

# Our Mrs. Bradford Turns 100! - p. 5

**FREE**


## Time to Make a Change! - p. 3

# The Valley Weekly

Friday

May 27, 2022

Vol. 8, No. 38

ValleyWeeklyllc.com

**SALUTE!**

 Rosetta James Foundation  
 ELDER OF THE WEEK


Mr. William Davis

*"We shall not always plant while others reap."* - Countee Cullen

## Jazz Great to Make First Alabama Visit

On Friday, June 10, 2022, the Tennessee Valley Jazz Society (TVJS) will present another National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Jazz Master, the living legend jazz great Ron Carter.

The June 10 session will mark Carter's first visit to Alabama. This event is part of the annual Jazz-N-June events that have expanded over 35 years in Huntsville and the metro Tennessee Valley areas.

Ron Carter and his trio will visit the Rocket City for a performance on what WJAB-FM jazz radio's Ron McIntosh calls *"the beautiful campus of Alabama A&M University"* in the Ernest Knight Center.

This event is an essential part of Huntsville's arts, entertainment, and culture

sectors, said Howard Bankhead, executive director of TVJS.

Ronald Levin Carter is an American jazz double-bassist. His appearances on 2,221 recording sessions make him the most-recorded jazz bassist in history. His career spans over five decades, and spans the genres of jazz, classical, soul and hip-hop.

Carter has won three Grammys, and he has worked with such notables as Miles Davis, Alice



Coltrane, Aretha Franklin, Herbie Hancock, Billy Joel, and many others.

## Drake Holds Spring Commencement

The President of Alabama A&M University addressed the more than 100 graduates of Drake State Community and Technical College during a 6 p.m. ceremony held on the AAMU campus Thursday, May 12, at Louis Crews Stadium.

In a brief, upbeat message to graduates, Dr. Daniel K. Wims told them to "smile and laugh as much as you can." He encouraged them to be friendly, generous and considerate, but to always "fight to the end."

The administrator urged the Drake honorees to "Be the Joneses," rather than comparing themselves to them, also stressing that they become their best in



all endeavors. "Keep your head to the sky," he said, borrowing a song title from the popular multi-genre group Earth, Wind & Fire.

Graduates received associate degrees and certificates in the areas of advanced manufacturing;

applied services technologies; business, computer science and engineering technologies; general and developmental education; and health sciences technologies.

For photos, tap **HERE**

## Huntsville Tops Nation's 'Best Places to Live' ... HBCUs?

Huntsville received top honors from U.S. News & World Report as the "Best Place to Live" among the country's 150 most populous cities. The city also ranked No. 3 on the magazine's "most afford-

able" list.

The rankings are formed based on job market, housing affordability, quality of life, desirability and net migration. Huntsville climbed from its No. 3 position in last year's list.

So, what else is so special about Huntsville and that gives it that added cultural pizzazz? How about the significant presence of black institutions of higher education? Huntsville has four (i.e., Alabama

A&M University, Oakwood University, Drake State Community & Technical College, and Huntsville Bible College), a number rivaling the metropolis of Atlanta, which has evolved into a "world" city.

# The Valley Weekly

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## Washington in One Minute



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

1. **ON THE FLOOR.** The Senate is in session this week, while the House has no floor votes scheduled until June 7 (although House committees will continue to meet this week). The Senate reportedly will turn to a \$28 million emergency funding bill to hire more FDA inspectors related to the baby formula shortage that passed the House last week by a vote of 231-192 and an anti-domestic terrorism bill to expand the powers of the Homeland Security Department, the FBI, and the Justice Department to combat the threat of violent extremism by white supremacists that passed the House last week by a vote of 222-203.

Last week, the Senate failed to advance a \$48 billion COVID aid package to replenish the Restaurant Revitalization Fund for restaurants impacted by the pandemic, along with aid for live venue service providers, gyms, and other businesses (a similar bill passed the House in April 2022).

2. **THE WHITE HOUSE.** On Monday, President Biden was in Japan, the 2nd part of his Asian trip, after spending 3 days in South Korea, and on Tuesday he met with national leaders of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (the "Quad"), representing Japan, India, and Australia (including newly sworn Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese - whose Labor Party beat incumbent Prime Minister Scott Morrison's Liberal-National coalition

in Saturday's election).

While in South Korea, the President met with Hyundai Motors Chairman Euisun Chung to announce a new \$5 billion electric car factory to be sited on 2,900 acres near Savannah, GA, and signed a bill providing \$40 billion in additional aid to Ukraine. First Lady Jill Biden returned to Washington Monday after a 5-day trip to Ecuador, Panama, and Costa Rica to call attention to the upcoming "Summit of the Americas" scheduled to be held in Los Angeles from June 6-10.

3. **BABY FORMULA HEARING.** On Wednesday (May 25) at 11 a.m., the House Energy and Commerce's Oversight Subcommittee held a hearing on "Formula Safety and Supply: Protecting the Health of America's Babies." Hearing witnesses included FDA Commissioner Robert Califf and top officials from baby formula makers Gerber, Abbott, and Reckitt.

Last Wednesday, President Biden invoked the Defense Production Act to require suppliers to direct needed resources to infant formula manufacturers before any other customer who may have ordered that good and authorized the Defense Department to use its aircraft to fly in supplies of formula from overseas.

On Saturday, President Biden signed a bill passed by the House and Senate last week to lessen restrictions implemented by the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), which limits

the types of formulas those on the federal benefit program can buy.

4. **TITLE 42 INJUNCTION.** Last Friday, Louisiana U.S. District Court Judge Robert Summerhays (appointed by President Trump) issued a preliminary injunction stopping the Biden Administration from ending the Title 42 Public Health Emergency at the U.S. border (scheduled to end today), which since May 2020 has allowed the U.S. to expel more than 1.7 million immigrants without offering them the opportunity to request asylum or other humanitarian protections - due to COVID concerns. Politico reported that the Justice Department will appeal the ruling.

5. **JAN. 6 COMMITTEE.** Last Thursday, the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the U.S. Capitol sent a letter to Rep. Barry Loudermilk (R-GA) requesting a meeting with him this week to seek information on a tour he led through parts of the Capitol complex on January 5, 2021.

The letter states that the Select Committee has evidence that "directly contradicts" a statement made by GOP Members of the House Administration Committee (of which Rep. Loudermilk is a Member) that a review of security footage showed no large tours on that date. (NOTE: After the letter was sent, Rep. Loudermilk issued a statement admitting that he had taken a group of his constituents on a tour of the Capitol on Jan. 5).

6. **TITLE IX - EDUCATION.** Education Secretary Miguel Cardona plans to unveil his proposed Title IX rule in June, which was originally planned for release in April by the Biden administration. The rule is expected to overhaul the Trump-era regulations on how schools respond to sexual misconduct complaints and codify safeguards for transgender students for the first time.

By revising the rules on Title IX, the federal education

law that prohibits sex-based discrimination, Secretary Cardona will be undoing a key legacy of former Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. Ms. DeVos has said her version of the rule codified protections that hold schools accountable by ensuring survivors of misconduct are not brushed aside and no accused student's guilt is predetermined.

The former Education secretary's rule, which is still in effect while Cardona's rulemaking process unfolds, established more rights for students accused of harassment and requires colleges to respond to formal complaints with courtroom-like hearings.

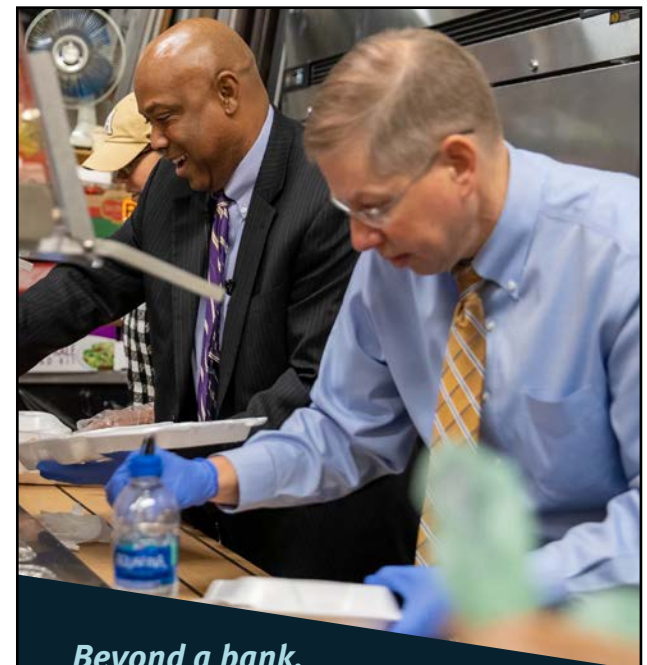
While advocates supporting students accused of misconduct are urging the department to leave the rule alone, victims' advocacy groups say they are eager for the change.

Ron Hamm

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THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

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Funeral service for MRS. LILLIE R. CARR (b. 1953) was held Saturday, May 21, at Pentecostal Lighthouse Church with Elder Reginal Burrell officiating.

Graveside service for MRS. EDITH A. WILLIAMS DON-ALDSON (b. 1938) was held Friday, May 20, at Meadowlawn Garden of Peace with Minister Vernon L. Parrish officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LAWRENCE “BILL” WHERRY was held Saturday, May 14, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with The Reverend Desi Fletcher officiating.

Funeral service for MR. PATRICK PLOUSSARD GORDON (b. 1970) was held Saturday, May 14, at the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association Tabernacle with Pastor Mario Ford officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue  
Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Memorial service for MR. CLIFFORD E. LEWIS (b. 1958) will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 28, at the Reunited Fellowship of Deliverance (2969 Plummer Road Huntsville, AL 35806) with Pastor James Jones & Pastor Theresa Jones officiating.

Funeral service for MR. SAMUEL RAMIREZ GARCIA (b. 1989) will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 26, at the Royal Chapel of Memories.

Graveside service for BABY GIRL KA NIELLA YULFO (b. 2022) was held Tuesday, May 24, at the Meadowlawn Garden of Peace.

Funeral service for MR. ISAAC B. DERRICK, SR. (b. 1956) was held Saturday, May 21, at the First Missionary Baptist Church (3509 Blue Spring Road NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Don Darius Butler officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. MINNIE CHRISTINE HAMLET RICE (b. 1924) was held Friday, May 20, at the United Missionary Baptist Church (2705 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio) with Reverend Robert Bass officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Drive NW  
Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-9693

Funeral service will be announced at a later date for MRS. LARRINE EVANS (b. 1942) and MISS MORGAN FULFORD (b. 2007).

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

May 24

Huntsville Rotary Luncheon  
East Hall 3  
Von Braun Center  
Downtown  
Huntsville, Ala.  
11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

May 25

Madison County Schools  
Graduation:  
Buckhorn, 12 noon  
Madison County, 3:30 p.m.  
New Hope, 5:30 p.m.  
Propst Arena  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
(See Times)

May 27-29

Affion Crockett  
Comedian  
Stand Up Live Huntsville

May 24

Madison County Schools  
Graduation:  
Sparkman, 12 noon  
Hazel Green, 3 p.m.  
Madison Co. Virtual, 5:30 p.m.  
Propst Arena  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION GAME PLAN


PRESTON BROWN

IT’S TIME TO MAKE A CHANGE”

In Luke 15:17-20, it reads: “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my fathers hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants. So he got up and went to his father.”

Have you ever come to a place in your life where you say to yourself, “This is not working anymore and it’s time for me to make a change”--just like we find here with the Prodigal Son? But the good news for all of us is that you can come back home again and restore the life you once knew, because we serve a God that will never leave us or forsake us. We serve a God that will wait

for us to come to our senses. Today, so many people get tempted by the ways of this world, and are led astray and forget where they come from. They forget the peace and security of home--not just our physical home but our spiritual home, as well. You see, God is our home, in the spiritual sense, when we make Him lord and savior of our lives. And, whenever we get off track, hopefully, we will sober up, come to our senses and go back home. You see, I believe that sometimes God will allow us to get to a place where we say, “This isn’t working anymore.” So, if you are dealing with any kind of turmoil or sin in your life, Jesus is waiting for



you to come back home. He is saying, “Come back to the abundant life” that He desires for us to have, which is a life of love, joy and peace.

Whenever we decide to go back home, God will be filled with compassion and forgiveness, just like the father of the Prodigal Son. God is always waiting to restore our relationship with Him. So, when you find yourself not satisfied with what this world has to offer, it’s time to go back home to a God that loves and cares for you ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and purchase a copy of my book, “A CHAMPION GAME PLAN FOR LIFE,” at amazon.com!

(See times)

May 31

Huntsville Rotary Luncheon  
East Hall 3  
Von Braun Center  
11:45 a.m.  
1 p.m.

June 3

Annual Vision Banquet  
Sponsor: Huntsville Bible College  
Von Braun Center  
East Hall  
Downtown  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7 p.m.

June 3-4

“Lift Every Voice”  
Regional Choral Festival  
hsvmasterchorale.org

June 4

The Legacy Center  
3rd Annual Charity Kickball Tournament  
“Legacy Kickback”  
Calvary Hills Community Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
1 p.m.

June 5

“Menopause: The Musical”  
Mark C. Smith Concert  
Hall  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
3 p.m.

June 6

Financial Literacy Course (8 Weeks)  
Huntsville Bible College  
Oakwood Avenue  
Huntsville, Ala.  
(256) 469-7536  
reg@hbc1.edu

July 7-17

The World Games  
Birmingham, Ala.

August 5-7

DL Hughley  
Comedian  
Stand Up Live Huntsville  
Huntsville, Ala.



## PowerShot

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everything  
is possible  
to one who  
believes."

Mark 9:23



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It only leads to aching" – Countee Cullen

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## HUNTSVILLE AREA MPO Public Notice

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### Huntsville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Meetings

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Huntsville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization will meet Monday, June 6, 2022 at 5:00 pm. The Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board meets on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at 4:00 pm. All meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Huntsville City Hall located at 308 Fountain Circle unless otherwise noted on the Huntsville-Area MPO website at [www.huntsvillempo.org](http://www.huntsvillempo.org). To review items on the agenda for this meeting visit: <http://www.huntsvillempo.org/plans-and-reports/> For all other information on these meetings visit: <http://www.huntsvillempo.org/about/meetings-and-agendas/>

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## Huntsville 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](http://HuntsvilleAL.gov/HSVTV) or on the City of Huntsville Facebook page (@huntsvillecity).

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

**MAY 27 - LOUIS GOSSETT, JR.** - Louis Gossett Jr. is an American actor best known for his role as Gunnery Sergeant Emil Foley in the 1982 film *An Officer and a Gentleman*, winning him the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor. He also won an Emmy Award for his role as Fiddler in the 1977 ABC television miniseries *Roots*. Gossett has also starred in numerous other film productions - [BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com](http://BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com)







# With apologies to Gil Scott-Heron, “The Revolution WILL be Televised” - but now from the middle!

“But God is my helper.... He will cause the evil deeds of my enemies to boomerang upon them” Psalms 54:4,5.  
Here, King David praised God for exposing the insurrectionists plotting against Israel, God’s established kingdom under David’s leadership.



leaders like former Trump chief strategist Steve Bannon, Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, or House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy.

Instead their aides and deputies - their “silver-mettle leaders” from the middle - will reveal how and what happened before and during the Capitol Hill riot.

Silver-mettle leaders are the leaders from the middle that report to someone in their organizations (silver); possess know-how and expertise, albeit below the radar (mettle); and succeed through their influence and relationships (leaders).

Democratic advisors Kurt Bardella and Juanita Tolliver endorse their below-the-radar assets. While many top GOP leaders have refused to testify to the Committee, their number-two persons consented and complied.

“We all know that people like Mark Meadows and Steve Bannon . . . would call (these folks their) ‘minions’ to get things done. . . . And that’s who’s been talking to this committee,” explained Bardella.

Tolliver echoed Bardella, saying that these aides and deputies stepped up and testified probably for both their long-term job security and “. . . they probably have different ethical standards than someone who was highly visible within the Trump administration.

“It’s the folks who are making the trains run on time, who nobody’s paying any attention to, but who know everything and they’re not trying to fall on the sword for Donald Trump.”

Top leaders err when they disregard, devalue, or disrespect those leaders from the middle. But these #2 leaders often possess keen insights, knowledge, relationships, and influences. They can either elevate or eliminate you!

Perhaps poet/songwriter Gil Scott-Heron was wrong with his 1971 poem-song referenced in the headline: maybe now “The Revolution WILL be televised!”

Make sure of what’s happening in your life that you don’t want to come to light when your revolution is televised!

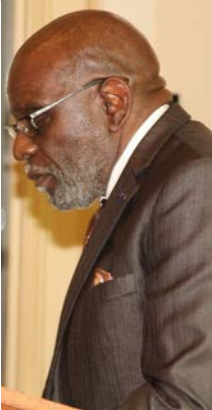
- tim allston



## The Valley Weekly Presents Scenes from ... 100th Birthday Celebration of Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford

Thursday, May 19, 2022

The Ledges - Huntsville, Alabama (More on Page 8)





THE VALLEY WEEKLY

# CALLLED 2 PREACH

REV. MICHAEL RICE

## The Godhead vs. the Bigheads and the Power of Unity

The sovereign sobriquet of Godhead is given to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in the Bible record and are presented as working in perfect succinctness and success, from before the beginning of creation until now.

It was this same Godhead who confronted the bigheads in the story of the builders of the Tower of Babel. Long before the Trump Tower and the suspicious



stories surrounding that edifice, there was the story of those who decided to, in their own words, make a name for themselves.

I label them bigheads because they were in violation of the will of God and they verbally verified their intent when they talked about their motive of making a name for themselves.

Commanded to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, they instead settled on a plain in the land of Babylonia (Genesis 11:2).

They were unified in language and purpose in building that tower all the way to heaven but were abruptly shut down by the Godhead.

The reason given was with that kind of unity,



nothing would have been impossible (11:6).

Had the Godhead not intervened, the bigheads would have accomplished their goal.

The import of the story is we should walk humbly with our God and seek to stay in His will; otherwise, we will have the Godhead to contend with and in the

words of the late James Weldon Johnson, our "arms are too short to box with God."

## This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, May 29, 2022  
Seventh Sunday of Easter

(Track 2 - Year C)

Acts 16:16-34  
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17  
John 17:20-26  
Psalm 97



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Rosetta James Foundation "Spotlight on Our Elders" ... Featuring

## Mr. William Davis



William James Davis, Jr., was born to the late William and Nora Davis in Gadsden, Ala. Thanks to his musical family, Davis was formally introduced to the world of music through classes and encouragement at Alabama A&M University, where he developed an equal love and proficiency for vocal and instrumental music. Among his mentors were Dr. and Mrs. Henry Bradford, Jr., Dr. Malcolm Breda and Mr. Thomas Dawson.

While at AAMU, Davis was recruited by Dr. Barbara Anthony to sing in the adult choir at Fellowship Presbyterian Church, an honor that also entailed picking up others for practice. After graduating from AAMU, he entered the graduate music program at Dillard University in New Orleans, La., which was directed by the famed Dr. Frederick Hall.

Davis' first teaching position was at Councill Training School, where he taught band and social studies under the late A.G. Adams. The band program engaged in many activities, including football games, parades, local and state contests, regular school activities and community-sponsored programs. Councill Training School opened in 1948 as the first public school for African Americans in Madison County.

When Councill closed, Davis began a journey of several schools, still acquiring commendations from such

notables as Congressman Bob Jones and former U.S. President Richard Nixon. While at Bob Jones High School, the band was involved in many historic events, including writing the school hymn and even playing for former First Lady Rosalyn Carter and former Senator Walter Mondale. After leaving Bob Jones High School, Davis was given the opportunity to start from scratch a band program at Liberty Middle School. In a very short period of time, the enrollment in band exploded in numbers to over 300 students. This was the largest middle school band in the state of Alabama. He also started the first middle school jazz band in Madison County and within two years began receiving superior ratings in concert and jazz competitions.

Davis and his wife Brenda have been married for over 40 years and have two wonderful and loving daughters—Diedre Danielle and Stefanie Lo'Nore—and one amazing grandson,

Demetrius DeShae. With their shared appreciation for music, Davis and his wife founded the Huntsville Spiritual Chorale in 2002 and have been co-directors of the non-profit organization since its inception. The Chorale was created to preserve and perform the original art form called the Negro Spiritual. Davis has often been in demand for his gifts as a tenor soloist, and he performed for numerous balls, meetings, weddings, funerals, church services and other special occasions. Additionally, as a member of Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, Ala., Davis has served as an Elder and Deacon, and currently sings in the Chancel Choir, Unity Choir and Men's Chorus. He has also conducted workshops for the Presbyterian Women Alabama/Mississippi Conference.

Moreover, Davis has volunteered for the church's Food Distribution Program and the Community Crop Drop, a mission project based on local farmers' vegetables that require sorting and bagging at various preparation sites. Davis and his wife Brenda were honored by RiahRose Home for Children and Pregnant Teens on Grandparents Day in 2016. He is a volunteer with the Neighborhood Community Watch Program and is a member of the Golden Charmers--an older adult volunteer group.

*"Spotlight on Our Elders" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote volunteerism and activism in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at [www.rosettajamesfoundation.org](http://www.rosettajamesfoundation.org). Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to [info@valley-weeklyllc.com](mailto:info@valley-weeklyllc.com).*



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November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm



More Scenes from ...

# 100th Birthday Celebration of Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford

Thursday, May 19, 2022

The Ledges - Huntsville, Alabama (Continued from Page 5)



Progress  
Looks Like  
Taking The Small  
Steps That Make  
A New House  
Home



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