

# The Valley Weekly

"If I didn't define myself for myself, I would be  
crunched into other people's fantasies for me and  
eaten alive."

- Audre Lorde

FREE

Volume 5 No. 31

www.valleyweeklyllc.com

Friday, April 12, 2019

## Blue & White Ball Scheduled

The James A. Lane Boys & Girls Clubs will host its annual Blue & White Ball on Friday, April 26, at 6 p.m.

The Ball will take place at the Huntsville Country Club, 2601 Oakwood Av-

enue, NW, Huntsville, Ala., and it will include a silent auction.

The cost is \$50 per ticket and \$500 per table. The public is invited.

## Drake State Inauguration April 27

The students, faculty and staff of J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College have announced the installation of Dr. Patricia Sims as the fourth president in the history of the of the institution.

The ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 27, in the Von Braun Center East Hall at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are on sale at the Drake State Business Office (256) 539-8161 or at Speakin' Out at (256) 551-1020.



## NAACP to Host Fair Housing Panel

The North Alabama Fair Housing Center and the Huntsville-Madison County Branch of the NAACP will host a fair housing panel discussion on Thursday, April 18.

The Northwest Huntsville event will be held from 6-8 p.m. in the Dr. Richard Showers Recreation Center, located at 4600 Blue Spring Road, Huntsville, Ala.

April is Fair Housing Month, and the public is invited to participate in this free event. The program will delve into such topics as housing vouchers, equal housing, fair housing, and the HUD/Habitat Home Ownership Program.

For additional information, please call (256) 655-9330.

## UCMBC to Observe Hold Pastor's 30th Anniversary

*"Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, to acknowledge those who work hard among you, who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work."*

- 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

The 30th Appreciation Celebration for Pastor O. Wendell Davis and Mother Dora Davis will take place on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at the 7:45 a.m. worship service at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 315 Winchester Road NE, Huntsville, Alabama.

Born in New Orleans, Pastor Davis is a native of



Gulfport, Miss. He is a U.S. Army veteran and avid lecturer and speaker.

Rev. T. L. Lewis, Pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Pratt City, Alabama, will deliver the message.

For additional information, contact Mother Betty Showers at 256-852-1150.

## HBG CEO Will Step Down in August

The Huntsville Botanical Garden Board of Directors has announced that CEO Paula Steigerwald has announced her retirement effective August 30, 2019. Steigerwald has served as CEO since joining the garden in 2002. During her tenure, the garden has undergone transformation and growth.

"The past 17 years have been marvelous, and we have achieved great things at the Garden," said Paula Steigerwald, CEO Huntsville Botanical Garden. "It is my hope that the things we have

achieved will be just the beginning of great things yet to come for the garden."

"Paula has done an amazing job as CEO of the garden," said Huntsville Botanical Garden Board Chair Penny Billings. "She provided the leadership, vision, enthusiasm, imagination, and diplomacy to transform this organization into one of the state's top tourist attractions and a resource we are proud to have in our community."

Under Steigerwald's leadership, the garden has added The Children's Gar-

den and Nature Center, the Teledyne Terrace, the Parking Garden and Column Gateway Garden Entrance, and the most recent addition, the Eloise McDonald Propst Guest Center, that opened in 2017.

The Garden was named the Attraction of the Year for the State of Alabama (2008), the Chamber of Commerce Non-Profit of the Year (2008), and the #3 tourism attraction which charge admission in the State (2017 and 2018).

A search committee has been named, and a national

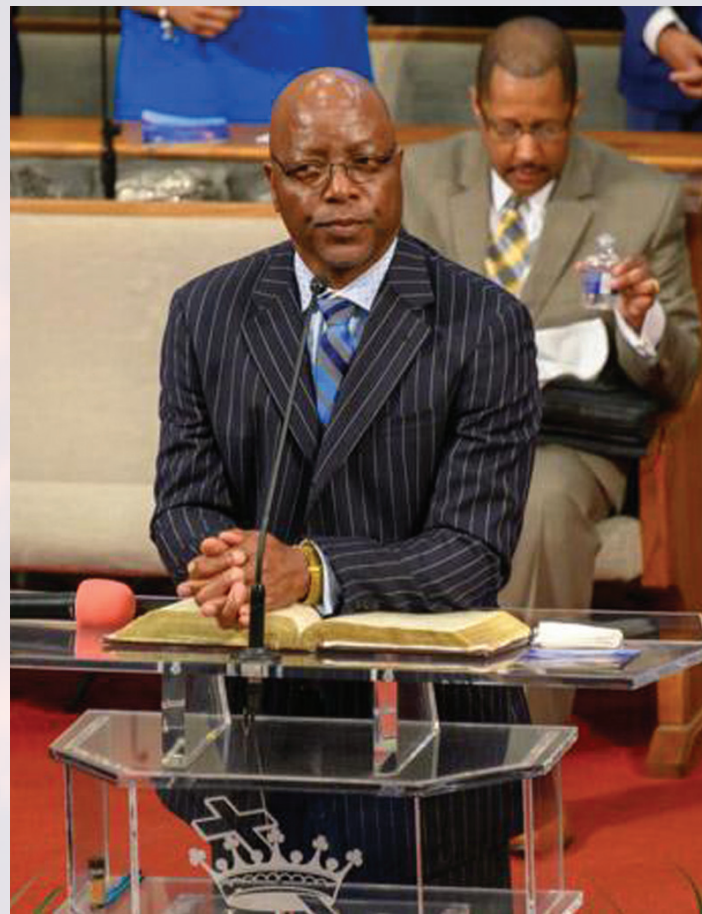


search will begin immediately to fill the role. Interested candidates can submit their resumes at hsbvbgceosearch@gmail.com.

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## St. Luke Observes 35th Anniversary of Pastor T.C. Johnson

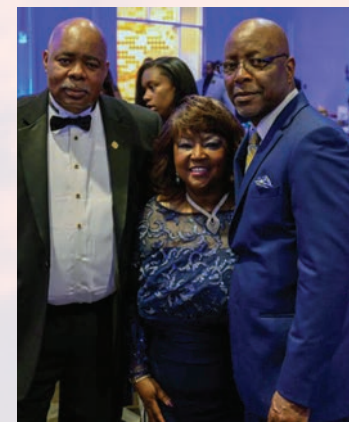
The Pastor T.C. Johnson's 35th Anniversary was held on March 29-31, with the theme "The Reunion."

On Friday, a Gala Soiree was set featuring Comedian Jonathan Slocumb and Don Adams Super Band of Nashville, Tenn. Saxophonist Mike Saxx provided music during social hour prelude, followed by a night of celebration, relaxation, and fellowship.

Held at The Jackson Center, the evening included special guests attending: Representative Laura Hall; Councilman Will Culver; Commissioner JesHenry Malone; School Board Member Michelle Watkins; and former councilman Richard Showers.

On Saturday, "The Reunion Cookout and Concert in the St. Luke Park" was scheduled, highlighting special music provided by the Alabama A&M Gospel Choir; Lillian Kotey-Owens, Cedric Draper; St. Luke Teen "Reunion" Choir; and W.N. McKinney Gospel Choir of Central, Florida. Over 400 family and friends attended the event, filled with food, fellowship, and laughter.

Sunday worship began at 8 a.m., and the worship music ministry was led by the St. Luke "Reunion" Choir, and Pastor Reginald Johnson (Pastor Johnson's oldest son) was preacher. The 11 a.m. worship music ministry was led by W.N. McKinney Gospel Choir of Central Florida and Pastor Robert E. Pearl was preacher.



The Valley Weekly

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# Washington in One Minute



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

1. The House and Senate are in session this week. The House had a short week, because on Wednesday afternoon, House Democrats travelled to Leesburg, Va., to hold their 3-day retreat – postponed from mid-February due to the 45-day government shutdown – where Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell was among the speakers. The House will vote on a bill to reinstate the Federal Communications Commission's Obama-era net neutrality regulations, that were repealed in December 2017 and prevent broadband providers from blocking, slowing down or charging for faster access to the internet. It may also vote on a bill to raise the FY2020-21 budget caps on

nondefense spending by \$34 billion, to \$631 billion, and increase defense spending by \$17 billion, to \$664 billion in FY2020 and by an additional \$15 billion and \$16 billion in FY2021, respectively (in contrast, the Senate Budget Committee approved its budget for Fiscal Year 2020 without breaking the FY2020 budget caps, which would cut \$126 billion in federal discretionary spending, including a \$73 billion cut at the Pentagon and a \$98 billion cut for domestic spending). The Senate will continue to try to find a compromise to pass the FY2019 emergency supplemental appropriations bill, which was passed by the House in January to provide aid to Gulf Coast states hit last year by hurricanes, fire disasters in the West, and Midwest states

that suffered more recent flooding – that has become bogged down on opposition from President Trump on additional disaster funding for Puerto Rico.

2. President Trump announced the resignation of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, with whom he had expressed displeasure over the record number of immigrants at the Mexican border, to be replaced as Acting Secretary by Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan. The New York Times named former Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli as a top choice to replace Nielsen. On Tuesday, the President met with Egyptian President El Sisi at White House ...

3. Last week, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) triggered a parliamentary move in the Senate to in effect eliminate the 60-vote filibuster threshold for Trump Administration federal district court judge nominees by slashing debate time from 30 hours to 2 hours, making it the 3rd time the Senate has chipped away at the filibuster since former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) in 2013 first scrapped the supermajority requirement for Obama Administration appellate court nominees and then Sen. McConnell followed suit for Supreme Court nominees at the time of Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch's floor debate in 2017. On Friday, Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) called for the Senate to eliminate the last remaining piece of the filibuster regard-

ing legislation.

4. Notable hearings this week include a House Judiciary Committee hearing on "Hate Crimes and the Rise of White Nationalism" on Tuesday (which will include a witness from Facebook to testify on its new policy banning content praising, supporting or representing white nationalism) and a House Water Resources & Environment Subcommittee hearing on the full utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund ...

5. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos returns to Congress to testify before the House Education and Labor Committee for the first time since Democrats took control of the House.

6. House Education and Labor ranking member Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) stated late last week that she is optimistic that Congress will reauthorize the Higher Education Act but was quick to point out differences between the two sides on higher education policy. She praises Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA) as having the "best intentions" but is critical of how much Democrats have challenged Education Secretary DeVos.

7. Last Tuesday, the Democratic National Committee announced that the second 2020 Democratic primary debate will be held in Detroit on July 30 and 31. It had previously announced the first primary debate would be held in Miami on June 26 and 27. Overall, there will be 12 presidential primary debates during the 2020 cycle and the lineups for the two-night events will be chosen at random and announced at a later date.

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Fellowship of Faith Church

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

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Huntsville Bible College

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Lakeside United Methodist Church

Lucky's Supermarket

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N. Ala. Center for Educational Excellence

Oakwood University Post Office

Regency Retirement Village

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



## HSC Presenting Bicentennial Jubilee

### *A Bicentennial Jubilee Celebrating the Legacy of the Negro Spiritual*

The Huntsville Spiritual Chorale (HSC) invites the public to an afternoon of phenomenal and historic music! On Saturday, April 13, several choirs will gather to sing America's original mu-

sic—the Negro Spiritual. The program will begin at 3 p.m. at Fellowship Presbyterian Church, 3406 Meridian Street, Huntsville, Ala.

In addition to the HSC, other performing groups are Heritage from Baton Rouge, La.; Alabama A&M

University Choir; First Seventh-Day Adventist Church Chorale; Oakwood University Church Chorale; and the Alabama Youth Ballet, which will perform to the background of W.C. Handy compositions.

The mission of the HSC, founded and directed by William and Brenda Davis, is to help preserve the Negro Spiritual by performing it for contemporary audiences, especially young people, so that this meaningful music from the past has a thriving future as well.

The HSC is pleased to offer this event to the Huntsville community in the spirit of the Bicentennial Celebration.



**VOLUNTEERISM SUPPORTERS:** Civic and community leaders (l-r) Commissioner JesHenry Malone and Pastor T.C. Johnson of St. Luke Christian Church were among those present at the joint Alabama A&M University and American Red Cross Serving the City as One vounteer day Saturday, April 6, where a thouasnd students participated in a smoke detector initiative. (J. Saintjones)

## Oakwood to Honor CNN Notable Rye

Oakwood University will hold a special program to emphasize social justice on Saturday, April 13, when it honors Attorney Angela Rye of CNN, a commentator and social justice advocate.

The event will be held at 11 a.m. at Oakwood University Church. The activity is part of the 2019 Inaugural Pre-Alumni Celebration. Special music by The Aeolians.



**BIRTHDAY - APRIL 12 - HERBIE HANCOCK - Academy Award and Grammy Award-winning jazz musician, who is credited for being one of the primary architects of the "post-bop" sound.**  
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# The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

## April 18

Alabama A&M University  
and Drake State Commu-  
nity & Technical College  
Community Engagement  
Open House  
300 Drake Cafetorium  
3421 Meridian Street N.  
Huntsville, Ala. - 5-7 p.m.

## April 18-21

Oakwood University  
Alumni Weekend  
Von Braun Center

## April 25

Patricia Haley Charity  
2nd Annual Day of Action  
Banquet

## Advocating for Change

Featuring Comedic Guest  
Rickey Smiley  
Historical Huntsville De-  
pot & Roundhouse  
patriciahaleycharity.com  
320 Church Street  
Huntsville, Ala.  
6:30-9:30 p.m.

## April 26

Alabama A&M University  
Annual Black Tie Scholar-  
ship Gala  
Von Braun Center North  
Hall  
Tickets: (256) 372-8344

## April 27

The Inauguration of Dr.  
Patricia Sims as the Fourth  
President of J.F. Drake State  
Community and Technical  
College  
Tickets: (256) 539-8161  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala. 11:30 a.m.

## May 3

Alabama A&M University  
Founder's Day  
T.M. Elmore Building

## May 17

Community Free Clinic  
Inaugural Golf Tourna-  
ment  
The Links at Redstone

# Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

## ORDINARY PEOPLE

In Judges 6: 14-16 it  
says: *"The Lord turned to  
Gideon and said, Go in  
the strength that you have  
and save Israel out of  
Midian's hand. Am I not  
sending you? Pardon me,  
my Lord, Gideon replied,  
but how can I save Israel  
? My clan is the weakest  
in Manasseh, and I am  
the least in my family.  
The Lord answered, I  
will be with you, and you  
will strike down all the  
Midianites, leaving none  
alive."*

Here's the question,  
would you like for God  
to use you and if so, what  
kind of people do you  
think He is looking for?  
Well, let me just say He  
is looking for someone  
just like anyone of us.  
He's looking for someone

with faith the size of a mus-  
tard seed. Is that you? You  
see, we need to realize that  
God uses "ordinary people"  
to grow His  
kingdom and  
bring Him  
glory. All we  
need is faith  
and to let  
God be God.

When we  
look at this  
scripture,  
we see that Gideon was an  
ordinary person. However,  
God did not see him that  
way. Matter of fact, God  
always thinks more of us  
than we think of ourselves.

In other words, we may  
feel like we are "less than  
enough". But God feels like  
we are more than enough.  
In Judges 6:12, God tells  
Gideon he is a mighty war-  
rior! But Gideon doesn't  
think so.



And, you know what?  
It really doesn't matter,  
because God can still use  
us in spite of us feeling

like we  
are just  
ordinary.

You  
see, God  
does not  
see us as  
we are in  
our own  
strength.

God sees  
us as who we can be in  
His strength. So, it's not  
about how smart we are;  
it's about our relationship  
with God.

It's not about our abili-  
ties; it is about our avail-  
ability. It's not our about  
fame; it's about our faith.  
God uses ordinary people  
just like you and me so  
He gets the glory!

Stay encouraged, my  
brothers and sisters!

# Deadline Nears for Sorority's STEM Grants

The Ivy Center of Hunts-  
ville/Madison County  
Foundation, Inc., is accepting  
proposals from non-profit  
organizations for funding up  
to \$2,000.

The project/program  
submitted must be related  
to STEM (Science, Technol-  
ogy, Engineering and Math),  
cultural awareness, educa-  
tion, and/or economics for  
disadvantaged youth and their

families and be submitted  
by April 20. The RFP is now  
available to download at [www.Ivycenterfoundationhsv.org](http://www.Ivycenterfoundationhsv.org).

Applicants will be notified  
of approval and later awarded  
during the 13th Annual White  
Linen Brunch on June 15,  
2019.

## Scholarship Opportunity

The Ivy Center of Hunts-  
ville/Madison County  
Foundation, Incorporated,

will present scholarships  
(up to \$1,500 each) to single  
parents planning to begin or  
continue their education at  
an accredited institution of  
higher learning, vocational, or  
technical school (in fall 2019).

The application is now  
available to download at [www.Ivycenterfoundationhsv.org](http://www.Ivycenterfoundationhsv.org).

The deadline for submis-  
sion is May 18, 2019. Please  
call (256) 457-1020 for info.



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# Valley Deaths

## - Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. RUBY BONE BUCKNER (b. 1935) will be Friday, April 12, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at Meridianville Primitive Baptist Church with the Reverend Gregory Smith officiating.

Funeral service for MR. CHARLIE LEE NOBLE (b. 1964) was Saturday, April 6, at Saint Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church (210 Walnut Street - Scottsboro, Ala.) with Elder James Craft officiating.

Funeral service for MR. JOHNNIE PARKS ALLEN (b. 1936) was held Saturday, April 6, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Minister Vernon Parrish officiating.

## - Royal Funeral Home -

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

Funeral service for MS. SHALONDA DENISE LESLIE (b. 1972) was held Sunday, April 7, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Chaplain J. Douglas Simons officiating.

Funeral service for MR. EDWARD LEON PATTON (b. 1967) was held Saturday, April 6, at Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (315 Winchester Road NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Hernandez Ford eulogist.

Funeral service for MRS. PEARLIE MAE JOLLY-KING (b. 1939) was held Thursday, April 4, at Syler Tabernacle Church (904 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Phil Ford officiating.

Memorial service for MR. LEE CHATMAN (b. 1941) will be 1 p.m., Friday, April 12, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.).

## - Serenity Funeral Home -

Funeral service for BABY KAELYN MONTAGUE (b. 2018) was held Sunday, April 7, at 1 p.m. at Zion Progress M.B. Church (739 Oscar Patterson Road, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiating.

Funeral service for MR. WILSIE ISACK JACKSON (b. 1950) will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at 1:00p.m. at Mt. Pleasant M.B. Church (1129 Talucah Road, Valhermoso, Ala.) with Rev. Scott Coffey officiating.

Funeral service for MS. LASHAUNDRA LOGAN (b. 1998) will be held on Saturday, April 13, at 12 p.m. at Restoration Church (5810 Wall Triana Hwy, Madison, Ala.) with Rev. Daniel Dixon officiating.

# Called 2 Preach

by Pastor/Founder Michael D. Rice  
Grace Gethsemane Mission Church

## I'm Weak

Ps 2:4; 37:13

This phrase is often seen in text message responses to something that someone has said or done, and the meaning is that it was so funny or ridiculous that it made them laugh to the point of weakness. We all have had those moments haven't we; where we laughed so hard at something that it literally made us weak? Sometimes we bend over laughing; sometimes we feel a weakness in our knees and literally fall to the floor.

David used this anthropomorphic analogy to describe God's reaction to the activities of the wicked. He said that God laughed

at them, or to use the texting term, He looked and looks at the presumption, persistence and pitifulness of the wicked and responds by saying, "I'm weak." David said that it was both

their evil and eventuality that made God weak with laughter. Those who engage in that kind of wickedness and evil, never really give thought to the fact that God is watching, and they just go on and on as if they will never have to answer for it. We see that happening even in our society today; so

many injustices, so much unashamed evil, and so much pain as a result of this seemingly unbridled evil. Since God does not change, we can take solace in the fact that while we are speaking out against it and helping those who are victims of it, just know that God sees and God says, "I'm weak."



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## A New Generation Of Service

## Huntsville City Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council's regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Council work sessions are also held in the Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

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

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For The View event details and tickets, visit [burrittonthemountain.com/](http://burrittonthemountain.com/)

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# United Way Announces 2018 Campaign Results

United Way of Madison County hosted their 2018 Final Campaign Report luncheon at The Jackson Center, April 4, 2019. More than 200 donors, community volunteers, corporate leaders, and United Way Partner Agencies were in attendance.

With the assistance of the Loaned Executives rolling out the banner, the 2018 Campaign total was revealed: United Way of Madison County \$2,185,380.

The banquet room was filled with positive energy and a feeling of community accomplishment. A new United Way Video was premiered highlighting the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Program of North Alabama. Tory Green, a Little Brother from 16 years ago told of his experience as a little brother with his Big Brother, Roy Priest. Today, Tory is a Criminal Investigator with The

Huntsville Police Department.

Companies reporting their campaign totals were: Alabama A & M University, \$46,331; UAH, \$40,237; Jacobs ESSSA, \$29,970; Progress Bank, \$26,025; Turner, \$22,707; City of Huntsville Government, \$20,617; Madison City Schools, \$19,573; ServisFirst Bank, \$19,264; Thompson Tractor, \$16,652; BancorpSouth, \$9,378; SEI Group, Inc., \$7,754; Huntsville Fire & Rescue, \$6,972; Logicore/Inspire & Achieve, \$5,000; J. F. Drake State Technical College, \$4,875; Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc., \$2,020.

The top 5 campaigns were: 5th largest campaign was Regions Bank, \$71,150; 4th Largest Campaign was PPG, \$73,086; 3rd largest campaign was Huntsville Hospital, \$74,775, 2nd largest campaign was Redstone Federal Credit



Union, \$233,030. The Top Gun Award and largest campaign, went to Publix Super Markets (12) Stores, \$425,715.

The annual United Way Volunteer Awards were: 2018 Give Award: Dr. Andrew Hugine, President of Alabama A&M University; 2018 Advocate Award, Raul Piers, Synovus Bank; Two 2018 Volunteer Awards, Jessica King, Redstone Federal Credit Union and Tarsha Lockhart, Alabama A&M University; Small Business Bank Team Challenge, Raul Piers, Synovus Bank.

If you would like to support the community through United Way, contact Claudia Bucher, (256) 542-8039, claudia.bucher@uwmadisoncounty.org.

## Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

# Mrs. Loretta Spencer

Former Mayor Loretta Purdy Spencer graduated from the University of Alabama in 1959 with a B.S. degree in elementary education. She returned to Huntsville to teach fifth grade at Fifth Avenue School.

Spencer spent the next 30 years focused on volunteerism, most notably as the president of boards, such as The Boys and Girls Club, The Senior Center, The Botanical Gardens, and as chairman of the Huntsville Planning Commission. While chairman, she helped develop Cummings Research Park West, the second largest research park in the United States. In 1996, Spencer was

elected as the first female mayor of Huntsville, as well as the first woman to be elected mayor of a large city in Alabama. She served three terms as mayor and is credited with such accomplishments as bringing the Toyota V-8 Engine Plant, the Target Distribution Center, the downtown Embassy Suites hotel, Bridgestreet Town Centre and a host of retail businesses to Huntsville, as well as beginning the revitalization of the downtown area.

She has received a multitude of awards and much recognition for her vision and leadership. Since leaving office, Spencer continues to contribute her time and resources to many



worthwhile organizations, including the Army Space and Missile Defense Board (ASMDA), the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Board, the Community Free Clinic, The Calhoun College Foundation Board and the Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology.

# US House Intelligence Chair Visits Huntsville

by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

California Congressman Adam Schiff, Chair of the U.S. House Intelligence Committee recently visited Huntsville to meet with local young professionals and community stakeholders as guest of Alabama's 7th Congressional District Congresswoman Terri Sewell of Selma. Congresswoman Sewell serves as Vice-Chair of the U.S. House Ways & Means Committee and is also a member of the Intelligence Committee.



Photos by Keith Matthews  
AVO Communications

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# Auburn's Tigers and Ego-holism Recovering Step #5?

## Auburn's Elite 8 (Star Injury) Lemon = Final 4 (Milestone) Lemonade!

And he said unto me, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness" 2 Cor. 12:9 King James Version.

### The March Madness Milestone

For the very first time, Auburn University's Tigers will compete in college basketball's Final Four tournament - recognizing its program as one of the nation's best - without arguably its best player, Chuma Okeke.

In its Friday, March 22nd, 97-80 upset of top-seeded Univ. of North Carolina Tarheels, the sophomore forward tore his left leg's anterior cruciate ligament, eliminating his team-leading scoring percentage/rebounding/blocks/steals prowess from facing 2nd-seeded Univ. of Kentucky Wildcats two days later.

Before facing perennial powerhouse Kentucky, starting guard Jared Harper assessed Okeke's absence: "I just think it gives us another extra motivation." "They just take this adversity - that feeling of being 'underestimated' and disrespected - and try to turn it into a catalyst," echoed sportswriter Tom Green.

Auburn's subsequent 77-71 overtime win over Kentucky, led by Harper's 26 pts. and five steals in 39 minutes - viewed by many as the most significant basketball victory in the state's history - advanced the Tigers to the Final Four in Minneapolis.

How Auburn responded to Okeke's season-ending injury parallels ego-holism recovering step #5: turn your lemons into lemonade.

### Chuma the Champ

Auburn began its Cinderella run against New Mexico State; Chuma reminded his teammates, "Obama picked us to lose this game."

In their victories leading to Minneapolis the Tigers bested Kansas, North Carolina and Kentucky - all schools which recruited Okeke.

Sunday's win gave Auburn one of the all-time greatest runs to a Final Four. Kansas, North Carolina and Kentucky are college basketball's top three teams in wins. No team in the history of the NCAA Tournament has ever beaten those three teams back-to-back-to-back. Until now.

### Pearl's Wisdom

"This one is for you," Auburn coach Bruce Pearl said to Okeke following Kentucky's game.

"I think in those moments, you begin to see what these guys are made of, . . . Our guys - as soon as he went down - they said, 'Let's pray.'"

Yes, Coach: prayer heals all injuries, including ego-holisms.

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](http://www.GetEgoHelpNow.org).



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