

The Valley Weekly

"Some people don't even recognize real love when it comes without being called or sought."
- J. California Cooper

FREE

Volume 5 No. 28

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Friday, March 22, 2019

Huntsville Happenings

by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Huntsville City Council Recognizes Local Sorority

Huntsville City Councilmen Will Culver and Bill Kling recognized the

Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated on the occasion of their 70th chapter anniversary at the March 14th City Council meeting.
The Epsilon Gamma



Omega Chapter of the oldest African-American Sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, founded at Howard University on January 15, 1908; was chartered in Huntsville on the campus of Alabama A&M University on March 19, 1949.

With more than 400 active members, the Chapter is engaged in community service activities and hosts the annual Debutante Ball. Presently, Dr. Cheryl R. Davis serves as Chapter president.

Huntsvillian Earns Top Healthcare Credential

Carla C. Braxton, MD, chief quality officer for Houston Methodist West and Houston Methodist St. Catherine Hospitals in Houston, Texas, recently became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE), the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders. Dr. Braxton attended Oakwood Elementary and Academy and is a 1987 graduate from Oakwood College. She majored in biology and chemistry.

"The healthcare management field plays a vital role in providing high-quality care to the people in our communities, which makes having a standard

of excellence promoted by a professional organization critically important," says Deborah J. Bowen, president and CEO of ACHE. "By becoming an ACHE Fellow and earning the distinction of board certification from ACHE, healthcare leaders demonstrate a commitment to excellence in serving their patients and the community."

Fellow status represents achievement of the highest standard of professional development. Dr. Braxton is privileged to bear the FACHE credential, which signifies board certification in healthcare management as an ACHE Fellow. A general surgeon and



surgical critical care physician, Dr. Braxton is also a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Memphis College of Medicine and earned her MBA degree from the Columbia University School of Business in New York City.

Drake, DOC Partner on Prison Education Program

J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College has received a Grant from the Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) for implementing the "Preparing Entrepreneurs Prison Education Program" (PREP).

The PREP program consists of a 6-week training program in starting a small business. For this, the college partnered with SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives), a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).
The College piloted the

program at J. F. Ingram State Technical College in 2017. The next cohort was conducted at Limestone Correctional Facility in 2019. Upon release, the program completers will receive an exit package which includes the documents necessary to start a small business, and educational resources available at the college that support their business training.

Limestone Correctional Facility identified 19 students for the cohort that began March 1.

"Many of the inmates in our

state and federal correctional facilities need resources that will assist them with gainful employment," said State Rep. Laura Hall.

"Drake State is delighted to partner with Rep. Hall and the State of Alabama on this initiative," said Dr. Patricia

Sims, who heads Drake State. "The PREP program not only benefits those individuals who gain the tools needed to launch a small business allowing them to join the workforce, it also benefits taxpayers. We look forward to expanding the program."

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Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir

Sponsors: First Seventh-Day Adventist Church
and the Huntsville-Tuskegee Alumni Club

Saturday, March 30

1303 Evangel Drive - Huntsville, Ala. - 5 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION

Retirement Celebration for Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs

Friday, March 15, 2019 - 6:30 p.m.
Von Braun Center North Hall

Photos by Jerome Saintjones



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The Valley Weekly

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Remembering Rev. Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: *Many of our readers are familiar with the life and legacy of Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr. As a special tribute, an organic memorial has begun on the lawn of his home. If you knew him and live in the vicinity, this creates a wonderful opportunity to show your love and respect without 'visiting' during a very difficult time for Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford and the Family. Take a picture and share it on Facebook as we move towards his final service on Friday, March 22nd. -DWH]*

The Tennessee Valley community mourns the March 15, 2019, death of one of its most revered men, as well as an icon in the institution's rich music legacy and the history of the Tennessee Valley.

The Reverend Doctor Henry Bradford, Jr., was born and reared in New Orleans, La., and received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Dillard University. Further studies earned him the Bachelor of Divinity degree (now called the Master of Divinity degree) from The Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, Oberlin, Ohio; Master of Arts degree, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.; The Specialist Diploma and the doctorate degree from Columbia University, New York, N.Y. Additionally, he studied at the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, Mass.; The Juilliard School, New York, N.Y.; Chicago Musical College; the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Ill.; and The Union Theological Seminary, New York, N.Y.

Dr. Bradford and his wife, Nell Lane Bradford, were a musical dynasty at AAMU, where he served for decades as professor and chair of the Department of Music Education, while his wife conducted the world-famous Alabama A&M University Choir. The two were also proud members of the prestigious Normal Legacy Society, designed to recognize AAMU's top donors. As a speaker, lecturer, consultant, adjudicator and teacher, Dr. Bradford received countless citations, plaques and awards in several American cities, various citations

for professional and community service within the Huntsville-Madison County, as well as in approximately 20 other Alabama counties and other areas of the nation.

Dr. Bradford was awarded the coveted Brotherhood Medallion by the National Association of Christians and Jews for his efforts to help improve racial and human relations. During the 1997-98 concert series of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Bradford served as the narrator for "A Lincoln Portrait" by the American composer Aaron Copeland in January 1998. In late 1998, he also recorded several narrations for Early Works (a Huntsville museum highlighting Southern history). He authored and/or co-authored a large number of magazine articles, monographs, and published sermons, including one in the volume entitled Black Preaching: Selected Sermons in the Presbyterian Tradition, published by the Geneva Press. Dr. Bradford co-authored A Planning Guide for the Worship Committee (in the Cumberland Presbyterian Churches). He is listed in Personalities of the South, Outstanding Educators of America, Leaders in Education and in Men of Achievement (an international compendium).

Rev. Dr. Bradford maintained membership in several honor societies and service organizations, including the Northwest Club of Kiwanis International, which he organized and served as its first president; a founder, the graduate and undergraduate chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, in Huntsville via Alabama A&M University; past president of the Board of Directors of Harris Home for Children, on which he served in that position for six consecutive years; former member, Board of Directors of the Huntsville Youth Band, Huntsville Community Chorus, Huntsville Civic Opera Society, Madison County Alabama Association of Mental Health, Girl Scouts, Boys Club, Child Health Improvement Association; and member, Board of

Directors of North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence. Dr. Bradford was a charter member of the Delta Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., when it started in Huntsville on April 13, 1948.

As a prolific writer and skillful orator, Dr. Bradford wrote and narrated numerous litanies and readings for several educational institutions and organizations in the Huntsville-Madison County community. In August 1999, he performed the narration for a musical work by the French composer Francis Poulenc, entitled "L'Histoire de Babar la petit elephant" ("The Story of Barbar, the Little Elephant"), at the national meeting of the Music Clubs of America held in Huntsville, Ala.

Dr. Bradford's broad professional experiences have been associated with different kinds of musical, academic and ecclesiastical assignments. He served as guest lecturer at colleges and universities, schools, and as guest preacher in various settings across the country. He also served as Pastor Emeritus, Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, where he faithfully dedicated thirty-six (36) years; professor and chairman of the Department of Music Education and University Chaplain at Alabama A&M University, where he served for approximately four decades, establishing the music department with State of Alabama approval. For 10 of those two scores, he served as an adjunct music professor at Oakwood College. Dr. Bradford remained a highly sought-after speaker, invited to serve as guest preacher, speaker and lecturer by many civic, social, educational and religious organizations.

In recognition of his service and contributions to humanity, he received many awards and honors.

Some of them include: Proclamation - "Henry and Nell Bradford Day," City of Birmingham, Ala.; Award of Merit, Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc.; professor/chairman emeritus, Department of Music Education, Alabama A&M University; Path of Honor recipient, Senior Center; and Outstanding Service Award, Class of 1953, Alabama A&M University.



In 2007, Dr. Bradford was honored as a part of the four-member inaugural 2007 class of "Elders" of the distinguished Rosetta James Foundation, a Huntsville-based organization dedicated to recognizing active volunteerism among persons who are at least 70 years old.

Even for decades after his retirement, Rev. Dr. Bradford generously provided his time and talents to the fulfillment of numerous requests for greetings, remarks, litanies, and other services. He was the source of continuity that tied thousands to a warm and memorable past at AAMU.

Dr. Bradford married the former Nell Lane of Gary, Ind., a retired associate professor of music education and director of the University Choir, the Concert Choir and the Choraliers. To their union were born two children, Andrea Bradford and Dr. Henry Bradford, and one grandson, Henry Lane Bradford.

- J. Saintjones

[Funeral Service: Sat., March 23, 12 noon, Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 315 Winchester Road NE, Huntsville, AL 35811, with Dr. Charles Lee as eulogist and Dr. Mitchell Walker officiating. The Bradford Family will receive guests 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Church Street Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 226 Church Street NW, Huntsville, Ala., Friday, March 22 (Royal FH)]

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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

Whoopi Goldberg's "Sister Acts 3 ... and 4"!

(Jesus to the demoniac, now healed) "... go back to your family, and tell them everything God has done for you.' So he went all through the town proclaiming the great things Jesus had done for him" Luke 8:39, New Living Translation.

With most of Jesus' healing miracles, He cautioned them to "tell no one."

That would not have worked with Whoopi Goldberg!

Diagnosed with both double pneumonia and sepsis ("I came very, very close to leaving the Earth.") - diseases which claim annually 50,000 and 272,000 Americans, respectively - the month-long hospitalized 63-year old co-host of "The View" surprise-visited the March 14th telecast, and championed these recovering messages - let's call them:

"Sister Act 3"

"So this is my first foray out, . . . I'm not there yet, but the only way it's going to get better is if I begin, so this is my beginning."

... And "Sister Act 4"!

Reflecting on her other hospital ordeal, Whoopi pined, "One of the things I discovered: your insurance really doesn't do much for you. . . . Why is it I've been paying insurance for almost 60 years and it hasn't rolled over? If you are paying into insurance, that money should roll over when you need it."

Turning now to the studio audience but, more importantly, to the estimated 2,856,000 daily viewers, Goldberg challenged, "These are things that we have the power to take care of. This is ... us."



Ego-holism recovering step #6:

"The healing is in the revealing" states that you need not wait until your healing is complete; instead, begin to share your recovering, its process and your journey to help those affected - both fellow recoverers, as well as those that they impact.

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.GetEgo-HelpNow.org.

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Millennial Thought

by Josh Alex Baker

This Is It

This is it.
 If you needed confirmation that greater is coming, this is it. If you needed that extra nudge to check on someone who has been on your mind all day, this is it.
 If you needed the push to complete your book, this is it. If you needed a voice removed from the argument to convince you that an apology is owed, this is it. If you needed an affirmation of your worth and capability, this is it.

If you needed a cue to forgive yourself, this is it. If you needed a reason to press on, this is it.

So often we look for signs to guide our next step, and each day we

through many different doors. Humility. Gratitude. Patience. Compromise. Compassion.

And if the door seems stuck?

Ensure that you're not pushing when it simply needs to be pulled. Don't simply wish for deliverance. Create space for it to come in. I am a firm believer in the power of manifestation. I believe that we have been bestowed a divine gift to speak things into existence.

But what we often overlook is the way this manifestation is predicated upon work.

Speak it. But work it, too. Work begins now. It begins the moment you stop searching for the sign you've been carrying within you. This is it.

carry one with us. Our next breath. As long as you live, never miss the opportunity to embrace a greater degree of excellence. That excellence will come



Union Chapel Site of New Food Pantry

Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church has officially opened a food pantry at 100 Orange Drive. The pantry was origi-

nally opened to support Union Chapel members and friends affected by the government shutdown. After the government

reopened, food and other items are now open to the general public.

Boys & Girls Clubs Will Host Volunteer Reception

The Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama will hold a Volunteer Appreciation Reception Tuesday, April 16, to honor persons who have shown commitment to the organization, along with National Volunteer Week.

The reception will be held from 5-6 p.m. at the James A. Lane Boys &



Girls Club facility at 103 Abington Avenue, Huntsville, Ala.

For additional infor-

mation, contact Imani Johnson at (256) 534-6060 or e-mail Ms. Johnson at imani.johnson@bgcnal.com.

The Valley Weekly Calendar of Events

Thru March 22

Spring Break Tennis Camp
 Columbia High School
 Sponsored by United States Tennis Association (USTAF NJTL/NET GEN) & Southern Tennis Fed.
 Youth Development Association, Inc. & the Garrett Tennis Academy
 Cost \$165.00 includes 1 year USTA Membership
 To register contact 256-603-0807 or ydatennis@att.net
 Online at <http://tennis-pro3.wix.com/ydasite>
 8 a.m.-12 noon

March 29

UAH College of Business Graduate Open House
Representatives from programs within the College of Business will be available to provide information and materials regarding specific programs and admission requirements.
 The Jackson Center - 6001 Moquin Drive. NW, Huntsville, AL 35801 (Free)
 Contact: Violet Edwards, (256) 824-4725, violet.edwards@uah.edu
 More info: uah.edu/business/openhouse

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

March 30

Start Smart Interview Workshop
 United Women of Color
 Huntsville Public Library
 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Tuskegee University Golden Voices Choir
Sponsors: First Seventh-Day Adventist Church and the Huntsville-Tuskegee Alumni Club
 1303 Evangel Drive
 Huntsville, Ala.
 5 p.m.

March 31

The Temptations and Four Tops
 Von Braun Center

"When you begin to do things that raise the achievement of the poorest and disenfranchised students, you may not always get applause. You need to be ready for that."
 - Asa Hilliard



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Valley Deaths

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MRS. RUBY BUCKNER (b. 1935) will be Friday, March 22, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. at Meridianville Primitive Baptist Church with the Reverend Gregory Smith officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. LEATHA HUMPHREY (b. 1934) was held Monday, March 18, at the Little Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Dr. Jerry Crutcher officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LAVERN ("LARRY") LESLIE (b. 1949) was held Saturday, March 16, at Douglas Tabernacle Primitive Baptist Church with the Reverend Richmond Malone officiating.

Funeral service for MR. GERALD W. HEREFORD (b. 1965) was held Wednesday, March 13, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

- Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for REV. DR. HENRY BRADFORD, JR., will be held at 12 noon Saturday, March 23, at First Missionary Baptist Church, with Dr. Charles Lee as eulogist and Dr. Mitchell Walker officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LOUIS EDWARD COOPER, JR., (b. 1944) will be 12 noon, Friday, March 22, at the First Missionary Baptist Church with Dr. Julius R. Scruggs officiating.

Memorial service for MR. LEE CHATMAN (b. 1941) will be 1 p.m., Friday, March 22, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.).

Funeral service for MR. NOEL ARTHUR ROPER (b. 1933) was held Monday, March 18, 2019 at Oakwood Seventh-day Adventist Church (5500 Adventist Boulevard, Huntsville, AL 35816) with Dr. Carlton P. Byrd officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. NADINE K. BIDDLE (b. 1939) was held Saturday, March 16, at the Northridge Woodhaven Funeral Home (6755 US Highway 51 North, Millington, TN 38053) with Pastor Karen Storey officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. CAROLYN REEDUS FEARN (b. 1961) was held Saturday, March 16, at the Round Island Creek Mission Center (13829 Lucas Ferry Road, Athens, AL 35611).

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8 p.m. - Tickets: \$15 - VIP Tickets: \$50

APRIL 21: COMMUNITY/OU ALUMNI PERFORMANCE

2 p.m. Tickets: \$15

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Called 2 Preach

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

Divine Lawn Care

Psalm 37:1-3a

As I write this, I am remembering that big Yazoo lawn mower on the back of my paternal grandfather's green Chevrolet pickup on my way to my very first lawn care job outside of my own house. When I finished that lawn, the ten dollars that I received was proof that my client was satisfied with my work. I got other jobs because she referred me to others she knew. My dad had taught me how to keep the lines straight as I cut the yard and because he was a shop teacher, he kept the blades good and sharp. Dull blades would not result in cut grass, but rather it

would just be lying down from the wheels running over it.

The Psalmist tells us that in this life, there are times when grass grows tall and it needs mowing.

The Psalmist called this grass by names like evil workers and workers of iniquity. Wickedness in high places: it happens every day. We see it and we read about it all the time. Fretting and envy is like trying to cut with dull blades. The only way to deal with that kind of grass is by calling on the



One who specializes in Divine Lawn Care. The Psalmist knew Him. Fret not thyself of evil-doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they

shall soon be cut down like grass.

This is the Divine Lawn Care service that is still available.

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AYBT to Pay Tribute to Handy

The Alabama Youth Ballet Theatre (AYBT) is pleased to announce that tickets are now available for "W.C. Handy's Blues: A Legacy of Dance". This program is AYBT's offering to the community to celebrate the Alabama Bicentennial, a dance tribute to the "Father of Blues," W.C. Handy.

Handy descendant and Huntsville-native, Cynthia Handy Quintela, choreographed and directed the program, with musical accompaniment by Ron Handy. "W.C. Handy's Blues" will be performed April 5-6 at 7 p.m. at the VBC Playhouse. aybtheatre.org

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The View

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Cocktails at *The View*

Every Wednesday evening 4:30-8. Bring your friends and watch the sun go down on our NEW overlook. Seating provided. Full cash bar and gourmet food items for purchase.

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

2Chefs at *The View*

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

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

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Reps. Hall and Daniels Hold Listening Session

State Representatives Laura V. Hall and Anthony Daniels recently provided updates and held another joint listening session for citizens.

This activity was held at St. Mark Baptist Church.



Champion Game Plan for Life

by Preston Brown

THE REASON FOR THE TRIALS

James 1: 2- 4 says: *“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”*



How many of you want more strength? How many of you want more victory in your life? How many of you want more patience? I'm sure that all of us want these things for our lives. Now let me ask this question ... How many of you want tribulations in your life, which can sometimes mean great suffering? I would venture to say that none of us would want this. But we need to realize that it is the trials that

we go through that allows us to gain strength. It is the trials that we go through that allows us to walk in victory. And it's the trials that we go through that allows us to have more patience. You see, there is a reason for the trials that we go through.

In our scripture, the writer James does an excellent job of explaining these reasons. For example, the first reason for our trials is learning to be joyful in all situations. So, we have gladness of heart even in our trials. The next reason is growth. You see, we grow in our faith whenever we endure trials. All of us grow when we are under stress. Psalms 4:1 says: “Thou has enlarged me when I was in distress. When we look back over our lives, when was it that we grew the most? It was under distress. No one truly knows their own strength until they endure test and trials.

The next reason for our trials is to gain wisdom. But

not just any wisdom. There is wisdom that only comes from God through our prayers. Now knowledge and wisdom are similar. But remember knowledge comes by study, but wisdom comes from trials and tests. The final reason for our trials is completeness. The one thing that we need to realize is that God does not “flunk” us when we don't pass the test, God simply enrolls us “back in class” so that we will become mature and complete, not lacking in anything (James 1:4). And one more question. Would you like to fly on an airplane that has never been tested? I'm sure the answer is *no* because if it hasn't been tested, then it can't be trusted. But we serve a God that we can trust even when we go through our tests and our trials. So, if you haven't learned to trust God in your trials, it's time ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters.

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Mrs. Alice Friend Sams

Mrs. Alice Friend Sams was born in Madison County, Ala., where she attended public schools before earning undergraduate and MBA degrees from Alabama A&M University.

A graduate of the coveted Leadership Huntsville Madison County program in 2000, Sams serves as program director for Project FOCUS (Former Offenders Changing for Unconditional Success) under the auspices of the Madison County Commission District Six. In that capacity, since 2009 she has assisted with job and housing placement, GED preparation, restoration of voting rights and pardons from the State Pardon and Parole Board. With partners, Project FOCUS provides workshops on anger management, financial stability, life skills, and counseling.

Sams is also a retiree of NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, where she served for 25 years as contract specialist from 1982-2007. At NASA, she was chiefly responsible for soliciting bids and proposals, selecting vendors, negotiating, evaluating budgets and personnel assignment, which resulted in the awarding of purchase orders, grants and multi-million dollar contracts in support of space and missile systems.

Her diverse career also includes 12 years of teaching middle and high school students, preparing lesson plans, using innovative instructional methods to improve student's functional academic levels, re-



porting to local and state educational offices and evaluating students at the beginning and end of each year. Sams also served as a liaison between the school and the Richland County Education Association. Sams is no doubt known

equally as well for significant community involvement and civic engagement with various organizations and boards. She worked closely with the Commissioner, Judge U. W. Clemon and the community on the Desegregation Consent Order with the Huntsville City Schools and Madison County Schools and helped prepare budgets with the state and NAACP offices and the Von Braun Lions Club.

Albert's Flowers

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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 recess this week and will reconvene next week. According to Roll Call newspaper, the Senate next week is expected to vote on a \$14.2 billion FY2019 emergency supplemental appropriations bill, which was passed by the House in January to provide aid to the victims of recent violent storms and other natural disasters. Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) has introduced his own \$18 billion disaster bill, which would also include \$3.6 billion for securing the

Mexican border.

2. On Friday, President Trump issued the first veto on his presidency after a more-than-expected 12 GOP Senators joined with all Democrats last week to approve a resolution terminating the President's Southern Border Emergency Declaration. When Congress returns next week, the House is expected to vote on a veto override, requiring a 2/3rds vote, which would require 55 Republicans to join all Democrats. On Monday, the President will attend a reception for Greek Independence Day and, on Tuesday, he will host a meeting and joint

press conference at the White House with newly-installed Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, whose bombastic style has earned him the "Trump of the Tropics" nickname and who has received a flattering invitation by President Trump to stay at Blair House across the street from the White House during his DC visit. On Wednesday, the President will travel to Lima, OH to tour the Lima Army Tank Plant and, on Thursday, he will attend the Business Roundtable's 1Q Meeting.

3. On Friday, the Department of Education took a major step toward implementing the Obama-era package of student loan regulations that officially took effect last fall after Education Secretary Betsy DeVos lost a legal battle to delay them. The Trump administration unveiled "significant guidance" that explains how the department plans to carry out various provisions of the rules. The sweeping set of "borrower defense" rules were finalized in the final months

of the Obama administration in 2016. They govern loan forgiveness for defrauded borrowers, ban some types of mandatory arbitration agreements, give federal officials new tools to go after troubled colleges and require for-profit colleges to warn students if their alumni have low loan repayment rates.

4. On Monday, the Trump Administration will present its priorities as part of the agenda for the National Council for the American Worker, an advisory group tasked with ensuring future students and workers are prepared for the changes technology will bring to the workforce. The priorities mark the first higher education policy outlines from the Trump Administration. They come as lawmakers on Capitol Hill are working to give the higher education law

(Public Law 110-315) its first comprehensive update since 2008.

5. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the Federal Reserve's Federal Open Market Committee will meet in Washington, D.C. and is expected to announce that it will leave interest rates unchanged at the current 2.25 to 2.50% range.

6. Last Thursday, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials went to Capitol Hill to brief lawmakers on their decision to ground all Boeing 737 MAX airplanes last week in the wake of the deadly crash of Ethiopian Airlines flight 302 shortly after takeoff from Addis Ababa. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair Peter DeFazio (D-OR) has warned that he will "conduct rigorous oversight with every tool at our disposal to

get to the bottom of the FAA's decision-making process ... into why the aircraft, which has critical safety systems that did not exist on prior models, was certified without requiring additional pilot training."

7. At the Supreme Court, the next two weeks will see arguments in three major congressional districting gerrymander cases. Next week the court will hear arguments in a North Carolina case (Rucho v. Common Cause) and a Maryland case (Lamone v. Benisek) where the issue will be partisan gerrymandering.

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BIRTHDAY - March 22 - GEORGE BENSON - The legendary jazz guitarist was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Benson is most well know for hits such as "Breezin," "Masquerade," and "The Greatest Love of All."
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