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Front Matter

Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society

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From the President:

T minus six months.

It's now six months until the culmination of Alabama's Bicentennial Celebration – the December 14 anniversary of the day in 1819 that, in Huntsville, Alabama became a state.

Six months, and counting.

Of course, for those who like countdowns, there's another milestone coming up even sooner. Next month will mark the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing, Apollo 11. Huntsville had a little something to do with that one, too.

All that to say, right now is a great time to love history.

Because those anniversaries are being celebrated. Big time.

Right now, you can go to the Huntsville Museum of Art and see that original 1819 constitution that made Alabama a state. You can go to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center and hear panels with the engineers that made the moon landing happen.

You can ... Well, you can do a lot of things. This letter's too short to list them. Go

to <https://www.huntsville.org/alabama-bicentennial/> or <https://www.huntsville.org/apollo-50th-anniversary/> to see the full lists.

Point being, you should seize this amazing moment, and take advantage of the great opportunities taking place in our community.

But not right now. Right now, you should keep reading the document in your hand.

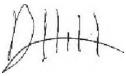
Keep reading, and you'll read about how Huntsville's history is being preserved for future generations with the Sunken Sidewalk Project on the courthouse

square. You'll read about President Monroe's visit to Huntsville 200 years ago that's being celebrated as part of the Bicentennial. You'll read about the Bell Factory and Huntsville's Civil Rights history and Senator Clement Claiborne Clay.

You'll be glad you did. And, when you finish, then you can go celebrate.

Have a great 2019.

This is history.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D Hitt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Hitt

President

Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society

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