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**THE**

# GROUNDHOG

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Volume 16, No. 12

*"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"*

December 1997

## Making A Difference

**By Evelyn Graves**

Many of us have fond memories of Eloise Temple as she "dwelt among us" at Mentone. She attended the worship services at Moon Lake Baptist Church where I was a member at the time, and I remember the respect the church felt toward her as she quietly ministered to the needs of others. In fact, when the church's benevolence fund was depleted, and the needs were still there, she took care of those needs. Her daughter says, "she lived a quietly generous and inspiring Christ-filled life."

I remember also when Mrs. Temple came to my mother, Kathryn Jones, and asked her to do some private tutoring with her daughter, Bunny. Mother enjoyed the time she spent with Bunny who was a delightful child. Bunny remembers that time with good memories also. She says she remembers the warmth she felt when she was with my mother and the smell of the writing tablet she used. She loved the smell of the paper as she did her work with a giant pencil. Bunny says the tutoring paid off because, when she returned to her own school, she was allowed to skip a grade. These memories are important in our lives, and I feel that it is so necessary as we go through life to make lasting pleasant memories for those around us who follow.

Eloise Hart Temple, a physical education and recreation major at Peabody College in Nashville, brought three private camps to Mentone. She was the oldest private camp director in America when she sold Camp Skyline in 1980.

In the 1950s, Eloise had a camper named Jo Del Laney from Tuscaloosa, and her mother, Louise Laney, was Skyline's representative in Tuscaloosa. Eloise suggested that Louise and her husband, Malcolm, then on staff at the University of Alabama, bring a group of boys for a 2-week camp the next summer, and she called it Skyline for Boys. Eloise says she could endure it only two summers. "They



From right: Eloise Temple; Karen Hart Fort, Bunny's daughter; Bunny Temple O'Neill; Thomas F. Muller, Bunny's son; Beckham Palmer IV, Eloise's great grandson; James J. O'Neill; Beckham Palmer III; and Mary B. Palmer (Taken on Thanksgiving Day 1996)

tore up all our badminton racquets and everything else," she laughs. She took Malcolm in her car and showed him some property down the river and suggested he call the spot "Camp Laney" and take all the boys there. She wrote songs and a catalog to help Coach Laney's first year, and daughter Bunny helped in Laney's new office the first season. It was a great success and is one of Mentone's thriving camps today. Eloise says modestly, "I sent the boys down the river." The Laney's and Mrs. Temple remained close friends until the Laney's' deaths in the early 1990s. Coach Laney and Bunny Temple O'Neill made a commercial together in 1982 for the Southern Company. The Laney grandchildren all attended Skyline (the girls, that is!)

Eloise Temple enjoyed a friendship with Martha Berry, founder of Berry Schools, who often came over to rock on the porch with Eloise and said she admired

Temple's courage. Through Martha Berry, Eloise acquired more land; and, after she founded Camp DeSoto with Bess Cook in 1937, she opened Camp Skyline Ranch in 1947 on adjoining properties that she had carefully acquired over the years while owning DeSoto. Eloise also entertained friend and country music's great, Minnie Pearl, at Skyline two summers.

Through her camps, Eloise created many romances that led to lasting marriages. Her niece, Anita Davies, married the camp doctor, Wade Cline, and are living in Birmingham. They have nine (9) grandchildren. Mentone's Dewey Smith met wife Nancy at Skyline, and Valley Head station agent, George Hutcherson, married Meridian's Grace Tatum. Governor Wallace's daughters, as well as Governor Folsom's daughters, along with children of movie personalities and other celebrities were among the thousands of campers who are scattered all over the world today. Recently Eloise's 25-year old grandson, Bill Temple, began seriously dating a young lady whose mother

was a Skyline camper. In October 1997, when Bunny spoke to the Anniston Country Club about Princess Diana's dress and legacy, many former campers and mothers of present Skyline campers were present.

Eloise resides in Rome, Georgia's, Winthrop Court Retirement Home, now, but she travels often. She always looks forward to a drive to Mentone. Bunny says, "Mentone was fortunate to have her love there for 50 years and her heart there today." Thanksgiving will be in Florida at Bunny's winter Ponte Vedra home.

(Continued on Page 5.)

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Monday, December 1, 6 p.m.  
Mentone Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Tuesday, December 2, 7 p.m., MAPA Christmas Dinner, Dessie's Kountry Chef (see related articles)
- Friday, December 5, 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., MAPA Annual Christmas for the Children Party at the Community House behind Moon Lake School
- Saturday, December 6 - Shoot for Turkey (see article)

- immediately after last basketball game at Moon Lake Gym
- Sunday, December 14, 3 p.m. - Every Light A Prayer for Peace Celebration at the DeKalb County Library (See item on Page 18 under Garden Club News)
- Sunday, December 14, 3 p.m. - NE Chorus to perform at Valley Head Baptist Church
- Thursday, December 18 - SCHOOL OUT
- Thursday, December 25 - CHRISTMAS

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See Page 2.**

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# THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



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

Editor.....Evelyn Graves  
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## MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Jerry Waters  
Vice President.....Homer Crow  
Secretary.....Susan Cherones  
Treasurer.....Dessie Newberry  
Parliamentarian.....Bernise Crow  
Member-At-Large.....Dorothy Crow  
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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 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH preceding publication. The Groundhog is due out by the 25th of each month.



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## MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT JERRY WATERS



It is hard to believe it is already December. Wasn't it just a few days ago that we were in the midst of a great summer? It seems the more years I have behind me, the shorter the ones in front of me become.

I hope each of you had a great and relaxing Thanksgiving. My son Derek and his fiancée, Mindy, flew in from Texas for a visit and we had a blast. For the most part, we just "hung out" and enjoyed one another's company for the short time they were here.

Let me remind you of a couple of things MAPA has going on this month. Of course, we will have our annual membership Christmas party at Dessie's Kountry Chef. It will be held at our regular scheduled meeting time on the first Tuesday of December. Whether you live in town or out of town, we hope you will attend, if possible. If you come and can do so, bring a gift of not more than \$10 in value, as we will be playing the "Dirty Santa" gift-trading game. There will be lots of great food and plenty of desserts. I am sure; so, plan to be there to kick off the Christmas season in good fashion.

Also, do not forget our MAPA Community Christmas party. Every year, we have an afternoon party for the children of Mentone. This year, it will be held at the new MERF Community Center. Each child will receive a gift along with other goodies. We need lots of help with this one, both financially and physically. If you can send a few bucks to help with buying gifts, please do not hesitate. I promise, we will not refuse your donation. But let me also encourage you to get involved in the planning and implementation of the party. It is a very rewarding experience; and I know there are lots of you out there who have a couple of hours to spare when you could be helping out. There are many things to be done from Christmas tree decorating to shopping for the gifts, to helping with goodies and treats. If you want to help, please call Bernise Crow or Penny Lyday for details about how you can help. Let's make this the best Christmas party we have had in years.

And, of course, lastly, let me remind you to be careful during this holiday season. It is so easy to allow the hustle and bustle of the Christmas rush to stress you out and cause accidents and illnesses that could be avoided. I long for the day when people get fed up with the merchandising of this holiday. It is hard for me to believe that this is how God would have us celebrate the birth of his only Son. Please, let us all keep in mind that Christmas is not about toys and who gets who what. It should be about reflecting on the most precious gift ever given to mankind--a Savior who willingly laid down His life in order that we might live. How is it possible that we have come to equate that gift with Tickle Me Elmo?

Please have a great holiday season and savor the time with your family, friends and loved ones. Merry Christmas, everyone.



## Pat Blankenship and her tin men

Pat Blankenship is shown here with two of her unique tin men creations. She recycles coffee cans, soup cans, sardine cans, and any size can that she needs to create these interesting gift items. Pat has several styles and will take orders if you would like one or more of these "Tin Men." Pat works at Dessie's Kountry Chef in Mentone. The picture was taken at Dessie's.



Jack Johnston is shown here putting up the Valley Head Christmas Decorations with the aid of his bucket truck. Jack generously donates his time and equipment each year to help decorate Valley Head and also Mentone. The Valley Head Christmas Parade is Saturday, Dec. 6. (See notice elsewhere.)



## Valley Head High School News

By Jessica Barrier

Recently, Valley Head Junior and Senior Beta Clubs elected their new officers for the 1997-98 school year. The Junior Beta officers are: President: Becky Mays; Vice President: Eric Battles; Secretary/Treasurer: Slade Carden; Reporter: Jessica Barrier; Student Council Rep.: Shelly Brown.

Senior Beta officers are: President: Teri Campbell; Vice-President: Eric Crane; Secretary/Treasurer: Tabitha Brisendine; Reporter: Ashley Blalock.

Recently, the Fellowship of Christian Students (FCS) at Valley Head High School elected its new officers for the 1997-98 school year. The officers are: President: Richard Fuller; Vice-President: Rene Brendle; Secretary: Amanda Goss; Chaplain: Teri Campbell; Publicity: Lauren Pullen.

Nov. 20, Valley Head Freshmen discovered a taste of Shakespeare. They, along with students from other schools, viewed a production of *Romeo and Juliet*. The play was performed by the Georgia Mountain Theatre at the DeKalb Theatre in Fort Payne.

## North DeKalb Ministerial Association

The 1997 Community Thanksgiving Service was a huge success. This year's host was the Mentone Wesleyan Church and pastor, Randy Addison. Their new sanctuary was filled to capacity with worshippers representing the local churches. Music included soloist, LaDonna Barton, Kathy Addison on the keyboard, and John Corey on the trumpet. Gary Moore, immediate past president of the North DeKalb Ministerial Association presented the evening's message. The other ministers participating were: Al Cherbonneau, St. Joseph's; William Russell, Moon Lake Baptist; Kenneth Shelton, Mentone Church of God; Charles Jenkins, Valley Head Baptist; Butch Tanner, Mentone Church of God of Prophecy; and Linda Tucker, Mentone United Methodist Church.

The offering from the evening goes toward several functions supported by the association: baccalaureate, Thanksgiving and Easter services, National Day of Prayer, and stockings for the children at the Christmas Party for the Children, hosted by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA). This year the Christmas Party for the Children will be held during the afternoon hours on Friday, Dec. 5, at the MERF Community House, located behind the school. According to Dr. Bill Berry, principal of Moon Lake Elementary School, there are 138 students enrolled at Moon Lake and 19 Head Start students.



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## From Between the Counters

By  
BRUTUS



Faithful readers and fans, Halloween is over, Thanksgiving is passed, but the black cat is still hanging around. Al keeps cat food out for her—that moi can handle. Moi doesn't care for the stuff anyway. But, this sharing of the attention has got to go. Who's top dog here, anyway? Whose fame has spread far and wide? Not that darn cat, that's for sure!

Wil and Alex (Al and Vickie's children) and Colleen Castleberry have been running in the store and flying by the great one like moi was made of stone—just to get to the cat.

It is not just the children that are in on this "Ignore Brutus" game. The other day, Willis Blalock put a pillow in the rocking chair so the cat could rest and take a nap, while Pop is out. (Pop has been feeling very poorly lately and has missed some days here at the Superette. I sure do miss Pop when he goes to the doctor or the hospital.)

Then, along comes L.M. Flannigan, plops down in the rocking chair and holds that cat in his lap and hand feeds her.

There is also a little white dog named Miss Prissy that regularly rides in the car with the town clerk and comes to the Superette. Would you believe this—that foolish excuse for a dog—Miss Prissy, indeed!—actually loves cats! Ugh, what a disgrace. She made over that black cat like it was one of her own puppies.

Have you beloved readers figured out what name was given to this BLACK cat? Not Blackie or Soot, or any of those names, but Sabrina, after the teenage witch on TV, so Cheryl says. Moi thinks that is some of Vickie's doings.

That feline slinks in the door, sneaks around the edge of the wall, and takes a seat in Pop's rocking chair (complete with pad, thanks to Willis Blalock!). Traitor.

Moi has decided that something drastic needs to be done. The best and most humane—and moi is humane—way to get rid of this pesky kitten is to have all you loyal fans write Santa—not a wish list, but an S.O.S. note, labeled "Operation Cat Drop." Ask Santa to pick up Sabrina here at the Superette on Christmas Eve when he's making his regular rounds, and drop/deliver that darn kitten to some loving, deserving child who would enjoy this light-footed, black fur ball that purrs and purrs and purrs. The noise of its purring drives moi up and down the sides of the counters.

Well, I've got to get out of here, I'm about ready to blow my top over this unfair situation. I don't think I can even keep a tootsie pop down! Later, devoted readers!

## dish

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# Mentone Grapevine 11

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Our beloved William Blackburn of the Mentone Supercette-and Pop to Brutus-is back from a Birmingham hospital. He's fighting a battle with cancer. Keep him and the family in your prayers. We love you, William!

Virginia Ballenger's new home is just about finished. It's looking good.

Malcolm Brewer is staying inside during the cold days, but on the good/warm days he ventures outside and soaks up the sun by walking a little in the back yard. Keep up the good work, Malcolm. Thanks for the telephone pick-me-up calls!

Irene Green has been in the hospital in Rome, recently. She was released in time to attend the Community Thanksgiving Service hosted by the Wesleyan Church on Wed., Nov. 26. We wish her good health.

Jean Matthews is feeling some better eating foods she likes. We're glad to hear this good news.

Penny Lyday spent a couple days in the hospital recently, but she's at home and doing fine.

For all of you who look for messages, jobs, homes, in the MAPA bulletin board area in front of the Post Office, the new look is the work of Susan Chernes, the secretary of MAPA, and also Director of Nature's Classroom. Thanks, Susan!

The Valley Head Parade Committee has been working hard on getting ready for the Christmas Parade scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 6, at 1 p.m. (See notice on back page.) Come out and have a great time.

The Valley Head Band will perform for the PTO on Monday, Dec. 1, at 6 p.m. The Band Boosters will meet at 5:30 p.m. before the meeting begins. All band parents are urged to attend. The band will also perform for the students at Moon Lake Elementary School on Monday, Dec. 15, 1997, at 1:45 p.m. Anyone wishing to attend may do so.

Mrs. Mary Holleman is feeling much better after a very sick spell in November. She and Ted traveled to Florida where she fell ill and had to remain in the hospital a few days. We're glad to see that she is back to normal, finally.

I'd like to thank everyone who invited me to share Thanksgiving dinner with them. I appreciate your thinking of me. As you know, the current issue of The Groundhog was being put together and I was unable to attend. However, thanks to Gail Crider and Bonnie and Slim Easler, I had a delicious dinner of ham, turkey, noodles and hamburger, potato salad, beans, corn, candied yams, and cornbread. Gail brought the plate to me in the "nick of time." I had just come out at 1 p.m. to check the refrigerator for something to eat. Thanks again! What would we do without friends?

There's a new natural foods grocery opening up at 118 Commerce Street in Valley Head. Polly Cameron and Jennifer Smith are the owners of Mother's Market. (See the pictures and article elsewhere.) We've been waiting a long time, and now they're here. They'll be open Dec. 3.

The MAPA Christmas Party for the Children will be held at the MERF Community House on Dec. 5, in the afternoon. (See the notice elsewhere.) In the past, it has been held at the Town Hall. This year, the plan is to have the children come to the Community House in the afternoon at designated times. Parents, when you get your notice from the school, please allow your children to participate. There will be stockings and a gift, and refreshments will be served.

I had the privilege of going to Hattiesburg, MS, on November 9, to attend the Eleventh Annual American Honor Orchestra Conference at Bennett Auditorium. My 11-year-old granddaughter, Elizabeth Brown, from Gulfport, MS, was one of the violinists. My neighbor and friend, Erma McAdams, made the trip with me. Thanks to Foots Rector, we actually made it--and on time. My Pontiac decided to have a faux alternator problem, and we waited in Collinsville for Foots to come HELP; and when he did, he allowed us to use his Cadillac to make the trip. Jan Eaton, a long-time family friend from Long Beach, MS, came to Hattiesburg to meet Erma and me

for lunch. Then, we all went to the concert together. The event was a momentous one for me, because I had never heard Elizabeth play. Her words to me after the performance--"You came all the way just to hear me?" made it all worthwhile. (See the pictures on this page.) I'm not much PROUD! All you grandmothers out there know how I feel.

Thanks goes to Bill Schwarz for building the light table (a long time ago). Every time it is in use during an issue of The Groundhog, I think of him. It has certainly made my job a lot easier. Bill's been real busy this past year in Huntsville during the week working with children. In fact, he's been so busy, he hasn't found any extra time to write his column, River Watch. Maybe next year will be different. We hope so! Bill also celebrated a birthday on Nov. 27. Happy Belated Birthday wishes, Bill!

Pat McKenzie treated several family members and a friend to dinner on Nov. 14, in honor of Evelyn Bain's birthday. Afterwards, everyone went to Bobbie Smith's for cake and coffee.

Emily Collins is doing great after recent surgery. Everyone wishes her the best.

Condolences to the families of: Retired Lt. Gen. Duward Lowry Crow, 79, formerly of Valley Head, who died Oct. 28; and Russell R. (Bunt) Morgan, 77, of Valley Head, who died Oct. 29.

George and Hattie Lide returned from a visit to their daughter, Carol Aleski and her husband, Dave, and children, Michael and Dana in Pittsburgh, PA. They visited during the week of Thanksgiving.

Gary Galloway of Cloudland, Ga., son of Jane Galloway of Mentone, has been sick. Hope you get to feeling better soon!

In the Nov. 27 issue of The DeKalb Advertiser, Mrs. Alma Crabtree's picture appeared under the heading "Dec. 28 is National Quilters Day." The photo showed her with a cathedral windowpane quilt that she had done. Alma's been making quilts since 1930, the first year she was married. She now passes on the quilting tradition to her family. Alma's quite a lady!

James Pumphrey recently saved a neighbor from burning up in a fire at her home on County Road 941. James got her out safely. Thank you, James, for your quick action. You are truly a hero.

Happy 85th birthday to Clara Cash. Clara turns 85 on Dec. 4. You are wished many more happy birthdays, Clara!

Happy 64th Anniversary to Raymond and Mary Brown, who also celebrate their anniversary on Nov. 30.

Happy Belated October/November Birthday wishes to Ethan Hunt (1 year old - October 1); November: •10- Jean McGehee; •24- Tammy Green (10 from Conroe, TX); •26- Bart Nino; 28- Jo Beaube; and •30- Russell DePaul.

Happy December Birthdays to: •1- Shane Bo Thomas (7), Brian Green (14, from Conroe, TX), Mark Hatfield, Caleb Hunt (4); •2-Dewayne McKenzie, Angel Wesley; •4-Myrtle Webb, Clara Cash (85), Heath Blalock, Ann King Jackson; •5-Rodney Pelletier; •6- Ellen Thompson, Amber Nekole Tackett (2 years), Phyllis Lewis, Lisa Hulan; •7- Robin Hulan, Ken Hammond; •8- Pat Vest, Renae Day, DeAnna Harris; •9- Brian McAdams, Bill Shaw; •10- Bobbie Smith; •12- Homer Crow, Valerie Chappell, Kristen Lauro (1 year old, Springfield, Va.); •14- Bruce BonFleur, Jim Phillips, Tina Shrader, Hunter Whisenant (3 yrs); •19- Brynda Hopper; •20- Allison Allen; •21- Mabel Kirk, O.W. Hunt (77), Vickie Biddle, Coby Harrison; •23- Mike Key; •24- Maureen Hammond, Joe Kent; •25-JESUS; •26-Michael Croston; •27-Melissa Harrison, Jennifer Blalock; •28- Annette Chappell, Rusty Rector; 29-Randy and Brenda Green of Conroe, TX, (18th Anniversary); •30-Emily Collins, Marquita Brown, Scott Burke.

Congratulations to the young artists who submitted their weather drawings to The Times-Journal. Since our last issue, drawings of 10 artists from Valley Head appeared: Marjorie Harper, 6; Kyle, 6; Sara McSpadden, 6; Sydney Hixon, 6; Heather Richardson, 6; Chris McMahan, 7; Justin Battles, 6; Jennifer Britton, 6; Mickel Craven, 6; and Brittany Freeman, 6.

Walter and Christine Brooks of Valley Head, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Dec. 7, at New Home Baptist Church fellowship hall, from 3-6 p.m. All friends and relatives are invited to attend. Congratulations to a wonderful couple.

Justin Steele is home from the hospital. Stan and Linda Lawton are happy that he's back home with them. We wish him well.



Elizabeth Brown, age 11

Elizabeth Brown was one of 52 young people who performed in the Chamber Orchestra during the Eleventh Annual American Honor Orchestra Conference held at Bennett Auditorium on the USM campus in Hattiesburg, MS. Elizabeth has played the violin for three years. Elizabeth was 4th chair in the 1st violin section of the Chamber Orchestra. She is looking forward to attending next year. Elizabeth's parents, Jody and Teresa Brown of Gulfport, MS, and her siblings--Kathleen, Jolee, and Robert, all attended the performances, along with Elizabeth's grandmother, Marie Dillenbeck, with friends Erma McAdams of Mentone, and Jan Eaton, of Long Beach, MS.

The conference was hosted by the USM Symphony Orchestra, Jay Dean Conductor. The American Honor Orchestra is a special conference event held annually on campus. It is comprised of some of the finest high school musicians in the country, and it includes six graders. This year, 189 young musicians rehearsed intensively for three days in preparation for a final concert performance. There were three divisions: American Chamber Orchestra, Robert Wills, Conductor, 52 musicians; American Sinfonietta, Arlene Witte, Conductor, 45 musicians; and the American Philharmonic, Charles Abplanalp, Conductor, 92 musicians. Each year, the students have the opportunity to work with outstanding faculty, as well as guest conductors. The final concert performance was on November 9, at 3 p.m.

You did great, Elizabeth. Your grandmother is PROUD of you and is looking forward to next year, too!

The Three Arts Christmas Tour Fundraiser set for Sunday, Dec. 7, will have on its list of homes to tour, Raven Haven, Mentone Springs, Mountain Laurel Inn, Wedding Chapel, and Woodhaven. The fee is \$10 per ticket, and the funds go toward scholarships for children. So enjoy the tour and help fund the scholarships.

James Fletcher, Rome, Ga., son of Horace (86 years old) and Rose Fletcher, came to visit the White Elephant so he could report to his dad on the status of the facility. Horace and Rose both worked for Martha Berry and went to Berry College. James said it had been about 60 years since his dad was a student in the 1930s. James is a medical media specialist at the NW Georgia Regional Hospital. He will be able to report to his dad that the White Elephant has had a facelift. A new coat of white paint with green trim (original colors) and repairs to the building have restored much of its beauty. The White Elephant has come alive and three new vendors signed up in the past month.

The kids will be out of school on Thursday, Dec. 18, so be careful, drivers, and drive safely, being watchful for any little ones in the pathway of your vehicle.

Remember the reason for the season. Do something nice for someone every day of the year. Don't wait until tomorrow, because tomorrow never comes.

Merry Christmas!

# Making A Difference

(continued from Page 1)



Princess Diana and Bunny Temple O'Neill, June 23, 1997, New York, taken at the auction at Christie's where Bunny purchased one of Princess Diana's dresses

Ginger Grant, wife of the late Porter Grant and owner of Moon Lake, recently found an old wooden bird house with just the word "Eloise" burned into it. It had washed up from the river into her backyard, and Ginger took it immediately to Winthrop Court where her mother-in-law, Frances Grant, also lives.

Ginger and Bunny gave a Princess Di tea for the ladies at Winthrop Court in early June 1997, which inspired Bunny to fly to New York on June 23 to meet Princess Diana in person and to be a participant in the auction at Christie's.

There were 79 dresses sold at auction with proceeds going to the fight against cancer. Eloise Temple had successfully battled cancer 20 years ago, and this charity is close to Bunny's heart. She was accompanied by her daughter, Karen Fort, of Atlanta to New York City to attend a preview cocktail party preceding the auction. At the preview showing sponsored by such celebrities as Nancy Reagan and Dr. Henry Kissinger, both mother and daughter met the princess, who was most interested in which dresses they might want to own. Bunny told Princess Diana she had three favorites and that she hoped she would be able to get one of the three. She bought dress 53 on the list of 79, bidding a winning \$24,000 for the white dress worn once in 1988 by the princess at a dinner with then French President Francois Mitterrand at Chateau de Chambard, FR. The total cost, including the auction fee, was \$27,600.

Bunny initially expected to use the dress for a Humane Society fundraiser in California, but now is not sure that she will follow through with those plans. Bunny said she has long admired the princess and the Christie's

auction gave her a chance to own a "fabulous memento" with proceeds going to fight against cancer. The dress is described as a full-length, double breasted white lace design with an overall embroidered pattern of flowers of blue silk and white sequins.

Princess Diana is well known for her philanthropy, and now through the generosity of Bunny O'Neill, one of her dresses is continuing that tradition. The dress that once adorned the Princess of Wales has now benefitted Shorter College and honored Mrs. Eloise Temple, a Shorter alumna from the class of 1931.

The proceeds from the viewing all went to benefit the Shorter scholarship program.

The dress has only been shown twice—at Shorter College in honor of Mrs. Temple and at Winthrop Court so that all those in wheelchairs and on the staff could see it "up close and personal."

Bunny is creating quite a name for herself as a speaker. She speaks to various groups in various towns about the needs of the Humane Society and other worthwhile causes. Responses such as this follow her: "I recommend Bunny O'Neill as a speaker because she is vibrant, humorous, direct and pretty! She did an outstanding job for a club in our town. She believes in her cause. She would alert people to the needs of the Humane Society. I hope to hear her again..."

Bunny has always admired Princess Diana and the caring spirit that she possessed. She is happy to have an opportunity to continue that spirit after Princess Di's death.

Mentone is proud to claim a small part in this family's lives, and *The Groundhog* sends love to Mrs. Temple and Bunny as they continue to make a difference!



Jam helps fund school phone system  
Mark Herndon presents Moon Lake Elementary School (in Mentone, AL) Principal Bill Berry with a check for \$1,875 from the June Jam Foundation. The money will cover half the cost of a new telephone and intercom system for the school.



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## Christmas and Christianity

An excerpt from the book "EVERY-DAY THOUGHTS" by Ella Wheeler Wilcox written in 1901

Taken from the Dec. 15, 1996, issue of Happy Holidays from "Our Town"

Submitted by Gail W. Chambers

Nearly two thousand years have passed since Christ came to earth, and while His natal day is becoming more and more widely known and celebrated, the world is still far from understanding His simple philosophy of brotherhood.

In tens of thousands of churches on this Christmas day, as on preceding ones all over the civilized world, professed followers of Christ—good meaning people, who believe they are Christians—will say with lip and heart, "Peace on earth and good will to men," and they will go forth from the churches to fight their fellow men on bloody battlefields, or in the more silent conflicts of the business world.

Millionaire Christians who have just planned a corner on wheat or pork, which shall pauperize thousands of their brother men but shall swell their own millions into billions, will bow their gray heads reverently on the velvet backs of costly pcws, and glorify the name of that gentle Being who was born in a manger, and who bade his followers to "Do unto others as they would be done by."

Men who lie awake nights to perfect schemes of getting the better of competitors, will join in hallelujahs sung to the simple Carpenter who lived only to do good to mankind, and who said, "Love your enemies."

Meantime, in spite of all these unwholesome facts, and many more as disagreeable ones which could be mentioned, the world is slowly but steadily advancing toward the Christ standard. Humanity is cleaner and kinder than it was even a few hundred years ago.

In the early days of Christian rule there was a deep-seated objection in the church against cleanliness. Because the pagans had been devoted to baths, the church considered bodily purity synonymous with impiety of soul. The desire for clean extremities was deemed unregenerate. Today, our churches believe that cleanliness is next to godliness. Indeed, the generally accepted idea today is that some moral slackness pervades the mind of one whose person is not clean.

And just as we have progressed in neatness, so we have in kindness and tolerance. One hundred years ago (three hundred today in 1997), we burned as witches people who possessed clairvoyant powers. Today we call them "psychics," and science studies them with interest.

A century ago (remember this book was written in 1901), good Christians put insane people in dungeons and fetters, believing them to be possessed of devils. Today, we know better—we know they are diseased sufferers, and we bring science and sympathy to bear upon their misfortunes.

Yet our prisons, our insane asylums, our reform schools and our poorhouses—all of them supposed to be conducted on Christian principles—would startle the tender Christ were He to return to us this Christmas day and make a visiting tour among them. What consternation would ensue were His calm eyes to penetrate the dark corners and His hand to reveal what lay behind closed doors.

Meanwhile, we can only thank God and progress that things are so much better than they used to be, even while we are filled with wonder that they are not better than they are. Christ never asked for forms and conventions and complicated dogmas. That is all man's doing. Christ does not want you to give largely to the church while you grind your fellow man in the mill of business. He does not want you to make generous gifts to the poor on Christmas day while on every other you indulge in selfish, sordid methods of dealing with humanity.

A little consideration, a little affection, a little thoughtfulness, and a continual regard for the feelings and rights of others in your home and business relations every day of the year, is more acceptable to Christ than a large display on His birthday of piety and benevolence.

(Robert Beierle is self-published author. Thousands of his books have been sold. He is the owner, editor, story writer, printer and paper boy of the bi-weekly publication "Our Town". "Our Town" is a publication dedicated to short stories, editorials and community events. Currently, Bob is working on his latest book which will include all of the stories and editorials from the first one hundred issues of "Our Town". If you are interested in finding out more about "Our Town" or books written by Robert Beierle, please write to: Creative Insight, P.O. Box 647, Newfoundland, PA 18445.

## I'M NOT ONE TO GOSSIP BUT....

By Robert Beierle

I've never used "Our Town" to spread any gossip. However, I was told of a certain person who found himself in a situation. And when I heard his story I wondered what advice I would give him, or for that matter, what advice any of us would give. Now I want to make this perfectly clear. This is not a personal friend of mine. This is somebody I know of and have heard people talk about.

To start with, this is a young, single male in the construction business and, right now, temporarily out of work. (We all know what the carpentry business is like.) The guy doesn't own his own business. He's just an average Joe. Hard working guy... doesn't drink... believes in God... follows the ten commandments... all around a good egg. Anyway... he's in his early twenties, and he got involved with a younger girl. She's over sixteen but not by much. He says he loves her. She says she loves him. They want to get married. And her parents approve. You think this is bizarre... read on... it just gets better.

Amidst their undying love for one another, she finds herself pregnant. On top of that, this guy knows it's not his kid. He swears he hasn't touched her. Now, he's wondering if he should marry this sixteen year old girl who is pregnant with a child who is not his. Let's face it... life is hard enough for any young couple when they are first starting out. And these two are carrying a lot of emotional scars by our standards... by what we believe to be decent. If this guy was on Sally Jessie Raphael or talking to a shrink on a radio talk show, what do you think they would tell him? What would you tell him? I heard he's going to go ahead and marry her and keep the baby that's not even his. To be honest with you, I don't know too many guys who could forgive and forget something like this. We all know they'll both carry some bad baggage.

What in the world can you tell a person like this? What advice can you give him? You are both young... too young by most of our standards. Would you say... Don't weigh yourself down. All right... you love her... she made a mistake... abort the baby or maybe put the baby up for adoption. Wait a couple of years. See if things can work out... go to counseling. No one just starting out deserves to go through this. Shouldn't they try to make their lives easier?

Well anyway... he went ahead and married her even though she was pregnant with someone else's child. I guess he truly believes in better or worse. Probably some of you would call him a schmuck... some of you would call him an idiot... but few of us would call him wise. Maybe some of you believe that the baby would have been better off never being born. The world is not in the best situation. There's injustice, hunger, wars, poverty, sickness. And after all... what difference can be made by an illegitimate child? It's not like the world would be a better place... is it? None of us believe that any one person can truly make a difference... do we?

The last I heard, he had to head down country to Bethlehem to handle some tax problems. And he took his pregnant wife with him. From what I hear, she's about to pop any day. He couldn't afford any fancy transportation to get down there. Just a donkey and a halfway decent pair of sandals. I'm sure each of us wish them the best of luck. We all know how hard it is to get a room in Bethlehem this time of year. I'm sure they'll do just fine. And who knows... that child that they decided to keep... maybe someday he'll make something of himself. And perhaps... make this world a better place.

Bob Beierle, Creative Insight

I'M NOT ONE TO GOSSIP BUT... ©1996 Robert Beierle

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## The Christmas Rose

Submitted by Gail W. Chambers

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

"And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

St. Luke 2: 8-14

The angels disappeared. A great confusion and commotion began among the shepherds. Amidst cries of wonder and astonishment, each was looking about his goods for a gift suitable to bring the baby King. Offerings of bread, blankets, wool and lambs were gathered as the shepherds prepared to visit the manger. Only a very small, very young shepherdess stood still and silent by the flocks of sheep.

With her tattered shawl wrapped tightly about her thin shoulders, the little girl gazed sadly at the backs of the sheep. She had no family, no one to help her prepare a gift for the baby Jesus. Still, she longed to see this wondrous Child. Even without a gift, she decided, she would go to the Bethlehem stable. Hopefully, no one would notice her. The warm, woolly smell and low baaing of the sheep made her feel better.

The lowly stable was not far. The shepherds approached quietly, joyfully. There, lying upon the sweet-smelling hay, was the tender Babe, only hours old, pink and rosy, and all warmly wrapped in swaddling clothes. His eyes were closed. The soft murmurings of His breath made Him seem asleep, and a warm glow filled the wooden shed.

The little girl's heart swelled at the sight of Him, so small and sweet and tender. Oh, how she longed to give Him something. He was so beautiful, her eyes filled with tears. One teardrop spilled over, ran down her faint cheek and splashed to the ground. She looked down and beheld, at her feet, a pale flower where the tear had fallen. Gladly, she picked it and went to lay it down by the Child's head. As she approached, the Baby's eyes blinked. His tiny fingers reached up and touched the flower, which turned a blushing rose pink, a Christmas rose.

The two children, One in the manger and one by His side, gazed joyfully at each other. The little girl touched the flower. In her heart she knew it was the least of the miracles that happened that night.

Submitted by Mary Rounsavill from the Carrousel Exchange in the Dec. 15, 1996, issue of Happy Holidays from "Our Town"



MERRY CHRISTMAS-MERRY CHRISTMAS-MERRY CHRISTMAS-MERRY CHRISTMAS-MERRY CHRISTMAS

# The Church News

By  
EVELYN GRAVES



**Moon Lake Baptist Church** will observe Week of Prayer for International Missions November 30-December 7. There will be a children's caroling and Christmas party/Hay Ride from 2-5PM, on Dec. 6. There will be a Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, December 7. Monthly business meeting will be held on December 10 at 6:30 PM. Choir Party will be held at DeSoto State Park Restaurant at 6:30 PM on December 16. The JOY Christmas party will be held at Ponderosa on Thursday, December 18, at 11:30 AM. The bus will leave the church at 11 AM. On December 19, the youth will have a Christmas party at the church and will go caroling afterward. You may call Brad VanCleave, Youth Director, at 634-3697, for details. The Christmas Musical will be held at the church on December 21, at 6 PM. On Monday, December 22, there will be a special service held in which Ken Miller will receive his Eagle Scout award. This service will be at 6:30 PM. A candlelight service will be held on December 24 at 5:30 PM. On Sunday, December 28, there will be morning services only. On Wednesday, December 31, there will be no service.

**St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church** will begin the Advent Celebration on November 30. The first Sunday of Advent will be making Advent wreaths at 9 AM with breakfast for those participating. On Saturday, December 13, there will be a decorating of the church at 8:30 AM. Christmas Eve service will be held at 7 PM. December 30, 6-8 PM, is Pastor's Night, and there will be a skating party at Fort Payne Skate Center.

**The Valley Head United Methodist Church** has sold its parsonage and is planning to do a lot of repair work on the church. Sunday School is at 9 AM and Worship is at 10 AM each Sunday morning. You are cordially invited to attend these services.

November 30-December 7 is Week of Prayer for International Missions in the **Valley Head Baptist Church**. December 2 is the annual Christmas Store at the Mt. Manor Nursing Home. December 6, at 8 AM is a Brotherhood Breakfast and meeting. There will be an Adult Christmas Party at the church at 5:30 PM. On December 14, the Northeast Junior College Chorus will perform. Everyone is invited. This service will be followed by refreshments in the fellowship hall. There will be a candlelight service at 6 PM on December 21. There will be no prayer meeting on December 24. There will be a special New Years Eve service from 7 to 8 PM.

Jason Smith will be the guest speaker at **Mentone Church of God** in the morning service on December 7. December 13 will be the Ladies

Ministries Banquet. On December 14, the evening service will be a Christmas program entitled, "A Misplaced Christmas," and will be performed at 6 PM. Everyone is invited. On December 21, there will be a singing with The Hastings as special singers. There will be no service on December 24. The ladies of the church are already making the annual hard candy which is being sold for \$4.00 a box. You may call the church or one of the ladies and purchase your candy.

On Sunday, November 30, the **Mentone Wesleyan Church** will receive 10 new members into the church, 7 of which are for baptism. There will be a Christmas Banquet on December 12, at Western Sizzlin in Fort Payne, at 6:30 PM. Anyone who wants to be a part of this should call 634-4210 so that a head count may be made. Christmas caroling will be December 14, with a hayride. The group will return to the fellowship hall for chili and soft drinks. The tentative date for the Christmas play is December 21 at 11 AM. Every Wednesday at 7 PM, Pastor Randy Addison is doing a Bible Study on Partners in Prayer.

**Harmony Grove Baptist Church** is looking forward to seeing everyone in the Valley Head Parade on Dec. 6, at 1 PM. We will have our Christmas Dinner at the Rock Castle Cafe on Dec. 13, starting at 6 PM. Everyone will be bringing a covered dish for this fellowship dinner. We will go out in the community singing Christmas songs, and delivering fruit baskets to the elderly on Dec. 20. On Dec. 21, the Youth will have a Special Christmas Singing. It will begin at 6 PM, and everyone is invited to come and share in this blessed event. Listen to our Radio Broadcast on WQRX 870 AM station from 8:30 AM-8:45 AM. We will be having a Special Candlelight New Years Eve Service on Dec. 31, starting at 10:30 PM. Everyone is invited to come and celebrate the New Year with us at Harmony Grove. Pastor Richard Pope invites everyone to come and Discover the Difference at The Old Country Church, A House Built By God. Sunday School 9:45 AM, Morning Worship 10:50 AM, Evening Service and Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting 6 PM. Men and Women's Bible Study on Wednesday nights 6:30 PM until 8 PM.

**Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church**, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services at the Woodmen of The World Hall in Valley Head. Please come and visit. Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 AM; Worship service 11:00 - 12:00. Thursdays, 7-8 PM, Bible study. We welcome our new members, John and Christine Rentz! We also welcome Lew and Darlene Keith home (again) from the Philippines! Come and visit, they will have some interesting stories to tell. During this special time of year, draw close to Christ and He will draw closer to you. Happy Christmas and may God bless you richly.

**Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock)** has regular services at 10 AM each Sunday. You are invited to attend these services or visit the church at other times. Casual dress is always acceptable.

**The Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** invites you to attend the morning worship service each Sunday at 9 AM. Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L. A. Smith are alternate speakers for these services.

**The Mentone Revival Center** invites everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10 AM. Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM.

**The Church of God of Prophecy** invites you to attend worship services at 11 AM each Sunday. Youth Services are held every third Sunday night.

**Mentone United Methodist Church** will decorate the church for Christmas on December 3, at 10 AM, after which, the UMW will meet. Linda Brown has the program, "Christmas, The Power To Bless." Sunday, Dec. 7, will be the first Sunday for the White Christmas offering. Dec. 14, there will be a covered dish dinner, followed by the Christmas Party. Everyone is welcome to attend. Bible study on the book of Hebrews continues each Wednesday at 11 AM at the fellowship hall. Following the study, a light lunch is served.

**Union Hill Baptist Church** has welcomed 8 new members into the church in the past six weeks. The Youth group is busy preparing to present for the fourth time, "Holiday Hoedown", at the DeKalb Theatre. Performances will be on Thursday, and Friday, Dec. 5 and 6, at 7:30 PM. Admission will be \$4.00 for adults, \$2.00 for kids, and 6 years and under FREE. The fee is to help with the expenses of the annual retreat being held in Pigeon Forge, TN, the latter part of December.



## MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

By Evelyn Graves

There are two more home basketball games. On December 6, the game is with Sand Rock. On December 20, the game is with Ruhama. The 4th grade will play at 10 o'clock, 5th grade at 11:00 o'clock, and 6th grade at 12 o'clock.

On December 6, following the 6th grade game, at approximately 1 o'clock, there will be a free throw turkey shoot sponsored by the Moon Lake Athletic Club. Entry fee is \$3.00 with 4 categories: Male 12 and under, Male 13 and up, and Female 13 and up. This is an invitation to the public as well as to school children.

On December 9, at 6:30 PM, the next PTO meeting will be held. On December 11, at 6:30 PM, there will be an Athletic Club meeting.

On December 15, at 1:45, the Valley Head High School Band will perform an annual Christmas concert in the school gym at Moon Lake.

December 18 will be the last day of school for students before the Christmas holidays.

Leonard Shigley, Rusty Chambers, and Kent Kirby have completed the installation of windows in the new building.

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# Merry Christmas!

## Ro's Kreations

Across from the Mentone Superette  
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on Alabama Highway 117, Mentone, AL

Rovene Truett,  
owner of Ro's Kreations,  
invites you to  
**OPEN HOUSE**

**Sunday, December 7, from 1-5 p.m.**  
**Coffee, Wassail, & cookies to be served.**

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## Ro's Kreations

Rovene Truett, owner of Ro's Kreations, located across from the Mentone Superette and next to Cottage Collectables on Alabama Hwy 117, Mentone, Ala., is having an **OPEN HOUSE** on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 1-5 p.m. Coffee, Wassail and cookies will be served.

Rovene opened Ro's Kreations during the weekend of the October Colorfest, and her business has been thriving every since. Located in her beautifully decorated shop are items from mostly local craftsmen. There are souvenirs of Mentone, Christmas crafts, crocheted items, holiday scents: cinnamon and others, baskets, quilts, dolls, decorated tables and birdhouses (Darlene Smith and Barbara Nancarrow), lamps, wreaths (Rovene and Vickie Blackburn), stockings, painted metal buckets (to use as centerpieces with the appropriate decoration for any special occasion, water fountains (Jesse Crabtree); paintings (Valindia Miracle and Jimmy Frazier); pillows and Raggedy Ann dolls (Nancy Lusk), cards (Stan Lawton); Time-Out babies; lace work (Nell Jones), crafts by Charles Brown and Nancy Brown. Any craftsperson omitted was not intentional, just so many good crafts are at Ro's Kreations waiting for you to make your selection.

Rovene already has regular customers that come from Huntsville and Gadsden to shop for just that perfect gift—which Rovene always seems to have.

Come on by and make your selections today. Christmas is just a few days away.

## GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

(Member of the National Home Gardening Club)

Well, here we are again, another Thanksgiving just passed, and another Christmas,—good golly, where did the time go? My boys are nearly fully grown and the ranch is coming along nicely except that the buildings are looking weather-beaten and it's time to spend some time and energy on that. Since Fall began, the weather has not permitted us very much outdoors time, as it's been cold and wet most days. So, it's been great days to peruse catalogues and take stock of gardening problems and such.

Advice from the experts, don't buy seeds or plants on impulse, use the store to give you some ideas, then get catalogues and compare prices. Do some research on which plants will thrive with the minimum care and under various conditions. For example, don't rely on the past two wet falls and winters to predict the weather for the future. Don't forget that we have had extra rainy days due to El Nino. Then, there is La Nina to contend with—that's the flip side of the last two years. If you are buying seeds, check the date on the packet to be sure you are getting the current year. Don't confuse pelleted seed with untreated seed as pelleted seed is coated to make the seed easier to handle and sow. They look bulkier but may not contain that many seeds. Research disease resistance and know what special labels mean. All-America Selections Winner label have received an award for excellence after testing at trial grounds throughout the US and Canada, but this does not always mean that it will be the best cultivar for your garden. Seed packets may also carry other marks of quality such as Burpee's "Gold Ribbon Selection," which indicates professional-grade product and generally a high priced hybrid.

When buying bulbs, the old adage "bigger is better" is true, the biggest bulbs will produce the biggest flowers, and they'll generally be priced accordingly. So, if you want the best show possible, buy the biggest bulbs you can find. You should avoid bulbs that are soft, mushy, or spotted with disease. But don't worry if it does not have its "tunic" on, that does not mean it's an unhealthy bulb. Researchers found that "tunic-less" bulbs root better.

Now, for some recent news about the latest discoveries and such. Trees are being used to make a new fiber for clothing and other uses. The fiber, lyocell, is produced from hardwood pulp in a process that involves dissolving cellulose from wood pulp. Filaments are extruded from that solu-

tion and dried into fiber. Lyocell fabric can be dyed very deep colors and is washable. Textile companies are now converting lyocell fiber into fabric.

Tennessee has sick sycamores—a lot of the trees are infected with a fungus known as anthracnose due to the cool spring, which favors the growth of anthracnose, which causes the leaves to blacken and fall off, the fungus can affect entire limbs. Spraying is impractical, but pruning, raking, and burning infected leaves are helpful. The trees won't die unless it's been hit for several years with the fungus.

Tung Oil is making a come-back due to the new EPA regulations. Tung oil can replace the the volatile organic compounds in inks and varnishes.

The University of Georgia has released the Jesup variety of endophyte-free tall fescue, which was developed by forage breeder Joe Bouton. Tests to date, indicate that Jesup tolerates grazing and drought better than other endophyte-free tall fescue, but if subjected to very heavy grazing, the variety is not as good as infected tall fescue. Jesup is similar in growth habit and seasonal production to Kentucky 31, but has less winter production than AU Triumph. Jesup appears to be well adapted to much of the Southeast; it is not recommended for the Coastal Plains. Seed supplies are limited for planting and Pennington Seed of Madison, Ga, has exclusive rights to produce and market Jesup seed.

Cottonseed hulls, a proven high-quality roughage source, are used in dairies and feedlots throughout the U.S. Delinted and flowable cottonseed is easier to handle and has higher levels of fat and protein than fuzzy seed. The National Cottonseed Products Association's new directory of cottonseed and cottonseed products suppliers is free for the asking. Write to Dept. D, Box 172267, Memphis, TN 38187-2267, (phone #901-682-0800, fax 901-682-2856, or e-mail at [info@cottonseed.com](mailto:info@cottonseed.com)).

And now for the coup-de-grace, I now have an e-mail address that any of you could use if you need any help with your gardening. The address is: [MadeleineCircleBRanch@juno.com](mailto:MadeleineCircleBRanch@juno.com), or you are welcome to use the old familiar gadget we call the phone. I am beginning to find it hard to find things to write about as I don't know what kinds of stuff I need to tackle in the gardening department, and I really would appreciate the feedback.

Well, you all, my family and I would like to wish you all the best Christmas and Happy New Year.



Top: from the right: Ryan Drake, parents Linda and Charles Drake, Mike Young, and Marlin Cox

Bottom: from the left: Curt Miller, Ryan Drake, Bryan Young, Marlin Cox, and Bill Berry

## RYAN DRAKE--EAGLE SCOUT

By Charles and Linda Drake

This is the story of a young man committed to climbing the Eagle trail to the exalted rank of Eagle, in the Boy Scouts of America organization.

There are many hours invested in preparing for this honorable position. Ryan's achievements include the study, application, and demonstration of abilities for the following Merit badges: Camping, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizen in the World, Communications, Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Science, Family Life, First Aid, Lifesaving, Personal Management, Safety, Sports, Swimming, Archery, Basketry, Fingerprinting, Firemanship, Motorboating, Pioneering, Pulp and Paper, Rifle Shooting, Rowing, Small Boat Sailing, and Space Exploration.

Ryan's Eagle project interfaced with the construction of a Butterfly Garden Ecocenter at Moon Lake Elementary School. He created a dry streambed to direct water runoff properly through the ecocenter and built a wooden footbridge to allow access across the streambed.

Many people deserve to be recognized for their personal commitment to the success of this young man. Under the direction of Scoutmaster David Gilbreath and Assistant Scoutmaster Bill Berry, Ryan traveled to the famous Philmont Scout Reservation in Cimarron, New Mexico, and El

Salvador, in Central America. These trips had a tremendous impact in the development of Ryan and in applying his scouting skills. As Ryan's parents, we can only praise God for the leadership of the Mentone Troop. Their regard for solid character, Christian morals, and the Scouting Ethic is to be highly esteemed. We are very proud of this group of men and women.

Ryan's Court of Honor was held at Faith Baptist Church in Fort Payne, Alabama. Bill Berry, Assistant Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 106, was the Chairman. Voice of the Eagle was presented by Tom Oberle. Marlin Cox led the presentation of the Colors. Peter Hurt presented the Pledge to the Christian Flag. Ben Stewart led the Pledge to the Bible. Ben Corey presented the Scout Oath. Reverend Denny Mashburn led the invocation. Curt Miller and Bryan Young presented the Eagle Scout. Jake Pinholster led Ryan in the Eagle Challenge. Mike Young presented Ryan the Eagle Award. Ryan's father led him in the Eagle charge. William Tideman, Ryan's grandfather, gave the family response. Anna Crow performed the song "On Eagles Wings." Charles Frazier presented the closing Benediction.

We sincerely wish to thank all these scouts, leaders, and members of the board who contributed to making this Court of Honor a success.



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**HWY 117 - MENTONE, Ala.** - Mountain River Estates--3.48 ±/- acres with road frontage, and 400+ ft. of river frontage overlooking the middle fork of Little River. Approx. 1500 sq. ft. cabin style home under construction. Beautiful natural foliage, rhododendron, and mt. laurel provide the quiet setting and privacy of this mountain home. \$117,000. (No. A-50)



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**CLOUDLAND--STATE LINE ROAD**--Private 1600± sq. ft., 6 yrs. old. Living room with per-marstone fireplace and Ashley wood insert, dining room with French door opening onto screened bay porch, kitchen with center island and built-in appliances, utility room, master bedroom, and bath on 1st floor; 2 large bedrooms with dormer windows, full bath on 2nd floor. Hardwood floors in foyer, living room, dining room. 555± sq. ft. wrap-around porch. Cent. H/A. All on 15± acres. \$95,000.

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## UGF CAMPAIGN HITS THE MARK!

An additional \$1,870.00 in pledges and contributions came in to the UGF office on Thursday, just one day after the final report meeting, to push this year's UGF Campaign past its \$320,000.00 goal.

UGF Campaign Director Barbara Turner said, "This campaign has been a rather unusual, yet very exceptional one. This year's goal was \$8,000.00 higher than last year's and that presented a real challenge for all the volunteers. Then, it seemed the campaign was off to a very slow start with only 27% of goal achieved by mid October, compared to 52% at the same time the year before. But, regardless of the slow start and other challenges, the campaign ended as yet another record breaker."

The five Division Chairmen all did an outstanding job this year in achieving their division goals! Congratulations to Industrial Division Chairman, Linda Sterling; Commercial Chairman, Pam Gibson; Professional & Special Division Chairman, Jim Houston; Public Service Division Chairman, Shirley Gorham; and Town & County Division Chairman, Elizabeth Hamrick.

Congratulations also to Team Chairmen Wilma Leath, Hosiery Team; John Lang, Diversified Industries Team; Jim Davidson and Deborah Key, Commercial Teams; Ben Shurett and Tina Burt, Professional & Special Gifts Teams; Nancy Cobble and Dennis Benefield, Public Service Teams; Sue Wills, Lookout Mountain/Valley Team; C. B. Tidmore, Sand Mountain Team I; and Elizabeth Hamrick, Sand Mountain Team II.

Several Communities exceeded their goals this campaign thanks to the hard work of Community Captains and their workers: Sue Wills-Collinsville & Dogtown; Virginia Wright-Fischer, Eloise Brown-Hammondville, Priscilla Monroe-Valley Head, Patricia Shipp-Crossville, Opal Driskill-Dawson, Randolph Bell-Fyffe Business & Industry, Slick Helton-Powell, Stephanie Hale-Rainsville Business & Industry, Izader Dalton-Rainsville Professional & Residential; and Georgia Blalock-Henagar.

Several other Group Captains also exceeded their goals: Terry Headrick, Hosiery Group; Larry Gray, Automotive; Bill Mitchell, Gas & Oil; Peachie Middlebrooks, Beauty/Barber; Deborah Key, Grocery/Distributors; Karen Haney, Services; Katie Herzberg, Specialties; Terry Gillis, Attorneys.

At the final report meeting held on Wednesday, November 12, Campaign General Chairman Liz Wheatley thanked the volunteers for the hard work in achieving this record-breaking amount.

Ms. Wheatley passed out certificates of appreciation to the campaign meal sponsors and volunteers and candy Lifesavers as volunteers left the meeting. She said, "You are all lifesavers because through your efforts you help to provide so many life-saving services here in the county."



Gary Moore, William Russell, Randy Addison, Al Cherbonneau, "name unknown," Kenneth Shelton, and Don Brock, ministers of the North DeKalb Ministerial Association as taken at the Easter Sunrise service in 1997.

## GIRL SCOUT UPDATE

By Anna Easler, Reporter

Girl Scout Troop 1012 met on October 23. At this meeting we learned about manners and started our food drive, which will last until November 20. We are also working on learning our girl scout promise and signals. We celebrated Juliette Low's birthday and made ghosts. We are planning on planting flowers for the city of Mentone and Valley Head. Just remember in the Spring when you see the flowers that Troop 1012 have been out and about.

On November 1, 1997, Troop 1012 met at the Fort Payne Bowling Alley. There were 15 girls at this event. We ordered pizza and all the girls had fun. The biggest laugh of the night was when our Troop Leader, Sharon Swindall, fell.

We will be in the Fort Payne Parade on December 5, and the Valley Head Parade on December 6. We will be going to the Fountains in Fort Payne to spread some Christmas cheer. We will be caroling for the residents and the employees. We are also taking some gifts for the residents. We have a great leader and would like to thank her for all the hard work she has put in to girl scouts. We love you, Sharon.

Girl Scout Cookies went on sale November 15. Cookies are \$2.50 a box. If a Girl Scout hasn't contacted you, and you would like to order cookies, you can call Kathy or Gary Holder at 635-0077 or Sharon Swindall at 634-3084.

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Here we are with another year about to pass us by. Is it me or do they seem to be going faster and faster? I hope all of you are well and have had a good year. As I am writing this, we are preparing for Thanksgiving and then on to the Christmas season. We have so much to be thankful for. We have many fine friends and relatives. We wish we could be with all of you during this season and hope that you are spending them with family and friends.

I have two new recipes for you this month. The Chicken and Wild Rice Salad is really good for summer time but is a special dish any time of the year. The Rosemary Grilled Pork Tenderloin is from River Roads III and is very good and a change from the seasonal turkey dishes. I hope you enjoy both of them.

**Chicken Wild Rice Salad**, Emma Eckenrode-Lewis

2/3 cup Mayonnaise (or low fat mayonnaise)

1/3 C milk

2 Tbsp lemon juice

1/4 tsp dried tarragon, crumbled

3 C cubed cooked chicken

3 C cooked wild rice

1/3 C finely sliced green onions

1 (8 ounce) can sliced water chestnuts, drained

1/2 tsp salt

1/8 tsp pepper

1 C sliced pecans

Blend mayonnaise, milk, lemon juice and tarragon, set aside. In large bowl, combine chicken, wild rice, green onions, water chestnuts, salt and pepper. Stir in mayonnaise mixture until blended. Cover and refrigerate for two or three hours. Garnish with grape clusters when serving.

**Rosemary Grilled Pork Tenderloin**

2 T olive oil

2 T balsamic, white wine or flavored vinegar

2 T lemon juice

zest of 1 lemon

2 cloves garlic, crushed

1 T chopped fresh rosemary or 2 tsp dried rosemary

1 T honey

1 tsp freshly ground pepper

two 3-4 pound tenderloins, well trimmed

Combine all ingredients, except pork, in a 12 x 8 x 2-inch dish; stir well. Add tenderloins and turn to coat in marinade. Cover and chill for 1-to-3 hours or longer. Grill tenderloins over hot coals for 20 minutes or longer, covered, until done. Slice to serve. If desired, microwave the marinade for 30 seconds to 1 minute and then brush pork slices. Serve hot or room temperature.



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## WOODSY OWL "Give a Hoot! Don't Pollute!" poster contest winners

In last month's issue, the names of the winners of the WOODSY OWL "Give a Hoot! Don't Pollute!" poster contest among the Kindergarten, first, second, and third grade students at Moon Lake School were listed in the Rhododendron Garden Club article with a promise that the photos would appear in this issue. Poster Chairman, Karen Wright was in charge of the contest. Here are the pictures of the winners--as promised!



**KINDERGARTEN:** Karen Wright (holding daughter Brooke),  
3rd Place winners (tie): James Hawk and Leanna Weber;  
2nd Place-Michael Norman; 1st Place-Chaz McSpadden



**FIRST GRADE:** Karen Wright (holding daughter Brooke),  
3rd Place winners (tie): Fred Castleberry and Heather Smith  
2nd Place: Sierra Nicely; and 1st Place: Jessica Easler



**SECOND GRADE:** Karen Wright (in back)  
3rd Place winner: Mike Streeter  
2nd Place: Vickie Stinson  
1st Place: Randy Addison



**Third Grade:** Jan Wilkinson, President of Rhododendron Garden Club  
3rd Place winners (tie): Loren Kean and Melissa Crane  
2nd Place: Heather Phillips; 1st Place: Logan Chambers  
Karen Wright, holding daughter, Brooke

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**PRESCRIPTIONS**



**Mr. and Mrs. Shane Thomas Wright**

Mr. and Mrs. Harold LaRock Jr would like to announce the marriage of their daughter, Holly Marie LaRock to Shane Thomas Wright. The couple was married Sept. 27, 1997, at the Mentone Springs Hotel, Mentone, Ala.

The bride was given away by her mother and father.

Maid of Honor was Rosie Reiley. Bridesmaids were Tammy Davis and Penny Scott.

Best man was Ray Goodrich and groomsmen were Steve Davis and Jason Baber.

The couple have their home in Valley Head.



**DAVID NATION, WINNER OF \$1,000**

Jesse Crabtree and Ed Ringer of American Legion Post 215 are shown giving David Nation the \$1,000 that he won at drawing during the recent October Colorfest. David wasn't present at the drawing on October 19, so Jesse and Ed went to his home in Mentone to present him with his winnings.



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**Batys Celebrate 50 Years Together**

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Baty celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary November 1, 1997. A reception was held in their honor at the Woodmen of the World in Valley Head, Alabama. The event was given and hosted by sons and daughters-in-law. Refreshments were served by grandchildren. The guest book was kept by Jennifer L. Davis of Pisgah, Alabama. Pictures were taken by Joyce Brown of Cloudland, Georgia. The couple received many nice gifts with friends and relatives in attendance.



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## The Country Journal

By  
BERNISE CROW

Our year is almost gone and there are still many things I wanted to accomplish before it is over, but I did resolve to quit pushing too hard and trying to do too many things.

We have experienced some very cold weather during November, a little earlier than the norm. We hope this is not going to continue to be a colder winter than the usual.

Our fall colors have been outstanding after finally turning to reds, golds, purples, and even pink. They were about three weeks late this year.

We attended the wedding of Rebecca Crowe and Devin Dodson in Asheville, NC, the first of November. (See the writeup and picture in the January issue.) The leaf colors were at their peak, there. Lucille Crowe, Rebecca's grandmother, went with us, and we had a marvelous time. Not only was the wedding and reception very impressive, but the trip back home was a pleasure due to the colorful foliage all the way along the Blue Ridge Parkway we followed from Asheville to Cherokee, NC. We made pictures, but one cannot capture the full brilliance of the colors of nature.

Recently, H.M. (Red) Hulan, from Huntsville, Ala., sent me a scrapbook of pictures made at the Hitching Post and surrounding areas at Mentone. I was very pleased to get them. He sent the scrapbook by a friend who I failed to meet because I was out of the store that day. So, I don't have Mr. Hulan's address so I could thank him. Perhaps, he will read *The Groundhog*, and send me his address. He and Buck Lowe operated the Hitching Post in the twenties. He called me one day prior to sending the book and we had an interesting conversation. He remembered Lee and Lottie Davenport and others. He was a graduate of Valley Head High School, and I believe he said he was 89 years old, and didn't travel very far from home. I wish he could visit us.

## Mentone- A Garden Spot of Summer

By Horace Maxwell Hulan  
(20)

Far out beneath the open skies  
Where cheerful birds of summer nest  
On pleasant Lookout Mountain lies  
Mentone, a garden spot of rest.

Vast stretches of woods endless lie  
And green trees in splendor upright  
Glittering under the noon-day sky  
Become dense shadows in the moonlight.

Here at sunset one may behold,  
While kissed by a cool western breeze,  
Resplendent rays amber and gold  
Glistening as they fade behind the trees.

Alas, I pity him who never knows  
The grandeur of mountains and mossy stone,  
And scenes where the rippling river flows,  
In that garden spot of summer, Mentone.

\*\*\*\*\*

(Summer of 1929)  
Memoirs

## Veterans Day Celebration Is Successful

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

On Veterans Day, November 11, 1997, at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 215 hall on Cove Road in Mentone, the ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 joined the men of Post 215 for their annual Veterans Day Supper to honor all the Mentone area veterans. The understated and moderately well attended affair was open to all veterans in the area, their spouses, and any surviving spouses of deceased veterans. Post Commander Jesse Crabtree called the meeting to order and requested that the Rev. Bill Giddens ask the blessing of the meal.

The legion hall was decorated in the traditional patriotic motif with red, white, and blue striped table coverings and small American flags standing crossed on the tables for decoration. The men of Post 215 had cleaned and prepared the hall for the occasion, and the ladies brought the food, served the drinks, made the pictures, and duplicated the song sheets. Food of every imaginable kind was served buffet style and would have fed a group that size many times over. It has often been said that only the very best cooks live at Mentone, and a good many of those are legion ladies. Everything was good, but, for some reason, the dessert table seemed to get the most attention.

While the crowd was only moderate in size, it seemed that everybody in attendance had a good time and enjoyed the proceedings. While they were eating, people sat in small groups visiting with friends they had not seen since the last legion supper and catching up on what has been happening in the community.

After the thoroughly enjoyable meal, Commander Crabtree once again called the meeting to order. He thanked the ladies for a fine meal and called on Vice-Commander Jim Lyday, who was in charge of the program.

Vice-Commander Lyday introduced Retired Air Force Colonel George Walker, who led the group in singing "America The Beautiful" and "America." The musical accompaniment had failed to arrive, but the singing went right on and sounded quite good done a cappella.

Mrs. Penny Lyday, Vice-president of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215, read from General Douglas MacArthur's Final Address at West Point the very impressive description of "What is a Soldier?"

Vice-Commander Lyday then introduced Rick Chapman, the featured speaker for the evening, who spoke about his exploits as a very young fighter pilot at the end of World War II flying out of England to make bombing runs over Germany. The part of his speech that struck the deepest chord in the most people was what he had to say about being American. Long ago people came to this country to be Americans, but now it seems that people want to turn back and be African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Japanese Americans, Polish Americans, etc., as opposed to the generic Americans that we all were a generation or two ago.

American Legion Post 215 meets regularly at 6:30 p.m. year round the second Tuesday night in the month at the legion hall on Cove Road in Mentone. The legion does good work, and all veterans are invited to attend.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 also meets regularly at 6:30 p.m. year round the second Tuesday night in the month at the legion hall on Cove Road in Mentone. Mrs. Syble Baty Tipton is the Unit 215 President. The legion ladies do good work in that they support Girl's State and make trips to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville to visit the veterans from this county who are in residence there. At this point, there are five veterans from this county living at the Fann Home. A recent death took one of the gentlemen that the ladies of Unit 215 had been going to visit as often as possible. There is a limit to the number of people who can be cared for in the Fann Home, and there is a waiting list of people who need the care that fine facility is capable of providing.

When you find yourself in Huntsville, please stop by and say "hello" to any resident at the Fann Home that you might happen to know. Suppose you are not acquainted with anybody there, that really should not prove to be a problem. Simply step up to the window in the lobby and ask for the name and location of somebody who has not had a visit in a long time. Extended visits are not necessary, but short "hellos" are certainly appreciated. A few minutes out of your day as you leave the big city will prove to be a worthwhile investment on your part, and besides that it will make you feel good. If you are not one to travel to Huntsville very often and you still want to do something--after all this is the holiday season--simply address a card and send it to Ms. Geri Daniels, Activities Director, Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home, 2701 Meridian Street, Huntsville, Alabama 35811. Just put a short note inside the card you send and ask her to pass your card on to somebody who did not get one or who would appreciate yours. Ms. Geri Daniels has assured us that she and her staff will gladly distribute all cards that they receive. Do not worry about your card's not having an envelope when the recipient gets it, because so many of those people have physical impairments that would keep them from opening envelopes in the first place. Do not worry about it if one card is all you can send. One card could well make a lonely person's holiday season more special.

The ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 have already fixed their Christmas cards for the entire population of the Fann Home and will be sending them out after the first of December. The ladies try to go at least once per season to visit the Fann Home, and on each visit they look around to see what the situation there is like. So far, all they have found has been good. You may rest assured that, if they happen to find something in the future that fails to measure up to what they think it ought to, they will be alarming the world in general and the press in particular about it. In the meantime, you may know that the veterans in the Fann home are receiving only the very best of care in the cleanest possible environment.

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Staff Photo By D. J. Laan

STUDENTS SHOWN ROLLING CHANGE FOR UNICEF DONATION  
Susan Noel (Rear) Shown With Menlo Students At Work

## Menlo Students Campaign To Raise Money For UNICEF

By D. J. LAAN  
Staff Writer

In accordance with October being National UNICEF month, Menlo Elementary School students participated in a school-wide campaign to raise money to aide children throughout the world.

In past years, children internationally have raised more than \$100-million to help provide medicines, vaccines, clean water, sanitation, nutritional supplements, and basic education for millions of children.

The UNICEF 1997 theme is "Kids Helping Kids," according to Ms. Susan Noel, Menlo coordinator of the yearly event. "We are trying to do what we can to help kids all over the world," Ms. Noel stated. "The sad truth is that children in third world countries suffer daily. We all have to do anything possible to relieve their plight," she added.

### DRIVE

Several Menlo students recently discussed the two month drive in which they actively participated in as they rolled the large amount of change and counted the collected funds for the drive. Katie Kerce, daughter of Eddie

and Kathy Kerce, Lyerly, said that she has a great heart for the poor of the world. "Children in America are so much better off than kids in most other countries. We do have some poor here in our country but it is nothing compared to the rest of the world," Kerce said. "I just wanted to do anything that I personally could to help other young people have a better life," she added.

Another student said that after being a part of the UNICEF drive, that she realized how very blessed her own life in America is. "I agree with Katie. I feel very blessed. Americans have no idea what poor really is," Sunny Smith, daughter of Jeff and Tammy Smith, Menlo stated.

### HELP

"I asked my family to help me collect as much loose change as we could to donate to the UNICEF cause. The pennies turn into dollars and pretty soon the amount builds up," John Brown, son of Bobby and Donna Brown,

Cloudland commented.

Clint McMurray, son of William and Kathleen Maddox, Cloudland said that this was not the first year he had participated in a UNICEF drive. "I feel really good about being able to raise money to help feed kids in other parts of the world," he said.

Both Courtney Duke, daughter of Tony and Karen Duke, Menlo and John Hall, son of Hugh Don and Beth Hall, Alpine, also agreed that whatever students were able to collect whether a lot of money or just pennies would help other kids in third world countries. "To most of the kids here, this money was 'loose change'. We could spare it and we were all really glad we could do something to make a difference," John Hall explained.

Ms. Noel said that Menlo School plans to continue supporting UNICEF children's fund drives such as this one. In past years, the students have donated "loose change" into hundreds of dollars. "The 1997 totals are currently being counted. We are hoping for some excellent totals," Ms. Noel stated.

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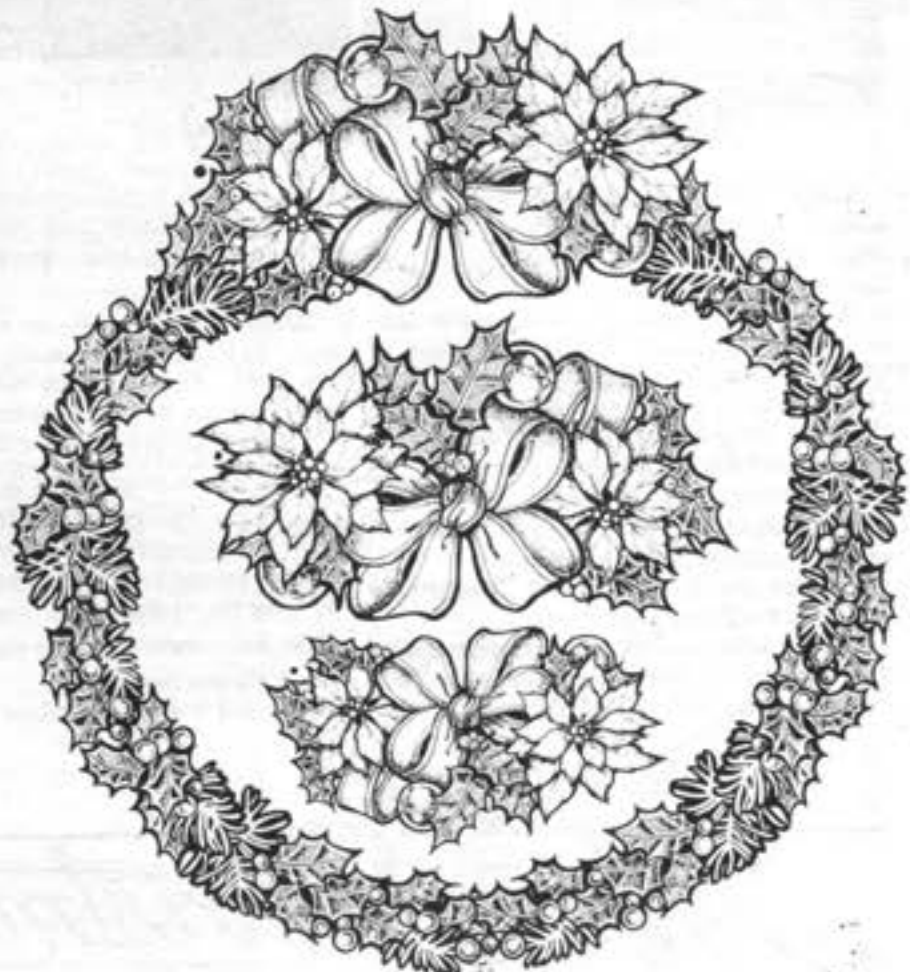
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## Mother's Market

*Mother's Market* is a natural foods grocery, located at 118 Commerce Street, Valley Head, AL 35989. Phone: 205-635-0040. Owners: are Polly Cameron and Jennifer Smith of Mentone. Opening day is set for December 2. The hours will be Tues-Sat: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun. 12-5. Closed Mondays.

They will offer:

- a full line of vegetarian and vegan products
- organic whole foods - canned & frozen, bulk grains, dried fruits, nuts, flours, meals, beans, and meat substitutes
- fresh produce, dairy and non-dairy items (such as soy milk, rice milk, and cheese alternate)
- packaged grocery items: breads, soups, baby food, canned vegetables, spices, etc.
- health & beauty aids: all natural soaps, bathsalts, bath oils, shampoos, conditioners, and lotions, etc.
- full line of herbal & vitamin supplements

- assorted teas & organic coffees
- gift sets, cookbooks, local art available
- Kid friendly products - healthy, yummy snacks, cereals & drinks

*Mother's Market* will also have daily specials available for take out, including soups, sandwiches and salads. Special orders will require advance notice. Inquire for more information.

Pet items will be available, also.

Come to open house on Dec. 2, see what *Mother's Market* has that you need. They are still in the process of getting everything completed. The Sign Man has painted their sign. Barbara Nancarrow will be doing the windows. This has truly been a joint effort, and so many people are excited that *Mother's Market* is here and close by.

Polly and Jennifer say, "Hope to see you soon."

## *Shops open in Mentone*

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Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

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### Crow's Nest Antiques (Bernise Crow)

Saturday/Sunday- 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

(weather permitting)

(Closed during January)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Village Boutique (Janette McCord)

Winter hours: Sat./Sun. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

(weather permitting)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Gourdie Shop (Sharon Barron)

Open Tues-Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sat. - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sun. 12 noon - 5 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Charlie Rogers Busy Corner Clock Shop

Open Wed.-Fri. - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sat. 9 a.m. til; Sun. 12-3 p.m.

Monday & Tuesday Closed

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### Bud's Place (Wanda Simmons)

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and much more

Sat. Sun. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

weather permitting

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### Country Store (Marsha Hair)

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Note: There are other businesses open in Mentone. See ads throughout the paper.

The Mentone Superette and  
Ruby's Variety are open

7 days a week.

# Merry Christmas!

## North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department News

By Gail W. Chambers

The Board of Directors of the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department met on Thursday, November 20th. This was an election meeting. Gail Chambers was re-elected as Chairman. Kenneth Kirby was elected as Vice Chairman. Jim Roberts was re-elected as Fire Chief, and Rusty Chambers as Assistant Fire Chief.

The light has been ordered for the First Responder Fire Truck and should be here any day now.

Six new radios have also been ordered for the Fire Dept. The existing radios that the firemen are using now are obsolete and it has been hard to get parts for repairs. The Fire Dept. would like to thank Kenneth Kirby, Sanford Hartline, Jesse Crabtree, David Nation, and Milton Chambers for installing the insulation on the walls of the new addition to the Fire Hall. The First Responder truck is now housed there. The Fire Dept., Board of Directors, and volunteer Firemen would like to take this opportunity to say, "Thank you for the donations and support that you have given us throughout the years. We would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday season."

Try to take a few moments every day and remember why we celebrate these holidays. Best Wishes for the New Year.



## Vegan Recipe

By Dowe Foreman

### Pecan Balls

- 4 C ground pecans
- 2 C chopped onions
- 1/4 C water
- 1 Tbsp salt
- 1 Tbsp, onion powder
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 4-1/2 C tomato juice
- 8 C whole wheat bread crumbs
- (variation: 4 C w/w breadcrumbs and 4 C oats)
- 2 C Ketchup
- 1/2 C honey

Saute onion in water and add to bowl with other ingredients, EXCEPT honey and ketchup. Mix together with hands. Spray 8" x 8" baking dish with "Pam." Roll mixture into small 1" balls and place in dish. Cover and bake at 350° for 45 minutes, then cover with Ketchup and honey mixture and bake 15 minutes more. Great for an appetizer!

## Health Nugget

By Dowe Foreman

### Happy Christmas, Everyone!!!

I searched and searched for a topic for a Health Nugget that would serve for such a special time of the year. I came across the uses of medicinal charcoal (good, but will use later), caffeine and its effects on the unborn child, the nutritional uses of cherries, cranberries, and soy products; these are all good topics, but not what I was looking for.

Christmas has always been a special time for me, so why not write about something that makes you happy? I love the reason for it, the lights, the cool (usually) weather, and especially the smiles on peoples faces. So, for your health, I encourage you to commit acts of kindness and love. It'll make ya feel great! Happiest of Christmases to you !!

## For The Children

By Gail W. Chambers

The Healthy Homes program of the DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center would like to thank the United Methodist Women of Mentone for their generous donation of baby gift baskets for our first-time teen moms. The baskets included many things for the baby that are needed when bringing the baby home from the hospital, like diapers, lotions, bottle, etc.

Healthy Homes is a home visitation type program available to first-time teenage mothers. When, or if, they agree to be a part of the program, they will be provided with helpful information concerning their newborn.

They will be assisted in areas of nutrition, parenting skills, growth and development, support, and how to deal with the stress of a new baby. They can also be provided with referrals for other services available to them throughout the county.

The services are intended to educate, strengthen, empower, and build confidence to raise healthy and happy children.

Referrals are received from BMC-DeKalb, DeKalb County Health Dept., and the DeKalb County School's Teen Parenting Program. The Program is certified to use the "Parents as Teachers" program.

Raising children is the greatest challenge of our lives, yet can be our most rewarding endeavor.

In an atmosphere of caring, mutual concern and support, we hope to prevent child abuse before it can start.

If your group or organization might be interested in helping the Healthy Homes Program like the Mentone United Methodist Women did, please give us a call at the DeKalb County Advocacy Center in Fort Payne at (205) 997-9700. Amber McPherson, Director of the Healthy Homes Program and Parent Educator, Phyllis Watkins, Gail Chambers, and May Gaines, Parent Educators.

DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center  
104 Alabama Avenue NW  
P.O. Box 173  
Fort Payne, AL 35967

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## It's A Girl!!



Rheanna Laine Patterson

Rheanna Laine Patterson was born Oct. 4, 1997, at 3:40 p.m., in the Summit Mediacare Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 20 inches long. Her parents are Steve and Lisa Patterson of Hermitage, TN. Grandparents are R.B. and Joyce Huskey of Mentone, AL, and Charles and Marie Hampton of Dickson, TN; and the late Dr. Carl Stephen Patterson.

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## Rhododendron Garden Club News

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

Tuesday afternoon, November 11, 1997, at 2:00 p.m., the Rhododendron Garden Club met at the home of Mrs. Shirley Hussell at Mentone. Because the program was about herbs, upon their arrival, the ladies were given a paper and pencil and a tray of herbs and told to match up the names on the paper and the numbered herbs on the tray. Sage, thyme, oregano, rosemary, mint, dill, coriander, and tarragon were on the tray. Any and all the senses could be used to determine which herb was which. Many of the ladies were disappointed with the number they failed to get correct. Others were gratified to get any at all. Another challenge was handed to the ladies when they were shown a whole nutmeg and asked what the substance on the outside of it happened to be. Crossword puzzle fans and trivia junkies knew that is mace. They may not necessarily have known what to do with it, but they could tell what it was supposed to be called.

President Jan Wilkinson called the meeting to order. Mrs. Gethryn Giles gave the devotional that included patriotic reminiscences relating to her family and then led the assembled group in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Wilkinson thanked the hostesses—Mrs. Joe Beaubie, Mrs. Lucette Dix, and Mrs. Mickey Gough, who provided the sinfully delicious refreshments for the occasion—and welcomed the guests—Mrs. Martha Wood and Mrs. Betty Robertson.

Secretary Marilyn Blanton Campbell called the roll, and the ladies answered with the name of and the use for a favorite herb. Then she read the minutes of the October meeting; those were approved as amended. The treasurer's report was omitted in the absence of the treasurer.

President Wilkinson did the special projects report on the M.E.R.F. House's Heritage Garden. She acknowledged botanical contributions from Mrs. Anne Climer as a memorial to her mother, Mrs. Gertrude Mallicoat, and from Mrs. Ann Wright in memory of her mother, Mrs. Lillian Blalock.

President Wilkinson also reported on the work the ladies of the Rhododendron Garden Club did Friday morning, November 7, 1997, at the M.E.R.F. House. Four ladies, two husbands, one backhoe, one tiller, one wheelbarrow, one set of hand trucks, and assorted hand tools worked in the damp chill to plant bulbs, move bushes, mulch, and generally do what needed doing. All efforts were greatly appreciated.

Also under Special Projects the ladies set up a plan to meet on Tuesday, November 18, 1997, at Ed Mason Park in Mentone at 8:00 a.m. to do the plantings that need to be done. That park is an education in itself. If you have not been there, go and see just what is there and how it is labeled to tell you what it is provided those plants are not familiar to you.

Under Special Projects, Mrs. Ann Wright reported on the meeting of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federation of Garden Clubs meeting that took place at 6:00 p.m. November 3, 1997, in the Santa Fe Room at Western Sizzlin in Fort Payne. The federation voted to purchase a Christmas tree to be planted at the DeKalb County Library and to be lighted as part of the federation's "Every Light A Prayer For Peace" celebration on Sunday, November 30, 1997, at 3:00 p.m., and relighted every year hereafter. The federation also voted to have all its eight garden clubs meet at one place at one time prior to the fair next fall and have Benny Campbell of Attalla come and talk to all the ladies at one time as opposed to going to each garden club separately and individually. The idea behind that was that he could do a much more involved program with more time to work.

The Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce is in charge of the DeKalb County Sports Hall of Fame, and that group asked the ladies of the Rhododendron Garden Club to do a dried flower arrangement for that gathering. Mrs. Ann Wright will do the actual making of the arrangement.

Also as a Special Project, upon the suggestion of Mrs. Penny Lyday, the ladies voted to donate the \$22.00 generated from the hostess gift at the meeting to Mentone Area Preservation Association to help with the cost of the Christmas gifts for the Mentone children at the party that MAPA will be having for them in December.

Under unfinished business, Marie Dillenbeck, immediate Past President of the Rhododendron Garden Club, was given a lifetime membership in The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.

Under new business, Mrs. Ann Wright pointed out that there would not be room for the Rhododendron Garden Club's Annual Christmas Luncheon at City Hall in Mentone, so she

suggested that it be held at Mentone United Methodist Church's Social Hall instead. The ladies were agreeable to that. The luncheon is scheduled for December 9, 1997 at noon. Jan Wilkinson has the devotional/grace; and the hostesses are Barbara Blalock, Marilyn Campbell, Linda Brown, and Ann Wright.

President Wilkinson announced the Fort Payne Garden Club's invitation to their "Every Light A Prayer For Peace" celebration to be held Thursday, December 4, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. at the DeKalb Theatre Garden in Fort Payne.

The Sickness and Worry Report caught everybody up on the community's miseries—illnesses, deaths, disabilities, birthdays, etc.

Mrs. Bernise Crow introduced the speaker, Mr. Terrence McCabe, who, with his partner, Joe Hines, runs "The Dish", a tearoom cafe in Mentone. Mr. McCabe spoke on Herbs—Growing, Using, and Enjoying.

Mr. McCabe's talk was extremely interesting. First, he defined an herb as a plant with a use other than simply being beautiful. He talked about the various uses of herbs. Many of the uses—particularly the medicinal—were common to our ancestors, whereas they are totally alien to us. For example, the use of soapwort to clean old fabrics without damaging them. The further Mr. McCabe got into history the more interesting his talk became. He pointed out that there was an Egyptian papyrus dating back 3500 years that told about one third of the plants that we know today. He talked about how the fleur-de-lis became the symbol of France when King Clovis saw the iris—all of which is edible—growing in the water and realized it was shallow enough for him to escape in a situation of military checkmate.

Mr. McCabe also talked about the messages that certain plants related. For example, peonies were supposed to afford protection against evil and represent the Chinese empress. The camellia was a symbol of richness and luxury. Hyssop represented purity; it was dipped in holy water and used as part of the religious ceremonies in church.

In Asia, people are willing to pay extra for the wild ginseng, because it has overcome the adversity of living in the wild, and that is supposed to make it stronger. The Chinese use ginseng to keep the body in balance. That is supposed to be better than harsh western medicines that cure quickly.

The wonderful thing about herbs is that they require little care. Herbs have long since been planted in dooryards, and the sun, the drainage, and the protection from frost afforded by those enclosed areas is good for the herbs. There are herbs that have traditionally been planted together, as well as plants that do not get along at all. For example, roses like garlic, but roses do not like potatoes. Parsley does not like mint.

Mr. McCabe made the point that, in the Civil War, the Confederate hospitals were much better run than the northern hospitals were because the southern ladies had been treating the sick forever and knew more of what they were doing both when it came to treating with herbs and hospital administration than the northern women did. For generations in the south, wives and mothers did the doctoring of whole families of their own, as well as all the neighbors and anybody else who needed looking after. For example, when the abolitionists complained about the poor quality of the medical care the plantation owner gave his slaves in the ante-bellum era, the plantation owner countered that the slaves got the very same care that he got. His wife took care of everybody.

### Rhododendron Garden Club Ladies Attend Albertville Seminar

October 27, 1997, at the First Methodist Church of Albertville, the ladies of the Greenlawn Garden Club conducted a seminar on the subject of preparing Books of Evidence. Mrs. Shirley Powell, State Garden Club of Alabama Fourth Vice-President, and District II Director, introduced the featured speaker, Mrs. Mary Summerville of Fort Payne. A light luncheon was served prior to the meeting. President Jan Wilkinson, Mrs. Diane Kuehl, and Secretary Marilyn Blanton Campbell made up the Rhododendron Garden Club's contingent attending that gathering.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of the National Council of Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region, the Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., Garden Clubs of District II, and the DeKalb-Cherokee Federation of Garden Clubs.

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(3) CLOUDLAND, GA., EAST BROW, what a view from these 2 1/2 to 3 acre tracts, located on Valley View Lane. Large Rock formations, wooded, private, with over 100 ft. of breath-taking edge of the world view. Starting at \$32,000.



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(5) GREAT BUSINESS LOCATION AND OPPORTUNITY - two commercial buildings recently used as retail shops, Mobile Home and 1 acre, M/L, just across the Ga. Line, Cloudland Hwy 48, Lookout Mountain Parkway. High Traffic location, and close to Mentone area. \$62,900.



(6) 2 acre tracts at MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES available, prices starting at \$27,500. ALSO available 3 acre Tracts on the East Fork of Little River. \$30,000. Restrictions apply for River protection.



(7) WALK TO MENTONE from this darling 2 bdrm, 1 bath cottage located on South Cool Street. Large deck on back, C/H/A, new carpet and vinyl. Will consider owner financing or Lease Purchase. REDUCED to \$67,000.



(8) OAKWOOD SUBDIVISION - 3 plus acre wooded and Pasture tracts available. Located in Mentone, County Road 106. Restricted Covenants. For permanent or Vacation Residential Homes. \$11,000 to \$12,500. Tract 5 SOLD.



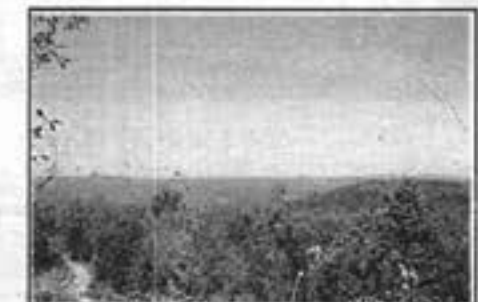
(9) CASCADING WATERFALL - flows into the River on this 5.9 acre tract of Gilreath Mill Rd., Cloudland, Ga. Paved road frontage, 200 ft. river, wooded and a Waterfall. All this for \$35,000.



(10) DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE and fun with two homes in one. Close to Lake Lahusage with access to water. This 2 story home has new carpet and vinyl, 2 fully equipped kitchens, 2 dens, 2 bedrooms, 21x31 Ala. room, 2 car garage. 1 acre. \$80,000. Reduced For Quick Sale \$60,000.



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(13) OUTSIDE MENLO, GA. - 8.67 acres on Hair Lake Road. Good Pasture land with year round creek flowing through the property. Partially fenced. \$25,000.

### OTHER PROPERTIES

(14) MENTONE - Wooded lot off DeSoto Parkway, Road 933, city water available. Cleared, ready for building. \$12,500.

(15) DESOTO PARKWAY - close to State Park on West Brow. City water available. \$35,000.

(16) MENTONE - WOODED LOT off of DeSoto Parkway, 2 miles from State Park. City water available. \$13,500.

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

(18) ROCKY TOP ESTATES. Brow and wooded lots for sale. New addition now open with new road and underground power. Property joins DeSoto State Park at back entrance, Co. Rd. 66. Prices start (wooded) \$14,500. Brow \$25,000 to \$35,000. Selling Fast.

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## About Our Town

By  
LINDA BROWN



Can you believe the holiday season is here already? I am writing this on Monday before Thanksgiving and it seems that it should still be the middle of summer. Time is such a precious commodity that we all should be very conscious of what we do with it. The days and weeks aren't long enough to get everything finished. That is the way it is with those of us who are fortunate enough to have good health and can go places and do the things we want. I recently visited with some of the people in Mentone who can hardly make a trip to Fort Payne because of health reasons. I found that time is not so kind to them—they get very lonely. We need to take the time to visit them or at least drop them a note or card. One lady told me that she watches television a lot, but, after a while, it is all the same and not much is on that is worth watching. When you are counting your blessings this season, remember those who could use some cheering up and count being able to respond to their need as one of your blessings.

The new walking track in Mentone has been brought to your attention by several articles recently. I want to add one more. The track is at the new Community House. (Use the same driveway that the Head Start program does, there is a cute cut-out of a boy and girl on the mailbox.) The track is a wonderful place to exercise. It is laid out in an interesting path and also you have a view of a beautiful part of Mentone. From one place, you can see the steeple of the Wesleyan Church. From other places on it, you can see the children at Moon Lake School as they play outside. I don't walk much late in the afternoon, but I'm sure the sights are just as interesting. Lately, several people have asked me to stress to you the dangers of walking on the highways. It seems that some people walk about the time that we in the country call "dusky dark". It is very hard to see someone in dark clothing at this time. The walkers are also sometimes reluctant to give cars the right-of-way and some accidents have almost happened. Drive the short distance and WALK ON THE TRACK. It could prevent an accident from happening. I know we like to think that Mentone streets are safe for walking, but this is just not true anymore. We have too much traffic and fast driving.

I heard today that the fire hydrants in the town of Mentone are about to get a much needed face-lift. Watch the one closest to you and see what happens. On the surface, there doesn't seem to be a lot taking place in Mentone right now. But, "still waters run deep". Many things are being thought about and talked about that should help us "come into the twenty-first century" and come into it we must. I can hardly wait for the year 2000. But then my children tell me all the time that I get excited about the strangest things.

It's just that I find life to be wonderful and have a hard time not getting excited about everything. Sunsets, sunrises, new babies (seven at one time!), new kittens, advances in medicine, children when they discover a fact that they didn't know before, plays at Northeast Community College where some of our own Mentone young people had wonderful parts, Christmas, thunder storms, community services like the one planned for Thanksgiving, new technology and a million and one other things are all very exciting. Was it Robert Louis Stevenson who wrote, "The world is so full of wonderful things. I'm sure we all should be happy as kings." I'm thankful for whoever wrote it.

I have told you before that I try to write this article as if we were sitting at your kitchen table, having a cup of coffee and talking. Recently, I noticed in an article in *The Times-Journal* that the editor stated that this is the way he tries to write his editorials. I feel like I'm in very good company or is he in good company?

Happy Thanksgiving to all! Count your blessings and remember those less fortunate than you. Remember the adage, "I felt sorry for myself because I had no shoes, until I met someone who had no feet."



## A Friendly— Valley View

By  
ELOISE BROWN

Another year is almost gone. They really do hurry on and we hope for a better time.

We had our Charge Conference of the Valley Head Methodist Church on November 16 at the church. The District Superintendent, Gerald Champion, was present and received the reports after a bounteous breakfast. Those present were Doug Hoyt, Adelaide Biddle, J.L. Gibson, Ted Holleman, Harry Smith, Verna Livingston, Velma Hammond, Ed Ringer, Melinda, Jeff and Amelia Adkins, and Eloise Brown.

Laura Margaret Allison has returned home after spending over two weeks with her daughter, Peachie Cearley and David in Roswell, Ga. She enjoyed seeing Theodore Roosevelt's mother's beautiful home there. She also visited her other daughter, Ansley McGinnis and John in Eatonton, Ga., and some time in their other home in Florence, SC. Peachie and David brought her home and will be with her over Thanksgiving.

Pauline Wright is seriously ill with cancer at her home in Chattanooga. She is the sister of Emily Brown.

Maureen Hammond is proud of her grandchildren, Camilla and Elliott Yamada—and she should be. Elliott is a member of the senior class at Darlington School and Camilla is a junior and on the headmaster's list, achieving an average of 94.5 percent or better. Elliott is also an honor student and a member of the Darlington Tigers outstanding football team. They have the 6A crown and it is hard to realize these little ones—who were christened at our church a few(?) years ago, are this old. They all grow up so fast!

Priscilla and Willard Monroe enjoyed an extensive two and a half week trip as they drove to Tucson, Arizona, and visited her sister, Margaret Hoole at the retirement complex. They enjoyed the Desert Museum there, also. They came back by Amarillo and visited Willard's grandchildren, Andrew and Sarah Monroe. They came back thru Oklahoma City, Little Rock, Arkansas, and Memphis. They had beautiful weather all the way and a very enjoyable time.

My cousins, Bill and Blanche Fuller, from Madison, Ala., spent Sunday with me, recently. We were joined by Emily and Barry Brown for a feast at DeSoto Park Restaurant.

Congratulations to Christine and Walter Brooks who will celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary, Sunday, Dec. 7, at New Home Baptist Church fellowship hall. May they have many more happy years together!

Congratulations to Valley Head's mayor, Kenneth Hammond, who will be inducted into the DeKalb County Hall of Fame, at the banquet Nov. 29, at Rainsville Civic Center. He led the Valley Head Tiger football team to the semi-finals in the state as a senior at Valley Head High School. He was an All-State selection and All-American. He played football at Vanderbilt and earned All-Southeastern Conference honors. He was the first pick of the Dallas Cowboys and played with the Baltimore Colts. As mayor of Valley Head, he has cleaned up the scene and has things looking better.

Also, congratulations to Ron Haushalter, former Valley Head Coach, and to all the others who are being honored as inductees.

The Sunshine Club met at the Henagar Steak House for a delicious Dutch treat luncheon, Nov. 20. Those present were Ruth Pickett, Lillie Bowden, Susie Clark, Billie Harper, Elizabeth Bauerle, Verence Hawkins, Jean Jones, Evelyn Clark, Anna Daniel, Gladys Cobble, and Eloise Brown. We toured Eddie's Florist. That is a beautiful sight to see—in fact, many beautiful things. They have alcoves, with forty-three lavishly decorated Christmas trees with nineteen thousand lights. They have everything for outdoor pools, including many varieties of beautiful fish and forty-five kinds of water plants.

The Sunshine Club's Christmas party will be Dec. 11 at 11 AM at Billie Harper's home—covered dish. Instead of gifts for each other, we will take a toy for a child.

May there be room in each heart this Christmas for Christ to reside and may His beauty, hope, and peace in each life forever abide.

### The Week Before Christmas

'Twas the week before Christmas and all thru the towns,  
All the people were hurrying with worried frowns.  
Time was running out fast and presents would be due,  
And they had bought not enough, only a few.

Stores were all crowded, with much pushing and shoving,  
Everyone had forgotten the magic of loving—  
Merchandise pawed over hastily without care  
Hoping to find something for somebody there.

Flinging it aside with disdain and disgust,  
Prices so high for quality you distrust.  
Everything picked over—there's no selection—  
Take off rushing in another direction.

Nothing to lure with appropriate attraction  
Only driving to frustrating distraction.  
Now next Christmas, I resolve will not be like this,  
All this last minute rushing and crushing I'll miss.

For right after this Christmas I will start to shop,  
By the middle of August, I will finish and stop—  
Then as Christmas approaches at this time next year—  
It will be Merry Christmas filled with peace and good cheer!

Now you know, I hate to be a monotonous bore—  
It seems I've heard myself say this same thing before.

—Eloise Brown

## VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS

By Maurine B. Donahue

Change is the spice of life. At the October meeting, the Valley Head Woman's Club had a change of pace with a fashion show presented by Pat Shelton from Abby's of Fort Payne.

The fashion show was presented in the DeKalb Theatre Garden. However, the day was so raw and windy that Larry Hancock of the Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce provided a room for the rest of the meeting. The president, Doris Carmichael, presided.

Models from Abby's were Wanda Cole, Susan Dobbs, and Anna Malone; and from the club, models were Elizabeth Bauerle, Dot Blackburn, Sadie Cooper, Martha Gibson, and Judith Hammond. One was reminded of "The gingham dog and the calico cat side by side the table sat," but there was no gingham or calico here. The fabrics were cotton, wool, silk, man-made fibers and blends. For the most part, the outfits were conservative and suited to the life styles of club members.

Mary Louise Holleman gave the devotional based on Psalm 18:24, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." She said our God is awesome to create the wonderful world in which we live and to create so many people, all so different. We should be grateful for the beauty that surrounds us.

Doris Carmichael led the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America" and Velma Hammond led the "Club Collect."

Hostesses were Evelyn Graves, Inelle Hurt, Helen Longshore, and Jan Wilkinson. They did a marvelous job in arranging beautiful flowers for the make-shift tables and in serving delicious refreshments from them.



## RETURNS UNLIMITED

If you're looking for something different for someone special on your Christmas list, go visit Amanda and Dwight Gray at *Returns Unlimited* in the Harris Industrial Park in Fort Payne on Greenhill Blvd/Hwy 11. Amanda and Dwight are from Valley Head and are sister and nephew to Hobson Kirby of Mentone.

Open since April 25 of this year, *Returns Unlimited* has everything from radios to knick-knacks, to office and home furniture. Mac Hunt of Mentone, their helpful salesperson, will be glad to assist you with anything you need. For your convenience, *Returns Unlimited* offers lay-a-way and accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. So, go by *Returns Unlimited* and see them. They're located on Hwy 11 North (Greenhill Blvd., NW), or give them a call at (205) 845-1007, or fax your request to 205-845-1170 to get that special and unique gift you need for that special person on your list, not only for Christmas, but for birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions, and any other occasion that calls for a gift.

Seconds, Over runs & Closouts • From Famous Catalogs

## RETURNS UNLIMITED

Owners: Amanda Gray & Dwight Gray

Hwy 11 North  
3080 Greenhill Blvd. NW Phone: (205) 845-1007  
Fort Payne, Alabama 35967 Fax: (205) 845-1170



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We Now Carry Lumber And Building Supplies  
Along With All Your Other Hardware Needs!

WE ALSO HAVE GILMAN PAINT (CAN MIX 100 COLORS),  
SEPTIC TANKS, GRAVELESS PIPE, USED TRACTORS  
& EQUIPMENT, TRACTOR SEATS, MUFFLERS, AND A  
COMPLETE LINE OF NEW & USED ATTACHMENTS.  
CUSTOM MADE HYDRAULIC HOSES FOR TRACTORS,  
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TRACTOR REPAIR. WE WILL BUILD PORTABLE  
STORAGE BUILDINGS. WE HAVE A HANDYMAN  
SERVICE FOR LIGHT PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL, & REPAIR.

HOURS OF OPERATION: MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:30-5:00,  
SATURDAY 7:30-12:00, SUNDAY CLOSED

FOR EMERGENCY NEEDS, CALL 635-6236.

## Tiger's Inn Restaurant

635-6855

Main Street, Valley Head

### NEW HOURS

Beginning Dec. 1st  
Open 7 days a week

Mon-Fri: 5 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Sat-Sun: 5 a.m. - 2 p.m.

New owners  
Mike & Lu Smith

### Daily Plate Lunch

Special - \$3.95

Choice of meat, 3 veggies, bread &amp; dessert

## New Owners for Tiger's Inn

Mike and Lu Smith of Mentone recently bought the Tiger's Inn from Joy Hester. Ruth Battles and Millie Johnson, cooks, are still in the kitchen preparing the same country foods you all like to eat. Three waitresses, who work different shifts, will take your orders: Lisa Smith, Mike & Lu's daughter, Debra Sharp, who works weekends, and Tracy Westbrooks, who works evenings and is also the assistant manager. Of course, Lu will be there to take your order, too. Lu said, "I've always wanted to run a restaurant. I've been looking for just such a place for over three years. Since taking over, it has been a lot of fun. I enjoy the people who come to Tiger's Inn. I don't plan to change anything, but we may try a variety of menus. After Dec. 1, we will be serving vegetables at night along with the regular burger and sandwich menu."

"Our hours have been expanded. Beginning December 1st, we will be open 7 days a week:

Mon-Fri: 5 a.m.-7 p.m.

and Sat-Sun: 5 a.m. - 2 p.m.

"Tiger's Inn is a landmark in Valley Head, it's your home away from home. It is a tradition. Everyone is so friendly. I want a place for the school kids to meet, eat, and have good fellowship with each other after school. The Masons are building a gazebo and sitting area next to the restaurant so there is a place to relax in Valley Head."

"Come and see me, I'm here every day!"

We Buy Standing Timber  
**Menlo Lumber &  
Pallet Company, Inc.**

Highway 48  
Menlo, Georgia 30731

(706) 862-2131

## MENLO NEWS

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Ed Burrows, Cloudland resident, and an ordained Baptist minister and former Hospice chaplain, was featured in the Nov. 13 issue of *The Summerville News*. For over three years, Mr. Burrows and his wife, Diane, have been volunteers at Menlo Elementary School in special education classes taught by Linda Espy. Both Ed and Diane believe that every effort must be made to save the children in all impoverished countries, and that their duty is to help abandoned and destitute children and the poor of the world. The couple is to be commended for their volunteerism and for their efforts to assist in the establishment of an orphanage complex, with the help of many others, in Kerala, India.

### Condolences to the families of:

Bob Kuhne, 69, Cloudland, who passed away Sept. 22  
Freddie Frazier, 39, Menlo, who passed away Oct. 5  
Brandon Daniel Suits, infant son of Michael Todd and Susan Michele Robertson Suits, Cloudland, who passed away Oct. 9 at a local hospital

Fayne S. Westbrook, 81, Menlo, who passed away Oct. 30  
Neil F. Westbrook, 77, Menlo, who passed away Oct. 30  
Roy Moseley, 86, Menlo, who passed away Nov. 10

The descendants of the late James Alfred and Dora Horn Jones gathered for a family reunion on Saturday, Oct. 4, in the Menlo City Park, Menlo. There were 55 in attendance.

The little white church called St. Thomas Baptist Church is nearing 100 years old. The Menlo landmark is getting a "facelift" courtesy of volunteers from Chattooga County and the Georgia Baptist Association.

Congratulations to Rita Ann Hall and Jason Sumner Money, who were united in marriage on Nov. 22. Rita's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shaffer of Telogia; and Jason's parents are Mrs. and Mrs. Travis Money of Menlo.

Congratulations also to Miss Tonia Cherie Cox and Timothy Andrew Schrader, who were married Oct. 18. Mr. and Mrs. Keith Cox, Cedartown, are the parents of Tonia; and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Schrader, Cloudland, are the parents of Timothy.

Navy Petty Officer Second Class Dean N. Delfauero, whose wife, Melanie, is the daughter of Rebecca Lewis, Menlo, recently reported for duty with Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Three, Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, San Diego, Calif. He joined the Navy in May.

### Happy Belated Birthday wishes to:

Granville Gilley of Menlo, who turned eight years old on Oct. 12. He is the son of Kelly Gilley, Lyerly, and Randy Gilley, Menlo. His grandparents are Betty and Pete Cooper, Lyerly; Sue and Don Gilley, Menlo; and Sidney Henderson, Dalton. Great grandparents are Lewis Berry, Lyerly; Elisha Henderson, Summerville, and Jess Gilley, Menlo.

Devin and Destry White, who turned one year old Sept. 22. They are the sons of Jeff and Rhonda White, Menlo. They have a brother, Damien, who is 7-1/2 years old. Grandparents are Jerry and Vola Wofford, Gaylesville, Ala.

The 1996-97 members of the Menlo BETA Club are: Tessa Brock (Secretary), John Brown, Caris Farrar, Guthrie Frazier, Kasey Green, Anna Hall, Casey Luther, Samantha Maloney, Kandy McGill (Vice-President), Clint McMurry, Sunny Smith (President), and Kenya Webb (Treasurer). The newest members of the Menlo BETA Club, who were inducted recently, are: Courtney Duke, John Hall, Katie Kerce, Doni Lee and Steele Lee. The club is sponsored by Ms. Susan Noel, faculty member.

Congratulations to Christopher N. Bowman, who was recently named to Floyd College's summer quarter dean's list, for having completed ten or more quarter hours within a given quarter and earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.



## Menlo Names Students To First Honor Lists

Menlo Elementary School has announced the names of students named to the first nine weeks honor lists.

Students named were:

### SUPER STUDENTS

First Grade - Isaiah Bagley, Cody Bentley, Vanessa Blackmon, Cayla Burkhalter, Tyler Buice, Jacob Dotson, Evan Ellis, Mandy Fowler, Jennifer Floyd, Kayla Frazier, Melody Gideon, Matthew Gilhooley, Dakota Gilreath, Mason Gilreath, James Hedgis, Maggie Johnson, Megan Jones, Jessica Lombino, Colby Luther, Jennifer Marmet, Cody Morris, Joey Nicks, Mishaela Rayls, Travis Rogers, Crystal Skelton, Lee Skates, Ashlee Swanson, Will Turner, Aaron Wentz, Jesse Wigley, L.B. Williams, Jordan Willingham, Matthew Willingham, Shana Wood, and Erin Young.

Second Grade - Briana Blackmon, Casey Brown, Coty Cavin, Crystal Cordell, Mary Gayton, Brian Gilhooley, Richard Gill, Justin Green, Chris Hatt, Justin Hicks, Rachel Johnson, Makayla Long, Megan Mitchell, Kim McGuire, Jordan Smith, Chelsea Stoker, Meagan Tabb, Alex Tribble, and Damien Wofford.

Third Grade - Megan Adams, Jessica Blackmon, Savannah Blackmon, Michael Brown, Stephanie Cordell, Kayla Flarity, Chuck Gayton, Bailee Hawkins, Kursten Hedgis, Jeffery Hill, Haven Hurley, Levi Jackson, Matthew Lewing, Sabrina Middleton, Will Murray, Emma Pickle, Rhiannon Raines, Devin Rayls, Heather Sanford, Emily Sink, Amber Spencer, Samantha Swartwood, Ashley Thompson, Kalen Willingham, Allison Willis, and Brett Wilson.

### A HONOR ROLL

Fourth Grade - Allen Ballinger, Klein Borgschulze, Kahle Calkins, Spencer Davis, Amanda Hegwood, Lori Hunter, and Whitney Price.

Fifth Grade - Heather Brown, Bryanne Hatt, Sarah Hedgis, Sara Jane Hunter, Miranda Hurley, Maggie Rich, and Justin Swords.

Sixth Grade - Doni Lee and John Hall.

Seventh Grade - Anna Hall, Casey Luther and Kenya Webb.

Eighth Grade - Sunny Smith.

### A-B HONOR ROLL

Fourth Grade - Adam Blackwell, David Brown, Eric Burrage, Tiffany Byrd, Cara Cabe, Amanda Coleman, Jessica Jones, Mary Morris, Trevor Pledger, Cory Tanner, Chelsey Ward, and Amber Williams.

Fifth Grade - Miles Bagley, Chad Bierkamp, Hope Burge, Justin Canada, Adam Ellis, Branch Harper, Amanda Johnson, Tabatha Justice, Cassie Maloney, Matthew Middleton, Amanda McGuire, Carrie Patty, and Ben Swords.

Sixth Grade - Chris Blackmon, Freddy Bryson,

Derek Bullard, Jana Cooper, Zack Cooper, Erica Dover, Courtney Duke, Katie Kerce, Kim Middleton, Keri Beth Pettit, Anna Prince, Leanna Robinson, Mac Tribble, Jana Ward, Ashley Wilcox, and Susan Wofford.

Seventh Grade - John Brown, Caris Farrar, Samantha Maloney, Kandi McGill, Clint McMurray, and James Swanson.

Eighth Grade - Tessa Brock, Jennifer Carroll, Erin deMesquita, Guthrie Frazier, Kasey Green, Amanda Hartman, Nicole Hartman, and Steele Lee.

### STAR STUDENTS

First Grade - Mason Gilreath and Ryan Hamilton.

Second Grade - Whitney Powell and Jacki Williams.

Third Grade - Matthew Lewing and Allison Willis.

Fourth Grade - Spencer Davis and Lori Hunter.

Fifth Grade - Miranda Hurley and Ben Swords.

Sixth Grade - Courtney Duke and Doni Lee.

Seventh Grade - Casey Luther and Kenya Webb.

Eighth Grade - Sunny Smith.

### MOST IMPROVED STUDENTS

First Grade - Evan Ellis and Matthew Willingham.

Second Grade - Breanna Fowler and Ricky Treadaway.

Third Grade - Levi Jackson and Brittany Ward.

Fourth Grade - Cara Cabe and Sarah Treadaway.

Fifth Grade - Miles Bagley and Tabatha Justice.

Sixth Grade - Chris Brammer and Zack Cooper.

Seventh Grade - Daniel Collins and Jessie Collins.





# Southern Properties

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Agency, Inc.

302 Gault Ave. S., Fort Payne



(1) Over 1650 sq. ft. of Living Space. This house offers 2 bdrm, 2 bath, Large Kitchen with Island and Breakfast Nook - pine paneling & great closet space. Detached 2-car garage and storage shed on 2 acres. \$78,500.



(2) LESS THAN 2 YEARS OLD, this rustic 2 bedroom cottage with country kitchen is situated on 1 acre. Above standard insulation with 40 year galvalum roof. \$69,900.



(3) WHERE ELSE CAN YOU FIND an easy maintenance brick home featuring 2 baths, central heat & air, 2 car garage, concrete driveway and fenced yard for only \$72,500? Call today for your appointment to see. **SOLD**



(4) 2 bdrm, 1 bath, frame home on DeSoto Parkway - LR - Dining Room & den with wood floors & Mountain Stone fireplace on over 5 acres - commercial potential. \$74,500.



(5) MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES - 3 to 5 acre tracts on the middle fork of Little River - running into Lake Lahusage. Prices starting at \$27,500.

6 plus acre wooded tracts with mountain stream. Prices starting at \$16,700.



(6) COZY AND COMFORTABLE log and frame cottage with log garage-guest house-12x24 enclosed and heated in-ground pool on over 1 acre with a DeSoto Parkway location. \$148,500. Owner says make offer.



(7) OVER 100 YEAR OLD FARM HOUSE offering 5 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, large eat-in kitchen, wraparound porch and 3 out buildings. All on 18 acres with Creek, pasture and woods. \$89,900.



(8) A MILLION DOLLAR VIEW from the South Brow of Mentone goes with this 2 bedroom 2 bath home offering the comfort & convenience of full-time living. Call for more details. \$178,500.

## OTHER LISTINGS

- (9) WEEKEND OR WEEKLY RENTAL available. 3 bdrms and 2 baths will accommodate 8 people. For more information, call Susan Collins.
- (10) PLENTY OF PRIVACY is yours on these beautifully wooded 8 acres located on East Lake Drive. Ready to build on and convenient both to Menlo and Mentone. \$27,500.
- (11) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.
- (12) BROW LOT ON NORTH BROW ABOVE MENTONE - approx. 200' of brow frontage with a fantastic view. \$25,000. **SOLD**
- (13) OVER 6 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway - greatly rolling with beautiful landscaping and great building sites. \$35,000.
- (14) ALMOST 2-1/2 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway. No restrictions - great commercial location. \$22,500.
- (15) 1.75 ACRES on the "West" Fork of Little River less than 1 mile from downtown Mentone. \$30,000.

Southern Properties has buyers looking for building lots, brow property, River property, farms and acreage.

If you are considering selling your property anywhere in DeKalb County, please call us today.

Susan Collins Residence - 634-4695, Broker, GRI

Sara Quinn Residence - 845-1881, Broker, GRI



Photo of Rev. Al Cherbonneau with Santa Claus and two of Santa's helpers: Marie Dillenbeck and Lucille Crowe from the 1996 Christmas Party for The Children sponsored annually by the Mentone Area Preservation Association. (Don't miss this year's party at the MERF Community House on Friday, Dec. 5. Be looking for an announcement as to the exact time. (Photo by Bernise Crow)



**VALLEY HEAD CHRISTMAS PARADE COMMITTEE**  
C/O VICKIE BIDDLE  
P.O. BOX 9  
VALLEY HEAD, AL 35989

This is a special invitation to come join us in our 1997 Christmas Parade. The parade will be held on Saturday, December 6, 1997 at 1:00 PM. Prizes will be given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place floats. To be a part of our parade all we ask is that you please let us know in advance so we can prepare a place for you in our line-up. We need to know how many people will be participating and what type of entry you plan on entering. Please let us know this information before November 24th so we can be sure and save you a place in line. This will also hopefully help the line-up go much more smoothly. You may call any of the people at the numbers listed below to let us know if you will be able to join us. Please leave a message and a number to be reached if no one is at home. Hope to hear from you soon.

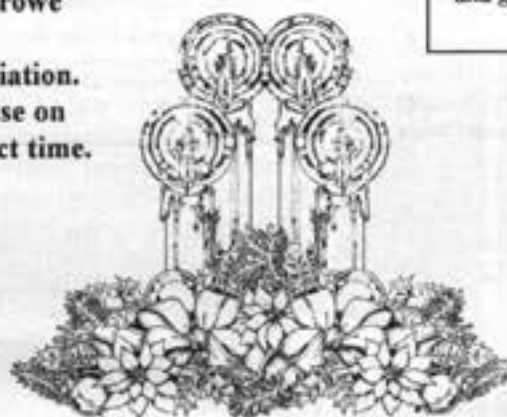
Thank you, Vickie Biddle, Chairman  
Vickie Biddle: 635-6705  
Lisa Moore: 635-6527 or 638-8683  
Marti Smith: 635-6814 or 635-6240

**P.S. REMEMBER, YOU MAY NOT BE A PARTICIPANT IN THE PARADE UNLESS YOU CONTACT US BEFORE NOVEMBER 24th!**

**Drawing to be held December 31, 1997**

The DeSoto Rescue Squad has chances to sell for \$20 each on one 1992 Chevrolet Lumina, 4 door, gray automobile. The drawing will be held on December 31, at the Geraldine City Hall. If you have not already purchased a ticket, ask any DeSoto Rescue Squad member if you can be a part of this fundraiser. You do not have to be present to win.

Contact any of the following:  
Jennifer Smith 634-4577, or  
Richard Douthat 634-4813, or  
Lisa Scott 634-4207.



**BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE**

**20% off all statuary**

**\*\*Dec. 22 - Jan. 4, 1998\*\***

**Customer Appreciation Days!**

Native American Artifacts, Leatherworks, and Jewelry  
Baskets Doll Furniture and much, much more  
Boiled Peanuts Rocking Chairs Produce

**THE SHED**

2546 Ala. Hwy. 117 (3 miles east of Mentone)

"A Little Bit of Everything"

Thanks for your business! — Norma, Rick & David Baker



**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

As you plan your Christmas Holidays, will you have time and room for Jesus, or will you be so busy you will forget what the day means?

Will you say by your actions, "I have no room, I have no time, I'm too busy?"

Please take time to worship the One who came and gave His life that you might live.

Merry Christmas to all.

**\*\*INVITATION\*\***

You are invited to attend the 85th birthday celebration for

**Clara Cash**

on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 1:30 to 3:30,

at the Moon Lake Baptist Church fellowship hall.

Family and friends are invited to attend this great event.

Clara turns 85 on Dec. 4.

Come help her celebrate.

**MOON LAKE SCHOOL BOOSTER CLUB NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

The Moon Lake School Booster Club is in the process of buying new uniforms and equipment for the basketball players, also, we will pay for the end of season socials for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades, and the banquet for 6th grade players. If you would like to help, please send a donation to: Georgia Stevens, P.O. Box 96, Mentone, AL 35984.

**"TURKEY SHOOT"**

The Booster Club will be sponsoring a free throw "Turkey Shoot" immediately after our next home ball game, which will be Dec. 6, 1997, at Moon Lake Gym. Entry fee is \$3.00. The Turkey Shoot will begin around 1 PM.

The basketball games start for 3rd and 4th grade at 10 AM, 5th grade at 11 AM, and 6th grade at 12 NOON. We encourage you to attend and support these young players. A spirit banner will be awarded the grade with the best percentage present. Go and help your favorite child(ren) win the spirit banner and enjoy watching the young ones play basketball.

The next meeting of the Booster Club will be December 11, at 6:30 PM in the school cafeteria. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and participate. We need YOUR HELP! Thank you!