

## Alumni Chapter Offering Dr. Rather Brown Scholarships to Local Students

The Huntsville/Madison County Chapter of the Alabama A&M University National Alumni Association, Inc.,

announces the 2019 Dr. Rather G. Brown Scholarship.

The chapter will award two (2) scholarships for Fall Semester 2019 expenses. Graduating high school seniors enrolled in Madison County, Madi-



son City, Huntsville City Schools, or parochial and private institutions in Madison County are eligible. Madison

County residents that are currently enrolled at AAMU are also eligible.

The scholarship deadline is March 15, 2019. To apply, please visit the website: http://aamuhsvmadisonalumni.org/ resources.



## Mag Celebrates 30 Years of Logging Huntsville's History

"Huntsville Memories" will celebrate the best of Old Huntsville Magazine as part of an hour-long free public presentation by Cathey Carney scheduled at the Huntsville Public Library auditorium on Tuesday, March 19, at 10 a.m. Since 1989, the monthly mag has documented stories written by local residents, presenting memories of Huntsville's past and its people, dating back to the 1800s.

## Local Pharmacist Will Explain Opiad Epidemic

Karren Crowson, a local, retired pharmacist, will describe how the nation's opioid epidemic began with prescription abuse and how it has evolved into what it is today.

The presentation is set for Monday, March 18, at the Downtown Huntsville Public Library from 10-11 a.m.

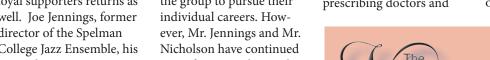
Crowson will discuss prescription drugs that are commonly abused, as well as signs and symptoms of abuse. She will also review how legislation has changed and describe programs developed to curb the problem of overprescribing doctors and



doctor shopping.

Since teens indicate that their home medicine cabinet is the most likely source for drugs, Crowson will cover safe storage and disposal of medications.

The program will address the rise in abuse of cheaper, illicit substances such as heroin and the even more potent fentanyl and will offer advice on what individuals can do to help someone who has overdosed on opioids.



# Spelman Alumnae Chapter to Sponsor Jazz Concert

The Huntsville Area Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College (HAC-NAASC), a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, presents the Joe Jennings and Howard Nicholson Quintet in concert Saturday, March 9, at 6 p.m. at the Huntsville Botanical Garden- Grand Hall, located at 4747 Bob Wallace Avenue in Huntsville, Ala.

The performance serves as the fundraiser for the Dr. Bessie Washington Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund. Tickets for the event are \$40.

The HAC-NAASC aims to raise \$10,000 to provide scholarships to support area students who have been accepted and plan to attend Spelman College. Scholarships are awarded in memory of Dr. Bessie Washington Jones, an outstanding Spelman alumna who served as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Alabama A&M University.

This year, the HAC-NAASC returns to jazz for its annual fundraiser, and a familiar name to loyal supporters returns as well. Joe Jennings, former director of the Spelman College Jazz Ensemble, his musical partner, Howard Nicholson, and their quintet will perform. Joe Jennings and Howard Nicholson founded the recording group Life Force in the 1970s. After several recordings and many years of performing, including the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway, the North Sea Jazz Festival, and numerous Atlanta Jazz Festivals, Jennings and Nicholson disbanded

the group to pursue their individual careers. However, Mr. Jennings and Mr. Nicholson have continued to perform together as the Joe Jennings and Howard Nicholson Quintet. CDs will be available for sale at the performance.

Spelman, the Huntsville Area Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College, has provided scholarships for more than 100 young women from the greater Huntsville area to attend Spelman College over the past 30 years.



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#### The Valley Weekly

#### March 8, 2019

# **LWV Convention Scheduled for T-Town**

The League of Women Voters of Alabama will have its annual state convention in Tuscaloosa, Ala., May 18-19.

The convention, hosted by the LWV Greater Tuscaloosa chapter, will be held at the Embassy Suites on 2410 University Boulevard. The conference's focus is "Environmental Justice: It's about Democracy."

From the Gulf Coast ecosystem to the tar sands of North Alabama, official neglect and institutional prejudice have created a system that values profits

rather than people. Now more than ever, protecting ourselves and our communities is a matter of civic, social, and public health.

Come to LWVAL Convention in Tuscaloosa to learn how to fight back with stronger public accountability and civic action.

At the convention luncheon on Saturday, May 19, convention organizers are pleased to announce that the keynote speaker will be Catherine Coleman Flowers. Flowers is a senior fellow in environmental

justice and civic engagement with the Center for Earth Ethics. She is also Rural Development Manager with the Equal Justice Initiative.

Several special awards will be made, including the LWVAL's prestigious Transparency in Government Award made to recognize efforts to bring greater transparency to governmental decision-making in Alabama at any political level. Find out more about these awards and make nominations by March 15, 2019.

#### Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

# Mrs. Dorothy B. Johnson

Mrs. Dorothy B. Johnson is the true essence of a lady--quiet, dedicated, loyal, dependable, loving, a leader, unselfish, and always willing to help others. She was born and grew up in rural Dodge County in Eastman, Ga., with nine other siblings, working on their family farm. She relocated to Huntsville in 1961 to pursue a job at Alabama A&M University. She has been the wife of Joseph J. Johnson for nearly 60 years; is mother of three daughters--Cheryl, Jerita, and Cerisa--and is the doting and proud grandmother of three grandsons -Jeremy, Christian, and Jaylen. Her family is the apple of her eyes and if you want to see a big grin on her face, just ask her about her grandsons. She will be happy to tell you about their latest accomplishments and achievements.

Mrs. Johnson obtained her B.S. degree in home economics from Fort Valley State University, her M.S. degree in

clothing and textiles and psychology from Purdue University, and her Education Specialist degree from Auburn University. Dorothy, sometimes called "Dot," is a retired educator

from Calhoun Community College after teaching and supervising for 31 years. In her honor, Calhoun Community College Child Development Center named its library the "Dorothy B. Johnson Learning Library" for her dedication and commitment to the child development program. Also, while at Calhoun, Dorothy earned many awards and honors.

Mrs. Johnson has been very involved with her church, Fellowship Presbyterian Church, for over 50 years.



was named the Dorothy B. Johnson Fellowship Hall. Mrs. Johnson volunteers at the Manna House three days a week, where she is fondly called "Ms. Dorothy."

Mrs. Johnson joined Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., on April 1, 1954, at Fort Valley State College (now University). In the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter, she has served as the treasurer.

#### **Champion Game Plan for Life** by Preston Brown

**"TELL THE TRUTH"** Exodus 20:16 says: "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."

You know, the Bible tells us that the truth will set you free ( John 8:32), but a lie will lead you on a path to destruction. I believe that many people are headed toward destruction because of their unwillingness to tell the truth. I once read an article that said 9 out of 10 Americans lie regularly. It's no wonder that we are in the middle of a presidential storm that has to do with simply telling the truth. Things like credibility, morals and personal character are all "on the line." But who is telling the truth?

Jesus tells us in John 8:47, "Whoever belongs to God listens to what God says, the reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God. You know it seems that we have gotten away from the basic

standards of morality that are rooted in the ten com-

mandments. Because of this, I believe that we have lost the concept of God-given truths. For example, did you know that only 13 percent

of the population believe in the ten commandments? Maybe that's why they don't post them on the walls anymore. Maybe that's why we don't have prayer in public schools anymore. Maybe that's why they don't teach God's creation anymore, because all these things were ruled "unconstitutional." So, we have seen one truth after another just go away. It's amazing to me that we live in a time where we know more and yet we believe less.

What can we do as believers to help this situation? I believe that our job is to set "truth" back on her feet. And we do this by first being a responsible witness. You see, there is a great need for

> the truth. teach the truth, and share the truth. Because

anything that is not built on the truth will fall. The next thing we need to do is be reliable. We do this by the way we live, by being truthful and by keeping our word. We also do this by not remaining silent when our neighbors need us to speak up when a situation calls for it. So, instead of being a false witness against our neighbors, let us all become a faithful witness to them by sharing all of the wonderful things that God has done for us.

And, remember to tell the truth. Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

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God's people to know the truth, believe

#### **March 8, 2019**

#### The Valley Weekly

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#### The Valley Weekly

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# TOT Ahhh, It



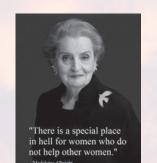
My Mother, Lucinda Williams Williams



Aunt Catherine Willis and me



Mrs. Rosetta James with the current Foundation Board: Dr. Annie Grace Robinson, Jerome Saintjones, Ja'Lissa Williams, Gary T. Whitley, Jr., Bill and me.



rom the Editor

#### Ahhh, It's March!

March is Women's History Month. Like you, I have had some impactful women in my life over the years. My mother passed away too soon, in my

opinion. Having birthed 13 children of her own, she was was a strong, Christian woman. She demonstrated her strength by living out various principles that she taught us.

Firstly, she was a master at 'turning the other cheek.' When I was growing up, I wondered why she seemed to be able to do so much for so little, took negative outcomes and made them positive, and held onto her foundational beliefs about how to treat people. Turning the other cheek is hard for me. As the youngest of 13, I had a lot of people giving me orders and telling me what to do. I had to break out that baby-child syndrome and let people know that I had opinions, feelings, goals and ambitions. One challenge for me has always been wondering if the opinion of the youngest is received as respectable by the older siblings. I have overcome that to the point that it really doesn't matter, especially at this time in my life. I tell people what Dr Martin Luther King once said, "All of us can be great, because all of us can serve." Therefore, if we are serving and making a positive impact, we have less time to be concerned about what others believe. It's wonderful to be liked, but it's even more wonderful to be respected. I'd rather be respected than liked ... What about you?

I tell my friends and associates who are my age how fortunate they are to have parents who are still living. Yes, my mother died too soon. How I wish I could spend some time with her some days. I shared a special relationship with her as the youngest child. She loved and motivated me and always wanted me to have the best life possible. I'm sure she wanted that for all my sisters and brothers, but I always felt a special bond. When I left home for college, we cried. I never really saw my mother cry. She was rock solid!

On this Saturday, we will be celebrating some elders in this community for the many contributions they made from day to day. I have an affinity for elders, and I'm not sure why. The Rosetta James Foundation was founded 13 years ago by a group of volunteers who set out to 'give some roses while they could be enjoyed' and to help some young people with their college expenses. We never thought when we began (Mr. Marshall Clayton, Dr. Annie Grace Robinson, Mr. Jerome Saintjones, Mr. William Smothers, Mrs. Georgia Valrie and Mrs. Felicia Wilson) that we would have a 'sold-out' event annually and give thousands of dollars to local college students. What a blessing! If you have tickets, we will see you next on Saturday. If you have not secured a ticket, hopefully we will see you *next* year.

My Aunt Catherine Willis will be here for the annual Honoring Our Elders Celebration. She was honored in Columbus, Ohio, and we adapted their program to begin our annual event. We are always delighted when she visits. Bill and I have learned so much from her and her late husband, Uncle Ed Willis. He was a smart, fun-loving gentleman. We miss him. When we moved from Pennsylvania back to Ohio, they were two of the first to welcome us to my new assignment at Ohio Wesleyan University. Aunt Catherine is headed towards 90 years old, and she can out-walk and out-step me around town. We look forward to spending some quality time with this strong woman of love, strength and endurance.

Mrs. Rosetta James is another story! She has taught me so much. Her family has moved her to a senior living residence in Northport, Ala. (across the river from Tuscaloosa), so she can be closer to them. She has been like a grandmother to our children and a mother to us. We miss her so much. Her life and legacy in this community has so much to do with her convictions about 'right and wrong' more than anything else. At 93-years-old, she told me in January that she would walk home if I didn't take her; and, she was serious. Strong is not a word that accurately describes her. Like my mother, she had a limited education but was wrapped and gifted with a whole lot of old-fashioned common sense, something that you don't get from reading books and going to college. On Saturday, we will honor her work in this community as the Rosetta James Foundation continues our work of celebrating elders and helping people!

Please join me during the month and celebrate women in your life. Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright once said, "There is a special place in hell for women who do not help other women." I agree. Until next week ...



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#### The Valley Weekly

## Learn to LIE for Success, with One Change . . .

bv tim allston

*"But I tell you this: love your enemies."* Matthew 5:44, The Voice Bible.

Jussie Smollett, Paul Manafort, Roger Stone, Mike "Lock Her Up" Flynn, R. Kelley, Donald J. Trump, Sr. and Jr. - all are accused publicly and repeatedly of lying.

For us to succeed in this life and the life to come, however, we need to learn how to LIE -

#### BUT, ...

If you're spelling it L-I-E, then you're spelling "LIE" wrong. In Matthew 5:44, Jesus advises all to, ". . . Love Your Enemies" -L-Y-E (get it?).

Now, change "enemy" to "opponent" - i.e., one who challenges us, pushing us from our comfort zones - and you'll begin to see why you need to LYE.

Our lives typically are the product of responding positively and successfully to our enemies/opponents; most often, they expose our weaknesses and, hopefully, make us reach out to God for partnership and victory. Frederick Douglass: "you plus God equals a majority."

#### Codfish-lovin' Catfish?

Once Alaskan cod fishermen discovered that their cod, when

shipped alive cross-country in tanks, would arrive flabby, mushy, flavorless, and unprofitable, they added an ingredient into those tanks: catfish, the codfish's natural enemy. Subsequently, the constant agitation between those two enemies returned the cod to their flavor, firmness and profitability! God's love for us has placed certain "catfish" in our lives (e.g., co-workers, bosses, children, even spouses!), whose agitations prevent us from getting weak and flabby in our daily walk.



Friends are nice, good to have. But it's our enemies, our opponents that keep us sharp, keep us focussed and keep us everdepending on God to strengthen us when we call on him. Therefore, learning to LYE (Love Your Enemies) should be

one of your first steps toward recovering from ego-holism.

Ego-holism is "the addiction to self" - displayed either as arrogance, boastfulness or pride (big egos), and/or low-/ no esteem, insecurity or feelings of inadequacies (little egos); ego-holisms (both big and little egos) equally affect and drain every person, organization, event or activity. God is gifting me to expose my own ego-holism(s) and to share my ongoing recovering journey, by overlapping Biblical best-practices with current events/newsmakers that illustrate characteristics of this addiction.

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

# Explore "The Wild" at HBG's Spring Break Camp

The Huntsville Botanical Garden will offer Spring Breakers a chance to "Explore The Wild" during a Spring Break Camp offered March 18-22.

Each day will have its own theme and set of activities that tie into the Chinese Lantern Festival: "The Wild" exhibit.

Campers will learn about different aspects of Chinese culture and the variety of animals represented in the exhibit. Each day will include indoor and outdoor activities along with some free time throughout the day.

Campers also will get to participate in the other events taking place in the Garden, providing it is ageappropriate. Each child can come all week or parents may pick their days.

Garden Members: \$40/ day or \$180/week. Nonmembers: \$50/day or \$230/ week. Early Drop-Off starting at 7:30 a.m.; \$5/day per child or \$20/week.

HBG will provide one afternoon snack for full day camps. Students will need to provide a morning snack (including drink) and a lunch. Since this is a dayto-day camp and not all campers will be attending the full week, there will be no graduation on Friday. Contact mhertzig@hsvbg. org.

## The 13th Annual Rosetta James Foundation "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration



Mrs. Jacquelyne K. Bennett Branch

ys Elder John R Branch

Rev. Ethel Y. Mrs. Carolyn Delanev Rice Florence

Mrs. Josephine

Scruggs

Mrs. Kathy Mother Eliz

Sieia

- Also Honoring Pioneers -Deacon Robert Jackson Mrs. Elaine Plank Mrs. Josephine Robinson Mr. Eugene Dick Scruggs, Sr.



6001 Moquin Drive (Cummings Research Park) Huntsville, Alabama

12 Noon

Tickets: \$50/Each For additional information, call Linda Burruss at (256) 536-9717

#### The Valley Weekly

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# Millennial Thought

#### Small Bites Still Finish the Meal

Small bites still finish the meal. One of the easiest things in the world to do is to become overwhelmed. With a limited body and a limited amount of time, you will find yourself pulled in infinite directions. It is impossible to be everything and everywhere at once. Still, we try. We even glamorize all the ways we overextend ourselves. We have been indoctrinated to believe that ultimate success is obtained when we've expended all we have to give. And not only must we give it all, but we must give it all quickly.

I think back to instances

in which I was tremendously stressed and found a common thread: the illusion of immediacy. Whenever I have been my most overwhelmed, it was because I told myself that everything I had to do had to be done immediately. By and large, this was not the case. Even if the tasks were due in close proximity to each other, there still was some portion of space to breathe.

But in the omni-exacerbating state of stress, I was unable to see that. It was only once I deeply evaluated the reality of the situation that relief came. Be patient with yourself and accept that you are human. Embrace the inevitability of your imperfection. Both he who gorges in the meal and he who consumes it in moderation will finish it.

I was once enticed by the idea of being done. Just one more assignment. Just one more performance. Just one more presentation. Just one more shift. And then I realized that I would never be done. As long as I live, there will always be someone or something calling on me to fulfill some responsibility. And that's okay.

With small bites, I will finish the meals that are placed before me. And I will receive them with a sense of peace, hope, and understanding. For what a tragedy it would be to experience a life always waiting to be "done" and find that you never actually lived.

## The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

#### March 7

"Love Grows Here" Fundraiser Sponsor: 305 8th Street The Jackson Center 5-8 p.m.

26th Annual NSBE Scholarship Awards Program *Speaker:* Marc Lacy Tickets \$35 available at www.nsbe-northalabamaae.com Holiday Inn Research Park Huntsville, Ala. 6:30 p.m.

#### March 9

13th Annual Rosetta James "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration Luncheon The Jackson Center 6001 Moquin Drive (Cummings Research Park) Huntsville, Ala. 12 noon

Huntsville Area Spelman Alumna "An Evening of Jazz" Featuring The Joe Jennings and Howard Nicholson Quintet Huntsville Botanical Garden Grand Hall *Please go to www.HuntsvilleNAASC.org for ticket information* 

#### March 11

Experience Hendrix Von Braun Center Concert Hall

#### March 18

"How the Opiad Epidemic Began" Presenter: Karren Crowson, Retired Pharmacist Huntsville Public Library Auditorium 10-11 a.m.

#### March 19

"Huntsville Memories" Old Huntsville Magazine Presenter: Cathey Carney Huntsville Public Library Auditorium 10 a.m.

March 30 Start Smart Interview 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **March 31** The Temptations and Four Tops

United Women of Color Huntsville Public Library

Von Braun Center Huntsville, Ala. 7 p.m.

#### April 4

Workshop

The Future & Beyond Diversity & Inclusion Symposium TBA

#### April 13

Zeta Phi Beta Blue Review TBA

#### May 3

Super Hero ShinDig National Children's Advocacy Center

#### May 15

Earth, Wind & Fire Von Braun Center Concert Hall

#### May 18-19

The League of Women Voters of Alabama Annual State Convention Tuscaloosa, Ala.

*"Dignify and glorify common labor. It is at the bottom of life that we must begin, not at the top."* 

- Booker T. Washington

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## School Seeking Local Preservers of A&M History

As Alabama A&M University celebrates 144 years of existence, as well as the 50th anniversary of its designation as a "university" and the establishment of the AAMU Foundation, a few school loyalists hope to use the excitement to fill in the gaps of history.

The 50th Observance historical sub-committee, headed by Dr. Annie Payton, director of the J.F. Drake Memorial Learning Resources Center, is searching for any historical information and/or documents to fill in gaps in the history of the University.

For instance, are you or a family member in possession of what could be a critical piece that could add to a more accurate portrayal of this citadel of learning?

Of course, credit will be given to those who share. Please remember: History is not useful unless it is known and shared! Please look through personal collections and give the committee members a call by Friday, March 29. Please contact: Harvey Long, (256) 372-4728, harvey.long@aamu. edu; Veronica Henderson,



(256) 372-4720, veronica. henderson@aamu.edu; or Dr. Annie Payton, (256) 372-5007, annie.payton@ aamu.edu.

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#### March 8, 2019



#### - Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. WILLIAM T. LONG, JR. (b. 1933) was held on Saturday, March 2, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

*Funeral service for MS. THELMA LEE HUGHES (b. 1947) was held on Saturday, March 2, at the Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America with Pastor Edward Anderson officiating.* 

Funeral service for MR. EDWARD ERSKINE DOUG-LAS (b. 1959) was held Saturday, March 2, at the Douglas Tabernacle Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Mario Ford officiating.

Funeral service for MR. RADIE N. SULLIVAN (b. 1939) was held on Saturday, March 2, at the Acklin Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (209 Cobb Road - Gurley, Ala.).

#### - Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. LOUIS EDWARD COOPER, JR., (b. 1944) will be 12 noon, Friday, March 8, at the First Missionary Baptist Church with Dr. Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

Memorial service for MR. LEE CHATMAN (b. 1941) will be 1 p.m., Friday, March 8, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW Huntsville, Ala.).

Funeral service for MRS. ELMENIA BLAKENEY was held Sunday, March 3, at the C.T. Richards Chapel in the Moseley Complex on the campus of Oakwood University with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd officiating.

Graveside service for MRS. JENNIE A. WATSON was held Sunday, March 3, at the Oakwood Memorial Gardens. Memorial service followed at 11 a.m., Sunday, March 3, at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

Funeral service for MR. JOSIAH SANDERSON, JR., better known as "PHAT" was held Saturday, March 2, at the Syler Tabernacle with Dr. Theodis Acklin officiating.

Funeral service for MR. BILLY JOE HOLDEN (b. 1951) was held Saturday, March 2, at the Royal Chapel of Memories( 4315 Oakwood Avenue, NW Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Al Holden officiating.

#### - Serenity Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. SABRINA RICE "BIRD" HAWKINS (b. 1971) was held Monday, February 25, at Madkins Chapel CPCA, located at 2403 Oakwood Road, NW, Huntsville, Ala.

## Called Preach by Pastor/Founder Michael D. Rice

#### Grace Gethsemane Mission Church

One of the underlying

lessons of this story is how

easy it is to lose the battle

called being satisfied and

being sated. He noted that

one can be satisfied but not

between what Blaise Pascal

## The Wilderness of "Sin"

#### Exodus 16

This chapter opens with the chronicling of Israel's journey from a place called Elim to what was known as The Wilderness of Sin. Even though this geographical location is associated with Sinai and not the word sin, this place did literally become one where the people of Israel did actually sin against God because they disobeyed His command concerning the gathering of manna. God told Moses that provision of manna was a test to see if they would indeed follow His instructions. As it turned out, some didn't, and they ended up with maggot-filled, smelly leftovers.

## 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. sated, that is, fully satisfied. Only God can fully satisfy, and scripture tells us that He knows how to give good gifts to His children and that He will not

withhold any good thing, and as the Psalmist wrote; Your hand satisfies the desires of every living thing. As people of faith, we must learn to trust



that Hand rather than hoarding so many things, seeking to satisfy our souls with temporal things, thereby making the mistake that the man with the many barns did

when he told his soul that more barns would satiate his soul. When we take that stand, we are literally living in a wilderness of sin.





#### Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF Agent AL #A-058076 New York Life Insurance Company 200 Clinton Avenue, Suite 600 Huntsville, AL 35801 Tel: 256-517-5922 Direct Tel: 256=852-7328 Fax: 256-593-1842 ireedus@ft.newyorklife.com New York Life "The Company You Keep"





#### March 8, 2019



Here are the top issues in Washington, D.C., for this week's edition.

1. The House and Senate are in session this week. House Democrats will bring their top priority to the floor - legislation to enact sweeping campaign and election reform - designated as "H.R. 1." The bill will require automatic voter registration, force so-called "Dark Money" groups to disclose donors, mandate that all presidential and vice-presidential candidates release 10 years of tax returns, expand early voting nationally, and require House redistricting to be conducted via independent commissions. It will also close a loophole that allows ex-members of Congress and others to avoid registering as lobbyists by claiming to be "strategic advisors." The House GOP is planning to offer a motion to recommit that it hopes will lure away some moderate Democrats to ban ballot "harvesting," which the GOP claims gave the Democrats an edge in their 2018 California election blowout. The Senate will continue this week to confirm federal judgeships and other federal nominees, while it prepares to vote sometime in the next two weeks on a resolution terminating President Trump's Southern Border Emergency Declaration, which the House approved last week on a vote of 245-182.

According to published reports, there are now four Senate Republicans who have announced they oppose the emergency declaration –

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Sens. Paul (KY), Murkowski (AK), Collins (ME), and Tillis (NC) – who, if they vote yes on the resolution along with all Democrats, would send it to the President for an expected veto (the first of his presidency).

2. On Monday, President Trump addressed the National Association of Attorneys General's Winter Meeting at the Capital Hilton and then hosted the 2018 NCAA Division I Football champs North Dakota State at the White House. On Wednesday, the President attended an American Workforce Policy Advisory Board meeting. On Thursday, he hosted a meeting at the White House with Czech **Republic Prime Minister** Andrej Babiš. On Friday, the President will attend a meeting at the Pentagon.

3. Last Thursday, House Appropriations Chair Nita Lowey (D-NY) sent a "dear colleague" letter to all members of the House in which she informed them that, although she is a "strong proponent," she would continue the ban on congressionally-added project designations, known as "earmarks,"

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BIRTHDAY - March 8 - LOUISE BEAVERS - A pioneering actress during the 1920s and 1930s. She was most famous and noted for her portrayal of Delilah Johnson, in the original 1934 version of "Imitation Of Life."

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due to a lack of "bipartisan and bicameral agreement" on restarting the process for the upcoming FY 2020 appropriations cycle. Read the letter here: https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/ democrats.appropriations. house.gov/files/Lowey%20 FY20%20DC.pdf

4. According to Sunday's Wall Street Journal, U.S. and China trade negotiators are nearing an agreement that would lift most of the sanctions imposed on Chinese goods last year, while China would lift its tariffs and other impacts on U.S. imports. The two countries also reportedly reached agreement on currency manipulation, which allowed President Trump to postpone a scheduled tariff increase on March 1. A formal announcement could take place in late March, when Chinese President Xi

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Jinping is planning to visit the President at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida.

5. On Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Peter DeFazio (D-OR) testified at a House Ways and Means Committee hearing on "Our Nation's Crumbling Infrastructure and the Need for Immediate Action," in a bid to keep up the momentum on his \$500 billion infrastructure bill, which he would like to bring to the House floor in May 2019. The Ways and Means Committee must approve the source of the revenue for the bill. Watch the hearing live here: https://www.youtube.com/c/waysandmeanscommitteehearings

6. On Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human

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Services Education will hold its first oversight hearing of the year targeting the Department of Education. Rep. Rose DeLauro (D-CT), the chair of the subcommittee, previously stated she plans to scrutinize the Trump administration's actions on student loan servicing. She's been particularly critical of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' efforts to shield federal loan servicers from state regulation and investigations. More information on the hearing is available at: Hearing: Protecting Student Borrowers: Loan Servicing Oversight

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#### The Valley Weekly

#### March 8, 2019

# This Spring, Greatly Improve Value of Your Older Valley Home

(BPT) - Do you own an older home, and are you looking to make upgrades that matter? Strategic enhancements not only increase a property's resale value, but also its functionality.

#### Technology additions:

Smart-home features are frequently requested in new construction. Fortunately, your older home can become a smart home too when you implement technology, such as home automation. Thanks to WiFi, there's no need for clumsy and costly rewiring.

Tankless water heaters: ideal for older homes because they are easy to install, take up much less space and can reduce energy costs by as much as 60 percent. Because they heat water on demand, you never have to worry about running out of hot water.

Wall removal: Removing a wall between the kitchen and living room can enhance the functionality of the area and provide a modern open concept design. Cutouts in walls are another option if the wall cannot be completely removed. Remember to ensure any wall is not load-bearing before removal, so you don't impact the structural integrity of the home.

**Popcorn ceilings:** Once upon a time, popcorn ceilings were the top trend installed in every house. Today, they distract the eye and make a home look old. Consider hiring someone to redo your ceilings or research how to scrape it yourself. Leave flat or add a knock-down texture, which is a popular modern drywall finishing technique.

New paint/wallpaper: By updating the walls, your house will feel more modern and you can customize to your personal tastes. Dedicate a weekend to painting the walls in your favorite spaces and you'll be amazed at the transformation.

Painting old grout: It can be time-consuming and tedious to replace grout, so to get a fresh look consider painting it instead. Specialty grout paint makes the process simple with easy application features that simply roll on.

**Update hardware:** Hardware throughout a home gets dingy and dated. To update a space without an overhaul, simply change out the hardware. Cabinet knobs, drawer handles, towel racks and more in a modern metallic hue can make a space feel fresh again without much investment.

**Energy-efficient insulation:** There are many modern insulation options available today that weren't around when older homes were built, and many of those homes have little to no insulation at all. In addition to insulation, remember to seal spaces for air loss, such as air ducts, doors, windows, pipe inlets and the attic.

**Embrace the history:** Be sure to research the history of the home and neighborhood. Perhaps you can hire someone to update the original wood flooring, so it has the modern stain tone you like, but the planks still maintain the home's original luster.

Light fixtures: Lightfixture styles change through the years and can make your home appear older than necessary. Replacements can make a world of difference. For example, replace an old brass chandelier with a modern pendant design. Not only will it be a style update, but the light output can make the space more usable.



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Cocktails at *The View* Every Wednesday evening 4:30-8. Bring your friends and watch the sun go down on our NEW overlook. Seating provided, Full cash bar and gournet food items for purchase.

Lunch & Experience at *The View* Enjoy a presentation by one of our expert guest speakers, followed by a delicious catered box lunch from The Chef Next Door. Tickets are \$25 in advance.

2Chefs at *The View* Join us at our table for an exclusive evening of exquisite dining and wine pairings under the stars. Reservations are limited and prices vary depending on menu.

For The View event details and tickets, visit burrittonthemountain.com!

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# **UAH All-Time Wins Leader Emerges**

The University of Alabama in Huntsville baseball head coach Hunter Royer became the program's all-time wins leader on Friday, March 1, following a 15-3 victory over Christian Brothers.

Hunter Royer entered his ninth season as head coach of UAH baseball in 2018-19, having amassed a career record of 267-167-2 in eight seasons with the program.

Through eight seasons

as head coach, Royer has guided the Chargers to the NCAA South Regional in 2012 and 2014 as well as a GSC Tournament Championship in 2014 and appearances in the GSC Tournament Championship game additionally in the 2012 and 2016 campaigns.

Royer has coached two MLB Amateur Draft selections, five All-Americans, two GSC Players of the Year, one ABCA, D2CCA and NCBWA South Region



*Royer* Player of the Year, two GSC Freshmen of the Year, and

35 All-GSC honorees.