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THE

GROUNDHOG

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Volume 14, No. 8

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

August 1996

BILL PULLEN, A MAN OF STRENGTH AND INTEGRITY

By Evelyn Graves

Robert Bruce Pullen (known to family and friends as "Bill") was born on December 18, 1912, to Robert and Daisy (Kerr) Pullen. His grandparents were James Taylor and Martha Jane (Isbell) Pullen. Bill was born in Polk County, Georgia, and lived there until he was seven years old. Bill's father helped a neighboring family, the Colquitts, (ancestors of Elizabeth Romans, Colquitt, and Ed Jones) move to Mentone. Bill relates that "Mr. Colquitt thought he had died and gone to Heaven" when he saw Mentone for the first time. When Bill's father came to Mentone to help the Colquitts unload their belongings, he, too, was taken with what he saw and made immediate plans to move his family to Mentone also. He had no job in view, but he set about to farm when they arrived. Later he worked in carpentry, as well.

There were eight children in the Pullen family. Alleen was the oldest child. She never married but stayed in the homes of elderly people and took care of them, assisting many people in the community. Jack was the oldest brother and his life ended tragically at age 16 when he drowned in Little River. He was working at Camp DeSoto; and, immediately after his lunch break, he went for a swim, took a cramp, and drowned. Bill was the third child. Fouché (better known as "Tommy") was the fourth. He was the husband of Ruth Keith Pullen and the father of Eleanor Pullen Tate. Evan (known as "Mutt") was the fifth child. He was the husband of Lela Belle (Kirby) Pullen, the father of June (Pullen) Crow and Jimmy Pullen. Irene (Pullen) Mauney was the sixth child, and she and her husband reside in Georgia. Florene (Pullen) Kirby, the seventh child, married Britt Kirby and they have always lived at Mentone and enjoyed rearing their family here. Jeff was the youngest Pullen child. He was a pharmacist in the Birmingham area, and died at a young age of a heart attack.

All of the children attended school at Moon Lake. Bill remembers that he and some of the other children would hide when the bell was rung after recess. The teacher would have to hunt for them to return them to class. They never got into any serious trouble about it—just warnings.

At home, life was normal. The children were all taught to work, but they always had some time to play. Bill relates an incident at Christmas time which is outstanding in his memory. He had been hearing talk about Santa Claus coming down the chimney with a big bagful of toys. He had his doubts about whether the chimney would be large enough for this to take place, so he climbed upon the roof to check the chimney out, and in peeking down the chimney he dislodged a rock which was sitting on the top, and it fell and hit him on the head. He decided to just leave Christmas to Santa after that.



Bill Pullen in his navy suit 1942-3



**Bill and Grace
Pullen
on their
wedding day**

After finishing school, Bill worked at anything available to make a living. In January 1942, right after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, he went into the U. S. Navy and spent four years. He was stationed in the Virgin Islands for 23 months working in maintenance on a patrol craft. He came home on leave after two years and then went to North Africa and stayed the rest of the time, where his crew repaired ships for the invasion of France and also built some ships by pattern. Building was nothing new for Bill since his father had taught him a great deal about carpentry. Bill's ship landed in New York the day Japan surrendered. He was excited about coming home. He and Grace Green had made plans to marry before he left for the Navy, but after the Pearl Harbor invasion, they decided to wait. He was discharged in September, and the wedding took place in November. He continued to work as a carpenter around the Mentone area until September 1956, when he got a job at Riegel Textile Mills in Trion, Georgia. He worked there until his retirement in June 1972.

Bill has whittled as a pastime all his life, but he became serious about woodworking after he retired from Riegel. He enjoys retirement, and has done a lot of woodworking for both profit and pleasure. He has whittled two beautiful chains, one from walnut that he did while he and Grace were courting. He says, "When the courtin' got dull, I would whittle." The other chain is from mahogany, and he did that one while he was in the Navy because there was no opportunity to do anything else in his "off time."

Bill and Grace are proud of their children and grandchildren. They have five children - Linda (Burns), Walter, Ann (Bonner), Kay (Wagner), and Bob. They have eleven beautiful grandchildren. Bill says he and Grace were older than most couples when their children came along, and he feels that they profited by others' mistakes. He says they gave their children all the freedom in the world, but the children understood that if they abused their freedom or got into trouble, those freedoms would be taken away. He taught them that there were two sides to every situation, and the right side

Continued on Page 5

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Wednesday, August 14, 1st day of school
- Aug. 15-18, 450 mile yard sale
- Saturday, August 17, Benefit Softball game (see flyer)
- Saturday, August 24, Benefit for Trevor Smith (see flyer)
- Tuesday, August 27, MENTONE CITY ELECTIONS
 - Monday, Sept. 2, LABOR DAY
 - Sunday, Sept. 8, Grandparent's Day
- Monday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m., City Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Tuesday, Sept. 2, 7 p.m., MAPA Meeting, Mentone Inn
- Sunday, Sept. 24, Autumn begins
- Tuesday, October 1, 7 p.m., MAPA Meeting, Town Hall
- October Colorfest, October 19-21 and Groundhog Run, October 20

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THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



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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.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Bernise Crow

The days are warm, but it's lovely. I prefer it to the cold winds of winter.

Our summer camps have been going full blast, as usual, but they are winding down this month. We meet many lovely people who are bringing their children for a week or two in God's country.

Those of us in MAPA are gearing up for our fall Colorfest and are looking forward to having help from all other organizations. The cooperative effort of everyone makes the festival a success. Penny Lyday will be general chairperson and she will be asking for help. Please answer her call and give her assistance and support.

The big 450 mile yard sale is coming and this is the chance to clean out your closets and garages and get rid of some "stuff." It is a fun time, and if you are not selling, please travel the entire route from Nockalula Falls to Cincinnati, Ohio. This 127 mile corridor turns left in Chattanooga and crosses Signal Mountain to Dunlap, Tenn., and on toward the destination.

Please come to our meetings, they are the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 2, at 7 p.m. at the Mentone Town Hall.



Wedding



Alverson-Durham

April Michelle Alverson and Joshua Shane Durham were married on Saturday, Aug. 3, at North Summerville Baptist Church.

April is the daughter of Mike and Molly Alverson, Summerville, and Rhonda White, Cartersville. She is the sister of Melisha Alverson, Summerville, and the granddaughter of William (Curly) and Dot Alverson, Cartersville; Shirley Willingham and Ray Hall, Summerville. Edna White, Cartersville, and the late Leroy White. She is the great-granddaughter of Dean and Blanch Smith, Cartersville.

Joshua is the son of Connie Parker, Trion, and Wayne Durham, Menlo. He is the brother of Tiffany Durham, Trion, and the grandson of Lou Ellen Durham, Summerville, and the late Thomas Young Durham, and Leslie Donna Hargrove, Belfast, Tenn.

WORLD'S LONGEST OUTDOOR SALE (450 MILES) SET FOR AUG. 15-18



From August 15-18, residents and merchants along the 450-mile stretch from Covington, Ky., to Gadsden, Ala., will participate in what's being billed as "the world's longest outdoor sale."



The tenth annual 450-Mile Outdoor Sale

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SPORTS AFIELD

By
PHIL HARRIS



Sports On The Scene

Strike up the band, high school football is only one month away. Next issue we have a preview of teams around the area. Crossville, Ider, Sylvania, Sand Rock, and Scottsboro will be the teams to keep an eye on.

WFPA AM 1400 will be covering DeKalb County high school football. Phil Harris and Randy Cunningham will bring you all of the exciting coverage, beginning September 5th. Here is the schedule for the first week.

Sept. 5th Pissah at Fyffe *
Sept. 6th Valley Head at Geraldine*
Sept. 7th Crossville at Ider *

*Games will be rebroadcast at 9 a.m. the following day, also.

Head Coach Jon Tidmore enters his fourth season as coach of the Valley Head Tigers. The Tigers are going to have a new look this season. They have changed the offense to an I-formation, rather than the wing-T. Jim Phillips has moved to fullback. Sophomore tailback, Tim Harrison, will create some excitement for fans.

Valley Head has speed and quickness, but not a lot of size. Where have you heard that before? For the first time in years, the Tigers will not open the season with Gaylesville. Geraldine is the opening game. When was the last time Valley Head and Gaylesville did not open up the season? A question I have no answer for.

Pee Wee football begins a second season, since being rejuvenated. Valley Head will have an 8, 9, & 10 year old team, as well as an 11-12 year old team. Please drop by the Tigers Inn and donate what you can to the Pee Wee football program. These kids need your help!!

Fall league softball begins August 19 at the Fort Payne Sports Complex. Local teams, Mentone and CFS, will compete in the fourteen team league. Good luck, guys!

National Sports at a Glance

The Atlanta Olympic memories are ones to be cherished for a lifetime. The tragedy at Centennial Park was over shadowed by great sportsmanship and American triumph.

How about a reminder of some of those memories:

Kerri Strug twisting a hurt ankle, while clinching gold for the women's gymnastics team. Shannon Miller clinching a gold medal in the balance beam, after a disappointing showing in the all-around competition. Jarr Lynch winning the silver in parallel bars--the only member of the men's gymnastics team to win a medal. Lisa Leslie leading the women's basketball team to the gold medal. Justin Huish winning two golds in archery. Not bad for a man who practices by shooting across the street and through a garage door at his target in the back yard. David Reid knocking out Cuban boxer Alfredo Divergel. Thirty-three-year-old Mary Ellen Clark's bronze medal was amazing, considering that she was battling vertigo just one year ago. Team USA winning gold in women's soccer and softball, both for the first time. Amy Van Dyken won four gold medals in swimming. She is the first U.S. female to ever win four golds in one Olympic. Fourteen-year-old Amy Beard won two silver medals in the 100 and 200 meter breast-stroke. Track and field Michael Johnson's strong running style carried him to gold medals in the 200 and 400 meter races. Johnson is the first to win both events, ever. Carl Lewis won the gold medal in long jump, ending his olympic career with nine golds. Jackie Joyner-Kersey winning the bronze in the long jump, after being injured in the heptathlon. U.S. freestyle wrestler Kurt Angle falling to his knees in tears, after winning gold. Bruce Baumgartner won a bronze in free style wrestling, also. The U.S. continues to dominate men's beach volleyball. Karch Kiraly and Kent Steffes won gold and Mike Dodd and Mike Whitmarsh won silver. Andre Agassi won the gold in men's tennis. And, finally, Dan O'Brian won

the men's decathlon. O'Brian showed everyone that he is the world's greatest athlete.

Baseball: The Atlanta Braves ended the Olympic road trip in pretty good shape. The Braves are comfortably in front going into the last two months of the year. Get ready for another nail biting run at the World Series.

The New York Yankees and Cleveland Indians will battle for the American League title. I still believe it to be Yankees vs. Braves in October.

College Football: The Pigskin Classic (Texas A&M vs. BYU) and the Kickoff Classic (Penn State vs. Southern Cal) are just three weeks away. College football will kick off another grand season. Guessperts have had different opinions on who is number one. Soon we will find out.

The new BIG 12 featuring Colorado, Nebraska, Texas, and Texas A&M will try to dethrone the SEC for football supremacy. Though, we know who's the best.

Florida and Tennessee are the most talented teams in the SEC, as well as the eastern division. The western division is up in arms: LSU, Alabama, or Auburn could win the title.

The Groundhog SEC Preview Eastern Division: 1.Tennessee 2.Florida 3.Georgia 4.Kentucky 5.S.Carolina 6.Vanderbilt. Western Division: 1.LSU 2.Alabama 3.Auburn 4.Miss State 5.Arkansas 6.Ole Miss.

The Groundhog National Preview: 1.Nebraska 2.Tennessee 3.Florida 4.FSU 5.Notre Dame 6.Colorado 7.Ohio St. 8.Syracuse 9.Texas 10.Miami.

Pro football: Preseason NFL games are underway. With all the players changing teams, it's hard to get a grip on who plays for who. The Dallas Cowboys and San Francisco 49ers have dominated over the last several years. The Cowboys may have another Super Bowl title on the horizon. Question is, who will come out of the AFC? Buffalo and Pittsburgh may have the best teams on paper.

The Groundhog NFL Preview: Super Bowl--Dallas vs. Pittsburgh

Auto Racing: Dale Jarrett won the Brickyard 400 at historic Indianapolis Motor Raceway. Jarrett is on a roll and is a contender in the points championship. Terry Labonte (2792) leads the Winston Cup points standings. Dale Earnhardt (2731) is second, Jarrett (2729) is third, Jeff Gordon (2688) slipped to fourth, and Ricky Rudd (2415) is a distant fifth. Next race: Bud at the Glen, Watkins Glen, NY.

That does it for another month. May God bless us all. One special note, please continue to pray for Trevor Smith and family and Velendia Miracle and family. Thanks!

The Groundhog

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Devoted and loyal readers, the dog days of August are upon us, and moi is being blamed for the daily rains. Al says he has mildew between his toes, but moi thinks it's just fertilizer from his tacky nursery. The worst thing about the heavy rains is that Mentone street people Jack Lusk and Willis Blalock take refuge in the Superette, and Pop can never get rid of them. It's not as if they spend any money--just take up space!

Flatlanders with their dead-give away cameras and sun shades are beginning to thin out as camps are starting to close. Local pickups could hardly find parking spaces at the Superette because of all the Mercedes and Caddies in the parking lot this summer. "A body can't even spit tobacco juice without risking splattering a \$60,000 vehicle and causing civic strife," says Josh Goss.

You dedicated followers think you know hardship and grief? Not so! Let the flawless one tell you about tragedy. The tootsie pop box got empty last week, and moi had to spend two miserable days until the candy man came. Now, that's true pain!

Joe and Marian Liles came in the Superette last Tuesday with adorable Justin (2-1/2) and Amber (3 mo.), on the way to the zoo. They all stopped back by on their way home and said that no animals they saw were as amazing as moi. Au naturel, mon petit. ("But, of course," Al says that means.)

Moi's favorite time of the day! Here comes Bill Russell who always lets the great one have his Mtn. Dew bottle to remove the cap. Truly a prince of a fellow.

What is that ear-splitting noise--two hated cats fighting at the gas pumps? NO! It's milkman Wesley Frost's air brakes shattering the peace and quiet of Mentone's Superette. Why can't Meadow Gold sell a few cows and use the money to get that pitiful truck worked on?

A sweet little 3-year-old lass just slipped in the door and sidled over to the legend of Mentone-moi. Laura Cheatham of Collierville, Tenn. has made a pilgrimage with her folks to check out the legend of awesomeness at the Mentone Superette. It's hard to hide such a light under a bushel! (Besides, Pops says his bushel has squash in it.)

What a marvelous end to a perfect day: Running through the door are two of moi's favorite lasses. Erica and Stephanie Cryer give moi the sweetest sugar, and always share their ice cream. (Would that more people would show that kind of respect!)

School will be opening soon, and all of moi's favorite little ones will be trooping in for adoration sessions, complete with petting and hugging. Be still moi's racing heart. Til next time, y'all come back, you hear!

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Arlene Fowler, Elizabeth Jones Romans, Lola Mae Bialock, and Willie Haynes are a regular Sunday dinner party. Arlene had visitors from Gadsden last week. Lifelong friend Helen Belyeu, Ruby McCurley, and John Bryan came to spend the day. Arlene says that she and Helen were in first grade at the same time; and, as grown women, worked three different jobs together. They're more like sisters than just friends.

Congratulations to Annette and Marshall Orr who celebrated their 22nd wedding anniversary on July 22. Annette is president of the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, and Marshall owns Orr Landscaping in Valley Head.

Robbie Collins, 16, son of Jewel Collins, has won his orange belt at the Henagar Tae Kwon Do. Jessica Goodwin, 6, daughter of Terry and Rita Goodwin, is hard at work on her yellow belt. Matt Tillman, 11, son of Dink Tillman, has won his yellow belt. Randall Haynes is their instructor.

Lowell and Evelyn McKenzie are due some big congratulations, too! Sunday, July 8, they celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a luncheon at their home. Many relatives and friends helped honor the couple.

Peggy Bentley and Bob Forlano were married on June 16, 1996, at Valley Head Baptist Church. Best wishes for many years of happiness ahead! Additional wedding party members were Bob's daughter, Michelle Forlano, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; Rick and Debbie Bentley, Peggy's son and his wife, Ft. Payne; and Peggy's daughter, Debbie Bentley, Valley Head.

Billy Cash Jr., JoAnne Cash, Sandy Harrison, and Jane Galloway hosted a Bar-B-Q benefit for Trevor Smith, 5-year-old son of Alan and Debbie Smith of Valley Head. Trevor has leukemia, and the money raised (\$3,000) will enable his parents to be with him for his out-of-town treatment visits.

Bobbie Smith is walking on cloud nine! Daughter Sandra Sanders and husband Charles are giving Bobbie and "Snake" a vacation trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C. (It's hard to believe Snake would leave his four Beagle puppies!)

Jim and Penny Lyday were part of the "Golden Circle" group from the First Baptist Church in Ft. Payne who took a "Breakfast Cruise" in Chattanooga on Tuesday, Aug. 6. The seniors surprised pastor Dr. Pat McFadden with a birthday cake while on the boat.

The 1996 Homemaker's Camp will be held at Ponderosa Camp in Mentone on Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 9 and 10. Everyone is invited to take part. For more information, call the DeKalb County Extension Office, 845-8595.

Air National Guard Airman 1st Class Jacob F. Keith has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Keith is the son of Brenda Keith.

VHS Band members were hard at work in the HOT sun last week. Band camp began August 5th and ended August 9th. All the kids did a super job, and we are very proud of them.

Congratulations to Chris and Denise Bridger Black of Sylvania. They are the new parents of Christopher Glen Black born on July 17, weighing in at 6 lbs and 5 oz. Christopher was 19-1/2 in. long.

David and Marcia Tucker are the proud grandparents of Kaylee Faith, born to daughter Sarah on July 9th. Kaylee Faith weighed 5 lbs, and 11 oz.

Lea's Chapel Baptist Church recently held VBS and it was a tremendous success. Attendance was high, and all who attended had a wonderful time.

Glen and Wanda Black and Doys and Sharlie Harcrow recently enjoyed a trip to Gatlinburg, Tn. They all had a wonderful time and enjoyed a great change of pace.

Luther "June" King had a fabulous trip to Opryland Theme Park on Thurs., Aug. 1. He was one of a group of 22 people from the Ft. Payne Church of Christ who made the trip.

John and Bobbie Smith's grandson, Clay Sanders (12) of Gainesville, GA., was recently named to the Georgia All-Star Baseball Team. Clay plays shortstop and also pitches.

Shirley Collins, daughter of Jewel Collins, has recovered from a severe ankle injury suffered while playing ball. She will report for duty in the U.S. Army this month in South Carolina. Good luck to a fine young soldier!

Bobby Brown and others in his family were struck by lightning at home during a recent thunderstorm. The bolt ran down a pipe on the side of the house and sent shocks through family members. No one was seriously injured, thank goodness. (It's probably because Bobby is recently retired from Sand Mt. Electric Co-op!)

It's surely good to have Alyce Springer back in her Mentone home. She's truly missed when she's away on some of her travels.

Congratulations to Marie C. Depaul of Valley Head, who was named to the Dean's List at Auburn University for the Spring Quarter 1996.

Kudos to Norman Alexander Jones of Valley Head, who made the Dean's List at the University of Alabama.

Erma McNutt and her mother, Faye King, from Chattanooga, have returned from a ten-day trip to the West. They had to bring their winnings home in croaker sacks from Las Vegas. NOT!

Eloise Brown had a bad fall at her home on July 18. Being the sturdy mountain woman she is, Eloise is back on her rider lawn mower. You just can't keep a good woman down!

Clara Cash is another great lady who had a nasty fall recently. She fell in the yard while hanging out clothes and lay on the ground for some time. Jeff Crowe happened by on his four wheeler and picked her up. Clara said all her cats came to sit in a circle around her during the hours she was on the ground! (And they say dogs are our best friend!) Clara and Joyce Smith share two litters of kittens whose mothers carry them back and forth between the two homes.

If you haven't visited The Dish, the new tearoom cafe located in the back of the Hitching Post, you've missed a treat: home baked bread every day, a wonderful menu, and desserts "to die for," says Jean McGehee.

Jason Goss, son of Benny and Brenda Goss, has moved to Indianapolis, Ind., where he is employed in a Jiffy Lube. His parents plan a visit to see him early in August.

Pat McKenzie has returned from a trip to Texas to check on her property there. Pat will begin a new job in New Jersey in the next few weeks.

Bill and Grace Pullen entertained two huge tables of friends and relatives last Sunday. Every year, when son Bob and his family from Texas come to visit, the Pullens really throw a home cooked meal with all the "fixins".

On July 21st, Mr. Tommy Kilgore pulled together all the members of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church for a huge farewell luncheon in honor of Father Blazak who completed pastoring the church after July due to ill health. The occasion was well attended and a good time was had by everyone. There were six long tables groaning under the weight of the dishes prepared by all, from the plainest fare of boiled black-eyed peas to the fanciest creations. All was simply delectable, and everybody ate to the point of sinfulness! At the gathering, Mr. and Mrs. J. Jones were spotted, the dentist Anthony Vizzinia with his gorgeous wife and tiny little girl. Little Jr. was spending the day with the in-laws, so he missed it. From the way Papa Vizzinia was acting with wee Kelly, anybody could see who was "daddy's little girl."

Kim McKinney will be off to Jacksonville State for her second year on September 2.

Tessa McKinney and Corinna Taylor-Thomas will be going to marching camp for the first time this year. Good luck, girls!

Debbie, mum to Daniel Clark and Sheila Tishaw suffered a back injury at work. She slipped on a wet floor. Get well, quickly, mum. School starts soon!

Pee-wee football practice started the second week of July for Valley Head. This year the turnout is approximately 30.

Karen Prestwood explored the frontiers of space this summer at the Space Orientation for Professional Educators Program. The program was offered by the University of Alabama in Huntsville and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, as well as other agencies. Karen teaches Title I reading at Moon Lake School.

Northeast Alabama State Community College awarded associate degrees recently to the following Valley Head students:

Amy Nichole Hale, A.S.; Nagma R. Kahn, A.S.; Sheila Meadows, A.S.; Francisco A. Vanega, A.A. S.; David L. Vest, A.S.; Jeanette Whited, A.A.S.; Carolyn Bray Wooten, A.S.

Congratulations to Jimmy Wright who was one of eight citizens named to a committee to assess the need for a new DeKalb County jail and judicial complex. Judge Randall Cole formed the group at the request of the DeKalb County Commission.

The annual Benefield reunion was held on Sunday, July 14, 1996, at Boaz Nature Park. Approx. 50 people attended. Among family members were Brenda Goss, Jana Goss, Jo Bain, Emmett Bain, Carolyn Coots, Tiffany Coots, Tracy Coots, Michael Wallace, and grandchildren Patrick (5), Maggie (1), and Buster Coots.

Three artists—two young Mentone and one Valley Head—made the Times-Journal weather art section during July: Mack Ferguson Jr. (9) and Amanda Johnson (7), and Kevin Bates. Congratulations to these talented youngsters!

Friends will be glad to know Kevin Worthey and Kayla Bell have finally set a wedding date. The happy couple are planning their special day for November 30. A formal announcement with more details and a photo will follow in a later edition of The Groundhog. Now, the couple is working diligently on their apartment built over Ethel Manifold's garage. They will live there after the wedding, until their home on the adjoining land is built.

Gail and Logan Chambers, Krissy and Phil Harris, Kim Worthey, and Missy Hughes returned on July 27 from a week's vacation in Daytona Beach, Fla. Also accompanying them on their trip were Gail's sister and her family: Brenda, Danny, Ryan and Brett Cross, from Soddy Daisy, Tenn. The group of ten traveled to many fun sites including Daytona International Speedway, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, and Flagler Beach State Park. They even participated in a live Hawaiian Dance Show. The weather and the beach were beautiful for the entire week, except for late evening sand and thunder showers.

Deepest sympathy to the families of the following:

- Johnny Tate, 93, who died June 26, 1996.
- Lawrence Glenn Clark, 43, who died July 8, 1996.
- Dorothy "Bell" Strickland, 73, who died July 15, 1996.
- Roma Smith, 90, who died August 4, 1996.

Belated Birthdays/Anniversary wishes for June and July to: JUNE: •23 - Bernie Goss; •24 - Brenda Goss. JULY: •3 - Kenneth and Gail Chambers, anniversary; •12 - Cindy Harrison; •13 - Tracie Pullen; •15 - Chris Busby, Lois Foshee (75) and to her great, great grandson Gage King, (1); •21 - Eddie Langston (51); •22 - Keith Langston (24), Linda Clark; •24 - Dorothy Hopper (79).

Happy August Birthdays/Anniversaries to: •1 - Jessica Ivey (1 year); •2 - Ginger Gray, Tricia Black; •3 - Russell Pearson; •4 - Kathleen Mitchell; •5 - Hope Martin; •8 - Marzee Painter; •9 - Harry and Brenda Hopper, 27th anniversary; •10 - Lisa Hartline; •12 - John and Jennifer McGee; •13 - Jim Stout; •14 - Alan Black, Lowell McKenzie; •15 - Chester Green; •19 - Buckshot, Jean Clark, Adelaide Biddle; •19 - Beth Whisenant; •20 - Anthony Windom; •21 - Michelle (Chambers) Martin, Dale Shrader, Mrs. Eddie Langston; •22 - Keith Langston, Berthel Moore; •23 - Brandon Whaley (9); •24 - "Lightning" Goss (85), Tom Harrison Sr., Laura and Dwayne McKenzie, Nicole Huihan; •25 - Dot Hopper; •26 - Luke Crouch; •28 - "Lightning" and Flora Goss 67th Anniversary; •29 - Jaime Carter; •31 - Jack (Buffalo Man) Martin.

BEATTITUDES FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE AGED

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and palsied hand.
Blessed are they who know today
It's a strain to catch the things they say.
Blessed are they who seem to know
That my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.
Blessed are they with a cheery smile
Who stop and chat for a little while.
Blessed are they who never say
You've told me that story twice today.
Blessed are they who know the way
To bring back memories of yesterday.
Blessed are they who make it known
That I'm loved, respected, and not alone.
Blessed are they who ease the days
On my journey home in loving ways.

BILL PULLEN, A MAN OF STRENGTH AND INTEGRITY

(Continued From Page 1)

would give them a lot more freedom. Bill enjoyed his children to the fullest. He and Grace taught them to work and to enjoy the simple things of life.

Grace is a wonderful homemaker. She bakes beautiful cakes and decorates them with a professional hand; she makes lovely quilts and does other handicrafts. She and Bill spend a lot of time together and still enjoy each other's company after fifty years of marriage.

Walt, the older son, came by to check on his parents during my interview with Bill, and I asked him about life at home as he was growing up, and he said with the same dry humor that Bill possesses, "Home life was normal. We had plenty to eat and something to wear." I asked about life with his brothers and sisters and he said, "We threw rocks at each other and hit each other in the head with garden hoses." He then added that the boys climbed trees and the girls played hopscotch. Christmas was special; the boys got trucks and the girls got dolls, and with a big grin he said, "There was always plenty of homebaked fruit cake." With that, he left with his own son, Josh, to mow yards. It is interesting to see that the same types of things are being taught to the next generation.

Bill says the children are very protective of their parents and look after their well-being. He adds that he and his family have never done anything newsworthy, but life has been good and there has been a lot of love in the family; they enjoyed their children and are proud of the way they have all turned out.

I have always admired the Pullen family. I had the privilege of teaching a young people's class at Moon Lake Baptist Church when Linda, Walt, Ann, and Kay were all in that age group. I have never known finer, sweeter, happier young people than they were. All the other young people would flock to their house on Sunday afternoons, and enjoy a great time. Bill would tell them stories of the bygone days, they would pop popcorn and parch peanuts and have a lot of fun and laughter. The Pullen children were always positive in their thinking and did well in school. It was a delight to see such a wholesome family environment.

Bill, you and Grace did it right, and I am sure your children would agree. Thanks for being an example in your community!



Bob, Kay Wagner, Ann Bonner, Bill Grace, Walter, Linda Burns



Front row: Florene, Irene, Alleen Pullen
BackRow: Tommy, Jeff, Bill, and Evans ("Mutt")

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The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

In the beautiful summer, we have some lazy days to enjoy homemade lemonade and ice cream and just soak in the pleasure of sharing these blessings with family and friends.

The blackberries have come and almost gone, but luscious blueberries are just getting ripe, and they are plentiful. We have tall bushes of wild huckleberries right by the deck at our house. There is a difference between huckleberries and blueberries. When sliced, one of them has more sections than the other one. But, I don't know which one. They are so good mixed with other fruits and served as a refreshing salad on a hot day, or they are wonderful to top a nice bowl of cereal.

The Dish Tearoom is open and very busy. The food is fabulous. Lunch is served now, and they serve a wonderful fresh fruit salad with quiche or chicken salad. Home-made bread is served with every meal. And about 4 luscious desserts are offered each day. The menu will vary each week and will be a nice surprise to those who return from time to time. Seeing is believing and tasting is even better. They plan to serve German food for our Colorfest in October. I can almost taste sauerbraten and red cabbage.

Our grandson, Lee Cooper, is spending his usual few weeks of summer with us. This is always a joy to us and we treasure all the time spent with us. He is growing up and soon will be so busy with other activities he won't be interested in staying with old fashioned, decrepit grandparents. He has helped his grandfather work some and earned some spending money, which he loves to have. His cousin Lisa and husband, Sam, Whatley, have entertained him some, and Michael Praia has been up from Ft. Payne to swim with him. Some days, he helps me keep shop at the Crow's Nest Antiques. He is a pretty good salesman. These are wonderful care-free days that youth cannot appreciate until they grow up and assume the responsibility of earning a living.

We have not seen hummingbirds at our place like we have had for the past three years. The brutally cold winter we had may have discouraged them, but I wouldn't think so. Someone should know the answer. We miss seeing the beautiful little iridescent hummers. Right now, we are enjoying the lullaby of the Cicadas, and the twilight brings out the melodious song of the wood thrush. It's such a comforting soft, musical sound that makes one relax and enjoy the cool of the evening. We are very happy for Brent Black who has opened the new restaurant called the "Cliff" on the parkway, about six miles south of Mentone. It is truly a lovely building, erected with mountain stone and old timbers from the old Millsaps summer house. It has a nice view and good food. Since we live near, we are happy to have another choice. I'm hoping they will stay open later on Sunday nights. There is no place to eat on Sunday evening, except at DeSoto State Park. It is good, but it's always nice to have a choice.

We have had a wonderful summer, not dry long enough to ruin our gardens. We have enjoyed green beans, squash, tomatoes, cucumbers, and lettuce from our little raised beds. It's so good to have something fresh from the garden. A vine ripened tomato cannot be matched with any of them shipped to us. With the abundance of good vegetables, now, we have no need of meat to have an excellent meal.

We have two new shops in our town--the Country Cottage Antiques and Collectibles and the Dulcimer shop, in the Craft Village. Please visit them and make them feel welcome. It's sort of a bad feeling when us local people never come into your business. I know the feeling.

The Crow reunion was held July 6. The clan met at Bankhead Cemetery for a Confederate Memorial Service held for Green Berry Crow, great, great grandfather of Homer and his brothers, and sister. He was also great grandfather of Ernest Smith who writes for The Groundhog. The memorial

was arranged by Coy Crow who worked with Tracey Norman. Tracey is a member of the Sons of Confederates who do reenactment battles and ceremonies honoring Confederate veterans all over the south. It was a most impressive and moving ceremony, and one we shall never forget. The service ended with a 21-gun salute, fired from musket loading guns, and tape played by Tracy Harmon. The folded flag was presented to Homer Crow who was the oldest member of the Crow family in attendance. A Confederate marker will be placed at the foot of Green Berry's burial site. Greenberry joined the Army when just a lad of 15. He was in all the major battles of the south; Shiloh, Chickamauga, etc. He was wounded and stayed in a hospital a long time; then he was taken prisoner for a time. He was released in Ohio and had to walk on a crippled leg all the way to Alabama. He lived in the Mentone area the rest of his life. I could go on and on, but Ernest Smith has already related this story. I'm just repeating some of it.

We are having frequent showers and thunderstorms, which is to be expected in warm summer days. My grandmother would say, "It's dog days", and she said if it rained on the first day of this six weeks for dogs, it would rain every day.

We loved watching the opening ceremonies for the Olympics on television. It was a well-planned show, which gave everyone an insight to the beauty of the south--both of hospitality and history. It was much easier to watch from the comfort of the living room than to brave the crowds and heat of beautiful Atlanta. I have always said Atlanta was one of the most beautiful cities I have ever seen, and it was shown in all its splendor during the centennial Olympics.

This has been a hodge-podge of rambling, but then that's life.

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Menlo Mariners

The Menlo Mariners T-ball team was league champion this year, boasting an 8-0 record. From left, in front, are coach Carolyn Flarity, Skyler Hughes, Brett Wilson, Kevla Flarity, Levi Jackson, Dana Yancey, Allison

Willis and coach Larry Wilson, in back, coach Jimmy Prince, Daniel Prince, Coty Cavin, Tyler Buice, Jordan Smith, Ashley Thompson, Allie Prince, Rhannon Raines and coach Barry Cavin. (Special Photos)



Brisendine-Culberson

Teresa Annadean Brisendine and Gary Weyman Culberson were married at 6 pm, July 27, 1996, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Lucy in Ft. Payne. A reception followed at Union Hill Baptist Church.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. C.W. Brisendine of Fort Payne. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Homer A. Downer and the late Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Brisendine, all of Fort Payne.

Miss Brisendine is a 1983 graduate of Fort Payne High School. She is

employed by Laymon Hughes Hosiery in Fort Payne.

The groom is the son of Mrs. Bamalean Culberson of Mentone, and the late Benton Culberson. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Brooks of Gadsden and the late Mr. and Mrs. Ed Culberson of Mentone.

Mr. Culberson is a 1979 graduate of Fort Payne High School. He is employed by Shirey's Hosiery in Fort Payne.



James and Betty Johnson

In honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of James and Betty Johnson, their children and grandchildren request the honor of your company at a reception on Saturday, August 31, 1996, from 2-4 p.m. at Li'l Mole Run, in Mentone, AL.

No gifts, please.

Swearengin-Rochester

The National Trail Rider's Association's annual gathering at East Fork Stables in Jamestown, Tenn., has a way of bringing folks together, and this was even more true this year, as two of the participants chose to exchange their wedding vows Wednesday, July 3, 1996, on horseback on the bluff at Deer Gap.

Edna Sue Swearengin and Nigel Jerome Rochester, both of Valley Head, were joined in marriage by Fentress County Commissioner Edwin Stockton.

The couple, both avid horse enthusiasts, have known each other for more than two years, and visited this area for the first time last year. When they decided to get married, they said they felt that this would be the perfect time and place for the event.

The Rochesters were among more than 500 horse enthusiasts spending the week at East Fork Stables for the National Trail Rider's Association Event.



Mr. and Mrs. Nigel Jerome Rochester



Evelyn and Lowell McKenzie Sr.

celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on July 28. The McKenzies renewed their wedding vows on their 25th anniversary in 1981 and were joined by their children and grandchildren: Joan and Steve Pertree, Lowell Jr., and Ricky McKenzie, Becky and Raymond Blalock, Adam Blalock and Matthew Pertree.

Happy ☺ Birthday



HAPPY 4th BIRTHDAY!

Kathrine Hope Martin celebrated her 4th Birthday August 5, 1996, with a swimming party at Desoto State Park pool. Her parents are Michelle (Chambers) Martin of Mentone and Matt Martin of Fort Payne. Grandparents are Sanford and Juanita Hartline and Milton and Gail Chambers of Mentone, and Don and Carolyn Martin of Fort Payne. Great-grandparents are Alfred and Polly Chambers of Mentone, Rusty Rusling of St. Louis, MO., the late Mr. and Mrs. Carl Martin, and Cecil and Bernice Brown of Fort Payne.



HAPPY 2nd BIRTHDAY!

Timothy Ray Ogle is only one year old in this picture, but he will celebrate his 2nd birthday on August 26. He is the son of Ray and Staci Ogle of Henagar. Happy Birthday!



Continued photo
Jimmy Patty and Chris Hall

Hall-Patty engagement

David and Teresa Hall, Lysterly, announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Chris Hall, to Jimmy Patty, son of Delbert and Jean Patty, Lysterly.

The bride-elect is the grand-daughter of Bill and Doris Hall, Mentone, and Beatrice Taylor and the late J.S. Taylor, Lysterly. She has one brother, Kelly Hall, Mentone.

The prospective bridegroom is

the grandson of Bill and Lois Patty, Lysterly, and Lois Tallent and the late Doyle Tallent, Centre. Also, he has one sister, Pamela Patty.

The wedding is set for 6 p.m. Saturday, July 27, in the South Summerville Baptist Church. A reception will follow. No formal invitations will be sent. All friends and family members are invited to attend.



IT'S A BOY!

COLTON HEATH MILLER was born on June 4, 1996, at DeKalb B.M.C. Hospital in Fort Payne. He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 22-1/2 inches long. Proud parents are Heath and Melissa (Worthey) Miller of Mentone. Grandparents are Jimmy and Gaynell Worthey, also of Mentone; Reggie and Mayla Bell of Fort Payne, and Dewayne and Frieda Miller of Fyffe. Great-grandparents are Sue Smith of Cloudland, Georgia; Matt Smith of Portersville; Bill and Mildred Hamlin of Henagar, and Lloyd and the late Maybell Miller of Fyffe.



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Written on Nov. 4, 1994, by Lynette Pinson, at age 12. Lynette is the daughter of Jan (Jones) and Hugh Pinson and the granddaughter of Herman and Mary Ann Jones.

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VALLEY HEAD T-BALL LEAGUE—Members of the Galbreath team are: (front row, l-r) Chris Davis, Ashlee Romine, Larry Bradberry, Decker Jones, Brantley Romine; (second row) Stanford Carson, Brandi Ellis, Amanda Ellis, Allen Crider, Heather Daniels, Heather McClemore; (back row) Valerie Romine and Amy Bradberry.



VALLEY HEAD T-BALL LEAGUE—Members of the Citizens Bank team are: (front row, l-r) Lauren Smith, Paige Bethune, Tyler Gatlin, Andrew Cooper, Justin Smith, Cody Atkins; (second row) Tommy Smith, Christi Chester, Justin Brown, Heather Dulaney, Ethan Lewis, Rusty Rector, Zackary Cooper; (back row) Coaches Dennis Lewis and Randy Cooper.



VALLEY HEAD T-BALL LEAGUE—Members of the Fritz Steel team are: (front row, l-r) Tiffany Crane, Vince Wright, Coty Powell, Trevor Smith, Kasie Hicks, Chris Gregory; (second row) Cody Smith, Stevie Cook, Adam Tuxbury, Kyle Garrett, Josh Bowman, Hilliary Nichols; (back row) Coaches Mike Gregory, Kyle Hicks and Dennis Hicks. Not pictured is Amber Howard.



VALLEY HEAD T-BALL LEAGUE—Members of the Valley Mills team are: (front row, l-r) Jeremiah Robertson, Cody Hughes, Angela Tinker, Ariana Beard, Austin Harrison, Megan Gregory; (second row) Ashley Tinker, Cory Dobbins, Chris Mass, Justin Battles, Franklin Radcliff, Casey Battles; (back row) Coaches Tina Gregory and Pat Gregory. Not pictured are Coach Tommy Gregory and Jason Gregory.

THANK YOU, VALLEY HEAD T-BALL SPONSORS

A great many thanks go out to all the wonderful businesses and individuals who were kind enough to sponsor the Valley Head T-Ball teams for the Spring of 1996. With their help of dona-

tions totaling over \$1,100.00, we were able to purchase caps, t-shirts and equipment for 4 teams. We had a total of 54 children, boys and girls, between the ages of 5 & 8 playing this

year. All of the coaches, parents and especially the children would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for all their support:

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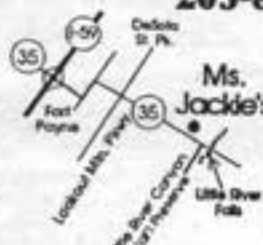
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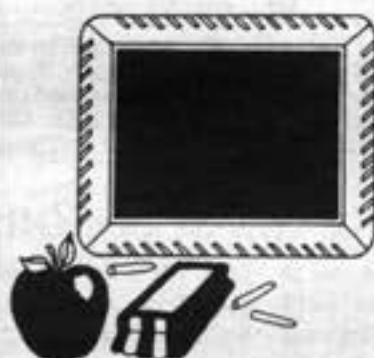
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Sept. 27 Cedar Bluff.....Away
Oct. 4 Ider.....Away
Oct. 11 NSM (HC)Home
Oct. 18 PlainviewHome
Oct. 25 Gaylesville.....Home
Nov. 1 Collinsville.....Away
Nov. 8 Section.....Home
(HC) Homecoming

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LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE BOYS

The Mentone Softball team finished their Summer League season with an 11-3 record, awarding them Second Place in the Men's Silver League. Pictured are Bobby Browder, Scott (Mudcat) Burke, Dewayne (Wayne) Blalock, John (Big John) Baggett, Phil Harris, Dean (Deano) Freeman, J.J. (Dirtdevil) Wigley, Kevin Smith, Josh (Moe) Goss, Kevin (Pete) Worthey, Brent (Snick) Haney, and Rusty (Old Man) Chambers. Not pictured are Chris Smith of Menlo, Georgia, John (Jean) Chambers, Chris (Oatmeal) Smith, Dale (Commander Dale) Kerby, Mark Hampton, and Scott Mount.

The team would like to say thank you to their sponsors, Dr. Pat Seymour, and Carl Jones Construction, and their dedicated fans for their continued support. Congratulations, guys, for this fall.



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The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO"
BLALOCK

Bids for the Chattooga County Jail have been opened. Elaine Maxwell of Maxwells Restaurant won the bid which was \$7.50 a day for each inmate.

Several Chattooga students have been named to Floyd College's spring quarter dean's list: Katheryn D. Ballard, Amelia Kay Howard, Benjamin A. Sellers, Lisa Gayle Cordell, Charles G. Grazier Jr., all of Menlo; and Susan Tudor Webb, and Carla Jean Deberry of Cloudland. Congratulations on a job well done!

Deepest sympathy to the families of the following:

- Margaret Garrett, 67, who died on July 21, 1996.
- J.B. Lowery, 71, who died on June 19, 1996.
- Jimmy Ray Tonnelle, 46, who died on June 17, 1996.

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Menlo Honor Lists

Menlo Elementary School's honor lists for the fourth nine-week grading period follow.

SUPER STUDENTS

First grade — Jessica Blackmon, Savannah Blackmon, Michael Brown, Stephanie Cordell, Brandon Fountain, Cody Goza, Bailee Hawkins, Kursten Hedgis, Jeffrey Hill, Haven Hurley, Levi Jackson, Lyndsey Little, Will Murray, Emma Pickle, Allie Prince, Emily Sink, Nicholas Smith, Samantha Swartwood, Ashley Thompson, Allison Willis and Brett Wilson.

Second grade — Casey Beaver, Tiffany Byrd, Slater Cordle, Thomas Dotson, Annette Durham, Brandi Durham, Melissa Hensley, John Marmet, David Robinson, Chelsey Ward, Amanda Wigley and Dana Yancey.

Third grade — Chad Bierkamp, Hope Burage, Branch Harper, Bryanne Hatt, Sara Hedgis, Sara Jane Hunter, Miranda Hurley, Matthew Middleton, Tiffany Nidetch, Carrie Patty, Maggie Rich, Shannon Sammons, Ben Swords, Justin Swords and Nikita Williams.

"A" HONOR ROLL

Fourth grade — Freddy Bryson, Courtney Duke, Katie Kerce, Doni Lee and Kim Middleton.

Fifth grade — John Brown, Caris Farrar, Anna Hall, Brittany Hudgins, Casey Luther and Kenya Webb.

Sixth grade — Sunny Smith.

Seventh grade — Jonathan Hegwood, Sarah Kerce, James Durham and Ashley Montgomery.

Eighth grade — Rebecca Dunn, Emily Johnson, Leslie Knox, Joseph Swords and John Toles.

"A-B" HONOR ROLL

Fourth grade — Chris Blackmon, Chris Brammer, Derek Bullard, Luis Cardenas, Kasey Carter, Jana Cooper, Zach Cooper, Erica Dover, John Hall, Chase Hegwood, Jessie Hurley, Sean Nidetch, Keri Beth Pettitt, Anna Prince, Leanna Robinson, Tyler Van Horn, Jana Ward and Susan Wofford.

Fifth grade — Jeremy Ash, Emily Carr, Michael Crowe, Anna Dotson, Samantha Maloney, Kandy McGill, Clint McMurrey, T. J. Pierce and Jennifer Whitt.

Sixth grade — Jennifer Carroll, Erin deMequita, Guthrie Frazier, Kasey Green, Amanda Hartman, Ryan Hudgins, Leslie Hurley, Ryan Jarrett, Steele Lee, Lindsey Nixon, Josh Park, Nigel Plant, Brian Precise, Leah Stoker, Ashley Swicegood and Matthew Treadaway.

Seventh grade — Lena Payne, Christy Ray and Greg Smith.

Eighth grade — Matthew Bierkamp, Kelly Haygood, Daniel Hunter and Curtis Ray.

STAR STUDENTS

First grade — Michael Brown and Stephanie Cordell.

Second grade — Ross Hudgins.

Third grade — Miranda Hurley and Matthew Middleton.

Fourth grade — Katie Kerce and Anna Prince.

Fifth grade — Anna Dotson and Caris Farrar.

Sixth grade — Amanda Hartman and Ryan Hudgins.

Seventh grade — Lena Payne.

Wedding



Reynolds-Lemmings

Robin Melissa Reynolds and James Lemmings Jr were married on Saturday, June 29, at Lyerly First Baptist Church, Lyerly.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Reynolds, Lyerly. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Steele, Menlo. She is the great-granddaughter of Lillie Mae Atkins, Summerville, and the late Grover Atkins.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Wilkerson, Summerville, and Mr. and Mrs. James Lemmings Sr., Trion. He is the grandson of Evelyn Lemmings.



THREE MONTHS OLD

Dakota LaBranne Willingham is the three-month-old son of LaBranne and Christie Willingham, Chelsea. He was born March 29 and weighed nine pounds, two ounces. His grandparents are Mark and Teresa Schrader, Berryton, and Lonnie and Donna Willingham, Chelsea. His maternal great-grandparents are Hoyett Broome and the late Betty Broome, Spring Creek, and Minnie Schrader and the late George Schrader, Cloudland. His paternal great-grandparents are J. H. and Mozelle Willingham, Chelsea, and Dewond and Kitty Wood, Menlo. Great-great-grandparents are Edra Wood and the late Coleman Wood, Menlo.



FIFTH BIRTHDAY

Matthew Willingham celebrated his fifth birthday June 20 with a Power Ranger Party. He is the son of Tim and Julie Willingham, Menlo. He is the brother of two-year-old Ashley. His grandparents are Wayne and Ann Pritchett, Menlo; Junior and Diane Willingham, Gaylesville, Ala., and the late Emma Sue Willingham. His great-grandparents are Silas and Brooksie Mitchell, Centre, Ala., Roy and Wilma Patterson, Summerville, Lula Belle Atkins, Centre, Ala., and the late Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Pritchett and the late Mr. and Mrs. Luther D. Willingham. His great-great-grandmother is Queensie Patterson, Fort Payne, Ala.



FOURTH BIRTHDAY

Patrick Dupree celebrated his fourth birthday July 22. He is the son of Barbara Phillips, Menlo. He is the grandson of Jimmie and Dorthene Phillips, Menlo. He is the great-grandson of Jud and Hester Brown, Trion.



GRANDSON

James Alexander Sims is the 4½-year-old son of Kathy and Tim Sims, Kennesaw. He is the grandson of Catherine and Hugh Hawkins, Cloudland, and Zola Mae and James Sims, Hokes Bluff, Ala.

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COTTON HESTER: A PART OF HISTORY

By Dr. Pat Seymour



Jim "Cotton" Hester

Jim "Cotton" Hester of Valley Head was a young Sulphur Springs boy of only sixteen when he joined the small group of painters putting "See Rock City" on barns and silos across 20 southeastern and midwestern states. Traveling around the southeast and up into the midwest in a pickup truck on trips of two or three weeks duration, "Cotton" and his fellow painters worked year round to get out the Rock City message. "We tried to do the northern signs in the summertime and the southern signs in the wintertime, but it wouldn't always work out that way. Sometimes it would get so hot up there it would melt the crepe soles on our shoes. Other times, we'd have to sweep the snow and ice off the barns with our brushes before we could paint!" commented "Cotton".

The reason the crew could do three or four roofs in one day was that nothing was measured off except for the lines. "We would stretch them across the roof with nails and pieces of string to mark it off. We'd block out the whole roof with black paint, and then come back and put the white letters on it," says "Cotton".

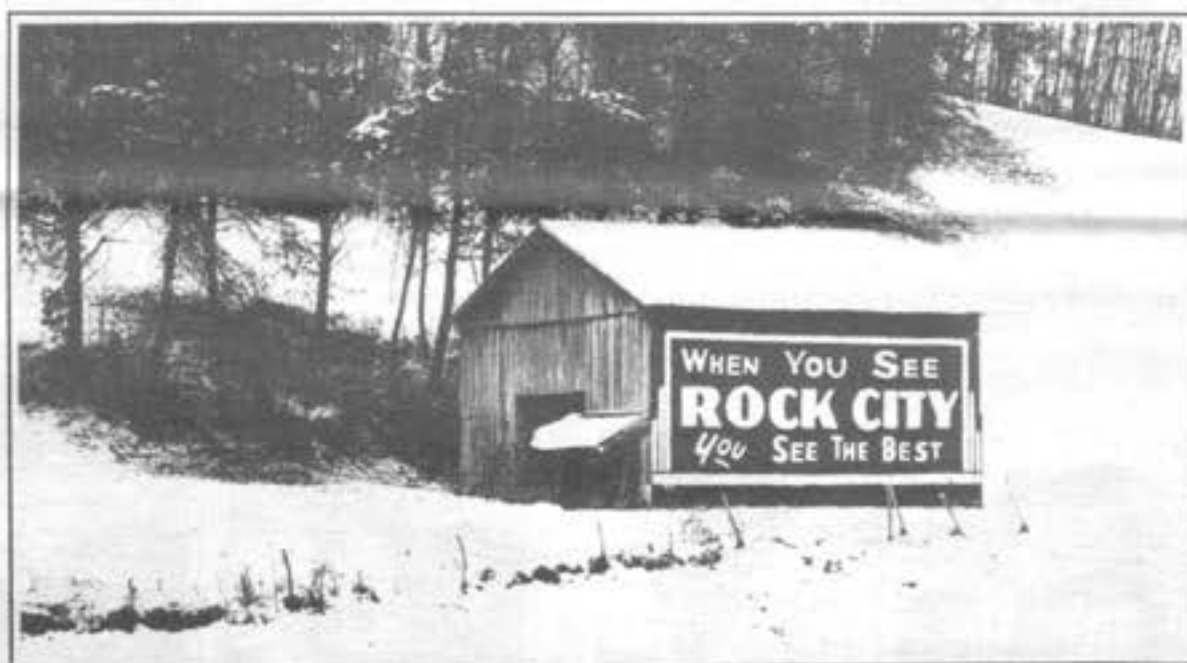
"Clark Byers, now 80, was the key player in one of the greatest advertising campaigns of its time," commented "Cotton"; an undertaking which made a little known tourist attraction in Chattanooga, TN, world famous, and its slogan a household saying. When asked why the farmers would allow their barns to advertise, "Cotton" said that the farmers were told by contract man Byers that his men would paint the barn free if he could put a message on the roofs: SEE ROCK CITY. The message was originated by Garnet Carter, the man who started Rock City.

Other than the danger of falling off the roof and inclement weather, "Cotton" said that wasp nests under the barn eaves were their worst problem. They would run paint brushes under the eaves in hopes of knocking nests loose. It didn't always work!

A big celebration was held in Rock City, on Thursday, July 11, 1996, in the home of Garnet Carter, to honor the "See Rock City" painters.

Our own Jim "Cotton" Hester and Kenneth Slayton were two of the original painters in the spotlight. "Cotton" Hester is married to Joy Hester, owner of The Tigers Inn in Valley Head.

On this page are some of the barns that were painted. Another one is found on the next page. Say to yourself, "I wonder if that is one of 'Cotton's' paintings?"



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PRESCRIPTIONS



Homer and Bernise Crow will celebrate 50 years of marriage at a drop-in reception held in their honor at the Li'l Mole Run Golf Course clubhouse, Saturday, August 24, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. All their friends and relatives are cordially invited to attend. For directions or information, please contact Doreen Waters in Fort Payne, Alabama, at 845-5109. **"50th"**

HOMER AND BERNISE CROW

A Tribute

By Doreen Waters

On Saturday, August 24, 1996, Homer and Bernise Crow will celebrate 50 years of matrimony, accompanied by their children, grandchildren, great-grandchild, and many, many friends and relatives. Since Mom is currently serving as president of M.A.P.A., I thought we should give some special recognition to her and Dad in *The Groundhog* this month, and I asked permission to publish this article.

I've always wanted to "toot the horn" for my parents, since I know they would never do it themselves. As the youngest of their four children, I took my parents for granted for many years. I thought all parents were as loving and generous as Mom and Dad. I now know that loving parents like mine, willing to do whatever was necessary to provide for the needs and wants of their children, is a blessing many children miss. Mom told me once that every time she told Dad she was expecting another child, he would get a second job immediately! She laughed as she told it, but I realized the significance of that statement.

Dad was a brick mason and stonemason for approximately 30 years. He helped his father, Lee Crow, build many of the stone structures throughout DeKalb County. In the 1950s, the family moved to Chattanooga where Dad worked for a large construction contractor. He was the overseer for many major construction projects throughout the Chattanooga area. In the 1970s, he retired from bricklaying and purchased a garage door operator business, which he ran very successfully. When he and Mom returned to Mentone in 1980, he opened a wiring harness company in Fort Payne that grew into a huge enterprise despite the fact that neither he nor his partner, Tom Anderson, ever advertised or solicited business! In 1993, he sold the company to three partners, one of whom is my husband, Jerry. He has finally "retired," although he stays busy working on furniture in his garage, helping my brother renovate the building he recently purchased, and traveling with Mom.

Mom has been steadily employed for the past 50 years feeding, clothing, and otherwise caring for four children and, later, a few grandchildren from time to time! The pay wasn't great, but she's still reaping the benefits of all that loving care. She somehow always found time to stay involved in civic activities such as garden clubs, annual March of Dimes door-to-door collections, and PTA projects. One of her major accomplishments

was helping to bring to fruition a scent garden for the blind at Orange Grove. All of her children were involved in music, and we kept her busy with our band concerts, band trips, choral competitions, and singing tours. When she and Dad moved back to Mentone, she opened Crow's Nest Antiques with her sister, Jean, in Mentone's Hitching Post. Eventually, they purchased the entire Hitching Post building. Mom is very proud of the Hitching Post, especially since she has recently seen a dream fulfilled with its latest addition. Mentone's first tea room, The Dish, opened its doors for business two weeks ago and the response has been tremendous.

In the 1970s, Mom and Dad were members of a gospel singing group, the Happyland Singers. An old airport limousine served as the group's tour bus. There were a lot of laughs in that old bus as the group traveled to sing in small churches in Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia. Although they sought to minister to others through their music, I sometimes think the ones who were ministered to the most were themselves! The camaraderie that developed among the group's members is something Mom and Dad treasure to this day. Oh, and they eventually recorded an album which fell significantly short of the Top 40 in sales. In fact, we later developed an extensive and creative list of alternative uses for record albums.

Mom is a champion for the cause of Mentone's civic improvement, and she strongly supported development of an organization devoted to that cause, which was the catalyst for M.A.P.A. She and Dad have worked tirelessly for 15 years in M.A.P.A. projects, and have both served as officers several times over the years. She is also a member of the Lookout Mountain Parkway Association and the Mentone Heritage Foundation, as well as the Rhododendron Garden Club.

Their best years together may well be the most recent ones. Dad, who never ventured farther than Panama City, Florida, once a year for the family vacation, suddenly and without much warning decided he wanted to see the world. Faithful *Groundhog* readers will recall Mom's account of their trips in her column, the Country Journal. These trips are the fulfillment of a lifelong dream of Mom's. To date, they have visited England, Spain, Austria, Vienna, Canada, Jamaica, China, Mexico, Nova Scotia, Brazil, Germany, France, and much of the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. (I probably left out several countries.) We're all pushing Dad to take Mom to Australia and New Zealand, where he was stationed during World War II. I even sacrificially offered to accompany them to assist them with their luggage, take videos and snap photos. I haven't given up yet.

I think there are two types of people in the world--those whose problems cripple them throughout life, and those who rise above their problems, motivated by their suffering to become better human beings. Who is it that said, "That which does not kill us makes us stronger"? I will not embarrass my parents by publicizing the difficulties Mom had growing up. Suffice it to say, she did not have a good home life. Yet, she didn't repeat the pattern by allowing her own family to suffer. She and Dad worked all their lives to make our home secure, happy, and strong, founded on Christian principles.

Life has not been easy for Mom and Dad, but anyone who knows them knows that they do not complain about their lives. Whatever pain they have endured, they have endured quietly. It's popular now to publicize your pain, but Mom and Dad were never ones to follow trends. I remember when we received the devastating news that my niece (their grandchild), Jennifer Crow Pullen, had been killed in an automobile accident. Jennifer and I were very close. She resembled me more than her own mother and father, both in appearance and temperament. Many people thought she was my daughter. When I was told she was dead, I became hysterical. Mom and Dad immediately ignored their own pain as they tried to help me cope with mine. Mom rushed to comfort me. Dad, who was sick in bed, jumped out of bed and held me as I crumbled to the floor in tears. While her world was crashing around her and her heart was breaking in two, Mom was on the phone calling my husband to come to my aid.

Homer and Bernise Crow have a legacy of giving--to their family, their community, or anywhere they see a need. Throughout the years, they have opened their homes to many people who needed shelter. Sometimes their generosity backfired on them, but it never stopped them from helping another one in need. In fact, I've never known either of them to hold a grudge against anyone who has done them harm.

I am very grateful to have been born into such a loving family. I am honored and proud to be called the daughter of Homer

and Bernise Crow. I am especially pleased to be given the opportunity to honor them on their 50th wedding anniversary, and I encourage you to honor them with your presence at their reception.



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All the World is Chemical

Earlier this summer, Sue and I were delighted to have granddaughter Rachel stay here in Mentone with us for several weeks. Time simply flew by, and all too soon she decided she was home-sick and really wanted to go back to her mother and father. Rachel is ten years old and that was a perfectly normal and expected reaction to an extended stay away from parents. It was really a wonderful experience for me to once again see the world through the eyes of a 10-year old. Some of the things she did and said really "pulled me up short". I had to stop and think about the age and life-experience level of the young'un doing and saying those things.

At one point in her stay, she, out of a clear blue sky, said that she had learned that water was called H_2O and so was a chemical. She went on to say that it was very disturbing to think that she was drinking a CHEMICAL. That last word came out with such disgust that I was genuinely taken aback. My first thought was, "Where in the world did that child get that thought and that attitude?" Well, after pondering that question for a few seconds, the source of that attitude became obvious...the popular news media: magazines, newspapers, T.V. and radio.

All of the news media search for and report the sensational, bad, evil, outrageous, nasty, and unusual in order to gain attention so they can sell their product...advertising. So what news do they pass on concerning chemicals?

Chemicals pollute our air.
Chemical CFC's attack the ozone layer.
Chemical warfare gases kill thousands.
Chemicals in our water make us sick and we die.
Chemical attack in a Tokyo subway.
Chemical fertilizer used to make a bomb.
Chemical explosives used in letter bombs.
Chemical leaking out of land-fills sicken hundreds.
Chemicals from hospital waste hazardous to all.
Chemical spills devastate countryside.
Chemical smog bad for all.

And, the litany goes on, and on, and on.

I told Rachel not what is in the above paragraph, but that everything in the world is a chemical—good or bad, everything is a chemical. She herself (and, of course, all humans) is the world's most efficient producer and deliverer of the greatest variety of very complex chemicals. Everything that she could name is a chemical, and so she tested me. It didn't take too long to convince her that my statement was fact.

Air: nitrogen, oxygen, carbon dioxide, argon, neon, krypton, helium, xenon, and water vapor.

Hair: a complex protein composed of amino acids known as cysteine and cystidine.

Trees: cellulose, a big molecule composed of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen.

Cotton: cellulose, same basic molecule as trees.

Rayon: cellulose that has been taken apart and put back together as a fiber rather than as a big "chunk" or tree.

Polyester: any of several chemical compounds known as polyesters. The only thing varying from one to another is the precise starting compounds (an acid and an alcohol) and sometimes only the producers name for the polyester; for example, Orlon and acrylan are chemically identical.

Our discussion went on a little while longer and ended with Rachel convinced (I hope), but thoroughly confused. She had a "I don't really understand" look. Rather than pursue the topic any further and probably confuse her further, I let the discussion end, and we went on to talk about other things.

What I hope Rachel got out of the talk was a change in her attitude. Just because the popular media has identified "chem-

icals" as evil, nasty, poisonous, and vile doesn't mean that description of chemicals is correct or adequate. There are too many wonderful, beautiful, and even miraculous things in this world created by God and by man, all of which are chemical, to have nothing but evil attached to the word that describes all things.

All life is a series of complex organic chemical reactions; and, without them, planet Earth would be as lifeless as the moon. Without chemicals there would be no Earth or moon or sun or universe. Just because the popular media collectively thinks like an untutored 10-year old doesn't mean the world-at-large has to agree. Now that Rachel has been tutored, perhaps she will give thought to what she hears from the untutored media and recognize that chemicals in themselves are not evil and bad. Only man's use or, more precisely, misuse makes them have a good or a bad name.

Wedding



Wilson-Brown

Miss Cynthia Arlene Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Lee Wilson, Summerville, became the bride of Jonathan Curtis Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Eaton and Robert L. Brown, all of Summerville, in a candlelit, double-ring ceremony June 22, 1996, in the sanctuary of the New Antioch Baptist Church with the Rev. Johnny Tinney officiating.

The bride is the sister of April Lee Wilson, Summerville. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warner E. Wilson Sr., Menlo, and Martha B. Gaines, Summerville, and the late Joe B. Gaines.

The groom is the brother of Deborah Gray, Sherry Glass, Luke and Bobby Brown, all of Summerville. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jeemes H. Brown and the late Mr. and Mrs. William L. Caldwell, all of Summerville.



August already?? I know you don't want to hear it, but Christmas will be here before we know it. In the meanwhile, we have lovely fresh fruits and vegetables to enjoy and 'put up' for the winter months. If you enjoy pickled beans, you might like this one for dilled green beans. I have found it to be easy and good. The other recipe is a good low-fat easy spread for crackers or sandwiches.

Dilled green beans

3 pounds whole green beans
1-1/2 t cayenne pepper
6 garlic cloves
6 dill heads or 2 T dill seed
3-1/4 C vinegar
3-1/4 C water
6 T salt

Wash beans and cut off ends. Pack lengthwise in clean, hot pint jars, leaving 1/4 inch headroom. Add 1 clove garlic, 1 head dill (or 1 t dill seed) and 1/4 t cayenne pepper to each pint jar. Mix water, vinegar, and salt and bring to a boil, and pour boiling hot over the beans in the jars. Leave 1/4 inch headroom. Adjust lids and process in boiling water bath for 10 minutes. Makes about 6 pints.

Tuna Spread

1 6-1/2 oz can water-packed tuna
1 8 oz pkg. non-fat sour cream
1 T pickle relish
1/2 t hot sauce
Juice of 1/2 lemon
1 T fresh chopped dillweed

Rinse and drain tuna. Mix together with remaining ingredients. Adjust seasonings, chill. Serve with crackers.

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The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Moon Lake Baptist Church had a church-wide skating party on August 8, from 7 until 9 p.m. The youth had a trip to Six Flags Over Georgia on August 9. Todd Suits will be baptized on Sunday morning, August 11.

The UMW at the Valley Head United Methodist Church will meet with Melinda Adkins and Helen White at Melinda's house at Henagar on August 27 at 3 p.m. Jeff and Melinda have returned from their vacation trip out west. Roger Haney filled in for Jeff on Sunday, August 4.

The Valley Head Baptist Church will participate in the benefit for Trevor Smith on August 24 at Hammondville Park. Trevor has leukemia and is presently at St. Jude's Children's Hospital undergoing treatment. His parents are Alan and Renee Smith of Valley Head. There will be a gospel singing featuring several gospel groups. Sunday night, August 11, the church will have Youth Afterglow, which is a time of singing, games, devotional, and fun. The Ladies' WMU will be meeting on Tuesday, August 13, at 2 p.m. at the church. The church is currently signing up people for a Seasonal Adult Retreat to be held September 30-October 3. There will be a Valley Head Baptist Blowout Bash at Hammondville Park on September 28. This is a huge event. Plans are already being made for this time of fun and fellowship. Sunday, September 8, is Grandparents' Day at the church.

The Men's Fellowship at the Mentone Church of God is sponsoring a Labor Day picnic for the entire community. The church is going to be involved in the benefit for Trevor Smith on August 24 at Hammondville Park.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church invites you to Sunday morning worship at 10:30, with fellowship at 10 o'clock. Communion is at 12 noon on Wednesday.

Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to attend Sunday morning worship services at 9 a.m. Alternate speakers are Jerry Davis and L. A. Smith.

An ordination service was held recently at Union Hill Baptist Church for Steven Lucy who is serving as Minister of Music and Youth at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Alexander City, Ala. It is sad but also rewarding to be able to send a young person from your own church into a field of service. The youth choir sponsored a golf tournament at Li'l Mole Run on July 27, which was a wonderful success. The proceeds will go into a newly formed Educational Trust Fund to benefit the college students of the church. The monthly singing will be on Sunday evening, August 11, at 6 p.m. Other services are Sunday School at 10 a.m., Morning Worship at 11 a.m., Discipleship Training at 6 p.m., Sunday evening worship at 7 p.m., and Wednesday evening prayer service at 6:30 p.m. You are cordially invited to attend any or all of these services.

You are invited to attend services at Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) on Sunday morning at 10 a.m. Visitors are always invited to visit the chapel at other times also. Vacation clothes are fine for the service.

The UMW of the Mentone United Methodist Church met on August 8, at 2 p.m. Dr. Pat Seymour gave a motivational program, "Never Mind What Might Have Been." Catherine Bailey had the refreshments. The Administrative Board will meet next Sunday, August 18, at 4 p.m.



Al and Jan Cherbonneau ST. JOSEPHS WELCOMES NEW RECTOR

Al Cherbonneau is the new rector at St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church. He and his wife, Jan, now reside in Mentone.

Al is from West Point, Mass., and Jan is from Conn. Al received his BA from the University of Massachusetts, and his Master of Divinity at Trinity Episcopal School for ministers in Ambridge, Pa. He just came from seminary to St. Josephs.

This is his second calling. He owned an automobile business in Mass., and left that to go to seminary.

When asked how he liked Mentone, Al replied, "We have been quite surprised that it is the same as the western part of Mass., the foothills of Berkshire. We are explorers by nature and are enjoying the friendliness of the people."

His plans for St. Joseph include meeting with the members of the congregation. Their first goal is to shape a vision together and decide what to do on particular goals of the church. He said, "We are all called to fulfill Jesus' commission. Whatever we do together is in that context. I am still in the process of meeting people in the church, and I will try to get to know as many people as I can."

His vision for St. Josephs is for it to be a center of good Biblical teaching. Whatever the members decide, "It will be decided together," he said.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 26, 1996

The Rev. Edwene Gaines of Mentone, Ala., has been invited to be a featured speaker at the International New Thought Alliance conference August 24 in Los Angeles.

"Accessing the Motherlode" is the title of her presentation to an expected attendance of about 1,000 participants.

The Conference theme is "Insighting Spiritual Revolution," guidelines for implementation of universal spirituality in one's life, ministry, business, and profession.

A professional speaker and workshop leader, the Rev. Gaines travels over 250 days a year and works extensively in Great Britain as well as the U.S. and Canada.

For further information:
Call Edwene Gaines at 205-634-4011 or FAX 205-634-4276.



Rev. W. R. Giddens MENTONE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WELCOMES NEW PASTOR

Rev. W. R. "Bill" Giddens was born in Sylacauga, Ala., to William R. Sr. and Annie Gray Giddens. He was called to preach at an early age and has been preaching since 1942 in many churches throughout Alabama. Rev. Giddens has seen many churches built and memberships increased wherever he has been assigned in the Gadsden District. Rev. Giddens has the record for serving the longest years service in the Gadsden District.

Since his arrival at the church, Rev. Giddens has been making regular visitations with members and others in the community. He said, "We are praying and looking forward to a great ministry here at the Mentone United Methodist Church." One of his visions for the church is increased membership, and the members are looking forward to working with him.

He and his wife, Gladys, live in Glencoe, Ala. Rev. Giddens was brought out of retirement to pastor this church and is available Thursdays through Sunday at the Mentone parsonage on Cutler Avenue. The church phone is 634-4881.

Thank You!

The family of Trevor Smith, who is 5 years old and diagnosed with leukemia, in early July, would like to thank everyone who helped with or donated anything for his benefit held at the home of Billy Cash Jr. on July 20th. Chances were sold on two \$100 bills and the winners of those were Mitchell Smith from Rainsville and Lyndell Chappell of Valley Head, who donated his money back to the family. Barbecue chicken dinners were also sold. The benefit would not have been possible without the help of the communities of Mentone, Valley Head, and Ft. Payne, friends and local businesses. We would like to thank the following for their donations: Lacey Farm, Kountry Chef Restaurant, Lynn McElhaney-Valley Head Discount Food Mart, Jim Roberts - Ruby's, Food World, Mentone Superette, Bruce's Foodland Plus, Little River Hardware, R & E Services, Colonial Bread, Golden Flake, Charley Bain Welding Supply, Rock Castle Cafe, Mayfield, Hardees, Flowers Bakery Store, Mrs. Tutwiler, Citizens Bank, Donald "Scrooge" Morgan, Blake Isbell, Jim Kirby, NLMFPD Mentone Volunteer Fire Dept., Friedman's Jewelers, and Burt Funeral Home. A special thank you to Billy Cash Jr., and everyone who gave their time to sell chances or help where needed. \$2,877 was raised to help the family with expenses. Donations and prayers from you all were and are greatly appreciated.

Trevor is improving but is undergoing painful chemotherapy. If you would like to send him a card, the address is: St. Jude Childrens Research Hosp., 332 N. Lauderdale St., attn: Trevor Smith #14373, Memphis, TN 38105-2794. No flowers please.

To make a donation, contact Cindy Harrison at 634-4454, and please ask your churches to put the family on their prayer lists.

Many Thanks,
Alan Smith family
Tommy & Cindy Harrison

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"Tigers Inn regrets to announce that it will be closed Saturday and Sunday from now on," says Joy Hester, the owner. "Although personal circumstances make this move necessary, I appreciate everybody who made the weekends a big success. Tigers Inn will continue to be open on Friday nights."

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A Friendly Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

Summer is fading swiftly away as usual. Most people have had a happy summer with nice vacation trips.

Carol and Chris Brown, and Amanda and Dillon, enjoyed several days in Gulf Shores--Jason Meadows accompanied Amy and Leonard Keith and their son Nathan for several days in Gulf Shores.

Jan and Bob Pullen have been visiting her parents, Dot and William Crow. All of them, including Mozelle Crow, went to Panama City for a week. From there, the Pullens returned home to Texas.

Lillie Bowden enjoyed spending two weeks in Tampa, with her great-granddaughter, Kaley, age 7, and her great-grandson, Will, age 10 months, while their parents, Jennifer and Bob Waselewski, made a trip to San Francisco.

Robert Hawkins, from Brewton, Ala., spent two days and nights with his parents, Geraldine and Howard Hawkins. They took Geraldine and her caretaker, Quanita, for a ride to Dade County, which meant a lot to Geraldine, as she is a "shut-in".

Roy and Bonnie Jones and children, John and Rebecca, from Chesapeake, Va., spent a week with Roy's parents, Jean and John Jones. The children spent an extra week. Jean and John took them to Hackleburg, Ala., to visit Jean's parents, Clyde and Lorene Holcomb. When Jean and John took the children home to Chesapeake, they visited their other son, Douglas and his wife, Jamey.

Scott Clark spent a while with his grandparents, Evelyn and Samp Clark, while his parents, Margaret and Loy Clark, made a trip to Maine and northern Canada.

Anna and Henry Daniel visited their two sons and families in Colorado for two weeks.

A bus load from Valley Head Baptist Church went to Opryland, Sat., July 20. They especially enjoyed the "must see" show, "America Sings."

Dot Blackburn and Opal Tatum visited Gertrude Humble Landers at Tiftonia, recently. Gertrude is seriously ill, and I just heard that she has fallen and broken her hip.

Martha and "Hoot" Gibson spent several days in Houston, Texas, and attended the funeral of a friend, Neil Salter.

Our family celebrated July 4, with a cookout at the home of Patti and A.J. Brown. Special guests were Shane Wright's mother, Norma Wright, and his brother Shaun Wright, with his wife, Evelyn, and daughter, Marissa, from Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

Becky Stott is confined to her home with a broken leg, suffered in a fall in her yard. We hope she will have a quick recovery.

The Valley Head U.M.W. met July 23 at the church with Jane Kirby as hostess. Melinda Adkins presented the program, "United Nations-- Time for Peace." A shower of baby gifts was given for Margaret Loyd-Murphy. Those present were Laura Margaret Allison, Velma Hammond, Mary Louise Holleman, Frances Longshore, Mary Crow, Marjorie Gray, Melinda Adkins, Adelaide Biddle, Venna Livingston, Jane Kirby, and Margaret Loyd-Murphy.

Our pastor, Jeff Adkins, preached at the Senior High Camp program at Camp Sumatanga. He and Melinda have returned from a week's trip to Sedona, Arizona. They visited the Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, and points of interest.

We had some interesting visitors at Valley Head Methodist Church recently from Brazil. They were Valdir Nascimento--the national coordinator of youth in Brazil Methodist Church, his daughter, Lea; Angela Lockman, daughter of a U.M. Brazilian Bishop; and Aurora Goodwin, who is Jim and Jo Goodwin's granddaughter. The Goodwins are our missionaries to Brazil. They sang a song and read scripture in Portuguese.

I attended the Tittle-Martin reunion at the Historical Society in New England, July 14. It is always a special day. Everyone should realize the importance of keeping in touch with relatives and ancestors. It is the security of continuity. Everyone have a happy August.

Mid-Summer Rhapsody

The days have built up to full fruition
In glad exuberant exhibition.
The flowers in loveliest colors abloom
Seduce our nostrils with enticing perfume.
Grass is its greenest in lush meadows lazing
Sleek cattle there contentedly grazing
Boughs of the trees bow with leaves fully grown,
Wave in the breeze like cool fans gaily blown.
All plants are burdened with fruits from their seed,
We gather and store them to fill our need.
If only I could embrace and capture
This rare feeling of mid-summer's rapture
And preserve it for mid-winter's bleak days,
To warm my heart with its radiant blaze--
To savor its flavor in ecstasy,
My soul would sing a happy rhapsody!

---Eloise Brown



Capt. John Mercer, at left,
with Dean and Tom Sircy

I saw a news item in the Town Talk Column of the Chattanooga News Free Press--about a person who will be remembered by local people as Willowdean Culpepper. She is now Dean Sircy. She worked at First Federal Savings and Loan in Chattanooga many years and her husband Tom worked with the Tenn. Dept. of Safety for 28 years. They have enjoyed 16 Caribbean cruises over the past 27 years. This cruise, the subject of this item, was special to them, to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Capt. John Mercer was their captain on the M.S. Veendam, a Holland-American line ship, which they reported was beautiful in every way and only christened four weeks before.

---Eloise Brown

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(1)

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Blossom Hill's main residence includes a bedroom, living room, bath, kitchen, utility room, large sunroom, (also used for feeding guests), 300' of deck and an attached greenhouse.



About 200' from the main house sits the guest house, including private rooms with private bath and entrance from a covered porch, and a 2nd floor 2-room studio apartment.

All surrounded by approximately 7 acres of natural beauty, native wildflowers, and raised herb beds. Shown by appointment only. Please call Southern Properties for more information.



(2)

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF COUNTRY LIVING in this like-new, 3-bedroom, 2-bath home, featuring 1200 square feet of porches, a 20'x30' workshop with 1/2 bath, 1 car garage and carport, and 6.8 totally fenced acres for added privacy. \$120,000.



(3) MENTONE BROW - Spectacular View-Beautiful, unique, unusual describes this finished home which offers three bedrooms, one full bath (with Jacuzzi), two one-half baths, great room with wet bar and fireplace, kitchen area features ceramic countertops and 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. Great for a restaurant. \$295,000.



(6) COZY COUNTRY COTTAGE - 1 acre wooded lot on East Lake Drive. Less than 2 years old. 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, large living, dining & kitchen. Fireplace. Front & Back porches, 2 car carport & detached garage. REDUCED to \$79,500.



(4) LOFTY CONTEMPORARY on the Brow of Mentone. Offering 3 or 4 bedrooms - 2 baths. Fully equipped kitchen-pine floors-dressing room, and solar room. Floor to ceiling glass in the 2-story living room produces a feeling of openness to the outside from both floors. Appointment only. \$225,000.



(5) Own from Highway 117 to Cutler Ave. Downtown Mentone - 100' lot on Highway 117 zoned B-1 - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, rental house on 3 lots and 2 lots on Cutler Ave. All for only \$68,500.



(7) SOMETHING FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY- Living/ dining combo, large eat-in with skylight-den mud room-3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 3 mountain stone fireplaces, large screened porch and a screened beach house for entertaining, all on a beautifully landscaped lot with Lake Lahusage frontage. \$179,900.

OTHER LISTINGS

(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) 13 BROW LOTS with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.

(10) OVERLOOK THE BREATHTAKING GEORGIA VALLEY from this 3.76 acre West Brow lot, about 10 miles north of Mentone. Lightly restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty. Only \$22,000.

(11) LAKE ON THE BROW - Where else can you find magnificent sunrise and lake view in the same place? Only at Lake on the Brow. Restricted building lots 10 minutes from town. NOW OPEN-PHASE II - look now while the choice is prime-starting at only \$12,500.

(12) VACATION IN YOUR BACKYARD at Laurel Creek Lakes. 1-1/2 to 3-acre lots all having access to 3 private lakes and natural common areas with walking trails. Restricted. Prices starting at \$7,500.

Susan Collins Residence - 634-4695
Sara Quinn Residence - 845-1881

GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

The Mentone area saw very contrary weather in June and July, it finally rained on July 7th after three-and-a-half weeks of drought, which nearly ruined all the gardens. The temps also behaved oddly. We had quite a few wonderful warm days with hardly any trace of the usual humidity—it only got humid before the rains came; then, it cleared up with low humidity. All in all, except for the drought during the late part of June and first week of July, the weather has been wonderful.

The dry spell caused some of the flowers and veggies a bit of damage, but none that was drastic. My glads did not put on the usual extra big blooms that they normally do, but the summer lilies made up for it—if only I had planted more. My prize lily known as the 'stargazer' put forth the most spectacular blossoms, they are simply breathtaking, and they covered the stems this year. The first year I planted them, they gave me one beautiful flower, the next year a couple more, this year they out-did themselves—they put forth about 15 breathtakingly huge blooms on each stem.

The squash and zucchini vines suffered a bit of damage but it did not deter them very much from producing. I know that for the next couple of years I will not need to plant them, as they produced enough to last a couple of years. In all my years of canning, freezing, and dehydrating vegetables and fruits, I have not had this much produce to put up. I am already quite exhausted, and I still have the rest of the stuff beginning to come in now.

Some of the squash and zucchini vines suffered from a lack of calcium (lime). After the drought, the foliage started to turn yellow and the fruit began to get blossom-end rot. To repair the damage was easy. I limed the plants and the fruit that were showing the rot. I scrapped off the skin at the spot; it generated a new covering in the scrapped off spot.

The okra has started producing. If you would like to prolong the harvest and rejuvenate the mid-season scraggly plants, lop off the top one-third. The side shoots will grow vigorously and produce a whole new crop.

Propagation Datebook

With so many options for propagating plants, it can be hard to decide what to do and when. Layering can be done anytime in the spring, summer, or fall. In general, divide plants either in early spring just as new growth begins or in summer after blooming. Take cuttings after the flush of new spring growth is over. Propagate house plants anytime. In early to mid summer, take softwood cuttings of ornamental shrubs. In July, take root cuttings or oriental poppies, bleeding hearts, bugloss and other plants with thick fleshy roots. In August, divide peonies, digging carefully so you don't damage any more eyes than is necessary. Replant with eyes not more than two inches below the soil's surface. Start cuttings of wax begonias, coleus and geraniums for winter bloom indoors. Propagate groundcovers such as pachysandra and periwinkles (vinca) in cold frames. Start cuttings of subshrubs like lavender, santolinas, sage and thyme. In late summer take cuttings of broad-leaved evergreens such as boxwoods, arborvitae and hollies.

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**JUST SAY NO****TO NO FAT SUBSTITUTE OLESTRA**

By Charles H. Cleveland

Director Community Health Education,
Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital, Wildwood, GA.

Proctor & Gamble spent 25-years and \$200 million developing its fat substitute, olestra, trade name Olean.

Many well-known nutrition experts objected because of health concerns, but finally the industry giant succeeded January 24, with U. S. Food and Drug Administration approval to market olestra.¹ It is currently being marketed in three states in potato chips, corn chips, and crackers. Fat substitutes have the potential to be bigger business than artificial sweeteners.

Olestra is synthesized from sugar and fatty acids. It passes through the body without being digested or absorbed, so it has no calories. (One ounce of Olestra potato chips would have no fat and just 70 calories, compared to 10 grams of fat and 150 calories in conventional chips.)²

Arguments against Olestra:³ (1) It can deplete the body of fat-soluble vitamins, including A,D,E, and K, as well as carotenoid such as beta carotene. Carotenoids are important antioxidants, and may help protect against cancer and heart disease. In one of Proctor and Gamble's own studies, eating 16 olestra potato chips a day for eight weeks reduced blood carotenoid levels by 50%. The company counters saying it will fortify olestra with A,D,E, and K to make up for depletion of the vitamins. They have no plans to replace the lost carotenoids. (2) Some animal studies found liver-cell changes that raise suspicions about a potential cancer risk. (3) There is also a high risk of diarrhea and cramping. In one study, half the subjects developed diarrhea after eating three ounces of potato chips made with olestra. (4) Olestra can cause rectal leakage in some people. The physical properties of olestra are virtually identical to mineral oil and petrolatum. Mineral oil is a laxative and carries a warning against long-term use because of its effect on nutrients.

Remember, fat-free doesn't mean calorie free. Artificial sweeteners haven't helped Americans in their battle of the bulge. Chances are this new product will only serve to encourage overeating and the result as usual will be more weight gain, not less. Truth of the matter is, the world doesn't need olestra.

Anyone wishing some personal help in making dietary changes may wish to join the Formula for Wellness hands-on cooking school being conducted each Thursday evening during the month of August. Contact Stan or Linda Lawton at 634-4658 for more information.

¹ Fake Fat Not the Answer to Weight-Loss Problems, by Denise Mann, Jan. 30, 1996, Medical Tribune News Service.

² University of California at Berkeley Wellness Letter, February 1996, p. 1,2.

³ Wellness Letter, February 1996, p. 1.



Ryan Lemon

Camp Laney Promotes Peace by Hosting Contest Winner from Belfast

By Linda Brown

Belfast, Ireland—A teenage boy from Northern Ireland arrived July 11 for a two-week sojourn at Camp Laney in Mentone, Alabama—a prize for writing an outstanding letter to President and Mrs. Clinton during their historic visit to Belfast last November. Ryan Lemon, age 14, was one of thousands of Northern Irish schoolchildren who wrote to the Clintons expressing their hopes for a peaceful future. Eight young scribes, including Ryan, were honored for their sincere, insightful letters. At an internationally televised Christmas tree-lighting ceremony at Belfast City Hall, President Clinton said he felt the children's letters left little else to be said about the deep desire for peace in Northern Ireland and were "truly wonderful for their honesty, their simple wisdom and their passion."

Each of the eight finalists earned a trip to a U.S. summer camp, thanks to the joint efforts of Camp Counselors USA (an international counselor exchange program), Aer Lingus, and participating camps. Camp Counselors USA found it easy to decide where to place Ryan, a very bright young boy with an intense interest in space. Ryan's interests shone through in his letter, which ended with a postscript stating he REALLY needed to know from the President whether or not aliens landed in Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947. President Clinton referred to Ryan's letter as he ended his historic speech at Belfast City Hall by saying, "To all of you who have not lost your sense of humor, I say thank you. I got a letter from 13-year-old Ryan from Belfast. Now, Ryan, if you're out in the crowd tonight, here's the answer to your question. No, as far as I know, an alien spacecraft did not crash in Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947. And, Ryan, if the United States did recover alien bodies, they didn't tell me about it, either, and I want to know."

Ryan divided his time in America at two camps: one week at Space Camp, an ideal match for his space interests, and two weeks at Camp Laney, a perfect place to pursue his interests in sports and rock climbing. Ryan has two younger brothers, age 8 and 11, and a younger sister, age 6. Ryan's mother is a chef and his father is a civil servant.

"I'm very excited," says Ryan, who loves basketball, field hockey, the X-Files television show, and Star Wars videos. "It's a dream come true."

In Belfast, U.S. Consul General Kathleen Stephens has praised this unique opportunity for American summer camps to promote world peace. "November 30, 1995, is a day that the people of Northern Ireland will never forget. It brought the world to a new, peaceful Northern Ireland, and it brought Northern Ireland's hopes and dreams, in the words of its young people, to the world. I am pleased that American summer camps and Camp Counselors USA have shown such a commitment to building on the message of the President's visit by offering young people from Northern Ireland extraordinary opportunities to continue to build bridges among themselves and with us."

(See letter on next page.)

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Welcome to Ireland, home of the Leprechaun, Fin McCool, old myths, and of course myself.

I hope you enjoy your visit to Ireland and come back whenever you feel like it. Ireland may be a small, troubled country, but we know that you'll like it because we've worked hard to make you enjoy your visit to Ireland. For example, we're letting you turn on the Christmas lights in Belfast city centre (the silly Power Rangers were wanting to do it because they are doing a show in the Grand Opera House for the kiddies to flock to and go wild about it). The work people who are setting up the tree still have to make adjustments to the tree night and day.

I'm looking to your visit because it's not every day you get to see the most important person in the entire world (that's you if you're wondering), right here in dear old Belfast.

I shall now introduce myself. My name is Ryan Lemon (don't laugh about the name). I am thirteen years old, I go to Grosvenor Grammar School and I'm Protestant.

I would now like to discuss the Peace Process and how it has affected me. It has affected me a whole lot because when the 'troubles' were still on it used to frighten me when a bomb went off in a place where you knew someone. There was a lot of bomb scares in those days and I was caught in one of them on my birthday. One of my biggest hates of bombing was that my grandma was caught in a bomb blast which nearly killed her.

I used to have nightmares about the IRA and other terrorist organizations killing my family and friends but since the Peace Process kicked into action all nasty dreams and thoughts went with the killings and bombings.

There is news that the cease-fire is starting to crumble because the political parties won't sit down and have all party talks because the IRA won't give up their weapons. They better give up their weapons soon because if they don't the killings and bombings will start again and many more people dead.

Before the cease-fire I wasn't allowed into the city centre on my own or with friends, so that's another reason why they should give up their weapons. I have to stop writing because I'm only allowed to write up to four hundred and fifty words, so good-bye and enjoy your visit.

yours sincerely

Ryan Lemon

PS Did an alien spacecraft crash in Roswell, New Mexico in 1947? Did the US Air Force recover alien bodies and mount a cover-up that continues today? I NEED TO KNOW!

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(4) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES** Phase I now open. 3-5 Acre tracts on the Middle Fork of Little River. Located on Hwy 117 S, Lookout Mountain Parkway, 4 miles from downtown Mentone and 2 miles from the Ga. line. Riverfront tracts starting at \$27,500, and 4-15 acre wooded stream tracts from \$10,000. Must see this unforgettable beauty.

(5) **A QUIET DEAD END STREET** is where you will want to live, in downtown Mentone. Offered is a 4 Bdrm, 2-1/2 bath home with 2.3 acres. 1 car garage and fully equipped kitchen. Appt. only, priced to sell at \$87,900.



(6) **PICTURE YOUR NEW HOME NESTLED AMONG HUGE ROCK FORMATIONS** on DeSoto Parkway, Mentone. This building lot already has city water, septic tank installed, driveway and cleared to build. \$21,900.

(7) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST** (sub. of Canyon View Forest) Beautiful 5 to 7 acre tracts located on the East Brow, overlooking the Ga. Mountains and Weiss Lake. 9 miles south of Ft. Payne Hwy. 35, Cherokee, Co., Ala. Surrounded by 2,000 acres of National Preserve. Priced only \$10,000 to \$17,000.



OTHER PROPERTIES

(8) **BROW ROAD #89 NORTH OF MENTONE**. 7.6 acres with 240 ft. of brow frontage. Has been surveyed and perked. Includes a wet weather waterfall. All for \$33,500.

(9) **FOR SALE OR LEASE-OPTION PURCHASE**. 3 Bdrm 2 bath, living room, dining, study, CH&A, and 2 car garage, 1 acre mvl with large deck and screened porch overlooking rock formations on the upper east brow of Lookout Mountain. Located in Cherokee County, Alabama, just 1 mile from Clouland, Ga. \$78,000.

(10) **MENTONE PINE AND HARDWOOD LOTS** - 3/4 to 1 acre lots with city water available. Level to gently rolling. Located off DeSoto Parkway South, 1 mile from state park. Owner financing available. \$7,500 each.

(11) **GETAWAY COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON**. 1 Bdrm, 1-1/2 bath, fireplace, screened porch and Glassed Alabama room overlooking the Canyon. Contains 7.8 acres and a stream through the middle. Very Secluded. \$48,000.

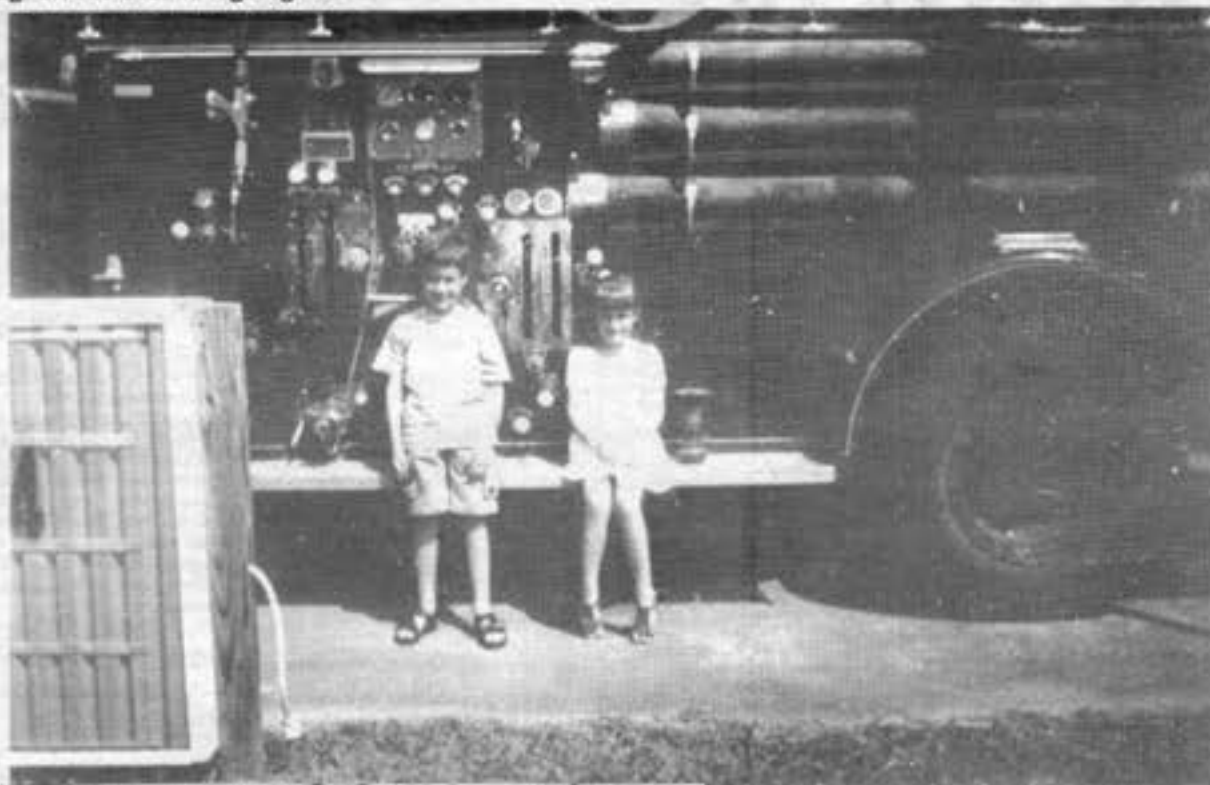
(12) **FLAT LANDING FORD ESTATES** 3 acre tracts located on the East Fork of Little River, near Mentone. 250 to 300 ft. of river frontage. Restricted, and Owner financing available. Perfect for swimming and rafting. Selling fast. \$21,000 to \$28,000.

(13) **LOT ON LAKE LAHUSAGE (middle fork)**. 80x212 building lot with great access to lake. Partially cleared, driveway, surveyed, and perk tested. All you need is to build your cottage on the water. \$16,500.

(14) **AVAILABLE - WOODED ACREAGE**, secluded with private access, 10 acres and up, \$1,500 to \$2,000 an acre. Owner financing available to qualified buyers. Restrictions apply.

(15) **GREAT POTENTIAL FOR BED AND BREAKFAST** in this 3-level home with elevator on the BROW on DeSoto Pkwy, Mentone. With so many amenities, here are just a few: 5 bedrooms, 6-1/2 baths on 2 levels with a full basement with another 10 rooms. CH&A, 3 fireplaces, screened porch, and open deck, plus a sunroom. Large Great room and separate dining, kitchen and breakfast rooms. 270 feet of Brow frontage, with a sunset view. \$250,000 firm with owner financing to qualified buyers.

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



Top Photo: Kayla and Alex Hazell with the NLMFPD Fire Truck, June 23, 1996

Bottom Left: Firemen: Sanford Hartline, Rusty Chambers, Glen Hansen, Milton Chambers, and Jim Roberts

Bottom Right: Angela Chambers, Eleanor Tate, Gail Chambers, Krissy Harris, Juanita Hartline, Kim Worthey

NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Gail Chambers

On June 23rd, the NLMFPD Vol. Fire Dept. held an open house for the community at the Fire Dept. in Mentone. A small crowd stopped by to visit and tour the building and enjoy refreshments, compliments of the Fire Dept. This was the Volunteers' way of saying "Thank You" to the community for the generous donations and support that the Fire Dept. has received over the years. Several children were present and enjoyed seeing the fire trucks and having their photos taken on the fire truck by Jonathan Tate.

Although donations were not asked for, the Fire Dept. received over \$300 in donations that day.

The Fire Dept. would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to the response received from the letters that were sent out in May. The Dept. has received over \$4,000 so far.

Because of this, the Fire Dept. has been able to purchase two new thermostatically controlled gas heaters for the Fire Hall. Also, two new Stihl Leafblowers have been purchased. The leafblowers will be very helpful during a brushfire making the firemen's job easier and faster in containing that fire.

A Benefit Softball Game will be held at the Hammondville

city Park Softball Field on Sat. August 17 at 7:00 pm. The NLMFPD Volunteer Fire Dept. Mentone versus WFFA Radio Station of Ft. Payne. (See flyer elsewhere.) Admission will be \$2.00 donation for adults and \$1.00 donation for children. Children under 6 years of age will be admitted free of charge. Concessions will be available. Door prizes will be given away. All proceeds from the game will go towards the purchase of equipment for setting up the First Responder Fire Truck. So, come on out to the ball game and enjoy a fun, family event. Who knows, this may be the next Olympic game.

If you would like to make a donation to the Fire Dept., please make check payable to NLMFPD - Vol. Fire Dept., P.O. Box 154, Mentone, AL 35984.

A generous donation was received in memory of Colquitt Jones. Mr. Jones was a man who loved this community and is sorely missed.

The 50's Dance has not been forgotten. We've had inquiries as to when the next one will be. A date in Sept. will be announced.



Rusty Rector

Rusty Rector, son of Donyal and Nancy Rector of Valley Head, is a student of Henagar Tae Kwon Do, since March 1996. He will test this month for his light green belt. He now wears an orange belt which was his third belt. Rusty, age 7, attends school at Valley Head and will go into the second grade.

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DEPORTING NORTH CAROLINA GEESE

There was a time when wildlife enthusiasts in North Carolina saw Canada geese as a missing symbol of native American fauna that should be reestablished by any means possible. Today, they wonder why they ever bothered.

Giant Canadas imported to the state over the last twenty years have reproduced so successfully that they have become a nuisance in many areas. Now, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Agency (NCWRA) has cut a deal with Mississippi to begin deporting the birds to the Magnolia State, and the NCWRA is looking for any other states that might want a few geese.

"It was probably a good idea that got out of hand," said Carl Betskill, a member of the state Wildlife Resources Commission. "The birds were imported to compensate for the loss of the migratory population. Looking back, that was not a wise decision. They didn't in any way replace the migratory stock. They are a different subspecies; they have a whole different life cycle, and they never provided the hunting opportunities that were envisioned." Just thirty years ago North Carolina wintered as many as 300,000 Canada geese. Overharvest along the flyway and habitat problems on breeding grounds and wintering areas gradually reduced that number to about 20,000 today. When the downward spiral began, wildlife managers looked for ways to replace the lost wildlife, and they settled on stocking birds.

The imports generally were giant Canadas captured from domestic populations in other states. The birds originally were planted in pairs or small groups on rural properties, golf courses, and suburban parks. What the managers didn't count on was how pleasant the new arrivals would find the combination of grass, water, and lack of predators. "In many cases the birds were purely ornamental," Betskill said. "Bird fanciers wanted a pair of geese on their property, or some property owners thought they would add a certain sense of beauty to their pond."

"It seemed simple enough, and was a chance to bring back a species of wildlife that once occurred naturally in abundance. But they began reproducing faster than was expected."

The result: No patch of grass or water is safe. Geese populations exploded from 10,000 to 30,000 and pushed toward 40,000. Landowners began complaining about goose raids on crops and gardens and public water facilities became contaminated by influxes of messy geese. Even restricted hunting seasons had no effect on slowing the population growth.

"Hunting seasons on the domestics are set before the migrants arrive," Betskill said. "But one problem is that many of these populations occur in areas that are not conducive to hunting—either in areas that are too heavily populated, or in public areas where hunting is not a safe activity. So hunting hasn't had any real impact on controlling numbers."

So last summer, the agency began trapping some of the geese for shipment to Mississippi. "Mississippi, being on the end of the natural flyway for Canada geese, is probably the last state to get involved in the restocking program," Betskill said, "so they are one of the few places actually interested in getting the birds. In a few years, they'll probably be calling us and asking if we want some back."

OUTDOOR TIPS

Compiled by Dr. Pat Seymour

•**Gummy Dog:** How to clean a canine. Peanut butter and mayonnaise will remove chewing gum from your dog's fur. Massage a generous amount of peanut butter into the gummy areas, then shampoo. If there is any gum remaining, use the mayonnaise.

•**Facts about animals that Noah didn't know.** •Dolphins sleep with one eye open at all times. •A newborn kangaroo is about the size of a bumblebee. •There are four rows of whiskers on a cat's face. •Alligators will drown if held under water. •Prairie dogs and wild asses never drink water. •Giraffes communicate by switching their tails. •The beaver's tail helps it stand erect. •The greatest recorded fall a cat survived occurred in London in 1965—120 feet. •Baby giraffes are sometimes more than six feet tall at birth. •The brain of a dolphin is bigger than that of a human. •The oldest known giant tortoise died at the age of 190. •The heart of a snake has been known to beat for 24 hours after the head has been severed. •The grizzly bear has been clocked running up to 30 mph. •When it's raining, the bison always faces into the storm. •If a human baby grew as fast as a baby whale, it would be about 65 feet tall by age 2.

•**The wise woodman—everyday tricks for hassle-free camping.** •To help protect the edge of your hunting knife, use a small drop of cooking oil on the sharpening stone while sharpening. •Don't leave your foam ear plugs at home or on the target range. Take them with you in the field or to our stand and put them in before taking a shot. In some instances, you won't have time, but when you do, your ears will thank you, and any follow-up shots will be more accurate. •To help you find gear or clothing in a hurry, try packing things in see-through plastic bags before you stuff them into your pack. •Air dry your sleeping bag every trip and don't store it in its stuff sack. Even the slightest bit of moisture can cause damage over time, and compression of most bags for an extended period will interfere with the loft and warmth of the bag. •No matter the weather, carry a bandanna to use around the neck. When it's hot out, you can soak the bandanna in water to keep cool, and in cold weather, it helps retain some of the heat that would otherwise escape from under your shirt collar. •To fix a canteen that leaks around the cap, place a 2x2 inch square cut from a plastic bag over the top before you screw on the cap.

•A dog's heart beats forty times faster than a man's. •There are more living organisms in a cubic foot of soil than there are people living in China.

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TREE STANDS: SERIOUS THREAT

Hunters in Arkansas and other Southern states are learning the hard way that the biggest threat to their safety may not be from other hunters but from their own tree stands.

A report by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission on tree-stand accidents revealed the leading causes of injury:

- 75 percent of the accidents result from the use of home-made tree stands rather than factory-produced models.
- 60 percent of the accidents happened when the hunter was climbing up or down the stand, not while in position.
- 84 percent of the accidents involved persons who had not taken a hunter-education course.
- 75 percent of the tree-stand accidents resulted in moderate to severe injuries.

Hunting-safety authorities said the major cause of fatal accidents still involves the improper use of firearms. However, tree-stand accidents are increasing dramatically.

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Weddings

MANN-BIDDLE

Lisa Mann Biddle and Alan Ellis Biddle wish to announce their marriage of June 1, 1996 at the Valley Head United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jeff Adkins officiating. Mis Mann was escorted by her father, Mr. Howard Mann. Mrs. Cindy Powell of Falkville, Alabama, served as maid of honor. Byron L. "Marty" Biddle, Jr. acted as his brother's best man. Music was provided by Tara Carmichael, Jessica Biddle, Troy Mauney and Patricia Biddle.

Lisa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mann of Locust Fork, Alabama. Lisa is employed by Sun Trust Bank in Atlanta, Georgia. Alan is the son of Mrs. Adelaide Biddle of Valley Head and the late Byron L. Biddle, Sr. Alan is employed by Electronic Data Systems (EDS) in Atlanta, Georgia.

The wedding party and immediate family enjoyed a delicious after wedding dinner at Woodhaven on Lowery Road in Valley Head.

The couple was honored with a reception at the French Quarters Hotel in Atlanta on June 29th. They enjoyed a honeymoon in San Francisco, California. They are making their home in Atlanta.



Robertson - Blake

Jennifer Amanda Robertson and Martin Cole Blake were married June 15, 1996, at 2 p.m. at Walnut Grove Baptist Church on Hwy. 11 in Ft. Payne.

The bride is the daughter of Ronnie and Kathy Robertson of Ft. Payne. Grandparents are Ms. Eula Mae Robinson of Ft. Payne and Gaynell Robertson of Ft. Payne.

The groom is the son of Richard Hazel Blake of Sulphur Springs. Cole is employed by GameTime in Ft. Payne.



Sharp - Wheat

Sally Ann Sharp and Timothy Shaun Wheat were married on August 5, 1996, at 6 p.m., at Valley Head Baptist Church.

The bride is the daughter of Darrell and Nancy Kelly of Gaylesville; and the late Anthony Sharp, and the granddaughter of James and Louise Sharp, all of Valley Head; and James and Clara Pell of Mentone.

The bride is a 1994 graduate of Valley Head High School and is currently attending Jacksonville State University.

The groom is the son of Ronald Wheat and Kathy Wheat, both of Mentone; and the grandson of the late Frank and Lucille Blalock of Mentone and Verlie and Bernice Wheat of Steens, Mississippi.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of Valley Head High School and is currently employed at AnCro Specialties in Fort Payne.

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SHARK WEEK

AUGUST 11-16TH

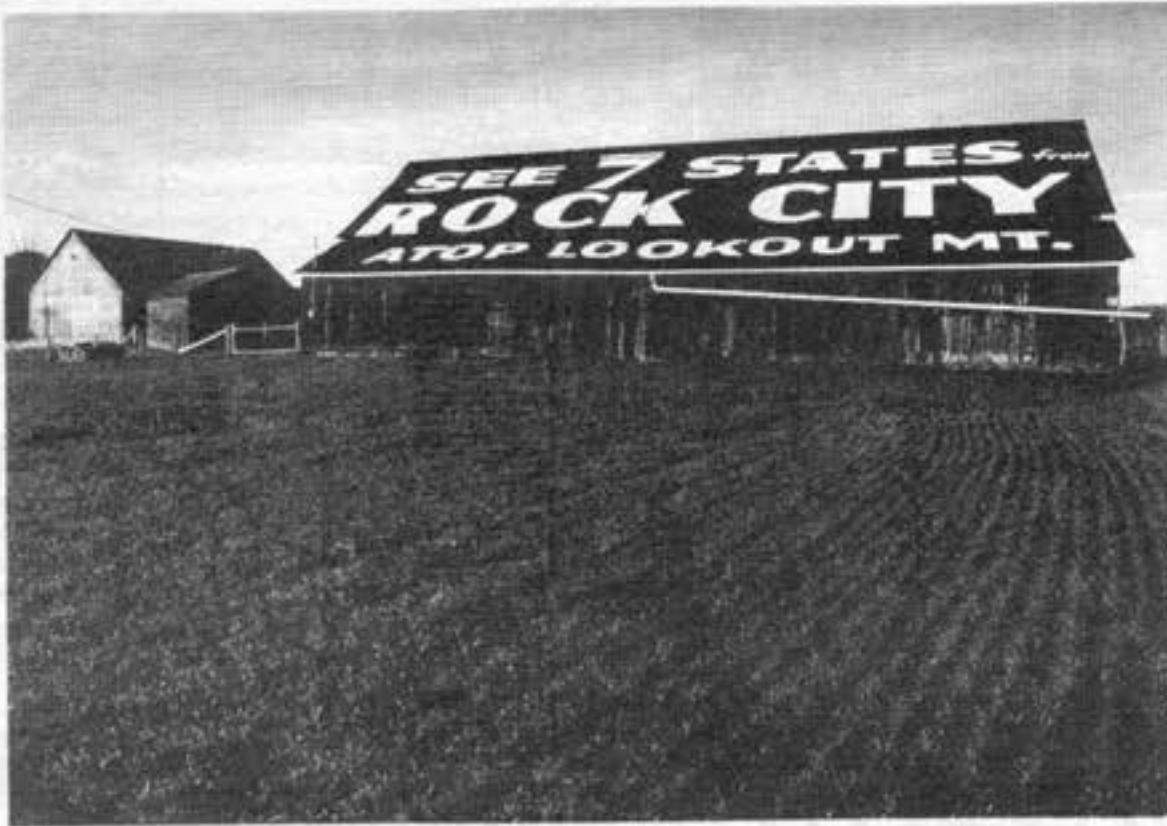
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Additional Photo from Page 12, Rock City signs.



GROUNDHOG CLASSIC RUN MENTONE, ALABAMA

Sponsored by the
Mentone Area Preservation Association
Saturday Oct. 19th 9:30 a.m. CST

ONE MILE FUN RUN : At 9:00 a.m. Pre-registered entrants are guaranteed a T-Shirt (May be mailed to late registrants). Times called but no records kept.

AWARDS : Specially designed T-Shirts to go to all pre-registered runners (May be mailed to late registrants). **TROPHIES** to all top three winners in each division.

\$100.00 each to top overall men's and women's winners.

LIGHT BREAKFAST : Fruit and fruit juices will be served free to all runners after the Classic. Water available at half-way point.

COURSE : Begins at the Hitching Post to turn - off to DeSoto Falls and back. 4.2 miles. flat to gently rolling hills on DeSoto - Lookout Mountain Parkway.

MENTONE : Located on Lookout Mountain on Highway 117. Exits of I-59 between Chattanooga and Gadsden. From the east through Summerville, Ga. to Menlo to Cloudland to Mentone, Alabama.

14TH YEAR: This is the 14th year for the race. All proceeds go to the goals of the Mentone Area Preservation Association, dedicated to preserving and protecting the natural heritage, environment, and other unique qualities of Mentone. The race on Saturday, Oct. 17th. is part of the "October Colorfest" which features ghost stories, music, and a bonfire on Friday evening Oct. 18th. Crafts, boat rides, music, food, drinks and more will be available on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 19th and 20th.

Detach and mail or bring to:
The Mentone Groundhog Classic
C/O Penny Lyday
19508 Scenic Hwy
Mentone, AL 35984
205-634-4403



Entry fee of \$10 must accompany each application. After October 15th, fee will be \$12. Make checks payable to MAPA (Mentone Area Preservation Association)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Age as of Oct. 18, 1996 _____

Signature _____

(If under 18 years old, Signature of parent or guardian is required)

Circle T-Shirt Size S M L XL

() Men Overall

() Women Overall

() 14 & under

() 14 & under

() 15 - 19

() 15 to 19

() 20 - 29

() 20 - 29

() 30 - 39

() 30 - 39

() 40 - 50

() 40 - 50

() Senior (50 +)

() Senior (50 +)

NO ONE MAY ENTER THIS EVENT WITHOUT SIGNING THIS OFFICIAL WAIVER. In consideration of accepting this entry, I the above signed intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any and all claim's for losses and damages I may have against MAPA and all other parties and their representatives, Successors, and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in said event. I attest and verify that I am physically fit. Further I hereby grant full permission to any and all foregoing to use photos, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event for any purpose whatsoever.



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
teach me to do Thy will; for Thou art my
God: Thy spirit is good; lead me into the
land of uprightness.

Psalm 143:10

God is my God and I do desire to do his
will. Like David, I want my God to teach me
and lead me into the land of uprightness. May
we all seek His will.

**Come Enjoy
the Fall and
Changing
Colors
of the**

1996 OCTOBER COLORFEST

October 19th & 20th

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On the Brow Friday, October 18th

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With Bernice Crow

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Roast &
Music**

Saturday, October 19th

Ground Hog Run.....9:00 AM
Race Winners 10:00 AM
Trophies for all Catagories

Arts and Crafts
Sat. Night Square Dance

Sunday October 20th
Handmade Quilt Give away at 4:00PM
Games of Chance for Young & Old
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