



**Celebrating
15 Years
in Print**

THE

GROUNDHOG

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By M.A.P.A.**

Volume 17, No. 5

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May 1998

15th Annual Rhododendron Festival

By Jerry Waters

The 15th Annual Rhododendron Festival sponsored by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) is coming the weekend of May 16 and 17. As president of MAPA, I am pleased to announce that THE BOAT RIDES ARE ON for the festival. I could not find a volunteer to run their boat, so Homer Crow and I started trying to find one we could use. Homer did the leg work, and I supplied the cash, and we bought a boat just for this festival. So, if anyone needs a good 24 foot pontoon boat come May 19, I know where you can get a good deal. I hope everyone will come out and enjoy the ride up the river to see the magnificent Rhododendron in bloom.

Speaking of Rhododendron, have you seen the great stained glass wall hanging that Chuck Peters did for MAPA. It is a beautiful Rhododendron plant in bloom, and it will be the prize in our raffle at the festival this year. It is on display at Dessie's Kountry Chef, and I would encourage you to go by and see it and buy a few chances. It will make a beautiful addition to anyone's home. As most of you know, we mailed all of our members 10 raffle tickets for the wall hanging, and we are hoping that everyone will join in selling these to their friends and neighbors. This proved to be a great fund raiser at the Colorfest last fall, and we hope it will be a success again. Please get the proceeds and ticket stubs back in as soon as possible, and don't forget to fill the stubs out completely so you can have a chance at winning.

I am excited to announce several great entertainers are lined up for this year. Probably our most popular group ever has been the Northeast Alabama Community College Jazz Band. They will be here again on Sunday afternoon, so make sure you set aside some time to come and enjoy their perfor-

mance. Also, we are fortunate to have a very talented and rising star in musician, Thom Rayne, from Binghampton, New York. Doreen and I had a chance to meet Thom and hear him play last year at the Mentone Springs Hotel. He did a fantastic job and is quite a performer. When we heard that he would be back in the area at the time of our festival, we could not wait to see if we could line him up. Thom was gracious to offer to do two shows for us on Saturday and at a significantly less rate that he would normally command. Please come out and enjoy his music.

It is really great that we have been able to have such talented people perform over the past few festivals. Last year, we had Pierce Pettis perform. If you are not familiar with Pierce, let me just say that you missed a real treat. A song he wrote was recently recorded by Garth Brooks, and Pierce's name is becoming more and more well known. On top of that, he and his beautiful wife, Michelle, live right here in Mentone. I hope you won't miss Thom Rayne, because I feel that, like Pierce, he is well on his way to bigger things.

The festival will begin Saturday morning, with arts and crafts offered at Brow Park. Karl Yatooma, Festival Chairman, will be on hand Friday, May 15 to help the vendors set up their booths. Weather permitting (That is, if it's cool), there will be a bonfire Friday night. Saturday and Sunday, the vendors will have their booths ready for the public. Saturday afternoon, at 2 p.m. a parade will leave the Mentone Post Office and travel up Alabama Hwy 117 to the blinking light and turn right and go to Brow Park. Jack Jones is in charge of the parade again, and the Valley Head Band will be performing. Karl Yatooma, Festival Chairman, said "Sheriff Cecil Reed has agreed to be the Grand

Marshal of the parade." The Rhododendron Queen and her court will also be participating. Come 4:00 p.m. Sunday, a drawing will be held for the beautiful Rhododendron stained glass wall hanging. You don't want to miss the drawing.

Throughout the weekend, there will be separate drawings for craft items donated by the vendors. Those who wish to participate will need to purchase a ticket for those drawings.

Rhododendron will be on sale at the festival throughout the weekend.

We regret that the Rhododendron planted last year at Brow Park will not be in bloom, as shortly after they were planted by the Boy Scouts of Mentone Troop 106, someone came in and removed all of them.

Come and enjoy the weekend in Mentone, there are many shops in town, as well as the vendors' booths at Brow Park. There may be many more surprises this year. So, keep watching for more information to tell you what else is being offered.

See you at the festival - come ride the boat with me and see all the beautiful Rhododendron in bloom on the river, along with the Mountain Laurel.



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

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PLEASE NOTE YOUR MAILING LABEL.

If the words, "Subscription Expired" appears, please renew as soon as possible, as there will be no other notice. Thank you.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

●Friday and Saturday, May 1, 2, 7 a.m. till
Annual Yard Sale at Mentone Fire Hall

●Monday, May 6, 7 p.m.
Mentone Council Meeting, Town Hall

●Tuesday, May 7, 7 p.m., MAPA meeting,
Dessie's Kountry Chef

●Sunday, May 10, MOTHER'S DAY

●Saturday and Sunday, May 16 and 17
15th ANNUAL RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL
(See articles and flyers throughout this issue.)

●Saturday, May 16, ARMED FORCES DAY

●Sunday, May 17, DECORATION DAY
at Little River Baptist Church

●Sunday, May 24, DECORATION DAY

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THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

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

Editor.....Evelyn Graves
Associate Editor/ typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck
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MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Jerry Waters
Vice President.....Homer Crow
Secretary.....Susan Chernes
Treasurer.....Dessie Newberry
Parliamentarian.....Bernise Crow
Member-At-Large.....Dorothy Crow
Member-At-Large.....Lucille Crowe

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 Groundhog is due out by the 25th of each month.

FROM THE PRESIDENT, JERRY WATERS

It is hard to believe it is spring already. It seems as though it was just last week that we were winding down from our fall Colorfest and here the Rhododendron Festival is upon us. With all the rain we have had I hope we will see some beautiful examples of nature at it's best in the coming weeks.

As you may have heard, the Garden Club sponsored a "War on Litter" a few weeks back. I would like to commend the Garden Club members on a great idea and a well-organized effort. Of course, my favorite part was the coffee and cake and other goodies at the end of the day. We were glad to see a good turnout to represent MAPA in doing our part to clean up the area. We jumped on our "Adopt-a-Mile" area and had it cleaned up in a matter of a couple of hours. I would encourage those of you who would like to do some form of community service to come out and help this month as we clean up our area once again. Sherman Gough heads up the clean up committee and has asked that we make sure we get this area cleaned up once more before the festival. We will be announcing the date and time at the upcoming MAPA meeting on May 5, so please come out and learn how you can be a part of "Keeping Mentone Beautiful".

See the first page of this issue for information about the Rhododendron Festival.

Well, I will close with a wish for a great spring, summer, and fall for everyone. Remember that there is a purpose behind the things that happen in our lives and make the most of the time you have. I am reminded frequently at how short the time we have here is and how we should be relishing in all the wonder that surrounds us. As goofy as it was, there was a scene in the movie "Michael" with John Travolta where he is sitting on a rock and commenting about how much he will miss the Earth when he has to leave it. It reminds me of the times when I get on my Harley and head out for no where in particular on the back roads surrounding Mentone and Ft Payne. The sunsets, sunrises, horses and cows and the smell of the countryside never ceases to affect me and make me long to ride further and longer. I hope you have moments like those.

See you at the festival - come ride the boat with me.



MAPA April MEETING



On April 7, twenty-one people came to the meeting. During the meeting, President Jerry Waters pointed out the stained glass wall hanging of rhododendron that was in front of Dessie's Kountry Chef. A drawing will be held on Sunday, May 17, at 4 p.m. at Brow Park.

Jerry announced that MAPA has an 800 number and a local phone: 1-888-340-3381 and 634-4041. The DeKalb County Tourist Association has been referring people inquiring about Mentone and the festivals to call those numbers.

After the business portion of the meeting was concluded, Ernest Parker, who works full time at the recreation department in Fort Payne, presented a very interesting program on Prevention of Crime Against Senior Citizens. Some of the scams he discussed were: telemarketing; mail that says, "You've won something"; credit cards; home repairs; paving driveways; and painting barn or house. Mr. Parker left several brochures and pieces of information for the members to take home with them. He stressed that if you feel you have been the victim of a scam, contact Bill Pryor, State Attorney General of Alabama, and Laura Schwenk at the Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Affairs Section, in Montgomery, at 1-800-393-5658.

Mr. Parker said the number one scam in the DeKalb County area is home repairs. The number two scam is paving driveways.

TRIAD (The Right Information and Direction) and SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) are groups that are working with Senior Citizens to inform them of the scams and help them avoid becoming victims. If you are not sure, contact the number above, or your local District Attorney, Michael O'Dell. Help is just a phone call away.

Garden Club Ladies Dodge Rain For Trip To Oak Hill

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

The morning of Tuesday, April 14, 1998, a group of 16 Rhododendron Garden Club ladies assembled at 9:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church where they car pooled for the trip to Oak Hill, the home of Martha Berry, on the Berry College campus at Rome, Georgia, in the rain. The weather kept evolving from a cold and wet start that morning until the ladies returned home in lovely, warm, afternoon sunshine, but they had traveled to Rome in the pouring rain and had remained armed with umbrellas while dodging showers the whole time they were there.

At the museum on the Berry College campus, the ladies saw a video about the evolution of the Berry Schools and many supposedly relevant relics from that process. In the lunchroom behind the gift shop, the ladies treated themselves to a lunch consisting of fried chicken, a roll, potato salad, an apple, a gooey oatmeal cookie, and a couple of starlight mints along with iced tea, hot coffee, and ice water.

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

--PUBLIC NOTICE--

The Town of Mentone will not pursue annexation proceedings during the remainder of the term of the present town council members.

--PUBLIC NOTICE--

MENTONE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
Meeting dates for remainder of 1998
June 18
September 17
December 17

All meetings are held in the town public meeting room at 4 p.m. and are open to the public.

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SPORTS AFIELD

By
PHIL HARRIS



NATIONAL SPORTS AT A GLANCE

Major League Baseball

Atlanta is off to a good start, considering some early season injuries. John Smoltz, Michael Tucker, Walt Weiss, Rafael Belliard, and Keith Lockhart have had a variety of bumps and bruises. Look for the Braves to mow down the competition until October. Keep an eye on San Diego. If the Padres pitching holds up, they could be World Series contenders. Milwaukee is having great success in the National League.

In the American League, New York, Baltimore, and Cleveland have solid clubs. Texas and Boston are making some early season noise. The American is more competitive than the National League.

NBA: The Chicago Bulls are the number one seed in the east, and the UTAH Jazz are likewise in the west. The Bulls have a huge psychological advantage over every team in the eastern conference. Simply put, the eastern conference teams are afraid of Chicago. That puts the Bulls in the finals against, probably the Jazz. UTAH has a huge home court advantage out west. The L.A. Lakers and Seattle are tough, but UTAH is on a mission. They want Chicago again.

NASCAR: Bobby Hamilton dominated the field at Martinsville. He led for 378 of the 500 laps. Hamilton won for only the third time in his career.

The Winston Cup points champion is still led by Rusty Wallace. Jeremy Mayfield is a close second. Terry Labonte, Jeff Gordon, Dale Jarrett, Mark Martin, Bill Elliott, Dale Earnhardt, Ken Schrader, and Jeff Burton round out the top ten.

Next stop, Talladega, and the Die Hard 500 on April 26. It's going to be another great race. All you folks going down for the weekend have fun and be careful. Mack Martin is going to win it! Well, maybe?

SEC Baseball: LSU, Alabama, Florida, and Auburn have established themselves as solid contenders for the SEC Championship. Tennessee has been a huge disappointment. The Volunteers have faded after being picked pre-season Top Ten.

LSU is almost a sure bet to be in Omaha for the College World Series. Florida is a solid contender. Alabama and Auburn would need some luck, but are capable.

SEC Football: The NFL was good to some SEC players. Peyton Manning was the number one pick of the Indianapolis Colts. If he is as good as they say, the Colts are in good hands. Takeo Spikes of Auburn is going to make Cincinnati a very solid linebacker. Spikes is an outstanding open field tackler. Vitor Riley is going to be a solid pro offensive tackle. Dameyone Craig signed a free agent contract with Carolina. Michael Myers of Alabama has great ability. A year off will hurt his early development.

Sports on the Scene

Softball is set to begin at the Ft. Payne Sports Complex. Three local teams suit up next week. Mentone and CBS open play on the men's side. Camp Laney begins play for the first time as a team in a woman's league.

CBS TEAM MEMBERS: Tommy Harrison, Dennis Manning, Michael Frazier, Kevin Cash, Anthony Brown, Timmy Burt, Dewayne McKenzie, Jason Gregory, Shane Ingram, Aaron McKenzie, Phil Owen, Nathan Owen, and Eric Kirby.

CAMP LANEY TEAM MEMBERS: Connie Bell, Kayla Worthey, Lisa McMahan, Lindsay McMahan, Jennifer Smith, Jennifer Nolan, Wendy Manifold, Michelle Ortega-Edwards, Betty Izey, Iggy Perrone, Karla King, Renae McKenzie, Lisa Smith.

MENTONE TEAM MEMBERS: Michael Flannigan, Brent Hane, Scott Meadows, Shannon Nicks, Stacy Burt, Phil Harris, Kevin Worthey, Charlton Bell, J.J. Wigley, Shawn Flannigan, Bobby Browder, Kevin Smith, and Jim Phillips.

Mentone team members would like to thank Marie Dillenbeck for sponsoring them in Dr. Pat's honor. Thanks also to the Hoppers for helping in the purchase of hats.

The Mentone Dixie Youth open play in a week. Wesley Wells is coaching one of the 9-10 year old teams. Dennis Lewis, along with Robert Brown and Jason Gregory, are coaching the other 9-10 year old team. Jeff Harrison heads up the 11-12 year old team. Tommy Harrison, Randy Turner and A.C. Windom will assist.

The Mentone Dixie Youth would like to pass along a personal thanks to the city of Hammondville, for the use of the field and lights.

Any persons or businesses that would like to donate time or money, it sure would be appreciated. Please contact Charles O. Bell or one of the coaches. They need your help.

Spring football begins for the Valley Head Tigers on April 7th. Coach Jerry Brown has a lot of experience coming back at the skill positions. The offensive and defensive lines are of major concern for the spring. Key returning players for the Tigers are: Mark Stanfield, Kyle Freeman, Jason Owen, Frankie Lewchuk, Josh Shelton, Toby Crider, Paul Hawkins, Dusty Holcomb, and Carl Tuberville. Spring practice will conclude with the Purple & Gold game. The Tigers open the regular season with Sylvania this fall.

The Tiger baseball team narrowly missed making the state playoffs. They lost 6-5 to Collinsville knocking them to third in 1-A Area 13. The two top teams qualified for the playoffs, Cedar Bluff and Collinsville. Coach Frank Hambrick's team really improved over the course of the season.

That does it for another month. May God bless.

From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Greetings again from outside Mentone! Moi will be spending a Saturday real soon at the Superette. For those of you who have not seen moi lately, this will come as quite a shock. **Moi has lost 20 POUNDS!** Swift is my middle name. With all this work in Atlanta, moi has had little time to eat and sleep. The food is not as rich and tasty as it was between the counters at the Superette. Moi is looking forward to reuniting with moi's adoring public, little children especially.

Al tells moi that the photographs still have not arrived from Atlanta. Moi thinks the Atlanta Post Office could take some lessons from the Mentone Post Office. Mail IS delivered in Mentone and on time. You loyal fans should thank your postmaster and workers for their excellent work! When moi arrives on that special Saturday, pictures will be delivered. You can count on the magnificent one to take care of it.

Al also gave moi some bad news. He said that Prissy, the town clerk's dog, has disappeared. Her mom put out flyers but hasn't heard anything yet. Prissy went missing Friday night, April 17, right in front of her own home. Maybe somebody picked her up. Hope Prissy is returned soon. If any of you faithful readers out there know where Prissy might be, contact Prissy's mom at the Mentone Town Hall.

It's about that time again. The Rhododendron Festival is set to take place the weekend of May 16 and 17. That means flatlanders from everywhere will be coming to town. Also, the fire department is having a yard sale right across from the Superette in the fire hall. Don't miss that event. Moi wishes he could be there, but with moi's important job as a master guard dog, it's hard to get away. You working folk all know about that.

To all my devoted and adoring fans, moi will be there soon. Don't give up! Ask Al when the BIG day is and then come and lavish all your attention on the GREAT ONE!



Submitted photo
Optimist Oratorical Winners, from left to right, are (seated) Andrew McCole, Dr. Pat Seymour Award; Sarah Hurt, Honorable Mention; Brett Spurlock, Honorable Mention; (standing) Seth Harper, Third Place; Jennifer Holcomb, Second Place; Collier Craft, Second Place; Jana Watson, First Place; and Andrew Taheri, First Place.

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Mentone Grapevine 11

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Happy Belated 52nd Anniversary wishes to Buddy and Norma Williams. They celebrated 52 years of marriage on March 2. Norma said, "We have been blessed to have had each other, as well as our son, Chad, whose love is always there for us." Norma had told me about the event, and it was inadvertently omitted from my column. Please accept my apologies, Buddy and Norma. May you have many more years of happiness.

Norma also said that she had heard from **Frances Blix**, who will be moving from Miami, FL, to Gainesville, GA, in late summer. She has a daughter who lives there. Maybe Frances will get to visit Mentone more often. I hope so.

Continue to keep **Mr. Jim Berry**, and especially his wife, Marjorie, and son, Bill, in your thoughts and prayers. Mr. Berry is still in the hospital in Chattanooga.

Sue Schwarz is back from visiting with her Dad and Mother, **George and Ruth Porter**, in Oakland, MD. George underwent hip replacement surgery, and Sue was there to be with them during the surgery. George is responding well. So, if you don't see Sue's "Recipe column" you know why. There is just so much time in everyone's day. I'm glad the report on George was good.

Jean Matthews is in the hospital in Chattanooga at the time of this printing. She is not doing well, and the family really needs your prayers.

Bobbie Smith (Mrs. John) is out of Redmond Park Hospital in Rome, having had heart trouble. With proper watching of her medication, she can do anything within reason that she wants to. But then, doesn't she always do that? Take care of yourself, Bobbie, lots of people care about you.

The Ivy Cottage is open and doing business. Betty Bain is happy that her florist and gift shop located above Lookout Mountain Preferred Realty Office on Alabama Hwy 117 is open and the public knows she's there.

Serendipity (which means "ability to find something great by chance") will open around the first of May, according to Margaret Pope, the owner. Be ready to shop and select from the many gift items, some pine furniture, pictures, frames, etc. Serendipity is located next to the Mentone Superette.

Effie and Annie Harrison celebrated their 15th birthdays on April 2nd. They were treated to a birthday party at Rock Castle Cafe on April 10.

Shannon Chappell who turned 15 on April 7th has gotten her driver's permit and is out on the roads, now. Watch out!

Beth Moore is awaiting her trip in June to go to Utah to visit with her good old buddy, **Mary Pearson**. They are both getting very excited about the trip.

In last month's issue, the pictures in the GMC Commercial article did not show the switch in the name of the Hardware Store. For the purposes of the commercial, they put up a completely new sign that said, "Little River Grocery. Sorry about that, folks."

Leslie Bunch is proud of her daughter Kelly. She received a letter of acceptance to the Math and Science School in Mobile. This is the first time for sophomores. Only 25 students are chosen each year. Now Kelly has a dilemma, continue at Baylor or go to Math and Science School. Congratulations, Kelly.

In April the **Mentone Springs Hotel** celebrated its 2nd year of opening as a Bed and Breakfast under the ownership of **David and Claudia Wassom**. On Saturday evening, May 9, from 6 to 8 p.m., there will be music on the front lawn at the Mentone Springs Hotel. The Etowah Youth Orchestra Chamber Ensemble will be performing. There is no charge, but donations to the orchestra will be appreciated.

The **Valley Head Band Boosters** would like to thank everyone who helped with the annual auction this year. Thanks to you, it was a big success!

Happy Belated Birthday wishes to **Katie Frazier** who turned 16 on March 3.

Happy Belated Birthday wishes to **Jan Eaton** of Long Beach, MS., who turned 65 on March 30th. I wish you many more happy birthdays.

Moon Lake Baptist Youth Choir entertained the patrons at Dessie's Kountry Chef with a beautiful performance on March 27th. See the notice elsewhere about other Gospel Singers at Dessie's on Friday nights.

Congratulations to **Tammy A. Cooper** of Valley Head. She was on the Dean's List for the fall quarter at Athens State College.

Kevin Thompson, age 6, of Valley Head was the local weather artist in the April 14 issue of *The Times-Journal*. Congratulations, Kevin.

Lisa Scott has passed the State Board of Cosmetology exam. She is working at Susan's Beauty World in Fort Payne, which is located across from AmSouth Bank, North. Call her at 997-0270 or drop by. Congratulations, Lisa.

Rene Brendle, 17, daughter of Junior and Patricia Brendle of Valley Head, has been accepted as a state finalist in the **Miss Alabama American Teen Pageant**. The pageant will be held June 12-14 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Mobile. Good luck, Rene.

Happy belated April Birthday/Anniversary wishes to:
 •10- Lisa Moore and Lindsey Carter; •12- Tommy Dodd (13 years old); 23- David Mays, 25- Mary Brown; •26- John Moore.

Happy Birthday wishes for remainder of April go to
 •30- Shane McMahan; •31- Mandi Browder (18 years old)

Happy May Birthday/Anniversary wishes to:

•1-Larken J. (Jr.) Bell; •2- Megan Cooper (5); •4- H.P. Goss; •5- Slim Easler; •6- Phil Harris; •7- Helen Hill, Jerod Hulan, Jerrod Pelletier; •8- James Wilborn, Connie (Hilliard) Clark, James Hawk; •9- Megan Smith, Juanita Hilliard; •10- Matt Brandon, Mrs. Georgia McKown (94), Helen Hill, Junior and Donnie Bell, (51st Anniv.), Louise and Leonard Keith (51st Anniv.); •11- Eunice Strickland; •12- Van Moore; •13- Blake Hulan, Charlotte Roden; •15- Trevor Lewis (5); Tyler Blansit (5), Shirley Collins, Ruby Gifford; •17- Beth Moore (15), Melissa (Smith) Miller; •20- Joyce (Worthey) Tate, Jessica McKenzie; •22- Bobby Brown; •23- Lynn Owens, Becky Mays (15), Glen & Wanda Black (Anniv.), Nick and Annette Black (Anniv.); •25- Jimmy Wright, Clint Croxton, Jackie Smith; •28- Adriane Robertson; •29- Barbara Hall, Debra (Bell) Cash, Ginger (Bell) Myers; •31- Rodney Bell.

Deepest sympathies to the families of the following who have passed away:

•William Crabtree, 90 of Mentone, Mar. 30
 •Thelma Kidd Hawkins, 81, of Valley Head, Apr. 2
 •Dan Taylor Laws, 84, of Valley Head, Apr. 10
 •Rosemarie "Toots" Whatley, 55, of Mentone, Apr. 11
 •Flora Edna Goss, 86, of Mentone, Apr. 6

Don't forget to attend the **National Day of Prayer Services** to be held on the Brow on Thursday, May 1, at 5:30 p.m.

The **Volunteer Fire Department** is having a yard sale on May 1 and 2 from 7 a.m. till. Plan to check out their items and give them a donation while buying something useful or needed. Please support them in their efforts to raise funds. See flyer elsewhere.

Remember that school will be in session on **Memorial Day (May 25th)**. This is not a holiday for students.

Sunday, May 10, is **Mother's Day**. Remember her on this special day, because Mothers are special.

MISSING SINCE FRIDAY, APRIL 17



"Miss Prissy"

My name is Prissy and my mom, Marie Dillenbeck, is looking for me. I flushed out a rabbit Friday afternoon, April 17, about 4 p.m., in the field behind Luther (Junior) King's house and chased after it. This field is across from where I live on County Road 648. I have not returned. I am part spitz, approx. 8 years old, and my color is cream white. I was not wearing a collar.

My mom is really worried about me and misses me terribly. You may have seen me riding in the back of her blue Chevy pickup or in her blue Pontiac car. I go with her lots of the time, especially when she's working on *The Groundhog*. I keep her company late at night when she has to leave the house, and I have been with her since she moved to Mentone in 1991. I have ridden all over the states of Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi, with her and Dr. Pat Seymour when she was on speaking engagements or just taking a trip. I have been to Tennessee and all the way to Houston, Texas, and back. If you have been at the Mentone Town Hall, I may have greeted you. Please help her find me and bring me home to her. I'm lost and need to go back home. If you picked me up on a road near where I live, or if I came to your house and don't know how to get back home, or if you see me, or have seen me since April 17, please call her at 634-4541 or at the Mentone Town Hall 634-4444.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KATHLEEN JOHNSON

David Chaney and sister Brandy Johnson would like to send the "biggest and happiest" birthday wishes to their beloved mother, Kathleen Johnson, who will be celebrating her 39th birthday on May 1st. Kathleen requested a big, bold printing of the auspicious occasion-so everyone that is acquainted with the lady wishes her a grand "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KATHLEEN."



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

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

A new camp is opening up on Lookout Mountain in the fall of 1998. Ellen Thompson and Susan Cherones recently held an opening day of ExperienceWorks on Saturday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Valley View Ranch on Lookout Mountain in Georgia. The purpose of their opening day was to give the attendees a sample of their programs, learn something new, hike in the woods, enjoy the view, and discover how Experience Works can work for them. Those who came did all of those. Susan said, "It is an outdoor program with 700 acres that they share with Valley View Ranch. On a clear day, you can see an incredibly great distance, and the view is breathtaking."

Ellen Thompson and Susan Cherones have worked together creating exceptional outdoor learning experiences since 1994. They both come from families of educators (three university professors, three schoolteachers, one principal, and one superintendent!) They are both passionate about experiential education, team-building, and cultural exchange. They are members of the Association for Experiential Education (Susan is currently serving as Chair of the Southeast Region Council.) Ellen conducted the field trips and Susan and her mother, Bobbie Cherones, greeted the visitors. Susan explained the ExperienceWorks program and invited the visitors to look around the camp while waiting for their turn to take a field trip.

Ellen Thompson grew up in Menlo, Ga. She graduated from Rhodes College with degree in Psychology. Ellen has spent a great deal of time traveling around the world and has served as a volunteer in Belgium, England, and South Dakota on projects ranging from home building to community building. Ellen also plays a mean game of basketball and tennis and is learning about organic farming from her brother, Coleman.

Susan Cherones grew up in Tuscaloosa, AL, and received an undergraduate degree in Theatre from Birmingham Southern college. After a seven-year stint in Los Angeles, working in film and television and teaching English as a Second Language, she returned to the south to pursue a Master's degree in Elementary Education. Susan also holds an AA teaching certificate. Susan is happiest when involved in something creative and challenging. She loves to travel, sing, is fluent in Spanish (mas o menos) and gardens with a passion!

According to Susan, "Mom raised us to have experiences outside, do something, make something, build something. When you do these things, you create a template and have a 'like-when' experience, where you apply the knowledge you learned from your experience."

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Movie "Southern Heart" News

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

JJ Wilson, Music Supervisor for "Southern Heart" the Movie sound track has organized a Spring Music Festival for May 9th. It will feature music from the movie, "Southern Heart" filmed in Mentone, Alabama, starring Peter Dinklage and Jamie Hendrix Collins. The movie was shot in Mentone in October/November 1997.

The Spring Music Festival will feature music from the movie and have a lot of the actors and crew out to meet the hundreds of people who have inquired about the project. Music will consist of Folk, Blue Grass, Contemporary Christian, Pop Rock, and some Blues & Jazz. The musicians will be coming from upstate New York, the West Coast, and many of the local musicians who participated in the music sound track of "Southern Heart." This festival is a benefit to aid Camp Coosa Special People.



NAMLASS ENTERTAINMENT

♦ JJ Wilson Presents

- ♦ North Alabama Music Lovers Association
- ♦ 1st Annual New Spring Music Festival
- ♦ Featuring Music From the Movie
- ♦ "Southern Heart" filmed in Mentone, AL
- ♦ Location: Foggy Hollow Farm (South of Gadsden)*
- ♦ Festival will include: food and beverages
- ♦ Arts & crafts/Camping included
- ♦ May 8th & 9th Tickets \$15.00 in advance
- ♦ Actors & Crew from the Movie
- ♦ To aid Camp Coosa Special People
- ♦ Tickets available at all TicketLink outlets or charge by phone: 715-6000 or 1-800-277-1700
- ♦ Limited Seating tickets will sell fast
- ♦ For information & sponsorship call 1-205-543-7673

*Directions: FROM GADSDEN: Highway 431 South approximately 20 miles South of I-59, MM 260, KM 406, Watch for Webster's Chapel, Holiday Lamp Co., and Foggy Hollow Signs.

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A SCENE FROM BYGONE DAYS MENTONE'S VEGGIE LADY

By Ernest H. Smith



Mollie Jane Smith, Oct 9, 1941

My favorite grandmother, Mollie Jane Smith, with mule and buggy, was a familiar sight on the streets and byways of Mentone during the 1920s, 1930s, and early 1940s. She, along with many others, were known as door-to-door summer peddlers. She was an Irish Lady, rather portly, with a wide smile and the gift of gab. Her charm, no doubt, accounted for much of her success as a peddler. Known as Miss Mollie by her regular customers who often passed other peddlers on and waited for her.

Peddling was a lucrative business in those days, since most fresh items could not be found at the local store. My grandmother would usually have fresh fruits and vegetables in season, eggs, butter, live chickens, jellies, preserves, sorghum, and even laundry she did for some special customer. Most of her load was usually engaged from the trip before.

During the depression years, the local people depended on

the summer jobs to earn a little cash money. They would even vie for menial jobs and felt lucky to get them. There were no handouts in those days. Consequently, the wolf was never very far from the door. And, yes, there were always a few bootleggers plainly visible to those who knew what was going on. I remember one summer regular from Valdosta, Georgia, who said that any given day there were at least three or four bootleggers knocking on his door before eight AM wanting to sell him a pint. He would go on to say that he suggested to them that they should wear some sort of badge for identification in order that they not try to sell to each other.

Were these the good old days? Well, that's highly debatable. Certainly, we hadn't been spoiled by all that we now have. But, I don't really believe that anyone would want to go back to those difficult times.

GUIDELINES FOR JIMMY McCARY SCHOLARSHIP

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church now has applications available for the Jimmy McCary Scholarship Fund. This fund has provided many scholarships to students from the local area for quite a few years, and we will be taking applications from qualified candidates before May 1, 1998.

The guidelines for these scholarships are:

1. We must receive a fully completed scholarship application and family financial statement by the established deadline each year. Forms received after the deadline will generally not be considered, since we have limited funds and a large number of applicants.
2. This scholarship is ordinarily only available to Mentone and Valley Head residents.
3. We give priority to financial need and academic record.
4. The scholarship is only available to recent high school graduates unless special circumstances apply and an exemption is given.
5. Before the scholarship is awarded, proof of admission and enrollment must be provided on an official form from the school.
6. The schooling involved must lead to a degree or, in some cases, professional certification.
7. Once enrolled, the student must maintain the equivalent of a 2.8 GPA on a scale of 4.0 in order to qualify for the succeeding year, and the Scholarship Committee should have those academic records with the new application.
8. The scholarships are available for a maximum of 4 years.
9. The student must maintain a course load of 8 credits per semester or equivalent in order to qualify. We recognize that this may vary according to the program you are in, but we want to assure that the student is on a track to complete the program in a reasonable period of time.
10. We do not discriminate on the basis of religion, race or gender, so all applications will be given equal consideration.

If you are interested in applying for a St. Joseph's Jimmy McCary Scholarship, please send a request for an application and financial information form to:

The Scholarship Committee

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 161
Mentone, AL 3598-0161

Please include a typewritten or printed name and address and phone number in order for us to send you these forms.

We are looking forward to being able to help local students pursue their goals, and we believe that our Lord has given each of us gifts to be used in the service of others. We are excited to be able to help those students who are willing to cultivate their gifts by furthering their education. We pray that the Lord will bless their endeavors.



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(6) COZY AND COMFORTABLE log and frame cottage with log garage-guest house-12x24 enclosed and heated in-ground pool on over 1 acre with a DeSoto Parkway location. \$149,500. Owner says make offer.



(7) IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR ROOM THIS ONE HAS IT. 6 bedrooms, 2 baths, living-dining-large kitchen with gas & electric stove - 2 car garage & 8 acres. \$125,000.



(8) OVER 100 YEAR OLD FARM HOUSE offering 5 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, large eat-in kitchen, wraparound porch and 3 out buildings. All on 18 acres with Creek, pasture and woods. \$89,900.



(9) QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD LOCATION IN VALLEY HEAD - Three bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat and air, fireplace and basement - on five lots. Four blocks from Valley Head Schools. All for \$63,500.

OTHER LISTINGS

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- (11) 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.
- (12) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.
- (13) MORE THAN 2.3 KIDS? Room enough for an above-average sized family in this 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with living room, dining room, den bonus room, and full basement on 1.7 acres. Come stretch out! All for only \$159,500.
- (14) VACATION IN THE BACKYARD! It's relaxing just being at the 11 acre parcel of land in Mentone. Beautiful rock formations and lots of privacy. for only \$45,000. Make your reservation to see it today.
- (15) OVER 6 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway - greatly rolling with beautiful landscaping and great building sites. \$35,000.
- (16) ALMOST 2-1/2 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway. No restrictions - great commercial location. \$22,500.
- (17) 1.75 ACRES on the "West" Fork of Little River less than 1 mile from downtown Mentone. \$30,000.

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Susan Collins Residence - 634-4695, Broker, GRI
Sara Quinn Residence - 845-1881, Broker, GRI

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



It seems such a short time and yet an eternity since I wrote the last article for *The Groundhog*. A lot has happened to me and my family since then. We have moved from the house where we lived for over 40 years to a new house. This has been quite an experience!! I'm still opening an average of three drawers before I find what I'm looking for.

We were very fortunate in that we were only moving across town. We could pack several boxes and take them to the new house and put those items away, then take the boxes back and do it all over again. We moved the large articles in three hours, with the help of a delivery truck from a furniture company and two very large young men.

I think the hardest part may be getting the other house ready to put on the market to sell. We have so much we want to do here that we can't seem to find time to go back there and work.

Thanks to everyone who has sent us cards, came to see us and wished us well. We have loved every minute of it. We are still working on the yard (in fact we seem to be living in a mud hole), but we love having people stop by. This is a good opportunity for me to thank everyone who helped build the new house. They were all wonderful!! I was prepared for some things to not go right and some "goofs", but they were very few and far between. I feel sure that this was because of the good quality work we were getting and this was because of the good workers. Thanks to all of you!!

I have not been keeping up-to-date on everything that is happening around Mentone lately. I missed the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District. I know that the volunteers are planning a yard sale in May. (Look for all details elsewhere in this issue.) Please support them in this endeavor as they always put a lot of time and effort into these fund-raisers. I will remind you again to watch for the announcement that a fund is being started for a new fire truck. It is something that has to come soon, if we continue to have a fire department. Remember also that they serve all of this area, not just the town of Mentone.

The last meeting of the Mentone Town Council was a rather heated one. Someone jumped the gun in an announcement of an annexation to the city limits. This is null and void at this time. I sincerely hope that if this issue does arise in another 3 or 4 years, everyone will check all of the facts and not jump to conclusions. A lot of misinformation was being circulated. Also, if you want a voice if it comes up again, you need to be registered to vote. You cannot vote on any issue unless you are a registered voter in the state of Alabama.

Can you believe how beautiful this Spring is? When the hard freeze came about the time some of the trees were in bloom, I was sure that everything was killed and it would not be pretty. How wrong I was! The freeze must have been just before the budding of most things. Have you noticed that every scrub that thinks it is a lilac is purple with blooms. I have not seen them so beautiful in many years.

It seems that Mentone may have had several tornadoes come over during the recent rash of bad weather. I think they rise to clear the mountain. "Miss Polly" Chambers said that we were being spared because a higher power had a mission for all of us. I think that she may be right. But we do not need to feel that it can't happen here and get complacent. We need to take those warnings and watches very seriously.

Mentone has had some sad things happen lately. Several families have lost loved ones to death and our love and prayers are with them. Others have been injured in accidents or suffer from illnesses. I hope that all of them will recover soon. Mentone needs all of its citizens to be complete. I have encountered some cases of depression (or close to it) lately. This must be a terrible state to be in. I am blessed in that I have never experienced it, but I have studied and observed this con-

dition enough to know that it is very unpleasant. If you are experiencing this, call someone you trust, a church member, a minister, a trusted friend or a professional. Do get help, life is too short not to enjoy every minute of it.

So many things can happen to make our lives unpleasant. Several articles have been written lately about spousal and child abuse. While we would like to think that this doesn't happen here, we all know it does. If you need help, get it! DeKalb County has some excellent programs for helping both the abused and the abuser. Let's stop this in this generation, don't pass it on down to the next. Studies have shown that if you are abused you are much more likely to abuse. Stop and count to twenty, get a drink of water, whistle "Dixie", take a walk, do whatever it takes to stop this now.

That's about enough of my soapbox for this month. I wish you all love, joy and happiness and enjoy the beauty of "our" mountain!

DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD NEWS

By Jennifer Smith

March and April are gone and May is upon us. It seems as if time speeds up with the approach of summer. But at least Spring is a beautiful season to watch fly by. We continue to work on our new building. And we could still use some much needed building supplies. So, if you have extras you wish to donate, just give us a call!

The Canyon Cleanup was a big success although it was a bit chilly. But it was worth it to get all that Garbage up! We live in such a beautiful area that it is hard to believe that people actually litter here.

We are currently working on fund raising so we can upgrade our radios and get some much needed medical supplies. The Dekalb Association of Rescue Squads is also working on a grant for communications equipment such as radios and pagers that they would distribute throughout the county. We certainly hope they succeed!

The Rescue Squad was put on alert on 4-9-98 to assist in the search and rescue effort in Jefferson County. We were all standing by ready to go should we be needed.

We are still working on membership and any interested party over the age of 18 is invited and encouraged to join us! If you have questions please call one of the numbers listed below. As always, thanks again for your continued support!

Richard Douthat, Capt. — 634-4813

Jennifer Smith, 1st. Lieut. — 634-4577

Lisa Scott, Sec/Treas. — 634-4207

Desoto Rescue Squad is a non-profit, all-volunteer Emergency Medical Response Unit. Your support is greatly appreciated.

MOTHER'S MARKET RECIPE

By Jennifer Smith

THREE - GRAIN PILAF

- 1 T olive oil
- 1 onion, minced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 3 cups vegetable stock
- 1/2 cup bulgar
- 1/2 cup long-grain brown rice
- 1/2 cup pearl barley
- dash of cayenne or Tabasco
- 1/4 cup minced fresh parsley

1. Place, oil, onion, and garlic in a large skillet with a lid. Cook 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.
2. Add stock, bulgar, rice, and barley, then bring to a boil. Add cayenne and parsley, reduce heat to low, cover, and simmer 40 minutes.
3. Allow pilaf to stand, covered, for 10 minutes. Lift cover, fluff with fork, and adjust seasonings.

GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

(Member of the National Home Gardening Club)

This year, I seem to have a bit of trouble on knowing what to write about for this monthly column, so I am just going to wing it and hope that something of what I write about helps some gardener somewhere.

With the Information Superhighway, we are being bombarded with so much knowledge and the trouble is knowing what is true and what isn't, so we have our job cut out for us instead of making it easier. With a lot of the tips and hints I always like to experiment first, but there is just so much now and not enough time in the day.

This year, I had planned on slowing down a bit (quite a bit) with the gardening and gardening chores, but my two teenage sons and husband seem to have acquired a great fondness for flowers, shrubs, vegetables and all things pertaining to the outdoors, and I am left with all the research and site scouting to do for all the numerous plants, seedlings, cuttings and such that keep coming home looking for a home! Mr. L.A. Smith, the Ag teacher from Valley Head High School seems to have a great influence on my boys and a lot of other boys in this area, so I would like to salute him for the interest he inspires in a lot of the children around here.

I have found that for hard-shelled seeds, try soaking them in weak black tea overnight before sowing, the tannic acid softens the hulls and speeds up germination, it also acts as a fertilizer.

From Master Gardener, Jerry Baker, to energize your soil do this: take one can beer, one cup liquid dish detergent soap, one cup mouthwash, half teaspoon instant tea, one cola (non-diet) and mix in a gallon, then pour it into your hose-end sprayer and spray the prepared bed a week before planting and a week after.

When you are ready to plant your tomatoes, Mr. Baker suggests that when you have dug the hole (go about a foot deep or more), add a layer of mealy cobs (for good drainage), then take the cotton padding out from the plastic casing of a heavy-duty baby diaper and put that on top of the cobs (for moisture retention), add a pinch of human hair to that (visit your local salon or barber and ask for the hair) for a slow release of protein. Now you are ready to plant the tomato plant, and he guarantees the biggest and best tomatoes in the neighborhood. Make sure that the soil is not too wet before planting by making a ball of the soil, if it sticks together without falling apart, it's too wet and most seeds and plants will suffer with rot and/or fungus.

To protect your plants from cut worms, try using the cardboard from the spent toilet tissue rolls or the paper towels, cut it down the side and slip it on the stems of the plants. You may need to cut the paper towel rolls down to size for shorter plants or you may need to use two toilet tissue rolls for taller plants.

Master Gardener Jerry Baker seems to always be big on using beer and or cola for the soil, and he gives us the reasons: all plants need sugar to grow, and it controls nematodes. Apparently, that's not all it controls, according to an article in the February 2nd issue of *U.S. News and World Report*. In that issue on page seven, authorities in Williamsport, Pa., have been using molasses to clean up toxic waste sites. They are injecting diluted molasses with gigantic hypodermic-like devices into the contaminated ground water. They claim that the diluted molasses helps eradicate certain pollutants.

Microbes that naturally occur in soil then "eat" the sweet stuff, depleting the oxygen in the ground water, which in turn causes a chemical change in dangerous toxins (chromium, which causes cancer and kidney damage), transforming it into a benign form that binds to the soil. After one year of such unconventional treatment, chromium levels in the ground water have dropped in 14 of the 16 EPA monitored wells. So, maybe the old folks were not punishing us by making us eat black strap molasses on nearly everything. They knew what was good for us, and the EPA has proved it. Maybe more generation X's should start paying more attention to the old fogies and stop harping on "Dad, Mum, you are soooo old fashioned!"

(e-mail: MadeleineCircleBRanch@juno.com)





Woodmen of the World Lodge 436 member Barbara Blalock presents check to B.S.A. Troop 106 in Mentone for their library



Woodmen of the World Lodge 436 members Ovie Blalock and Josh Miller, present new flag pole and flag to Valley Head High School



Woodmen of the World Lodge 436 member Barbara Blalock presents teddy bears to DeKalb County Sheriff Cecil Reed, to be given by law officers to children in crisis situations



Charles Holbrooks presents 1997 Woodmen of the World "Alabama Fraternalist of the Year" award to Barbie Hester. Barbie is a member of Lodge 436. This is the only lodge with two people to receive this award. Barbie's father, Ovie Blalock, received this award in 1992.

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Mentone Wedding Chapel

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The

Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9 o'clock each Sunday. Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L. A. Smith are alternate speakers at these services.

The **Valley Head United Methodist Church** Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday, and Worship is at 10 AM.

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

Mento Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10:00 and 11:00 AM services and evening services will be at 7:00 and 9:00 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Union Hill Baptist Church Sunday School is at 10 AM. Worship is at 11 AM. Adult Choir practice is at 4:30 PM. Discipleship Training is at 6 PM, and Evening Worship is at 7 PM. Wednesday evening at 5 PM is Youth Choir practice with GA's and RA's meeting on alternate Wednesdays at 5 PM. Each 2nd Sunday evening, the church has a singing at 6 PM. Everyone is invited for the singing.

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.

The **Mentone Church of God of Prophecy** wants to invite you to attend services with them. Sunday School is at 10 AM, with Worship at 11 AM. Evening services begin at 5:30 PM. Wednesday evening service is a time of prayer, worship, and to allow specialized ministries to be boosted. The first Wednesday night before Sunday is Youth services, the second Wednesday night is mission services, the third Wednesday night is Heritage services, and the fourth Wednesday night is Care Ministries (local missions.) Pastor Tanner states they would most assuredly be blessed by your presence. (Hebrews 10:23-25). Women's Breakfast is every third Saturday at 8 AM in the church. Men's Brotherhood is every fourth Saturday at 8 AM in the church. The church is still working on the church facilities.

Valley Head Baptist Church will have a church visitation program every Tuesday at 7 PM.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 9:45 AM each Sunday and Worship at 11 AM. Youth Choir practice is at 4 PM each Sunday. Discipleship Training is at 5 PM, and Evening Worship is at 6 PM. The Men's Prayer group meets every Wednesday at 6:45 AM and Church Bible Study is at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays. Team Kid is under construction. The new time will be 6:30-7:30 PM. The van will begin running at 5:30 and should return at 8:30 PM. We will be using new exciting curriculum and be creative in involving others in this exciting program. The Youth and Youth Ministry team of Moon Lake with the purpose of investing in the community of Mentone and fulfilling God's Great Command to Love your Neighbor exploded onto the scene with **Change Your World** April 2-5, 1998. How may we serve you or your neighbor? (example: cleaning, light construction work, etc.) We also need your help... Would you be willing to host some students in your home, help provide a meal, help serve a meal? Please Contact David Tucker at 635-6644 for more information.

Mentone United Methodist Church invites you to regular services at 11 AM each Sunday, with Sunday School at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome to attend. Bible study on the book of Mark continues each Wednesday at 11 AM in the fellowship hall. Rev. John Tucker of Cedar Bluff United Methodist Church is conducting the study. Following the study, a light lunch is served. On Easter Sunday, 6 children were baptized: Alex and Kayla Hazell, Brittany and Tyler Hester, and Kelly and Paige Wright. What a blessing to the church!

Only Believe...ministry: Regular services are as follows: Monday night (prayer) 6:30 PM. Thursday 6:30 PM Sunday 2:30 PM. We are a non-denominational/full gospel church. Pastor Susan Kendrick welcomes everyone to come and be a part of this work.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services at the Woodmen of The World Hall in Valley Head. All visitors are welcome. Each Saturday, Sabbath and Song Service 9:20-10:50; Worship Service 11:00-12:00. Pastor Wilbor Atwood, Lay Pastor - Bill Pyke. We have been enjoying a class on the Divine Nature of God, taught by Joyce Seay from Wildwood. We have restarted our Thursday night Bible study and prayer meeting. It is open to anyone interested in learning Bible truth. (7 PM). Come and receive a blessing this Sabbath.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church Sunday School begins at 10 AM, Worship Hour at 11 AM, Sunday Evening Service at 6 PM, and Wednesday Night Services at 7 PM. All times are eastern. The church is located two miles behind the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland. You may call 706-862-2651 for directions. Monthly Gospel singings occur every fourth Saturday. On April 25, "The Willing Vessels" sing at 7 PM, preceded by supper at 6 PM. Bring a friend. On May 23, "No Doubt" Gospel group will be performing. Everyone is invited to join us for all of the singings and the church services and become involved in the life of the church.

The **Harmony Grove Baptist Church**, and Pastor Richard Pope, invite everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on County Road 259 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45 AM; Morning Worship - 11:00 AM; Evening Worship - 6:00 PM.; Wednesday Night Prayer - 6:00 PM.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church The weekend of May 2-3, Rev. Ed Henagar from Durham, NC, will be here to do a special "Life Together" seminar, a part of the Mil Ferry Teaching Series. This will be on May 2nd, and a special evening teaching session, with a covered dish meal followed by music and the presentation. There is no charge. Rev. Henagar will preach on Sun. May 3, in the morning service. Everyone is invited.

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Vegan Recipe

By Dowe Foreman

Hunks of Carob Crunch

- 1-1/2 C Carob chips (malt sweetened)
- 1 C peanut butter (unsweetened)
- 1-1/2 C rice crisp cereal
- 1 C dark raisins
- 1 T lecithin

In a double boiler, add lecithin and carob chips, stirring continuously until melted. Turn off heat. Add peanut butter and mix well. Add rice cereal and raisins, mix thoroughly. Line 8x8x2 square pan with plastic wrap. Pour mixture into lined pan and chill until hard (approx. 2 hours). Flip onto a cutting board and cut into small squares.

Carob is a great chocolate substitute. **NO** caffeine and lots of calcium.

Health Nugget

By Dowe Foreman

Happy Spring to you!!!

I have been trying to decide what to put you with this month. Well, caffeine won. Maybe I should say lost, because the truth is out on this poison. If you drink sodas, coffee, tea, or eat chocolate, you may have a problem. A study in Connecticut shows pregnant women are more likely to miscarry in the 1st or 2nd trimester if they are medium to heavy users of caffeine. Even light users of caffeine in women in a high risk pregnancy had increased miscarriages. Other studies show that caffeine causes: (1) calcium loss through the urine which increases the risk of osteoporosis; (2) may cause birth defects; (3) diarrhea, indigestion; (4) increased risk of ulcers; (5) higher chance of bladder, colon and rectal cancers; (6) higher risk of high blood pressure, heart attacks and heart disease; (7) as it wears off, you feel worse and can become depressed; (8) One can of cola given to a child is equal to 3-4 cups of coffee in an adult.

Sure caffeine gives you a boost, but it's a thief stealing from your body's energy reserves. Your body is still tired, but you're on a fake high. When you quit, you will have withdrawal symptoms that may last up to 2 weeks. These include fatigue, irritability, headaches, and muscle aches.

Caffeine is a poison and has no nutritional value at all, and forget about decaffeinated drinks. The chemicals they use in this process are equally harmful. Sorry, folks, but is anyone up for a glass of water? There are good substitutes out there. If interested, give me a call at 634-4021.



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CLOUDLAND-ON-THE-RIVER

Beautiful two story log home overlooking the east fork of Little River sports 3 BR, 4.5 BA, kitchen, formal dining, great room with mountain stone fireplace, screened porch overlooking river, den with wet bar & mountain stone fireplace, 2 car garage, shop, and storage areas plus large unfinished attic on 2.5+/- acre tract showcased by mountain laurel, rhododendron, and natural beauty of the mountain. Too many amenities to list, and priced at only \$139,500.00 (No. G-57)



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 w/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.



LAURAWOOD - Million dollar view of brow, and this fine mountain home has everything you need to get away from it all. Situated on 1.78+/- acres, you can see miles of splendor from your own enclosed back deck. Home has large great room with beautiful wood floors and includes living room, dining and kitchen, with large storage/utility, plus large master bedroom and full bath. Breezeway separates main section from two additional bedrooms and

full bath, and all have access to huge deck. Large enclosed 2-car garage with workshop, side and front porches, central H/A, plus wood heat, gravelled drive, and all the amenities to make this a wonderful getaway home. Priced to sell at only \$159,500. (No. A-64)



CLOUDLAND - Fabulous A-Frame just completed and built to meticulous standards, this fine home has glassed-in great room with beautiful hardwood floors, rock fireplace, dining & kitchen with quality built-ins, plus large master bedroom with walk-in closets and huge master bath that has it all. Centrally located utility and storage, plus large screened porch. Upstairs has large bedroom, bath and storage space. All of this plus L-shaped wrap deck porch, central H&A, and musical doorbells. Privacy plus luxury, and priced at only \$149,500.00. 12+/- acres. (No. G-58)



CLOUDLAND - If you're looking for luxury, convenience, and mother nature at her finest, this property is a MUST SEE!! Private drive, great landscaping, and soothing sounds of the east fork of Little River running thru your backyard, plus your own river fed rock pond are just a few of the exterior amenities this 6.33 acre mountain tract has to offer. Main level of home has huge great room with living/dining/kitchen, plus large fireplace, MBR, MBA, plus storage, utility and half bath, sunroom and 2 C garage. Finished basement holds large bonus/rec room with wet bar, 1 or 2 bedrooms, full bath and storage. Decks on each level overlook river. Too many extras to list. APPT. ONLY!! Priced at \$189,500.00. *G-34



HWY 117 - MENTONE, Ala. - Mountain River Estates--3.48 +/- acres with road frontage, and 400+ ft. of river frontage overlooking the middle fork of Little River. Approx. 2300 sq. ft. cabin style home under construction. Beautiful natural foliage, rhododendron, and mt. laurel provide the quiet setting and privacy of this mountain home. \$139,500.00.



NOTICE: To better service, we are opening our Mountain Office - location directly across from the Trade Center on Hwy 48. Weekend hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or by appointment.

We are also interested in sub leasing rooms for antiques, displays, etc. Pay phone Available.

Please contact Steve Baker for information.

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Lot 10 - 1.28 acres - 150 ft. of brow - \$27,500.00

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Creekside - Hwy 157 - Cloudland

6.18 acres - Breathtaking, panoramic view of the valley and magnificent rock outcroppings/creek.

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Hwy 157 - Cloudland

T1 - 1.60 acres - 100 ft. of brow

T2 - 1.52 acres - 100 ft. of brow

Beautiful views - easy access. Restricted. \$39,500.00 each or will tender as a whole.

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Phase 1 & 2 now open. 3 to 5 acre riverfront tracts starting at \$27,500.00

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Mentone - Jamestown Hwy

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Edward Jones

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR MOON LAKE SCHOOL!

By John Corey

Moon Lake School has been doing great things under Dr. Bill Berry. Kids are on field trips, they have created a thriving eco-center, etc. Much more of the school's funds are going to benefit the children directly. At a recent PTO meeting, it came to the attention of the parents that a new lawn mower was needed for a cost of \$2000. As you may know, the county purchased an additional 2.5 acres for the school, and the lawn size has grown. The county does not pay directly for this upkeep. It gives the Principal an allowance (insufficient for all expenses), and he can spend it as he wishes.

Since the school would have to pay the custodian an additional \$50 to mow with its new \$2000 law mower, an estimated 10-15 mowings would be \$500 plus expense and maintenance of machinery.

We suggested as an alternative that local businesses **ADOPT A MOWING** and kick in the additional \$65 to the \$50 the school was going to have to pay for the mowing to pay for contracting the work with local lawn care people, rather than trying to purchase, maintain, and use expensive equipment. (The PTO got three bids, the lowest being \$115.) As of this writing, I have approached customers as I have seen them this morning (April 22), from St. Joseph's, Camp DeSoto, Carl Jones Construction, and Little River Hardware, and all have agreed to "sponsor a mowing."

If you are willing to participate, please send a check designated for mowing in the amount of \$65 to Moon Lake PTO c/o Carol Hazell PO Box 207, Mentone. (Carol does our administrative work at the Hardware, too, so you could drop it off or mail it here if you like.)

Thanks for considering this, and please do it soon, as this needs to be in place for the summer within the next few weeks. Let's help them stay in the kid business and out of the yard business!



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Tina Burt



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(B) WATCH THE SEASONS UNFOLD. This unique home is nestled on top of Lookout Mountain. It features 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Open beam ceilings. A loft with built-in storage spaces. Central H/A and a gas fireplace. A big 3 car garage. This home is located just minutes from Mentone and Fort Payne. CALL FOR ALL THE DETAILS. \$158,000.



(C) STARRY, STARRY NIGHT! Van Gogh should have seen the view from this A-Frame on the Brow of Lookout Mountain. This unique home offers 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 decks. In-ground pool with new liner. All on 4 acres of land. ONLY \$79,900.



(D) LOOKING FOR A HOME WITH ACREAGE? This ranch style home offers 3 bedrooms and 2 baths with whirlpool and ceramic tile in master bath. The Country kitchen has a breakfast nook and ceramic tile. Parquet flooring. Central H/A. Playroom or office area. All ON FOUR ACRES OF LAND. A STEAL OF A DEAL FOR ONLY \$73,500.



(E) OUTGROWN THE BIG HOUSE? Make your move into this just right rancher. 3 bedrooms and 2 baths on a level, beautifully landscaped lot on top of Lookout Mountain. Enjoy a stroll thru the neighborhood or sip a cool drink on the deck out back. You'll wonder why you waited so long. CALL TODAY. \$89,900.



(F) ONCE YOU SEE IT YOU'LL WANT TO OWN IT! This unique home is located on a private wooded lot just minutes from Mentone. Open living and kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, French doors, custom cabinets, Berber carpet. THIS IS THE ONE YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR! ONLY \$85,000.



(G) INDEPENDENCE BEGINS BY OWNING YOUR OWN HOME! And what better place to start than with this cute 3 bedroom rancher! White kitchen cabinets, screened-in porch, and fenced back yard. PLUS a place for an above-ground pool. DON'T WAIT, CALL TODAY. ONLY \$60,100.



(H) MOTHER NATURE IS HERE YEAR ROUND!! Overlook beautiful Little River from your own private ledge of CANYONVIEW FOREST!! Enjoy picnicking and breathe the clean fresh air of LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN from your FIVE ACRES of seclusion. Lightly restricted. Surrounded by Wildlife Management Area and National Park Preserve. So many wonderful enjoyments surround this wooded tract of pure pleasure anytime of the year!! Build your weekend retreat home or Plan to stay forever...CALL OLE HERITAGE REALTY FOR ALL THE DETAILS!! Priced at ONLY \$29,000.



(I) END OF THE RAINBOW. Drive up to this Beautiful All Brick home and discover the many amenities behind the front door of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Master bath has a whirlpool and separate shower. Cherry stained cabinets in the kitchen. Vaulted and tray ceilings. All this and more sitting on a large lot for ONLY \$98,000.



(J) ARE YOU LOOKING FOR PASTURE AND WOODS IN MENTONE???? Look no further than this 18 ACRES located just minutes from downtown MENTONE...With paved road frontage, pasture land, and hardwoods. This is the ideal spot to build your dream home!!! With a creek on back is just a little something special to add to this property which includes a TWO bedroom, one bath snuggled in the woods!!! Bring your hammer and a few nails and you're sure to have a WINNER!! Great investment...Call for your appt. TODAY!! ONLY \$69,900.



(K) YOU'LL GET THAT OPEN SPACES FEELING in this Contemporary style home. Features are 3 bedrooms, 2 and one-half baths. Bedrooms offer LARGE WALK-IN CLOSETS to hold all your seasonal clothes and more. An open living and dining area with a Nice White Kitchen. French doors open to an Oversized Deck perfect for entertaining. All this sits on an Acre lot on Lookout Mountain. PRICED TO SELL AT \$105,000.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(L) DeSoto Parkway. LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.. Wooded lots in a great location..close to DeSoto State Park and National Park..City water available..Build your dream home here..\$18,000.

(M) LAKE ON THE BROW!! WHAT A PLACE TO CALL HOME!! Enjoy the 13 Acre Lake or just "alt-a-spell" on the Brow..enjoy morning coffee with the wind touching your cheek...Quiet and Tranquil this is the PLACE TO BE!!!! Restricted Covenants are a sure pleaser on this OVER TWO ACRE tract joining the LAKE. YOU MUST SEE THIS UNIQUE piece of LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN!!!! CALL today ONLY \$37,500.

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AUTHENTIC LOG CABIN AT LAKE LAHUSAGE - NEW floors, ceiling, tin roof and well pump! 1 BR, 1 BTH, large greatroom (w/stone fireplace) and dining combination (16' x 36'), located across the street from the dam on almost an acre. **A GREAT RETREAT! PRICED AT \$55,000.00.**



CAN'T DECIDE, LAKE OR BROW PROPERTY? We have lake and brow homesites with common areas to each at Lake on the Brow Subdivision. Protective and Restrictive Covenants. Special Feature: adjoins the 14,000 ac. Little River National Wildlife Preserve! Provides hunting, fly-fishing, white water rafting, and beautiful mountain hiking, to mention a few recreational activities! **NOW OPEN, Phase II.**

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NEW HOME ON THE EAST BROW - UNDER CONSTRUCTION at Lake on the Brow subdivision, 3 BR, 2 BTH, greatroom (w/cathedral ceiling and stone fireplace), kitchen (w/built-ins), breakfast area, formal dining room and master suite. Central heat and air, 2 car garage and a bonus room. **ALL ON ONE LEVEL! PRICED AT \$195,000.00.**

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Constitutional day is finally here, and we would like to wish you the best of luck, every step of the way, on your path to success. Keep setting your sights high, give it nothing less than your best effort, and you'll be sure to ultimately reach your goal. Congratulations to all on a job well-done!

**The
Groundhog**

Valley Head Masonic Lodge 394 Donates Gazebo to City of Valley Head

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Beginning late last year, Valley Head Masonic Lodge 394 began construction of a Gazebo located on the main street in Valley Head in the place where the old theater used to stand. Because of the rain, the ceremony was moved to the Lodge Hall. At the dedication ceremony on Saturday, April 18, Grand Master Richard Tatum said, "For the two previous years, Brother Lyons was the Grand Master, and he and his friend, Kenneth Hammond, came up with the idea of a beautification project. Letters were sent out, and they had a great response from the community and the members of the Lodge to try to improve and beautify the city. At one time, the old theater was next door and the Lodge demolished the building after they bought it. The only thing left was the sidewalk and slab, which needed repairs. Out of their efforts, they were able to raise the funds for the repair of the sidewalk and the construction of the gazebo, which will be enjoyed by people in the community."

After the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Brother Mack Lyons gave a brief history of the city of Valley Head and Masonic Lodge 394. Valley Head was begun in early 1800s and became incorporated in 1922. Valley Head Masonic Lodge 394 began in 1873 and has been active since that time helping others, especially fellow Masons. They are active in helping transport burn victims to the Shrine Hospital in Cincinnati for treatment. The gazebo was erected by Masons and non-Masons, which exemplifies the pioneer spirit of "neighbor helping neighbor." Lodge 394 has 72 members.

Members and visitors in attendance were Grand Master Richard Tatum, Terry Hutcheson, past master, Mack Lyons, past master, now secretary, Jimmy Wright, past master, now treasurer, L. B. Hammon, Jr., Deacon, Howard Hawkins, Jr. Warden Roger Sharp, visitors: Sue and Sonny Crane representing Roy L. Ellis, who is in Floyd E. "Tut" Fann Veterans Home in Huntsville, and Marie S. Dillenbeck.

Those helping with the financial needs for the construction of the gazebo are:

City of Valley Head
Citizens Bank
Kenneth Hammond
Paul Thomas
Mrs. L. M. Coleman
Frank Chandler
Ralph Hammond
Wilson Funeral Home
Morgan Drugs
Fritz Structural Steel
Bert Pickett
Granville Goss
Roger Sharp
Roy Ellis
Leroy McAbee
R.C. Smith

Jerry Lewis
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Billy Ray Hendricks
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William D. Stalvey
Harold E. Broyles
Charles C. Tucker
Howard Carson
James P. Carmichael
R.O. Tatum
M.D. Lyons
L.A. Coleman
L.B. Hammon
Howard Hawkins

Pictures of the gazebo will be in the next issue of *The Groundhog*. If you haven't already seen it, please go by and see what a change a beautification project can make. It is certainly an asset to Valley Head.

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Jeff "works out" at ARC

THE ARC OF DEKALB COUNTY

In 1969 an organization was formed here in DeKalb County that has made a dramatic difference in the lives of individuals with mental retardation. The primary focus of the newly-formed organization, known as the DeKalb County Association for Retarded Children, was to advocate special education programs in the school systems for children with mental retardation.

In 1973, they renamed the organization The DeKalb County Association for Retarded Citizens. It would now serve as an advocate for all persons with mental retardation from birth to death. In December, 1974 the ARC opened an adult training program serving ten adults. Located in the old vocational agriculture building on the campus of the old Fort Payne High School, the program was administered by the ARC and sponsored locally by the Fort Payne Rotary Club.

In 1976, the ARC became a member agency of United Givers Fund of DeKalb County. UGF funds provided the needed matching funds to obtain federal and state monies.

By 1982 as funding increased and local support grew, the adult services program had grown from serving ten clients in a single location to serving 28 clients in two different training programs and in two locations. The newest training program was known as the "Uh-Oh" Mill (so named by the late V.I. Prewett, Jr. because the socks the clients worked on were seconds.) The mill was housed in an old warehouse behind the W.B. Davis Hosiery Mill. Clients were paid "piece rate" for finishing Cherokee Hosiery Mill's "seconds" on socks. But with two locations, size and safety soon posed a threat to the organization's federal and state funding.

In 1983, with the help of a group of local legislators and ARC members, the organization was able to obtain a grant to

purchase a facility large enough to house both the instructional and work activity programs. Renovations soon began on the 17,000 square foot facility. And on December 2, 1985, the ARC moved into its new home located at 203 Grand Avenue South in Fort Payne.

By 1987, an additional level of service needed to be added in order to provide quality services to each level of clients with mental retardation. The new service, a "Sheltered Workshop", became a reality on October 1, 1988. Named Grand Central Station Industries because of its central location in Fort Payne on Grand Avenue, the program has provided ARC clients with a paid work experience. Clients are employees and are paid according to fair labor board standards on a minimum wage scale and production schedule. Over the years, contract work has included: Andover Togs, Robin-Lynn Hosiery, Hughes Hosiery, Ridgeview, and Johnson Hosiery. An ongoing contract with The Heil Company since 1993 provides clients with an outdoor work experience. They plant and maintain the flower beds at the local Heil plant. Currently, 17 individuals with mental retardation are employed with Grand Central Station Industries.

A van, purchased in 1996 with a \$10,000 grant from UPS Truck Leasing, is used to transport clients to contract work and to various community activities.

In late 1997, with the opening of two residential homes, the ARC entered a new phase of service. Operating with "24-hour awake" staff, the residential program employs a total of 15 people including four direct care staff per home. With the opening of the third home in January, 1998, the ARC now provides homes for nine adults with mental retardation.

Denise Richards, ARC Executive Director, says they are very proud of their new residential homes and hope to be able to open additional homes in the future. She says, "A challenge that I see is increasing our services to individuals in the county with mental retardation. We would like to be able to identify all individuals in the county who need services and then seek means to provide those services. Ms. Richards said, "Funding is always a challenge and is why UGF is so important to our agency. The ARC is very proud to be one of the agencies provided support by UGF."

Ms. Richards encourages citizens of the county to support the ARC through their membership which can be obtained by calling the ARC of DeKalb County at 845-4171. The ARC is seeking individuals in the community who would like to become an active part of their agency by attending monthly meetings and helping them grow and better meet the needs of individuals with mental retardation in the county.

The ARC is currently selling greeting cards made by individuals attending the center who were paid a piece rate for each card that they made. The cards are for sale at the BMC Gift Shop and the Possum Trot in Fort Payne and at Ro's Kreations in Mentone.

The ARC of DeKalb County is one of 13 agencies supported by contributions to the annual United Givers Fund campaign.



Red Cross Volunteers prepare to serve meals to victims and disaster workers during last year's Rainsville tornado

AMERICAN RED CROSS DEKALB COUNTY CHAPTER

The American Red Cross was formed in 1882. Clara Barton, who had earned the title "Angel of the Battlefield" by her unselfish acts of mercy to the fallen during the Civil War, was its first president.

In November, 1917 on a clear, crisp, Saturday morning seven months after the United States had entered World War I, the DeKalb County Chapter of the American Red Cross was organized and chartered.

Many local citizens contributed greatly to this humanitarian endeavor in the early years. Dr. W. E. Quin, a former four-term mayor of Fort Payne, was chosen as the Chapter's first Chairman and served until after World War I. Mrs. Charles Howard Landstreet was Chapter Chairman for eight years, co-chairing county fundraising events during the Great Depression.

In 1954, the Red Cross Hospital Volunteer Program was organized and remained under the leadership of Mrs. Mamie Rains for over 35 years. Since 1992, Mrs. Jean Harper has served as Chairman of Volunteers. During 1997, 70 hospital volunteers logged approximately 12,472 hours of volunteer service.

In 1955, the Red Cross Bloodmobile made its first visit to the county. Mrs. Gladys Hudgins chaired that event with Milford Kuykendall, Jane Denton, and Paul Jackson. Rufus C. Sauls was the first blood donor at that first drive. Dr. R.J. Guest, Jr. volunteered his medical services to the blood drives, visiting centers throughout the county. Last year, 75 blood drives were held in the county with close to 2,500 donors participating.

In 1958, the DeKalb County Chapter of the American Red Cross was one of six agencies funded by the first United Givers Fund campaign. Since it receives no government funding, the Red Cross must depend on support from local citizens. According to Betty Kirtland, Chapter Manager, United Givers Fund currently provides about 65% of their operating funds. The balance is raised through their March membership drive and other special events. Ms. Kirtland says that in times of disasters, the local Chapter conducts a special campaign to raise necessary funds to aid those affected. She said, "We rely on the unselfish contributions of the citizens of DeKalb County in order to provide our services."

For more than 80 years now, the DeKalb County Chapter of the American Red Cross has provided relief to victims of disasters here in the county. They have helped us to prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Ms. Kirtland says a challenge currently facing them is keeping enough trained workers to deal with the growing number of disasters that occur in our county.

The Red Cross office is located in the Activities Building at 111 Grand Avenue South in Fort Payne. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and on Friday 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. They are on call 24 hours a day.

The DeKalb County Chapter of the American Red Cross is one of 13 agencies supported by contributions to the annual United Givers Fund campaign.

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ASPECT Foundation

Contact: Eileen O'Neill Journalism Intern
ASPECT Foundation
1-800-US YOUTH/1-800-879-6884
Local Exchange Student to Attend
International Science Fair

(It's a first for Fyffe High School)

For the first time ever, Fyffe High School will be represented at the International Science Fair, and by a truly international student, Christina Meier, an ASPECT Foundation exchange student from the tiny European nation of Liechtenstein, has spent the last academic year as a junior at Fyffe High School. Her experience there prompted her to perform an experiment.

"When I first came here, I thought it was real easy, and that in Liechtenstein school was harder, but I wanted to see if that was true," Meier said. So she created a survey to compare the study and leisure habits of her American class mates with those in Liechtenstein. What she found surprised her.

"I thought that students in Liechtenstein studied more," she said, but her survey showed that American students study more and have more homework than those in Liechtenstein, where schooling is more rigorous and specialized. The biggest difference she found was that American students watch more television, while students in Liechtenstein were more likely to read.

Meier's project won Best Overall at the Regional Science Fair at Talledega College. Her success comes as no surprise to her science teacher, Connie Cochran, who said, "Christina puts a lot of hard work into everything she does." That includes learning English, which is why Meier chose to spend an academic year in the United States. "My English was so bad at the beginning, now it's much better," she said, with a slight Southern accent.

Meier will travel to the International Science Fair in Fort Worth, Texas, along with a group of students representing Alabama. There, she will compete against 1000 students from all over the world for a \$40,000 college scholarship and other prizes.

Meier's host father, retired pastor Melvin Pace, couldn't be more pleased. "We're all excited about it. I'm nearly as excited as she is," Pace said. "She came here to learn, and that's what she's done. She's leaving in June, and I just hate to give her up."

ASPECT Foundation is always in need of host families for its exchange students from all over the world. These volunteer families can be married or single, with or without children, who can provide meals and a private or shared room for one or two students. Exchange students are 15-18 years old, have their own spending money and insurance, and attend a local high school for a semester or academic years.

For more information about ASPECT Foundation, please contact the Alabama State Director, Kimberly McNutt, at 256-634-4990 or call 1-800-US YOUTH.

ASPECT Foundation is a nonprofit organization offering affordable study-abroad opportunities to students from more than 30 countries.



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Be Kind To Animals Week May 1st through May 8th

The DeKalb County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is celebrating Be Kind to Animals Week May 1st thru May 8th and invites residents of DeKalb County to share 2 hours of their life a week helping the homeless and unwanted animals of our area.

Our volunteer program offers many areas for residents to choose from that best suit their schedules. Indoor, outdoor, on the site, and away. Jobs include yard work/landscaping, pet assisted therapy, animal socialization, animal grooming/bathing, and more.

Applications can be picked up at the S.P.C.A. during business hours, Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. till 4 p.m. We do ask that volunteers under 18 be accompanied by a parent or adult family member.

Now is the time for individuals who are concerned for the humane treatment of animals of this county and are able to support this organization in areas that might be lacking, to come forward and put the needs of the homeless and unwanted ahead of their own.

DeKalb County Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
P.O. Box 653, 550 18th St., SW
Fort Payne, AL 35967
256-845-9463

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Friday & Saturday Nights

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1/4 pound fresh Burger patties daily, ribeye steak, catfish,
subs, pizza, BBQ, milkshakes, and more.

Chicken & Dressing on Sundays.

Ask about daily specials and catering.

Summer hours will be extending, please check with us.

North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District - Volunteer Fire Department Annual Yard Sale May 1st and 2nd!! 7 a.m. - til---

Our annual yard sale is set this year for May 1st and 2nd. We are now collecting nearly new (gently used) merchandise for this annual event. If you have anything of value which you would like to donate to the fire department yard sale, please call Gail Chambers 634-4507, or one of the fire department volunteers, or one of the board members, and they will arrange to have your donation picked up. This is one of our major fund raising events of the year and to make it a success we must have a good variety of merchandise available for sale.

So, please look around your house and garage, gather your goods together, and then give us a call; and we will arrange to have it picked up. Receipts will be available for your tax deductions!

Last year our yard sale brought in \$1,200 which went toward the upkeep of the fire department equipment. This year our goal is \$2,000, which we can achieve with your help.

Your support of your local fire department is greatly appreciated. If you would care to make a tax deductible donation please send your checks to:

North Lookout Mountain
Volunteer Fire Department
P.O. Box 154
Mentone, Alabama 35984

Our sincere thanks is extended
to everyone for the food, flowers,
cards, and telephone calls during
the recent death of our mother.
The Arthur Goss Family.

Moon Lake School News

By Evelyn Graves

Aerospace Week is April 27-May 1.

Kindergarten registration will be April 29 from 9 AM to noon.

The next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, May 12, at 6:30 PM. The Rhododendron Garden Club will be meeting that same day for lunch and a meeting in the newly constructed gazebo in the eco-center.

The last day of school is a half-day on Wednesday, May 27.

Kindergarten graduation is at 9 AM on Tuesday, May 26.

Sixth grade graduation is at 2 PM on Wednesday, May 27.

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Innkeeper: Sarah Wilcox

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or write P.O. Box 443, Mentone, AL 35984



A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

We should be so thankful that we have been spared the fury of the storms--so far--and pray that it may continue, as we feel compassion for the ones who have been so badly hit. The earth is so beautiful--fresh and green with new life. The azaleas and lilacs have never been more beautiful. The dogwoods seem kinda sick here, but I hear that they are blooming lavishly other places.

Easter was a lovely time and a happy time for me. My granddaughter, Robin Darby, her husband, Ray, and daughters, Sharon Elise and Kirsten, from Chagrin Falls, Ohio, spent several days with me. They, together with my son, Barry, his wife Emily, Cindy and David Meadows, their children, Scot, Jason, and Alison; A.J. and Patti Brown, their children, Robert II, Amanda and Justin, and Robert and Michelle Brown and son Billy--all attended church with me at Valley Head Methodist Church, and we ate dinner at DeSoto State Park Restaurant.

Venna Livingston had most of her family with her for Easter weekend, and they attended church with her.

We were so glad to see Gladola Holleman at church Easter Sunday--alho in her wheelchair--with members of her family and some of their friends. It was a time of happy reunion for many families.

Peachie and David Cearley, from Alpharetta, Ga., and Thomas Allison from Asheville, NC, visited Laura Margaret Allison last weekend.

The Sunshine Club met March 26, for a luncheon at Little River Cafe. Those enjoying the event were Elizabeth Bauerle, Ruth Pickett, Lillie Bowden, Gladys Cobble, Sue Clark, Anna Daniel, Verence Hawkins, Billy Harper, Evelyn Clark, and Eloise Brown.

The Valley Head UMW met at the church for their Call to Prayer and Self Denial Service on March 23. The program was conducted by Laura Margaret Allison with most of the members taking part. A covered dish luncheon was enjoyed afterwards.

Ellen Lacey, from Henagar, led the singing at Valley Head Methodist Church, April 19, and sang a lovely solo. The Official Board met after the service. There is a Bible study every Thursday evening at 6 o'clock at the church. Everyone is invited.

The Valley Head Baptist Church is still having their delicious dinner on the third Sunday at the church for a donation to their building fund.

Evelyn Clark spent several days, recently, with her son, Loy Clark, Jr., and his wife, Margaret, in Birmingham.

Henry Daniel has returned home after spending a few days in a Birmingham hospital. We hope he will be completely well, now.

Ed Ringer was a delegate to the Alabama Retired Teachers' Association, March 31, in Montgomery. He also attended the Second General Assembly of Alabama Education Association at Montgomery Civic Center. Ed is past president of the Retired Teachers' Association. He also visited his brother, Dr. Robert and Mrs. Ringer in Marianna, Fla., recently.

Edith and Alvin Cox had as their guests recently, Frank and Jane Neil, and Roy and Lornia Pepper from Ontario, Canada. They took them sightseeing and to visit the Cox's daughter, Carolyn and Jay Larshus in their new home in South Pittsburgh, TN. They also visited Susan and Wade Higginbotham and boys.

Dot Blackburn and Martha Gibson were joined by Linda Blackburn and Betty Jo Lewis from Orange Park, Fla., in Savannah, Ga., for a tour of the old mansions and other points of interest. They visited the cemetery, which was the setting for the book and movie, "In The Garden of Good and Evil." They also saw the cemetery where Juliette Low is buried. They enjoyed the beautiful flowers in full bloom.

Martha and Hoot Gibson enjoyed a weekend of golf at the luxurious Grove Park Inn in NC, and enjoyed a tour of the Biltmore Estate.

Sue and Foyle Cooper went to their daughter Peggy Gray's home in Dunlap, TN., recently, for a birthday dinner honoring their daughter, Marguerite Wilson. They also attended an Appreciation Dinner at Collinsville Nursing Home, April 22, given by the staff for the singing groups and other entertainers or those who had performed a service for the nursing home. Sue and Foyle go every third Wednesday to entertain.

"Cotton" Hester is recovering at home after spending some time in a Chattanooga Hospital. We hope he will be feeling fine, now.

There has been a lot of sickness and deaths. We hope that everyone can feel better now and enjoy the beauty of springtime. Sincere sympathy to all who have lost loved ones. May the meaning of Easter bring new hope and comfort to all burdened hearts.

Congratulations to Heather McLeMore of Valley Head, who won first place in the Alabama History Coloring Contest sponsored by the DeKalb County Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Keasha Moore of Plainview won second place, Seth Killian of Plainview won third place, and Corey McClain of Collinsville, honorable mention. Congratulations to all achievers. Keep up the good work!

Spring's Haiku Poetry

Haiku poetry
Oriental Subtlety
Whispers of seasons.

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

The crocus raises
her beautiful praying hands
and Heaven praises.

Forsythia glows
With arches in golden rows
Radiantly grow.

Hyacinths ring bells
Of lovely clustered pastels
In the fragrant breeze.

Redbud lines her stems
With lovely Amethyst gems
Adorning her limbs.

Bright buds swell and burst
Crowning trees with jewels rare
Sating beauty's thirst.

The sassy Spring breeze
Likes to kiss, flirt and tease
Tender budding leaves.

The queenly oak tree
Has put on her jewelry
For spring's pageantry.

Spring has sprung at last
She is greening and preening
And growing up fast!!

—Eloise Brown



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(1) **EAST BROW, CLOUDLAND, GA.** What a view from these 2 to 3 acre lots located off Hwy 157 North. Rock formations, wooded, private with 100 to 250 ft. of breath-taking edge of the world view. Starting at \$22,000. Owner financing



(2) **CUSTOM DESIGN AND BUILT HOME.** Mentone, 3 Bedroom 2 Bath, formal Dining with Tray ceiling. Living Room has a Stack Rock Fireplace. 12x24 deck, C/H/A. Lots of Cabinets in Kitchen with top of the line Appliances, and many appealing Extras. \$135,000.



(3) **HWY 157N CLOUDLAND 2 BROW LOTS WITH** 150 ft. of East brow view. Approximately 2 acres each. Great for building that weekend getaway. \$45,000 each. May owner finance.



(4) **LAUREL CREEK LAKES.** Wooded lots, starting at \$9000. Lakeside and pasture lots starting at \$12,500. Mentone area. County Road 106. Restrictive covenants. Owner financing available.



(5) **3 to 5 acre tracts at MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES** Available, prices starting at \$27,500. ALSO AVAILABLE 13 acres on the East Fork of Little River. \$78,000. 3/4 acre lots on East Fork \$10,000.



(6) **MENTONE, COUNTY ROAD 625** 3 room FARMHOUSE on 20 acres. 85% in pasture with a stocked pond. 3 outbuildings and barn. City Water. Priced at only \$78,900.



(7) **CLOUDLAND, GA.** Home or Business could be the agenda of this 3 Bdr 2 Bath, approx. 1,600 sq. ft. completely fenced. Stone fireplace C/H/A rustic pine paneled on 1 acre. Located on Lookout Mountain Parkway, Hwy 48. \$55,000.



(8) **MENTONE, CUTLER AVE.** 3 bdrm, 2 bath older home. Detached garage, Large trees in yard. 2 story with upper deck. City water. \$48,000.



(9) **SPRINGTIME PARADISE.** Large Rock formations accent this quaint 2 Bdrm 2 Bath, located off of DeSoto Parkway (Co. Rd. 933) Mentone. Sun room and screened porch. Central Heat/Air, Hardwood, carpet, vinyl floors. Partially furnished, and all appliances, with large entertainment deck on back. \$74,500.



(10) **ENJOY THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN CAMP.** GROUNDRETREAT. 20 acres. 2 cabins (1 furnished). Well House, 3 septic tanks. Separate water line and underground power for future cabins or campsites. Secluded Mentone location. \$78,000.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(11) **AVAILABLE WOODED ACREAGE.** Secluded with private access, 10 acres and up. \$1,500 to \$2,500 an acre. Owner financing available to qualified buyers. Restrictions apply.

(12) **30 ACRES ON THE WEST BROW.** Old scenic road, minutes from State Park. Enjoy the privacy, peaceful woodlands, and panoramic view. Priced at only \$135,000. Owner finance.

(13) **OAKWOOD ESTATES** - 3 plus acre wooded and Pasture tracts available. Located in Mentone, County Road 106. Restricted Covenants. For permanent or Vacation Residential Homes. \$9,500 to \$12,500.

(14) **ADJOINING DESOTO STATE PARK** - and across from Howards Chapel, great commercial property or to build your Log Cabin. 5.5 acres with over 300 ft. of paved road frontage, Co. Rd. 165. Large rock formations. All for \$38,500.

(15) **76 ACRES WOODED WITH 1/4 MILE OF YELLOW CREEK.** OWNER READY TO SELL. Brand new 3 Bdrm home, greatroom, C/H/A. Nature trails, rock formations. Reduced from \$200,000 to \$160,000, or may purchase House and 26 acres for \$130,000. SOLD

(16) **UNDER CONSTRUCTION** At Laurel Creek Lakes Sub. Rustic Cottage Post and Beam construction, 1 Bdrm with Split Loft, open Great room and Kitchen. Gas Log Fireplace, Large Deck, approx. 1200 sq. ft. Wooded 1.75 acres with Common area for fishing and Hiking. \$75,000.

(17) **R LEE CROW SUBDIVISION**, 8 lots (approx. 4 acres) unrestricted, with access to Middle Lake. 1 mile to Downtown Mentone. \$12,500.

(18) **FLAT LANDING FORD ESTATES**, 3 acre tract, with over 350 ft. on the East Fork of Little River. Restricted for river protection. \$30,000. **SOLD**

(19) **FOR RENT** - 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, cabin in downtown Mentone by the week or weekend. Also, 1 bedroom, 1 bath log cabin, fireplace and large screened porch. Call for info.

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Memorial Day

Our Time To Remember



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Honor thy father and thy mother; that
thy days may be long upon the land
which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
Exodus 20:12.

Mother's Day is a special day for me.
Mothers are to be loved and honored.
Nothing can be compared to a mother's love,
except the love of God. A mother can kiss
the tears away and make the pain better.
Remember her on this her day. Go see her,
send her a card, honor her in a special way.
She really loves you.

Decoration Day
at Little River Church
is Sunday, May 17.

Decoration Day
at Bankhead Cemetery
is Sunday, May 24.

Gospel Singing

Dessie's Kountry Chef
Mentone, AL

1-256-634-4232

Friday night, April 24 - 5:30 to 7:30
Union Hill Baptist Youth Choir

Friday night, May 1, 5:30 - 7:30
The Stephen's Singers

Friday night, May 8, 5:30 - 7:30
Point of Honor from Fort Payne

Remember to attend the Annual
**National Day of Prayer
Service**

on Tuesday, May 9, at 5:30 p.m.
at Brow Park in Mentone.