

The Valley Weekly

"One needs occasionally to stand aside from the hum and rush of human interests and passions to hear the voices of God."
- Anna J. Cooper

FREE

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Friday, August 10, 2018

Small Business of the Year Awards 'Sold Out'

The Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce will celebrate small businesses and individuals that have helped Huntsville grow on August 14 at the VBC North Hall, at 7 p.m.

Businesses and individuals will be honored at

the 'sold out' 33rd annual Small Business Award Celebration event in the following categories:

- Professional Services Business of the Year
- Culinary Business of the Year

- Emerging Business of the Year
- Government Contracting -Professional Service of the Year
- Technology Business of the Year
- Medical Practice of the Year
- Nonprofit of the Year

- Service Business of the Year
- Woman-Owned Business of the Year
- Young Professional of the Year
- Russell G. Brown Executive Leadership Award
- Etc.

Alabama Black Expo Scheduled for VBC

The Alabama Black Expo will be held August 11, from 12 noon to 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center North Hall.

The Alabama Black Expo was created with a simple mission in mind-to restore, revitalize and re-energize the African

American community through the promotion of entrepreneurship coupled with personal growth and business development.

The Alabama Black Expo delivers entrepreneurs, business owners, artists, spoken word performers, dancers and all

talented and skilled African Americans in Alabama and the surrounding states a powerful event to showcase themselves.

Alabama Black Expo seeks to encourage African Americans to follow their dreams, whatever they may be; and to inspire the belief

that the capacity for success and greatness lies within oneself.

For more information, e-mail alabamablack-expo@gmail.com or call (256) 929-5073 or (256) 929-5812.

American Idol, R&B Vets to Headline Fest

Summer may be ending, but that doesn't mean it's going quietly. The second annual August Music Fest will be held at Sportsman Park, Saturday, Aug. 11, in Harvest, Ala. The summer extravaganza will feature special performances from T.K. Soul, KO and Company, and recent American Idol contestant Dominique Posey.

Hailing from Birmingham by way of Georgia,

Posey won the hearts of many on the 16th season of the popular singing mainstay. Impressing judges Katy Perry, Lionel Richie and Luke Bryan with his soulful sound, the young vocalist soared through the competition,



making it to the top 24.

Following in the footsteps of Idol alumni Ruben Studdard and Taylor Hicks, Posey represented Alabama as the state's sole contestant.

Comedian Flash Flood will bring the laughs as AMF's official host with DJ Charlie Hustle on the 1s and 2s. Additional performers include Fee Fee Payne, Son of Jody, Total Package featuring

King Tutt and Omar Cunningham. Attendees are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and coolers; however, personal grills are prohibited.

Sportsman Park is located 21112 Old Railroad Bed Rd. RV parking will be available at 8 a.m. and gates open at noon. For additional information, visit www.AugustMusicFest.com.

by Reginald Allen

State Candidate Supports Court Ruling on B'ham Minimum Wage

by David Person

A candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Alabama supports a recent federal court ruling against the state's (HB 174) blocking of Birmingham's 2016 minimum wage increase.

The lawsuit challenging HB 174 was filed by Fight for \$15 (a group of Birmingham fast food workers), the NAACP, the Alabama Black Legislative Caucus and Greater Birmingham Ministries.

"HB 174 robbed 40,000 workers in Birmingham of a much needed pay raise," Dr. Will Boyd said. "These workers deserve to have their day in court as they fight to earn a living wage."

Facing pressure from

local fast-food workers, the Birmingham City Council voted to raise the local minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour in August 2015. The response of the Alabama House was to pass HB 174, which former Gov. Bentley signed into law.

"Birmingham's fast food workers are trying to support their families and pull themselves out of poverty," said Boyd. "These are historically disenfranchised people--African-Americans, women of all races, single mothers raising children, felons trying to restart their lives--who only want the opportunity to enjoy the quality of life many of the rest of us do."

The Valley Weekly
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Spotlight on Our Elders ... Featuring

Mother Willie Mae Draper

Mother Willie Mae Draper was born November 25, 1923, in Madison County to the late Mr. Henry Lee Miller and Mrs. Pearline Binford Miller. In 1950, Mother Draper, under the ministry of Elder S. H. Netter, was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. God saved her husband and called him to the ministry and in 1963 Elder Draper became the Pastor of the New Market COGIC, later the Beirne Avenue COGIC. Pastor Draper and Mother Draper served until his death in 1998.

Mother Draper's most noted dates, appointments, and honors are: 1985-present, President, State Hospi-

tality Department, appointed by the late Bishop C. H. Ashworth Alabama State Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction I; and, in 1990, international missionary work in Schweinfurt, Germany and across northern Germany on a 21-day sojourn filled with teaching and evangelizing.

Mother Draper served as an Alabama delegate to the National Women's Convention of the International Church of God in Christ for 35-plus years faithfully. In 2002, she traveled to Oahu, Hawaii, where the

Lord used her to witness to souls.

She is the proud mother of three children—Betty Damper, Pastor Dave Draper, Jr., and Pastor Jesse Draper—and she is a beloved grand- and great-grandmother. Mother Draper possesses a

saintly nature which is the mark of a Godly woman. She is celebrated for her quiet dignity, labor of love, and Godly advice. Mother Draper stands tall as a virtuous role model in her church, in her family, and in her community.



Group Takes in Montgomery's NMPJ

by Linda Burruss



A multigenerational and multicultural group from Huntsville walked the grounds of The National Memorial for Peace and Justice, also known as the National Lynching Memorial in Montgomery, Ala., which is a national memorial commemorating the victims of lynching in the United States. Signage upon entrance asks that en-

trants remember the sacred nature and, indeed, it is a somber site which leads to many reflections. The corten steel columns are constructed of material that gives the impression that they are bleeding. Madison County, Ala., has a column etched with the names of 10 individuals who were murdered between 1875 and 1904: Herman Neely,

Horace Maples, Elijah Clark, James Nance, Molly Smith, Amanda Franks, Ben Evans, Ephraim Hall, Wes Brown and Robert Mosley. Counties across the country have been invited to retrieve duplicate columns with the names of each county's lynching victims to be placed in every county. No county has responded.

Champion Game Plan for Life

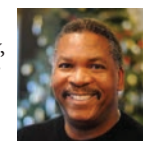
by Preston Brown

Isaiah 26:3 says, *Thou will keep him in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on thee, because they trust in you.*

The bible has much to say about peace. As a matter of fact, the term *peace* occurs over 400 times in the bible. So, it's easy to say that the bible can be seen as God's testament of peace.

Now, when we look at this scripture, I believe that there are three things that we can take from what the profit Isaiah is saying about peace. First, he talks about the "protection" of peace by using the word "keep." The word *keep* means to hold on to and not let go. It also means to capture what's on your mind. When we keep our minds stayed on him, God will capture our

thoughts and make them agreeable with his. Secondly, he gives us the "description" of this peace. Our scripture defines it as "perfect." When we talk about perfect peace that means undisturbed peace. God's peace is unique in so many ways. The writer Paul tells us that it surpasses all understanding. It also surpasses human capability. In John 14:27, Jesus tells us, *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you, I do not give as the world gives. So let not your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.* Another way he describes peace is that it surpasses human expectations. In other words, God always has a way of showing up and showing out. And then, finally, the profit Isaiah gives us the "conditions" for peace. You see, God's grace is a free gift to



all of us, but there are certain conditions that must be met. First, we have to have a mind "stayed"

on him. Now the word *stayed* means to lean on or rest upon. It also means to support. Therefore, a mind that is at peace is a mind that is supported by God. Philippians 2:5 says, *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.* Also to be at peace we need to have a heart that trusts God. When we place our full trust in him, He will always direct our paths and keep us in perfect peace ... Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters. Also, purchase your copy of my book, "A Champion Game Plan For Life," on amazon.com

Alphas Hold Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon



The Delta Theta Lambda Chapter and Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., recently celebrated its Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the Huntsville Country Club, presenting 19 local high school graduates stipends to continue their college education.

The students are graduates of Bob Jones High, Buckhorn High, Hazel Green High, Huntsville Christian Academy, Huntsville High, Lee High, Madison Academy and Sparkman High. These young men and women represent some of the best and brightest from the Huntsville and Madison County community. Each scholar was presented a certificate and a cash award.

The students' chosen institutions of higher learning include: University of Alabama, University of Alabama-Birmingham, University of Alabama-Huntsville, Auburn University, Hampton University, Mississippi State University, University of Montevallo, University of North Alabama, University of Southern Mississippi, Spelman College, Tennessee State University and Tuskegee University.

Also presented during the luncheon were awards to members of the chapter. Alpha brothers Henry Dickerson, Dr. Eddie Gaines and Clarence Roberts were recognized for their fundraising efforts toward the March of Dimes Walk for Babies. The March of Dimes is a national partner of Alpha Phi Alpha. Robert H. Drake was presented a plaque as the recipient of the Charles Green Award of Merit. The award is designated for a member of the chapter that has seven consecutive years of active contribution to the fraternity.

"We expect great and wonderful things from each of the Alpha Scholars as they go forth to pursue their college degrees," noted Mr. Wilbert L. Brown, chairman, Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation. - Gary T. Whitley, Jr., and Robert H. Drake (Photo by Anthony Gibson)

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The Valley Weekly

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Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$50	
Classified	1 col.x1 inch	\$6	
	(4 col. in. minimum=\$24)		
6 Month/1 Yr.	-10% & 20% Discount!		

CAFY Holds Annual Event, CCC Hosts



Huntsville Community Awareness for Youth (CAFY) is an annual event aimed to familiarize Madison County youth ages 12-18 with the four pillars of success--Health, Careers, Education and Finances.

Organizers Harry and Erica Hobbs started the initiative eight years ago with a vision and a few hundred people. Today, the event attracts over 5,000.

This year marked the first year that Calhoun Community College hosted CAFY. Coordinators are grateful to all who contributed to this affair and who achieved the quality of life that folks have grown to expect: businesses, nonprofits and local government joining together for the common good.

by Nicole Jones

Putting One's Heart into It: Completing the Seemingly Unachievable

by Dr. Kimberly Hobbs

Being on a path to purpose seems like an endless journey. Some don't find the strength to keep going, but somewhere along my journey, I found a renewed faith that, come what may, I would finish my doctoral degree. That source of strength didn't come without adversity. I faced the kind of hurt and adversity that would make some want to simply just give up and walk away.

On February 12, 2010, I lost one of the greatest mentors and advisors that a student could know. That mentor was Dr. Adriel D. Johnson, Sr. It was a tragedy that no one should have to face, yet I found myself as an indirect victim of a school shooting. I had been pursuing my degree for nearly three years in his laboratory, and he had been my mentor since I was an undergraduate. All of a sudden, he was gone and I had to decide what I was going to do next.

When faced with adversity, what do you do? Well, I set out to change labs, start all over, and complete my Ph.D. In my mind, I was going to do it for Dr. Johnson, but somewhere along the way, that just wasn't enough.

I had to complete this journey for myself. My passion for education and spreading knowledge was strengthened. I know that I am here today to serve and to pass on to others what was passed on to me. I had to push through the self-doubt, the lack of motivation, the stress, and I had to see myself walking across



the stage.

On May 6, 2018, my day finally came, and I could finally join the ranks of other smart, intelligent people of color in academia. I obtained my doctoral degree in biotechnology science and engineering from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. I am a scientist, just simply someone who loves to learn and explore the unknowns.

Now that I have shared a little of my journey, let's talk science. I completed my dissertation research at the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology in the laboratory of Dr. Devin Absher. My research focused on the genetic aspects of cardiovascular disease (CVD), particularly looking at a family of genes known as cyclin dependent kinase inhibitor genes. The science behind studying such common, yet very complex, diseases like CVD is very important, and I want to take this time to share with you a little information about why research in this area is important.

Heart disease affects over 85 million individuals in the United States and is the

number one cause of death for both men and women (Go et al. 2014). Heart disease is a disease of the heart and blood vessels and covers a variety of conditions, including heart valve problems, hypertension, arrhythmias, coronary artery disease, coronary heart disease, and stroke.

So, what exactly is a myocardial infarction or, in layman terms, what is a heart attack? Myocardial infarctions are events where oxygen is completely blocked to the myocardial tissues of the heart.

The affected heart tissue ultimately dies as a result of the oxygen deprivation. Myocardial tissue is unable to regenerate itself, thus scar tissue forms around the dead heart tissue.

Various events occur within the blood vessels that lead to oxygen depletion in the myocardium tissues. Individuals who have suffered a heart attack typically have a secondary medical issue known as atherosclerosis.

Atherosclerosis is a condition where excess cholesterol in the blood begins to deposit within the arteries. These cholesterol deposits

cause excessive narrowing of the arterial passageway for blood. Over time, the consistent buildup within the artery blocks blood flow to the heart, ultimately leading to a heart attack. The severity of the heart attack is dependent upon how many arteries are blocked. In the event of multiple blocked arteries, this leads to a larger portion of the heart tissue being without oxygen.

There are several risk factors that are primary contributors to cardiovascular disease, including cigarette smoking, hypertension, diabetes, low levels of high-density lipoprotein, and high levels of both low-density lipoprotein and very high low lipoprotein. The atherosclerotic process is a risk factor for heart disease because the process of blockage can begin years before an actual heart attack occurs. The adaptation that the arteries have undergone to continue to push blood throughout the body through those narrow arteries puts additional pressure on the heart.

Not only does CVD yield a tremendous health

burden for individuals but also the economic burden for health care cost for cardiovascular disease is rapidly growing.

In 2010, estimated costs at over \$444 billion were spent for cardiovascular disease (CDC, 2011). The invasive treatment and care for cardiovascular disease patients include long-term drug therapy, heart valve surgery, pacemakers, and coronary artery bypass surgery.

The substantial numbers of individuals with CVD in addition to the costly procedures for treatment all offer strong support for research for heart disease. Any scientific advances we can make toward understanding the mechanism behind how the disease progresses would be beneficial to the field.

With my research, we studied the disease through both genetic and epigenetic approaches. Genetic approaches in research help to identify changes in particular genes involved with the disease and often refer to heritable changes. Epigenetic approaches offer a different perspective by looking at non-heritable

alterations to the genes. If individuals have usable genetic information that identifies susceptibility risks for them, they may be more prone to live healthier lifestyles. This has the potential to lower the number of individuals who develop cardiovascular disease. My overall goal with my work was to provide knowledge that bridges the gap between the actual pathogenesis of cardiovascular disease and the genetic mechanisms that drive its progression.

I hope you have gained a little insight about my personal PhD journey, my research, and my journey ahead to give back.

As a health literacy advocate, I think it very important for the population to be more knowledgeable about such common conditions, like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and stroke, just to name a few. I believe this is a necessary part of the health journey for individuals.

In closing, I leave you with some words of encouragement ... *Let nothing stop you and always keep moving forward!*

References

Go, A. et al (2014). Heart disease and stroke statistics--2014 update: a report from the American Heart Association. *Circulation* (Vol. 129, pp. e28–e292).

Centers for Disease Control (2011) Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention: Addressing the Nations Leading Killers

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Alphonso Beckles, Attorney at Law

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Chris' Barber Shop

Depot Professional Building

Dunkin Donuts

Eagles' Nest Ministries

Fellowship of Faith Church

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Health Unlimited

House of Hope and Restoration

Huntsville Bible College

James Smith - AllState Insurance

Lakeside United Methodist Church

Lucky's Supermarket

Marshall England - State Farm Agent

Martinson & Beason, PC

Nelms Memorial Funeral Home

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

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
CITY OF HUNTSVILLE**

The City of Huntsville's Community Development Department has completed its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for FY17. A Draft Copy of this report may be reviewed by the public on line at www.huntsvilleal.gov/comdev/, and at the Community Development Department Office located in the Yarbrough Office Center, 120 E. Holmes Avenue, and the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, located at 915 Monroe Street. Written comments concerning this document should be received in the office no later than 3:00 p.m. on August 24, 2018. Mail your comments to: Turkessa C. Lacey - Community Development Department, P.O. Box 308, Huntsville, Alabama 35804. For further information call 256-427-5400; TTY: 256-427-7092.

AVISO A LA CIUDAD PÚBLICA DE HUNTSVILLE

La ciudad del departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad de Huntsville ha terminado su informe anual consolidado del funcionamiento y de la evaluación (ALCA-PARRA) para FY17. Un copy de bosquejo de este informe se puede repasar por el público en línea en www.huntsvilleal.gov/comdev/ y en la oficina del departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad situada en el centro de la oficina de Yarbrough, 120 E. Avenida de Holmes, y la biblioteca pública del condado de Huntsville-Madison, situada en la calle de 915 Monroe. Los comentarios escritos referentes a este documento se deben recibir en la oficina no más adelante que 3:00 P.M. August 24 2018. Envíe sus comentarios: Turkessa C. De encaje - departamento del desarrollo de la comunidad, P.O. Caja 308, Huntsville, Alabama 35804. Para la llamada adicional 256-427-5400; TTY: 256-427-7092 de la información.



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Valley Deaths

- Nelms Memorial Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MS. MELISSA GRIFFIN was held Wednesday, August 8, at The Hand of God Ministry with Pastor Donald E. Barry officiating.

Funeral service for MS. TALESHA R. BRADFORD (b. 1988) was held Tuesday, August 7, at the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Versey L. Jones officiating.

Funeral service for MR. SHERMAN CAMPBELL (b. 1965) was held Sunday, August 5, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend Lawrence Sanford officiating.

Funeral service for MR. BEECHEL W. VAUGHN (b. 1944) was held Saturday, August 4, at Saint Paul United Methodist Church.

Funeral service for DR. CLARETHA K. JENNINGS (b. 1959) was held Saturday, August 4, at True Light Church of God and Christ with Pastor Jessie L. Draper, Eulogist.

- Royal Funeral Home -

Funeral service for DEACON HAROLD SONNY Mc-GHEE (b. 1955) was held Tuesday, August 7, at the All Nations Worship Assembly (6300 Stringfield Road, NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Adrian Davis officiating.

Funeral service for DR. MARY MAYS ELLISON (b. 1924) was held Monday, August 6, at the Madkins Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian Church of America (2403 Oakwood Avenue NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Endia J. Scruggs officiating.

Funeral service for MR. LINDSEY GURLEY, JR., (b. 1941) was held Saturday, August 4, at the St. Mark Baptist Church (6475 Moores Mill Road, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Jeremiah Chester officiating.

Funeral service was held for MRS. VANONA LOUISE WALTON (b. 1945) Saturday, August 4, at the St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church (229 Church Street NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor Maurice Wright officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. DELOIS M. POWERS (b. 1939) was held Friday, August 3, at the Blue Spring Road Church of Christ (2150 Blue Spring Road, NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Brother Floyd Rogers officiating.

- Serenity Funeral Home -

Funeral service for MR. RYAN BAKER (b. 1977) was held Tuesday, July 24, at Union Chapel MB Church with Pastor O. Wendell Davis officiating.

Washington in One Minute



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

1. The Senate is in recess this week for its abbreviated August Recess and will reconvene next week, while the House is in recess until September 4.

2. President Trump is visiting his Bedminster, NJ resort this week for a working vacation, where he had a dinner with a select group of business CEOs on Tuesday and hosted a roundtable on prison reform Thursday.

3. On Tuesday, all eyes were on the Ohio special election to fill the seat of Rep. Pat Tiberi (R-OH), who resigned in January 2018 to lead the Ohio Business Roundtable. President Trump attended a rally in a Columbus, OH suburb for Balderson last Saturday night.

4. Last Wednesday, Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Chuck Grassley (R-IA) announced that hearings on Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh will not start until September (a month later than expected), with a final vote in October. The 2018-2019 Supreme Court term begins on October 1.

5. Last Wednesday, the Department of Health and Human Services announced a final rulemaking to allow Americans to purchase pared-down healthcare plans that can last up to 12 months and be renewed for up to 36 months. These plans will be available in 60 days, before the next Obamacare enrollment season opens on November 1 and will likely cost one-third of the cost of regular Obamacare plans, in part, because insurers in these pared-down plans can refuse to cover people with pre-existing conditions, limit coverage of expensive services

such as mental health treatment, and cap total coverage benefits. Therefore, HHS Secretary Alex Azar said last week that people with pre-existing conditions or other health worries might want to stick with Obamacare.

6. Last Thursday, the Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency announced a joint rulemaking to maintain the existing fuel economy standard for cars and light trucks, which rises to 37 mpg by 2020, and then freeze it at that level – instead of allowing it to rise to a mandated 54.5 mpg by 2025 under the Obama Administration's plan.

7. Last Friday, China threatened to tax an additional \$60 billion a year worth of imports from the U.S. – the first time it has proposed a more than a dollar-for-dollar tariff reprisal, which is in response to a directive from President Trump last week that he may consider increasing the rate of tariffs from 10 to 25% it has already proposed on \$200 billion a year on Chinese goods. The new \$60 billion round of Chinese tariffs would hit the U.S. liquified natural gas and lumber industries hardest. China and the U.S. currently have matching tariffs on \$34 billion of each other's products – with plans to add another \$16 billion worth of goods to their list.

8. According to the New York Times, Stricter immigration policies under the Trump administration is concerning industry officials, particularly at community colleges. Since these schools tend to have more open admissions policies, they enroll more undocumented students. Representatives at both four-year institutions and community colleges say their mission is to provide an education to any student.

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Called 2 Preach

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

Grasshoppers, Giants, Grapes and God

It is the nature of narratives to present these kinds of diversities as a means to bring about a segued summary that makes a lasting impression. Such is the case in the story of the 12 spies that Moses sent out to survey the Promised Land. When these 12 brought back the report to the people of God, 10 of them declared themselves as being grasshoppers; in other words, inferior. Because of that mentality, their attention was on the giants in the land. Joshua and Caleb had a difference of opinion.

While the grasshoppers saw giants, these two saw God, and because they saw God, they brought back the grapes as optic proof of God's promise of power to overcome the giants.

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.



the giants were there to build faith in God, who had already informed Moses about both. God is always for us and since there were both giants and grapes, their size were signs of a preview to how God would get Himself glory and give untold blessings



to His people. The grasshopper analogy was just that, an analogy, and it was not introduced by God. Rather, unbelief produced it. We must be careful not to add anything to

the promises of God. By themselves they are always "yes and amen."

Experience  **The View**
at Burritt on the Mountain

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.

Lunch & Experience at The View
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 burrittonthemountain.com!

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Millennial Thought

by Josh Alex Baker

In Search of Something Lost

We've ALL been there—searching feverishly and frantically for an item that we are convinced we cannot live without. (When it's your car keys and class starts in 9 minutes, you really can NOT live without them!).

A few months back, I found myself in this familiar position. As I searched for whatever the item was (isn't it funny how it seemed so important at the time?), my frustrations increased. I mean, seriously, how was I expected to function without it?

(Whatever it was).

And, suddenly, amid my dramatic despair, I had a realization: the lost item was wherever it was. No amount of anger or complaint would change that. And while it didn't extinguish my desire to find the item, it certainly changed my perspective for if I did not.

In our lives, we often believe that we have lost things. From the remote control to our one and only "true love", we invent a world that is brimming with lost treasures.

But imagine finding hope in the idea that all that is lost

does not have to necessarily be found again. This is not to say that we should stop seeking out important things when we believe that we have lost them but rather to foster a spirit of acceptance when we can't.

Spoiler alert! You know that thing you lost that you thought you couldn't live without? If you're reading this right now, you're living without it. No, this truth doesn't delegitimize the importance of what it was, but it does emphasize the importance of who you are. Have faith in a divinely purposed life and that you will always be equipped with what you need when you need it.

Native to the Valley area, Josh Alex Baker is a senior social work major at Alabama A&M University.

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Scenes from Friends of the Bradfords Celebration

Honoring

Dr. Henry Bradford, Jr., and Mrs. Nell Lane Bradford

Saturday, July 28, 2018 - Von Braun Center

Photos Courtesy of J. McGlathery & Zamzam Sight & Sound



Former MLB Star Discusses Addiction

by Reginald Allen

Former professional baseball player Darryl Strawberry was in Huntsville for a special banquet Thursday, August 9, in the East Hall of the Von Braun Center.

Attendees heard Strawberry share his bittersweet journey of fame, addiction and recovery. A small reception for V.I.P patrons was held prior to the dinner.

Drafted in the early 1980s, Strawberry completed 17 years in Major League Baseball before retiring in 1999.

Throughout his tenure with MLB, the Hall of Famer played for the Mets, Dodgers, Giants and Yankees, earning the nickname "The Straw

Man". Despite being a four-time World Series Champion, the former right fielder had his share of strikeouts, which included multiple bouts with substance abuse and sex addiction.

Facing his tribulations head-on, the ballplayer

returned to his Christian roots, turning over a new leaf.

An open book, Strawberry has shared his testimony on "The 700 Club," the Trinity Broadcasting Network and his tell-all autobiography "Straw: Finding My Way."

The dinner was presented by The Way, Inc., a six-month recovery program that utilizes Christian principles to help men overcome their drug addictions.

Launched in 2007, the 501c3 organization has worked with over 500 locals and is partnered with Heritage Home.

For more information, please visit Hiswayinc.



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