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Volume 23, No. 6

"Neighborly "News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

June 2005

THE BAIN FAMILY HONORED AT BANKHEAD DECORATION DAY - MAY 22, 2005

By Naomi Bain Potts

Today, we honor the Bain family: my father, Eddie Lester Bain and my mother, Lula Mae Sharp Bain. My father was born July 27, 1891, in Cherokee County, Alabama, in a little place called Fairell, Alabama, which is in Cedar Bluff. My mother was born April 21, 1894, in Floyd County, Georgia, near Rome. She lived about 3 or 4 miles across the state line from where my father lived. That's where they met each other, and they were married on October 24, 1912.

In 1914, they moved to Mentone, Alabama, and bought a twenty-acre farm. My father had several jobs, such as working in the coal mines. He walked to and from work every day, but he was a farmer by trade. He and my mom cut the timber off the land and built a house on the property. That's where most of us children were born and raised. A few year later, my father sold ten acres to my aunt Minnie and Uncle Frank Ivens. This was my mother's sister. They moved here from Blount County, Tennessee. They raised a large family with 11 children.

My parents were blessed with a large family, also, with 9 children: 6 boys and 3 girls. In March 1914, JR was born, their first child. Every 2 or 3 years, along came another boy until they had 5 boys: they were JR, Homer, Dewey, Dolas and Emmett. My father said he had just about given up hopes of having a girl. But on September 16, 1926, I surprised them. Three years later, Ruby was born; and three years later Annie Pearl was born. Three years after the girls were born the sixth boy came along and that was enough to stop them--with my spoiled baby brother Roy!

As soon as the boys started growing older, Dad put them in the fields to work. They started out big time, taking wagonloads of vegetables to a hotel in Cloudland, Georgia,



**Eddie Lester Bain and
Lula Mae Sharp Bain**

and both hotels in Mentone. In 1941, the government started drafting men in the service; and three of my brothers, Dewey, Homer, and Dolas were sent to serve in WWII. All three were in Europe at the same time. When my baby brother, Roy, got draft age, he joined the Navy to keep from going into the Army. After that, things got rough on the farm and Dad had to quit delivering his homegrown vegetables. People soon came to him, to the house to purchase their vegetables. This is one of the many ways that people remembered Ed and Lula Bain: with the front porch full of vegetables to sell.

Before the boys went in the service, Dolas and Dewey did our big washing of clothes while momma cooked three meals a day. I

would stand and watch them rub clothes on a rub board and beg them to let me try washing with them. They laughed and told me that my day was coming soon enough--and really, it came too soon! We all had jobs to do.

Things got rough for a while. After that, my dad turned the farm over to my husband, Hoyt Potts, to do the best he could; and then he took a job as a News Butch on a train during the war. After three years, he paid off all his bills and he came back to the farm and got Hoyt a job in his place on the train.

My dad also taught music all over this mountain and part of Sand Mountain. He was a wonderful singer and could play most any musical instrument. He whistled all the time, and someone nicknamed him Whistler Bain. My sister, Ruby, tried all the music and instruments, too. I would get so nervous trying to clean the house and help momma while she was trying to play and practice on the piano or a guitar. I lost all interest in making music after that.

Continued to center pages.

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THE GROUNDHOG

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THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor.....Evelyn Graves
Associate Editor/typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
Contributing Editors.....John Baty, Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Marilyn Campbell, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Evelyn Graves, Sue Schwarz, L.C. Moon

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Mapa Slate of New Officers

President: Dessie Brown
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Parliamentarian: Bernise Crow
Members at Large:
Lucille Crowe
Page Cunningham

The next meeting is Tuesday, June 6, at 6:30, at which time the officers will be sworn in. The regular meeting will begin after the ceremony.

The July meeting will be on July 7, for the covered dish supper at the Brow Park Pavilion, weather permitting.



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RECIPE CORNER

By Sue Schwarz

Time keeps flying by and Marie has again called to remind me that I am late with my column. It has been a busy month for us and we have loved very minute of it. The recipes this month are quick and easy. The biscuit recipe was a hit and very easy. The pasta sauce is a contribution of Balpha Noojin who served it for lunch during a recent workshop. Have a great summer and enjoy gatherings of family and friends.

EASY PAN BISCUITS

2 cups all-purpose baking mix (Bisquick)
1/2 cup sour cream (can be fat free)
6 Tablespoons lemon-lime soft drink
(Sprite or Seven-up non diet)
4 Tablespoons melted butter

Stir together first 3 ingredients; lightly flour hands, and divide dough into 20 equal portions. Shape each portion into a ball, and place in a lightly greased 8-inch square baking pan. Brush evenly with half of butter. Bake at 425 F for 15 minutes or until golden brown. Brush evenly with remaining half of butter and serve immediately.

EASY TOMATO PASTA SAUCE - Balpha Noojin

1/4 Cup Olive oil
Crushed red pepper flakes to taste
3-4 garlic cloves finely minced
3 sliced green onions
1 beef or vegetable bouillon cube
1 28-ounce can diced tomatoes undrained
fresh herbs to taste
fresh chopped parsley to taste
2 Tablespoons capers (optional)

Heat oil in saucepan and add crushed pepper flakes and allow to heat in order to flavor oil. Add garlic cloves and onions and simmer until garlic just begins to brown, being careful to not burn garlic. Add bouillon cube, fresh herbs, (oregano and rosemary are nice together), and tomatoes and let simmer until tomatoes cook down and darken a bit. Add fresh chopped parsley and capers and serve over hot pasta.

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MENTONE PLANNING
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MEETINGS FOR 2005

JULY 21

OCTOBER 25

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 5PM
IN THE TOWN HALL
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TAKEN BACK IN TIME! This fine two-story home accented with columns along the relaxing front porch features 6 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Located in Valley Head on a corner lot. Remodeled and ready for new owner to occupy. \$104,900. (13372)



NICE & NEAT MENTONE PROPERTY! 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, dining room and kitchen. Cozy screened front porch, storage building and large backyard with trees. Fully furnished. \$89,900. (13337)

LAND/LOTS:

BROW LOTS ON SCENIC RD. 3 lots offered as one tract comprising 2.5 acres (+/-), cleared and wooded, with approx. 300' of frontage on Scenic Rd. The house of your dreams can be a reality! \$50,000 (13479)

LOOKING FOR A PRIVATE SETTING TO BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME? Take a Look at this 7.8 acres having 2 acres in Pasture, the rest is Wooded. Stream on Property. Well, County Water, Electricity with a 32x50 poured cement Basement, overlooking adjoining Property Owners Pond. This is a Must See. Call for Directions! \$55,500 (13318)

LOVELY BROW LOT ON LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN overlooking Fort Payne and Sand Mountain. Build your dream home here! \$26,500. (13296)

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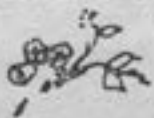


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It is a beautiful time. The flowers have really outdone themselves. I have a beautiful rose bush that I am enjoying so much! It not only looks beautiful, it smells beautiful, too! And each stem is a bouquet!

Camilla Yamada and her friend, Eric Johnson, from Los Angeles and Ferandina Beach, FL, were guests of her mother, Maureen Hammond, recently.

Ed Ringer attended the wedding of his grand niece, Amanda Ringer to Mark Lion, May 15, in Florence, Miss. She is David and Sue Ringer's daughter.

Ben Freeman from Fayetteville, Ark., is visiting his family this week.

Karen, Mark, Luke and Lee, Matt and Susana Freeman, and John Thomas, and Lillie Bowden attended the funeral of their relative, Adolph Whitehead, in Fort Valley, May 21.

Dr. Robert Ringer came on Friday from Marianna, FL, to visit his brother, Ed Ringer. He attended Valley Head Methodist Church with Ed Sunday and left for home afterwards.

Edith Dean hasn't been well. We hope she will be better now; also Ruth Pickett whose back has been worse, lately.

Venna Livingston and Mozell Crow came to see me, recently. Also Dael and Doug Hoyt, Christine Brooks, and Marion O'Dell. Marion also came and took me to Geneva Smith's 90th birthday party, May 22, which I really enjoyed. It is good to get out and see people, especially those we haven't seen in a long time. It was a beautiful party for a lovely lady.

Congratulations to all graduates. I had three great granddaughters to graduate: **Sharon Elise Darby**, who graduated from Midway College in Kentucky with a degree of Bachelor of Arts in Equine Management and Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. Her sister, **Kirsten Darby**, who graduated from Collierville High School in Collierville, TN, and **Amanda Brown**, who graduated from Valley Head High School. I was not able to go to graduation. My niece, Patty Bailey, brought me the gorgeous flower arrangement from graduation, which thrilled my soul and I am still enjoying. Thank you!

Howard Carson told me how they commemorate memorial day at **Bankhead Cemetery**. They have graves of 87 veterans. Small flags are put on each grave. A long-stemmed rose is given to each relative present who has lost a loved one during the year. They have dinner on the grounds, and a singing, all of which makes a very meaningful occasion that has good attendance.

I hope everyone has a good holiday, but remember it is a time of commemoration as well as celebration of all who have gone on and who helped pave the way for this day.

My Invader



The snake, not the man! Deputy Lamar Bray and king snake from my kitchen.

Yes, this snake was in my kitchen Tuesday, May 24. It was an awful shock. Hammondville Mayor Larry Watson and Deputy Lamar Bray got the message and were here promptly to rescue me and it. Deputy Bray's hand reached out and snatched it up! Mayor Watson made their picture. I appreciated them so much!

A.J. and Amanda came by and picked it up and took it to the hunting lodge at Kaolin where it can live happily. I appreciated that, too!

Prayer for Fathers

Father of all mankind to you, we pray
For all fathers in the world today--
Grant them wisdom to guide and lead,
To know how to fulfill their children's need.

Give them patience and strength to endure,
Successful future for all to insure,
Give them knowledge of you to impart
And planted deeply in each mind and heart.

Lift the burdens and cares that they bear,
Give them plenty of your love to share,
God bless all fathers and help them live
Christian example of life to give.

...Eloise Brown

Queen June

June, you are majestic and serene,
Crowned with lavish full grown leaves so green,
Of the summer months, you are the queen.

You are so voluptuous and lush,
Reclining on your carpet of plush,
Dimpled with strawberries rosy blush.

Dressed in robes of blooming flowers,
Blessed with lazy, loitering hours,
Resting in shady, perfumed bowers.

June, you are queen of Summer delight
Of full blown days beautiful and bright,
Crowned by star glittering, moon gold night.

...Eloise Brown

The Nights of June

The nights of June are soft and warm,
A full bright moon exudes its charm;
The tunes of life fill all the air,
The fireflies flicker everywhere.

The Honeysuckle's perfume sweet
All vagrant breezes seem to greet
With fragrant lingering caress
The atmosphere of night to bless.

Each star is twinkling like a gem,
The sky is crowning diadem--
A rose's petals drift and fall,
As mockingbirds so softly call.

Each night of June is a special night
When everything of earth seems just right;
The nights of June are for romance,
When vibrant hearts all long to dance.

...Eloise Brown

The Love of Friends

The love of friends
Makes life worth while
A greeting sends or just a smile.

A tiny gift
To say "I care"
Gives hearts a lift that wants to share.

A gentle touch
A little pat
Can mean so much--so nice to chat!
With kindred minds
That understand
Time to find
For thoughtful deeds and helping hands.

It's good to know
Through thick and thin
To them you can go
They will understand and take you in.

Life would be dull,
Without good friends,
They make life full
As true love comprehends.

...Eloise Brown





Southern Properties Agency, Inc.

845-6000
2107 Gault Avenue North, Fort Payne

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E-mail: info@southern-agency.com

Visit our web site at : www.SouthernPropertiesAgency.com



(1) MENTONE COTTAGE WITH ACREAGE! Cozy cottage with 40 wooded acres near DeSoto State Park featuring 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, double French doors, wood burning fireplace, cathedral ceiling, ceramic flooring and 2 storage buildings. \$209,000 (PLS #12724)



(2) A RARE FIND - Established summer home featuring 1 bedroom, 1 bath with 3 living areas (2 with mountain stone fireplaces) and access to large deck overlooking the valley below. Sitting on over 2 acres with almost 500' on the West Brow of Mentone. Priced at only \$399,000. (PLS #13068)



(3) ALMOST NEW CABIN on the brow near DeSoto State Park! You'll feel right at home in this cabin on the brow featuring 2 bedrooms (1 up & 1 down), 2 baths, open living room with rock fireplace, kitchen cabinets with tin inserts, sunroom, unique wood ceiling, large back deck, enclosed landscaping and so much more. \$288,500 (PLS #12951)



(4) LESS THAN 2 years old and on 6.8 acres, this house offers room to grow with its 3 BR, 2 baths, cherry floors, stacked rock-wood burning fireplace, front rocking chair porch, private deck off master bedroom, 2 car garage with storage and 1350 sq. ft. of unfinished space upstairs. All for only \$169,500 (PLS #13731)



(5) Looking for a MOUNTAIN RETREAT-- 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. (PLS #10906)



(6) LESS THAN 1 MILE from downtown Mentone and sitting on over 1-1/2 acres, this home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, an open porch on front and a sunroom on the back. All appliances to remain including washer and dryer, 2-car carport with workshop and a 20x24 building for extra storage... office... craft shop, etc. \$89,900 (PLS #11605)



(7) NEW CONSTRUCTION IN CRESTLINE SUBDIVISION - This new 1 bedroom, 1 bath frame cabin has 840 sq. ft and features a rock fireplace and foundation, wood floors and walls, central heat and air, front and back porches and sits on 1.19 acres. Call today for your appointment. \$99,500 (PLS #13364)



(8) STROLL TO EVERYTHING FROM THIS picturesque cul-de-sac location. 4 BR, 3 baths, living-dining and den with wood burning fireplace and great studio over garage. Three levels of decking with farmable mountain and valley views. Privacy fencing and more. \$450,000 (PLS #13693)



(9) NEW CABIN ON BRUSH CREEK! You can be the first owners of this all NEW 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with vinyl siding, metal roof, laminate and ceramic flooring, central heat & air, 550' screened porch/deck and so much, much more all on 1.31 acres. Call for more details \$119,500. (PLS #13267)



(10) ESTABLISHED TIRE BUSINESS! This 40x100x14 metal building houses 3 lifts, 4 roll-up doors, concrete floors, Office, 2 restrooms, space heaters & window air unit and all inventory included. Call today for more information. Price REDUCED to \$199,900.



(11) YOU'LL never want to leave this 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath home with open kitchen and great room with fireplace, sun porch, formal dining room, 10' ceilings, transom windows, authentic Heart Pine floors and so much more. The large back deck overlooks beautiful rock formations with a fabulous brow view. The property also features a detached double garage with storage and an additional bedroom with bath upstairs. \$449,000. (PLS #12933)



(12) LOVELY 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with lots of room to expand. This home was built in 1925 and is filled with character. Features include an oversized living room with fireplace and dining area, spacious kitchen including a large island workspace with a vegetable sink and eating area, sunroom with fireplace, large bedrooms, wood flooring throughout, lots of storage, screened porch with rock floor, front and side covered porches, back deck. Enjoy the 250' of waterfront on West Fork of Little River, and is the site of the old covered bridge. Must see to appreciate. \$450,000 (PLS #12965)



(13) MAIN HOUSE is built around a pre-civil war hand-hewn log structure with a stone wood burning fireplace, exposed beams and pine floors. Master bedroom is on the main floor with private sleeping porch overlooking a large mountain stone water pond with waterfall. Also included are two separate self-contained guest quarters. All connected by stone patios, walkways and decks. Abundantly landscaped with rhododendrons, bulbs, hemlocks, 2 additional water ponds, and much more. \$199,500 (PLS #13474)



(14) LEARN THE SECRETS of the valley while sitting in the hot tub on the deck of this cozy 1 BR -1/2 bath cabin. All wood construction with a gas fireplace. \$209,000.



(15) DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE to see this recently updated brick rancher in Valley Head offering 3 BR, 2 baths, sunroom, and so much more. \$134,500 (PLS #13771)



(16) NEW HOME--This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features a large living/dining area with 9' ceilings, Cathedral ceiling in the master bedroom, ceramic tile, and a 2-car garage connected with a breezeway onto the back porch. The full front porch overlooks a 1.156 wooded lot and is located in Mentone. \$149,000 (PLS #12777)



(17) DESIGNED for leisure with a commanding view, this cabin offers easy cleanup with all wood floors, walls and ceilings. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas fireplace and private deck with hot tub. This is the ideal place to relax. \$249,000.



(18) CABIN IN MENTONE - you will love coming home to this adorable cabin now being built near DeSoto State Park. Cabin features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, pine floors throughout, and rock fireplace. 8'x40' porches on front and back with Yellow Pine exterior and metal roof. \$149,900.



(19) WHAT A FIND, a 2 bedroom 2 bath log cabin with wood burning fireplace on the north brow of Mentone. Located on the bottom level of a 280' brow lot with a rock cliff behind and a fabulous view in front, this cabin offers ultimate privacy. Second bedroom and bath underneath the house with access from outside. Add the wood floors, rock walkways, and rocking chair porch and you have what it takes to make a stress free getaway. \$250,000. (PLS #13482)



(21) A BEAUTIFUL EXTRA-LARGE YARD with huge trees, flowering plants, decorative fish pond and privacy fencing frame this attractive home in Valley Head. This 3 BR, 2 bath home features a sunroom, 2 fireplaces and a 3-car garage with a breezeway to the house PLUS an extra storage building. \$105,000. (PLS #13688)



(20) NEW CONSTRUCTION ON THE NORTH BROW IN MENTONE. This new home features 3 BR, 2 baths, gas burning fireplace, front porch, back deck and more with approx. 1000 square feet of living space. Make your appointment to wake up to this magnificent view on a daily basis. \$295,000 (PLS #13110)

OTHER LISTINGS

(22) If you have picked your house plans, but have no place to build...call about this 4 acre parcel that has just been listed on County Road 627 in Mentone. \$28,000.

(23) BUILD YOUR WEEKEND GET-AWAY on this 1.17+- acres filled with spectacular rock formations behind city hall in Mentone. \$14,500.

(24) 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. \$480,000. Price reduced to \$169,900.

(25) OPPORTUNITY AWAITS - 10 acres on Hwy 117, East of Mentone. 3 mobile homes and 2 one-bedroom apartments and room to grow. Outside the city limits - no restrictions. \$158,500.

(26) RETREAT, RETREAT, RETREAT - This 40 acres is partly cleared and partly wooded with a large lake and wooded stream. \$478,000. REDUCED TO \$140,000.

(27) MENTONE - If you're looking for just the right place to build your weekend get away or even a permanent residence, this property is waiting on you. Wooded, although a proposed building site has already been cleared, this property is what you have been looking for. \$37,500 (PLS #11954)

(28) Don't wait any longer...we've just listed 3.28 acres priced at \$16,400. (PLS #12291)

(29) MENTONE Brow Property--2.3 acres on the Brow of Lookout Mtn. Priced at \$290,000.

(30) MTN. RIVER ESTATES - Phase I and Phase II-building lots available starting at \$27,300. Restricted Subdivision. Waterfront available. Call for more details. (PLS #12967 & 12968)

(31) BROW Property...1.7+- acres on County Road 166 near DeSoto State Park. \$37,500 (PLS #10133)

(32) NEWLY LISTED 4.23 acres on Hwy 117, just outside the Mentone City Limits. Property is suitable for residential or commercial, so call today for all the details. \$19,900

(33) HERE'S YOUR CHANCE...Acreage on DeSoto Parkway! 6.05 acres with no restrictions on County Road 89 near DeSoto State Park. Priced at only \$78,500. SOLD

(34) BUILD HERE on this .65 acre lot on the brow in Mentone. This lot features beautiful rock formations and gorgeous sunsets. \$95,500 (PLS #13627)

(35) YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EARS...we've just listed 11+- acres in downtown Mentone. This almost unheard of acreage is available to be purchased as a whole or sold in lots. Call for more information. \$115,000 (PLS #13656)

(36) ENJOY MOTHER NATURE'S BEAUTY while relaxing on these 168 acres in Valley Head. This acreage does offer an old farmhouse. Call for more details. \$432,500 (PLS #13730)



The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

May was a most beautiful month. We had a few cold days, but they didn't last long. The rhododendron put on a show not to be rivaled. Ours have never done this well. The only thing is that they were not fully in bloom when we had our Rhododendron Festival.

Wild blackberries had the largest fluffy blooms I have ever seen. Maybe we can get some berries for making jelly. Blueberry jelly is a favorite for Lisa and me.

Our Rhododendron Festival, held earlier this year, was a disappointment the first day because of rain. It was cold and foggy and kept some visitors away, and a few vendors left. Sunday was a very nice day, entertainment was good, and visitors seemed to have a good time.

The bonfire was fun, and the Cotaco Band furnished good music. They are always great entertainers and are so generous to come from Somerville, AL (near Huntsville) and not charge us anything! We do give them a small amount to pay for their lodging. They had purchased a new sound system and furnished it for other performers at the park on Saturday. Jerry and Betty Grantland have arranged other entertainers, along with their band. Two very good Blue Grass bands were part of the performance. They played music upstairs at the Hitching Post on Saturday night because it was too wet outside on the lot that the Campbells and Glenda Hollis are so kind to let us use. Thanks a million!

Joyce kept shop for me a while and my grandson, Lee Cooper, went with me to the craft show. We had some very good pottery and art work. I usually miss going to the park because of keeping my shop. This was fun. It was nice and warm and the cloggers were doing a good show. They even let LM join them. He had the best time of all!

Thanks to Greg Coe for working with Homer and Coy. He said he would take a week to do whatever he could to help. Dorothy Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, and Page Cunningham worked also. Greg will be chairman of the October Colorfest, and we will help him. Homer worked hard for two months previous to the festival. There are many things to do in preparation for the event.

The Wildflower Cafe furnished wonderful jambalaya to the band and their families on Friday night, partially sponsored by the Crow's Nest. They seemed to enjoy the good food. I know I did.

The next Saturday night the Wildflower Cafe sponsored the Sacred Harp singers at the Hitching Post. This was different. They only sing four notes where most music is written in seven notes. It was well received and we had a good turnout. We would like to have them for the fall festival.

We have some new members in MAPA. This is encouraging, since some of us are elderly and we need some younger members. Dr. Hayward and Margaret Baker, Doris and Rebecca; Terry and Jane Bouldin. We have some new officers. Homer and I are retiring, except I remain as parliamentarian. Marie will have the names of the officers in the minutes (see Page 2).

Sam and Lisa Whatley are repeating their wedding vows May 27th on their 10th anniversary. Dr. Oscar Hussel will do the service.

We are having fun preparing for it. This will be an outdoor garden wedding so we had to clean, weed, and plant flowers to make the place look better. A good time for us to do the things we put off for a long time.

Lisa's mother, Ronda Bruckus, from Charlotte, NC, is coming; our daughter, Doreen is coming from Carol Springs, FL; and Joyce from Columbia, SC. Doreen's friend, Rebecca Bragg from Atlanta, will be present. Barry Crow will play music and David Bruno will sing.

We had some people in my shop last week who were so awed by the beauty of the area that they just kept talking about it. One lady said she had never seen anything more beautiful than the parkway from Mentone to DeSoto State Park. I agree.

Happy Fathers Day to all dads.

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DECISION OF THE HEART

By Don Mallicoat

I'm a guy. Guys make decisions of the head not the heart. We use our brain to analyze the facts, look at the course of action, and make a decision based on those facts. My head said tear down the old home place on West River Road and build a new cabin. There was a hole in the roof. The kitchen extension on the back had rotted and fallen off. Not to mention sagging floors that were rotted in places upstairs. We didn't want to keep the mobile home that my dad, Jim Mallicoat, had put on the property. We didn't see it as a permanent mountain getaway. Nope, the facts were plain and simple. Tear down the old place and start anew.

Conversely, my heart was regretting the loss of memories resulting from tearing down the old house. Most of the memories from the house's long history passed away with my dad, Aunt Anne, and Aunt Sybil. My knowledge of its history is limited to the facts that my grandfather bought the property in 1907, the original house burned down, and my grandmother moved the family there from Trion after my grandfather's death as the Great Depression started. I'm sure it was a decision of the head, mainly survival. I have vague memories of visiting my grandmother during my early years, but more recent memories of Aunt Anne and Uncle Bob living there for a time after their retirement. As a city boy, it was where I was introduced to the lack of indoor plumbing. Running to the outhouse early in the morning. Taking washtub baths with water hauled in from the well. I also remember how cold the house got during the winter. This mixture of memories caused me to regret a decision of the head. Tear it down.

So I started the process of interviewing contractors to get the job done. After interviewing several, the standard response became, "Yeah, we can do that. Here's my estimate." Then John Kincer showed up. I was late meeting him that day. When I arrived, he was already there. The first thing he said was, "You know, I've been down this road a lot but never noticed this old house." When I told him my plan to tear it down and build a cabin, he asked the question I guess I'd wanted to hear. "Why do you want to tear it down?" He allowed as how he had been walking around the house while waiting on me and despite its obvious problems looked structurally sound. "Give me some time to crawl around in it to see how bad the damage is and I'll let you know." I left that meeting with a smile and hopeful heart.

Two weeks later, I had the answer I'd hoped for. The structure was sound and what problems it had could be repaired. In December 2002, the journey to preserve memories and part of Mentone's past began. We tried to preserve the original floor plan as much as possible, although we had to modify it to have indoor plumbing (yeah!) and a new kitchen. The fireplaces were useless so John tore them down and built a new one out of the stone. It's been over three years since the journey started. There have been ups and downs with several rough spots along the way. Tearing out walls and cleaning up provided additional surprises like some old cork top medicine bottles, newspaper from as far back as 1911 stuffed in walls as insulation (I guess). A skeleton key hung on an interior wall stud still leaves me mystified. John found an old fire iron under the house that now, cleaned up, is in use in the current fireplace. Oh yeah, I can't forget the bottles under the house that are evidence of Uncle Bob's wine making phase and the reason we have blueberries on the property. All part of the house's history with many unanswered questions.

We're still not finished and it is by no means perfect. The upstairs still needs to be finished in. Work progresses slowly as I try to do a little every time we come to visit. But it's livable. There's a place to sleep and indoor plumbing. The downstairs floor isn't level, although the beautiful heart pine with its age stains and burn marks makes it a moot point. Let's just say the house has character.

And isn't that what preservation is about? Character? It's not just about the quiet of Mentone, or the hardwood forest. It's about the character of the environment. Over the past few months, several folks have stopped by to share that character. Charles Flannigan came by and offered a "you did the right thing." Margie Berry stopped by one day and recalled standing around in the old parlor singing hymns with my grandmother playing the piano. Ernest Smith visited one day while out on a walk, and we discussed the history of the property and old house; a history I plan to learn more of over the next few years. Not as much for me, but for my children and grandchildren (when they get here). If truth be told, my decision was made as much for them as for me. Family and history are important. When we've finished the house and collected some history on it, I'll share it with my children and grandchildren. I want them to understand why I made a decision of the heart.

MALLICOAT HOUSE BEFORE



MALLICOAT HOUSE AFTER



AMANDA JOHNSON AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP TO NEACC

Amanda Johnson has been awarded a Summer 2005 Term Scholarship to Northeast Alabama Community College where she will major in nursing. Amanda is a 2005 graduate of Valley Head High School where she was a member of the Beta Club, Teens for Brighter Futures, and Health Occupation Students of America (treasurer). She is the daughter of Robert and Phyllis Johnson of Mentone.

Christopher Lee Richardson Awarded Jazz Band Scholarship to NEACC

Christopher Lee Richardson has been awarded a Jazz Band Scholarship to Northeast Alabama Community College where he will major in science. Christopher is a 2005 graduate of Valley Head High School where he is a member of the DeKalb County Honor Band, Marching Band (captain), Concert Band, baseball, and basketball. He was selected to the International USA Junior National Basketball Team, had 13 years of Perfect Attendance, and was listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students. He works part-time and plays concert music at churches. Christopher is the son of Eva Richardson of Mentone.

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Grandparents Day at The Altamont School in Birmingham 2005

Front (L/R): John Ricketts and Jim Carmichael
Back (L/R): Doris Carmichael, Polly Ricketts,
and Lucy Ricketts. Parents: Dr. Mark and Emmy
Carmichael Ricketts.



Swain Twins

Jimmy and Rosee Swain received a basket full of baby items for the twins, Dianna and Christian, from Megan Petersen, Amelia Saferite, Haley Saferite, and Brooklyn Wright. Mrs. Rosee is a teacher at Moon Lake Elementary. The twins are home from the hospital now and are doing fine.

The girls are future members of the Mountain Laurel UMW, where their mothers are UMW members.
They all attend the Mentone United Methodist Church



Jennifer Gorham and Hunter Gorham

Megan Petersen, Haley Saferite, Brooklyn Wright and Amelia Saferite presented Moon Lake first grade teacher, Jennifer Gorham, a baby basket from their church. Mrs. Gorham and her little boy, Hunter, are home from the hospital and doing well.

The Church News

By Evelyn Graves



Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9AM 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 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 8:30AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

The **Valley Head Methodist Church** Sunday Worship is at 10 AM. Pastor is Wayne Nesbitt. Everyone is welcome to attend the services.

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: 9:30-10:45AM, Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnell.

The **Harmony Grove Baptist Church** invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Rd 239 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45AM; Morning Worship is at 11AM; Evening Worship is at 6PM; Wednesday Night Prayer service is at 6PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds mass services at 10:30AM each Sunday; and Communion services at 5PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular worship services are at 10AM and Sunday School at 9AM. 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 10AM, Worship Service at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6PM, 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 10AM (EST), and the Menlo service begins at 11:15AM (EST).

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

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

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 10AM; Worship - 11AM, Alabama time. Everyone is welcome. Phone: 706-862-2607.

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10AM, Worship at 11AM. Wednesday Bible study at 6PM. 256-634-4147.

The **Mentone Revival Center** and Pastor Leroy Nichols and wife, Nell, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10AM worship and 11AM worship and Sunday night at 6PM. Everyone is welcome.

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

Mentone Community Church Sunday School 10AM; Sunday Worship 10:45AM; Sunday evening service 6:30PM. Wednesday evening service 6:30PM with Bible study and Teen class. Nursery provided for all services. Pastor Rick Haworth welcomes all.

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

Mentone Church of God invites you to attend their church. Sunday School - 10AM; Morning Worship - 11AM. Sunday evening-6PM. Wednesday evening - 6:30 PM. New Pastor Randall Beagles welcomes all.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church A place of prayer, thanksgiving, and celebration. Come by any time to pray and give thanks. Open 24 hours every day. Sunday service is at 10:30AM.

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11AM each Sunday. Sunday School is at 10AM. Pastor Les Brown welcomes everyone. The Ethel Brown Unit of UMW meets on the 1st Wednesday at 11AM in the fellowship hall and the Mountain Laurel Unit of UMW meets on the 3rd Monday at 12:30PM, subject to change due to scheduling.

Moon Lake Baptist Church welcomes you. The Sunday schedule is: Bible study 9:45AM; Morning Worship - 11AM; Children's Choir Practice - 4:30PM; Youth Choir, Disciple-ship Training & YGAs - 5PM; Evening Worship - 5PM; Adult Choir Practice - 7PM; Wednesday: Team Kids, Youth & Adult Bible Study - 6:30PM.

Cove Road Baptist Church invites all children of the surrounding area to attend children's church. Parents are also invited for SS and church. SS at 9AM; Worship at 10AM. Sunday Evening Worship at 5PM. All times CST.

Lea's Chapel Baptist Church welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship, Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18); 6:30PM Praise and Prayer Time. Located at 4212 County Road 751. 635-1001.

The **Fort Payne Christian Center** and Pastor Ken & Elaine Holleman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10AM. Wednesday Evening at 6:00 PM. God Bless you.

Dial-A-Devotional 634-0103

is provided daily by Evelyn Graves as an extended ministry of the Moon Lake Baptist Church. Feel free to call any time of the day or night.

Mentone Community Church Auction for Missions June 24, 2005

Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Nachos, Chips, etc. will be served beginning at 5 PM
Auction will begin at 6 PM
Watch for flyers around Mentone and Valley Head area for a list of items to be auctioned.
Proceeds will benefit a team of about 20 volunteers who will be going on a mission trip to Jamaica this summer.

BENEFIT SINGING

June 25, 2005, 4PM, Mountain View Assembly of God Benefit Singing for Joan Pace Gilmore. Proceeds will go for husband's funeral expenses. Church is located one mile past Wal-Mart on Hwy 35, toward Rainsville.

For more information, call: 523-3474, 997-9752, or 845-2883. Groups singing are: 4 Chords & A Cloud of Dust, Mountain Valley Boys, and S.E. Dupree.

Donations welcome. No admission.

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Rhododendron Garden Club Officers for the term June 1, 2005 - December 31, 2006

L/R: Gethryn Giles, President; Martha Wood, Parliamentarian; Dianne Kuehl, 1st Vice President; Linda Brown, Secretary; and Sue Ann Jones, Treasurer. (Not pictured--Sue Schwarz, 2nd Vice President)

Summer Haiku

Haiku poetry
Oriental subtlety
Whispers of seasons.

June, a virgin bride
Wears dainty white Queen Ann's Lace
Veil of diamond dew.

A red velvet rose
The badge of nature's beauty
Pinned upon her breast.

Daffodils reach up
Their eager green hands to catch
Dew in golden cups.

Hyacinths lift lips
Of colorful temptation
To busy bees sips

The birds build and sing
Bearing loads of straw to nest
Where their babies will rest.

A pink rambler rose
covers mediocrity
With beauty's repose,

Green leaves wave "Hello"
To summer's smiling halo
Whispers sweet and low.

Beavers are weavers
Of construction and destruction
In dams and flim fams.

Red Bud lines her stems
With Amethyst gems
Adorning its limbs.

Spring has sprung at last,
It is greening and preening
And growing up fast.

...Eloise Brown

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Volume #2 of The Heritage of DeKalb County, Alabama

A group is being formed from the DeKalb County Genealogy Society to publish Volume #2 of The Heritage of DeKalb County Alabama.

Mr. David Bice will meet at the DeKalb County Library, July 9, 2005, after the genealogy meeting, to discuss the planned book with the Committee.

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Sunday 12:30 - 5:00

Valley Head High School 2005

Senior Class



2005 Valley Head Senior Class

(Not in order) Jacques Thomas Atkins, Marcus Adam Battles, Matthew David Battles, William Blevins, David Seth Boman, Mary Amanda Brown, Amanda Jo Burt, Erica Leanne Campbell, Ashley Marie Clark, Lucy Contreras, Leonard Clark Crow, Matthew James Croxton, Jacklyn Paige Davis, Sarah Francis Dodd, Latasha Marie Edgeworth, Richard Ferguson (not pictured), Nicklos Andrew Morgan Floyd, Amber Cora Hope Hannah, Steven Matthew Hawkins, Matthew Kyle Hicks, Jared O'Neal Hulgán, Amanda Jean Johnson, Roxanne Page Kauble, Rudy Joseph Kluck, Kory Stryker Knopps, Mackenzie Ray Ledford, Adam Joshua Manning, Jessica Ann Meadows, Christopher Michael Miller, John Christopher Orr, Kimberly Dianne Pritchett, Christopher Lee Richardson, Joshua Blake Smith, Christopher Thompson (not pictured), Natasha Mae Tishaw, Kimberly Renea Willbanks, Benjamin Clark Windom, Kelly Glenette Wright, Betty Wyrick (not pictured).



Matthew David Battles
Valedictorian



Amber Cora Hope Hannah
Salutatorian

Valedictorian

Matthew David Battles is the 2005 Valedictorian of the graduating class of Valley Head High School. Matt is the son of David and Rachel Battles of Mentone. Last summer, Matt was one of twenty-five juniors from the state of Alabama selected to attend the Alabama Governors School at Samford University. He has also received the SAR Good Citizenship Award, the United States Army Scholar Athlete Award, and the Wendy's High School Heisman Award. Matt's senior class selected him as "Most Intellectual" and "Most Likely to Succeed" in the 2005 Who's Who. He is also the 2005 Mr. Valley Head High School. Matt currently serves as the president of the Senior Beta Club, and he has been a member of the varsity basketball team for three years. Matt has been accepted at Samford University and plans to major in pharmacy. He hopes to one day own his own business.

Salutatorian

Amber Cora Hope Hannah is the 2005 Salutatorian of the graduating class of Valley Head High School. Amber is the daughter of Cathy White Hannah of Valley Head and the late Bobby Hannah. Amber enjoys serving as the Valley Head High School yearbook editor and is also a member of the Senior Beta Club. Amber was selected by her senior classmates as "Most Intellectual" and "Most Likely to Succeed" for the 2005 Who's Who. Throughout her high school years, Amber has received awards in Biology, Spanish, English, and Algebra. Amber hopes to someday marry and have a family, and her future plans include pursuing a career in photography.

THE BAIN FAMILY HONORED AT BANKHEAD DECORATION

Continued from page 1

From these nine children, our family has multiplied from 9 to 224. Mom and dad had 36 grandchildren, 87 great-grandchildren, 93 great-great grandchildren, and 8 great-great-great grandchildren. Out of their big family, we are proud of the many hard workers, and the 5 minister, 2 doctors, 7 nurses, 2 lawyers, 4 school teachers, 1 music teacher, and many numerous college graduates in various fields. We are also very proud of our 8 servicemen (4 grandsons, 3 great-grandsons, and 1 great-great grandson, who just came back from Iraq). Out of the 4 grandsons, one retired as a colonel and one of the grandsons is still making robots for the government after he served 10 years in the Navy.

We have always been a very close and loving family. We give God all the Glory for that. I guess God thought we had multiplied enough, so he decided to take my Mom and Dad, 4 brothers: JR, Homer, Dewey, and Emmett, and our baby sister, Annie Pearl. I know they are all in Heaven waiting on the rest of the family.

The last year that my dad lived, he made the biggest crop he had ever made. He was 89 years and 4 months old when he died with a heart attack on November 28, 1890.

I thank God for my family heritage!



Walt Pullen & Laura Pullen



Shirley Shighl

OTHER SHOTS AT DECORATION DAY

Photos by Marie Crow Waters



Margaret Shigley Crowe, Fred Johnson, James Johnson, Lila Faye Crow Pettit, and Betty Johnson



Lila Faye Crow Pettit and S





and Ilene Green



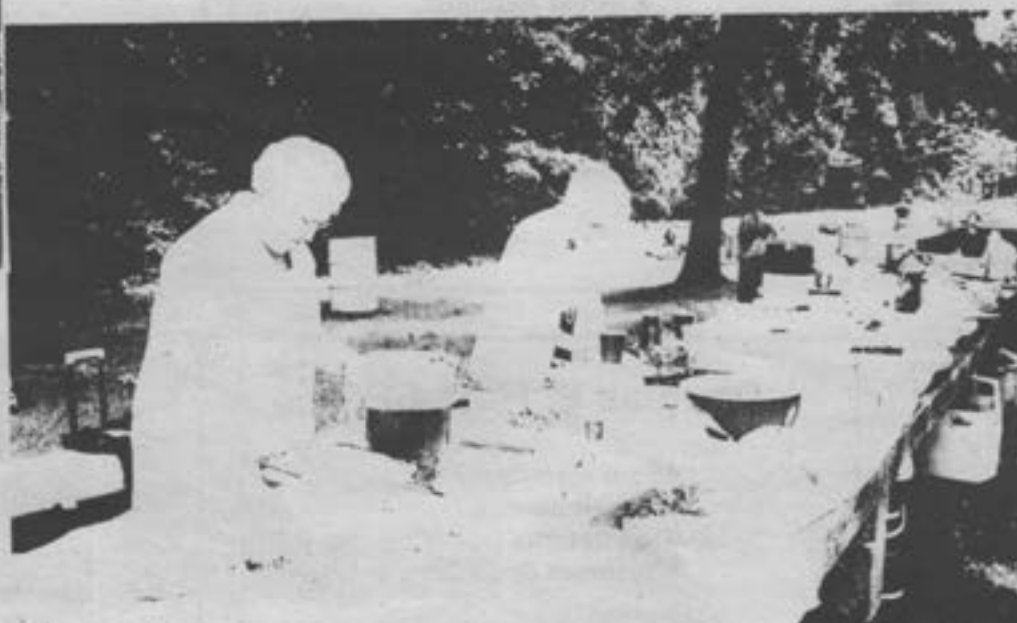
Margaret Shigley Crowe,
Shigley



At the table: Robert Green, Henry Shigley, Shirley Shigley, Bernise Crow; Sitting: Andy Allen, Grace Pullen and Peggy Pullen



Kay Pullen Wagner and Grandson, Ben Allen



Jo Carson and Margaret Shigley Crowe

SALUTE TO EDDIE AND LULA BAIN

Once in a while
The chance comes our way,
To show respect and honor
Through the words we say.

To really tell someone
We value their worth,
And that we believe
They're the salt of the earth.

So now to our citizens
Of over sixty years,
Eddie and Lula Bain
We offer our cheers.

Married in a buggy
In October, 1912,
They came to here to live
And to give of themselves.

They've peopled these hills
with hundreds of their clan,
All proudly descended
From this one woman and man.

He's just eighty-seven
And she's only eighty-four,
And their minds are filled
With wisdom and lore.

Over the entire mountain
Their reputation is known,
And no one can match
The vegetables they've grown.

This place is much better
For having known their kind,
And in searching, their equal
Is impossible to find.

So today we honor them
And just them alone,
Eddie and Lula Bain,
The pride of Mentone.

WRITTEN BY: Boots Shaver
June 1978

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Thank you for your concern

We got word that Mary Blanton--that's Marilyn Blanton Campbell's mother----is lots better after three weeks in the hospital and more than a month at home. Her bone doctor has released her, and she is proud to be walking around without a most uncomfortable splint on her arm. Her stomach doctor decided that a bad reaction to some medication was what caused the whole ordeal in the first place. Marilyn has been spending her time in Rome looking after her mother for weeks; and now she is able to be back home in Mentone. Thanks for all the prayers and good wishes.

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North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Report

During this past month our volunteer fire department has responded to the following calls:

Activity Report:

Structure Fire	3
Brush Fire	2
Vehicle Accident	1
False Alarm	0
Natural Disaster	0
911 Response	0

Do you like to play golf? Come help the fire fighters raise money to support the operations of the NLMFPD while playing golf at the beautiful **Lil' Mole Run** course here in Mentone.

The second annual Golf Tournament will be **Saturday, June 4th-7:00 am.**
Prizes, Select Shot, 18 Holes, 4 Player Teams, Shot Gun Start.

Have fun while supporting the first line of defense for Mentone and the surrounding area.

To register your Team contact:
Tom Emory @ (256) 634-4487
or

Richard Harrison @ (256) 634-4320.
Ready and Willing

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and may be mailed to:
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Fire Protection District
P.O. Box 154
Mentone, AL 35984**

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

By Gethryn S. Giles

The Rhododendron Garden Club met at the Wildflower Cafe for a luncheon on May 9, 2005. There were 20 members present. Jane Kirby and Dorothy Sheldon were guests. President Martha Wood called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon.

Dianne Kuehl gave the devotional after which the group enjoyed a delicious lunch.

The minutes of the April 12, 2005 meeting were approved as published in *The Groundhog*.

President Wood thanked the many members who contributed to the Earth Day event at Moon Lake School. There was good publicity and all of the students had a good time.

Announcements: Two books of evidence were sent to The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., for judging in the state contest. At the State Convention on April 13, 2005, the Rhododendron Garden Club won a blue ribbon and the Hammie B. Stamps Award for the club doing the Most Outstanding Garden Club Work with Youth Gardeners. No award was won for the other book.

Also the club was given a Club of Distinction Award.

The Design Study Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 26, at the Mentone Springs Hotel.

Marilyn Campbell's mother has been ill, but is somewhat better. Ann Wright is in rehabilitation at Crowne Nursing home, Room 124.

Christina Wise's husband, Bill had surgery in Birmingham last week and is now at home.

Committee Report: Martha Wood presented a Horticulture report. She had an excellent display of spring wildflowers from this area which she had gathered and identified. Also, she had a pot of New England Asters for each member to take home and plant.

Installation of New Officers: Harriett Lillich installed the following officers whose term of office is June 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006.

Gethryn Giles, President
Dianne Kuehl, 1st Vice President
Sue Schwarz, 2nd Vice President
Linda Brown, Secretary
Sue Ann Jones, Treasurer
Martha Wood, Parliamentarian

After the ceremony, the year books for June 2005 to December 2006 were distributed to members.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 P.M.

The next meeting will be at 12:30 P.M. on June 14, 2005, at the Mentone Community House.

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.

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CO. RD. 103, MENTONE - Ranch style home offers great room, kitchen 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath and 1 1/2 half bath. Attached garage & detached carport. Lovely 2.41 +/- acre lot. Restricted. (No. G-004)



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INDUSTRY OUT OF CONTROL

By John Baty

Amidst military conflict and dire reservations about permitting the "common" man to govern himself, our Nation was brought into existence. Fearing domination by a powerful and unsympathetic central government, 'Ol Thomas Jefferson and others insisted on a Bill of Rights. All other rights not specifically prohibited by the Constitution were to be reserved for the States. Freedom for the individual was a priority.

Most have not accepted that our Constitution should be a "living" document; subject to adaptation to new and unforeseen needs. One example of the efficacy of such interpretation was the breaking of monopolies and the trusts in the Nineteenth Century. We have come to believe, intuitively, that too much power and control concentrated in too few hands is a dangerous situation. Historically, we have always taken steps to curb such runaway domination.

As an ever-larger senior population demands more and more drugs and medical attention, a dominating industry has arisen. Our health, survival and freedom are being controlled and bent to the wishes of the medical establishment.

The AMA and the doctors and drug suppliers are the Morgans and Rockefellers of today. They dictate how and when we may use a specific drug, substance, supplement, or whatever. Slowly, inexorably, the Establishment is drawing into its domain of control any and all medications and health-promoting substances it can. One might speculate that those medications left outside the prescription family seem to be those less profitable to the manufacturers and vendors. There are exceptions.

In the collective mind of our society, there seems to be some division between "controlled" drugs and others.

All prescription drugs are controlled, make no mistake about it. Try to obtain some prescription drug without a doctor's signature, if you need verification.

Some years ago, the Veterinarian people tried to make it illegal for a dog owner to vaccinate his/her dog for rabies and a host of other canine diseases.

What I consider a rather ludicrous example of unreasonable control by physicians was a request I made recently to several doctors. I use the drug Coumadin to prevent possibly fatal clots. As every senior, or other person who uses coumadin well knows, the every day brasions of home and garden caused untold small "bleeds." Many times, these tiny punctures or lacerations will continue bleeding for days without clotting. There is a preparation called silver nitrate, which will chemically burn human tissue. When the substance is molded on the end of the Q-tip stick, it makes a handy tool for cauterizing small bleeds which the various "sticks and powders" used for the purpose will not cause to clot. It is true that silver nitrite may be an unwelcome foreign substance when introduced into, or onto, the human body. So is Coumadin and almost any other medicine you may take.

I was told that the little cauterizing sticks were reserved for surgeons and I could not have any in my possession. I wonder what nefarious use the medical world thought I might make of them.

We, the people of these United States, are being used by the most powerful control group ever operating in this Nation. And medicine is only one area where freedom is eroding away.

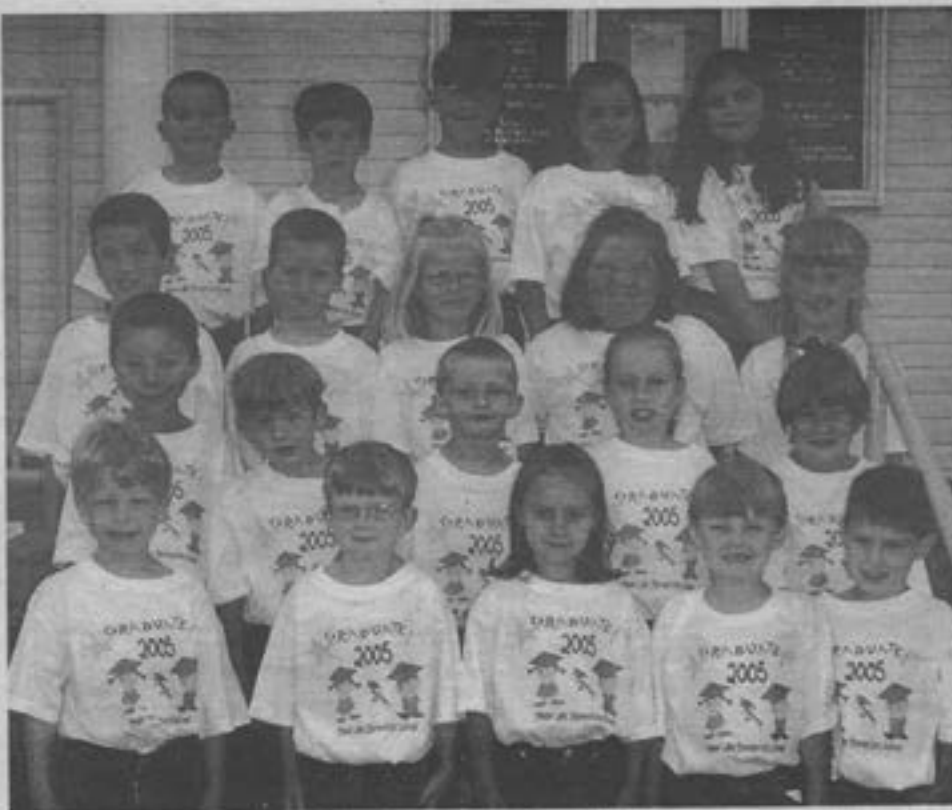
I took a candle and heated the point of an old antique ice pick and stopped the bleeding. I cannot but wonder what statute I have violated.

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Moon Lake sixth Grade Graduates

1st row: Seth Corsentino, Hunter Stone, Michael Harrison, Dillion Kean; 2nd row: Casey Green, Colleen Castleberry, Starla Cash, Brittany Bain; 3rd row: Trey Kincer, Tyler Blansit, Josh Faulkner, and Chaz McSpadden



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**Angela Marie Russell
and Kim Allan Nichols**

Angela is the daughter of William Russell of Mentone, formerly of Tompkinsville, Kentucky, and the late Wanda Goss Russell. She is the granddaughter of Granville Goss also of Mentone. Angela is a 1999 graduate of Fort Payne High School and a 2003 graduate of Northeast Alabama Community College where she studied the pre-liberal arts. She is a member of Moon Lake Baptist Church in Mentone, Alabama.

Kim is the son of Jack and Patsy Nichols of Leesburg and grandson of Mrs. Annie Bunt of Ragland, Alabama. He is a 1990 graduate of Cherokee County High School, a 1992 graduate of Gadsden State Community College, and a 1999 Graduate of Auburn University. Kim teaches Collision Repair at the Cherokee County Career and Vocational Center. When he is not teaching, he enjoys golfing and playing guitar. He is a member of Davis Chapel Methodist Church in Ballplay, Alabama.

The two will be united in marriage on July 16, 2005, at Moon Lake Baptist Church.



**Mary Anna Crow
and Austin Padgett**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Crow of Mentone, Alabama, announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Anna, to Austin Padgett, son of Nancy Padgett of Milton, Florida. Mr. Padgett is also the son of David Padgett of Milton, Florida. Ms. Crow is the granddaughter of Bea Crow and the late Leonard Crow of Mentone, Alabama; Eron Martin of Mentone, Alabama, and the late John Gilbreath of Aberdeen, Mississippi. Mr. Padgett is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. James Hendricks of Jay, Florida, and Reese Padgett of Panama City, Florida. Ms. Crow is a graduate of Fort Payne High School (1997), Samford University (2002), and San Francisco Conservatory of Music (2004), is a private voice teacher, and a sales representative for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Padgett is a graduate of Milton High School (2000) and Samford University (2004), and is currently working on a Master of Music in Musicology at the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is also teaching freshman Music History. An August wedding is planned.



**Jennifer Dawn McGee
and James Michael Cruse**

Jennifer Dawn McGee and James Michael Cruse announce their engagement.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Leonard and Barbara Davis, of Valley Head.

She is employed at the Clip Joint Beauty Salon in Mentone.

The prospective groom is the son of Al Groghan, of Fort Payne, and Linda Groghan, of Rainsville.

He is employed by Valley Joist in Fort Payne and is owner of Cruse Construction in Fort Payne.

The couple is planning a summer wedding.

**PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON WATER QUALITY OF
WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER
THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2005, 2PM TO 4PM
AT MENTONE COMMUNITY HOUSE**

The Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments will be holding a public workshop to discuss the water quality of West Fork of Little River. The Council wishes to gain insight on what local residents and businesses think about the quality of water in the river and the prospects for future development in the area of the West Fork watershed. The council is performing this study in association with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The workshop will be held at the Mentone Community House from 2:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2005.

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Mountain Mamas New Artists And 11th Birthday Party

By Mary Alice Stout

Mountain Mamas Craft and Rock Shop is always adding new artists. Fabric artist, Peggy Stovall, of Albertville, AL, and potter, Kate McAninch, are new this year. Angela Goff, another potter, joined us last year.

Peggy creates fabric animals of all kinds. Her famous ones are the Alabama elephant and the Auburn tiger. But there are also rabbits, cows, lambs, angels and Santas. Peggy's vacuum cleaner covers are very popular. When you visit Mountain Mamas you'll see a white cat or a grey elephant standing near the door. These are the handmade animal covers on an upright vacuum cleaner. Peggy says, "I frequently wake up at 3am with more ideas."

Kate McAninch from Carrollton, GA, is studying with Melanie Drew, our leaf bowl potter. Kate's specialty is mugs with beautiful earth-tone glazes. She has a line of pottery jewelry, too. Her necklaces sell rapidly and she will be adding bracelets soon.

Angela Goff is also from Carrollton and is creating with Melaine Drew. Angela is known for her bowls with the texture of lace and some with dragon skin. She says Dr. Seuss and Harry Potter sometimes inspire her art.

Mountain Mamas sells women's art on consignment. If you have art you wish to place here, call or come by the shop.

Mountain Mamas 11th Birthday

We are celebrating our 11th birthday on Saturday, July 9, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm (GA time). There will be **Birthday Cake, Door Prizes, and Artists Demonstrating their Crafts.**

Mountain Mamas began 11 years ago when 8 craftswomen got together to create a place for all women artists in the area to sell their arts and crafts. There are now over 60 women artists who have their work on consignment in the shop. Each spring there are new artists, and new items are coming in each month. The shop is overflowing with lovely, creative, and sometimes humorous fine arts and crafts. This is not a shop full of imports from Asia or Mexico, but full of items beautifully crafted by local and regional craftswomen.

The variety is amazing—pottery, fabric art, folk art, weaving, yard art, candles, rugs, stained glass, beaded jewelry, dolls, photography, paintings, gourd art, mosaics, cards, homemade jam and soap, wood crafts—and more!



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Fabric Art • Bird Houses • Yard Art • Collectibles

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1 mile east of the AL/GA state line on Lookout Mountain
www.MountainMamas.com MountainMamas@alltel.net



Angela Goff holds her hand build sauce bowls.

Mountain Mamas is located in Cloudland, GA, on Lookout Mountain, on GA Hwy 48, just ½ mile East of the GA/AL state line. The shop is opened each Saturday and Sunday, noon to 6pm (GA time), from March through November. During the summer we're sometimes opened Fridays and Mondays. Watch for the **OPEN TODAY** sign, or call 706-862-2142 for us to open by appointment.

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LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY by Linda Brown

READ, READ, READ!! Please take the time to read this article and to make use of the Moon Lake Community Library by checking out books to read or by coming in and reading some of our materials which cannot be checked out. We even have an entire collection of the publications called The Groundhog. Jean McGehee was very thoughtful in leaving this set for us when she moved to Virginia. The FRIENDS of the library have continued to keep it updated since Jean's move, so hopefully we will always have a complete set. These are a very good history of Mentone. You will enjoy reading them, but they cannot be taken out of the library and you do have to ask the volunteer who is working to get them for you.

The reason that you need to read this article is because there is so much going on at the library this summer and fall that you need to know about. While we do not have a summer program planned for each Saturday this year, we do have something planned for the children who come to the library on Saturdays. From 10:00-10:30 a.m., one of the volunteers who is working will sit in the white rocking chair and read a story to any children who are there. Books will be provided for them to read or a child can bring one of their favorites. Some of the newest ones in the school library are available to be read. I'm sure that if there are children who would like to stay longer, the volunteer will be glad to read more stories. A note to the volunteers, the books to read are on the window seat by the rocking chair. If you should need one that is more advanced or on a particular subject you can select any from the school side. Children who have a school library number and their parent has a library card may check out books with their number. Children who are visiting in Mentone can check out books from the school library on a card belonging to their parents or grandparents. Please bring your children to the library. During the school year this is such a big part of their school program that it seems they would like to continue to read books this summer.

The members of the Board of Directors are already planning many programs with the students of Moon Lake Elementary School next year. The plans are very exciting and I'm sure that by the time they are fine-tuned and ready to present, the programs will be wonderful!! We try to do programs that are not offered by the school system. Our emphasis is on such things as clown day, an essay contest, and a day of music.

We have racked our brains trying to think of ways to get more people to use the library. The latest idea that we have is a contest with the classes of Moon Lake Elementary School and the winning class will be treated to a pizza party. More details later, but the general idea is that a point will be awarded to the class who has the most parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and others who check out books and tell the volunteer what class they represent. If someone has several children in school, they can list each class. This is much like the attendance program at Parent-Teacher Organization meetings. Watch this space and also expect a letter of explanation when school starts.

August will be the month to renew your status as a FRIEND of the library. If you are not already a FRIEND this will be a good time to become one. The members of the BOD have tried hard to show

these persons how much we appreciate them and are continuing to think of ideas to do this. To become a FRIEND we ask for a donation to the library of twenty dollars or more. This money is used to offset the operating expenses of the community side of the library. If someone is reading this for the first time, the Moon Lake Community Library is responsible for funding its side of the library. So far, we have been very fortunate to have volunteers to do all of the things that need doing. Our volunteers work the open hours at the desk, enter the books into the computer system, stamp and cover books and shelve them correctly, clean shelves, tables and books, raise money and any other job that need doing. This is indeed a labor of love and you can be a part of it. We always need more volunteers and donations of good hard back books. Our selection of books is very up to date and one of the best offered in a library of this size. Most people are amazed at the number and the quality of the material available.

The Longest Yard Sale in August will be a good example of our fund raising efforts. We will have our annual book sale under the shelter at the front of the library. We have so many books to sell that we are having a hard time finding a place to store them. We have a lot of paper backs, several boxes of hard backs, many children's books and even a box of periodicals that someone left. Come and find a bargain as we do not want to keep these books over until another sale. The FRIENDS of the library will be offered a special deal at this sale, just another good reason to become a FRIEND!! We will be selling on Friday and Saturday only. Come by and see what we have.

We owe a big THANK YOU to the teachers of Moon Lake Elementary School who are so gracious to come and open the library for us this summer. Due to rules and regulations, a member of the staff must open and close the library for us. We have chosen to keep the same hours to be open as we had during this school year. Tuesdays are especially hard for the teachers, but they have consented to come and open at 3:00 p.m. This gives the public four hours to visit on Tuesday and three hours on Saturday. We hope that you will take advantage of these hours this summer. The volunteers need to make a note of this as well. You need to come at 3:00 p.m. instead of the previous time of 4:00 p.m. Tonya Lassetter, the librarian for the school, stayed during this extra hour when school was in session. We have not asked the teachers to do this during the summer and you will need to be there an hour earlier.

Come and see us at the library and at our book sale in August. If you live here year round, have a summer home here or are a visitor, you are welcome to come and "sit a spell" with us. Note the open hours at the bottom of this column and plan to visit us. If you are on vacation and are missing having something to do, come and tell our volunteers, we can even put you to work!!

Once again, READ, READ, READ!!

You can become a FRIEND, make a suggestion to improve the library or just let us know what you think of this addition to Mentone by writing to:
Moon Lake Community Library
Post Office Box 184
Mentone, AL 35984

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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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(3) UNDER CONSTRUCTION. The peace and tranquility of this beautiful mountain setting can be yours from this cozy cabin. The cabin features a wood burning fireplace, 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Laundry facilities, and a large living area with complete kitchen. A large screened porch with grilling deck opens off the kitchen. Heated and cooled area is 1056+/- sq. ft., with another 169+/- sq. ft. in the porch and deck. The exterior of the cabin is rough cut siding with a metal roof (30yr.) The interior is finished with drywall and pine flooring. The wooded lot is approximately 1.41 acres. \$149,000 Unfurnished; \$159,000 Furnished. (Photo to left)



(4) BRAND NEW, Weekend Getaway Cabin with 2 bedrooms 2 baths. Tin roof, Rocking Chair Porch. On a private wooded Acre. \$89,000.



(5) WEEKEND COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON. Over 10 acres with 650 ft of Canyon Frontage. 3 bdrm with sleeping loft. 2 baths, new tiled kitchen with all appliances and the cabin is furnished. Very Private. Call for appt. \$175,000



(6) MENTONE FARMHOUSE, with 4.46 acres to Roam. 2 Bdrm 1.5 bath. Country Kitchen, Pine Floors throughout. Deck and outbuildings. Newly Re-wired, plumbed, C/H/A, Vinyl siding and a Root Cellar. \$448,500. REDUCED \$108,000.



(7) CHARMING BRICK BUNGALOW. Nestled on a 1.65 acre corner lot. 3 Bedrooms, 1 bath. Living room with fireplace, separate dining, wood floors, C/H/A. Level, fenced back yard. Quiet setting, Mentone. \$72,000.



(8) WEST FORK SUBDIVISION 5.9 acres with 700 ft on the River. Trails throughout, Large Hardwoods, and abundance of Unique Foliage. Private yet only minutes from Mentone. \$78,000.



(9) INVESTMENT PROPERTY 2 bdrm 1 bath cottage in Mentone, with One acre. Needs some cosmetic work. Sold as-is. \$51,500



(10) VICTORIAN STYLE-THREE STORY Home on the BROW, Mentone. Over 4500 sq. ft. 6 Bdrms, 4-1/2 baths. Marble Foyer entrance, 2 parlors, Dining Room, Living, Kitchen w/Breakfast Nook, tile counters, Oak Cabinets. Wrap-around Porch, 2 car garage. The list goes on and on. Screaming B&B. Situated on 1.2 acres with a wonderful Sunset View. Priced \$495,000.



(11) UNIQUE LOG, STONE, AND CEDAR SHAKE LODGE. Custom through and through, complete with Heart Pine Plank floors. Open Great Room with stone fireplace. Loft with built-in beds. Commercial kitchen, with fireplace. French doors open to the sleeping porches and Master Bedroom. A must see, with so much to offer. Storage shop which can be turned into guest quarters. Small log cabin on the private 2.3 acres also. \$274,500.

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(12) 15 ACRES majority pasture with pond site. Paved road frontage, Mentone, Ga. City water available. Level. \$56,250. **SOLD**

(13) 80 ACRES OF WOODED BROW PROPERTY with creek and waterfall. Private drive with bridge. Great views. \$240,000. **SOLD**

(14) HIDDEN BROW ESTATES, Cloudland, GA. Spectacular Views East side. 7.5 acres, 500 ft. of brow frontage, private, large Rock bluffs, \$162,500--will divide. **SOLD**

(15) 10 ACRE PARCEL, Co Rd 1, wooded, drive, quite, private location. \$35,000. **SOLD**

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Springtime at Snappy Tees

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Snappy Tees makes personalized photo shirts, caps, and cups, mouse pads, tote bags, and key chains. We also personalize shirts with your favorite sayings or occasion, such as family reunions, car shows, bike shows, etc. We print one shirt, 100 shirts, or any number in between. Snappy Tees also offers promotional items to promote your business. Wholesale and retail prices available. Many items on sale for 20% off, including many T-shirts, Leather Vests, Flags, Knives, Eagles, Wolves, Dragons, Wind chimes, and more. Snappy Tees is located at 3219 AL Hwy 117 in Mentone, just 3 miles from the AL/GA state line. Store hours are Wednesday through Saturday 10-5. Call 256-634-4022. Also visit our web site at www.snappyteesmentone.com

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Rosee Swain, 57, holds her newborn twins while her son, Jimmy, stands beside her. UAB photo

NEW MOM, 57, APPEARS ON GOOD MORNING AMERICA

Swain one of the oldest in U.S. to give birth to twins

The Associated Press from The Times-Journal
May 25, 2005 paper

A 57-year old great grandmother who gave birth to a set of twins last month said she danced with her husband only hours after the delivery.

"I was feeling absolutely great, almost like I hadn't delivered," Rosee Swain said on ABC's "Good Morning America." "It was just a good birth and I felt great and I was hungry. It went great."

Christian Kaczur Hart and Diana Rose Angelina, conceived through in-vitro fertilization, were born April 20, at UAB Hospital in Birmingham, four weeks premature. Swain and her husband, Jay, brought the babies home to Fort Payne on Friday.

The couple, whose youngest child, Jimmy, is 5, said they did not want Jimmy to grow up as an only child.

"There are lots of options out there for older women like me," Rosee Swain said. "And women shouldn't give up hope without exploring all their options."

In addition to the twins and Jimmy, the Swains have two grown children, and two other children are deceased. They have six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Jay Swain told *The Associated Press* that having the twins at home has been "very, very enjoyable, exciting. It's like a renewal to do it all over again."

Swain, a special education teacher, said she's ready to care for the twins, who will likely graduate from high school when she is 75 years old.

"Being a mother again at 57 isn't for everyone, but we felt it was right for us," she said.

But there will be no more new babies after this.

"Our kids have family names, and we're out of family names, so this will be it," she said on ABC.

In 1998, an Indiana woman gave birth to twin girls, also at age 57. And last November, a woman in New York City gave birth to twins just days before her 57th birthday.

From the *Times-Journal* article: Rosee Swain said the birth of the twins has been a "great" experience for the couple and she said they are "very pleased with the way things turned out and how well the babies are doing."

The Swains have two other adult children, and a great grandchild.

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Mentone Wedding Chapel

Nestled in the woods atop Lookout Mountain, near Mentone, Alabama, this quaint little chapel is surrounded by ferns, forest and flowers. The chapel is a scaled version of traditional Appalachian churches of days gone by. Stained glass windows filtering soft forest sunrises and soft organ music accent an ambience fitting the wedding ceremony. Inside wooden pews will seat approximately 60 guests.



Linda Patterson, owner of the chapel, said the idea for it began with a bell, and now that bell rings as newlyweds exit the door of the chapel.

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National Honor Society Induction



Recently, forty-seven students were inducted into the National Honor Society at Fort Payne High School. Five of these students attended Moon Lake Elementary School, and they have continued to excel, now being juniors in high school.

The inductees are: (L/R) Katie Gray, Kira Goodwin, Marie Hunt, Sarah Hurt, and Jared Bare.

Congratulations!

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CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

REQUEST FROM NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

May 9, 2005

The Volunteer Fire Department, located in Mentone, continues to provide assistance for the residents of its district. The district includes an area of approximately forty (40) square miles, consisting of over 800 properties, numerous homes, churches, businesses, youth camps, and an elementary school. The department averages approximately fifteen (15) emergency "calls" per month in the district.

The volunteers, currently at twenty one (21) are ready and willing to respond in emergency situations as requested. As a result, the volunteers spend many hours training/developing the required skills in the major areas of fire suppression and vehicular accidents. Additionally, they are required to maintain the vehicles and emergency equipment in a state of readiness for the next "call". **The volunteers perform these services on their own time, without pay, and only receive the satisfaction of knowing they provided assistance to someone in need.**

The operating expenses of the department continue to escalate. This is due primarily to the continuing rise in the cost of fuel, maintaining older equipment, and general maintenance of the fire hall.

The department continues to service the Rural

Development Agency loan for the new fire engine. The purchase cost was \$135,000, financed for twenty (20) years, at an annual payment of \$10,560. The Board of Directors has set a goal of paying this loan off in ten (10) years or less, which will result in a significant reduction in the amount of interest paid.

In order to achieve the above goal, the department needs your financial support. You can help the department continue to improve emergency services in your community with a generous contribution. The goal is to raise an additional \$10,000 dollars per year, which will enable us to make an annual loan payment of approximately \$21,000 for the new fire engine.

All contributions are tax deductible and will be greatly appreciated.

Hershell A. Pruitt

Chairman, Board of Directors

Board of Directors: Hershell A. Pruitt Chairman
Joan Byrum, Marilyn B. Campbell, Hobson Kirby,
Linda Brown, Secretary & Acting Treasurer
Fire Chief: Rusty Chambers

Assistant Fire Chief: Kevin Worthey

PO Box 154

Mentone, AL 35984

NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 154
MENTONE AL 35984

NAME _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

Amount of Donation \$ _____

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 PM, MAPA meeting, Church of God of Prophecy Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 PM, DeSoto Rescue Squad, Mentone Community House
- Monday, June 13, 6PM, Town Council Meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
 - Tuesday, June 14, FLAG DAY
- Tuesday, June 14, 12:00 PM Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House
- Tuesday, June 14, American Legion meeting 6:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, District Governor to appear. Covered Dish Supper
 - Sunday, June 19, FATHER'S DAY
 - Monday, June 20, FIRST DAY OF SUMMER
- Thursday, June 23, 4PM, Waterworks Board Meeting, Mentone Waterworks Board Room in the Water Dept., open to the public
- Monday, July 4- INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY (Long Weekend)

God's Minute



By Ruby Brock

I am persuaded that neither death nor life...shall be able to separate us from the love of God. Romans 8:38-39.

The apostle Paul concluded the stirring 8th chapter of Romans with the assurance that nothing in the present or the future can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (vv.38-39). Because we are held in God's unchanging love, we can experience deeper fellowship with Him, no matter what difficulties come our way.

**When we are walking with the Lord,
The future's always bright;
It matters not what comes our way
When faith replaces sight.**

You can be confident about tomorrow if you walk with God today.

Mrs. Ruby Brock is staying with her son, Rev. Don Brock, in Collinsville. We miss her and hope she can return to Mentone soon.

NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, MENTONE

2ND ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

- ***SELECT SHOT***
- ***18 HOLES***
- ***4 PLAYER TEAMS***
- ***SHOT GUN START***

PRIZES

- ***CASH AWARD 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD PLACE TEAMS***
- ***LONGEST DRIVE***
- ***CLOSEST TO PIN***
- ***ADDITIONAL PRIZES TO BE ANNOUNCED***

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