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ALMA CRABTREE CELEBRATES 97TH BIRTHDAY ON MOTHER'S DAY

By Evelyn Graves

The home of Alma Crabtree was the setting for her 97th birthday celebration on Sunday, May 11. The house was beautifully decorated with flowers from Mrs. Crabtree's own yard. The table was set with a pink tablecloth, a pastel flower arrangement, and a huge birthday cake decorated with the same lovely pastels.

Mrs. Crabtree was surrounded by family to help her celebrate this event. Among the family members were her daughter, Dorothy Callahan, and her son, Jesse Crabtree, who planned the party. Angela Anderson, granddaughter, Chasidy Mallard, great-granddaughter, Rusty Mallard, great-grandson, and Jay Wideman, grandson, were all present to honor their grandmother. Her brother, Archie Biddle, and her sister, Laura Mae Carr, and her nephew Curtis Stoner, and his wife and daughter, were present as well. Her niece, Glenda Clark, was also a guest. It was a pleasure for me to see Curtis Stoner again. He was the principal at Moon Lake School for a period of time when my mother was a teacher, and I remember him with a great deal of respect.

When asked about the special times she had experienced, Mrs. Crabtree smiled as she said she remembered wonderful times with her brothers and sisters as the ten of them grew up together. She named them all in the order of their birth: Esther Biddle Edwards, sister; Marvin Biddle, brother; Mattie Stoner, sister; Myrtle Bradford, sister; Alma Biddle Crabtree; Jesse Biddle, brother; William Biddle, brother; Pearl Melton, sister; Laura Mae Carr sister; and Archie Biddle; brother. Mrs. Crabtree related incidents from her time at home with her family, and she remembered that her father always invited company to their house on Sunday, without her mother's knowledge. She remembered an incident when the Presiding Elder visited their church unexpectedly, and she overheard her father invite him for lunch. She rushed home, and without asking anyone, she grabbed a chicken from the yard, wrung its neck, picked its feathers and dressed it quickly, and she had it frying in the pan when her parents and the Presiding Elder arrived for lunch. They had fresh strawberries in season, and her mother made a strawberry shortcake quickly, and they had a good dinner after all. Mrs. Crabtree remembers the first car on Sand Mountain, belonging to Dr. Phillips. He came down the road driving the car, and it scared her and her siblings, because they had never seen a car before. What scared them even more was when he blew the horn. They really scattered in all directions! All of Alma's brothers and sisters are deceased except Laura Mae and Archie.

Alma Crabtree on her 97th Birthday Celebration, Mother's Day, May 11, 2003, in her home in Mentone

Alma married Jesse James Crabtree on March 1, 1930. She remembers with great clarity beginning the first Sunday School at Poplar Springs Baptist Church on Sand Mountain. She had been praying diligently that the Lord would use her in some way in the church. She had only been married a year or so, and she was anxious to help in any way that she could. One night, she felt very strongly that the Lord was speaking to her that she should begin a Sunday School. She screamed excitedly and told her husband what was taking place. He said "Who told you?" She told him that the Lord did. He remarked, "I believe He has told you more than you can do." She continued to pray and to plan. She solicited help from the teachers at the school, and when Sunday came, she had already organized the children into age groups and had gotten the word to the parents of the children, and there were 75 people present at the first meeting of the Sunday School. She had investigated and found that it would take $6.00 for enough literature for the group. Her husband gave $2.00, another man gave $2.00, and she sold enough of her chickens to make up the other $2.00 needed to order it. She ordered it on Tuesday and received it on Friday in time for the Sunday School class. This was a miracle within itself that the literature arrived in such a short length of time.

Laura Mae, Alma's sister, says she and Alma always did things together. They spent time together. Every 4th of July, Alma went to visit Laura Mae and stayed a week. During that time, they picked blackberries and green beans and canned them. They cooked the green beans for six hours in the washpot in order to be able to can them because there were no pressure cookers in those days. They made blackberry jelly, and they loved doing crafts together, gardening, and growing flowers.

Mrs. Crabtree says she misses her gardens more than anything. She added that she will have a small one this year with tomatoes and squash, and....I broke into her plans about the garden because it makes me ashamed of myself that I don't do any gardening at all, and it seems to be just a natural thing for her at 97 years old. She is quite remarkable, and I remember with a great deal of nostalgia when she and Jesse and the three children--Rovene, Dorothy, and little Jesse came to Mentone to live and started to church at Moon Lake. They were a sweet family, and Alma was always active and involved. I miss Rovene very much. She was full of energy like her mother, and she fought

Continued to Page 24.

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Vice President..... Dot Crow
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Treasurer..... Homer Crow
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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.

MAPA MEETINGS

President Jack Jones called the May 6 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ruby Brock gave the devotional.

Bernise Crow gave the treasurer's report, which was accepted.

Pam Bettis passed around a sign-up sheet for members to sign up for the Festival. We will sell peanuts and quilt tickets and Rhododendrons in the MAPA booth.

Glenda Hollis, parade chairman, reported we will have a parade at 2:00--line up at 1:30. Marie Dillenbeck will be the Grand Marshall. Homer said he would look into getting balloons for the parade.

WZOB from Ft. Payne said they would broadcast live from the Festival. Glenda Hollis said the charge was $300, and the Mentone Inn would pay $150. MAPA voted to pay the additional $150. The Boy Scouts will park cars and the Fire Department will help clean up.

The nominating committee gave the new slate of officers:

President: Bernise Crow
Vice President: Dorothy Crow
Secretary: Marie Dillenbeck
Treasurer: Homer Crow
Members at Large: Lucille Crow and Hope Walker

The meeting was adjourned and refreshments served.

****

The June 6 meeting was held at the Mentone Community House. Prior to the opening of the meeting, Heather Nicely spoke on behalf of the Summer Theater Program that will begin this week and conclude with a matinee performance July 25 and 26. (See information elsewhere.)

President Jack Jones called the meeting to order. Ruby Brock gave the invocation. The May minutes were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was passed until later in the meeting until Pam Bettis arrived with a detailed report of the funds deposited and spent by President Jack Jones, which were in a separate account.

President Jones asked for a reading of the Nominating Committee's report. The secretary read the report. Following the reading, Jack called for nominations from the floor. There being none, Page Cunningham made a motion that the slate as presented be accepted. Penny Lyday seconded the motion. The new officers will be sworn in at the end of the meeting.

There was no old business. New business included the date and time for the annual July picnic on the Brow. The picnic will be on July 1, at 6:30 under the food pavilion at Brow Park (H.P. Goss Brow Park) on North Cool Street.

A brief discussion followed about the August meeting. Suggestions were presented, but no decision at this time.

There is Mentone Tourist Association Walking Tour each Saturday, from 10 to 12. This is free to the public. The last tour is the weekend of July 5th.

The plans for Christmas season were briefly discussed, with the decision that there would be a tree on what is called "The Town Square", which is actually the property of The Mentone Inn. The owner, Mr. Campbell, has given is approval for the use of the square. The Tourist Committee is also planning a musical presentation every third weekend. Glenda Hollis of the Mentone Inn is planning to have a stage area built on property of The Mentone Inn to accommodate the musicals.

There was not an official treasurer's report since the records from the account the president opened was not available to be included in the report the treasurer prepared and presented to the members. Jack announced that Pam Bettis was supposed to be here with the report, but appeared to be late. He said he had closed the account and had paid all the bills except two. A brief discussion followed regarding raising the booth fees for the festivals. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to raise the fees from $35 to $40.

Following the regular order of business, Rick Chapman installed the new officers. (See the officers listed above in the May meeting notes.)

Jack Jones gave a brief farewell speech and gave each member a copy of a letter of things for the members to consider in their future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned to have refreshments.

The next meeting is Tuesday, July 1, 6:30 PM at Brow Park.

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NOTICE

www.MentoneAlabama.org, MAPA's web site, has a "Directory" to help visitors to our community find the places, things, and services they might want--much like the Yellow Pages in the phone book. If you have any information for the Directory, please submit it via e-mail to **Listings@MentoneAlabama.org**.

If you already have a listing there, please make sure it is correct and up-to-date. Thanks for your help!

A Friendly Valley View

By ELOISE BROWN

May 25 was **Decoration Day** at Valley Head Cemetery--many remember and come back "home" for the occasion. **Edith and John Dean** had thirty relatives at their house for a "pot together" and covered dish lunch.

Mary, Ted and John Holleman had Adelaide Biddle and Mary Lou Carmichael from Dallas, GA.; Elizabeth and Nelson Ellis from Rainsville; Betty and Jimmy and Michelle Adams from Gadsden; E.T. **Holleman**, Elizabeth Coleman, and Laura Margaret Allison from Valley Head, for dinner May 25.

Christine and Walter Brooks are looking forward to attending their family (Hales family) reunion Sun. June 1, at the home of Polly Clements, near Rainsville. Polly is Christine's sister.

Martha and "Hoot" Gibson have a couple of friends from Houston, TX, visiting them; and they are spending a few days in Knoxville.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Quimby, from Rockton, IL, spent a few days in Valley Head, recently.

Tom Allison, from Arden, NC, came the week before Mother's Day weekend to visit his mother, Laura Margaret Allison and Aunt Elizabeth Coleman. Peachie Gearley, from Alpharetta, GA, and Ansley McGinnis from Florence, SC, came May 18-20.

Bill and Dot Blackburn are not well. Their daughter, Linda, from Orange Park, FL., is spending a week with them. They had an appointment with their cardiologist in Birmingham, Friday. We hope they got a good report.

Willard Monroe is recovering from triple bypass heart surgery in UAB Birmingham. Hoping for him a complete and quick recovery.

Trevor Smith is in St. Judes Hospital in Memphis, recovering from bone marrow transplant. Hope he will be home soon, completely recovered.

Adelaide Biddle and Mary Lou and David Carmichael and family attended Kellie Carmichael's graduation at Samford College in Birmingham, May 24. That night, Jessica Biddle graduated from high school at Dallas, GA, and was honored with a party at her home.

Julia Hickey from Chattanooga, brought Adelaide Biddle to the Woman's Club luncheon at the Lumpkin House in Albertville. There were twenty-two present.

Geneva Smith hasn't felt well since suffering a fall at her home. She says her sister, Velma Hammond, is not at all well. Hope both of them will be well soon.

The Valley Head Baptist Church will have their Vacation Bible School, Mon. June 2--Fri. June 6.

Bert and Ruth Pickett,Selma McElhaney, and Betty Bracken, visited their brothers, Lewis and Roy Card in Panama City Beach, FL, for a long weekend recently.

The **Sunshine Club** met at the home of Ruth Pickett, May 22. Those present were Verenice Hawkins, Elizabeth Bauerle, Susie Clark, Barbara Palmer, Lillian Pickett, Lillie Bowden, Lois Fuller, Ada Campbell, Jewell Shellborne, and Eloise Brown. Ruth showed us an extra special original birthday card she received from her brother and his wife.

The Valley Head Baptist Church had a good attendance at their Luau May 22 at the church, honoring their graduates. Everyone enjoyed it immensely.

The Fort Payne Graduating **Class of 1939** will have its reunion, June 8 , at Western Sizzlin.

Joe and Lillian Pickett had their son, Mathew Pickett, home from the Marines, for a visit. They also had Vanessa and Isabella Pickett from San Diego, CA. Joe and Lillian are meeting their friend, Pat Richardson, from Atlanta, next weekend, and taking her to Cherokee, NC, for her birthday.

Linda Thomas and Doris Carmichael went to Birmingham May 24, and enjoyed Doris' birthday dinner with Emmy Rickett's family.

Katy Thomas leaves for Washington, DC, June 5, to do a two-month internship of Interior Design. She will return in August for her senior year at University of Alabama.

Christian Heritage

A Christian heritage is more to be treasured
Than material riches that can be measured
In acres of land or many dollars and cents,
They bring no happiness, no peace nor recompense
In Christian teaching the children grow as they learn
The worthwhile things in their lives to earn.
If led in God's way from the moment of birth
They have the knowledge of their soul's eternal worth.
The strength of power, self control and confidence--
Self-giving love, tempered by sober good sense.
In Christian living, souls grow to maturity
And know the joyous peace born of security
The insurance of God's lifetime protection--
The assurance of ultimate, eternal resurrection.

---Eloise M Brown

Fathers, If You Knew

Fathers, if you could realize
The piercing, probing, searching eyes,
Watching every motion you make
Every way you go and route you take--
You would choose the straight way
And from its course you would not stray.

If you could know that always near,
Eager tender ears that hear
Every single word you may speak,
And its meaning promptly seek
Your tongue you would firmly bridle
Speak kind words, not profane nor idle.

If you knew, they mimic your acts--
Speak your words like proven facts.
Walk in your steps with giant stride--
Look up to you with love and pride--
Surely you would guard your acts with care
Knowing you need God's guidance with prayer.

---Eloise M Brown

RESOLUTION

I received another wonderful shock (the other being my surprise birthday party). Senator Lowell Barron, "in honor of my 90th birthday requested that the Alabama Senate recognize my achievement with the passage of a resolution." That resolution states:

"Resolution commending Mrs. Eloise Brown on the occasion of her 90th birthday by Senator Barron. Whereas it is with warm affection and heartfelt congratulations that Mrs. Eloise Brown is honored on the occasion of her 90th birthday, Feb. 3, 2003, and upon this auspicious occasion she is deserving of special recognition; and Whereas, as a child, Mrs. Brown lived in the home of her maternal grandparents, Judge and Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Fuller, of Wildwood, GA; she graduated from high school as valedictorian in June of 1930 ; and whereas Eloise and the late Robert Donald Brown were joined in holy matrimony and blessed with two children, Robert Barry and then later Eldonna; six grandchildren eleven great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild; after widowed, Eloise Brown married Dr. Hubert Crocker of Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1955; and whereas very active in the Valley Head Methodist Church, Eloise Brown was a Sunday School teacher, served as President of Methodist Women, and Secretary of the Official Board; and she was known for her Eastern Star participation, often serving as Worthy Matron; and whereas, Mrs. Brown is a talented oil painter of still life and portraits; a member of the International Songwriters' Club; a member of DeKalb Poets, a charter member of the Alabama State Poetry Society, a member of the International Who's Who in Poetry and was published in several anthologies; and she has written a column for the local paper, The Groundhog, since 1982; and whereas, the numerous community activities of Mrs. Eloise Brown include serving for many years as an election official; induction into the Alabama Voters' Hall of Fame; Captain in the UGF Campaigns for over ten years; and a founding member of the local chapter of AARP; and whereas, Eloise Brown has indeed been an inspiration and blessing to her family and neighbors who surprised her with a gala birthday celebration at Western Sizzlin on February 1, 2003, now therefore Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Legislature of Alabama, That Mrs. Eloise Brown is hereirr honored on the occasion of her 90th Birthday and it is further directed that a copy of this resolution be presented to her that she may know of our best wishes for a special lady who has been so richly blessed by God.

I hereby certify that the above is a true, correct and accurate copy of Resolution No. 03--085 filed with the Senate of Alabama on April 2, 3003." signed by McDowell Lee, Sec of Senate.

I'm sure I was blushing as I copied this. I feel very unworthy of this honor. I am so amazed that Senator Barron, as busy as he is with so many important projects could even know I exist, let alone knowing more than I know--as to when I started writing for The Groundhog-- I would have to do a lot of searching to find that. I am really amazed! but I do appreciate it more than I can say and wanted to share it with you, my devoted readers. I wanted to do something in return. I did some research and enlarged my poem "Beautiful Alabama" and framed a copy, which I will give the Welcome Center for their 20th Anniversary.

THE THINGS I FOUND IN THE ATTIC – PART 4

By Evelyn

I must admit that it is with sadness that I conclude my series of articles. I have the remains of the attic findings in a plastic box the size of a shoe box, and I hope to be able to share those with you in this article.

My daughter, Sandra, and I had a garage sale the first part of May, and we sold a number of things that none of the family had room to keep. In the garage sale, I placed three of my dolls that I played with when I was a little girl. They were Betty Jo, Nancy, and Lana Elizabeth. Several doll collectors came by and advised me not to sell them cheaply because they were valuable. They advised me to ask $150-$200 each for them. There was a story to accompany each doll.

Betty Jo was a large doll who was named for two of my cousins--Betty and Sarah Jo Blevins, and Betty Jo Jones (Johnson). I always thought Betty Johnson was so beautiful and so much fun that I just had to remember her in naming one of my dolls. Daddy took me to Valley Head just prior to Christmas to select a doll for Santa to bring. I had always selected from the medium-sized dolls, but that year Daddy said I could have one from the top shelf if I wanted it. I was so excited, but somehow I had some doubts that Santa would be able to bring me such a beautiful doll. However, Mother did not seem to doubt that he would because she began to make a wardrobe for the doll. She fashioned beautiful clothes from baby patterns that she had, and when Santa came, Daddy had made a wonderful bed for her to sleep in. It was a miniature of the baby bed that my brother and I had used. He painted it white, and it was just the right size. Mother had made a little mattress, sheets, and blanket for the bed. The biggest surprise of all was a little sink that I had played with in the store. It pumped water from a tank and was the most wonderful thing I had ever seen.

Nancy was a medium-sized doll with a pretty face that Santa had brought to me before I received Betty Jo. Santa had found me at my grandparents' house in Georgia that year. I had a doll named Peggy who was about the same size of Nancy. Her face was not as pretty. I left her in the cornfield where Mother was gathering corn, and the next day I remembered where she was. It has rained all night the night before, and when I went to get Peggy out of the corn patch, the rain had ruined not only her body, but her face as well. I felt so badly that I had forgotten her and she had met with such disaster.

Lana was my last doll. I found her in the Sears, Roebuck catalog, and she was constructed from a new material called "magic skin." I wanted the doll so badly, even though I was ten years old. Mother finally made a deal with me about the doll. I had a tooth that needed to be extracted, and I would not cooperate with the dentist. She said if I would go and act right and get the tooth out, she would give me a nice birthday party and would buy the magic skin doll. I agreed to do it. When she had proof that the tooth was out, she started plans for the party. The doll was beautiful! She felt like a real baby, and I was so excited about it! This was my eleventh birthday (in March), and I started to high school that fall. I never actually played with the doll, but I treasured it. When I found her recently in a glass-front cabinet in the attic, her body had turned a dark shade of brown, and her face remained white. She was quite strange looking to say the least.

To make this already too long story a little bit shorter, I sold Nancy for $10.00 to Jennifer Prestwood who was visiting her family that weekend, and I sold the brown and white doll for $5.00. The buyer was fascinated with her because of her two-tone look, and he said he would take her home and see what his wife could do with her. I just could not sell Betty Jo when it came to the time to actually sell her. I kept that remnant of my childhood. She looks pretty shabby!

My brother could always convince me of anything. I believed he was the smartest person in the whole world. He told me that one of my dolls had appendicitis and was going to die if I did not let him operate. I cried because I feared for her, but Bubba insisted that it just had to be done. He took his little pocket knife, made a neat incision and removed the crier from her cloth body. He carefully stitched the opening following the removal of the "appendix." A few minutes later, he left out of the driveway with the crier attached to his bicycle, and it was making a loud, screeching noise. I realized that I had been the victim of another of his plots. So much for the doll stories.

I told you last month that I would share some things from a collection of Mother's school and teachers' meetings. Some of them I thought were really good. This is from the AREA magazine: *A teacher soliloquizes*, **Next Time Round I'd Pick More Daisies**, "One may re-teach a teacher, of course. Unfortunately, one can't unteach a teacher any more than he can unfry an egg. But there is no Board of Trustee regulation against thinking about it. And it is worth thinking about, especially by those not too deeply set in their ways to learn how to live a little.

If I had my life to live over, I would try to make more mistakes next time. I would relax. I would limber up. I would be simpler and sillier than I have been this trip. I know of very few things that I would take seriously. I would be less solemn and less hygienic.

I would burn less midnight oil. I would take more chances. I would take more trips. I would burn more gasoline, climb more mountains, and swim more rivers. I would eat more ice cream and less bran. I would have more actual trouble and fewer imaginary ones.

You have known lots of school teachers like me. You see, I'm one of those people who live sanely, sensibly, prudently: minute after minute, hour after hour, day after day, year after year. Oh, I have had my moments! But, if I had my life to live over again, I'd have more of them, lots more!

I would start going barefoot earlier in the spring and stay that way later in the fall. I would play hooky more. I would shoot more paper wads at my classmates. I wouldn't make such good grades except by accident. I would have more sweethearts. I would go to more dances. I would have more headaches and drink more tomato juice.

I would stay up later at night and get up later in the mornings. I would have more dogs. I would sing more songs and play more games. I would go to more circuses and ride on more merry-go-rounds.

If you hold your nose to the grindstone rough,
And keep it down there long enough,
You will soon forget there are such things,
As brooks that babble and birds that sing!
These things your world compose:
Just you, and a stone--and your Darned Old Nose!

As I think it over, I'd look for a little more fun in life, I'd pick more daisies!"

(From the Mississippi Educational Advance)

There was a newspaper clipping of Dicky Doolittle's Dawdlin' which I thought was funny.

DAWDLIN'

NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

The following changes are in effect:

SICKNESS--No excuse...We will no longer accept your doctor's statement as proof, as we believe if you are able to go to the doctor, you are able to come to work.

DEATH--(Other than your own) This is no longer an excuse. There is nothing you can do for them and we are sure that someone else with a lesser position can attend to the arrangements. However, if the funeral can be held in the late afternoon, we will be glad to let you off one hour early, provided that your share of work is ahead enough to keep the job going in your absence.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE--(For an operation) We are no longer allowing this practice. We wish to discourage any thoughts that you may need an operation as we firmly believe that as long as you are an employee here, you will need all of whatever you have and you should not consider having anything removed. We hired you as you are and to have anything removed would certainly make you less than we bargained for.

DEATH--(Your Own) this will be accepted as an excuse, but we would like a two-week notice, as we feel it is your duty to teach someone else your job.

RESTROOM BREAKS--Entirely too much time is being spent in the restrooms. In the future, we will follow the practice of going in alphabetical order, for instance those whose names begin with "A" will go from 8:00 to 8:15; "B" will go from 8:15 to 8:30, and so on. If you are unable to go at your time, it will be necessary for you to wait until the day when your turn comes again.

Continued to Page 25.

CARPET MEDIC

- Carpet cleaning
- Upholstery cleaning
- Free carpet protection - 1 room
- Auto cleanup shop

256-657-1257 Dewayne Smith-owner

BIRTHDAY COLUMN

Happy June Birthday/ Anniversary wishes to:

1- Sybil Hopper
2 - Lisa Harris
Glen Black
3- George Westmoreland
Van Cooper
5- Marsha McKinny
Kim McKinny
Doris Chamlee
6-Anna Young
David Dean
8- David Dean
Ralph Delegarza
7-Kenya Bain
10-Lisa Moore
Joyce Wright
Michelle Chappell
16-Lone Carter
Donnie Davis
17-Andy Beason
Krissy/Phil Harris (anniv.)
Ashley Langston
20-Linda/John Tucker (anniv)
Murrell Haney
Sherry Cox
21-Catherine Bailey
Trey Kincer
Nicky Langston
22-Jewell Rogers McDaniel
(in memory of)
23-Benny Goss
Jack Johnston
Luvenia Langston
24-Brenda Goss
Tyler Hester
25-Thann Owens
27-Larry Tripp
Cecil Bridgeman (in memory of)
Robin/Jerry Hulgan (anniv)
28-Annie Young
Rusty/Angela Chambers (anniv)
Chris Stokes
Angela Faith Huskey
29-Lisa Beene
Jacob Bain
30- Myrtle Brown
Becky Smith

Happy July Birthday/ Anniversary wishes to:

1 - Ann Harcrow Pelletier
Mike&Barbara Petersen (anniv.)
2 - Terry Hartline
Jerry & Merle Stokes (anniv.)
Larry & Gail Smalley (anniv.)
3 - Jerry Lewis
Nick Black
Larry Smalley
Kenneth & Gail Chambers (anniv.)
4 - Gerry Disney
6 - Eunice Moore
Elizabeth Brown (Gulfport,MS)
8 - Joey & Kumi Dillenbeck of
Huntsville (anniv.)
Kaylee Tucker
9 - Rhonda Blalock
10 - Alan Bell
Frank & Linda Hill (anniv.)
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Garrett Collins
Barbie Hester
12 - Cindy Harrison
Charles Gray
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Penny McElhaney
Sissy Crider
Jolee Brown (Gulfport,MS)
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Jeffery Hopper
15 - Lois Foshee
Gage King
Jason Dean
Bro. Gary Moore
16 - Catherine Wright (in memory of)
Chris Busby
17 - Kayla Hazell
Christopher Glenn Black
Kayla Willbanks
18 - Loy Langston
Becky Langston
Kimberly Willbanks
19- Sybil Tipton
20 - Craig Hulgan
Barry Blalock
21 - Eddie Langston
Jody Brown (Gulfport,MS)
22 - Keith Langston
Linda Clark
24 - Barbara Davis
25 - Linda Smalley Gregory
Robert "Bert" Brown (Gulfport, MS)
26 - Pam Dean
28 - Erma Black
30 - Zack Dean
31 - Jack Martin
Paige Wright

Autumn Brown

DeKalb/Cherokee Federation

The DeKalb/Cherokee Federation of Garden Clubs recently held its 51st Annual Spring Luncheon Meeting at DeSoto State Park's Mountain Restaurant. Prior to the luncheon, we were entertained by Miss Autumn Brown, a young lady with a powerful, yet angelic voice!

After a wonderful lunch, the meeting was called to order by our President, Reita Grant. Minutes of the last meeting, Treasurer's report and Committee reports were read and then the slate of new officers was presented, and accepted.

Mary Summerville, newly elected President of the Garden Club of Alabama installed the officers, presenting an angel to each new officer as she told of their duties.

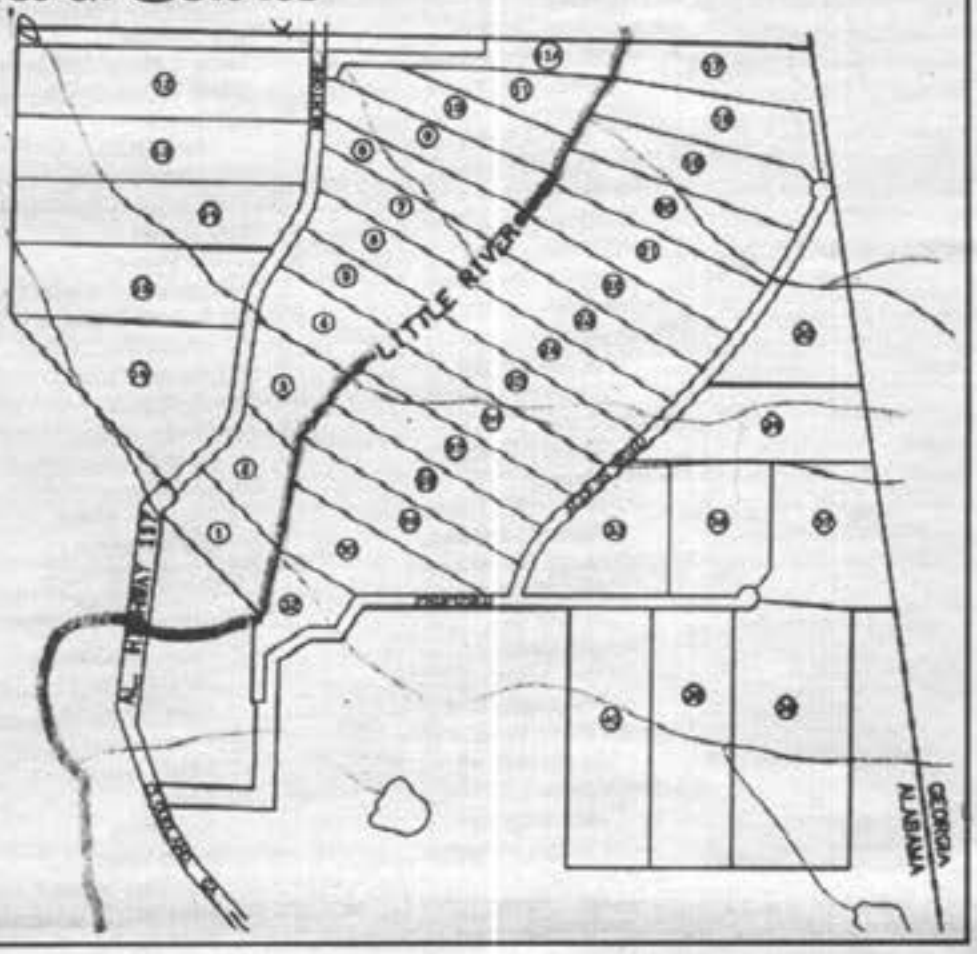
The new officers are: President: Lori Stubbs: First Vice President: Jill Johnston; Second Vice President: Peggy Benefield; Third Vice President: Ann Houston; Fourth Vice President: Jonathan Posey; Corresponding/Publicity Secretary: Barbara Berone; Recording Secretary: Linda Brown; Treasurer: Linda Stevens; Historian: Aubie Mae Dean; Parliamentarian: Reita Grant.

Jill Johnston announced that the District II meeting will be at Minvale Baptist Church on September 18, 2003, beginning at noon. Please put this important date on your calendar!

The Garden Shed drawing was held and the winner was Marzee Ethridge! There were several door prizes awarded, and then the meeting was adjourned.

Mary Summerville (far left) installs new officers, who are standing in the same order as listed in the article on this page. Jonathan Posey was absent.

Mountain River Estates



Mountain River Estates is located between Mentone, AL, and Cloudland, GA, on Alabama Hwy 117. There are riverfront and mountain stream tracts ranging from 3+ to 14+ acres in size. The middle fork of Little River runs through the property with over a mile of clean pristine water, containing both whitewater and placid pools. The property is located 1-3/4 hours from **Atlanta** and 1-1/2 hours from **Birmingham** and is situated on the **Lookout Mountain Parkway**. This secluded unspoiled area is a perfect getaway for retirement or a second home. All homesites have access to electricity and city water is planned to reach the development by 2003.

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HAMMONDILLE, LEA CHAPEL - 5 to 113 acres, wooded, level to rolling, county road frontage. **Priced at $1,400.00 per acre.**

323 ACRES IN MENTONE, AL - level to rolling terrain, streams, several lake sites, pine plantation planted 2001. Excellent for deer and turkey hunting. **Price $1,350.00 per acre.**

PELL CITY

405 ACRES WITH NO BUSINESS CREEK RUNNING THROUGH THE MIDDLE! Great location for development, located only 8 miles North of Interstate 20, Pell City. Beautiful rolling hills with a 50 acre lake site. Paved road frontage and county water. **Priced at $1,500 per acre.**

580 ACRES ON SHOAL CREEK MTN - Level to rolling terrain. Pine plantations with approx: $160,000.00 of merchantable timber. 27 acres proposed lake site. Excellent doves and turkey hunting. Priced $1,450.00 per acre.

ASHVILLE

318 ACRES, ASHVILLE - road frontage on U.S. Hwy 231, 1 mile South of Ashville High School. Level to gentle rolling, small creek, and merchantable timber. **Price $1,450.00 per acre.**

DOUBLE BRIDGE RD, ASHVILLE - Approx. 1,300 acres with paved road frontage, 3, 000 ft. on Big Canoe Creek. Will consider subdividing. **Price $1,450.00 per acre.**

STEELE, AL

5000 ACRES ON I-59 - Road frontage on Steel Station Rd., U.S. Hwy 411 and approx. 3 miles on Interstate 59. Excellent industrial and commercial location. **Priced at only $2,500.00 per acre.**

ETOWAH COUNTY

1037 ACRES, CANNON GAP RD. - On Dry Creek Mountain, paved road frontage and beautiful views. Will subdivide. **Price $1,450.00 per acre.**

CHEROKEE COUNTY

12,500 ACRES - Tracts range from 4.5 acres to 3,200 contiguous acres. Just minutes from downtown Centre. Will consider subdividing. **Prices start at $1,400.00 per acre.**

CALHOUN COUNTY

PIEDMONT, 572 ACRES - Just 3 miles South of town on Dry Creek Rd., level to rolling. Price at 1,4500. per acre.

ESTES, ROAD 20-180 ACRES - Level to gently rolling, beautiful views, paved road frontage, county water, planted pines. **Price $1,500.00 per acre.**

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UNCLE DOC WHITE

Submitted by Mrs. W. F. Clark, Valley Head, AL

I am enclosing some Old Valley Head News of Uncle Dock White and Dr. Clinton H. Richey. Uncle Dock White was my pastor at New Home Baptist church for many years. He drove a horse and had a nice buggy. We had church on Sat. afternoon, so he would spend the night with someone for the next day Sunday service. My husband and I had the honor of having him spend the night with us. We felt honored and we all enjoyed it.

Dr. Richey was a good Dr. He was my first two girls' Dr. I delivered my third daughter.

If you can use these in your Groundhog, I think those that remember would appreciate the news.

Preacher-Millman Called DeKalb's 'Best Loved' Man

'Uncle Doc White' Never Too Busy To Quit Ordinary Labors to "Work for The Lord."

by Carrye Nagel, Birmingham News Staff Writer

(No date shown on the submitted clippings)

VALLEY HEAD, Ala - "Uncle Doc" White, minister, miller, lumberman, and ginner, has probably married and "buried" more people than any man in DeKalb County.

His name is J.M. White. He was 7 years old when the Yankee soldiers were stationed at Valley Head, and he remembers those days. But, "by the grace of the Good Lord," he has almost managed to forget and forgive them for the hardships and suffering their presence visited on him and his family.

Today, "Uncle Doc's" time is devoted to "the work of the Lord" and service to his brothers.

Under the Lord's work, "Uncle Doc" puts marrying, funerals and preaching. Many a day, couples have come to his sawmill in White's Gap near here wanting to "get hitched." "Uncle Doc" brushes the sawdust off his coat, leads them to his office and performs the ceremony.

On several occasions, he has married them in the middle of the road where he met them on their way to find him at the church. He doesn't have to use a book. Got the whole thing in his head and can perform a ceremony anywhere at any time. The only time he uses a book is at a "ring ceremony" and that's usually held at the church. "Uncle Doc" doesn't think that elaborate surroundings and a long ceremony are necessary. After all, only the feelings and the sincerity of the boy and the girl count.

You will seldom attend a funeral in the county that "Uncle Doc" is not there to say a few words of comfort to the saddened hearts.

"Uncle Doc" has been preaching since the second Sunday in 1896 when he was ordained. For 25 years, he has preached at the Rockbridge Church on Lookout Mountain, and for 15 years at David Chapel, New Home Church, and Bethel Baptist Churches.

It was back in the late '80s, during one of the most awakening revivals that ever swept the country, that "Uncle Doc" saw "the light of Calvary and professed a faith in the strong arm of Israel's God."

It was one of those "all-day singings and eatings on the grounds." While the congregation was having lunch in the shade of a clump of nearby trees, "Uncle Doc" remained by the altar and when he arose, his face was filled with a bright and radiant smile. It was soon afterwards that he received his license to preach.

Blessed with good health, he is now in his eighty-first year and still actively engaged in business he has built up through a lifetime. But, "the work of the Lord" comes first and he's always ready to drop what he is doing whenever he gets the call to join a couple in marriage, officiate at a funeral, or deliver a stirring sermon for his Master.

(Note: the clipping included two newspaper photo--that we are unable to duplicate--with the following descriptions. Man of God--"Uncle Doc" White, of Valley Head, has been called "DeKalb County's best beloved citizen." At 81 years, he is seen at top, above, still working in the sawmill which he operates near White's Gap. Below, he sits by the stove in his office and studies "the Good Book." It's said "Uncle Doc" has married and buried more people than any man in the county.

Also sent in by Mrs. Clark was a clipping of the notice of the death of Dr. Clinton H. Richey.

Dr. Clinton H. Richey

A portion of the clipping concerning Dr. Richey:

Dr. Clinton H. Richey, 45, prominent physician and surgeon of Valley Head, passed away in Port Arthur, Texas, Tuesday afternoon, January 18, of a heart attack. He had been on a vacation to Mexico City and was enroute home when he was stricken. Dr. Richey was a graduate of the Louisville School of Medicine and for the past eighteen years he had practiced in Valley Head.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY JUNE MEETING

The monthly meeting of the DCGS will be Sat., Jun 14, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at the DeKalb County Library in Fort Payne, AL. We will have as speaker, Joan Williams, from the Cherokee County Library. Ms. Williams works with the Genealogical Records and Research Room at the Library in Centre, AL.

We hope to have all of our officers present and have an Executive Board meeting after the regular meeting. New members are always encouraged and visitors are warmly welcomed! Hope to see you there!

Brenda Gilbert Abbott
Publicity Co-Chairman
DCGS

MENTONE MAYOR'S NOTES

By C.E. Britt, Mayor

It is great to report to you that, after 2-1/2 years, we have gotten "Meals on Wheels" started for those seniors who desire and need them. If you know someone in this area who is over 60 years old, has a microwave and freezer, and would like to participate in the program, please call the town hall (634-4444). Many thanks to Linda Brown and Virginia Setze for their devoted efforts in getting the seniors interviewed and signed up. Also, Gene Giles, Tom Setze, Sam Franks, Mae Hilburn, and Linda Brown for delivering the meals to our shut-ins. The meals consist of a balanced nutritional frozen meal for each day, as well as juices and milk, desserts and bread, for each of the seven days.

The recent rain storms have shown how bad our drainage is--mostly because the drainage ditches have filled with leaves and debris. It is the responsibility of each resident to keep his drainage area cleaned out, grass cut, and keep saplings from growing in the ditches along the right-of-way. This will help keep water from standing and mosquitoes from breeding. Remember, we are still dealing with the "West Nile Virus."

We still have some trees that can be planted on public right-of-ways. They are black lotus and red maple. We have planted many in the parks, around the library, and in other public places; but we still have some left. Please contact the mayor or Sam Franks.

Last month, we reported that our grant for sidewalks at the caution light was waiting for the new governor's signature. It has been signed by Governor Riley and received in our office. We are awaiting D.O.T. comments before it can be released for bidding.

Citations will be issued on Nuisance Ordinance No. 2003-1, when the Abatement Board determines or receives a citizen's complaint that a neighbor or property owner is in violation.

When it comes to putting in water lines, it seems there is no dirt--just solid rock. The contractor probed the route for the lines and, in some cases, found no rock. But, when installing pipe, it was discovered that rock was hidden below the surface at a depth of 2-3 feet, which required drilling and blasting. This is a very time consuming and costly process. Unfortunately, for the contractor, this is the danger of contracting.

The Water Board has a deposit box on the door for payments. You may use it 24 hours a day. Envelopes are available on the Bulletin Board beside the payment box. Please use it!

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Summer Theatre Project Proposal
Purpose - what and why

Seeing that little or no arts opportunities exist in the area or in the local schools for children and young adults, few if any theatre events exist in the local area to attend, summer activities virtually do not exist for children to participate in, and seeing the availability of local artists and interested parents to provide the needed opportunities;

In the summer of 2003 a group of artists and interested citizens plan to work with children and community volunteers to present a children's play. The need for an artistic outlet is evident in the area and it was decided to start a program this summer that will be ongoing and perhaps grow into art classes, workshops, and continued theatre works especially during the summer weeks when children are in need of outlets for their energy and talent. The group is planning other projects that will possibly go into the local schools such as Valley Head, Moon Lake, and perhaps others.

Several students have already asked to help with the art and building projects connected with the Summer Theatre Project. The group has high hopes for not only the performers but also students who do not want to act or are beyond the age group for the particular performance but want to be involved in the arts in a variety of ways through this project. These student volunteers will have the opportunity to work with professional visual and performing artists as well as with builders, designers, younger children, and their contemporaries.

The Staff

Director, Margaret Goldthreat has directed community theatre in Fort Payne and taught theatre in art camps and schools. Margaret has a Degree in Art from the University of Alabama in Huntsville and has taught in the DeKalb County school system as an Artist in Residence. She teaches at art camp each year and now works part time for the Big Wills Arts Council in Fort Payne. Margaret is a visual artist, published poet, and writer. She is in the process of selecting a play for the Summer Theatre Project and would like to start auditions in about one week.

Heather Nicely, Volunteer Coordinator, is an artist, mother of two, and a long time Mentonian. Heather taught art for two years at Mentone's Moon Lake School. She understands the needs of the community as well as knowing the children and their needs individually. She will be co-designing and building sets along with her husband Lyle. She has volunteered to be the driver for children who would not otherwise have a ride to rehearsals and performances. Heather has a vision for long term artistic growth in the community.

Lyle Nicely will also be working with Adam Comley to put the sound, lighting and special effects together for the production. Both men are veteran stage technicians and experts at improvisation.

Sandra Comley will be working with costumes, sets and backstage duties as well as publicity. Sandra is an architectural sculptor, puppeteer, poet, costume and clothing designer, anachronist, and dancer. She has taught in studio, school, and workshop classes and is the former Director of the Big Wills Arts Council where she produced community theatre, art camps and visual art classes. She has presented a variety of professional theatre and performing arts programs including annual classical performances by Georgia Mountain Theatre (GMT Productions, Inc.) and theatre for all ages by the Birmingham Children's Theatre.

Budget Proposal

Staff	
Director	$ 500.00
Scripts	$ 75.00
Legal	
Royalties	$ 60.00
Equipment	
Sets&Properties	$ 300.00
Sound & Light	$ 300.00
Costumes	$ 300.00
Venue rental	$ 100.00
Advertising	$ 150.00
Appreciation	
Cast party	$ 150.00
Flowers/gifts	$ 50.00
Miscellaneous	$ 75.00
TOTAL	$2060.00

The above figures are estimates of the cost o production. This includes one paid staff person (the Director) and an average cost for a production based on past experience.

Thank you for contributing all or any part of this amount and for your support for the arts in you community.

For further details, please call Heather Nicely a 256-634-4124 or Sandra Comley at 706-862-6156.

Proposal respectfully submitted by Sandra Comley May 2003.

MOON LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY SUMMER PROGRAMS

EACH SATURDAY
MAY 31 - AUGUST 2 10 - 12 a.m.
(Except July 5th, the library will be closed for Independence Day)

The programs for Kindergarten through Third Grade will be "Books Ahoy". A fun time of learning about the ocean and all that lives there. Games, crafts, books, and other fun activities!

The programs for Fourth through Sixth Grade will be, "Top Secret Adventures". Go on an adventure each week to a far away land. Clues will be given to find the what, where, why, and how of the mystery. Fun for all!

Mentone
Post Office Hours
Monday - Friday
Open 8:00 am - 12 noon
1:30-4:15 pm
Saturday 8:30 a.m-10:30 am
United States Postal Service
Mentone, AL 35984
256-634-4588

2003 Men's Gold & Silver League Softball League

The following contains the schedule for the remaining games at the Fort Payne Sports Complex:

THURSDAY, JUNE 5
5:50 F#1 DOGWOOD HAVEN VS. MENTONE
5:50 F#2 DARBO FORCE VS. IRONHORSE
7:00 F#1 STUNNERS VS. BUILT RITE
7:00 F#2 FYFFE CHURCH VS SOCK CENTER
8:00 F#1 MENTONE VS SOCK CENTER
8:00 F#2 BUILT RITE VS. IRONHORSE

TUESDAY, JUNE 10
5:50 F#1 DOGWOOD HAVEN VS. BUILT RITE
5:50 F#2 DARBO FORCE VS. SOCK CENTER
7:00 F#1 STUNNERS VS. MENTONE
7:00 F#2 FYFFE CHURCH VS. IRONHORSE

These were the remaining dates of the Mentone Team's games. However, by the time this issue came out, these games were over.

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Community Library
in their honor.
For more information contact:
Jan Wilkinson - 256-845-5048
or
Dianne Kuehl - 256-634-4538

The Church News

By EVELYN GRAVES

Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9:00 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 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; Woman on Mission meet at 2 PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

****

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. Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday and Worship is at 10 AM.

****

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 Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnel.

****

The **Harmony Grove Baptist Church** invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 239 (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,1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 65), Fort Payne. Regular worship services are at 10 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM. Steve Schrader, Pastor 845-4314. All are welcome.

****

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 pm.

****

Anyone interested in observing the **Sabbath and Holy Days**, call 845-2246 for time and location.

****

Presbyterian Church worship service at Cloudland begins at 10 AM, (EST), and the Menlo service begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

****

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

****

The **Mount Calvary Baptist Church**, Cloudland, Georgia, welcomes everyone to come and take part in our church services. Sunday School at 10 AM; Worship Service at 11 AM; Sunday evening at 6 PM, and Wednesday evening at 7 PM.

****

Lighthouse Fellowship, Cloudland. Turn at the produce stand, pass the tennis court, and go to the stop sign. Go right two blocks. A church alive is worth the drive. Sunday School - 10 AM; Worship - 11 AM, Alabama time. Everyone is welcome. Phone: 706-862-2607.

****

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10 AM, Worship at 11AM, Wednesday Bible Study at 6 PM. 256-634-4137.

****

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.

****

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.

****

Mentone Community Church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 AM and worship service at 10:45 AM. Bible Study Wed. 7:00 -7:45 PM. Pastor Randy Addison welcomes all!

****

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 regular services.

****

Mentone Church of God invites you to attend their church. Sunday School - 10 AM; Morning Worship - 11 AM. Sunday evening - 6 PM; Wednesday evening - 6:30 PM. The new Pastor is Brian Hancock, who moved here with his wife Regina and their three children.

****

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Alabama, regular services are Sunday at 9:30 AM, with a time for fellowship after the services. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any events or services. Everyone is welcome to join in worship services or special events.

****

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. The Pastor is Les Brown. The Ethel Brown Unit of UMW meets on the 1st Wednesday at 1 PM in the fellowship hall; and the Mountain Laurel Unit of UMW meets on the 3rd Monday at 12:30 PM at the church.

****

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend any of their services or activities. Two Morning Services with Children's Church are at 8:45 AM, with Sunday School at 10 AM, and the second service at 11 AM. 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.

****

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The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Mike Simpson, General Manager. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Stop 1510, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1510; or the Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.

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Robert (Cub) & Michele Brown

The RECIPE CORNER

By SUE SCHWARZ

With summer coming on and with it (hopefully) warmer weather, it is time to enjoy easy and cool meals. I enjoy salad meals in the summer and I hope you enjoy these too.

GREEK CHICKEN SALAD

3 Cups shredded romaine lettuce
2 cups chopped cooked chicken
1 cup garbanzo beans, drained
2 tomatoes, cut into wedges
3/4 cup kalamata olives, pitted (or black olives)
Lemon-Herb Dressing
1 (4-oz) package crumbled feta cheese

Combine first 5 ingredients in a large bowl. Toss with Lemon-Herb Dressing; top with cheese. Serve with toasted pita bread triangles. Yield: 4 to 6 servings.

LEMON-HERB DRESSING:

3 T Lemon juice
1/2 cup olive oil
1 T chopped fresh mint
1 T chopped fresh oregano
1 T chopped fresh parsley
1/2 t salt
1/2 t pepper.

Whisk together all ingredients until well blended; chill. Yield: about 3/4 cup

ARTICHOKE, SALMON AND GREEN-PEA SALAD

2 T red wine vinegar
1 T Dijon mustard
1/3 cup olive oil
1-1/2 t snipped fresh dill or 1/2 teaspoon dried dill
salt and pepper to taste
1 16-oz can of red salmon, drained
1 can water-packed artichoke hearts, drained & quartered
1 package (10 oz) frozen green peas, thawed
1/2 C chopped red onion
Salad greens and sliced tomatoes

Mix vinegar and mustard in a large bowl with whisk until blended. Slowly add oil, beating constantly, until dressing is smooth and slightly thickened. Stir in dill, salt and pepper. Add salmon and break it up with fork into medium-size chunks. Fold in remaining ingredients. Cover and refrigerate. Serve on salad greens and with tomatoes.

2003 SUMMER CLASSES
(Beginning May 12 unless otherwise noted)
For More Information Please Call (256) 638-2957

DEKALB COUNTY GED CLASSES

DeKalb County Career Center, Ft. Payne (Employment Office) 845-6008
Monday - Thursday 8 - 12 Noon, Friday 8 - 11 am
Monday & Wednesday 12:30 - 2:30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 - 2:00 pm
Beginning May 27, 2003
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 8 - 12 Noon
Teacher: Pam Maddox
Tuesday & Wednesday 5 - 8 PM
Teacher: Carol Wray & Beginning June 3rd Donna Jones

Northeast AL Community College (Beck Building, Room 227)
Monday & Tuesday 9 - 12 Noon
Monday & Tuesday 6 - 9 PM
Teacher: Nina Thrash & Shirlene Moore

READING CLASSES

Fort Payne First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
Wednesday 9 - 12 Noon
Teacher: Virginia Ellis

DeKalb Co. Career Ctr. (Emp. Office) Ft. Payne
Monday 5 - 8 PM
Teacher: Terri Chambliss (845-6008)

ESL CLASSES

Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce
Tuesday 9 - 11 AM
Teacher: Barbara Cole & Roberta Roberts

DeKalb Co. Career Ctr. (Emp. Office) Ft. Payne
Tuesday 3 - 5 PM
Teacher: Pam Maddox & Roberta Roberts (845-6008)
English Language Civics Class
Tuesday & Thursday 5 - 7 PM
Teacher: Roberta Roberts (845-6008)
Beginning June 2, 2003
Monday & Wednesday 4 - 6 PM
Teacher: Judy Hall (845-6008)

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OPEN every day from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL
Art Show on the Green

July 4th, July 5th, and July 6th

An Art Exposition exhibiting artists from the Lookout Mountain Region displayed on the front lawn of the Hotel.

Paintings, primitives, wood-working, folk-artists, and more.

For more information, please call the Mentone Springs Hotel at 634-4040.

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Remember... FATHER'S DAY is JUNE 15

DeKALB CHAPTER #1456, UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY HAVE FASHION SHOW

The DeKalb Chapter #1456, UDC, met in April with 8 members and 2 guests present. After opening with the Pledges and the President's Message, President Martha Stanley turned the program over to Mrs. Gwen Williams, a prospective member. Gwen is very active in the War Between the States Re-enactments, as well as activities of the DeKalb Rifles. She very graciously demonstrated the articles of clothing our Southern ancestors were wearing during the 1860s.

Bringing along her own numerous garments, Gwen demonstrated the way a lady had to dress herself, with lots of help from a maid or sibling!! A chemise, bloomers and pair of cotton stockings were put on for starters. Then, with help in the lacing (very tightly, to show off a TINY waist), the corset was fastened on and the under-petticoat was added. Over this, a boned petticoat was laced and followed by several other petticoats, depending upon how much fullness you wished to have in your skirt. Then, the top skirt and the blouse were added. Most of the dresses were of a solid color or a dark calico, in order to save on the washing of the entire garment. These blouses were plain in the neck and some had large, pagoda sleeves. This was so that a white collar and a pair of undersleeves, also white, could be added and washed frequently. She also had a pair of boots, which should be put on BEFORE the corset, because once that garment is on, a LADY does not bend!! No wonder so many Southern ladies fainted in those days!!

There were many other versions of the dresses, including a Day Dress, a Ball Gown, A Mourning Dress, a one-piece dress with an apron for working around a campfire or washpot and a 3 or 4 piece dress for visitation and/or church. The last sometimes included a jacket, a hooded cloak, or a shawl. Gwen had on hand for the ladies to see some of the accessories usually worn for special occasions. Fingerless gloves, purses or reticules, cameo brooches, cameos on ribbon, lace collars, hat pins, snoods (crocheted nets to cover the hair) and several beautiful hats! She had some very nice fans, including a sandlewood fan, because a lady of the South had her own language for courting with a fan!!!!

We were all delighted with the items she brought and several tried on the hats and posed with the flirtatious fans!! Gwen and her sister both have several outfits and they have turned in their papers to become members of the UDC. The members were excited about getting together our own dresses to wear for special occasions and activities of the UDC and to join in with the SCV in their special programs.

The meeting adjourned with plans for the next meeting--an annual picnic, which was on May 17th at Mrs. Stanley's house.

UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY, DeKALB CHAPTER #1456, REMEMBER CONFEDERATE VETERANS

The DeKalb Chapter #1456, UDC, placed a Green Wreath at the Confederate Monument in Union Park in Fort Payne. The wreath is in memory of our ancestors who gave of their time and lives in defense of the noble cause of "States Rights." The month of April is now celebrated as Confederate History Month and the 28th day of April is celebrated as Confederate Memorial Day. We mark these two occasions with a silent tribute to our ancestors. May our country always stay United! Members present at the placing of the wreath were Brenda Abbott, Barbara Goodwin Wanda Middleton, Bonnie and Donnie Tallent, Frances Smith, Chapter Registrar Joyce West, and Chapter President Martha Stanley.

Breast Cancer Awareness

Marilyn Blanton Campbell reports having visited with Christina Wise, at her home over looking DeSoto Falls, the afternoon of Sunday, May 4, and Christina is progressing nicely. Naturally, she has joined the ranks of the crusade to get everybody checked up for breast cancer. Please, if you have not been checked up, PLEASE, PLEASE see that you are. While that procedure may well not be particularly pleasant, it can, will, and does saves many thousands of lives every year.

"Until you have been on the receiving end of the cards, you have no idea how much they can mean to somebody, who is having a bad day, week, month, year. Each card is truly a complex blessing. Cards do not intrude or wake people from much needed sleep. The recipient may look at them at his/her leisure and many times over. Buying and sending cards makes the sender feel good too," Marilyn said. "While phone calls are very nice, it is impossible to put a phone call in a drawer and pull it out later for a repeat blessing. Having been there myself, I know for a fact that the encouragement offered by cards is more valuable than gold to cancer patients, who are going through chemotherapy and/or radiation. While sitting in the doctor's waiting area or the treatment room, it is impossible to keep the patient's mind from wandering back to the encouragement and support offered by the notes cards he/she has received."

Very often cards are expensive, and it is even more provoking when you cannot find one that relays the message you want to send. That is when you drop back and either make a card or just send a note. You do not have to have a computer to do it either. Just get yourself counted by letting somebody know you are thinking about him/her, and you will both be blessed. We all know people, who are seeing doctors and getting all the medications and treatment they can possibly use, but it is a fact that anybody can manage the ordeal of illness much better when he/she is in good spirits. Send a card. Make a call. Tell a silly joke. Jokes do not have tobe ugly to get a laugh. There is no question about the fact that laughter never hurt anybody. Say a prayer for the spirit of the people you care about. You will be blessed.

Tom Harrison, Sr.

TOM HARRISON, SR. WILL BE MISSED

By Kristen Emory

I am not a writer and will never claim to be and because of this I have struggled with writing this small, but very special article. We, the town of Mentone, lost a very important person in our community, Tom Harrison, Sr. When my husband and I moved to Mentone and bought the Superette, one of the first people in to tell us what to do and how to do it was Mr. Tom. He had advice for everything. And let me tell you, it was good advice and taken very seriously by Tom and me. The more we talked and the more he teased me the more I fell in love with Mr. Tom. He always had a joke, a funny story, or just loved making complete fun of me and anyone else that came in the Mentone Market.

Everyone was a target, even visitors from out of town. I have to tell one story that has made me laugh the hardest. Someone came in asking for directions and Mr. Tom was standing at the counter. Well, as he began to give the man directions, he began to point with his cane. That cane, which he could never keep up with, started to move in all directions and before I knew it the man getting the directions was ducking from a blow to the head. I said, "Tom, don't hit the man. He's only passing through." Mr. Tom and I laughed until we were crying and the visitor from out of town left thinking these people are crazy. What fun we had!

Tom and I have many more stories and tales that we could tell, but like I said I am not a writer. We just wanted everyone to know how much we miss Mr. Tom sitting on his bench in the store and hearing all of his tales and getting very good advice about how to run a business.

I know that many of you knew him well and loved to eat at his drive-in. We only knew him for a year, but we saw him almost every day; and we miss him every day.

AARON STREETER
ALABAMA AMERICAN LEGION BOY'S STATE

Aaron Streeter, son of Melody and Bryan Gilbreath, Mentone, Alabama, has been selected by the faculty of Valley Head High School to attend Alabama Boy's State. He is sponsored by the Mentone American Legion Post 215 and St. Joseph's on-the-mountain Episcopal Church.

Aaron will attend Boy's State at Montevallo University for a week. Here, the boys attending will get hands-on experience in the operation of city, county, and state government.

Aaron's school activities include Band, Beta Club, Who's Who Among American High Schools, and was selected to participate in the Rural Science Scholars Program at the University of Alabama. He received academic awards for Environmental Science and Geometry and Consumer Math. He is a dual enrollment student at North East Community College. At the college, he was a member of the Pit Orchestra for the Spring production of Fiddler on the Roof.

Aaron plans to pursue a career in medicine. He has completed his Junior year at Valley Head High School.

LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY

by Linda Brown

The first program of the summer schedule is now under our belt. It was wonderful! We had thirty-six students sign up for the reading programs. Eighteen signed for the K-3 Grade Program, "Books Ahoy." Our program was all about the octopus. We all enjoyed a story read by Dr. Bill Berry. Then we made an octopus of a sock. (Thanks, Larry!) How do you make an octopus from a sock? Come to the library next Saturday from 10:00 A. M. until 12:00 noon and we may do something even more unbelievable.

Eight students signed up for the 4-6 Grade Program. Their task for the day was to solve a crime that had been committed in Canada. It seems that the culprit was: The Con in the Yukon. Come and join them next week and try your skills at solving the what, where, why, and when of a new mystery. From the reports that I received, their only complaint was that there was not enough time to get it all done.

All Summer Reading Programs are: Saturday, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon at the Moon Lake Community Library. We will meet on all Saturdays through June and July, except July 5. The last meeting will be a picnic and party at the Community House on August 2. You may come on Saturday beginning at 9:00 A. M. for regular checking of books. The library will continue to be open on Tuesday, 5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

A good way to honor someone on a special day is with a gift to the library. Jan Wilkinson has chosen this way to honor her aunt, Fruza Rogers, on her birthday. She is a very young ninety years and all of the volunteers of the library join with Jan in wishing her a very "Happy Birthday" and many, many more.

We have started a new program. It is called, "FRIENDS of the Library." You can become a member by giving a donation to the library of $20.00 or more. You will receive a beautiful tote bag stating the fact that you are a FRIEND and your name will be listed in The Groundhog. This month the FRIENDS of the Library are: Alyce Springer, Sue Schwarz and Jan Wilkinson. This is a wonderful way to help with the expenses of the community sector of the library and also to get this great tote bag. The bag is a good size for books, papers, pens and other necessities. It is also good advertising for the library and for the town of Mentone. You should see the reading logo that has been adopted by the Board of Directors. It is shown on the bag and used on other promotional material.

The most recent fund-raising project of the Moon Lake Community Library Board of Directors was a Book Sale at the Rhododendron Festival. We acquired a booth and carried many boxes of books to the Brow Park to sell. Boy Scout Troop #106 furnished and set up a canvas building for us. This was much more than a tent and we are very grateful to them. Without this enclosure, our books would have been ruined by all of the rain that fell that night. As it was, we did not lose one book and even though we had to pack them up before noon on Sunday, people continued to buy as we were loading them into the back of a truck. A very big THANKS to all of our volunteers who worked at the Book Sale. Also, we want to thank the husbands who were drafted into helping, John Wilkinson, Bill Schwarz and Bobby Brown. Thanks to all of you!

We also owe a vote of thanks to Anita Cash Banks and the students of the middle school where she teaches in Marion, Indiana. They packaged and shipped more than one hundred boxes of books to us. These were discontinued at their school and slated to be thrown away. Anita gave us complete freedom to do what we could with them. Many are now on the shelves of the library. Others are in the closet waiting to be processed to be placed on the shelves. Still others are being used in the Summer Reading Program and while many were sold at the festival, we still have many more that are to be sold at the August Yard Sale and the Autumn Festival. Thank you, Anita and Student Council of McCulloch Middle School of Marion, Indiana!

Another group that we want to thank is the Mentone American Legion. They have furnished storage space for all of these books. Without this we could not have kept them all and used them to the best advantage. Thank you for all that you do and for your interest in the community!

Diane Kuehl, who is our computer person, wants me to remind anyone who has applied for a library card but has not picked it up, to please come by the library on any open day and get it. We need to get these cards into the hands of the community and then we need to use them. You know the old saying, "If you don't use it, you lose it." I think that this phrase was coined to apply to your talent, but it could also apply to the library. We wanted it, we worked for it, we got it and now we need to use it.

If you are interested in doing any kind of volunteer work at the library this fall, come by and sign a notebook provided for this purpose. We need more people to stay in the library during open hours, but we also need people willing to learn to prepare books for shelving and to shelve them. If you are or know of someone who is a certified librarian and interested in working a few hours each week, contact us at the library. We are looking at the possibility of hiring someone and would like to talk to you.

That's about all of the libs or words that I have this month. Come by the library on Saturday morning, nine until twelve and on Tuesday evenings, five until seven. See you there. The computer screens in the library have these words running across the bottom, "So many books, so little time. So many books, so little time. So many books, so little --------"

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6TH GRADE GRADUATION

(Listed Alphabetically): **Steven Heath Barkley; David LeVance Carden; Dewey Dustin Cash; Jessica Dawn Easler; Danny Wade Green; Lauren Ashley Henry; Brittany Nicole Hester; Margaret Ann Hollis; Daniel Blake Hughes; Newley Joel Ingram; Nathan Clark Jones; Jacqueline Suzette McGee; Kara Rebekah Miller; Sierra Colleene Nicely; Thorn Thornton Rich; Jamie Marie Sherwood; Heather Michelle Smith; Megan Rose Smith; Jessie Eugene Stoker; Tiffany Cheriee Trautman; John Terry Whitaker**

THE CO-SALUTATORIANS OF YEAR 2003:
Ashley Henry & Jessica Easler

Principal Bill Berry welcomed parents, family, teachers, and friends to the Moon Lake Elementary School sixth-grade graduation. He introduced the co-salutatorians: **Ashley Henry and Jessica Easler**. They thanked their parents and teachers for all the guidance and support given to them in the past seven years and shared the following poem, written by an unknown poet.

It Can't Be Done

The man who misses all the fun,
Is he who says it can't be done.
In solemn pride he stands aloof,
And greets each venture with reproof.
Had he the power he'd efface,
The history of the human race;
We'd have no radio or motor cars,
No streets lit by electric stars;
No telegraph or telephone,
We'd linger in the age of stone.
The world would sleep if things were run
By men who say it can't be done.

They also said that "the message in this poem is that anything can be done, and nothing is impossible. Even in the beginning, we knew our parents sent us to Moon Lake because they wanted us to be special, and in a small community school we have felt that. We know we are important, and each of us has value. For some of us it is our academic worth and for other it is the ability to make our group work as a team. Some people even help run the school by helping Dr. Berry and Miss Kim. Without them our school would be a mess!

"Yes, we are all important. They say young people are lost because they don't feel like they belong, or have a family. Well, here at Moon Lake, we always knew we mattered, and we always felt at home."

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Dr. Berry announced that "Each year one sixth-grade student is honored as Outstanding Citizen. This award recognizes traits of citizenship displayed during this student's years at Moon Lake Elementary School.

"This year the Outstanding Citizen award goes to a young man who always has a smile on his face and a helpful action on his mind.

"His willing attitude ensures that every endeavor is accomplished dependably and appropriately. He actively works alongside Moon Lake's staff to carry out everyday tasks around campus, whether they be unloading cars in the morning and loading cars in the afternoon, running errands and collecting trash, or lending a hand of assistance and a pat on the back to a younger student.

"In many ways he seems like a member of the school staff, and we shall miss his camaraderie.

"With his level head and his caring disposition, he serves as a role model for his fellow students. He exemplifies good citizenship.

The 2003 **Outstanding Citizen** award for Moon Lake Elementary School is presented to **John Whitaker.**

CLASS DEDICATIONS:
Daniel Hughes & Sierra Nicely

"We sixth graders appreciate the special efforts that all you parents and teachers have made in our behalf during our time at Moon Lake Elementary School.

"Tonight we recognize two people—selected by the sixth-grade students—who have made important contributions to our lives and our learning.

"During the past seven years we have grown fond of a mother who has been very special to us in many ways. Sierra Nicely points out that "she carpools for field trips," and Newley Ingram adds that she helps a lot on Earth Day.

"While John Whitaker remembers her serving as a good assistant basketball coach in fifth grade, Vance Carden adds that he is glad she put up with him...and with me! During this year, she provided lots and lots of help with the Junior Beta Club! She helped us prepare fruit baskets for local senior citizens and create a float for the Valley Head Christmas parade.

"We are pleased to present this year's sixth-grade **Parent Appreciation Award** to **Connie Hughes.**

"Our class has become very, very well acquainted with a gentleman who actually completed his work at Moon Lake Elementary School last December, but he still comes from time to time to help out with special projects. Nathan Jones remembers that "he was always running from here to there."

"Jamie Sherwood found him to be a hard worker, but Steven Barkley adds he would make the work fun. In addition to the numerous grandchildren he has here at Moon Lake, many of the rest of us kids felt like his grandchildren as well!

"We are pleased to present this year's sixth-grade **Staff Appreciation Award** to our former school custodian, **Robert Green.**"

CLASS WHO'S WHO

Teacher Leslie Bunch: "Each member of this year's sixth-grade Who's Who was selected by the class as representative of certain characteristics.

BEST ALL AROUND: Newley Ingram & Heather Smith
MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED: Vance Carden & Sierra Nicely
MOST COOPERATIVE: Vance Carden & Ashley Henry
MOST SCHOOL SPIRIT: Daniel Hughes & Brittany Hester
CUTEST: Danny Green & Jamie Sherwood
NEATEST: Thorn Rich & Tiffany Trautman
MOST STUDIOUS: Daniel Hughes & Jamie Sherwood
MOST TALENTED: Nathan Jones & Ashley Henry
MOST ATHLETIC: Newley Ingram & Kara Miller
APPLE POLISHERS: Thorn Rich & Jessica Easler
MOST DARING: Danny Green & Maggie Hollis
FRIENDLIEST: Dustin Cash & Tiffany Trautman
MOST DEPENDABLE: John Whitaker & Heather Smith
QUIETEST: Jessie Stoker & Megan Smith
LOUDEST: Steven Barkley & Jacqueline McGee
CLASS CLOWNS: Daniel Hughes & Jacqueline McGee
MOST HELPFUL: John VVhitaker & Jessica Easler
MOST CREATIVE: Nathan Jones & Sierra Nicely
MR. & MISS 6TH GRADE: Newley Ingram & Heather Smith

The final, but most prestigious honor, was voted on by the entire student body, kindergarten through sixth grade.

MR. & MISS MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:
Vance Carden & Jamie Sherwood

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Dr. Berry: "Outstanding academic achievement is recognized as we honor graduates who have excelled during their years at Moon Lake Elementary School.

"This year, we honor two young ladies who have earned the second-highest grade-point average in their class, from grade one through grade six. **Our co-salutatorians are Ashley Henry and Jessica Easler.**

"Two other graduates have earned the highest grade-point average from grade one through grade six. **Our co-valedictorians are Vance Carden and Kara Miller."**

CO-VALEDICTORIANS:
KARA MILLER

"Dr. Berry, teachers, students, families, and friends...Our stay at Moon Lake Elementary School has almost ended. Now comes the time for us to say 'Thank you' and 'Goodbye,' small words that mean so much! The good-bye

we say to you tonight means all the good wishes, love, and sorrow at leaving that these words could possibly mean.

"We sincerely appreciate the opportunities for study that we have had and trust that we have used them to the best of our abilities. However, we must admit there have been times when most of us could have done better. Our time through the years has been very enjoyable, and on this evening of happy achievement we are saddened by the fact that this will end.

"Because of the support, guidance, and encouragement of our parents and teachers to learn and grow, we have finished our work here at Moon Lake, and tonight we are to be graduated. To each of our teachers and our principal, we are most thankful.

"Not only have we changed and grown in our abilities while at Moon Lake, but the facilities have grown as well because of the support of our community. A new lunchroom fed our developing bodies while a new library and computer lab fed our expanding minds. New windows and tile in the main building, covered walkways, new sidewalks, and a paved driveway and parking lot on the grounds were appreciated. Our class saw the gym receive major improvements, including a new floor, foyer, and restrooms. The development of Head Start, Accelerated Reader, and one teacher for each grade all helped us develop academically, demonstrated by members of the Junior Beta Club and our first county Scholars Bowl victory. For your support and generosity, we are very grateful!

"In March of this year, our country went to war with Iraq. The victory brings new freedom and opportunities to the citizens of that country. In much the same way, our graduation tonight is a victory we have achieved that opens new opportunities, challenges, and responsibilities as we reach for new horizons in our education.

"The school in itself did not prepare us, but it gave us the opportunity to prepare ourselves. The lessons we learned here will help us as we continue our education and learn not only to make a living, but to make a life as we anticipate serving a company, our community and country, and church and creator, Jesus Christ.

"And now, fellow members of the graduating class, we must leave. This is our last time together as a class. After tonight we shall go our seperate ways. Though time and distance may divide us, we shall always be joined in heart and spirit, and the memories of our days at Moon Lake Elementary School will always be cherished.

"Friends, may the future years bring you nothing but kind memories of those who now bid you "Good night" and "Goodbye." Thank you, and may God guide and bless you all!

VANCE CARDEN

"Howdy, folks! I appreciate your coming tonight. First off, I'd like to thank all my teachers over the years, Dr. Berry, Mr. Green, Ms. Kim, the lunch ladies Brynda and Michele, Mrs. Lassetter, Mrs. Lawton, and all the rest of the staff for making Moon Lake Elementary School a great learning environment.

"As we go to different schools, whether they be Valley Head or Fort Payne, we will always think about our times at Moon Lake...about how our teachers taught us until we couldn't think about anything else but that subject, or about just having fun on the playground.

"Our different teachers focused on teaching us everything that we should know. But they also had emphasis on a certain subject. They would teach us on that subject better than others. Mrs. Barkley, for example, taught us about science to an extreme. We did so many science projects! But she taught science to where we loved it. We would attach batteries to light bulbs and make them go on, or make flashlights out of index cards and batteries.

"Mrs. Bunch taught us history and math. She'd teach us something in history and wouldn't let us think about anything else but that. In math she'd be explaining the lesson to us and afterwards keep bugging us about how many quarts are in a gallon. We couldn't go outside without her asking "What kind of plant is that?" or "Who did what in 1857?" The teachers here got it through our heads what we needed to know. That's what makes this school special.

"Parents volunteering also helped us out. Mrs. Connie Hughes helped so much during our time here, I couldn't begin to think of all the things she did. My grandma always volunteered to drive us places whether it be the scholar's bowl or to the movie last week. Mrs. Saferite took Who's Who pictures for us. And that's not even a fraction of the people who've helped us over the years.

"I want to thank them—and the many others who have contributed!—so sixth graders, join me when I count to three . . . one! . . . two! . . . three! . . . THANK YOU!

"Our time at Moon Lake will always be remembered. The food wasn't great but it was edible. I'll always remember the friends I've made here, the things we did like peg party, or playing basketball, or the thoughts we've shared on Accelerated Reader or world issues. And if you asked me what any two things that I learned here I would answer "The world needs more basketball and more people like Mrs. Bunch.

"I'll end my speech with a quote off of my favorite cartoon: 'A wise man once said the stronger you get, the stronger the smell.' So take a shower.

"Thank you! "

Dr. Berry welcomed everyone to graduation night..."an event toward which the 21 sixth grade graduates worked hard and thanked them for sharing this time with the school and the students."

He said, "We greatly appreciate the wonderful support provided by so many of you—*students, teachers, parents, relatives, and friends*—toward making our school successful and this event possible. It is with profound thanks that we recognize your many contributions.

"We are especially grateful this evening to those of you who have played a directly significant role in the lives of these graduates. The value of your participation and influence is immeasurable.

"Thank you to **Jennifer Douglas** for playing tonight 's processional and recessional and to the parents—and grandparents!—who have contributed toward the lovely and delicious reception that will follow tonight's ceremony.

"Congratulations to **Michael Harrison**, a recipient of this year's fifth-grade **Woodman of the World history award**, and to **Tyler Blansit**, a recipient of this year's **perfect attendance awards**, who are serving as tonight's ushers.

"Finally, thank you—everyone!—for your ongoing belief in and support of Moon Lake Elementary School . . . *a place that is, indeed, firmly planted, forward moving.*"

The DeKalb County Library Booksale 2003 A Great Success!!

The DeKalb County Library Booksale 2003 is history, but the $9,052.87 will live on to serve the patrons. This is the largest amount taken in for any of the previous ten sales.

High on the library's want list are the following items:

Large-page printer
Audio books
Large print books
Accelerated Reading Program books for the children's section
Bilingual material

No project of this magnitude can be completed without contributions of time, effort, and means of others. Those listed below deserve the thanks of the community for their support: Marie Dillenbeck (The Ground Hog); Terry Baker (The Weekly Post); Jerry Whittle The DeKalb Advertiser); Ben Shurrett, J.D. Davidson, Scott Turner (The Times -Journal); Bill Jordan (Mayor, City of Fort Payne); Patty Tucker (DeKalb County Tourist Association); Larry Hancock (Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce); Nancy Martin, Linda Thomas, Pat Horton, Shane Byrd (Fort Payne City Schools); Roland Walls (WZOB); Pam Gibson, Tracy Arnold (First State Bank); Angela Lasseter, David Johnson (Pizza Hut); Shan Bruce (Bruce's Foodland Plus); Charles Shipp (Alabama Fan Club); Alan Williamson (Alan Williamson Architect & Associates); Chris Terry (Wal-Mart); Melinda McLemore (Fort Payne Improvement Authority; Adelphia Cable Company; DeKalb Baptist Association; Phillip Smith (Smith Newspapers); Herb Martin; Bill Cyr; Peter Wood; Jane Faile

The DeKalb County Public Library has an annual circulation over 114,000 with more than 8,500 computer users. Therefore, the collection and equipment need continual updating.

If you donated items for the sale and/or made purchases, we thank you.

Joanne Durham
Booksale Chairman 2003, Fort Payne Culture Club
845-4035

MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATION PICTURES

KINDERGARTEN

(Alphabetically)

Robert Baker, Jennifer Battles, Alex Davis, Jakob Gilbreath, Sarah Jean Graham, Kalee Hatfield, Kali Haynes, Cheyenne Hughes, Kaitee McGee, Orion Nicely, Levi Owen, Samantha Purvis, Taylor Purvis, Amelia Saferite, Brooklyn Wright

HEAD START

(Alphabetically)

Harley Bentley; Samuel Black; Alona Blevins; Emma Burch; Emily Brown; Elijah Durham, Noah Durham; Charlie Eastman; Beau Eastman; Austin Gilliam; Kimberly Gilliam; Kara Goss; Kateland Grider; Kaitlyn Hester; Devin Lets; Alexis Owen; Christian Payne; Jared Ratliff; Savannah Wallace; Andrew Williams

VALLEY HEAD HIGH SCHOOL 2003 MISS SPRING FANTASY

WINNERS FROM THE VALLEY HEAD HIGH SCHOOL 2003 MISS SPRING FANTASY BEAUTY PAGEANT HELD APRIL 26 WERE:

DIVISION I

QUEEN-SADIE DURHAM
1ST ALT-BAILEE CARTER
2ND ALT-BALEY YOUNG
MOST PHOTOGENIC-ALEXIS WHITE

DIVISION II

QUEEN-JADEN BURGESS
1ST ALT-HANNAH SIMPSON
2ND ALT-AMY BELL
MOST PHOTOGENIC-ANDREA SPEARS

DIVISION III

QUEEN- ELLEE SMITH
1ST ALT-GRACE TUCKER
2ND ALT-MOST PHOTOGENIC OLIVIA DOBBINS

DIVISION IV

QUEEN-MOST PHOTOGENIC-KALI HAYNES
1ST ALT-RAVEN PANGLE
2ND ALT-HADEN YOUNG

DIVISION V

QUEEN-AUTUMN HULGAN
1ST ALT-MOST PHOTOGENIC-
MORGAN McELHANEY
2ND ALT-KAYLEE TUCKER

DIVISION VI

QUEEN-MOST PHOTOGENIC-BRITTANY DANIEL
1ST ALT-AMBER CARSON
2ND ALT-JESSICA THORNBERRY

DIVISION VII

QUEEN-KASIE HICKS
1ST ALT-MOST PHOTOGENIC-KELSEY KEMP
2ND ALT-HEATHER RICHARDSON

JR MISS SPRING FANTASY

QUEEN-SYDNEY JOHNSON
1ST ALT-HEATHER DANIEL
2ND ALT-MISS CONGENIALITY-
ASHLEY LEDFORD
MOST PHOTOGENIC-BRITTANY CONNELL

SR MISS SPRING FANTASY

QUEEN-ALMEDA PARKER
1ST ALT-MOST PHOTOGENIC-
MISS CONGENIALITY- KARINA TAYLOR
2ND ALT-MOST ACADEMIC-KAYLA SMITH

VALLEY HEAD HARDWARE

James and Clara Young, Owners
OPEN: Mon.-Sat.: 8-5
Closed Thursday PM
256-635-1055

Angela J. Wood
Owner and AL/GA Broker

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P.O. Box 44
Lookout Mountain Parkway
Mentone, Alabama 35984

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1-888-256-1276

Fax: (256) 634-4702

E-mail address - AngelaWood@Earthlink.net

Website - www.LookoutMountainProperties.com

(1) SPEND YOUR WEEKENDS IN MENTONE. A Brand new Cottage (1650 sq. ft.) with two bedrooms, one up with Gas Fireplace, and Whirlpool Tub in Bath. Open Kitchen, dining, with Tile and Hardwood floors. Living Room with Gas Fireplace. Wrap-around deck. C/HA, city water, located on a wooded lot. REDUCED $119,900.

(2) GREAT LOCATION AND A VIEW West Brow Lot on Scenic Hwy 1 mile from Mentone. Wooded with 200 ft of Brow Frontage. $65,000.

(3) FARMHOUSE WITH 1.9 ACRES, MENTONE. Oak trees outside, oak [illegible] inside. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with tile [illegible] clawfoot tub, living room with sto[illegible]e. Open country style kitchen/dining a[illegible] Large covered front porch. Detached garage, city water, paved road. $86,000.

PENDING

(4) 2 STORY HOME ON CUTLER AVE. MENTONE. 3 Bdrm 1½ bath, updated with Metal Roof, 12x16 deck, Kitchen-dining combo. Living room w/gas free standing fireplace, cozy den, Large Bdrm with second story balcony. All appliances stay. Located on a level one-acre lot with large Oak trees and lots of wild flowers. REDUCED $70,000.

(5) LARGE ROCK FORMA[illegible]S and the "Master School" Ruins are a[illegible]nique features of this 8 acres on Li[illegible]g the Boy Scout reservation. Acc[illegible]n County Rd 608. Mentone. $75,000.

PENDING

(6) WEST FORK SUBDIVISION 6.5 acres with paved road frontage. 148 ft on the River. Partially cleared with a spectacular view from the building site. $58,000.

(7) EARLY 1900s TWO STORY FARMHOUSE, located on Cutler Ave. Mentone. High Hedges and Oak Trees make a private setting in town. 2 Bdrms upstairs with sitting area and bath. Living area, eat-in Kitchen & Bath on the main level. Large screened porch. Pine floors, walls, and ceiling throughout. REDUCED $75,900.

(8) ONE OF A KIND LOG, STONE AND CEDAR SHAKE LODGE. This unique find is complete with Heart Pine Plank floors throughout. Open Great Room and Loft with built-in beds. Stone fireplace in Living area, and the custom kitchen with a stone fireplace. French doors open to the sleeping porches and master Bdrm. A must see, with much more to offer. $295,000.

(10) COMPLETELY REMODELED AND LIKE NEW. One level Ranch-style home, with Mother-in-Law apartment. 3 bdrm, 3 bath, Living room with stone Fireplace. Separate Dining room. New kitchen cabinets, counters, flooring, New Roof, lifetime warranty windows. Screened porch and breezeway. Wired Generator. So much more. containing 3.6 acres M/L. Hwy 117, with commercial potential. ~~$145,000~~. REDUCED $125,900.

(11) MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES A River runs through it! Direct Access from the Lookout Mtn. Parkway, on AL Hwy 117. Minutes from Mentone and Cloudland, GA. Three to 7 acre Riverfront Tracts starting at $35,500. Five to fifteen wooded stream tracts from $21,000. Restricted covenants apply.

(9) WONDERFUL OLD MENTONE FARMHOUSE, consisting of 10 rooms. A great renovation project. Large Rocking Chair Porch. 2 Bedrooms and sitting room in attic. 1.9 acres on Scenic Hwy. 16x20 workshop, which could be converted into a guest cabin. 2700 sq. ft. of living space. Sold AS-IS. $118,000. (Photo to left.)

OTHER PROPERTIES

(12) INDIAN TRAIL ESTATES: Building lots on the West Brow, above N. Ft. Payne, county road, city water access, view lots starting at $10,000; wooded lots starting at $6,000.

(13) SIX WOODED LOTS (300x150), across from Sunset Park, DT Mentone, a rare find with Rock Formations, City water and perked. Perfect for the Cabin you have always dreamed of. $40,000. (SOLD)

(14) WILD RIVER COMMUNITY (1 Tract left) 220x300 on the East Fork of Little River. Secluded and Scenic, with pools and Rapids. $30,000.

(15) 7.8 ACRES AVAILABLE IN CHEROKEE COUNTY, MENTONE. Old Homesite with large trees and field. City Water and Private Rd. Located in East Fork Little River Estates. $35,000.

(16) WILDLIFE ABUNDANT on these Three 20+ acre Tracts. Mostly Open Land, Rolling hills, ponds. May be purchased individually or together. Priced $2,000 an acre. Located in Mentone area with deeded access road.

(17) CANYON VIEW FOREST, adjoins National Preserve, and Wildlife Management. 5 acre tract, wooded with drive, power, well installed. Private access behind locked Gate. Overlooks Little River Canyon National Preserve.

(18) WOODED LOTS on Dempsey Ave. Mentone. 200x300 = 1.38 acres. $16,000.

(19) LITTLE RIVER CANYON, 5-acre tract at Canyon View Forest. 2 streams nicely wooded. Overlooks National Park. $55,000.

**MENTONE MINI STORAGE, NEW OWNERSHIP.
UNITS AVAILABLE. FOR INFO, CALL ANGELA WOOD
AT 256-634-4672.**

Lauren Paige McGee

Lauren Paige McGee, daughter of Jennifer and John McGee of Valley Head, was recognized recently at the Valley Head Elementary awards Program by her teacher, Mrs. Ann Carroll and principal, Mr. Bill Monroe. Lauren, a first reader, read 196 books and earned 101 points in the Accelerated Reading Program. She now reads on a 4.2 grade level. Lauren received an AR T-shirt; and, along with 15 other AR winners in Elementary, was treated to a morning of bowling in Fort Payne, and then lunch.

Lauren was also an all-A's Honor student ending the year with a 97 GPA.

BIRTHDAY KIDS

Jacob Bain, Kenya Bain, Jeffrey Bain

Jacob Bain will turn 13 years old on June 29th. Kenya Bain will be 17 years old June 7th. Jeffrey Bain turned 14 years old May 5th.

They are the children of Sherry Powell of Valley Head; and Jeff Bain of Fort Payne.

Grandparents are Clyde and Jean Crabtree of Summerville, GA; Johnny and JoAnn Bain of Attalla, AL; Great Grandmothers are Flora Jennings of Summerville, GA; and Evelyn Bain of Rainbow City, AL. They have one brother, Jordan Bain, of Fort Payne.

Happy Birthday!!!

DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD NEWS

Hello, all,

My name is Slate McDorman and I moved into the Mentone Community a year ago this summer. Shortly after arriving, I wanted to find a way to give something back to the community and came across Desoto Rescue Squad in need of members. I joined up and have found this to be one of the most personally rewarding aspects of living in Mentone. I would like to take the time to say a little about our squad and provide everyone a few emergency medical tips.

For those of you who do not know what we do, we provide emergency services for the surrounding Mentone and Valley Head area. We are all local residents who volunteer our time to give others assistance when possible. Our official medical rating is "first responder," which means we are trained to be the link between the first actions of bystanders and more advanced medical care. For example, after a car accident, we are dispatched along with the ambulance to the scene. Since we are usually closer to the victim, we arrive and stabilize the situation while waiting for more advanced care to arrive. We also have the duty of providing search and rescue operations, water rescue, rope and cave rescue for the immediate area.

Before joining the squad, I had little knowledge of what medical care to provide in case of an emergency. I would like to take the time to share some of what I have learned in hopes of helping others who find themselves in an emergency situation. I hope to continue each month with a new article and new tips for emergency care.

First and most important, if someone is injured and it is uncertain they need more advanced care, get it! Always be sure the "911" emergency system has been notified as soon as possible! This is especially true with trauma, blunt injuries, poisonings and car accidents. Internal bleeding, broken bones, and shock are all possible when a victim might otherwise seem okay. It is always better to err on the side of caution than risk letting a potential life threatening injury go untreated.

Second, never move a victim unless his or her life is in danger. With blunt injuries resulting from a fall or wreck, moving a victim without the proper restraints can lead to further injury. For example, moving someone who has a painful, swollen or deformed leg without taking the time to splint it could result in an open fracture. Moving a victim with a head or spine injury could cause paralysis or even death.

Lastly, now that summer is here, snakes will be out and about. In case of a snakebite, here are a few do's and don'ts to go by:

1. Get the victim medical care immediately.
2. Wash the wound.
3. Immobilize the affected part. Do not let them use a limb that has been bitten.
4. Keep the affected area lower than the heart.
5. NEVER APPLY ICE! Snake venom, unlike other kinds of venom, gets drawn further into the body as the cold constricts the blood vessel.
6. NEVER CUT THE WOUND! This can cause further injury and has not been shown to help stop the spread of venom.
7. NEVER APPLY TOURNIQUET! a tourniquet restricts blood flow to the limb, which would result in the loss of the limb. If you don't know what a tourniquet is, so much the better.

Finally, let me say we are very short on squad members and have a difficult time adequately serving the community for every emergency. We are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and also maintain jobs and make time for our families. Needless to say, there are more times than we would like when it is impossible for us to run a call. So, please, if you have the time, you are welcome to join us. For anyone interested in helping out, please contact our squad captain, Gwen Douthat, at 634-0207. You are also welcome to stop by our squad meeting anytime. We meet the second Tuesday each month @6PM at the Mentone Community Center.

Thank you for your time, and I hope you will join me again next month!

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

March, 2003

The March, 2003, meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club was held March 11 at the community house. The pledge of allegiance was led by the President and the Garden Club Collect was led by Linda Brown.

The secretary's minutes were read and approved as read. The treasurer reported that we have a balance of $847.76 in the treasury.

OLD BUSINESS:The Mentone Inn was selected for the May Luncheon. The cost will be $12.00 per person.

We are reminded to meet at Moon Lake School for Earth Day workday on Tuesday April 22 at 8:30 a.m.

The Nominations committee presented proposed changes to Article V of the Constitution and By-laws. The changes have been sanctioned by the Board as stated in Article X and were voted on and accepted by a simple majority of members present. The changes are as follows:

ARTICLE V: OFFICER'S DUTIES Changed to read:

SECTION 3: The First Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the absence of the latter. The First Vice-President shall be named Program Chairman and plan yearly programs with the assistance of the Second Vice-President and the Board. Such plans are to be incorporated in the yearbook. Yearbooks will be distributed by the June meeting.

The addition of the following:

SECTION 4: The Second Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the absence of the latter and the First Vice-President. The Second Vice-President shall assist the First Vice President and the Board with the planning of yearly programs. In the absence of the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President shall perform all duties assigned to the First-Vice President.

Renumber all following SECTIONS in ARTICLE V and as necessary elsewhere in the Constitution and Bylaws.

The nominating committee presented the proposed new slate of officers. They are: President: Martha Wood; First Vice President, Harriet Lillich; Second Vice President, Margaret Baker, Secretary; Gethryn Giles, Treasurer; Virginia Setze, and Parliamentarian; Mickey Gough. It was moved, seconded, and accepted that we accept the slate as presented.

Lucette Dix moved that we donate $50.00 to the American Legion Auxiliary to aid in sponsorship of Girls State. It was seconded by Jan Wilkinson and accepted by a majority vote.

NEW BUSINESS

April 26th is the Federation Spring luncheon to be held this year at DeSoto State Park. Each club donates a $10.00 gift and the cost of the luncheon will be $10.00.

Harriet Lillich introduced her guest, Marilyn Knight.

There will be a plant sale March 29th at the Ruritan Building in Henegar to benefit the flower show.

The business meeting was adjourned and the group worked at the Community House cleaning the flower beds there.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of the DeKalb/Cherokee Federation; The Garden Club of Alabama Inc.; District II; and the National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region.

Southern Properties Agency, Inc.

845-6000

302 Gault Ave. S., Fort Payne

email:info@Southern-agency.com

Visit our web site at: www.southernpropertiesagency.com

(14) SATISFY YOUR APPETITE for private living and rowdiness with this enticing log siding and mountain stone refuge. The [illegible] room features VAULTED ceiling, [illegible] kitchen island, recessed [illegible], cabinets and sway dining [illegible] master bedroom and bath with Jac[illegible] walk-in closet. Lvg &dinqtv an [illegible] covered patio w/ BBQ. 2-car garage and attic storage. Located on five acres with pond in Lakewood. Too many amenities to mention...call for more details. ~~$249,900.~~ Reduced to $248,900.

SOLD

(6) LOCATED ON DESOTO PARKWAY, this home offers 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 lofts, wood floors throughout, screened porch, deck with hot tub, 1 bedroom guest cottage, greenhouse and 2-car garage with storage room....too many features to list them all! A must see to appreciate - only $239,900.

(5) NEW CONSTRUCTION - Adorable cabin at Mentone, private location, two bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat and air, fireplace with open loft overlooking living area. Private lake. All on 5.7+/- acres. $99,000.

(7) CALM YOURSELF IN THE PEACEFUL SETTING of this 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Features include a 2-story living room with loft and wood burning fireplace, large country kitchen, whirlpool tub in the master bath, 2 hot tubs and a 30' above-ground pool. Also comes with over 21 acres, stocked pond, barn, shed, storage building and view of Lookout Mountain. ~~$469,500~~. Reduced to $150,000.

(3) THIS CUSTOM BUILT HOME offers 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large eat-in area kitchen, entertaining sized living room with fireplace and a multi-purpose basement that could serve as a guest room, office or hobby room. The rock and wood construction blend home and nature all on 2.9 acres. Once you see it, you'll want to own it. $189,000.

(8) ALL THIS HOUSE needs is a new owner--it already has new paint, new carpet, new hot water heater and a new roof. Add maintenance-free brick and 2 acres and you have a great starter or retirement home. Call on this 3 bedroom today. $78,500.

(4) ROOM TO ROAM - this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers lots of extras. Great room with cathedral ceiling, wood floors, separate recreation room, 2 car garage with large storage room, barn and fenced pasture on 46 private acres connecting DeSoto State Park. $249,900.

(5) LOOKING FOR A MOUNTAIN RETREAT - This is it! 8 self-contained cabins, office building that could be converted into living quarters, numerous RV and camp sites all on 13+ secluded acres adjoining DeSoto State Park. $395,000.

(9) WHY GO THROUGH THE HASSLE of starting your own business when you can own a thriving well-established restaurant in a Prime Location, "Downtown Mentone". Fully-equipped kitchen and dining room that seats 125 people, both turn key and financial information furnished to serious buyers. Don't miss this golden opportunity. $387,500

(13) RUSTIC MOUNTAIN LODGE minutes from DeSoto State Park - can be used for single family or commercial business. Great location for hunting, four-wheeling, or just relaxing. Pine and rock floors, great room with fireplace, 2 loft bedrooms with cat walk, screened and open porches, hand crafted cabinets and doors. Two-room guesthouse included. Buy with 5 acres for $150,000, or all 20 acres for $195,000.

(14) ALMOST NEW CABIN with 3 bedrooms on Road [illegible] Mentone on 2+/- acres with [illegible] Brush Creek. Fresh pa[illegible]nd out, spacious living ro[illegible] wood burning fireplace, deck, upstairs and down, all appliances and it is ready to move in. $129,900.

SOLD

(10) RUSTIC STONE PATH leads to this hand-hewn log cabin on the edge of Lookout Mountain. The two story living area features a mountain stone fireplace and exposed beams. Master bedroom is on the main floor with large bedroom and sleeping loft on the second floor. Front and back porch with open deck and a great view. $225,00.

(11) ROCK AND FRAME HOUSE with large living room, eat-in kitchen, 3 bedrooms, one bath, wood burning fireplace, covered front porch, garden spot, 2 acres, all for $92,000.

(12) NO DOWNTOWN SKYLINE SPARKLES below this Mentone "brow" home. Almost maintenance free, featuring 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, large eat-in kitchen with island, cozy living room with fireplace, den/pool room with pool table already there. Great decks to view the picturesque valley, wooded countryside and farmlands. $300,000.

(15) THE BEST OF EVERYTHING, has gone into this compelling 2-story home on the West Brow of Mentone. Over 4000 square feet features 4 BR, 4 BA, great room with fireplace, large living room with fireplace, his & hers bath, heated Jacuzzi in upstairs bath, hardwood and marble floors, screened porch downstairs and glassed observation porch upstairs. A "view" from every room. Call for more details. $449,900.

(16) ESTABLISHED OLD HOMEPLACE IN HISTORIC MENTONE. House is over 100 years old and restorable. These 16.89 acres is home to several primitive barns and sheds all surrounded by huge Oak trees. Retreat to an era gone by for less than $100,000.

(17) Don't miss the opportunity to own the best deal in town. Main house features 3 floors each with a bed & bath living area, office space &/or sitting rooms. Decks & porches surround the house on all 3 levels. Also a detached 2-car garage with apartment sits on the 2.7 acres of Brow property--what a buy for $195,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

(18) OVER 9 acres on West Fork of Little River close to Mentone on a paved public road with access to city water, 965' of river frontage, several building sites allowing for subdivision or keep as a whole.$138,000. (SOLD)

(19) GENTLY ROLLING, WOODED VACANT LAND IN VALLEY HEAD. Perfect for development. Extensive paved road frontage. 62 acres listed at $3,000 per acre.

(20) Just listed 4.3 +/- acres on DeSoto Parkway. Only $49,500.

(21) Almost 600' on the West Fork of Little River, gently rolling and heavily wooded all within 1 mile of Mentone. $70,000

(22) BUILD YOUR WEEKEND [illegible] on this 1.17+/- acres filled with spectacular rock formations behind city hall [illegible] $14,500.

SOLD

(23) PRIME PROPERTY on [illegible] 130+/- acre tract enjoys the setting of the valley with pristine view[illegible]dges and Wills Creek which meanders through the property.

SOLD

(24) LAND! Surround yourself with trees, gentle rolling pastures, water, and a beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. 67 acres of prime property located on Hwy. 11 between Fort Payne and Hammondville is a dream come true. Call today! $422,000

(25) LAND AND LAKE....40 +/- acres with a 5+/- acre lake and Brush Creek runs through it. The lake was stocked with Bass and Bream 2 years ago and is approximately 35' deep. Don't wait--act today! $180,000.

(26) Brow Property...1.7+/- acres on County Road 166 near DeSoto State Park. $37,500.

(27) 3.68 +/- acres on the Brow near DeSoto State Park. $64,900.

(28) OPPORTUNITY AWAITS - 10 acres on Hwy 17, East of Mentone. 3 mobile homes and 2 one bedroom apartments and room to grow. Outside the city limits - no restrictions. Let your income pay for the property. $158,500.

(29) RETREAT, RETREAT, RETREAT - If for any reason you want to or need to, this 40 acres is partly cleared and partly wooded with a large lake and wooded stream. Great for hunting cabins or full-time residence. $170,000.

UNIQUE GIFTS AT MOUNTAIN MAMAS

By Mary Alice Stout

WEDDINGS, ANNIVERSARIES, FATHER'S DAY, and all other special occasions will lead you to Mountain Mamas Crafts and Rock Shop for the PERFECT GIFT! With more than 60 women artists (local & regional), we are full, floor to ceiling, with more handmade items than ever before. Don't forget gifts for GRADUATION, house-warming, hostess, shower or birthday, or maybe a gift for yourself!

Want the PERFECT FATHER'S DAY GIFT for that Dad who has everything? It's a beautifully beaded fishing lure key chain or hanging ornament. And, yes, the hooks have been removed. These one-of-a-kind creations are handwoven by Annabelle Leitner, the Mountain Mamas rug weaver.

Morgana MacVicar, Mountain Mamas potter, has PAINTED FLOOR AND PLACE MATS in a new display at the Shop. (See photo this page.) The mats are made from recycled vinyl ends which Morgana paints with flowers, fruits, or cats. Each mat is then coated with 4 layers of polyurethane. This makes them durable and easy to clean. They may be used in the kitchen, bath, or as a welcome mat. If you recall the Dish Restaurant, one mat was just inside their door for 4 years!

Twelve NEW artists have joined Mountain Mamas since we opened in late March for our ninth season. Two of these are FABRIC ARTIST Patricia (Pat) Harlow (See photo this page.)and STAINED GLASS & MOSAIC ARTIST Linda Munoz.

Pat Harlow showing a fish pillow and place mats

In May of 2002, Pat and her husband, Jim, moved to a new home in the Mentone area. They say that one of the best things about living here is "being closer to our six grandsons and their parents." As a FABRIC ARTIST, Pat has a variety of cloth items for sale at Mountain Mamas. Examples-pillow cases for children (which are unusual), baby quilts, holiday napkins & place mats, and giant pillow fish! During a recent visit to Mountain Mamas, Pat shared some of her "herstory" with fabric.

"My grandmother taught me to sew on her White treadle sewing machine. I was about 5 years old. Yes, I got my fingers stuck with more than one needle! She also taught me to do all kinds of hand work, which I will enjoy doing until I can't use a needle.

"My mother loved to sew when she was younger and had two girls at home. Then she learned to paint and sewing wasn't exciting any more. The only picture I ever 'painted' was with fabric. My sister is a professional potter.

"Sometimes I think I have done it all-baby things, doll dresses, wedding dress, bridesmaids' outfits, prom gowns, draperies, clothes, and quilts (before it was the 'in' thing). Then I get inspired by something I see and I am off on another project. I am always eager to learn new and different techniques and ways to use fabric, color and design. Unfortunately, I have more ideas in my head than my fingers have time to produce. But, sewing has always been a part of my life and I love the colors and feel of fabric."

STAINED GLASS & MOSAIC ARTIST, Linda Munoz, lives at the end of a dirt road in a house built before the Civil War in Cuba, Alabama. They also have a week-end place in Mentone. She and her husband, Charlie, are both artists and maintain a studio in their barn. Linda has been making stained glass panels for over 20 years. She took a glass course when she and her husband bought their home, because she knew she wanted to fill it with glass. A retired registered nurse, she now spends some time every day making mosaic pieces and stained glass.

"ARTIST AT WORK"- Sunday, June 8, 2:00 to 4:00pm (GA time) at Mountain Mamas, the first of a series. Andrea Brandon, the popular painter on rocks, plates, gourds, and barn wood, will be demonstrating her techniques (see April 2003 Groundhog article). Andrea would like to meet her fans and sign any of her works.

Mountain Mamas is located in Cloudland, GA, on GA Hwy 48, just 1/2 mile from where AL Hwy 117 ends at the GA/AL state line. The shop is open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, noon to 6:00pm (GA time) or by appointment-call Mary Alice Stout at 706-862-2142 or email mountainmamas@alltel.net

Be sure to see our WEB PAGE
www.mountainmamas.com.

Morgana MacVicar with her floormats

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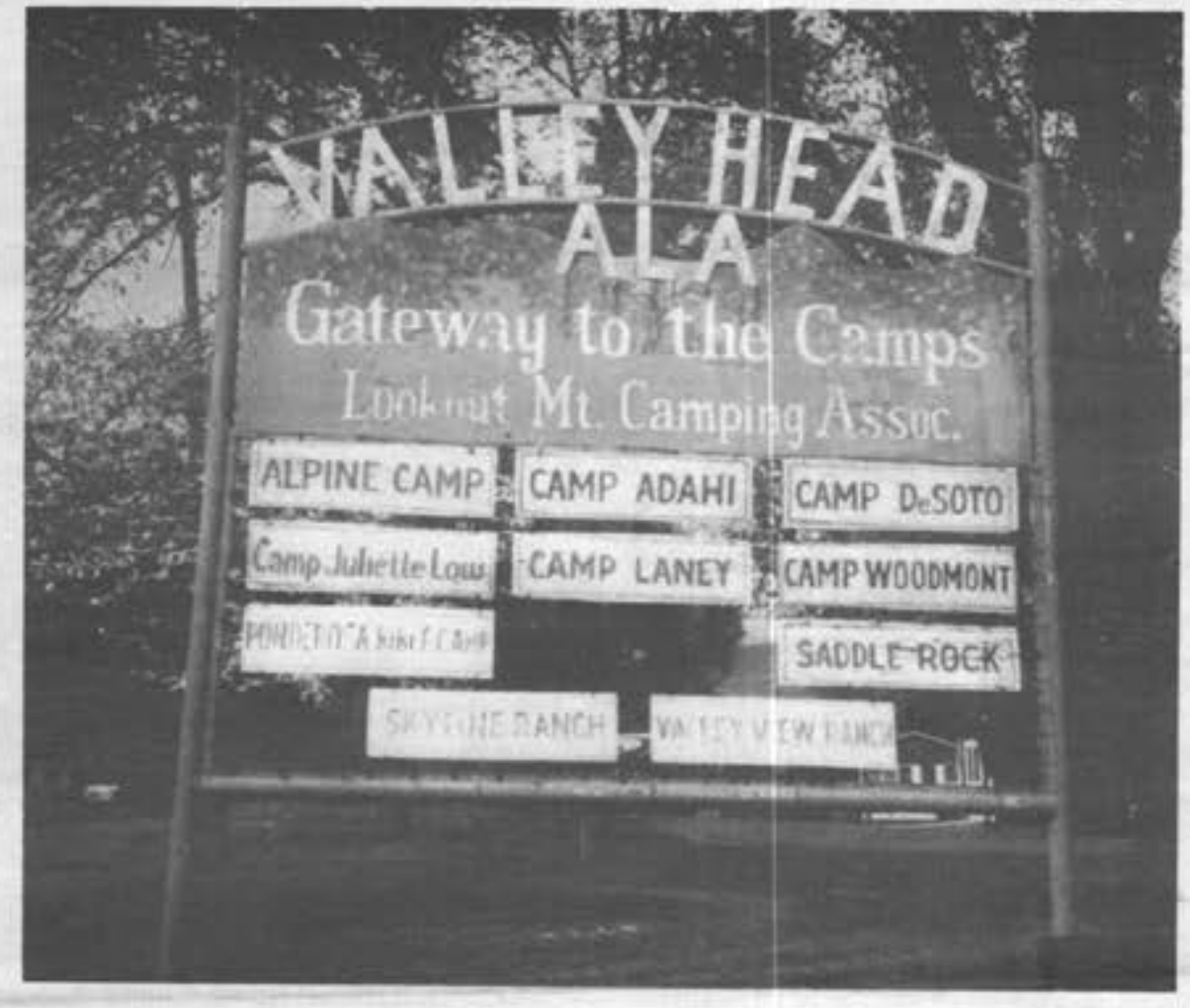

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CAMP SKYLINE REUNION, APRIL 11-13, 2003

First Row: (L/R): Becky Whitney, Martha Fulton, Debbie Davis, Mary Margaret Heywood, Ann Bourkard, Lynn Bourkard, Chris Coleman, Betty Fuller, Babs Davies, Jo Anna Tubbs, Lynn Adams; 2nd Row: Dootsie Parker, Sandra Prater, Marty Rodgers, Lil Parker, Jane Scruggs, Mary Freel, Katherine Wright; 3rd Row (center): Mary Holcomb, Lida Hill, Jan Whitmire, Pug Gross, Marty Mitchell, Janice Chitwood; 4th Row: Robin Johnson, Patsy Butler, Sidney Rodgers, Mary Colquitt Ray, Wilhelmine Damon, Mazie Blanks, Lucia Cleveland, Ann Ashley (behind Lucia), Ann O'Leary, Sydney Smith, Gail Jackson, Spooks Robison, Amelia Loper, Vicki Strickland, Babs Welch, Marcia Tatum; 5th Row (short row on left) Patsy King, Faye Flanagan, Nancy Goodwin; 5th Row (short row on right) Mary Lutz, Sissy Heywood; Back Row: Edward and Sylvia Cash, Fudge Eschette, Nancy Nettles, Ridgely Johnston, Bonnie Ashley, Carroll Barrett, Flewellyn Pringle, Sissi Loftin, Barbara Robison, Eloise Temple (seated), Brooke Temple, Beverly Davies, Rod Lutz, Pat Kelly, Edna Smith, Brownie Stewart, Lee Ann Lutz, Mary Ann and Edmund Cash. Attended but not pictured: Camille Agricola, Claire Agricola, Jackie Barlow, Paula Barlow, Cindy Burroughs, Lucy Chapman, Anne Copeland, Martha Anne Copeland, Jeanette Crow, Pat Ingram, Karen Jones, Anne Little, Helen Long, and Jan Zeanah

*Maiden names

Campers and counselors at Camp Skyline Ranch in Mentone, AL, during the years 1950-1965, met at the camp for a weekend reunion April 11-13, 2003. Seventy-five people from fifteen states, Washington, D.C., and Saudi Arabia, returned to renew friendships, enjoy the camp, participate in canoeing, horseback riding, dance, and talent show, and re-enact camp traditions.

Eloise Temple, founder of the camp and director during those years, was greeted on Saturday by many who expressed their gratitude to her for the lasting influence and enrichment she provided in their lives through many years. All enjoyed recalling and sharing memorable incidents from camp days.

Barbara Robison of Fort Payne and Marietta, GA, organized the reunion. Sylvia and Edward Cash and Sally and Larry Johnson were hosts for the event and provided not only the beautiful facilities, but also warm and exceptional hospitality.

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About Our Town

By

LINDA BROWN

Where did the month of May go? What happened to a whole month of wonderful days? Maybe that is the secret, the days were so great that they passed all too quickly. Recently, I heard someone say that any day they could see the sun shining and hear the birds singing was a good day. I think that this attitude comes with age. Wisdom may be the only advantage of getting older. I've always heard that education is wasted on the young. I think that youth is also wasted on the young. Ponder that idea for a moment, doesn't make any sense does it? Now think again. If a sixty-year-old person with the wisdom and experience of the years had the stamina, energy and exuberance of a fifteen-year-old person, what would the world be like? An interesting concept, isn't it?

The program of providing frozen meals for persons more than sixty is going very well. This program is sponsored by the Council on Aging. I understand that this is a program of the State of Alabama and we work through the office in Fort Payne. As of this writing, the Town of Mentone is picking up and delivering a box of seven frozen meals with drinks, bread and dessert to sixteen persons each week. These are delivered on Monday morning and are yours to use as you want. Some people tell me that they eat one at lunch and others eat one for dinner. If you so desire, you can contribute $5.00 to the program each week. This is not a requirement and is a voluntary action on the part of the recipient. If you or someone you know would like to have these delivered to your home each week, give me a call at 634-8006. There are several people volunteering to deliver these, which is making the coordinating much easier on me. I really appreciate their help.

Another program that is made up of people who are willing to volunteer is the Summer Reading Program at the Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library. This is a program that is being sponsored by the community for students who are out of school for the summer months. We have had one session on Saturday, May 31 and I had a great time. All children between the ages of Kindergarten and Sixth Grade are invited to come and participate for the next seven weeks. All sessions will be on Saturday morning from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. I am coordinating the K-3 program and I invite anyone bringing children to stay and help. The first session had eighteen wonderful little people sign up. When thirty-six little hands are asked to make an octopus out of a sock, I need help. Therefore, any adults who are willing to stay are welcome. I can use all the help I can get. Look in this issue of The Groundhog and locate the article, Libs From the Library for more details on this program and other items of interest from the library.

What would the community do without volunteers? Another great organization that is made up of all volunteers is the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District. The Firefighters and the Directors of the Board all serve without any compensation. The latest fund raising effort on the part of the Volunteer Firefighters was to sponsor a food booth in the Rhododendron Festival. The weather did not cooperate enough to continue on Sunday, but the Saturday proceeds were good. We made enough to pay expenses and make a profit also. I don't know of a better bargain anywhere than a barbeque plate for $5.00. We also served barbeque sandwiches, hotdogs and cold drinks. For dessert, we served ice cream, but the sale of this wasn't all that great because the weather was never very warm. It needs to be a very hot day to sell a lot of ice cream. Look for us under the Food Shelter at the October Festival. We'll be there with more good food. Also, we will sell hotdogs and cold drinks in conjunction with a yard sale when the Longest (in more ways than miles) Yard Sale occurs in August. Watch for advertisements as to days and times. The Board of Directors for the fire department would like to thank everyone who responded to the letter explaining the recent purchase of a new pumper truck and the need for a brush truck. The response from the community has been great. Mentone is a great place!

The recent rain has caused everything to grow even more than usual. The grass is greener and thicker. The foliage on the trees is so thick that it is unbelievable. Next time you travel Alabama Highway 117 up or down Lookout Mountain, look at the leaves. They almost meet in the center which makes it seem like a tunnel of green. I do wish that the Highway Department would mow the sides of that highway. The grass is so tall that the view is obstructed in many places. One of the worst places is at the intersection at Moon Lake School.

I hear that Moon Lake School is scheduled for a major face-lift this summer. At least new siding and a new roof are what I hear. Hopefully, some repairs will be made inside at the same time. The community as a whole had really hoped for a new school, but this will help until we can see that happen. The recent spring storms blew a large tree down on some of the buildings that are used for the reading and gifted programs. These two buildings will be replaced by the time school starts next year. Several of the teachers told me that this was a very scary storm.

Both of my daughters were in very precarious situations during the worst of these storms. Carol was in the Community House by herself. As most of you know, this house is now open on all sides and therefore has a lot of glass windows. Carol said that her only thought was that no one knew where she was and she would not be found if she were hurt. Gail was home on her farm. She said she was watching from the window, when suddenly she saw some trees blown down and a newly born baby calf was blown off of the dam on their pond. She then went to an inside room. When she felt safe enough to come out, she found several trees blown down and an equipment shed destroyed. The baby calf was not hurt. He had found his mom by the time the storm was over, or probably she found him. Gail did say that he seemed to be meaner than most of the new calves. This reminded both of us of a new born kitten we had when she was a teenager. He was the only one of a litter of kittens that lived and the mama cat did not want him. We had to hold her still and make her feed him. He grew up to be the meanest cat we have ever had. Maybe there is something to this theory of not being happy if you feel you were not wanted for the first five years of your life. It certainly seems true in the animal kingdom. Gail was and is still an animal person. She brought home every stray puppy in Mentone. As a result, we sometimes had more dogs than we knew what to do with. We didn't know much about the spay-neuter program then, thank goodness we do now.

One subject always makes me think of another when I am writing this article. Speaking of spaying and neutering reminds me to urge everyone to have your animals "fixed." There are several instances in Mentone right now where the puppies or kittens are not taken care of. They usually die of starvation or are killed by predators. This is not right. Unless you are raising animals to sell, there is no reason to let them continue to reproduce. Look on the local bulletin boards for the name and number of a clinic where you can get this procedure performed at a reduced price. If you don't find it, Marie Dillenbeck, associate editor of this publication, has the information.

My dad, Fraser Cochran, has not been doing very well recently. It seems that the many long years of hard work have left their toll on him. The vertebra in his back is in very bad condition and this is causing much pain. Recently, he has been to the hospital several times attempting to have a procedure done that will relieve some of this pain. There is a problem with his blood being too thin and he has not been able to have it. The nurses always ask him a lot of questions, one of them being, "On a scale of zero to ten, zero being no pain and ten being the worst you can imagine, where would you rate your pain today?" This caused me to start thinking about pain. What is it?

What is the worst pain you can imagine? Can you imagine pain? Why do some people have a higher tolerance for pain than others? What happens when the pain is relieved? I know that people without the ability to feel pain are very apt to injure themselves severely. So, some pain is good. It seems that animals, other than human ones, feel pain. Do all forms of life feel pain? Pain has to do with nerves and nerve endings, so is it really real? Not long ago, a person who has had a leg amputated told me that they have much pain in their foot, but the foot isn't there. Where is that pain? If I were still a young person, maybe I would go to school and learn all of the answers. As it is, I will just continue to wonder and hope that Dad gets some relief from his pain soon.

Continue to enjoy this wonderful weather. Plant something and watch it grow. Love a child. Give something back to a world that has given you so much. You say the world has never given you anything? You have life, don't you? You can read this silly rambling, can't you? If you can't do anything else, at least do what all new medical students promise; FIRST, DO NO HARM. This concept would go a long way. Think about it.

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ALMA CRABTREE CELEBRATES 97TH BIRTHDAY ON MOTHER'S DAY

(continued from page 1)

bravely her battle with cancer until her death on June 18, 2001. Alma has instilled many of her fine characteristics in her children.

If you have not visited with Mrs. Crabtree lately, stop by for a few minutes. It would mean a lot to her. There is no doubt in my mind that we will enjoy helping her celebrate her 100th birthday.

Jay Wideman, Rovene's son; Mrs. Crabtree; and Laura Mae Carr, sister

Alma Crabtree, seated; Angela Anderson, granddaughter; Chasidy Mallard, great-granddaughter; Archie Biddle, brother; Laura Mae Carr, sister; Dorothy Callahan, daughter; Mark Gilbert, friend of Angela; Timmy Earl, friend of Chasidy; Jay Wideman, grandson; Glenda Clark, niece; Rusty Mallard, great-grandson; Sonya Gravitt, friend of Rusty.

Style---or WHAT?

By John Baty

You know, I guess it's just the culture around these parts, the atmosphere of "freedom" which we rural people tend to cultivate, but I just never did enjoy being told that I *must* do this or do that. Like something akin to taboo to wear white "tennis shoes" to a formal wedding, etc. Somehow, I can't escape the feeling that someone or other is messing with our mind--just a little.

What got me to thinking along these lines was the attempted purchase of some shoes. A not too uncommon practice; everyone's shoes wear out, or go out of style sooner or later necessitating the purchase of new shoes.

I sometimes think that the turn over time for shoes is shorter than necessary. Well, you know, I recall one gentleman back sixty years or so ago who stated that his black Sunday dress shoes were nineteen years old. Maybe that was an exception, I don't know.

I'll need to go back a way, some fifteen years to be specific, in order to explain about shoes: About that many years ago, I developed some problem with one of my toes; the second from the little one, on the right foot. When I would step on a pebble or hickory nut, something would shift back there behind the toe and cause excruciating pain. One day when I was in the city, I stepped on gravel and messed it up pretty bad. For some inexplicable reason, we were parked in a rather large parking area where there were many businesses. I think they may call such a place a strip mall. There happened to be a podiatrist office among the businesses--"Okay," I said, "We'll see what he says."

The podiatrist picked up my foot in his cupped hand and squeezed. The pain was instantly gone. "How'd ya do that?!" I asked. The doctor showed me how to *fix* the foot myself. He said that I had something called a Morton's Neuroma on the nerve there between the toes and when I stepped on something like a gravel, it pushed the neuroma up between the toe bones causing pain. --Another doctor, a surgeon, wanted to cut it out. --Still another, a sports medicine specialist, didn't think it was a Morton's neuroma, but rather trauma to the metatarsal bones. I didn't like the idea of cutting on my foot, so I continued being careful and popping the thing back in place when I accidentally threw it out of place.

I discovered that the only shoe I could wear with any satisfaction was Reebok Classic in style C, wide. So, I limped along for about fifteen years or so. Then, for some inexplicable reason, the foot stopped giving trouble; stopped hurting--and I didn't even have it witched away or nothing! It just stopped hurting. Maybe the neuroma grew so bit it couldn't get between the bones, or it went into remission and shrank. I didn't argue, whatever caused it.

Well, I decided if the foot was okay, then I would try some other kind of shoe. Maybe some variety might change the ol' mood. When I looked at that long rack of "tennis shoes," I got quite a shock: Every last pair was turned up fore and aft like the two ends of a Viking war ship. But to beat even that, there were warty, crusty knots and knobs all around the sides like maybe a bad case of barnacles on the Viking ship, but all above the waterline. I just stood there and kept looking at them shoes, trying to figure out the purpose of all those rough things on the soles and ends and side. You know what they reminded me of? A huge, ugly larval grub, with its front all wrinkled up. Could it have been some entermologist who designed those darned things? If so, he should keep to his own specialty! Or maybe a bunch of hush-puppies that were randomly spooned into the grease taking whatever shape chance and neglect dictated. I asked her what the purpose of such shoes was and was told they were *sports* shoes. I said, "Okay! That's what those pro athletes wear?" "No," she said, "They have special shoes. These are just sport-type shoes. All purpose." I wondered what a feller might do with a pair of those with the cleats up on the sides. I guess if a fellow were climbing around up in the Smoky Mountains where all the land stands up on edge, he might need tread on the sides to help hold back as he slid off a steep place. But what is the purpose here in flatter Alabama where all they will ever be used for is to walk on the legs of blue jeans at Hardees? She got busy with some young folks and I left the store.

Later, I found out there ain't no other kind of shoes these days. My Brother-in-law said he got so frustrated with tracking mud into the house after working in the garden that he took his shoes out to shop and turned on the bench grinder and ground the soles down smooth. I thought it a pretty come-off when a feller can't even buy an ordinary shoe!-- And you know, as I left the last store in disguet, I beheld an automobile, which was neither a car or a truck! It has that hush-puppy look, too, like the shoes, and the tires had tread all the way up the sidewalls! Now, a shoe for mountain climbing, maybe. But a vehicle which runs on the sides of its tires?

Someone needs to explain these strange things to me. I know I am missing something somewhere. Got to be!

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THE THINGS I FOUND IN THE ATTIC – PART 4

Continued from page 4)

From a teachers' meeting held at Ider on February 19 (no year indicated), this responsive reading was used for the devotional.

A Teacher's Prayer

(Dedicated to devoted teachers everywhere, who truly shape the world's destiny.)

Leader: O, God, make me a better teacher.
Group: Help me to understand my pupils, to listen patiently to what they have to say and to answer all their questions kindly.
Leader: Keep me from interrupting them, talking back to them and contradicting them.
Group: Make me as courteous to them as I would have them to be to me.
Leader: Give me the courage to confess my sins against my children and to ask of them forgiveness, when I know that I have done them wrong.
Group: May I not hurt the feelings of my children.
Leader: Forbid that I should laugh at their mistakes or resort to shame and ridicule as punishment.
Group: Let me not tempt a child to lie and steal.
Leader: So guide me hour by hour that I may demonstrate by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness.
Group: Reduce, I pray, the meanness in me.
Leader: May I cease to nag; and when I am out of sorts, help me, Oh Lord, to hold my tongue.
Group: Blind me to the little errors of my children and help me to see the good things that they do.
Leader: Give me a ready word for honest praise.
Group: Help me to treat my pupils as those of their own age, but let me not exact of them the judgments and conventions of adults.
Leader: Allow me not to rob them of the opportunity to wait upon themselves, to think, to choose and to make decisions.
Group: Forbid that I should ever punish them for my selfish satisfaction.
Leader: May I grant them all of their wishes that are reasonable and have the courage always to withhold a privilege which I know will do them harm.
Group: Make me so fair and just, so considerate and companionable to my children that they will have a genuine esteem for me.
Leader: Fit me to be loved and imitated by my children.
Group: With all thy gifts, Oh God, do give me calm poise and self control.

—Garry C. Myers
Editor, Highlights for Children

Another thing that Mother had saved is **Children Learn What They Live**, by Dorothy Law Nolte. I am sure that many of you have read this one, but it is good to be reminded.

CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE

By Dorothy Law Nolte

If a child lives with criticism he learns to condemn.....
If a child lives with hostility he learns to fight...
If a child lives with fear he learns to be apprehensive...
If a child lives with ridicule he learns to be shy...
If a child lives with jealousy he learns what envy is...
If a child lives with shame he learns to feel guilty...
If a child lives with encouragement
he learns to be confident...
If a child lives with tolerance he learns to be patient...
If a child lives with praise he learns to be appreciative...
If a child lives with acceptance he learns to love...
If a child lives with approval he learns to like himself...
If a child lives with recognition
he learns that it is good to have a goal...
If a child lives with sharing he learns about generosity...
If a child lives with honesty and fairness
he learns what truth and justice are...
If a child lives with security he learns to
have faith in himself and in those about him...
If a child lives with friendliness he learns that the
world is a nice place in which to live.....
If you live with serenity your child
will live with peace of mind...

WITH WHAT IS YOUR CHILD LIVING?

(As broadcast on "Art Linkletter's House Party.")

CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEY LIVE was written in 1954 for Mrs. Nolte's column, "Creative Family Living" in the Torrance Herald

I found another newspaper clipping entitled, "WHO WILL TAKE GRANDMA? There is so much truth in this little poem. It gives us all food for thought.

WHO WILL TAKE GRANDMA?

Who will take Grandma? who will it be?
All of us want her--I'm sure you'll agree!
Let's call a meeting--let's gather the clan,
Let's get it settled as soon as we can!
In such a big family, there's certainly one
Willing to give her a place in the sun.

Strange how we thought that she'd never wear out,
But see how she walks--it's arthritis, no doubt.
Her eyesight is faded--her memory's dim,
She's apt to insist on the silliest whim.
When people get older they become such a care.
She must have a home--but the question is where?

Remember the days when she used to be spry,
Baked her own cookies and baked her own pie?
Helped us with lessons and mended our seams.
Wonderful Grandma! We all loved her so!
Isn't it dreadful she's no place to go?

One little corner is all she would need--
A shoulder to cry on--her Bible to read--
A chair by the window with sun coming through
Some pretty spring flowers still covered with dew.
Who'll warm her with love so she won't mind the cold?
Oh, who will take Grandma, now that she's old?

What! Nobody wants her? Oh yes, there is
One willing to give her a place in the sun
where she won't have to worry or wonder or doubt--
And she won't be our problem to bother about.
Pretty soon now God will give her a bed,
But who'll dry our tears when dear Grandma is dead?

There is one last thing I would like to share, but the article will be far too long if I do it in this one. It is something that my mother wrote. I do not know how many years ago it was written, or for whom; and, even though I knew my mother as well as anyone did and I knew what she believed in, I had never seen anything of this nature that she had written. Please allow me to share this in next month's issue.

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AN ARMY REUNION IN MENTONE

By Bill Schwarz

More years ago than I think I care to remember, the Army drafted me (November 1950) and, after basic training, sent me to Redstone Arsenal at Huntsville, Alabama. First off, Alabama was known, but Huntsville was not and needed to be located on a map. Once that was done, getting to Huntsville in late February 1951 was no easy trick. All roads from Fort Meyers, VA, led through the mountains of North Carolina and being a southern boy driving through snowy mountains was not an accustomed feat. Driving over Chapman Mountain and looking down into Huntsville was a surprise, a blanket of snow was not expected, bright warm sunshine would have been more to my liking and expectations of the deep south.

Once my 1940 Ford convertible and I found Redstone Arsenal, with the aid of some very helpful Huntsvillians, the M.P. on duty directed me to the 9330th TSU (Technical Service Unit); and there the adventure and education began. It very quickly became apparent this unit was not like any previous station. Here were about 150 highly educated and highly trained young G.I.'s who had been assembled to work in a new field of military weaponry.

Everyone has heard of "Operation Paperclip," which brought Werner von Braun and the other German rocket scientists to this country from Peenemunde where they had developed the V-1 and V-2 rockets during WWII. However, no one alive now, but the members of the 9330th remembers "Operation Pipeline," which searched the records of recent Army inductees and sent those who qualified to one of several Army research facilities to work in their chosen fields, doing real science.

All of this took place in the 1950-1954 time frame, a time when Redstone Arsenal had just been reactivated as the Army's Ordnance Guided Missile Center (OGMC) and Ordnance Rocket Center (ORC). Both centers were directed by the "Operation Paperclip" folks who, by this time, were well on their way to becoming American Citizens. In 1950, Huntsville did not enjoy a "high tech" reputation, as it does now; and the Army found it very difficult to hire the people required to do the needed design, research, and development work. At the suggestion of von Braun, the U.S. Army did what the German Army had done to obtain the needed scientific personnel. Thus, "Operation Pipeline" and the 9330th TSU was established and staffed, and the young G.I.'s put to work with civilians doing design, development, research and testing of the first generation of U.S. high tech missiles and rockets.

So, with all of the foregoing said, what was going on in Mentone May 13-15, 2003? It was a reunion (the third)of the G.I.'s of the 9330th. Here we reminisced about our scientific successes and our failures, our exploits, our "survival" of Army life, life after the Army, caught up with old friends, and sometimes would commiserate about the difficulties of old age. What else do you do at a reunion? We sat on the porch at the Mentone springs Hotel and talked and talked and talked. We all agreed that our lives had been significantly altered and redirected in a positive way as a result of our Army experience at Redstone Arsenal. We shared three meals together, some of us toured Bill and Ann Wright's garden (one of the great delights of this world) and some hiked to see the "Indian caves". Some of the group left immediately after the noontime picnic at my house on May 15th, some stayed around for a few days to go to the Rhododendron Festival and just tour the area.

This was a major event in the lives of 23 "secret G.I. scientists" and their guests (40 people in all) they came to Mentone from all over the country: AL(9), OH(4), TX(2), CA(2), KY(1), FL(1), MA(1), MD(1), GA(1), and IL(1). They had such a good time that many of them departed saying let's do it again in 2005 in Mentone. Now, that is a true measure of success and that success is due too the grand people in and around Mentone who helped me organize and conduct the occasion..the B&B's that housed the group, the town of Mentone and the American Legion that furnished tables and chairs for the picnic and the gracious hospitality of Marc and Andy of the Mentone Springs Hotel.

To all of you in and around Mentone...a heartfelt thanks for all you did, either knowingly or unknowingly. You have my gratitude and the gratitude of 40 very happy G.I.'s and guests....G.I.'s who did their part to establish America's military supremacy and America's space program. By the way, the space program started with Project Mercury powered by the Redstone rocket. Those veterans who were here in Mentone May 13-15 were to a large extent responsible for the design and development of that rocket.

THANKS, MENTONE!

The Huntsville Times, Sunday, May 11, 2003

Federal/Military "Secret Scientists" Reunite

ARMY DRAFTEES HELPED VON BRAUN'S TEAM AT REDSTONE ARSENAL MANY YEARS AGO

by Rebecca Sallee, *For the Times* Submitted by Andy Karabinos

A group of Army veterans known as "the secret G.I. scientists of Redstone Arsenal will reunite this week in Mentone.

About 40 surviving members and spouses of the Army's 9330 Technical Service Unit, formed to help Dr. Wernher von Braun in the nation's early missile program, will convene for only the second time in more than 50 years.

Andy Karabinos of Huntsville, a retired aerospace engineer who was part of the unit brought to the arsenal in 1950, said the term "Secret Scientists" refers to the group's relative anonymity.

"Nobody really knows" about the contributions of the unit that was quickly formed when the Army needed technical help with its missile program.

"They went through all the draftees' histories and found out how many had scientific backgrounds," said Karabinos, who was among about 150 soldiers with engineering backgrounds sent to Redstone.

Karabinos, the Huntsville coordinator of this week's unit reunion, worked in Redstone's propellant laboratory to study the speed of various propellants, while other soldiers studied fuel composition and mechanical and electrical issues.

"We worked intimately in all parts of missile design and development," said Karabinos.

The group's experiments were so advanced, he said, "They're reaching the same conclusions (now) that we reached 30 years ago."

Karabinos met von Braun several times and calls him "a great guy" and "a great organizer."

"Although he could operate in political circles, I never felt he was a political individual," he said, adding that von Braun always conducted his work "through scientific disciplines."

The unit later became a training unit that merged with the arsenal's guided missile education program and the majority of its original members completed their educations and went into industry.

"Some of them worked for aerospace companies and made significant names for themselves," he said.

Among the many accomplished "secret G.I. scientists" were Phil Dykstra, who became general manager of Thiokol's strategic division; Paul Fuller, vice president of propulsion systems in Boeing's Rocketdyne division; Jim Kingsbury, director of science and engineering at Marshall Space Flight Center; Bob Lindstrom, a shuttle program manager at Marshall and later senior vice president of Thiokol's space operations; George Noyes, president of Northern Bank Note Co.; Peter Perino, president of Transducers Inc.; and Robert Richards, president of Aerojet's electric systems division.

Karabinos earned a chemistry degree at Illinois Benedictine University and had a long career as a propellant chemist, returning in 1955 to the Huntsville area for jobs with several high-tech companies and NASA. He retired in 1992.

He believes history will remember the unit as an important jump start to the nation's missile program.

"We filled in a big hole in the (Army's) research and development activity," he said. "We advanced the missile systems by more than two years. We provided help when it was really needed.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

May 5, 2003

I am the Senior Warden at St. Joseph's On the Mountain Episcopal Church. I have been tasked to generate a history of the log cabin, which is an integral part of our little church. My wife, Janet, and I recently spent a delightful afternoon with Dellyne and Jimmy Jones, who rented the cabin as their residence after their marriage in 1946. From them, I learned a great deal about the configuration of the cabin when they lived in it, and they were kind enough to lend me several older groundhog that hopefully contain some additional information. I would appreciate any anecdotes, historical information, etc., that your readers might be able to impart regarding the evolution of St. Joseph's, from its beginnings, as well as any history of the log cabin.

They can call me at 634-4420, or email me at spahronthemtn@aolcom.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gus Spahr, Senior Warden

Slow down, you move too fast

(From the New York Post, March 25, 2003)
Written by Karen Parr)
Submitted by Mentone Springs Hotel

Mentone, Ala.

There's the South of antebellums and magnolias, and then there's the South--where grits are grits, the air is mountain clean and front porches are a hot spot.

In short, there's Mentone (pop. 451). This stunningly situated slow-as-syrup hamlet, nestled in the Appalachians, is picturesque and fat with history.

"The whole idea of coming here is to stop," says Marc Elacqua, who runs the Mentone Springs Hotel, where guests can get body wraps and reflexology.

The Desoto Sate Park, with eight miles of hiking trails, is part of the 14,000-acre Little River Canyon National Preserve (desotostatepark.com,nps.gov)

For mouth-watering good food, go to Dessie's Kountry Chef. The sign out front reads "God is my security guard" and he must have blessed Dessie's crockpot while he was at it, because she makes a great peach cobbler (5951 Highway 117).

Stay: Mentone Springs Hotel on the square is a rambling gem with 10 guest rooms and a wrap-around porch. Doubles from $65 ([256] 634-4040, (mentonespringshotel.com)

FIVE GENERATIONS

Standing: Father: Scott Meadows and Grandmother Cynthia Meadows. Seated: Great Grandfather Barry Brown and Great, Great Grandmother Eloise Brown, holding Lily Meadows, born April 11, 2003, to Scott and Katherine Meadows.

Welcome to the world, Lily!!!

Congratulations Scott and Katherine!

Other Grandparents are Howard and Thelma Meadows of Fort Payne; Charles and Debbie Frazier of Mentone; Great Grandparents Bill and Alice Coulter of Random Lake, WI.; and Great Grandmother, Madeline Summerfield of Dothan, AL.

Jan Wilkinson with scholarship recipient Felina Hannah

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED BY VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB

by Evelyn Graves

The Valley Head woman's Cub annually presents a scholarship to a deserving senior from Valley Head High School. This year's recipient is Felina Hannah, who plans to enter Northeast Alabama Community College. The club members are proud to be able to make this presentation to Felina and look forward to enjoying her successes as she attains her goal.

SPRING LUNCHEON

by Flo Kirby

The Valley Head Woman's Club met on May 21, 2003, at the Lumpkin House Restaurant in Albertville for their annual Spring Luncheon.

Although it was a damp, rainy day, there were 22 present. Because of the weather, members were not able to enjoy the lovely lawn and gardens as they would have liked. It is a really pretty setting, and the food was delicious.

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Beautiful Alabama

Beautiful Alabama, you are the heart of Dixieland
A lovely panorama only God could have so planned.
Named by Alibamu tribe to clear establish and build
A happy place to abide, where hope was born, faith instilled
December eighteen nineteen was your birthday as a state
Much achievement there has been to give you stature, make you great.
Generous mountains give you coal, iron and lumber trees
Fields of vegetables, cotton too, feed our growing industries.

Hosiery machinery and textile mills provide aspiring occupations
Beautiful scenery that heals and thrills inspiring artistic creations
Fine schools for education offer for everyone equal opportunity
Parks, lakes, beaches for recreation, entertain, build strength and unity.

Your flag is a crimson cross on white,--simplicity without duplicity
Your great seal shows rivers for travel and power of electricity,
It also lists Mississippi Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, your bordering states--
Your motto, we know to be, "We dare to defend our rights" - no one debates.

Camellia is your chosen flower--Rhododendron, Dogwood add blooms.
With exciting color and power--azaleas and Honeysuckles add perfumes
Yellow Hammer is top bird. He leads the birds choirs and band,
In hymns of praise ever heard by all who listen and understand.

Southern Pine is your chosen tree--evergreen, strong and tall--
It rules the forests majestically--yielding lumber when called.
Also Poplar, Oaks of many kinds--Magnolias, now Paulownias and more--
Fruit trees give fruit--Hickory, Walnut, Chestnut, Pecan, give nuts galore.

Your famous Southern hospitality opens wide each door to all,
While kindred hearts and wise mentality answer every need and call.
Beautiful Alabama--Your name means "Here We Rest."
Fulfillment of mankind's hopes and dreams in a state so richly blessed!

---Elaise M Brown

God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. Honor thy father and mother which is the first commandment with promise. Eph. 6:1-2

This Father's Day would be a good time to show our love, and obey and honor our fathers. It's hard sometimes to obey because children think they know what's best. But, if they stop and look long enough, most of the time they will find Father knows best.

Happy Father's Day.

-PUBLIC NOTICE--

MENTONE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Meeting dates for 2003

•July 17
•October 16

Other special or called meetings will be posted as required.

The regular meetings are on the 3rd Thursday; and all meetings are held in the town public meeting room at 5 p.m., and are open to the public.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Saturday, June 14, FLAG DAY
- Sunday, June 15, FATHER'S DAY
- Saturday, June 21, SUMMER BEGINS
- Thursday, June 26, 4:00 pm., Water Board Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Tuesday, July 1, 6:30, pm, MAPA PICNIC ON THE BROW, Brow Park, Mentone
- Friday, July 4, INDEPENDENCE DAY
- Monday, July 14, 6 P.M., Town Council meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Tuesday, July 15, 12:30 P.M., Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House
- Tuesday, July 16, 13, 6:30 P.M., American Legion Post 215 Meeting, American Legion Hall

ALSO REMEMBER
Saturdays through July 5, 10-12 am, Walking Tours
Saturdays through August 3 10-12 am, Library for Kids

The DeKalb County Library Bookmobile Schedule:

Mentone at Town Hall parking lot on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

- July 2 (vacation), July 16, 30

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The Bookmobile is in VALLEY HEAD on the same days from 1:15 to 2:15

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and in HAMMONDVILLE on the same days from 2:30 to 3:30