

GLORIA B: "Peace in Pieces ..." - p. 5



Friday
November 29, 2024
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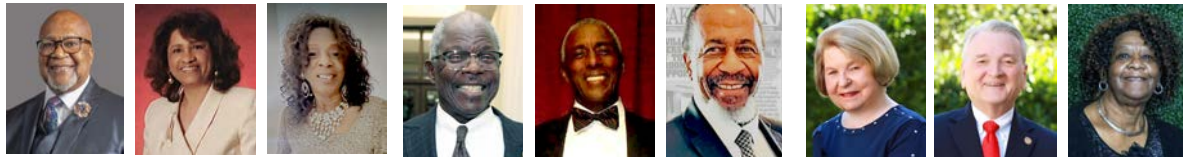
SALUTE!

Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Ms. Lettye Boyd

"I know that when I pray, something wonderful happens ... I'm grateful that I'm heard. - Maya Angelou



Rev. Dr. Theodis ACKLIN Mrs. Mary Lanier CURRY Dr. Dorothy DOWNING Rev. Dr. Oscar MONTGOMERY Mr. Charles Wayne SCRUGGS Mr. William SMOTHERS Mrs. Nancy VALKENBURGH Mr. Richard VALKENBURGH Rev. Jacqueline WILSON

Rosetta James Foundation Lists 2025 Honorees

The Rosetta James Foundation has released its 2025 slate of honorees. The revered organization recognizes stellar continuing volunteerism among area citizens above 70 years of age, as well

as offers scholarships to students with impressive profiles of volunteer work.

Born in Akron, Ala., Mrs. James was a leading voting activist and community advocate.

The Class of 2025 includes the following: **Rev. Dr. Theodis "Ted" Acklin**, pastor, Briar Fork CPCA Church; **Ms. Mary Lanier Curry**, educator, Huntsville Bible College; **Dr. Dorothy Downing**,

retiree, U.S. Army; **Rev. Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery**, pastor, Union Hill PB Church; **Mr. Charles Scruggs**, deacon, First MB Church; **Mr. William Smothers**, publisher, Speakin'

Out News; **Mrs. Nancy Valkenburgh** and **Mr. Richard Valkenburgh** of Valkenburgh & Wilkinson Properties, Inc.; and **Rev. Jacqueline Wilson**, Phillips CME Church.

AAMU Engineering Professor Records "A Christmas Gift"



Dr. Chance Glenn isn't your typical engineering professor. This holiday season, he's added a surprising twist to his already impressive resume - the release of a Christmas album, recorded in his engineering laboratory on campus. Titled "A Christmas Gift," the album is avail-

able on platforms like Spotify, Apple Music, and Amazon Music. For those unfamiliar with Glenn's background, this might come as a surprise, but music has always been a part of his life.

"In 1999, I released my first CD, 'The Praise Project - First Fruits,'" Glenn

recalls. "That CD was nominated for a Grammy in 2000 for Best New Artist in the Contemporary Christian Music category. I released another CD, 'Jesus is Faithful,' in 2005. That was the last serious music I recorded."

After his early musical achievements, Glenn

See "GIFT", p. 9

Sanitation Rates Headed for Increase

The City of Huntsville's sanitation customers will see their rates increase beginning January 1, 2025, after unanimous approval by City Council.

It's just the second time the City has raised sanitation rates since 1999 and the first since 2010. The new rates will help offset expenses for the weekly collection of garbage for more than 70,000 households, as well as weekly collection of yard

debris, empty boxes and other curbside items.

Residential rates will increase from \$16.50 per month to \$21.50 per month in January. The rate will go up to \$24.50 on January 1, 2027, and \$27.50 on January 1, 2029. The cost for extra cans will go up from \$3 per can per month to \$9 on Jan. 1, \$12 in 2027 and \$15 in 2029.

Rates will not increase for qualified low-income cus-

tomers, remaining at \$10 per month, though extra can rates will go up from \$3 to \$6 per month in January, \$9 in 2027 and \$11 in 2029. Commercial standard rates will go up from \$29 per month to \$37 on Jan. 1, \$41 in 2027 and \$45 in 2029.

The excessive bulk waste charge will go up from \$45 per five cubic yards overages to \$55 on Jan. 1, \$60 in 2027 and \$65 in 2029.

- huntsvilleal.gov



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Notes of a Native Son: Standing in the Night

- by afroblastik (John 'Jahni' Moore)

The other night as I made my sojourn home after what seemed like hours in traffic, I saw this lone oak tree out in the field. I've seen this tree standing there at that turn through every season year after year. It's been the focus of many photos. This particular night, however, it seemed to possess a different power. I felt like it was speaking directly to me about the Power of standing. Not just standing when you have all your ducks in a row or you think you're at your best, but standing just as tall under the cloak of darkness. Life often brings moments that feel like long nights—when the darkness seems overwhelming, and the weight of our struggles eclipses the light of our creative spirit. For those of us with unconventional careers—artists, writers, innovators—these nights can feel particularly heavy. Especially since we're already navigating

uncharted waters, relying on our passion, plans, and fortitude to stay afloat.

Recently, I was reminded of this when a dear friend, someone I consider a sister, faced the unimaginable loss of both her parents within a short time. These were people who not only shaped her life but also touched mine. They were pillars, guiding lights whose love and wisdom made the world feel more steady. In their absence, she could have crumbled under the weight of grief. But instead, I saw her stand—tall, unwavering, and deeply rooted in her truth. Her smile became the sunshine, the glow in dark times.

Watching her navigate this profound loss, I was struck by her resilience. She reminded me that standing in the night is not about denying the darkness. It's about acknowledging it while re-



fusing to let it extinguish your light. As creatives, we often find ourselves in similar moments. The rejection, the self-doubt, the financial uncertainty—they can all conspire to pull us into the shadows and choke out the power of our craft.

But here's the lesson: the night is not the end. It's a canvas. In those moments of darkness, you have a choice. You can retreat, or you can create. You can let the night silence you, or you can let it inspire you to speak

louder. My friend chose to stand in her power, honoring her parents' legacy by continuing to live fully, to love deeply, and to

create meaning from her pain. For those of us pursuing paths that require risk, courage and creativity, we must do the same. We have to stand in the night. We have to create in spite of it—or perhaps because of it. Our art, our work, our very lives are testimonies to the fact that the night cannot last forever. Moreover, you're never really alone, no matter how solitary you feel. You are rooted in the dreams and hopes of the ancestors, planted in this earth.

Remember that stars shine brightest in the darkest skies. So, when life feels heavy, remember this: your power and connection doesn't vanish with the setting sun. It becomes a beacon, guiding you and others through the night. Stand tall. Stand firm. Stand in the night. And know that your light, no matter how dim it may feel, has the power to guide you home while illuminating the path for someone else. Keep creating. Keep believing. Keep standing.



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Pay Attention, Stay Attuned, Make a Difference

In today's fast-paced world, where information is just a tap or swipe away, it's ironic that many of us are less aware than ever of what's happening around us. The holiday season offers a unique opportunity to reflect not just on our blessings but also on our responsibilities to one another. Let's pay attention to what we read, hear, and see. If we don't, we risk becoming oblivious to the realities shaping the lives of those around us.

Families come in many forms—those we're born into, those we marry into, our communities of faith or service, and the people we choose to call family. After Thanksgiving, a time to give thanks and cherish loved ones, December invites us to broaden our awareness and engagement. It's a chance to notice the needs of others and take action.

For example, this past week, I donated coats to Second Chance Restoration and Deliverance Ministries, helping individuals who may otherwise face the cold unprotected. This simple act underscores the importance of paying attention to local charities and responding

in ways that feel right for us. December, after all, has been recognized by the American Foundation for Paying Attention to Things as National Awareness Month. Established in 2009, this observance aims to counter what organizers describe as an epidemic of "complete and utter obliviousness."

Despite living in an era of constant connectivity—through smartphones, social media, and other platforms—many of us remain startlingly disengaged. We often "mind our own business" and expect others to do the same. This mindset allows us to ignore pressing issues, from the struggles of the homeless to the challenges of families choosing between food and medication. We rationalize that these problems belong to "someone else" and, in doing so, fail to see how interconnected our lives truly are.



It's not enough to assume that these issues are distant or that we're exempt because our community seems different. The truth is, until we engage actively, respect diverse human lives with dignity, and question systems that perpetuate inequality, nothing will change. Awareness alone isn't enough—we must turn our attention into action.

The good news? Each of us has the same 24 hours in a day. Within that time, we can choose to make a difference. Whether through a donation, a kind gesture, or simply becoming more informed about the issues affecting our neighbors, we can collectively create positive change.

Let's commit to paying attention to what we read, hear, and see. Let's stay aware and attuned. Together, we can make a difference—not just during the holiday season, but all year long.

Until next week, let's stay mindful and engaged.

Dorothy

NOVEMBER 29 - DON CHEADLE - Donald Frank Cheadle Jr. is an American actor, film producer, director and writer. Following an early role in *Hamburger Hill* (1987), Cheadle built his career in the 1990s with roles in *Devil in a Blue Dress* (1995), *Rosewood* (1997) and *Boogie Nights* (1997). His collaboration with director Steven Soderbergh resulted in the films *Out of Sight* (1998), *Traffic* (2000) and *Ocean's Eleven* (2001). Cheadle was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actor for his lead role as Rwandan hotel manager Paul Rus-esabagina in the historical genocide drama film *Hotel Rwanda* (2004). From 2012 to 2016, he starred as Marty Kaan on the Showtime comedy series *House of Lies*; he won a Golden Globe Award in 2013 for his portrayal of this character. - BlackCelebrityBirthdays.org



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The Valley Weekly

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Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$75
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$100/Flat Fee

Spiritual Game Plan

Valley Weekly
PRESTON BROWN'S



Today's Spiritual Game Plan: "Replacing Bad with Good"

12:43–45 about an "evil spirit." The evil spirit was driven out, but nothing good was added. Re-



member that it's always a spiritual battle as well as a physical one.

That's why I believe anytime we try to break

a bad habit, like smoking, overeating, pornography, or anything else that is not good for us, we have to replace that bad habit with something good. We can't be negative all the time without an equal balance of positive reinforcement. Trust me, there are people around you

who want to hear something positive every once and a while. That's why I believe we can all learn to overcome any evil we

are doing by learning a simple principle: you can't take something bad out without replacing it with something good.

May God grant you spiritual success with overcoming bad thoughts with good ones.

Question: Do you think that most people want to do good? Why?

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase a copy of my books, *Spiritual Game Plans For A Successful Life* and *A Champion Game Plan for Life*, at amazon.com.


NEXT WEEK:

"After the Storm"

Romans 7:19–21 says, "For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do this I do... Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me."

Sometimes I wonder if most people want to do good. These days, it seems they can't. It's not enough to rid ourselves of evil desires and thoughts; we have to replace them with good thoughts and good desires.

In Romans 12:2, it says, "Don't be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds." There is no way to have good thoughts and desires without a complete renewal of our minds. It is important to read God's word on a daily basis. Remember, just because the devil leaves you alone one day doesn't mean he won't come after you and your family another day. In order for us to defeat the evil desires of life, we need plans. We need spiritual game plans. Look at the parable that Jesus tells us in Matthew



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VALLEY DEATHS



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Funeral service for **MR. STEVEN BRAZELTON** (b. 1968) will be Sunday, December 1, at Samaritan Outreach Deliverance Church, 4005 Triana Boulevard, Huntsville, Ala., at 2 p.m.



Funeral service for **MS. DEBORAH BOGLIN** (b. 1973) was held Saturday, November 23, at Newby's Chapel M. B. Church, 23488 Nick Davis Road, Athens, Ala..

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Funeral service for **MR. ANTHONY FRANKLIN** (b. 1968) will be announced at a later date.

Funeral service for **MRS. TRACEY NICOLE JACKSON** (b. 1971) was held Sunday, November 24, at the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Toney, Ala.

Funeral service for **MRS. LOIS L. DADE** (b. 1924) was Saturday, November 23, at Fellowship Presbyterian Church with Elder Anita Muse officiating.

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Funeral services for **MR. DANIEL LOVE** (b. 1959) will be held Saturday, November 30, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Minister Jacoby Rice officiating.

Funeral service for **MS. ZELLA J. ATWOOD** (b. 1940) was Saturday, November 23, at the Douglas Tabernacle Primitive Baptist Church, 1429 Calvary Street, Huntsville, Ala., with Dr. Mario D. Ford officiating.

Funeral service for **MR. HORACE SMITH CAUDLE** (b. 1947) was Saturday, November 23, at the Saint Andrew Primitive Baptist Church, 393 Swancott Road, Madison, Ala., with Elder Calvin Moore officiating.

'Tis already the Season to Be Grateful, and Give Thanks Still!

"This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it." - Psalm 118:24

No, it's not yet Thanksgiving Day, November 28th. Yet, it's still a good time to pause/reflect, celebrate life, and give thanks.

Yes, each day we can see war atrocities worldwide, soaring prices for household necessities, and senseless murders and shootings.

Yet, against these misfortunes, I am nonetheless comforted by the words of Mrs. Charles E. Cowman in her devotional book *Streams in the Desert*: "God never sends thorns without sending accompanying roses."

Buoyed up by such words and related images, may I share my abbreviated "thankfulness report card" for 2024? I am grateful and giving thanks for:

- The recent Trump re-election, that will re-agitate and mobilize us anew to declare, "Our fight ain't over - yet!";
- Candidate Kamala Harris, our newest trailblazer and role model puncturing successfully the ceilings of Racism, Elitism, Classism, and Sexism!
- Despite soaring household prices, natural light and air remain free, abundant and not taxed;
- Before exiting the White House, the four-year Biden-Harris administration has awarded some \$17B to HBCUs, bolstering education equity and economic opportunities for Black Americans; and
- **THERE ARE STILL MORE BLACK MEN IN COLLEGES THAN IN PRISONS, according to [The myth that there are more black men in prison than in college, debunked in one chart | Vox!](#)**



When you and I list our positives versus our negatives, we might surprise ourselves that the roses far outweigh the thorns.

And as my Dad used to say so regularly that Mom later memorialized it by inscribing it on a poster with her calligraphy penmanship, from 2 Thessalonians 5:18: "In every thing, give thanks."

Try it yourself today: create today's Good Things vs. Bad Things tally sheet - again, you might surprise yourself.

Then rejoice and be glad in it! It's God's gift to you for today - which is why it's called "the present."



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Millennial Moment

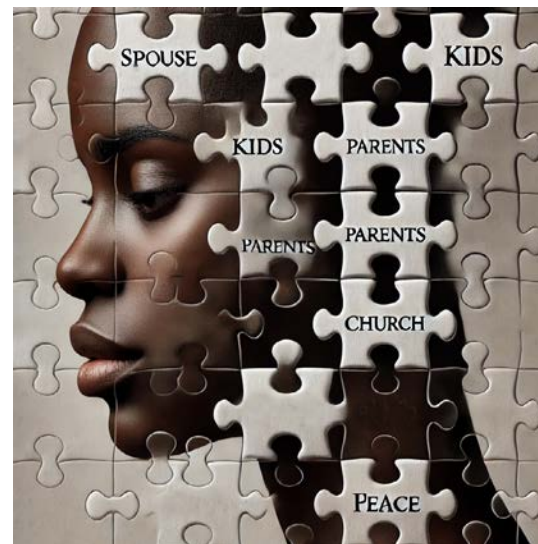
by Gloria B. Caldwell

Peace in Pieces ...

Isn't it uncomfortable when you are needing peace in your life? You are looking for a way to find a moment of solitude, quiet, or tranquility. We all want that. But what happens when we are looking for peace in a situation and ignoring all other things we are experiencing besides the outcome we are looking for? Whether that is cooperation, restitution, conflict resolution, or emotional rest.

I'll tell you what happens, you overlook your blessings. You count out the things that you have going for you, and you neglect

things that surround you. Sometimes that comes in the form of frustration with your spouse, parents, chil-



dren, or friends. See, you're fed up that all things aren't coming together as you would like for them to be so "NO ONE" is going to be happy until you get the peace you are looking for, and that

is unfair to them, and you!

Let's look at things this way. If you are a believer, use God, and if not, just use the term "The Universe", offering you different forms of peace. Look around at what is working in your favor. Maybe you are in great health, you have wonderful kids, your parents are still alive, or you have good friends. It could just be the fact that you have food to eat. Peace comes in all forms. Take your peace in pieces. Trouble doesn't last always, and

you have control on your mindset. Choose peace however you get it, or create it.

God loves you, and so do I. He has given you a gift; *open* it.

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The Valley Weekly

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

Thru January 5

Skating in the Park
Big Spring Park
Downtown Huntsville

Christmas Parade Pre-
sented by Bryant Bank
Downtown Huntsville

Candle Pouring Experi-
ence
1320 McMullen Road
Gurley, Ala.
6-8 p.m.

November 28

TTT: Theatre Turkey
Trot
Sponsor: Around the
Curtain Children's The-
atre
Ditto Landing
Huntsville, Ala.
8 a.m.

December 6

Christmas 2024 NEACA
Craft Show
Von Braun Center South
Hall
Downtown Huntsville
9 a.m.-6 p.m.

November 29 Thru January 1

Tinsel Trail Market

December 7

AUDITIONS: The Wiz-
ard of Oz
10300 Bailey Cove Road
SE, Suite 7
Huntsville, Ala.
9 a.m.

December 3

"Christmas in Toyland"
Von Braun Center
Downtown Huntsville
Tickets: \$29-\$69
6 p.m.

Holidays at The Orion
Christmas Carnival
701 Amphitheater Drive
NW
Huntsville, Ala.
10 a.m.

December 4

"A Charlie Brown
Christmas on Stage"
Von Braun Center
6 p.m.

Day of Remembrance
Ceremony to Commem-
orate Lynching Victim
Robert Mosley/Marker
Dedication
5905 Higdon Road NE
Huntsville, Ala.
2 p.m.

December 5

Christmas Carnival of
Lights

2nd Annual Gala
The Sister Circle LLC
Von Braun Center
Huntsville, Ala.
6 p.m.

December 8

Sip & Stroll Night Mar-
ket Series: Jingle &
Mingle
701 Amphitheater Drive
NW
Huntsville, Ala.
11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Holiday 5k/10k
Joe Davis Stadium
4 p.m.

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huntsville.standuplive.
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December 14

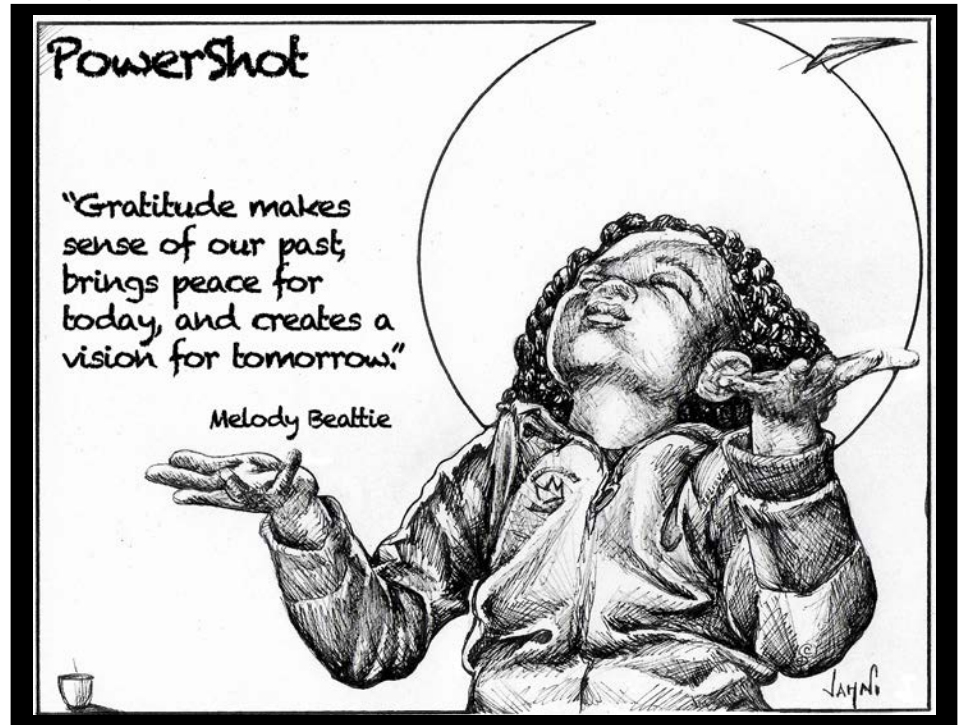
The Raven Masquerade:
A Royal Fairy Court
Masquerade Ball
3110 Hwy. 31 S
Decatur, Ala.
5-10 p.m.

December 20

Big Spring Jingle
Big Spring Park
Downtown Huntsville
4-9 p.m.

December 21

Winter Solstice Plant
Medicine Ceremony
Coordinator: <edusa
Dakini - \$10-20
205A Water Tank Road
Toney, Ala.
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"You have
no friends."

- John Henrick Clarke



Rosetta James Foundation "Spotlight on Our Elders" ... Featuring

Ms. Lettye Boyd

Lettye A. Boyd, a native of Auburn, Ala., is the daughter of the late Lois D. Boyd and the late J. D. Boyd. She graduated from Lee County Training School in 1957, attending historic Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., from 1957-58.

In 1961, however, she received the B.S. degree in Elementary Education and Music from Alabama A&M University. She pursued additional studies at Alabama A&M University, Grove City College, Virginia State University and Jackson State University.

Boyd's 33-year professional career includes student teacher, 2nd Grade & Music, 1961, Cherry Street Elementary School, Decatur, Ala.; teacher, 2nd Grade & Music, 1961-63, Laney Elementary School, Waverly Hall, Ga; teacher, Music & Other, 1963-1970, Councill Senior High School, formerly Councill Training School, Normal, Ala.; teacher, Music & Other, Four Summers, Madison County Headstart Program, Madison County Schools; and teacher, Music & Other, 1970-93, Madison Cross Roads School, Toney, Ala., (established the school's first organized



music program).

Ms. Boyd's numerous other skills and interests are exemplified by her service as Choral Director, 1978-80, First Missionary Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala.; Minister of Music, 1980-2000, First Missionary Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala.; Director, 1988, Alabama A&M University Alumni Choir, Normal, Ala.; Choral Director, 2000-Present, First Missionary Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala.; and Office Manager/Bookkeeper (1993-2011) Rocket City Charter Service, Harvest, Ala.

She is affiliated with several professional, com-

munity and civic organizations, among them the Alabama Education Association, Alabama State Teacher's Association, Madison County Teacher's Association, Georgia Teacher's Association, First Missionary Baptist Church, Huntsville Christian Service Singers, Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Organized the Chapter's First Choral Ensemble), and many others.

Ms. Boyd's honors and awards received for her choral performances, music education and other contributions to music are legion.

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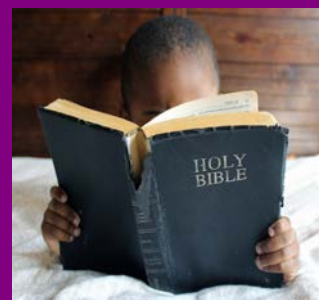
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This Sunday's Lectionary

Sunday, December 1, 2024

First Sunday
of
Advent



(Track 2, Year B)

First Lesson:

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm 25:1-9

Second Lesson:

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

GOSPEL:

Psalm 25:1-9



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November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm



"Spotlight on Our Elders" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote **volunteerism** and **activism** in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at www.rosettajamesfoundation.org. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valleyweeklyllc.com.

Caring for Older Adults During Extreme Weather

(BPT) - Over the past 20 years, the world has witnessed a staggering rise in extreme weather events. According to a 2020 report from the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction the dramatic increase is largely fueled by rising global temperatures and other climatic changes. These weather trends pose a serious threat to populations worldwide, but especially to vulnerable groups like older adults.

During heat waves, floods, fires, hurricanes, droughts and cold spells, older adults are at significant risk for respiratory, cardiovascular and psychological harm due to existing health conditions like compromised immune systems, dementia and limited mobility.

This problem will only be exacerbated by the “silver tsunami” of Baby Boomers. By 2030, one-fifth of the country’s population will be over age 65, with the fastest-growing segment being ethnic minorities.

“Anyone caring for vulnerable older adults must be knowledgeable about the health effects of climate change events,” said Dr. Ann Kriebel-Gasparro, a

Walden University nursing faculty member and president of the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association.

Heat waves and droughts

Heat waves, heat domes and droughts can lead to poor air quality that worsens lung conditions in elderly patients with asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and allergies. Also, hotter climates increase the risk of dehydration, stressing the cardiovascular and renal systems and leading to kidney failure.

Older people tend to have decreased thirst perception and may take medications that put them at risk for dehydration and heat-related illnesses on normal temperature days. During high-heat days, they may experience a medical emergency like heat stroke, characterized by a temperature of 104° F, nausea/vomiting, dizziness, confusion, blurry vision and falling.

Wildfires

Wildfires pose another significant threat to older adults, particularly those in low-income areas with lim-

ited resources to evacuate or relocate to new housing. If they have to stay in an area with an active wildfire, the smoke can contribute to respiratory challenges. In the aftermath, ash that contains hydrocarbons and heavy metals pollutes the water and land, making the area practically unlivable.

Mold

Longer rainy seasons and increased flooding foster the growth of indoor and outdoor molds and fungi. Mold doesn’t just smell unpleasant. It can exacerbate allergies, asthma, emphysema and COPD, increasing the need for emergency services and hospitalizations.

Improving care through education

No one on their own can stop climate change. However, practical steps can be taken to assess and tend to older adults in the face of health threats during extreme weather.

Anyone caring for an elderly person should review medications for ones that can worsen the impact of extreme temperatures and take time to evaluate their living conditions. Older

adults on fixed incomes may experience food insecurity and can’t stock up on provisions in case of a disaster. Additionally, their homes may be unprepared for a climate change event.

During a serious weather event, healthcare providers can evaluate older adults via telehealth services. Doing so allows patients to receive care without enduring environmental factors to get to appointments.

Finally, it’s important to educate older adults about steps they can take to mitigate their risks during extreme weather events. For example, they should

be reminded of the importance of drinking water even if they’re not thirsty. Not only does this help them avoid dehydration during a typical day, but it can help reduce the risk of urinary tract infections, renal damage and heat stroke during high temperatures.

Raising awareness among healthcare professionals

Because traditional nursing curricula include little content about the health impacts of climate change on older people, Dr. Kriebel-Gasparro and her nursing colleagues at Walden University are weaving these topics into their course materials. She

says, “It is essential that healthcare providers have the knowledge to evaluate this age group for presentations of heat stress, heat stroke, dehydration, acute kidney injury, and cardio-respiratory illness brought on by extreme temperatures.”

By equipping nursing students with the knowledge and skills needed to care for older adults during environmental crises, the university is creating a new generation of healthcare providers that can make a significant difference during these unprecedented times. To learn more about the nursing curriculum, visit WaldenU.edu.



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AAMU Researchers Join Team to Drive Innovation in Semiconductor Technology

Alabama A&M University is a key partner in the HBCU CHIPS Network, a \$2 million initiative funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Spearheaded by Clark Atlanta University, this collaborative effort unites Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), government agencies, industry leaders, and academic institutions to establish a national resource for semiconductor research and education.

As part of the initiative, Alabama A&M

will receive \$200,000 to focus on the development of thermoelectric materials and integrated power/cooling devices. Partners Delaware State University will work on optimizing 2D-3D material integration. Jackson State University and North Carolina A&T State University will develop 2D semiconductor devices and optoelectronics. Norfolk State University will develop semiconductor packaging using polymer and boron nitride composites. Georgia Institute of Technology will improve

chip-to-system packaging.

“Alabama A&M joined the CHIPS Consortium led by Georgia Tech in 2023 under the leadership of Vice President of Research & Economic Development Dr. Majed El-Dweik,” said Dr. Satilmis Budak, Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. “The team started to meet weekly to form proposals for CHIPS-Act research and workforce development. Since then, our team has

actively collaborated to secure funding, improve facilities, and create opportunities for workforce development.”

The two-year project involves a multi-institutional approach to tackling key challenges in semiconductor technology. Budak and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Professor Dr. Zhigang Xiao are leading the Alabama A&M team, which includes four students who have already begun working on research initiatives.

The HBCU CHIPS Network aims to culti-

vate a diverse and skilled workforce to support the national semiconductor industry. The student research, internships, and specialized curriculum development in semiconductor design, fabrication, and related fields will expand the microelectronics workforce.

Key goals of the initiative include:

- Establishing administrative infrastructure to integrate HBCUs into national semiconductor research networks.
- Developing an integrated microelectronic

system to address challenges in design, packaging, and reliability. Launching an electronic database to connect students with internships and experiential learning opportunities in the semiconductor field.

“This is a transformative moment for semiconductor research in the U.S.,” adds Budak. “The impact on our students and the broader U.S. semiconductor landscape will be profound. This partnership ensures that our students will be at the forefront of innovation, now and in the future.”

Continued from Page 1

Gift: Bringing Wife's Wish to Life

shifted focus to academia and engineering. Holding a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Maryland, as well as master's and doctoral degrees from Johns Hopkins University, Glenn has built an illustrious career.

He has served as Dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Physical Sciences at Alabama A&M and is currently on sabbatical from his role as Provost at the University of Houston-Victoria. But through it all, music remained close to his heart.

“I've been singing for many years, like many others who grew up in church,” says Glenn. “In the 90s, I became a worship leader at a church in

Maryland. Because of the church's topical ministry style, we wrote most of the songs we sang.” It was Glenn's wife, Marsha, who rekindled his musical passion with a simple yet heartfelt request: a Christmas album. “This album is really my Christmas gift to her,” Glenn shares. “For 34 years, she's been my light. It felt fitting to create something for her that could shine a little light in these dark times.”

With a busy schedule teaching and conducting research in space engineering, Glenn decided to get creative. He transformed his lab in the Bond Engineering Building at Alabama A&M into a makeshift recording studio to bring

wife's wish to life.

Glenn's engineering expertise isn't limited to the recording studio. Recently, he led a student interview with NASA astronaut Dr. Jeanette Epps before her return from a seven-month mission aboard the International Space Station. “Huntsville's vibrant space industry has been the perfect environment to advance my research,” Glenn explains.

Even with his work in cutting-edge technology, Glenn's heart remains firmly tied to music. “The holidays are a time for reflection and connection,” he says. “I hope this album brings a little joy to everyone who listens.”

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