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14 Years  
in Print**

# THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone • Valley Head • Hammondville • Cloudland • Menlo

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

Volume 14, No. 7

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

July 1996

## **BOBBY BROWN RETIRES AFTER A LIFETIME OF SERVICE AT SAND MOUNTAIN ELECTRIC COOP**

By Dr. Pat Seymour

Bobby Brown retired from Sand Mountain Electric Coop on June 7, 1996, after 38-1/2 years. During his employment, he worked in all phases of the Operations Department. This included cutting right of way, setting poles and anchors, line crew foreman, supervisor of operations; and he retired as manager of operations.

The decision to retire was hard because of leaving the employees he had worked with for years—one for a total of 38 years.

Bobby said, "I have enjoyed the first month of retirement, and look forward to the future. My memories are many: ice storms, tornadoes, hurricanes, etc., and will always be a part of me.

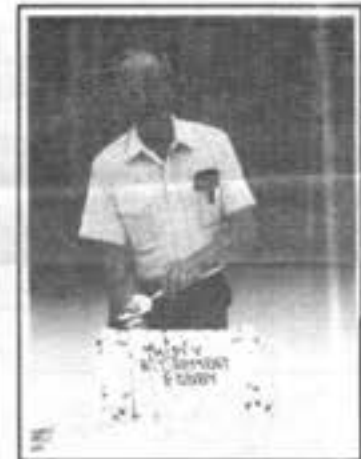
"Thanks to all who have wished me a happy retirement."

Bobby is the son of Raymond and Mary Brown of Mentone and is married to Linda Cochran Brown. They have three children and six grandchildren: Gail Smalley,



**Bobby Brown at his retirement party**

Mark (20) and Josh (17), Mentone; Charles Brown, Daniel (15) and Shelly (13), Valley Head; and Carol Hazell, Alex (7) and Kayla (5), Mentone.



**Bobby Brown cutting his retirement cake**

### **NOTICE!!!**

Tearing signs off post office boxes and destroying personal property in the post office is a serious Federal offense. Those guilty of doing this face fines and imprisonment.

The Mentone Post Office would like information as to the person or persons who have been committing these acts of destruction.

### **Meetings**

•Monday, August 5, 7 p.m.  
Mentone City Council Meeting, Town Hall

•Tuesday, August 6, 7 p.m.  
MAPA Meeting, Mentone Town Hall

### **SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRED???**

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# THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



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

## THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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President.....Bernise Crow  
Vice President.....Jim Lyday  
Secretary/Treasurer.....Mickey Gough  
Parliamentarian.....Homer Crow  
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 22nd day of the month preceding publication. The Publication is due out by the first Tuesday of each month.



## IF YOU MISSED THE DEER

# TICK

ON THIS PAGE, HOW LIKELY  
ARE YOU TO SEE IT ON  
YOURSELF?

That's it, the tiny spot above the word "tick" in the headline. the tick that carries Lyme disease is so small that it virtually goes unnoticed. That's why it is so important to know the early symptoms of Lyme disease, because early treatment offers the best chance for a full recovery. Left untreated, Lyme disease can lead to arthritis, nerve, or heart problems.

For a free copy of the brochure *Lyme Disease*, contact your local Arthritis Foundation chapter or call the Arthritis Foundation Information Line toll free at 1-800-283-7800.



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## MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Bernise Crow

Happy Fourth of July to all of you. I hope everyone remembered to fly the American flag and show their patriotism to the United States of America. The greatest treasure of this life is the privilege of living in this country. We are blessed with a constitution that gives us many freedoms that other countries do not even know about. We can vote for the candidate of our choosing, and he may not win. But the democratic right of being governed by the people, for the people gives us hope that the majority vote is best for the good of the country. If it turns out to be wrong, we always have the right to vote again and just maybe our selection will be chosen. I hope our schools will continue to stress the ideas the fathers of our nation prescribed for us nearly three hundred years ago. May the liberty bells continue to ring out for the land of the free and the home of the brave. I hope you attended the mock Civil War battle enacted at Bankhead Cemetery area on July 6.

## Subscription Notice

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Have The Groundhog delivered to your mailbox! Give The Groundhog for a birthday present or as a special gift for someone you love. Renew your own subscription. Still just \$10/year. Send your check payable to MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (MAPA) P.O. BOX 50, MENTONE, AL 35984

Your membership/subscription is tax deductible.



## MAPA JULY MEETING

The Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) meeting was held at Brow Park on July 2, at 6 p.m. Visitor, Rev. W.R. Giddens, Mentone United Methodist pastor, gave the invocation. There were 21 members and guests present to enjoy a covered dish picnic at the park.

After the meal, President Bernise Crow called the meeting to order and announced that Penny Lyday was the chairperson for the October Colorfest and that Penny was also elected by the board to assume the position of Treasurer, which Mickey Gough had been holding along with the position of Secretary. Bernise also announced that chairpersons for the Colorfest are: Homer Crow - Boat Rides; Ghost stories - Bernise Crow; Advertising - Chuck Peters.

Donna Bouldin announced that the Artist Guild would be on the Mentone Springs Hotel porch during the weekend after the 4th of July, and that there would be several vendors on the lawn in front of the White Elephant, which is celebrating its 20th year this month.

Bernise announced that it was time to pay dues again.

There being no further business, George Walker led the group in singing patriotic songs.

Following the singing, Mabel Crow stated that she would like to bring a note of joy to the meeting in that she had talked with Amelia who had had more surgery on her eye in Sacramento and that Amelia was recuperating nicely. Then a note of sadness, her brother-in-law, Bill Camp, of Chattanooga, TN, had passed away the evening before, and after the funeral, he would be buried in Little River Church Cemetery in Mentone. The highlight of the evening, Mabel said, was that "MAPA was known for preservation, and that the organization had helped the school, the Boy Scouts, the fire department, and others. This evening, MAPA delights in a 'bundle of joy' that is about to be born in August to members Tim and Margaret Lloyd-Murphy." Along with presents from several members, MAPA gave them a membership in MAPA.

## MAPA BIRTHDAYS

### JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Gerry Disney ..... July 3  
Mildred Wylie (90th)..... July 5  
Guy Saylor ..... July 27  
Randle Rice ..... August 1  
Dessie Newberry ..... August 6  
George Beabe ..... August 13



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## SPORTS AFIELD

By  
PHIL HARRIS



### NATIONAL SPORTS AT A GLANCE

**Major League Baseball** The Atlanta Braves continue to cruise in the National League. Montreal, Houston, and Los Angeles are the best of the rest. The Braves have both hitting and pitching, a dangerous combination for the rest of the league.

Cleveland currently has the best record in the American League. New York, Baltimore, Texas, and Chicago are close behind. The Indians have the best team, though they have struggled at home this year. The Chicago White Sox may surprise some people.

**Auto Racing** Dale Earnhardt raced to a huge lead in the Winston Cup points standing. Now, Terry Labonte and Jeff Gordon have closed the gap. Look for a great three man race the rest of the season. Labonte has been the most consistent driver thus far. Earnhardt and Gordon have the experience.

**College Baseball** LSU won the NCAA baseball championship for the third time in six years. The Tigers defeated Miami for the national title. Florida finished third and Alabama sixth. Just two seasons ago, the Tide was the worst team in the SEC. This season, they won the regular season title, as well as the SEC tournament championship.

**The Olympics** Atlanta will be hosting the world in a couple of weeks. The Olympic Torch is on its last leg. Athletes from around the world will join together in peace and harmony. It may only be for a three-week period, but the memories will last a lifetime.

**Football** High school, college, and pro football will kick off in just two more months. The weather is hot now, the relief of those cool autumn days are on the way. Before you know it, Alabama and Auburn will be squaring off in the Iron Bowl again. Boy, how time flies!!

**Pro Basketball** The Chicago Bulls put themselves in the history books as one of the all-time greatest teams. Michael Jordan and company dominated the NBA. Some say the Bulls had too many weaknesses to be considered one of the best. Great teams overcome their weaknesses; that's what makes them great. I would match the Bulls against any team in history.

### SPORTS ON THE SCENE

The Valley Head girls track team won the class 1-A section 2 track meet in Talledega. Valley Head scored 94 points, with the Alabama School for the Deaf finishing second at 91. All eight track members qualified for the state track meet at Troy. Ashley Blalock, Wendy Hyde, Candace Fuller, Heather Wilburn, Nikki Smith, Jennifer Brewbaker, Jenny Chadwick, and Jennifer Busby all qualified for the state meet.

Two members of the Valley Head boys team also qualified: Trever Strickland and Tim Harrison.

The Valley Head Lady Tigers finished the season losing two games in the 1-A section five softball tournament, at the Fort Payne Sports Complex. The Tigers lost to Ragland and Donoho. Coach Jenny Clark was pleased with the improvement over last year. Jenny Brewbaker, Amanda Hall, Heather Jackson, Kayla Bell, Ashley Blalock, Misty Ferguson, Candace Fuller, Haily Alcorn, and April Pierce had solid finishes in the tournament.

Crossville won the girls DeKalb County softball tournament at the sports complex. The Lady Lions defeated Fyffe 10-0 in the finals. Valley Head was beaten by Ider and Fort Payne in the first two games.

The Valley Head Tigers baseball team finished with a very respectable 6-10 season. Coach Jerry Brown's squad was competitive every time out. The Tigers had a 2-3 area record and lost a heart breaker to Collinsville late in the year. The loss

eliminated them from playoff contention.

Top pitchers: Heath Watson and Johnathan Browder  
Top hitters: Daniel Vest (.469) Jason Owen, Watson, and Tim Harrison

Mentone's 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14 year-old teams moved to Rainsville this season to play baseball. Mentone is made up of players from the Valley Head-Mentone area.

The 9-10 year-old team was coached by Anthony Windom. Their record was 2-11. Team members were: Coby Harrison, Tyler Harrison, Heather Plunk, April Shelton, Sara Dodd, Gregory Carreker, Adam Manning, Ben Windom, Paul Davis, Keith Miller, Andrew McCole, and Matthew Hawkins.

Assistant Coaches: Jeff Harrison and John Hawkins

All Star Members: Coby Harrison.

The 11-12 year-old team was coached by Eric Kirby. Their record was 4-11. Corey Kirby was a member of the team.

The 13-14 year-old team was coached by Cotton Baggett. Gregg Hawkins and Buck Strickland made the 14-year-old all star team. At last report, the Rainsville team was one win away from the state tournament in Florence.

**Local softball team Mentone**, brought home the second place trophy in the mens gold league in Fort Payne. Mentone finished with a solid 11-3 record. This team improved dramatically over last year. Kevin Worthey's hustle, Dean Freeman's improved bat, and Duane Blalock and Rusty Chambers' defensive improvement has made what was a poor team a good one. On behalf of the whole team, thank you so much Dr. Pat Seymour and fans.

Team Members: Kevin Worthey, J.J. Wigley, Scott Burke, Rusty Chambers, Duane Blalock, Kevin Smith, Chris Smith, Chris O. Smith, Brent Haney, Dean Freeman, John Chambers, Bobby Browder, Josh Goss, Jason Goss, Phil Harris, Dale Kirby, and Jon Baggett.

CBS finished fifth in the pre-season league tournament. They followed that up with a fifth place finish in the mens upper league division. CBS had a 7-9 record--outstanding considering the level of competition. Look for CBS to challenge for the top spot in the fall league. Fall league begins in August.

Team members: Alan Smith, Tommy Harrison, Shane Ingram, Kevin Cash, Anthony Brown, Jason Gregory, David Gregory, Arrow McKenzie, Dewayne McKenzie, Phil Owens, Charles Hammon, John Kirby, Heath Kirby, and David Sanders.

Fritz Steel won the championship of the Valley Head T-Ball league. They finished with a 5-0-1 record. Some of the team members were: Cody Smith, Treavor Smith, Kyle Garrett, Adam Tuxbury, Coty Powell, Casey Hicks, and Josh Bowen.

The Blue Tigers won the Mentone T-Ball championship. The White Tigers finished second and the Cubs were third. Coaches for the teams were Tony Tipton, Glenn Miller, and Rusty Chambers.

Finally, WFPA will be covering DeKalb County High School football this fall. Phil Harris and Randy Cunningham will be bringing you all the play-by-play. The first game is scheduled for September the 5th--Pisgah at Fyffe.

Well, that does it for another month, may God bless us all.

## From Between the Counters

By  
BRUTUS



Faithful readers, moi has just witnessed why folks say, "Apples don't fall far from the tree." Kelly Darden, from Slidell, La., granddaughter of Dianne Kuehl, was just in to adore the great one. Kelly is every bit as pretty as her grandmother Dianne. Kelly was accompanied by Crystal Sharp and Lauren Girard, also of Slidell. The girls loved moi's Tootsie Pop trick when only one sucker is taken, and then is oh, so carefully unwrapped. (It's so cool to be "darling.")

Can you believe these two adorable Daniel lasses? They're from Florence, Ala. Mary is five and Sarah is seven. Talk about tiny rolling eyes and open mouths! The wonder of this splendid canine was just too much for such wee fans. Parents Jeff and Carole Daniel exited the side door bearing the stiff little traumatized bodies to the waiting van. (Even a moth knows not to circle too close to the flame.)

The Berry Patch gang has just arrived. Wes (8), Curry (6), and Mary Ann (2) Stevenson, crowd up to the counter jostling each other for a place at the front. Mary Ann is so tiny she can crawl between the legs of her siblings and come face to face with moi. The magnificent view is overpowering, and her little lips begin to quiver. Moi can see it's time for a quick Tootsie Pop trick to lighten up the mood and make the little one laugh. Mother Caldwell (Berry) Stevenson and grandmother Mrs. Robert Berry are both understandably grateful for moi's quick move. It's great that these folks come into the Superette every afternoon to view moi and get an ice cream and SHARE with the extraordinary one.

Dear readers, you've heard, moi is certain, how tough it is to play the University of Georgia "between the hedges" and "how about them dawgs?" Living proof of Athens, Georgia, devotion to the red and black and BULLDOGS just tottered in the door of the Superette. Little Anne Barron (6) from Athens hurled herself at moi, shouting, "I just love bulldogs." What exquisite taste in so young a lass. (Naturally, if the U of G had any class or taste, MOI would be the bulldog standing on the sidelines!!)

Counselors from the summer camps have begun to press in on moi, each bearing a video camera. After the Brutus Show on Ch. 31 (Huntsville) last month, these amateurs really just leave moi cold!

'Til the dog days of August, Shalom!

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## Mentone Grapevine

By  
PAT SEYMOUR

Dr. Malcolm Brewer celebrated his 82nd Birthday in June. Until his recent retirement, Dr. Brewer was the oldest practicing dentist in the state. Sincere congratulations, Big Guy!

All of his Mentone friends are delighted to see Rick Chapman back to his regular routine. After a terrible, but finally successful fight, against a deadly disease that took him close to death, the former WWII pilot has recovered.

Welcome to Mentone! (See Church Column.) Two new pastors head the Mentone Methodist Church and St Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church.

Camp DeSoto was the site of a weekend of festivities celebrating the retirement of Sue Henry, longtime owner and director of the camp. Full Coverage of the event can be found in the August Groundhog.

Lula Blalock's oldest brother Edward (Jim) and Pearl Blackmon celebrated their 50th Anniversary in Rossville, Ga., recently. Those attending were Bertha Wench, Clewiston, Fla.; Jackie and Kim Frazer, Ider; William and Connie Wright, Morehaven, Fla.; Danny and Betty Wright, Fla.; Ruby Cobb, Rossville, Ga.; Hoyt Blackburn and wife Lucille, Chattanooga, TN., and Lula. Lula also received two long distance calls on July 6, one from Zora Strayborn, of Dover, Del., who said she is "Doing fine"; and Leona Thomas, a good friend, from Anniston, Ala.

Dr. David Wassom, who with wife, Claudia, owns and operates the Mentone Springs Bed and Breakfast, has passed the three-day examinations for his DDS license in Alabama. David had practiced dentistry in California for many years before moving to Alabama. Well done, Dr. Wassom.

Frank and Linda Villalpando are moving back to their home on Cove Road. Frank has been an award winning salesman with the Ford motor company. (Brother-in-law Eddie Pittman, won a new red Ford truck recently at Mountain View Ford in Chattanooga.)

Alma Crabtree has returned to her Mentone home after a two-week stay with daughter Rovene Truett in Birmingham, and a one-week stay with daughter Dorothy Jean Callahan in Ft. Payne. Alma was having her house reroofed.

Sherman and Mickey Gough have returned from a trip to Michigan, where they attended a family wedding.

George and Jo Beaube have returned to Mentone after the annual "Gulf Shores Family Vacation." Daughters, sons-in-law, and grandchildren joined in the week of fun at the beach.

Ovie and Barbara Blalock keep the road hot with Woodmen of the World business. Ovie is a highly-placed officer in the organization.

Mildred Wylie celebrated her 90th birthday in July. Congratulations to a great lady and may she have many, many more birthdays!

Bill and Ann Wrights' River Oak garden was announced at the State Garden Clubs of Alabama Convention as being one of the outstanding sites to visit in the state. The Wrights have worked for years to create an area of exquisite beauty. The stand of multi-colored day lilies lining the road are alone worth a viewing.

Many Mentone residents worship at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church which recently had a first-time ever visit from the Bishop, the Most Reverend David E. Foley, D.D., from the Diocese of Birmingham. Due to ill health, long-time pastor, Reverend Camillus Blazak, will be leaving and will be replaced by Father Kevin Cook from St. James Church in Gadsden, starting August 1, 1996. So many Mentone church members say that they will miss Father Blazak's strong voice and clear enunciation. The communicants wish him all the best in the future.

Bill and Sue Schwarz will be making an early fall visit to

Portland, OR, for a visit with daughter Janet and husband Bob. The Schwarzes will go by travel trailer and enjoy the sights, camping out on the journey. Do Bill and Sue know how to adventure or what?

Bessie Moxley is enjoying some quality time at her beautiful river home in Mentone. She fixes casseroles, picks up the phone, and says, "You don't expect me to eat this all by myself, do you?" Who could resist?

Funeral services for Bill Camp, husband of Mary Lee (Crowe) Camp, were held in Chattanooga on July 5. Interment was in Little River Cemetery in Mentone later that day. Deepest sympathy to Mary Lee and the other members of the Crowe family.

Coralee Bell's family had its reunion Sunday, June 14, at the Hammondville Park. Eight of her children were there with their children and grandchildren. Her children are Ruth Battles (Valley Head), Opal Macabee (Tuscaloosa), Buddy Bell (Florida), Charles Bell (Hammondville), Evelyn Tomlin (Hammondville), Rose Yates (Chattanooga), Junior Bell (Mentone), and Delilah Coots (Valley Head). There were 89 people attending the event.

Ethel Adams was the featured guest at the recent Pullen reunion held in the fellowship hall of Moon Lake Baptist Church. Ethel is now 98 years "young." Congratulations to a grand lady!

Speaking of birthdays, Catherine Bailey, Mentone City Clerk, just celebrated her 86th. As active and attractive as she is, Catherine surely proves things really do improve with age! Many happy returns.

John and Jan Wilkinson have had a long July 4th holiday! Two of their three sons and their families were here to christen the new swimming pool, and wet suits could be seen drying on clothes lines everywhere!

Wendy Manifold is studying at Samford University in Birmingham on Saturdays to prepare for her Pharmaceutical Technician's test. She is continuing to work at Morgan's Drug while attending school. Is this an ambitious young lady, or WHAT?

Kevin Worthey and Fiancee Kayla Bell have a crowd of friends helping them clear land on County Road 647 where they will build on property purchased from Ethel Manifold's daughter from Atlanta.

The new restaurant, The Cliffs, located on Scenic Highway near the Wade Gap turnoff, will be open Wednesday, July 10, under the ownership of Brent Black. Dinner is by reservation only. For more information, please call 634-3040.

Nicholas King has joined the staff at Camp Laney. He will be bussing tables and assisting in the kitchen for the summer.

Until you have tasted Juanita Oliver's homemade squash relish, you haven't tasted relish! Juanita is the mother of Judy Johnson.

John "Snake" Smith, Luther "June" King, and Charles Flannigan have made some great improvements to their properties along Cove Road. John has a new deck and yard lights; Luther has added a lovely front porch; and Charles has lined his driveway with cedar trees, added a rock wall, and built a front porch. Talk about improving some property! These guys have done it!

Area scholars are making hometown folks proud! Lisa McSpadden Shrader (Valley Head) completed requirements for her degree at the University of Alabama; Christy Ferguson (Valley Head) was a representative to Girls State; Amy Nichols Hale, A.S., Nagma R. Khan, A.S., Sheila Meadows, A.S., Francisco A. Vanega, A.A.S., David L. Vest, A.S., Jeanette Whited, A.A.S., and Carolyn Bray Wooten, A.S., all of Valley Head, were awarded the indicated degrees at Northeast Alabama State Community College's 30th Annual Commencement. Tammy Harris and Jerime Keith, both of Valley Head, made the President's list at Gadsden State Community College.

All Valley Head Band Students should remember that Band Rookie Camp will be held on July 29, 30, 31, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Music Camp will be conducted August 1st and 2nd from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., and Band Camp will be August 5-9.

In June, some of the youth from Lea's Chapel Baptist Church went on a retreat to Gatlinburg, TN. Among the young people were Jim Phillips, Beth Moore, Mary Pearson, Thomas Brandon, and Johnathan Blevins. Tab and Robin Westbrook, Dale and Tina Shrader, and Robert Brandon were the chaperones for the trip.

Young weather artists from Valley Head have been Effia

Harrison, 12; Dustin Holkem, 13; and Heather Daniel, 6. There is some real talent among those young people. Congratulations!

Gene Bullock would like to thank all the friends and relatives who gave him (free) helping hands while Gene was building his barn and fencing his cattle ranch. A special "thank you" to Bobby Knowles. Six long years of toil came to an end the day before Fathers Day, when the last strand of barbed wire was strung!

Marjorie Gray, sister of Mary Crow, will be building a new home on the brow next door to Railroad Parker. Currently, Mary and Marjorie share a home in Libby's Meadowbrook.

J.L. Gibson is the newly-hired piano player at the Mentone United Methodist Church.

"Junior" Bell has done a beautiful job of baling June King's hay. The field is neat as a whistle with all the tall grass gone. The hawks swoop over the field all day long hunting the exposed field rats.

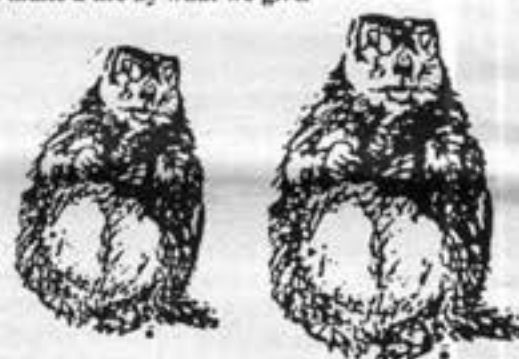
Scout Troop 106 and leaders, David Gilbreath and Dr. Bill Berry, have returned from a week in El Salvador. The Moon Lake Baptist Church bus took the group to the airport and met the plane for the return trip home on Sunday night, July 7.

Deepest sympathy to the families of those recently deceased:

- Bruce "Muletrain" Carson, 64, who died June 25.
- Charles Leslie Thornberry, 84, who died June 23.
- Mrs. Lula S. Baugh, 84, who died June 17, 1996.
- Lester Bradford Hawkins, 95, who died June 4, 1996.

Happy July Birthdays/Anniversaries to:  
• 2 - Terry Hartline; • 10 - Alan Bell; • 14 - Jeffery Hopper; • 18 - Loy Langston; • 18 - Becky Langston; • 31 - Jack (Buffalo Man) Martin; • July 3rd - Kenneth and Gail Chambers, Anniversary.

Thought for July: We make a living by what we get, but, we make a life by what we give.



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(3) LIKE NEW-LOW MAINT. THE BRICK HOME with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, eat-in kitchen, and fireplace with interior door for expansion in this 3/4 basement finished. Sitting on a low maintenance lot with zoning land available. \$75,000.



(5) LOFTY CONTEMPORARY on the Brow of Mentone. Offering 3 or 4 bedrooms - 2 baths. Fully equipped kitchen-pine floors-dressing room, and solar room. Floor to ceiling glass in the 2-story living room produces a feeling of openness to the outside from both floors. Appointment only. \$225,000.



(7) 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 \$79,500.

(4) MENTONE BROW - Spectacular View-Beautiful, unique, unusual describes this finished home which offers three bedrooms, one full bath (with Jacuzzi), two one-half baths, great room with wet bar and fireplace, kitchen area features ceramic countertops and an island with custom hood, range, disposal, dishwasher and refrigerator. A two-car garage, glass-enclosed octagon-shaped casual pool with patio overlooking pool, sauna, shower area, recreation room with pool table, hot tub, and decks are just some of the amenities. All this and approximately 700' of brow frontage! Shown by appointment only to qualified buyers. Great for a restaurant. \$295,000.



(6) Own from Highway 117 to Cutler Ave. Downtown Mentone - 100' lot on Highway 117 zoned B-1 - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, rental house on 3 lots and 2 lots on Cutler Ave. All for only \$68,500



(8) WATCH THE SEASON CHANGE IN THE VALLEY BELOW from in front of the fireplace of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath, custom built home. Fully equipped kitchen, pine floors, beams in living room, and central heat and air. 7.2 acre brow lot above Mentone. Ready move into and start enjoying the fantastic view from the large deck where you can spend many lazy afternoons. \$139,900.

### OTHER LISTINGS

(9) THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER flows quietly by these 3-acre wooded lots with 300 feet of River Frontage. Restricted for property owner's protection. Prices starting at \$20,000.

(10) 13 BROW LOTS with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.

(11) 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.

(12) LAKE ON THE BROW - Where else can you find magnificent sunrise and lake view in the same place? Only at Lake on the Brow. Restricted building lots 10 minutes from town. NOW OPEN-PHASE II - look now while the choice is prime-starting at only \$12,500.

(13) 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. Restricted. Prices starting at \$7,500.

(14) FORGET your worries and relax in this 2-bath log home in Mentone. Featuring a mountain rock fireplace, pine walls, exposed beams, and oversized kitchen, sunroom & deck with a west view of valley mountains on 2.7 acres. \$145,000.

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## A Friendly Valley View

By  
ELOISE BROWN

June flew swiftly by, it has been so hot and dry--now, we have hot July! Many people have enjoyed vacation trips, and I am glad for them.

Teresa and Van Cooper and children, Lana and Tyler, took Teresa's mother, Shirley Cook, and Van's mother, Sadie Cooper, to Destin, Fla., for a week's vacation. They played golf, swam, rested, and shopped. Sadie also enjoyed a trip to Pigeon Forge with Ruth Hammon, Ruth's mother-in-law, Garnette Hammon and Ruth's neighbor, Emily. They saw the new Lee Greenwood Show and the James Rogers Show at the Music Mansion--supposed to be the No. 1 show in the Smokies.

Olene Roberts has had an extended visit with her daughter, Martha Joan and Gerald Killian in Aiken, S.C.

Emily Alexander and daughters, Sarah and Hannah, spent a week at Disney World in Florida. Mathew Alexander visited his father, Darrell Alexander in Oklahoma.

Sue and Foyl Cooper spent the day with their daughter, Marguerite and Steve Wilson and family in Hixson, Tenn. They also visited Sue's brother, Howard Finster and wife in Summerville, Ga. The Finsters are not feeling so well.

Rose Mitchell and son, Mike Mitchell, from Rainsville, visited Lillie Bowden on Sunday afternoon.

Mary and Ted Holleman have returned home after spending a week in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Joy and Johnny Hurt are enjoying the visit of their cute, little, three-year-old granddaughter, Jordyn Hurt, from Houston, Tx. Her mother, Chancey Hurt, brought her, accompanied by Tashia, and they all attended June Jam.

Venna Livingston, Mozelle Crow, and Adelaide Biddle, among many others, attended the barbecue and singing at Spring Grove Park, June 22. Adelaide's daughter, Julia Hickey, won the beautiful quilt.

Thomas Hayes ("Buddy") and Ann Brown Davenport, and Ann Davenport Hamilton, came back home for a night. (They spent the night at Winston Place.) They and Mary and Ted Holleman and Adelaide Biddle had dinner that night at Mentone Springs Hotel. "Buddy" Davenport and Ann Hamilton's parents were Annie Ruth and W.O. Davenport. Ann Brown Davenport's mother was Clara Moorman of Mentone. The "Buddy" Davenports now live in Tuscaloosa and Ann Hamilton lives in N.C.

Elizabeth and Nelson Ellis have returned home from a vacation in Yellowstone National Park.

We had a good song service at Valley Head Methodist Church for the fifth Sunday worship service. Dessie Newberry and J.L. Gibson played the piano and Melinda Adkins led the singing and DeVan Jackson sang two beautiful solos. The Community Service was held there Sunday night with Jerry Davis, Presbyterian pastor, bringing the message, DeVan Jackson as song leader, and Juanita Smith, pianist.

Alan Biddle, son of Adelaide Biddle, and Lisa Mann, from Lotus Fork, Al., were married June 1, at Valley Head Methodist Church. Jeff Adkins conducted the lovely service in the presence of the immediate families. After the service, they enjoyed a dinner at Woodhaven. After a trip to San Francisco, they had a reception on June 29 at the French Quarter Hotel in Atlanta. Those attending from Valley Head were Elizabeth and Nelson Ellis; Mary Holleman; Marsha, Mary, and Jessica Biddle; John Holleman; and Adelaide Biddle. The couple will reside in Atlanta.

Ruth and Bert Pickett had a lot to celebrate, so on June 22, they had a cookout to honor Gladys Cobble's granddaughter, Susan Cobble Ellis and her children, Jeremy, Emily, Ashley, Savannah, and Zachary, who were visiting from Boston, Mass.; Gladys Cobble's birthday, which will be in August; and Ruth and Bert's 57th wedding anniversary, which was

June 24. Others present besides the honorees were: Becky, Nicole, and Casey Stott; Jimmie and Lester Cobble and Betty Bracken from Chattanooga; Helen Bracken from Huntsville; Selma McElhane from Fort Payne; and Billie, Lillian, and Joe Pickett from Valley Head. Susan Ellis recently had returned from India and had many interesting things to tell about her trip.

The Valley Head UMW met June 25 at the home of Velma Hammond, with Vesta Hawkins and Geneva Smith as co-hostesses. Others present were Laura Margaret Allison, Mary Holleman, Adelaide Biddle, Marjorie Gray, Venna Livingston, Gladys Holleman, Eloise Brown, Melinda Adkins, and Judith Hammond was a visitor. I had charge of the program and presented "The Forgotten Side of Christ" by Catherine Marshall, which was Christ's deep sense of humor, which you don't hear much about. I feel that I have experienced evidence of this characteristic, as well as the evidence in the scripture. I am sure He shared laughter with His associates, and we know that He used humor in His communications. So, share with Him laughter as well as tears, give Him a change of pace; share your hopes, as well as fears, and praise Him for His Grace! The world also needs laughter from you. It is good medicine! Have Happy and safe holidays!

## FREEDOM IS A PRICELESS TREASURE

Freedom is a priceless treasure  
Which we are not apt to measure,  
For we take this gift for granted,  
We have not groveled nor panted,  
Shackled within tyranny's bars  
Bruised by its wounding and scars  
Only they know its worth and price,  
Who have suffered through pain and sacrifice,  
For its purchase and insurance,  
Striving to seal it in permanent assurance!  
They know it is worth all the cost,  
For without it all is lost.  
It is more rare and precious each day--  
Not many in this world can say,  
"Freedom blesses my native land,  
I hold high its torch in my hand,"  
We must protect it diligently against attack  
For we realize the proven fact--  
Freedom is a priceless treasure  
That nurtures hope, peace, and pleasure!

---Eloise Brown



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## BIRTHS



### It's a Boy!

#### Colton Heath Miller

Colton Heath Miller was born June 4, 1996, at BMC DeKalb Hospital in Ft. Payne. He weighed 7 lbs. & 15 oz. and was 22-1/2 inches long. Proud parents are Heath and Melissa (Worthey) Miller of Fyffe. Grandparents are Jimmy and Gaynell Worthey of Mentone, DeWayne and Fredia Miller of Fyffe, and Mayla and Reggie Miller of Ft. Payne. Great grandparents are Sue Smith of Cloudland, Matt Smith of Portersville, Louise Worthey of Ft. Payne, Lloyd Miller of Fyffe, and Bill and Mildred Hamilton, of Henagar.



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## From the Collection of Grady Hammond AUTHENTICATED CIVIL WAR STORIES



### BATTLE ABOVE THE CLOUDS

*Lookout Mountain, TN, November 24, 1863*

After the stinging defeat at the Battle of Chickamauga on September 20, 1863, General Rosecrans' Union army had retreated to Chattanooga, Tennessee. Here, they were rapidly besieged by General Braxton Bragg's victorious Confederates, who fortified Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain, partly surrounding the city. The Union situation was dismal until November, when General Grant arrived to take command. Grant immediately made preparations to end the siege, and within days, was ready to move against Bragg.

Overlooking the city from the south, Lookout Mountain towered above the surrounding hills. Its barefaced, white stone facade and numerous rock formations had made it an attraction for many years. Now, it was a battleground.

On the morning of November 24th, 1863, General "Fighting Joe" Hooker's command stormed across Lookout Creek and up Lookout Mountain's steep slopes. Sweeping around the face of the mountain, it was a struggle against the rugged terrain and the elements. A thick fog enshrouded the scene, as Hooker's men stumbled into Brigadier General Edward Walthall's Mississippi Brigade, scattered among the rocks and trees. Sporadic gunfire announced the Union arrival as the Mississippians fired at shadows rising up through the haze.

The fighting became fierce and confusing. General Walthall recalled that "It was so hazy and misty that objects could not be well distinguished except at short distance." the battle lines became entangled as Colonel Dowd of the 24th Mississippi remembered, "We were hotly engaged with an overwhelming force of the enemy, who...advanced near the cliff of rocks, taking our position by the left flank and rear. After a hot and prolonged contest, the enemy were driven back. They quickly rallied and advanced with overwhelming numbers..."

Mixed with the smoke of battle, white clouds rolled over the mountain side. Observing from the valley below, a Union officer wrote, "The mist at times hung so thick upon the mountain that the two lines would be entirely hidden from view; the peals of musketry, however, told that the fight was still going on, and proved Hooker was still advancing."

The southerners furiously fought back repeated Union charges, turning every rock and fallen tree into a defensive position. By late afternoon, the exhausted gray defenders, including Walthall's decimated brigade, marched off the mountain. And as night fell, campfires from Union positions lit up the mountainside, boldly announcing its passing into Union possession. The following day, General Hooker congratulated his troops. "The triumphs of yesterday...with the successful results, will be remembered as long as the giant peak of Lookout shall be (your) mute but eloquent monument," he said.

Today the mountain stands in silent testimony to the bravery of Americans, north and south, who fought the "Battle Above the Clouds."



### The Recipe Corner

By  
SUE SCHWARZ

"Summertime and the livin' is easy," so the song goes, and I'm all for it. We have been enjoying the porch and the river during these hot past few weeks. The fresh vegetables that are coming in make summer cooking easy. I am shamelessly lifting a recipe from the June issue of *Southern Living* for dilled squash. I substituted red bell pepper and vidalia onion because that's what I had, and used all yellow squash, and it was good that way, too. I've been experimenting with grains and pastas and have come up with a recipe for chicken and orzo (rice shaped pasta) that you might like:

#### **Dilled Summer Squash**

2 T butter or marg. (or olive oil)  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
2 t chopped fresh dillweed (1 t dried)  
6 green onions, cut into 1-inch pieces  
2 yellow squash, thinly sliced  
2 zucchini, thinly sliced  
1/2 green bell pepper, sliced  
1/3 c water  
salt and pepper to taste

Melt butter in a large skillet; add garlic, dillweed, and onions, and saute 1 minute. Add bell pepper and remaining ingredients and cook 2 minutes, stirring constantly. cover, reduce heat and simmer 3 minutes until crisp tender. 4 servings.

#### **Orzo with Chicken, Walnuts and Mushrooms**

1 pound chicken breasts  
1/4 C balsamic or wine vinegar  
1/4 C walnuts (toasted and coarsely chopped)  
1/2 pound mushrooms, sliced into 1/4" strips  
1/4 C olive oil  
1/4 C chicken broth  
1 whole garlic clove peeled  
1/4 t crushed red pepper  
1/4 C parsley  
1 C peas  
1 pound orzo (rice shaped pasta)

Cut chicken into 1/2 by 1" strips and marinate 30 minutes in the vinegar. Heat 1/2 oil in pan; add garlic and mushrooms and saute til mushrooms are soft. Discard garlic clove and remove mushrooms from pan and keep warm. Place crushed red pepper and remaining oil in pan. When oil is hot, add chicken and stir fry for 3 minutes. Add walnuts, stir 30 seconds longer. Add cooked mushrooms, parsley, and peas, cover and remove from heat. Cook orzo and drain it. Reheat other ingredients and add orzo and chicken broth. Stir fry quickly, mixing well for an additional 2 minutes. Let sit for a minute to absorb juices.

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# The Church News

By  
EVELYN GRAVES



Moon Lake Baptist Church will have a Children's Sports Camp, July 9-11, at Moon Lake Baptist Church. The camp will be from 8 a.m. - 12 noon. If you have any questions, you may call Brad Van Cleave, Youth Director, at 634-3642, or the pastor, Rev. Bill Russell, at 634-4176. Vacation Bible School is July 15-19, 6 - 8:30 p.m.. There will be a church-wide skating party on August 8, from 6-9 p.m., at the Fort Payne Skate Center. There will be a Youth Retreat on Labor Day weekend. More details will follow in the August issue.

Valley Head United Methodist Church honored the veterans and widows of veterans in the service on July 7. The UMW will meet on July 23 with Jane Kerby and Mary Crow. Melinda Adkins will be doing the program.

Reverend and Mrs. Randy Addison and other members of the Mentone Wesleyan Church will be attending the annual camping conference in Meridian, MS, on July 24-26. They will be able to enjoy the ministry of Dr. H.B. London during this conference. On June 30, the church had a wonderful baptism service with four new Christians being baptized. The building program is moving along. The church is presently waiting for a bid from the contractor to build a new sanctuary.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church welcomes a new priest, Al Cherbonneau, who is now living at Mentone.

On Sunday evenings after church, beginning July through August 11, the Valley Head Baptist Church will have Afterglow for the youth. There will be fun, games, devotional, and food. On July 14, there will be an ice cream social after church to meet a Youth Revival team. On July 15-17, the revival will take place at 5 p.m. with supper, followed by worship and singing, with Matt Beaver, evangelist, and Will Chenault as Music Minister. The Valley Head Baptist Church will man the hospitality tent for the people coming to the Olympics, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. On July 20, there will be a church-wide trip to Opryland. The group will leave at 6 a.m. from the church for this trip.

There will be a revival at the Mentone Church of God on July 28-August 2, with Chris Owensby from Grenada, Ms., as evangelist. There will be a quarterly conference on July 14 at 5 p.m.

Several members from the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy will be attending the General Assembly, which is the International Convention held in Louisville, Ky., on July 7-14. A Youth Camp is scheduled for ages 13-14 at Camp Boothe in Green Pond, Ala., on July 22-27.

Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to attend Sunday morning worship services at 9 a.m. Jerry Davis and L.A. Smith speak on alternate Sundays.

The Union Hill Baptist Church youth will sponsor a golf tournament at Li'l Mole Run Golf Course on Saturday, July 27. (See flyer on back page.) The GAs and Acteens sponsored a cookbook, "Tastes From the Country," which is now available at \$6.00 per cookbook. It is crammed full of wonderful recipes and is

beautifully illustrated. If you are interested in purchasing one, please call Karen Baker at 845-3975. Monthly singing is every second Sunday evening at 6:00. Sunday School is at 10 a.m.; Morning Worship is at 10:45 a.m.; Discipleship Training/New Member Orientation is at 6 p.m.; Evening Worship is at 7 p.m., and Wednesday evening prayer service is at 6:30 p.m.

You are invited to attend services at Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) on Sunday morning, at 10 a.m. Visitors are always invited to visit the chapel at other times also. Vacation clothes are fine for the service.

The Mentone United Methodist Church welcomed its new pastor, Rev. W.R. Giddens, from Gadsden. On Sunday, June 30, a young pianist, J.L. Gibson from Valley Head, began playing at the 11 o'clock a.m. services. The members are pleased to have him with them. The Administrative Board will meet next Sunday, July 14, right after church. The UMW meets at the fellowship hall on Thursday, July 11, at 2 p.m. The program focus is "The Season is Now," with leader Ann Wright. Sue Schwarz is the Hostess.



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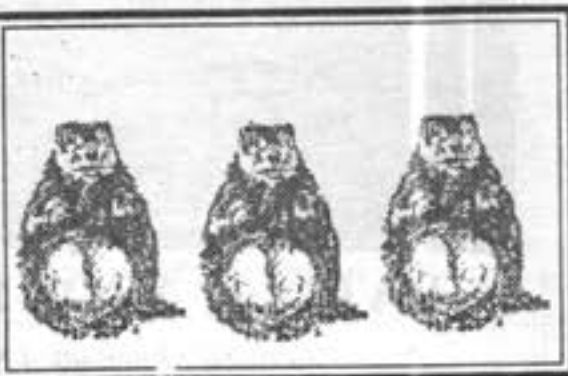
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## IT IS WRITTEN TELECAST WILL SPONSOR A DANIEL PROPHECIES SEMINAR

Have you ever wondered what the book of Daniel is talking about? Many stay completely away from this book because it seems hard to understand. However, Daniel 12:4 indicates that those who live in the last days before Jesus comes will understand this important book. It also speaks of many people studying this book carefully. If you would like to be a part of this fulfilling prophecy, please join us at the Mentone Wedding Chapel, Tuesday evenings, at 7:00 p.m., beginning July 23, and each Tuesday through October 8. For more information, call the speaker, Wilbur Atwood, 706-820-1319.



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## COUNTRY STATION

By Evelyn Graves

Paula and Denny Grisham are the new owners of Country Station, formerly Valley Head Hardware. Denny is a Valley Head native, and has always lived in Valley Head except for 20 years when he was in the military service. He currently operates a tractor and implement business near I-59 Flea market, but hopes to combine this business with the hardware business in the future. They are now excited about the Country Station, and their hope is to build the business back as it once was. Paula says they want to serve the people of Valley Head, Hammondville, and Mentone in the best possible way and provide for their needs. They are trying to supply a little bit of everything, and they invite people to let them know what they need, and they will get it for them. Neither Denny nor Paula has any previous experience in the hardware business, so they are learning from the ground up. They both like people and feel that this will help them with the business. Do not hesitate to call Denny or Paula after business hours if you have a pipe that has burst or some other emergency situation, and they will be happy to come open the store and assist you with your problem.

The building occupied by the Country Station was built around 1920 by Paul and Ovie Davenport, and it was used as a warehouse for the cotton that was to be ginned. Later, it was purchased by Ted Holleman and William Crow and was called C & H Lumber Company. They furnished lumber, building and hardware needs. Ted Holleman sold his share to William Crow, who later sold the business to James Young, who operated it as Valley Head Hardware.

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(3) **A QUIET DEAD END STREET** is where you will want to live, in downtown Mentone. Offered is a 4 Bdrm, 2-1/2 bath home with 2.3 acres. 1 car garage and fully equipped kitchen. Appt. only, priced to sell at \$87,900.



(4) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES** Phase I 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.



(5) **FOR SALE OR LEASE - OPTION PURCHASE**. 3 Bdrm, 2 bath, living room, dining, study, CH&A, and 2 car garage, 1 acre mt with large deck and screened porch overlooking rock formations on the upper east brow of Lookout Mountain. Located in Cherokee County, Alabama, just 1 mile from Cloudland, Ga. \$78,000



(6) **GREAT POTENTIAL FOR BED AND BREAKFAST** in this 3-level home with elevator on the BROW on DeSoto Pkwy, Mentone. With so many amenities, here are just a few: 5 bedrooms, 5-1/2 baths on 2 levels with a full basement with another 10 rooms. CH&A, 3 fireplaces, screened porch, and open deck, plus a sunroom. Large Great room and separate dining, kitchen and breakfast rooms. 270 feet of Brow frontage, with a sunset view. \$250,000 firm with owner financing to qualified buyers.



(7) **VALLEY HEAD AREA** - 2 Bdrm, 2 bath home on 7.25 acres. Home is located on Big Ridge, off of Road 943. \$40,500.



(8) **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.

### OTHER PROPERTIES

(9) **BROW ROAD #89 NORTH OF MENTONE**. 7.8 acres with 240 ft. of brow frontage. Has been surveyed and perked. Includes a wet weather waterfall. All for \$33,500.

(10) **LQT ON LAKE LAHUSAGE (middle fork)**. 80x212 building lot with great access to lake. Partially cleared, driveway, surveyed, and perk tested. All you need is to build your cottage on the water. \$16,500.

(11) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST** (sub. of Canyon View Forest) Beautiful 5 to 7 acre tracts located on the East Brow, overlooking the Ga. Mountains and Weiss Lake. 9 miles south of Ft. Payne Hwy. 35, Cherokee, Co., Ala. Surrounded by 2,000 acres of National Preserve. Priced only \$10,000 to \$17,000.

(12) **TRACERS ON THE WEST BROW**, minutes from DeSoto State Park. Great investment property with over 1,000 ft. of brow frontage. Rocks, Creeks and a beautiful view, all one could ask for, at a great buy - \$117,500.

(13) **1-1/2 ACRES ON THE BROW**. Minutes from all attractions in and around Mentone. 146 ft. of BROW frontage (West, sunset). On DeSoto Parkway, with city water. Great buy at \$20,000.

(14) **MENTONE PINE AND HARDWOOD LOTS** - 3/4 to 1 acre lots with city water available. Level to gently rolling. Located off DeSoto Parkway 2 miles from state park. Owner financing available. \$7,500 to \$10,000 each.

(15) **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.

(16) **AVAILABLE - WOODED ACREAGE**, secluded with private access, 10 acres and up, \$1,500 to \$2,000 an acre. Owner financing available to qualified buyers. Restrictions apply.

(17) **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.

(18) **FLAT LANDING FORD ESTATES** 3 acre tracts located on the East Fork of Little River, near Mentone. 250 to 300 ft. of river frontage. Restricted, and Owner financing available. Perfect for swimming and rafting. Selling fast, \$21,000 to \$25,000.

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

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**The**  
**Menlo**  
**News**

BY OVIE "BO"  
BLALOCK

Heartiest congratulations to Mark Hiram Toles who graduated from Dalton College, magna cum laude (highest honors) with an associate of applied science degree.

**Best Silver Scholarships** have been awarded. To be eligible to apply for one of these scholarships, a student must be an employee or a child or a grandchild of a member of the Best Silver Club. The student must also be attending or plan to attend an accredited college or university during the fall as a full-time student. A drawing is held yearly from among the applicants to award the scholarships. Among this year's recipients were: **Brandon Davis**, son of Betty and Charles Davis. Brandon was a 1995 graduate of Chattooga High School and is attending West Georgia College; and **Emily Hester**, daughter of Ernie and Debbie Hester. Emily is a 1996 graduate of Chattooga High School and will be attending Georgia Southern University where she will be majoring in computer science. Congratulations to these fine young scholars.

The **Solar Summer Reading Club** is underway at the Menlo Library. Library story time will be at 4:15 p.m. Wednesdays. Star gazing films will be shown during the reading club. Films will be shown at 4: p.m. Monday in the Menlo Library.

Deepest sympathy to the families of the recently deceased:

- Mrs. Fannie Downer Hawkins, 78, who died May 28.
- Roy J. Bowman, 74, who died June 3.
- Jimmy Howard, 46, who died June 17.
- J. B. Lowery, 71, who died June 19.

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### Ready For Trip

Menlo Elementary School's eighth graders visited Savannah and Jekyll Island recently. Those that attended the trip were front row, from left, Joseph Swords, Charlie Rutledge, Tim Rutledge, Ronnie Wright, Leslie Knox, Jamie Hall, Gina Treadaway, Carla Pierce, Lindsay

Hegwood and Matthew Bierkamp. Back row, from left are, John Toles, Kelly Haygood, Rebecca Dunn, Emily Johnson, Curtis Ray, Daniel Hunter, Randy Peace, Matt Chrystal, Amos Huskey and Sean Willingham. (Special Photo).



### Brothers

Parrish Blaine Wilson, 16 months old, and Brett Michael Wilson, seven years old, are the sons of Larry and Michelle Wilson, Summerville. They are the grandsons of Terry and Linda Money, Summerville, Betty and Jeff Brown, Trion. They are the great-grandsons of Edna Parrish, Menlo, and the great-great-grandsons of Mrs. Willie Parrish, Menlo. (Special Photos).



### TEN YEARS OLD

Kenya Sharee Bain is the 10-year-old daughter of Jeff and Sherry Bain, Auburn, Ala. She celebrated her birthday June 7. She is the granddaughter of Clyde and Jean Crabtree, Summerville, and Johnny and JoAnn Bain, Spanish Fort, Ala. Great-grandparents are the late Andrew and Annie McGraw and the late C. W. and Clara Crabtree, Summerville, Flora Jennings and the late J. T. Simpson, Summerville, J. R. and Evelyn Bain and the late Kathrine Bain, Mentone, Ala. She has two brothers, Jeffrey and Jacob Bain.



### FOURTH BIRTHDAY

Kerri Beth Allison celebrated her fourth birthday June 7. She was given a party Saturday at the Jump-n-Gym. Guests attending were her little sister, Rachel Allison, and Lela Wright, Lyndsey Little and Caleb Payton, Em Sink, Brett and Blaine Williams, Kayla Frazier, R. and Chase Hamilton, Mag Rich, Anna Renslow and C. Pettit. Kerri Beth is daughter of Kerry and Ch Allison, Menlo.



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# Let The Games Begin

Pre-School Olympics

July 1996 Issue/ The Groundhog/Page 11



Members of Carole Pickle's class, anxious to get it on, are, from left, Mason Gilreath, Cody Crane, Seth Edwards, Ryan Hamilton, Ashley Jackson, Jamie Johnson, Cayla Burkhalter, Levi Warner and Chantell Lawrence.

The Menlo First Baptist Church Creative Learning Center held its third Annual Pre-school Olympics recently at Lawrence Park in Menlo.

The competitions included sack races, tricycle races, a 25-yard dash event, and a ball throw contest.

All the children received olympic medals attached to bright, red, white and blue pendants. The three and four-year-olds also received a participation ribbon for each event. First, second, and third place ribbons were also awarded for each event.

The contestants kicked off the games with a flag march around the park. The center has an enrollment of 17 children. Ginger Lanier is the director and teaches one class, while a second class is taught by Miss Carole Pickle.

A number of family members and friends attended the games and enjoyed the festivities.



## ORATORICAL CONTEST

Leslie Knox was the county winner in the oratorical contest sponsored by the Summerville-Trion Optimist Club. She advanced to the zone contest, held in Trenton. Leslie was valedictorian of her class at Menlo Elementary School this year.



Members of Ginger Lanier's class, preparing to march, are, from left, Hope Mitchell, Hillary Hall, Kerri Beth Allison, Nina Ballenger, Brandon Hunter, Haley Murray, Cassidy Houser and Chase Hamilton.





## The Country Journal

By  
BERNISE CROW

"Only your hairdresser knows for sure" has been used as an advertisement to promote hair color products for years, but the statement can have another connotation. Hairdressers serve as psychiatrists, advisors, sleuths, humorists, stylists, and, of course, have to be expert listeners. Maxine Fergusson has been supplying me with shampoos, cuts, and permanents for about twenty-five years. She is one of the finest people I know—a very neat, attractive lady who is always pleasant and ready to laugh (or cry) with me, depending on the circumstances. She started doing my hair when I wore it long and put up in curls and continued while we colored it until we grew tired of that and let it go to gray. Now, it's cut short and tightly curled to give a little body to limp, thin, fine textured hair. Nothing gives me more of a lift in spirits than getting a shampoo and set. The more modern young people now get a good cut and have their hair blow-dried, which is good for those who do it themselves. Setting hair has never been one of my talents, since I used to wear it long and roll it under for a page boy look.

Your hairdresser senses when you are despondent and massages those areas in the temples to make one relax. When one finishes a cosmetology course, one must know a great deal about the way our system works. If this doesn't work, she (or he) can always tell a good joke probably told to her by her last customer. And sometimes we share each other's sorrows. Maxine has lost two husbands in the time that I have known her. I have lost my mother and granddaughter. Sometimes weeping together brings blessed relief. I asked Maxine, one day, if her head didn't roar at night from listening to complaints, tales of operations, of what wonderful children and grandchildren everyone had, even having to look at pictures of all of them! Of course, she is a mother and grandmother and can tolerate a little of our bragging. I'll wager that Maxine knows more about the history of my life than anyone outside of my immediate family. I don't know whether or not a hairdresser has taken a sworn oath to secrecy, but I do know that Maxine never gossips about her other clients. So, I feel very secure about revealing all problems to her. I know that's selfish, but it just seems like the thing to do. At least I have a captive listener who cannot turn away before I get my tale finished. I find many people who lose interest in my stories before they are finished and either walk away or start telling me one of their own stories. Somehow each of us feels that we have something to tell to others and that they should want to hear about it.

Your hairdresser knows for sure how homely you can look with all curls gone and half your make-up missing. She has to contend with trying to perform miracles on those of us who have problem hair—some needs thinning, some needs all the body she can give it. Some hair is coarse, some is fine, some is easy to arrange and some is not so easy to do. She is the only one who knows whether you have washed well behind your ears, if you have bathed, or have halitosis. She strives to please even those who are not so pleasant. The morale boost I get from a visit is so nice that I told Maxine one day that I would come for a visit even if she did not do my hair.

Your hairdresser makes you look your best for all special occasions—weddings, Christmas parties, receptions, etc. Then, she is the last one to do your hair if the family requests it. She goes to the funeral home and prepares the coiffure for its last viewing. This would be a hard task.

We should have a national "Hairdressers Day" to salute those who work tirelessly to improve the looks of us fussy ladies and men. Many men now go to the beauty salon to get their hair styled. At least we can give our hairdressers a rose occasionally or send them a thank-you note.

## GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

In June, my asiatic lilies put on a splendid show of colors and blooms, they seemed to have loved the conditions here in Mentone. I also noticed that the daylilies in the valley are now in bloom. As yet, mine have not shown their heads, and as this is the first year for them in my yard, I wonder if they will put on a show. I also noticed that the mountain laurels had put on a spectacular show earlier in the season, they were stunning.

I have heard various reports on the veggie gardening side that kind of puzzles me. A lot of people are saying that the weather so far has been bad for gardening, well, perhaps for very cool-weather crops like snow peas it has been a bad year, as mine got off to a good start they just stopped growing. I reckon it got a little too hot for them this year. I will miss all the snow peas this year, (in France they call it "mange-tout" and, apparently, they believe that it raises the libido, somewhat like oysters or ginseng).

The rest of my garden is doing splendidly ("touch wood"!), and I had a very little "wash-away" of the seeds as I learned to sow after the rain and not just anytime. So I would like to wish the rest of the veggie gardeners good luck, like I seem to have gotten.

This year I tried some of the bush-type sweet potatoes, and I will keep you posted as to the performance. Wal-Mart had them this year, and for those who bought them and did not know that they were the bush-type and not the running vine type, don't despair over the lack of abundant foliar vines. My husband was puzzled over the "slow" growth 'till I told him that they were "bush" sweet potatoes. He then said what a lot of vegetable gardeners might have said "they ain't no good." I suppose he said that because a lot of old-timers are used to the sprawling vines. Well, we shall see how they perform here in Mentone.

Now, I shall proceed with the hints I have found and scrounged around for. Mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) that put on a good show one year, then barely blooms the next should not really be blamed on the weather but on the care of the shrub. Basically, every terminal (stem) has a flower bud, which, if left, develops into seed heads that look like capsules. The plant puts its energy in seed production and not much new growth, and mountain laurel flowers form on new growth. Dead heading the flowers as soon as they are spent will increase the odds of having prolific blooms the next year.

Lily lovers (like me) can easily propagate enough of them to fill up the yard, by scaling the mother bulbs. If you want to sacrifice the mother bulb then scale the whole thing; if you don't, then you only scale the outer ring every year. Dig up the bulbs in fall after the foliage has nourished the bulb and died back. Mix and slightly moisten a bucket of potting soil for your scales. Remove the outer ring of scales from each bulb. Set the bulbs aside and replant in the garden as soon as possible. Let the scales dry in a shady place for a day so that a callus forms. Fill plastic bags with the soil mix and add several scales to each bag, poke vent holes in each bag, label, then store them in a warm, dark place.

At the end of the three months, bulblets the size of green peas will have formed on each scale. Put the bags into the fridge or cool place for 10-12 weeks, then plant outside in a nursery in a shady place. In 3-4 weeks the bulblets will put up a single leaf (like a blade). By the end of the season, each plant will have 3-4 leaves; in another season, they will grow a tall stem but no flowers. In fall, move them to their final site. The next year, they will bloom for you.



## ELIZABETH WHEATLEY 1996-1997 UGF CAMPAIGN GENERAL CHAIRMAN

Elizabeth Wheatley, Executive Director of the DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center, has been selected to serve as Campaign General Chairman for the 1996-97 United Givers Fund Campaign. She is married to Brian Wheatley. He is manager of the Mikasa Factory Outlet store in Boaz. They reside in the Crossville area and attend Crossville First United Methodist Church where she serves as the Adult Choir Director. Ms. Wheatley said, "The invitation to serve as Campaign Chairman is a great honor to me. As an agency that UGF supports, it will give me the opportunity to personally thank the people of DeKalb County who give so generously, and to also thank the volunteers who work so hard each year when the campaign is underway."

Following her introduction to the UGF Board members at their June meeting, Ms. Wheatley spoke briefly about some of the campaign plans already in place and about her personal goals for this year's campaign. She told about how the new campaign theme was selected saying that this year's theme is actually a two-part theme. The first part "Go For The Goal," was inspired by the olympics which are being held in Atlanta this year and the fact that UGF always sets a goal for the campaign each year. She explained also that we need to look forward toward this year's goal and not backward to the successes of past campaigns. She said "Now, I can look behind and say since I've been involved (with UGF), Staff Rastall did a great job, Gene (Wright) did a great job, Betty (Kirkland) did a great job. They all met their (campaign) goals. But that was in the past. We have to look forward." She went on to talk about the second part of the theme, "Give And It Will Be Given Unto You," saying, "The services that all of these agencies provide is what's being given back to this county." She said everybody in DeKalb County is going to be affected at one time or another, either directly or indirectly, by the services provided by these agencies.

UGF Executive Director, Barbara Turner, says "We are really looking forward to working with Elizabeth on this year's campaign. She's been involved for several weeks now in the recruiting of other volunteers and in the early planning and decision-making. I've been impressed with her enthusiasm, dedication, and organizational abilities. I'm confident we will be ready to "Go For The Goal," when the Campaign gets underway in mid-September.

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## THIS 'N' THAT SHOP

By Evelyn Graves

On the main street in Valley Head across from the bank, you will find a new business which opened May 1 and is owned and operated by Phyllis Lewis. It is called This 'N' That Shop, and rightly so, because inside you will find, in addition to a bright, cheerful smile from the owner, a wide variety of new and used clothing, bags, jewelry, belts, toys, novelty items of all types, and a lot of this 'n' that.

Phyllis has plans for future expansion, and one of those definite plans that is most exciting is to use some of the existing space for massage therapy. She already has engaged a licensed massage therapist, Rose Smith. Plans also are being made for massage classes to be taught. If you are interested in taking these classes and in learning to be a massage therapist, please call 635-0840.

Phyllis invites you to come by and visit the This 'N' That Shop. You are sure to find something that will interest you.



## Students win Olympic tickets

Students at Valley Head School recently earned free tickets to the 1996 Olympic Soccer games, which will be held July 20-July 28 at Legion Field in Birmingham. The students earned the tickets by participating in the Goal '96 Program, sponsored by the Birmingham Soccer Organizing Committee. Pictured are winners: Beth Shirley (5th grade), Sharee Jenkins (5th grade), and Benjamin Windon (3rd grade). Valley Head Physical Education Instructor Rhonda Kirby also earned a free ticket.

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## Moon Lake School News

By Evelyn Graves

The building of the new restrooms is moving along nicely. They are being built by Lowell, Gary, and Ricky McKenzie. They will be ready when school starts back at the end of the summer.

Welcome to Nancy Frost, a new addition to the faculty.

## RUFUS COLQUITT JONES

1921 - 1996

By Evelyn Graves

Rufus Colquitt Jones was born on April 21, 1921, to Hardy and Maude (Colquitt) Jones. He was the oldest of five children. He had two sisters, Elizabeth (Jones) Romans and Mary Louise (Jones) Cauthen, and two brothers, Lovejoy and Edward Jones.

Colquitt grew up in a happy home where music was heard throughout the house. Both of his sisters were wonderful pianists, and the boys played various musical instruments, and they all had beautiful singing voices. Colquitt was perhaps the most talented on the stringed instruments. He played the violin with such finesse that it was not unusual to see tears escaping from the eyes of his audience. He had such a sweet, mellow voice that it made you feel that you were in the presence of the heavenly choir when he sang.

I am sure that all of Heaven rejoiced when Colquitt arrived on June 15 to take his place among the choir members who had preceded him. He is now able to sing without becoming breathless and is able to play with sweeter tones than ever before. Even though he lost the battle with cancer, he has won a sweeter victory.

Colquitt was a well-known figure around Mentone. Being a tall man, with distinguished carriage, anyone would have been aware of his presence.

After finishing high school at Valley Head, Colquitt moved to the Birmingham area where he worked with the Birmingham Fire Department until his retirement 28 years later. It was during this time that he had two sons by his first marriage, Bobby and Donny. He later married Lucille Thomas Setzer, and they enjoyed 30 wonderful years together. Colquitt and Lucille, along with Bobby and Donny, moved to Mentone after his retirement from the Fire Department; and he served seven years as Police Chief at Mentone.

He left that job to be maintenance supervisor at Camp DeSoto. He worked there nearly 20 years before his health began to fail. He continued as a deputy in and around Mentone and aided the Sheriff's Department in many ways.

It was during his work at Camp DeSoto that I came to know and love Colquitt. I had retired from a career job and was working in the office at Camp DeSoto. Even though Colquitt and I are second cousins, I had only vague recollections of him since he had been away for so many years, and I was quite young when he left. However, it did not take long for me to recognize the Jones characteristics in his personality, and he and I became quite close. Colquitt was a large man and had to stoop to come through the doors of the office; he had a deep, resonant voice that commanded respect, but one that was not unfamiliar to me because I had recognized that same tonal quality in my grandfather's and also my father's voices, and I was not intimidated by it. I often chided him for something he would say, and he always came back with a smile. I observed Colquitt as he moved about his various duties at Camp, but I was always touched when he took a few minutes' break and sat on the rock wall outside the office to rest. Almost immediately, some little camper would find her way to his side and would sit down beside him. In tender, patient tones, he would make conversation with her, and she would respond. Sometimes when he drove into camp in the old blue camp pickup, a group of campers would rush to meet him. Underneath that tough exterior was a heart of gold and one that could be melted instantly by the innocent face of a little child.

This is Colquitt as I knew him, and I am grateful for our friendship. The last time I visited him in the hospital, it was about a week before his death, and he was too weak to talk. He opened his eyes and smiled at me, and I knew what he was thinking, and he knew what I was thinking. These are the kinds of friendships we cherish and that strengthen us long after the friend is gone.



Rufus Colquitt Jones



Alison Meadows

One of the contestants in the Miss June Jam 1996 was Alison Meadows, 17, of Valley Head High School. Alison was selected as a member of the court. She is the daughter of David and Cindy Meadows.



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Scouts at Moon Lake Baptist Church



Leaders and scouts at Pinewood Derby



Scouts planting flowers at Moon Lake School butterfly garden

## Cub Scouts of Den 2, Troop 106, Mentone, are on the move

By Sandra Rogers

The Cub Scouts of Den 2, Troop 106, have been on the move since November 8, 1995. The den leaders are Sandra Rogers and Amelia Baxter. Jared Bare, John Baxter, Tyler Huskey, Logan Jackson, Kirby McMunn, Joshua Rogers, Phillip Waller, and Jason Willis are the Cub Scouts of Den 2.

The first step was getting trained den leaders. Dr. Bill Berry started the leaders in November 1995 with a fast training movie and then a full day of training at Camp Comer in Mentone with Kay West and crew. From there, in January 1996, they went to Hokes Bluff for the Pow Wow.

The Cub Scouts save aluminum cans to help with their projects. There are cans at all the stores in Mentone for the public to donate their aluminum cans. Mary Ann Young came in January to talk to the boys about drugs, alcohol, and child abuse. Pastor Bill Russell of Moon Lake Baptist Church, has taken the time with the boys: God and Me. Projects the Cub Scouts have been involved in are planting seeds in the butterfly garden at Moon Lake Elementary School, and working on a few flower beds around the Moon Lake Baptist Church and house area.

Some of the Cub Scout activities include the Pinewood Derby, which was held this year on May 18th at the home of Kenneth and Kathy McMunn. During June, the boys went to a pool for their meeting. Their July meeting is at the Moon Lake Baptist Church. An exciting day is planned during August when the boys meet at Camp Comer for a full day of events.

This fall, one of their money making projects is to sell popcorn. During the fair they will have a booth. Whatever their endeavors, please support them.

Photos courtesy of Sandra Rogers



## MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1996 GRADUATES

Adam Baker, Tessie Baty, Jennifer Blalock, Jerry Lee Brisendine, Brandy Browder, Ashley Brown, Melinda Bradford, Ben Corey, Garrett Fischer, Jana Goss, Alan Hawkins, Matt Hilliard, Cassie Hooks, Joshua Hunt, Peter Hurt, Matthew Prestwood, Nicole Rogers, Josh Thomas, Jenny Wesley, Johnny Wesley



## 1996 VALEDICTORIAN AND CO-SALUTATORIANS

Jana Goss, Valedictorian, and  
Peter Hurt and Ben Corey, Co-Salutatorians

# Happy ☺ Birthday



**Wil Blackburn**  
**Happy 7th Birthday**

Wil Blackburn will be 7 years old on July 14. His parents are Al and Vickie Blackburn of Mentone. Grandparents are William Blackburn of Mentone; Helen and Winford Crabtree of Ft. Payne; Jim and Martha Gaines of Dalton, Ga.; and Albert and Toni Stone of Calhoun, Ga. He has a younger sister, Alex.



**Logan Chambers**  
**Happy 7th Birthday**

Logan Russell Chambers will have his 7th Birthday on July 23. Logan is the son of Rusty and Angela Chambers of Mentone. Grandparents are Jane & Kent Kerby and Calvin and Marie Blansit of Valley Head; Juanita and Sanford Hartline and Milton & Gail Chambers of Mentone. Great grandparents are Alfred & Polly Chambers and Mary Crowe of Mentone, Maxine Ferguson of Valley Head, and Rusty Rushing of St. Louis Mo. Logan will celebrate his special day with a pool party at DeSoto State Park on July 19th from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. and all friends and relatives are invited to attend.



**JILLIAN  
CAROLINE HOPE**

celebrated her **1st** birthday on June 30.

Parents are Lisa Strickland Hope of Mentone and Michael Scott Hope, stationed in Naples, Italy.

Grandparents are Roy and Mickey Strickland of Mentone and J.C. and Betty Hope of Adamsburg.

Jillie is shown here in her Christening gown.

## HEALTH NUGGET

### ARE YOU GETTING ENOUGH PHYSICAL EXERCISE TO KEEP HEALTHY?

Summertime has come and most people are enjoying the benefits of air conditioned comfort. According to federal surveys, being comfortable is not always best. Their studies reveal that most Americans are sedentary and, as a result, 250,000 people die each year due to "a lack of regular physical activity." Worse than this, a sedentary lifestyle has side effects that are quite serious. Recent studies show that a lack of physical activity may result in coronary artery disease, cancer, osteoporosis, depression, anxiety, and more. These problems seem to custom fit our nation's current health problems.

In the past, when one has thought of starting an exercise program, they usually got concerned at the amount of time and effort that it would require. As a result, many decide that an exercise program is just unreasonable in today's rush of things.

**There is good news.** Exercise specialists now have moved away from the old "rules" of exercise and are teaching something more achievable. Instead of insisting on strenuous exercise 3-5 times per week, now 30 minutes of moderate exercise most every day is recommended. Better yet, the exercise may even be spaced throughout the day instead of just in one segment, and made up of a variety of activities. So, now, rather than having to spend large amounts of time and energy exercising strenuously every day, many of the same benefits may be received by getting moderate exercise throughout the day.

Some of the many benefits received from moderate exercise sound as though they were nature's prescription to Americans health problems. They reduce cholesterol, slow the heart rate, reduce stress, as well as help prevent cancer, diabetes, osteoporosis, and other lifestyle related diseases.

One might be wondering what would constitute the "moderate" exercise that was recommended in the place of the strenuous exercise. Many common functions like sweeping the floors, grocery shopping, weeding or planting a garden, brisk walking, slow jog, or a bike ride all come under the category of moderate exercise. With this in mind, we see that it is much easier to keep our bodies' looking and feeling better.

As you begin to think of how you may adopt this plan into your own schedule, here are some helpful hints:

●1. Exercise outside as much as possible to breathe the fresh air that your body needs. ●2. Many of the outdoor chores such as pushing the lawn mower, rotor-tilling, raking, hoeing in the garden, qualify for moderate exercise. ●3. If you can find a partner who likes to walk or jog, you are more likely to continue. ●4. Drink enough water to replace the fluids that the body loses.

With these new recommendations, practically everyone can enjoy the benefits of a healthy body anytime of the year, and still have time to get all the other things done.

The Health Nugget is a public service of the Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital, Department of Community Health Education, Wildwood, GA 30757.

Currently, Wildwood is conducting a series of health seminars each Thursday evening at the Moon Lake Elementary School cafeteria. For more information, call 634-4658 or 706 820-9617.

#### PHYSICAL INTENSITY OF SELECTED ACTIVITIES

| Activity                           | Calories burned<br>per 10 minutes |     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
|                                    | Women                             | Men |
| Sweeping floors                    | 33                                | 38  |
| Hanging out clothes                | 34                                | 40  |
| Washing and waxing car             | 34                                | 40  |
| Grocery Shopping                   | 36                                | 40  |
| Mopping floors                     | 36                                | 40  |
| Mowing, power mower                | 38                                | 48  |
| Walking, brisk (3 mph)             | 38                                | 48  |
| Swimming, slow                     | 38                                | 48  |
| Weeding the garden                 | 42                                | 50  |
| Painting house                     | 45                                | 53  |
| Walking, brisk (4 mph)             | 55                                | 65  |
| Biking, moderate                   | 59                                | 71  |
| Chopping wood                      | 63                                | 77  |
| Planting garden                    | 63                                | 77  |
| Scrubbing floor                    | 63                                | 77  |
| Walking with 15# load 4 mph        | 67                                | 77  |
| Shoveling snow                     | 67                                | 83  |
| Hiking, no load                    | 71                                | 83  |
| Uphill walking, 10° incline, 3 mph | 77                                | 91  |
| Skiing, cross-country or downhill  | 77                                | 91  |
| Running, slow                      | 83                                | 100 |
| Race walking                       | 91                                | 105 |

Table adapted from Consumer Reports On Health, July 1993, p. 70, and Univ. of Calif. at Berkeley Wellness Letter, Sept. 1992, p. 4

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## IN THE PRESENCE OF ANGELS

By Evelyn Graves

The *Wall Street Journal* for May 12, 1992, carried an article by staff reporter R. Gustav Niebuhr about people who have been helped by guardian angels and the effect that the experience has had on their lives. "After a hiatus of maybe 300 years and much skepticism," Niebuhr wrote, "angels are making a comeback." Of course, those of us who study the Bible know that angels have never been away, but are present from Genesis to Revelation. However, in a time of increased interest in these heavenly beings, more people are coming forth to tell of their encounters with them.

Barbara Ratliff of Menlo, Georgia, relates a strange encounter with an angel during a time of serious illness several years ago. Her encounter was not of the usual kind where a feeling of comfort and peace is felt by the angel's presence, but it was one of awe and fear. She feels that it was a death angel who was ushered into her room by a rush of cold wind, and who hovered around her for two days. With the help of a minister, the angel left her, and she is well today. The experience had such an impact on her life that two years ago she had a compulsion: to do something to acknowledge the presence of angels that other people might appreciate and benefit from, so she started an angel garden. With her own hands, she has built a large garden from rocks, plants, and blooming flowers, with numerous angels sitting or standing randomly in the garden. She has two small gardens that she has built on the same order as the large one.

There are many books that have been written in recent years about angels. To name a few, there are "Angels, Angels, Angels" by Billy Graham, "Angels Among Us," (a Guidepost book), "Where Angels Walk," by Joan Wester Anderson, and "Angels Unaware" by Dale Evans. I have read all of these, and after reading books of this type, I have had a new appreciation of a phenomenon that heretofore I had only sensed. It caused me to start looking back over my life recalling certain inexplicable happenings that left me puzzled and in awe. It was then that I began to alert my ears to what the poet Betty Banner has heard as "the swish of passing wings."

Groundhog readers, if you have had an encounter with an angel or have felt the presence of a guardian angel and would like to share your story in *The Groundhog*, please send it to us.



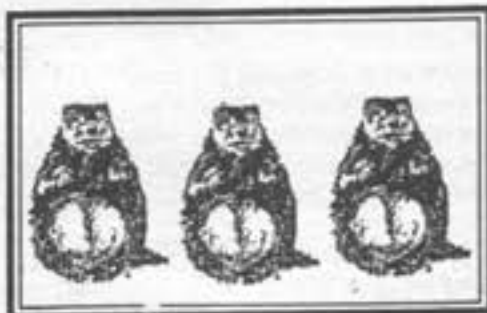
Charles Cleveland teaching at the first of the Wellness Seminars at Moon Lake Elementary School Cafeteria on June 20

## FORMULA FOR WELLNESS SEMINAR BEGINS

The first Nutrition and Health Seminar took place on Thursday June 20, where 24 were present to discover more about their health. This was a first of the *Formula For Wellness* series that will be continuing through September. The seminar was kicked off with an easy to understand in depth talk on the implications of cancer by Charles Cleveland, Director of Health Education at Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital. The lecture consisted of current information on how this number two killer in the US may be prevented by basic lifestyle changes. The program was made clear and simple using color overhead transparencies. Handouts were provided which covered all the main points so that studies and other information may be reviewed at home. Those present were free to ask questions and make comments so everyone could receive personal benefits. Nutrition and Health seminars will continue on July 11, 18, 25, at the Moon Lake Elementary school cafeteria.

The Nutrition and Health Seminar will be followed by a Natural Foods Cooking School beginning August 1, and continuing the rest of the month on Thursday evenings. In this program, the group will hear simple, comprehensive health lectures that concern the diet of Americans. From this, they will learn how to make some common sense changes that improve the health of the whole body and mind helping people to look and feel better. Also, the group will be learning by hands-on experience how to prepare good healthful, tasty meals that are easy to make. The participants will then have the opportunity to sample the recipes that they have made and can take some home to enjoy.

All the programs are **free to the public** and all are welcome to attend. The seminars will be held in the Moon Lake Elementary School cafeteria which is behind the school building. **They are Thursday evenings until October 3 from 7:00-8:30pm. Transportation can be provided.** For those who would be interested in more information, contact Stan or Linda Lawton at 634-4658.



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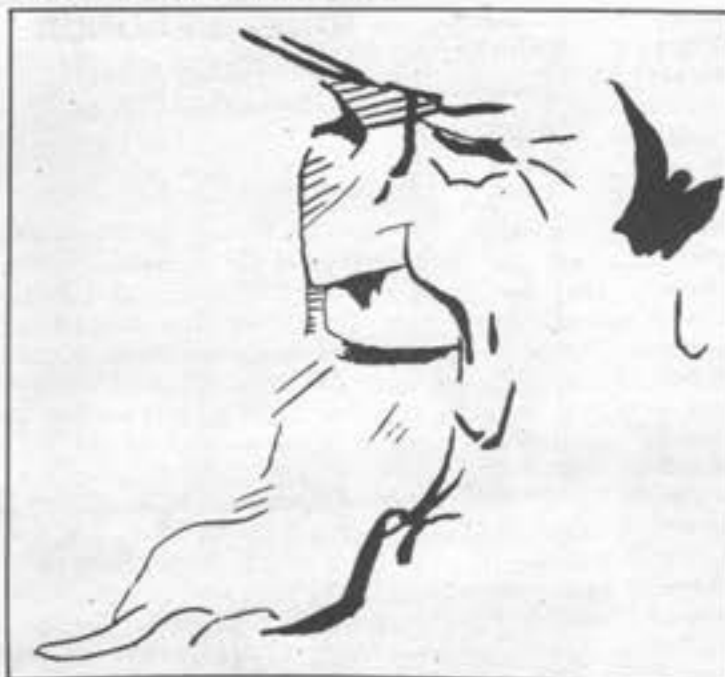
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## ASK THE GROUNDHOG WIZARD

By Cato

**Questioner #1:** Master, Master, knowing all things, what would be the ultimate invention for mankind?

**Wizard:** Something as efficient as the shock absorbers on a woodpecker's brain, comes to mind.

**Questioner #2:** Oh Great One, adviser to the pharaohs and keeper of the secrets of the pyramids. Ah—

**Wizard:** Cut the drivel. Get on with your question.

**Questioner #2, again:** Master, do you agree that June 21st is the longest day of the year?

**Wizard:** Absolutely not. The longest day of the year is when my mother-in-law pays her annual visit.

**Questioner #3:** Master, who invented the computer?

**Wizard:** Good short question. A loose screw, a nut, and a dingbat.

**Questioner #4:** Master, sir, what was the real attraction Anthony had for Cleopatra?

**Wizard:** None whatever. She was a real dog. It was her floating bordello on the Nile that cooked his goose.

**Questioner #5:** Master, have you ever seen a cyclops?

**Wizard:** Yes. Yes, indeed. I was once chased up a tree by a one eyed grizzly.

**Questioner #6:** Oh wise one, in your opinion, what should be the defense strategy in the current White Water flap?

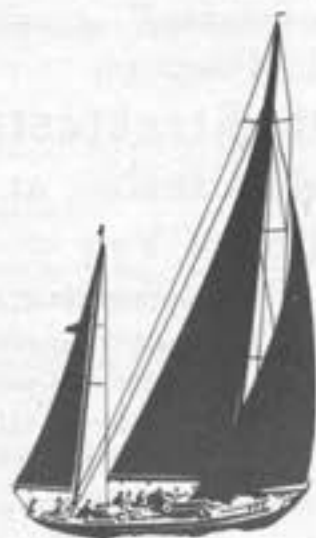
**Wizard:** Muddy water.

**Questioner #7:** Master, about what should a doctor charge for an appendectomy?

**Wizard:** The price of only one Mercedes.

**Questioner #8:** Master, Master -

**Wizard:** Please. Please. Another time. I must rest my weary brain.



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## A MAGICAL PLACE

By Ernest H. Smith

(Excerpt From "A Walk Through The Winterfield")

My path now leads me to the ever flowing spring, beside the Ivens Branch, just below the little Cove Road bridge, This is the jewel of the Winterfield and not a place can hold A candle all along this far flung ridge. A font enclosed by mossy stone gathered from far and near, Offering-up cool sweet goodness for more than a hundred years. Although the dippers and pails have long since disappeared, Replaced by piped water from miles and miles away, It seems as though it was only yesterday that I was sent To fetch and carry all through the livelong day. Truly a place of great beauty, but having the air of A presence no one sees, Bringing to mind the stories we've heard about the little Dwellers of rocks and caves and hollow trees. All about is shaded by holly and laurel with scarcely A trickle of sunlight shining through, Surely a place of coolness with dripping and oozing And all about a misty dew. The acrid smack of fungi, far more than a touch or trace Mingling with the musky breath of galax. Adds to the notion that this is an ancient place. And now some invisible force seems to hold me in its sway, As I slowly survey the scene the years began to slip away, Now I'm but a boy again, lying here on this mossy bank and Daydreaming now and then, I fancy that I hear a game of ninepins, Played by little bearded men. Now I close my eyes and sit me down on the mossy lap. The constant lapping of the churning water soon lulls me To a nodding nap. Now dreaming of wandering through a forest in search Of a way to where I'm from, I hear the faint trill of piping and the muffled sound Of a tiny drum. Concealing myself behind a tree I peek around to view the scene, To my surprise were little men beside a flowing stream. They were gathered around a bubbling cauldron, which Was the source of a vaporous haze, Each held a mushroom dipped in foxfire all glowing in a Baffling maze. They began to dance all around in a ring and Sing in a Gaelic tongue, The little music makers piped and drummed, for now the Merriment had begun. Each time the music stopped they followed a single lead. Each had the half of a nutshell they dipped in the frothy mead. They drank a toast to each other from this potent brew Numbering all around five and five and two. Suddenly, I was awakened by the rousing sound of music Far up the springhill route, It had the ring of a ditty fading in and out. I quickly stood and walked about to break the spell, Now I heard only the wind whistling through the dell. Was it just a wind song? I dare not say for no one knows The little people and their mysterious ways. And now I take my leave, for the time is getting late, But, they may be sure of my return for another enchanting wake.

This beautiful place described in my poem, written in a semi-lit fashion, does exist within the town of Mentone. The unusual thing about the spring is that it was the dividing point for three plots of land, with three people now owning about one third of the spring, more or less.

The property was once a fifty-acre farm, surrounded by an additional forty acres of woodland. The Cove Road is near the northern boundary. To the east it fronts Little River. The southern and western boundaries are shared with other wooded land. The beautiful Ivens Branch courses the middle ground in its flow to feed Little River.

The property was first settled in the 1890s. In 1923 it was purchased by the Winter Family. It remained in the family, undivided, for about seventy years.

Recently, a large portion was subdivided and sold to selected buyers. Some have built beautiful new homes. Others have made slight changes. Most of it remains wild. Included in the latter are twenty one acres owned by this writer.

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## OUTDOOR TIPS

Compiled by Dr. Pat Seymour

● **Zipper** on outdoor gear will continue to operate smoothly if given occasional dose of the kind of cooking spray used to prevent waffles and pancakes from sticking to griddles. Rubbing zippers with soap or candle wax also helps prevent sticking.

● **When Dogs** are exercising hard, their stomach capacity actually shrinks. At mealtime they cannot fit in as much food as they require to maintain vigor. Using a self-feeder during periods of physical stress allows the dog to snack frequently and eat significantly more than it can when fed only once or twice a day.

● **Canoes** should be loaded slightly bow-heavy for downstream travel, slightly stern-heavy for upstream travel, and level for lake crossings. The stern paddler can adjust a canoe's trip while underway by moving his paddling position forward or back as needed.

● **Grilling Safety Tips:** (1) Keep fire safety in mind when enjoying outdoor activities such as grilling or camping. Use outdoor grills where they belong: outdoors. (2) Keep flammable materials such as leaves and other debris away from the grill. Also, keep the grill at least three feet from your house or car. (3) Don't leave a grill unattended. Keep children and pets away while cooking. (4) Remember that charcoal fires give off carbon monoxide, which can reach toxic levels in an enclosed space. (5) Use only lighter fluid specifically made for starting charcoal fires. Don't use gasoline; it can explode. Don't add starter of any kind after charcoals are lit. (6) For further safety tips on propane grills, call your local Alabama propane gas dealer.

● **Camping Safety Tips:** (1) Use a shovel to clear a 10-foot area of all leaves, grass, and any other material that might burn. (2) Never leave a campfire burning unattended. Be sure your campfire is out before you leave. Soak it with water, mix ashes with the soil and soak again. (3) Keep all flammable objects (matches, food wrappings, plastic sheets, tents) away from the campfire.

## CRASH PROTECTION

Summertime means more vehicles on the road--and more accidents. Many people don't know that, besides wearing a seat belt and having a car equipped with an air bag, there are other ways that you can protect yourself in a crash.

● If you have an adjustable headrest, make sure it is positioned to make direct contact with the back of your head. For most adults, headrests should be in the highest position in order to prevent whiplash injuries.

● Position the driver's seat as far back as possible to permit comfortable operation of controls while reducing risk of injury from contacting the steering wheel in a crash.

● Shoulder and lap belts are designed to be worn while in a seated position. Never travel with the seat in a reclined position. The safety belts may not restrain you and could even contribute to injuries. Likewise, you should not lay down in the back seat with a lap belt buckled around the waist.

● Don't drive with objects like pens, suckers, or pipes in your mouth, and keep them out of children's mouths.

● Don't place loose objects on your dashboard, or even in the back seat if you can help it. In crash situations, any loose item (including an unbelted passenger) has the potential to become a missile. Instead, try to keep loose items in the trunk or secure them with a seat belt or a cargo net if your vehicle has one.

● If you're riding with any pets, you may want to keep them in a pet carrier or crate, and restrain the carrier with a seat belt to protect them in a crash.

## LETTING OFF STEAM

Summer Driving Conditions can suddenly turn your car into a hot pot on wheels, spewing steam out of the hood like a dragon with stubbed toe. Here are some tips on how to prevent an overheating problem and how to cool your engine down quickly if you do have to stop. When stuck in slow-moving traffic in the heat of summer, be sure to keep an eye on the vehicle's temperature gauge. If you see it creeping beyond the normal operating range, consider taking precautions to avoid an emergency stop because the radiator boils over. (1) **Turn off the air conditioner and open all of the windows.** Decreases the load on the engine. (2) **Turn on the car heater and blower.** Draws heat away from the engine, though it's not very pleasant for you. (3) **Shift into neutral and rev the engine periodically.** Increases the circulation of coolant throughout the engine. (4) **Don't ride your brakes.** Repeated speed-ups and quick stops (the kind found on many freeways during rush hour) increase the load on the engine and cause it to heat up even more. It is better to travel at a slow, steady crawl. (5) **Stay at least 10 feet behind other vehicles.** Prevents hot exhaust from flowing into your radiator, which could raise the temperature even more. (6) **Get out of the crowd.** Freely moving alternative routes are much better than crowded highways because you can drive at a moderate speed, which is best for the cooling system.

If you have to pull over, (1) **Call for help.** Even if you will be able to put a temporary fix on your problem and drive the vehicle home, it's nice to have someone follow you just to be safe. (2) **Wait at least 15 minutes for the engine to cool down before popping the hood.** Even then, use a heavy towel or rag to open the hood in order to avoid burning yourself. (3) **Check for evidence of coolant leaks and look for burst hoses or broken fan belts.** (4) **Place a towel over the radiator cap and turn slowly to the first stop.** Be careful not to press down as you turn the cap, and watch out for any steam or boiling water that may shoot out of the overflow tube. When no more steam comes out, use the towel to press down on the radiator cap and unscrew it, tilting the cap slightly so that it is pointed away from you. (5) **Wait until the system cools down before you add any fluid.** After it has cooled down, slowly add a 50/50 mixture of antifreeze and water, or just water if you have no antifreeze. If you do add only water, you will have to drain the system and add the correct coolant/water mixture as soon as possible.

When you hit the road again, follow the preventive measures outlined above.

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July 1996 Issue/ The Groundhog/Page 19



## RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

By Mickey Gough

On June 11, 1996, beginning at 8 a.m., the Rhododendron Garden Club met at Ed Mason Park in Mentone. Eight members: Ann Wright, Marie Dillenbeck, Flo Kirby, Mickey Gough, Bernice Crow, Ruby Daniel, Ginny Bosworth, and Dorothy Cyr came for a work session with gloves, rakes, and pruning shears in hand. The maintenance and beautification of Mason Park is an ongoing project of the garden club. The members all commented on how beautiful the ferns looked. They all raked, pruned, and picked up debris.

The July meeting will be a picnic on Tuesday, July 9, at 12 noon at Ed Mason Park next to the Town Hall. The ladies will each bring a sandwich of their choice. There will be drinks, chips, watermelon and homemade ice cream. A business meeting will be combined with the picnic.

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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## God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch  
forth thine hand against the wrath of mine  
enemies and thy right hand shall save me.

Psalm 138:7

There is trouble on every side, yet we have  
this promise, God will stretch out His hand and  
will save us. He will never leave us or forsake  
us, but go with us all the way. So, lean on Him  
and believe his promise. He cares for you  
and so do I.

IF YOU MISSED THE DEER

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