

5 Days in 745! - p. 6

Friday
September 2, 2022
Vol. 8, No. 52
ValleyWeeklyllc.com

SALUTE!
Rosetta James Foundation
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Gladys Branch

The Valley Weekly

"Real knowledge is to know the extent of one's ignorance." - Confucius

Harrison Center Site of Alabama Women in Jazz Festival

The 9th Annual Alabama Women in Jazz Festival will be held Friday, September 9, and Saturday, September 10, at the Robert "Bob" Harrison Senior Wellness & Advocacy Center, 6146 Pulaski Pike. Kickoff is September 9 at 6 p.m.

Join jazz enthusiasts for



the Friday evening kickoff, which will include "a phe-

nomenal performance and wine tasting event with jazz pianist, Nancy Pendergraph."

Among the acts are Phebe Jones, The Moore Twins, Sherry Reeves, Lynnece Henry and others. For more information, visit valleyartsandentertainment.org.

TVW Remembers Beloved Columnist

The Valley Weekly staff and readership mourn the August 23 death of inspirational "Called2Preach" columnist Michael DeLeon Rice.

Rev. Rice faithfully churned out his column, providing thought-provoking messages and advice



Alabama A&M University in 1977.

His father, W.A. Rice, retired from AAMU after serving in the Alabama Cooperative Extension unit as an administrator. His mother, Lillie Rice, was a retired educator with

Huntsville City Schools.

Rev. Rice was a band director in both south Alabama and the Huntsville City School systems.

More recently, he diligently served as an adjunct instructor at Alabama A&M and as founder and pastor of Grace Gethsemane Mission Church.

Rev. Rice's books include a devotional and a book primarily for males: *Men, It's Your Call*. He possessed a passion for helping men to find their God-given purpose and for being proactive in helping young boys find their way before being tainted by or caught up in "the system."

Brother Rice will be sorely missed.



for living a life of morality and purpose. There was no doubt that he took his ministry seriously and fully executed it to the fullest of his capabilities.

For several years, Rev. Rice served as the pastor at Grace Gethsemane Mission Church in Madison, Ala.

A native of Monroeville, Ala., Pastor Rice moved to Huntsville in 1972 with his family after he graduated from high school to attend and later graduate from

Food Truck Fest at The Palace

The best mobile foods in the Tennessee Valley and beyond will be available Friday, September 2, for Food Truck Mania 2.0

N-HSV.

The outdoor event will be held at The Palace HSV, located at 4000 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, Ala.,

from 5 to 8 p.m.

Food trucks can register via Eventbrite - Food Truck Mania: N-HSV.

Extension Grants Improve Sanitation

Sanitation on farms is important for farmers and food producers seeking the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification.

This certification is given to farms (food producers) that adhere to food safety standards.

Alabama Extension at AAMU purchased 15 handwashing stations that

are critical to securing GAP certification.

The home grounds team delivered the first handwashing station to Booker Farms, LLC in Toney, Ala.

The second handwashing station was delivered to LouAllen Farms in Lawrence County.

Larry and Bonita LouAllen, long-time local farm-

ers, own and operate this small farm that specializes in strawberry, peach and nursery crop production.

The home grounds team will deliver additional handwashing stations to Alabama farmers later this year.

To learn more about this project, contact Pacumbaba at (256) 372-4266.

The Valley Weekly

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

Preston Brown's Champion Game Plan, Page 3

"Jahni" Moore's PowerShots, Page 4

tim allston: Perspectives, Page 5

The Late Rev. Michael Rice: Called 2 Preach, Page 6

Spotlight on Our Elders, Page 7

Huntsville Happenings

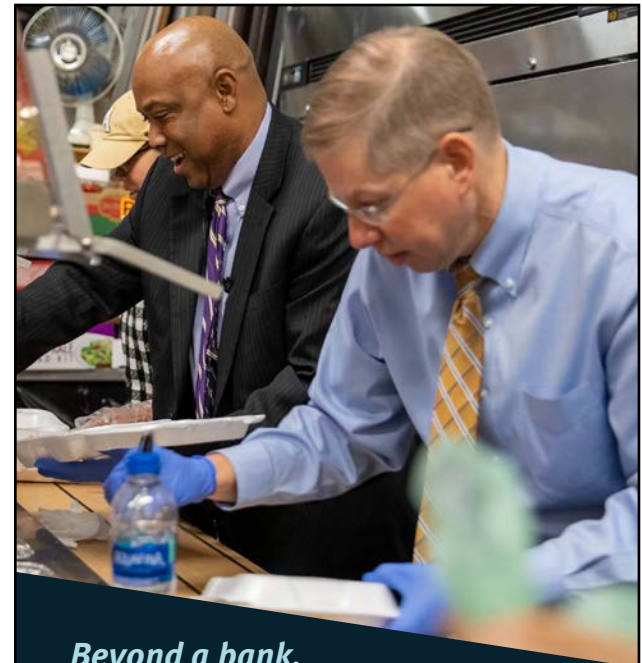
by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.
(Photos by Anthony Gibson)

Gospel Concert Celebrates Anniversary of Second Chance Ministries

Celebrating 17 Years of Community Service with Love

On Saturday, August 27, 2022 Second Chance Deliverance & Restoration Ministries, Inc. celebrated their 17th Anniversary with an old-fashioned gospel concert. The concert, featuring local gospel artists, Pastor Phil Ford and God's Singing Disciples, The Gospel Imperials, and a powerful Rhema Word by Dr. Toni Savage (Daughter of Zion Ministries and Union Chapel MB Church), benefitted the ministry's Annual Children's Coat Drive and other initiatives.

Second Chance Deliverance & Restoration Ministries, Inc., a local nonprofit organization was founded by Minister Leo Robinson, and is committed to making a difference in the community. For more information, call Donna Robinson at (256) 714-1029.



*Beyond a bank.
Beyond expectations.*

At Bryant Bank, our vision is to see every Alabamian experience a financially stable future and live in a thriving community.

We are invested in your success and the success of the place we both call home. We're here to be a trusted partner, to exceed your expectations, and to help both you and our community invest in its full potential.

BRYANT BANK

Downtown Huntsville & Southeast Huntsville
Personal, Business, & Mortgage Banking Services
BryantBank.com | 256-535-1045



NMLS 582857



Publisher
The Valley Weekly, LLC

Editor-in-Chief
Dorothy W. Huston, Ph.D.

**Editorial Consultant/
Senior Editor**
Jerome Saintjones, Ed.S.

Editorial Assistants
Linda Burruss
Phyllis Chunn
William Huston, Sr.
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Advertising Associate
Phyllis Chunn

- Contributing Editors -
tim allston
Minister Preston Brown
Ron Hamm
Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

Website Administrator
Calvin Farier

Mailing Address:
The Valley Weekly
415A Church Street - Suite 100
Huntsville, AL 35801
(256) 651-9028
www.valleyweeklyllc.com
Copyright 2022

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 published do not necessarily reflect the views of The Valley Weekly, LLC. Submissions to TVW do not necessarily reflect the beliefs 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
	5x10 inches	
	Vertical	
	10x5 inches	\$400
Fourth Page	5x5 inches	\$200
Eighth Page	2.5x5 inches	\$100
Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$50
Classified	1 col.x1 inch (4 col. in. minimum=\$24)	\$50/Flat Fee
6 Month/1 Yr.-10% & 20% Discount!		



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



THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY

DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

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

Funeral service for MR. CALVIN CARTER, JR. (b. 1965) was held Saturday, August 27, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with the Reverend Leonard Shackleford officiating.

Funeral service for DR. DARRYL E. GURLEY (b. 1960) was held Tuesday, August 23, at First Missionary Baptist Church with The Reverend Dr. Don Darius Butler officiating.

Memorial service for MR. MARCUS BRIGGS (b. 1974) was held Sunday, August 21, at Saint Bartley Center Primitive Baptist Church (4015 Motley Road - Huntsville, Ala.).

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW
Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Funeral service for MR. ROSCOE L. JOHNSON, JR. (b. 1950) was held Monday, August 29, at the Royal Chapel of Memories.

Funeral service for MOTHER WILLIE MAE LOVE MATKIN (b. 1938) was held Monday, August 29, at the Taylor's Chapel Primitive Baptist Church (3100 Stringfield Road, NW Huntsville, Ala.) with Elder Derrick Langford officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. BETTY C. CHATMAN (b. 1939) was held Saturday, August 27, at the St. Luke Christian Church (1800 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville, Ala.) with Pastor T.C. Johnson officiating.

Funeral service for MRS. LUCINDA JONES CRUTCHER (b. 1929) was held Saturday, August 27, at the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Association Tabernacle (6378 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. Mario Ford officiating.

Funeral service for MINISTER GLENN ALLEN CORBETT (b. 1952) was held Monday, August 22, at the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (315 Winchester Road Huntsville, Ala.) with Dr. O. Wendell Davis officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

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

Funeral service details for MASTER TANNER QUESHAWN STEWART will be announced at a later date.

Funeral service for MASTER DAVIAN STINNETT was held Saturday, August 27, at Serenity Funeral Home.

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

CHAMPION

GAME PLAN

PRESTON BROWN

A SPIRITUAL TEST

James 1:2 says, "Consider it pure joy whenever you face trials of many kinds."

Whenever I read this scripture, I have always found it odd that the writer states that when we face trials it should be considered as "pure joy".

So, what is the message that we need to get from this statement--but more importantly what does this mean to us as believers?

Obviously, we should

not seek out trials, but we as Christians should know what the outcome of our trials will produce. In other words, in what ways can we profit from our trials?

When we look at this scripture, I believe that there are three things that we will profit from when we go through our tests and trials.

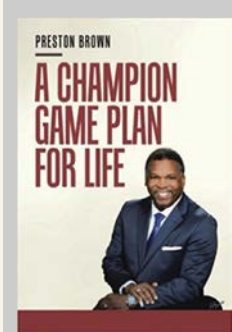
The first thing we get is a purified faith. Now to


purify something means to remove contaminants from it. When we look at our physical self, we need to understand and realize that it has been contaminated by this fallen world that we live in. Therefore, God is trying to remove all of the things that hinder us from our spiritual growth.

The next thing that we get is an abundance of patience. Because one of the problems that we all have

when dealing with our test is the "time factor". Remember, one of the fruits of the spirit is patience. So, if we are believers, we know that good can come from bad circumstances but we

have to be patient. Finally, our character is perfected. Which means we





become spiritually mature in our judgement and understanding of God's truth. So, when we endure our tests and our trials, not only will it perfect our character but it will also make us complete.

Being complete gives us the ability to fully worship and serve God as well as be a servant for God, not lacking in anything.

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters

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.

"Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans."

- John Lennon

Share Your Virtual

FREE

Copies of The Valley Weekly Each Week!

Visit Valleyweeklyllc.com


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.

Alabama A&M University Bulldog Football 2022				
Sept. 1	at UAB	B'ham	7PM	
Sept. 10	at Troy	Vet	6PM	
Sept. 17	vs. AUSTIN PEAY		2PM	
Sept. 24	at FAMU		5PM	
Oct. 1	homecoming (vs. Bethune-Cookman)		2PM	
Oct. 8	vs. Grambling		1PM	
Oct. 16	at UAPB (St. Louis) River City Classic		3PM	
Oct. 29	vs. Alabama State Magic City Classic		2:30PM	
Nov. 3	at MVSU		6:30PM	
Nov. 12	vs. Jackson State Gulf Coast Challenge Mobile, Ala.		TBA	
Nov. 19	vs. Texas Southern		1PM	
Dec. 3	SWAC Championship			

SEPTEMBER 2 - KATT WILLIAMS - Micah Sierra "Katt" Williams is an American, Emmy-award winning, stand-up comedian, actor, rapper, singer, and voice actor. He had a role as Money Mike in Friday After Next, had a stint on Wild 'n Out, portrayed Bobby Shaw in My Wife and Kids, provided the voice of A Pimp Named Slickback in The Boondocks, Seamus in Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore, and portrayed Lord Have Mercy in Norbit. In 2008, he voiced himself in the video game Grand Theft Auto IV.



- BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com

THE VALLEY WEEKLY

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS, ACTIVITIES & MORE!

August 25

No. 1 City in America
Celebration
North Side Square
Downtown Huntsville
5-10 p.m.

R&B Vibes LIVE at The
Camp
The Camp & MidCity
District
7-10 p.m.

August 26

South Huntsville Italian
Wine Tour
The Wine Cellar
Tickets:
l.facebook.com/l.php
5:30 p.m.

Downtown Night Market
Downtown Huntsville
Chandelier Alley
7-10 p.m.

August 27

Ceramics: "Introduction to
Wheel Throwing"
Burritt on the Mountain
burrittonthemountain.com
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Farmers Market Cooking
Demonstration
1022 Cook Avenue NW
Huntsville, Ala.
9 a.m.

September 1

Networking Mixer
Studio 53 Social Venue
6-8 p.m.

September 2

Food Truck Mania 2.0
North Huntsville
The Palace Huntsville
4000 Pulaski Pike NW
Huntsville, Ala.

5-8 p.m.

September 3

2nd Annual Wine Fest
Hats & Sundresses Edition
Robyn's Garden Windery
200 Oakwood Avenue NE
Suite A
Huntsville, Ala.
5 p.m.

September 6

Elvis:Back in the Rocket
City Featuring David Lee
Mars Music Hall
Von Braun Center
Huntsville, Ala.
7 p.m.

September 9-10

9th Annual Alabama
Women in Jazz Festival
(Bring Lawn Chairs!)
www.valleyartsandenter-
tainment.org
Bob Harrison Center
5-9 p.m.

September 10

Yellowhammer Oktoberfest
Yellowhammer Brewing
1-8 p.m.

September 10-11

Monte Sano Art Festival
Monte Sano State Park
Public
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

September 11

Jazz in the Park-Huntsville
The Orion Amphitheater
*Jazz in the Park with Matthew
Whitaker and special guests Jeff
Ryan and The Alabama Institute
for the Deaf and Blind, hosted by
Jonathan Slocumb*
5-9 p.m. (Public)

September 17

Football vs. Austin Peay

Louis Crews Stadium
Alabama A&M University
2 p.m.

September 25

Southern Soul Music
Festival
Mark C Smith Concert
Hall
Von Braun Center
4 p.m.

September 29

Amy Grant
Mark C. Smith Concert
Hall
Von Braun Center
7:30 p.m.

October 1

Rocket City Octane Auto
Show 2022
South Hall
Von Braun Center
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bulldog Football vs.
Bethune-Cookman Uni-
versity
Louis Crews Stadium
Alabama A&M University
2 p.m.

October 4

Concert
Earth, Wind & Fire
Orion Amphitheater
www.axs.com

October 8

Bulldog Football vs. Gram-
bling State University
Louis Crews Stadium
Alabama A&M University
1 p.m.

November 12

Gulf Coast Challenge
AAMU vs. Jackson State
University
Ladd-Peebles Stadium
Mobile, Ala.

November 19

Bulldog Football vs.
Texas Southern University
Louis Crews Stadium
Alabama A&M University
1 p.m.

PowerShot

"There may
be one bold
move standing
between you
and your
intended goal."

J. T. Moore



LAYNI


MARTINSON & BEASON, PC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW SINCE 1937

**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.*


DRAKE STATE
COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

drakestate.edu

Reimagine Your Future

*"If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more.
If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough."*

- Oprah Winfrey



November’s Mid-term “Olympics”: A Congressional Sprint vs. a Senate Marathon?

“Is there anyone here who, planning to build a new house, doesn’t first sit down and figure the cost so you’ll know if you can complete it? If you only get the foundation laid and then run out of money, you’re going to look pretty foolish. Everyone passing by will poke fun at you: ‘He started something he couldn’t finish’ - Luke 14:28-30

“Dollar Tree” Wisdom

Recently, I visited Dollar Tree to purchase AA batteries. When I saw displayed AA four-packs upfront, I was about to grab three and head for the checkout. With a little more searching, however, I discovered two almost-hidden AA six-packs.

I replaced the three four-packs with the two six-packs, giving me the same 12 batteries for \$1.25 less.

With a little more diligence, I saved both some grocery monies and learned a “Dollar Tree” object lesson concerning this November’s congressional and senatorial midterm elections:

Our quicker voter “sprint” grab would be just a U.S. House of Representatives four-pack (featuring two-year congressional seats).

But the better voter “marathon” value is the U.S. Senate six-pack (affording six-year Senate chairs).

A new or re-elected six-year Senate term = three congressional seat stays.

Do the Math!

Most of our attention is riveted on 2024’s quadrennial presidential “beauty contest” sprint; however, smarter strategists recommend investing in the sexennial U.S. Senate marathons.

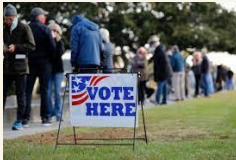
Although the American majority was pleased electing its 1st Black president (sprint), the GOP-controlled Senate thwarted Barack Obama’s 2nd-term initiatives for key legislation and longer-term judicial appointments (marathon).

While a “yes-and” strategy (White House-Senate majority) may be ideal, if forced to choose, an “either-or” Senate marathon run is better political wisdom.

In the above Bible passage, Jesus counseled listeners both to complete what they’d started but also to do so for the long haul.

So yes, learn to sprint but master completing the marathons!

tim allston’s upcoming 4-in-1 book, *Leadership in the New Era of Pro Ball: Illustrated by Jesus Christ and Demonstrated by Bill Russell, Wilt Chamberlain, Magic Johnson, Scottie Pippen, and Steph Curry*, is scheduled for December 2022.



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/>

Public Involvement Meeting

ALDOT Project No. RP-4519
City of Huntsville Project No. 71-19-SP45
Arsenal East Connector Project
Madison County

(Not to Scale)
Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, and 15, Township 4 South, Range 1 West

Tuesday, September 27, 2022
Morris School Auditorium
4801 Bob Wallace Ave SW
Huntsville, AL 35805
4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

The Public Information Meeting will be held from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the transportation planning process of the proposed project for the Arsenal East Connector project from I-565 to Redstone Arsenal Gate 10 (Patton Road Gate). Representatives from the City of Huntsville and the Alabama Department of Transportation will be available at displays to discuss the proposed project and answer any questions. Comment sheets will also be made available for those who would like to submit written statements. Written statements must be mailed (postmarked) or e-mailed on or before Tuesday, October 11th, 2022.

The purpose of the project is to reduce congestion and improve access to the U.S. Army’s Redstone Arsenal from I-565. It is anticipated that the project would also improve traffic conditions along Bob Wallace Avenue and Patton Road and other area roads in Huntsville, Alabama.

For more information on this meeting visit our website:
<http://www.huntsvillempo.org/>

To submit any comments via email: arsenal.east.alabama@volkert.com

To submit comments via voicemail: 256-203-3397

Mail comments to: Volkert Inc, Attn: Jason Goffinet,
200 Clinton Ave. W., Suite 1030, Huntsville, AL 35801

First Submission of the Late TVW Columnist Michael D. Rice



[EDITOR'S NOTE: In honor of our beloved TVW colleague, we are publishing one of the first articles written by the late Rev. Michael D. Rice for TVW in the January 5, 2018, issue.]

Bacterial infection in the blood stream.

It had caused me to awaken suddenly very early in the morning, experiencing bone-chilling coldness and uncontrollable shivering. This was followed by a ride in HEMSI (which I don't remember), and five days in room 745 in Huntsville Hospital--God's providential place of encounter and encasement.

The subsequent tests became God's way of

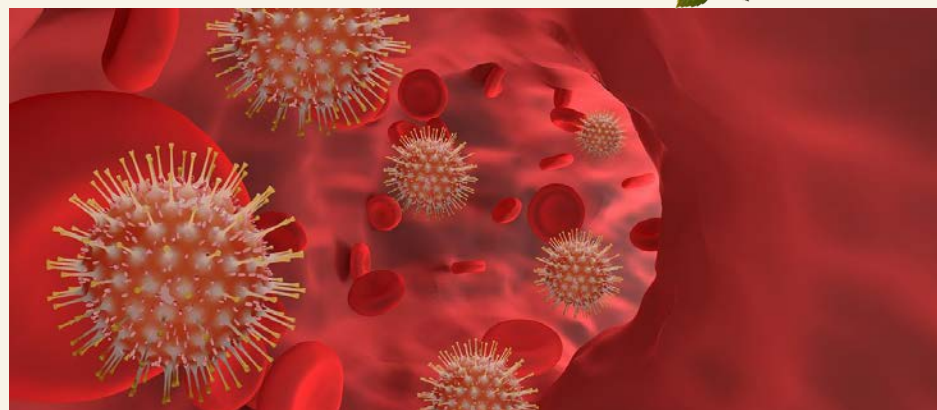
"5 Days in 745"



directing and redirecting a heart that had been searching for answers. Speaking

of the heart, it was during my echocardiogram that I learned that if bacteria get attached to the valves of the heart, they can be gravely dangerous. Thankfully, they had not.

The Spirit reminded me that the same can happen in the spiritual realm with 'spiritual bacteria,' such as pride, offense, unforgiveness, doubt, fear and the like. These could dangerously affect my intimacy with God. God's word is called a mirror. For me, it was now my echocardiogram.



God also taught and retaught me about servanthood. He allowed me to be served by a team of nurses that served so unassumingly and joyfully that what I experienced was almost surreal.

One of them said to me, "Thank you for allowing me to serve you today."

Really?

Who says that but a true servant? The Spirit used that statement to humble me and remind me of my

own attitude about serving in my household and my ministry. Thank God for those 'five days in room 745'--my green pastures, where He MADE me to lie down.

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.

168974

This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, September 4
Thirteenth Sunday
After Pentecost

(Track 2 - Year C)
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33
Psalm 1



Woody Anderson Ford

256-539-9441

www.WoodyAndersonFord.com

2500 Jordan Lane, Huntsville, AL



SERENITY
FUNERAL HOME

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

A New Generation Of Service



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

Mrs. Gladys Branch

When Gladys L. Branch received her diploma as a Top 20 student at Birmingham's Hooper City High School in 1964, she knew that there were still plenty of opportunities during a turbulent time in America during the 1960s. She entered historic Alabama A&M University, where she received the Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics and general science in 1968. She returned to obtain her Master of Science degree in guidance and counseling in 1974.

Over the years, Mrs. Branch has developed an impressive career that has spanned more than 40 years. For some five years, beginning in 1969, Branch was an elementary and middle school teacher for the Athens (Ala.) City School System, where she prepared and carried out lesson plans for second graders and later for math and science students at the middle school level.

In 1974, she served one year as a counselor for the Huntsville Sickle Cell Center before returning for a final year of mathematics, teaching at Westlawn Middle School. She remained at Westlawn for

an additional 20 years as a general counselor and then as a vocational counselor until 1996.

In August 1996, Branch decided to use Westlawn as a base for a position in administration and served as Westlawn's assistant principal for four years.

She was acting principal for a year at McDonnell Elementary School before culminating her career as principal of Rolling Hills Elementary School. Branch has been affiliated with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., for over 50 years and is a past president of the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter.

Currently, she serves as the co-chair of the Protocol Committee for Huntsville Alumnae and is a member of the State Protocol Committee. She is also president of the Association of Ladies for Agape of North Alabama; member and past secretary, Madison County Retired



Educators Association; member, Northwest Church of Christ, where her husband serves as the Pulpit Minister; and she works on various committees and teaches ladies and children Bible classes. Moreover, the retired educator also serves as vice chair of the board of Diverse Educational Life Training Activities, Inc. (DELTA, Inc.).

Mrs. Branch and her husband, Elder John Branch, have two children and three grandchildren, along with another couple of adopted children, who also have three children of their own.

"Spotlight on Our Elders" 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. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valley-weeklyllc.com.



THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM
ALL-ELECTRIC MUSTANG MACH-E

TEST-DRIVE IT TODAY!

Woody Anderson Ford
256-530-9441 | www.WoodyAndersonFord.com
2500 Jordan Lane Huntsville, AL 35816



MARY F SPEARS, AGENT

7833-A Highway 72 West
Madison, AL 35758
Bus: 256-837-8899 Fax: 256-837-8225
mary.spears.cffc@statefarm.com



BURRITT
ON THE MOUNTAIN

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

USDA Supports AAMU Efforts to Assist Small Farmers

Alabama A&M University's decades-old endeavor to provide key knowledge and adequate resources to small-scale farmers just received another boost from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency.

AAMU's Small Farms Research Center, ably administered by Dr. Duncan M. Chembezi (PI) and E'licia Chaverest (Co-PI), was among 16 entities receiving a combined total of \$2.2 million to educate underserved producers and small farmers about such topics as risk management and climate-smart farm practices. SFRC was awarded \$198,518.

"The AAMU Small Farms Research Center



looks forward to continuing its work educating limited resource, socially disadvantaged farmers," said Chaverest. "The project aims to address pertinent issues farmers face and assist them in becoming more profitable

and sustainable in the food system."

The AAMU team will train African-American and veteran producers on crop insurance, risk management tools and strategies through a hands-on educational outreach

program.

According to SFRC, climate change has made crop insurance critical for farmers to survive throughout the United States. However, many small, limited resource producers and socially

disadvantaged minority farmers are unfamiliar with crop insurance and the role it plays to assist them in minimizing risk.

Crop insurance and agricultural risk management strategies continue to be the cornerstone in

securing future funds, managing risk and providing support for the farmers. Thus, Chembezi and Chaverest will provide training on crop insurance, risk management tools and strategies.

SFRC will partner with Fort Valley State University and Alabama Cooperative Extension System-Auburn University in an effort that is expected to reach more than 300 persons.

Earlier this summer, North Carolina A&T State University announced that AAMU was among three partners assisting with the success of a newly funded Agriculture Business Innovation Center, awarded \$1.92 million by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

MORTGAGE

Are You Ready For Progress?

Financing your home with us is more than just our **great rates**. It's **quick, local decisions** to keep things moving along. And it's **personal service** as you navigate the process — All so you can make your new house home.

Are you ready for Progress? Because Progress Bank is ready for you!



Tammy Parvin
VP | Mortgage Loan Officer | NMLS# 525507
201 Williams Ave | Huntsville
256.348.6538
tparvin@myprogressbank.com



Ginny B. Terry
Mortgage Loan Officer | NMLS# 686745
201 Williams Ave | Huntsville
256.509.5444
gbterry@myprogressbank.com

ProgressBank
myprogressbank.com

