



DYNAMIC! The nearly 1,000 people packed into the south hall ballrooms of the Von Braun Center for Alabama A&M University Black Tie Scholarship Gala on April 26 received a soulful treat ... indeed. Charlotte, N.C., native K-Ci, perhaps best known for his span as the lead singer of the R&B group Jodeci and his work as a part of K-Ci & JoJo, provided an electrifying performance that brought hundreds to the dance floor. See more photos from the event on Page 2. (Photos by Jerome Saintjones)

Major General Gets Command Portrait

U.S. Army Maj. Gen.
Patrick W. Burden, Deputy
Commander, Acquisition
and Systems Management (Futures Command), recently posed for
a command portrait in the
Army portrait studio at
the Pentagon in Arlington,
Va. Major General Patrick
W. Burden is the Deputy
Commander of the Combined Security Transition
Command - Afghanistan

(CSTC-A), Headquarters Resolute Support. He grew up in Ozark, Alabama and is a 1987 graduate of Alabama A&M University where he was commissioned in the U.S. Army Field Artillery. He served in tactical and operational assignments in Kirchgoen, Germany, Southwest Asia (Operations Desert Shield/Storm), and Fort Lewis, Washington.



Phone Conference Focuses on Voting Rights

The Alabama Voting Rights Project and the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., are joining forces to host the "Restore Your Voting Rights Phone Conference."

The dial-in conference will be held on May 14 at 7 p.m. Other sponsors include the CLC Advancing Democracy Through Law and the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Interested persons can dial in to (605) 313-4121. The

ACCESS CODE is 734760.

The presenter will be John Paul Taylor, North Region Outreach Fellow for the Alabama Voting Rights Project.

The purpose of the Alabama Voting Rights Project is to re-enfranchise thousands of Alabamians who are eligible to register to vote or who are eligible

> to have their rights to vote restored by obtaining a Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote (CERV).

This will be carried out through a broad, robust, and sustained

education, outreach, and advocacy campaign.

Moulton Church to Observe Sesquicentennial

Freeman Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church (Rev. Timothy L. Perryman, pastor) will host its 150th Anniversary Banquet on Saturday, July 13, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Decatur Riverfront – 1101 6th Avenue, Decatur, Ala., from 3-8 p.m.

The banquet will present a great opportunity to celebrate the many blessing that have already been bestowed on the church and those yet to come. Attendees will blessed with an evening of entertainment, acknowledgements and fellowship.

On Sunday, July 14, the 150th Anniversary Worship Services will include an 11 a.m. morning service and a 3 p.m. afternoon service. These services will be a combination of all the wonderful memories of the past 150 years, rejoicing in God's richest blessing now, and looking forward to a great future.

For additional information about events, sponsorships and ads, contact, Calvin Lee at (256) 224-3749.



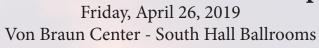
A&M Black Tie Scholarship Gala, *Page 2*Washington in One Minute, *Page 3*Millennial Thought, *Page 5*Valley Deaths, *Page 6*Grab the Other End, *Page 6*Spotlight on Elders, *Page 7*Zeta and Finer Womanhood, *Page 7*Harrison Center Event, *Page 8*

Alabama A&M University

19th Annual Black Tie Scholarship Gala

Photos by J. Saintjones



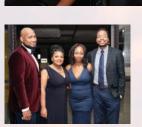






















Publisher The Valley Weekly, LLC

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

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

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

Advertising Associate Phyllis Chunn

Writer/Sales/Photography Reginald D. Allen

- Contributing Editors -Reginald D. Allen tim allston Lamar A. Braxton, Jr. Minister Preston Brown Ron Hamm Pastor Michael D. Rice Melissa Wilson-Seloma

Website Administrator Calvin Farier

Mailing Address: The Valley Weekly 415A Church Street - Suite 100 Huntsville, AL 35801 (256) 651-9028 www.valleyweeklyllc.com Copyright 2019

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@valleyweeklyllc. com. Items do not necessarily reflect the

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.

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Alabama A&M University Founder's Day, Spring Commencement and **Class Reunion Events**

Former Trustee, Alumnus to Address Graduates

Alabama A&M University alumnus John O. Hudson, III, will be the speaker for the springcommence-

ment program Friday, May 3, at the Von Braun Center Arena, at 6 p.m.



Hudson is a licensed attorney who serves as executive vice president and chief externaland public affairs officer at Southern Company Gas. He is also president of the Southern-Company Gas Foundation.

In this role, he has responsibility for the company's external affairs, corporatecommunications, marketing, community relations, economic development and environmentalaffairs functions. In addition, he serves as president of company's foundation, whichfocuses on philanthropic and volunteer initiatives.

Over 600 undergraduate and graduate students have applied for graduation to receive degrees in the College of Agricultural, Life and Natural Sciences; the College ofBusiness and Public Affairs; the College of Education, Humanities and Behavioral Sciences; the College of Engineering, Technology and

Physical Sciences; and the School of GraduateStudies.

Alum Will Address Founder's Day

A 1982 Alabama A&M University graduate will be the speaker for the 2019 Founder's Day Convocation on Friday, May 3.

LTC (Ret.) Carolyn Rowell Culpepper, USA, is

a strong supporter who has remained committedto giving



back to her alma mater "to preserve its long-standing legacy of providingopportunities to students to access an excellent education."

The event will take place in the T. M. Elmore Gymnasium at 11 a.m.

Board Will Meet May 2

This additional notice is given of the called meeting of the Board of Trustees ofAlabama A&M University on May 2, 2019, at 7:00 PM in the Board Room adjacent to the President's Office on the campus of Alabama A&M University. This meeting of the boardwas scheduled and publicly announced during the Board's last public meeting in February 2019.

The purpose of the meet-

ing is to permit the Board of Trustees to review and take whateveraction, if any, it may deem appropriate concerning proposed land development on aportion of the campus, and to address any further business which may properly comebefore the Board at that time.

The public is invited to attend.

Alumna of the Year Named

A Mobile, Ala., native has been named Alumna of the Year and will be honored during Alabama A&M University's Founder's Day

and Class Reunion activities May 2-5.



much service to the public education, civic, community and religious sectors. She graduated from Central High School in Mobile and, like many of her family members, enrolled in historic AAMU in Huntsville, where she majored in home economics and minored in general sciences, completing her baccalaureate studies in 1964. Hrobowski later pursued graduate studies leading toward the master's degree in secondary school administration from Centenary College of Louisiana.

LA Motorcycle Ride, Concert Is Cancer Fundraiser

The Fifth Annual Ride for Ronnie Motorcycle Ride and Concert set for May 5 in Los Angeles will start at the Harley-Davidson of Glendale and con-

cludes at the concert at Los Encinos State Park. Hostel by radio and TV personality, Ed Trunk, the event features performances by Eddie Trunk's all-star band and more.

This charitable event each year raises funds for the Ronnie James Dio Stand Up and Shout Cancer Fund.



BIRTHDAY - MAY 3 - JAMES BROWN - Known as "The Godfather of Soul" and "The Hardest Working Man in Show Business." He single-handedly created the Funk genre with hit singles including "(I Got You) I Feel Good", "Sex Machine" and "Papa's Got A Brand New Bag." His Song, "Say it Loud (I'm Black and I'm Proud)," is said to be the most important R&B record ever.

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Mastin Lake Road/University Drive)

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

News Flash: Trump is NOT the Enemy by tim allston

Read Ephesians 6:12

Suffering from "Trumpxhaustion"?

The Washington Post: as of April 1, 2019, President Trump has uttered 9,451 false or mislead-



ing claims (lies, y'all); The 22-month Muel-

ler investigation:199 criminal charges, 37 indictments or guilty pleas, and five prison sentences;

The resulting 448-page Mueller Report: Trump lied about Russian business dealings; seeking Hillary Clinton emails; Trump Tower meeting; ordering counsel Don McGahn to fire Mueller; multiple Russian contacts; reason for firing then-FBI director James Comey; and interfering with Mueller's work;

The Brookings Institution: Trump "has the record for White House staff turnover, for cabinet turnover and now for the highest turnover within a single department";

More?

We weary of seeing caged South American children of color; niggling efforts to dismantle Obamacare for 20+ million previously un-insured Americans, and "45"s constant drooling to mimic murderous foreign dictators - longtime nemeses to U.S. interests;

The Democrats' un-

precedented November 2018 mid-term election victories expressed a national repudiation of his mis-leadership; and

The April 25th NY Times Opinion piece, "The Danger in Not Impeaching Trump": Elizabeth Drew, author of "Washington Journal: Report-

ing Watergate and Richard Nixon's Downfall," chided Congressional Dems for not fast-forwarding impeachment proceedings.

And daily, we ask: how can one person be responsible for so much mayhem?

But Relax . . .

Trump is not the enemy. Really?

It's soothing and quite comforting to gang-tackle Trump for his ongoing trademark gaffes, arrogance and complete disregard for the rule of law - as if neither ethical rules nor Constitutional regulations apply to him, as the free world's Uber-leader.

But Again . . .

Trump is NOT the enemy. Just ask two radically-opposing former religious icons: 1) Malcolm X: "Whether you use bullets or ballots you've got to aim well; don't

strike at the puppet, strike at the puppeteer." And 2) The Apostle Paul: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities against powers; against the rulers of the darkness of this world: against spiritual wickedness in high places" Ephesians

Option: Light vs. Darkness?

Our forever-enemy is Satan, the Devil, the Father of Lies - not Trump. While Trump and his policies, words and actions need to be opposed and challenged vigorously and hourly, in Malcolm X's analogy, "45" is just the daily visible manifestation of the

poisons and deceit which

come directly from Satan, the Prince of Darkness. Only when we focus on Jesus Christ, the Prince of Light, will we then be able to prioritize everyone's venomous words and actions, and then combat hourly the true enemy, the Devil. Bottom Line?

At best, flesh-and-blood Trump is our "enemy-dujour"; with God's help, however, you and I can escape becoming Satan's soup-du-jour.

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.GetEgoHelp-Now.org.





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The Valley Weekly **Calendar of Events**

May 3

Alabama A&M University Founder's Day Speaker: LTC (Ret.) Carolyn Culpepper T.M. Elmore Building 11 a.m.

Alabama A&M University Spring Commencement Speaker: John O. Hudson III, president, Southern Gas Company Foundation Von Braun Center 6 p.m.

May 4

Robert "Bob" Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center

Backyard BBQ and Car Show - 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

May 17

Community Free Clinic Inaugural Golf Tournament The Links at Redstone 4-Person Scramble \$60/\$240 - (256) 337-1662

May 18

nual Block Party Sponsored by Huntsville Police Department, Alabama A&M University and Huntsville Community Watch Association (Fun and games for chil-

2019 North Precinct An-

dren, free food, free bike giveaway) AAMU Grounds Next to North Police Precinct 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

May 18-19

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

June 15

13th Annual White Linen Brunch The Ivy Center of Huntsville/Madison County Foundation, Inc. For more info, please call (256) 457-1020

Millennial Thought by Josh Alex Baker



Look at Yourself

Look at yourself.

I mean truly look at yourself. There have been times in the past where I have avoided watching videos of my speaking engagements. Moments where I half-looked at a picture because I didn't like the way I looked in the shot. Moments where I didn't bother to look at all.

The beautiful thing about your relationship with yourself is that it is the longest you will ever have.

You are the only guaranteed body that will be with you for the rest of your life. And no matter what it is that you think you will see, look. I believe that what often stops us from doing so is fear.

Looking at ourselves forces us to be accountable. To what we are. To what we are not.

All masterpieces are made differently, and you are no exception. Allow space to honor your flaws. Your imperfections are remarkable. As disconcerting as that might seem, they are. They make you

human. And your humanity is what makes any of this worth it.

So, look. And by now, I hope it is so much more apparent that this isn't simply about outer appearances. This is about learning to love yourself from the inside out.

It might be scary. It might be heavy. It might be hard. But it will be worth it.

The next great shifting in your life is waiting for you to look. Because when you truly learn to love what you see, imagine how much more beautifully you can love that which is around you.

Josh Alex Baker is a graduating senior social work major at Alabama A&M University.

Champion Game Plan for Life by Preston Brown

CLOSER TO GOD

James 4:7-8 says, "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Come near to God, and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you doubleminded.

You know, the true desire of a Christian is to know Jesus more and more. Remember that same Jesus that died upon a cross, who thought that we were worth saving, would like to be in fellowship with you. God sent His one and only son to die upon a cross so that we could develop a relationship with Him. That same Jesus who thought we were to die for wants all of us to get closer to Him, especially in times like these. Now when we look at this scripture, we can find several ways to draw closer to God. The

first thing we need to do is very simple. This scripture tells us to draw near to God, and He will draw near to us. But the question is do

we want to draw closer to God? Because we live in a world today where it is easy to remain "lukewarm". In other words, we are not hot or cold when it comes to our relationship with God. But if we grow closer to Him, I believe that He will turn up the heat in our relationship

with Him. Another way to draw closer to God is to come clean. The scripture says "wash your hands and purify your hearts. So, whatever it is that is causing us to stumble, we need to confess that sin to God. Now, there could be any number of things that are causing us to stumble. It could be anger issues, or coveting issues or it could be

issues with lust or pride. Whatever it is, we need to come clean and confess our sins. You see, we can't grow closer to God with

dirty hands and defiled hearts. Isaiah 52:11 says, "Be clean you who bear the vessels of the Lord."

Another way to draw closer to God is to fully commit to Him. Anytime you enter into a serious relationship with someone, you have to be fully committed. You have to resist all other temptations that will cause you to fail in that relationship. James 4:7 tells us to submit yourselves to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you.

I truly believe that if we will do these things we will grow closer to God ...

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters!



Promoting Unity in the Community 2019 NORTH PRECINCT ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

Saturday, May 18, 2019 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Grounds of Alabama A&M University Next to the North Precinct (4014 North Memorial Pkwy.) Huntsville, AL 35810

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Grab the Other End

Romans 8:26

Just recently my brother and I moved a piano from his house to mine. It was indeed a sight to see with two individuals who have been torn by time and seared by surgeries of sundry kind, and whose muscles have been atrophied by age, seeking to move the piano. Those aforementioned conditions had taught us that we needed some additional help and providence placed our nephew in our midst and he was able to assist us. Not only is he younger, he is a doctor who has a working knowledge of the anatomy and the danger of lifting

and I were on one end and we told our nephew to grab the other end.

That is literally what the Spirit of God does for believers. The verse says, "the Spirit also helps our infirmities..." The word, help, is translated from a Greek word that carries the meaning of "taking hold of the other side in order to assist."

Just like our physical weakness kept my brother and me from being able to do the lifting necessary, so does our spiritual weakness hinder our prayers. Paul



says that we don't know what to pray for, but the Spirit does.

Therefore, the next time that it's prayer time for you, remember that you can always request that

God grabs the other end. We can trust the knowledge and power of the Spirit to make up for our weakness and ignorance.



- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. WILLIE CHERRY (b. 1947) was held Saturday, April 27, at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church (Tupelo, MS). Mr. Cherry was the father of Mrs. Nicole Cherry Wilson and the father-in-law of Mr. Carl Wilson of the Nelms staff.

Funeral service for MS. BRIANNA S. ROBINSON (b. 1993) was held Wednesday, April 24, at Taylor's Chapel Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Lorenzo Moore officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LEWIS ("SONNY") SLEDGE (b. 1941) was held Saturday, April 20, at First Missionary Baptist Church.

Funeral service for MR. ROBERT EDWARD THOMP-SON (b. 1934) was held Tuesday, April 16, at First Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Emeritus Julius R. Scruggs as eulogist.

- Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. THELMA C. STEVENSON (b. 1925) will be held at 12 noon, Saturday, May 4, at Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church (3020 Belafonte Avenue, NW, Huntsville, AL 35816) with Pastor Jaymes Mooney officiating.

Funeral service for MR. ROBERT J. LESLIE (b. 1945) was held Wednesday, May 1, at Madkins Chapel CPCA with Dr. Theodis Acklin officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LINDSAY G. FIELDS, JR. (b. 1921) was held Wednesday, May 1, at Lakeside United Methodist Church (3738 Meridian Street, Huntsville, AL 35811) with Pastor Tomasi Muhomba officiating.

Funeral service MRS. ESTHER BONNER KING (b. 1932) was held Tuesday, April 30, at Bright Hope CPCA (35611 Mooresville Road, Athens, AL 35613) with Pastor Willie James Mangruem officiating.

Funeral service MRS. LASONJA BELL KING (b. 1969) will be 11:00 a.m., Monday, April 29, 2019 at Draper Memorial Church of God in Christ (313 Beirne Street Huntsville, Ala.) with Elder Dave Draper, Jr., officiating.

Funeral service for MR. GEORGE IVEY, JR. (b. 1945) was held Saturday, April 27, at True Light Church of God in Christ (6380 Pulaski Pike NW Huntsville, AL 35810) with Dr. Terrell Harris, Jr. officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. LEOLA T. KENNEMORE (b. 1953) was held Saturday, April 20, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Elder Gregory McGlathery officiating.

- Serenity Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MS. LASHAUNDRA LOGAN (b. 1998) was held on Saturday, April 20, at Serenity Funeral Home (2505 University Drive NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Huey Hudson officiating.



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Zetas Celebrate Finer Womanhood, Youth

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated recently the esteemed principle of Finer Womanhood at Lakeside United Methodist Church. The observance was an opportunity to renew pledges to Zeta and evoke zeal for joining the beloved sisterhood.

Delta Omega Zeta Chapter was honored to Celebrate 99 years of Sorority's History, 69 years for Sigma Beta Chapter at Alabama A&M University and 68 years for the Delta Omega Zeta Chapter in Huntsville. On January 16, 2020, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated will celebrate 100 years of service.

The legacy of SERVICE, SCHOLARSHIP, SISTER-HOOD, and FINER WOM-ANHOOD guides members to serve with focus and precision. Building upon these principles we strive to serve local communities, to uplift communities through serving for the greater good. Finer Womanhood represents commitment, discipline, integrity, strength and a call to service.

The Delta Omega Zeta's Chapter "Zeta Community Woman of the Year," Miranda Bouldin Frost, president/CEO of LogiCore Corporation and the Chapter's "Zeta of the Year"; and Ethel Hodges, a Zeta Dove (a Zeta for 50 years), were honored for Community Services. Additionally, five scholarships were awarded to high school seniors, who were inducted into the 2019 Delta Omega Zeta Chapter Youth Hall of

Fame. The Willie Nell Carodine Scholarship was awarded to a student at Alabama A&M University.

Lillie Winston served as Mistress of Ceremony; Amanda Gaddy provided the Invocation; Beverly Jolly, financial secretary, provided the greetings and occasion; President Pamelia Readus and 2nd Vice-President Charmain Cunningham presented the certificates of scholarships and inducted seniors into the Youth Hall of Fame. Carol Harris awarded the Willie Nell Carodine Scholarship. The Challenge was given by Rev. Dr. LaToya Alexander. Music was provided by Emma Boyd, violinist; Joshua Boyd, cellist; and Warner Byars, chaplain and pianist.

ohnny Angel's R= YOU HOLDING ONTO HAT'S HOLDING YOU BACK! THAT GRUDGE HAT ANGER-THI HAT PAIN-THA REEAR-THA REGRET THATHU WEIGHT THAT AS ONE ALPPUSE AND THAT IS TO HOLD YOU BACK

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Mrs. Jacquelyne Bennett

A native of Oneonta, Ala., Jacquelyne Kyle Bennett, performed phenomenally as a supervisory human resources specialist in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center of Redstone Arsenal. She served as a personnel management staffing specialist from 1968-69. From 1969-79, Bennett was a supervisory personnel staffing specialist. She served as an employee relations specialist from 1979-84, a supervisory employee relations specialist from 1984 until her retirement in July 2015, with 48 years of government service in human Resources.

She earned a master's degree in personnel administration and psychology in 1995 from Alabama A&M University, where she earlier received a bachelor's in secondary education/English in 1967.

Elder Bennett has given in service to Fellowship Presbyterian Church for over 45 years. She serves as the Team Convener for The Witness and Service Ministry Team Food Distribution Program of Fellowship Presbyterian Church.

Additionally, her soprano voice has been has been a mainstay for three choirs at Fellowship: the Inspirational Choir; the Unity Choir and the Chancel Choir. One would be hard pressed to find another soloist to ever attempt to sing "Deep River" or "I've Been Redeemed" after 'Ms. Jackie' has put her voice to it.

This loyal daughter of Alabama A&M University celebrated her 50th year college reunion on the campus during Founder's Day and Class Reunion weekend May 2017. Mrs. Bennett and her



Golden Class raised over \$50,000 to celebrate their 50

Bennett for 16 years has worked tirelessly as a fund raiser for the Annual Alabama A&M University Black Tie Scholarship Gala. Last year alone, she raised over \$13,000 and, through her community outreach efforts, she has helped raise \$140,000.

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Backyard Bar-B-Q, Car Show **Scheduled at Bob Harrison Center**

The Robert "Bob" Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center is holding a Backyard BBQ and Car Show, Saturday, May 4, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Participating car clubs include the Low Riders Classic

"Some

people

are your

relatives

but others are your ancestors,

and you

choose the

ones you

want to

have as

ancestors.

You create

yourself

out of those

values."

- Ralph

Ellison

Car Club and the Corvette Car Club.

Entertainment will be provided by the Jemison High School Band, the H-Town Steppers, the Baby Bulldogs, DJ Mike Miller, and emcee Jeff Johnson.

Barbecue plates, fish

For additional information, phone (256) 519-2050.

plates, and hot dogs will be available. There will be games for kids. The Harrison Wellness Center is located at 6156 Pulaski Pike.

HUNTSVILLE BIBLE COLLEGE **VISION BANQUET** "Celebrating Centennial Churches" 7:00 PM FRIDAY 2019 VON BRAUN CENTER 700 MONROE ST SW HUNTSVILLE, AL 35801

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"Retool" Victory: Alabama A&M University students, faculty and staff celebrated AAMU's win of the 2019 Home Depot "Retool Your School" contest on The Quad. The winning participating beautification or improvement project, following a lengthy campaign requiring online voting and social media. AAMU and Oakwood University have both won the contest peviously within the past



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historically black college or university within three clusters receives \$50,000 to go toward a campus decade. (Photo by J. Saintjones)