

# Prepare for This Fall's Homegrown Valley Produce - p. 8

FREE



## Alphas Sponsor Council Debate - p. 9

Friday  
August 16, 2024  
Vol. 10, No. 50  
ValleyWeeklyllc.com



SALUTE!  
Rosetta James Foundation  
ELDER OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Brenda H. Beale

"We learn the rope of life by untying its knots." - Jean Toomer



### Soulful Food Truck Festival Set

The Soulful Food Truck Festival on Saturday, September 21, at Joe Davis Stadium, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., will feature delicious food trucks, food and shopping vendors, a beer garden and

live entertainment! Grab a VIP ticket to enter the Soulful Food Truck Festival one hour early to beat the lines at 11 a.m. (Kids 5 and under free admission). Kids 6 - 12 can pay \$5 at the gate.

Rain or shine Event | NO Refunds General Admission: 12-6 p.m. Lawn chairs and blankets are allowed! No pets, tents, outside food or coolers allowed!

### Ten Huntsville Business Pros Join Leadership Class

The Rocket City will be well represented in the 2024-25 Leadership Alabama class! The organization named its newest group last week, which includes:

**Larry Barisciano**, senior vice president, Leidos; **Lucia Cape**, senior vice president, Huntsville/Madison County Chamber; **Tracy Doughty**, president & COO,

Huntsville Hospital System; **Violet Edwards**, District 6 commissioner, Madison County Commission; **Daniel Kasambira**, CEO, United Way of

Madison County; **Alice Lessmann**, owner/CEO, Cepeda Systems & Software Analysis; **David Little**, president of Huntsville City Council & Ad-

visor at Keel Point; **Matt Massey**, president, Alabama School of Cyber Technology & Engineering; **Joseph Pelfrey**, director, NASA Marshall

Space Flight Center; and **Taron Thorpe**, chief analytics officer, CB&S Bank.

For more info on Leadership Alabama, visit <https://leadershipal.org>.

### Animal Shelter Pushing Adoption

Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle and city leaders encourage area residents to elect to adopt, not shop, and give loving homes to shelter



animals.

In August, Huntsville Animal Services (HAS) is

offering free adoptions on most adult pets as part of the nationwide "Clear the Shelters" adoption campaign. HAS

Interim Director Virgie Graham said the shelter experienced an alarmingly

high number of intakes this summer and needs the community's help to alleviate stress on the shelter and the animals by adopting or fostering. Call (256) 883-3782 for details. -[huntsvilleal.gov](http://huntsvilleal.gov)

### 'Legacy of the Invisible' Showcased

Downtown Huntsville, Inc. (DHI) is hosting a special "No Straight Lines," a new downtown artwork by local artist Float. The celebratory event titled "Legacy of the Invisible" will take place on August 16 at 6 p.m. at the corner of Clinton Avenue

and Washington Street, coinciding with the seven-year anniversary of the astronomical event that inspired the artwork.

The "Legacy of the Invisible" event showcases Huntsville's latest art installation, "No Straight Lines," which recognizes

Huntsville's deep-rooted contributions to astrophysics. This artwork highlights the innovative discoveries made by Huntsville's scientists and engineers, inspired by the detection of merging neutron stars in galaxy NGC 4993 on August 17, 2017. The piece repre-

sents a neutron star merger, a key event that has significantly shaped our scientific understanding of the universe.

"This artwork celebrates a convergence of art and science, which happens each day across the Huntsville community. With this new downtown

artwork, residents and visitors alike will discover Marshall Space Flight Center's pivotal role in astrophysics research," said Allison Dillon-Jauken, executive director of Arts Huntsville.

For details, contact Abigail Harrison at (256) 609-9163.



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## The Valley Weekly

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**The Valley Weekly**

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Sixteenth Page	2.5x2.5	\$75
Classified	1 colx1 inch	\$100/Flat Fee

The Valley Weekly  
**Washington  
One Minute**

by Ron Hamm

Here are the top issues and events in Washington for this week:

1. CONGRESS. The House and Senate are in recess until September 9. There are reports that House Trump Assassination Attempt Task Force Chair Mike Kelly (R-PA) and Democratic Ranking Member Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO) are sending letters to the Justice and Homeland Security Departments requesting all information and records related to the July 13 shooting.

2. THE WHITE HOUSE. President Biden spent the weekend at his beach house in Rehoboth Beach, DE, while Vice President Harris, along with former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), attended a fundraiser in San Francisco on Sunday that raised \$12 million for her campaign. President Biden and First Lady traveled Tuesday to New Orleans to deliver remarks at the Biden Cancer Moonshot. On Thursday, President Biden and Vice President Harris were scheduled to make a joint appearance at an official event in Prince George's County, MD. Former President Donald Trump announced that he plans to hold no campaign rallies until after the Democratic National Convention scheduled from August 19-22. Trump and Harris will appear together on ABC for a presidential debate on September 10.

3. SUPREME COURT. The Supreme Court is adjourned and will reconvene on Monday, October 7. Last Monday, in a major case affecting the Big Tech industry, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia Judge Amit Mehta ruled that Google, by spending billions of dollars to create an illegal monopoly and become the world's default search engine, had violated antitrust law to secure exclusive agreements with developers, carriers, and equipment makers. The ruling paves the way for a second trial to determine potential fixes, possibly including a breakup of Google parent Alphabet.

4. EDUCATION – FAFSA DELAY. The Department of Education has again delayed the rollout of its updated Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The Department

of Education announced that it will begin testing the 2025-2026 FAFSA in October among “a limited set of students and institutions” before circulating it to the general public in December. Typically, the form is available in October, and students complete it for the following academic year. However, the form for the 2024-2025 cycle was also delayed to December last year as the department worked to update its technology – per a congressional mandate. In the process, families' incomes were not adjusted for inflation, which caused a \$1.8 billion deficit in available aid.

5. OLYMPICS. Congratulations to the U.S. athletes who won 126 gold, silver, and

bronze medals at the 2024 Paris Olympics! At the first modern Olympic Games held in Athens in 1896, medals were given to the 1st and 2nd place winners of events (silver and bronze, respectively), along with a diploma and a laurel

branch.

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# Spiritual Game Plan

Valley Weekly  
PRESTON BROWNS



## “From Hate to Hope”

Romans 12:9 says, “Love must be sincere, hate what is evil, cling to what is good.”

It has been said that before we can make any real changes in our lives, we have to be motivated by hate. Yes, hate, because hate is a powerful emotion. It means to dislike something intensely.

But here is the thing: we should hate what is evil. We should hate the things that we do to ourselves that harm us. Like smoking, or eating too much, or watching pornography.

All these things need to be motivated by a healthy dose of hate. We have to learn to hate the bad things that are going on in our lives. You see, there is a healthy way to hate. We should hate racism. We should hate when people take advantage of other people. Psalm 119:113 says, “I hate the double-minded but I love your law.”

Today, we are living in a time where we need to make changes for the better, especially as it pertains to the direction that our country is headed. So remember, until we hate something

it. Hate it because it is keeping you from bringing God the glory that He deserves and that you deserve.

*Prayer:* Loving Father, take away the things in our lives that are causing us to harm ourselves as well as others around us. In Jesus’s name, we pray.

*Question:* Is there anything in your life that you need to hate to get rid

of?

Stay encouraged, my brothers and sisters, and make sure you purchase a copy of my books *Spiritual Game Plans for*




enough, we will never make the change to do something about it. Therefore, whenever you are struggling with something you want to change, you have to hate



*A Successful Life and A Champion Game Plan for Life at amazon.com or Westbow books.*

**NEXT WEEK:**

*“Gifts and Talents and Loving Yourself”*



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THE VALLEY WEEKLY

# VALLEY DEATHS



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Funeral service for **MR. JAMES “SAM SAM” WATKINS, JR.** (b. 1969) was held Saturday, August 10, at Hope Community Church, 1111 Pulaski Pike, Huntsville, Ala.

Funeral service for **MS. KATHRYN HARVEY** (b. 1939) was held Thursday, August 8, at Serenity Funeral Home.

Funeral service for **BABYGIRL ASHIRA TORRES GONZALEZ** (b. 2024) was held Saturday, August 3, at Serenity Funeral Home.

Funeral service for **MS. ALEXIS SILCOTT** (b. 1988) was held Wednesday, July 31, at New Life SDA Church, 3912 Pulaski Pike NW, Huntsville, Ala.

## NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189  
[www.nelmsmemorial.net](http://www.nelmsmemorial.net)

Funeral service for **MR. HENRY BRADLEY** (b. 1949) and **MRS. CHRISTINA MORIN-BRADLEY** (b. 1937) will announced at a later date.

Funeral service for **MRS. MARGIE V. WOODS** (b. 1945) was held on Sunday, August 11, at New Life Seventh-day Adventist Church 3912 Pulaski Pike NW- Huntsville, Ala.

Funeral service for **MR. THOMAS LAMONT BURTON** (b. 1974) was Saturday, August 3, at Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Bishop Jerry Townsend, officiating.

Funeral service for **BISHOP CONNIE L. MITCHELL** (b. 1951) was Thursday, August 1, in the Nelms Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Gilbert Mitchell officiating.

## ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

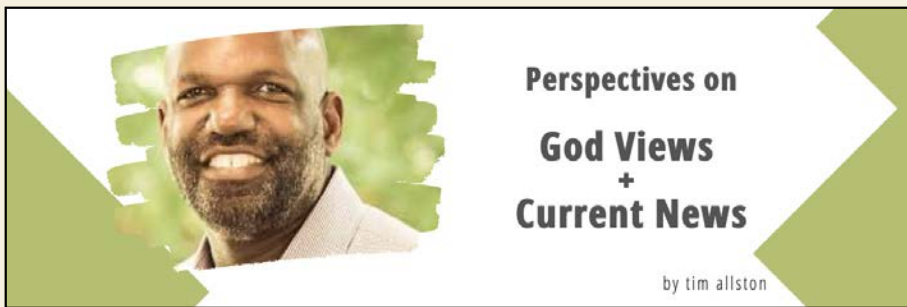
4315 Oakwood Avenue NW - Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481  
[www.royalfh.com](http://www.royalfh.com)

Funeral service for **REV. DR. CHARLES MACEO HOLSEY, JR.** (b. 1964) was Friday, August 9, at the Saint John African Methodist Episcopal Church, 229 Church Street, Huntsville, Ala., with Elder Dwight Dillard as officiant and Reverend Dr. Kenneth Love as eulogist.

Funeral service for **MRS. CLARALYN ANN THORNTON** (b. 1939) was Thursday, August 8, at the Lakeside United Methodist Church, 3738 Meridian Street N, Huntsville, Ala., with Reverend Percy L. Nolan, Jr. officiating.

Memorial service for **MRS. EUNICE OTHORINE THOMPSON COX** (b. 1937) was Thursday, August 8, at the Royal Chapel of Memories.





**Democratic Presidential Nominee Kamala Harris:**

**“Come, see a Woman, . . .” (Part 3 of 3)**

*“Come, see a man, . . .” John 4:29*

In this earlier text, the Samaritan woman responds to Jesus’ presenting her with an opportunity of a lifetime: become the first female and the first Gentile evangelist for Christianity to the non-Jewish world - preceding even the Apostle Paul.

Her “Come, see a man” message to her fellow Samaritans set in motion Christianity’s now being the world’s largest religion with 2.4 billion followers.

Similarly, on July 21 after deciding to exit the presidential race, Joe Biden presented his VP Kamala Harris the opportunity to become the first woman of color to evangelize and lead free-world democracy. Immediately, she updated the earlier Samaritan woman’s call to action now to be “Come, see a Woman, . . .” And her converts continue to meet Biden’s unprecedented offer in an unprecedented way.

**The “Kama-love” Effect, . . .**

If successful political campaigns need both fund- and friend-raising, then political history is witnessing the Kama-love Effect:

Election 2024: Kamala Harris raised \$310 million in July | AP News reported that she more than doubled the Trump campaign’s \$138.7 million total for July. Additionally,

Harris raises \$200m and gets 170,000 volunteers in first campaign week | US elections 2024 | The Guardian stated that her first week also represented nearly 66% of first-time donors!



**. . . and the early Kama-love Result?**

The story of the Samaritan woman at Jacob’s Well concluded with “Many of the Samaritans from that town believed . . . because of the women’s testimony“ John 4:39.

Similarly, the story of Kamala Harris has created a testament that has brought believers to her crusade. She secured the Democratic nomination without one primary contest, and caused first-time donors and volunteers to join in record numbers.

The only question that remains is, will that testimony and belief carry her into the White House?

*(Photo: Harris Campaign 2024)*



Tim Allston  
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Amazon Best-Selling Author  
“Leading from the Middle“  
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Valley Weekly  
**Millennial Moment**  
by Gloria B. Caldwell

*The Roof on Your Limitations ...*

*Who put the roof on your limitations?*

Think about this hard. Consider the response, “I’m not going to attempt that.” “It’s a no for me!” Or, *any* response similar to those. What’s your fear? What was it that made you come to that decision? Who have you watched fail at that venture?

All of this matters. We all know we are composed of all of our experiences and that which we have had

the opportunity to see, which is why we need to be careful with what we intake. Everything is not made for



your consumption. So again, I ask, what made you decide to put a limitation on your abilities?

We are, most likely,

the excuse we need to be mediocre. We’re the reason we don’t go as far as where we were created to go. We’re the downfall of many of our accomplishments. Every excuse is a shingle. We keep stacking them until we have applied a roof that won’t allow us to see what the sky offers. We limit ourselves based on past experi-

ences, fear of failure, and the beliefs instilled in us by others. Let’s remove those shingles, challenge our fears, and embrace opportunities. By doing so, we can reach

beyond our perceived limits and discover the vast possibilities.

Lace Up! Let’s Go!

*This Sunday’s Lectionary*

Sunday, August 18, 2024

Thirteenth Sunday

After

Pentecost



(Track 2, Year B)

First Lesson:

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalm 34:9-14

Second Lesson:

Ephesians 5:15-20

GOSPEL:

John 6:51-58



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

## Mrs. Brenda H. Beale

Mrs. Brenda Beale is a native of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and the daughter of the late CSM (Ret.) George and Mary Harris. However, she spent most of her early childhood and adolescent years in Germany and various locations throughout the United States. Upon the family's return to stateside, a young Brenda made history when she became the first African American to attend East Gate Junior High School in Dale County, while her dad was stationed at Fort Rucker in Ozark, Alabama.

Her family eventually returned to Tuscaloosa and settled within the town's vibrant black community known fondly as Stillman Hill. Brenda, after much travel around the world, was still afforded the golden opportunity to graduate from the esteemed Druid High School. During her senior year at Druid, Brenda was crowned Miss Black Alabama in 1970 in a contest coordinated by the famed WENN Radio station in Birmingham.

Beale would then attend the historic Alabama A&M University, where she majored in family and consumer sciences. It is also the beloved institution where her loving husband John W. first wooed her, even though the two

lived less than a block away from each other back in Tuscaloosa. On "The Hill," Brenda developed her fiery Bulldog passion.

Brenda is a retired educator who started her career as an enthusiastic instructor at J.O. Johnson High School in Huntsville for three years before joining the educational team at Huntsville Middle School and retiring in 2004. Throughout the decades, she has amassed experience in leadership, communications, relationships, adaptability, teamwork, decision making, planning and problem solving, as well as public relations.

Mrs. Beale is a Diamond Life member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and a member of the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter. Additionally, she has served as advisor to the Delta Delta (AAMU) and Omicron Gamma (University of Alabama in Huntsville) collegiate chapters. Brenda is a member of the Alpha Omega Chapter of Eta Phi Beta Business and Professional Sorority, Inc., as well as an active Kappa Silhou-



ette (past local president, and national and regional parliamentarian) for more than 45 years, providing continuous support to the organization and the men of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Further, Beale has served as president of the Redstone Arsenal Officer and Civilian Women's Club; past board member of Crisis Services of North Alabama; and executive board and life member, Alabama A&M University Bulldog Club. She is also a member of Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, where she makes a joyful noise as a member of the Women's Choir and Unity Choir.

Brenda and her husband of 52 years, John W. Beale, Jr., have two adult children, Daryl and Latoya, and are the doting grandparents of four.

## Passport to Possibility ... Pt. II

by John 'Jahni' Moore [From "Afroblastik"]

On the day the children's choir was set to leave for Disney World, I sat on my bike in my best friend's driveway. It was sunny with that slight spring chill in the air. My friend and his siblings were carrying luggage and things for the trip from the house to the car. I just sat there watching, no sadness, no regrets, just gazing on the activity. As far as I was concerned, I had accomplished my goal of selling enough candy to pay for my choir robe. After a while, my friend's mother's voice cut through my trance. She was calling me. My mom was on the phone. Was I in trouble for something?

On the phone, my mom asked with excitement in her voice if I wanted to go on the trip. Did I want to go on the trip?! Was she crazy or had I just lost my mind. "Huh?" was my reply. She repeated the question with a little more gusto. This time my good sense kicked in although I still didn't know what was going on. Of course, my answer was yes. She told me to hurry up and come home to pack. I tore out of there on my bike like I'd been called by God or chased by the devil. On my way home my mind raced faster than I could pedal. This was a dream come true.



This was a dream come true. This was a dream.

While I packed as fast as I could my mother explained to me that the choir director called. I had sold so much candy, it earned me a spot on the trip. I had been so driven by the desire to keep my parents from having to worry about that choir robe and the sheer rush of the sell, I had secured an all expenses paid trip to Disney World. To a child who loved everything Disney, this was almost beyond belief. She gave me a crisp \$10 bill and I was on my way.

My drive and intent had netted me more than a trip to the Magic Kingdom. It was a passport to possibility! All I'd needed was an opportunity to kickstart my solution finder. At ten years old, I had been armed with the knowledge of available

power to make change in my circumstance. The trip down to Florida was an incredible journey in itself. I watched the landscape change – From tall southern pines to majestic live oaks draped with ghostly moss that finally gave way to palm trees and other tropical foliage. Then that magical place called Disney World.

It was more than a trip for me. It was a tear in the veil of my perceived limits, a glimpse through the keyhole to a place where my vision took root. That trip expanded my view beyond the world in which I existed – beyond the high wall of poverty on to the land of possibilities. It made possible probable.

Walt Disney's vision and imagination continue to inspire me. It all started with a mouse." He said. A seemingly small thing backed with imagination, faith, and intent, can net a major return. Even beyond our wildest dreams. That summer a long time ago, I was granted a key that opened the door to a glimpse of my mouse. Over the years, I drew and painted my way out of poverty. There's a path for all who truly desire to go beyond where they are, ours is but to find it. Where there is possibility, there is power.



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"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](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).

# A&M's Marching Maroon & White Band 'Going Back to Cali'

The Alabama A&M University Marching Maroon and White will be one of six historically black college/university (HBCU) bands to perform at the 2025 Honda Battle of the Bands at SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, Calif.

One of the band's landmark performances was its appearance as lead of the 2006 Rose Parade in Pasadena, Calif.

Last week, the AAMU Band accepted a challenge invitation from the North Carolina A&T State University marching band to secure its spot in the event to be held Saturday, February 1, 2025.

For over two decades, the Honda Battle of the Bands has been a premiere stage for the showcasing of top HBCU band programs. Six invitations for the 2025 event are being selected in



three phases. Last month, a Honda committee selected two HBCU bands. Each of those bands were then allowed to "challenge" an

HBCU band to participate in a face-off in Inglewood.

Committee selections and challenge selections include: the **Alabama**

**A&M University** Marching Maroon and White; the **North Carolina A&T State University** Blue and Gold Marching Machine;

the **Southern University** Human Jukebox; and the **Alabama State University** band. The final two bands are being selected via fan

voting through August 15 at [www.hondabattleofthebands.com](http://www.hondabattleofthebands.com).

## About the Honda Battle of the Bands

Honda made a commitment in 2003 to highlight the heart-stopping musical talent of HBCU marching bands. Since then, Honda Battle of the Bands has served as the blueprint for showcasing one of the most recognizable and celebrated examples of HBCU culture and tradition to the rest of the world.

HBOB continues to evolve into a platform built for and by the HBCU community. Known as the marching band homecoming event of the year, HBOB has hosted some of the greatest performances and moments in HBCU battle of the bands' history.

## ON THIS DAY

On August 16, 1934, the United States ended its nearly 20-year occupation of Haiti, the resulting response of U.S. President Woodrow Wilson after receiving complaints from American banks about Haiti's massive indebtedness. Haitians resented the U.S. occupation as a loss of sovereignty and held revolts against U.S. forces, despite reforms.

- [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)



**AUGUST 16 - ANGELA BASSETT** - Bassett is an American actress and activist known for her biographical film roles, most notably her performance as Tina Turner in the biopic *What's Love Got to Do with It* (1993), for which she was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress and won the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress – Motion Picture Comedy or Musical. Bassett has additionally portrayed real life figures Betty Shabazz in both *Malcolm X* (1992) and *Panther* (1995), Katherine Jackson in *The Jacksons* (1992). - [BlackCelebrityBirthdays.org](http://BlackCelebrityBirthdays.org)



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# Reasons to Take Another Look at Starting Your Fall Homegrown Produce

(BPT) - Are you one of the 185 million Americans who garden? If not, it's time to consider joining the crowd. Gardening can be an incredibly rewarding hobby, especially if you grow your own produce.

When you grow your own fruits and vegetables, you can taste the difference between a store-bought tomato and one you pick fresh from the vine. Still not convinced? Discover four ways you can benefit from growing your own food.

## 1. Savor the taste and the savings

You can quickly curb your grocery bill by growing your own food. The National Gardening

Association found that a 600-square-foot garden, which costs about \$70 per year, can yield 300 pounds of fresh produce a year, worth \$600. That's well worth the time, expense and effort you put into cultivating your garden. It's a win for your wallet and your taste buds.

## 2. Add variety to your diet

Depending on where you shop, your selection of produce can be limited. However, gardening offers the opportunity to expand your palate. With just a few packets of seeds, you can grow a rainbow of flavor in your backyard!

It's not too late to start your culinary adventure either! Plant vegetables like

carrots, corn and eggplant - which will complement a goth garden perfectly - in early summer for fresh produce later on in the season, or experiment with edible flowers like nasturtium for a beautiful, tasty garnish. To start your culinary adventure, visit [Ferry-Morse.com/Collections/Vegetable-Herb-Fruit-Seeds](http://Ferry-Morse.com/Collections/Vegetable-Herb-Fruit-Seeds).

## 3. Get a natural workout

Skip the gym and get your hands dirty instead! Tending to your garden is a labor of love and an engaging workout. You'll have to dig, plant, weed, water and harvest. Before you know it, you'll have your exercise in for the day and be one step closer to enjoying the

fruits (and vegetables) of your labor. Best of all, you get to do this in the fresh air under sunny skies.

## 4. Be inspired to try new recipes, like this one for beef stir fry

When you grow your own produce, especially if

you're growing items you don't usually buy at the store, you'll be inspired to get creative in the kitchen. Tini Younger, a Next Level Chef season 2 contestant, was inspired by Ferry-Morse's Colossal Collection to create a beef stir fry using Jack's Magic Pole

Beans.

These are just four reasons to fall in love with homegrown produce. This season and beyond, embrace the green goodness of growing a produce aisle right in your backyard.

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# Alphas Sponsor City Council-District 1 Debate at Phillips CME

Tuesday, August 6, 2024 (Photos by Anthony Gibson)

Incumbent Devyn Keith and challengers Reggie McKenzie and Michelle Watkins met on Tuesday night at Phillips CME Church for a final debate, all vying for the District 1 Huntsville City Council seat. The debate was sponsored by the Delta Theta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

