . But he who endures to the end shall be saved" Ecclesiastes 9:11, Matthew 24:13.

tim allston is the author of the free digital book, 7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for "Someone Else," downloadable now at [www.GetEgoHelpNow.org](http://www.GetEgoHelpNow.org).

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## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

### “WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?”

1 Corinthians 13:6-7 says, “Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

Remember, there was a song that was titled “What’s Love Got to Do with It?” In this song, we find the words, *What’s love but a second hand emotion?* The song goes on to say: *Who needs a heart when a heart can be broken?* But when we look at 1 Corinthians 13, the apostle Paul has a different perspective about love. In this

scripture, you can’t help but notice how simple it is to understand this description of love. We all know what is being asked of us but the problem that most of us have is the willingness to do what it says. For example, when you love someone, your intentions should never be meant to harm them. So there is no need to worry about a “broken heart” because love creates an atmosphere of trust.

It has been said that love prefers to be overly generous rather than overly suspicious. Some people are very suspicious because they never learned how to trust the other person. What a miserable place to be. When we don’t trust

our partner, we allow the enemy to get a “foothold” in our lives, and that will take away our joy and



our peace. So we should always seek to build each other up and not bring each other down with our words or our actions. Love is not a “second hand emotion.” Love does not dishonor others ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

## School Board Member Michelle Watkins Hosts District 1 Update: November 5, 2019

Jemison High School - Huntsville, Ala.

**BREAKING NEWS:**

All District 1 Schools (Except 1) Emerge from “F” List



## Drake State Helps Neighbors Through Clean Home Alabama Campaign

Students, faculty and staff from Drake State Community & Technical College worked to clean up and plant flowers on November 6 in the Edgemont subdivision. The team also made improvements at MLK Elementary with the help of the school’s student government officers who are in third, fourth and fifth grades.

“We’re proud to have been joined by the MLK students, as well as Rep. Laura Hall (D-AL 19th District), Madison County Commissioner JesHenry Malone and students from Alabama A&M University’s Association for Computer Machinery and Computer Science Club,” said Regina Burden, dean of student services at Drake State. “It’s meaningful that these organizations and government officials took time to make our community cleaner.” City of Huntsville’s Operation Green Team was also on site to help out, and Bennett Nurseries donated flowers.



## Senior Services Commissioner Visits County

Chanda Mills-Crutcher, CEO of American Senior Assistance Program, Inc. (ASAP), joined Rep. Laura Hall in welcoming the Hon. Jean Brown, the Commissioner of Senior Services and former Alabama Supreme Court Justice, to Madison County for the Legislative Aging Advocacy Encounter. There is nothing like hearing first hand from caregivers and older adults about their journey.

Probate Judge Frank Barger shared his focus on aging issues to include abuse, exploitation and mental health.

Commissioner Malone’s office via Ms. Jo Miley provided transportation and lunch.



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# Valley Deaths

## - Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816  
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Graveside service for MS. BONNIE ANN LARKIN WATSON will be Friday, November 15, at 12 p.m. at Huntsville Memory Gardens with Reverend Melvin Bishop officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. PHOEBE MATTHEWS (b. 1935) was held Sunday, November 10, at the Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church (599 Brock Road - Brownsboro, Ala.) with Pastor Brandon Nance officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. RENA MAE TIMMONS (b. 1943) was held Saturday, November 9, at the Consolidated Flint River and Running Water Primitive Baptist Memorial Tabernacle with Pastor Lamont Pope officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. ALICE ANN THOMPSON (b. 1965) was held Saturday, November 9, at the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association Tabernacle with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiating.

## - Royal Funeral Home -

4315 Oakwood Avenue- Huntsville, AL 35810  
(256) 534-8481

Funeral service for MASTER DENNIS JEAN-EVERETTE RAY "DJ" McGOWAN (b. 2008) will be 11 a.m., Saturday, November 16, at Mount Zion Primitive Baptist Church (2350 Wall Triana Highway, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Mylon Burwell officiating.

Memorial service for MR. HERMAN ALFONZO CAUDLE (b. 1927) will be held Friday, November 15, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Minister Bubba Toney officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. BERTHA LEE HOUSTON (b. 1943) was held Saturday, November 9, at Triana Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (263 Stone Street SW, Madison, Ala.) with Pastor James Childress officiating.

Funeral service for MR. RICKY C. BLEDSOE (b. 1956) was held Saturday, November 9, at Bright Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (11796 Mooresville Road Madison, AL 35756) with Elder Willie James Mangruem officiating.

## - Serenity Funeral Home -

2505 University Drive NW - Huntsville, AL 35816  
(256) 539-9693

Funeral service for MS. DEBORAH BATTLE (b. 1960) will be held Saturday, November 16, at 1 p.m. at Serenity Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for MR. DAVID FULLER is currently incomplete and will be announced at a later date..



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

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## 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.

City 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.

## City of Huntsville Garbage Schedule

No Collection on  
Thursday, Nov. 28

Thursday's garbage will be picked up Friday, Nov. 29

## 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.

# Called Preach

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

## "Don't Fret, It's Nest-assary"

Deuteronomy 32:11-12

This chapter is the account of God's faithfulness put to music.

While we don't have the melody, we do have the message. For the eaglet, the nest is a place of dwelling, but only temporary. While it is a place of dwelling, it is not the place of destiny.

The eagle knows that between dwelling and destiny is development.

The eagle also knows that development has to be forced upon the eaglet, lest it becomes comfortable with the constant receiving of food and nourishment from the parent eagle.

Therefore, when the time comes, the parent

eagle knows that the nest has to be stirred so as to make it uncomfortable. It is this discomfort that is used for development.

After all, the eaglet will not remain a baby all of its life. They have to learn to soar and search for their own food. It is noted that this process involves the eaglet being taken out of the nest and released into the air; this develops their wing strength and if it proves not to be strong enough, the parent eagle swoops down and catches

them before they fall and are placed back in the nest; not to stay, but to start the process again.

The discomfort that you are experiencing could very well be God's way of getting you out of the comfort of the nest so that you can learn to soar.

So, don't fret ... it's "necessary," or better yet, nest-assary.



  
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Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

## Mrs. Jessie Singleterry

A long-time resident of Huntsville, Alabama, Jessie Singleterry was married to the late Leonard Singleterry.

As the wife of a military officer, she traveled extensively with her husband throughout the United States and to foreign countries. During her residency in the various states, Singleterry utilized her time by serving as a volunteer at the hospital in Hawaii. As a hospital volunteer, she read books to children and prepared gift baskets.

She volunteered for the American Red Cross, where she worked to prepare and serve refreshments to blood donors; registered blood donors

at blood drives and greeted donors.

As a member of the Retired Regulars Association, Singleterry served as the chairperson of the Amenity/Courtesy Committee, where she spearheaded and provided needed items to the less fortunate families. Under her leadership, the committee assisted over 100 families with various needs.

At Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, she served as the chairperson of the Decorations Ministry. Each Sunday, she ensured that there were fresh flower arrangements around the pulpit and



other appropriate areas.

Also, she was a member of the Women's Choir and a mother in the church. In her neighborhood, Singleterry volunteered her time and talent assisting neighbors with decorating needs, as well as providing meals for neighbors who were ill.

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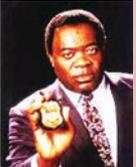
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 **NOVEMBER 15 - YAPHET KOTTO** was born in New York City and is best known for his role as James Bond villain "Mr. Big" in "Live and Let Die." He is also known for his portrayal of Lieutenant Al Giardello in the drama television series "Homicide: Life on the Street," - *BlackinTime.info*

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## Curtis Lundy, Double Bass Player/Composer

Friday, November 10, 2019

The Cooper House - Huntsville, Ala.



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