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THE GROUNDHOG

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"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

December 1994

REMEMBERING CHRISTMASSES OF LONG AGO

By Dr. Pat Seymour

When asked to think back through the years to their childhood and recall "Christmas the way it used to be," many Mentone citizens shared their memories with *The Groundhog*.

Olive Jones: "The most exciting gift I ever received from Santa Claus was a 'By-Lo' baby doll with a china head and cloth body. I kept that doll for over 30 years, until Angela (Wood) was a baby. Mama was a good seamstress and made us clothes for Christmas. (Later, she even made my wedding dress.) My Grandmother Tannie, Daddy's mother in Jacksonville, Fla., would send strings of beads to me and my three sisters. We'd each pick one string that would be ours for Christmas. She also baked wonderful cookies for our holiday."

Alfred Chambers: "We didn't have a tree, but when I was six, Santa brought me a red wagon. Up until then, there were no toys. Dad was a saw mill worker and a farmer. When I was eight years old, I was plowing with a mule. In 1930, Daddy got \$25 for 500 lbs. of cotton, so there wasn't money to buy toys. The first Christmas after Polly and I married, a relative gave us a dollar. I bought her a half-gallon sauce pan as a Christmas gift. There was no money, but a lady down the road had plenty of corn. She'd give me dinner and a bushel of corn when I worked all day for her. The corn brought \$1.00 or \$1.05 if you shopped in the local country store."

Clara Cash: "We lived on a farm when I was a little girl, and every Christmas, Daddy would cut down one of our pine trees. Mama would decorate it with popcorn strings and red and green crepe paper. There were no ornaments or lights. In my stocking, I would get clusters of raisins, an apple, an orange, and a candy cane. One Christmas, I received a little dining (tea) set, and when I was eight, I got a doll with a china head, only two teeth and blue eyes. Later, I got a 'Ma Ma Doll.' When you mashed a button on her stomach, she would say, 'Ma Ma.' I still have that doll, but she won't say, 'Ma Ma' any more. Guess she's worn out."

Kathryn Jones: "We lived on a farm, and the highlight of the holiday season was when Daddy cut down the tree and brought it home. Although the Christmas tree never had much on it, Mama would tie red crepe paper bows on the branches. At church, I would pick out what looked like the biggest, best present under the tree, but the gift always turned out to be a handkerchief! Mama was a teacher who saved chalk boxes. She'd put wheels on them, paint the boxes, and turn them into little cars



Father Christmas

for us to play with. There were three girls and two boys in my family, and each of us got walnuts, a peppermint stick, and an orange. Gifts were meager, but fun was ample. Mama made syrup candy, and we children would pull it into 'eating strings.'"

Margie Coots: "We never had a tree. When I got older, I cut one for myself. We got apples, oranges, and a stick of candy at Christmas; no toys until I was about six or seven. We had a neighbor, Bamalene Brooks, who would let us wash her dolls' dresses. One Christmas, she gave my sisters and me a doll, and we took turns playing with it."

Gertrude Cox: "I was twelve before my brothers cut us down a Christmas tree. We had an apple, an orange, and a couple of small toys in our stocking. Later, I got school clothes. One thing I remember about early Christmases was getting raisins on the vine to eat with English walnuts. That tasted delicious."

Alma Crabtree: "I lived on a farm, and there were ten of us children. We hung our stockings on the mantel. We were nine miles from Valley Head, and Daddy drove a wagon pulled by steers when we went to town. It was dreadfully cold and seemed to snow every Christmas. There was one little store at Stamp, Ala., and I heard Mama and Daddy talking in the kitchen one Christmas Eve: 'We can't disappoint these children,' Daddy said. He tied tow sacks around his feet and walked to the store in the snow. Store keeper Gene Hall had only one box of stick candy, so each of us got a stick of candy for Christmas--no apple, no orange, no nuts. We didn't even have flour or sugar, but Daddy built a fire, and with some sugar grandmother had saved back, Mama made some gingerbread men and snakes. She also made popcorn balls and wrapped them in brown paper for our stockings. Mama and Daddy made tracks in the back to look like Santa had come!"

Lula McGee Blalock: "We lived on a farm, but we never had a tree. There were no toys, because we needed food more than we needed toys. I never had a doll until I married for the second time. I named her 'Yogunda,' a name I had heard on the radio. Mother and grandmother made all our clothes. We wore one dress to school and came home to put on a play dress."

(Continued on page 3.)

•Monday - December 5, 6 p.m.
Mentone City Council Meeting, City Hall

•Tuesday, December 6, 7 p.m.
MAPA Meeting, Kountry Chef
Christmas Covered Dish Dinner
(See notice on page 2.)

•Friday, December 9, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
MAPA Christmas Parade and
Party for the Children
Mentone Town Hall
(See notice on back page.)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

•Christmas Cantata
Saturday, December 17, 6:30 p.m.
at Fountains, Ft. Payne
Sunday, December 18,
Moon Lake Baptist Church, 5 p.m.
Valley Head Baptist Church, 7 p.m.
(See notice in Church News.)

•Sunday, December 25
Christmas

•Sunday, January 1
New Year's Day

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THE GROUNDHOG

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Vice President.....Bill Schwarz
Secretary.....Marie Dillenbeck
Treasurer.....Charlyne O'Rear
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Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be typewritten and of reasonable length.

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

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Picture of 1993 MAPA Christmas Dinner at Dessie's Kountry Chef



MESSAGE FROM MAPA PRESIDENT

This year's MAPA Christmas Party will be
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1994,
7:00 P.M.**

DESSIE'S KOUNTRY CHEF DOWNTOWN MENTONE

It will be a POT LUCK DINNER. MAPA is furnishing the turkey and ham, which will be cooked by the Kountry Chef. Dessie will furnish the dressing. The members are asked to bring a generous serving of your favorite dish: a vegetable, casserole, salad, or dessert.

Guests are welcome. Bring a friend.

The Children's Christmas Party will be Friday, December 9, 1994, after the parade and lighting of the community Christmas tree. Each guest is asked to bring a child's toy, preferably one for either a boy or a girl, WRAPPED, please. Also, please note on the outside of the package whether it is for a girl or a boy and the age. These will be given to the children attending the Christmas Party on Friday. Please do not spend over \$5.00 for a gift. If you find a nice toy, game, etc., for less, and you would like to bring two, that would be great. We do not know how many children will attend, and we certainly want every child to receive something.

We plan to have a great evening with lots of food, fun, and fellowship!!!!!!

We are looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Dessie Newberry, MAPA President

MENTONE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

On November 7, the monthly Council meeting was held at 6 p.m. One of the items on the agenda was the sale of the city's one-acre lot along Little River. This matter had been presented at the October meeting, and at that time, the development of a third city park was considered. After further investigation into the city's deed, a stipulation stated that the only way the city can use the land is for a water treatment facility. The owners of Camp DeSoto are interested in purchasing the property since it borders on their land.

The council also discussed eliminating the city's municipal court. Mayor Max Cash said, "we were discussing a number of ways that we could save money." No decision will be made until the first of the year.

As a result of the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) requesting banners to be placed to advertise their annual festivals that promote the town, temporary banners in the city were allowed to be placed no more than 10 days before the event and must be moved within three days after the event.

A larger feeder water line up Tutwiler Gap and down to the Hitching Post was discussed, as was the condition of the roads in Mentone.



MAPA MEETING



By Marie Dillenbeck

The MAPA meeting was held at the Kountry Chef on November 1, and was called to order by President Dessie Newberry. Don Brock gave the opening prayer. Twenty-nine members, including three new members--Susan and Will Strong from Houston, Texas, and David Lett of Mentone, and three guests, were present.

The minutes from the October meeting were read and approved as was the treasurer's report.

The President announced that the Mentone Brochures had been received and distributed to the Welcome Center and the DeKalb Tourist Association, as well as to the State of Alabama Tourist Association. Also, the MAPA copier is in Dessie's office behind the Kountry Chef. The charge for copies is 10¢ per copy. For senior citizens (those 65 years and over), there is a limit of 10 free copies.

The Christmas decorations are to be in place in time for the MAI. Christmas Party for the Children, as is the Community Christmas.

Bill Schwarz checked out the lights on the street decorations. He determined that over 350 bulbs were needed to replace burned-out bulbs. A motion was made and seconded to purchase 500 outdoor Christmas lights.

The members voted to have a covered dish banquet at Dessie's Kountry Chef, with MAPA furnishing the ham and turkey. Dessie volunteered to do the dressing, and the other members are to bring covered dishes. Also, MAPA voted to provide inexpensive toys/gifts for each child attending the Annual Christmas Party for the Children. Plans have been made for a parade from Moon Lake School to the town square for the lighting of the community Christmas tree, and then to the Mentone Town Hall for the party on December 9, beginning at 3:00 p.m. (See notices elsewhere.)

The Colorfest reports were heard. Sherman and Mickey Gough, who handled the ticket sales for the quilt, announced that \$912 had been raised. The winner of the quilt was Inge Starkey from Menlo, Ga. Donna Bouldin announced that the

Groundhog Classic Run was a huge success with approximately 90 runners, and 30 sponsors. The boat rides brought \$520.60, of which \$130.15 (25%) goes to the Handicap Trail at DeSoto State Park.

Sherman Gough announced that the MAPA Adopt-A-Mile pick up would take place on Tuesday, November 15. He asked for volunteers.

Donna Bouldin presented a request for a plaque to be placed on the rock wall still under construction on Highway 117 down the mountain, stating the year the rock wall was originally built and giving credit to the State of Alabama for restoring it. Donna is to present a letter to the MAPA board requesting the plaque.

Bill Schwarz, Vice President, introduced Jim Gaylord, Co-Captain of the DeSoto Rescue Squad, who was the speaker. Jim Gaylord said that the rescue squad had been formed in 1965, and they conducted searches, and provided lighting at accident sites, among other services. In late 1992, a decision was made to close the Hammondville DeKalb Ambulance Service. In Jan. 1993, the service was re-opened.

The training that the DeSoto Rescue Squad members had received in EMT First Responder courses, along with other training helped the members in their ability to respond to calls. In October 1993, a first-response truck was put into service. They have several thousand dollars worth of equipment for stabilizing patients at accident scenes, including a defibrillator. The squad has helped over 1200 people at accident scenes. Jim then turned the program over to Mike Kennamer, Co-Captain, who is the only paramedic on the squad, and who also teaches EMS at NE State. Mike said that the squad has 14 new first responders. He handed out a list of steps to survive medical emergencies. Mike said that, in 1973, Congress passed the EMS Act. With only three ambulances in DeKalb County and nine rescue squads, the DeKalb Ambulance Service could not operate without the assistance of the rescue squads.

At the present time, the rescue squad is using a hand-operated aspirator to remove liquid from the lungs and throat. They are in need of an automatic aspirator. The services the squad provides are free, and they operate on donations to help pay for the on-going costs.

There being no further business, delicious refreshments provided by Hope Walker, Rick Chapman, and Jo and George Beaubere were served.

CHRISTMASES LONG AGO

(Continued from Page 1)

Polly Chambers: "Two of us girls slept in the same bed, and at Christmas, Mom would put whatever we got in our shoes at the foot of the bed. While Daddy worked at the Davis Mill, we got nuts, dolls, apples, oranges, hard candy, and different colored coconut balls. When we moved to the mountain, we didn't have good Christmases any more. Daddy was now a farmer, and times were hard. Everybody was poor."

Leland Cox: "We always had a tree, whether there was anything to put under it or not. We'd hang our stockings up about a week early hoping somebody might slip in a piece of candy. One Christmas, my sister pulled a bad trick on me, and put a piece of coal in my stocking. When I felt it, I thought I'd gotten a big piece of candy. But—turned out to be a piece of coal. Talk about disappointed!"

Catherine Bailey: "Christmas was always a happy, joyous time when I was a child. We didn't put up the tree until Christmas Eve, and that's when I hung up my stocking. Aunts and uncles always saw to it that I had an orange in the toe of my stocking, along with other fruits and nuts. I always got a doll, too. I guess I was lucky, because I never had a bad Christmas. My mind is filled with happy memories as I recall my early Christmases."

Rev. Edmund Crowe: "We were a large family and didn't expect much in the way of gifts at Christmas. On Christmas eve, we would go to the woods, find a cedar tree, bring it in, put it up, and decorate it that day. Papa would bring home a crate of oranges, a crate of apples, raisins in the cluster, and nuts and candy from his store. We had a wealthy friend next door who usually gave Papa a check for enough money to give each child fifty cents. Before Christmas, we already had a toy or the like picked out in the Sears Catalogue. Mother would make out the order when we got our money. I'll never forget the Christmas when Santa brought me the 10¢ knife I had asked him to bring. Christmas morning, there it was in my stocking! Our Christmases were wonderful times at our house. Everyone was happy with whatever gifts they received. Most of all, our home was full of love and thanksgiving. Usually, Papa would go out on Christmas morning, point his 12 gauge shotgun upward, pull the trigger, and, boy, did we ever realize it was Christmas day!"

Slim Easler: "We lived on a farm when I was little, and there were ten of us children during the Hoover Days. Daddy worked for the WPA for forty cents a day. Although we didn't have much, our home was filled with love and compassion. Since there wasn't money for toys, Mama would take ladies' long, black stockings to make the girls some dolls. She'd sew buttons on for eyes and a nose, and used strings of thread for the hair. Mama put up syrup, and when it turned to sugar, she'd make string candy we could pull. The best Christmas we had was one year when a neighbor gave us some fat bacon, strip bacon. My sister said, 'Goody, goody! I've got a whole piece of meat for Christmas.' Mama would dry apples and make us apple turnovers (with no sugar) for Christmas. After I reached age six, things got better, and wagon loads of friends would visit every Sunday."



Skiers line up for the pony lift at Cloudmont with the ski lodge in the background.

HAPPY SILVER ANNIVERSARY, GARY JONES AND THE CLOUDMONT SKI RESORT!

Founded in 1970, the facility turns 25 years old on January 1, 1995. Since its inception a quarter-of-a century ago, advanced snow-making equipment and patient professional instruction have provided Cloudmont's ski expansion to include two one-thousand foot, beginner/intermediate slopes. Two "pony lifts" take skiers to the top of the slopes that have an elevation of 1,800 feet and a vertical rise of 150 feet.

Sparkling snow comes to Cloudmont as soon as cold overnight temperatures drop to 28 degrees or colder, and the humidity is below 60%. Then, the snow machines are turned on. Jones says, "Personalized instruction is given to skiers of all ages and abilities in both group and private lessons. Skis, boots, and poles are available for rent in the ski lodge. This year, we've added another snow maker to our eight already in operation, and 50 more rental skis will be available."

Indeed, it seems, that Mentone has its own "Frosty the Snowman," except up here the snowman is Gary Jones! Let it snow, let it snow, "shouts Gary, as he turns on the nine huge snow makers to begin Cloudmont Ski Resorts Twenty-sixth year.

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From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Dearest readers, my stocking is hung by the counter with care, in hopes that honey buns and tootsie pops soon will be there! As for being good, how could this magnificent, flawless one be otherwise! (Don't listen to Al! He tells lies on moi. Ask Kathy.)

I wish Billy Cash and George Battles would butt out of my life! They tease moi with cigarettes, which everyone of my devotees know are hated things with me! (How would you like those cigs stuffed up your noses, cig breath!)

Why can't more customers be like T.J. Blansit who knows he's in the presence of greatness at the Superette? Parents Larry and Rhonda Smith have raised themselves up a noble lad. He always shares his pop tarts with moi. Prince of a boy, indeed!

Two lovelies of this fair village, Jessica and Beth Easler, never neglect SHARING with this handsome canine. (It's hard to believe the blood of stingy Slim Easler flows in their veins!)

Jimmy and Bill Wright chose well when they selected Saint Eloise Burnette for their mother. That dear lady serves me my favorite: ICE CREAM SANDWICH. Oh joy, oh bliss. (She even takes the paper off.)

Today, I heard Al say, "TGIF." Add moi to that list of gratefuls. It's on Friday that Mr. Hass, the Scottsboro wholesale man, gives me a rough and tumble rub down. Some days I get so excited thrashing about that I knock Pop's feet right out from under him. (Pound away, German boy.)

Look who's coming in the door, adoration in their young eyes. Chianne (2), Jeremy (11), and Richie (9) Keith. As usual, they creep to the feet of this immaculate canine, pushing tributes in front of them. (More cherubs of Mentone!)

John Baxter, that darling admirer, could not believe his luck when the great one paid for his candy for him. Pop had just thrust my allowance (25¢) into my grateful paw, so what else could I do? (Don't look a free candy bar in the wrapper, John boy!)

Emily Bowman (5) is another one of those awestruck little disciples. She peeps over the counter top dazzled by this sterling gift to doghood.

When it's time for a nap, Clark Crow (8) always shows up to lie on the floor and wrap himself around moi. (Is that a charming lad, or what!) Except for the glossy brown fur, you can't even tell where Clark begins and God's gift to the Superette ends!

Policeman Brian Phillips' son Little Bubba (2) just crawled up with a lollipop for the magnificent one. (Bring up a child in the way he should go, moi always says.)

Talk about rough, Kenneth Dobbs the bread man, just left after pushing this handsome body with his smelly old shoe. Every time, it's kick, kick, kick. (How 'd you like a loaf of that bread shoved up your nose, doughboy!)

Sweeping up for the day has begun, and the fearless one must mount an attack on the push broom. One day, I'm coming out of this hated harness and pieces of flower boy, Al, are going to litter the Superette.

"Til next time, disciples—you'd better not cry, you'd better not pout...you know why and who's coming to town!

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Mentone Grapevine

By
PAT SEYMOUR

If you think Randal and Charlotte Rice are strutting their stuff, you're right! Oldest daughter Tammy and husband, Jerry Adcock, are the proud parents of a daughter, Grace Louise, born November 23, 1994, at Medical Center East in Birmingham. Grace Louise weighed seven pounds at birth and was 19 inches long. Congratulations all around!

A big thank you goes out to GTE for the use of their bucket truck and employee Jack Johnston to help hang Mentone's Christmas Lights. Bill Schwarz, MAPA vice president, tested and replaced over 300 bulbs from last year, while MAPA's David Cryer assisted Jack in placing the decorations.

Wedding bells will ring again for Kenneth and Carol Busby on December 18, at Faith Church in Tennessee. Their children, Kenny, Alisha, and Chris, wish to invite all friends to attend their parents' reuniting. Rev. Randy Turner will perform the ceremony. Carol is employed by Tiger's Inn in Valley Head.

Dot Hopper, mother of Danny Hopper, is recovering from surgery performed at BMC in Ft. Payne. She is recuperating in Mentone at the home of her daughter, Becky Langston.

November was a BIG birthday month for many popular area folks. Gail Chambers, Nov. 5; Laura McKenzie (Valley Head) Nov. 9; Keith Hadley, Nov. 21; Katie Gray, Nov. 18; Herman Jones, Nov. 21; Krissy Worthey Harris, Nov. 26; Kim Worthey, Nov. 27; Ed Worthey, Nov. 28, In Memoriam; and Kevin Worthey, Dec. 16. Happy Birthday to all!

Marriage vows were exchanged recently by two area couples: Eddie "Doc" King and Diana Payne were married last month, as were Bobby Freeman and Sue Pullen. Best wishes to the newly weds.

Jim and Rose Harris continue to make weekly trips to Birmingham where the doctor is treating his eye following surgery.

All friends are invited to the Mentone Wesleyan Church on Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. to hear children sing Christmas carols. Fred Johnson will direct. Bring a covered dish and enjoy a fellowship dinner afterwards.

Alfred and Polly Chambers have returned from a visit to Hemet, California, where his younger sister, Joyce Rector, is recovering from a serious illness. Incidentally, Alfred Chambers and Polly Jean Gauld were married 56 years ago on Nov. 26, 1938, in Rising Fawn, Ga.

Congratulations to Lula Blalock, who celebrated her 75th birthday on Nov. 29! Sisters Lou Reed, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Nellie Fay Smith, LaFayette, Ga.; Bertha Mae Winch, Rock Springs, Ga.; and Ruth Cobb, Rossville, Ga., came to Mentone to visit with Lula. Brothers Edward Blackburn, Rossville, Ga., and Hoyt Blackburn, Chattanooga, Tenn., called with birthday greetings.

Linda Kilgore and Bill Patterson have been tripping around again, this time, to Baton Rouge, La. They toured beautiful plantation homes during their four days there, and drove back to Alabama via the Natchez Trace. The couple plan to see Jamaica in January and will travel to Hawaii in April. These two should have been born with wings!

Karen Powell will direct the 3-act Christmas play, "Scarlet Ribbon," to be presented on Dec. 18, at 6:30 p.m. The cast will be made up of adults and children from the congregation at the Mentone Church of God.

Amy Blackmon, who was in a serious automobile wreck several weeks ago, has had to have her injured jaw rebroken and her teeth wired together. Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.

J.R. Bain, Ethel Manifold's father, has undergone cataract surgery in Tuscaloosa. Doctors predict a complete recovery.

Pastor Ron Johnson reports that the Mentone Church of God has just completed a most successful revival. Rev. Charles Barrett of Cleveland, Tenn., was the evangelist.

Congratulations to Brian Williamson and Misty Austin who were married on Nov. 19 at the Mentone Revival center with pastor Marlon Williamson officiating. The couple is at home in Hammondville.

Happy 9th Birthday to Chad Williamson, son of Marlon and Brenda Williamson and brother of BreAnna.

Charlie Ingle, Valley Head, lost his brother Carl Ingle, 61, on Nov. 27, 1994, at DeKalb BMC. Sincere sympathy to Charlie's family in its loss.

THE TIGER BALL will be held at Valley Head High School on Friday, Dec. 9 from 7 to 10 p.m. Students grades 9-12 can attend the ball with an admission of \$5/couple, \$3/single. Semi-formal pictures will be made.

Recently Denita Manifold and Brenda Traffanstedt hosted a Christmas Around The World party. Those attending were Treva McElhaney, Shaney Sharpe, Barbara Palmer, Barbara Mathis, Dink Tillman, Ethel Manifold, Judy Malone, Brenda Maxwell, Connie McElhaney, Yvonne Brock, Wendy Manifold, Gail Smalley, Dr. Pat Seymour, Bobbie Smith, Jo Bain, Carolyn Coots, Loretta Bain, Marie Dillenbeck, Ruth Ellis, Ginger Tuxbury, Tammy Traffanstedt, Amy Willingham Kirby, Martha Kirby, Penny Galloway, and Cheryl Link.

The Annual Community Thanksgiving Service held Nov. 23 at the Valley Head Baptist Church, and sponsored by the North DeKalb Ministerial Association, was an event not to miss. A puppet presentation entitled "Carry The Light," by the Mighty Messengers was enjoyed by all. The puppeteers were Bobby Bentley, John Burt, Patrick Cooper, Tyler Cooper, Chad Hammon, Steven Isbell, Denee Jenkins, Jonathan Shugart, Mike Smith, and Daniel Troxter. Runae Burt, Janet Cooper, Kathy Hammon, Teresa Cooper, and Sheree Isbell were the directors, and Jimmy Cooper and Donald Troxter were the stage managers. Helen Massey made the curtains for the puppets and Will Clayton did all the signs and murals. Rev. Charles Jenkins, president of the ministerial association presented the message, "Take Time to Be Thankful." The ministerial association members also participated in the service. The choir sang under the direction of De Vann Jackson with Sheree Crisp at the piano and Juanita Smith at the organ. It was a beautiful service.

John Baty made front page news in *The Times Journal* on Nov. 22 for being the first customer to make a purchase in Ft. Payne's new Foodland Plus. Way to go, John!

Nina J. Allison, mother of Mentone's Martha "Mickey" Strickland, died at Riverview Hospital in Gadsden on Nov. 6, and was buried in Langford Cemetery. Deepest sympathy to Mickey and her family.

Jim and Penny Lyday had a marvelous "family gathering" in their newly-renovated Rock House. Penny's mother started the tradition in 1961. This year, those attending were: Son Bear, wife Kathy, daughters Sarah and Amalie, Lenoir, N.C.; daughter Mellanie, husband Kendall, son Kaylon, daughter, Kendra, and two foster children, Randy and Red, Jacksonville, Fla.; Penny's sister, Edd Starling, husband Hugh and children Todd and Tracy, Largo, Fla.; Cincinnati, Ohio, and Savannah, Ga. All the other guests came in from Ga. Thirty-three (33) in all attended, and "For the first time," Jim says, "there were beds for everyone."

Irene Holcomb, Valley Head, lost her sister, Lucille Dothy Mooneyham, 65, in a car accident in mid-Nov. Condolences to Irene and her family.

Thomas Battles, Valley Head, was the featured personality recently in the front page "Meet Your Neighbor" column in *The Times Journal*.

Theima Bridgeman lost her brother, James C. Brown 82, on Sunday, Oct. 30, 1944. Our deepest sympathy to Theima and her family.

L.A. Smith, Vocational AG teacher at Valley Head High School, received an honorary FFA degree at the recent National FFA Convention held in Kansas City.

George and Hattie Lide will have their daughter, Carol Aleski and her family from Pittsburgh, Penn., visit for the Christmas holidays. Are they excited or WHAT!

Jim and Lea Burkhalter, Kennesaw, Ga., shared with me by mail a beautiful article on Mentone from *Highways*. It was written by Mary Maynard Drake. Many thanks, friends!

Kudos, kudos, kudos, to some SMART students! Tyler Cooper, 6th grader from Valley Head, made the "All A Honor Roll" at Ft. Payne Middle School. First cousins, Glenn Cryer (5th grader) and Danyale Kyles (4th grader) made the "A & B" list. Dessie Newberry, owner of the Kounty Chef, is the proud grandmother.

Norma, Chad, and Buddy Williams, spent Thanksgiving with Jim and Kim Albritton in Crossville. There were 16 guests in all.

Leah Willbanks, senior at Valley Head High School and daughter of Nancy and Darrell Willbanks, is the Future Business Senior Student of the Month for November. Way to go, Leah!

More smart students at Northeast Alabama State Community College: Roger Gray, Dawn Holloway, Naghma Khan, Anthony Phillips, and Carrie Whited of Valley Head, made the President's List and Larry Lacey made the Dean's List.

George and Hope Walker and George and Jo Beaube had

huge family gatherings all during the Thanksgiving holidays. A grand time was had by all, according to Hope and Jo. Try two wonderful Mentone families never miss a holiday for a get-together. Christmas will be no exception with children and grandchildren all gathering.

Joe Stephens has visited on Michael in Talladega, thanks to transportation by Marion Campbell. Michael's new address is 2404-034, PMB 1000, Sigma B, FCI, Talladega, AL 35106-8799. Christmas cards would surely be welcomed!! (Hint, hint.)

Kathleen Johnson has applied to do some substitute teaching. As a school teacher myself, I'll bet she doesn't have a lot of discipline problems!

Let me close with a thought for this holy season:

Before The Song Started!

Before the song started
The world was brokenhearted
Was dreamlessly passing the empty days;
Then a dark, lonely hillside was spangled with light
And a song burst into the night.

A new word was spoken
And the chords that were broken
Wove gently together to make a new song.
It was more than a carol to greet the new morn
The Source of all music was born.

He started the whole world singing a song--
The words and the music were there all along!
What the song had to say
Was that love found a way
To start the whole world singing a song!

A Joyous Holiday to all!



TAKE US HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

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Offer Ends December 11, 1994
Or While Supplies Last

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RCA CC604 VHS-C Camcorder

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Your Choice \$799

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- Built-In Cable Box Channel Control™
- 8-Event/1-Year Programmable Timer

\$399

(1) VCR Plus™ is a trademark of General Development Corp.
(2) Controls most brands of remote-controlled cable boxes.
(3) Check your cable company's compatibility requirements.

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Fort Payne, AL 35967
(205) 845-1505/1961

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Third Month

<u>Mrs. Sarraitt's Kindergarten</u>	<u>Mrs. Hughes' 3rd/4th Grade</u>
Will Blackburn	Michael Bradford
Logan Chambers	Kim Brisendine
Glenn Hanson	Megan Daugaard
D. J. Howard	Justin Dinger
Robert Johnson	Bobby Elkins
Loren Kean	John Fischer
Jacob Meadows	Coby Harrison
John Meadows	Joshua Hughes
Casey Sammons	Niki Johnson
Justin Scott	Adam Manning
Justin Smith	Ashley McSpadden
	Kelly Owen
	J.R. Patterson
	Stephanie Plemmons
	Mason Plunk
<u>Mrs. Mosley's 1st Grade</u>	<u>Mrs. Smith's 4th/5th Grade</u>
Jared Bare	Josh Baker
Laura Floyd	Tiffany Bare
Sarah Hurt	Tessie Baty
Tyler Huskey	Jennifer Blalock
Logan Jackson	Melinda Bradford
Brandy Manning	Brandy Browder
Kirby McMunn	Ashley Brown
Emily Tipton	Ben Corey
Cayla Voils	Jared Fischer
	Jana Goss
	Alan Hawkins
	Peter Hurt
	Corey Kirby
	Eddie Manning
	Kerri McMunn
	Matthew Prestwood
	Johnnie Wesley
	Kiley Young
<u>Ms. Lehman's 2nd Grade</u>	<u>Dr. Berry's 6th Grade</u>
Kristen Addison	David Chaney
Colby Baty	Tracy Coots
Rachel Bryan	Ashton Jones
Clark Crow	Holly Kitchens
Nick Floyd	Nathan Owen
Catrina Ingram	Will Shanklin
Amanda Johnson	Joseph Smith
Fawn Kitchens	James Tipton
Andrew McCole	
Jessica Meadows	
Keith Miller	
Heather Plunk	
Shannon Sammons	
Joshua Smith	
Kelly Wright	

HONOR ROLL

Second Six Weeks

<u>ALL A'S</u>	<u>ALL A'S & B'S</u>
<u>Mrs. Mosley's 1st Grade</u>	
John Baxter	Jared Bare
Sarah Hurt	Laura Floyd
Hali Johnson	Katie Gray
Kirby McMunn	Melissa Harrison
Kelly Phillips	Brandy Manning
Emily Tipton	
<u>Ms. Lehman's 2nd Grade</u>	
Kristen Addison	Colby Baty
Rachel Bryan	Ashley Clark
Rob Childers	Clark Crow
Matt Hawkins	Riann Daugaard
Catrina Ingram	Fawn Kitchens
Andrew McCole	Keith Miller
Emily Platt	Joshua Smith
Shannon Sammons	
Andrew Smith	
Kelly Wright	
<u>Mrs. Hughes' 3rd/4th Grade</u>	
Emmy Corey	Megan Daugaard
Kelly Owen	Justin Dinger
	Beth Easler
	Kyle Hooks
	Joshua Hughes
	Adam Manning
	Ashley McSpadden
	J.R. Patterson
<u>Mrs. Smith's 4th/5th Grade</u>	
Tiffany Bare	Josh Baker
Ben Corey	Tessie Baty
Jana Goss	Jennifer Blalock
Peter Hurt	Brandy Browder
Stuart Hurt	Corey Kirby
Eddie Manning	
Kerri McMunn	
Kiley Young	
<u>Dr. Berry's 6th Grade</u>	
Ashton Jones	Emily Collins
	Holly Kitchens
	Nathan Owen

MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

By Evelyn Graves

Classroom citizens have been named for the month. (These are students who have exhibited good citizenship at school through their cooperative spirit.)

Kindergarten: Mark Corey and Julie Ingram

1st Grade: Kellye Phillips

2nd Grade: Catrina Ingram and Rachel Bryan

3rd & 4th Grades: Ashley McSpadden and Megan Daugaard

4th & 5th Grades: Peter Hurt and Corey Kirby

6th Grade: Will Shanklin

A computer lab is being formed. The computers will be pulled into one room so teachers can use them more effectively. The library is still receiving new books and numerous magazines. Karen Wright is now in charge of the library volunteers. The last basketball game of the season will be played at Gerakline on December 10. There has been good participation and a good spirit among the team members this year.

Beginning the first week of December, Mary Clark started teaching piano at the school on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The next PTO meeting is on Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 p.m. All parents are urged to attend.

A concert will be presented by the Valley Head Band for Moon Lake students on December 9 at 1:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

The second award to Moon Lake Heroes has been made. Recipients of this honor are parents and friends of the school who worked so diligently on the playground during this summer. (See photos below.)



Recent Moon Lake School Heroes recognized for their work on the new playground:

(L to R): Susan Hooks accepting certificate for her nephew Wallace Cash; Dudley Easler; Kevin Green; Brandol Jones; Bill Schwarz; Ashton Jones accepting for his dad, Carl; Jean Corey, chairman of the playground committee; Connie Hughes, and Karen Wright. Not pictured are Kenneth and Kathy McMunn



LET US PRAY

Sincere Christmas thoughts to all, along with our thanks for your continued good faith.



Marsha Folsom (R) tours Moon Lake's newly refurbished library & discusses with (L to R) Dr. Bill Berry, principal; John Corey, PTO President; Terry Childers, Jean Corey, Robert Childers, Terry Hutcheson, Susan Hooks, possibilities for the school's future

Photo by Marsha Hurt

THE MOON LAKE SCHOOL LUNCHROOM scored a 100 on its health inspection. Becky Blalock is lunchroom manager.



Dr. Bill Berry receiving certificate of recognition from Marsha Folsom, Gov. Folsom's wife Photo by Marsha Hurt



HONOR ROLL **ALL A's**

First Grade: Dustin Burt, Brandy Ellis, Victor Evans, Jeffery Harrison

Second Grade: William Blevins, Mandy Brown, Heather Freeman, Autumn Cook, Jacklyn Davis, Tracy Haney, Kyle Hicks, Kimberly Willbanks

Third Grade: Robert Brown, Jeremy Edgeworth, Rece Hall, Britt Heinrich, Blake Hulan, Alexandria Schauer, Steven Thornberry, Ashley Tuxbury, Kristin Chapman

Fourth Grade: Annah Armstrong, Crystal Bethune, Josh Hulan, Brittney Johnson, Amanda Knowles, Tessa McKinney, Beth Shireley, Matthew Tillman

Fifth Grade: Lacie Clure, Stacey Hyde, Hilary Lawton

Sixth Grade: Laura Martin, Slade Carden, Matt Watson

Seventh Grade: Stephani Watkins

Eighth Grade: None

Ninth Grade: Rene Brendle, Teri Campbell

Tenth Grade: Christy Ferguson, Wendy Hyde

Eleventh Grade: None

Twelfth Grade: Gerry Bain, Chris Hammon, Jody Wagner, Tony Willbanks, Petra Ledergerber, Leah Sharp, Lisa Smith

****A's & B's****

First Grade: Christina Armstrong, Trista Blackmon, Christina Chester, Heather Dulaney, Claude Carrett, Aaron Grisham, Jennifer Malone, Heather McEmore, Sheena Moses, Hillary Nichols, Jessica Roden, Justin Steel, Kela Chapman, James Wells

Second Grade: Jonathan Durham, Latasha Edgeworth, Christopher Gant, Crystal Gregory, Heather Carr, Jared Hulan, Billy McKinney, Derek Payne, Chris Richardson, Benjamin Windom

Third Grade: Dustin Burt, Jessica Hester, Stephanie Hicks, Almeda Parker, Brett Turne, Brittney Welden, Wyatt Woods, Dusty Storey, Coley Webb

Fourth Grade: Josh Brown, Ashley Deering, Thad Heinrich, Sharee Jenkins, Nancy Logue, Penny McElhaney, Michael Williams

Fifth Grade: Clay Castleberry, Jenny Gregory, Andrea Grisham, Felina Hannah, Ashley Holkem, Zac Pritchett, Tracie Pullen, Kayla Willbanks

Sixth Grade: Shelly Brown, Shelia McKinney, Jeather Zettler, Virginia Hatfield, Beth Moore, Laura Pullen, Leeanne Wooten

Seventh Grade: Matt Alexander, Heather Lawton, Amanda Hall, Adriane Robertson

Eighth Grade: Eric Crane, Jason Owen, Ashley Blalock, Tabitha Brisendine, Nancy Jeffery

Ninth Grade: Justin Baugh, Brian Smith, Chad Mosher

Tenth Grade: Brian Bone, Jeremiah Marsh, Jim Phillips, Amanda Bethune, Kerry Blalock, Amy Crane, Angie Hunt, Haley Johnson, Nikki Smith

Eleventh Grade: Coley Morgan, Kayla Bell, Evie Morgan, Stephanie Hester, Rhonda Owens, Jennifer Robertson, Julia Yates

Twelfth Grade: Kirby Smith, Crystal Battles, Christy Blevins, Michelle Chappell, Adrienne Hall, Nichole Hatfield, Toni Johnston, Kim McKinney, Krystee Tillman, Christie West

VALLEY HEAD SCHOOL NEWS



HOMEcoming '94

By Lisa Smith

The Valley Head Homecoming Queen and her Court were crowned and announced at the Valley Head vs. Crossville game on October 14, 1994. The 1993 Homecoming Queen, Ms. Chrissy Norman, crowned the new Queen, Ms. Sarah Tucker, who was escorted by her father, David Tucker. The Homecoming Princesses were Ms. Adrienne Hall and Ms. Lisa Smith, who were also escorted by their fathers.

The Court also included attendants from grades 8 through 11. The attendants were Terri Vest (8th), Amy Izell (9th), Amy Crane (10th), and Alison Meadows (11th). The Valley Head Marching Band, Varsity Cheerleaders, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Talley were also a part of the 1994 Homecoming ceremony.

NEW PROGRAM AT VHHS

By Michelle Chappell

The members of Valley Head Beta Club have taken on a new and exciting challenge this year. The idea of peer tutoring was brought to the club by Valley Head's new principal, Mr. Gary Talley. Each Beta member gives his or her own time during their study hall or P.E. classes for one or two periods on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They are called upon by teachers to help other students who are in need of extra help in an area in which they are struggling. Students needing the most help are picked by teachers to be helped with various areas of their subject. The Betas are chosen to help in the classes in which they excel.

Peer tutoring has proved to be a great success. After the first six weeks of the tutoring, there has been great improvement in the grades of the students in the program. The Beta members and the faculty of Valley Head are very proud of the peer tutoring program and its results.

JUNIOR BETA CLUB

By Nikki Smith

The Junior Beta Club had their induction ceremony on October 13, 1994. This year, they are including the 7th grade, based on their 6th grade academic scores. The new members are Tabitha Brisendine, Jeffery Bullock, Valerie Chappell, Eric Crane, Justin Fischer, Paxton Harper, Paul Hawkins, Shelley Ingram, Nancy Jeffery, Chad Mosher, Jason Owen, April Pierce, Adriane Robertson, Michael Scruggs, Carl Tipton, Crystal Valentine, and Stephanie Watkins. The new members are joined by new sponsors, Miss Downer and co-sponsor, Mrs. Maddox. Jr. Beta members work with the Senior Beta Club on service projects such as the Adopt-A-Mile program, Toys-for-Tots, and Christmas fruit baskets for the elderly. The Junior Beta Club is also raising money to attend their State Convention in March. This will be the first year that a Valley Head Junior Beta Club has attended the convention.

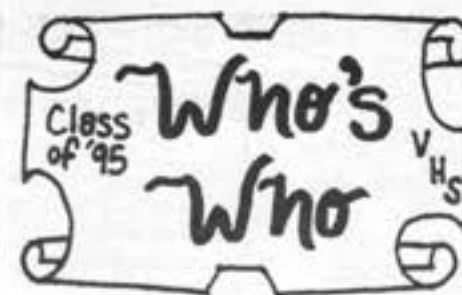
STUDENT COUNCIL

By Tammy Camp

Congratulations to the Valley Head Student Council for doing a great job at the DeKalb VFW County Fair. They won 1st place on their World War II exhibit booth.

During Homecoming week, the Student Council participated with the student body by dressing up all throughout the week. Each day had a theme: College day, Tacky Day, Hat Day, 50's Day, Tigers Day. The Student Council also hosted the Homecoming Dance which closed a week of festivities. The Student Council would like to congratulate Sarah Tucker, the 1994-95 Homecoming Queen.

The Student Council also participated in Red Ribbon Week. All the officers and class presidents went to the Red Ribbon ceremony at the Alabama/Georgia line, and then, the schools went to the Welcome Center where speeches were made by school representatives. Refreshments were served afterwards.



1994-95 Senior Who's Who

By Lisa Smith

THIS YEAR'S SENIOR WHO'S WHO CONSISTS OF:

Mr. & Mrs. Senior - Gerry Bain and Adrienne Hall
Beauty and Beau - Christie West and Chris Hammon
Class favorites - Adrienne Hall, Toni Johnston, Jody Wagner

Most Athletic - Gerry Bain and Lisa Smith
Best All Around - Chris Smith and Kim McKinney
Best Dressed - Eric King and Adrienne Hall
Most Likely to Succeed - Michelle Chappell and Jody Wagner

Most Talented - Tony Key and Suzanne Fletcher
Most Unique - Nathan Zeller and Crystal Battles
Biggest Flirts - Jason Goss and Lisa Smith
Cutest - Tony Willbanks, Leah Sharp
Quietest - Kirby Smith, Dennis Manning, and Holly Gardner

Class Clowns - Joseph Lee and Krystee Tillman
Most School Spirit - Gerry Bain and Cheri Keith
Most Dependable - Jody Wagner and Michelle Chappell

VALLEY HEAD SCHOOL READY FOR BOOK FAIR

A Troll Book Fair will be held at Valley Head School in the library. Students, parents, and visitors interested in purchasing books are welcome to attend. The book fair will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. each school day from Dec. 5 through Dec. 9. The fair will also be open after the PTO meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 5.

The book fair will encourage youngsters to read for pleasure and will also contribute to a worthwhile project. The library is sponsoring this event and all proceeds will benefit the school library.

The book fair display will include attractive new books from many major publishers in all popular prices, including a bargain book selection.

Award-winners, beloved authors, and all reading interests will be represented, including classics, fiction, biographies, adventure stories, science, nature, activities, and mystery books.

Make plans now to attend this wonderful event. Buy a book, and help a great cause!

THE ORIGIN OF CHRISTMAS

Information compiled by Zack Johnson

Christmas time is a special holiday that most of the world celebrates. The word "Christmas" comes from the old English term, meaning: Cristes-Maesse, meaning "Christ's Mass." This was the name for the festival service of worship held on the 25th of December. This was the celebration of Christ's birth. Today, many people that celebrate Christmas celebrate by decorating a tree in their homes, giving presents, and having parties. But this Christmas as you celebrate, remember what we are celebrating--the birth of Christ.



Valley Head Lady Tigers: The Valley Head Lady Tigers are: front row: Kristi Blevins, Tammy Camp, Ashley Blalock, Kayla Bell and Nikki Smith. Back row: Christy Ferguson, Stephanie Hester, Angie Whelan, Teri Campbell, Rene Brendle, Heather Jackson and Lisa Smith.



Valley Head Tigers: The Valley Head Tigers are: front row: Jim Phillips, Seth Harmon, John Lawton, Jody Wagner, John Duggan, Lyndell Wilson, Daniel Vest and Shane Plummer.

CITIZENS BANK OF VALLEY HEAD

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

Valley Head 635-6292

Member FDIC

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1984 VALLEY HEAD TIGERS

VALLEY HEAD TIGERS

NAME	NO.	POSITION	GRADE
Scott Tate	5	QB	10
Alan Smith	6	E	12
John Kirby	7	QB	12
Jon Bain	8	HB	11
Stacey Blansit	20	HB	10
Tracy Hall	21	HB	10
Jeff Bain	24	HB	11
Jeff Harrison	26	HB	12
Chris Wilburn	30	FB	12
Mark Miller	32	FB	10
Jeff Burt	41	HB	12
Jeff Gorham	50	C	12
Bill Millican	51	T	12
Phil Harris	60	T	12
Jim Tate	61	T	12
Buddy Tuxberry	62	G	12
Brian Matthews	63	G	12
Dennis Wright	73	T	12
Dean Freeman	75	T	11
Johnny Crider	77	G	12
Stacy Smith	80	E	11
Steve Campbell	81	E	10
Gary McElhane	85	C / E	10

Head Coach: JIM KIRBY

Assistant Coaches: STEVE KING

ANTHONY GREESON

STEVE KING
(1984-85)ASSISTANT COACHES
STEVE KING
ANTHONY GREESONValley Head High School
1994 Varsity Basketball
Schedule

Tue. Nov. 15	Geraldine (A)	8:00 JV, VG 5:00
Fri. Nov. 18	Ider (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Tue. Nov. 22	Crossville (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Wed. Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Tour: Etowah	VG 5:30
Nov. 25/26	Thanksgiving Tour: Geraldine	VB TBA
Tue. Nov. 29	Fyffe (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Fri. Dec. 2	Collierville (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Sat. Dec. 3	Sylvania (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Tue. Dec. 6	Gaylesville (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Sat. Dec. 10	Woodville (A)	JV, VG, VB 4:00
Tue. Dec. 13	Cedar Bluff (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Fri. Dec. 16	PRV (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Mon. Dec. 19	X-mas Tour: Haleyville	VG TBA
Tue. Jan. 3	Gaylesville (H)	8:00 VB 5:00
Fri. Jan. 6	Crossville (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Sat. Jan. 7	Randolph (H)	8:00 VG, VB 4:00
Sat. Jan. 14	Sand Rock (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Tue. Jan. 17	Collierville (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Fri. Jan. 20	Ider (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Jan. 23-28	County Tour: R.C.C.	8:00 VG, VB TBA
Tue. Jan. 31	Geraldine (H)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Fri. Feb. 3	Fyffe (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Sat. Feb. 4	Sylvania (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Tue. Feb. 7	Cedar Bluff (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Thur. Feb. 9	Sand Rock (A)	8:00 VG, VB 5:00
Feb. 13-18	Sectional Tournament	TBA
Feb. 21-15	Regional Tournament	Jacksonville State

COACHES

Jon Tidmore - Varsity Boys
Bobby Holloway - Varsity Girls

Pictured: Kneeling L to R: Laura H. McKenzie, Shannon D. Chambers, Donnis W. Barkley, Kim Worthey. Standing L to R: Angie F. Alexander, Stacy S. Howard, Fran H. Jones, Cindy P. Bethune, Lynn McElhane. Back L to R: Roy Strickland Jr, Tommie Blansit, and Jennifer P. Sterling

VALLEY HEAD CLASS OF 1989
FIVE-YEAR CLASS REUNION

By Kim Worthey

The Valley Head Class of 1989 held its five-year class reunion on October 15, Saturday evening at Western Sizzlin' Restaurant, in Ft. Payne. The graduates and guests had a wonderful time reminiscing and catching up on the events that occurred since May 25, 1989. In fact, the only low point of the evening was that only 12 out of 31 classmates were able to attend. Class vice president, Roy Strickland Jr., first gave a welcome speech, in which he thanked the people who formed a Reunion Planning Committee in the absence of our class officers. The committee members were Cindy Phillips Bethune, Donna Wagner Barkley, Laura Harrison McKenzie, Kim Worthey, and Roy Strickland Jr. Everyone was then dismissed to eat. After everyone was finished, a questionnaire was filled out, while attending children were entertained by coloring Halloween pictures. Door prizes donated by Ft. Payne and Mentone merchants were then awarded, and class pictures were made. The evening was concluded after an announcement was made that a 10-year Fund had been set up at Compass Bank, and anyone wishing to contribute may contact Fran Harcrow Jones. The Planning Committee would like any graduate who could not attend to know that if you would like to help plan the 10-year reunion, contact a committee member, or if you would like to make a donation to the fund, contact Fran Jones at Compass Bank at the North Y in Ft. Payne.

Merry Christmas

VALLEY HEAD CLASS OF 1984

1. 1984 Valley Head Tigers first DeKalb County team ever to win 1-A State Championship.
2. The only team to win State Championship game without throwing a pass.
3. John Kirby, Jeff Harrison, Jeff Burt, and Chris Wilborn led rushing and scoring, while Dennis Wright and Buddy Tuxbury led defense; but the whole team used their excellent defense teamwork to win.
4. They ended the year with 13-1, with the area and state championship under their belt.
5. Coaches were Jim Kirby, Steve King, and Anthony Greeson.
6. The team was honored with a pep rally for their 10-year reunion at the school where the captains of the winning team gave the present players a pep talk (Jeff Harrison and John Kirby), on Oct. 14. The whole team and the cheerleaders were each named and recognized later that evening at the football game. A cookout was enjoyed by them the next day at the home of former Coach Jim Kirby.

The pictures of the '84 team, coaches, and cheerleaders were taken from the Program of the '84 Valley Head Tiger's game against the Gaylesville Trojans, and the team names and positions were taken from the '84 State Playoffs between the ValleyHead and Speake High School. All were provided by Kim Worthey.

THE VALLEY HEAD VARSITY
CHEERLEADERSKIM CARR
JUNIORMAUNIE EGAN
JUNIORHEIDI GATRELL
JUNIORCINDY PULLEN
JUNIORJOY BAIN
SOPHOMORESTEPHANIE PRAGER
SOPHOMOREVALLEY HEAD HIGH SCHOOL
1994 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Tue. Oct. 25	Hempig (A)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Thur. Oct. 27	Geraldine (H)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Tues. Nov. 1	Collierville (A)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Thur. Nov. 3	Plainview (A)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Mon. Nov. 7	Fyffe (H)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Thur. Nov. 10	Crossville (A)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Mon. Nov. 14	Ider (H)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Thur. Nov. 17	Sylvania (A)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Mon. Nov. 21	Collierville (H)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Mon. Nov. 28	Hempig (H)	4:55 8:00 8:00
Thur. Dec. 1	Ider (A)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Mon. Dec. 12	Fyffe (A)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Mon. Jan. 2	Plainview (H)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Mon. Jan. 9	Sylvania (H)	4:55 8:00 JV, 8:00
Jan. 14, 15, 21	County Tournament at Crossville	8:00 8:00
Jan. 30 Feb. 1, 2	A County Tournament at Collierville	JVG

Coaches

LaKala Willingham - Junior Varsity Girls
Mark Hale - Junior Varsity Boys



It's hard to believe December is here and almost another year, but so it is!

Thanksgiving was a happy time for many families to come together and think of their blessings and be grateful. The Valley Head Baptist Church was host to a Community Thanksgiving Service with a full house who enjoyed a puppet presentation by Janet Cooper and Runae Burt and children of the church. The message was given by Rev. Charles Jenkins, and other members of the Ministerial Association assisted in the service.

We came together for Thanksgiving dinner at the home of Emily and Barry Brown. Others present were Cindy and David, Scot, Jason and Alison Meadows; Gracie, Chris and Dillon Brown; Patti, A.J., Amanda, Robert II, and Justin Brown; Beverly and Shane Wright; Robert Brown; and myself.

Randall Hawkins of Chattanooga spent Thanksgiving with his parents, Geraldine and Howard Hawkins. They had dinner at the Cabbage Bowl at Ider.

Mary, Ted, and John Holleman and E.T. and Gladola Holleman, spent Thanksgiving with Betty and "Red" Adams in Gadsden.

Linda and Mickey Cobble and son Mike, Becky, Casey, and Nicole Stott and friend, Van, ate Thanksgiving dinner with Gladys Cobble. Jenny and Donnie White came from the University of Alabama to be with her mother Becky Stott.

The Valley Head Methodist Church had the charge conference after breakfast served at the Church on October 30. Pete West, District Superintendent, and Judge Randall Cole, Lay Leader, spoke. At our church service we had special music by Lisa Smith, Melinda Adkins, Dessie Newberry, Dorothy Crow, and Bob Hopkins from Nashville.

Carol and Annie Larmore and daughter, Carol Ann, from Decatur, were recent guests of Frances Longshore.

Laurie Longshore will come Dec. 23, from the University of Idaho at Moscow to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents, Helen and Larry Longshore.

I attended a Jewelry Party at Maxine Ferguson's home November 21. Others present were Jane Buckels, Geraldine Hawkins, Sherry Blansit, Abby Grogan, Margaret Bates, Carla Anderson, Thelma Jones, Doris Ferguson, Treva McElhaney, Helen Longshore, and the demonstrator, Tisha Nelson.

The Sunshine Club met Nov. 17, with Jewell Palmer. Others present were Gladys Cobble, Leona Chadwick, Carmel Gifford, Evelyn Clark, Bess Bauerle, Ruth Pickett, Geraldine Hawkins, Wanda Manning, Glenda Savage, and Eloise Brown.

Doris and Jim Carmichael, Emmy and Mark Ricketts and family, and Linda and Bob Thomas and family, enjoyed several days at Seaside, Florida.

Ed Ringer's guests, his nephew, David Ringer and children, Amanda, Ashley, Spencer, and Laura, from Florence Miss., filled a pew at our church, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Joyce and Mack Allen from Centre, Ala., visited Ed for Thanksgiving.

Doris Carmichael fell, running from the shower to the telephone. She was not seriously hurt, but could have been. We must not do that! They will call later if it's important.

Elizabeth Coleman is improving at home, after spending a few days at BMC-DeKalb. Dr. Coleman is not feeling well, either. We hope they will both soon be well and strong.

Jason Meadows, Josh Woods, Chad Mosher, accompanied Lisa and L.A. Smith and Greg, to the 67th F.F.A. Convention in Kansas City, Mo. Alabama's Miss America was a speaker. They also saw the Arch and museum in St. Louis and attended a rodeo.

Stella Pierce, Margie and Donald Daniels, and Heather and Brittany and Edith and Orvil Mullins and Teena and Christopher spent Thanksgiving with Joe and Jerry Thornberry at Menlo.

Howard Carson is recovering at home after surgery in Memorial Hospital. We wish for him a quick and complete recovery—also, for Bill Livezey, who is seriously ill in BMC-DeKalb. Cheryl and Gerry Brown from Fort Worth, Texas, are visiting the Livezeys.

Welcome Jacob Lee Chance Hodges to the world, born to Keila and Robbie Hodges, Nov. 28, at BMC-DeKalb. He is Lynn and Ronnie Hammon's first grand baby; Ruth and Robert Hammon's first great grand baby; and Jo and Howard Carson's fourth great grandchild.

We welcome Leslie Rogers who is living in the Methodist parsonage. She is hoping to have some young people to work with at the Methodist Church. Melinda and Jeff Adkins have bought a nice home near Henagar. We wish them much happiness in their new home—tho they still belong to us!

Venna Livingston had her family for three days during Thanksgiving. They were also visited by her sister, Madge Sparks and son, J.W. Sparks, from Ringgold.

The Valley Head U.M.W. met Nov 9 at the home of Laura Margaret Allison with Elizabeth Coleman as co-hostess. A Thanksgiving program was presented by Venna Livingston and Eloise Brown.

Mary and Ted Holleman and son, John, visited the President Polk home, which was built in 1816 in Columbia, Tenn., and ate lunch at the Henry Horton State Park.

Adelaide Biddle went with a senior citizens group to Opryland and Grand Ole Opry in Nashville. Thirty-eight senior citizens from the center in Fort Payne went and spent the night. She had her picture made with Hank Snow, Jim Ed Brown, Bill Monroe, Jan Howard, and Little Jimmy Dickens. It seems they received VIP treatment. A bus load of the seniors also visited the Amish Settlement near Lawrenceburg, Tenn., recently. Adelaide spent the Thanksgiving weekend with most of her children in Chattanooga. She "baby sat" for Mary Lou and David Carmichael's children in Dallas, Ga., while they attended the military ball. David is Commander of the Marine Air Base there.

Hammondville was treated to the spectacle of a wagon train and an encampment by the I-59 Flea Market, by Vision Quest, an organization for juvenile delinquents, which rehabilitates them and gives them a sense of accomplishment. They had 35 mules, 6 horses, 8 covered wagons and other vehicles, 4 teepees, 50 juvenile delinquents, and 5 teachers. I talked to Debra Shriner, a teacher from New York. They were going from Franklin, Penn., to Yeehaw, Fla. They move 4 days and rest 3 days and make 25-30 miles per day. The state of Pennsylvania pays for part of their education.

I am grateful for good neighbors who have brought me greens and turnips, a good friend who sent me a special Thanksgiving card with a message to lift my spirit, for a grandson who came and did little odd jobs for me, and my son and his helpers who sacrificed viewing a ball game to install a new water heater for me, since mine quit after 44 years. I am grateful for all the beauty and goodness that surrounds us.

MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS

There was no room at the inn
for Jesus to be born
There was no room just then
on that first Christmas morn.

Is there room for Him today,
or do we shut Him out,
In our work and in our play,
or whatever we're about?

Make time for Him today,
Seek Him for communication
Take time to read and pray
with praise and appreciation.

Cleanse your heart, open wide,
make room for Jesus there;
Invite Him in to ever abide,
and give Him loving care.

—Eloise Brown

Whirlpool



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VALLEY HEAD

JAKIE D. LEE
SHARON C. LEE



BEN MOSLEY

CONGRATULATIONS to Ben Mosley,

who has been included in Who's Who Among American High School Students. The requirements for this honor are: they must have demonstrated leadership in academics, athletics, or extra curricular activities and must be nominated by participating high school or bona fide youth organizations. Ben was nominated by the Killian Hill Christian High School at Lilburn, Georgia, which he attends. He is in the top 6% of U.S. High School students and top 1% of U.S. Freshman High School students. He is the son of Sue and Sam Mosley of Lilburn, Ga., and grandson of Venna Livingston of Valley Head.



PAULLETTE GOSS
and DARRELL MITCHELL

Miss Paullette Goss and Mr. Darrell Mitchell were united in marriage November 5 in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., at Smokey Mountain Chapel. Paullette, the daughter of Richard and Margie Goss of Fort Payne and the granddaughter of Gladys and H.P. Goss of Mentone, is a 1989 graduate of Valley Head High School, who is currently employed as a boarder by Sparks Finishing in Henagar. Darrell, the son of Verlon and the late Willodean Mitchell of Grove Oak, is a 1984 graduate of Geraldine High School, and is currently employed by Filte Industries in Guntersville as a process technician. Before the event, Mrs. Mitchell was honored by her friends and relatives of Mentone with a miscellaneous shower on October 29 at Mentone City Hall. After honeymooning in Gatlinburg, Tenn., the couple now resides in Grove Oak.



Beauty Tips

By
CHARLYNE O'REAR

I know the following is not quite what is thought of when beauty tips is mentioned, but these thoughts are on my mind, and you'll soon learn I speak my mind, occasionally. (Some would say that I don't have all that much to say, but here goes anyway!!!)

Have you ever heard someone talking, and you thought to yourself, "this person really has a lot on the ball and could sell me anything?" They are so pleasant and thrilled to just be alive and in your presence. You find yourself not wanting your time with them to end as soon as it has to, because they are so great to talk to about just anything.

Have you ever been to a party, in a class, or at a seminar, and heard someone speak, and the tone of their voice just made you want to scream, or worse, made you want to go to sleep? They either whine, mumble, or speak in monotone. I'm sure speaking whiningly has its place--this writer just hasn't found that place. People who mumble don't really want to be heard in the first place and should be quiet like children, and we all know someone who speaks in monotone, don't we?

All the great poets and writers have said at one time or the other that "beauty is from within." These words are no doubt some of the most often mentioned of any I can think of at this time. They are very true words.

So many times we see women who are beautifully coiffured and immaculately dressed (latest style of clothes, jewelry, and shoes). Yet, she has only to open her mouth to help your vision of her loveliness vanish. Sometimes, it's what she says; sometimes, it's how she says it.

I feel that it would benefit some of us if we made use of a recorder and listened closely to what our tone is when we speak. In various professions, employees are trained to listen to their own voices and fine tune them to project the most melodious and soothing speech patterns possible. This is very beneficial in all conversations--business and social.

Conversation, in general, is important if you are interested in meeting and making new friends in your firm, community, church, and yes, family. The best way to become interesting is to read a good book ever so often, see a good play, do some traveling, and, if the latter is not in your budget, rent some travel films, and see other countries and cultures via the camera's eye. If you will do some of these things, you will not be short of conversation material at parties and other social functions. Learning to be a good listener, drawing out the other person, and getting them to talk about themselves will put you on anyone's "favorite person" list. To be able to do this, you must be genuinely interested in other people. If not, don't try to "fake it." People will spot you a mile away.

I hope this message will not come across as a sermon, but girls, really, we need to let our light shine. If you have a warm heart and care for others, then show it in the way you speak.

Take some time out of your busy schedule and read poetry, the Bible, or something else interesting, and hide some of it in your heart to give to others when you are together. I can only promise you, you will be the winner for the small effort it takes to become interesting.

See you next month, starting the new year. If you have any questions or comments, send them to me. Just address your comments to *The Groundhog*, attention Charlyne.

CHARLYNE O'REAR
Owner

PHONE
205-635-6657

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IF WE HAVE A SPORTS SUPER FAN OF 1994? No we don't. I knew I had everyone stumped! If anyone learns the correct answer to the question of who is the super heavyweight world arm wrestling champion, and sends it in by the end of the year, he or she will be recognized as the SPORTS SUPER FAN OF 1994. I'll give you a clue--it is a Georgian.

IF ANYONE KNOWS WHO BEAT ALABAMA ON THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 17, 1964? No one has reported the correct answer, so I assume that Bill Wright, Gladys Crane, my wife, and I are the only ones who know. If you know, report it to *THE GROUNDHOG* and be recognized. If no one knows the answer to this question, I know no one will know the answer to the next one, because I think the answer to the following question is less known than the one above.

WHAT TEAM OR INDIVIDUAL, IN ALL OF SPORTS HAS THE MOST CONSECUTIVE WINS? No, it is not the UCLA basketball team, the New York Yankees, a hockey team, or any tennis player. A clue is that the streak ended at 92. What I am asking here is, who set the record with 92 consecutive wins? I am speaking from memory, but I think the UCLA basketball team had 88 consecutive wins, which is quite a record in itself. I remember when they got beat to stop their streak no one thought that record would ever be broken. Who is to say that the 92 consecutive wins will not be exceeded someday?

IF ANYONE KNOWS WHO IS THE WINNINGEST FOOTBALL COACH? No, again, we do not have a winner, and I thought all sports-minded fans would know this answer, especially those who read *USA TODAY*. Should anyone come across this answer, send it in and be recognized. Until then, I'll chalk up posing another unanswered question. I'm ahead now, 5 to 0! That's what is called a shut-out. I would like to thank James Brackin of Athens, Tenn., for his response. His selection was the #2 coach. Let's hear from you, Sports fans!

WHY I OVERLOOKED DUKE AS ONE TEAM HAVING A CLAIM ON BEING NUMBER 1? In a recent article, I mentioned several teams as having a claim on being number one, but I left out the Duke Blue Devils. I assure you it was unintentional. At the time of the writing of the article, they had as much claim on being top rated as anyone. Today, even though they got clobbered by Florida State, and lost to Virginia and North Carolina, they are still a good football team and will play in a bowl this year. Wherever they play, they will represent the ACC well! They have been down for several years, like the Tennessee-Chattanooga team, but seem to have the "spirit" this year. Go, Blue Devils! They just can't beat FSU, especially in Tallahassee. They are not the only team to get clobbered in Tallahassee. I don't know who can beat FSU in Tallahassee this year. Speaking of FSU, and while I am correcting my oversights (?) in recent articles, let me correct the continuous wins of FSU in the Atlantic Coast Conference. It is now 24, instead of 12! They are unbeaten by an ACC team since they joined the conference! They are head and shoulders above any other team in the ACC. It is going to be interesting this Saturday to see how the best in the ACC does against the number two team in the SEC. (See the next paragraph.)

WHO IS NUMBER ONE IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL NOW? As I predicted in the 1st article, the winner of the Nebraska-Colorado game, Nebraska is proclaimed by both major polls as being the best team in the nation. But, what about the others? There are four major football teams undefeated today--Nebraska, Penn State, Alabama, and Texas A&M. The Texas A&M team has been tied, so that eliminated them as being number one, now, in my book. What about the other three? I'll

put my money on the TIDE! Anyone watching the Alabama-Auburn game saw a team play a perfect game, and against a major undefeated team! I'm convinced! I expect them to go all the way to an undefeated season. It's a shame that we won't have a championship playoff this year like that planned for the 1996 season. If Nebraska wins their Orange Bowl game and also goes undefeated, I expect the polls will select them as number one.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS SHADES VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL? While I'm on football, I want to mention high school football. I see where one newspaper has Shades Valley as one of the top 25 high school football teams in the nation, but where is it? It must be located on Sand Mountain, (a valley on a mountain?), for, every time I ask someone where such-and-such is located, they tell me "on Sand Mountain." They are undefeated, so they must be good. I see in the paper where the Sylvania Rams have won several games in the state playoffs, and are the only DeKalb County team left in the playoffs. Go, Rams! I used to think that Trion would be in the Georgia playoffs, but I see that Armuchee is, so they must have beaten Trion in the regional. But, on behalf of them, the Indians, the Tigers, the Red Devils, the Hornets, the Wildcats, and the others in this area, just wait 'til next year! This goes for the Yellow Jackets, too.

HOW MANY PLAYERS WERE ON THE 1984 VALLEY HEAD STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM? Congratulations to them. I understand they had a ten-year reunion last month. Can anyone name all the players who were on the team then? If so, can you name their positions?

IF YOU MISSED BASEBALL AND HOCKEY THIS FALL? It did seem strange not to have a World Series, didn't it? It was the first time since 1904. By now, I'm used to no baseball and no major hockey this fall. The absence of these two sports brought on an article by Tom Friend in a recent issue of the *Wall Street Journal*. He said losing the world series is like losing February 29. He thinks that Pro Football is now the main attraction of the people in America, and that baseball will continue to diminish in interest until it will be a minor sport. I don't know about the latter statement. However, the baseball strike has certainly diminished the people's interest in it, in my opinion.

WHAT IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN A PERSON, OR TEAM, WINNING IN SPORTS? I had planned to devote most of this article discussing this from my viewpoint, but time will not allow it. I will try to discuss it next time, if there is a next time. Be thinking about this, for I know you have ideas. In fact, this is right up Dr. Seymour's alley.

WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR THIS THANKSGIVING? I am writing this on Thanksgiving Day, and I keep thinking what I am thankful for this year, and wonder what you are thankful for. A few of the things I am thankful for is friends, good parents, family, health, churches (including the Mentone United Methodist Church, and others in this area), America--and being a citizen of this great land, having the opportunity to know and serve the true and only God, and, of course, sports. What are you thankful for today?

Ann Wright's mammoth good deed of feeding 25 family members today made me remember that all my life I've heard that people are inherently good, and they only need an opportunity to prove it. This I believe 100%. Some lose control at times, and this ends in a crime. But, the good I see and hear about far outweighs the bad. Do you agree? SHALOM.

Bill Crane, Rt. 1, Box 46, Mentone, AL 35984



The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



The Moon Lake Baptist Church will have a Children's Christmas program on December 11, at 7 p.m. There will be a carol sing on Sunday night, December 18. Everyone is invited to this. There will be a special candlelight service on Christmas Eve at 6:30 p.m. There will be only one service on Christmas Day, December 25, which will be held at 11 a.m. The emphasis for the month of December will be on the coming of Christ.

The Mentone Church of God will present a Christmas play, "Scarlet Ribbon," on December 18, at 6 p.m. The play will be directed by Karen Powell. The Ladies' Banquet will be on December 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

On Saturday night, December 3, the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy will have a Senior Adult social at Joel and Sue King's home at 6 p.m. for ages 55 and up. The Christmas play is on Sunday night, December 18, at 6:30 p.m. The play is entitled "Angels Unaware." The church Christmas banquet is Tuesday evening, December 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the Kountry Chef. This is a church-wide banquet. There will be a special Christmas service on Sunday morning, December 25, at 10 a.m.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church will have a Christmas Eve service at 6:30 p.m., with communion.

The Valley Head United Methodist Church pastor, Jeff Adkins and wife, Melinda, are now living on Sand Mountain; and Leslie Rogers is living in the Methodist parsonage. She is going to be the Youth Director of the church if she can get enough youth to justify it. Plans for a Christmas service are incomplete at this time.

On December 18, at 5 p.m., the Mentone Wesleyan Church will be celebrating Christmas with a Children's Choir presentation and candlelight Christmas communion. A Christmas dinner will follow. Everyone is to bring a covered dish.

On December 4, missionaries Dale and Patsy Dyson, from Kenya, visited at the Valley Head Baptist Church. All classes made posters in reference to the Week of Prayer, and the posters judged that date by the missionaries. There was a covered dish dinner following the service. The Mountain Manor Christmas Store will be on December 6. The children's Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 9, at 5 p.m. at the church. The adult Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 10, at 6 p.m. at the church. The Community Christmas Cantata will be presented at The Fountains on Saturday, December 17, at 6:30 p.m.; at Moon Lake Baptist Church on Sunday, December 18, at 5 p.m.; and at Valley Head Baptist Church on December 18, at 7 p.m. On Christmas Day there will be a Candle Service at 11 a.m. There will be no Sunday School or Discipleship Training. There will be the one service only.

The Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to attend their worship services each Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

The drama club of the Mentone Revival Center will be doing some skits and the youth will be presenting a Christmas play on Saturday, December 17, at 6:30 p.m. On Sunday, December 25, there will be a special Christmas service at 11 a.m., and a regular service at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to tune in to the radio broadcast every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. on AM870.

The Union Hill Baptist Church youth group will present a Christmas play entitled, "Holiday Hoedown," on Thursday, December 8, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, December 10, at 7 p.m., and a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. at Fischer Rescue Squad Building. Admission is 2.00. Proceeds will go to a special mission project.

On Thursday, December 1st, the UMW of the Mentone United Methodist Church met at 10 a.m. to decorate the church and put up the Chrismon Tree. On Thursday, December 8, at 2 p.m., their regular meeting will be in the fellowship hall. Marie Dillenbeck has the program, entitled "Hope in the Midst of Change." Pat Seymour is the hostess. Beginning in 1995, the UMW will meet at 2 p.m. on the first Thursday after the first Sunday of each month. The spirituality class meets at 6 p.m. each Sunday night. Everyone is invited to attend.

NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North Dekalb Ministerial Association sponsored the Community Thanksgiving service on Thursday evening, November 23, at 6 p.m. at the Valley Head Baptist Church. Reverend Charles Jenkins, pastor of Valley Head Baptist Church and president of the ministerial association conducted the service, with ministers from other churches taking part in the service. Those who attended the service were blessed by the special puppet show by The Mighty Messengers of Valley Head Baptist Church. At the service, an offering was taken to prepare stockings for the MAPA Children's Christmas Party to be held on Friday, December 9, at 3:30 p.m. at the Mentone Town Hall. (See notice elsewhere.)

J.O.Y.

The Just Older Youth group is upgrading the media facility at Moon Lake Baptist Church at this time. New shelves have been put in the library, and there are plans for other things to be done before the December meeting. The regular meeting will be on December 8, at 11:45 a.m. Members are asked to bring a homemade ornament for the Christmas tree that will be decorated at that meeting. Also, bring an item for the baskets for the shut-ins, such as toothpaste, lotion, etc. Please bring a covered dish for the luncheon.

May The Blessings Of The Season Be Yours To Share

As we each in the occasion of His holy birth, may you also be enlightened and uplifted by the spiritual joy and inner contentment that this season of peace on earth and brotherhood to all mankind inspires. We truly cherish the gift of your friendship.



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Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Closed Monday.



De Vann Jackson, conductor of the Christmas Cantata choir



Members of the 1993 Christmas Cantata Choir singing at the Fountains last year



METHODIST CHURCH DECORATIONS
Barbara Blalock, Carrie Ruth Kirby and Marilyn Blanton Campbell placing ornaments on the Chrismon Tree at the Mentone United Methodist Church



Marie Dillenbeck, Linda Brown, Ann Wright, and Hope Walker decorating the church ramp

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



What a beautiful Thanksgiving Day in Mentone! The weather was perfect. We have so much to be thankful for. We should be thankful for living without the hassle of traffic. Bobby and I recently went to Asheville, North Carolina, and the traffic going and coming home was terrible. I think that maybe America has goofed up by not using trains for more shipping. There are so many big trucks on the highways, it is frightening to be on the road with them. We should also be thankful that we can know each other and speak to everyone at the post office each day. Can you imagine being afraid to look at people and speak to them? I could fill this issue of *The Groundhog* with things to be thankful for, but so can you. Stop and think about them all, even if Thanksgiving Day is over.

I think that Mentone has the most interesting weather. Where else can it be sunny and warm; foggy and cool; and, then, windy, rainy, and cold within twenty-four hours? Sometimes the weather can be depressing up on the mountain, but you just have to remember that it will change shortly. Not always for the better, but it will change.

Can you believe that the Christmas Season is here? It is such a nice break in the cold bleak months of winter. I have read that no one is exactly sure when Jesus Christ was born, but it was probably not on December 25. Someone had the good sense to place this joyous holiday in the winter when nothing else was happening.

There will be many activities happening around Mentone. I know that the Rhododendron Ecoteers (Junior Garden Club) will be decorating the Christmas tree in the meeting room of the Mentone City Hall. The motif will be butterflies (all of which were made by them during the summer). Please go by and look at this tree, and if you know some of these young people, tell them how much you appreciate their efforts. Everyone needs to know they are appreciated, but our children and youth especially need to hear it. The Rhododendron Garden Club will be having their meeting in the Town Meeting Room, December 13, at noon. We are presently planning a nice surprise for the program. It will be a covered dish luncheon, and everyone is invited.

If you are one of those people who say that something is impossible, stay out of the way of those who are doing it. (My only soap box offering this month)

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!

NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT P.O. BOX 154 MENTONE, AL 35984

I am pleased to make the following donation for the year 1995:

Amount: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETING

By Linda Brown

A meeting of local volunteer firefighters and members of the board of directors was recently held in the fire hall at Mentone. The purpose of the combined meeting was to discuss the state of the fire department and the election of new officers.

The general consensus of all present was that the interest in the fire department needs renewing. The good news is that there have not been many fires lately. The bad news is that interest decreases when there is a lack of activity. There is a great need for the members to renew their interest in helping the department and also a need for persons to join as new members.

Jim Roberts was chosen as Fire Chief of the volunteer firefighters, with Rusty Chambers to serve as Assistant Chief. Gail Chambers was elected to the position of Chairperson of the Board of Directors. Chester Crowe will serve as Vice Chairperson.

Let's all rally around our fire department. There is something that each of us can do. Any person eighteen years of age or older can become a volunteer firefighter. We can all give a donation to help defray the many expenses of maintaining a volunteer fire department. (A large insurance premium will be due the first of January.) We can support the fund-raising activities that are sponsored by the volunteers. If you are already a volunteer, attend the meetings and training sessions and support the new chief and the other volunteers. If you are on the Board of Directors, attend the meetings and study the issues that confront a fire department in a town as small as Mentone.

Don't wait to be asked. Call and volunteer to help. We must pull together as a town or risk losing our volunteer fire department. We do have a lower rate on our insurance because of this department. A few good people can't do it all. YOU ARE NEEDED!!

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN Properties

Live with the Company that specializes in Mentone, Mountain Homes, Woodlands, Canyon, River and River Properties. All Located in Mentone or on Lookout Mountain.



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

Surrounded by DeSoto State Park, 4 bdrm, 2 bath, over 1900 sq. ft. home, with 47 acres, partial pasture, the real woods and creeks. Large barn, and the home has CHVA, large rooms and basement. \$220,000. Both of these parcels: Campground and Home with 47 acres, can be purchased together for \$325,000. An excellent buy for expansion.

(2) **BROW OVERLOOKING FT. PAYNE** - approximately 5 acre tracts available at the end of Lakeview Dr., City water access. Priced \$21,000 each.

(3) **GARDEN HOME ON LAKE LAUSAGE** - Enter and step upon the original Stone floors of this newly renovated 3 bdrm, 2 bath home with Stone fireplace. From the open living area, you can view the Rock terraced landscaping to the River. \$88,000, 2 lots with more lots available.

(4) **COTTAGE ON LAKE LAUSAGE** - Charming 3 bdrm, 1 bath with Garage Apt. Dock on the Lake. A unique structure with lots of Mountain stone accents. Fireplace, 2 decks, and screened porch, creek on the west boundary. Partially furnished. \$89,500.

(5) **MENTONE** - New Cedar/Rock Home located on DeSoto Parkway. 1338 sq. ft., 3 bdrm, 2 bath, CHVA, City water. Beautiful Stone fireplace on 3/4 acre wooded lot. Priced \$87,500.

(6) **FRUIT TREES AND ROSEBUSHES** - surround this 2 bdrm, 1 bath Farm house and barn with its Mentone charm. All it needs is some TLC. \$30,000.

(7) **PERFECT COUNTRY SETTING** - describes this rustic Home with 4 bdrms, 3 full baths, large picture windows overlooking the pasture and woods. Tile and carpet throughout and Jacuzzi in Master Bdrm. CHVA, rock patio and Bonus room. Can be sold with 4 to 20 acres. Call for more info. Located near DeSoto Park.

(8) **BUILDING SITE** - On Little River Canyon Rim Road. 1.7 acres with power, country water and cleared. \$15,000.

(9) **CAMPING CABIN** - located on Little River Canyon (Canyon View Forest Subdivision). 1 room, with air conditioning, gas heat, well water, and a screened cooking and eating area. 5 acres with view of canyon. \$42,500, reduced to \$35,000. Must sell.

(10) **ACREAGE** on Snake Gap Road and Whitehall Branch. 5 acres (M.L.), with creek and pasture, paved road frontage, and city water. \$10,000. ALSO: 35 acres for \$35,000. Buy all 40 acres for \$45,000. Off Highway 115, Hammondville.

Happy Holidays

LUTHERAN CHURCH SETS PLANS FOR SPECIAL ADVENT SEASON SERVICES

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is making plans for the Advent Season, which is a time of Expectation before Christmas. The custom of lighting an Advent Wreath during the four weeks before Christmas symbolizes the age before the coming of Christ. The light of prophecy concerning the Messiah became brighter and brighter. Christ came and said, "I am the light of the world."

Over 70 million Christians identify themselves as Lutheran. The Ft. Payne congregation, founded in 1992, is a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, an American church of almost 3 million members. Bill and Dorothy Cyr of Mentone are one of the three-family

founders of the church. Bill is president of the congregation, and Dorothy serves as church teacher and organist.

Prince of Peace, located at 112 First Street SW in Ft. Payne, will observe three special Advent Services on Tuesday, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, and Dec. 13. Each service will be preceded by a fellowship meal beginning at 6 p.m. to which the community is invited.

Regular Sunday Services are held at 8 a.m. each week, followed by fellowship and Bible classes for adults and children at 9 a.m.



MAY THE WARMTH
AND GLADNESS OF
THIS DAY REFLECT
IN EVERYTHING YOU DO.



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Photo by Marsha Hurt

Beth Easler and parents Dudley and Becky Easler; Ashton Jones and father Carl Jones; Kerri McMunn and parents Kenneth & Kathy McMunn; Andrew McCole and parents Rachel & David Lee McCole; Kelly Wright and parents Karen and Russell Wright; Joshua Rogers and parents, Sandra & Darryl Rogers; Emily Swindoll and mother Sharon Swindoll; Wil Blackburn and parents Vicki and Al Blackburn; Katie Herndon and mother Karen Herndon

LOVE
AND
JOY!



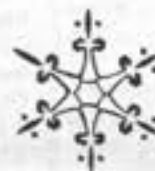
Buck Blalock, winner of \$1,000 at Moon Lake School Harvest Festival. Buck donated the full amount back to the school. Thanks Buck!

Photo courtesy of Karen Wright



The most
wonderful time
of year is here!
Celebrate with
those you
hold most dear.

Happy
Holiday!



Do you know anyone that has
known this woman? Here is
and she attended the C

GIFFORD GRANDCHILDREN
SEPT. 23rd, 24

Descendants of George Edward
gathered at Cloudland Canyon State
23, 24, and 25. Some stayed the while
went during that period. It was a
food, card games, and ball games.
some ventured down into the canyon
bonfire and toasted marshmallows.
Hammon Stanley & Herbert, Genna
Stanley; John & Barbara Hammon; A
Glenda, Robert & Webb Lyons; Tom
Scott & Susan Gifford; Billy & Jack
Gifford; Richard, Rita, Ryan & Catlin
David Gifford; Karen, and Karen, Tom

One of the highlights of the retreat
Sunday morning lead by Richard Gifford
Tony Prince. The air was filled with
the cousins talked about how proud
to his God and his church. He is
Baptist Church. The whole family
insights.

Everyone agreed this was a great
again every year, so all you Gifford
Edward and Martha Jane Bunnell C
Cousins Retreat Invitation!"



Winners of Horseshoe Contest at cookout for Moon Lake School.

Scott Baty and Fulton Burnette 1st place; Russell Wright and Bonnie Kirby 2nd place

Photo courtesy of Karen Wright



Photo by Marsha Hurt

King: Andrew McCole Queen: Kelly Wright
raised \$4,000
Mrs. Lehman's 2nd Grade



Lula Blalock, Becky Benefield
Chairman, preparing soup
Mentone Revival Center to be



MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Tommy Jones, owner of Southeastern Landscapers, Inc., of Huntsville, Ala., the company reconstructing the rock wall down Hwy 117 in Mentone is pictured at the Western Sizzlin celebrating with his crew, not pictured, about the near completion of the rock work. Those attending the dinner were Shay Thome, Eddie Black, Randy Trapp, Luther Pellam, Marvin Parks, Billy Tucker, Clyde B. Kenyan, Valeria Hulsey, Jeff Williams, Chris Clemons, Arthur L. McGee, Steve Mitchell, Leon Thornberry, William Bowman, Dewitt Weldon, David Samson, Tim Treece (superintendent), and Tommy Jones (owner) from Southeastern Landscapers, along with invited guests, Dr. Pat Seymour and Marie Dillenbeck from Mentone.

A plaque has been placed on the rock wall by the Ala. Dept. of Transportation to let visitors know its history.



money to burn? or do you
clue: her initials are MHS,
Gifford Cousin Retreat.

CHILDREN GATHERING th, & 25th, 1994

and Martha Jane Bunnell Gifford
ark for a "cousin" retreat on on Sept.
ole three days and others came and
yous reunion with lots of delicious
Some made pipes out of acorns and
for sightseeing trips. There was a
s and balloons enjoyed by Martha
& Elin Crook; Edwin, Karen & John
gil, Stan, & Katelyn Fischer; Wallace,
my & Barbara Gifford, Jason Wright,
e Gifford; Aunt Barbara (Mrs. Red)
Gifford; Roy, Angie & Leslay Gifford;
y, Josh & Natalie Prince.

was devotions around the campfire on
ord and special singing by Karen and
raises to God during this time, and all
hey were of Richard and his devotion
outh leader of the Lyerly, Ga., First
y benefitted from his inspirational

dea and decided to do the same thing
l cousins-descendants of ole George
fford watch for your annual "Gifford

*Cheerful
Wishes*



Jimmy Wright, Commander of Mentone's American Legion Post 215, and Dr. Mack Lyons speaker at the 1994 dinner



Karen Wright and Carla West in Ivana Trumps Plaza Hotel

Photo courtesy of Karen Wright

LOST IN NEW YORK

By Karen Wright

I had a great visit with my friend Karen Smyth in New York City. Carla West and I flew from Nashville. The scenery on the flight up was beautiful. We flew over Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia.

Next we went to Greenwich Village to meet another friend, Mimi Wilson. Then to China Town for real Chinese food.

Sunday was a full day of sightseeing-- first the Statute of Liberty, then Bryant Park.

We visited Ivana Trump's Plaza Hotel for lunch-- shopping all the way from Soho flea market to Saks Fifth Avenue.

We went to the Twin Towers and walked in Central Park. One night, we drove down to Times Square to see the big Sony T.V.

We rode the subway and in a New York taxi.

We visited the Empire State Building. The observatory is on the 86th floor. This is 1050 feet up. Ships can be seen 40 miles out at sea. This is a magnificent building. The elevator jumps 10 floors at once, so the ride is just seconds up to the 86th floor.

Monday, we went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Culture and art from all over the world and some of the best American, too, was on display.

We stayed in the Bronx, where the pace was a little slower at night. You could see Manhattan Island all in lights. It was awesome!



ld, and Vickie Davis,
nd sandwiches at the
livered to shut ins



Mayor Cash and wife Roberta at the 1994 Veterans Day covered dish dinner



This is the season for all families to draw closer together as we have at Thanksgiving and are preparing to do at Christmas. Stores have decorated early in anticipation of big sales for the holidays.

We are anticipating the last stone being laid on the rock wall on the side of our mountain. It has been a long drawn-out job, but the beauty of it will be worth waiting for. The people who live on DeSoto Parkway, north of Tutwiler Gap, will be relieved when traffic can flow naturally on Highway 117.

Building houses (or rock walls), architecture has always interested me, as well as decorating the house or landscaping the surroundings. I can do neither of them, but enjoy seeing it done. It's been exciting to watch the progress on Jim and Penny Lyday's expansion of their home on the Parkway. They live where those of us who are early residents call the Millsap Place—a rock house the Millsaps used in the winter and moved across the road to the old log house in summer. The old log house has been purchased by Brent Black and Tony Goggans and being razed and moved to a location not far from us, where they will use the logs in the construction of a restaurant. (But, that's another story.)

The stone house has very thick walls that is good insulation. They have added so many rooms I cannot name all of them. The old kitchen was small and not adequate for Penny when she cooked for family or guests, so they surrounded it with a new kitchen, family room, a sewing room, and another bedroom, I believe. There are upstairs additions of three more bedrooms and baths. Penny said each child and grandchild would have a room of their own when they visit. Jim will use the old kitchen for office space. And there is a huge garage, leading into the kitchen. It's very well planned, and they did the planning. All the new addition is decked out with mountain stone, which looks like a perfect match to the old stone walls. It's lovely.

Penny has cooked and served lunch every day to the men who worked. They never had it so good. It's a pleasant stop some days when I pass on my way to the Hitching Post, to see what progress has been made. I've even thought about trying to make it for lunch, because Penny, retired from teaching home economics, is an excellent cook. They hoped to be finished by Thanksgiving when the family would be together, and it looks like they almost made it.

Charles and Faye Roe are adding a new large kitchen onto their home on the brow. I dropped in to visit them, recently, when they were there overseeing the work. The kitchen is half as large as their entire house, which includes living room, sitting room, small kitchen, and bedroom. Theirs is a second, or vacation home; but now that they have the nice kitchen, they may stay up here more than they do in Gadsden. This home was formerly owned by Bob and Eleanor Sudderth, of Chattanooga. The view from their deck of the valley and Sand Mountain is very beautiful.

Barry and Angela Wood have just finished a nice, friendly-looking rustic home on the Parkway, near Cragmere. They built the house to sell and it will. People are looking for affordable homes in the medium price range. It's been a pleasure to watch progress on it.

This makes me want to build another house and plan a large kitchen and great room. The old colonial homes had keeping rooms, which is what we are going back to—a living kitchen. That's where everyone wants to go, no matter how large or small. With comfortable seating and a television set, the family and friends can all be together without isolating the cook. I want a big stone fireplace in the great room and wide board floors.

It is only in building one's own that things can be incorporated to suit the individual lifestyle of a person. I like country-style homes with wide open spaces, a big fireplace that can be used, polished wood floors with area rugs. Country French or Country English, with chintz-covered sofas, and chairs look charming in this setting. Quality things that are sturdy and can stand living habits of a family are my way of thinking—beautiful, but liveable. It gives me a cold feeling to enter a home where things are so fancy one is afraid to sit on the chairs. The day of the parlor for only special company is passe, which is good. This is not to say that I want a messy house; it's just that it should have a welcoming look, fresh and inviting. It should be warm in winter and cool in summer, which can be accomplished with good insulation. A home is an individual place and should be built to suit the lifestyle of the person who lives there. Hobbies of the occupants of a house should be considered, and space for workshops, painting, reading, or whatever should be built into the house.

Frank Lloyd Wright is considered to be one of the finest architects of the twentieth century. His buildings are well constructed, quite plain and simple, but not beautiful like the older traditional homes.

So much for building. A great deal of time in our lives (those of us with children) is spent trying to build lives. This is truly building for the future, and a great deal of awesome responsibility goes with the job. May God make us architects—all of us—in a spiritual sense. We feel like complete failures sometimes, but when I am surrounded by my four children and five grandchildren, I feel great pride in the fact that they are beautiful, decent, God-loving, good Americans.

May God bless all of you during Christmas and the coming year!

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CHRISTMAS AT HOME

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

Four other Christmases are in his mind.
He fetches another log and stands
Watching the flame. In other lands
He learned it is time for being kind.

He thought he knew before he went away.
He sang the carols, bought the gifts,
Lit candles, loved the deep white drifts,
And welcomed all his friends on
Christmas Day.

Now, as he watches the log burning red,
He sees the Filipino lad
Who on that other Christmas had
Led him through shell fire. How the boy
had bled!

He sees a homeless London child of six
Who had one thing with which to play,
An armless doll she gave away,
Among a pile of broken glass and bricks.

He sees the Paris cellar, cold as ice,
Beneath another cellar, where,
In taper light and thick, damp air,
Patriots kept Christmas with the
rats and mice

He looks into the fire and sees the men
Who shared their prison parcels. They
Had not forgotten what the day
Was for. And he would not forget again.

By Pearl Strachan



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THANK YOU!

The Walter & Christine Brooks Family
want to extend our sincere heartfelt thanks
to all who have expressed your love and
sympathy through your kindness to us
through our sadness in the death of our dear
son.

Season's Greetings

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LISTINGS

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 ACRES IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE. Heavily wooded with a fantastic view of open pasture. City water available. \$20,000.

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

START YOUR DREAM HOME TODAY on this 3-acre wooded lot with 200 ft. on Lake Lanasage. Restricted for owners' protection. \$30,000.

OVER 8 ACRES OF BEAUTIFULLY WOODED LAND **SOLD** sold on. Lightly restricted. \$13,000.

LAKE ON BROW - The only place you can find sunrise and lake views.

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

BEST RIVER AVAILABLE - 26 acres **SOLD** the West Fork on Little River. \$275,000.

LESS THAN 1 YEAR OLD COTTAGE offering 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large living, kitchen **SOLD** was. Front and back porches, on 1 acre lot located on East Lake Drive, Mentone. \$85,000.

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

BROW LOT IN MENTONE - Adjoins Crasgamers Manna with 20 acres between you and the peaceful valley setting below. build your weekend getaway on this beautiful property. \$35,000.

2.8 ACRES WITH 20' ON THE WEST BROW, DeSoto Parkway. \$27,000.



COMMERCIAL LOT on front with a 3 bedroom, 1 bath cottage with fireplace, pine floors and lots of charm! Prime downtown location on Highway 117 in Mentone. \$68,500.



UNIQUE STRUCTURE - Built in the 40's, walls are double rock, 3 bdrm. 1-1/2 bath in main house, sunroom and deck overlooking the valley. Separate guest house. \$220,000.



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.



PEACEFUL COUNTRY LIVING at its best. Over 3600 square foot farm house on 20 fenced acres, barn, 2 wells, spring fed pond. Connecting DeSoto State Park. Only a few steps from Little River. Great Bed and Breakfast potential. \$127,500.



5 BDRMS, 3 baths, rock floors in great room, deck off upstairs master bdrm. Rock patios, decks on Brow side, hot tub, 3 fireplaces, lots of privacy for weekend guests. All modern conveniences. \$275,000.



THIS ONE IS BIGGER than you think--three levels. 3 bdrms, 2- 1/2 baths, 2 kitchens, sun-room, totally self-contained apartment possibilities on lower level. \$74,500.



RUSTIC LOG BEAUTY - Greatroom w/fireplace, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large eat-in kitchen, sunroom, deck, porch, 200 feet of "brow" frontage, all for \$85,000.



NEW LISTING - Just off DeSoto Parkway on 1.3 acres, this renovated log cabin has pine floors, fireplace and full front porch. All for \$79,500.



A WATER WONDERLAND - 3 bedroom, 2 bath, rustic cottage overlooking the East Fork of Little River. Sunroom, 2-level deck, dock in the river. A great weekend get-away. \$75,000.



PEACEFUL LIVING in Mentone - Enjoy the peace and quiet surrounding this 2 bedroom, 1 bath weekend cottage in the Alpine area. Sitting on over 3 acres. \$37,500.



RELAXED LUXURY on Little River - 5 bdrms, 4 baths, rec. room, 2 screened porches, rock fireplace, airy kitchen, decks galore. \$199,000.



ENJOY the peace and quiet in this 2/3 bdrm, 1 bath cottage in the Alpine area. \$44,500.



CHARMING WEEKEND Retreat - 2 bedroom cottage on large wooded lot. Garage with apartment possibilities. \$39,900.



IMMACULATE 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on 1 acre lot located within walking distance to downtown Mentone. \$49,900.



PRIVACY & SERENITY describe this home located on 25 acres. Hiking and riding trails take you beside a beautiful creek on the property. \$125,000.



LANDMARK PROPERTY in Downtown Mentone - Once housed one of the area's fine hotels. Now is the home of the White Elephant Antique Shop. \$225,000.



WATER WONDERLAND - located on the East Fork of LITTLE RIVER. Two vacation homes on 4 waterfront lots. 3 docks, 2 level decks ready for entertaining. \$125,000.



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

HUNTIN' & FISHIN'

By Dr. Pat Seymour

MINI FIRST-AID KIT. Guides have found this simple kit to be indispensable on practically every trip. You should carry one, too, to deal with the inevitable minor wounds, such as nicks from hooks and fish teeth. The kit consists of a remarkable antiseptic called Bactine and assorted adhesive bandages. That's it. If you need to treat a wound, these mere two items not only prevent infection, but usually assure no after-pain, as well.

SURVIVING HYPOTHERMIA. Hunters and fishermen who enjoy their sport, during cold weather and around water, need to understand the dangers of hypothermia. Chronic hypothermia is the slowly developing type associated with prolonged exposure to the cold. Immersion in cold water causes acute hypothermia, which can be lethal after only 20 minutes in 50°F water. Any time the sum of the air temperature and the water temperature is less than 100°F, acute hypothermia is possible.

Acute hypothermia can be treated by getting the victim out of the water and removing all wet clothes as quickly as possible. Do not let him or her move around or try to exercise. With the skin so cold, more blood circulating can cause "after-drop," where the cold is transferred to the body core, further reducing its temperature. Instead, get the victim near a source of heat immediately. A good fire will help, but the best treatment is a hot, 110°F bath to replace lost body heat quickly.

For those to take a dunking near shore, a change of clothes can be lifesaving. Wet clothes can have the same fast-cooling effect that sustained immersion can. Carry a full change of clothes if you know you'll be far from help, and have one in the truck if it will be nearby. In any event, do not treat immersion lightly.

Brutal combination—cold water and cold air can take you by surprise.

ON THE ROAD. When you whiz past a deer-crossing sign on the highway, you might want to slow down, perk up, and pay attention. Each year, an estimated 350,000 deer are hit by motorists; and, while that number is difficult to confirm, it could be much higher. According to a Cornell University study on auto collisions with deer in New York State in 1989, six deer were hit by a motorist for every one reported. Take 1993 as an example: The New York Department of Environmental Conservation recorded 10,332 reported collisions, while the actual number of deer hit was 62,000.

In other states, the numbers are more startling. In 1993, Pennsylvania recorded nearly 46,000 collisions; and Michigan, with one of the highest rates in the country, recorded 47,813. You would almost think that motorists were trying to outdo traditional hunters, except for the fact that it cost them about \$1500 for every deer they hit. The collisions have also resulted in close to 100 human lives lost every year.

The peak season for these collisions coincides with the rut, the most activity occurring in early December. Keep in mind that there is less chance of injury if you hit a deer than if you swerve to miss it and hit something else. Also remember, that deer will exhibit complete confusion when confronted with cars, behaving more like squirrels than dogs or cats; they will try to outrun cars rather than dodge them; and they are most active at dawn and dusk, when commuter traffic is the heaviest.

HAND WARMERS! Handwarmers that outdoorsmen use during cold weather can actually cause hands to get colder.

Your hands sweat from the heat that builds up when they're kept in pockets or inside mittens. The resulting moisture on your hands—or even in the fabric of your handwear—can make them become colder than ever when you expose them to the air again. To prevent this, it is wise to keep handwarmers out of your gloves or mittens unless they are made of breathable material such as rag wool. Also, keeping handwarmers in large, ventilated pockets will allow air to circulate and keep things dry and toasty.

CLOSE THAT BOLT. Always close the actions of firearms prior to storing them for long periods of time. Leaving actions open allows dust and moisture to enter. The dust can combine with oils to gum up the action, and moisture can lead to rust. On semi-automatics, long-term storage with the action open can eventually weaken the mainspring, resulting in malfunctions and costly repairs.

FINGER SAVERS. Continuous casting with heavyweight tackle can be hard on whichever digit happens to be controlling the line. To prevent burns, abrasions or cuts, fashion a "finger glove" from the finger or thumb of a rubber glove and a strip of soft leather.

The width of the leather should be equal to the end joint of your thumb, or the two end joints of your index finger. With the rubber sheath in place, wrap the leather strip around your thumb or finger to determine where to cut it for a comfortable fit.

Sew the ends of the leather together to form a tube, then coat the inside with rubber cement. Push the tube over the rubber sheath, with the seam on top, and allow the rubber cement to set (usually 24 hours).

TURKEY. In the old days, turkeys were unfazed by the sound of car doors slamming. Today's birds tend to be more wary, however; they'll spook and slip off silently if they have any indication that humans are around. Park a quarter mile or more away from where you plan to hunt, and walk in to make sure you don't alert them.

GOLDEN FLEECE. For hunters, wool is a natural phenomenon. Some of the world's finest, and costliest, wool (qiviut in Inuit) comes from the musk-ox; but the wool we're most familiar with comes from domestic sheep, centuries of selective breeding having removed the coarse outer hairs covering fine fleece. Wool fibers are extremely wavy—as many as 30 waves per inch—which lets them trap a great deal of warm air. Wool also has a soft finish that makes it virtually noiseless, and, according to *The New Encyclopedia Britannica*, "Because moisture absorption and release are gradual, wool is slow to feel damp and does not chill the wearer by too rapid drying."

IT'S A FEDERAL OFFENSE. Hunters have gained protection under the Crime Bill Congress passed this summer. A provision in the bill gives law enforcement officers the right to arrest individuals engaging in physical conduct that prevents a lawful hunt. People who harass hunters could be fined up to \$10,000. Several courts decided that state hunter harassment statutes do not violate free speech; the latest occurred in Montana, where the law's constitutionality was upheld in the state Supreme Court. Federal hunter harassment legislation has been relentlessly sought by numerous sportsmen's groups across the nation.

"Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wilderness is a necessity; and that mountain peaks and forests are useful not only as fountains of timber and irrigating rivers, but as fountains of life."

—John Muir, 1898

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Emergency Phone #911

DeSoto Rescue Squad officers were elected on Oct. November 1, at the regular meeting. Taking office on Jan. 3, 1995 are:

Captain: Richard Douthat
1st Lt.: Sue Freeman
2nd Lt.: Sam Farr
Chaplain: Walt Pullen
Sergeant: Jeff Clements
Treasurer: Lisa Scott
Secretary: Ilene Green.

The squad's holiday dinner will be held at Western Sizzlin, December 6, at 6:30 p.m. All squad members and their families are invited to attend the dutch treat event.



The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ



I received and tried a wonderful recipe for pumpkin/sweet potato/squash bread, and thought it might be one that you might enjoy during the holidays.* The cypress Inn Muffins are also handy in that they keep in the refrigerator for six weeks (so they say, Bill and I polish them off faster than that.) Try these recipes, and invite someone in for coffee and a visit, and enjoy the holidays.

* I used butternut squash, and it was wonderful.

Pumpkin/Sweet Potato/Squash Bread

Marilyn Blanton Campbell
Mentone, Ala.

3-1/2 C self-rising flour
1/2 t salt (optional)
1 heaping t cinnamon
1 heaping t nutmeg
1 heaping t ginger
3 C sugar
2/3 C water
1 C oil
4 eggs
2 C (or more) pumpkin, sweet potato or butternut squash (The consistency should be like mashed potatoes.)

Blend ingredients well with electric mixer. Pour into greased and floured loaf pans or bundt pans. When you fill the pans, DO NOT FILL PANS MORE THAN HALF FULL. Filling pans more than half full is an automatic invitation to clean the oven. Bake at 350° for approx. 1 hour. If hot oven, watch carefully. Test for doneness with finger.

Cypress Inn Refrigerator Bran Muffins

Jeanette VanDemeer
Mobile, Ala.

1 15 oz. box raisin bran
3 C sugar
5 C all-purpose flour
5 t baking soda
2 t salt
4 eggs
1 C vegetable oil
1 qt. buttermilk
2 t vanilla
1 t ground cinnamon
1 t ground cloves
1 t nutmeg
1 t ground ginger
Mix dry ingredients in large bowl. Stir in remaining ingredients. Keep covered and in refrigerator.

To bake, fill greased muffin tins 2/3 full and bake 20 minutes at 400°. Makes about 4 dozen muffins. I bake these as we use them. If refrigerator space is limited, they can all be baked and frozen and heated as needed. You can also add more raisins or nuts.



By Maurine Donahue

The *Groundhog* staff regrets the omission of the Woman's Club October news in the November issue and prints it in the December issue along with the November news.

Come with me to the woods of Lookout Mountain along Little River and down into the fields of Wills Valley along Wills Creek to see the wild flowers, herbs, and plants. No, not a trek in person or even as the Valley Head Woman's Club did by seeing the two tables of native plants which the speakers had prepared for the October meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the Moon Lake Baptist Church, but by the written word.

The president, Dot Blackburn, presided and Velma Hammond led the recitation of the Club Collect.

The subject of the program was "Plants of the Past and the Future."

The devotional was given by Peggy Bentley. She read from Matthew 6, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin...even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." God gives us all the beautiful and useful things of nature. She read from Proverbs 31, wherein the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised and has the beauty of the Lord in her heart.

Peggy told of her brother, Pete, who was a missionary to Brazil for 25 years. He was trying to establish a church at Rio Grande de Sol. If he could reach the heart of one man, he would have a beginning. He had a huge rock on the back of his van. As he talked to the man, the rock fell to the ground and broke, revealing a beautiful amethyst inside. This was like a sermon, the man understood the inner beauty revealed by God. Pete did establish the First Baptist Church there, beginning with this man.

Jean Jones introduced the speakers, Marsha Hurt and Barbara Gillon. They alternated in discussing the various plants. In focusing on the wild flowers and plants around us, Marsha and Barbara divided them into four areas, the edible ones, the medicinal ones, the aromatic ones, and the ones which can be transplanted.

Marsha said that, in the wild flowers and plants, we see the love of God and his creation. According to Barbara, flowers herald the changing seasons, and we celebrate with flowers drawing a circle around time.

Edible plants discussed were dandelion greens, the leaves of the cardinal or Indian princess plant, candied violets, mushrooms, kudzu leaves, dried seed of nettles and nasturtiums.

The Indians used acorns for flour and early settlers used them for coffee. An old song says, "Coffee grows on white oak trees."

Medicinal uses of plants included the crushed flowers of dandelions to remove warts, fresh cut onion for bee stings, sassafras tea for high blood pressure, the bark of the willow tree for ailing joints, plantain leaves and crushed dock for cuts, and mint tea to aid digestion. Indians considered mistletoe to be the opening to the world of the dead. It is used to treat hypertension, but is poisonous. Wood fern was used to treat tape worms.

Aromatic plants mentioned were rosemary, thyme, lavender, and sweet shrub.

In transplanting wild plants, special care must be taken. Never take the whole clump, but leave some and cover roots well, so it will not be destroyed. The habitat should be as near like the wild as possible.

Other plants discussed and shown were Joe Pye weed, Queen Anne's Lace, iron weed, flame azalea—also called wild honeysuckle, butterfly bush, rhododendron, bone set, and oak leaf hydrangea—also called seven bark.

Jean Jones presented each one a small jar of homemade mountain mint jelly.

Maurine Donahue and Velma Hammond presented Judy Shelley for membership in the club, and she was elected.

Guests were Barbara Gillon of Montgomery and Kerie Wright.

Hostesses, Adelaide Biddle, Doris Carmichael, and Evelyn Graves, served a lovely refreshment plate.



By Evelyn Graves

The Valley Head Woman's Club met at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church for the November meeting. The program for the meeting was "Echoes from the Past and Sounds of the Future" from the overall theme, "Looking at the Past and Reaching to the Future."

Flo Kirby gave a beautiful devotional from scriptures found in the books of James and Deuteronomy about Thanksgiving, and concluded with a verse found in one of Charles Dickens' books.

Doris Carmichael introduced the guests who presented the program. Mrs. Maurine Donahue gave a history of the church, stating that it was established in 1872 at the home of Colonel and Mrs. Winston, and this is where the church got its name. She stated that the pump organ was purchased in 1903, and it was restored in 1989. At the time of the restoration, the church learned that there are only three Miller organs in existence. One of them is in London, England; one is in Philadelphia, and the other is the organ at Winston Memorial. Mrs. Donahue is the church organist, and she played a beautiful version of "In the Sweet Bye and Bye" on the organ. Jean Jones, DeVann Jackson, and Paul Burnett sang, "Amazing Grace," accompanied by Mrs. Donahue on the organ. For variety, DeVann Jackson sang a song made popular by Randy Travis, Country Music star, "I'm Going To Love You Forever," playing the guitar for an accompaniment. Everyone enjoyed his rendition of this song. Following his solo, Devann, Tyler Cooper, and Emily Terrell sang, "He Paid A Debt" from one of the McAllister crusades. Devann accompanied them on the guitar. They closed their part of the program with "We Are His Hands," a song that talks about being children of the King and reaching out to people, sharing the hope of Christ. It was a very impressive song, since Women's Clubs nationally are recognizing children during this club year and the fact that they are our future.

Michael Johnson, Minister of Music at First Baptist Church in Fort Payne, played the keyboard, an electronic instrument of "the future," demonstrating the capabilities of the keyboard to give the sound of various musical instruments such as harpsichord, cello, orchestra, pipe organ, and others. He sang a beautiful song, "Seekers Of Your Heart," playing it softly on the keyboard. He did one other song, "I Need Thee Every Hour," an old familiar hymn. He played, "What a Friend We Have In Jesus," on the Miller pump organ as a grand finale for the musical program. He has such talent and dedication to music and loves to share it with others.

Following the program, the group adjourned to the Valley Head United Methodist church for refreshments and the business meeting. Delicious refreshments of finger sandwiches, cake, and grape punch were served from a beautiful table decorated with fall flowers in lavenders and yellows. Hostesses for the November meeting were: Maurine Donahue, Velma Hammond, and Mary Holleman.

The annual Christmas party for the Valley Head Woman's Club was held on Thursday, December 1, at the Lookout in Cloudland, Ga., with 55 in attendance. John Hurt gave the devotional. The private dining room was decorated with a beautiful Christmas tree and the tables were accented with live poinsettias. While the fire from the fireplace gave a glow to the semi-lighted room, Terry Hutcheson sang "Chestnuts Roasting On an Open Fire," accompanied by Barry Crow on the keyboard, and John Corey on the trumpet. This was just one of many beautiful songs by the special guests. The entire group sang Christmas carols following the delicious meal.

Dallene Jones, Flo Kirby, Velma Hammond, and Judith Lollik-Andersen of the entertainment committee planned and coordinated the event.



NARFE. There will be no December meeting of the DeKalb County Chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. The next meeting will be on January 17, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. at the Western Sizzlin.



MENTONE'S ALLISON KIRBY ELECTED COLLEGE HOMECOMING QUEEN

Allison Kirby daughter of Eddie and Roberta Kirby, has been elected Homecoming Queen at Central College in McPherson, Kansas, where she is in her sophomore year. At Central, Allison is a Resident Assistant and a member of both the soccer and the basketball teams. She has been on the Dean's List each grade period since enrolling at the college. Allison is the sister of Andrea Kirby, a senior at Jacksonville University; Angela Kirby Lawton, a wife and mother in Hammondville, and Eric Kirby, Mentone. Salutatorian of her Valley Head senior class, Allison achieved many high school honors including selection to Who's Who Among American High School Students her senior year.

Roberta Kirby, secretary at Moon Lake School, said, "It will be so good to have Allison home on Dec. 15 for Christmas break!"



THE STATION

Written by Robert J. Hastings
and submitted by Norma Williams

Tucked away in our subconscious is an idyllic vision. We see ourselves on a long trip that spans the continent. We are traveling by train. Out the windows, we drink in the passing scene of cars on nearby highways, of children waving at a crossing, of cattle grazing on a distant hillside, of smoke pouring from a power plant, or row upon row of corn and wheat, of flatlands and valleys, of mountains and rolling hillsides, of city skylines and village halls.

But uppermost in our minds is the final destination. On a certain day at a certain hour, we will pull into the station. Bands will be playing and flags waving. Once we get there, so many wonderful dreams will come true, and the pieces of our lives will fit together like a completed jigsaw puzzle. How restlessly we pace the aisles, damning the minutes for loitering—waiting, waiting, waiting for the station.

"When we reach the station, that will be it!" we cry. "When I'm 18." "When I buy a new 450 SL Mercedes Benz!" "When I put the last kid through college." "When I have paid off the mortgage!" "When I get a promotion." "When I reach the age of retirement, I shall live happily ever after!"

Sooner or later, we must realize there is no station, no one place to arrive at once and for all. The true joy of life is the trip. The station is only a dream. It constantly outdistances us.

"Relish the moment" is a good motto, especially when coupled with Psalm 118:25: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." It isn't the regrets over yesterday and the fear of tomorrow. Regret and Fear are twin thieves who rob us of today.

So, stop pacing the aisles and counting the miles. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more, cry less. Life must be lived as we go along. The Station will come soon enough.

FRIENDS OF LITTLE RIVER

By Marie Dillenbeck

On November 15, the Board of Friends of Little River (FLR) met at Fischer Rescue Squad Building. President Desmond Disney, presiding, called the meeting to order and welcomed board members and members. Those present were, Desmond Disney, Rick Chapman, Marie Dillenbeck, Mack Scott, Joe Wright, and Tory Milazzo Sr. from the Board, and Bill and Rebecca Adams, committee members.

The minutes from the October meeting were read and approved. In the absence of Sue Schwarz treasurer, Marie gave the treasurers report, which was approved.

Bill Adams, Riverwatch Chairman, reported that everything was going right along. Carl McClesky is doing the middle fork water testing. Bill announced that he was resigning as chairman, and that Bill Schwarz has agreed to take over the chairmanship. They picked up some equipment that they ordered from the preserve. This will help Rebecca on the Education Committee.

Rebecca Adams, Education chairman, stated that it was necessary to get together with the national preserve to show that the major interest is in promoting water monitoring and environmental education. They have had several environmental education workshops. She is working on setting up a meeting with local school principals, environmental committee, and water monitoring committee, in order to get more involvement by new members and citizens in the community. Several suggestions were discussed.

Desmond announced that he had been a guest speaker for the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) at their November meeting. He gave that group an update on the preserve.

Rebecca Adams passed around the October '94 issue of *National Geographic*, Vol. 186 #4, about our National Parks. Little River Canyon is shown on the federal lands and wilderness map.

The speaker for the general membership meeting to be held on Saturday, November 19, is Hendrik Snow.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



HENDRIK SNOW

FLR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Hendrik Snow from The Alabama Conservancy (TAC) in Birmingham, Alabama, and Campaign Coordinator for "Alabamians for Responsible Land Use," presented the program at the FLR membership meeting held at the Nature Center at DeSoto State Park on Saturday, November 19, at 10 a.m. He informed the members of several cases that the Alabama Conservancy was investigating in different parts of Alabama. The cases included illegal dumps, Clean Water Act violations, wetlands destruction, and the careless aerial application of pesticides. In all of these instances, TAC helped people notify the proper authority. In many cases, the current environmental laws were enforced, consequently protecting the individual's property and health from further damage. There is a great need for strong environmental laws to protect people and private property. They have received 175 calls since mid-July regarding land use violations. (To report land use violations, call 1-800-WTCH-DOG.)

During his presentation, Mr. Snow mentioned that Fox Mountain, which is a small but high flat-topped mountain that rises to an elevation of 1980 feet, located between Sand and

Lookout Mountains in DeKalb County, Alabama, and Dade County, Georgia, has been put up for sale by the owner. It contains approximately 1575 acres, about 700 of which are in Alabama and 900 in Georgia.

The wild and scenic qualities of Fox Mountain give it great potential for outdoor recreation. The mountain could offer a variety of opportunities ranging from nature observation to rappelling. The wildlife of the mountain is as varied as the vegetation, ranging from large animals such as deer to the smallest of butterflies. Also, Fox Mountain provides habitat for a variety of woodland songbirds that are having problems finding large areas of undisturbed forest. The abundant rock outcrops of the mountain offer spectacular views of Lookout and Deer Cove Valleys. The streams run off the mountain in a series of scenic waterfalls.

The high environmental values and recreation potential of Fox Mountain combined with the fact that the mountain straddles two states makes it a perfect candidate for a joint acquisition-protection effort by the states of Alabama and Georgia. Those wishing further information may contact The Alabama Conservancy, 2717 7th Ave. South, Suite 207, Birmingham, AL 35233, (205) 322-3125; or the Georgia Conservancy 1776 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 400 South, Atlanta, GA 30309, (404) 876-2900. (Those wishing to help the process may contact the land acquisition program of your state. Urge the program's administrators to quickly evaluate the nominated Fox Mountain property for potential purchase. Also, stress the fact that you would like to use the area for recreation if it is acquired.) Send your comments to the following:

Administrator of The Forever Wild Program:
James H. Griggs, Director, State Lands Division
Alabama Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources, 64 North Union Street
Montgomery, AL 35130; (205) 242-3484

OR
Administrator of The Preservation 2000 Program
Joe Tanner, Commissioner
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
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**NOSTALGIA OF
AN ADDRESS BOOK**
By Dorothea G. Bankson

Have you gone through yours, lately?

- The absence of those who have passed away and the ones who have been scratched due to no response over the years.
- My memories of a blind friend so stoic and able who wrote Christmas poems for my cards.
- A friend of 50 years having met life's hardships, but when we meet, pick up as if the years have not passed.
- I recall the V mail of a brother in service. I wrote every day for 3-1/2 years. He remembered this mail that kept him in touch with loved ones and details.
- The family members each extending warmth and memories of childhood.
- Weddings, babies, and gentle touches.
- The friends who have had bereavements and met life head on.
- The mother who is 90 and still interested and caring.
- I recall my son's 6th grade teacher so influential in his development.
- The touching notes of appreciation if one has reached out when there was a need, and it helped.
- The hobby of writing keeps me surrounded by contacts so vital to my being.
- I shall always be grateful for friends so varied and unique who have enriched my life.

I will continue to keep my address book updated and a continuing fiber of life.

Editor's note: This is a reader from Chattanooga, Tenn., who once lived in Mentone. She said in a recent letter to *The Groundhog*: "I know so many of the people in Mentone—I lived there 10 years from 1970 on for retirement. I have lived in Chattanooga since '79, and come back to Mentone often."

In the November 1994 issue of *Columbia Feed Drawer* magazine, the Fort Payne Builders Supply Company was featured. Wayne Bruce, president of Builders Supply, stated, "It is quite an honor for a business in a small town such as Fort Payne, Alabama, to be chosen by Columbia for a magazine story of this type. Bruce takes pride in the company's operation and is excited about what the future holds for Builders Supply Co."

Excerpts from the article by Shari Scholz, advertising manager, are being reprinted by *The Groundhog*.

"Eight-time Country Music Entertainers of the Year Alabama may be responsible for bringing notoriety to their hometown of Fort Payne. But Columbia customer, Builders Supply Co., can take credit for helping construct this small northeastern Alabama town. As its name indicates, Builders Supply Co. has everything a contractor or do-it-yourselfer might need: from hammers, nails, and plumbing supplies to lumber, roof trusses, and concrete blocks. It is the latter of these products, of course, that catches our interest and attention here."

The story begins back in 1948 when Fort Payne Brick and Block (now known as Builders Supply Co.) came into existence. Owners H.O. Hansand and L.B. Camp, along with three employees, Woodrow "Dock" Pass, Forest King, and Otis Faulkner, established and operated the small plant.

In 1956, a man with a vision, Paul Crow, bought half of the interest in Fort Payne Brick and Block for \$47,000 and hired Herman Burkhardt to manage the plant. At the time, the plant operated a two-at-a-time Columbia with a hand-operated hydraulic offbearer.

Crow also hired Roy Keith as secretary/treasurer. Keith, who remained with the company until his retirement in 1983, has been described as a "man that could truly compete with a computer." In 1962, Crow purchased the remaining half of Fort Payne Brick and Block for \$126,000 (plus a Cessna #172 airplane), and he renamed the company Builders Supply Company.

The name change was appropriate as the company had grown to offer lumber products and a full line of building supply products. Their growth in this area can be attributed to then-manager Burkhardt whose philosophy was to maintain a healthy inventory of quality materials. His most noted saying was, "You can't sell from an empty wagon."

Without neglecting their roots in the block industry, Crow then constructed a new building on the north side of the original block plant to house a new two-at-a-time Columbia plant.

Though the ownership and the name of the company had changed, the three original employees of Fort Payne Brick and Block (Pass, King, and Faulkner) remained with Builders Supply until their retirements at least 20 years later. In fact, Pass put in an admirable 47 years with the company, retiring in 1992.



Builders Supply Company is owned by Paul Crow (L). With Crow, left to right: Block Plant Superintendent J.W. Overton, President Wayne Bruce, and Columbia Representative Bill Ramsay. Builders Supply, as the name says, offers the contractor as well as the do-it-yourselfer, everything he needs from hammer and nails to pipe and trusses and, of course, concrete products!

Right now, the plant is running standard 8", 12", and U-blocks to fill customer demands and get their inventory restocked. However, Builders plans to produce a variety of products on their new Model 16 machine, including 4", 6", form blocks, 4" solids, 1-1/2" solids, half block, flute blocks, split blocks, and brick.

Builders Supply Co. primarily markets to a 50-mile radius of Fort Payne, but that doesn't mean they don't supply blocks elsewhere. Bruce told of a two-story hotel in Gulf Shores, Alabama, located 350 miles from Fort Payne, constructed with Builders blocks.

"When Hurricane Frederick hit, everything around it was gone, but the hotel was left standing," Bruce said. That's quite a testimonial to the structural integrity of concrete masonry.

The market for builders' products has been growing steadily over the years. What in 1958 had an annual sales volume of \$185,000 today boasts nearly \$10 million in annual sales. Crow hopes that growth will continue now that his new three-at-a-time plant is ready to accommodate the demand.

Crow and Bruce have a theory about the success of Builders Supply, handing out much of the credit to their dedicated, hard-working employees of the past 46 years.

"Builders Supply does not forget the employees of the past because the future could not be attained without their efforts," Bruce said.

Builders Supply Company, Inc.

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- ✓ Building Materials
- ✓ Roof & Floor Trusses

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CENTURY CABLE OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP

Century Cable General Manager Scott Long announced the launch of its annual Century Cable Community Scholarship competition open to local high school seniors. Each year, Century offers high school seniors who live in service areas across the nation a chance to win one of fifty-five (55) \$1,000 tuition scholarships. Since the inception of the program, more than \$250,000 in scholarships have been awarded.

Scholarship winners must meet certain academic and community service requirements. Last year's local winner was Priscilla Christina Norman from Valley Head High School, who is attending Auburn University.

For more details, call Scott Long at 845-4761.



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THANK YOU!!

We would like to thank the town of Mentone for all the support and the love that everyone has shown. This means so much to all of our family. The personal letters that citizens have written for us are tremendously supportive. I would like to thank the school personnel for their kindnesses to our children and for being there to help them if they feel they need to talk to someone. We deeply appreciate every teacher that took time out of her busy schedule to write her own personal letter for us, and Mr. Berry for being a great teacher, a fine principal, and a good friend.

ALL the churches that I have attended have been very warm to my family. I have enjoyed going to all of them. I especially would like to thank Pastor Ron Johnson and his family for being there from the very beginning for me and the children, but mostly for being there for my husband who respects and considers Ron a true friend.

I want to thank the businesses for their kindness in letting me put jars in their stores to help raise money for two church buses that I need to go out to Nebraska on December 14 - 17. If anyone would like to go with us, please let Ron Johnson (634-4459) or me (634-4742) know. Both the motel and the trip out there would be paid for. All you would need is enough money to buy food. This is very important to our family. Our lawyer believes that this would make a big difference in the judge's decision. For more details, you can contact Ron Johnson or me. Also, I found out that our landlord has sold this place where I live now, so I am looking for a home.

Thanks to everyone else who has helped in any way. You know that I can only thank you all over and over again.

Pam and children, and Johnny Wesley

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NATURE'S TESTIMONY

The ocean claps its hands in glee,
 and races so excitedly
 to tell the rocks along the cliffs,
 and sand upon the shores it drifts.

About the Author of its fate,
 the one who can the waves abate;
 Of He who filled the deep with pearls,
 adorning many lovely girls;

And as the ocean sings its song,
 the valleys gladly join along;
 Their voices echo dell to dell
 as they the earth His praises tell;

Trees, like geishas, cavort and sway,
 their lustrous leaves are wildly gay;
 The Robin perched upon the bough
 proudly proclaims his Maker now;

Mute flowers in June gardens green,
 display bouquets to show esteem
 for the Creator who has made
 heaven and earth; our price He paid.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; The
 world, and they that dwell therein. Psalms 24:1

Linda Blevins

A CAT'S PRAYER

dedicated to Ferne Fitzgerald

Now hear this! You may live in this dwelling
 with me, but keep in mind your sole purpose for
 existing is to care for me. I pray God keeps you
 able to do so.

Feed me well and promptly, so that I may then
 find a quiet place to lie down and stare at you. If
 that place happens to be on top of the television
 set, do not keep trying to dislodge me, even
 though my tail is hanging in the middle of the
 picture.

I expect full run of the premises, including the
 kitchen table. I sniff your food only to see if I
 would prefer it to mine. Brush me twice a week.
 Pet me as often as you wish, but I can do without
 the idiotic statements you utter as you do so.

When I bump my head against your leg or
 cheek, it means I accept you as part of my
 environment. Keep in mind that if I thought the
 lady next door would feed me better, I'd be out of
 here in a minute. If you're looking for loyalty, get
 a dog.

Merry Christmas



The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO" BLALOCK

••The Chattooga County Library System recently released its family storytime schedule. The schedule for the rest of December is as follows:

"Sweet Dreams" at 10:15 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, in the Summerville Library.

"Hanukkah Tales" at 3:30 p.m. Dec. 7, in the Menlo Library; at 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, in the Trion Library; and at 4:30 p.m. in the Summerville Library.

"Reading is a Magic Trip" at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7 at the McDonald's Restaurant, Summerville.

••Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Stacy Mitchell, Menlo, on the birth of their daughter, Macy Chandler, on Wednesday, Nov. 9, in the Floyd Medical Center. Also, congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Hall, Menlo, on the birth of their daughter, Lauren Nicole, on Saturday, Oct. 29, in the Floyd Medical Center, Rome.

••Condolences to the family of Sarah Gurley Nave, of Trion. Mrs. Nave died Tuesday, Nov. 22, in Chattooga Medical Center. She was the daughter of the late Lamb and Elizabeth Nicodemus Holder. Her husband, John H. Nave, died earlier.

MENLO HARVEST FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, PROVIDES FUN, FUNDS



BIG CROWD ATTENDS MENLO HARVEST FESTIVAL SATURDAY
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Shirley Jones



TIM HEGWOOD CALLS OUT DOOR PRIZE NUMBERS
Also Hosts Bingo For PTO-Sponsored Festival

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pod
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Second grade - Jessica Adkins, Chad Bierkamp, Lauren Bowling, Jason Boyd, Magan Collins, Kenny Cooper, Chris Crowe, Branch Harper, Sara Jane Hunter, Tabatha Justice, Amanda Lavender, Cassie Maloney, Matthew Middleton, Carrie Patty, Maggie Rich, Manning Spencer, Ben Swords, Justin Swords, and Justin Ward

Third grade - Chris Blackmon, Freddy Bryson, Derek Bullard, Kasey Carter, Jana Cooper, Courtney Duke, John Hall, Katie Kerce, Doni Lee, Daniel Leonard, Kim Middleton, Keri Beth Pettitt, Anna Prince, Leanna Robinson, Jana Ward, Ashley Wilcox, Jacob Woodard, and Shadae Yancey

NAMED TO THE "A" HONOR ROLL WERE:

Fourth grade - Caris Farrar, Anna Hall, Samantha Maloney, Kandy McGill, T.J. Pierce, and Kenya Webb

Fifth grade - Erin DeMesquita, Lindsey Nixon, and Sunny Smith

Sixth grade - James Durham, Brandi Gilley, Jonathan Hegwood, Sarah Kerce, Ashley Montgomery, and Lori Tucker

Seventh grade - Rebecca Dunn, Lindsay Hegwood, Emily Johnson, Leslie Knox, Carla Peace, Joseph Swords, and John Toles

NAMED TO THE "A-B" HONOR ROLL WERE:

Fourth grade - John Adams, Jeremy Ash, Jennifer Benedict, Anna Dotson, Amanda Gentry, Brittany Hudgins, Amanda Long, Brandon Love, Casey Luther, Matt Riggs, and David Yarbrough

Fifth grade - Tessa Brock, Guthrie Frazier, Kasey Green, Ryan Hudgins, Leslie Hurley, David Huskey, Ryan Jarrett, Steele Lee, Lee Pettitt, Nigel Plant, Brian Precise, Ashley Swicegood, Matthew Treadaway, and Kristy Walston

Sixth grade - Justin Cook, Ben Dotson, Cindy Holbrook, Shaun Hudgins, Nikki Mireles, Lena Payne, Ricky Peoples, Nicholas Price, Christy Ray, Greg Smith, and Justin Wofford

Seventh grade - Jeffrey Bentley, Kelly Haygood, Jamie Hall, Daniel Hunter, Randy Peace, and Ronnie Wright

Eighth grade - Stacy Aldridge, Chris Butler, Jennifer Culbert, Nikki Hawkins, Wanda Jones, Christopher Kerce, Jessica Mitchell, Nancy Peoples, Tonya Sparks, Angela Toles, Jeremy Treadaway, Kristi Wilcox, and Joseph Willingham

STAR STUDENTS

First grade - Spence Davis and Chelsey Ward

Second grade - Justin Canada and Carrie Patty

Third grade - Doni Lee and Keri Beth Pettitt

Fourth grade - Anna Hall, Kandy McGill, and T.J. Pierce

Fifth grade - Kasey Green, Lindsey Nixon, and Sunny Smith

Sixth grade - Ashley Montgomery and Lori Tucker

Seventh grade - Rebecca Dunn and Leslie Knox

Eighth grade - Jennifer Culbert

MOST IMPROVED STUDENTS

First grade - Kayla Flarity and Amanda Wigley

Second grade - Jason Boyd and Justin Swords

Third grade - Jana Ward

Fourth grade - John Adams and Daniel Collins

Fifth grade - David Huskey and Brian Precise

Sixth grade - Bence Godfrey and Nicholas Price

Seventh grade - Lindsay Hegwood

Eighth grade - Nikki Hawkins and Sherolyn Yarbrough



MILLER-MARKS ENGAGED WEDDING SET FOR SPRING

Susan Rich, Menlo, and Herman Smith, Summerville, announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Elizabeth Miller, to Clifford Ray "Kippy" Marks, son of Benny and Judy Marks, LaFayette.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of A.E. Barfield, Atlanta; the late Betty Barfield; Lora Smith, Illinois; and the late Barton Smith. She is the sister of Steve Smith and Maggie Rich. The prospective groom is the grandson of Exie Swanson Caylor, LaFayette; the late Clifford Caylor; Virginia Stocker Gleffe, LaFayette; and the late Ray Marks.

Ms. Miller is a 1992 graduate of Trion High School and attends Walker Technical Institute, where she is pursuing an associate degree in computer programming.

The future groom is a 1985 graduate of LaFayette High School and attends Walker Technical Institute, where he is pursuing an associate degree in marketing management. He is employed by the Roper Corp., LaFayette. He has served four years in the Marine Corps and is a sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserves.

The wedding is set for spring of 1995. A date will be announced.



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BROW LOT - EAGLES ROOST - Highway 157, Cloudland. Breathtaking view from two-acre tract. \$25,000.

BEAUTIFUL BROW LOT - 2.69 acres with 200' brow frontage and 200' frontage on Hwy 157. Priced at \$32,500.

NICE BROW LOT containing 2.33 acres with 317.48' of brow frontage - Spectacular view - and only \$25,000.

BEAUTIFUL BROW LOT with 190' of brow frontage and containing approximately 1.28 (±) acres. Great buy at only \$16,000.

DADE COUNTY - Head River Area - 155 (±) acres of level wooded land with creek. Priced at \$800 per acre. Owner financing available.

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

ESTABLISHED NURSERY has three greenhouses, a 30' x 30' building for office or caretaker's residence, a 20' x 40' shed, and containing approximately 50 acres with 1,000' of frontage on Little River and approximately 700' on Highway 48. Excellent business opportunity and a beautiful place. Call for details.

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

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

Call Us For Information On Other Listings.

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Charlie Ingle, Valley Head, lost his brother Carl Ingle, 61, on Nov. 27, 1994, at DeKalb BMC. Sincere sympathy to Charlie's family in its loss.

THE TIGER BALL will be held at Valley Head High School Friday, Dec. 9 from 7 to 10 p.m. Students grades 9-12 can attend the ball with an admission of \$5/couple, \$3/single. Informal pictures will be made.

Recently Denita Manifold and Brenda Traffanstedt hosted Christmas Around The World party. Those attending were Eva McElhaney, Shaney Sharpe, Barbara Palmer, Barbara his, Dink Tillman, Ethel Manifold, Judy Malone, Brenda well, Connie McElhaney, Yvonne Brock, Wendy Manifold,

one of the year, and those of us who love trees have to put up with the mountains of brown, crisp leaves that shaded us in the hot summer. Of course, the most sensible thing to do is to compost them with a few shovelfuls of fresh manure. But, when you have more than a few trees, you start thinking of the quickest way of ridding the grounds of all the leaves--so you burn them. That's good, too, as it gets rid of diseases and insects that have bedded in them. Also, mold, which is quite harmful to people with allergies, grows when there are too many leaves left around.

So, now that we have decided what to do with the leaves, it's time to think of the trees--pruning and spraying them with horticultural oil or 5W motor oil. The oil will smother and kill any diseases or bugs that have decided to over-winter on the limbs of the trees.

PRUNING POINTERS:

- Remove dead wood any time of the year.
- Rub off water sprouts/suckers as they develop.
- If two branches rub or cross, remove the less desirable one.
- Prune to promote strong (wide) crotch angles.
- Always prune to a distinct point--an outward-facing bud, an outward-facing branch, or the trunk. To reduce re-branching, don't leave stubs.

PRUNING YOUNG TREES: Never cut the roots at all. Cut the main stem off about 30"-36" above the ground--make the cut just above a healthy-looking bud. If the tree already has good side branches, cut the main stem off about 12" above the top branch. Select five or six branches, cut each back by one-quarter to one-third of its length, and remove any extras. Rub off all the buds and side shoots on the bottom two feet of the main trunk.

The point of pruning is to let light into all parts of the tree. An expert suggests summer pruning. He says that people were brainwashed into thinking that, if you did that, the tree would "bleed" to death, which is hogwash, as summer pruning is the best shot you have at controlling rank growth. Wait past peak growth to reduce re-growth, and be sure that the cut will have time to harden off properly, so it will not be prone to cold injury. General thinning can be done in any season. Spring pruning stimulates the most rapid re-growth, so, it's a good time for heavy pruning. Prune evergreens in spring. Avoid pruning deciduous trees as they leaf out. Prune spring-flowering shrubs when they finish blooming so they'll have time to grow and set new buds during summer. This is important if you are heading back all the branches to force more blooms.

Summer pruning has less stimulating effects on growth. Avoid pruning during hot spells to avoid stress. In mid-to-late fall, make only thinning cuts. Making head cuts at this time can stimulate growth that may get damaged in fall freezes. Don't prune plants during the periods when they are losing their leaves. Late winter is the traditional time to prune dormant plants; winter pruning stimulates growth that is delayed until spring.

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Rhododendron Garden Club News

The Rhododendron Garden Club met Tuesday, November 1994, at the home of Ken and Flo Kirby. There were 17 members and one guest, Mildred Wylie, present. Hostesses were Flo Kirby, Hope Walker, and Alyce Springer.

Bernise Crow gave the devotional and read several selections from a book of quotations on the meaning of Thanksgiving. She also read Psalm 100-- make a joyful noise.

Ann Wright, president, led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Since the last meeting was a tour of gardens, there were no minutes.

Ann thanked Heather Niceley for doing the flower arrangement at the DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs Flower Show, at the VFW Fair in Ft. Payne, in October. The Rhododendron Garden Club won the Educational Award for Second Time Around project of District II Garden Clubs of Alabama. She sent in a book of evidence on the second time around project which goes to the Deep South.

Gerry Disney gave the treasurer's report which was approved as given.

Under new business, the Junior Ecoteers will be helping with the decoration of the Christmas Tree for the Mentone City Hall. Under their butterfly project, they made butterflies and the tree will be decorated with them. (See the picture below.)

The PTO of Moon Lake School has requested the Club's assistance in planning and preparing a butterfly garden for the school.

Marie Dillenbeck introduced Pat Seymour who presented the program on "Wild Turkeys." The theme for November is "Wild Game Trails."

Our next meeting is December 13 at the City Hall for a covered dish dinner at 12:00 noon. The theme is "Festive Trails." The guest speaker will be Mitsu Takai, from Japan, who will show us how to make Kudzu vine wreaths and how to wrap packages.



Grandmothers and grandchildren (Junior Ecoteers of the Rhododendron Garden Club) decorating the Christmas tree in the City Hall. Standing: Ann Wright with Paige Wright, Emily Collins, and Kelly Wright; Linda Brown with Alex and Kayla Hazel; and Barbara Blalock with Jennifer Hester, Becky Mays and Paige Hester



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GRAHAM BABY GIRL

Mr. and Mrs. Benny Graham of Valley Head, Ala., announce the birth of their daughter, Jacey Danielle, at Baptist Medical Center DeKalb on October 16, 1994. She weighed 6 lbs. 1 ounce and was 19 inches long. She has one sister named Taylor.



Jacey Danielle Graham

Grandparents are James and Shirley Bethune of Valley Head, and Jill Shrader of Ider, and Charles and Ruth Kean of Fort Payne and Billy Graham Sr. of Adairsville, Ga. Great grandparents are Raymond and Geraldine Britt of Fyffe, and Kathryn Chappell and C.L. "Bud" Kean of Fort Payne and the late Beason and Sallie Bethune.

BROWN BABY GIRL

Robert & Susanne Crabtree Brown of Tuscaloosa, Ala., announce the birth of their daughter, Hannah Kelsey, at Druid City Hospital on September 24, 1994. She weighed 8 lbs. 4 ounces.



Hannah Kelsey Brown

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Winford Crabtree of Fort Payne, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown Hamilton, Ala. Great grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Crabtree, Mentone.

Other relatives are proud uncle Al Blackburn of Mentone and Byron Blackburn of Atlanta, Ga., and Aunt Faye Smith of Mentone.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 1994 Issue/ The Groundhog/ Page 23

Brandi Sloane Miller



celebrated her 1st birthday Nov. 20. She is the daughter of Wayne and Angie Miller of Valley Head.

Her grandparents are James and Rita Schrader of Fort Payne, Judy Miller and Yogi Burnett of Mentone, and Terry and Wanda Kahler of Riverdale, Ga.



Katie Gray

was honored on her 7th birthday with a party at Jack's in Fort Payne. Those attending were: friends, Melissa Harrison, Sarah Hurt, Emily Swindoll, Hali Johnson; Grandparents Junior and Mary Jane Gray and Jimmy and Evelyn Graves; Great grandmother, Kathryn Jones; mother, Sandra Gray; and Brother Allen Gray. Katie is the

daughter of Steve Gray of Indiana and Sandra Gray of Mentone.

Aubrey Melinda Cash



celebrated her 2nd birthday Oct. 31. She is the daughter of Dewayne and Ginger Cash.

Her grandparents are Bob and Kay Whitley of Valley Head, and Billy and Louise Cash of Mentone.

We would all like to wish her a very happy birthday and many more to come.



Scott Birmingham

celebrated his 9th birthday Nov. 8. He is the son of Ronnie and Sarah Birmingham of Fort Payne.

Grandparents are Bill and Mary Townson of Sylvania and Frances McNutt of Valley Head.

Great grandmother is Lucille Grindstaff of Fort Payne.

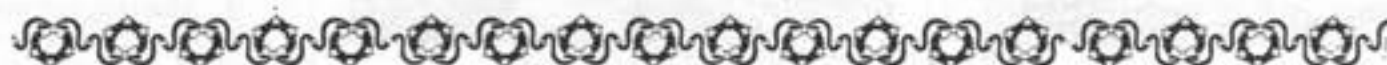


Joshua Stephen Rogers

will be celebrating his 7th birthday on December 23rd. Parents are Darryl and Sandra Rogers of Mentone. Grandparents are Myrtis Brown of Ft. Payne, Joe Brown of Mentone, Frank and Lorene Rogers of Cloudland, and Gary Gideon of Waverly, Illinois. His Great Grandmother is Gertrude Rogers of Summerville, Ga.

Darryl and Sandra Rogers

Sandra would like to wish Darryl Rogers a late Happy 24th birthday and a Happy 8th Anniversary, which was on November 17. Sandra's birthday is December 27. She's going on 26 years old, but still holding on to 25! Darryl is an employee of Fruit of the Loom, and Sandra has worked at Nippersink Lodge for the last two seasons. They traveled to the Smokey Mountains for Thanksgiving weekend. Accompanying them were Joe Brown, Eric Rogers, and Michelle Caheally. It was bumper to bumper, and we were thankful to see Mentone on Sunday.



MAPA CHRISTMAS PARADE

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1994
3:00 P.M.**

A flat bed trailer will be provided for the children to ride in the Christmas parade. They will be picked up at Moon Lake School at 3:00 p.m., ride in the parade with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, and then taken to the Town Hall for the Annual MAPA CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE CHILDREN. Refreshments will be served.

If your child (or children) has your permission to ride in the parade and attend the Christmas Party, please sign this flyer at the bottom [or pick up a form at the Kountry Chef] and return it to the Kountry Chef by Wednesday evening, Dec. 7, at 5 p.m. Your children can be picked up at the Mentone Town hall between 4 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Bring your pre-school children to the party and please list the child(ren) on the form.

NAME OF PARENT: _____

CHILD'S NAME: _____ AGE: _____

IF MORE THAN ONE CHILD, PLEASE LIST THEM: _____



God's Minute

By RUBY BROCK

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:7

2000 years ago, our Savior was laid in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

As I think of celebrating our Savior's birthday, I wonder if it's any different today. No room in schools, no room in homes, no room in hearts, no room in our celebrations. Think it over. Whatever your plans, make room for Jesus, It's His Birthday, you know.

MAPA CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE CHILDREN

On Friday, December 9, at 3 p.m. (as soon as school is out for the day), there will be a parade starting at Moon Lake School. Jack Jones will provide a tractor with a flatbed covered with hay for all children who have permission from their parents to ride. The parade, complete with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, will go down Highway 117 to the town square where the lighting of the Community Christmas Tree will take place. After the lighting, the parade will come back down Highway 117 to the Mentone Town Hall where the Christmas party will take place.

There will be refreshments, gifts, and stockings. The refreshments and gifts will be provided by MAPA, and the stockings will be provided by the North DeKalb Ministerial Association, under the direction of Charles Jenkins, president.

The Christmas Tree at the Mentone Town Hall was decorated and provided by the Rhododendron Garden Club, with the Junior Ecoteers providing the butterfly decorations. (See picture on this page.)

The Community Christmas Tree was provided by Don Ingram of Mentone, and the decorations by MAPA. George Walker set the tree in its place.



Photos taken during the 1993

MAPA Christmas Parade

with Santa and Mrs. Claus

*May treasures
great and small be
yours this holiday.*



Santa and Mrs. Claus at the City Hall (1993)



Junior Ecoteers of the Rhododendron Garden Club decorated the Christmas tree at the Mentone Town Hall. (L to R) standing: Jennifer Hester, Becky Mays, Carol Hazel, and Barbie Hester holding Tyler. Kneeling are Emily Collins, Paige Wright, Kelly Wright, Brittany Hester, Alex Hazel, and Kayla Hazel