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THE

GROUNDHOG

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Volume 15, No.1 and 2

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

January and February 1997

A HUMBLE BEGINNING

By Evelyn Graves

In the 1800s, the Humble family settled in the Lookout Chapel community near Valley Head across from Roger's Station, which was a country store and bus station at that time. The family came from Kentucky to this area. Margaret, the oldest child, married a McSpadden. John Perry Humble was the second child, and he married Harriet Saphronia Ellis Hicks. Melinda married Ben Phillips; Marion was the youngest son and married Saphronia Smith; America married Tipton (Tip) Hawkins; Amanda married Ervin Wells; and Alma also married a McSpadden, a brother to Margaret's husband.

John Perry Humble's wife, Saphronia, was the daughter of Abner Ellis who owned the property where Sequoyah Caverns is located. It was at that time known as Ellis Cave. The cave has a lot of historical significance. The Cherokee Indians lived in the cave. There is evidence that Sequoyah lived in the cave, and that is why it is named for him. Sam Houston also lived in the cave with the Indians, and his signature is found behind a stalagmite in the water of the cave.

John owned a threshing machine in partnership with John Painter and George Bauerle. They moved it from farm to farm as they worked. John bought and sold land and dealt in timber, and at one time was a partner in an automobile mechanic business with Monroe Ellis.

Saphronia's first husband, Joe Hicks, died, leaving her with a daughter, Berlie, who later married Whitfield Phillips. After her husband's death, Saphronia married John Perry Humble, and they had five daughters: Eulala, Aura Mae, Edna Chelsea, Abbie Jane, and Kermie Elita. They all received nicknames from their father. Eulala married a Smythe from the Rising Fawn area; Aura Mae married Edward Bauerle from Valley Head; Edna married Thornton Farrah from McDonough, Georgia; Abbie Jane ("Bill") married Roy Jones (son of David L. Jones) from Mentone; and Kermie married Leroy Wright from Rome, Georgia.



John Perry Humble

Since John had no sons, he called Abbie Jane his boy and nicknamed her "Bill". Edna was the "prissy" one of the family, and, when someone would come down the road past their house, she would hide because she did not want anybody to see her working. "Bill" was tomboyish as a child and always seemed to get into trouble--like going fishing with a friend without asking permission, but taking no fishing poles. John was always lending money to people, much of which was never repaid. He drove the first school bus to Valley Head School. The children who rode the bus paid a small

fare for riding the bus (2 or 3 cents). John worked closely with the Conservation Department and worked to establish the first Farm Bureau organization, traveling to conventions in other states with the Farm Bureau. On one such trip, he and fellow passengers got on the wrong side of the freeway, having never been on a freeway before. John and his family attended church at Lookout Chapel Methodist Church.

Saphronia served as the doctor in the community. She would deliver babies and take herbs to the people who were sick in the community. People from Sand Mountain would yell down from the top of the mountain for her to come when someone was sick. The teacher at Lookout Chapel lived in their home while teaching there. They took in two children at different times and raised them because their own parents were unable to support them.

(Continued to page 5.)

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

The Groundhog has changed its publication date. For this month only, the January and February issues are combined. **Future issues of The Groundhog will be distributed during the week of the 20th of each month.**

Thank you for your continued support!

If you would like to subscribe, or if your subscription has expired, please see page 2 for instructions on renewing/subscribing.

The staff of The Groundhog wishes all of our readers & subscribers a healthy and Happy New Year!

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Sunday, February 2nd, Groundhog Day
- Monday, February 3, 6 p.m., Mentone Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Tuesday, February 4, 7 p.m., MAPA Meeting
Dessie's Kountry Chef
- Friday, February 14, Valentine's Day

- Saturday, February 15, 7 p.m., DeSoto Rescue Squad
Valentine Dance at Hammondville Armory
(See notice on back page.)
- Monday, February 17, PRESIDENT'S DAY
(Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, February 22)

THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



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THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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MAPA OFFICERS

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Member-At-Large.....Ed Disney
Member-At-Large.....Donna Bouldin

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

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

The deadline for all material for The Groundhog is the 15th day of the month preceding publication. The Publication is due out by the 25th of each month. This is a change from our previous issues.

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Bernise Crow

Happy new year to all of you. May your days be blessed with health, peace, and happiness. If we have health we should consider ourselves wealthy. All the riches in the world cannot bring us happiness if we do not have health. I reviewed those resolutions I made last year, and there are some that I've accomplished, but some, like losing weight, need another year to complete. Let's hope.

All my books are nicely placed in shelves that line one complete wall of the living room. That is one thing I am proud of. Now they need to be read.

Count your blessings and think positively. Never borrow trouble. Things are never as bad as they seem--so dream a little, and believe that dreams do come true.



MAPA Birthdays for January/February

Bill Patterson — Jan. 4
Karl Yatooma — Jan. 6
Marie Dillenbeck - Jan. 12
Charlyne O'Rear — Jan. 17
Pearl Stanfield — Jan. 20
Terry Bouldin — Feb. 2



ALABAMA LICENSE PLATES GET NEW LOOK

The discontent that Alabamians voiced a few years ago over the dull, white state license plates has reaped an aesthetic change. Beginning in 1997, a colorfully revamped tag will go out to counties statewide.

The new plate includes a blue haze with small silver stars at the top and a red haze that runs along the bottom. The word "Alabama" is centered in red at the bottom and the traditional "Heart of Dixie" is at the top in blue letters with a red heart. The current baby blue letters will be replaced by black letters and numbers to allow law enforcers to see them better.

The changes come after many Alabamians complained about the bland plates in 1992. In the past, employees in the revenue department's motor vehicle division designed the tags. But in late 1994, George Mingledorff, then-acting commissioner of revenue, assembled a team of graphic artists. They tried dozens of schemes. Mingledorff even brought test tags home for his daughter to critique.

The group decided on the patriotic color scheme of red, white and blue inspired by the classic tune "Stars Fell on Alabama." The blue went at the top for the star-sprinkled sky. Since the stars were at the top, "Alabama" had to go at the bottom. The "Heart of Dixie" insignia was retained primarily because—believe it or not—a 1951 state law requires that it be on every plate.

The team settled on the final design in February 1995. The department started shipping the first of the 4 million plates to Jefferson and Mobile counties in September 1995. During the next 18 months, as the plates were manufactured, they were shipped to the rest of the state's 67 counties. Alabamians are required to get new metal plates every five years.

About 3.95 million of the plates are for passenger cars and pickup trucks. The plates are "on all our cars that go all over the United States," Mingledorff said, so they are "a good way to advertise Alabama." He said he wants the Alabama Tourism Office to help design the next tag, which will be issued in 2002.

MESSAGE FROM HOMER CROW, PARLIAMENTARIAN

Since MAPA was first organized in 1982, we have tried to work with the community to the benefit of all. We have, at times, had opposition; but we believe that was because of misunderstanding or lack of communication. To help you understand what we are trying to do, we are listing some of the projects that we have completed.

We bought and installed the bulletin board at the Mentone Post Office - cost \$350.

We paid \$600 toward the construction of the shelter at the city park (Brow Park.)

We built the sidewalk that runs from the Hitching Post to the Fire Hall - cost \$5700.

We have donated about \$4800 to the fire department.

We bought and installed the street markers for the city streets - cost \$1900.

We repaired the stone wall on Hwy 117 on the side of the mountain - cost \$7500.

We bought the Christmas decorations that we hang along the main street of Mentone. Cost \$3900.

We paid to have the electric wiring redone at the city park (Brow Park) - cost \$2100.

We paid to have the town hall (court room) remodeled - cost \$3000.

We donated \$1000 to Moon Lake School.

We have sponsored The Groundhog paper ever since the first issue. The ads that are sold pay for publishing and mailing it to you. M.A.P.A. pays for the postage for the Mentone mailing and for the subscribers. This comes out of the membership fees.

The only way we have of raising money for these projects is by the dues we receive from memberships (we have approximately 285 members at present), and by sponsoring festivals.

Concerning festivals, at the last October Colorfest, after paying all the expenses, we had \$1041.05 left. Of this amount, we gave Moon Lake School \$1000.00. That left us with a profit of \$41.05. That is not much money for all the weeks of hard work done by a few members. If this was all the good that we did, we would not have another festival. But we allow other organizations to have a booth at no cost, and they also bring money into the community. As an example, the American Legion made \$600; the Fire Department made \$1800; all the churches that were involved were happy with what they made (amount unknown); the Boy Scouts were well pleased; and all the other organizations did OK.

If you are not pleased with what MAPA is doing, please come to our next meeting and we will be glad to discuss it with you. If you approve of what we have done, call us; or better, write us at P.O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984. The only letters of appreciation that we have received were from Moon Lake School and the Boy Scouts. Of all that we have done for the city, we have never received a phone call or letter of appreciation. Perhaps this was an oversight, but people like to hear a word of encouragement or a simple thank you sometime.

Come to our next meeting, always the first Tuesday of each month at Dessie's Restaurant at 7:00 o'clock. We have an interesting speaker following the business meeting and then refreshments. Some of our speakers were Dorie Zupco with Social Security, Dr. Annis, Judge Rains, Judge Wilson, Bill Springer, Talmadge Butler, and many others, all equally good. You don't have to be a member to come to our meetings, but we would like for you to join. We need your input.

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The River Watch

By
BILL SCHWARZ

Well, folks, it appears that my writing muse has become exhausted and has refused to function. Alas, it seems as if the well has temporarily run dry. Just this past fall my muse was hyper active, but now... nothing.

This past Christmas, Sue and I were in Largo, Fla., visiting daughter Chris and the grandchildren, Rachel and Gwen--a wonderful way to spend Christmas! We stayed in a campground, and the campground news bulletin had a funny poem. So, here is my contribution for the month... probably better than if I had written.

PROGRESS

My eggs don't come from chickens,
My butter's not from cows.
My food's full of preservatives
The FDA allows.
My salt is just a substitute,
My cheese contains no fat.
My drinks are dietetic,
And they taste a little flat.
My bread is full of vitamins;
It's dark and made of wheat.
My cereals are all whole grain,
And they are never sweet.
Men liked their women padded
In the days when I was thin;
But now that I have added curves,
The skinny look is in.
And sometimes, when in retrospect
I view the hand of fate,
I really feel that I was born
One hundred years too late!



The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

Another new year, and my wish for all of you is health and happiness. We have just returned from a nice 2-1/2 weeks in balmy Florida, where we spent the holidays with Chris and the grandchildren, Rachel and Gwen.

My recipes this month are from a cookbook published by Huntsville Hospital Foundation to celebrate their 100 years of service to Huntsville. The book is Welcome Back and it is a fine collection. The oven fried chicken is excellent and as described--guilt free. The casserole can have some of the fat wallop taken out by using the new low fat or fat free soups and mayonnaise. Half the mayonnaise can also be replaced with non-fat plain yogurt without losing taste. Another way of cutting fat is to omit the cheese and sprinkle seasoned bread crumbs on top instead.

Stay warm and healthy.

Awesome Chicken and Rice Casserole - Fay Bowden

1 pkg. long grain and wild rice mix

2 C chopped cooked chicken

1 8 oz can water chestnuts

1 2 oz jar pimiento

1 16 oz. can French cut green beans

1 20 oz. can cream of celery soup

1 C chopped almonds

1-2 C shredded cheddar cheese (optional)

Cook rice using package directions. Combine rice, chicken, mayonnaise, water chestnuts, pimiento, green beans, soup and almonds in bowl; mix well. Pour into oiled 9x13 inch baking pan. Bake at 350° until almost cooked through. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake until cheese melts and casserole is cooked through. Serves 6-8.

Guilt-Free, Fuss-Free "Fried Chicken" - Jeanine Glover

1 chicken, skinned, cut up

3 C buttermilk

4 C crushed cornflakes

1 T McCormick chicken spice

Rinse chicken; pat dry. Place with buttermilk in sealable plastic bag. Marinate in refrigerator for at least 4 hours, turning occasionally. Discard buttermilk and bag. Mix cornflake crumbs and spice and place in paper bag. Add chicken; shake to coat well. Cover 4-sided baking sheet with foil, spray with nonstick cooking spray. Bake 1 hour at 350° or until tender.

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Dedicated and loyal readers, this year started out with bad news for moi. While Pop was in the hospital for a short while, I was forced to go to the hated vet, McNew, in Ft. Payne. This usually is a trying time for the great one; however, fate was on moi's side! What should I find, my one and true love, **Lula Bell**, a most fetching femme fatale! Moi was so charming that Lula Bell just swooned! If it wasn't for butcher McNew, I would be a proud papa. Just being with Lula Bell makes life worth living.

Before going to stay at the hated vet's, moi had visitors from Birmingham, **Jerry and Flora Greene**, who made a special trip to visit the superb one. What can moi say! Am I famous, or what!

Sandy Hulan of Valley Head came to swoon at moi's magnificent feet. As it should be!

Here comes **Rudolph Bell**. He feeds the splendid one a tasty bit of cake. What would moi do without him?

Several flatlanders have been coming in just to see the flawless one. **Cindy C. Pisco** of Boynton, Fla. made a special effort to view this perfect specimen.

Catherine Helderman of Atlanta and **Mark Fine** of Tampa, came by and woke moi up. The great one will have to sleep a little longer in the morning to make up for lost sleep.

Three little lasses, **Libby Odell** and **Katie** from River Ridge, La., and **Jean Riess**, from Metairie, La., came with adults, Richard and Jack Odell, and Carson Riess. Guess what they wanted? Pictures of the great one! Probably going to have them framed and put in their living room where they can adore moi from afar.

Jimmy Graves can always be counted on to provide moi with a scrumptious raisin pie each time he comes in. He knows and appreciates greatness! Sometimes, it's embarrassing the way he carries on over moi!

Sarah Armstrong and **Marlene** from Atlanta came by to show me a beanie baby that looks like the flawless one, moi! Maybe Al will want to stock that item--could be a good money maker if he tells them it's a replica of the great one between the counters.

While Pop recuperated at home, moi had to reside at McNews. It is going to be tough not to be able to see Lula Bell every day. Moi will be stuck between the counters.

Loyal fans, Pop and I will be back at work as soon as we can. 'Til next time!

Zip + 4 Speeds Delivery of Mail

If you're not using the +4 number on the end of your zip code, you could be holding up the mail. The mail goes from your local post office to a central mail processing center, i.e. Birmingham, where it goes through the automated equipment. If it is a piece of business mail, it probably already has the +4 code on it. If it does not have the +4 code, or if it's a handwritten address, the machine makes an image of the address and sends it via satellite to the remote encoding center, located in another part of Birmingham, where a person at a computer terminal receives the image and types in the address. The computer back at the processing center reads the full address, calls on its memory to determine the +4 code, then sprays on the appropriate bar code.

The five-digit ZIP code gets the mail to the right city, then the first two digits of the +4 number tell the sector of delivery, and the second two digits indicate the segment of the delivery route.

Without the +4 number, the mail has to be sorted manually, which takes extra time. Using ZIP+4 speeds up the process considerably. To find your own +4 number, check the mail that you receive from businesses, such as credit cards, utilities, etc., and you will find your own personal +4 number, as well as the sender's ZIP+4. Start using ZIP+4, now, and speed up delivery of the mail.

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Mentone Grapevine 11

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Erma McAdams enjoyed the Christmas holidays with a visit from her granddaughter, Brittany, from Atlanta, Ga. They made a memory by putting together Christmas decorations in the shape of stars made out of clear beads. Erma's son, Brian, made them when he was a little child.

Brandol Jones was honored in the service on Sunday, Jan. 19, at the Moon Lake Baptist Church with "Brandol Jones Appreciation Day."

Ed Ringer spent Christmas in Mississippi with his nephew David Ringer and his family. Ed also celebrated his birthday with a beautiful cake his brother, Robert, had made for him by Billie Harper.

Keep **Norma Williams** on your prayer list, as she's not feeling well. She would enjoy receiving cards and notes from her friends. Also, **Buddy** has recently fallen and cracked a couple of ribs. He needs your prayers, too.

Edmund Crowe requests prayers for his brother, **Richard Crowe**, who has been in the hospital in Anniston for 49 days as of Jan. 22. Friends can send him cards and notes at Regional Medical Center, 400 E. 10th Street, Room 814, Anniston, AL 36201.

On December 29, the **Parrish of Our Lady of the Valley** in Ft. Payne had the great honor of having **Bishop David Foley** conduct the mass. **Kathleen and Simon Milazzo, Mary Kuhn, Daniel Ciotta, Marlena Guffey, Jessica Major, Marlin Cox, Kristen Rastall and Jared Pineda** are getting ready to be confirmed.

Condolences and deepest sympathy to **Sherman and Mickey Gough**, on the loss of their daughter, **Patty**, who passed away on December 12, 1996, in Tallahassee, Florida.

Prayers and get well wishes go to **Martin McDonough, Betty Bridges, Matthew Kuhn, Ludie Patterson, Paul Patterson, and Hazel Braud**.

Gary Jones (son of Jack and Olive Jones) was quite ill with meningitis the first part of December. With the ski resort in Mentone going into full swing now that the COLD weather is here, we're happy he recovered. The **Cloudmont Ski Resort** opened up at 9 a.m. on Dec. 20th. This is their 27th year. Congratulations are in order!

"Granny" **Cash** is back in the Collinsville Nursing Home. Keep "Granny", **Mrs. Coley Harvey, Britt and Florene Kirby** in your prayers.

Congratulations to Valley Head's **Tim Harrison Jr.**, who was named to *The Times-Journal* 1996 All-Star Football Team.

The **Valley Head Concert Band** played for Moon Lake Elementary School on Dec. 13, and they also played along with the beginner band on December 3rd at the P.T.O. meeting at Valley Head School. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful concert. The beginner band is doing a great job.

Get well wishes go out to **Glen Black**, father of **Lisa Moore**, who is recovering from a heart by-pass. He is doing great and feeling better each day. Thanks for all the prayers and cards.

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Nell Brown** who passed away on Dec. 31, 1996, at her home.

Beth Moore and **Mary Pearson** spent the new year at Beth's house shooting bottle rockets and firecrackers.

Congratulations to **Rev. Jeff & Melinda Adkins** on the birth of their baby girl. **Amelia Adeline Adkins** was born on Christmas eve. All three are doing great. (See picture elsewhere.)

Thank you to **Jack Johnston** of G.T.E. Telephone who puts out the Christmas decorations in Valley Head each year, and also the Christmas decorations in Mentone. Great job!

Marilyn Blanton Campbell spent the Christmas holidays at her mother's home in Rome, Ga., with her family--her mother, **Mary Blanton**; her brother, **Daniel C. Blanton** of Rome, his wife, **Sharon**, and his children, **Rachel, Erin, and Nathan**; her sister, **Jane Blanton**, and son, **Joshua B. Rose**. Another interesting trip for Marilyn was on December 17, when she went with **Mary Percy** and her sister, **Patsy Brinkley**, to the annual "cookie swap" at the home of **Mrs. Cindy Mounger** in

Alpharetta, Ga. There were over twenty different kinds of cookies. As a flight attendant, **Cindy** traveled all over the world and acquired "universal Christmas" decorations. She had decorated 8-foot size Christmas trees in addition to the other decorations all over her house. Others who were at the cookie swap were: **Linda Mullvain, Bea Van Vliet**; and **Cindy's** family: husband, **George Mart**, sons, **Paul and Mart**, and daughter, **Angela**. An interesting outside guest was a friendly screech owl living in **Cindy's** back yard.

Dessie Newberry, owner of **Dessie's Kountry Chef** in Mentone has new hours effective until April 30. M-W-Thur: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Fri & Sat: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tues - 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sunday: Closed.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Evelyn Graves Brown** of Huntsville after a triple by-pass surgery in Nov.

Several people had the flu/pneumonia during December: **Catherine Bailey, Bobbie Smith, Ethel Manifold-Gregory**. I know there were many more, and I hope they all got well, too.

Malcolm Brewer is doing well after staying in during the cold weather in Dec. and Jan. He had been in the hospital in December and was released with instructions to keep out of the cold and wind. He and **Maureen** stayed in the Wallace suite of the hospital in Birmingham while he was being treated. On Dec. 19, **Malcolm's** daughter, **Ann**, came to Ft. Payne to visit for a few days during the holidays.

Congratulations to students at Northeast who made the honor roll at Northeast Alabama Community College for the Fall Quarter: **Karen Herndon** of Mentone and **Chad Chaney, Glenda Haney, and Zayed Kahn** of Valley Head, the President's List; **Charity Bell** and **Steve Setzer** of Mentone and **Wendy Harrison** and **Julia Yates** of Valley Head, the Dean's List; and **Jennifer Keith** and **Nancy Mitchell** of Mentone, part-time honor list.

Kelly Dianne Dixon, daughter of **Mrs. Dee B. Kelley** of Mentone, is studying in Greece during January as part of Birmingham Southern College's international study program. **Kelly** is spending 17 days studying archaeology, art, history, literature, philosophy, science, and social relationships throughout Greece.

Kudos to recent *Times-Journal* weather artists **Stuart Hurt**, 10, of Mentone; **Stephen Stack**, 6, of Hammondville.

The **Rock Castle Cafe** has a new owner, **Carey Pike** of Hammondville. **Carol Busby** is the manager, with **Frances Scruggs** from Rising Fawn cooking every day except Mondays. Others working in the kitchen part-time include **Sue Pumphrey, Nancy Rector**, and others. Waitresses are **Jewel Collins Rogers, Kim Wells**, and **Gracie Brown**. Beginning Feb. 2, they will be open 7 days a week: M-F 5 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Look for hours on Sat. and Sun.

Joe Stephens went to see his son **Michael** in Talladega on Dec. 16. **Marilyn Campbell** volunteered to drive him. What a wonderful Christmas present, right, **Joe**?

DeSoto State Park is undergoing renovations to their facilities. The restaurant will be closed after Sunday, Jan. 26. Some chalets will also be closed, and possibly some or all of the motel units. Space will be limited, so call ahead for a reservation. (205) 845-0051 or 1-800-568-8840.

LaRue Hardinger of Ft. Payne has 30 years experience handling weddings. She played for her first wedding when she was 13. She plays traditional and contemporary arrangements, plus vocalist accompaniment for all occasions. Call her at 845-8859 to help plan your wedding or other occasion.

Deepest sympathy to the families who have recently lost loved ones:

- Ruby Young, 84, Valley Head, Dec. 5;
- John Ranzy Bain, 82, of Mentone, Dec. 10;
- Mrs. Martha B. Blevins Flarity, 76, of Mentone, Dec. 10;
- Mrs. Annie Wilbourn, 79, of Rainsville, Dec. 13;
- Marvin F. King, 71, of Mentone, Dec. 23;
- Mrs. Mildred B. Wiley, 90, of Mentone, Dec. 24;
- Robert Charles (Spoke) Baker, 65, of Mentone, Dec. 24;
- Mrs. Allie Guffey, 94, of Valley Head, Dec. 25;
- Megan Danielle Combs, infant, of Valley Head, Dec. 25;
- Willie Eugene Ray, 72, of Ringgold, Ga., Dec. 27;
- John David Thomas, 95, of Mentone, Dec. 27;
- Nell G. Brown, 68, of Henagar, Dec. 27;
- Coley Harvey, Dec. 26;
- Nell Sibert, of Huntsville, Jan. 2;
- Mrs. Ethel Perkins, 71, of Mentone, Jan. 4;
- Mrs. Ellen Faye Gibson, 47, of Valley Head, Jan. 9

Betty Johnson has been having some health problems. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Helen Hill and sister, **Theresa Bosworth**, who are both in The Crowne Nursing Home (formerly Mtn. Manor) in Fort Payne, would enjoy receiving cards and visits from their friends. Keep them both in your prayers.

Remember the **DeSoto Rescue Squad Valentine's Dance** on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Hammondville Armory. (See notice on back page.)

Happy Belated Birthday wishes for December go to:

•28- **Annette Chappell** had a surprise party attended by a few friends. •30 - **Joe Stephens**; •31 - **Mary Bell Moses**. Hope they each had a wonderful birthday. Great way to end the year, another year older.

Mabel Kirk celebrated her 90th birthday on Dec. 21, with a surprise party attended by her family and many friends.

Clara Cash turned 84 years old on Dec. 5. We wish you many more birthdays, **Clara**!

Happy January Birthday wishes to: •2- **Adis Childers**; •3 - **Freda Brandon, Dean**; •4- **Ed Ringer**; •5- **Angela Chambers**; •7- **Ronnie Hulan**; •7- **Charlyne O'Rear**; •9- **Stacie Worthey, Heath Miller**; •12- **Denise Black, Marie Dillenbeck**; •13- **Robert Johnston**; •14- **S.B. Stinson**; •19- **Barbara Blalock**; •20- **Judy Windom**; •21- **Ashley Tuxbury, Alyce Springer**; •22- **Madison Moore**; •23- **Kent Kerby**; •24- **Dorothy Blansit, Tommy Harrison Jr.**; •25- **Dennis Lewis**; •28- **Derek Whisenant**; •29- **Doys Harcrow**

Happy February Birthday wishes to: •1-Jeff Willoughby; Micah & Michael Moore; •2- **Karen Davis, Terry Bouldin**; •3- **Eloise Brown**; •4- **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 (2)**; •15- **Michelle Williams, Stacy Blansit**; •16- **Tommy Kilgore**; •17- **Ginger Tuxbury**; •18- **William "Jug" Crow, Rachel Harrison**; •20- **Juanita Hartline**; •21- **Wendy Manifold, David Ashley**; •24 - **Brandon Overstreet, Payton Day (4)**, **Michael Chambers**; •25- **Thomas Moore (in memory of)**; •26- **Sanford Hartline**; •27- **Nancy Rector**.



MORGAN DRUGS

Donald R. Morgan

Valley Head
635-6812

PRESCRIPTIONS



L/R: Mentone United Methodist Church UMW members, **Ann Wright, Linda Brown, Barbara Blalock**, delivering a Christmas basket to **Dessie Bailey** (seated) at the **Dogwood Manor Nursing Home**.



A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

The Sunshine Club defied the rules of superstition and had their Christmas party on Friday, Dec. 13, with thirteen present—but one came late and saved our fate by making it fourteen present. Jewell Palmer was hostess at the very attractive activity room of Spring Grove Apartments. It was beautifully decorated and had a lovely tree. We enjoyed a sumptuous covered dish luncheon and exchanged gifts. Those present were Evelyn Clark, Elizabeth Bauerle, Gladys Cobble, Joy Hurt, Sue Clark, Glenda Savage, Billie Harper, Verence Hawkins, Lillie Bowden, Ruth Pickett, Anna Daniel, Jean Jones, Eloise Brown, and Jewell Palmer. The next meeting will be at the home of Jean Jones, Jan. 23, at 2 p.m.

Jean Jones visited her sons, Roy and Doug Jones and their families in Chesapeake, Va., before Christmas. Roy's wife, Bonnie, was ill. We hope she has completely recovered. Jean enjoyed taking care of her grandchildren, Megan, Rebecca, and John Paul.

Keith and Carla Gibson from Burleson, Tex., and children Sean and Morgan, and Mark and Jane Gibson, and Mathew and Jordan from Dallas, Tex., were holiday visitors of Dot and Bill Blackburn and Hoot and Martha Gibson. Linda Blackburn and Betty Jo Lewis from Orange Park, Fla., were also guests of Linda's parents, the Blackburns.

Peachie and David Cearley from Irvine, Ca., spent the holidays with her mother, Laura Margaret Allison. Laura Margaret is not well. We hope she will soon be completely recovered.

Sadie Cooper and Hazel Johnston enjoyed a tour of Callaway Gardens, recently.

Van Cooper and family and Jim Cooper and family had a very enjoyable ski trip to West Virginia.

Olene Roberts went to visit her son, John Roberts, and his wife, Dianne, in Cullman, Ala., and they went to spend the holidays with Martha Joan and Gerald Killian in Aiken, SC.

Frances Longshore, because of health problems, gave up her apartment in Dogwood Haven and has gone to stay with her daughter, Mary Cashion and Ben, in Haleyville. We hope she is feeling much better and will soon be completely recovered.

Gladola Holleman is at home after a stay at Montclair Hospital in Birmingham. We hope she is feeling much improved.

Sue and Foyl Cooper had Christmas eve dinner with their daughter, Emily Alexander and family, and had Christmas dinner with their granddaughter, Kelly, in her new home at Hixson, Tn.

My granddaughter, Laurie and her husband, Andy Dell, from Glen Burnie, Md., spent several days with me before the holidays. Our family came together at the home of Emily and Barry Brown for dinner on Christmas eve.

Adelaide Biddle spent Christmas with her daughter, Julia and Ronnie Hickey and family.

Evelyn and Loy Clark spent Christmas day with their son, Loy Jr., his wife, Margaret, and sons, Scott and Jeremy in Birmingham.

Mary and Ted Holleman had as their guests on the Sunday before Christmas: Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis from Rainville, Frances Ellis, Adelaide Biddle, Betty and Red Adams, from Gadsden, and Jim and Michelle Adams, E.T. Holleman, Laura Margaret Allison, Peachie and David Cearley, from Irvine, Ca., Elizabeth and Doc Coleman and John Holleman from Huntsville.

Mary and Ted Holleman, Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis and John Holleman spent five days in Destin, Fla.

John Holleman is attending a business conference this week in Orlando, Fla.

Venna Livingston has been busy as usual. Her granddaughter, Carmen Mosley and fiancé, James Reed from The

University of Alabama came by on their way to the Tenn-Ala game. Marilyn and Janie Mercer joined Venna's brother, Woodrow and Lois Young from Gadsden, and their granddaughter, Michel Robertson from Fort Payne, who were visiting Venna on Monday. Venna's niece, Audene Walker, from Marietta Ga., brought her mother (Venna's sister) Zula Waddell, who spent the night, and Venna took her home to Guin and spent the night with her niece, Marcie Norwood.

The Valley Head Methodist Church had a covered dish luncheon and stork shower for Melinda Adkins after the church service Dec. 8. The fellowship room was beautifully decorated with balloons and streamers, and a stork centerpiece held a bag of monetary gifts in his bill. She received many lovely gifts for a very lucky baby to be born into an ideal home. (See announcement of birth of Amelia on this page.)

The Valley Head Baptist Church had a very impressive candle light service on New Year's eve. As each one lit a candle, they gave their testimony of thankfulness.

May 1997 bring each of us good health, contentment and peace. May it not fly by so swiftly, so we will have time to fully appreciate each moment.

Book of the Year

The year is an unwritten book,

Its pages are blank, white and clean.

Open it wide—take a good look.

Will it be good, memorable or mean?

Handle it carefully—each page

Is written only once each day—

Can not be erased in this age,

So think before each word you say.

Each word is priceless and precious,

Can heal and comfort or destroy;

Make sound and real—not specious—

No vain embellishments employ.

Each a precious moment of life,

Inscribed on the letter of time,

Check closely the errors so rife,

Whether dull prose or gems of rhyme.

Each line with right punctuation,

Must make clear each motive and act.

Crown with truth each situation,

Urged by courtesy, love and tact.

Bind the pages together with strength,

Given as a gift—only that survives.

Illustrate with hope and faith, treasure its length

As we write the book of the year of our lives,

When it is written and finished,

And closed with the end of the days,

May souls and minds be replenished

With "Well done," the ultimate praise.

—Eloise Brown

Birth Announcement



Amelia Adeline Adkins

was born on Tuesday, December 24, 1996, at 5:26 a.m., at Huntsville Hospital. She weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces, and measured 19-1/2 inches long. The proud parents are Melinda and Jeff Adkins, Valley Head, Ala.

A Special Kind of Love

By Carol Busby

(A Valentine's Day tribute to Ken Busby)

From day to day, hour to hour, I wait—not knowing what to expect. A job of 24 hours a day and 7 days a week with an officer who has love in his heart for what he does. It takes a special kind of love to do the job Ken Busby does.

Without the love of God, he couldn't do his job, because he has to call upon the Lord with each and every step he takes. Not being a husband and father the way he would like to be, he still has that special kind of love for his family. We understand; but, at times, it's hard—knowing that people make unkind remarks about the man we love.

As a family, we surround Ken with so much love that God uses this love to help this man protect us all. If you only knew, like his family knows, the special kind of love Ken has for the town he serves and what he gives up for the people here, and if you had any real love—love from God—you would support him, encourage him, and stop putting him down. You are so lucky to have an officer in your town that has an understanding family.

How much love have you given your town? Do you understand what your officer goes through and gives up for you? Do you always complain when he does his job and keeps your town safe for you and your family? Knowing he is there in your time of need? Do you realize there is only one of him; and he needs to sleep and rest just as you and I do? Do you realize that the things that happen and the calls that come in happen at all hours of the day and night instead of from 8 to 5 each day?

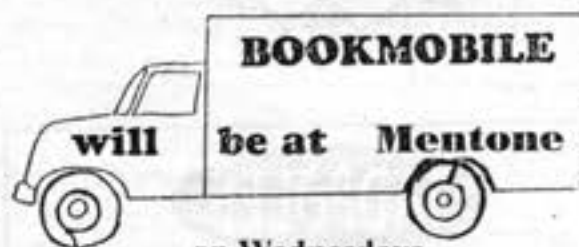
With love in your heart this Valentine's day, think of the special kind of love your police officers have for you, and give love in return, rather than criticism all the time.

From an understanding wife and kids with a special kind of love for our husband and father, we wish you all a Happy Valentine's Day, and pray that you will find it in your heart to give that special kind of love to those around you, wherever you are and whatever you are doing.



From Carol, Kenny, Alisha and Chris

The DeKalb County



on Wednesdays

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

February 5 19

March 5 19

April 2 16 30



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(1) Rock pathways and natural landscaping lead the way to this lofty contemporary on over 1 acre of Brow property in Mentone. Rustic Board and Batten home offers 3 or 4 bedrooms and 2 baths on 2 levels with partially finished Basement.



(2) VACATION IN YOUR BACKYARD at Laurel Creek Lakes. 1-1/2 to 3-acre lots all having access to 3 private lakes and natural common areas with walking trails. Prices starting at \$7,500. Call for more details.



(3) COZY COUNTRY COTTAGE - 1 acre wooded lot on East Lake Drive. Less than 2 years old. 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, large living, dining & kitchen. Fireplace. Front & Back porches, 2 car carport & detached garage. REDUCED to \$78,000.

The kitchen is fully equipped, has a walk-in pantry, laundry room, pine floors and walls and dining area with access to deck surrounding living area for easy entertaining.



OTHER LISTINGS

(4) 13 BROW LOTS with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.

(5) OVERLOOK THE BREATHTAKING GEORGIA VALLEY from this 3.76 acre West Brow lot, about 10 miles north of Mentone. Lightly restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty. Only \$22,000. REDUCED TO \$18,000.

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

(7) PLENTY OF PRIVACY is yours on these beautifully wooded 8 acres located on East Lake Drive. Ready to build on and convenient both to Menlo and Mentone. \$27,500.

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

BOY SCOUT WEEK, FEBRUARY 3-9

FOUNDERS

As a youth, Robert Baden Powell (1857-1941) greatly enjoyed the outdoors, learning about nature and how to live in the wilderness. He was born in London, attended the Charterhouse school, and joined the British Army in 1876. After returning as a military hero from service in Africa, Baden-Powell discovered that English boys were reading the manual on stalking and survival in the wilderness that he had written for his military regiment.

Gathering ideas from Ernest Thompson Seton, Daniel Carter Beard, and others, Sir Robert Baden-Powell rewrote the manual as a nonmilitary nature skill book and called it *Scouting for Boys*. To test his ideas, Baden-Powell brought together 20 boys to camp at Brownsea Island, off the coast of England. This historic camp-out was a success and resulted in the advent of Scouting. Baden-Powell started the Boy Scout movement in 1907. In 1908, he published the first Boy Scout manual.

Thus, the imagination and inspiration of Baden-Powell, later proclaimed Chief Scout of the World, brought Scouting to youth the world over.

Born in Scotland, Ernest Thompson Seton (1860-1946) immigrated to America as a youth in the 1880s. His fascination with the wilderness led him to become a naturalist, an artist, and an author, and, through his works, he influenced both youth and adults. Seton established a youth organization called the Woodcraft Indians, an organization of boys and girls. His background of outdoor skills and interest in youth made him a logical choice for the position of first Chief Scout of the Boy Scouts of America in 1910. His many volumes of Scoutcraft became an integral part of Scouting, and his intelligence and enthusiasm helped turn an idea into reality.

Woodman, illustrator, and naturalist Daniel Carter Beard (1850-1941) was a pioneering spirit of the Boy Scouts of America. Already 60 years old when the Boy Scouts of America was formed, he became a founder and merged it with his own boys' organization—the Sons of Daniel Boone, which was organized in 1905. He served as the first National Scout Commissioner from 1910 until his death. Beard helped design the original Scout uniform and introduced the elements of the First Class Scout badge. "Uncle Dan," as he was known to boys and leaders, will be remembered as a colorful figure dressed in buckskin who helped form Scouting in the United States.

In 1909, Chicago publisher William D. Boyce lost his way in a dense London fog. A boy came to his aid and, after guiding the man, refused a tip, explaining that as a Scout he would not take a tip for doing a Good Turn. This gesture by an unknown Scout inspired a meeting with Sir Robert Baden-Powell, the British founder of the Boy Scouts.

As a result, William Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of



America on Feb. 8, 1911. He also created the Lone Scouts, which merged with the Boy Scouts of America in 1924.

James E. West was appointed the first Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America in 1911. Although orphaned and physically handicapped, he had the perseverance to graduate from law school and become a successful attorney. This same determination provided the impetus to help build Scouting into the largest and most effective youth organization in the world. When he retired in 1943, Dr. West was recognized throughout the country as the true architect of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Boy Scout Slogan

Do A Good Turn Daily

FUNDING

Weekly or monthly dues and funds from special money-earning projects meet expenses for supplies and activities in the Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop, Varsity Scout team, and Explorer post. These monies pay for camping equipment, registration fees, *Boys' Life* magazine, uniform insignia, special activities, and program materials.

Each chartered organization using the Scouting program provides a meeting place and adult volunteer leadership for its BSA unit(s). The chartered organization must approve unit money-earning projects before the launch of the project.

Financial resources for the local council (the local non-profit corporation chartered by the National Council) come from local United Ways, sustaining members, foundations, special events, project sales, investment income, trust funds, bequests, and gifts of real and personal property.

These funds provide for professional staff supervision, the organization of new Scouting units, service for existing units, training of volunteer leaders, and the maintenance of council camps.

They also finance the operation of the local council service center, where volunteer leaders can obtain literature, insignia, advancement badges, and other items vital to the program. In addition, the service center maintains advancement and membership records.

Funds to support the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America come from registration fees, local council service fees, investment income, *Scouting* and *Boys' Life* magazines, sale of uniforms and equipment, contributions from individuals, and foundation grants.

The Boy Scout Motto

Be Prepared

VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB

By Maurine Donahue

The annual Christmas dinner of the Valley Head Woman's Club was held at Terrapin Hills Country Club. The tables were beautifully decorated with holly and greenery and Christmas tree ornaments as favors at each place.

Doris Carmichael, president, greeted members and guests and commended the entertainment committee, Inelle Hurt, chairman, Teresa Cooper, Mary Holleman and Susan Hooks.

James Graves, husband of Evelyn Graves, gave the blessing which was short and to the point: God bless us and God bless this food.

Inelle Hurt introduced Cathy Van Cleave of Mentone who let the musical part of the program and Cathy Crow of Mentone was the pianist. Some of the club members acted out the parts as all sang, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Christmas carols were sung and members had to lift their voices on high to overcome the secular sound of the band next door.

Steve Hurt, son of Inelle Hurt, gave an entertaining reading from "Greatest Christmas Pageant Ever."

Guests in addition to the husbands of members were Steve and Debbie Hurt of Tupelo, Miss.; Vivian Ellis of LaFayette, Ga.; Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis of Gadsden; Cathy Van Cleave; Cathy Crow; Grace Jones; and Rachel Manning.

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The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO"
BLALOCK

•Congratulations to Michael Sellers Jr., son of M. and Mrs. Michael Sellers, who was named to the dean's list at North Georgia College and State University for the fall quarter 1996.

•Christie Robin Cash, daughter of Jackie Cash, Summerville, and Brenda Morrow, Rome, and Michael Lois Sellers Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sellers, Menlo, were married Dec. 28 at the South Summerville Baptist Church in Summerville.

•The City Council of Menlo has received their grant monies from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Menlo plans to use their money to help ensure a long term water source. The CDBG program gave the town \$459,200. According to Menlo Mayor Theresa H. Canada, the town will use the money to develop a well that will provide Menlo residents with a viable water source.

•Congratulations to recent graduates of Berry College: Pattie Luther, Menlo, who recently graduated with a masters degree in early childhood education; and Bonita Shipman, Menlo, with a bachelors degree in art.

•Congratulations, also, to Heather Roach, Menlo, who was named to the Abraham Baldwin Agriculture College dean's list for the fall quarter. She is studying elementary education.

Deepest sympathy to the families of:

•Mrs. Ruby Lee Vanpelt, 60, Menlo, who died Nov. 23.

•Mr. Harold E. White, 74, Menlo, who died Dec. 29.

•Scott Chamblee, 66, Cloudland, who died Dec. 29.

•Milford Williamson, 49, Ider, Ala., who died Dec. 30.

•The Menlo Tigers soccer team won the Northwest Georgia Soccer League Tournament in November by defeating an undefeated Chattahoochee Valley team twice—the first game 5-4 and the second game 4-1. Congratulations go to Coach Scott Copeland and team members: Steele Lee, Nikki Plant, Blake Gazaway, Sutton Connelly, Nigel Plant, Brian Precise, Brandon Love, Laura Lee Cordell, Chris Wood, Ben Dotson, Carmin Kirk, Leah Stoker, Jeremy Wooten, Justin Cook, Jeremy Ash, and Nikki Morales.

•The Chattooga Education Association recognized the school winners in the American Education Week poster and essay contests in December. Those receiving awards were Chris Hatt, L.B. Williams, Matthew Middleton, Rhiannon Raines, Daniel Prince, Emily Smith, Rollins Hudgins, April Coley, Matthew Mullican, Lacy Ray, Brittani Swinford, Jana Ward, Kristopher Browning, Randall Abernathy, Sunny Smith, Sarah Kerce, Ashlee Witt, Rosha Taylor, and Anna Hall. The county-wide winners were L.B. Williams, Matthew Mullican, Rhiannon Raines, Matthew Middleton, Ashlee Witt, Anna Hall, Rosha Taylor, and Sarah Kerce.

•Eighth grade language arts students at Menlo Elementary School presented the play "Whatever Happened To Ebenezer Scrooge?" in December for classes in grades kindergarten through 4 and 5 through 8. Kathy Kerce, Menlo's media specialist, supervised the making of costumes; and Linda Espy and Carolyn Wofford directed the play. Chris Wood played Ebenezer Scrooge. The seven dwarves were Curtis Long, Nicky Plant, Joey Horner, Lori Tucker, Sarah Kerce, Brad Crowe, and Christy Ray. Janie Brown played Snow White, and her prince was Josh Wooten. Witch Hazel was played by Cindy Holbrooke. The investment counselor was Nikki Mireles, and the talk show host was Ashley Montgomery. The voice of the mirror was Shae Bettis. Technical crew members included Mandy Yarbrough as stage manager, Justin Wofford, prompter, Blake Gazaway, controlling the curtain; and Lauren Kelleit, supervising props.



ONE YEAR OLD

John Michael Cavin is the one-year-old son of Bobby and Pam Cavin, Douglasville, formerly of Menlo. He is the grandson of Barbara Cavin, Menlo, and the late Robert Cavin and Henry and Virginia Nichols, Cloudland.



THIRD BIRTHDAY

Ashley Willingham celebrated her third birthday Nov. 29 with a Barbie party. She is the daughter of Tim and Julie Willingham, Menlo, and has one brother, Matthew, 5. Her grandparents are Wayne and Ann Pritchett, Menlo, Junior and Diane Willingham, Gaylesville, Ala., and the late Emma Sue Willingham. Her great-grandparents are Brooksie and Silas Mitchell, Centre, Ala., Roy and Wilma Patterson, Summerville, Lula Belle Atkins, Centre, Ala., and the late Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Pritchett. Her great-great-grandmother is Queesie Patterson, Fort Payne, Ala.



THREE YEARS OLD

Anthony "Cole" Edward Dennis celebrated his third birthday Dec. 31 with a double party for him and his aunt Taylor Susann Hill. He is the son of Anthony and Dena Dennis, Cloudland. Grandparents are Eddie and Susan Hill, Summerville, Callie and Jimmy Dennis, Trion, Lamar and Donnie McNeese, Trion. Great-grandparents are Namon and Ethel Dennis, Summerville, the late Donald Searels and the late Hazel Hill.



FOUR YEARS OLD

Jennifer Lee Ledford celebrated her fourth birthday Jan. 5 with a pizza party with her close friends and family. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Sandra Ledford, Menlo. Her grandparents are Morris and Marcelle Gilliland, Trion, William Calaway, Rome, Maurice and Ruth Guest, Henagar, Ala. She is also the Godchild of Jimmy and Tina Calaway, Gaylesville, Ala., and Jackie Sprayberry, Gaylesville.

Menlo Elementary School Super Students for the first 9 weeks

1ST GRADE

Benton Birge
Briana Blackmon
Crystal Cordell
Brian Gilhooly
Richard Gill
Chris Hatt
Rachel Johnson
Makayla Long
Kim McGuire
Justin Ott
Whitney Powell
Jordan Smith
Chelsea Stoker
Jacki Williams
Damion Wofford

Emma Pickle
Allie Prince
Rhiannon Raines
Casey Sammons
Emily Sink
Amber Spencer
Nicholas Smith
Samantha Swartwood
Ashley Thompson
Brittany Ward
Crysten White
Kalen Williamum
Allison Willis
Brett Wilson

THIRD GRADE

Allen Ballinger
Adam Blackwell
Klein Borgschulze
David Brown
Kahle Calkins
Slater Cordle
Spencer Davis
Annette Durham
Brandi Durham
Amanda Hegwood
Melissa Hersley
India Jones
Jessica Jones
Mary Morris
Trevor Pledger
Whitney Price
Cory Tanner
Ashley Tishaw
Chelsey Ward
Amanda Wigley

SECOND GRADE

Megan Adams
Jessica Blackmon
Daniel Brown
Michael Brown
Stephanie Cordell
Autumn Dodd
Chuck Gayton
David Gayton
Bailee Hawkins
Kirsten Hedgis
Jeffery Hill
Skyler Hughes
Haven Hurley
Levi Jackson
Matthew Lewing
Lyndsey Little
Stephany McGill
Sabrina Middleton
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American Legion Auxiliary Post 215 of Mentone visits Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell



Mr. James Gifford with his son, Pat Gifford,
and his friend, Mr. Glen Ivey

Mr. George Rudder gave an
impromptu art show for the
ladies and gentlemen



L/R: Charlyne O'Rear, Michael Ervin,
Assistant Activities Director at Fann Home; and
Penny Lyday, Vice-President American Legion
Auxiliary Unit 215

The afternoon of November 21, a group of ladies consisting of Mrs. Charlyne O'Rear, Mrs. Marilyn Blanton Campbell, Mrs. Sue Pumphrey, and Mrs. Penny Lyday from American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 of Mentone met at Mrs. Lyday's lovely home on Scenic Highway to make Christmas stockings for the DeKalb County residents of the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville. The ladies made some truly beautiful stockings and decorated them with paints, appliques, and accents in such a way that each one was distinctly different. Before the stockings could be filled, it was necessary for them to dry thoroughly.

The afternoon of December 1, Mrs. Marilyn Blanton Campbell met with Mrs. Charlyne O'Rear at her home to assemble the contributions they had collected from the ladies of the unit and fill the dry stockings with toiletries, various candies and treats, razors, blades, toothbrushes, etc., and good wishes.

The morning of December 2, a contingent representing American Legion Unit 215 and consisting of Mrs. Charlyne O'Rear, Mrs. Marilyn Blanton Campbell, Historian, Mrs. Penny Lyday, Vice-President, and her husband, Mr. James R. Lyday, who is Vice Commander of American Legion Post 215, headed out for the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville taking with them a load of fresh, home-made chocolate chip cookies for the residents, who could have sweets, and fresh apples for the residents, who could not, a box of 109 Christmas cards for the entire resident population, a stack of magazines to be donated to and enjoyed by the residents, and the stockings the ladies had made, decorated, and filled.

Mrs. Nancy Gavaghan, the Activities Director at the Fann home, was involved in a meeting, so, after she received the group, her assistant, Michael Ervin, took them around to deliver their Christmas stockings to the residents from DeKalb County, who seemed to be quite happy to see them.

The legion contingent went by first to see Mr. George Rudder and take him a stocking. Mr. Rudder appeared to be really quite happy to see the group and to receive his gift. He does the most beautiful paintings, and he treated the group to a private showing of a whole stack of his work. When somebody commented on the diversity of the subjects he painted, Mr. Rudder said, "I like everything."

The legion group was lucky to find Mr. James Gifford there. He was enjoying a visit (with his son, Pat Gifford, Police Chief and Head of the Rescue Squad at Ider, and a family friend, a Mr. Ivey, also of Ider) just prior to leaving with them on a pass for part of a day "on the town." When asked if he had any message he wanted to pass on to his friends and relatives back in DeKalb County, Mr. Gifford smiled broadly and reported, "I'm doing fine," and he is doing fine, too. The legion contingent left stockings with Mr. Milford Jones, Mr.

Rufus K. Rice, and Mr. Roy Ellis. Randy Carter's smile is enough to lift anybody's spirit, and, when the group delivered his stocking, it was difficult to tell who got the most out of the encounter.

Again the American Legion group had gone to the Fann home totally unannounced thinking that they wanted to see exactly what the situation there really was when nobody had the opportunity to correct any problems or deficiencies that might exist. The legion group was again into, through, around, and out of the entire place, and they found the premises to be as clean and well kept as on their previous visit. The residents appeared to be clean, comfortable, and well cared for. When the group noticed Michael Ervin's speaking to each and every resident by name without looking at a list, something was said about it, and he remarked, "I love these fellows, and I wouldn't want any other job." In the opinion of the legion group, that spoke well of the whole situation. Each resident that Mr. Ervin spoke to seemed to be genuinely pleased by the sincerity of his attention. The group was also impressed when the young Mr. Gifford pointed out that his father had not had a problem that had not been immediately addressed by the staff and remedied.

In the backs of their minds, some of the legion auxiliary ladies had doubted that the cards they had sent to the Fann home residents were being delivered. That fear was laid to rest once and for all when the group found a card they had sent being displayed in a resident's room, and Mr. Gifford had told the group that he had indeed received his cards. Having been there twice and observed only the best of possible good things at the Fann home, the ladies of Unit 215 have resolved to totally discount anything they find in the media to the contrary.

The membership rosters for American Legion Post 215 and the auxiliary unit are unquestionably short, and the active contingents making up "the hard core faithful" are even smaller than that. Therefore, any activity the ladies and gentlemen of the legion undertake requires a degree of persistence, determination, and versatility to be admired by one and all, but the fun they have and the rewards they experience are truly to be envied. The regular meetings of American Legion Post 215 and the auxiliary unit are held at the legion home on Cove Road in Mentone the second Tuesday night each month at 6:30 p.m. year round. Jesse Crabtree is the Commander of American Legion Post 215. Mrs. Syble Tipton is President of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215. Veterans and their wives interested in becoming members are invited to join the ladies and gentlemen of the legion for some fun and lots of rewarding hard work that are making a valuable contribution to the world as the people of Mentone know it in general, Alabama, and DeKalb County in particular making them better places in which to live.



The ladies of the Mentone contingent left stockings
with six veterans from DeKalb County

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A HUMBLE

(Continued)

Aura Mae became a teacher at 14 years of age and taught at different schools in the area: Lahusage, Rising Fawn, Wildwood, and in Bradenton, Florida. Frank Kirk was one of her students at Lahusage, and they enjoyed in later years reminiscing about their school days at Lahusage.

Kernie became a nurse and was County Health Nurse at one time and Emergency Room nurse in Fort Payne. She worked as a nurse at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga, and established the first employee health care program at Memorial.

Edna became a secretary and worked with Farmers Home Administration in Atlanta and retired from that position.

"Bill" was a dietitian at several different places. Roy and "Bill" Jones lived in Mentone for a number of years before moving to Macon, Georgia, where Roy supervised the boys in Hepzibah Orphanage in the farming operation. "Bill" was the dietitian there. They had many friends at Mentone, and I can remember my parents talking about wonderful times they enjoyed at parties in their home. They were a happy family and enjoyed entertaining. They returned to Sequoyah in 1951 where Roy farmed until his death.

Roy and "Bill" Jones had three children--Mary Sue, Betty Joyce, and John David. Mary Sue died as a child from tetanus. John finished high school at Valley Head in 1952. He was very close to his father, doing everything with him. For some time, John and his wife, Jean, occupied the old Humble house, which stands next to their present home, which Aura Mae built from two log cabins, one of which was on the property and the other came from Sulphur Springs. The view from the back of their house is spectacular, especially in the fall when all the trees have taken on their color splendor. It is one of the most restful spots I have visited. It is perfect for the bed and breakfast, "The Humble House", which John and Jean operate when they are not traveling to visit their sons, Roy and Doug, and their families. Jean was formerly Jean Holcomb from Hackleburg, Alabama, and she and John met while John was stationed in Birmingham and Jean was attending college there. They are happy living where they are and love the people in this area. John feels at home in the nostalgic setting of his home which possesses memories for him and historic landmarks for many people to enjoy and appreciate.



L/R: Ervin Wells and wife, Amanda Humble Wells; Marion Humble and wife, Saphronia Smith Humble; Albert Smith; (seated) John Perry Humble and wife, Harriett Saphronia Ellis Hicks Humble; Ben Phillips and wife, Melinda Humble Phillips; Alma Humble McSpadden; America Humble Hawkins; and Margaret Humble McSpadden. (All the men are standing, except John Perry Humble.)



Abbie Jane (Humble) Jones



Leanna B. Jones
mother of



John A. Jones



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BEGINNING

(Page 1)

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Lowrey Humble,
Perry Humble



Roy Jones



Aura Mae, Abbie, John Perry, Kernie and Edna,
see inset for the other sister, Eulalah, who was
deceased at the time of the family picture



Roy and Abbie Jones
on their wedding day



Roy and "Bill" Jones,
with daughter, Mary Sue



John Perry Humble and wife,
Harriett Saphronia Ellis Hicks
Humble

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NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Thanks to Dale Kerby, Jackie Smith, and Keefer Jackson, who donated their time, the foundation has been laid for the addition to the fire house located at 5907 Ala. Hwy 117 in Mentone. This addition will house the responder vehicle. The volunteer fire department members have been getting the first responder truck ready by installing lights and building a utility box to house the Jaws of Life and the pump on the truck, as well as attending to other important matters.

The fiscal year of the department begins on Nov. 1 and ends Oct. 31. Gail Chambers was again elected chairperson of the NLMVFPD Board.

This is a new year and time to consider renewing your \$25 pledge to the NLMVFPD. So, readers and residents of North DeKalb County, please forward your donations (and you don't have to limit your donation, which is tax deductible, to the \$25) to the address below. The telephone number is (205) 634-4545.

Thanks for your help in the past and thanks for your continued support. You may send your donations to:

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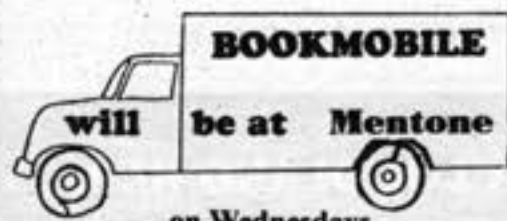
Back Issues of The Groundhog Available

Starting in February, if you would like to have copies of back issues of **The Groundhog**, you may do so by contacting either Evelyn Graves at 634-4390, or Marie Dillenbeck at 634-4541, or by writing to P.O. Box 387 Mentone, AL 35984-0387

The Dr. Pat Seymour Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Dr. Pat Seymour Memorial Scholarship Fund to help needy young people attend college has been established at Compass Bank in Fort Payne, AL 35967. Those wishing to contribute to the fund may send or take their donations to any Fort Payne branch of Compass Bank.

The DeKalb County



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

February	5	19
March	5	19
April	2	16 30

CRIES OF A BANISHED PEOPLE

By Ernest H. Smith

(A fictional story based on the Cherokee Indian removal)

Red Hawk was the first of his village to hear that their tribal lands had been sold to the Great White Father. He wondered how this could be, for their Chief, Eagle Feather, who dwelled by the river that winds like a snake, would never sell the Lookout Mountain home of his people.

But soon the horse soldiers appeared on the mountain, taking every path and game trail, herding the people before them as buffalo. They were told that they must leave the mountain, taking only a light pack for a long journey.

The people were stunned and greatly confused by the urgency of the moment. Families were separated and in fear of being harmed by the cruelty of the horse soldiers. They beseeched the spirits of their fathers to intercede on their behalf, but still the soldiers came. They cried out to the four winds, but knew only bitterness blowing through their despair. Having no hope of deliverance from their peril, many of the village accepted their fate, and took the first step that would lead them to a strange new land.

Red Hawk wondered if he might rally the braves and reach Eagle Feather. Perhaps they might be able to repel the horse soldiers and drive them from the mountain. He was ready to fight and die for his mountain home.

Red Hawk and his beautiful squaw, Starlight, daughter of Eagle Feather and Rising Dawn, made their escape by the Little River that flows on top of the mountain. They sought refuge in the stone caves, near the great Cataract.

These caves had provided shelter for many of their people for countless moons. The Old Shaman had told of an ancient people who had built the fort of stones and lived in the stone caves within. These strange people dwelled for a time in this place, then vanished like a ghost with the dawn.

Red Hawk and Starlight remained in the caves for almost a moon, before learning that most of their people had left the mountain. Even the old chief, The Broom, and his people, who had dwelled in the valley to the east, were now languishing in a stockade, awaiting removal from their lands.

Red Hawk now knew that their ancestral lands were lost forever. There was no longer any reason to hide out. It was time to join his people and accept his fate. They took the path that led to the valley, once the lands of the half-breed, Red Head Will, that would lead them to the Fort Payne Stockade.

Soon they encountered others on the path. The old and the very young were falling down, rising, and falling down again. The long muskets of the horse soldiers prodded them on without mercy. Late in the day, they arrived at the stockade and joined the others in misery. There was only soldier food available for them. It was called "hard tack" and served with a container of bad water. The old could not chew the food and the young could not keep it in their stomachs. Soon many were very ill and unable to stand, but the soldiers did not seem to care.

On the day for their departure from Fort Payne, Red Hawk and Starlight watched the sun rise above their mountain for the last time. Then, all were ordered to form a single column to begin the long march. Those unable to stand were left behind.

They traveled in a northerly direction toward the lands of the Tennessee. Later, they would turn west, crossing the mighty Mississippi, and continue their long trek to the distant western lands.

On the first night of rest, they huddled together, shivering from the night chill. How they longed for the warmth of their tepee fires, where the old men dreamed dreams and the children napped after a long day of play. A place where venison sizzled over hot embers. A place where all was well at the end of a perfect day.

By the second day of the journey, the old ones began to give up the spirit and fall by the wayside. The soldiers would not allow the time to prepare a decent burial. The flesh of their dead would now be devoured by beast and their bones left to bleach a ghostly white.

At last they arrived at the big river where they were loaded on flat canoes and taken to the distant shore. They now felt that the river symbolized a final break with their beloved homelands.

As they crossed the mighty river, Red Hawk was wondering if his children and his children's children would ever find happiness in the new lands. He knew that his heart had been left behind on the mountain that sings. He could only hope that one day his spirit might return to the mountain and be as the wind singing its eternal song of happiness.

Starlight now smiled at her warrior, as if to say, "I accept my lot for as long as you are by my side. Happiness is found where we are together."

They now joined the others, continuing beyond the great river, following the path of the sun, and on to their destiny.

Long after they settled in the new lands, these people continued to dream of their former mountain home, but knew they could never return, for a new race now claimed the mountain and had no thought of those who went before. Even now, you can hear these people say, "Our beloved mountain home was taken from us by the White Man. Their children now play where our children were once so happy. The spirits of our ancestors cry out in vain, searching for a lost people, who no longer inherit the land. Although the mountain may continue to sing its song of happiness, we will not hear, for we are a banished people, now dwelling in a far away land."

For many years, similar stories, perhaps some of them true, have been passed down through the generations of the once mighty Cherokee. Their removal from ancestral lands in 1838, and their long trek for resettlement in Oklahoma Territory, has come to be known as "The Trail Of Tears."

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Happy Birthday



Kristen Michelle Lauro

celebrated her **1st** birthday on Dec. 12, with her sisters, Kara and Sarah, and her brother Justin. Kristen is the daughter of John and Lorelei Lauro of Springfield, VA. Her grandmother is Marie Dillenbeck of Mentone, and her great grandmother is Dorothy Shelden of Las Cruces, NM.



Courtney "Jade" Smith

celebrated her **2nd** birthday on Dec. 30. Jade is the daughter of Shan Smith of Mentone and Vicki Smith of Fort Payne. Grandparents are Guy and Judy Smith of Mentone and Martha Kennedy of Rainsville. Jade has one sister, Shay, who is 7 years old.

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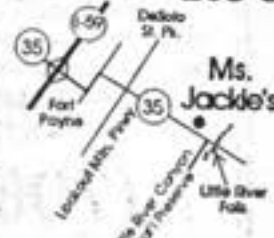
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About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



So much has happened since the last Groundhog article that I don't know where to begin. The Christmas and New Year holidays have come and gone. I think that everyone must have had a good holiday. I never heard "a mumbling word." Mentone was one of the most tastefully decorated towns in the county. All of the lights at the top of the mountain were dazzling. The shops, restaurants and places to stay outdid themselves this year. MAPA did a great job with the big tree in the vacant lot and with the lights on the poles throughout the city. The tree decorated with butterflies in the city hall window was most unusual.

Since the last article, it seems that we have had the season of spring before we had winter. It was so warm that some plants had sprouted from bulbs and some of the early spring shrubs were blooming. Now we are having some temperatures in the single digits. Besides freezing all of the water pipes, etc., this causes the ground to freeze and thaw several times, which results in a muddy mess! We also seem to be having a lot of wind this winter which causes it to seem so much colder—the "chill factor," you know.

We will be seeing a new face behind the desk at city hall before long. The town council has appointed Marie Dillenbeck to be the City Clerk for the town of Mentone. I'm not sure when she will be there full time. But when she is, let's all support her and welcome her to this position.

I have stayed at the city hall when Mrs. Bailey was on vacation, and I know that sometimes it can be a very trying job. Not only do you act as city clerk and water department clerk, but you are also expected to know where the mayor, police, water department head, fire chief and almost anyone else that is needed is at all times. Also, you are expected to know where everyone lives and where all of the water lines are. Besides all of this, you also serve as the Chamber of Commerce. You need to know all of the information about the shops, restaurants and places to stay. You must also be an expert on all special events and be able to give information on a moment's notice.

I know that Marie will be great in this position, but I think that she will agree with me that she has some mighty big shoes to fill. Catherine Bailey has been the clerk for many years and has done an excellent job. We will miss her being there, but she has earned a rest. She tells me that she plans to do some reading, some quilting, and some visiting. If I know her, Phyllis, her daughter-in-law, will have her playing grandmother to the children in the Headstart program at Moon Lake before long. Catherine loves children, and one of her many campaigns is for everyone to get a good education. Mentone is a better place because she lives here, and we wish her well.

At the last zoning commission meeting a list of the certificates for buildings (new and additions) for the year of 1996 was read. This makes us realize how Mentone is growing and also that the general populace is taking the zoning laws seriously. Zoning laws make good neighbors. If your neighbor wants to build a porch onto his house and it comes too close to your property line, then his request is denied. This is just one example of how the zoning laws benefit everyone. We all want to do what we want, but we should apply The Golden Rule, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This simple principle works in most all situations.

Stay warm, eat carbohydrates, and think Spring!!



GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

(Member of the National Home Gardening Club)

Well, here we are again, beginning a new year and so close to the end of another century! As this is purported to be the coldest month in Mentone and N.E. Alabama and no work will be done in the gardens or outdoors (unless we get lucky and get a few warm spells), I thought that I might use this time to bring to your notice some of the new ways and changes that are being used in farming and gardening worldwide.

Technology has drawn the whole world closer together again, just like it was centuries ago before the huge land mass split into continents. Now, we are almost one huge nation again (via modern technology), and naturally farming and gardening acres are being turned into huge concrete and steel cities making it necessary to tamper with and mutate the seeds and plants to produce more to feed more. But, of course, it's better to use the term "genetically engineered" instead of mutate.

Unfortunately, not all genetic engineered seeds and plants are for the better, like the tobacco plants which have been doctored to produce about double the amount of nicotine than the original plant. On the up-side, biotechnology brought a new tool to combat the polluting of ground water and run-offs into rivers and streams. It's a genetically engineered enzyme known as PHYTASE, it cuts the amount of phosphorus by 60% in poultry manure and 30% in pig manure. The FDA approved the product for sale on November 17, 1995. It goes under the brand name of NATUPHOS and comes in liquid or powder form that you can add to the animal feed.

Scientists say that insect-resistant and herbicide-tolerant varieties of seeds are just the beginning of many products of seed biotechnology that will eventually be available to farmers. Some other products to come are crops with disease resistance, tolerant to droughts, temperature extremes and salty soils. Grains and oil seeds tailored to specific livestock programs plus nutritionally enriched food grains, fruits and vegetables. Grains with improved baking and manufacturing qualities.

Animals that produce meat and milk that contain less fat and cholesterol and crops with enhanced traits for manufacture of industrial products. For more and daily updated information on agriculture, business and rural America, you could visit the web site as follows:

Progressive Farmer Online @ <http://pathfinder.com/PF/today>.

NEW FOR '97 (vegetables)

- | | |
|---|--|
| Cardoon - relative of the artichoke | Ambition - globe shallots (seeds) |
| Blue Lagoon - bush bean | Bonilla - yellow-fleshed shallots (seeds) |
| Cranberry, Cannelline - dry shelling bean | Gray Shallot - dry bulbs |
| Painted Lady - runner bean | Yellow Potato - winter-hardy multiplier onions |
| Nickel - French/Flute bean | Premium Northern White - German garlic |
| Albina - beet | Purple Italian Easy Peel - spicy-sweet garlic |
| Red Rubine - Brussels sprouts | German Red - garlic |
| Minicor - carrot (greenhouse) | Knight - shelling peas |
| Super Sweet Jubilee F1, Kandy Korn - yellow corn | Novella II - shelling peas |
| Early Pink Popcorn | Fajita Bell F1 - hot bell pepper |
| Marketmore - cucumber | Mushroom - squash/cheese pepper |
| County Fair - pickler cucumber | Early Scarlet Globe - radish |
| Redmore - red kale | Nordic IV - spinach |
| Komet F1 - kohlrabi | Ambercup - winter squash |
| Simpson Elite - lettuce | Bottleneck - large gourd |
| Optima - butterhead lettuce | Swan - crooked-neck gourd |
| Texas Supersweet, White Bermuda - onion | Big Moon - mammoth pumpkin (up to 200 lbs.) |
| Orchid sweet - watermelon | Glaskins Perpetual - rhubarb |
| Texas Grano 1015, First edition - sweet Spanish onion | Victorian - early rhubarb |
| Simeo - storage onion | Early Girl F1 - extra early tomato |
| Guardaman - English salad onion | Italian Gold F1 - sauce tomato |
| Kincho Long - Japanese long, white scallion | Doublerich - heirloom tomato |
| Pacific Pearl - Oregon pearl onion | Persimmon Tomato - beefsteak-type tomato |
| Egyptian Walking, Catawissa - Egyptian top-set onion | |
| Next month, flowers, etc. | |



FOR THE BIRDS



FEEDING TIME

By Ray Goggans

We've been talking about the bluebird, but let's not forget that, with the exception of the house sparrow—the bluebird's worst enemy, and a few "rogues" like the blackbirds or crows that give us gardeners a fit in the springtime, these little guys appreciate a free lunch from time to time, and especially when the snow and ice comes.

As you know, all birds don't migrate south in the winter, including blue birds. I see at least one feeding in one of my feeders almost every day and, of course, many of the other kinds of birds. My experience over the years is that the bluebirds like sunflower seeds the best. Although the bluebirds are insect eaters, they also go for the sunflower seeds. Many species of birds are attracted to black oil sunflower seeds and common striped sunflower seeds. Most birds are either seed eaters or meat eaters.

Meat-eating birds, such as woodpeckers, warblers, and nuthatches prefer suet, or beef fat. Suet can be purchased at grocery store meat counters and should be melted in a double boiler, allowed to cool, melted down again, and allowed to cool in molds before placing on the bird feeder. Before allowing it to cool completely, add seed mixtures, nuts, raisins, bread crumbs, or peanut butter, and a well crushed egg shell to provide grit and calcium. Suet can be used in a number of ways. Dip a pine cone in melted suet, allow it to cool, and place it on a feeder, or place chunks of suet in a mesh onion or citrus fruit bag, and attach the bag to a tree. Suet can also be placed directly on the bird feeder, but birds are usually attracted to suet that is attached to a tree or placed on a pole feeder, rather than suet on a free-hanging feeder. Birds will also eat dried overripe fruits, nuts, peanut butter, stale bread, cheese, popped popcorn, and cooked eggs.

Seeds and fruits supply the major food source for birds. Many fruits, which persist into winter (such as Nandina and Pyracantha) are made more palatable by frost and become valuable in sustaining migrating birds whose energy requirements are enormous. Fruiting evergreens, such as Acuba, Cottleaster, Hollies, Mahonia, Nandina, and Pyracantha, do double duty as food sources and protection from cold winter winds, ice, and snow.

One thing you will notice when you start a feeding program is the variety and number of birds that show up that you have never seen before. My favorite pastime in the summer is to try to figure out just what kind of bird is at the feeder. A lot of times, I can find the new bird in a bird book, but sometimes it is not listed in my book. I've even tried to take a picture to try to identify him. I don't think you will have that problem in Mentone, as most of the people there know all the species.

This might be a good time to mention the fact that I am not an expert on birds, but like most people, I appreciate them. Having been raised in the country, I probably took them for granted—a bird was a bird. But, somewhere in my later years, I came to realize the little bluebird was in big trouble. Then, I learned that the experts were concerned and a lot of people were talking about their demise. So, I started to put up bird houses. And before I knew it, I began to spot a bluebird from time to time and consequently got involved up to my ears trying to rescue this little fellow. Strange as it seems, all birds became something of a profound beauty and somewhat of a hobby.

So, if any of the cavity dwellers use your boxes, (except the house swallow) that's O.K. Just make sure there are enough boxes for my favorite, the bluebird. Here is a partial list of the birds that might use your boxes. Tree swallows, starlings, chickadees, tufted titmice, wrens, and also house sparrows, but throw them out. You might consider evicting the starling also. Just make sure your bluebirds have a place to nest. At least the others are in a far more abundant supply.

Each kind of bird has its own preferred type of nesting sites. Some place their nests on the ground or in low shrubs. Some prefer the tangle of vines. Some like tree limbs. Study birds, their nesting and food choices and, if possible, furnish what you can. The birds will be there for you to enjoy!



Photo of several of the members who attended the Christmas covered dish luncheon on December 10. The tables were covered with red and green tablecloths, and candles and poinsettias on each table. The hostesses, Marilyn Campbell, Ann Wright, and Alyce Springer did a fantastic job!



Rev. Randy Addison, singing, and wife, Kathy, playing the keyboard during the Rhododendron Garden Club Christmas meeting.

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

The Rhododendron Garden Club met on December 10, 1996, at noon at the Mentone Town Hall for their annual Christmas dinner meeting. The devotional was given by Penny Lyday based on Luke 2, what child is this, followed by the grace for the meal.

The regular order was changed to accommodate our program, Randy and Kathy Addison. Rev. Randy Addison of the Mentone Wesleyan Church sang while his wife played the keyboard. (See photo above.) The members joined in with a couple Christmas carols and the program was concluded by singing Happy Birthday to Mabel Kirk whose birthday is December 21. She is 90 years young.

Following the program, a delicious covered dish luncheon and great fellowship were enjoyed by all. (See photo above.) There were 26 present, including guests, Amelia Kirk, Lydia Speed, and Kathy, Megan, and Randy Addison.

There was no business.

The January 10, 1997, meeting was held at the home of Shirley Hussell, with other hostesses, Marilyn Campbell and Ginny Bosworth assisting with refreshments.

Dorothy Cyr had the devotion and centered the message around cold temperatures, citing Psalms 147:16 and 17, where snow and ice are mentioned.

There were 19 present, including two guests, Gethryn Giles, and Jan Cherbonneau.

The president, Marie Dillenbeck, announced that since the

December meeting, one of the club's faithful members had died, Mrs. Mildred Wylie. She was 90 years old and would volunteer for anything she felt she could accomplish. She volunteered to be on the telephone committee and was of great service to the club. We will miss her. She was a wonderful lady.

Several members were unable to attend due to the extreme cold weather and illness.

After the treasurer's report was given, under old business, the matter of applying \$200 to the cost of the purchase of a five-burner heater for the Mentone City Hall was discussed. Penny Lyday said that Leland Cox has a used heater he would be willing to sell to the garden club for use in the city hall.

The president announced that under new business: (1) The Deep South Region Convention will be held in Huntsville on March 19-22, at the Huntsville Marriott Hotel. (2) On Thursday, Jan. 16, She and Ann Wright would be attending a District II board meeting in Gadsden to get more information to pass on to the members before the convention. (3) The District II Spring Meeting will be held at the Palisades Park in Ononta, on April 17 at 2 p.m. This is the installation of new officers for District II. (4) A volunteer is needed to be on the telephone committee and the membership committee, as there are vacancies at this time, due to the recent death of the two members: Mildred Wylie and Dr. Pat Seymour. Dianne Kuehl volunteered to assist with the telephone calls.

There being no further business, Ann Wright presented the program on "Landscaping." Ann is a master gardener, and she and her husband, Bill, have a beautiful place called River Oak, which many garden clubs visit. To assist us in understanding landscaping, Ann passed out two handouts entitled "Residential Landscape Design" and "Care and Maintenance of Landscape Plants," which The Alabama Cooperative Extension makes available to the public through the extension office. Throughout her presentation, Ann was answering questions from the members about the planting of specific items, such as the Rhododendron, and the pruning of trees and bushes. Many valuable gardening/landscaping tips were shared with the club.

The hostess gift was won by Dianne Kuehl, and the club earned \$21 from the endeavor.

The next meeting will be at the City Hall on February 11, at 2 p.m. Roll call will be to name one chore to summarize your garden. Flo Kirby has the devotional, and the program will be a video on perennial gardening. Hostesses are Patti Bryan, Heather Nicely, and Karen Wright.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.; Deep South Region; The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.; Garden Clubs of District II; and Dekalb County Federation of Garden Clubs.

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I vowed I would never move again--vehemently! But, here we are on another moving adventure. We only moved about one mile north of the Lyons' place where we have lived for three and a half years. It's been a long, drawn-out procedure because we moved by spurts in between working on the house. Plumbing had to be redone, water seepage in the basement corrected, and various other small repairs done. Dewey Crow dug up the front to get to the foundation of the basement and waterproof it. Clyde Phillips refinished the floors in the living room and dining room, and they are beautiful. Clean Care did a fine job of cleaning carpet in the rest of the house, and Don Phillips did painting and will do some more painting and wallpapering a little later. We were in a hurry to get moved in before Christmas and have our family here. We made it with help from our son-in-law, Gregg Cooper, from Columbia, S.C. He worked hard for two weeks helping Homer move furniture.

The fact that the house was built for John and Mickey Cooper makes it special to us. I am very fond of them, and maybe partly because I was a Cooper myself. I told Homer he would never get away from the Coopers. Enough about this. Moving is a traumatic experience and if you have never done it--don't! We did find some interesting things that we lost in the last move and have lost other things we may never find.

Anyway, we will consider this a fresh beginning for a new year and start working hard to re-plant all the beautiful shrubs

John and Mickey had at the front of the house. We had to move them when digging to the foundation to stop water from seeping into the basement.

Our first guests were M.A.P.A. board members for a dinner meeting, and we enjoyed having our friends--Sherman and Mickey Gough, Jim and Penny Lyday, Ed Disney, and Donna Bouldin. I found a copy (in my moving "stuff") of our goals for M.A.P.A. that were done by the goals committee composed by Harrell Jenkins, Bruce Bon Fleur, and Grace Howard. This was done in 1983, and was reviewed in 1986, with comments. It was very pleasing to see that we had accomplished many of our goals, at least half of them.

We decided at our meeting that we need a membership drive and that we need to give the community an outline of what we have tried to do for Mentone and the surrounding area.

We had a dear, gentle, beautiful little lady who never missed a M.A.P.A. meeting that I know about, and who would always bring a dish of food when we had a pot-luck supper. She was the gracious, pleasant, and charming Mildred Wylie. She was 90 years old, but one would never guess she was near that age. Our sympathy goes to her daughter, Ann Rodgers. She passed away Dec. 24th.

Sherman and Mickey Gough have suffered a terrible loss in the death of their daughter, Patty, who was only thirty-nine years old. She was an attorney with everything going for her, it seemed. Please keep Mickey and Sherman in your prayers. I am glad the feature story about J.R. Bain was done last year. It was well done by his daughter, Patsy. Sometimes we think about doing things like this for others and wait too long. He was a fine man, reared a fine family, and was an original citizen of Mentone.

When the cold winds blow and sleet and snow come showering down, we stay inside and dream of spring, which isn't far away. Time moves fast and daffodils will be blooming before we realize it's time for them. We are already working on our Rhododendron Festival, which takes many meetings and planning sessions. We look forward to working with civic organizations to make this a good celebration of spring. We thank the fire department, the American Legion, and various volunteers and crafts people who work hard to produce a good festival.

Many of our goals have been accomplished, but our main goal of having a large community building is still a priority, and we need support from everyone to help us achieve this goal. We need a tract of land large enough for an auditorium and ample parking space. Please let us know if you know about or have property to sell that would be suitable for this project.

At our February meeting, on Feb. 4, we will discuss our goals, the Rhododendron Festival, and commemorate founders day for the organization. We met on Groundhog Day at Cragmere Manna to begin plans for the organization, hence the name Groundhog for our publication.

Stay warm and think "Early Spring".

Stop by & chat with Bernise at

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DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD

By Janice Mills Parker
Public Relations Director

Have patience awhile, slanders are not long-lived. Truth is the child of time; ere long shall appear to vindicate thee.

—Immanuel Kant

During the past few months, DeSoto Rescue Squad has been made aware that there are individuals who have found the need within themselves to start rumors about the squad. These rumors include such things as: DeSoto Rescue Squad has closed its doors, the squad is no longer functioning, that we no longer serve the Mentone area.

I will not speculate on why an individual would choose to do such a thing. I will, however, on behalf of DeSoto Rescue Squad, attempt to correct any misinformation which you may have received.

DeSoto Rescue Squad answers calls from the Emergency 911 office, in the areas of Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville, all the way to Sulfur Springs. This area of coverage has not changed. What has changed is our meeting and in-house training location. The city council of Valley Head, with the agreement of the Valley Head Fire Department, has given the squad approval to have our meetings and trainings at the Valley Head Fire Department.

This in no way changes our coverage area. It gives us a more central location to these areas. This also allows for us to use this address for Emergency Management Services Requirements, which we could not meet before. DeSoto Rescue Squad is very appreciative of these individuals and their assistance to us.

We are here to assist in emergencies. It is our wish and hope that this is accomplished by working together with each policeman, fireman, and medical personnel we are in contact with.

DeSoto Rescue Squad, as are all squads, is made up of volunteers--people from all backgrounds working together to assist those in need. Many hours are spent in training thru the year, meeting, and those hours when a call goes out.

We operate as First Response, we do not transport patients. There are those with Medical, High-angle Rope Rescue, Search and Rescue, and Rescue Diving Training. We also have a Rescue Diving Instructor in our squad.

Our squad is open to those who would like to assist others. We invite you to speak with us. Meetings are open to the public and anyone who would like to join us. We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Valley Head Fire Department @ 6:30. Should anyone be interested in an E.M.T. course, please contact us.

A Law of nature rules that energy cannot be destroyed. You change its form from coal to steam, from steam to power in the turbine, but you do not destroy energy. In the same way, another Law governs human activity and rules that honest effort cannot be lost, but that someday the proper benefits will be forth coming.

Paul Spelcher

The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



The Moon Lake Baptist Church honored Brandol Jones in the service on January 19, with Brandol Jones Appreciation Day. The church is experiencing a great January Bible Study averaging 40 in the adult class. On January 26, at 10 AM, the adults will experience a slide presentation by Celeste Neeley on her mission trip to Africa. Celeste is a student at Samford University. (She is the daughter of Terry and Edie (Cox) Neeley and the granddaughter of Leland and Gertrude Cox.) The youth will be in charge of the worship service on that date reflecting on the Youth Retreat to Gatlinburg. January 19 was Superbowl Bash at the church as members watched the Superbowl. Instead of the usual commercials, a spiritual emphasis was made at those times. Refreshments were served at half-time, and short skits were presented at commercial breaks. All commercial time was filled with spiritual things. New Moves Christian ministry for children is being used at the church. A Valentine banquet is tentatively set for Feb. 12, at 6:30 PM.

The Mentone Church of God of Prophecy invites you to attend Sunday School at 10 AM, Sunday morning worship at 11 AM, Sunday evening service at 6:30 PM, and Wednesday evening service at 6:30 PM. The church office is open Tuesday mornings and Saturday mornings from 9 AM to Noon, and the phone number at the church is 634-4459.

On January 26, the evening service will be a church-wide hymn sing at the Valley Head Baptist Church. On February 7-11, Pastor Jenkins will be attending the Pastors' Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. The youth of the church will attend a Dawson McAllister Student Conference on February 7-8. There will be a Sweetheart Banquet at 6:30 PM on February 12. On February 23, there will be a Home Missions Study from 5-7 PM with classes for all ages.

The Mentone Wesleyan Church celebrated a wonderful Christmas season. Everyone is always welcome to attend the services at the church. Sunday School is at 10 AM, Worship Service is at 11 AM, Evening Worship is at 6 PM, and the Wednesday services are at 7 o'clock.

The January UMW meeting of the Valley

Head Methodist Church was postponed because of illness and inclement weather. Regular services are at 9 AM for Sunday School and 10 AM for Worship Services.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church will have a family skate party on February 2nd at 6:30. The group will meet at the church for a meal at 5 PM prior to the party and will then go to Fort Payne Skating Center. Family Game Night is February 9, at 5 PM with a meal. An Ash Wednesday service is planned. Call the church for details.

January 26 is Friend Day at Mentone Church of God with lunch after the morning service. January 29 will be a special Youth service. Rick Gilham will be speaking in that service. There will be a Valentine Banquet for the youth on February 14. On February 22, there will be a Praise Concert with a group from Shades Mountain Church of God called "Frontline" doing special singing.

The Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church Mentone Chapter is currently meeting at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head from 9:30-12 on Sabbath. The pastor is Wilbur Atwood, and the lay pastor is Bill Pike. Visitors are welcome. There is a fellowship meal following church on the second Sabbath each month. Revelation Bible Study began on January 23, and will continue each Thursday from 7-8 PM. If you have any questions, you may call 634-4021 or 634-4658.

Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to attend worship services each Sunday morning at 9 AM, with Rev. L. A. Smith and Rev. Jerry Davis as alternate speakers.

Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) invites you to attend services on Sunday morning at 10 AM. Visitors are always welcome to visit the chapel at other times also. Vacation clothes are always acceptable for the service.

The services at the Mentone United Methodist Church are at 11 AM each Sunday. Everyone is welcome to attend. UMW meets the first Wednesday of the month at 2 PM at the Fellowship Hall. The next meeting is Feb. 5.

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(3) **WALK TO MENTONE** - from this darling cottage, located on Huckleberry Lane. Features 2 bdrm, 1 bath, large Deck on back, porch on front. New Carpet, Vinyl and central H/A unit. Across from brow but close enough to watch the sunset. New appliances in Kitchen stay, and W/D. Priced \$68,500.



(5) **ROCKY TOP ESTATES** Brow lots for sale. New addition now open with new road and underground power. Property is located on Co. Rd. 66 behind DeSoto State Park. Prices start at \$20,500 to \$32,000.

TOO MANY PROPERTIES TO LIST THEM ALL.
If L.M.P. doesn't have it,
L.M.P. will find what you're looking for.
Call for more information.

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



(2) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATE** - Phase 1 now open. 3-5 acre tracts on the Middle Fork of Little River. Located on Hwy. 117 S, Lookout Mountain Parkway, 4 miles from downtown Mentone and 2 miles from the GA line. Riverfront tracts starting at \$27,500 and 4-15 acre wooded stream tracts from \$10,000. Must see this unforgettable beauty.



(4) **DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE AND FUN WITH TWO HOMES IN ONE!** Just a stones throw from the lake, but not on water. This 2 story home has new carpet and vinyl. It is ideal for duplex or the large family vacation home. Two fully equipped kitchens, 2 dens, 2 bedrooms, 2 car garage, and a 21x31 Florida room. 1-1/2 baths and over 3,700 sq. ft. of living space. \$146,900 - \$95,000.

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(6) **PICTURE YOUR NEW HOME NESTLED AMONG HUGE ROCK FORMATIONS** - on Desoto Parkway, Mentone. This building lot already has City water, Septic tank installed, driveway, and cleared to build. \$21,900.

(7) **GETAWAY COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON**. 1 bdrm, 1-1/2 bath, fireplace, screened porch and Glassed Alabama room overlooking the Canyon. Contains 7.8 acres and a stream through the middle. Very secluded. \$68,000.

(8) **EAST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER** - 18 acres with over 1/2 mile of river frontage and rafting, with all the privacy and country life. \$110,000.

(9) **LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN ON THE DESOTO PARKWAY**, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, fireplace. Sits on 3.28 acres with large lot, city water, cable. Minutes from DeSoto State Park and Ft. Payne. \$57,000.

(10) **WEST BROW DESOTO PARKWAY** - 2.4 acres with 1/2 mile of river frontage. Valley below. Minutes from Meridian. Property \$67,500.

(11) **78 ACRES** on the west brow. Minutes from DeSoto State Park. Great investment property with over 1,000 ft. of brow frontage, city water, and a beautiful view, all for \$100,000. at a great buy. \$447,400. Owner sad to see it go, \$50,000.

J. O. Y.

The Just Older Youth will meet on January 30, at 11:30, and the February meeting will be on February 27 at 11:30 AM, also. Bring a friend and a covered dish and join in the fun and fellowship. The meetings are held at the Moon Lake Baptist Church, but all denominations are invited.

NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the North DeKalb Ministerial Association is February 20, at 7 PM, at the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy.

National Recognition for Mentone

On page 37 of the Jan-Feb 1997 issue of *National New*, which is the national magazine published by the American Legion Auxiliary, the local ladies of Unit 215 are recognized for their initial visit to Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home at Huntsville. Syble Tipton is the president of local American Legion Unit 215.



33 Foot Long Banana Split

Mentone's largest banana split was 33 feet long. It was made by the members of Moon Lake Baptist Church after their regular Wednesday night prayer meeting on Jan. 15. They were able to eat 3/4 of it.



FIRST NEW ARRIVAL OF 1997

Ken and Nicole Keel of Mentone are the proud parents of the first baby born in DeKalb County in 1997. Cassidy "Bailee" Keel was born at 5:30 a.m. on New Year's Day. She weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces, and measured 20 inches. Dr. Steve Coulter served as obstetrician and Dr. Dedios served as pediatrician. Several local merchants and businesses donated prizes. They were: AmSouth Bank, Compass Bank, Martin's Jewelers, New Beginnings, Alabama Fan Club, Food World, Styles by Peachie, Gail's Florist, Bruce's Foodland Plus, Tadpoles, Special Occasions, Western Sizzlin, C&H Drug, Kiddie Kasuals, Wal-Mart, and Party Connection. Photo by Scott Turner of the Times-Journal



MASTER GARDENER CLASS OF 1996: Mike Arnold, Mary Crabtree, Dallyne Jones, Rebecca Barrier, John Gault, Sarah Horton, Emma Jordan, Lou Ann Weatherly, Barbara Wise, Christina Vincent, and Jan Wilkinson. Not pictured: Harold Lake, Ramona Beck, Linda McCurdy, Kay Scuggs.



MASTER GARDENER CLASS OF 1995: Brad Anderson, Ed Campbell, Vickie Goforth, Dodie Marquard, Kristie Rastall, Linda Stephens, Mimi Anderson, Celestine Darnell, Flora Duncan, Ann S. Houston, Treby Miller, Pat Shippey, and Ann Wright. Not pictured: Harriet Turner. Photos by Scott Turner, Times-Journal

DEKALB COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS GRADUATE

Thursday, Dec 19, 1996, marked the graduation of both the 1995 and 1996 classes of the Master Gardeners of DeKalb County. The graduation luncheon and ceremony was held at 11 a.m. at the Western Sizzlin Restaurant in Fort Payne.

Bill Springer, director of the Little River Canyon Preserve, was the guest speaker. Holiday music was provided by Jim Bowman on the keyboard, Kaare Lollik-Anderson on accordion and Finn Grunert on guitar.

The first Master Gardener program was begun in Washington State in 1972. Twenty-three years later, programs are in operation in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and four Canadian provinces.

The Alabama Master Gardeners program was piloted in Madison County in 1981. During the past 15 years, county extension agents from 30 counties in Alabama have offered

the program in their respective areas.

The program was first introduced in DeKalb County last year and has produced some 30-plus Master Gardeners thus far. Classes were administered by Terry Shackelford, DeKalb County agent, and Master Gardeners Pat Shippey, Ann Wright, and Harriet Turner.

Through the coordination and teaching of various county extension agents and extension specialists from Auburn and Alabama A&M Universities, as well as other institutions, more than 2,000 Master Gardeners have been instructed in an intensive 40 hours of horticultural training. They have also shared their knowledge and expertise through volunteer service in their home communities.

The DeKalb County Master Gardener class of 1995 will receive their Master Gardener certificates, having completed

both the academic qualifications and the required 40 hours of volunteer service. The 1996 class will receive their academic certificates, having just completed that portion of the qualifications.

Once the initial 40 hours of volunteer service is completed, members are required to give at least 20 hours of volunteer time each year to remain a certified Master Gardener.

Master Gardener volunteer programs are tailored to meet the needs of their individual counties. Their knowledge is shared with the people as they speak to civic groups, volunteer time at botanical gardens, assist with children's gardening programs, as well as designing, implementing, and maintaining community landscaping projects.

VALLEY HEAD SCHOOLS HONOR ROLL

HIGH SCHOOL

Third Six Weeks

ALL A's

12th Grade
Christy Ferguson
Mandora Hannah
Carolien Lansbergen
Nikki Smith

11th Grade

Teri Campbell

10th Grade

Tricia Goodman

9th Grade

Anna Rievey

8th Grade

Slade Carden

7th Grade

Lacie Clure
Andrea Grisham
Stacey Hyde

A's and B's

12th Grade
Brandi Abercrombie
Amanda Bethune
Kerry Blalock
Amy Crane
Misty Ferguson
Tina Hester
Wendy Hyde
Haley Johnson
Mady Magina
Natasha Martin
Josh Smalley

11th Grade

Rene Brendle
Brooke Chandler
Amy Izell
Jason Meadows
Jana Redish
Brandi Shirley
Shane Storey
Greg Wassom
Heather Wilbourn

10th Grade

Brandy Busby
Ashley Blalock
Tabitha Brisendine
Selina Couch
Eric Crane
Toby Crider
Nancy Jeffery
Josh Miller
Josh Williamson
Melissa Williamson

9th Grade

Hannah Alexander
Jeffrey Bullock
Kerri Hale
Carla Knowles
Adriane Robertson
Stephani Watkins

8th Grade

Jessica Barrier
Eric Battles
Leeanne Blalock
Becky Mays
Shelia McKinney
Jill Wampler

7th Grade

Jessica Baty
Jennifer Blalock
Jerry Lee Brisendine
Brandy Browder
Jenny Gregory

First Semester

ALL A's

12th Grade
Christy Ferguson
Wendy Hyde
Carolien Lansbergen
Nikki Smith

11th Grade

none

10th Grade

Tabitha Brisendine

9th Grade

Anna Rievey

8th Grade

Slade Carden

7th Grade

Stacey Hyde

A's and B's

12th Grade
Amanda Bethune
Kerry Blalock
Misty Ferguson
Mandora Hannah
Haley Johnson
Mady Magina
Natasha Martin
Josh Smalley

11th Grade

Justin Baugh
Rene Brendle
Krissey Brown
Teri Campbell
Amy Izell
Kim McElhane
Jana Redish
Brandi Shirley
Jennifer Smith
Shane Storey
Greg Wassom
Heather Wilbourn

10th Grade

Ashley Blalock
Selina Couch
Eric Crane
Toby Crider
Tricia Goodman
Josh Miller
Josh Williamson
Melissa Williamson

9th Grade

Hannah Alexander
Jeffrey Bullock
Kerri Hale
Adriane Robertson
Amanda Stewart

8th Grade

Jessica Barrier
Eric Battles
Leeanne Blalock
Shelly Brown
Becky Mays
Sheila McKinney
Jill Wampler

7th Grade

Jennifer Blalock
Jerry Lee Brisendine
Brandy Browder
Lacie Clure
Andrea Grisham

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

First Semester

ALL A's

1st Grade
Paige Bethune
Matthew Fuller
Jessica Goodwin
Justin Grider
Danielle Johnson
Ashlee Romine
Savanna Weller

2nd Grade

Brittany Bevel
Tyler Gatlin
Ethan Lewis

3rd Grade

Heather Dulaney
Aaron Grisham
Tylor Harrison
Sheena Moses
Hillary Nichols
Rebecca Terrell

4th Grade

Matt Battles
William Blevins
Sheena Combs
Matt Croxton
Jacklyn Davis
Amber Hannah
Kyle Hicks
Chris Miller
Stacey Ogle
Kim Willbanks

5th Grade

Robert Brown
Jeremy Edgeworth
Blake Hulan
Aubrey Ogle
Steven Thornberry

6th Grade

Josh Hulan

A's and B's

1st Grade
Casey Battles
Tiffany Crane
Chris Gregory
Megan Gregory
Justin Smith
Billy Stanfill
Bryan Thomas
Vince Wright

2nd Grade

Zachary Cooper
Alan Crider
Heather Daniel
Cory Dobbins
Amelia Hannah
Ashley Johnson
Dustin Johnson
Sydney Johnson
Robert Kauble
Ashley Tinker
Adam Tuxbury
Amber White

3rd Grade

Christina Armstrong
Trista Blackmon
Christina Bullard
Dustin Davis
Kyle Garrett
Brandon Hawkins

4th Grade

Heather Freeman
Crystal Gregory
Billy McKinney
Nelson Overstreet
Kim Pritchett
Shelly Terrell
Ben Windom

5th Grade

Greg Carreker
Britt Heinrich
Justin McMullins
Ashley Tuxbury

6th Grade

Crystal Bethune
Amanda Knowles
Tessa McKinney
Beth Shirley
Matt Tillman



MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HONOR ROLL

Third Six Weeks

ALL A's

1st Grade
Randy Addison
Tim Bain
Kayla Hazell
Tom Tipton
Sheena Tishaw

2nd Grade

Barnabas Bettis
Melissa Crane
Alex Hazell
Justin Smith

3rd Grade

Jared Bare
John Baxter
Laura Floyd
Melissa Harrison
Lori Hope
Sara Hurt
Kellye Phillips
Emily Tipton

4th Grade

Kristen Addison
Rachel Bryan
Erica Campbell
Matt Hawkins
Catrina Ingram
Amanda Johnson
Andrew McCole
Kelly Wright

5th Grade

Kyle Hooks

6th Grade

Tiffany Bare
Tessa Collett
Stuart Hurt
Kerri McMunn

A's and B's

1st Grade
Brittany Clark
Patrick Murphy
Will Scott
Shinice Smith
J.J. Stinson
Paige Wright

2nd Grade

Logan Chambers
Mark Corey
Katie Herndon
Julie Ingram
Loren Kean
Whitney LaBuda
Phillip McNutt
Heather Phillips
Angel Wesley

3rd Grade

Katie Gray
Marie Hunt
Brandy Manning
Kirby McMunn
Joshua Rogers

Cayla Voils

Phillip Waller
Jason Willis

4th Grade

Colby Baty
Amanda Collins
Paul Davis
Sarah Dodd
Nick Floyd
Jessica Meadows
Keith Miller
Josh Smith
Natasha Tishaw

5th Grade

Dustin Burt
Emmy Corey
Ashley LaBuda
Ashley McSpadden

6th Grade

Joshua Hughes
Natasha Moreland
Kelly Owen
Kiley Young



Moon Lake School News

By Evelyn Graves

The local spelling bee was held in January. This year's champion was Tiffany Bare.

This year's Jump Rope for Heart campaign will begin on January 31 and go through February 14. Students will collect pledges for Jump Rope for Heart, which will go to the American Heart Association. This is the third annual Jump Rope for Heart event at Moon Lake School.

There will be no school on Friday, February 7. It is a day of workshop for school staff.

The next P.T.O. meeting is February 11, at 6 PM, in the school cafeteria.

February 17 will be another holiday, Presidents' Day.

Report cards will go out again on February 20.

A Spanish class for adults is taught every Thursday at 7 PM at the school by John Pound. The public is invited, and it is free. The class is sponsored by the Mentone Education Research Foundation.

We welcome Leia Brown as the new Kindergarten Special Services Aide.

Dr. Berry is proud to report that the school lunchroom scored 100 on the most recent inspection.

Basketball season has ended. A special thanks is extended to Dudley Easter, Allen Crow, and Eric Kirby, who work faithfully and diligently with the children in sports.

February is American Heart Month

Here are some tips for reducing the risk of a heart attack during exercise: Your chance of having a heart attack during exercise is small. Still, if you're older or out of shape, or if you have heart disease, get your doctor's OK.

Then, follow these tips:

- Exercise regularly. Cardiovascular risk rises if you alternate intense workouts with weeks to months of inactivity.

- Avoid start and stop activities. Control physical exertion with a "continuous" form of exercise, such as walking, swimming, and cycling.

- Exercise, don't compete. Avoid physical and emotional intensity in competitive sports.

- Wait two to three hours after a large meal before exercise. Digestion directs blood to your digestive system and away from your heart.

- Take the talk test. If you can talk easily while exercising, you're not overexerting.

- Tailor exercise to the weather. Cut back on speed and distance when it's hot and humid.

- Warm up and cool down. This reduces stress on your heart and risk of muscle strain.

- Don't walk or jog near heavy traffic. Carbon monoxide pollution reduces oxygen supply to your heart.

- Listen to your body. If you have dizziness, nausea, weakness, chest pain or shortness of breath, stop exercising and see your doctor.

These tips are from The Mayo Clinic Health Letter.

-CLASSIFIED-

HOUSE FOR SALE - Rising Fawn, Ga. 3 BR, 1 bath, older home on 2-3/4 acres. Beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. 5 miles south of Rising Fawn on Cloverdale Rd. \$25,000. Telephone (285) 851-8493



The story of Valentine's Day begins in the third century with an oppressive Roman emperor and a humble Christian martyr. The emperor was Claudius II. The Christian was Valentinus.

Claudius had ordered all Romans to worship twelve gods, and he had made it a crime punishable by death to associate with Christians. But Valentinus was dedicated to the ideals of Christ, and not even the threat of death could keep him from practicing his beliefs. He was arrested and imprisoned.

During the last weeks of Valentinus' life a remarkable thing happened. Seeing that he was a man of learning, the jailer asked whether his daughter, Julia, might be brought to Valentinus for lessons. She had been blind since birth.

Julia was a pretty young girl with a quick mind. Valentinus read stories of Rome's history to her. He described the world of nature to her. He taught her arithmetic and told her about God. She saw the world through his eyes, trusted in his wisdom, and found comfort in his quiet strength.

"Valentinus, does God really hear our prayers?" Julia asked one day.

"Yes, my child, He hears each one," he replied.

"Do you know what I pray for every morning and every night? I pray that I might see. I want so much to see everything you've told me about."

"God does what is best for us if we will only believe in Him," Valentinus said.

"Oh, Valentinus, I do believe," Julia said intensely. "I do."

She knelt and grasped his hand. Then they prayed together. Suddenly there was a brilliant light in the prison cell. Radiant Julia cried, "Valentinus, I can see! I can see!"

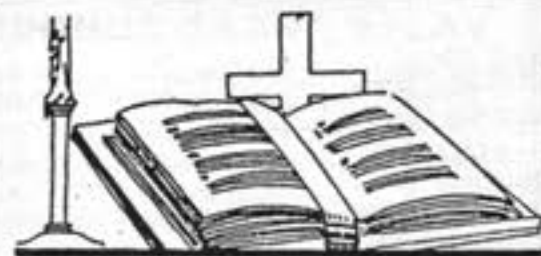
"Praise be to God!" Valentinus exclaimed.

On the eve of his death, Valentinus wrote a last note to Julia, urging her to stay close to God, and he signed it "From your Valentine."

His sentence was carried out the next day, February 14, 270 A.D., near a gate that was later named Porta Valentini in his memory. He was buried at what is now the Church of Praxedes in Rome.

It is said that Julia herself planted a pink-blossomed almond tree near his grave. Today, the almond tree remains a symbol of abiding love and friendship. On each February 14, St. Valentine's Day, messages of affection, love, and devotion are exchanged around the world.

Happy Valentine's Day!



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.

Song of Solomon 8:7

The month of February is a good time to express our love. Many things have been called love that were not love at all. But the most valuable thing is love. The great writer said love is as strong as death. If a man would give all he had for love, he would not be sorry because love will stand the test in the bad times and in the good times. It will keep a home together, and give children a dad and a mother. Work to make your love grow. **Happy Valentines Day.**

THANKS

An expression of thanks is extended to everyone who was so kind during the sickness and recent death of Libby McNutt. Thank you for the flowers, the visits, cards, and anything else you may have done to make this experience easier for us.

The Millard McNutt Family

Special skier



Nina Franks of Montevallo participates in the annual Special Olympics ski trials held Tuesday, January 14, at Cloudmont Ski and Golf Resort in Mentone. The kids learn basic ski techniques and advanced ski maneuvers while competing for a chance to advance to the Special Olympics. Photo by Scott Turner, Times-Journal

DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE



Saturday, February 15, 7 p.m.
Hammondville National Guard Armory on Hwy. 11

Admission: \$3.00 single
\$5.00 couple
Children 14 and under FREE with paid adults

Door Prizes to be given away!

Entertainment: Live music, including Harold Dean Mitchell, singer, and a band to be announced

Come on down and enjoy the evening with your sweetheart!

Happy Valentine's Day