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10 Years
in Print**

THE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 10, No. 6

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

June, 1992

Mentone Crafts Festival celebrates its 15th year

Since 1977, the Mentone Crafts Festival has attracted high quality craftsmen to Brow Park each year. The weekend of June 27 and 28 will mark the fifteenth year of the show.

The idea for a Crafts Festival originated with Stanley and Christa Brown and Becky Steele. They were concerned about certain needs of the community that could not be met through the shortage of funds and conceived the idea of a festival as a money raising project.

The first committee of the Crafts Festival was made up of a broad cross-section of Mentone residents. It included William and Willa Blackburn, Edith Lyday, Patty Ephgrave, Becky Steele, Stanley Brown, Bud Ellis, Christa Brown, Johnnie Ellis, Eleanor Moerlins, Nancy Hunter, Millie Moerlins, Sue Hamilton, Pete Moerlins, Ann Wright, Linda Brown, Barbara Blalock, Edna Crowe, Graham Glover, Sammy Cash, Doyal Benefield, Alice Woolf, Doc and Kyle Long, Ruby O'Rear, Frank Young, R.J. Sudderth, Harrell Jenkins, Gail Chambers, Dalene and Jimmy Jones, Zora Strayhorn, Lydia and Dick Speed, Peggy Johnson, Bob Steele, Bob Baty, Leonard Shigley, and Guy Staub.

Many of those original committee members are now deceased and some have moved away from Mentone but the intent of the Crafts Festival to support community causes has continued.

Proceeds from the Crafts Festival have supported the DeSoto Rescue Squad, Moon Lake School PTA, Mentone Fire Department, Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone and Valley Head Dixie Youth Baseball, Valley Head Band Boosters, DeKalb County SPCA and, the Little River Cemetery Fund. They have helped purchase a fire

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More craft festival features on pg. 6 and pg.10

JUNE '92 CALENDAR

-Mark Yours!-

SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH

June Jam

Pre-Jam events will take place during the week before

SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH

Flag Day

SUNDAY, JUNE 21ST

Father's Day

SAT.-SUN., JUNE 27-28

Mentone Crafts Festival

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Brow Park, Mentone



by Lenny McPherson

New book on Granny Dollar now available

By Emily C. Smith

Local author and historian, Elizabeth S. Howard has just published a book on Granny Dollar. Granny Dollar was a Cherokee Indian woman born near Buck's Pocket in DeKalb County who lived over 100 years through some of the nation's most interesting times.

The book traces the life of Nancy Callahan Dollar from her family's beginnings in Buck's Pocket on Sand Mountain, through the time of the Cherokee Indian's forced removal from their land to Granny Dollar's death.

She died in 1931 at her cabin near DeSoto State Park. In the book which Howard pieced together from scraps of information found in newspaper accounts, other books, and from oral histories, Granny Dollar tells her secret of longevity.

"Granny's observation of the white man's ways had led her to believe that they 'lay up so much for old age' that they quit working at too early an age. She felt certain that white people lost touch with nature. It was sad, she thought, that they wore shoes, even in the summer, and didn't feel 'God's good earth.' It was for these reasons, she concluded, that whites grew feeble at an early age," the book says.

Nancy Emmaline Callahan Dollar was the first child born to William Callahan, a huge adventurous full-blooded Cherokee and Mary Sexton Callahan, according to Howard's book. William Callahan weighed 275 pounds and was six and one-half feet tall. He was noted for his powerful physique, his terrible temper, his hunting skills, and his prolificness. The number of his legitimate children reached 26.

As the oldest of a large family, Nancy her mother care for her younger brothers and sisters. Nancy also was put in charge of her father's whiskey still by the time she was ten.

When the Cherokee Indians were being rounded up by U.S. soldiers for the forced march on the "Trail of Tears," the Callahan's hid in a cave for about one year. After the soldiers stopped searching for those who evaded capture, the Callahan's returned to their home at Buck's Pocket but later



CHEROKEE CABIN - Ken Pennington's print recalls Granny Dollar's cabin near DeSoto State park.

moved to north Georgia. They settled about 30 miles from a village called Marthasville, later to be renamed Atlanta.

In her late teens at this time, Nancy was six feet tall. When she was about 21 years old, she began driving a freight wagon pulled by two mules delivering supplies to stores in her area.

She became engaged to Thomas Porter, the son of one of the merchants who traded with her but he was drafted into the Confederate Army and the wedding was postponed.

During the Civil War, Porter was killed as was Nancy's father, William Callahan. Years later, she married Nelson Dollar and lived on Lookout Mountain.

She came to live in a cabin near present DeSoto State Park after her husband's death in 1923. She met Col. Milford Howard who made her famous in his "Vagabond" articles written for the Birmingham newspaper.

She died in 1931 and was buried beside her husband at Little River Baptist Cemetery. There was no money for a grave marker, the money she had been saving for that purpose was stolen from her cabin after her death.

In 1973, Mrs. Annie Young, DeKalb County Librarian, started a movement to raise funds for a tombstone. It was put in place on December 31, 1973.

"The Legend of Granny Dollar" is available at the Fort Payne Depot, the DeKalb County Tourist Association, Marjorie's, and DeSoto State Park. Proceeds from the sale of the book will benefit Landmarks of DeKalb County and help to rebuild Granny Dollar's cabin.

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Salute to our volunteers

By Emily C. Smith

Everyone is thinking about the biggest event of the year in DeKalb County, the annual June Jam on Saturday, June 13.

Each year the band "Alabama" invites top country musicians to take part in this huge outdoor concert and the proceeds raised from the week-long activities are donated to community projects. This year the events include the Miss June Jam Contest, a rodeo, soccer tournament, classic car show, horseshoe tournament, parade and street dance, V.I.P. softball game, golf tournament, bass fishing tournament, and talent search.

Thousands of people attend all these different events and there is always a scramble to get tickets to the big event, the June Jam itself.

There is a way to see the Jam for "free" and local people do it every year. Community groups work at the Jam at concession booths, the gate, providing emergency medical services and helping in other ways. There is always room for more volunteers willing to help.

For example, Moon Lake Baptist Church in Mentone will be selling soft drinks at the gospel music festival in Union Park in Fort Payne. Their pastor, Curtis Bridges, hopes this will enable their young people to raise enough money for a mission trip planned later this summer.

The Mentone Area Preservation Association will be selling sandwiches and corn on the cob at the Jam. Harrell Jenkins is coordinating the activity for the group.

Rescue Squads from all over the county work throughout the week, rescuing Jam participants who have had too much sun and heat. Again this year, the DeSoto Rescue Squad with members from Mentone and Valley Head and Hammondville will take part in the Jam.

All of these groups volunteer their time to serve in so many different ways. They benefit both residents and visitors and we are proud of them. Thank you all!



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THE GROUNDHOG

Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, M.A.P.A. 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.

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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 last day of the month preceding publication.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I recently read a copy of your publication. My wife and I frequently visit Mentone and surrounding area and find it delightful. Please add our name to your mailing list. Signed,

Albert McDonald
Huntsville

Dear Groundhog,

At a recent visit and stay at DeSoto Park I was able to read the last two Groundhogs. I enjoyed them both very much.

Though I grew up in Lookout Mountain City proper, I camped several times along the highway and brow. As we drove the Parkway back to Chattanooga we enjoyed the scenery as well as

viewing the hotel in Mentone. We did visit the Deli for lunch.

I would like to be on the Groundhog's mailing list if possible.

Thanks,
Art Jones, Chattanooga

Editor's note: The Groundhog is mailed to out-of-town members of the Mentone Area Preservation Association for \$10 per year which includes MAPA dues.

Dear Editor,

While visiting with my parents this past weekend, I read "The Groundhog" for the first time and really enjoyed it. The article on "Battelle" was most interesting. I recall as a young child riding the school bus past Battelle. In my mind I'd vision different stories concerning the people that had lived there. There were a few building still standing at the time.

The calendar was most informative. A friend and I were interested in finding out the date of the Rhododendron Festival.

I enjoyed "About Our Town" by Linda Brown. I'm very interested in knowing if this is the same Linda Brown that I graduated with from Valley Head in 1955.

Signed,
Carolyn Woodyard
Huntsville

Editor's note: Linda Brown did graduate from Valley Head High School in 1955.

Dear Mrs. Smith,

How lovely is Thy dwelling place, oh Lord of Hosts! Yes, the area on Lookout Mountain around Mentone, Little River Canyon Alpine Camp and DeSoto Park is lovely and makes me wonder if it is a part of Heaven. How lovely the giant trees, the rhododendron, mountain laurel, rocks, wild flowers, ferns and views from mountain top to valley below.

How distressing, however, to see all the campaign signs tacked up where they should not be. Certainly they are not a part of Heaven. How nice it would be not to see and hear all the ugliness of elections.

I have not made up my mind for whom I shall vote, but one thing I know for certain I will not vote for those people who display their signs in the wrong places.

Sincerely,
Edwina C. Mullins
Mobile

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A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

The Sunshine Club met Thursday, May 28 at the home of Gladys Cobble. Karen Freeman presided and read a note from the 4-H Club thank them for their support of the Youth program. The name change was tabled until after the Count Council meeting in July. Others present were: Leona Chadwick, Ruth Pickett, Vernitice Young, Evelyn Clark, Bess Bauerle, dot Blackburn, Opal Tatum, Eloise Mortan, Carmel Gifford, Jewell Palmer, Geraldine Hawkins, Eloise Brown, Lilly Bowden and guest, Katie Freeman. Eloise Brown gave the devotional on the subject of stress and worry. A fun time was enjoyed.

It was good to get together with neighbors and friends when Joy and Cotton Hester were hosts for a bountiful and delicious fish fry recently at their lovely home.

Martha Stanley has returned from Washington, D.C. where she researched her ancestry at the DAR Library. Rev. George Phillips and William Bonnell came to Massachusetts in 1630 from England. Phillips has many descendants there and was the first minister in Watertown, Mass. near Boston. These were some of her ancestors.

Dr. and Mary Lyle Cashion and children Sunny and Chris from Haleyville, attended Laurie Longshore's graduation at Valley Head High. Laurie was Salutatorian. She plans to attend college in Idaho. Many other relatives attended and after the graduation services, the graduates and friends were entertained with a party at the home of Laurie's parents, Helen and Larry Longshore.

Elizabeth Coleman, Laura Margaret Allison, and Peggy Howe attended the birthday celebration for Kathleen White Thomas at the Rising Fawn Methodist Church. She was 100 years old, May 22. Her niece, Ann Mitchell lives with her. She retired as librarian at University of Tennessee. Among those attending were Kathleen's nephew, Tommy Mitchell, an educator from St. Simon's Island and a niece, Mrs. Searcy from Knoxville. They both graduated from Valley Head in the 40's. Luann Weatherly took Geneva Phillips, Kathleen's first cousin who had celebrated her 97th birthday recently.

Sue and Foyl Cooper, their daughter, Emily Alexander and her daughters, Hannah and Sara

attended the beautiful wedding of Sue's grand-daughter Tina Gray, daughter of John and Peggy Gray to Marlin Hobbs, son of Bea and Ray Hobbs of Dunlap. They were married at the Dunlap Church of God.

Harlan and Barbara Cooper and their grandsons, Justin and Will were guests of Sadie Cooper and attended the decoration at Valley Head Cemetery.

Ruth and Bert Pickett and L.H. and Selma McElhane have returned from Branson Missouri in the Ozarks where there are 27 theatres of country music. They stayed in a cabin on beautiful Table Rock Lake. They saw and heard, among others, Willie Nelson, Mel Tillis, Ray Stevens, Mickey Gilley and the outdoor drama, "Shepherd of the Hills."

Jim and Doris Carmichael entertained Steven Johnson and John Ricketts for their 4th birthday with a cookout at Hammondville Park. Others present were Bob and Linda Thomas, Katie and William from Ft. Payne, Jack and Janet Rose Lyons from Whitehall, Elaine Johnson and Madeline from Lexington, Cody and Nita Pruett from Ft. Payne, Emmy and Lucy Ricketts from Tuscaloosa.

I have a new great grand-son, Dillon Butler Brown born to Carol and Chris Brown, May 19. Grandparents are Emily and Barry Brown of

Valley Head and Mr. and Mrs. Coy Butler of McDonough, GA. Frances Longshore, Thomas Larmore, Dot Shugart and Winifred Scott attended the dedication service of the J. Carrell Larmore Probation Detention Center in College Park, GA. They report that it was a very impressive service. We should all be very proud of Carrell. He started probation work in Fulton County, GA in 1945 and retired in 1972. He was director of the State Board of Pardons and Parole in the early 40's. He was appointed by Gov. Jim Carter to the State Crime Commission in 1971. He worked with such organizations as the Georgia Probation and Parole Association, the Community Council of Atlanta

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Mentone Town Council Meeting

The May Mentone Town Council Meeting was held at Mentone Town Hall, May 4. The first item of business was a continued discussion of a proposed road opening on Linchapiney Drive.

Roger Killian, representing the Davenport family who oppose the opening of the road gave the council a petition signed by 82 people requesting that the road remain closed.

Fort Payne policeman Wendell Benefield advised the council of potential dangers of opening the road. Benefield has had extensive training in traffic and accident investigation.

"It would be hazardous to move this road," he said.

No action was taken on the matter.

The city approved a request by Benny Goss to extend a water line to his house. They also decided to look into a request for a water line to go to the homes near Leland Cox.

"Water is going to be a critical problem in the future," Cox said.

He said he and his neighbors would like to be annexed into the city of Mentone.

Rufus Evans, representing himself and other homeowners on the east side of Little River above DeSoto Fall also asked the city to consider extending water service to them.

Benny Goss was appointed to fill the unexpired term of councilman Ep Meadows who resigned last month.

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MENTONE CABLE'S 100TH CUSTOMER James and Betty Johnson were Mentone Cable's 100th customer, they are shown here with Bill Kidder of the cable company.



INTERVIEWING THE SUPERINTENDENT - Weldon Parrish was interviewed for the Moon Lake Tiger Paw Print by Editor Emily Smith.



Mary Louise and Ted Holloman

continued on page 3

Area, the Metropolitan Planning Commission and the Atlanta Mental Health Association, and also served in Fulton County Juvenile Court. He was a member of National Council on Crime and Delinquency for 28 years and its professional council for 15 years. This new building was dedicated in his honor and his portrait was unveiled to hang in the entrance hall. They hope this Probation Center will inspire other states to follow their example.

John Holleman honored his parents Mary Louise and Ted Holleman with a beautiful reception at Woodhaven for their golden Wedding Anniversary. 250 people registered. Music was furnished by Katherine Crumbley and Kaare Andersen played the Golden Wedding Ring Song on the accordion. There was a family ceremony of appreciation afterwards. They receive many well deserved tributes, I promised to include the poem I wrote to them but, I have misplaced my copy, but it will come later for all who requested a copy.

Happy Spring time to every. Take time to see and smell the flowers and listen to the birds sing. congratulations to all graduates, new parents, honorees, anniversaryites and all!

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Wesleyan pastor moves to Maryland

After two years of serving the Mentone Wesleyan Church, Pastor Blaine Derck and his family will be moving to assume a new pastorate in Glenburnie, Maryland, a suburb of Baltimore.

The two years in Mentone have been good according to Derck.

"This is a good congregation. They have a strong desire to care for each other and are committed to the community," he said.

The Mentone Wesleyan Church celebrated its 75th anniversary during the first year of Derck's tenure. The anniversary was attended by 111 people.

Derck said that one of the founding families of the church, Frank Shigley had a very large family of twelve children. Shigley's desire for the children of Mentone to have a Sunday School was

Photographing wildflowers in Northeast Alabama

By Emily Smith

Photographing wildflowers in Northeast Alabama can be a great hobby, especially with so much the subject matter nearby. Just a few tips from professional photographer Paul Franklin, president of the Birmingham Audubon Society will help anyone achieve the best results.

Franklin recommends using a slow speed film. This will eliminate "graininess" from the picture. He uses Fugichrome Velvia which has a film speed of 50.

"You do need to use a tripod to steady the camera with a slow speed film. Any movement can make the picture blurry," he said.

A slower speed film means that the camera lens must remain open longer.

"For wildflower photography two important rules are get close and get low," he said.

He says you have to be prepared to get down on your hands and knees or even lie down on the ground to get the best angle for the shot.

"Get the subject out of dead center, avoid the bull's eye syndrome," he said.

one of the reasons for the Wesleyan Church's beginning.

The Wesleyan Church has historically been committed to Christian education and involvement in the community. Members of the Mentone congregation are active on the city council including Mayor Max Cash and Council members Larry Hooks and James Johnson. Derck served on the town's zoning planning board.

Derck said the Wesleyan Church was born out of the abolitionist movement and separated from the Episcopal Methodist Church. Orange Scott and Luther Lee were early Wesleyans who were part of the "Underground Railroad."

"Luther Lee was the first lady ordained in the church and was a well known preacher at the time," Derck said.

For the Derck family, leaving Mentone is "bittersweet."

"This has been one of the most enjoyable places to live and has been the best for our family in many ways," he said. "It will be hard to leave the friendships behind."

The Derck's will be living closer to the area where Blaine and his wife Lynette grew up, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Their two children, Josh and Tiffany are looking forward to meeting new friends.



Photo by Bruce Bon Fleur

LADY'S SLIPPER ORCHID Rare and endangered, grows in the spring on Lookout Mountain.

Photographing wildflowers can be fun and informative, Franklin says. You learn lots of folklore about the different plants.

Sweet Shrub blossoms were used by native American women as perfume. They would rub the blossoms on their skin and enjoy the sweet strawberry fragrance all day.

Columbine is a hummingbird pollinated plant, the blossoms are just the right length for the hummingbird to reach to the end and because they are so delicate, they require a hovering bird to drink their nectar.

Some plants earned their names for the medicinal qualities early settlers and natives found they had. Dogbane for example, was used to prevent mange on dogs.

DeKalb County is an ideal location for photographing wildflowers. The green pitcher plant, listed by officials as endangered can be found in DeSoto State Park. In fact, officials estimate that 40 per cent of all the green pitcher plants in the state are found in the park.



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Mentone Craft Festival Artists

By Linda Brown

BILL AMOS of Rome, Georgia exhibited his pottery at the first crafts festival and has been there every year since. The ugly mugs, wizards, vases and other items that Bill makes can be seen on the right as you enter the south gate.

Bill says, "Just put me on the list, I'll be there."

He is very laid back about selling his craft, but it is so good that it sells itself. Once the exhibit is set up, he sits back with a cup of coffee and enjoys himself. He says he would come to Mentone on that weekend even if he didn't sell anything, but he always sells most of what he brings.



JIMMY GRIGGS is better known around the Crafts Festival as the "Bee Man." He always brings a hive of bees to exhibit. This hive has a glass front and everyone enjoys watching the bees work. Jimmy will show you the queen bee if you cannot find her. He also has jars of honey to sell.



DAVID MAYS has been involved with the Crafts Festival since its beginning. He will always be seen at his pottery wheel with his hands shaping the clay and his feet moving the pedals that rotate the wheel. David lives in Mentone and is interested in anything that affects the lives of Mentonians. He makes bowls, mugs and other items on the wheel. David works for Saddle Rock Camp for Girls, but he seems to always have time to participate in community activities.

IN MEMORY OF MAGGIE CORDELL

"Miss Maggie" could always be seen behind her quilting frame, thimble on her finger and her needle flying as she demonstrated the ancient art of quilting. Maggie supported the festival with the same good humor and wit she patterned her life by. She always was willing to do whatever need doing with joy and a smile on her face. The last year, Maggie was present at the festival, she was caught in a downpour of rain and was soaked through and through. Even though she was cold and wet, she never complained. She was the "unflappable Maggie."

If we ever select one person who was "The" Mentone Crafts Festival, it will be Maggie Cordell. We all loved her.



When you see the white oak baskets you will know you are at the exhibit site belonging to **B.L. KELLY**. He carries on the craft of basket making that has been in his family for 150 years or more. He lives in Rainbow City, Alabama. B.L. has baskets of every

shape and size. He is sure to have a basket to fit your need. Baskets are good for the ecology - nothing to throw away and they can be used again and again.

The scent of spices and other fragrances fill the air around the site of **RUBY MADDOX**. Ruby has all sorts of potpourri. She also has the scented oil to freshen the dried potpourri or use in other ways to freshen your home. She dries all of the material and mixes the blends in a most pleasing way.



Ruby lives in Marietta, Georgia and must have the best smelling house in the neighborhood. She has been with the Mentone Crafts Festival for most of its years of existence.

continued from page 1

truck, built a shelter at Brow Park, furnish the Town Hall meeting room, and wired the gym at Moon Lake School.

Each year the Crafts Festival has grown from its beginnings with 22 exhibitors in 1977. That year the paid attendance was 750. In 1988, there were 78 exhibitors and 3,200 people attended.

Food at the Crafts Festival is provided by local organizations such as the Mentone Fire Department. They grill hamburgers and hot dogs on the spot and also offer homemade ice cream. Entertainment is provided by local square dance and clogging groups.

The Festival will run for two days, Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

The Rhododendron Festival was a huge success due to the hard work of its chairperson, Wanda Simmons. Wanda did everything well, planning and sending information to periodicals of most kinds such as Country Living and Southern Living, as much as six months in advance.

We had a large crowd of nice people who enjoyed the cool mountain breezes, the many booths of quality crafts, the music boat rides, and an abundance of good food. We had some boys (originally from Thailand) cooking oriental cuisine that was attracting the attention of everyone. They were good showmen as well as good cooks. Everyone enjoyed the good food, which was a different kind for our festivals.

Terry Hutcheson gave a good performance on Friday evening on the lot next to the Mentone Inn where most of our activity takes place. Much appreciation goes to Amelia Kirk for allowing us to use her property. Jim Conner, very well known performer, banjo player, harmonica player, singer, composer, and writer of plays, joined Terry for the last hour. A great many of the songs were sing-along types which everyone enjoyed. A good choir from a church in south Alabama sang several songs well.

Of course, Jim Conner sang the famous song he wrote which was made popular by John Denver, "Grandma's Feather Bed." Everyone enjoyed the concert thoroughly. We hope to have musicals of this kind again.

Tony Goggans kept a lively banter going, and was playing music and singing as he has done for ten years. He seems to know everybody and speaks to them as they pass by. He helps us promote sales, food, boat rides, and raffling the quilt.

The American Legion Post here at Mentone sold chances on \$1,000 and little Justin Green was the winner. Needless to say, his grandparents, Robert Green and Tom and Tookie Anderson were excited. The parents, Bryan and Lindsey Green, hope to set up a trust fund for Justin's college education. Justin will be two in June.

Lisa Fetsick won the quilt that Sherman and Mickey Gough sold tickets for. The Goughs worked for months at shopping centers selling the tickets. Ben Hampton's daughter, Patricia, donated a lovely framed print she had done, and a second drawing was held for it. Bonnie Haynes from Summerville won it. Hampton prints were for sale at one of the booths.

Homer Crow and Lane Traylor kept the pontoon boats running at the DeSoto Falls, for viewing the rhododendron on the banks of Little River. Our cold weather prevented the rhododendron from being at their prime, but there were some beauties. Harrell Jenkins sold sandwiches and cold drinks at the falls.

Jack Jones headed the parade on Saturday afternoon. It was interesting and exciting for children and adults. Our beauty pageant contestants ride in the parade and were judged in sports apparel by John Cooper, Frank Helderman and Ben Hardy.

Our beauty pageant was held upstairs at the Hitching Post at 8 p.m. and was well attended. We had eight contestants, all beautiful girls. They



RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL QUEEN Kristie Tillman was crowned the Rhododendron Festival Queen. She is shown here with emcee Bruce Bon Fleur.

were: Julie Hendon, Chalsea Carrier, Kimberly McKinney, Jamie Phillips, Chrissy Norman, Kristie Tillman, Valerie Hill, and Tamara Hall. Kristie Tillman won the queen's crown; Jamie Phillips was first princess; Valerie Hill was second princess and third princess was Chrissy Norman. Judges were Betty Harris, Peachie Middlebrooks, and Mike Goodwin. Much appreciation to them for giving their valuable time to us.

Bruce Bon Fleur did an excellent job interviewing the girls and acting as general emcee. Barry Crow from Chattanooga played the piano for the processions. Frank Hall served as escort for the girls.

Terry Hutcheson sang while the judges made their decisions. The highlight was a beautiful song he wrote to his daughter, Janet, who was queen for 1991. He sang this tribute to her just before she was crowned the new queen for 1992.

Much credit goes to Dorma Hutcheson who worked hard doing decorating, and organizing the pageant. Lisa Crow ran errands all day for us. Donna Bukley was a consultant, since she was the chairperson for our first pageant.

The Church of God of Prophecy sold mouth-watering baked goods from the side porch of the Hitching Post. My friend Myrtle Hensley, from Chattanooga, sold antiques from the front porch. Her husband, John, enjoyed meeting people and assisting her.

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church held a yard sale on the lawn of the church to raise money to help send the youth of the church to Honduras. They shared the space with the American Legion Auxiliary. Both did well and added to the festivities.



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MOON LAKE STUDENTS TOOK THE DARE - Drug Abuse Assistance Education was taught to Mrs. Joyce Smith's fourth and fifth graders for 17 weeks this spring. Those participating were (front row, from left): Josh Pullen, Lori Tillman, Ashley Bialock, Samatha Berry, Shawn and Ryan Wrigley, Ken Miller. Second row: Angela Russell, Eric Crane, Tabitha Brisendine, Carl Tipton, Jonathan Browder, Jason Owen, Jessica Lee, Tonya Web, Jessie Clements. Third Row: Brian Daniels, Garrett Collins, Shelley Ingram, Casey Jones, Brandy Johnson, Chrissy Drake, Sheena Crow. Back Row: Mrs. Joyce Smith, Allen Gray, Thomas Brendle, Robbie Collins, Greg Hawkins.



"LINED UP" - 47 teenaged boys and girls recently participated in the 21st Annual Special Olympics Fishing Trip at Fox Mtn. Trout Farm, near Rising Fawn. Fishing buddies included members of the Delta Bass Club, Hamilton County (TN) Sheriff's Dept. and friends.



"LANDING ONE" (right) - Is an unidentified Special Olympian. Helping is former Mentone resident, Jim East. Over 600 lbs. of rainbow trout were caught in about 2 hours - just before a cookout and awards ceremony.



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CLOUDLAND-Beautiful 263-acre farm with approximately 35 acres in pasture; fencing, 5-acre pond and some brow frontage. All of this plus owner financing. Don't miss this!

CLOUDLAND-Several nice wooded, secluded brow lots (bluff) with owner financing available to qualified buyers. \$25,000 per lot.

MENLO (ALPINE)-Nice three-bedroom, 2 bath brick home has large living room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen, dining room, utility room, carport, central heat and air on nice level lot. Reduced to \$48,500 and shown by appointment only.

CLOUDLAND-Lookout Mountain Parkway. Nice large building lot with scenic view approximately two acres. Priced at \$15,000.

CLOUDLAND-1/2 mile of brow with frontage on Highway 157. Great investment opportunity! Owner financing available.

TELOGA-Two-story frame house on 10 acres with large barn and block outbuilding. Home has 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, living room, den with fireplace, dining room, large eat-in kitchen and open porch. Central heat and air all for \$89,000. Call for appointment now!

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CLOUDLAND-SPECTACULAR VIEW-Beautiful wood and mountain rock home less than a year old on a wooded 2.8 acre brow lot and featuring three bedrooms, two baths, great room with rock fireplace, kitchen with breakfast alcove and beautiful oak cabinets, garage and utility, deck, full daylight basement, central heat and air, other amenities too numerous to mention. Appointment only.

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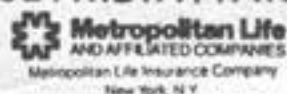
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Menlo Postmaster

By Bruce Bon Fleur

More than just the mail is being handled at Menlo's Post Office. Even a brief visit there reveals an atmosphere of real friendliness, rare efficiency and a genuine commitment to serve the public.

Heading up all this 'handling' is Joanne Christian, a vivacious and at times, very serious redhead, Menlo's Postmaster for the past five years.

She's a professional, and she's proud of it. "I've know ever since I began working in '81 as a postal clerk that I wanted to be a Postmaster someday. It was such an honor to be selected. The Postmaster of any community is so respected and trusted." She adds, "I am especially thrilled to have this special public service opportunity here in Menlo."

No slouch, Christian got the job strictly on her outstanding job performances at prior post office assignments. "Advancement in the Postal Service

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is not based on seniority, nor by who you might know in public office. They look for individuals who demonstrate flexibility and initiative in taking on demanding assignments."

"You've really got to work for it (higher, more responsible positions), and, a woman has to work even harder," she added.

Christian resides in Menlo and loves it. "There is a very friendly, cooperative community spirit here."

Currently, she supervises a professional staff of seven men and women some carriers, some clerks and a custodian.

Helping the elderly in the area a special, personal interest of hers extends into the day-to-day operations of the Menlo Post Office. "We go out of our way to help our older citizens. If someone doesn't show up to get their mail, we check on them to make sure they're okay," Christian stated.

In the time-honored tradition of the U. S. Postal Service, 'the mail will get through...' even when her customers can't get in themselves. "This office, my staff, is a team. We are more than co-workers, we really care about each other, and it comes through to the public. We give more of ourselves because we want to," she proudly proclaims.

Besides the professional public services she renders, Christian is actively involved in volunteer and local charitable endeavors.

Recently she was selected to serve on Chattooga Leadership a countywide effort to attract industry and new business. She also is a member of the Board of Menlo's Housing Authority, and is an advisor to the new Emergency 911 program in Chattooga County.

A special interest a very personal cause for her is activities of the area "Reach to Recovery" Program. She has helped in a variety of ways including modeling fashions in fund raisers benefiting this American Cancer Society effort to aid and support women who have had mastectomies and survived.

"I had it (breast cancer) 13 years ago, so naturally I can relate, and be of encouragement to area women affected by this disease."

All things considered, Joanne Christian is a success in life. She understands what hard work is; she uses her God-given talents for all the right reasons; and, she is sharing all the love she has with those who mean the most to her the people of Menlo.

They are truly fortunate to have her as Postmaster, as friend.

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



I was not directly involved in the beginning of the Mentone Crafts Festival. Perhaps I gave something for the yard sale or baked a cake. The way I have heard it through the years is that several people thought a crafts show would be a good way to make money to help the community of Mentone.

They held bake sales and yard sales to make seed money. An organizational meeting was held, officers were elected and the name Mentone Crafts Festival was chosen. The Mentone Brow Park was selected to be the site and has remained so.

Over the years, more people became involved. Exhibitors came and displayed their wares. People came to see and buy and the festival was a success!

I don't know when or how I became involved. Those who know me well, know that I do not remember the details of events after they are over. I think that Stan and Christa Brown were the first chairpersons. When they moved from Mentone, the family inherited the festival. Raymond Brown was the chair for several years before I accepted the position.

Our only goal has always been to help the community of Mentone. We have held fast to the practice of allowing only local organizations to furnish the food and drinks for the festival. The Mentone Church of God and the North Lookout Mountain Fire District have provided delicious food for several years. (They are scheduled to do so again this year.) Local square dance clubs sell ice cream and other clubs have had various fund raising events at the festival. They tell us that they make a good profit.

So many people help now and it is much easier to put the show together. Barbara Blalock has to get busy first. In March of every year she mails applications, then as they are returned she accepts and confirms them. She answers mail and telephone calls up to the day of the show. During all of this time, Ovie Blalock is lining up entertainment. We schedule fifteen minutes of entertainment every hour for both days.

This year I have done the publicity. Grace Howard did it for many years and I could not begin to do the job that she did. Richard Meadows recently resigned as treasurer. He has served many years and has done a splendid job.

I am the jill-of-all-trades. In name I am the chairperson, but I do things like order the porta-johns and dumpsters. I mainly see that everything is taken care of and pour oil on troubled waters.

As time for the show draws nearer, H.P. Goss and Cleo Smith mow the park and surrounding area. American Legion Post #215 puts up all signs and fences and ropes off the road sides. Barbara then assigns a site to each exhibitor.

She must deal with numerous requests such as no sun, full sun, level ground, not the brow side, electricity, water and the list goes on and on.

On the day of the show, the parents of the Dixie Youth baseball teams of Mentone and Valley Head arrive very early to park the cars. This is not an easy task due to the very limited space avail-

able.

The Rhododendron Garden Club members arrive in twos to attend the three gates. Several men are "drafted" to sit at the tables by the gates to help with the crowds. We can never thank the garden club enough for doing this. They have never received any money or even had a booth.

Thanks ladies!

The Chief of Police, Johnny Ferguson and two other officers help with traffic and security for the entire weekend.

The exhibitors come, find their site and set up their handiwork. We are limited to 85 and always fill every spot. The gates are then opened, the people come from everywhere and the show has begun!

A large group of people who help the show to move along smoothly is the square dancers and cloggers. The De-So-Toe Squares and the Valley Dancers provide two days of fine entertainment. Ovie usually has a surprise guest or two for variety. A devotional or at least a sing-along is always held on Sunday morning.

Some people deserve special recognition. One is Bobby Brown for wiring the park. This enables us to have electricity for the weekend. Also, any group using the park throughout the year can have electricity available by contacting the city hall. Another person to thank is Leroy Snider for arranging a temporary water supply for us each year.

I'm sure I can't name everything we have contributed money to over the years but, some of the most outstanding are: the Dixie Youth Baseball teams of Mentone and Valley Head, the local fire department, the SPCA (Mentone's share in the Fort Payne shelter) and any need of the community such as fire or other damage to a home, etc. We have repaired the main pavilion in the park and built the entertainment pavilion there.

This year promises to be the best ever. The dates are June 27 and 28 (Saturday and Sunday). Gates open at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. both days. The admission price is \$2 for those over 12. At least three-fourths of our sites are already filled and more are arriving daily. Everything seems to be coming together and we are looking forward to another fun time in mentone. Plan to join us at the Mentone Brow Park for two days of food, fun and plenty of crafts!

P.S. To Carolyn Woodyard who wrote a letter to the editor this month, I'm the same one, much older but not a lot wiser!

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RECYCLING CAN BE FUN - Moon Lake Students in Bill Berry's and Christi Lehman's rooms made games, toys and other useful items all from recycleable materials. Shown from left, front row: Alan Hawkins, Ben Corey, Jason Sammons, Peter Hurt, Jennifer Blalock, Tessica Baty, Matt Hilliard, Johnnie Wesley. Second row: Jennie Wesley, Dorie Jones, LeeAnn Blalock, Cassie Hooks, Tiffany Derck, Jack Corey, Emily Smith, Johnathan Rutledge and Eddie Manning

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ADAMSBURG - Country setting, 3 BR frame home, partially furnished situated on 1 acre \$41,500.

HAMMONDDVILLE - Very attractive mobile home with built on rooms, pastoral setting on 2 level acres. \$30,000

FIND PEACE OF MIND - Enjoy the spring flowers as you walk down the stone stairway to Little River. With this beautiful setting, this home may be the one you are looking for with three bedrooms, two and one-half baths and two extra buildings which could be guest cottages. (One building has been a beauty shop.) On this five acres there are fruit trees and blueberry bushes, also fenced for horses. Priced at \$110,000.

YOU'LL HAVE A YARD FULL OF SPRING FLOWERS at this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home located on 8 acres near Mentone with a small pond. Priced at \$73,000.

ENJOY NATURE FROM YOUR SCREENED PORCH - This perfect retirement home has 2 bedrooms and is located on Dogwood Avenue in a secluded wooded area with no grass to mow since it is surrounded by natural woods. If you have a green thumb, this home has a small greenhouse. **REDUCED TO \$64,900.**

ACREAGE AND LOTS
THE PERFECT PLACE - That log cabin you've always wanted is just waiting to be built on these beautiful wooded building sites. With access to Little River, city water and only a mile from DeSoto Park, truly the Perfect Place. Prices \$9,500 to \$18,500.
65 ACRES - Owner financing. Outstanding wooded acreage, \$35,000.
20 ACRES - 1/4 mile of Little River frontage and from the building site you can see it all. Owner financing \$60,000.
85 ACRES ON LITTLE RIVER - With 1/4 mile along the River. This is an outstanding piece of property. **OWNER MUST SELL! \$89,900.**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

OLD PHOTOS COPIED. B&W, Sepia Color Custom print to your satisfaction. For information, call Gary Gengozian (205) 845-9532.

DECKS AND GAZEBOS - Experienced, local carpenter available to custom build your dream deck or gorgeous gazebo. References. Let Harry do it! 205/634-4554.

WALKER ENTERPRISES-REPAIR WORK. Small engine repair, lawnmowers, light auto repair. Lawn mowing & odd jobs too. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. 706/862-2135.

SIGN MAN - Hand painted walls, boards, truck lettering. Call Joe Rape. 205/634-4768.

KITCHEN CABINETS AND VANITIES Custom made furniture. All work guaranteed. Free estimates. Alfred and Eddie Langston. 205/634-4301.

ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONAL DESIGNS - Experienced, professional will help you with brochures, logos, letterhead, marketing plans, etc. Save \$\$\$ - and maybe - your business! Locally at 205/634-4591.

WE CLEAN HOUSES! Efficient and dependable. Sybil Hopper 205/634-4488 or Brenda Hopper 205/634-4353.

FLANIGAN LAWN SERVICE - Satisfaction guaranteed. Charles Flanigan. 205/634-4438.

DAVIS ELECTRIC - Industrial, commercial and residential electrical work. 15 years experience. Free estimates. 205/635-6137.

VALLEY AIR CONDITIONING AND APPLIANCE - Contact Al Freeman at 205/635-6129.

PLACES TO STAY

BRADY'S BED AND BREAKFAST. Near Little River Canyon. Marilyn and Joe Brady, hosts. Rt. 6, Box 279, Ft. Payne, AL 35967. (205) 523-3973.

MENTONE INN-BED AND BREAKFAST. Downtown Mentone, AL on Highway 117. (205) 634-4536. Amelia Kirk, proprietress.

NIPPERSINK LODGE. On Lookout Mountain at DeSoto Falls. Advance Reservations required. P.O. Box 172. Mentone, AL 35984 (205) 634-4387.

WOODHAVEN BED & BREAKFAST. Lowery Rd. in Valley Head, AL. Overnight accommodations. Catering, receptions, reunions, private dinners. (205) 635-8438. Judith and Kaare Loll-Andersen, hosts.

HIDDEN HOLLOW. Secluded, privately owned mountain hideaway. Contact Bonny Jean and Tommy Thomas, Rt. 4, Box 1085, Chickamauga, GA 30707. (404) 539-2372.

RUSTIC BED 'N BREAKFAST in pastoral valley setting. Near attractions. The Humble House (205) 635-6682.

HOMES / LAND

LOT FOR SALE - within 1 mile of State Park Store, just off Parkway. 150'x200' with city water. Call J.T. Faulkner. Mentone 205/634-4579.

RIVER PROPERTY - 10 acres with 743 ft. on w. Secluded, old grist mill site near Mentone. \$50,000 firm. Owner financing available 205/634-4169.

ITEMS WANTED

BUYING CLEAN USED CARS - Call "Uncle George" at 404/862-6056.

STANDING TIMBER BOUGHT. We pile tops. M 404/862-2131.

WE BUY LOGS and standing timber. 404/862-2121.

WAREHOUSE/STORAGE

FORT PAYNE MINI STORAGE. 6x12 spaces, \$25 mo. Also 12x12 & 12x24. Located across from Ft. Payne High School.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

ATTIC TREASURES - New & used collectibles, TVs, furniture, etc. Corner, US 11 & Hwy 117, Hammondville. Open Wed-Fri, 11-5, Sat 9-5, Sun. 1-5. AUCTIONS every 1st/3rd Saturday, 8:00 p.m.

HERB PLANTS - Large variety of organic herb plants. Cathy Springer at 706/398-3872.

LOG SPLITTER - Makes up to 42" cut. Call Sid Bosworth. 205/634-3033.

HANDMADE PINE FURNITURE - Cabinets, chests, rocking horses, children's furniture. Lasting, beautiful - top quality. 205/634-4554 after 6 p.m. or see workshop, white elephants, Mentone.

PETS FOR SALE/WANTED

BEAUTIFUL PUPPIES - AKC Snow White Eskimo Spitz at \$100; AKC ShihTzu at \$150; Miniature Spitz and Pomeranians (very small), wonderful pets at \$100. 205/657-5810.

"MOUSERS" WANTED! Young cat(s) needed. Big job ahead. Loving house parents. Will oversee and reward. 205/634-4591.