Celebrating 18 Years in Print

THE GROUNDHOG

•Mentone • Valley Head •Hammondville •Cloudland •Menlo

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Volume 18, No. 5 *"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"* May 2000

MOUNTAIN CRAFT FAIR - MAY 27 AND 28, IN MENTONE

COTACO CREEK OF SOMERVILLE, ALABAMA PROVIDING ENTERTAINMENT FOR 6TH YEAR AT MAPA FESTIVALS

MAPA president, Marilyn Mathews said, "The Mountain Craft Fair will be held this year on May 27 and 28, in Brow Park. The craft dealers who will be here have a good variety of items from which to choose.

"There will be a moon walk and train ride for the children.

"We will have several food vendors with tempting snacks and beverages, and lots of good entertainment both days.

"COTACO CREEK is being featured again, and their program should have something for almost every musical preference. (See their schedule on this page.)

"On Sunday, local dance groups will entertain after lunch. We are trying very hard to provide something for everyone to enjoy.

"Once again, I would like to invite any local craftspeople and artists who are interested in demonstrating, as well as displaying, their craft, to contact us. We would like to make this festival truly a Fair with an "ole-timey" flavor. We realize it will take more than one year to accomplish this, but we hope to have more demonstrations each year. If you don't sell your work, and would be willing to just demonstrate your craft, that would be fine, too.

"You may contact us at the following numbers:

256-634-4041; 1-888-341-3381; 256-634-4490; or 256-645-3645; or email me at mmathews@tds.net

"We look forward to seeing everyone on the brow, May 27 and 28."

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An April 20 letter to MAPA and The Groundhog from Jerry Grantland and COTACO CREEK, of 221 Red Oak Road, Somerville, AL 35670, stated:

"Hello Mentone,

"We are looking forward to May 27th and 28th to once again be among, what we feel, are some of the greatest people in the World—the people of Mentone, Alabama.

With a little nudge from Ms. Betty Bain, I was convinced to help with the musical entertainment for this year's Spring Festival. This will be Cotaco Creek's 6th year to be a part of the festival, and I believe we enjoy it more every year.

"I have made arrangements with six different groups to entertain over the two-day period. They range from Rock and Roll, Country, Blues, Country Rock, Bluegrass Gospel, Folk, and instrumentals. Some of these singers have and still do share the stage quite often with some of the top performers in the nation.

"Along with the music, there will be square dancing and ballets. It took a little persuading, but all entertainers have agreed to come and perform at no cost to the public or to the people of Mentone. I hope and feel that this will be one of the best two days of music and entertainment the festival has ever had. So, bring a chair, (some chairs are provided), sit back, and be ready for an exciting time."

Jerry Grantland and Cotaco Creek"

"Below is a list of times and entertainers in order of their appearance on stage:

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 27

9:00am -10:00am-Cotaco Creek;
10:00am- 11:00am-Seldom Heard with Susan Eison, from Cotaco Creek;
11:00am-12:00pm-Journey to the Son, from Huntsville;
12:00pm-1:00pm-Lisa Baldwin and Dave Haney, Bluegrass from Somerville
12:00pm-1:00pm from Auburn Cotaco Creek
2:00pm-3:00pm-Seldom Heard
3:00pm-4:00pm-Journey to the Sun
4:00pm-5:00pm-Lisa Baldwin and Dave Haney

Sunday, April 27

10:00am-11:00am-Jim Parker, from Huntsville
11:00am-12:00am-Cotaco Creek
12:00pm-2:00pm-Duane Walker and The Desperado Band, Country Rock from Morgan City
2:00pm—5:00pm-Dancers

"Thanks to MAPA and all the people of Mentone. We are always eager to freely share what God has so Freely given to us.

Your Friend, Jerry Grantland and Cotaco Creek"

To Subscribe to the Groundhog, See Page 2.

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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.

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Vice President.....Dot Crow
Secretary.....Marie S. Dillenbeck
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Member-At-Large.....Betty Bain

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

The deadline for all material for The Groundhog is the 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH preceding publication. The Groundhog is due out by the first Friday of each month.

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MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (MAPA)
P.O. BOX 50, MENTONE, AL 35984

Your membership/subscription is tax deductible.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Marilyn Mathews

The year 1999-2000 will end for MAPA on June 1, and this is my last article for the year. It has been an interesting year with lots of good times and a few not so good. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person who has helped in any way during this year. MAPA members have all been wonderful to help with whatever was needed. We have had a lot of cooperation from a lot of people who are not MAPA members. We appreciate your help and invite you to join MAPA and work with us all the time. It helps us all when we work together for a better area.

We have survived the 450-mile yard sale, and Colorfest, both of which were huge successes. We are only a few days away from the Mountain Craft Fair which promises to be another great event. MAPA is planning to continue with all three of these events next year and needs your cooperation and help again. The success of these make possible the projects MAPA does for the community. They also help other local non-profit groups with their fund raising, and are good publicity for our local businesses.

The Mountain Craft Fair will be held this year on May 27 and 28, in Brow Park. The craft dealers who will be here have a good variety of items from which to choose. There will be a moon walk and train ride for the children We will have several food 9 vendors with tempting snacks and beverages, and lots of good entertainment both days.

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We look forward to seeing everyone on the brow, May 27 and 28. The next MAPA meeting will be June 6, at 7:00 p.m. at Dessie's Kountry Chef. You are invited to come be with us.

4-22-00

To the Editor of The Groundhog:

Why do we see so many drivers of cars and truck exceeding our Mentone road speed limits? This dangerous action puts all our citizens at risk!

I understand it was such excessive speed and disregard of our speed limits that contributed to the accident on the mountain that took the life of Ann Climer.

Who will be next? Someone leaving the Superette, or leaving the Post office, or leaving Dessie's. or even leaving our own driveway?

Let's please enforce our speed limits at all times.

Very much concerned,
Barbara Nancarrow

Editor's note: According to the police report, speed was not the cause of the accident. The primary contributing circumstance was driving on the wrong side of the road and the secondary circumstance was DUI.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wednesday, April 26, 2000

Dear Editor,

The eighth annual booksale to benefit the DeKalb County Public Library ended with a total of $ 6,072.83 to be used entirely for equipment and library materials beyond the budget, the largest amount ever. This was a win-win situation. People recycled items which others wanted, and the library can acquire things they need to better serve its patrons.

The 22 Fort Payne Culture Club members began in January to price and categorize items collected during the year and to advertise for more. As a result of the generosity of the community, the quality and amount of donations far exceeded any previous year. Students, teachers, principals, parents from Wills Valley Elementary and Williams Avenue Schools had very successful donation drives that provided the majority of materials for children. We graciously thank those who were involved.

Other individuals in the county played vital roles in the success of this project, both in the preparation and in the sale. Those are Linda Story, Martha Wood, Margaret Baker, Hjordis Culpepper, Debra Dawson, Cody Dawson, Rachel Manning, Donna Durden, and Herb Martin. We are most grateful for their assistance. Also our thanks go to Foodland Plus, Rainsville Foodland, and Winn-Dixie for boxes and bags.

Publicity was essential and outstanding. Kudos go to The Groundhog, The Gadsden Times, The Weekly Post, The DeKalb Advertiser, The Times-Journal, WZOB, WDLL, WVSM, Adelphia, Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce, DeKalb County Tourist Association, Judy O'Daniel's County Gourmet, Fort Payne Improvement Association, Fort Payne Rotary Bulletin, Richardson Signs, and Clayton Whittle for the design of the Logo for the "Leap to Learn" theme. The gracious staff of the library could not have been more patient or helpful as we worked in their space.

This has become a very large project. We challenge other individuals and groups who have interest in literacy, libraries, culture and community service to come forward to assist in this most worthy endeavor.

One suggestion we would make for donors. Do not store books in a damp place. We had to discard otherwise desirable materials because of mildew and musty condition. We could not offer them to the public or have them in the building, because so many people have allergies. If you would not want them in your home, do not bring them. So, read, dust off your books, and get them ready for the next sale.

The total amount raised in the eight years we have conducted this sale of everyone's cast offs is $35,615.92.

Thanks to all who have participated.

Yours truly,
Joanne Durham, Chairman,
Fort Payne Culture Club's Library Sale

****

Hello Evelyn,

I was recently given the above address and your name in reply to an inquiry I had made about the Mahala ORear/John Vance family. They lived in Mentone in the early to mid 1800s.

Mahala was a daughter of Daniel ORear and Susan Gooch. Susan lived with Mahala's family after Daniel died.

Three (John, Martin and Fields) of Mahala's brothers moved from Franklin Co., TN to Walker Co., AL in 1830s-to 1850. I descend from the lines of 2 of these brothers. John's daughter is my grgrgrandmother and Martin's granddaughter is my greatgrandmother. My early ORear family moved on to Marion County, AL, where Daniel ORear's sister (Frances "Frankie" ORear m. Moses Loyd) had settled by 1817.

My Dr. Barnes Holloway, Norman McKay, and Wm. McFadden families came to Marion County, AL, from old Baldwin Co. area of GA. These families all had connections to the ORear family.

I would very much appreciate any information you may have on the ORear/Vance family and especially any connections to members of that family who may be interested in family genealogy.

Wanda Sawtelle, 2804 Heritage Dr. Jasper, AL 35504
email: jlowery@oakman.tds.net

Editor's note to the O'Rear family: If you have any info, please contact Mrs. Sawtelle. Thanks, Evelyn.

Recycling Center Opens in Fort Payne in time to celebrate Earth Day 2000

Students were key to making the recycling center a reality

Great things have been happening in the area. A **recycling center** opened on April 20. It is located at the corner of Logan Street and Sanders Avenue South near the Fort Payne Improvement Authority office. U.S. Representative Robert Aderholt, R-Haleyville, was among several dignitaries who attended the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony.

The recycling center is designed to allow citizens to bring their recyclable items and deposit them into various bins by type. See the graphic illustration on this page for the planned layout of the recycling center.

The center will be staffed and assistance will be available, according to City Clerk Jim McGee.

"This is something we've strived for a long time, and now it has become reality," Fort Payne Mayor Bob Parker said.

For more information on the recycling: center, call the landfill office at 845-0758. The sanitation department will have a man stationed at the recycling center to help eliminate the contamination of individual dumpsters.

Ms. Nancy Martin's gifted students at Williams Avenue School in Fort Payne persuaded the Fort Payne City Council to push forward with its own recycling center. The students were the key to making the recycling center a reality locally.

Solid Waste Coordinator John Walker said the city drew up plans for a recycling program in 1991, but it was never implemented. A poll taken during the municipal elections showed the majority of respondents wanted to see recycling, but not if it would involve an extra charge.

Councilman Hal Holmes and Bill Jordan both attended a presentation at Williams Avenue in which the students took turns presenting reasons Fort Payne needs a recycling center. The impressive program included an interview with the operator of a similar center in Chatooga County, Ga. The same program was given to the Fort Payne Kiwanis Club.

Councilman Hal Holmes recalled the day he and Councilman Jordan attended a presentation on recycling by Nancy Martin' gifted students: "We were walking out and I said, 'these kids know more than we do about recycling.' You shamed us into doing something, to tell you the truth. This recycling enter would never have happened if not for Mrs. Martin and her students. We're facilitators. It's easy to build buildings, but it is not easy to start programs."

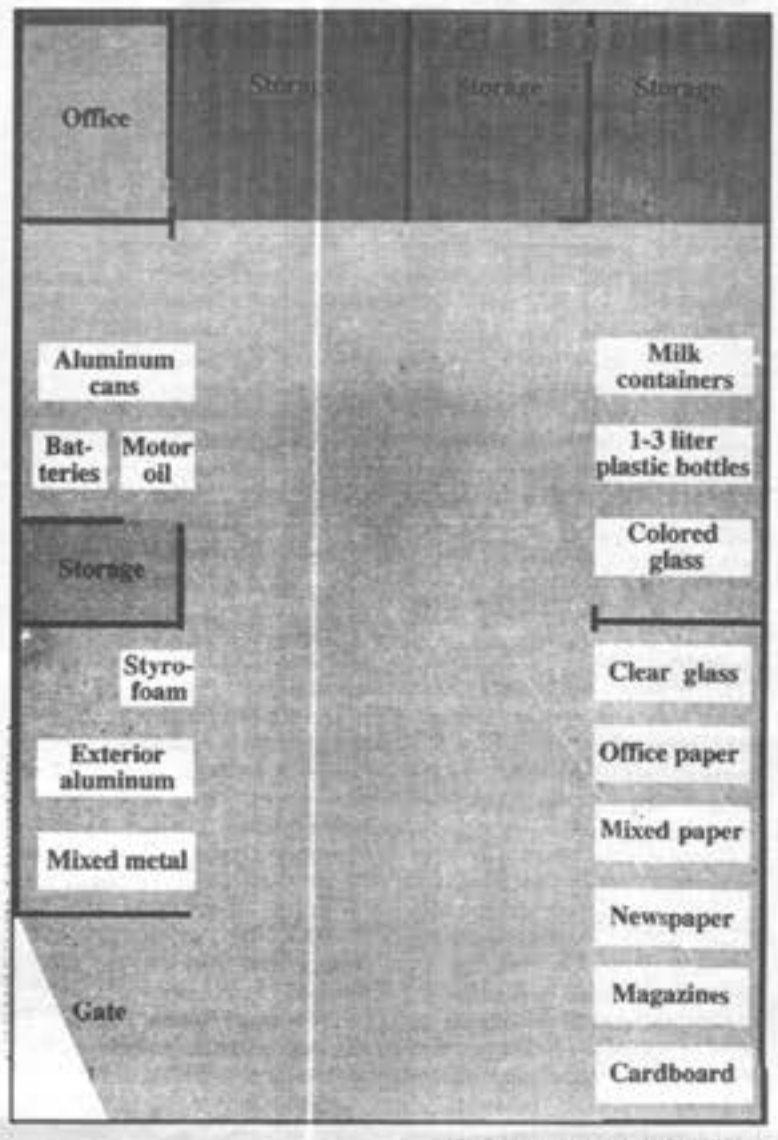
Jordan called it a "united effort. I thank Mrs. Martin's group for planting the seed. This building was just sitting here growing dust,but thanks to them, it's going to be used for something constructive."

Now, residents from any part of the county--not just Fort Payne--have a place to leave newspapers, office paper, magazines, junk mail, flattened cardboard, plastic bottles, glass, aluminum cans, and mixed metal cans.

Officials at the ceremony thanked John Walker, Charlie Wright and others in the city for working so hard to get the facility ready by opening day.

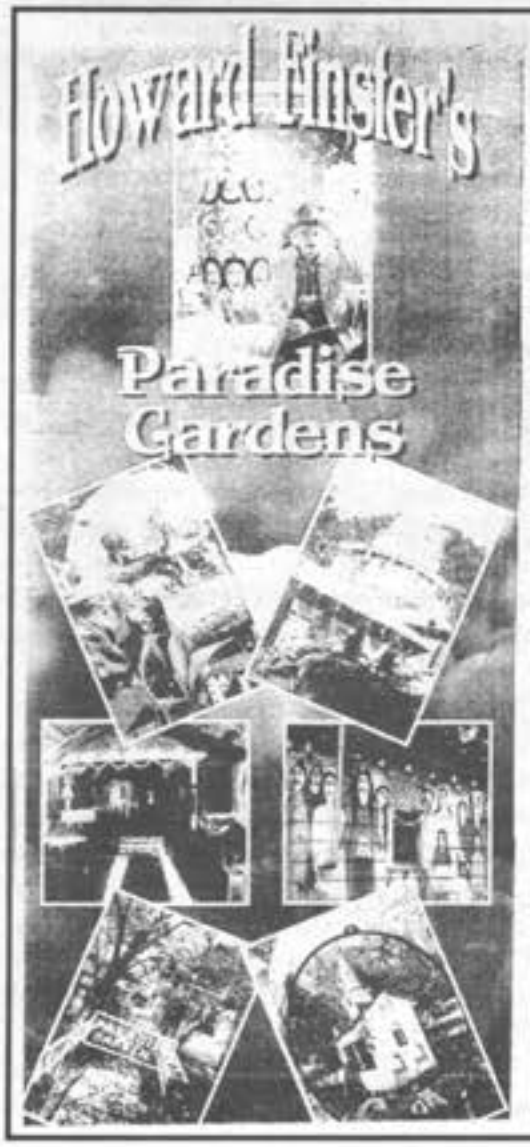
Other dignitaries attending the opening ceremony included representatives from the DeKalb County Commission, the Beautification Committee, the Fort Payne Board of Education, school administrators, the DeKalb County Council on Aging, the Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce, the Fort Payne Altrusa Club, Little River Canyon National Preserve, and DeSoto State Park.

"This is a project worth celebrating, and every one of us should be stewards of this earth," Congressman Robert Aderholt said. "The children took the lead on this one and have made a difference."



Times-Journal graphic by Scott Turner

This graphic illustrates the planned layout for the recycling center.



HOWARD FINSTER FEST
May 20 & 21
Paradise Gardens

The world renowned folk artist, Reverend Howard Finster, first began his creation of Paradise Gardens around 1961. These sacred grounds have become one of Georgia's top ten tourist attractions. Thousands of visitors come each year to wander through the three acre paradise of mosaic cement paths, which lead to unusual sites. Renew yourself in the meditation buildings as you read scripture messages. View the gardens and bicycle towers from the L-shaped ramp, six feet above ground. It leads you to the bicycle museum building and down the stairs to the tomb of the unknown body. Rest on one of the old church benches or theater seats. See the giant cement boot beside the old antique barn yard. Next, you will enter the Mosaic land of Howard's sculptures where the garden originated. The inventions of mankind like the old John Deere tractor, a heart machine, wooden wheels, and unusual art relics of the world all rest in the gardens of paradise. They are long forgotten items from another time gone by. Walk around the old gallery and view the Reverend's original people mural, a favorite of reporters and photographers. The breathtaking cement sculptured bed of roses and flowering plants holds a majestic Mosaic cross. Layered like a huge cake in the sky, you will never forget the World's Folk Art Church Museum. After your tour, roam around the Finster Folk Art Gallery and view the folk art and collectables of the Reverend Howard Finster and other notable artists. It will be difficult to leave without one. You may stumble on a group of students, a wedding, or even a baby dedication. You may even meet the Reverend Howard Finster himself on a Sunday from 2 til 5 PM. He has never met a person that he didn't love. A trip to Paradise Gardens is a memory you will treasure forever.

DON'T MISS THE CHANCE
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10 bands and 60 folk artists

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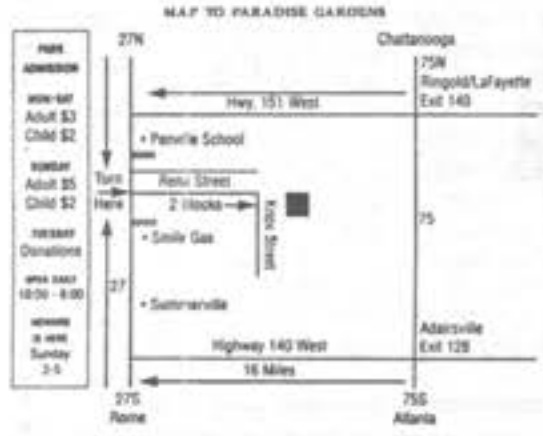

Mentone Grapevine II

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

The **Mentone Superette** has new owners. Hobson and Martha Kirby have turned the operation over to Benny and Brenda Goss. On Tuesday, May 9, they officially became the new owners. Benny said he had a real early start--he opened the store that morning. His granddaughter, Kara, talks about "going to the sto'". Cheryl Crane, Pam Baggett, Cricketi Lyles, Eric Crane, Brenda and Jana Goss will be the faces customers will see behind the counter. Brenda said she liked it, but at first it was kind of scary--you're on your own. They are both looking forward to this new endeavor for them.

Storytellers came from **Gorhum Bluff** to tell stories at Moon Lake School. The children enjoyed a day of storytelling, class by class, outside in the gazebo behind the school gymnasium on Friday, May 5.

The **Rhododendron Garden Club** met at the Mentone Springs for their annual luncheon. There were 32 present. Ruby Brock gave the devotional. Other guests were Francis Rosario, Mrs. Hazel Tuschall, Mrs. Dora Blalock, Brooke Wright, Marjorie Gray, and Virginia Setze. Members attending were: Patti Bryan, Phyllis Canull, Bernise crow, Mary Crow, Dorothy Cyr, Ruby Daniel, Marie Dillenbeck, Lucette Dix, Mary Ellen Fielder, Gethryn Giles, Mickey Gough, Shirley Hussel, Betty Johnson, Dallyne Jones (president), Flo Kirby, Dianne Kuehl, Hattie Lide, Peggy Roark, Sue Schwarz, Alyce Springer, Hope Walker, Jan Wilkinson, Christina Wise, Ann Wright, and Karen Wright. The luncheon was delicious--a bowl of chicken soup, a chicken salad, hot biscuits,and ice cream dessert, and drinks.

Continue to keep **Charlie and Jewel Rogers** on your prayer list. Charlie has undergone cancer treatments in the last few months.

Keep **Rovene Truett** on your prayer list as she continues her treatments.

Lydia Speed who was in DeKalb-BMC Hospital in Fort Payne is now home. If you would like to send her a card, you may send it to 740 Co Rd 848, Mentone, AL 35984. She would love to receive cards and letters.

Please continue to keep **Kathryn Jones** in your prayers. She is steadily declining and is still undergoing cancer treatment. Also remember **Herman Jones, Jr.**, who has cancer and will be having surgery June 20.

Jean Gauld, who moved to Birmingham, is on a teaching/ classroom mission through her church. She is in Israel teaching those who are intent on learning about Christianity. She goes where God calls her and when her calls her. Would that we all could be as faithful when called.

Ben Stewart, a 14-year-old, who is a member of Mentone Troop 106, recently appeared before a board of review as an Eagle Scout candidate. He is the youngest candidate, so far. His Eagle Court of Honor will be held on August 26 at the new Jim Berry Hall, the troop's new meeting place. He will be the 12th scout to achieve this rank.

Andrew Habel, another member of Troop 106, will have his Eagle Court of Honor on Saturday, May 13. This will also be the day for the dedication of Jim Berry Hall.

A beautiful **memorial service for Annie Routh Mallicoat Climer** was held at the Moon Lake Baptist Church, on April 30. Many friends and family attended to honor her memory.

Clara Cash passed away on April 20. She had been living at the Dogwood Haven Nursing Home. Her many friends , as well as her family, will miss her. I will miss our telephone talks and our trips to Dessie's to eat lunch together. I will also miss taking soup to her and sitting on the porch of her trailer for a chat. I truly loved Clara and enjoyed talking to her. She was like a second mother to me.

The **debris cleanup** teams for the Town of Mentone (Creative Tree Service out of Antioch, TN), and for DeKalb County (Storm Reconstruction Services out of Tuscaloosa, AL) have been hard at work cleaning up the debris left from the two ice storms in January. We are thankful that the debris placed on the right of ways is finally disappearing.

There will be a **benefit singing for Lora Dell Perkins** to help her with her medical bills. She has been receiving treatment for cancer and has just been diagnosed with leukemia. Lora Dell has undergone a lot of treatment lately. The singing will be at the Moon Lake Baptist Church on Saturday night, May 27. Be looking for the exact time, I believe it starts at 7 p.m., but the time will be posted somewhere in town.

Lora Dell Perkins received a HUGE picnic basket filled with goodies. This basket was sent to her by her many, many friends at the Grand Ole Opera House and at the Opry Land Hotel. In the basket were items that are sold there, including a bag of Martha White flour. Lora Dell is "crazy" about Country Music. She also keeps in touch with her Nashville friends by email.

Congratulations to **Amy Poe** of Valley Head. She was presented her GED certificate by the Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program that held its 20th Annual GED Graduation for GED recipients Friday, May 5, at the Rainsville Civic Center.

Several of the **camps** held mother/daughter and father/son weekends the first weekend in May. This is to familiarize the young campers with the camp and surroundings when they attend this summer.

Happy Belated Birthday wishes to: Jerri Ann Willbanks, April 11; and Dianne Chesser, April 24.

Happy May Birthday/Anniversary wishes to: ●1-Larken J. (Jr.) Bell; ●2- Megan Cooper (5),● 4- H.P. Goss (78); ●5- Mikie Petersen, Slim Easler; ●6- Phil Harris; ●7- Helen Hill (90), Jerod Hulgan, Jerrod Pelletier; ●8- James Wilborn, Connie (Hilliard) Clark, James Hawk, Thomas Brandon; ●9- Megan Smith, Juanita Hilliard; ●10- Matt Brandon, Junior and Donnie Bell; ●11- Merle Stokes, Gerald Biddle, Eunice Strickland; ●12- Van Moore, ●13- Blake Hulgan, Charlotte Roden, ●14- John Tucker; ●15- Trevor Lewis, Tyler Blansit, Shirley Collins, Ruby Gifford, ●17- Beth Moore, Melissa (Smith) Miller; ●18- Megan Petersen; ●19- Sarah Petersen; ●20- Joyce (Worthey) Tate, Jessica McKenzie; ●22- Bobby Brown; ●23- Phyllis Canull, Lynn Owens, Becky Mays; ● 25- Linda Tucker, Jimmy Wright, Billy Wright, Clint Croxton, Jackie Smith; ●28- Adriane Robertson, Chris Stokes; ●29- Barbara Hall, Debra (Bell) Cash, Ginger (Bell) Myers; ●30- Shelley Brown; ●31- Rodney Bell.

Some of the June Birthdays are included:

Happy June Birthday/Anniversary wishes to:

●1- Sybil Hopper; ●2 - Lisa Harris, Glen Black; ●3 - George Westmoreland, Van Cooper; ●5 - Marsha McKinny, Kim McKinny; ●6-Anna Young; ●8- David Dean, Ralph Delegarza; ●10-Lisa Moore, Joyce Wright, Michelle Chappell; ●11-Evelyn Hunt, James Young; ●12-Doris White; ●14- Jerry Stokes; ●15-Campbell Smith.

Congratulations to **Linda Tucker**, Pastor of Mentone United Methodist Church. Linda is graduating on May 15 from Emory University Chandler School of Theology with a Masters of Divinity.

The **Mentone Post Office** will be posting new opening and closing hours soon. Be looking for those changing times.

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

•Parilee Bell, Mentone, 4/15

•Clara Green Cash, 87, Mentone, 4/20.

Congratulations to young weather artist, **Travis Keller**, 12, of Valley Head, whose drawing appeared in the 4/9 issue of The Times-Journal.

Congratulations to **Rachel Bryan**, who was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society on Wednesday, May 10, at Fort Payne Middle School. Her parents, James and Patti are so proud of her.

Happy Mother's Day. Also, this is the month for graduations. School will be out soon, so be watching out for the children and their bicycles.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

The **June issue** will be published on June 8th and delivered on the 9th and 10th. Those submitting articles and/or photos, please get them to us between the 15th-20th of each month. Thank you.

●June issue due date is May 15-20.

●July issue due date is June 15-20.

Josh Miller is inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Josh F. Miller

Josh F. Miller was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa, a national honor society, on Sunday, April 9, 2000, at Gadsden State Community College. Josh received this honor with a 4.0 G.P.A. Josh is a 1999 graduate of Valley Head High School, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Miller of Fort Payne.

MAPA FESTIVAL MEETING

President Mathews presided at the May 2nd meeting, Ruby Brock gave the invocation.

Treasurer, Dessie Newberry, said that dues were to be paid at the next meeting. All memberships expire on June 30th.

The main topic was the Mountain Craft Fair to be held on Memorial Day Weekend, May 27 and 28. Due to the January ice storms, there will be no boat rides as many logs and trees are in the river, and, therefore, it may not be safe to take boat rides.

MAPA will have a booth at Brow Park. Donations will be accepted. MAPA will be selling Rhododendrons and roasted peanuts, as well as a variety of items at the MAPA booth.

Cotaco Creek will be providing entertainment on Saturday and Sunday, along with local dancing groups.

The North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Protection District will be selling bar-b-que plates and drinks.

The ladies of the Church of God of Prophecy will be selling cakes, pies, and other desserts, as well as drinks.

Rick Chapman, chairman of the nominating committee, reported that the same officers had agreed to be officers for the next year, with the exception of one member at large. Rick will type up a list and present it at the June 6 meeting. Nominations also will be accepted from the floor, after which officers will be elected and take office at the June meeting.

Rick Chapman, chairman of the budget committee, announced that he would have a budget report ready for the July meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to have refreshments.

GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

It seems to be true this spring that "April showers bring May flowers". When you drive to work or just take a nice Sunday drive, you are able to see the burgeoning beauty of all those April down-pours and showers. The dogwoods are in full bloom, and it is a bit sad to see that there are not many pink ones as used to be due to the blight, which is also beginning to affect the white dogwoods, too.

All these wonderful native trees are now endangered here in the south due to all the tolerance built up over the years from the heavy use of chemicals on pests and diseases.

Botanists point out that the flowers are not really petals at all, but 'bracts' or modified leaves.

The Native Americans found practical uses for dogwood in their herbal medicine, discovering certain modest therapeutic benefits. For intermittent or malarial fevers, they infused a combination of the white floral bracts, the green, true leaves and the pale inner bark of this tree. This same mixture, in a weaker tea, was given to infants suffering from flatulent colic.

The name 'dogwood' always arouses questions about how it got its name. Some say that it was called that because a decon-coction was made from the bark of another species of dog-wood (cornus sanquinea) that was formerly used in England as a healing wash for mangy dogs. Another supposition is that it was really called 'daggerwood' as it is a hard and dense wood, and thought to have been used to make daggers or skewers. And, of course, all Southerners are familiar with the one sup-position that the name is an anagram for 'godwood', referring to the improbable idea that Christ may have been crucified on a cross made of this wood.

The glory of the Appalachian is seen in all its beauty in spring when the mountain laurel are in full bloom in their pinks and whites. Their glossy dark leaves are evergreen, ele-gant and lethal when ingested.

Domestic animals in fields bordered by laurel sometimes feed on this toxic foliage, especially during the winter when feed is scarce. Sheep and calves have been poisoned, but they were sometimes restored to life--at least it is claimed--by the legendary country remedy of gunpowder.

Laurel is green for a season, and love is sweet for a day;
But love grows bitter with treason, and laurel outlives not May.

-Algernon Charles Swinburn
Hymn to Proserpine

The Delaware Indians of the East drank a brew made with as little as two ounces of laurel leaves when they wanted to commit suicide.

The American mountain laurel must not be confused with the true laurel of the Mediterranean tree, sometimes called sweet bay tree.

WAVES OF BLOOMS: Grace your garden with a never-ending succession of blooms. Choose plants from the peren-nial group for wave after wave of blooms all spring, summer and into fall.

SPRING: 1. Bishop's Hat; 2. Columbine, 'Crimson Star'; 3. Carpet bugle, Purple Torch; 4. Lungwort, 'Mrs. Moon'; 5. Scotch Harebell; 6. Solomon's Seal, Greater; 7. Columbine, 'Heavenly Blue'; 8. Pigsqueak, Bressingham White'

SUMMER: 1. beard tongue, "Prairie Dusk'; 2. bee balm, 'Jacob Cline'; 3. blanket flower, 'burgundy'; 4. blooms of Bressingham (for cut flowers); 5. carnation 'grenadin king of blacks'; 6. catchfly, German; 7. coral bells, 'pewter viel'; 8. daylily 'happy returns'; 9. black-eyed Susan, 'goldsturm'

AUTUMN: 1. clematis, sweet autumn; 2. aster, New England; 3. chrysanthemum, 'snowcap'; 4. grass, maiden, 'autumn light'; 5. stonecrop, 'autumn joy'; 6. ageratum, hardy 'wayside variety'; 7. chrysanthemum, 'rose grenadine'; 8. chrysanthemum 'glamour'; 9. goldenrod 'peter pan';

MAY TIPS: Leave spring-blooming bulb foliage intact after plants bloom. Plant your herbs. Keep an eye out for cater-pillars on fruit trees, and add bird netting to protect your crop. Mow your lawn right, mow high when its dry, and check it for discoloration after mowing. Peonies should be blooming so check for insects and disease. Keep your roses fungus free, and fertilize at this time. Mulch your plants, harvest straw-berries. Plant your tomatoes now, and in a week or two cage or stake them, mulch for disease control, and keep moisture con-tent consistent.

Dorma Hutcheson new distribution/window clerk at Mentone Post Office

By Marie Dillenbeck

For the past few weeks, a new United States postal employee, well known to the area, has been working behind the counter on Saturdays and Mondays. Benny Goss, Postmaster, has been in great need of help, and the United States Postal Service finally appointed a clerk in the latter part of 1999. Her official title is distribution/window clerk.

Born in Cherokee County, Ala., Dorma grew up in Huntsville, where she graduated from high school. She spent her early college years in Huntsville, and finished up in Birmingham with a bachelors degree in dental hygiene. She worked with Dr. Mark Wilson in Fort Payne almost 13 years. She left at the end of last year, after receiving her appointment with the postal service. She said she wanted to "start out the millennium with a new career."

Keeping her options open over the years, she took the postal test five or six years ago. There are so many differ-ent positions in postal work. It wasn't until recently that she heard that she had been selected. She requested work in this area and started out in Boaz "learning the ropes." She also worked in the Birmingham post office and "It is a lot different than in Mentone," she said.

Dorma has two sisters. Phyllis Miller, of Huntsville, is married to Tommy Miller, and they have twin sons, Crayton and Phillip. Phyllis and the children were visiting Dorma the first weekend of May.

Another sister is Beth Rausch, who is presently in Seattle, WA, but is moving back to Hampton Roads, Virginia, very soon.

Her brother, Robert Lee, is in Clearfield, Utah; and her father, Robert Crayton Lee, lives in Huntsville. She has a Grandmother, Allie Mae Meeks, who also lives in Hunstville.

Dorma has an uncle, Doug Miller, who is the postmas-ter in Scottsboro. Doug Miller is Phyllis' husband's broth-er. Malcolm Miller, who is the father of Tommy, retired as a rural carrier with the postal department in Madison Co, Alabama. With a background like that one can see that a postal career is very much "in the family."

Dorma and her husband Terry became grandparents this year, on January 12, when Terry's daughter, Janet , had a baby boy, Samuel Paul Williamson III. Now they have a beautiful grandson to love on.

Dorma and Terry are very involved in their church, St. Joseph's on-the-mountain Episcopal Church.

Dorma's sister, Phyllis, said, Dorma "is constantly doing things for other people."

When she's not behind the counter at the post office, Dorma will be involved with her church, her family, and dental work. She will finish up a five-year term on the State Dental Board, and will still continue to fill in at Dr. Wilson's office when needed.

One of the things she likes about her new postition as a window clerk is the promotional material every quarter. This past quarter they sent out news releases about the new breast cancer stamp that costs .40¢ each, instead of .33¢ each. A sheet of 20 stamps costs $8.00, and the extra $1.40 goes extra amount goes directly to breast cancer research.

Dorma said she enjoys the job and the flexibility that goes with it. She works approximately 15 hours a week. She "loves working in Mentone and seeing the people--it's absolutely the best part."

A NEW STAMP

The United States Postal Service is now selling Breast Cancer stamps. $1.40 of each sheet of 20 goes directly to breast cancer research.

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DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs Welcome the Arrival of Spring

by Marilyn Blanton Campbell

Saturday, April 29, the ladies of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs assembled at the Minvale Life Center Fellowship Hall on Alabama Avenue in Fort Payne for their Annual Spring Luncheon that always takes place the last Saturday in April. Spring is always an especially meaningful experience for all gardeners, but this year it was even more so than usual because of the double whammy ice storms and the formidable job of cleaning up the aftermath of all that damage and devastation.

The hall was beautifully decorated in a Welcome to Spring motif with small baskets containing arrangements of spring flowers adorning the tables. The head table was decked out for the occasion with a far more substantial floral design using Scotch Broom, Clematis (a.k.a. "Mayflower"), Lantana, and Mock Orange among other flowering plants styled in such a way as to celebrate the abundance of spring with a decided pong.

The gathering began with registration that started at 11:30 a.m., and the meeting was called to order at noon by DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs President Ann Wright (Rhododendron Garden Club). Mrs. Wright offered the invocation, and the ladies served themselves from a buffet luncheon spread with succulent roast beef and gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, congealed salad, rolls, and peach cobbler.

At 1 p.m., the business session reconvened. Surprisingly, all eight clubs from the federation were represented and answered the roll call. A total of 44 ladies were present. Secretary, Linda Brown, read the minutes of the 1999 Annual Meeting, and those were approved as read. Treasurer, Ann Houston, read the financial report giving specifics and that was filed for audit.

The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc. had three board members present, and DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs President, Ann Wright, recognized them. Those were as follows: Mary Summerville (Fort Payne Garden Club), Second Vice-President; Ann Houston (Rainsville Garden Club), Ways and Means Co-Chairman; and Celestine Darnell (Fort Payne Garden Club), Garden Therapy Chairman.

Mrs. Wright also thanked all the federation's garden clubs for their contributions to the luncheon. Azalea Garden Club did the programs for the occasion. Registration was handled by Ider Garden Club and Cedar Bluff Garden Club. Fort Payne Garden Club was responsible for the Head Table Arrangement. Rainsville Garden Club and Kaolin Garden Club contributed the table settings and the decorations. Rhododendron Garden Club and Flowering Dogwood Garden Club distributed the door prizes.

Mrs. Aubie Dean gave the School Grounds Committee report. We can all take great pride in the fact that all the school grounds are showing much improvement. That is really saying something after January's ice storms-plural. Sylvania School was awarded the plaque for the most improved grounds for 1999. Mrs. Dean will be making her final inspection soon. No doubt, she will find all the schools doing their best to recover from the liberties the recent winter took with the various campuses. There were places where the schools were lucky to have anything in the way of grounds left when the ice storms got through with them.

Reita Grant reported on the 2000 Flower Show. Progress there is said to be moving along as per expectations. Each club has received copies of the flower show schedule. That is reported to be the official last word on how the flower show is to be conducted. The theme this year is "Around The World With Flowers." That sounds like the new millennium will prove to be indeed exciting.

Mrs. Wright announced the Federation's calendar for the rest of the year 2000. August 13, Fort Payne Garden Club will be celebrating their 50th anniversary. Do keep those ladies in mind. This whole area is a much better place because of garden club ladies in general and the efforts they expend on behalf of the environment's well being as well as improving the lives of our children with encouraging betterment of school grounds.

August 14 will be the next regular federation meeting. This meeting is very important, because that is where the final plans will be made for the flower show. Ladies! Be sure to attend. The Flower Show Design Class is scheduled for September 8 at Promenade Hall in Valley Head. This is probably even more important because this is where qualified flower show judges show how to interpret the various categories listed in the schedule. October 2-7 will see the flower show at the VFW Agricultural Fair in Fort Payne. That is always wonderful. Our local fair has been named the best in the entire state for-almost-ever, and the ladies of the DeKalb Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs take great pride in the contribution their flower show has made over the years to maintaining that particular distinction.

Every Light A Prayer For Peace celebrations will be held December 12 at 11:00 a.m. at Mentone United Methodist Church by the Rhododendron Garden Club with a covered dish luncheon to follow. All federation members are invited to attend. Translated that means so few people attended the federation's celebration of that particular occasion that the ladies voted to reduce it to the local club level. Now, each club has to do its own ceremony.

When the business portion of the meeting had been finished, Christina Vincent (Azalea Garden Club), DeKalb-Cherokee Federated Garden Clubs Third Vice-President, introduced the speaker, John Watkins, who is Horticulturist at Berry College at Mount Berry, Georgia, beside Rome, Georgia. Watkins described and displayed many new plants that have been introduced recently here in the South. Everybody knows that just the mention of a new plant can get all the garden club ladies supremely excited. Well, Watkins very rapidly became a real favorite when he left all the exhibited plants for the federation ladies to take home and put into their own personal gardens.

Because Watkins and his wife were expecting a new baby just any minute, at the conclusion of his talk, the federation ladies presented him a very special gift set consisting of a gigantic blue bottle with a white nipple on it containing a myriad of baby products. People, who have no children, should not be expected to know the names for those things.

At the conclusion of the gathering, brightly wrapped door prizes were distributed, as well as some bird houses, miniature wheelbarrows containing flowers, and petunia potting soil. Rainsville Garden Club gave each person present a Japanese Maple.

Designing Woman
Designer wins top business honor

Submitted by Max and Roberta Cash

This article appeared in the Wednesday, April 26, 2000, issue of the Anchorage Daily News, written by reporter Mike Hinman

As the construction industry goes, so goes the interior design business. So when the construction bust of the mid-1980s hit, it trickled down, became a river and nearly drowned Interior Space Design. Owner Barbara Cash weathered Anchorage's big storm and built her company back up.

Now, 21 years after founding her company, Cash was named the Alaska small business person of the year this week by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Through it all, Cash has managed to maintain a balance between her small business, a family of four, and community involvement, she said. "All women ask themselves, 'Am I doing the right thing?'" Cash said. It's possible to balance the different demands, but it takes a lot of family support, she said.

At 26, Cash started her design company after working for a firm that left Anchorage during the slight economic downturn of 1978. Her company works with architects and mostly commercial customers to shape everything from lighting to color to furniture in the work place.

Back then, she was still somewhat of a novelty on construction sites, she said. While the number of women owning businesses was growing, few women were seen in hard hats, she said.

By the mid-1980s, her company had nine employees. Those were the construction boom days, when Anchorage drastically overbuilt office buildings and houses. Work was easy to come by, Cash said. The main concern was meeting deadlines, not drumming up new business.

Then the crash came. Interior Space Design suffered like other businesses. Its staff shrank to Cash and two others.

Business was steady, but there was more competition for even the small jobs, Cash said. It caused her to become less reactive and more proactive toward the business. She started to work with more clients, expanding into federal jobs and doing more work on doctor's offices.

"She figured out what she needed to do to survive," SBA spokesman Ron Veltkamp said.

The company turned the corner in 1989 as Alaska sprang out of its recession, and business has grown about 250 percent since then, Cash said.

"We've done a lot of projects (with her) over the years," said Arvin Miller, buildings and property manager at National Bank of Alaska. Almost every branch office in the state bears her touch, he said.

The bank's fifth floor board room at its Northern Lights Boulevard and C Street headquarters in Anchorage is also her handiwork, from the cherry table to the lighting, he said.

"It's timeless," Miller said. "She's real top-shelf."

The SBA award recognizes a company's growth and prospects and the owner's community involvement, among other characteristics.

Cash and her architect husband have been involved with numerous local organizations, including the American Cancer Society. They also helped plan Anchorage's 2000 New Year festivities. Cash has served as a delegate for small business and women in business conferences in Washington, D.C.

The business predates her family, she said. Her husband married into the business and the children have grown up with it. That has demanded some sacrifices, she said.

The family has had to sacrifice time when she had to work late, and she sacrificed expanding her business further to help raise a family.

Cash said the SBA award reflects a lot on her family and six employees. "This is not a one-person show," she said.

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Lookout Mountain Natural Healing: Herb Walk - Herb Talk

By Laura Catherine a/k/a Moon

Put on your walking shoes. It is time to get out and start identifying the many medicinal wild herbs of Lookout Mountain. On Saturday, June 10th, herbalist Gina Lancaster and I are hosting an herb walk and herb talk. During the herb walk and talk, we will identify and discuss a little bit about the uses and history of plants and trees. We will also have the opportunity to tour an organic herb and vegetable farm in Shinbone Valley that belongs to Ed and Ginger Kogelschatz. If time permits, we will harvest sassafras and make some tea.

In this month's article, I am telling you about a few of the herbs we will encounter on the wild herb walk. Mitchella Repens, better known as partridgeberry or squaw vine, and Chimaphila umbellata, better known as pipsissewa, grand holly or false wintergreen, are two of the most overlooked herbs on Lookout Mountain. They are known to have comparable uses because they both contain diuretic, which makes them good for the kidneys, astringent, alternative and tonic properties.

Squaw vine increases fertility in both men and women. Herbal Healing for Women by Rosemary Gladstar says that squaw vine contains saponins that balance the hormones. It is an excellent tonic for the uterus. Squaw vine is a good stabilizer for painful irregular menstruation. According to Herbal for the Childbearing Year, midwives recommend squaw vine if you bleed during your first trimester or have irregular periods. It is recommended in several reference books to take it the last four to six weeks of pregnancy. Twenty to thirty drops of squaw vine tincture can be mixed with one cup raspberry leaf tea--another uterine tonic--and drank two times daily. The above ground vine is used for tincture and tea. The red berries that appear in late fall can be made into a tea, mixed with a little olive oil and used for soreness as a result of nursing. Squaw vine is mostly known as a parturient--an herb that promotes ease in labor. This was its main use among Native American women--hence the name. Squaw vine is also known as a remedy for the nerves, leukorrhea, dysentery, diarrhea, gonorrhea, and urinary troubles. One of the best things about squaw vine is that it has no known side effects according to my research. However, it is wise to be cautious about taking any herb, especially if you are pregnant.

Pipsissewa is a tonic for the kidneys. It has been known to dissolve small stones in the bladder. Problems of the skin, such as sores, bruises, blisters, etc., benefit from a poultice of pipsissewa leaves, according to Back to Eden, by Jethro Kloss. The entire plant is useful in making tea and tincture. Rodale's Successful Organic Gardening: Herbs says that pipsissewa has been used to make root beer. Pipsissewa is also used as a diaphoretic--an herb that promotes perspiration.

Rubus villosus, commonly known as blackberry, is another overlooked medicinal herb. The roots and leaves are medicinal. Back to Eden by Jethro Kloss, says that blackberry roots and leaves are high in tannin content. Kloss goes on to say that you should not take more than one tsp., twice daily, for a week at a time. Blackberry is a tonic that helps in cases of dysentery and diarrhea. It is an astringent that helps check bleeding whether internally or from the mouth or rectum.

If you have the desire to learn more information about herbs and meet like minded people, then you are welcome to join us on our herb walk. For more information, you can contact me at 205-616-3148 or P.O. Box 224, Mentone, AL 35984 or Gina at 256-329-3452 or 334-567-8026. You may also contact me via Email concerning any questions about natural healing. aruallov@AOL.com

It is wise to consult your health care provider before making any changes in your healthcare.

Words to live by:

Mother Earth's Pantry

By Gina Lancaster

One day my husband and I had some friends over to visit. One of the little boys walked over to me and said, "I want to go somewhere." I asked, "Well, where do you want to go?" He thought, and then replied, "Shopping, I want to go shopping." Well, we live miles and miles from town. At the time my main shopping for food and medicine was primarily the woods. So I asked, "Well, would you like for me to show you where I go shopping?" "Yes," the little boy answered. "Well, then get you a walking stick and a sack. We'll go shopping through the world's largest Wal-Mart--God's Cupboard--the woods." Later, the little boy asked his mother, "Do you know where Gina goes shopping?" "No, tell me," she replied. "She goes shopping at God's largest Wal-Mart Store.

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- MENTONE 80 AC - Great potential for development. $5,000.00 per acre. A-86
- MENLO, GA - Jamestown Hwy. 22+ ac. OPEN/Pasture/Road frontage - 1 creek inside the city - Gas, Water, Sewage Potential - Potential Potential. $3,750.00 per ac. No subdividing.
- EAST BROW - Hwy 157 - 2.67 ac. 200 ft. of Brow. One of the best views on the mountain. $80,000. Financing Available. G-7

Gardening for the Health of it at the Rhododendron Garden Club

By Christina Wise

On the 11th of April, 2000, at 12:30 p.m., President Dallyne Jones called the monthly meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club to order. Visitors, Dorothy Shelden, Cheryl Baker, and Virginia Setze were recognized and welcomed. The pledge of allegiance was led by Flo Kirby. Doctor Bill Berry, principal of Moon Lake Elementary School, gave the devotional. Dr. Berry spoke of spring always symbolizing new beginnings and the opportunity for change. He read from the 33rd Psalm: "Sing for joy to the Lord and give thanks." Before departing, Dr. Berry thanked the club for its continued physical and moral support of Moon Lake School.

One of the visitors, Cheryl Baker of The Shed Nursery, addressed the group and suggested that anyone wanting to attract birds to their yard might think about planting kiwi vines. These vines produce berries which attract birds and are easy to grow. They are evergreens and can grow to 20' tall. The trick to successful kiwi vine raising is to remember that it requires 1 male vine and 2 female ones in a yard! To differentiate and ensure the purchase of the appropriate plants, just remember that the male has variegated leaves and foliage with a pale green and red stem.

Vice President Mickey Gough introduced the club's own Dorothy Cyr as speaker. Dorothy had agreed to talk on Gardening and Health and entitled her presentation, "Gardening for the Heath of it."

Dorothy reminded us that life began in a garden and that, indeed, life had been wonderful there until man disobeyed God. As a result, we inherited the consequences of that action so that now, in the words of the scripture, "in painful toil we work the earth."

Even so, good things happen to gardeners. There is peace and relaxation to be found in a garden through the interaction of nature with mind and body. This is due in part to the calming effect of the color green and social interaction with other gardeners. Gardening can also strengthen muscles and help prevent the atrophy that is so often a part of the aging process. Strengthening of the muscles in this way also has a beneficial effect on bones as we grow older. But one must approach such working out gradually and with caution, building upon regular, moderate exertion. Otherwise, the exact opposite result can be achieved--sore, aching muscles!

There is evidence that gardening can alleviate depression and bring about a positive convalescence following illness. For supporting data, Dorothy read an essay which had appeared in Hortensia. It had been written by a high school student called Daniel Thomas, and it told the compelling story of how gardening had been the principal rehabilitating force in the recovery of his father in mind and body, following a near fatal heart attack.

In short, gardening is good for you. provided you beluve sensibly--avoid the mid-day heat, eat small light meals, consume copious amounts of fluid, wear a wide brimmed hat and cover arms and legs to prevent sunburn and chigger damage.

The roll was called and the minutes of the previous meeting were read by Secretary Christina Wise. The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed accordingly. Treasurer Peggy Roark read her report indicating the ending balance for the month of March.

Ann Wright gave her report on Earth day and asked, once again, for volunteers and willing workers to report to Moon Lake School for the work day on April 17. Volunteers she said, should bring gloves, trowels, rakes, and spades and be prepared to weed, trim, and prune in the school garden as part of the club's contribution to Earth Day. She indicated that the gazebo is yet to be painted, but that it requires the structure to be really dry. Therefore, that task will be postponed until drier weather. The sealer for this project has been donated by John Corey of the Little River Hardware in Mentone. Flo Kirby indicated that a date will be announced soon for the club to clear litter from its adopted mile of highway.

At this point, Christina Wise said that she was on the point of writing a letter to the County Commissioner about the deplorable state of litter on the roadways throughout DeKalb County. She wondered if the club would be interested in supporting this effort. The members supported the idea, and so Mrs. Wise and Mrs. Baker will go together to talk to Mr. Bell regarding community strategies which might solve this problem.

It was decided that the club will visit the day lily garden of Mrs. Marzee Etheridge in Ider as part of the June 13, 2000 meeting. Members should bring a box lunch with them to the Community House from whence there will be car pooling to Ider.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

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 Clubs.

KIWI VINE

By Cheryl Baker

Many customers who come to The Shed have been very inquisitive about the kiwi vine. Just to give some information on the Actinidia Kolomikta, you must have a male and female to get the fruit. The Actinidia does very well here and handles the cold down to -45°.

There is a catch--the fruit that the vine produces is food for the birds. It also has wonderful fragrant flowers and, once again, small fruit for the birds. The vine itself can grow up to 20'--both female and male. For you bird lovers, this is wonderful. It will handle full sun with some shade in our climate. However, I have spoken to Hartman's Plant Co., and they suggested a few varieties that will live in our zone that will produce fruit, but later on in the season after the threat of frost is through--a kiwi that is edible size for you and me to eat.

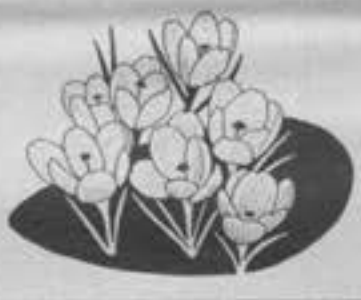
Back to the Actinidia kolomikta, the male is absolutely gorgeous to look at for an ornamental vine. It has variegated foliage and wonderful fragrant flowers. The female is also neat after studying its leaves closely. It has jagged edge leaves with red tints on the outside of the leaf, as well as red tints on the stems, also with fragrant flowers.

For bird lovers, kiwi is a very wonderful vine to have friendly birds come and visit.

The **Rhododedron Garden Club** members met on May 9, at 12 noon, at Caldwell's Restaurant located in the Mentone Springs Hotel, for their annual luncheon. The makings of a chef salad, barley soup, dessert, and drinks, was enjoyed by everyone attending.

The June 13 meeting will be a brown bag lunch. Members are to meet at 12:30 p.m., at the Community House and carpool as set out above. The yearbooks will be passed out at the meeting.

The July 11 meeting will be held at 12:30 p.m., at the new Jim Berry Hall Scout Hut on Dempsey Avenue located behind the Little River Hardware.



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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.

****

Menlo 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.

****

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 **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.

****

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 114 First St. SW, Fort Payne, has regular Sunday services at 8 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM. We welcome the community to join us.

****

Pastor Rev. Gerhard Grau invites the public to attend the **Presbyterian Church** worship service at Cloudland, which begins at 10 AM. (EST), and the Menlo service which begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

****

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10 a.m., Worship service at 11 a.m., Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6 p.m., and Wednesday night prayer meeting 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 6 PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend.

****

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** invites you to attend Sunday School at 10 AM; Worship Service at 11 AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6 PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6 PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 8:30 AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2 PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes.

****

On May 27, at 7 PM, EST, at the **Mount Calvary Baptist Church**, The Davis Trio will be singing. Vacation Bible School will be June 12-16, from 7-9 p.m., nightly. Everyone is welcome. Mount Calvary is located behind the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland. All visitors are welcome and we encourage you to come worship our Lord, Jesus Christ, every opportunity available. Mount Calvary is located behind the Lookout Restaurant at Cloudland.

****

****

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., Tue, and Wed. nights. A "Super Saturday" event --a mini-Vacation Bible School with a circus theme, is planned for one Saturday each month. A prayer and praise service is held one Sunday night each month. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any of their events or services. Everyone is welcome.

****

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 9:45 AM each Sunday. Morning worship and Children's Church are at 11:00 AM, First Place meets in the Fellowship Hall and GAs meet at 4:30 PM. Discipleship Training and Youth Choir meet at 5:00 PM. followed by Evening Worship at 6:00 PM. On Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Children's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall, the Youth have Bible Study and Recreation Time. Adults meet for Bible Study and Prayer. **Rev. Bill Russell**, pastor, welcomes all.

****

Anyone interested in observing the **Sabbath and Holy Days**, please attend with us at 11 AM each Sabbath. Located 2 blocks on right on Hwy 85, off Highway 11, approximately 2 miles from Fort Payne. Call 845-2246 for information.

****

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. Each 2nd Sunday evening, the church has a singing at 6 PM. Everyone is invited for the singing. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Sunday morning, April 9, to mark the beginning of a new church building. (See picture this page.)

****

Mentone Wesleyan Church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 AM and worship service at 10:45 AM. Bible classes Wed. 7:00 -7:45. Ladies' Bible study and low-impact aerobics Wed. 7:00 -7:45. For additional information, call church office, 634-4210, Pastor Randy Addison. All are welcome!

****

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services in the Woodmen of the World Hall in Valley Head. All are invited to attend! Sabbath School and Song Service: 9:30-10:45. Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastor - Michael Schnabellehner. Welcome Tim and Christina Hilley!! These new members were baptized on April 8. Look for our cooking school coming May 23. Notice elsewhere in this issue. Please pray for the mission group that went to Honduras on April 27. A lot is going on over there and they need your prayers.

****

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. While Pastor Linda Tucker is on maternity leave, lay speaker Alan Copeland from Fort Payne will be delivering the message each Sunday. Sunday, April 30, a ceremony was held to dedicate the resetting and replacing of the cornerstone. The original cornerstone was set in 1894 and opened on April 2, 2000. The opening was an historical moment for the church. The Ethel Brown Unit of the United Methodist Women meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The Mountain Laurel Unit meets on the Second Sunday of each month during Sunday School at 10 a.m. Vacation Bible School is June 12 to 16.

****

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Don Lucy, Deacon; Tim Bryan, Associate Pastor; Jimmy Graves, Pastor, of Union Hill Baptist Church at the groundbreaking ceremony on April 9.

L/R: Rev. John Tucker (Cedar Bluff United Methodist Church) and wife, Rev. Linda Tucker (Mentone United Methodist Church) in the Mentone Church sanctuary, holding their first child who was born Friday, March 31, at 8:22 p.m. Aylee Delenn Tucker weighed 7 pounds, 2¾ ounces, and was 20 inches in height.

PRAY2K

America's Hope for the New Millennium

National Day of Prayer services were held at Brow Park in Mentone on Thursday, May 4, 2000, at 6 p.m. The churches of the North DeKalb Ministerial Association sponsored PRAY2K. It was well-attended. National songs were sung, and prayers were lifted up for the world, our nation, our state of Alabama, our communities, our families, and the needs of the many people in our lives.

Plan to be a participant in next year's services.

HP Goss is 78
Happy belated birthday wishes to HP who turned 78 on May 4.

MENTONE TOWN MEETING

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

At the May 8 meeting of the Mentone Town Council, the Cub Scouts of Pack 106 in Mentone presented the colors and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Christian Flag.

All members of the town council were in attendance: Mayor Max Cash, council members: Linda Brown, John Corey, James Johnson, Dick Keefer, and Jean McGehee.

Several matters were taken up. Pat Tate, the town's attorney, was also present. He had prepared a Resolution for the formation of a water board, which was read. C. E. Britt, consultant to the town of Mentone on water matters,explained the procedure. A motion was made to pass Resolution 2000-2, which was seconded and passed by majority of the vote, with one vote abstaining. Pat Tate said that he would have the paperwork at the June meeting for the formation of the water board. Jimmy Wright, Bobby Brown, and Ed Jones had signed a letter in favor of the formation of the water board. Jimmy Wright and Bobby Brown were present at the meeting.

Pat Tate read Ordinance 2000-2 which is an ordinance to establish the water board. A motion was made to pass Ordinance 2000-2, which was seconded, and passed unanimously by the council.

In order to take up Ordinance 2000-3, which is an ordinance to increase and set water rates, the council suspended the rules to adopt the ordinance, and a roll call vote was taken with the entire council each voting yes. Then a roll call vote was taken to adopt the ordinance with changes. Each voted yes again.

The ordinances will be posted in the usual places: Mentone town bulletin board, Mentone Post Office, Ruby's Variety, and Mentone Superette, as well as the Little River Hardware.

There have been numerous complaints about vehicles speeding as they drive through Mentone. The council addressed the matter and requested the officers to work out a method that will reduce the number of speeders and provide safety for the residents in Mentone. The Mentone officers will be vigorously enforcing the speed limit.

HEALTH NUGGET
Olives, Olives, Olives!

By Dowe Foreman

I have developed a love for olive oil. I use it for my salad dressings, to saute my vegetables, in my vegetable soup, and on my air-popped popcorn. (Let me know if you want to know why on the popcorn!) I am very thankful for this product, it is versatile and is actually good for you! How many other oils have such an abundance of gifts? None.

I always liked olives because they were salty and really good in salads. That was the extent of my olive knowledge. I now know that pickled olives (you know, the ones on most salad bars with little pimentos in them?), are first of all, not ripe, nor very good for you. I am talking about ripe olives that are bigger and packed in water and have a delicious creamy taste. Until a few years ago, I hadn't discovered these ripe olives and only knew of the others, but I still had some misconceptions. I thought, until I started researching for this article, that ripe olives were green and that the black ones were dyed. Well, there are so many varieties of olives that the colors vary; also, due to when they are picked and how they are cured has a lot to do with the color. I always buy the can that says ripe green olives, they are really tasty and good in lots of recipes especially on pizza!

OK, here are some facts (nutritional ones, too!) that might induce you to try ripe olives and incorporate olive oil into your cooking. Did you know there are 800 million olive trees in the world? The olive tree is an evergreen and doesn't bear fruit until it is 5-8 years old, and it doesn't reach full development until 20 years. One of the original plants brought from Europe to Argentina is still living and is 400 years old. It is the Arauco olive tree. There are more than 70 varieties and most are grown in the Mediterranean area. I wish we could grow them here, but they can't tolerate cold below 10 degrees.

Olives are good for your arteries. They tend to relax them, due to the production of a relaxation inducing hormone, called prostacyclin. The relaxation tends to reduce the tendency toward high blood pressure. People that consumed more olive oil in place of other less desirable fats had lower blood pressure than those who used less olive oil. Studies in Israel show that olive trees can produce some natural antibiotics, and chemists show that olive oil has the capacity to dislodge some gums from their moorings in the body so that our immune defenses or other agents can get at them. Olives are easy to digest. There have been reports that olives promote healing to inflamed, irritated stomachs and stomach ulcers. Olive oil has been shown to not enhance the cancer process like other fats such as corn, safflower oil, beef fat and lard.

There are several types of olive oil. **Extra virgin** is the top grade of olive oil. It meets the highest standard for rich and fruity olive taste. It is obtained from the first pressing of the olive. **Extra Light** is not low in calories but refers to the flavor of the oil. It is milky flavored and a good substitute for polyunsaturated oils like corn or safflower. **Pure** is lighter in color and aroma than the Extra Virgin. It has a more delicate flavor, also, and is perfect for all general cooking purposes. I mostly use the Extra Virgin, but experiment with what suits your tastes.

Olive oil, if stored properly, can last about 2 years. It needs to kept away from heat and light. Cold pressed olive oil is obtained from the fruit using only pressure--no heat or solvents, while most vegetable oils such as corn or soybean are processed with both; and, therefore, are not as good for you. Please remember to not fry with your oils!!!! Frying breaks down the fat into health damaging molecules. It forms chemicals called mutagen, that are dangerous to the human DNA.

I hope this encourages you to use more olives and olive oil in your diet. As a final thought, the olive branch is a symbol of peace. Hope you enjoy!

Information for this article from: The Journal of Health and Healing. (Bernell Baldwin Ph.D) and the Bertolli Olive Oil Co.

VEGAN RECIPE

By Dowe Foreman

Stan's Italian Dressing

1/4 cup lemon juice
2 Tbs. Water
1/2 cup Olive oil
2 Tbs. Minced garlic
1 tsp. Sweet basil
1 tsp. Garlic powder
1 Tbs. Onion powder
pinch of sea salt
1 tsp. of Sweetener

Add all ingredients to quart jar. Shake, ready to use. Ke chilled.

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Untitled Prose

A man and his dog were walking along a road. The man was enjoying the scenery, when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying, and that the dog had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them.

After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight. When he was standing before it, he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother of pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold.

He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?"

"This is heaven, sir," the man answered.

"Wow! Would you happen to have some water?"

"Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up." The man gestured and the gate began to open.

"Can my friend," gesturing toward to the dog, "come in, too?" the traveler asked.

"I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought for a moment, then turned back toward the road and continued on the way he had been going.

After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road which led through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence. As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book.

"Excuse me!" he called to the reader. "Do you have any water?"

"Yeah, sure, there's a pump over there," the man replied as he pointed to a place that couldn't be seen from outside the gate. "Come on in."

"How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured toward his dog.

"There should be a bowl by the pump."

The man and his dog went right through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it. The traveler filled the bowl and took a long drink himself, then he gave some to the dog. When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was standing by the tree waiting for them.

"What do you call this place?" the traveler asked.

"This is Heaven," was the answer.

"Well, that's confusing," the traveler replied. "The man down the road said that was Heaven, too."

"Oh, you mean that place with the gold street and pearly gates? Nope, that's hell."

"Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?" the traveler asked.

"No," said the man. "I can see how you might think so, but we're just happy that they would screen out the folks who'll leave their best friends behind."

—Submitted by
Jan Eaton of Long Beach, MS,
from "ShelterScoop,"
a local animal shelter
newsletter in Oshkosh, WI.

The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

Isn't Spring beautiful? I love this time of year even though my allergies don't. We have finally gotten all of our "STUFF" here this past week and are in the midst of unpacking and trying to stow things...and wondering why we brought this or that. Moving out of a house that you have lived in for 33 years is a humbling experience. I have resolved to not be such a packrat, but I don't seem to be able to help myself.

I found two recipes that are good picnic or cookout food. One is for a chocolate dessert that chocolate lovers will travel miles for, and the other is a sauerkraut recipe that my Aunt Mary Jane made for lots of family gatherings that is really good with pork or poultry dishes and especially good with barbecued ribs.

MISSISSIPI MUDCAKE - Linda Wallace

2 sticks margarine
4 eggs
2 C sugar
1/2 C cocoa
1-1/2 C flour
1/2 t salt
1 C nuts

Combine ingredients, bake in 13" x 9" pan which has been greased for 35 minutes at 350°. As soon as cake comes out of oven, put 14 oz of miniature marshmallows on top of hot cake and cover with icing of:

1 box of confectioners sugar
1/2 stick margarine
1/3 C cocoa
1/2 C milk
1/2 t vanilla

Mix all ingredients together until smooth and pour evenly over cake. Let cake cool completely before cutting.

GOOD SAUERKRAUT - Beryl Gortner

2 -16 oz cans sauerkraut
3-10 slices of bacon
1 C brown sugar
1 Can tomatoes diced
2 T bacon fat

Fry bacon, drain well. Drain sauerkraut. Mix tomatoes, sugar, broken bacon, bacon fat, and sauerkraut together. Bake uncovered in a slow oven for several hours at 300°. (I usually bake it for 2 hours.)

It seems to be true this spring that "April showers bring May flowers". When you drive to work or just take a nice Sunday drive, you are able to see the burgeoning beauty of all those April down-pours and showers. The dogwoods are in full bloom, and it is a bit sad to see that there are not as many pink ones as used to be due to the blight, which is also beginning to affect the white dogwoods, too.

Moon Lake School Library fund will soon reach the $50,000 matching goal

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

Several members of the Moon Lake School Library Committee met on April 18 with Architect, Alan Williamson, to review the schematic floor plan proposal. After the architect presented a proposal, the committee discussed each aspect and gave their suggestions to the architect. According to Mr.Williamson, this library could be ready within a year from now.

The cost is estimated to be between $240,000 and $275,000 for 3432 sq. feet (66 x 52). The building will be block interior with brick outside.

The preliminary plans call for two handicap accessible bathrooms, office, computer room, circulation desk, storage room, built in shelves, risers for story telling time and for watching videos and television, look up stations, an open area, and other features.

An anonymous donor has pledged $50,000 during the calendar year 2000. His gift will be made as soon as the library fund has raised a matching amount. Presently, there is $48,340.01 in the library fund. This is since October 1999! We are so close to the first goal--matching the $50,000 donation. Once that is met, we will continue our efforts to get additional funds, as well as donations, which can be made in the name of a loved one. Patron cards can be mailed to friends and family, letting them know that a donation in their name has been received for the new library.

The DeKalb County Board of Education has generously agreed to assist with funds to make this library one not only Mentone can be proud of, but also DeKalb County and the general public. This library is being built not only to accommodate the students at Moon Lake School, but also the public during hours that the students will not be using it for school purposes.

The entire committee continues to be enthusiastic about this project and hope that you will continue to support this community effort. Members on the committee are: Bill Berry, Jean Corey, Marie Dillenbeck, Kathie Disney, Carol Hazell, Larry Johnson, Gary Jones, Jean McGehee, Kathy and Kenneth McMunn, Lyle Nicely, Barbara Petersen (general chairman), Karen Prestwood, Pat Schoen, Sarah Wilcox, Jan Wilkinson, and Dick Keefer.

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A Grateful Heart

by Daisy Anne Elliott

Daisy Ann Elliott (L) and sister, June Brown (R), on the brow overlooking the valley on their initial visit to Mentone in May 1999, during Memorial Day Weekend

Mentone! Magical Mentone--Is there a place like that for real? God's canvas. These were the words my sister, June Brown, and I asked each other as we walked outside the movie theater in Montgomery. We had just seen the movie "Southern Heart" for the second time. We glanced at each other and without dialogue nodded in agreement; let's go see for ourselves.

Thank you, Jamie Hendrix Collins, Emily Carpenter, and cast for producing not only a refreshing and tender movie--in addition, depicting the beauty that is unequalled anywhere else. The people who live and work at their businesses are gracious and warm hearted. I have never seen any sunrises and sunsets as breathtakingly splendid and majestic as I have experienced in Mentone. The walks up the Cool Street brow in the evening; looking down on the valley below; or the sun streaming into the windows of the Mentone Inn--all I can say when I experienced such beauty is God's wonderful canvas. He is reminding us that Mentone is truly a special part of His creation and plan.

Mentone, yes, it is Magical! It is a real place with real people.

Mentone is the bells that peel so beautifully from St. Joseph's on-the-mountain Church. How blessed I was to live next door at the Mentone Inn--the warm welcome extended to our guests and me by Al Cherbonneau, Rector.

Mentone is the warmth and hospitality of the lovely bed and breakfasts and their owner /managers that called on me at the Mentone Inn when June and I first arrived. Judith and Kerry from Woodhaven; Tony and Eleanor from Raven Haven; and others that spoke with me by phone: Sarah Wilcox from Mountain Laurel; Mentone Springs Hotel, Dave and Claudia were so patient in answering questions when I would call on them.

Mentone is Dessie's Kountry Chef. My guests and family always felt so at home; and Dessie's sweetness, talent, and hospitality will never be forgotten. How we did enjoy the World's Best Catfish and being invited to come up on stage and join with the gospel singers.

Mentone is Phil Howard. Oh, how my family, guests, and I have enjoyed Phil's interesting and colorful depiction of Mentone's history and landmarks. He was a true friend I shall never forget during the ice storm.

Mentone is Mr. HP Goss. He genuinely loves us all and his visits to the Mentone Inn have brought a southern charm to my family and guests. The beautiful wood crafted pieces we have that Mr HP fashioned, and made even abandoned wood come to represent a treasure.

Mentone is John Fischer, his wife Kathy and three sons, John, Justin, and Jared, who represent a beautiful family who works together so well in their family business. John and his family live in Henagar, but John is so much in demand in and around Mentone. The Mentone Inn and I really are grateful for his keeping us going with his professionalism (plumbing and electrical), and we depended on him so much during the ice storm in January. My gratitude to you, John Fischer and to your family.

Mentone is Benny Goss, postmaster at our Mentone Post office. I will never forget his friendly kind attitude to a newcomer like me. Benny, thanks for keeping all of my mail and the Mentone Inn's flowing so well.

Mentone is Mentone Superette, Pam and Martha for supplying me with my good artesian water and never let me run out. I enjoyed the friendly chats we shared.

Mentone is our Shell station run by Jim Roberts, a friendly place that was ready to meet many of our automotive needs.

Mentone is LM Flannigan who is so sweet and loves to sing Gospel songs at Dessie's on Friday nights.

Mentone is Mr. Charles Flannigan, who extended a warm invitation to his church at "Our Church of God of Prophecy." Mr. Flannigan was responsible for our vast clean up at the Mentone Inn after the snow and ice storm. He and his crew did a wonderful job and transformed our grounds back to a place of tranquility.

Mentone is The Dish--Joe and Terrence, your gourmet food and warm hospitality has meant so much to me and to my many satisfied guests.

Mentone is the caring and thoughtfulness of David and Cheryl Baker operating The Shed. How beautiful the inside and outside of the Mentone Inn looked during Christmas Season. Thanks, David and Cheryl, for working so patiently on the Mentone Inn premises.

Mentone is so blessed with a warm community spirit that is projected by Stan, Karen, and John at the Little River Hardware, always willing to be of assistance in any way. I shall miss you.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nancarrow add a genuine luster of graciousness and charm to the Mentone area--Mrs. Nancarrow with her extraordinary talent as an artist and with her sculptures. They are gracious, warm-hearted talented persons.

No visit is complete without going to the enchanting White Elephant where Louis and Judy Pierce give such gracious greetings when you come to browse and shop for just that special item.

Mentone is Cragsmere Manna, The Cliffs, The Bistro, the DeSoto Park Lodge, Log Cabin Deli, The White Elephant, Cloudmont. I have had 2nd return and some 3rd on reservations book guests.

I truly believe the above acknowledged people are the reason. There is--yes a real "Magic"about Mentone that is like a magnet, it's magic--it draws people to return again and again.

Replenishing the Spirit is Mike and Sarah Campbell's way of expressing what happens when they and their family, guests and friends come to Mentone. "The spirit is replenished" to go back down the mountain to their responsibilities and plan for the next trip up the awesome Lookout Mountain to Mentone once again.

So it is with me. Ms. Daisy has been granted a privilege to live and work and enjoy the magic of Mentone for nine months. What a privilege it has been for me.

My deepest gratitude and love to Mike and Sarah Campbell for the confidence and trust they had in me. I have never been a part of a family that I respect, admire, and love more than Mike and Sarah's. They love Mentone, its history, and the "Replenishing of the Spirit" it offers to them and to all who, like my sister June Brown and me, have come to know.

Thank you "Southern Heart!" You will always have a special place in my heart. June and I would never have come to know--a magical place called "Mentone."

Yes, Mentone is a bouquet of lives blending together with their talents and warmth.

I leave all of you who make Mentone "the God's canvas that it is" with my sentiments.

Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while and leave footprints on our hearts,and we are never the same.

God has smiled on you, "Mentone."

With love, Ms. Daisy, Mentone Inn

Editor's note: April 20, Ms. Daisy, who was the innkeeper for the Mentone Inn from August 1999 to April 20, 2000, returned to Montgomery to be with her mother and other family members.

Mentone, Alabama

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN

It looks as though Spring is here! When the temperature at night was finally warm, everything decided to bloom! I'm sure it was this pretty last year, but I don't remember everything blooming so suddenly. The rhododendrons (those that the ice storm didn't destroy) are already in full color. It almost seems that Mother Nature is trying to apologize for all of the damage she did with the four inches of ice on everything last January.

Another sign of spring in Mentone is the Father-Son and Mother-Daughter Weekends each camp in Mentone has. This is a weekend where the parents and campers come to camp and stay for two days and a night. This gives the new camper a taste of what camp is like and permits the parents to view first-hand the operation of camp. May 6th and 7th was such a weekend.

The streets in Mentone have now been cleared of all brush and debris that was left by the ice. The contractor who did them certainly did a great job. It is SO nice to have the chips left to decay and replenish the soil. There are still a few broken tree tops hanging over some of the roads, but maybe they will cut these before they call it quits and leave.

The volunteers of the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District sponsored a training class in CPR on May 6th. The attendance was low and all who thought of doing it, but didn't, certainly missed an excellent opportunity to learn some good life-saving techniques. Frank Hill was the instructor and did an excellent job. He made the learning very interesting and the time passed quickly. Maybe this will be offered again in the fall. If it is, please try to attend. You may never need this training, but better to have it and not need it than need it and not have it.

Something exciting happened at the Mentone Town Council meeting this month. The development of a water department was set in place. This will enable the water department to run as a separate business. There will be a board of five persons. The town will still have to apply for most of the grants and then work with the water department on certain projects. Pat Tate, the attorney for Mentone, stated that Mentone was the last to do this, at least in DeKalb County; and I thought he said in the state of Alabama. So it seems that this is something whose time had come.

The Cub Scouts of Troop 106 presented the colors for the meeting. This is a very impressive service of bringing the American and Christian flag into the building, displaying it, leading the Pledge of Allegiance, and then retiring the colors at the end of the meeting. This is wonderful training for these young boys. We should all be very proud of Scout Troop 106 and the leaders who give SO much of their time and talents.

I was at a meeting, recently; and, during a break, the talk turned to what is sometimes called, "old wives tales." One of those mentioned was, "If it rains on May first and you get wet in the rain, it will kill any lice that you have." This probably got started because so many kids had lice after the winter. Some people in Mentone can remember when all of the boys had their heads shaved as soon as the weather warmed. Sometimes, "the good old days" weren't so good after all. Another tale was that you can go barefoot on May 1 and it won't make you sick. An aunt of mine always said that if you got wet by rain in every month that had the letter "r" in its name, you would not have colds or flu that year.

When you eat at Dessie's Country Kitchen, look at the place mats. They have some Southern sayings that are so true and very often heard around Mentone. One of mine (I have tried to stop using it but failed so far) is "fixing" as in "I'm fixing to go to the store." I suppose we shouldn't try so hard to stop using all of these ways of expressing ourselves. After all, they are very much a part of our heritage. In this day and age, it is good to have a heritage.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and all of the color in the flowers and trees. I certainly hope that we have some rain soon, it is already much too dry for the early spring.

Don't forget Mother's Day and all of the memorial decoration days this month. It seems that the South is the only place that honors in such a manner those who have passed on. What a wonderful custom!

Oliver Warbucks (Bob Hodges) and Annie (Sarah Strange) pose with Sandy the Dog for a picture during recent rehearsals of the upcoming production of ANNIE at the Northeast Alabama Community College Theatre. ANNIE will open in June.

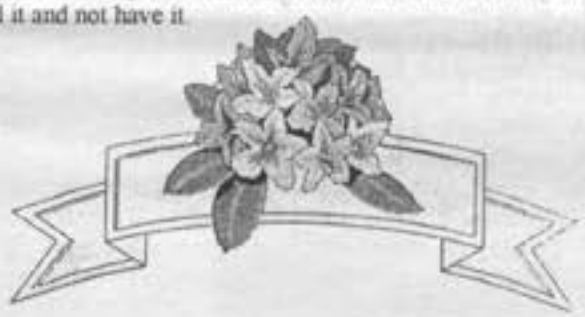
ANNIE
COMES TO THE NACC THEATRE THIS JUNE!

"LEAPIN' LIZARDS!" **ANNIE** is coming to the Northeast Alabama Community College Theatre. Originally presented by Mike Nichols, this fun-filled musical has stolen the hearts of young and old alike for almost thirty years.

This play takes place during the Great Depression with scenes such as a run-down orphanage and a Hooverville in New York City. With a mansion like Oliver Warbucks' (Bob Hodges), however, the Great Depression, obviously, has not affected everyone. When Mr. Warbucks sends his secretary, Grace Farrell (Margaret Croft), to bring an orphan to his home for Christmas, he has no idea that a little girl by the name of Annie (Sarah Strange) will change his life.

With a cast of sixty, **ANNIE** brings back Broadway music to NACC. Characters, such as Miss Hannigan (Maxine Byrum), Rooster and Lily (Greg Altom and Christina Williamson), and an orphan and servant chorus perform a list of songs that will have children on the edge of their seats and the grown-ups begging for more. Songs you will recognize like "It's a Hard Knock Life", "You Won't be an Orphan for Long", and who can forget "Tomorrow", have made this Broadway show a favorite.

With Ann Everett as director, **ANNIE** will be an evening of good clean family fun. The dates for this production are as follows: June 16th, 17th, 18th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25th. Tickets are $4.00 and may be obtained by coming by or calling the NACC Theatre at (256) 228-6001 Ext. 218 or 318 or (256) 638-4418 Ext. 218 or 318.



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Masons donate to libraries

For the second year, Valley Head's Masonic Lodge has presented funds to the libraries of Valley Head and Moon Lake schools. The donation, given from the entire membership of the lodge, is divided among the two schools based on student population. Shown presenting checks to Moon Lake Principal Dr. Bill Berry, left, and Valley Head Principal Gary Talley are Howard Carson and Richard Tatum, past masters of the Valley Head Masonic Lodge.

MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

We are currently having a Coca-Cola truckload sale with a wide variety of Coca-Cola products available at a substantially reduced cost. Proceeds will benefit the school's summer expenses. Any student may be contacted, or the school may be contacted for the purchase of these products. The deadline for these purchases is May 15.

Monday, May 15, at 9 AM, will be the Annual Awards Day in the gym. Everyone is welcome to attend this celebration of student achievement.

Thursday, May 18, at 9 AM, is Kindergarten graduation in the gym.

Head Start graduation is also on May 18, at 6 PM.

Thursday, May 25, will be the last day of school, and 6th grade graduation will be at 6:30 that evening in the gymnasium.

The school is currently receiving funds for the new library project and will continue receiving donations through the summer at the school address:

P. O. Box 166, Mentone, AL 35984

Moon Lake library

Representative Todd Greeson and Superintendent Richard Land presented Moon Lake School $5,000 for the construction of a new library. (L-R) Greeson, Principal Dr. Bill Berry, Land.

Alien Contest at Moon Lake School

On April 27, 30 alien entries paraded across in front of three judges: Brenda Goss, Dessie Newberry, and Marie Dillenbeck. Karen Prestwood, the emcee for the event called out the names of each of the aliens or alien groups. The aliens had names such as Tarzan, Patriot, Venus, Armadalla, Color, Twins (with real chicken legs attached to their costumes?), Cupface, Buckethead, Aluminum Head, Triple Eye, Planteana, Colorama, Chewface, Scream, Army (marched in Army fashion), Strange-a-lot: Pluto, Awful, Triplets (three in one costume), Mecurians (three in one costume), Penalope from Pluto, Queen Aliana and Ribbit her frog, Mars Man, Partridge Family (yes, you guessed it, six aliens), Sportsquad (group of four), Jupiter, and Armor. With the work that the aliens put into their costumes, the judges had a difficult time trying to select the winners. After much deliberation and asking for several aliens to return, the judges selected:

Queen Aliana and her frog, Ribbit, 1st place; Twins (with real chicken legs?) 2nd place; and Army 3rd place.

The winners are on the step below the rest of the contestants. Each winner was given a prize and a hat to indicate that they were alien winners.

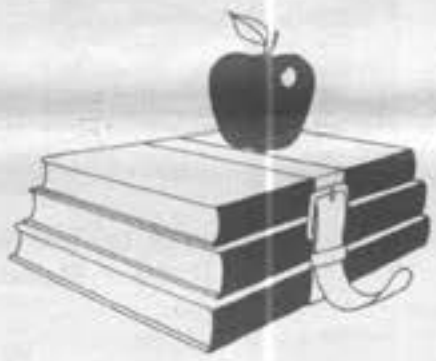
Moon Lake students celebrate Earth Day

Submitted photo

Special visitors introduce character education terms at Moon Lake Elementary School. This month Jan Wilkinson introduced "Respect for the Environment" by costuming students in outfits that are traditional to lands she has visited, thereby stressing the importance of respect for one another and of environmental concerns shared by cultures the world over. Pictured are, front row from left: Paige Wright (Greece), Hunter Stone (Saudi Arabia) and Hope Carden (Netherlands). Back row: Glenn Hansen (U.S.A.), Cayla Voils (Mexico), Wilkinson, Fred Castleberry (India) and Ashley Ammons (India).

Submitted photo

Moon Lake Elementary School students celebrate Earth Day each year by working alongside parents and community friends in the campus butterfly garden. Busy planting flowers and plants on Monday are third graders, left to right, Fred Castleberry, Eric Hunt, Jessica Easler, John Whitaker and Sierra Nicely. Earth Day is intended to be a time of reflection on the condition of our environment and planet.



Math-a-thon at Valley Head Elementary

Times-Journal photo by Scott Turner

Valley Head Elementary recently held a Math-a-thon to raise money for St. Jude's Childrens Hospital. Dillon Brown raised $3,316. Pictured are the top money raisers: front row, from left: Amanda Floyd, Sterling Sharpe, Brenden Wilbanks, Jessica Thornberry, Amber Matthews, Shelby Headrick, Tyler Tidmore, Morgan Smith, Dillon Brown, Nick Johnson, Aubrey Cash, Justin Brown. Second row: elementary Principal Bill Monroe, Jeremiah Robertson, Marjorie Harper, Bo Barrier, Aubrey Shields, Sara McSpadden, Zack Dean, Kelsey Kemp, Karisa Wilburn, Trevor Smith and Coordinator Brenda Wisner. Back row: Justin Burch, Billy Wallace, Zack Cooper, Nick Johnson, Amber Carrier, Megan Gregory, James Hawk, Tiffany Keef.

Resealing of the Cornerstone of Mentone United Methodist Church

Cornerstone after Ovie Blalock drilled out an area the size needed to accommodate the piece of pvc pipe containing new items

Cornerstone showing the handle side. The entire side has smooth edges with the handle in the center.

Linda Brown, Lay Speaker Alan Copeland who performed the resealing ceremony, Sara Petersen and Barbara Petersen

Photos by Marie Dillenbeck

Ovie Blalock and Bobby Brown preparing to place the container back into the cornerstone. Alex Hazell and Barbara Blalock are looking on.

Bobby Brown sealing the cornerstone. No photos of the cornerstone being replaced were taken at the ceremony, as it was necessary to wait for the cement to dry.

On Sunday, April 30, a ceremony was conducted by Lay Speaker Alan Copeland from Fort Payne, to replace the cornerstone that had been removed on April 2, to examine the contents. The original contents of the cornerstone were found to be three small books: a Methodist hymnal, a Bible, and a Book of Discipline. A V nickel with the date 1894 was also included. The metal box containing these items books had disintegrated, and the condition of the books was such that they fell apart when you touched them.

Mentone United Methodist Church pastor, Rev. Linda Tucker was unable to attend the opening or the closing of the cornerstone because she and her husband, Rev. John Tucker, became parents on Friday, March 31, to a beautiful baby girl, Aylee Delenn Tucker.

Prior to the ceremony, Ovie Blalock drilled the cornerstone to make an area large enough for the new container. He said it took him longer than he thought it would to drill out the area.

While the cornerstone was out, it rested on the trunk of a big oak tree that had been in the parking lot. The tree was damaged during the January ice storms and it was necessary to remove it.

During the ceremony, Bobby Brown and Ovie Blalock sealed the new container and replaced it in the cornerstone, covering it with cement to completely seal it from the elements.

The following is a list of items placed in a piece of pvc pipe and sealed in the cornerstone of the Mentone United Methodist Church on Cutler Avenue on April 30, 2000.

- Present Membership roll
- List of members favorite hymns
- History of the church
- Receipts from Foodland and Chevron
- Bulletin from the opening of the cornerstone on 4/2/2000
- List of those present for the opening
- List of the original contents of the cornerstone
- Program from the closing of the cornerstone
- An April 2000 issue of The Groundhog (featuring the opening of the cornerstone)
- Recipe for Eloise Burnett's dill pickles
- 2000calendar
- Picture of John, Linda and newborn Aylee Tucker
- Pokemon card
- Beenie Baby card
- State series of quarters
- 2000 gold dollar
- 1838 half dime
- 1906 Indianhead penny
- Note from a Sunday School student
- A miniature beaded doll
- A miniature ceramic bell

It is an event that the children of the church will be able to tell to their children and grandchildren. Who knows, maybe the cornerstone will be opened in 50 years, rather than another hundred and six years. The year 2000 was the beginning of the millennium. This being the millennium, the cornerstone was not opened until after the year 2000 had arrived.

This is and was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be in on the opening of and closing of a time capsule.

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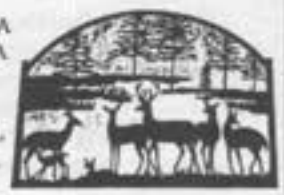

School supply program helping local children

The Valley Head Baptist Church has a very special ministry, one that benefits school children all over DeKalb County.

Under the leadership of Dr. Charles Jenkins, the church started the EDUPAK program in 1995, with the goal of providing school supplies to children who can least afford it.

Jenkins, 38, got this idea after his church was involved in a similar project. He had read an article by Franklin Graham, son of Dr. Billy Graham.

"There is a program called 'Samaritan's Purse,'" Jenkins said "where churches and civic organizations collect items for Christmas and fill shoe boxes full of goodies. They are shipped overseas to children who won't have a Santa Claus without a program like this. Our church has been the official collection center for his (Graham's) ministry each year. "We participated in that project each year, and collected over 1,000 boxes last year. We thought it was great to help kids overseas," he said, "but we wanted to do something to help our children here."

The church leaders and others put their heads together and originally came up with the idea of filling book bags, "but the school board changed their policy, and we wanted a project that wasn't subject to change."

As a result, the idea of citizens purchasing a clear, plastic storage box with items such as pencils, crayons, notebooks, tissues, rulers, glue and other necessary items for the start of a school year was born.

Jenkins consulted with DeKalb County Superintendent of Education Dr. Richard Land, and details were worked out to make the program work. "We get a list of needed school supplies from Dr. Land each year," Jenkins said, "for each grade from kindergarten through sixth grade., We wanted a list of the most needed items for each grade."

Jenkins said the program has been very successful, and now he wants to expand the idea to include children from the Fort Payne area, as well. "This program can easily be expanded," he said. "We just need to get the word out so we can collect more material to include as many needy children as possible. It's so expensive to start the school year with shoes and clothes that have to be purchased, and the workbooks that are required are expensive. We think if we can provide the supplies, it will enable parents to have more money to spend on these other things."

The program is strictly monitored, and guidelines are enforced. It is left to the principals at each school to determine which students receive the EDUPAK boxes. "Most of the kids who receive our boxes also receive free lunches," he said. "If they need help paying for their food, then we can help by providing these supplies for them."

"We inspect each box," Jenkins said, "and label what grade they are for. Some boxes need a little 'help' to be complete, and we do that, as well. We collect everything needed here at our church and then deliver them to the schools in time for the start of the school year."

Most of the collection is done April through July, and the boxes are assembled and made ready for delivery just prior to the start of school, in August. Jenkins asks those wishing to make donations contact him at his church, by calling 635-6880.

You can fax a request for information to 635-3359, and the program, which is set up under a non-profit organization named Southern Bible Institute, has a web site at www.edupak.faithweb.com.

"Volunteers are asked to purchase a clear, plastic container," Jenkins said, "which costs under $2, even for the larger size. We'll provide a copy of the list of needed items, detailed for each grade We ask the people to fill the box with all the items for a particular grade and deliver it to us."

The group also requests a $5 donation to cover the cost of printing the lists, delivery, and other costs.

"This is our one educational project each year," Jenkins said, "and we want it to grow. It would be wonderful if we had many, many more boxes this year because there are many children who could use this material.

(This article appeared in the April 25 issue of The Times-Journal, by Ben Shurett.)

SPCA GOES HIGH TECH TO FIND PETS A HOME

The often difficult task for finding homes for lost, strayed or abandoned pets at the DeKalb County SPCA has been given a boost by a unique high tech solution. A press conference was held April 25 to announce a new Alabama-based company. HumaneSocietyAdoptions.com, has donated a computer, digital camera and other equipment to put pictures and information about area adoptable pets at the shelter on the Internet.

The DeKalb County SPCA is only the 13th animal shelter in the United States to be included in this program and the first SPCA. The new equipment and Internet site is expected to help promote the adoption of animals at the shelter, just as The Times-Journal has done on page two of every weekend edition by running a photograph and brief about a specific animal available.

When a home cannot be found for an animal, it must be euthanized. The SPCA has strongly encouraged pet owners to spay/neuter animals and have regular shots to prevent unwanted or diseased animals roaming the streets.

Joe Stahlkuppe, community affairs director of HumaneSocietyAdoptions.com, said the web site's purpose is to universally educate the public at large "on the insidious problem of homeless animals and unwanted pets that cannot speak for themselves. By employing the World Wide Web as a medium for exposure, our goal is to create a national, regional and local forum for this education along with a workable national program to adopt more shelter pets into responsible, caring homes."

The site also erased many of the misconceptions about homeless pets and shelters in general.

By doing this, the SPCA hopes thousands of dogs, cats, puppies and kittens find homes with prospective pet owners who have never been to a shelter and who never considered shelter adoption as a suitable source for their new pet.

Stahlkuppe said the public majority in most cities whispers support for their shelter and acknowledge its importance to their community, but when it comes time to acquire a pet, they do not consider shelter adoption as the source, either because it is perceived as inconvenient or the animals are perceived as flawed in some manner due to their past. "Yes, there are many lost abandoned and surrendered animals in a shelter that are injured, abused, diseased and behaviorally challenged. But these animals are the minority and are separated from the majority of pets that have a clean bill of health and are properly screened as candidates for adoption to a new and caring home. The truth is most shelter animals have been intentionally surrendered by their previous owners for personal reasons running the gamut from divorce and relocation to personal ill health and financial problems."

He said these surrendered pets are only guilty of previous fickle ownership and are only suffering from a temporary broken heart, a condition quickly mended by adoption to a new and caring home.

"We chose the DeKalb County SPCA to be a part of our worldwide network of humane societies and animal shelters because of the high level of professionalism and leadership of the staff and the dedication and commitment of the SPCA board and the DeKalb County/Fort Payne community, stated A. Lee Redfield, president of HumaneSocietyAdoptions.com.

"The equipment, training, software and programming we have provided will give the DeKalb County shelter an even better opportunity to showcase the dogs, cats, puppies and kittens available for adoption to the citizens of this area, surrounding counties, the state of Alabama, and the entire U.S."

Though still in the early phases of development, the web site network now contains digital photos of all the available adoptable pets at the Fort Payne shelter. People from DeKalb County, or anywhere else, can view the animals from the comfort of their own homes on their own computers.

When a potential pet is spotted on the web site, a detailed profile (and a larger picture)of that animal can be pulled up along with specific information about the shelter and about how this pet can become adopted.

The web site blends the need to help homeless domesticated animals with the very latest high tech computer science, equipment and training.

While the equipment and training provided to the DeKalb SPCA can be valued at several thousand dollars, humanesocietyadoptions.com's main web site has cost three quarters of a million to develop.

"We are proud to be associated in this effort with the DeKalb County SPCA, as it is one of the most respected such organizations in Alabama or anywhere else," Stahlkuppe said.

"We believe that picturing all the fine pets here will not only increase pet adoptions, but also provide further exposure for an animal shelter of which this community should be justifiably proud."

Stahlkuppe said everyone should be concerned with the animals who end up at the shelter (and the ones who don't).

"Strayed, abandoned and untrained dogs and cats can conflict in many ways with humans, sometimes causing bodily harm and serious accidents. While most charitable organizations are focused on some kind of human malady or cause that is specific to a certain group of people and not overlapping to others, the problem of pet overpopulation affects all Americans whether we are pet owners or not," he explained.

"Currently, there are over 125 million dogs and cats in this country, almost half the human population. Fortunately, the vast majority of these pets are cared for responsibly. Unfortunately, there are still millions of pets left homeless."

(This article appeared in the April 25 issue of The Times-Journal, by Steven Stiefel.)

Angela Russell awarded a Renewed Performance Arts Scholarship in Music

Angela Marie Russell

Angela Marie Russell, a 1999 graduate of Fort Payne High School, has been awarded a renewed Performance Arts Scholarship in Music to Northeast Alabama Community College for the 2000-2001 academic year.

Angela is active in the Northeast chorus and Vocal Ensemble, and a member of the *Backroads* yearbook staff, of which she will be co-editor in the fall.

She currently has a Grade Point Average of 3.4 and is planning on traveling to New York City this month with the chorus to perform the Fauré Requiem in the legendary Carnegie Hall.

Angela is the daughter of Mr. William Russell and the granddaughter of Mr. Granville Goss, both of Mentone, AL.

The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

In reading some of our old issues of The Groundhog, I remember some things long forgotten. We have a box of pictures and memorabilia from the Jessie Whitehead estate that I have looked through and enjoyed it thoroughly. Ernest Smith has had them a long time, waiting for us to come by for them. He gave up and brought them to us. He had identified some of the ones in the photographs and some of them perhaps nobody knows. Most of all, I enjoyed reading Charles McGehee's article on the life of John Mason and his son Ed Mason. Ed was the promoter of the town of Mentone, and he drew a plan for it and named the streets that still bear the same title. And of course most of us know that John Mason's daughter named the town. She was Alice Mason O'Rear. Charles McGehee and his wife, Jean (now a member of the city council) are the ones who initiated the beginning of our paper by starting with a newsletter folded and mailed to Mentone residents to make them aware of what we of MAPA hoped to do for our community. Then, they enlarged on it and produced a magazine type paper featuring many of the early families of the area. I appreciate more than they would ever know their hours of hard work, without the help of a computer. They practically did the whole paper alone. Some of us would go to their house and proof-read the paper. That was fun! Their first cover story featured Ruby O'Rear who was the granddaughter of John Mason, and later one was done on John Mason and one of Jesse Whitehead, another granddaughter. This is wonderful history, which we hope to preserve in a museum if we can get the funds to build one. Charles is deceased now, but we can still thank Jean for starting a paper that is still enjoyed by our local people and many others who have it mailed to them all over the states.

Many thanks to Evelyn Graves and Marie Dillenbeck who work most of the night sometimes in order to get the paper on time.

Our Easter sunrise service, sponsored by the North DeKalb Ministerial Assn., was held at Brow Park this year, and people brought their folding chairs and sat under the shelter of the pavilion. We had a good attendance and a wonderful sermon by Rev. Bill Russell. It was so good to have the many churches join in the celebration of the resurrected Christ. Rev. Steve Statum sang a beautiful solo. What a great voice!

Spring has arrived at last, but one would never know it by the kind of weather we had the last week of April. There were days of strong winds and temperatures in the thirties at night.

May is a month of many festivals. Our lovely Rhododendrons are the main attraction this month, but there are many other blooming plants to make everything beautiful.

We had Easter dinner with our daughter, Doreen, and her husband, Jerry. Our youngest daughter is a good cook. And she gives us an Easter basket full of goodies each year. Now you know we have entered our second childhood. The basket contains all kinds of candies--and a rabbit! I have six of them now for display. This year, they gave Homer a large bird feeder that is supposed to be squirrel proof. It has a battery that is arranged so it gives the little animal a slight shock. It will not hurt the animal but will hopefully keep him from eating all the bird seeds. We will keep you posted on how it works.

The Valley Head Woman's Club

By Edna Morgan

The April meeting of the Valley Head Woman's Club was held at the home of Judith Hammond. Hostesses for this meeting were Martha Gibson, Inelle Hurt, Judith Hammond, and Susan Hooks.

Martha Stanley gave a talk on the history of tea dating back to 3000 BC in China. Her talk included the tea ceremony, containers for tea, why we should drink tea, and other interesting facts about tea. She included numerous Bible scriptures in her discussion.

Twenty members attended this meeting, many of them decked out in hats and gloves depicting the dress for teas in the past.

The tables were adorned with cut-work tablecloths and napkins, lovely china, and beautiful teapots.

After the tea, the meeting was called to order by Evelyn Graves, President. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Edna Morgan. Roll call and minutes were read by Jan Wilkinson who filled in for Judith Hammond who was one of the hostesses. Jan also gave the treasurer's report.

The May meeting was discussed. This will be a luncheon at Nippersink, and donations to Valley Head and Moon Lake School libraries will be presented.

The passing of Ann Climer, a previous club member, was discussed, and a memorial gift was voted on in her memory.

Kristy Rastall was presented for membership by Judith Hammond and Maureen Donahue. The vote was unanimous that she be invited for membership.

Jean Jones announced the Save-A-Life walk to be held Saturday, May 27, 2000, in Fort Payne, and encouraged all to participate.

The hostess gift was won by Maxine Wright, after which the meeting was adjourned.

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At Volunteer Appreciation Brunch in Huntsville, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 Is Awarded Certificate of Appreciation

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

"The Floyd E. 'Tut' Fann State Veterans Home on Meridian Street in Huntsville is a very good thing for North Alabama in that it provides a comfortable place for veterans who are physically beyond home care. Over the last few years, there have been lots of unpleasant things in the press about the Fann Home, but the ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 have never found anything there to substantiate any of the unflattering allegations from the media." Mrs. Syble Tipton, President of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215 in Mentone issued a statement Thursday, April 14.

"It has long since been the policy of this unit to do what we can when we can in regard to the veterans from DeKalb County who reside at the Fann Home. We should like very much to go once each season to actually visit face to face and deliver balloon bouquets, but we have such small numbers of active members, and we live so far away, that, over the last couple of years, we have had to suspend our visits completely due to our ladies experiencing ill health, bad weather, a lack of availability, and any number of other things. However, we have maintained our card sending campaign.

"Twice a year-at Christmas and Valentine's Day-we send cards to the entire resident population of the Fann Home. This year, our box of Valentines was mailed out during a 'double whammy ice storm.' Throughout the year, we send personal cards to the resident veterans from DeKalb County at New Year's, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas in addition to their birthdays. Back when we started sending cards, there were seven DeKalb County vets in residence at the Fann Home. Now, that number has dropped to three.

"Regardless of what volunteers do for the residents of the Fann Home, each and every effort is most definitely appreciated. On Wednesday, April 12, Edward Stephens, Administrator, Mrs. Linda Hamilton, Director of Nursing, and Mrs. Carol Offi, Activities Director, at the Fann Home and their staff hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Brunch at which they gave out Certificates of Appreciation to various individuals and organizations who had volunteered between April of 1999 and March of 2000.

"Mr. Ed Ringer, Post Adjutant, the official card sender for American Legion Post 215--that is the men's legion at Mentone--and newly elected District XIII President, represented Post 215 at the Volunteer Appreciation Brunch. Mrs. Marilyn Blanton Campbell, our Historian and the official card sender for American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215--that is the Mentone ladies legion--represented our organization at that brunch and accepted our Certificate of Appreciation. After the presentation of the certificates, a drawing was held for the numerous door prizes that had been donated by various businesses in the greater Huntsville area, and Mrs. Campbell won the biggest prize of all--an absolutely massive and beautiful fern in a hanging basket from Reed's Farmer's Market in Meridianville.

"The point really should be made that the list of recipients of the Certificates of Appreciation awarded at the Volunteer Appreciation Brunch cut a truly diverse swath completely across society--college students, church groups, numerous veterans organizations, public officials, a line dancing group, and lots more. All sorts of people do a little bit of everything imaginable to help at the Fann Home from aiding with baths to helping serve family style meals. It would seem that eating family style and line dancing are two particular favorite activities for the resident vets. There are apparently no limits to the world of volunteerism at the Fann Home, and each and every effort is duly appreciated. While some of the things the volunteers do are far less exciting than others, all those efforts fit together to create a support system that facility would have definite problems functioning without."

With Love ON MOTHER'S DAY

THOUGHTS: ESPECIALLY FOR THE YOUNG

By John Baty

Spring is the time of new awakenings; when plans and dreams and hopes are conceived and put into motion. It is often the time when the quest for new and greater knowledge is initiated in young minds.

Since the beginning of civilization, maybe since the first of the genus Homo, the accumulated knowledge of man's past has been passed on from the older, declining, generations, to the fresh new ones. This storehouse of knowledge, this legacy, bequest, (The poet, Thomas Gray called it "The spoils of time."), and its chain of transmission down across the millennia is what has enabled mankind to ascend to the position of "mightiest of the Beasts." Knowledge, then, in its many guises, is the engine that has brought us here, and that sustains us at this moment in time. Without it, our global community could not exist in its present form, if at all.

As one moves forward in his (The masculine gender is used inclusively) journey, two broad approaches to knowledge will be available: Specialization and diversity.

Specialization--the proverbial "learning of more and more about less and less"--has been practiced for so long that its origin is lost to the ravages of time. It is probably practiced more, and enjoys greater popularity today, than ever in the history of man. If one's greatest desire is to be a "success" in our present society, then this approach to knowledge is probably a safe way to go.

The more generalized acquisition of knowledge, while having much to offer, is in this time and society, usually regarded as a somewhat more hazardous route if material possessions are first priority.

While this dichotomy in education has existed in parallel for many centuries, it is only within this writer's memory that it has become skewed towards specialization. It is now even possible to hear the opinion that the general (Liberal Arts) education is somehow a lesser education. While I have the utmost respect for all specialists, the thrust of what I will attempt here might be considered as a sort of tribute to generalized thinking; to diversity.

As we know, ("Know" being always far removed from any absolute) knowledge and intelligence are not equivalent. Knowledge is not a measure of intelligence and does not invariably occur in tandem with that characteristic. And intelligence is no assurance of knowledge.

There is one bit of knowledge that I have acquired over time that has served me better than all other. We might think of it as some kind of analogy to the proverbial good-bad rhyme: The most knowledgeable among us know so little, and the least knowledgeable know so much, that it ill behooves any of us to be unduly sensitive about those things of which we know not.

The single most important consequence of broad and diverse knowledge is the provision for a greater perspective. While the brains of men are able to share thoughts, and plan and scheme together, each is unique and views itself and all other from a different perspective. It is thus no mystery that our individual conclusions may differ widely.

While one may choose to walk with John when he received the promise in John 14:3: "I will come again;" another may wish to cynically reflect with Shakespeare that "Life-- is a tale told by an idiot full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

We have a rather crude method of describing our thoughts and their conclusions. We say that we "believe" this or we believe that other, etc. I cannot but wonder if it is not so important what we think, but rather that we do think.

Since man has first been able to consider himself, he has been confronted with the great questions; questions still waiting to be answered: What am I? Who am I? From whence did I come? Where am I going? If there is a purpose to my being, what is it?

We cannot fully answer any of these, at least as yet. We can however, using the knowledge thus far accumulated by the collective mind of man, describe the present condition, position, we occupy, with at least some confidence. Whether man is an assemblage of cosmic particles synthesized in the ultra hot interior of some star, and here only by chance, or whether he was formed by God in the image of God and is a living soul, we may still wonder. Yet, we can say with some accuracy that man, the organism, resides within his home, his community, his Biological niche, his nation, his continent, the Biosphere. He is very temporarily hitching a ride on a very ordinary planet, orbiting an ordinary mid-life star, located on the periphery of the Milky Way Galaxy--that Galaxy, together with all the others moving through space at incredibly great speeds, destinations unknown.

Greater perspective allows us to ponder these questions. It may not help a lot to put more manna on the proverbial table, but it adds another "dimension" to our lives and allows us to conclude that for a person, a mind, to have passed this way and not have considered the great questions, it would be as if he, or she, had never been.

Phi Theta Kappa inductees

Northeast Alabama Community College's Psi Epsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa recently inducted 51 new members. Phi Theta Kappa International is the official honor society of two-year colleges in the United States, Canada, Japan, and U.S. territorial possessions. Area inductees include, 1st row, from left: Amy Wooten, Adam Massey, Jeremiah Robinson, Justin Garmany, and Tracy Hurtt; 2nd row: Jacob Daniel, Allen Gray, Michelle Jackson, and Sherry Redden.

Woodmen of the World/ Omaha Woodmen Life Insurance Society

At the April 4 meeting of the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA), Johnny Miller, Woodmen of the World Field Representative; and Ovie Blalock, President of Woodmen of the World Lodge 436 since 1990, were the program speakers. They came to explain the fraternity benefits for members of Woodmen of the World, and to let the MAPA members know what Woodmen of the World does. They are a fraternal organization that has been involved in giving back to the communities in many areas.

You can see the American Flags flying over many fire departments, town halls, schools, etc. Woodmen of the World has been donating flags and presenting them to fire departments, town halls, schools, etc. In 1998, they presented 46,000 flags throughout the United States. Every classroom in DeKalb County has received a flag so the children can do the pledge of allegiance. They also provide American Patriot handbooks and safe bus driver awards.

Woodmen of the World lends equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, generators, etc. to people who need, but have a problem acquiring these items. The equipment can be used by individuals as long as it is needed.

Woodmen participates in the Make-a-Wish Foundation, a program that grants wishes for terminally ill children. The members raise money, and all the money goes to the foundation. In the first year Make-a-Wish was started, local Lodge 436 raised more money than any other lodge in the United States.

Woodmen has joined with the American Red Cross in a partnership where they take generator trailers to areas that have suffered disasters. These generators are used for people, feeding tubes, breathing machines, and freezers to keep foods from spoiling. Most recently, Woodmen has built and made available for use during disasters a 5000-gallon water tanker that can carry water to those areas where water is not available. Often this is the only source of water for the victims of disasters. To be in a partnership with the American Red Cross, the members have to go to school to get training to participate in disaster relief. They are already raising the funds (between $10,000 and $15,000) to build another generator trailer for use in disasters. There is now a Red Cross emblem to go along with the Woodmen emblem, since they have formed this partnership.

For the last ten years, Lodge 436 has been the top lodge in Alabama, receiving the highest score in the United States. They are the only lodge in the United States with a perfect score of 400. Presently, membership in Lodge 436 is between 1200 and 1500 members. In DeKalb County, there are between 5000 and 6000 members.

Woodmen also participates in Habitat for Humanity, an organization which builds houses and makes them available to people who would otherwise be unable to afford a home. This past year, they started a house on Thursday in Arkansas and finished it on Wednesday of the next week. They build one every year. The homes are then turned over to the new owner, who is also required to work on the building of the home.

There is a Woodmen Ranger Summer Camp for children of the members of Woodmen. This camp is located on the Warrior River. The Ranger Summer Camp is a member of the American Camping Association. Any child who is a member can go to the camp. They have trained counselors and staff who look after the children. Safety is their top priority. Activities include swimming (certified lifeguards and staff), canoeing, challenge course that teaches children team work and cooperation, archery class, rifling courses with comprehensive safety instructions. There are three meals a day, along with snacks and drinks, and the children sleep in air conditioned cabins with counselors. Sports activities teach the children team work and sportsmanship. There is plenty of organized and free time. Adults and Seniors over 60 and who are also Woodmen members are eligible to attend this camp in the month of September, when the children are not using the camp.

Following their presentation, Johnny Miller and Ovie Blalock presented a flag to MAPA. There was also a drawing for a door prize, and member Gerald Taylor was the recipient of a second United States flag.

Candace Fuller awarded a two-year Code Six Scholarship

Candace Fuller

Candace Fuller has been awarded a two-year Code Six scholarship to Northeast Alabama Community College where she plans to pursue a degree in Music. She is the daughter of Richard L. Fuller and Carol A. Fuller of Mentone.

Candace is a 2000 graduate of Valley Head High School where she was Homecoming Queen, Prom Queen, DARE Role-Model, in the Top Ten of her class, voted Senior Class Most Athletic, Best All Around, and Beauty. She was FFA Sweetheart, FFA President, Bible Club President, on the Track Team, a member of the Varsity Basketball Team and was chosen All-Area, All-County, and the Times-Journal All DeKalb County Girl's Basketball Second Team for 1999-2000.

Candace is a member of the Praise and Worship Team at Fort Payne Christian Center and took first place at the Variety Show for Celebrate National Hosiery Week in the Talent Competition. She has explained that her career interest is "spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ, my Savior, through singing, speaking, or however He would have me to do all over the nation. I want to evangelize."

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A Friendly— Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

Maybe the weather has settled down now to warmth, but there's still blackberry winter. They are budded now, trying to bloom.

Easter was a beautiful time for families to be together. **Gracie Brown, Amanda and Dillon** spent Easter weekend with Gracie's father, **Coy Butler**, and brother, **Coy Jr.**, and her sister, **Cindy**, in Cartersville, GA. Cindy came home with them to stay two weeks.

Venna Livingston had most of her family home for Easter weekend.

Martha Joan and Gerald Killian brought her mother, **Olene Roberts**, home for the weekend, and they spent Easter with Gerald's family near Fort Payne. Then they took Olene back to Cullman. Glad to hear that she is feeling much better.

Sadie Cooper and Van, Teresa, Lana and Tyler Cooper had Easter dinner with Jim, Janet, Patrick and Brent Cooper, at their home.

Mark and Jane Gibson and family joined **Dot and Linda Blackburn, and Martha Gibson** and treated them to a wonderful vacation in New York City. They had a fabulous suite at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel and toured most of the tourist attractions and saw two plays--"Cats" and "Lion King". They had a marvelous time!

"Hoot" Gibson's son, Keith and wife Carla and their two children, spent a long weekend with him and Martha, recently.

Joey Pickett and children, **Shawna** and **Jarend**, spent Easter weekend with Ruth and Bert Pickett, and attended the sunrise service at Valley Head Baptist Church.

Lillie Bowden went to Fort Valley and Perry, Ga., and visited a lot of relatives and thoroughly enjoyed it. She has just returned from a two-week's visit with her daughter, Jo Welch and family in Chattanooga. Jo's daughter, Jennifer Waselewski, from Land of Lakes, Fla., and Kaley and Will and daughter, Jamie, from Murfreesboro, Tenn., were also there.

Ruth and Bert Pickett, Selma McElhaney and Julia Malcom went to Dalton, Ga., to help J.T. Cobble celebrate his 75th birthday. They had a barbecue and enjoyed it very much.

Ed Ringer spent several days with his brother, **Dr. Robert Ringer** and wife, **Myrtice**, in Marianna, Fla.; and then went to Enterprise, Ala., and visited his niece, **Sara Schmidt and family**.

Doris and Jim Carmichael went to Tuscaloosa and ate dinner with their granddaughter, Polly Ricketts at Tuscaloosa Academy for Grandparents' Day. Then they went to Bainbridge, Ga, to be with Jack McGlincy's family and attend his funeral and were joined by Emmy Ricketts. Among those who attended the service at the cemetery at Forsythe, Ga., from DeKalb County were Elaine Johnson, Ledell and Terry Johnson, Myra and David and Jeremy Johnson, and Van and Jimmy Cooper.

Dillon Brown is justifiably proud of the gift he received from St. Jude's Hospital. They sent him an R.C.A. personal C.D.player, in appreciation for the $225 donation he collected and sent them. Way to go, Dillon, and all the other students who worked for this worthy cause!

The **Sunshine Club** met April 27, at the home of Susie Clark. In the absence of the president, Lillie Bowden, Gladys Cobble presided. Ruth Pickett gave the Secretary's report and I gave the devotional. Others present were Ann Wright, Evelyn Clark, Leona Chadwick, Verenice Hawkins, and we were glad to see Elizabeth Bauerle, who had been unable to attend for some time. The next meeting will be a covered dish luncheon at Ann Wright's.

Joe Pickett, owner of Valley Golf Range, has gone to Austin, Tex., to Golfsmith School, learning how to make and repair golf clubs.

Emily Brown had a good day, Sunday, April 30. She attended the annual fun day meeting of the Chattanooga Miniature Society. There was large crowd from all over the United States. Their theme was "Grandma's Attic Adventures." She won the drawing for the centerpiece at her table and also a door prize, and sold some of her miniatures. She made it back in time to attend grandson John Robert Brown's first birthday party at his home. Others enjoying this delightful occasion were his granddad, Barry Brown; grandmother Mary Grace Schilleci; and aunt Dianne Mosley, from Birmingham; brother Billy Wallace; parents Robert D. and Michelle Brown; aunts--Cindy Meadows and Patti Brown; uncles--David Meadows and S.J. Brown; cousins--Alison and Jason Meadows, Shane and Beverly Wright, Robert B. and Mandy Brown; and great grandmother, Eloise Brown.

These news items I received by mail and appreciate very much:

The **Valley Head PTO** elected officers for 2000-2001, at their last meeting. Those elected were Carol Busby-President; Sherryl Lewis -Vice President; Margie Daniel-Treasurer; Michelle Brown-Secretary; and Lisa Moore-Parliamentarian. These ladies need your support, and all parents are encouraged to join the PTO and get involved. Carol, Margie, and Sherryl were officers this year and did a great job.

The **Whitehall Community** welcomes their newest family to the neighborhood--Rodney, Christine, B.J. and Seth Ballenger are moving into the Robert Turner home. Christine is Robert and Betty's daughter. Betty has moved to Fort Payne recently.

Remember **Margie Daniel** in your prayers. She had two surgeries recently. Margie had a tumor removed from her neck on March 28 and had gallbladder surgery April 21. She is doing well and will soon be delivering mail again with a smile.

Freda Pike is now working at the Wal-Mart gas station. I know her customers from Rock Castle will enjoy visiting her at her new job.

Lora Dell Perkins has been a little under the weather lately, but perked up on Easter weekend, since her sister and two nephews visited her.

The **kindergarten class at Valley Head** enjoyed a field trip to AmSouth Bank at McDonald's on April 19.

The **Valley Head Beginner Band and High School Band** did a great job at their annual end-of-the-year concert on April 18. Campbell Smith was presented a plaque from the members, in appreciation for his 19 years of service as their band director. Campbell is retiring and will be missed by all.

Congratulations to **Amanda Hall** on receiving a basketball scholarship.

Remember **Short Hall** in your prayers as he has not been feeling well lately.

Brittany and Heather Daniel spent the weekend with their grandmother, Stella Pierce, recently, while their parents were in Gatlinburg. I'm sure their "Nenny" enjoyed it as much as the girls did.

I hope everyone enjoys a beautiful Spring, and my favorite month of May!

Poor April

Dear April, you burst from wintry tomb,
Into lush green and beautiful bloom,
The air was filled with your sweet perfume.

The birds with glad happiness did sing.
You were the colorful heart of Spring.
Alas, Winter must have one last fling.

With sudden and icy breath so cold.
Poor April was robbed of all her gold.
And fruit laden buds could not unfold.

Your nut trees are veiled in somber black,
In mourning for harvest they will lack,
All feel the harm of Winter's attack.

Poor April, you've finished with pretense,
From grief and damage, no defense,
You've been sadly weeping ever since.

But there's promise of a better day,
When the sunshine's bright and warming ray
Will bless the lovely perfection of May!

---Eloise Brown

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(1) ADORABLE FURNISHED COTTAGE, MENTONE. 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Pine Floors, Rock Fireplace. 2 wooded lots. Just bring your overnight bag, and stay awhile. Located on Hwy 117, Downtown Mentone. $78,500.

(2) A ROOM WITH A VIEW Adorable Cottage on the BROW, downtown "MENTONE", 3 bdrm, 1-1/2 Bath newly remodeled, with Rock Fireplace, hardwood floors, open living room area, and new Tin Roof. $125,000.

(3) THE RED BARN on County Road 165. 36x400' barn with 1,000 sq. ft. finished for Commercial use with CH/A, Bath, City Water, Rock Fountain pool, PLUS 5 acres. All this for $38,500.

(4) A-FRAME STYLE CABIN on 2 landscaped acres with water gardens and native and exotic flowering trees and plants. 3 Bdrm, 1-1/2 baths, needs updating inside. City water. New Tin roof. Located off DeSoto Parkway, Mentone. $80,0000.

(5) RUSTIC POST AND BEAM CONSTRUCTION. 3 Bdrm 3 Bath Large open Great Room with Loft. C/HA 2500 sq ft of heated space. Multi-Decks, and located at Mtn. River Estates. 3 acres with 440 ft of river frontage. $169,900.

(6) PICTURE YOURSELF ON THE COVERED PORCH, overlooking the large pond stocked with fish, small creek lined with perennial beds, and immaculate 2 Bdrm 2 bath cedar home with C/HA, large open Living and Kitchen, with all updated appliances. All this, plus 8 acres of pasture, woods, and garden area with fruit trees. Reduced to $135,000.

(7) MENTONE AREA. Neat and Clean 3 Bdrm 2 Bath brick home, C/HA is only part of the package. Also included is 20 acres pasture, Large pond. Workshop Toolshed. (One) 36x400 barn and (Two) 32x450' Barns. 3 Wells and also City Water. Paved Rd with a view of the distant ridges Atop Lookout Mtn. $179,000.

(8) 1/4 MILE FROM DESOTO STATE PARK'S TRAILS AND FACILITIES, sits a 3 Bdrm 2 Bath Split Foyer Design home. Approximately 1800 sq ft w/unfinished Basement, Den, Dining room, and kitchen with lots of counter space. Detached garage on a corner lot over 1 acre. ~~$86,000~~. Reduced - $75,000.

(9) 50 ACRES Atop Lookout Mountain, Mentone. Fenced pasture land, established Lake, 2 barns, 3 outbuildings, SPRING HOUSE over year-around creek. The Old Homesite is surrounded by huge Oaks, and a view over the land and surrounding mountain ridges. Access from Bankhead Rd. and Hwy 117 S. Opportunity for one of the prettiest spots on Lookout awaits. $175,000.

(10) CUSTOM BUILT CABIN at Laurel Creek Lakes. 1 yr old with large Great Room, kitchen dining combo. Tongue and Groove pine throughout. Flagstone Tile, Hardwood floors, raised pine cabinets, handmade Doors. 2 Bdrm (Loft) 2 Bath and 800 ft. of porches. $115,000.

(11) MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES Direct access from Lookout Mountain Parkway on Hwy 117. 3 to 7 acre riverfront tracts starting at $27,500. 5 to 15 stream tracts from $17,600. Restricted covenants apply.

(12) THE PERFECT WEEKEND GETAWAY COTTAGE. Quaint 2 bdrm 2 bath, C/HA newly remodeled kitchen with all appliances, hardwood floors in living dining area. Screened porch and Sunroom. Lima Rock formations accent the large entertainment deck w/hot tub and Outdoor Shower. Priced at $89,500.

(13) ONE AND ONLY LITTLE RIVER CANYON. 3 to 5 acre tracts overlooking Canyon, some with Waterfalls. Property adjoins Wild Life Management Land. Many tracts to choose from and all on Private gate access. Point and Bluff sections now available. Very Secluded. $25,000 to $40,000. Appointment ONLY.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(15) WEEKEND/WEEKLY RENTALS, available on the Brow and Downtown Mentone. 1,2,3 Bedrooms. $85.00 and $125.00 nightly. Call Angela Wood for more info.

(16) COUNTY ROAD 633, WOODED TRACTS from 10 acres and up, ranging $2,000 to $2,500 an acre. Owner Financing to qualified buyers.

(17) 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.

(18) THE BIG WOODS, EAST FORK RIVER, 75 acres M/L available with access from Paved Road, and County Water. Over 600 ft. of River, 3 springs, wet weather cascading water fall. Also, part of the Historical Dinky Line Railway. $248,000.

(19) VALLEY VIEW FOREST, 6 to 17 acre tracts on East Brow overlooking Pleasant Valley and Weiss Lake; adjoins National Preserve. $10,000 to $36,000.

(20) R. LEE CROW SUBDIVISION - 8 lots (a[SOLD]) UNRESTRICTED, with Lake frontage. $16,000.

(21) DESOTO PARKWAY, 3 ACRE BROW TRACT, City water available, rock bluffs, level for building. Minutes from DeSoto State Park. $90,000.

(22) THREE STATES CAN BE SEEN, from these Tracts located on the West Brow, in Dade County, Ga. Minutes from Chattanooga. 13 acres $75,000. 19 acres $80,000.

(23) 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. Shown by Appointment ONLY.

(24) WOODED LAND, 3.7 acres with 885' of Paved road and gently sloping to Brushy Creek. Lightly restricted. $17,500.

(14) ADIRONDACK STYLE (1800'S) LOG LODGE sitting on 2 private acres in downtown Mentone. Complete with Dog Trot separating the Kitchen with Fireplace and Living Area with Fireplace. Unique 4 Bdrm, 2 Bath. Screened Breezeways, and Porches. Wood Floors, and Tin Roof. Separate Guest Cottage. City Water, along with Hand pump Well. Step back in time with this One-of-a-kind FURNISHED HOME.
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TRI-COUNTY FIRE/RESCUE NEWS

Jill Neal of Cloudland, GA, takes aim. On her left is James Durham, also of Cloudland.

Most Eggs Found: Bobbie Neal (in front); L/R: Nina Ballinger, Mary Huskey, Devin Dodd

KNIFE SHOOT TO BE HELD

Tri-County Fire/Rescue Squad will hold a SPRING KNIFE SHOOT on Saturday, May 20, 2000, beginning at 10:00am (GA time) at their Hall on Hwy 48 at the GA/AL line. Ham & cheese, grilled cheese, and BBQ sandwiches; chips, and soft drinks will be sold. Proceeds will go toward retiring the debt on the fire truck and buying emergency equipment. Everyone is invited to participate.

Golden Egg Winners from left to right: Kanissa Smith, Celena Brooks, Shinice Smith

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•Videos
•Building Hardware
•Tools

TRI-COUNTY FIRE/RESCUE HOSTED THE EASTER BUNNY

On the Saturday before Easter, the Easter Bunny visited Tri-County Fire/Rescue Hall. She hid 50 dozen eggs for children, ages 10 months to 12 years. The Golden Eggs (worth $25 each) were found by Kanissa Smith, Celena Brooks, and Shinice Smith. Bobbie Neal, Nina Ballinger, Devin Dodd, and Mary Huskey all found the most eggs for their age group. Dylan Dodd won the drawing for the Easter basket. All ages enjoyed the hunt and sharing cookies and juice.

The next children's event at the Hall will be the October Halloween party.

THANKS to all the community, The Tri-County Fire/Rescue bake sale raised $423 to help pay for children's events. THANK YOU!

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(1) IMPRESSIVE RUSTIC CONTEMPORARY rises before you as you drive down the driveway. Main house features 3 floors, each with a bedroom and bath, living area, office space and/or sitting rooms. Decks and porches surround the house with magnificent views of the valley and mountains. A 2-car garage with 1 bedroom apartment also sits on the 2.7 acres. All for $229.00

(2) **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.**

(3) COMMERCIAL PROPERTY IN MENTONE Great location, building offers 5 rooms, a kitchen, bath and glassed-in porch with plenty of room for parking. $65,000.

(4) SECLUSION JUST OFF DESOTO PARKWAY. 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths - mountain stone fireplace - CH/A - 1.9 acres of woods, wonderful rock formations. $137,500.

(5) PARADISE FOUND--Privately situated on 26 acres, this rustic home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, a beautiful in-ground pool, rock fireplace, screened porches, large basement, a three-car garage with spacious garage apartment, and gorgeous landscaping. Close to Little River Canyon--the property has a creek running through it and plenty of places for hiking and enjoying nature. $175,000.

(6) 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. $65,000.

(7) EVERYTHING YOU COULD WANT IN A MOUNTAIN HOME! You'll fall in love with this house at first sight. Beautiful pine floors, Mountain rock fireplace, screened sleeping porch, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat and air, and lighted decks going all the way down to the river. Don't miss your chance! Reduced $165,000.

(8) IF TWO'S NOT ENOUGH, this house has 5 bedrooms and 3 baths, two living areas with fireplaces, sunroom, screened porch and extra large hobby room. Four bedrooms offer balconies overlooking Lake Lahusage. Patios and lights to the water. $225,000

(9) MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL AND CALDWELL'S RESTAURANT. Historical Landmark in downtown Mentone currently being run as a bed and breakfast. Restaurant seats 100+ people. Great for weddings, receptions, conferences--endless possibilities. For more information, please call 256-845-6000. $650,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

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

(11) 10 ACRE TRACTS - gently rolling-heavily wooded-with creek. Close to downtown Mentone on private road. "Lightly" restricted. $25,000.

(12) PRIME PROPERTY - 6 acres on DeSoto Parkway ready for developing. Almost 600 feet of road frontage. Great opportunity! $55,000.

(13) LAKE ON BROW - two great building lots. Over 1 acre Lake lot $37,500. 1.4 acre Brow lot $45,000.

(14) TWO - 3½ ACRE BROW LOTS just minutes from DeSoto State Park. $40,000 each.

(15) 1.75± ACRES IN WEST FORK SUBDIVISION. $28,500.

(16) SPECTACULAR VIEW - perk test done & ready to build on. 1 acre brow lot north of Mentone. City water available. $35,000.

(17) A RARE FIND - building lot inside of Mentone's city limits. Wonderful rock formations. $15,000.

(18) 5 ACRES of heavily wooded peaceful seclusion. Minutes from DeSoto State park. $50,000.

(19) BROW LOT on County Road 103 South of Mentone in Phase II of Lake on the Brow. $45,000.

- 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.

Susan Collins Residence - 634-4695, Broker, GRI - CRS

Sara Quinn Residence - 845-1881, Broker, GRI - CRS

UNITED GIVERS FUND OF DEKALB COUNTY, INC.- MEMBER AGENCIES

THE SALVATION ARMY
SERVICE CENTER & THRIFT STORE BEGINS THIRD YEAR IN COUNTY

On March 17 of this year, the Salvation Army Service Center and Thrift Store, located at 450 Gault Avenue North in Fort Payne, celebrated its third year in DeKalb County. And according to Nancy Cobble, Executive Director, response from the community has been great. The Thrift Store is open to the general public and is a "bargain hunter's paradise." Donations are received almost daily, so merchandise changes often.

Ms. Cobble says sales have been very good and increased proceeds from the store have enabled them to provide even more social services for DeKalb County residents. Some of those services include: help with utility bills, help with prescriptions, a food pantry, providing clothing and household goods, lodging, and transportation. Financial assistance is given in the form of a voucher made payable to the provider of service.

Thrift Store shoppers enjoy the low prices on good, used clothing and toys and household items such as dishes, pictures, small appliances, and furniture.

However, sometimes families in dire situations are still not able to purchase the items they need. In these type situations, Salvation Army is usually able to provide the family with the needed items. Ms. Cobble related just such a situation. She says, "A grandmother called the Service Center and told us her three grandchildren had just come to her on a bus from Texas. Their mother had left them at a church because she was unable to take care of them and their father was in prison. When she (the grandmother) got the children they had only the clothes they were wearing. The Salvation Army provided clothes and shoes for the children. Then, they bought the bookbags, workbooks and other supplies the children needed to begin school. The children are now in school here in DeKalb County and are living happily with their grandmother and aunt.

The Salvation Army and the United Givers Fund are working together to make a difference in the lives of so many people in need. Through our partnership, critical services are provided to hundreds of individuals and families in our area who would otherwise have nowhere to turn.

GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTH ALABAMA
GIRL SCOUTS IN DEKALB COUNTY

Does your daughter need something to do? If she likes adventure and fun, then Girl Scouts is the answer. Through Girl Scouts, she'll discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together. All girls ages 5 through 17, who believe in the ideals as stated in the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law, can be a Girl Scout!

Girls can participate in Girl Scouts through the summer as well as during the school year. Summer camp and day camps give girls the opportunity to grow strong in mind and body. Girl Scouts of North Alabama, Inc. (GSNA) sponsors "Summer Fun" programs at Camp Trico and Camp Anderel to introduce girls to the world of outdoors. Girls enjoy water activities, sports, night hikes, adventures, and crafts based on the session they choose. Girls do not have to be a Girl Scout to register. Attending resident camp helps girls increase their self-esteem, learn new skills, make new friends, and have FUN!

Girls grow strong in developing talents and abilities through the Girl Scout Cookie Sale. The cookie sale provides girls with experience in organizing, marketing, and setting and reaching goals. But Girl Scouting is more than cookies. Girls can learn computer skills and space exploration, take part in sports activities, travel, coordinate community service projects, develop leadership skills, make friends, and much, much more.

Girl Scouts is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls--all girls--where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adults, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives--like strong values, social conscience, and conviction about their own potential and self worth. Through the many enriching experiences provided by Girl Scouting, they grow courageous and strong.

For more information on Girl Scouts in DeKalb County, call the district office at **(256) 582-0093** or the Girl Scout Service Center in Huntsville at **1-800-410-8338**.

Girl Scouts of North Alabama, Inc. is one of 12 agencies funded by the annual UGF Campaign.

THE FORT PAYNE-DEKALB REHABILITATION CENTER

The Fort Payne-DeKalb Rehabilitation Center, located at 305 3rd. Street SE in Fort Payne, is one of three such centers in north Alabama which are operated through the Darden Rehabilitation Foundation.

The Darden Foundation is an independent facility that serves the severely disabled in Etowah, Cherokee, DeKalb, Marshall, and St. Clair Counties. Their mission is to enable Alabama's citizens with severe disabilities to reach their maximum employment potential.

Any person, age 16 or over who is mentally or physically disabled can be accepted into the program if their disability creates a serious handicap to employment. Eligibility for the program is determined through the State Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Disabilities might include mental illnesses, substance abuse, delayed development, spinal cord injuries, visual problems, stroke, epilepsy, or other conditions. Once a client is accepted into the program, a wide range of services are available to them at the local Center. Work adjustment programs are initiated to accomplish standards in stamina and social skills. Gregg Greathouse is the Work Adjustment Supervisor.

Beverly Watts is the Job Coordinator. Community based services may be offered for job readiness, job development, job placement, job coaching, or job retention.

Potential employers can also benefit from the services offered. These services are offered at no cost to the employer and may include: Evaluation, pre-screening, and pre-training of a potential pool of employees, on-site job coaching which aids in training of employees, and job retention programs designed to keep employees on the job.

For more information on the services offered at the Fort Payne-DeKalb Rehabilitation Center, call one of the staff members at 845-9367.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO UGF VOLUNTEERS DURING NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

The 27th annual observance of National Volunteer Week was held April 9-15, 2000. National Volunteer Week was first observed in 1974 and is recognized each year by a message from the President, proclamations by governors, and local officials throughout the nation.

United Givers Fund of DeKalb County would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all their volunteers--those who serve year-round on the UGF board and on the various committees and the many campaign volunteers. These volunteers make such a tremendous difference here in our county through their unselfish gifts of time, talent, and energy.

Volunteers are invaluable to community organizations such as UGF, the American Red Cross, CASA, the Salvation Army, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, local rescue squads--just to name a few.

It is estimated that about half of all adults and teenagers in the United States volunteer. Former First Lady, Barbara Bush, said, "Having a big heart has nothing to do with how big your bank account is, everyone has something to give."

Other words of praise for the impact volunteers can make on society as a whole or on individual lives include, *"One person can make a difference--and every person must try."* John Kennedy; and *"I am only one, I cannot do everything, but I will not refuse to do the something I can do."* Helen Keller.

So, to all the volunteers of DeKalb County during National Volunteer week--and every week--Thank you so very much. You are appreciated and you are truly making a difference.

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Chief Warrant Officer, Roy Lee Jones II, receives Commission

Chief Warrant Officer, Roy Lee Jones II, gives his acceptance speech.

Roy Lee Jones III, FTC(SS)USN, receives first salute from his brother, Chief Petty Officer Douglas Jones.

By Eloise Brown

John and Jean Jones attended the Commissioning Ceremony for their son, Roy Lee Jones II, at Chesapeake, Virginia, April 3, 2000.

Chief Warrant Officer Jones was born in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The oldest son of a Submarine Petty Officer, after graduating from Fyffe High School, he enlisted into the Navy.

His basic training began at Recruit Training Command, San Diego, Ca., afterwards attending Data Systems Technician "A" and "C" Schools at Mare Island, Ca., followed by Basic Enlisted Submarine School in Groton, Conn. Then he received orders to his first fast attack submarine, the U.S.S. L. Mendel Rivers (SSN686) home port in Charleston, S.C. He served on board this submarine from July 1984 until February 1989. He qualified during this tour in submarines and advanced to Petty Officer First Class and qualified Chief of the Watch and Diving Officer of the Watch.

In March 1989, he reported to the staff of Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare Training Center in San Diego, Ca., where he served as the Leading Petty Officer for the maintenance division. After his selection as Chief Petty Officer, he transferred to Submarine Group Five Combat Systems Training Team for eight months before reporting to CCS MK-1 "C" School in Groton, Conn.

After completion of his training, he reported to the U.S.S. Minneapolis Saint Paul, in February 1992, as the fire control division Leading Chief Petty Officer. Finally, he reported to the staff of Submarine Squadron Eight where he has served from November 1966 to the present.

Chief Warrant Officer Jones is married to the former Bonnie Griffin of Charleston, S.C. They and their three children, Megan, Rebecca, and John Paul, live in Chesapeake, Va. He will be transferred this summer to Bremorton, Washington. Among the honored guests at his Commissioning Ceremony were Captain Michael C. Tracy, U.S.N. Chief of Staff, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet and Captain John M. Bird, U.S.N Commander Submarine Squadron Eight.

Chief Warrant Officer Jones is shown at the ceremony of the First Salute received from his brother, Chief Petty Officer, Douglas Jones. Naval customs and traditions play a significant role in a military career. One of the oldest is the newly appointed officers giving a silver dollar to the first enlisted person who salutes them after they have received their commission. This signifies the officer having to "buy" his first salute. From then on, he is expected to earn each salute he receives. The hand salute is one of the essentials of military courtesy, a symbol of respect and a sign of comradeship among service personnel.

John Robert Brown

John Robert Brown turned one year old on April 28. His family helped him celebrate Sunday afternoon, April, 30, at the home of his parents, Robert and Michelle Brown. His grandparents are Emily and Barry Brown of Valley Head, and grandmother, Mary Grace Schilleci of Birmingham, and great grandmother, Eloise Brown of Valley Head. He has a brother, Billy Wallace, who makes all A's in Valley Head School.

John Robert is shown with his mother.

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EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS HELD APRIL 22

Submitted by Madeleine Bullock

Earth Day was April 22. But, as with Christmas, the way to find the true meaning of the holiday is to capture its spirit and make it part of your life, long after you've turned April's page on the calendar.

TIPS: According to the latest USDA National Resources Inventory, in the five years between 1992 and 1997, nearly 16 million acres of forest, cropland, and open space were converted to urban uses. That's more than twice the sprawl rate recorded in the previous 10 years, from 1982 to 1992.

To contact an environmental group or to learn more about native plant gardening, pesticide research or national Earth Day festivities, see Related Sites.

Steps: 1. Pitch in on an Earth Day project near you, whether it's a beach cleanup, a tree planting or an urban "Alley Rally" to gather up debris and cart it off to recycling plants. Check your local newspaper for listings, or contact the closest Audubon or Nature Conservancy office.

2. Join an environmental group. Nearly all the national organizations publish informative newsletters and magazines, offer discounted admission to parks and wildlife sanctuaries, and organize guided tours of natural places near and far.

3. Support downtown businesses--in your own city and in those you visit for business or pleasure. You'll be doing your bit to curb urban sprawl, the No. 1 destroyer of wildlife habitat, farmland and open space. (For information, contact the Main Street USA division of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.)

4. Plant some native trees, shrubs or flowering plants in your yard. To find out which plants hail from (and therefore do best in) your neck of the woods, explore nearby parks, nature preserves and native-plant nurseries. (Ask your local Nature Conservancy chapter for recommendations and plant inventories.)

5. Furnish your digs with antiques and quirky finds from thrift shops, secondhand stores and flea markets. You'll be practicing recycling in its highest form, and you'll have a nest with more character than you could ever buy at a trendy home-furnishings store.

6. Buy a few large canvas shopping bags and take them along when you do your grocery shopping. Then, when the checkout clerk asks, "Paper or plastic?" just say, "Neither, thanks." Choose bags that are big and strong enough to do the job and attractive enough that you'll want to use them.

7. Read "Silent Spring," Rachel Carson's 1962 classic that spearheaded the whole environmental movement in the United States. While you're at it, introduce yourself and your kids to another of Ms. Carson's mind-altering books, "A Sense of Wonder."

8. Go cold turkey on herbicides, pesticides and chemical fertilizers.

9. Leave your car at home and walk, every chance you get. As you go along, pay attention to the life around you--birds, insects, trees, flowers, even the plants we call weeds. That's all for now: Just pay attention.

Warnings: Almost by the day, scientists uncover more disturbing news about pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers. For instance, recent research on a well-known weed killer has shown that, although its active ingredient is technically harmless, it reacts with the product's inactive ingredients to form compounds that are toxic to humans and other animals.

FOR SALE: 1994 Mercury Grand Marquis, good condition. Call 634-4390.

SPORTS AFIELD

By PHIL HARRIS

NATIONAL SPORTS AT A GLANCE

Major League Baseball: The Atlanta Braves, fresh off a 15-game winning streak, look solid. The bullpen is strong with the return of John Rocker. Andres Galarraga is back from cancer surgery and caps a very potent offensive attack. The Braves have power and speed. Watch out, Yankees!

Groundhog pick: Braves over Yankees in six

NBA-Basketball: The NBA playoffs are under way. Defending champ, San Antonio, was bumped out in the first round by the Phoenix Suns. Losing Tim Duncan to injury hobbled the Spurs. The Western Conference favorite, LA Lakers, got pushed to the limit by Sacramento. Scottie Pippin and the Portland Trail Blazers are dangerous.

The Eastern Conference is a little more balanced. Indiana and Miami have home court advantage in the second round. The New York Knicks spoiled the Heats party last year and made it to the NBA finals. The Pacers have a veteran group that's hungry for a championship. My original pick at the start of the season was San Antonio vs. Indians. The Spurs are gone, let's replace them with the Lakers.

College Baseball: Last season, the SEC Western division dominated the Eastern division. This year, the tables have turned just a little bit. South Carolina is ranked number one in the nation. Georgia, Florida, and Tennessee have improved enough to compete with the super power West. Western members, LSU, Alabama, Auburn, and Miss. State are still having solid years. The Tide was struggling bad, but consecutive sweeps over Arkansas and Vanderbilt put Alabama in the SEC Tournament at Birmingham. The top eight teams qualify for the SEC Tournament. South Carolina, LSU, Miss. State, Florida, Auburn, Georgia, and Alabama are in. Ole Miss, Tennessee, and Kentucky are battling for the final spot.

College Basketball: Michigan State won the men's NCAA National Championship. The senior-laiden Spartans were clearly superior to anyone they played. The Florida Gators made a good run at it, though. The young and talented Gators shocked everyone, making it to the finals. Coach Billy Donovan has to be sick. Donnell Harvey and Mike Miller have opted for the NBA. Florida was high on everyone's list to win a National Championship next year. Now, they have holes to fill.

Women's College Basketball: The two super powers, Connecticut and Tennessee, collided for the Women's NCAA Basketball Championship. During the regular season, they split two games. Connecticut won at Tennessee and Tennessee won at Connecticut. It looked to be a great final, it turned out to be one sided. Ace Clement of Tennessee turned her ankle in the morning shoot around and failed to play.

The Lady Vols were never in it. The Huskies dominated all phases and won national championship number two.

College Football: Spring football has ended for SEC football teams. College football is only four months away. The SEC is changing a little bit. Tennessee, Florida, Arkansas, and Miss. State have been the front runners, lately. Now, Georgia and Alabama are making news. The Bulldogs and Tide have solid folks coming back. Plus, they have starters back at quarterback. That has to make them the favorites come fall 2000. I look at it this way: Georgia has a hard time beating Tennessee and Florida, plus Alabama has a very tough road schedule (UCLA, Arkansas, Tennessee, LSU, and Miss. State). I believe you can get out your crystal ball and pick this year's SEC east and west champion. It should be fun. Watch out for LSU!

Bad news for Alabama again! Possible recruiting violations would be devastating if they are true.

Auto Racing: Dale Earnhardt Jr. won his second race of the year. Dale is only the third rookie to post two victories in one season. He held off Terry Labonte and Dale Jarrett to win the Richmond Pontiac Excitement 400.

Bobby Labonte leads the Winston Cup series points race. Mark Martin, Ward Burton, Jeff Burton, and Dale Earnhardt round out the top five points leaders. Next stop, the Winston at Charlotte May 20th. The Coca Cola 600, at Charlotte, is May 28.

SPORTS ON THE SCENE

Congratulations to the Fyffe Red devils. They won the 2A girls state championship for the sixth time. It's amazing to watch Mike Cochran's team do it time and time again. The 2000 championship took a little luck. Shea King's half court three pointer to beat Geraldine in the regional final was the most amazing thing I have ever witnessed. Time stood still for a moment. If I never get to call another game on radio, I went out on a good one. I was sick for Geraldine, yet happy for Fyffe.

Congratulations to Fyffe's Rebecca Long for being named 2A player of the year. It was a well-deserved award. Long is supposed to sign a scholarship with Gadsden State.

The Geraldine Lady Bulldogs won the DeKalb County girls softball championship. The Bulldogs are the defending 2A State Champs and are ranked 10th in class 2A. Maybe Coach Mark Hale's squad can make it back to back state titles. Julia Troxtel is an excellent high school short stop, and Audra Sexton covers a lot of ground in the outfield. These two seniors make Coach Hales' job a whole lot easier. Good luck, Bulldogs.

Scott Tate has been named new coach at Valley Head High School. Scott was a 1987 graduate of Valley Head. Hopefully, he will be able to turn things around. He has some good things going for him. The Tigers drop to 1A, the schedule lightens up, and he has a good sophomore class. Good luck, Scott, 'cause it's gonna get better.

The Valley Head Lady Tigers had another good season. They were area runner-up to Fyffe. The Tigers lost to Geraldine in the subregionals. The highlight of the season was defeating Fyffe at home during the regular season. The Tigers were probably the fourth best team in the state behind Fyffe, Geraldine, and Red Bay. Amanda Hall has signed a scholarship to play basketball at the junior college in Muscle Shoals. Congratulations, Amanda.

CBS and Mentone are competing in the Men's Softball League at the Fort Payne Sports Complex. CBS is 2-2 in the men's upper division, currently. Team members are: Alan Smith, Tommy Harrison, Michael Frazier, Anthony Brown, Phil Owen, Jeff Bain, Dwayne McKenzie, Kevin Cash, Robbie Anderson, Jeremy Hyde, Nathan Owen, Timmy Burt, and Jason Gregory.

Mentone is 3-0 in the men's lower division. Team members are: Jason Goss, Tad Scott, Brent Black, Kevin Worthey, Van Battles, Jeremy Keith, Chuck Flannigan, J.J. Wigley, Phil Harris, John Chambers, Corey Itsom, Tater Tatum, Todd Abernathy, Bobby Browder, and Jonathan Browder.

That does it for another month. God Bless.

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MOUNTAIN CRAFTS & MORE

Outside photo of **Mountain Crafts & More**

Inside photo of **Mountain Crafts & More**

Nicole Grindle, granddaughter of Ann and Lee James, owners of **Mountain Crafts & More**

By Evelyn Graves

Ann and Lee James are very busy planning and preparing for their new business, **Mountain Crafts & More**, which will open on Saturday, May 13. The shop is located on the Alabama-Georgia state line, next to AAA Hardware.

Ann and Lee's granddaughter, Nicole Grindle, will be on hand for the grand opening, dressed in her old fashioned dress, (see photo above) to give you a sample of her grandmother's homemade muffins, biscuits, etc. Ann will be offering a regular line of homemade baked goods such as muffins, homemade pretzels, cheese biscuits, homemade jellies, apple butter, and apple sauce. These may be ordered ahead in large quantities for special occasions.

The shop has a very attractive display of locally made crafts, as well as antiques. Old art may be found, which includes some old Ben Hampton originals.

There is a delightful doll collection ranging from rag dolls to china collectibles.

Robin's Creations has a display of jewelry she has fashioned which is available for purchase.

Cynthia Glassco makes beautiful flower arrangements which are featured. Flowers may also be purchased for you to make your own arrangements.

Beverly Daniels makes the quilts that are displayed for sale.

Shirt transfers are done in the store at reasonable prices.

Assorted fabrics by the yard very reasonably priced are available if you like to do your own sewing.

A beautiful Christmas corner with various items for your Christmas needs is one of the outstanding features.

An outdoor flea market will be one of the special features. This will be ready by the time of the Grand Opening.

Ann and Lee welcome any items that you may want to place in the store on consignment. They also invite you to the Grand Opening and to visit the shop at any time.

Store hours are: **Tuesday - Thursday - 10 AM - 6 PM**
Friday - Saturday - 8 AM - 6 PM.

It will be closed on Sunday and Monday each week. The telephone number is **706-398-2292**.

Mountain Crafts & More

Stop in and see us sometime!

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Cloudland, GA
706-398-2292

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Mandatory insurance bill passes

House Bill 134, which will make automobile liability insurance mandatory for all Alabamians behind the wheel, has passed the Alabama Senate and awaits signature by Gov. Don Siegelman.

Bill sponsor Rep. Mike Hubbard, R-Auburn, said it will make the highways of Alabama safer and more consumer friendly. "(It) will give Alabama the best mandatory auto liability insurance law in the nation," Hubbard said.

"This legislation is enforceable and, I believe, will be successful in the goal of reducing the number of uninsured drivers on our highways, while at the same time, not inconveniencing insured motorists. This has been a cooperative effort between the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Revenue and the Governor's staff with the goal of designing a quality mandatory insurance law."

Critics of the bill have argued it places an economic burden on motorists who cannot afford liability insurance, but Hubbard said it is a matter of protecting Alabama motorists' pocketbooks from collisions with uninsured drivers.

Lt. Gov. Steve Windom praised Hubbard and Sen. George Clay for their efforts, saying he fought for years to pass this type of legislation for Alabama.

Mentone Community House Book Club

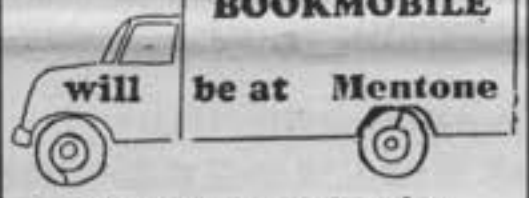
The third Thursday of each month
Thurs., May. 18, 10 a.m.
We'll discuss :
"The Greatest Generation"
by Tom Brokaw
For more information, call:
Sue Henry - 634-4599; or
Kathy Kirby McMunn - 634-4575

Please help us find our LOST DOG!

Angie Strange and her family, including two children-- six years old and 22 months old-- are grieving over the loss of their pet dog. He is a mixed breed puppy named Harry, who is approximately 3-1/2 months old. Harry is a light brown color, and his mother was a Golden Retriever and his father was a Chow. He came up missing about two weeks ago, around the last week in April. He lives in the Dogwood Avenue of Mentone. They have been looking all over for him and would like to have him returned. Harry had just returned from a trip to the veterinarian and has a shaved spot on his right back leg. Harry's six-year-old owner really misses him.

If you have any information, please call Angie Strange at **634-3043.**

The DeKalb County BOOKMOBILE



Every other Wednesday
from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

April - 12, 26
May - 10, 24
June - 7, *Vacation
July - 5, 19

God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 2 Tim 3:15

Paul was telling Timothy that he remembered where he got that faith, from his mother and his grandmother. I'm sure Timothy had not forgotten, but Paul was just reminding him.

I'd like to remind all of us to remember our mothers on Mother's Day. Think of all the good things she has done for us, and show her special attention, she may be lonely. Give her a big hug and tell her you love her.

Happy Mother's Day!

~Thanks~

Our beloved mother, Parilee Bell, passed away April 15, 2000. We would like everyone to know we appreciate your expression of thoughtfulness-- for flowers, prayers, food, cards, and visits, during this time.

The Family of Parilee Bell

-PUBLIC NOTICE-

The Town of Mentone will hold a public hearing on May 19, 2000, at 10:00 a.m., at the Town Hall for the purpose of discussing a proposed Community Development Block Grant Application. Assistance can be provided for the handicapped if notified prior to the hearing.

Run 1 time, May 12, 2000

A LITTLE BOY'S MOTHER'S DAY

"Gee Mom, your day is here again,
An' I've been awful good.
I do the things I'm s'posed to do
Jus' like you said I should.
I study hard in school each day
But I hate poetry,
'Cause, Mom, you know that stuff's fer girls
An' not fer boys like me.
But Mom, I'm learning all I can
Jus' like you told me to,
So when I'm big an' all grown up
I'll know a lot like you.
Gee, Mom, your day is here again,
But it don't seem jus' right;
I wish the rose they made me wear
Was red—instead of white!"

—Juanita H. Nolte

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- **Sunday, May 14, Mother's Day**
- **Monday, May 15, at 9 a.m., Moon Lake School Annual Awards Day in the gym**
- **Thursday, May 18, at 9 a.m., Kindergarten graduation in the gym.**
- **Thursday, May 18, 6 p.m., Head Start graduation**
- **Friday, May 19, 10 a.m., public hearing at Town Hall regarding a CDBG application**
- **Saturday, May 20, Armed Forces Day**
- **Sunday, May 21 - Little River Church Decoration Day**
- **Thursday, May 25, last day of school.**
- **Thursday, May 25, 6:30 p.m. Moon Lake School6th grade graduation - in the gym**
- **Sunday, May 28 - Bankhead Decoration Day - Cash Family to be honored this year**
- **Tuesday, June 6, 7 p.m., MAPA meeting, Dessie's Kountry Chef**
- **Monday, June 12, 7 p.m. , Mentone Town Council, Town Hall meeting room**
- **Tuesday, June 13, 6:30 p.m. American Legion Meeting, American Legion Hall, Mentone**

-PUBLIC NOTICE--

MENTONE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Meeting dates for remainder of 2000

June 15 September 21 December 21

Other special or called meetings will be posted as required.

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