

**Celebrating
17 Years
in Print**

THE

GROUNDHOG

•Mentone • Valley Head •Hammondville •Cloudland •Menlo

**Provided FREE
Since 1982
By M.A.P.A.**

Volume 17, No. 12

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

December 1999



(L/R) Princes: Jacob Tweedell and Hunter Stone, Princess Akala Barkley;
KING RYAN WILKS, QUEEN SAVANNAH PINEGAR,
Brittany Hester, Kara Miller

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

The 1999 Harvest Festival began long before the 5 PM hour of November 13th. Parents and children, PTO members, teachers, students, everyone connected to Moon Lake School in some capacity were all working to make this festival as successful as possible. From 5 PM to 8PM all those who attended enjoyed the food, fun, and fellowship, as they spent their money and had a great time. Cake walks went on most of the evening. When 8:00

came, it was time for the drawings to see who the winners were.

The Kindergarten class had drawings for and the winners were:

\$50 gift certificate at Bruce Foodland - Sam Construction.

Weekend at Strickland Campground in the Morning Glory Cabin - Jerry Massey

\$50 gift certificate at Cloudland Trade Center - Ronald Branson

Ty Beanie Baby Collection - Marian Lyles

1999 MOON LAKE HARVEST FESTIVAL NETS \$7,612.58

Decorative Lamp - Eric Crane

Christmas Wreath donated by Eddie's Nursery - Marie Dillenbeck

Mountain Mamas gift basket - Don Strickland

Portable CD Player boom box - Gwen Bethune

The New Generation Dancers, junior group, performed after the above winners received their prizes. They also performed later.

The First Grade drawings and winners were:

2 tickets to the Iron Bowl this year - Syble Hopper

\$100 bill - Alecia Justice, Fort Payne

The Second Grade drawings and winners were:

Norway Spruce Tree donated by Blackburn's Nursery - Cheryl Frazier

Hot wheels car - Jeff Smith

The Third Grade drawings and winners were:

Teddy Bear - Andrea Powell

\$100 bill - Houston Smith

The Alabama Highland School of Ballet, under the direction of Tim Murphy, performed, as did the pre-ballet and Autumn Leaves dancers. Ballet

dancers performed several dances: ancient heirs, red riding hood and the wolf, four dances from the Nutcracker ballet; a Spanish Dance by Julie Zanzig; a Chinese Dance, Valley Head third graders; Russian Dancers, Swedish Rhapsody.

After the entertainment, the totals and the winners were announced:

Kindergarten (1st) with \$2295.30: Queen Savannah Pinegar and King Ryan Wilks were crowned.

Third grade (2nd) with \$2121.21

First grade (3rd) with \$1357.13: Princess Akala Barkley and Prince Hunter Stone were presented with sashes.

Second Grade (4th) with \$414.75: Prince Jacob Tweedell was presented with a sash.

Sixth Grade (5th) with \$250.17

Fourth Grade (6th) with \$138.02

Fifth Grade (7th) with \$46.00

The Harvest Festival was a great success with a total of \$6,612.58, plus \$1,000 miscellaneous for a grand total of \$7,612.58.

The king and queen each received a gift certificate, as did the princess and princes who represented of the winning classes. As there were no contestants for the third grade, Kara Miller and Brittany Hester accepted the gift certificate for their class.

(See photos of the entertainment on page 12.)

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See Page 2.**

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

●Tuesday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m., MAPA Christmas Dinner
Dessie's Kountry Chef

●Friday, Dec. 3, 6 p.m. - 26th Annual Fort Payne
Jaycees Christmas parade (beginning line up at 5
p.m. at Williams Ave. School)

●Friday, Dec. 3, 5 p.m., Christmas in Union Park
in Fort Payne

●Thursday, Dec. 9, 3 to 4:00 PM, MAPA/PTO
Christmas Party for the Children in the Moon Lake
School Gym. Parents can pick children up from
4 PM to 4:15 PM

●Monday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m., Mentone Council
Meeting, Town Hall

●Tuesday, Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m. American Legion
Christmas Covered Dish Dinner Meeting,
American Legion Hall, Mentone

●Friday, Dec. 17 - Jan. 3, Schools out for Holidays

●Friday & Saturday, December 17-18, 6 p.m.,
Live Nativity Pageant, at the Fort Payne VFW
Fairgrounds (Farmer's Market area) (See flyer bk pg.)

●Sunday, Dec. 19, Christmas Cantata,
"A Simple Christmas" by the Community Choir

*5 p.m. at Moon Lake Baptist Church

*7 p.m. at Valley Head Baptist Church

●CHRISTMAS DAY - Saturday, Dec. 25

●NEW YEAR'S DAY - Saturday, Jan. 1

THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



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

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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Associate Editor/ typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
Contributing Editors.....Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Madeleine Bullock, Marilyn Campbell, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Dowe Foreman, Evelyn Graves, Phil Harris, Lisa Moore, Sue Schwarz, Jennifer Smith, Laura Catherine

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Marilyn Mathews
Vice President.....Dot Crow
Secretary.....Marie S. Dillenbeck
Treasurer.....Dessie Newberry
Parliamentarian.....Homer Crow
Member-At-Large.....Rovene Truett
Member-At-Large.....Betty Bain

In case of errors in advertisements, The Groundhog assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement. Call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390 for advertising.

Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be type-written 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 end of each month.



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MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Marilyn Mathews



The holidays are here once more and all of us have a busy schedule ahead of us. Mine is no different; and, as usual, I am writing this at the last minute. Thanksgiving is only days away and I wish each of you a happy and safe day.

Thanks to Jack Jones and Jim Lyday, our plaque in the Brow Park is finished. Unfortunately, I am not quite as efficient as they are and have not put the information inside it, but I am working on an idea which I hope I can finish soon. We really appreciate Jack and Jim and the work they did.

Huey and I helped Sherman and Mickey Gough, and Bernise and Homer Crow on Saturday, Nov. 20, with our Adopt-a-mile pickup. Sherman does such a good job of keeping us reminded when we need to pick up. The whole time we were working, I was reminded of what a beautiful area we have and what a shame it is for so much litter to be thrown out along our roads. It just spoils the scenery for all of us. Unfortunately, those persons who are responsible will probably not read this article, but what a difference it would make if we could all take pride in keeping our area clean. After all, the countryside is part of our home and hopefully, we would not throw trash in our house and yard.

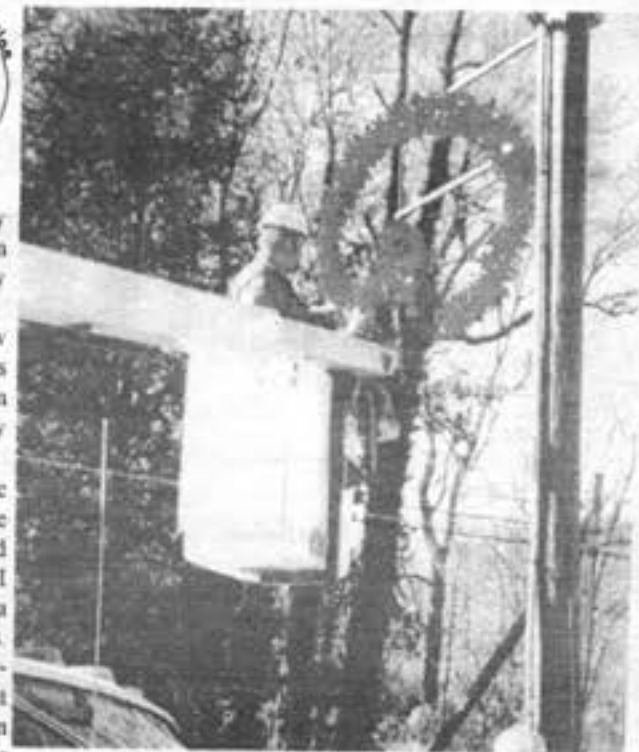
Our next MAPA meeting will be Tuesday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. at Dessie's Kountry Chef. This will be our Christmas party, and we ask that you bring a vegetable or dessert and a gift that will be appropriate for either a man or woman. We look forward to seeing you then. Happy Holidays to each of you!!



A recent project of MAPA is pictured above. It has been placed in Brow Park at the overlook near the pavilion. The structure is now in place and items to be placed inside include a map of the area viewed from the brow, identifying points of interest, and a short history of some of them.

The Groundhog Advertising Rates

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1/6 Page.....	\$ 60.00
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We will negotiate prices for a long-term contract on ads.	



Jack Johnston puts up Mentone Christmas decorations for MAPA on Saturday, Nov. 27.

Letter to Editor

November 11, 1999

Dear Ms.Graves:

Betty & I were pleased to receive our first issue of The Groundhog this week. We both studied it carefully. The Groundhog is very readable and well organized.

The Mentone area is probably Alabama's best-kept secret. The natural beauty of the mountain is a special treat for flatlanders like us, and MAPA does an outstanding job with the festivals. As usual, we bought more at the Colorfest than we planned. Nothing is quite like having lunch on a rock at the brow, followed by live entertainment. From bluegrass to ballet, they had it all this year.

We hope that the Rhododendron Festival will someday be reinstated. That time of year is so unique in Mentone, and the Rhododendron Festival was a significant contribution to the enjoyment of the season. In any case, we will continue to return each spring and fall as we have for the past four years. This coming year, we are going to try two January nights in a Knotty Pine cabin. That will be a new experience.

We were especially surprised to see our picture on page 12 (second photo down on left), albeit taken from our south side. That photo motivated me to go on a crash diet.

Thank you for The Groundhog.

Sincerely,

Betty/Tony Mabrey, 203 Harris Drive, Florence, AL 35634



--PUBLIC NOTICE--

MENTONE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Final meeting date in 1999
December 16

All meetings are held in the town public meeting room at 4 p.m. and are open to the public.



A Friendly— **Valley View**

By
ELOISE BROWN

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving with family and friends and had a lot for which to be thankful.

Cindy Butler spent several days with her sister, Gracie Brown and family, and they took her home to Cartersville, Ga., and spent Thanksgiving weekend with Gracie's father, Coy Butler. The rest of our local family (20 in all) had a Thanksgiving feast at the home of Barry and Emily Brown, prepared by a lot of competent hands.

We had a sumptuous breakfast at the **Valley Head Methodist Church** Sunday morning, Nov. 21, for the visit of the District Superintendent, Gerald Champion, for Quarterly Conference.

Sadie Cooper enjoyed a weekend trip to Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg with Ruth and Robert Hammon and Robert's mother, Garnet Hammon, recently.

Lillie Bowden has returned home after a five-day visit with Jo and Mike Welch and Jamie and Michael and Jennifer and husband Bob Wasielewski and their children, Kaley and Will, in Lake Sinclair, Ga. She came by to see her sister, Annie Rene Stephens, at Powder Springs, Ga.

Karen and Mark Freeman and children, Matt, Luke, Ben, and Katie, and friend, Suzana Marin, spent Thanksgiving with Mark's parents, Mary and Bill Freeman, at Pine Mountain, Ga.

Ed Ringer spent Thanksgiving in Marianna, Fla., with his brother and sister-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Ringer. Others there were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Allen of Centre, Ala., and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Schmidt of Enterprise, Ala.

Ruth and Bert Pickett had Ruth's sister, Betty Bracken, and her children, Lynn, Helen and Melanie Cooksey, her daughter Pattie and husband, Sid, and son, Sidney Spence, and grandson, Jimmy Pickett, from Knoxville, and his children, Andrew, Josh, and Abigail, and grandson Jonathon Pickett from Chattanooga, and Billie Pickett, for Thanksgiving dinner.

Lillian and Joe Pickett have returned home after a cruise to the Bahamas and a visit with friends in Florida, and a few days in Gulf Shores. While gone, they had a new granddaughter born to their son, Mathew, and his wife, Vanessa, in Chattanooga. She was named Isabel Morgan.

Gladys Cobble and Becky Stott and family spent Thanksgiving with Mickey and Linda Cobble in Chattanooga.

Christine and Walter Brooks went to their granddaughter Rebecca Gilbert's home at Hokes Bluff for Thanksgiving. Rebecca's parents, Jolene and Dale Gilbert from Henagar and daughter, Laura, from Rainsville, and Bubba and Martha Browder and son, B.J., from Fort Payne, and Joseph and Mandi Goza from Boaz, were also there.

Norma and Danny Hulan went to El Paso, Texas, for a week's visit with their son, Jamey and his wife, Kris, and daughter Ashley.

Dr. James Quimby is visiting his aunt in Texas.

Mark and Jane Gibson and children, Mathew and Jordan, from Dallas, Texas, and Linda Blackburn from Orange Park, Florida, spent Thanksgiving week with Dot and Bill Blackburn and Martha and "Hoot" Gibson. On Saturday, Mark and Jane and Mathew, Linda and "Hoot" attended the Tennessee-Vanderbilt game in Knoxville, and Martha took Jordan to Chattanooga to the Aquarium and to a movie.

Eugene and Juanita Smith and family spent Thanksgiving with their son, Steve, and wife, Debby and family, at Mentone. Debby's parents, Gene and Mabel Day, from Macon, Missouri, were also visiting them and enjoying the contrast of beautiful mountains after their level state.

Venna Livingston attended the reunion of her grandfather McCollum's descendants at the Little River Cafe, which was her grandfather's home at one time. She was one of the eight grandchildren attending. There were around sixty attending in all, and she saw many cousins she hadn't seen before. Venna

had her family home for the Thanksgiving holidays.

It is good to know that **Laura Margaret Allison** has returned home after being gone for some time because of broken hips. We hope she will soon graduate from her walker and be as good as new.

Olene Roberts is not well and needs our prayers, and **Mozelle Crow** is not feeling well. We hope they will be well soon.

Robert Phillips' family gave him a very special 85th birthday on Saturday, Nov. 27. All of his children and grandchildren came and Mark Buckles, Dot Casey and son, Bill Blackburn and Opal Tatum. Congratulations, Robert, may you have many more.

Also, congratulations and best wishes to **Evelyn Shankles** who celebrated her 96th birthday, recently.

Vesta Hawkins spent several days during Thanksgiving with Paul and Lyn Roberts in Atlanta.

Geneva Smith and Patricia went to Boaz to visit Geneva's granddaughter, Amanda, and Heath Cain and Amy.

The **Sunshine Club's** Christmas party will be at Billie Harper's home—on Dec. 26, at 11:30. Bring a covered dish and a toy for a child.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** will have their "Hanging of the Green" ceremony at the church Dec. 1. Their adult Sunday School class Christmas party will be Dec. 11 at Peggy Bentley's home.

Remember **Peggy Bentley's** daughter in your prayers, as she suffered a painful fall that required stitches in her head.

Also, remember the **exchange students** who are far from home on Christmas.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** had an interesting speaker recently—Bob Stewart, a retired Missionary from Taiwan, who now lives in Anniston.

The annual **Christmas Cantata**, "A Simple Christmas," by the Community Choir, will be on Sunday, Dec. 19, at Moon Lake Baptist Church, at 5 p.m., and at Valley Head Baptist Church at 7 p.m.

Congratulations to **Anthony Phillips**, who received a doctoral degree from Auburn University; **Brent Biddle** who graduated from the U.S. Border Patrol Academy with the Top Physical Achievement Award; to **Mathew Biddle and Cheryl Henderson** on the birth of their baby boy, **Mathew Bailey Biddle**; to **Jamie Clines** for making Dean's List at Athens State University; and to **Lisa Jones**, included in the 22nd Annual Edition of the National Dean's List 1998-1999; and to all other achievers.

Dael Hoyt has done an amazing job decorating **Valley Head Methodist Church**. It is so very beautiful! I wish everyone could see it.

Everyone have a happy, healthful, and safe Christmas. Keep the holy meaning of Christmas as the supreme part and cleanse and make room for Jesus in your heart.

Holy Merry Christmas

Holy season, sacred and divine
Only Jesus gives it meaning;
Loving, giving, each heart His shrine,
Yielding self to His redeeming.

Merry, happy, joyful season,
Entertain world with music sweet,
Remember God gave the reason,
Reigns where Jesus and men can meet,
Yearning for joy—eternal peace.

Christ, the Saviour, most precious gift
Heaven to earth—blessings increase,
Raising spirits with upward lift,
Into high, celestial regions,
Stars lighting the way, now as then,
To sing with the angel legions.
Mankind can be forgiven sin,
And have eternal life and live,
Singing anthems of praise above.

—Eloise Brown

Christmas Prayer

Divine Father, of all mankind,
this Holy season must remind
us all of our obligation
to express appreciation
for the supreme gift we receive
if we accept and believe.

Father, cleanse each mind and heart
so that each one may share a part
of your generous love and grace
and in each life may be a place
where you will live, ever abide
with your wisdom, lead and guide.

Lead the leaders of each land
so that they may know, understand
how your sacred plan to fulfill
of peace on earth, to men good will,
that there may come an age of
peace and reason
to fulfill the promise of this holy season.

Bless all in the world in pain or grief,
be near, give them comfort and relief.
This little prayer we humbly pray,
on this Your mortal natal day.

—Eloise Brown

Back Home

If I had the power to turn back the clock,
Go back to that house at the end of the block
The house that was "home" when I was a kid,
I know that I'd love it more now than I did.

If I could be back there at my mother's knee,
And hear once again all the things she told me,
I'd listen as I never listened before,
for she knew so well just what life had in store.

And all the advice that my dad used to give—
His voice I'll remember as long as I live;
But it didn't seem really important then;
What I'd give to live it all over again.

And what I would give for the chance I once had
To do so much more for my mother and dad;
To give them more joy and a little less pain,
A little more sunshine - a little less rain.

But the years roll on and we cannot go back,
Whether we were born in a mansion or shack;
But we can start right now - in the hour that's here,
To do something more for the ones we hold dear.

And since time in its flight is traveling so fast,
Let's not spend it regretting that which is past;
But let's make tomorrow a happier day
By doing our "good unto others" today.

In loving memory of my Dear Mother Dovie Biddle who
passed away February 22, 1969.

—Mrs. Delcie Hall

(Submitted by Alma Crabtree, cousin of Mrs. Delcie Hall)



Mentone Grapevine II

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Congratulations to Scott and Linda Bruhaker on the birth of their second son, Kyle McKinley on Friday, Nov. 19.

Jim Jones is home from the hospital after recent surgery. We wish him a speedy and full recovery. We hear that he was told, "no more roofing and doing floors!"

Happy Belated Anniversary to Raymond and Mary Brown, who celebrated their anniversary on Nov. 30.

Tony Goggans, the Mentone Troubadour, can be seen at the White Elephant. He also takes strolls through the Log Cabin Village providing music with his guitar and greeting the people who are shopping or the shop owners themselves. Look for him when you are in the craft village or at the White Elephant. He'll be glad to talk with you and visit.

Sad news to report. Brutus of the "Between the Counters" Column in previous issues is no longer with us. He passed away in Atlanta, on November 10, during his sleep.

Alan and Tricia Black have a new daughter, and Jonathon has a new sister! Sevina Elfinger from Germany has come to live with them until June. Jon is very excited about his new sister. She moved in with them just in time to celebrate his 5th birthday on November 8th. Jon celebrated his birthday with a party and family and friends at the Minvale Life Center on Nov. 13. He is a big boy now, and he gets to go to school in the fall of 2000.

Navy Petty Officer Second Class Paul A. Madonna, son of Tony and Virginia Madonna of Valley Head, recently visited Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates. Paul was on a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Constellation, home ported in San Diego. Sailors from Madonna's ship saved a man's life after a vehicular accident pinned him beneath an overturned truck. Madonna joined the Navy in Oct. 1989.

We wish to welcome Jimmy and Pat Hathcox to this area. They are the new owners of a home in Mentone. Jimmy is retired from Connor's Steel and Pat is retired from Xerox Corporation. They presently own and manage Riverside Mini Warehouses & Office Complex in Riverside, AL. They enjoy their home on Logan Martin Lake (Coosa River) in Riverside where every season brings its own special touch. Their hobby is Street Rodding and are members of The National Street Rod Association. Jimmy has a couple of 1932 Fords. The organization keeps them on the go, constantly "cruisin" the Southeast with friends and reminiscing the glorious days of the 50s and 60s. They dearly love nature, friendly people, and the beautiful surrounding environment in Mentone. Mr. and Mrs. Hathcox were the winners of the \$250 shopping spree that the White Elephant Antique Galleries and The Village Boutique sponsored over the Thanksgiving Day.

This was the first Thanksgiving that I spent away from home not working on an issue of *The Groundhog*. I flew to Houston on Nov. 22 to visit with my oldest son, Randy Green, who turned "40" on Nov. 17. My granddaughter, Tammy, also had her 12th birthday on the day before Thanksgiving. Many of daughter-in-law Brenda's family came to have Thanksgiving at their Conroe, Texas, home. They also helped Randy celebrate his "Magnificent 40th" Birthday! He received several "gag" gifts for someone who had just turned 40. Grandson, Brian, will be turning the Big 16 on December 1. He is 6'2" tall, and still growing! I really enjoyed myself and had a great time.

I flew back home on the 26th, and arrived just in time to attend the surprise birthday party for Mayor Cash and wish him a happy 75th birthday.

Deepest sympathies to the families of the following who have passed away:

- Albert J.D. Phillips, 73, Cloudland, Ga. Oct. 26
- Mrs. Dorothy M. Stophel, 69, Fort Payne, Nov. 1
- Tommie Johnson, 70, Valley Head, Nov. 2
- Mrs. Mary Beryl Hicks Thompson, 83, Crown Health Care, Ft. Payne, Nov. 12
- Peggy Hamby Seagars, 25, Mentone, Nov. 24

Northeast Who's Who Named

The 2000 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges" will include the names of 45 students from Northeast Alabama Community College who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders.

Campus nominating committee and editors of the annual directory have included the names of these students based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential for continued success. Mrs. Cheryl Gorham directs the nomination process at Northeast.

These Northeast students join an elite group of students from more than 2,300 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations.

Students named this year from Northeast are: Casey Estelle Barrentine, Melancy Rene Brendle, Nathaniel Hugh Buffington, Eric Heath Chambers, Miranda Bryan Chambers, Wendy Shelton Cody, Jennifer Lee DeHart, Benjamin Heath Durham, Candace Deanne Durham, Christina Frank, Amelia Ann Freeman, Yvonne Shelton Golden, William Farley Green, James Paul Higdon, Erica Robin Hoge, Abram Teague Holder, Amy Rebecca Holleman, Julie Beth Knight, James Robert Kuykendall, Glenda Sue Lambert, Teresa Anne Long, Amy Hutchens Luckhart, Bobby Labron Lusk, Katie Adkins Manning, Jane Leslie Matthews, Shasta Dawn McCarver, James Arthur Mick, Jonathan Eric Millican, Gabriel Adam Moore, Jennifer Delle Parker, Andrew Ivan Phillips, Kindra Michelle Porter, Leah Brooke Pruitt, Candace Elizabeth Ragsdale, Jason D. Reeves, Tracy Lynn Sims, Misty Dawn Slayback, Kelin Amanda Stiles, Joseph Nathaniel Swinford, Kyle Steven Tinker, Daniel Roy Waldrop, Amanda Choate Wicks, Jada Nicole Wilson, Natalie Irene Wilson and Monica Crawford Woodall.

Dickens' Village WoodMasters

Belated Condolences to Jo Beaube, whose mother, Minnie Sullivan, 89, passed away in Copper Hill, TN, in October. Jo's sister, Obera, passed away Sept. 14.

Beth Moore was inducted into the Beta Club on Nov. 21. Her mom is very proud of her for this accomplishment. Beth has worked very hard to achieve this, and her family is proud of her. Great job, Beth!

Happy December Birthdays to: •1- Shane Bo Thomas, Brian Green (16, from Conroe, TX), Mark Hatfield, Caleb Hunt; •2-Dewayne McKenzie, Angel Wesley; •4-Myrtle Webb, Clara Cash, Heath Blalock, Ann King Jackson; •5-Rodney Pelletier; •6- Ellen Thompson, Amber Nekole Tackett, Phyllis Lewis, Lisa Hulan; •7- Robin Hulan, Ken Hammond; •8- Pat Vest, Renae Day, DeAnna Harris; •9- Brian McAdams, Bill Shaw; •10- Kevin Worthey, Tammy Hopper, Bobbie Smith; •12- Homer Crow, Valerie Chappell, Kristen Lauro (4 years old, Springfield, Va.); •14- Bruce BonFleur, Jim Phillips, Tina Shrader, Hunter Whisenant; •19- Brynda Hopper; •20- Allison Allen; •21- Mabel Kirk (in memory of), O.W. Hunt, Vickie Deleagarza, Coby Harrison; •23- Mike Key; •24- Maureen Hammond, Joe Kent; •25-JESUS; •26-Michael Croxton; •27-Melissa Harrison, Jennifer Blalock; •28- Lily Harrison, Annette Chappell, Rusty Rector; •29- Randy and Brenda Green of Conroe, TX, (20th Anniversary); •30-Emily Collins, Marquita Brown, Scott Burke.

Look throughout this issue and see what events are coming up. There are many good things going on in this area that I'm sure you will enjoy.

Since the Christmas season and the new year celebration come so close together, the next issue of *The Groundhog* has not been definitely set. If you have pictures, please get them to me as soon as possible. The same goes for articles. I appreciate everything that the writers do to make my job easier type-setting. Thanks for being there with your articles when I call.

Remember, JESUS is the reason for the season!! Enjoy the holidays with your family and friends.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Shinice Smith and Justin Greene, Costume Contest Winners at The Tri-County Fire & Rescue Halloween Party

Photo by Joli LaSavant

Tri-County Fire & Rescue Halloween Party

by Joli LaSavant

About sixty children of all ages came to the Tri-County Fire & Rescue Halloween Party on October 30th. Kids bobbed for apples suspended on fish line from the ceiling, "fished" for candy surprises and "hunted" for small toys in the hidden treasures sawdust pit. The most favorite game was the wet sponge toss. Children tossed wet sponges at Chief Taylor Adams, who took the blows in good spirits. Winners of the Costume Contest for ages 0-5 were Bobby Nel dressed as a lion, Davine O'Connor dressed as a ninja, Melissa Johnson dressed as Cinderella and Sarah Harris who came dressed as a witch. In the older than five category, winners were Landon McCalmon who came as a killer butcher, Madison McCalmon as the grim reaper, Nina Ballinger as a starlet and Shinice Smith came as a hobo.

After a hay ride, anyone who wasn't too scared to go through the haunted walk held hands in the dark to the sound of ghosts and chain saws. Everyone received a bag of candy and treats before leaving. Tri-County Fire & Rescue wants to thank parents for seeing that their children had a safe and fun Halloween.

Karen Herndon named to the United States Randle Team

Karen Herndon was named to the United States Randle Team. Karen's unofficial qualifying score was 3182 out of a possible 3200.

At the National Shooting Championships held recently in Camp Perry, Ohio, the top 12 women's scores in the metallic sight championship were named to the Randle Team. This team competes in a postal match with a corresponding team in England.

Karen has been competing in precision rifle shooting since high school in Springfield, Va., and college at Eastern Kentucky University where she was a two-time All-American.

Karen was also a member of the U.S. Shooting Team and traveled to Mexico, Cuba, East and West Germany, and Norway.

Karen and her husband, Mark, have a daughter, Katie, age 2.



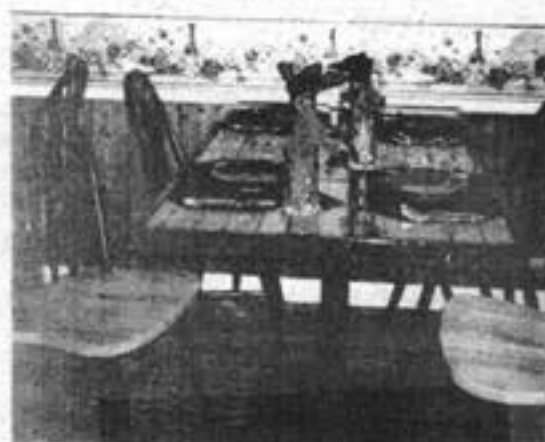
New Restaurant - The Bistro

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Nestled in the woods in Mentone, on Alabama Highway 117, just 2 miles from the east Georgia line is a wonderful new restaurant - *The Bistro at Green Gables*. Their opening day was October 16, during the annual October Colorfest, which was held October 15, 16, 17. *The Bistro* is owned by Joseph and Mary Rhodes of Acworth, Ga. This is a family endeavor. Daughter Marisa, who is 15, is a waitress. The chef is Mary's brother, Mark Resing, who attended the Culinary Institute of New York at the head of his class. Mark has traveled throughout the United States as a chef.

Marisa said, "The reason the restaurant is so awesome is my Uncle Mark." Marisa said her dad wanted a restaurant and knew he could "pull it off" with her Uncle Mark.

The Bistro was going to be called Twin Peaks, as the sign out front shows and as shown in the photo above, but Mary decided to call it *The Bistro*, which represents a small European restaurant. The motif is "casual country elegance at Green Gables." Forest green and maroon colors are throughout *The Bistro*. There is seating for 46 people at thirteen different tables.



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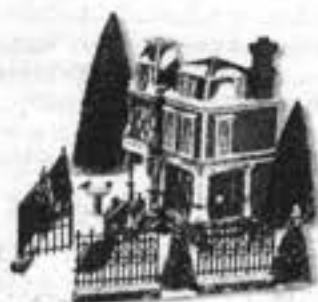
WoodMasters



Individual gourmet French pressed coffee is available at each table, along with flavored syrup, such as vanilla, Irish cream, and hazelnut. Their lunch and dinner menus offer beef, poultry, pasta, pork, seafood, salads, and sandwiches. Chef Mark makes all their cakes and tortes at *The Bistro*.

Waitresses besides Marisa are Penny Scott, Cathy Price, and Kim Brown. There are others who help make dining successful, too, such as Woody Campbell and Erin Dmesquita.

Local artist, Tammy Hawkins, beautifully painted the entrance door in colors that match the motif of *The Bistro*.



WoodMasters

Her work is shown in the photo in the middle column. The shadow at the left is the sun off the roof.

Mary stated that they are beginning to landscape the yard around *The Bistro*, and will continue to do so. Since they have only been open a little over a month, there is a lot more work to do. The Rhodeses are building a home in the Mentone area and hope to retire here where it is so beautiful. One of the reasons they decided to open a restaurant in Mentone is to give something to the area, not take it away.

Mary commented on the extremely favorable response since they opened, with many repeat customers, including several celebrities who have homes in Mentone and elsewhere. The Rhodeses appreciate the support they have received from the community. Their business has been successful, and they have been very busy. The customers have been a mix of tourists and people from the community. When there is better weather next year, dining outside will be an option. Joe and Mary want to keep the restaurant small enough to assure the quality of food remains supreme.

Mary is a financial consultant and does a lot of traveling. Joe will be looking after the restaurant and all that goes with it. Marisa, a sophomore, will be attending school in Harrison, Ga., and working on the weekends when she can. The Rhodeses have another child, Shane, who is seven, who will also be attending school.

The Bistro hours are 11 to 7 on Sunday and 11 to 9 on Fridays and Saturdays. They are closed between the hours of 3 and 5 p.m. each day. Reservations can be made by calling 256-634-8200.

The Bistro



Wondering When the Christmas Tree on the Square will be lighted?

As of the printing of this issue of *The Groundhog*, plans are not finalized for the The Musical Mountain Christmas activities. MAPA is having their Christmas dinner meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 7 at 7 PM and will work out all the details.

The Children's Party, sponsored by the Moon Lake PTO will take place on Thursday, Dec. 9, at 3 PM. The children have carried permission slips home to their parents, and those slips should be brought back to the school as soon as possible.

Tentatively, the lighting of the Christmas tree--which as of the printing of this issue has not been put in place yet--could be Friday, Dec. 10. There will be singing of carols, also. Be looking for an announcement next week.

Turkey Shoot to Benefit Easler Family

By Joli LaSavant

An icy bridge in Idaho at 5am on October 29th, proved to be a dangerous spot for Dudley Easler, 36, of Mentone, AL. As he turned back from checking his rig, he was face to face with another semi that had lost control, crossing the yellow line. Easler, who drove for Great Southern Express, swerved to miss the truck but the ice on the bridge sent him sliding into the tanker. Both trucks burst into flame. The other rig went over the side, killing one of the men and severely burning the other. Easler's rig began to burn. Two women truckers, Haley Jo Wood and Gloria Laughlin, came by and pulled Easler out of his truck. He suffered second and third degree burns and was taken to a burn unit in Idaho. He was flown home to his family on November 3.

Easler is going to a burn unit in Chattanooga for skin grafts as well as to an orthopedic doctor for back problems related to the accident. Becky Easler, 35, said her husband "will be out of work at least ten weeks. The skin grafts have to heal and that's how long the doctors think it will take." She stated that her job at Danny McNutt Hosiery on Valley Head Hwy, "is really only spending money, not enough to pay the bills. Dudley's check did that."

Rose Holbrook, Becky Easler's mother, who lives in Cloudland, said she was worried about Christmas for the kids. The Easler's children, Beth, 14, Jessica, 9, and Tiffany, 5, will still have a nice Christmas this year. The Tri-County Fire and Rescue Department and Girl Scout Troop #247 will hold a combination "Turkey Shoot" and bake sale at the Tri-County building next to AAA Hardware on Hwy 48 on Saturday, December 4th, from 10 to 2, Georgia time, to benefit the Easlars. There will be Case knives, hams, loins and money rounds to shoot for and Tri-County Fire and Rescue volunteers will also offer bar-b-que sandwiches at the concession area. The Girl Scouts will have a variety of baked goods set up at the shoot, as well as tables at the Cloudland Trade Center and the Mountain Top Country Store on Hwy 48, with the proceeds going to the Easler family.

When asked how the Tri-County Fire and Rescue became involved in a benefit Turkey Shoot, Chief Taylor Adams explained, "Two of the Easlars' good friends, MA Spencer and Donald Whitaker, approached us. We knew it was important for us to help out and this was a way to raise enough money."

For more information on how you can help, call Taylor Adams at (706) 862-6515.

Cooking School Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m.

Mentone Community Center

Ever wonder what to do with that tasteless block of tofu? If so, you need to be at the Mentone Community Center on Tuesday, December 14, at 6:30 pm. The topic is "Cooking with Tofu."

To register in advance, call Dowe Foreman at 634-4021 or Stan/Linda Lawton at 634-4658.

There is a \$5 entrance fee for food expense.

Sponsored by Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church in Mentone.

Has your mailbox been stolen, destroyed, or vandalized?

If so, you may contact your local post office and request complaint forms to report the incident. The form can be picked up at your local post office. For Mentone, you may call 634-4588. Be sure to report the incident to your local police or sheriff's department.



Standing on fire truck: Brittney Harrison, Mikey Petersen, Allie Blalock, and Jessica Nolen
Front Row (L/R): Landon Crowe, Michael Frazier, Austin Gifford, Amber Hedrick, Lily Harrison, Billy Carrier, Christopher Swindall, Dylan Carter, Tyler Spencer, Michael Chambers, Taylor Hulgán, Zachary Clark, Chief Jim Roberts.
Teachers Dawn Holloway and Assistant Ms. Carol Lancaster (not pictured.)

National Fire Prevention Week Program at Mentone Head Start Class

By Gail Chambers

On Tuesday, Oct. 5, in observance of National Fire Prevention Week, the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department visited the Head Start Class in Mentone. Chief Jim Roberts gave a program on fire safety.

Parents and teachers have obviously been teaching these children fire safety because they answered a lot of the questions that Chief Roberts asked them. Chief Roberts put on his turnout gear and an air pack mask for the children to show

them how a firefighter would look if he had to go into a burning house to get someone out. The children were cautioned to not be afraid of the firefighter. Even though they might look scary, they're there to help in case of a fire.

Volunteer fireman, Sanford Hartline, assisted Chief Roberts in taking the class outside to see the fire truck. Gail Chambers handed out fire hats, paper fire trucks, junior firefighter stickers, and safety checklists from the Fire Department.

North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department

By Frank Hill

Approximately 1 year ago, the Volunteer Fire Department set a goal for raising money to purchase a "newer" fire truck. Our goal was to raise \$50,000 as soon as possible to replace one of our older vehicles.

Due to the tremendous support from the community, we have made a lot of progress toward that goal. Through the yard sale, a raffle, sale of food and drinks at the October Colorfest, and generous contributions from individuals, organizations and businesses, we have managed to raise \$37,000 toward our goal.

However, the cost of a relatively late model fire truck in good condition will cost from \$50,000 to \$75,000. Therefore, the Board of Directors has decided to purchase, (at a much lower cost) a tanker truck. This truck will be built utilizing a retired propane tank and a used cab-and-chassis. This will give us a much-needed increase in water carrying capacity

and allow us to retire our old 1956 GMC tanker truck, which can no longer be properly maintained because parts are no longer available.

Once the "newer" truck is delivered, hopefully early next year, we also plan to make some much needed repairs to our 1971 Ford pumper truck.

Again, the Board would like to thank the entire community for your support, and our thanks to all the Volunteer Firemen for their contributions of time and effort while responding to emergency calls this past year.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Gail Chambers, Chairman

Ken Kirby, Jesse Crabtree, Marilyn Blanton Campbell, and Frank Hill - Board Members

Linda Brown, Secretary

Eleanor Tate, Treasurer

WoodMasters

DEPARTMENT



About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



The Christmas season is here! No more waiting until the weather gets cold or you get through Halloween and Thanksgiving. For those who are of the Christian faith, this is the most joyous time of the year. (For me, it ties with Easter, for who can say which was the most important event in the life of Jesus Christ, his birth or his resurrection?) A well-known publication has an article in the December issue that deals with the fact that Christianity has lasted so long. The new millennium that we all look forward to (or dread) according to your belief of what will happen on that day, is counted from the birth of Jesus Christ. Time cannot be numbered in days, who knows when to actually start? Because no one knew when to start, they came up with BC and AD. The AD is time since the birth of Jesus Christ and BC can be infinity. So, where does the question of evolution fit in? So many questions and so few answers. Years ago, I set out on the quest for some answers to life's many questions. After reading a lot of books and every newspaper and magazine I could get my hands on, I decided that there just weren't a lot of answers out there, just opinions. I already had those. Now I read these same books with this thought in mind. Don't expect the answers from an outside source, look within yourself and trust your own judgment. Well, this time you have my "soapbox sermon" first.

I don't know of anywhere that parties as much for the holiday season as Mentone does. If you don't believe it, look at your calendar for December. So many events are happening, and they all include eating! I will leave it to Marie to list them for you.

I recently stayed at the town hall while Marie took a well-deserved vacation. This is always fun for me, but I don't have to deal with the computer. I talked to people about water, places to stay, the lack of water, places to stay, roads and bridges, places to stay, some sort of form only Marie knows about, places to stay, the terrific amount of traffic on Highway 117, and places to stay. One man called wanting to come to Mentone for the night of December 31 to celebrate the new year. I told him that the Y2K bug would strike and Mentone might not even be here on January 1, 2000. It took him a while to decide if I was teasing or not. Did you hear about the woman who ordered the pills to protect her from the bite of the Y2K bug? She ordered them from the Internet, of course. I can't imagine that anything will happen worse than a winter storm in Mentone. We've all been through those, so we should be prepared.

The town is still considering some very important issues. It seems there is just no way to run a town this small and please everyone. There is always someone who thinks they are not being treated fairly. I think larger cities have an easier time. They just do what they have to do to have the revenue to operate; and, if you don't comply, you can move or pay the penalty. Someone said recently that most churches in Fort Payne have a bigger budget than the town of Mentone. After some thought, I decided this is probably true. They are building large buildings for Life Centers and other elaborate facilities. Mentone has to hunt for grants and loans just to run the water lines a few miles.

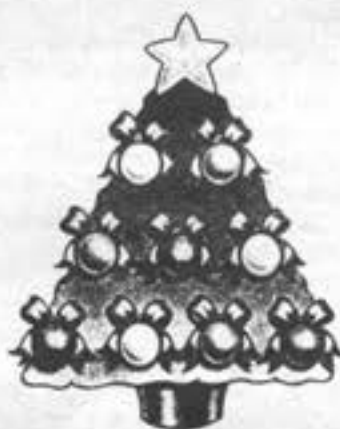
The fire department should have some exciting news soon. I know that a newer fire truck is being ordered and equipped with state-of-the-art lights and sirens. This is something that is very much needed and something we look forward to having. Our volunteer fire fighters deserve the best equipment possible. They are always willing to go out in any weather if there is an emergency. We need to let them know that we appreciate their efforts. Thanks, guys!!

Recently, I was talking with a friend about "curing" meat. Some of the younger readers will not have a clue what this means. Meat only comes from the supermarket, right? Well, "in my day," we butchered our own meat and had to have a

way to keep it until it was all eaten. My Dad sugar-cured the hams and shoulders. This is a process of packing the fresh meat in a mixture of salt, brown sugar, and black pepper. The salt preserves the meat, and you can keep it all winter without refrigeration. Dad had a big wooden box that he built especially for this. My friend said that they did not use the sugar. Some people smoked them in addition to the salting process. Thus, the terms, sugar-cured and smoke-house. Isn't it amazing what you can learn from reading *The Groundhog*?

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This year will be even more exciting, as we celebrate the year 2000. Have you already noticed how odd "00" looks when you write it somewhere? Does it mean dollars or years or simply none? When you dated something "99," everyone knew what you meant. This will sometimes be confusing. If all those flappers and bath-tub gin makers lived through 1900, I'm sure that we will be all right. Now, the younger readers are saying, what are flappers and what is bath-tub gin? That will have to be another column.

Be sure to take some time for yourself this holiday season. Go out and do something just because you want to. See a movie, go to a play or concert, go shopping for yourself, take a trip or visit an old friend you haven't seen lately. Whatever you do, enjoy your holidays!!



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Snakes Alive at Rhododendron Garden Club

By Christina Wise

The Rhododendron Garden Club met in the Mentone Community House on 9 Nov. 1999, where club president, Dallyne Jones, brought the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Linda Brown was called upon for the devotional, and she chose the celebration of Thanksgiving as her theme. She read from Psalm 100 and recalled the hardships endured by the pilgrims, but rejoiced that, with the help of the Lord, they had prevailed.

Mickey Gough, Vice President of the club, introduced the speaker, Ken Thomas. Ken has been a good friend of the garden club for some time now in his capacity as naturalist at DeSoto State park, and so the membership delighted in the news of his promotion to Assistant Superintendent there. His subject was snakes, a topic that most of the ladies viewed with a certain amount of morbid curiosity! Mr. Thomas set about dispelling some of the myths about these reptiles and convincing his audience that they actually occupy an important place in nature, particularly so in the realms of rodent control. A rat snake can consume 60 rodents in the space of a month. Garden snakes, on the other hand, consume insects; while the underground worm snake aerates the soil, much like the common earthworm.

He pointed out that of the multitude of species in the world only 3 or 4 poisonous snakes are found in Alabama—the copper head, the timber rattler, the banded water snake, and the water moccasin. The most dangerous of these is the copperhead, but even then, treatment of a bite usually only requires the infusion of intra-venous fluids. Anti venom, he said, is not often necessary. Ken then pulled a non-poisonous snake out of his bag, but most of the club members were content to view it from a distance!

An integral part of the meeting was the sale of the goods for the benefit of The Garden Club of Alabama. Many club members completed their Christmas shopping by purchasing the sweat suits, T-shirts, sleepwear, note cards, and mail box flags, which were on offer. The sale was organized by Marilyn Blanton Campbell, co-chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Garden Club of Alabama.

The hostesses were Shirley Hussell, Phyllis Canull, and Marjorie Gray. The ladies prepared a beautiful buffet table laden with a full, traditional, Thanksgiving meal. The 21 members present enjoyed the elegantly prepared roast turkey and all the trimmings. No one left hungry! This meal made the club meeting feel like a family gathering.

The roll was called and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted as written.

Under old business, Shirley Hussell reported that the planter at the junction of Tutwiler Gap and County Road 89 was progressing, and that Phyllis Canull had recently delivered and dug in a load of really good natural fertilizer. The area will be planted out when the wetter weather returns. The Rhododendron Garden Club is in joint venture with Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative on this project.

Ann Wright reminded everyone that there would be an "Every Light a Prayer for Peace" program, sponsored by the DeKalb-Cherokee Federation of Garden Clubs, on November 21, at 2 p.m. at the DeKalb County Library. She encouraged everyone to attend. Peggy Roark gave the Treasurer's report. As there was no more business, the drawing for the door prize was made and Barbara Blalock was the lucky lady. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting is on December 14, 1999, at 12:30 p.m., at the Mentone Community House. It is the Christmas covered dish luncheon. The devotional will be given by Rev. & Mrs. Randy Addison, who will also provide the music for the Christmas carols sung during the meeting. Roll call is to name a favorite Christmas carol. Hostesses are: Marilyn Blanton Campbell, Ann Wright, Linda Brown, and Barbara Blalock.

...A Blessed Christmas...

SCOUTING REPORT

The Boy Scouts and the Cub Scouts are having a very busy fall. Many things are already completed, and they will be busy until the 15th of December with a wide variety of activities.

Popcorn sales are in progress. This money goes towards the summer of 2000 trip to South Dakota. This is a good experience for all the boys who are able to participate. This is one way we can help them have the money to attend. See any Boy Scout or Cub Scout for popcorn.

We have another Eagle Scout in Troop 106. Marlin Cox's ceremony was held on Sunday, October 3rd. Scouts are working on their God and Country Badges. The Board of Review was held at Moon Lake on October 4th with good advancement shown by the Scouts. The troop is growing. Not only did we have Cub Scouts move up this year, but we have two more new members.

Car parking was in full swing for the month of October with the three Haunted Weekends at Comer and Mentone Colorfest. These events are money raisers for the Scouts, and the generosity of those who come to these events is appreciated.

The Jim Berry Scout Hall is coming along beautifully. Rockwork is progressing. Nineteen loads of rocks have been gathered (Remember those 'Rock Gatherings' we mentioned before?) and placed at the hall for the stone mason to use.

The weekend of October 29 - 31st, Troop 106 hosted the fall Camporee at Comer Scout Reservation. Over 300 Scouts attended. This is a great opportunity to meet other Scouts and their leaders from areas around North Alabama. It is also an honor and a responsibility to host such an event, so it is a time of growth and learning, too.

The Cub Scouts are growing by leaps and bounds, more than doubling their membership and averaging 35-40 per meeting. They are literally popping at the seams. A sweep enrollment was made in Valley Head and signed up 23 new Cubs. Valley Head Baptist has been asked to consider sponsoring these boys in their own troop. The Cubs are all working on their Outdoorsman Badges, which requires them to tie a good knot, and learn to pack for a campout, both when there is to be rain and when the weather will be clear, and other activities in the outdoors.

The Cub Scouts went on a very wet Haunted Weekend campout at Comer Scout Reservation the second Friday and Saturday of October and then helped with the other five sessions which were held two sessions each on three successive weekends.

Both the Boy Scouts and the Cub Scouts along with their leaders continue to ask that prayers be made for them on a regular basis.

This report was submitted by
David Gilbreath for the Boy Scouts and
Mike Bare for the Cub Scouts

Department

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North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department

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The Board of Directors

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Time Management

A Health Nugget

By Dowe Foreman

Someone sent this article to me by way of email. I have altered it very little, but the meaning really came home to me. I hope you enjoy it.

One day an expert in time management was speaking to a group of business students and, to drive home a point, used an illustration those students will never forget. As he stood in front of the group of high-powered overachievers, he said, "Okay, time for a quiz." Then he pulled out a one gallon, wide-mouthed Mason jar and set it on the table in front of him. He then produced about a dozen fist sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar. When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, "Is this jar full?" Everyone in the class said, "Yes." Then he said, "Really?" He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. Then he dumped some gravel in and shook the jar, causing the pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the space between the big rocks. Then he asked the group once more, "Is the jar full?" By this time the class was on to him. Probably not one of them answered. "Good!" he replied. He reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in the jar and it went into all of the spaces left between the rock and the gravel. Once more he asked the question, "Is this jar full?" "No!" the class shouted. Once again he said "Good!" Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?" One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in it!" "No," the speaker replied, "That's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is: If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all." What are the 'big rocks' in your life? Your spouse, children, loved ones, education, dreams, a worthy cause, mentoring to others, worship time alone with Christ, doing things you love, helping others because you 'want to' and not a 'have to', taking walks, your health. Remember to put these BIG ROCKS in first or you'll never get them in at all. If you sweat the little stuff (the gravel, the sand) then you'll fill your life with little things you worry about that don't really matter, and you'll never have the real quality time you need to spend on the big, important stuff (the big rocks).

So, tonight, or in the morning, when you are reflecting on this short story, ask yourself this question: What are the 'big rocks' in my life? Then, put those in your jar first.

I really enjoyed this article. I hope you have too. May you be blessed in health this coming year. Happy Christmas Everyone!!!

Vegan Recipes

Greek Salad

By Dowe Foreman

1 lb. extra firm tofu frozen, thawed, drained, then squeezed between paper towels to remove any extra moisture. Cut tofu into small cubes. (Smaller is better than large.)

2 cups finely chopped broccoli

1 sliced red onion

1 garlic clove minced

Combine above ingredients.

In a different small bowl, combine:

1/2 cup olive oil

2 Tbs. lemon juice

2 tsp. oregano

1-1/2 tsp. salt

1 Tbs. Basil (lots of basil!)

Mix with tofu and veggies, toss well.

Cover and chill overnight

Before serving add:

2 cups chopped tomatoes

1/2 cup whole olives

Hope you enjoy.

American Legion Post 215 Celebrates Veterans Day



Sherman Gough, Post Commander
and Colonel John C. Wilkinson, U.S. Army Retired, speaker



Barry Crow and Coy Crow, Entertainers

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

Thursday, November 11, 1999, the veterans of American Legion Post 215 and the ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 at Mentone celebrated Veterans Day with a covered dish supper at the Legion Hall on Cove Road at 6:30 p.m. A moderate sized crowd of some 30 to 35 people gathered for an opportunity to express appreciation of those who have gone ahead of them in military service as well as in death.

The mildness of the weather encouraged more people to attend. Sherman Gough, Post Commander, called the gathering to order, and Howard Carson, Post Chaplain, returned thanks. Then, the people present served themselves from a wonderful array of homemade meat and vegetable dishes on the buffet. It is always a source of amazement how, without checking with each other, the ladies always seem to arrive with such a wide variety of dishes and so very few duplications. To drink, coffee-both decaf and regular-was served along with water, tea-sweetened and unsweetened, Sprite, and Coke.

Legion suppers are notorious for having massive displays of the most sinfully delicious desserts ever, and everyone present had tastes of several different sweets. While being a good cook is not written down as a prerequisite for joining the auxiliary, it is indeed noticeable that nobody who is a bad cook, ever seems to become a member of that particular group.

While desserts were still being savored, Post Commander, Sherman Gough, called on George Walker to introduce the speaker for the occasion. George presented Colonel John C. Wilkinson, U.S. Army Retired. Col. Wilkinson came from Texas originally and was graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point.

What we now know as Veterans Day started out as Armistice Day when Germany surrendered at eleven o'clock on November 11, 1918, at the end of World War I. Col. Wilkinson talked about how at Armistice Day ceremonies it used to be the practice to have a minute of silence at eleven o'clock to honor the dead from what was once called "The Great War." At the time, that was supposed to have been the war to end all wars and make the need for future war completely unnecessary.

In his talk, Col. Wilkinson talked about his first parachute jump and how the silence associated with that reminded him of the minute of silence at the Armistice Day parade and ceremony he had attended at age six. The colonel went on to tell of

other jumps that were nowhere near as spiritually uplifting as that first one. The whole crowd laughed when he told about bending over to check an airsick soldier's paraphernalia just prior to a parachute jump only to have that soldier throw up all over him.

Col. Wilkinson also talked about how thankful we are for the service of the veterans from World War I and the wars that have followed. While his talk was short in duration, it was quite insightful and seemingly meant a lot to all who heard it.

Col. Wilkinson was accompanied by his lovely wife, Jan, who is quite well known at Mentone as the immediate past president of the Rhododendron Garden Club.

After Col. Wilkinson's talk, George Walker led the group in singing "America," "America The Beautiful," and finally "Let There Be Peace On Earth" to musical accompaniment provided by the Brothers Crow-Barry (on keyboard) and Coy (on guitar)-who are the sons of Homer and Bernice Crow of Mentone.

Instrumental versions of "Danny Boy," "Last Date," "Spanish Eyes," and "Alley Cat" were enjoyed by the crowd. Then, the Brothers Crow played and the group sang "Amazing Grace." While the ladies were cleaning up, the Brothers Crow played several less readily recognizable tunes that were very much enjoyed by everybody there.

The evening concluded with a brief membership meeting conducted with the men and women both present. The men of Post 215 have 48 paid members for the year 2000. In 1999, they had three to die and two to move away.

Plans were made to have a covered dish supper at the regular meeting of American Legion Post 215--second Tuesday night in the month at 6:30 p.m.--December 14 at 6:30 p.m. The plan is to have musical accompaniment and sing Christmas carols as part of the celebration of the season. The legionnaires are looking forward to that December meeting purely because they had such a good time at the November gathering.

It is the long established policy of Post 215 and Unit 215 to "do what we can when we can." As part of the meeting, it was mentioned that Chaplain Howard Carson and Post Adjutant Ed Ringer had been to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home on Meridian Street in Huntsville where they had visited Mr. Milford Jones, a resident veteran there from DeKalb County. Those gentlemen stipulated that legion groups, who are far more readily accessible to the residents of the Fann

Home, have activities of one kind and another organized for residents to such an extent that Post 215 could not readily do anything over there without intruding on somebody else's already allocated time slot. However, Mr. Ringer and Mr. Carson advocated visiting the veterans at every opportunity. Furthermore, on the occasion of their most recent visit to the Fann Home, Mr. Carson and Mr. Ringer were given "the grand tour" so to speak, and they reported that they found absolutely nothing amiss during that visit-just as on all previous visits.

We must face facts. In this day and time, medical science is far more advanced than it has ever been, but the advancement of the ability to sustain life is far ahead of the ability to maintain an enjoyable quality of life. Therefore, there are many older people, who, while they are very much alive, are quite beyond home care, and those people are indeed fortunate to have a place like the Fann Home to go for the care they require at that stage in their lives.

The ladies of Unit 215 send cards several times each year to the DeKalb County vets--that number is down to four now--in the Fann Home, and, at Christmas and Valentine's Day, they send cards to the entire resident population. During the year, they try to go see the vets from time to time, but some years more visits get made than others. That is just the way life is, but, regardless of what else happens, the ladies always send cards for birthdays in addition to times such as New Year's, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Mr. Ed Ringer sends the cards for the men of American Legion Post 215.

If you know a veteran who lives at the Fann Home (or if you just know a family member of a resident vet), please send a Christmas card this year. The address is listed here:

Vet's Name
Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home
2701 Meridian Street
Huntsville, Alabama 35811

Some of the resident vets are more aware or "with the program" than others are, and those gentlemen may well not be cognizant of the fact that they got a card from you or anybody else, but, when their families go to see about them, it makes those family members feel especially good to know that their loved ones have not been forgotten. That alone would make it worth your while to send a card.

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"Every Light A Prayer For Peace Ceremony"

At DeKalb County Public Library

by Marilyn Blanton Campbell

Sunday, November 21, 1999, at 2 p.m. the ladies of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs held their third annual "Every Light A Prayer For Peace" Christmas tree lighting ceremony in memory of deceased garden club members at the DeKalb County Public Library on Grand Avenue in Fort Payne. The "Every Light A Prayer For Peace" ceremony is dedicated to the memory of all deceased local garden club ladies. Rather than reading those names aloud as part of the ceremony, the ladies of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs placed the memorial roster on the back of the paper program that was handed out to all in attendance.

The organization called the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs is made up of the Azalea Garden Club (Mrs. Aubie Mae Dean, President), Cedar Bluff Garden Club (Mrs. Barbara B. Cavin, President), Flowering Dogwood Garden Club (Reita Grant, President), Fort Payne Garden Club (Karen Swift, President), Ider Garden Club (Lori Stubb, President), Rainsville Garden Club (Ann Houston, President), Kaolin Garden Club (Mart Smith, President), and Rhododendron Garden Club (Dallyne Jones, President).

The concept for this particular program originated through the efforts of Mrs. Dorothy S. Parrish of Greenville, Alabama, during the Korean Conflict. Mrs. Parrish was (at the time) the First Vice-President of the Garden Clubs of Alabama, Inc. The first program was held at the home of Sadie Edwards, State President, in Selma, Alabama, in December of 1951. Over the years, the "Every Light A Prayer For Peace" program has spread to cities all over the state of Alabama with a major celebration on the steps of the State Capitol in Montgomery.

Again, this year, the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs planted a Colorado Blue Spruce on the grounds at the DeKalb County Public Library in Fort Payne for this ceremony. Translated, that means the trees planted each of the previous two years had died as a result (most likely) of a combination of the drought and failure to water them properly. Bill Wright did the actual digging for that project the first two years, and Ed Campbell did it this time. The ladies appreciate very much these gentlemen's efforts on behalf of the federation.

"Every Light A Prayer For Peace" is an extremely touching event of short duration that really should be a lot better attended than it ever has been. Every year, it would seem that a few more people make their way to the ceremony, and each one is very much appreciated. The ladies want to make it

known that they especially appreciate all the husbands who attended the "Every Light A Prayer For Peace Ceremony." Those men have a history of going to the fairgrounds and helping their wives prepare the room for the flower show at the VFW Agricultural Fair, but that working context is about all most of them are willing to be involved with that concerns the federation. Thanks fellows! We never would have made it this far without you.

In a general effort to improve attendance, the date of the "Every Light A Prayer For Peace" ceremony was changed so that it would not fall on Thanksgiving weekend, but the crowd was still quite small. The people, who failed to be there this year, really missed a blessing, and it is the sincere hope of the ladies of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs that everybody who attended will tell somebody else about the touching experience of the ceremony in the hope that others will attend next year.

Mrs. Ann Wright, President of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs, welcomed the small group who attended the ceremony. Dr. Michael J. Mitchell of the Gault Avenue Baptist Church did a devotional that made garden club seem a very worthwhile and important part of life in anybody's community.

The Jr. ROTC Color Guard from the Fort Payne High School did the Presentation of the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. That was indeed impressive. Michael Johnson, Minister of Music at First Baptist Church of Fort Payne and the First Baptist Church Youth Choir then presented a lovely program of Christmas music starting with "What Child Is This?" and "Mary, Did You Know?" The Jr. ROTC Color Guard from Fort Payne High School then returned for the Retiring of the Colors. Dr. Michael J. Mitchell of the Gault Avenue Baptist Church gave the closing prayer, and the entire assemblage then moved outside where the First Baptist Church Youth Choir did two more a cappella numbers. First, Michael Johnson sang "Let There Be Peace On Earth" solo, and the entire choir followed with "The Carol Of The Bells." That talented group's singing was especially good and much enjoyed by all in attendance. Several people could be heard offering the sentiment, "They were good. I wish they could have sung longer."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Christina Vincent, Third Vice-President of the DeKalb Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs, illuminated the tree. Then, the attendees helped themselves to hot mulled cider and especially nice cookies.

The Groundhog regrets that there wasn't room to print the article on the meeting of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs listing upcoming events. This will appear in the January 2000 issue.

Has your mailbox been stolen, destroyed, or vandalized?

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MOON LAKE HARVEST FESTIVAL ENTERTAINERS

(Continued from page 1.)

Alabama Highland School of Ballet
Tim Murphy, director



Autumn Leaves:
Natalie Graham, Megan Petersen, and Haley Saferite



Marjorie Harper, Sydney Hixon, Brittany Miller
(Alphabetical order)



Kelly Galloway, Anna Graham, Lauren Grisham, Kayla Hazell, Sarah Petersen, Meghan Rogers, Haley Saferite, Rachel Shavers, Tiffany Travis, Julie Zanzig
(Alphabetical Order)



New Generation Dancers
L/R: Megan Smith, Shinice Smith, Paige Wright

MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

Dr. Bill Berry

The December PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 14, at 6:30 PM in the school gym, with the Kindergarten class presenting the Christmas program.

On Thursday, December 16, the Valley Head High School band will present its annual Christmas concert in the Moon Lake gym at 1:00 PM. The public is invited.

Friday, December 17, is the last day of school before the holidays.

Saturday, December 18, Moon Lake will host Fyffe for three basketball games: 4th grade at 9 AM, 5th Grade at 10 AM, 6th grade at 11 AM. School resumes for second semester on Thursday, January 6.

I would like to express my gratitude to John Corey, Desmond Disney, Eddie Goodwin, Larry Smith, and L. M. Flannigan for their assistance in unloading and moving into position the school cafeteria's new 1100 pound oven.

Andrew Habel, senior patrol leader of Boy Scout Troop 106, recently completed his Eagle project on Moon Lake's campus, which consisted of improving walkways, removing gravel, and planting grass seed, and building two benches in the courtyard between the school's main buildings. I appreciate his many hours of planning and work and the time and talent of many people who assisted him.

Moon Lake recently implemented a new cafeteria money collecting system for breakfast and lunch. Students may now prepay for as many days as they wish, thereby expediting the serving line and keeping money safer.

The 4th, 5th, and 6th grades will be doing a Tupperware™ fundraiser for new desks and science equipment.

Moon Lake/Mentone Library Committee Formed

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

On Tuesday, October 26, 1999, at the Mentone Community Center, the first meeting of the library committee was held. Dr. Berry had prepared a packet for each of the members. Objectives were to consider what had occurred up to this point, establish library committee leadership and subcommittees, and to identify and begin planning toward the future. Members on the committee are: Bill Berry, Jean Corey, Marie Dillenbeck, Kathie Disney, Carol Hazell, Larry Johnson, Gary Jones, Jean McGehee, Kathy and Kenneth McMunn, Lyle Nicely, Barbara Petersen, Karen Prestwood, Pat Schoen, Sarah Wilcox, and Jan Wilkinson.

Sub-committees: funding, publicity, facility design, and long-range planning were set with members volunteering in one or several areas. Barbara Petersen and Kathie Disney are co-chairmen, with Barbara agreeing to be the general chairman. Recorder: Kathy McMunn. Publicity: Carol Hazell and Marie Dillenbeck. Facility Design: Pat Schoen, Gary Jones, Bill Berry, Barbara Petersen, Lyle Nicely. Long Range Planning: Jan Wilkinson, chair, Barbara Petersen, Gary Jones, Pat Schoen, Bill Berry. Funding: Sara Wilcox, Karen Prestwood, Lyle Nicely, Gary Jones.

At the second meeting on Nov. 16, Barbara Petersen, Carol Hazell and Pat Schoen, gave a comprehensive report on the trip to Florence. They went to view a library set up and they talked to Charlotte Cays, Florence Library Specialist. She stressed, "Build for the future, don't let the architect tell you what to do. Tell the architect what you want."

Prior to the next meeting in January, each sub committee is to meet in December. Reports will be presented in January.

Plans have been discussed to have a combination/shared library where the school uses it for certain periods and the public uses it for those times when the students are not. A lot of planning will be going into the library, and the committee is having monthly meetings to keep up with all the information.

There has been an anonymous donor who wishes to make his contribution of \$50,000 during the calendar year 2000. His gift will be made as soon as we raise a matching amount. The total amount of \$100,000, matched by 25% of the total costs, means a guaranteed minimum of \$131,250. Currently, the fund has received donations in the amount of \$18,314.

The Little River Hardware has agreed to be available to accept patron donations. Those wishing to make a donation to the library fund in the name of a loved one, will be able to do so through patron cards that will be available soon. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so by sending it to **Moon Lake School, New Library Fund, P.O. Box 166, Mentone, AL 35984.**

The committee is excited about this project and hope that you will be, too. Your contributions of money, supplies, ideas, are needed. You may contact any of the members listed above to see in what area you can be most effective. This is a community effort in which you may get involved.



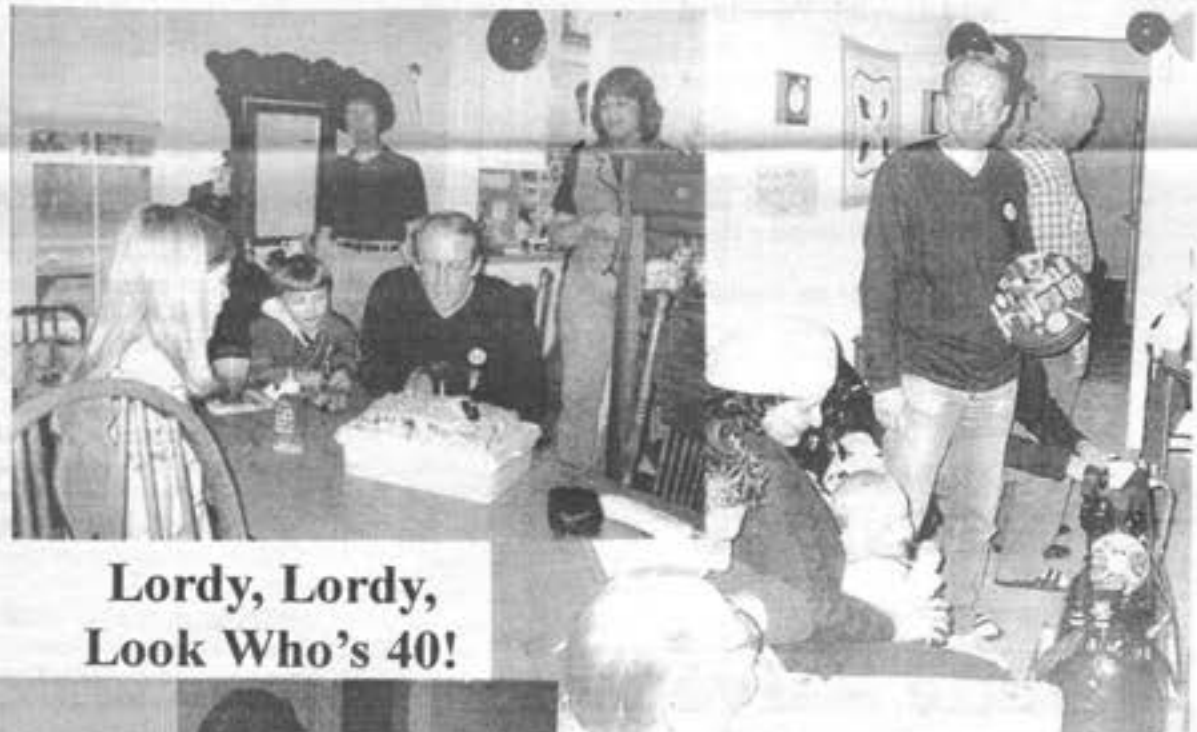
(L/R) Larry Hooks, Susan Hooks, Jordan Cash, Cassie Hooks, Kyle Hooks, Barbara Cash, Roberta Cash, Larry Cash, Max Cash, Steve Harrell, Ann Harrell, Allison Cash, Anita Banks, and Ben Banks

Surprise 75th Birthday Party for Mentone Mayor Max Cash

Family and friends surprised Max Cash on Friday, November 26, 5:00 p.m. The children and grandchildren of Max and Roberta Cash planned the 75th Birthday Celebration in honor of Max Cash. It was held at Riverview Camp for Girls in the dining hall. Guests were invited to "come join us for a "Low-Country Shrimp Boil" with music and lots of food and fun. The dress was casual and warm. No one went away hungry. The feast was something to behold. Everyone had a wonderful time.



Tony Goggans, Mentone Troubadour holds box containing approximately 1000 names that were placed in anticipation of being the winner of a \$250-shopping spree at the White Elephant. This was in response to the annual sale held by the White Elephant Antique Galleries and the Village Boutique. Marie Dillenbeck is shown drawing the lucky ticket belonging to Jimmy and Pat Hathcox, who recently purchased a home in Mentone. The White Elephant and Village Boutique want to thank all those who participated. The response was overwhelming and very much appreciated.



Lordy, Lordy,
Look Who's 40!

Randy Green, son of Marie Dillenbeck, turned "40" on Nov. 17. Standing behind him is his wife, Brenda, who baked his favorite German chocolate cake for this Magnificent 40 birthday. His son, Brian, is on the other side of the door behind his mother. Daughter, Tammy, is sitting across the table waiting for him to blow out the candles. In the second photo, Randy is beaming at the present he received - an air compressor.



Tammy Green

Tammy Green of Conroe, Texas, celebrates her 12th birthday on November 24. Her mother, Brenda, is looking on while Tammy opens her present: a compact disc player. Her dad, Randy Green, celebrated his 40th birthday, also. Tammy has an older brother, Brian, who will turn 16 on Dec. 1. Grandparents are Weldon and Gloria Umlang, also of Conroe, Texas, and Marie Dillenbeck of Mentone, Ala.

Woodard-Blair Wedding



Melanie Woodard Blair, Jamie Blair, and Hayley Woodard

Melanie Woodard and Jamie Blair of Ohio, Illinois, were married at the Mentone Wedding Chapel on October 18, 1999.

The bride is the daughter of David Wright of Mentone and Wally and Myrtle Meeks of Lafayette. Her grandparents are Willie B. Langston, Ann and Bill Wright, and Eloise Burnett, of Mentone. Melanie has one daughter, Hayley Woodard of Ohio, Illinois.

The groom is the son of Roy and Marti Blair of Fairview, Pennsylvania.



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Ms. Bea Tentes, sister to Ex Mayor Christopher; George Christopher; Mayor Bob Parker; Major General Andy Lolli; Probate Judge, Paul Thomas; City Clerk, Jim McGee. Seated: Helen Christopher; Marjorie Ferguson, President of DeKalb County Tourist Association

George Christopher, Ex Mayor of San Francisco visits Mentone

By Amelia Kirk Lolli

For one week, my family entertained Ex Mayor George Christopher and his two sisters, Mrs. Bea Tentes and Ms. Helen Christopher, from San Francisco, Calif. They had never been to the south before. Amelia's husband, Retired Major General Andrew Lolli, was here, too. She took them all around the mountain area, Valley Head, Fort Payne, and Mentone. Valley Knit Sock Mill was most gracious. Bill Cobble and his son showed them how to make socks in modern times. Earth Grains gave them a great tour, thanks to Mr. Kennedy. They enjoyed an evening at Dessie's Kountry Chef, eating catfish and listening to some gospel singing. Chattanooga, Tenn., of course, was on their list and the battlefield, all around town and the Aquarium. A highlight was to have lunch at the Choo Choo. A definite tour was the "Space Center" in Huntsville, after we toured the town. Back in Fort Payne, they enjoyed the Alabama Fan Club and the Antique Mall. Our good friends, the Rick Chapmans--where Andy and Amelia were married 4 years ago--had all of us over for a lovely dinner.

Then down to Birmingham on a tour of the city. Amelia's cousins The Kirks and their daughter, Frances Ann, joined us at "The Club" for a lovely lunch overlooking the city; also joining us were Aunts, Grace and Dorothy Crow, and a good friend of the family, Mrs. Grace Gravelee, whose husband was a dentist and knew the Dr. Hugh Chitwoods real well.

The weather was superb. At the end of their stay, all gathered at the Western Sizzlin, in Fort Payne, for lunch with Mayor Bob Parker, Judge Paul Thomas, City Clerk Jim McGee, and Marjorie Ferguson, President of the Tourist Association.

All enjoyed stories from Mayor Christopher, who was brought to America by his Mother in 1910--he was only 2 years old. The City of San Francisco was still rebuilding after the big earthquake. George's father died when George was 20, so he had to become the head of the family and take on the responsibility of bringing in enough money to help. So, he worked in the dairy and the newspaper "The Examiner," and then on to a business consultant. He received his accounting degree at Golden Gate University.

Mr. Christopher did many things for San Francisco. He was elected Mayor by the highest ever popular vote and served from 1956 to 1963. One of many of his accomplishments was bringing the Giants to San Francisco. He has been all over the world and met numerous people like: Premier Nikita Krushchev, Brezhnev, Emperor Hirohito, King and

Queen of Greece, Aristotle Onassis, Henry Cabot Lodge, many movie stars and sports figures, and Presidents Nixon, Eisenhower, Ford, Johnson, Reagan, and Bush. George ran for Governor of California against Reagan, and, after it was over, he told President Reagan it was good that he won because, being from Greece, he could have never run for President. George has done a lot for San Francisco and still continues to keep up with everything that happens.

No wonder George and Andy became such good friends. Andy has had a similar past, losing his Dad at a very early age and becoming head of the family. His family was from Italy and they started a brick company in New Jersey. But when Andy was called to serve in the military, his mother told him to go, because America had been very good to them. Andy has had a brilliant career in the Army, up from the ranks as enlisted, to Major General when he retired. He met many wonderful people, such as serving under General George Patton, General "Ike" Eisenhower, General Omar Bradley and General Douglas MacArthur. Andy carried documents between Winston Churchill, Stalin, and President Truman during the war. This sort of duty put him into the National War College. His last Command was at Hamilton Air Force Base, North of San Francisco. He was over NORAD North American Region Air Defense, which included all services Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines, Royal Canadian Air Force Coast Guard. He served in three wars, was a prisoner of war and has said many times, if he were called again, he would go. In 1966, Andy became Governor Reagan's Director of General Services for the State of California. He was and is still in tact with many of the ex-presidents because of his military career. Right now, he is on the board for cleaning up at the bases that are being closed. Andy now owns "Castagnolas" restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf since 1976. He sees many people he has met and many who have served in the military under him.

George and Andy are good friends, and they hope to have a super birthday party in 2007 for their 100th.

Amelia loves to bring people back to Mentone and the area--DeKalb County--where she was born and all of the family. She says, "Somehow all the 'Crows' are related."

People are amazed at the trees and how nice and down to earth people are. Everyone has truly loved being in Alabama. I personally want to thank everyone for being so cordial and hospitable. Y'all are the greatest!

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN NATURAL HEALING

By Laura Katherine AKA Moon

There are spices- cinnamon and clove, foods- cranberries and pumpkin, as well as herbs--sage--that are commonly used during the holidays that benefit our health.

Cinnamon is a much favored spice of the holiday season. One of the benefits of cinnamon is that it helps to metabolize fats. It also aids in digestion, which is often something all of us need after a holiday meal. In addition, cinnamon relieves diarrhea and upset stomach. Add some cinnamon to hot tea or cider because it warms the body and helps decrease congestion. Cinnamon is also useful in treating yeast infections and uterine hemorrhaging. Caution should be taken while pregnant or lactating so as not to use cinnamon in large amounts.

Clove is a familiar spice of the holidays. Clove is a digestive aid. It is also an antiseptic. Clove is best known for relieving mouth pain. The essential oil applied to a toothache will numb the pain. The oil is very strong so you may need to dilute it in olive oil or another vegetable oil so as not to cause irritation. Clove oil does not have a very pleasant taste but if you can get past that you have a better chance of getting past mouth pain.

Cranberries are a great source of vitamin C. The vitamin C content gives cranberries a health benefit because vitamin C aids in the production of infection fighting interferons. Cranberries are known to prevent and aid in treating urinary tract infections. It is always recommended to eat or drink cranberry products that contain no sugar or sugar substitutes in order to get the healthiest benefit.

If you decide to make a homemade pumpkin pie, do not throw away the seeds. Pumpkin seeds are good sources of B vitamins, essential fatty acids, zinc and protein. Pumpkin seeds can also be useful in the treatment of prostate disorders.

Sage is used by many to flavor their dressing for the turkey. Sage is not recommended for people with seizure disorders nor women who are pregnant or nursing. Large amounts of sage can dry up the milk of a lactating mother. It can also interfere with the absorption of iron and other minerals. There are benefits to using sage. When used as incense, sage has helped clear my sinuses. Sage stimulates the central nervous system and aids in digestion. It is helpful in treating estrogen deficiency that results in hot flashes. Sage helps control sweating and salivation. Last but not least, a sage rinse can give your hair a beautiful shine--especially for dark hair--and stimulate hair growth. The rinse is made by steeping two teaspoons of sage leaves in two cups of boiling water until the liquid is luke warm or for at least 20 minutes.

I hope that your holiday season is happy and healthy.

Words to live by: Learn to give that which you seek. If you seek affluence, give affluence; if you seek money, give money; if you seek love, appreciation and affection, then learn to give love, appreciation, and affection. Deepak Chopra

THERE IS A NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

By Bill Crane

There is a football team in our midst that is making some records that will probably stand longer than any current record in sports. The last game it won gave it the seventh straight conference title that they have shared or won outright. That victory gave the team a third straight undefeated conference season, not to mention its first undefeated regular season. What team could be this good? Not the one coached by the Bear, or Shug, or even the past Bobby. Each of these made records while coaching, but they did not come close to matching the above records. Nor has any current coach, including the current Bobby, come close to matching them. One may say that competition is tougher in some football leagues, and that may be true for a given year. But, for seven consecutive years? Competition in any league will certainly be tough as any sometime in a seven year span. OK, who is this team? None other than Carson-Newman. Never heard of it? You haven't followed baseball very long if you haven't, for, over the years, they have had some of the best baseball teams for schools of their size.

Where Carson-Newman is located is not readily known. If one does not live close by, one has to go to a directory to find that it is located in Jefferson City, Tennessee. Jefferson City is only about two hundred miles from Mentone. It is close enough that you could go there, see Carson-Newman play, and return home all in one day.

It appears the only way Carson-Newman's records may fall is for their team to do the same next football season as they have this season. For them to establish their current records is an amazing feat! They are to be congratulated, and wished the best in future years. Hopefully, at this time next year we can say that they have done it again. Way to go, Carson-Newman!

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The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ



Here it is December already, and I don't know where 1999 has gone. Granted, we have been busy with remodeling and adding on to our house, and it has been great fun. I hope this has been a good year for all of you and wish you and your families a good holiday season filled with family, friends, fun and fellowship.

My mind seems to focus on soups this time of year, and our friend, Dean, has a gift for putting together good soups. I ran across this one and thought I would share it with you. My sister-in-law shared a biscuit recipe with me that I am sure would go well with this soup, as well as any thing else you eat biscuits with. I humiliated myself trying to impress my brother with biscuits when he was here in September and wish I had thought about this simple, quick biscuit recipe.

Spinach Soup a la Dean

1 pkg chopped spinach

1 can cubed potatoes (or two potatoes cubed & cooked)

1 can chicken broth

1/2 tsp fines herbs

2 or 3 cloves of garlic, chopped fine

Heat broth, garlic, herbs, and seasoning; and cook spinach according to package directions. Add spinach to simmering broth, add potatoes, and slow simmer covered for 15 or 30 minutes. Garnish with chopped green onions and sour cream.

Whipping Cream Biscuits

2 Cups sifted Martha White Self-Rising Flour

1 Cup whipping cream

Preheat oven to 450°. Combine flour and whipping cream in mixing bowl; stir with fork only until dough leaves sides of bowl. Knead lightly just until smooth. Roll out to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut into rounds with 2-inch cutter. Place on lightly greased baking sheet. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown. Makes 12 to 14 biscuits. (If using all-purpose flour, mix 1 tablespoon baking powder and 3/4 teaspoon salt with flour.)

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Kay Scruggs and Inelle Hurt

The Valley Head Woman's Club

By Flo Kirby

The November meeting of the Valley Head Woman's Club took place on the 17th at the lovely historical home of Marjorie and Maynard Donahoe in Valley Head.

The meeting was called to order by President Evelyn Graves. Jean Jones gave an inspirational devotion reading from scriptures with references to precious stones. Our program topic was "antique jewelry."

The colorist was led by Velma Hammond, and Judith Hammond called the roll and read minutes of the previous meeting. Helen Longshore gave the Treasurer's report and Doris Carmichael gave an update on the pecan pick. Dot Blackburn collected money for the Christmas Party, which will be December 10, Caldwell's Restaurant, at 6:00 p.m.

Even one enjoyed seeing Andy Shales again, visiting from Texas and associate member Judi Hoots Lyons. Frankie Harrison and Christina Yarnes are newest members. She also introduced Kay Scruggs who presented the program on antique jewelry. Kay brought along a large display case containing examples of some of the jewelry she sells. She explained the different eras of antique jewelry and how they differ. The categories discussed were Georgian, Victorian, Art Deco, Art Nouveau, Colonial, and Edwardian.

Helen Longshore presented a delicious table of refreshments for everyone to enjoy. Mrs. Donahoe conducted a story of her home for those interested in the history of the beautiful old home.



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The Shed

By Cheryl Baker

The Shed would like to give special thanks to everyone for helping our business grow. It has been a very short year, it seems like, but it is coming to an end.

The Mentone Inn is very pretty this year, nicely lit up from inside to outside. The lights at the Inn went on the 2nd day after Thanksgiving Day. If you have not seen it yet, you should stop and take a look. It looks like a snow village as you come up the mountain. Special thanks to the new owners, Mike and Sarah Campbell, of Birmingham. If you don't know them, they are very nice people and you ought to meet them. Mrs. Daisy, who is the innkeeper there, is also very kind and sweet. The Mentone Inn was done in a Victorian look provided by Cheryl and David Baker.

The Shed is a company that is growing in many ways. They have added many wonderful new additions that are being completed this winter. David has announced in the future of next year, with their water gardening supplies, liners, & plants, that they will be carrying Koi Fish, food and supplies. There are new additions being made for the Koi Fish. "You will have to wait to see in the spring," said David & Cheryl.

We are hoping to do much more to the store than what has been done, it just takes time. Additions to our greenhouse are being made this year, along with a new building to keep fresh potting soil, top soil, cow manure, mulch, and fertilizers for your garden. Additions to the inside of the store have already taken place. The Shed has launched their Home Interior and Christmas Store, along with expansions that were made for their fireworks.

The Shed has been in business since David's dad owned it for nearly 20 years, now. David & Cheryl said they would be here, hopefully, to see their two boys run it. Cheryl said we are still looking for new things to do at the store. We have a lot of great ideas for the Nursery. You will have to wait till next year. I will say that going to all the shows we have been to give us a lot of ideas. "I can barely wait till next year."

David and I are very excited for the spring—I think more than him. There are many new plants on the market, and I believe we will have a few of them to retail to our customers. Shade plants are hard to find, and I have about 10 new plants coming, besides all the shade plants we normally carry. You will just have to wait until spring to find out what they are. Being a Licensed Horticulturist brings David and me up to date on new plant specimens, plant shows, and planting techniques that are only shown at the shows, which David and I can share with all of you. Did you know that there are better than 2000 plants a year introduced on the market each year? I did not until I saw it for myself. I can honestly say it is impossible for anyone to know every single plant out there on the market. However, The Shed has taken the privilege to invest in a program that will not only help David and me learn all these plants, but also to help you to learn about them. If for some reason we do not carry what you want, we will be able to find out what it is. I'm excited to share all these new wonderful things with everyone. We are adding many outdoor lighting ideas, a stained glass window, a new outdoor table, and a new outdoor chair. Our new ideas we wanted to share with you. Forward state me what you want and we will have to wait till next year.

It was, however, the Shed that brought the fireworks show on New Year's Eve. Hope to see everyone there to help in the "New Year" which will be very exciting. Thank you, David & Cheryl Baker - The Shed.

Upcoming Events:
• Pottery Show at the Hitching Post
• Christmas and New Year's Eve at the Hitching Post
• New Year's Eve at the Hitching Post
• Christmas and New Year's Eve at the Hitching Post
• Christmas and New Year's Eve at the Hitching Post
• Christmas and New Year's Eve at the Hitching Post

The Original
Snow Village
WoodMasters

The Church News By EVELYN GRAVES



Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 8:15 AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L. A. Smith are alternate speakers for these services.

The **Valley Head United Methodist Church** Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday and Worship is at 10 AM.

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.

Menlo Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10 and 11 AM services and evening services will be at 7 and 9 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

The **Mentone Revival Center** and Pastor Alfred Chambers and his wife Polly, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10 AM. Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM.

The **Harmony Grove Baptist Church** invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 259 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45 AM; Morning Worship is at 11 AM; Evening Worship is at 6 PM; Wednesday Night Prayer Service is at 6 PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds mass services at 10:30 AM each Sunday, and Communion Services at 6 PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 114 First St. SW, Fort Payne, will hold Advent services on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM, beginning November 30th. The theme this year will be "Popular Notions About Christmas" and will include "Christmas Is For Kids," on November 30th, "Christmas Is For Giving," on December 7th, and "Christmas Is For Getting," on December 14th. There will be a candlelight service of lessons and carols on Christmas Eve, December 24th, at 6:30 PM. Regular Sunday services at Prince of Peace are at 8 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM. We welcome the community to join us as we prepare for and celebrate Christmas.

Pastor Rev. Gerhard Grau invites the public to attend the Presbyterian Church worship service at Cloudland, which begins at 10 AM (EST), and the Menlo service which begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10 a.m., Worship service at 11 a.m., Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6 p.m., and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 pm.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services in the Woodmen of the World building in Valley Head. Everyone is welcome to attend! Song Service & Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 AM; Worship Service - 11:00 - 12:00; Pastor: Wilbur Arwood; Lay Pastor: Michael Schnabeltner. Every Wednesday night at 6:30 Bible Study: The prophecies of Daniel and Revelation. Everyone is invited. Thank you to all who participated in our church campout! What a great weekend! Our next project is our Vegetarian Cooking School in Dec. Check elsewhere in this issue for further details. Also anyone interested in Christmas Caroling, get in touch with Dowe Foreman: 634-4021.

Lee's Chapel Baptist Church, started Awana Ministry for Children on Oct. 6, on Wednesday evenings, from 6:15 to 7:45.

The **Mentone Church of God of Prophecy** wants to invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is at 10 AM, with Worship at 11 AM. Evening services begin at 6 PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** invites you to attend Sunday School at 10 AM; Worship Service at 11 AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6 PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6 PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 8:30 AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2 PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Nov. 28, Rev. and Mrs. Bob Stewart, Missionaries from Thailand, spoke at the 11 AM service. Also from 5-7 PM, Nov. 28, there was an International Mission study. Dec. 1 at 6:30 PM was the Hanging of the Greens. Dec. 7, the Community Choir under the direction of Peggy Bentley will present "A Simple Christmas," on Dec. 19, at 5 PM at Moon Lake Baptist Church, and again at 7 PM at Valley Head Baptist Church. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these services.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church pastor, James Braddy, welcomes everyone to services every Sunday morning -- Sunday School begins at 10 AM, followed by worship hour at 11 AM, evening services at 6 PM, and Wednesday services are at 7 PM. All times are EST. All visitors are welcome and we encourage you to come worship our Lord, Jesus Christ, every opportunity available. Mount Calvary is located behind the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church services are Sunday at 10:30 AM, with Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Small groups meeting on Sun., Tue, and Wed. nights. A "Super Saturday" event -- a mini-Vacation Bible School with a circus theme, is planned for one Saturday each month. A prayer and praise service one Sunday night each month. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any of their events or services. Everyone is welcome.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 9:45 AM each Sunday, Morning worship and Children's Church are at 11:00 AM. First Place meets in the Fellowship Hall and GAS meet at 4:30 PM, Discipleship Training and Youth Choir meet at 5:00 PM, followed by Evening Worship at 6:00 PM. On Wednesday at 6:30 PM, Children's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall, the Youth have Bible Study and Recreation Time, Adults meet for Bible Study and Prayer. The Hanging of the Green was during the morning worship time on November 28. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper on Sunday, December 5th. We are enjoying the ministry of our Interim Pastor and his wife, Rev. Nolan and Mrs. Dee Ford with us. The Youth of Moon Lake are participating in many activities under the direction of Allen Crow and David and Marcia Tucker. They have attended a New Song and Steven Curtis Chapman Concert, and delivered fruit to our Seniors for Thanksgiving, again this year. There are several activities planned for December, including the annual caroling and Christmas party. The children will also have a time of Caroling and a Hayride. Both of these activities for the Youth and Children will occur on December 18. The JOY Group had their annual Fall Apple Excursion to Dahlonega and Ellijay, GA, on the 21st of October. The regular JOY meeting was held on November 18, in the Fellowship Hall of the church. There was a Thanksgiving program. Our next meeting will be the annual Christmas Party on December 16, in the new Jim Berry Scout Hall at 11:30 AM. Everyone 55 and older in the community is invited to join us. Bring a covered dish and join us in a good time.

Anyone interested in observing the Sabbath and Holy Days, please attend with us at 11 AM each Sabbath. Located 2 blocks on right on Hwy 85, off Highway 11, approximately 2 miles from Fort Payne. Call 845-2246 for information.

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Pastor Linda Tucker invites everyone to attend. District Superintendent, Gerald Champion was the speaker at the services on Sunday, Nov. 21 for annual Charge Conference. Following the service was a covered dish luncheon to

welcome him. Monday, Nov. 22, the ladies met and prepared additional Chrismon ornaments. The two UMW units, Ethel Brown and Mountain Laurel, met on Wednesday, Dec. 1, to decorate the church. Dec. 5 will be the "Hanging of the Greens" Service and the blessing of the Chrismon Tree. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Union Hill Baptist Church Sunday School is at 10 AM, Worship is at 11 AM, Adult Choir practice is at 4:30 PM, Discipleship Training is at 6 PM, and Evening Worship is at 7 PM. Wednesday evening at 5 PM is Youth Choir practice. Each 2nd Sunday evening, the church has a singing at 6 PM. Everyone is invited for the singing.



Mentone Church of God of Prophecy Homecoming Promise

by Rev. Charles Flannigan Fulfilled
Rev. Charles Flannigan announced at services prior to Homecoming that if as many as 100 came to church at Homecoming on Sept. 26, he would preach from the roof during another service. With a challenge like that, what could they do? Everyone got busy and 150 people attended Homecoming. Two weeks later, Rev. Charles Flannigan was heard and photographed preaching from the roof.

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The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

The last scribbling of the century for *The Groundhog!* It should be a good one! We have had a year of usual events, some good and some bad, and some unusual happenings. This has been the driest year I can think of. Many shrubs, dogwood trees, azaleas, and numerous other plants have died for lack of moisture. There have been times when there was no water flowing over DeSoto Falls - one of our major scenic attractions. We were all set for a lack of foliage coloring, but it was very beautiful if about three weeks late in appearing. It has been a great fall season with many tourists enjoying Mentone.

The movie "Southern Heart" has been well received and has definitely brought many people here. We enjoyed the wonderful scenery more than the actual story. It was fantastic, filmed at the peak of our autumn coloring. The scene shot from a helicopter was exceptionally good. It's exciting to tell people we had a movie filmed here in our town. Jamie Collins (star of the movie) was here recently with a friend from New York who she was showing the area. I hear that Jamie is in a movie being shot in Scotland. She is a beautiful girl and I hope it does well.

A recent visitor at the Hitching Post was Cleve Porter who is the grandson of Lila Van Zant. He lives in Knoxville but comes to Mentone occasionally. His mother is Madeline Van Zant Porter. Cleve was interested in history of the Hitching Post because his great grandfather Lowe owned the store when the depression came in the thirties. The store and the contents were auctioned, and Cleve said many people owed him for groceries and could not, or would not, pay him. That's sad. He also told me some history of what we call the Barrett place, which he says was the Lowe's house. He will work on the history of the place some more.

The Lookout Mountain Parkway Association met at the Mentone Springs Hotel November 17th, with Bill Springer, president, presiding. A committee is working toward making the parkway designated as a scenic by-way. Since the parkway is located in three states, the legislature in all three states must approve. A new brochure, complete with map, is planned and should be printed soon.

The following day, I was invited to a "tasty" luncheon at Red Bank United Methodist Church near our home in Chattanooga. This is an affair done by the Daytona Garden Club every year, and I know it had been more than twenty years since I had been on this occasion. It is a very special luncheon, because each member of the club brings her specialty dish, and this is a way to make a little money for the club. Of course, several of us were invited guests and did not pay. Madeline Rawls made a pumpkin cake that was scrumptious. My friend, Helen Lockwood, who invited me, made wonderful rolls and a good asparagus casserole. I sat at a table with Mrs. O'Neal who taught Barry in grammar school. She told me her husband and her brother used to play with an orchestra at the Mentone Springs Hotel! That was interesting. The hotel was very popular during the twenties and early thirties.

Mickey Gough is coordinating the Christmas party for the children at Moon Lake School, in cooperation with the North DeKalb Ministerial Association, and the PTO. We all look forward to a good party with the children. Our good Santa will be there giving presents to each child.

My mind is on baking for Christmas. I have a Martha Stewart Christmas idea book, complete with delectable sounding recipes. Mine may not come up to the standard, but will suffice to satisfy the sweet tooth of our family members. Every year, I'm determined to get baking done early, casseroles in the freezer, the house decorated, but I'm never done in time. Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year when people are more loving, gentle, and kind to each other. I love the smell of fresh cut pine, the glow of candles, and the lighted Christmas tree, a beautifully set table, with family and friends

gathered around it. The gifts are the least of the excitement. Good food, holiday music and singing carols are so meaningful. The greatest gift we can give is the gift of love, and there are many people who need love.

Alyce Springer, George Walker, and I are singing with the community chorus for the Christmas cantata entitled "A Simple Christmas". It will be given at Moon Lake Baptist at 5:00 p.m. and Valley Head Baptist at 7:00 p.m. December 19th.

May the peace and joy of Christmas go with you into the year 2000.

Well, good folks, it is that time of the year again. The holidays and festivities are upon us again, and, hopefully, we have managed to gather and store an abundant supply of home-grown veggies, especially as the threat of the Y2K problem looms closer and closer. (In my humble opinion, I don't think that we will suffer such a problem, as the U.S.A. is too technologically advanced to let something like that pose as a threat to its citizens).

It seems that we have to worry more about the real threats, like global warming and the greenhouse effects that have been causing the strangest flip-flops with the weather and temperature here and globally.

GLOBAL WARMING: A majority of the Americans now believe that they are seeing changes in their local weather due to the global warming phenomenon, with nearly three quarters of them saying that the changes are for the worse. For over a hundred years, scientists have been carefully gathering and verifying data on the earth's temperature. The latest data reveals some striking trends: •1. All 10 of the warmest years on record have occurred in the last 15 years. •2. The 1990s have already been warmer than the 1980s--the warmest decade on record by almost 0.2 F (0.1 C)--according to the Goddard Institute of Space Studies. •3. In vast areas of the United States, temperature increases in a range of 2-4 F (1.1-2.0 C) have been measured this century. 4. The global average surface temperature increase has risen 0.5 - 1.1 F (0.3 - 0.6 C) since reliable records began in the second half of the 19th century.

Until recently, researchers were uncertain whether these developments reflected natural variations in the earth's climate, or whether, in fact, human activities contributed to the warming. But in the fall of 1995, scientists with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, for the first time ever, concluded that the observed increase in global average temperature over the last century "is unlikely to be entirely natural in origin" and that "the balance of evidence suggests that there is a discernable human influence on global climate". The atmospheric concentrations of these gases (water vapor, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and methane), particularly carbon dioxide, have been rising. As a result, more heat is being trapped than previously, which, in turn, is causing the global temperature to rise. Climate scientists have linked the increased levels of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere to human activities, in particular, the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas for heating and electricity, gasoline for transportation), deforestation, cattle ranching, and rice farming.

Scientists still cannot predict the exact impact on the earth's climate of these rising levels of heat-trapping gases over the next century, future impacts from this kind of warming will most likely include: •1. Damage to human health •2. Severe stress on forests, wetlands and other natural habitats. •3. Dislocation of agriculture and commerce. •4. Expansions of the earth's deserts. •5. Melting of polar ice caps and consequent rise in the sea level •6. More extreme weather events.

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GARDEN HINTS

INDOOR PLANTS: House plants need re-potting from time to time, and the frequency of re-potting depends on the growth rate of the particular plant. Fast growing plants may need re-potting annually, while slow growing plants may require re-potting every 2-3 years; and some plants like the amaryllis thrive when pot-bound. Do not re-pot ailing or dormant plants or those beginning to flower. For plants in large containers that are impossible to re-pot, remove the top 2" - 3" inches of soil and replace this with fresh mix every other year or so, this is called top dressing.

Temperatures of 50F or lower can damage many tropical plants via "chilling injury", therefore, it is a good idea to move house plants inside when temperatures outside and inside are about the same.

POINSETTIA CARE: Poinsettias thrive in bright but not direct sunlight, so put the plant near a sunny window as direct sunlight could dis-color the bracts. On the other hand, low light can cause the plant to lose some of its leaves. Consider placing it in a shady location like the dining table. It will not tolerate moisture extremes. Do not keep the potting mix too wet or too dry. If allowed to dry out too much, the plant will wilt and drop its leaves, conversely. Don't allow the plant to remain in standing water, as this could result in root rot which will eventually kill the plant.

The poinsettia is a perennial plant, it can live for many years; however, the average span of time in which a poinsettia is most attractive in the home is 2 - 4 weeks and with excellent care could last 6-8 weeks. They do not last long when exposed to extremes in temperatures, particularly in drafty locations.

POST HOLIDAY CARE: If you want to maintain your poinsettia beyond the holiday season, you will need to give it some attention on a regular basis, and there are some critical times at which you will need to tend your plant. In early April, cut the plant back to about 6" - 8" in height and place it outside in the shade (mistake I made was putting it in the full sunlight), keep the plant watered, fertilize the poinsettia regularly when new growth begins. You may have to prune your plant some during the summer to keep it bushy, but do not prune any more after September. You can re-pot your poinsettia to a larger container in June. Use a potting mix similar in composition to the one that the plant is currently growing in. Bring the plant in just before threat of cold weather. Poinsettias are short-day (long night) plants, you must decrease day length in the autumn to stimulate flowering. To make sure that your poinsettia will be in flower by December, the day length for the plant should not exceed 10 hours. For about 8-10 weeks beginning in October, place your poinsettia in complete darkness every day from from about 5 pm to 7-8 am. The plant must not be exposed to even a single burst of light during this dark long-night period. During the light period each day, place the plant where it will receive bright, indirect sunlight.



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(2) WHAT A MOUNTAIN RETREAT SHOULD BE! Three bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 sitting rooms, sunroom, dining room and kitchen with breakfast nook, pine floors and walls. All this on more than 2 acres of elite brow front property. \$249,900.



(3) COMMERCIAL PROPERTY IN MENTONE Great location, building offers 5 rooms, a kitchen, bath and glassed-in porch with plenty of room for parking. \$65,000.



(4) MAKE YOUR MOVE into this beautiful home with acreage. Only 2 1/2 years old with 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, full basement, Pella windows, pine floors, deck, cathedral ceiling and so much more. If you've been looking for just the right house at the right price—look no further. \$142,500.



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(7) EVERYTHING YOU COULD WANT IN A MOUNTAIN HOME! You'll fall in love with this house at first sight. Beautiful pine floors, Mountain rock fireplace, screened sleeping porch, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat and air, and lighted decks going all the way down to the river. Don't miss your chance! \$175,000.



(8) ALMOST NEW CHALET - 2 bdrms - 2 baths detached garage - cable, just minutes from Valley Head School. \$63,500.



(9) CHECK YOUR OPTIONS in this 3 bedroom, 3 bath home featuring living room, dining room, 2 dens, sunroom overlooking L-shaped in-ground pool and 3 car garage with storage room, and fenced yard. A+ actively priced at \$150,000.



(10) COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES ON HWY 117. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath modular home comes with a fully equipped kitchen, living room, dining room, sunroom, central heat and air, 20x30 shed/garage and a nice landscaped yard on over 1 acre. Call today for more details. \$65,000.



(11) LAKE ON THE BROW - Panoramic view of the valley and at one point Lake Weiss. Three bedroom, 2-1/2 bath custom built home with stacked rock foundation and fireplace with inside wood storage. Pella windows, corian counter tops and sink, skylights, track and recessed lighting, professional landscaping...too many extras to list. Call today for all the details. \$369,500.



(12) PARADISE FOUND—Privately situated on 26 acres, this rustic home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, a beautiful in-ground pool, rock fireplace, screened porches, large basement, a three-car garage with spacious garage apartment, and gorgeous landscaping. Close to Little River Canyon—the property has a creek running through it and plenty of places for hiking and enjoying nature. \$175,000.



(13) ANY WAY YOU LOOK, it's hard to miss the stunning view from this post and beam, 2-bedroom retreat. Situated on over 5 acres on the West Brow of Lookout Mountain. \$149,900.



(14) MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL AND CALDWELL'S RESTAURANT. Historical Landmark in downtown Mentone currently being run as a bed and breakfast. Restaurant seats 100+ people. Great for weddings, receptions, conferences—endless possibilities. For more information, please call 256-845-6000. \$650,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

(14) WEEKEND OR WEEKLY RENTAL available. 3 bdrms and 2 baths will accommodate 8 people. For more information, call Susan Collins.

(15) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.

(16) MAKE THE MOVE TO MENTONE! Building lot on DeSoto Parkway - 200 feet of road frontage. \$10,000.

(17) LAKE ON BROW - two great building lots. Over 1 acre Lake lot \$37,500. 1.4 acre Brow lot \$45,000.

(18) TWO - 3 1/4 ACRE BROW LOTS just minutes from DeSoto State Park. \$40,000 each.

(19) CANYON VIEW FOREST - 3 1/4 acre lot on the rim of Little River Canyon - Creek and Waterfall on property. \$34,500.

(20) 1.75+ ACRES IN WEST FORK SUBDIVISION. \$28,500.

(21) WEST FORK SUBDIVISION - Over 3 acres in West Fork Subdivision. This property is wooded and has a spring. Lightly restricted. \$15,000.

(22) BROW PROPERTY - 2.64 +/- acres on the West Brow of Lookout Mountain. Located less than one mile from downtown Mentone. \$45,000.

(23) OVER 3 ACRES IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE with access to city water. \$15,000.

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UGF CAMPAIGN HITS \$330,000 GOAL

This year's United Givers Fund Campaign officially hit the \$330,000 mark on Wednesday, Nov. 17, according to Barbara Turner, Campaign Director. The campaign had fallen short of its goal some \$2600 at the final Report Meeting held on Nov. 10. However, pledges and contributions are still coming in, and the official campaign total as of Monday, Nov. 22, stood at \$330,420.71.

Ms. Turner said, "We are especially grateful to all our volunteers this year. This was a very challenging campaign. Every volunteer was important and each one seemed to work especially hard this year in trying to meet their individual goals. We certainly appreciated the hard work of our Campaign General Chairman, Jonnie Justice, who headed up the Campaign for the second year in a row."

Ms. Justice said she believes everyone in the county has been touched in one way or the other by UGF. She said, "It helps everyone, from the youngest to the oldest in the county." Throughout the campaign, she emphasized just how important UGF funding is to CASA, saying, "If it weren't for the UGF funding, there wouldn't be a CASA here in DeKalb County."

Funds from this campaign will help to support 12 local, non-profit agencies providing a wide variety of services to DeKalb County residents.

"The Theme, 'Into a New Generation of Caring,' for this, the final United Givers Fund campaign of the century, has been fulfilled by the meeting of the goal," Turner said, "and the UGF thanks all the volunteers and contributors who helped make it happen."

☺Happy Birthday☺



Will Smith and Miranda Smith

Will Smith celebrated his 3rd birthday Oct. 2; and his sister, Miranda, was five Nov. 11. Their parents are Suzanne and Rob Smith of Trenton, Ga. Grandparents are Barbara and Benny Palmer of Valley Head. Nancy and Steve Smith of Mentone, and Pat & Sam Kennedy of Jasper, Tenn.

NEW ENGLAND VILLAGE®

WoodMasters



VALLEY HEAD'S FIRST GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

Standing: Coach Tom Shanklin, Annie Harrison, Amanda Wooten, Jessica Barrier, and Assistant Coach Steve Davis, Jessica Barrier. **Kneeling:** Heather Plunk, Maaren Butts, Helle Skak-Nielsen; **Sitting:** Ashley Clark, Shannon Chappell, Catrina Ingran, Kelly Wright



LAKE LAHUSAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, Sept. 4, the newly-formed Lake Lahusage Homeowners Association held its fall meeting. After the meeting, Taylor Adams and his crew demonstrated the capabilities of the new fire truck acquired by Tri-County Fire and Rescue Squad. Upon adjournment, everyone went to the home of Bill and Susan Coyne and R.E. and Mary Ann Nelson for a potluck barbeque lunch. All who attended enjoyed the food and fellowship.





Shooters get ready for next round Everyone Wins At Tri-County Fire & Rescue Turkey Shoot

by Joli LaSavant

The bright sun of a clear fall day greeted about fifty shooters at the Tri-County Fire and Rescue Turkey Shoot at the Tri-County Building next to AAA Hardware on Hwy 48 on Saturday, November 6th. Twenty-One rounds were shot for three hams, two loins, eight Case knives, two Case license plates and six money rounds. Winners of knives were Phil Key, Pete Ballinger, Jason Green, Dewayne Pritchett, Daryll Adams, Lefty Solomon, Debbie Shurey and Bradley Wright. Winners of hams were Daryll Adams, Howard Durham and Dewayne Pritchett. Loins went to Phil Key and Darrin Smith. Case tags were won by Darrin Smith and Heath Blalock. Winners of the money rounds were Darrin Smith, Ray Ballinger, Howard Durham, John Verdon, DJ Mason and Daryll Adams. The lucky winner of the \$500 drawing is Ronnie Hawkins of Lafayette.

When shooters took breaks, there were bar-b-que sandwiches and sausage biscuits at the concessions' area. Tri-County Fire & Rescue volunteers want to thank all their supporters. Funds raised by the Turkey Shoot will go toward the purchase of fire equipment.

A Christmas party is planned for December 18th at 4 pm. Volunteer members are selling \$1 tickets now on an eight foot stocking filled with toys. The winner will be drawn at the party. They are also selling \$1 tickets for a drawing on a gift basket valued at \$50 donated by the craftswomen of Mountain Mamas Pottery and Crafts on Hwy 48. Everyone is invited. Santa is expected to arrive at the party on the fire truck.

The Tri-County Fire and Rescue Department covers a five mile radius from the Georgia/Alabama line in DeKalb and Cherokee Counties in Alabama, and Chattooga County in Georgia. Everyone is welcome to attend their meetings on the second and fourth Monday evenings from 6-9 p.m. Membership is free. Call (706) 862-6515 for more information.



Shooters take their marks

Joli LaSavant



Girl Scout Troop 1012 Investiture Service

(L/R): Marjorie Harper, Patty Grider, Megan Gregory, Savannah Weller, Samantha Rhodes, Samantha Weller, Dustie Nix, Jessica Thornberry
Tiffany Tiffany Crane & Jessie Mayhem, not shown, were unable to attend.
Back row: Leaders, Dana Weller and April Nix

By Marie Dillenbeck

On November 15, 1999, at 5:30 pm, Girl Scout Troop 1012 under the direction of leaders, April Nix and Dana Weller, held an investiture service to welcome 11 new scouts. The service was held at the Valley Head Woodmen of the World Hall.

As part of the service, a candle was lit for each girl as she recited the Girl Scout promise. The following girls participated in the ceremony: Marjorie Harper, Patty Grider, Tiffany Harper, Megan Gregory, Savannah Weller, Samantha Rhodes, Samantha Weller, Dustie Nix, and Jessica Thornberry. Two girls were unable to attend: Tiffany Crane and Jessie Mayhem.

Others recognized during the service were Dean Fritz whose donation helped Troop 1012 get started, and Marie Dillenbeck whose donation will purchase vests for each scout.

Refreshments followed. Special thank you to Denise Brown and Lesa Smith for the cakes. Several members of the troop entertained those present with a skit.

The troop has been participating in the annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale that started Nov. 13th and ends Dec. 5th. To place any last minute orders, you may reach Troop 1012, by calling April Nix at 635-6298.

It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!

The time to place your order for Girl Scout cookies is almost over. Girl Scouts in North Alabama and South Tennessee started taking orders for Girl Scout cookies on Nov. 13th, and the last day is Dec. 5.

Proceeds from the cookie sale are used by troops for activities they have planned and by the council to fund services and programs made available throughout the year to Girl Scouts in this area. Cookies will be sold for \$3.00 per box. The theme for the 1999-2000 Cookie Sale is "Leap to the Future."

"The cookie program helps each girl learn about goal setting, responsibility, and how to handle money," said Tracy Silas, Public Relations Manager. "It builds social skills through teamwork, and educates and informs the girls about new concepts and ideas. The sale gives girls a feeling of self-worth and results in long-lasting friendships because it's fun!"

The old favorites are back from last year: Samoas, Thin Mints, Do-si-dos, Tagalongs, Striped Chocolate Chip, Trefoils, Reduced Fat

Apple Cinnamon, and Lemon Drop. If you don't know a Girl Scout, don't worry. You can call the Girls Scouts of North Alabama, Inc., at 1-800-410-8338 to locate a troop near you.

The Girl Scouts of North Alabama, Inc. council serves over 8,000 girls in 12 counties in Alabama and two in Tennessee.

Girl Scouts is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls—all girls—, where in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adults, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives—like strong values, social conscience, and conviction about their own potential and self-worth. In Girl Scouts, they discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together. Through the many enriching experiences provided by the Girl Scouts, they can grow courageous and strong.

Troop 1012 can be reached by calling April Nix at 635-6298.



NOW AVAILABLE!**HOLLOWICK'S
LIQUID WAX LAMP FUEL****(the same fuel used for years in restaurants)**

- Clean Burning
- Virtually No Odor or Soot
- Smokeless
- Safe to Store
(10+ years shelf life)



Liquid Wax Candle
23 hour disposable cartridge
Use same as a candle
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**Quart****2 1/2 Gallons**

Replaces lamp oil or
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**Valley Head School News****By Lisa Moore**

Valley Head High School held its Junior and Senior Beta Club inductions on Sunday, November 21st. Congratulations to all its members. We hope they keep up the good work. They have all worked very hard to attain this honor.

The Valley Head PTO held its talent shows on Nov. 5th and 6th. The PTO would like to thank all the entertainers who participated. They all did a wonderful job and were not at all shy to stand up and show their talent. (A few were even asked for an encore!) The PTO would also like to thank everyone who attended and who participated in the event. If you were not able to attend, we would like you to know you missed a great show. Valley Head School has some great students to be proud of!

The Valley Head PTO held its November meeting on the 1st, and it was very disappointing to see such a small attendance. The next meeting will be held on Dec. 6th, and will begin at 7 PM. The band will perform its annual Christmas concert, and the beginner band will also perform. Please show your concern for your child and your school by attending this meeting. It is also a time to meet with your child's teacher(s) to discuss grades, progress, and other important items. And remember, also, that, if your child's class is the one with the most attendance at PTO, their class will receive \$25 for the classroom. We hope to see you there.

During the Dec. PTO meeting, the Home-Ec class will have items they made during the school year out to view-- items such as hook rugs, quilts, and baby blankets. The AG Department will also have a few projects out for display. The PTO is having its "Santa's Secret Workshop" Dec. 13 thru 16 in the auditorium. Workers are needed for this project. If you are available to help, please get in touch with Pam Dean at 635-6674. Workers are needed for morning, afternoon, and all-day shifts. It is a rewarding experience helping these children pick out gifts for their family and friends.

The Valley Head Band has received their wind suits they ordered back in September. They will wear them for their PTO Christmas concert. They will also perform Christmas music for Moon Lake on Thursday, Dec. 16, at 1 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend. District solo and ensemble will be held on Dec. 4 at Fort Payne High School. Some of the band students have chosen to participate in this event. The band has also been asked to march in the Fyffe Christmas parade on Dec. 4.

The Valley Head Beta Club bagged groceries and sold chances on a Wal-Mart gift certificate on Oct. 31 at Wal-Mart, in Fort Payne. All the money raised will go toward the Beta Club convention trip. They would like to thank everyone who gave donations or bought a chance.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and always remember to keep Christ in your Christmas!



Santa's Visiting Center
6-Piece Gift Set

WoodMasters

322 Gault Avenue NW • Fort Payne, AL 35967
•Phone & FAX: 256-845-2367

**J. O. Y.**

(Just Older Youth)
Annual Christmas
Party
December 16th
at 11:30 a.m.

If you are 35 or older,
bring a Covered dish
and join us for Food,
Fun and Fellowship!

Dogwood Haven I

741 Houston Loop Rd. W • Ft. Payne, AL 35968
Phone: (256)-845-0211

Assisted Living Residence
Brenda Pendergrass
Owner

**Dogwood Haven II**

751 Houston Loop Rd. W • Ft. Payne, AL 35968
Phone: (256)-845-8244

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(1) **ADORABLE FURNISHED COTTAGE, MENTONE.** 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Pine Floors, Rock Fireplace, 2 wood-ed lots. Just bring your overnight bag, and stay awhile. Located on Hwy 117, Downtown Mentone. \$78,500.



(2) **REMODELED FARMHOUSE AND 3 ACRES.** Seven rooms plus screened porch. Paved road, Large Garden areas. Wooden 2-bay Garage. Storage shed. \$41,900.



(3) **WILD RIVER COMMUNITY.** 100x300 ft lots on the East Fork Little River. Secluded and Scenic. \$10,000 each. **ALSO AVAILABLE:** 3 acre tracts-EAST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER, secluded, with natural deep swimming hole and rapids. Wild and Scenic beauty surrounds you. \$30,000 each.



(4) **WEST BROW, MENTONE (89) NORTH.** Two 5-acre tracts. Great for recreational activities (Rock Climbing, Hang gliding, etc.) Unobstructed view. \$17,500 each.



(5) **50 ACRES, LOCATED IN CLOUDLAND, GA.** Great Farm with 20x40 Barn, Large Workshop, 3 outbuildings, Garage, 4 wells, year around spring, 3 garden areas, Grape Arbors, Approx. 5 acres cleared. Beautiful Hardwoods. 12x70 Mobile Home with Rock Foundation. Many more amenities. \$165,000. Show by APPT. Only.



(6) **PICTURE YOURSELF ON THE COVERED PORCH,** overlooking the large pond stocked with fish, small creek lined with perennial beds, and immaculate 2 Bdrm 2 bath cedar home with C/H/A, large open Living and Kitchen, with all updated appliances. All this, plus 8 acres of pasture, woods, and garden area with fruit trees. Reduced to \$135,000.



(7) **THE BIG WOODS, EAST FORK RIVER.** 75 acres M/L available with access from Paved Road, and County Water. Over 600 ft. of River, 3 springs, wet weather cascading water fall. Also, part of the Historical Dinky Line Railway. \$248,000.



(8) **THREE STATES CAN BE SEEN,** from these Tracts located on the West Brow, in Dade County, Ga. Minutes from Chattanooga. (1) 13 acres \$70,000; (2) 19 acres \$70,000, Hwy 189, Lookout Mtn. Parkway.



(9) **DOWNTOWN Cloudland** built in 1926, 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, Two story Home with Tin roof, living with fireplace, screened porch, all new wiring, city water. \$65,000.



(10) **INDIAN TRAILS NOW OPEN.** Over 3 acre tracts available on West Brow overlooking North Ft. Payne, and as far as the eye can see. Restricted covenants and owner financing available. Starting at \$35,000 and wooded acreage minimum 3 acres \$5,000 an acre. City Water available. APPT ONLY, GATED AREA.



(11) **LOG CABIN IN THE WOODS.** 10 acres, 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, Rock Fireplace, City water, C/H/A. A place to stay while one finishes the 200 year old - 2 story Log Shell. With water, septic, underground power. Building Plans included for completion. Large Hardwoods and underground springs. \$110,000.



(12) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES** Direct access from Lookout Mountain Parkway on Hwy 117, 3 to 7 acre riverfront tracts starting at \$27,500. 5 to 15 stream tracts from \$17,600. Restricted covenants apply.



(13) **ONE AND ONLY LITTLE RIVER CANYON.** 3 to 6 acre tracts overlooking Canyon, some with Waterfalls. Property adjoins Wild Life Management Land. Many tracts to choose from and all on Private gate access. Point and Bluff sections now available. Very Secluded. \$25,000 to \$40,000. Appointment ONLY.



(14) **ADIRONDACK STYLE (1890'S) LOG LODGE** sitting on 2 private acres in downtown Mentone. Complete with Dog Trot separating the Kitchen with Fireplace and Living Area with Fireplace. Unique 4 Bdrm, 2 Bath. Screened Breezeways, and Porches. Wood Floors, and Tin Roof. Separate Guest Cottage. City Water, along with Hand pump Well. Step back in time with this One-of-a-kind FURNISHED HOME. Reduced to \$210,000.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(15) **WEEKEND/WEEKLY RENTALS,** available on the Brow and Downtown Mentone. 1,2,3 Bedrooms. \$85.00 and \$125.00 nightly. Call Angela Wood for more info.

(16) **COUNTY ROAD 633, WOODED TRACTS** from 10 acres and up, ranging \$2,000 to \$2,500 an acre. Owner Financing to qualified buyers.

(17) **OAKWOOD ESTATES** - 3 plus acre wooded and Pasture tracts available. Located in Mentone, County Road 106. Restricted Covenants. For permanent or Vacation Residential Homes. \$12,500 each.

(18) **ALPINE AREA, RIVERSIDE DR.,** 2 WEST FORK Riverview lots, city water available. Access to deep water for canoeing. \$35,000.

(19) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST.** 5 to 17 acre tracts on East Brow overlooking Pleasant Valley and Weiss Lake; adjoins National Preserve. \$10,000 to \$35,000.

(20) **R. LEE CROW SUBDIVISION** - 8 lots (approx. 4 acres) UNRESTRICTED, with Lake frontage. \$15,000.

(21) **DESOTO PARKWAY, 3 ACRE BROW TRACT,** City water available, rock bluffs, level for building. Minutes from DeSoto State Park. \$90,000.

TOO MANY PROPERTIES TO LIST THEM ALL.

If L.M.P.R. doesn't have it, L.M.P.R. will find what you're looking for.

L.M.P.R. is licensed in Georgia, as well as Alabama.

L.M.P.R. covers more of Lookout Mountain,

to offer a wider range to choose from.

Want to sell or looking to buy that special place in the mountains?

Call Angela J. Wood. Multi-state Broker.

You Are Invited

to
The Fort Payne Community Christmas Pageant

EXPERIENCE THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS



- * Hear the old, old story once again
- * Enjoy these familiar Christmas carols
- * See Mary travel to the stable on a donkey
- * Observe the shepherds keeping watch by night
- * Look on as the wise men follow the star by camel train
- * Gaze as the giant Christmas tree is illuminated

VFW Fairground, Ft. Payne

December 17th & 18th

6:00pm

Wrap up warmly & come along

* This spectacle is for kids from 2-94 *
ADMISSION FREE

The Christmas lights will be switched on by Robert Reeves of Channel 19 TV

Live Nativity Pageant

December 17 and 18

6 p.m. each evening

VFW Fairgrounds, Farmers Market Area

Fort Payne, AL

Free Admission

A live nativity pageant, with an ecumenical flavor, is being sponsored by First Presbyterian Church, St. Phillips Episcopal Church, Saint Paul United Methodist Church, and Our Lady Of The Valley Catholic Church. Performances will be at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, December 17 and 18, at the Farmers Market area of the VFW Fairgrounds in Fort Payne.

The Bible story will be narrated by Christina Wise and the choir will sing appropriate Christmas carols as the story unfolds. The climax will be a crowd of the faithful coming to the manger. Each member will be dressed in national dress of various countries around the world. Mary will arrive on a donkey. Shepherds will have real sheep, and wise men will have live camels.

A lot of work and preparation has already gone into this ecumenical effort, and it will be an event to celebrate the coming season that you will not forget. Make plans now to attend one or both performances.

1999 Christmas Cantata "A Simple Christmas" Sunday, Dec. 19

The Community Choir, under the direction of Peggy Bentley, will present "A Simple Christmas." The first presentation will be at Moon Lake Baptist Church at 5 p.m.; the second at 7 p.m. at the Valley Head Baptist Church. Everyone is welcome to attend one or both presentations.



Friendship Garden

Plant three rows of peas:
Peace of mind
Peace of heart
Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:
Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:
Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be patient
Lettuce really love one another

No garden without turnips:
Turnip for meetings
Turnip for service
Turnip to help one another

Water freely with patience
and cultivate with love.
There is much fruit in your garden
because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden,
we must have thyme:
Thyme for each other
Thyme for family
Thyme for friends
—Submitted by Linda Hill



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

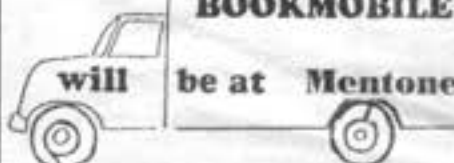
Luke 2:20

The shepherds who were in the fields watching their flocks had a visit from angels who brought them good tidings of great joy. Not to the shepherds only, but to all people. So they went to see the thing the angels told them about. When they returned, they were glorifying and praising God. That was the way they celebrated the coming of Christ. Shouldn't we celebrate His birthday the same way? Try it, you will be glad you did.

Have a very Merry Christmas.

The DeKalb County

BOOKMOBILE



on Wednesdays

from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

•October 13 & 27
•November 10 & 14
•December 8 & *
•January 2000 12 & 26

*(Christmas Vacation)

Mentone,
Alabama



LITTLE EYES UPON YOU

There are little eyes upon you
and they're watching night and day.
There are little ears that quickly
take in every word you say.
There are little hands all eager
to do anything you do;
And a little boy who's dreaming
of the day he'll be like you.

You're the little fellow's idol,
you're the wisest of the wise.
In his little mind about you
no suspicions ever rise.
He believes in you devoutly,
holds all you say and do;
He will say and do, in your way
when he's grown up just like you.

There's a wide-eyed little fellow
who believes you're always right;
and his eyes are always opened
and he watches day and night.
You are setting an example
every day in all you do;
For the little boy who's waiting
to grow up to be like you.
—Author Unknown

Mentone Community House Book Club

Thurs., Dec. 16, 10 a.m.

We'll discuss & enjoy:
"Where the Heart Is"

by Billie Letts

For more information, call:
Sue Henry - 634-4599; or
Kathy Kirby McMunn - 634-4575

N.A.R.F.E.

(National Association of
Retired Federal Employees)
Chapter 1868

Will not
meet in December