

**Celebrating
13 Years
in Print**

THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone • Valley Head • Hammondville • Cloudland • Menlo

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

Volume 13, No. 2

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

February 1995

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 *galantine* 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

HAPPY



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.



is giving with no

thought of getting. It is tenderness enfolded with strength to protect. It is forgiveness without further thought of the thing forgiven. It is understanding of the thing forgiven. It is understanding of human weakness, with knowledge of the true man shining through. It is quiet in the midst of turmoil. It is trust in God with no thought of self.

VALENTINE'S DAY

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

•Tuesday, February 7, 7 p.m.
MAPA Meeting, Kountry Chef

•Friday, February 10, 7 p.m.
Womanless Beauty Pageant
Promenade Hall, Valley Head
(See pages 9 & 24)

•Sunday, February 12, Lincoln's Birthday

•Tuesday, February 14, Valentine's Day

•Monday, February 20, President's Day Holiday



•Wednesday, February 22, Washington's Birthday

•February 19 - 25, Arbor Week

•Wednesday, March 1, Ash Wednesday

•Monday, March 6, 6 p.m.
Mentone City Council Meeting, Town Hall

•Tuesday, March 7, 7 p.m.
MAPA Meeting, Kountry Chef

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THE GROUNDHOG

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

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MAPA BIRTHDAYS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Betty Harris Finster March 3
Ruth Porter March 4
Evelyn Graves March 25

NARFE. The next meeting of the DeKalb County Chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees will be on February 21, 1995, at 10:00 a.m. at the Western Sizzlin in Ft. Payne.

"LET ME CALL YOU SWEETHEART, I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU"

By Dr. Pat Seymour



What qualities in your Valentine made you fall in love with him and cause you "to give him your heart"?

MAXINE (JIMMY) WRIGHT: "If you had ever seen Jimmy play football and basketball, you wouldn't have to ask me that question! He was so handsome and athletic, with jet black hair—but, seriously, the chief quality I admired in Jimmy was that he was a total gentleman who loved and respected his mother. While he was in service for two years before we married, I wrote him every day. We're still in love, and don't care who knows it! We will have been married 38 years in March and continue to love doing things together. I still can see him as the star center in the big Thanksgiving football game between Valley head and Fort Payne."

EVELYN (JIMMY) GRAVES: "He was so good looking with the most beautiful green eyes I'd ever seen. Most of our dating had to do with church services, and I began to see Jimmy as others saw him, related to him. Endearing qualities? Compassion, caring, full of energy and life, love of children. Jimmy said that he just saw me standing on a street corner in Ft. Payne wearing a white dress and looking like an angel! I was also deeply touched by his dedication to and feeling of responsibility for his motherless two children. During our courtship, one night we were eating out, and Jimmy reached over to butter my roll, never stopping talking! What woman could not fall in love with such a considerate man?"

CHRISTINE (WALTER) BROOKS: "Sincerity, honesty, dependability—those qualities describe Walter to a 'T.' We dated for a year before he went into the Army, and I knew early in our relationship that Walter was the man I wanted to spend my life with. For 47 years now, Walter has been my special Valentine."

ANN (BILL) WRIGHT: "The first thing I noticed about Bill were his unbelievably clean finger nails—and yet he was on an athletic field so much of the time! Although baseball was his best sport, he excelled in football and basketball, too. Shifting from the line to fullback, in one game, Bill ran over 70 yards for a touchdown. I found out early in our relationship two things that endeared Bill to me: his mother was #1 in his life, and he could not stand to see someone weaker picked on by a bully. I never have—I never will love anybody, but Bill. In July, we will have been married 44 years, and still are as deeply in love as when we were married in 1952."

GAYNELL (JIMMY) WORTHLEY: "What quality? Gentleman is the first to come to mind. Jimmy was working for Carl Weigand when we started dating, and I never knew back then that he could do so many things so well. My love for Jimmy has grown through the years—22 years in March. Now, I wouldn't trade him for anything!"

MICKY (SHERMAN) GOUGH: "His inner kindness, dedication, dependability. As the oldest of eight children, Sherman showed respectful consideration for his mother and sisters. It was then that I saw his courtesy and gentleness toward women. I knew that he'd be a perfect husband, and I knew I wanted him for mine. His mother, who died recently lived to be over 90. This May, I will have been married to Sherman for 45 wonderful years."

GRACE (MILTON) HOWARD: "He was my best friend for a couple of years before we married. Such a gentleman, and such stability! Milton won my heart over 50 years ago, and I'm still in love with him!"

YVONNE (DON) BROCK: "We have been together most of our lives, having started dating in the 11th grade. Don was so handsome, so kind to everyone. What drew me to Don early in our relationship were his gentleness and his honesty. We have grown closer and closer through the years—25 of them in July—and I am still totally in love with him. Since the 11th grade, I haven't see any other than Don!"

CATHERINE (FLOYD, deceased) BAILEY: "For nearly 50 years, my life revolved around Floyd. He was the fairest man I have ever known and the most well-liked by everyone. Quiet, popular—Floyd was well bred and courteous to all he met. He was a good man, a good husband, and I loved Floyd Bailey with all my heart!"

ANITA (TREAMON) MEADOWS: "I saw early in our relationship how good Treamon was with children, especially his young nephew. He took the boy fishing and to ball games, spent quality time with him. Treamon was devoted to his mother, and this certainly wasn't lost on me. I fell in love with Treamon, and I am still in love with him today!"

LINDA (BOBBY) BROWN: "He was in the 11th grade at Valley Head, and I was in the 10th. One day, while running down the steps to the gym, I fell and badly skinned my knee.

Bobby stopped and cleaned up my bleeding leg. That was my first encounter with his instinctive kindness and his deep concern for other people. He was always respectful to his mother and daddy and courteous to other older people, too. That impressed me! I fell head over heels in love with Bobby Brown, and still am. I try to remember to tell him so every day."

RUBY (RAYMOND, deceased) BROCK: "Let me give you an example of how honest he was. A policeman stopped us on the highway one day while we were hurrying to Youth Camp and told Raymond that he'd violated a no-passing zone. Raymond said he knew that he had broken the law and proceeded to quote the ordinance to the officer. Honest even when it cost him! The trait that I appreciated most in Raymond, though, was probably the respectful way he treated me—like I was a real lady!"

MARSHA (PHIL) HURT: "His sense of humor. Phil is so much fun to be around, and he is such a very kind person. We were good friends before we started dating and are still best friends today, even after all the years together. I noticed Phil enjoyed whatever he was doing—working, playing, everything was exciting. He had a tremendous capacity to enjoy himself, as well as be delighted with the people around him. I'm still madly in love with him and plan to grow in love as time goes on."

CONNIE (KEVIN) McELHANEY: "Our 3rd anniversary will be on Valentine's Day! Kevin will probably come home to a baked chicken dinner—his favorite. I was fascinated by his finding something funny in everything. Kevin was a warm and caring sweetheart, always bringing me roses for Valentines. (I think he married me so he could save some money!) I have no regrets. Kevin was and is my dearest sweetheart!"

GERRY (ED) DISNEY: "We met on a Christmas blind date that has lasted for 47 years on February 24. When I met Ed, he was an excellent amateur photographer. On our first date, we went over to take pictures of a huge (like Nippersink's) fireplace at Ed's boss's home. Those same people gave us our first engagement party and gifted us with a sterling silver pie server that I use today. We dated for two years, and I was so impressed by Ed's sincerity that I fell deeply in love with him and still am today!"

JOSEPHINE (WILLIS) BLALOCK: "Level-headed, down-to-earth, sincere, mature—those are the qualities I saw in Willis. He was just out of the service (Army) and hot-rodded all over Mentone in his 2-door, brown Ford. Valentine's Day is special to Willis and me because we were married on February 13, Valentine's Eve."

BRENDA (BENNY) GOSS: "My father was so strict with me, Benny and I never, never were allowed to go out alone on a date. He would come to church to see me and sit on the end of my pew. Every Sunday, he would move closer and closer to me on the bench. I thought he was so handsome and mature since he was older. We were engaged for a year, and we would sneak kisses in the car while I waited after church for my mother! What a courtship Benny and I had!"

POLLY (ALFRED) CHAMBERS: "Since he was so good to his mother, I knew Alfred would be good to his wife—and he has been for 57 years in November. He was nice looking, clean, and a really neat boy when we met on Sand Mountain. Alfred was a hard worker, and when his daddy got real sick, Alfred, oldest of ten children, quit school and supported the 12 people in his family. I tell him that I love him every day of my life. Alfred is one in a billion."

MARY (CHARLES) FLANNIGAN: "Decent, that's the word for Charles. He was good looking, honest, and hardworking. I saw how good he was to his mother. In September, we will have been married for 31 years. Charles and I are still in love and appreciate each other much more than when we were married!"

ROBERTA (MAX) CASH: "It was love at first sight! Max had just come back from the Army, and I was teaching in a one-teacher school out from Cloudland. Max drove by me while I was walking home from school, but I ran away and didn't speak. The next day, I had checked him out and found that I was teaching some of his kin. He asked some relatives who I was, too. We went out afterwards, and that was it. I fell like a ton of bricks! He was so kind and caring. When his daddy got real sick, Max supported his parents and twin brothers until their daddy died and his mother qualified for Social Security. I don't join women's clubs because I prefer just doing things with Max. We fell in love in the 40s, and, today, are even more deeply in love than ever."

SPECIAL OLYMPIANS PRACTICE AT CLOUDMONT

By Marie Dillenbeck



Coach and Director Tim Ray helping Robert Wooley get back on his feet



Scott Patterson looks on as Robert Wooley "bites the snow." Photo by Scott Turner, The Times-Journal



Coach Janet Smith assisting athlete Jack Hoffman



Athlete Andy Jordan assisting a beginning skier

On Tuesday, January 24, handicapped children from around the state of Alabama (Birmingham, Montgomery, Jacksonville, and Anniston) descended on Cloudmont Ski Resort. They spent the day practicing for the upcoming Special Winter Olympics to be held February 4th through the 8th in Boone, North Carolina.

Cloudmont Ski Resort, located at Mentone, is the only place in Alabama where they can get in some practice with their skiing. Jack Jones said that eight inches of new fresh powder was placed on the slopes by snow machines during the late evening and early morning hours. Gary Jones and Barry Wood worked throughout the night to prepare the slope with snow for the skiers. Cathy Brown is the manager of the ski lodge, and she also was out on the slope assisting the skiers as they fell. Instructors from Cloudmont Resort were on hand to help with advice on how to make it down the slopes. They were Matt Pilson, a ski instructor, Jim Schmitt, and Dan Duckworth, who worked the lift line.

Mr. Tim Ray, who was in charge of the training, is a P.E. teacher at Montevallo Elementary School. He said, "This is my first year in taking over the Special Olympics training." When asked the ages of the athletes, Tim replied that they were from 8 to 20. According to Mr. Ray, "The athletes get in condition by training on dry land using boots and skis. The athletes practice side stepping and the correct way to fall. This is the only day of real training they have before they go on to Boone Mountain in North Carolina for the Regional Winter Special Olympics held February 4th through the 8th. Before any of the athletes are allowed to go up the lift, they must first practice at the beginners side. When they are good enough, they can go up the lift to a higher level to ski."

The following athletes and coaches skied and used the slopes or were assisting skiers at the bottom of the slopes: Raymone Reid, Edward Brooks, Antoin Smith, Isiah Russell, Mack Huguley, Tessa Carroll, JoAnne Pope, Jack Hoffman, Louise Hoffman, Scott Patterson, Gladys Patterson, Justin Woodruff, Jason Woodruff, Leslie Lawrence, Merrill Ward, Dine Barclay, Meredith Stern, Bryan Fox, Michael Sather, Erin German, Kerry Smith, Stephen Gentry, James Peoples, John Hale, Junior Shepherd, Robert

Wooley, Nina Franks, Nan Franks, Stan Weeks, Patricia White, Tammy Bostell, Janet Smith, Sheila L. Jett, Melanie Smith, Kathleen Miller, and Tim Ray. Others who were there to help in any way were: Lori Higginbotham, John Jarmon, Cindy Repedorph, Ashley Saxon, and Roger Hunter (bus driver).

Gladys Patterson from Birmingham, the mother of Scott Patterson, and one of the coaches said, "Parents must help for their children to be able to participate in the Special Olympics. Special Olympics offers the equipment and opportunities. All the parents of the children appreciate the opportunities." Mrs. Patterson stated, "The athletes also participate in other sports, such as roller skating and ice skating. Scott won a bronze medal at an ice rink in Birmingham, recently. Most of the handicapped students have only seven or eight days in their lifetime until now to practice for the Special Olympics. They go to the regionals (S.C., N.C., Ga., La., Ala.). Last year, of the 40 who went, 10-15 gold medals were received."

Mrs. Patterson also praised Tim Ray for continuing the work started by Dr. Glenn Roswell from Jacksonville State, who was in charge of special education. She said, "Dr. Roswell started the program about five years ago, and when he stepped down this year, Tim took over the training."

Andy Jordan, an athlete himself, from Mountain Brook, also coaches the other athletes on the beginner's slope. He is shown in one of the pictures assisting a skier.

Gail and Ollie Woodruff from Montevallo, coaches who were helping athletes at the bottom of the slopes, have a special athlete, Jason, who was skiing. They said, "Two years ago, Jason won a gold and a silver (first and second place). It was the first time he had ever been on snow. His training was done on skis on grass at school. Last year, he won first and third place."

When asked what they liked most about this program, the general response was to praise it for what it was doing for the children, such as building up their self-confidence, giving them an opportunity to interact with others from all over the state and the region. I believe, Mrs. Patterson said it best, "It teaches them to mix and meet people and how to get along; and it's about the best thing kids can do."

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Oh, joy! Oh bliss! Dearest readers, I can't contain my excitement! Moi is to be nuptialized to a gorgeous, white, girl English bulldog from Georgia! Her name is Precious, and she really is—Precious, that is. I am dancing on my magnificent toes in anticipation. Al is supposed to instruct moi in the procedure for nuptialization, and that concerns me somewhat. This boy doesn't know much about anything that doesn't grow in the dirt. I'd sooner trust Jack Lusk. Moi heard my Pop say, "Pick-of-the-litter to Precious' Pop," and I asked Jack what that meant. He said, "That means picking up all the candy wrappers and other trash off of the Superette parking lot—you know, picking up the litter around the pumps." Precious and moi can certainly do that if we have to in order to nuptialize. Pop says we'll do the nuptialization when Precious is "ready." Jack says that probably means "ripe," like a tomato. More later as nuptialization plans develop.

Mo Mosher was in the Superette today and addressed moi as "Mr. Brutus." Now, there's a boy who shows the proper respect to his betters. Moi loves humility and wallowing at moi's spotless feet!

Cayla Voils saw the picture of the bulldog above the register and thought it was moi. Bless her innocent little heart. By comparison, moi makes the dog in that photograph look like mongrel street trash.

Lynn Castleberry came into the Superette looking like death warmed over! She had a terrible cold and I thought I might catch it. Heaven forbid such a tragedy befall Mentone's foremost scenic attraction: Moi!

Talk about incredible stories! Jennifer Smith just came in claiming she had left her money at home. Eat your heart out, unhappy camper. The sign says, "No credit, no exceptions!"

Beth (16) and Acton (8) Lancaster from Duncanville outside of Tuscaloosa dropped in to see the great one, no doubt having heard tales of moi's unparalleled beauty. They wept with joy when moi extended a flawless paw for them to kiss.

Nina Ballenger (2-1/2) crawled to the feet of God's gift to Mentone and petted this great and gorgeous head. A lovely lass and already so appreciative of magnificence.

Moi's flawless lips just tasted Bar-B-Q potato chips, thanks to Starla Cash (2). She rightly fears coming too close to perfection in caninehood and threw chips from afar.

Some flatlander traveling salesman barged through the door yesterday and tried to sell Pop electric razors. I rolled my rug, let out one little growl, and showed a gleaming tooth or two. That sorry excuse for a salesman was last seen still running toward the Etowah County line.

Here comes little Alex (2) and Brittany (7) Price. They always share and pet, two of the noblest words in the English language. Today is no exception. Tributes are brought to moi's feet and tiny hands stroke moi well-muscled, rippling body. Surely, a little child shall lead them!

Autumn Elkins is approaching my space with petting in her eyes. That girl knows flawless beauty when she sees it. Maybe moi will treat her to the ultimate thrill—a lick on her hand!

What's this? A Zebra cake being thrust in moi mouth! Jimmy Graves is down on his knees shoving delicious treats at moi. It is so embarrassing to moi the way this preacher man cannot restrain his devotion to my immaculatehood. The only male child worse about fawning over moi is Don Brown, Graves' sidekick. They talk a big golf game out in the parking lot, but that's all it is: TALK! Much talk and little do, I say. Collection plate passers!

Pop says he will groom moi and cut my nails when it's time for moi's nuptialization with Precious. This will surely be the highlight of Mentone's social season. Gotta drag Pop home to get psyched up for this MAJOR happening. I'm out of here, pilgrims!

With Love, On Valentine's Day



Mentone Grapevine

By
PAT SEYMOUR

Great news from my Cove Road neighbor, Jean Matthews! Using only holistic healing methods, she has shrunk the nodes of lymphoma to pea size (from lemon size), and feels super. No more chemo or radiation—just vitamins and special diet.

Dessie Newberry, owner of the Kountry Chef, is recovering from a severe bout with pleurisy. This is a spin off of the bad case of pneumonia she has just gotten over.

Catherine Bailey's little poodle, "Booger" was attacked by a pack of four vicious dogs, recently, and nearly killed. "Booger" dragged himself home, but the vet had to put three drains in the little dog's neck after taking dozens of stitches down his back.

Mentone Mayor Max Cash and wife, Roberta, are both recovering from a serious siege of the flu. Although both are improved, coughing and hoarseness are hanging on.

Jason Goss, 18, son of Benny and Brenda Goss, has been accepted into the National Guard. He is leaving for Ft. Jackson, S.C., for four months of training. Mother Brenda has opened the New Image Beauty Salon on Cove Road beside her home. She will be open Wednesday - Friday from 9 a.m. until, and Saturdays, 9 a.m. until noon. The shop will offer cuts, sets, perms, frosting, acrylic nails, and manicures. Appointments can be made by calling (205) 634-4561.

Mr. and Mrs. Millard McNutt, owners of The Triangle Convenience Store in Valley Head have both been in and out of the hospital with separate serious illnesses. Keep them in your prayers.

Melissa Crane, great granddaughter of H.P. and Gladys Goss, has had to miss several days of her kindergarten class at Moon Lake School due to a recurring illness.

Barbie Easler, slipped on a patch of ice two weeks ago and broke a bone in her lower leg. However, she got a bit of good news from this spill. Son Alex will have a little brother or sister in the early fall. Congratulations to Barbie, Alex, and father, Sam.

Louise Worthey was admitted to DeKalb BMC with pneumonia and had to undergo an operation on Jan. 26 to remove a tube in her chest. She was discharged on Jan. 30, 1995, and is now resting comfortably in her Ft. Payne home.

Don and Glenda Ingram celebrated their 23rd wedding anniversary on Feb. 5, 1995. Sincere congratulations to the popular couple.

Todd Parkinson and Leigh Ann Parks will be married on Saturday, March 1, 1995. Todd is the son of Troy and Beverly Parkinson, and Leigh Ann's parents are Bud and Wanda Simmons. Wanda is a partner in the Village Boutique. (A formal announcement will be made in the March *Groundhog*.)

Kim Worthey, daughter of Milton and Gail Chambers, has joined *The Groundhog* staff as a reporter. She was an assistant editor for the Valley Head High School newspaper for the *Purple and Gold* for four years prior to graduation in 1989. Kim's many friends can reach her with news and/or pictures for *The Groundhog* at P.O. Box 13 or at 634-4507. Welcome aboard, Kim!

Ilene Green will be going into the Ft. Payne BMC on Feb. 15, 1995. Hope everything turns out fine!

Among the luscious Mentone beauties on parade in the "Womanless Beauty Pageant" sponsored by the DeSoto Rescue Squad on Friday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. in Lookout Valley, Inc. (Promenade Hall) are Robert Green, Kevin Worthey, Jason Goss, and Jeff Grogan. "Others are entering daily," says Ilene Green, secretary of the squad.

Found by Joanne Glover at her home on Taylor's Ford Road: beautiful blond male cocker spaniel; came to Joanne's on Sunday, Jan. 22, 1995. Please call 634-4342 if you have lost such a dog.

Leslie Matthews Bunch (Mrs. Jim) has incorporated her Winston Place home in Valley Head in order to organize an equestrian school, there. Leslie will board horses in a lighted barn and offer riding lessons by a professional staff in a state-of-the-art riding ring. Call Leslie in Valley Head at 635-6351 for more information.

Congratulations to Kayla Bell and Jamie Baugh of the

Valley Head Tigers, who were named to the All County Tournament Girls Team. Way to go, ladies!!

Norfolk Southern Railroad has moved about ten trailers into Valley Head to house some 50 workers. The crew came complete with their own mess hall and cook. (The main problem I see is on these COLD mornings having to use the port-a-potties. Seems like that's a rough way to wake up!)

The Miss Spring Fantasy Beauty Pageant sponsored by the Valley Head Band will be held on Friday, April 28th, and Saturday, April 29th. Pre-school through 6th grade divisions will be judged on April 28th; and 7th through 12th grade divisions will be judged on April 29th. Call Kathy Robertson at (205) 997-9848 for more information.

The "J.O.Y." group meets at 11:30 a.m. each 2nd Thursday in Moon Lake Baptist Church Fellowship Hall for a covered dish luncheon. ALL dominations of senior citizens are invited to join in the fun and fellowship.

Glenda Clark, Rossville, Ga., niece of Alma Crabtree, was a recent visitor to Mentone. Glenda designs and makes church banners for houses of worship all over America and in foreign countries. She spoke at St. Josephs On-The-Mountain Episcopal Church where many of her banners decorate the sanctuary.

Ferne Fitzgerald continues to improve at home after recent surgery at Ft. Payne BMC.

Jim and Gail Gaylord have returned from Rockford, N.Y., where they attended funeral services for her father, Gordon Smith. Sincere sympathy to the Gaylords on this recent loss.

Sanford Hartline is recovering at home after undergoing triple bypass heart surgery in Gadsden.

Jewel Baty, has been struggling with ill health at home, lately, and has had a recent short stay in a Gadsden hospital. Jewel is facing further hospitalization in the near future.

Allison Kirby, an honor graduate of Valley Head High School, and now a student at Central College in Kansas, has been elected to the *Who's Who Among Students in Junior Colleges* and has received the Cecile Martin Scholarship, which is based on GPA. Allison is the daughter of Eddie and Roberta Kirby.

Mentone students earning a 3.5 to 3.99 grade point average at Jacksonville State University during the Fall 1994 semester were Andrea Kirby, Charles Platt Jr., Virginia Annette Teague, and Margaret Williams. Congratulations all around!

Anne Jackson has undergone serious back surgery in Rome, Ga. For her many friends in Mentone who would like to send Anne a card, her address is Mrs. Marshall Jackson, 9-1/2 Shorter Circle, Rome, Ga. 30161, (706) 232-3836.

Marine Cpl. Marc A. Hale, son of Carlton W. and Marilyn N. Hale of Valley Head, recently reported for duty with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station, Futenma, Japan.

David Dean of Valley Head identified the recent Western Sizzlin and DeKalb Advertiser Mystery Person as Leon Young, and won two free steak dinners. (David, I'm in the book!)

Mabel Kirk and daughter, Amelia, have returned to Mentone after extensive travels through the far west. This was the 60th time Mabel had been across the western part of the country, and she reports that "It was the best trip ever!" Welcome home, Kirks—We've missed you.

Sue Schwarz's father, George Porter, in Oakland, Md., has been diagnosed with a malignant tumor in his lung. Doctors have begun chemotherapy on Mr. Porter. Our prayers are with Sue and her family.

Pre-School Story Hour at the DeKalb County Library in Ft. Payne is on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. for children ages 3-5. Call 845-2671 for more information.

Josh Goss has won a 14 foot, round trampoline in a drawing at Wal-Mart. Since he already has a trampoline, he is selling the new one (valued at \$325) for \$200, still in the box. Call Josh at 634-4561 for a great buy on this piece of sporting equipment.

L.A. and Lisa Smith have BIG news! They are expecting a baby later this year. Warmest congratulations to one of my favorite couples!

Tena Cryer wants all her Mentone friends to know that she is now working at Shoney's Restaurant in Ft. Payne and would love to see them. Good luck in your new venture, Tena!

Gail Chambers was front page news in the "Meet Your Neighbor" feature in *The Times-Journal*, weekend edition, Jan. 28-29. She is quoted as saying that her favorite travel is "to the beach!"

Sherman Gough is the newly-elected legislative committee chairman of AARP Chapter 221 in Ft. Payne. Congratulations, Sherman.

Courtney Crump, 15, of Calhoun, Ga., was the weekend guest of her Aunt Vickie Blackburn the first weekend in February. Vickie and Al Blackburn own the Mentone Superette and Blackburn's Nursery. Courtney babysat with cousins, Wil and Alex, while in Mentone.

Alex Hazel, son of Carol Hazel, celebrated his 6th birthday

on Saturday, Feb. 4, with a cake and ice cream party at his home. Attending were grandparents Bobby and Linda Brown; great grandparents Raymond and Mary Brown; Aunt and Uncle Gail and Larry Smalley; cousins Marc and Josh Smalley; and friend, "Dr. Pat."

The members of Slim Easler's family have all been ill with terrible cases of the flu. Bonnie, who was sick herself, has really had her hands full. Hang in there, family nurse!

Shaundra Holbrooks, daughter of Wanda Stuzman, has begun her second week with Maxwell's Restaurant in Menlo, Ga.

Marilyn Blanton Campbell recently paid a visit to her sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Mrs. Clara Campbell Swinson and Wade Swinson, of Bremen, Ga. While in that area, she also visited with the Swinsons' daughter, Mrs. Swinson Buice, and her children, Wade, Drew, Gina, and Stephanie. Earlier in January, at the Redmond Park Hospital in Rome, Ga., Marilyn visited her aunt, Mrs. Carrie Blanton Wagner, and cousins, Mrs. Lynette Wagner Upthegrove and Mrs. Faye Wagner Eden, and checked on the progress of her uncle, Newton Wagner, who had heart surgery (5 by-passes) on Jan. 10. Dr. Robert W. Campbell and Robert Oliver treated Marilyn to supper at the Lookout Restaurant in Cloudland on Jan. 14. A long-time friend and accomplished spelunker, Marion O. Smith from Knoxville, Tenn., surprised Marilyn by dropping in for a first-time visit. He told Marilyn he found Mentone quite interesting.

Lots of February Birthdays: 1st - Jeff Willough (who works at GTE office). 2nd - Karen Davis (11th grader at VHHS, drummer for band, was 17 on Groundhog Day. "Happy Birthday from Beth Scott." She had been Beth's babysitter for nearly 5 years!) 4th - Benjamin Windom and Leslie Thornberry. 13th - Carol Busby (at Tiger's Inn). 15th - Stacy Blansit. 16 - Tommy (at Tiger's Inn). 18th - William "Jug" Crow. 20th - Nita Hartline. 21st - James Hall (Big 50). 26th - Sanford Hartline. 27th - Nancy Rector.

Since we are celebrating the gift of LOVE this month, I'd like to share the following with my readers:

LOVE is the spark that kindles the fires of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of LOVE. Happy Valentine's Day!

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SLOW ME DOWN, LORD

Submitted by Jo Anne Tate Johnson

(Aunt Ruby Sully had kept this poem since 1940, and it was read at her funeral. The notation in italics at the bottom was made by her. I just thought the readers of *The Groundhog* might enjoy it. The author is unknown.)

Slow me down, Lord!
Ease the pounding of my heart
By the quieting of my mind
Steady my harried pace
With a vision of the eternal reach of time.
Give me
Amidst the confusion of my day
The calmness of the everlasting hills.
Break the tensions of my nerves
With the soothing music of the singing streams
That live in my memory.
Help me to know
The magical restoring power of sleep.
Teach me the art
Of taking minute vacations of slowing down
to look at a flower;
to chat with an old friend or make a new one;
to pet a stray dog;
to watch a spider build a web;
to smile at a child; or
to read a few lines from a good book.
Remind me each day
That the race is not always to the swift;
That there is more to life than increasing its speed.
Let me look upward
Into the branches of the towering oak
And know that it grew great and strong
Because it grew slowly and well.
Slow me down, Lord
And inspire me to send my roots deep
Into the soil of life's enduring values
That I may grow toward the stars
Of my greater destiny.
(1991: Thank you, Lord - for my experiencing *ALL* of the above.)

WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS

By Evelyn Graves

The Valley Head Woman's Club met for the January meeting at the lovely home of Teresa Cooper. The meeting was called to order by the president, Dot Blackburn. A very impressive devotional was given by Bess Bauerle, who challenged members to examine their inner motives, to live lives that are a continual outpouring of love, have pure hearts that reflect right actions. She read scripture from 1 Corinthians 13:4-5, and closed with a soul-searching poem by Helen Steiner Rice, as follows:

**What Will You Do With
This Year That's So New?**
As we start a new year
untouched and unmarred
Unblemished and flawless,
unscratched and unscarred,
May we try to do better
and accomplish much more
And be kinder and wiser
than in the year gone before--
Let us wipe our slates clean
and start over again,
For God gives this privilege
to all sincere men
Who will humbly admit
that they have failed many ways
But are willing to try
and improve these "new days"
By asking God's help
in all that they do
And counting on Him
to refresh and renew
Their courage and faith
when things go wrong
And the way seems dark
and the road rough and long--
What will you do
with this year that's so new?
The choice is yours--
God leaves that to you!
Helen Steiner Rice

Inelle Hurt was presented for membership in the club by recommendation from Dallyne Jones and Mary Holleman. Leslie Bunch was presented for membership by Judith Lollik-Andersen and Velma Hammond. Martha Gibson was voted unanimously into the club at the meeting. The membership pledge was read with Judy Shelley, new member.

The program was presented by Lea Gill of the Education Foundation and two foreign exchange students, as well as the overseer of the 3-week summer program from France.

Francesca, a beautiful girl from Italy, hosted by the Gambles in Fort Payne, talked about the differences in her country's cultures, schools, weather, and other factors, from those of the United States.

Sterling came from Norway, speaking perfect English. He discussed the school system, religion, social care, hospitals, military, weather, and many other facets of the Norwegian culture. The summer exchange program was discussed, and the overseer pointed out that French students come to the United States to improve their English and to fulfill a dream of going to the USA. Twenty students come in July and 20 more students come in August. They are hosted by families in Fort Payne. Mrs. Gill closed the program with the statement that EF does 28 different countries at this time and that high schools benefit from this program because many students will never leave this area, and so much is learned about the cultures of other countries.

The meeting closed with delicious refreshments being served by hostesses Teresa Cooper, Sadie Cooper, and Helen Longshore.

RELEASED TIME BIBLE PROGRAM (RTBP)

By Michael Young

Moon Lake Elementary School has begun a new program this year called Released Time Bible Program (RTBP). RTBP is time set aside during the school day in which, with parental permission, children may be released from school without incurring an absence in order to attend classes of a religious nature. These classes are being held at the Moon Lake Baptist Church on the fourth Thursday of each month through April from 12:20-1:30 p.m. The non-denominational program is being sponsored by CBM Ministries of North Alabama and its subsidiary, Ponderosa Bible Camp. Moon Lake Elementary is the fifth school to participate in the DeKalb County School District, the others being Ider, Sylvania, Fyffe, and Crossville. Approximately 350 children, in grades 4-6, attend an RTBP class each month.

Religious Released Time Education is what the Christian Legal Society calls "the most effective open door by which students may receive religious instruction during the school day" (Colby, p.1). In 1952, the United States Supreme Court ruled that a released time class was legal as long as the classes were held off school property and no public funds were used to finance it (*Zorach v. Clauson*, 343 U.S. 306 [1952] (Colby, pp. 3-4). Since the day has come in our society when the Bible can no longer be taken into the classroom, we are now taking the classroom to the Bible. If you are interested in helping or would like to know more about RTBP, please contact Glenn Miller or Michael Young at:

Ponderosa Bible Camp
P.O. Box 285
Mentone, AL 35984
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Bibliography

Colby, Kimberlee and Payne, Robert, *Religious Released Time Education: The Overlooked Door In Public Education*. Christian Legal Society: Springfield, Va., 1982



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PRESCRIPTIONS

When All Hope Is Gone, Believe In God

Submitted by Jo Anne Tate Johnson

(This poem was written by my husband, Larry C. Johnson. He wrote this for me one morning about 2:30 when he couldn't sleep. He wrapped it and gave it to me for Christmas. I have it in my memory now, and say it to myself often. I thought it might help someone else as much as it has helped me. God truly is our hope!)

Sometimes I forget, when I'm tested and tried
And cannot feel my God inside
And I wonder what I've said or what I've done

Have I sinned against God's only Son?
I don't understand why I'm tested this way
So I fall on my knees and there I will pray

Help, Oh Lord, this is bigger than me
You are God, and you can strengthen me!

I will not be moved to the left or the right
I will stand on your Word and there I will fight

Faith is my shield it will deliver me
Your spoken word made the land and the sea

And I will fight my battle till my battle is won
And someone will ask me how is it done

How did you fight something you couldn't see?
You had no hope, no hope could there be

Then will I answer in my humble way
There is always hope for someone who prays

Satan fought hard for my hope to rob
But when all hope is gone, believe in God.

— By Larry C. Johnson
December 1994

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The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

What do you do in Mentone, is often asked by visitors to The Crow's Nest, and I'm sure others in business hear the question.

For one thing, we are great friends with each other, probably more so because of being in a small community.

Winter we do our socializing because we are so busy in the summertime with keeping shops, Bed and Breakfast facilities, restaurants, and summer camps that we hardly have time for visiting.

There are ladies here that play bridge weekly, year round. They look forward to these days as a time to refresh their minds with reports of local happenings, good conversation, and food, not to mention the thought of winning the game.

We have a good garden club, Valley Head Woman's Club, and M.A.P.A. to which we may participate.

Many residents are kept busy with affairs of their respective churches. In small church groups, everyone assumes a responsibility in order to keep things running smoothly. There are books to be kept, altar service to be maintained, music to be arranged, and general cleaning to be done.

There are those who square dance and have practice or teaching sessions, in addition to going to meetings to furnish entertainment.

The winter blahs only happen to those who have no plans and who are not actively involved in community affairs.

We, who live here, enjoy the simple pleasures of life; and, perhaps, we don't look for big parties and night club life. We live in the most beautiful area of the United States, and that accounts for the tranquil lifestyle of many of us.

We have many gifted artistic people in our area and have access to any kind of lovely art we care to own—or can afford to buy.

I am very proud of the Enchanted Gardens, owned by Lyle and Heather Nicely, and located on Highway 117, just east of the Mentone city limits and across from Blackburn's well-stocked nursery. They have gorgeous paintings by Lucy Mitchell of Mentone, and pottery, baskets, and sculpture by other artists. The landscaping surrounding the building is very good, and many unusual plants and containers are offered for sale. This is a good place to visit for an hour or two. These artists can use winter months to replenish their works offered to the public when our resort town shakes itself and comes out of hibernation in the spring.

Those of you who can snow ski can enjoy the slopes at Cloudmont when conditions are right for making snow; and you can see all those four-wheel-drive vehicles heading for the area when the weather is right.

We just enjoy eating, talking, and sharing with friends. There are so many things to discuss besides politics, religion, or the O.J. Simpson trial. Recently, we were the guests of Jim and Penny Lyday and had a grand tour of their lovely home filled with many interesting antiques they have collected and restored. Penny retired from teaching home economics, and Jim retired from teaching agriculture and shop. So, together, they can do anything needed to make an inviting, comfortable home.

Two weeks later, Ed and Gerry Disney, Jim and Penny Lyday, and Homer and I were invited to dinner at Sherman and Mickey Gough's home, and what a good time we had. All of us can spend an evening talking about our families and our own personal hobbies. Good food, good company, and good conversation are all it takes to make a happy occasion for us. The Goughs are great friends who have given a great deal of their time to our community. The Disneys are community minded, lovers of nature and family, and good entertainers at their Nippersink Lodge in the summer.

Jim and Penny are retired, but you would never know it. They are busy with volunteer work when they are not working on their home.

We had all these people at our house for dinner last week, and we had a grand time. The men said they settled World War II, and we ladies discussed antiques, birds, plants, and collections—that is, after finishing telling a few stories about our families. I showed them my teapot collection, which

continues to grow, and a video tape of Mentone that Homer made a few years ago for Charles McGehee. It's good.

We have been to an AARP meeting and will join, since Homer's retirement. I am continuing as president of the Mentone Heritage Foundation and secretary of the Lookout Mountain Parkway Assn. The Crow's Nest Antique Shop is just open Saturday and Sunday for January and February, and we'll wait and see about weather conditions in March. So, I rest from my labors there during winter months. Shurlee Froehler fills in for me when I'm away on week-ends in winter and Lola Mae Blalock in summer.

I practice with St. Joseph's Episcopal Choir on Wednesday evenings, directed by Marsha Hurt. So you can see a little of what we do here at Mentone.

Oh yes, and I write this column once a month. What more could one do? Homer and I travel and are very happy to reminisce about the beautiful places we have had the privilege to visit. It's about time for another trip; but, if we don't go, I will say that we will be busy with one project or another. We like to be busy, but not too committed to be able to get away once in a while to re-fuel our minds about other people and places.

I omitted mentioning those who sew and make lovely things. Lola Mae pieces and quilts by hand some of the most beautiful quilts one can imagine. Her work is well done with very small stitches that make the quilt look better and last longer than those loosely quilted. She will be busy with filling orders for these lovely creations this winter.

So, if you run out of something to do, contact one of these busy people and offer to help. Staying busy and active is one of the secrets to a long life. Rose Kennedy passed away recently at 104 years. She swam every day, played golf, walked, and read three newspapers a day. She also had great faith to sustain her through many sorrowful events.

We should eat lighter, exercise more, and stay mentally active for as long as we can. Think good thoughts. Be happy.

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Valentine's Day



VALLEY HEAD FIFTH GRADE
4-H NEWS
Clay Castleberry
Valley Head 4-H Reporter

On Jan. 25, 1995, the Valley Head 4-H club met. The 4-H Agent, Mr. Shackelford, showed us how to make scrambled eggs with cheese and bacon bits. He used a non-stick electric skillet. Then, he allowed Felina Hanna, Steven McElhany, and Stacey Hyde to do an example. The food looked and smelled good, too! This was our second meeting this school year.

February

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

The snow has left the cottage top;
The thatch-moss grows in brighter green;
And eaves in quick succession drop,
Where grinning icicles have been,
Pit-patting with a pleasant noise
In tubs set by the cottage-door;
While ducks and geese, with happy joys,
Plunge in the yard-pond brimming o'er.

The sun peeps through the windowpane,
Which children mark with laughing eye,
And in the wet street steal again,
To tell each other spring is nigh:
Then, as young hope the past recalls,
In playing groups they often draw,
To build beside the sunny walls
Their spring-time huts of sticks or straw.

And oft in pleasure's dreams they hie
Round homesteads by the village side,
Scratching the hedgerow mosses by,
Where painted pooty-shells abide;
Mistaking oft the ivy spray
For leaves that come with budding spring,
And wond'ring, in their search for play,
Why birds delay to build and sing.

The milkmaid singing leaves her bed,
As glad as happy thoughts can be,
While magpies chatter o'er her head
As jocund in the change as she:
Her cows around the closes stray,
Nor ling'ring wait the foddering-boy;
Tossing the mole-hills in their play,
And staring round with frolic joy.

The shepherd now is often seen
Near warm banks o'er his hook to bend;
Or o'er a gate or stile to lean,
Chattering to a passing friend;
Ploughmen go whistling to their toils,
And yoke again the rested plough;
And, mingling o'er the mellow soils,
Boys shout, and whips are noising now...

The sunbeams on the hedges lie,
The south wind murmurs summer soft;
The maids hang out white clothes to dry
Around the elder-skirted croft:
A calm of pleasure listens round,
And almost whispers winter by;
While fancy dreams of summer's sound,
And quiet rapture fills the eye.

-John Clare

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Beauty Tips

By
CHARLYNE O'REAR

DRESS AND PERSONALITY, VALUES, ATTITUDES, INTEREST

The term **personality** is frequently used to describe the individual. We often hear: "Steve has a great personality," "Tracy has an outgoing personality," or "John has the right personality for leadership." The dictionary has a number of definitions of personality. We are concerned with a relationship between personality and clothing, and yes, personal appearance.

Each person is an embodiment of a collection of qualities. Personality is influenced by abilities, temperament, talents, physical structure, emotional tendencies, ideas, ideals, skills, motives, memories, goals, values, moods, attitudes, feelings, beliefs, habits, and behavior. These qualities, all of which are highly individualized, make up personality, oh, and you must include heredity, social and cultural contacts, learning and experience as contributors. Personality is sometimes described by trait names.

If we use our definition of personality, we can make it applicable to dress. Clothes and combinations of garments present visible characteristics that give them personality. Clothing can be classified as formal, casual, sophisticated, businesslike, feminine, masculine, dramatic, etc. The degree of expressiveness that clothing possesses, of course, varies with the person making the observation. The personality of clothing makes some garments unsuitable for particular persons, places, and events. For instance, a very soft womanly type looks and may be uncomfortable in severely tailored tweeds and a teeny weeny bikini looks terrific on the beach but not in the supermarket. It helps to know when to wear what to where! This is part of your fashion personality.

Self-concept is the general notion that each person has of himself. It seems those easiest to understand in relationship to self-image are most always the more negative ones. You see a dumpy gal in tight fitting jeans, she may feel that she is attractive (this is her self-concept), but her clothes are far too tight. We all have favorite articles of clothing, ones that are extremely comfortable and pleasing to us. These garments offer something more than physical comfort. They give us a psychological comfort because they are so closely related to our personal characteristics. These favored garments express our self-image. We all have reasons for not wearing certain garments. Some are out of fashion, others fit poorly, or are the wrong color. Many people have a variety of types of clothing, which is representative of various images. Each individual is a complex personality and engages in many activities. Clothing for differing moods and occasions is almost a necessity. For example, clothing for school will be governed by school dress codes; what kind of job you have will be the determining factor in deciding what you will wear to work; dating and social life will be characterized by the occasion. The degree to which clothing expresses these purposes will be related to the individual's self-image.

Some people purposely adopt clothing that does not reflect their self-image. They also attempt to behave in a manner that does not represent themselves. Why they do this could only be determined by the individual—most often, it is to gain social acceptance. Unless the person is a skillful actor, it is most difficult to effectively carry out such a program. It is much too easy to slip out of character, to give oneself away by verbal expressions, actions, and mannerisms. It is too hard to be someone we are not, and it's foolish to try. You will find much more satisfaction in developing oneself. Our uniqueness is ours alone, and we should capitalize on our own individuality.

Values, attitudes, and interests all affect personality. We reflect our individuality by the values we esteem, the attitudes we express, and the interests that intrigue us. Basic values are derived from attitudes and interest; yet values are broader and more basic in concept. We each learn values from our culture, environment, family, associates, and individual experiences. Values are a directive or motivating force in behavior and decision making. Research has established that values that direct other choices will also direct clothing choices. Understanding the influences of values on clothing choices is

not always easy. Often values conflict. Ever hear a mother say, "You're not wearing that out of this house," or "Suzy, that's far too much lipstick for a little girl to wear to school, go wipe some of that off!"

Over a period of time, our values change—thank goodness! If for no other reason, we grow up and have to pay for all those clothes ourselves, and that means get a job, and (in most cases) buy clothes that will fit many occasions and will last longer than the latest fads.

Clothes can say that you are dramatic, romantic, classic, or natural. This only means that you're an individual. Dramatics dress with flair, flash, and fanfare; romantics will wear lacy collars and ribbons in their hair; classics will wear that tailored suit, middle-of-the-road accessories; and naturals will wear little or no makeup, easy casual clothes with no fuss to them.

What is your fashion personality? You know it says much more about you than you would think. Look around you. Think of your friends, and try to decide what your or your friends' fashion personality might be. Here are some clues: What are they like? What are their interests? Do they really know who they are? Apply these questions to yourself, and add up your answers—you may be surprised!!

See you next month with a Spring Fashion Forecast!!!!
Happy Shopping!!

CHARLYNE O'REAR
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Grandparents are Buddy and Glenda Cargle of Rainsville and Charles and Janice Matthews of Valley Head.

Great-Grandparents are Maggie Wisner, Clifford Cargle both of Rainsville, Howard and Jo Carson of Valley Head and Maggie Matthews of Chattanooga.

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RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

By Marie Dillenbeck

The Rhododendron Garden Club met Tuesday, January 10, 1995, at the home of Shirley Hussell. The 19 members present were: Barbara Blalock, Linda Brown, Marilyn Blanton Campbell, Betty Chapman, Bernice Crow, Mary Crow, Frances Crow, Ruby Daniel, Marie Dillenbeck, Gerry Disney, Mickey Gough, Shirley Hussell, Betty Johnson, Flo Kirby, Penny Lyday, Pat Seymour, Alyce Springer, Ann Wright, and Mildred Wylie. Hostesses were Barbara Blalock, Linda Brown, and Marilyn Campbell.

To accommodate the speaker, the program was presented prior to the business meeting. Marie Dillenbeck introduced the speaker, Desmond Disney. Desmond is the son of Ed and Gerry Disney of Mentone. His wife is Kathy, and they have two children, Reagen and Ellen. Mr. Disney works year round keeping the grounds at Camp Laney in Mentone; and also works at Nippersink Lodge during the summer. He has been president of Friends of Little River (FLR) since 1989, and has lived on Lookout Mountain full time for almost 13 years. He taught a landscaping for home owners continuing education class for three years. The theme of the January meeting is "Water Trails," and Mr. Disney's subject covered Little River.

As Mr. Disney's topic, Little River and its status as an outstanding natural resource water (ONRW) was the first discussed. FLR asked for the status under the Federal Clean Water Act to require the state to maintain the water quality at its present superior purity. Members of FLR, as well as local school environmental classes, are regularly monitoring the water quality of Little River in eight different sites. FLR was instrumental in achieving ONRW status for Little River. During the winter months, the water temperature is too cold to provide accurate information, but testing is done regularly the other months. Fort Payne High School had been using the testing equipment, and now other schools have shown an interest in participating in this program. Those schools are Moon Lake, Sand Rock, Adamsburg, and Ruhama.

Desmond also gave the members an update on the Little River Canyon National Preserve. Public participation in the preserve has been the position of FLR throughout all the negotiations. He informed the members that the Alabama Power Company had agreed to sell 8,580 acres to the National Park Service for the new preserve, the state's first major national park.

For those wishing to join FLR, Mr. Disney said that the annual dues were \$10 for one year; \$25 for three years; and \$150 for lifetime membership. Following the presentation was a question and answer period, which all the members enjoyed.

Betty Johnson gave the devotional on the handiwork of God, based on Genesis and the roar of the river.

Betty Chapman led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marilyn Campbell showed the members a pair of beautifully embroidered pillowcases that she had done, for the January fundraising project. Members were given an opportunity to participate in the drawing. The hostess, Shirley Hussell, drew the name of Linda Brown as the winner. The project earned the club \$24.00.

President Ann Wright announced that the Rhododendron Garden Club would be hosting the Fall Luncheon of the Garden Clubs of District II, which is comprised of nine counties in northeast Alabama. The location of the luncheon will be at the Promenade Hall at Lookout Valley, Inc., in Valley Head. The Annual Spring Meeting will be held Thursday, April 6, in Jacksonville at the First Baptist Church at 9:30 a.m.

Under old business, the club has submitted a request to the State... for an Exxon grant for the Moon Lake schoolground improvement; and also on behalf of the club, Marilyn Campbell submitted a poem and a proposed emblem for the garden club which was turned in December 15, 1994.

The president presented long-time Rhododendron Garden Club members Betty Johnson (two times garden club president) and Mary Crow, each with a "Certificate of Long-Time Participation."

For the members information, Ann passed out copies of the April 2, 1973, Petition to the Mayor and City Council to designate Mentone as a Bird Sanctuary. Linda Brown chaired the committee to get Mentone designated as a bird sanctuary. (See the entire document set out at the end of this article.)

The president made the following announcements: that Helen Hill, chairman of the nominations committee, will have a slate of officers to vote on at the March meeting; that February is the month to plant a tree, as Arbor Day is recognized in Alabama as the last full week in the month (February 19-25).

The next meeting is on Valentine's Day, February 14, at the home of Mrs. Penny Lyday in Mentone, located at 19508 Scenic

Road, Mentone. The theme is "Woodland Trails," and Ann Wright will present the program, "Arbor Day" (Plant with Ecoteers). Dr. Pat Seymour will give the devotional, "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer, in the absence of Shirley Hussell. The hostesses are Mabel Kirk, Penny Lyday, and Ann Wright.

PRUNING TREES AND SHRUBS

from Page 10, Hortensia, Spring 1994 issue

Late February to early March is the ideal time to do heavy pruning on many plants in the landscape. Plants that fit in this group are those grown primarily for foliage, or those that are summer bloomers. Exceptions, of course, are spring bloomers or plants that do not usually come back from heavy pruning like boxwood and juniper.

In the case of severe renovation pruning, plants such as Chinese or yaupon holly may be cut back to within one foot from the ground and allowed to grow back over the summer. This method has many advantages. It gets rid of pests, saves pruning time, and requires little skill. The disadvantages, the amount of clippings generated, and the sparse look of the plantings, are major and should be carefully considered before the project is begun.

An intermediate method of heavy pruning is to do some shearing back of the canopy combined with numerous thinning cuts to encourage a more open plant. Many plants respond well to this technique, including all the hollies, such as Japanese, Dwarf Yaupon, and Dwarf Buford, cleyeras, privets, euonymus, and aucuba, to name a few. This method leaves a more presentable "renovation," generates less waste, but takes considerably longer to complete.

Spring bloomers like azalea, forsythia, and spirea may also be renovated in this manner, but wait until bloom-time is passed.

Most homeowners do not do pruning of their large trees, but you should be aware of changes in recommendations concerning pruning. The major problem is the persistence of "tree surgeons" in recommending "topping" of trees. Topping, to reduce or shape tree canopies, is not recommended and will lead to greater problems with limb breakage, liability, and regrowth. Professionals will advise "drop-crotch" or cutting back tree limbs to a large lateral branch to avoid the above problems.

Contractors who offer to "top your trees" should be avoided like the plague and encouraged to take course work to bring their companies up to speed.

Other bad recommendations include flush cutting of tree limbs, painting of tree wounds, and filling or draining of cavities.

BIRD SANCTUARY PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN OF THE CITY OF MENTONE:

The Rhododendron Garden Club requests that the Honorable Mayor and members of the Council consider favorably the following petition:

IN as much as "conservation," or the saving, protecting, preserving, of our natural resources should claim the deep and considered concern of every patriotic citizen as being of utmost importance in our national economy, we bring to your favorable consideration the following facts and needs:

Our outdoor assets have been drastically depleted by various abuses. Some provision must be made for wildlife if it is to continue to exist. In this all-over plan of conservation, the value of birds is no longer a matter of speculation, but has reached the point of scientific fact. Biologic scientists have proven beyond any doubt the important service rendered by birds...their economic value as our "first line of defense" against noxious weeds and against insects that destroy our crops, our gardens, our trees. The Department of Agriculture states that birds save us \$400 million yearly. Scientists claim the human race could not exist more than nine years without birds. Added to this practical value, our gardens, our streets, and parkways...indeed our whole town...are all enriched by their presence. The slogan of the National Council of State Garden Clubs is, "Every Garden a Bird Sanctuary." We of the Rhododendron Garden Club, with a membership of 25 believe that Mentone is rich in possessing beautiful gardens and many birds. We are anxious to keep it so.

Therefore, we respectfully petition that you formally proclaim the town of Mentone a bird sanctuary, with suitable laws for protecting all of our birds from molestation, intimidation, wounding, slaughter by hand

thrown missile, traps, shooting, etc., or the robbing their nests. We further request that you give the Rhododendron Garden Club permission to place at various entrances of Mentone suitable plaques stating that our town is a bird sanctuary, as an appeal to tourist and native alike.

Respectfully Submitted

President.....Betty J. Johnson

Special Projects...Linda Brown

4-2-1973

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Mentone in Council Assembled:

That the entire area embraced within the corporate limits of the city of Mentone be, and the same is hereby designated as a Bird Sanctuary.

That it shall be unlawful to trap, hunt, shoot, or attempt to shoot or molest in any manner any bird or wild fowl or rob bird nests or wild fowl nests. Provided, however, if starlings or similar birds are found to be congregating in such numbers in a particular locality that they constitute a nuisance or menace to health or property in the opinion of the proper health authorities of the city of Mentone, then in such an event said authorities shall meet with representatives of the Audubon Society, Bird Club, Garden Clubs, or Humane Society, or as many of said clubs are found to exist in the city of Mentone, after have given at least three days actual notice of the time and place of said meeting to representatives of said clubs.

If as a result of said meeting no satisfactory alternative is found to abate such nuisance, then said birds may be destroyed in such numbers and in such manner as is deemed advisable by said health authorities under the supervision of the Chief of Police of the city of Mentone.

Anyone violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.00 or imprisonment not exceeding 30 days.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Done and Ratified in City Council

Robert Daniel.....Mayor

James Wright

J.B. Elrod

James Johnson

Herman Jones

M.H. York

4-2-73

Therefore Be It Resolved:

1. That the area within the limits of Mentone is hereby designated as a BIRD SANCTUARY and every citizen is called upon to conserve bird life through care, feeding and protection from danger of any and all kinds.

2. That the cooperation of every individual and agency is solicited in making his effort a success.

Robert Daniel

Mayor of Mentone

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About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



The calendar we use has always been fascinating to me. How did it come to be arranged as it is? I know that the length of a month is determined by the moon, and the length of the day by the rotation of the sun. But, who studied all of this and put it together just right? Then, there's leap year--where do those extra hours stay until we catch them up on February 29 every four years? One of the nicest things that has been processed into the calendar is Valentine's Day. A whole day that has no other purpose except to let us tell people that we love them. Be sure to take advantage of the day. Tell a lot of people that you love them, especially the unloveable. Seize the moment!

Another good day in this month is Arbor Day. This day is for planting trees. The Rhododendron Ecoteers will be planting two ornamental pear trees beside the gym at Moon Lake School. This is a group of young people sponsored by the Rhododendron Garden Club. The purpose of this club (as the name Ecoteers implies) is to conserve and preserve the earth. Their programs and activities are all directed toward this goal. We need to teach this generation of young people to care for the earth and to realize that it is the only one we'll ever have.

Look at the sides of Highway 117, and you will realize that someone needs to convince us to quit trashing our world. I hope that all of the clubs and organizations in Mentone will combine their efforts this spring and clean up the community. We are looking rather "trashy." One of the problems we all face is where to put trash when we do clean. Maybe Wastecare and the city could work together, and we could have a dumpster available for a short time. In the past, when this has been tried, someone always abuses the privilege by putting household garbage or even dead animals in it. For every action, there is a reaction--watch your actions. Let's do something to show that we do care how Mentone looks. Everyone needs to become involved in this effort. Maybe the mayor and each council member could act as sponsor for a clean-up in their immediate neighborhood. This way, we would have almost all of Mentone cleaned. The Cutler Avenue area does not have anyone, but maybe the areas could overlap somewhere. (I'll help Mrs. Catherine, and, together, we could do that street.)

Use the twenty-eight days of February wisely. Read a book, look at garden catalogs, do that project you have been putting off for so long, visit a neighbor, play Scrabble, clean a closet, or watch the birds at your feeder. If you are as far behind as I am, you can think of a million things to do.

This story is quoted from a wonderful book titled, *Chicken Soup for the Soul*.

"Soon after her brother was born, little Sachi began to ask her parents to leave her alone with the new baby. They worried that, like most four-year-olds, she might feel jealous and want to hit or shake him, so they said no. But she showed no signs of jealousy. She treated the baby with kindness, and her pleas to be left alone with him became more urgent. They decided to allow it.

Elated, she went into the baby's room, and shut the door; but it opened a crack--enough for her curious parents to peek in and listen. They saw little Sachi walk quietly up to her baby brother put her face close to his, and say quietly, "Baby, tell me what God feels like. I'm starting to forget." Dan Millman

P.S. To all you guys who have sweethearts, wives or Moms, Valentine's Day is February 14.

DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD

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Emergency Phone #911

By Richard Douthat, Captain
and Ilene Green, Secretary

The DeSoto Rescue Squad is happy to announce that the purchase of property for the new squad building has been completed. The location is directly behind the fire hall on Highway 117. We will be making preparations to clear the land soon. It will take a lot of work and help to complete the new squad hall, but we are ready to get started. Some from the community have already offered their help; and squad member, Walt Pullen, has donated structure metal to frame in the building. It is our hope and purpose that this new squad building will be used for the benefit of all in the community. Anyone wishing to contribute to this project can mail donations to P.O. Box 213, Mentone, AL 34984.

Members, Jeff Clements and Sue Freeman, are conducting first responder classes on various first aid topics after each regular squad meeting. Last month, we were instructed on the use of splints.

On January 19, squad members and employees of Menlo Lumber Co., and Valley Timber, were recertified in CPR. Instructors for this class were Darlene Owen, Sue Freeman, and Jeff Clements. Also planned are a training and refresher class for the squad's high-angle rope rescue unit on February 19, in preparation for the Little River Canyon Cleanup on March 11. On February 21, we will have as guest speaker Alabama State Trooper Bill Duckett. He will address rescue and wreck site protocol.

On February 10, DeSoto Rescue Squad will present a Womanless beauty pageant at 7:00 p.m. at Lookout Valley, Inc. (formerly Promenade Hall) on Highway 117 in Valley Head. Come see your friends and neighbors daintily skip across the stage as voluptuous beauty queens. Entertainment will be provided by The Cordells, a mother-son singing duo who have performed in many countries; Cloudland Rescue Jungle Jive; and the New Generation Cloggers. Join us for an evening of great fun.

Thank you so much for your continued support. It is greatly appreciated.

Captain: Richard Douthat-- 634-4813 or 845-2210
1st Lt.: Sue Freeman--635-6421
Secretary: Ilene Green--634-4770 or 635-6424
Treasurer: Lisa Scott--634-4207
For all emergencies, call 911.



THE BLUES BROTHERS

Masters of Ceremonies for DeSoto Rescue Squad's
Womanless Beauty Pageant,
Gail Smalley (L) and Merle Stokes (R)



SLADE CARDEN

AGE: 12

PARENTS: Glen and Kathryn Carden, Valley Head, Ala.

SCHOOL: Valley Head Elementary

FAVORITE SPORT: Basketball. Has played for the past two years in the Fort Payne (Recreation Center) Youth League.

This year, Slade was on the Warrior's Team, which was coached by Dr. John Elliott of Henagar. They finished (tied) third place in their age group with a record of 9 - 5. Slade played center. Slade's point average for the season was 20.5 points per game. His best game was 37 points and 13 rebounds. He was selected to be on the All-Star Team, which will play in Huntsville, February 23-25.

OTHER FAVORITES: Swimming and B.J. Armstrong of the Chicago Bulls

FUTURE: Hopefully, go to college at Duke or Auburn, play basketball, and become a lawyer

FAVORITES OF VALLEY HEAD SCHOOL: Tiger Basketball teams



TYLER COOPER

AGE: 12

PARENTS: Van and Teresa Cooper, Valley Head, Ala.

SCHOOL: Fort Payne Middle School

FAVORITE SPORTS: Baseball, basketball, football. Has played for the past five years in the Fort Payne (Recreation Center) Youth League. This year, Tyler was on the Sonic's Team, which was coached by Van and Jimmy Cooper of Valley Head. They finished in second place in their age group with a record of 11 - 3. Tyler played point guard. His best game was a 19 game against the Suns. He was selected to be on the All-Star Team, which will play in Huntsville, February 23-25.

OTHER FAVORITES: Soccer, Valley Head Puppet team
FUTURE: Attend Auburn University, hopes to play on a professional ball team

FAVORITES OF FT. PAYNE SCHOOL: Wildcats sports teams

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HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



The Valley Head United Methodist Church had the regular 5th Sunday song service for the morning worship on January 29, and hosted the Community Service on Sunday evening. Reverend Jenkins, pastor of Valley Head Baptist Church brought the message. The UMW will meet on February 28 at the home of Venna Livingston. Frances Longshore will co-host this meeting.

On Jan. 27-28, 17 youths and 4 adults from Valley Head Baptist Church attended a Dawson McAllister concert in Birmingham. The puppets will have Plates for Puppets on February 8, with a lasagna supper. The plates will be \$4.00 for eat-ins and \$5.00 for carry-outs. The proceeds will be used for the puppets to attend a puppet conference. On February 26, the church-wide singing will be held at 6 p.m.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church continues to have communion at 12 noon on Wednesdays. The adults of the church are beginning a study on "Being a Child of God" on Sunday mornings at 9:30. The Diocesan Convention will be held in Montgomery February 16-18. Several people will be attending from St. Joseph's. On March 1, Lent will begin. On Wednesday nights, there will be a Lent study. The date of the study has not yet been set.

Reverend and Mrs. Ron Johnson, Hali, and Logan have left the Mentone Church of God to enter a new field of service. Ron's last service in Mentone was on February 5th. He will become the pastor of Oneonta Church of God on February 12. This is a great opportunity for them; however, Mentone Church of God and the Mentone community will sorely miss this family. May the best that God gives be yours in this new endeavor for Him, Ron and Lisa. We love you!

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

The children's choir of Moon Lake Baptist Church resumed its practice, beginning Wednesday, February 1st. Mark Watkins, the new youth pastor, is on the field full-time now. A Valentine banquet is planned for the youth on February 10. There will be a church-wide Valentine banquet at some time; however, the date has not been set as of the printing of this issue. The Boy Scouts will have a Board of Review on Monday night at the church. The Released Time Bible Program began January 26, and will be held at Moon Lake Church every fourth Thursday.

Everyone is invited to tune in to the Mentone Revival Center radio broadcast every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. on AM870.

The monthly Gospel Singing at the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy was Sunday night February 5, at 6:30 p.m. and featured special guests, "The Brashers," from Birmingham. Everyone is invited to attend the Gospel Singing on the first Sunday night of every month. On February 2, the church hosted visiting Russian Missionary John Doroshuk who reported on current conditions in Russia, Ukraine, and the Baltic States. The service was conducted by Pastor Brock (who is also District Overseer) in the larger facilities of the Collinsville Church of God of Prophecy, Thursday evening, February 2, 1995.

The Union Hill Baptist Church is now meeting in the fellowship hall for the renovation of the church building. Exciting things are happening. 43 new members have been accepted since September 1994. A new ensemble has been organized. New members have been added to the Youth Choir. The Youth Choir sang at Brainerd Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Sunday evening, February 5, at 7 p.m. New leaders have been appointed for the Royal Ambassadors (RA), and there are currently 15 boys attending RAs every Wednesday evening. An Acteen organization for girls has

been added with a new leader for that age group. A church-wide witnessing program is being organized. Some 35 people came forward on Soul Winning Commitment Sunday pledging to win one person to the Lord during 1995. Prayer groups are being strengthened, Bible study is being encouraged, and the church is just grateful for the Lord's blessings! If you are not attending church, you are cordially invited to Sunday School at 10 a.m., worship at 11 a.m., and Prayer Service on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

On Thursday, February 9, the UMW of the Mentone United Methodist Church will meet at 12 noon at the home of Barbara Blalock. Dr. Pat Seymour has the program, "Families - Bible Stories." The Administrative Council will meet next Sunday at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The spirituality class meets at 5 p.m. each Sunday night in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend. There will be a children's Valentine party at the home of Ann Wright immediately following the church services on Sunday, February 12.

Community Christian Fellowship Church meets at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head on Sundays, with Sunday School from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., and church services from 11 a.m. until. Sunday night services begin at 6 p.m. The public is welcome.

J.O.Y.

The February meeting of the Just Older Youth (J.O.Y.) will be held on Thursday, February 9. The group meets on the second Thursday of each month. Remember, the meetings are held at Moon Lake Baptist Church at 11:30 a.m., with a covered dish luncheon. However, you do not need to be a member of Moon Lake Baptist Church to be a member of J.O.Y. Everyone is welcome!

VALLEY HEAD SCHOOL NEWS

HONOR ROLL

3RD SIX WEEKS

ALL A's

First Grade: Christina Armstrong, Victor Evans, Jeffery Harrison, Sheena Moses

Second Grade: Autumn Cook, Jacklyn Davis, Tracy Haney, Kyle Hicks, Kimberly Willbanks, Benjamin Windom, Kimberly Mitchell, Amber Hannah, William Blevins

Third Grade: Robert Brown, Dustin Burt, Britt Heinrich, Blake Hulan, Almeda Parker, Steven Thornberry, Kristin Chapman

Fourth Grade: Matthew Tillman, Beth Shirley, Josh Hulan, Crystal Bethune, Tessa McKinney, Amanda Knowles

Fifth Grade: Andrea Grisham, Stacie Hyde, Hillary Lawton

Sixth Grade: Laura Martin, Slade Carden

Seventh Grade: Stephanie Watkins

Eighth Grade: Shelly Ingram

Ninth Grade: Rene Brendle, Teri Campbell

Tenth Grade: Wendy Hyde

Eleventh Grade: Rhonda Owens

Twelfth Grade: Michelle Chappell, Adriene Hall, Petra Ledergerber, Lisa Smith, Gerry Bain, Chris Hammon, Jody Wagner, Tony Wilbanks

A's & B's

First Grade: Trista Blackmon, Christina Chester, Dustin Davis, Heather Dulaney, Brandy Ellis, Claude Garrett, Aaron Grisham, Jennifer Malone, Heather McLemore, Hillary Nichols, Jessica Roden, Patricia Templeton, Kela Chapman

Second Grade: Heather Carr, Jared Hulan, Kary Knopps, Billy McKinney, William Moses, Derek Payne, Chris Richardson, Crystal Gregory, Heather Freeman, Latasha Edgeworth, Mandy Brown

Third Grade: Gregory Carreker, Jeremy Edgeworth, Rece Hall, Stephanie Hicks, Alexandra Schauer, Ashley Tuxbury, Wyatt Woods, Dusty Storey, Tiffany Harrison

Fourth Grade: Ashley Armstrong, Josh Brown, Ashley Deering, Thad Heinrich, Ashley Holland, Joseph Hunt, Brittany Johnson, Nancy Logue

Fifth Grade: Chris Busby, Lacie Clure, Jenny Gregory, Kristy Hatfield, Nicole Hulan, Dori Jones, Steven McElhaney, Dustin Pierce, Zachary Pritchett, Tracie Pullen, Michael Terry, William Tucker, Kayla Wilbanks, Lance Woods

Sixth Grade: Shelly Brown, Nick King, Ashley Langston, Shelia McKinney, Heather Zettler, Nina Stanfill, Allen Witham, David Wilborn, Matt Watson

Seventh Grade: Amanda Hall, Matt Alexander, Jeffrey Bullock

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

Ninth Grade: Krissy Brown, Kim McElhaney, Amy Izell, Heather Wilbourn, Crystal Wright, Justin Naugh, Jason Meadows, Chad Mosher, Brian Smith

Tenth Grade: Amanda Bethune, Kerry Blalock, Amy Crane, Christy Ferguson, Ginger Gray, Angie Hunt, Haley Johnson, Tonya Turgeon, Brian Bone, Dewayne Grisham

Eleventh Grade: Jamie Baugh, Kayla Bell, Christina Fitzgerald, Stephanie Hester, Allison Meadows, Evie Morgan, Jennifer Robertson, Chrissy Terrell, Julia Yates, Shaunathan Bell

Twelfth Grade: Crystal Battles, Cynthia Cherry, Nichole Hatfield, Kim McKinney, Krystee Tillman, Sarah Tucker, Kirby Smith, Christopher Smith, Dewayne Porter, William Lee, Eric King

SEMESTER GRADES

ALL A's

Seventh Grade: Stephanie Watkins

Eighth Grade: Ashley Blalock, Eric Crane

Ninth Grade: Rene Brendle, Teri Campbell

Tenth Grade: Wendy Hyde

Eleventh Grade: Kayla Bell, Rhonda Owens, Julia Yates, Coley Morgan

Twelfth Grade: Adriene Hall, Petra Ledergerber, Kim McKinney, Lisa Smith, Tony Willbanks, Jody Wagner, Chris Hammon, Gerry Gain

A's & B's

Seventh Grade: Amanda Hall, Adriene Robertson, Jeffrey Bullock

Eighth Grade: Tabitha Brisendine, Nancy Jeffery, Valerie Chappell, Shelly Ingram, Toby Crider, Jason Owen

Ninth Grade: Krissy Brown, Kim McElhaney, Jennifer Smith, Heather Wilbourn, Jason Meadows, Chad Mosher, Brian Smith

Tenth Grade: Amanda Bethune, Kerry Blalock, Amy Crane, Christy Ferguson, Angie Hunt, Haley Johnson, Nikki Smith, Tonya Turgeon, Brian Bone, Dewayne Grisham

Eleventh Grade: Karen Davis, Christina Fitzgerald, Stephanie Hester, Evie Morgan, Jennifer Robertson, Shaunathan Bell

Twelfth Grade: Crystal Battles, Christy Blevins, Chanda Britton, Michelle Chappell, Cynthia Cherry, Suzann Fletcher, Nichole Hatfield, Lea Willbanks, Krystee Tillman, Kirby Smith, Dewayne Porter, William Lee

FHA

By Nichole Hatfield

FHA is now having a fundraiser. They are selling Valentine buttons for Valentine's Day. They are \$1.50 each. We encourage everyone to buy one for their boyfriend/girlfriend, mother, father, grandmother, or for any loved ones. They are not selling carnations this year. FHA week is being held the 13th through the 17th of February. A week of activities has been planned. The FFA-FHA Sweetheart Dance will be February 10th at 6 p.m., at the AG Building. Casual dress. They will announce FHA Mr. and Mrs. that night. Admission is free and members may bring guests.

We encourage all FHA members to be involved in helping with FHA week.

BETA CLUB NEWS

By Michelle Chappell

The Betas are still raising money for their annual trip to the State Convention. This year, it is to be held in Birmingham on March 9-11. The 19 members attending and their sponsors will be staying in the Sheraton Hotel and attending sessions at the Birmingham Civic Center. At the convention, a group of Betas will be competing in the Scholastic competition, still life photography, and in the scrapbook contest. We would like to wish all of the Senior Betas lots of luck at the State Convention.

GET \$5.00 OFF PURCHASE OF 1995 BOOMERANG

Be a part of the crowd on February 20 and bring any of the following items and receive a coupon for \$5.00 off the purchase of a 1995 Boomerang yearbook. All donations will be given to the Child Advocacy Center for Abused Children.

1 coloring book, 1 pack crayons, toy trucks or cars, cartoon videos, toy airplanes and helicopters, stuffed animals.

Sponsored by The Yearbook Staff



TIBBS BABY BOY

Elaine and Greg Maxwell of Menlo, announce the birth of their grandson, **Corey Dale Tibbs** on January 6, 1995, at Floyd Medical Center in Rome. He weighed 9 lbs. 3 oz. and was 20" long. Corey's parents are Randy and Donna Tibbs of Lyerly, Georgia. His paternal grandparents are Rayond and Sue Beard of Rome, Georgia. Corey has two brothers, Brandon Tibbs, age 12 and Josh Suttles, age 6.



TWO YEARS OLD

Mariah Paige Brown celebrated her second birthday today. She is the daughter of Lorian Brown and Tarah Mowery, Cloudland. She is the granddaughter of Jewell Brown of Cloudland, and Mr. and Mrs. Gentry, Gaylesville.



7TH BIRTHDAY

Amanda Barrett Coleman will celebrate her 7th birthday February 15. Amanda is the daughter of Emmett and Cindy Coleman, operators of the Cloudland Trade Center. Amanda has 3 sisters, Andrea, Ashley, and Ansley. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brimp Warren, Summerville, Ga.

BLUE EYES

Billy Jason Green is the five-month-old son of Billy and Melissa Breedlove Green, Cloudland. He was born July 29, 1994 at Floyd Medical Center. He weighed six pounds and 12 ounces. He is the grandson of Shirley and Buddy Deering, Cloudland; and Mildred Dover, Menlo; the late J. P. "Pete" Breedlove, and Billy Green.



Matthew's 5th

Matthew Fuller, son of Richard and Carol Fuller, was five years old Dec. 7th. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fuller of Mentone.

On the A honor roll are: Fourth grade — Caris Farrar, Anna Hall, Brittany Hudgins, Samantha Maloney, Clint McMurray, T. J. Pierce and Kenya Webb.

Fifth grade — Erin deMequita, Guthrie Frazier, Sunny Smith and Ashley Swicegood.

Sixth grade — James Durham, Brandi Gilley, Sarah Kerce, Ashley Montgomery and Lena Payne.

Seventh grade — Rebecca Dunn, Emily Johnson, Leslie Knox and Joseph Swords.

Eighth grade — Tonya Sparks.

On the A-B honor roll are: Fourth grade — Jeremy Ash, Jennifer Benedict, Michael Crowe, Amanda Gentry, Amanda Long, Casey Luther, Kandy McGill, Matthew Robinson and David Yarbrough.

Fifth grade — Tessa Brock, Kasey Green, Ryan Hudgins, Leslie Hurley, Ryan Jarrett, Steele Lee, Lindsey Nixon, Josh Park, Lee Pettitt, Amy Prince, Kindall Sims, Leah Stoker, Matthew Treadaway and Kristy Walston.

Sixth grade — Justin Cook, Ben Dotson, Jeremy Flood, Blake Gazaway, Jonathan Hegwood, Shaun Hudgins, Nikki Mireles, Greg Smith, Lori Tucker, Christy Ray and Justin Wofford.

Seventh grade — Mathew Bierkamp, Kelly Haygood, Lindsay Hegwood, Daniel Hunter, Amos Huskey, Carla Peace, Curtis Ray, John Toles and Ronnie Wright.

Eighth grade — Stacy Aldridge, Tricia Beech, Alisha Brock, Wendy Brown, Chris Butler, Adam Hester, Robert Johnson, Wanda Jones, Jessica Mitchell, Angela Toles, Jeremy Treadaway and Joseph Willingham.

Star students are: First grade — Slater Cordle and Amanda Hegwood.

Second grade — Matthew Middleton and Ben Swords.

Third grade — Freddy Bryson and Katie Kerce.

Fourth grade — Brittany Hudgins and Casey Luther.

Fifth grade — Guthrie Frazier and Matthew Treadaway.

Sixth grade — Justin Cook and Brandi Gilley.

Seventh grade — Rebecca Dunn and Leslie Knox.

Eighth grade — Tonya Sparks and Angela Toles.

Most improved students are: First grade — Adam Blackwell and Whitney Price.

Second grade — T. J. Fountain, Rickey Tapp and Lee Turner.

Third grade — Chris Blackmon and Jessie Hurley.

Fourth grade — Kyle Bullard and Jennifer Whitt.

Fifth grade — Kindall Sims and Ashley Swicegood.

Sixth grade — Jeremy Flood and Lena Payne.

Seventh grade — Josh Hurley and Curtis Ray.

Eighth grade — Brooke Hester and Terence Parker.

MENLO HONOR STUDENTS

Menlo school has announced the names of students making the honor rolls and named most improved, super and star students during the past six weeks of school.

Super students are: First grade — Allen Ballinger, Casey Beaver, Adam Blackwell, Klein Borgschulze, Tiffany Byrd, Slater Cordle, Melody Cooper, Spence Davis, Annette Durham, Curtis Hamrick, Amanda Hegwood, Melissa Hensley, Lori Hunter, Jessica Lewis, Whitney Price, Chelsey Ward and Amanda Wigley.

Second grade — Jessica Adkins, Chad Bierkamp, Jason Boyd, Erica Campbell, Justin Canada, Magan Collins, Chris Crowe, Kenny Cooper, Dakota Dodd and Branch Harper.

Amanda Lavender, Cassie Maloney, Matthew Middleton, Carrie Patty, Maggie Rich, Manning Spencer, Justin Swords, Lee Turner and Justin Wofford.

Third grade — Chris Blackmon, Freddy Bryson, Derek Bullard, Kasey Carter, Jana Cooper, Zachary Cooper, Courtney Duke, John Hall, Jessie Hurley and Katie Kerce.

Doni Lee, Daniel Leonard, Kim Middleton, Anna Prince, Leanna Robinson, Jana Ward, Ashley Wilcox and Shadae Yancey.



The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO" BLALOCK

•• Deepest sympathy to the family of Wessie Lee Copeland, 80, Menlo, who died Thursday afternoon, Jan. 12, at her home and to Lillie Mae Atkins of Menlo whose brother, Hoyell "Muscles" Hughes, 79, died Wednesday, Jan. 11, at a Rome hospital.

•• Congratulations to Beth H. Hall and Lisa Gale Cordell, who have been named to the fall quarter Dean's List at Floyd College in Rome.

•• Road construction in the highway 48 area, at a standstill since December, is expected to resume this week (Feb. 1). Miles Scott of the Georgia Department of Transportation, said Bruce Albea Contracting of Rockmart indicated, recently, that equipment would be moved to the site late this week. "I'm guessing a couple of months," Scott said, when asked how long the project would take.

•• The Menlo City Council at its regular January meeting voted to keep its tax millage rate of four mills.

In other business, the council:

*approved council committees for 1995;

*voted to spend \$200 on a volunteer fireman's appreciation dinner held annually;

*named J.P. Smith to the Chattooga County Development Authority; and

*voted to have work done that would enable the reopening of Fifth Street.

A new council member and two re-elected councilmen were sworn in at the meeting by Mayor Theresa Canada. It was Virginia Welch's first swearing in as a public official. She was joined by veterans T.J. Luther and Tommy Ballard.

•• Sincere condolences to the family of William "Bill" Goodridge, 70, Cloudland, who died Wednesday, Dec. 28, in Chattooga Medical Center.

Bobby Lee Cook, Jr., 44, died Jan. 19, at his Summerville home after a long illness. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Lee Cook, and a lifelong resident of Chattooga County. Mr. Cook, like his father, was an attorney. Interment was in the Cloudland Presbyterian Cemetery. Deepest sympathy to his family in their time of sorrow.

Deepest sympathy to Leroy Massey in the death of his mother **Grace Idella Massey, 94**, on Monday, Jan. 23, at her residence. She was the owner/operator of the former Massey Cafe, in Menlo.

We Buy Standing Timber

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FROM THIS D

By Evelyn



JAMES AND BETTY JOHNSON

When I stepped up to the side entrance of James and Betty Johnson's home and reached for the doorbell, the first thing I noticed was an attractive wooden plaque which reads: **The Johnsons, Est. 1946**. For a moment, I felt I was standing on hallowed ground because it was obvious to me that the establishment of this home had special significance to its occupants.

In December 1938, Betty Jo Jones and Dorothy Cash were playing around the Mentone Wesleyan parsonage where James Johnson's family lived. James' father was pastor of the church at that time. As they played, the girls pinched James. He chased them for a while; and, at that moment, even though Betty was only eleven years old, James fell in love with her! He knew that she was too young to ask out on a date, and he knew that her mother would kill him if he tried; so, he just waited. When Betty was asked if she, too, felt an attraction to James, she said, "Yes, I really did. That was why I was chasing him." James' father moved to Winder, Georgia, two years later, and James did not see Betty any more for a long time.

Four years later, James was drafted into the Army. He wrote Betty a postcard in August 1941. He did not hear from her until the early part of 1943, when he received a letter from her. It was 165 miles to Winder, Georgia, so most of their courtship was by mail, both from Georgia and while he was in the Army. Betty's mother liked to read her letters from James, but one day Betty went to the mailbox and opened her letter; and, for the first time, James told her he loved her. She did not want her mother to read the letter because she was afraid she would make her stop writing to him, so she hid the letter under a big rock in the woods.

James came back to Mentone to see Betty in January 1946, when he was discharged from the Army. In March 1946, they became engaged, and they were married in a double wedding ceremony on August 30, 1946. James' brother-in-law had a car exactly like James' car, and James plotted with him before the wedding to park his car in front of the church. When James and Betty came out of the church, the car was decorated in an awful mess; and, as they left the church in James' own car, everyone was saying, "Oh, we messed up the wrong car!" Betty and James enjoyed pulling this trick on the well-wishers.

After their wedding and honeymoon to Birmingham, they moved to Winder, Georgia, because James had taken

a job in a woolen mill. He said this was certainly not where he wanted to spend the rest of his life, but jobs were scarce at that time; and it was so much better than the eleven months of combat duty in Europe. He was at the Battle of the Bulge, and the battle was so intense that he did not even want to talk about it for many years.

After four months in Georgia, James and Betty moved back to Mentone and lived with Betty's parents for a short length of time. They later built the little house that the Moon Lake kindergarten now occupies, and sold it two years later, and built their present home. Their daughter, Betty Sue, was born while they were living in the first little house. She was such a joy to them and to her grandparents. Twelve years later, they were blessed with a little boy, James Frederick (Freddy). The whole community was excited about his arrival! Everyone had presumed that Sue was going to be the only child. Sue was very excited, also, and never was the least bit jealous of the baby brother. Both children inherited their parents' musical talent, and have used this talent all their lives in serving the Lord. I remember that Freddy was quite popular with the girls when he was a teenager. Any girl felt lucky to get a date with him! He had a cute personality and was a lot of fun to be with. Sue was a bit more serious as a teenager and was always so dependable and dedicated to whatever she did. They were brought up with a great deal of love in their home, and it is evident in watching them as adults that James and Betty did all the right things in bringing them up.

James began working with an accounting firm in Fort Payne when they moved back to Mentone and worked there for five years and received a very good background as a CPA through on-the-job training. He left there and worked for another firm for three years, and then went to work for Farmers Telephone Cooperative in Rainsville, Alabama, where he stayed for 31 years and retired as manager of the company. Betty taught school for a year in the early years of their marriage and has helped James in his accounting business through the years, but she says she has never regretted the fact that she did not leave home to work and had the pleasure of being with Sue and Freddy as they grew up. James says he always had to spend all of his daytime hours with other people in the tax business and on his other jobs, but never had enough time with Betty, and that he is so happy that they now have

more time together. They sleep later in the mornings, get up to a fresh pot of coffee made automatically before they arise, and they just sit at the table and share as much time as they want with each other over a cup of coffee. They both feel that they have the "best marriage of anyone we know," and James adds, "We have had a wonderful life."

James and Betty enjoy three wonderful grandchildren: Sue's grown daughter, Stephanie; and Fred's 7-year-old Phillip and 4-year-old Paige. Betty's hobbies include reading, playing the piano, and time spent with the Rhododendron Garden Club. She adds, "But I'm not a good representative of the Club; I am not a good gardener." She says she has laid down some of her hobbies to help her mother with things she needs her to do and with volunteer work at the hospital. James has not really had time to cultivate many hobbies because he still maintains a tax business at home; but he does enjoy "piddling" in his little shop, sometimes. They both enjoy traveling and have made a number of extensive trips across the country. James is District Treasurer for the Wesleyan Churches, and this requires a certain amount of travel. He was on the Board of Trustees for Central College for 27 years. He has been appointed delegate to the General Conference seven times, but he feels he did not deserve such an honor. Betty has always been able to travel with him.

James recaps the interview with a statement that he "married the best woman in the world," and that they "have always had a wonderful relationship." Betty added that James gave her a heart-shaped box of candy the Valentine's Day before they married, and in the 48 years they have been married, he has never failed to give her a heart-shaped box of candy on Valentine's Day!



AY FORWARD

n Graves

3



HOMER AND BERNISE CROW

Homer Crow and Bernise Cooper first met at Moon Lake School when Homer was in the sixth grade and Bernise was in the third grade. Homer was impressed when he heard Bernise and her sister, Jean, singing at school. The first time Bernise remembers being aware of Homer was when he drove up to the school in a pickup truck delivering school children to Moon Lake and on to Valley Head. He was only 15 years old at the time, and had no driver's license, but he was being paid to furnish a pickup and transport children. Bernise was in the eighth grade at the time and remembers seeing Homer alight from the pickup truck wearing a beautifully starched and ironed white shirt, his black, curly hair combed to perfection, flashing a smile, which revealed the prettiest white teeth she had ever seen. She thought he was so handsome!

Both Homer and Bernise attended church at Bankhead, and Homer started sitting on the end of the same pew on which Bernise sat. Each time they went to church, he would inch a little closer down the pew toward her. One night, she and her mother and sister were walking home, as they always did, and Homer came along in his pickup truck and asked if they would like to ride. Bernise responded in a very indifferent tone of voice, "Well, I guess it would beat walking." The couple began to date, and then broke up for a while.

After Homer graduated from high school, he went to work in Mobile at the shipyards, and then went into the Air Force in 1942, and was stationed in Mobile. He was discharged in January 1946, and came back home to Mentone. During this time, Bernise had been to Central College in South Carolina, with Betty Jo Jones (now Johnson). They had sung together for a long time and were very good friends. When Homer returned to Mentone, Bernise had also returned, and their courtship resumed.

Betty Jones and James Johnson had announced their wedding date for August 30, and Bernise and Homer were planning a mid-September wedding. But Bernise and Betty decided a double wedding would be nice, so both couples were married at the Mentone Wesleyan Church on August 30, 1946. Reverend Lowrance performed the ceremony. He was quite nervous, probably because it was his first double ceremony, and repeatedly called Bernise "Beatrice." There were flowers

all over the church. Bernise had been all over the community gathering flowers of all kinds, particularly a beautiful variety of asters.

Following the ceremony, the couple went to The Rainey Hotel in Fort Payne for their honeymoon. That night, Bernise spied someone looking through the transom over the door. She told Homer what she had seen. In a few minutes, she saw another face appear. It happened two or three times, and Homer slipped to the door and opened it quickly to find four people standing at the door. They were maids and other personnel taking turns peeking into the "honeymoon suite." Homer loaded their bags, and they went down the street to The Quin Hotel.

Homer and Bernise lived in a small trailer for a period of time before moving into the house with Homer's Grandmother Magnusson. Homer likes to tell this story about living in the trailer. He was working in Chattanooga and commuting to work and had to go to bed early at night so that he could get on the road before daylight the next day. He always went to bed immediately after dinner, while Bernise cleaned up the kitchen. She always brought her radio from the kitchen to the bedroom, which was on the opposite end of the trailer. One particular evening, she came running from the kitchen to the bedroom with her radio in her hand. Homer asked her why she was running, and she said she wanted to see if she could get there before the radio quit playing.

Bernise taught at Moon Lake the first year she and Homer were married. Their sons, Barry and Coy, and their daughter, Joyce, were all born while they were living at Mentone. They moved to Chattanooga in 1955, and Doreen was born there. Homer was in construction work until 1969, when he bought out a door company. He stayed with that until they returned to Mentone in 1979, and he opened Ancro. During their stay in Chattanooga, Bernise did a lot of volunteer work. She did garden club work and was President of the Chattanooga Council of Garden Clubs for two years. She worked with the March of Dimes, being chairman of the entire north end of Hamilton County. She started the garden at Orange Grove Schools. She worked with Homer for a while, and she was always active in their children's school activities. All of the children played

instruments in the band and were very talented musically. They had many slumber parties at their home and entertained the children's school friends.

Now that Homer has retired, they are enjoying traveling. They have visited many interesting places. They love having their five grandchildren visit, but still miss Jennifer who was killed in an automobile accident a little over a year ago. Bernise enjoys her antique shop, The Crow's Nest, at the Hitching Post. She loves people and is able to meet a variety of people there. She likes to read and collect teapots. At this time, she has a collection of over 150 teapots from all over the world. Their lovely home reflects her love for antiques as each room is so beautifully decorated.

Homer and Bernise say they have had a good marriage. They knew early in life that they were meant for each other, and they have happily done things together and have enjoyed their children and grandchildren and have had a happy home. Bernise says there have been very few times that Homer has missed giving her red roses on Valentine's Day, along with a beautiful card.

As I left their home, I could only think that this was a couple who had done well in their 48 years of marriage; and I smiled as I thought of the little trailer where it all began.



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MENTONE BROW - Spectacular View - Beautiful, unique, unusual describe this furnished home which offers three bedrooms, one full bath (with Jacuzzi), two one-half baths, great room with wet bar and fireplace, range, disposal, dishwasher, and refrigerator. A two-car garage, glass-enclosed octagon-shaped casual pool with patio overlooking pool, sauna, shower area, recreation room with pool table, hot tub, and decks are just some of the amenities. All this and approximately 700' of brow frontage! Shown by appointment only to qualified buyers. Co-Broker of Southern Properties, Inc.

250 acres with beautiful hardwoods, small pond, and creek. Great for your own private hideaway or hunting preserve. ONLY \$500 per acre.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

TRION - Penn St., beautiful 3 bdrm, 2 bath, brick home on a 100' x 195' fenced-in lot. Very cozy, comfortable house. Also features a foyer, living room, den/dining, garage, utility room, central heat/air conditioning, patio, and paved drive. Shown by appointment only, and priced at \$69,900.

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GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

February for me is the best and worst time of the year. Planting time is the best, but waiting to see how many of those seeds will germinate is the worst.

Last year, I made a mistake, I became so excited about sowing all those seeds that I forgot to check the back of the packets to see what the seedlings looked like when they sprouted. So, I guess you can imagine what happened. I could not differentiate between weeds or flowers. This year, I am a little wiser, I will make markers. I used to use the empty seed packets, but they kind of disappeared after a week or two.

In all the gardening catalogs I receive, I always see advertised the amazing POTATO/TOMATO plant, but they had to be ordered like that. I did some research and finally found the way it's done. Believe it or not, but I found it in the EXPERIMENTS BOOK that accompanies a chemistry set.

POTATO/TOMATO PLANT: Make a small hole (cut it or use a straw) in the potato of your choice. The book said a white potato, but I reckon one could use any potato, as long as it can sprout. Anyway, make the hole, and then insert a small tomato seedling (again, your choice) in, seal around the sprout or seedling with something like sealing wax or tape. Set it in a warm place; or, if it's warm enough for tomatoes, plant it in the bed.

NATURAL PEST CONTROL: A good natural pest control is to invite toads and frogs into your garden or yard. Biologists have found that just one toad eats its way through as many as 110 slugs, cutworms, caterpillars, and other flying and crawling insects. You can use old flower pots or 5-gallon buckets turned upside down in a cool moist place, but don't forget to cut out a doorway for them.

DEER REPELLENT: A good deer repellent is to put bars of soap into those mesh bags that potatoes and onions come in and tie them in places that you want to protect.

OUR ENVIRONMENT

By Leeland Bullock

There are landfills full of trash that just get fuller. And what will happen when they are all filled up? They will start taking up your garden lands and polluting the air.

I would like to give a word of wisdom, please. Every time you collect trash, give it to a re-cycling center. Also, when in your car, don't throw trash out your window. Please don't trash our mountain and our earth.

Don't Quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're treading seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest, if you must—but buy don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As everyone of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up, though the pace seems slow—
You might succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faint and faltering man,
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the victor's cup.
And he learned too late, when the night slipped down,
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out—
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt—
And you never can tell how close you are,
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit!

REMEMBER YOUR VALENTINE



VALLEY HEAD GIRL SCOUT TROOP #1012

The Valley Head Girl Scouts of Troop 1012 were very busy over the holidays. A Christmas party was held on Dec. 15, where the girls shared the real meaning of Christmas by telling a round-the-table version of Christ's birth. Then, each made a Christmas wreath out of beads and pipe cleaners. (There were some very pretty results!) The girls had refreshments and exchanged gifts. The scouts also participated in the Fort Payne Christmas parade. They really enjoyed giving candy and waving to the people along the parade route.

The girls have also been very busy selling Girl Scout Cookies. The proceeds will go towards an upcoming trip that is being planned. This trip will play a part in earning the Physical Fitness Try-It Patch that the troop has been working on.

Members are Crystal Bethune, Mandy Brown, Autumn Cook, Jackie Davis, Latasha Edgeworth, Sharree Jenkins, Penny McElhaney, Hillary Nichols, Beth Shirley, and Ashley Tuxbury. These girls have found scouting a lot of fun and very rewarding.

If you would like for your daughter to join the Valley Head Girl Scouts, please call Ginger Tuxbury at 635-6738, or Becky Shirley at 635-6208.

WILL CHILDREN GO THE WAY OF THE MULE DEER?

Letter to the Editor of the N.Y. Times, Jan. 15, 1995

Submitted by Barbara Nancarrow

To the Editor:

A Jan. 8 Week in Review article reports that many parents let children make decisions at the market on "sugared cereals, cookies, and salted snacks."

A news item the same day reports that two dozen mule deer were shot by rangers at the Grand Canyon after they became so addicted to snack food and candy handed out by visitors that they lost their ability to digest vegetation, almost starving to death. Junk food was called "the crack cocaine of the deer world."

Most parents are aware that children's addiction to junk food can result in lifelong eating habits that increase tooth decay, as well as leading to obesity and heart disease.

A lesser acknowledged danger is the condition that afflicted the mule deer: inability to process vegetation. Snack foods, candy, burgers, and fries contain little fiber. As much as fiber is promoted by cereal companies, there is precious little in the processed, custom-colored cereals many of us feed our children. We know what happens to mule deer who are addicted to junk food. What do we do with a human generation so addicted?

KENNETH PEARSON
New York, Jan. 10, 1995



GO FISHING

Would you like to "Go Fishing?" The Ft. Payne Culture Club invites you to join them. During Feb. 1-25, donated items will be sorted and set up for the DeKalb County Public Library Spring Sale by Culture Club members.

Each year has seen increased revenue from the sale, which is used to purchase unbudgeted items. In 1994, over \$2,600 income from the sale was used to purchase unabridged books on tape, large print books, and several tables for the community room.

Special needs arise each year. For 1995, it is hoped the request for a laminating machine for public use can be satisfied. Frequent use of the available video cassettes make a video cleaner a real need. With many things, such as whole encyclopedias, which are updated annually, hundreds of magazines, etc., available on compact disk read only memory (CD ROM), the addition of these materials would enhance the use of the developing computer system at the library. These are the items it is hoped another successful sale can provide.

Begin now to "Go Fishing" for things you could donate. Search in your closets and storage places and on tables and shelves to find items you would like to share with others. All kinds of books, fiction or non-fiction are in demand. Games, puzzles, and video tapes are always popular. Selected magazines in good condition can be sold, but no catalogs or flyers, please. A surprisingly large number of children use the library regularly and are good customers at the sale. It is hoped that many donations will make possible an impressive children's display.

Sale donations can be dropped off at the library, 504 Grand Avenue, North, during library hours between Feb. 1 and 25.

Then, join in on the real fun when you can "Go Fishing" for quality bargains during the DeKalb County Public Library Spring Sale, March 4 through 8.

PRINCIPLES OF Parenting

Principles of Parenting Workshops

Monday, February 13, 1995

Sand Mountain Electric Co-op in Rainsville

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. and

DeKalb Theatre in Fort Payne 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Wallace Goddard

Extension Family and Child Development Specialist
Auburn University.

Understanding, guiding, and encouraging children...set aside February 13 to recommit to these goals! The instructor will use stories, illustrations, and publications to highlight various parenting principles.

Some of the topics to be covered are:

The Challenge of Being a Parent

Building Family Strengths

Sending Messages of Love

Meeting Children's Needs

Communication: Building a strong Bridge
Between You and Your Children.

Dr. Goddard is an outstanding speaker, and is the author of a series of "Principles of Parenting" publications which have received national recognition. In addition to those topics listed above, "Something Better Than Punishment," "Helping Your Children Succeed at Learning," and "Now That We're Divorced, How Can We Parent Together?" are available in the "Principles of Parenting" publications.

The Parenting workshops are co-sponsored by the DeKalb County Extension Service (Annette Mehurg Wardrup, County Agent, 845-8595), and the Cherokee-DeKalb-Marshall Child Care Corp and DeKalb County "Caring for the Caregiver" programs of the Childcare Resource Network (June Reed 845-6082, Dr. Pheroba Thomas 845-8238). Call either number for further information.

There is no charge for the workshops, but pre-registration is appreciated. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

DeKalb County Schools

Community Education

Winter Session - 1995

Ronnie Campbell, Coordinator

To pre-register or obtain more information call 845-8575

Adult Vocational Classes:

Introduction To Macintosh (Tuesdays & Thursdays): Instructor, Dr. Conner Runyan; Place, DeKalb County Technical School; Fee, \$60; 60-hour class begins February 14; Time, 6-9 p.m. (Must pre-register for this class. Minimum of 12 adults.)

Landscape Gardening (Tuesdays): All phases of landscape gardening will be covered from design to maintenance. Selection and use of plant materials will include trees, ground covers, and bedding plants. Instructor, L.A. Smith; Place, Valley Head High School; Fee, \$30; 20-hour class begins February 14; Time, 4-6 p.m. (Must pre-register for this class. Minimum of 12 adults.)

Make Adult Vocational Class Checks to the school at which the class is being held.

Enrichment Class:

Calligraphy (Mondays): Learn the art of beautiful handwriting. Instructor, Pat Sisco; Location, Fayette High School; Fee, \$25; Class begins February 13; Time, 3:45-5:15 p.m. (Must pre-register for this class. Minimum of 12 - all ages.)

Make Enrichment Class Checks to DeKalb Community Education.

SUMMER GOLF LEAGUE

Men's summer golf league at Lil Mole Run Golf Course, Mentone. Three-man best ball teams, each Thursday at 5:30 p.m., April-September 1995. To sign up or obtain more information, call Roy Brittain, Chuck Chitwood, or Ken Long at 845-5315.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN Properties

List with the Company that specializes in Mentone, Mountain Homes, Woodlands, Canyon, River and Brow Properties.

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(1) AUTHENTIC POLE LOG CABIN. Perched on the rim of Little River Canyon and surrounded by 5 acres. 2 bdrm, 1 bath, living-dining combo, and Stone fireplace. Small log cabin at entrance of driveway, plus a large concrete workshop w/Elec and satellite dish. Great "Getaway" from everything. \$71,900.



(2) A VIEW OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN from this charming Brick Rancher, 2 bdrm, 1-1/2 bath, large greatroom, den, kitchen w/all appliances, breakfast room, 2 CMA units (T.V.A. Package). Large deck, detached garage and fenced with 3 acres. \$69,900, Hammondville.



(3) PERFECT COUNTRY SETTING - describes this cedar and stone home. 4 bdrms, 3 baths, Jacuzzi and Jenn-air Range. Ceramic tile and carpet throughout. View your back yard through large picture windows from the Great Room with fireplace, CHUA, Bonus room and Rock patio. Sold with 4 acres for \$125,000. With more acreage available. Close to DeSoto State Park and River.



(4) SURROUNDED BY DESOTO STATE PARK. Lovely but rustic Cedar Home, 4 bdrms, 2 bath, pine floors throughout. CHUA, open living and dining area, approx. 1900 sq. ft. Carport and large storage barn. Includes 27 acres for \$139,900.



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



(6) GARDEN HOME ON LAKE LANUSAGE Enter and step upon the original Stone floors of this newly renovated 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath home with Slate fireplace. From the open living area, you can view the Rock terraced landscaping to the River. Approx. 200 ft. on river. \$99,000.



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



(8) TWO 3-ACRE TRACTS located next to the Comer Scout Reservation and minutes to Mentone on the Lookout Mtn. Parkway. Upper West Brow with sunset and partial valley views. City Water available. Price reduced \$23,000 and \$27,000.

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

(10) ALSO AVAILABLE building lots in Mentone City, on DeSoto Parkway towards State Park. 1 to 3 acres starting at \$7,500 to \$27,000. Call for more info. All with city water.

(11) READY TO BUILD? This 1.7 acres is ready for you. Power, county water and site prepared, with a view of the Canyon. Located on Canyon Rim Road #176. \$15,000 reduced to \$12,500. Mobile Homes allowed.

(12) ADJOINING DESOTO STATE PARK. 20 acres, partial pasture, creek and wooded areas. Great for horse owners. \$50,000.

(13) AVAILABLE River, East and West Brow tracts, Little River Canyon, and acreage.

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

LETTERS TO THE GROUNDHOG

Feb. 1995

Dear Groundhog,

I enjoyed the writeup of Johnny Wright. The Wrights are my friends. I am 88 years old.

I wonder if anyone remembers--Nightingale Post Office. A Miss Smith ran it. She had a Gro. Store in the same building my brother-in-law and sister, Thomas and Clemie King, lived on the John Blalock place. I carried her eggs to Miss Smith Gro. Store. I was in my teens. Mr. Blalock had fox hounds, and too I've still got fox hounds myself. Is Mr. Blalock still living?

I enjoy reading the Groundhog.

Thanks,

Grady Owen at Fischer X Roads
Rt. 1, Ft. Payne, AL

Coyote Hunting in North Alabama

By Byron Miller

964 Kimball Road

Arab, AL 35016

Submitted by Grady Owen

(We like John Bay and wife. Print this in Groundhog, if you please.)

Success is not always measured by popularity. There is a very popular and successful singing group in our part of the state, called Alabama. The boys in the group have an uncle who is not so popular, but he and his hounds were a success a few nights ago at the John Cavin's Fox Pen. We met there to have a race, and it was my first time to meet Uncle Grady Owens. After a little visit with Grady, I soon found out he knew all about hounds.

Let me give you a little background about Uncle Grady. He will be 88 years old in January and lives about 15 miles from the pen on Lookout Mountain. His wife, Goldie, is 87, and is very supportive of his hunting. He has a nephew and hunting buddy, (let's call them Pete and Junior to leave out personalities), who doesn't give Grady's dogs any credit.

The hunt begins. On this hunt, we had some good running, and Grady had an old white female and her three pups. They did pretty good early in the night, so Grady left, because he didn't tell Goldie, his wife, where he had gone hunting.

The next morning, early, Grady came back to get his hounds, but the race was still going. Grady's first words were, "I heard that old white bitch."

Sure enough, the hounds crossed and the old white female was in there doing it to some brag dogs that belong to some local hunters.

I was interested in her breeding, so I then tried to buy her from Grady. I pulled out some money and said, "Just price her."

Grady said, "Son, she's not for sale. I'm just a true fox hunter."

Although Grady may not be a well-known celebrity throughout the state, that night he was a success as a real fox hunter. I hope Uncle Grady has many more successes, and I feel honored to have had the privilege to meet and hunt with him.

Happy fox hunting,
Byron Miller

Dear Groundhog,

My New Year Resolution is to write and tell you how much I do enjoy The Groundhog, all during 1994.

My daughter laughs every time it comes, saying I read every page of it. Such good articles that I do enjoy.

I really enjoyed the MAPA Christmas party--such fun and I saw so many people.

Thank you,
Lydia Speed
Jan. 8, 1994

Hello,

I'm Jim Cameron from here in Mentone, and I write songs (flea market, play music and install carpet). Just thought you may want to use these lyrics in your Feb. Groundhog since this sounds like a "local love story."

Thanks,

Jim Cameron

Jan. 24, 1995

MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL © 1993

She was a big blond beauty from Birmingham

Wealthy so they say,

She was promised to a banker's son

When she took a holiday.

She stayed on Lookout Mountain

In the spring of nineteen twelve

Where the rich folks get away

At the Mentone Springs Hotel.

They sent a horse and buggy to Valley Head

She got off the train

N' her driver was a sawmill man

But he drove ever now 'n' again.

Just casual conversation

But they got along quite well,

Straight up that mountain road

To the Mentone Springs Hotel.

It was late one evening that country boy

Had to make a stand,

Would it ever work--a city girl

With a sawmill hired hand.

He brought her mountain flowers

I have heard the ol' folks tell,

They took a walk along the brow

Near the Mentone Springs Hotel.

In Mentone, Alabama, there in her room

Is where she changed her mind.

In the morning mail she let a rich man know

He can't have what he wants this time,

She loved the cool spring waters

'N ol' Cherokee Indian trails

N' the man that drove the rig

For the Mentone Springs Hotel.

Her momma did make trouble n' threats were made.

The couple said their vows,

They say it'll hurt our own good name

If the news all gets around.

They worked hard n' raised a family

Stayed mostly to themselves

Built a cabin just a mile

From the Mentone Springs Hotel.

I took a ride last Sunday down a loggin' road

N' I came upon this shack

Found a photograph from another time

In the bedroom near the back

There sat my Grandma's picture

On a dusty wooden shelf

In the background you could see

The ol' Mentone Springs Hotel.

—Code: She was a big blond beauty from the Mentone Springs Hotel.

October 5, 1994

Dear Groundhog,

Let's compare some memories. Your September 1994 issue records that "The summer of 1994 marked Camp DeSoto's 78th camping season."

In my recollection, I attended Camp DeSoto's first camping season in 1927. It was then run by Professor T.C. Young and the Principal of Lakeview School in Birmingham.

At that time, Camp DeSoto operated for boys. It later, I understand, became a girls camp.

From the above, it appears that the Summer of 1994 marked the Camp's 67th anniversary. Was there some operation of the Camp of which I am not aware for a period prior to 1927? I seem to remember that during the summer I spent there, the Camp was not entirely complete. The gymnasium was still under construction and the artificially formed little lake did not provide the best of aquatic worlds and we finished out the summer swimming over in the river.

I am still grateful to be a Mentoner,

Sincerely,

Buddy Cooper (Jerome A. Cooper)

Attorney at Law, 502 20th St.N, 1100 Financial Center,
Birmingham, AL 35203-2605

Editor's note: After checking with Marsha Hurt at Camp DeSoto who wrote the original article, and reviewing articles written in several books regarding the camps, we found that the following:

In Mentone, Alabama, a History, by Zora Shay Strayhorn (1966), on page 31, it states, "Mentone's oldest camp is probably Camp DeSoto for Girls. It was originally a boys' camp, built in the late 1920s by a Mrs. Newton, who operated it until her death in 1935. ..."

In The History of Mentone, Alabama, compiled and written by Nelda Howe for the Rhododendron Garden Club program, August 12, 1980, on page 6, it states, "Camp DeSoto was built by Mrs. Ada Newton of Illinois. Her nephew Curtis Springer, named the camp DeSoto and operated it without success as a boys camp. Mrs. Newton died, and her lawyer, Mr. Ahern, inherited the property. A Mr. Young and Mr. Orr of Birmingham, Alabama, rented the property and ran it as a boys and girls camp from 1928-1935. ..."

In The DeKalb Legend, Bicentennial Edition, 1975-76 (1992 Reprint with Supplement), under DeKalb's Summer Camps, on page 38, it states, "Camp DeSoto, once a boys' camp, was built in the late 1920s by a Mrs. Newton who died in Illinois and left it to her lawyer, who leased it to Miss Eloise Temple

CHATTOOGA COUNTY
SHRINE CLUB CHARTERED

NEW CHATTOOGA SHRINE CLUB OFFICERS

The officers for the new Chattooga County Shrine Club which received its charter recently are from left, Lamar Martin, first vice president; "Pete" Denson, president; Jack Brown, second vice president, and Steve Dyer, treasurer. The club secretary, T.C. Pledger, was not present. Atlanta Shrine Club Potentate John Harp presented the charter to the organization. They annually sponsor a telethon for the Scottish Rite Hospital on Memorial Day weekend and will sponsor Shrine Days on Labor Day weekend this year instead of the annual Dry Valley Day.



POTENTATE JOHN HARP (L) PRESENTS CHARTER
to Chattooga Shrine Club President "Pete" Denson

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For what was then is just that;
Then let go.
Memories can absorb valuable space;
You might need that room for today,
Tomorrow is empty.
There's no proof of its existence.
How can you say that you will,
When it's not your will to say.
Today is my only reality,
Unless you know something that I don't.
Time is only relevant;
Tomorrow it will be gone.
Ask a man the time of day and listen to his reply;
Ask him how he spends that time, listen to his sigh.
Imprisoned men sit waiting.
Soon their time will be up.
Some men are prisoners of themselves;
And a man would call this luck.
I know a man who speaks only the truth.
He gave up his time for you so that you may live.
Now you're imprisoned by your own ways,
Well, he's offering you a gift.
Will you walk in his light or in darkness to your death?
There is only one Word. The word of Truth.
The world revolves by God's hand; A revolver in man's.
It's not yesterday anymore,
And tomorrow may never come.
Put your sight on Jesus Christ;
The rest God has already done.

—C. Kirk

ARBOR DAY

Arbor day is a day set apart for planting trees. It is observed especially by schoolchildren. Most States in the United States and most of the provinces of Canada celebrate Arbor Day. Arbor Day is a legal holiday in some states and provinces. The southern states and Hawaii celebrate Arbor Day at various times from December to March. (In Alabama, it is the last full week in February [in 1995 it is Feb. 19-25].) In California, Arbor Day comes on March 7, the birthday of naturalist Luther Burbank.

Most northern states celebrate Arbor Day in April or May. Many other countries also have days or weeks for planting trees. Tree planting is only the first step in the celebration of Arbor Day for many communities. Schoolchildren and Boy Scouts often take the responsibility for protecting and tending trees they plant.

From ancient times, people in various lands have planted trees in religious ceremonies. Some planted trees whenever children were born. In the United States in the middle 1800s, Birdsey G. Northrop (1817-1898), a New England educator, urged people to plant trees to beautify the countryside. Many civic organizations set out trees around churches, schools, and hospitals, on college campuses, and along highways.

Arbor Day began in Nebraska. J. Sterling Morton, a newspaper publisher, realized that trees would enrich the soil and conserve moisture in it. Through his efforts, April 10, 1872, was set aside as Nebraska's first Arbor Day. The state government offered prizes to the groups and individuals who planted the most trees. On that first day, Nebraskans planted over a million trees. After Morton died, the Nebraska legislature changed the date of Arbor Day to his birthday, April 22, and made it a legal holiday.

Other states recognized the value of tree planting and began celebrating Arbor Day. In 1883, the American Forestry Congress passed a resolution promoting it. The National Education Association adopted a similar resolution the next year.

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FRIENDS OF LITTLE RIVER

By Marie Dillenbeck

The next board meeting of Friends of Little River (FLR) will be March 21, at Fischer Rescue Squad Building. Don Forrester of the National Preserve, presently the head of the Little River Canyon National Preserve office in Fort Payne, will be the speaker.

A general membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 1. Plans will be announced at a later date. Many exciting things are beginning to take place and it's time for members to once again be active. Plan to attend either or both of the above meetings.

ALABAMA POWER TO SELL 8,580 ACRES FOR LITTLE RIVER CANYON NATIONAL PRESERVE

WASHINGTON - Congressman Tom Bevill, on January 12, hailed an agreement between Alabama Power Company and the National Park Service, which clears the way for 8,580 acres of power company property in Northeast Alabama to become part of the Little River Canyon National Preserve in DeKalb County.

"The acquisition of the power company's property lays the cornerstone of our state's first national preserve. I am extremely pleased that the power company and the National Park Service have successfully negotiated the purchase of the land, which is currently part of the Little River Wildlife Management Area," said Bevill. The Jasper Congressman authored the legislation, which established the Little River Canyon National Preserve as a unit of the National Park Service. The legislation was signed into law by former President Bush in 1992.

"The National Preserve will enhance the public's enjoyment of this unique natural setting, while preserving the pristine canyon for future generations," said Bevill. "And, I fully expect the Little River Canyon National Preserve to increase economic activity in northeast Alabama through tourism. This acquisition of the power company property is a significant move forward in the permanent establishment of the National Preserve."

As a member of the House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee, Bevill has been in a position to obtain the necessary funding for the National Park Service to acquire the power company property. "Congress has recognized the national significance of the Little River Canyon area and has invested wisely," said the congressman.

The power company property is the only privately held land within the authorized boundary of the Preserve. Additional acreage within the boundary owned by the State of Alabama and Cherokee County may be acquired only through donation. The legislation passed in 1992 authorizes the park service to acquire by donation some 5,000 acres of state-owned land, including DeSoto State Park, and the 130-acre Canyon Mouth Park owned by Cherokee County.

Under the agreement, the National Park Service will pay \$7.64 million for the 8,580 acres in DeKalb and Cherokee Counties, and the utility also will get an \$8.6 million tax writeoff for a charitable donation. David Rickey, spokesman for the power company, said the entire \$7.64 million from the land sale will go directly to the Alabama Power Foundation, which provides funding for cultural and educational activities in the power company's service area. Any tax benefits earned by the \$8.6 million charitable donation, the company plans to claim in connection with the deal, also will go directly to the foundation, he said. Rickey said the utility is claiming the donation as part of the deal because it is confident the \$16.2 million appraisal obtained by Alabama Power is accurate.

"In the interest of time, with budget constraints facing the federal government, and with our desire to see this preserve become a reality, we agreed with the park service for a partial sale, partial donation," he said.

The Preserve has had a temporary office operating in Ft. Payne for more than a year, with the National Park Service personnel available to work with the local community regarding all aspects of the Little River Canyon Preserve. Presently, Don Forrester, is in charge of the Ft. Payne office. To reach the National Park Service office by telephone, dial (205) 997-9239.





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I WONDER

By Bill Crane

IF THE PRESENT FORTY-NINERS ARE NOT THE BEST FOOTBALL TEAM EVER. They sure laid it on the Chargers! That's putting it mildly. The right word is massacred! I suspected they would win—even correctly predicted the difference in the score (I said it would be 38 to 15, and it turned out to be 49 to 26). But, in the back of my mind, I thought that San Diego would improve from their last meeting, while I didn't think San Francisco would improve. They played each other early in the regular season with the final score being the 38 to 15 score mentioned above. The media maintained throughout the two preparatory weeks that it would be a rout. Well, it was!

This is the eleventh, or twelfth consecutive time that the NFC team has beaten the AFC team in the Super Bowl. If you look at the difference in the scores during these last games, you will conclude, as I, that a change in the method of selecting the Super Bowl teams is now necessary. The current method doesn't work anymore. Suggestions are beginning to be made, as I see in the newspapers. I like the idea of a playoff system as is used in professional basketball. Had that been in effect this year, San Francisco would have probably played Dallas.

I don't know who determines how the Super Bowl teams are selected, but I think that, if a change is not made, there will be a large reduction in interest in the game next year. Who would be interested in a game when one team doesn't have a Chinaman's chance of winning? I'm sure that, when it comes time that advertisers say "no thanks" to committing a million dollars per thirty seconds—as the rate was for this year—for advertising on television during the game, the powers-that-be will get their heads together and make a change. This is the exact reason no change has been made in the college bowl games to determine a college football champion. Off hand, I'd like to see a playoff like that in professional basketball be the rule in all sports. This method has not hurt the revenue aspects of professional basketball. On the contrary, it has increased the revenue due to the increased interest by the public.

Anyway, you have to hand it to the Forty-Niners. They are a super, super team! And they have several super players! That Steve Young-to-Jerry Rice combination is about the best ever! In my lifetime, I think this team is the best I have read about or watched. If history doesn't rank it as the best, it will surely be among the best of all time.

My present prediction was that Miami would be one of the Super Bowl teams, but it didn't pan out that way. If they had, they wouldn't have done any better than San Diego.

WHO IS THE REAL COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPION? I want to wrap up this season of football by discussing the college football bowl games. But, before I get into that, I want to correct an oversight I made in the last article. In the article about who was going to be number one in college football, I asked why didn't Florida go for two points when they made their last touchdown in the regular season game against Florida State. I meant Florida State instead of Florida! I was thinking Florida State and writing Florida all the time. I guess that is what old age will do for you! Anyway, when FSU scored their last touchdown to make the score 31 to 30 in Florida's favor, I just knew that Bobby Bowden would go for two points to try to win rather than lose. That is what the Bear, or Shug, or Bobby Dodd would have done. But Bowden didn't—he kicked an extra point to tie the score. I couldn't believe it! The paper the next day quoted him as saying "I didn't want to lose the game." I don't believe I have ever heard a coach say that. But, as I said last month, FSU's second-half comeback was something to behold, and it is understandable in a way to not want to lose the game with such a performance in the second period.

The college football games went pretty much as expected. The top-rated teams won, and the one rated the best, Nebraska, prior to the games, was selected as the number one team by the media, since they won their bowl game convincingly enough. However, I think Penn State has a claim on the number one rating, since they won convincingly and were, like Nebraska, undefeated during the season. Penn State, I think, could claim the tougher schedule during the season. Had they not had a close game with one team (was it Boston College?), I think the media would have selected them instead of Nebraska.

The college football teams recruits have just been announced. It looks like every team got what they wanted, and filled the "voids" they thought they had. I never saw so many high school All-Americans in my life! It seems that every college team signed several. This should make for an interesting season this fall and next. It appears that Notre Dame and Florida got most of the best high school players.

Notre Dame needed them! There is one trend I noticed this year. The college teams are getting more and more of the local talent. Years ago, the teams were made up of mostly players from out-of-state, but now the in-state players dominate a team's roster. The University of North Carolina and the Florida teams are good examples. Even Alabama and Auburn seem to have an increasing number of in-state players. I think this trend is good for everyone involved, especially the state Chambers of Commerce.

At this time last year, I was hopeful that changes would be made in college football post-season play so that a true champion would be crowned. There has been some progress, but not as much as I had hoped. A so-called coalition will determine where the numbers one and two football teams will play their bowl game; so, if they are not a part of the Big Ten or Pacific Coast conferences, a true number one will be crowned. The Big Ten and Pacific Coast conferences are not members of the coalition, so their champion will have to play in the Rose Bowl, and will have no claim to being number one unless they have a season, and are rated, like Penn State did this season. I have a solution to get those two conferences in the coalition, and that is for all bowls outside of the Rose Bowl not to invite any team from these two conferences to play in a post-season bowl game. When those two conferences see their post-season revenue limited to the six million dollars received from the Rose Bowl, they will make changes so they may become a part of the coalition to determine a true champion. I hope this comes about.

IF WE ARE GOING TO HAVE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL THIS YEAR? Although President Clinton has told baseball to play ball this year, it looks like we will have replacement players playing on major league teams this year. Major league hockey settled their dispute, but both sides of the baseball dispute seems to be holding firm to their claims. I'm a baseball nut first, but I'm almost to the point that I couldn't care less whether they settle the strike, or not.

IF THERE IS ANYMORE INTERESTING SPORT THAN BASKETBALL? This is basketball season, and I don't think anyone enjoys it more than I do. I'm a basketball nut second, and in the absence of my first love, my second is now my first. Both the college and professional seasons are under way and the playoffs are coming up next month. Hallelujah! There are some good teams in every college conference, and on any given night, any team playing at home can win against any other team! I estimate that the home court is worth 10 points to the home team. Any argument? Did you see the shot that Weem made for Auburn after the buzzer when playing Alabama the other night? That was one for the books! We'll be seeing it many times in the future, I'm sure.

The professional season is fairly much going according to prediction. The real surprise has been The Shaq and the other Orlando team members. The Shaq is another Wilt Chamberlain, or Bill Russell, or Lew Alcindor (what was his professional name?). All the big stars of last season are holding their own, but I predict we will have a new champion this year, and it could well be the Magic team. There is a trend in professional basketball this year, which I don't understand. It is the rash of injuries. Players didn't used to get hurt as they do now. Why? Are they not as conditioned as they used to be?

IF I WILL MEET THE PRINTING DEADLINE THIS MONTH? I'm in Atlanta trying to write this without my notes in the hope that I will make the deadline for publishing in the February *Groundhog*. So, I'll stop, and get it in the mail. SHALOM!



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SPORTS ON THE SCENE

By Phil Harris

March Madness is coming up for high school hoops—it's state tournament time again! The DeKalb County boys and girls will be playing in their sectional tournaments beginning February 10th, on the road to the "Final Four" in Birmingham.

Recently, the DeKalb County tournament was held at the Rainsville Civic Center. For the fourth straight year in girls action, Valley Head and Fyffe played for the county title. The Lady Red Devils led by senior guard, Heather Mayes, who, in the tournament semi-finals against Plainview, surpassed Gretchen Prince (3820 pts) of Paint Rock Valley, to become the all-time scoring leader in state history. Mayes then tossed in 26 more to run her point total to 3861, as the Lady Red Devils denied the Lady Tigers of Valley Head their second County title, 87-43.

In boys action, saw Fyffe upset its way to the finals against Collinsville. The state ranked Panthers set the tone early as they placed an old-fashioned style of half-court offense and defense. The outside shooting of Soleman Stanton and inside play by Clay Gifford and Billy Clanton led Collinsville to their second straight DeKalb County tournament title 69 to 58 over the runnin' Devils.

Girls All-County Tournament Team:

Jamie Owens - Fyffe
Nicole Gilliland - Fyffe
Rhea Armstrong - Fyffe
Heather Mayes - Fyffe
Kayla Bell - Valley Head
Jamie Baugh - Valley Head
Rachael Jones - Collinsville
Jennifer Gray - Collinsville
Amy Tucker - Sylvania
Jana Ingram - Plainview

Boys All-County Tournament Team

Jeff Pitts - Fyffe
Paul Long - Fyffe
Jason Rooks - Fyffe
Bradley Johnson - Fyffe
Billy Clanton - Collinsville
Soleman Stanton - Collinsville
Boo Johnson - Geraldine
Johnathan Moses - Sylvania
Jason Brown - Plainview
Todd Harper - Crossville

Teams to watch for in sectional tournaments:

GIRLS

Fyffe: The defending 2-A State Champions returned all five starters from last year. "The Fab Five" are: Rhea Armstrong, Jamie Owens, Nicole Gilliland, Joy Simmons and Western Kentucky signee: Heather Mayes, are set for another title run.

Valley Head: 1-A runner up last year returns guards Kayla Bell and Jamie Baugh and senior post player, Lisa Smith. If Smith and (freshman) Renee Brendle can help out with scoring inside, the Tigers may be going back to the "Final Four" again.

Collinsville: The Panthers have been the real surprise this year. Rachael Jones and Jennifer Gray are key players if Collinsville is going to be able to compete with Valley Head and Randolph County in the sectional tournament.

Fort Payne: The 5-A Wildcats have a strong starting five. Allison Owen and Millie McElrath, who scored a career high 42 points against Plainview on January 31st, will go into the sectional as one of the favorites.

BOYS:

Collinsville: 1-A County champs led by Billy Clanton, Soleman Stanton, and Clay Gifford are probably the best chance for a DeKalb County boys team to make it to Birmingham.

Geraldine: The 2-A Sand Mountain Tournament Champs depend mostly on Boo Johnson, but he can carry the load.

Plainview: Jason Brown will lead the always competitive 3-A "Bears" into the sectional tournament at Fort Payne.

Fyffe: 2-A High octane offense; they must improve defensively. Paul Long is a real force inside.

Sylvania: 3-A Johnathan Moses is a very good guard. The "Rams" are talented, but they still may have their minds on football.

This time of the year is a very exciting time for High School Basketball. DeKalb County Schools need all the support from fans they can get. Please support your local team. You'll be glad you did. Good Luck to all area teams!

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The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

Gracious, can you believe it! Another year zipped by. My column didn't make it through the mail in time for the January issue. So, now it's February. People get irritated with me when I say, "Christmas will be here before you know it," but, guess what—IT WILL!

This time of year, I really like soups and stews, and in our travels over the holidays, we were fortunate to be served these two stews. Both are low in fat and truly delicious. The beef stew recipe came from our friend, Dean Breasseale in Knoxville and the shrimp boat stew (cooked by nephew, Ron) is found in the Christ Church Fredrica Cookbook. The last two recipes are desserts and were submitted by a well-known and long-time resident of Mentone, Alma Crabtree. Enjoy, and I hope you have a great new year.

Vegetable Beef Stew

Dean Breasseale

1-1/2 lb. lean beef tips, cut into 1/2" cubes

1 T vegetable oil

2 (10-1/2 oz) cans low sodium, fat free beef broth

5 carrots, sliced

2 large onions, chopped

2 lbs. red potatoes, peeled & cubed

2 (16 oz) cans low sodium tomatoes undrained & chopped

1 (17 oz) can whole kernel corn, drained

1 (10 oz) package frozen green peas

1 (10 oz) package frozen lima beans

1 t garlic powder

Salt & pepper to taste

Brown beef in vegetable oil in Dutch oven, drain in colander, and pat meat dry with paper towels. Wipe drippings from Dutch oven. Return beef to Dutch oven, stir in remaining ingredients, bring to boil, reduce heat, and simmer one hour. Makes 16 cups.

Shrimp Boat Stew

Charlotte Parker Harris

1 lb. shelled & deveined shrimp

4 medium potatoes, diced

1 large onion

1 large can chopped tomatoes

1 clove garlic, minced fine

Salt & pepper to taste

Cook tomatoes, onions, garlic, salt, and pepper on low heat about 30 minutes. Add potatoes and cook till tender. When all is thick, put in shrimp, and cook only till shrimp is pink. If not thick enough, add 1 tsp instant potato flakes. Serve with cornbread and fresh fruit. Serves 4.

Christmas Delight

Alma Crabtree

1 angel food cake

2 envelopes unflavored gelatin

1 C pineapple juice

1 C sugar

1 t salt

3 pks Dreamwhip

1 can coconut

Juice of one lemon

1 C of pineapple

Dissolve gelatin in 4 teaspoons ice water, add a cup of boiling water, and set aside to cool. Mix pineapple, juice, sugar, salt, and lemon juice. Add gelatin mix. Whip two pks. of Dreamwhip, fold in congealed mix. Rub brown off cake, break in small pieces. Rub a large bowl with butter, place a layer of cake, then a layer of mixture on top of cake. Chill while you mix 3rd pack of Dreamwhip for topping. Cover with coconut. Decorate with maraschino cherries, if desired. It only takes 1/2 of a cake; and, instead of taking time to divide the can of pineapple, just pour it all in at once. Just saves time. I use pineapple in light syrup.

Apple Dapple Cake

Alma Crabtree

1-1/2 C cooking salad oil

1 t vanilla

2 C sugar

3 eggs

3 C chopped apples

1 C pecans

3 C flour

1 t salt & 1 t soda (leave out if using self rising flour)

Mix oil, sugar, vanilla, and eggs well. Add apples, pecans and flour. Add salt & soda last, if using. Mix well by hand, place in a greased floured tube pan. Bake 55 minutes at 350°.

Sauce for cake

1 stick of margarine or butter (I double this, if not, it only covers the top.)

1 C brown sugar, well packed

1/4 C Pet milk

1 t Vanilla flavoring

Place all ingredients in boiler, bring to boil, stirring constantly. Boil 2-1/2 minutes. Pour over cake while sauce is warm.

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION "WILDFLOWER PROGRAM"

Submitted by Tony Camp
Dutton, Alabama

Here are some details of the wildflower program. This will be our 5th year locally for planting. We will plant almost 70 acres in DeKalb and Jackson Counties, about 50% in each.

The varieties have been selected after testing and research by our Montgomery Maintenance Bureau and Auburn University. They were selected for hardiness and compatibility without overall vegetation management system. Some of the species are not native to Alabama, and some are not actually "wild." They were selected more on the basis of thriving well in our area when planted in managed plots.

Several existing plots have been overseeded and several new plots planted. Some of the new plots are expansions of existing ones. Most of the plots contain a mixture of perennials and annuals. The perennials come up the first year, but don't bloom until the second year. New plots won't be as showy the first year as in subsequent years. Most plots in DeKalb County are located on I-59 and AL Highway 35.

Our seeding operation is done primarily with a drill seeder. Beginning this year, we lightly scarify the soil where new plots are to be established with a tractor-pulled toro tiller. The seeding operation takes place during late fall and winter, except for the Cosmos varieties, which must be planted in the spring. Plots are sprayed with an herbicide which eliminates grass without affecting the flowers. We are fertilizing each plot with a special-mixed, low-nitrogen fertilizer, and will be applying lime for the first time, this year.

We are putting a lot of time and effort into this program. It is illegal to pick the flowers, and I would appreciate your doing what you can to discourage this. The plants themselves will not transfer. Digging them up to take to your flower garden simply won't work.

I've included a list of all varieties we are planting this year. Not all plots have the same mixture, but all these varieties will be used. They are: Indian Blanket, Red Corn Poppy, Purple Coneflower, Toad Flax, Rocket Larkspur, Black-Eyed Susan, Plains Coreopsis, Lemon Mint, Clasping Coneflower, Lance-Leaved Coreopsis, Catch Fly, Paint Brush, Ox-eyed Daisy, and Blanketflower.

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GOT IT MADE AT 88

Submitted by Alma Crabtree

We oldsters sure do get away with a lot just because we've managed to keep breathing longer than most folks. I have just celebrated by 88th birthday, and I've got it made.

If you forgot someone's name or an appointment, or what you said yesterday, just explain that you are 88, and you will be forgiven. If you spill soup on your tie, or forget to shave half your face, or take another man's hat by mistake, or promise to mail a letter and carry it around in your pocket for two weeks, just say, "I'm 88, you know," and nobody will say a thing.

You have a perfect alibi for everything when you're 88. If you act silly, you're in your "second childhood."

Being 88 is much better than being 70. At 70, people are mad at you for everything, but if you make it to 88, you can talk back, argue, disagree, and insist on having your own way because everybody thinks you are getting a little soft in the head.

They say that life begins at 40. NOT TRUE! If you ask me, life begins at 88!

Sign me...

GOT IT MADE AT 88

OLD TIMER'S WISDOM

Submitted by Alma Crabtree

There is so much good
in the worst of us,
And so much bad
in the best of us
That is hard to tell
Just which of us
Should reform the rest of us.



WOULDN'T IT

Submitted by Alma Crabtree

Wouldn't this old world be better,
If folks we meet would say,
"I know something good about you,"
And then treat us that way?

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy
If each hand clasp warm and true
Carried with it this assurance
"I know something good about you?"

Wouldn't life be lots more happy,
If the good that's in us all
Were the only things about us
That folks bothered to recall?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy,
If we praised the good we see,
For there's such a lot of goodness
In the worst of you and me?

Wouldn't it be great to practice
That fine way of thinking, too,
You know something good about me
I know something good about you?

—John H. Love

The Chrysalis in Valley Head will be closed as of March 15, 1995. The store will reopen at a later date.

HUNTIN' & FISHIN'

Compiled by Dr. Pat Seymour

RAISE YOUR FISHING EXPECTATIONS: So often, fishermen are advised to fish the bottom of a stream, whether it's for trout, bass, crappie. Bouncing, bumping, ticking—all are clichés seen in magazine articles, on television and throughout fishing videos. A few pro guides, however, have taken a closer look at fish anatomy and now drift their offerings higher in the water. Wonder why?

Most game fish can't look down. Because the eyes are located above the widest portion of the head, a bait, nymph, or lure drifted below the fish may as well be drifted through a bathtub.

This unusual (to humans, at least) optical arrangement means fish see best above, to the sides, and, to a limited degree, straight ahead—never below. It makes sense, then, to drift a lure at least a bit off the bottom, so stretch the leader, use less weight, or retrieve the spinner faster. Fish won't hit what they can't see.

SAFE GEAR: There are few places nowadays where your valuables are completely safe from thieves. In recent years, thefts have occurred everywhere—from trailers to campgrounds to remote cabins.

While there's no way to protect yourself completely against theft, being insured can at least ease the pain of buying new equipment. The time to check your insurance policy, however, is before something happens, not after. Policies for homeowners and renters insurance vary widely. You may be covered already or you may have to pay an additional yearly fee to protect your valuables when they are not in your place of residence. You'll never know, though, unless you check.

TURKEYS: Be sure to scout several locations and pinpoint a number of toms before the spring gobbler season. That way, if one area is too crowded with other hunters, or the bird isn't talking, you'll have others that you can turn to quickly.

DEER: Heavily used deer trails can be good locations for a stand if both does and bucks are legal. If you are looking for bucks only, search out lightly used trails in heavier cover off to the side of the well-worn main travel lanes. Bucks will often pick along in thicker cover parallel to the major trails.

FLYING FORECASTERS: Keep your eye on the birds—they can tell you a lot about the weather. Here are some birdbrained forecasting tips to consider:

- A sure way to tell if you're going to chill out in the winter is to check the down of a goose. If there is little down, winter will be average or warmer than usual. If there is heavy down near the base of the feather, an above-average cold spell is due.

- When hawks fly in a circle, expect a definite change in the weather.

- Birds crowding around the window and pecking in is a sure sign of snow.

- An owl screeching during the day? That means rough weather is moving in fast.

- Insects that crows eat venture high only in the best of weather. So, if you see high-feeding crows, you will have no weather problems for at least 24 hours.

A BRIGHT IDEA: The lantern has long been a convenience for the outdoorsman. Unfortunately, lantern mantles are somewhat fragile and often break at the most inopportune times.

However, a bit of advance planning can make this nothing more than a minor inconvenience. Before heading out, purchase an extra set of mantles. The slightly recessed bottom that most lanterns have is the perfect place in which to store them. Leave the mantles in the original waterproof packaging and tape them to the lantern bottom using heavy-duty tape, such as duct tape. The mantles will be out of the way, yet accessible.

ALONG CAME A SPIDER

Though nearly all spiders in this country are fanged and venomous, few are dangerous to humans. America and Lookout Mountain are home to about 20,000 arachnid species, but only 50 have fangs long enough to pierce human skin (and the bites of most of them cause only minor, localized irritation that can be easily treated). Only a tiny percentage of spiders are capable of inflicting serious injury. And death by spider bite, at least in this country, is rare. (Annual fatalities, according to medical experts, are very few. No one can state an exact number, since a high percentage of reported "spider bites" often turn out to be the symptoms of unrelated diseases or run-ins with other arthropods such as wasps, bees, and beetles).

A shy creature, the **brown recluse**, is probably our most dangerous spider. Not all bites are serious, but some can lead to severe ulcerations and tissue loss, which sometimes require skin grafting to repair. The venom is even more toxic than a pit viper's, volume for volume, and can cause widespread systemic reactions leading to fever, chills, headache, and, in rare cases (usually involving children or adults in poor health), internal hemorrhaging, kidney failure, and death.

Because the spider has relatively short fangs, its bite may sting lightly or go completely unnoticed. Sometimes, it produces a red blister within one to four hours. If a whitish halo surrounds the wound, creating a bull's-eye effect, get medical help quickly. Failure to do so can lead to serious illness, long-term pain, and permanent damage.

The **brown recluse** is, more precisely, pale brown or reddish, eight to 14 millimeters across (not counting the long, slender legs), and lives in abundance in the mid-South and lower Midwest, though freight transport has extended its range throughout the country. Known also as the **fiddleback**, for the dark, violin-shaped mark on its back, the **brown recluse** prefers dark habitats such as basement crannies and stone cracks, flaps of tree bark, and the folds of piled clothing. When human and **brown recluse** meet, it's usually a nasty surprise for both.

The venom of the **black widow** causes little to no local lesions or tissue destruction. It wreaks havoc on the body's central nervous system, instead. Primarily a neurotoxin—a very potent one—the venom typically induces muscle spasms, cramps, internal tenderness, anxiety, burning sensations, headache, dizziness, nausea, and vomiting 10 minutes to an hour after the pinprick bite. The victim generally feels as if headed for death, though fatalities are extremely rare.

Only the female is dangerous. (The male is smaller, weaker, and less aggressive.) At 12 to 18 millimeters (excluding the legs), she is fairly large and has a conspicuous red or yellow hourglass mark on the underside of her glossy-black body. The **black widow** is found in every state, except Alaska. It lives under stones and logs, in debris piles, in and near grainfields, and in dark corners of seldom-used buildings. The female hangs upside down in the web, which is usually built close to the ground. She can be aggressive if disturbed while guarding her egg sacs.

Here is one you probably haven't heard of before, but need to know about. The aggressive house spider accounts for more painful, tissue-damaging bites than does any other spider in the U.S. A European native, the house spider took hold in American seaports and has since been distributed by truck and rail (hence the more common nickname "hobo spider") to the point where it's now considered the most common indoor spider in the land.

Adults measure 10 to 15 millimeters in diameter, including the legs. Brown and lacking any distinctive marking, the **house spider** is a funnel spider known for the shape of its web. Aggressiveness is its most notable trait; where other spiders flee, this one attacks. The bite is light and prickly, and soon produces a hard lesion with a surrounding pale halo (which is similar to, and often mistaken for, a brown recluse

bite). The ensuing blister of two to six inches can take months to heal, often leaves a permanent scar, and, in some cases, requires corrective surgery. Systemic reactions can also occur, including migraines, nausea, fatigue, temporary memory- and vision loss, and a remote possibility of death.

The **house spiders** like dark, dry environments. Late summer and fall weather drive them inside dwellings, where the females seek to lay their eggs—and where humans are most likely to encounter them.

AVOIDING BITES:

- Look carefully before reaching into dark corners or into wood, rock, and debris piles. Be especially wary in seldom-used buildings such as old barns and sheds, and when entering a dormant cabin or outhouse.
- Keep laundry piles contained and off the ground. Shake clothing and boots before putting them on.
- Avoid piling newspapers, boxes, old furniture, and similar spider-attracting junk near your dwelling. Spray insecticide under eaves and around baseboards and window areas. Caulk cracks by floors and window casings to keep spiders out.

TREATING BITES:

Minor bites that cause only stinging pain and slight discoloration can be treated simply with light applications of ice (both for relief and to counteract the heat-producing effects of the venom). Follow up with a cortisone- or antibiotic-based cream (Neosporin, Cortaid).

Serious bites, such as those that show the bull's-eye effect, cause nausea, dizziness, and widespread cramping, require immediate medical attention, possibly involving intravenous infusions, antivenin injections (in the case of **black widow** bites), or even surgery to prevent tissue damage from spreading. Treatments vary according to genus or species. If you're bitten by a possibly dangerous spider, try to capture or kill it, and bring it to the emergency room for identification.

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TIMES-JOURNAL CONTEST FOR 1995 BEAUTIFUL BABIES



Ethan Blackwell
Winner, 3-4 Age Group, Boys
Age: 3-1/2 years
Parents: Danny & Tammy Blackwell
Grandparents: Delmer & Sue Blackwell of Fort Payne;
Hobson & Martha Kirby of Mentone



**THIS UNIFORM IS SIMILAR TO THE ONE BEING
PURCHASED BY THE VALLEY HEAD BAND**

2ND ANNUAL MERCHANDISE AUCTION

The Valley Head Band will hold its 2nd Annual Merchandise Auction on Saturday, May 20, 1995. The purpose of this auction is to raise money for the new band uniform. (See a similar band uniform pictured above.) All kinds of merchandise and gift certificates are being donated by area merchants, artists, and craftsmen. If you would like more information about the auction or would like to make a contribution, please call the school or Kathy Robertson at (205) 997-9848.



LINDSEY COOK

Born: 6/16/81
Diagnosis: Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia
Status: In remission and off all treatment.
Returns to St. Jude for regular follow-up care.

WHY?

I want to be a regular kid
Laugh and play like you and me did
I want to know why can't I
I want to know why oh why

Why do kids have to cry
Why do kids have to die
Why oh why I want to know why

Can't anybody hear me
Can't anybody see
What's happening to me

I want to know
Why do kids have to cry
Why do kids have to die
Why oh why can you tell me why

But I know I'm going to make it
Just you wait and see
So don't you be worrying about me

Can you tell me
Why do kids have to cry
Why do kids have to die
Why oh why I want to know why

By Lindsey Cook

WHEELS FOR LIFE BIKE-A-THON

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital announced plans for the Valley Head "Wheels for Life" Bike-A-Thon to be held on April 8, 1995. Mrs. Melba Woods will serve as coordinator of the even and encourages all residents to support this important community effort.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, founded in 1962 by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, is the largest non-profit childhood cancer research center in America in terms of the number of patients treated and treatment success. All findings and information gained at the hospital are shared freely with doctors and hospitals all over the world. Thanks to St. Jude Hospital, children who have leukemia, Hodgkin's disease, sickle-cell anemia, and other child-killing diseases now have a better chance to live.

This year's Bike-A-Thon poster child, eighth-year-old Shauna Richters, represents all of the patients treated at St. Jude Hospital. Shauna was diagnosed with Wilms' tumor, a malignant growth on her left kidney, in December 1990. Shauna is in remission from her cancer and completed her chemotherapy in June 1991. She is doing well and returns to St. Jude Hospital every six months for checkups. Shauna celebrated her last chemotherapy treatment with a present she had eagerly looked forward to: a new bike.

all residents and businesses are encouraged to lend their support to the hospital by making a contribution or becoming a rider.



**MARY JANE HALL
and JASON LEE BARKLEY**

James and Brenda Hall of Mentone, and Ted and Racheal Barkley of Hammondville, proudly announce the forthcoming marriage of their children, Mary Jane Hall to Jason Lee Barkley, on Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. Alabama time, on the 28th day of February, 1995, in Trenton, Georgia.

Miss Hall attended both Moon Lake and Fort Payne Schools, and is currently employed by John Co. Hosiery of Fort Payne, where she has been a boarder for five years. Her grandparents are Melinda and the late Larkin C. Hall of Mentone, and Charles and Evelyn Smith of Chelsea, Alabama.

Mr. Barkley attended Lakeview High School in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, and is currently employed as a welder at Smith Iron Works of Lyerly, Georgia, where he has worked for the past three years. His grandparents are Minnie and John Davis of Hammondville.



(L to R): Frances Allen, Lucille Crowe, Myrtle Stoner, Margie Allen, Chester Crowe, and Janette McBride, posing at Eagles Roost Rock recently



MOON LAKE SCHOOL STUDENT PARTICIPATION

MOON LAKE PERFECT ATTENDANCE
Fourth Month

<u>Mrs. Saratt's Kindergarten</u>	<u>Mrs. Hughes' 3rd/4th Grade</u>
Logan Chambers	Kim Brisendine
Elizabeth Chambers	Megan Daugaard
Glenn Hanson	Sara Daugaard
Alex Hazell	Bobby Elkins
D. J. Howard	Coby Harrison
Julie Ingram	Kyle Hooks
Robert Johnson	Joshua Hughes
Whitney LaBuda	P. J. Humphrey
Jacob Meadows	Niki Johnson
John Meadows	Adam Manning
Samantha Rhodes	Ashley McSpadden
Justin Scott	Mason Plunk
<u>Mrs. Mosley's 1st Grade</u>	<u>Mrs. Smith's 4th/5th Grade</u>
Laura Floyd	Tiffany Bare
Melissa Harrison	Tessie Baty
Sarah Hurt	Jennifer Blalock
Tyler Huskey	Jerry Lee Brisendine
Logan Jackson	Brandy Browder
Brandy Manning	Jana Goss
Kirby McMunn	Matt Hilliard
Joshua Rogers	Cassie Hooks
Emily Tipton	Peter Hurt
	Stuart Hurt
<u>Ms. Lehman's 2nd Grade</u>	<u>Dr. Berry's 6th Grade</u>
Kristen Addison	David Chaney
Rachel Bryan	Tracy Coots
Rob Childers	Davey Goodwin
Ashley Clark	Holly Kitchens
Nick Floyd	Nathan Owen
Matt Hawkins	
Amanda Johnson	
Andrew McCole	
Jessica Meadows	
Keith Miller	
Heather Plunk	
Shannon Sammons	
Andrew Smith	
Joshua Smith	
Natasha Tishaw	

MOON LAKE HONOR ROLL
Third 6 Weeks

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

MOON LAKE HONOR ROLL
First Semester

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

MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

By Evelyn Graves

The local spelling bee was held at Moon Lake School, and Stuart Hurt, fourth grader, was the winner. He will be going to the County Spelling Bee. Kerri McMunn, also a fourth grader, was runner-up.

The 5th grade is now beginning the DARE Program which is led by Van McAlpin.

The Citizenship Program, sponsored by The Citizens Bank and Fort Payne Best Western, is under way. The Citizens Bank has presented Classroom Citizen awards to the following students:

Kindergarten: Katie Herndon and Kelly Swindoll
First Grade: Logan Jackson
Second Grade: Ashley Clark, Colby Baty, and Kelly Wright
Third Grade: Michael Bradford
Fourth Grade: Sara Daugaard
Fifth Grade: Ashley Brown and Nat Hilliard
Sixth Grade: Will Shanklin

Best Western has donated a large modular desk for office use. Academic awards will be made by Best Western.

The next PTO meeting will be on Thursday, February 16, at 6:30 p.m.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is beginning to develop the butterfly garden on the back and side of the gym. It will begin with a major cleanup; and, later, the garden will be planted with plants which will attract butterflies and other winged creatures.

The computer lab is now set up with printers and is fully operational. Mike Bare has done an in-service training with teachers. It is felt that the lab will prove to be a great help to students.

Fifth grade students are involved in doing interviews with retired teachers for the annual Woman's Club Essay Contest. Winners will be announced later.

MOON LAKE
HELPING HANDS
4-H CLUB

The Moon Lake 4-H club met January 19, 1995, for its January meeting. Peter Hurt, club president, called the meeting to order. Eddie Manning, Cassie Hooks, and Johnnie Wesley, club song leaders, led the club in singing "Hokey Pokey." Jennifer Blalock gave the devotional for the group. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and our 4-H Club Pledge were led by our vice president, Ben Corey. Our secretary, Stuart Hurt, then read the minutes of our last meeting and took roll call.

The meeting was turned over to our 4-H Agent, Mrs. Annette Wardrup, who presented a program on "4-H Opportunities." 4-H gives us the opportunities we need to develop our natural talents. It also helps us to discover interests not previously experienced.

Four club members took the opportunity this month to bring projects. Josh Baker - wooden air plane; Stuart Hurt - cream puffs; Ben Corey - Sealife Diorama; Peter Hurt - handmade target.

The meeting was adjourned by club president, Peter Hurt, until February.



Presidents' Day Commemoration



A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

February, quite contrary, how do your breezes blow?
You hint of spring, cause flowers to grow
and birds to sing
Then you threaten snow!

I have two late items that were left out of the January column: Jeanette and Allen Burford, of DuPont Wash., spent several days with her mother, Sue Cooper and Foyl. They also visited Howard and Pauline Finster at Summerville.

Rebecca Stott, Nicole Stott, Jenny White, Van Battles, and Casey Stott, spent Christmas in the Bahamas.

Karen and Mark Freeman went with a group of friends to Acapulco where they spent a week and had a wonderful time, marred only by one of the men in the group suffering a broken arm caused by the strong undertow while swimming.

Melinda and Jeff Adkins gave a birthday dinner at their home, Jan. 25, for the church members who had recent birthdays. Those enjoying the delicious food and fellowship were Mary and Ted Holleman; Geraldine and Howard Hawkins; Adelaide Biddle, and her granddaughter, Jessica, representing her dad, Marty, who was unable to go.

Glad to see Arno White out after successful eye surgery. Leedel Lawman is recovering at home after heart surgery at Gadsden.

The Valley Head U.M.W. met Jan. 24 at Mary Holleman's home with Gladola Holleman as co-hostess. Adelaide Biddle led the program—"No More of This"—a program about abuse. Velma Hammond and Mary Holleman assisted her. Others present were Laura Margaret Allison, Geraldine Hawkins, Elizabeth Coleman, Irene Holcomb, Leslie Rogers, and Eloise Brown.

The Sunshine Club met Jan. 26 at the home of Gladys Cobble with Ruth Pickett as co-hostess. I did the devotional and a poem. Leona Chadwick demonstrated ways to decorate and make original cards and note paper attractively. Others present were Jewell Palmer, Sue Cooper, Geraldine Hawkins, Billie Harper, Lillie Bowden, Glenda Savage, Bess Bauerle, and Evelyn Clark.

Adis Bamard, from Huntsville, visited Evelyn Shankles and Betty Smith in Fort Payne, for several days, while her daughter, Jean Cassidy, went to Houston, Texas, for treatment. We are praying that Jean will have a quick and complete recovery.

Randall Hawkins spent the day, recently, with his parents, Geraldine and Howard Hawkins; and they had lunch at the new Steak House at Henagar.

We are glad that Dessie Newberry is able to be back with us at the Methodist Church. We had our fifth Sunday song service at the church, Sunday. Melinda Adkins sang a beautiful solo and Jessica Biddle played a piano solo.

Sincere sympathy to the family of Linnie Blansit and others who have passed away, recently. May all who are shut-in and not well recover completely, soon.

February's days are dark and dreary,
Of wintry weather I am so weary,
Then above the dead grass, green blades I behold
I know that soon they'll be crowned with Jonquil gold.
Gloomy clouds hang low and weep with despair,
Then a vagrant breeze seems to warm the air,
And I feel a glad encouraging surge—
As I see near by the Jasmine's gay splurge.
Things may seem dead and skies gloomy and gray,
All will revive, there'll be a better day—
I hear frogs and Robins happily sing—
There is the promise of another Spring!
So Groundhog, when you stick your nose out—
come on out and stay!

GENEVA McELHANEY HESTER

She went along from day to day
In her bright and cheerful way,
With a twinkle in her eye
All life's problems to defy.
Her lilting laugh could light a room
and dispel the deepest gloom.
Always ready to lend a helping hand
Anyone's needs to understand.
Her patient, kind, and gentle touch
to the sick and afflicted meant so much.
When life seemed smooth, her time to bless,
She was stricken with sickness and distress.
We cannot ever comprehend
Why a useful life has to end—
We would not call her back to pain—
Eternal rest is now her gain.
She leaves a sad and empty space—
No one can ever take her place.

—Eloise M. Brown

Happy Valentine's Day



*Friends Like You
Are Hard To Find!*

*We really cherish
your kind support.*



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PARKWAY ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

On January 28, at the January meeting held at the Western Sizzlin in Fort Payne, Bill Witcraft was elected as the president of the Lookout Mountain Parkway Association. Mr. Witcraft said, "We are going back to monthly meetings to be held the fourth Thursday of each month. One of my goals for the parkway include preserving and promoting the parkway. At some point in time, I would like to see the parkway become U.S. Highway 127 all the way from Chattanooga to Gadsden."

The Groundhog salutes the BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA -- AN 85-YEAR OLD TRADITION



SCOUTING...
A BRIDGE
TO THE FUTURE
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Boy Scout week begins February 5, 1995, and the Boy Scouts of America will celebrate 85 years as one of the most influential organizations in the development of young men, teaching them to be good citizens and training them to become leaders. William D. Boyce, an American businessman is responsible for founding the Boy Scouts of America in 1910.

Scouting is a Cub Scout learning about wildlife conservation; a Boy Scout discovering the technical world of computers; or an Explorer preparing an experiment that will be aboard a future space shuttle flight. Scouting has reached the handicapped; it is determined to continue to serve youth in the inner city; it has materials aimed at the latchkey child, male or female, in Scouting or out, who must learn to cope much of the time on his or her own; and it also appeals to teen-age women who comprise more than 40 percent of Exploring's membership.

It is good to know that, though times and techniques change, some things don't—such as principles of the Boy Scouts of America. Its purposes of reaching young people and guiding them toward good citizenship, sound character, and strong bodies haven't changed one iota since 1910. Scouts are taught to do their duty to God, to their country, and to other people. Their motto is "Be Prepared," and learning by doing is the method used to teach them. Scouts practice citizenship by electing their own boy leaders and by learning to work together. The Scout slogan is "Do a good turn daily." The Scout Handbook, first published in 1910, is one of the largest-selling books in the United States. The Scout Law lists 12 qualities of a good Scout. A boy who takes the Scout Oath promises to obey the Scout Law. A Scout is 1) trustworthy, 2) loyal, 3) helpful, 4) friendly, 5) courteous, 6) kind, 7) obedient, 8) cheerful, 9) thrifty, 10) brave, 11) clean, and 12) reverent.

The Boy Scouts of America doesn't operate in a vacuum. There are unsung community heroes—the chartering organizations and volunteers—who play vital roles in getting programs to youth.

As the Boy Scouts of America takes time to reflect on its past this month, let us all take time to salute the more than 1.5 million volunteer adult leaders who have committed themselves to teaching young Americans a basic set of values that will last them over their lifetime.

Boy Scout Troop 106, chartered in March 1993, under the direction of David Gilbreath, Scoutmaster; Dr. Bill Berry, Assistant Scoutmaster; Mike Young, Advancement Chairperson; and Glenn Miller, Troop Chaplain, meets every Monday evening (except holidays), from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Moon Lake Baptist Church Fellowship Hall in Mentone, Alabama.

Boy Scout Troop 106 will be helping the Rhododendron Garden Club in the construction of a nature/ecosystem study area on the property designated for a butterfly and bird garden on Moon Lake School property in Mentone.

On the first Monday of each month, there is a Board of Review, where boys who have achieved a new rank are questioned (general and specific questions) by the troop committee about the rank they have achieved. They are currently working on the Citizenship in the World Merit Badge, which is a five-week program. It is a required merit badge to achieve the Eagle rank.

For further information about Troop 106, contact either David Gilbreath, at 634-4495 or Dr. Bill Berry, at 634-4326.



