

**Celebrating
10 Years
in Print**

— SPECIAL "WELCOME, NEIGHBORS" ISSUE —

THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone • Valley Head • Hammondville • Cloudland • Menlo

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Since 1982
by M.A.P.A.
and
Area Mercants

Volume 10, No. 4

"Friendly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

April, 1992

Mentone Heritage Foundation Forms

The Mentone Heritage Foundation held its first public meeting, Thursday, March 12 at Mentone Town Hall with about 40 people in attendance. The Foundation seeks to acquire and preserve the Mentone Springs Hotel and create it into a community center.

Officers for the newly incorporated Foundation were appointed. Bernise Crow is the president; Terry Hutcheson, vice-president; Jean McGehee, secretary; and, Doug Hoyt, treasurer. Linda Brown, Rob Hammond, Dale Kerby and Edward Disney are on the Foundation board.

Steve Noles, legal counsel for the Foundation, filed the group's non-profit incorporation papers earlier this week. He said he has contacted the Internal Revenue Service to request non-profit, tax exempt status for the Foundation.

Members of the steering committee gave preliminary reports on plans for funding, plans for its future use, and the present structural condition of the hotel.

Funding for the acquisition, renovation and maintenance of the hotel is the first priority for the Foundation. Memberships are available for students in kindergarten through sixth grade for \$1. Other membership categories are high school students, senior citizens, general, contributing, endorsing, supporting, patron and life.

Pledges for \$10,000 and \$500 have already been made. The first memberships received were from Oscar and Shirley Hussel and from Jackie Skelton, all of Mentone.

The Foundation plans to use the hotel as a community center with activities for all Mentone residents including seniors, teens, and handicapped persons. They hope to incorporate a museum and a tourist information center in the hotel.

Homer Crow and Dale Kerby have determined that the Foundation of the hotel is basically in sound condition. Only one small section of the foundation shows signs of needing repair. Some roof work, replacement of windows and carpentry work needs to be made.



GROUNDHOG IS 'ON THE MOVE'...

Big things are happening for The Groundhog! Starting this month, we are expanding our circulation to Cloudland and Menlo, Georgia and to Valley Head and Hammondville, Alabama. Readers can look for The Groundhog in their mailbox.

The Groundhog started ten years ago and has grown in popularity since that time. Our readership extends well beyond Mentone as evidenced by our subscriber list.

The paper will continue to cover "good news" and events of interest in our area.

**Reaching Out
to Neighboring Towns
with Valley-to-Valley
Coverage**

mal sessions, no decisions will be made and no action will be taken.

A public hearing of the Planning Commission, when action on the proposed regulations may be taken, is scheduled for April 23 at 4 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers. If the proposed regulations are approved by the Mentone Planning Commission, they must then be approved by the Mentone Town Council, at a public hearing which has not yet been scheduled.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICES

Informal Workshop, April 7, 1992 at 3 p.m.

Informal Workshop, April 7, 1992 at 7 p.m.

Planning Commission Hearing, April 23, 1992 at 4 p.m.

All meetings will be held at Mentone Town Hall in the Town Council Chambers. All interested residents and property owners are urged to attend these meetings.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

May 15-17 — Rhododendron Festival

April 6, 7 p.m. — Mentone Town Council Meeting at Town Hall.

April 7, 7 p.m. — Mentone Area Preservation Association meeting at Town Hall.

April 24-25 — Spring Fantasy Pageant, Valley Head School, entry fee \$10. Deadline for entries April 10. Sponsored by Valley Head Band Boosters.

Town of Mentone Considers Land Development Regulations

For the past several months the Town of Mentone Planning Commission has been considering the adoption of zoning and subdivision regulations for property in the Town. The purpose of the proposed regulations is to protect the current use of land and property values, while planning for the future.

The Town Council and Planning Commission are interested in the opinions of the residents and property owners of Mentone concerning these proposed regulations. Two informal workshops on the proposed regulations have been scheduled for April 7, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., at the Town Hall Council Chambers. The purpose of the workshops is to provide residents and property owners the opportunity to review the material and express their opinions. The workshops are infor-



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THE GROUNDHOG

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P. O. Box 51
Mentone, AL 35984
(205) 634-4731 or (205) 634-4591

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor.....Emily Smith
Advertising.....Bruce Bon Fleur &
Marsha Bon Fleur
Contributing Editors.....Linda Brown,
Eloise Brown, Nova Dean Kilgore, Bernise Crow
MAPA OFFICERS
President.....Homer Crow
Asst. President.....Sherman Gough
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In case of errors in advertisements, The Groundhog assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement.

Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be typewritten and of reasonable length.

The deadline for all material for The Groundhog is the last day of the month preceding publication.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,

It is ironic that a library survey and an "appeal" for 75 new members and donations was made by our County Library in the same issue.

With several years experience in the library field in Texas and Fort McClellan, Alabama, I have a love of books and what they can add to our lives.

We should consider the priority of things and the financial shape of our government(s) in connection with the library proposal.

There may be a better time in the future for this venture. In the meantime, let's help the County Library be the best it can be.

Sincerely,
Nancy Lusk Mentone

Terri's Time Saver

DeSoto Parkway at Fisher Crossroads

Visit Our Deli for:

Homemade Biscuits, Fried Chicken,
Pizza Corn Dogs Deli Sandwiches
Hamburgers Barbecue made fresh daily

Open 7 Days a Week Until 9 p.m.

The Lookout Restaurant

"Atop Lookout Mountain"
CLOUDLAND, GEORGIA
(404) 862-2515

The Country Journal

By BERNISE CROW
ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

Any time I see the words "antiques and collectibles," my spine gets a little tingle, my mind starts whirling, and I read further to learn more about them.



I have been in this sort of business for many years, have gone to auctions and estate sales, garage sales, bought and read many books, and I am still a novice. There are so many different categories of antiques and collectibles, you can never be an expert on the whole subject.

The term "antique" to a purist, is anything made prior to 1840, so we who are of modest means are not able to purchase them. Most genuine antiques are in museums or in the homes of very wealthy collectors. So, we collect old things and call them antiques. Anything over fifty years old is an antique to me, including myself!

You can hear people tell others exactly what a piece of furniture is, detailing the period, design and age. Sometimes I wonder if they really know. There are a few that I can recognize but, mostly it is guess work. You would have to go to schools or workshops and study for years to know how to detect most vintage furniture or glassware.

I will attest to knowing quality and good wood and I can determine a genuine good piece of glassware. I may not be correct on whether the glass is Cambridge, Lalique, Heisy, Sandwich, Fostoria or one of a hundred other kinds.

I am quite familiar with depression glass or have a general amount of knowledge about it. This was the cheap colored glass sold in dime stores during the late 20's and 30's. It was made for families who could not afford expensive dishes. Some of it is very dainty and pretty, some is a bit overdone but, it is highly collectible.

It was comparatively inexpensive about twenty years ago when I became interested in collecting it. Now, in the past five years, the prices have quadrupled.

A magazine I read recently said that some patterns sell for more than \$1,000 each! I need a new price book!

For a few years, I collected pink glass a piece at a time. This makes any collection more interesting. I love the color pink.

At first, I got the Cabbage Rose pattern, which I like a candy dish, cookie jar, and cups and saucers. Then I have just added anything pink to go with them.

Some of it is Heisy, which is a better quality glass. Altogether, it makes a lovely tea setting. I used an all pink service for Shala Barron Murray's shower before her wedding. I used a pink tablecloth overlaid with white lace, pink depression glass candleholder, and an arrangement of pink roses and Queen Anne's Lace. Nothing was expensive, but it made a pretty table setting. There are many colors of this glass: blue, green, amber red, clear, and white. The blue is very striking, but it is more rare than the other colors. Some depression glass was made for the kitchen in a milk glass type, with painted flower decorations. There were cookie jars, large salt and peppers for the range, heavier mixing bowls, and coffee canisters.

You have to be aware now of reproductions. Quite a few patterns, and there are many, are now being remade. I can tell the difference in the pink ones they are of a deeper color, not nearly as fragile looking as the old ones. The new ones are pretty and will be collectible in a few years.

If you like colored glass buy it. For a long time social hostesses would not use colored glass it had to be clear crystal. Now rules are not so strict and you can use your own imagination and do a beautiful scheme with colored glassware.

The producers of this glassware included the Hazel-Atlas, Macbeth Evans, Hocking, Federal, Imperial, Jeanette, Westmoreland, and McKee Glass companies and others. Books on the subject may be purchased at book stores, or checked out at libraries.

There are many who collect stamps, old tools, watches, clocks, maps, coins, baseball cards you name it and someone collects it. It is a good hobby and makes life interesting, because you find your treasure in what another might call junk, and in odd places. New friends will also be made in other collectors.

Homer has just bought 100 collector plates some gorgeous ones of the Hamilton collection, Bradford Exchange, Bing and Grondal, Villory and Bach and others. There is a collection of kittens, birds of prey, wild animals and song birds. They are very interesting and will make a beautiful display. He thought if I could collect teapots, the could collect plates.

Your collection will always be a good conversation starter when company arrives.

NIPPERSINK LODGE

On Lookout Mountain at DeSoto Falls
P.O. Box 172
Mentone, Alabama 35984
(205) 634-4387

Advance Reservations Required

LOG CABIN DELI

Open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
-Closed Monday-

"The Friendliest Restaurant On Lookout Mountain"

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Large Enough to Serve You—
Small Enough to Know You!

Valley Head 635-6292 Member FDIC Idler 657-5122

Hoyt & Associates

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ACCOUNTANT

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• Bookkeeping & Payroll Service
• Tax Returns

P.O. Box 330
Mentone, AL 35986
(205) 634-4456

Club Meetings

Rhododendron Garden Club

The Rhododendron Garden Club met March 10 after a winter break. Mildred Cochran, Fort Payne gave a program on wildflowers.

Mrs. Cochran is a first vice-president of the federation of garden clubs and state chairman of indoor gardening. She grows many wildflowers at her home.

A key to growing wildflowers successfully in your yard is to not to cut the wildflower area with a lawnmower she says. Mrs. Cochran suggests devoting a portion of the yard to wildflowers.

She also dries many wildflowers and makes arrangements from them.

Hostesses for the meeting were Alyce Springer, Frances Rosario and Jean McGehee. Norma Williams gave the devotional.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 14.

Valley Head Woman's Club

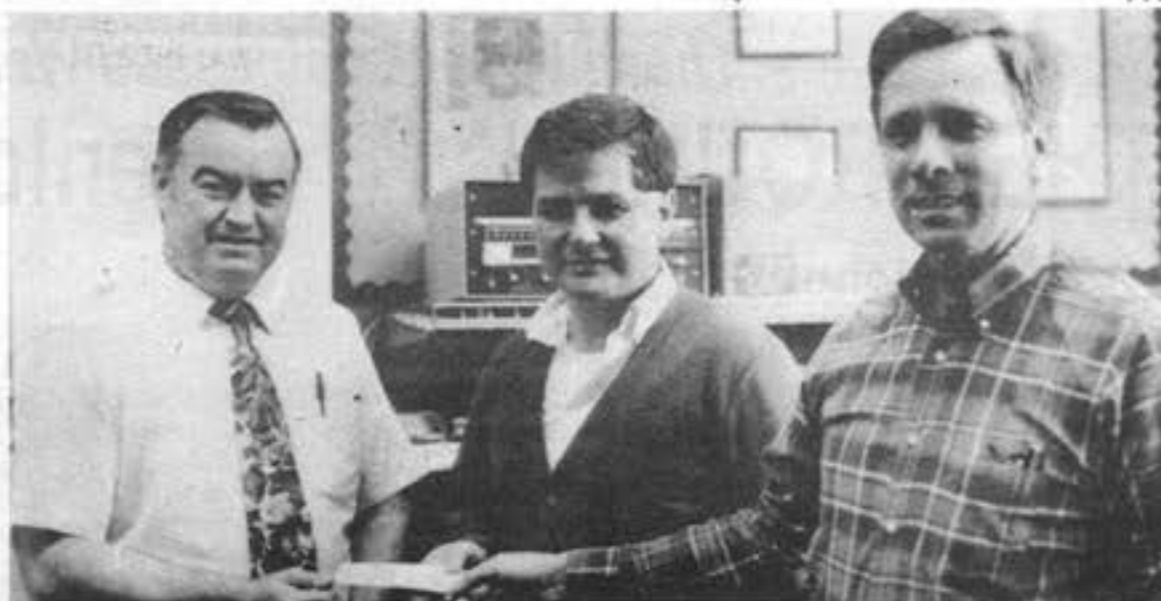
The Valley Head Woman's Club met at Whitehall Retreat, Mrs. Olin F. Lyons home in March. Mrs. Lyons, Mrs. Larry Longshore and Mrs. O.B. Campbell were the hostesses.

The program was a tribute to Ralph Hammond, Valley Head native and Poet Laureate of Alabama. Mrs. Lyons read from poetry and prose collections Hammonds.

Next month's meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Van Cooper. The program is "Lighting the Way With Flowers in Your Day." Mrs. William Jordan is the speaker.

Continued from page 10

on the site of the present Inn. A store was built on the western edge of the property, probably by Ed



SUPPORT FOR MOON LAKE'S MOONLIGHTERS. Moon Lake principle Charles Bell accepts a check from Rev. Tim Smith and Rev. Curtis Bridges on behalf of the North DeKalb Ministerial Association supporting the Moonlighters, Moon Lake's volunteers.

Mason who ran the first post office there. In 1899, the Hurons bought the store and then in 1903, bought the house from then owner P.K. Smith.

At this time, Mentone was fast becoming a summer tourist resort. The Hurons ran the boarding house until Mrs. Huron's death in 1920.

Mrs. Huron's vegetable garden provided food for the boarding house tables. She also kept chickens, pigs and cows. Her diary records the time she moved some of her setting hens into the ladies toilet and kept baby chicks warm on the back porch.

After her death, Howe rented the house with an option to buy. He purchased the house in 1922 and converted the store into a kitchen and dining room. It was called Hal's House.

When he rebuilt after fire destroyed the house, he renamed it Hal's Hotel.

Later the name was changed to DeSoto Hotel. In 1954, the Plotts bought the inn and ran it until 1976. Amelia Kirk Brooks bought it and the name became the Mentone Inn.

The Inn's interiors are all tongue-and-groove clear grain pine from Mississippi. There are twelve rooms, each with its own bath. Iron bedframes and clawfoot tubs are some of the distinctive furnishings still found in the hotel.

The Mentone Inn is listed on the Alabama Registry of Landmarks and Heritage. It is open from May through October and advance reservations are recommended.

Doctor, my back is killing me!



WHY LIVE WITH PAIN?

Let's correct the cause!

Low back pain and other back pains can be due to injuries to the musculo-skeletal system: that is the muscles, the tendons, the ligaments, discs of the spine, neck and hip, or pinched nerves. The pain can be caused by infections of various structures of the body. Pain may also be referred pain from structures far from the area of complaint. The back may hurt occasionally or constantly; usually there will be muscle spasms. The pain may be localized in the center of the low back, radiate around the belt line, or spread into the groin.

Many times the pain will start in the low back and go into the buttock or legs. the only solution is to get to the cause of the problem, not just cover up the pain with medication. The Elrod Clinic is a local clinic that specializes in locating the cause and treating back pain with new non-surgical, non-drug techniques. If you or anyone you know suffers from back pain call The Elrod Clinic of Chiropractic.



Dr. H. Edward Elrod

BCBS and most other insurances accepted!
1000-E Gault Avenue South

You deserve to feel good!
For help call...

(205) 845-0047

Located in the English
Village Shopping Center

Fort Payne, Alabama



THIS COUNTRY CASTLE CAN BE YOURS - For over 100 years, this historic building has been the center of Mentone. Filled with history and charm, it is waiting for you. \$220,000.

FIND PEACE OF MIND - Enjoy the spring flowers as you walk down the stone stairway to Little River. With this beautiful setting, this home may be the one you are looking for with three bedrooms, two and one-half baths and two extra buildings which could be guest cottages. (One building has been a beauty shop.) On this five acres there are fruit trees and blueberry bushes, also fenced for horses. Priced at \$110,000.

YOU'LL HAVE A YARD FULL OF SPRING FLOWERS at this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home located on 8 acres near Mentone with a small pond. Priced at \$73,000.

ENJOY NATURE FROM YOUR SCREENED PORCH - This perfect retirement home has 2 bedrooms and is located on Dogwood Avenue in a secluded wooded area with no grass to mow since it is surrounded by natural woods. If you have a green thumb, this home has a small greenhouse. REDUCED TO \$64,800.

ACREAGE AND LOTS

THE PERFECT PLACE - That log cabin you've always wanted is just waiting to be built on these beautiful wooded building sites. With access to Little River, city water and only a mile from DeSoto Park, truly the Perfect Place. Prices \$9,500 to \$18,500.

65 ACRES - Owner financing. Outstanding wooded acreage. \$35,000.

20 ACRES - 1/4 mile of Little River frontage and from the building site you can see it all. Owner financing \$60,000.

85 ACRES ON LITTLE RIVER - With 1/4 mile along the River. This is an outstanding piece of property. OWNER MUST SELL! \$89,900.

SHARON BARRON
Owner/Broker
(205) 634-4767 Office
586-6404 Home

CLAUD BURKE
Sales Associate
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205-878-7611

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— MENLO, GEORGIA —



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AND STANDING TIMBER**

**LAWRENCE
PARK**



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Cleanest Job
Around!"**

WE BUY STANDING TIMBER

**MENLO LUMBER & PALLET
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(404) 862-2131



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US ABOUT OUR
EQUITY CREDIT LINE
(404) 857-3431**



**FARMERS
& MERCHANTS
BANK** **YES!** **We will!**



DUNN DOES IT FIRST! Andy Dunn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Dunn of Menlo, recently ran away with first place honors in a three team middle school track contest in Cartersville. His time of 5:23, though not a personal best, was the best in the field. Congratulations Andy!



BRUCE AND MARSHA BON FLEUR JOIN GROUNDHOG STAFF

Bruce and Marsha Bon Fleur have returned to Mentone and joined the Groundhog. They will be handling much of the advertising. Bruce was one of the original founders of the Mentone Area Preservation Association. They both have strong backgrounds in publishing.

CLASSIFIEDS

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

OLD PHOTOS COPIED. B&W, Sepia, Color. Custom print to your satisfaction. For information, Gary Gergozian, (205) 845-9532.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN JANITORIAL SERVICE AND LAWN CARE. Complete cleaning service plus mowing, trimming and pruning. 634-4458.

CLEAN CARE - Carpet & upholstery cleaning; water & smoke damage; property management; housecleaning; caretaking. IICUC certified. Call Jim Howell 1-800-848-0596 or 205-634-4406.

MAINTENANCE MASTERS - Janitorial service, commercial/residential. Call Wil- low Howell 205-634-4406.

WE CLEAN HOUSES! Efficient and dependable. Sybil Hopper 205-634-4488.

VICE and Lawn Care Complete cleaning service plus mowing, trimming and pruning. 205-634-4458.

FLANNIGAN LAWN SERVICE - Satisfaction guaranteed. Charles Flannigan 205-634-4438.

DAVIS ELECTRIC - Industrial, commercial & residential electrical work. 15 years experience. Free estimate. 205-635-6137.

SIGN MAN - Hand painted walls, boards, truck lettering. Call Joe Rape 205-634-4768.

VALLEY AIR CONDITIONING & APPLIANCE. Contact Al Freeman 205-635-6129.

THE LUBE SHOP - We fix lawn mowers, garden tillers, chain saws, any small engine. Located at Hwy 117 and 11 in Valley Head.

LANDSCAPE DESIGNS, annuals, perennials, specialty gardens, unique garden tools and gifts and more! Located on Old Valley Head Road just south of Vulture. 205-945-7009, Valley Garden & Design.

PARTY CAKES! Birthdays, showers, anniversaries. Wedding cakes our specialty. Call Joan 205-634-4368.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

LOG SPLITTER - Makes up to 42" cut. Call Sid Bosworth 205-634-3033.

ANTIQUE ORGAN and piano for sale. Call 205-634-4442 after 4:00 PM.

ASHLEY WOOD HEATER for sale. David Knight 205-634-4443.

AUTOMOTIVE

1955 CHEVROLET STEPSIDE. 404-862-6139. Ask for Jason Harris.

HOMES / LAND

SECLUDED "HIDEAWAY" minutes from Chattanooga. Authentic log cabins. (404) 539-2372 or (615) 886-3427.

LOT FOR SALE - within 1 mile of State Park Store, just off Parkway. 150'x200' with city water. Call J.T. Faulkner, Mentone 205-634-4579.

UNIQUE 3 BR, 2 BTH LOG CABIN. Circa 1920's. French doors, stone patio, privacy with valley view. Great condition. 404-862-6171.

WAREHOUSE/STORAGE

FORT PAYNE MINI STORAGE. 6x12 spaces. \$25 mo. Also 12x12 & 12x24. Located across from Ft. Payne High School.

ITEMS WANTED

BUYING CLEAN USED CARS - Call "Uncle George" at 404-862-6056.

STANDING TIMBER BOUGHT. We pile WE BUY LOGS and standing timber. 404-862-2121.

PLACES TO STAY

B & B'S BRADY'S BED AND BREAKFAST. Near Little River Canyon. Marilyn and Joe Brady, hosts. Rt. 6, Box 279, Ft. Payne, AL 35967. (205) 523-3973.

MENTONE INN-BED AND BREAKFAST. Downtown Mentone, AL on Highway 117. (205) 634-4536. Amelia Kirk, proprietress.

NIPPERSINK LODGE. On Lookout Mountain at DeSoto Falls. Advance Reservations required. P.O. Box 172, Mentone, AL 35964 (205) 634-4387.

WOODHAVEN BED & BREAKFAST. Lowery Rd. in Valley Head, AL. Overnight accommodations. Catering, receptions, reunions, private dinners. (205) 635-6438. Judith and Kaare Loll- ick-Andersen, hosts.

THE HUMBLE HOUSE. Near Sequoyah Gaverns in Hammondville, AL. (205) 635-6682. John and Jean Jones, hosts.

HIDDEN HOLLOW. Secluded, privately owned mountain hideaway. Contact Bonny Jean and Tommy Thomas, Rt. 4, Box 1085, Chickamauga, GA 30707. (404) 539-2372.

RUSTIC BED 'N BREAKFAST in pastoral valley setting. Near attractions. The Humble House (205) 635-6682.

PRIVATE, LITTLE RIVER. Walk to DeSoto Falls. Very quiet, very nice. Nippersink at (205) 634-4387.

CHARMING B&B. Historic Hotel Square in Mentone. Shops, quiet stroll, something special. Mentone Inn. Amelia Kirk a (205) 634-4836.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Quaker's Ladies 2. Dandelion 3. Toadshade 4. Dwarf Blue Flag 5. Confederate Violets 6. American Ginseng

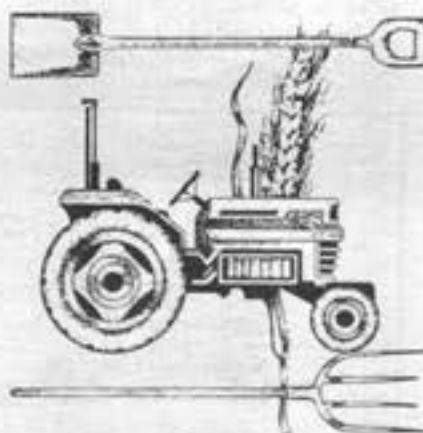
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homes & businesses.

Your BEST
opportunity to reach
buyers here - at the
best price around!

Just a
"buck" per line
3-line minimum

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FOR MAY TODAY!



GROUNDHOG Classifieds (205) 634-4591

trucks and bikes
and cars and  cows
and homes and mowers
and putters and plows
and sellers and tents
and  kittens and cots
and boats and woodstoves
and loans and lots
and jobs and condos

and meetings and buyers
and skis and printers
and  horses and dryers
and rugs and auctions
and diamonds and dogs
and announcements and agents
and hardware and  hogs
and services and seedlings

and cameras and crafts
and  RVs and property
and radios and rafts

and auto parts and oil
and  machinery and motors
and campers and childcare
and rentals and rotors

Worship Together at Easter



MENTONE CHURCHES

Mentone Church of God of Prophecy - Bro. Don Brock, Pastor. Easter Sunday, 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Special Service. Noon - Easter Egg Hunt for all ages. 6:30 p.m. Easter Eve Service.

Moon Lake Baptist - Pastor Curtis Bridges, Minister of Music and Youth, Eddie McPherson. Good Friday Service April 17, 7 p.m. Easter Sunday Services April 19, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Mentone Wesleyan Church - Pastor Blaine Derck. Sunrise Easter Service 6 a.m. Easter Worship Service 11 a.m. - No Sunday School Classes Easter Sunday.

Mentone United Methodist - Pastor Jeff Adkins. Easter Sunday Worship 11 a.m.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church - The Rev. Tim Smith, Rector.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday, April 12
10 a.m. Liturgy of the Palms/Front Lawn
10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship with Palm Procession, Passion Narrative and Holy Eucharist.
Monday, April 13 5:30 p.m. Solemn Evening Prayer
Tuesday, April 14 5:30 p.m. Solemn Evening Prayer
Wednesday, April 15 5:30 p.m. Solemn Evening Prayer
Maundy Thursday, April 16
5:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar
Good Friday, April 17
Noon to 3 p.m. Private Prayers in the Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Good Friday Service
Holy Saturday, April 18
5:30 p.m. Easter Vigil with Scripture Recitations
Sunday of the Resurrection, April 19
9:45 a.m. Children's Easter Service with the Flowering of the Cross
10:30 p.m. Joyous Easter Celebration

Spring Wildflowers Quiz

There are over 15,000 species of wildflowers in North America. We are blessed with many in this area, including the ones below. Can you identify these native wildflowers? As a help, we have scrambled their names. (Answers in the Classifieds).



1. These pale blue beauties with masses of dainty 4-petaled blossoms covering large patches of woodland and meadow were among early colonists favorite springtime plants. Now blooming.

SEUOKAR DASLIE

2. No weed is more successful than this one. Flowerheads are yellow. Blooms all year. Its parachute-borne fruits can stay aloft almost indefinitely - as long as the relative humidity is less than 70 percent.



NOLDAINDE



3. Found in rich woods, this member of the trillium family is unique because the petals of its maroon-brownish flowers are upright. Probably blooming in some locations.

ADEDOHAST

4. This is the smallest version of a colorful group of flowers named after the Greek goddess of the rainbow.

RWAFD EBUL GLAF



5. The grayish white variety of these popular flowers, now blooming, are known as

DEATRENFOCE LEVOTIS



6. Wondrous medicinal powers have been ascribed to this species. The roots of this plant have been collected so much that it is listed as a threatened species in 31 states.

MARCENAI NEGSNIG



From the Pastor's Study

By BRO. GARY MOORE, PASTOR
Lea's Chapel Baptist Church

"He's alive, He's alive" were the jubilant and almost unbelievable words delivered by Mary Magdalene and Mary to the disciples of Jesus.

Just three days earlier these loyal followers witnessed the cruel death of their Savior, teacher, leader and precious friend. Their world seemed destroyed, their purpose ended, their mission finished.

Yes, true to His Word, ("... Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." John 2:19) Jesus rose again!

This resurrection marked the complete and final triumph over sin, Satan and death. In addition, this supernatural event manifested the deity of Christ and the infinite worth of His sacrifice on the cross.

Do you know Jesus is alive? Do you know beyond the fact of scripture that He lives?

The song writer stated it this way "You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart."

You can have a personal relationship with Jesus today. You can experience that same resurrection power in your life. Just simply ask Him to forgive your sins and receive Him as your Savior. "Whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

Then you can share the exciting and victorious news that Jesus is alive.

GRAND OPENING

SATURDAY
APRIL 18
10 AM - 4 PM

Refreshments
Door Prizes & More!

205/845-7009

Located in north Fort Payne on Old Valley Head Road, immediately south of Vulcraft.

Opening Soon!

Little River Hardware



custom mixed premium paint and stains •
plumbing • electrical • hand tools • garden tools
• power tools • nails, screws, bolts, hinges and
other hardware
rinse n vac and other rentals • package shipping
• fax • photocopy • notary and MORE!

Hwy. 117 Mentone

Lookout Mountain Nursery

Field Grown Azaleas and Rhododendron

Landscaping

Mae Hilburn 634-4461

The Shed

Fruit Trees
Bedding Plants
Hanging Baskets
Fertilizer

Statuary
Birdhouses
Fireworks
Rocking Chairs

Hwy. 117 Mentone, Alabama
"A Little Bit of Everything"

An Album for LaDonna Barton.

By BRUCE BON FLEUR

"Uh, Lord, this is LA-Donna you're talking to, not MA-Donna. Are You sure You want me to do this?"

What started with a little apprehension soon turned into a lot of faith and action when just over a year ago, Cloudland native and local realtor, LaDonna Barton, received what she now knows was a direct instruction from God, that is, to paraphrase the Lord:

"LaDonna, I want you to do something for me. Number One record and album; Two name it 'New Beginning.' Three put eight songs on it; and, Four be sure to include 'I Surrender All,' it's a favorite of mine!"

This all occurred early one Sunday morning (about 3 a.m.) while LaDonna was reading her Bible and praying.

Despite some initial hesitation, LaDonna quickly contacted her cousin, Steve Bradford, a talented, local musician. He came over to her house and together they began to record her voice on a simple cassette recorder in her living room.

"I thought it might be a good idea to hear what I sounded like seeing as how I hadn't sung much, especially in public, since my childhood when my momma would make me in church," she said.

"Anyway," she continued, "there we were about 45 minutes into practicing 'I Surrender All' when my cousin stops playing and says to me, 'LaDonna, I wrote a song about two years ago and I want you to record it. It's called 'New Beginning,' and I want to give it to you.'"

Astounded, LaDonna recalls, "I couldn't believe it. Steve knew absolutely nothing about the title

"New Beginning" that God had told me to use. I let out a squeal like you wouldn't believe. We've still got it recorded on that first tape."

With that encouragement and the support of family and friends, LaDonna began the process of hiring a producer. She decided on another local talent, Stephen Bigger.

She wrote and practiced songs with her musicians and signed a contract to manufacture the cassettes even though she hadn't secured the money to pay for it.

"It was all strictly on faith," she said.

The money came just in time. The music came together and her first album, "New Beginning" with eight songs, including "I Surrender All" was completed and released in June, 1991.

The album on cassette has sold over 600 copies to date, mostly at concert performances.

Among the songs are: "My Heart is Like A House" (her dad's favorite because LaDonna is a realtor); "I Must Tell Jesus;" "New Beginning (the title track);" and, "Deliver Me." LaDonna's personal testimony in musical form.

Radio Stations in several states, including on in Pennsylvania, are giving her songs considerable airplay. Recently, LaDonna was informed that a Nashville agency has been contacted concerning wider distribution of the album.

Proof of God's hand in all this, according to LaDonna, came when "at my very first concert for a single's group in Atlanta, 26 people made decisions to become Christians! I couldn't believe it. I would've been thrilled if my testimony had effected just one."

Bookings continue to come in, including several at local churches and area youth camps.

In the meantime, this engaging, hard working mother of three waits for "further instruction" and the next step along her New Beginning.



LaDonna Barton

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Valley View

By ELOISE BROWN

This has been a popular time for birthdays and anniversaries, but alas, a time of sickness too. Such is life.

Bill White's children all came home to help her celebrate her birthday. Peggy Howe visited Geneva Phillips at Mountain Manor on her 97th birthday. Inez Tatum and Irene Tolbert of Henagar, visited Opal Tatum on her birthday.



Evelyn and Loy (Samp) Clark were honored on their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a reception given by their son, Loy, his wife, Margaret and their children.

Scot and Jeremy, at their home in Birmingham.

Harvest Fellowship Church in Fort Payne gave Sue and Foyl Cooper a surprise dinner at the church for their 36th anniversary. Darrell Alexander, their son-in-law is the pastor there.

Becky Bairer of Crestview, FL, Mark Harper of Atlanta, Wad Harper of Cedar Bluff and David Harper of Rossville entertained their parents, Billie and Floyd Harper with a tea. It was the Harper's 40th wedding anniversary. Among out of town guests were: Charles Wade and family from Dalton, Mozelle Harper and family from Huntsville, Betty Slatton and family from Rossville, Velma Haney from Lakeview, GA, Charles and Frieda Haney from Chattanooga and Charles and Johnnie Ruth Tucker from Ringgold, GA. About 100 friends and relatives attended.

Nancy Hawkins of Birmingham spent several days with her mother-in-law, Vesta Hawkins. They attended the funeral of Vesta's sister-in-law, Polly Hawkins.

Evelyn Phillips has returned home after a stay in University Hospital in Birmingham. Bonnie Phillips also, remains ill at her home. I hope they are feeling much better.

Bonnie Rape has been in a Birmingham hospital for back surgery. Louie Tuttle is improving after a stay in Erlanger Hospital.

Karen Freeman, Lillie Bowden, Gladys Stott, Ruth Pickett and Gladys Cobble attended the District Homemakers' luncheon meeting at Centre recently.

Norma, Russ and Evelyn Wright of

Lawrenceburg, TN, spent the weekend with Shane Wright at Kaolin. They also visited the David Meadows' family and attended church on Sunday at the Church of Christ in Fort Payne.

Dot and Jug Crow flew to Austin, TX, to visit their daughter, Jan Pullen and her husband Bob and children. They were accompanied by Mozelle Crow. She reports it was 80 degrees there.

Jeff and Melinda Adkins flew from Huntsville Airport to Washington where they took the Metro-Rail to Howard Johnson's. They were there to attend the Drug Awareness and Prevention Conference at the Marion Conference Center. They met a couple from Detroit with whom they dined and did some sight-seeing. They were presented with models of Inter-faith Saving Stations at the conference the medium-sized city, rural area, urban center and suburban model. They had panel discussions and dialogue. Bishop Felton May brought the message the next day on the promise the models showed and gave a structure from which to work.

Peggy Howe, Vivian Ellis and Susan Van Apeldoorn visited Charles and Simla Ellis in Lafayette, LA. They had a ringside seat for the Mardi Gras as Charles and Simla's daughter, Sonja was one of the eight maids in the court of the king and queen of the Krew of Triton. The king and queen wore resplendent costumes with blue velvet bejeweled trains. Sonja represented Diana, Goddess of the Hunt, wearing a gold dress trimmed with black feathers and a headdress of black and gold plumes. The stage of the auditorium was a bower of roses and every kind of flower. It was all beautiful pagentry and Sonja was striking in her costume.

I got in bed with a wasp and it inoculated me! Watch out for these winged critters for they will sting especially if you sit on them or lie on them!

Woodhaven hosts parties, receptions and dinners

Woodhaven Bed and Breakfast in Valley Head has launched into a new aspect of hospitality. They are now available for private parties, receptions and dinners.

Recently, both the rehearsal supper and wedding reception for Tanya Swaney and Brian Tyrrell of LaPorte, Texas were held at Woodhaven. The bride is the granddaughter of the late Brownie Tuttle.

Lookout Mountain News, Twenty Years Ago

Taken from Ruby O'Rear's columns in the Fort Payne Times-Journal, April, 1972

State Sen. Kenneth W. (Bozo) Hammond spoke to the Jackson County Teacher's Association in Scottsboro about the need for Public Service Commission representation from the northern counties.

The Purple and Gold, Valley Head High School's newspaper was named number 2 in their division at the University of Alabama's journalism clinic. Staff members are Darlene Clifton, Susan Cash, Tricia Smith, Alice Baty and Mike Moon. Mrs. James Crumley is the sponsor.

Helen Longshore, Hammondville, coordinated Sand Mountain Electric Co-op's essay contest.

Mrs. Edna Crow and Mrs. Stella Crow had a musical at their home for their nephew James Rowe Lyday and family of Cincinnati. Others present were Mr. Milton Parham of Ider and Victor Baugh of Adamsburg, Hayward Hester of Valley Head, Alec Womack, Mrs. Nina Mae Crow, Mrs. Edith Lyday, Mrs. Rose Brown, Mrs. Geraldine Blalock and Joe Blalock, Donna and Elaine from Cloudland.

A group of young people from Moon Lake Baptist Church attended a youth retreat at Lake Winnataska. Those attending were Rev. and Mrs. George King, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Crow, Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Smith, Glenda Jones, Rita Jones, Rhonda Stansell, Susan Jones, Nadine McSpadden, Rogger Jackson, Sandra Graves, Devan Jackson, Tony Galloway, Curtis Jackson, Billy Berry, Terrell Carr and Gary Galloway.

Ruby O'Rear was the guest of Mrs. James Stoker and Vicki of Menlo.

spondent for the Times Journal for Hammondville and Valley Head.

From April, 1982

40 interested citizens met at the Fire Hall, April 6 for the organizational meeting of MAPA.

Benny Goss announced an open house at the new Mentone Post Office.

Linda Kay Blackburn, daughter of Henry and Dot Blackburn was named Outstanding Young Woman of the Year.

Five people were killed in a plane crash on Lookout Mountain. The plane came down near the home of John and Nora Gibson at the Chatooga-Walker County line a few miles west of Mentone on Georgia Highway 157.

Valley Head graduate Ken Hammond was invited to join the Dallas Cowboys.

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Groundhog "Thumb's Up!" Award



By BRUCE BON FLEUR

Mittie Bell and Foy Lee are sisters, neighbors AND green thumbs!

For decades they have shared the love of their lives flowers with countless passersby fortunate enough to glance in the direction of their yards and homes, situated prominently on Highway 48 near the western town limits of Menlo.

Mittie, officially Mrs. J.T. Copeland, and Foy, Mrs. Robert Styles, deserve "Queen Bee" status as overseers of local gardens containing dozens of varieties of flowering plants mostly perennials and, special recognition as un-official hostesses to many out-of-towners who just have to stop and get a picture and chat with these perpetual roadside gardeners.

Springtime on the corner of Bell Street and Georgia Highway 48, the exact location of their homes, brings a colorful display of old-fashioned favorite "bloomers" including: white and pink thrift, yellowbells (forsythia), candy tuft, jonquils, snowball bush, yellow primrose and amaryllis. Pansies, holdovers for the winter, remain and dominate several flower spots.

"Soon," the sisters add, "there'll be Shasta daisies, irises, day lillies and our favorites red, yellow and pink cannas in profusion."



Miss Menlo Contest

Most likely it will be proud moms and dads who will be "sitting on pins and needles" come the Annual Miss Menlo Pageant, Saturday night, April 4 at the Menlo Elementary School gymnasium.

The girls competing, pre-schoolers through 8th graders, should be able to relax; just be themselves and enjoy this evening sponsored by the P.T.O.

Gloria Moseley, Menlo teacher and coordinator for the second year, along with a group of dedicated volunteers, pageant workers and business sponsors have been busy finalizing the details that will bring it all together by 7 p.m. starting in time for the pageant.

Girls in four age divisions will be competing for the crowns and the distinction of being named 1992 Tiny Miss Menlo; Little Miss Menlo; Junior Miss Menlo or Miss Menlo.

First and second runner-ups will be named in each age group as judges (to be announced that evening) evaluate the girls according to their Dress Appearance, Stage Personality and Overall Poise.

Jason Beck, former Chattooga High graduate, currently attending the University of Georgia, will again serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Thick, well-established thrift cascades softly over Foy Lee's rock walls, an accent which distinguishes her yard on the west side of the street from Mittie Bell's numerous flower beds and fruit trees adorning the east and south side.

Humbly, these special 'bloomin' sisters explained, "We just plain enjoy what we do best, growing flowers." Enough said.

THE GROUNDHOG honors them with this month's THUMB'S UP! Community Award. And, on behalf of many, we sincerely thank you ladies, and encourage your continued efforts.

Editor's Note: These ladies are looking for Dwarf Yellow Cannas to enhance their gardens. Any readers who have any or have information leading to a supply are encouraged to contact Mrs. Copeland or Mrs. Styles c/o Bell St., Menlo, GA 30731.

Menlo's Newspaper Past and Future

By BRUCE BON FLEUR

Newspapers are an interesting thing. They are the written records, the history, of a people, a place and the progress of those people in their place at a particular time. They become a reflection on the people, place and events they report on. They not only record history, they often make it as well.

The GROUNDHOG is not Menlo's first newspaper. The first local paper was called the "Menlo Hatchet." J.J. Burns, the first merchant and grocer in town was the founder. Burns was known as "the Hatchet Man" hopefully, not for his editorial slant.

About 1904, J.A. Ferguson became the first editor of the "Menlo Mirror." It later changed its name to "The Chattooga County Times." A.J. Lawrence, founder of Menlo, served as president of the publishing company and James Hampton Lee was the editor of the paper.

And now, The GROUNDHOG has arrived in town! Its editors and publisher hope that in the months and years to come it too will come to be regarded by Menlo its people and place as a friend and encourager. If it does, then it will gain a place in Menlo's history of progress as well.



WINNING WORDS Menlo's budding poets, winners all, include (left to right, front row) Sarah Thomas, Matthew Treadaway, Anna Dotson and (middle row) Brad Crowe, Courtney Hosmer and (back row) John D. Roach, David Arnold and Jennifer Johnson. Winners poems were sent to the Georgia State Poetry Society Contest in Atlanta. Good news is expected soon.

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Hal Howe

By EMILY C. SMITH

"Fish out of the window of your home," the advertisement for Mentone read in the early 1900's. It sounded so appealing to Hal Howe's family in Freedom Station, Ohio, they decided to make the trip south and see for themselves.

Hal Howe was 14 years old when he came to Mentone. He is best remembered as the gregarious host of Hal's Hotel, now the Mentone Inn.

His musically talented family entertained their way here. Mrs. Howe played a portable organ, Mr. Howe played the violin as did their son Claude. The daughter, Olga played the mandolin and Hal played the guitar.

Hal's first job on Lookout Mountain was at the commissary at LaHousage. In 1922 he bought the Huron Boarding House in Mentone. After it burned in 1927, he built what is now the Mentone Inn. Just after it was completed his first wife, Elizabeth Green Howe died.

On November 29, 1929, he married Nelda Ellis in a double wedding ceremony with his daughter Olga (Tootsie) and her husband, N.B. Haston of Valley Head. The two couples honeymooned together in Florida. The Hastons' helped out at the hotel in the summers for several years.

Hal Howe's love of Mentone and Lookout Mountain was expressed in the collection of essays he published. He dictated the book to his sister-in-law Peggy who wrote it out in longhand.

Peggy was Nelda's sister and also married Hal's brother Claude in 1955. She worked at Liberty National Insurance in Birmingham and was home for a visit with her mother and sister. Claude also happened to be visiting in Mentone. Peggy went on an errand and Claude rode along. As they drove down the mountain from Mentone, he proposed.

The two Howe families lived next door to each other in Mentone for many years.

Many of the guests at Hal's Hotel came from New Orleans. The Gormans' and the Vorhees' returned there every summer until they built houses of their own in Mentone.

In those days before the advent of television, Hal provided entertainment for his guests in the Hotel lobby every night. He played the saw or "rattled the bones" and told stories that kept everyone laughing.

The Hotel was only a five minute walk from Sunset Rock on the west brow of Lookout Mountain. Howe contended that if you'd had a fuss with your wife and not been on speaking terms for a week, fifteen minutes at Sunset Rock would make things right.

"I know one young couple that became engaged seven minutes after they arrived at Sunset Rock," he said in an essay.

"Girls, stroll with your sweethearts to Sunset Rock and you've got them! Boys, take your lady-loves to Sunset Rock and life begins that day," he advised.

The Howe's, Hal and Nelda complemented each other as hosts at the hotel. Hal was the entertainer and often took guests on sightseeing expeditions. Nelda was the supervisor, meal planner and purchasing agent. Teenaged girls from Mentone provided the summer help. Bernise Crow and her sister Jean Matthews, Bobbie and Mary Bain, Grace Huron Jones, Della Kirk, Peggy Patterson and Josephine Thompson all worked at Hal's Hotel.

Hal earned the nickname "Happy Hal" and his sunny outlook on life was a drawing card for others. For a few years, he delivered the mail in

Mentone. He often accepted chickens or vegetables as payment for stamps and money orders from the people on his route.

This practice made him very popular with his customers but made the job hard for the next mail carrier.

A great practical joker and storyteller, Howe once told a tale about a woman he dated.

"She was so fat, I'd take a piece of chalk to mark around where I hugged her," he said.

Ed Disney, owner of Nippersink Lodge still quotes Howe's advice on a happy marriage.

"She goes her way and so do I," Howe advised.

The Howe's retired from the Hotel in 1954. Hal operated the Hotel for 32 years beginning in 1922. He was born on in February, 1884 and died in 1975.

HISTORY OF THE MENTONE INN

The history of the Mentone Inn goes back to 1873 when H.G. Gillette built a two-story house

Continued on page 3



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Our Town

By LINDA BROWN

Spring is here! The arrival of green leaves and fat robins is always a sure sign of warmer weather. The sudden drop in temperature recently will surely have an adverse effect on the flowers and flowering trees. Even so, the mountain will come to life and be beautiful.



This burst of life and beauty will start the beginning of the tourist season. Whether we like it or not, the people will come. Mentone is different and unique and people will come to experience the peace

and quiet. Those of us who live here can appreciate this all year so let's not be so reluctant to share with others. We do ask that visitors remember that this is our home and act accordingly.

So many things that have been "hatching" all winter are now coming to life and making their presence know. The Mentone Planning Commission has worked long, hard hours and now has a plan ready to present to the public. Our main goal is to make Mentone a place where everyone can live, work and play in harmony with our neighbors.

The Mentone Heritage Foundation continues to pursue the purchasing of the Mentone Springs Hotel. The goal of this group is to preserve and keep the hotel for the community of Mentone. We readily admit that this is a huge undertaking but we do think it can be done. Please do your part. Not only do we need money in the form of memberships and contributions, but we also need your support. We are planning many fun events this year and will need the support of everyone. This is Mentone's project and we can have an attractive community center instead of an unsightly,



EXCHANGE STUDENT LIVES IN MENTONE. Jonas Lindh of Karlskrona, Sweden, has made his home in Mentone with Chris and Ellen Wright this year. Jonas attends Valley Head High School and has enjoyed basketball and golf while he has been here. He is shown here with his favorite pet, Lucifer.

falling-down building to greet people as they come into Mentone.

The development of the canyon area and the state park into a national preserve has passed the sub-committee. If this continues to pass through all committees and does come into being, let's hope that this will prove to be the best plan of action for this beautiful part of the earth. For 12 years, I lived within three miles of the rim of Little River Canyon (then May's Gulf) and will always have a special feeling for that area. I would like to think that its natural beauty will still be intact a thousand years from now.

All of this will bring a change to our lives. We should weigh the effects carefully. Let's not respond in a negative way. Think positive!!

Recently I read an article telling me how many persons had a part in my being. Thousands of ancestors are responsible for what I am today. Does that relieve me of being responsible for myself? I don't think so.

This made me feel very humble and grateful. Also, it made me realize how many people I have a responsibility to. Bobby and I have three children and six grandchildren, so just think how many descendants we may have. Mind boggling!

Speaking of grandchildren, we have four who

SPRING IS HERE!



HELPING HANDS John Cory (far left), Mentone, supervises a "volunteer" clean up crew of local boys as he and wife Jean, prepare for the opening of Little River Hardware on Highway 117.

attend Valley Head School, and last grade period all were on the honor list of A's and B's. Well done and keep up the good work, Marc, Josh, Shelly and Daniel!!

HAPPY SPRING TO EVERYONE!

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