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13 Years
in Print**

FREE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 13, No. 4

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

April 1995

The Earth Day tradition started 25 years ago, the brainchild of former U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson—who now serves as chairman of Earth Day USA, based in Peterborough, N.H.

Earth Day's Goals needed to focus national attention on the environment, according to Nelson. And thus was born Earth Day.

"The Time Has Come" is the overall national theme chosen by Earth Day USA Organizers for the 25th anniversary of Earth Day. The Time Has Come to gather together. The Time Has Come to listen together. The Time Has Come to work together. The Time Has Come to include the voices of our children and youth in our collective decisions regarding the sustainability of our earth.

The theme is inspired by an environmental children's song and project of the same title, written and produced by Franko Richmond and Gail Lima of *Earth, Emerge, & See*, a group working for transformation of the human spirit through the languages of music, art, and dance.

"THE TIME HAS COME" is a simple call and response song about the Earth. It has been performed internationally since 1990. At the Earth Summit in Brazil in June 1992, "THE TIME HAS COME" was sung in Portuguese by 2000 street children to world leaders in the opening ceremonies. It was also featured in the final Earth Summit concert broadcast to over 50 countries around the world from the Manaus Opera House in the Amazon rain forest region of Brazil.

"THE TIME HAS COME" has been performed at the United Nations, sung by Girl Scouts in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and highlighted in an Earth Day New York concert, and in local communities across the U.S.

Unfortunately, over the years, Nelson's basic Earth Day message has become diluted. After 25 years, the American people have tired somewhat of hearing about recycling and conservation. Earth Day's message has gotten across—people know what needs to be done.

It's hard for them to stay excited, however, when all the conservation pundits can talk about is recycling, and landfills, and other seemingly mundane subjects that don't do much to stir the human spirit.

Sure, it's important to limit the amount of garbage we dump into our landfills.

And sure, it's important to recycle our trash because that is one way to extend the lives of our landfills. And yes, controlling water and air pollution is necessary for our children's future.

Obviously, if the Earth was some worn-out, barren scrap heap floating through space, we wouldn't be overly concerned with preserving that environment.

We don't have to worry about saving the Earth. It was here long before we were, and it will be here long after we are gone ... there's just no guarantee it will be the beautiful place it is now. We've got something special on our hands here—face it, the Earth we know and love is something worth saving. And nowhere is that fact more obvious than right here in DeKalb County.



DeKalb County is filled with natural beauty ... it's a beauty worth preserving ... and we can all do our share to make sure our environment is clean and healthy for future generations to enjoy.

DeSoto State Park has acquired the nickname, "The Home of Mother Nature," at least so says Park Naturalist Ken Thomas. It's the wonders of nature that lure so many visitors to the area. There are approximately 650 different wild flowers that grow in DeKalb County, and about 40 of those different plants are blooming in the park right now, or will be by April 22. There are five different botanical regions that overlap in this nation, and that makes for a wide variety of plants.

If flowers are not what the visitor is looking for, maybe the bluebirds are of interest. "Sometimes it's hard to enjoy nature because you have to hunt for (the animals), especially the birds," Thomas said. Bluebirds, Bald Eagles, wild turkeys, hawks, and a large variety of smaller birds can be seen in the park. Then, of course, there are the usual animals that can be found around the area—deer, opossums, raccoons, squirrels, and rabbits. Thomas said preserving the beauty of nature is the reason why everyone should recycle. It completes the life cycle of a product and makes for a better living environment.

DeSoto State Park has a scenic beauty all its own. It is the deepest gorge East of the Mississippi River and provides visitors 15 miles of hiking trails. The approximate 5,000-acre spread offers everything from the old-fashioned swimming holes along the bed of Little River to the chlorinated blue

water of the park's swimming pool. Visitors can sleep in the comfort of all the amenities of home with log cabins, enjoy the night in the lodge's motel rooms, pull in a camper home and hook up to water, or rough it under the stars and moon in the primitive camping area.

Little River Canyon National Preserve has been established and is composed of DeSoto State Park lands, including Little River Canyon, the Little River Wildlife Management Area, and Canyon Mouth Park in Cherokee County.

DeKalb County Lake atop Sand Mountain, owned and operated by the state, is home of a closely monitored habitat. The lake was opened to the public in the early 1960s, having been built by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Fed by five large springs, the lake became a paradise for local fishermen. Among the species of fish are bream (better known as bluegill), shellcracker, large and small mouth bass, crappie and catfish. All fish caught in the lake are accounted for and weighed.

No motors are allowed on the lake, allowing for a peaceful atmosphere in which a quiet voice tends to carry. The lake is open generally from sunrise to sunset throughout the year. It is closed on Mondays and winter holidays. Hours are currently from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closing time will be extended to 8 p.m. May 1.

If you are serious about helping in the Earth Day movement, you can simply call the Earth Day USA foundation at 603-924-7855, and they will be overjoyed to send you all the information on how you can help save the Earth. Or, you can write the foundation at P.O. Box 470, Peterborough, NH 03458.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Sunday, April 16, Easter and Easter Sunrise Services at Lee Crow Property in Mentone
- Saturday, April 22, Earth Day
- Wednesday, April 26, Secretaries Day
- Saturday, April 29, Moon Lake Spring Festival
- Monday, May 1, 7 p.m.
Mentone City Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Tuesday, May 2, 7 p.m.
MAPA Meeting, Kountry Chef

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THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA was first conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and organized April 6, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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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. Call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390 for advertising.

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

The deadline for all material for The Groundhog is the 22nd day of the month preceding publication. The publication is due out by the first Tuesday of each month.

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NARFE. The next meeting of the DeKalb County Chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees will be on April 18, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. at the Western Sizzlin in Ft. Payne.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

March 1995

To the Editor

I am a relatively new resident of Mentone, as of last October 1994. Although I have known about your newspaper for a number of years, I have never had the time, or opportunity, to read it regularly.

My purpose in writing this letter is to say how much I enjoy the newspaper and all the coverage you present in each issue. I think it is very "newsy" and well produced, and printed.

I commend your staff for the very fine job of producing this newspaper.

Sincerely,
John Hurt
P. O. Box 133
Mentone, AL 35984

March 15, 1995

Dear Evelyn,

This is the official notice to start the same ad for Nippersink in the April Groundhog.

Also I wish to complement you and your staff on the excellent job you are doing with The Groundhog. With all due respect to past Editors I think this is the best publication in its history. It is diverse in regular columns, the current news and reports on local organizations are well covered and special features interesting and well written. The format and printing very professional. I don't know your proof readers but they do a better job than The Times Journal and The Chattanooga Times. I will be honest with you and admit I enjoy some columns more than others but I would never be so presumptuous as to ask you to discontinue these columns I don't enjoy because of my personal feelings.

Keep up the good work.
Sincerely,
Gerry (Geraldine R. Disney)

March 18, 1995

Dear Editor:

Just a note of appreciation for the lovely newspaper. One of the best things I ever did was to subscribe to this publication. Its arrival brings with it the breath of fresh air, a warmth of friendship, and a sense of community, even though I live far away from Mentone here in Southwest Florida! I still enjoy returning, albeit vicariously, through your newsy pages.

I am enclosing a little poem which I wrote in memory of my beloved mother, Belle Davis Knight. Her father, (my grandfather) John Franklin Davis, once taught at the Moon Lake School. If you find it suitable, you have my permission to publish same.

Sincerely,
Della Wooten Tenney
26144 Constantine Road
Punta Gorda, Florida 33983

(Editor's note: See the poem elsewhere in this issue.)

March 30, 1995

Dear Editor,

This note is to let you know how much Jennie and I enjoy reading the Groundhog.

We are not able to be in Mentone as often since moving to Florence from Gadsden, and the Groundhog gives us an excellent way to keep in touch with the loveliest place on Lookout Mountain.

Frank Helderman
The Times Daily
Florence, Alabama.

(Editor's note: Mr. Helderman is the editor of The Times Daily in Florence, and has property here in Mentone.)

\$100.00 BILL

to be given away
Sunday, May 21

at the Rhododendron Festival
Sponsored by the North Lookout
Mountain Fire Protection District
Volunteer Firemen, Mentone, Alabama
All proceeds go for equipment.

\$1.00 Donation

You do not have to be present to win.
Contact any volunteer fireman or
Board member to purchase your ticket.
Tickets will also be sold both days
Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21,
at the Festival.

BAKE SALE & YARD SALE

Saturday, May 6th
8:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m.

at the Firehall in Mentone.

Please start cleaning out your closets, basements, garages, and out-buildings in search of good, usable items that we can use for the yard sale.

If you would be willing to donate baked goods for the bake sale, contact Eleanor Tate at 634-4913.

If you have yard sale items, contact Gail Chambers at 634-4307, for a time to deliver the items to the Firehall or if you need them to have the items picked up.

Proceeds from this sale will go towards purchasing equipment for the Volunteer Fire Department.
Sponsored by the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District.



KITTENS

By Cassie Hooks

Kittens are kind, pretty and sweet, there's something about them that makes them so neat. I love my new kittens, they have so many talents, it's so funny how they lose their balance. They are older now and know how to walk. It seems that they can almost talk.



Cassie Hooks is 10 years old and is in Joyce Smith's 5th grade at Moon Lake School. Her parents are Larry and Susan Hooks; Grandparents are Max and Roberta Cash, Mentone, Mrs. Ann Hooks, High Point, N.C. She is the Great granddaughter of namesake, Cassie Cash, Mentone.

By Bill Crane

WHO ENJOYED THE FINAL FOUR WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT THE MOST? You will know by the time you read this. We've got two SEC teams in the final four this year, and they face each other in the semi-finals. I look for Tennessee to be in the finals, but do you think they can beat Connecticut, unless they get really "up" for the game? They lost to Connecticut during the regular season, as you know. A passing observation—the women's teams have as many stars as the men's, believe it or not. The younger generation among us may see a women's professional basketball league as we know the men's league today. Before leaving women's basketball, I must congratulate Heather Mayes, of Fyffe, for her outstanding play. I understand she set a new state high school basketball record this year. Now, here's a champion for you, and right here in DeKalb County. May your record, Heather, reign for a long, long time.

WHY I'M WRITING SO MUCH ABOUT BASKETBALL THIS TIME? First, 'cause I have a one-track mind, as I have said in earlier articles. Second, because the talk-of-the-town is about the NCAA tournaments and the return to the game of the greatest professional basketball player of all time. That last statement is a pretty big statement, isn't it? But, how would you classify Michael Jordan? I say he is in a class by himself. Surely, the Bird, the Magic, Bill Russell, Chamberlain, Ababado, and several old-timers were good, but they were specialists. When the chips are down, Jordan can do it all! He will probably lead the Bulls to the championship again this year. Watch him, and you will be able to tell your (great) grandchildren that you saw the legend play. I recently spoke of Richard Childress, a player on the Wake Forest basketball team. Excluding the last game he played this season, which proved that he is a young college player, he did as much for Wake Forest in the previous six games as Jordan does for the Bulls. I wonder if Jordan has ever hit 10 consecutive shots, including a three-pointer, in a game. I expect Childress to be the next Michael Jordan. I hear talk of two other things that I want to mention. Again, if you ever want me to discuss a particular sport, let me know. I'm not knowledgeable in many sports, but I know people who are experts in nearly all—like Bill Wright and Willis Blalock in fishing.

IF WE ARE GOING TO HAVE MAJOR LEAGUE, OR REPLACEMENT, BASEBALL THIS YEAR? As I write this, it appears the government will issue an injunction against the owners, which, if they do, the players will accept and end their strike. However, the players have made a counter-proposal to the owners, and they are still negotiating. If the injunction is granted, I hope the owners will lock out the players. I think it is now time to settle the issues causing the strike once and for all. Let the players and the owners agree on a settlement without outside interference, even if it takes this year. To go the injunction route, the strike issues are just being tabled for this year.

Some undiluted baseball is already under way. The high schools and colleges have been playing for weeks now. I have been told that the Collinsville Panthers have established themselves as the class in DeKalb County high school baseball by winning the DeKalb County tournament last week. They scored 66 runs in the four games they played in the tournament, and that is awesome! Congratulations to them. I hope I'll get a chance to see them play. It is at such places as Collinsville that future super stars play, and who is to say that there will not be one, or more, from this year's Panther team? Any team that can score an average of 15 runs in a county tournament has to have some future stars on it!

Starting on some Public Television stations on Monday night, April 17, at 9 p.m. Eastern time, is a repeat of Ken Burns' epic series entitled *Baseball*. It plays for nine weeks, each at the same weekly time. If you have not seen it, I think you will enjoy it. It is an excellent history of major league baseball. Shots of famous old-timers are shown, as well as many memorable feats. It's like a good book - you can't put it down once you start!

WHAT WILL BE DONE TO EQUALIZE THE FORDS AND CHEVROLETS IN NASCAR RACING THIS YEAR? This is my chance to say "I told you so." Five races have been run so far this year, and the best a Ford has finished has been third. When Bill Elliott, and numbers 28, 6, and 7 finish back in the pack after race, something is causing a big difference in the speed of the two makes. NASCAR officials impounded the top three make finishers last Sunday to run aerodynamic tests this week to see if they could detect anything different. I haven't heard of any results, yet. Until something is done, Ford will not win a race this year, in my opinion. Another observation, please. Dale Earnhardt will be the NASCAR champion this year. If not, it'll be another Monte Carlo driver, like Sterling Marlin, or Jeff Gordon. Even the old man, Darrell Waltrip, has been running good this year.

SHALOM

By Phil Harris

Panthers win DeKalb County Baseball Title; Girls tournament on the horizon

Collinsville pours on the offense as they roll to the DeKalb County Tournament Championship. The Panthers remain unbeaten throughout the tournament knocking off Sylvania in the finals 15-3. The Rams were forced to work their way through the loser's bracket in the double elimination tournament. Fatigue took its toll. Starting pitcher David Hairston didn't even make it through the first inning. Hairston was tagged for seven runs before being relieved by Terry Terrell. Collinsville never looked back after that, as Clay Gifford hurled a complete game for the winners.

The only real test for coach Donnie Jones' Panthers came in the first round. According to Jones, it was the key to winning the championship. Plainview (one of the tournament favorites) and Collinsville battled in an all-night marathon. The Panthers outlasted the Bears 20-19. Plainview was unable to work its way out of the losers' bracket and finished third. Collinsville went on to win the next three games easily, while scoring 66 runs in the process.

Chad Wills of Collinsville was voted the most valuable player, and teammate John Edwards won the batting title. Geraldine's Mike Monroe won the gold glove award.

The DeKalb County Tournament Team:

Collinsville - Chad Wills, Bear Jones, Clay Gifford, and John Edwards
Sylvania - Dewayne Day, David Hairston, and Lebron Turner

Plainview - Mitch Mitchell and Lebron Lusk
Geraldine - Mike Monroe and Steven Dowdey
Crossville - Jerry Davis and David Boman
Fyffe - Jason Rooks
Fort Payne - Matt Baker

The DeKalb County Girls Softball Tournament will be getting under way in a few weeks at the Fort Payne Sports Complex. Plainview, last year's tournament champion, will probably be the favorite again this year. Collinsville will not make it easy for the Lady Bears, though. The Panthers are off to a great start after finishing 5th in the 1-A State Tournament last year in Montgomery. Crossville, Fyffe, Sylvania, and Geraldine have very competitive teams also. For the first time, Fort Payne is fielding a girls softball team this season. I am not positive if coach Jodi Benefield's Lady Wildcats will play in the DeKalb County Tournament.

Well, another school year has almost passed us by. Baseball and softball are in full swing, and some schools have already had spring football practice. Good luck to all county schools. Just think, only six more months until football. I am counting the days.



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MICHELIN

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS

Loyal readers, there's gloom in Mentone today! A hated four-letter word has burned a huge hole in my nuptialization plans with Precious—that word is **DIET**, the foulest word of the foul. Last week, Al took moi to the vet for a last check up to prepare for my long-awaited visit from Precious...and then it happened: eighty-five pounds when moi was placed on the scales. Ideal weight for this hunk of gorgeousness: fifty pounds! Then came the tragic news. Either diet and lose weight or face having these magnificent feet and legs operated on! Why me, Lord? No more ice cream sandwiches from Willis Blalock and the wholesale man, Travis. Think of their despair at not being able to bring tributes to a canine totally without blemish or flaw.

Pop puts the detestable dry **DIET** food in my dish every night, but I will not eat anything manufactured by the devil—and that stuff truly is produced by Satan himself. It's so nasty, I just push the bowl all over the kitchen with my perfectly formed nose.

As if my world were not already painted in blue, the wholesale man, Mr. Haas, retired on Friday. That means no more rub downs of my rippling, muscular body by Mr. Haas. However, the saints have moved in my behalf, and the Little Debbie man, Charles Morgan, lays hands on moi each Wednesday. Things are looking up for the great one—Moi!

Jerry Spears came in today and wanted to offer me a Tootsie Pop, my second most favorite thing in this world, after ice cream sandwiches. Pop said, "NO! Remember your **DIET**!" That filthy four-letter word, again. All moi could do was growl deep in my without-equal throat and show flawless pearly-white teeth.

Faithful readers, it's all moi can do to hold the pencil in my magnificent paw to write, I am so weak and shaky from hunger. A little water and a milk bone is all that has passed down my gorgeous throat today.

It's a sad day, indeed, when all moi can look forward to is a shower with Pop tomorrow night. Just like he does the bed, Pop hogs the whole shower, too.

If you're reading this, Precious, just remember, our nuptialization fulfillment is only thirty pounds away! Sob!!



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Mentone Grapevine

By
PAT SEYMOUR

The academic excellence of our college students keeps bringing recognition to Mentone and Valley Head. At Birmingham Southern, Kelly Dianne Dixon, Mentone, was named to the Dean's List of Distinguished Students; and at the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga, Lillie Rebecca Wagner of Valley Head made the Dean's List. Anthony Phillips and Carrie Whited of Valley Head were named to the President's List for the Winter Quarter at Northeast Alabama State Community College. On the Dean's List at the same institution were Ann Glover, Mentone, and Larry Lacy and Carolyn Wooten, of Valley Head. Congratulations, all around!

Deepest sympathy to the wife, Doris E. Smith, and sons, Calvin Mark Smith, Jeffery Lynn Smith, and Ben Christopher Smith on the death of husband and father, Calvin C. Smith, 73, of Valley Head.

"Shear Design" Beauty Salon in Valley Head is moving across the street to the former Chrysalis location. Julie Hamm and Annette Blalock, cosmetologists in the shop, will welcome their customers to the new location after April 10.

Becky Langston, wife of Loy Langston, is recovering at home from serious multiple back surgeries. Sister-in-law Sible Hopper reports that Becky was in hospitals in Chattanooga and in Gadsden for operations.

Moon Lake Baptist Youth spent four days of AEA in a retreat at Camp Winnatonska. Marsha and David Tucker were the "camp cooks" for the retreat where everyone had a great time! Youth from Minvale Baptist of Ft. Payne joined the Mentone young people for the event.

Virginia Madonna is filling in for Connie Bell at Tigers Inn for a few days. Connie, who has a case of the flu that is the "mother" of the disease, is staying at home "coughing her head off!" Better days to you, Connie.

Raymond and Becky Blalock have returned from four glorious days in the Smokies. They report trees, flowers, and bushes are exploding with spring colors, even though the weather is still nippy.

Also in the Smokies for some fun and R&R were Sible and Danny Hopper and Betty and Leslie Blalock. What would Gatlinburg do without visitors from the Mentone area? Go out of business, I guess!

When Frank and Linda Villalpando move to their new home, Jamie White, 19, Linda's son, will occupy their present trailer. Jamie attends college at Northeast in the evenings and is a supervisor at Imitrex Computer Corp., in Boaz by day. Incidentally, Frank has been quite ill recently and has had his family and friends really concerned about him.

Congratulations to young artists Kyle Hicks, 8, of Valley Head, whose today's weather of "Sunny Skies" was selected for printing on the front page of *The Times-Journal*. Justin Crider, 5, who drew today's weather of "sunshine," Emily Terrell, 11, who also drew "sunshine," and Crystal Bethune, 10, who also drew "sunshine."

If Pat McKenzie and daughter Renae seem to talk "funny," it's because of accents they picked up on a trip to England and Scotland. They're my next door neighbors on Cove Road, but I can't see them for all the trees! (Pat's brother-in-law, Snake Smith, gave us all a scare recently when he suffered an attack of pancreatitis while out of state.

Col. George Walker's appointment for a stress test turned into a four-way heart bypass operation in Gadsden, and several days hospitalization. He's back home in Mentone and doing splendidly, but ever-watchful wife, Hope, is making sure he takes it easy in his "return to active duty" plans.

Shane Ingram had a bad wreck coming up the mountain late Friday night, March 31. He totaled his Bronco and suffered numerous body cuts in the wreck. Shane also suffered a broken left leg in the accident. He is in room 207, BMC Ft. Payne.

Everybody remember the Valley Head Band's car wash on Saturday, April 8, in Valley Head and Mentone. Band members are taking pledges for how many cars or trucks they can wash. The wash is free, but **ALL DONATIONS** are accepted and greatly appreciated! The band is also selling

candy at the present time. They are holding the Miss Spring Fantasy Beauty Contest on April 28 and 29. All proceeds will go toward the purchasing of new band uniforms. The uniforms have already been ordered and should be received by the end of August. A bandsman was modeling one at the Rock Wall Dedication ceremony, and they are gorgeous!

Thursday, May 20, there will be an auction benefitting the band. A spaghetti supper will begin at 4 p.m. in the lunchroom, and the auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Take outs will be welcome. If you have any quality items to be donated for the auction, please call Kathy Robertson at (205) 997-9848, or Lisa Moore at the Water Board at 635-6527.

Milton and Gail Chambers will celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary on April 7. They plan to celebrate with a trip to the Gulf Coast where they spent their honeymoon. Congratulations to a great couple!

Best wishes to Darrel and Paulette Goss Mitchell who are expecting a baby on November 23.

On March 9-10th, Valley Head Senior Beta members attended Alabama State Convention. William Lee placed second in the black and white photograph contest, and Lisa Smith placed second in the counted cross-stitch competition. It's reported that fun was had by ALL, including the sponsor, Mrs. Sax, and the chaperone, Mrs. Ray.

Nancy Rector had one big bang of a birthday party at Annette and Marshall Orr's home on March 24. Husband "Foots" Rector had his "day in the sun" on March 30, with a party at (where else?) the Orrs. While Nancy's cake was decorated with a Tasmanian Devil, Foots' was presented one with (what else?) a car in icing on the top! Other guests included Virginia Thompson (recently deceased), Jewel Collins, Charlie Rogers, Robbie Collins, Sheila Tisham, Rusty Rector, Marie Dillenbeck, and Dr. Pat.

Shortly after Nancy's party, Virginia Thompson suffered a massive heart attack and died on March 25. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Orr family in this loss. The area has had a wonderful lady taken from its midst.

Ann Cash, daughter of Max and Roberta Cash, and Steve Harrell, were married at the First Baptist Church of Dalton, Ga., on April 1, 1995. Susan Hooks, sister of the bride, served as Matron of Honor. After a honeymoon cruise, the couple will be at home in Dalton.

George and Jo Beaubé were in Copperhill, Tenn., recently for her mother's 95th birthday celebration. Jo's brother came up from Ft. Walton Beach, Fla., as did a number of nieces and nephews to join in the festivities.

Jane Galloway celebrated her birthday on Sunday, March 19. She received calls, gifts, visits, and greetings from all her friends at the Moon Lake Baptist Church and the Mentone Revival Center.

Barbara Nancarrow returned to Mentone on March 9 after a three-week Elderhostel tour of Turkey. She flew out of Newark, NJ, and landed in Istanbul, Turkey, to begin her travels. She saw one Roman ruin after another all along the Mediterranean Coast to the Aegean Sea. Barbara said she even saw the ruins of the Virgin Mary's small home in Kadadas, where she lived after the death of Christ. A chapel has been built on the foundation. What a trip that must have been!

Congratulations to Kayla Bell and Lisa Smith of the Valley Head Lady Tigers Basketball team. Both were named to the 1995 All-County team. Way to go, ladies!

Sandra, Allen, and Katie Gray all showed up at my front door late one night last week. Seems Sandra had activated the alarms at Hersell Pruitt's house and locked the doors—with her car keys and the house key inside on the mantle. A mile walk in the cold darkness to call mother (Evelyn Graves) for a lift home was more than invigorating, as fatigue-reddened faces showed.

George Porter, father of Sue Schwarz, has completed his radiation treatments and is resting comfortably at home. Cards and notes can reach him at 537 Monte Vista Road, Oakland, MD 21550.

David and Rachael Lee are the proud parents of a 7 pound, 20" long daughter, Abigail Skye Lee, born at Erlanger Hospital on March 17, 1995. Grandparents are Herman and Mattie Golden of Mentone, and Sharon and Jackie Lee of Valley Head.

Donna Bares of Mentone was a bridesmaid in the March 11 wedding of Amy Elizabeth Watson and Lt. Matthew Alex Wallince in Summerville, Ga. After a brief wedding trip to Tennessee, the couple will be at home in Sacket's Harbor, N.Y. The groom is stationed at Ft. Drum Army Post.

Eloise Burnett, mother of Bill and Jimmy Wright, will celebrate her 80th birthday on August 4, 1995.

There is a lot of new construction going on in the Mentone area. Carl Jones is presently doing a large addition to Dick and Cheryl Keefer's home, is building a new home on Cove Road for the Rutlands, and is constructing a new house for John and Inelle Hurt (parents of Phil Hurt) on the Little River

next to Phil and Marsha's house. He is also building a new home for Larry Muschamp at Lahusage. Larry is affiliated with Darlington School in Rome, GA. Carl is constructing another new house near the Muschamps for the McCullough family.

Jean Gauld returned on March 31 to Mentone from a trip to Russia on a spiritual mission. While in Russia, Jean visited schools and churches, handing out Bibles and religious tracts that had been donated to her for the visit. Jean studied the Russian language before departing on her mission so that she could sing in Russian when she visited in churches.

Anthony and Judy returned recently from a vacation to Walt Disney World. They made the trip with Anthony's mother and other members of his family.

Marilyn Blanton Campbell hosted a delightful Scrabble party at her home on March 15. Those present for the occasion were Ann Wright, Barbara Blalock, Pat Seymour, Catherine Bailey, Carrie Ruth Kirby, Marie Dillenbeck, and Linda Brown. Everyone enjoyed a sumptuous buffet of chicken salad, sliced tomatoes, potato salad, pickles, rolls, iced tea and coffee, and dessert.

The Valley Head Band will present its Spring Concert on Sunday, April 22, at 2:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. Both the Beginners' Band and the Senior Band will perform.

Van, Lisa, and Beth Moore and Beth's friend, Amanda Wells, are back from their cruise to the Bahamas. The group had a great time, but Lisa and Beth got a little sick on the voyage.

Many people have been getting a BAD BUG lately. Dennis Lewis and his family had it a couple of weeks ago. Connie Bell at Tigers' Inn has been very ill with it for ten days. It's kinda like stomach flu—only worse!

Congratulations to Kevin Worthy of Mentone, who works for the Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative and was recently featured in the "Meet Your Neighbor" section of the Ft. Payne Times Journal.

Deepest sympathy to the families of • Charles H. Johnson, 66, owner of the Heritage House Restaurant in Mentone and husband of Bobby. • Johnny Cooper, 47, father of Jana Cooper; • Carolyn Bridges, 63, sister of Joanna Cash; • Frances T. Smith, 66, mother of Valley Head Band Director Campbell Smith; • Virginia Thompson, 78, mother of Annette Orr; • Bobby Smalley, 36, husband of Charlotte, father of Tony, brother of Larry Smalley, and Linda Gregory; • Frances Juanita Yarbrough, 77, step mother of Jimmie Sue Beason, Deborah Wooten.

A host of people will celebrate birthdays in April.

1st - Michelle Hopper Inzer, Hoyle Smith
2nd - Milton Chambers, Marjorie Grey
4th - Jennifer Davis, Alfred Chambers
5th - Chris Black
6th - John Chambers
7th - Venna Livingston
12th - Leslie Day
16th - Preston Kirby, Danny Hopper
20th - Charlie Rogers.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ONE AND ALL!

In this Easter season, I leave you with the thought: He never promised us that the way would be easy, but He did promise that we would not walk and make our way alone! Some unknown author, making his or her journey, wrote this:

"The road is rough, dear Lord," I said.
"There are stones that hurt me so."
"Yes, child," He answered, "I understand,
For I walked it long ago."
"But there is a cool green path," I said
"Let me walk there for a time."
"No, child," He answered,
"The green path doesn't climb."
"My burden, Lord, is far too great.
How can I bear it so?"
"Yes, child, I remember its weight,
For I carried my own cross, you know."
"But I wish there were friends with me,
who would make my way their own."
"Yes, child," He answered, "Gethsemane
Was hard to face alone."
And then I picked my burden up,
Content at last to know,
That where He had not been
I would not need to go.
And strangely then, I found new friends,
My burden seemed less sore,
When I remembered long ago,
He went that way before!
Hallelujah, Christ is risen!





A Friendly Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

Welcome sweet Spring time, your flowers have never been as lovely--alho your breezes may chill, we still thrill to your beauty!

Sharon and Jackie Lee are happy at the birth of their granddaughter, Abigail Skye Lee, born to Rachel and David Lee at Erlanger Hospital on St. Patrick's Day. She weighed 7 pounds and was 20 inches long.

Adelaide Biddle went to Montgomery March 12-15, as a representative at the Silver Haired Legislature. She stayed at the State House Inn and went to the Alabama State House. Fifty-six bills were presented to the Silver Haired Legislature, and ten were selected to present to the regular Legislature to become bills to benefit the elderly. Among them were "leave Medicare and Social Security alone" and a quick trial for crimes--not more than 60 days delay.

Rev. Frank Ellison, pastor of New Oregon and White Hall churches, is recovering after a stay in Montclair Hospital in Birmingham.

Rev. Amo White is recovering at home after hip surgery.

Dot and William Crow have returned home from a visit with their daughter Jan, her husband, Bob Pullen and children, in Austin, Texas. They were accompanied by Mozelle Crow. They enjoyed sight seeing and shopping.

The Valley Head UMW met at the church for a quiet day service Tuesday, March 28. Eloise Brown presided and Laura Margaret Allison led the program titled, "Love Expressed," assisted by several members. Others present were Melinda Adkins, Geneva Smith, Vesta Hawkins, Velma Hammond, Verna Livingston, Gladys Holleman, Lesley Rogers, Adelaide Biddle, Elizabeth Coleman, Irene Holcomb, Marie Louise Holleman, and Geraldine Hawkins. The meeting ended with a covered dish luncheon.

Carmel Gifford has moved to a Spring Grove apartment. We hope she will be happy in her new home.

The Sunshine Club celebrated their March meeting with a luncheon at the Henagar Steak House Restaurant. Those present were Evelyn Clark, Anna Daniel, Sue Cooper, Geraldine Hawkins, Jewell Palmer, Leona Chadwick, Glenda Savage, Gladys Cobble, Lillie Bowden, Ruth Pickett, Billie Harper, and Eloise Brown. Sue Cooper gave the prayer and Gladys Cobble read a poem.

Ed Ringer and Eloise Brown, who had recent birthdays, were honored at dinner, Wednesday, March 29, by Melinda and Jeff Adkins at their beautiful and interesting home near Henagar. Melinda's father, Whitman Johnson, from Dutton, also enjoyed the occasion.

Sharon Lee is teaching a very interesting Bible Concept class at the Valley Head Methodist Church at 9:00 on Thursday mornings.

There have been some sudden deaths in Valley Head recently--to all who have lost loved ones, sincere, heartfelt sympathy.

My cousins, Blanche and Bill Fuller, from Madison, Ala., visited me and Emily and Barry Brown recently.

Ed Ringer went to Florence, Miss., on Friday, March 24, to visit his nephew, David Ringer and family. On Saturday, he helped his great nephew and namesake, Edward Spencer Ringer, celebrate his 11th birthday. Ed returned to Birmingham Monday evening to attend the Alabama Retired Teachers' board meeting. On Tuesday, March 28, he presided over the Alabama Retired Teachers' Delegate Assembly at the Birmingham Civic Center, ending the tenure of his presidency of the organization.

Tillie Schlicher writes that she is settled in her apartment in the home of her son, James Wills and family in Gulf Shores. She recently enjoyed a trip with a senior group to Bellingrath Gardens.

Mary Lee Cashion, from Haleyville, Ala., spent the day with her mother, Frances Longshore, recently.

Edith and Alvin Cox are home after spending three weeks in Orlando and Ocala, Fla., and visiting friends in Opelika, Ala.

There was a lovely wedding at Valley Head Methodist Church, Sunday Afternoon, March 26. The church was beautifully decorated and overflowing with people. Kelly

Whitmire, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Whitmire, was married to Paul Ellis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Ellis. We wish for them a long and happy life together.

When we see the perfection of all earth's resurrection, the flowers raised from their tombs, into beautiful living blooms, we have the assurance that we shall be raised from tombs of sod, to an eternal home with God. His death and resurrection is living proof of His greatest love for us--have faith in truth!

THE MYSTICAL APRIL RAIN

The mystical April rain
softly strokes my windowpane,
like shimmering cellophane.

It lulls me to peace from strain,
then wakes me to life, to gain
all beauty's exquisite pain.

As it touches field and plain,
all the colors they contain,
spring forth lovely to remain.

Earth its mirth cannot restrain--
it bursts forth in glad refrain,
all happiness to sustain.

As life from death so inane,
blooms in glory to maintain
its eternal life domain.

Nothing ever dies in vain--
death is rest that life can feign--
its perfection to attain.

In life's perpetual chain,
we see God's plan pre-ordain
resurrection to obtain.

Represented once again--
magic--man cannot explain
in mystical April rain.

--Eloise M. Brown



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About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



LOOF LIRPA!! Who ever thought to set aside a day for fools! Every day is a day for fools. If you don't believe it, ask me. Some days there seems to be more of them than on other days. Aren't you glad we can be a fool—or at least act like one—and still be loved and accepted by those who know us? Maybe the history of April Fool's Day is in this issue of *The Groundhog*, because I sure don't know how it started. There is a tale that is told in Mentone every so often (and therefore will remain in Mentone's history) concerning something a dear lady by the name of Alyce Woolf said. Supposedly someone said that Mentone was so small that the townspeople had to take turns being the "village idiot." Every day after that, when Alyce came into town, she would stop and say to Bernise Crow, "Bernise, whose turn is it today?" Alyce was a lovely lady, and one of those people who left the world a better place for having been here.

Another person who left the world a better place for having been here was Bobby Smalley. Bobby lived in Valley Head. Sixteen years before his death, Bobby was injured on the job in Chattanooga. This injury left him a paraplegic—he was paralyzed except for one arm and hand. In all the years that Bobby was in a wheelchair, no one I have talked to heard him complain or become down because of his condition. He was always concerned about others. I think more people loved Bobby than anyone I have ever known. Not because of his position or his wealth or his handicapped condition, but simply because of who he was. He had a great sense of humor, and maybe this was one thing that kept him going. Another plus was a wonderful young woman who became his wife. She, too, was under the "Bobby Smalley Spell," and loved him dearly. Bobby also left a mother, a stepson, and a large family of brothers and sisters and nieces and nephews who loved him and will miss him. Bobby will always be missed, but he will also be remembered as a loving and caring person by those of us who knew him. We are better persons because we knew him, and the world is a better place because he was here for a short period of time.

Everything is really blooming this year. I had heard it said that this would happen. Something about all the rain and, then, of course, the mild winter that we had. I read recently that the reason a blossom dies is because it has been pollinated. If someone could develop a way to prevent this from happening, we could have permanent fresh flowers. Along with all the flowers come the bicycles, the four-wheelers, and the walkers and joggers. Those of us who drive cars need to watch for all of these. Sometimes it seems that they aren't watching for us as much as they should.

Have you ever thought about how much little events can change the course of history? Many things are happening in our nation, our state, and our community that may change the future for each of us. So many things are now in the planning stage. I will write more about some of these when more concrete details are available. An example, I just heard on my car radio that Senator Howell Heflin is not going to run for re-election. Imagine the impact this fact will make on history?

An English professor wrote the words "Woman without her man is a savage" on the blackboard and directed his students to punctuate it correctly.

The men wrote: "Woman, without her man, is a savage."

The women wrote: "Woman! Without her, man is a savage."

The devil made me do it! Or, maybe, it is March Madness or April Fool's month. Whatever the reason, it feels so good to be silly and not take myself (or anything or anyone else) very seriously. See you next month, and then I will probably take the summer off to work full time at Camp Laney.



Squad member Denise Smith
with instructor Shaun Douthat



Jeff Grogan



Shaun Douthat March, 11, 1995, Canyon Mouth Park,
scuba diving



Shaun Douthat along with Robert Crumley, Gary Hilyer, and Mike Twilly, part of the county wide Water Recovery Unit on March 19, 1995 - Rescue & Recovery Training at Weiss Lake.

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Emergency Phone #911

By Richard Douthat, Captain
and Ilene Green, Secretary

The DeSoto Rescue Squad has had another active month. Squad members responded to eight emergencies in March. Several members helped with the canyon cleanup. Some were able to use their training in scuba diving and rappelling to clean the river and go down into the canyon.

The Defensive Driving class conducted by an Alabama State Trooper was well attended. Several from Sylvania Rescue Squad attended, along with our own members. Participants will receive a certificate from the state.

Our training class for March was on infectious diseases, how they are transmitted, and how to protect ourselves and others. This class was held at Lookout Valley Inc. in Valley Head.

The squad has submitted the property layout and plan for our proposed building to the Zoning and Variance Committee of Mentone. We are waiting for approval from the health department for a septic system. We're hoping for a quick resolution of whatever problems might arise. Several in the community have volunteered their machinery and valuable time to help us with filling in, installing a septic tank and construction. These three communities that we serve really support us, and we appreciate it very much. We couldn't do our job without them.

Thank you for making our most recent fundraiser a success. Donations totaled \$4,387. This will pay off our property and purchase a septic tank. We urge those of you that received a photo certificate to please use them. The more certificates that are used, the more money the squad receives. If you don't wish your picture taken, be sure someone else uses your certificate. The photographer will be here on Sunday, April 9. He will set up in the American Legion Hall in Mentone. Pictures will be taken from 12:00 noon until 9:00 p.m., with a lunch break from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Again, we urge you to use your certificate, and we thank you very much.

Another rope rescue training class will take place on April 23 at Eagles Cliff. The subject of this class will be how to set up a haul system and bring up an injured person.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this project can mail donations to P.O. Box 213, Mentone, AL 35984.

Thank you so much for your continued support. It is greatly appreciated.

Captain: Richard Douthat—634-4813 or 845-2210

1st Lt.: Sue Freeman—635-6421

Secretary: Ilene Green—634-4770 or 635-6424

Treasurer: Lisa Scott—634-4207

For all emergencies, call 911.

THANK YOU

The family of Robert Collins would like to thank Gail Crider and the DeSoto Rescue Squad for the tribute to our beloved husband and father. Knowing that his friends still miss and love him has made this last year easier to bear. Thank you Gail Crider, we love you, and everyone in the whole community.

The Collins Family
Jewell, Joey, Shirley & Robert Scott



APRIL FOOLS' DAY

April Fools' Day is the first day of April. In English-speaking countries, men, women, and children play absurd but harmless jokes on April Fools' Day. The victim is called an April fool. The observance originated in France after the adoption of a reformed calendar by Charles IX in 1564. France was the first nation to adopt this calendar. Up to that time, the New Year celebration began March 21 and ended April 1. When New Year's Day was changed to January 1, some people still celebrated it April 1. These people came to be known as *April fools*. The custom of fooling friends and relatives on that day became popular in France, and spread to other countries. It was wide-spread in England by the 1600s. In France, the victim is called an *April fish*. In Scotland, he is called an *April Gote*.





From left to right (top): (helper) Alisha McElhaney; Beth Shirley; Penny McElhaney; Sharee Jenkins; (bottom) Hillary Nichols, Jacklyn Davis, Ashley Tuxbury, at the Food Fest at the Fort Payne Middle School auditorium



From left to right: (top): Sharee Jenkins, Chrystal Bethune, Beth Shirley, Almeda Parker; (bottom): Mandy Brown, Ashley Tuxbury, and Latasha Edgeworth



From left to right: Almeda Parker, Beth Shirley, Ashley Tuxbury, Mandy Brown, Sharee Jenkins, and Chrystal Bethune, planting bulbs at the Valley Head Fire Station.

VALLEY HEAD GIRL SCOUTS TROOP #1012 "ON THE MOVE" AS GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA CELEBRATE 83RD BIRTHDAY

By Ginger Tuxbury



GIRL SCOUTS

The Valley Head Girl Scouts have been very busy, lately. They are a fairly new troop, having been organized in the latter part of 1994. Members are Crystal Bethune, Mandy Brown, Autumn Cook, Jackie Davis, Latasha Edgeworth, Sharee Jenkins, Penny McElhaney, Hillary Nichols, Almeda Parker, Beth Shirley, and Ashley Tuxbury. The troop meets at Valley Head Baptist Church on the first Saturday of each month.

In order to be prepared to help others no matter what the situation, the girls took a crash-course in CPR. Mrs. Dianne Jenkins, R.N., dedicated an afternoon to provide this valuable training to the girls. Thanks to Mrs. Jenkins, the girls have found that they don't have to be grown up to save a life.

In February, the troop took part in *Food Fest* at the Fort Payne Middle School auditorium. In the *Food Fest*, each troop represented a country around the world; and Valley Head represented Germany. The girls learned all about German traditions and attire, prepared German food, and had a lot of fun. The Valley Head Girl Scouts would like to publicly recognize Mrs. Annamarie Foshee for sharing her knowledge about Germany and providing them with a cookbook and costume.

The troop also decided to do something special for the community. On March 18th, during Girl Scout week, which was celebrated March 12-18, 1995, the girls planted bulbs at the Valley Head Fire Station for beautification and to improve the beauty of the world by providing a bright spot the whole community could enjoy.

Eighty-three years ago, on March 12, a dream came true for Juliette Gordon Low. She established an organization where girls could meet other girls and form lasting friendships, learn important skills, self-reliance, and the importance of contributing to society. That organization is now known as the Girl Scouts of the United States of America and is the largest voluntary organization for girls in the world.

The DeKalb County Girl Scouts are a part of a council called Girl Scouts of North Alabama, Inc. (GSNA). This is a United Givers Fund Agency. More than 6,000 girls and 2,000 adults are members. In DeKalb County, more than 300 girls and 102 adults participate in Girl Scouting. GSNA serves 12 counties in Alabama: Colbert, Cullman, DeKalb, Franklin, Jackson,

Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, Morgan, and Winston, in addition to two Tennessee counties - Lawrence and Wayne. The council owns and maintains three properties: the Cappie Mayfield Service Center in Huntsville, and two program centers (camps) in Trico. These are between Scottsboro, Guntersville, and Anderel, near Rogersville. The council has also established three district offices to provide services to its membership communities. DeKalb County is part of District IV and is served by the Trico office. Jo Ann B. Pearson, a former troop leader and resident of Rainsville, is the District IV Director.

Girl Scouting has remained at the forefront of youth organizations because of its commitment to the high ideals stated in the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law, and the dedication of caring adults, women, and men. Girl Scout Week was a celebration of the endurance of the organization that encourages leadership, well being, caring, and togetherness. Whether learning about math, science, careers, or the environment, or making discoveries about one's inner nature, Girl Scouting opens doors for girls ages 5-17, and helps them gain the skills they need to become vital members of society. But, most of all, being a Girl Scout is just plain fun, and the GIRL is still FIRST in Girl Scouting.

The Girl Scout Promise is:

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The uniforms and books may have changed, as girls are now learning about computers and space technology - but the standards of the law have not changed and

these ideals are central to all Girl Scout programs and activities. Those standards for Girl Scouting include:

- Honesty
- Fairness
- Helpfulness
- Cheerfulness
- Consideration for others
- Friendliness
- Respect for authority
- Respect for self & others
- Commitment to protect and improve the world and its resources

If you would like to be a part of all the action, there are several ways of going about it. Sponsorship allows the troop to further its goals and activities and, at the same time, brings the sponsor recognition and personal satisfaction. Please call Becky Shirley at 635-6208, for further information and to let her know how you can help.

Troop #1012 will be having its annual awards ceremony on Saturday, May 13th, at 4:00 p.m., at the Valley Head Baptist Church. Proceedings will include recognition of sponsors, presenting pins and badges, and refreshments. Dr. Pat Seymour, a former Girl Scout of Troop 13 in Selma and a state Girl Scout board member, will be the guest speaker. Everyone is invited to attend. Please support your GIRL SCOUTS! They need you.





The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

(Editor's note: This article arrived too late to be included in the March issue and is being printed this month.)

Time moves on. Those dreary, wet, cold days are about passed, and the tricky month of March is here. I believe it came in like a lion, and should go "out like a lamb." It's nice to see the early daffodils blooming, giving us a promise of more blooming things to come.

We have been concerned about the loss of our native dogwood trees, which are our beautiful sign of spring along with the redbud; but I have read this week that the virus that attacked them has about run its course, and we shouldn't lose any more. It would be sad to lose any tree so lovely and which gives us so much pleasure before the other trees put forth their leaves.

The change of seasons gives us a boost. We start thinking of new adventures, whether planting a tree, flowers, or vegetables, building a house, decorating the one we have, or just concentrating on a new wardrobe. Something fresh and new for the first breath of spring. Not much outdoor activity for me in March. These winds are poisonous to my allergy-sinus problems. No wonder the Romans talked about the "Ides of March." The winds are treacherous and full of the last breath of winter. Some days the sun shines brightly and it looks nice outside, but it's deceptively cool when we go out. I have learned to put a covering on my head and not shed my winter coat, yet.

It would be wonderful to be in England or New Zealand during spring months when the ewes drop their little lambs, and one could see them frolicking over the pasture land full of new-born energy and the joy of living. The sheep were grazing on little knolls in England when we were there three years ago. They were beautiful animals, but someone told me that the wool on their backs gives off a terrible odor when they are wet. Never got that close to them.

We have migratory birds feeding at the feeders provided for them at our place. Last week, we had purple finches and goldfinches all eating together. The bright red cardinals have been with us all winter, and they add their bright plumage to the color spectrum. We have had hundreds of robins and several pairs of Eastern Bluebirds, a favorite of mine.

We are in the Lenten season, and it is supposed to be a time of repentance and sacrifice. We usually give up some food we are especially fond of, and it should be a good time to review our thoughts and to search our hearts to be sure we are forgiving others and ourselves.

We have hibernated this winter and reminisced about many things in our area. We remember when ice was delivered from the plant in Valley Head. It was placed in an icebox, and the 100-pound block would last a week to keep our milk, butter, and eggs cool. Of course, that was before the days of electricity in the rural areas. Charlie Hall owned and operated the grocery store, which is now the Mentone Superette. Bell's Store in Valley Head was a full service store, offering everything from dry goods to meat and groceries. Miss Jessie Phillips operated the place where the notions and dry goods were sold. There was never a kinder, sweeter person...she would do her best to take care of everyone's needs.

Mr. Meade Hammonds drove a taxi and would bring tourists from the train depot to Mentone for fifty cents! Those were the days! I loved to hear the train whistle of the old steam engine. It's sad that the old depot in Valley Head is gone.

Dr. Richey was the local physician who would make house calls when needed. Then, later, we had Dr. Cantrell who lived in Mentone and who drove his jeep with dog, Jo-Jo, beside him. He delivered our boys at home.

Miss Clara Moorman operated Windward Inn and wrote poetry. (Rev. Robert Childers and family live there at present.) Lookout Mountain Camp for boys was going strong, as well as most of the summer camps still operating.

"Shine" McNew ran the rolling store, which was a part of Bell's Store. We did not know how good it was--groceries brought to our door once a week. That was a convenience we do not enjoy any more.

We listened to a battery-operated radio and heard the first news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. We enjoyed serial programs such as "The Shadow" and "Inner Sanctum" at night, and "Ma Perkins" in daytime.

Many things have changed for the better, but some are lost that we would love to regain. Electricity gave us better refrigeration, but iced tea was never better than when we chipped ice from the old block and put big chunks in the glasses.

The best part of having electricity was having a stove that did not require cutting wood to fuel it. And having an electric iron to do starched clothes we wore then was wonderful. I have ironed white starched shirts with the old black flatiron, which was heated on the stove or the open fireplace. We have lost some good things, but have more than compensated for the loss by modern conveniences. And, strangely enough, we have less spare time than we did then.

In the past fifty years, many modern improvements have made life much easier. The atomic bomb was developed and has put fear into the hearts of people the world over, but, on the other hand, penicillin was discovered and has saved the lives of millions who would have died from infections. We lose some and gain some. That's the facts of life.

(Editor's note: This is the April Country Journal.)

The long, dreary days of winter have passed, and the glorious beauty of spring has arrived. The birds are happily preparing their nests, flowers are blooming, and it seems all is right in the world. The redbud is in full bloom and is especially pretty on Wade Gap Road. The road is passable now. There have been some places washed out by heavy rains, but they have been repaired and filled with chert by the county. You can negotiate it in your car and behold the beauty of nature at its best. I have been reading that considerable monies have been appropriated by the county commissioners for road repair. I do hope that this road can be paved, and that the brow road, leading from the Mentone Springs Hotel to the Georgia line, can also be paved. This has been promised to us for the past five years.

We know it is spring when our summer residents appear on the scene. Jimmy and Lynette McCary are back, and George and Hope Walker are here. George Walker has had heart bypass surgery, but is recuperating nicely.

Jim and Virginia Bassage were here for few days, but have returned to Homestead, Florida, until May, when they will return to stay for the summer months.

It's Poke salad time, and I am ready for some. My Grandmother Taylor thought everyone should have some for a spring tonic. I just like the taste of it. Some people scramble eggs with it, but we like it just like it is, with a good hot wedge of cornbread and a slice of onion and tomato, and a good glass of iced tea. Sometimes, I mix other greens with Poke for variety. Try some. You might like it. My mother used to gather some kind of wild onion on the creek banks in Rising Fawn, Ga., and fry them to go with the Poke. I never knew what kind they were. Perhaps they were ramps. There is a place in Tennessee where they have a Ramp Festival every spring to cook and eat the ramp, which is some kind of strong-flavored wild onion.

It will not be long before our Rhododendron Festival, which means I have to get my Rhododendron Queen's committee here at my house for dinner and a planning session. The planning is half as much fun as the festival. So, you pretty girls be ready, and please enter. (Editor's note: See the Rhododendron Queen application blank on page 13.) It is a good opportunity to meet other people and maybe win some money.

Enjoy these beautiful days and hope there will be many more of them.



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April Heritage

(This seasonal article and others to follow are from a scrapbook belonging to long-time Mentone resident, Mary Weigand. The large scrapbook of her favorite seasonal articles by various authors was found recently in a storage chest at "Madaperca" by Don & Yvonne Brock.)

Beyond is quiet, but here waters sing
Echoing ripples for a little way,
Where generous oaks their pollen tassels fling
And catbirds flit their somber coats of gray.
Under the yellow birch the fringe-bush stands
Floating its fragrant burden to the woods,
The blackberry brambles put out eager hands
While laurel buds are thrusting back their hoods.

A little while ago azaleas flamed
Here in this hidden haunt beside the stream,
Tomorrow blossoms that are yet unnamed
Will catch the sunlight and will hold the gleam--
Each season strangely lovelier than the last,
Beauty repeating, heritage held fast.

--Catherine Cate Coblenz

Author: Della W. Tenney,
Punta Gorda, Florida 33983

(My mother passed away last October 9, 1993. The feelings of nostalgia generated by going through her family photograph album inspired the following poem.)

LOOKING BACK AND LETTING GO

Time's lacy curtain wifts apart
When I open Mother's album by the hearth.
There, I exchange my "now" for "then"
While the clock chimes at half past ten.

Faded photographs in time measured,
Perfectly pure and heart treasured,
Relive again moments lost --
Reminders of far too vast a cost.

Now the midnight hour, 'tis time to close
This loved book with its pressed rose.
Just let go, and thence return -- adieu!
Tomorrow refashions life anew.

LITTLE RIVER HARDWARE WELCOMES SPRING

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Answers to just about any paint-related questions you can think of will be answered by a team of highly-trained factory representatives at a Seminar sponsored by Little River Hardware and Bruning Paint Co. on the evening of Thursday, April 27.

In addition to the question-and-answer forum, various craft techniques, such as woodgraining and Faux Marbling will be demonstrated. There is no fee, but space is limited. So, stop by Little River Hardware for more information and sign up today!

P.S. While you are there, check out our new line of seeds (garden, herb, flower) and our new specialty gardening tools and accessories. THESE ARE REALLY GREAT!



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EASTER COLORING CONTEST

RULES

- 1 Contest open to boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 10.
- 2 Color all four pictures using crayons, colored pencils or poster paints and send it in care of this newspaper by 4/12/95.
- 3 Entries will be judged on neatness and use of color. Three winners will be chosen.
- 4 Decision of the judges is final.

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CLOUDLAND

MENTONE BROW - Spectacular View - Beautiful, unique, unusual describes this furnished home which offers three bedrooms, one full bath (with Jacuzzi), two one-half baths, great room with wet bar and fireplace, range, disposal, dishwasher, and refrigerator. A two-car garage, glass-enclosed octagon-shaped casual pool with patio overlooking pool, sauna, shower area, recreation room with pool table, hot tub, and decks are just some of the amenities. All this and approximately 700' of brow frontage! Shown by appointment only to qualified buyers. Co-Broker of Southern Properties, Inc.

CLOUDLAND - Lower Brow - Needs Work and TLC - Restore this beautiful mountain rock home and make it your dream house. This home, built in 1940, features 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, partial basement, dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, screened porch, living room with fireplace, garage, gas heat, city water, and several outbuildings, all on a nice lot with 120' of brow frontage. Priced at \$152,000.

250 acres with beautiful hardwoods, small pond, and creek. Great for your own private hideaway or hunting preserve. ONLY \$500 per acre.

DOUBLE LOT on brow (approximately 850' of brow frontage) in Creekside On Lookout Subdivision. This beautiful wooded lot with panoramic view contains approximately 8.79 acres and is priced at \$85,000.

MANY BEAUTIFUL BROW LOTS prices from \$16,000 - \$32,000.

CLOUDLAND - 45 ± wooded acres with approximately 1,000 ft. of paved road frontage and a distant view - \$1,500 per acre.

UNRESTRICTED LOT - On paved road in Cloudland Community. Only \$1,500.

CHELSEA AREA - 89 (±) acres at \$900 per acre.

CLOUDLAND - 1-1/2 story home featuring 3 bdrm, 1 bath, LR, DR, Bonus room, garage, carport, storage area, and detached workshop. \$59,000.

CLOUDLAND - Nice residential building lot in good neighborhood containing approximately 1/2 acre. \$6,000.

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GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

On weekdays, I usually watch **MORNING FOLKS**, with Robert Reeves and company, and on one particular show, they had a really super garden hint that I feel I ought to share with other gardeners, assuming that they don't know it already. If anyone has tried container growing, they will love this one. It's about growing tomatoes in five gallon buckets upside down. You cut a big enough hole in the bottom of the bucket, and push the tomato plant through it, leaving the roots in the bucket. Cover the roots with potting soil and hang the bucket in a spot where it gets the morning sun. Add about two inches of soil every two weeks thereafter and water and fertilize when needed. It's a good way of regulating the amount of water the plant gets, not like last year when most of the tomato crop suffered from too much rain. This method does away with staking the plants.

ALTERNATIVE BIOLOGICAL INSECTICIDES

Insecticidal oils, diatomaceous earth, insecticidal soaps, sulphur, neem oil, pyrethins, pyrethroids (synthetic pyrethine), rotenone, ryania, sabadilla and nicotine. Nicotine is absorbed by plant leaves, and remains active in the plant for several weeks, so it is not a good idea to use it for edible plants, but it's really good for killing the oak borer. I made a sprayable mixture from soaking a block of chewing tobacco in a gallon of water for a day or two, then I used it by mixing that concentrate, one cup tobacco juice to two gallons of water, and spraying it into the borer holes.

PLANTING DATES BASED ON MOON SIGNS

Above-ground crops: 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 29, 30

Root crops: 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28

Seed beds: 11, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21

DAFFODILS NOT BLOOMING

A few weeks ago, a lady asked me to find out why her daffodils did not bloom this year. As far as I can find out from all my books, there are two reasons. The first may be due to overcrowding. Daffodils should be separated about every three years. The second reason is lack of fertilizer. Bulbs should be fertilized after they have bloomed. The foliage should not be cut until it has turned yellow, as it is still making food for the bulbs.

CONTROLLING WEEDS AND INSECTS

Burning still remains the best method of controlling weeds and insects in the garden. It also destroys any diseases that the plants had. The danger in burning is, of course, out-of-control fires. Always make sure you have a fire break and a water hose, and build only small fires. The land also benefits from burning. The ashes contain important nutrients, and it's a free way of liming the soil.

Be careful when applying the ashes to seed beds and seedlings, as water turns the ashes to lye, which will burn the plants. In an article in *Progressive Farmer*, they suggest that fescue pastures be burned about every three years to keep the toxicity low, as the fire destroys the toxins that treated grass seed have. Cattle fed on infected pastures usually don't gain weight—in fact, they lose, and such pastures are fatal to horses.

My family and I would like to wish all *The Groundhog* staff members and all friends and kin folks a VERY HAPPY EASTER.

He Has Risen

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BIG MILL ANTIQUE MALL



1889
Historic Building

By Evelyn Graves

What a feeling of nostalgia as I opened the door to the Big Mill Antique Mall and thought of the thousands of footsteps that had entered that same door for so many years as mill employees entered the building to take their places at their respective machines to produce thousands and thousands of dozens of socks; as those same feet carried the workers outside at lunch time to eat together from the brown paper bag lunches they had brought; to reenter the building and to resume their places at their machines; and then those same feet passing back through that door to make their way home. What a history this building holds! It was constructed in 1889 and is the only remaining industrial building in Fort Payne, Alabama, from the boom period. The building originally housed the Alabama Builders Hardware Manufacturing Company. After the turn of the century, the building was sold and became the W. B. Davis Hosiery Mill. The name remains on the three-story structure today. Local residents referred to W. B. Davis Hosiery as the "Big Mill," and over one hundred hosiery mills, now in operation in Fort Payne, grew from this mill. Today, Fort Payne is known as the "Sock Capital of the World."

To keep the building from being destroyed, Dr. Stephen Brewer purchased the building in 1994. Restoration began in September, and the "Big Mill Antique Mall" opened for business in December of the same year. How fitting that the antique mall should bear the name "Big Mill." I dare say it would be almost impossible to find a person in Fort Payne 50 years or older who has not, at some time, been employed or had a relative who was employed at the "Big Mill."

In conjunction with the antique mall, preparation is under way for an auction, a deli, and a year-round Christmas room, all to be in operation in the near future.

Barbara Van Allen and Kay Abbott have bought an interest in the antique mall, and they may be seen there 7 days a week. The mall is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. on Sundays. There is rental space of 15,000 sq. ft. available. At this time, antiques, collectibles, and reproductions may be found, including furniture, quilts, pottery, primitives, glassware, china, toys, tools, lamps, clocks, books, jewelry, and more. A most delectable fudge shop is found near the entrance to the building.

The Big Mill Antique Mall building is now on the National Register of Historic Places, placed by the U.S. Department of Interior.

The owners invite you to shop at the antique mall and to look at the space available if you are interested in locating a place to display your own antiques. The address is 151 - 8th Street, N.E., Fort Payne, Ala., and the telephone number is (205) 845-3380.

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302 Gault Ave. S., Fort Payne



(1) **ANOTHER BROW BEAUTY** - 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 baths, formal living and dining, den with stone fireplace, screened porch overlooking valley below. Call today for your appointment.



(2) **JUST OFF DESOTO PARKWAY** on 1.3 acres, this renovated log cabin has pine floors, fireplace, and full front porch. All for \$79,500.



(3) **MENTONE BROW** - Spectacular View - Beautiful, unique, unusual describes this furnished home, which offers 3 bedrooms, 1 full bath (with Jacuzzi), 2 one-half baths, greatroom with wet bar and fireplace, kitchen area features ceramic countertops, an island with custom hood, range, disposal, dishwasher, and refrigerator. A two-car garage, glass enclosed octagon-shaped casual pool with patio overlooking pool, sauna, shower area, recreation room with pool table, hot tub, and decks are just some of the amenities. All this and approximately 700' of brow frontage! Shown by appointment only to qualified buyers. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.



(4) **2-STORY BRICK HOME ON BEAUTIFUL CORNER LOT IN VALLEY HEAD**. This 3 bedroom, 3 bath house has an enclosed porch, pine and hardwood floors, a rock patio, storage basement, detached garage, fruit trees, nice landscaping, and many other extras. \$68,500.



(5) **BRICK BUNGALOW** in Valley Head located on dead end street. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, sunroom, central heat and air, and 14x20 workshop. \$38,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

- (6) **BROW LOT IN MENTONE** - Adjoins Cragsmere Manna with 20 acres between you and the peaceful valley setting below. Build your weekend getaway on this beautiful property. \$35,000.
- (7) **2.8 ACRES WITH 200' ON THE WEST BROW**, DeSoto Parkway. \$27,000.
- (8) **THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER** flows quietly by these 3-acre wooded lots with 300 feet of River Frontage. Restricted for property owner's protection. Prices starting at \$20,000.
- (9) **START YOUR DREAM HOME TODAY** on this 3-acre wooded lot with 200 ft. on Lake Lahouage. Restricted for owner's protection. \$30,000.
- (10) **13 BROW LOTS** with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.
- (11) **10 ACRES IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE**. Heavily wooded with a fantastic view of open pasture. City water available. \$20,000.
- (12) **LANDMARK PROPERTY** in Downtown Mentone - Once housed one of the area's finest hotels. Now is the home of the White Elephant Antique Shop. \$225,000.

845-6000

Susan Collins Residence--634-4695

Sara Quinn Residence --845-1881



GAGE JONES

celebrated his 1st birthday on March 6 at Nanna Bill and Floyd Harper's house. He is the son of Jack and Heather Jones of Fort Payne; and the grandson of Floyd and Billie Harper of Valley Head, and Shirley and Bob Knowles, Mentone.

Happy Birthday, Gage!!



MAGGIE ALICE COOTS

born October 7, 1994, BMC DeKalb, 7 lbs., 10 oz. She is the daughter of Sandy and Buster Coots. Maggie has one brother, Patrick, age 4. Her grandparents are the late Tony Shape, Nancy and Darrell Kelley, Carolyn and Eddie Coots. Great grandparents are Louise and Odell Sharp of Valley Head, James and Clara Pell, Emmett and Jo Bain, and Margie Coots, all of Mentone.



ELISE OLIVIA BLACKWELL

celebrated her 4th birthday on February 28. She is the daughter of Kenny & Felicia Blackwell of Mentone. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Leland Cox, Mentone; Dale and Martha Cole of Sand Rock; and Kenneth and Margaret Blackwell of Ft. Payne.

Happy Birthday, Elise!!



MICHAEL AUSTIN CHAMBERS

born on February 24th at 8:23 p. m. at DeKalb BMNC of Fort Payne. He weighed 7 lbs and 6 oz and was 20 inches long. Proud parents are John and Mary Chambers of Mentone. Grandparents are Milton & Gail Chambers and Sanford & Juanita Hartline of Mentone and Robert & Deborah Johnston of Hammondville. Great grandparents are Alfred and Polly Chambers of Mentone and Mary Beatrice Campbell of Shelby, N.C.



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Secretaries Keep It All TOGETHER
Professional Secretaries Week / April 23-29, 1995

MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 50
MENTONE, AL 35984

APPLICATION FOR MAPA FESTIVALS 1995

NAME OF VENDOR: _____ Phone: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TYPE OF ARTS OR CRAFTS: _____

TYPE OF FOODS: _____

VENDOR BOOTH FEE: \$ 40. PER SPACE FOR TWO DAY FESTIVAL

FOOD VENDOR BOOTH FEE \$ 50. PER SPACE FOR TWO DAY FESTIVAL

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MAPA FOR THE BOOTH FEE SEND TO ABOVE ADDRESS.

THE CITY HAS ADDED A \$5.00 CITY TAX FOR EACH VENDOR FOR EACH SHOW, CHECKS FOR TAX MAKE PAYABLE TO: THE CITY OF MENTONE.

ALL FOOD VENDORS MUST HAVE IN ADVANCE A HEALTH PERMIT FROM THE DEKALB COUNTY HEALTH DEPT., 302 ALABAMA AVE. S; FORT PAYNE, AL 35967. PHONE: 1-205-845-1931 OR 845-7031

RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL MAY 20th & 21st --- # SPACES _____ ELECTRICITY _____

OCTOBER COLORFEST OCT. 21st & 22nd: ---#SPACES _____ ELECTRICITY _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR BOOTH FEES: \$ _____ PAYABLE TO: MAPA

AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR CITY TAX: \$ _____ PAYABLE TO: CITY OF MENTONE

ALL FESTIVALS WILL BE HELD IN THE CITY BROW PARK NORTH OF THE DOWNTOWN AREA. THE BOOTHS WILL BE ASSIGNED IN ADVANCE FOR EACH VENDOR FOR EACH EVENT. YOU WILL RECEIVE A MAP OF THE AREA AND YOUR ASSIGNED SPACE WITH YOUR CONFIRMATION OF YOUR REGISTRATION.

NOTE TO FOOD VENDORS THE LOCAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING FOODS FOR EACH FESTIVALS ON SATURDAY: HOT DOGS, B B Q SANDWICHES, PINTO BEANS & CORN BREAD, BAKED GOODS, SAUSAGE & BISCUITS. FOOD VENDORS MAY SELL THESE ITEMS ON SUNDAY. MAPA WILL SELL CANNED DRINKS.

VENDORS SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

RHODODENDRON
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAGEANT

1. Check with your Sponsor about parade: toss flowers; toss candy, type vehicle.
2. Parade starts at 2p.m. formed on _____ behind Hitching Post.
3. Dress for all contestants -- SPORT
4. You will be judged on, smiles, cheerfulness.
5. Pageant at Hitching Post at 8p.m. at 7p.m., rehearsal at that time.
6. Dress for pageant--Party Dress, Party
7. A QUEEN & THREE PRINCESSES WILL
8. Queen and Court must walk around _____ take a boat ride, visit booths, and be _____ or "Princesses for a Day" between 12

PRIZES WILL BE: QUEEN \$100.00; _____

Thanks for you

All Atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Midway From
On Highway 117, Exiting Off I-59,
Sponsored by the Mentone Area Preservation
-- A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION



MARCH MAPA MEETING

By Marie Dillenbeck

The March Mapa meeting was held on March 7 at the Kountry Chef at Dessie Newberry, president, and Jim Lyday gave the opening prayer. There The minutes from the January meeting were read and approved, there being The president announced that she had received a request from the Department for a donation to help pay their insurance premium that was board members by telephone and a \$1,000 donation was approved.

A request in writing signed by Charles Bell, Eric Kirby, and Joe Smith for ball teams was presented to the membership, and after a discussion, a decision made.

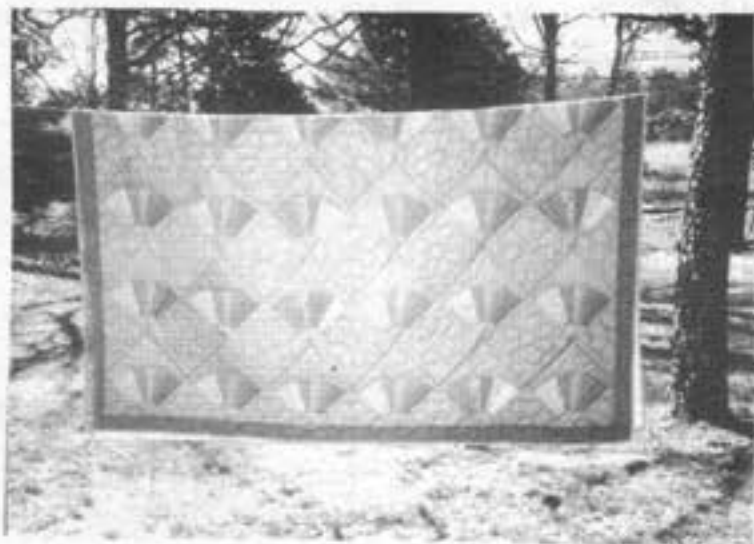
With the upcoming Rhododendron Festival in May, the president announced approximately 250 vendors. In the mailout, a \$10.00 fee for trash pickup, vendor fee that was assessed by the City of Mentone. A discussion followed \$10.00 garbage fee, and the motion was passed. Homer Crow volunteered each vendor a trash bag. Also, in February 1994, the membership had voted and this was to be in effect for one year. The president said she had been contacted by a majority of them were against the continuation of the fee. A motion was passed to eliminate the entrance fee donation.

Several suggestions were discussed concerning the upcoming festivals.

All members were urged to attend the rock wall celebration to be held instrumental in the repair of the rock wall, having done repairs in 1986 and (Page 22.)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

On Monday, March 27, the MAPA board met to appoint a new Treasurer. By unanimous decision of the board members, Penny Lyday was appointed to serve



The queen sized quilt to be raffled off at the Rhododendron Festival has six different shades in each fan. This quilt will be on display in front of the Hitching Post during the Festival.

FESTIVAL CONTESTANTS

e of
oad



rm, poise, and crowd

Arrive ready to go

om type.

BE PICKED.

the Festival area,
"Queen for a Day",
noon and 4p.m.

PRINCESSES \$50.00

entry, and Good Luck!!!



a Chattanooga to Gadsden
Exit 231
on Association
ION --



NG



p.m. The meeting was called to order by
ere 21 members and two guests present.
no meeting in February.
North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire
due on February 8th. She had polled the

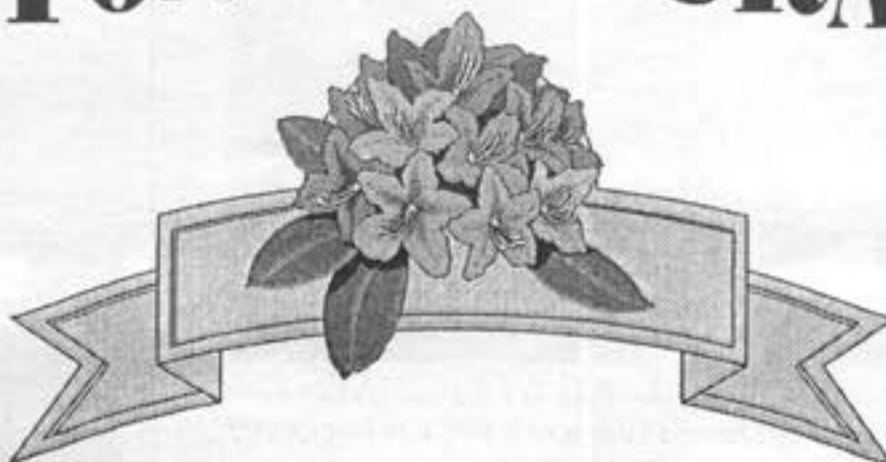
donation to the Dixie Youth Little League
on not to donate to the organization was

ounced that she had sent out letters to
ad been requested, as well as a \$5.00 per
d, and a motion was made to rescind the
provide additional trash barrels and give
to include a \$2.00 donation/entrance fee,
tacting many members by telephone and a
ade, seconded, and passed to rescind the

on Friday, March 10. MAPA has been
again in 1992. (See article and photos on

Charlyne O'Rear having resigned. By a
ve until the elections in June.

MENTONE...NATURALLY



Application for the Rhododendron Festival Queen

Hitching Post At Mentone

May 13, 1995

8:00 p.m.

Jr. & Sr. High :Long Dress

Entrance fee, \$5.00 or Business May Sponsor For \$25.00

We Have Business Sponsors Available

Deadline for application, May 6

For further information, call {634-4664} or {634-4548}
\$100.00 to Queen -- \$50.00 to Each Runner up

Name _____
Address _____ Phone _____
Age _____ School _____
Parents _____
Hobbies _____ Sponsor _____



"Give Earth A Chance For The FUTURE"

EARTH DAY 25TH ANNIVERSARY / APRIL 22, 1995



Moon Lake art teacher Sissy Crider paints a sun on Kiley Young's face during Aerospace Week at Moon Lake School. Kiley is a 4th grader, and the daughter of Mike and Cathy Young.
Photo by Marsha Hurt

Judith "Sissy" Crider, Artist in Residence

Judith "Sissy" Crider is the Artist in Residence at Moon Lake School for a four-week residency that began March 13. Following this residency, Sissy will be at Valley Head School for four weeks. This program is funded by the Alabama Council on the Arts, Big Wills Art Council, DeKalb County Schools, and Moon Lake PTO.

Judith Crider is an art teacher for grades K-12. She is from Valley Head, Alabama, and has a BFA degree with a concentration in painting from Jacksonville State University (JSU), Jacksonville, Alabama. At JSU, she was president of JSU Student Art Alliance and graduated with special honors in art. Sissy has taught after-school art classes at Valley Head High School, Grades K-12; an eight-week art course at the Senior Center in Fort Payne; produced photos for Jacksonville State University student newspaper. She has had exhibitions as follows:

1990: Permanent collection, print woodcut at JSU; photograph in photo collection at Hammond Hall by Charles Grover, Department Head; Griswold Daniel Artists' Gallery, Anniston, Alabama, exhibited and sold on consignment, JSU Senior show

1988-1990: JSU Student art show, First place water color division, 1989; First place ceramics division, 1990

Sissy has sold and produced a few pieces since graduation. She said, "Working and starting a family has not left me with as much time to concentrate on my art. I work mostly in drawing, oil painting, and watercolors."

"I hope this teaching experience can help promote the arts in our schools. All of our children should have the chance to express themselves in a positive way. Art is an expression, not just a pretty picture. Teaching will also give me a chance to strengthen my own work."



Nathan Owen 6th grader, Moon Lake art teacher Sissy Crider, and James Tipton 6th grader
Photo by Marsha Hurt

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UNISSUED RUSSIAN SKS RIFLE	\$125
UNISSUED CHINESE SKS RIFLE	\$120
BRITISH 303 RIFLES	\$ 88
6.5 X 55 SWEDISH RIFLES	\$110
NEW AMERICAN MADE 40 CAL. PISTOL	\$144
NEW AMERICAN MADE 9MM	\$139
NEW AMERICAN MADE 45	\$149
NEW AMERICAN MADE .380	\$ 99

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Grover, Ocala Home 634-4169



(1) **EAST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER** 3-acre tracts, with 200 ft. of river frontage to the middle river. Perfect for rafting or swimming. \$21,000 Owner financing available



(2) **NEW LAKE HOUSE** - Under construction is this 3 bedroom, 2 baths, cedar exterior fireplace, located on Lake Labuaga. Great for vacation or permanent residence. Priced to sell at \$75,000.



(3) **DRASTICALLY REDUCED LAHUAGA**
Enter and step into this newly-renovated state fireplace. From the open living room view the rock terraced landscaping to the river. Approx. 200 ft. of river. \$88,000 reduced to \$78,000.



(4) **LOG CABIN ON BROW, MENTONE-DESOTO PARKWAY**
2 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, completely furnished. Large deck to view the sunsets. Log storage building and Satellite Dish. A lovely fountain pool accents the landscaped yard. Home sold with 3 lots (300 ft. of brow frontage). A steal of a price, \$150,000 Call for appl. 205-634-4169, L.M.P. Angela Wood.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(5) **BROW LOT ON DESOTO PARKWAY**, just minutes from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. 100x300 lot with view of Fort Payne Reservoir and spectacular sunsets. \$22,500 reduced to \$18,500.

(6) **PERFECT COUNTRY SETTING** Describes this cedar and stone home. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, Jacuzzi and Jenn-air Range. Ceramic tile and carpet throughout. View your back yard through large picture windows from the Great Room with fireplace. CHVA, Bonus room, and Rock patio. Sold with 4 acres for \$125,000. With more acreage available. Close to DeSoto State Park and River.

(7) **CONVENIENT TO TOWN**, but in the country, sits a 3 bdrm, 1 bath, home. Has been totally re-plumbed and wired, vinyl siding, and large deck, contains 38 acres, reduced from \$79,000 to \$69,000.

(8) **AVAILABLE** Building lots in Mentone City, on DeSoto Parkway toward State Park, 1 to 3 acres starting at \$7,500 to \$27,000. Call for more information. All with city water.

(9) **12x60 MOBILE HOME IN MENTONE**. Completely remodeled with new carpet, windows, and doors. Totally furnished with even a color TV. All you need is to move in. Underpinned and water is furnished. Priced to sell at \$6,300. Located next to Lil Mole Run Golf Course. Land does not go with it. Home can be moved, or rent on land is \$40 a month.

(10) **FRUIT TREES AND ROSE BUSHES** Surround this 2 bedroom, 1 bath farmhouse and barn with its Mentone charm. All it needs is some TLC. \$30,000.

(11) **ALSO AVAILABLE** East brow tracts, Little River Canyon tracts, minimum 5 acres. Wooded acreage from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per acre. Also, large tracts with river frontage.

(12) **KNOTTY PINE CAMPGROUND** Contains 13.4 acres. Plus office, bath house, restrooms, 3 rental cabins, 14 R.V. sites - (4) with sewer, 10 tent sites. Trails, and sits in the heart of DeSoto State Park. Location can't be beat. \$150,000. Reduced to \$145,000.

(13) **SURROUNDED BY DESOTO STATE PARK** Lovely rustic Cedar Home, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, pine floors throughout. CHVA, open living and dining area, approx. 1,900 sq.ft. Carport and large storage barn. Includes 27 acres for \$139,000. Reduced to \$129,000.

(14) **20 ACRES ADJOINING STATE PARK** partial pasture, hardwoods & creek with a great place for a lake. Horse owners would love this tract. \$46,900.

Purchase Campground, home & acreage for \$315,000. A great buy for expansion with 60 acres total.

"Lookout Mountain Properties" is looking for Listings on Lookout Mountain and Mentone. If interested in renting, leasing or selling, please call Angela Wood.

Secretaries Keep It All TOGETHER

Professional Secretaries Week / April 23-29, 1995

The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



The children of the Moon Lake Baptist Church will be doing their Easter play on Sunday evening, April 9. Two services are planned for Easter Sunday. The first service will be a worship service at 8:30 a.m. Regular Sunday School will be at 9:45 a.m. The second worship service will be at 11 a.m. There will be a special dinner on April 23, celebrating the pastor's first anniversary with the church. On April 30, the youth will be in charge of the service on Sunday morning. They will also be teaching the Sunday School classes and will bring the morning message.

Sharon Lee is teaching a Bible study each Thursday morning at 9:00 at the Valley Head United Methodist Church. Quiet Day was observed by the UMW on Tuesday, March 28, with a covered dish lunch. The program was led by Laura Margaret Allison. The next meeting of the UMW will be on April 25, at the home of Adelaide Biddle. Verna Livingston will have the program on "Families, Bible Stories, and Our Stories."

On April 1, the youth of the Valley Head Baptist Church made an Easter egg tree and took it to the Mountain Manor Nursing Home. On April 9, at 6 p.m., a gospel singing trio called "Love Song," from Gadsden will perform. Everyone is invited. A Baptist doctrinal study called "Partners With God," will be taught by Rev. Charles Jenkins, beginning on April 19 from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., and will continue on April 25 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at the church. On April 22, the youth will have a block party at 3 p.m. at the church pastorage. On April 28-30, a group is going to Eureka Springs, Arkansas, for an outdoor passion play. The group will leave on April 28, and return on April 30. On April 30, at 6 p.m., the evening service will be at the Presbyterian Church with community churches participating. Rev. Jeff Adkins, pastor of the Valley Head Methodist Church, will be the speaker.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church will hold special services on Thursday and Friday evenings before Easter. The services will be at 7 p.m. On Easter Sunday morning, there will be a children's service called, "Flowering of the Cross." Worship service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday evening services will continue until Easter, preceded by choir practice at 6 p.m. Wednesday communion is being observed every week at noon. Come dressed as you are for this communion.

On Easter Sunday evening, April 16, there will be a candlelight communion service at the Mentone Church of God. Sunday, April 23, Rev. Melvin H. Massey, Evangelism and Home Missions Director for the Church of God in Alabama, will be ministering in both morning and evening services. Rev. Massey is an anointed speaker and will touch your heart with the word of God. Everyone is welcome.

Beginning April 2, 1995, the Mentone Church of God will have an interpreter sign for the deaf and hearing impaired. This ministry will cover the song service, as well as the message.

Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to join in worship services each Sunday at 9 a.m.

The congregation of the Union Hill Baptist Church met for the first time in the remodeled sanctuary on Sunday, March 26. The dedication ceremony will be held at a later date. Plans for an area-wide crusade sponsored by Union Hill Church in conjunction with other area churches are under way. This will take place in the summer, and the evangelists will be T.D. Burgess and Max Tucker. Details will be announced at a later date.

On Saturday evening, April 15, at 6:30, there will be a singing at the Mentone Revival Center. "Faith Walkers," a group from Valley Head, will be the guest singers. On Easter morning, the youth will present an Easter musical program. The service will begin at 11 a.m. Everyone is invited to tune in to the radio broadcast every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. on AM870.

There will be a revival at the Mentone Wesleyan Church, April 30-May 3. Rev. Jimmy Johnson from Jackson, Miss., will be preaching. The Missionary Society met for the March meeting at the home of Mrs. Grace Jones, with 10 women present. A good program was presented, and there was a good time of fellowship. The Church Board met on Tuesday evening, March 28, to discuss an addition to the church.

On Wednesday, April 12, the UMW of the Mentone United Methodist Church will meet at 10:00 at the Fellowship Hall to prepare Easter dinners for delivery to shut ins. Marie Dillenbeck has the program, "Forgive and Remember." Marilyn Blanton Campbell is the hostess.

The Outreach Committee is planning to deliver Easter baskets to needy children. If anyone knows of a child who needs an Easter basket, please call Rev. Lett at 634-4881. Also, those wishing to donate items to the Outreach Committee for the baskets, such as baskets, straw, candy, paper or plastic items, please let him know.

The Administrative Council met Sunday, April 2, at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The spirituality class meets at 5 p.m. each Sunday night in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

Community Christian Fellowship Church meets at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head on Sundays, with Sunday School from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., and church services from 11 a.m. until. Sunday night services begin at 6 p.m. The public is welcome.

The "Good Fridays" Youth Ministry meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head. "Good Fridays" is not a church or a denomination. Youths come from a number of different churches and denominations. It is a ministry for youth, where they can get together, hear the word of God, watch Christian videos, pray together, express their talents, have fun, hang out, and get radical for the Lord Jesus Christ!!!

For more information about "Good Fridays," call Candy Hansen at 634-4607, Ken and Carol Busby at 635-0225, or Pastor Randy and Janice Turner at 635-6467.

The monthly Gospel Singing at the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy was Sunday night, April 2, at 6:30 p.m. and the featured special guest was Theresa Pettit from Birmingham. Everyone is invited to attend the Gospel Singing on the first Sunday night of every month.

Byron and Cindy Morrell who served the church here as Associate Pastor for two years have accepted a pastorate in Oregon. Recently, there was a reception held in their honor at the church.

Charles Flannigan and the Sunday School Department are planning "high Attendance Sunday" and other Easter activities. The annual Easter Egg Hunt at the church is certain. Other special activities are planned. Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with us. Everyone is invited.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1124 First Street SW, in Fort Payne, welcomes the community to join them for the following April services: •Sunday worship services at 8 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month. • Sunday School and Bible Class at 9 a.m. each Sunday. • Tuesday, April 4 and 11, Lenten devotions at 7 p.m. These services are preceded by a pot luck fellowship meal at 6 p.m. The service on April 11 will also include a celebration of Holy Communion as it is our Maundy Thursday observance. • On Good Friday, April 14, a traditional Tenebrae Service will be conducted at 7:15 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1885 Rainbow Drive, Gadsden. •Regular Tuesday evening Bible Class, taught by Pastor Gary Faith, will resume April 25, at 6:30 p.m. For information, call Bill Cyr, President of the congregation at 634-4849, or Steve Schrader, Elder, at 845-4314.



J.O.Y.

J.O.Y. has a trip planned to Boaz in the shopping mall on April 6. The next regular meeting of J.O.Y. will be on the second Thursday, April 13, at 11:30 a.m., at Moon Lake Baptist Church. J.O.Y. members should bring antiques for "Show and Tell." Please bring a covered dish and enjoy the meal and the fellowship. Invite a friend who is not now attending. Everyone is welcome!



REV. KENNETH R. SHELTON
CHURCH OF GOD CALLS

REV. KENNETH R. SHELTON AS PASTOR

Rev. Kenneth R. Shelton was born April 6, 1959, in Birmingham, Alabama. He graduated from McAdory High School in 1977, and attended two years at Lee College in Cleveland, Tenn. Rev. Shelton entered the ministry in 1975. He became youth pastor at the Bessemer Church of God, Bessemer, Ala., in 1979. In August of 1979, Rev. Shelton married Sandra J. Gilham, who joined in his ministry at the Bessemer Church. In May of 1981, Kenneth Joshua (Josh) was born, and Rev. Shelton went into evangelistic work. April Brittany was born in April of 1986 in Selma, Ala., and the Shelton family returned to Birmingham, where Rev. Shelton was youth pastor at the Sherwood Church of God. In Sept. 1994, Rev. Shelton accepted the position of Director of Church Ministries to the Tarrant Church of God. God blessed the church with growth. In a six-month period, the church witnessed over 20 souls committing to the Lord Jesus Christ. In February 1995, Rev. Shelton was asked to be considered as pastor of the Mentone Church of God and assumed pastorate responsibilities on March 5, 1995.



NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North DeKalb Ministerial Association meets at 8:00 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at the DeSoto Room at DeSoto State Park. All ministers are encouraged to attend.

The Community Easter Sunrise Services will be at the Lee Crow property at 7 a.m. Rev. Bill Russell will deliver the message. There will be special music.

Bring lawn chairs and plenty of warm clothing or blankets. The National Day of Prayer Services will be held on the first Thursday of May, May 4. A further announcement will be made as to time and details.

The Baccalaureate Services will be held at the Valley Head Baptist Church on Sunday, May 21, at 2 p.m.

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

By Marie Dillenbeck

The Rhododendron Garden Club met Tuesday, March 14, 1995, at the Mentone Town Hall. The 19 members present were: Barbara Blalock, Patti Bryan, Marilyn Blanton Campbell, Betty Chapman, Bernise Crow, Mary Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Gerry Disney, Mickey Gough, Marjorie Gray, Helen Hill, Flo Kirby, Diane Kuehl, Mabel Kirk, Lynette McCary, Pat Seymour, Norma Williams, Ann Wright, and Mildred Wylie. Dorothy Cyr was a guest. Hostesses were Helen Hill, Theresa Bosworth (absent), and Ann Wright.

The minutes were read by Bernise Crow. Gerry Disney gave the treasurer's report and stated that dues will be due at the April meeting. The May Luncheon will be held at Nippersink.

Helen Hill, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented a slate of officers as follows: President - Marie Dillenbeck; Vice President - Bernise Crow; Recording Secretary - Mickey Gough; Treasurer - Flo Kirby; Corresponding Secretary - Marilyn Blanton Campbell; Parliamentarian - Ann Wright. A motion was made by Pat Seymour to accept the slate as presented, which was seconded by Betty Chapman. The slate was accepted by acclamation.

Several individuals had been remembered with cards, according to the corresponding secretary, Mabel Kirk. Mabel made a motion that Marjorie Gray be made an associate member, which was seconded by Lynette McCary, and approved unanimously.

The President Ann Wright thanked the members who worked on the Rock Wall Reception held on March 10, at the Town Hall.

On Sunday, March 18, Ann Wright, Linda Brown, and Marie Dillenbeck will be assisting with the prizes on Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the annual Home and Garden Show held at the Rainsville Civic Center, March 18 and 19.

The president reminded the members that the District II Annual Spring Meeting will be April 6 at 9:30 a.m., at the First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Ala. Ann will be one of the officers installed. She is the third vice president, who is in charge of the 1995 Fall Garden Show. Also, the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs Annual Spring Luncheon has been changed to coincide with the presentation of the program, "Hummingbirds," sponsored by the Culture Club of Fort Payne. The luncheon will be held on Saturday, April 8, at the Western Sizzlin, at which time officers will be installed. The program will be held in the DeKalb Theater at 2 p.m.

Ann Wright listed several projects that the Rhododendron Garden Club is presently working on. The reclamation project/Hummingbird-bird garden at the Moon Lake School; the poster contest; Woodsy Owl litter control project; and plans for Ed Mason Park cleanup and planting. Lynette McCary announced that the program for this meeting involves working in the park and planning nature trails and planting wildflowers. She recommended that at the April meeting everyone come dressed to work in the park and bring tools and native plants and flowers to be planted in the park.

The next meeting is at 10:00 a.m. on April 11, at the Mentone Town Hall. The theme is "Plant a Trail," and everyone is to bring a sack lunch. The club will be working in Ed Mason Park. The hostesses will be Sue Schwarz, Gail Gaylord, and Mickey Gough.

HUMMINGBIRD WORKSHOP

Sponsored by the Fort Payne Culture Club

Saturday, April 8, 1995; 2:00 p.m.

The DeKalb Theater in downtown Fort Payne

Contact for more information: SIS MARTIN, 845-2349

The hummingbird is a creature of endless fascination: smaller in size than any other family of birds; tiniest body weight, fastest wing beat; ability to fly backwards and straight up; remarkably tame in the presence of humans.

With an increasing universal interest in this little creature, the co-founders of the Hummer/Bird Study Group, Inc., Bob and Martha Sargent, have been invited to share their extensive knowledge of these spellbinding birds with everyone in the DeKalb County area. Both of the Sargents are licensed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to band hummingbirds in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Florida in order to document species and to study migration patterns.

In addition to sharing insights gained through their scientific studies, they will offer suggestions for attracting hummingbirds to your home by use of plantings and feeding. There will also be a hands-on display table and a question-and-answer period.

The Fort Payne Culture Club invites you to join them on Saturday, April 8, 1995, 2:00 p.m. at the newly-restored DeKalb Theater, 300 block on Gault Avenue, downtown Fort Payne. Off-street parking is available in the city parking lot back of the theater on Grand Avenue. NO admission fee will be charged.

Come. Learn "Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Hummingbirds - But Didn't Know Who to Ask."

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HUNTIN' & FISHIN'

Compiled by Dr. Pat Seymour

Some wild animals have been spotted recently in the Mentone/Valley Head area. A large bear was seen by men who are building a pond for Bear Brown on his Valley Head property just north of town. Jerry Bain and others have sighted two panthers on Tutwiler Gap road, and hunters were telling patrons of Tigers Inn that they saw a huge creature over seven feet tall with reddish hair behind Baty's Sawmill. (The latter may be a "scare story" of a Big Foot sighting!) Apparently, coyotes are roaming freely over the Mentone mountain pastures with many being spotted in the pre-dawn hours. Groundhogs are also roaming the banks of Little River, especially on the West fork. If your dogs are barking more than usual in the night, wild animals moving about just may be the cause.

WHAT IN TARNATION TO DO: Gail Chambers takes more than her van, sunscreen, and a blanket to the beach. According to Gail, for getting tar off, there's nothing like WD-40. It's also great for removing adhesive labels from glass and other non-porous surfaces. Just spray, wait, and wipe.

TO EACH HIS HOME: It is thought that male and female deer select habitat based on different criteria. Bucks select areas that offer the best nutrition, whereas does look for areas that are best suited for rearing offspring, meaning they provide both food and cover.

BLOODSUCKERS: Mosquitoes don't really "bite," they pierce their victims with a long, hollow, flexible tube called a proboscis, and suck the blood through a nasal tube. Only the female mosquito does this, since the blood is used not to nourish the mosquito, but rather the eggs she is carrying. The annual mosquito population of the U.S. is 10 trillion insects, enough to fill the Grand Canyon, to stretch from Earth to Venus and back, and to provide 41,000 insects for each citizen.

WINGING IT: A bird's wing is very similar in structure to a human arm. It has a shoulder, a humerus (upper arm bone), elbow, and forearm, as well as a "hand," which is fused together to form attachments for the ten flight feathers located on the end of the wing.

WHEN YOUNG CHILDREN FISH NEAR ONE ANOTHER on shore, or when there are several crowded together in a small boat, encourage them to wear sunglasses. A child's early attempts at casting don't always land in the water, and active children don't always remember to watch the ends of their rods. Of course, sunglasses also cut down on the glare that comes off the water and eliminate the stress of squinting. But, perhaps, even more importantly, sunglasses offer protection against a child's eye being hooked by a stray cast.

HATS OFF: There are people who don't dare venture outside during spring and summer because of the all-pervasive deerflies and blackflies. Yet, there is a simple and effective way to enjoy the outdoors without being eaten alive by these insects. The secret is to catch them, rather than try to repel them. Since these insects often fly right to your head, attach a piece of flypaper to your hat. An alligator clip, safety pin, or curtain hook will secure the flypaper in place, making the "flyhat" a simple answer to the summer's worst pests.

HELPING THE DISABLED ENJOY HUNTING: Believing that all sportsmen should have equal access to some of the nation's finest hunting, Alabama last fall opened its first state-sponsored hunting area dedicated solely to sportsmen with disabilities.

Located in westcentral Alabama near Linden in Marengo County, the area includes 480 acres of state-owned land adjacent to Chickasaw State Park. It boasts healthy populations of most game animals, including deer and turkeys.

The Department of Conservation's (DOC) Game and Fish Division will oversee construction of special blinds called shooting houses designed specifically for disabled hunters. Game and Fish Division personnel worked with disabled sportsmen's groups in the state to develop a management plan designed to consider the needs of handicapped hunters first.

"The area will be dedicated exclusively to the use of hunters with disabilities at no charge and will be available on a reservation basis," said Conservation Commissioner Charley Grimsley. Only hunters who have been medically certified as disabled and registered by the DOC will be allowed to hunt on the property.

"This is a milestone in Alabama conservation," Grimsley added. "For the first time in Alabama, the disabled hunter is being given priority access to a prime state hunting area."

7 LITTLE SECRETS THAT WILL MAKE SPRING CLEANING A SNAP

You can breeze through your spring cleaning chores by following some clever tricks from an expert. Here are key tips from Paula Jhung, author of "How to Avoid Housework: Tips, Hints and Secrets of How to Have a Spotless Home":

- Use baby diapers for dusting. They're the best because they don't leave any lint. Just dampen them slightly with water.
- To dust curtains and drapes, run them through your clothes dryer along with a damp towel. It's quicker than vacuuming.
- Let hard-to-clean surfaces like the inside of your oven "marinate" overnight with a cleaning solution. You won't have to scrub and scrub the next day to remove dirt.
- Use a sponge mop on vinyl floors. It's quick and gets into all the corners.
- When you clean, put on an apron with a lot of pockets and put your small scrubbing tools in them so they'll be readily available.
- Forget fancy cleaners for windows. Use a half-half solution of white vinegar and water to clean them. To avoid streaks and drips, spray the solution onto crumpled newspaper and then clean the windows. Also, do your window-washing on a cloudy day. You get more streaks if the sun's out.
- Remove little-used small appliances from your kitchen countertop. They attract grease, and you must keep cleaning them.



LEGAL TIPS FROM LCE

Submitted by
Sherman Gough,
Legislative
Chairman of AARP
Chapter 221 in Ft.
Payne

Q: What is an advance directive? Should I have one?

A: Every person over 18 should have an advance directive, a written document that expresses your health care wishes in the event you become unable to do so. Most states recognize two different forms of advance directives. A *living will* allows you to instruct your doctor about whether you want life-sustaining treatment if you have a terminal illness or, in most states, if you are in a persistent vegetative state. In a *health care power of attorney*, you appoint someone to make health care decisions for you when you are unable to do so. It is a good idea to have both documents and to give copies of the documents to your doctors, family, health care agent, or others who might need to know your wishes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Order *Planning for Incapacity* from:
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P.O. Box 96474
Washington, DC 20090-6474

Send \$5 for this self-help booklet that explains advance directives and contains living will and health care power of attorney forms developed for your state.

Legal Counsel for the Elderly, a department of AARP, is a national support center specializing in the delivery of legal services to older persons.

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NEWS FROM DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER

Submitted by Sherman Gough

The American Legion Post 215 in Mentone recently received the following notice from the Department of Veterans' affairs:

Archives finds 10 million "lost" records--The medical treatment and hospitalization records of nearly ten million World War II and Korean War-era veterans have been located by the National Archives. The records were thought to have been lost. The records, which cover the years 1941-45 and 1950-54 for the Army and Army Air Corps, may involve personnel from other services who were treated at Army facilities. Veterans whose claims have been denied because of documentation problems may now be able to reopen their claims based on these records. Accordingly, each DSO should get the word out to our veteran population about this discovery. More information may be obtained by writing to:

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The River Watch

By
BILL SCHWARZ

Last year's baseball players' strike is still on and, apparently, that really upsets lots of folks. I must confess that I am not one of those upset folks. The whole thing seems rather silly to me. It's all about money, as are most strikes by labor, and the answer is to let the players have what they want. Cover the cost by jacking up the price of tickets and the fees charged to advertisers and to TV networks for broadcast privileges. As soon as the cost gets too high, the fans will rebel by not buying tickets, advertisers will quit buying space and ads, and the TV networks will quit televising, 'cause they and their advertisers think the cost does not net them increased profits. There, you see, that would solve the problem on a permanent basis. Let the market place operate, let the market set the price. There are lots of opportunities for folks to spend their extra cash and each person will spend his/her extra cash in a way that will provide the most "bang for the buck," the most "bounce to the ounce," be that baseball or any other entertainment. If the baseball (or any other "sports") industry wants to commit economic suicide, I say, let them.

That tirade done, I can now settle down to the real subject of this month's writing. It seems that, a few years ago, there was a baseball umpire who was very patient and polite when he was on the field. No matter how many times he was ridiculed for his calls, he never got upset, always explained his rulings, and listened sympathetically to the offended player, or coach, or manager, or owner, or fan. All of these wronged people assailed him every game. Not a game went by that someone did not assault him physically or emotionally. Patience did not always soothe the savage beasts.

Eventually, all this abuse and vitriol began to affect his personality. When he went home, he was sullen and withdrawn trying not to let his own feelings of rejection spill over onto his family...a charming and lovely wife and a small son. The longer the baseball season went on, the worse he felt after each game, and the more he began to kick the dog at home to vent his feelings. He fussed at his wife to release his own tensions. Finally, he cuffed his son over some otherwise very slight irritation.

One day, he resolved to stop taking all of his frustrations out on his family. Certainly his frustrations were not his family's fault. He went home that evening after another bad day on the diamond and kissed his wife hello, smiled at his son, sat in his favorite chair, and called his son to come sit in his lap and listen to a favorite story. Alas, the son did not move, except to hide behind his mother. He would not come to his father!

The moral of this story is...the son never sets on the brutish umpire!

Sorry about that, folks. Thanks for you time. See you next month.



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The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

April is one of the most beautiful times of the year, and we feel blessed to be in this most beautiful of places now or any time. It seems that everyone I talk to is tired of chicken and fish because they have been put on special diets. Here are two recipes that are good with lots of taste and will make your doctor happy. Tamale pie is good served with a salad and perhaps some of your favorite salsa. The lasagna is great and easy. The noodles are not precooked—honest, it really does work.

Tamale Pie

by Carol Connell

Crust:

1/2 C cornmeal	1/2 C flour
1-1/2 t baking powder	1/4 t salt
1/2 C nonfat yogurt	1/4 C water
1 t sugar	1/2 t cayenne
1/4 C cooked corn kernels	

Filling:

1 C chopped onions	3 T diced jalapeno pepper
3-6 cloves garlic	2 C kidney beans cooked
1 T ground cumin	1/4 C green seas (fresh or frozen)
1/2 T chili powder	1/4 C corn kernels
1/4 C tomato paste	1/4 C finely chopped carrot
1 C chopped tomato	1/2 C chopped bell pepper
3 T freshly chopped parsley	
Non-fat broth (veg or chicken)	
4 T fresh cilantro chopped	

For crust, mix cornmeal, flour, baking powder and salt. Add yogurt and water, mixing til smooth. Stir in sugar, cayenne and corn. Set aside. Preheat oven to 350°.

For filling, cook onions with garlic, cumin, and chili powder in large non-stick skillet, adding a little broth to keep from sticking. Add tomato paste and rest of ingredients, except for cilantro and simmer for 10 minutes, adding more broth to keep vegetables from sticking. Add cilantro. Pour into 7-1/2"x12" lasagna pan coated with vegetable spray. Spread butter over vegetables, bake 30 minutes til bubbly and crust is beginning to brown at edges.

Makes 6 servings with less than 2 grams of fat per serving and 235 calories.

Spinach Lasagna

by Sue Schwarz

1 box eggless lasagna noodles
10 oz box frozen chopped spinach (defrosted)
2 cloves garlic
1 C onion sauteed
1 C chopped mushrooms (drained)
1 C Ricotta cheese (skim)
1 C non-fat cottage cheese
6 C spaghetti sauce
Egg substitute equal to 2 eggs
1 C part skim milk mozzarella
1 C non-fat mozzarella
Black pepper to taste

Noodles do not have to be pre-cooked

In large bowl, combine ricotta cheese, cottage cheese, egg, spinach, pepper, onions, mushrooms, garlic and non-fat mozzarella. Heat spaghetti sauce til warm.

In 13"x9" pan, sprayed with vegetable spray, layer: sauce, raw noodles, spinach mixture, sauce, raw noodles, spinach mixture, sauce. Top with part skim mozzarella and parmesan. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes uncovered.

Dixie Salvage

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The Moon Lake Faculty sponsored Aerospace week for the entire week of March 13-17. (Front row left to right) Karen Prestwood, Donis Barkley, and Joyce Smith. (Back row left to right) Darlene Mosley, Christie Lehman, Mitzi Hughes, Dr. Bill Berry, and Phyllis Sarraatt. Christie Lehman was Aerospace Week Chairman.

Photo by Marsha Hurt



First Graders are fascinated with their Green Slime experiments. The Green Slime exhibit was provided for Moon Lake School by the Imagination Place.

Photo by Marsha Hurt

Moon Lake School celebrated AEROSPACE WEEK March 13-17 with all kinds of activities. Teacher Christie Lehman headed up the program, offering a variety of learning activities, including a demonstration on green slime by Janis Reeves, an instructor from Imagination Place Children's Museum, in Gadsden.

The Troll Book Fair, headed up by Kindergarten Aide, Dennis Barkley, was quite successful. Students were allowed to buy books, bookmarks, pencils, erasers, and other items during that week.

A profitable doughnut sale was conducted throughout the month of March.

The school participated in Jump Rope for Heart, sponsored by The American Heart Association. During the week, Donna Bares from Camp Skyline, taught different types of jump rope skills. She was assisted by Roberta Kirby.

The Spring Fest is coming up on Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. until... It will be held outdoors and in the gym. It will feature both breakfast and lunch, as well as snacks. There will be activities, games, olympic type races, and other competition by children, a May Pole dance, and horseshoes for adults. Cloggers will perform. There will be a flower show, art exhibit, pet show, and an afternoon concert.

The students are enjoying having Sissy Crider as art teacher for four weeks. Her first day was March 13. (See writeup and photos on page 14.

The makeup schedule for snow days is Monday, April 17; Monday, May 8; and Friday, May 26.

Denise Roberts replaced Darlene Mosley, first grade teacher, who is on maternity leave. Mrs. Mosley's baby is a boy, Lucas Philip.

T-ball will be starting in April for Grades K-3. There will be three teams. Baseball has begun for children 9 and 10 years old and 11 and 12 years old. The 11-and-12-year-old team members are already practicing. They are coached by Joe and Steve Smith. The 9-and-10-year olds are coached by Eric Kirby and Allen Crow.

Dr. Pat Seymour was honored on March 13 as a Moon Lake School Hero in recognition of and appreciation for her many generous contributions to Moon Lake School.

By Evelyn Graves



Joyce Smith's 4th and 5th grade class had 5 February birthdays. In honor of their February birthdays, a bird feeder was hung by the birthday boys: Peter Hurt, Feb. 5; Eddie Manning, Feb. 4; Ben Corey, Feb. 10; and Corey Kirby, Feb. 22.

Photo by Marsha Hurt



Emily Swindoll, Joshua Rogers, Kayla Voils, Janis Reeves, teacher from Imagination Place in Gadsden, and John Baxter first graders at Moon Lake School conduct scientific experiments during Green Slime Day of Aerospace Week.

Photo by Marsha Hurt



Students Enjoying Starwalk on Wednesday, 3/15

Staff Photo



Kelly Wright in the Astronaut back drop, Thursday 3/16

Photo by Marsha Hurt

AERO SPACE WEEK AT MOON LAKE MARCH 13-17

By Karen Wright

Moon Lake School celebrated Aerospace Week March 13-17. The halls were decorated like outer space. The teachers all wore flight suits. Every day, there were events. Monday started off with a BANG—a fireworks display. Tuesday, John Shippey came. He is a pilot from Henagar. Wednesday there was a rented moon walk, and the kids "jumped" around all day. Thursday was field day with such events as a Moon Pie eating contest, paper air plane making, and flying contest, along with many others. Each student had his or her picture made at the Astronaut backdrop made by Ann W. Wright. Phil and Marsha Hurt made all the pictures for the students. Friday was the Alien Contest. Winners were: Kyle Hooks and Josh Hughes. Mentone was invaded by 60 aliens—that's over half the school. There were green slime experiments demonstrated by the Cultural Arts center in Gadsden. Of course, all of this took place while study in the class rooms centered around space and space travel.

Thanks everyone who gave their time and efforts to make Aerospace Week a "far-out" experience.



Student preparing to fly her kite on 3/15

Staff Photo

THE PIONEERING SPIRIT OF 1835 INCLUDED ISAAC CROW

By Mabel Kirk

The searched-for records give evidence that 14 Crow families were listed in the early 1700s: James Crow, born 1740, Kent, England, is the earliest Crow name found in the state statistics of Virginia before the Revolutionary War who hailed from England. Some records show the Crow name as far back as 1748-1749.

James Crow was a revolutionary war vet. Also, his sons, James, John Sr., John Jr. Also Stephen. James, the great-great grandfather; John Sr. - Son of James; John Jr. - Son of John Sr.

The Crows continued their pioneering spirit into the New Country - eventually traveling by wagon train into Georgia and Alabama.

There were three basic groups that migrated to the Southern States for greater opportunities. Land grants were made possible in North West counties of Georgia, North East counties of Alabama, and South East Tennessee.

These groups of laboring folk came from Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, also some groups from Maryland. They came to the Cherokee Nation area between 1830-1850. Among them were Isaac Allen Crow, with his family; a cousin, John Crow and family; Isaac's brothers: Clark, James, Thomas, and their father, John Crow Jr., which made up the clan. The other groups of country folk came before the Crows came, or at least quite a number of families did.

Their first travel and settlement was in North Georgia, White County. Dalton was the nearby town. They chose an area North West of Dalton and called it Crow Valley. They were settled in this Valley for several years.

All of Isaac Allen Crow's children by his first wife, Alice Cox, were born in Georgia, except Washington D., their eldest son, who was born in South Carolina. There were 12 children by his wife, Alice Cox. Alice Cox and Isaac Allen Crow were married in North Carolina.

After Alice died, the Crow group of pioneering folk migrated over the mountain's rugged path by way of Chattanooga, Tennessee, into the Valley west of Lookout Mountain, down the Valley to an area called Battelle, also across the ridge. "The area had many ridges, and low Mountains" to a community called Sulphur Springs.

Isaac wasted no time in securing land grants near the basic footing of Sand Mountain. He secured homestead grants. Then purchased several tracts of Valley land.

He, his brothers, father, and cousin John had settled from a weary wagon caravan travel and thought this was the very place to raise their families. Two years lapsed, and they became restless for further land ventures and new settlements that would be a challenge to their pioneering spirit. Therefore, they chose to go into different parts of DeKalb County, Alabama. In 1855,



Isaac Crow, and Hanna Crow, his daughter

Isaac Allen bought land on top of Lookout Mountain not far from the stream called Little River; also, he and other pioneering families built a road leading up from Battelle to the top of the mountain. It was called the Crow Gap.

Isaac Allen took his move to the mountain seriously. He very soon built a log house, a dam across Little River, and established a timber mill, also a grist mill, with the help of his son, William, called Bill.

He was civic minded, therefore wanted to help his neighbors and nearby citizens by being able to saw timber for those who wanted new farm houses, instead of log cabins, which was only known at this time. "LOG CABINS" His grist mill was to serve all the community for miles around as to meal from their corn patch, plus flour for those who grew wheat. Yes, Isaac was a community-minded man. He helped to establish a church in his community. It was at first meeting in different neighbors' homes. The congregation outgrew the homes. Mr. Tom Kirby offered his goat barn for their first church if the men would get it cleaned up and desirable to hold their meeting. It was so ordered and made ready for services. The goat house burned. Then,

again the pioneering spirit of the area, including Isaac Crow and his family, helped build a new log church.

The church was closed after war was declared in 1865 and was organized again in 1866.

Isaac Allen had 8 sons, and 7 were drafted into the war. Two sons, Joseph and James, never returned. They died on the mountain near the Chattanooga, Tennessee, state line. Isaac Jr. was too young for the war.

Isaac Allen had raised his and Alice's 12 children in the valley and on the mountain, 8 sons and 4 daughters. All sons lived in and near the valley and mountain area. All daughters married mountain men and raised their families on the mountain. Isaac Allen became a lonely man, as his family grew and established their own homes. All had married but John C., Rena, and Isaac Jr. Isaac decided he would marry again. In 1864, he married his first wife's niece, Mary Jane Cox. She was a young woman, 31 years younger than Isaac. They had 9 children that grew into adulthood, 6 boys and 3 girls. Two babies died in infancy. Before he married Mary Jane Cox, he had married a lady, Mrs. Holland; however the marriage did not hold together but a few months. They had no children.

Isaac Allen Crow's spirit of sharing, caring, and concern for community life has and will continue to live through his children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, also great-great grandchildren.

Some grandchildren remained as farmers, while others became rock and brick masons, some merchandising, some musicians, ministers, teachers, carpenters, others went into avenues of transportation, one great-great-grandson chose air crafts and became a pilot of commercial and private craft.

All of Isaac's family became involved in community life wherever they lived.

Each generation of sons, grandsons, great grandsons served in the U.S. Military as they were called by the government. Also including forefathers, who served in the Revolutionary War.

Isaac became a man that belonged to the ages in 1884 at age 71, dying at his log mountain home built in the 1850s and buried on his own loved land near the home place. His ashes will be interred at Little River Cemetery sometime in 1995. The ceremony will be announced later. He has 2 sons and families, also 2 brothers and a sister buried at this cemetery. Great grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren on the land he loved. He at long last will rest in the city of where Transformation has been placed.

The above was written by: a great granddaughter of Isaac Crow, Lora Mabel Crow Kirk, March 29, 1995.

★IMPROVE OUR ENVIRONMENT★
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL MONTH
 APRIL 1995

10 WAYS TO LOOK YOUR BEST AND SAVE MONEY, TOO

Don't blow big bucks on beauty. You can look your best without spending a fortune on cosmetics by following these 10 tips from an expert.

1. **STORE** lipstick in the refrigerator. If it's cool, the lipstick will last longer because a thinner layer will come off when you apply it, says Rochelle McDonald, author of "How to Pinch a Penny Till It Screams."

2. **USE** lipstick to double as a blush. This way you won't have to spend extra money to match each tube of lipstick—and you'll get the perfect color combination every time.

3. **CUT** your shampoo use in half by lathering only once. Although the directions on many bottles recommend two latherings, the second one does nothing more than waste shampoo.

4. **IF** you use an expensive moisturizing cream, check out the cheaper ones. Odds are that you'll find one with essentially the same ingredients for a lot less money.

5. **USE** witch hazel instead of expensive astringents or skin toners. Those pricey products are nothing more than mixtures of alcohol and water with an added scent. If your skin is very dry, mix equal amounts of witch hazel and distilled water.

6. **WHEN** nail polish becomes a little thick, don't throw it out. Just add a drop or two of polish remover to the bottle, and the polish will thin out enough to be used.

7. **DON'T** store cosmetics in your bathroom. The dampness allows bacteria to grow faster, which shortens the useful life of your makeup.

8. **STORE** perfume and cologne in a cool dark place for a longer life. Heat and sunlight can destroy the fragrance very quickly.

9. **TRY** using scented talcum powder or soap as your fragrance. Both are far less expensive than perfume and cologne.

10. **USE** inexpensive natural alternatives to lighten or darken your hair. You can lighten your locks by rinsing with straight lemon juice. To darken your crowning glory, make a tea from sage. Let it cool, remove the sage, then use it as a rinse. Repeat, if needed.



"...God made every thing that creepeth upon the earth, and saw that it was good."
— Genesis 1:25

MENLO SCHOOL

A-B HONOR ROLL

4TH GRADE

Jeremy Ash
Jennifer Benedict
Emily Carr
Matt Evans
Brittany Hudgins
Amanda Long
Casey Luther
Kandy McGill
Clint McMurrey
Matt Riggs
Matthew Robinson

5TH GRADE

Tessa Brock
Jennifer Carroll
Guthrie Frazier
Leslie Hurley
David Huskey
Ryan Jarrett
Steele Lee
Lindsey Nixon
Lee Pettitt
Nigel Plant
Brian Precise
Amy Prince
Ashely Swicegood
Matthew Treadaway
Kristy Walston

6TH GRADE

Justin Cook
Ben Dotson
James Durham
Jeremy Flood
Brandi Gilley
Cindy Holbrook
Lena Payne
Christy Ray
Greg Smith

7TH GRADE

Matthew Bierkamp
Lindsay Hegwood
Daniel Hunter
Amos Huskey
Curtis Ray
Joseph Swords
John Toles
Ronnie Wright

8TH GRADE

Alisha Brock
Chris Butler
Jennifer Culbert
Adam Hester
Robert Johnson
Wanda Jones
Tonya Sparks
Angela Toles
Jeremy Treadaway
Joseph Willingham

STAR STUDENT

1ST GRADE

Lori Hunter
Mary Morris

2ND GRADE

Branch Harper
Amanda Lavender
Maggie Rich

3RD GRADE

Kim Middleton
Jana Ward

4TH GRADE

Amanda Long
Matt Riggs

5TH GRADE

Kasey Green
Ashely Swicegood

6TH GRADE

Jonathan Hegwood
Lena Payne

7TH GRADE

Emily Johnson
Leslie Knox

8TH GRADE

Wanda Jones

MOST IMPROVED STUDENT

1ST GRADE

Brandi Durham
Dana Yancey

2ND GRADE

Dakota Dodd
Justin Ward

3RD GRADE

Nicole Culpepper
Kasey Carter

4TH GRADE

Jamey Arnold
Matt Evns

5TH GRADE

Richard Bartholomew
Nikki Plant

6TH GRADE

Ricky Peoples

7TH GRADE

Tim Rutledge
John Toles

8TH GRADE

Houston Herring
Jeremy Treadaway



The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO" BLALOCK

•• Patrick Davis, a sophomore at Chattooga High School, and son of Floyd and Brenda Davis of Menlo, was recently chosen a Student of the Month. Patrick is a member of the Beta Club and is a technician and camera operator for "Good Afternoon, Chattanooga." Warmest congratulations, Patrick!

•• Mr. and Mrs. Michael Allison, Menlo, announce the birth of their daughter, Rachael McKenzie, Feb. 20, in the Floyd Medical Center.

•• The new Lucky's building is being built by Tim Hegwood and will be leased by Lucky's, which is owned by Mike and Brenda Woodard. They also have a grocery store in Lyerly. Plans call for additions to the building to house a small shopping mall.

•• The attorney for the City of Menlo has drawn up papers allowing Menlo to lease to buy a small amount of land for its proposed city well.

According to Sid Swords, City Superintendent, Lawyer Ed Searles drew up a contract providing that the city pay \$150 a year for 25 years to the owner of the property.

•• Amelia Howard, 16, has been named first alternate to the Governor's Honor Program. Amelia, the daughter of Karen and John Howard, was selected for her knowledge in science. The program was established in 1964, and every year, 600 of the top Georgia High School students are selected to attend a six-weeks summer session at Valdosta State College.

•• In a recent city council meeting, Councilman Eddie Majors voiced concern over a drain located in front of the fire station. The drain has a metal grate that comes off and flops back and forth. The council discussed getting a permanent grate to cover the top of the drain to alleviate any possible safety hazards caused by someone's driving on top of the drain hole.

•• Paige Ward, sister of Scott Ward, Menlo, was married on March 18 to Stacy Colbert at Beersheba Presbyterian Church, Telogo.

•• Chattooga County Jail inmates will be served meals from Elaine Maxwell's restaurant in Menlo. That was decided when sealed bids were opened March 6 in Commissioner Jim Parker's office. The Maxwell bid was \$5 a day, Care Cottage was \$7.50 a day.

•• Joseph Swords, Menlo Elementary, was a recent winner of the Optimist International Oratorical contest. Other winners were Kristi Wilcox and Ben Dotson, both Menlo Elementary, second place; and Jeremy Flood and Nikki Hawkins, both of Menlo Elementary, runners-up.

•• Michael McClellan, a member of the Berea College Country Dancers, will perform at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC, as part of the troupe's spring tour. Michael, a sophomore biology major at Berea, is the son of Diane Ford, Cloudland.

•• Deepest sympathy to the families of the recently deceased:

Mamie Zera Cavin, 92, Cloudland, who died March 14.
Donald B. Barron, 82, Cloudland, who died March 19.



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••Correction••

The cutlines under three photos in last month's issue of the Groundhog were switched. The Groundhog regrets the error.



MENTONE ROCK WALL DEDICATION CEREMONY

By Marie Dillenbeck

In his first public appearance since being appointed Alabama Director of Transportation Jimmy Butts, representing Gov. Fob James, helped dedicate a recently rebuilt stone wall in Mentone on Friday, March 10.

City, county, and state officials took part in the dedication, and representatives of U.S. Senators Howell Heflin (Jane Johnson) and Richard Shelby and Rep. Tom Bevill (Mary Cochran) were also present. Dedication festivities kicked off about 3:00 p.m., with the Valley Head High School Band performing under the direction of Campbell Smith. Judicial guests were Judges Clyde Traylor, Randall Cole, and Paul Thomas. Others present on the platform were Mary Ann Cole from the Ft. Payne City Council, Ken Murphree, Grady Dalton, Steve Bussman, Ft. Payne Councilmen, among others.

Mentone Mayor Max Cash, whose father was one of the stone masons that helped build the wall, presided over the afternoon's activities. He addressed the crowd and said, "This is a high day in the history of our town." After introducing the three city council officers present, Larry Hooks, James Johnson, and Rev. Don Brock, the mayor then introduced Mr. Jimmy Butts and turned the proceedings over to him.

Among those honored on the speakers' platform at the dedication were Cash's brothers; the five sons of Lee Crow: Homer, Jesse, Chester, Lester, and Dewey, the mason who supervised the crew that built the original wall; and Jack Lusk, whose father and brother worked on the wall.

The original wall was constructed in 1927 under the supervision of Mentone resident Lee Crow. Crow's son, Homer Crow, said the wall was erected at the request of the Mentone residents who preferred the rock over the then typical cable guard rail. Crow said the rock "fit with the mountain a lot better" than a cable guard rail would have. He said his father and eight other stone masons worked the better part of a year to construct the original wall.

"The wall was my older brother's first job," Lusk said. "He was the water boy."

Restoration of the wall was a principal project of the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA), the organization that was instrumental in securing the ISTEA grant. The original wall had been damaged over the years by slides and by errant vehicles striking it, and it was frequently repaired.

On two separate occasions, in 1986 and 1992, MAPA undertook the cost of restoring and rebuilding portions of the wall that had been damaged by over the years. Jesse Crow, was the foreman on both occasions. In 1986, through the assistance of Senator Lowell Barron, the state of Alabama's

Historical Fund helped fund the repairs. Homer Crow, former MAPA director, coordinated the project; Amelia Kirk Brooks, was the MAPA director; and Sammy Cash, MAPA member, was instrumental in promoting the project. When the time came to replace the wall with a traffic guard rail, the Mentone Area Preservation Association requested an Enhancement grant that was available from the federal highway construction program spelled out in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). Under ISTEA, a portion of each state's federal construction funds must be used for non-highway enhancement programs, such as historic preservation, biking and jogging trails, river walks, and beautification projects.

Transportation Director, Jimmy Butts, said that the Mentone Rock Wall Project is the first of the ISTEA Enhancement projects to become a reality. "When Congress passed ISTEA, I doubt if they were thinking of a rock wall in Mentone," Butts said. "But this rock wall restoration project is a prime example of the type of project spelled out in that legislation," said Butts.

The 9-mile wall serves as a guardrail on Alabama Highway 117 where it descends Lookout Mountain from Mentone to Valley Head. The Department of Transportation began reconstructing the new wall in the spring of 1994, and it was completed in December 1994. It replaces a wall that Mentone residents constructed of native stone in 1927-28, after Wallace Hartline and Nick Davenport contracted with the state to build a new road from Mentone to Valley Head.

Tony Camp, division director for the transportation department, said the new wall includes some of the stones from the original wall, as well as additional rocks from the area. The newly rebuilt wall has a cement core, but is covered with the rocks that built the original wall and additional rocks that were taken from the Mentone area so that all the rocks are similar in origin, Camp said. Mr. Camp also said the original wall had become brittle and almost impossible to repair. "It was a constant chore trying to keep the thing up ... It got to be a losing battle. However, Mentone residents would not hear of replacing the wall with the modern metal guard rails."

The rock wall was constructed by APAC Alabama of Huntsville at a cost of \$660,000. Of that amount, 80 percent was in federal funds and 20 percent state funds. Bobby Ruppel was the AL DOT project engineer.

According to an earlier writeup in *The Groundhog* in April 1986, the original specifications in 1927 included a post and cable edge to the highway. However, Mentone residents wanted a rock wall built along the upper portion of the road leading into town. Since the rock wall could be built at about the same price as the post and cable edging, the state officials

agreed to it being built instead.

Lee Crowe was the rock mason in charge of building the wall. Most of those assisting were Dave Ledbetter, Jim Cohen, Jack Jones, brothers King and John Magnusson, and brothers Joe and Roy Crowe.

The new wall--built by the masons of Southeastern Landscape of Huntsville, subcontractor to APAC Alabama - consists of a steel-reinforced concrete core covered on the top and both sides by hand-mortared stone.

Homer Crow said the new wall "looks a little different, but it's gonna serve a purpose and it's a whole lot better than (the original) was." He added "I'm happy with it."

At the request of the Department of Transportation, Dr. Pat Seymour was the coordinator of the dedication ceremony, and secured sponsors for a reception that was hosted by the Mentone Rhododendron Garden Club at the Mentone City Hall following the dedication.

The photographs above are:

(1) Mayor Cash addressing the crowd with several dignitaries to his left

(2) Transportation Director Jimmy Butts at the podium, with several dignitaries to his right, and Jack Lusk, Mayor Cash, the five Crow brothers, and council members to his left

(3) Transportation Director Jimmy Butts

(4) Reception at Mentone Town Hall, where Gerry Disney is keeping the record of attendees, with Buddy and Norma Williams, Rev. Randy Williams, Ruby Brock, Hope Walker, and others

(5) The reception table loaded with lots of good food. MAPA member Homer Crow is enjoying the selections. Behind the table are Rhododendron Garden Club members, Betty Johnson, Flo Kirby, and Ann Wright.

(6) Betty Chapman talking with councilmen Ken Murphree and Grady Dalton. Tony Camp, and his assistant, Denise, in the background





Easter fashions in bloom

Staff photo by Nita Stevens

Teresa Cooper is wearing a dress from Jinni's in downtown Fort Payne. Teresa's daughter, Lana, is modeling a dress from New Beginnings. Both modeled for the Valley Head Woman's Club fashion show.

VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB ENJOYS FASHION SHOW

By Evelyn Graves

The Valley Head Woman's Club met on March 15 at the lovely home of Bonnie Barnett. The devotional was given by Teresa Cooper who read scripture from Colossians 3, which speaks of the inner strength of a Christian who "puts on the new man made in the image of the Creator; puts on kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering, forbearing one another, forgiving one another; puts on charity, peace, thankfulness, with grace in his heart." She also shared the scripture that emphasizes that we are clothed from within.

The devotional was selected to complement the program, "Reflecting on the Past and Reaching to the Future." A fashion show was presented by Jinni's of Fort Payne. Virginia Hicks, owner, was present to conduct the fashion show, as well as Amy Edwards from New Beginnings, the adjoining children's shop. Dot Blackburn, president of the Woman's Club, was the first model and was attired in all vintage clothing, consisting of a black dress, hat, shoes, and bag. Mrs. Blackburn said that her Aunt Martha Elizabeth Crabtree had hand knitted the dress in 1876. Teresa Cooper and daughter, Lana, were the next to model very attractive fashions, with the thought that two-year-old Lana is one of the women of the future. Other children modeling were Laura Halter, daughter of Janie Halter, former editor of *The Times-Journal*; and Kayla Edwards, daughter of Amy Edwards. Kayla was very cute in summer fashions from her mother's shop. Other club members modeling fashions from Jinni's were: Flo Kirby, Jean Jones, Evelyn Graves, Velma Hammond, Bess Bauerle, Doris Carmichael, Maxine Wright, Martha Gibson, and Sadie Cooper.

Following the fashion show, delicious refreshments were served by hostesses, Bonnie Barnett and Dallyne Jones.



Reflecting on the past...

Staff photo by Nita Stevens

Dot Blackburn, President of Valley Head Woman's Club is shown wearing a black, hand knit dress made by her Aunt Martha Elizabeth Crabtree in 1876.



Slim Easler and son, Jakie Lee Easler, with vintage 1966 Model 230S Mercedes on the left rebuilt from parts of the identical model on the right.



The New Image Beauty Salon sign is now in place at Brenda Goss's Beauty Shop on Cove Road (County Road 648) in Mentone.



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Custom sewing of all types wedding dresses
and prom dresses
We specialize in hard-to-fit sizes.

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The Musical Mountain In Springtime

RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL



NO ADMISSION

**Saturday & Sunday,
May 20th & 21st**

Mentone Alabama - On Lookout Mountain Parkway

View Rhododendrons From River Boat Rides at Desoto Falls Tickets \$2.50

- ♦ Music, Stories, Bonfire--Friday, May 19th at 7:00 PM
- ♦ Parade on Saturday, May 20th at 2:00 PM
- ♦ Clogging--Quilting--Arts & Crafts
- ♦ Rhododendron Queen Contest Saturday, May 13th at 8:00 PM at the Hitching Post

Good Food -- Ice Cream -- Popcorn -- Cotton Candy

*Chance On Hand-Made Quilt to Be
Given Away at 4 p.m. Sunday
\$1.00 DONATION*

RHODODENDRONS -- NATIVE HYBRIDS ON SALE BOTH DAYS

All Atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Midway From Chattanooga to Gadsden

On Highway 117, Exiting Off I-59, Exit 231

Sponsored by the Mentone Area Preservation Association

-- A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION --



God's Minute

By RUBY BROCK

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life; He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. John 11:25

Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth. John 6: 43

It was Jesus who won the victory over death and the grave. The grave could not hold Him. And it was He who said I am the resurrection and the life. It was Jesus who said the hour is coming when those in the grave shall come forth.

Paul said, the dead shall rise first, then we shall be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air.

Easter is the day we celebrate the Christ who made this possible. If he had not been raised, we would have no hope. This Easter, go to church somewhere and worship the risen Savior.



TO BE GIVEN AWAY LABOR DAY 1995

1929 GAZELLE REPLICA SSK KIT CAR, with Ford chassis, 2300 cc Ford engine, automatic transmission, 2-door convertible (with top stored in trunk), wire wheels, leather interior, beige and brown, with approximately 1,000 miles.

This beautiful car was titled in 1969 and can be seen at Tim Hegwood Motor Company on Highway 48 in Menlo, Georgia. The Chattooga County Shrine Club is accepting donations in the amount of \$10.00 for each opportunity to be the proud owner of this 1929 automobile.

George Payne, a member of the Yarrab Shrine in Atlanta for 17 years, and a charter member of the newly-formed Chattooga County Shrine Club, is shown standing by this intriguing car. Labor Day 1995 is the date this car will be given away, and all the proceeds will go to Community Center, Inc., and the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital. One does not have to be present to win.

4th ANNUAL

Wildflower Saturday

May 6 & 13, 1995

Desoto State Park Nature Center



Hikes & Programs begin at 8:30 am.

Meet at the DeSoto State Park Nature Center, located next to the Country Store. Parking available in the Picnic Area across the street from the Nature Center.

Wildflower Saturday Activities

8:30 am - Orientation & Welcome - Nature Center

9:00 am to 11:30 am - Wildflower Hikes

11:30 am to 1:00 pm - Lunch (bring your own or eat at the Lodge)

1:00 pm to 3:30 pm - Wildflowers Hikes

Field Trip Leaders.

Ken Thomas - Naturalist DeSoto State Park (May 6 & 13)

Dee Threlkeld - Wildflower Identification (May 6)

Bill Threlkeld - Wildflower ID & Photography (May 6)

Terry Hutchison - Wildflower Identification (May 6)

Paul Franklin - Wildflower ID & Photography (May 13)



For more information contact DeSoto State Park at 205-845-0951

MOON LAKE SCHOOL SPRINGFEST 1995

The Springfest at Moon Lake School is Saturday, April 29. Lots of fun games and plenty of good food will be available for everybody at reasonable prices. Here's the schedule:

- 9 a.m. - Sign up for olympics
- Breakfast - sausage & ham biscuits
- 10 a.m. - Flower show judging
- Horseshoe tournament
- 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. -- LUNCH
- 1 p.m. - New Generation Dancers
- 2 p.m. - Pet Show
- 3 p.m. - Puppet show
- 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. - Music Festival

There will be an exhibition of miniature bird houses in the gym. Dr. Mark Wilson will have a dental booth. DeSoto Rescue Squad will have an Emergency 911 Booth.

Please come and support our fine community school.