

the GROUNDHOG

Volume 8 — No. 1 — April, 1990 A Publication of the Mentone Area Preservation Association

Cragsmere Manna— *Safe Kept Memories And Lovely Things*



Cragsmere Manna Restaurant is a place of lovely things, old and cherished things that take one back to earlier times when meals were to be enjoyed and savored with good friends and family. It is also a curious mix of the best of yesterday and today.

The structure began as a private dwelling for Uncle Ned and Aunt Margaret Jackson, freed slaves from Virginia. The Jacksons built what is now the Heritage Room back in the middle 1800's and raised five children there. They were well known for their hospitality, which was especially evident in their big Sunday gatherings where local citizens, black and white, came together to visit and sample Aunt Margaret's southern cooking.

The Jacksons were important members of the little community, providing many services from hog butchering to midwifery. They also ran a separate facility a few miles from Cragsmere that offered a resting place for weary travelers. Aunt Margaret and her daughters were often called upon to nurse the sick and elderly. Uncle Ned and the boys farmed the small acreage on the brow of the mountain that would later make up the lawn and gardens of one of the mountain's best restaurants.

The Rhett Butler room, named for a famous fictional

character from the Civil War era, seems right at home next to a room which served as the home to slaves who were freed because of that war. This is a part of the feeling of neighborly warmth and homecoming that makes the Cragsmere of yesterday so special today.

Cragsmere has changed hands many times since those early owners settled there. It was once a private club for wealthy investors from Birmingham. Then a family of nine, the George Giffords, farmed the land. One of Mentone's most beloved citizens, Maggie Cordell, was one of the Gifford children. For years before her death, she loved visiting Cragsmere, delighting guests with stories of her younger days there.

After the Gifford family, H. L. "Hello" and Nina Ferrel purchased Cragsmere. H. L. was known as "Hello" because of his cheerful greeting to friend and stranger alike. He served as the district's representative in the Alabama legislature in the late 1950's.

Nina Ferrel was famous for her country cooking done on a big wood-burning stove. She was also an avid gardener, and many of the flowers, trees and shrubs she planted still thrive at Cragsmere today.

(Continued On Page 11)

John Cooper Back Home In Valley Head



John Cooper

John Cooper, after a year of Fort Payne practice, has moved back to his office in Valley Head. "I am very glad to be back here," John Cooper spoke of his return. "I enjoy this building, having renovated it after the roof had fallen in."

John Cooper feels right at home in the little town at the top of the valley. "I am glad I made the change here over 10 years ago. My only regret is that I did not do it 40 years sooner."

John Winter Cooper has roots deep into the history of Alabama. His great-grandfather, John Gano Winter, owned the Winter Building in Montgomery from which the

message of Alabama secession was sent during the War Between The States. John Cooper's great uncle, Lawrence Cooper, was one of the early presidents of the Alabama Bar Association.

John Wesley Cooper, John's great-grandfather on his father's side of the family, traded land for the building that housed the first Methodist Church in Alabama. He made it into a home for his family and it stands today on historic Randolph Street in Huntsville, Ala.

John Cooper began his practice of law in Birmingham in 1948. In 1980, after 10 years of cottage ownership in Mentone, he and his wife Mickie made a permanent move to the mountain. They built a beautiful home on the brow, complete with elevator and splendid view of the valley.

"It was then I decided I had better work because I liked to eat," John laughed, "so I set up practice in an office rented from Maureen Hammond. Then I purchased this building and completely renovated it."

A bright young legal hopeful, Terry Hutcheson, was hired as a clerk while he finished law school. Terry was a successful biologist for a major corporation in Huntsville when he first met John who encouraged him to pursue his interest in law. After law school, Terry became an associate, then a partner. "This place is out of the mainstream, and there is just enough business for one lawyer," John told of the reason for the move further down the valley.

The partners had a very successful practice in Fort Payne and it was not long until Terry made a smart career move when he accepted a position as an Assistant District Attorney. "Suddenly, all semblance of a conflict of interest had to be removed," John said. "We had to have separate everything. It was just too much." John Cooper moved back into his office in Valley Head and Terry Hutcheson kept his practice in Fort Payne. "We are still the best of friends," John spoke of his relationship with his former partner. "We pitch for one another now and then."

The Cooper law office is open three days a week, but the telephone is equipped with "call forwarding" so that he can be reached any day.

John Cooper is well acquainted with many aspects of the justice system and for years represented some of the biggest corporate motor carriers in the business. He still retains many corporate accounts, but his favorite client is "whomever walks in that front door."



Mike Reilly: From The Seashore To The Mountains



Mike Reilly (right) with Miami friend Jimmy Buffet

Mike Reilly is part owner and manager of a restaurant in Atlanta which is a member of one of the most successful seafood chains in the business. Mike Reilly also has a connection to the mountain. His sister Mary owns and operates Reilly's Deli in the Stateline Country Store just across the Georgia line between Mentone and Cloudland.

Mike and Mary called Miami, Fla., home until a few years ago when Mary discovered the area through a friendship with the Jones family who owns several enterprises in the area, including Cloudmont Resort. Mike came up to visit his sister and a love for the mountain grew from that moment. "You could not find better neighbors than on Lookout Mountain," Mike reflected. "There is a beauty and a serenity there also."

Mike had worked as head chef for eight years at **Monty Trainer's**, the biggest seafood restaurant in Miami. He was ready for a change and the mountain offered the perfect retreat. The **Lookout Restaurant** in Cloudland offered him a job, so Mike headed north to Alabama. "I enjoyed working for the Pless family," Mike recalls his time as chef there. "They are great people and very hard workers."

When the opportunity came to open a place of his own in Trion, Georgia, Mike enlisted the help of sister Mary and **Reilly's Market to Market** was born. The store offered a well-stocked deli with daily specials, BBQ, groceries, videos, gasoline and other country store items. The market became very successful as the Reilly's turned a small investment into a six-digit gross annual money maker.

Then Mike had an opportunity to become a part of the **Shells** family of restaurant entrepreneurs and decided to go for it. "This is a top of the line company to work for," Mike said. "The owner, John Christian, has made some brilliant moves. The idea is to offer a limited menu, each item really special, and to give plenty of food at a low price. The concept works."

The most attractive part of the **Shells** package, however, is the policy of allowing each manager to eventually purchase a percentage of a restaurant and to continue to invest in ownership.

"Another great thing about this organization is the willingness on the part of upper management to listen and work with managers so that each particular area and its needs are evaluated," Mike continued. "That way, positive changes can be made to reflect the needs of the area we serve."

Mike still loves the mountain and does not rule out returning some day to open his own restaurant. "I am investing in property there, and I am always open to opportunity. At the least, I will have a part of one of the most beautiful places anywhere."

Mike Reilly's **Shells** is located in Roswell, a part of Atlanta. The telephone number is 404-847-0992 in case you decide to visit. Be sure to take Mike all the news from the mountain.

MAPA MEETING

JUNE 5 — 6:30 P.M.
MENTONE TOWN HALL
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Rhododendron Festival

Saturday & Sunday, May 19-May 20

Mentone, Alabama — On Lookout Mountain Parkway

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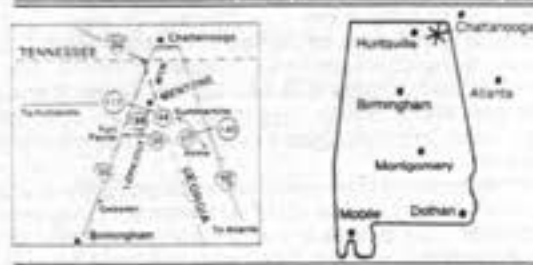
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All Aboard Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Midway From Chattanooga to Gadsden On Highway 117, Exiting Off I-59
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Billie Jones Celebrates 100 ... Years



Billie Jones Cox with granddaughter Janice Carrier

Mrs. Ida G. (Billie) Jones Cox celebrated her 100th birthday on April 28 with friends and family — some of whom traveled many hours to participate in the festivities.

The party was held in Islamorada, Florida, with over 90 guests attending. Highlights of the menu were Cuban roast pig, black beans and rice and other favorites of Billie's.

"She outlasted all of us," said granddaughter Nancy Jones, "opening all her presents and having a great time."

"I told her now that the first hundred were taken care, let's work on celebrating another 100 years from now," Nancy said.

From the Editor....

by Mickey Strickland

Pierre Howard. Remember the name. Not because the man who is going to be the next Lt. Governor of Georgia will have much of a direct impact on us here in Alabama, but because southern political organizations have a way of sometimes producing national leaders, and Pierre Howard is a prime candidate to take it to Washington.

I met this veteran of the Georgia senatorial arena at the home of another Georgia politician, former U. S. Congressman James Mackay. A group was gathered at Mackay's home on the brow in High Georgia to promote the Lookout Mountain Parkway. Pierre Howard was there with his campaign representative for the area, Jim Tanner.

I was immediately impressed with the direct honesty of the man. He does not hedge and maneuver, he quietly and with conviction states his position and shades the ground where he stands. There is no pretense to Pierre Howard, and no deception. Southern, as well as national, politics need people like him. They are just too few and far between.

After 18 years as a state senator, Howard can list a lot of accomplishments — all of which address issues most states struggle with — education, care for the elderly, breaking the welfare cycle, health care, child care and drug and alcohol abuse. He co-authored the first state policy for hiring the disabled in government. He was the chief sponsor of an amendment to require drug dealers and violent criminals to serve more of their sentences before being considered for parole. He has proposed special facilities for treatment of drug and alcohol addicted youths. He introduced legislation providing protection for victims of rape during cross examination by defense attorneys who often treat the victim as if she is the criminal. The list goes on and on.

We need Pierre Howard in Washington; we could use him here in Alabama too.

Until recently, when someone mentioned Shriners visions of men in strange hats whooping it up at conventions and riding around in little cars in parades came to mind. Men who engaged in weird initiation rites and called one another "potentate" and "most exalted leader." Men named Bubba and Vern and Roscoe.

Then I met Curtis Roberts. He gave me a new perspective on this organization, and I now find the **Loyal Order of the Shrine** is launching a new public relations campaign to change its image.

Curtis Roberts is a member of the Jackson County Shrine, and is a leader. When he first began to talk of his organization and all the good works they do, I was amazed. These men are truly some of the best examples of hometown heroes of our time, and a lot of people never know it.

This worthy group is constantly working to raise funds to support its 19 orthopedic hospitals and three burn institutes situated throughout North America and Hawaii. The Shrine hospitals have been operating for over 68 years, since the first one was opened in 1922 by a group of Master Masons who wanted to use surplus funds to help crippled children.

Each day of the year, the Shrine must provide \$620,000 to keep the hospitals open. Over 95 percent of this staggering sum of \$226 million per year is used directly for patient care and research at the hospitals. In addition, new hospitals and the renovation of existing structures will amount to an additional \$53 million in 1990.

Further, there is absolutely no tax money or federal assistance involved in the operation of this program. Treatment is free to all patients. The institutions are known as "hospitals without a cash register." The hospitals accept children up to 18 years of age.

To date, over 400,000 children have been treated and permanently discharged from Shrine hospitals.

The Cahaba Temple of the 10 northern Alabama counties, which has 2,400 members, has compiled a very impressive record. There are currently 270 children in the local program. New admissions to the transportation and hospital program have totaled over 200 children in the last three years. About the same number has been discharged from the program as completely cured or substantially helped.

The Shrine provides transportation to hospitals in Cincinnati, Ohio and Greenville, South Carolina. A parent or other adult accompanies each child. Two drivers are assigned to each van for the trip. Because of the distance involved, patients, parents and drivers must stay in a motel overnight.

All of this is at absolutely no charge to the patients and their parents. In addition, Shrine volunteers logged over 53,000 hours away from their homes on these trips, the equivalent accumulation of over six years.

When you encounter a Shriner asking for a donation, give generously and thank him from the bottom of your heart, for he is someone special indeed. Not just a "point of light," these men are a beacon of goodwill and compassion leading the way for others to follow.

ALABAMA NO DUMP

Gov. Guy Hunt, declaring "there are no more environmental bargains to be found here," signed legislation Tuesday sharply increasing the fees for dumping hazardous waste in Alabama, a law he called "one of the most important pieces of environmental protection legislation in our state's history."

Gov. Hunt, in a State House ceremony, signed into law a bill raising the dumping fees to \$40 a ton for hazardous waste generated inside Alabama and \$112 a ton for waste shipped in from outside the state.

Gov. Hunt said that "in time, this sharp increase in dumping fees will force other states to start doing a better job of taking care of their waste problems. They have the technology available to them now, but they have never had the incentive to use it because Alabama has always welcomed their dumping with open arms."

The Groundhog

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The Lookout

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Valley View

By Eloise Brown

It was so good to see so many seats filled with families at our church on Easter Sunday. We were blessed with beautiful special music, by Jane Meadows and George Walker and an inspiring sermon by our pastor, Malcolm Barrett.

Adelaide Biddle had as her guests Easter Mary Lou and David Carmichael and four children of Dallas, Ga., Julia and Ronnie Hickey and two sons of Daisy, Tenn., Marsha and Marty Biddle and three children of Chattanooga, Tenn. In the afternoon, they had an egg hunt with 38 present.

John Holleman of Huntsville, Ala., was the Easter guest of his parents, Mary Louise and Ted Holleman. They, and Mary Frances Tate and Janie Longshore visited Betty and "Red" Adams in Gadsden. Their son, Jim, and his wife, Michelle, were also guests.

Becky and Bill Holleman of Fort Payne were guests of his parents, E. T. and Gladola Holleman.

Cindy, Malcolm and Mary Frances Barrett spent the holidays with his parents, Doris and B. J. Barrett in Sumiton, Ala. Donna and Gary Decker and children were also there. Cindy and Malcolm had birthdays recently and were recipients of a lovely birthday cake from Helen White.

Doris and Jim Carmichael spent a week in Tuscaloosa, Ala., with their daughter, Emmy, her husband, Dr. Mark Ricketts and children, Lucy and John, who have moved there from Birmingham.

Sue and Foyle Cooper had as recent guests, Dot and Glen Finster and daughter, Janice Weaver and her daughter, Jennifer, from Bunker Hill, Ind., Kelli and Eddie Davis and baby, Alexandria; Betty Brown, Lila Schlicher, Peggy Gray and daughters, Teresa and Tammy. Kiffy and Tom Hastings and children, Justin and Jena, came from Wheeling, W. Va., and spent several days with Kitty's grandmother, Lila Schlicher.

Virginia Livezey and Doris Carmichael visited their aunt and uncle, Mary and Ralph Emerson, in Rome, Ga., recently.

Emily and Barry Brown went to Chattanooga to see their grandmother, Thelma Brown. Emily's sister, Pauline Wright from Knoxville, is spending this week with them.

Eleanor and David Cearley from Houston, Texas, were with her mother, Laura Margaret Allison, Easter.

Janice Mathews had leg surgery at B.M.C., DeKalb. Her beauty shop will be closed at least until her recovery. Elaine Burt has returned to Valley Head and is opening a beauty shop.

Velma Hammond is recovering from cataract surgery at her home.

MOUNTAIN WATCH

What makes someone trash the ground where he stands? Why would a person run the very thing that he or she needs to sustain life? What sort of individual cares so little for home and land that every foot of roadway is a potential garbage dump?

These are questions that we must answer if we are to prevent the dumping of DeKalb. As the big clean up gets going and headway is made into the refuse that threatens to bury us, disturbed and/or ignorant people blithely continue to throw their trash to the four winds.

I have never understood the attitude that allows such foolish and selfish action. It crosses all economic and cultural lines, but it seems there are certain groups more likely to desecrate the environment than others.

Perhaps poverty can bring the kind of despair that causes anti-social action such as the fouling of that which humanity holds dear. But the effect is quite the reverse. The beauty of the natural world is sometimes all that one has, and when that is ruined there is nothing. People who live in rural areas such as ours, who live close to the earth and among some of the most beautiful and sacred forest lands in the world, should realize that the one thing that makes life worth living is the beauty of a clean and wild living earth.

Perhaps like Hansel and Gretel, there are those who must leave a trail of beer cans in order to find their way back to the source of supply. Or maybe they just have so many empties that they interfere with safe driving.

Perhaps a spotless automobile interior is a top priority and a small trash bag in the floorboard is too much trouble. These insensitive clods need to spend a cold weekend on the roadside with a biodegradable trash bag in hand, picking it all up.

Perhaps after stuffing on fast food, there is so much waste paper, wrappers, styrofoam containers, smashed condiment packets and scraps of food that it is impossible to make it to the nearest garbage can. These folks need edible containers so they can just consume it all.

Perhaps there is not enough access to designated dumping areas. Some people do not have the money to pay to dump their trash, so they find a quiet, solitary spot to dispose of it.

Finally, perhaps people just do not realize that we are strangling in our own throw aways, that we are allowing our birthright to be taken from us. We have become a disposable society that has been given enough rope to hang itself.

A fitting epitaph might read: "We did it our way."

TO MY LITTLE BROTHER JOHN HUNTER THE DEAD PERSON SMILE

You are told to keep smiling.

While inside your heart is dying.

When you are alone you cry out your heart and soul.

But in the day you have to keep smiling while your heart is dying.

Love, April



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY From the Groundhog Staff

Adelaide Biddle has returned from a tour of Mobile. She reports that the flowers in Bellingrath Garden are beautiful. She saw the U.S.S. Alabama Battleship and the submarine, Drum and Dolphin Island.

Katherine and Jimmy Crumbley and Mary Louise Holleman have returned from a trip to Callaway Gardens.

Virginia and Ronnie Bradford and daughter, Becky, came from Chickamauga, Ga., to spend the holidays with Virginia's parents, Evelyn and Robert Phillips.

The U.M.W. of the Valley Head Methodist Church is planning a yard sale next month. Remember us when you are "thinning out."

Dorothy and Charles Leville spent several days here closing the sale on their house. We hate to lose them, but hope they will be happy in Melbourne, Fla.

Doris and Jim Carmichael helped with the "Jump for Heart" project at Williams Avenue School in Fort Payne by handing out the gifts to the children. The school made over \$11,000 for the American Heart Association. Congratulations!

COUNTRY JOURNAL

By Bernice Crow

Spring is a glorious time of the year, what with all the blooming wildflowers and many flocks of birds nesting in the area. My brother, Don, had an Evening Grosbeak in his yard last week. I don't think we get them often, and usually they are just resting from a long flight and will continue north. They are beautiful birds. Ray and Shurlee Froehner had a yard full of them two years, but said this year they have not seen them. They do have bluebirds nesting on their property, and have seen a pair of Scarlet Tanagers. Let's hope they nest also.

Right now I hear the loud call of the Piliated Woodpecker. That is one more strikingly attractive bird. When Andy and Iva Lea built their cabin in the woods near us, one of the large feathered friends came out and squaked at them every day while they were building. Perhaps he was afraid his territory was being invaded by ruthless human beings who would destroy his habitat. He had nothing to worry about. Andy loves them, and would do all he could do to protect them. Now they live in harmony and the birds nest right close to the cabin. I saw one of these majestic birds in a tree across the road from the Hitching Post last week. He flew across the busy intersection of Hwy. 117, and state road 89. He flew so low, I was afraid a car might hit him. Since they are on the endangered list, I hope we can protect them and keep them with us.

Since MAPA is non-partisan in all aspects, I usually do not mention religion. So please know that my words are mine and have no reflection on this fine organization. I do want to say that the sunrise Easter service at Camp Skyline was well attended, and was lovely. It is so good to see all the churches of the community worshipping together. There is such a wonderful kindred bond there that makes one forget the small differences in Christian movements. Rev. Don Brock, pastor of the Church of God of Prophecy, is president of the North DeKalb Ministerial Assn., and was moderator. Rev. Ron Johnson, pastor of the Mentone Church of God, brought the message. Dr. Oscar Hessel gave the invocation, representing Rev. Tim Smith of St. Joseph's Episcopal. Rev. Smith was speaking at the sunrise service in Fort Payne.

Congregational singing was led by Kenneth McMunn of Lea's Chapel Baptist Church. Fred Johnson sang an especially moving song — what a wonderful voice! He represented Mentone Wesleyan Church. Then Rev. Curtis Bridges of Moon Lake Baptist Church gave the benediction. Sorry some of you missed the service.

Our spring came early and the rhododendron has burst into bloom early as a result. I do hope it is not past its prime when we have our festival the 19th and 20th of May. Our plants here at home are in full bloom now — some cultivated varieties and some native plants. We are fortunate to live in an area where these and other wildflowers abound.

The Lookout Mountain Parkway Assn. met with James Mackey at his home on the brow near the New Salem Community last week. What a view there — different to any I have seen. It is near the old Plum Nelly place where art shows were held annually. Mr. Mackey is Vice President of the Assn. for Georgia and is working toward establishing Overlooks on both the East and West Brows of the Mountain. From his home, we looked out over Johnson's Crook at Rising Fawn, the spot where I was born.

On Thursday evening, May 4th we had a community service again, this time at the Brow Park here at Mentone. The view there is wonderful and the place was clean! This service was in connection with the National Day of Prayer and arranged by Lynette McCary. Mayor Max Cash gave the opening welcome and led the prayer. Terry Hutcheson led the singing and all the Churches were represented. This was held at 7 p.m. at twilight time, and the melodious voice of the Wood thrush seemed to blend in with the human voices singing praises to the creator.

Our visitors of the month at the Hitching Post were Helen and Ruth Hawkins (sisters) from Denver, Colo. They used to come to Mentone years ago and were thrilled to be back and see the house where they lived near Alpine.

I hope to see you upstairs at the Hitching Post May 19th at 8 p.m. for our election of a Rhododendron Queen and three Princesses.

\$45 Million Available

Gov. Guy Hunt Tuesday announced Alabama Housing Finance Authority has made available \$45 million for 8.14 percent 30-year fixed-rate loans for the purchase of single family homes.

AHFA has issued and sold \$297 million worth of single-family mortgage revenue bonds since 1987, and has provided 5,400 low and moderate income Alabama families with below-market rate financing.

Since these loans are made available through the sale of tax-exempt bonds, there are certain restrictions. These restrictions include limitations on the price ceiling of homes, and the household income of loan applicants. The restrictions are determined by where the home will be located, and the lender must determine that an applicant is credit worthy.

In addition, loan applicants must be either first-time homebuyers or persons who have not owned a home in the last three years. The "three-year" restriction does not apply in federally designated "targeted" areas. Applicants will be taken by participating lenders throughout the state.

AHFA was created by the Legislature in 1980 to provide affordable financing so Alabamians with low or moderate income would have access to adequate and acceptable housing. For those who want to own a home, Mortgage Credit Certificates also are available. Many of the loan restrictions apply to the MCC. The MCC is a federal tax credit on a portion of the mortgage loan interest with the remaining interest still used as a deduction, and must be applied for before purchasing a home. AHFA also has programs for builders and developers to construct or rehabilitate multi-family housing that offer affordable rental apartments.

For a listing of the lenders, income and purchase price restrictions on the mortgage loans, or information of any of the other programs, call AHFA in Montgomery at 242-4310 or 800-325-2432 statewide.

The Coon's Den



Brother and sister: Linda Kilgore and Ronald Hall

The Coon's Den is a new shop in Mentone's Log Cabin Craft Village, but it is fast gaining a reputation as one of the best places to shop.

Linda Kilgore and Ronald Hall offer handcrafted items, gifts of all kinds, toys, glassware and much more.

The Beauty Of Yesterday The Comfort Of Today

The Mentone Inn is especially suited to those people who want a taste of yesterday, but with the modern comfort of now. Built in 1927 and redecorated in 1982, the Inn offers a historic mountain retreat steeped in the rustic, charming traditions of the area combined with the latest amenities: private baths, hot tub and access to the lovely village of Mentone.

There is a main lodge with 12 rooms and a separate housekeeping cottage with three bedrooms. The grounds slope gently toward the brow with flowers and flagstone walks. The Inn has a large, wrap around porch complete with rocking chairs.

Amelia Kirk, owner and hostess of Mentone Inn, awakens guests to the smells of big country breakfasts wafting on the crisp mountain air. Make reservations early for the word is out that the Mentone Inn is the spring, summer and autumn place to be.



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Luther Hendrix Announces Candidacy



J. Luther Hendrix announces his candidacy for President of the DeKalb County Commission. Mr. Hendrix resides in Rainsville and is a lifelong resident of DeKalb County.

Mr. Hendrix is a graduate of Valley Head High School and Auburn University. He is married to the former Kathryn Mitchell and they have three daughters: Karen McGee of Rainsville, Melanie Wilks of Henagar and Jamie Collins of Montgomery.

He is the son of the late Abe Hendrix (former Commissioner of the 4th district and President of the Commission) and Bessie Browder Hendrix of Henagar.

Mr. Hendrix currently serves as President of the Rainsville Farm Center. He retired recently as Regional Supervisor and Vice-President of Field Operations of Farm Credit System. He has served two terms as Chairman of the DeKalb County Hospital Association and on the Administrative Board of BMC-DeKalb in 1988-89. Mr. Hendrix currently serves on the Library Board for the city of Rainsville and is a member of the American Legion Post No. 39, VFW Post No. 103780 in Rainsville, Cattleman's Association, Mahan Masonic Lodge No. 490, Quail Unlimited in DeKalb County and past President of Sand Mountain Potato Grower's Association. He is a member of Robertson's Chapel United Methodist Church in Rainsville.

"I feel confident that my background, qualifications and experience will serve to provide progressive leadership for the DeKalb County Commission. I welcome the opportunity and challenge to serve in this position. My immediate priorities are: Road improvement, adequate funding of our local agencies, and working closely with local legislators to secure additional funds for our county's needs."

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Lloyd Wagon Named Alabama Patriot Of The Year



Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Wagon

The Alabama House of Representatives recently enacted legislation which inducted Lloyd Wagon, a Gadsden native, into Alabama's Hall of Honor and named him **Patriot of the Year** for this state.

Since the first Patriot's Day in 1975, 49 others have received the award.

Lloyd Wagon is a retired Lt. Colonel in the U. S. Air Force who flew 53 combat missions over Europe as a B-25 pilot in World War II. He has been very instrumental in the construction of a Veteran's Memorial in Gadsden, Ala.

Mr. Wagon serves as Executive Director of the Gadsden-Etowah Tourism Board, Treasurer of the Cultural Arts Foundation and Secretary of the Etowah County War Memorial Agency. He has been active in a number of other civic and community affairs also. Mr. Wagon is an active member of the Lookout Mountain Parkway Association, an organization devoted to the preservation and improvement of a 100-mile stretch of scenic highway between Gadsden, Ala., and Chattanooga, Tenn.

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Lookout Mountain

School of Horseshoeing

There is an art to putting shoes on horses, and Tom McNew is making sure that the fine art of horseshoeing continues into the next generation. At his farm on the Lookout Mountain Parkway he offers a complete live-in course of study for horseshoeing hopefuls, male and female.

Tom is a frequent visitor to Mentone, and grew up on tales of the area. His grandfather, Harry McNew, ran the Mentone Springs Hotel in the 1920's. He was also a deputy sheriff in nearby Fort Payne. John has family connections here, swearing he is a relative of "Shine" McNew, a much loved local character who lives in Valley Head. Tom also claims kin to the Birchfield family and the John Walkers.

Tom's interest in horseshoeing began when he was a small child. "My grandfather shod horses, and I loved to watch him."

Tom: "In the early '60s, I decided to become a farrier. It seemed to be the easiest thing I could do. I thought why should I get paid for something like this? My first horseshoeing attempt was successful. The next time the horse was shod, it took me three days and 19 stitches, but I got it done." The only help Tom had was an old Calvary Manual.

Tom went to the old blacksmiths and horseshoers such as Mr. Miller in Menlo, Georgia. He would talk to them, all the while taking in as much information as he could. "I would talk to anybody around who would answer my questions and let me watch."

In the 1970's, Tom went to the Mid-South School of Horseshoeing in Memphis, Tenn. Later, when they went out of business, he bought their old firepots.



Tim McNew

For several years, Tom went to farms and homes to shoe horses. He specialized in saddle bred horses. In January 1987, he opened his own school and it has been a great success. Tom's son, Lane, is also a farrier, following closely in his father's "horseshoes." Lane attended a horseshoeing school in Virginia and is a Journeyman farrier at the Turf Club, a race track in Birmingham, in which his father has invested.

Tom and Lane use their skills to benefit others also. They provide horseshoeing to the Big Oak Ranch at no charge. They are part of a benefit the White's Chapel Baptist Church holds each year for children.

The Lookout Mountain School of Horseshoeing offers state-of-the-art instruction. The students live on the McNew farm in dormitory facilities for the duration of the eight-week course. There is a forge room with 11 forges, one for each student, complete with work bench, vice, coal bin, anvil and all necessary tools. The students also go out in mobile units for hands-on experience.

Tom describes his school: "Diplomas are earned at our school. The quality of our school is reflected by each student's work. . . I feel it is my duty to give each and every student a chance to become an accomplished farrier." The school is licensed and approved by the Alabama Department of Education.

Tom and Lane enjoy talking about their school and giving visitors a feel for an old-time art kept alive through dedication and hard work. For more information call 205-546-2036, day or night, the brochure says. The McNews have something special to share.



JUNE JAM IX

JUNE 9, 1990

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Where The Buffalo Roam — Mentone!

By Rebecca Terrell Rish

On Friday, Dec. 8, 1989 a lifelong dream began to become a reality for Jack B. Martin as he and his friend, Wayne Millican, set out in Wayne's pickup truck for a remote part of Kansas to bring home two baby Buffalo.

Loaded to the hilt with a multitude of goodies prepared by Christine Dersa, Wayne's sister, the two left shortly after sunrise. The weather was awful — freezing rain, with snow and ice reported to be just above Chattanooga, and around Nashville and Memphis — directly in their path. What an exciting and eventful journey this would turn out to be as they traveled approximately 2,000 miles round-trip in only 48 hours!

As they drove off, Chris and I typically worried about everything that could go wrong and reflected on all the preliminary steps and events that occurred before they could actually leave to bring home the Buffalo.

First, locating some Buffalo to actually purchase was the main hurdle that Jack had to overcome, and it wasn't an easy one. There are not very many Buffalo farming operations in the U. S. Finally, late last Spring, a friend of his, Joseph Sanaie, located a ranch in Kansas and arrangements were made to purchase two female calves sometime in the fall of '89 — or as soon as they were old enough to be separated from their Mamas.

The next step was to wait for them to be born, be healthy and be weaned. After weaning, they had to be checked by the Vet. and given shots and vaccinations. Then, another time period to wait on papers to come back from the state authorities had to go by before the "go ahead" to pick them up was sounded. The government has very strict rules and regulations concerning the sale and transport of Buffalo and pertinent information must be filed, approved, recorded and returned to the Buffalo rancher before the new owner can actually transport the Buffalo to their new destination.

Once the "all clear" was received, Jack only had two weeks to pick up his calves before they would be sold elsewhere. A big corporation had purchased a large quantity of Buffalo and if Jack had not picked his up prior to their arrival to transport theirs, his would be included in their order. Jack was also concerned with winter fast approaching, that bad weather conditions could set in and make meeting this deadline impossible, thereby destroying his immediate opportunity to begin raising his own Buffalo.



Many phone calls went back and forth at each stage of progress and everyone stayed on the alert for months. Finally the long awaited phone call to "come and get 'em" was received.

Unfortunately, with this phone call came some temporary set back news. Jack was told that he needed to have a strong holding pen in which to house the Buffalo upon their arrival in Mentone. He was advised that it is best to corral them for two-three months when they first arrive in a new place to give them time to gradually adjust to their different surroundings. During this time, there are several stages of progression that occur to introduce them to larger areas by degrees before they are finally freed to graze and roam in a large fenced pasture.

Therefore, with "D-Day" fast approaching, Jack and Wayne were frantically building a holding pen inside one of the fenced pastures Jack had already prepared. Jack had been hard at work for about six months to finish clearing and fencing a large part of his property to house the Buffalo, so now he divided a portion of it into a one acre site for the initial grazing/roaming area and holding pen.

Next, they finished rigging Wayne's truck with a cattle rack covered with black-out canvas and were finally ready to begin their long anticipated trip.

According to Jack and Wayne, the drive to Kansas took 15 hours and the bad weather didn't cause any of the delays they had feared. They drove straight through, only stopping for gas and to alternate drivers.

Shortly after Friday, midnight, they pulled into a motel near the Buffalo ranch to sleep for a few hours, bathe and eat. They knew once the Buffalo were loaded and they were headed home, there would be no stopping except for gas. Also, bad storms were predicted and they were worried about beating them home. However, as it turned out, the skies stayed clear for the ride back to Mentone.

About mid afternoon on Saturday, they arrived at the 580 acre Buffalo ranch and were immediately greeted by approximately 250 roaming Buffalo ranging in size from 600 pound calves to 2,500 pound bulls. Awed by the size and number of the herd Wayne said, "Boy! He's got a whole bunch of 'em."

The calves that were reserved for Jack were already corralled and ready to load. After a short time, "Josephine and Joleen" quietly walked from the corral into the pick up truck and they set off for home.

Not knowing exactly how the Buffalo would react to being in a moving vehicle for the first time as well as to hearing new "street" noises, they were pleasantly surprised when they not only promptly walked right into the truck, but immediately laid down when it started to move. Jack said, "Throughout the trip the Buffalo were as good as gold — laying down all the time except when we stopped for gas. Then, they would raise up, look around and lay down again when the truck started to roll."

They left Kansas Saturday afternoon, drove all night and arrived in Mentone around noon on Sunday, Dec. 10. They backed the truck up to the gate of the holding pen and the Buffalo immediately and calmly walked right into it. Then they fed and watered them and breathed a sigh of relief that everything had gone so well and they and the Buffalo were all home — safe and sound.

BUFFALO HISTORY AND FACTS

- When Columbus discovered America in 1492, an estimated 60 million North American Bison (Buffalo) roamed the Great Plains of our country.

- The Plains Indians, who inhabited the Buffalo territory, obtained their main diet from these magnificent animals as well as their shelter, clothing, weapons, etc. They used virtually every part of the Buffalo and could not survive without them.

- The Buffalo, or Tatonka as the Indians called them, held the highest place of honor in Indian culture, preceded only by their Great Spirit. Many Plains Indians actually felt Tatonka symbolized the Great spirit.

- By the mid to late 1800's as America moved West, U. S. government officials viewed both the Indian and the Buffalo as being in the way of progress. Therefore, our forefathers did a despicable thing and tried to wipe out the Buffalo in order to destroy the Indian culture and take their lands. They knew how dependent they were on the Buffalo. It worked! By 1900 only 22 Buffalo could be found in the entire United States. The Buffalo were virtually extinct.

- Thanks to a few ranchers who immediately took action to save this marvelous species, today there are an estimated 40,000 to 60,000 Buffalo in

the U. S. In the beginning of this preservation movement, private individuals owned almost all of the remaining animals. However, today they can also be found in zoos and Federal and State parks as well as on a few Indian reservations.

- Buffalo are the largest of the North American wild animals with mature cows weighing around 1,000 pounds and a mature Bull, who stands six feet tall at its hump, weighing between 1,500 and 2,000 pounds.

- A cow (heifer) will generally breed when she is two years old and occasionally as young as one year. Breeding season is in July and August with the gestation period varying from 270 to 285 days. Most young Buffalo are born in May.

- A cow will almost always give birth to a single calf, but occasionally there will be twins. At birth, the color of the calves varies from red to cinnamon, but by the age of approximately 3 months they begin to be chocolate colored like their parents.

- The hump trademark of the Buffalo doesn't appear on the calves until they are about 2 months old and around the same time, the small black knobs depicting future horns become noticeable.

- The average Buffalo lives to be about 25 years old and many cows live to be over 40, staying healthy and often giving birth to as many as 38 calves during their lifetime.

- Buffalo have been known to reach speeds of 32 to 35 miles per hour. They are relatively docile, but also unpredictable. Therefore, it is best to give them room to roam. A person can often walk to within a few feet of them before they move; however, this same situation can also produce an aggressive, charging, belligerent beast.

- Buffalo need little care and are practically disease free. They eat all grasses and weeds with occasional supplements of natural grains and are endowed with instincts for survival that cattle lack. For example, they can survive storms that would wipe out most other large beasts, as well as have and care for their young calves in sub-zero temperatures and blizzards.

- They are the only wild animal in the U. S. being pastured as a food animal. Buffalo meat is very low in fat and cholesterol and is reported to have 25 percent more protein than beef. There are no known allergies to the hair, flesh or blood of the Buffalo and therefore people allergic to beef can usually eat Buffalo meat. Buffalo is generally considered to be superior to other meats and is reported to be more naturally tender than beef.

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Best Western Welcomes Business And Media



Ricky Harcrow, Beverly Shankles, Linda Bevil

The Best Western Restaurant held its annual dinner for the tourism industry and media representatives on April 8.

Response to the event was positive as owners and emissaries from businesses and attractions met to hear members of their industry speak about places of interest in North Alabama.

Dr. Ron Chestnut from Auburn University spoke on the necessity of tourism to the growth of the state.

Even though Alabama meets all the criteria for a tourist attraction, it is still known primarily as a pass-through state. Dr. Chestnut spoke of ways to make it a destination rather than a thoroughfare: Alabama has to spruce up its image. The state still carries the stigma of the civil rights problems of earlier times, and many citizens still do not realize the positive economic impact tourism can have on the state.

Potential visitors must be made aware of the hospitality here in Alabama. Also, this state has a diversity of terrain and culture. From the beaches of the southern coast to the northern mountain range, Alabama has it all. Now the problem is to make the rest of the world recognize this fact.

DeSoto State Park, the Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce and the DeKalb County Tourist Association assisted with the event. Kathy Crow, whose family provides the food and facilities for the event, coordinated the gathering and served as hostess.

Party Time At Tony Creek

Fifty friends and relatives gathered at Tony Creek, home of Tony and Dana Goggins, which is located near the Fisher Community, on Sunday afternoon, April 1, to celebrate Dana's 32 birthday.

Even though Dana's birthday is actually April 2, the party took place on April Fool's Day to create a more jovial atmosphere and to take advantage of the beautiful spring-like weather.

While enjoying a variety of delicious food, which was served buffet style, everyone was entertained by Tony Goggins, who is also known as the Mentone Troubadour, Bert Chandler who sang and played the guitar, the Tony Creek Girls, composed of Tony and Dana's two daughters, Amber and Jessy, and several of their cousins, and Tony and The Malibu's consisting of Tony, his brother Mike and their sisters Jan and Susan.

Highlights of the day occurred when Tony sang, "You're the Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me," which was dedicated to his "One and Only, Dana," and when Dana and Tony entertained all with their rendition of "Going Up the Country."

It was the unanimous consensus of all present that Dana should definitely have a birthday more than once a year since her parties are such great fun.





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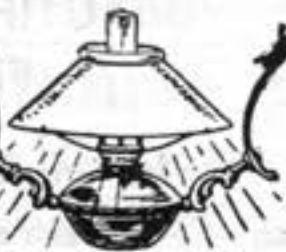


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CRAGSMERE: (Continued From Cover)

In 1961, Jack Jones, owner of Cloudmont Resort, purchased the property. Jack Jones Jr., now deceased, made a home for his family there. In 1981 it was sold to Bruce Bon Fleur who moved to the mountain from Daytona Beach, Fla.

Bon Fleur had a dream of a gourmet restaurant and gardens at Cragmere. He conceived the idea of a place where good food, warm hospitality and the special history of Cragmere would come together. His concept became a reality after a lot of planning and hard work.

In 1983, Randy Still, already famous in nearby Chattanooga, Tenn., as "The Country Gourmet," bought Cragmere. He brought his own elegant yet laid-back style to Cragmere, adding another dimension to the unique tradition of welcome that has always been a part of the place.

In 1987, Randy and wife Annie opened Park Place, gracious dining establishment in downtown Chattanooga. They also added a tradition of their own, little Andy. With deep regret, Randy sold Cragmere.

When Bonnie and Ronnie Barnett first saw Cragmere, they were taken with the beauty and novelty of the building and grounds. The view from the gardens is magnificent — miles across the valley below. From the huge wind-twisted tree in the front yard to the big mountain stone fireplaces, it felt like home. Their children, Jennifer and Bryan, loved the place just as much, so in 1988, Cragmere became a Barnett family enterprise.

The Barnetts have kept the menu essentially the same as Randy Still offered, but have added a few touches of their own. Chef Barry Hopper beautifully prepares the dishes for which Cragmere is famous.

The Barnett family has added lovely decorating touches to the whole place without compromising the nostalgic and homey atmosphere. The new carpets, curtains and other additions in soft colors enhance the feeling.

Separate dining rooms with names such as The Hearth Room, the Front Porch, The Garage, the Hello Ferrel Room, the Heritage Room and the Rhett Butler Room, offer something for everyone. Antique wood stoves, quilts, stoneware and other relics from yesteryear are an important part of the Cragmere mystique.

Live entertainment has long been a tradition at Cragmere. For years, Tony Goggans, known locally as "The Mentone Tourbadour," regaled guests with his southern style. Now, Archie Quizon provides the perfect musical background for the Cragmere experience. With a voice reminiscent of Bertie Higgins, Archie Quizon sings his renditions of old and new favorites every Friday and Saturday night.

Cragmere Manna is not just another place to eat, it is a haven in a hurried world, a homecoming of the heart. A trip to Mentone is not complete without a visit to this place of well-kept memories. For reservations, call Bonnie at 205-634-4677.



Chef Barry Hopper, Shannon Whitlow, Jason Love, owner Bonnie Barnett and Dena Wright



Archie Quizon



View from Cragmere Gardens



Mantle piece in Rhett Butler Room



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Apricot or Peach Ice

2 cans apricots, juice, mash pulp
2 cups sugar
4 cups water
1 teaspoon Watkins Lemon Extract

Boil sugar and water about 5 minutes. Cool. Put apricots through sieve. Blend all ingredients and freeze. For richer ice when partly frozen, add 1 cup whipped cream, then freeze. Hand freezer.

Watkins Butterscotch Ice Cream

For Electric or Hand Freezer
1/2 cup light brown sugar
1/2 cup boiling water
2 eggs, yolks and whites beaten separately
1 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup (or 4 tablespoons level) Butterscotch Dessert
3 cups milk
1 cup cream, whipped
1 teaspoon Watkins Vanilla

Add boiling water to the brown sugar, let boil 2 minutes and cool. Whip the egg yolks with a rotary beater and beat in the sugar. In a saucepan place 1/2 cup Watkins Butterscotch Dessert (which can vigorously before measuring) and stir in the milk. Boil 2 minutes. Cook. Add the brown sugar syrup to the beaten egg yolks, the Watkins Vanilla and blend with the cooked Dessert Mixture. When cold fold in the whipped cream, partly frozen, add softly beaten egg whites. Freeze and let stand 1 hour to flavor. Place in freezing tray 6 hours, stir every 15 minutes for 3 times. Will make 2 quarts.

Cranberry Frappe (Refrigerator)

2 level teaspoons gelatin
1 quart cold water
1 quart cranberries
2 1/2 cups granulated sugar
1/2 cup boiling water
Juice of 2 lemons

Soak gelatin in 1 pint cold water, later dissolve in boiling water. Cook cranberries in other pint of cold water, and when soft press through sieve. Add sugar, lemon juice, gelatin, pour into refrigerator, mold overnight. Will keep several days.

Cranberry Ice

1 quart cranberries
2 cups sugar
2 lemons, juice, strain

Cook cranberries and water 5 minutes, force through sieve. Add sugar, lemon juice. Cool. Use hand freezer.

Frozen Apricots

1 can apricots
Sugar to taste
Whipped cream
1 teaspoon Watkins Lemon Extract

Press apricots through sieve, add Watkins Lemon Extract, sugar, freeze. Serve with most cream or with whipped cream as dessert.

Frozen Dessert

2 cups sugar
1 cup water
2 cups orange juice
1 cup cream
2 yolks of eggs
1 cup heavy cream
1 teaspoon any Watkins flavoring

Boil sugar and water 5 minutes, cool, add orange juice. Beat cream, add egg yolks, cook in double boiler until mixture thickens. Cool and add to first part with heavy cream, beaten stiff. Freeze.

Frozen Peaches

1 can or 12 large ripe peaches
3 egg whites
2 cups sugar
1 pint water
Watkins Lemon Extract

Cook sugar and water to thin syrup. Put peaches through colander, add ingredients and freeze.

Frozen Pineapple Cream

1 bottle maraschino cherries
4 slices pineapple
1 cup whipping cream
1 teaspoon gelatin
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup thin cream
1 teaspoon Watkins Vanilla

Cut cherries and pineapple in pieces, add sugar, Watkins Vanilla and thin cream. Mix thoroughly and fold in whipped cream. Pack in mold in ice or gelatin in electric refrigerator pan or 5 hours. Dissolve gelatin before adding.

Frozen Crushed Strawberries

2 cups water
1 1/2 cups sugar (boil 10 minutes)
1 1/2 tablespoons gelatin
2 tablespoons water
1 teaspoon Watkins Lemon Extract

Soften gelatin in cold water, add to sugar mixture, cool thoroughly. Prepare following: Take 2 cups thick strawberry pulp after washing, hulling berries, and put through sieve. Add juice of 1/2 lemon and 1/2 cup orange juice. Freeze. Use hand freezer.

Frozen Dessert (Refrigerator)

5 egg yolks
5 tablespoons sugar
1 pint whipping cream
1/2 cup shredded almonds
1 dozen lady fingers
1/4 cup cooking sherry
1 teaspoon Watkins Vanilla

Beat egg yolks lightly, add sugar. Place in double boiler, cook until like custard, stir constantly. Cool well. Slowly add cream, beaten stiff. Line pudding mold with lady fingers, then pushing mixture in layers. Pack, let stand 4 hours. Cut chilled grapefruit or cherries or nuts may be added. Makes 1 quart.

Fig Ice Cream (Refrigerator)

1/2 cup top milk
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 eggs
1 teaspoon granulated gelatin
1 tablespoon cold water

Mix milk, sugar, salt, scald. Add dissolved gelatin to hot milk, stir. When cool, pour over lightly beaten eggs and stir.

CARAMELIZE:

1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup water
2 1/2 cups whipping cream
2 teaspoons Watkins Vanilla
Sprinkle top custard with Watkins Nutmeg

Cook sugar, water, over slow fire until light brown. Cool. Stir into custard mixture, add whipped cream. Add 1 cup chopped dried figs, 1 cup cut almonds, or pecan nuts. Blend well, pour into refrigerator trays, stir occasionally. Let stand until melted, 1 to 2 hours.

Frigidaire Ice Cream

1 cup sugar
1/2 cup water
3 eggs
Pinch salt
Grated rind and juice of 1 lemon
2 cups whipped cream

Boil sugar and water to a syrup. Pour into well-beaten eggs and blend thoroughly. Add salt, lemon and cook, fold in whipped cream. Turn into mold, place in refrigerator pan for 6 hours.

Frozen Pudding with Apricots

2 quarts cream
6 egg yolks
2 cups sugar
1 can apricots
1 teaspoon Watkins Lemon Extract

Scald quart of cream. Beat yolks with sugar, add to scalded cream. Cook few minutes then beat until cold. Add quart of cream, Watkins Lemon Extract and freeze. Put apricots through sieve. Add to above mixture when cream begins to set. Hand freezer.

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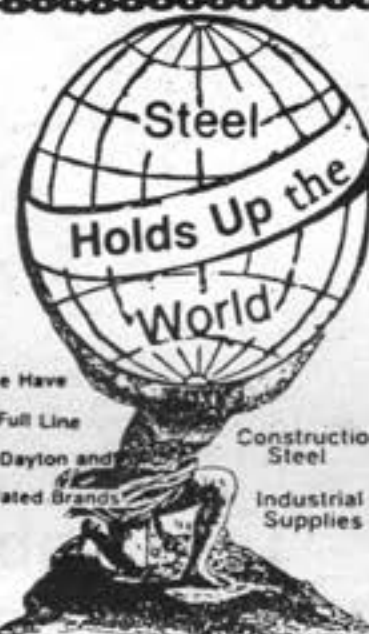
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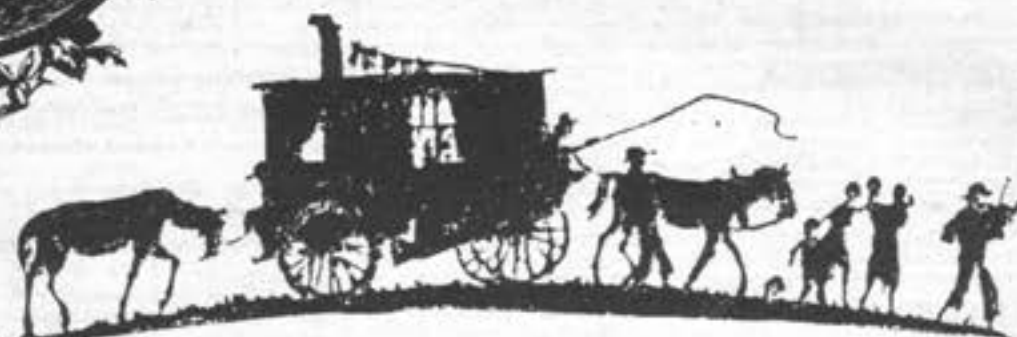
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Into The 90's With The DeKalb ARC



By Barbara Turner

Some 14 years ago a young child began school in a Special Education class here in DeKalb County; then, for various reasons the child was taken out of school. A frustrated family kept the child at home with no further training or help. Members of the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) tried on several occasions to relocate the child. But their efforts proved vain because of a change in family status and because of the confidentiality of the situation. However, in January of this year the ARC finally was able to locate the child who was now a young adult with a variety of problems and many immediate needs.

Other appropriate agencies, even on the State level, have become involved through referrals from the ARC. There have been many obstacles and many dead ends in trying to assist this family and this young adult. A family member perhaps summed it up best when he said (to an ARC volunteer) "I'm so glad you called! I didn't think anyone knew what we are going through." The ARC volunteers haven't given up in their efforts to work through the problems and to help this young adult to have a better quality of life.

The DeKalb County Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) was organized on Oct. 6, 1969 and was admitted as a member UGF agency in 1976. The organization was originally formed as an advocate to seek services for any citizen with mental retardation. Through the 21 years since its organization, this agency has gone from "seeker" of services to "provider" of services. They are currently in the role of advocate, monitor, and funding source for the programs benefitting the county's mentally retarded citizens.

The ARC helps to sponsor two separate programs, both of which are housed in the ARC facility located at 203 Grand Avenue South in Fort Payne. The Adult Training Center program provides 44 mentally retarded adults

with daily training in independent living skills, social graces, some academics, and nutrition awareness. Each day time is spent on pre-job readiness skills, attention to work stations, getting along with peers in a job setting, following directions, etc. Those who are deemed by the State testing teams to have reached their "peak" performance within the Training Center must be placed outside the Center — either back in the home, in the Work Center Program, or into competitive employment.

The Sheltered Workshop or Work Center Program known locally as Grand Central Station Industries is funded exclusively through local funds and through contracts from various industries. This program employs for five hours each day nine to 10 individuals with some degree of mental retardation. In operation only since October of 1988, the Work Center Program still has many hurdles to overcome. Adequate funding for the program will be a concern for the next couple of years or at such time that the program is self-supporting.

Plans are on the drawing board for expansion of the Work Center area within the ARC facility. According to Freda Lucy, Treasurer, this expansion is seen as the most crucial need of the organization in order to employ more mentally retarded persons within a sheltered work environment. Many Special Education Students who graduate from area high schools may be referred directly to the Work Center.

Funding for the Training Center comes through a contract with the State Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation — 75 percent Federal, 12½ percent State, and 12½ percent local. The planned Work Center expansion will be 100 percent State funded.

Mrs. Lucy says, "The ultimate goal of this organization is to provide quality programs for all citizens with Mental Retardation from pre-school age through adulthood."

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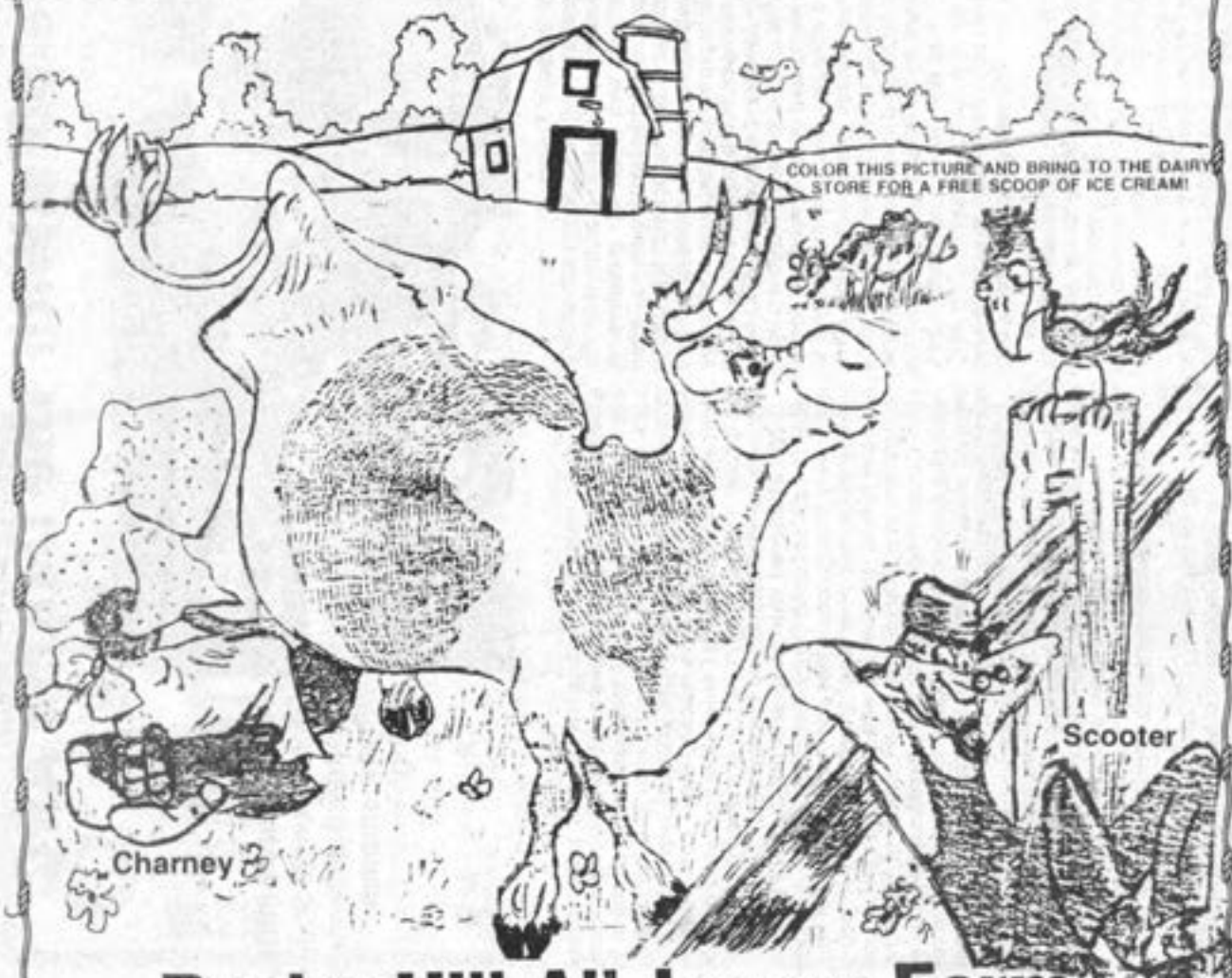
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