

**Celebrating  
12 Years  
in Print**

**THE**

# GROUNDHOG

Mentone • Valley Head • Hammondville • Cloudland • Menlo

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

Volume 12, No. 2

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

February, 1994

## Schedule of Events

Tuesday, February 1  
MAPA Meeting  
7:00 p.m. at the Kountry Chef

Wednesday, February 2  
Groundhog Day

Saturday, February 12  
Benefit for Sanford Hartline  
(See back page for information.)

Monday, February 14  
Valentine's Day

Wednesday, February 16  
Ash Wednesday

Monday, February 21  
President's Day

## GROUNDHOG DAY

### February 2nd



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF GROUNDHOG DAY

American superstition has made the groundhog a weather prophet. According to tradition, it comes out of its winter quarters on February 2, called Groundhog Day. If the animal sees its own shadow, it will return underground for another six weeks of winter weather. If the day is cloudy, and the groundhog cannot see its shadow, it remains above ground, anticipating an early spring. This superstition, generally believed to have originated in the United States, is actually a variation of the European tradition that a sunny Candlemas Day, also February 2, indicates a long winter.

Pennsylvania's earliest settlers were Germans who brought with them the Groundhog Legend that on February 2nd (Candlemas Day), if an animal would cast a shadow, there would be six more weeks of bad weather.

These early German settlers found groundhogs in profusion in many parts of the state. They determined that, if the sun did appear on February 2nd, the groundhog was the most intelligent and sensible animal to see its shadow.

Records show that, in the early 1880s, a few Punxsutawneyites began to celebrate each year by hieing themselves into the woods to honor and celebrate the Punxsutawney Groundhog as the only true weather prognosticator.

This group, named the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, placed the original Weather Works on "Gobblers Knob," proclaiming that only The Great Seer of Seers of Gobblers Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, would properly and accurately interpolate a shadow on Groundhog Day, February 2nd.

The first official trek to Gobblers Knob was made on February 2, 1887. From these beginnings, the official weather forecast of the Punxsutawney Groundhog has been announced around the world each year through newspaper, radio, and television coverage.

In the premier issue of *The Groundhog* (May 1983, Vol. 1, No. 1), the following article was written by Charles White McGehee, the first editor. We are reprinting this in honor of Mr. McGehee for Groundhog Day, February 2. The groundhog shown above is identical to the one used in that issue.

"When it was suggested that this publication be named *The Groundhog*, I had reservations. It seemed a bit facetious for the objectives that were to be pursued. As time went on, the logic of it unfolded. Someone pointed out that, like the fabled groundhog, Mentone is waking from a long slumber. These are the words by Tom Mason in his *Anniston Star* article, one of the best things I have read about Mentone.

"It's a familiar story. On February 2nd, the groundhog emerges from winter slumber, looks languorously about for his shadow; and, if it appears, he returns for six more weeks of winter slumber. So, it was that, on that memorable day, when a group of Mentone citizens met to discuss some of those things unfolding in this area—it just happened to be Groundhog Day.

"More is involved in the resurrection of a town than economics. There are deeper and more personal reasons. People visit Mentone and inhale an air of something wonderful. They want to be a part of it. Many of them return to establish a permanent residence. Others build summer homes in preparation for the Long Vacation of retirement. Some lucky people carry the names of families who came to this section of Appalachia generations ago.

"I know of people in Mentone who drive regularly to work in Chattanooga, Gadsden, the Bellefonte atomic power plant, Rome, Georgia, Atlanta, and other far-away places. It would be much more convenient for them to live nearer their work. Imbued with the spirit of Mentone, they are determined to live here. Some have said that something in their lives is being resurrected by partaking of life here. They have emerged from a hibernation.

"So, if the groundhog is to be a symbol of this recycling of lives and history, we should know more about this creature. Several persons have sighted groundhogs in this area. In doing research on our symbolic animal, bear in mind that the names "groundhog and woodchuck" are a reference to the same animal.

"Found in many areas of the United States, it is some 18-to-24 inches long, with a chestnut and grizzled body, blackish feet and tail. Because of Mentone's rocks and slopes, our area is a natural habitat. A favorite place for digging burrows is under rocks and in wooded areas. The holes are deep in a slanted direction to keep out the water. These are interesting designs, with several compartments and more than one entrance.

"This is a cleverness also pursued by the pesky little chipmunks, which are difficult to track down. When you have attacked one entrance hole, that is only part of the problem. The burrows run in many directions.

"Deep down in one of these compartments is where the groundhog enters into a dormant state for the winter, like a bear or a snake, avoiding the bitter cold and the high fuel bills. The groundhog does his digging with powerful forefeet and strong teeth, throwing the dirt underneath the belly, kicking it out with his hindfeet.

"Natural enemies of groundhogs are foxes and skunks. They generally are mild-mannered, but, when cornered, can defend themselves with vigor.

"What's in a name? Sometimes a great deal. Sometimes a few facts from *Encyclopedia Americana*. Do you have any groundhog stories?"

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## "Magical Mentone" Videos on Sale Now

Magical Mentone Videos are now available for sale.

A short 12-minute tourism video is \$10.00, plus \$2.50, postage for each video. The 37-minute historical video is \$20.00, plus \$2.50, postage for each video.

If you would like one or more videos sent to you, forward your check payable to:

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

\*\*\*\*\*

The videos are also being sold in the Mentone Shops and Stores by MAPA and by the Mentone Heritage Foundation.

For those wishing to support MAPA, you may purchase your videos from Dessie's Kountry Chef.

For those wishing to support the Heritage Foundation, you may contact Jean McGehee at 634-4377.

For those who may be interested in the Magical Mentone videos, one is a short 12 minute tourism video showing beautiful scenes of Mentone, and the other is a 37-minute historical video. On the longer video, there are more beautiful scenes of Mentone, along with individuals telling a bit of history of Mentone. Those individuals are: Jack Jones doing a narration about the St. Joseph On-The-Mountain Episcopal Church, Moon Lake, and the naming of the town of Mentone; Ernest Smith; 92-year old Nettie Jane Smith; Bernise and Homer Crow (Hitching Post); Alex Glover and wife, Honey Glover (Episcopal Church); Mabel Kirk; Catherine Bailey; Hoyle Smith (Civil War); Mary Crow Smith; Jim Lyday; John Baty; Lightning Goss; H.P. Goss; Bill Pullen and wife, Grace Green Pullen; Alma Crabtree; and Mayor Max Cash. Throughout the video are narrations regarding: the covered bridge, Riverdale (now Camp Laney administration offices); Mentone Inn, Riverside Hotel, Windward Inn, Nippersink, Shigley Family picture; Lake Lahausage old hotel structure; White Elephant, Mineral Springs, Howard's Chapel, and many other interesting places. Background music throughout the video is by James Bryan on the violin and Terry Hutcheson on the guitar.

Don't Run Around Looking for It...



Have The Groundhog delivered to your mailbox! Still just \$10/per year. Send check today payable to:

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

Your membership/subscription is tax deductible.

## THE GROUNDHOG

Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, M.A.P.A. 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.

P. O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984

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Vice President.....H. L. Jenkins  
Secretary.....Marie Dillenbeck  
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Parliamentarian.....Sherman Gough  
Member-At-Large.....Dot Crow

In case of errors in advertisements, *The Groundhog* assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement.

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

The deadline for all material for *The Groundhog* is the 22nd day of the month preceding publication.

## PROPHET OF SPRING

By Eloise Brown

Groundhog, Woodchuck or marmot--  
(Or a newsy little paper that says a lot)  
Whate'er you are--by any name  
As a prophet, you've won acclaim.  
In February, you awake--  
Open your eyes--quake and shake--  
Leave your cozy den in the ground,  
Come up for air--look all around.  
If your shadow should then appear,  
You return to your den in fear,  
Six more weeks of wintry weather  
Will keep us denned in together.  
If the sun hides his shining face,  
You won't return to hiding place,  
But will remain to do your thing,  
With balmy breezes of early spring.  
Now on your prophetic day,  
Come on out and play and stay  
Sun, please do hide, cooperate  
Come spring, no longer hesitate.  
Groundhog proclaim that it is time  
To bask in lovely, warm, spring sublime.



**CLASSIFIED:** Beautiful snow white Eskimo spitz, UKC \$135.00; also 6 mo. old female collie, AKC \$100.00. 657-5810

## \$50.00 REWARD

For papers in Shannon Kean's black eelskin ladies wallet lost Monday, January 24, in Mentone area. Shannon's mother is Mae Hunt who works at the Mentone Superette. Please call 634-4686, or bring by Superette to claim reward.

## From Between the Counters

By  
BRUTUS



Nobody but me and the Lord know how glad I am to see all that snow and ice gone! It was all Pop could talk about: weather, weather, weather. The unbelievable neglect and lack of adoration I suffered during that period tested even my incredible, unending patience. Finally, the focus of attention is back where it belongs--on ME! In the big snow last March, Pop staggered down to the store, dragging me behind him, naturally. He floundered like a sick cow and went down in the snow, jerking me with him. Why me, Lord? We must have flopped around and wallowed in the drifts for twenty minutes. At least, I was spared that humiliation this time!

Jackie Kirby and Susan Carter were just in to see, pet, and feed God's gift to dogdom. Bless their hearts, they are very concerned about my diet of junk food and bring me dog biscuits--even if they have to buy them in the store. (I speak for all junk food junkies when I point out that we stick to the four basic food groups: cholesterol, grease, sugar, and starch.)

Here comes that hated Frito Lay man, son of Darth Vader. There's something about his computer that raises my magnificent hackles and turns my temper up to kill! One day, he'll come into this store and never be seen outside again. That goes for smart alecs with cleats on their shoes, too. Vengeance is mine, saith the magnificent canine in residence.

If it seems that my beauty is somewhat diminished lately by a tilted head, it's because Godzilla Al has stomped my ear, again. His jealousy of my wonderfulness is truly pitiful.

When I galloped in from walking Pop at noon, I stopped by the bottom candy shelf to select my usual reward of a Tootsie Pop. Well, somehow, I grabbed a Sugar Daddy, instead. I slobbered all over the place, jaws stuck together, until Pop pried the "candy-of-the-devil" loose. Mae says the teeth will grow back.

Don't look now, but the stingiest man in Mentone (next to LM) just ran out. Loy Langston nearly knocked down the side door to keep from sharing his donuts. You can run, Loy Boy, but you can't hide!

Jesse Crabtree dropped some of his "cancer sticks" down in front of me today and teased me not to grab them. Tootsie Rolls may be used to nail my pine box closed, but not ciggies!

The highlight of my week was when Alden and Nina Ballinger knelt in richly-deserved tribute to pet me. It is so very hard for me to be humble, as long as there are still mirrors around!

Oh, no! Pop is beginning to twitch and jump around. That can mean only one thing: time to walk him again. Surely, my reward will be in dog heaven for meeting all his unreasonable demands on me. Later--

## LOST!!

Two-year old Dalmation named "ELVIS." He is white with black spots, blue eyes, and wearing a red collar with orange strip. Elvis was lost in the area between DeSoto State Park and Comer Boy Scout Camp.

If you have any information, please call  
635-6252 during the day and  
634-4499 nights and on weekends.

**REWARD OFFERED!!**



## Mentone Grapevine

By  
PAT SEYMOUR

Have any of you seen Elvis? (No, silly, not Elvis Presley!) Elvis is the two-year old Dalmation that Stephanie Fritz McBryar lost on Sunday, January 16, between Comer Boy Scout Camp and DeSoto State Park. He is white with black spots (Remember 101 Dalmations?), has blue eyes, is wearing a red collar with an orange strip, and his people miss him terribly! If you've seen Elvis, please call 635-6252 during the day and 634-4499 nights and on the weekends. Let's help get this "family" back together, people.

There is a benefit for Sanford Hartline on Saturday, February 12. See the notice elsewhere.

Al and Vickie Blackburn went to Gatlinburg over last weekend and had a restful, marvelous time. (How did you ever pry Al away from the Superette, Vickie?)

Tony Crow and his helper, Mr. McCullough, have completed the stone fireplace at Al and Mae Hunt's home. Jesse Crow was the builder originally, but he came down with the flu. Mae says the floor-to-ceiling stone structure is beautiful.

Dessie Newberry gave everybody a bad scare last week when she began to experience chest pains at the Kountry Chef. A fast trip to the Erlanger emergency room followed, and the doctors there confirmed serious inflammation in her chest area; but, thank goodness, it wasn't her heart.

Their many friends were distressed to learn of the sudden illness of Coley Morgan, son of Scrooge and Edna Morgan. Scrooge and Edna report that Coley continues to improve at Children's Hospital in Birmingham. He has been diagnosed as having bacterial meningitis.

The First United Methodist Church in LaMesa, California was the site for the January 1, 1994, wedding of John Douglas Jones to Janey Lou Basham. John is the son of Jean and John Jones. The Rev. M. Raymond Benton, Associate pastor of Shadow Mountain Baptist Church, performed the ceremony. John is a fire control officer in the Navy, and Janey is a secretary for the Nordstrom Department Store. The couple will be at home in El Cajon, California. After all the festivities, Jean and John returned home to find they were the victims of what the DeKalb County Sheriff is calling "one of the largest residential burglaries in a year." The property taken is valued in excess of \$50,000, Jean said, "and we're still counting." (Why do such bad things happen to such good people?)

Peggy Bentley, director of the Fountains, was overjoyed to have the Korean International Children's Choir sing for her residents on January 26. The children sang at 10:00 a.m., and I spoke at the January birthday party at 2:00 p.m. (Nobody had to rock those residents to sleep after all that activity!)

Deepest sympathy to Jimmy Hester, Phyllis Lewis, owner of the Tiger Inn, and her councilwoman sister, Vickie Biddle, on the death of their grandfather, 95-year-old Harry Hester in Rising Fawn.

Lula Blalock has the cast off her broken leg, but she can't put her weight on it, yet. Lula slipped coming back to the house from the roadside mailbox. She has been truly spoiled by her neighbors, Bonnie Davis, Lola Waters, Myrtle Johnson, and Ana Stokes, who have been supplying her lunch. Her granddaughters, Rosetta and Loretta McGee have been staying with their grandmother.

All their many friends in Mentone were pleased to find that Jim and Gail Gaylord have returned from New York. Jim's brother had been critically ill and died while they were there. Our most sincere condolences go to Jim and Gail!

Speaking of people we're all delighted to see back in Mentone, Sherman and Mickey Gough returned the first Monday in January. They visited friends and family in Miami and Tallahassee, Florida.

Joe Stephens took a nasty fall during the ice storm. He had gone out to turn off a yard water faucet and slipped on the ice. Joe bruised himself badly; but, fortunately, did not break any bones. To make things worse, recently, Joe had to have "Brandy," his little dog of many years put to sleep.

Two Mentonians, Susan Carter and Michael Stephens were in the Los Angeles area when the earthquake struck. Neither was hurt, thank goodness.

Other Mentonians who have experienced an earthquake recently are George and Jo Beaubé. When they were in Mexico celebrating their 40th anniversary last October, they were awakened around 2 a.m. on their anniversary, and had to leave their hotel, along with all the other guests, until the danger had passed.

Congratulations to Kevin and Connie McElhaney who are expecting a baby in the early fall. Connie is the daughter of Rev. Don and Yvonne Brock. He is the pastor of the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy. The McElhaney's already have a year-old daughter, Megan.

A birthday party honoring Sue Henry, Jimmy Graves, and Ted Holleman, was held at the lovely home of Phil and Marsha Hurt on Saturday, January 22. This is an annual event honoring Camp DeSoto's staff members and their spouses. Jean Corey and Snowe Green assisted Marsha with the meal and the serving. Guests were Ted and Mary Holleman, Jimmy and Evelyn Graves, John and Jean Corey, Kevin and Snowe Green, Sue Henry, John Holleman, and hosts, Phil and Marsha Hurt.

Charles Flannigan had a real ice storm adventure. It seems that J.R. Henderson had a tree about to fall on a power line, so Charles went over and took the tree down before it could do any harm. When driving on the road home, Charles tried to maneuver around a fallen tree in the road and skidded into a ditch, heavily damaging the side of his new 4-wheel drive Chevy. Mentone "friends" passing by said, "Charles, if you'd kept the Ford, you traded off, you wouldn't be in the ditch!"

Frank Henegar is remarrying Rachael Henegar at the Mentone Revival Center on Saturday, February 5. Rev. Marlon Williamson, pastor, will perform the ceremony.

Dennis Lewis of the Valley Head Water Board recently celebrated his birthday at Tiger Inn.

Chester Crow, church deacon, has been going all over Mentone trying to find somebody who will lend him \$1,000. Seems like he pledged that amount toward the new heating and air unit at the Church of God of Prophecy. If you see him coming, RUN!!

Last week, Rev. Don Brock moderated the three-day district conference of the Church of God of Prophecy held in Collinsville. The three days included workshops, leadership sessions, and other activities related to the church.

All you Mentone folks with kin far off, listen to this: Edmund Crowe rented a video phone from AT&T in Chattanooga and talked with his son Jim and wife Donna who had also rented a video phone, in Modesto, California. Edmund's entire family got to see and talk to their relatives. Sharing in the fun were daughter Sue and husband, Hughey Johnson, Brent, and their daughter Brandy, Tuscaloosa; daughter Beverley and husband Greg Henry, Ft. Payne, and children Ashley and Christian; son Tom Crowe; son Kenneth and wife Cherri Crowe, Ft. Payne, and their son Paul. Edmund said that the reception was so clear he could make out the "A" on his son's Alabama sweater. Now, here's the unbelievable part: the family

## LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN Properties

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

Angela J. Wood  
Broker, Owner

Office: 634-4672  
Home: 634-4169

**BROW ROAD NORTH MENTONE** - 9.1 acres with 600 ft. of west brow frontage (sunset view). 3 miles north of Mentone. \$30,000.

**BROW ROAD NORTH - WEST VIEW** - Over 7 acres with 250 ft. of brow frontage. 1 mile from Ga. Line, on the Lookout Mountain Parkway. \$25,000.

**HISTORICAL DOWNTOWN MENTONE** - Beautiful wooded lot with wildflower gardens, 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with rock porches and small greenhouse. Walking distance to churches and gift shops. \$45,000.

**EAST BROW, GEORGIA** - A Get Away Mountain Home, beautifully decorated with 6 acres and 400 ft. of brow frontage. Security System, 2BR, 2 bath, large Cathedral beam Great room, loft, and kitchen fully equipped. Ceiling to Floor window overlooking a rock patio with a view to the Blue Ridge Mountains. Priced \$130,000 firm. Co-Broke Cloudland Realty.

**ROCKY TOP ESTATES** - West Brow and wooded tracts priced from \$10,000 to \$35,000. Located across from the back entrance of DeSoto State Park on Scenic Dr. North. Restricted covenants. Owner financing available.

**BROW ON DESOTO PARKWAY** just minutes from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. 100x300 lot with a beautiful view of the Fort Payne Reservoir. \$27,000 reduced to \$22,000.

**MOUNTAIN HIDEAWAY** - \*\***SOLD**\*\* rea, close to DeSoto State Park. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with fireplace. City water, on one acre. \$37,000.

**LITTLE RIVER** - 3 acre tracts with large swimming areas, secluded each, terms available. \$18,000.

**ALSO AVAILABLE** - 3/4 acre building lots with city water. 3 to 5 acre tracts along Parkway. Prices starting \$7,500-\$10,000 (3/4) to \$27,000-\$30,000. Also 10,20,40 & 100 acre tracts with owner financing available. Call for more info.

**FOR THE BOATING AND FISHING ENTHUSIASTS** - Must see this 3,800 sq. ft. Multi-Level 3 Br, 3 bath home located on lake Lahusage. Complete with 3 fireplaces, CH&A, eat-in kitchen, Living/Dining, Den, Screened porch complete with sink and wet bar. A view from every room of the lake. Screened beach house for entertaining, 2 wells one distilled drinking water, and a boat house. Beautifully landscaped with hundreds of azaleas and rhododendron. Approx. 2 acres. \$150,000.

**WHAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF**, The ultimate family complex with 3 homes located on the brow (West) DeSoto Parkway Mentone City Limits. The 1st: 4,500 sq. ft. **ROCK** with 5 bdrms, 4 baths, large great room, glassed patio, rock and maple floors throughout. Separate 2 bdrm efficiency in the house with CH&A. Too many amenities to list.

**2nd LOG HOME**: Over 3,000 sq. ft., 4 bdrm, 3 bath, 5 fireplaces. Logs have been protected by exterior siding. 2 story built back in the 1920's.

**3rd CONTEMPORARY SOLAR** - 2,200 sq. ft. large bdrm upstairs and indoor greenhouse and a view of the valley from every room. Was designed for an art gallery. A lot of light and only Southern exposure. All of this and 8 acres of land, city water. All homes have too many amenities to mention. Shown by appt. and must be qualified buyers. \$550,000.



talked Friday night, Saturday (Christmas Day), and Sunday. The phone bill was under \$20, and the telephone equipment cost \$32, tax included. (Unreal!!)

The tragic news of the sudden death of Dr. Clarence Sapp reached The Groundhog just at press time. He died of a heart attack on Friday morning, January 28, in Rome, Georgia. He is survived by wife, Hilda, a son, and two daughters.

Remember, this is the month for loving--and love changes everything! Here's a prayer for all of us:

"Dear God, please help me be the person my dog thinks I am."

# Southern Properties Agency, Inc.



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**Office: 845-6000**

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**LANDMARK PROPERTY IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE** - Once housed one of the area's finest hotels. Now is the home of the White Elephant Antique Shop. \$225,000



**COUNTRY GENTLEMEN FARMER** - 45 fenced acres, 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, sunporch, 3 fireplaces, inground swimming pool, 2 barns, playhouse, beautiful shade trees and a pond. \$170,000.

## MENTONE LISTINGS

List with the company that gets results!

**HISTORICAL LOG HOME** - across from Sunset Park in Mentone. This rustic beauty offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, stenciled pine floors, footed tub, marble shower, and elevator. Beautifully landscaped with paved drive and walkways, totally fenced. \$89,900.

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

**HEAVILY WOODED** 3 acre river lots on the WEST FORK of Little River. Restricted for property owners protection. Prices start at \$20,000.

**BROW LOT IN MENTONE** Adjoins Cragamere Manna with 20 acres between you and the valley below. Surveyed and perked. \$35,000.

**LAKE ON THE BROW** - Where else can you find magnificent sunrise and lake views in the same place? Restricted building lots. Starting at \$12,500.

**510 ACRES** - Cleared and wooded, 7 ponds. \$550 an acre. Owner will consider selling in 3 smaller tracts.

**BUILDING LOTS** available on Brow, DeSoto Parkway, Little River, and Lake Lahusage. Call for more information.



**DESOTO  
RESCUE SQUAD**

Proudly serving our neighbors in Valley Head, Hammondville, and Mentone  
P.O. BOX 213  
MENTONE, AL 35984

By Jim Gaylord

In this past month, our roles of rescue work have surely changed. The number of calls for wrecks and home medical calls has been almost non-existent. Our role has been to make sure that everybody was warm and that everyone had at least enough water for the essentials. We hope that we did not miss anyone in need. During the storm, and with all the ice on the roads, our rescue trucks were not out very much because these vehicles are just like the vehicles many of you drive--"two-wheel drive," which is not much good in the snow and ice. Very luckily, the squad had just found a Suburban Carryall, with four-wheel drive, in which we could get around very nicely. Robert Green and Walt Pullen were kept busy checking on public welfare and had one transport to BMC Dekalb and back. This vehicle will be invaluable in future storms. We will be busy earning money to try to pay for this vehicle, as well as equipping it and our "First Response" truck; so that, when you need us, we quickly and efficiently can answer most any type of call. We can, thus, provide the "best" possible service.

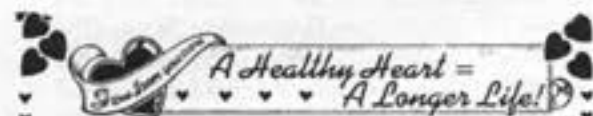
In order to get more people trained to be "First Responders," we have started a class at the American Legion Building in Mentone, on Thursday evenings from 6-10 p.m., through March 10, 1994. Everyone is invited to attend the classes, whether or not you can help on the Rescue Squad. Admission to the class is free, but we will ask you to purchase a "First Responders Book." (See schedule elsewhere.)

Soon we, the whole county, will be changing to an E-911 system, and this will affect the way all emergencies will be dispatched, including our Rescue Squad. This will be a change "for the better"--quicker response time and proper equipment to respond to each emergency. Our coverage area of Hammondville, Valleyhead, and Mentone School Districts will remain the same. For now, our emergency phone number: 1-800-239-5628 remains the same with DeKalb Ambulance Service.

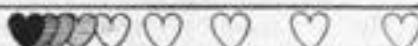
Again, thank you for letting us be of service to you. Any donations may be sent to DeSoto Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 213, Mentone, AL 35984.

For information, call:

Mike Kenamer, Co-Captain - 1-205-634-4484, or  
Jim Gaylord, Co-Captain - 1-205-634-4535.



**February - American Heart Month**



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## A HAIR-RAISING JOB

By Evelyn Graves

Janet Ennes is familiar to many people in this area. She is the daughter of Martin and JoAnn Blalock of Menlo, Georgia, and the granddaughter of the late Ray and Lillian Blalock of Mentone. Janet was born and reared in Mentone, attending Moon Lake School and graduating from Valley Head High School. She graduated from Gadsden School of Cosmetology. For a period of time, she was employed at Marilyn's Head Shed in Hammondville. Janet moved from Mentone to the Atlanta area where she met and married Allen Ennes. They have one daughter, Meredith, 8-years old. Janet has been in business for herself in Northeast Marietta, Georgia, for over a year.

*The following article was written by Miles Dudley, contributing writer for Atlanta Business Chronicle, and is rewritten with the permission of the Atlanta Business Chronicle.*

Though it may not look it, the hairdressing field can be rife with tension--and clashing egos, says Janet Ennes, owner of Salon Éclat.

"When a customer does not come back to a hairdresser, but they go to another one in the same establishment, bitter feelings result," she says. "It is really personal."

For the past year, Ennes has been soothing egos and smoothing cowlicks. At times, she confesses, the stress has made her want to pull her own hair out.

Ennes went out on her own last November. It's been rewarding, she says, but much more of a time drain

than she expected. (Nights with her husband, Allen, are now usually spent balancing the company's books.)

All the work doesn't keep her from seeing friends, however. In fact, they're usually the ones waiting for her at the salon each day.

"I've probably kept about 50 percent of my clientele," she says. "They have followed me, and I consider them my friends."

A good haircut is one of today's affordable luxuries, says Ennes. People might not be able to buy a new outfit, but they can still look good and boost their self-esteem with a new hair style.

Unfortunately, the day-to-day affairs of running a business have kept Ennes--a 19-year veteran of the industry--from doing much hair styling lately. It's a part of the business she misses.

"One of the hardest things for me to deal with is when the business side takes me away from what I love doing most," she says with a sigh.

Ennes views herself as a master artist. Once she figures out what a customer likes and dislikes, she starts crafting the person's hair.

"I go by their facial features and my perception of their lifestyle," she says. "As busy as people are these days, they can't get a hairdo that takes half an hour [to perfect] in the morning. It's just not feasible."

Salon Éclat's prices start at \$22 for a cut and \$30 for style. Prices vary according to the cut.

"I can't see putting our services on a menu like a restaurant," says Ennes. "I don't want [to run] a chain-like establishment."



Salon Éclat's Janet Ennes shown with her daughter, Meredith



## MENTONE'S CAMPS PREPARING FOR A SUMMER OF FUN

Mentone's summer camps are in the process of accepting camper applications, and directors are traveling to various colleges interviewing prospective staff for Camp '94. A preview of what is taking place looks exciting for the summer.

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# The Church News

By  
EVELYN GRAVES



The month of February will be Sunday School training month at the **Mentone Church of God of Prophecy**. A series of teacher training classes will be conducted each Sunday in February. The youth are having a Valentine party Saturday night, February 12. The church will be celebrating Presidents' Day on February 20. Reverend Brock will be talking about that in the morning service. The church has a building program going on, and applications are now being accepted from companies to install a central heat and air conditioning system in the entire facility.

The Reverend Rod Addison (brother of Pastor Randy Addison) and Mrs. Addison were guests in the service on January 30 in the **Mentone Wesleyan Church**. Reverend Rod brought the message in the morning service; and he and his wife, Vangie, provided special music. He performed a dedication ceremony for Megan, the new baby daughter of Reverend and Mrs. Randy Addison.

The annual church Valentine banquet is being planned at the **Moon Lake Baptist Church**. The date has not been announced at this time. The pulpit committee is at work searching for a full-time pastor. The youth are staying busy with various activities.

The **Mentone Church of God** will hold revival services February 6-9, at 6:30 each evening. Paul Lett of Geneva, Alabama, will be the evangelist. There will be special singers throughout the revival. Tentative plans are being made for a youth revival during spring break. There will be more information about this in the next issue of *The Groundhog*.

The fifth Sunday night worship service at the **Valley Head United Methodist Church** was a joint service with **Valley Head Baptist** and **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Churches** held at the Valley Head Baptist Church. Reverend Jerry Davis brought the message. Mrs. Venna Livingston and Mrs. Frances Longshore will host the UMW on March 1. There will be no meeting in February.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** will have a Home Mission Study on Sunday, February 20, at 5 p.m. On Sunday morning, February 27, Rhoda Jones, a student at Auburn Veterinary School, will tell about her trip to Ethiopia as a summer missionary last summer. The Sunday School classes are working on enlistment. Special Sunday School emphasis throughout February will be, "Friends Bringing Friends."

The Sunday morning worship services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9:00 a.m. with Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L.A. Smith alternating with the messages. The music used at Mrs. Brownie Tuttle's funeral will be used during February as a commemoration of her life and death. There was no morning service on the fifth Sunday because of the joint service with other churches on Sunday evening.

Reverend Marlon Williamson of the **Mentone Revival Center** announces youth day on February 12 at 12 noon. The regular singing will be Saturday evening, February 19, at 6:30. Everyone is invited to listen to the church's radio broadcast every Sunday

morning at 9:30 a.m. from radio station WQRX (AM 870).

Linda Brown, Catherine Bailey, Barbara Blalock, and Reverend Lett of the **Mentone United Methodist Church** attended a meeting at Gadsden recently on "Vision 2000," which is a renewal program and involves the entire church. The UMW will meet at the home of Ann Wright on February 3. The program, "Caring For One Another" will be presented by Linda Brown. Sunday, February 6, from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. there is a District Leadership Training Workshop to be held at the First United Methodist Church in Gadsden. Several members are planning to attend the workshop, as well as the combined worship service at 6:00 p.m., with Bishop William R. Cannon preaching.

The youth of the **Union Hill Baptist Church** are busy with plans for their trip to Washington, DC, in June. It is estimated that they will need \$2500 for the trip, and they already have earned, along with donations, nearly \$2000. They plan a Valentine bake sale for February 13. The youth have plans for a Valentine banquet, but the date is not certain at this time. The youth choir sang at the **Broadway Baptist Church** in Rainsville on Sunday evening, January 30. The entire church accompanied the choir for that service.

Reverend Jimmy Graves, pastor, will be attending the mid-Winter Bible Conference held at First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, on February 6-8. He will be a guest in the home of Dr. Jerry Vines throughout the conference, and will be visiting with Dr. Bobby Welch of First Baptist Church of Daytona Beach on February 9. Butch Gregg will be preaching on Sunday morning, February 5, and Stephen Lucy will fill the pulpit in the Sunday evening service in the pastor's absence. An organized visitation program began at the church on Wednesday evening, January 26, and it is anticipated that this will be effective in reaching the unchurched.

A prayer and study group will meet at 10:00 a.m. each Wednesday at **St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church**. The rector, Robert Childers, will be discussing the Parables. A men's prayer group meets each Wednesday at 6:00 a.m. at the **Little River Hardware**.

On the first Sunday of each month, a congregational covered dish dinner is served after the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Wednesday, February 16, the youth of the church will serve a spaghetti dinner at 6:00 p.m., before the Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m.

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## NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North DeKalb Ministerial Association will meet on February 5, at **Dessie's Kountry Chef**. The Association, through its outreach program, and with the assistance of volunteers in the community, is continuing to coordinate a program on a regular basis to help people who could use extra food. This outreach is a community project, and food items will be used for anyone the community center presently assists and also those that contact the community center in Valley Head, or any of the following numbers. **YOU DO NOT** have to be a member of any church to make your needs known. You may call any of the following:

Rev. Marlon Williamson (634-4557),  
Rev. David Lett (634-4881),  
Rev. Don Brock (634-4792),  
Rev. Ed Burroughs (634-4476),  
Rev. Robert Childers (634-4476),  
Rev. Randy Addison (634-4210),  
Rev. Ron Johnson (634-4418),  
Dorothy Crow (634-4727), or  
Dr. Pat Seymour (634-4541).

The association is beginning plans for the baccalaureate service for the Class of 1994. A senior class committee will be selected to work in conjunction with the ministers on the service. Plans for the National Day of Prayer on the brow are also under discussion. Committees will be appointed by Rev. Marlon Williamson, president of the group. All area ministers are urged to attend the next meeting of the association on Saturday, February 5, at 8:30 a.m., in the **Kountry Chef**.

Those wishing to donate to the newly-formed Outreach Program in the Mentone area, sponsored by the North DeKalb Ministerial Association, may make checks payable to the North DeKalb Ministerial Association and hand to any minister in Mentone or mail to North DeKalb Ministerial Association, Mentone, AL 35984. All donations will be used to defray expenses of picking up and delivering the food.

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## The Country Journal

By  
BERNISE CROW

We came through the recent ice storm unscathed, or all together in one piece might be better. The day it all happened, we had hard rain, strong winds, fog, sleet, and snow. All of it hit us with a bitter cold that has not been equaled in many years.

Wood heaters were an accessory that was used by most of us. We sort of stay half-way prepared for winter storms with power failures, but never fully equipped. We rush to the grocery store as soon as a prediction of extreme weather is forecast and stack up on staples to see us through the dilemma. Then, we relax, read, pop corn, play games, and generally enjoy the time we have to be shut in for a few days. The school children look forward to a few days vacation every winter. It's a nice break. The worst part of this kind of weather is that plumbing fixtures suffer. Some of the pipes are still frozen after a week of almost zero weather. It was ten below zero on our deck one morning. Maybe, Ole Man Winter blew one giant blast at us and will be contented with just average winter weather for the remainder of the season. Seed catalogues are arriving and I'm ready to pick up my shovel and mattock and get out to work in the garden. We know these days will pass; but, while we wait, we can dream of bright green pastures, beautiful dogwood trees in full bloom, and can almost smell the roses.

One thing we have missed is enough snow to make a snowman and snow cream. Let's hope we don't get all of it in March, again. During this time, people get closer together in many ways. We are dependent, to some degree, on each other. Jesse Crabtree was a good neighbor to those living alone near him. He went out to check on Shurlee Froehler, Peggy Howe, and others, to see if they needed anything. Shurlee was glad he checked her gas tank, because it was near empty. She called the company and got it filled before the coldest days. Hats off to Jesse and other good Samaritans.

This is a good time to review all the past failures of last year and go to work on those for this year. Try as we do, failures do come to us. But, we keep trying to improve ourselves, our homes, our communities, and our country. Mind searching is hard on us. I work at it a while; and, then, say "what's the use!" Most of my thoughts on self-improvement are to stop talking so much and do more listening. So much of the time those of us who love to talk fail to hear a word other people say. We are busily trying to form a new story of our own to tell. A good listener is a gem. That's why we have psychiatrists--the people who are trained to listen. That is probably two-thirds of the cure for disturbed people who seek psychiatric care. They have finally found someone who would listen to them. Why is it that we want a good listener? Why must our story be told? Somehow, it relieves stress on our minds if we have a deep problem and find a good listener. A good friend or pastor of your church can and will listen without overly advising you. It has been said that if we can find one good steady friend in a lifetime, we are fortunate. Most people are not remotely interested in the problems of others, because they have enough of their own with which to contend. It's best not to tell all your little woes, because most people do not care, and some are glad you "finally got what was coming to you." But, a good friend will listen and try to be helpful.

Today has been a beautiful day--the temperature is at 60 degrees on my thermometer. That is good. Now,

I can think about planting those bulbs stashed in the 'frig before they bloom. It seems there are a few days just right for planting those new bulbs. We had to fill in with top soil around "Lions Rock" and weather has not been right for spreading it.

The bright red cardinals have not seemed to be upset by sub-zero weather. The bright, little feathered friends have stayed with us and have eaten pyracantha berries all winter. What a nice, bright flash of color to see them fly by the windows on a dreary, bleak day. The huge pileated woodpeckers are plentiful and are striking in appearance. I love to hear them calling to each other. We see beautiful hawks gracefully sailing below the bluff. Some are the red-tailed variety and are very colorful. We have raccoons at night, but I have failed to see them. Doreen threw out some food for them one night and hit one with it! The raccoons enjoy all our food scraps, and we just toss them over the bluff for them to enjoy. Good simple pleasures of life. There are many of them.

Take your good friend, and go to the brow park where there is a view, and enjoy the natural beauty of our environment. It is lovely any time of year!



Lincoln's Birthday-February 12



## The River Watch

By  
BILL SCHWARZ

Bill's column will be back next month. Bill helped his daughter, Janet and husband, Bob Hamilton, pack all their belongings into a moving van and head out to Beaverton, Oregon, to their new home and job. Sue, Bill's wife, tells us that the couple hauled a 50-foot truck with car carrier from Huntsville to Beaverton, going 400 miles a day. It took the couple almost a week to get there. To relieve Bill's anxiety over his daughter's move, Sue is teaching him to weave a rug on her loom. He has been very busy at this project, but promises that he will have his column next month.

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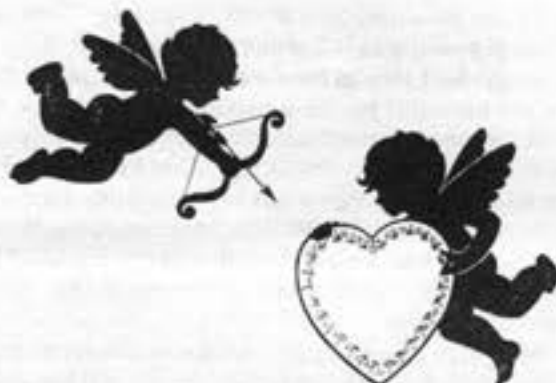
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# Love can last for a lifetime

By Evelyn Graves

Since February is the month that recognizes love and lovers, several couples were interviewed and asked to give their views on the subject.



## JIM & MARJORIE BERRY

Jim Berry and Marjorie Jones became attracted to each other during the First Rhododendron Festival at Mentone in May 1949, when Marjorie was a beautiful contestant for Rhododendron Queen. Jimmy drove the convertible in which she and another contestant were riding. Their courtship began shortly after that time, and culminated in marriage on February 10, 1951.

The wedding was held at Moon Lake Baptist Church before rooms were built on the back of the church, so there was no back entrance. There was snow on the ground that night, and Jimmy and the groomsmen were climbing through the window to hide behind white, ivy-covered curtains to wait for the moment to take their places at the altar. As Jimmy reached the top rung of the ladder, he accidentally kicked his best man in the mouth, and he started bleeding profusely. They stopped the blood with handfuls of snow, while the guests waited for the ceremony to begin. Marjorie had prayed all week that her father would get sick and would not be at the wedding, because he was a practical joker and she knew she could expect most anything. All went well as he walked her down the aisle. When the minister asked, "Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?" he replied, "I do, gladly; and I have another one at home I'd like to get rid of." He was referring to Marjorie's older sister, Eva. Jimmy had made reservations at Atlanta's finest hotel. Because of the weather, they were late checking in, only to find that their suite had been given to someone else, and they were given a small room with twin beds.

Their marriage had its initial upsets, but it has been one of the happiest marriages I have ever known. I spent a lot of time with Marjorie and Jimmy in the 1960s, and I can truthfully say I have never been around a man who was more patient, more loving, and who enjoyed his wife's company more than Jimmy Berry. Perhaps, the happiest time of their lives was the birth of their son, William Everett Berry. Out of the happy, caring environment in which he grew up, came one of the finest young men of our day. Dr. Bill Berry is a combination of all the good qualities of his parents—his father's contentment and patience, and his mother's sense of humor and her wonderful caring spirit.



## JIM & LIB ELLIS

On March 2, 1946, Jim Ellis and Elizabeth Holland were united in marriage at "Lib's" brother's house in Rossville, Georgia. The only guests were family members. Jim says he circled the house three times before he could decide whether to stop or to keep going. He had just returned from four years in the heat of battle in World War II, and he says he was experiencing some shyness in getting back into the civilian mode of living and being around people. He adds that his marriage to Lib is the best thing that ever happened to him. The two became acquainted at the place where both of them were employed at the time. Their courtship was not lengthy, but they both knew that they were right for each other. Lib and Jim were both serious about the same things—making a comfortable home, being conservative in their lifestyle and their spending, becoming involved in church together, and making decisions together concerning the things that affected their lives.

The couple was blessed with a wonderful son, James Robertus Ellis, Jr. (Robin), who filled their lives with many wonderful experiences as they became involved with him in school activities, sports, and church-related activities. They love his lovely wife, Sherry, as though she were their own daughter; but their greatest pleasure comes from their two grandchildren, Julie and Jamie. The youngsters are wonderful, talented, Christian people who love their grandparents devotedly and share all the good things of their lives with them. Jim and Lib can truly say that life together for them has been good.



## JIM & DALLYNE JONES

James Thomas Jones and Dallyne Tilley fell in love while attending high school at Valley Head. They were so much in love that they wanted to get married before finishing high school. Their families encouraged them to stay in school and to wait until they were older, pointing out that marriage carries a lot of responsibility for 16-year-olds. The couple did not allow this to dampen their spirits, however. Jim and Dallyne decided to elope. Jim took his suit down to the house of his sister, Almeda Blevins, which was situated in the curve just beyond the old covered bridge. With this plan, he could dress at Almeda's house, and walk across the covered bridge to Luther Kirby's house to borrow his beautiful, shiny 1940 Chevrolet. Luther had promised Jim that he could use it for the getaway. The date was set for June 23, 1945.

On June 20, a truck was crossing the covered bridge, and the bridge broke! Jim had no choice but to walk past his parent's home dressed in his wedding suit. He so hoped that he would be able to get by the house unnoticed; but, lo, a sister-in-law sitting on the porch spied him. She promptly reported that she had just seen Jim pass by dressed in a suit and wondered if he was on his way to get married. The wedding did take place; and, after 48 years, Dallyne says the only thing she would have done differently is to have finished her education. Jim says he would do it again—only younger—and even to the same woman. He added, "She has had a very happy life."

They both agree that marriage is a life-long commitment and that they have always put God first and family second in their lives. Perhaps, this is why, after almost 49 years, the couple is still so happy. Jim and Dallyne have reared five beautiful daughters and one handsome son. They have been able to educate all their children and are very proud to see them successful in their own lives. The couple has 12 grandchildren who are a great source of pleasure to them.

# Happy Valentine's Day

## to

Allen and Katie!  
I love you,  
Mee Mee

Special love to my  
Special Valentine!  
Ruthie

Randy, Teresa,  
Lori, Lani, & Joey!  
I love you,  
Mom

MOM!  
I love you,  
Marie D.

Allen and Katie!  
I love you,  
Mom

Clara!  
I love you,  
Sis

Brian and Tammy!  
I love you,  
Grandma Dillenbeck

Elizabeth, Katherine  
Jolee, & Robert  
I love you,  
Grandma Dillenbeck

Mother & Daddy!  
I love you,  
Sis

Dwight, Ginger B.,  
Ashley, & Adam!  
I love you,  
Grandma

Shannon & Angela!  
We love you,  
Mom & Dad

Sarah!  
I love you,  
Grandma Dillenbeck

Lauren & Dillion!  
We love you,  
Nan & Paw Paw

Danny, Tammy,  
Jeff, and David!  
I love you,  
Mom

William!  
All the  
Superette employees

Love to ALL  
my grandchildren!  
Grandmama



February, quite contrary, how do your breezes blow? You hint of spring and have your fling, and then you threaten snow!

We have had many kinds of weather, but, over all, we have been very fortunate.

Jean and John Jones have returned home after an extended trip to LaMesa, California, where they attended the wedding of their son, John Douglas Jones, U.S.N., G.S.—first class, to Jamey Lou Basham, January 1, at the First United Methodist Church. More about the wedding next month. So sorry about the break-in they found when they returned home.

Burma Durham, her son, O.H. Durham and his wife, visited Venna Livingston, recently.

Helen and Larry Longshore spent the day in Gatlinburg skiing and attending the art show.

Patti and A.J. Brown have returned home from a nine-day trip to Jacksonhole, Wyoming, for the skiing. They went by snowmobile 265 miles to Yellowstone National Park.

Doris and Jim Carmichael, Judy and Al Hammond, and June and Jane Eller attended the Gator Bowl game in Jacksonville, FL. It was Al Jr's 50th starting game. He is now working on his master's degree.

Olene Robert's grandson, Andrew Killian, son of Martha and Gerald Killian of Aiken, S.C., has been visiting Olene. He had just graduated from Clemson University with a Graphics Communications degree. He had been on a three-week tour of Scotland and England.

Evelyn Phillips has returned home after surgery in a Birmingham hospital. Hester Hammonds, Charles Hammonds' mother, is back home at the Fountains after a bout with pneumonia at Fort Payne Hospital. Charles' sister, Betty Kilgore, is suffering with cancer at her home in Ider. Ruby Kroger is still sick. We hope and pray for better days for all who are ill or distressed.

Jack McGlinchey of Bainbridge, GA, was a recent guest of Doris and Jim Carmichael.



President's Day is February 21

The Sunshine Club did not have a January meeting because of the weather and so much illness.

Susan and Hank Van Apeldorn spent the holidays at their home in Mentone and had as their guest Hank's mother, Mrs. Henry Van Apeldorn III, from Rochester, NY. They had lunch with Vivian Ellis in Lafayette, GA, and with Peggy Howe. Susan and Hank have been involved in the filming of TV shows in Covington, GA, among them "In the Heat of the Night" and "I'll Fly Away."

The executive committee of the Valley Head UMW met at my house on January 11, and made plans for the programs and work for the year. Mary Louise Holleman makes lovely program books for us. The UMW met at the home of Mary Louise, with Gladola Holleman as co-hostess. On January 25, Adelaide Biddle was program leader for the program, "A Glorious Past—A Brilliant Future."

Others present were Laura Margaret Allison, Venna Livingston, Geraldine Hawkins, Elizabeth Coleman, Vesta Hawkins, Frances Longshore, Velma Hammond, and Eloise Brown.

Most of the families in Valley Head are grateful to hear that relatives in California are all right. Our hearts are grieved for the victims of the earthquake, and we are so fortunate here despite the ice and cold.

Sincere sympathy to the relatives of Harry Hester, who passed away this week, and to all others who are troubled or distressed.

## JESSE B. STOTT, JR.

1942-1994

By Eloise Brown

We always ask and wonder why  
Someone good, so useful, has to die—  
Why so much pain must they endure  
When hope for the future seemed secure?  
He was so faithful and dependable—  
But, alas, we are all expendable.  
For his life, daily, we all pleaded,  
He was so loved and so needed.  
He fought a very valiant fight  
But too dreadful was his plight.  
His going leaves an empty space,  
Which no one can fill nor take his place.  
These things we cannot understand—  
Nor the reason should we demand,  
For the future we cannot see,  
Or the better way what it may be,  
Only accept it as we must,  
On God depend with faith and trust  
That this way may be best,  
Now he is blest with peace and rest.

Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

Jesse B. exemplified that abundant life and passed it on to others.

## Valley Head Woman's Club

By Maurine Donahue

Mrs. Kenneth Kirby must think she is jinxed by Lookout Mountain weather. Her first time to be hostess for the Valley Head Woman's Club was canceled because of the Blizzard of '93. This year, it was postponed by the Deep Freeze of '94; but, one week later, only a gentle rain marred the day. Mr. Kirby amiably ferried members from Moon Lake Baptist Church to their home, so members didn't have to drive on their slick road. Hostesses with Mrs. Kirby were Mrs. Claude Howe and Mrs. George E. Huiet, Jr.

The club president, Mrs. Alex Hamilton, presided. Mrs. Alva Hammond, led members in reciting the Club Collect, which expresses the values of the club: to be large in thought, word, and deed, without fault finding or prejudice. The subject of the program was "A Better World through Cultural Exchange."

Mrs. Larry Longshore gave the devotional. She said, in Matthew 4, we are told of the temptation of Jesus for international glory and power. So are we tempted of the things of this world. In Isaiah 9:6, Jesus shall be called "Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Tangible things are easier to believe, but our faith is based on intangible things. Christ is the man of the year, the peacemaker, the man of the ages, and he shall rule forever.

Mrs. Lea Gill, director of the Education Foundation for Exchange Students, said she will be happy to give information about the Foundation to all who are interested. She introduced the speakers, J.B. Sherer from Switzerland and Andreas Wallgren from Sweden. Both boys are students at Fort Payne High School. Both have good command of the English language and have very pleasing personalities.

J.B. lives in Zurich where his father is a teacher. His family lives in an apartment, as there are not many single family homes in Switzerland because of the terrain. They walk to school. Otherwise, trains are the principal mode of transportation.

Four languages are spoken in Switzerland—German, Italian, English, and French. German and French are predominant, but English is the language of business.

Andreas is from a small town of 22,000 in Sweden. Downtown is like a big shopping mall. They walk everywhere. Crime is not a major problem.

Taxes in Sweden are progressive and very high, around 55% for an average family. All schooling and medical expenses are paid by the state. The government now pays private hospitals, so there is no long wait in line for care. Sweden is famous for its porcelain and machine tools.

Mrs. Hamilton, an outstanding artist, gave the boys rocks from Little River on which she had painted native wild flowers and animals. One had wild flowers and a turtle, the other wild flowers and butterflies. Mrs. Gill's momento was a pin of cross-cut from black jack oak on which was painted small branches of the tree with a small owl on one branch.

Michele Anderson was recommended for membership. She will be voted on at the next meeting.



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## TOWN COUNCIL

The Mentone Town Council met on January 3, 1994, at 6 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cash, and the invocation was given by Benny Goss. Members present were Mayor Cash, Larry Hooks, Hobson Kirby, and Benny Goss.

After hearing a request from Bryan Phillips to attend a twelve-week training program at the Police Academy, Hobson Kirby made a motion to accept the proposal, and Larry Hooks seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

On December 16, Mayor Cash posted a notice for a public hearing on the close out of the planning grant. The comprehensive plan-zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations-have been completed. They are for the entire town of Mentone. All forms are available for inspection. The zoning ordinance is working well.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Mayor Cash would like the citizens of Mentone to know that the city is "trying to keep people watered and trying to get breaks in the water lines fixed." The freezing weather was hard on the pipe lines.

The next meeting is at 6 p.m. on Monday, February 7.



Washington's Birthday-February 22

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## GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

As I write this, I am waiting for that big ice storm to hit, and I also begin to think that, by now, we are nearly all ready to think about our seedlings. But starting seeds indoors can be tricky, and I know that for sure—as most of mine die! This year, I am going to try some of the tips from the so-called experts for getting the best and fastest seed germination.

### PRE-SPROUT

Germinate your seeds in paper towels. It's less risky than soil mix. You also speed up the germination process. It's an especially good idea for rare or special seeds. Arrange the seeds on a moist paper towel in an alignment where they don't touch each other; cover them with a second moist towel to sandwich the seeds; then roll the towels up, and put them in a plastic bag and set it in a warm place, like on the 'fridge or hot water heater to keep warm. Check the seeds in 2-3 days. If sprouted, remove them from the towels as soon as possible, and transplant them in small pots.

Some seeds need exposure to moist and cold to break dormancy and sprout. You can duplicate nature's moist winter chill with the process called "stratification." Place a layer of moistened growing mix in a plastic container; scatter a layer of dormant seeds over the surface; and cover with more moist soil mix (be sure to make a layer of seeds thick enough so that you can find them when the treatment is over). If necessary, you can add more than one layer. Cover the container with a tight-fitting lid, and put it in the 'fridge. Different seeds need differing amounts of time in the 'fridge. A general idea for the length of time for stratification is: "if it is a tree, shrub, or wildflower," stratify for a week, then let the container set at room temps for 1-2 days; then put in the FREEZER—yep, I did say freezer!—for one week. The idea is to alternate between the 'fridge and freezer at least twice. The warm-up in between helps to satisfy the double dormancy needed by some seeds, especially ones with a tough seed coat.

As for my attempt at propagating cuttings from evergreens, I propagated cedar cuttings and juniper rug. I am happy to say that it is a big success! There are long roots growing out the holes of the pots. My mother always told me never to "take" any cuttings without permission, because they will die. My sister-in-law told me never to thank anyone for flowers or cuttings, as they will die. So far, my juniper rug is doing well. I nipped a piece from the one outside Shoney's.

Have a very wonderful New year, you all!

## HUNTIN' & FISHIN' TIPS

Compiled by Dr. Pat

If you are ever lost at night...you can use Polaris, the North Star as a compass. Polaris lies almost exactly over the North Pole, so it does not appear to move, like other stars do, as the earth turns on its axis.

Polaris is easy to find: first look for the Big Dipper. The two stars in the dipper's leading edge point directly at Polaris. Another way to find the North Star is to look for the Little Dipper. It is harder to see than the big one, but Polaris is the Little Dipper's tail star.

For safety's sake, never wear red, white, or blue when hunting turkeys. These are the colors a gobbler's head and neck take on when it becomes excited.

**DEALING WITH FLEAS:** Some years are worse than others, but fleas can be a real problem for both dog and owner.

The first line of defense is a thorough washing with a good flea soap or shampoo as often as needed. Cedar shavings are a natural repellent, and most dogs like to lie on them. Another trick is to mix garlic powder in your dog's food or give him garlic capsules (not the odor-free ones) available in most drug- or health-food stores. The fleas seem to find the slight odor of the garlic that is naturally emitted through the skin terribly offensive.

**MAN, YOU STINK:** If fish could talk, they would say, "Man, you stink." We all have an odor that's offensive to fish. To eliminate it, wash your hands with deodorant soap before you handle bait or lures. Carry a small, wide-mouthed jar filled with biodegradable detergent, and be certain the jar has a tight seal. Just squirt a little detergent into the jar and fill the rest of it with water. Hold your lure or bait by the line and dip it into the solution. The detergent will remove all traces of human odor. Then, dunk your lure or bait into the stream or lake a few times to rinse off the detergent.

**KNOW YOUR SNAKES:** Would you know a pit viper if you saw one? This group of venomous snakes, which includes water moccasins (cotton mouths), copperheads, and rattlesnakes, all have these distinguishing characteristics:

- 1) a heat-sensing pit between the eye and nostril on each side of the head (these snakes use these pits to hone in on prey);
- 2) a triangular head;
- 3) vertical, elliptical eyes; and
- 4) a single row of scales under the tail.

These snakes range in size from 18 inches long (the pygmy rattlesnake) to more than eight feet long (the diamondback rattlesnake), and they are responsible for more than 90 percent of the poisonous snakebites in the United States each year.



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# SCHOOL NEWS

## MOON LAKE

On Friday, February 4, school pictures will be made. This will include individual student's pictures, basketball pictures, etc.

Monday, February 21, will be a school holiday in honor of Presidents' Day.

The following items were taken from the December 1993 issue of the **Tiger Paw Print** newsletter of the Moon Lake Elementary School. The newsletter is sponsored by Dr. Bill Berry. Charles Bell is principal and Helen Sibert is secretary to Mr. Bell.

## Tiger Paw Print

Student of the month—Justin Fischer

By Jack Corey

Justin Fischer moved to Mentone this summer from Florida. He enjoys watching Star Trek and playing football with his brothers, John and Jared. He says he is glad to be at Moon Lake and the teachers are nice. Justin likes to play the trumpet. Ask him to play a tune for you sometime. We're glad all of the Fischers have come to Moon Lake School this year.

### 6TH GRADE

By Brandy Jackson

Earlier this year, we had a new girl join our class. Her name is Amberly Denham. We also had a new boy join our class on the first day of school. His name is Justin Fischer. Many of us already knew him from MAC. On November 17, Adam Prestwood also came to Moon Lake. He is funny. As you can tell, our class has grown, and we are glad!

### 2ND GRADE

By Emmy Corey & Ashley McSpadden

Ashley McSpadden's grandmother brought a Christmas tree to our class. We are making ornaments to hang on the tree. Niki likes recess. Mason says he likes the teacher. Coley likes Christmas. Adam thinks Christmas is fun. Ms. Lehman likes the children. Kim likes to make ornaments.

### KINDERGARTEN

By Stuart Hurt

The kindergarten has new gerbils, a mother gerbil and her baby. Joshua Rogers was the King of Harvest Festival.

While studying the letter "I" for "Indians," the kindergarteners made Indian headbands. They studied the letter "T" for Thanksgiving.

### LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

By Ben Corey

These were the three favorite movies seen this summer: (1) Ninja Turtles III; (2) Superman; and (3) Little Mermaid. Close behind were Jurassic Park and Batman.

There was a great difference between 6th and 1st grade votes. One girl in 6th voted for Dennis the Menace. That proves everyone has the power of opinion.

### WINTER

By Jack Corey

Winter, I would say, is my favorite time of year. Mainly, because after this summer, the snow storm didn't seem so bad. I love winter because I love to go outside and come back in and get warm. When it snows, I like to have snowball fights with my brothers. In the summer, we have water balloon fights, but they are not nearly as much fun. Fires are a highlight. They are comfortable, warm, and enjoyable. This is why winter is my favorite time of year.



Moon Lake Coach Pat Brendle with 3rd and 4th grade team in a huddle



Moon Lake's 6th Graders await their game against Ider at Ider Gym. L to R: (Seated) Brandy Johnson, Jack Corey, Jason Sammons, Buck Strickland, Thomas Brendle, (Standing) Coley Webb

### SPORTS EXTRA

By Jennifer Blalock & Peter Hurt

Basketball and soccer are our fall sports. The 4th and 5th grade basketball players are Peter Hurt and Corey Kirby, Eddie Manning, Nathan Owen, Matthew Prestwood, and Coley Webb. The 6th grade basketball players are Josh Baggett, Thomas Brendle, Candace Fuller, Brandy Jackson, Brandy Johnson, Adam Prestwood, Jason Sammons, Buck Strickland, and Jack Corey. Both basketball teams have played great games so far this season. Practice is on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons. Our coach, Pat Brendle, is teaching us "throw-in" plays. We are having fun!

The soccer team did great for its beginning season. The players were Josh Baggett, Ben Corey, Jack Corey, Jared Fischer, Justin Fischer, Candace Fuller, Brandy Jackson, Thomas Brendle, Nathan Owen, Jason Owens, Jason Sammons, Buck Strickland, and Amberly Denham.

Moon Lake Cheerleaders are really enjoying this basketball season. Their sponsor is Cindy Webb. Every week, they have a different captain.

The cheerleaders are Tessie Baty, Jennifer Blalock, Brandy Browder, Sheena Crow, Amberly Denham, Jana Goss, Jessica Lee, and Tonya Webb. Mrs. Denham has made their uniforms, earrings, pins, and hair bows.

It has really boosted spirit for Moon Lake. There is a spirit contest at the pep rally each week. Some of the cheers are Tiger Beat, Elevate Your Mind, Atmosphere, Mighty Tigers, B.E.A.T., and Bust 'Em.



Mrs. Joyce Smith's 4th & 5th grade class is participating in an essay contest sponsored by the Valley Head Woman's Club. The students will be interviewing people in our community who are 60 years old or more. L to R: (Sitting) Peter Hurt, Nathan Owen, Joyce Smith, Ben Corey; (Standing) Emily Collins, Holly Kitchens, Jared Fischer, Will Shanklin, Tracy Coots, David Chaney, Cassie Hooks, Jenny Wesley, Jana Goss, Jennifer Blalock, Matthew Prestwood, Alan Hawkins, Johnnie Wesley

## VALLEY HEAD

By Sally Sharp

The Valley Head High School Student Council took up food for a needy family in the Valley Head community over the Christmas holidays. Student Council members donated canned items and other food items to be taken to the needy family. The 93-94 officers are: Jim Poe, Terry Durham, Devin Worthey, Duane Blalock, Jamie Phillips, and Sally Sharp. The Student Council is planning a trip to the State Convention in Auburn this spring.

The Valley Head Senior Beta Club distributed fruit baskets to the elderly in the Valley Head community over the holidays. The fruit baskets were put together by Beta members and then distributed. Beta members also donated \$245 for toys to go to Toys-For-Tots. The 93-94 officers are: Jeremy Hope, Jay Wagner, Sally Sharp, Marc Smalley, and Jody Wagner. A trip to the State Convention in Mobile, AL, is planned for March 10-12. A fund raiser is on schedule for later this spring.

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American Heart Association

## HEART TO HEART

By Patricia Huiet

Last year, the people of Mentone opened their generous hearts, and in love and concern, gave \$1,009 to the American Heart Association. As Chairman of our Mentone Residential Campaign, 1993, and as a member of the DeKalb County Board of Directors, AHA, I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Since each year, AHA's programs depend on voluntary contributions from the public, we are requesting that this year, for our 2nd Residential Campaign, Mentonians contribute to the AHA Volunteers when they contact each of you. These friends and neighbors are giving freely of their time and efforts, because they are fighting for your life and mine.

Half of all American deaths are caused by heart disease, stroke, and related disorders. In DeKalb County last year, 618 people died; 55% of all the deaths, 342 people, were a result of cardiovascular diseases. Heart attack is the #1 killer; stroke is #3. Investing in research is the most cost-effective way that Mentonians can help in saving the greatest number of people. Your involvement matters. We're up against a terrible killer. Let's open our hearts and pocketbooks, and together we can be positively "death-defying."

This year, my husband, George "Buck" Huiet has also become a member of the AHA DeKalb County Board of Directors. He is a survivor of a heart attack and heart surgeries. We take this "heart matter" very seriously. Probably one of your loved ones has been touched by this disease. Together, with our volunteers, we will be striving to win the battle against cardiovascular disease.

Your involvement matters; the check or cash you give will ALL come directly back to DeKalb County. New drugs, new surgical procedures, and new ways of understanding disease processes, will aid us in our battle against this killer. Your contribution will be an investment in the future. Won't you join us in generously contributing to the American Heart Association?

From our hearts to yours, won't you give to this life-saving organization? Don't take any chances. It's your heart and your life.



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Cloudmont Ski Resort in Mentone was training ground for 35 handicapped children from Birmingham, Montgomery, Jacksonville, and Anniston, Tuesday morning, January 25, as part of preparation for the national Special Olympics organization's Winter Olympics to be held in Beach Mountain, N.C.



The volunteer coaches are shown training the participants for the timed events on skis. Gary Jones and wife, Cindy, and Bill Pilson, are also assisting.

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

By Evelyn Graves

Approximately 35 participants, 10 coaches, and several instructors graced the Cloudmont ski slope on January 25-26, as the annual Special Olympics got underway. Participants from Montgomery, Birmingham, Jacksonville, and Anniston, Alabama, arrived by bus with a great deal of excitement for the event. Each participant was assigned an instructor, and the fun began.

The volunteers are their coaches, their teachers, and other volunteers of the ARC organization. Gary Jones of Cloudmont Ski Resort plans ahead for the event each year and makes all the arrangements, supervising the overall event. This is the 4th Annual Special Olympics at Cloudmont, and each participant received a ribbon. From here, the participants go to compete in the national Winter Special Olympics in Beach Mountain, North Carolina.





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Beauty  
TipsBy  
CHARLYNE O'REAR

## SPRING FASHIONS '94

Let's take a side road this month and talk about the spring fashions arriving at our favorite shops. We will be back to the fitness route next month.

**COLORS:** The hottest colors will be sage, coral, banana, taupe, blush (faint pink), flax, and off-white. Navy and black are always "in."

**FABRICS:** Headliner fabrics are rayon, linen, silk, gauze, cotton, and the polyester that looks and feels so much like silk. Mixtures of fabrics are linen/gauze, silk/lace, cotton/lace, rayon/silk, and gauze/lace.

**STYLES:** City shorts are making a great comeback, looks like they're here for awhile. Tank dresses in slubbed rayon and cotton, ribbed silk matte jersey, crinkled silk, rayon faille, and chiffon—take your pick. There are tiny floral and gingham checked go-togethers in the same colors and hues. You will see them as dress/coat, shorts/long blouse, and pants/tees. Big-legged pants are back—this time they're done right! They taper, beginning gently at the waist. Blazers of linen, silk, and polyester and cotton sweaters are a hit, and some of the most sensible items out there. Following close in the spotlight are dresses with jazzy treatment at the waist, like back side elastic only and spaghetti strings laced in the back. Any clothes with nails or beads on them are very, very "in." Crochet used in vests, jackets, or swimsuits are all the rage, too. Vests are still going strong worn layered-look, made into the outfit to appear to be a three-piece. They are long, short, soft, crinkled, and lame, and worn with everything to any function, be it formal or otherwise.

**BAGS AND HATS:** Bags are in keeping with the fabrics—and the selection goes on and on. This collection includes totes made of raffia and straw that are so easy to go with the big straw hats trimmed in raffia, same colored and multi-colored flowers. Don't forget to check out the cute little crochet hats!

**WIND SUITS:** Wind suits will always be around, and any style is an "OK" to wear.

**SHOES:** Shoes are an interesting fair—providing you're using Webster's #2 or #4 definition. This season, they can be as clunky as combat boots or as trim as strapped sandals.

**JEWELRY:** Beads, beads, beads, and more beads! Look for beads and other baubles on strong, silk ropes or raffia in primitive and Aztec theme. You will find diamonds set in hammered metals, and the sky is the limit in types of metal. Pins run from funky to very classic in style and price!

Now, getting back to the real world. You will find plenty of colors—just as wide a range of styles that are down to earth. So, go out shopping, and don't take the fashions or yourself too seriously.

See ya' next month!

CHARLYNE O'REAR  
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## VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day is a special day observed on February 14. There are several stories as to the beginning of Valentine's Day. Here are some of them for the readers to think about.

Valentine was an early Christian who made friends with many children. The Romans imprisoned him because he refused to worship their gods. The children missed Valentine and tossed loving notes between the bars of his cell window. This tale may explain why people exchange messages on Valentine's day.

Many stories say that Valentine was executed on February 14, about A.D. 269. In A.D. 496, Saint Pope Gelasius I named February 14 as St. Valentine's Day.

In Norman French, a language spoken in Normandy during the Middle Ages, the word *galant* sounds like *Valentine* and means *gallant* or *lover*. This resemblance may have caused people to think of St. Valentine as the special saint of lovers.

The earliest records of Valentine's Day in English tell that birds chose their mates on that day. People used a different calendar before 1582, and February 14 came on what is now February 24. Geoffrey Chaucer, an English poet of the 1300s, wrote in *The Parliament of Fowls*, "For this was on St. Valentine's Day, / When every fowl cometh there to choose his mate." Shakespeare also mentioned this belief in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A character in the play discovers two lovers in the woods and asks, "St. Valentine is past; / Begin these woodbirds but to couple now?"

People in England probably celebrated Valentine's Day as early as the 1400s. Some historians trace the custom of sending verses on Valentine's Day to a Frenchman named Charles, Duke of Orleans. Charles was captured by the English during the Battle of Agincourt in 1415. He was taken to England and put in prison. On Valentine's Day, he sent his wife a rhymed love letter from his cell in the Tower of London.

## About Our Town

By  
LINDA BROWN



What a year this has been already!! One of the worst ice storms (as far as being able to travel) has already hit Mentone. In all the years I've lived here, I think this one stayed on the ground the longest. I know that this was the first time I've seen the north side of trees covered with ice from top to bottom. Mike Smith assures me that winter is over, so, I believe I'll go with his thinking. Of course, Mr. Groundhog may have something to say about that. Almost all parts of the country have suffered from a severe winter already.

Then, there was the terrible earthquake in California. I was home that day, and the following two days, and watched all of it on TV. It was heartbreaking to see all of those people out in the parks, homeless. And so many of them seemed to be babies and young children. It seems that Mother Nature is trying to tell us she is still boss and controls most everything on this planet.

As if the natural events were not enough, we have had several deaths in this area recently; and it seems that the violence in America is increasing daily. The latest is children killing children. Where have we gone wrong when a child feels no remorse over taking the life of another? Somewhere along the way, someone is going to have to teach our children to care for each other; and I think that our attitude towards marriage (or the lack of) and family will have to change before we can do this. Also, I think that education is the key to almost all problems. Not necessarily formal education, but the knowledge to discern right from wrong and sort the good from the bad. Some of the minority groups are starting a program to take back their neighborhoods from the drug dealers, etc., and to report things in their schools that should not be allowed. This seems to be a good start in the right direction. Maybe we should all be more willing to "get involved."

The Mentone Planning Commission is starting to see some positive results from all of their hard work. People are starting to realize that the town was insightful enough to realize that this was needed, and it is here for the good of all. I know that it is sometimes frustrating not to be able to do exactly what you want to, but consider your neighbors and think about what Mentone is going to be for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the next twenty to fifty years. Someone preserved it for us, can we afford to do less?

I heard some very good reports about the DeSoto Rescue Squad and the Mentone Volunteer Fire Fighters during the ice and snow storm. Everything I heard was very positive, and I think Mentone should be proud of these men and women who are willing to give of their time, money, and resources, without any thought of reward, except the good feeling that comes from helping someone. The fire fighters have some new equipment that they have needed for a long time. Maybe someone who is more knowledgeable about it than I am could report to *The Groundhog* next month.

February is the month for lovers. Let someone know that you love them. Call someone who is lonely or downhearted; send Grandma a Valentine card; write a letter to someone you haven't seen since high school; hug everyone you meet (you may get some strange looks, but who cares?); send flowers to someone you admire; or just take time to tell someone that you love them. There are so many different kinds of love that you surely can find one to fit every situation.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!

## MENLO DOINGS

The *Groundhog* is indebted to several Menlo residents for help in compiling this news.

Residents of the Menlo area were deeply saddened by the recent death of Hershel Griffith of Cloudland.

Joanne Christian is still confined at home after undergoing knee surgery. She is involved in intensive therapy to help her regain full use of her leg.

Ed Burroughs of Cloudland retired on January 1, 1994. He will involve himself full time in the Mentone area "Outreach Program," sponsored by the North DeKalb Ministerial Association. "Outreach" provides canned food items, household goods, bedding, clothes, etc., to families who request items. Ed is active as an assistant minister at the St. Josephs On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church.

Hugh Leath of Menlo passed away this month. Deepest sympathy to his survivors.

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### SPECIAL THANKS

To everyone who has helped me after I recently fell and broke my leg-- especially Sadie Tate, and all my wonderful friends and neighbors, and the members of the Mentone Revival Center.

LULA BLALOCK



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## Rhododendron Garden Club News



L to R: Marie Dillenbeck, Pat Seymour, and Ann Wright presented the program on "Garden Therapy-- Digging for Mental Health" for the Mountain Laurel Garden Club of Fort Payne.

There was no January meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club. However, on Thursday, January 27, three members of the club, Pat Seymour, District II Vice Chairman and local Garden Therapy chairman; Ann Wright, President; and Marie Dillenbeck, Vice President, presented the program, entitled "Garden Therapy-- Digging for a Mental" to the Fort Payne Mountain Laurel Garden Club at the Western Sizzlin'. (See picture above.)

The board met on January 28 to consider amendments to the bylaws and to begin planning the programs for the year 1994-1995.

### NARF MEETING

The DeKalb County Chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 15, at the Western Sizzlin'. Guest speaker will be Rev. David Lett, pastor of Mentone United Methodist Church.

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### A Special Note of Thanks

to Mike Kennamer, Walt Pullen, and Robert Green of The DeSoto Rescue Squad, who so willingly and ably assisted my family during the ice storm. My mother became ill during the night of the storm, and Mike Kennamer and Walt Pullen came to transport her to DeKalb Baptist Hospital. They handled her so gently over the ice and seated her in Walt's truck for the trip down to Fort Payne. Mike checked her blood pressure and medically attended her. They had to cut small trees and branches in our driveway to get to the house. After we had spent several hours in the hospital emergency room, Robert Green came in the emergency vehicle the Squad was using on trial and transported us back to Mentone. Even after our return, Mike telephoned periodically that night and the next day to check on Mother's progress and to see if we needed anything.

What a wonderful, caring group of men and how secure all of us at Mentone can feel with them in charge!

Thank you so much.

Evelyn Graves



Enjoy a fine dining experience on the brow of Lookout Mountain. You'll love the sunsets and good food at Cragmere. Friday-Saturday 5-9 p.m. DeSoto Parkway - Mentone. For reservations, call Bonnie at 205/845-2209 or 205/634-4677



## The Recipe Corner

By  
SUE SCHWARZ

Many Mentone area freezers are full of deer meat as a result of hunting season. These recipes may help with delicious variations on how mountain cooks prepare the meat. Enjoy! (Our regular Groundhog foods' expert, Sue Schwarz, will be back with you in the March issue.)

With a pan of hot biscuits and a pot of grit, potatoes, or rice, these make great man-pleasing meals!

### VENISON STEAK AND GRAVY

By Coach Jack Rutledge, Tuscaloosa, AL  
1-1/2 to 2 pounds venison round steak,  
cut into 5 or 6 pieces

Salt and pepper to taste

3/4-to-1 C flour

Vegetable or corn oil

3 small onions (chopped)

3 garlic cloves, minced finely or pressed

3 cups water

3 beef bouillon cubes

1 t salt

1/2 T onion salt

1/2 T garlic salt

Tenderize meat with knife handle. Cut into serving-size pieces, salt and pepper lightly, and roll in flour. Use only as much cooking oil as it requires to cover the bottom of the size skillet used, and brown venison steaks on both sides. Remove meat from skillet. Add chopped onion and garlic cloves to remaining oil in skillet, and saute' until tender. Add water to skillet, scraping sides and bottom to loosen bits of flour left from the steaks. Drop in bouillon cubes and dissolve. Add salt, onion, and garlic salt, and stir well. Return venison steaks to gravy, cover, and simmer slowly for 1 hour.

### VENISON ROAST

By Coach Sam Bailey, Tuscaloosa, AL

Venison roast

Bacon

Buttermilk

Salt and pepper

Marinate roast overnight in buttermilk. Remove meat from buttermilk, wipe it off, and put it in a roasting pan. Season with salt and pepper, and cover with several strips of bacon. Roast at 350 degrees until meat thermometer reads 140 degrees, medium rare.

•Organic Foods • Beans • Grains • Juices • Breads • Spices  
•Snacks • Cereals • Chips • Cookies • Cold Drinks

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11:00am - 2:00pm  
**Closed Tuesdays**

Hwy 117 Mentone 634-4232



**"HAVE A HEART"  
VALENTINE BENEFIT  
FOR  
SANFORD HARTLINE  
(To help on medical bills)**

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 12, 1994  
**TIME:** 6 p.m. UNTIL—  
**WHERE:** Lookout Valley, Inc., formerly  
the Promenade Dance Hall,  
Hwy 11, in Valley Head

\$10.00 each for adults, includes meal  
\$5.00 each for teenagers, includes meal  
Tickets available at Dessie's Kountry Chef 634-  
4232; P.O. Box 425, Mentone, AL 35984

MCs: Dr. Pat Seymour and Ovie Blalock  
Entertainment includes:

Auction

Cloggers

Comedy

Door Prizes

Food

Line Dancing (round & square)

Dancing to music by Mike & Tena Cryer

Take-out foods also available.



Donations of new items, crafts, etc., for the  
auction are welcome. Call Dr. Pat Seymour or  
Marie Dillenbeck, at 634-4541, if you have items to  
donate.

All help will be appreciated. If you want to help  
in some way, call Jim Gaylord at 634-4535.

Mentone and Valley Head area residents and  
friends are urged to participate in this extremely  
worthwhile event. **COME JOIN IN THE FUN!!!**

Send any donations (payable to Sanford Hartline)  
c/o The Groundhog,  
P.O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984

**The Groundhog staff  
apologizes to Dr. Pat Seymour  
for the misplaced copy in her article  
on the front page of the  
January 1994 edition.**



**CRIME STOPPERS GROUP  
FORMED IN MENTONE**

A crime stoppers group of concerned citi-  
zens plan to offer a \$500 cash reward for  
information leading to the arrest and con-  
viction of the person or persons responsible  
for burglaries in Mentone. Information  
may be called in to Colquitt Jones at 634-  
4467. Informants do not have to give their  
names when reporting a thief. Information  
reported will then be handed over to law  
enforcement officials. An identifying num-  
ber will be given to callers so they may  
remain anonymous.

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

I am pleased to make the following donation for  
the year 1994:

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_



**NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

A new year is here and it is time to consider renew-  
ing your \$25.00 pledge to the North Lookout Mountain  
Volunteer Fire Department. As you readers know,  
The Groundhog has been keeping you informed as to  
the progress the Department has made in its purchase  
of much-needed equipment with your help and your  
donations. They have purchased the jaws of life, and  
there is still more equipment needed, including a new  
fire truck.

So, readers and residents of North DeKalb County,  
set out below is a coupon, which you may use to for-  
ward your donation to them. If you do not have a  
decals, please let them know, and one will be mailed to  
you upon receipt of your donation. Thanks for your  
help in the past and thanks for your continued sup-  
port.



**THE MENTONE POST OFFICE WILL BE  
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR  
"THE RURAL CARRIER ASSOCIATION  
EXAMINATION"  
FROM MONDAY, JANUARY 31, THROUGH  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1994.**

**PLEASE SEE BULLETIN BOARD POSTING  
IN THE POST OFFICE LOBBY FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION.**



**God's Minute**

By RUBY BROCK

A new commandment I give unto you,  
that ye love one another; as I have loved  
you, that ye also love one another.

John 13:34

Valentine's Day is a time we are remind-  
ed to show our love to one another. Love  
is more than a four-letter word, more than  
a pretty card with pretty words, more than  
a pretty heart-shaped box of chocolates.

Love is caring, giving, loving, and  
understanding in good times and in bad  
times. The wise man said, "A friend  
loveth at ALL times." We need more  
friends.



**DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD  
FIRST RESPONDER COURSE**

A first responder class began Thursday  
January 27, from 6:00-10:00 p.m. at the  
American Legion Building in Mentone.  
Classes are on successive Thursdays  
through March 10, and open to the public.  
The schedule is:

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Jan. 27: Intro. to Emer. Care | M. Kennamer |
| Anatomy and Physiology,       | R. Dooley   |
| Rescuer Safety,               | J. Clements |
| and CPR                       | R. Dooley   |
|                               | Englehardt  |
|                               | J. Gant     |
|                               | K. Goza     |
|                               | J. Clements |
| Feb. 3: Patient assessment    | J. Craig    |
|                               | J. Gant     |
|                               | R. Dooley   |
| Feb. 10: Shock                | Englehardt  |
| Bandaging                     | Dooley      |
|                               | Craig       |
| Feb. 17: Extremity Trauma     | Englehardt  |
| Splinting                     | Dooley      |
| Feb. 24: Medical Emergencies  | Dooley      |
|                               | Englehardt  |
|                               | Williams    |
| Feb. 26 Triage                | Gant        |
| (Sat.) Moving patients        | Goza        |
| (9 a.m. Crisis Intervention   | Williams    |
| to Head, Spine, and Chest     | Englehardt  |
| 5 p.m.) Extrication           | Goza        |
| Mar. 3: Poisoning             | Englehardt  |
| Heat & Cold                   | Fowler      |
| Childbirth                    | Williams    |
| Pediatrics                    | Fowler      |
| Special patients              | Englehardt  |
| Mar. 10: Final Exam           |             |

There is no charge for the classes; how-  
ever, there will be a small charge for the  
textbook.

Everyone is invited to come  
and participate.