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THE

GROUNDHOG

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Volume 18, No. 7

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

July 2000

DEDICATION OF NEW JIM BERRY SCOUT HALL



Scoutmaster David Gilbreath presenting a medallion to Bill Berry, as entire troop looks on

A Note from the Leaders of Boy Scout Troop 106

Saturday, May 13, 2000, 2:00 p.m.

We welcome all our guests to this very special occasion, which marks a milestone in the unfolding story of Boy Scout Troop 106. This is among the most important events we will ever celebrate as a troop, and we are glad you are present to share it with us.

We plan, we organize, we work, we play, we learn. Through all these activities we grow in skill and strength, and we become more concerned and involved participants in the local and greater world around us.

Just as it has been thrilling to see Jim Berry Hall gradually rise and take shape, so it is to see the potential of a Tenderfoot Scout develop into the maturity of an Eagle Scout. We are thankful for your active participation in and valuable support of our endeavors!

Following today's program, please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments. Take a look around Jim Berry Hall and Mentone Green. Linger and come again.

May 13, 2000, was a day of celebration in commemoration of the dedication of Jim Berry Hall and the presentation of Eagle Scout to Andrew Habel.

For those who attended, the meeting room of the new scout facility was packed with standing room only. It was a great event not only for the troop, but also for the young man, Andrew Habel, who was presented his Eagle Scout rank. The following is a personal note from Eagle Scout Andrew Habel.

"Scouting has been an invaluable experience that I wouldn't trade for any amount of money or fame. I would not be the person I am today had it not been for scouting. It was my father who pushed me into it and made me attend scout meetings and functions. At this point, getting involved in scouting was about like listening to swing music: It had a catchy tune but I wasn't sure that I wanted to sing and dance.

After a while, I realized that scouting wasn't that bad and could actually be fun. Virtually all of my leadership ability has come through scouting. I'm sure that scouting has kept me out of trouble that I would be in otherwise. When I first joined Troop 106, I avoided work like the plague. Workday after workday after workday have worn me down and trained me to be a good worker.

Scouting means something different to everyone. I encourage every scout and every person affiliated with the scouts in any way to reflect on what it really means to you. Scouting has shaped my life for the better. If I had to do it all over again, I would.

(Continued on page 12.)

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See Page 2.**

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Wednesday, July 5, Mayor gave notice of municipal elections by posting in four places
- Monday, July 10, 7 p.m., Mentone Council Meeting, Town Hall meeting room
- Tuesday, July 18, 5 p.m., last day to qualify to run for municipal office
- Monday, July 24, last possible day for candidates to file with the Probate Judge a statement showing the names of their campaign committee

- Tuesday, August 1, 7 p.m., MAPA meeting Dessie's Kountry Chef
- Monday, August 14, 7 p.m., Mentone Town Council, Town Hall meeting room
- Third Weekend in August
August 17-18,19,20 -450 Mile Yard Sale
- Tuesday, August 22, Municipal Elections for mayor and council

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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

Editor.....Evelyn Graves
Associate Editor/ typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
Contributing Editors.....Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Madeleine Bullock, Marilyn Campbell, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Dowe Foreman, Evelyn Graves, Phil Harris, Lisa Moore, Sue Schwarz, Laura Catherine a/k/a Moon

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Marilyn Mathews
Vice President.....Dot Crow
Secretary.....Marie S. Dillenbeck
Treasurer.....Dessie Newberry
Parliamentarian.....Homer Crow
Member-At-Large.....Hope Walker
Member-At-Large.....Betty Bain

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

The deadline for all material for The Groundhog is the 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH preceding publication. The Groundhog is due out by the first Friday of each month.

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MAPA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

- Bought and installed the bulletin board at the Mentone Post Office--cost \$350. Repairs will be taking place this summer.

- Paid \$600 toward the construction of the shelter at the city park-Brow Park, and continue to help with the upkeep.

- Built the sidewalk, known as a bike trail, since it is on Ala. Hwy 117. The bike trail/sidewalk runs from the Hitching Post to the Fire Hall--cost \$5700. Also provided flowers, plants, and shrubs to go along the sidewalk.

- Donated about \$6000 to the fire department over the years.

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

- Repaired the rock wall several times on Hwy 117 on the side of the mountain--cost \$7500. The present rock wall was reconstructed in 1994 by the Alabama Department of Transportation with ICETEA funds, during the presidency of Dr. Pat Seymour, who passed away in 1996.

- Was instrumental in getting the flashing light on the side of the mountain on Hwy 117.

- Bought the Christmas decorations that are hung along the main street of Mentone--cost \$3900.

- Paid to have the electric wiring redone at the city park (Brow Park)--cost \$2100, and repaired it this year after the two January ice storms.

- Paid to have the town hall court room remodeled, including a kitchen--cost \$3000. (Kitchen is now Police Dept. Office.)

- Donated \$1000 in 1997, and do a yearly donation in the amount of \$300 to Moon Lake School.

- Paid for the printing of the MAPA brochures about Mentone three different times, with a grant assistance from the State of Alabama.

- Participate in adopt-a-mile from the Mentone town limit sign one mile to the east.

- Paid to have Mentone, A History, by Zora Strayhorn printed and also updated.

- Went in with the Mentone Heritage Foundation to have two videos produced promoting Mentone.

- Donated to the Handicapped Trail at DeSoto State Park with 25% of the proceeds from pontoon boat rides during MAPA-sponsored festivals.

- Bought and paid for the bulletin board at Brow Park that gives a brief history of the areas seen from the overlook.

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

The only way we have of raising money for these projects is by the dues we receive from memberships (we have approximately 300 members at present), and by sponsoring festivals.

We host two festivals each year, Rhododendron and October Colorfest. After paying all the expenses, we donate to Moon Lake School, the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department, and provide a Christmas Party for the Children each December, where refreshments are provided and gifts are handed out by Santa Clause. For the past two years, the Moon Lake PTO has sponsored the party so that it can be held in the Moon Lake School gymnasium. The North DeKalb Ministerial Association assists with the party. There is not a lot of profit for all the weeks of hard work done by a few members and volunteers.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Marilyn Mathews

The June meeting of MAPA is the time we elect new officers.

Apparently, last year was a lot better than I had felt it was because the same officers have been elected for another year. We make a good team and with the same cooperation and hard work, we can have an even better year in 2000-2001.

I feel this is a good time to remind all our readers of the ongoing goals of MAPA. We try to preserve the beauty, unique lifestyle, and quality of life found in Mentone, and at the same time support Moon Lake School, our volunteer fire department, and other non-profit organizations, as we are able to do so. We also make improvements which will improve the beauty of our town and make it a more pleasant place to live or visit. We need the support and assistance of all the citizens of Mentone, as well as our members to be able to accomplish these goals.

MAPA will participate in the 450-mile yard sale again--the dates this year are Thursday - Sunday, August 17 - 20. This is another of our fund raisers and we need your donations. We are offering you an easy way to dispose of those items you have been meaning to clear out. We will accept most anything, no matter how large or small, but no clothing, please. Details for making donations are on the back page of this issue.

Also, at the June meeting we decided to discontinue the Mountain Craft Fair and bring back the Rhododendron Festival the third weekend of May, 2001. I, personally, have mixed feelings about this, but the majority voted; and I will do all I can to promote their decision. The purpose of MAPA, as I understand it, is for the best interest of all of Mentone, not just the preferences of any one person, including me. Like any other event, this will be met with approval and criticism, but I hope everyone will try to help us make this an event which lives up to our purpose for having the festivals at all. They are fund raisers for MAPA and, hopefully, benefit craftsmen and artisans, and other non-profit organizations in our area.

The next meeting of MAPA will be Tuesday, August 1, at 7:00 p.m. at Dessie's Kountry Chef. You are always welcome to join us as a visitor, a new member or a member who has not attended recently. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my personal invitation to you to be with us.

During the festivals, other non-profit organizations have a booth at no cost--American Legion Post 215; the NLMFPD Volunteer Fire Department; all the churches that were involved; school organizations; Mentone Boy Scout Troop 106 parks cars during the festivals, and all the other organizations--and they also bring money into the community.

If you are not pleased with what MAPA is doing, please come to our next meeting, August 1--always the first Tuesday of each month at Dessie's Kountry Chef--at 7 PM, and we will be glad to discuss it with you. If you approve of what we have done, call us; or better, write us at P.O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984.

We usually have an interesting speaker following the business meeting and then refreshments. You don't have to be a member to come to our meetings, but we would like for you to join. We need your input.

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VALLEY HEAD HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Adrienne Robertson: NASCC Academic, Rotary Club
Candace Fuller: Performing Arts
Alisha Busby: Technical Division
Kerri Hale: Leadership
Hannah Alexander: Technical Division, Gadsden State
Anna Rieley: America's National Teenager,
Judson College, Temple-Inland Foundation Grant,
Altrusa, Valley Head Woman's Club
Amanda Hall: Northwest Shoals Basketball
Jeffrey Bullock: Temple-Inland Foundation Grant

AWARDS

Stephanie Watkins: Band
Amanda Hall: Anatomy
Heather Lawton: Yearbook Editor
Crystal Valentine: Presidential Improvement Award
Adrienne Robertson: President Education Award
Jeffrey Bullock: President Education Award
Kerri Hale: Consumer Math, Advanced Math
Crystal Hawkins: Geometry B, Biology III
Katharina Perrey: Biology III, Geometry
Anna Rieley: Government/Economics, Honors
English, Chemistry, Advanced Math, Alabama
Association of Secondary School Principals Award,
President Education Award

SCHOOL AWARDS

11TH GRADE

Helle Shak-Nielsen: Band, Algebra II, Chemistry, Math
Team, First Place Northeast Math Tournament Algebra
II Division

Becky Mays: FACS, Chemistry, All-County Scholars
Bowl, President Education Award
Slade Carden: Yearbook Editor, Algebra II, Honors
English, American History, President Education Award
Ashley Foster: Spanish I, American History, English II,
Sociology/Psychology, President Education Award
Craig Hulan: Top Score, County Land Judging
Contest

Annie Harrison: Band

Effie Harrison: Band

Dawn West: Algebra B

Emily Collins: Geometry A

Virginia Hatfield: American History

Alisha McElhane: American History

Jonathan Dean: American History

Crystal Durham: American History

James Tubberfield: American History

Shannon Chappell: Office Aide

David Chaney: Woodmen of the World American
History Award

Jessica Barrier: President Education Award

Laura Martin: President Education Award

Laura Pullen: American History, FACS

Beth Moore: Band, Librarian Assistant, President
Education Award

Maren Butz: Art, American History, FACS

Nick King: American History, FACS, Presidential
Improvement Award

10TH GRADE

Alan Hawkins: Art

Kayla Willbanks: Health

Andrea Gisham: American History

Tessica Baty: Presidential Improvement Award

Stacy Hyde: Biology

Brittany Crane: ALFA Leadership

Jerry Lee Brisendine: Geometry, English, Spanish II,

Biology, Woodmen of the World American History

Award, ALFA Leadership

Zac Pritchett: FFA Star Chapter

9TH GRADE

Karina Taylor: Band

Stephanie Plemmons: Presidential Improvement Award

Kelly Owen: Spanish I, Algebra I, History, FACS

Tessa McKinney: Algebra I, Physical Science, English,
History

VALLEY HEAD 4TH NINE WEEKS AND SEMESTER HONOR ROLLS

4TH NINE WEEKS

1ST GRADE

All A's:

Aubrey Cash
Nick Gatlin
Brian Jones
Megan McElhane
Jason Hall
Shelby Headrick
Trevor Lewis
Amber Matthews
Jessica Thornberry
Tyler Tidmore

A's & B's:

Blake Wilks
Samantha Ogden
Jordyn Hurt
Steven Clark
Kellie Coker
Levi Hulan
Justin Burch
Megan Cooper
Jessica McKenzie
Kayla Reynolds
Chris Templeton
Brendan Wilbanks

SECOND GRADE

All A's:

Rebecca Freeman
Nathan Hannah
Dylan Stanfill
Dillon Brown
Elizabeth Manning

A's & B's:

Zack Dean
Taylor Gatlin
Kelsey Kemp
Samantha Weller
Ashley Anderson
Justin Battles
Jairo Castillo
James Hawk
Norma Hidrogo
Matthew Moran
Emerald Poe

3RD GRADE

All A's:

Jennifer Britton
Zoy Evatt

Kasie Hicks

Alex Johnson

Billy Tatum

Sydney Hixon
Decker Jones
Aubrey Shields
Amanda Floyd
Cody Gabhart
Sara McSpadden
Heather Richardson
Jessica Templeton
Cody Atkins
Ariana Beard
Andrew Cooper
Patti Grider
Marjorie Harper
Brittany Miller
Jeremiah Robertson

4TH GRADE

All A's:

Justin Grider
Timothy Burch

A's & B's:

Carla Ellis
Savanna Weller
Matt Turner
Matthew Fuller
Nick Johnson

5TH GRADE

All A's:

Brittany Michaels

A's & B's:

Amelia Hannah
Dallas Manning
Cory Dobbins
Chris Moran
Ashley Tinker
Billy Wallace

6TH GRADE

All A's:

Brandy Ellis
Sheena Moses
Hillary Nichols

A's & B's:

Tylor Harrison

2ND SEMESTER

1ST GRADE

All A's:

Aubrey Cash
Nick Gatlin
Brian Jones
Megan McElhane
Shelby Headrick
Trevor Lewis
Amber Matthews
Jessica Thornberry
Tyler Tidmore

A's & B's:

Samantha Ogden
Jordyn Hurt
Steven Clark
Kellie Coker
Levi Hulan
Justin Burch
Megan Cooper
Jason Hall
Jessica McKenzie
Kayla Reynolds
Chris Templeton
Brendan Wilbanks

2ND GRADE

All A's:

Rebecca Freeman
Nathan Hannah
Dylan Stanfill
Dillon Brown
Elizabeth Manning

A's & B's:

Zack Dean
Taylor Gatlin
Kelsey Kemp
Samantha Weller
Justin Battles
Jairo Castillo
James Hawk
Norma Hidrogo
Matthew Moran
Emerald Poe

3RD GRADE

All A's:

Jennifer Britton
Zoy Evatt
Kasie Hicks
Alex Johnson

Billy Tatum

Ariana Beard

Sydney Hixon

Marjorie Harper
Decker Jones
Aubrey Shields

A's & B's:

Amanda Floyd
Cody Gabhart
Sara McSpadden
Heather Richardson
Jessica Templeton
Cody Atkins
Amanda Carson
Andrew Cooper
Daniel Poe
Patti Grider
Brittany Miller
Jeremiah Robertson

4TH GRADE

All A's:

Justin Grider
Timothy Burch

A's & B's:

Carla Ellis
Savanna Weller
Matt Turner
Matthew Fuller
Nick Johnson

5TH GRADE

All A's:

None

A's & B's:

Joseph Arwood
Amelia Hannah
Amanda Ellis
Dallas Manning
Cory Dobbins
Brittany Michaels
Chris Moran
Ashley Tinker
Billy Wallace

6TH GRADE

All A's:

Brandy Ellis

A's & B's:

Sheena Moses
Hillary Nichols
Tylor Harrison

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Mentone Grapevine II

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Mentone is included in the new guidebook titled, National Geographic's Guide to Small Town Escapes. (See separate article on how to get your copy.)

Congratulations to **Mary Anna Crow**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Crow of Mentone. She made the Dean's List for the spring semester at Samford University.

Kenneth Miller was one of 217 students named to the Bryan College dean's list for the spring semester. To be eligible, a student must earn at least a 3.5 grade point average on Bryan's 4.0 scale. Ken is the son of Glenn and Linda Miller, of Mentone.

Kelly Bunch is one of 12 students selected to participate in the biomedical engineering summer research program at UAB. She will work with a faculty mentor during research time and participate in biomaterials day activities in the afternoon. Upon completion, Kelly will receive a \$1,000 stipend from the Whittier Foundation. She was also selected to attend the Pre-medical Focus Scholars program at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore for five weeks. In the fall, Miss Bunch will travel to Washington, D.C., to attend as a scholar to the National Young Leaders Conference. This year, she served as captain of both the volleyball and soccer teams and was editor of the yearbook. Kelly will be a senior next year at the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science. She is the daughter of Jim and Leslie Bunch of Valley Head.

Jack Corey of Mentone, was one of 146 students to receive diplomas in June from the McCallie School. McCallie School is a college preparatory school in Chattanooga, TN. Its alumni include Ted Turner and Sen. Howard Baker. Jack has been a boarding student at McCallie for four years. He competed in debate and intramurals and participated in drama. Corey is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John V. Corey. Congratulations!

Several members of the Valley Head High School's 1999 football team and basketball team were honored recently at the school's sports banquet. **Football team:** Chris Bain (Iron Man Award for most continuous playing time); **Johnny Lewchuck** (I Like to Practice Award); **Jonathan Dean** (most valuable defensive lineman); **Dean Gravitt** (most valuable running back); **Dustin Pierce** (most valuable offensive lineman); **Paul Hawkins** (Head Hunter Award for leading the team with 84 tackles); and **Larry Carmichael** (Memorial Golden Helmet Award). **Boys' basketball squad:** Corey Kirby (most steals and assists); **Thomas Brendle** (best field goal percentage and most rebounds); **Slade Carden** (best 3-point percentage and best free throw percentage); and **Steven McElhane** (most improved). **Girl's basketball team:** Seniors honored included: **Candace Fuller**, **Jennifer Brubaker**, **Kristy Sweatman**, **Heather Williamson**, **Amanda Hall**, and **Brandy Johnson**. Those receiving awards were **Amanda Hall** (most rebounds, best field goal percentage); **Nina Stanfill** (most steals); **Candace Fuller** (best free throw percentage, tied for most assists); **Heather Williamson** (best 3-point percentage, tied for most assists); and **Jennifer Brubaker** (Lady Tiger Spirit Award).

Continue to keep **Jewel Rogers** on your prayer list. Her husband, **Charlie**, passed away on Saturday, June 23.

Rovene Truett is trying to get out a little more but continues to need your prayers.

Please keep **Kathryn Jones** in your prayers, and remember **Herman Jones, Jr.**, who had surgery on June 20.

Ed Jones gave his family and friends a "scare" recently, when he was taken to Birmingham for chest pains. He had arteriole blockage, but surgery was not required.

Roy Matthews is in the hospital in Gadsden, in intensive care. He was scheduled for open heart surgery this week.

Linda Brown had gall bladder surgery recently and is "doing fine, except for soreness", she said.

Congratulations to **Josh Pullen** and **Sarah A. Keef**, who were married on Saturday, June 3, at the Moon Lake Baptist Church in Mentone. Sarah is the daughter of Donna Keef of Fort Payne, and Josh is the son of Walter Pullen of Mentone.

Congratulations, also, to **Christina Marie Flynn** and **Christopher Lane Stokes**, who were married on May 20. Christina is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph M. Flynn of Henagar, and the granddaughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Dave Blalock of Mentone, and Mr. and Mrs. O.G. Flynn of Henagar. Christopher is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry L. Stokes of Valley Head; and the grandson of Melba Fuller of Valley Head and the late Rayford Fuller, and Pearl Stokes of Centre and the late Bunk Stokes.

Sherri Black is proud of her daughter, **Ashley**, who will turn 16 on July 7th. **Happy 16th Birthday, Ashley!** You have been such a great help at the Mentone Inn, your mother wanted you to know that she loves you and wishes you a wonderful 16th year.

My friend **Erma McAdams** and I were first-time donors at the **Red Cross Blood Drive** held at the new Troop 106 Jim Berry Scout Hall in Mentone on June 3. Josh Hughes recruited us as part of his Eagle Scout project. On July 3rd, we each received our blood donor cards, and we were so excited. On July 2nd, we had just discussed the fact that we had not heard anything yet. Both of us said, "Why didn't we do this before? Look how many years we have missed out on being donors." We intend to be regular donors from now on.

Eunice Cookie Franklin returned to her Valley Head home from her Jacksonville, Fla., home in May. Welcome back!

Deepest sympathies to the families of those who passed away recently.

- Bobby Lee Frazier, 51, Valley Head, May 10;
- Arline Fowler, 80, Mentone, May 13;
- James T. Barket, 84, Mentone, May 30;
- Loyd (Buddy) Tishaw, 67, Mentone, May 31;
- Charlie Rogers, Mentone, June 25;

Congratulations to **Paul Whittle** of Mentone, who won a new mountain bike for being the top popcorn salesman for the Sequoyah District, DeKalb and Cherokee Counties. He is a member of Troop 106.

Ann Wright has been in the news lately, which means she's been very busy, busy, busy. She was the guest speaker at the May Optimist Club meeting in Fort Payne. On May 4, at the monthly meeting of the DeKalb County Master Gardeners, Ann and several others were awarded their "Stars". Having completed the designated course of study, each Master Gardener is required to perform 40 hours of community service the first year, and 20 hours each year thereafter. Ann was awarded the Gold Badge, which translates into 500-599 hours of volunteering in many ways.

Happy belated birthday wishes to **Terry Hutcheson**, who turned the **BIG 50** on Friday, June 30.

Page Cunningham of Fort Payne was taken to Birmingham on July 4th with chest pains and admitted to the hospital. Please keep him in your prayers.

Jack Jones said he had a real roundup of cattle at his Shady Grove Dude Ranch in Mentone the morning of the 4th.

Happy July Birthday/Anniversary wishes to: ●1 - Ann Harcrow Pelletier, Mike and Barbara Petersen (Anniv.-11 years); ●2 - Terry Hartline, Jerry and Merle Stokes (29th anniv.); Larry and Gail Smalley (Anniv.); ●3 - Jerry Lewis, Nick Black, Kenneth and Gail Chambers (anniv.); Larry Smalley; ●4 - Gerry Disney; ●6 - Dessie Newberry; Eunice Moore; Elizabeth Brown; ●7 - Alex Wooten; ●8 - Joey and Kumi Dillenbeck of Huntsville (anniv.); ●8 - Kaylee Tucker; ●9 - Rhonda Blalock; ●10 - Alan Bell; Frank and Linda Hill (Anniv.); ●11 - Alan McElhane, Garrett Collins, Barbie Hester; ●12 - Danyale Kyles; Cindy Harrison, Charles Gray; ●13 - Tracie Pullen, Penny McElhane, Sissy Crider, Jolee Brown; ●14 - Pat Blankenship, Jeffery Hopper; ●15 - Lois Foshee, Gage King, Jason Dean, Bro. Gary Moore; ●16 - Catherine Wright, Chris Busby; ●17 - Kayla Hazell, Christopher Glenn Black, Kayla Willbanks; ●18 - Loy Langston, Becky Langston, Kimberly Willbanks; ●19 - Syble Tipton; ●20 - Craig Hulan, Barry Blalock; ●21 - Eddie Langston, Jody Brown; ●22 - Jewel Collins Rogers, Keith Langston, Linda Clark; ●24 - Barbara Davis; ●25 - Linda Smalley Gregory, Robert "Bert" Brown; ●26 - Glenn Cryer, Pam Dean; ●29 - Erma Black; ●30 - Zack Dean; ●31 - Jack (Buffalo Man) Martin, Paige Wright.

Dr. Bill Berry is enjoying a much-needed vacation. He is way down south in Australia. Hope you have a great time and have lots of great experiences.

Barbara Blalock went to Switzerland as a representative of Woodmen of the World, Lodge 436. What a marvelous opportunity!

Happy 94th Birthday!



Alma Crabtree on her 94th Birthday

Alma Crabtree celebrated her 94th birthday and Mother's Day May 14th. Celebrating with Alma were her children, Rovene, Dorthy Jean, and Jesse; Rovene's son, Jay Wideman; Alma's sister, Laura Mae, and her daughter, Glenda Clark; Alma's great grandchildren, Rusty and Chasity Mallard, and her good neighbor, Barbara Nancarrow.

Alma said, "I really enjoyed the day and the beautiful flowers and other gifts I received."

Tuesday after her birthday, she planted her 69th garden: beans, peppers, and fixed hulls for her tomatoes. Her doctor says that's what got her where she is today: exercise making her garden and eating fresh vegetables. Just let the sun shine, she grabs her hoe. She said, "I can't take it long but I'm still determined to try."



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- NOTICE -

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Marie S. Dillenbeck,
PO Box 293, Mentone, AL 35984;
or call me at 634-4541, and leave a message on my answering machine if I am not at home. I welcome and appreciate your contributions.

I leave you this month with this thought:

The way to happiness is to keep your heart free from hate and your mind free from worry. Live simply, expect little, give much. Fill your life with love. Scatter sunshine everywhere you go. Forget yourself and think of others. Follow the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.



The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

Good Ole Summertime! It just goes too fast. I love it.

Our granddaughter, Christena Crow is here, from Tulsa Oklahoma, and I spent the day shopping with her recently and that was an experience. She can shop till she drops, like her Aunt Joyce, and never find exactly what she wants. I went to several shops with her at Northgate Mall in Chattanooga and then on to the Old America Store and to Hamilton Place Mall. There is something about a mall that is fascinating to young people. I know Lisa used to want to "hang-out" at the mall and see her friends. The malls have controlled climate that makes it nice in summer or winter, and they can see and be seen by those of the same interests.

I was tired by the time we got to Hamilton Place and I found a comfortable seat in a rest area. I told Christena to shop all she pleased, and I would be there when she returned. She finally found what she called "trendy" clothes and purchased an outfit she really liked. It was two hours later when she returned to get a little more cash to pay for it. She is fifteen and that is the age when girls must fit into the fashion mode of the times. Their clothes must be the thing with the "in" crowd or their peers. When we were that age, the trend was to wear what one could find that one could afford. Anyway it would be interesting to be fifteen again. It will pass too soon, like the good ole summertime.

One of our fun days was when we stayed home one day and she drew cartoons for us. Christena has artistic abilities and she won first prize for drawings she entered in the Texas state fair two years ago. She loves cats and most of her drawings are of cats doing comic things. I have scrapbooks of her art that I enjoy. I am encouraging her to study art and perhaps do illustrations for children's books. It would be a good profession.

Our grandson, Lee Cooper, is working this summer and has not visited us this summer. We miss having him. Coy's son, Dillon, is here and has been learning the door business working with his Dad and Barry. He is a pleasure to have and is easy to please with his food preferences. He likes Nana's cornbread, fried okra, green beans, corn, or whatever. He likes the country food, which is good. When one works outside all day his bread is sweet!

Most of our youth want hamburgers and french fries and other "fast foods", and they are becoming an obese generation. Maybe the fast food places will learn to reduce fat content in their foods and still be popular. I like a good pizza occasionally, but would not want a steady diet of it. Everyone is in a hurry and want something they do not have to cook.

We have had Homer's sister, Mildred and her husband, Dennis Burgess, and their daughter, Darla Bante, visiting us from Plano, Texas. The visit just ended too soon. We had a wonderful time talking over old times of the past. They came for the Crow

reunion held in Oak Ridge this year, and visited some friends they met near the area that they have known since before they married. And they celebrated their thirty-ninth anniversary the third of July while they were here. The reunion was hosted by Lucille and Chester's family this year and was held at Ryan's Restaurant. If I counted correctly, we had thirty-six present. Homer gave some genealogical

information and recounted some stories about their grandfather, Johann Magnusson, who came to this country from Sweden. He outlived his first two wives before marrying Ovaline Johnson, who was Homer's grandmother. Mr. Magnusson was the father of a total of eleven children. We usually give history on the Crow side of the family, but there is always another side of the "story". It is so interesting to see how fast a family can multiply.

Lester Crowe has been very ill and had surgery the week of the reunion. He had just come home from the hospital two days before, but did come for a short time. He was awfully tired when he returned home, but was much better the next day.

Our M.A.P.A. picnic, which we traditionally have for our July meeting, was a huge success. It was held at Brow Park where we could watch a brilliant sunset and feel the wonderful mountain breeze. This year, it was held on the fourth and that made it a special occasion. Mildred, Dennis, and Darla Bante, Coy and Dillon Crow, Barry and his daughters, Lisa and Christena, and his grandson, Alex Whatley were our guests. We had other guests which will be given by Marie.

Our M.A.P.A. president, Marilyn Mathews, held a brief business meeting, and she asked me to give a brief historical background of M.A.P.A., which I was glad to do. I am very proud of our accomplishments and I'm still hoping we can do more things to preserve the history of the area and to build an auditorium where we can hold conventions, concerts, plays, etc. This idea seems to appeal mostly to me, but I'm hoping for enough support to get it done. We need the property in a good location, and I believe we could get a grant to build an auditorium. We could have summer theater here and our camp counselors could enjoy it as well as our permanent residents. Our president is doing an excellent job with her husband, Huey, as her assistant. They helped us clean the Mentone sidewalk recently, along with Gerald and Margaret Taylor. It was a hot day, and we started early but were dripping with perspiration two and a half hours later. We did not get it all done by any means, but will work again when the weather cools a little. If you walk on the sidewalk, please stop to pull a few weeds. The Rhododendron looks good, but weeds and some undergrowth need to be cut out and more mulch added.

Last month I mentioned that Goldie Pace's granddaughter was here trying to find someone who knew where her grandfather was buried. We could not find anyone who knew, but this week Ruby Leath, who lives in Fort Payne and is a niece of Goldie, called and said she had read about this in *The Groundhog* and called to tell me that Goldie is buried at Subigna, GA. Now we have to find the lady's address who wanted the information. Ruby would like to see the granddaughter.

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CLOUDLAND- IN THE PARK, needs a little TLC. On the market - Oct 4. \$30,500.



LAKE LANUSAGE - "Ready to move in" 1560 sq. ft. Home features first floor: living room w/ fireplace - large kitchen/dining combination, appliances - Master bedroom opening to 12x36 screened porch with custom lighting overlooking Lake - full bath, 2nd floor: 2 bedrooms & full bath. Landscaped - great outdoor cooking area with customized Mtn. Stone Grill. Part furnished Central HVAC. A must see - \$155,000. A-87

EAST BROW - SCENIC VIEW LOTS All our lots offer undisturbed views - watch the sun and moon rise in elegance. -Cooper Ridge - Teloge Creek traverses northern boundary of this 92+ acre tract of rolling hills with beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. Private entrance, county water available. Reduced per acre. No subdividing. (No. G-44)

-Cloudland - 1175 - State Line Road - small lake open to wooded - Some frontage on Hwy 117. \$2000 per acre.

-820+/- ACRES - Looking for that private get away? Look no further than this 820 acres located in SW Cherokee County, AL on the GA line. Secluded with mountains, valleys, streams, and plenty of open land for pastures. Plenty of wildlife, too! Deer, turkeys, and quail abound! Only 25 minutes to Centre, AL, or Rome, GA! Power and telephone service already on the property. A great opportunity - Serious inquiries only. \$995 per acre. Financing available.

-MENTONE 60 AC - Great potential for development. \$5,000.00 per acre. A-86

-MENLO, GA - Jamestown Hwy. 22+ ac. OPEN/Pasture/Road frontage - 1 creek inside the city - Gas, Water, Sewage Potential - Potential Potential. \$3,750.00 per ac. No subdividing.

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

-CLOUDLAND/MENTONE - 151+ acres, 2400' on Little River, \$4000/acre, a prize!

-600+ ACRES, on Little River, road frontage on 3 sides, hardwoods, \$4,000/acre.



ON THE MARKET IN CLOUDLAND, GA - 2,000 sq. ft. home features first floor: kitchen 2/bath-rm, utility area, dining room w/ fireplace, opening to screened porch, living room w/ fireplace, master bedroom, full bath. Second floor - 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, wonderful porches, central HVAC. Shop home, 6 acres with an additional 18 acres available. (No. G-85)

MENTONE, ALA. - "Mountain Getaway" - 8.5+/- acres. Pond, well, 1986 Fleetwood, 24x40, 3 BR, 1-1/2 bath, fireplace, 7x40 covered porch, outbuildings. Relieve the stress. Very private. REDUCED. (No. A-85) Photo to left



MENLO - MacVane Estate - 100+ sq. ft. home on large corner lot. This fine home features 3/4 bedrooms, sun & sitting room, kitchen, utility room, hardwood floors. Asking \$60,000. ALL OFFERS CONSIDERED (No. 17)



CLOUDLAND- LOWER BROW - This lovely chateau located off the brow features 1,680 sq. ft., great room with kitchen, fireplace with gas logs, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, full bedroom and full bath plus partially finished basement/corridor, 16x15 screened porch, new decking, central HVAC. Best location on the mountain. Partially furnished. \$175,000. (No. G-19)



ENJOY THE VIEW from the top of Lookout Mountain in Cloudland, GA! Just listed, this 2-year-old custom-built mountain home! Pine board and batten blends with the view from the top of the brow that you can enjoy from your 12x24 deck! Massive mountain rock in the back yard overlooking the stream! Hike in our back yard, all 3+ acres of it, to the waterfall! In the evening, start a fire in the rock fireplace and relax in the great room that has a vaulted ceiling and overlooking full bedroom! Two other bedrooms are located in the west wing along with one full bath! Professionally decorated, it's worth the drive to see if privacy is on your agenda! Central HVAC, satellite dish, custom kitchen cabinets and all appliances! Restricted. Offered at only \$165,000. (No. G-2)

Happy 90th Birthday



Catherine Bailey, honoree, Dessie Bailey seated beside her and a closeup of Mrs. Bailey at the celebration of her 90th year.

On June 18, a surprise 90th birthday party was given for Catherine Bailey at the Woodman of the World building in Valley Head. Catherine turned 90 on the 21st of June. She was surprised, and said she didn't see how everyone kept the news from her. She received many lovely gifts and cards and was surrounded by those who love her.

NEW OWNERS OF THE MENTONE SUPERETTE

by Marie S. Dillenbeck

Benny and Brenda Goss have been running the Mentone Superette since May. Benny said, "I am well pleased with the way things are going. I have always wanted to have a sto."

Besides Benny and Brenda, Jana works behind the counter, so this is really a family affair. Angie Goss, daughter-in-law will begin working soon. Other employees are Pam Baggett and Cricket Liles.

Some new things are available at the Superette: US Postal stamps, Hot Wheels and NASCAR. In the food line, dip ice cream and hamburger meat are new items. Brenda hopes to get special occasion balloons in the near future.

Besides the food items and gasoline, if you find an item not available and you will want that item on a regular basis, let Benny and Brenda know. They are very accommodating.

Benny told Brenda she was getting a store for her Mother's Day present. Brenda being very gracious gave him half of the store for his Father's Day present.

Benny commented, "I had a good 'gut feeling' about owning the store. Something about it makes me feel comfortable here, relaxed. I get to see different people and enjoy talking to them."

Both Benny and Brenda have received positive feedback since their purchase of the store. They have "more family time since we work together," Brenda said. Benny said purchasing the store was looking ahead toward retirement. It has been a learning process, and they are both still learning. Be patient with them as they learn and grow with the business.

The hours are Monday - Friday 5:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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Moon Lake Headstart Graduation May 18, 2000

Joey Alexandra Blalock, Billy Keith Carrier, James Dylan Carter, Michael Austin Chambers, Zachary Richard Clark, Landon Scott Crowe, Michael Dillon Frazier, Austin Kyle Gifford, Brittney Michelle Harrison, Lily Suzanne Harrison, Amber Nicole Headrick, Taylor Whitney Hulan, Jessica Amber Liles, Shelby Celeste McCrary, Jessica Lynn Nolen, Michael Christopher Petersen, Tyler James Spencer, Johnny Ladon Smith, Christopher Wayne Swindall, Amber Nekole Tackett.

Not shown are teachers Mrs. Holloway, Ms. Lancaster.

GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

Well! Finally, what we have been waiting for for so long has finally arrived. Hopefully, here to stay for a little while, too, as we really need it badly to help boost our crops, flowers, and vegetables. Yes, I am talking about the RAIN that finally did come after such a long dry stint that had the snakes coming looking for water.

The mountain top is all decked out in a deep and wondrous emerald green, as it should be at this time of the year; and I did notice that the daylilies are really quite awesome this year in their blooming, covering the naturalized patches with their tall fiery orange color. We seem to have more daylilies blooming this year than at any other time since I have been living here in Mentone. So, it appears that they like the current weather that we have been having.

This month, if you have strawberries, it is time to tend to them. Give your berries an energy boost by applying commercial 10-10-10 fertilizer after mowing or cutting back the plants and again in late summer. Scratch the fertilizer into the soil, or, if the plants are mulched, spread it on top and water it in.

For the caring of your tomatoes this month, use sharp pruners to remove the lower leaves from the bottom 12 inches of each tomato plant. This will help the air to circulate more freely around your tomatoes. Remove and compost the clipped foliage.

Organic solutions: Safer Brand, B.t. Caterpillar Killer, is ideal for controlling tent caterpillars, gypsy moths, cabbage loopers, tomato hornworms and other leaf-eating caterpillars on trees, shrubs, tomatoes and vegetables, and may be used up to the day of harvest. Safer Brand Tomato & Vegetable Insect Killer, is specially formulated combination of insecticidal soap and botanical pyrethrins, which kills on contact, yet is gentle on plants.

Beneficial Nematodes (BN) attack more than 230 kinds of soil dwelling and wood boring pests, such as flea larvae, Japanese beetles, craneflies, mole crickets, indoor fungus gnats, white grubs, cutworms and corn root worms.

Ladybugs are a favorite "good bug". Ladybugs prefer to eat aphids and will devour up to 50 a day, and they will also attack scale, mealy bugs, boll worm, leaf hopper, and corn ear worm. They dine on insects and do not harm vegetation in any way.

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FENG SHUI BASICS: Literally, "wind-water" in Chinese, has become one of the hottest design trends and conversation topics going around. But, while feng shui is suddenly in "vogue" it is nothing new. Its history began in the fourth century B.C., when the Chinese invented the compass. During the following century, they began using the device to aid in the proper placement of grave and home sites.

Finding the optimum final resting place for ancestors was to ensure health, harmony and prosperity for their descendants, because we are all connected by cosmic, universal energy called "chi".

Want to make your home feng shui-friendly, but don't know where to start? Here are the basics. Regardless of the school you choose, feng shui is based on these fundamental concepts: 1. Flow of energy 2. Balance of yin and yang 3. Interaction of the five elements

Avoid sharp, straight edges to keep energy flowing. In nature, we find perfectly straight lines in only very short segments, as in the canes of sugar and bamboo. Even the tallest redwoods and pines have irregularities. It is a natural law that energy flows in wavy lines like the breezes, mountain ranges and streams. In the land, chi moves in dragon lines along the topography; in people, its paths are called meridians. This undulating flow is beneficial and natural.

Balance the "yin" and "yang", the duality of the universe and the world around is expressed in the "tai chi", a circle created by a light and dark droplet, positioned end to end. The "Yin" is the female: soft, passive, nurturing, fluid, even numbers and the right side. The "Yang" is male: bright, hard, active, aggressive, odd numbers and the left side.

Notice that in each half, there is the presence of its complement, in the form of a dot. This has been accepted several thousand years in Chinese philosophy, but the acknowledgment that every male has a female aspect and every female has a male side, is new to the Western mind and medicine.

Together, yin and yang comprise a whole, and yet there is an element of each in the other. Sometimes we have too much yang, and other times, we have too much yin, it is up to us to find and maintain the balance between the two in our physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, sexual and intellectual selves. Achieving this balance helps us become grounded or centered, much like a rock that is pounded by the elements and still remains unyielding. Use the elements in generative ways.

Each of the five elements—fire, earth, metal, water and wood—relates to the other in two different ways. The first relationship is generative or creative, for example, water nourishes wood, wood makes fire, fire creates earth (as in volcanoes), earth creates metal, metal creates water. The second relationship shows how each can be overcome or destroyed by the other, that is, water puts out fire, fire melts metal, metal cuts wood, wood displaces earth, earth dams water.

To reinforce feng shui, set up community areas, such as living and family rooms and kitchens according to feng shui principles, these can include: FOR HARMONY: place indoor plants and family photos in wooden frames in sets of threes in the east. FOR HAPPINESS: place lights and candles in the south. FOR GOOD RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN IN THE HOUSE: place mirrors and family pictures, especially of children, in metal frames in multiples of seven in the west. FOR SUPPORT: place metal objects in the northwest representing father, and earth/clay objects in the southwest for mother.

Finally, every family member should sit in the appropriate spot at the dining table:

Middle son - north	Eldest daughter - southeast
Youngest son - northwest	Middle daughter - south
Eldest son - east	Mother - southwest
Father - northeast	Youngest daughter - west

Q. Our front door is in direct line with the back door. Since the house was built this way, what can I do to redirect the flow of energy? I hope you can give me suggestions to correct this situation - short of remodeling. The house is only 1 year old.

A. Negative energy called sha (killing) always travels in straight lines. It is destructive and dangerous because it is so strong and direct. Look at the path from the front to the back doors. Can you put a small table or potted plants against the walls along the way? These items would change the path of the energy from a straight line to a positive, wavy pattern. Or place a potted plant in front of the back door to slow the energy. Angi Ma Wong is a feng shui consultant to over 80 major residential and commercial developers. Visit her website at www.wind-water.com.

MAPA Picnic a huge success

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

On July 4th, there were approximately 42 people, and possibly more, to enjoy the MAPA picnic—lots of good, delicious foods, enough for seconds—and the scene from the Brow Park overlook. Besides the Crow family listed in Bernise's column, there were several members who brought guests. Penny and Jim Lyday brought Gary and Suzanne Fleming and their two sons, Jonathan and Jeremy. Betty and Rick Chapman brought their daughter Cindi Hyland from McDunn, NC. Hope and George Walker brought Maureen Brewer. Mickey and Sherman Gough brought friends Dedee and Merrill Matlock. Other guests were Neil and Betty Harris (she's back!!) McCombs, and Betty's granddaughters, Bethany, Sara and Laura Murray. Ruby Brock brought Margie Coots. Phyllis Cochran brought Ann Hamilton, who has written an art column for this issue of the paper. Also attending were Olive and Jack Jones; Dessie Newberry, Dot Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, and Lucille Crowe.

Officers present were President Marilyn Mathews and her husband, Huey, who is her assistant; Vice President Dot Crow; Treasurer Dessie Newberry; Secretary Marie Dillenbeck; Member at large Hope Walker; Parliamentarian Homer Crow; and Ruby Brock, Chaplain.

During the evening, Jack Jones asked for a show of hands as to the number of past presidents: Homer Crow, Bernise Crow, Dessie Newberry, Jack Jones, Sherman Gough, and Marilyn Mathews. Several past presidents served more than one term.

Bernise gave a history of the accomplishments of MAPA, and these can be found on page 2 of this issue.

Jack Jones also gave a brief history of Pea Ridge, which can be seen from the Brow Park overlook. He told the group how he moved several log cabins from Pea Ridge to his properties in Mentone and Cloudland, GA.

Homer brought two flavors of homemade ice cream: strawberry and oreo chocolate. Thanks to Dot Crow, who, for some reason did not eat her share, I was able to amply taste both flavors. The truth be known, the other reason I go to the picnic each year is that Homer promises ice cream!

Next year, make plans to be with MAPA for its annual picnic on the brow in July!



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Katherine Mae Frazier

Katherine Mae Frazier graduated May 19th from Beth Haven Christian Academy in Crossville, AL. Katie was the school body student council president and a very enthusiastic cheerleader. She received the President's Award Trophy which was well deserved for her faithfulness and dedication to the Lord. Katie has been actively involved as a secretary in the Awana Club at Faith Baptist Church.

Katie plans to attend New Tribes Bible Institute in Waukesha, Wisconsin, this fall. She is currently a waitress at the Log Cabin Deli, in Mentone. Her parents are Charlie and Deb Frazier of Mentone. Katie's grandmother is Madelene Summerfield of Dothan, AL, and her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bill Coulter of Random Lake, Wisconsin.



Botanical Gardens—Artist Ann Hamilton at the June Huntsville Botanical Gardens "Butterfly" unveiling. She is painting a butterfly for an additional presentation in the future. This is part of a fund-raising program sponsored by supporters of the gardens. Small butterflies such as this one are sponsored for \$1000. The larger ones are \$2500. They will later be auctioned and placed throughout the city of Huntsville. Presently, they are on display in the gardens.

Art offerings for the Children

(Editor's Note: Interview results with one area artist)

Ann Hamilton is a former newspaper editor and publisher. She is a BA graduate and has studied at Northeast State Jr. College, The University of Alabama in Huntsville and Athens College. She has also studied under instructors in different parts of the country. She is qualified in all mediums, including digital art. A member of The World's Who's Who and America's Who's Who of Women, she is active in several art-related organizations. She has shown her work in libraries, universities, and colleges and at art shows on a regional basis. Presently her work is available at Gorham's Bluff. She is in the process of opening a teaching studio-gallery in Fort Payne. She is involved in the Menlo Elementary School Art Program; the Big Will's Art Camp and other area projects.

In an interview with artist, Ann Hamilton, she made the following statements:

"I hope to make a difference in making more art available for children in this and other areas. Our educational system is sorely affecting the children with its neglect of art. When I was at UAH, there was a discussion as to how the lack of the study of the humanities had adversely impacted even engineers. There was talk of adding an extra year to their studies to attempt to overcome this void in their

education.

"Because of this deficiency early on, the natural creative impulses of children become repressed. Along with this, their abilities to see things naturally decreases. I often say that if I can teach someone to see, I can teach him or her to draw. Once seeing has been unlearned, it's difficult to correct it. Young children are aware of the negative spaces in images. Older ones aren't. This, of course, can be learned again, but it is not a natural thing as it once was. Thinking also thwarts the development of art skills in young children. For example, I have observed that the younger children do not think so much as the older ones. They just "create" art.

"A good illustration of this is the creation of a butterfly in art. Older children have usually studied about the scientific aspects of a butterfly. Because of this, when they attempt to create a butterfly in art they usually fail. They get too "caught up" in forming the parts of the species. Thus, the beautiful butterfly that could be created is just an object.

"In my classes, I challenge students to depart from this process. Some of the ways I do this is by having them close their eyes and use their imaginations. Sometimes, I won't allow them to use an eraser while they are sketching. At times, I tell them they can only use scissors and paper. This helps them break out of rigid mind-sets.

"Too, I teach by demonstration. Once they see how I'm creating art, they want to try it themselves. When they do this, they begin to have success. From this, they build confidence and can grow into artists.

"Of course, it is important to include the thought processes in art, but not before creativity is strongly implemented. To see this happen is an exciting experience! Bringing art to children and teaching them how to do it themselves is one of the greatest joys in my life."

Ms. Hamilton will be writing a regular column about art. She will be interviewing artists and art lovers to incorporate their views into this new feature.

Art Classes

Register now for classes beginning in August in Davis Loft, Fort Payne.

Private lessons available in July.

Children's classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m.

Instructor Artist Ann Hamilton whose work is exhibited locally at Gorham's Bluff will teach all mediums.

All are welcome to participate.

Creative writing and computer skills also taught. Web Site design available.

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(1) **ADORABLE FURNISHED COTTAGE, MENTONE.** 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Pine Floors, Rock Fireplace, 2 wooded lots. Just bring your overnight bag, and stay awhile. Located on Hwy 117, Downtown Mentone. \$78,500.



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



(3) **FOR LEASE OR SALE** 1997 Modular Home on 1 acre, 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath w/Fireplace, Large Kitchen with lots of Cabinets, Central H/A, Front and Back Porch, and in move-in condition. One mile from Downtown Mentone. \$95,000 or \$550.00 per month.



(4) **WILD RIVER COMMUNITY:** (2 tracts left) 220x330 on the East Fork of Little River - Secluded and Scenic, with Pools and Rapids - \$25,000 Each.



(5) **RUSTIC POST AND BEAM CONSTRUCTION.** 70% finished and to be sold AS-IS. 3 Bdrm, 3 Bath, Large Open Great Room with Loft, all wood interior. Approx. 2500 sq ft of living space, space. Multi-Decks, and located at Mtn. River Estates. 3 acres with 440 ft of River Frontage. Hwy 117S, Mentone. \$145,000.



(6) **PICTURE YOURSELF ON THE COVERED PORCH.** overlooking the large pond stocked with fish, small creek lined with perennial beds, and immaculate 2 Bdrm 2 bath cedar home with C/H/A, large open Living and Kitchen, with all updated appliances. All this, plus 8 acres of pasture, woods, and garden area with fruit trees. \$135,000.



(7) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES.** A River runs through it! Direct access from Lookout Mountain Parkway on Ala. Hwy 117. Minutes from Mentone and Cloudland, GA. 3 to 7 acre Riverfront tracts starting at \$27,500. 5 to 15 acre wooded stream tracts from \$21,000. Restricted covenants apply.



(8) **1/4 MILE FROM DESOTO STATE PARK'S TRAILS AND FACILITIES.** sits a 3 Bdrm 2 Bath Split Poyer Design home. Approximately 1800 sq ft w/unfinished Basement, Den, Dining room, and kitchen with lots of counter space. Detached garage on a corner lot over 1 acre. \$84,900. Reduced - \$75,000.



(9) **50 ACRES** Atop Lookout Mountain, Mentone. Fenced pasture land, established Lake, 2 barns, 3 outbuildings, SPRING HOUSE over year-around creek. The Old Homesite is surrounded by huge Oaks, and a view over the land and surrounding mountain ridges. Access from Bankhead Rd. and Hwy 117 S. Opportunity for one of the prettiest spots on Lookout awaits. \$175,000.



(10) **RUFF CUT BATTEN BOARD COTTAGE.** at Laurel Creek Lakes. One Bedroom with Bath, Sleeping Loft overlooking Living Room. Screened porch, C/H/A, Fireplace. Over 1 Acre with common areas for fishing in Lakes and Hiking. All this for only \$64,500.



(11) **THREE STATES CAN BE SEEN:** from these Breathtaking West Brow (Sunset) Tracts. On Hwy 183, Lookout Mtn. Pkwy., Dade County, Ga. Just Minutes from Chattanooga, TN (#12) 13 acres \$70,000 (#13) 10.9 Acres \$55,000. (#14) 9.1 acres \$35,000. Restrictions Apply.



(12) **THE PERFECT WEEKEND GETAWAY COTTAGE.** Quaint 2 bdrm 2 bath, C/H/A newly remodeled kitchen with all appliances, hardwood floors in living dining area. Screened porch and Sunroom. Lime Rock formations accent the large entertainment deck w/hot tub and Outdoor Shower. Priced at \$89,500.



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



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

OTHER PROPERTIES

- (15) **WOODED LAND.** 3.7 acres with 88' of Paved road and gently sloping to Brushy Creek. Lightly restricted. \$17,500.
- (16) **WEEKEND/WEEDLY RENTALS.** available on the Brow and Downtown Mentone. 1,2,3 Bedrooms. \$85.00 and \$125.00 nightly. Call Angela Wood for more info.
- (17) **COUNTY ROAD 633. WOODED TRACTS** from 10 acres and up, ranging \$2,000 to \$2,500 an acre. Owner Financing to qualified buyers.
- (18) **OAKWOOD ESTATES.** 3 plus acre wooded and Pasture tracts available. Located in Mentone, County Road 106. Restricted Covenants. For permanent or Vacation Residential Homes. \$14,500 each.
- (19) **THE BIG WOODS. EAST FORK RIVER.** 75 acres ML available with access from Paved Road, and County Water. Over 600 ft. of River, 3 springs, wet weather cascading water fall. Also, part of the Historical Dinky Line Railway. \$240,000.
- (20) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST.** 5 to 17 acre tracts on East Brow overlooking Pleasant Valley and Weiss Lake; adjoins National Preserve. \$10,000 to \$35,000.
- (21) **DESOTO PARKWAY. 3 ACRE BROW TRACT.** water available, rock bluffs, level for building. Minutes from DeSoto State Park. \$80,000.
- (22) **BEACHED, LOCATED IN CLOUDLAND, GA.** Great Farm with 20x40 Barn, Large Workshop, 3 outbuildings, Garage, 4 wells, year around spring, 3 garden areas, Grape Arbors, Approx. 5 acres cleared. Beautiful Hardwoods. 12x70 Mobile Home with Rock Foundation. Many more amenities. \$165,000. Shown by Appointment ONLY.

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UNITED GIVERS FUND OF DEKALB COUNTY, INC. - SPOTLIGHT



Linda Sterling

UGF ANNOUNCES THE 2000-2001 CAMPAIGN GENERAL CHAIRMAN

UGF President Jim Houston announced today that Linda Sterling has been selected to serve as this year's Campaign General Chairman. Houston said, "Ms. Sterling has done an outstanding job for many years as Chairman for the Industrial Division and we are pleased that she has agreed to head up the entire campaign this year."

"Being involved with United Givers Fund for the past eight years as a volunteer has been most rewarding," Ms. Sterling said. "The efforts I have given have been so small compared to the end results of what truly is amazing. Thousands of people across DeKalb County receive assistance each year and it is an honor to be a part of such an organization." She goes on to say, "It would be sad to see what would happen to this community if the United Givers Fund did not exist."

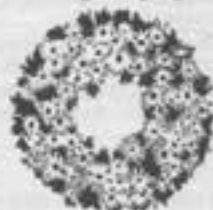
In addition to working as a UGF campaign volunteer, Ms. Sterling currently serves on the UGF Board of Directors and as a member of the Admissions and Review Committee. For the past 23 years, Ms. Sterling has been employed with the Prewett Association and for 12 of those years has held the position of Human Resources Director at Johnson Hosiery.

She is Secretary/Treasurer for the Alabama Chapter Hosiery Association, serves on the board of the American Red Cross, has served as board member for the Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce, is a member of the Fort Payne Kiwanis Club and held the offices of President and Lt. Governor for that organization.

Her hobbies include flower gardening, reading, crocheting, and activities at the lake with family and friends. Family includes husband Joe, their five children and four grandchildren.

Mrs. Sterling said, "As I begin this year's campaign, I would say to the people of DeKalb County, 'please support these volunteers as they go to the businesses and homes collecting funds for this campaign. Remember, there is no greater reward than giving to help others.'"

The 2000-2001 fundraising campaign will get underway by mid-September.



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SERVING INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION

"The ARC of DeKalb County is a special place," said a mother whose son has attended the Center since 1991. She says he was 20 years old when he started going to the Adult Training Center where he learned daily-life skills, including personal hygiene and self-help enabling him to become more independent.

Mental retardation cuts across the lines of racial, ethnic, educational, social, and economic backgrounds. It can occur in any family. One out of ten American families is directly affected by mental retardation.

The goal of the ARC is to help each individual with mental retardation achieve the highest level of independence possible. They strive to assist families and caregivers as they try to cope and care for family members with special needs.

Through the three programs - Adult Training, Adult Activity, (Work Program), and Residential, the ARC enhances the daily living skills needed to live, work, and play in the community.

The ARC is a non-profit organization that relies on funding from state, federal, and local funds. Local funds consists of monies received from county taxes, civic organizations, and agencies such as United Givers Fund. These local funds are very important to the organization. For every local dollar they receive, state and federal matches that dollar with four dollars.

For more information on the programs of the ARC or to become a member, visit the ARC at 201 Grand Avenue S in Fort Payne. Melissa Knopps is the Executive Director of ARC of DeKalb County, Jennifer Jones is the Residential Coordinator, Margaret Clifton is Program Manager and Jacqueline Gogan is Program Manager. These individuals can be contacted at (256) 845-0165 or 845-0171.

The ARC of DeKalb County is one of 12 agencies funded by United Givers fund of DeKalb County, Inc.

UGF VOLUNTEERS GEARING UP FOR CAMPAIGN 2000-2001

With the Kickoff date for the 2000-2001 United Givers Fund Campaign less than 90 days away, Campaign Chairman Linda Sterling met recently with Division & and Team Chairmen for orientation and planning. Heading up the five divisions this year are: Wilma Leath, Industrial Division; Pam Gibson, Commercial Division; Larry Hancock, Professional & Special Gifts Division; Teresa Freeman, Public Service Division; and Virginia Wright, Town & Country Division.

Team Chairmen include: Wilma Leath, Industrial Diversified Industries; Carla Bryan, Industrial Hosiery Industries; Sara Malone, Commercial Team II; Pat Dunn, Professional & Special Gifts Team I; Candice Scott, Professional & Special Gifts Team II; Liz Wheatley, Public Service Team I; Teresa Freeman, Public Service Team II; Sue Wills, Lookout Mountain/Valley Team; Randolph Bell, Sand Mountain Team I, and Winston Jenkins, Sand Mountain Team II. By mid-July, these Team Chairmen will have recruited more than 40 Group Captains to complete their teams.

UGF Campaign Director, Barbara Turner, says the organization will be officially announcing this year's Campaign Goal and Campaign Theme within the next few weeks.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA - GREATER ALABAMA COUNCIL

The Boy Scouts of America celebrated its 90th Anniversary this year. It is the largest youth organization in the United States with over 7.5 million members. The goal of the Boy Scouts is the same today as it was 90 years ago: to build character, promote physical fitness, and to help develop good citizenship skills.

In 1998, the Greater Alabama Council was formed as a result of a consolidation of the Central Alabama Council in Birmingham, the Choctawhatchee Council in Anniston and the Tennessee Valley Council in Huntsville. The joining of these three Councils has brought together the resources for over 8,000 volunteers to provide quality Scouting programs to over 100,000 young people in 22 counties.

DeKalb County and the Sequoyah District has always had a rich history of Scouting. The quality of the volunteers has always been outstanding. Jackie Pettit, District Executive, said, "By following the examples set in the past by volunteers such as Dr. Pate, Judge Beck, and Bill Shugart, the volunteers of today have made Sequoyah District the number one district in the Greater Alabama Council." He says, there are approximately 150 volunteers in this district serving about 2,000 youth.

The Sequoyah District is fortunate to have Comer Scout Reservation here in DeKalb County. The Camp, located in Mentone, is celebrating its 35th anniversary of summer camp this year. The Camp has always ranked in the top five Boy Scout Camps in the nation. Scouts travel from all over the southeast to camp there each summer. The Camp accommodates approximately 5,000 campers each year.

Scouting offers programs and opportunities for all ages. Tiger Cubs BSA is a simple and fun program for first-grade boys and their families. Tiger Cubs follows a school year cycle. Boys remain in the Tiger Cub program until they complete first grade. Then, they graduate into a Cub Scout Den and are eligible to participate in Cub Scout summer activities, including Cub Scout day camp.

Cub Scouting programs help to influence the development of character, encourages spiritual growth, and helps boys develop habits and attitudes of good citizenship. Through fun and exciting activities, boys learn a sense of personal achievement by helping them develop new interests and skills.

Boy Scouting is available to boys who have either earned the Arrow of Light Award, or completed the fifth grade and who are 11 through 17 years of age. The program achieves the BSA's objectives of developing character, citizenship and personal fitness qualities among youth by focusing on a vigorous program of outdoor activities.

The Exploring Program is a contemporary program for young men and women ages 14-20. Explorer Posts match the interests of the youth with the expertise and program resources of the organization. Special Interest Posts cover more than 180 careers, 40 hobbies, and 35 sports.

The newest program in Scouting is called Venturing. It is a youth development program of BSA for young men and women who are 14-20 years of age. This program is fun and full of challenge and adventure in the areas of high adventure, sports, arts and hobbies, youth ministries or Sea Scouting.

After 90 years, the Boy Scouts of America continues to offer quality programs and opportunities to the youth of our country. Through the hard work of our volunteers and the generous donations received from the United Givers Fund of DeKalb County, the future continues to look bright for the Scouting program.

The Boy Scouts of America Greater Alabama Council is one of twelve agencies funded through United Givers Fund of DeKalb County.

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A Friendly— **Valley View**

By
ELOISE BROWN

The showers came and refreshed the earth. The flowers are blooming and gardens are growing, and people are enjoying and going! I like to hear it!

Christine and Walter Brooks enjoyed a trip to Gatlinburg, Cherokee and Cades Cove where they attended a gospel singing.

Linda Blackburn of Orange Park, FL, is visiting her parents, Dot and Bill Blackburn, and helping can beans and make jelly.

Sadie, Van, Teresa, Tyler and Lana Cooper and Teresa's mother, Shirley Cook went to Gulf Shores for a week.

Dr. Quimby and son, Robert, came home to Valley Head for several days' visit.

Catherine Bailey's family gave her a lovely surprise birthday party at the Promenade Hall, Sunday afternoon, June 25. She is beautiful at ninety years of age. She received several flowers and nice gifts.

L.A. Smith was honored with a retirement party, also on Sunday afternoon, June 25. Valley Head High School has lost two good men, as they are losing him and Campbell Smith. I am sure the ones who take their place will receive a warm welcome and be successful.

Olene Roberts is at home and feeling much better.

Howard Hawkins has moved to Encore Senior Village at Pensacola, FL.

About thirty-five past students and graduates of Valley Head High School met for a picnic reunion Sat., June 4. There will be another reunion the third Saturday in August. All interested are invited to the Promenade Hall for a covered dish lunch at noon on August 19, for the 50th anniversary of the 1950 class.

Mozelle Crow is not feeling well. Hope she will be well soon.

Lillie Bowden attended the Watson-Walls family reunion at LaGrange, Ga., at the home of Shirley and Gene Binion. She enjoyed seeing about fifty relatives in an ideal setting.

Karen, Mark, Ben, Matt and Luke Freeman visited Mark's parents, Bill and Mary Freeman at Pine Mountain, Ga., recently.

Cindy Butler, from Cartersville, Ga., is spending two weeks with her sister, Gracie Brown and Chris and Dillon.

Ruth and Bert Pickett celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. Ruth's sister, Betty Bracken from Chattanooga, and John and Shirley Cross from Melbourne, Australia, spent Sat., June 24, with them to help celebrate.

Dael and Doug Hoyt boarded the Royal Caribbean at Cape Canaveral for a five-day cruise to the Bahama Islands. They spent a day at Private Coco Cay, where they enjoyed snorkeling and were able to see a wrecked plane and ship and a variety of fish. They had a wonderful cruise with lots of delicious food.

Billie Pickett visited relatives in Bryon, Ga., and Thomaston, Ga., recently.

Ed Ringer and Sherman Gough, of Post 215 in Mentone, attended the American Legion Convention in Mobile, Friday and Saturday, June 30 and July 1.

Jim Davis, who has been assistant druggist at Morgan Drugs (and druggist at BMC-DeKalb), was injured in a car accident, recently. Hope he is recovering and will soon be well.

Jean Jones spent 1-1/2 weeks with her mother, Lorene Holcomb, at Hackleburg, AL. John picked her up, and they went to Chesapeake, Va., to visit sons, Roy and Douglas, and families. Granddaughters Rebecca Jones and Kendra Basham were graduating from elementary school, and Kendra's brother, Michael, from high school. He will go to Old Dominion College in Norfolk on a wrestling scholarship, as he was number 3 in the 145 weight division. John and Jean left there and

went to Woodstock, Va., to check on Aunt Myrtie Holcomb, in a nursing home, picked up Aunt Carolyn Rauth and took her back to Woodstock to visit Myrtie; back to Chesapeake to get granddaughters, age 11, and grandson, John Paul Jones, age 8, and brought them home with them. The girls prepared a deluxe candlelight dinner and entertainment for John and Jean, as a belated anniversary celebration.

The B.V. Thornberry family reunion was held at the home of Lendell and Annette Chappel, Sunday, June 4. Present were J.P. and Jo Thornberry; Stella Pierce; Donald, Margie, Heather and Brittany Daniel; Ronald Daniel; Virginia Shelton; Chris Regina; Mikayla and Victoria Reed; Ozell Thornberry; Steven Thornberry; Steve, Joannie and Jessica Thornberry; James, Robin, Dylan, and Gatlin Thornberry; Jimmy Thornberry; Dexter, Janet, Megan, Savannah, and Shannon Smith; Betty and Clarence Thornberry and granddaughter, Gracie; Becky Smith and friend Paul.

Hammondville City Hall has moved to the Hammondville Armory building. It is hoped a grant will be received to establish a Senior Center there.

The Valley Head United Methodist Church had a special program on Sunday, July 2, honoring all veterans in DeKalb County. The names of DeKalb County veterans and casualties were read out during the service. The church was beautifully decorated and photographs, newspaper clippings, and other memorabilia were on display. It was a very special occasion.

Everyone have a happy and safe holiday!



Happy Birthday, U.S. of A!

It is the birthday of our nation—
It is time for play and celebration,
It is time, too, for appreciation
For all who have paid a big price
In suffering and sacrifice
Trying to create paradise.

How much did they fail or succeed?
What do we have—what do we need?
How do we pray—our cause to plead?
What have we done for our land?
Do we even care—or understand—
The qualities that make it grand?

Are we really patriotic?
Some are merely idiotic—
Creating scenes so chaotic!
It is the birthday of our nation,
It is a time for evaluation
And a time for rededication—

To Christian principles of its founding,
Gratitude for all the blessings abounding
To heed the need for freedom sounding
For its leaders we must pray
For strength and wisdom for each day
To make decisions in the right way.

To conquer all wrong evil forces,
And strengthen the right Christian courses
And preserve all natural resources
For the preservation of earth
For each person's good and worth
'Til death from moment of birth.

Many countries—north, south, east and west,
In many ways have failed the test
Despite your faults, we love you best—
So happy birthday, dear U. S. of A.—
Have millions more, this we pray—
May each day be better in every way.

—Eloise Brown

Sue Mosley Honored

By Eloise Brown

Sue Mosley, of Loganville, Ga., accompanied by two of her staff members, attended the Secretary's Honor Awards Ceremony, June 5, 2000, at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. She received the U.S.D.A. Honor Award for her "outstanding work in the reform of the Federal Milk Marketing Order Program. This is the highest recognition of honor awarded by the Secretary of Agriculture."

The award was presented by Secretary Glickman in a departmental ceremony. Dairy Programs hosted a reception in recognition of award recipients on Tuesday, June 6.

Sue is Market Administrator for the Dairy Department of Southeastern States. She is the former Sue Livingston, daughter of Verna Livingston, of Valley Head, and a graduate of Valley Head High School and Jacksonville State University.

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Scoutmaster David Gilbreath presenting Andrew Habel his Eagle Scout.



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Reception following the dedication of the new meeting place and the awarding of Eagle Scout to Andrew Habel.



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(1) IMPRESSIVE RUSTIC CONTEMPORARY rises before you as you drive down the driveway. Main house features 3 floors, each with a bedroom and bath, living area, office space and/or sitting rooms. Decks and porches surround the house with magnificent views of the valley and mountains. A 2-car garage with 1 bedroom apartment also sits on the 2.7 acres. All for \$225,000.



(2) WHAT A MOUNTAIN RETREAT SHOULD BE! Three bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 sitting rooms, sunroom, dining room and kitchen with breakfast nook, pine floors and walls. All this on more than 2 acres of elite brow front property. \$249,900.



(3) GET OUT OF TOWN in this one bedroom, one bath log home in Mentone situated on one acre. This home has a living-dining-kitchen combo, pine floors; and the open floor plan gives you a studio-like feel. This could be the perfect home for you—Call today! \$55,000.



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



(5) TURN BACK THE CLOCK. Live in an authentic log house, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 fireplaces, wood floors, front and back porch. Included is a 19x20 log structure with loft waiting to be your studio or guest house. All on more than 2 acres. \$75,000.



(6) COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES ON HWY 117. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath modular home comes with a fully equipped kitchen, living room, dining room, sunroom, central heat and air, 20x30 shed/garage and a nice landscaped yard on over 1 acre. Call today for more details. \$65,000.



(7) NESTLED AMONG TOWERING TREES you'll find this 2 bedroom, one bath cottage in Mentone. Located near Lake Lahusage with central heat and air, decks on 3 sides, only 1 year old and is sitting on 3 lots. If you have been looking for almost new and affordable, give us a call today! \$65,000.



(8) IF TWO'S NOT ENOUGH, this house has 5 bedrooms and 3 baths, two living areas with fireplaces, sunroom, screened porch and extra large hobby room. Four bedrooms offer balconies overlooking Lake Lahusage. Patios and lights to the water. \$225,000



(9) MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL AND CALDWELL'S RESTAURANT. Historical Landmark in downtown Mentone currently being run as a bed and breakfast. Restaurant seats 100+ people. Great for weddings, receptions, conferences—endless possibilities. For more information, please call 256-845-6000. \$650,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

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

(11) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.

(12) PRIME PROPERTY - 6 acres on DeSoto Parkway ready for developing. Almost 600 feet of road frontage. Great opportunity! \$55,000.

(13) TWO - 3 1/2 ACRE BROW LOTS just minutes from DeSoto State Park. \$40,000 each.

(14) 1.75+ ACRES IN WEST FORK SUBDIVISION. \$28,500.

(15) SPECTACULAR VIEW - perk test done & ready to build on. 1 acre brow lot north of Mentone. City water available. \$35,000.

(16) A RARE FIND - building lot inside of Mentone's city limits. Wonderful rock formations. \$15,000.

(17) BROW LOT on County Road 103 South of Mentone in Phase II of Lake on the Brow. \$45,000.

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Sara Quinn Residence - 845-1881, Broker, GRI - CRS

DEKALB COUNTY DECLARED DISASTER AREA

United States Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, spurred by a request from Alabama's Congressional delegation and a request from Gov. Don Siegelman, declared all but three Alabama counties agricultural disaster areas due to drought.

DeKalb County is among the 64 counties on the list, but Richard Manning, office manager of the United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Office in Rainsville doesn't expect DeKalb County farmers to need much help.

Three weeks ago, Manning submitted a report that said DeKalb was in need of assistance because of drought conditions. Since then, rains have eliminated most of the county's needs.

"I don't think right now that DeKalb County is in a disaster situation," Manning said. "But, in the summertime, things can change in a hurry."

Jackson, Limestone and Marshall counties were the only Alabama counties left off the sweeping list of agricultural disaster areas, which included portions of Florida, Nebraska and New Mexico. Since the three Alabama counties not eligible for assistance border counties that are eligible, farmers in all 67 Alabama counties can receive low interest emergency USDA loans, according to Department of Agriculture Department spokesperson Mary Beth Schultheis.

The USDA has also opened some Conservation Reserve Program land for grazing livestock. Loans are also available for ranchers to get water to their livestock.

"This has been a devastating year for America's farmers and ranchers, following last year's drought and historically low prices," Glickman said. "USDA is responding quickly and in every way we can to help."

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The Church News By EVELYN GRAVES



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 114 First St. SW, Fort Payne, 845-4842, has regular Sunday services at 8 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM. We welcome the community to join us. Vacation Bible School will be July 17-21, 6:30-8 PM, for grades K-12 and adults.

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

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

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

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

The Mount Calvary Baptist Church will be having a Gospel Singing on Saturday, July 22. A covered dish supper will be at 6 PM, and the singing will begin at 7 PM EST.

Next month, on August 20, 6 - 7 PM, our Homecoming will be held featuring an all male group from Calhoun - "No Doubt." Times are the same August 21-25, we will have revival at 7 PM nightly. George Palmer will be the visiting preacher. God has blessed our small country church. It is truly growing, and we hope you will come visit and take part in our services - Sunday School 10 AM; worship hour - 11 AM; 'Children's Church' also at 11 AM - Sunday night at 6 PM and Wed. night at 7 PM. Everyone is welcome. Mount Calvary is located behind the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland.

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

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

Mentone Wesleyan Church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 AM and worship service at 10:45 AM. Bible classes Wed. 7:00 - 7:45. Ladies' Bible study and low-impact aerobics Wed. 7:00 - 7:45. Young Harmony will sing on July 9th, 10:45 AM. For additional information, call church office, 634-4210, Pastor Randy Addison. All are welcome!

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

The Mentone United Methodist Church services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. Pastor Linda Tucker welcomes everyone. The Ethel Brown Unit of the United Methodist Women meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 2 PM, in the fellowship hall, except for July and August. The Mountain Laurel Unit meets on the Second Sunday of each month during Sunday School at 10 a.m. Sunday, July 9th will be quarterly meetings: 4 PM Trustees; 5 PM - Administrative Council. On July 16, members from Mentone UMC and Cedar Bluff First UMC are invited to Aylee Tucker's baptism at Gaylesville UMC, at 11 AM. There will be no service at Mentone. Everyone will gather at 10 AM to ride to Gaylesville together.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church services are Sunday at 10:30 AM, with a time for fellowship after the services. Sunday School is at 9:30 AM. Four "Super Saturday" events are planned for children in grades 1 through 6 for one Saturday each month-June 24, July 22, August 19, September 16. Children from the community are welcome. If your child will be attending, please call the office between the hours 8:30 and 11:30 AM weekdays. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any of their events or services. Everyone is welcome to join them in worship services or special events.

Lighthouse Fellowship. Greetings, Mentone! All are welcome to our church just south of the Georgia/Alabama line on State Road 48. Our services: Sunday School - 10 AM CST; morning Worship - 11 AM CST. Events: Look for more information in the next "Groundhog" concerning our upcoming gospel singing.

Vacation Bible School
July 10th - 14th 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Kindergarten through 6th grade
Mentone Wesleyan Church



L/R: Commander James R. Lacy, Ray White, and Commander Sherman Gough of Post 215



L/R: Adjutant James Carson, Raymond E. Ringer, new American Legion District XIII Commander, and Ray White

by Marilyn Blanton Campbell

At 7:00 p.m., the evening of Tuesday, June 13, the men of American Legion Post 215 and the ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 hosted the regular bi-monthly meeting of American Legion District XIII at the legion hall on Cove Road in Mentone with representatives from some seven posts—Post 94, Post 39, Post 215, Post 8, Post 30, Post 114, Post 62—in attendance. Among the dignitaries on hand for the occasion were incoming American Legion Auxiliary District XIII President, Evie Lacy, and her husband, American Legion District XIII Sergeant-at-Arms, Elver Lacy, Ray White, National Executive Committeeman, from Huntsville, outgoing American Legion Auxiliary District XIII President, Joyce Allen, Joyce McGee, Veterans Affairs Representative for DeKalb County, Harold Allen, County Commander for Cherokee County, George Newman, County Commander for Marshall County, Kenneth Clayton, County Commander for DeKalb County, and Page Cunningham, the person who won the \$1000 the gentlemen of Post 215 gave away at the spring festival at Brow Park in Mentone.

A fine meal of barbecue pork—purchased—was served featuring side dishes of baked beans, coleslaw, potato salad, and many different kinds of dessert that the ladies had fixed themselves. Anybody who missed that meeting indeed missed a good time and good meal. While being a good cook is not nec-

essarily a prerequisite for membership in the American Legion, it does seem highly coincidental how much good food that group seems to enjoy year round. The only drawback to the entire night seemed to be the heat and humidity that combined to make everyone uncomfortable, to say the least.

Post 215 Commander, Sherman T. Gough, welcomed everyone and thanked them sincerely for coming. After the salute to the American flag, Howard Carson, American Legion District XIII Chaplain and member of Post 215, offered the invocation and blessed the food. After the meal, the meeting resumed with the ladies retiring to their room for a separate gathering leaving the men with American Legion District XIII Commander Raymond Lacy presiding.

Commander Lacy introduced National Executive Committeeman, Ray White, who spoke briefly about the activities of the American Legion on the national level. Then Commander Lacy introduced State Executive Committeeman John Jarvis, who told about the activities of the American Legion on the state level.

Mrs. Joyce McGee, Veterans Affairs Representative for DeKalb County, was then introduced, and she spoke briefly about the work her office is doing to benefit local veterans. It should be remembered by everyone that Mrs. McGee is the person one contacts in the name of getting a deserving veteran into the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home at

Huntsville or any one of the other state or federal facilities designed specifically for veterans, and she and her staff have worked tirelessly over the years doing a wonderful job for the veterans and their families of this county.

The report of the Nominating Committee was given just prior to the election of officers. Raymond E. Ringer was nominated the new American Legion District XIII Commander. Raymond Brandon was nominated Vice-Commander, and John Jarvis was nominated District XIII State Executive Committeeman. James Carson, American Legion District XIII Adjutant, conducted the election, and those who had been nominated were elected. At that point, Mr. Lacy turned the meeting over to American Legion District XIII's new District Commander, Mr. Raymond E. Ringer, who then appointed James Carson to continue as the District XIII Adjutant. Commander Ringer also appointed District XIII Chaplain Howard Carson, and county commanders—Harold Allen (Cherokee County), George Newman (Marshall County), Kenneth Clayton (DeKalb County), and John R. Haley (Jackson County).

The next American Legion District XIII meeting was set for August at Sand Mountain Post 94 in Albertville. After that, the meeting was adjourned.



Mentone Post 215 American Legion Hall, shown after members painted the outside and cleaned the hall in preparation for the District XIII meeting

Thank you

to all who assisted me after my fall at the Post Office on June 26. Your genuine concern was greatly appreciated.
Bobbie Hilderbrand

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Happy Birthday!



Jason Tyler Huskey

Jason Tyler Huskey will celebrate his 12th birthday on July 10. He is the son of Joyce and R.B. Huskey of Mentone. He has a big brother, Allen and a big sister, Lisa.

Tyler graduated from the 6th grade at Moon Lake School on May 25. We are proud of you!

Love, Mom and Dad.

Also, special birthday wishes to:
 ♦ Allen Dwayne Huskey, whose birthday is July 27. Happy Birthday!
 Love Mom & Dad, Jennifer, Jessica, and Austin Huskey.
 ♦ Our daughter-in-law, Jennifer Huskey, who celebrated her birthday on June 24.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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FOR RENT: Small Office or Store Space. Mini Stor Mall, 53 Douglas St., behind Post Office. Immediate availability. \$150 per month. 256-634-4535

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PUBLICATION NOTICE

The *Groundhog* publishing date is the first Thursday of each month. The August issue date is August 3rd. It will be delivered on the 4th and 5th. Those submitting articles and/or photos, please get them to us between the 15th-20th of each month. Thank you to everyone who meets this deadline.

Alabama Music Hall of Fame

The Alabama Music Hall of Fame has announced Mobile, Ala., as the host city for the Ninth Induction Banquet and Awards Show and four music achievers, from the State of Alabama, who will be inducted into the Alabama Music Hall of Fame, during the event to be held at the Mobile Convention Center, Saturday, March 17, 2001.

David Johnson, Executive Director of the Alabama Music Hall of Fame said, "We are very pleased to be able to present this outstanding event in Mobile, Ala. The City of Mobile has demonstrated a most gracious and helpful attitude while welcoming us with open arms. During this event, you will be entertained by some of the most successful and talented Alabamians in the music industry, as well as see seven of the most talented Alabama music achievers receive contemporary awards, and four legendary music achievers, from our state, receiving our most prestigious award—Induction into the Alabama Music Hall of Fame. Once again, this will be another award winning event."

On hand to announce the 2001 award winners was Motown Records artist, and 1995 Inductee into the Alabama Music Hall of Fame, Eufaula, Ala., native, Martha Reeves, of Martha and the Vandellas.

Martha said, "I am pleased to be here today and proud that I am a native of Eufaula, Ala. The Alabama Music Hall of Fame does an outstanding job honoring all the talented Alabamians, in all fields of music, who have made a mark on America's music. I am so excited that the Ninth Induction Banquet and Awards show will be held here in Mobile. This is a very special event, an outstanding and entertaining event showcasing and honoring the many talented music achievers from Alabama."

She then announced the contemporary award winners followed by the four recipients for the most prestigious award for their life work, induction into the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

"The Music Industry Award" goes to Red Bay, Ala. native, Mac McAnally.

"The Music Creator's Award" goes to Gary Baker of Sheffield, Ala.

"The Musicians Award" goes to Bob Wray of Muscle Shoals, Ala.

"The America Music Award" goes to Mobile, Ala., native group, Wet Willie.

"The Media Award" goes to Warrior, Ala., native "Country Boy" Eddie Burns.

There are two "Governor's Achievement Awards" to be given by the Governor's office: One will go to The Original Blind Boys Of Alabama, a group that started out in the chorus at Talladega Institute for the Deaf. The other will go to Three On A String, a Birmingham, Ala., trio.

The recipients for Induction into the Alabama Music Hall of Fame are:

Freddie Hart - Born in Lochapoka, Ala. - Famous Country Music Performer and Writer. Had his first hit in 1959 and song of the year in 1971 and 1972 with "Easy Lovin'".

Jim Nabors - Sylacauga, Ala. - A baritone singer that has recorded over 38 albums, including five gold and one platinum.

Hugh Martin - Birmingham, Ala. - Songwriter and arranger for Broadway musicals. Wrote, "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" and "The Trolley Song".

J.R. "Pap" Baxter - Lebanon, Ala. - One of the most influential people in Gospel music. Owner in Stamps-Baxter Music Co., the largest gospel song business in the world.

For more information, contact Marcia Weems - (256)381-4417 or 1-800-239-2643.

Lilies in the Valley

By Christina Wise

The Rhododendron Garden Club met on June 13 at the Mentone Community House. President Dallyne Jones called the meeting to order at 12:30. One guest, Dot Blackburn, was recognized and welcomed. The roll was called and there were 23 members present. Ten minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Peggy Roark, Treasurer, gave the report on the financial status of the club. Mrs. Roark also read the list of members who had paid their membership dues and distributed a year book to all who had subscribed.

Ann Wright reported that no further work had been possible on the butterfly garden at Moon Lake School because of the heat, but that the project is ongoing. Christina Wise reported on the club's effort to get some action on cleaning up the garbage currently littering the roadsides throughout DeKalb County. She said that the meeting with the County Commissioner at the beginning of May had been quite positive and well received. That meeting, the Rhododendron Garden Club representatives had suggested that the presidents of all the civic organizations in the county be contacted and invited to meet to discuss the problem on May 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church Hall. It was with great disappointment that Mrs. Wise reported only one person had turned up at that meeting. In view of this lack of interest, Mrs. Wise proposed that a letter be written to Commissioner Bell requesting official action on the problem. A motion was proposed, seconded and carried. Mrs. Wise undertook to write the letter.

Flo Kirby reported that most of the Rhododendron Garden Club adopt-a-mile area had been recently scoured and cleaned and that the effort is ongoing.

Under new business, club members were asked to submit questions for the August 8 meeting. A panel of Master Gardeners will present the program on this date and answer all questions submitted.

At this point, President Dallyne Jones invited the club members to drive to the home of Marzee Etheridge, where the program would take place. Marzee Etheridge welcomed 22 members of the Rhododendron Garden Club into her home and garden. Her garden areas are a breathtaking display of seas of day lilies. Marzee is a real expert on the subject and infected everyone present with her enthusiasm for these plants. She had a story to tell about each one of the multitude of plants in her yard, and she charmed and enthralled us all.

Day lilies came to Europe in the mid 16th century. They arrived in Hungary via Mongolia, and, in the 19th century, some new species and hybrids were exported to the United States.

Dynamic day lilies can light up the garden all summer long. They tolerate virtually anything that nature or man can throw at them: heat, cold, drought, yes—even neglect! They are remarkably free from disease and resist pests very well. Day lilies require little care to establish themselves very quickly and increase in number and beauty year after year. They will also thrive almost anywhere and enjoy full sun or partial shade and will tolerate any type of soil. Remember, too, that the blooms follow the sun and so will face the southeast in the morning and the southwest in the evening. Therefore, to achieve the most effective display, they should be planted along the north side of a flower bed or walkway.

The hardy day lily is also edible and the peeled and sliced roots make a tasty addition to salads.

As Marzee said, "with beautiful blooms, low maintenance requirement and edibility, too—what more could a gardener want?"

Marzee then gave each of the club members a gift of a day lily and an iris plant.

Thank you, Marzee, for a wonderful afternoon in your tranquil and beautiful lily garden and a few precious hours in your very gracious company.

The next meeting will be in the new Jim Berry School Hall on July 11, at 12:30. The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.; Deep South Region; the Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.; Garden Clubs of District II; and the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs.

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Hammondville Volunteer Fire Department

Volunteer Fire Chief Andy Beason; Members: Lavina Battles (not pictured), Dedra Battles, Mark Battles, Van Battles, Andy Beason, Jimmy Sue Beason, Angie Edgeworth, Tony Edgeworth, Bobby Freeman, Sue Freeman (EMT), Christy Riddle, Tim Riddle, Tina Robinson, Andy Thompson, William Robinson (not pictured)

Town of Hammondville Open House for New Volunteer Fire Department Building

In June, the Hammondville Volunteer Fire Department held a reception and invited the public to come and see their new building. They are all very proud of their new accommodations. Besides the members listed above, there are presently two Junior Fire Department members, Jeremy Edgeworth and Adam Battles. In many cases, whole families are involved.

Gary McKenzie, Mayor of Hammondville, was also on hand to greet the public. He said, "This is something the community can be proud of and will probably reduce home owner insurance ratings. Thanks to the hard work of the Volunteer Fire Department, the protection classification has improved from a Class 10 to a 7/9. This may result in a decrease in the property insurance premium calculations for many insured properties within the township.

Chief Beason said "It took a lot of hard work in the fire department get ready to pass inspection. The department must have an ISO (Insurance Services Office) inspection to get the insurance rating lowered.

Sue Freeman is an EMT with the department, and this was one of the requirements for a lower rating.

Just listening to them talk to each other and the public, you could tell that these volunteers really care about the job they do for the public.

The department has three vehicles, including a fire truck. The vehicles are shown on this page.

Chief Andy Beason and the other members of the department were very proud of the facility and their vehicles and the training that they have finished. Certificates hang on the wall for each member.

Chief Beason said, "The Town Council got behind us, as well as community support, in getting the building put up." We are so proud was heard many times during the afternoon.



Hammondville Volunteer Fire Department new building



Vehicles include 1000 gallon tanker hauler, Rapid Response vehicle

Mentone Municipal Election Information

On July 5 - the Mayor gave notice of the city election. Candidates may begin qualifying once notice is published. Qualifying forms are available from the municipal clerk.

The Fair Campaign Practices Act requires all candidates to file with the **PROBATE JUDGE** a list of from two to five persons who will serve as their campaign committee. Candidates may serve as their own committee, but must still file a form to this effect with the **PROBATE JUDGE**. **ALL CANDIDATES MUST FILE THIS FORM WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS OF QUALIFYING TO RUN FOR OFFICE. THIS FORM MUST BE FILED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE CANDIDATE HAS REACHED THE \$1,000 THRESHOLD UNDER THE FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ACT.**

Also, the Ethics Law requires candidates to file a statement of economic interests with the **MUNICIPAL CLERK**. **THIS STATEMENT MUST BE FILED ALONG WITH THE QUALIFYING FORM.** A candidate for municipal office may request a five day extension to file the statement of economic interests. The request must be made through the **MUNICIPAL CLERK**. The statement of economic interests must be filed with the **MUNICIPAL CLERK**, within the five day extension. **THE CLERK IS REQUIRED TO REMOVE FROM THE BALLOT THE NAME OF ANY CANDIDATE WHO FAILS TO FILE THE STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS BY THE DEADLINE.** Incumbents do not have to file the statement of economic interests as they are required to submit an annual report which is on file with the **ETHICS COMMISSION**.

July 18, 2000 - (third Tuesday in July preceding the date set for the election) - **Last day to qualify to run for municipal office.** The statement of candidacy qualifying form must be filed by 5:00 p.m., Central Daylight Time, with the **MUNICIPAL CLERK**. Forms are available from the clerk. There is a \$10 fee required.

July 24, 2000 - Last possible day for candidates to file with the **PROBATE JUDGE** a statement showing the names of their campaign committee.

All dates for municipal elections are posted in four places in town: Mentone Town Hall bulletin board, Ruby's Variety, Mentone Superette, and Mentone Post Office.

August 22, 2000 - Election day is the fourth Thursday of August. When necessary, a run-off election is held the third Tuesday following the regular election, which is September 12.

All political advertisements must be clearly marked with a statement that the communication is a paid political advertisement. This statement must contain information which adequately identifies the person or committee that paid for or authorized the ad.

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



Can you believe the nice weather we have been having? It has certainly been different to what was predicted earlier in the spring. We have had much more rain than the weather forecasters originally thought we would. The only thing that seems to have delayed gardens and other crops is that it stayed cold so late that people could not get their seeds in the ground. We were very late planting our garden and now it looks as though we may have fresh tomatoes for Christmas! We will just go to the **Farmer's Market in Fort Payne**. They have wonderful produce and it must be grown locally. For those of you who don't know, it is at the **VFW Fairgrounds** and opens on **Tuesday and Friday at 6 A.M.**

The last cool spell has been a welcome relief also. I'm not sure what old timers would call it but I'm sure it was some "winter." We were sitting outside on July 1, and it was actually very cool. The temperature in Mentone did not get above 75 degrees that day. So many things have not bloomed yet, and I think that they just have not had the right amount of degree nights (nights above a certain temperature for a certain number of hours) yet.

I missed writing for the last issue of *The Groundhog*. Bobby and I were attending the United Methodist Annual Conference in Birmingham. It is so much fun to see our church in action. As with any big organization, there are always some things that some churches don't like. Mostly, it is the programs that are geared to large churches and the smaller churches can't make them work for them. The Methodist Church is great at working out these differences. The Mentone United Methodist congregation is very pleased to have Rev. Linda Tucker as their pastor another year. This was possible because the conference was willing to work with us and gave her the Gaylesville United Methodist Church in addition to Mentone. We have to give up her attendance to Sunday School class, but we have her for the worship service at 11 o'clock each Sunday.

The water projects for the town of Mentone have been on hold for a couple of months. There was a communication problem between all parties involved and no one is sure how or why it happened. The plan now is to begin work on these again about the middle of July; and, hopefully, they will be completed by early fall.

The Mentone Water Board has been duly organized but has a long way to go before they can begin to function as such. This is not something that can be done overnight. Everything has to be legal and above board and done in triplicate. This should be something that will greatly benefit the town and will be worth waiting for.

Another exciting event that is about to happen is a city election in Mentone. I'm sure Marie will have a complete calendar elsewhere in this issue of *The Groundhog*. I urge you to look for it and to be alert to all postings around the town in the next few weeks. The mayor and council are the governing body of a town and many projects can be accomplished or not because of them. One of the main needs is knowing what can be done in a town the size of Mentone and then knowing how to bring about the completion of the project.

I am the perfect example of someone who went to the doctor thinking they were in good health and finding out differently. Recently, I went for my annual physical and the test showed that my blood work wasn't exactly up to par. The result has been a battery of tests, the healing of an ulcer, and the removal of my gall bladder. I am feeling much better now, if only because all of this is over. I didn't know which to do, have my gall bladder out or start eating raw meat. They say that its only function is to help digest raw meat, a throwback to caveman days. I still think that annual physicals are a good idea and urge you to make an appointment if you haven't had one recently. Most things are much less complicated if caught early. Now I know a lot of things that are NOT wrong with me!

I am writing this before the Fourth of July (you will not get it until after), so I want to wish you all a happy and safe holiday. We should all pause sometime during all the barbeque eating and fireworks displays and remember what we are celebrating. Then pause again and think how many countries still do not have this freedom. Even with all of the restrictions that we have placed on us (or think we do), we still have the most freedom of any country in the world. Just think of the confusion that would happen if there were no laws telling us which side of the street to drive on. Then multiply this by all of the things we do and imagine life without any rules or regulations. A nightmare, isn't it?

Enjoy your summer and show love and kindness to those who least deserve it. Tomorrow, that might be you.

The Town of Mentone has a new Water Board

Annual quality report from the Fort Payne Water Board shows no problems with city water

The Town of Mentone purchases its water from the Fort Payne Water Works Board. Recently the Fort Payne Water Works Board released its annual water quality report on Allen Branch Reservoir, the Big Wills Reservoir and the Tennessee River. The results are from a state certified bacteriological testing laboratory in Fort Payne and compiled from monitoring during 1999.

On June 27, this report was posted in four places around Mentone so that the Mentone residents could review the report. The report is posted at the Mentone Post Office, Mentone Superette, Mentone Town Hall bulletin board, and Ruby's Variety. You may review it at any of those locations, or you may come to the town hall during weekdays from 8:15 to 11:45 to review the report.

It documents contaminants in the form of bacteria, soil runoff, discharge from petroleum sources, erosion of natural resources, corrosion from plumbing systems, runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, discharge from textile-finishing factories and the impact of water chlorination. In

each category, no violation is noted.

"We're pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements," Manager Paul Nail said. "All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk."

"The report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water."

"We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water."

He said the water works conducted a high-rate filtration study on its water treatment plant earlier this year to increase the plant's capacity from the current rate of 6 million gallons per day to 9 million gallons per day.

"The successful completion of this upgrade in production capacity will

benefit both the direct consumers and the other purchasing utilities who depend on the Fort Payne Water Works for their water and ensure that there will be an adequate supply of water to meet their needs well into the future," Nail said.

"We at the Waterworks Board of the City of Fort Payne work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap," said Walter Summerville, board chairman. "We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future."

The Town of Mentone has recently formed the Mentone Water Board. The members are Chairman, Bobby Brown, 6 year term; Vice Chairman, Jimm Wright, 4 year term; Ed Jones, 2 year term; Jean McGehee 2 year term; Dick Keefer 2 year term. Marie Dillenbec was appointed Secretary/Treasurer. The Mentone Water Board invites its customers to attend any of its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month 7 p.m. at the Mentone Town Hall.

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Kim Hall, Rainsville, AL, with watercolor



Penny Dobson with one of her whimsical face vases

MOUNTAIN MAMAS CRAFTS HAS MORE LOCAL ARTISTS!

By Ellen Spangler

Mountain Mamas Pottery and Craft Shop has added items from more than two dozen new regional artists! The Shop is the most beautiful it has ever been and overflowing with lovely, creative, and sometimes humorous crafts. This is not a shop full of imports from Asia or Mexico, but we are full of items beautifully crafted by local and regional craftswomen.

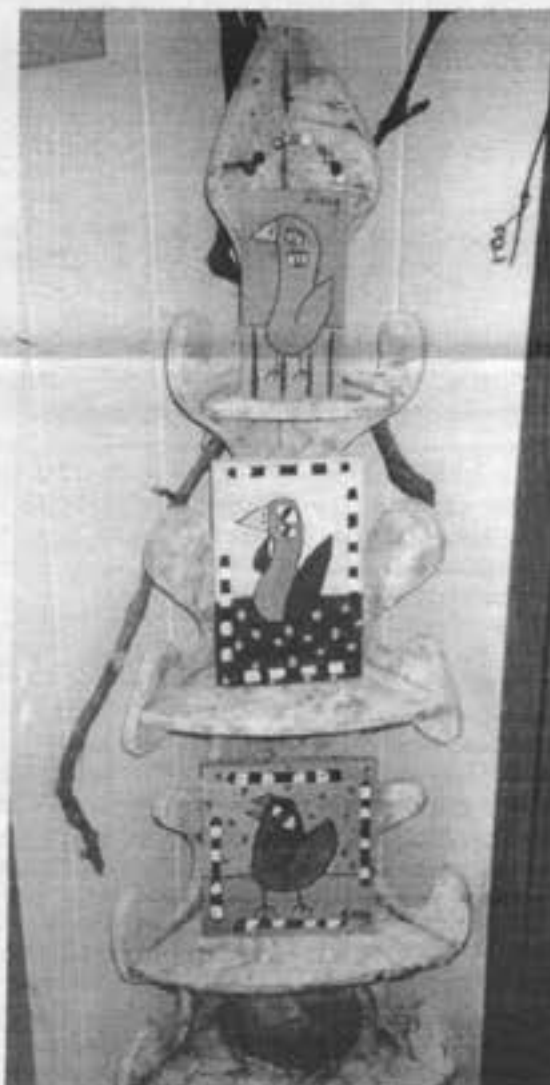
Here are some examples: KIM HALL, from Rainsville, says, "I use watercolor and collage to convey my feelings and ideas about the mystical world around me." She works the image to go along with the idea she is creating. Her frames (each individually painted) are part of the picture's design. The first day her pictures were in Mountain Mamas, two left in the hands of smiling customers!

Calhoun, Georgia, is home to PENNY DOBSON, artist and middle school art teacher. Penny is a colorist who embraces her love of color in both her paintings and her pottery. The subject matter in her artwork frequently summons smiles from viewers, along with comments that Penny's work stimulates thoughts of simpler times and memories of childhood moments. She has become best known for her whimsical face vases. Each vase is hand shaped from slabs of clay to which additional clay is added to form distinctive faces. An unending variety of color, hair, clothing, attitude, and expression combine with Penny's creativity to insure that no two faces or vases are ever alike. Those who know her best state that Penny creates simply to bring smiles to others.

LIZ NUNAN, a Folk Artist from Decatur, Georgia, creates wonderful, whimsical, artwork. You'll find her bright colored cards and delightful plaques (some of them pictured on this page) at Mountain Mamas. You may have seen Liz if you went to the First Folk Art Festival. Her display was one of the most popular. Liz's work is fun for "children" of all ages!

We could go on and on with other artisans like Gloria Mitzel, rug maker from Cloudland; Becky Benefield, bracelet maker from Ft. Payne; Ann Troncel, doll maker from Valley Head; Kelley Wynn, metal sculptor from Cedar Bluff; Anita Shankles, mosaic artist from Ft. Payne; Gloria Cottage from Madison, AL, with her glass etchings, etc. We'll have more about some of these and other artisans in the Groundhog next month. IN THE MEANTIME, come on in to Mountain Mamas, Cloudland, GA, and see for yourself. It's a short drive from Mentone, AL--go East on AL Hwy 117. At the GA-AL line, Hwy 117 becomes GA 48. Go 1 more mile and Mountain Mamas is on your left.

We're open FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY from NOON to 6:00PM, GA time.



Liz Nunan's colorful Folk Art plaques



Tri-County Volunteers, Jamie Harris (left) and Janet Harris (right) helping Teresa Elem (middle) pick up a big bake sale order for employees of Best Manufacturing Co, Menlo.

Photo by Mary Alice Stout

TRI-COUNTY FIRE/RESCUE RAISES FUNDS

By Mary Alice Stout

The volunteers of Tri-County Fire/Rescue continue their fund drive to pay for equipment and supplies. During June, they raised over \$600 with a bake sale. Teresa Elem carried lots of the goodies to employees of Best Manufacturing Co. in Menlo. Thanks to all of them for their support. The following week, funds were raised with a horseshoe tournament. Chief Taylor Adams says, "Thank you, Cloudland, Menlo, and Mentone, for your continued support and contributions. It takes money and dedicated volunteers to add fire services to a rescue squad."

Checks may be mailed to Tri-County Fire/Rescue, 12333 Hwy 48, Cloudland, GA 30731.

Mentone included in National Geographic's "Guide to Small Town Escapes"

Mentone was picked to be included in the new 352-page guidebook titled, National Geographic's Guide to Small Town Escapes. This guide focuses on romantic getaways and historic and quaint small towns. Mentone was picked due, in part, to all the bed and breakfast inns and charming town district with historic buildings.

The guidebook was made available in April. It can be found on bookshelves at Barnes & Noble and Borders book stores nationwide.

It is also available through the bookstores' Internet websites and by calling National Geographic at 1-888-647-6733. Through National Geographic, the book is \$23.95 for a soft cover and \$28.95 for a hard cover, plus shipping and handling fees. You can also check it out online at www.nationalgeographic.com.



**MOUNTAIN MAMAS
POTTERY STUDIO
& CRAFTS**

LOCAL AND REGIONAL ARTISTS PRESENTING POTTERY,
JEWELRY, WEAVING, SCULPTURE, CANDLES, & FABRIC ART

1/2 mile east of state line, on AL 117/GA 48
OPEN: Friday-Sunday, Noon-6 p.m. (Ga. time)

706-862-6481



MAPA PARTICIPATING IN THE 450-MILE YARD SALE AGAIN THIS YEAR

PLEASE HELP US!!!!

MAPA is participating in the 450-mile yard sale again this year and we need your donations. We offer you an easy opportunity to dispose of items which you no longer need or want.
NO CLOTHING PLEASE.

The American Legion has been kind enough to let us store the items in the Legion Hall on Cove Road until the sale. A MAPA member will be there to receive donations from 8:30 to 10:30 each Saturday morning from July 15 to August 12.

Arrangements for other delivery times can be made and large items can be picked up - just call Huey Mathews at 634-3645. If there is no answer, please leave a message. He will get in touch with you as soon as possible.

DATES FOR THE YARD SALE ARE
THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 - 20.

Who knows? You might find something you would like to buy to replace the items you donated.



PUBLICATION NOTICE

The Groundhog publishing date is the first Thursday of each month. The August issue date is August 3rd. It will be delivered on the 4th and 5th. Those submitting articles and/or photos, please get them to us between the 15th-20th of each month. Thank you to everyone who meets this deadline.

Thank You, Everybody

for making the May 27 Gospel Benefit Singing a success. I appreciate all the nice things everyone has done for me. I feel blessed to live in a community with so many caring people.

With God's help and good doctors, I'm going to win this battle against cancer and leukemia.

God Bless All of You!

Love, Lora Dell Perkins

Oh, and one more thing,
"Have some fun every day,
I still do!"

14TH ANNUAL WORLD'S LONGEST YARD SALE, AUGUST 17 - 20, 2000

The World's Longest Yard Sale was on national TV on June 14. HGTV, Home and Garden Television, aired an hour-long special filmed during the last sale in 1999. The special was shown twice, once at 9 PM CST and again at midnight.

HGTV's Chris Wragge visited Gadsden during the sale and filmed the one-hour program leading viewers through a shopper's paradise and enticing them to take in the event in person at this year's 14th annual event, Aug. 17-20.

HGTV is headquartered in Knoxville, Tenn., and is distributed to more than 61.7 million U.S. households as well as in Canada and other international markets.

The network is devoted to bringing comprehensive information on home remodeling, crafts, gardening, landscape design, decorating and more to their viewers. Shows of

special interest, like the yard sale show, provide a wide range of programming.

The World's Longest Yard Sale begins in Gadsden, traveling south to north, and ends in Cincinnati. It was formed by the Fentress County, Tenn. Chamber of Commerce as they looked for a way to pull travelers off the interstate and onto the scenic U.S. 127 corridor.

The Lookout Mountain route from Gadsden to Chattanooga joined the event a few years later, adding an additional 93 miles of rural scenic America.

The heart of the Lookout Mountain Parkway cuts through DeKalb County, bringing more 30,000 yard sale fans. The event boasts more than 450 miles of yard sale bargains, with such finds as antiques, junk, collectibles, dishware, pottery, arts and crafts and much more.



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.
Psalm 39:1

The tongue is very small, but it can stir up a big fire if it is not under control. It would pay to keep the mouth with a bridle, and take heed to our ways.

Enough love will make things right.
Happy July!

The 6th Annual *Artists & Guild* Art Show

Mentone Springs Hotel
"atop Lookout Mountain"

Mentone, Alabama

June 8th & 9th

Saturday 9-5
Sunday 10-5

The North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department to participate in 450-mile yard sale in August

The North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department will be having their annual yard sale again this year during the 450-mile yard sale in August at the Fire Hall in Mentone. We are really low on donated items for the sale.

If you have any items that you might be willing to donate, please contact Jim Roberts at 634-4701 or Gail Chambers at 634-4507.

We ask that clothing articles be clean and in wearable condition.

Last year was a very successful sale. We are confident that this year will be even better--especially with your help through your donations and support you give to the Fire Department.