

# NBA's Kobe Bryant vs. NBA 2.0's King David - p. 5

**FREE**



## A&M's "CIBER ONE" - p. 6

Friday  
March 17, 2023  
Vol. 9, No. 28  
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

**SALUTE!**  
Rosetta James Foundation  
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Maureen Davis Cathey

# The Valley Weekly

"To be [black] in this country and to be relatively conscious is to be in a rage all the time." - James Baldwin

## OU Receives SACSCOC Reaffirmation

Oakwood University recently underwent its site visit and accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) from February 20-23, 2023.

President Leslie Pollard presented the results of the site visit to the faculty and staff. The University was fully accredited for another ten years with only one minor recommendation, which was resolved immediately.

The magnitude of the success experienced by the institution during this re-accreditation is reflected in the words of the SACSCOC

On-site Visit Committee chair, who acknowledged that she had never been part of a visit that ended with almost 100% compliance during her several years of collaboration with SACSCOC.

Accreditation is crucial to universities, as it determines their eligibility to receive federal and state funds, their ability to transfer credits with other schools, and their ability to earn recognition from students, other universities, businesses, nonprofit and government communities. Regional accreditation is the way that the federal government ensures com-



pliance with federal laws and mandates for higher education, as well.

The University gives thanks to God for the unity, outstanding teamwork, and shared vision demonstrated by all constituents during the SACSCOC visit, which can now be safely said was a coronation visit ordained by the Almighty.



**MORNING STAR LODGE NO. 50:** The Brothers of Morning Star Lodge No.50 hosted the 13th Annual Black & White Charity Ball at the Von Braun Center North Hall 1 & 2, featuring the Back2Basics Band bringing "love entertainment" and DJ. Thanks to significant community support, the organization was able to make a charitable contribution to the Catholic Center of Concern-Huntsville. The Lodge looks forward to hosting future events in the years ahead. See additional scenes from the event through the photography of Anthony Gibson on Page 6.

## AAMU Alum to Tour with Jill Scott

Recent Alabama A&M University alumna and former Dancin' Diva Captain Carsan Lindsey was selected to tour with Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Jill Scott!

"Ms. Scott reached out to the director of Malone Studios Dance Academy in Nashville for choreography and dancers for her upcoming tour. After a couple

of intense auditions, I was chosen as one of two dancers for the "Who Is Jill Scott Words & Sounds Vol. 1 23rd Anniversary Tour." My role is to add a visual interpretation of the story that the artist is



telling through my dance performance," says Lindsey.

The Nashville, Tennessee, native earned her animal science degree from AAMU in December

petitive dancer with Malone Studios.

"That training prepared me for what it took to become a Dancin' Diva, and being a Dancin' Diva has no doubt prepared me for this moment. I can't tell you how blessed I feel to have this experience, and I'm very grateful for my education at Alabama A&M University!"

2022 and grew up as a com-

The Valley Weekly

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## Washington in One Minute



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

1. CONGRESS. The Senate is in session this week, while the House is out. Last Tuesday, Senate Intelligence Committee Chair Mark Warner (D-VA) introduced bipartisan legislation that would grant the Biden administration new powers to regulate popular Chinese video-sharing platform TikTok and other foreign-owned apps. 3 Senators are out this week: Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) is hospitalized due to a concussion he suffered in a fall at D.C.'s Waldorf Astoria Hotel last Wednesday; Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) is recovering at home from a case of shingles; and Sen. John Fetterman (D-PA) continues to receive treatment

for depression at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

2. THE WHITE HOUSE. On Monday, President Biden visited San Diego, CA, and met with Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and then attended a Democratic fundraiser that evening. On Tuesday, he gave a speech calling for tougher gun control measures in Monterey Park, CA, where a gunman killed 11 people at a dance studio in January. On Wednesday, he was in Las Vegas, NV, to give a speech on reining in prescription drug costs.

3. FEDERAL RESERVE. Last week in testimony before the House and Senate, Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said that the Fed's policymakers have

yet to decide how large an interest rate hike to impose at its next meeting on March 21-22; however, Business Insider reported Monday that Goldman Sachs is advising its clients that the implosion of Silicon Valley Bank and the resulting panic in the banking sector will prevent the Federal Open Market Committee from hiking interest rates next week. Goldman Sachs is still expecting the Fed to deliver 0.25 percentage points rate hikes in May, June, and July with a terminal rate — when officials are expected to end this rate hike cycle — of 5.25% to 5.5%.

4. HIGHER EDUCATION. Momentum for short-term Pell continues to grow. On last Friday, Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), the ranking member (and former chair) of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, released the House

Democrats' bill to authorize short-term or workforce Pell. The Republican Committee members released their version in January. Proponents in the Senate to extend Pell Grant eligibility to quality, short-term workforce development programs, led by Senator. Tim Kaine (D-VA) re-introduced their bipartisan proposal in January. Rep. Scott's bill comes as advocates from community colleges to business organizations highlight the expansion as an important pathway for good-paying jobs and careers. For adults, short-term Pell would make affordable programs that can quickly open job opportunities. For employers, it would open a pipeline for much-needed skilled workers.

Hamm Consulting Group  
444 North Capitol Street,  
NW Suite 840  
Washington D.C. 20001  
T: 202-596-8384

## Huntsville City Council Meetings

Huntsville City Council's regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

Council work sessions are also held in the Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

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

## This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday  
in Lent

(Track 2, Year A)

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41



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Prudence LaBeach Pollard, PhD, MPH, RD, SPHR  
Oakwood University

**ACCOLADES**  
from Our Readers

THE VALLEY WEEKLY  
**VALLEY DEATHS**



**NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME**

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW  
Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

Funeral service for MR. ROBERT GURLEY (b. 1950) was held Saturday, March 11, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with The Reverend Cornell Martin officiating.

Graveside service for MS. KATHY L. ERVIN (b. 1965) was held Friday, March 10, in the New Hope Cemetery #2 in Limestone County.

Funeral service for MR. AVERY L. SHARP, JR. (b. 1981) was Tuesday, March 7, at Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (3126 Nevel Drive NW ~ Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Edward Anderson officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. MACIE MCCARVER (b. 1957) was held Sunday, March 5, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Elder Dennis Green officiating.

**ROYAL FUNERAL HOME**

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW  
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Funeral service will be announced at a later date for MOTHER DOROTHY JEAN MANGRUM (b. 1940).

Funeral service for MRS. CAROLYN ANN "CHOCOLATE" STRICKLAND (b. 1956) was Sunday, March 12, at the Royal Chapel of Memories (4315 Oakwood Avenue Huntsville, Ala.) with Reverend Deborah McGlathery Holden officiating.

Funeral service for MOTHER ANNIE LEE VERGE (b. 1939) was Sunday, March 12, at the Mt. Zion Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (3726 Pryor Rd, Madison, Ala.) with Reverend James Robinson officiating.

Funeral service for MR. STEVE MICHAEL MARSH (b. 1949) was held Saturday, March 11, at the Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church (1919 Brandontown Road NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Dion Watkins officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. CAROLYN B. STEWART POWERS (b. 1948) was held Saturday, March 11, at the St. Bartley Primitive Baptist Church (3020 Belafonte Ave NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Maurice Childress officiating.

**SERENITY FUNERAL HOME**

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

Funeral service for MRS. MARY BINFORD (b. 1943) was Monday, February 27, at Big Shiloh Baptist Church, 133 Maple St., Madison, Ala.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY  
**CHAMPION GAME PLAN**

PRESTON BROWN

**GETTING THE WEEDS OUT**

Mathew 13:27-28 says, "Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from? An enemy did this, he replied."

The other day I was pulling up weeds that had grown in my yard and my plant bed. The reason that they had grown up was that I neglected them and

allowed them to grow.

You see, I didn't do what I needed to do on a daily basis or weekly basis to keep them out. When you are dealing with weeds, you have to stay on top of things or they will get out of control.

The same can be said

about our spiritual growth, of my plant bed, everything

because when we allow the enemy to plant weeds in our lives, they will choke out our spiritual growth, as well.

In other words, when we allow bitterness, complaining, worrying and unwholesome talk to be planted in our lives, they

act like weeds that need to be pulled up and eliminated from our lives.

If we don't, we won't have the beauty that God wants us to have for our lives

Since I have pulled the weeds out



is beautiful. Everything is the way that God wants it.

You see, by getting the weeds out of your life, you can bring God the glory that He is worthy of.

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase a copy of my book, "A Champion Game Plan for Life," at amazon.com



**MARCH 17 - NAT KING COLE** - Born in Montgomery, Ala., Nathaniel Adams Coles was an American jazz pianist and vocalist. He recorded over one hundred songs that became hits on the pop charts. His trio was the model for small jazz ensembles that followed. Cole also acted in films and on television and performed on Broadway. He was the first African American man to host an American television series. Cole appeared in the first Jazz at the Philharmonic concerts in 1944. He recorded with Illinois Jacquet and Lester Young. In 1959 he received a Grammy Award for Best Performance By a "Top 40" Artist for "Midnight Flyer".

- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



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# VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES &amp; MORE!

**March 18**

Lawncare Maintenance  
In-Person Class  
Huntsville Botanical  
Garden  
4747 Bob Wallace Av-  
enue  
Huntsville, Ala.  
10 a.m.-12 noon

**Job Preparedness Work-  
shop**

Location: Civil Choice  
Realty  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/job-preparedness-workshop-tickets-509382395457>  
3450 Hwy. 53 Ste. C  
Huntsville, Ala.  
12-4 p.m.

**March 18-19**

“Heroes vs. Villains”  
EarlyWorks Children’s  
Museum  
404 Madison Street  
Huntsville, Ala.  
11 a.m.-4 p.m.

**March 19**

Masquerade Mystery  
Dinner Show  
Huntsville Botanical  
Garden  
4747 Bob Wallace Av-  
enue  
Huntsville, Ala.  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

**March 23**

“Houndmouth”  
Von Braun Center  
Mars Music Hall  
700 Monroe Street,  
Huntsville, Ala.  
8 a.m.

**March 25**

Garden Prep for Spring  
Huntsville Botanical  
Garden  
4747 Bob Wallace Av-  
enue SW  
Huntsville, Ala.  
\$35-\$60  
10 a.m.-12 noon  
[www.hsvbgo.org](http://www.hsvbgo.org)

**Huntsville Havoc**

“Military Night”  
Von Braun Center  
7 p.m.

**“Hollywood Hits”**

Mark C. Smith Concert  
Hall  
Von Braun Center  
700 Monroe Street  
Huntsville, Ala.  
7:30 p.m.

**March 27**

TEDx Talk  
*Sponsor: The AAMU  
Honors Program*  
AAMU Alum and For-  
mer SGA President  
Aayana Ingram  
“Intersectionality: The  
Missing ‘I’ in Diversity,  
Equity and Inclusion”  
Alabama A&M Univer-  
sity  
Buchanan Hall  
5:30 p.m.

**April 1**

The 3rd Annual Women’s  
Expo Event  
Von Braun Center  
Huntsville, Ala.  
11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
[Info@studio53huntsville.com](mailto:Info@studio53huntsville.com)

**April 3-9**

Oakwood Alumni Home-  
coming  
Celebrating the 3s and 8

**April 8**

Concert  
Anthony Hamilton with  
Leela James  
The Orion Amphitheater  
8 a.m.

**May 4-7**

The Golden Celebration of  
the Class of 1973  
Alabama A&M University  
Check-In: Embassy Down-  
town Huntsville  
(May 4) 3-7 p.m.

**May 5**

Spring Commencement 1  
(Graduate Students)  
The Event Center  
9 a.m.

**148th Founder’s Day Lun-  
cheon**

Ernest Knight Reception  
Center  
1:30-3 p.m.

**Spring Commencement 2**

(Undergraduates)  
The Event Center  
6 p.m.

**May 6**

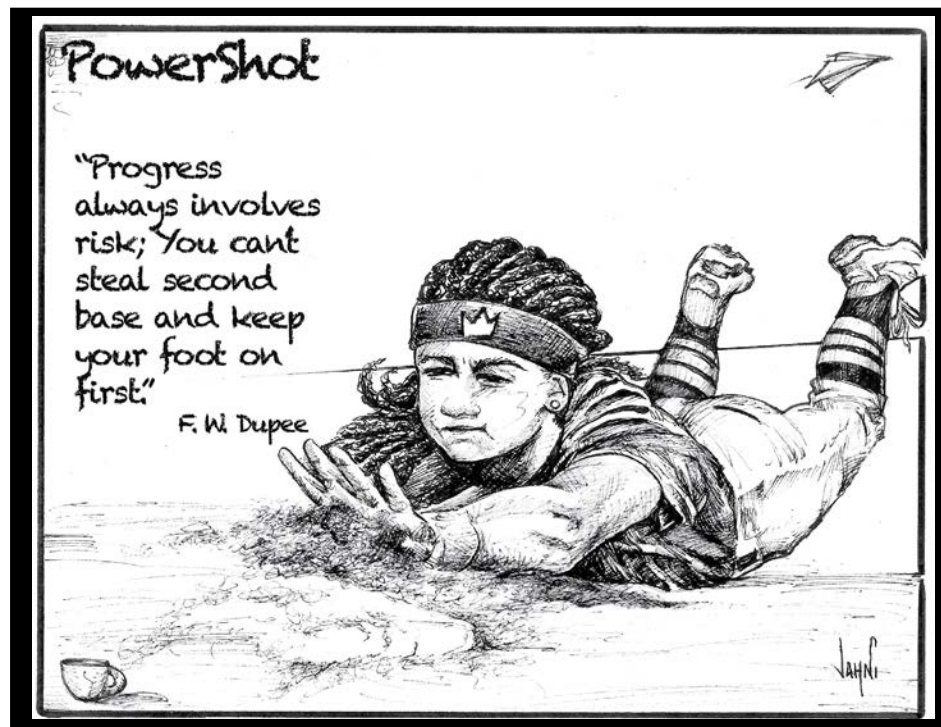
AAMU Alumni Associa-  
tion Award & Scholarship  
Luncheon  
Ernest Knight Reception  
Center

**May 7**

Memorial Walk  
St. John AME Church Wor-  
ship Service  
Downtown Huntsville  
9:30 a.m.

**May 20**

Rocket City BBQ & Soul  
Fest  
6001 Pulaski Pike NW  
Huntsville, Ala.  
10 a.m.-11 p.m.



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*“Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive and go do it. Because what the world needs is more people who have come alive.”*

- Howard Thurman



## NBA's Kobe Bryant vs. NBA 2.0's King David (Part 1 of 2)

*"And a little child shall lead them." - Isaiah 11:6.*

As a lead-up to my upcoming book, *Where Jump Shots Meet Jesus*, over the next several weeks, I will illustrate how championship-winning NBA basketball parallels best practices from the Bible, the latter of which I brand "NBA 2.0."

"NBA 2.0" or New Bible Advocacy pairs top servant leaders of past NBA dynasties with Bible characters to show their unique similarities. Yes, basketball and the Bible can collaborate and not conflict.

For example, Los Angeles Lakers 18-year-old Kobe Bryant (NBA) is paired against the 15-year-old shepherd boy David of David vs. Goliath fame (NBA 2.0); next week, I'll show their pairing in their latter years when each stumbled adulterously yet recovered well.

### Young Kobe Bryant

At age 17, Bryant was the NBA's first guard drafted directly out of high school; became the youngest Slam Dunk champion at 18, as well as the youngest NBA All-Star starter in history.

In 1997, Kobe faced a veteran challenge: The Lakers opposed the Utah Jazz in the Western Conference semifinals. Absent were teammates Byron Scott (sprained wrist), Robert Horry (ejected for fighting Utah's Jeff Hornacek), and Shaquille O'Neal (fouled out with 1:46 left in the game).

(Wikipedia): "Bryant shot four airballs at the end of the game, and Utah won 98-93 in overtime to eliminate the Lakers 4-1. He first missed a game-winning two-point jump shot in the fourth quarter, and then misfired 3 three-point field goals in overtime, including two tying shots in the final minute. O'Neal commented that "[Bryant] was the only guy who had the guts at the time to take shots like that."

Kobe's multi-platform artistry included a 2018 Academy Award.

Unfortunately for many of us, our most significant defeats follow our biggest victories.

Hopefully, in Part 2, NBA's Kobe and NBA 2.0's King David will model how to recover successfully.



Tim Allston  
Leadership Coach & Three-time  
Amazon Best-Selling Author  
Leading from the Middle  
leadingfromthemiddle@gmail.com

### Young Shepherd boy David

Entrusted in his leadership as a youthful shepherd boy who successfully fended off wild animals.

Then-15 David was gutsy enough to challenge Philistine giant Goliath - and defeat him!



*Have you ever been praying, waiting anxiously on God to hear you and respond? Knowing that it's His will and not yours. Trusting, then wondering or doubting, if what your desires are, are His! Maybe you've even taken it back for a moment, just to start the process all over again!*

Have you ever stopped and said, "Here God, just take it!" You have gotten to the point where you understand you may have to live with it, deal with it, manage through it, and adjust yourself to do that. Has time gone on, and although it may have seemed a little trying from time to time, you figured out some way to just cope. Even when it doesn't feel right, or you may get down, you have given it over to him, understanding that whatever His answer is ... it will be what it will be!

Life keeps moving on, the world keeps spinning, and then, ring ... you get the call!!! This is the call that you've been waiting on. The resolution, the rekindling, the forgiveness, the promise, the promotion, the child, the surgery, the healing!!! Oh, how great is our God!!! You move into an overflow of gratefulness. Thankful that your prayers were answered.

An influx of emotions thrust you into this, "Thank you Jesus mode" because all along, you

## The Call ...

# Millennial Moment

by Gloria B. Caldwell



KNEW He had you. Your faith meter is leaning on the right side. It's on 100%, in the green. You proclaim that He is an on-time God and reflect on all the things He has done for you.

But ... were you really in trust mode, or just plain tired? Why didn't your gratitude start way before the promise came? Had you just reconciled with the fact that you had to live with it? Or maybe His answer was just, no! Was it faith or fatigue?

We have to really up our faith. Speak, out loud, the desires of our hearts! The call is coming! He wants what is best for you! He just wants to see if you are strong enough to handle what He has for you.

Most of the time it is far greater than what you realize. When you have truly given it over and are leaning on Him, the call comes, and everything is expedited! Trust Him! Know that every battle is His, not yours.

Every action, reaction, and disappointment sets you up to see if you'll be ready for the story He has written for you. The one He wrote before your physical existence.

Be patient, give it over to Him, trust Him...and wait on The Call...it's coming!

God loves you, and so do I. He has given you a gift, open it.

# Huntsville Happenings



by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.



## Morning Star Lodge #50 Annual Black & White Ball

Taurean F. Dawkins, Worshipful Master  
Photos by Anthony Gibson



Morning Star Lodge No. 50, led by Worshipful Master, Taurean F. Dawkins, recently hosted its annual Black & White Ball.

Proceeds from the 2023 fundraiser went to support Huntsville's Catholic Center for Concern. The Catholic Center for Concern is a local non-profit service agency, which has been assisting residents of the Greater Huntsville community for over 50 years, by offering emergency financial assistance to individual or families, regardless of their religious affiliation.

# AAMU Business Team Wins First Place

The Alabama A&M University accounting case study team won first place in the Center for International Business and Research (CIBER) International Business Case Competition, an annual event that challenges students from different universities, especially minority-serving institutions, to solve a real-world business problem: <http://bit.ly/3L803bl>

AAMU competed against nine other universities: Florida A&M University (second place), Georgia State University (third place), Alabama State University, Bethune-Cookman University, Claflin University, Florida Institute of Technology, Howard University, Oakwood University and Southern University. Students compete for monetary prizes.

AAMU's team includes four junior accounting majors: Dezyember Green, Ashanti Henderson, Devin McCoomer and Dale Wren.

Wren, according to AAMU business school advisors.

"The fields represented during the competition are finance, accounting, marketing, and management & operations. In the final round, competing teams presented their solutions live in front of a panel of judges," says AAMU associate professor of accounting, Dr. Aretha Hill.

The International Business Case Competition is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

The AAMU team advisors are Dr. Hill, adjunct accounting professor Dr.

## NAAACC Meetings

The North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce (Huntsville) meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 12 noon.

The meeting location varies. Call (256) 564-7574.



Felicia Farrar and AAMU alum Raidah Bhuyan.

CAPTION: Pictured (front, l-r) Ashanti Henderson, Dezyember Green (back row) Devin McCoomer, Dale Wren.

## ON THIS DAY

On March 17, 1968, U.S. Army Chemical Corps nerve gas testing in Skull Valley, Utah, leaves over 6,000 sheep dead.

**"Fortune sides with him who dares."**

- Virgil

**State Farm**

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THE BROTHERS OF MORNING STAR LODGE NO. 50  
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13th ANNUAL  
BLACK & WHITE  
CHARITY BALL

A Charitable donation from this event will be made to the Catholic Center of Concern.

Contact  
Lathan Strong: 256.361.6348  
or Greg White: 256.714.4928

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY  
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Friday, March 3, 2023 | 8:00pm - 1:00am  
Doors Open at 7:30pm | Dinner served promptly at 8:15pm to 9:45pm

Van Broun Center | North Hall 1 & 2  
Huntsville, AL 35891



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

# Maureen Davis Cathey

Mrs. Maureen Horton Davis Cathey has been making her impact on the Tennessee Valley community for decades.

The personification of pause and grace, she has maintained a youthful spirit that is still a welcome presence among family, friends and the community at large.

For numerous years that encompassed generations of Alabama A&M University students, faculty and staff, Mrs. Cathey served her beloved Alabama A&M University as a supervisor of student accounting in the Business Office. Her illustrious decades of service to mankind also covers some 19 years as a phenomenal volunteer at the information desk at Huntsville Hospital. For some 12 years, she served in the children's department in the then-popular Parisian store

located in former Madison Square Mall.

Mrs. Cathey has been affiliated with several local associations and organizations, including the Alabama A&M University National Alumni Association; charter member, Gamma Mu Chapter (1949), Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; treasurer, Progressive Homemakers Club; and Grammateus (Recording Secretary) Epsilon Gamma Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., (Gold Soror, 71 years).

Moreover, Mrs. Cathey is a steadfast member of Lakeside United Methodist Church, where she has attended and served for some 79 years. She has been tirelessly involved



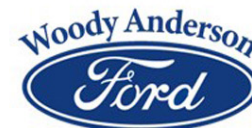
in several ministries at Lakeside, including the Finance Committee; the Women's Society of Christian Service; and member, Henry Binford Jordan Circle.

She is the mother of five: Jerry A. Davis III of Huntsville, Ala., Maurice Davis of Knoxville, Tenn.; Donza Cathey Friende of Winston-Salem, N.C.; the late Cynthia Lynne Davis of Huntsville, Ala.; and the late actor Reginald E. Cathey, Jr., of New York City.

"2023 Sponsors" 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@valleyweeklyllc.com](mailto:info@valleyweeklyllc.com).



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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](http://www.burrittonthemountain.com)

OPEN: April-October: Tuesday - Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm & Sunday: noon - 5pm  
November-March: Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 4pm & Sunday: noon - 4pm

# 14th Annual Rosetta James Foundation "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration

Saturday, March 11, 2023  
Von Braun Center - East Hall

