

CEOs Form OneTen Coalition, p. 8

FREE

Award to Cyber Infrastructure, p. 3

"Albert Morris" p. 2

"It's always something to remind you that everything ain't never gonna be alright."

- J. California Cooper

The Valley Weekly
POSITIVE-INSPIRATIONAL-EDUCATIONAL

Friday
December 18, 2020
Vol. 7, No. 14
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

Drake Becomes Coding Center

Drake State Community & Technical College will help bring workforce development opportunities to students and the broader North Alabama community. Drake will become a community center for coding and creativity as part of Apple's Community Education Initiative and Tennessee State University's HBCU C2 initiative designed to bring coding and creativity experiences to historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and their communities.

"This initiative fits perfectly with Drake State's efforts to not only provide outstanding education for

students but to be an educational asset and community partner in Madison County," said Dr. Patricia Sims, president of Drake State. "With the resources this designation brings, we're able to bring new career training to our community, which has robust job opportunities in this field."

As part of its Community Education Initiative, Apple will provide Drake with equipment and professional development to help the college become the preeminent HBCU C2 community center to bring coding and creativity to Huntsville and Madison County.



NEW REC CENTER: The ribbon was cut to the Mark Russell Recreation Center (429 Taylor Road) to serve the growing Cove area of Huntsville. The facility is named after former Huntsville City Council member Mark Russell (2002-18).

- Huntsvilleal.gov

Retired Judge Honored by Lawyers Group

The Lawyers of Distinction has announced that retired District Judge Martha Lynn Sherrod of Huntsville, Ala., has been certified as a distinguished member of the organization.

The Lawyers of Distinction is recognized as the fastest growing community of distinguished lawyers in the United States. Members are accepted based upon objective evaluation of an attorney's qualifications, license, reputation, experience, and disciplinary history.

Judge (Ret)
Sherrod is a partner in the firm of

Conchin, Cole, Jordan & Sherrod. Named in the *Best Law Firm in America* (2020-2021), the firm focuses in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, property damage and workmen's compensation. She served the North Alabama community for more than 25 years as Assistant District Attorney, Presiding Municipal and State Court Judge.

Sherrod served on numerous local, state, and



national boards, bar association committees, task forces and was a charter member of the Alabama

Civil Justice Foundation and the Ivy Center Foundation. She served as the 35th Chair of the Judicial Council of

the National Bar Association, President of the Alabama Lawyer's Association, and Region IX Director for the National Bar Association. The first person of African descent to win an at-large election in North Alabama, she developed the first Family Drug Court in Alabama. She continues to serve as Vice President for Administration of the National African American Drug Policy Coalition (NAADPC). She serves on the State Democratic Executive Committee, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and the Links, Incorporated.



Former AAMU First Lady Succumbs in Maryland

The Alabama A&M University community and greater Tennessee Valley is mourning the recent death of former First Lady Mamyé Voncile Pierce Gibson, wife of Dr. John T. Gibson, who served as AAMU President from 1996-2005.

Born November 1, 1946, Gibson directed the Enhanced Skills Center for AAMU's ROTC program

for several years and was especially interested in initiatives that aimed to improve incoming students academically.

During her nine-year stint as First Lady, the Montgomery, Ala., native and Alabama State University graduate was an advocate for an array of programs for students.



The Valley Weekly
INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Champion Game Plan, Page 3
Transforming Seasonal Work, Page 3
John Moore's "PowerShot", Page 4
Valley Deaths, Page 5
tim allston: Perspectives, Page 6
Washington in One Minute, Page 7
OneTen Coalition, Page 8

Called 2 Preach

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

“Culture, Convictions and Conscience”

Daniel 1:6-8;
Romans 14:27

As I write this we are, in this nation, being inundated by what the various News outlets label as a “culture war.” Votes are still being counted, lawsuits are being filed, the president is seeking to stop the vote counting in the states where he’s losing and to continue in the states where he’s win-

ning. Where are believers in the midst of all of this? Too many of them, or at least those who call themselves believers, are just as involved in the culture war as those who claim no church at all.

Daniel and his three friends provide for us just how believers are to engage within the cultures where they live. It was Daniel’s *convictions* about his God



that caused him to refuse to “eat from the king’s table.” He humbly requested that they be allowed to eat according to the dietary laws that were given to his fellow Jews.

He did what Paul encouraged believers to do and not do as recorded in Romans 14: that is, to follow their own *convictions* about things pertaining to God and not to allow the *culture* to cause one to violate their *conscience*.

As a result of Daniel’s *conviction*, God was able to impact that Babylonian culture in a way that liter-



ally transformed in a major way, what they came to understand about “Daniel’s God.” He could shut the

mouths of lions and install an air conditioner in a furnace.

Praise Him!

Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Mr. Albert Merrell Morris

Long-time local businessman and florist Albert Merrell Morris has served the Huntsville area for nearly 55 years. Straight out of college to his noble service in the Navy, Morris started working full-time at the business on Pulaski Pike, the first of four locations. His name was chosen for the retail store since “Albert” started with an “A”. The business started with an initial investment of about \$3,000 from the late Thomas Vivian Morris, a professor of botany and horticulture at AAMU, and his late wife Ruth Daniels Morris. Thomas earned several tree patents while a professor at AAMU. The wholesale greenhouses started in 1965 with brother Roland Morris as manager. The talented native of rural Eufaula, Ala., and Alabama A&M University horticulture graduate, joined his brother, sister-in-law and

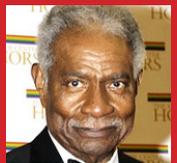


his five-year-old daughter (who put stamps on the envelopes with the bills in them) in launching a signature floral service in the Tennessee Valley. Albert’s Flowers began in 1958 and today is thought to be the longest running floral business in Huntsville, Ala. He was always around prestigious people at AAMU, where his parents worked. They were all doing important things; therefore, he just thought operating

a business was part of being members of the community. And, today they supply florals and gifts all over the world.

Amid rockets at Redstone Arsenal and a neighboring predominately black college, Thomas, Albert, Ruth and Tomasena Morris started what they knew would be a long-lasting family business. Almost everyone in the Morris extended family in Huntsville has at one time or another worked at the flower shop. As the family’s patriarch and business micro-manager, Morris is part Yuchi Indian. After his studies at AAMU, Morris lived and studied in Chicago at the Floral School of America, completing his course of study in 1957. Morris is married to the lovely Mrs. Floretta Morris. He has two daughters, Amoretta of Washington, D.C., and Margaret of San Francisco, Calif.

DECEMBER 18 - OSSIE DAVIS - Born Raiford Chatman Davis in Cogdell, Clinch County, Ga., Davis was most well known for parts played late in his life in films such as “Do The Right Thing,” “Jungle Fever,” “She Hate Me” and “Get on the Bus.” He passed away in 2005.
- *BlackinTime.info*



Albert's Flowers

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

716 Madison Street - Huntsville, AL 35801

**FLOWERS, GIFTS,
EXOTIC FLOWERS**

**Graduate of
American Floral Art School**

256-533-1623

256-536-6911

www.albertsflowers.com



*Come Discover
the Magic on
the Mountain!*

No matter what time of year you explore Burritt on the Mountain, there is something delightful and new to see. And no matter how young – or old – you are, there is something for you on the Mountain! If you’ve never visited, you’re in for a treat. If it’s been awhile, what are you waiting for? Come on up and let the Magic begin!

NOW OPEN!

3101 Burritt Drive • Huntsville, Alabama 35801 • 256.536.2882

www.burrittonthemountain.com

OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm

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

Good Tips for Turning Seasonal Work into a Full-time Job

(BPT) - Ready for a new gig? With the holidays around the corner, many businesses are offering seasonal work. It's not just for people looking to make a few extra dollars. It's a little known fact that some employers often end up offering some seasonal workers a permanent role after the holidays are over.

So whether you're thinking of moving on from your current job, or you're out of work due to the pandemic, seasonal work can be a great way to get your foot in the door.

If you're interested in the idea of leveraging seasonal work into a meaningful ca-

reer at a company with great benefits, here are some tips and insights to keep in mind as you start filling out those applications.

Look beyond retail: Seasonal work offers opportunities that go well beyond operating a cash register. Many sectors are looking to add thousands to their payroll during the holidays, including transportation, manufacturing and package delivery. For example, did you know that UPS is currently filling over 100,000 jobs for the 2020 holiday season? In the past three years, about 35% of their seasonal employees ended up with permanent roles. So keep your eyes

open, because you may discover possibilities you may not have considered.

Make your intentions known: If you're interested in making your seasonal job into something permanent,



speaking up. Tell your boss you'd love to stay on after the holidays. If they don't know you're interested, you may get overlooked when the

perfect opportunity opens up. No need to constantly drop hints, but it's important to raise your hand so they know to consider you.

Give your best effort: Once you're hired on, keep

that you're a great employee and colleague. That means showing up on time, being willing to go above and beyond, and bringing a positive, can-do attitude to work every day.

Make sure the job is right for you: Sometimes, when we're job hunting, we lose sight of the fact that this is a time to test-drive a new role. That's what makes seasonal work such a unique opportunity. If the company is evaluating you, it's just as important that you evaluate the company. Ask veterans what it's like to work there. Now's a good time to find out what they like about the work, along with any ben-

efits the company offers, and how the company promotes a good quality of life.

Looking for a job that pays great and has benefits such as health insurance, vacation time and pension benefits isn't easy. But for many workers, seasonal work can provide a path to bigger and better things.

Just ask the 123,000 permanent UPS employees who started out in seasonal positions - about a third of their current workforce, including top managers and executives. Maybe you'll be one of them! Check out the opportunities at UPSJobs.com and apply today.

Champion Game Plan for Life

"LEARNING TO PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH"

In James 1:22, it says: "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

When we look at our lives, it's easy to say that we are Christians, but that is not enough. If we are truly Christians, our lives and our actions should show it. Now, we all have bad days sometimes. It can happen to the best of us. Remember, even people with "great faith" can have weak moments. But for the majority of the time, people should know who we are and who we represent. In other words, if you were accused of being a Christian, would they have enough evidence to convict you.

by *Preston Brown*

The main idea that James is trying to bring home in this text is that Christianity is not about what we think or say; it is about what we do. It's about our actions that matter, and there are three main things that James points out in the text that we as Christians must do.

First, we must control our tongues. Then we must have a compassionate spirit. We must be someone who is actually willing to help another person that is in need, not just say, "I hope things get better for you."

Finally, we need to live a clean life. True Christians are people who live in the world, but will not let the world live in them.



Remember the "fruits of the spirit" found in Galatians 5:22, which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control!

Even though we are all sinners, true Christians are commanded to live upright and moral lives and we can only achieve this through practicing what we preach ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure that you purchase a copy of my book, "A Champion Game Plan" for life" at amazon.com.

"They give me a song, and I wind up changing that song completely." - Big Mama Thornton



**Dedicated To You.
Delivering Results.**

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

Contact Us

Phone: 256-533-1667

Fax: 256-533-1696

info@martinsonandbeason.com

www.martinsonandbeason.com

facebook.com/martinsonandbeason



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

BRYANT BANK

Unbeatable Service. Legendary Results.™

BANKING & MORTGAGE SERVICES

Downtown Huntsville | 415-H Church Street, Suite 100 • Huntsville, AL 35801 • 256.533.1045
Southeast Huntsville | 1804 Four Mile Post Rd SE • Huntsville, AL 35802 • 256.217.5170



www.bryantbank.com



Microsoft Award Will Allow Classroom Infrastructure

AAMU Receives Microsoft Award to Advance Cybersecurity Applications

Alabama A&M University (AAMU) recently received a \$135,000 competitively funded award from Microsoft to support and advance the educational and societal mission of AAMU with emphasis on cybersecurity applications.

With this Microsoft project Award, AAMU will purchase equipment to improve laboratory and classroom education infrastructure to enhance the network and simulation for cybersecurity applications, including computing and industrial controls equipment in the public utilities space.

This project will also build computational support in Artificial Intelligence and Machine learn-



ing and provide resources to strengthen the electrical engineering and computer science education at AAMU.

Dr. Daniel Wims is the institutional lead and key administrative contact on this project. The participating AAMU project team

includes Dr. Z.T. Deng, interim dean of the College of Engineering, Technology and Physical Sciences; and Dr. Andrew Scott, Dr. Kaveh Heidary and Dr. Venkata Atluri in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Huntsville Council Meetings



Huntsville City Council Regular Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m., Downtown Huntsville.

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

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

Faith Initiative Scholarship Available

FAITH Initiative, Incorporated, a 501c3 nonprofit established by Fellowship Presbyterian Church USA, announces the annual scholarships to be awarded *Spring 2021*. The scholarships are open to deserving students from the Tennessee Valley who have been accepted to an accredited university or technical school and who demonstrate the potential to become a productive member of the community.

Recipients are not required to be enrolled or accepted in an institution of higher learning in *Alabama* to receive the scholarships. Applications and requirements have

been mailed to area high school counselors and local churches. Students selected from the Tennessee Valley will be informed by letter, and the formal announcement will be made at the Annual Fundraising Event

of the organization scheduled for *Spring 2021*. Due to the current COVID 19, this event may be virtual. Successful applicants are expected to participate.

Scholarship applications may be obtained from FAITH Initiative organization at faithinitiativenonprofit@gmail.com or call 256-714-9399. Applications must be received not later than *March 19, 2021*.



PowerShot

"Remind thyself, in the darkest moments, that every failure is only a step toward success, every detection of what is false directs you toward what is true, every trial exhausts some tempting form of error, and every adversity will only hide, for a time, your path to peace and fulfillment."

+0g Mandino

www.blackcottoncompany.com

REGISTER FOR SPRING

CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 6

DRAKE STATE

COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

drakestate.edu

MAYHEM IS EXPENSIVE. ALLSTATE IS NOT.

JAMES F SMITH & ASSOCIATES
256-852-7310

415 CHURCH ST NW BUILDING B
HUNTSVILLE
jamesfsmith@allstate.com

Allstate®

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

The Valley Weekly

Publisher

The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief

Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor**

Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial AssistantsLinda Burruss
Phyllis Chunn
William Huston, Sr.
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.**Advertising Associate**

Phyllis Chunn

- Contributing Editors -tim allston
Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.
Minister Preston Brown
Ron Hamm
Pastor Michael D. Rice**Website Administrator**

Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:The Valley Weekly
415A Church Street - Suite 100
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
Copyright 2020

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 views of The Valley Weekly, LLC.

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

**The Valley Weekly
Ad Rates Single Issue**

Back Cover	10x10-inches	\$1,000
Full Page	10x10 inches	\$800
3/4 Page	7.5x10 inches	\$600
Half Page	Horizontal	\$400
	Vertical	\$400
Fourth Page	10x5 inches	\$400
Eighth Page	5x5 inches	\$200
	2.5x5 inches	\$100
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$50
	1 col.x1 inch (4 col. in. minimum=\$24)	\$50/Flat Fee
6 Month/1 Yr.-10% & 20% Discount!		

Just How Will Vaccine Be Dolled Out?

What we do know is that while the CDC has outlined some suggested guidelines, states will ultimately decide on their own how the vaccine is dolled out.

Many states are struggling to prepare because information about what, when and how much vaccine is coming constantly changes.

That, plus extra funding (which comes from Congress) may be needed to make the undertaking possible—and we all know how long Congress can take to make a decision.

Other factors include how well a state's health department is funded, how hard the pandemic has hit and how robust its immunization system was pre-pandemic.

Overall, state officials express confidence for this end of the year launch. Officials are meeting two and three times a week to prepare, hiring more



people, beefing up their computer systems, requisitioning or buying everything from all-terrain delivery vehicles for remote places to dry ice machines for keeping the precious vaccine at its required sub-zero temperature.

In states such as Arizona, private health care systems will do much of the distribution. There, Banner Health already is planning immunization sites at the state fair-ground in Phoenix. In Alaska, the tribal health system of 180 clinics will be integral to getting the vaccine out.

Some states have signed up for only a few providers for the CDC's vaccine ordering system, others have hundreds ready to go. Some states are doing everything with their own staff, others have asked the National Guard to help—in one case, almost 1,000 Guardsmen.

Other states seem like they either don't know their method of delivery or are being secretive about it, while others publish lists and maps of every site on the web.

- BlackDoctor.org

Woody Anderson Ford
256-339-9441
www.WoodyAndersonFord.com
2500 Jordan Lane, Huntsville, AL

WJAB
90.9 FM
www.wjab.org

Valley Deaths

NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME -2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 -
(256) 539-8189

Funeral service for MR. DONALD L. PRUITT (b. 1958) was held Sunday, December 13, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Graveside service for MRS. EMMA JEAN WALKER (b. 1937) was held Saturday, December 12, at Big Cove Cemetery with Pastor Wallace Steele officiating.

Graveside service for MR. O. C. FLETCHER, JR. (b. 1947) was held Thursday, December 10, at Valhalla Memory Gardens with the Reverend Joe Kelly officiating.

Funeral service for MR. JAMES EARL HARRIS, SR. (b. 1933) was held Wednesday, December 9, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service for MRS. ALICE ELVIRA THOMAS (b. 1943) was held Tuesday, December 8, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

**ROYAL FUNERAL HOME - 4315 Oakwood Avenue -
Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481**

Memorial service for MR. JOHN ANDREW LOCKLEY will be 12 noon, Sunday, December 20, with Pastor Nelson B. Stokes officiating.

Funeral service for MR. REGINALD LAMONT MOSES was held Thursday, December 17, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

Public viewing for MRS. FANYA FIELDS FAULKNER (b. 1914) was held Thursday, December 17, from 12-6 p.m.

Graveside service for MRS. LILLIE PEARL SUITT (b. 1930) was held Monday, December 14, at the Valhalla Memory Gardens (698 Winchester Road NE, Huntsville, Ala.) with Brother James Earl Gray officiating.

Graveside service for REVEREND KAISER LESLIE, SR. (b. 1936) was held Sunday, December 13, at the Madison Memory Gardens (100 Hughes Road Madison, Ala.) with Brother Ricky Lee Leslie officiating.

**SERENITY FUNERAL HOME - 2505 University Drive
NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-9693**

Arrangements to be announced at a later date for RANDOLPH GILBERT, EMMA WILDER, JOHN HUMPHREY, MARY THOMAS, JAMES "STEVE" STEPHENS, NATHANIEL CAMPBELL, VIRDA MCDONNELL, DAVID "FATS" GORDON and CLIFTON BRUCE SHAW, JR.



Perspectives on
God Views
+
Current News

by tim allston

Why Did Biden Pick Harris? (Part 3 of 5)

In our earlier installments (<https://bit.ly/374CkEi>, <https://bit.ly/372JGrY>) I overlapped Joe Biden's choosing Kamala Harris with Jesus' choosing the Samaritan woman at Jacob's Well. Let's continue, . . .

John 4:7,8, MSG. A woman, a Samaritan, came to draw water. Jesus said, "Would you give me a drink of water?" (His disciples had gone to the village to buy food for lunch.)

Women in the Bible were often nameless, faceless, and considered inferior to men. Ditto this triply-cursed Samaritan woman who came to Jacob's Well. And alone.

"Not in their league"

For protection, women traveled together customarily to places such as distant watering holes. But not her.

Perhaps because of her or other women's perception of her multiple unsuccessful marriages, she was considered "not in their league."

A "not in their league" brand also could be applied to Kamala Harris:

1. Freshman U.S. Senate woman of color - only the second;
2. Not educated in Ivy League schools - the alma maters of the political elites. Instead, she hailed from Howard University, an historically Black college/university (HBCU), and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, a Black national Greek-letter social organization; and
3. Married to a Jew, an historically despised ethno-religious people.

Jesus and the woman were alone at the well, both with unmet needs. This occasioned him to ask for what he did not have and could not get: a drink of water.

Female Davids vs. Male Goliaths?

At first, however, it seemed as though the Samaritan woman possessed the upper hand with her bucket against Jesus' bucketlessness, at their first encounter.

Likewise, at first glance and like the Samaritan woman with her "J" Jesus, Senator Kamala Harris had the upper hand over her "J" Joe at their first encounter.

9 The Samaritan woman, taken aback, asked, "How come you, a Jew, are asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (Jews in those days wouldn't be caught dead talking to Samaritans.)

Both the Samaritan and Kamala provided their J-men their needed "helpmeet" - to help each meet their challenges: 1st and 21st century evangelizing, respectively.

Jesus needed help to evangelize beyond his Jewish community.

Likewise in March Biden, by then the Democrats' presumptive nominee, announced he would choose a running mate who'd been primaries/debates-tested - and a woman, <https://wapo.st/36NfAHH>.

Both the Samaritan and Harris knew well their underdog statuses. But neither allowed their historic or cultural subordination to stop them from seizing their respective David-vs.-Goliath moments, . . . (to be continued, Part 4)

tim allston is the author of the printed/digital/audiobook, *The U.S. Coronavirus Crisis and the Rise of the "Silver-Mettle" Leaders*, available now at <https://amzn.to/3cx1koV>.

Tennessee Valley Calendar of Events

December 18

Drive-In Movie: The Muppet Christmas Carol
Athens-Limestone Public Library
6-9 p.m.

Totally 80s Christmas Party
SideTracks Music Hall
9-11:55 p.m.

December 18-20

"Arnez J"
Stand Up Live Huntsville
Huntsville, Ala.
huntsville.standuplive.com

December 19

Winter Solstice Market

Lowe Mill Arts & Entertainment
10 a.m.-6 p.m.

December 21

Watercolor Doodles
(Online & In-Person)
Huntsville Art League
6 p.m.

Rocket City Light Tour
www.fbchhsv.org
5-9 p.m.

Monday Night Football on
Big Screen(s) at Stovehouse
6 p.m.

December 22

10 Nights of Santa
EarlyWorks Museum Complex
5-7 p.m.

The Legume Room Comedy
Salty Nut Brewery
7 p.m.

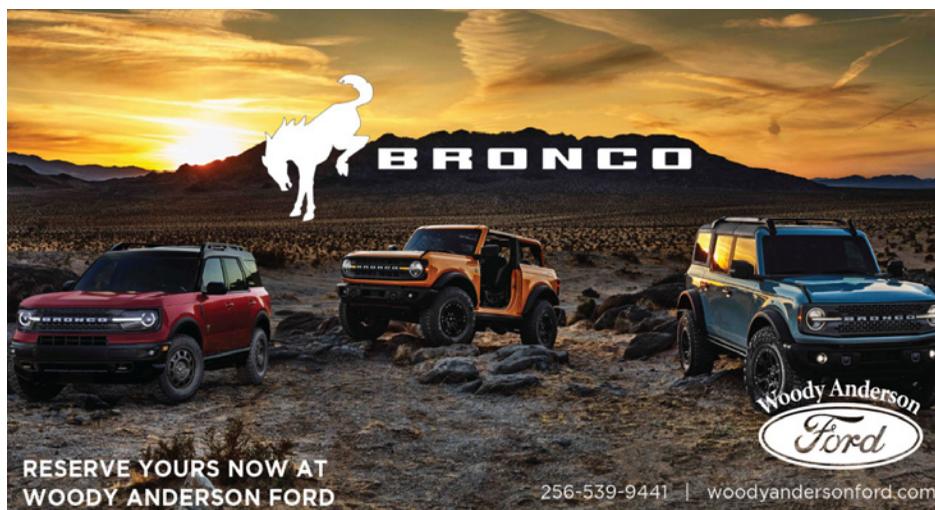
December 23

Skating in the Park
Huntsville Museum of Art
4-10 p.m.

December 24

\$5 After 5 p.m.
Huntsville Museum of Art
5-8 p.m.

"I find, in being black, a thing of beauty: a joy, a strength; a secret cup of gladness." - Ossie Davis



Marshall England, Agent

600 Madison Street, SE - Suite B
Huntsville, AL 35801
Bus: 256.539.2014
marshallengland@marshallengland.com

State Farm



www.marshallengland.com

COVID-19 Assistance

UNITED WAY COVID-19

Assistance Fund

Donate:

www.uwmadison-county.org

Get Assistance: Call 211

SMALL BUSINESSES

disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

(800) 659-2955

COVID-19- RELATED UNEMPLOYMENT

Alabama Department
of Labor

(866) 234-5382

labor.alabama.gov

MADISON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (256) 539-3711

LATEST COVID-19 INFORMATION

Alabama Department of
Public Health

www.alabamapublichealth.gov

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention
cdc.gov

TAKEOUT/ DELIVERY RESTAURANTS

[https://hsvchamber.org/
restaurant-deliveries-
take-out-food-service-
providers/](https://hsvchamber.org/restaurant-deliveries-take-out-food-service-providers/)

Washington in One Minute



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

1. ON THE FLOOR. The Senate convened Monday, while the House told its Members not to expect votes before Tuesday evening. Congress gave House and Senate appropriators another week through this Friday (December 18) to avert a federal government shutdown and complete work on the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations bills. There is a ru-

mor that appropriations staff has drafted a three-month continuing resolution to fund the government through mid-March if negotiations break down.

Last night, a bipartisan group of Senators working on a compromise version of the COVID relief bill, announced that they would introduce two (2) bills Monday: (1) \$748 billion for new unemployment benefits, a new round of PPP loans, money for schools, and

money for vaccine distribution; and (2) \$160 billion for state and local governments and temporary liability protections for businesses, hospitals and schools.

There may also this week be a vote to override President Trump's threatened veto of the \$740 billion 2021 National Defense Autho-

rization Act, which passed the Senate 84-13 on Friday after clearing the House in an earlier 335-78 vote.

If work on all these issues can be concluded this week, Congress will adjourn the 116th Congress sine die and will not meet again until the convening of the 117th Congress on Sunday, January 3.

2. LATEST ELECTION RESULTS. On Monday, the

538 members of the electoral college met in their respective states (and the District of Columbia) to cast ballots for the presidential election, with President-elect Biden expected to receive 306 votes to President Trump's 232. On January 6, Congress will meet in Joint Session to receive and count the electors' ballots.

3. BIDEN TRANSITION NEWS. President-elect Biden was expected to make a statement at the conclusion of the electoral college vote and to continue to name members of his incoming administration this week. Last week, he announced the following picks for his administration: Gen. Lloyd Austin, Secretary of Defense; Rep. Marcia Fudge, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

Susan Rice, Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council

4. CORONAVIRUS VACCINE. On Thursday (December 17) at 9:00 a.m. EST, the FDA's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee met in open session to discuss the Emergency Use Authorization of the Moderna, Inc., vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19 in individuals 18 years and older.

5. SENATE HEARING ON ELECTION IRREGULARITIES. On Wednesday (December 16), the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee held a hearing at 10 a.m. on "Examining Irregularities in the 2020 Election."

The hearing--which is opposed by committee Democrats and at least one GOP Member, Sen. Mitt Romney (R-UT), who has said he will

probably not attend the hearing--will feature the testimony of former independent counsel Ken Starr and retired judge Jim Troupis, a GOP attorney representing the Trump campaign in Wisconsin.

Committee Chair Ron Johnson (R-WI) has said the hearing will help him decide whether to join House Republicans to challenge the presidential electoral results on the floor on January 6.

6. HOUSE 2021 CALENDAR. The House Leadership released its legislative calendar for 2021. The Senate has not released its calendar for 2021.

Ron Hamm
Hamm Consulting Group
400 North Capitol Street, NW
Suite 585
Washington, DC 20001
T: 202-596-8384
rhamm@hammconsulting.com
www.hammconsulting.com



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

Agent
AL #A-058076

New York Life Insurance Company

200 Clinton Avenue, Suite 600

Huntsville, AL 35801

Tel: 256-517-5922 Direct

Tel: 256-852-7328

Fax: 256-593-1842

ireedus@ft.newyorklife.com

New York Life "The Company You Keep"




SERENITY
FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Dr. NW
Huntsville, Alabama 35816
(256) 539-9693

A New Generation Of Service

W&A
WOMACK & ASSOCIATES LLC

"Partnering With You to Make Informed Decisions"

*Comprehensive Financial Planning *Estate Planning *Accounting Services
*Tax Planning and Preparation for Individuals, Businesses, Estates and Trusts

To learn more contact us:

Lori A. Womack, CPA/PFS, CFP®
Managing Member

lwomack@womackassociatesllc.com

4650 Whitesburg Dr S, Suite 101
Huntsville, Alabama 35802
256-534-1360

CEOs Aim to Hire a Million Black Americans

Major CEOs of have joined a national drive to hire a million Black Americans over the next 10 years to build up the latter's communities economically.

The OneTen coalition —37 members strong and including such power-brokers as AT&T, Bank of America, Comcast, Delta, General Motors, IBM, Nike, Merck, Verizon and Walmart—is targeting Black workers who don't have a college degree.

"Many times companies require four-year degrees for the kinds of jobs that really do not require a four-year degree," Merck CEO Kenneth Frazier told CBS This Morning. "We're trying to urge compa-

nies to take a skills-first approach rather than a credentials approach."

OneTen is focusing on Black workers first, but the goal is to eventually seek out other racial groups. The coalition is also asking small and midsize businesses to join the cause.

Historically higher Black unemployment and lower annual income, exacerbated by structural racism, have widened the wealth gap between Black and White households. Black families had \$24,100 in wealth in 2019 compared to \$188,200 in White families, according to Federal Reserve data.

For more information, visit www.oneten.org

TVW Authors Gaining Speed

Three contributing editors at *The Valley Weekly* have written books that will make great stocking stuffers for family and friends. Each of their works are practical, short and affordable. **Preston Brown** offers "*A Champion Game Plan for Life*" that can be found at Amazon.com. Brown's weekly sermonettes are filled with loads of low-hanging fruit that are perfect for short, scripture-based daily meditations.

Rev. Michael Rice has written three books that can be ordered from Amazon.com. They include "*Men, It's Your Call: The Journey to Godly Manhood*," "*5 Days in 7:45: Musings from the Mind of a Preacher*," and "*More Musings from the Mind of a Preacher*." Rice is a gifted biblical scholar and writer.

Self-published author **Tim Allston's** latest book, "*The U.S. Coronavirus Crisis and the Rise of the 'Silver-Mettle Leaders*," is available in both digital and printed formats, and it will soon be available as an audiobook. This is the first book in an 11-book series that Allston is writing. Your free digital version can be requested at timallston@gmail.com. Allston is also the author of "*7 Steps to Manage Ego Problems: The How-to Guide for 'Somebody Else*." Each of his books can be found at Amazon.com.

Family and friends will enjoy reading the works of these local authors.

Governor Ivey Extends Health Order

Alabama's Safer at Home coronavirus emergency health order has been extended through January 22, 2021.

The order requires individuals to wear a mask or face covering when in public and when in close contact with other people.

The number of positive cases and hospitalizations have risen significantly, threatening community safety and the health care system's ability to manage persons infected with the virus.

The community is encouraged to remain focused on masking up, social distancing and



sanitizing.

The City of Huntsville fully supports the Governor's health order, according to the Mayor (Tommy) Battle's Weekly Update e-newsletter.

More information on the weekly number of hospitalizations, quarantines, positive cases and deaths is available on the City's COVID-19 resource page.

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



Member
FDIC
NMLS# 401921

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

 **ProgressBank**
myprogressbank.com