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12 Years
in Print**



GROUNDHOG

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by M.A.P.A.**

Volume 12, No. 5

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May, 1994

Schedule of Events

Monday, May 2
Mentone Town Council Meeting
City Hall

Tuesday, May 3, 7:00 p.m.
MAPA Meeting
Dessie's Kountry Chef

Thursday, May 5
National Day of Prayer

Sunday, May 8,
Mother's Day

Saturday & Sunday, May 20 & 21
Rhododendron Festival
on the Brow in
Mentone, Alabama

Monday, May 30
Memorial Day

1994 ANNUAL RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL

Visitors and Mentone residents are getting all geared up for the 1994 MAPA Rhododendron Festival, May 20, 21, and 22, on the brow. (See the flyer and map in this issue.) For the second consecutive year, the Rhododendron Festival has been named one of the Top Twenty Events in the Southeast.

Excitement will be generated by the campfire Friday night at 7 p.m., with stories and music to highlight the evening. Riverboat rides for \$2.50 at DeSoto Falls will be under the supervision of MAPA members Erma McAdams and Marie Dillenbeck. Tony Goggans, Mentone's Troubadour, will emcee the festival on Saturday and Sunday. Young, healthy rhododendron plants will be on sale; crafts booths will be offering handmade items; food concessions will have delicious "something-for-everyone."

There will be a grand parade launched by Mentone's own cowboy, Jack Jones, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, featuring the Valley Head High School marching band and 15 antique cars, along with the contestants for "Rhododendron Queen." The parade will line up on Douglas Street at the Mentone Post Office, proceed up Hwy. 117, turn left on Scenic Drive to Cutler Avenue, and back to the Post Office.

A hand-stitched mountain quilt will be raffled off by Sherman and Mickey Gough at \$1.00 a chance. The drawing will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Bernise Crow is in charge of the Rhododendron Queen Contest. Details may be obtained by calling The Crows Nest at the Hitching Post at 634-4548.

The Artists Guild will be displaying their talent at the festival on the porch of the hotel. Mentone Merchants will be open, offering crafts, clothing, food, and sundries, with all the visiting vendors setting up on the Brow.

Admission to the brow displays is \$2.00. MAPA is a non-profit organization and uses the proceeds to fund several causes throughout the year.

Port-a-potties will be available for visitors' convenience and comfort.

Festival Chairman, Wanda Simmons, and her husband, Bud Simmons, will see to the setting up of the vendors for the festival. Both have worked through many festivals seeing to the needs of the vendors, and handling all other necessary tasks to make the festival move as smoothly as possible.

MAPA president, Jack Jones, has made arrangements to have all the necessary signs in place. David Cryer is the chairman of the signs.

Visitors coming up the mountain will find that traffic has been made one way down the mountain on Hwy 117, and one way up the mountain on Hwy 117 with a detour at Tutwiler Gap, with signs pointing to Hwy 117 detour route.

Come one and all and enjoy the festival!

The Musical Mountain In Springtime

RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL

**Saturday & Sunday,
May 21st & 22nd**

Mentone Alabama - On Lookout Mountain Parkway



View Rhododendrons From River Boat Rides at Desoto Falls

Tickets \$2.50

- ♦ Music, Stories, Bonfire--Friday, May 20th at 7:00 PM
- ♦ Parade on Saturday, May 21st at 2:00 PM
- ♦ Clogging--Quilting--Arts & Crafts
- ♦ Rhododendron Queen Contest Saturday, May 21st at 8:00 PM at the Hitching Post

**DONATION
\$2.00 - AT
THE GATE**

Good Food -- Ice Cream -- Popcorn -- Cotton Candy

**Chance On Hand-Made Quilt to Be
Given Away at 4 p.m. Sunday
\$1.00 DONATION**

RHODODENDRONS -- NATIVE HYBRIDS ON SALE BOTH DAYS

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THE GROUNDHOG



P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

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

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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Contributing Editors.....Ovie Blalock,
Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown,
Madeleine Bullock, Bernise Crow, Marie
Dillenbeck, Maurine Donahue, Evelyn Graves,
Charlyne O'Rear, Bill Schwarz, Sue Schwarz,
and Pat Seymour

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Jack Jones
Vice President.....H. L. Jenkins
Secretary.....Marie Dillenbeck
Treasurer.....Dessie Newberry
Parliamentarian.....Sherman Gough
Member-At-Large.....Dot Crow
Member-At-Large.....Pat Seymour

In case of errors in advertisements, The Groundhog assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement. Call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390 for advertising.

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

The deadline for all material for The Groundhog is the 22nd day of the month preceding publication. The publication is due out by the first Tuesday of each month.

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MAPA MEETING



The April MAPA meeting was held on April 5, with president Jack Jones, presiding. There were 22 members and four guests present.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved, as was the treasurer's report.

Wanda Simmons, Festival Chairman, reported on the preparations for the Rhododendron Festival. Information has already been sent out to the newspapers, radio stations, and festival magazines to announce the events of the festival. As previously voted upon and approved, there will be a request for a \$2.00 donation at the gates.

Wanda announced the following committee chairmen: David Cryer - signs; Robert Green - parking; Jack Jones - hay for Friday night and parade on Saturday; Bernise Crow - Rhododendron Queen Pageant; Marie Dillenbeck and Erma McAdams - boat rides. At the May meeting, volunteers will be asked to assist in other capacities, such as ticket booths at the gates, and duties not yet filled. Jack Jones announced that there will be 15 antique cars in the parade on Saturday, along with the contestants of the Rhododendron Queen Contest. Friday night, May 20, a campfire will be on the Mentone Inn lot, beginning at 7 p.m.

Dessie Newberry gave a report on the Gospel Music Festival scheduled for April 9 and 10. The Sharps from Fort Payne will host the event on Saturday. They will be setting up in Ed Mason Park. A rocker was donated for the drawing to be held on Sunday. Door prizes will be given away throughout the weekend.

Sherman Gough reported on the Adopt-A-Mile pick-up and the quilt sales. He and Mickey have already been selling tickets on the quilt. The drawing will be held on Sunday, May 22, at 4 p.m. Wanda Simmons commended Mickey and Sherman for the volunteer work selling quilt tickets since the couple moved to Mentone and joined MAPA.

The president announced that Ed Disney, Chairman, Rick Chapman and Jo Beaubé had been appointed to the nominating committee. Ed Disney declined the chairmanship, citing his total involvement with the opening of Nippersink. Rick Chapman was appointed in his place. The committee is to present a slate of officers at the May meeting.

The president announced that two MAPA members not present because of illness are Mickey Gough and Harrell Jenkins.

There being no further business, the president presented a program on the camps in the Mentone area. Jim Carmichael and Jim Berry, members of the camping committee, were unable to attend the meeting to present the program. Jack said he had been in camping over 65 years and had owned a summer camp for 47 years. In 1926, there were only three camps: Camp DeSoto, Lookout Mountain Camp, and Cloudmont—all boys camps. Later, there was a camp for girls - Alpine Camp. Now, that is a camp for boys. DeSoto is now a camp for girls. There are also church camps and a boy scout camp. First, the boy scout camp was at Alpine, now it is at Comer. There are 13 private camps and over 10,000 boys and girls who come each summer. The camps are mostly 2-week camps, although some are 4- or 8-week camps. Over the years, camping has changed. When Jack was first involved in camping, one week, the boys from Cloudmont hiked to DeSoto to have track meets, swim meets, and basketball; and the next week, they would hike to Lookout Mountain and follow the same routine. Camping is big business and brings in millions of dollars to the area. The camps used to be full-summer camps, and now they are specialty camps, short-terms. In other areas of the country, there are sailing, horseback riding, church, and boy scout camps.

Jack said he bought Valley View Ranch in 1958, an equestrian camp, and his daughter Nancy runs it.

There are 13 camps in this area and it is the most densely populated camp area in the Eastern United States.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned, and refreshments were served.

The next meeting will be May 3, at 7:00 p.m. at Dessie's Kountry Chef.

AVIATION EXPERT, BILL RIEDESEL, HAS SERVED MAPA WELL

In the April issue of The Groundhog, an article entitled "Bill Riedesel Passes on His Love of Flying to a New Generation," informed the readers about Mr. Riedesel's occupation/retired status. MAPA and The Groundhog would like the readers to know that, not only is Mr. Riedesel an aviator and inventor, he also held the positions of treasurer, secretary, and president of MAPA during the years 1985-86, 1986-87, and 1987-88, respectively.

---NOTICE---

Members of The Groundhog staff would like to honor all their mothers, living and dead, this Mother's Day--May 8.

Scattered throughout this issue are various tributes, with much love to ALL mothers!



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Polly Chambers honored her husband Alfred with a surprise birthday party on April 2. A delicious assortment of food was served, including ham, roast beef, and chicken and dumplings. A wide assortment of vegetables, salads, and desserts accompanied the meats. Attending were Milton and Gail Chambers; Rusty and Logan Chambers; Michelle (Chambers) Martin, husband Matt, and their daughter, Hope; Lula Blalock; Bro. Marlon and Brenda Williamson; Kenneth and Gail Chambers; Melanee, Randy, and Cheson Green; John Chambers and Mary Johnston; and Sanford and Juanita Hartline.

George and Hattie Lide are back from Florida at their Mentone home. Hattie had terrible chest congestion when they returned and an acute case of bronchitis. She saw the doctor and was given some very powerful medicine that has seemed to help. She is still trying to shake off the cough, however.

George and Hope Walker have returned to Mentone after a delightful visit with George's sister, Sarah Walker Day. George has gone back to Meridian to assist with clearing some of the family land.

Carmel Ruth Kirby is recovering from a valve repair operation at Montclair Hospital in Birmingham. She is staying with daughter, Elaine Dobbles, and her husband Kenneth in Fort Payne. Elaine is the principal at Valley Head High School.

Hobson and Martha Kirby's daughter, Tammy Kirby Blackwell, will be graduated from Northeast Community College on June 2, with an Associate Degree in Nursing. This presents mixed feelings for Martha. She will no longer be needed to keep adorable grandson, Ethan, age 3, during class time.

Cleanups and fixups on private property along Hwy. 117 are continuing. With the assistance of Herman Justice, Ryan Drake, and Curt Miller, Rudy Bell has cleared the pine trees along the front of his property. All the undergrowth has been cut away so motorists have a much clearer view of on-coming traffic. A big thanks to Rudy, one of the good guys.

Lydia Speed had a birthday on April 19. Her daughter Pat gave her a party in Huntsville, and Lydia made her own cake-a rum cake. She has really celebrated this past month, having been in Shreveport with cousins, who also gave her a birthday party. Now, let's get back to that RUM cake!

Joy Ritchey of Mentone called to say that, after viewing the April issue of *The Groundhog*, in which it was mentioned that Griff Johnson was buried in Trenton, Georgia, she wanted everyone to know that Griff was buried close to his home in the Head River Settlement in the family cemetery.

Happy Birthday wishes to Kat Johnson whose birthday is on Sunday, May 1, and also to her husband, Alan whose birthday is May 3.

Dink Tillman is sorely missed at the Tigers Inn Restaurant. She has taken a full-time position as court reporter with Ft. Payne attorney, Steve Niles.

Jewel Collins and family have purchased a trailer with 3 acres, just up the street from Foothills and Nancy Rector in Valley Head. Jewel says, "There's no feeling in the world like the one you get knowing you own your own home!"

Charles and Louise Hammond have returned from a three-day visit with son Tim in Seattle. The trip from Valley Head to Seattle and back took 13 days.

Shirley Collins, daughter of Jewell Collins, will celebrate her 16th birthday on May 15. (Shirley, is it sweet 16 and never been kissed? or "Sweet 16 and never been missed?" Whoo, girl!

John and Hazel Tuschall have arrived at their Mentone cabin for a visit. They drove from Hinsdale, Illinois, on Thursday, April 28. Welcome back to two super people and great Cove Road neighbors!

Glen and Linda Miller, directors of Ponderosa Christian Camp, recently spent a week in the Holy Land. They say there is no way to describe the wonder of it.

Emma Jo Lewis was the big cash winner of \$100 at the drawing at the fish dinner fundraiser for the Valley Head Volunteer Fire Department. Emma Jo immediately donated the \$100 back to the volunteer fire department. According to Fire Chief Johnson, the money will be used to help purchase much needed equipment. Other winners included Ricky Burt, a weekend at Jeff Cook's Mexico City Beach condo; and Sue Cooper, an AM/FM cassette clock telephone.

A number of deaths have occurred in the area recently. Our condolences go out to the families.

Eighty-three-year-old Mrs. Mamie Earl Crabtree died Monday, April 18, 1994, at DeKalb Baptist Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Luther Crabtree; daughters, Lina Fay King and Wilma Meadows; granddaughter Erma King McAdams; grandsons, Lamar and Eddie King, and Thomas Meadows; and nephew, Donyal "Foots" Rector.

Moses Henry "Mack" Ferguson, age 63, of Valley Head, died at his residence on Wednesday, April 13, 1994.

Roy C. Payne, age 70, died at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga. His brother is John Payne of Valley Head.

Mrs. Ruby Hall, 86, of Valley Head, died April 10, 1994, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home.

Congratulations to Allen Gray for his recent induction into the junior honor society at Ft. Payne Middle School. He is the son of Sandra Gray of Mentone and Steve Gray of Illinois the brother of Katie Gray, and the grandson of Rev. Jimmy Graves and Evelyn Graves, editor of *The Groundhog*. Allen's other grandparents are Charles Gray Jr. and Mary Jane. His great grandmother is retired Moon Lake teacher, Kathryn Jones, and husband Herman.

Jamie Akin has left Nature's Classroom to organize a similar facility in Huntsville. (Jamie's mother, Louise, and I were doctoral students in English at the U of A at the same time. Small world, after all.)

George and Jo Beaubie, flew from Chattanooga to El Paso, Texas, for a visit to their daughter Ann and Arturo Garcia.

There was a real "FIRST" at the Log Cabin Deli, recently. Larry Allen and Rhonda Reno of Albertville were joined in marriage by Rev. Benny Berry, with Rick Kerby as best man. That same night, another couple requested candlelight and privacy while he proposed. The lady accepted, all on the same day. Collette Kerby is truly the matchmaker of Mentone!

Nellie Crowley and Jessie Crow's new home on Cove road across from the side of the Superette has a new porch and deck with room to sit on and enjoy the breeze. Also, new flowers are out all along the front. They are really fixing up their place! Drive by and take a look at what hard work can do for your property.

Marie Dillenbeck's son, Joey, stationed in the Army at Marshall Flight Center in Huntsville, called her recently with exciting news. The youngest of her five children, Joey, is getting married to Kumi Russell on July 8 in Huntsville. Joey, a staff sergeant, is a career Army man.

Charles and Mary Flannigan and Benny and Brenda Goss are sodding their yards on Cove Road at the Y. Both yards will be beautiful in a few weeks. Jason and Josh Goss helped me pick up household garbage thrown on the Cove Road bridge and curve. Way to go, guys!

Sherman and Mickey Gough and Jack and Olive Jones took a trip to Branson, Missouri, on Jalene Tours. They heard Tony Orlando, the Osmonds, and a wonderful Japanese fiddler.

Joyce Smith, Moon Lake Elementary teacher, walks to keep trim. She has lost weight and is keeping it off. Joyce, you look like a teenager.

Gail and Milton Chambers laid some new drain pipe along the front of their property on Cove Road. They were helped by Sanford Hartline, Alfred Chambers, John Chambers, Kevin Worthy, and Keith Hadley.

The triangle gas and grocery now has "cow tails." These are caramel sticks with vanilla nougat in the center. Whoa! I'm hooked! Are these ever worth the 25 cents they cost. Betcha can't eat just one!

Bro. William Crowe had bypass surgery on April 28 at Montclair in Birmingham, and is doing well. For his many Mentone friends, William's home address is 1209 W. Ninth St., Oxford, AL 36201.

Jim Harris had cataracts removed in Birmingham, April 28. Hope it went well, Jim.

Cassie "Gran" Cash has not felt well, lately. She is the mother of Mayne Max Cash. Remember Gran in your prayers.

On April 12, Edmund Crowe was visited by Rev. Finn Crowe of Ariston; Rev. Floyd Crowe of Gadsden; William Crowe, Oxford; James Crowe Summerville. The brothers had lunch together and talked through the afternoon.

Raven Haven, a new Mentone bed and breakfast is now open for business. Located in the former home of Homer and Bernise Crow, the B & B is operated by Tony and Eleanor Teverino. The new owners will be hard pressed to live up to the delicious food I enjoyed in Bernise's home. Her tea cookies were my all-time favorite!

If you see Dessie Newberry, owner of the Kountry Chef, walking tall, it's all because of how proud she is of her two sons, Michael and David. Michael is now a full-time, over-the-road driver of a USA-18 wheeler and has already hauled loads to San Francisco, New Jersey and Canada (twice). He's based in Searcy, Arkansas, and wife, Tina rides with him. Son David is responsible for all the new renovations at the Kountry Chef. Dessie says the structural changes made by David make for more efficiency and controls employee traffic problems. This speeds up food service to the customers. The Double "D" Dip Shoppe will open at the restaurant on June 1, 1994, specializing in ice cream dishes. The Kountry Chef is also sponsoring two ball teams, one in the Farm League (granddaughter Danyale Kyle is a player) and one in the Dixie Youth (grandson Glenn Crier is a player). "I'm very proud of my two talented sons," commented Dessie.

Alma Crabtree was in the Superette this week looking spry and healthy. Alma said she is off insulin now and on oral medication. She is a wonder!

"I cannot bear to think of life without you, mother. With all the tragic events that have occurred recently, it only makes us more aware of those who are dear to us. I realize that it seems I take you for granted, but I don't."

Your loving daughter

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



A landmark event has occurred in the life of the wonderful one (Moi) and God's gift to Bulldogdom (Moi, again). Mary Lou Stallings came in the store yesterday to buy her little granddaughter, Jessica, one of Al's child's rockers. Here's when tears hit my gorgeous brown eyes: Jessica named her new little rocker (what else?): Brutus!

As if I don't have enough stress in my life dodging Al's deadly feet, Pop goes for a haircut, and I'm left with the total responsibility of keeping order in the Superette for hours. Because I'm not sociable with anyone until Pop returns, Mae spreads it around that I'm pouting over being left! (Isn't that just like a woman?)

Sad time in the store today. Wayne and Wilma Meadows stopped by to play with me and talk awhile. Wilma lost her mom, Mamie Crabtree, yesterday. Her people-friends, I know, are sorry about her Mom; but, Wilma, so is this dog-friend.

That sweet Jimmy Graves brought me some home-made cookies today. Of course, greedy-gut Pop and bottomless-pit, Mae, helped me eat them.

Here comes Sible Hopper on her tenth visit to the Superette, today. She, along with Ed Jones, is also a homeless person. What we need in Mentone is a shelter for some of these street people to get them out of the store. At least, Sible gives me foot massages while she's here. Jessie Crabtree really raises my magnificent hackles when he calls me Ed Jones because he says, like Ed, I'm always trying to get something for nothing. Wouldn't it be a Mentone-first if somebody welded Jessie's mouth together??

Just spotted Bob Baty standing by the counter. I'd sure love to jerk off that neck strap of his jungle pith helmet and chew it real good.

Well, little Katie Gray just came in and bought a big bag of peanuts. This supple, rippling beauty of a beast (Moi, again) is the only one she shared with!

Peter Hurt just came in with his dad, Phil, on the way to the Father-Son banquet at Alpine Camp. Do you think for a moment Pop took me? All I can figure out is that the banquet must have cost money, and old "squeeze-that-penny-until-Lincoln-repeats-the-Gettysburg-Address" wouldn't cough up the dough!

Little Kara Moore just dashed in to see me, but she was so timid she wouldn't let go her mother's hand, and just peeped around the end of the counter. I confess, such magnificence as I possess often is too dazzling for the little ones to handle!

Stingy Eloise Burnette told the whole store that, "Brutus is not getting all my ice cream out of me, but he can have a bite!" Talk about hurting a splendid dog's feelings—just like a woman!

Milton Chambers, who "keeps on trucking," just crawled to my flawless feet to say "goodbye." He said he wants me to keep the town straight while he's on his trip. If he really wanted to pay homage to my marvelous, majestic self, he'd come back pushing that 18-wheeler to the max with a truck load of ice cream sandwiches for Moi. (By now, I've taught you your French.)

Jeff Mosher came in and shared crackers with Moi (got it yet?). Jeff said, "It appears like you have to buy 2 packs of crackers because Brutus seems to eat more than his share." Terrible lies just fall from his lips. I

wonder if that boy has ever heard of defamation of character? I'll sue old Jeff and get the very T-shirt off his homeless back! (And that tacky jeep he drives, too. Pop says he stole it from Scrooge Morgan. As a matter of fact, his will be the tackiest vehicle in Mentone when Junior King gets rid of his multicolored pile of rust. Dr. Pat says it drives like a dream. Just like a woman!)

Well, my day is ending on a happy note with Brandi, Eddie, and Adam Manning coming in the door. They sit at my feet to talk to me and lay hands on my sleek, auburn coat with a tinge of white. Lord, I'm truly awesome, if I do say so myself.

Pop has begun to do the "Bladder Scoot" line dance, so I'd better drag him out for a walk. Lord, why me?? Later, devoted readers.

"Forgive me for the times I fail to show you that I care, mother, forgive me for being more concerned with my problems and ills than yours. I hope I can do more to make your life more pleasant!

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CLOUDLAND - Rustic 2-story country home on approximately 3 acres of brow property. This special house has living room with fireplace (gas logs), kitchen, dining room, sunroom, bedroom, bath, and utility downstairs. Large bedroom with fireplace (gas logs), den/bonus room, and bath are featured upstairs. Central heat/air, hot tub, decks, porches, and a beautifully landscaped yard make this a must to see. ONLY \$129,000. Shown by appointment only.

CLOUDLAND - NICE BROW LOT - 2.33 acres with 317.48 feet of brow frontage - Spectacular View - \$25,000.

CLOUDLAND - Beautiful brow lot with 190' of brow frontage and containing approximately 1.28 acres. Great buy at only \$16,000.

LAKE LAHUSAGE - 140 feet of lake frontage - Fenced-in lot with well, two septic tanks, foundation, cement drive, and some landscaping. Priced right at \$39,000. Co-Broker of Southern Properties, Fort Payne, Alabama.

CLOUDLAND AREA - Beautiful two-story western cedar home, on approximately 16 acres, features great room, three bedrooms, two baths, two-car carport, two decks, glassed-in porch and central heat/air. Only four years old and shown by appointment only. Priced at \$127,500.

360' ON HIGHWAY 157 - Six surveyed lots without restrictions, priced at \$12,500 for all.

CLOUDLAND - Four nice building lots with 60' on Highway 157 - Close in - Only \$4,500 for all.

CLOUDLAND - 156 acres with approximately 1/2 mile Little River Frontage. Priced at only \$625 per acre.

CLOUDLAND - 250 acres with beautiful hardwoods, small pond and creek. Great for your own private hideaway or hunting preserve. REDUCED TO \$500 PER ACRE.

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CLOUDLAND - Just inside Alabama - 9.14 acres with beautiful rock formations and nice view, 953.94 feet of road frontage, well and septic tank on property. Priced at \$36,500, and owner financing available with 30 percent down and 10 percent on the balance. Co-Brokers of Southern Properties.

CLOUDLAND - Investment property 75' x 100' lot. No road frontage. Only \$1,000.00.

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A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

E. T. and Gladys, and Bill, Becky Lou, Amy, and Abby Holleman enjoyed several days in Panama City, Florida.

The United Methodist Women of Valley Head observed the quiet day of prayer at the church, April 26. Laura Margaret Allison conducted the program, "Building for Mission in the 21st Century." Several others took part in the impressive service. Those present were Gladys Holleman, Velma Hammond, Venna Livingston, Helen White, Geraldine Hawkins, Frances Longshore, Mary Louise Holleman, Elizabeth Coleman, Adelaide Biddle, and Eloise Brown. Eloise read highlights of the "Reimaging" Conference held in Minneapolis, about which we are shocked and angered and will protest. A bountiful covered dish lunch was enjoyed.

Melinda Adkins and Nelda Johnson went to Hartselle, Alabama, to visit with Marcus Johnson and family and the Wayne Byford family. Congratulations to Melinda who has passed her Doctoral Comprehensive exams and has only two more steps to achieve her Doctorate in School Psychology.

Geneva McElhaney went with her sister, Ruby Jones and Dennis Jones, to Cowpens, S.C., for the weekend, to visit Dennis' mother, Margaret Jones; and they toured points of interest.

Judith Lollik-Andersen has completed her book, "Users Manual for M.C.S. Telephone System." She has had interesting visitors at her bed and breakfast. She has reservations for the Fort Payne Cultural Club meeting in May, and also the Woman's Club meeting.

Barbara Gillon, of Montgomery, was a recent guest of Jean and John Jones.

Doris and Jim Carmichael are proud of their new granddaughter, Virginia Pauline (Polly) born to Emmy and Mark Ricketts in Tuscaloosa. Polly has a sister, Lucy, age eight, and a brother, John, age six.

Ansley and John McGinnis of Florence, S.C., visited with her mother, Laura Margaret Allison.

Priscilla and Willard Monroe enjoyed a trip to Silver Spings and Ocala, FL, with Martha and Herbert Stanley in their motor home.

Ed Ringer went to Florence, Miss., to help his namesake, Edward Spencer Ringer, celebrate his tenth birthday in March. He came back by Birmingham to attend A.E.A. Convention and the Alabama Retired Teachers Convention, where he was installed as President. Congratulations, Mr. President! Dr. Robert Ringer spent several days with Ed. He lives in Marianna, FL.

Billie and Floyd Harper announce the birth of a grandson, Dillon Gage, born March 6 to Heather and Jack Jones. Becky Barrier and children, Jessica and B.O., from Crestview, FL, spent a week with them, recently.

Gladys Cobble has returned home after being in Chattanooga to celebrate the birthday of her daughter-in-law, Linda Cobble.

Congratulations to Jennifer Stott White, who received an S.M.A. medical school scholarship from the Southern Medical Association. She is currently in her first year of study at the UAB School of Medicine.

Mickey Cobble came from Chattanooga, and he and his mother, Gladys Cobble, went to Fort Payne to visit Jimmy and Clayton Whittle.

Ed Cash, of Richmond, Va., spent a few days with Virginia and Bill Livezey.

Rebecca Stott, Jenny Stott White, and Gladys Cobble visited Gladys Stott in Centre, recently. Gladys Stott is in our thoughts and prayers--also Evelyn Phillips, Chris Cooper, Gordon Jones, Thelma Hawkins, Vernitice Young, Ruby Koger, and all who are ill, as well as Maxine Ferguson and family, and all who have been bereaved.

Glad to hear that Annie Pearl Watkins, of Sylvania, is able to be home and improving. She is the mother of Kent Kerby of Valley Head.

Charlie Hawkins came from Birmingham and took Velma Hammond and Vesta Hawkins to his mother Nancy Hawkins' home for a visit. Vesta's granddaughter, Lynn Roberts, gave a family birthday party honoring Vesta on her 90th birthday, with eighteen present. The grandchildren and others each gave a speech of how much Vesta has meant in their lives, concluding with one by her nephew, Al Hammond, who gave the blessing for the meal. It was a joyous occasion and one richly deserved by a gracious lady who has always been kind and thoughtful to others. May you have many more healthful and happy birthdays, Vesta!

Melinda and Jeff Adkins were gracious hosts for a supper at the Methodist parsonage, on April 20, for those who had birthdays in January, February, and March. Those enjoying the supper and special fellowship were Ted Holleman, Velma Hammond, and Eloise Brown.

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For wisdom and patience to live each day
As examples for their children to see
Of what all Christian citizens should be--
True to principles and trusting in Thee.
May they be loving and always be kind,
Firm, dependable, and gently remind
Of the helping hand they can always find--
Leading and guiding in the right way.
Give them strength and courage, God,
we pray,

Bless all mothers in the world today.

--Eloise M. Brown

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(2) The one and only EAGLES CLIFF-North of Mentone. 1200 feet of sheer cliffs and 34 wooded acres. \$179,900.



(3) PEACEFUL COUNTRY LIVING at its best. Over 3500 square foot farm house on 20 fenced acres, barn, 2 wells, spring fed pond. Connecting DeSoto State Park. Only a few steps from Little River. Great Bed and Breakfast potential. \$127,500.



(4) The West Fork of Little River flows quietly by these 3-acre wooded lots with 300 feet of River Frontage. Restricted for property owner's protection. Prices starting at \$20,000.



(5) A WATER WONDERLAND - 3 bedroom, 2 bath rustic cottage overlooking the East Fork of Little River. Sunroom, 2-level deck, dock in the river. A great weekend get-a-way. \$75,000.



(6) COMMERCIAL LOT on front with a 3 bedroom, 1 bath cottage with fireplace, pine floors and lots of charm! Prime downtown location on Highway 117 in Mentone. \$69,500.



(7) This one is bigger than you think—three levels, 3 bedrooms, 2 & 1/2 baths, 2 kitchens, sunroom, totally self-contained apartment possibilities on lower level. \$74,500.



(8) LANDMARK PROPERTY IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE - Once housed one of the area's finest hotels. Now is the home of the White Elephant Antique Shop. \$225,000.

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Mrs. Teresa Buckles singing a solo with Beverly Henry doing the song in sign language at the 1994 Easter Morning Sunrise Services held at the Chester Crow property in Mentone, and sponsored by the North DeKalb Ministerial Association.



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Barbara Nancarrow standing next to her granddaughter's doll house



The inside of the doll house for granddaughter Auburn Nancarrow



Front and inside view of one of Barbara Nancarrow's miniature houses she has built and furnished with miniature pieces



MENTONE'S MINIATURE ART: PART THREE

By Pat Seymour

Barbara Nancarrow is the third in a series of interviews with local miniaturists. A native of Birmingham, Michigan, Barbara began this fascinating hobby twenty years ago. Husband Bob does the shells for Barbara's houses or boxes with a table saw, and she takes it from there, doing wiring for lights and furnishing each of the tiny rooms. Barbara says, "Miniaturists rarely do the whole process. Miniature making is a family project." She said, "Bob cuts all my mini lumber on a table saw with a special blade. He even cut my roof shingles. He used one piece of 2x4 California redwood floor planking to make the siding for the house, shingles, and also to make the deck on the side of her granddaughter's house and for the ceiling. We work together on those things."

The house of which Barbara is most proud is a three-story colonial home with a living room that is an exact replica of her mother's home in Michigan. Even the tiny portraits on the wall are actual portraits of her family. The fire screen is an exact scale reproduction of the one in front of her mother's fireplace. The home has 9 rooms, all furnished by Barbara. The crystal chandelier is lighted and was constructed and wired by the miniaturist. Barbara calls many of her houses "Michigan Winter Projects." One of her early projects was a HO scale train layout, complete with a zoo, mountains, tunnels, houses (lighted up), and a train station.

Bob and Barbara's son, Robert, put a shell together for his five-year-old daughter, Auburn Nancarrow.

Auburn, at first, played with the structure as a doll house. Barbara took the house to her workshop at Christmas and furnished it for her granddaughter. When Auburn was 13, she looked critically at the house and said, "G'ma, this house needs a bathroom!" So, Barbara created one to scale.

Because Auburn's father, Robert, is an avid hunter, Barbara built a deerhead (to scale) for a wall trophy. The deerhead looked like a fly on the wall, so Barbara designed a moose head using the one in her son's home as a model. "That," says the miniaturist, "showed up as a truly impressive wall trophy!"

Bob and Barbara had six children, but the oldest, a daughter, is deceased. The couple is extremely proud of their 14 grandchildren, and all the family live in the Birmingham, Michigan, area.

Barbara will be displaying her craft for children at Moon Lake School on Saturday, April 30, at The Spring Festival.

The invitation remains open for interested parties to telephone one of the Mentone miniaturists for a visit over to see what they actually do. "We shouldn't have to drive all the way to Chattanooga to be a part of a club. With a few more people, we could lend all our talents to Mentone. Please call!" said Barbara.

Grace Howard's phone is 634-4506.

Betty Stephen's phone is 634-4138.

Barbara Nancarrow's phone is 634-4842.

Judy Weaver's phone is 634-4554.

Memorial Day Let Us Remember



I LOVE GOSPEL MUSIC

by Dessie Newberry
GMF Chairperson

It was a time of **FUN AND FELLOWSHIP** for all who participated in, and/or attended The Third Annual "Mentone Gospel Music Festival" that was held April 9th and 10th, in Edward Mason City Park in downtown Mentone, Alabama. "The Sharps" of Fort Payne, Alabama, were host for this wonderful event. (See picture, top right.) Their performance was **OUTSTANDING**, and I would like to give them a **GREAT BIG "THANK YOU,"** for giving their time, their magnificent talent, and the use of their equipment in making this **GLORIOUS OCCASION** the success it was. "The Sharps" have agreed to host the fourth annual event in 1995. I am looking forward to its being bigger and better than ever before.

A hearty "Thank You" goes to all of those groups and individuals, (see pictures above) such as "The Watson Trio," from Cleveland, Tenn (bottom left picture); "The Singing Camp Family," from Rainsville, AL (middle row picture on left); "The Stephens Trio," from Henagar, AL (not pictured); "The Gospel Rhythms" from Mentone (middle row, left picture); George Walker, from Mentone (middle row, center picture); Lisa Smith, from Valley Head (top row, center picture); Buddy Vetzal, from Mentone on the harmonica (bottom right picture); and others from Mentone and the surrounding areas, who shared their musical talent

with the crowd. *Editor's note: Dorothy Crow and Dessie Newberry (top row left picture).*

I want to thank everyone who helped in any way to assist in this event: by picking up sticks in the park, by putting up or taking down the canopy, and by selling tickets on the rocking chair donated by a Mentone individual, and given away in a drawing to James and Lee Burkhalter from Kennesaw, GA. For fear of leaving someone out, I won't list all those individuals.

The numerous "door prizes" were donated by the Alabama Fan Club, upon the request of Dr. Pat Seymour. Drawings for the door prizes were held each hour, and many shared in the winnings. Thank you, Alabama Fan Club and Dr. Pat Seymour for your support.

Again, I want to thank everyone, in behalf of MAPA and me, personally, as GMF-Chairperson, for the help and support in making the Third Annual Gospel Music Festival a success.

If you have a talent or know of someone or some groups that would like to participate, or if you would like to help with a donation to fund the 1995 Gospel Music Festival, please address all correspondence to MAPA-(GMF), P.O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984; Attention Dessie Newberry

Mentone Gospel Music Festival

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The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

It is great to be here in Mentone. The birds are singing, the hummingbirds are back, and the wild azaleas, iris, etc., are glorious. There is a substantial layer of pine pollen settling over everything...I guess, to add a little irritation to this otherwise beautiful time of the year. In celebration of Spring, I have been digging around in those fast, easy, and good recipes again; and I hope you will enjoy these.

MAXIE'S FRANKS:

Peg Bracken

I Hate to Cook Book

(A fast, good franks and kraut routine)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1/2 onion, chopped | |
| 2 T cooking oil | |
| 3/4 C catsup | No. 2-1/2 can (large) |
| 3/4 C water | sauerkraut |
| 1 T brown sugar | 10-12 hotdogs |
| 1 t prepared mustard | |

Saute' onions in oil 'til tender; add next four ingredients, and bring to boil. Drain sauerkraut well, and put in large casserole, slash hotdogs and arrange on top of sauerkraut. Pour sauce over kraut and dogs and bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Serves 4-6.

DEVEILED CHICKEN WITH VEGETABLES (Sue)

- 1/8 t poultry seasoning
- 1/4 C coarse grain mustard
- 4 skinned and boned chicken breast halves
- 1 can (16 oz) sliced white potatoes, drained
- 1 jar (6 oz) quartered marinated artichoke hearts
- 2 medium zucchini, sliced 1/4" thick

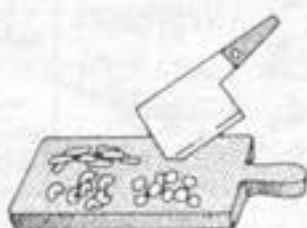
Line broiler pan with foil, and spray with cooking spray. Mix poultry seasoning and mustard. Put chicken smooth side down on broiler rack, and divide 1/2 of the mustard mixture between chicken breasts. Mix the remaining ingredients, and spread out next to chicken. Broil 3-4" from heat for 4 minutes. Turn chicken and spread with rest of mustard mixture. Turn vegetables and broil 4-5 minutes longer, until chicken is done and vegetables are hot. Serves 4.

ZESTY CARROTS:

Dorothy Hewlett

- 6 large carrots
- 2 T grated onion
- 1 T horseradish
- 1/2 C mayo
- 1 t salt
- 1/4 t pepper
- 1/4 C water

Clean carrots and cut into strips, cook and place in 6"x10" baking dish (oiled). Mix remaining ingredients, and pour over carrots. Top with 1/4 C buttered bread crumbs. Bake, uncovered, 15 minutes at 375 degrees. Serves 4-6.



Valley Head Woman's Club

by Maurine Donahue

"Spring was busting out all over" as the Valley Head Woman's Club met at the home of Mrs. James Jones in its woodland setting. Spring flowers, both native and cultivated, graced the home.

Hostesses, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Alva Hammond, and Mrs. Phil Hurt, served refreshments in springtime colors as guests entered.

The subject of the program was "A Better World Through the Beauty of Landscape and Design." The president, Mrs. Alex Hamilton, presided.

Mrs. Jones gave the devotional basing it on Genesis 1, wherein God made the light and all that is in the world and saw that it was good, and on Revelation 22, the beginning and the end. God gave man dominion over all things on earth; therefore we should take care of the plants and animals. The challenge is to tell everyone about Christ.

Members renewed their "Pledge of Membership" with Michele Anderson, new member. Mrs. Anderson gave the program.

Mrs. Anderson has charge of the Fort Payne Beautification program. She told of her plans, showed pictures of similar projects in other cities, and told of uses of various perennials in your own planting.

Fort Payne is applying for a grant of \$100,000 for the project. This money cannot be spent on the buildings, but can only be used for sidewalks and streets. No grant money can be used for Bradford pear trees, as they grow too large.

Some years ago, Dr. Steve Brewer had blueprints of the town made by TVA. In the beginning, the plan is to work up and down First Street and on Gault Avenue as far north as the Opera House.

They plan to replace lights with side fixtures—no overhead wires. They will use some brick inlay on the sidewalks and plant trees. Building owners will be encouraged to use colorful canvas awnings.

The DeKalb Theatre Board would like to renovate the area next to the theatre with a wrought iron fence across the front, a bandstand at the back, and a trellis at the entrance. Nothing has been finalized.



Mr. Charles Bell, Mrs. Helen Sibert, and Mrs. Juanita Smith

RECEPTION FOR RETIREES

By Evelyn Graves

Mr. Charles Bell, Mrs. Helen Sibert, and Mrs. Juanita Smith, were honored by Moon Lake School's PTA with a banquet at the Lookout Restaurant in Cloudland, on Tuesday evening, April 19. The three retiring faculty members represent over 70 years of service to the Mentone Community through their work in education.

Dr. Bill Berry was Master of Ceremonies for the evening, providing everyone with a brief personal and educational history of each of the retirees. PTA President, John Corey, and Vice-President, Connie Hughes, presented Mr. Bell, Mrs. Sibert, and Mrs. Smith with a pen and ink drawing of the school by Cheryl King. Jean Corey and Marsha Hurt read a narrative poem recounting the contributions of each of the faculty members, as well as commenting on the unique attributes of each one of them. The evening concluded with President Corey speaking on behalf of the PTA, expressing appreciation for these individuals and reminding everyone of the important role educators play in our society.



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Run-Off June 28, 1994

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2nd District

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RUNOFF JUNE 28, 1994

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Democratic Candidate For
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Mr. Young is a life-long resident of DeKalb County, self-employed, operating Young Steel in the Pine Ridge Community where he resides with his wife, Linda. They have a daughter, Chris Pearson, who is an RN at BMC DeKalb. He serves on the Board of Directors of First Federal Savings and Loan, and Southern Credit Corporation. He is a member of the Lebanon Masonic Lodge No. 114, Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of Mount Hermon Baptist Church. Mr. Young seeks this position because of his interest in the children of DeKalb County. He asks that you allow him to serve the children by giving him your vote and support on June 7, 1994.

Subject to Democratic Primary June 7, 1994, Run off June 28, 1994
General Election November 8, 1994/Paid Political Ad. by Johnny D. Young,
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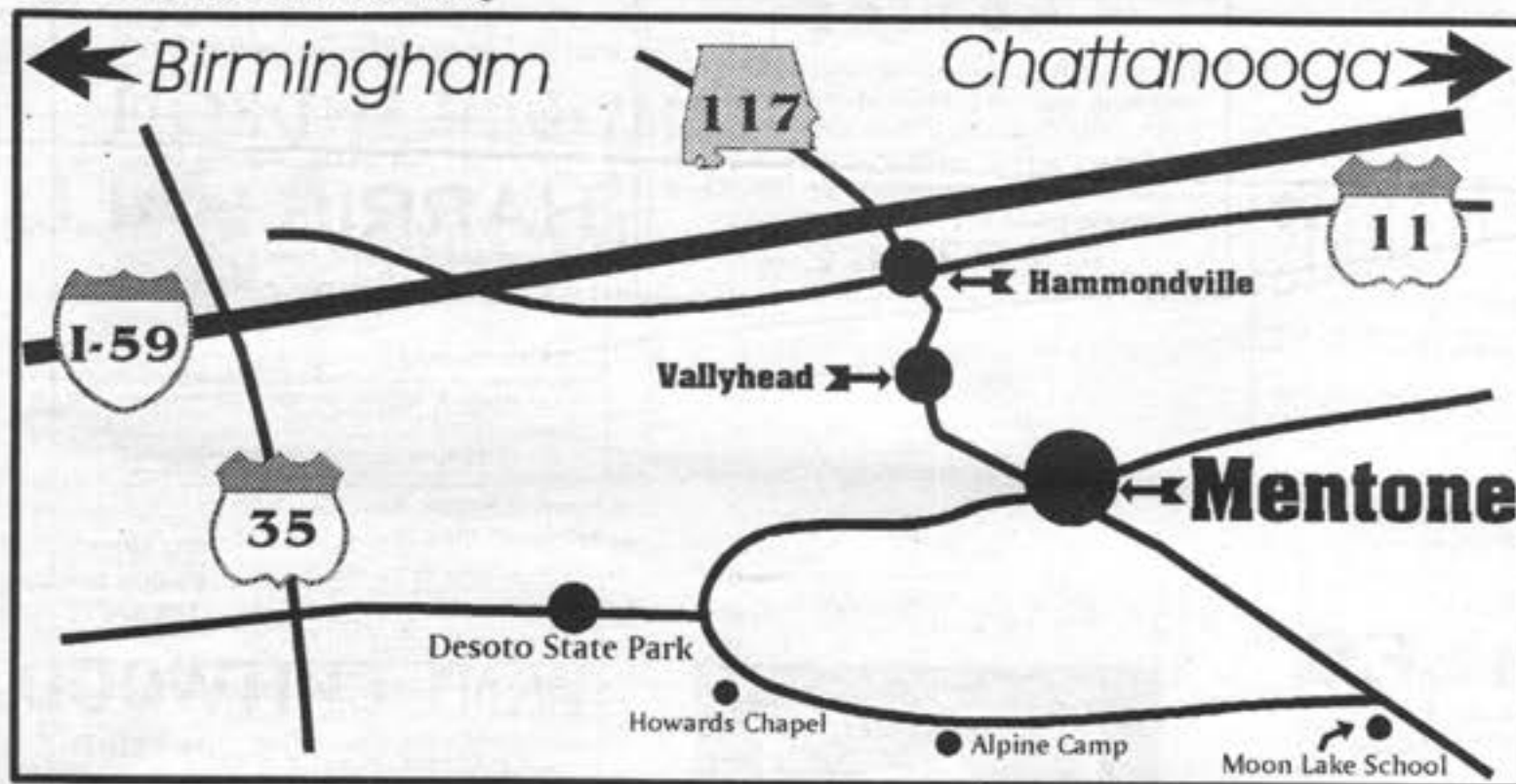


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**Saturday & Sunday,
May 21st & 22nd**

Mentone Alabama - On Lookout Mountain Parkway

View Rhododendrons From River Boat Rides at Desoto Falls
Tickets \$2.50

- ♦ Music, Stories, Bonfire--Friday, May 20th at 7:00 PM
- ♦ Parade on Saturday, May 21st at 2:00 PM
- ♦ Clogging--Quilting--Arts & Crafts
- ♦ Rhododendron Queen Contest Saturday, May 21st at 8:00 PM at the Hitching Post

**DONATION
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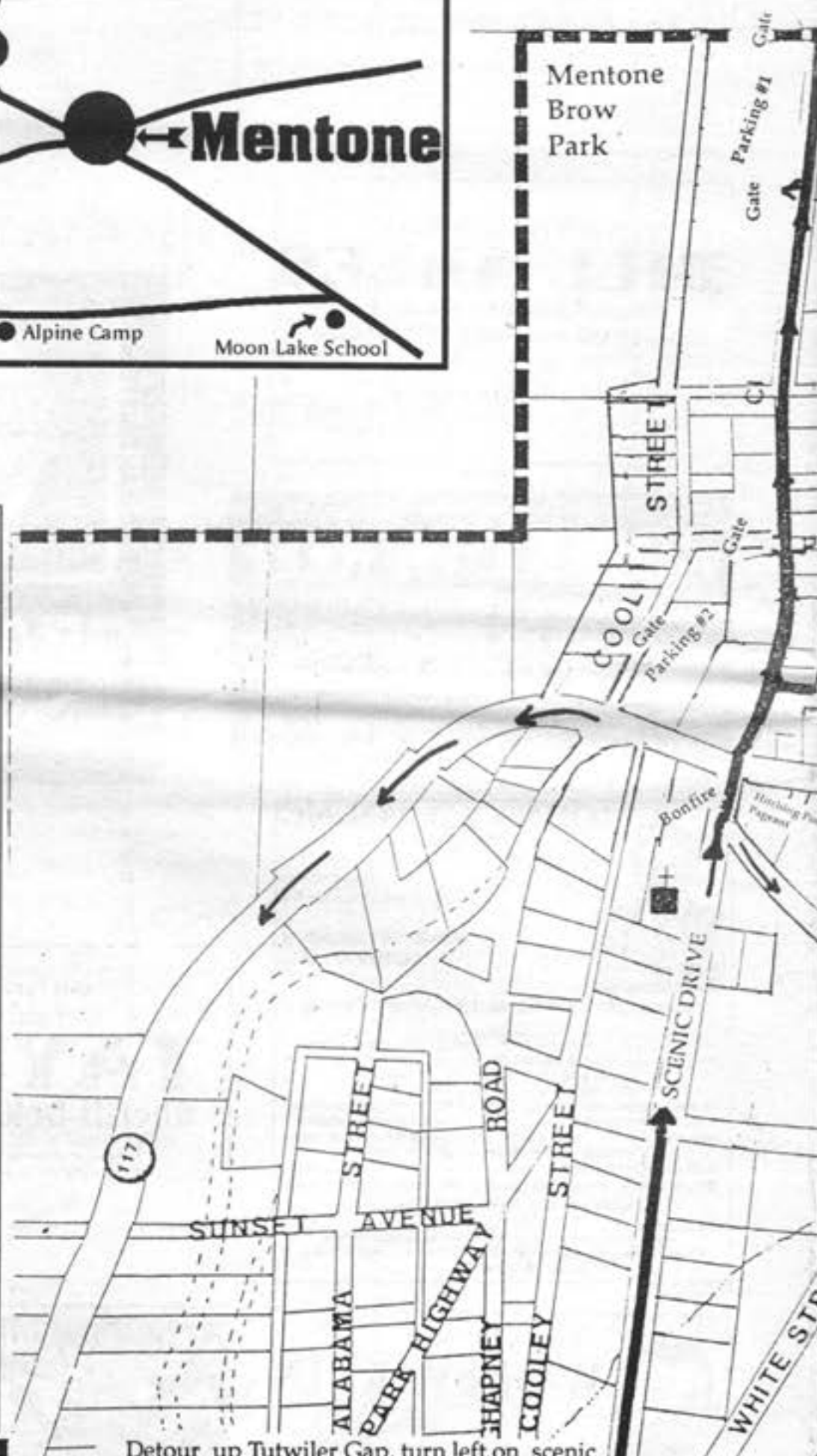
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3rd weekend in May

The Musical Mountain In Springtime RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL



Saturday & Sunday,
May 21st & 22nd

Mentone Alabama - On Lookout Mountain Parkway

View Rhododendrons From River Boat Rides at Desoto Falls
Tickets \$2.50

- Music, Stories, Bonfire--Friday, May 20th at 7:00 PM
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- Rhododendron Queen Contest Saturday, May 21st at 8:00 PM at the Hitching Post

**DONATION
\$2.00 - AT
THE GATE**

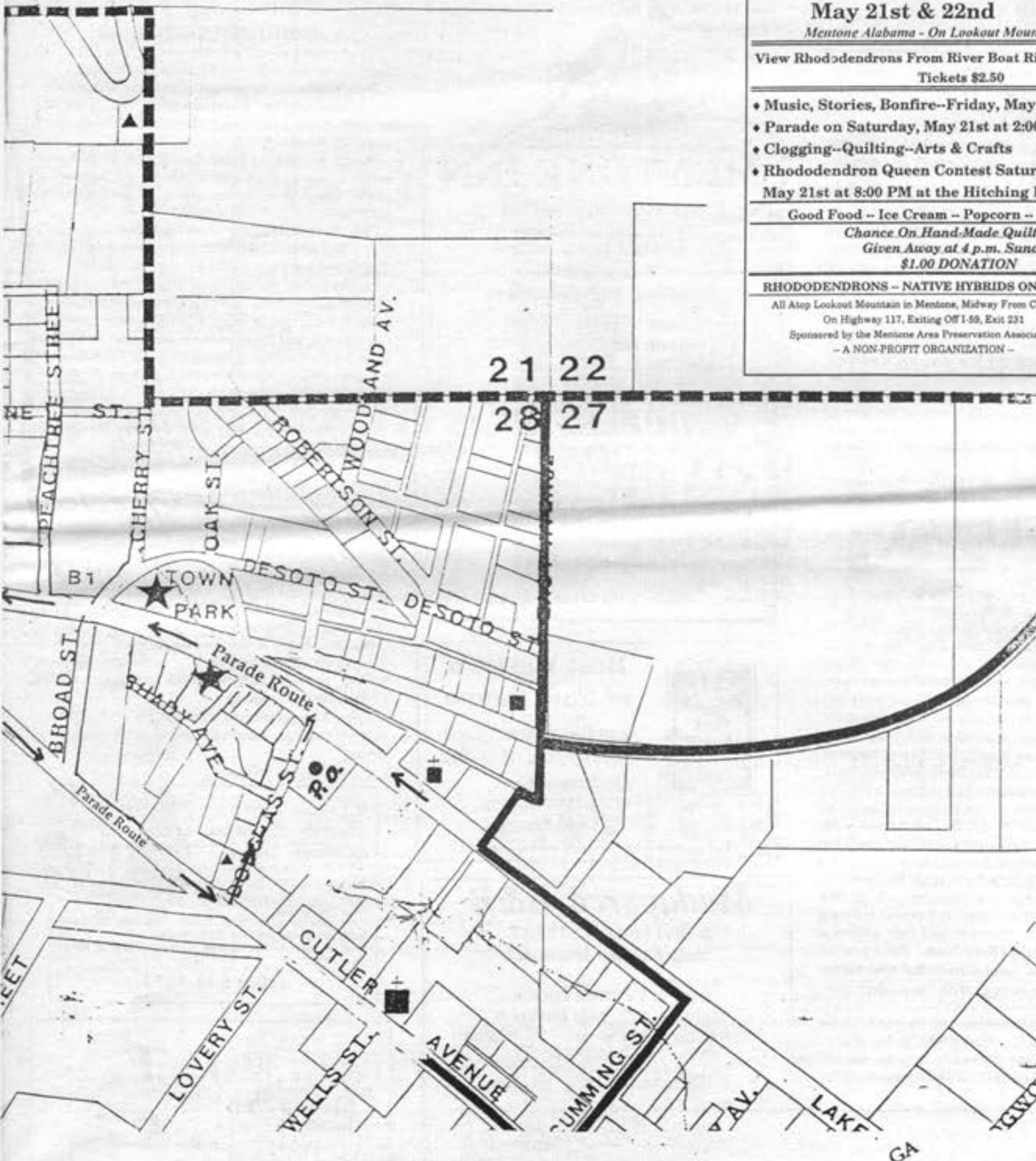
Good Food -- Ice Cream -- Popcorn -- Cotton Candy

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It's springtime, and our wildflowers are blooming on every plot of land available to them. It seems, as progress takes place, we lose space that could provide wildflower gardens to brighten our land. We are fortunate to live where there is still an abundance of lovely blooming plants and trees to provide color and interest to the landscape.

For about two weeks, Wade Gap Road was bordered with beautiful bright blue wild phlox. It was worth the ride over the bumpy road just to see the wonderful display of nature's bounty. There were also birdfoot, sweet shrub violets, and, later, lush white blossoms on the oakleaf hydrangea, in this same area. Now, there are trillium blooming all the way down Tutwiler Gap. I believe they are the largest ones I've ever seen. They are lined up like they had been hand planted.

Our redbud was very pretty this year, but it seemed to pass quickly. The dogwood have not been as full as usual, except in a few choice locations.

The wild azaleas are especially pretty in the woods along DeSoto Parkway. Their lovely pink color is most dainty and fluffy looking. Of course, we mountain people call them honeysuckle.

The little pale blue bluets bordering our driveway are so cheerful looking as they lift their little heads to greet the morning, and they have been blooming for a month. These pleasures are free. We don't have to lift a finger to provide nutrition or cultivation for these—just give them some space.

Wild geranium, bloodroot, and Virginia bluebells are blooming in my yard in Chattanooga. They are faithful to produce year after year. I have them mixed in with iris, daffodils, and other cultivated flowers. One year, I hope to have just wildflowers in one area. They are most rewarding when given a little extra care. Years ago, Ladybird Johnson started her Beautify America program. Everyone was encouraged to strew wildflowerseeds on their roadsides, and many states started the practice. East Texas looks like a continuous wildflower garden with Texas bluebonnets, pink phlox, and many other varieties and colors.

The Alabama Welcome Center has planted seeds in the median of Interstate 59, and it is bright now with white and yellow daisies, which look like the wild ones we enjoy on the side of the roads here.

Last Sunday, about 20 people from St. Joseph's Episcopal Church went on a wildflower walk headed by Larry Longshore. They drove as far as they could on the side of Pidgeon Mountain, and then walked a long way to the area called Rock Town. There is nothing more beautiful than natural unspoiled areas where we have not upset the ecology with our modern techniques.

DeSoto State Park has many natural footpaths where one may walk and enjoy many interesting plants, shrubs, trees, and flowers. (Editor's note: See the 3rd Annual Wildflower Saturday schedule of events on the back page of this issue.)

In about three weeks, the native rhododendron and mountain laurel will be blooming, and that's something to proudly show to our guests visiting the Mentone area. I have never seen a more beautiful sight than the steep banks of Little River viewed from the boat rides when the rhododendron and mountain laurel are in full bloom. We have made many pictures of it, but nothing does it justice. It's fabulous! We have

just planted many native ones in our yard and will hope to enjoy them for a few years.

We have Jack-in-the-pulpit in some areas here, and it is rare and on the endangered list. There are hundreds of varieties of plants in Little River Canyon, which I hope will be protected now that we have the National Preserve. There are so very many that most of us cannot identify, but study and a good wildflower book can help us identify them.

The Garden Clubs of Alabama are giving special attention to wildflowers this year.

Take time to enjoy the beauty of the wildflowers wherever you live.



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MADAPERCA

GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

CLARIFYING FRUIT JUICES

I found this tip in my Rodale book, using honey to clarify fruit juice. Most commercial juice is clarified by an enzyme called pectinase to remove the cloudiness; unfortunately, it also removes the fruit pectin. A simple alternative is honey. To clarify apple juice, mix four tablespoons of honey into each quart of raw juice, and leave it in the 'fridge over night. The next day, draw the clear juice off of the settled solids, drink up, or freeze!

DRIED FLOWER GARDENING

Flowers and plants suitable for drying generally thrive in full sun with average soil and moisture.

Their shapes can be grouped into three categories for use in arrangements: linear—for line or height; round—for mass or focal point; and filler—to add an airy look and unify the others.

Having a variety of dried flowers, foliage, and pods makes it easy to put together gifts for the holidays or just to capture your gardening beauties for year-round enjoyment.

Pick them in the late morning, when thoroughly dried. If you don't have time to deal with them immediately, put them in a bucket of lukewarm water.

Flower colors change when dried. Reds and purples darken or turn blue; yellows and greens fade; white turns cream or beige; rust turns brown; oranges can turn red; and blues, oranges, and pinks retain their color best. Air-drying is the simplest and cheapest. All you need is a warm dark place with good air circulation. Air-dry most plants by hanging them upside down in bunches. It usually takes a week or less. Simple plants like baby's breath, poppy seed heads, Chinese lantern, and globe thistle dry better right side up in a mason jar or coffee can. It also gives grains, grasses, etc., graceful curves. Some plants that dry better right side up also need 1/2" of water in the container to begin with—the water will evaporate as the plants dry. Try this with hydrangeas, ageratum, and yarrow, also alliums bells of Ireland and heather. To dry fennel, dill, Queen Anne's lace, and edelweiss, place the stems through a screen. The stems hang loose below, and the flowers are supported face up by the screen.

Best plants for drying are cockscomb, globe amaranth, strawflower (my favorite), celosia, heliotropium, honest, yarrow, baby's breath, lavender, statice, Chinese lantern, and roses.

Using a desiccant like silica gel for drying flowers helps them retain their color and shape better than air drying.

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HUNTIN' & FISHIN' TIPS

Compiled by Dr. Pat

Crappies: In spring, crappies strike large minnows readily. They're hungry from the winter, and that's the only size forage available. In summer, though, opt for smaller baitfish—in the one- to two-inch class—because young minnows are abundant, and that's the primary forage for crappies then.

Turkeys: Avoid calling too often. If they hear you and respond, give one more call, then be silent. The birds know where you are. Renew your calling only if they don't come in within 10 to 20 minutes, or you hear them veering away.

White Bass: They feed in deep, open waters during the day in summer. However, often in the early morning and late evening, they will move close to shore for a feeding spree. Watch for their surface slashes near flats, bars, islands, and banks near deep water, then cast white or yellow jigs or topwaters.

Squirrels: If you forget your squirrel call, try this trick: Pick up a couple of small pebbles, place them in a closed fist, and rattle them. This sounds remarkably like a chattering squirrel and may prompt one to reveal its location.

Stripers: After a cold front or during winter, one of the best ways to catch stripers is to cast a chrome lipless crankbait, such as a Sport or Rat-L-Trap, over points, near dropoffs, or close to bridge pilings. Allow it to sink near the bottom. Reel in halfway, then stop. As the lure sinks, fish will nail it.

BASS BEHIND YOU. Those who watch pro bassers pepper shore structure and shallow banks of vegetation may forget the largemouths' habit of occasionally "backing off" their feeding stations or spawning beds to suspend for a while in slightly deeper water nearby. If your shoreline casting fails to produce, turn around and face outward, change your floating-surface lures for diving plugs or crankbaits, or let your plastic worms and spinnerbaits sink a few extra seconds. Remember: Bass rarely stray far from where they feed or breed. They may be out of sight, but they're still around.

DID YOU KNOW THIS?

BUCK LORE: The word "buck"—the modern slang term for the dollar—originated during the colonial period of American history. Bucks—short for buckskins—meant deerskins, which were the medium of exchange or currency of the day between white men and Indians. In fact, the State of Franklin (Tennessee today) paid its civil officials in a salary of deerskins.

FAWNS OR CALVES: Have you ever wondered why the young of some animals such as whitetails and mule deer are called "fawns;" and the young of moose, caribou, and elk are called "calves," even though they are all members of the deer family? There is a simple difference: fawns have spots; calves do not.

U.S.DOGS: Of the 163 breeds of purebred dogs in the United States, the Chesapeake Bay retriever and the coonhound are the only sporting breeds to have originated in this country.

CLASS ACTS: The American Whitewater Affiliation (AWA) uses the international scale of river difficulty to rate sections of rivers. (Caution: Consult DeSoto State Park Manager, Talmadge Butler, in order to determine the class rates for branches of Little River (205-845-0051).) Know the flow before you go.

CLASS I: Moving water with few riffles and small, standing waves. Few or no obstructions.

CLASS II: Easy rapids. Waves up to three feet. Wide, clear channels. Some maneuvering needed.

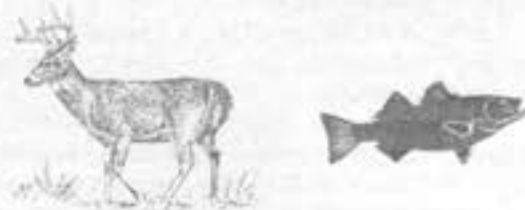
CLASS III: Rapids with high, irregular waves capable of swamping small boats such as canoes. Narrow passages requiring complex maneuvering. Scouting from shore recommended.

CLASS IV: Long, difficult rapids with constricted passages. Difficult, turbulent waters. Precise maneuvering required. Generally not possible for open canoes. Scouting from shore recommended.

CLASS V: Extremely difficult, long, violent rapids that must be scouted from shore. Rescue conditions difficult and significant hazard to life is probable in the event of a mishap.

CLASS VI: Difficulties of Class V carried to the extreme of possible navigability. Nearly impassable and very dangerous. For experts only after close study, with all precautions taken.

NOTE: If water is below 50 degrees F or the trip is in a limited-access area, consider the rapids one class more difficult.



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About— Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



What price must we pay for progress? We will be coming home to Mentone by way of Tutwiler Gap for a very long time. The traffic down the mountain will continue to be one lane for this same period of time. The rocks and concrete from the torn down wall are being dumped in plain sight almost in the middle of Mentone. As of Friday, April 22, two school buses are coming up to Mentone from Valley Head via Tutwiler Gap!! Tractor-trailer trucks are getting stuck at the bottom and the top, trying to make the sharp turns. It is taking at least 35 minutes to get from Valley Head to Mentone at the busiest time of the day. It is just a mess, and an accident waiting to happen!

A concerned group of people have been trying to convince "the powers that be" to stop traffic at the top of the mountain long enough for the buses to come up the regular highway. In all fairness, both of the towns--Mentone and Valley Head-- have agreed to work for this and have offered the services of their respective police departments. It is the state that will not cooperate. Other suggestions that I have heard are: make Tutwiler Gap one-way traffic up, and put up more concise signs stating that the route is very dangerous for large trucks, and that they should not continue to use Highway #117 until construction is complete. Some changes have to be made. We cannot continue to live with these hazards for eight to ten months. This is an election year, let's take advantage of that fact. Contact any politician you know and make them aware of this situation. This may sound like I am trying to stir up trouble. Well, I am. If the school buses continue to use Tutwiler Gap, the parents of students on those buses should take drastic measures to force someone to do something. If this article prevents one accident or possibly one life saved, then I have accomplished my goal. I have written many times that we should get involved in our community events--there will never be a better time than now. My Daddy always told me that "they" might kill me, but they sure wouldn't eat me.

On a much more pleasant subject, have you ever seen a prettier spring? Recently, I read an article stating that everything was in full bloom because of the Blizzard of '93. The buds were all killed then, and the parent plant stored up the energy that would have been used last year. This year, they are using all of that stored-up energy. Wish I could discover their secret. The days don't have enough hours, and the weeks don't have enough days. Get out and enjoy this beauty. Plant a garden, sow some flower seeds, rake some sticks (plenty fell this winter), or go outside and sit down. Just enjoy it while it's here.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is participating in a national project called, "Second Time Around." This is the use of plants and plant material for something other than the usual use. We are drying flowers for arrangements and craft projects. This is much fun and is keeping us aware of the fact that there are many uses for plants other than the ones we are so familiar with. You just have to keep an open mind and be willing to try new ideas.

Be happy, be healthy, and be content!

Editor's Note at press time: The county has agreed to making Tutwiler gap one way going up at least until school is out.

SCHOOL NEWS

By Evelyn Graves
MOON LAKE

T-ball has gotten off to a great start with 44 participants. The first game was played on April 21 with the Blue Tigers winning over the Cubs with a score of 28-21. Six innings of exciting ball were played.

May 7 will be a Recycle Can Day. Anyone who wants to take their cans down to Burger King in Fort Payne between 8-11 a.m. for the cans to be weighed and collected may do so, and a check will be sent to Moon Lake School.

The last day of school for students is May 26. The teachers' workday is May 27. Graduation is on May 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the gymnasium.

An application has been filed for a Japanese language teacher next year. This is set up by the Georgia Southwestern Center for Asian studies in Americus, Georgia, and is coordinated through the DeKalb County Board of Education. There will be no charge for this, other than the school will provide meals and lodging for the teacher.

August 15 - Teachers' Institute

August 16 - Teachers' In-Service Day

August 17 - Teachers' Workday

August 18 - Students' first day at school.

There will be a workday on May 14 and again on May 21 for parents and interested patrons of the school.

On May 21, there will be a reunion of all students who attended Moon Lake School at any time between 1911 and 1955. Anyone who is interested in helping in any way may contact one of the persons on the committee for this project. (See announcement elsewhere in the paper.)



VALLEY HEAD HIGH SCHOOL BAND 1994 WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP

The band leaves on Wednesday, May 4th, at 8:00 p.m. from the school, for their trip to Washington, D.C. Everyone is to be at the school no later than 6:30 p.m.

Arrival in Washington, D.C. is scheduled for approximately 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 5. Their suggested itinerary includes the following:

Thursday, May 5, 1994, 10:00 a.m. - Arrive Dulles Airport Marriott where they are met and briefed by the Super Holiday Tour Escort and immediately leave on a bus to go to the Smithsonian Institute for visits to the Museum of American History, Museum of Natural History, National Gallery of Art, and Air and Space Museum. At 5:00 p.m. they board the bus for dinner at Hot Shoppes Cafeteria. Check-in time begins at 7:00 p.m. at their hotel.

Friday, May 6, 1994, begins with a buffet breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at the hotel. After breakfast, they board a bus at 9:00 a.m. to go to the Lincoln Memorial, where they will perform between the hours of 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. Following the performance, they will take the bus to the United States Capitol for a tour given by Capitol Guides. Then, off to the National Archives to view the Bill of Rights and Constitution. Lunch on Friday is on their own. At 2:00 p.m., they take a half-day city tour with step-on guides, which ends at Union Station at 6:00 p.m. After dinner, they tour the illuminated memorials, including Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Viet Nam Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, and the White House. Following the tours, the band members ride the bus back to the hotel.

Saturday, May 7, begins with breakfast at the hotel. The band then packs and loads to check out of the hotel. At 9:00 a.m., they will take the bus to Arlington Cemetery and walk to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers and President Kennedy's Grave. At 11:00 a.m. the bus will carry them to the Iwo Jima Memorial, then to the Smithsonian Institute. Lunch is on their own, again. Then, it's time to start for home. They leave around 4:00 or 5:00 p.m. for their trip back to Alabama.

Sunday morning, May 8, around 5:00 a.m. the band should be back at the school parking lot.

The Groundhog staff congratulates the band and wishes them a safe journey, superior performance, and a marvelous time on their trip to Washington, D.C.

VALLEY HEAD HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 29-30 - Spring Fantasy Pageant
May 1 - Band Concert, 2:00 p.m.
May 2 - VH PTO, 6:30 p.m., auditorium
May 5, 6, 7 - Band trip to Washington, D.C.
May 12 - Awards day, grades 7, 8, 9 - 10:00 a.m.
May 13 - Awards day, grades 10, 11, 12 - 10:00 a.m.
May 20 - Class Night, 7:00 p.m., auditorium
May 21 - Football Jamboree, Sylvania vs. VH
May 25, 26 - Semester tests
May 26 - Last Day of School
May 26 - Graduation (Chrissy Norman -
Validictorian Class of '94)
June 8 - Summer School begins at Ft. Payne HS



Beauty Tips

By
CHARLYNE O'REAR

Charlyne O'Rear's column will not appear in this issue, as her mother, Sarah Keyt, passed away this week in Chattanooga, after a lengthy illness. We extend our sincerest condolences to Charlyne and her family at this time.

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT COLLINS

I just want to say goodbye to a DEAR friend and my partner in the DeSoto Rescue Squad. Robert, you were a good friend. I already miss you. You and I went on a few calls together. We worked a lot of wrecks together. We would talk about everything. I think about those times, and I will always think of you. Goodbye, Robert.

Your Friend,
Gail Crider

DeSoto Rescue Squad

"I wonder sometimes how one woman can share herself in so many ways with so many people and be so self sacrificing and giving. It seems that no matter how many demands are placed on you, you are always willing to accept one more whether it be a family member, a fellow church member, or someone in the community with a need."

Your loving daughter

"My prayer is that I will be half the mother that you are, just half the friend to my family and friends, just half the Christian neighbor, just half the devoted wife that you are--and everybody's life around me will be made more pleasant."

Your loving daughter

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PLEASE BRING DOGS ON LEASHES
AND CATS IN CAT CARRIERS.



Beginning at 2:30 p.m., there will be a REUNION of all students who attended Moon Lake School in Mentone, Alabama, anytime between 1911 - 1955. It will be held at the Moon Lake School Gymnasium in Mentone. If you are interested in attending the reunion, and if you will volunteer to help notify others of the event, or if you need further information, you may call any of the following. Spouses of former students are welcome to attend.

John Baty—(205) 634-4415
Jackie Kerby—(205) 634-4854
Robert Green—(205) 634-4779
Norman Crow—(205) 634-4312
Ovie Blalock—(205) 634-4166

Evelyn Graves—(205) 634-4390
Tommy Gifford—(205) 635-4830
Rudolph Bell—(205) 634-4211
John O'Rear—(205) 634-4841

The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Valley Head Baptist Church welcomed a new pastor on April 1, Reverend Charles Jenkins, from Terry, Mississippi. He has a wife, Dianna Lynn, and two daughters, Denee and Sheree. Since he came on the field, the church has experienced eight baptisms. Those baptized were: Julie, Heather, and Hillary Lawton; Cora Whipkey; Stan Benson; Denee Jenkins, Steven Isbell; and Sheree Crisp. The church sponsored a lock-in of students who pledged not to drink alcoholic beverages following the high school prom. There were twelve young people who participated in the lock-in. The youth breakfast continues every Friday morning at 7:00 at the church fellowship hall. All teenagers are invited to attend. Reverend Jenkins is very happy with his new pastorate, and states, "I have the best church in North Alabama."

Reverend Jeff Adkins and wife, Melinda, on Wednesday evening, April 20, entertained the members of the Valley Head Methodist Church who had birthdays during the first quarter of the year. The UMW will meet on May 24 at the home of Eloise Brown, with Gertrude Hawkins assisting as co-hostess. Frances Longshore will be in charge of the program.

The Moon Lake Baptist Church welcomes a new pastor, Reverend William (Bill) Russell and his wife, Gloria, effective May 8. Sunday, May 15, is designated as Senior Citizens Day in the church, and the senior citizens will be in charge of the services on that day.

The Mentone Church of God of Prophecy will have a Mother's Day service on May 8. There will be a Family Week celebration that entire week. The theme for the week is "The Harvest at Home." The ladies of the church will be attending a ladies' retreat May 13-14 at Green Pond, AL. The youth are having a lock-in on Friday night, May 20. The church will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday on May 22. There will be a gospel singing every first Sunday night of each month. The guest singers on May 2 are The Stephens Trio.

The Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to join in worship at 9 a.m. each Sunday.

Friday, April 22, a group of the young people of the Mentone Revival Center attended the Birmingham concert of Carmen, a contemporary Christian artist.

The regular evening singing service is held at 6:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary the third Saturday of each month. The 2nd Saturday of each month is Youth Day. Fun begins at noon and lasts until 5:00 p.m., under the supervision of the youth director, Candy Hansen. Plans are being finalized for a Vacation Bible School in June. Youth attended the Street Young Concert in Gadsden last week.

The church parking area now extends across the road from the church.

Reading classes to be held one day a week will begin in May. The group will meet in the Fellowship Hall at the church.

The UMW of the Mentone United Methodist Church meets on Thursday, May 5, at 2:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall. The program focus is "If I could Touch." Maxine Wright is the hostess.

Saturday, May 7, there is a Youth Festival at Camp Sumatanga. Rev. Lett and other volunteers are taking youths from Trinity UMC and Mentone UMC.

The church continues to need a piano player for the Sunday morning worship services. Please contact Rev. Lett at 634-4881.

NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North DeKalb Ministerial Association will meet on Monday, May 2, at 11:30 a.m., at Dessie's Kountry Chef. The baccalaureate service for the Valley Head High School graduating class is on Sunday, May 22, at 2:00 p.m., at the Valley Head Baptist Church. Everyone is invited to attend. On May 5, to commemorate the National Day of Prayer, there will be a prayer service at the Mentone Brow Park at 6:30 p.m.



Frances Scruggs, the charming hostess, of the Breakfast Club at Tigers Inn, has been cooking up some of the tastiest biscuits in the county since October 1987. Her biscuits have drawn hungry folks to 4:00 a.m. meals.



CLASSIFIED ADS

HOUSECLEANING: Call for estimate at 635-6853 or 635-6658.

FOR SALE: ATOP LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN... Beautiful brow lot with 150.27' of brow frontage and containing 1.08 acres, with well and driveway. Laurawood - a private community in Alabama, just around the bend from Cloudland, GA. \$19,000. See to appreciate. Call: (706) 862-2212.

FOR SALE: COLEMAN 3-1/2 TON AC/HEAT PUMP, 8 years old; in operating condition. Added to house and putting in larger unit. \$600.00. Call (205) 845-2211.

Phyllis Lewis has **FOR SALE** an '88 Silverado Chevy truck, recently painted, good tires, 69,000 miles, \$5800; an '88 model home, 3 Br, 2 Bth, new heat pump, acre of land, \$30,000; and an '85 Chevy Monte Carlo, recently tuned, loaded, \$2800. For more information, call Phyllis at Tigers Inn (635-6855) until 3:00 p.m. After 3:00 p.m., call her at home 635-6149.

Helen Sibert has a building that used to house the family business **FOR SALE** on Hwy #117 next door to the Church of God. An acre of highway front land goes with the building. Call 634-4154.

REWARD

2 - LOST DOGS

1 female, brown & white mixed
1 male, white & black walker
Call: 706-862-2311 and leave message; or call
706-857-2425 (days)
706-862-2624 (evenings)



CRIME STOPPERS GROUP FORMED IN MENTONE

A crime stoppers group of concerned citizens plan to offer a \$500 cash reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for burglaries in Mentone. Information may be called in to Colquitt Jones at 634-4467. Informants do not have to give their names when reporting a thief. Information reported will then be handed over to law enforcement officials. An identifying number will be given to callers so they may remain anonymous.

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The River Watch

By
BILL SCHWARZ

TRAIN TRAVEL

Last month, Sue and I were preparing for a trip to Beaverton, Oregon, to visit daughter Janet and son-in-law Bob Hamilton. Preparations went well, and we packed as best we could for unknown weather. See where I'm going with this? Yes, you're right! We did not take quite warm enough clothes for mid-spring in the great northwest. Stopped along the way and got Sue a new jacket, and I borrowed one from son-in-law (S-I-L) Bob. But, I digress--on with the trip.

The last time I was on a train was 42 years ago, June 1952, to be exact. I traveled from Huntsville to Norfolk, Virginia, where I was to play an integral part in a wedding. The trip took something like 30 hours and involved four changes of train and/or train line--Chattanooga, Bristol, Roanoke, and Richmond. I'm positive that Lincoln wrote his Gettysburg address on the coach from Huntsville to Chattanooga. It had a pot-bellied stove and slat seats. Being 23 years old and heading for my wedding, there were stars in my eyes and nothing could spoil the start of a new era in my life--even sitting up all night. Ah, youth, I wish I had some of that energy, strength, and resilience back. (As an aside: the rest of my youth I wouldn't want to live over again. I'd rather go down a new road, not the old one again.)

Trains have changed and for the better! For my trip of 42 years ago, trains for people were rapidly dying; now, trains are making a slow comeback. Coach cars are comfortable and roomy. It's not at all like riding on an airplane with your knees under your chin. (But, then, for a few hours, you can survive that.) For a short day trip or overnight, the coach would be fine. We decided that for three days and nights, sitting up in a coach just didn't appeal.

The sleeping cars are very nice--our first experience with such luxury (Sue, like me, rode the coach cars when she traveled by train as a young person). Food

in the dining car was just excellent, there was variety on the menu, and always the meals were well prepared and tasty. Service was great. One of the best things about dining on a train is the fact that you have different dining companions each meal. With only one dining car and with several hundred people to serve, they could not let any seats go unfilled. Each table held four people, so you never knew who you'd eat with. All of your dining companions--with one notable exception, and I won't go into that--were charming, interesting folks, and conversations never lagged. There was a widow who, with her husband, had been in Africa for years and who, now, was retired. There was an 80-year-old couple who, at age 50, picked up and left Philadelphia and moved to the wilds of northern Montana simply because they liked the Montana scenery. Only recently had they decided to sell out and move into a small town. A young man on vacation from an oil exploration crew working out of Point Barrow, Alaska, had lots of interesting tales to tell. A young, quiet couple heading from Chicago to New Orleans for their yearly "blast" in the French Quarter, was taking their first train trip.

Sitting in the lounge/observation car provided vistas you'd never see any other way. This was my first time in North Dakota and Montana: flat plains and farm land, huge pot holes (so necessary for migrating wild fowl), small collections of houses, small towns, and vast unoccupied areas. It's easy to see why Montana calls itself the "Big Sky Country."

There were two highlights--unforgettable scenery: Glacier National Park and the Columbia River Gorge, with occasional glimpses of Mount Hood.

I'd do it again; however, I was happy to step off the train and have good solid, non-moving earth under my feet, rather than continue to do the Amtrak-shuffle in order to move from place to place.

Thanks for your time, see you next month.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

ALEXANDRA "ALEX" GAINES BLACKBURN



of Mentone, AL, will celebrate her "second" birthday on May 5, 1994. She is the daughter of Al and Vickie Blackburn, and the sister of Wil Blackburn, all of Mentone. "Alex" is the granddaughter of Mr. William Blackburn, of Mentone; Mr. and Mrs. Winfred Crabtree,

of Ft. Payne; and Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Gaines, of Dalton, Georgia. In her picture, "Alex" is wearing a pink and white hand-crocheted dress that was originally crocheted for her mother, Vickie, by her grandmother, Mrs. Martha Gaines. The dress is 35 years old and has been worn by all female children born in the family since that time.

Happy Birthday, Alex.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

MEGAN ROSE SMITH will be three years old on May 19th. Her proud parents are Mickey and Garnett Smith of Mentone.



Grandparents are Sam and Toots Whatley of Mentone; Sue Smith of Cloudland, Georgia; and Matt Smith of Collinsville, Alabama. Great grandparents are Edward C. Whatley (now deceased); and Mayfred C. Whatley of Palatka, Florida.

Other Great grandparents are Rose Schmidt (now deceased), and Gus Schmidt of Denver, Colorado.

Happy Birthday, Megan!

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Shear Designs

HAIR SALON

By Marie Dillenbeck

In the April issue, a new hair salon—Shear Designs—on Commerce Street in Valley Head Square, in the building formerly known as Kimberly's was spotlighted as Valley Head's new business. *The Groundhog* staff apologizes to Julie Ham and Annette Blalock of Shear Designs, and Annette Orr and Virginia Thompson, for the incorrect cutlines under the pictures. The pictures with the correct cutlines are set out below.

Shear Designs is open 6 days a week. Services include master cuts, styles, chemical service, manicures or pedicures. Shear Designs offers products such as Scruples, Nexus, and top-of-the line world class Loreal hair color. A Wolff Tanning Bed is also ready for use. Business hours are 9 AM - until, Monday through Saturday. They will take clients after hours by appointment.

Call 635-6610 for an appointment. Walk-ins are always welcome.

SCRUPLES
NEXUS

Shear Designs

HAIR SALON

COMMERCIAL STREET
VALLEY HEAD, AL 35989
(205) 635-6610

Julie Ham
OWNER/STYLIST



Standing: Julie Ham, stylist; seated, Annette Orr



Standing, Annette Blalock, stylist;
seated: Virginia Thompson



MENLO NEWS

By Ovie "Bo" Blalock

Representing Woodmen of the World Lodge #436, Barbie Hester and Becky Blalock visited Menlo School and presented the 2nd graders with coloring books. They also took coloring books to the Special Education classroom. In 1991, Barbie and Jimmy Hester were "Mr. and Mrs. Woodmen Lodge #436," and in 1994, Becky and Raymond Blalock were named "Mr. and Mrs. Woodmen Lodge #436." Currently, Barbie is "Lodge Escort" and Becky is "Lodge Sentry." Noticing there were no American flags in the Menlo classrooms, the ladies returned the next day and presented 18 classrooms with American flags. They gave the school a 4x6 American flag for the pole outside the school, and presented a 5x8 flag to the Menlo Library and Town Hall, who share a building jointly.

A foxhunter of years gone by, B.H. "Ben" Bankson passed away, recently. He was a retired carpenter and will be missed by his many friends in Menlo.

Rev. Fred Burge, a retired Baptist minister, died last week. He was a faithful member of Chelsea Baptist Church. Although retired from the ministry at the time of his death, Rev. Burge was a man still strong in his faith. Christians have lost a great champion for God.

NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North DeKalb Ministerial Association will meet on Monday, May 2, at 11:30 a.m., at Dessie's Koun'ry Chef. The baccalaureate service for the Valley Head High School graduating class is on Sunday, May 22, at 2:00 p.m., at the Valley Head Baptist Church. Everyone is invited to attend. On May 5, to commemorate the National Day of Prayer, there will be a prayer service at the Mentone Brow Park at 6:30 p.m.

JOY SENIOR CLUB

The JUST OLDER YOUTH group will meet at 11:00 a.m., on May 17, at the Moon Lake Baptist Church for the regularly scheduled meeting. Evelyn Graves will be the guest speaker.

On Sunday, May 15, the JOY group will be in charge of the worship service, as well as teaching all the Sunday School classes that day.

Anyone interested in attending or joining, may call either of the following:

Eran Martin at 634-4230 or
Anne Climer at 634-4187.

NORTH DEKALB COUNTY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

For some time now, several individuals have been trying to set up a food distribution program in this area to help those in need of assistance. The Outreach Committee tried to work through the Ministerial Association and the local churches. The Committee originally discussed working through the Community Action Agency in Valley Head and using this agency as the distribution point. For some reason, this has simply not worked out, and it is felt that a different direction must be taken.

As of April 22, 1994, the Outreach Committee is setting up the North DeKalb County Outreach Committee as an autonomous entity and will use the Community Action Agency (under the direction of Ms. Maureen Hammond) as the only distribution outlet. All foods donated from outside parties will be delivered to the center, where it will be allocated and distributed. The Committee asks that no church, group, or individual remove food in bulk quantities to help with a local congregation's food pantry or program. This food will be given on an individual basis from the center.

The Outreach Committee needs the support of everyone in this endeavor, and asks for your prayers, gifts, and comments. Any correspondence may be directed to: The North DeKalb County Outreach Committee, P.O. Box 415, Mentone, Alabama 35984; Dot Crow, Steering Committee Chairman.



Sponsored by DeKalb County Unit

WHAT: Line dance lesson

WHEN: Saturday, May 21, 1994

WHERE: National Guard Armory
in Fort Payne

In Mentone, call board member

Pat Seymour (634-4541) for tickets.

There will be a catered barbecue dinner with homemade desserts. Line dancing lessons will be provided as well as regular dancing. If you don't want to dance, it is lots of fun just to watch everybody else!

Finally, we will have an auction with eight wonderful items. It is going to be a night full of fun, food, and dancing!!!



Vote For and Elect
GRADY DALTON

COUNTY COMMISSION, 4th DISTRICT

SUBJECT TO ACTION OF DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY
JUNE 7, 1994

YOUR VOTE AND SUPPORT WILL BE APPRECIATED

PAID POL. ADV. BY GRADY DALTON, RT. 2, HENAGAR, AL

Vote For And Elect

W. A. Haswell

Democratic Candidate For
DeKalb County Commission
District #2

Subject to Democratic Primary June 7, 1994, Run-off June 28, 1994
Pd. Pol. Adv. By W. A. Haswell - P.O. Box 271 - Gresham, AL

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General Election November 8, 1994
PD. POL. ADV. BY HOMER MONROE - RT. 2 FT. PAYNE, AL 35967

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not promises.

Elect
**KEN
MURPHREE**

DISTRICT ONE

DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSION

SUBJECT TO THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY JUNE 7, RUNOFF
ON JUNE 28 & GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 8, 1994

PD. POL. AD. BY KEN MURPHREE, RT. 2 BOX 311, COLLINGSVILLE, AL 35961



Vote For And Elect
FRANK CHANDLER

CANDIDATE FOR

DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT TWO

Preserve Our Natural Resources ★ Our Water
★ Our Environment ★ Our Future ★
★ Supports Education And Law Enforcement

Subject to the Action of the Democratic Primary, June 7,
Primary Runoff, June 28

Pd. political adv. by Frank Chandler, Rt. 1, Fyffe, AL

— PROFILE —

- ★ Son of the Rev. Luther L. and Ola Ridgeway Chandler
- ★ Married to Ann Long Chandler ★ Two children, Dr. Frank Chandler, Jr. and Mrs. Cheryl Wisner, R.N.
- ★ Graduated, Fyffe High School, Alverson-Draughon Business College, Accounting ★ Northeast Alabama Community College
- ★ Four-year U.S. Navy — Korean War Veteran
- ★ Retired, State Department of Revenue/30 Years
- ★ Farmer, cattle and row crop
- ★ Part time employee Bank of Fyffe/Appraiser

Let's All Work Together For A Change In Our County Government

Vote And Elect

GARLAND YANCEY

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR

DeKalb County Commission District 2

★ WITH EVERYONES VOTE & SUPPORT ★ CHANGES CAN BE MADE ★

SUBJECT TO THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY JUNE 7 & GENERAL ELECTION NOV. 8, 1994
POL. ADV. PAID BY GARLAND YANCEY - DAWSON, ALABAMA

★ VOTE FOR ★

PHILLIP JACKSON

DeKalb Co. Commission
2nd District

SUBJECT TO DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY JUNE 7, 1994 &
RUNOFF JUNE 28, 1994

A Man Who Will Represent The People

PD. POL. ADV. BY PHILLIP JACKSON

EXPERIENCE MATTERS

WHEN IT COMES TO TOUGH CHOICES

When we took office 3-1/2 years ago DeKalb County had reached the point it could no longer maintain the county roads. Much of our road equipment had been passed down from the state Highway Department in 1979 at the end of the captive county era and it was completely worn out. Vendors had placed the county on cash sales only for parts and road building materials. Many bills were as much as three months old.

The Sheriff's Department was using vehicles which had over 200,000 miles on them and were not dependable, nor were they safe.

The school systems were in proration and were facing serious cutbacks. Many school buses were not safe for our children and classrooms needed repair.

In short, the county was in the worst financial condition you could imagine. The county was short of money and short of ways to raise the needed financing to correct our problems.

In the past 3-1/2 years

AMONG THE THINGS THE COUNTY HAS ACCOMPLISHED ARE

- **15-DAY PAYABLES CYCLE** - Reached a point where we are financially current within a 15 day payable cycle:
- **PURCHASED** new equipment for the road department and the Sheriff's Department:
- **HELPED RELIEVE** the poor financial condition of both school systems with the 1¢ sales tax:
- **HAVE THE FIRST BUDGET** ever with \$500,000 for new road construction:
- **PLANT MIXED** several main roads:
- **NEWLY PAVED** several miles of roads:
- **FUNDED THE DEKALB COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY** at \$250,000 per year to help those who don't have access to public water:
- **FORMED AND FUNDED** the DeKalb County Economic Development Board.

KEEP EXPERIENCE WORKING FOR YOU - REELECT

RANDY TUMLIN

County Commission, District 3

Pd. Pol. Advt. by Randy Tumlin, Rainville, AL

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(1) **MENTONE CONNECTION** - Prestige describes the beauty of this 2-story log and cedar home. West Brow on the Parkway inside Mentone limits. 2,600 sq. ft. of spacious rooms, large master suite w/lacuzi bath. 3 bedrooms upstairs, 1-1/2 baths. Heart of pine plank floors through living, dining, kitchen, den areas. Double pantry, and lots of storage closets, plus full basement. Screened porch to view the sunsets. Priced \$150,000.



(2) **FOR THE BOATING AND FISHING ENTHUSIASTS** - Must see this 3,800 sq. ft., Multi-Level 3 Br., 3 bath home, located on Lake Labuaga. Complete with 3 fireplaces, CH&A, eat-in kitchen, Living/Dining, Den, Screened Porch—complete with sink and wet bar. A view of the lake from every room. Screened beach house for entertaining. 2 wells, one distilled drinking water, and a boat house. Beautifully landscaped with hundreds of azaleas and rhododendron. Approx. 2 acres. \$150,000.



(3) **CHARMING MOUNTAIN HOME** - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, with a 3rd room as a den or another bedroom. Large utility room. Vaulted ceilings in living room and master bedroom. Mountain stone fireplace. City water and beautifully landscaped yard with lots of dogwood trees. New carpet and vinyl throughout the home. \$57,500.



(4) **HOME ON WOODED LOT** - 2 bdrms., 2 bth., CH&A, enclosed sundeck. Guest cottage and/or workshop. Located off DeSoto Hwy., Mentone. City Water. \$54,000.



(5) **COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL** - Home on Scenic Dr. Hotel Subdivision, Downtown Mentone. 3 Bdr., 1 bath, also 12x60 trailer for an extra retail shop. Walking distance to Mentone's attractions. \$52,500.



(6) **EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER SECLUDED HOMESITES** - Minimum size 100'x300' to 3 acres extending to middle of river, with natural swimming pools. Easy to choose from. Owner financing available. \$10,000 to \$18,000.



(7) **BROW ROAD NORTH** - 3 beautiful tracts on the west brow, 7 and 9 acres overlooking Battelle Valley. Priced \$30,000 each.



(8) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST** - (Subdivision of Canyon View Forest) Beautiful 4-acre tracts located on the East Brow of Lookout Mountain overlooking the Georgia mountains, 9 miles south of Fort Payne Hwy. 35. 2,000 acres of Wildlife Management Area is your back door. \$10,000 each; by appt. only.



(9) **THE ONE AND ONLY CANYON VIEW FOREST**, is a spectacular sight at this time of year. The rhododendron, mountain laurel, wild pink and white azaleas are in bloom along with the wild oak leaf hydrangeas. These native plants line the canyon walls. Available are 5-acre tracts priced from \$25,000 to \$40,000. Overlooking the Little River National Preserve, and adjoining 2,000 acres of Wildlife Management Area. There are many tracts to choose from, some with waterfalls and creeks.



(10) **VACATION HOME ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON** - Loft bedrooms, 1-1/2 bath, with 7.5 acres and a creek that runs across the property. \$68,000. Canyon View Forest (SUB).



(11) **ROCKY TOP ESTATES** - West Brow and wooded tracts priced from \$10,000 to \$35,000. Located across from the back entrance of DeSoto State Park on Scenic Dr. North. Restricted covenants. Owner financing available.



(12) **UNDER CONSTRUCTION** - You'll feel you're always on vacation in this rustic, relaxed three BR., 2 bath, country cottage. Located on the Lookout Mountain Parkway, exclusively presented by L. M. P. Call to view plans. \$77,000.



*Mentone, a place the Great God built,
up near the sunlit sky.
Where life is new and friends are true
and days too quickly fly;
Where wearied souls regain their power
and sorrows leave in the night.
Where peace is born with each new morn,
a haven of joy and delight.*

Sidney Lanier Gibson

*"If My people,
who are called
by My name,
will humble them-
selves and pray and
seek My face and turn
from their wicked
ways, then will I hear
from heaven and will
forgive their sin and
will heal their land."
2 Chronicles 7:14*

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Joe and Martha Clare Blalock 50th Wedding Anniversary

On April 23, friends and family met at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head to honor Joe and Martha Clara Massey Blalock on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Comments heard at the celebration were: "We have never heard them raise their voices to each other" and "They are compatible, kind, and patient, always having time to talk to children."

The couple have four children: Joseph from Atlanta; Dewey from Cedar Bluff; Ladonna Kyner from Jacksonville, Alabama; and Elaine Thomas from Summerville, Georgia. There are 23 grandchildren in the family.

Joe was raised in Mentone, and his brothers were Ray, Jack, John, and sisters Edith Lyday, Edna Crow, and Stella Crow. Vera Everett is the only living sister of Martha Clare. Those brothers and sisters who are deceased are Carrie Everett, Pearl Lawson, Ernest, Wesley, Frank, Arnold, Vinton, Jerry, and Denton.

At the entrance table, a family Bible was displayed. The earliest entry was "James and Ester Jones married July the 2nd 1806."



The wedding ring patterned quilt was made by Joe Blalock's mother and given to Joe and Martha Clare when they got married.

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By Jim Gaylord

The DeSoto Rescue Squad responded to three (3) accidents this past month, two of which were serious. Lives are changed forever during these unfortunate times, and our feelings go out to the patients and families involved. Summer is just around the corner with many more outings, so be just a little more careful working, driving, and pursuing your recreational activities. Maybe, we won't have too many people hurt or injured.

We also would like to ask everyone going through Mentone on Hwy. 117 to SLOW DOWN, especially through the construction on the side of the mountain. Traffic will be congested all summer and could be the cause of many problems. Your patience and courtesy will be appreciated.

The squad will be giving away a replica sailing ship on May 22, 1944, at the Rhododendron Festival. The tickets are only \$1.00 each, and the sailing ship may be seen, at this time, at Dessie's Kountry Chef, where it is on display. Again, we would like to thank Rev. David Lett who obtained this beautiful replica from the Birmingham prison, where it was handcrafted.

On Sunday, April 10th, the Squad held a car wash and bake sale, which was very successful. THANK YOU to all the folks that had their cars washed and who bought baked goods. Also, a big THANK YOU to William Blackburn for the use of his parking lot and all the water used.

Plans are being made for many of our members to be trained on the use of the semi-automatic defibrillator, which is now on order, thanks to a few generous people. This area is very fortunate to have one of these units at our disposal. With E-911 and our Rescue Squad being equipped with some of the most modern equipment, pain and suffering, and possibly lives, will be saved that would not have been possible just a few months ago.

In the near future, we are hoping to bring you the news of when E-911 will be activated in this area. In the meantime, we all should be posting our house numbers so that emergency personnel will be able to find our homes in time of need.

Any donations may be sent to DeSoto Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 213, Mentone, AL 35984.

For information, call:

Mike Kennamer, Co-Captain - 1-205-634-4484, or
Jim Gaylord, Co-Captain - 1-205-634-4535.

*Nothing on earth can make
life more worthwhile
Than a true, loyal friend
and the warmth of a smile.
Helen Steiner Rice*

*Life's completeness and
richness depend
On the things we share
with our loved ones and friends.
Helen Steiner Rice*



Rhododendron Garden Club News

The Rhododendron Garden Club met on April 12, at the home of Betty Chapman. There were 18 members present and one guest. Betty Chapman, Lynette McCary, and Hattie Lide provided refreshments.

Thoughts on Springtime was the theme of the devotional given by Mabel Kirk. She quoted from Helen Steiner Rice about April and golden days and silver nights; also, Isaiah 35:1—Isaiah never lost the thought of the beauty of spring. Dr. Robert Schuller, a theologian, during one of his recent television messages mentioned Flanders field and the red poppies. In France, after WWII, where the soldiers were buried, red poppies mysteriously came up. That is why the VFW sells red poppies now. Patience, perseverance, and understanding is all that is required of us.

The pledge of allegiance was led by the president.

Hope Walker, Parliamentarian, passed out the Amended Bylaws that had been approved by the board and made a motion that the bylaws be approved. The amended bylaws were passed unanimously.

Pat Seymour, Garden Therapy Chairman, stated that she had contacted Peggy Bentley at the Fountains, and asked for residents who didn't have visitors for the year. Peggy asked if we would plant the front walk with residents who are ambulatory helping. Most of the plants made at the last meeting were taken to individuals.

Linda Brown, Ecoteers chairman, stated that to begin the Ecoteers, six members are needed and five meetings. During this summer a group of Ecoteers will be organized and will study butterflies, help make arrangements for the VFW Fair, and other activities. For the next school year, the group will include two grades from Moon Lake.

Lynette McCary, Litter Control, announced that Mentone is three times across and the church members picked up the road down the mountain. She stressed that if a name is found in the trash, save it, and give it

to Environmental Health Office in Fort Payne. They will write a letter to the individual(s) and give them a warning.

Under special projects, Ann announced the school grounds are looking good, and the rock pillars are up. The wood is cut and needs to be painted. Also, the triangle was fertilized on 4-11-94.

The president announced that this is the month to pay dues.

The Deep South Project is "Second Time Around" and District II is the hostess of the convention in June.

April 30 is the Federation Luncheon at the Best Western. Hope Walker is to get the four live plants for the table decorations.

Ann and Linda presented the program, "Second Time Around." At the VFW Fair in the fall, the Rhododendron Garden Club will have an educational booth with crafts and plants showing how to recycle and reuse plants. We are encouraged to grow plants that can be used for more than one purpose. One method of drying flowers is to gather them in a bunch, put a string around them, hang them upside down in a paper bag, and punch a hole in the paper bag to keep dust off.

To press flowers in pages of book, gather the flowers; place them between a piece of white paper towel, then put the paper towel between newspaper; put encyclopedia on top to press. Keep as much as possible of the flower, including the stem. Silica gel can also be used to preserve flowers.

Just a few other suggestions for recycling are to: use sweet gum balls and cover a basket; decorate candles with herbs; and make note paper using waxed paper, kleenex, herbs, and glue.

Another aspect of "Second Time Around" is grasscycling, which is the natural recycling of grass clippings by leaving them on the lawn after mowing. By grasscycling, we can help eliminate tons of grass clippings from our rapidly declining landfill space.

The May meeting will be held on May 10, 1994, at 7:00 p.m. at the Best Western. The hostesses will be Virginia Bassage, Ann Wright, Beverly Hoyt, and Virginia Bosworth.



Suzie Palmer on the left; Eleanor Glover on the right. Taken on the Blackfoot River in Montana where "A River Runs Through It" was filmed.

VISITOR FROM UTAH

Eleanor Graham Glover, daughter of the late Reverend S. Graham Glover and Jo Anne Glover, will arrive home to Mentone the end of May from the University of Montana. She will be accompanied by a fellow student, Suzie Palmer, from Salt Lake City, Utah. It will be Suzie's first visit to Mentone, to Alabama, and to the South.

As a fifth generation "Mentonite," Eleanor is looking forward with excitement to "showing off" her beloved mountain.

Anne Berry Glover, Eleanor's older sister, will accompany Eleanor back to Montana, in June, for a visit and a break from her job as a graphic artist in north Georgia.

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TRAVELING TO MENTONE ONE WAY UP . . . ONE WAY DOWN

by Janet Mayo-Goodyear
The Times Journal

Those who travel up and down Lookout Mountain at Mentone, **TAKE NOTICE**, there will be one way up and one way down for the next month.

Tutwiler Gap will be a one-way road until May 26, and there will be a 4-way stop erected where the road intersects with DeSoto Parkway.

Valley Head High School Principal Elaine Dobbs approached the county commission in a plea for help. Two of the school's buses travel the mountain to the Mentone area to transport students to and from school.

On April 18, the state highway department closed Highway 117 to traffic traveling up the mountain. One lane of the road is closed to allow crews to repair and replace the rock safety wall that lines the shoulder of the mountain.

Only traffic coming down the mountain is allowed to use Highway 117. South bound traffic has been detoured to Tutwiler Gap.

Bobby Ruple, project engineer, estimates that the project will take at least three to four months. The time estimate depends largely on weather conditions and work efforts going smoothly.

Meanwhile, the Valley Head buses have been detoured to the gap road in the evenings. Mrs. Dobbs described the road as extremely narrow, steep, and having no shoulder.

For the past week, the Valley Head and Mentone police officers have assisted the buses in getting up the mountain by diverting or blocking traffic. Mrs. Dobbs said the Valley Head police officer blocks traffic traveling North on Highway 117, while the bus makes the order to make the turn.

Meanwhile, the Mentone police officer is waiting for the bus at the top of the mountain on DeSoto Parkway. The Mentone officer prevents traffic from traveling the road, while the buses are coming up, as well as stops traffic for one of the buses to pull out onto the Parkway.

"If they are not there for us, it becomes a very dangerous situation," Mrs. Dobbs said. She pointed out that each city had only the one police officer and the school system could not depend on the patrolmen being there to assist every evening.

She also pointed out that the bus drivers have a limited sight distance when pulling onto the Parkway, and that also endangers the lives of the children.

Both Mrs. Dobbs and Superintendent Weldon Parrish said they had spoken with personnel at the state highway department and were told the state department could not help them.

The county commission approved Mrs. Dobbs request to make Tutwiler Gap road a one way road for the remainder of the school year, as well as to erect a 4-way stop at the top of the mountain on DeSoto Parkway.

Should the road work still be under way when school resumes in the fall, the commission agreed to review the situation.

The Groundhog Editor's note: Mentone Mayor Max Cash was in complete agreement with the recommendation of Mrs. Dobbs.



FRI- JUNE 3: JUNE JAM BEAUTY PAGEANT

PLACE: OPERA HOUSE

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

CONTACT: SUE BEASON

PHONE: 845-2812

SAT-SUN - JUNE 4-5: JUNE JAM SOCCER CLASSIC

PLACE: FT. PAYNE SPORTS COMPLEX

CONTACT: BOBBY JONES

PHONE: 845-2751

OR CHAMBER 845-2741

SUN - JUNE 5: ARTS AND CRAFT SHOW

PLACE: VFW FAIRGROUNDS

CONTACT: CHAMBER 845-2741

MON - JUNE 6: COMPETITION NIGHT

PLACE: FT. PAYNE SPORTS COMPLEX

CONTACT: STEVE HOGE

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

PHONE: 845-6950

PARADE: 5:00 P.M.

DANCE: 7:00 P.M.

CONTACT: WFPA

PHONE: 845-2111

WED - JUNE 8: GOSPEL SINGING IN THE PARK

PLACE: UNION PARK

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

CONTACT: MARLON PENDERGRASS

PHONE: 205-638-3978



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MAPA MEMBERS

Lydia Speed	April 19
Shurlee Froehler	April 23
Olive Jones	April 25
Jan White	April 26
Hedwidge Salord	May 1
Nicole Vernon	May 6
Elvina Lowman	May 15
Gail Gaylord	May 15



God's Minute

By RUBY BROCK

What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people.

Psalm 116:12-14

Ask yourself, what can I render unto the Lord for all He has done for me. David said, "I will pray and I will pay my vows in the presence of all His people." Can we do the same?



3RD ANNUAL WILDFLOWER SATURDAY May 7 & 14, 1994 At DeSoto State Park

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS MAY 7, 1994

- 8:30 am - WELCOME AND ORIENTATION** - Meet at the Nature Center located next to the Country Store. Parking available in the Picnic Area across the street.
 - 9:00 am to 11:30 am - WILDFLOWER HIKES** - Learn photography tips and how to identify wildflowers on some of DeSoto State Park's most beautiful trails.
 - 11:30 am to 1:00 pm - LUNCH** - Special Wildflower Saturday buffet at the Lodge - \$5.95 + tax and tip.
 - 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm - WILDFLOWER HIKES** - Go on the second hike from earlier in the morning.
- Guest field trip leaders - Don and Bill Threlkeld of the Huntsville Wildflower Society and Paul Franklin, of the Birmingham Audubon Society.

MAY 14, 1994

- 8:30 am - WELCOME AND ORIENTATION** - Meet at the Nature Center located next to the Country Store. Parking available in the Picnic Area across the street.
 - 9:00 am to 11:30 am - WILDFLOWER HIKES** - Enjoy some of DeSoto State Park's most beautiful trails as you take a leisurely hike to identify wildflowers.
 - 11:30 am to 1:00 pm - LUNCH** - Special Wildflower Saturday buffet at the Lodge - \$5.95 + tax and tip.
 - 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm - WILDFLOWER HIKES** - Go on the second hike from earlier in the morning.
- Guest field trip leader - Terry Hutchinson, Assistant District Attorney for DeKalb and Cherokee Counties.

All Programs are free to the public. For more information, call Ken Thomas, DeSoto State Park - 845-0051.