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in Print**

THE

GROUNDHOG

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Volume 17, No. 5

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May 1999

MY BELOVED MOTHER, LORA MABEL CROW KIRK

By Amelia Lolli

December 21, 1906 was a cold day on the farm of John Blevins Crow; but, in the living room of their Country Home in the Alpine Community, a roaring fire was going and the local Dr. Floyd was very busy delivering 2 baby girls. Eva Mae and Lora Mabel--first set of twins to the family--and, in those days, they had no idea twins were happening. As through the years have proved even though Mabel was the smallest, she ended up the strongest and a natural leader. Eva Mae passed away just a few weeks later. Mabel with her other sister and brothers at the time was a go getter, she took charge and managed to get where she wanted to go. She loved her home and all the local neighbors. There were many chores to do as back then there was no electricity, no running water, no indoor plumbing. Everything was "Down Home Country." Grandmother Crow and Grandmother Clarkson lived with Maggie and Blevie Crow, as they were known throughout the community. Ella Magnolia Clarkson and John Blevins Crow were married on July 28, 1896. When all the children were born there was eleven, but 1 girl and 2 boys died in infancy. Paul, Forrest, Bea, Mabel, Mary Lee, Leonard, Grace, and Dorothy all grew up and started making their way in this world.

Mabel had curly blonde hair and was always wanting to learn to help out wherever she could. She took piano and played for the church and gospel singings that her father used to lead. She taught herself how to play the guitar and performed in a recital. The Grandmothers taught her how to quilt and crochet. She could climb fences and sometimes got stuck so her older brothers had to help her down. They gathered eggs and, when the peddler in the truck came around, they traded them for staples that were needed in the house. Once a year, they got a new pair of shoes. Maggie would make all the clothes, plus canning, washing in an iron pot, hauling up the water from the spring, building fires, milking, churning butter. HOW did they do it? For sure, all the family piled into the wagon on Sunday and went to church--there was no staying at home. Many a day, Mabel wondered how her Mother and Dad fed all the people he would invite over for supper on Sunday; but she never heard her Mother complain or raise her voice.

As the forks of the river became better known, more families came into the area. The BIDDLES, GREYS, BOYDS, KNOX, MILES and, of course, the CROWS. They got together and organized and built a school house known as NEW UNION in 1902. The land was given by Mr. Albert Miles. It was the largest school in the area in 1920, and more than 106 students attended. But, in the 1930s when President Franklin Roosevelt took office, he ordered state expenses cut--and that meant shutting down the local school that all loved. So NEW UNION SCHOOL was torn down. But, the pioneering spirit still survives, and the people that still love and honor the area believe it is paradise. Mabel never graduated from school, but

as soon as she was old enough, she went to Fort Payne and found a job with the W.B. Davis Hosiery Mill and worked her way up from pairing socks to the front office in bookkeeping. She had lots of friends, both female and male. She lived with the McSpaddens, which was also a large family; but they all got along and had great times together, and, through the years, remained close friends.

A young man came into her life at nine years old--an orphan boy from Birmingham, Alabama, named Frank Kirk. His mother had died when he was just 5 years old and his Dad was away in the Army. Frank's aunts were old and couldn't take care of him, so they sent him to an orphanage in New Orleans, La. Frank hated it there, and the only place he had known was Birmingham. So, he ran away and hitched a ride on the train back. Mr. Frank Hixson from Mentone was in Birmingham at that time to pick up a prisoner, and the police had picked up Frank from the train yard. So, with permission of the aunts, Mr. Hixson took little Frank up to be with his family on the farm near the Crows. Eventually, Mr. E.T. York had Frank come to live with his family and Frank stayed, eventually going into the Navy at 17 in 1924. Mabel met Frank in New Union School, and he used to pester and heckle her all the time--dip her pig-tails into the ink well, etc. But, when the other boys started teasing Frank, she stood up for him and told them to leave him alone. They remained good buddies and, when Frank was overseas, they corresponded. By 1931, they were getting more serious; and on September 19, 1931, Frank and Mabel were married by Rev. Ernest Shigley.

Heading back to California in their Ford Coupe, Frank and Mabel's life started with \$21.00 in their pockets for rent and food until pay day. Times were hard during the depression. After a year of meeting new people and seeing some of California, Mabel was pregnant and Frank went to sea. Mabel went back to her folk's farm and waited for Amelia Magnolia to be born on June 20, 1933. Dr. Floyd almost made it, but all turned out okay. Amelia was named for both of her Grandmothers. Frank had been hurt aboard ship, so they had sent him to the Naval Hospital in San Diego. Mabel took her baby back to California so Frank could meet his daughter. Mabel and Frank joined the Mission Hills Congregational Church and all were involved in the Christian Service Life that Mabel grew up with. Organizations Mabel was active in included: choir, youth groups, Girl Scout leader, Red Cross chairman, Community Chest chairman, March of Dimes chairman, cancer fund, heart fund, rescue mission, home mission board for the handicapped, sheltered children's workshop, sewing club for the Shriners Crippled Children, Shriners Club, Scottish Rite Womens Club, San Diego Club, Daughters of the Nile, Job's Daughters, counselor, bridge clubs, opera and



**Frank Kirk and Mabel Crow Kirk
on their wedding day, September 19, 1931**

(Continued on Pages 12 and 13.)

To Subscribe to the Groundhog, See Page 2.

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Monday, May 3, 7 p.m.
Mentone Council Meeting, Town Hall
- Tuesday, May 4, 7 p.m., MAPA meeting,
Dessie's Kountry Chef
- Sunday, May 9, MOTHER'S DAY
- Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 14, 15, & 16
Log Cabin Village Spring Festival(See flyer-back page.)
250 Mile Yard Sale along Hwy 11 Corridor
(See article elsewhere.)
- Saturday, May 15, ARMED FORCES DAY
- Sunday, May 16, DECORATION DAY
at Little River Baptist Church
- GRADUATION May 20 and other dates
(See articles throughout paper.)
- Sunday, May 24, DECORATION DAY at Bankhead
- Monday, May 31, MEMORIAL DAY
(See also other events on back page and throughout paper.)

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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
Contributing Writers.....Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Madeleine Bullock, Marilyn Campbell, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Dore Foreman, Evelyn Graves, Phil Harris, Lisa Moore, Sue Schwarz, Jennifer Smith

MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Homer Crow
Vice President.....
Secretary.....Corinne Caplano
Treasurer.....Dessie Newberry
Parliamentarian.....Bernise Crow
Member-At-Large.....Dorothy Crow
Member-At-Large.....Lucille Crowe

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

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MAPA MEETING

President Homer Crow called the April 6th meeting to order and Jim Lyday gave the invocation.

Some issues that were discussed at the April meeting were: the donation of the microwave by MAPA to the Community Center. It was purchased from Gary's TV in Fort Payne. The new MAPA membership booklet will be distributed after the installation of new officers in June. Dues come due on the 1st of June each year, and Dessie is working to complete the booklet. The MAPA brochures have been completed, and approval from Montgomery has not been received yet. Sherman Gough announced that the Adopt-A-Mile pickup on the MAPA mile was successful.

A nominating committee was appointed consisting of Jim Lyday, Marilyn Mathews, and Rick Chapman. Officers for the year 1999-2000 are to be elected at the May meeting.

Other items included a festival chairman for the October Colorfest, participation in the 450 mile yard sale in August, and replacing rotten boards along the sidewalk in Mentone.

Dot Crow introduced the speaker for the evening: Sue Henry. Ms. Henry had previously been with DeSoto Camp—one of the best run camps in Mentone—for 40 years. She owned it for 15 years. Camping was her life.

After she retired, Sue got involved in other endeavors to help the community, such as the Mentone Educational Resources Foundation (MERF). One of the goals of MERF was to build a community center, which it has accomplished. The center is being used by many organizations.

Ms. Henry's most recent challenge is working with Father Bunting in Lancaster (Mt. Vernon area), KY. He founded the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP), a volunteer operation, which is trying to reduce illiteracy and poverty in that area. Home repairs are being done and the home owners are

being trained to do their own repairs along with the volunteers, thereby putting "sweat equity" into their own home.

There are many other areas where volunteers help. The Family Abuse Center, allows abused spouses and children a place to stay, as well as run-a-ways. Family Life Services offer long term shelter where families, mostly mothers and children, are taken care of and who live in that setting from two to six months while they learn how to take care of themselves so they can go back out into society. Respite is a program that brings in disabled children for a 5-day period. Child Development Center is like Head Start. Attic is a second-hand shop that is well run and inexpensive. The educational program is similar to the GED to take care of the literacy problem and teach people the basics of reading. Within the last two years, Job Training has been added, and the Federal government takes care of the children while mothers are being trained. Therapy is also provided for those who come to CAP.

Meals are prepared as for a very big family. Mothers take care of breakfast for each family unit. Noon, whoever is there takes care of the meal. At night, everybody eats together. Chores are assigned and shared by all.

During the question and answer period, the group learned that, since it is a volunteer organization, endowments from corporations, donations, and gifts are what keeps CAP going. Many of the volunteers are young people out of college, who volunteer for a year at a time. The Roman Catholics train their young people to serve—service is important, and the young people grow up feeling service to others is an important part of their life. Volunteers live in the house with those who are referred for care. Six to eight people live in each house. Those families referred to CAP are trained to take care of themselves and their children and to be responsible for being employed to accomplish this.

Following the presentation, the meeting was adjourned to have refreshments. The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 5, 1999, at 7 PM, at Dessie's Kountry Chef.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lee Crow Community now has water. The pump at the water tower is in place. The electrical work at the tower is complete, and the problem with the new pump over the weekend of April 24 and 25 had been taken care of. The CDBG project should be complete, and Hokes Bluff Construction Company will be announcing that it has completed the project by publishing a notice in the paper.

If there is anything that has not been completed or corrected, please call the town hall at 634-4444 and report those items. We appreciate your patience.

Town of Mentone

--PUBLIC NOTICE--

MENTONE PLANNING
AND ZONING COMMISSION
Meeting dates for remainder of 1999

June 17

September 16 December 16

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

Mentone Council Notes

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

At the April 5, 1999, town council meeting, several issues were discussed. As always, water was on the agenda—specifically, when the Lee Crow community could reasonably expect to have water. At the time of the council meeting, the estimated completion date was about April 15. (See notice below.)

The other water project pending is the installation of an 8" line from DeSoto Falls to Cutler Avenue. At the present time, all of the easements have not been returned. As soon as the necessary easements are filed, an advertisement for bids can be placed in the newspaper.

The condition of several of the roads and streets in Mentone were brought to the council's attention, and work will be done during April to fill in the holes on several streets: Libby Lane, Douglas Ave., and East River Road, as well as others that may need work.

Bids were opened for purchase of the 1988 police vehicle that was declared surplus at the last council meeting. Five bids were received, and the highest was Nancy Jeffrey with \$550, which was accepted by the council.

Renovation of the meeting hall for an office for police department was discussed and the council voted to allow them to make the necessary renovations.

A drug dog was discussed. Donations have been received from businesses and individuals in the Mentone, Valley Head, and Hammondville areas for the purchase of a dog to be used by all three towns. The council voted to allow them to proceed.

Another issue discussed was the 911 Dispatch proposed charges to the town. Several articles and letters have appeared in the newspapers concerning the proposed charges. No letter had been received from the 911 office as of the council meeting. The matter will be taken up after receipt of the letter from 911 Services.

The next council meeting is Monday, May 3, 1999, at 7 PM, at the Mentone Town Hall.

Happy Birthday Page



Sarah Petersen (May 19)



Megan Petersen (May 18)



Mikie Petersen (May 5)

The Petersen Family Birthdays

The Petersen family of Mentone has a wonderful birthday month in May. Not only do the children of Mike and Barbara Peterson have birthdays, but so does mother, Barbara, whose birthday is on May 8. The proud parents wish their children happy birthday. Grandparents are Gail Plomaritis, Dave Plomaritis, and

Ron and Bettyanne Petersen. Great grandparents are Joyce and Bill Tallman.



Nicholas Brubaker

Happy 1st Birthday to Nicholas Brubaker. His parents want you to know: "You have given your parents, Scott and Linda Brubaker, family and friends a year of complete joy! We praise God for you!"



Sarah Lauro

Happy Belated 6th birthday to Sarah Lauro, whose birthday was April 16. Her parents are John and Lorelei Lauro from Springfield, Virginia. She has two sisters, Kara and Kristen, and one brother, Justin. Grandparents are Marie Dillenbeck, Mentone, AL; Walter and Arlene Dillenbeck, Belding, MI; and the late Frederick and Patricia Lauro. Great grandparent, Dorothy Shelden, Las Cruces, NM.

Sarah, we love you!



Chris and Christopher Black

Chris celebrated his 28th birthday on April 5th. Chris is the uncle of Beth Moore and Kerstin Formhals. (He's a big boy now.)



Ethan Blackwell

Ethan Blackwell celebrated his birthday on April 10th with a party at the Chuck E Cheese, in Chattanooga. Celebrating with him were mom Tammy Blackwell, friend Ralph Johnson, grandparents Hobson and Martha Kirby, and Preston and Amy Kirby and children, Caitlin and Bailey.

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The Mentone Superette expects to be in operation real soon. The gas tanks and pumps are being installed as this issue of *The Groundhog* is being put together. Hobson and Martha Kirby, and many others, have been working to get everything ready. The inside has been painted and new tiles on the floor. Shelves have been put up ready for merchandise being brought in this week. Keep looking for their GRAND OPENING date.

Continue to keep the following on your prayer lists: **Leonard and Mae Shigley** (He was taken back to the hospital overnight recently, but he's back home now.) He still is not doing well. His wife, **Mae**, is home from Birmingham and doing well. **Kathryn Jones**, who still is in the nursing home, has learned that she has cancer in her hip joint. A treatment program has been set up at the new cancer center in Ft. Payne. Keep her and daughter, Evelyn, in your prayers. **Rev. Dennis Mays** of Fort Payne needs your prayers.

Garry Galloway is improving well after having colon surgery. **Regina Austin** is doing well too, since her ear surgery. After a long illness, Kenna's father passed away. **Kenna** is Tony Galloway's wife. **Dowe Foreman** is doing great now. **Max Galloway** had knee replacement surgery recently. **Jane Galloway** said her family is doing all right, now. Thanks to all those who have inquired about them.

Congratulations to **Marlin Cox** whose Eagle Board of Review was held on April 5. He has attained his Eagle Rank. Be looking for an article on his achievements since he joined Mentone Scout Troop 106 in November 1994.

Fourth grade class at Valley Head will be putting on a performance of "James and the Giant Peach" on May 10. Mrs. Wisner and Mrs. Crider are helping with the play. The students would like to invite everyone to come and enjoy their play.

Our thoughts are with **Oscar & Louise Harrison & children**. Their house burned 4/15/99. Thankfully, the family is all safe. Fireman Bobby Freeman was injured while fighting the fire when he fell thru the roof. Hopefully, he will be on the mend soon.

The new Valley Head Band Room is now in use. The first class day held in the room was April 6th, and all the students are enjoying the extra elbow room. The new facility is large enough to store all equipment, uniforms, and music; and it also has restrooms, (something the old band facility didn't have.) The band held its annual auction on March 21st and all money raised went toward the expenses of the renovation. The band boosters would like to thank everyone who has helped with the auction and all other fundraisers held.

There were many people from Valley Head who attended the **Rhett Atkins, Neal McCoy** concert held in Rainsville on April 9th. Lisa Moore was there with her nephew, Thann Owens, compliments of her sister who won the tickets along

with \$100.00 from WQSB radio. Phyllis Lewis and her family attended, as did Shannon & Valarie Chappell and April Pierce. Robin & Jerry Hulan had the honor of sitting near the stage while Blake was even invited to rehearse with both country groups. (He declined that, but he did let them autograph his ball cap.)

Heather Daniel had a bad bike wreck. She's getting over the soreness, but still needs your prayers.

George and Jo Beube continue to travel back and forth looking after their mothers who are in nursing homes: George's mother (92) is in Gadsden, Jo's mother (99) in Copperhill, TN; keeping up with children, traveling to El Paso, TX, where a granddaughter is expected in June.

Georgia Stevens of Mentone is having her tonsils out at Erlanger. Strep throat for three months is no fun.

Hope & George Walker are enjoying their trip to Canada. **Maureen Brewer**, of Fort Payne/Mentone, is visiting with Hilda Sapp in Rome, GA.

Dorothy Shelden of Las Cruces, NM, has returned from her trip through the Panama Canal Zone to California, and back to Las Cruces. Had a great time, she said.

Bill and Lucette Dix are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary with a trip to California, Acapulco, and one of the Princess Cruise trips.

Congratulations to young weather artist, **Taylor Gatlin** (7), from Valley Head whose drawing appeared April 7, in the *Times-Journal*.

Frances Rosario Blix, Gainesville, Ga., was surprised on Saturday, April 24, with a "Surprise 75th Birthday Party," at her home in Gainesville. Many of her friends from Mentone went to join with friends from Gainesville and other areas to help her celebrate. We wish you many more happy birthdays, Frances!

Ed and Gerry Disney held an open house at Nippersink Lodge to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary (Feb. 24, 1949). They celebrated the whole afternoon, with guests talking and enjoying themselves in the beautiful Nippersink setting. (See photo elsewhere.)

On April 11, the **Moon Lake School basketball players and cheerleaders** sold BBQ plates at the Mentone Community House to raise funds for their Athletic Banquet. They raised \$720. Congratulations. They (the parents, too) all thank everyone who came and made it such a great success.

Wildflower Saturday will be Saturday, May 1, with a day of programs and field trips at DeSoto State Park. Hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Ann Wright was elected president of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs at their annual spring luncheon on Saturday, April 24, at the Rainsville Church of God. Congratulations, Ann.

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

- J.B. Burt, 67, Valley Head, 4/2
- Hershel Calvin Young, 46, Valley Head, 4/9
- Carmel Gifford, 85, Valley Head, 4/16
- Shirley Lusk, 72, Mentone, 4/23

Belinda Knowles presented **Daniel Bullock** with a beautiful little girl, **Kaitlyn Deann Bullock**, on March 27, 1999. Kaitlyn weighed in at 5 pounds and 13 ounces and was 19 and a half inches long when born. Congratulations!

Carla Dawn Newsome is about to present (July) hubby and brother Dakota with a new baby, too. Carla is the sister of Belinda Knowles.

Parents and students would like to bid adieu and good luck to all the wonderful foreign exchange students that attended Valley Head High this past school year.

Keep an eye out for the news about the Senior Prom night for area students.

Mary Brown of Mentone celebrated her 88th birthday on Sunday, April 25, with lots of family and friends--about 40, all together.

The children were all home. Daughter Dee Kelly hosted the event and made all the arrangements. Mary was surprised by the arrival of sister, Margaret Stallings from Crowne Nursing Home, and sister-in-law, Florine Kirby, who were brought in specially for her celebration.

Mountain Mamas will be holding workshops in June at the Mountain Mama Craft Shop on Hwy 48 in Cloudland. Be looking for an article in next month's *Groundhog* about Y2K/tornadoes/ice storms preparedness workshops.

Belated Happy Birthday wishes for April to: Jana Goss, April 5, and Josh Goss, April 9.

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, Jerrod Hulan, Jerrod Pelletier; • 8- James Wilborn, Connie (Hilliard) Clark, James Hawk, Thomas Brandon; • 9- Megan Smith, Juanita Hilliard; • 10- Matt Brandon, Mrs. Georgia McKown (94), Helen Hill, Junior and Donnie Bell, (52st Anniv.), Louise and Leonard Keith (52st Anniv.); • 11- Eunice Strickland; • 12- Van Moore; • 13- Blake Hulan, Charlotte Roden; • 15- Trevor Lewis, Tyler Blansit, Shirley Collins, Ruby Gifford; • 17- Beth Moore (sweet 16), Melissa (Smith) Miller; • 20- Joyce (Worthey) Tate, Jessica McKenzie; • 22- Bobby Brown; • 23- Phyllis Camill, 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; • 30- Shelley Brown; • 31- Rodney Bell.

Remember the **Rabies Clinic** at Little River Hardware in Mentone, on Saturday, May 15, from 1-3 PM (CST). Shots \$7.00 each. Summerville Veterinary Clinic asks that you have your dog(s) on leashes and your cats in carriers.

Mentone United Methodist Pastor **Linda Tucker** has announced that she and her husband, **John**, Pastor of the Cedar Bluff Methodist Church, are expecting their first child in December. Congratulations!

Donna and John Bares of Mentone are expecting their first child in October. Congratulations!

At the annual Optimist Club of Fort Payne Oratorical Contest on March 18, held at the VFW Hall in Fort Payne, **Alyson Johnson** of Geraldine High School received the "Dr. Pat Seymour Memorial" for "Best First-Year Speaker." Congratulations, Alyson!

Remember all the graduation ceremonies this month. Attend and let the young people know you care about them and their future. I leave you with this thought on motherhood:

"Motherhood"

No ministry or missionary has the opportunities that a parent has to lead someone to Christ. Motherhood is a call of God to a spiritual task of the highest order, and it is important to remember this at times when the demands of the family rule out all other forms of Christian service.

Remember your mother or some loved one on Mother's Day, May 9!

BEST WISHES ON Mother's Day

Driftwood

Some nigh to twenty days you
Washed upon this shore;
Tossed and turned by the
Mighty river;
Passed cities and towns that
You had never seen before;
Onward, Onward, through the
Swamps, ridden down with fever;
And yea you have followed.

I fear that you'll again be
Drifting;
And you'll be carried out
To sea;
For the river's waters are ever
Shifting;
Pushing and shoving the old
Tired and battered tree;
And yea you have followed.

And in that endless sea perhaps
You'll find your rest;
To rest forever in eternal
Sleep;
A home for a creature of the
Deep, may be your quest;
And in the quiet depths
Your soul it will keep;
And yea you have followed.

— by Richard MacMillen —

Submitted by Mrs. Louise MacMillen
of Metairie, LA as a tribute to her son,
Richard, who died about four years ago.

81 horse drawn carriages to be in Mentone May 15, 1999, 10 a.m.

Claudia Wasson of the Mentone Springs said that there will be a group of 81 horse drawn carriages (each over 65 years old) in Mentone on May 15. They will be arriving at 10 AM, coming from Atlanta, Ga. and eating at Caldwell's Restaurant.

This is the same weekend of the Log Cabin Village Spring Festival and the Hwy 11 Corridor yard Sale. The weekend will be full of things to do and events to see.

Come to Mentone and enjoy the Rhododendren and Mountain Laurel that will be in bloom.



VALLEY HEAD HONOR ROLL THIRD NINE WEEKS

FIRST GRADE

All A's: Rebecca Freeman, Nathan Hannah, Elizabeth Manning, Emerald Poe, Jerry Bradbury, Dillon Brown, Kelsey Kemp, Zackary Peek.

A's & B's: Justin Battles, Taylor Gatlin, Dylan Stanfill, Samantha Weller, Steven Conroy.

SECOND GRADE

All A's: Ariana Beard, Andrew Cooper, Decker Jones, Marjorie Harper, Kasie Hicks, Sydney Hixon, Cody Atkins, Zoy Evatt, Alex Johnson, Amanda Carson, Brittany Miller.

A's & B's: Bo Barrier, Patti Grider, Jeremiah Robertson, Brittany Freeman, Chad Wooten, Coty Powell, Daniel Poe, Jennifer Britton, Sara McSpadden, Marcus Crider.

THIRD GRADE

All A's: Justin Grider, Larry Bradbury, Matt Turner.

A's & B's: Carla Ellis, Savanna Weller, Danielle Johnson.

FOURTH GRADE

All A's: Dallas Manning, Billy Wallace, Zack Cooper.

A's & B's: Amelia Hannah, Tyler Gatlin, Joseph Arwood, Ashley Tinker, Ethan Lewis, Amber Carrier.

FIFTH GRADE

All A's: None.

A's & B's: Sheena Moses, Tylor Harrison, Becky Terrell, Brandy Ellis, Trista Blackmon, Dustin Davis.

SIXTH GRADE

All A's: Matt Battles, Amber Hannah, Ben Windom.

A's & B's: Kyle Hicks, Kim Wilbanks, Kim Pritchett, Chris Miller, Heather Freeman.

SEVENTH GRADE

All A's: Regina England, Ashley McSpadden.

A's & B's: Robert Brown, Becky Burt, Britt Heinrich, Steven Thornberry, Ashley Tuxbury.

EIGHTH GRADE

All A's: Josh Hulan.

A's & B's: Tessa Collett, Beth Easler, Corey Kirby, Tessa McKinney, Kelly Owen.

NINTH GRADE

All A's: Jerrylee Brisendine, Brandy Browder, Audrey Byrd, Stacey Hyde, Kayla Wilbanks.

A's & B's: Tessa Baty, Jennifer Blalock, Lacie Clure, Brittany Crane, Andrea Grisham, Hilary Lawton, Zachary Pritchett.

TENTH GRADE

All A's: Leeann Blalock, Slade Carden, David Chaney, Annie Harrison.

A's & B's: Jessica Barrier, Effia Harrison, Virginia Hatfield, Nick King, Ashley Langston, Laura Martin, Becky Mays, Beth Moore.

ELEVENTH GRADE

All A's: Katja Damman, Kerstin Fornhals, Kerri Hale, Paul Hawkins, Lydia Lucke.

A's & B's: Lisa Boothroyde, Thomas Brendle, Jeffrey Bullock, Donnie Davis, Candace Fuller, Amanda Hall, Heather Lawton, Anna Rievely, Adriane Robertson, Amanda Stewart, Crystal Valentine.

TWELFTH GRADE

All A's: Ashley Blalock, Eric Crane.

A's & B's: Tabitha Brisendine, Daniel Brown, Jesse Clements, Selina Couch, Toby Crider, Emily Frazier, Kyle Freeman, Amanda Goss, Jeremy Hyde, Nancy Jeffery, Josh Miller, Jason Owen, Carl Tubberville, Shawn Vernon.

VALLEY HEAD HONOR ROLL SECOND NINE WEEKS

FIRST GRADE

All A's: Rebecca Freeman, Nathan Hannah, Elizabeth Manning, Derek McMahan, Emerald Poe, Jerry Bradbury, Dillon Brown, Kelsey Kemp, Dylan Stanfill.

A's & B's: Justin Battles, Brandi Clowers, Taylor Gatlin, Shasta Terrell, Samantha Weller, Zackary Dean, Tiffany Keef, Scottie White, Steven Conroy.

SECOND GRADE

All A's: Ariana Beard, Andrew Cooper, Decker Jones, Marjorie Harper, Kasie Hicks, Sydney Hixon, Daniel Poe, Cody Atkins, Zoy Evatt, Alex Johnson, Amanda Carson.

A's & B's: Bo Barrier, Patti Grider, Michael Mills, Natasha Lewis, Jeremiah Robertson, Nicole Gass, Jacob Bain, Chad Wooten, Brittany Miller, Jennifer Britton, Sara McSpadden, Marcus Crider.

THIRD GRADE

All A's: Justin Grider, Larry Bradbury.

A's & B's: Matthew Fuller, Nathan O'Shields, Carla Ellis, Billy Stanfill, Savanna Weller, Danielle Johnson.

FOURTH GRADE

All A's: Dallas Manning, Billy Wallace.

A's & B's: Cory Dobbins, Kayla Green, Amelia Hannah, Ashley Tinker, Ethan Lewis, Zachary Cooper, Amber Carrier, Amber White, Ethan Lewis, Robert Kauble, Joseph Arwood.

FIFTH GRADE

All A's: Becky Terrell.

A's & B's: Aaron Grisham, Sheena Moses, Tylor Harrison, Heather McLemore, Brandy Ellis, Trista Blackmon.

SIXTH GRADE

All A's: Chris Miller, Matt Battles, Amber Hannah, Heather Freeman, Kim Pritchett.

A's & B's: Jacki Davis, Kyle Hicks, Chris Richardson, Lathasha Edgeworth, Crystal Gregory, Ben Windom, Kim Wilbanks, Brittney Turner, Sheena Combs, Matt Croxton.

Valley Head School News

The Valley Head Agriculture Forestry Team won 1st place for the 2nd year in a row. The team members are: Paul Hawkins, Nick King, Josh Johnson, and Nathan Owens. Congratulations to them.

The Valley Head Jr. Sr. Prom was held at the DeKalb Theatre in Fort Payne on April 17th. This year the theme was "I'll Be," and the King was Josh Shelton and Queen Valerie Chappell. The Prince was Thomas Brendle and Princess was Candace Fuller. These are chosen by popular vote from each class.

The FHA club had its senior send off on April 20th. A reception was held and gifts for each senior member of the club were given.

The Valley Head Boys Baseball team is in the State Playoffs this year.

Valley Head had several teams competing in the Math Competition this year. Listed in the top 10 from Valley Head were: Lydia Lucke, Alg II; Shelly Brown, Alg II; and Ashley Blalock, Advanced Math. There were 18 schools with 6 kids in each division, which competed in this competition. Valley Head had 4 teams!

The valley Head Graduation will be held on May 20th at 7 PM at the Valley Head football field. The speaker this year will be Dr. Delores "Tiddlum" Hunt, Valley Head Class of 1964.

The Valedictorian is Eric Crane and Salutatorian is Ashley Blalock.

The County celebrated "The Week of the Young Child" by sponsoring a writing contest in which the entire county participated. Valley Head swept the upper elementary division. Sean Franco, a 6th grader at Valley Head, was 1st place winner. Chris Miller, 5th grader at Valley Head won 2nd place. Trista Blackmon, 3rd place winner from Valley Head, was also in the 5th grade at Valley Head. Finally, Valley Head 1st grader, Elizabeth Manning, won 1st place in Lower Elementary.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



The weather just cannot make up its mind! First, we have summer temperatures; and then, a day later, plants in gardens have been frozen. So many people are still feeling bad from whatever went around in the early spring. It seems that their voice will not return to normal and they still have trouble breathing. Of course, the abundance of pollen has not helped the situation. It seems to be everywhere and gets on everything. The recent rain has helped some but that fine yellow dust will probably be back. All of the predictions are for another hot, dry summer. You might want to remember this when you are planting, don't plant a lot of things that may need watering.

The Town of Mentone is about to start another water project. This one will be to supply more water to the many customers that are now on the lines. I'm not sure exactly how this project will help, but I do know that a larger line will be coming into the town to be connected to the lines already there. More about this project will be in future issues of *The Groundhog*.

I have just seen the news reports of the shootings in the school in Colorado. The report said that at least twenty-five persons are dead. This is so unbelievable. Why would anyone do this? Where are we, as a society, failing to teach the value of life? Recently, I heard someone say, "I have lost a parent and I have lost a child. Losing a parent is one of the hardest things in life to bear, but losing a child is so much harder." Children are our hope for the future, they are not supposed to die.

I attended the auction of the Mentone Inn. This was my first auction of this size. I was very impressed with the way the auction company handled all of the details. (It was over in ten minutes!) The one thing I did find disturbing was the way the auctioneers were "in the face" of those who wanted to bid. Several times they did not know what the bid was and those bidding certainly didn't. Maybe they should make a video of their performance and watch it, they might learn something about human nature, everyone likes their space and does not want it invaded. I think there is more coverage of this event in this issue.

One of the happy things that will take place soon is Earth Day at Moon Lake Elementary School. The teachers and students have planned a day of working in the Butterfly Garden. They will weed, move dirt, plant new plants and seeds and clean up the entire garden. They also have another project planned, to beautify an area between the school building and the lunchroom. This will require removal of gravel and replacing it with topsoil before anything can be planted. When the planting is completed, picnic tables may be placed there for the children to use.

Another happy occasion, recently, was the celebration of fifty years of being married to each other by Ed and Gerry Disney. Ed and Gerry are two of the most gracious and wonderful people I know. They are a real asset to Mentone. I have never heard anyone say that being married that long was easy. (I haven't asked Ed and Gerry, maybe they are the exception to the rule.) Usually when two people live together that long, conflicts are sure to arise. The secret is to know how to resolve them and remain friends. It seems that so many married people are not willing to make the effort. I hear of the divorce of someone I know at least once a week. Many of these are a shock, as I thought they were happy together. Maybe we should resolve to try harder to make a success of marriage if we choose to be married. Congratulations Ed and Gerry, I hope you have many more anniversaries to celebrate!

Many of you know Rev. Dennis Mays. He is having some health problems right now and needs all of the good thoughts he can get. He is a great man and the world needs more like him. I love you, Brother Mays.

This will be my last article until September. I will be at Camp Laney again this summer. Camp Laney will be filled to capacity and I hear from all of the other camps that they will, too. This means a lot more people will be in Mentone this summer. I am one of those people who have mixed emotions about tourists in Mentone. I know that they bring a lot of revenue to the area, but there is still a feeling of invasion among those of us who live here year round. Maybe this year we can all be more kind and patient. This includes the visitors as well as the home-townners.

Take care of yourselves and each other. Have a great summer!!

Fill your hummingbird feeders and hang them out, they're back!!

Do you have a picture or an article you would like to submit?

To submit pictures for an issue of *The Groundhog*, please get them in by the 15th of each month to either Evelyn Graves or Marie Dillenbeck. Copy or articles should be in no later than the 20th, so the paper can be printed on the 25th of each month. Thank you.



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Rhododendron Garden Club Plants Heritage Garden

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

In the absence of President Jan Wilkinson, Vice-President Flo Kirby called the regular monthly meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club to order. An inspirational devotional reading called "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" was given by Betty Chapman. At that point, the ladies served themselves from a lovely array of refreshments provided by hostesses Mary Ellen Fielder, Betty Chapman, and Bernise Crow. While the ladies were eating, Dr. Bill Berry, Principal of the Moon Lake School, spoke to them informally.

Dr. Berry sincerely thanked the ladies for their support of the Moon Lake School over the years. Then, he went on to explain that Earth Day activities were scheduled for April 22 at the school with the children scheduled to do special plantings and sprucing up outside on the campus that day. Dr. Berry went on to give the ladies a short overview of the current plans for landscaping the courtyard between the lunchroom and the back of the main school building.

In 1998, the Rhododendron Garden Club paid for the building materials that went into the gazebo on the Moon Lake campus while Mark Wright and an all volunteer group did the carpentry work—quite well. Dr. Berry assured the ladies that the gazebo indeed sees lots of use.

After Dr. Berry's talk, he returned to his duties at the school, and the ladies continued with their meeting. Mickey Gough led the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary Marilyn Blanton Campbell called the roll to which the ladies responded with the name of their favorite new or antique gardening tool and its use, and she continued to read the minutes of the March meeting that were adopted as read. Treasurer Barbara Bialock gave the financial reports.

Under committee reports, the ladies were brought up to date on the club's various activities.

At Moon Lake, in kindergarten through first grade, there are 85 junior gardeners that are divided into four groups—the Rhodies, Moon Lake, Moon Beams, and Little River. Under the direction of Karen Wright, the junior gardeners will have done seven projects by the time this school year is over. As of the April meeting, there were four of those projects left to go.

The plan was that, on Earth Day, the various classes at the school were scheduled to be in the yard at times through the entire day. The garden club membership were encouraged to arrive early and be prepared to either work with the children or prepare soil for them to work in it.

The membership of the Rhododendron Garden Club voted money to be paid toward the beautification efforts in the courtyard at Moon Lake School and to plant four trees—one for each group of junior gardeners.

Vice-President Kirby announced the Master Gardeners' plant sale and the Altrusia Club's plant sale to be conducted at the VFW in Fort Payne on April 16 and 17.

Under new business, the announcements were made about the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs Spring Luncheon to be held April 24 at the Rainsville Church of God with registration to start at 11:30 a.m.; and the Rhododendron Garden Club's May Luncheon to be held May 11 at the Mentone Springs Hotel, Caldwell's Restaurant, at 12:30 p.m. The new officers will be installed at that time.

Payment was required ahead of time for the federation luncheon, but the ladies will be served a buffet lunch that they pay for that day at the Rhododendron Garden Club's May Luncheon.

The Sickness and Worry Report caught the ladies up on community misery in general and marked birthdays and anniversaries in particular. Marjorie Gray has an April birthday, and Lucette Dix and her husband will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary during April.

The sunny day was absolutely beautiful, and the ladies went outside to plant their legacy plants in the Heritage Garden at the Community House. The ladies brought seeds and plants that were important to them because of where the specimens came from, and most of those were recorded in a book so that there would be a history for the future telling where those plants originated and who put them there in the Heritage Garden.

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 Federated Garden Club.



Roy Smith (R) presents certificate to Ellis Roy Ellis Is Honored For His 50 Years Of Masonic Service

by Marilyn Blanton Campbell

February 25, 1999, Roy C. Smith and Howard Carson of the Valley Head Lodge Number 394 on behalf of The Grand Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama went to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville to award Mr. Roy Lemar Ellis a Certificate of Recognition (impressively displayed under glass in a beautifully polished wood frame) "for 50 years of faithful service and loyalty to the principles of the Fraternity for 50 years of faithful service and loyalty to the principles of freemasonry as a member of the craft." The Certificate of Recognition that Mr. Ellis received had been signed by Gerald D. Kelley, Grand Secretary, and J. M. Underwood, Grand Master. The ceremony took place in the common room.



Ellis joined the Navy on
December 8, 1941

Mr. Ellis's sisters, Mrs. Sue Crane and Mrs. Eloise Breazeale, and sister-in-law, Geraldine Smith Ellis, accompanied Mr. Carson and Mr. Smith to Huntsville in order to be on hand for the presentation of Mr. Ellis's Certificate of Recognition and the accompanying gold lapel pin with its enameled navy blue accents. The wording on the pin is "50 years Alabama F & A M."

It just so happened that Mr. Ellis' 50th Masonic anniversary fell at a time when he

had just been released from the hospital, and he was not doing particularly well that day. Mrs. Crane and Mrs. Breazeale had seen Mr. Ellis on his 82nd birthday, and they had been elated at how well he had been getting along at that time. It is a matter of common knowledge that, in the older population, good health is extremely fragile, and the person who is doing quite well for one visit is not necessarily doing any good at all the next one.



Howard Carson
with Ellis' certificate

Mrs. Breazeale and Mrs. Crane took Mr. Ellis' Certificate of Recognition home for safe keeping until Mr. Ellis could feel better and be more able to appreciate it. Because the sisters are so acutely aware of the great pride Mr. Ellis--when he was himself--took, in being a Mason, Mrs. Breazeale is wearing the lapel pin partially in honor of Mr. Ellis and partially because he is not able to wear it for himself.

Mrs. Angela Shirley, the Activities Director at the Fann Home, was in charge of three different celebrations there that day. Mrs. Shirley took official pictures the day of Mr. Ellis' honoring, and she promised to send some to the sisters, but, as yet, those have not been received.

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CLOUDLAND - 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 and mountain stone fireplace, 2 car garage, shop, and storage area, 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 \$129,000. (No G-57)



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-**Hwy 157** - 10 acres backs to State property on two sides. \$3,000 per acre. Sold as a whole.
-**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 each or will tender as a whole. (Under Contract)
-**Mountain River Estates - Hwy 117 Mentone** - Phase 1 & 2 now open. 3 to 5 acre riverfront tracts starting at \$27,500.00. 4 to 15 acre mtn. stream tracts starting at \$10,000.
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-**Mentone - Hwy. 117S** - Multi-use potential. 150+ acres. 100+ acre tract of rolling hills with beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. Private entrance, county water available. \$2400 per acre. No subdividing. (No G-44)
-**62 Acre Getaway** - Pond, Private entrance - Secluded

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room, dining, kitchen, 3 BR, 2 car carport. Also on property is 1-room cabin w/mountain stone fireplace. 24 Hour Property Info-1-800-901-8882 #605

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Health Nugget: Healthy Hearts

By Dowe Foreman

The most serious health problem we have in the U.S. is coronary heart disease. Coronary bypass surgery is the operation that costs us the most money as a nation and heart disease is the leading cause of death. The good news is that heart disease is preventable with a good diet and life style. But, what's surprising is that, even if you already have heart disease, IT CAN BE REVERSED! Here is a list of things to help reduce your risk of a heart attack.

- 1) Limit the amount of fat in the diet.
- 2) Stop smoking. Smoking causes more deaths from heart disease than from lung cancer!
- 3) Regular moderate exercise is helpful. Walking is good for almost everyone.
- 4) If you have close friends and family, your risk of dying after a heart attack is cut in half.
- 5) For potassium, eat more beans, potatoes, vegetables and fruits. Do not fry these veggies or load them with oil or butter. (Remember, less fat!)
- 6) Stay away from high salt foods like salt-cured ham, salt-preserved meats and fish, cheeses and pickles.
- 7) Garlic lowers blood pressure and cholesterol, onions help, too!
- 8) Eat a high fiber diet, including foods like beans and whole grains.
- 9) Eat greens, carrots, cabbage, potatoes, nuts and seeds, soy beans, and other fruits and vegetables for vitamins that lower the risk of heart disease.
- 10) Trusting God and studying the Bible reduces stress, helps prevent heart disease and can help to lower blood pressure.

VEGAN RECIPE

Stuffed Bell Peppers

2 1/2 C cooked brown rice (*dextrinized first)
1/2 C ground cashews
1 T oil
1 t celery seed (grind in blender with cashews)
1/2 C tomato purée
3-4 slices crumbled whole wheat bread
1/2 t sweet basil
3 T soy sauce or liquid aminos (delete if salt conscious)
1/2 C chopped mushrooms
1 onion chopped
salt to taste
Saute onions, mushrooms in oil until tender.
Add remaining ingredients and mix well.
Wash 6 bell peppers and stuff with mixture.
Bake at 375° for 1 hour.
(*dextrinized rice - put dry uncooked rice into dry skillet - cook on med-med high, stirring constantly till light golden. Makes rice fluffier.)

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articles, UGF will "spotlight" each of its 12-member agencies with information on the variety of services available and on how to obtain more information or to apply for services.



Derrek Thomas

FORT PAYNE-DEKALB CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Q. The Fort Payne-DeKalb Child Development Center has been called a "Preschool Education Center." What is meant by this term and how structured is the program for this age group?

A. The Child Development Center is a licensed day care program that provides child care in a healthy, happy, safe, stimulating, and learning environment. They provide a balanced program of activities in a relaxed—not highly structured and not academic—atmosphere. The Center's supportive, non-pressured environment is designed to prepare children for later school experiences and to enhance their enthusiasm for learning.

Q. Where is the Center located and what are the days and hours of operation?

A. The Child Development Center is located at 651-A Wallace Avenue NE (Hwy. 35E) in Fort Payne. The Center is open from 5:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Nutritionally-balanced meals (breakfast and lunch) and an afternoon snack are provided through the USDA Child Nutrition Program.

Q. In addition to preschoolers, is child care for older children available at the Center?

A. Yes, the Center provides full-time care for preschoolers, age 2-1/2 years and up, plus before-and-after school care and summer care for school-agers through age 12.

Q. Is there any type financial assistance available to working parents who feel they cannot afford the cost of child care?

A. The weekly fees charged at the Child Development Center are based on family size and income, which makes the cost more affordable for many working parents. In addition, some parents may be eligible for subsidized child care through DHR or the Child Care Resource Network. For more information or to obtain an application form, contact the Child Care Resource Network at 845-8238 or 1-800-593-4056.

Carolyn Harrison, Child Development Center Director, says the Center celebrated the "Week of the Young Child" during the week of April 19-23. Planned activities included: Monday, a Trike-a-thon to raise funds for St. Jude's Hospital; Tuesday, Mayor Bob Parker read to the children; Wednesday, face painting with June Reed; Thursday, special music provided by Jeff Harrison and on Friday, a parent breakfast.

For more information, call the Center at 845-0731.

FORT PAYNE-DEKALB REHABILITATION CENTER

Q. What is the mission statement of the Fort Payne-DeKalb Rehabilitation Center?

A. The mission statement of the Darden Rehabilitation Foundation which serves the severely disabled in Etowah, Cherokee, DeKalb, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties is "to enable Alabama's citizens with severe disabilities to reach their maximum employment potential." The Fort Payne-DeKalb Rehabilitation Center is one of three centers in north Alabama which operates through the Foundation.

Q. Where is the Fort Payne-DeKalb Center located and what are the days and hours of operation?

A. The Center is located at 311 Gault Avenue North in Fort Payne. They are open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Q. What kind of rehabilitation services are offered at the Center?

A. The Fort Payne-DeKalb Rehabilitation Center is a comprehensive rehabilitation center offering work adjustment, vocational evaluation, skill training, transportation, sheltered employment, job placement, driver education, and other services that enhance the employability of disabled individuals.

Q. What is the criteria for admission to the program?

A. Any mentally or physically disabled person, age 16 or over, can be accepted in the program if their disability creates a substantial handicap to employment. Client must be able to care for daily personal needs or provide an attendant. Their physical or mental condition must have stabilized and they must be able to ride the bus or provide their own transportation.

Q. What are some of the disabilities that might qualify an individual to be admitted to the program?

A. The disability might include: mental illnesses, substance abuse, mental retardation, delayed development, deafness and other hearing disorders, speech and language disorders, spinal cord injuries, epilepsy, visual problems, orthopedic problems, stroke or other cardiac conditions, multiple disorders, and any others caused by accident, birth defect and disease.

Q. How would a person go about applying for admission to the program?

A. Individuals have to be deemed eligible through the State Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Anyone needing more information, or wanting to make a referral, can call Gina Blackstone at 1-888-327-6470 or at (256) 547-5751.

Wayne Stephens, Program Coordinator at the Fort Payne-DeKalb Rehabilitation Center, says they hope to place 36 clients in competitive employment during 1999. He says, also, that they want to re-establish a larger sheltered workshop program when sufficient work contracts are secured.

In June, a golf tournament will be held at Silver Lakes Golf Course to raise funds for their programs. For information on this event, call Gina Blackstone at 1-888-327-6470.

Mentone Inn Sold at Auction

By Marie S. Dillenbeck



Michael and Sarah Campbell, of Birmingham, new owners of the Mentone Inn

On Saturday, April 17th, the Mentone Inn was the setting for an auction. The Mentone Inn is listed on the "Alabama Historic Register." The Inn was established in 1927. It is a landmark in Mentone. As you come up the mountain, it is on the right just before the blinking light at the intersection of Alabama Highway 117 and County Road 89, also known as Scenic Highway and the Lookout Mountain Parkway. Its fame is known far and wide.

Several groups were bidding during the process. Many local people came to see what would take place. When the bidding was complete, a couple from Birmingham was declared the new owner of The Mentone Inn. Michael and Sarah Campbell bid \$293,000.

They said they have no plans at the present time to have it continue as a bed and breakfast. With a large family and extended family, the couple plans to make it a place for them to all get together under one roof. With 12 rooms, each with private baths, central heat/air, a fully equipped commercial kitchen, dining room that holds 10 tables, and seats 32... plus a two-bedroom cabin that sleeps 6, there will be plenty of room for them all "to get together under one roof."

Other bidders left their names and addresses with the Target Auction officials—just in case.

The previous owners, Frances and Karl Waller, of Birmingham, were there to sign the contract after the bidding. Frances said she and her husband, Karl, were now looking forward to renovating their house in Birmingham, where they live with their young son, Phillip. We'll miss seeing Phillip ride his bicycle. He knew all the streets and roads in Mentone. We wish you all the best, Frances and Karl.

To the new owners, Michael and Sarah Campbell, we wish only the best for you and your family, and we look forward to welcoming you all to Mentone.

dish

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A Friendly Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

I hope everyone had a happy Easter—as I did. My grandson-in-law, **Ray Darby**, brought his two daughters, **Sharon Elise and Kirsten**, the weekend before Easter, and they spent their Spring break with me. They enjoyed going to Chattanooga and Fort Payne with **Patti Brown and Mandy and Justin** and being with their cousins. Easter weekend, their parents, **Robin and Ray**, came from Collierville, TN; and **Laurie and Andrew Dell** came from Pasadena, MD. (They all came bearing gifts—flowers, dishes, even an Easter basket filled with candy.) We attended church, Easter Sunday, at Valley Head Methodist Church and were joined there by **Robert and Michelle Brown**. (Laurie and Andrew did a special duet and solo.) Afterwards we were joined by other family members (twenty in all) at Western Sizzlin for dinner.

Olene Roberts has returned home after spending a week with her son, **John Roberts** and family at Cullman, AL.

Ed Ringer attended the State Retired Teachers' Convention on March 30 at the Civic Center in Birmingham. After lunch, he received recognition as Past President of the organization. On Easter, he visited his nephew, **David Ringer**, and family, at Florence, MS, and attended the Marvin United Methodist Church. He also helped his namesake, **Edward Spencer Ringer**, celebrate his birthday. Ed also visited **Mr. and Mrs. James Able** in Philadelphia, MS, recently.

Gladys Cobble spent a few days with her son, **Mickey Cobble**, and family, in Chattanooga.

Peachie and David Cearley, of Alpharetta, GA, spent several days with her mother, **Laura Margaret Allison**, recently. Laura Margaret said they are so good to do chores for her.

Bert and Ruth Pickett and **Betty Bracken**, went to Panama City, FL, to visit Ruth's brother, **Lewis Card**, and wife, recently. On April 3, they went to Cleveland, TN, to the wedding of **Joe and Lillian Pickett's** son, **Mathew Pickett**. They have also been to Bellingrath Gardens, recently.

Chris and Gracie Brown and **Dillon and Amanda**, are spending this weekend in Gatlinburg.

Jason and Alison Meadows are spending this weekend in Marietta, GA, with **Chad Mosher** and his family to help him celebrate his 19th birthday.

Doris and Jim Carmichael were met at the Dallas, TX, airport by her cousin, **James Palmer**, and wife, **Kathy**. They spent the night with them at their home in Ponder, TX, and saw points of interest. Next morning, they went to Tyler, TX, to attend the celebration of the 75th birthday of Cousin **Bill Ozment**. There were 50 to 75 people present. They saw many cousins they had not seen in years. Next morning they returned to the Dallas airport and flew to Anaheim, CA, and spent several days. They covered a lot of territory and saw many people in a very enjoyable six days.

The Sunshine Club went to **Randy's Restaurant** at Trenton for lunch, Tues., April 20. Those present were **Elizabeth Bauerle**, **Vernice Hawkins**, **Lillie Bowden**, **Ruth Pickett**, **Gladys Cobble**, **Evelyn Clark**, **Anna Daniel**, **Susie Clark**, and myself. The next meeting will be May 27 at **Lillie Bowden's** home at 2 p.m. **Lillie Bowden** spent ten days in her old home town in Fort Valley, GA. She enjoyed visiting relatives and friends.

The Valley Head UMW will meet Tues, April 27, at 10:30 a.m. for the "Day of Prayer" program led by **Laura Margaret Allison** at the Methodist Church.

Vesta Hawkins celebrated her 95th birthday, Sat., April 24. Friends and relatives who came to help her celebrate were: **Nancy and Annette Hawkins** from Birmingham; and **Nancy's** mother, **Mrs. Lawson**, from Arkansas; **Tony and Renae Thompson** from Birmingham; **Dick and Lee Roberts** from Atlanta; **Lynn and Paul Robertson**, from Memphis; and **Geneva Smith** and **Velma Hammond**. They enjoyed a good lunch at **Dessie's Kountry Chef** restaurant at Mentone. May this lovely lady have many more happy and healthful birthdays. She has been a faithful and helpful member of Valley Head Methodist Church for many years.

Venna Livingston, **Mozelle Crow**, **Laura Margaret Allison** and I—(along with many more) attended "Shenandoah" presented by the Northeast Alabama Community College Theater, and we thoroughly enjoyed it. We all agreed that **DeVan Jackson** should be singing Grand Opera!

Congratulations to **Anna Rievley**, from Valley Head high School, who was one of the approximately 75 high school juniors who were guests of honor at a dinner, courtesy of the University of Alabama DeKalb County Alumni Association, on March 8, for students rated in the top ten percent of their classes. They received certificates of achievement.

Everyone enjoy these precious Spring days and appreciate the wonderful beauty that surrounds us!

Happy Mother's Day!

God Bless All Mothers

God bless all mothers in the world today.
Turn their thoughts to Thee so they humbly pray
For wisdom and patience to live each day
As examples for their children to see
What all Christian citizens should be—
True to principles and trusting in Thee.
May they be loving and always kind,
Firm, dependable, and gently remind
Of the helping hand they can always find,
Leading and guiding in the right way.
Give them strength and wisdom, dear God, we pray—
Bless all mothers in the world today and always.

—Eloise Brown

Surprise!

(a true tale more or less)

I was strolling across my lawn,
Rejoicing that winter had gone—
I was taking inventory
Of Springtime in all its glory—
Admiring each new bud and flower—
Birds were singing with happy power,
Trees were budding with tender green—
Except for one—what had I seen?
A small cedar—should have been blue
Had taken on a strange new hue—
It was festooned with grayish rope—
I went nearer, its end to grope—
Then it raised up and looked at me,
I was as amazed as I could be—
But I said, "Hello" and went my way.
I went back to see him the next day—
To see, if by chance, he remained—
Now my amazement must be explained—
He was still draped around the tree,
With head held high he greeted me,
I moved my eyes—what's the trouble—
It can't be—I'm seeing double!
On the next small tree by his side,
Was festooned his proud, happy bride—
Draped and coiled with careless grace—
They were staring face to face—
"But why should you be so surprised?"
He asked, and then I finally realized—
As the three of us communicate—
In Springtime, even a snake needs a mate.

—Eloise Brown

U.S. Highway 11 Yard Sale will be May 14, 15, 16

Planners of the mid-May, 250-mile antique, flea market yard sale say the event is being well received from all over the southeast. The event, simply called a "happening," stretches from Knoxville, Tenn., through Dade County, Ga., and as far south on U.S. 11 as Birmingham.

The Dade County Chamber of Commerce is one of the sponsors of the event, as it will be the midway point of the yard sale. It has a web page, e-mail address and a toll-free telephone number. Inquiries are coming from as far away as Memphis, the Carolinas, Florida, Atlanta, Blue Ridge, and Columbus, Ga.

Many annual spring festivals in towns and cities along the U.S. 11 corridor have been set for these dates to coincide.

For more information about the "happening," refer to a web site www.us11antiquealley.com, or call **Patty Tucker** at the DeKalb County Tourist Association at 256-845-3957.

To link to the web site, e-mail the Dade County Chamber at happenin@tvm.net.

Anyone can set up a booth and participate. Just be sure to get permission from the property owner—and check with city codes and regulations in case permits need to be purchased. The event will take place Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 14, 15 and 16, from sunup to sundown.



Coley Morgan on his "Surprise 21st Birthday" celebration in his favorite place—the barn. He celebrated at home—in the barn—with his friends and relatives.

Shown with Coley are his mom and dad, **Don and Edna Morgan**.

Happy 21st Birthday, Coley!!!

New event has a lot of potential for DeKalb residents

By Patty Tucker, Director,
DeKalb County Tourist Association

A new event has been created that will benefit businesses along the U.S. Highway 11 corridor from Birmingham to Knoxville, Tenn. A yard sale, much like the World's Longest Yard Sale in August, will follow 250 miles of Highway 11, with the heart of this road cutting right through DeKalb County. The event is being dubbed Antique Alley, due in part to the many antique shops you can find along this route.

More than 30,000 people came through DeKalb County for that sale in 1998, and this new event could be no exception. Businesses right on the route and those such as Collinsville Trade Day, which is just off Highway 11, can reap wonderful benefits by getting involved. Signage placed on or near the highway will entice travelers to pull off the road to see what is available.

Anyone can set up a booth and participate. Just be sure to get permission from the property owner—and check with city codes and regulations in case permits need to be purchased. The event will take place Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 14, 15 and 16, from sunup to sundown. For more information call our office at 256-845-3957 or check out the yard sale's website at www.us11antiquealley.com.

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DIVISION 1 (birth to walking)

Kaitlyn Hester (winner & photogenic)

DIVISION 2 (walking to 24 months)

Preslie Gifford (winner)

Sara Dawn Carrier (1st runner-up)

Cortney Haymon (2nd runner-up & photogenic)

DIVISION 3 (24 months to 4 years old)

Samatha Weathers (winner & photogenic)

Jessica Nicole Posey (1st runner-up)

ShiAnn Coker (2nd runner-up)

DIVISION 4 (5 & 6 year olds)

Victoria Ferguson (winner)

Megan Nichole Bray (1st runner-up & photogenic)

Mahala Combs (2nd runner-up)

DIVISION 5 (boys)

Byron Haynes (winner & photogenic)

DIVISION 6 (1st & 2nd grade)

Rebecca Diane Pina (winner)

Casey Hicks (1st runner-up & photogenic)

Zoy Evatt & Heather Richardson (2nd runner-up)

DIVISION 7 (3rd & 4th Grade)

Sydney Johnson (winner & photogenic)

Andrea Paige Wright (1st runner-up)

Mary Elizabeth Taylor (2nd runner-up)

DIVISION 8 (5th & 6th grade)

Latasha Edgeworth & Trista Blackmon (winners)

Trista Blackmon (photogenic)

Jacki Davis (1st runner-up)

DIVISION 9 (Junior High Grades 7th, 8th, & 9th)

*Stacey Hyde (winner -

Jr. Miss Spring Fantasy & academic)

Sharee Jenkins (1st runner-up,
congeniality, & photogenic)

Karina Taylor (2nd runner-up)

DIVISION 10 (Senior High Grades 10th, 11th, & 12th)

*Amanda Beth Moore (winner -

Miss Spring Fantasy & congeniality)

Jennifer Brubaker (1st runner-up)

Kerstin Formhals (2nd runner-up & academic)

Adriane Robertson (photogenic)



Wedding Announcement

George Cox and JoAnn Hawkins

JoAnn Hawkins, from Mentone, and George Cox, from Boise Idaho, will be married in Anchorage, Alaska, in June. The couple will reside in Colorado.

The bride-elect is the daughter of George and Wilda Frazier of Valley Head, AL. JoAnn's children are Tammy and Matt Pilson of Mentone.

The prospective groom is the son of Alberta Cox and the late William (Bill) Cox of Boise, Idaho. George's children are Denise and Matt Orem and granddaughter Payton of Meridian, Idaho; and Laurie and Mike Cox of Anchorage, Alaska.

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(Continued from page 1.)

symphony guilds, P.T.A. President in all of Amelia's schools and helped where needed with programs, etc. She even helped with Amelia's sorority in college. Basically though, Mabel took on all things that pertained to the Church; member of the church council, property and finance commission, board of deacons, Christian education commission, chairman of the stewardship, president of womens fellowship of the United Church of Christ, San Diego Association from the Mission Hills Congregational, helped to redecorate the sanctuary, the church lounge, remodel the church lounge and hallway, chairman of annual meetings and dinners and harvest dinners, teacher in many summer vacation bible schools, organized gift day, village fair, and was the fall bazaar chairman, rummage sale chairman, Bible and discussion groups through the years. Plus, she managed to work and help out during the war at Consolidated Aircraft and, later, as a bookkeeper for the Dental Association. Also, she finally graduated from High School by going to night school.

Mabel was bound and determined to find Frank's Dad, so she set about in 1940 to send off to the U.S. Government names, dates, and the fact that he had served in World War I, U.S.A. Finally, in 1942, she heard about a Robert Kirk living in Douglas Bisbee, Arizona. He was a sheriff there for a time but had retired because of illness. She got in contact and, sure enough, it was Frank's dad. He had remarried and had had another son—Robert LeRoy, but his second wife had died and he was raising his son by himself. They came to San Diego to meet the family—what a joyous occasion for all. Now, Mabel had a father-in-law and a new brother-in-law, and Amelia had a new granddad and uncle; plus, Frank got to know his father. It was wonderful! LeRoy moved to San Francisco to take Hotel Management and has remained there for 51 years. Frank's dad passed in 1958.

Mabel loved people and people loved her. She never gossiped. Whatever was told to her stayed within. Mabel always had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye. Through the years, many trips were taken back and forth across country. I believe she counted almost 300 driving the car, or riding the bus, train or plane going to and from in different ways around the United States. She missed her family, but never let it get her down. She thoroughly enjoyed each and every visit and hated when it had to come to an end and return to California. One of her biggest thrills was the Golden Wedding Anniversary of her parents. They renewed their vows and all the children went together and got Maggie and Blevie gold wedding bands. Back in those days, people didn't come and go like they do now. So, when you talk of several hundred getting together—it was a big affair.

Mabel was proud of her daughter's accomplishments from Concert Master in junior high and senior high's Orchestra to Queen of Job's Daughters and commencement speaker at Point Loma High School, on to college with a scholarship in the Arts. In Amelia's third year, she and Robert Brooks, a boy she had met in church when she was seven years old, decided to get married. Robert was in the R.O.T.C. program; so, after graduation, they went into the Air Force. During their years of marriage, Kathrine Ann, Lawrence Kirk, and Cynthia Diane were born. Mabel and Frank were absolutely delighted to have three grandchildren running around and getting to know them. The grandchildren loved to go to Nana's and Gran Gran, as Mabel and Frank were called. There were times when the three grandkids spent time in Mentone, and got to know their great aunts and uncles and cousins. Kathy, Larry, and Cindy learned a lot about the mountain and the background of the area and all the ancestors.

After 46 years in California, Mabel decided, with the doctor's advice, that Frank needed the peace and quiet of the mountain. Coming back to a rural area in this country town was a revelation. Roads changed from gravel and mud base to smooth asphalt, from small cottage homes to two story homes. There were more churches; electricity in every home for heating, cooking, and piped in water, making it possible for indoor plumbing. With all the new and modern made methods of living, Mabel felt there was an undercurrent of fear in the community. This she thought formed a stream of jealousy which permeated to the newcomer to Mentone. Attitudes surface in the tone of "We have been here longer than you. We couldn't do it, so why should you?" This left the newcomer to wonder



(L/R) (standing) Bea, Mary Lee,
Mabel, seated (middle) Grace and Dorothy



Frank Kirk, Mabel Kirk, and Amelia on Amelia's graduation day from
Point Loma High School

whether to venture into community activities or stay close to his own surroundings, fearful of submitting an opinion. After studying and observing, she found there are many unknowledgeable folk who did not realize that time does not stand still. One either moves forward or nature takes its course. Soon you are consumed and overgrown, then you find yourself back in jungle life. Such were the findings in the Mentone Area. In the

1800s and early 1900s, all improvements in the little community town seem to lead back to nature's way. When the many who had left the area came back to Mentone to find rest and contentment, they saw by shopping and caring and changing for the area, they could make it more beautiful and relaxing and inviting. Yes, Mabel believed man must work to improve his surroundings, or the deterioration of nature takes over.



Mabel Kirk
(Lolli) in fro
occas
Golden W



L/R: Leonard (Top) Crow, Forest Crow, Paul Crow, Mabel Crow Kirk, Mary Lee Crow, Bea Crow Keel (behind Mary Lee), Grandmother Maggie Crow, J.B. (Bleve) Crow, and Grace Crow and Dorothy Crow (behind Bleve)



MY BELOVED MOTHER, LORA MABEL CROW KIRK

God needed another Mother in Heaven
and so he called on mine to go.
To join the Heavenly Mothers
and leaving her loved ones below.
Her life was a living example
of love and devotion so free.
To her friends, and others
To her family like you and me.
She was a role model
for all humans to be.
Honest, decent, trustworthy
and unselfish to the nth degree.
She was my Mom,
my pal, my best friend.
Everyone should be so lucky
to have her as their friend.
There is no suffering in Heaven
No sorrow, pain or hate.
And the master's always waiting
as you pass the Golden Gate.
The pathway ends for Earthly Mothers
The body returns to sod.
Another voice on earth is stilled
only again to speak with God.

Written by her daughter
Amelia Kirk Lolli



Frank Kirk, and Amelia Kirk
of their Mentone home on the
of Frank and Mabel's
ing Anniversary celebration
ptember 19, 1981



Frank and Mabel Kirk on their
Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration
September 19, 1981

nature preparing to hibernate, and then winter itself when life is quiet and dormant, Be Still, and Listen, Read and Think. Yes, all seasons have their special times. God made a beautiful earth for everyone to enjoy and Mabel really did.

Mabel and Frank didn't sit still, they wanted to build a house to grace the mountain, so they tried to make the surroundings as beautiful as they could. They joined the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Payne and became active there. When the Mentone Area Preservation Association started, she became involved. Mabel was also President of the Rhododendron Garden Club for several years. A big event in their lives took place on September 19, 1981--Frank and Mabel celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. It was a beautiful, fall day and over 300 attended. My, how those years flew by and all the things they had accomplished.

Mabel believed many of Mentone's citizens have seen the results of a few newcomers activity, thereby accepting new ideas and making the mountain top more beautiful. Every year, roadsides and trails are being made lovelier. She loved the beauty of the budding and blossoms of spring, all the good and wonderful things to eat in the summer, and the fall when color came into hue and squirrels start storing for the winter.

By the time Frank really got sick, several great grandchildren had appeared on the scene. Kathy married David Higeon and they had two boys--D.J. and Justin; Cindy and Bob Foxworth were married and they had a son Brandon. Larry had joined the Navy and ended up in Japan. Amelia and Robert had bought the MENTONE INN, and Mabel and Frank helped them out as much as they could. But Robert and Amelia divorced and Frank passed in 1989. Mabel kept busy by helping as much as she could at the Inn with Amelia. They took many trips together when the Inn was closed for the winter. For six years, they were as close as "two peas-in-a-pod," as the saying goes.

Cindy and Bob Foxworth had another son, Holden, and they live in Dallas. In the meantime, Larry married a lovely Japanese girl, Maki, and they now have a son, Kristopher and a daughter, Nicole. They live in San Francisco. Amelia sold the Inn to a lovely couple from Montgomery. At Hamilton Air Force Base in Northern California, there was a General Andrew Lolli who was the Commander of the North American Air Defense Command. Amelia met Andy at that time, so 37 years later, at the lovely home of the Richard Chapmans, Amelia and Andrew were married. Leaving the newly weds alone for a year, Mabel finally went to San Francisco for a visit. In December 1996, they gave Mabel a huge surprise 90th Birthday party. All the grandchildren and great grandchildren were there, and even friends of long standing came up from San Diego. All had a great time. Amelia took Mabel all over California to places she had never been: Yosemite National Park, around the Mountains to Tahoe, Reno; and then a cruise to Catalina Island and on to Mexico, meeting new people and doing things she had never done before, plus eating a lot of good fish dinners at Andy's on Fisherman's Wharf. She loved every minute.

But things came to an abrupt halt as Mabel was diagnosed with cancer and had to start taking chemo treatments. After five months, she was able to go to San Diego and give her long-time friend Ruth a 95th birthday party at the Mission Hills Church--over 60 attended. That fall, Mabel and Amelia came back to Mentone and managed to accomplish many projects and see many of her friends. City water was now a wonderful new addition to her home. God definitely was letting her get to oversee things being done and accomplished. Her sisters--Grace Crow, Mary Lee Camp, and Dorothy Crow gave a lovely party for Mabel in Chattanooga, Tennessee, so she could visit with all of her friends that lived in that area. God was with her throughout her life until her transition came on December 23, 1998.

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**Valley Head Band Students chosen to participate
in the DeKalb County Honor Band**

(L/R) Effia Harrison, Campbell Smith (Band Director),
Beth Moore, Kerstin Formhals, Tessa McKinney, Annie Harrison

VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB



Judy Shelley at the home of Flo Kirby

The day was blustery, but the sunshine was brilliant as the Valley Head Woman's Club members made their way up the lane to the lovely gray home of Flo Kirby for their April meeting. Co-hostesses were Evelyn Graves and Inelle Hurt.

The subject of the program was "A Look at the Past." Many programs of the club have been of educational value, but a few have been purely for fun.

"The real purpose of education is to achieve maturity. Not just physical maturity, but intellectual maturity, emotional maturity, and, above all, moral and spiritual maturity. Without maturity, there can be no wisdom, no insight, no judgment, no compassion; nor can there be any real understanding of oneself, of other human beings, or of the great questions of our time."

The club has especially stressed education in sponsoring an essay contest each year for students at Moon Lake Elementary School and Valley Head High School, as well as giving scholarships to seniors at Valley Head High School. Our aim is to encourage students to greater scholarship and achievement.

Velma Hammond gave the devotional based on Ecclesiastes. She said the book has been attributed to Solomon, who therein was called the preacher. Wealth is all empty pretension. True happiness apart from God is impossible. "To every thing there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven." She concluded by reading an original poem on the subject by Eloise Brown.

Due to the absence of the featured speaker, Judy Shelley gave a review of several novels by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins: Left Behind, Tribulation Force, Soul Harvest, Nicholae, and Appollyon. The books deal with the rapture and end times. They are said to be spiritually accurate.

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(2) **LOVELY RURAL SETTING:** With 2.7 acres and lake. This 3 Bdrm 3 Bath Brick Home has CHA, Living with Fireplace, View of Lake from the remodeled country Kitchen with Breakfast Room. 3/4 Basement and 2 car garage. Must see to appreciate. \$92,500.



(3) **BUILT IN 1926, AN ORIGINAL CLOUDLAND HOME.** 2 story, Upstairs, being a Large Dormitory room with bath. Downstairs 2 bdrm, bath, living w/fireplace, Dining and Kitchen. All new wiring. City Water. \$69,900. \$65,900



(4) **LAUREL CREEK LAKES SUBDIVISION.** Wooded lots starting at \$8,500. Lakeside (2 left) and pasture lots (2 left) starting at \$12,500. Mentone area, County Road 106. Common areas for hiking and fishing. Restrictive covenants. Owner financing available.



(5) **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 \$32,000. Owner financing.



(17) **WONDERFUL OL FARMHOUSE** with 4 acres, garden area, two outbuildings, on paved road, Mentone. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large country kitchen for canning and a cellar for storing. \$59,500.



(7) **WILD RIVER COMMUNITY.** 100x300 ft lots on the East Fork Little River. Secluded and Scenic. \$10,000 each. ALSO AVAILABLE: 3 acre tracts-EAST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER, secluded, with natural deep swimming hole and rapids. Wild and Scenic beauty surrounds you. \$30,000 each.



(8) **COTTAGE ON LAKE LAHASAGE** Furnished, Rustic 3 Bdrm 1 Bath, Fireplace, 2 decks and Screened Porch. All appliances. Also Efficiency apartment above Garage. Creek on the West Boundary. A unique structure with lots of Mountain Stone Accents. Dock on Lake. \$95,000. Reduced \$82,500.



(9) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES Phase 1 & 2** now open. 3 to 5 acre tracts on the middle Fork of Little River. Located off Lookout Mountain Parkway, 4 miles from downtown Mentone and 2 miles from the Ga. line. River front tracts starting at \$27,500, and 4-15 acre wooded stream tracts.



(10) **FISH IN THE RIVER ACROSS THE STREET** from this 28 x 50 Modular Home, 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Country Kitchen, Central Heat and Air, New Screened Porch, Glassed Sunroom and 2-car Garage. Located County Road 636, Mentone. \$67,500.



(11) **HANDYMAN SPECIAL ON THE BROW.** 3 Bdrm, 1-1/2 bath. Hardwood floors, Stone Fireplace. Cozy cottage; walk to Downtown. Priced to sell. \$65,900.



(12) **9 ACRES ON THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER.** Beautiful wooded level property, with a gentle slope to access 900 feet of River frontage. Paved road frontage, City Water Available. \$54,000.



(13) **BROW, BROW, BROW - MENTONE.** Approximately 3 acres with 300 ft. of view frontage. Property is on the West (sunset) on Desoto Parkway. City Water available. Great Location. \$90,000.



(14) **INDIAN TRAILS** over 3 acre tracts on the highest point on the Brow overlooking North Fort Payne valley, to the Cumberland Plateau. City water available, access to and overlooking private lakes. Private access. Off Citadel Rock Rd. Restrictive covenants. \$35,000 each.



(15) **50 ACRES, LOCATED IN CLOUDLAND, GA.** Great Farm with 20x40 Barn, Large Workshop, 3 outbuildings, Garage, 4 wells, year around spring, 3 garden areas, Grape Arbors, Approx. 5 acres cleared. Beautiful Hardwoods. 12x70 Mobile Home with Rock Foundation. Many more amenities. \$165,000. Show by APPL Only.



(16) **67 ACRES ON THE EAST BROW LOOKOUT MTN.** Over 1,000 ft. of frontage. Rock formations, spring fed pond, artesian well, electric, and approx 5 acres cleared. Joining Wildlife Management and NPS. \$139,000. REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE \$115,000.

Also available: **VALLEY VIEW FOREST,** 5 to 17 acre Tracts on East Brow overlooking Pleasant Valley and Weiss Lake, and adjoins National Preserve \$10,000 to \$35,000.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(18) **20 ACRES** Wooded with Springs, Hollows, and Rock formations. Located on Co. Rd. 633, Mentone. \$40,000. Also available 10 acres and up ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,500 per acre. Owner financing to qualified.

(19) **DESOTO PARKWAY - (LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PARKWAY)** 1.5 acres M/L, wooded, city water and natural gas available. Minutes from State Park and Fort Payne. \$10,500.

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

(21) **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. Angela Wood (1-888-256-1276)



(17) **SOOTHING SOUND OF RAIN-DROPS ON A TIN ROOF,** brings back the warm cozy feeling in this 2 Bdrm, 2 bath cottage. 1 car garage and 3.8 wooded acres, and only three years old. Located in Mentone area. \$14,500. Reduced to \$60,000.

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L.M.P.R. is licensed in Georgia, as well as Alabama. L.M.P.R. covers more of Lookout Mountain, to offer a wider range to choose from. Want to sell or looking to buy that special place in the mountains?

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Highlights of Around-the-world trip for our 50th Wedding Anniversary

By Dr. Oscar Hussel



Oscar and Shirley Hussel in Vietnam



Shirley and Oscar Hussel in Indonesia

It is a pleasure to yield my column space to Dr. Oscar Hussel this month and let him relate to you some of the highlights of his and Shirley's cruise trip around the world in celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Since this is such an unusually exciting excursion, you will enjoy it. They have just returned from their trip. Pleasant reading to you. Bernise Crow (Country Journal)

Background information

Shirley and Oscar Hussel first visited in Mentone in 1956, staying across the road from Lee Matheny. They continued to summer visit for about 25 years, building a weekend cabin after they moved back south to Atlanta, in 1970. That "one room and bath" became a ten-room house, which they have occupied the past 11 years, since Oscar retired as a professor and dean of faculty in a theological graduate school in Atlanta. Their house is the one with the China gate (actually a Korean gate based on the east gate in Seoul).

Highlights and lowlights of the cruise

•To our surprise, British food was superior to that on the American ships we have sailed, although the British use of knife and fork seems to symbolize guarded possession of the food rather than American mannered politeness. In short, never lay down your knife and fork for an instant—for the British that means you have finished eating.

•We visited places we never heard of such as, Yasawa-I-Rara and Lautoka in the Fijian Islands. Yasawa truly was an unspoiled island with no pier (you waded the last way in from the ship's

launches). We picked up more shells and coral in one hour on the beach than you could expect in days in Florida. We also didn't visit some of the unspoiled islands. The Isle of Pines (again no tours, no cars) was missed in order to escape a cyclone (hurricane in our language). We were only too glad to miss the visit to miss the storm.

•In addition to these undeveloped islands (plus the Soyschelles), there were developing countries to visit—like Borneo, Vietnam, Thailand, Sri Lanka, where you were carried back most of a century in terms of industrial/technological development and thousands of years to native ways and the old customs.



Shirley and Oscar Hussel in Egypt at the pyramids

Among these places, Phuket in Thailand was my favorite. But, in any of these places, you could easily "get taken" by local sellers. The greatest power the buyer has is to state a low offer in response to the opening bid, to repeat it to the counter offer of the seller, and to turn your back to walk away. In my experience, you get your bid about half of the time (at usually less than 50% of the original offer), or you have another chance to try your bid on another seller of almost exactly the same article.

The highlights of the civilized countries were Sydney, Australia, Cairo, Egypt, and the Holy Land. Australia has the startling contrast of ultra modern coastal cities and the untouched "outback." We went to a large preserve where we saw kangaroos, wallabies, emus and one koala bear in a tree—all roaming free.

Space is running out, so I will end with two conclusions. There is far more water in the oceans than one can imagine. Almost every day for 45 days on the cruise, we cruised over hundreds of miles of water, seldom seeing land. So, the words about God, "like the vastness of the sea," take on a new meaning.

And, creation has a different kind of vastness, one of subtle complexity and astounding diversity of plants, animals, geography, and cultures. Yet, all that is new is not good; progress extracts a penalty that often is destructive. Still, somehow, you sense a unifying force, which was the origin of creation, is the nurturing agent, and will lead into a harmony newness. In short, cruising is a new way to know God.

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Moon Lake School Alien Costume Contestants
who participated in Space Day activities on
Friday, April 23.



Winners of the Alien Costume Contest
Back: 1st place - Megan Smith
Middle: tie for 2nd place - Daniel and Wil Scott
Front: 3rd Place - Jessica Meadows



The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

Here we are thinking about summer already. Bill and I have enjoyed being here and catching up with our friends here and meeting new people. This month, I am repeating (I think, since my file is in Huntsville) a recipe for a chocolate cake that is easy, and a favorite anytime I serve it. The second recipe is for spinach salad. The dressing is good on any green salad, but especially good with fresh spinach. I hope you enjoy these.

A special "I Love You" to my mother for Mother's Day, and always. Remember to do something special for those most special people—our mothers.

Mary Grace Umstot's Chocolate Cake

Mix together:

$\frac{1}{2}$ C margarine (softened)

1 C sugar

4 eggs

1 can Hershey's syrup

Add: $1\frac{1}{2}$ C flour

Bake in a 9x13 pan at 350° for 25-30 minutes. It fits nicely into the aluminum pans that are about 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12 $\frac{3}{4}$, too.

Frosting

Combine 1 C sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ C milk and $\frac{1}{2}$ C margarine. Bring to a rolling boil and boil 30 seconds. Remove from heat and add 1 C chocolate chips. Stir until melted and quickly spread on cake, which has cooled.

Fresh Spinach Salad with Mr. B's Dressing

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs fresh spinach-cleaned & broken to bite-size pieces

6 strips of bacon, fried

3 hard cooked eggs, chopped

4 green onions, sliced

$\frac{1}{2}$ pound sliced mushrooms

Toss ingredients together and top with dressing just before serving.

Dressing

$\frac{1}{4}$ C salad oil

2 T soy sauce

2 T wine vinegar

1 Clove garlic, crushed

$\frac{1}{4}$ t salt

$\frac{1}{4}$ t sugar

$\frac{1}{8}$ t ginger

$\frac{1}{4}$ t white pepper

Place all ingredients in blender or jar and mix well.

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(L/R) Rev. Al Cherbonneau, Rev. Randy Addison, Rev. Dwight Gorham, Rev. Butch Tanner (at microphone), Rev. Kenneth Shelton, Rev. Gary Moore. Special music was by Mark Colvin of Birmingham (inset)

The Easter Sunrise service was a wonderful time of worship at the Lee Crow homeplace, now the home of Lucille Crow. The setting is beautiful, with the Lil' Mole Run Golf course in the background. The North DeKalb Ministerial Association does this service for the community every year, and it is wonderful to have representatives from all churches in the area come together to celebrate the Easter seasons.

Photos by Bernise Crow



Some of the attendees at the 1999 Easter Sunrise Services at the Lee Crow Property in Mentone



North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Protection District Volunteer Fire Department

Jim Roberts, Fire Chief, and Gail Chambers, Chairman of the Board of Directors, hold sign showing the progress in the raising of funds for the purchase of a newer model tanker/fire truck. A goal of \$50,000 has been set. To make a donation to the Newer Truck Fund, you may make your check or money order payable to NLMFPD, and mail it to P.O. Box 154, Mentone, AL 35984.



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(1) Over 1600 sq. ft. of Living Space. This house offers 2 bdrm, 2 bath, large kitchen with island and breakfast nook. Also features pine paneling, great closet space, a detached garage and storage shed all on 2 acres. \$69,500.



(2) MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES - 3 to 5 acre tracts on the middle fork of Little River - running into Lake Lahusaga. Prices starting at \$27,500



(3) 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. Owner says make offer! \$129,500.



(4) WHAT A MOUNTAIN RETREAT SHOULD BE! Three bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 sitting rooms, sunroom, dining room and kitchen with breakfast nook, pine floors and walls. All this on more than 2 acres of elite brow front property. \$249,900.



(5) COUNTRY SOPHISTICATION! One look is all it will take for you to fall in love with this custom built home in the mountains. Only 4 years old with 3 BR, 2 baths, CH&A, 2 car garage, deck, built-in appliances, custom made cabinets and much more! Call today. Only \$135,000.



(6) ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES- Spacious Rustic living area with tile floors & lots of wood - 2 offices, workroom, pantry, 2 car carport - 2 apartments - 1 chalet, 1-1/2 acres on Hwy 117 in Mentone. Live in it, have a business in it or sit back and collect the rent. A must see to appreciate. \$167,500.



(7) COUNTRY LIVING IN THE HEART OF MENTONE - Three bedroom, 2 bath custom built home, pine floors, fireplace open to living area and master bedroom, large kitchen and dining area, sunroom, and private courtyard. \$142,500.



(8) COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES ON HWY 117. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath modular home comes with a fully equipped kitchen, living room, dining room, sunroom, central heat and air, 20x30 shed/garage and a nice landscaped yard on over 1 acre. Call today for more details. \$69,900.



(9) A MAGICAL MOMENT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ENTER THIS WONDERFUL 4-YEAR-OLD LOG HOME close to DeSoto State Park. Secluded in the woods, you can enjoy the large porches, the pine floors, solid wood walls, high ceilings with spacious loft room, and beautiful landscaping. A perfect get-away location, but only minutes from town. Enter today. \$169,500.



(10) CREAM OF THE CROP - two old log cabins and a new addition make this a great retreat. 3 bdrms - 3 baths - den, great room - 3 fireplaces - rock and wood floors - 2 CH&A units - patios & decks with an unbeatable view of the valley. Call today for your appointment! \$215,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

- (12) MONTHLY RENTAL 2 bdrm, 1 bath cottage in downtown Mentone. \$450 a month. References and damage deposit required.
- (13) WEEKEND OR WEEKLY RENTAL available. 3 bdrms and 2 baths will accommodate 8 people. For more information, call Susan Collins.
- (14) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. \$25,000.
- (15) MAKE THE MOVE TO MENTONE! Building lot on DeSoto Parkway - 200 feet of road frontage. \$10,000.
- (16) LAKE ON BROW - two great building lots. Over 1 acre Lake lot \$37,500. 1.4 acre Brow lot \$45,000.
- (17) TWO - 3% ACRE BROW LOTS just minutes from DeSoto State Park. \$40,000 each.
- (18) CANYON VIEW FOREST - 3% acre lot on the rim of Little River Canyon - Creek and Waterfall on property. \$34,500.
- (19) 100' WIDE LOT ON THE NORTH BROW - above Mentone - city water available. \$28,500.

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



(11) ALMOST NEW CHALET - 2 bdrms - 2 baths - detached garage - cable, just minutes from Valley Head School. \$63,500.

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

GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

I don't think that any of us could complain about the spring weather here in Mentone. Even the rain that fell was a gentle one instead of the torrential downpours that wash seeds out of the ground and deposit them elsewhere.

The weather has been perfect for roses, not too wet to cause diseases; but, still be cautious and spray with lime sulphur after pruning to kill off scale insects or use the US Rose Society's brew of:

- 4 Tablespoons of pest oil
- 3 teaspoons of baking soda
- 1 gallon of water.

TIPS FOR ROSES: dig in plenty of cured animal manure, don't fertilize until the rose is well established. Mulch with nitrogen-rich organic matter. Don't be scared by the mystery and rigmorole of pruning. Even if you do it incorrectly, a good trim is better than no trimming at all; and, once you are done, why waste the cuttings? Prunings of 15 cm (6" or more) can be planted in a mixture of 3 parts sand and 1 part peat moss, keep it moist until new growth appears. Roses are so hardy that they can be propagated from cuttings at almost any time of the year. Don't forget that, during fall and winter, the plants are busy growing roots; so, that would be a good time to dig in some Epsom salts, which promote strong roots. In spring and summer, the plants are busy making top growth; so use a fertilizer that promotes top growth.

EDIBLE FLOWERS: years ago flowers had to be useful as well as ornamental. Try some sweet violets on desserts or in a salad. Scented geranium leaves can be put on the bottom of cake tins for a butter-cake taste. Savory egg, cheese and baked custard dishes are perkier up with calendula petals. Other edible flowers are Dianthus, elderberries, honeysuckle, nasturtiums, citrus and pineapple sages.

VEGGIES THAT KEEP COMING BACK: most vegetables are annuals, but there are a few that live on (perpetual). Celeriac can be used as a substitute for celery, with leaves and stems the same flavor. Collards are a leafy green with a cabbage flavor and tasty steamed or raw in salads. Rainbow chard has brightly colored stems and leaves that are great in salads or steamed.

As azaleas finish flowering, prune them (you can be heavy-handed when pruning older, tall growing varieties), and feed with azalea and camellia food. As they are shallow-rooted plants, don't be heavy-handed with the fertilizer; instead, give them more frequent and smaller feeds throughout the growing season.

PEST POTIONS: •(1). Mix 1 tsp. liquid dish soap to every quart of water for an instant insect preventer. Spray on everything—lawns, trees, vegetables, fruit trees. •(2). Soak, blend and strain spearmint to make an antagonizing ant spray. •(3). Mix eggs with tabasco sauce to repel pesky deer and rabbits. •(4). Use 2 tsp. of skim milk to a gallon of water to prevent tomato virus. •(5). Dust cabbage with talcum powder to control insects. •(6). Sprinkle medicated baby powder on your bulbs to keep varmints away. •(7). Apply 1 tsp. of sugar to the soil of a 4" pot to eliminate nematodes. (8). Use antiseptic mouthwash to control insects and prevent plant diseases. (9). Hang a couple of bars of Dial soap near your roses to keep critters at bay. (10). Add chili powder to dog or cat repellent and free your garden from the dirty little diggers.

It is said that mosquitoes are far more attracted to people who eat a lot of bananas. Also, 25 to 50 milligrams of vitamin B, every day, can make you taste bad to bugs.

WARNINGS

FEBREZE is extremely toxic to animals. Some dogs have died after the area or animal has been treated with the odor-removing spray. It contains zinc chloride which is the toxic agent.

POTTING SOILS are known to be hazardous, breathing or ingesting (toddlers usually do this) the soil can cause a range of illnesses from hay fever to asthma, pneumonia and legionnaires disease. It is important to take care, when opening bags, not to inhale the dust; also, don't smoke while potting. Wear gloves, and always wash your hands after handling any organic matter, manure, or gardening soils.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN NATURAL HEALING: THE DANDELION

By Laura Catherine a/k/a Moon

The concept of weed has plagued the pretty, yellow flowered, low growing herb called the dandelion. I never understood why everyone was trying to kill this flower, when I used it to make jewelry and made wishes upon the puffball seed heads by trying to blow all the seeds off in one breath. When I was a child, I only knew I thought dandelions were pretty and fun. Now, I know every part of a dandelion is useful for food and/or medicine.

The dandelion is native to Europe and Asia. However, the Native Americans quickly adopted it as a food source as soon as it was introduced to America. The dandelion became known as a famine food because it is abundant and nutritious. Dandelions have no known pests. They grow in sun or shade and grow in any loose soil (though it prefers nitrogen rich). Dandelions are easy to propagate by seed, and the herb is also abundant everywhere because the seeds can travel up to six miles in the wind. Another bonus that landed the dandelion the name of famine food is that it flowers from April through November.

The dandelion's biggest asset to being a famine food is its nutrient content. It is high in protein and plant estrogens, as well as being rich in potassium, iron, magnesium, zinc, niacin, calcium, biotin, choline, mineral salts, folic acid, pantothenic acid, and vitamins A, C, E, B¹, B², B⁶, & B¹². One cup of dandelion greens has 7000 IU of Vitamin A or more. (So, caution should be taken in daily consumption, especially in children and pregnant women.)

Dandelion leaves are eaten as a salad green, especially in Europe, and are boiled and cooked in soup or like any other green food. You may have to acquire a taste, since the taste is somewhat bitter, but a little marinating can help that problem. The leaves are also eaten by deer. Besides a food source, dandelion leaves are used to make wine and beer.

The dandelion roots are eaten boiled or fried. The roots are also used as a healthy, naturally caffeine free coffee substitute. The dandelion roots are cut up in pieces, roasted slowly for several hours, ground when crisp and brown on the inside, and boiled into coffee. You can find the prepared roots at most health food stores. The dandelion root is also known to be used in wine and beer. The roots are best collected during flowering stage. To harvest for winter, it is best to dig up dandelion roots in fall, cut into small pieces, then air dry or slow roast in the oven.

Dandelion seed heads are eaten by pheasants and grouse. The flowers are used in wine and beer. According to *Earth Medicine and Earth Food*, by Michael A. Weiner, the Kiowa Indians boiled the dandelion flowers mixed with pennyroyal leaves to relieve menstrual cramps. (Caution, pennyroyal has been known to be poisonous.)

The dandelion has many medicinal uses. Its main claim to fame is the herb's diuretic properties, which earned it the name of herba urinaria in the 16th century, or the country name piss-a-bed, pissenlit in France, according to *An Illustrated Guide to Herbs*, by Anna Kruger. Unlike over-the-counter diuretics, dandelions do not deplete your potassium, but supplement it. The diuretic properties enable the herb to cleanse the liver, kidneys, urinary tract, and blood stream with no known side effects. Dandelions are also useful as a diuretic because they remove excess uric acid, which builds up from red meat consumption, and can possibly lead to cancer or premature aging, and serum cholesterol. Dandelions are useful in menstrual bloating, PMS, menopause, and known to be safe during pregnancy to release toxins and water held during hormonal changes. The leaves and root have diuretic properties as well as possible laxative properties to help in digestive disorders.

A tea of the dandelion leaves is used mainly for the kidneys, urinary tract, and digestive system. Boil 1 cup of water with one Tbsp. leaves for 5-10 minutes covered in a glass or enamel pan and let it steep for 3 minutes or until cold. The longer you steep the stronger the tea. Strain through cheesecloth and drink. Dandelion leaf tea is also used for hypertension - 1 cup, 3 times daily.

The dandelion root and leaves have similar properties, but the root is most often recommended for its medicinal properties. As mentioned, the root is beneficial to the liver, kidneys, urinary tract, digestive system, and cleaning the blood stream. These properties allow the dandelion to help with regulating female reproductive systems, and hormones, gall bladder

problems, abscesses, anemia, boils, breast tumors (or any tumors), rheumatism, cirrhosis of the liver, fluid retention, hepatitis, jaundice, skin problems, heart burn, as well as improving the function of the pancreas, spleen, and stomach. The dandelion root can help in the prevention of the previous list and age spots. The root can also help in retiring energy reserves.

To make a tea of the root, boil 1 cup of water with 1 tsp. of the root for 30 minutes and follow the same instructions as the leaf tea preparation. It is also recommended to boil 1 Tbsp. root with 1 cup of water just as you would the dandelion leaf tea. For rheumatoid arthritis, it is recommended to add 1 tsp. or Tbsp of celery seed to the tea and drink 1 cup, 3 times daily for best results.

As always, it is best to consult your health care provider before trying to treat yourself even though dandelions have no known side effects. One problem with picking the wild dandelion is the many chemicals people use on their yards and the weed killers that have been extensively used. Therefore it is very important to know that you are getting your dandelions from an uncontaminated area or from a reliable source such as a reputable health food store.

CORRECTION

In last month's article, Catherine's name was misspelled, and Dane's birthday was listed as April 16 instead of April 6. The Groundhog regrets these typographical errors.



GED GRADUATION FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1999, AT 7:00 P.M., AT THE RAINSVILLE CIVIC CENTER

The Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program will hold its Nineteenth Annual GED Graduation for GED recipients on Friday, May 7, 1999, at 7:00 p.m. at the Rainsville Civic Center. The graduation will honor all GED recipients from DeKalb, Jackson, and Marshall Counties. Robert Reeves, host of WHNT TV's "Mornin' Folks," which is broadcast on Huntsville's channel 19, will be on hand to assist in the presentation of certificates.

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

Any adult (including those who did not attend adult education classes) who has successfully completed the GED Test and has not previously participated in a graduation is invited to be a part of this ceremony. All family and friends are also welcome to attend the graduation exercises. Those interested in participating in the GED graduation or anyone needing more information, should contact the adult education program at 638-2957 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Ed and Gerry Disney cutting the cake at their 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration on April 18, at Nippersink Lodge. At the open house, friends, family, and many past Nippersink guests helped Ed and Gerry celebrate. They were married on Feb. 24, 1949.

TRIBUTE TO "MRS. KATHRYN" ON MOTHER'S DAY

By Evelyn Graves

As I read Amelia Kirk Lolli's beautiful tribute to her mother, I began to reminisce about my life with my own mother.

This will be the first Mother's Day I have not visited my mother in her own home. I thought about all the many things she has done for me and the love she has always displayed for not only me and my brother, but for well over a thousand of Mentone's children, as she worked with them, taught them, and loved them as her own.

The staff at the nursing home where she is a patient tell me that she fills her days with thoughts about teaching school. Those are the memories that are most vivid and precious to her.

To all of "Mrs. Kathryn's" students, if you would like to send her a card or a note, she would be so thrilled to hear from you. The address is:

Mrs. Kathryn Jones
Room 59A
North Jackson Nursing Home
47065 US Highway 72
Bridgeport, AL 35740

Thank you for all your telephone calls inquiring about my parents.

CORNERSTONE HAS MOVED

Cornerstone General Store & Feed has moved from Valley Head to Hammondville (the old Auction Barn location). We now have a lot more stock room to better serve your feed & farm supply needs. Check us out.

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Thanks, Larry Watson.

Dr. Quimby is in Illinois

Due to his bad health, Dr. Quimby has moved to Illinois to be with his son. Those wishing to write Dr. Quimby may do so at the following address:

James Quimby
c/o Robert Quimby
1380 Rustlers Row
Rockton, IL 61072

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The

Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES

Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 8:15 AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L. A. Smith are alternate speakers for 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 and 11 AM services and evening services will be at 7 and 9 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 Alfred Chambers and his wife Polly, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10 AM. Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM.

The **Mentone Church of God of Prophecy** wants to invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is at 10 AM, with Worship at 11 AM. Evening services begin at 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). Men's Brotherhood is every fourth Saturday at 8 AM in the church. Women's prayer service is every Wed. morning at 9:30.

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 6:30 PM each Wednesday, Discipleship Training is at 5 PM each Sunday, 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. Staff changes in April: Allen Crow has been called as Minister to Youth. David and Karen Lee have resigned as Pastor and Music Minister, respectively. The Youth will host a fellowship with Valley Head Baptist youth at the church on May 1. Jake Pinholster's band, Captain Noah, will be playing that night. The J.O.Y. Group will meet on May 27, at 11:20 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall for a covered dish luncheon. Everyone 55 and over is invited to join them for a time of food, fellowship, and a short program. There will be no J.O.Y. meetings during the summer. Work is being done on the Staff House and on the new sidewalk between the Annex and the main buildings at the church.

The **Harmony Grove Baptist Church** invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 259 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45 AM; Morning Worship is at 11 AM; Evening Worship is at 6 PM; Wednesday Night Prayer Service is at 6 PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds mass services at 10:30 AM each Sunday; and Communion Services at 6 PM on Tuesdays.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter is currently holding services in the Woodmen of the World Hall in Valley Head. Everyone is welcome. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood. Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 AM; Worship Service - 11:00 - 12:15. Prayer meeting/Bible study - Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. We would like to say thank you to Bill and Elizabeth Pyke for putting forth time and effort in our little church. They are relocating in Chattanooga. We would like to welcome Michael Schnabelhner as our new lay pastor. Michael is a native Austrian, but is currently residing in Wildwood, Ga. Welcome, everyone!

Mentone Wesleyan Church is committed to being a Bible teaching community church where all peoples of all races, social standing and diverse church backgrounds are welcomed and loved. Sunday School 10 AM, Worship Service 10:45 AM, Youth Ministry Sunday afternoon 4:30 PM; Bible Study Wednesday 7 PM.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church-LCMS, 112 First Street, SW, Fort Payne, invites you to attend Sunday Worship at 8 AM, School at 9 AM, & Tuesday Bible Study at 6:30 PM.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** invites you to attend Sunday School at 10 AM, Worship Service at 11 AM, Evening Worship at 6 PM; and the Wednesday night prayer and Bible study of 1st John. May 16, from 12:15 to 1:30, is the regular 3rd Sunday dinner at the church. This is a fund raiser to help build a new fellowship hall. The food and fellowship are great!!!

Mount Calvary Baptist Church services begin at 10 AM EST and 6 PM. Wednesday services are at 7 PM. Pastor James Braddy invites you to attend all of our services and a special invitation is extended to everyone to join our Saturday night singings. We always have a wonderful fellowship dinner at 6 PM followed by singing at 7 PM EST. On May 15, the Willing Vessels will be with us; and on June 26, Brian Keith & Covenant. Come with an open heart and you will certainly receive a blessing! We are a small country church with a big country welcome! We are located 2 miles behind the Lookout Restaurant. You may call 706-862-2651 for directions.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church services are Sunday at 10:30 AM, with Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Small groups meeting on Sun., Tues. and Wed. nights. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information. Everyone is welcome.

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Pastor Linda Tucker invites everyone to attend. A new youth choir had been added. March 28 was their first appearance under the direction of Mrs. Barbie Hester. Members are Alex and Kayla Hazell, Kelly, Paige, and Brooke Wright; Brittany and Tyler Hester; Mikey, Megan, and Sarah Petersen, and Ashley Clarke. The church is continuing to raise funds for a new roof, and members and other individuals have pledged and given over \$6837.82 at the present time. The total cost (estimated) is \$10,000. Those wishing to help may do so by mailing their donations to PO Box 344, Mentone, AL 35984.

The **North DeKalb Ministerial Association** will be conducting the annual National Day of Prayer services again this year at the Brow Park, in Mentone, at 6 PM. Everyone is invited to attend. The theme this year is "Light the Nation... With Prayer."

MAY 6, 1999, 6 PM,
BROW PARK, MENTONE

Q: What is the National Day of Prayer, and what is its purpose? A: The National Day of Prayer (NDP) is an annual event for Americans of all faiths to take time to pray for our nation and its leaders. The NDP was established by an act of Congress as a day to call the entire nation to prayer. The NDP Task Force focuses specifically on promoting the need to pray for our nation and those in positions of cultural influence.

Q: When was the NDP started? A: National days of prayer have been called as early as 1775, with the First Continental Congress. Abraham Lincoln also called for such a day in 1863. The NDP as an annual event was established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1952, and signed into law by President Truman. The law was amended in 1988 and signed by President Reagan to be the first Thursday of May each year.

Q: Is the NDP a political event? A: No. The NDP belongs to all Americans. It is not sponsored by or "owned" by any one group. Every American can observe the NDP and celebrate it as he or she wishes. Since 1988, every president has issued a proclamation encouraging Americans to participate in the NDP.

Q: Is the NDP just a Christian event? A: People of all faiths are encouraged to participate in the NDP according to their own traditions. The NDP Task Force provides promotional materials and sponsors events in keeping with the Judeo-Christian tradition, since that represents our own background and that of more than 86 percent of the U.S. population.

Q: Who is behind the NDP Task Force? A: The chairman for the NDP is Mrs. Shirley Dobson, wife of Focus on the Family president and founder Dr. James Dobson. The NDP Task Force has a small, full-time staff and a network of approximately 40,000 volunteers nationwide. Prior to Mrs. Dobson's involvement, the NDP Task Force was headed by Mrs. Vonette Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ.

Q: What is the NDP Task Force's affiliation with Focus on the Family? A: The NDP Task Force is a separate organization from Focus on the Family. It is housed at Focus on the Family for convenience as long as Mrs. Dobson remains the chairman. Its business affairs, including funding, are separate.

Q: What kind of growth have you seen in the NDP? A: The NDP has consistently gained momentum from year to year. For example, the NDP mailing list has grown from 800 constituents in the 1980s to over 80,000 in 1998. An explanation for the increase may be a greater awareness across all segments of the population that many problems in American culture are spiritual, rather than political or economic, and that prayer is the only way to address them.

Q: How can people become involved in the NDP? A: Individuals can pray for our nation and its leaders within the privacy of their homes or participate in a community event. Ideas and details can be obtained from the NDP Task Force at (719) 531-3379.

Q: Why don't you include other faiths in your events? A: The NDP was created by an act of Congress and is therefore intended for all peoples of faith to pray to the God of their understanding. However, the NDP Task Force's expression of that involvement is specifically limited to the Judeo-Christian heritage and to those who share that conviction. If peoples of other faith wish to celebrate in their own tradition, they are welcome to do so, but we must be true to those who have supported this effort and volunteered their time to promote it. The NDP is not a function of the government, and therefore a particular expression of it can be defined by those who choose to organize it.

Shirley Dobson urges the nation to not only pray for our families, but also to intercede for our nation and its leaders and be active in our communities. This year's theme for the National Day of Prayer, May 6, 1999, is "Light the Nation... with Prayer," taken from the New Testament, the Gospel of Matthew: 5:14-15 "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house."

On the National Day of Prayer, on May 6, Mrs. Dobson also urges us to observe the 48th annual National Day of Prayer with some practical and symbolic acts that can help spread the message of prayer across America.

- Light an incense candle in your home to remind you to pray.
- Put a lit candle in your window to encourage and remind neighbors of your commitment to prayer.
- Include a candle-lighting ceremony in your prayer observance.



May 2-8, 1999

Drinking Water Week

Governor Don Siegelman has proclaimed May 2-8, 1999, as Drinking Water Week in Alabama. Water utilities throughout the State are planning activities in celebration of this most precious resource—water. The theme of the week is "Celebrate Water." There are over 570 public water systems in Alabama providing clean safe drinking water on a daily basis. We urge everyone to take the time to find out more about your water supply in your local area.

Drinking Water Week is an educational campaign aimed at helping people understand the importance of safe drinking water. A key element of the campaign is to show how individuals can play an important role in protecting their water supply from harmful contaminants.

After all, providing safe drinking water is everyone's business. It is essential for your everyday needs! Take this opportunity to exercise your right to learn more about the water you drink!

For more information, you may contact your local water utility or the Alabama Rural Water Association, 2807 Q East South Boulevard, Montgomery, Alabama 36116, (334)284-1489, e-mail arwa@mont.mindspring.com.

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Message from your Postmaster

All rural and highway contract customers: please put your E-911 numbers on your mailboxes. Substitute mail carriers, who are not familiar with the area, have a hard time knowing who lives where without the numbers on your mailboxes. Thank you.

Benny Goss, Mentone Postmaster

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•Tools

Rabies Clinic

at Little River Hardware in
Mentone, on Saturday, May 15,
from 1-3 PM (CST). Shots \$7.00
each. Summerville Veterinary
Clinic asks that you have
your dog(s) on leashes
and your cats in carriers.

May and June at

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Celebrate Mom/Mother's Day May 6, 7, 8
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Celebrate Mom

Focus on gifts from the heart this Mother's Day. Join us as we "Celebrate Mom" with the debut of "A Gift So Fine From Madeline™", the second piece in our Snowbabies: The Guest Collection™. Show your loved ones that you care with the exclusive music box "I Love You From The Bottom Of My Heart", which plays the tune "What The World Needs Now Is Love". It comes with a free brass bookmark. Also available is the lovable "Sweet Heart" hinged box—another perfect gift for the ones you love.



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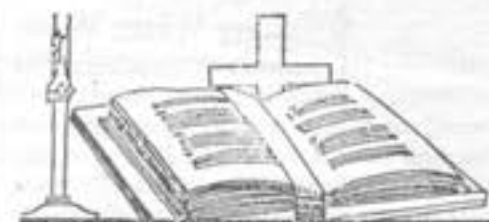
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Saturday, May 15, 1999

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God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

And Ruth said, entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Ruth 1:16

What love, a mother's love. Though Naomi was just a mother-in-law, yet Ruth loved her as a mother. If my mother was alive, I would do all I could to make her happy for she was the best mother in the world. But, since she has gone home, I'd like to be able to make another mother happy. Will you do something special for your mother while she's here? Show her you love her.
Happy Mother's Day.

1999 Rabies Clinic

at Little River Hardware in Mentone, on **Saturday, May 15**, from 1-3 PM (CST). Shots \$7.00 each. Summerville Veterinary Clinic asks that you have your dog(s) on leashes and your cats in carriers.

NOTICE: The June issue of *The Groundhog* will be published on May 27. Those submitting articles and/or photos, please get them to us between the 15th and 20th of each month. June issue due date is June 15-20. Photos need to be in no later than the 20th. "Thank you."



Moon Lake School Events

By Evelyn Graves

Tuesday, May 11, at 6:30 PM, is the final PTO meeting of the school year.

Wednesday, May 12, at 1:45 PM, will be the annual magic show in the gym. Admittance is \$1.00 per person. Everybody is invited.

Saturday, May 15, is a PTO golf tournament at Cloudmont Golf Course. (See flyer on back page.)

Sunday, May 16, will be a PTO dinner at the Community House. (See flyer on back page.)

Monday, May 17, at 9 AM, will be the annual awards program in the gym.

Wednesday, May 19, at 9 AM, Kindergarten graduation in the gym.

Thursday, May 20, at 9 AM, will be the 6th grade graduation in the gym.

Thursday, May 20, at 5 PM, will be the Head Start graduation in the gym.

Come join the students in all of their events.

The P.T.O. of Moon Lake
Elementary School
invites family, friends, and former students of

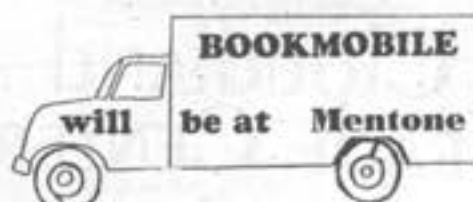
Joyce Smith

to a retirement tea in her honor on
Sunday, May 23, 1999
from 2 - 4 p.m. in the
Butterfly Garden at MLES
(Will be held in the lunchroom in case
of rain.)

If you would like to bring a gift, please contact Rachel Lee at 634-4073 for more information.

Please send letters telling of special memories, funny stories, etc. (on a 3x5 card if possible) to
Len Long, 51 Brown St., Fayette, AL 35971

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• May 12 and 26

• June 9 *

• July 7 and 21

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**BBQ Lunch
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**SUNDAY, May 16,
1999**

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Mentone Community House