

Celebrating
12 Years
in Print

THE

GROUNDHOG

Mentone • Valley Head • Hammondville • Cloudland • Menlo

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Since 1982
by M.A.P.A.

Volume 12, No. 1

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

January, 1994

1993: THE BEST OF TIMES--

THE WORST OF TIMES

By Pat Seymour



A Groundhog review of 1993 in Mentone indicates the year was the best of times:

...The MAC (Moon Lake After School Club) was a big success;

...Ovie Blalock was awarded "Fraternalist of the Year" by the Woodmen of the World;

...Decal blanks in the Groundhog and benefits by MAPA members raised over \$5,000 for the North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Department;

...New businesses sprang up in Mentone;

...A million dollar contract was negotiated by Max Cash, Homer Crow, and Dr. Pat Seymour for the Highway 117 rock wall replacement by the Alabama Highway Department;

...Poet Ralph Hammond was honored with a tea given by the Valley Head Woman's Club;

...Mentone Heritage Foundation received a grant from the Southern Regional Office of the National Trust Fund for Historic Preservation;

...The DeSoto Rescue Squad produced its cookbook;

...MAPA's first "Crafts-On-The-Brow" festival was held;

...Mentone Firemen's Labor Day Bar-B-Q drew hundreds as part of the county-wide Southern Mountain Festival;

...The Community Chorus was reassembled in time for several Christmas Cantata concerts;

...Jack Jones and MAPA hosted the first-ever community picnic at his ranch;

...Nature's Classroom, headed by Jamie Aiken, published its first book, "A Harvest of Hope;"

...Many of Mentone's residents published books and articles;

...Local artists and craftsmen drew thousands to the Mentone area;

...Mentone, Menlo, Hammondville, Cloudland, and Valley Head drew closer together with Groundhog ads and articles contributed from the area;

...Mentone's North Alabama Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Department obtained the Jaws of Life;

and it was the worst of times,

...Mentone was paralyzed for days by the "Blizzard of the Century" with the Rescue Squad and Volunteer Fire Department responding heroically to the disaster;

...Many of Mentone's finest and most beloved residents died. Among them, the Groundhog's first editor, Charles White McGehee;

...Mentone mayor Max Cash reported that 911 street signs were being stolen by vandals;

...The dreaded Beijing flu struck dozens of Mentone residents;

...Fatal traffic accidents struck down a number of Mentone residents;

...A scorching heat wave held Mentone in its grip for the entire summer. Crops withered and died in the fields, and wells went dry;

...Mentone residences and businesses were burglarized; and

... "Magical Mentone" videos were produced through a joint effort between MAPA and the Mentone Heritage Foundation.

Yes, as Charles Dickens began his novel, "A Tale of Two Cities," the Groundhog articles over the year 1993, reflect the best and worst of times in Mentone. However, notice how the good things happened in our city outweighed the bad. This coming year, 1994, will, no doubt, add up the same way. The best is yet to be for Mentone, our quaint little mountain town atop Lookout Mountain.

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BOOK OF THE YEAR

By Eloise M. Brown

The year is an unwritten book,
Its pages are blank, white, and clean;
When it is complete with backward 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 so specious,
No vain embellishments employ.
Each a precious moment of life,
Inscribed on the ledger 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.
Illustrate with hope and treasure its length,
As we write the book of the year of our lives,
Bind its pages together with faith and strength,
Then give the book as a gift, only that survives.
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!



There will be a
Senior Citizen Dance
at the Senior Center
in Fort Payne
January 18, 1994
from
7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
Enjoy the music of
"The Directors"

For more information,
phone the
Council on Aging
845-8590.

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ASSOCIATION (MAPA)
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MENTONE, AL 35984

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THE GROUNDHOG

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P. O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984

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

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAPA MEMBERS

Bill Patterson.....January 4
Karl Yatoma.....January 6
Randall Rice.....January 6
Charlyne O'Rear.....January 7
Marie Dillenbeck.....January 12
Pearl Stanfield.....January 20
Terry Bouldin.....February 2



GROUNDHOG



DAY

February 2nd is Groundhog Day

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Loyal readers, did this magnificent beast ever pull in the gifts and tributes from the jolly fat man with the sleigh! Under my tree was a fuzzy cat, a tumbling ball, a squeaky Santa, and a bag of goodies from Mae. Certainly no more than I deserve, I must say. Understandably, no gift from Al who's so jealous of my hunkness he can taste it. One look at this lithe body rippling with muscles, and Al turns green with envy. Also, he pouts because Pop walks me and not him. Eat a flower, nursery man.

We had a minor tragedy in the Superette a few weeks back. The hated Rug Man was here to do his weekly rug trick (jerking my rugs out and changing them). Well, I got loose and made a strong and well-deserved lunge at Rug Man. Pop lost his temper, swung my leash to punish me, and--hit Mae a mighty blow in the leg with the leash buckle. She sported a big purple bruise for a week while guilty Pop let her have her way about everything in the Superette. Served Pop, the brute, right, I say. Can you imagine anyone having the nerve to try to strike my magnificent body?

My loyal and adoring subjects, the children, filled my holidays with great cheer. Kneeling and adoring were Jana Goss, Sara Hurt, Susan Noel, Mrs. Sibert, with Penny, Matthew, Ashley, and Chris Paugh.

My favorite child may be 18-month-old Erin Hoffman, daughter of Mark and Karla Hoffman. Get this--when they bring Erin to the Superette, she cries and screams until she is brought to see the Magnificent One. That baby can already appreciate my beauty! A most intelligent girl child!

Here comes that cute Melissa Harrison. She always buys me crackers. They're the only thing I like as well as the beef jerky Tabitha Lacy shares with me.

Ann Climer was in to give me a Merry Christmas pat on the head. Another lady who knows greatness when she sees it!

Believe this, if you will, dear readers, Rudolph Bell is so stingy, he'll leave the store rather than share his Little Debbie Oatmeal. Pray for him so he'll see the error of his ways and repent of his pigginess. Thank goodness for people like Evonne Blalock who always shares her candy.

Smart Alec Randall Bailey just left. He sells insurance for Mutual Savings and had the nerve to ask me if I had a policy. How does he think those insurance forms of his would taste if a 100-pound magnificent dog crammed them down his throat?

Well, Hershell Pruitt was in for a Buddy Bar ice cream and stood at the counter teasing the great one about not sharing. God got him good! The top of the cone fell off (nuts and all), and Mae gave me the whole thing! That'll teach you to share, greedy gut, mule man!

Una Biddle has finally seen the glorious one. Sister Ettie Biddle brought Una into the Superette and told her in a hushed, awed voice, "This is Brutus!" Respectful, charming woman, that Una.

Time for Pop to trot--if you know what I mean! Later, beloved readers.

Best Wishes
For
The New Year!



Mentone Grapevine

By
PAT SEYMOUR

The news everyone in Mentone had been hoping for came Thursday afternoon, January 6th: heart attack victim **Sanford Hartline** arrived back in Mentone from Riverview Hospital in Gadsden. **Welcome back, Sanford!** You are truly a special person to many, many people. (There are large jars on checkout counters in Valleyhead and Mentone for donations to help defray the costs of Sanford's hospitalization. Give generously!)

The biggest news about **George Beabe** is not his terrible case of the flu. It's the fact that Jo and George hosted their two daughters, their daughters' husbands, and their grandchildren over Christmas. From Chattanooga, daughter Georgia and her husband Danny Stevens visited with their children: Samantha, Robin, and Peter. Daughter Jan and husband Terry Moore, from Gadsden, along with children Adam and Rachael joined in the Mentone Christmas, also.

Another big family group gathering on Christmas Eve was the Luther "Junior" King clan. Acting as hostess, daughter Erma McAdams welcomed mother Faye King and Faye's friend Bill Broadwine of Chattanooga; Lamar King and his children, Carla, Eric, and Nicholas (wife Cheryl had the flu and missed out); "Doc" King and his daughter, Melanie, and her husband Marty Dutton, and daughter Danielle; Brian McAdams and his daughter, Brittany; and Daniel Steele, a family friend.

Speaking of the flu, it seems to be sweeping Mentone. Danny Hopper, Jesse Crow, Amelia Kirk, Mabel Kirk, Grace Crow, Sue King, George Beabe, and countless other Mentonites have fallen victims.

Big "Birthday 78" rolled around in high style for Joe Stephens on December 30. Son Michael planned a surprise birthday party at Dessie's Kountry Chef, and invited friends Yvonne Blalock, Susan Blalock and children, Mickey and John Cooper, Gail and Jim Gaylord, Pat Seymour, Judy and Harry Weaver, wife Betty Stephens, Marie Dillenbeck, and Rev. David Lett. The height of the festivities was a surprise, long-distance birthday call from son, Jerome, who lives in Philadelphia.

How many of you readers out there have noticed LM Flannigan's new windbreaker? The handsome jacket was a Christmas gift from the Superette staff to their most loyal banana-eating customer and good friend. The only "staff" member not to contribute was Brutus because "M" rarely shares!

Amelia Kirk and Mabel Kirk had a wonderful holiday, as did Dorothy and Grace Crow. Amelia's son Larry Brooks and wife, Mokie flew from Tokyo with their seven-month old son, Chris, to spend a week with the family. Amelia's other children, Cindy Foxworth, came from Dallas with her husband Bob

and sons Holden (age 2) and Brandon (age 4-1/2); and daughter Cathy and husband Dave Higdon flew in from Sacramento with sons DJ (age 14) and Justin (age 13). Talk about a house full! It's no wonder everyone except Dorothy came down with cases of the flu after all visitors flew back home.

It's back-to-back birthdays for Marlon Williamson, pastor of the Mentone Revival Center, and his wife, Brenda. Her birthday is January 10 and Bro. Williamson's is January 9. Sounds like the perfect time for a "surprise" birthday dinner by his congregation, inviting "friends of the couple," of course.

Lola Mae Blalock's nurse daughter Betty Bowman and husband Joe held a lovely family holiday gathering at their home in Fort Payne. Son Charles Blalock with his wife Peggy came from Rome with children, Bryan, Sherry, and great granddaughter, Emily. Young Joe and Lori Bowman rounded out the family group. Lola Mae says the fellowship and food were marvelous.

The spectacular MAC party in early December, given by Jean Corey and Marsha Hurt for those some fifty of us who worked in the program, was the kickoff of the Christmas Season for me. This gala was followed later in the month by the incomparable "holiday do" put on by neighbors Oscar and Shirley Hussel and the spectacular gathering at Sue Henry's cabin on the brow in Cloudland.

If you didn't attend the New Year's dance at the Valley Head Armory, you missed a great par-tee chaired by Sible Hopper and Ilene Green. It truly kicked off 1994 in style. Mike and Tena Cryer supplied the music.

All who traveled on Highway 117 over the holiday season enjoyed the beauty of the Nancarrow's decorations. Bob and Barbara outdid themselves! On Cove Road, Gail and Milton Chambers joined Jimmy and Gaynell Worthey; Linda and Bobby Brown, Hobson and Martha Kirby, Roy and Jean Mathews, Erma McAdams; and Bertha Robinson in lighting up the heavens. Over at Al and Mae Hunt's place, they still won't tell me how they got the sleigh to fly up, up, up with Santa.

Bill and Sue Schwarz traveled to snowy Maryland to be with her parents Ruth and George Porter. Bill had never seen "down east" snow before and wore out fast on its "beauty"!

Virginia Bosworth and Sid hosted a lovely turkey dinner at their home during the holidays. Guests were Sid's sisters, Helen Hill and Theresa Bosworth, and friends, Marie Dillenbeck, and Pat Seymour. Delicious hors d'oeuvres were served before the meal, and guests were particularly complimentary of Ginnie's cornbread dressing and Helen's homemade cranberry sauce.

Oscar and Shirley Hussel kept the road hot over the holidays! Leaving Mentone before daylight—way before daylight—they traveled to Dallas for a visit with son Paul and his wife, Lisa, and grandsons, James and Jason. Paul is a television producer with ABC. From there, Oscar and Shirley drove in a blizzard to Sante Fe for a 44th wedding anniversary celebration. From there, the Hussel snowbunnies struck out for Durango where daughters Jenny (race car driver—yes, you read it right!) and Karen live with their husbands Steve and David. Roger and Elizabeth are Jenny's children, and Valerie, Melissa, and Jeff belong to Karen and David Blaine. David owns and operates "The Durango Kid Toy Store." Shirley claims they were under a black cloud every inch of the way!

Alyce Springer spent Christmas in Zionsville, Indiana, with her son Rick, his wife Jody, and children Ryan (age 11) and Clay (age 8). On Christmas eve, she came down with an infection in her right ear, and went right back on antibiotics. We all hope Alyce had one great time visiting, because—when she got back to Mentone, all her propane gas had been used up, and there was no heat in her house. Alyce "camped out" in her guest cottage for three days where there was heat and went to the "big house" for supplies. Alyce told

me, "Pat, there was an ice storm in Kentucky as I was coming home. The ice made the ground seem to be fields of diamonds sparkling in the sun. It was breathtaking!"

Buddy and Norma Williams visited with their son, Chad, in Atlanta for Christmas. On Christmas day, a special guest and long-time friend of Chad, Dr. Kitilax Kritikorn, who is curriculum director for Montgomery public schools, came to celebrate the day. Dr. Kritikorn is originally from Thailand, formerly Siam, and presently, her parents, also from Thailand, are living in Atlanta. She is one of many great granddaughters of the King of Siam. That makes her and her mother princesses. Dr. Kritikorn went to the University of Alabama, and she and Chad have been friends for many years and have kept in touch.

Dewey Crow has opened an Army Surplus Store next to the Vulcraft property at 1702 Gault Ave. North. Joel King will be working with Dewey as a salesman.

Congratulations!! DeWayne "Pat" Lewis and Phyllis McElhaney of Valley Head were married December 18, 1993, in Gatlinburg. They will reside at Pat's home in Valley Head.

Rev. Randy Addison and Kathy had a home full of visitors for Christmas. These included Marilyn Addison; brother Steve Addison, owner of Addison Properties of West Palm Beach, and wife Sharon with children, Steve Jr., Talisha, and Talena; and Sharon's mother and father, Arlon and Nadine Helms of Nixon's Chapel on Sand Mountain. Randy's family, Kristin, Randy Jr., Lauren, and Megan, were with cousins and kin until New Year's Eve. Future big plans for the Rev. Addisons include a Sunday evening christening ceremony on January 30 for the new baby girl, Megan. Randy's brother, Rev. Rod Addison, pastor of the Florida Wesleyan Methodist Church of West Palm Beach, will preside at the christening. Accompanying him will be his wife Vangie and children Crystal and Jeffery.

Joel and Sue King also made holiday whirl-wind-tours of Alabama. They visited son Ronnie King; brothers, Paul King and Ronnie King; and daughter Joetta Jones in Birmingham. Then, the Mentone couple took off for visits with Sue's children in Sylacauga, Haleyville, and Fayette. Work conflicts prevented a full one-place get-together.

The Don and Billy Faye Brown family had lots of company Christmas day (23 to be exact). Out-of-town family and guests included daughter Des and husband Ron Waits from Dallas, Texas; Billy Faye's brother, Donny Scott and wife Glenda, with children Renae and Tad from Lafayette, Georgia; and Ladonna and Jimmy Blalock from Fort Payne. Those from Mentone were Allen Scott and Jennifer Sutton; Donny and Gayla Smith; Bo, Dewey, Lisa, and Justin Scott; David Harper, Guy McCarty, Darrin Smith; son Al Brown, and Billy Faye's mother, Mrs. Grace Scott.

Katherine Wright, fantastic cook at the Kountry Chef, has been in New Orleans, for a week with her granddaughter, Nancy Mann.

If you have a news item for my Grapevine column in our Valentine issue in February, please give me a call at 634-4541.

As I wind up this column, my eyes fall on a framed cross-stitch my Grandmother Seymour gave me when I was eight years old. If I could only remember to abide regularly by the thought expressed!

"I expect to pass through this world but once.

Any good thing, therefore, that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any fellow human being, let me do it now.

Let me not defer nor neglect it,

For I shall not pass this way again."

HAPPY NEW YEAR.
HOPE IT'S LUCKY FOR YOU.



The Lookout Restaurant

"Atop Lookout Mountain"
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Reservations Necessary Friday and Saturday



SUE MOSLEY - NEW ADMINISTRATOR

By Eloise M. Brown

W. H. Blanchard, Director of the Dairy Division of the Agriculture Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, has announced the appointment of Sue L. Mosley as market administrator of the Georgia, Alabama--West Florida, Greater Louisiana, New Orleans--Mississippi, SE Florida Tampa Bay, and Upper Florida Milk Orders' Market.

Sue is the daughter of Venna Livingston and the late Wade Livingston. She graduated from Valley Head High School and Jacksonville State University with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. She won this appointment over seven applicants and is the first woman to hold this position. Her husband is Sam Mosley. They have two daughters, Carmen and Suzanne, and a son, Ben. The family resides in Atlanta.



Howard Hawkins Honored

The group pictured (L-R): Howard Carson, Leonard Keith, Harold Broyles, Darrell Neil, Geraldine Hawkins, Howard Hawkins, Randy Carson, and Jimmy Wright, came together at the Hawkins home on November 12, where Darrell Neil, District Lecturer, on behalf of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Alabama, presented Howard a pin and certificate for 50 years of faithful attendance and service to the Valley Head Masonic Lodge 294. Jimmy Wright is Worshipful Master, and Randy Carson is Secretary of the Lodge. Howard is recovering from back surgery, so was unable to attend a ceremony at the Lodge Hall.

GROUNDHOG



February 2



By Mike Kennamer and Jim Gaylord

The officers and members of the DeSoto Rescue Squad would like to take this opportunity to express our heart-felt sympathy to those in our community who have lost loved ones during this holiday season. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. We have responded to help on many of these calls. We only hope that we have been of assistance and perhaps helped to ease some of the pain.

The past two months have been quite busy with the squad answering 24 calls since mid-November. Thirteen of these calls have been auto accidents, and eleven have been medical calls (house calls).

During the past month, we have put our new EMS response unit in service. The truck, a 1989 Ford Ranger, is equipped with a covered, walk-in utility body for storage and easy retrieval of equipment. Thus far, we have spent \$6,646.80 on this truck, which will be used for medical calls and will carry rappelling equipment. Additional equipment is also needed, and will be added as funds become available. Specific needs for completion of the truck's equipment are listed below. Anyone who would like to donate toward any of this equipment may call any rescue squad member or mail a contribution to P.O. Box 213, Mentone, AL 35984. Any contribution you make will allow us to offer you better service.

Equipment needs for new truck:

- Basket Stretcher
- 14 foot Extension Ladder
- Flashlights (We lost two at a recent wreck.)
- Backboards and straps
- Immobilization device (One was lost at a Rome hospital following a recent wreck.)
- Oxygen Caddy
- Various extrication tools
- Pagers and radios for member notification

December brought election time at the rescue squad. The nominating committee read the slate of candidates, which was accepted with no opposition. Ilene Green will continue to serve as secretary/treasurer, and Robert Green will again serve as sergeant. Jennifer Smith was elected as second lieutenant, and Sue Pullen was again asked to serve as first lieutenant. Due to constraints of time and work, Mike Kennamer asked that the squad elect co-captains this year to split the duties and responsibilities of the captain's position. With the squad's approval, Jim Gaylord and Mike Kennamer were elected as co-captains for the coming year. Walter Pullen was again asked to serve as chaplain for the squad.

The calendars that the squad sponsored were deemed a success with the squad profiting \$2,000. Calendars are available from any squad member or from the following merchants: The Citizens Bank, Morgan Drugs, Tommy Gifford, and the Chrysalis in Valley Head; Pride Welding and Fabrication in Hammondville; Saddle Rock Camp, Camp Laney, Poko Products, Camp Alpine, Camp DeSoto, Dessie's Kountry Chef, Lookout Mountain Properties, Southern Rubber Stamp and Printing, Nature's Classroom, Little River Hardware, The Shed, Ruby's Variety, Cloudmont Ski and Golf Resort or Shady Grove Dude Ranch, Crows Nest Antiques, and General Auto Repair in Mentone. The calendars may also be obtained at State Farm Insurance, the Heil Co., or Salvage Building Materials in Fort Payne; or at Menlo Lumber and Pallet Co., in Menlo; or at Cloudland Trade Center in Cloudland. The Squad offers its sincerest thanks to these merchants who support the rescue squad.

The Squad has searched and searched for a newer truck to use during snow and ice storms. We are hopefully getting closer to purchasing one. If you'll recall,

the one we used during the 1993 winter storm was no longer dependable and was sold by sealed bid. We will keep you posted of our progress.

The rescue squad has discussed the possibility of raising funds to purchase an automatic defibrillator during 1994. The defibrillator, which costs about \$4,000, has been proven to be the most promising piece of life saving equipment available for victims of sudden cardiac arrest. (See other story.)

Membership is looking better and better, but we still need your help. The rescue squad is more than "lights-and-siren", "blood-and-guts" emergencies. The rescue squad needs people from all walks of life to assist in any way they can. Each member contributes in his/her own way. We'd love to see you do so, as well. Again, thank you for your support. We appreciate your allowing us to serve you.

STATE OKAYS LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT

By Mike Kennamer

Recently, the Alabama Department of Public Health passed a rule change that allows the use of semi-automatic defibrillators by basic EMTs in the state. Previously, no provisions for automatic devices of any type were allowed.

In October 1992, the *Journal of the American Medical Association* published the joint recommendations of the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross on Emergency Cardiac Care. The recommendations suggested wide-spread use of the automatic external defibrillator (AED). After months of study, including evaluation of a pilot study in Madison County, the Department of Public Health heeded the recommendations and made the rule change.

The semi-automatic defibrillator is much like its cousin, the manual defibrillator, which is currently used in the pre-hospital setting by paramedics and intermediate EMTs. The advantage of the semi-automatic defibrillator is that it can read and diagnose the rhythms generated by the heart. This allows those trained at the basic EMT level to administer shocks to the patient that could previously only be delivered by advanced level EMTs, who are trained to read EKGs.

Since there are more basic EMTs in the state than advanced EMTs (especially in rural areas), the advantage is obvious. What's more, most of the models available can serve as manual defibrillators with the use of an access key or "paramedic module." This allows the advanced level EMT constant monitoring capabilities and the manual shock function that he is accustomed to.

How does it work? Many times the heart of a victim of cardiac arrest goes into ventricular fibrillation. This is a chaotic firing of the pacemakers of the heart resulting in a quivering heart that is unable to pump blood. Ideally, we can shock this rhythm back into a normal rhythm if we can deliver the shock quickly enough. This is where the AED comes in. The AED allows the early responder (a basic EMT) to deliver the shock, rather than having to wait for a paramedic with the appropriate equipment to arrive. The advantage is obvious. Put these devices in the hands of the early responders in your neighborhood and allow them to help you.

Mike Kennamer, a nationally registered Paramedic, is director of the Emergency Medical Services Program at Northeast Alabama State Community College and serves as co-captain of his local rescue squad.

**the best is
yet to come**

CARING AND SHARING DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

By Evelyn Graves

During the Christmas season, many people in the Mentone area were responsible for providing services and time in helping those who were in unfortunate circumstances at Christmas time. Every Friday (not just at Christmas) Dorothy and Grace Crow pick up food donated by Food World, EarthGrains, and Scooter Howell's Dairy. They deliver it to the Community Action Agency at Valley Head and to the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy for the CARE ministry, where the food is sorted and distributed to those who need it.

Most of the churches were involved in some way in food distribution throughout the holidays. The Northeast DeKalb Ministerial Association provided 100 Christmas stockings for the MAPA Christmas Party for the children, which was held at the Mentone Town Hall on December 7, and many of the ministers, through the Ministerial Association, worked hard to meet needs. Reverend David Lett, assisted by Dot Crow, picked up food donated by Mitchell Grocery in Albertville, and through the aid of the area churches, he was able to determine where to deliver it.

I heard someone make the statement recently that it is believed that no one was hungry in Mentone at Christmas. Isn't it a great feeling to know that there are so many caring people in the community and that through their efforts everyone in Mentone enjoyed Christmas?



Ring In The
New Year

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN Properties

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

Angela J. Hood
Broker, Owner

Office: 634-4672
Home: 634-4169

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EXECUTIVE RETREAT ON THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER - 125 ft. of river frontage and overlooking a historical covered bridge, is part of the beauty of this 3 bath home with loft, vaulted ceiling with skylight and a wraparound deck. All of this nestled in the Cloudmont Golf Resort, Mentone. A perfect getaway from the h. bustle of the city life. Call for appt. today. \$425,000. Reduced to \$100,000. **SALE PENDING**

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



The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Reverend Bill Jennings is back in the pulpit at Moon Lake Baptist Church. The pulpit committee continues to search for a permanent pastor. The youth have just returned from a retreat at Pigeon Forge. This was a combined retreat with the Bloomington Baptist Church youth from Rome, Georgia.

Reverend Bill Williams passed away recently, and his funeral was held at the Mentone Wesleyan Church. District Superintendent, Jimmy Johnson, from the Wesleyan Conference in Jackson, MS, visited Mrs. Williams on January 5 to express his condolences.

There was a breakfast Sunday morning, January 9, in the newly-decorated fellowship hall at the Valley Head United Methodist Church. The UMW will meet at the home of Mary Holleman on Tuesday, January 25. Mrs. E. T. Holleman will be co-hostess. The fifth Sunday of January is designated for a special morning worship service with special singers. The church has purchased 60 new hymnals for the congregation.

The Mentone Church of God will be holding a revival February 6-9, at 6:30 each evening. Paul Lett of Geneva, Alabama, will be the evangelist. There will be special singers throughout the revival. The Christmas candy sales reached a record high this year. Interest is growing in the church, and things are happening, according to Pastor Ron Johnson. Tentative plans are being made for a Youth Revival during spring break. There will be more information about this in the next issue of *The Groundhog*.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church welcomes the new rector, Robert Childers. (See article elsewhere.)

Services at the Valley Head Baptist Church are at 11:00 a.m., with Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. If you are not attending church elsewhere, you have a cordial invitation to visit with them.

There will be a singing at the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy on Saturday, January 15, at 7:00 p.m. On Sunday, January 16, there will be a Kids Crusade starting at 10:00 a.m., and the guest speaker for this event is Joyce Phillips from Birmingham, AL. January 27, 28, and 29, are the dates for an area crusade at the Collinsville Church of God of Prophecy. Reverend Don Brock, District Overseer, will be speaking during one of the services and Reverend Hugh Edwards, State Bishop, will present the message on Saturday, the 29th.

The Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church services are held at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday morning. Visitors are always welcome.

There will be a singing on January 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mentone Revival Center. The Gospel Heirs will be featured. Everyone is invited. Bro. Marlon Williamson is the pastor. Youth Day is the second Saturday of each month, at noon.

The leaders for Praise and Worship are Jeff and Teresa Buckles.

The UMW of the Mentone United Methodist Church met at the parsonage on Thursday, January 6th. The Administrative Council met on Sunday, January 9th and installed the new officers for 1994. Sunday school is at 10:00 and church services are at 11:00. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Christmas program, "Holiday Hoedown," presented by the youth of Union Hill Baptist Church was a great success, as well as the spaghetti supper sponsored by the youth. They cleared over \$1,000, which they used to provide Christmas for two needy families in the community. Plans are being made now for a trip to Washington, DC, in early June. The Youth Choir has been invited to sing in a Youth Revival at Mount Oaks Methodist Church in the DC area. Three new members were accepted into the church on Sunday, January 2. Family Week will be observed churchwide, January 10-15, climaxed by observance of Soul Winning Commitment Sunday on January 16.

NEW EPISCOPAL RECTOR ROBERT CHILDERS

Robert Childers, the new Rector of St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church was born and reared in Selma, Alabama. His parents still live in Selma. Reverend Childers graduated from Vanderbilt college and received his law degree from the University of Alabama. He and his wife, Terry, both practiced law in Montgomery until 1988, when they moved to New York City to attend seminary. Reverend Childers was ordained as a priest in 1991, and he was assistant priest at Christ Episcopal Church in Tuscaloosa until he accepted the call to St. Joseph's. The Childers have two children--Rob, 7 years old, who is attending first grade at Moon Lake School, and Elizabeth, 4 years old.



Wallace Black Elk, renowned Sioux Lakota medicine man from Colorado, joins his friends at the Tiger Inn in December as he makes his annual teachings of Earth Awareness at the Hawkwind Earth Renewal Cooperative. He is seen here with Nancy Rector of Valley Head.

NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North DeKalb Ministerial Association held its first meeting of the year on Saturday, January 8th. The Association, through its outreach program, and with the assistance of volunteers in the community, is coordinating a program on a regular basis to help people who could use extra food. Dot Crow, the newly-appointed chairman of the steering committee, has, for the past two years, been picking up food from grocers in Fort Payne, which has been taken to the community center in Valley Head and distributed to those who wish surplus food. In November and December, Dot has been assisting Rev. David Lett in the pick-up of additional food from a grocer in Albertville. This outreach is a community project, and the items will be used for anyone the community center presently assists and also those that contact the community center in Valley Head, or any of the following numbers. YOU DO NOT have to be a member of any church to make your needs known. You may call any of the following:

Rev. David Lett (634-4881),
Rev. Don Brock (634-4792),
Rev. Ed Burroughs (634-4476),
Rev. Oscar Hussel (634-4540),
Rev. Randy Addison (634-4210),
Rev. Ron Johnson (634-4418),
Dorothy Crow (634-4727), or
Dr. Pat Seymour (634-4541).

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

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Garden Hints

By Madeleine Bullock

In the days when most families kept a milk cow and a small flock of chickens, manure was a primary garden fertilizer. Organic gardeners have rediscovered the benefits of manure as a fertilizer, soil conditioner, and compost ingredient.

If you are going to use raw manure, don't put it on garden soils. Raw manure releases highly soluble nitrogen compounds and ammonia, which can burn plant roots and interfere with seed germination. Also, raw manure used in unplanted garden beds is often filled with weed seeds, so spreading it on soil can create serious weed problems. You can use manure by adding it to the compost pile or by making "manure tea."

Manure is a prime source of nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus, and rich in bacteria. Manure is important in a rapid composting method that requires a high-nitrogen, high heat-up material.

MANURE TEA

Place one or two shovelfuls of fresh or dried manure in a permeable bag, the finer the holes in the bag, the less likely weed seeds from the manure will get into your "tea." Burlap bags are the best, but plastic or mesh will work. Tie the bag closed, then place it in a barrel or other large container filled with water. Make sure the bag is submerged. Allow your "tea bag" to steep for about a week. You can apply manure "tea" at full strength for periodic feedings or dilute it for whenever you water your plants. Do not apply undiluted "tea" directly onto plant foliage. It will injure the plant tissue.

We all wonder why a lot of times plants won't grow well when we plant them with such pride, and then wait for the results. What we never consider is the soil, and what it lacks, or if the plant is the right one for that soil.

Your soil's characteristics may not be suitable or favorable for gardening, it may be too sandy (add mulch), or the pH may be wrong, either too acidic or too "sweet," so many plants won't thrive or die.

If you've used a lot of chemical fertilizer, the micro-organisms that play an important part in maintaining natural fertility may have died off. The first step is getting the soil tested. Soil is much more than dirt. A healthy soil is full of living things: plant roots, animals, insects, bacteria, fungi, etc. The living organisms in soil play a vital role. Micro-organisms power the decay cycle; they include nematodes, protozoa, fungi, bacteria, and actinomycetes (thread-like bacteria). Earthworms are natural "tillers" and soil conditioners; buy a few cupfuls at the bait shop and put them into your garden.

It is best to get your soil professionally tested for pH and diseases. Take spoonful samples from 4"-6" deep from various areas. Don't touch them with your skin or tools made from soft steel, galvanized or brass, use only stainless steel. Put all the collected samples in a baggie and tie it up. Then, for those in the DeKalb County area, take it to the County Agency on Gault Avenue, in Fort Payne, for testing. The test costs around \$5.00.

DO-IT-YOURSELF TESTS

SQUEEZE TEST: For soil texture, take a loose ball of soil into the palm, gently squeeze it, gritty feel--sandy, moist talcum powder feel--silt; slippery feel--clay. Squeeze the ball. If it crumbles, it's reasonably textured; if it holds its shape, it has a lot of clay; if you can roll it like sausage, it has even more clay. Run the palm of your other hand firmly over the handful; if you see scratch marks, a sizeable portion is sand, if it feels greasy, it's silt.

pH TEST: most plants grow well in slightly acidic soil. Adding organic matter helps make the soil more neutral, and liming it makes it "sweet," or alkaline. If you need to lime, do it in the fall, as the lime needs time to break down. In general, sandy soil will need less lime, clay will need more. Woodash is a faster liming substance, but don't put too much. If you need to acidify, add elemental sulfur and/or peat moss. Sniff for sour-smelling soil when the pH is not right. The smell will be vinegary or sour, or the odor will make your nose tingle. If the soil smells good and sweet, it is probably appropriate for good plant growth.

I hope your Christmas was a happy one, and I wish you all a "Happy New Year!"



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The River Watch

By
BILL SCHWARZ



CLUTTER AND OTHER MISC. THOUGHTS

Ever notice how clutter rises? It's almost like a helium-filled balloon. Maybe it would be more appropriate for me to say "hot air" balloon. Right along with that comes "clutter expands to fill the available space." Or, maybe, it ought to be the available space gets filled; and, then, what's left over becomes clutter.

Remember, you old folks, when you had children? Or, more recently, when your grandchildren were small (that's me), and your house gradually became sterile from the floor up. The first day the kids were taken out of the playpen and put on the floor, the floor/carpet needed to be antiseptic. Everything normally stored on the floor was picked up and stored on tables (if there was actually space available), chairs, or shelves (ditto the table comment). Gosh, what do you suppose our forefather's forefathers did to sterilize the cave floor? (New mothers take note that we, as a mammalian specie, survived the dirt.)

Soon after the children get on the floor, sticky little fingerprints appeared on the walls just above floor level. All too quickly, the prints began to move up the wall, and stuff stored on the lower shelves and coffee table was no longer safe. Move it up! Lower drawers, floor level cabinets, and even the dining room table were no longer safe havens for your treasures and sacred stuff. Ever higher, dangerous objects and object d'art moved, followed quickly by sticky fingerprints. Upstairs rooms, attic, and tippy-top shelves became cluttered, final resting places for those cherished items. Eventually, the young'uns reach the age where they become the source of excess dirt and floor level clutter; and, so, in my house the rules changed. Sue went from "the grandchildren are coming, and I must clean the floor," to "now that the grandchildren are gone, I will clean the floor."

By the time the last child/grandchild reached 5 or 6 years of age (an age when they can sometimes be trusted to leave things alone), so much stuff had risen so high that each treasure competed for space with each other treasure. Their identity was gone, their original purpose lost in the frenzy of child rearing. So, there they sit--uncherished, untreasured, unvalued, waiting to be discovered by another generation. Thus, the clutter has risen.

New treasures come into the house, each with its own purpose, to replace the ones moved up to protect child from object and vice versa. New items find their deserved place in the lower levels of each room and begin the inevitable competition for space. Thus, the prophecy is fulfilled! Clutter expands to fill the available space.

Some miscellaneous thoughts. Why do we drive on a parkway and park in a driveway? Why do we say the moon is out when it is shining, and that a light is out when it isn't shining?

You know your house is cluttered when total strangers describe it as "interesting." Ladies, you know your purse is cluttered when you leave it open on the store counter while you write a check, and several passers-by put trash in it.

Thanks for your time folks! See you next month with more of Bill's bull. Have a Happy New Year and be good to each other.



MAPA MEETING

The December MAPA meeting was the annual Christmas Dinner, which was held at the Kountry Chef. Entertainment was provided by Mike and Tera Cryer. (See picture in this issue.)

On Tuesday, December 7th, the annual Christmas parade began right after school let out. There are several pictures in this issue showing Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus; the Moon Lake School children riding in different wagons in the parade; and the party for the children at the town hall, where Santa and Mrs. Claus greeted the children. The North DeKalb Ministerial Association handed out Christmas stockings to each child who attended the party.

The January MAPA meeting was held on January 4, with president Jack Jones, presiding. There were fourteen members present. The main discussion revolved around the new video that has been produced by Vernon Gray's Outlook Productions at the joint request of MAPA and the Mentone Heritage Foundation. These videos are now on sale. (See the notice elsewhere.)

Under old business, Sherman Gough, the chairman of the MAPA Adopt-A-Mile program, requested volunteers to work on his committee when the weather gets better. Anyone wishing to assist in the cleanup, may contact Sherman Gough.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and refreshments served.



Moon Lake School children on parade wagon bringing Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus to Mentone



Santa and Mrs. Claus talking to children at party



Moon Lake School children on parade wagon driven by Ed Jones with



Rev. Marlon Williams, Ministerial Association, handing out Christmas stockings at Christmas

"Magical Mentone" Videos on Sale Now

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

Magical Mentone Videos
are now available for sale.

A short 12-minute tourism video is \$10.00, plus \$2.50, postage for each video. The 37-minute historical video is \$20.00, plus \$2.50, postage for each video. If you would like one or more videos sent to you, forward your check payable to:

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

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

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



STMAS PICTURES



Children on back of parade wagon
with L.M. Flannigan up front



Moon Lake School children on parade wagon



Children of the North DeKalb
County Commission handing out Christmas
Party for the children



Children and parents waiting to see Mr. and Mrs.
Santa Claus



Tim O'Neal putting up the Mentone Christmas
Decorations (He was assisted by Bud Simmons and
Dan Duckworth, not shown)

SCHOOL NEWS

MOON LAKE

A spelling bee was held at Moon Lake School on January 7. The winner was Ben Corey, with Buck Strickland taking second. Ben will now represent Mentone in the County contest. The winner there will go to the state competition.

At the home basketball game on January 8, the Moon Lake Tigers defeated the Ruhama Tigers. Tom Brendle scored 28 points in the contest and Nathan Owens dumped in 14. Pat Brendle of Valley Head is the Moon Lake coach. The next home game for the Moon Lake Tigers is Saturday, January 15, at 9:00 a.m. in the school gym. Parents, grandparents, other relatives, and friends are invited to attend and cheer on the Tigers!

Monday, January 17, Martin Luther King Day, will be a holiday for the school.

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

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

VALLEY HEAD

Valley Head's Basketball Tigers continue to roll. On Friday, January 7, the boys stomped Gadsden, while the girls lost by only two points. Saturday, January 8, both boys and girls made a winning sweep over Ft. Payne.

Valley Head Coach, Mark Hale, was married on December 28, 1993.

Rhonda Downer, Valley Head English teacher, is sponsor of the Purple and Gold, the high school's newspaper.

Patsy Sax, sponsor of the Beta Club, is assisting the club in raising money for the Senior Betas to make the March Convention trip to Mobile.





A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

Christmas is gone. I hope it was as happy for everyone as it was for me. We came together at my granddaughter's (Cindy Meadows) on Christmas eve—her husband, David, and children, Scot, Alison, Jason, and Beverly and her husband, Shane Wright; Emily and Barry Brown; A.J., Patti, Robert, Amanda, and Justin Brown; and Chris Gracie, and Dillon Brown.

The Sunshine Club held their Christmas Party at the home of Gladys Stott on December 16. Those present were Ruby and Carmel Gifford, Evelyn Clark, Geraldine Hawkins, Addie Hall, Jewell Palmer, Mary Elizabeth Porter, Lillie Bowden, Ruth Pickett, Opal Tatum, Billie Harper, Lena Crane, Anna Daniel, Bess Bauerle, Gladys Cobble, and Eloise Brown. Gifts were exchanged. I read a Christmas poem. A bountiful lunch was enjoyed.

Our Valley Head Methodist Church looked beautiful with its decorations and lovely Christmas tree. We had a cantata—tho we were few in number, it was very impressive. Our fellowship hall has been redecorated thanks to the efforts of Rev. Jeff and Melinda Adkins, Melinda's mother, Nelda Johnson, and S. B. Stinson. Jeff's lovely sister, Debbie Adkins, from Los Angeles, visited them during the holidays.

Dot, Bill, and Linda Blackburn, and Martha and Hoot Gibson went to Callaway Gardens on Christmas Day to see the Fantasy of Lights, which was so beautiful. The nativity scene was especially impressive. It was a real fantasy land.

John, Mary Louise, and Ted Holleman have returned home after several days' stay in San Destin, Florida.

Randall, Geraldine, and Howard Hawkins spent the weekend with Gail and Robert Hawkins and family in Brewton, Alabama.

Ruth and Bert Pickett had guests for Christmas dinner: Joe and Lillian Pickett—their sons—Joey from Maryville, his children Shawna and Jared Pickett, their children, Andrew and Joshua from Knoxville; Syd and Patti Spencer, son Sydney and daughter Brandi and her friend, Kenny McDade, from Chattanooga; and Billie Pickett. Ruth taked to her cousin, Rev. Don Cobble (Gladys Cobble's grandson), who is home from Russia on furlough in Boston, Mass. He said people there are hungry for the gospel and flock to the meetings. Ruth also had as guests her sisters, Selma McElhaney from Fort Payne and Betty Bracken from Chattanooga.

Evelyn Phillips is recovering from surgery at University Hospital in Birmingham.

Rev. Jeff and Melinda Adkins entertained Virginia Livezey and Geraldine and Howard Hawkins with a birthday luncheon at the pasonage.

Bobby Frazier is home after a stay in the VA Hospital in Birmingham.

Jamey Hulan was home for the holidays from Cumberland College, Kentucky.

Congratulations to newly weds: Phyllis McElhaney and Pat Lewis were married. Jennifer Stott and Don White were married at the Mentone Wedding Chapel on December 27, with families present. Jennifer is the daughter of Jesse B. and Becky Stott, and granddaughter of Gladys Stott and Gladys Cobble. Don's parents are Jim and Doris White and grandparents are the A.L. Youngs. We hope for both couples a long and happy life together.

Jesse B. Stott, son of Gladys Stott in Valley Head and son-in-law of Gladys Cobble, was involved in a head-on collision on Highway 11. Jesse is recovering at Erlanger Hospital, having had surgery on his legs as a result of the accident.

Sincere sympathy to the family and relatives of Haskell Bridgeman who passed away recently. He

was known to be a good man.

I attended the funeral of Collis Gilbreath at Wilson Funeral home. He and his wife, Wilda, were faithful Eastern Star members for many years. They were always ready and willing to help our chapter or any chapter who needed them. They knew the work and did it so well. The Eastern Star chapters were well represented and served as honorary pallbearers and insisted I be with them altho' we no longer have a chapter. There is a special bond of love that binds us. Wilda and Collis will always live in our hearts. A team of members performed a lovely ceremony. Bob McCord sang two solos. I had not known that Collis was a member of a quartet, but Jeff Durham and Hobson Shirey, who were members, told of their tours together and played two of their tapes. Wasn't it a wondrous thing that a man could sing at his own funeral?

Estelle Hale is in the Birmingham Montclair Hospital. She had recent back surgery and is doing real well.

In this issue, you will find pictures and/or writeups about Howard Hawkins, Sue Moseley, Juanita and Eugene Smith, and Patti Meyers and Alan Ray.

Old '93 has flown so swiftly by on wings of time. It brought many disasters and many blessings. Here's hoping 1994 is kind to all!



Juanita and Eugene Smith, on a recent visit to Santa Land in Cherokee, NC, got all dressed up to have their picture made—but Juanita—you didn't get your head on straight!



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Valley Head Woman's Club

By Maurine Donahue

The third time was the charm for the Valley Head Woman's Club's program, "A Better World Through Harmonious, Melodious Sounds." This had been scheduled for March 1993, but the blizzard of '93 canceled it. It was rescheduled for the May luncheon, but there was too much pollen in the air for the singers.

The club met November 17, 1993, at Oak Lawn, the restored pre-Civil War home of Mrs. Maynard Donahue. Hostesses were Mrs. Donahue, Mrs. Ronnie Barnett, Mrs. Van Cooper, and Mrs. Ted Holleman.

Mrs. Jimmy Wright gave the devotional basing it on Psalms 96, 98, and 100: "O sing unto the Lord a new song," "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord." She said Thanksgiving is a time to count your blessings, sharing your lives with others, and giving thanks and praise to God.

Mrs. Claude Howe was not able to sing because of a recent illness. She told of graduating from high school during the depression, and enrolled in Cadek Conservatory to study voice. She belonged to the Choral Society and received a Certificate of Music in Voice. She road the train back and forth to Chattanooga and only missed the train once. She was privileged to hear some famous musicians during this time. Among them were Ignace Paderewski, Jeanette McDonald, and Nelson Eddy. She learned an appreciation of the old masters.

Mrs. John Jones said the musical program for this meeting was from the Christmas Cantata, "The Glory of the Lord," to be presented at local churches later by the Community Choir. Mrs. Donald Crisp was the pianist.

"His Name Is Life" was sung by John Jones, Mrs. Peggy Bentley, Mrs. John Jones, and Mrs. George Huie, Jr.

Mrs. Jones sang "What Wondrous Love Is This," written by her great grandfather, Warren Fuller, and published in The Baptist Hymnal.

Mrs. Huie sang "My Soul Does Magnify The Lord." In conclusion, the group sang "My Eyes Have Seen The Lord."

The December meeting was a dinner held at Black's Best Western. Beautiful Christmas decorations adorned the tables, and a lovely Christmas tree was at the entrance to the room.

Members brought canned goods to prepare Christmas baskets for the needy.

Mrs. H. R. Blackburn returned thanks for our many blessings and said we give praise to God as the angels did, "Glory To God In The Highest."

Mrs. B.L. Biddle had a Christmas word game for all to play.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Crisp provided the music. He sang "Let It Snow" and led the singing of Christmas carols.

Guests were husbands of members; Mrs. Teresa Wattenbarger of Chattanooga, Tennessee; Mr. Danny Pflug of Cleveland, Tennessee; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Crisp; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gibson; Mr. Alan Biddle; Mr. John Holleman; Miss Sarah Wilcox; and Mrs. Vivian Ellis of Lafayette, Georgia.

A vote of thanks was given to the Entertainment Committee, Mrs. H.R. Blackburn, chairman, Mrs. B. L. Biddle, Mrs. Kenneth Kirby, and Mrs. Karre Lollik-Andersen.

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The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

Christmas is past and we have entered a new year—just a bit closer to the 21st century. The nineties will be historically significant because of being the last decade of the 20th century.

It was nice to have a white Christmas, even if for a short time. The pleasure was in watching the huge, soft flakes float to the ground. Some of it fell at night, and the whole family stood at windows and glass doors to watch by outside lighting. All but Lee. He was out in it, squealing with delight. He loves snow. And, of course, the skiers at Cloudmont were elated about having good weather for covering the slopes. The strange thing is that crowds of people will rush to Montone just as soon as the slopes are ready.

Our Christmas celebration and our whole lives have been saddened and made painful by the death of our loving, sweet, bubbly granddaughter, Jennifer Crow Pullen. We had her only nineteen years, but a lot of living and loving went into that short span. Jennifer was a darling baby, a precious, plump two-year-old when we could hold her close and read stories to her. She loved them and always asked for just one more. We kept her most all summers and holidays and looked forward to her visits. She had great imagination as a little one and would entertain us with her account of fanciful tales of each day. She loved animals and spent many happy hours with our little dog called Lady. She named our cat "Boots" because he is black with big white feet. Jennifer was born in Chattanooga, but moved later to Nashville, where she graduated from high school and had many friends. But she could hardly wait till summer to spend time with us on the mountain. She loved Montone dearly, much to my surprise, and made friends quickly. Her winning smile won most people to her. Nothing ever kept her discouraged for any length of time. She was a planner and kept long-range goals in mind all the time.

Jennifer was the sunshine of our lives. I remember Red Foley doing a song called "Steal Away," where he related stopping in at a little country church where a funeral was being held for a child, and the preacher told the parents that the child belonged to the Lord. He said "the Lord thought you needed a little sunshine and he lent him to you for a while." We loved and

enjoyed our sunshine and will continue to enjoy precious memories of her.

Jennifer loved everyone and was the most forgiving person I have ever known. If she thought someone was angry with her, she would go to them and tell them she was sorry, when she had no idea of what it was about. Perhaps, I can learn a lesson from her.

Jennifer was happily planning for a baby and had already named her Brittany. She and her husband, Charles Pullen, talked about the baby as if she were already here. We do not understand why freak accidents like this happen. Her car left the road coming up the mountain and went into a deep ditch for no apparent reason. We believe in God and think that maybe her life was taken to spare her problems of the future, which those of us who are left will have to face.

Charles, her husband, Coy Crow, her father, Dianne Edge, her mother, and Homer and I want to thank everyone for their loving support for us; for many beautiful floral contributions; many cards and letters; food; and, most of all, their prayers. The wealth of friends is far more precious than diamonds and rubies, and we are blessed with many of them.

Our memories are precious and we shall cherish them the rest of our lives.

Thank you for listening. We have suffered a great loss, but life goes on and we will be working and doing things as usual. We have faith in God and hope that we shall see Jennifer in a better world. The pain will go away. Time heals all wounds.

GROUNDHOG



DAY

Groundhog Day is February 2



HUNTIN' & FISHIN' TIPS

Compiled by Dr. Pat

Alabama's January Public Hunt—Little River, January 21, 22: In Alabama, the chance to bag a trophy is greatest in January, when the rut kicks into high gear.

In heavily hunted areas, one of the best approaches to taking a good buck is simply to study terrain and find areas that are at least half a mile from any road. These areas will be practically free from hunter pressure and often hold large-racked bucks that are not spooky, as they rarely see hunters. These areas will also hold other animals pushed in by the large number of people who hunt near roads.

Rod Tip Hint: Fishing is often better at night than during the day. Rod tips are hard to see in dim lantern or moon light. This can strain the eyes, especially those of older fishermen. Solve the problem by painting the first two or three inches of the rod tip a bright fluorescent color. This also helps prevent you from accidentally stepping on a rod tip in the bottom of the boat.

Custom Gun-Cleaning Brush: Toothbrushes are very useful for cleaning firearms. To help reach these stubborn places in a firearm action, toothbrushes can easily be narrowed or cut to fit and clean specific places. A fine-tooth hacksaw blade is ideal for cutting the brush to size, and heating the plastic toothbrush handle permits bending and shaping as desired.

The Two-Shot Zero: This is an old trick that has been made much easier by today's portable, compact, and inexpensive gun vises. It will work at any range so long as you can see your bullet hole in the target through your scope. Fire one carefully aimed shot at the bull's eye. After making sure your crosshairs are aligned at exactly the same spot, be very careful not to move the gun as you simply adjust your elevation and windage until the crosshairs are on the hole where your first shot struck. It's as easy as that.

About Wild Turkeys:

*A gobbler's droppings have the form of corn curls, while the hen's are round in the form of cow pads.

*The middle toe of the gobbler is about three inches long, while a hen's is about two inches.

*About one in 20 hen turkeys have a beard, but only males have spurs.

*The length of the spurs, not the beard is a more accurate way to tell the age of a gobbler.

*Wild turkeys, like deer, prefer acorns to all other nuts.

*The turkey's most important defense is its eyesight.

*Wild turkey's chicks learn to fly in about ten days.

Wet Matches: If your matches get damp, try rubbing them in your hair first before striking. It may be the added measure you need to make them burn.



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Brenda Brown, Broker • 845-4565
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HERB & HEALTH FOOD STORE

Hammondville, AL

By Judy Millican

Welcome to 1994. I guess by now everyone has made resolutions for the new year. Dieting is probably number one on the list for a lot of people. It was always on mine. But as I have found out year after year, diets do not work.

A year of changing your eating habits for better health is the best way to go. Eating more nutritiously will help you lose weight and keep it off. Pay close attention to the digestive system and keeping the colon cleaned. If we will replace the overprocessed and refined foods of today with simple, natural foods, then the body will begin to repair itself of problems that cause us to overeat.

Watch fat and sugar intake and slowly start to reduce them. Read labels and get familiar with what you put into your body. Get moving, and maybe take a walk.

If you need more information or help changing your diet, give us a call at 635-6688.

FIREWOOD AND BUGS

By Curtis H. O'Daniel
County Agent, DeKalb

Having a wood storage box in the house is mighty convenient, but lots of bugs can escape from the wood while it is waiting to be used. Many of the "Firewood Bugs" are not really harmful, but some of them can be, and all of them would have to be considered a nuisance as they emerge from the wood and crawl or fly out through the house.

Some of the more common insects found in firewood are centipedes, termites, woodbor-ing beetles, carpenter ants, pillbugs, ground beetles, spiders, scorpions, cockroaches, etc., a group of critters that is not welcome in the home. A couple of things you might try that will help reduce and/or eliminate this problem is: burn your older wood first, because, as the wood gets older, more insects will infest it. Get rid of the woodbox, and only bring in the amount of wood you put into the heater or fireplace. Keep the woodpile away from the house and off the ground. Firewood stacked against the side of a building can provide a direct route for termites, carpenter ants, and the aforementioned critters to enter the structure.

JOY SENIOR CLUB

By Anne Climer

The next meeting of the JOY Senior Club, an organization sponsored by Moon Lake Baptist Church for senior adults, will be Tuesday, January 18, at 11:00 a.m. The Club is for everyone in the community in the age group: 55-and-up. The Club meets every third Tuesday for a covered dish luncheon at 11:00 am. at the Moon Lake Baptist Church fellowship hall. No trips by this group are planned until spring because of the cold weather.

One project of the Club is the collection of discarded eyeglasses, which are taken by Dr. Martin Habel, Rainsville optometrist, coded, and distributed to people of foreign countries who cannot afford eyeglasses and are unable to read because they cannot see. Dr. Habel makes short-term mission trips and provides this wonderful ministry. If you have discarded eyeglasses and would like to share in this ministry, please get them to any member of the JOY Club, and they will see that the glasses are delivered to Dr. Habel and are used to help someone else enjoy life more.

Anyone interested in attending or joining, may call either of the following:

Eran Martin at 634-4230 or
Anne Climer at 634-4187.

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Peace In The
New Year





Beauty Tips

By
CHARLYNE O'REAR

Well, it's that time of year, again--New Year's Resolutions!

Did you hear about the woman who planned a new diet and promised herself to stay on it until she had lost all the extra pounds? I'm that woman! So much for New Year's resolutions! I am, however, going on a journey to somewhere I've never been before, and I want to invite you to come along, too.

This place I'm going is called Better Health; and I'm going by the route of vitality. This is the place we all need to spend some time. In Psalms 139, David said, "We are fearfully and wonderfully made." This, alone, should be reason enough to treat our bodies with love and respect. We hear a lot about those who "drink far too much" or take "far too much medication," but we seem to excuse or look the other way when we are guilty of body abuse through food.

Can you instantly think of a hundred things you'd rather do than exercise? Me, too! Do the foods you most like to eat seldom fall into the "healthy-and-nutritious" category? Me, too! I've decided to make health and fitness a goal, the same way I'm making internal, spiritual growth a goal. Sure, I have failed, now and then. At those times, I feel just like you do when you fail to eat right and exercise: guilty, disgusted, sickly, weak, sluggish, depressed. But, I'm trying to make it a habit to face, and then let go of, my failures and lapses quickly--to get right back on-track with regular exercise and with healthy eating.

Believe me, you are not hearing this from someone who has been some kind of health-food purist all of her life. There have been times when I would eat three or four danish pastries at one setting. I always drank sodas for water--never just water. Butter cookies had a very short shelf life around me. Every so often, I would go on a health binge that was so strict and confining I couldn't maintain it for long. So, I'd give up the "health kick" and live it up bigtime with pizza, soft drinks, cake, and ice cream. When it came to exercise, I wouldn't. This brought more guilt that had to be soothed with enough exercise to get me sore all over, injured, and discouraged. By the end of the first week of my "reform," I would talk myself into taking a break--forget all the good intentions!

Now, I'm learning all I can about the why and how of better body management. I hope you all will come along with me for the next few months, and let's learn together. Growing spiritually will give us insight into the right and wise way to care for ourselves. And it will help us see through the gimmicks--quick-fixes that are no more than a flurry of activity to attempt to ward off the results of a lifetime of bad habits.

The first step to better body management is seeing the greater picture--that fitness and health are more than looking good in designer jeans. Better body management means seizing life and saying, "I don't want to go through each day tired, weak, fuzz-brained, depressed, and barely surviving. I want my life to be marked by clarity, accomplishment, a giving spirit, a positive attitude, and joyful anticipation. I want to live it to the best of my ability--serving others and enjoying them, as well as caring for myself."

The truth is, not one of us can get away with doing whatever we want with our physical bodies. Neglect or abuse will catch up to every one of us. If we wait until the sudden shock of a doctor's discouraging report, it may be too late to undo years of bad habits. Even if we survive, the heart attack, cancer, or stress-related disease takes its toll. But, you can adopt healthy habits now to help you avoid life-limiting illnesses, and experience more enjoyment and usefulness in life for years to come.

Now, I don't think for a moment that my health and healing is entirely up to me, or that everything that happens in my life depends completely upon what I do. In fact, I believe the opposite. I'm linked up with the Creator who knows what works best for each one of us and who longs to let his power and life flow through you and me. But, the fact is, he has given each of us a brain and a will, and we are to use both in caring for our bodies. Deciding to take action, then learning the right actions to take and why--these are the foundation stones on which physical fitness is built.

Not all of this was just "my words," but was taken from my new "fitness bible" written by Stormie Omartian. I am, with my Creator's help, going to apply the principles of this course to my every day life, and I hope you will join me. We can all become what we need to be to glorify our maker and to be of help to others--even enjoy others more--see their good qualities and overlook their faults.

Hope this didn't sound like a "sermon." I just feel this so strongly, and feel the need to share it with all of you.

Next month, we will discuss "What Exactly Is Physical Fitness?"



MEYERS-RAY

October 23 was a perfect wedding day for Patti Brown Meyers and Alan Ray. The wedding ceremony was performed by Rev. David Pool in a beautiful setting on the back lawn of Patti's parents, Nell and Dixie Brown at Henagar--with a background of lovely colored foliage and decorations. Alan's parents are Jenny and Rex Ray, also of Henagar.

Linda Smith was her sister's matron of honor, and Alan's father was his best man. Patti's cute little cousins, Courtney and Brittany Griffin of Huntsville, and Cassidy Beam of Nashville, distributed bird seed bags.

Patti and Alan are at home on Highway 11, North of Hammondville.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



DILLION KEAN of Mentone celebrated his first birthday on December 11, 1993. He is the son of Shannon Kean of Mentone, AL, and Ricky Kean of Fort Payne, AL. Grand-parents are Al and Mae Hunt of Mentone and George and Kathy Bevel of Fort Payne. Dillion has a sister, Loren Brooke, who is 4 years old. Happy Birthday, Dillion!

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About **Our Town**

By
LINDA BROWN



A new year! A new beginning! Another chance to get it right. I'm not sure how our calendar was designed, but it's interesting that Christmas and New Year's are so close together. It seems that the new year is God's Christmas gift to us.

The winters in Mentone can be cruel. The sun may not shine on the mountain for a week or more. There may be fog, rain, and other "falling weather" that freezes on the ground, roads, and trees without warning. The wind can howl around the corners without mercy. I've heard people say that our weather is most like Chattanooga's, others say like Rome's or Huntsville's. In the thirty-five or so years that I have lived here, I've found that Mentone has its own unpredictable weather. The best way seems to be to get up each morning, look out the window, look at the temperature on an outside thermometer, and then plan your day accordingly.

Almost everyone I know loves animals. Recently, I was talking to Tom Harwell, who works at Camp Laney with me, about the animals I remembered my mother and grandmother taking care of. Not just pets, but farm animals and sometimes wild animals who were sick or hurt. My grandmother had two Spitz dogs who lived to chase rattlesnakes. They always were bitten at least once every summer. When this happened, my grandmother would make a tea of cockleburs and sweet milk. We would then make the dogs drink this. They would always go under the house where it was cool and dark. Grandmother would put food and milk where they could get to it; and, in about ten days, they would come out completely well. My Mom would put baby chickens behind the wood heater in the kitchen so they wouldn't freeze. When a baby calf or pig was sickly or the mama wouldn't accept it, Mama would bring it to the house and give it milk from a spoon until it was old enough to eat regular food. Many times, I have seen her revive a newborn kitten or puppy that would have died if she hadn't taken care of it immediately. One fond memory is of a baby pig that didn't have a place at the "dinner table." Mama brought him to the house, and we fed him warm milk and kept him warm until he was large enough to go back to the barn. But he would not stay at the barn, he would come and bump the back door with his nose until someone came out and fed him. The original plans were to kill him for winter meat; but, needless to say, that did not happen. We gave him to our granddaddy who kept him on his farm for a long time. One year, someone in the Moon Lake School Harvest Festival was selling raffle tickets on a pig, and I was the lucky winner. We put him in the garden until other arrangements could be made. Our

oldest daughter, Gail, always brought every stray animal home. We had as many as twenty-one cats one time, and once had three dogs with puppies at the same time. I have always had animals around me and have learned to appreciate what they contribute to our lives.

I found this recipe in a paper the other day and would like to share it with you.

RECIPE FOR LIVING

1 full cup LOVE
1/4 cup WILLPOWER, packed firm
3 ounces DETERMINATION
a dash of FLEXIBILITY
1 large head of UNDERSTANDING
a few leaves of AWARENESS (fresh, if possible)
1/2 pound PRIDE, cut into small portions
1 pound HUMILITY
a sprinkling of COMMON SENSE
a pinch of ADVENTURE
1 full (8 oz.) can of FORESIGHT
a hint of HINDSIGHT
a few sprigs of HUMOR, seasoned to taste

Saute love and understanding until tender. Mix well and continue cooking gently. In a large bowl, blend willpower and determination well to avoid procrastination, adding a dash of flexibility to accommodate life's delicate variations. Fold in a few leaves of awareness (more, if you savor knowledge). Set aside to rise and expand its flavor throughout the days.

In a separate bowl, combine pride, whisked lightly with humility. Pour in common sense and sprinkle lightly with adventure. Set oven with foresight for each new day. Season entire mixture with humor. Bake 24 hours, testing often and adjusting to the wonders of each new day.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

MENLO DOINGS

JoAnne Christian remains at home where she is recuperating from knee surgery. The Groundhog is most grateful to Sam Hegwood for supplying news from Menlo for the January issue.

J.P. and Marie Smith have been awarded Georgia's Economic Developers Association Region II Industry Appreciation Award. Georgia governor Zell Miller presented the citation in November. The Smith's own Smith Lumber Company in Menlo.

Lynn Hall has been appointed a new director of the Chattooga County Chamber of Commerce.

The construction of the deceleration lane on Highway 48 in front of the Tillotson Sports Complex will be begun this month.

Chris Bowman of Menlo has received a \$500.00 scholarship from the Young Farmers of America organization.

The Tullon Frazier family is extended our deepest sympathy. His wife, Ruby Jo, died this past weekend. The funeral was Sunday, January 9.

Menlo School will begin publishing its first newsletter this month. The newsletter will be produced each six weeks and will feature news of events at school, as well as articles about students. Parents should expect their children to bring home the paper. Basketball games have begun at Menlo School for area youth. Ages seven to 15 are involved in the play.



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Rhododendron Garden Club News



Ovie Blalock, on behalf of Woodmen of the World, presenting the American Flag to garden club president, Ann Wright

The December meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club was held on Tuesday, December 14, at noon, at the Mentone Town Hall with a covered dish luncheon. Hostesses were: Jean McGehee, Linda Brown, Flo Kirby, and Betty Johnson.

Ann Wright, president, presided. Linda Brown gave the devotional and blessing. The devotional was based on the meaning of Christmas: For unto us a child is born, a son is given.

Prior to the luncheon, Ovie Blalock, president of Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society Jurisdiction of Alabama, local lodge #0436 in Fort Payne, presented a new flag to the Rhododendron Garden Club. Mr. Blalock is the national delegate to the Woodmen of the World. He is the husband of club member, Barbara Blalock, and brother of Ann Wright. (See picture elsewhere.)

Following the pledge of allegiance, Marie Dillenbeck introduced James Frederick Johnson, known as Freddy, who presented the Christmas program. Freddy was unable to remain due to his business schedule. (See picture elsewhere.) Mr. Johnson is employed with Farmers Telephone Coop in Rainsville as controller. His wife, Susan, is a fifth grade teacher, and they are the parents of Phillip 6 years old and Paige 3 years old. Betty and James Johnson are Freddy's parents. Not only did Freddy delight the members with his playing of the keyboard and Christmas music, but he also led the club in singing several favorite Christmas songs.

Following the covered dish dinner, a short business meeting was held. The president welcomed members and guests. There were twenty members present, and four guests: Freddy Johnson, Vernon Gray, Lydia Speed, and Marjorie Gray.

The treasurer's report was given by Gerry Disney.

Ann Wright stated that the triangle had been planted and the Moon Lake School area will be planted while the children are out for Christmas. Also, Russell Wright donated shrubbery that was planted in the Bankhead Cemetery.

As part of the club's on-going garden therapy, baskets with flowers used as table decorations are to be taken to The Fountains in Fort Payne.

The president announced that the sign had been approved for the Moon Lake school ground. Arbor Day is the last week in February and trees will be planted in different locations (the park, school, cemetery) by Ann and Bill Wright, in memory of deceased garden club member, Lillian Blalock.



Freddy Johnson entertaining the Rhododendron Garden Club

Handouts containing copies of the November minutes, which had been approved by the board, were distributed to all the members present, along with information about trees entitled "Trees 'The Glory of Autumn,'" and "Why I Garden," were passed out to the members. Ann requested that the members look in the *Hortensia* for the requirements for the Second Time Around project, as well as the instruction sheets passed out during the November meeting.

Following the business meeting, Marie Dillenbeck introduced Vernon Gray, who had completed the work on two videos of Mentone. Mr. Gray is president of Outlook Productions, and has been a resident of Mentone for 3-1/2 years. Outlook Productions prepares videos for historical and tourism purposes. At the request of the Mentone Heritage Foundation and Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA), Mr. Gray prepared two videos, a short tourism tape, and a longer historical tape, each entitled "Magical Mentone." Mr. Gray showed the tourism tape, which was enjoyed by all.

There will be no meetings in January or February. The next meeting will be March 8th, at St. Joseph's On-The-Mountain Episcopal Church, with Mickey Gough, Marie Dillenbeck, and Mabel Kirk as hostesses. Pat Seymour, Garden Therapy chairman, will present the program, "Hands-On Garden Therapy."

Ann announced that as part of our ongoing garden therapy, Pat Seymour has accepted requests to repeat the garden therapy program that was presented at the District II Garden Club meeting on September 23, 1993, at the Pell City Civic Center. Ann Wright and Marie Dillenbeck are the other participants in the program that will be presented on January 27th at the Fort Payne Mountain Laurel Garden Club at 2:00 p.m. at the Western Sizzlin' and, again, on April 30, at the Federation of Garden Clubs meeting in Fort Payne at the Best Western.



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The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

Hope you had a wonderful holiday season and wish only good things for all of you in 1994. In answer to requests, we have three area favorites featured this month. Those of you who remember Zora Strahorn's potato soup will be delighted to know that she has graciously sent us the recipe. Betty Chapman has a wonderful recipe for cabbage soup that gets rave reviews, and everyone needs Dr. Pat's rice pudding recipe. Thank you all for sharing.

POTATO SOUP

By Zora Strahorn
Dover, Delaware

- 2 C cubed, peeled potatoes
- 2 C chopped onions

Cover with water and cook until tender done. Chop a few or mash a few. Turn off fire.

Add one (large) can evaporated milk.

Add salt to taste, also butter or margarine.

Add 1/2 C chopped fresh parsley.

Heat, but do not boil. Add a little more water if too thick, or a little fresh milk.

CABBAGE SOUP

By Betty Chapman
Fort Payne, AL

1 lb ground beef or ground turkey

1/2 medium head of cabbage (chopped)

1/2 t garlic salt 1/4 t garlic powder

1/4 t pepper 2 celery stalks (chopped)

1 16 oz. can of kidney beans (undrained)

1 28 oz. can of tomatoes, crushed,

plus fill can with water

4 beef bouillon cubes (or chicken bouillon cubes)

Mix all ingredients together and cook in a dutch oven 1-1/2 hours.

MAMA'S RICE PUDDING

By Pat Seymour
Mentone, AL

4 C cooked rice 1 T melted oleo

2 C milk 1 t vanilla

1 C sugar 1 t lemon juice

4 eggs 1 C raisins

Mix all ingredients together. Place in a buttered baking dish. Sprinkle 1/2 t nutmeg over top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Serve hot.

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CRIME STOPPERS GROUP FORMED IN MENTONE

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

SOMETHING WORTH SQUAWKING ABOUT!

A NEW YEAR AND A
NEW BEGINNING.
HOPE IT'S GREAT FOR YOU.



the best is yet to come



NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

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

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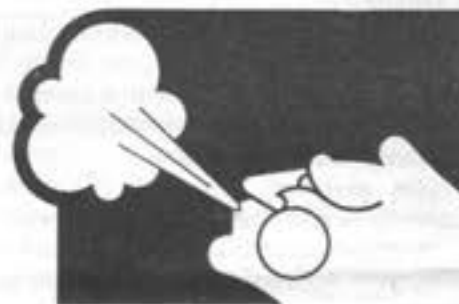
God's Minute

By RUBY BROCK

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count myself not to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12-14

1993 is gone. We cannot go back and change anything. So let go of the past and make 1994 the greatest year we have ever had. It will take pressing and reaching with a will to do it. But, with God's help, we can receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us.



DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD ANNOUNCEMENT!!

A first responder class will begin Thursday January 20, at 6:00 p.m. at the American Legion Building in Mentone. Classes will be on successive Thursdays. Open to the public.

The CPR portion will be given on January 27, and also is open to the public.

There is no charge for the classes, however, there will be a small charge for the textbook.

Everyone is invited to come and participate.



Send a loved one or friend a Valentine greeting for only \$2.00. For example, "I love you, grandmother. You are the best! Jimmy"

Send your \$2.00 with your message to:
The Groundhog
P.O. Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984.



Your message will be printed in the February Valentine issue. Ten (10) word limit, please.