

"Take every penny you have set aside for aid for Tanzania and spend it in the United Kingdom, explaining to people the facts and causes of poverty."

- Julius Nyerere

FREE

# The Valley Weekly

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Volume 4, No. 21

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Friday, February 2, 2018

## Rocket City Earns "Straight A" Fiscal Report Card

*Top credit rating agencies on Wall Street give City of Huntsville two perfect scores*

For the 10th straight year, two of the nation's top credit rating agencies assigned the City of Huntsville its highest scores.

Standard & Poor's Rating Services awarded Huntsville a rating of "AAA" and Moody's Investors Service

awarded a rating of "Aaa," each company reaffirming their prior ratings for the 10 years since Mayor Tommy Battle has been in office.

Triple-A is the highest mark a city can achieve and is awarded to a minority of government entities in the nation. Less than one percent of 22,250 cities and counties receive the top ratings.

"I am proud of the work by our City employees and

Council to maintain this distinction for a decade," said Mayor Battle. "We have a plan to grow jobs, build schools, build roads, and manage our finances.

Our report card – straight A's – is a better report card than the State of Alabama and the United States government."

The credit rating agencies cited Huntsville's strengths to include stable finances with satisfactory reserve levels, above aver-

age wealth and low unemployment, a strong regional tax base and its position as an economic engine for northern Alabama.

"The City of Huntsville is among elite company when it comes to financial performance," said Chip Cherry, CEO and president of the Huntsville Madison Chamber. "Securing a AAA credit rating is testimony to the strong underpinning of the economy of the Huntsville market."

## Extension Resets Open House Date

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs unit will hold an open house for Volunteer in Urban Programs (VIP) Thursday, February 8, 12-2 p.m. in the Dawson Building lobby on the campus of Alabama A&M University.

The VIP Open House will enable AAMU faculty, students, staff and other guests to learn more about Urban Extension volunteer programming efforts.

"It will be a great opportunity for students and other visitors to sign up as a volunteer and to learn how they can make a difference by giving back to their communities," stated Youth Development and

Volunteerism Specialist Kimberly Neloms.

VIP was designed to recruit, enroll and train volunteers to help with the implementation of Urban Extension programs and other initiatives across the state.

The VIP Open House is part of a grant-funded initiative by the United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

For more information, contact VIP Project Assistant Shanetria Brown at (256) 372-4942 or skb0050@aces.edu or Kimberly Neloms at (256) 372-4585 or burgeki@aces.edu.



**GRAND OPENING:** Thousands poured into the new, 25,000 square-foot Madison Public Library Saturday, January 27, serving the 55,000-person (and growing) Madison community. The facility is widely considered a key resource for engagement, information, book clubs, poetry readings, meeting rooms, storytimes, entertainment and much more. Photos by Jerome Saintjones

The Valley Weekly  
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## Washington in a Minute



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

1. Prompted by defense hawks who worried that Congress may never pass an omnibus appropriations bill for the current fiscal year, the House scheduled a 3rd vote on a stand-alone \$659.2 billion FY2018 Defense Appropriations bill, which was introduced and passed in the House twice since July 2017, but has not been acted on by the Senate. The House will also take up the final version of a bill to require the prompt reporting of sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes to law enforcement authorities. The Senate considered

a bill making it a crime to perform an abortion beyond 20 weeks, except in cases of rape or incest. Starting this Wednesday through Friday, House and Senate Republicans headed to West Virginia for an annual policy retreat.

2. President Trump hosted a lunch for the UN Security Council at the White House. On Tuesday, he gave his State of the Union Address to a Joint Session of Congress. The theme of this year's speech centered around "a safe, strong, and proud America"; how the tax cut package signed late last year will spark an economic recovery; the plans for his \$1 trillion

infrastructure plan; and a new proposal on immigration offering a path to citizenship for 1.8 million unauthorized immigrants who came to the country as children in exchange for: (1) \$25 billion for the Mexican border wall; (2) reallocating slots currently given to immigrants via the diversity visa lottery on the basis of merit, and (3) preventing people from sponsoring their parents, adult children, or siblings to immigrate to the U.S.

3. According to The Hill newspaper, last Wednesday White House infrastructure aide D.J. Gribbin told mayors attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Conference that the Trump Administration would cut funding from current transportation programs in order to help pay for the President's \$1 trillion infrastructure plan. The White House also suggested that Congress should consider raising the federal gas tax, which has not received an increase since 1993.

4. Last Friday, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos announced that the Department of Education is investigating the Larry Nassar sexual abuse scandal and will hold Michigan State University (MSU) accountable for any violations of federal law.

5. Starting this week, A. Wayne Johnson, who has run the Office of Federal Student Aid as chief operating officer since June, will be shifted to a newly created role in the office - chief strategy and transformation officer. He'll report directly to his interim replacement, James Manning, who will take on that job in addition to his current responsibilities as acting undersecretary of education. The switch comes less than a year after the previous financial aid chief, an Obama administration appointee, resigned

following a dispute with DeVos. Education Department officials say Secretary DeVos' abrupt decision to reassign Johnson just seven months into a three-year term was part of an organizational shuffle designed to speed up a planned overhaul of the student loan system. DeVos shifted Johnson into the new role because she wants him to focus his attention on the revamp of the student loan system.

6. Last Wednesday, the Department of Justice threatened to subpoena and cut off federal law enforcement funds to 23 "sanctuary" jurisdictions (including the States of California, Oregon and Illinois) if they refuse to immediately turn over documents that could show whether each jurisdiction is unlawfully restricting information sharing by its

law enforcement officers with federal immigration authorities.

7. Last Monday, the Trump Administration imposed its first tariffs of 15-50% on imports of washing machines and solar energy cells and panels at the behest of American manufacturers Whirlpool, Inc., Suniva, Inc. and SolarWorld Americas. Last Friday, the U.S. International Trade Commission voted unanimously to quash the Trump Administration's proposed duties of 292% on imported CSeries jets made by Canadian aerospace company Bombardier, which had been requested by Boeing.

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### Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

## Rev. Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr.

Rev. Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr., was born and reared in New Orleans, La., and received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Dillard University.

Further studies earned him the Bachelor of Divinity degree (now called the Master of Divinity degree) from The Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, Oberlin, Ohio; Master of Arts degree, Columbia University, New York, NY; The Specialist Diploma and the doctorate degree from Columbia University,

New York, N.Y. Additionally, he studied at the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, Mass.; The Juilliard School, New York, N.Y.; Chicago Musical

College; the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Ill.; and The Union Theological Seminary, New York, N.Y.

He also served as Pastor Emeritus, Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, where



he faithfully dedicated 36 years; professor and chairman of the Department of Music Education and University Chaplain at Alabama A&M University, where he served for approximately four decades, establishing the music department with State of Alabama approval. For 10 of those two scores, he served as an adjunct music professor at Oakwood College.

## Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

In James 1:22, it says: *Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.* You know, when we look at our lives, it's easy to say that we are Christians, but that is not enough. If we are truly Christians, our lives and our actions should show it. Now, we all have bad days sometimes. It can happen to the best of us. Remember, even people with "great faith" can have weak moments. But for the majority of the time people should know who we are and who we represent. In other words, if you were accused of being a Christian, would they



have enough evidence to convict you. Now the main idea that James is trying to bring home in this text is, Christianity is not about what we think or say, it is about what we do. It's about our actions that matter.

There are three main things that James points out in the text that we as Chris-

tians must do. First, we must control our tongues. Then, we must have a compassionate spirit. Someone who is actually willing to help another person that is in need. Not just say, "I hope things get better for you." And, finally we need to live a clean life. True Christians are people who live in the world but will not let the world live in them. Even though we are all sinners, true Christians are commanded to live upright and moral lives, and we can only achieve this through practicing what we preach ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!

# The Valley Weekly

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## The Valley Weekly

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# From the Editor

## *Some Things are Truly Free!*

Real kindness is truly free. It does not cost us anything to be kind. When I was a child, neighbors were truly neighbors. The term “neighbors” was broad and wide. Just about anything you needed, you could count on a neighbor to deliver or share it on a word or handshake.

During hard winters, we would share what we had in our smoke houses, barns, pantries, potato cells and closets. In the smoke house, we had a salt box to preserve meats, a slow-burning fire to smoke the meat that hung from the ceiling. In the barns, we had corn that was harvested to feed the livestock. Sometimes, the hens would randomly lay eggs in the barn. They were supposed to lay them in the nests in the ‘hen houses,’ but sometimes they would lay them around the yard and in unusual places. A chicken is an interesting bird--in many ways.

In the pantry were the fruits of our labor: free-range eggs, jars of canned fruits and vegetables, and staples such as grits, rice, beans, cornmeal, flour, homemade jams and jellies, and the like. Moreover, we had USDA cheese, canned meat, and peanut butter. The things that would spoil were in the refrigerator and freezer. Peanut butter and ice cream were delicacies. We had to have permission to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and to eat ice cream. Cakes, pies and ice cream were Sunday superlatives. Sometimes, if we did extra chores during the week, we would get tea cakes and gingerbread cookies. We would literally *work* for tea cakes and gingerbread cookies. I remember sweeping neighbor’s yards for those delicacies. My sister, Mary, can still make tea cakes--unlike the rest of us. Hopefully, she will teach some of us how to do it one day.

From time-to-time, my late Uncle Bill would come by the house and ask my mother to “scramble him a dozen of eggs.” He would sit at the table and eat those eggs for lunch or dinner and enjoyed them as if he were at a fine restaurant. A few leftover biscuits or fried chicken from the warmed drawer of the kitchen stove were added treats. Almost daily, we ate scrambled and fried eggs, milk and bread, fried chicken, biscuits, bacon and pork chops, along with all of the things we are told *not* to eat today. We held back the high cholesterol, high blood pressure, and diabetes by burning those calories as fast as we consumed them with active lifestyles, healthy doses of turnip and collard greens, assorted beans and peas, and plenty of home-made soups--made from just about anything that was left over after two or three days. Sometimes, it was feast and sometimes it was famine. We knew how to cook the whole hog, from the “rootie to the tootie.” We ate the ears, feet, liver, chitterlings, fatback and fried it out to make cracklings that we then baked in the bread to eat with syrup. We could make a meal from just about anything, including deer, rabbit, squirrels, raccoons, opossums, birds, eels, you name it. *Ahhh, it was good stuff.* I’m telling you!

In the potato cells, we had piles and piles of sweet potatoes. Early on, sweet potatoes were orange, but later white sweet potatoes were added to the species. I could eat sweet potatoes in any form or fashion. I liked them raw, baked in the oven or fire place, fried, stewed, candied or in pies. It was all good. And, when our neighbor ran out of anything, they could get some of ours or vice versa. Not just food, but gasoline, hay or corn for the livestock, firewood, water, and even money. If you loaned \$50, you were repaid \$50. We didn’t make interest on family, neighbors and friends. *Free kindness!*

Typically, when we think of closets, we think of places to hang clothings and store shoes. We had multi-purpose closets. In our closets, we had shelves of fabric, quilts, linen, cleaning products, and even food and clothing. Closet space was limited, so typically things of extra value were kept in the closets.

Acts of kindness can be demonstrated in any number of ways, from a simple ‘thank-you’ or smile, sharing and caring when no one is looking or thinking about it. Our busyness sometimes impede our ability to pause to demonstrate kindness. One of the things I learned during my youth was that, through kindness, we can share and care for our neighbors without much effort. Actually, it was a way of life. I do not miss the good ole days and lifestyle of my past; I simply miss that fruit of the Spirit, real kindness!

Be kind. Until next week ...



*Dorothy*

## CAFY Plans for 2018 Signature Event

Community Awareness For Youth (CAFY) is a strategic initiative of the Huntsville Police Department designed to prepare the youth of Madison County for success as they venture into adulthood, enter the workforce or pursue higher education.

CAFY hosts this annual event for youth (Grades 7-12 / Ages 12-18), where it collaborates with local businesses, law enforcement, schools and organizations to match kids with resources to help them be successful in each of the four pillars (Health, Education, Careers

and Finances).

CAFY 2018 will be held on Saturday-July 28th, 2018 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Jaycee's Building and Fairgrounds, 2180 Airport Road, Huntsville, Alabama.

CAFY is the brainchild of Dr. Harry Hobbs, who served as the HPD Communication Relations Officer from 2010-2014. He's been volunteering and reaching out to the youth since he was 24. He and his wife, Erica Hobbs, threw themselves into outreach programs focusing on kids who could use a helping hand or a mentor. Together with soldiers

and citizens alike, the Hobbs' taught self-improvement projects to kids, and ran a drug prevention and awareness camp in Lawton/Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Before joining the HPD, Harry taught JROTC for three years at Columbia High School where he helped instill discipline and motivation into high school students.

Besides the informational booths inside offering resources for the four pillars, attendees can look forward to having a good time with the many demonstrations, games, contests and music, said Hobbs.

## Huntsville Record Store to Close Its Doors

Echo Records, a downtown vinyl shop, is closing its 100 N. Jefferson location on Feb. 17.

Storeowner Matt Wake announced the forthcoming closure on Facebook Jan. 19. In a heartfelt social media post, Wake, who is a full-time entertainment writer for Al.com, said the closure was to focus on his family and freelance writing career.

"I'm proud of the store we've run, the selection, the prices, the presentation," Wake said on his personal Facebook page. "I'm thrilled to have realized a dream of



owning a record store. It's been so cool to sell young music fans their first AC/DC and Beatles records, to be a small part of passing that on."

Echo Records opened in 2016 under the management of Wake and his partner

Jackie McGill. Inspired by his memories of working in a record store as a adolescent, the seasoned writer told Al.com that owning his shop was always a dream.

"There is something about a record store where it leads you to new cool music you didn't know before and ends up being some of your favorites," he told Al.com in 2016. Per the shop's official Facebook page, Echo will be open on the following dates: Feb. 3, Feb. 10 and Feb. 17 from 1-5 p.m.

by Reggie Allen

## Valley Scopes

by Melissa Wilson/Seloma

## FEBRUARY

### Aquarius

Venus is at a conjunction with Neptune in your 11th house, along with celestial transits from Juno, the sun, moon and Mercury. Emotional factors related to companionship and romantic communications are likely to be on your mind now.

### Pisces

The sun is in conjunction with the moon in your 12th house of secret ventures. It looks like you're emotionally pouring yourself into an endeavor that you have under wraps.

### Aries

The sun is in a conjunction with Mercury in your 12th house. There are multiple energies going into some clandestine activity that affects you, in some manner.

### Libra

The Vertex, in your sign, places a celestial emphasis on a preordained meeting that you're prone to have.

### Taurus

Mercury is at a quintile with Mars in your 1st & 12th houses. It looks like your drive has you ready to overindulge in an activity that may gain public notice soon.

### Gemini

The moon is at a quintile with Mars in your 2nd house. You may be inclined to make an emotional purchase.

### Cancer

The Mars sesquiquadrate of Uranus in your 3rd & 4th houses means that your instincts will kick into overdrive in a future event.

### Leo

The Jupiter sextile of Pluto in your 4th & 5th houses shows a fun, change-inspired home life expansion happening for you.

### Virgo

The Uranus square of Pluto

in your 6th house shows a challenging, health-related change occurring for you.

### Scorpio

The moons' square of Jupiter in your 7th house, coincides with an emotionally challenging issue happening with a partnership that you have.

### Sagittarius

Vesta is in your sign, along with Mercury, which is at a conjunction with Venus in your 8th house. You may be inclined to put in a great deal of time, focusing on an issue that is related to sex, death or taxes.

### Capricorn

Lilith is in your mid heaven, and the sun is at a conjunction with Venus in your 10th house. It looks like your social status may be drawing extra attention to any love or money goings-on in your life.



February 2 - WILLIAM ELLISWORTH ARTIS - Noted Harlem Renaissance ceramacist and sculptor best known for his sensitive portrayals of African American male subjects.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Trainer for 99th Squadron Achieved High Honors

Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. (February 11, 1920 – February 25, 1978) was an American fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force, who in 1975 became the first African American to reach the rank of four-star general.



The Pensacola, Fla., native graduated from Tuskegee Institute in 1942 and instructed African American pilots (99th Pursuit Squadron - "Tuskegee Airmen") during World War II. He flew combat missions during the Korean War and Vietnam War, and received the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, two Air Force Distinguished Service Medals, two Legion of Merits, three Distinguished Flying Crosses, Meritorious Service Medal and fourteen Air Medals.

The Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James Center for Aerospace Science and Health Education on the Tuskegee University campus was named in his honor.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## Hodges First Black Female Marine Commander

Col. Adele E. Hodges was the first woman to command Camp Lejeune, N.C. Hodges oversaw more than 47,000 Marines and sailors.

She headed up new training, improved infrastructure and enhanced security. After two years, she joined the Inspector General's Office at Marine Corps headquarters in Arlington, Va.



## Heroism: Remembering Doris "Dorie" Miller

Doris Miller, known as "Dorie" to shipmates and friends, was born in Waco, Texas, on October 12, 1919.

On September 16, 1939, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy as Mess Attendant, Third Class, at Dallas, Texas, so he could travel, and earn money for his family. He later was commended by the Secretary of the Navy, was advanced to Mess Attendant, Second Class and First Class, and subsequently was promoted to Ship's Cook, Third Class.

Following training at the Naval Training Station, Norfolk, Va., Miller was assigned to the ammunition ship USS Pyro (AE-1), where he served as a Mess Attendant.

On January 2, 1940, he was transferred to USS West Virginia (BB-48), where he became the ship's heavy-weight boxing champion.

In July 1940, he had temporary duty aboard USS Nevada (BB-36) at Secondary Battery Gunnery School.

On August 3 1940, he returned to the USS West Virginia, and was serving in that battleship when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

That morning, Miller reportedly rose at 6 a.m., and was collecting laundry when the alarm for general quarters sounded. He headed for his battle station, the anti-aircraft battery magazine amidship, only to discover that torpedo damage had wrecked it, so he went on deck. Because of his physical prowess, he was assigned to carry wounded fellow sailors to places of greater safety. Then an officer ordered

him to the bridge to aid the mortally wounded Captain of the ship.

He subsequently manned a 50 caliber Browning anti-aircraft machine gun until he ran out of ammunition and was ordered to abandon ship.

Miller described firing the machine gun during the battle, a weapon which he had not been trained to operate.

During the attack, Japanese aircraft dropped two armored piercing bombs through the deck of the battleship and launched five 18-inch aircraft torpedoes into her port side. Heavily damaged by the ensuing explosions, and suffering from severe flooding below decks, the crew abandoned ship while the USS West Virginia slowly settled to the harbor bottom. Of the 1,541 men on West Virginia during the attack, 130 were killed and 52 wounded. The ship was refloated, repaired, and modernized and served to the end of the war in August 1945.

Miller was commended by the Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox on 1 April 1942, and on 27 May 1942 he

received the Navy Cross for his extraordinary courage in battle.

Miller was killed in 1943 during another operation, but was not officially presumed dead until November 25, 1944, a year and a day after the loss of Liscome Bay. Only 272 Sailors survived the sinking of Liscome Bay,

while 646 died.

In addition to the Navy Cross, Miller was entitled to the Purple Heart Medal; the American Defense Service Medal, Fleet Clasp; the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; and the World War II Victory Medal.

*Excerpt from history.navy.mil*



# OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY CHURCH

## 2018 BLACK HISTORY CALENDAR

	<b>FEBRUARY 3, 2018 • 11:00 AM</b> Speaker: Dr. Carlton P. Byrd Special Guest Honoree: Sir Patrick Allen, Governor-General of Jamaica Special Music: Oakwood University Acolians
	<b>FEBRUARY 10, 2018 • 11:00 AM</b> Oakwood University United Student Movement Day Speaker: Khaleel Clarke Special Music: Voices of Triumph
	<b>FEBRUARY 17, 2018 • 11:00 AM</b> Speaker: Dr. Carlton P. Byrd Special Honorees: Martin Luther King, III and Denise Cleveland Leggett, Southeast HUD Administrator Special Music: Central State University Choir of Wilberforce, OH
	<b>FEBRUARY 24, 2018 • 11:00 AM</b> OPENING OF NEW FAMILY LIFE CENTER Speaker: Dr. Carlton P. Byrd Special Guests: The Earvin Johnson Family Special Musical Guests: Alabama A&M University Concert Choir 11:00 am - Divine Worship Experience with Ribbon Cutting to Follow 5:00 pm - "My Story" with "Cookie" Johnson

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State Farm



# Valley Deaths

## - Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MS. ANNA LEE ROBERTS (b. 1945) was held Monday, January 29, at Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America with Reverend Dorothy Tiller Ray officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. EARLENE ISABELLE (b. 1924) was held Sunday, January 28, at Gurley C.M.E. Church with Pastor Henry Brown officiating.

Funeral service for MR. CLAUD E. MARTIN (b. 1931) was held Saturday, January 27, at First Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

Funeral service for MS. QUANETREA DE-SHAUNNE NANCE (b. 1983) was held Saturday, January 27, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Devins Jackson officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. MAEZELL WALKER was held on Monday, January 22, at Inner City Church of Christ with Brother Timmy Smith officiating.

## - Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for DR. MELVYN HOWES will be announced at a later date.

Funeral service for MRS. MACHELLE D. MARTIN-TAYLOR (b. 1960) will be 12:00 p.m., Friday, February 2, at the Royal Chapel of Memories.

Funeral service was held for MR. NATHANIEL SANDERS on Thursday, February 1, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Reginald Johnson officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. BRITNEY SCOTT (b. 1988) was held Wednesday, January 31, at the Westside Church of Christ (Elkmont, AL).

Funeral service for MR. GEORGE EARL COLLIER (b. 1951) was held Saturday, January 27, at the Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church with Dr. Oscar Montgomery officiating.

Graveside service for MRS. ELAINE CARTWRIGHT LASHLEY (b. 1927) was held Monday, January 29, at the Oakwood Memorial Gardens.

## AKAs Schedule Fitness Event

It's all about your health.

The Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., will hold "Pink Goes Red," a benefit for the American Heart Association, on Friday, February 2.

The Zumba Fitness activity will be held at the gym of First Missionary Baptist Church, 3509 Blue Spring Road, NW, from 6-8 p.m. A \$5 donation is recommended.

The event will include

a health forum with local doctors from 6-6:45 p.m. A Zumba Fitness class featuring instructor Kimberly Collier will be held from 7-7:30 p.m. The class will be followed by a free 'heart healthy' meal at 7:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend.



## ANTHONY DANIELS

• STATE HOUSE #53 •

This week, the Alabama House Democratic Caucus held a press conference to announce its 2018 Legislative Agenda.

The platform focuses on creating a Clean, Competent and Competitive Alabama.

We face enormous challenges as a state from adequately supporting our public education system to building and maintaining a skilled workforce to fighting the addiction epidemic plaguing our families, cities and state. These are just a few of the issues impacting our communities that we are here to address over the

next two months.

The Clean, Competent & Competitive Alabama agenda, developed and agreed upon by the members of the House Democratic Caucus, focuses on:



- Supporting our Public Schools and Prioritizing Early Childhood Education

- Investing in our Educators

- Rebuilding our Workforce

- Ensuring open, Transparent Government and Ending Corruption

- Ensuring Access to Healthcare for all Alabamians

- Supporting Mental Health

- Prioritizing Prison Reform and Reducing Recidivism

- Fighting the Epidemic of Addiction

Over the coming weeks House Democratic Members will introduce legislation in support of these main tenants. Members will also continue holding town hall meetings across the state to discuss this agenda and other issues of importance to Alabamians.

This agenda represents something we, as Democrats believe in and that we believe serves all Alabamians and will lead us to a better future for our state.

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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 Church

## The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

#### February 6

Huntsville-Madison County  
Chapter of Alabama New  
South Coalition  
Dr. Richard Showers Center  
6 p.m.

#### February 8

Astrophysicist  
Neil deGrasse Tyson  
Mark C. Smith Concert  
Hall/Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7:30 p.m.

#### February 9-11

Mike Epps  
Stand Up Live Huntsville

#### February 12

"James Meredith: A Civil  
Rights Legend on the Front  
Line of History"  
Calhoun Community  
College

Math-Science-CIS Building  
Huntsville, Ala.  
10-11 a.m.

#### February 15

Black History Month Buffet  
Luncheon  
Sponsored by UAH Office of

Diversity and Multicultural  
Affairs

301 Shelby Center/UAH  
11 a.m.

Tickets \$12 | Available  
at UAH Student Services  
Building Room 218 | Lim-  
ited seating  
Call (256) 824-2332

#### February 16

Epsilon Gamma Omega  
Chapter of Alpha Kappa  
Alpha Sorority's  
Debutante Presentation and  
Ball  
Von Braun Center

#### March 8

National Society of Black  
Engineers  
25th Scholarship Awards  
Holiday Inn Madison Square

#### March 17

Spelman College Glee Club  
in Concert  
Sponsored by the National  
Alumnae Association of  
Spelman College Huntsville  
Chapter  
Academy for Academic and  
Arts | 5pm



## DLC Accepting Applications

Applications are being accepted for Cohort IX of the Diveristy Leadership Colloquium until February 27.

Classes will begin March 6 and end April 24, running 6-9 p.m. every Tuesday evening. Graduation will be held on May 1.

Applications are available online at [www.diveristyleadershipcolloquium.com](http://www.diveristyleadershipcolloquium.com). Questions should be emailed to Mrs. Georgia Valrie at [gvalrie1971@gmail.com](mailto:gvalrie1971@gmail.com) or call (256) 656-4698.



**SUCCESSFUL AUTHOR AT OU:** *William Paul Young, Canadian author of the best selling book "The Shack" was the guest speaker for the Oakwood University Chapel on January 18. Although born in Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada, the majority of his first decade was lived with his missionary parents in the highlands of New Guinea (West Papua), among the Dani, a technologically stone age tribal people. They became his family and as the first white child and outsider who ever spoke their language, he was granted unusual access into their culture and community. Following his presentation, Young paused for a photo op with Mr. Oakwood Jajuan Sanders (r) and Miss Oakwood Hernandy Ulsaint (left). Photo: Anthony Chornes II*

## City Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council Meetings City Council regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. City Council work sessions are also held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. For more information, call (256) 427-5011.

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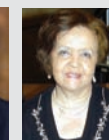
Mrs. Jacquelyn  
Ifill



Elder  
Dorothy B.  
Johnson



Mr. Bob Petty



Mrs. Alice  
Sams



Mrs. Rosa  
Walker

**- Also Honoring Pioneers -**

Dr. Army Daniel

Mrs. Loretta Spencer

Mrs. Beulah Toney

Dr. Arthur L. Walker

**Save the Date!**

Saturday, March 10, 2018

The Jackson Center

(Cummings Research Park) - Moquin Drive  
Huntsville, Ala.

5 p.m.

Tickets: \$50/Each

*For additional information, call  
Linda Burruss at (256) 536-9717*

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