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Volume 19, No. 1 & 2

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

January/ February 2001

KATHRYN ELLIS JONES: MOTHER, TEACHER, PRINCIPAL, MENTOR

By Evelyn Graves
Kathryn Ellis Jones

October 8, 1914 - January 24, 2001

It is most difficult to fit the life of such an extraordinary woman as my mother was into a printed page or two.

Mother was described by my grandmother as a "delicate child" from the time she was born. She was small, fragile, and not as strong as her siblings. As I look across her life, I believe she was one of the strongest persons I ever knew. Her strength came from within. She had a capacity for holding on when it seemed there was no hope. She lived by the saying, "Where there is a will, there is a way." Somehow she was able to do the impossible, finding a way to fix the broken, making something beautiful out of seemingly nothing.

Mother was a frugal person, managing with what she had, and taking care of what God had blessed her with. The scripture from Proverbs 31 describes her very vividly. She was a virtuous woman who saw well to the needs of her household. She was the most unselfish person I ever knew, sharing what she had with others in a loving spirit.

Mother was not only my mother, but she was my mentor and my friend. We shared everything as I grew up, and I was never afraid to confide in her. I knew that she would understand, not condemn, and if it was a matter in which I needed advice, she gave it lovingly. I always knew she was right, and I never questioned her decisions.

My mother loved the children she taught at school, giving to them the same tenderness and love that she gave to my brother and me. How many lives she touched in this community, instilling in them a desire for a better way of life!

Times were hard as Mother grew up--the second of five children. She was able to get a good education through much perseverance. She graduated from high school with honors, and she received her college education a bit at a time after my brother and



Kathryn Ellis Jones

I were born, never neglecting us nor her household duties, suffering hardships to accomplish her goal. She rode the Greyhound bus to Chattanooga every day to attend the University, leaving at the break of day and returning in the late afternoon. Study time came after she had seen to the household. She made only two B's in the years she attended college. The rest were A's. She was born with the desire to teach. Her mother was a teacher, her older sister was a teacher, and my grandmother instilled in her the desire to teach. Mother wanted very much for me to

be a teacher as well. I saw what it requires to be a superior teacher, and I was not willing to make that sacrifice. I chose another career.

My childhood was simple and sweet as I followed in Mother's footsteps, observing her as she cooked and sewed and washed and ironed and did gardening and canning and all the other things she did. She always had time for my brother and me, teaching us, playing with us, reading to us, and guiding us to be the best that we could be.

Our teen-age years were wonderful as Mother graciously helped to entertain our friends. She always enjoyed having young people around, and we were never without friends because they felt comfortable at our house.

Mother and I had an unusual relationship, even after I had married. We enjoyed a lot of good times together--shopping, attending community affairs, having short visits at my house or hers. I always drove her for her doctor appointments. I think she looked forward to going to the doctor just so we could have the day together.

As things worsened, and the cancer began to take its toll on Mother's body, her mind also began to fail. She would tell the doctor that I was her interpreter and to direct his questions to me. She suffered for many months prior to her death, but she never complained. She was always happy to see me when I visited her. I am happy that I was able to be with her every day for her last thirty-five days. The staff at the nursing home told me that they had never had a patient who was so sweet and so gracious. She never failed to thank each one for what they did for her.

See story and photos continued on page 5.

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See Page 2.**

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- February 2, GROUNDHOG DAY
- No MAPA meetings in February
- February 11, BOY SCOUT SUNDAY
- Monday, February 12, 7 P.M.
Mentone Town Council, Town Hall meeting room
- Tuesday, February 13, 6:30 p.m.,
American Legion Post 215 Meeting
- Wednesday, February 14, VALENTINE'S DAY
- Monday, February 19, PRESIDENT'S DAY
- Thursday, February 22, 6 PM, Waterworks Board Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

- Friday, March 1, WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
- Tuesday, March 6, 7 p.m., MAPA meeting
- Sunday, March 11, GIRL SCOUTS DAY
- Thursday, March 15, 4 p.m., Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, 4 p.m., Town Hall meeting room
- Monday, March 12, 7 P.M.
Mentone Town Council, Town Hall meeting room
- Saturday, March 17, ST. PATRICK'S DAY
- Tuesday, March 20, FIRST DAY OF SPRING!!
- Thursday, March 22, 6 PM, Waterworks Board Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

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THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



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

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Marilyn Mathews

The holidays are over and everyone except me is back to a normal schedule. I seem to be behind with everything I try to do. That means Marie had to call and remind me of the deadline for publishing. I am sorry, Marie!

The MAPA Christmas party seemed to be another success. We had a good group present, and, as usual, way too much good food. While we were eating, Mike and Tina Cryer entertained with Christmas music. After we were all stuffed, we played "Dirty Santa". As usual, this provided a lot of good natured teasing and competition for favorite gifts.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the merchants who decorated their businesses for the holidays and to Jack Johnston for helping put up the decorations on the streets. Mentone is the most picturesque town in our area except at Christmas. This year was a lot different. I was not able to be out as much as I usually am during the holidays, but I was able to see how pretty our town looked. What a difference a little effort by everyone can make! Several merchants put up more decorations than I remember and it was really nice to see a tree in Town Hall. Hopefully, we can be more organized next year and come up with a more meaningful incentive. I have not been in touch with any of the judges, and do not know who was judged the best. Thank you again for your cooperation.

We are beginning to make plans for the Rhododendron Festival. Yes, we will have the spring festival the third weekend in May, and it will be the Rhododendron Festival. We hope we will have more local artists and craftsmen participating. If you are interested, and are not on our mailing list, please contact either Betty Bain or me.

Because of the uncertainty of the weather, MAPA did not meet in January, and we will not have a meeting in February. The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 6. We meet at 7 p.m. at Dessie's Kountry Chef. We would like to invite you to come be with us.



Notes from the Mayor's Office

Some improvements are ongoing at Town Hall. The phone system is being updated; a counter will be constructed near the entrance to the offices; new outside doors have been ordered for the building as well as an evidence locker; the Water Works office is being readied behind the front office.

As Mayor, I've been given formal appointment powers for all employees except the Town Clerk, who is appointed by the Town Council. One of my first appointments was that of John Bares as Zoning Administrator. We're happy that John accepted.

Police Officer Jeffrey Bain has resigned and Wayne Wooten has been appointed to serve as Mentone's new Police Officer. Wooten is fully qualified, having years of experience and academy training.

Jean McGehee resigned as Mayor Pro Tem, pleading teaching responsibilities should she ever have to serve. Linda Brown was elected in her place.

A committee composed of Linda Brown, Wesley Griffith, and John Bares was appointed to survey possible annexation areas where residents there have made inquiry about annexation.

The new signs warning of "Narrow bridge 1/2 mile ahead" are in place. Other signage is due in the near future, such as ones about the change in the time zone and speed limits.

The town's balanced budget of \$124,134 was approved at the last council meeting; this does not provide for any increases and improvements. The physical improvements I mentioned above are provided for by state funding for capital improvements, which is less than an average of \$2000 a year. The town's budget is basically financed through ad valorem and sales tax, and privilege license fees.

WATER WORKS: Our new 8 inch supply line from Tutwiler Gap to Cutler Avenue has been completed and is in service. In the final negotiations with the contractor, we were able to come in under budget for \$20,500. We are in the process of applying for a Rural Development Grant/Loan to rehab certain areas in the town's aging water system. We learned that part of that grant application could be applied for under a new federal grant referred to as a Drought Grant eligible up to \$500,000. Therefore, we reworked our application for those areas eligible for this grant, giving us the probability of additional monies.

A GENERAL MEETING OF ALL COMMITTEES WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, 7 FEBRUARY, AT 6 P.M. Everyone is welcome at the regular meetings of the Town Council on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. The Water Board meets on the fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. We urge you to attend any and all of these meetings.

Mentone Mayor, C.E. Bri





The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

I hope all of you had a peaceful Holiday Season and are enjoying this quiet time before Spring sets in with all of the outside work that it entails. I went into Little River Hardware store the other day and my attention went to a book called *Mountain Laurel Inn and Mentone Memories*, from Sarah Wilcox. Knowing Sarah, I was drawn to the book and spent a wonderful afternoon reading it and enjoying her story and, of course, the wonderful recipes she shares in that book. If that isn't enough, the artwork by Cheryl King is always nice to enjoy. There are a lot of terrific easy-to-do (my favorite kind, as you know) recipes from many people, some familiar to all of us, and the book in general is a joy to read. It is nicely done and is available at Little River Hardware.

This month, I got Sarah's permission to share two recipes from that book. I had heard raves about Egg Rancheros, from a friend of mine in Huntsville, after she had spent some time at the Inn. The other, Erin's Pound Cake, has been requested by folks here who have been fortunate enough to taste test it.

EGG RANCHEROS

8 ounce can tomato sauce
1 teaspoon chili powder
1/2 teaspoon cumin
8 eggs
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1 cup (4-ounces) shredded cheddar cheese
Tortilla chips
Sour cream
Jalapeno slices

Combine tomato sauce, chili powder and cumin in a lightly greased 9-inch pie plate. Break eggs evenly over sauce in dish and sprinkle with pepper and paprika. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes until eggs are cooked. Top with cheese and bake an additional 5 minutes. Serve eggs with tortilla chips, sour cream and jalapeno slices.

ERIN'S POUND CAKE

3 sticks butter
1 8-ounce package cream cheese
3 cups sugar
6 eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt

Combine butter, cream cheese, sugar, eggs, vanilla, flour and salt; mix well. Butter bundt pan well. Put in cold oven and set at 300 degrees. Bake for 90 minutes.

VALLEY HEAD HONOR ROLL

SECOND NINE WEEKS FIRST GRADE

All A's: Susana Castillo, Angel Westbrooks, Victoria Ferguson, Alexis Hatfield, Kaleb McKenzie, Trey Moore, Megan Poe, Jesse Shankles, Morgan Smith, Kara Young.

A's & B's: Casey Atkins, Brittany Daniel, Mitch Gregory, Morgan Gregory, Justin Liles, Brianna McKinney, Kayla Coker, Juan Gonzales, Chasity Hill, Kevin Mills, Matt Myrick.

SECOND GRADE

All A's: Payton Day, Shelby Headrick, Trevor Lewis, Megan McElhaney, Tyler Tidmore, Amber Matthews, Nick Gatlin.

A's & B's: Justin Burch, Steven Clark, Kellie Coker, Megan Cooper, Dustie Nix, Corey Powell, Blake Wilks, Brendan Wilbanks, Halie Westbrooks, Jessica Thornberry, Jason Hall, Levi Hulgán, Samantha Ogden, Brian Jones.

THIRD GRADE

All A's: Rebecca Freeman, Elizabeth Manning, Emerald Poe.

A's & B's: Ashley Anderson, Justin Battles, Erica Boyzo, Jairo Castillo, Nathan Hannah, Norma Hidrogo, Tiffany Keef, Miranda Lewis, Derek McMahan, Matthew Moran, Samantha Weller.

FOURTH GRADE

All A's: Sydney Hixon, Zach Foster, Marjorie Harper, Aubrey Shields.

A's & B's: Ariana Beard, Jennifer Britton, Matthew Durham, Decker Jones, Cody Atkins, Bo Barrier, Andrew Cooper, Patti Grider, Kasie Hicks, Sara McSpadden, Daniel Poe, Chad Wooten.

FIFTH GRADE

All A's: Justin Grider.
A's & B's: Timmy Burch, Matthew Fuller, Jessica Goodwin, Savanna Weller.

SIXTH GRADE

All A's: Chris Moran, Billy Wallace.

A's & B's: Amelia Hannah, Robert Kauble, Dallas Manning, Ashley Tinker, Amber Carrier, Zack Cooper, Ethan Lewis, Faviola Mendoza.

THIRD GRADE

All A's: Jairo Castillo, Rebecca Freeman, Taylor Gatlin, Nathan Hannah, Norma Hidrogo, Miranda Lewis, Elizabeth Manning, Matthew Moran, Emerald Poe.

A's & B's: Ashley Anderson, Justin Battles, Dillon Brown, Mickel Craven, Zachery Dean, Tiffany Keef, Kelsey Kemp, Derek McMahan, Robin Rector, Bobby Stark, Samantha Weller, Scottie White, Karisa Wilburn.

FOURTH GRADE

All A's: Sydney Hixon, Zach Foster, Marjorie Harper, Aubrey Shields.

A's & B's: Ariana Beard, Jennifer Britton, Araceli Cruz, Matthew Durham, Zoy Evatt, Chris Moss, Cody Atkins, Bo Barrier, Andrew Cooper, Patti Grider, Kasie Hicks, Sara McSpadden, Daniel Poe, Chad Wooten, Heather Richardson.

FIFTH GRADE

All A's: Justin Grider.
A's & B's: Timmy Burch, Matthew Fuller, Jessica Goodwin, Savanna Weller.

SIXTH GRADE

All A's: Dallas Manning, Chris Moran, Billy Wallace.

A's & B's: Amelia Hannah, Robert Kauble, Ashley Tinker, Joseph Arwood, Amber Carrier, Zack Cooper, Brittany Michaels, Tyler Gatlin, Ethan Lewis, Faviola Mendoza.

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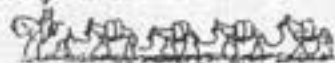
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Fun for the whole family

Mentone Grapevine II

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

It's good to hear that **Dorothy Crow** is recovering from her recent surgery. She sure has been missed in Mentone.

For those of you who know **Barbara Nancarrow**, her husband Bob tells us that she is regaining some use of her legs and arms after the stroke. Bob says she enjoys hearing him read all the cards and notes that she receives. You may send her a card at their Michigan address. She will appreciate and enjoy hearing from all of those who write to her. Her address is 205 Kennely Rd, A-4, Saginaw, MI 48609.

Ruby Daniel has moved to Sweetwater, AL. She would enjoy hearing from her friends. Her address is 2439 Bashi Road, Sweetwater, AL 36782.

Bobbie and Buddy Hilderbrand have sold their Mentone home on the brow and have bought a home in Littleville, AL. The new owners are Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Campbell.

Congratulations to the following students earning all A's, who were named to the President's List at Northeast Alabama Community College for the fall term: **Misty Ferguson** and **Kristopher Goodwin**, Mentone; **Sandra Brazier** and **April Edwards**, Valley Head; and **Donnie Davis** and **Angela Corbin** of Valley Head, and **Kenneth Miller**, of Mentone, were named to the Dean's List. Those on the part-time honor list were **Holly Day** and **Beverly Henry** of Mentone; and **Valerie Saferite** and **Sara Sine** of Valley Head.

Congratulations to **Melody Gilbreath**, who was named to the President's List, and **Shelly Gray**, of Mentone, and **Stephen Williams**, of Valley Head, who were named to the Dean's List for earning all A's and B's, for the fall quarter at Gadsden State Community College.

Gregory Allen Crow, of Mentone, and **Michelle Renee White**, of Valley Head, were named to the President's List for earning all A's in the fall semester at Jacksonville State University.

Catinna Marie Brown of Valley head recently graduated from the University of Alabama at winter commencement exercises held Dec. 17. Congratulations.

The **Culture Club** is accepting donations for its annual "March Into Reading" book sale to benefit the DeKalb County Public Library. The sale will take place March 31, and items can be donated until March 19. Now is the time to go through your books and donate them for a worthy cause.

The DeKalb Education Foundation awarded grants totaling more than \$19,000 to 23 DeKalb County and Fort Payne City School teachers and administrators. Among those winners were **Leslie Bunch**, **Moon Lake Elementary School**; "Reading is Fundamental" and **Brenda Wisner**, **Valley Head Elementary School**; "Cover to Cover Reading." Congratulations.

Students in Alabama have a chance to design the state's quarter. Gov. Don Siegelman has announced a statewide competition among Alabama schools to help select a design to be minted on the state's new quarter. The theme of Alabama's quarter will be "Education: Link to the Past, Gateway to the Future." Every public and private school in Alabama may submit three designs per grade. Alabama became the nation's 22nd state on Dec. 14, 1819. The state's new quarter will be minted in 2003, after Illinois and before Maine, Missouri, and Arkansas. I hope Moon Lake and Valley Head will have some entries. There are a lot of talented students in each of these schools.

James and Betty Johnson were happy to have their family home for the holidays. They included their son, Fred and Susan Johnson and children, Phillip, Paige and Peyton from Rainsville, AL; their daughter, Sue and Mickey Rickman from Clemson, SC, and Stephanie (Rickman) and John Salsman from Lexington, KY.

Recent guests of **James and Betty Johnson** were James' cousin, Jim Albright of Carrollton, GA., also James' niece Elizabeth and husband Norman Baker of Acworth, GA.

James Johnson is slowly improving following surgery at BMC-DeKalb.

Marilyn Blanton Campbell has completed all of her chemo therapy. Due to complications, she will not be able to begin reconstructive surgery until other medical problems are cleared up. She's planning to take a trip to London to visit with some friends she met while touring Australia. Marilyn's one strong lady and has kept her spirits up, always looking ahead. Her mother, Mary Blanton stayed with her in Mentone during all of the chemo treatments.

Ann Wright of Mentone is back on her feet after a fall on the ice. She strained a major muscle in her leg and was out of commission for a while, recovering at home. We're glad to have her back among us. We really missed you.

Congratulations to **Hillary Lawton**, 16, a junior at Valley Head High School, who was one of nine DeKalb County High School students honored by the Optimist Club during "Youth Appreciation Week." She received an engraved plaque, a cash award, and an Optimist memento. She has participated in cheerleading and basketball. She is a member of the math team and represented Valley Head at the Hugh O'Brien Leadership Conference. She is a member of the yearbook staff, Bible Club, Spanish Club, and Beta Club. She is vice president of the Student Council, was chosen to participate in Teens Against Tobacco Use program and was selected as Miss VHS for the junior class.

Cloudmont has experienced a wonderful skiing season, for their 31st year. Skiers have been enjoying the slopes since Thanksgiving weekend. Television stations have carried the story, and many newspapers have given Cloudmont coverage. The 2000-2001 ski season has surpassed other years. In a matter of 18 days, Cloudmont reported that 5,100 people had taken in the slopes. Congratulations to the Jones' family.

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

- Gallie Short Gilbreath, 89, Mentone, 12/17;
- Horace P. Goss, 79, Mentone, 12/23;
- Mrs. Lela Inez Tatum, 80, Valley Head, 12/25;
- Helen Bosworth Hill, 90, Mentone, 12/27;
- Billie Gene McKinney, 58, Valley Head, 1/7
- Charles Edward Ramsey, 59, Valley Head, 1/9
- Mrs. Betty Sue Bell, 68, Mentone, 1/16;
- Kathryn Ellis Jones, 1/24
- Charles Harris Hunt, 76, Valley Head, 1/25;
- Hoyt Franklin Ott, 78, Valley Head, 1/28.

Please keep **Rovene Truett** and her mother **Alma Crabtree** in your prayers, along with many others who are having health problems themselves or with family members.

Happy February Birthday/Anniversary wishes to:

- 1-Jeff Willoughby; Micah & Michael Moore; •2- Karen Davis, Terry Bouldin; •3- Eloise Brown; •4- Alex Hazell, Ben Windom, Leslie Thornberry; •7- Kayla Powell, Mack & Debbie Flannigan (anniv.); •8- Myrtle Blansit; •9- Willie B. Langston; •10- Shelia Yamada (in memory of), Sybil & Danny Hopper (anniv.); •11- Kayla Voils; •13- Craig Hall; •14- J. Young, Allen & Penny Baugh (anniv.); "Angel" Rector; •15- Michelle Williams, Stacy Blansit; •16- Tommy Kilgore; •17- Ginger Tuxbury, Trey Moore; •18- Gail Crider, William "Jug" Crow, Rachel Harrison; •21- Wendy Manifold, David Ashley; Michael Stephens; •22- Derek McMahan, Lisa Cordell; •24- Brandon Overstreet, Payton Day, Michael Chambers; •26- Sanford Hartline; •27- Nancy Rector.

Happy March Birthday/Anniversary wishes to •3-Nate Wilson, Laura Martin; •4-Ruth Porter, Durrell Owens; •5- Eiko Key, Shelby Langley; •6- Inez Guffey; •11- Marie Hunt; •12- George Shankles.

(Others will be in March issue)

My mother, **Dorothy Sheldon**, 81, from Las Cruces, NM, is visiting with me. She came the day before my birthday in January. I am really enjoying her company. I hope she will be here for an extended visit. Right now, there is no definite date she has to return to NM.

"Yesterday is already a dream, and tomorrow is only a vision; but today, well lived, makes every yesterday a dream of happiness, and every tomorrow a vision of hope."

from the Sanskrit



H.P. Goss

May 4, 1921-December 23, 2000

H.P. Goss, 79, of Mentone, passed away on Dec. 23. His funeral services were held Dec. 26, from Burt Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. Charles Flannigan and L.D. Blevins officiating. Burial was in Little River Cemetery.

H.P. was a native of DeKalb County, born May 4, 1921, son of Alfred P. and Lulie Goss. He was still working for the Town of Mentone at the time of his death. He was preceded in death by his son, Richard Goss and daughter, Marty Holland.

Survivors include wife, Gladys Goss, Mentone; daughter, Markettia Crane, Mentone; brothers, Arthur Goss, Mentone, and Grandville Goss, N.C.; sister Melinda Hall, Mentone, and two grandchildren.

H.P. was the town's park supervisor, street supervisor, sanitation supervisor, picked up the mail and took deposits to the bank. He was so knowledgeable about the waterworks department, having worked for many years in various capacities.

The Town of Mentone has lost a wonderful, caring individual. H.P. was always looking after someone and doing necessary things for those he cared about. He is sorely missed by all those whose lives he touched on a daily and weekly basis.

I would like for as many of those whose lives H.P. touched to please send in a comment about what he meant to you. We would like to feature him in an issue of The Groundhog. In his 79 years, he spent a lot of time looking after others. We would appreciate your comments and his family would, too. The comments and letters will all be turned over to the family upon completion of the story. The address is The Groundhog, P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984; attn: Marie Dillenbeck.



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(Continued from page 1.)

I find a very strong similarity to my mother as I read the obituary of Mother's great-grandmother Eliza White (Ellis) Shropshire from the Walker County Messenger, LaFayette, Ga., July 1, 1917. My mother bore the same strength and personality traits as her great-grandmother. I would like to share this beautiful account of my great-great-grandmother's life and death written by my own grandmother, Ruth Hall Ellis (her granddaughter-in-law). It reads as follows:

Mrs. Eliza Shropshire, 1827 to 1917.

"As the morning light was breaking on the fifteenth day of June, the spirit of Mrs. Eliza Shropshire passed to its reward. Her endurance was long but at last the strength which had sustained her for more than ninety years was spent and she was gone. Though death feeds upon her mute voice, I know she strove to live for the right and be a blessing to those around her. She died as she lived—unassuming and unafraid.

Early she was impressed with the feeling that she must serve her Lord if her earthly happiness was complete, and so she marched in to living breast front and never faltered or looked back, but kept on with a firm determination and when at last she met the last enemy, she was not unprepared.

"For years before her passing she realized that with a rapid gradualness she was nearing the place and would sometimes remark that her life though seemingly useless was spared for some purpose and that she was glad to live though not afraid to die. Thus in a sacred joy of life she lived, thus in an eternal hope she died.

"Hers was a long life, well spent in usefulness and her rare intelligence and personal charm made her not only loved and respected in her own home, but among her friends, and in every circle she entered she was received with a glad welcome.

"She met every obstacle in life with the sweet dignity that so well befit her and every trial that she underwent made her, as it seemed, more refined and gentle in her manners. Around the standard of truth her character grew ...

"... She was left a widow in 1861 and with a

courage rarely found in one reared in a home of colonial environments, such as was hers, she set to work with the aid of her small son, to rebuild the shattered home and all through the dark days of reconstruction, with the same quiet dignity and gentle grace she performed her duty and had the pleasure of seeing the period of peace and plenty, which followed the long turmoil. ... We could pay no higher tribute to her life than to say she was a good woman. She is sadly missed in the home where she lived so long. No pains were spared to rob her last days of their suffering, but nothing brought the much sought relief and so she quietly and peacefully passed through the valley of the shadows and fell asleep."

These same words could easily have been written about my mother. She lived a beautiful Christian life, and when God saw fit to relieve her of her suffering, she, like her great-grandmother, quietly and peacefully passed through the valley of the shadows and fell asleep.

Bill Berry's remembrance

at Kathryn Ellis Jones' funeral 1/26/01:

"On this occasion, in love and remembrance, I represent a variety of people whose hearts and lives have been touched and enriched by Kathryn Jones.

"First ... I am her nephew, and I stand with my cousins in expressing warm memories of time spent with the person whom we lovingly call Aunt Kathryn. As a little boy, I often spent school-day afternoons in her home when my parents were away. It was there, in her home, where I first heard the news of President Kennedy's assassination. And it was in her home where I accidentally broke the thermometer with which she was checking my fever, and she understood. It was, in fact, in her home where I enjoyed the generosity of her love.

"Second ... I am her student, and I stand with others blessed to have gained an excellent academic start in the first-grade classroom of the person whom we fondly call Miss Kathryn. When I began school in August 1963, she took me and my classmates lovingly under her wing, encouraged our learning, and supported our endeavors.

On the second day of school, when I cried because I had forgotten which restroom was for the boys, she gently guided me and eased my fears. From that day on, I knew I could always count on her for the nurture and instruction that young children need.

"Finally ... I am her successor, and I stand with everyone who loves Moon Lake Elementary School with a thankful heart for the gracious and professional manner with which she served as principal for 17 years of her 34-year career. Through thick and thin, she toiled to ensure that Moon Lake would remain a thriving example of community-school cooperation. Today, Moon Lake continues to grow and expand, building upon the strong foundation of academic achievement, parent involvement, and community support that Kathryn Jones worked so hard to cultivate. Until her final days, she never failed to ask me, 'How are things at the school?' Her countless contributions to Moon Lake Elementary School live on in the successes of each of its students. This is the living testimony to her life and to her work.

"Hers is a noble legacy ... one that shall always positively impact the lives of those of us who owe her so very much!"



Kathryn Ellis Jones



**School Days
1944 - 45**



Kathryn Ellis Jones and Herman Jones on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary in August 1983



Ms. Kathryn Jones teaching first graders. On the back of the picture are the following names: Janice, Hobson Kirby, Fay Kirby, Betty Frazier, Jerome Baty, Joyce Dykes, Joyce Strickland, Kenneth, Nelson Stallings, Eddie Kirby

Mountain Grove at Cloudland



Experience rustic luxury at Mountain Grove, the newly renovated retreat center/B&B in Cloudland. This beautiful three-acre retreat, located near The Lookout Restaurant, features graceful conifers, majestic oaks, beautiful rhododendrons, and lovely flowers spring through fall. The original mountain house, built in the early 1920s, has been updated for grace and year-round comfort. Mountain Grove offers 5 bedrooms with 4 bathrooms and is available by the room or the entire house can be reserved for private functions, parties, get-

aways, reunions or corporate events. Three of the bedrooms have private baths and two bedrooms also have private balconies. Mountain Grove has gracious lawns and is surrounded by beautiful trees and acres of woods. Spacious and elegant for couples or friends, it is also comfortable for group retreats of up to 14 people. The bedrooms have a combination of queen and twin-sized beds and are furnished with beautiful antiques, handmade furniture, original artwork, and fine linens on new, comfortable beds. (Many of the custom furnishings, works of

art, and antiques are offered for sale.) The large living room, which features a mountain stone fireplace, is a great size for meetings, parties, and dinners. The generous front and back porches, which feature rocking chairs, ferns, and hummingbird feeders, are wonderfully inviting.

Mountain Grove is headquarters to ExperienceWorks, Inc. which is owned and operated by Susan Chernes and Ellen Thompson. Susan and Ellen, with their wonderful staff, customize camp and retreat programs for corporate groups seeking to gain a business edge and for school groups who value experiential education. ExperienceWorks offers workshops and trainings at Mountain Grove as well as at other sites. In addition to presenting workshops themselves, Susan and Ellen are bringing talented practitioners from around the country to be featured at Mountain Grove.

Upcoming events at Mountain Grove include:

Valentine's Packages You can book before, during or after Valentine's Day this year! February 9-11th, February 14-15th, AND February 16-18th. The romantic getaway includes a delicious breakfast and a basket of goodies. The introductory rates apply: rooms begin at \$100 per night. The February 14th reservation includes a romantic dinner. Professional therapeutic massage is available.

February Afternoon Tea and Open House You are invited for afternoon tea and to have a look around during these open house afternoons: Tuesday, February 20th and Wednesday the 21st from 2-4 PM Central, or call to schedule a visit.

Workshops scheduled in the spring will include: **Drum Building, Reiki, Spanish Conversation, and Working with Herbs.** Customized retreats are also available for you and your group!

You can reach Susan or Ellen by phone or via the Internet for directions or to learn more about Mountain Grove and ExperienceWorks: 800-226-5585 or 706-862-6676. Xworks@aol.com. You can learn more about Mountain Grove and ExperienceWorks by visiting their website at www.experienceworks.com.

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cabinets - Master suite - Garden tub - shower - walk-in closet - 2 additional bedrooms, full bath, utility room, walk-in pantry - garage - large screened in porch - deck - whole tub - HVAC - infrared backups - fenced, 1.5 acres. \$165,000



CLOUDLAND - MENTONE - 151 acres, with 1/2 mile of river located below the dam at Lake Lanoka - easy access - water available, \$4,000 per acre.



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CLOUDLAND ON THE BROW - HWY 157 - Picturesque home offers GR w/mtn. stone, frpl., galley kitchen, BR, full BA, sunrm./screened porch opening to deck overlooking valley. sunporch upstairs. FR w/mtn. full bath, MBR overlooking brow. 3.48 ac 284 ft. brow, new well & HVAC filter system. (G-28)



MOUNTAIN RETREAT - Cloudland - Cherokee Co., Ala. - This home offers 2,700+/- sq. ft. featuring family room w/mtn. stone fireplace, large kitchen with 3 dining rooms, master suite, 2 additional large bedrooms, full bath, large utility room, 12x80 front porch & 14x80 back deck, 2 acres +/- with an additional 48 acres available. Make offer. (No. A-33)



ENJOY THE VIEW from the top of Lookout Mountain in Cloudland, GA! Just listed, this 2-year-old custom-built mountain home! Pine board and batten blends with the view from the top of the brow that you can enjoy from your 12x34 deck! Massive mountain rock in the back yard overlooking the stream! Hike in our back yard, all 3+ acres of it, to the waterfall! In the evening, start a fire in the rock fireplace and relax in the great room that has a vaulted ceiling and overlooking loft bedroom! Two other bedrooms are located in the west wing along with one full bath! Professionally decorated, it's worth the drive to see if privacy is on your agenda! Central HVAC, satellite dish, custom kitchen cabinets and all appliances! Restricted. Reduced to \$190,000. (No. G-2)



SAFE HAVEN - Mentone, Ala. - Chateau offers great room w/mtn. stone fireplace, bedroom, full bath, 2nd bedroom upstairs w/deck. 2 outbuildings. Situated on 40 acres of uncut timber. "When privacy is a must." \$159,000 (No. A-32)

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MENLO, GA - Jamestown Hwy. 22+ ac. OPEN/Pasture/Road frontage - 1 creek inside the city - Gas, Water, Sewage Potential - Potential Potential. \$3,100.00 per ac. No subdividing. Make offer.

EAST BROW - Hwy 157 2.67 ac. 200 ft. of Brow. One of the best views on the mountain. \$80,000. Financing Available. G-7 **SOLD**

500+ ACRES, on Little River, road frontage on 3 sides, hardwoods, \$4,000/acre.



CLOUDLAND, HWY 48 - Custom built cedar sided home offers 1800+/- sq. ft. featuring kitchen, dining, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, central HVAC, large front porch, 34x34 garage, 16x24 outbuilding, pond on 32 acres. Move on UP! \$194,500. (No. A-38)



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LYDIA Robinson Speed

Born: April 19, 1917

Died: August 26, 2000

Some people called her Lydia. Some called her Ma. Most of her family called her Sister. Her daughters called her Mama. A few (Faye and Bobby Jay) called her Ms. Speed.

But whatever you called her, she was always there with a kind word, a loving spirit, and a gracious lady-like attitude.

She had four daughters (Cissy, Mary, Pat and Gay, four sons-in-law, eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She loved The Mountain and soon after she and her husband Dick (affectionately known as Pa) arrived here in 1972 they truly called it home. They had lived in Jacksonville, Florida, for over 20 years and were looking for a place to retire. They happened to be passing through this area and stopped to visit her cousin, Dick O'Ferrall. From the beginning, they fell in love with The Mountain, and built a house near Alpine Camp where Pa lived until his death in 1980 and Lydia lived until 1991.

For all those 20 years her children and grandchildren came to The Mountain. Her daughter, Gay, and her family moved from New York and lived here for 10 years. When they left for Atlanta, they always knew they would come back. Her daughter, Pat, and her family were not far away in Huntsville; and daughters, Cissy and Mary would come down with their families at least twice a year from Baltimore and Indianapolis. The Mountain was a "Gathering Place" for all of Ma's family, and each one came to love it as much as she did. Her grandchildren spent summers on The Mountain at Ma and Pa's and several went to Camps DeSoto and Alpine. Her daughter, Pat, was married on The Mountain.

Lydia's home was near Howard's Chapel, and she and Dick started attending there soon after they moved to The Mountain. There were only about 4 or 5 people on any given Sunday back then in 1972. Ma designated herself the church Caretaker (alias Janitor) from the begin-

ning. She put wildflowers in the Chapel each Sunday for most of those 20 years. She said some Sundays she would think, "There are no flowers this time of year. What will I put in the church?" She would just start down the road to see what she could find, and then come home with an arm full of "flowers". Pa made vases for the flowers out of old green wine bottles that he cut off. Dorothy Cyr said the only thing that was missing at her funeral at Howard's Chapel were the wine bottle vases (there were plenty of wildflowers that had been gathered by the side of the road). Fred Higgins said at her funeral that she might not have the biggest spot in heaven, but it would surely be one of the most beautiful with wildflowers!

Ma's grandchildren would often go with her to clean Howard's Chapel and "play church". They also put on Christmas Programs there for the family. Her granddaughter, Julie Jay, was married there in 1997, and her grandson, Josh Godbois, will be married there this summer. No one will be surprised if there are other family weddings there in the future!

She drew others to The Mountain, too. Bill and Sue Schwarz and Dick Keefer and his family are some of the people who now live here permanently because of visiting Ma and Pa.

In 1991, Lydia moved to Huntsville because of failing health. She moved next door to her daughter, Pat, in Huntsville; but she would often come back to Mentone to visit or for garden club meetings or for special Bible studies and such. Her family still goes back to visit "her house" in Mentone and the Hancocks always welcome them with open arms.

In 1998, Pat and her family moved to Germany, so Lydia came back to Mentone once again to live at The Fountains, in Fort Payne. Her daughter, Mary, and her husband took early retirement and moved to The Mountain in 1998; and Ma lived with them in Mentone until her death last year.

Lydia had rheumatic fever as a child and lived with a damaged heart all her life. She had open heart surgery in 1959 before it was as much of a routine thing as it is today. She was never afraid to die and knew The Lord's timing is perfect. She became ill in March of last year and underwent two major surgeries in a period of 24 hours. She was in and out of the hospital 5 times during the next 5 months. She died peacefully at home August 26, 2000. Her entire family, all 28 of them, came to the funeral. Some came from as far away as England and Germany and Switzerland. The funeral was a celebration of her life for her family, especially her life here on The Mountain. She is buried at Howard's Chapel next to her husband, Dick.

Lydia's love for The Mountain still draws people here. One of her daughter's son-in-law, Ron Pyke, who was raised in Chicago and now lives in London, England (definitely a "city boy"), bought property on The Mountain, as have many others in Ma's family. He wrote this in an email on April 1 last year, soon after Ma had her surgery and became very ill.

"This is Ron. I had a discussion with JJ [Mary's daughter] about Mrs. Speed last year but have realized we've not yet shared it. It was after getting an email from Mary saying she and Mrs. Speed had had a discussion about why Mrs. Speed was still with us here. My theory has to do with magnetism. If you leave a magnet on a piece of iron long enough, the iron itself will become a magnet even after the magnet is taken away. I believe that Mrs. Speed will be on The Mountain as long as it takes to permanently "magnetize" it --her love and presence will remain tangibly on The Mountain, drawing her family together for generations after she's gone.

Our love goes out to you all.

Ron"

Ma did that--she drew people to the place that she loved--as so many of you that live on The Mountain have done and as so many others have done before you. Who was the "magnet" that brought you here? This magnetism continues to happen from generation to generation with the people that call this particular little area of God's world--"home".

Ma Speed now resides in Heaven with all her loved ones that went before her and a few since. She loved The Mountain and now she is home with the Lord.

50th Anniversary



Hope and Lt. Col. George Walker
(Ret.) MacDill AFB

Hope and Lt. Col. George Walker (Ret.) MacDill AFB, were married on December 24, 1950, in Alabama.

They have three children, Jo Ann and husband Charlie Phillips Of Newport R.I., Jan and Joe Boromei, Sally and husband Dr. Hank Insko, of Oldsmar, FL. They have three grandchildren.

Mom and Dad, we love you very much. Your guidance and love have been a comfort and inspiration to us.

Love, Jo Ann, Jan and Sally

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A Special Thank You!

I would like to thank Charlie Bain for being such a good neighbor to so many of us. He has helped us, and we are so lucky to have him. Keep up the good work, Charlie.

If Charlie has helped you, please tell him and thank him when you see him.

Neighbor, Gail Crider

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS FROM CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE HAM



Sheriff Cecil Reed opens the Parade



Probate Judge Paul Thomas and Charles Warren



Grand Marshall Trace Trylko and Bill Guffey (driver)



Kaitlyn Hester and Chasity McElhancy.
Kaity's mom (Stephanie) walking beside



Mike Jones Station 3 paramedic at D.A.S. & Ashley,
(miracle child from bad wreck). Ashley also Parade Queen.



Ralph Delagarza of Big A Auto Electric



Charles Bell, DeKalb County Commissioner



Santa (Buckshot) gives out presents
to the children at the Hammondville Armory



Vickie Biddle says a special thanks to George Battles
who has shown up to help at every parade



Bill Guffey and George Battles get
Buckshot ready and gassed up as
he talks on his cell phone



Grand Marshall Trace Trylko eats supper
at Shorty's Cafe (Trace and Shorty)

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About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



What a winter this has been!! I know that it is only February, but it certainly seems that winter should be over. Everyone says that quite often we have our worst weather in March. I hope that this is not the case this year. To add insult to injury, several really nasty viruses are running rampant around Mentone and the area. I keep looking out the bathroom window and hoping. That is where I can see what I now call, "The Meadow." It is only the south side of my yard where I have planted as many shrubs as I can get Bobby to dig holes for, but I enjoy having a name for that spot.

I was looking at my Rhododendron Garden Club yearbook this morning and the program for February is, "Heirloom Plants." I hope this will be about the plants that our mothers and grandmothers grew. Some of my most prized shrubs are ones that have been given to me by friends directly out of their yards. One dear sweet neighbor just appeared at my door one day with two shrubs. She just said, "Here, you need these," and was gone. We planted them and last year they had beautiful fluffy pink blooms. I still don't know what their botanical name is, but I love having them in my yard.

Another prized one came indirectly from the garden of Lillian Blalock. It has beautiful yellow blooms that remind me of the baby chickens we had on our farm (and sometimes on newspapers behind the heater, if the weather was too bad to put them outside). Ann is going to scold me for forgetting the name of this wonderful heirloom shrub. The one that I am most proud of is one I gathered from an old homestead here in Mentone. I only took the sprout, the main plant is still there and I go by to see it every spring. I am trying to stay with the ones that are native to this area. I think that they do better.

Since the last issue of *The Groundhog*, I have had two visits with friends that were most enjoyable. The first was a visit to the home of Bill and Grace Pullen. I called one day and asked Grace if I could stop by for a few minutes and ask her some questions about the Shigley family. She said to come right on over, so I did. I found her hard at work quilting and Bill was doing what he does best, thinking up jokes and tall tales. We talked about the history of many of the families in Mentone and various other subjects as they came up. We laughed and joked and I had a wonderful time. Bill and Grace are a wonderful couple and so much a part of Mentone and its heritage. Years ago, when we would hold the elections (on paper ballots, think Florida), Bill would keep everyone entertained with his tales of things that happened in Mentone when he was growing up. Some were funny and as with any community, some were sad, but all were interesting.

The other visit was with a friend with whom I graduated from Valley Head High School. I stopped to eat lunch in Fort Payne and he joined me. We talked about all of the things that happened in school and where all of our classmates are now. That was very enjoyable and brought back many good memories. Even though he lives in Fort Payne, he said that he reads *The Groundhog* every month and enjoys it. He makes a point to pick up a copy at a supermarket each month. I am always amazed at how many people read this paper. Someone is always mentioning that they read it or will recognize me from my picture at the top of this column. I think my friend was surprised that I could put two words together and they would make sense, he knew me when!

The Town of Mentone is moving into the new century and a new millennium, albeit very slowly. We continue to plan for ways to make this a better town and yet we strive to stay the same. This is not easy. We all realize that we must move forward or we move backward, and yet we are not sure how to do this. We do not want houses built so close together that you can touch hands out the windows, but how do you explain to a grandfather who wants to give each of his grandchildren a place to build a house, that he doesn't have enough land to do this. That, to me, is one of the best features of zoning laws, everyone has breathing space and you don't have to hear your neighbor's choice of music! (Nor do they have to hear yours!)

Several members of the town council had lunch with Todd Greeson recently. He is a very impressive young man. He was very eager to hear of our problems and promised to help Mentone in any way that he could. I think the thing I noticed most was his sincerity, he is interested in what happens in DeKalb County and in being a part of it all.

At the Mentone town council meeting in January, John Bares was appointed by this body to serve as Chairman of the Mentone Zoning and Planning Commission. This is a very important job and I feel that John will do a great job. Some of you may not know John. He and his wife, Donna, work at Riverview Camp and Nature's Classroom. They moved here from Louisiana and have bought and remodeled what I call the "Grace Jones house" on South Cool Street. They have a beautiful baby daughter who is going places. At least she was the last time I saw her, she had learned to scoot instead of crawl and she could move! I'm sure she is walking (running) by now. Most of the board was appointed to their positions again, with the exception of Jean McGehee. She is serving on too many boards and has to drop one of them. Jean has served on the zoning commission since it was put into place and has done an excellent job. I want to thank her for her many long hours of typing and phone calls and for always attending the meetings. We will miss her and her wonderful smile at the meetings. Huey Mathews will serve as a new member this year and James Johnson will serve again, just not as a representative from the town.

Mayor Britt continues to push all of us, sometimes harder and faster than we may want to go; but he is concerned about Mentone and has the capacity to vision it as it can be. We who have lived here most of our lives sometimes have a tendency to see only the trees; those who have moved here more recently are more able to see the forest. And yet, we all live here for the same reason, we love Mentone!

Think warm thoughts, wear a sweater, keep your socks dry and if you get one of the viruses, eat lots of ice chips!!

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!! Love somebody!!

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The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

This is the time of year for things to move slowly, for taking stock of what we are to do for the year. No resolutions for me. They just get broken, but I will do some deep thinking and maybe some deep cleaning! The closets that were to be cleaned out, sorted, and maybe--just maybe--the contents carted to the dump, will be worked on again.

So much clutter affects our way of living and much of it is not in the closet, but in our minds. We clutter our minds with thoughts that should not be entertained. If we spent our time thinking clean thoughts instead of criticizing others, our lives would be less cluttered. There is good in the worst of us, and bad in the best of us. It would be a much better world if we only saw the good points in our neighbors or fellow workers. Life would be much better. I must admit to being the worst critic, and that's a bad habit. If we keep our own lives straight, we haven't time to meddle in the affairs of others. So much for philosophy!

Our winter came on strong this year, with four snows before Christmas, not big ones, but beautiful soft, stuff that flocked every inch of the trees like beautiful Christmas decorations. The roads were not impassable but two or three days, so we enjoyed the beauty of the snow white stuff, and skiers were happy at Cloudmont.

Winter is not my favorite season, but it does have its simple pleasures, like reading by an open fire, watching our little birds feed from the feeder, making good, hot soup to relieve the chill. Each morning as we sit at the kitchen table for breakfast, we feast our eyes on our little feathered friends as they eat, drink from the bird bath, and flit away. The purple finch is back and the brilliant red cardinal remains with us all winter. The Goldfinch are not so colorful now--their bright yellow feathers appear in the spring. Maybe they have a dull covering of extra feathers to help them cope with freezing temperatures. I wonder how their little feet keep from freezing when they are out there eating in sub-freezing weather. It's interesting to see the different kinds of birds in our front yard. The feeder is in a side yard, but those birds that thrive on insects and worms frequent the front--robins are there all summer and some stay for the winter months. Birds are always with us. We see them in the cities, as well as in the country. These little friends adapt to modern buildings in an amazing way. I just hope we can leave a few trees and shrubs in the city parks where birds can continue to survive.

We can overpopulate, overbuild, and overkill until we destroy some of our natural animal habitats. The elephant is fast being destroyed by greed of people slaughtering them for their tusks and hides, which bring a good price. Some farms in India are being destroyed by elephants tramping through and eating the crops. This would be a problem. So, there has to be some check and balance between man and beast.

The wolf is being reintroduced in Yellowstone National Park, but the cattle ranchers are very disturbed about this because the wolves kill their calves. The wolf is a beautiful animal, and I hate to think of its demise, but can see the ranchers' point, too. What can we do? Maybe the wolf can be fed well in his territory and he won't venture outside the area. They only kill to survive.

The national parks have been able to preserve many forms of wildlife, but there must be a connection at the borders of these parks and the rest of the world. There are no fences around the parks, and when these animals go outside the boundary of the park, they are in dangerous territory because of hunters who just love to kill. The parks need a buffer zone. I love our national parks and would like to give more support to them. They are preserving some natural beauty for our future generations who may not see any fresh natural beauty outside of these protected areas.

We are fortunate here at Mentone to have deer, groundhogs, raccoons, wild turkeys, foxes, plenty of squirrels for our pleasure. The wild turkeys are plentiful near us. And what a sight of iridescent color when you see one in the sunlight! They were re-introduced here a few years ago, and I'm so happy that we still have them.

This is my month, or two, of hibernation. My shop is closed, and I do not go to work every day. My correspondence gets a boost as I write friends a little note. Many of them are not well and a little note to them helps a little.

We recently lost our brother-in-law, Dennis Burgess, of Plano, Texas. He was the husband of Homer's sister Mildred. I have mentioned Dennis many times. He was retired from the Air Force and from the company-EDS. Two weeks before his death, he had a check-up with his doctor and everything was fine. Then, one morning he was sitting at the table talking to his grandson, Sean, discussing Sean's joining the Air Force; and, when Sean left the room, he fell from his chair and was gone, with a massive heart attack. We flew out there with our daughter, Doreen Waters, for the funeral. It was a sad trip--just wish we had gone when Dennis could converse with us. He was a smart man whom we loved. Please remember Mildred and her family in your prayers.

We miss H.P. Goss, who has been a loving caretaker for the town of Mentone for many years. He kept things neat, the grass cut, any small repairs done, and was available for emergencies. If we needed the water or electricity turned on at Brow Park, we called H.P. He was trustworthy and dependable. You never know how much you miss someone until it's too late. H.P. was always kind and soft spoken and never seemed to complain about anything--and that's a good trait.

Life goes on. We lose friends and loved ones and gain new ones. Babies are born every day as a replacement--one generation passes and another one emerges. That's as it should be. Dennis and Mildred's daughter, Sherri, had a beautiful healthy baby daughter named Brooke, who helped everyone ease their sorrow when Dennis passed away.

Winter has us in its grip, but there is hope of an early spring, and the renewal of all things fresh and green. So, to me the hope of a fresh beginning in life after death is the faith that keeps me--a new eternal springtime.

Stop by & chat with Bernise at

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--PUBLIC NOTICE--

There will be a joint meeting
of the following committees:
Tourist and Events, Beautification,
Streets, Bridges, and Parks.
The meeting is open to the public.

C.E. Britt, Mayor of Mentone

A GENERAL MEETING OF ALL COMMITTEES WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, 7 FEBRUARY, AT 6 P.M.

Everyone is welcome at the regular meetings of the Town Council on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. The Water Board meets on the fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. We urge you to attend any and all of these meetings. These committee meetings are also open to the public.

C.E. Britt, Mayor of Mentone

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FREE! ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

The Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program offers free adult education classes in various locations throughout DeKalb, Jackson and Marshall Counties. These classes are provided to help anyone 16 years or older and officially withdrawn from school, to improve his skills in English, math, reading and GED preparation. Special assistance is available for the non-reader as well as for high school graduates who desire to brush-up. After successfully completing the General Educational Development (GED) test, one can qualify for unit service, college entrance, technical training, job advancement and other services. Call the numbers listed below for more information. There is no obligation.

DEKALB COUNTY - CLASS LOCATIONS

Cottleville Public Library
Monday 9 - 9 P.M.
Phone: 524-2302

Crossville High School
Band Room
Tuesday 6 - 9 P.M.
Phone: 528-7808

DeKalb County Career Center
Fort Payne
(Employment Office)
Tuesday, Wednesday &
Thursday 8 - 12 Noon
Tuesday & Wednesday 5 - 8 P.M.
Phone: 845-4700

Ilex High School
Tuesday & Thursday 3:30 - 6:30 P.M.
Phone: 532-2302

Northeast Alabama Comm. College
Rock Ridge, Room 227
Monday & Tuesday 9 - 12 Noon
Monday & Tuesday 5 - 9 P.M.
Phone: 638-2957 or
228-0001 ext. 330

Ruhama Jr. High School
Tuesday & Thursday 5 - 8 P.M.
Phone: 845-3377

ADULT READING CLASSES
Crossville High School
Band Room
Tuesday 6 - 9 P.M.
Phone: 528-7808

DeKalb County Career Center
Fort Payne
(Employment Office)
Tuesday 5 - 8 P.M.
Phone: 845-4700

Ilex High School
Thursday 3:30 - 6:30 P.M.
Phone: 532-2302

St. Payne First Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall
Monday & Wednesday 9 - 12 Noon
Phone: 845-0915

ENGLISH AS A 2nd LANGUAGE
DeKalb County Career Center
Fort Payne
(Employment Office)
Monday 9 - 11 A.M.
Monday & Thursday 5 - 8 P.M.
Phone: 845-4700

For additional information call:
Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program
Coordinator's Office: 638-2957 or
Your Local Board of Education Office
(8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.)

* You May Enroll At Any Time *



Groundhog Day
February 2nd

The Church News By EVELYN GRAVES



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

The Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 10 AM; Worship Service at 11 AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6 PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6 PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 8:30 AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2 PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes.

The Valley Head United Methodist Church prayer meeting is Wednesday night at 6 PM. Bible study Wednesday night at 6:30 PM. A prayer chain has been formed. Anyone who would like to share their prayer needs are invited to call Verna Livingston at 635-6350 or Mary Holleman at 635-6241, so the church may pray for them. Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday and Worship is at 10 AM.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services in the Woodmen of the World Hall in Valley Head. All are invited to attend! Sabbath School and Song Service: 9:30-10:45. Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastor - Michael Schnabelheiner.

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

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

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 114 First St. SW, Fort Payne, 845-4842, has regular Sunday services at 8 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM.

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

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

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

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

The Mount Calvary Baptist Church is truly growing, and we hope you will come visit and take part in our services - Sunday School 10 AM; worship hour - 11 AM; 'Children's Church' also at 11 AM - Sunday night at 6 PM and Wed. night at 7 PM. Everyone is welcome. Mount Calvary is located behind the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland.

Lighthouse Fellowship. Greetings, Mentone! All are welcome to our church just south of the Georgia/Alabama line on State Road 48. Our services: Sunday School - 10 AM CST; morning Worship - 11 AM CST.

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10 AM. Worship at 11AM. Wednesday Bible Study at 6 PM. 256-634-4137.

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

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

Mentone Wesleyan Community Church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 AM and worship service at 10:45 AM. Bible classes Wed. 7:00 - 7:45. Ladies' Bible study and low-impact aerobics Wed. 7:00 - 7:45. Pastor Randy Addison welcomes all!

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

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 9:45 AM each Sunday. Morning worship and Children's Church are at 11:00 AM. First Place meets in the Fellowship Hall and GAS meet at 4:30 PM. Discipleship Training and Youth Choir meet at 5:00 PM, followed by Evening Worship at 6:00 PM. On Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Children's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall, the Youth have Bible Study and Recreation Time. Adults meet for Bible Study and Prayer.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church services are Sunday at 10:30 AM, with a time for fellowship after the services. Sunday School is at 9:30 AM. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any events or services. Everyone is welcome to join in worship services or special events.

The Mentone United Methodist Church services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. The Pastor is Linda Tucker.

The Bistro



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GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

As I write this [in December], there seems to be one dominant thought, and it has no direct bearing on gardening hints at this time of the year—it is the weather and what is in store for us for the next month or so. So it kind of goes with gardening too, as one without the other does not seem feasible.

The big Q plaguing us is probably what kind of Christmas will we have? Will it be a dark with no power? or a white Christmas? Hopefully, it will be the lesser of two evils; but according to the old timer's, it is going to be a cold, cold winter, as they are saying it's about time to hit now after three years of such warm winters.

Two weeks ago we had a wonderful surprise, as it snowed for the second time this month here on Lookout Mountain. What was so startling was when I drove off the mountain into the valley there was not a bit of snow to be seen except for what was piled up on my car. It looked so out of this world when I drove back up the mountain later that day, the snow was still there covering all the old buildings and grounds in Mentone. It is something I am going to miss awfully when it's time for us to leave the place we have called home since 1990. My boys and I are off to a new start in life with the coming of the new year, that is if all goes well with the sale of our farm. We have made tentative plans to visit my sister in Colorado first, then go on to Australia where we will settle, as all my family members are there. We are hoping to spend next Christmas with a real family gathering, which we have never had since coming to live in the United States over twenty years ago. Every Christmas since then has just been us, never any other family members, so we really have something to look forward to for next Christmas. In the meantime, we have to think about getting through this one first.

So probably, in essence, this might be the last gardening article I will write, that is if *The Groundhog* members still want to hear about gardening but from Down Under. I will leave that all up to the heads at *The Groundhog*.

Now, knowing that, what do we have for the gardening column? A lot of times I had wished that I had heard from our readers about what in particular they would want to know more about, whether it was about gardening, climate, pesticides, or anything that was directly involved with our lives here as rural country folks. So, for the most part, I have had to just wing it and hope for the best. It became harder when I began working full time in town, then I did not have much time left to keep in touch with the people and nature here on Lookout.

Quite a few of us here are taken with our feathered friends, and I came across a wonderful tip to keep them happy and well fed during the winter months—which are not long here, thank goodness. Grains, like wheat and oats, serve a dual purpose when used as outdoor decor, filling in bare spots and serving as food for our feathered buddies, treating them to a winter feast and also serving as an elegant decor.

To decorate, partially fill big empty pots or window boxes with sand, then insert bundles of wheat, add more sand around the bundles to hold them upright, then insert more wheat. Finish by wrapping a garland of mulo, millet and wheat stems wired together.

More for great grains, and I kind of believe in having some real wheat hanging up in your home somewhere, as superstition has it that if you hang some up, your home will never be without bread. Hang sheaves of wheat and oats on doors or tie them with wide ribbons to posts or trees. If you like, you could also trim the chervies with snacks for your birds such as berry, popcorn or cranberry garlands, dried orange slices. Also, cut stale bread with cookie cutters, then use some toothpicks or sticks to help them stick to the sheaves.

Folks...now don't forget to eat those hog jowls and black-eyed peas for health, wealth and happiness in the coming new year!



THE MOON LAKE: MEMO

The Newsletter of Moon Lake Elementary School, Mentone, Alabama

PTO Agenda Features

Gym and Playground Improvements

Moon Lake's Parent-Teacher Organization plans to contribute additional improvements in the school's gym and playground facilities. These improvements will enhance and finalize PTO projects that have been underway for several years.

The entry sidewalk, gym foyer, court floor, and wall carpeting were added to the existing structure during the past two years, dramatically improving its beauty and functionality. Superintendent Richard Land and the DeKalb County Board of Education are providing new bleachers—to be installed later this month—which will greatly increase seating capacity and comfort. The PTO will conclude its focus on the gym by installing concession stand cabinets and a new side entrance door during the next few months.

The school's array of wooden playground structures will also undergo enhancement. Constructed in the spring of 1994 by parent volunteers and with PTO funding, the facility has recently been professionally inspected. Several changes to create a better playground have been recommended; these should be completed before the return of warm weather. Our students and staff appreciate the heartfelt concern and generous support shown by the PTO. Everyone benefits greatly by the organization's many contributions through the years. Moon Lake Elementary School and its PTO are prime examples of cooperative effort advancing educational endeavors and making a difference in the lives of many children. We encourage the involvement of every Moon Lake stakeholder!

Officer Promotes

Campus Safety and Positive Relationships

DeKalb County Deputy Sheriff Jillian Bailey serves as Moon Lake's School Resource Officer. She is one of nine officers hired through funding provided by a federal grant called COPS (Community-Oriented Policing Services). They are employed at all the county schools, helping to ensure safety and crime prevention while building productive relationships with school stakeholders.

Since this is a newly created position, Officer Bailey wondered how a deputy sheriff's presence on campus would be received. However, she reports that "the students and faculty made me feel welcome from the first day I stepped on campus."

Officer Bailey is a recent criminal justice graduate of Jacksonville State University; currently she is pursuing a Masters degree in public administration. She lives in Fayette and enjoys outdoor activities ranging from hunting to water skiing. While in high school, Officer Bailey played guard on the Fayette Lady Red Devils basketball team during three consecutive years as state champions!

Did you know?

Six members of Moon Lake Elementary School's current staff have viewed the school from the perspectives of both an employee and a student. Bus driver Billy Cash, CNP assistant manager Michele Kincer, third-grade teacher Jennifer Gorham, first-grade teacher Karen Prestwood, counselor Linda Lawton, and principal Bill Berry were all Moon Lake students when they were children. If you want some historical insight, just ask one of them!

Winter is here, a new calendar year has begun, and today is already the halfway point of the school calendar! Now we start looking toward and preparing for the Stanford Achievement Tests, which will be given to students in grades three through six during the first week of April.

As we continue delivering quality learning opportunities and instructive practice tests, we encourage all parents and other caregivers to support our preparatory efforts. Your affirmation will help give your children clarity and confidence to do their best on these important tests.

Moon Lake to Become a Literacy Demonstration Site

Big news! Moon Lake Elementary School has been chosen by the state Department of Education to participate in the Alabama Reading Initiative, a cutting edge program that stresses innovative strategies toward teaching reading more efficiently and effectively across the curriculum. The result is a school reading program that incorporates varied approaches built upon basic skills and geared toward fluency, comprehension, and application.

As announced in the most recent Moon Lake Memo, an application had been submitted in the competitive process toward becoming part of this growing movement. Moon Lake's staff has visited several involved schools, known as "Literacy Demonstration Sites."

Our acceptance means that all instructional staff and instructional support staff will attend an intensive two-week training session next summer. This will provide opportunities for gaining valuable insight into planning reading strategies specific to Moon Lake's needs.

CONGRATULATIONS...

to Child Nutrition Program workers
Bynda Hopper and Michele Kincer
on the school cafeteria's
health inspection score of 100—Moon Lake's
third perfect score in recent memory!

School Staff Continues Growth

Two additional staff members have been added to Moon Lake's instructional family.

Mary Hawkins works as an aide in Karen Prestwood's first-grade classroom. A Jackson County native, she has lived in Ider for many years. Before coming to Moon Lake she worked as a Certified Nurse Assistant and, more recently, as a substitute teacher. Mrs. Hawkins has a son in college and a daughter in high school, loves to read, and teaches teenagers in Sunday school. "Kids have a big place in my heart," she says.

Jennifer Douglas serves as an aide in Phyllis Sarratt's kindergarten. Originally from Pennsylvania, she moved from Tennessee to Henagar last April. Mrs. Douglas ran a home-based day care before moving to Alabama. The mother of two elementary-aged sons, she enjoys reading, shopping, and fishing. Mrs. Douglas' sister is an actress who appeared in *Saved by the Bell* and *Jerry Maguire*. She also played a mermaid in the movie *Hook*!

CONGRATULATIONS SECOND GRADERS!

The second-grade students won the Camp Champs competition during the second nine weeks of school, narrowly beating first graders by a single point! They will choose a special reward for their victory.

Classes earn points in five categories: Meal Manners, Tidy Classrooms, Attendance Experts, Beautiful Behavior, and Clean Campus. We appreciate the dedicated efforts of every class toward earning as many points as possible!

Make Note of These Upcoming Events!

Monday, Feb. 5: assembly @ 7:45 a.m.
Monday, Feb. 12: mid-term reports go home
Tuesday, Feb. 13: PTO meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 19: Presidents' Day holiday
Wednesday, March 2: spring pictures
Monday, March 5: assembly @ 7:45 a.m.
Monday, March 12: report cards go home
Tuesday, March 13: PTO meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

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(1) IMPRESSIVE RUSTIC CONTEMPORARY rises before you as you drive down the driveway. Main house features 3 floors, each with a bedroom and bath, living area, office space and/or sitting rooms. Decks and porches surround the house with magnificent views of the valley and mountains. A 2-car garage with 1 bedroom apartment also sits on the 2.7 acres. All for \$215,000.



(2) WHAT A MOUNTAIN RETREAT SHOULD BE! Three bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 sitting rooms, sunroom, dining room and kitchen with breakfast nook, pine floors and walls. All this on more than 2 acres of elite brow tract property. \$269,300.



(3) GET OUT OF TOWN in this one bedroom, one bath log home in Mentone situated on one acre. This home has a living-dining-kitchen combo, pine floors, and the open floor plan gives you a studio-like feel. This could be the perfect home for you—Call today! \$48,500.



(4) COMPLETELY FURNISHED and ready to move into! This cute country cottage offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, rock fireplace and pine floors, add a wet weather branch and 2 wooded lots and you have a great weekend get-away for \$78,500.



(5) SPREAD OUT ON FORTY ACRES in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home. Selling living room, and open concept living-dining-kitchen. The location is private with lots of trees, just minutes from town. \$102,000.



(6) LOOKING FOR SPACE? This home offers 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, living room and great room, front and back porches on 77 acres. Beautiful rolling front yard surrounded by large hardwoods all with privacy of a dead end street. \$299,000.



(7) COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST! Enjoy the quiet serenity of this 3 bedroom 2 bath brick home in excellent condition. Large great room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen, front and back porches. Outdoor living and garage, garden spot, and dog pen. Lush beautiful trees grace the 3.29 acre yard. Located in Hamletville with over 400' of paved road frontage. Additional acreage available. \$106,000.



(8) ESCAPE THE MADNESS—Just minutes from tranquility this rustic retreat offers 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, a studio room, 2-story living area with fireplace, wood floors and lots of windows with great views from the brow of Mentone. Built by an artist, this house has tons of charm. \$179,500.



(9) COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES ON HWY 147. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath modular home comes with a fully equipped kitchen, living room, dining room, sunroom, central heat and air, 20x30 shed/garage and a new landscaped yard on over 1 acre. Call today for more details. \$65,000.



(10) BE FIRST! You can be the first homeowner in this new subdivision on DeSoto Parkway in Mentone. This new construction is now complete with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas fireplace, central heat and air, storage building, and metal roof. All bedrooms have a personal balcony and this new home is sitting on a large corner lot. Call us today for your appointment. \$109,900.



(11) WHAT MORE COULD YOU ASK FOR? With a private setting and a bargain price, you'll love this 3 bedroom 2 bath home with one acre for only \$62,500. Wood burning fireplace, 2 outbuildings, plus additional acreage available.



(12) SECLUSION JUST OFF DESOTO PARKWAY. 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths - mountain stone fireplace - CHIA - 1.9 acres of woods, wonderful rock formations. \$137,500.



(13) MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL AND CALDWELL'S RESTAURANT. Historical landmark in downtown Mentone currently being run as a bed and breakfast. Restaurant seats 100+ people. Great for weddings, receptions, conferences and more possibilities. For more information, please call 206-943-0000. Reduced to \$499,900.



(14) TAKE A CLOSER LOOK...This custom built home offers 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large eat-in area kitchen, entertaining-sized living room with fireplace and a multi-purpose basement that could serve as a guest room, office, or hobby room. The rock and wood construction blends home and nature all on 2.5 acres. Once you see it, you'll want to own it. Call today for your showing. \$225,000.



(15) TAKE A HEALTHY LOOK AT COUNTRY LIVING—Breathe the clean air at this immaculate split level home featuring a large live-in size master bedroom, eat-in kitchen with screened-in porch, 2 car carport, plus a separate garage with bonus room upstairs—all on 4 acres for \$124,500.



(16) PUT THIS HOUSE ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST! Custom built log home features spacious living room with vaulted ceiling and huge rock fireplace, large eat-in kitchen with ceramic tile, 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, wood floors, tongue and groove walls, loft, and a large covered back porch. All this plus a stocked pond situated on a private 8 acres. Call today! Priced at only \$267,500.

OTHER LISTINGS

- (17) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.
- (18) PRIME PROPERTY - 6 acres on DeSoto Parkway ready for developing. Almost 600 feet of road frontage. Great opportunity! \$49,900.
- (19) 160 ACRES OF NATURAL BEAUTY on Lookout Mountain—just minutes from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. Ready for your dreams—hunting club—weekend retreat or development. Sold as a whole only \$2150 per acre.
- (20) A RARE FIND - building lot inside of Mentone's city limits. Wonderful rock formations. \$15,000.
- (21) FOR LAND'S SAKE! Just listed 4.3 +/- acres on DeSoto Parkway. Great building site for your new home. Only \$48,500.
- (22) BUILD HERE!! We have just listed (3) Five-acre tracts just off DeSoto Parkway! If you've been looking for acreage to build on, give us a call today! \$44,500 each, or all for \$99,500.
- (23) GO JUMP IN THE RIVER. Little River that is! Just listed 34+ acres on the West Fork of Little River. No restrictions. Call today. \$60,000.
- (24) JUST OFF DESOTO PARKWAY - 4.3 acres with large rock formations and a winter view. \$59,500.
- (25) COME VIEW THIS GREAT MENTONE HOME. Privately located and close to the park. Vaulted ceiling living room with fireplace, loft room which could be used as 3rd bedroom, fenced back yard and beautiful rock formations surround the home. Nest kitchen, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, and double garage. \$139,000.
- (26) WAKE UP EVERY MORNING LOOKING AT THE SUNRISE from the East Brow of Lookout Mountain. This 2 bedroom, 2 bath home offers a large great room with vaulted ceiling, wood floors and gas fireplace, an eat-in kitchen with island and skylight looking out around the sunroom and deck. Relax with nature or go fishing in the 13-acre lake adjacent to the home. You can have all of this for \$150,000. sold.
- (27) WEEKEND OR WEEKLY RENTAL available. 3 bedrooms and 2 baths will accommodate 8 people. For more information, call Susan Collins.

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(1) MOUNTAIN CHATEAU: In quiet neighborhood, Cloudland, Ga. Open Great Room FRP, 2 Bdrm, master loft suite, CHA, 2 full baths, wood accents. 16x15 screened porch, New decking, partial basement, 1 car garage. FURNISHED. \$155,000.



(2) HUNTER'S PARADISE Rustic hunting Cabin. 700 sq ft. Living room, Loft, Kitchen w/stove, frig. Gas Heat, power. Outhouse. Located joining Little River National Preserve, Wild Life Management, and sits on 5 acres in Canyon View Forest. \$52,500.



(3) ADIRONDACK STYLE (1800'S) LOG LODGE sitting on 2 private acres in downtown Mentone. Complete with Dog Trot separating the Kitchen with Fireplace and Living Area with Fireplace. Unique 4 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Screened Breezeways, and Porches. Wood Floors, and Tin Roof. Separate Guest Cottage. City Water, along with Hand pump Well. Step back in time with this One-of-a-kind FURNISHED HOME. Reduced to \$197,000.



(4) SPECTACULAR VIEW LIKE THIS COMES ONCE IN A BLUE MOON. EAST BROW, No industry below, just wide open spaces as far as the eye can see. 100x436 ft. wooded, secluded, but on paved rd. Cloudland area, GA. \$35,000.



(5) CUSTOM DESIGNED LOG HOME, BUILT ON THE RUINS OF AN HISTORICAL GIST MILL. 5.8 acres with Gorge Mill Creek and Waterfall. Approx. 3000 sq. ft. 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, "OPEN FLOOR" plan, Rock Fireplace, Kitchen w/oven-Air appliances, eat-in Bar. Pine Plank and Tile Floors. Central Heat, 10x49 Screen/Glassed Porch, 2 car Garage, out buildings. Also 16x50 Mobile Home (guest cottage) with sun room and screened porch and all appliances. Most unique property on Lookout Mtn. - Ga. APPT. ONLY \$228,000. Drastic Reduction \$208,000.



(6) WILD RIVER COMMUNITY (2 Tracts left). 220x300 on the East Fork Little River. Secluded and Scenic, with pools and Rapids. \$25,000 each. One-3 acre tract \$56,000.



(7) GET AWAY FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF CITY LIFE and enjoy the peaceful serenity of Little River Canyon. BONUS-2 Bdrm, 2 bath home, 1-1/2 story with open Great Room, Stone fireplace, CHA, 7 acres with creek and waterfall. Located Canyon View Forest. "WOW!" \$148,000.



(8) REMODELED HOME IN RURAL MENTONE, 14.5 acres with over 1,000 ft. on the WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER. 3 Bdrm 2 Bath new addition screened porch, large Deck. All appliances stay, CHA over 1400 sq ft. \$175,000.



(9) MENTONE AREA. Neat and Clean Split Level Home. 1,700 sq ft, 3 Bdrm 2 Bath, CHA, 1/2 basement and 1 car garage. Workshop/Toolshed, City Water, and over an acre with a view of the distant ridges across Lookout Mtn. \$114,900.



(10) HIGHWAY 117S MENTONE, Older Home, Large Live-In Bedroom, Bath with Walk-In Shower. 38x24 Living Room, Handicap access, Two rooms in Basement, Detached Garage, City Water. Over 1 acre with Spring. \$47,900.



OTHER PROPERTIES

(14) LAKE LANUSAGE AREA. 8.4 acres of wooded property, with a view of the lake across County Rd. 637. City Water available with over 800 ft. of paved rd. frontage, partial drive. A wonderful area to build. \$34,000. SOLD

(15) DOWNTOWN Cloudland Built in 1926, 3 Bdrm, 2 bath. Two story Home with Tin roof, living with fireplace, screened porch, all new wiring, city water. \$59,000.

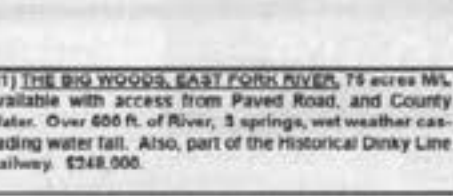
(16) MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES. A River runs through it! Direct access from Lookout Mountain Parkway on Ala. Hwy 117. Minutes from Mentone and Cloudland, GA. 5 to 7 acre Riverfront tracts starting at \$27,500. 5 to 15 acre wooded stream tracts from \$21,000. Restricted covenants apply.

(17) THREE STATES CAN BE SEEN. from these Breathtaking West Brow (Sunset) Tracts. On Hwy 189, Lookout Mtn. Pkwy., Dade County, Ga. Just Minutes from Chattanooga, TN (#12) 13 acres \$70,000. (#13) 10.3 Acres \$65,000. (#14) 5.1 acres \$35,000. Restrictions Apply.

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

(19) ONE AND ONLY LITTLE RIVER CANYON. 3 to 5 acre tracts overlooking Canyon, some with Waterfalls. Property adjoins Wild Life Management Land. Many tracts to choose from and all on Private gate access. Point and Bluff sections now available. Very Secluded. \$25,000 to \$40,000. Appointment ONLY.

(20) LAUREL CREEK LAKES SUB. LOT #19 - 1.4 acre partially cleared, level, wooded. \$10,500. Lot #28 - 1.75 acre, power, drive, well installed. \$16,000. Common area for hiking, fishing and canoeing. Mentone area.



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



(12) A ROOM WITH A VIEW Adorable Cottage on the BROW, downtown "MENTONE". 3 bdrm, 1-1/2 Bath newly remodeled, with Rock Fireplace, hardwood floors, open living room area, and new Tin Roof. \$125,000, furnished.



(13) INDIAN TRAIL ESTATES, Building Lots on the West Brow, above N. Ft. Payne. County Rd, City water access, view lots starting at \$10,000; wooded lots starting at \$6,000.

TOO MANY PROPERTIES TO LIST THEM ALL.
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Want to sell or looking to buy that special place in the mountains?

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Happy Birthday

Gage Alec Foster

Gage Alec Foster was born Jan. 4, 1994. He is 7 years old. His parents are Cheryl and David Baker, Owners of The Shed. Pictured with Gage is his brother, Robert Baker. Gage is a joy to our lives and also everyone in the community. If you are ever sad, you can count on him to cheer you up. Gage is also a very spiritual child that just up lifts you with joy, not because of his condition but because he is an angel. We just want him to know how special he is to everyone, especially his Mom, Dad and little brother, Robert.

Gage, we indeed Love You!!!

Happy Birthday, Mom, Dad and Little Robert



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NEWS FROM THE SHED

By David and Cheryl Baker

Where do I begin? As a grower of Roses, Perennials, & Herbs, many people have asked me to share some wonderful tips and information on Roses, Perennials, & Herbs. Alex Cooley, owner of H.C. Properties, has quite an area to take care of. Alex has beautiful gardens on his property, and, needless to say, due to the extremely large area that has to be taken care of, shrubs, perennials and roses must be drought tolerant, and handle lots of wind, ice, the heat indexes and droughts we have been having. It is a challenge to get anything to really grow on this mountain due to extreme winds, damaging heat, ice, rock, and poor soil. So, it is always a pleasure to share wonderful information or thoughts with you. The reason I chose Alex is because he is a good example to use when it comes to master gardening. Every variety of perennials is tested there to see if it will grow here and see if it is a true perennial. That means handle rocky conditions, windy conditions, drought conditions, ice conditions, and clay soil—those are our conditions here on the mountain. A reminder on perennials: when you are looking up perennials or on the web or speaking to someone, you must first find out what its origin is. If it is somewhat further north than your region, it will need to be protected from the afternoon sun. Which means it will take some sun but needs to be protected from the afternoon heat, due to the heat from the north is not as high in humidity as the heat here.

Roses, where do I begin? Why everyone loves them! If you are truly a rose lover or have the time, Hybrid Teas produce large long stem blooms. They seem to founder for lots of people in our area because they do not take the time to prepare a well-drained fertile bed. Don't take this the wrong way folks, but I have seen Hybrid Teas thrive up here. If you're having problems growing Hybrid Teas, please come in, David will be more than happy to give out his knowledge on growing roses successfully on this mountain. There are some minor things to growing Hybrid Teas, such as they need to be fed weekly, sprayed with fungicides, but the importance is in the dirt and it being well fertile. Hybrid teas are everblooming and make great cut flowers, but they do need some TLC. However there are new varieties on the market that are drought tolerant, and do very well in our climate and are very hardy here and meet all the recommendations to grow in our area. They are: Floribundas, Grandifloras, and most tolerable varieties are Carefree Roses. However, they do not have the large multi colored and long stem blooms that you get with hybrid teas, but are disease resistant and withhold droughts well and also bloom all year long when pruned. As I said, we have seen Hybrid Tea Roses thrive here. They love the heat. The varieties that are grown here come from Tyler, Texas, where it is over 100 degrees during the summer and have extremely bad droughts there. It is all in the dirt and what you give your roses. Many people feel we should share this information with

you, due to their success in not just Roses but perennials and herbs as well. Each month from here out I will provide a list to you on Perennials, Roses, and Herbs that live here. List of Full Sun Perennials and Drought Tolerant Perennials, also new Perennials tested in the last few years that will live here.

Achilles- Yarrow

Artemisa Plantaginea-Plantain thrif

Artemisa Absinthium-Wormwood, Silver King.

Asclepia Tuberosa-Butterfly Weed

Belamcanda Chinensis-Blackberry Lily

Chelone Lyoni-Turtle Head 2000 AARS Winner

Chrysanthemum x Montfolium

Chrysanthemum x Superbum-Shasta Daisy

Chrysogonum Chrysanthemum-Green & Gold

Coreopsis-Early Sunrise, Moonbeam

Crocsmia-Lucifer, Curtonus.

Dianthus-Sweet Williams, Bath Pink, Barbatus

Echinacea-Purple, White, Pink

Euphorbia Myrsinites-Myrtle Euphorbia

Eupatorium Hadry Argeratum

Gaillardia x grandiflora-Blanket Flower

Goblin 2000 AARS Winner

Geum Quellyow-Mrs. Bradshaw Poppy

Guara Lindheimeri-Gaura Whirling

Butterflies 2000 AARS Winner

Heliopsis Helianthoides-Sunflower 2000 AARS Winner

Hemerocallis-Daylily

Hylotelephium Sedum-Autumn Joy

Iberis Sempervirens-Candy Tuff 2000 AARS Winner

Kniphofia-Red Hot Poker, & Torch Lily

Lavandula-Quantstead 2000 AARS Winner

Liriope Muscari-Lily Turf

Lychris Coronaria-Rose Campion

Malva Moschata-M. Subernia, M. Alcea

Monarda-Bee Balm Not All Full Sun

Oenothera-Missouriensis, Speciosa, Caespita

Perovskia Atipicifolia-Russian Sage

Phlox Nivalis-Trailing Phlox

Penstemon-Barbatus, Campanulatus

or wild snap dragon

Physostegia Virginiana-Obedient Plant

Ratibida Columnifera-Mexican Cone Flower, 2000 Winner

Rosemary-Arpe

Ruta Gravelolens-Rue

Salvias-Azurea, Silver Sage, Meadow Sage,

Lady In Red

Salvia-Strata

Sedum- Stone Crop, Spectabile, Vera Jameson,

Siebold Stokesia-Stokes Aster

Valerian-Valerianacea

Verbascum-Mullein

Verbena-Bonariensis, Homestead Only

Full Sun Hardy Perennials Only

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A Friendly Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

January and February,
Both so contrary,
How do your breezes blow?
You hint of Spring, the Robins sing,
Then you bring ice and snow!

That's how the weather has been "see-saw" weather, up and down! There are lots of cases of sinusitis and colds.

Most people have forgotten Christmas and packed it away with all the trimmings and baubles--so Christmas news is scarce. We had a happy Christmas, with twenty-two family members present for Christmas dinner, a beautiful tree, and many nice gifts.

Ed Ringer spent Christmas with his nephew, David Ringer, and Susan in Florence, Miss. On Dec. 30, he attended the wedding of David and Susan's daughter, Amanda, and Brad Pigott at the Wells Methodist Church in Jackson, Miss.

Chief Petty Officer, Douglas Jones, and daughter, Kendra, spent Christmas week with his parents, John and Jean Jones. All of them also visited Jean's parents, Clyde and Lorene Holcomb, at Hackleburg.

On December 23, Christmas dinner and fellowship were enjoyed at the home of Ted and Mary Holleman by Adelaide Biddle and her grandson, Josh Carmichael, from Dallas, Ga.; Betty, Red, Jim, and Michelle Adams of Gadsden; Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis of Rainsville; John Holleman of Huntsville; and E. T. Holleman of Valley Head.

On Christmas Day, Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis of Rainsville, served a wonderful Christmas dinner for their family--Robert, Marla Ellis, their son and daughter (Drew and Laura); Paul and Kelly Ellis and son Tyler. Mary, Ted and John Holleman enjoyed the day with them also.

The Carolers from Valley Head Methodist Church, Jeff, Melinda & Amelia Adkins, Doug and Dael Hoyt visited several families of the church during and after Christmas. We enjoyed their singing and the cookies they brought with them.

Bill Blackburn's cousins, Sarah Padgett, from Gadsden, and Jessie Mae Singer, from Greenville, SC, spent the day recently with him and Dot. They brought Dot a dozen red roses. It is good to hear that Dot is much better. Also visiting her has been Maureen Hammond, from Rome, and others.

Evelyn Clark and Anna Daniel spent Christmas day with Evelyn's son, Loy Clark and his wife, Margaret, in Birmingham. Their son, Daniel, was there, and son, Jeremy, and his son, Scott, came from Washington, DC, to be with them.

The Sunshine Club had their Christmas party (in the form of a covered dish luncheon) at the home of Billie Harper, Dec. 14. Present were Ann Wright, Ruth Pickett, Estie Palmer, Lillian Pickett, Evelyn Clark, Anna Daniel, Verence Hawkins, Sue Clark, Joy Hurt, Lillie Bowden, Louise Whitten, Beverly Wright, and me. The house was beautifully decorated and a bountiful feast was enjoyed. Gifts were taken for unwed mothers.

Brenda and Buddy Burnett enjoyed a weekend visit of their daughter, Kim, and her husband, Anson Keller, and especially their little son, Carson, age 3-1/2 months. They live in Tuscaloosa.

Walter and Christine Brooks spend time with his brother, Floyd Brooks at Henagar and Christine's sister, Jimmie Clements, at Rainsville. Both are seriously ill.

Hazel Johnston and daughter, Kay Rhea, from Ringgold, Ga., spent the day, Jan. 20, with Sadie Cooper.

Lillie Bowden and Karen Freeman took Karen's daughter, Katie, to Murfreesboro, TN, to enroll at Middle Tennessee University, recently.

The Fort Payne Baptist Church had a "Sanctity of Life Service" at the church, Jan. 21. It was a memorial service for babies killed. There have been about 40 million since abortion

was legalized. Jan. 27, at Northside Baptist Church, they erected crosses representing the babies. They strive to reach mothers involved and give them renewed hope. Rev. Bryan Allen, former pastor of Valley Head Baptist Church, was the speaker. He spent the night with Jean and John Jones and attended the church service and special dinner at the Valley Head Baptist Church on Sunday, Jan. 22, honoring Dr. and Mrs. Jenkins' birthdays.

Welcome to the world -- Daniel McKinley Gray, weighing 7 lbs, 4 oz, was born to Dwight and Holly Gray at Hutcheson Hospital at Fort Oglethorpe, on Dec. 23. Proud grandparents are Charles and Amanda Gray of Valley Head, and Earl and Estelle Johnson of Summerville, GA.

Welcome to the world, also, Audrey Grace Hope, weighing 5 lb, 6 oz, born to Wendy and Jeremy Hope Monday, Jan. 22 at Womens East Hospital in Chattanooga. The proud grandparents are Daryl and Roma Hope of Mentone and Joey and Kay Hyde of Fort Payne.

Bessie Wilkes is recovering from surgery. We hope she will have a quick and complete recovery.

The Sunshine Club met Thursday, Jan. 25, at the lovely new home of Lillie Bowden. Those present were Bethye Betts, Sue Clark, Joy Hurt, Ruth Pickett, Anna Daniel, Evelyn Clark, Billie Harper, Jewel Shelburne, Lillie Bowden, Eloise Brown and Amber McPherson, director of The Way Home. She expressed appreciation to the club for the gifts we sent the home Christmas and made a very interesting talk about the home and the wonderful work they are doing for unwed mothers, giving them hope for a better life.

Welcome to the neighborhood to Trebia Cordell who has moved to her home near Head Springs.

Elliott Yamada received the following note, dated Jan. 17, 2001, from Robert G. Khayat, Chancellor of The University of Mississippi. "Dear Elliott: Congratulations on your excellent performance during the 2000 Fall Semester. Your hard work and academic efforts have resulted in your being named to the Chancellor's Honor Roll. At 3:00 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12, 2001, we will host a reception in the Lobby of Martindale Student Services Center to honor you and others who have achieved this level of academic performance.

"In maintaining such a high standard of excellence, you have honored the University, the community, those who support you in your academic pursuits, and yourself. Your Ole Miss family salutes you on a job well done."

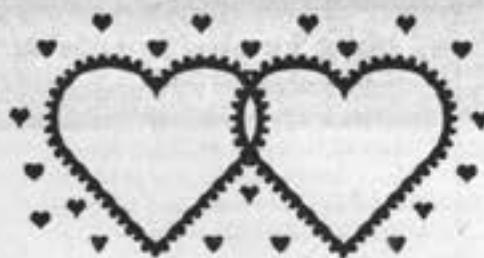
His sister, Camilla, is also an outstanding student at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. She has thirteen credits toward her degree. They are Maureen Hammond's grandchildren.

Congratulations to them and all other achievers and graduates! Keep up the good work!

Barry Brown suffered four broken ribs and a punctured lung in a hard fall Jan. 28. He spent Sunday night and Monday in Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga.

Glen Carden collapsed at work and is having tests. Keep him in your prayers.

Sincere sympathy to all who have lost loved ones and get well wishes to all those who are sick. I hope you have a quick and complete recovery and may everyone have the best year ever!



Happy Valentines Day from
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Winning Essay: Collierville's Unique Christmas

By Kirsten Darby

Once upon a timeless square,
Hoping that Christmas soon will be there,
Children await a yuletide event
Above all other entertainment.
Living Windows line the streets,
Depicting scenes of Christmas feats.
They frolic and dance across the lanes,
Lined with holly and candy-canes.
All of a sudden, at six, I believe
It's time to go and light the tree.
The immense cedar rises to the night
Its twirling lights made a wonderful sight
Playing his part, once at High Tea,
Is Gerald Dickens, seen for a very small fee.
All comes together, each playing a part
In making Collierville a unique sort of art.

From The Independent Paper of Collierville, Tenn.

Oh Little Town of Collierville was submitted by Kirsten Darby, an 8th grader at Schilling Farms Middle School, who submitted the winning essay on "What Makes Christmas in Collierville Unique?" She assisted Santa Claus in lighting the town tree, arrived with Santa aboard the "Hutton Hitch" and also received a \$200 savings bond from BanCorp South."

Kirsten read her poem as part of the school band's concert and Christmas Program. Her sister, Sharon Elise, won a medal and area prize recently for a poster and for outstanding 4-H Club work. She is a talented artist.

Their parents are Robin and Ray Darby of Collierville. Their grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Warren Darby and the late Larry and Eldonna Brown Root of Pasadena, MD. Eloise Brown of Valley Head is their great grandmother.

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New Year

The old year is weary and bent with care
Because of the burdens he has had to bear--
Wars, floods, quakes and disease,
Automobile and air catastrophes;
Now all he asks is that his worries cease
That he be allowed to depart in peace.

New Year trips in, jaunty and gay,
Unworned--he thinks life is all play;
Old Father Time looks on with a smile--
Knowing he'll learn in a short while,
That he's just another year of man's life,
Beset with his joys, troubles, and strife.

May this year's burdens be light
As all strive for happiness with all our might.
Strive to uphold the right and banish wrong,
Stress priorities where they should belong.
Use wisely the gift of time the New Year brings
For peace, happiness, and better things.

Each moment is precious, not will it return,
Make the most of it, strive 'til you earn
Completeness and know the task is well done;
Then there will be no regret at the years' setting sun.
Only satisfaction for a year well spent--
We can feel successful and be content.

—Eloise Brown



Happy Birthday

Major Frost

Major Frost celebrated his 2nd birthday on Nov. 12th, with a John Deere party. Major is the son of Wesley and Tammy Frost. He is the grandson of Danny and Sible Hopper and Diaz and Pearl Frost of Henagar.

Joshua Bruce Hughes became the 13th Eagle from Boy Scout Troop 106 in Mentone



Joshua Bruce Hughes

Joshua Bruce Hughes, son of Bruce and Connie Hughes of Mentone, has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Joshua completed his Eagle Board of Review on December 3, 2000, becoming the 13th Eagle from Boy Scout Troop 106. Joshua's achievement will be recognized at an Eagle Court of Honor planned for Saturday, February 10, at 6:30 p.m., in Jim Berry Hall.

Joshua is 15 years old and is a Sophomore at Fort Payne High School. He has been active in Troop 106 since joining in the fall of 1996. He has served as Den Chief for Pack 106 for all of that time, as well as holding various other leadership positions in the troop. He is currently serving his second term as Senior Patrol Leader.

Joshua has received various honors and awards during his scouting career, including the James A. Berry Strength of Character Award in May of 2000, the Den Chief Service Award in the fall of 2000, and became a member of The Order Of the Arrow in the spring of 1999.

He attended Junior Leader Training in the spring of 1999 at Comer Scout Reservation and has used the skills he acquired in the past year serving on staff for Summer Camp, Comer Scout Reservation, in the position of office clerk, Cub. Haunted Weekend, six sessions at Comer in October, and the Scout Enhancement Training program at Camp Red Mill in December.

Joshua chose to organize a community blood drive for his Eagle Project. He would like to thank everyone who participated in this project and everyone who has supported him in his quest for the rank of Eagle. He and his family would like to extend an invitation to all his friends and family to attend his Eagle Court of Honor.

Public Service Announcement

For information on our free spay and neuter program for your pets, call Lookout Mountain Animal Rescue (LMAR) at 706-734-0812. Clinic conveniently located in Menlo, Georgia. LMAR is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in the State of Georgia.



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Rom. 12:9

The word dissimulation means deceit, pretense, hypocrisy. We think of February 14 as a time to show love, but don't let it be pretense, let it be real love from the heart. Many around us are hungry for a loving word or deed.

Happy Valentine's Day!!

Students have chance to design state's quarter

Gov. Don Siegelman has announced a statewide competition among Alabama Schools to help select a design to be minted on the state's new quarter. As part of the national "50 States Quarters Program," the theme of Alabama's quarter will be "Education: Link to the Past, Gateway to the Future." Every public and private school in Alabama may submit three designs per grade.

"I am proud that Alabama's involvement in this program will encourage students to use their creativity while also challenging them to learn more about our great state's history," Siegelman said. "I encourage all Alabama students to participate in this process."

Schools may select designs to be submitted from individual, groups or school competitions of their own design. Students who are homeschooled may submit designs directly to the Alabama Department of Education. All designs submitted for judging must express the education theme in some way and adhere to the following national guidelines. Designs must display:

- A dignity befitting the nation's coinage;
- No inscriptions of controversial subjects that are likely to offend;
- No depictions of specific commercial, private, educational, civic, religious, sports or other organizations whose membership is not universal; and
- No head and shoulder portrait of any kind.

Alabama became the nation's 22nd state on Dec. 14, 1819. The state's new quarter will be minted in 2003, after Illinois and before Maine, Missouri and Arkansas. Alabama's quarter will be produced at U.S. mints in Philadelphia and Denver.

-PUBLIC NOTICE--

MENTONE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Meeting dates for 2001

March 15 June 14
September 20 December 20

Other special or called meetings
will be posted as required.

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

-PUBLIC NOTICE--

BEFORE YOU DIG...

Alabama state law requires that, when engaging in any type of excavation activities, you must first notify the underground facility owners prior to the start of excavation.

