

Kyrie Irving vs. Steph Curry - p. 5

FREE



100 Black Men Gala, p. 6

Friday
December 23, 2022
Vol. 9, No. 16
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mr. Robert Wilson



"Your silence will not protect you." - Audre Lorde

Happy Holidays from Your Friends at The Valley Weekly!

Drake Students Complete 'Hardhat in Hand'

On December 8, Meta, Holder Construction, Drake State Community & Technical College, and the United Way of Madison County in Huntsville, Ala., celebrated the first Hardhat in Hand graduating class.

Hardhat in Hand is an eight-week, hands-on training program aimed at expanding the local skilled trades talent pipeline, increase diversity in the construction industry, and

provide a path to reliable, well-paid job opportunities in Meta data center communities. Six participants successfully completed the program in Madison County. These graduates have been hired full-time to start working to build the Huntsville Data Center.

Hardhat in Hand provided the participants with fundamental knowledge relevant to all construction trade occupations and the

opportunity to earn essential construction certifications. Trade and education partners supporting the program included Faith Technologies, Superior-Miller Group, FL Crane, MMC Contractors,



Goodman Decorating, and Holder Construction (Engineering and Carpentry).

OU, BLM Plan Trip to Holy Land

Departure is set for June 1, 2023, to Tel Aviv. From there, the adventure begins, with 10 days of visits to many places of biblical, historical and archaeological interest. A theologian will make this trip a purely spiritual adventure. In passage through the Jordan River, travelers can be part of a baptismal ceremony, reconsecrate lives and re-seal covenant of faith with God. Those who are baptized will receive a commemorative certificate. Travel cost includes all flight expenses, accommodations, breakfasts and lunches, and tickets to the specified places. <https://ruaj.org/tour/holyland-oakwood23/>

AAMU CSD Professor Elected ASHA Fellow



A faculty member and alumna in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders has received a distinguished honor from a professional association.

Dr. Hope C. Reed has been elected as a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in recognition of her outstanding professional achievements in the field of speech-language pathology. Her exemplary accomplishments are in the

areas of (1) clinical education and academic teaching, (2) clinical service, and (3) service to and leadership positions in state and other professional organizations.

Out of ASHA's 223,000 members and affiliates, only 29 were named Fellow this year. Dr. Reed was honored at the annual convention recently in New Orleans. In ASHA's 97-year history, Reed is the first speech-language pathologist from North

Alabama, the first graduate or faculty member from Alabama A&M University (AAMU), and only the ninth individual from the State of Alabama to be elected ASHA Fellow.

Dr. Reed is an associate professor of communicative sciences and disorders at AAMU, where she has taught for over 20 years and operates the world's first university-based clinic for orofacial myofunctional disorders.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

- Washington Updates, Page 2
- Preston Brown's Champion Game Plan, Page 3
- "Jahni" Moore's PowerShots, Page 4
- Valley Events, Page 4
- tim allston: Perspectives, Page 5
- Millennial Moment, Page 5
- Spotlight on Our Elders, Page 7

Washington in One Minute



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

1. **ON THE FLOOR.** The House and Senate are in session this week. With the new federal government shutdown deadline today (Dec. 23, extended last week), House and Senate appropriators have been working furiously since last weekend to produce the text of the \$1.7 trillion FY2023 omnibus appropriations bill, which was expected to be released Monday. The House let the Senate go first on the omnibus bill and did not come into session until Wednesday and planned to stay in session until the omnibus is completed. If the Senate approved the omnibus earlier in the week, Members of the House would be given 24-hours' notice before the House would be called back to session. When Congress completes work on the omnibus appropriations bill, it will adjourn the 117th Congress sine die. The 118th Congress will convene on January 3.

2. **THE WHITE HOUSE.** Last Friday, the President signed H.R. 1437 into law, which averted a federal government shutdown and extended the deadline for

Congress to approve the FY2023 omnibus appropriation bill through midnight on Dec. 23. This week, the President was expected to sign the mammoth \$858 billion FY2023 Defense Authorization bill, which, inter alia, rescinds the Covid vaccination mandate for the armed forces (notably the Senate during its debate voted down 40-54 a GOP amendment to the bill that would have reinstated servicemembers who refused the shot and given them back pay). On Monday, the President met with President Guillermo Lasso of Ecuador at the White House and that evening hosted a Hanukkah holiday reception with the First Lady. The President and First Lady will spend Christmas at the White House before departing for a week's vacation in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

3. **JANUARY 6 COMMITTEE FINAL MEETING.** The House January 6 Committee held its final public meeting Monday at 1:00 p.m., at which time it issued criminal referrals and approved the committee's final report on the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. The committee had planned to release the report on Wednesday, but

some news outlets reported that the report would be issued Monday. In related news, the House Ways and Means Committee met in closed session on Tuesday to discuss former President Trump's tax returns, which it obtained in November after a long court fight.

4. **NOVEMBER RETAIL**

SALES. Last Thursday, the Commerce Department reported that November retail sales unexpectedly fell more than economists projected, down 0.6% to \$689.4 billion after climbing 1.3% in October. The largest drop in sales were in autos, furniture, electronics, and appliances. The Labor Department reported the same day that the number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits decreased by 20,000 last week to 211,000, which is the lowest since September 2022, signaling the continued tight labor market.

5. **U.S. BORDER/TITLE 42.** Last Friday, a 3-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit denied a motion by GOP officials from 19 states, including Texas, Arizona, and Alaska, seeking an emergency stay

of the Biden administration's plans to end Title 42 on Wednesday (Dec. 21), a policy implemented by the Trump Administration in March 2020 that allows U.S. officials to immediately expel migrants due to the Covid health emergency. A federal judge struck down Title 42 in November, saying the ban had little proven benefit to public health and set the Dec. 21 deadline for the Biden Administration to end it. Reportedly, GOP officials are planning to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court.

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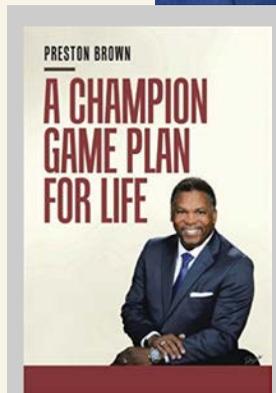
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THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION GAME PLAN

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“THE MAIN EVENT”

In Luke 2:10 it says, “But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.’”

You know, we will never enjoy the *season* of Christmas, until we enjoy the *reason* for Christmas. In other words, until we understand the real meaning of Christmas, it will only be about parties, Christmas trees and making sure we get

everything on our shopping list.

Now, there is nothing wrong with these things, if we keep them as “side attractions” and not the “main event.” We need to know that Jesus is the reason for the season and there is no substitute. So often when the season of Christmas gets here, we get distracted by so many other things that we miss the message.

Remember, Jesus did not come to entertain us, He came to be the Savior of the entire world.

He didn’t come to be politically correct, He

came for the message of hope. He also came to be the Lord of our lives.

That’s why, I believe, so often we miss the “main event” of Christmas, because we make our God too small. We reduce Him down to sleigh bells and jingle bells and ‘Santa Claus Is Coming to Town,’ because it’s the most wonderful time of the year. But not for the reason that most people think. You see, there is no way that any of us

could be saved without God sending us His one and only son. This act of love will always be the real meaning

of Christmas ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and MERRY CHRISTMAS to you and your family, and remember to stay safe. You can purchase a copy of my book, “A CHAMPION GAME PLAN FOR LIFE,” at amazon.com.

A&M Professor Addresses Credit Card Terms for Wallet Hub

A nationally respected website that offers financial advice and a range of free consumer services adds an Alabama A&M University professor to its coveted “Ask the Experts” section.

Dr. Brandan E. Wheeler, assistant professor in AAMU’s Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, provides interesting details on WalletHub.com

about what new credit card terms say about the health of the economy, as well as how consumers should go about finding the best credit cards for their needs.

Wheeler said that credit card interest rates are set by the creditworthiness of the individual and market-driven factors out of the individual’s control.

Wheeler also noted that “the health of the economy” is tied to how consumers spend money, part of a continual cycle that is often hard to predict.



THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW
Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

Funeral service for MR. TERRELL GIDEON (b. 1980) will be Friday, December 23, at 11:00 a.m. at Bethany Primitive Baptist Church with Pastor James Battle officiating.

Funeral service for MR. WILLIE E. LOCKE, SR., (b. 1946) was held Saturday, December 17, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with The Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler, officiant and The Reverend G. W. Lindsey, Jr., eulogist.

Funeral service for MR. VICTOR GOODE, JR. (b. 1999) was held Saturday, December 17, at Blackburn Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America with Pastor Theodis Acklin officiating.

Funeral service for MR. TOMMIE WILSON SUGGS (b. 1947) was held Saturday, December 17, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

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

Funeral service for DEACON EMERITUS SYDNEY HUTCHINSON, JR. (b. 1935) was held Monday, December 19, at the First Missionary Baptist Church (3509 Blue Spring Rd NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Don Darius Butler officiating.

Funeral service for MR. ELMER LEE WALKER (b. 1953) was held at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.) with Elder Davy Lindsey officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. EARNESTINE FLETCHER TIBBS (b. 1944) was held Saturday, December 17, at the Pine Grove Missionary Baptist Church (759 Pine Grove Rd, Harvest, Ala.) with Reverend Dr. C. Jermaine Turner officiating.

Funeral service for MR. FREDDIE PARKS (b. 1941) was held Friday, December 16, at the Zion Progress Missionary Baptist Church (739 Oscar Patterson Rd, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

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

Funeral service for MR. JORDAN MYLES (b. 2009) was held Sunday, December 18, at Serenity Funeral Home, 2505 University Drive NW, Huntsville, Ala.

Registration Opens for AHA's Alabama History Day

Student and class registration is now open for Alabama History Day 2023, set for March 3, 2023, at Auburn University at Montgomery. Students and teachers have until Feb. 13, 2023, to register and submit projects, according to promos from the Alabama Humanities Alliance (AHA).

Alabama History Day students learn how to conduct primary research and analyze sources. Then, they get creative. Students can present their findings as a Paper, Documentary, Website, Performance, or Exhibit. In the process, students become writers, filmmakers, web designers, playwrights, and artists as



they create unique contemporary expressions of history.

Students compete in the state competition, traditionally held in March. Winning competitors are eligible to move on to National History Day in the nation's capital each June.

Interested in bringing a History Day teacher workshop or summer camp to your community? Contact

Idrissa N. Snider, AHA program coordinator: 205.558.3996 or isnider@alabamahumanities.org.

Persons can also check out the AHA promo flyer for Alabama History Day 2023 at https://alabamahumanities.org/app/uploads/2022/12/AHD_2023_Flyer_Final.pdf.

The Grand Finale
The Foundation Coffee House
4701 Meridian Street
Suite K
Huntsville, Ala.
9 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Mass
St. Charles King and Martyr Anglican Church
212 Washington St. NE
Huntsville, Ala.
10 p.m.

January 1
New Year's Day

January 13-15
Comedian Kevin Fredericks
Stand Up Live Huntsville
(6:30 p.m.-1/15)
7 p.m.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

Thru January 2023
Huntsville Museum of Art
Presents
"Donato Giancola"
Downtown Huntsville
Huntsville, Ala.

Thru January 2
Rocket City Christmas Light Show
Toyota Field
5 p.m.

Thru January 29

Winter Park
The Orion Amphitheater
Huntsville, Ala.
TheOrionHuntsville.com

December 25
Christmas Day

December 31
Huntsville Symphony Orchestra
"The Doo-Wop Project"
Mark C. Smith
Huntsville Ala.



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*"For we must be one thing or the other, an asset or a liability,
the sinew in your wing to help you soar,
or the chain to bind you to earth."*

- Countee Cullen

Intentionality

Seeking...

In your daily rising, what are your first thoughts? What does your mind go to as you awaken each day? Are you grateful to see another day? Do you just roll along with your regular morning routine of preparation for the day?

What is it you're seeking? What is the mark, the goal, the target? Do you even know? Or are you just allowing life to happen, one moment at a time?

My word, for that past 3 years, has been Intentionality. I want to be deliberate in every move, every relationship, my time, and where I place my attention. I want to be intentional with what I'm seeking. Whatever I am trying to obtain, does it help others? Does it pour into anything other than myself? What legacy does it leave? Can whatever I begin still exist when I'm

Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell

gone? If not, what is it that I'm seeking?? Do you want temporary happiness, love, friendships, gains? Or, are you seeking after things that have long-term affects on those around you ... and those to come? Do you even question what it is you're seeking? ... and in that ... are you including God?

Even if you're seeking things ... the word says, 'But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these

things shall be added unto you.' (Matthew 6:33)

Maybe you need to take a moment, and really think about what you're pursuing. Think about why. Ask God, "What the purpose is in this? Ask, "is this even something I'm suppose to be doing?"

We have one life ... time is limited, and days are passing by with no guarantee of how many of "those" we have left. Seek things that matter. Ask Him what

those are!

May your eyes be open to the wonderment God has for you. May you seek Him first in your decisions, your moves, your daily life.

May you find everlasting joy in what you are pursuing. May your search lead you to something miraculous.

God loves you, and so do I.

He gave you a gift. Open it!!!



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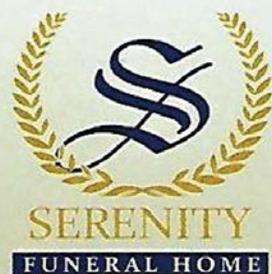
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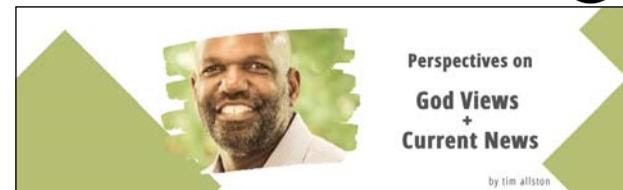


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A New Generation Of Service



Kyrie Irving vs. Steph Curry: What Does Your Footwear Reveal About You?

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" - Romans 10:15.

In the 1994 Oscar-winning film that bore his name, Forrest Gump said, "My mama always said you can tell a lot about a person by their shoes, where they going, where they been"

If Mrs. Gump was right, then the sneakers of NBA All-Stars Kyrie Irving and Steph Curry tell much about their market value and their worldviews.

On December 7, before his Brooklyn Nets game against the Charlotte Hornets, Kyrie Irving black-taped over his Nike Kyrie 3 "Raygun" sneakers' logo and wrote, "I AM FREE Thank you God...I AM."

A month earlier, Nike suspended and later canceled its eight-year, \$11 million-a-year relationship with the seven-time All-Star, for his refusal to denounce outright antisemitic material in a recent film with which he was associated.

Conversely, Curry and Under Armour are nearing a \$1 billion lifetime contract; his "Curry One" sneakers feature "4:13."

"It represents a Bible verse I wear on my shoe, Philippians 4:13," he said. "It says 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' It's also my mantra, how I get up for games and why I play the way I do."

In the Romans text above, the Apostle Paul uses feet to symbolize one's traveling to bring the good news of the gospel of Christianity to others.

For Curry, the shoes are just one aspect of his ministry both on and off the basketball court.

While we hear directly from Curry the good news he wishes to bring to others, what gospel is Irving wishing to send to the world?

What does your footwear say about you? In Mrs. Gump's earlier assessment, do your shoes indicate where you are now or where you have been? More importantly, do they forecast where you're heading?

As you and I end 2022 and head into 2023, let's make sure our inner beliefs and values are in line with our "footwear" - that is, our public image, spoken words, and the worldview that we wish to convey through our current and future steps.

Then, get steppin'.

Tim Allston

Certified Life Coach & Amazon Best Selling Author-Publisher

Leading from the Middle



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Applications
for 15th Cohort
tnvalleydlc.com/
applications**

100 Black Men Hold Annual Holiday Gala



The 100 Black Men of Greater Huntsville (100 BMOGH), a Huntsville charitable organization, held its black tie/ formal dress annual Holiday Gala on Saturday, Dec. 17 at the South Hall of the Von Braun Center.

The 100 BMOGH, a chapter of the national group 100 Black Men of America, Inc., stated proceeds from the Holiday Gala will support academic scholarships and the organization's "Four for the Future" overall mission.

"The 100 BMOGH is a non-profit 501 (c) (3), with an emphasis on mentor-

ing, education, health and wellness, and economic empowerment." The organization's main purpose is "to empower youth to reach their full potential." The local chapter of 100 BMOGH, established in 1999, is actually comprised of 74 people, all volunteers who must apply and undergo a background check before becoming members. The Holiday Gala has been around for 23 years. In 2021 the event took place virtually due to COVID-19.

This year's entertainment featured Logan the Entertainer of Bir-

mingham, specializing in rhythm and blues music, who provided the evening's live music. He provided an experience you would never forget.

The 100 Black Men of Greater Huntsville (100 BMOGH), also, installed its new slate of officers to the executive committee to serve a three-year term (2023-26). The new slate of officers includes Gregory Lunn Sr, president; Hodges Washington, vice president for operations; James Matthewson Jr, vice president for programs; Chris Robinson, vice president for Development; Roosevelt

Carter Jr, Treasurer; Robert McCoy, secretary; and Stanley McCrary, chaplain. (Photos by Anthony Gibson)

5 Public Safety Highlights from 2022

- 1) Recruitment and Retention (25 new officers added; 35 new fire recruits)
- 2) Equipment and Facilities (including 21 new firetrucks; 17 new pumps)
- 3) Operations and Oversight (Partnership with WellStone Behavioral Health)
- 4) Community Outreach Events
- 5) Leadership (personnel promoted to leadership role in HPD and HFR)

- HuntsvilleAL.gov

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.

For more information, call (256) 427-5011.



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DECEMBER 23 - MADAM C. J. WALKER - An African-American entrepreneur, philanthropist, and a political and social activist. Eulogized as one of the first female self-made millionaires in the U.S., she became one of the wealthiest self-made women in America and one of the most successful women and African-American women business owners ever.



- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



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

Mr. Robert Wilson

Mr. Robert Wilson was born January 23, 1939, in Gastonia, N.C. He received his education at Pleasant Ridge Elementary School and Highland High School. In 1954, he earned the Boy Scouts of America Eagle Rank, and in 1956 he was mayor of student government. Wilson went on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree (1960) in mechanical engineering from North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, N.C. He continued his studies in professional management at Florida Institute of Technology (1975-77).

His work assignments in engineering and management were in the states of New Jersey, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky and Alabama. His winning management style led to numerous honorary and other awards. In 1968, Wilson became a movie star for his role in a movie titled "Maintainability of Nuclear Warhead Sections," which won an award in an industrial competition. Wilson retired in 1994.

Wilson was raised a Christian at Pleasant Ridge AME Zion Church. As a teenager, he was appointed Assistant Superintendent, Sunday School, and President, Men's Organization. He became a

Presbyterian in 1963, was ordained an elder in 1964 and was ordained a deacon in 1972. As an inactive elder at Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Ala., he chaired the Christian Education Committee; served as past president of the Presbyterian Men; assisted the staff of the Fellowship After-School Study and Tutorial (FASST) Program; and worked as a member of the Rev. Dr. John Herndon's Moderator Candidacy Team.

Additionally, Wilson volunteered his time and talent as Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President and President of North Alabama Presbytery, Presbytery Men, where he earned the "Church Man of the Year Award." Wilson was the Logistics Committee Chair for the National Council of Presbyterian Men (NCPM) Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1991, where 2,000 men from the United States and South Korea participated. He also volunteered his time and talent as President of NCPM in 2001-2003. At Fellowship, Wilson claimed the infrequently bestowed distinction of "Honorary Presbyterian Woman."

Wilson was confirmed as Vice Moderator of the 217th General Assembly of the



Presbyterian Church (USA) in June 2006 and served for two years with the Rev. Joan Gray of the Greater Atlanta Presbytery. The Huntsville community continues to benefit from Wilson's generosity of time and talents. Wilson was active in the community with the Boy Scouts of America; the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAHuntsville; and AARP's Driver Safety Program. He was inducted into the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame as an Honorary Member in 2004.

Wilson counted among his diverse interests traveling, reading, tennis, golf and spoiling his grandchildren. He married Dr. Patricia Isles Wilson, retired professor of Alabama A&M University. They have one son and four grandchildren.

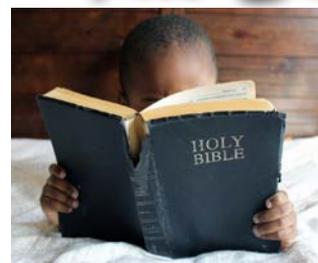
The Wilsons reside in Madison, Ala.

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This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, December 25

Christmas

Day

(Section I, RCL)

Isaiah 9:2-7

Tituts 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

Psalm 96

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"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@valley-weeklyllc.com.



Scenes from The Legacy Center's "Christmas Around the World" Open House

Friday, December 16, 2022
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