

**Celebrating
15 Years
in Print**

THE

GROUNDHOG

•Mentone • Valley Head •Hammondville •Cloudland •Menlo

**Provided FREE
Since 1982
By M.A.P.A.**

Volume 16, No. 5

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May 1997

REFLECTIONS ON MY 90TH BIRTHDAY

By Mabel Crow Kirk

Observations of 1997

Increase of harbor activity--its import and export--San Francisco, California. The closing down of great Army Forts. The beautiful Presidio, also. Fort Mason built in the 1800s, and other national Forts throughout the state.

One captures the meaning of a guarded nation as you go through the National Cemetery in "The Presidio." The resting place of transcended lives that served and honored the great flag of our country. The beauty of that sovereignty words can't describe.

Golden Gate Park, a place where people enter to find serenity, rest, and peace for tired body and mind.

Surrounding streets are covered with buildings--commercial and homes--of stone, iron, brick, cement, and wood.

Viewing the above-mentioned, each day, gives food for thought of man's ingenuity made in marvelous and mammoth structural buildings. Also, mentioning the unique design of Golden Gate Bridge. To observe these structural layouts is more than the average mind can vision. How wonderful to see all of this--change and growth--man and the Creator's design, in my life span of 90 years.

The element of nature and the excellence of man is difficult to define in this enchanted city. The setting--a breathtaking balance of land, ocean and sky--a refuge of natural wonder that man and our Creator have created.

I think of the privilege that was mine to visit this city many, many times during the 46 years I lived in California. Now, having lived three months in the city in 1997, I marvel at 65 years of magical and majestic structural growth--a showcase of unique design. It towers from the Creator's unfolding--by opening a gateway through Earth for the great harbor man has designed for import and export that helps create livelihood, and eternal material flow for the city.

There are no adjectives that will describe the beautiful city of San Francisco--a temperate climate--natural beauty--inter-

esting topography--surrounding hills and valleys offer magnificent vistas.

Surrounded on three sides by water, San Francisco measures about seven miles across and seven miles long. The Golden Gate Bridge and the Oakland Bay Bridge connect the city with Marion County and the East area, respectively. It is considered one of the great natural harbors in the world. On weekends, as many as 300 sail boats can be seen in the bay.

San Francisco's beauty and free spirit has attracted an eclec-

tic and diverse population. Pioneers of gold rush adventures--the beatnik and flower children. San Francisco opened its arms to all who wished to embrace her. Provincial and tolerant, affects local and visitors alike.

The acceptance of the diversity creates a climate of warmth and understanding unlike other cities. China Town has the largest population outside of mainland China. The Italian population can be seen at Fishermans Wharf. Young professionals gather at Union Square, while the artistic community gravitates south of Market Street, and the gay community enjoys the Castro District.

San Francisco's diversity is enhanced by the Black, Spanish, Greek, Irish, German, Filipino, Vietnamese, Japanese, and Russian, as well as other nationalities and ethnic group--all sharing cultural heritage through festivals each year.

Architecture is also diverse--skyscrapers in the financial district to the Victorian private homes and apartment homes. The city offers something for everyone.

Hotels of Nob Hill, brick buildings, such as the Cannery, Ghirardelli Square and Alcatraz Island. The splendor of the Golden Gate Bridge--all embellish this great city--"San Francisco." Add the charm of the Cable Car and you have a favorite city for many people.

My daughter, Amelia Lolli, decided seeing San Francisco was not to be the only event of my trip west. She planned to make this a special year of treats. "Before places of interest start, we must have a

party starting with your 90th birthday to be held at my husband, General Andrew Lolli's restaurant, 'Castagnolia's' Fishermans Wharf."

Continued on Pages 6 and 7.



CELEBRATION OF MABEL KIRK'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

L/R (1st row) Mabel Kirk, General Andrew Lolli, and Amelia Lolli, holding Kristopher Brooks and Holden Foxworth. (2nd row) Justin Higdon, Brandon Foxworth, Katherine Higdon, David Higdon, Jeremy Higdon (Higdon from Sacramento, CA); Nicole Brooks held by mother Makia Brooks, and Lawrence K. Brooks (from San Francisco, CA, formerly of Japan); and Cynthia Foxworth and Robert B. Foxworth (from Dallas, TX)

Photo provided by Mabel Kirk

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Saturday, April 26, Annual Miss Spring Fantasy Pageant, Valley Head (See notice on back page.)
- Sunday, May 2, 2-4 p.m. Open House for new Mentone Community House (See notice on Page 13.)
- Monday, May 5, 7 p.m., (Notice time change) Mentone Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Tuesday, May 6, 7 p.m., MAPA Meeting Dessie's Kountry Chef

- Saturday, May 17, Armed Forces Day
- Sunday, May 18, Decoration Day at Little River Church, Dinner on the grounds, followed by a singing service
- Sunday, May 25, Decoration Day at Bankhead Chapel, Dinner on the grounds, a service honoring the John Wright family, and a singing service

**To Subscribe to the Groundhog,
See Page 2.**

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1
Mentone, AL 35984

CAR-R-SORT
Postal Customer
Mentone, AL 35984

THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



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

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor.....Evelyn Graves
Associate Editor/ typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
Contributing Writers.....Ovie Blalock, Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Madeleine Bullock, Marilyn Campbell, Gail Chambers, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Maurine Donahue, Evelyn Graves, Ray Goggans, Phil Harris, Lisa Moore, Bill Schwarz, Sue Schwarz, Ernest H. Smith, Kim Worthey

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Bernise Crow
Vice President.....Jim Lyday
Secretary.....Mickey Gough
Treasurer.....Penny Lyday
Parliamentarian.....Homer Crow
Member-At-Large.....Ed Disney
Member-At-Large.....Donna Bouldin

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 15th day of the month preceding publication. The Publication is due out by the 25th of each month. This is a change from our previous issues.

◆ Subscription Notice ◆

Don't Run Around Looking for It...



Have The Groundhog delivered to your mailbox! Give The Groundhog for a birthday present or as a special gift for someone you love. Renew your own subscription. Still just \$10/year. Send your check payable to:
MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION
ASSOCIATION (MAPA)
P.O. BOX 50, MENTONE, AL 35984

Your membership/subscription is tax deductible.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Bernise Crow

It seems that nothing has been accomplished about the big trucks using our little road with its two narrow bridges. People are still having trouble meeting the trucks when there is not room to pass. This is not right. If we had some scales for the trucks, they would probably seek another route. We must continue to write to our elected officials to see if we can convince the Department of Transportation that it is not safe for our local people. They should at least come and see for themselves what we are talking about. I do not think we are being unreasonable. There are other routes the big rigs can use. They not only use our road, but they drive through the congested area entirely too fast. If we band together and write individual letters to the highway commissioner, maybe that will help. Numbers do make an impact.

Tony Camp, State of Alabama Highway Department,
P.O. Box 128, Dutton, AL 35744
Senator Lowell Barron, Fyffe, AL 35971
Representative Ralph Burke, 1584 Marshall Road,
Rainsville, AL 35986

MAPA APRIL MEETING

The April meeting was held at the Kountry Chef on April 1, at 7 p.m. The upcoming Rhododendron Festival was discussed.

Zora Strayhorn's revised Mentone, Alabama: A History, will be on sale at the festival, along with the Mentone videos, and the Groundhog Run Shirts. Native Rhododendron will again be sold.

Homer Crow, parliamentarian, read a letter he had received from the city of Mentone. That letter is printed on this page.

There will be no boat rides at DeSoto Falls because the insurance rates for the two days are too high.

Jim Lyday introduced the speaker, Don Brock, MAPA member, and Director of the Alabama Bed and Breakfast Association, councilman, resident pastor. Mr. Lyday said, Don is well trained and qualified to speak, and to use a Blalock expression, "He comes from good stock and we expect him to do his best."

Mr. Brock spoke on several issues that he is presently involved in, such as the Community Bible Study in Collinsville, his work on the Mentone City Council, MERF, the community house, and the Bed and Breakfast Association. Following his interesting and informative presentation, many questions were asked by those present. Don answered all questions.

Following the speaker, refreshments were served.

The next meeting will be on May 6, the first Tuesday of May, at 7 p.m., at the Kountry Chef. It is an open meeting and anyone can attend, and they will be welcome.

MAPA BIRTHDAYS

Hedwidge Salord — May 1
Nicole Vernon — May 6
Elvina Lowman — May 15

In the March issue of The Groundhog, Ellen Thompson, activities director at Natures Classroom in Mentone, was incorrectly listed as Carolyn Thompson. The Groundhog is happy to make this correction.

March 18, 1997

Homer Crow
MAPA Parliamentarian
P.O. Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984

Dear Homer:

There is no way to adequately thank the Mentone Area Preservation Association for the many things it has done for the Mentone area. I appreciate your bringing to the town's attention those accomplishments. It was an oversight on the council's part in not formally thanking your organization for the projects that were completed.

The bulletin board at the Mentone Post Office has been used by not only the citizens of this area, but also by visitors from out of town and out of state. It is a good place to put ads, flyers of events, and lost and found memos. When going to the post office, most people stop to see what is new on the board.

All the renovations and work done at Brow Park are enjoyed by those who use it during festival times and other parts of the year. When families use it for picnics and get-togethers, the pavilion affords them shelter from the sun and rain. Those using it in early morning and late evening have the added enjoyment of watching sunrises and sunsets, which are breathtaking. During festival times, the vendors and visitors are the recipients of your efforts in assisting with the construction of the shelter and replacing the electrical wiring.

The street markers have been a great help to all who travel and need directions. With their placement, it has been easy for all to find their way around our town. The sidewalk on Hwy 117 from the Hitching Post to Dessie's Kountry Chef was a great accomplishment, and is used daily by citizens and visitors. It is an asset to the town.

Because of MAPA's work in repairing the original stone wall over the years, the state of Alabama provided funds in 1994 to restore the wall using the original stones. It was through MAPA's efforts and generosity in 1986 and 1991 that the original wall was restored, thereby retaining the aesthetic beauty of the wall for the enjoyment of all who travel that section of Hwy 117.

Especially enjoyed by all are the Christmas decorations purchased by MAPA and put up each year. Not only have I heard a lot of good compliments on the decorations, but so have many others. They add so much to the area during the holiday season, and they, too, are a great asset to the town.

The festivals that MAPA sponsors each year bring many visitors to our lovely area, and those same people return year after year to enjoy the hospitality of MAPA and the citizens, as well as the beauty of Mentone.

Last but not least, the Town Council thanks you for the remodeling of the town hall. It is a place to be proud of and have meetings in, and we are proud of your efforts and proud to bring people into the Town Hall.

The Town Council thanks MAPA for all its efforts and work since it was organized in 1982. We would like to let you know that we do appreciate all that has been done by MAPA for the Mentone area. Please accept our belated thanks for a job well done in keeping with MAPA's purpose—that of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area. Thanks, MAPA.

Sincerely,
Max Cash, Mayor of Mentone



North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department

By Gail Chambers

At the March meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department, it was decided to release the financial report for 1996, so the public could see how the Fire Department operates on the funds taken in. Several fundraisers are held during the year. As you can see from the report, these do not bring in a large amount of money. A lot of work goes into planning these events and trying to make them successful. Although some don't do as well as others, it is worth the effort. As we say in the Fire Dept., "That's a lot of hot dogs we've sold!"

Donations are the Fire Dept's main source of income. Without the citizens of Mentone and surrounding area's kindness and generosity, we would have a much harder time keeping the fire Dept. operational.

The Fire Dept. would also like to re-introduce the members of the Board of Directors: Gail Chambers, Chairperson; Eleanor Tate, Treasurer (bonded); Linda Brown, Secretary; and Leonard Shigley, Kenneth Kirby, Dick Keefer, and Bob Baty, board members.

If you have any questions or need any information concerning the Volunteer Fire Dept., please feel free to contact any of the members.

Also, don't forget about the **Yard and Bake Sale** that will be held on **Saturday, May 3rd**. It will be on the inside and outside of the building. So far, we've received a good variety of articles, but we're low on children's summer clothes, toys, men's clothing, etc. If you have any of these items that you would be willing to donate or any other items, we would appreciate it.

Or, if you would like to make any baked goods for the **Bake Sale**, please contact Gail Chambers at 634-4507, or leave a message on the answering machine, and we'll contact you.

The Fire Dept. is very proud of the **new addition to the Fire Hall**. The door has been delivered and installed, and the First Responder Truck can now be housed at the Fire Hall and will soon be ready for use.

Financial Report of North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department 1-1-96 through 12-31-96

INCOME

Donations	\$4,044.00
DeKalb Co. Commission	\$ 500.00
State of Ala. Forestry Comm.	\$1,825.25
Rhododendron Festival Booth	\$ 902.78
Yard & Bake Sale	\$ 399.25
Softball Game	\$1,291.49
October Colorfest Booth	\$1,291.49
TOTAL	\$9,147.50

EXPENSES

Utilities & Operating Expenses	\$2,372.69
Insurance	\$1,909.01
Gas for Fire Truck	\$ 558.52
Radios & Radio Repairs	\$ 687.57
Leaf Blowers (2)	\$ 820.69
Heaters for Fire Hall (2)	\$ 710.20
TOTAL	\$7,058.68

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

Jim Roberts, Chief

Rusty Chambers, Assistant Chief

Sanford Hartline	John Chambers
Sam Whatley	Jimmy Worthey
Milton Chambers	Glenn Hansen
Eric Kirby	Donnie Voils
Dale Kerby	J.J. Wigley
Kevin Worthey	Robert Green

Thank you for your support!

MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

By Evelyn Graves

Grades 3-6 are currently taking Stanford Achievement tests. The final ones are on April 25.

Earth Day is Monday, April 28. There will be various activities on that date.

May 2 is scheduled for a piano recital with Mrs. Clark's music students. The recital will be at 1:30 PM.

There will be no school on May 5. This is a weather day holiday.

May 6-9 is designated for Aerospace Week. This is always a favorite time for students in all grades.

The next PTO meeting is May 13 at 6 PM.

May 15, at 9 AM, is DARE graduation.

Awards Day is set for May 19 at 9 AM.

Kindergarten graduation is May 22 at 9 AM.

Head Start Graduation is May 22 at 5 PM.

May 22 is the last day of school, followed by 6th Grade Graduation at 6:30 PM on May 23.

Dr. Bill Berry, Principal, encourages active involvement of parents and general public in these very special events.

4-H Club News

Plainview 6th Grade

By Haley Townson & Hannah Davis

The Plainview Sixth Grade 4-H met in Mrs. Willmon's Classroom. Our President, Brooke Moses, called the meeting to order. The "Thought For the Day" Chairperson, Katie Sarratt, read a few thoughts and the president turned the meeting over to Mrs. Wardrup. Mrs. Wardrup talked to us about saving money and gave us miniature dollar signs.

Our prize winner for the exhibit was: 1st Place: Danielle Latty; and for the food exhibit the winner was: 1st Place: Robert Wooten.

Ider 4-H Club Meeting

By Andrew Smith

The Ider 4-H club met January 29, for its January meeting. Jessica Moore, club president, called the meeting to order. Chance Goolesby, Danielle Blevins, and Brien Murphy, club song leaders, led the club in singing "If You're Happy And You Know It." Matthew Hudson and Justin Cook presented the "Thought for the Day". The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and our 4-H Club Pledge were led by our vice president, Shaunta Cushen. Our secretary, Danielle Tinker, then read the minutes of our last meeting and took roll call. The meeting was turned over to our 4-H Agent, Mrs. Wardrup, who presented a program on "Wildlife."

The local 4-H contests this month were three—cookies, a model, or a Christmas Craft. Our local 4-H Leader, Ms. Durham, was in charge of the contests. We had several winners for the first and second place 4-H contest.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26
9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

BBQ - \$4.50 Plate

Hammondville Fire Department
at Fire Hall

I Love Mom!

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Devoted and loyal readers, you won't believe what some humans will do in naming their pets. Just recently, Wendy Claybourne was visiting from Hoot Owl Hollow and brought by Polly-Bopp (half-hound named for the Haley-Bopp comet). Unbelievable! The things humans do to dogs. Now, Marian Acee and Katie Moore from Gadsden were here with Wendy, and said it was their dog. They were cute little ones, and moi could see the adoration in their eyes as they looked at moi between the counters. Come back anytime, little lasses!

Well, it's that time again, spring is here and the Rhododendrons are blooming, and flatlanders are here to take the magnificent one's picture. Christopher Burnside, from Bloomfield, Michigan, (where it's COLD) traveled all the way to Mentone just to take a picture of the GREAT ONE, moi! What can moi say!

Another Michigander who was visiting Balfa Noojin came to take moi's picture as moi performed the famous "Tootsie Pop" selection. There's none as great as moi between the counters! And all the way from Michigan, too.

Was that a bad storm recently, or what? Some big black dog came running into the Superette when he heard all that thunder and saw the lightning. But, moi let him know there wasn't room for two canines in the Superette. Out he went with his tail between his legs.

Moi is getting ready for the onslaught of flatlanders coming to view the great one during the Rhododendron Festival. In order to do that, moi has had to sleep more than usual. So, when you come into the Superette and find me asleep, it's not because I'm not on duty, it's because there will be no rest for the weary in a few weeks. Bring on the multitude to adore me! Til next time!



"Krazy Kudzu Follies"

May 9th and 10th

What are "Krazy Kudzu Follies"? To describe them in one word, "Hilarious!" Can you imagine Dr. Charles Isbell and Barbara Isbell lip-syncing with the tax assessor and the Ft. Payne City Council? A county commissioner in black leather motorcycle attire; the sheriff in a shootout with a cowboy?

Join the fun on May 9th and 10th for an evening of laughter and great food with leaders throughout DeKalb County.

For more information about tickets, call the Council on Aging office at 845-8590. The fund raising event is co-sponsored with the Ft. Payne Chamber of Commerce.

Mentone Grapevine 11

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Congratulations to **Ethan Lewis**, a 2nd grader in Valley Head Elementary School. Ethan was the winner of \$25.00 for making all A's on his report card during the 2nd semester of school. Great Job Ethan! (See photo on page 5.)

There will be a reception for **Dr. James E. Quimby** at the Winston Place in Valley Head on Sunday, April 27 from 2-4, hosted by the Valley Head Woman's Club. (See notice on back page.)

Guess who made the center page spread (pages 10 and 11) in the Thursday, April 24 edition of *The DeKalb Advertiser*? If you guessed, **Dr. James Malcolm Brewer**, who was born on June 24, 1914, you guessed right. I can't think of anyone else who is more deserving. He's a pretty special person and he's done a lot for the short time he's been here on earth. May God bless him with many more years. We love you, Malcolm!

Valley Head Water Works Board was recently given an American Flag from the Woodmen of the World. (See photo on page 8.)

Mr. L.A. Smith's agriculture class just recently completed designing a plan for shrubbery and flowers for the planters at the Water Works Board office. The plants have been planted and look wonderful. It is a great addition to the building. The students did a great job.

Tim and Margaret Murphy from Valley Head are now forming dance classes to begin soon in Valley Head. They aren't sure as of yet where the classes will be held, but they do know that they will be held in Valley Head. Classes are now forming in Ballet, Scottish Highland, and Dance/Exercise. They are beginning to advanced levels for ages 3 to adult. For more information, you may call Tim or Margaret at 635-6460. (See notice on page 12.)

The **Tiger's Inn** will be open **SEVEN DAYS A WEEK** beginning May 10. The hours will be 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The winner of the quilt given away by the Valley Head Band Boosters was **Randy Carson**. Mrs. Ann Carroll, elementary teacher at Valley Head was the winner of the Easter Basket given away. The Band would like to thank everyone who helped with these fund raisers.

Mary Pearson and Annie & Effia Harrison celebrated their 14th birthdays with a few friends at the Valley Head Park on April 2nd. **Shannon Chappell** celebrated her 14th birthday on April 7th. Shannon, Mary Pearson, and Beth Moore celebrated by going to the movies.

Beth Moore and Mary Pearson competed in the County Solo & Ensemble at Plainview on April 12th. Both girls did a great job and received a one. Other band students who attended and also received ones were, **Becky Mays, Shannon Chappell, Haley Johnson, Annie Harrison, Effia Harrison, Tracie Pullen, & Tina Hester.**

Zack Dean was recently honored by the *Times-Journal* with a copy of his weather artist drawing.

Mr. Ed Ringer was honored by the gentlemen and ladies of the American Legion Post/Unit 215 at Mentone on April 8th. He was honored for his first 50 consecutive years in the **American Legion**. Mr. Ringer wears many hats. He is a retired school teacher and principal, past president and vice-president of the Alabama Retired Teachers Association, he has served as Mayor and Town Council member for the Town of Valley Head, Chairman of the Valley Head Water Works Board, as well as a member and an officer of the Valley Head Methodist Church. He has helped with many other organizations too numerous to mention and is a well-respected and well-liked member of the Valley Head Community. We would like to congratulate Mr. Ringer for all his accomplishments. (See photo and writeup on page 21.)

Congratulations are in order for ninth grader **Hannah Alexander** she made it into the Who's Who Annual and

Misty Ferguson received a Leadership Scholarship to Northeast State Junior College. They are the twin daughters of Johnny Ferguson and Debra Ferguson. Congratulations, young ladies!

Congratulations to the following students:

• **Bruce A. McCurdy** of Valley Head, who graduated March 21 from Auburn University with a bachelor's degree;

• **Allison Kirby** of Mentone who has been named to the Academic Honors List at Spring Arbor College in Michigan. She is a senior majoring in psychology and is the daughter of Ed and Roberta Kirby.

• **Tara Waller** of Mentone, who is on the President's List for the winter Quarter (All As) at Gadsden State Community College. She is the daughter of Frances and Karl Waller, owners of the Mentone Inn.

• **Ashley Harrison**, Valley Head, who is on the President's List for the winter Quarter (All As) at Gadsden State Community College.

• **Tammy A. Cooper** of Valley Head who was on the winter quarter Dean's List at Athens State College for achieving at least a 3.75 GPA.

• **Michael A. Kennamer** of Mentone, who was on The Honors List at Athens State College for achieving at least a 3.5 GPA.

Gene Bullock's sister Clarabee Morgan McMunn was hospitalized during the first week of April with diabetes complications.

On the 13th April, **Cloudland and Little River Canyon** were the featured ending scene for "CBS Sunday Morning" with Charles Osgood.

The plans for the **Valley Head Band's Opryland trip** has been finalized. The entourage will leave the school Friday May 2nd at 1:00 p.m. They will stay Friday night at Lebanon (TN) Hampton Inn. On Saturday 3rd, they will depart for Opryland at 8:00 a.m. for the band parade. They will leave Opryland at 7:00 p.m. Saturday night and will arrive back at the school at approximately 10:00 p.m. For further inquiries, please contact Mr. Smith at Valley Head School (635-6228).

Congratulations to **Mandi Browder** who was inducted into the National Honor Society at Fort Payne High School on March 26. She is the granddaughter of Rindy Millican, and her parents are Bubba and Martha Browder.

On May 10, the **Donnie, Alan, Glenda, Debra, and Ginger**, children of **Junior and Donnie Bell**, are having a **50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration** for their parents. (See notice on page 20.)

Also on May 10, the children of **Louise and Leonard Keith** are having a **Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration** for their parents. (See notice on page 15.)

Wesley R. Gilreath, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Ray Gilreath of Valley Head, has joined the U.S. Army. He will report to Fort Benning, Ga., for basic training on May 7. He is a 1996 graduate of Fort Payne High School.

Believe it or not, early this month, **Darlene** was reported to have been on time at **Dessie's Kountry Chef**. She's been working there for seven years! Way to go, Darlene!

Hershell Pruitt's sister, Ellen Pruitt, fell and broke her ankle. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Lula Blalock said she is doing fairly well after her light stroke in December. It has affected her memory, but she's all right.

Several Mentone friends went to Huntsville to attend the **80th birthday celebration for Lydia Speed**. Among them were Mabel Kirk, Rick and Betty Chapman, Sue and Bill Schwarz, Penny and Jim Lyday, Tokey Anderson, Dick & Cheryl Keefer and Doris and Jim Keefer, just to name a few. Lydia's daughter, Pat Johnson coordinated the "beautiful splash" for her birthday, with her sisters, Gay Godbois (Ron), Sissy Reid, and Mary Jay (Bobby), who were there with their husbands and their children. There were cousins, nieces and nephews, and lots of loved ones to help celebrate the occasion.

Happy Birthday wishes for April go to: •12- Tommy Dodd (12 years old); •31- Mandi Browder (17 years old)

Happy May Birthday/Anniversary wishes to: •1-Larken J. (Jr.) Bell; •2- Megan Cooper; •4- H.P. Goss; •5- Slim Easler; •6- Phil Harris (Lordy, Lordy, Phil's gonna be 30!); •7- Jerrod Pelletier; •8- James Wilborn, Connie (Hilliard) Clark; •9- Megan Smith, Juanita Hilliard; •10- Matt

Ruby Gifford; •17- Beth Moore, Melissa (Smith) Miller; •20- Joyce (Worthey) Tate, Jessica McKenzie; •22- Bobby Brown, May; •23- Becky Mays, Lynn Owens; •25- Jimmy Wright, Clint Croxton, Jackie Smith; •28- Adrian Robertson; •29-Debra (Bell) Cash, Ginger (Bell) Myers; •31- Rodney Bell.

Deepest sympathies to the families of the following: •Mrs. Ollie Jane Freeman, 74, of Valley Head, who died March 29; Loy O. "Samp" Clark, 80, of Valley Head, who died Apr. 4; •Iva Lee Clemons Stanskell, 71, of Mentone, who died Apr. 12; •Mrs. Delilah Mae Coots, 72, of Mentone, who died Apr. 16; •Dewey Smith, 78, of Mentone, who died Apr. 21.

Don't forget to attend the **National Day of Prayer Services** to be held on the Brow on Thursday, May 1, at 6:30 p.m.

For all you cat and dog people, there will be a **rabies vaccination clinic Saturday, May 17, 1997**, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m., central standard time, at Little River Hardware in Mentone. (See notice on back page.)

This is the month for the **Rhododendron Festival** (May 16, 17, 18). It is also the time for decoration day at Little River and Bankhead Cemetery. For those who wish to make a donation to the Little River Cemetery, you may send your contributions to Dot Crow, Treasurer of the Memorial Committee, P.O. Box 151, Mentone, AL 35984. **Little River Decoration day is Sunday, May 18.** The **Bankhead decoration day is on Sunday, May 25.** They are honoring the John Wright family. (See schedule of events on page 1.)

Wedding Announcement



Bill Pyke and Elizabeth Carson

Elizabeth is the daughter of Dr. Scott and Joyce Grivas of Wildwood, GA. She is a member of the Wildwood Seventh-day Adventist Church, and is a music leader and children's Sabbath School teacher.

Bill is the son of Mr. Ronald and Marilyn Pyke of Apison, TN. He is a member of the Wildwood Seventh-day Adventist Church and is a lay pastor of the Mentone Chapter.

The wedding will be held Sunday, June 29, at 2:30 p.m. at Wildwood SDA Church, with a reception following at the Dade County Senior Citizens Hall, in Trenton, GA.

REMOVAL • TRIMMING • TOPPING
CLEANUP • INSURED

Flannigan & Elliott Tree Service

Charles Flannigan

Joan Elliott

Happy Birthday



Brittany Alexandra Roberts

(Photo taken in 1996 at age 5)

Brittany Alexandra Roberts was 6 years old on March 5th. She is the daughter of Jim and Lisa Roberts of Hixson Tenn.; the granddaughter of Jim and Phyllis Roberts of Mentone, and Arvin Henderson Jr. and Sue Henderson of Soddy Daisy, Tenn.; and the great granddaughter of Ruby and Russell Stalvey of Mentone and Arvin Henderson Sr. of Hixson, Tenn.



Ethan Lewis, a 2nd grader in Valley Head Elementary School was the winner of \$25.00 for making all A's on his report card during the 2nd semester of school!



Thank You!

I want to thank the Staff of Dessie's Kountry Chef Restaurant for a job well done, and all the wonderful friends that eat with us and voted for DESSIE'S KOUNTRY CHEF as THE BEST COOK in DeKalb County 1997, and THE BEST WAITRESSES for 1997. It is through the efforts and support of everyone that this has been made possible.



COME ENJOY
OUR MUSICAL MOUNTAIN IN THE SPRINGTIME
at the 14th Annual

RHODODENDRON Festival

Saturday & Sunday

May 17th & 18th 1997

Free to All

On Lookout Mountain Parkway in
Mentone, Alabama

On Friday, May 16th at 7PM

Join us for a Bonfire with Music, and Storytelling

Saturday May 17th from 9AM to 5PM

Sunday May 18th from 11AM to 4PM

• Arts & Crafts • Good Food •

• Music & Clogging •

and at 2:PM Saturday,

Come See the Parade

or Join in the Fun Call Jack Jones at 634-4344

On Saturday May 10th

Rhododendron Queen Contest

at 8:00PM at the Hitching Post

for more information call Bernice Crow at 634-4664

Visit the MAPA Booth for

A chance on a Hand-Made Quilt to be given away at

4PM on Sunday • \$1.00 Donation

All weekend Native and Hybrid Rhododendrons for sale.

All atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, AL. Midway from Chattanooga to

Gadsden on Highway 117 S., Off I-59 Exit 231

Sponsored by the Mentone Area Preservation Association

A Non-Profit Organization

Little River Hardware

and Miscellaneous Mercantile

5190 AL HWY 117, Mentone AL 35984

1-205-634-4757

1-800-634-4787

FAX (205) 634-4105

STAIN SALE

SAVE \$3⁰⁰

OUR BEST HOMESTEAD
LATEX WOOD STAIN

\$14⁹⁹

Gallon
Reg. \$17⁹⁹

- Won't Peel or Blister
- Oil Fortified
- Fast Dry
- Water Clean Up

For Exterior Siding, Shakes, & Shingles
Choose from a Wide Variety of Colors

SAVE \$3⁰⁰

OUR BEST HOMESTEAD
Semi-Transparent
Oil Wood Stain

\$14⁹⁹

Gallon
Reg. \$17⁹⁹

- Water Repellent
- Won't Peel or Blister
- Mildew Resistant



REFLECTIONS ON MY 90TH BIRTHDAY

By Mabel Crow Kirk
(Continued from Page 1.)



"Looking down from Amelia's apartment, this is the view I saw each day," said Mabel Kirk

Amelia arranged for her daughters, Katherine Brooks Higdon, Sacramento, CA; and Cynthia Brooks Foxworth, Dallas, TX; and son, Lawrence K. Brooks, Tokyo, Japan; along with their families to be a part of the celebration. Also, friends from San Diego, CA, and friends from the Bay area, all were to be at the restaurant on December 21st by 6:30 p.m.

My 90th year of celebration started--a five course dinner with champagne and all the goodies, cake with 90 candles.

The beginning of a three-month Birthday Festival--lunches, dinner parties in the Bay Area.

Then the surprise came--"Mother, we are going on a cruise, also, to your former home city, San Diego." Off to San Diego for seven days. Greeted by friends of 50 years standing. Another round of lunches and dinners. A joyous time.

Next on schedule was the flight back to Los Angeles, on to the shuttle bus to L.A. Harbor, San Pedro, to board the Carnival Cruise Ship.

First stop, Catalina Island. Left the ship by motor boat for the mainland, then a bus tour of the famous Wrigley Catalina Island. It is no doubt one of the loveliest resorts, nationwide, to visit winter or summer. Tourists should make it a part of their agenda. There are many wonders to behold, including

the many varieties of wild flowers.

From Catalina, we sailed on to Ensenada, Mexico, perfect weather. Took the motor boat to shore, boarded the tour bus for another 25-mile tour of Mexico along the coastline and valley of vegetable gardens and olive groves, which were most picturesque--Ensenada a general area--a place of enchantment.

At the end of our 25-mile bus tour was a delightful shopping center of every Mexican artifact that can be imagined. Beautiful. La Bufadora, known as blow hole, was breathtaking.

Back to the ship and return flight to San Francisco and its enchanted setting. Standing in awe of this great harbor, "San Francisco," gazing at the great masses of ships that come and go beneath the beautiful Golden Gate Bridge, designed by man, is a wonder. Also surrounded by the Creator's manifold mountains, the many heights and majestic forms lend to a greater wonder. One marvels at the creative flow between man and his Creator. The Creator in his revealing to man, man in his revealing as he is awakened by the Creator.

Reflections of poet, Ella Wheeler Wilcox (1855-1919), in *Winds of Fate*, describe the ways of man so elegantly. She penned these words.

One Ship drives east and another drives west
With the selfsame winds that blow
'Tis the set of sails and not the gales
Which tells us the way to go.

Like the ships at sea are the ways of fate
As we voyage along through life
'Tis the set of the soul that decides the goal
And not the calm and strife.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

What more could one ask for a 90th year celebration?



La Bufadora (blow hole)



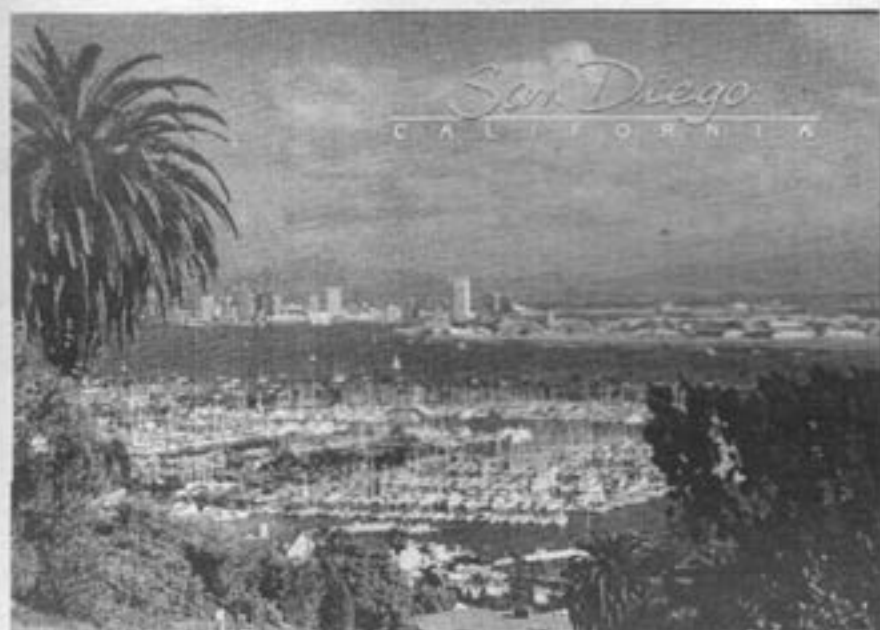
(Photos continued on page 7)

The Lookout
Restaurant

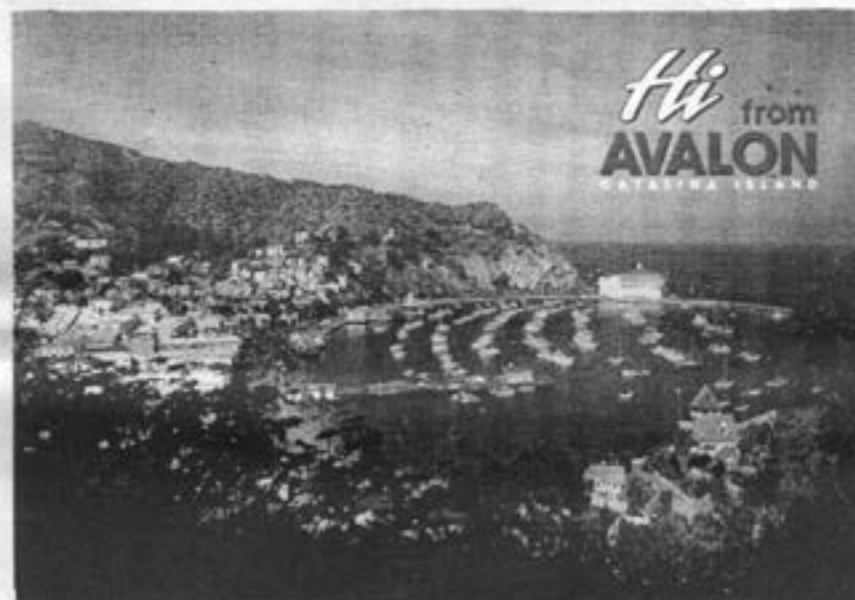
"Atop Lookout Mountain"
CLOUDLAND, GEORGIA

REFLECTIONS ON MY 90TH BIRTHDAY

(Photos continued from page 6)



View of San Diego and Shelter Island from Pt. Loma



The circular structure to the right of the picture is the most prominent landmark in Avalon. Completed in 1929, the Casino stands twelve stories tall, and houses a large circular ballroom and a 1184-seat motion picture theatre.



May 1997 / The Groundhog/Page 7



GRAND OPENING

of the

West Fork of Little River Subdivision

Mentone, Alabama

May 17 & 18, 1997

1:00 to 5:00 p.m. — c.s.t.

Rhododendron Heaven!

Come and see for yourself! These 3-acre wooded lots with 150' to 300' ft. of river front, on the pristine Little River. Choose from gentle flowing water to the ever so soothing effect of the white water ripples. Protective and Restrictive Covenants maintain the natural beauty of this "Wild and Scenic" area.

Prices start at \$25,000.00

Register to WIN Rhododendrons!

DIRECTIONS: From downtown MENTONE, (West Side of River)—turn left onto county road 648, go 1.8 miles, entrance on right. (East Side of River)—Stay on Hwy. 117 S., go approx. 1.2 miles, (cross bridge) turn left on county road 631, go 1.7 miles, entrance on the left. FOLLOW THE SIGNS!!

Lots &
Lots of
Lots

development co.

706-862-6171

FAX: 706-862-6296

P.O. Box 61 • Mentone, AL 35984

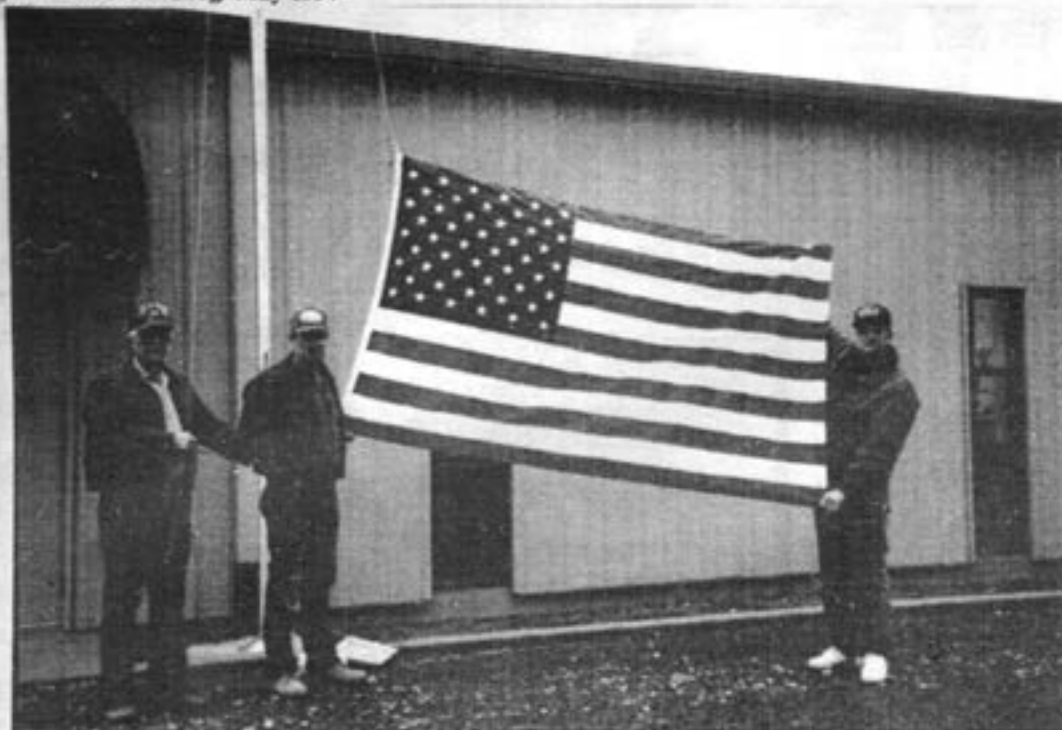


Wedding Announcement



Tammy Lynn Hopper and George Wesley Frost

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dan Hopper announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Tammy Lynn to George Wesley Frost, son of The prospective groom is a 1988 graduate of Sylvania High School and is employed at Mayfield Dairy Farms, Inc.



Valley Head Water Works Board was recently given an American Flag from the Woodmen of the World. Shown here are Mr. Ovie Blalock, Dennis Lewis, and Anthony Windom.



H.P. Goss and Carolyn Gray, daughter of Marjorie Gray, taken in 1997, at a time when H.P. had been working and helping Marjorie during the building of her new home on the brow.



H.P. Goss (on right) and his brother, Granville Goss, (on left) taken when?? H.P. said he didn't know, but he was a few years younger.



Soloist Sheila Smith Played Concert Stage

Sheila Smith was featured as a soloist with the Rome Symphony Orchestra in a performance of the Concerto for Flute, Harp and Orchestra, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The concert, which also included a performance of the First Symphony by Ludwig von Beethoven, was Saturday, April 12, at 8 p.m., at the City Auditorium in Rome, Georgia. Ms. Smith has been principal flutist with the Rome Symphony for nine years and has performed with the Gadsden symphony and the Marietta Flute Choir.

Smith began studying the flute at age eleven under the direction of Jerry Pollard and Ronald Becton in Summerville. She has been the band director at South Central Middle School, Cartersville, Ga., since 1989, when the school first opened. The bands under her direction have consistently received

superior ratings at district festivals and in other regional and national competitions. She was voted Teacher of the Year at South Central in 1991.

The Rome Symphony Orchestra is the oldest continuously operating symphony orchestra in the Southeastern United States.

Those attending the symphony from Mentone were Gearldine Ellis, Loretta Bain, Ethel Manifold-Gregory, and Bobbie Smith.

Sheila is the daughter of John and Bobbie Smith of Mentone and the granddaughter of Nettie Smith and the late Paul Smith, and Evelyn Bain and the late J.R. Bain and Katherine Bain.

Ms. Smith is a member of Delta Omicron professional music fraternity, Georgia Music Educators Association, and Professional Association of Georgia Educators.

Mother's Day is
May 11, 1997.

Next to the Little River Canyon National Preserve

Knotty Pine Resort

Camping cabins available

Bed 'n Breakfast

For Reservations, Call
(205) 634-4836 or
(800) 455-7470
or write
P.O. Box 290

Mentone Inn

a "rustic touch of class"

Mountain Laurel Inn

(formerly Blossom Hill Bed & Breakfast)

Desolation

By Gilbert D. Edwards

I look with amazement and sorrow at the once pure clean waters. It is now covered with debris and choked with a slimy-green scum. What once was a pleasant place to fish and picnic, as well as to take a cool, refreshing swim, is now an eyesore and a contaminated spot to avoid.

I am finding this condition at more and more once beautiful places. Some are caused from nearby landfills, many from man's careless and illegal dumping of worthless trash, along with discarded pesticide containers. Again, more streams are overloaded with semi-treated sewer discharges. In time of drought and low waters, the devastation is complete--no signs of aquatic life and a smell that causes one to quickly leave.

What is man doing to our planet earth? Water is one of the most precious elements on earth. Without it, life would not exist. Again, our cities and towns are pouring millions of gallons of contaminants in our streams and at the same time pumping millions more for human consumption. The claim is that the water is again pure. This is as wrong as saying that sewage is safe to drink. I admit that by using chlorine and other antiseptic solutions some of the bacteria can be controlled. But what about the dangerous chemicals that are pouring into our streams? There is no known logical means to separate them from our potable water.

We witness massive fish kills and overlook the gradual decline in our aquatic life. These happenings will eventually spill over into the decimation of the human race. We must insist that our waters be protected. Speak out and let the proper authorities know we are vitally concerned and expect action to be taken to correct this dreadful condition. Or is it too late? We must try!

Serving

Individual investors since 1871



VICKY C. KIRBY

INVESTMENT
REPRESENTATIVE
616A Gault Ave. N.
P.O. Box 705
Fort Payne, AL 35967
205-845-2610
1-800-258-6064

Stocks
Mutual funds
Bonds
Government securities

CDs
Money market funds
IRAs
Tax-free bonds

...and much more!
Call or stop by today!

Member SIPC

DAVID G. BROUWER

INVESTMENT
REPRESENTATIVE
201 Grand Avenue N.
P.O. Box 167
Fort Payne, AL 35967



May 1997 / The Groundhog/Page 9

PRIME REALTY

C.S. "Steve" Baker - 857-5980
Ga./Ala. Broker
State Gen. Appraiser

Phyllis Baker - 857-5980
Licensed Sales Agent

Willie Jo McGraw - 857-3338
Licensed Sales Agent

401 North Commerce St.
Summerville, Ga. 30747
Office- (706) 857-5980
Beeper- (706) 859-9241
Fax - (706) 857-5970



IN THE HEART OF THE PARK - Longview Dr. - 1800 ± sq. ft. brick and frame, three bedrooms, two baths, kitchen, den, living/dining combo. Mt. stone floor in living/dining room, 20 ft. picture window, three bay windows in master bedroom, two wood burning heaters, sliding glass doors separate living room and den, detached two car garage, kennel, playhouse. Cloudland water system. Beautifully landscaped large lot. 2.5 ± acres.



EAST LAKE DR. - LAKE LAHAUSAGE - Mountain stone and frame, three bedrooms, 1.5 baths, sun room with deck, living/dining combo with wood burning stove, kitchen with breakfast nook, two car carport, two outbuildings perfect for shop, fenced yard. Large, well manicured lot.



GADSDEN AVE. - Cozy weekend get-away. Home features 1100 sq. ft. Living room with Mtn. stone fireplace, 2Br/2bath, kitchen, den with brick fireplace, gas and electric heat, septic, Cloudland water system. Beautiful large landscaped lot.



FLORIDA ST. - 1000 ± sq. ft. frame cottage, two bedrooms with pine floors, one bath, large living room with hardwood floors, kitchen with bar, enclosed storage area (Florida room potential). Picturesque lot. Cloudland water system. .75 ± acres.



GA. BROW - 8.79 ACRES - 180° Breath-taking, panoramic view of the valley with magnificent rock outcroppings. Watch the deer play in your front yard. Underground power. Private Drive. Creek. Abundant, undisturbed foliage. Restricted. Owner financing.



PRISTINE, HIGH IN THE CLOUDS-GADSDEN AVE/CLOUDLAND - You have always admired it. In your dreams, you have always longed for it. You have imagined yourself living there in its quiet serenity. PRIME is proud to offer this beautiful brick rancher with 2.5± acres of majestic beauty. Home features living room, kitchen, den with brick fireplace, 2 Br/1.5 bath, sun room, utility room, 2-car garage, outbuilding, Cent.H/A, gas back-up, Cloudland water system. Additional 7± acres available. Convenient to park and restaurant.

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS

Cloudland/Hwy. 48 - Great location for Antique/Art Gallery - Rustic pine creates the setting. Home features kitchen, living room, dining room, 3BR/2Baths, mountain stone fireplace, central heating/air with gas back-up. Excellent Hwy. frontage, Security fence. Close proximity to Trade Center.

Cloudland-Gilreath Mill Rd. - 5 acres - Once in a lifetime opportunity. 740 ft. of Gilreath Creek (year-around) & 100 ft. of Gamble Creek flowing together into the mouth of the East Fork of Little River. Rhododendron & Mt. Laurel abound in this ideal setting.

Mentone (North) Brow - 1+ acre. Scenic view of the valley below. Beautiful rock outcroppings. Owner financing.

PRIME REALTY OFFERS: Georgia and Alabama Real Estate Brokers License which allows PRIME to offer your property for sale or represent you as an interested buyer in multi-state transactions. As a buyer, did you know that saying a lot perks does not mean it meets all the criteria for a county approved septic system - The laws have changed - **DON'T GET STUCK.**



Katie Gray

Katie Gray has been selected as a state finalist from girls age 7-9 across the state of Alabama in the Pre-teen Alabama Scholarship and Recognition program to be held in Mobile on August 1-3. The winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and will enter the Pre-Teen America finals.

Participants in the Pre-Teen America program are chosen based on their academic achievements, talent, awards and honors, and outside activities. It is not a beauty pageant, but is by invitation only and is a scholarship and recognition event.

Participants will be judged on their volunteer service, academic achievements, general knowledge, communication ability, and overall pre-teen image. They will perform before a live audience and have a choice to make a speech or to sing. Katie has elected to sing a song of her own choice.

The program is an event designed to recognize the nation's outstanding pre-teens as well as to provide an avenue to promote high morals, standards of excellence, fellowship, family values, and social development.

The official charity for Preteens of America is the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Katie is the daughter of Sandra Pruitt of Mentone and Steve Gray of Indiana. Her grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Gray, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. James Graves of Mentone.



Lee Graves (inset) with his plane, the "Jimmy G"

The "Jimmy G"

By Evelyn Graves

Lee Graves (known to local friends and family as "Eddie") recently made a trip to Mentone to visit his parents, Jimmy and Evelyn Graves.

Lee has resided in Lothian, Maryland, for 20 years after having served in the Special Forces of the U.S. Army for eight years. He received a degree in engineering from George Washington University and now owns Odyssey Telecommunications in Maryland. His work carries him all over the world as he supervises the installation of equipment on various projects. He and his crew, under government contract, were responsible for setting up communications in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm and again in Bosnia.

During Lee's time in the military service, and for

some years afterward, he totaled 2,358 jumps from airplanes. After several experiences with broken legs and ankles, his physician ordered him to retire the skydiving hobby. The excitement of it remained with him through the years, and, now at 49 years old, and after rearing two sons, he has purchased a Pitts S1T bi-wing stunt plane, named the "Jimmy G" for his father, and is performing acrobatics for air shows all over the United States. The sons are back home running the business while Dad is off having a great time! I am so glad that there is room for the pilot only in the "Jimmy G", and I was not invited to participate in the acrobatics. That is one invitation I would have been forced to decline!



Open to Public
CLOUDMONT RESORT

SADDLE ROCK GOLF COURSE

"It's cooler Swingin' on Lookout Mountain!"
"9 hole executive course, 18 tees
atop Lookout Mountain!"

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

Carts and Clubs Available

Mountain Chalets & River Lodges with Kitchens

Call (205) 634-4344



1662 County Rd. 611
Valley Head, AL 35989

Alex Watters
(205) 635-1015

"Serviced by the same family since 1933"

**BROWN'S
CLEANING & LAUNDRY**

"An old company with new ideas"

Uniform Rental • Dust Control • Vault Storage for Furs & Woolens • Drapery
Cleaning with Machine Decorative Fold • Suede, Leather & Fur Cleaning • Fire

MADAPERCA Bed & Breakfast

A RIVERSIDE RETREAT

"Atop Lookout Mountain"



Laurelle Brooke Miles
will be 2 years old on May 6, 1997. She is the daughter of Walt and Julie Miles, Realtors (Miles and Miles Realty), Hoover

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



Have you ever seen such a beautiful spring? Even though it seems determined to stay cold, everything has bloomed almost on schedule and it all has been so pretty!! First, the redbuds peeked out at the foot of the mountain; and then, the dogwood blossoms began to form and have just now finished with their drama by putting on their green leaves. The dogwood tree is most interesting, from the way the blossoms actually grow until the red berries in the fall, it is a story unto itself.

Many exciting things are happening in Mentone right now. The fire department is planning a yard/bake sale on Saturday, May 3, beginning at 9 a.m. to raise funds to update the equipment and training. If they could raise the rating by even one point, insurance rates for the area could be lowered. A lot of people are working hard toward this goal and it is all volunteer. I understand that the Town of Mentone recently gave a donation to the fire department to cover day-to-day expenses, thus allowing all donations to be used for upgrading. Thank you, Town Council and Mayor!

Another exciting project is the MERF house and walking track. It looks as though the track may be completed by the time this issue of *The Groundhog* is out. I am so excited about this, and I know a lot of other people who are, too. This project is fulfilling two dreams, that of a young man of the community in getting his Eagle Scout Award and that of the community to have such a great place to walk. The renovation of the house is coming along very nicely. Several area churches and other organizations have chosen a room or area to decorate or clean and are progressing with these projects. This house will be a great asset to the community as a learning center, as well as a place to spend some time with your friends. I urge everyone to come to the Open House on May 4. The entertainment alone will be worth the effort.

The town council and mayor continue to address the problem of water. They are looking at several options as of now. At least two large communities in Mentone have asked for water from the city. This will take a federal and/or state grant and a lot of work, but maybe this can be accomplished before long. I really empathize with anyone who does not have adequate water. In my lifetime, I have drawn water from a spring with a rope, hand-over-hand style. I have drawn it from a hand dug well with a big bucket attached to a windless. I have drawn it from a "well-driller" dug well with a "skinny" bucket attached to a windless. I have pumped it from a hand pump (and always got my thumb mashed in the process). I have set tubs under the drip of the house and caught rain water. And, finally, I have turned on a faucet and enjoyed the stream of hot or cold water that came out. I like the last one much better. I have a hard time finding the "good" in the "good old days".

Many times as I shop or visit in other areas of the county, I am asked about certain things that are happening (or may happen) in Mentone. Mentone is definitely a place of interest in this area. People want to know what is going on here and they always tell me how much they enjoy coming to Mentone. The county and even the state seems to know what an important part we play in the whole scheme of things. Our job, should we choose to accept it, is to make sure that we stay the place everyone likes, but preserve our individuality in the process. We need to stay the same but move ahead. Is this possible?

An issue that has been before the town regarding the zoning regulations has been resolved. Not much was changed because of it, but for a lot of us it was definitely a learning experience! I think we will all be better prepared for the next confrontation, and there will be one. Those of us who helped set these regulations in place knew that we could not solve or prevent

I have been reading the book, *Mentone, Alabama: a History* by Zora Shay Strayhorn, again, recently. This quote from it seems very appropriate to Mentone's situation today even though it was written in the 1920s. "The great influx of tourists or 'summer people' to the newly established resort areas of Mentone in the 1920s was an unwelcome phenomenon to some of the permanent residents. The reasons for the anxiety are revealed in a letter written in 1929. The original letter, signed by a minister and 21 other people, was owned by Mrs. Henry Batty Graves (deceased) of Mentone and was printed in *The DeKalb Legend*, May, 1972: "We who sign this letter to you, live in Mentone township; we own our own homes here and are trying to rear our children free from the vices which now endanger them. Most of us were born and reared on the mountain in the simply Godly way peculiar to mountain folks. In recent years, and especially in the last year, conditions have so changed with the growth of Mentone that if not checked is certain to affect the lives of our children for evil. We think it best to be specific and state our grievance in a plain way.

"1st. We bitterly resent the parading of young men and women on roads and streets, walking and packed in automobiles half naked.

"Our ideas of common decencies of life may be ancient and crude but they suit us and we know the example is hurtful to our children.

"2nd. Bathing on the mountain which in itself is a delightful recreation has become a moral menace by the extreme to which it is carried. The way in which half naked boys and girls are mixed in the water and sunning on sand banks, is demoralizing and certain to bring evil to any community which tolerates it. The pity and shame of it is worse on the Sabbath day than any other; the shouting and noise from these places are heard in our Sunday Schools and church gatherings.

"3rd. Regardless of our opinions of the modern dance halls, we insist that there are extremes to which they should not be carried. If they are to be run at all in Mentone, they should be so conducted at night that extreme jazz music, shouting and boisterous conducts should not disturb the people of the neighborhood..."

The more things change, the more they stay the same. I'll see you all one more time before I take my leave to work full time (ha ha) at Camp Laney for the summer. Take care of yourself and maintain a vegetable garden, some flowers beds and a sunny disposition this spring and summer.



Dogwood Haven, Inc.

An Assisted Living Facility
for Senior Citizens



Brenda Pendergrass
Administrator

741 Houston Loop Rd. W
Fort Payne, AL 35967

205-845-0211

TADPOLES

FAMOUS brand classic clothing
for infants and children

1012 N. GAULT AVE.

CLOUDLAND REALTY

Highway 48

Cloudland, Georgia 30731

706-862-2761

CLOUDLAND COMMUNITY - Don't miss this opportunity to own a home on the brow in the Cloudland community. This beautiful 2 BDRM, 2 BATH home also offers large LR-Dining combination with fireplace, eat-in kitchen, 2 car garage, screened porch with fireplace, open porch, a separate studio with 1/2 bath. Home also included CHIA. Beautiful landscaping and a partially fenced 90' x 3000' brow lot. Priced at \$147,500, and shown by appointment only.

LAKE LAHUSAGE - Nice lake lot with 140' on lake. Old foundation, well, 2 septic tanks, fenced and paved drive. \$29,900. Co-Broker with Southern Properties.

CLOUDLAND - Cedar log home with rock foundation on small acreage lot with frontage on the East Fork of Little River. Three bedrooms, 4-1/2 baths, large living room with stone fireplace, playroom with fireplace and wet bar, adjoining workshop. Unfinished attic (good for storage or expansion), two-car garage, central heat and air. Too many amenities to mention - \$163,000.

CLOUDLAND - Many beautiful brow lots priced from \$16,000-\$36,000.

CLOUDLAND - Close in beautiful building lot containing approximately 2 acres with 350' frontage on Highway 157. Priced to sell at \$12,000 and restricted.

CLOUDLAND - Four lots in Cloudland Community with 75' paved road frontage and containing approximately 1.3 acres - Priced at \$16,500.

MENLO - Approximately 12 acres just outside Menlo City Limits - level and wooded. Priced at \$3000 per acre.

SMALLER ROAD - Approximately 50 wooded level acres with road frontage - \$1260 per acre.

SUBIGNA - Walker County - two small acreage tracts on Scoggins Lane with paved road frontage. One lot is approximately 14.41 acres; and one lot is approximately 17.05 acres. Priced at \$2500 per acre.

CALL US FOR INFORMATION ON MOUNTAIN
PROPERTIES, INCLUDING ACREAGE; BROW LOTS;
BROW HOMES; LAKE HOMES; AND LAKE LOTS.



CLEAN CARE

Service NE Ala. Since 1975

- Environmentally Safe For the Chemically Sensitive
- IICUC Certified
- Carpet •Upholstery •Drapery •Hard Floors
- Odor Control
- Emergency Flood & Fire Restoration

Call Jim Howell

205-227-0016



The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL MAY 17-18

It's the time of year for vigorous planning for our Rhododendron Festival the third week-end in May. We never seem to get everything done. Does anyone? There are always last minute things to do, and no two festivals are alike. What worked well one year may not work so well the next year.

We are distressed about having to give up the boat rides on Little River. Many people were disappointed that we could not have them last October at the Colorfest. Lane Traylor, who has done the pontoon boat rides for several years, is afraid of a lawsuit if anyone got injured in any way. We checked with various insurance agencies and none of them would insure us for the two days for less than \$900. That would be prohibitive. We would lose money at that rate, because we have been sharing our profit with the state park to help with the handicapped trail. Of course it is finished now. If anyone can find a way we would certainly like to have the rides. The view of the river banks from the boat is not to be rivaled anywhere. We have traveled in many countries and have not seen anything as lovely as the sloped areas covered with orchid Rhododendron blossoms, interspersed with the white Mountain Laurel. It looks like hanging gardens carefully planted for our enjoyment, and the only way to get the full view is from a boat on the river. Some people are very fortunate to live on the river-front and get this spectacular view that we are not privileged to enjoy.

Chuck Peters is doing a good job of promotion through his media releases. I have received many calls about the festival from people as far away as New Jersey. They want to know what kind of crafts we have, the entertainment, places to stay, and restaurants where they can eat. It's a pleasure to be able to give them the names of our accommodations. I have told them to make reservations early in order to get lodging. DeSoto State Park is usually booked months in advance. Our festivals are listed in the top twenty in the southeast, which gives us a good boost in publicity.

Penny Lyday is chairman of the festival and is handling everything, well. She is a pleasure to know and works well with others. So if there is any problem, she is glad to discuss it calmly. We are fortunate to have her and Jim working faithfully to keep things running smoothly.

Again this year, we are having the beauty pageant a week before the festival. It gives us a little more time to work both phases. We can have the queen and her court ride in the parade, which adds beauty, color, and spice to it. Much appreciation goes to Jack Jones who is arranging the parade. Be sure to come out and enjoy it on May 17, at 2:00 P.M. It's a pretty sight to see folks lining the road waiting for the fire truck to sound the siren to begin the parade. It doesn't last long but is fun for all.

Doreen Waters and Dorna Hutcheson are organizing the beauty pageant and have sent a letter and entry blanks to all area high schools. We hope to have more entries than we have ever had. We have raised the entry fee in order to have the pageant self-supporting. It has always been a little expense to M.A.P.A. but we wanted our local girls to be able to enter without strain on their budgets. I hope more businesses will sponsor the girls for a \$50 donation. It is good advertising for them and they will feel like they are a part of the festival. The

treat. I want to give a special invitation to all former queens. We would like to introduce you and find out what you have been doing. Some of you have married and are not living close by, but families of yours will know where you are. It would add a great deal to the program to have as many former queens as possible.

Jerry and Doreen Waters are handling the entertainment and they will have some good performers and a variety of activities planned, including little "train rides" for the children at the festival.

The Boy Scouts of Mentone Troop 315 will have the devotions on Sunday morning, the 18th of May, at the festival. Please plan to be there for this part of the program. We will have gospel singing following their devotions.

We look forward to working with other organizations in the community, such as the fire department, the American Legion, The Church of God of Prophecy, and others. It takes a combined effort to make a success of anything.

We started the festival just to celebrate the spring blooming of our gorgeous native rhododendron and want it to continue to be a gala event. When a profit is made, we share it with everyone. I hope any of you who do wood work, pottery, quilts, or any other handicrafts will join with us and show our visitors what great talents we have here in Mentone. Lucy Mitchell is one of the greatest artists right here at home. I hope to be able to afford one of her paintings one day. I would like to see Hoyle Smith display some of his wheel-wright work. They did a good article in the Times-Journal recently about him. We miss Robert Lee and his blacksmith work. He used to do all the craft shows. It would be nice to have someone split boards, like they used to do to roof houses. Roy Crowe did that a few times, but, of course, he is deceased. This is almost a lost art. Jim Lyday might know how to do the job.

Be prepared to enjoy the festival. We could certainly use some volunteer help. Penny would be happy to see some volunteers. Chuck Peters just volunteered to do anything he could do to help and has become a member of M.A.P.A. A few more workers can make the job easier.

Stop by & chat with Bernise at

CROW'S NEST ANTIQUES

Antiques,
collectibles,
glassware, books

(205) 634-4548



Aesthetic

Alabama Highlands School of Ballet

(opening soon in Valley Head, AL)

Classes now forming in Ballet, Scottish
Highland, and Dance/Exercise

Beginning to Advanced Levels for ages 3 to
Adult

Athletic

Come explore the wonderful world of bal-
let for FUN and FITNESS STRENGTH

North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Protection District (NLMVFPD)

"GARAGE SALE"

Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m. until

The annual "garage sale" of the North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Protection District (NLMVFPD) will be Saturday, May 2nd, 9 a.m.

NLMVFPD would appreciate the donation of good items to offer the public. Check in your attic, your garage, your out-building for good, useable items and donate them to the NLMVFPD.

Contact Gail Chambers at 634-4507, for arrangements to pick up any items or to bring items.

Mentone's Oldest Restaurant

LOG CABIN DELI



Hwy. 117, Mentone
634-4560

Country Cooking

"All Meals Freshly Prepared"
Serving delicious deli-type sandwiches,
homestyle dinners, soups, chili, pizza
beans, and the best HOMEMADE
DESSERTS on Lookout Mountain.

Open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs., Sun.
11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fri. & Sat.
--Closed Monday--

"The Friendliest Restaurant On Lookout Mountain"



COME ENJOY
OUR MUSICAL MOUNTAIN IN THE SPRING
at the 14th Annual

RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL

Saturday & Sunday

May 17th & 18th 1997

• Free to All •

On Lookout Mountain Parkway in
Mentone, Alabama

On Friday, May 16th at 7PM

Join us for a Bonfire with Music, and Storytelling

Saturday May 17th from 9AM to 5PM

Sunday May 18th from 11AM to 4PM

• Arts & Crafts • Good Food

• Music & Clogging

and at 2:PM Saturday,

Come See the Parade

or Join in the Fun Call Jack Jones at 634-4344

On Saturday May 10th

Rhododendron Queen Contest

at 8:00PM at the Hitching Post

for more information call Bernise Crow at 634-4664

Visit the MAPA Booth for

A chance on a Hand-Made Quilt to be given a

4PM on Sunday • \$1.00 Donation

MY ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TRIP

By Eric King

On March 22, 1997, I traveled with several classmates from my Northeast State Community College humanities class, along with my teacher and guide, Ann Everett, on her annual trip to London, England. Prior to our trip, we spent several hours of class time learning about Britain and its people. We also learned lots of tips on how to be a responsible tourist. Our trip covered nine days.

We flew from Birmingham to Houston, where we boarded a jet and flew non-stop directly to London. Upon arrival, we were met by our English tour guide and escorted to our hotel in Kensington. We checked into our hotel located directly across from Kensington Palace, which is Princess Diana's residence while she is in London.

After check-in, Mrs. Everett helped us become familiar with the area and how to use the city's transportation. In London, most people travel by bus or train with one travel card you get unlimited use of both. Londoners take pride in their "Big Red Busses." These mostly double decker buses travel throughout the city with practically a door-to-door service. Londoners call their underground train network "The Tube." It covers the whole city and is the most comprehensive subway network in the world. We found it to be convenient and easy to travel.

Throughout our stay, we spent our days sightseeing, and visiting places such as Buckingham Palace where we witnessed the changing of the guard. Other places visited were the Tower of London, Crown Jewels, Convent Gardens, Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, The House of Parliament, St. Paul's Cathedral, Portobello Road, Canterbury, and Dover, where we saw one of England's best preserved castles, as well as the famous "white cliffs" of Dover.

In addition, on my free day, a friend I met during our trip and I traveled to the famous Stonehenge, visited Salisbury, and Bath, where we saw the Roman baths that have a 2000-year history, and can still be seen today.

During the evenings, our class enjoyed drama productions in London's famous theaters, visited famous pubs, and shopped at the city's many shops, including the world famous Harrods, now the largest store in Europe.

London is a multi-cultural city. Some of the students spent time talking with the locals and many other European visitors. They had many questions about America, just as we had questions about their countries.

The food was good and I enjoyed sampling many different foods. They have many of the same restaurant chains as we do, as well as the same brands of food, but they are made for European tastes and differ slightly from the American versions. Cafeteria style foods are more prevalent than service by waiters or waitresses. There is no automatic waiter service in most of the establishments we visited. The tax and tip were included in the prices that were listed.

Their monetary unit consists of different sized coins and bills, so that even the blind are able to identify the monetary units. The value of a pound fluctuates daily. When we arrived, the value was \$1.70 in American money and when we left, it was \$1.54.

Through this first-hand experience of European culture, I saw all the things I have heard and read about in literature and history at school, which helped me develop a better understanding of the English. It was a once-in-a-lifetime trip for me, and I would recommend to those who have the opportunity to make such a trip that they do so. It will be a life-changing experience.



"SPECIAL EDITION" Comforting Thoughts

by Larry Dodson

2,000 S/N.....\$ 55.00 100 S/N - AP\$125.00

Release Date - February 15, 1997

Image 16 x 23-1/4

Fort Payne, Alabama - Larry Dodson, the acclaimed southern watercolorist of Trenton, Georgia, has been commissioned by the DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center of Fort Payne, Alabama, to do an original painting for the Center.

It is entitled Comforting Thoughts. The Advocacy Center will have the original picture, 100 Artist's Proofs, and 2,000 signed and numbered prints (limited edition).

For the last two years, Dodson has devoted his time to building a golf course near his home in Trenton. He almost turned down the Advocacy Center's request to do this project. He wasn't sure he could paint again. He did accept the challenge, however, and was glad he did so. "I've been painting for 25 years", said Dodson. "All the other paintings had a 'stopping point'. But this one flowed! I painted day and night! It's wonderful to be back in the world of art!"

Orders may be placed now by contacting the DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center, PO Box 173, Fort Payne, AL 35967; telephone 205-997-9700.

There are more than 100 of Dodson's original works in private collections throughout the South. The numbers of his sold-out prints attest to his appeal to the art lover.

Larry's unique style of capturing rural America with his water colors has been one key to his success.

Painting is like gathering sand on a beach to build a glorious sand castle. You have atmosphere, value, design, and color. "Dodson captures those virtues as he paints. The end result is a compelling work of art," said Elizabeth Wheatley, Executive Director of the DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center.

Dodson was commissioned to paint the official 1989 Alabama Reunion. It hangs in the capitol of Montgomery.

The Advocacy Center is a non-profit agency that provides a warm home-like atmosphere for the investigative interviews of children when there have been allegations of sexual abuse or severe physical abuse. The agency also offers child abuse prevention presentations in classroom settings, free parent education classes, and a home visitation program which provides parent education and service referrals for teen-age mothers.

A purchase of the Print of Artist's Proof will benefit the Advocacy Center's programs in their on-going effort to make a difference in the lives of children and families.

You're invited!

To share in our excitement about Mentone's new Community House with an

Open House!

Sunday, May 4, 1997

2:00 - 5:00 pm

At the Community House
located behind the Moon Lake
School cafeteria

Performances by local talent:

Anna Crow New Generation Cloggers "Tiny Tots"
The Bernise Crow Family Union Hill Youth Choir
James Bryant Terry Hutcheson
Moon Lake Glee Club The McMunn Family

Refreshments will be served in the House with
entertainment in the outside amphitheater!
Bring a chair or blanket!

There is no charge but donations are
very welcome! We're still a work in



Mentone Springs Hotel
Bed & Breakfast

David & Claudia Wassom, owners

6114 Ala. Hwy. 117, Mentone, Alabama 35984
(205) 634-4040

CALDWELL'S RESTAURANT

Mentone Legion Stands Up To Be Counted

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

Monday, April 7, the American Legion's 13th District Spring Meeting took place at the Post 69 legion hall off Highway 9 in Centre. Of the six posts and units in the district, only four were represented. The delegation from Mentone's American Legion Post Unit 215 consisted of seven people: Howard and Charlotte Jo Carson, Jim and Penny Lyday, Ed Ringer, Marilyn Blanton Campbell, and Syble Tipton—and that was more than any other group had in attendance.

After a fine meal of Brunswick stew and saltine crackers topped off by banana pudding and homemade pound cake, the ladies and the men met together for a short time while Gordon L. Seale, the State Vice Commander, presented Kenneth Clayton and J. L. Tatum of the Valley Head Post 39, membership awards.

The truth of the matter is that membership numbers are dwindling in the legion in general and in Alabama in particular. The older people are either becoming disabled or dying off, and younger ones are not joining the legion ranks. This is the trend in America in general today; it is not merely a local situation.

With the population of World War II and Korean Conflict veterans getting older and less able, nursing home space for those people will soon become a top priority in this state as well as all the others. The ladies of American Legion Unit 215 at Mentone have dedicated their efforts to morale support of the DeKalb County veterans residing in the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville.

As long as the legion stays strong and puts political pressure on the state to provide the necessary nursing home beds for the veterans whose health care needs have exceeded the capabilities of their families to manage at home, there should be places for all the veterans who need them. However, everybody knows that "it is the squeaky wheel that gets the grease," and without new members coming into the legion, the time will come when

that group's influence will be paid very little mind whatever. If all eligibles would just check out their local post or unit of the legion to see what is going on there, it is a matter of near certainty that a few new members would be gained. The fact is that many nursing homes will not take residents who suffer various forms of dementia—particularly Alzheimer's—but half the building at the Fann Home is devoted to such people. With the need for that particular variety of care rising by the day all over America, it is patently obvious that support for veterans homes must come from somewhere, and the American Legion is a good conduit for channeling that support to the people and their families, who need it so badly.

After the ladies of the District 13 American Legion Auxiliary went into their separate session, the process of electing district officers got under way. The office of district president is supposed to be rotated from one unit to another within the district, and one person is not supposed to serve for more than two consecutive terms. The various legion units represented all had the same problem, there are names on the roster, but many of those people who pay their dues and have their names on the book are not really physically able to be active members. Then, too, there is that contingent that lives away and pays dues but seldom attends any of the meetings or rarely supports other legion efforts. The ladies from Unit 215, at Mentone compared notes and found out that their unit with less than 10 able bodied "hard-core faithfuls" are doing a lot better than most with their even smaller numbers.

When all was said and done, Mrs. Syble Tipton, President of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 at Mentone, had become the President-elect for the Thirteenth District. The ladies of Unit 215 have resolved to help Mrs. Tipton in every way possible with whatever she is required to do as the president during the year of her administration.

GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

(Member of the National Home Gardening Club)

April brought us lots of nice surprises here in Mentone—lovely warm days with bright sunshine and cool/cold nights with absolutely no humidity! It has been really wonderful, and we have enjoyed it to the utmost.

It is said that if it rains on Good Friday, a fertile and fruitful year is ahead; and for us here in Mentone it did rain on that day. So, we are really blessed—with the beautiful weather, the rain on that special day, and all the glorious spring flowers at their best (the dogwoods are especially beautiful this year).

People have been asking whether we have got our garden started. We assume that they mean the cool weather plants and veggies and flowers, as it is not warm enough to plant any other type of crops yet; although I have had some success with cuttings taken from shrubs and vines.

My very rustic vine/shade trellis finally gave way this winter. The vines were a bit too much for it, and so were all the cats chasing birds on it. My, my, but it did attract quite a few feathered friends including a woodpecker, pecking his brains out on the rotting post. Unfortunately, he never came back. I don't think one of the cats got him, he was too fast and smart for them. That old rotten, rustic trellis sure has given me hours of knowledge and joy. The perfect, new treated lumber one is a fine piece of work. I just hope the birds like it as much. The wisteria vines do look so much better on it. It has finally given me masses of beautiful lilac clusters of blooms after seven years—that's when I got my first cutting from my long departed neighbor, Jackie Kerby. All the other cuttings I was gifted with from her have really thrived and most bloomed the second year, except that wisteria. My husband was getting a bit impatient with it, as it happens to be one of his favorites.

If the pastel wisteria is not bold enough for some gardeners, a new very showy and bold canna has hit the market—known as the *canna tropicanna*, which comes from South Africa. Its broadsword-like leaves are multi-colored, the central vein remains chartreuse, while the leaves unfurl with stripes that go through phases of burgundy, red, pink, yellow, gold and green. (It sounds absolutely stunning to me!) Each leaf has a slightly different coloration, but the petals remain brilliantly orange.

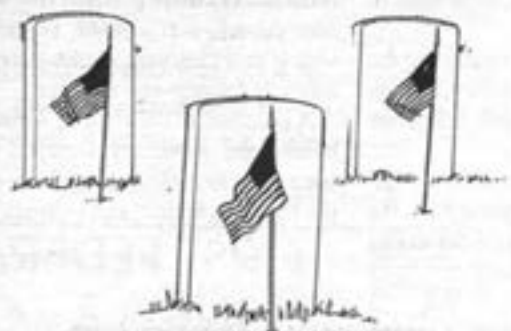
Now, more about those chilly nights. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has now reported that scientists have discovered that, when the night temps dip below 50°F, crucial biochemical processes inside the

warmth-loving crops or plants (tomatoes, corn, soybeans, etc.) may shut down only to rev up in response to the next day's warmth, then clash with daytime biochemical processes, meaning that "specific reactions are timed to occur at a given period of day or night; if they occur simultaneously, they compete and stall photosynthesis, that results in slashed yields," so says expert Don Ort. For the forgetful or lazy (me on both accounts, but mostly forgetful), a new product arriving in home and garden centers this spring eliminates concerns about whether plants (indoors/outdoors) have been fed or overfed, a line of plant foods called *Sta-Green* promises that a single application of its capsules will feed evenly for a period of 3, 6 or 9 months, depending on the package. A 14-lb bag (3 months supply) will or should retail for under ten bucks.

For those of us that love shrub or old fashioned roses, remember that they require very little in the way of special care. Just keep in mind that roses do best in full sun. If you can't bear not to give your roses a little extra attention, try working an ounce of Epsom salts and half cup of alfalfa meal into the soil around each plant in the spring and, with repeat bloomers, again after the first and second flush of bloom. Fish emulsion and alfalfa tea are two other organic methods of feeding during the growing season. If you have room for more roses, try pollinating the ones you have with a watercolor brush. Then, when the rose hips are ripe, plant individual seeds in a flat with sandy loam. You may find you have a variety of bushes different from the source ones. Don't forget to water.

If you have any of those old wire hangers left and you would like to put them to use, use a heavy wire cutter and unwind the wire from the neck of the metal hanger. Then, stretch it out straight, again using the wire cutters, bend the crooked neck of the hanger horizontally. Stick the hanger in the ground next to tall lilies, glads and any tall plant that tends to fall or bend. Once they have rusted, they won't be very noticeable.

Here is one last bit of new info I came across just as I was ready to print this out. For 12 years, ecologists have applied nitrogen to 162 plots of native grasses at levels that approximate the amount of nitrogen that occurs in air-borne pollution from cars and power plants in the Northeast. Though plants need nitrogen to grow, the researchers found that the elevated nitrogen levels stimulated the growth of grasses imported from Europe, while impairing the growth of native grasses.



Tiger's Inn Restaurant

635-6855

Main Street, Valley Head

NEW HOURS

Beginning May 10
open 7 days a week
5 a.m.-2 p.m.



A SALUTE TO THOSE
WHO GAVE THEIR
LIVES TO PRESERVE
OUR FREEDOM

The
**Church
News**
By
EVELYN GRAVES



each evening at 7:30. All services are Georgia time.

May 11th will be Mothers Day and has also been designated Family Day by the Menlo church. The whole family is asked to honor mothers of the congregation by worshipping with them in a special service at 11:00 AM. All mothers present will be recognized and honored for their contributions to the family, community, and church.

On May 18th, the Church of Christ in Menlo will host the regular Third Sunday Singing which rotates among several Churches of Christ in Chattooga and Walker Counties. The singing begins at 3:00 PM Georgia time. An attendance goal of 150 has been set by the church, and everyone is invited to attend.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head. Services are: Sabbath School, 9:30-10:45 a.m.; Worship service, 11:00-12:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Wilbur Attwood, Pastor; Bill Pyke - Lay Pastor. The Revelation Bible Study, taught by Bill Wynn is still open to newcomers. They are welcome to attend the study each Thursday from 7-8 p.m.

If you're interested in a healthier body and delicious vegetarian food, sign up for our vegetarian cooking classes (coming soon). For more info and reservations, call 634-4021 or 634-4658. The monthly fellowship dinner was held April 13th. The next dinner will be after church on May 11. Come visit and enjoy our good vegetarian food and spiritual food, too! Pastor Attwood gave a special lecture after the meal.

On Wednesday, May 7, the UMW of the **Mentone United Methodist Church** will meet at 2 p.m. at the fellowship hall. Sunday services are at 11 AM and Sunday School is at 10 A.M. Everyone is welcome.

The **Mentone Revival Center**, and Pastor Junior Fleming and his wife Doris, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10 AM. Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM. A warm welcome is extended to all. Come and experience God's blessings with us.

Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) invites you to attend services on Sunday morning at 10 AM. Visitors are always welcome to visit the chapel at other times also. Vacation clothes are always acceptable for the service. Homecoming plans are currently under way and will be announced later. A shelter is in the process of being built in case of rain on special days like Homecoming.

NORTH DEKALB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The 46th Annual National Day of Prayer is the first Thursday of May, May 1. This is a wonderful opportunity to unite together, as one nation under God, to collectively ask for God's mercy and blessing on our country. We urge you to join with us to thank the Lord for His goodness to our nation and confess our great need of His continued guidance. As we agree together in prayer, we can change America... and ourselves.

In Mentone, the National Day of Prayer service will be held at the Brow at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 1.

Those who know your name will trust in you,
For you, Lord, have never forsaken those
who seek you.

BEST MOTHER'S DAY WISHES

Family Chiropractic Care
Dr. Steven L. McGee
Chiropractor



Appointments, Walk-ins,
Emergencies are Always Welcome!

Open Monday through Saturday
Approved Insurance Accepted



Golden Wedding Anniversary

Louise and Leonard Keith
(1947, right after they got married)

The children of Louise and Leonard Keith invite family and friends to help celebrate their **Golden Wedding Anniversary** on Saturday, May 10, 1997, from 2-4 p.m., at the American Legion Hall in Mentone, Alabama. Only your presence is requested.

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION OF DEKALB COUNTY		
Fort Payne 845-1077	Rainsville 638-6342	Ider 657-6255
Home loans & insured deposits Deposits federally insured to \$100,000		

NIPPERSINK LODGE

On Lookout Mountain at DeSoto Falls
P.O. Box 172
Mentone, Alabama 35984

May 4 is JOY Sunday in the **Moon Lake Baptist Church**. The morning service is designated for this part of the church program. In the evening service, there will be a Southern Baptist missionary speaker, Rev. Bronson. The next church business meeting is on May 7, at 6:30 PM. A special service is planned for Mother's Day on May 11, and a special service for the high school graduates is planned for Sunday, May 25. The next JOY meeting is Thursday, May 29, at 11:30 AM. Pastor Appreciation Day is planned for June 1.

On Sunday, April 20, the **Mentone Wesleyan Church** began a Sunday afternoon Children's program from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. It is an organized recreation time, snack time, worship time, and Bible study time. It is open to the public. All children are invited. On May 11, Mother's Day, there will be a special service honoring the mothers.

The **Mentone Church of God** plans a special Mother's Day service on May 11. A Mother-Daughter banquet is planned for May; however, a definite date has not been set. This will be announced later.

A special workshop is planned on Saturday, May 3, at 8 AM at **St. Joseph's On-the-mountain Episcopal Church**. This is a workshop for members. National Day of Prayer will be observed on May 1 at Brow Park, sponsored by the Ministerial Association, and the church will participate in this service. Sunday School is from 9-10 AM each Sunday. Fellowship is from 10-10:30 AM, and Sunday Worship is at 10:30 AM.

Valley Head Baptist Church picked up its Adopt-A-Mile on April 19. "The Baptist Faith and Message" is still being taught by the pastor, Rev. Jenkins, and will conclude on April 27. National Day of Prayer is being observed on May 1. The Brotherhood will meet at 8 AM at the church on May 10. There will be a Church Garage Sale at the church on May 3, beginning at 6 AM. The fourth Sunday Hymn Sing will be on May 25. The Church Council will meet at 6:30 PM on May 27, at the church. On Mother's Day, each mother will receive a copy of The Journal.

The **Valley head United Methodist Church** will have a Call to Prayer and Self Denial meeting at the church fellowship hall on April 29, at 11 AM. A covered dish lunch will be served after the meeting. Pastor Jeff Adkins is preaching a series of messages on John Wesley's sermon on health and spirituality. Eiko Key, aerobics instructor, spoke in the morning service on April 20 on the subject of exercise and nutrition.

Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church continues to meet for worship at 9 AM each Sunday morning. Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L. A. Smith speak on alternate Sundays.

May will be a full month for the **Church of Christ on Bell Street in Menlo**, and everyone is invited to share it. The church has already begun a 9:00 PM Night Owl Service on Sunday in addition to its regular schedule of Bible Study and worship. It is planned to serve those who must work long hours on the Lord's day and those who are visiting our area.

On May 4th, the **Menlo Church of Christ** will have a homecoming dinner after morning worship. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the fellowship. Members who have moved away and preachers who have served the congregation are especially welcome. The morning worship will also begin a

THE CATALOG PLACE

SECONDS & OVER RUNS FROM
YOUR FAVORITE CATALOGS

Owners: Martha and Hobson Kirby

Central Avenue
Trion, Georgia 30753

Tel. 706-734-2690
Fax 706-734-2902



MORGAN DRUGS

Donald R. Morgan

Valley Head
635-6812



The Humble House

A Bed & Breakfast

Your Hosts
John and Jean Jones

Rt. 1, Box 303
Valley Head, AL 35989

Telephone
(205) 635-6682

Builder's Supply Company, Inc.

- ↓ Concrete Blocks
- ↓ Building Materials
- ↓ Roof & Floor Trusses

Fort Payne
611 Godfrey Ave. S.
845-1451

Sylvania
Highway #75
638-2244

COMING IN MAY RENTAL UNITS

2 10X15 OFFICE UNITS
AND 16 SELF STORAGE UNITS
5X10, 10X10, 10X15, 10X20

MINI STOR-MALL OF MENTONE
53 Douglas Street (Just behind the Mentone Post Office)
634-4535



Enjoy a fine dining experience on the brow of Lookout Mountain
You'll love the sunsets and good food at Cragsmere.

Culture Center has big plans in DeKalb County

In the Tuesday, April 8, 1997, issue of *The Times-Journal*, an article written by Angela Tant gave an updated report on the regional cultural center to be built in DeKalb County in the Mentone area. Her article follows.

More than 20 years ago, the idea for a creative learning center started as a mere spark in Patricia Edwards de Ortega's mind. As she shared her concept with educators, scientists and philanthropists, her thoughts, and theirs, are now combining to become a multi-million-dollar reality in DeKalb County.

The Southeast Language and Cultural Center, a 2,000-acre facility, which will be located atop Lookout Mountain, was developed by de Ortega, Chairman of the Board for *Who's Who in American Education* and *Who's Who Among American Women*. She is head of International American Education, Inc., a group of educators, researchers and innovators who develop new educational methods for use in schools across the country.

The project's first phase will include an \$18 million language and cultural center telecommunications conservatory, offering classes in foreign languages via satellite and the Internet. Both adults and children can take a variety of foreign language classes from native instructors, who will be teaching the courses from their native countries. Construction on the building is scheduled to begin by the end of summer, de Ortega said.

Course curriculum will be tailored to fit those who are taking the classes, ranging from children to college students to business professionals, de Ortega said. Its foreign Language courses will impact international commerce by teaching foreign languages customized for industry's immediate needs.

"I told one businessman that we intend to teach Chinese by distance learning, and he wanted to know when it would be open and available for use," de Ortega said. "He told me that his company is expanding its market into China and he had several people who need to know the language before they go."

The Language Center will also establish a pilot project with several school systems throughout the nation, televising classes via satellite so that children in 20 schools may have a wider variety of courses from which to select. So far, schools in Oregon, California, Texas, Columbia, Mexico, Japan, and the Czech Republic have signed onto the program. Locally, schools in Jackson County and Dade County, Ga., are enrolling in the distance education program, too.

In Jackson County, Stevenson Elementary School Principal Steve Durham said his school will be using its Internet connections to help students learn languages better. He hopes the courses will especially help in educating students who speak very little English.

"We believe we'll benefit from a language standpoint, a cultural standpoint, and a historical standpoint," Durham said. "Everything they've laid out sounds like an interesting proposition that we hope we can benefit from."

DeKalb County schools have also been given the opportunity to participate in the program at no cost. However, de Ortega

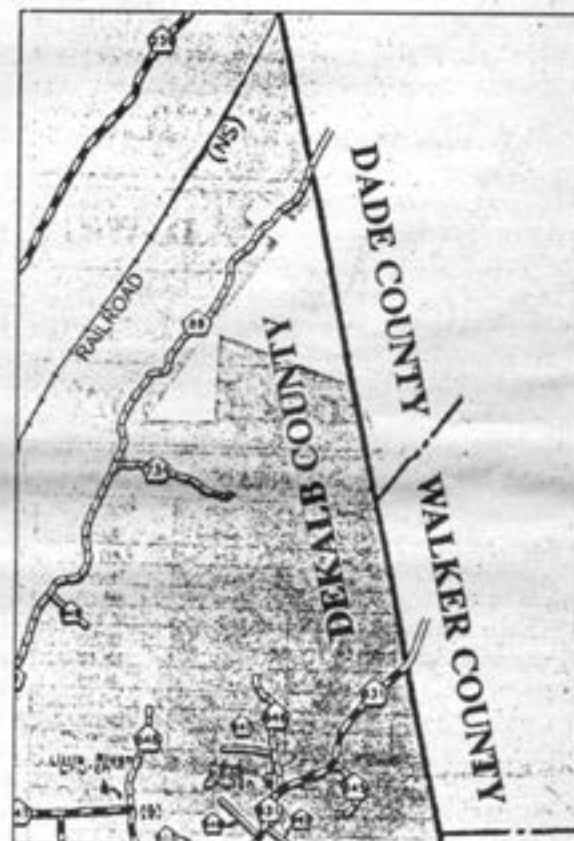
said, neither the DeKalb County or Fort Payne City school systems have responded to the offer.

Eventually, the center will expand its horizons by building two language/cultural camps; 16 history, science and fine arts buildings; six Native American living history museum villages; four foreign and native language nursery/preschool clusters; six Native American ball fields; a museum; an arena; and student/teacher dormitories.

At completion, the center will employ over 1,800 people at both the Mentone site and an archaeological site in Lawrence County. Almost 500 of those jobs will be targeted for teenagers and college students, who will serve as assistants in youth programs.

"It's going to take many people to help run a center this large, de Ortega said. "At first, the jobs will be few, but as the center grows, the need for people will grow, too."

Several universities throughout the Southeast have been working on the project, including Northeast State, the University of Alabama, and Auburn University. Corporations, such as AT&T and United Gunit, have pledged their support, along with several state agencies, NASA, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Florida museum of Natural History, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, and the Tennessee Aquarium.



Times-Journal graphic by Scott Turner
Map detailing the area of DeKalb and Dade counties where the Southeast Language and Cultural Center plans to locate.



Gourmet Candy ♦ Gifts ♦ Gift Baskets
Balloons For All Occasions

The Candy Store

Featuring Mrs. Burden's Gourmet Candy
Remember Mother on Mother's Day.

The Cliffs

Fine Foods
Relaxing Atmosphere

• Steaks • Seafood • Chicken • Pasta •

• Private Dining Rooms

• Celebrate Special Occasions
with Us

• Holiday Party Accommodations

15661 County Road 89
Mentone, AL
205/634-3040

Reservations Requested



The River Watch

By
BILL SCHWARZ

Ever on the lookout for interesting and amusing items to bring to the attention of *The Groundhog* readers, I ran across this article while recently visiting Sue's family in Maryland. They live in Oakland, Maryland, up in the Maryland "Alps." They are at about twice the altitude as Mentone and much farther north. Weather there is considerably different from that here in North Alabama. While we were enjoying the benefits of a delightful early spring, they were, to all appearances, still in the throes of winter. The only thing spring-like was the length of the days, but that does portend the awakening of plants and warming of the air.

As all of my acquaintances know, I do not like winter and least of all snow. As a child, snow really appealed to me. I grew up in Williamsburg, Va., a small coastal town, which had its winter temperatures somewhat moderated by the ocean and the Chesapeake Bay. Snow occurred, but rarely in any great quantity. It did, and still does, bring opportunities of winter/snow activities, which children dearly love and which some adults thoroughly enjoy. Somewhere along about 30 years of age, I discovered I really didn't enjoy having to drive 10 miles to work in snow, or enjoy being cold.

On our way to Oakland, we travel I-81 through Tennessee and Virginia. It was a lovely, early spring day, bright sunshine and the trees were just beginning to leaf-out. The multiple shades of bright fresh green are just beautiful, and the red of seed pods just forming really does create an awesome picture. Add to that the vivid fuchsia of redbud and the white of dogwood, and it all adds up to a vision equally as pretty as the full color displays of nature. We leave I-81 at Harrisonburg, Va., and head west and north through West Virginia. Spring was not quite as far along there, and on the mountain tops (>4000 feet) winter still held sway--patches of snow here and there. Just before Oakland, we drive over Mount Storm! Never has any locale been more aptly named--it was snowing, not blizzard, but enough to let us know we were on Mt. Storm.

I thought it was spring, foolish me. I challenged mother nature and "Mom" bit me! Just to make sure I got the message about spring and winter, "mom" produced one more snow and a temperature of 16° F before we left for home.

Oops, I got side tracked on our trip and almost forgot the principal reason for my article. This news item appeared in the Cumberland (MD) *Times-News* on April 9, 1997. The "Elkins" at the head of the item is a small town in West Virginia near Oakland, MD. The article reports a strange event and was certainly as news-worthy there as it would be in Mentone. It's funny only because nothing really bad happened. As Sue's mother once told me, "It doesn't take all kinds to make up this world... we just have 'em."

LAWN MOWER DRIVER FACING CHARGES

Elkins (AP) --A Randolph County man faces drunken driving charges after crashing his riding lawn mower into a parked car along a highway, police said Tuesday.

"He was just out having a good time," said Sheriff's Deputy Rob Elton Jr. Ronald Biggs was charged as a motorist since he was driving his 14-horsepower Cub Cadet on U.S. 219, Elton said. The lawn mower hit a car that was parked at the Valley Head Restaurant on Friday. The Mitsubishi Eclipse's alarm sounded and the dismayed owner watched as Biggs, 40-ounce Budweiser in hand, backed up, and rode away on the lawn mower that has a top speed of 8 to 10 mph, the deputy said.

"He said the car shouldn't have been there, that it was in the way," the deputy said. Biggs, 38, of Valley Head, was cited for six offenses: hit-and-run, drunken driving, driving without a license, improper exhibition, failure to provide proof of insur-



The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

Isn't this a beautiful April we are having? Bill and I just returned to Mentone from Maryland and a nice visit with my family. The only snag being SNOW. When we arrived, it was snowing, and our weather varied from that to some really lovely days.

My mother gave me a cookbook I had given her many years ago: *Huntsville Heritage Cookbook*, which I have always enjoyed. Mom taught me another trick with this gift. (She's always teaching me things, and she doesn't realize she is teaching.) In the book, I found a list of recipes that she had compiled as she looked through the book. "How smart," I thought, because if you are like me, you receive a new cookbook, look through it, and decide there are lots of good recipes (and just know you will try them all) only to put the book on the shelf, and the great ideas slip to the back of your mind. So, with a new tool, I will start a new practice. Thanks, Mom.

And because *Mothers Day* is close, I want to remember my mother and all those wonderful women who have taught me so much and loved me through all these years.

Here are two recipes from Mom's list.

Frozen Lemon Pudding

3/4-1 C vanilla wafer crumbs

3 eggs, separated

1/2 C sugar

Juice and grated rind of 1 lemon

1/2 pint of heavy cream

Line buttered 8-inch pan with most of crumbs. Beat egg whites, adding sugar. Beat yolks, adding rind and juice; fold in whites. Fold in cream; pour into pan. Top with remaining crumbs; freeze, cut into squares while frozen. Serves 6-8. (Mother noted that she used cool-whip instead of cream.)

Frozen Waldorf Salad

2 eggs, slightly beaten

1/2 C sugar

1/8 t salt

1/4 C lemon juice

1/2 C pineapple juice, drained from the can

1/2 C diced celery

1/2 C drained, crushed pineapple

2 medium apples, chopped

1/2 C broken walnuts

1 C heavy cream whipped (Mom's note: 2 C Cool Whip)

Combine eggs, sugar, salt, and fruit juice; cook slowly, stirring until thickened. Cool and add other ingredients, folding in whipped cream. Spoon into 8-inch square pan and freeze. Take out of freezer 15 minutes before serving. Serves 6-8.



CITIZENS BANK OF VALLEY HEAD

Large Enough to Serve You—

NORTHEAST ALABAMA ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

DeKalb County Board of Education Office
NEWS RELEASE

The Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program will hold its Seventeenth Annual GED Graduation for GED recipients on Friday, May 2, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the Rainsville Civic Center. The graduation will honor all GED recipients from DeKalb, Jackson, and Marshall Counties. Robert Reeves, host of WHNT TV's "Mornin' Folks," which is broadcast on Huntsville's channel 19, will be on hand to assist in the presentation of certificates.

Scholarships to Snead State Community College and Northeast State Community College will be presented to a number of GED recipients.

Through adult education, many individuals have had the opportunity to get their GED, which has enabled them to secure or upgrade their employment or attend college or technical school. Many others have enriched their lives by learning to read and write. Adult education has lessened the burden for our welfare system because it has helped many public assistance recipients to become self-sufficient. The GED graduation is one way to express congratulations to those students who have worked so hard.

Any adult (including those who did not attend adult basic education classes) who has successfully completed the GED Test and has not previously participated in a graduation is invited to be a part of this ceremony. All family and friends are also welcome to attend the graduation exercises.

Those interested in participating in the GED graduation or anyone needing more information should contact the adult education program at 845-8577 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"SONSHINE"



This is a poem about someone I know
She wears a funny suit with a big red bow.

Her hair is orange, green, yellow, and blue,
She can make you laugh with all the things she can do.

She can take a balloon, and blow it up with some air,
Turn it into a doggie, a bird, or a bear.

Her nose is round, it's big and it's red,
Her hair is all curly on top of her head.

She wears a big smile all over her face,
And makes people happy all over the place.

She carries a bag filled with lots of surprises,
And loves all people, all ages and all sizes.

I want you to meet her when you have the time,
She's a wonderful person,
She's a clown named "SONSHINE"!

Lisa Moore



RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

The Rhododendron Garden Club met on April 8 at the Mentone Town Hall. The hostesses, Hope Walker, Sue Schwarz and Dianne Kuehl decorated the table with white and yellow tablecloths, with a beautiful potted plant (hostess gift), and served delicious refreshments.

Lynette McCary gave the devotional on the seeds. She said there were 281 references in the Bible. One of her illustrations was the parable of the sower.

There were three guests, Sally Campbell, Peggy Roark, and Dallyne Jones (the first president of the Rhododendron Garden Club 1966-68). It was an honor to have Dallyne at the meeting.

The minutes were read and approved, and in the absence of Flo Kirby, the treasurer, the president gave the report.

Marilyn Campbell reported that she had sent cards to several members who were ill.

The president read a report from Patti Bryan (who was absent) on the eco-center and butterfly garden at the Moon Lake Elementary School.

Ann Wright reported that dogwoods had been planted at Moon Lake School, along with some nandinas. She recommended that members could donate compost or top soil for Earth Day, if they didn't have plants.

Under old business, the president reminded the members about the District II Spring Meeting to be held at the Palisades Park in Oncontia, on April 17 at 2 p.m. This is the installation of new officers for District II.

Under new business, the members voted to send a memorial to Hortensia in memory of Mildred Wylie and Ferne Fitzgerald, two of the garden club members who had died.

Members were asked to pay their dues and Federation luncheon fee, and to sign up for the May installation luncheon.

Ann Wright announced that the Kaolin Garden Club of Valley Head was officially organized on March 17.

Mabel Kirk won the drawing for the hostess gift.

There being no further business, a video on butterflies at Callaway Gardens was shown. Many facts were learned about butterflies. Their eyes are compound, having thousands of separate lenses to see in all directions. They have a proboscis like a drinking straw. It unrolls for sipping within a flower. Butterflies taste, smell, feel and navigate through their feelers. They bask in the sun and soak up heat until they are warm enough to fly.

The president thanked the hostesses for the refreshments.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.; Deep South Region; The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.; Garden Clubs of District II; and DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs.

The next meeting will be at Caldwell's Restaurant in the Mentone Springs Hotel on May 13, at 12 noon. Dues are to be paid at the April meeting, and it will be necessary to sign up for the May luncheon at Mentone Springs Hotel/Caldwell's Restaurant.

KAOLIN GARDEN CLUB

Valley Head now has a garden club. It was organized March 17 at the City Hall. Its name is Kaolin Garden Club. Officers are: President - Becky Barrier, Vice president - Joy Hurt, Secretary - Marty Smith, Treasurer - Susan McKenzie, Parliamentarian - Billie Harper. Their flower is the violet and colors are blue and white. They have a good start with about sixteen members. The next meeting will be May 5 at 5 p.m. at the Valley Head City Hall.

TROOP 106 HONORS ANOTHER EAGLE SCOUT--ADAM BLALOCK



Mark Adam Blalock, right, of Mentone, received his Eagle Rank in Boy Scouts of America on March 24 during Court of Honor ceremonies at Moon Lake Baptist church, the charter organization for Boy Scout Troop 106. With Blalock is Scoutmaster David Gilbreath, also of Mentone.

Rank Advancements

Boy Scout: 4/93

Second Class Scout: 11/93

Star Scout: 9/94

Tenderfoot Scout: 8/93

First Class Scout: 4/94

Life Scout: 5/95

On Monday, March 10, Adam Blalock went before the Eagle Board of Review as an Eagle candidate. He was asked many questions about his leadership abilities, his scouting plans, his lifetime goals, and what he had learned as he had advanced along the Eagle trail. In order to be eligible to receive the Eagle rank, Adam had to earn 21 merit badges, including 11 required ones. He earned the following badges:

Required Merit Badges

Camping
Citizenship in the Community
Citizenship in the Nation
Citizenship in the World
Communications
Emergency Preparedness
Environmental Science
Family Life
First Aid
Lifesaving
Personal Management
Safety
Swimming

Elective Merit Badges:

Archery
Aviation
Fingerprinting
Firemanship
Hiking
Motorboating
Pioneering
Pulp and Paper
Rifle Shooting
Rowing
Space Exploration

Adam has exhibited leadership skills, not only in scouting, but in every aspect of his life, leading by example and setting a good example in his every day living. He has been a member and senior patrol leader of his troop and has demonstrated the scout spirit as represented by living the scout oath and law. At Fort Payne High School, Adam has received achievement

awards in U.S. History and 11th grade English, has been vice president and then president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, was the founder of Living Proof Bible Study, is a member of the National Honor Society, was voted outstanding senior, was selected Senior Class Who's Who Most Active, has held the leading male role in the senior play, is vice president of Mu Alpha Theta, and was a team member at Ponderosa Bible Camp.

Adam's Eagle Project involved planning, organizing, and working toward the creation of a butterfly garden eco-center on the campus of Moon Lake Elementary School. The project provided for the students a place to interact with nature and conduct science experiments and for the community a place to work alongside citizens of all ages while developing a scenic attraction.

The Board of Review announced that Adam had achieved the highest rank in scouting. The Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held on Monday, March 24, 1997, at the Moon Lake Baptist Church. Adam received his Eagle Scout Award. His mother and father, Raymond and Becky Blalock; grandparents Lowell and Evelyn McKenzie; Ovie and Barbara Blalock; great grandmother, Catherine Bailey; Ann Wright, Lowell McKenzie, Jr., and other members of his family, as well as many of his friends, were present at the ceremony to honor Adam. It requires a lot of time and effort to achieve this award, and for those who do so, it is, indeed, a great honor. Less than two percent of all boys in scouting achieve the Eagle Scout Award.

His parents, Raymond and Becky Blalock, held a reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the presentation.

Adam wrote the following, which was on the Eagle Scout Court of Honor Program. "My ambitions in life are that of any teenager of my age; that is, to graduate high school and move on to college. In college I plan to major in physical education, although my plans for employment are that of a youth minister. I believe I can take the leadership abilities that I have learned in Boy Scouts and apply them in leading others to a knowledge of Jesus Christ. I believe coming to know Jesus Christ is the most important decision one could ever make, and that is why I feel very strongly about the conviction for youth that God has laid upon my heart. I feel that God can use me in mighty ways if only I will let Him.

My soul purpose in life is simply to seek the will of God for my life. I know the only way to Heaven is through Jesus Christ. I believe that you must first know Christ in order to make Him known to others. Without Jesus Christ there is no purpose to life. There would be no reason to live if Jesus had not died for our sins. For this reason I have the will and courage to face another day, because I know there is nothing that God and I cannot handle together. I am so thankful that I have had the opportunity to be in a scout troop that exemplifies the Scout Oath and Scout Law and for leaders who give us an example after which to model our lives."



Best Western of Fort Payne

1828 Gault Ave., North
Fort Payne, AL 35967

BRIDGESTONE

BF Goodrich

Westmoreland Tire Co.

301 South Gault Ave.
Fort Payne, AL 35967

"Pioneer Days"

By Barbara Reece

Menlo School will sponsor Pioneer Days on Friday, May 2nd, and Saturday, May 3rd. The events are planned to raise funds to furnish and landscape Cove Classroom and restore a large picture of the Satterfield/Majors farm, which is displayed in the school's entrance hall.

The construction and landscaping of Cove Classroom, a log structure, has been a project of eighth grade classes for several years. The area is used by students in Social Studies and Science classes.

On Friday night, May 2nd, at 8 p.m., eighth grade students will present an outdoor play, "How Green Is My Valley," with actors portraying members of the Satterfield and Majors families. There is no formal admission charge, but donations are accepted for the outdoor classroom. Bluegrass/Country music entertainment will begin at 7:30 p.m. The preliminaries begin at 6:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the show.

The Satterfields secured possession of a land lot containing 160 acres in the Cherokee Land Lottery of 1834. The Satterfield's daughter was the first white child born in Chattooga County. She eventually married a Majors, and they lived on the farm.

The first road authorized by county officials was built from Summerville to the Satterfield farm upon Mr. Satterfield's request. Later, the Cloudland Road wound across the valley and up the steep mountain-side. Eventually, Hwy. 48 was built, splitting the Satterfield/Majors property. The majority of the original land lot, that part lying on the north side of Hwy. 48 is still in the possession of Satterfield/Majors descendants.

The family cemetery is located on a hill overlooking Shinhone Valley. It contains graves of the pioneer families, relatives, friends, and several Cherokee Indians, as well as graves of recent descendants. This historic farm has remained in the same family for 163 years. Members of the family have been active in community affairs throughout the years.

Saturday, May 3rd, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., a variety of activities will be held at the school. Carolyn and Bobby Lee will set up an authentic Pioneer Campsite and demonstrate chores of the 1800s. Many crafts and chores of this time period will be demonstrated or on exhibit. Many craftsmen will have items to sell.

Entertainment will be provided throughout the day. Games and activities are planned for children, including a petting zoo and horse rides. Food booths will sell hot dogs, hamburgers, pinto beans, and drinks, including homemade lemonade. Bring a lawn chair and spend the day! Don't forget to dress in Pioneer costume.

There is no admission charge for this event. Craftsmen if this era are welcome. No fee is charged for craft displays, but contributions to the school's project fund are appreciated. Interested persons may call the school at 706-862-2323 for information or to reserve space. In case of rain, the play, and Saturday's Pioneer Day will be held in the gym and the main school building.



The Menlo News

BY OVIE "BO" BLALOCK

•The City of Menlo, at its April meeting, voted to install an additional line for a fax machine. Beth Swords was appointed to the Menlo Housing Authority.

•At the recent school board meeting, new teachers for the 1997-1998 school year were approved for Menlo Elementary. They are: Joan Jarrett, Sybil Langston, Patricia Simmons, Pattie Luther, Suzanne Knox, Teresa Patterson, Carole Hosmer, Wanda Hill, Jared Hosmer, Virginia Ballinger, Linda Espy, Mary Parker, Mike Treadaway, Martha Tudor, Sue Houston, Martha Sims, Maxine West, Nettie Pepe-Parham, Barbara Reece, Susan Noel, Ann Hutchins, Carolyn Woffard, Beth Cleveland, Kathy Kerce, Mark Pickle, and Gail Wilbanks.

•Deepest sympathy goes to the families of Mrs. Ruth Day, 97, Menlo, who died April 8; and Lillie Mae Atkins, 95, Menlo, who died March 27.

•Remember the Pioneer Day at Menlo School on Saturday, May 3rd. (See the notice on this page.) The Menlo PTO helped educators raise the money for the Cove Classroom. This outdoor classroom was built with the help of many students under the direction of Mr. Richard Owen Tatum, a retired teacher, principal and assistant administrator to a superintendent of schools. A Cloudland resident, Mr. Tatum is a skilled carpenter and cabinet maker. He spent time with the first group of students who were involved in the construction of the cabin, teaching them hands-on building techniques and the skills needed. Support your school and all those who have worked hard to make Cove Classroom a reality. See it for yourself. Make a generous donation to help support this project.

•The Cloudland Rescue Squad has completed its building. The Woodmen of the World are donating a flag to be placed at their new site.

•You've probably noticed that a new business is going up near the Cloudland Rescue Squad building. It's owned by Taylor Adams, and will be a mini-storage place and plumbing supply.

There'll be more about these two buildings in the next issue of *The Groundhog*.

Menlo Super Students

Menlo Elementary School has named its super students for the third nine weeks grading period.

Those named were:

FIRST GRADE - Ashley Boyd, Cody Boyd, Coty Cavin, Crystal Cordell, Chris Hatt, Kim McGuire, Megan Mitchell, Whitney Powell, Jordan Smith, Chelsea Stoker, Jacki Williams, and Antonio Wooten.

SECOND GRADE - Megan Adams, Jessica Blackmon, Savannah Blackmon, Colton Bowman, Daniel Brown, Michael Brown, Cassy Chance, Stephanie Cordell, Autumn Dodd, Chuck Gayton, David Gayton, Cody Goza, Bailee Hawkins, Kursten Hedgis, Jeffery Hill, John Hudson, Skyler Hughes, Haven Hurley, Levi Jackson, Matthew Lewing, Lyndsey Little, Will Murray, Emma Pickle, Allie Prince, Rhiannon Raines, Davin Rayls, Casey Sammons, Emily Sink, Nicholas Smith, Amber Spencer, Samantha Swartwood, Ashley Thompson, Crysten White, Kalen Willingham, Allison Willis, Brett Wilson, and Lee Wilson.

THIRD GRADE - Allen Ballinger, Adam Blackwell, David Brown, Kahle Calkins, Amanda Coleman, Slater Cordle, Spencer Davis, Amanda Hegwood, Lori Hunter, Jessica Jones, Trevor Pledger, Whitney Price, and Chelsey Ward.

May 1997 / The Groundhog/Page 19

Menlo Rolls

Menlo Elementary School has named its A honor roll, A-B honor roll, Star students and most improved students for the third nine weeks grading period.

Those earning the honors were:

A HONOR ROLL

FOURTH GRADE - Bryanne Hatt, Sarah Hedgis, Matthew Middleton, Ben Swords, and Justin Swords.

FIFTH GRADE - Courtney Duke, John Hall, and Keri Beth Pettitt.

SIXTH GRADE - John Brown, Caris Farrar, Anna Hall, Casey Luther, and Kenya Webb.

SEVENTH GRADE - Sunny Smith.

EIGHTH GRADE - James Durham and Sarah Kerce.

A-B HONOR ROLL

FOURTH GRADE - Miles Bagley, Hope Burge, Justin Canada, Dakota Dodd, Adam Ellis, Branch Harper, Sara Jane Hunter, Miranda Hurley, Tabatha Justice, Tiffany Nidetch, Carrie Patty, Maggie Rich, Shannon Sammons, and Nikita Williams.

FIFTH GRADE - Chris Blackmon, Eric Brown, Freddy Bryson, Derek Bullard, Jana Cooper, Erica Dover, Chase Hegwood, Katie Kerce, Doni Lee, Kim Middleton, Anna Prince, Ashley Wilcox, Susan Wofford, and Jacob Woodward.

SIXTH GRADE - Samantha Maloney, Kandy McGill, and T. J. Pierce.

SEVENTH GRADE - Tessa Brock, Jennifer Carroll, Erin deMesquita, Kasey Green, Ryan Hudgins, Steele Lee, Nigel Plant, Amy Prince, and Ashley Swicegood.

EIGHTH GRADE - Ernest Brown, Robert Brown, Ansley Coleman, Justin Cook, April Elrod, Jonathan Hegwood, Cindy Holbrook, Ashley Montgomery, and Mandy Yarbrough.

STAR STUDENTS

FIRST GRADE - Jordan Smith and Jacki Williams.

SECOND GRADE - Sabrina Middleton and Kalen Willingham.

THIRD GRADE - Adam Blackwell and Kahle Calkins.

FOURTH GRADE - Sarah Hedgis and Ben Swords.

FIFTH GRADE - Erica Dover and Keri Beth Pettitt.

SIX GRADE - Kenya Webb and Caris Farrar.

SEVENTH GRADE - Kasey Green.

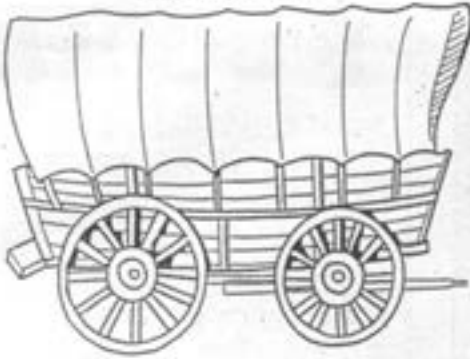
"Pioneer Day"

At Menlo School

Saturday, May 3, 1997
10 AM - 4 PM

~Entertainment~ ~Educational Exhibits~

Games Crafts Food
 Horse Rides



Craftsmen of this era are welcome!

Please call the school for directions and reservations at 706-862-2323, or call Barbara Reece 706-862-2057. (No fee is charged for craft displays, but contributions to the school's project fund are appreciated.)



We Buy Standing Timber
Menlo Lumber & Pallet Company, Inc.
Highway 48

50th Wedding Anniversary



Junior and Betty Bell

The children of Junior and Betty Bell invite family and friends to help celebrate their parents' 50th Wedding Anniversary

on Saturday, May 3, 1997, from 3-6 p.m., at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head, Alabama.

All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Come by and greet Junior and Betty and join in the fellowship.

The children's message to their parents is: "We appreciate you for always being there for us. You've set good examples and we feel blessed to have you for parents. We love you!"



Top photo: **Dowe Foreman, Tony Galloway, Jane Galloway, Garry Galloway, Regina Austin, Mark Galloway, and Juanita McDonough**

Bottom photo: **Jane's grandchildren: Misty Galloway, Kaleigh Galloway, Trey Galloway, Benjamin Austin, Emily Austin, Katie McDonough; and Julie Ann, a friend of Katie's**

HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY TO JANE GALLOWAY

Jane Galloway celebrated her 60th Birthday, March 23, 1997, at her home in Mentone, Ala. The party was hosted by her children, John and Juanita (Galloway) McDonough, of Oak Ridge, Tenn.; Kenna Galloway of Birmingham, Ala.; Mark Galloway, Baltimore, MD; Doug and Gina (Galloway) Austin, of Grant, Ala.; and John and Dowe Foreman, Mentone.

Plenty of food, fun and friends--Some of the guests were: Brian McNutt, Kim Hulan, Naomi Potts, Ann Climer, Clara Cash, JoAnne Cash, Alma Crabtree, Ruby Stalvey, Scott and Linda

Brubaker, Jack Martin, Todd and Lee Ann Parkison, Mandy Lewis, Cindy Harrison, Walt Pullen, Grace Pullen, Evelyn Marie Bell, Alfred and Polly Chambers, Kay Wagner, Rev. Ken and Sandy Shelton, Misty Galloway, Rovene Truett, Hugh and Clyde Tallent, Fawn Kitchens, Nellie Croley and Jessie Crow, Gail Crider, Josh Pullen, Emily, Christopher and Benji Austin, Katie McDonough, Kaleigh and Trey Galloway. Those who were unable to attend but called were: Kyle McNutt, Orene Ledbetter, Sarah Deavers, Nell Kent, Evelyn Graves, Sherri Avery.

Jane would like to thank all those who made her birthday a really special day!

COUNTRY STATION HARDWARE & TRACTOR CO.

LOCATED ACROSS THE RAILROAD TRACK FROM POST OFFICE
VALLEY HEAD, ALABAMA • 635-6151

We Now Carry Lumber And Building Supplies
Along With All Your Other Hardware Needs!

WE ALSO HAVE GILMAN PAINT (CAN MIX 1800 COLORS),
SEPTIC TANKS, GRAVELESS PIPE, USED TRACTORS
& EQUIPMENT, TRACTOR SEATS, MUFFLERS, AND A
COMPLETE LINE OF NEW & USED ATTACHMENTS.
CUSTOM MADE HYDRAULIC HOSES FOR TRACTORS,
BACKHOES, DOZERS, & OTHER HEAVY EQUIPMENT.
TRACTOR REPAIR. WE WILL BUILD PORTABLE
STORAGE BUILDINGS. WE HAVE A HANDYMAN
SERVICE FOR LIGHT PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL, & REPAIR.

HOURS OF OPERATION: MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:30-5:00,
SAT. 7:30-12:00, SUNDAY CLOSED

FOODLAND

202 GREENHILL BLVD.
FT. PAYNE, AL. 35967

WE'RE OPEN
7 A.M. - MIDNIGHT
7 DAYS A WEEK

WE ACCEPT

- WIC VOUCHERS • FOOD STAMPS
- QUANTITY RIGHTS RESERVED
- NONE SOLD TO DEALERS



845-1970

WE FEATURE ALL THIS AND MORE!
• MEAT DEPARTMENTS
• INDOOR AND OUTDOOR
• FREE DELIVERY

Cloudland TRADE CENTER

ONE Stop Shopping

Hours: Mon.-Thur. 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 7 a.m.-Midnight • Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

(706) 862-2711

- Sub Sandwiches
- Pizza
- Exxon Gas

- Plumbing & Electrical Supplies
- Well Pumps
- Water Filter Systems



Ed Ringer Reception honors Ed Ringer's 50 Years in the American Legion

At their regular meeting on Tuesday night, April 8, the gentlemen and ladies of American Legion Post/Unit 215 at Mentone, had an informal reception to mark Ed Ringer's first 50 consecutive years in the American Legion. All of those years have not been in Post 215, because that post is not that old, but Mr. Ringer has been presented a certificate marking his first 50 years in the American Legion.

Mr. Ringer is a retired teacher and school administrator and serves as the Adjutant for Post 215.

In honor of Mr. Ringer, the legion home was decorated with colorful balloons that matched the pattern and colors in the plates and napkins. The serving table was covered in white and featured two kinds of homemade cake: German Chocolate and Poppy Seed with a special strawberry frosting, both of which had been made by Penny Lyday, who never bakes anything unless it is from scratch. Pimento cheese sandwiches and chicken salad sandwiches along with chips and dip and coffee and tea rounded out the delicious refreshments for the occasion that everybody seemed to enjoy thoroughly.



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN Preferred Realty, Inc.

ANGELA J. WOOD
Broker, Owner

L M P R

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

Office: 205-634-4672 • Home: 205-634-4169 • Mobil: 205-997-8138



(1) **LAUREL CREEK LAKES.** Wooded lots with common areas for fishing, swimming and hiking, starting at \$5000. Lakeside and pasture lots starting at \$9500. Combination lots for more acreage. Mentone area, County Road 106. Restrictive covenants. Owner financing available.



(2) **HORSE RANCH, CATTLE FARM, HUNTING RETREAT.** 500 acres ML on Lookout Mountain, Mentone. Approx. 250 acres open land, several ponds, rolling hills. Can be purchased whole, \$1100 per acre, or 20 acres, up, \$1300 to \$1500 acre divided. Owner financing available.



(3) **COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS FINEST** is what you will find in this completely furnished 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath home with CHIA, guest room/office, 24x30 workshop with 1/2 bath which would make a nice apartment. 1 car garage with carport. 1200 sq. ft. of screened and open porches. Landscaped drive. All on 5.8 acres completely fenced. \$105,000.



(4) **ROCKY TOP ESTATES.** Brow and wooded lots for sale. New addition now open with new road and underground power. Property joins DeSoto State Park at back entrance, Co. Rd. 66. Prices start (wooded) \$14,500. Brow \$25,000 to \$35,000. Selling fast.



(5) **DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE AND FUN WITH TWO HOMES IN ONE!** Just a stones throw from Lake Latusage with access to water. This 2 story home has new carpet and vinyl. Ideal for the Large Family Vacation Home. 2 fully equipped kitchens, 2 dens, 2 bedrooms, 21x31 Alabama room, and 2 car garage. 1 acre with concrete drive. 3,200 sq. ft. of living space. \$405,000. REDUCED \$390,000.



(6) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES.** 3 to 5 acre tracts available in Phase 1 open now! Located on the Middle Fork of Little River. Lots 3, 4, 6, 9, 10 and 11a (River) Starting at \$27,500. Wooded lots 12, 15, 16 available 10 acre tracts starting at \$22,500.



(7) **SOOTHING SOUND OF RAINDROPS ON A TIN ROOF,** brings back the warm cozy feeling in this 2 Bdrm 2 Bath cottage. 1 car garage and 3.8 wooded acres, and only two years old. Located Mentone area. \$65,500.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(8) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST,** 5 TO 7 acre tracts on East Brow. Overlooks Georgia mountains and Weiss Lake, surrounded by National Preserve. \$10,000 to \$17,000.

(9) **GETAWAY COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON.** 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, fireplace, screened porch and glassed Alabama room overlooking the Canyon. Contains 7.8 acres and a stream through the middle. Very secluded. \$68,800.

(10) **49 ACRES EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER** - 1/4 mile of River frontage, with deep swimming holes, canoe runs and great fishing. Beautifully wooded land with many home sites overlooking the water. \$135,000.

(11) **6 ACRES LOCATED ON COUNTY ROAD 106, MENTONE.** Partial drive, electric, partially cleared, the rest wooded, with a great place for Lake. \$15,000.

(12) **MENTONE-WOODED LOTS** - Off of DeSoto Parkway, 2 miles from State Park. City water available. \$8,500.

**TOO MANY PROPERTIES
TO LIST THEM ALL.
If L.M.P.R. doesn't have it,
L.M.P.R. will find what
you're looking for.**

Lookout Mountain Preferred Realty, Inc., is looking for Listings on Lookout Mountain and in Mentone. If interested in renting, leasing, or selling, please call Angela Wood.

"Lookout Mountain Preferred Realty, Inc." is the same company as Lookout Mountain Properties, but it has become incorporated and the name has changed.

with us ON MOTHER'S DAY



A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

Spring brings new life, new hope, new ambitions and usually new vim and vitality. If only the excess pollen would be washed away and winter would give up the battle to prevail.

Several ladies are on a learning spree: **Ruth Pickett**, **Elizabeth Bauerle** and **Lillie Bowden** are taking a computer course at Ider School; and **Billie Harper** is learning more about cake decorating at North East. Billie is already an expert, but says she is learning new things. We're never too old to learn, thank the Lord!

Ruth Pickett's sister, **Betty Bracken**, and her brother, **Lewis Card**, from Chattanooga, spent the day with **Ruth and Bert**, Wednesday, April 16.

Lillie Bowden visited her brother-in-law, **Rufus Bowden**, recently, in Warner Robins, Ga., where he was in the hospital, seriously ill.

Dot and Bill Blackburn have returned home after a several day's visit with their daughter, **Linda Blackburn**, in Orange Park, Fla.

Martha and Hoot Gibson spent several days with their son, **Mark Gibson**, and his wife, **Jane**, and children, **Mathew and Jordan**, in Dallas, TX. They visited the museum in Dallas, where President Kennedy was killed and found the museum to be very interesting.

Virginia Livezey has returned from Birmingham where she visited **Pam and Rick Vice** and children and **Lisa Lyons** and children. She said they all keep a close check on her—which is good. She and **Doris and Jim Carmichael** are looking forward to attending the Helms Reunion at Sand Rock, Ala., on Sunday, April 20. Relatives come from far and near.

Jason Meadows, **Cheri Burt**, and **Nathan Keith** enjoyed their spring break in Gulf Shores.

Beverly and Shane Wright spent a week with Shane's family in Lawrenceburg, TN.

Frances Longshore is back home at Dogwood Haven in Fort Payne.

Sadie, Jimmy and Van Cooper went to the Children's Hospital in Birmingham to visit **Will Cooper**. He is the eleven-year-old son of **Judith and David Cooper** and grandson of **Harlon and Barbara Cooper**. Will has Leukemia. We hope and pray he will have a quick and complete recovery.

Martha Joan and Gerald Killian of Aiken, SC., visited her mother, **Oline Roberts**, for the Easter Holidays.

Edith and Alvin Cox enjoyed a cruise on the Southern Belle, recently, with a group of friends. They also attended a birthday party for **Shirley Winslett** at the home of **Robert and Elise Riddle** in Opelika.

The **Sunshine Club** met for their March meeting at the home of **Glenda Savage**. She always has beautiful things she made to show. Those present were **Ruth Pickett**, **Gladys Cobble**, **Susie Clark**, **Elizabeth Bauerle**, **Sue Cooper**, **Lillie Bowden**, and **Verenice Hawkins**.

Valley Head now has a garden club. It was organized March 17 at the City Hall. Its name is **Kaolin Garden Club**. Officers are: President - **Becky Barrier**; Vice president - **Joy Hurt**; Secretary - **Marty Smith**; Treasurer - **Susan McKenzie**; Parliamentarian - **Billie Harper**. Their flower is the violet and colors are blue and white. They have a good start with about sixteen members. The next meeting will be May 5 at 5 p.m. at the Valley Head City Hall.

On April 14, a group consisting of **David and Barbara Rape**, **Ann and Billy Wright**, **Marty Smith**, **Billie Harper**, **Lillie Bowden**, **Joy Hurt**, **Millie Johnson**, and **Becky**

Congratulations to **Ted Chaney**, **Glenda Haney**, and **Andrew Phillips** of Valley Head; and **Charity Bell**, **Lisa Hope**, and **Steve Setzer** of Mentone, for achieving a perfect 4.0 (all A's) for the Winter Quarter at Northeast Community College. Congratulations, also, to **Michele Harper**, who was on the honor list at Northeast.

Robert Brown II and **Jared Hulan** are to be congratulated on their planes that won the race for aerospace week program that was held in the football field in Valley Head recently.

Chip Mathews is at Duke University Hospital in complete isolation for cancer treatment. We hope for him a complete recovery. He is the son of **Jean and Welborn Mathews**, and the brother of **Leslie Bunch**.

I had pneumonia and then my electrolytes got out of order. I spent five days in BMC-DeKalb. I am recovering slowly. I appreciate so very much the visits, calls, cards, food and all the kind and thoughtful deeds. I especially appreciate the prayers for me and my daughter, **Eldonna Root**. She is fighting a brave battle with cancer.

GOD, OUR HOPE

God, our hope, our strength, our power,
Rests in Thee each living hour—
all the blessings that we share,
Make us thankful for Thy care,
God to Thee, our voices raise
In a hymn of pray'r and praise.

God, our Father, hear our plea—
Keep our hearts in harmony;
Let Thy love fill ev'ry heart,
Keep us near 'tho far apart,
Be a link of love divine—
Joining me to Thee and mine.

Bless our homes, our church, our land,
Keep them safe within Thy hand;
Help us ev'ry day to do
As we would be done unto,
Joined in joy of peace and love,
'Til we live with Thee above.

When this life on earth shall cease,
And renewed in joy and peace
Revelations so complete,
Celebrations, meetings sweet,
God, our hope, our faith, our trust,
Lives in Thee for trust we must.

Lyrics by Eloise Brown
Sung to tune of "Rock of Ages."

RECOMPENSE

When we grow too weak,
To chase all the dirt
The eyes, too, grow weak,
Erase all the hurt,
For the fading light will never reveal
To reluctant sight—
Dust it can conceal.

---Eloise Brown



MOTHER'S DAY

Submitted By Gail Chambers

*who received this back when her children were in school
and wanted to pass it on.*

When the Good Lord was creating Mothers, He was into His sixth day of "overtime," when the angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one."

And the Lord said, "Have you read the spec on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic. Have 180 moveable parts, all replaceable. Run on black coffee and leftovers. Have a lap that disappears when she stands up. A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair. And six pairs of hands."

The Angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands...no way."

"It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord. "It's the three pairs of eyes that Mothers have to have."

"That's on the standard model?" asked the angel.

The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?'" when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know; and, of course, the ones here in front so that she can look at a child when he goofs and say, 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word."

"Lord," said the angel, touching His sleeve gently, "come to bed. Tomorrow..."

"I can't," said the Lord. "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already, I have one who heals herself when she is sick...can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger...and can get a 9-year-old to stand under a shower."

The angel circled the model of a Mother very closely. "It's too soft," she sighed.

"But tough!" said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this Mother can do or endure."

"Can it think?"

"Not only think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her fingers across the cheek. "There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told you we're putting too much into this model."

"It's not a leak" said the Lord. "It's a tear."

"What's it for?"

"It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

"You are a genius" said the angel.

The Lord looked somber. "I didn't put it there."

To Mothers Everywhere

GOD BLESS ALL MOTHERS

God bless all mothers in the world today;
Turn their thoughts to Thee, so they'll humbly pray
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—

Southern Properties

845-6000

Agency, Inc.

302 Gault Ave. S., Fort Payne



(1)

Rock pathways and natural landscaping lead the way to this lofty contemporary on over 1 acre of Brow property in Mentone. Rustic Board and Batten home offers 3 or 4 bedrooms and 2 baths on 2 levels with partially finished Basement.



(3) LESS THAN 2 YEARS OLD, this rustic 2 bedroom cottage with country kitchen is situated on 1 acre. Above standard insulation with 40 year galvalum roof. \$68,500.



(4) THE SHED - Highway 117 - Mentone - Never worry about being unemployed again. This on-going business offers a retail building—3 greenhouses—upstairs apartment—display areas—5 acres and tons of possibilities. \$175,000. Call for more details.

The kitchen is fully equipped, has a walk-in pantry, laundry room, pine floors and walls and dining area with access to deck surrounding living area for easy entertaining.



(5) MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES - 3 to 5 acre tracts on the middle fork of Little River - running into Lake Lohasage. Prices starting at \$27,500. 6 plus acre wooded tracts with mountain stream. Prices starting at \$16,700.



(6) COZY AND COMFORTABLE log and frame cottage with log garage—guest house—12x24 enclosed and heated inground pool on over 1 acre with a DeSoto Parkway location. \$149,500.



Floor to ceiling glass in the 2 story living room produces a feeling of openness to the outside and a wonderful view of the valley from both the living area and master bedroom. The charm of a weekend retreat with all the comforts of home. Shown by appointment only. \$225,000.



(7) UNIQUE 3 BEDROOM & 2 BATH ROCK HOUSE and quaint guest cottage with over 500' on the East Fork of Little River adjacent to Lake Lohasage. \$195,000.



(8) A MILLION DOLLAR VIEW from the South Brow of Mentone goes with this 2 bedroom 2 bath home offering the comfort & convenience of full-time living. Call for more details. \$179,500.



(2) COZY COUNTRY COTTAGE - 1 acre wooded lot on East Lake Drive. Less than 2 years old. 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, large living, dining & kitchen. Fireplace. Front & Back porches, 2 car carport & detached garage. REDUCED to \$78,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

(9) 13 BROW LOTS with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.

(10) OVERLOOK THE BREATHTAKING GEORGIA VALLEY from this 3.76 acre West Brow lot, about 10 miles north of Mentone. Lightly restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty. Only \$22,000. REDUCED TO \$18,000.

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

(12) PLENTY OF PRIVACY is yours on these beautifully wooded 8 acres located on East Lake Drive. Ready to build on and convenient both to Menlo and Mentone. \$27,500.

(13) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.

Southern Properties has buyers looking for building lots, brow property, River property, farms and acreage. If you are considering selling your property, please contact us today.



Dr. James E. Quimby
Reception for Dr. Quimby
 The Valley Head Woman's Club
 requests the pleasure of your company
 at a reception honoring
 Dr. James E. Quimby
 on Sunday, the 27th of April, 1997,
 2:00 - 4:00 in the afternoon
 at The Winston Place,
 Valley Head, Alabama

Miss Spring Fantasy Pageant Saturday, April 26

The Valley Head Band Boosters present
 the annual Miss Spring Fantasy Pageant
 Saturday, April 26, in the School
 Auditorium.

Pre-school to age 5, including kinder-
 garten may come from anywhere in the
 area. School-age entrants must come from
 Moon Lake or Valley Head Schools.

Deadline for entry is Thursday, April
 24th. Entry fee is \$25. Forms are available
 at Valley Head and Moon Lake Schools, and
 the Valley Head Water Works Board.

Post school decisions begin at 4 p.m. and

Lookout Mountain Quilters
 meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

For Information, call:
 Fran in Alabama - 205-634-4157
 Susan in Georgia - 706-862-2327

Rabies Vaccination Clinic

Saturday, May 17, 1997
 at Little River Hardware
 in Mentone

Rabies Vaccinations will be
 \$7.00 each for dogs and cats.
 Please bring dogs on leashes
 and cats in carriers.

Sponsored by Summerville
 Veterinary Clinic, P.C.
 The clinic will be from 1:00 to
 3:30 p.m. Central time.



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the dis-
 ciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto
 his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he
 to the disciple, Behold thy mother!! And from
 that hour that disciple took her unto his own
 home. John 19: 26-17

Even on the cross, Jesus asked John to take care of his
 mother. Are you taking care of your mother? When
 was the last time you called or visited her? Did you
 tell her you loved her? Did you thank her for all the
 things she did for you? This Mother's Day, take time
 to do something to make her happy.

Happy Mothers Day to all Mothers.



COME ENJOY
 OUR MUSICAL MOUNTAIN IN THE SPRINGTIME
 at the 14th Annual

RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL

Saturday & Sunday
 May 17th & 18th 1997
 • Free to All •

On Lookout Mountain Parkway in
 Mentone, Alabama

On Friday, May 16th at 7PM

Join us for a Bonfire with Music, and Storytelling

Saturday May 17th from 9AM to 5PM

Sunday May 18th from 11AM to 4PM

• Arts & Crafts • Good Food •

• Music & Clogging •

and at 2:PM Saturday,

Come See the Parade

or Join in the Fun Call Jack Jones at 634-4344

On Saturday May 10th

Rhododendron Queen Contest

at 8:00PM at the Hitching Post

for more information call Bernise Crow at 634-4664

Visit the MAPA Booth for

A chance on a Hand-Made Quilt to be given away at
 4PM on Sunday • \$1.00 Donation

All weekend Native and Hybrid Rhododendrons for sale.
 All atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, AL. Midway from Chattanooga to
 Gadsden on Highway 117 S., Off I-59 Exit 231