Student Aiming to Change the World, p. 7



Get Över Your "Self," p. 8



Friday March 26, 2021 Vol. 7, No. 29 ValleyWeeklyllc.com

"Show me a population that is deeply religious, and I will show you a servile population, content with whips and chains ..." - Hubert Henry Harrison, 1883-1927

Ruby Ford, p. 2

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH Betty Kelly Austin

Betty Kelly Austin became director of athletics at Alabama A&M University in March 2007. Austin's stellar career encompasses a lengthy stint as one of the top volleyball coaches in the country, finishing with over 600 career victories. Coach Austin's teams won six-straight Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) volleyball titles from 2000-05 and 11 more Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) titles in her 30 years as head coach. She was named SWAC Coach of the Year in each of her six championship seasons.

Austin retired from her coaching duties following the 2006 season, ending her volleyball career with a 603-235 record.

She also served as the head women's basketball coach at Alabama A&M during the 1977-78 and 1981-82 seasons.

As director of athletics role, Austin strengthened the athletic program's systems and processes, including filing and



meeting all NCAA regulations and reporting guidelines. She increased revenue generation for the athletic programs and implemented a plan to increase use of the Louis Crews Stadium to include special group nights at each of the home football games.

Events at Louis Crews Stadium under her tenure include a FIFA international soccer match, the Alabama High School Football All-Star Game, home to the Alabama Renegades women's football team, and the Huntsville Black Arts Festival, to name a few.

LRC to Honor Six During WHM

Alabama A&M University's J.F. Drake Memorial Learning Resources Center will hold a virtual panel discussion, "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced," on Wednesday, March 31, at 11 a.m.

Six panelists will include Dr. Tonya Perry, Dr. Jeanette Jones and Erica "Fox" Washington (all from AAMU); AAMU alumna Shelia Nash-Stevenson, NASA; Libby Crawford, Faith & Community Alliance Cincinnati; and Dr. Wendy M. Wilson, Chief of Staff, Albany State University. For more information, contact Thedis Bryant at thedis.bryant@aamu.edu



Washington in One Minute, Page 2 Valley Deaths, Page 3 Preston Brown's Champion Game Plan, Page 3 PowerShots, Page 4 *tim allston:* Perspectives, Page 5 Called 2 Preach, Page 6 Spotlight on Our Elders, Page 6 Valley Events, Page 8

EGO Chapter Awards Scholarships to Local Students

Traditionally, the fourth Friday in February marks the selection of young high school women in North Alabama. They gather at the Von Braun Civic Center in Huntsville to be presented as debutantes by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc's Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter.

Young women are awarded scholarships to continue their education. However, this year the pandemic forced the chapter members to move the scholarship program to a virtual platform.

On March 6, 2021, the program, entitled "Resilience in a Time of Change



in a Virtual World," celebrated the hard work and accomplishments of 14 young women who are currently seniors in high schools across North Alabama.

The program, chaired by Ms. Terry Miller and cochaired by Ms. Dominique Jefferson, featured performances by violinist Emma Boyd, and the Dance Theater of Huntsville. Mrs. Kenya Goggans Hunt challenged the young women and the audience to find their purpose and calling and follow the path that God has put before them.

Dr. Cheryl R. Davis, chapter president, presented the Tea Rose, Trailblazer and Pearl Scholarships to awardees who were selected based on criteria established for all applicants.

Tea Rose Scholarship

1st Place goes to Miss Shakiya Friend/Jemison High School in the amount of \$3,000; 2nd Place -JaKarra Oglesby/James Clemens High School, \$2,000.

Trailblazer Scholarship

1st Place-Jasmine Shearod/Sparkman High School, \$3,000

Pearl Scholarship

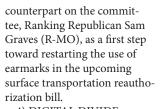
1st Place- Trinity Cummings/Sparkman High School \$3,000; 2nd Place-Makenzie Friend/Mae Jemison High School, \$2,000; 3rd Place - Joy Robinson/Bob Jones High School, \$1,500

Six book stipends in the amount of \$1,000 were awarded to Destiny Canady/James Clemens High School, Sarah Chase/Sparkman High School, Chase Holloway/St. John Paul II Catholic High School, Mariah Mathis/Grissom High School, Erin Minor/ Austin High School and Taryn Williams/James Clemens High School.

Valley Weekly

doses per day, the nation may reach 200 million doses by the end of April. On Sunday, in response to a marked increase in immigrants seeing to enter the U.S., the President said he may visit the southern border in the future and would like to put more emphasis on ensuring migrants don't travel to the border. The Biden administration has continued turning away most migrants, though it has allowed unaccompanied minors into the U.S. and more than 14,000 minors who traveled to the U.S. without their families are currently in federal custody as of last Thursday.

Wednesday, the House Republican Conference voted to rescind its 10-year ban on earmarks and allow House GOP Members to request funding for specific projects a process already restarted by House Democrats. The new GOP rule prohibits its leaders from giving "consideration to a Member's seniority, committee assignments, or position in the elected leadership when facilitating a request." On Friday, House Appropriations Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) extended the deadlines for submitting earmarks to the 12 appropriations subcommittees from the current mid-April to the end of April. The Washington Post reported that House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Peter DeFazio (D-OR) met Friday afternoon with his Republican



4) DIGITAL DIVIDE. According to advocates and researchers, at least 12 million American children lack access to reliable or affordable broadband internet at home one year after Covid-19 forced schools into a new world of online learning. Some college students are also struggling to access fast web connections needed for remote learning, especially in rural communities. The FCC is standing up

a newly approved \$7.2 billion emergency connectivity fund intended to help more students get online at home. It is also reviewing potential new ways to use its existing E-Rate discount program for school and library broadband. Also, Senate Broadband Caucus co-Chair Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-SC) are working to advance a \$94 billion spending proposal to help digitally unconnected households. Ron Hamm Hamm Consulting Group 400 North Capitol Street, NW Suite 585 Washington, DC 20001

T: 202-596-8384 rhamm@hammconsulting.com



Beyond a bank. Beyond expectations.

At Bryant Bank, our vision is to see every Alabamian experience a financially stable future and live in a thriving community.

We are invested in your success and the success of the place we both call home. We're here to be a trusted partner, to exceed your expectations, and to help both you and our community invest in its full potential.



Downtown Huntsville & Southeast Huntsville Personal, Business, & Mortgage Banking Services BryantBank.com | 256-535-1045 NMLS 58285

Valley Weekly Washington in One Minute

Here are the happenings in

Washington, D.C., this week:

House is in recess this week

and has no floor votes sched-

uled until April 13 (although

House committees will con-

tinue to meet this week). The

Senate is in session this week

and will vote on Secretary of

Labor-designate (and Boston

Mayor) Marty Walsh and Sur-

geon General-designate Vivek

cabinet nominees. The Senate

passed by the House last week

by a 415-3 vote, to extend the

Paycheck Protection Program

(PPP) loans from March 31 to

May 31 (and would also give

the Small Business Adminis-

tration an extension to June 30

to process loans). According

to Forbes, since its inception

in March 2020, more than

7.8 million PPP loans have

\$704 billion in aid and, as

of March 17, there is about

been approved totaling nearly

\$103 billion left in as-yet to be

claimed PPP funds. Over the

application deadline for the

Murthy, as well as other sub-

is expected to take up a bill,

1) ON THE FLOOR. The

Publisher The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

Editorial Consultant/ Senior Editor Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial Assistants Linda Burruss Phyllis Chunn William Huston, Sr. Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Advertising Associate Phyllis Chunn

- Contributing Editors tim allston Minister Preston Brown Robert Drake Ron Hamm Pastor Michael D. Rice

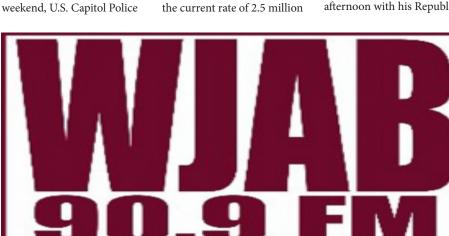
Website Administrator Calvin Farier

Mailing Address: The Valley Weekly 415A Church Street - Suite 100 Huntsville, AL 35801 (256) 651-9028 www.valleyweeklyllc.com Copyright 2021

Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to info@vallevweeklvllc.com. Items do not necessarily reflect the views of The Valley Weekly, LLC.

Submissions to TVW do not necessarily reflect the belief of the editorial staff and TVW is not responsible for the authenticity of submissions.

The Valley Weekly Ad Rates Single Issue		
Back Cover	0	\$1,000
Full Page	10x10 inches	\$800
	7.5x10 inches	\$600
Half Page	Horizontal	
	5x10 inches	\$400
	Vertical	
	10x5 inches	\$400
Fourth Page	2	
0	5x5 inches	\$200
Eighth Page		
0 0	2.5x5 inches	\$100
Sixteenth Page		
	2.5x2.5	\$50
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$50/FFlat Fe
	(4 col. in. minimum=	\$24)
6 Month/1	Yr10% & 20% Discount	



www.wjab.org

took down the outer perimeter

fencing from around the Capi-

tol erected after the January

6 riot, allowing for vehicular

pendence and Constitution

than 2 months. An "inner"

Capitol for the time being.

Avenues for the first in more

fence line and National Guard

troops will remain around the

dent Biden met virtually with

during their annual retreat.

On Tuesday, the President

to promote the American

travelled to Columbus, Ohio,

Rescue Plan COVID relief law

and celebrate the anniversary

of the Affordable Care Act.

On Wednesday, he hosted

an Equal Pay Day event and,

on Thursday, he held his first

press conference. Last Friday,

America reached the 100-mil-

lionth COVID vaccine dose on

Day 58 of the Biden Presiden-

cy, which the Administration

the pledge the President made

to reach this milestone in the

first 100 days of his term. At

noted was 42 days ahead of

the Senate Democratic Caucus

2) BIDEN 100 DAYS. Presi-

traffic to resume on Inde-

3) EARMARKS. Last

March 26, 2021

THE VALLEY WEEKLY **VALLEY DEATHS**

NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189 Funeral service TBA for MRS. LOIS THOMPSON (b. 1937) and MR. THOMAS EARL CRUTCHER (b. 1954).

Graveside service for MR. THADIOUS PLESS (b. 1965) was held Saturday, March 20, at Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery (Highway 29 - Troy, Ala.).

Funeral service for MR. JOE BAKER (b. 1943) was held Saturday, March 20, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Elder Derrick Langford officiating.

Funeral service for MR. JOE W. BUCKLEY (b. 1941) was held Friday, March 12, at Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church with the Reverend Joe Stevenson officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME 4315 Oakwood Avenue

Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Funeral service pending at press time for MRS. BARBARA DENT (b. 1931), MS. FAREN MONIQUE DOUGLAS (b. 1987), MRS. MILDRED OTEY (b.1925) and MR. RILEY JONES (b. 1958).

Funeral service for MR. NEHEMIAH AUGUSTUS CLARKE (b. 1918) will be 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 28, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Doug Simons officiating. Interment will be in Wild Pine Family Plot in Westmoreland, Jamaica, West Indies.

Graveside service for ELDER JAMES A. PAYNE (b. 1952) was held Sunday, March 21, at the Oakwood Memorial Gardens (1 H.L. Cleveland Way Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd officiating.

Graveside service for DEACON CHRISTOPHER W. PEND-LETON (b. 1951) was held Saturday, March 20, at Meadowlawn Garden of Peace (450 Mount Lebanon Road, Toney, Ala.) with Pastor Jaymes Mooney officiating.

Graveside service for MR. FREDDIE LEE TAYLOR (b. 1940) was held Sunday, March 21, at the Oakwood Memorial Gardens (1 H.L. Cleveland Way Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Drive NW Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-9693 Funeral service TBA for MR. HOWARD LEE LANGFORD (b. 1954), MS. STEPHANIE ANDERSON, MS. ANGENET-TA HILL and MR. HARRIS HOLLAND. Valley Weekly



killed by law

enforcement

proportional"

way, therefore

causing many

become com-

mitted to that

was the "Me

Too" move-

to a cause.

Then, there

ment that addressed

and assault of so many

women. This also caused

people to be committed

Jesus, there was often

Now, at the time of

sexual harassment

in a "non-

people to

cause.

PRESTON BROWN

"STAND FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS" Matthew 5:11-12 says, Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of

falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. It goes on to say, Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

You know, today we live in a time where "current events" motivate us to be committed to a cause.

Things like "Black Lives Matter" was motivated by so many black people being

City Council Meetings



Huntsville 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 5:30 p.m., Downtown Huntsville.

Watch the meetings live via HuntsvilleAL. gov/HSVTV or on the City of Huntsville Facebook page (@ huntsvillecity). For more informa-

For more informa tion, call (256) 427-5011.



one motivation for "commitment to a cause," and that was life or death. So many Christians at the time were committed to Jesus. So much so that

they were willing to die for Him.

Today, are we willing to stand for the things in life that really matter and can make a difference? Are we willing to

stand for the things

that Jesus represents, like love, peace, joy and humility?

You see, whenever we stand for things that matter, we will always have opposition.

But whenever we commit to a cause that is long overdue, and stand firm on what we believe, our reward will be great. And, the reward comes when lives are changed and people have a voice to say, "Not anymore."

Remember, if we don't stand for something, we will fall for anything ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and be safe.

Make sure you purchase a copy of my book, "A CHAMPION GAME PLAN FOR LIFE," at amazon.com

<image><image>

— Valley Weekly -How Teaching Burns the Soul by John "Jahni" Moore

One Friday afternoon while in my studio, putting some finishing touches on a painting, I received a text. It was from a student informing me that she had been accepted into the School of The Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), my latest alma mater, and Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), from which I earned a design certification.

I think I was more excited than she. First, I was honored that I had written one of her reference letters directly to the board of admissions. Even more so, I am so proud of her. To have worked with her, and shared my inspiration and knowing is an honor I hold in high regard. It was much deeper than the school acceptance or the accompanying notable scholarship. It was about the bearing of fruit from seeds planted. Life imparted now imparting life. I made sure



her family celebrated that night. My family celebrated too, in her honor and mine. In actuality, it was just one family having occasion to rejoice in two separate

households.

Recently, I received word that another of my students, along with the first had been accepted into the School of The Art Institute of Chicago

(SAIC), as well as Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), from which I hold an advance placement teaching certificate.

In this case, I echo the sentiments from the first paragraph. I'm elated to the tenth power to see these exemplary humans blossom from wide-eyed searching freshman to stellar seniors headed to

take flight in their airspace. This is a part of teaching

that will always burn in my soul.

The part that I will

State Farm[®]

never leave.

It stretches far beyond the limited space of a fourwalled classroom. It's the connection to that dream space. The link to the liberating power of finding one's path.

Both of these young ladies, Laila and Kiera, are now an inspiration to me to continue to share my



"When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."

+Audre Lorde

light.

This brings me to recall a song we sang in church when I was a child ...

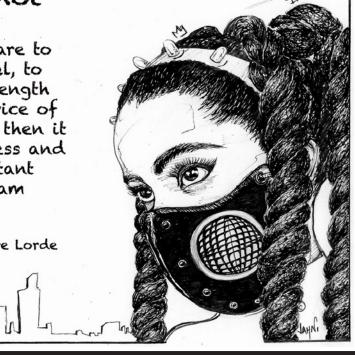
This little light of mine I'm going to let it shine Oh, this little light of mine I'm going to let it shine

This little light of mine I'm going to let it shine

"Don't leave inferences to be drawn when evidence can be presented."

Let it shine, all the time, let it shine

Little did I know at the time, but that song has become an anthem in my quest for my summum *bonum*, my highest good on this planet, this time around.



MARY F SPEARS, AGENT

7833-A Highway 72 West Madison, AL 35758 Bus: 256-837-8899 Fax: 256-837-8225 mary.spears.cffc@statefarm.com





DRAKE STATE

THE START OF **GREAT CAREERS**

APPLY NOW! SUMMER CLASSES BEGIN MAY 21

drakestate.edu

- Richard Wright



Perspectives on God Views Current News

Celebrating Women's History Month: My "Harriet Tubman 2.0," Miss Dawnette K. Chambers So she said, "I will surely go with you, . . . for the Lord will sell Sisera

into the hand of a woman. . . . "Judges 4:9

Here, the Old Testament's first and only woman judge Deborah (translated, "one who brings people into right relationships") led Israel to defeat Sisera and the Canaanite enemies. Similarly through the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman led slaves to freedom.

I salute Oakwood University PR professor Dawnette Chambers for, likewise, leading students (and me) from communications ignorance into 21st-century strategic communications.

DISCLAIMER: While my experience was not as transformative and life-and-death as the previous two examples, these three women nonetheless led people from problems

to solutions. More importantly, Dawnette demonstrated that one does not have to be old or deceased to be a pioneer.

Nurturing the Starry-eyed Seed Fresh from just her first PR course with OU professor Patti Conwell, in December 2011, this



starry-eyed coed walked into my Oakwood PR office wanting to work, learn PR. Although minimally-schooled and untested, she possessed a quiet fire that outshined her lack of experience.

Once hired, Dawnette listened attentively, asked probing questions, and then wrote news releases and handled special events.

In 2012, she became Oakwood's first (and so far the only) National Student of the Year awardee from the Society of Adventist Communicators, which recognizes top communications professionals and students.

In 2018 and armed with both her master's degree and her two-year-old PR agency, Oakwood invited her to return and to succeed her mentor Conwell on the faculty.

Old Dogs and New Tricks

Perhaps none of Dawnette's gen z students challenged her more than me, this baby boomer/author-publisher client! That twenty-something taught this sixty-something painstakingly yet patiently about hashtags, memes, and nut graphs and, I learned remedially. I think.

Pioneering Forward, ...

Leadership expert John Maxwell differentiates an inheritance (what you leave to someone) from a legacy (what you leave in someone).

The December 2020 Southern Tidings monthly magazine announced that Chambers had just established Oakwood's Public Relations Student Society of America chapter https:// bit.ly/3bVxL1B - HBCU's 20th and Alabama's 10th.

Now, she'll create future Conwells and Chambers.

I salute you, Dawnette Krishaunda Chambers. Yes, (fe-male) pioneers can be twenty-something!

Spring Awakening: Renewing Your Lawn and Overall Spirit

(BPT) - As a homeowner, now is the perfect time to start thinking about lawn care again. Spring is your first and best - opportunity to get your outdoor living space in top shape for the warmer months ahead. And depending on where you live in the U.S., that window begins whenever the soil starts warming.

Valley Weekly

To help you get ready for a healthy, lush green lawn this spring, TruGreen, America's #1 lawn care company, shares five things you should do.

1) Start with a spring cleanup: Spring cleaning isn't just for the inside of your home. Your lawn has collected fallen leaves, sticks and other debris over the winter months. Leaving behind this plant matter can smother the growth of your lawn and leave behind unsightly dead patches on the turf. A cleanup will give your lawn room to breathe, so it can take in water and sunshine, as well as any fertilizer or weed control treatments.

2) Clean up the mower: Spring is also time to dust off the lawn mower, fill it with fresh fuel and get your first mow. The first mowing of the season removes dead blades of grass and encourages the lawn to start waking from the winter.

3) Get a step ahead of weed growth: The return of crabgrass is not something to look forward to, however, the good news is, you can get these and other unsightly weeds under control by applying a treatment before they start popping up around your lawn. But keep in mind, it's important to get the timing just right.

"Timing is critical when it comes to applying preventative weed treatments," says Brian Feldman, TruGreen's Director of Technical Operations - North. "Treatment should be applied under very specific soil and temperature



conditions. Otherwise, it won't work and you'll end up wasting both product and effort."

To take the guesswork out of weed control, consulting with a lawn care professional like TruGreen can bring you peace of mind and deliver results.

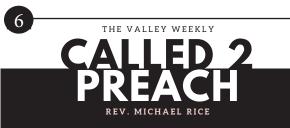
4) Nourish your lawn: Spring presents yet another important window of opportunity to achieve a thick, healthy lawn. After being dormant all winter, it will need a dose of food to help it spring back to life and start growing. Because by summer, your turf will be facing many stresses - heat, drought, insects and disease. A light application of fertilizer can help your lawn take full advantage of spring growth and have it at its best. Don't forget your trees and shrubs, too! The amount of fertilizer needed varies with the age and where your trees and shrubs are located, so contact a professional for expert treatment.

5) Set a simple watering schedule: Regular rainfall is optimal for healthy grass. But when the sun is beating down and it's been more than a week since the last rainfall, you'll need to supplement the lack of rain with a sprinkler. Luckily, you can keep it simple as most lawns will thrive and grow with one inch of water per week. To keep track, set a few empty tuna cans around the lawn. When they get full, indicating an inch of water, you can move the sprinkler to a different section. Trees and shrubs also need some watering TLC; keep them hydrated also, particularly when temperatures start to spike. It's important to remember that every state and region has unique grass and plant types that present their own needs and challenges. Yet, a thick, green lawn you will feel proud of is closer than you think. Call your local lawn professional and they'll create a plan that's tailor-made for your outdoor living space to get it into great shape this spring.

<section-header>

3101 Burritt Drive • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 256.536.2882 www.burrittonthemountain.com OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm

tim allston is the author of The U.S. Coronavirus Crisis and the Rise of the "Silver-Mettle" Leaders, available now at www. timallston.com.



Get Over Your "Self"

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

No, that is not a typo. This was intentional. The idea is just as it says, get over vour "self." How often we have heard it said, "self" got in the way."

I have prayed preliminary preaching prayers that went something like this, "Father God remove "self" out of the way so that only Your Glory is seen in this



Mrs. Ruby Ford

place today."

It is a perpetual proclivity found in the DNA of every human being. Abraham and Sarah fell to its sway and Ishmael was born before Isaac.

Valley Weekly

God had to put Moses in witness-protection for forty years on the backside of a Midian desert because he allowed his emotions to get the best of him and he sought to free his people through vigilante justice rather than waiting on God to empower him to "speak" truth to power and allow God to do the rest.

"Self" can cause one to rush, resist, rebel, or



refrain. Each of these can delay the manifestation of the purpose of God for

one's life. This can and does happen to well-meaning saints of God who seek



Dedicated To You.

Personal Injury | Auto Accidents | Probate & Estate Administration Corporate Law Real Estate Law Divorce Criminal Law

Contact Us Phone: 256-533-1667 Fax: 256-533-1696 info@martinsonandbeason.com

www.martinsonandbeason.com facebook.com/martinsonandbeason



No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.



Albert's Flowers

Located Downtown in Medical District; Closest Florist to Huntsville Hospital Free Delivery to Huntsville Hospital and Local Funeral Homes

716 Madison Street - Huntsville, AL 35801

FLOWERS, GIFTS, **EXOTIC FLOWERS**

Graduate of **American Floral Art School** 256-533-1623 256-536-6911 www.albertsflowers.com



Mrs. Ruby M. Ford was born in Fayetteville, Tenn., and raised in New Market, Ala. She was born to the late Alex and Ruby Adams, the eldest of 13 children. She received her elementary and secondary education in the Madison County School System. Ford enjoyed high school and participated in several school activities.

While in high school, her teachers stressed striving for excellence and empowered her to do so. She successfully completed course work at University of Alabama in Huntsville, Athens State University and Calhoun Community College. In 2005, she graduated magna cum laude from Alabama A&M University with a B.S. degree in accounting. She retired after serving 28 years at the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources State Parks Division. Most of her state service was with Monte Sano State Park in Huntsville, Ala. While at the state park, Ford managed all recordation procedures and bookkeeping processes. She also manages accounting for Mack Ford's Construction, Incorporated, which is a business owned and operated by her husband

She is a faithful member of the Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church, and she is currently a



member of the Deaconess Ministry and serves as Sunday School Teacher in the Adult Department. She has served formally in many capacities, such as president of the Deaconess Ministry and president of the Mud Creek North Alabama Missionary Baptist Association.

MARCH 26 - DIANA ROSS is an American singer and actress. Born and raised in Detroit, Mich., she rose to fame as the lead singer of the vocal group The Supremes, who became Motown's most successful act during the 1960s and one of the world's bestselling girl groups of all time. - Wikipedia.org

for over 50 years.



March 26, 2021

to be all that God desires them to be.

Paul helps us here. He wrote, May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it (My emphasis).

Delivering Results.

Valley Weekly **A&M Student Seeks to Build Enthusiasm for Un-PAC**

Count Alabama A&M University students among organizers nationally who are committed to getting big money out of politics and fixing democracy to the extent that leaders can actually solve urgent problems.

As lawmakers were introducing H.R. 1 (the "For the People Act") on the congressional House floor last week, Sakura Dozier-Muhammad was uniting with more than 100 fellow students throughout the U.S. to launch a new student organization.

SakuraUn-PAC is selfdescribed as "the first and only student organizing group in the country that is focusing specifically on democracy reform" and the three-division (i.e., voting, campaign finance and ethics) H.R. 1. The bill was designed to bolster American's access to voting, decreasing the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and to put in place anti-corruption measures to "fortify our democracy."

A sophomore political science major from Savannah, Ga., Sakura says he was drawn to AAMU

because of its "rich heritage" and the fact that it was his parents' alma mater.

"The student is more informed than one would think," responded Sakura, when asked about the political awareness and engagement of his peers. "My friends and I canvassed door-to-door for the Bernie Sanders campaign last year, and while we were ready to answer questions about current events and hotbutton issues, the students took us by surprise with in-depth responses about our political system and how it needs to be fixed."

His vigorous campaign work made Sakura and other fellow supporters realize "how many things our government can do for us to better the lives of its people." One major takeaway from all of that campaign work, noted Sakura, was the burning question, Why hasn't this been done already?

Sakura reasons that a "broken democracy won't allow real change," all leading back to what



he believes are moneyed interests controlling the political system and voter disenfranchisement. His involvement with the Un-PAC movement fueled by H.R. 1 is underscored by his view that the drive would help "take big money out of politics." Opponents, however, view H.R. 1 as a means to federalize and micromanage state election processes

> "Without respect, there is no love." - J. California Cooper

by imposing what they deem to be unconstitutional mandates.

"Young people have given up on government," says Sakura. "So many of them understand what needs to be fixed, but they acknowledge that the system is so corrupt that it seems impossible." The answer is not simple despair, though. The answer, he believes, lies in

vouth motivation that "takes charge and addresses the issues." It's the same type of motivation that revealed itself and the power

to make change during 2020's summer protests, an energy so strong, he says, that it "can right wrongs of the past."

When asked what three things he would change, if he had the power to do so, Mr. Dozier-Muhammad replied that he would make people more empathetic, understanding and provocative, "so that when we see our fellow human beings wronged, we have the right values to know when to step in to help."

One of Sakura's major influencers has been Dr. Cheryl Carpenter, a now retired English professor, who Sakura said was responsible for "one of the best classes" he has ever taken. The professor helped to relate class readings to students' own struggles. "Her class was one of the factors that put me on the pathway to becoming a teacher."

Although there is so much injustice and so much work to be done to beat it, Sakura is able to occasionally wear a smile because he knows he is part of a generation of young people who "won't go down without a fight."

He encourages incoming students to take it slow. "There's no correct timeline for our lives, so take your time figuring out what you want to do and let it happen naturally," he says. "Don't rush into a relationship or adulthood."

by Jerome Saintjones





amesfsmith@allstate.com



Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co. © 2013 Allstate Insurance Co.



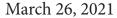
WOMACK & ASSOCIATES LLC

"Partnering With You to Make Informed Decisions"

*Comprehensive Financial Planning *Estate Planning *Accounting Services *Tax Planning and Preparation for Individuals, Businesses, Estates and Trusts To learn more contact us:

Lori A. Womack, CPA/PFS, CFP® Managing Member lwomack@womackassociatesllc.com 4650 Whitesburg Dr S, Suite 101 Huntsville, Alabama 35802 256-534-1360







Thru May 23

"Encounters" Althea Murphy Price Huntsville Museum of Art hsvmuseum.org

"An Evening with Alice Walker" UAH Registration Required http://bit.ly/alicewalkerruab - diversity@uah.edu

atre - \$10-18 - 7-10 p.m.

March 25-26

Alabama A&M University Board of Trustees Meetings www.aamu.edu

March 27 Bulldog Football Alabama A&M University vs. Grambling State University Louis Crews Stadium 2 p.m.

Spring Haunts & Haints Ghost Hunt Historic Lowry

House \$30 www.eventbrite. com

March 27-April 4

Virtual Alumni Homecoming Oakwood University

March 31 Spring Scavenger Hunt Burritt on the Mountain

10-11:30 a.m.

April 1 43rd Annual UNCF Virtual Gala "Building Bridges to Opportunity"

Valley Weekly

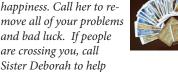
April 2

2021 Virtual Mock Trial History and Political Science Department Oakwood University Meeting ID: 959 1873 1592 Passcode: 568176 11 a.m.

SISTER DEBORAH

Having trouble with the problems in your life? Sister Deborah has your Lucky Num-

bers for love, money and



Sister Deborah to help you get rid of the problem. Get your Lucky Numbers today with guaranteed results at ...

954-394-7127

U.S. Department of Transportation

Virtual Public Involvement Session Notice

An opportunity for you to talk directly with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in a virtual public meeting session concerning your views on the transportation planning process in the Huntsville area is scheduled for:

 Time:
 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

 Date:
 April 13, 2021

Place: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87008344351

These public meetings are part of a review that will assess compliance with Federal regulations pertaining to the transportation planning process conducted by the Huntsville Area MPO, the Alabama Department of Transportation, Huntsville Public Transit, and local units of government in the Huntsville area.

If you are not able to attend either meeting, please address your comments to:

Federal Highway Administration, Alabama Division



9500 Wynlakes Place Montgomery, AL 36117

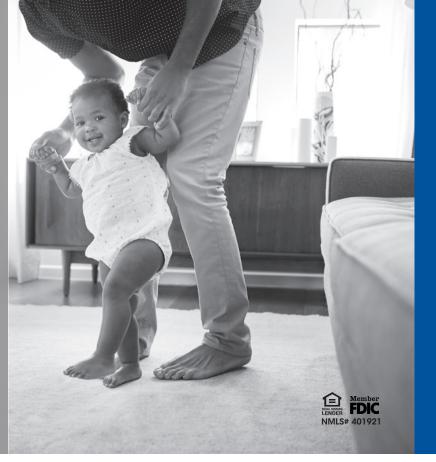
*-or-*Federal Transit Administration, Region 4 230 Peachtree Street, NW Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30303

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids for services should contact the Huntsville Area MPO by writing or calling:

City of Huntsville Planning Department ATTN: Huntsville Area Transportation Study P.O. Box 308 Huntsville, AL 35804 Tel: (256) 427-5100 Email: longrangeplanning@huntsvilleal.gov

Progress Looks Like

Taking The Small Steps That Make A New House Home



Birmingham Daphne Decatur Destin Florence Huntsville Inlet Beach Jones Valley Madison Santa Rosa Beach Vestavia

