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THE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 14, No. 11

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

November 1996

DR. PAT SEYMOUR--THANKS FOR BEING THERE!

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

She was known as "Dr. Pat" to everyone she met. President of Pat Seymour & Associates of Mentone, formerly of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Dr. Pat was a nationally renowned speaker and widely-known state of Alabama personality. She was a guest speaker at over 400 local, state, and national meetings, where she gave motivational/keynote speeches, and also conducted staff training and development seminars. A retired educator, Dr. Pat had given twenty-two years of service to the University of Alabama in various departments. She was also a contributing writer to *The Groundhog*, writing many features, articles, and stories and assisting in any way she could. The last feature article was in the October issue, when she wrote about Dr. James E. Quimby. That issue was printed on October 3rd and distributed the next day. Dr. Pat passed away on October 7 in a Birmingham hospital following a lengthy illness. Mentone, Valley Head, and the DeKalb County community lost a good friend.

She was a motivational speaker and spoke widely to students, teachers, educators at all levels, chambers of commerce, nurses, doctors, engineers, church and civic organizations, court clerks, secretaries, realtors, clubs--the list goes on. A master at motivating others, Dr. Pat always gave God the credit for her success. Everywhere she went, she touched lives positively. Even in her last days in Mentone, Dr. Pat was calling others, boosting their spirits, making them feel better.

Humor played a major part in her life. Dr. Pat firmly believed that laughter was the key to good health. "He Who Laughs, Lasts," was one of her favorite speeches. In a letter dated May 10, 1995, Robert D. Church, Mississippi Judicial College, University, MS, wrote, "You, as usual, were just magnificent and the Mississippi Court Administrators were overjoyed to listen to you, some for the very first time, and you were a hit with them. The subject on which you talked, 'He Who Laughs, Lasts!' could not have been more appropriate, and you succeeded in doing the impossible--of making your audience laugh and cry at the same time. Their laughter was tempered with tears. Truly, Pat, you are a remarkable person and a great guest speaker, and we in Mississippi love and admire you."

Dr. Pat said, "I never gave a speech that God wasn't present and working." Often she was told, "I wasn't planning to come to this (conference, workshop, seminar, etc.), but at the last minute I did, and now I know why. Thanks for being here." She always closed her presentations with "Thanks for being there, and thanks for having me here." Her favorite topic of speech was "You are somebody."

God blessed Dr. Pat with many talents, and she used those gifts to be of service to others. Each day, she called someone or wrote a note or sent a card to those she knew. Affectionately known as "the card lady," Dr. Pat sent cards to those who were ill, having birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions, or cards that were "just thinking of you"--always adding a personal note for each individual. She gave of her time freely, prepared food for the sick, and gave words of encouragement to all with whom she came in contact. A favorite passage by which she lived is Luke 12:48 "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." When presenting a speech on leadership, she always added, "Not suggested, required; not recommended, required."

Michael A. Shelley, Vice President of the Rotary Club of Fort Payne, President of the Fort Payne Compass Bank, and close personal friend, wrote a letter on October 8 that was read during the regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Fort Payne,



Dr. Pat Seymour

of which Dr. Pat was a member. It said, in part, "What a wonderful lady she was. Dr. Pat spent her career motivating others, whether it be in the classroom at the University of Alabama or in the thousands of speaking venues she enjoyed. She spent a great deal of time and resources helping others. She also worked to encourage her colleagues to devote time and resources toward improvement in the lives of others and in the community. She 'pushed' many of us, as well as many agencies, to do what we probably should have done without encouragement. We will not be able to number the good works she has done because she did so many things silently; yes, silently. Few of us thought of her as 'silent,' yet she was mute when credit was to be taken for good works. Dr. Pat has also suffered many things silently. Many decades ago she lost her fiancée to a tragic death and never again developed a romantic relationship. Over the past year, she suffered a terrible illness in silence. Some of us knew more than she wanted us to know, thankfully, our Good Lord certainly knows."

"I know I speak for all our members in saying how fortunate we were to have known and loved her." She was definitely the champion of the underdog.

In an article in *The Times-Journal* on Oct. 9, written by Anita Stiefel, she wrote, "Though a transplanted citizen, Dr. Pat made Mentone and surrounding communities her own, getting involved with civic organizations, offering uplifting words to the discouraged, promoting food and clothing drives for the needy, and providing a spark of motivation for everyone whose path she crossed, both young and old."

"Mentone Mayor Max Cash said he 'can't say enough about what a wonderful person Dr. Pat was. She has helped schools and churches and many needy families,' Cash said. 'She always seemed to do a lot more than her share. She's the kind of person a community will miss--I mean, really miss. Some of us are gone and a week later forgotten, but it won't be that way with Dr. Pat.'"

Over 200 people attended Dr. Pat's graveside services on Thursday, October 9. A close friend, The Rev. Dr. Oscar Hussell, of St. Joseph's On-The Mountain Episcopal Church, officiated. Several local ministers also participated in the ser-

vice. Dr. Pat attended many of the meetings of the North DeKalb Ministerial Association. Rev. Randy Addison, of the Wesleyan Church sang her favorite hymn, "In the Garden." Dr. Charles Jenkins, Valley Head Baptist Church, read the poem written by *Groundhog* columnist, Eloise Brown, poet laureate of Valley Head. Kenneth Shelton, Mentone Church of God, read passages from the Bible.

Seven members of the Mentone softball team that Dr. Pat helped sponsor for the past two years were pall bearers. Dressed in their team uniforms, Phil Harris, J.J. Wigley, Josh Goss, Kevin Worthey, Rusty Chambers, John Chambers, and Jason Goss, each brought a red rose and laid it on her casket.

In July of this year, the team brought their second place trophy in the Men's Silver League to Dr. Pat's home and presented it to her along with a softball signed by the members of the team. She was especially touched that they would want her to have the trophy and signed softball. Dr. Pat placed them on the hearth in the living room of her home.

At the graveside services, Marie Dillenbeck, her secretary and friend since 1981, read one of many handwritten notes found in Dr. Pat's Bible, "There is nothing in the Bible about our life in eternity after death. Eternal life begins on this earth--in this life. How we behave toward our fellow man, toward the hungry, the poor, the needy." (Matt. 25: 31-46. 45: ... "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.")

Ben Shurett, publisher of *The Times-Journal*, Ft. Payne, AL, wrote in his opinion column in the Oct. 12-13, 1996, issue: "DeKalb County, and especially Mentone, lost an angel this week, as Dr. Pat Seymour passed away. Her funeral service was a wonderful tribute. She was an angel, in her very own particular, almost peculiar way."

"She was never in a meeting that you weren't aware of her presence, either through volunteering to head a committee or sharing a joke or some inspirational story."

(Continued to Pages 6 and 7.)

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Monday, November 11, Veterans' Day
- Wednesday, November 27, 7 p.m., Community Thanksgiving Service at Valley Head Methodist Church
- Thursday, November 28, Thanksgiving Day
- Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m., MAPA Christmas party, Dessie's Kountry Chef
- Friday, Dec. 13, 4 p.m., MAPA Annual Christmas Party for children, Mentone Town Hall

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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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Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be type-written and of reasonable length.

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

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MAPA Birthdays for December

Clara Cash — 4
Bill Shaw — 9
Homer Crow — 12
Mabel Kirk — 21



MESSAGE FROM THE MAPA PRESIDENT

By Bernise Crow



We are saddened by the loss of one of our prominent citizens, one who was a writer and sponsor of our Groundhog paper. I knew "Dr. Pat," as we called her, was not well, but didn't realize she was seriously ill. It was a terrible shock to learn of her death. Many people have loved the articles she has written and have come into my shop looking for the paper "where the dog does the writing."

Dr. Pat had a way of finding information about everybody in our community. Many times, we learned news and events we would never have known without reading her social column.

Dr. Pat was a most generous person who gave to anyone in need, and she will be sorely missed by organizations she helped sponsor.

We shall all miss her many contributions to our little paper and to the community, but life must continue; and Marie Dillenbeck has promised to keep up the work, which makes our paper a success.

Evelyn Graves is a fine editor and writer, who always does a good job. People from many states pay MAPA dues in order to receive the Groundhog.



MAPA CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING

The December meeting of the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) meeting has been changed from December 2nd to December 10th. The menu is turkey and dressing, green beans, sweet potato casserole, dinner salad, rolls or corn bread, dessert and drink for \$10.00 per person. A confirmation is needed by November 25th.

Mickey Gough said that members are requested to bring toys for a child. These will be distributed at the annual Christmas Party for the Children scheduled for Friday, December 13, right after school, approximately 3 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Clause will be at the Town Hall. Following the party, there will be a Christmas tree lighting at the corner of Ala. Hwy. 117 and Scenic Highway, on the Mentone Inn lot. Plan to sing some Christmas carols and get into the spirit of Christmas.

Also, if you wish to participate in the exchange of gifts at the party on the 10th, please bring a gag gift.

Remember these dates: the second Tuesday, December 10, at 7 p.m. at Dessie's Kountry Chef for MAPA's annual Christmas party; and Friday, December 13, at approx. 3 p.m., at the Mentone Town Hall for the MAPA Christmas party for the children.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA

DECEMBER 15, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

"An Old Fashioned Christmas" is the theme for the 1996 Christmas Cantata to be performed by the Community Choir under the direction of DeVann Jackson, according to spokesperson Priscilla Monroe of Valley Head.

The first performance will be at Moon Lake Baptist Church at 5 p.m., Sunday, December 15. The second will be at the Valley Head Baptist Church on the same evening at 7 p.m. Come and attend one or both performances. Refreshments are served after each performance.

Friends of Little River

Election of officers for Friends of Little River will be held Tuesday, November 19, at 7 p.m., at Fischer Rescue Squad Building in Fort Payne.

EDITORIAL

By Evelyn Graves

Recently, I was reading the November issue of the Alabama State Employee News, a monthly publication which gives updates on what is happening with state employment and employees. A deluge of political advertisements were featured, and then out of all the informational data and political confusion, my eyes fell on a half-page article written by Sharleen Smith of State Personnel Training which captured my interest and touched my heart. I was already in the process of writing an editorial about "being thankful", and I simply crumpled my half-written article and tossed it in the wastebasket, telephoned ASEA News and Sharleen Smith and received permission to reprint portions of her article.

"...Today, society finds little time to talk about the blessings in life. Media finds little to print that is positive. Instead we indulge in negativism and complaining. We allow media to report on and print the worst aspects of today's concern. We sit and brood over the 'bad' things happening in our lives. The astonishing thing is that we call THAT normal. However, have someone tell her co-workers how much she appreciates them and how much she likes her job, and 'Boy, she is abnormal.' What is wrong with this picture? Where is our perspective?"

"We live in a nation of security, resources and great prosperity. Most of us had decent or better childhood experiences. We engaged in a good education. We have friends and families that surround our days. We have more food than any culture could ever desire. We have bodies that breathe and allow us the ability to function. We have access to the greatest source of knowledge and creativity, our own minds. We are allowed freedom of which other societies only dream. And money, did you know that in some countries an income of \$900 per year is considered wealthy?"

"...Thankfulness. What a wild concept. We are taught at birth to start saying "thank you" for things that are given to us or when we receive something. Yet some of us tend to digress in our manners at some unknown age of adulthood. I think it may happen in three phases. Perhaps at first we stop saying 'thank you.' Next, we may fail to see the reason to even say thank you. Then we stop seeing the situation as anything for which to give thanks. I guess we just start looking for the destination and not living each moment for its individual worth. We may be in such a hurry or so task oriented that we fail to look around.

"Oh, friends, how blessed we are among all on the earth. Maybe circumstances are tough for you right now. Maybe you have just lost the perspective of thankfulness. As such you ask, for what is there to be thankful? A sunset, a co-worker, a parking space, an open door, a compliment, a bird chirping away in a tree top, a vacation, a leave day, a new shirt, an old pair of jeans, a reunion with a past friend, a marriage that has held together during today's divorces, a smile, a paycheck, a good boss, a great employee, the sight of a winding country road, the eyes with which you are reading this paper, your faith, dreams, technology, a job, the privilege to help others and the dawn of a new day! Yes, all these things and more...but, especially the dawn of a new day! A new day...the chance to start over, keep going or finish our plans and dreams. A chance to wake and stand up for what you believe. A chance to begin a walk toward eternity. A chance to run toward success. A chance to, once again, gain a perspective of thanks for all we have in life. ...One intangible goal in my life is to encourage and inspire others to be the best they can be - mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally at any age in life!

"...Examine your perspective on gratitude. I know I have mine. Not just during the holiday season of Thanksgiving, but throughout the year."

Let us think on the blessings that this writer has mentioned and add the blessings of our own to that list, and let us be thankful every day of our lives. Just thinking on our blessings should eliminate much of the negativism in our lives and help us to be better people. God, thank you for the sunrise!

SPORTS AFIELD

By
PHIL HARRIS



SPORTS ON THE SCENE

The high school state playoffs are on the horizon. Several teams from around the area will be vying for a state championship. Not since 1984, 1985, and 1986, have we had a state champion from this area. Valley Head, Sand Rock, and Crossville are the only teams to bring home the blue trophy since the playoff system started in 1967. Who knows, the 1996 season may be different! Several schools have a chance. Will one or more come through? We will find out.

In 3-A, Sylvania has to be the favorite. The Rams are ranked number one. They have a great defense and are playoff experienced. Crossville's only loss was in overtime to Sylvania. Quite possibly, the Rams and Lions will meet in the second round. Plainview has improved, and could be dangerous.

In 2-A, Sand Rock is solid. The Wildcats would have to beat high school power Hazelwood in the third round. It will be tough. Ider had a chance, with star fullback Brent Tinker. Now Tinker is out with a knee injury, and the Hornets just aren't the same. The winner between Fyffe and Geraldine slips into the final playoff berth.

In 1-A, Cedar Bluff and Collinsville make the playoffs in area 13. The Tigers and Panthers, respectively, have to deal with the likes of Maplesville, Courtland, and Addison. An uphill climb, no doubt.

Now, for a closer look at the area races.

1-A area 13: Cedar Bluff (6-3) won the area championship. Collinsville (-4) finished second, and Gaylesville (1-8) nipped Valley Head (0-9) for third.

2-A area 13: Sand Rock (8-0) knocked off West End 18-15 to win the area title. The Patriots must travel to undefeated Lineville. The Rock probably will host Randolph County.

2-A area 14: Ider (7-2) breezed to the area championship for the third straight year. Geraldine (3-6) hosts Fyffe (2-7) for the area runner-up spot on Friday. Section (1-8) brings up the rear.

3-A area 13: Crossville (8-1) had no problems winning the title. Holly Pond, Susan Moore, and New Hope did very little to challenge the Lions. Holly Pond is the runner-up.

3-A area 14: Sylvania (8-0) and Plainview (7-2) battle this week for the area championship. The winner hosts Weaver in the first round. The loser travels to Glencoe. This great rivalry, as usual, has great meaning. A team on the rise, Pisgah (4-5) just missed the playoffs. While NSM (6-3) came in fourth.

5-A area 14: Scottsboro (8-0) is the area champion, thanks to N Jackson's usage of an ineligible player. The Chiefs (4-4) would have been undefeated, had they not got caught. Albertville (5-4) finished third and Fort Payne (4-5) finished fourth.

The Valley Head Tiger football team has enjoyed very little success this season. They are 0-9 and finish up with 1-8 Section. The Tigers attempt to stop a 16-game losing streak. Section has gotten progressively worse this year. Valley Head has improved and may be good enough to conquer the Lions. *The Groundhog pick:* Tigers 20, Lions 14.

The fall softball league finished up at the Ft. Payne Sports Complex. CBS managed a 5-8 record. Mentone moved into seventh place with a record of 6-7. CBS beat Mentone head to head, 8-6.

The Valley Head Pee Wee football teams finished up the regular season. The 8, 9, and 10 year old team had a 1-6 record. The 11 and 12 year old team was winless at 0-7. Thanks goes out to all the players, fans, and coaches who brought back pee wee football again.

Congratulations to the Lady Tiger volleyball team. The Tigers finished second in the area tournament to Collinsville, and earned a playoff berth.

High school basketball is ready to get kick started as football winds down. Next month, we will preview the area teams.

Right now, Collinsville and Fyffe girls' teams are the focus, while the Sylvania, Crossville, and Collinsville boys' teams are a good bet for success.

Judge not, that ye not be judged. A bold scripture from Matthew 7:1. This is the banner North Jackson High School football fans brought to the game at Fort Payne. North Jackson was caught using an illegal player and were forced to forfeit four victories. Most notably, a 26-23 win over Scottsboro. This would have given the Chiefs the area championship.

North Jackson fans want to point their finger at everyone else. Why do people blame everyone else for their own wrong doing? Fort Payne head coach Jerry Elmore is not to blame, he is on the Central Board of Control. His job is to hear rules violations, and pass them on to the Alabama High School Athletic Association for further review. He did and North Jackson was rightfully punished.

I want to applaud the schools who play by the rules. They win honestly and they lose honestly. It is a shame when schools have to undermine and cheat to stay ahead. What does this teach our young people? I can only wish the person or persons who made the sign had read about four more verses. Matthew 7:5...first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

The hardest thing in this cruel world is to keep from judging other people. We do it every day. Sometimes, it helps to take a look in the mirror at ourselves.

NATIONAL SPORTS AT A GLANCE

College Football: The national championship is Florida's to lose. The Gators have dominated everyone. Nebraska is the only team left to give them a run for their money. The sugar bowl has to be licking their chops for the rematch.

The SEC eastern champ, which will be Florida, tackles the western division champ in December. LSU, Alabama, and Auburn are in the hunt to face the Gators. It is a price that may not be worth winning. LSU has to beat Alabama, and they go to Atlanta. Alabama must beat LSU and Auburn. Auburn has to hope Alabama beats LSU, and they beat the Tide for them to have a chance. The second best team in the SEC, Tennessee, can only hope to ride Florida's coattails to number two in the nation.

The Groundhog Top Ten: 1-Florida, 2-LSU, 3-Ohio St., 4-Nebraska, 5-Tennessee, 6-Arizona St., 7-North Carolina, 8-Colorado, 9-LSU, 10-Alabama.

Baseball: The Braves blew the World Series championship. After jumping to a 2-0 lead, the tide turned. The Yankees could do no wrong. You might think I'm crazy, but the reason they lost was because Dave Justice was not in the line up. Justice is a money player. If the Braves trade him away, the ship will sink!

Basket ball: The NBA season has already started again. The Chicago Bulls eye a repeat in 1996. Chicago is the best team and win it again. Keep a close eye on the L.A. Lakers. Shaq may carry them to the top—if not this year, maybe next. *The Groundhog Pick:* Bulls over the Lakers in six games.

Auto Racing: Terry Labonte, Dale Jarrett, and Jeff Gordon are in the hunt for the Winston Cup Points Championship. The Atlanta Motor Speedway will decide the title. Labonte only has to finish ninth to claim the title. Jarrett and Gordon each need to win and hope Labonte falls victim to a crash or mechanical failure. Dale Earnhardt and Mark Martin battle for fourth and fifth.

Pro Football: NFC--The Atlanta Falcons finally win one. How about that! Green Bay continues to roll and Dallas continues to stomp its toe. Watch out for Philadelphia, the Eagles are tough. San Francisco's defense can go a long way.

AFC--Denver continues to amaze. Elway is having his best year as a pro. Pittsburgh is on course for another Super Bowl run. New England, Buffalo, and Kansas City have a shot. The Miami Dolphins are fading fast. Jimmy Johnson's magic has yet to shine through.

Well, that does it for another month. May God bless us all. One last note for Dr. Pat. Dr. Pat, thank you for making a lasting impression on my life. You will always have a special place in my heart. My wife, Krissy, and I miss you dearly.



From Between the Counters

By
BRUTUS



Beloved faithful readers, it is with the greatest sadness that I must tell you of the passing of one of Mentone's most loved citizens--Dr. Pat Seymour. Even though Dr. Pat was jealous of moi's writing, popularity, and talent, she truly was my greatest admirer. Moi is going to miss Dr. Pat and her quick wit, outrageous jokes, and jesting with the customers--who only come in to view the magnificent one, but purchase items from the Superette to make Al feel good. Dr. Pat really played up my birthdays. This year, the great one was 5 years old on October 18. The worst part is that, on this, moi's most important day, there were no balloons and cards from Dr. Pat. And, not one case of Tootsie Pops did moi receive from any of moi's "loyal" readers. No one baked a cake. Time is precious, but so is moi. Maybe moi's devoted fans will send belated birthday wishes and gifts to help soothe moi's wounded and saddened heart!

Laura and Walt Pullen of Mentone just walked in. Laura never fails to give the flawless one a hug. Thanks for all the hugs, Laura! Keep them coming!

Loyal readers, the magnificent one often writes about flatlanders. Early in October, two ladies from Flat Rock came to see if there really was a superb canine between the counters. Can you imagine that anyone would doubt that an extraordinary canine such as moi actually exists? Flatlanders!

Pop has been taking a few short trips, leaving the flawless one behind to cover for him at the store. You would think Pop could throw moi an ice cream sandwich for helping him mind the store. NOT!

The last time Al forced moi to the hated vet, moi had lost two pounds! That means not enough sweets have hit the floor lately for the noble canine between the counters. Loyal fans, don't forget to be thankful for Mentone's awesome celebrity-moi. Be generous, Thanksgiving is coming.

The elections are finally over! Moi thought moi would never hear the end of the Macarena madness.

Halloween came and went, too. No treats for the magnificent, incredible one were shared by the trick or treaters. Moi had hoped that extra goodies would be dropped at the feet of the great one. Moi considered tricking Pop and treating moi to a Tootsie Pop for the long trip to the house. Now, with the hated time change, it is so dark by the time Pop leaves the Superette to go home, moi has to help him find his way! It's beginning to get colder, and Pop doesn't move as fast as he used to. Moi, being a patient, thoughtful, magnificent canine, also walks slower to keep from dragging Pop all over the yard. Happy Thanksgiving, pilgrims!

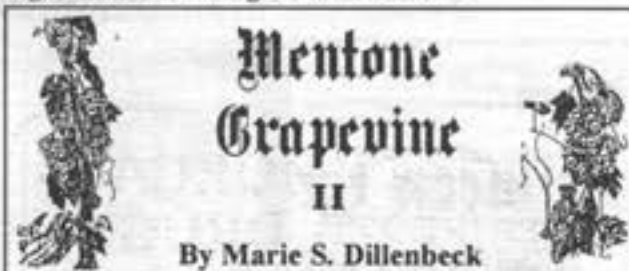
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We are all saddened by the loss of Dr. Pat. It was her wish that this column continue, and I promised her that it would. She enjoyed talking to everyone and finding out what was happening in and around Mentone and letting her readers know. If you have something you would like to share, please feel free to call and let me know, just as you would have with Dr. Pat.

Norma Williams turned 69 on Tuesday, October 29, and her son Chad, from Atlanta, came and spent the day with Buddy and Norma. Buddy cooked turnip greens, pinto beans, and corn bread, with pound cake for dessert. Many more happy birthdays to you, Norma.

Lydia Speed, from Huntsville, has been "spotted" in Mentone last month. She was with her daughter, Pat Johnson, and they were enjoying the beautiful autumn colors and visiting their friends.

Sue and Bill Schwarz returned from an eastern trip after attending Bill's 51st reunion at Williamsburg. From there, the couple went to see Sue's mom and dad, Ruth and George Porter in Oakland, MD. On the way back the Schwarz' went through Knoxville, TN, to visit with friends, Dean and Loretta Brasseale, who had visited with them in Mentone the week-end of Oct. 10th. Since Bill's hip replacement surgery last year, he and Sue have been "on the road" a lot.

Helen Walker and Lula McGee Blalock, two Mentone residents, were Golden Girl contestants in the annual Ms. Golden Girl pageant held at the DeKalb County VFW Fair on Oct. 3. The pageant is an annual event sponsored by Edward Jones & Companies, WZOB Radio, and The Times-Journal, and is open to women ages 60 and above.

Jessica Barrier, daughter of Rebecca Barrier, helps out by working in the Valley Head Ice Cream Parlour. When looking for something different, go visit them and have some ice cream and chat a while.

Joy Hester, Ruth Battles, and Judy Johnson, from Tiger's Inn in Valley Head, dressed in Halloween costumes all day the 30th, and were outside the restaurant from 4-7 p.m. handing out treat bags. Joy was telling fortunes. Lisa Beene and Emily Collins were "hanging around," too. Rebecca Barrier of the Ice Cream Parlour also was open to greet the trick or treaters.

Joe Stephens had visitors this past month. His sister-in-law, Louise Stephens, and his niece and her husband, Betty and Bobby Agnesia, all from Birmingham, came to have a picnic in the park with Joe. Also enjoying the picnic were Joe's nephew and wife, Billy and Billy Girl Stephens, from Cartersville, GA. Joe's son, Jerome Stephens, of Newtown, PA, went to Italy during the week of Oct. 20, on business for his company. He goes again to Italy on Nov. 9th. Some job!

Margaret Baker and her husband, Hayward from Orange Beach, AL, and neighbors of Jane and Epp Meadows, were visiting in Mentone the weekend of Oct. 26, and said that Jane is doing real well, and she and Epp are planning to take a trip soon. The Bakers are building a house on the brow.

Jewel Collins Rogers, Charlie Rogers, Robbie Collins, and Joey and Jenny Combs, all went to attend the graduation of Army Pvt. Shirley Collins at Ft. Jackson, S.C., on Oct. 24. They all visited with Shirley for a day, then returned to Mentone on the 25th. Shirley starts a 7-week training program to be a chaplain's assistant. She will graduate on Dec. 13. Way to go, Shirley!

Col. Welborn Matthews and his son, William "Chip" Matthews attended the Auburn-Arkansas game in Auburn on Nov. 2nd, while Leslie, Kelly, and J.E.B. Bunch went to Huntsville for Kelly's soccer game. Kelly's team came in 2nd in the Huntsville Kick Tournament. Jean was left to handle the Winston Place Bed and Breakfast alone. Did a super job, too!

Annette Blalock, formerly of Shear Designs in Valley Head, is now with Cost Cutters in Fort Payne at the new "Super Wal-Mart" in Fort Payne.

The Valley Head Water Works Board has moved into their new office located on the corner of School Street and Hwy.

117. It is a wonderful new office building. Stop by and take a look.

Alisha McElhaney celebrated her 14th birthday with cake and friends at the Valley Head Park on Friday, Oct. 18.

Laura Pullen celebrated her 14th birthday, Oct. 8, with friends and a shopping trip to the mall. Laura, Beth Moore, and Mary Pearson traveled to Chattanooga VIA Walt to shop and to eat at the Olive Garden. A fun time was had by all.

Grace and Bill Pullen had a birthday dinner on Oct. 19, for their four children who had October birthdays: **Walt-2nd, Kay-15th, Ann-18th, and Linda-21st.** Grace said when the girls were younger, she used to bake a three-tier cake—one tier for each of the girls.

Mrs. Lucille Crawford, formerly of Valley Head, now residing at the Collinsville Nursing Home, celebrated her birthday on Nov. 1. Hope it was a wonderful birthday.

Alisha Busby celebrated her 15th birthday at Rock Castle Cafe on Sat., Oct. 19, with a "Winnie The Pooh" Party hosted by Gracie and Chris Brown, Dillon Brown, and Amanda Stewart. Those attending were: Nathan Keith, Amanda Hall, Candace Fuller, Eric Battles, Jerrod Peace, Jason Meadows, Brandy Shirley, Ginger Gray, Shelly Gray, Lora Beth Peace, Lori Tillman, Squirrelly Blalock, Barbara Busby, Jonathan and Josh Form, Kyle Rope, Lance Marlo, Kenneth (Chief) Busby, Carol, Kenny and Chris Busby.

Congratulations to **Robbie Collins**, son of Jewel Collins Rogers, and **Rusty Rector**, son of Fouts and Nancy Rector. They each received a dark green belt in Tae Kwon Do, Wed. Oct. 23. A tough requirement was to break an inch thick board! Way to go, guys!

Apologies go to **Jerry and Inga Krause** for the incorrect spelling of their last name. Mr. and Mrs. Krause are visiting Inga's parents in Long Island, ME. From there, they travel to Arizona where their eldest son resides. Various friends and kinfolk are enjoying the Krause's Mentone home while they are away.

Happy Belated Birthday wishes to **Hardy Poe** who turned 76 in October. A special gift of a granddaughter born on Oct. 17, to Amy. Best wishes from Hardy, your son Billy, and his wife Karen with Jet Jr. and William.

Valley Head School has several new students this past month. Welcome to the area and school. Also, welcome to the three new foreign exchange students: **Carolien Landsbergen**, from Holland; **Maddalena Mangino**, from Italy, and **Anke Biegerich**, from Germany. Hope your stay here is a wonderful experience.

Madeleine Bullock's cousin, **Lionel Brescia** (a.k.a. Belo) has just had his first book published by Carlton Press Corp. of NY. It's titled, Under Killmanjaro, the places and events are authentic, but the characters are fictional. If anyone enjoys novels of adventure with a unique setting, they will enjoy this. It's the first in a ten-part series.

Soon the holidays will be upon us. So don't forget to get your holiday plants and flowers from the **Valley Head High School agricultural program** run by Mr. L.A. Smith. For those who ordered fruits for Christmas from Mr. Smith, remember—they will be delivered in December. All the proceeds will go towards buying tools and other items.

The **Beta Club** members are selling yellow vinyl-covered foam cushions for spectators to sit on while watching football games. The cushions sell for \$5.00 each, and the proceeds go towards the various Beta Club needs. If you would like to purchase one, contact the Valley Head High School at 635-6228.

On Sept. 23-27, **Marilyn Blanton Campbell** went with a tour group from Compass Bank of Fort Payne and Gadsden on a trip to Charleston, SC; and Savannah, St. Simon's Island, Sea Island, and Jekyll Island, GA. On Oct. 22, several ladies from Rome, GA, came to visit Marilyn and view the autumnal splendor. Marilyn's mother, **Mary A. Blanton, Jean Storey, Geraldine Turner, and Opal McRae.** They also visited the Superette to meet Brutus—Mentone's local celebrity. Opal even petted Brutus.

Congratulations to the following students: **Naghma Kahn** of Valley Head who made the summer quarter President's List at Northeast Alabama State Community College; **Jennifer Phillips** of Valley Head who made the summer quarter Dean's List; and **Glenda Haney and Judy Windom** of Valley Head who made the summer part-time student Honor List.

Catherine Bailey, Carrie Ruth Kirby, and Barbara Blalock went to Cleveland, TN, where they were joined by **Sarah Harris and Sara Stutz** for a trip to Gatlinburg. **Raymond and Becky Blalock** were there when they arrived

and **Elaine Dobbs** came later that evening. **Steve, Martha, and Joseph Rouse** visited them on Sunday. All enjoyed the beautiful colors and the visit with family.

Foots and Austin Rector and Arnold Clinton attended a meeting of The Old Timers Club of Duncan Food Co. on Sat., Nov. 2. Once a year they all get together for breakfast at Wally's Restaurant in Chattanooga.

On Nov. 2, the **Valley Head Tigers** soccer team had a party at McDonald's. The coaches, Dave Vest, Terry Pangle, and Rusty Chambers, presented each member on the team with a trophy. Everyone had a great time.

Sherman and Mickey Gough traveled to upper Michigan recently to attend Sherman's sister's 50th wedding anniversary. His older sister asked them to spend a few days with her, and they did. They had to hurry home to Mentone to participate in the Colorfest, leaving Michigan on Thurs., Oct. 17 and driving home to be at the festival selling chances on the quilt on Sat. the 19th. Loyal workers, these two!!

Keep the family of **Eula Cash** in your prayers. Eula is at BMC-DeKalb in Fort Payne.

George Lide had double hernia surgery recently. He is doing fine. Hattie has been taking good care of him.

Barbie Hester had gall bladder surgery late in Oct., and grandparents, **Ovie and Barbara Blalock**, kept the two children. Barbara said she was wearing her "tired suit" on Halloween. She and **Ovie** haven't had little ones in the house—24 hours a day—for a long, long time.

Penny's Uppercuts has moved to Elaine's on 1st Avenue and Ala. Hwy. 117.

Dwight and Mary Clark of Valley Head have been adding on to their house and enclosing their carport and enlarging a bedroom. With that and sickness in the family, they have been kept on the go.

Ethel Perkins is back in BMC-DeKalb. Keep her in your prayers.

Betty and Rick Chapman had company from Louisville, KY, the weekend of Nov. 2nd. Their place has a wonderful view. Lucky visitors! Rick and Betty are great hosts.

Dot Hopper (76) broke her hip and was taken to the Boaz-Albertville hospital. She is now back in the nursing home in Collinsville.

Hershell Pruitt's sister, **Ellen Pruitt**, of Cloudland, GA, is currently in the Floyd County Hospital in Rome, where she is undergoing some neurological tests. Best wishes to Ellen for a speedy recovery.

Lula McGee Blalock has the flu. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Hope to see you back in good health real soon.

Helen Hill and sister, **Theresa Bosworth**, are both in The Crown Nursing Home (formerly Mtn. Manor) in Fort Payne. They would both enjoy receiving cards and visits from their friends.

Deepest sympathy to the families of:

- Ruby Koger, 75, of Valley Head, who died Oct. 17.
- William Lea, 78, of Ider, who died Oct. 11.
- Stella Posey, 55, of Ft. Payne, who died Oct. 13.

Happy Belated October Birthday to **Roy Ellis** who was 80 years old on Oct. 23.

Happy November Birthdays to: •3- Sandy Hulan; •4- Pat Lewis; •5- Ronnie Robertson, Gail Worthey Chambers; •6- Tommy Harrison III, Duane Blalock (21st!); •8- Jonathon Black (2 yrs.), Michael Harrison; •9- Barbie Hester, Carol Hazel, Buddy Burnett, Laura Harrison McKenzie, Melissa Worthey Miller; •10- Velendia Miracle; •11- Ovie Blalock, Andy Harcrow, Gerry Bain; •13- Lendell Chappell, Phyllis Carter, Kim Langston Bailey; •14- Kenneth Hammond, Austin Harrison; •15- Lee Carden; •18- Sharlie Harcrow; •19- Tara Cahill; •21- Carolyn Hicks, Keith Hadley, Gerald Bailey; •23- Dr. Pat Seymour (In Memory of); •24- Jessica Thornberry; •25- Robin Westbrook; •26- Krissy Worthey Harris, Bill Miracle, W.A. & Polly Chambers (Anniv.); •27- Carrie Ruth Kirby, Kim Worthey, Lesley Blalock; •28- Maxine Wright, Adam Tuxbury, Patricia Kellett, Velendia and Bill Miracle (Anniv.); •29- Claudia Croxton, Brian Blalock; •30- Joyce Blankenship.



American Legion Auxiliary Post 215 of Mentone visits Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

October 23, a group of ladies from American Legion Auxiliary Post 215 of Mentone, consisting of Mrs. Syble Tipton, President, Mrs. Penny Lyday, Vice-President, Mrs. Marilyn Blanton Campbell, Historian, and Mrs. Maxine Wright traveled to Huntsville to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home on Meridian Street. This group of ladies had heard the same "horror stories" that everybody else in northern Alabama and southern Tennessee had heard about conditions at the Fann home, and they went over there with no idea what to expect. When they got there, they found the Fann home to be new, clean, and odorless. The patients were clean and well cared for. The staff was aware of and attentive to resident needs. The food was of good quality, prepared in an appealing manner, and served in a clean and attractive dining room to many patients. Others, of course, were served in their quarters. The ladies were essentially all over the facility, and they reported that, while it was regrettable there was a need for such places in our society, Alabama veterans were indeed fortunate to have such a nice place to go for care and supervision.

Bingo games are a very important part of what goes on at the Fann home, and prizes for those games are always needed. Therefore, the ladies made an appropriation and went shopping for bingo prizes. At the last regular meeting, the ladies gift wrapped those. There are 109 residents at the Fann home, and, of the 109, some 83 ARE ALLOWED sweets and 26 ARE NOT. With that in mind, the ladies made cupcakes and took them along with the bingo prizes. They had apples for those who either could not have or did not want sweets.

Mrs. Nancy Gavanhan, Activities Director at the Fann home, took the ladies all over the facility, as they sought out the seven DeKalb County men who reside at the Fann home. The ladies reported that Mr. D. C. Poe, from Fort Payne, was in good spirits and visiting with his lovely wife, Grace. Mr. George Rudder, from Henagar, does truly beautiful paintings, and recently he has been struggling with a hopefully temporary vision impairment that has put a crimp in his self-expression. He quickly told the ladies that he was NOT blind, but he was seeing four of everything as opposed to the expected one. That day was Mr. Roy Ellis' birthday, and he was literally having a party. Several members of his family were in his room celebrating, and they were quite pleased that the ladies had come by to say hello. Mr. James Gifford, of Ider, was having an after lunch rest, and he was really quite charming. He knew lots of the same people that some of the ladies knew and was able to reminisce about them. Mr. Milford Jones was having a snack of cereal, bananas, and milk in the great room and enjoying it immensely. Randy Carter, from Fort Payne, is doing lots better. While Randy does not talk these days, there was no mistaking his smile. Having four visitors at one time was the biggest thing to happen to him since he got his picture taken recently with a large "pet therapy" dog for the newspaper in Huntsville. Randy is rapidly becoming the Fann home's celebrity. The ladies never quite caught up with Mr. Rufus K. Rice, so they have no idea what he was up to, but he was able to be up and out of his room. The ladies were quite taken with the large number of windows and the sunshine streaming through them adding a light and cheery atmosphere to the whole facility. Mr. Rice might well have been taking a snooze sitting in the sun. When asked, the ladies reported that the sun coming through those windows was so appealing that it made them want to sit and nap a little while.



Bobby Lynn Gilbreath PLAQUE DEDICATED IN BOBBY LYNN GILBREATH'S NAME AT VALLEY HEAD SCHOOL

By Mason White

Classmates, football teammates and friends of the late Bobby Lynn Gilbreath gathered at the Valley Head School October 18 to dedicate a bronze memorial plaque in his name.

The plaque was mounted on the wall next to the old trophy case just inside the main entrance to the schoolhouse. Bobby Lynn, one of the finest athletes in the long history of the school, died in 1994, at the age of 58. He was a 1953 graduate of the Valley Head High School.

Bobby's widow, Ilene Gilbreath, of Flushing, Michigan, and their son, Rob, were guests of honor at the dedication ceremony. The class of 1953 was represented at the dedication by Emily Gilbreath Brown, Peggy Blansit Walker, Bruce Carr, Ovie Blalock, Raymond Long, and Mason White. In addition to Blalock and White, football teammates attending were Harry Smith, Hoyt McElhaney, and Barry Brown. Others attending included Kenneth Hammond, the Mayor of Valley Head; former Mayor Edward Ringer; Dot Blackburn; Kenneth Hammond, Hayward Hester, and Lavoyd Wilkes.



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Dr. Pat Seymour--Thanks For Being There!

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

(Continued from page 1)

"Tears were shed for Dr. Pat. She touched many, many lives, and she will be missed."

Upon arriving in Mentone in August 1991, Dr. Pat's first priority was to get to know her neighbors. After talking to next-door neighbors, Halie and George Lide, Dr. Pat went to meet her across-the-road neighbor, Luther "Junior" King. They formed a wonderful friendship and often met at the Tiger's Inn where they kidded each other. She depended a lot on "Junior" and valued their friendship greatly.

Next, Dr. Pat set out to "meet the people." She went to the Tiger's Inn, Log Cabin Deli, Rock Castle, Derris's Kountry Chef, the Mentone Post Office, and wherever she could talk to the residents. Dr. Pat was a good ambassador for the area, talking to newcomers, visitors, and people on the mountain. She loved Mentone and used to get to know everybody who lived here. She never met a stranger. Visiting all the churches and getting to know the people was important to her. She felt it was her obligation—her gift from God—to touch positively as many lives as she could.

The American Advertising Federation wrote to Dr. Pat in November of 1978: "Because your incredible intellect and warmth have touched us, the lives of people in fifteen states will be enriched forever. God bless you, surely He has sent you to Mobile." One was never the same after hearing her speak, because she believed what she was doing was what God called her to do.

Jean McGhee, vice president and program chairman of the Rhododendron Garden Club, in a note dated July 15, 1992, wrote after a presentation by Dr. Pat to the garden club: "You are an asset to the mountain, as the saying goes, and we're glad you're here. Thank you for sharing your time, energy, and talents with the Rhododendron Garden Club."

Dorrie Clifton (Mrs. John Foreman) hairdresser at Clydell's Beauty Shop in Mentone, said in a note in 1992, "Thank you for all the joy you bring to the salon and whenever we meet."

Linda Lawton, teacher, Rubama and Adamsburg, said at Dr. Pat's graveside service, "I want everyone to remember Dr. Pat's gift of laughter. My first contact with Dr. Pat was at a beauty salon. Dr. Pat was waiting her turn and entertained us with her stories."

In a 1995 Easter card from Gertrude and Leland Cox, they wrote, "We are fortunate in having nice intelligent people like you to move to Mentone. Just want to let you both know how much we appreciate your willingness to tackle anything for the good of the community."

Dr. Pat and Marie, were known as "The Mentone Tabernacle Choir." They often called friends in Mentone, Valley Head, Fort Payne, and other cities in the state of Alabama and many other states—including Oregon, Texas, Mississippi, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Florida, and New Mexico, to sing Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary, Happy Father's Day, Happy Mother's Day. In April 1994, Lydia Speed of Huntsville, formerly of Mentone, wrote, "I loved your singing on my birthday. Thank you." In a note dated 10/19/96, Ruth C. Porter of Oakland, MD, wrote, "I'm so sorry about Dr. Pat—I'm going to miss her and I don't even live there." On September 17, 1996, the Mentone Tabernacle Choir called Ruth and George and sang "Happy 57th Wedding Anniversary."

Polly Cameron in Dec. 1992, thanked Dr. Pat for her generosity after Polly sang at the Rhododendron Garden Club Christmas party. Polly said she sings "Because I enjoy it too much myself." Polly's wish for Dr. Pat was "The spirit and love of the season be with you today and every new day." Dr. Pat believed that the Christmas spirit wasn't a season, it should be an everyday feeling.

In the late summer of 1991, two young ladies, Angie Miller and Nikkilyn Foster from Indiana, were stranded in the Mentone area. Dr. Pat, Marie, and Glen and Linda Miller of the Ponderosa Bible Camp helped them. From Florida, they wrote in Nov. 1991, to Dr. Pat and Marie, "We want you to know that no matter where we go, part of us will always be in Mentone just as part of Mentone comes with us everywhere. Thanks again for the kindness you outstretched toward us."

Christine (Mrs. Walter) Brooks of Valley Head wrote, "You are a wonderful person. I wish we had more like you."

Evelyn Graves, then president of the Baptist Young Women of the Union Hill Baptist Church in Fort Payne, wrote a letter

dated February 22, 1992, to Dr. Pat who had spoken to their Valentine banquet. "I do not believe there was anyone present who was not touched by the true experiences you related that demonstrated love in its greatest form. As she was leaving, one lady said to me, 'I will take this with me forever. She was wonderful.' Thank you for stirring our hearts with your humor, your caring spirit, your love, and your willingness to share with us in such a beautiful way. This was indeed a memorable event in the life of our church."

Susan Hooks of Camp Skyline, after Dr. Pat had spoken to her staff and counselors in June 1992 on "Leadership and Influence—you are setting an example every day in all you do," wrote, "Thank you for being so inspirational! You are truly 'real'—and your 'nipples' will have a lasting effect on our staff and our summer."

Dr. Pat had been a counselor at Skyline Camp when she was young. She had also visited two of her former teachers from Selma, Annelee Tucker and Elizabeth Lowe, who were the owners of Nippersink Lodge in Mentone from 1944 through 1972.

In the summer of 1994, Dr. Pat was visiting with Sue and Bill Schwarz in Mentone at a time when they had their two granddaughters from Florida with them. Gwen (Gwenne) Hannon was only four at the time, and Dr. Pat asked her, "Do you want me to read to you?" Gwenne answered, "I really don't need anybody to read to me. What I need is somebody to read to." So, Dr. Pat listened while Gwenne read, and only assisted her with "words that had more than two vowels." Gwenne and her older sister, Rachel, are avid readers, and Dr. Pat sent them many books during a difficult time in their lives. Rachel said she "thoroughly enjoyed reading the books." When Rachel and Gwenne were visiting this summer, Dr. Pat again was playing games—oddly winks this time, and the girls were giggling and carrying on with her.

Dr. Pat corresponded periodically with many children who wrote her letters. Dana Aleski, of Bethel Park, PA, the granddaughter of Halie and George Lide of Mentone, wrote in a letter of August 17, 1992, "Thank you for your letter. I enjoyed reading it." She then wrote about many things that were happening in her life. Tina Scruggs of Rising Fawn, GA, granddaughter of Frances Scruggs, wrote several times to Dr. Pat, keeping her informed of her grades. In a letter dated April 30, 1996, Tina wrote, "Hey, I know it has been a long time since I wrote you. I'm sorry for waiting so long to write you. Today I was catching up on old memories. I found some of the letters you wrote me a while back." She, too, told Dr. Pat about what she had been doing. These are only a couple of the letters from children. There were many more.

In October 1994, Dr. Pat (English, Social Studies, Journalism Teacher, Director of Recreation) wrote a letter addressed to former students and friends on the occasion of the reunion of the Andalusia High class of 1965. "A great deal has been written and said about the influence a teacher can have on the lives of her students—but very little, if any thing, is addressed concerning the impact her students can have on her life. Surely, for me, the time I taught in Andalusia were the "wonder years" of my life. Each of you in the class of 1965 and the master teachers on the faculty touched my heart and mind in a wonderfully indelible way. Each of you is a part of the mature woman I now have become. We laughed, learned, and played together. It was in Andalusia that I discovered the delicious secret of dedicated teaching: learning together can be delightfully rewarding! A teacher and her students can reach incredible heights when they become an academic learning team. I thank you for that and will cherish those "wonder years" as long as I shall live. What you have done with your lives since your graduation in 1965 is a source of tremendous pride for me. I will be eternally grateful for the privilege of touching your minds and playing a small part in your successes—which, I understand, have been awesome and many. My very best wishes go with you in the years ahead and in your accomplishments yet to be. Bless you for the dramatic impact you have had on my life—and thanks for the precious memories."

Dr. Pat was especially proud of one of her former students, a Charlotte Grimes, a Pulitzer Prize winner, and a national correspondent in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch's Washington Bureau in Washington, D.C. Charlotte wrote Dr. Pat a letter on Nov.

27, 1993, and sent her latest Pulitzer Prize nominee and some of her weekly columns. She wrote, "I'm so pleased, too, to hear how well you're doing with the motivational speaking. That was always your great gift as a teacher, to make us—even Morgan Preswood—want to learn."

Ken Cook, another of Dr. Pat's former students at Andalusia High from the class of 1961, sent a letter dated July 1, 1996. Enclosed was a copy of The Andalusia Star-News, June 29, 1996, issue. The reunion was held the previous weekend, and Mr. Cook wrote, "What was it about this modest, understated young teacher that had such a profound effect on her students and steered the Andy Hi-Lite into the award winning ranks of Alabama high school newspapers?"

She crossed our path sometime between 1953, my freshman year at Andy High, and 1957, the year my Memorial credits her as faculty sponsor of the Andy Hi-Lite.

"Miss Patricia Seymour taught us English, journalism and good writing. And she did it well. She made journalism a cool thing to do at a time when most things connected with school (sports excepted) weren't cool."

"With her unassuming demeanor, wry smile and tailored look, she had the audacity to put serious thoughts of journalism careers into my young minds. And she did it with complete and utter aplomb."

Pat Seymour made us reach higher and think farther. She let us sense the satisfaction and pride that comes from a well-written story. She enabled us to open up and be emotional about our subject, to craft our work clearly, intelligently, and correctly.

"She earned our respect by being a good listener, trusted advisor, and tender critic. She sought no ownership of good ideas, and she was always there with an outstretched hand when we stumbled."

"I have five teachers' names on my all-time hit parade. Pat Seymour is one of them. She cast my personal career and I shall be forever in her debt."

"Thank you and God bless you, Patricia Seymour."

Moon Lake Elementary School gave her a certificate of appreciation dated March 13, 1995, for "her many kind and generous contributions to our local school." Dr. Pat was the guest speaker at the May 1992 sixth-grade graduating class and spoke about the ripple effect we each have on the lives of others, just as a pebble thrown in the water produces ripples. Each graduate received a pebble.

In a letter dated October 10, Dr. Bill Beny, Principal of Moon Lake Elementary School wrote, "On behalf of the students and staff of Moon Lake Elementary School, I wish to express my deep gratitude for the important place Dr. Pat Seymour held in our hearts and minds. We always looked forward to Dr. Pat's visits, and we appreciated her generous sharing of time and talent. On many occasions she provided not only her physical and intellectual assistance, but also her financial assistance. For her many contributions we are grateful."

"Enclosed are cards produced by the students of Moon Lake. At this week's Monday morning assembly, I informed the students and staff of Dr. Pat's illness and requested that they prepare greetings for her. Later that day we heard of her death. Therefore some of the cards convey get well sentiments, while others (made later in the day) offer condolences. I hope the cards will bring comfort to you in this time of loss."

Dr. Pat would have been pleased, because children were such an important part of her life. She taught in Andalusia, Alabama, for 13 years before going to the University of Alabama to work on her doctorates and teach there. The cards are very touching and demonstrate what an effect one person can have on so many people, including the very young.

Her generosity was endless: the Mentone Volunteer Fire Department, the DeSoto Rescue Squad, the Valley Head Band, Moon Lake Elementary School, Friends of Little River, local churches, and many more clubs, as well as individuals. It is not the writer's intent to leave out anyone touched by Dr. Pat's generosity, but she reached out to so many people that it is impossible to name everyone and every organization. By talking with so many individuals and working with numerous organizations, Dr. Pat was able to put need with supply. Dr. Pat truly believed that we are here to serve others, and she so lived her life.

(Continued on the next page.)

DR. PAT SEYMOUR--THANKS FOR BEING THERE!

(Continued from previous page)

Jean Matthews of Winston Place, Valley Head, wrote, "Pat was a true 'meliorist,' one who believes the world can be made better by human effort; her life reflected this and, therefore--her legacy is this. I am so very blessed and fortunate to have known Dr. Pat Seymour for even a small amount of time! I, and many others, were touched by her grace and magnanimity of spirit."

Hanging above the fireplace in her living room is a picture of an eagle with a quotation from Isaiah 40:31, which she shared with many. "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Dr. Pat believed in the infinite power of God and the eternal youth of those who trust Him.

Another of her favorite verses is "Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter then into the joy of the Lord." God gave Dr. Pat numerous talents and she used them all to His glory. She has now gone home to her reward! We have, indeed, lost a good friend! We will all miss you, Dr. Pat! We loved you. Thanks for being there for all of us!

Dr. Patricia Seymour

Dr. Pat was a lady of intelligence and grace,
In a wide area she filled an important place;
She had the precious gift of words and speech,
Many minds and hearts she was able to reach.
Altho miserable and suffering so much pain,
In active work and service she did remain,
Forgetting herself, others filled her mind,
Proving her character as thoughtful and kind.
She hid her pain in cheerful mood,
Serving others with calls, cards, visits or food,
Uplifting spirits with encouraging word,
And words of wisdom no more to be heard.
She gave generously to each worthy cause--
Even in death her cause will not pause--
She loved and remembered children and youth,
With a scholarship to learn wisdom and truth.
Her writing, to so many meant so very much,
No one can duplicate her far reaching touch.
She served, wrote and spoke with knowledge
and skill,
She leaves a void impossible to ever fill--
But she has earned her reward and rest,
From earth to Heaven to be richly blessed.
We were blessed by knowing her as friend
and communicator,
We will always remember, love, and appreciate her!

--Eloise M. Brown

The Dr. Pat Seymour Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Dr. Pat Seymour Memorial Scholarship Fund to help needy young people attend college has been established at Compass Bank in Fort Payne, AL 35967. Those wishing to contribute to the fund may send or take their donations to any Fort Payne branch of Compass Bank.

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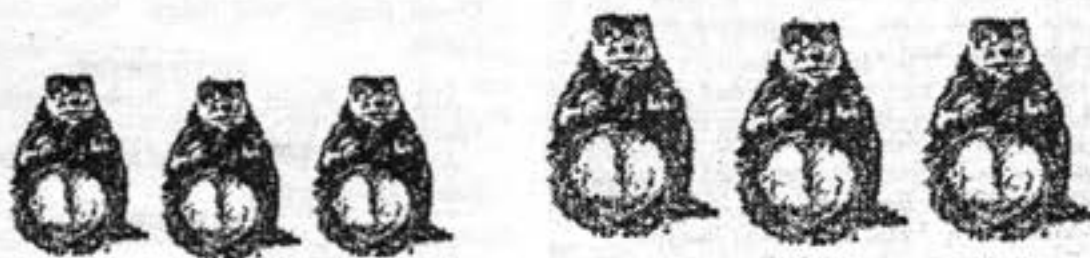
GADSDEN AVE. - Cozy weekend get-away. Home features 1100 sq. ft. Living room with Mtn. stone fireplace, 2Br/2bath, kitchen, den with brick fireplace, gas and electric heat, septic, Cloudland water system. Beautiful large landscaped lot.

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

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

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Nikki Smith was crowned the 1996 Homecoming Queen at Valley Head High School on October 11. Nikki's escort was her brother, Stacy Smith. Guy and Judy Smith of Mentone are Nikki's parents. The Homecoming court included Queen Nikki Smith, Summer Blansit, Amanda Bethune, Candie Matherson, Emily Frazier, Amy Izell, and Kerri Hale.



The Valley Head High School Band

Individual members of the Valley Head High School Band: Band Director: Campbell Smith; Drum Major: Haley Johnson; Trumpets: Valerie Chappell, Annie Harrison, Donnie Davis, Karina Taylor, Lee Bullock, Josh Farmer, William Poe; Low Brass: Justin Fisher, Tina Hester, Adriane Robertson, Ginger Gray, Heather Moses, Jessica Lee, Brittnay Johnson; Clarinets: Mandora Hannah, Juanita Hunt, April Aldridge, LeeAnn Wooten, Laura Martin, Stephanie Watkins, Denee Jenkins; Sharee Jenkins, Annah Armstrong, Tracie Pullen; Percussion: Beth Moore, Angie Laney, Alicia McElhaney, Mary Pearson; Color Guard: Alicia Busby, April Pierce, Crystal Davis, Anna Rievley; Flutes: Becky Mays, Laura Pullen, Effia Harrison, Shannon Chappell, Andrea Grisham and Tessa McKinney.

The band participated in the DeKalb County Marching Festival at Plainview School on October 6th. They did a wonderful job and the band received all ones with the colorguard receiving a two. They are now planning on attending a marching contest in Alexandria on November 9th. Congratulations on another superb performance!




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VALLEY HEAD

JAKIE D. LEE
SHARON C. LEE

FFA

By Samantha Crider

This year, the FFA has had many new changes. First of all, we have new officers. They are: President - Chad Mosher, Vice-President - Jason Owen; Secretary - Krissy Brown; Reporter - Samantha Crider; Sentinel - Jason Meadows; and Treasurer - Crystal Bettis. With new officers this year, the FFA has a new hope of having better success. The officers have already planned new and improved activities for all the members. Our first meeting was already a big success with an attendance of over 80 students. We had a guest speaker, Mr. Larry Longshore, who influenced members to go on one of his adventurous trips. The Fruit Sales have done well, so far. The 1996-97 officers of the FFA encourage everyone to join the FFA and join the fun!

STUDENT COUNCIL

By Heather Wilbourn

This year's Student Council officers are Matthew Hulan - President; Tim Harrison - Vice President; Richard Fuller - Secretary; Wendy Hyde - Treasurer; Heather Wilbourn - Reporter; and Rene Brendle - Historian. The Student Council sponsored an exciting week of activities: Monday - hat day; Tuesday - tacky day; Wednesday - pajama day; Thursday - opposite day; Friday - Tiger day. The Student Council sponsored a Homecoming Dance after the football game. During Red Ribbon Week, we sponsored a number of events: Monday, you were to sign our drug free banner. Tuesday, we sponsored an assembly. Two convicts came. They were allowed to come because of the program called Free by Choice. We also decorated teachers' doors on Tuesday. Wednesday was wear red day. Thursday, we handed our red pencils during homeroom. Friday, we hung red ribbons on the goal posts.

Valley Head Honor Roll

FIRST SIX WEEKS

SECOND GRADE

ALL A's: Amber White, Ethan Lewis, Brittany Bevel.

A's and B's: Ashley Tinker, Robert Kauble, Cory Dobbins, Heather Daniel, Zackary Cooper, Alan Crider, Wendy Edgeworth, Tyler Gatlin, Amelia Hannah, Dustin Johnson, Rusty Rector, Elizabeth Tuxbury.

THIRD GRADE

ALL A's: Trista Blackmon.

A's and B's: Christina Armstrong, Christina Bullard, Heather Dulaney, Brandy Ellis, Aaron Grisham, Tylor Harrison, Brandi Hawkins, Brandon Hawkins, Jennifer Malone, Sheena Moses, Hillary Nichols, Jessica Roden.

FOURTH GRADE

ALL A's: William Blevins, Jacklyn Davis, Amber Hannah, Kyle Hicks, Chris Miller, Kim Pritchett, Kim Willbanks, Matt Battles, Mandy Brown, Heather Freeman, Ben Windom.

A's and B's: Kory Knopps, Billy McKinney, Matt Croxton, Crystal Gregory, Jared Hulan, Nelson Overby, Sheena Combs.

FIFTH GRADE

ALL A's: Robert Brown, Steven Thornberry, Jeremy Edgeworth.

A's and B's: Blake Hulan, Justin McMullins, Almeda Parker, Ashley Tuxbury.

SIXTH GRADE

ALL A's: Beth Shirley.

A's and B's: Brittnay Johnson, Sharee Jenkins, Amanda Knowles, Sara Gregory.

SEVENTH GRADE

ALL A's: Jennifer Blalock, Brandy Browder, Stacey Hyde.

A's and B's: Jerry Lee Brisendine, Lacie Clure, Andrea Grisham, Nicole Hulan, Hillary Lawton.

EIGHTH GRADE

A's and B's: Jessica Barrier, Becky Mays, Sheila McKinney, Jill Wampler, Eric Battles, Slade Carden, David Chaney.

NINTH GRADE

ALL A's: Anna Rievley, Jeffery Bullock.

A's and B's: Hannah Alexander, Alisha Busby, Kerri Hale, Heather Lawton, Amanda Stewart, Stephani Watkins.

TENTH GRADE

ALL A's: Eric Crane.

A's and B's: Ashley Blalock, Tabitha Brisendine, Tricia Goodman, Nancy Jeffery, Melissa Williamson Toby Crider, Josh Miller, Joshua Williamson.

ELEVENTH GRADE

A's and B's: Rene Brendle, Amy Izell, Kim McElhaney, Jennifer Smith, Kelly Spencer, Justin Baugh, Greg Wassom, Kenny Busby.

TWELFTH GRADE

ALL A's: Nikki Smith.

A's and B's: Summer Blansit, Amy Crane, Christy Ferguson, Mandora Hannah, Angela Hunt, Wendy Hyde, Carolina Lansbergen.



LTC Dolas Dale Bain and wife Dee
after taking command of Fort Parks in 1994

LOOK AT HIM NOW!!!!

By Dolas Bain

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, and a somewhat diminished threat, the U.S. Military forces began to do a thorough assessment of just how big and what kind of a military force did the U.S. need. A major base realignment and closure effort began closing military bases across the nation. Following Desert Storm, the U.S. Military Reserves were also being closely examined. The effect was a brand new idea. What if the U.S. Army Reserve could assume command and control of some of the Army posts being closed? The Reserves certainly did need the training space. The concept became a reality on October 1, 1994, when the new U.S. Army Reserve Command located in Atlanta, Ga., took control of first five, then four Army posts that were closing (two in California, one in Wisconsin, and one in Virginia.) Most of these installations were in very poor shape when it came to infrastructure. The Chief of the U.S. Army Reserve, knowing this, appointed U.S. Army engineer officers to assume the first commands. Their mission was to take control of these "training" areas, and commence rebuilding these broken systems.

After a four-year overseas tour writing war plans to defend the Berlin Wall, LTC Dolas Dale Bain was assigned as a U.S. Army Reserve Advisor to the Commanding General of the 5th Infantry Division at Fort Polk, La. Fort Polk was also undergoing reorganization and drawdown. The 5th Infantry Division was reorganized and moved to Fort Hood, Texas, as an armor division. The light infantry training agency, which had been set up at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, was relocated to Fort Polk. The "Joint Readiness Training Center" (JRTC) began to operate very successfully in 1993. LTC Bain was then transferred to the 80th Division (training) located in Richmond, Va. There, he became the Division Engineer

responsible for all Army Reserve facilities in the states of Virginia and West Virginia.

In the summer of 1994, LTC Dale Bain received a telephone call from the new U.S. Army Reserve Command in Atlanta. The Commanding General had selected him to become one of the first active Reserve Commanders of one of these four Reserve bases. He assumed command of Parks Reserve Forces Training Area (Camp Parks) located in Dublin, California, August 1, 1994. LTC Bain knew that his work was cut out for him after experiencing two devastating fires within the first two months, and repairing at least 40 major water-line breaks within a three-month period. Nevertheless, Dale set out to accomplish his mission. Within the first three years of this new endeavor, Camp Parks has been revitalized. Over 130 WWII buildings have been removed, 445 additional acres have been acquired for new training areas, and the remaining WWII buildings were renovated for barracks, dining facilities, and office space.

Additionally, environmental concerns have been cleaned up, roads have been resurfaced, and over \$100 million dollars of new construction is planned over the next 7 years.

Parks Reserve Forces Training Area, one only three Army training bases left in the state of California, is now a major training post for regional medical training, regional intelligence training, and a large active military occupational specialty training school. Parks is also utilized by several thousand Reserve Officer Training Cadets (ROTC) from local high schools and universities. In addition to Army tenants, Camp Parks also boasts as home to several other government agency operations (Federal Correction Institution, U.S. Air Force Satellite Tracking Station, U.S. Border Patrol, and a large NASA storage space.) LTC Dale Bain is definitely getting city manager experience. This might help him one day when he retires from the U.S. Army.

Dolas Dale Bain is the son of Dolas and Della Bain, who presently reside in Henagar. LTC Bain is a 1962 graduate of Valley Head High, a 1969 graduate of Lee College in Cleveland, TN, a post graduate student of Auburn University, and holds a masters degree from Century University in Albuquerque, NM. Dale and his wife, Diana (Dee) will return to Alabama to retire. Two daughters, with one grandson each, reside in Athens, TN, and Montgomery, AL. Dale says that the Army has really been good to him. Dee is also employed by the U.S. Government, and she, too, will retire, soon. Dale notes that he will fish and Dee will shop.

Dolas Dale was initially drafted into the Army in 1965, during Viet Nam. He completed basic combat training at Fort Jackson, SC, and was sent to Fort Meade, MD, for assignment with a military intelligence unit. This is where he met Dee, and they were married in 1966. After his discharge, Dale returned to Lee College to complete his bachelor degree, and later went to work for the Illinois Central Railroad. Having disliked the U.S. Army the first two years, Dale is still asking himself why he joined the Army Reserve again in 1970. He began to work full-time for the U.S. Army as a civilian, rose to the rank of major in the Reserves, and re-entered active duty in September 1985. LTC Dale Bain was selected for full colonel in 1995.

Dolas Dale has no idea where his next assignment might be, but, right now, he is trying to make one of the first Reserve installations ever conceived work, and work efficiently. Dee is also completing 25 years of government service working currently with the Social Security Office of Hearings and Appeals in San Jose, California. Dale and Dee try to visit Mentone at least once a year.

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HAPPY
Thanksgiving
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AND ALL**

A Salute To America's Veterans





Our lives are so busy we have not had time to travel this year, and my feet are itching to go. I've been reminiscing about the countries we have been privileged to visit, and it is nice to remember outstanding facts about each country. Paris, France, is a great, old city with beautiful old buildings. We arrived early in the morning when the sun was just tipping the tops of the stonework in the old buildings, and it was impressive.

We enjoyed the Louvre—greatest art gallery, or best known in the world. We were privileged to return on another tour and went through it again. There is too much art to be fully comprehended in many visits. The wonderful formal gardens at Versailles and Fontainebleau were so well laid out, it's hard to describe their beauty. The Arche D'triomphe and Eiffel Tower were awesome structures that we had read about and never expected to see.

The next year, we traveled to Rio de Janeiro, and that was an entirely different place—most picturesque with the tall rocky peaks on the coast surrounding the huge city. We stayed in an older hotel, which was furnished with antiques throughout, and had very good food in its restaurant. We took most of our meals there because of the convenience. A lively trio of musicians sang every evening in the dining room, and because we applauded, they would come to our table and sing to us. I'm not sure what type music they sang, but it was Latin American type. One night, they handed me the guitar, and I played with them! The most challenging event there was riding across the city in a cab. The drivers go at a reckless speed, blowing the horn, and ignoring traffic lights. They just blew a little louder if the light was red, and kept going. We rode a helicopter for a wonderful view of the entire city, and the pilots went around the huge statue of Christ the Redeemer for which Rio is famous. He tilted the machine so Homer could get a good video picture, and my stomach tilted with it—scared me speechless!

We enjoyed the lush tropics of Hawaii on our next jaunt. We got free plane tickets because we were routed out of the way, and had a layover in Buenos Aires when going to Brazil. It is wonderful to have the islands of Hawaii belong to us. Food was marvelous, but prices higher than most places. We toured all the five islands allowed to tourists. There is one for native Hawaiians only. I'm glad they keep it to themselves.

We had only been home two weeks when we went to Zimbabwe, Africa, with our friend, Zora Strayhorn. I guess this was the most interesting place we have visited. We stayed in the home of a most precious lady with whom Zora had been corresponding for fifteen years. Agnes Kanagria was a school teacher, and Zora started writing to her after hearing a missionary speak here. Zora would send crayons, papers, and other school supplies regularly to Agnes. Paper products are almost nil there, and they really appreciated the writing materials. We expected to rough it in a little hut out in the brush, but were guests of Agnes in a beautiful home with a cook, maid, gardener, and chauffeur to take us anywhere we wanted to go. I could write for hours about this trip. The most enjoyable thing to us was hearing the choir sing at the Methodist Church Agnes attended. We were there on Easter Sunday, and the music was wonderful. They came to the home of Agnes and sang for us the day before we returned home, so Homer could video tape it. And we went to Victoria Falls, one of the most beautiful in the world, larger than Niagara and higher.

We took a tour of Europe, arranged for us by Inez O'Rear with AAA Travel in Chattanooga, and were very privileged to see the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany. This is only presented every 10 years, and we might not be able to go in another 10 years. It was so well done, one lost track of time. We met one of the actors in his shop. The performances are all

just ordinary citizens of the town, which makes it interesting. We saw many countries of this tour, and our traveling companions were all lovely people.

We went with a missionary group to Barilache, Argentina, which is down in the lower part of the country, not far from the south pole. The town of Barilache is situated on a lake, and behind the lake is a part of the Andes Mountains. This is a ski resort town. We were there in November, and it was like our March—the ski season had just ended. The purpose of the trip was to help build a church. Homer worked every day on that job. The ladies would prepare food for their lunches, and take it to them.

We shopped for beautiful cashmere sweaters and leather coats, both of them reasonably priced. We saw much poverty outside the town where Chilean workers live in shacks. Most countries have very wealthy people and very needy people. I believe it is more evenly distributed in the United States, but we do have slums in most cities where poverty is always going to be with us.

We took a wonderful tour of Alaska two years ago, and saw Mt. McKinley, huge glaciers, the North Pole where Santa lives, and some of the prettiest flowers I have ever seen. Cabbage grow to huge size as does everything. The soil is good, and in summer they have 20 hours of sunshine some days. It is truly the last frontier. I hope we return and ride the train to see different sites.

Last year, we toured China—and what a fascinating experience that was. We had the best hotels we have had anywhere, and were amazed at the beauty of the countryside. Of course, we saw The Great Wall, a major wonder of the world. We toured a silk factory, a tea plantation where we were formally served green tea; a cloisonne factory where we saw beautiful girls putting tiny pieces of porcelain patterns on brass vases and other art objects; we went to a pearl plant and saw where the pearls are harvested and made into strands; we saw jade plants where very expensive figurines are carved from this precious stone. We saw beautifully carved Buddhist temples; the clay soldiers; cruised the river, and the great canal. One of the fascinating things we saw was just hordes of people riding bicycles. This is the main form of transportation. The mass of people going to work looked like the waves on the ocean.

Now, we hope to go to India and Hong Kong, but we have sold our house, and are in the process of moving into the John and Mickey Cooper home, which isn't far from our present place. I said when we moved the last time that I was not going to do it again, but I've eaten my words before. We hope to be in the Cooper house by December 1. I need a signed contract that we will not move again!

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Flower show top awards announced

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Linda Brown, Secretary, instructs Clerks, Barbara Blalock, Ann G. Houston, Linda McCurdy, Flo Kirby (hospitality chairman for the judges), Virginia Ellis, and Mary Ethridge prior to arrival of flower show judges



Ann Wright, General Flower Show Chairman, and Ann S. Houston, Treasurer, waiting for flower show judges



Lori Stubbs, winner of the Award of Distinction for her dried design entitled, "Beauty of Yesteryear."

Annette Orr, president of DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs, announced the following winners of top awards at the Annual Fall Flower Show, *Nature's Celebration*, held in conjunction with the VFW DeKalb County Agricultural Fair.

The Rhododendron Garden Club won the Creativity Award for its garden club design entitled "Olympic Fever." Barbara Blalock created the design.

Winner of the Tricolor Award, with her design entitled "Delicate Artistry," was Sybil Burks of Birmingham. Ms. Burks is a member of the West End Garden Club and a master judge.

The Award of Distinction went to Lori Stubbs, of the Ider Garden Club, for her dried flower design entitled "Beauty of Yesteryear."

The Petite Award, "Tiny Keepsakes," was won by Flora Duncan of the Rainsville Garden Club.

Fort Payne Garden Club won the Educational Award for its booth, "Networking with the Birds."

Winners of the five Awards of Merit (best specimen in a section) are: Travis Smith, Pink Hybrid Tea Rose; Paula Nance, Cactus Flowered Dahlia; Wilborn Giles, Pink Celosia-Crested; Ann Wright, Medium-Hosta; Mary Shankles, African Violet.

Hats off to Ann Wright, general flower show chairman, Linda Brown, secretary, all the committee chairmen, the judges, the VFW, and others who worked and participated in any way.

We were delighted to have three flower show judges compete in our show this year: Joyce Bollinger, Greenlawn Garden Club, Albertville, and Sylvia Potts, and Sybil Burks, West End Garden Club, Birmingham. And yes, they won some ribbons!

A special thank you to Bill Wright, Bobby Brown, John Shippey, and the VFW for their help in building displays.



Flora Duncan of the Rainsville Garden Club, won the Petite Award, entitled, "Tiny Keepsakes."



Barbara Blalock, Rhododendron Garden Club, won the Creativity Award for her garden club design entitled, "Olympic Fever."



Sybil Burks, of Birmingham, was the winner of the Tricolor Award, entitled "Delicate Artistry." Burks is a member of the West End Garden Club and a master judge.

Flower show committee chairmen are: General Flower Show Chairman, Ann Wright; awards, Ann Houston; clerks, Linda Brown; hospitality, Flo Kirby; Judges, Ann Houston; photography, Barbara Blalock; placards, Peggy Benefield; placement-horticulture, Pat Shippey, Sarah Kilgore and Aubie Dean; placement-design, Linda McCurdy and Lois Fuller; properties, Pat Shippey; publicity, Reita Grant; schedule, Reita Grant and Peggy Benefield; staging, Pat

Shippey; special exhibits, junior division, Aubie Dean; education, Virginia Ellis.

The DeKalb County Federation of Garden Clubs is comprised of seven garden clubs: Azalea, Mountain Laurel, Fort Payne, Rhododendron, Ider, Rainsville, and Flowering Dogwood. The Federation is a member of The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc. District II, Deep South Region, and National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.



Howard Carson and Jimmy Wright at the American Legion Booth. At 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20, Justin Scott drew the winning ticket for the \$100 bill -Shirley Green of Nashville.



Bobby and Sue Freeman and Captain Richard Douthat of the DeSoto Rescue Squad



Three booths at the Colorfest



Virginia Wright picked up the maple leaf design, queen-size quilt, she won at the October Colorfest

MESSAGE FROM MICKEY AND SHERMAN GOUGH

Virginia Wright of Ft. Payne was the lucky winner of the quilt given away at the Rhododendron Festival. The quilt, a queen size in the maple leaf design, was raffled off at 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 20. The winning number was picked out by the 1996 Rhododendron Queen, Crystal Whitmire. Virginia was not present at the drawing, but came by the Hitching Post to pick up her quilt. She is shown in the picture above. We want to thank Lola Mae Blalock for the lovely quilt and all the people who supported the raffle.



1996 COLORFEST

1996 Groundhog



Overall
Men: Carl Nicholson, Huntsville, 1st place, 26:56; Lee Howard, 3rd place, 31:47. place, 27:08; Athena Naugher, 2nd, 29:56. Carl Nicholson and Joan Howard each won a plaque and a trophy. All other winners from Huntsville said that he first heard the groundhog. It was his first time to run in the race. He won last year and again this year.



1996 Winner

MALE: 1st, 2nd,

14 & under : Chris Bearden,

15-19: Ken Miller

20-29: Jeff Garbelman, Adam

30-39: Lee Howard, Paul Dav

40-50: Carl Nicholson, Medfo

50+: Ted Hegenbarth, Ralph

FEMALE:

14 & under: Breanna Morris

15-19: Tinesha Pace

20-29: Joan Howard, Lydia

30-39: Millie Lochley, Becky

40-50: Athena Naugher, Kath

50+: Nancy Susan Adams, V



Two of the entertainment groups who performed on Sunday, Oct. 20: De-so-toe Squares and New Generation Dancers

ST PICTURES

Classic Run Winners



Roland Walls, WZOB Radio



Jo Beube and Donna Bares registering runners



Colorfest 1996

By Bernise Crow

The Colorfest was well attended and much praise goes to Penny Lyday and co-workers for making it a huge success. Many visitors still complain that the festivities are held at Brow Park instead of the square, but we make it as good as possible.

Many thanks to Jo Beube and Donna and John Bares for handling the Groundhog Classic Run. It was well done. Our sweatshirts, given to the runners, and those who pay \$50 to sponsor the fun, were very pretty in white with orange lettering. Doreen Waters got these done in Ft Payne. We have some left to sell at the Hitching Post.

Jerry and Doreen Waters and Jerry's mother, Joyce Waters, arranged for plenty of good entertainment. Jim Connor, banjo player, playwright, song writer, and singer was our star performer. We are always glad to have him. The Cataco Band from Summerville, AL, did music for the ghost story session on Friday night at the bonfire. We thank Frances Waller for her hospitality in giving us the use of her lot for this fun time with the children. We all had a good time. Most of us are children at heart. The old witch made her annual appearance running around the bonfire and making weird noises while passing out candy from a wicked looking black pot.

Jack Jones arranged an interesting parade with Pat Shippey and Patty Tucker as grand marshals. Our own 1996 Rhododendron Queen, Crystal Whitmire, also decorated the scene with her loveliness, while riding in a convertible.

Lane Traylor gave a good performance calling the square dance at the pavilion, and auctioning some cakes left over from the cake walk.

The weather was just right, a bit nippy, but clear and beautiful. Our colors were at their peak, and we had one of the biggest crowds we have had, thanks to Chuck Peters' good publicity announcements sent to media in all surrounding areas.



1996 Fun Run Winners

The Fun Run winners were: Kelly Bearden, 1st place, 8:45; Chrissie Frazier, 2nd place, 9:47; Kara Miller, 3rd place, 9:57; Freddie Bryson, 4th place, 9:58; Adela Molano, 11:27; Tammy Bearden, 6th place, 11:28; Mildred Cochran (80 years old), 7th place, 12:05; Claudis Hawkins (89 years old), 8th place, 12:47.

Front: Kara Miller, 2nd row: Freddie Bryson, Adela Molano, Chrissie Frazier, Mildred Cochran, Kelly Bearden; 3rd row: Claudis Hawkins and Tammy Bearden



Breanna Morrison, age 6, Gary Morrison, Teresa Morrison and Tinesha Pace, age 16, all ran in this year's race and are pictured by their van as they get ready to return to Leesburg.

in each Class
respectively
h Miller, John Hunt

rgan, Daniel Collins
eith Lemon
organ, Mike Bearden
les, Lewis G. Spurgin

(years old)

n, Pam Morgan
nhall, Myla Brosman
l, Becky Maples
Bearden





SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Sue and I have just returned home to Mentone after a marvelous five-week trip out west. Our end objective, of course, was to visit daughter Janet and hubby Bob in Beaverton, Oregon. Had a great time there; they're so easy to visit and make the time spent there just fly by.

Our drive out to Oregon and back to Mentone from Oregon was filled with the most wonderful sights. We saw the Bad Lands, Black Hills of S.D., Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument, Devils Tower, Wyoming, and Glacier National Park. Oh, my, this country of ours is vast and filled with visual delights! A lot of the wonders have nothing to do with National Parks, or monuments, or historic sites, they are small towns, fields of grain, endless vistas on the great plains, miles of corn just beginning to ripen, and my favorite of all sights...sunflowers (grown commercially for their seeds, oil and food value) by the mile. Just imagine mile upon mile of brilliant yellow flowers. Those are sights you don't get along the interstate highways, those visual delights occur when you get off the big slab and head down some two lane roads that wander from farm-to-farm and from town-to-town.

One of the great things about small towns is the signs on stores and other places of commerce. Folks in small places seem to have really keen senses of humor. Maybe the signs are in the big cities, too, but we're both too busy watching traffic and direction signs to spare ten seconds to look around. Sue and I really got into store signs on this trip.

In Illinois, there was a junk furniture store that advertised "Anteaks." And, in a small town bordering the Mississippi River, there was a tavern that called itself, "The Straight Home Bar and Grill." Can't you imagine the workers when they leave saying, "I'm going straight home." In Mozier, Ill., there was a grocery called "Short Stop." Somewhere in Iowa, there was the "L & M Kwik Stop and Post Office." Also, further on in Iowa, there in Attica was the "Kin folk Eatin' Place." Iowa had its full share of startling sights, for at one point along a highway, there was a hitchhiker with a very fancy back-pack talking on his cellular phone while thumbing a ride. There must have been a story somewhere.

In South Dakota, there were two signs at the same intersection pointing down the same road that would make one wonder. "Springfield Recreation Area" and right below it "Springfield State Correctional Facility."

In Ravina, SD, there was "The Mule Lip Tavern," while in Winner, SD, we found "The Flat Out Farm Tire Service," and "Git-Go" service station.

In 44-Corners, Wyoming, I told you we hit some pretty small towns, but this, I think, was the smallest. There was a single crossroads (a turn and highway change for us) and two buildings—one of which proclaimed itself to be "4-Corners Inn, Diner, and Post Office."

Bynum, Montana, had "Katie's Wildlife Sanctuary," the town's only bar.

Gaston, Oregon, had "Ralph's Pretty Good Grocery"; and Conway, Arkansas, boasted "Toad Suck Park." Sue and I are still wondering what the last one means. There has just got to be a good story for that name. Maybe next time out, we'll stop and chase down that story.

In Wallace, Idaho, there is a motel named "Mollie B. Damm Motel." Now, oddly enough, I do understand that one. That area of Idaho is quite mountainous, and there are lots of ore mines around. One of the ores extracted in the area contains molybdenum, a metallic element. The local miners, years ago when the ore was first found, had trouble saying the word, so they called it molly-be-damm. Actually, the word is pronounced mo-lib-den-um.

Portland and Beaverton, Oregon, are dotted with small and large coffee shops, which serve espresso and latte. It seems that every business in the area can turn out a cup of hot, steamy latte. Here are some of the shops devoted exclusively to coffee, and some which have latte as a side-line. "Jitters" - a coffee shop, "Dailey Grind" - coffee shop, "Bean-Me-Up", "Coffee People", "Coffee Connection", "Dry Cleaners, Espresso, Car Wash and Deli", "Oil Change and Espresso."

At a former service station, the new owners had left the covered gas-pump islands, and turned them into outdoors sitting areas. It advertised itself as "Motor Moka-Coffee". It also said it was a "People Park", and a marquee out front proclaimed "Days of our Lattes."

A white-water rafting business in Moab, Utah, operated under the name "Blazing Paddles."

Aren't small towns great! I guess that's why I like Mentone and Mentone's people...they're great. Thanks for your time folks, it's really nice to talk to you once a month. See you next month.

DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD

By Janice Mills Parker, Public Relations Director
DeSoto Rescue Squad and DeKalb Co. Association of
Rescue Squads

On October 19th, the 14th Annual 5K Groundhog Run was held. Participants, who ranged from the elderly to the very young, ran in a 1-mile and a 4-1/2-mile run to the finish. We wish to congratulate each of you for a race well run and the determination you showed in doing so. DeSoto Rescue Squad was on hand to follow those in the race in case of an emergency.

On Sunday, October 20th, members performed blood pressure checks and sold cookbooks. We thank those who contributed to the squad.

We know how easy it is to put aside thoughts of an emergency until it happens. However, today, we ask that you take time to consider the possibility of that need arising, or to reflect on a moment when that need has been there in the past. What difference would it make should Desoto Rescue Squad not be available?

Think of the rescue squad members who have been at your side or who may be there, should you call--the many wrecks that have been worked, emergency sick calls, extreme weather days and nights, and other ways in which these volunteers have assisted those in need. These volunteers are your family, friends, and neighbors--those individuals who would hope that they would never receive an emergency call about you.

We ask that you also consider what it takes for these volunteers to be there when that call goes out. DeSoto Rescue Squad cannot exist without your financial support, through contributions and participation in our fundraisers. Consider the insurance involved, need for vehicles and maintenance, equipment, supplies and communication needs.

Again, we thank each of you who have showed your support in the past, and we encourage each of our community members to support us in the future, so that we may be there to support you.

For those who may have an emergency in the future, please contact 911. 911 will dispatch DeSoto Rescue Squad to those calls in our area of coverage.



I have tried two recipes that I gathered in a recent visit to my parents in Oakland, MD, and our friends in Knoxville, TN. The first is a recipe for baked onion rings, one of my favorites. When I realized that an order of fried onion rings (that's eleven rings) has 900 calories and 63 grams of fat, I was excited to find a recipe for baked ones in *Prevention Magazine*. I've tried them, and they are tasty and easy. The second is another of Dean Breasseale's. (I tell you, that man can cook!) He had a heart transplant almost three years ago, and has really learned to cook tasty dishes that are low fat.

Baked Onion Rings

Dip 1/4" sliced sweet onions in beaten egg white and dredge in seasoned bread crumbs or cornflake crumbs mixed with chili powder to taste. Then, bake coated rings on a baking sheet that has been lightly sprayed with cooking spray. Bake at 375° for 15 minutes or until brown and crispy.

Country Chicken - serves 4

4 large chicken breasts, boneless and skinless
or chicken thighs (2 per person)

salt & pepper

1/2 C flour

1/4 C olive oil

2 medium carrots diced

1 large red pepper, cored and cut into strips

1 large green pepper, peeled and cut into strips

1 large yellow onion peeled and cut into strips

6 large mushrooms, sliced

12 green olives, sliced

1 t capers (optional)

1-28 oz can diced tomatoes, drained

1-1/2 t dried rosemary

1/4 C dry white wine (optional)

Season chicken lightly with salt and pepper and coat with flour. Heat a large skillet and add 1/2 of the oil. Brown chicken on both sides and remove to roasting pan, leaving oil in pan. Add carrots to skillet and saute 3 minutes, then add pepper and onions, and saute until onions are translucent. Spread vegetables on top of chicken in roasting pan. Reheat the skillet and add the remaining oil. Add mushrooms, olives, capers, and tomatoes, and cook 5 minutes. Add rosemary and wine (or, if not using wine, a 1/4 C of water or chicken broth). Cover and bake at 350° for 20 minutes. Uncover and bake 15 minutes more.

Happy Thanksgiving

MOON LAKE SCHOOL NEWS

By Evelyn Graves

The next holiday is Veterans Day on November 11, which follows the Veterans Day program of the previous Monday morning honoring local veterans with two choral readings by sixth graders, a patriotic song by first graders, a speech by Col. David Hartline, and a breakfast.

On November 14, report cards will be sent home for the second six weeks' grading period.

On the 12th of November, the next PTO meeting will be held in the school cafeteria.

Thanksgiving holidays will begin November 27 for a five-day weekend.

Boy Scouts Adam Blalock and Ryan Drake continue working toward completion of their Eagle projects and the butterfly garden area, with the support of many talented and generous local citizens and the tireless efforts of Moon Lake School students and teachers.

Basketball is underway with three teams of players, coached by Dudley Easler, Eric Kirby, and Allen Crow. 16 cheerleaders are directed by Coaches Cindy Harrison and Becky Easler. Home games this year will be November 30 against Fyffe, December 7 against Plainview, December 14 vs. Plainview, December 21 vs. Ider. Ball games begin at 9 AM in the school gym. The concession stand is being run this year by the Moon Lake Athletic Club who will use profits toward club projects.

Carol Hazell reports that the Harvest Festival was quite successful. There was an excellent crowd, and a nice, relaxed, warm atmosphere. Everyone had a good time. First place in the King and Queen contest went to Angel Wesley in 2nd grade, and the total was \$2515.18. Second place went to Vance Carden and Megan Smith from Kindergarten, for a total of \$2303.85. Third place winners were Joshua Hughes and Kerri McMunn from sixth grade, for a total of \$2295.55. The grand total for the festival was \$9,729.84, which was slightly short of the goal of \$10,000.00.

MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY A and B HONOR ROLL FIRST SIX WEEKS

FIRST GRADE - MRS. ROBERTS

No grades were given this six weeks.

SECOND GRADE - MRS. BARKLEY

ALL A's

Mark Corey, Alex Hazell,
Katie Herndon, and Justin Smith
A's and B's

Barnabas Bettis, Logan Chambers, Melissa Crane,
Erica Cryer, Michael Hawkins, Julie Ingram,
Whitney LaBuda, and Angel Wesley
THIRD GRADE - MRS. HUGHES

ALL A's

Jared Bare, John Baxter, Katie Gray,
Lori Hope, Marie Hunt, Sarah Hurt,
Brandy Manning, Kellye Phillips, and Emily Tipton
A's and B's

Laura Floyd, Melissa Harrison, Kirby McMunn,
Josh Rogers, Emily Swindall, Cayla Voils,
Phillip Waller, James Wells, and Jason Willis.

FOURTH GRADE - MRS. TROXTEL

ALL A's

Kristen Addison, Erica Campbell, Matthew Hawkins,
Amanda Johnson, Andrew McCole, and Kelly Wright
A's and B's

Rachel Bryan, Ashley Clark, Paul Davis, Sarah Dodd,
Nick Floyd, Catrina Ingram, Jessica Meadows,
Keith Miller, and Josh Smith

FIFTH GRADE - MRS. SMITH

A's and B's

Emmy Corey, Kyle Hooks, Ashley McSpadden
SIXTH GRADE - MRS. FROST

ALL A's

Tiffany Bare, Stuart Hurt,
Kerri McMunn, and Kiley Young
A's and B's

Tessa Collett, Justin Dingler, Beth Easler,
Joshua Hughes, Corey Kirby, Natasha Moreland,
Kelly Owen and J.R. Patterson



Angel Wesley,
1996 Moon Lake Elementary School
Harvest Festival Queen

1996 Festival Report

By Marie Dillenbeck

The students, parents, and teachers worked especially hard to make this year's festival a fun-filled success. Second grader, Angel Wesley, was this year's Harvest Festival Queen, with a total of \$2,515.18. Kindergarteners, Vance Carden and Megan Smith, won second place by bringing in \$2,303.85. Sixth graders, Joshua Hughes and Kerri McMunn came in third place with a total of \$2,295.55. Other totals were: fourth place - Third Grade - \$872.68; fifth place - 5th grade - \$618.14; sixth place - First Grade - \$436.24. It was announced on Saturday night at the close of the festival that they had made \$9,529.84. After tabulating other amounts, the total came to \$9,729.84.

At 8:30, they closed all the booths and began the drawings for which donations had been made. The Kindergarten Class \$100 bill went to Matthew Hawkins, age 10. The First Grade Christmas Around the World items went to Sally Wheat. The items in the Second Grade were won as follows: camouflage coat by Chrissy Frazier, Sonic Boom Box by Matthew Hawkins; 40 channel CB radio, by John Corey; 12-channel car stereo super box by Johnathan Browder, a car stereo by Mary Cuzzart; and \$100 bill to Jeff Gregory. The third grade, the music box went to Rhonda Williams and the \$100 bill to Donald McSpadden; Fourth grade, the earrings to J. Blalock; Fifth grade, the birdhouse to Lisa Sword; and Sixth grade, the warm blanket to Donnie Spence.

They had many booths to entertain the happy crowd that attended this year's festivities. Chances on many prizes were sold. Their annual cake walk was a big success, too. You missed a good chance to participate in the get-out-of-jail area, if you didn't attend.

This year, the hamburgers, hotdogs, and other food items were sold from the new cafeteria, allowing more room for the fun and games.

The purpose of the festival is to raise monies to fund several projects. Everyone works many long hours and days to make it a success. In next month's issue, there will be a report as to where the proceeds are applied.

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November 1996 / The Groundhog/Page 15

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CLOUDLAND - Cedar log home with rock foundation, small acreage lot with frontage on East Fork of Little River, 3 BDRMS, 4-1/2 baths, large LR with stone fireplace, playroom with fireplace and wet bar, adjoining workshop, unfinished attic (for storage or expansion), 2 car garage, CMA. Too many amenities to mention. \$182,000.

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FOR THE BIRDS



THE BLUEBIRD TRAIL

By Ray Goggans

Simply stated, the bluebird trail is a method of keeping track of the bluebird, by mounting a series of bluebird nest boxes on fence posts or free-standing posts that are about 100 yards apart in open country where there's low ground cover and scattered trees, and by inspecting the boxes on a regular basis. The Bluebird Recovery Program recommends that inspection intervals should be approximately every two weeks starting at about mid-march. The first round, of course, would be to determine if nesting has started and to be sure it's a bluebird occupying the nesting box, not a house wren--which is the bluebird's worst enemy. You can tell it's a wren nest by the large sticks almost to the top of the box. Naturally, you need to destroy the nest at once. Also, the reason they recommend open spaces for the box is the closer to the woods, the more prevalent the house wren. The next inspection is the egg count (eggs should be light blue but sometimes white); then the count of hatchlings; then the fledging (acquiring feathers necessary for flight). After the fledging, the used nest should be removed as quickly as possible. Another family of bluebirds may nest in the box. All this information, which should be very gratifying to bluebird lovers, needs to be kept on a "Bluebird Report Form." Keeping "score" by using the recommended forms is a great way to maintain a running count of the bluebirds comeback.

As you might have expected, this little fellow almost became extinct, the pasture fence post where they almost always nested gave way to urban sprawl; and, if that wasn't enough, the proliferating of the house wren all but did them in. Raising blue birds is a very satisfying springtime activity. I have thirty boxes ready and hope, if time permits, to have at least fifty by the spring season. I strongly recommend that, if you have any open spaces, consider a bluebird trail. If you do not have open spaces, just a box or two in the backyard is fine. Any one who has ever heard the song of the bluebird will want to help them come back.

Editor's note: Although this article is a little early for bluebirds to be arriving, it's just in time for bluebird lovers to begin constructing several nesting boxes in preparation of the bluebirds' return. If you would like to know more about bluebirds, please write to The Groundhog, P.O. Box 387, attention Marie Dillenbeck, Mentone, AL 35984. If you would like to submit an article on birds, The Groundhog would like to make this "For The Birds" column a regular. Mr. Ray Goggans of Fort Payne, loves bluebirds and is working hard to get ready for the spring when the bluebirds return. It is from his material that the bluebird information will be provided. Mentone is a bird sanctuary, and this could be an important method of providing information to bird lovers.

NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

By Gail Chambers

The North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District (NLMFPD) Volunteer Fire Dept. in Mentone would like to thank everyone who participated or worked at the food booth at the October Colorfest this year. Over \$1,600.00 was raised by selling Bar-B-Q plates, sandwiches, and hot dogs. It was a lot of hard work, but worth it. The funds raised will be used toward getting the final preparations done to get the Rapid Responder Fire Truck in operational order.

A 50's Dance was held on October 26, at the Promenade Hall in Valley Head. Attendance was low, but everybody who attended had a good time. "Rockin' Rod," D.J. from WFPA Radio Station, was in charge of the music. Dance, Best 50's Dress, and Hula Hoop contests were held. Many door prizes were given away. Joy and "Cotton" Hester won the main door prize--a "rowing machine" exerciser. Congratulations to all our winners. The Volunteer Fire Department would like to say "THANK YOU" to all the merchants who donated items to be used as door prizes.

Ground has been broken and the footing for the foundation has been poured for the addition to the Fire Hall. The Dept. is hoping to get this finished before the weather starts to get bad. This addition will house the Rapid Responder Truck. The Volunteers responded to several woods fires during the month of October. Fire Chief, Jim Roberts, reports that the new leaf blowers that were purchased this year made the job of containing these fires much easier. Thanks to the community for the donations that made this possible.

The Fire Dept., along with many of you, are still feeling the loss of a dear and special friend in the passing of Dr. Pat Seymour. "Dr. Pat," as most of us called her, touched many lives in this community and the surrounding areas. Dr. Pat was very generous to the Fire Dept. through her donations, ideas, and advice. I, personally, trusted and welcomed any advice she was willing to give. I hope she knew this, and somehow I feel she did. I'll always remember the first time that I formally met Dr. Pat. It was close to Christmas and I had my outside Christmas lights on the house. A little blue truck came driving up into my front yard not 5 feet from my front door. This little lady came in and introduced herself and wanted to know what was for supper. We made our introductions, and she proceeded to tell me how she had admired my Christmas lights. We thanked her and invited her to stay, but she had to go. "Things to do, places to go, and more people to see," she said. With that, she was gone as quickly as she came. This was the start of a friendship between Dr. Pat and our family that meant a lot to us. Dr. Pat was a special lady. She went beyond the call of duty when it came to helping others. We will certainly miss the kind words of encouragement, the cards and phone calls, and most of all, that smiling face and quick wit. Dr. Pat did not want us to know how sick she really was. She wanted no attention aimed at herself. Dr. Pat did a lot for people, but it would not all have been possible without her dear friend, Marie. Marie, God bless you for all you did for Dr. Pat and are still doing for our town. Thank you for all your participation in the Fire Dept.

If you would like to make a donation to the Vol. Fire Dept. (especially to the building fund for the addition), make checks payable to NLMFPD, P.O. Box 154, Mentone, AL 35984. All donations are appreciated.



DEKALB EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The DeKalb Educational Foundation is new in our county. It is a partnership of parents, educators, civic groups, businesses/industries, DeKalb County

citizens, and the Alabama Power Foundation. The purpose is explained by the mission statement: The DeKalb Educational Foundation sponsors projects and programs that are designed to encourage, support, and enhance learning opportunities for students. This is to be accomplished by raising funds and awarding them to teachers for projects that are not funded by normal school budgets.

Our parents and our communities are being forced to become more active in helping our schools because state and Federal funding are not able to meet their growing needs. We all realize that the school children of today are the decision makers and leaders of tomorrow. They must understand the changing world, and, yet, continue to maintain the values they have learned from church, parents, and teachers. Education takes many forms; and, if we want our youth prepared, we must be willing to do our part. For many years, we have demanded that our teachers take total responsibility for our children's education, and they have done their best. That is not a solution. It has been proven that, when parents are interested and involved, their children reap the benefits. It is also obvious that teachers need our financial help, as well as our encouragement. The DeKalb Educational Foundation will be able to link our schools with available resources in order for teachers to be able to concentrate on teaching. Many times, teachers must raise the funds for a special book or film to create the interest that keeps students anxious to learn.

Through local donations and contributions matched by the Alabama Power Foundation, the DeKalb Educational Foundation will make funds available to education professionals, through an application process, to help pay for worthwhile projects and activities such as: field trips, special teaching materials, classroom equipment, cultural enrichment, teacher mini grants.

The DeKalb Educational Foundation, along with our help, can make a significant, long-term contribution to the quality of local education. The Foundation is managed by a board of directors and is completely separate from local boards of education. Investing in education allows us to invest in our future. If you are interested in becoming involved, you are invited to contact a board member. Help is needed in every community in DeKalb County. Whether you donate your time or your money, the success of the Foundation depends on the excitement and energy of DeKalb County. The Foundation is a 501C-3 Corporation, so donations are tax deductible. Because interest and involvement are as important as funds, donation levels will begin at \$5.00 and go up.

The Board of Directors for the DeKalb Educational Foundation are: Ronnie Campbell-President, Susan Barton-Vice President, Rita Adrian-Secretary, Bill Berry-Treasurer, Karen Albrecht-Director, Teresa Hill-Director, Karen McGee-Director, and Gelane Nelson-Director.

A lighthouse is the symbol of the organization and reminds everyone of the need to brighten the path of our students. For more information, or if you would like a speaker for a civic group, call 845-8575.

Happy Thanksgiving



A Friendly Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

The ghosts and goblins, witches, and "cheer leaders" had a hilarious time at the Halloween party in Valley Head and the hay ride. The little "trick or treaters" enjoyed going from house to house collecting loads of goodies.

The Sunshine Club met Oct. 24, at the home of Lillie Bowden. Lillie presided, Ruth Pickett gave the Secretary-Treasurer's reports. I gave the devotional and read a poem. Others present were Violet Barker, Gladys Cobble, Billie Harper, Elizabeth Bauerle, Anna Daniel, Glenda Savage, Evelyn Clark, Verence Hawkins, Sue Clark, Jewel Palmer, Ruth Pickett, and Jean Jones. Billie Harper showed some clever things she had made. The next meeting will be at the home of Glenda Savage, Nov. 21, at 2 p.m.

Sadie Cooper, Ruth Pickett, Lillie Bowden, and Ruth and Robert Hammon, joined a group from Fort Payne on a Julene Tour to the Color Cruise Sat., Oct. 26. They rode the Southern Belle to Ross' Landing from Shellmound and boarded the bus to the Cracker Barrel for a good dinner on the way home.

Sadie Cooper joined at least 25 other relatives at the home of her uncle Melvin Smith at Ider, on Oct. 19, to celebrate his 91st Birthday. He still makes a garden and cans. Congratulations, and many more healthy, happy birthdays!

Ruth, Bert and Billie Pickett, and Betty Bracken enjoyed the beautiful foliage on a trip to Dunlap and Tracy City. They reported all the surrounding country and apple orchards were so beautiful. They also enjoyed a picnic lunch in the park at Tracy City.

Nell Brown is at home in Henagar after surgery at BMC-DeKalb, and so is Amy Holleman in Valley Head. We hope they will be completely well, and all the others who are ill.

Katherine Crumbley suffered a broken ankle about three weeks ago. She is slowly improving--has part of the cast off, now.

Laura Margaret Allison is recovering at home after a few days at BMC-DeKalb. She suffered a fall at her home. Her children, Peachie Cearley, from Irvine, CA; Ansley McGinnis, from Florence, SC; and Tommy Allison, from Asheville, NC, have been with her.

Robert Hawkins from Brewton, AL, spent several days with his parents, Geraldine and Howard Hawkins.

Ruth, Bert, Billie and Lillian and Jo Pickett went to Dallas, GA, on Oct. 20, for their annual family reunion at Pickett's Mill. There were about one hundred relatives present. They enjoyed reminiscing and comparing genealogy notes.

Gertrude Tatum Landers, age 90, died Oct. 18, at her home in Chattanooga, and was buried in Valley Head Cemetery. She lived in Valley Head years ago. She will be remembered here as Mrs. Arthur Tatum. She has several relatives here.

Venna Livingston has had lots of visitors, recently. Her granddaughter, Carmen Mosley, and friend, James Reed, from University of Alabama, came by and ate with her on their way to the Tennessee-Alabama game, also, on their way back, they were joined by Marilyn and Jamie Mercer. Venna's brother, Woodrow Young and his wife, Lois, from Gadsden and their granddaughter, Michel Robertson, from Fort Payne, spent one day with her. On Monday, her niece, Audene Walker from Marietta, GA, brought her mother (Venna's sister) Zula Waddell, who spent the night. Then, Venna took her home to Guin and spent the night with her niece, Marcy Norwood. All the animals in the neighborhood like to visit Venna every chance they get. She never knows when she opens her back door what will be on her door step--a cow, a donkey, a little goat, a little black pig, or what? She has a good watchdog, Buddy, who usually escorts them home.

Emily and Barry Brown, and I, met my cousins, Bill and Blanche Fuller at the Cabbage Bowl at Ider for a delicious lunch on Sun., Nov. 3. We spent the rest of the day with Emily

and Barry, who gave us a tour of his woods and lakes in his gully-jumping, hill-climbing vehicle. The view was beautiful--especially as the sun was setting and brightening the colors on the mountainside.

A mother found this composition in her 16-year-old son's belongings after he had been accidentally shot and killed:

"Every morning you are handed 24 golden hours. They are one of the few things in this world that you get free of charge. If you had all the money in the world, you couldn't buy an extra hour. What will you do with this priceless treasure? Remember, you must use it, as it is given only once. Once wasted, you cannot get it back."

How true! And how fast it flies away! Everyone have a Happy Thanksgiving and be sufficiently grateful for every blessing, and show and express appreciation.



Harvest Time

Stalks are standing stark and bare,
Shivering in the Autumn air,
Corn is amply gathered in
to the crib and waiting bin.

Squirrels scamper in and out,
Gathering nuts all about,
birds and bees are busy too,
Doing things they need to do.

Stored are vegetables and fruits,
Popcorn, peanuts and other roots,
Fuel to keep us cozy warm,
House secure from outer harm.

From the right and proper seeds,
Come the crops to fill our needs,
Time of harvest, time to reap,
Fruits of labor, just and sweet.

Time to gather family and friends
Time for loving, make amends,
Time for feasting, time to share
All our blessings from God's care.

Time to say, "We thank you, God
For all gifts from sky and sod,
For all good and lovely things
Everything the harvest brings."

Time to pray for wisdom, too,
To use wisely, as is due,
All we receive, to insure,
Bountiful harvest time each year.

---Eloise Brown



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Woodmen of the World, Lodge 436



Ovie Blalock presents awards to one of winning teams. L/R: Kevin Smith, Jimmy Blalock, Jeff Holleman, Leslie Blalock



Left: National President John G. Bookout at podium; James Suttles, owner of Suttles Trucking Co. in Demopolis; Right, Ovie Blalock, Alabama Jurisdictional President



Woodmen of the World, Lodge 436 members construct booth for DeKalb County VFW Fair

Woodmen of the World, Lodge 436 Annual Picnic in August at Lodge Hall in Valley Head. Food, games, and prizes were enjoyed by all.



Melissa Miller and Larry Hopper



DISASTER WATER RELIEF TANKER

26 members from Lodge 436 attended Southeastern Regional Convention in Huntsville, Sept. 20. Alabama Woodmen have bought a trailer to be used to haul fresh water to people in disaster areas. It was used the first time to take water to North Carolina when Hurricane Fran hit. Truck and driver are provided; by Woodmen members James Suttles of Suttles Trucking Co., in Demopolis. Disaster trailer was dedicated and Suttles was presented "Citizen of the Year" award.

Woodmen of the World, Lodge 436 Annual "Make-a-Wish" Golf Tournament

Woodmen of the World, Lodge 436 appreciates the help we receive with our annual "Make-a-Wish" Golf tournament. The golfers who cheerfully give of their time and money to play for a good cause, the businesses that donate money to sponsor a hole, or give food and drinks for the concession. Thanks to all who help in any way.

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(1) **COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS FINEST** is what you will find in this completely furnished 2 bedroom 2 bath home with CHIA. guest room/office, 24x30 workshop with 1/2 bath which would make a nice apartment. 1 car garage with carport. 1,200 sq. ft. of screened and open porches, landscaped drive. All on 6.8 acres completely fenced. \$110,900.



(2) **WALK TO MENTONE** - from this darling cottage, located on Huckleberry Lane. Features 2 bdrm, 1 bath, large Deck on back, porch on front. New Carpet, Vinyl and central H/A unit. Across from brow but close enough to watch the sunset. New appliances in Kitchen stay, and W/D. Priced \$69,500.



(3) **DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE AND FUN WITH TWO HOMES IN ONE.** Just a stones throw from Lake Lahusage with access to water. This 2 story home has new carpet and vinyl. Ideal for the Large family Vacation Home. 2 fully equipped kitchens, 2 dens, 2 bedrooms, 21x31 Alabama room, and 2 car garage. 1 acre with concrete drive. 3,200 sq. ft. of living space. \$105,000.



(4) **COUNTRY LIVING OUTSIDE MENTONE** is where you will find this 6 year old, 3 bdrm, 2 bath home nestled behind large spruce Pine. Freestone well, lots of oak cabinets, all appliances stay. Workshop barn on 1 acre. \$71,400. Located on Co. Rd. 106, more acreage available.



(5) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES** Phase 1 now open. Three to five acre tracts on the Middle Fork of Little River. Located on Hwy. 1175, Lookout Mountain Parkway, 4 miles from downtown Mentone and 2 miles from Ga. line. River-front tracts, starting at \$17,500 and 8-10 acre wooded stream tracts from \$22,500. Must see this unforgettable beauty. REF. 213



(6) **FLAT LANDING FORD ESTATES** 3 acre tracts located on the East Fork of Little River, near Mentone. 250 to 300 ft. of river frontage. Restricted, and owner financing available. Perfect for swimming and rafting. Selling fast, \$21,000 to \$25,000.



(7) **LOOKOUT MTN** on the DeSoto Pkwy. 2 bdrm 2 bath like new, sits on 3.28 acres with large deck on back, City water, Cable, minutes from Desoto State Park and Ft. Payne. \$57,000.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(8) **A QUIET DEAD STREET** - is where you will want to live, in downtown Mentone. Offered as a 2 bdrm 2-1/2 bath home with 2.3 acres, 1 car garage and fully equipped kitchen. Spt. only, priced to sell at \$87,000. Now reduced to \$82,500.

(9) **LOT ON LAKE LAHUSAGE** (middle fork) 12 building lot with great access to lake. Partially cleared, driveway, survey and perk tested. All you need is to build your cottage on the water. \$16,500.

(10) LOTS AND ACREAGE:

AVAILABLE - WOODED ACREAGE, secluded with private access, 10 acres and up, \$1,500 to \$2,500 an acre. Owner financing available to qualified buyers. Restrictions apply.

MENTONE PINE AND HARDWOOD LOTS - 3/4 to 1 acre lots with city water available. Level to gently rolling. Located off DeSoto Parkway South, 2 miles from state park. Owner financing available. \$8,500 to \$10,000 each.

6 ACRES LOCATED ON COUNTY ROAD 106, Mentone. Partial drive, Electric part cleared, the rest wooded, with a great place for Lake. \$15,000. REF.

78 ACRES ON THE WEST BROW, Minutes from DeSoto State Park. Great investment property with over 1,000 ft. of brow frontage. Rocks, Creeks, and a beautiful view, all

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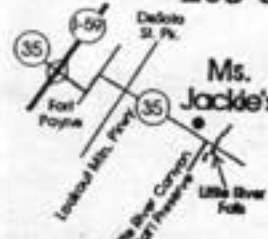
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and Little River Canyon

Happy

Birthday!



ALLIE ELIZABETH RHODES

celebrated her **1st** birthday
October 10, 1996.

Her parents are Stephen and
Debra Rhodes of Valley Head.

Her grandparents are John
and Edith Dean of Valley Head
and Jerome and Mary Rhodes
of Fort Payne.



GREGORY ALLEN WHEAT, II

celebrated his **2nd** birthday
on September 27.

Parents are Greg and Nikki
Wheat of Fort Payne.

Grandparents are David
and Kathy Harris of Fyffe;
Ronald and Cindy Wheat of
Mentone and Steve and Kathy
Crabtree of Mentone.

UNITED GIVERS FUND OF DEKALB COUNTY, INC.
PRESS RELEASE: NOVEMBER 5, 1996
CONTACT: Barbara Turner 845-4006

UGF CAMPAIGN AT \$271,500.00 OR 87% OF GOAL

On Tuesday, November 5, UGF Campaign Director Barbara Turner reported that a total of \$271,500 had been received in pledges and contributions toward this year's campaign goal of \$312,000.00. The campaign has been extended to November 13.

At the report meeting held on October 30, only the Public Service Division had reached goal with \$8,484.00 reported toward its \$8,000.00 goal. Outstanding participation by Fort Payne City and DeKalb County employees, UGF member agencies, and various county offices helped to put this division over the top. The Fort Payne Fire Department and Administrative Office each had outstanding campaigns in their departments--more than doubling their support over last year.

County employees also had an outstanding campaign with the Tax Collector's Office, Tax Assessor's Office, Probate Judge Office, and the Board of Registrars all reporting 100% employee participation. Karen Albrecht is Public Service Division Chairman.

The Town & County Division reached its \$41,000 goal early this week. Many communities are already at 100% of their goal. Helping to put this division over the top were such industries as Kappeler, whose employees exceeded last year's support by more than 36%, and Charleston Hosiery who had a very impressive first-time employee campaign this year. Shirley Gorham is Town & County Division Chairman.

Still working to reach the Industrial Division's \$216,000.00 goal are Division Chairman, Linda Sterling, Diversified Industries Chairman, John Lang, and Hosiery Chairman, Wilma Leath. Already at 85% of goal and several companies still to report, this division should easily be at goal by the deadline.

Closing in on their division goals are Commercial Division Chairman, Pam Gibson, and Professional & Special Gifts Division Chairman, Vicky Kirby, who are each about \$5,500.00 away from their respective goals.

The final report meeting of this year's campaign will be held next Wednesday, November 13, at 11:30 a.m., at Fort Payne Best Western Restaurant. All volunteers are encouraged to attend.

UGF supports non-profit, charitable and service agencies throughout the county, including the American Red Cross, Easter Seals, the ARC, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, The Bridge, CASA, the Children's Advocacy Center, Child Development Center, Rehabilitation Center, Hospice of Northeast Alabama, Mental Health Association, Salvation Army, and USO.



Happy Birthday!



ALEXIS DANIELLE HATFIELD

celebrated her **3rd** birthday
September 28.

She is the daughter of Mark
and Nicole Hatfield of Sulphur
Springs.

Her grandparents are Billy and
Louise Cash of Mentone and
Chuck and Mary Ott of Ider.

VALLEY HEAD WOMAN'S CLUB

By Maurine Donahue

"Backward, turn backward, O time in thy flight" seemed very real to members of the Valley Head Woman's Club as they traveled down the dusty, dirt road atop Lookout Mountain to the home of Jan Wilkinson for their October meeting. "This is the forest primeval" also came to mind as we viewed the glorious yellows of the hickory trees, the vivid reds of the dog woods and the sourwoods mingled with the deep greens of the pines and cedars.

The president, Doris Carmichael, presided and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The subject for this club term is "Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs Angels...Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow...A Flight to Success."

Mrs. Tom Bauerle announced that she had legally changed her name from Bess to Elizabeth. She gave the devotional on "Angels Unawares." Angels are attendants and messengers of God. They are created beings and are not to be worshiped. They always do God's bidding and point to God. Their desire is for peace on earth and they fly at God's command. Elizabeth closed by reading Psalm 148: 1-2: Praise ye the Lord, Praise ye the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights. Praise ye Him, all his angels; praise ye Him, all His hosts."

Dot Blackburn, chairman of Special Projects Committee, showed samples of pecans that the club will be selling this year.

The subject for October was "Special Personalities" and Elizabeth Wheatley of the Child's Advocacy Center was the featured speaker. Mrs. Wheatley said when mom and pop don't care properly for their children, they can be brought to the Advocacy center for help. She personally talks with abused children with counselors present, and the talks are taped. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. She gave examples of abused children that the center has helped.

Mrs. Hurt asked if abused children might fantasize their answers. Mrs. Wheatley said only a small number do that.

Mrs. Wheatley closed telling of an interview with a small boy while both sat on the floor in which she said, "Give me five," after each question and answer. At the end of which she cried.

Delicious refreshments with an autumnal theme were served by the hostesses, Jan Wilkinson, Dallyne Jones, and Flo Kirby.

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The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



On October 27, the Valley Head United Methodist Church hosted the District Conference with a breakfast. The District Superintendent, Pete West and Mrs. West, along with Rev. Giddens from the Mentone Methodist Church, were visitors for the occasion. Mr. West showed a film of a speech of Bishop Fannin which was quite interesting.

The Moon Lake Baptist Church had their regular fellowship meal followed by a business meeting on Wednesday, November 6. An Adult Sunday School Preview is being held every Wednesday evening at 5:45 PM, led by Pastor Bill Russell. There will be a hanging of the greens on November 24, at 6 PM. The regular mid-week service will be Tuesday evening, November 26, for that week only.

On November 10, Rev. Bryan Stanford will preaching in both the morning and the evening services at the Mentone Church of God. The Men's Fellowship will be sponsoring family portraits on November 16. The portraits will be 11" x 14" in color, and they will cost \$5.00 each. Anyone who is interested please call the church and an appointment will be set up. On November 17, Rev. Rick Fuller and Benny Goss will be doing a tag team message. On November 17-20, the pastor will be in revival at the Tarrant Church of God in the Birmingham area. On November 23, the Ladies' Ministry will be having a year-end banquet at Western Sizzlin' at 6:30 PM. On November 27, the church will be participating in the community Thanksgiving service at the Valley Head United Methodist Church at 7 PM. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving! The Ladies' Ministry will be making hard candies for the holidays at \$4.00 per box. Call the church for orders for the candies.

On Saturday, November 9, the Brotherhood at the Valley Head Baptist Church will meet at 8 AM for breakfast and devotional at the church. On November 10, the veterans will be recognized in the service. On November 12, the younger ladies of the church are going to take the older ladies on a shopping trip to Kennesaw, Georgia. They will have a WMU meeting on that trip. On November 17, Brad and Becky Mitchell, missionaries from South Africa, will speak in the morning service.

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church will continue with a series of family nights on November 10 and November 17. On November 10, it will be game night at 5 o'clock, and on the 17th, it will be a family skate night at Fort Payne Skating Center. It will begin with a meal at 5 PM at the church, and the group will leave from there for the skating party. On November 29-30, Dr. Allen Ross of Trinity Seminary will be coming down to kick off Advent with Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah. On Friday, the time is 7-9 PM, and Saturday will be 9 AM - 4 PM, and he will be speaking on Sunday as well. This is open to any of the churches in the area. The church will provide refreshments, and registration is \$10.00. Scholarships will be available, and babysitting will be available. Dr. Ross is a well-known writer and speaker and is formerly head of the Old Testament Department at Dallas Seminary. He is currently head of the Old Testament Department at Trinity.

Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) invites you to attend services on Sunday morning at 10 AM. Visitors are always welcome to visit the chapel at other times also. Vacation clothes are always acceptable for the service.

Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to attend worship services each Sunday at 9 AM. Reverend Jerry Davis and Reverend L. A. Smith are speakers on alternate

Sundays.

The Union Hill Baptist Church will have a Thanksgiving fellowship dinner on Wednesday, November 27. A church-wide ping-pong tournament is currently in progress under the leadership of Barry Wisner, Youth Director and former State Amateur ping-pong champion. There is much excitement among all ages at this time. Sunday School continues at 10 AM, Worship Service at 11 AM, Discipleship Training at 6 PM, Evening Worship at 7 PM, Wednesday evening prayer service at 6:30 PM; GAs, Acteens, RAs, and Mission Friends meet at 5 PM on Wednesday, and Youth Choir practice is on alternate Wednesdays. Monthly singing is at 6 PM on the second Sunday of each month. The Men of Music from Austin, TX, will be singing at 6 PM on Friday, December 6. Everyone is invited to come to hear this special group.

Children's emphasis Sunday was Nov. 3 at the Mentone Wesleyan Church. The children had charge of the service, and it was encouraging to see how many children actually had participated in the service. Afterwards, they went to McDonalds, where a great time was had by all. Homecoming will be November 10 at 10 AM. Reverend Tom Ward, former pastor, will be bringing the message. The church will be breaking ground in the spring for the new sanctuary.

The Mentone United Methodist Church had a special District Charge Conference service at 3 p.m. on October 27, with District Superintendent Pete West conducting the service. The UMW met on Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. at the fellowship hall. Barbara Blalock had the World Thank program, "The Transforming Love, Keeping Hope Alive." Marie Dillenbeck was in charge of refreshments. Thanksgiving dinners for shut-ins will be prepared and delivered on Wednesday, Nov. 20. The church and the Chrismon tree will be decorated on Friday, Nov. 29.

J.O.Y.

The Just Older Youth will meet on Thursday, November 21, at 11:30 AM, at Moon Lake Baptist Church fellowship hall. The regular meeting date is on the fourth Thursday of each month, but because of Thanksgiving, the date has been changed for November. Bring a friend and a covered dish and enjoy the fellowship and fun. This is a non-denominational group, and everyone is welcome.

North DeKalb Ministerial Association

The community Thanksgiving service will be held on Wednesday, November 27, at 7 p.m. at the Valley Head United Methodist Church. All area churches are invited. The service is sponsored by the North DeKalb Ministerial Association.

The next regular meeting of the Ministerial Association will be November 21, at 12 noon, at Dessie's Kountry Chef.



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GARDEN HINTS

By Madeleine Bullock

(member of the National Home Gardening Club)

October here in Mentone is a really beautiful time of the year, especially for me, as the climate resembles that of Nairobi, Kenya (East Africa), where I was born and grew up. At this time, I can truly say that I am "at home" here in Mentone. Of course, in Kenya the trees don't lose their foliage, and they don't change to all these absolutely spectacular colors, this is just an added benefit of being in Mentone.

In October and November, I spend my time seed collecting, moving certain bulbs and shrubs, and planting all the various cuttings from my shrubs, this is the time to move any of the various flowers and plants that did not thrive in the spot you picked out for them. Going by the sunlight, I noticed that my various lilies (Asiatic, calla, and tigers) produced huge, prize-winning blooms when planted where they can receive the morning sun only, my roses did the same, and so did the various shrubs like rose of sharon, hibiscus, and crepe myrtle. The forsythia did well in the full day's sun. My glads did poorly in the morning sun, but gave me extra big blooms in the afternoon sun, and they did poorly in the full sun. It feels like I am playing "musical plants and bulbs" this fall.

If you have decided not to plant a fall garden, this is a good time to turn the veggie patch over and expose the grubs, pests, and such to the birds and weather. It's also the time to lime, and, if you have had any trouble with root knot nematodes, spray the garden with a fish emulsion spray. Burning any garden debris is also a good idea, but be sure that the fire cannot spread. Burning is the best way to kill off a lot of those bothersome weed seeds and pests.

I noticed at the VFW Fair in Fort Payne that the Rhododendron Garden Club took the first place ribbon for the fresh flower arrangement. It seemed to have a symbolic theme. The foliage and magnolia seed pods were in a torch-like vase that reminded me of the summer Olympics in Georgia this year. Well done Rhododendron Garden Club!

Rose lovers be on the lookout for a new hybrid to hit the catalogues and nurseries next spring. A sister to the pink Flower Carpet rose called Noaschee will be available. The pink Flower Carpet rose which made its debut last spring was hailed as a miracle rose in Europe and was a smash hit in the US. It was bred to be more resistant to diseases such as black spot and powdery mildew, and prosper in the shade. The

Noaschee, unlike its sister the pink version, which blooms in brief spurts, is white and will bloom all summer. Werner Noack, who first bred the Flower Carpet in Germany, is also ready for 1998 when he will offer another rose called Apple Blossom after its pink-yellow color.

If you like having a fresh flower arrangement, try using a 50-50 solution of lemon soda and water instead of just water if they droop and die after a couple of days. The lemon works to lower the water's pH and the sugar replaces the glucose that plants need.

I also found out that oak trees, sweet chestnut, cedar, and redwoods contribute to the corrosion of steel fences when they come in contact. Prune them away from your fences to avoid this.

About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN

So much has happened since last month's issue of *The Groundhog*. The leaves have turned brown and fallen to the ground. Now, we must get busy and rake and carry them away or mulch them with the lawn mower. The trees are almost bare and maybe more beautiful than when in full leaf. Now, we can see the symmetry and structure of each limb and twig. The brown leaves on the ground are beautiful, but can be a fire hazard and make housekeeping harder. They do stick to shoes when they are wet.

Halloween of 1996 is now a night to remember. By the way, does anyone know what to do with left over Halloween bags? I did not have as many "trick or treaters" as usual and I have a lot left. All of those who came by were so cute. Many little ones were out for possibly their first time. Some of the older ones had improvised a costume from the closet. These are still my favorite ones. Some of the young people that I am used to coming by to trick or treat brought younger cousins or siblings by. My how time marches on! The "sheriff" even came by my house, complete with shotgun, handgun, handcuffs and a badge! This person enjoys life as it has been dealt to him, and all of Mentone loves him! Thanks L.M. for being you and for helping all of us to take time to enjoy the simple things of life and to have some fun along the way.

The Harvest Festival at Moon Lake School is over and was a big success again. There is so much hard work done by the members of the PTO that the public never sees. Nothing ever just "gets done". Someone always has to make a plan and then carry it through. The parents of Moon Lake students are really good at both. My hat is off to them for a job well done!

Events continue to happen that will have an effect on the town of Mentone for many years to come. Sometimes, it seems that the citizens of Mentone are too content just to stay home by the fire and let someone else make decisions for them. I urge you to come to the town council meetings and find out for yourself what is going on. It truly can be enlightening and sometimes entertaining. There is plenty of seating in the Town Meeting Room, and no one will ask why you are there. In fact, you have to get on the agenda ahead of time to have the opportunity to speak. The meetings are set for the first Monday night of each month at 6 PM, unless otherwise announced. They usually last from one to one-and-a-half hours.

Possibly the biggest change that has happened in Mentone since last month was the death of Dr. Pat Seymour. I have lived here forty years, and I have never seen anyone move into Mentone who had such an impact on the entire community. The children knew who Dr. Pat was just as quickly as the adults. She was always the same and made everyone feel special. How many of you received a singing phone call from her and Marie on Father's Day or Mother's Day? If a child did something special, she would always call and tell them she knew about it and was proud of them.

She sent cards for every occasion and sometimes just because she thought you needed a lift. She was quick to respond to any need. Many times, she was the one who saw the need first and alerted others when more help was needed. She baked cakes and delivered them. She kept one shelf in her kitchen stocked with canned food in case a family moved in and needed food quickly or a home burned and food was needed to help them get on with their lives.

When any organization had a fund raising event, she was always there, helping with the work and lending her support in any way she could. She seemed to be tuned in to that basic need that everyone has. She always knew what was needed and when. She will be missed more and more each day. I have heard her say so many times, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" Now, it is our turn to ask this question. We wanted to keep her with us, but Someone had bigger and better plans for her. We loved her and will never forget her.

By the time you read this, the election will be over and some of our choices of candidates will have won and some will have lost. The most important thing is that you voted. This is a right that we have as Americans, and your vote did count! If you didn't vote in this election, register and vote by the next one.

Take care of yourselves and stay warm. Don't judge others until you know all of the circumstances, and be kind in all that you say and do.

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All surrounded by approximately 7 acres of natural beauty, native wildflowers, and raised herb beds. Shown by appointment only. Please call Southern Properties for more information.



(2) LOFTY CONTEMPORARY on the Brow of Mentone. Offering 3 or 4 bedrooms - 2 baths. Fully equipped kitchen—pine floors—dressing room, and solar room. Floor to ceiling glass in the 2-story living room produces a feeling of openness to the outside from both floors. Appointment only. \$225,000.



(3) COZY COUNTRY COTTAGE - 1 acre wooded lot on East Lake Drive. Less than 2 years old. 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, large living, dining & kitchen. Fireplace. Front & Back porches, 2 car carport & detached garage. REDUCED to \$79,500.

OTHER LISTINGS

(4) THE WEST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER flows quietly by these 3-acre wooded lots with 300 feet of River Frontage. Restricted for property owner's protection. Prices starting at \$20,000.

(5) 13 BROW LOTS with additional acreage across the road for a mini-farm. Just over the Georgia line. Restricted. Co-Broke with Cloudland Realty.

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

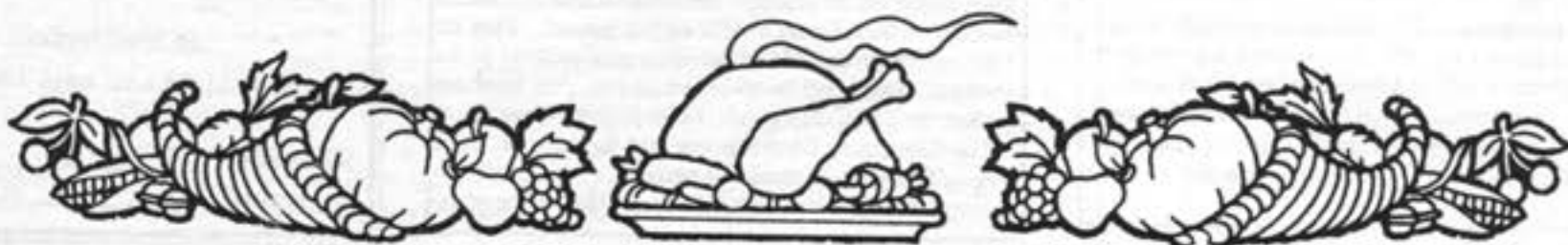
(7) LAKE ON THE BROW - Where else can you find magnificent sunrise and lake view in the same place? Only at Lake on the Brow. Restricted building lots 10 minutes from town. NOW OPEN—PHASE II - look now while the choice is prime—starting at only \$12,500.

(8) VACATION IN YOUR BACKYARD at Laurel Creek Lakes. 1-1/2 to 3-acre lots all having access to 3 private lakes and natural common areas with walking trails. Restricted. Prices starting at \$7,500.

(9) WEEKEND OR WEEKLY RENTAL available. For more information, please call Susan Collins.

(10) PLENTY OF PRIVACY is yours on these beautifully wooded 8 acres located on East Lake Drive, Mentone. \$27,500.

Susan Collins Residence - 634-4695
Sara Quinn Residence - 845-1881



Holiday Arts Festival

Our 16th Annual Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, November 9 from 9-5 and Sunday, November 10 from 9-4

at the Fort Payne VFW Fairground

Local Choral Groups will perform both days!

It's not too late to get a booth!

For information on the show call Denise Stogner (845-2594) or Stephanie McBryar (634-4499).

Mark your Calendar

We are saddened

Buy A TREE already decorated for your business or home.

SILENT AUCTION

viewing starts 10 AM - 2 PM Friday through 4 PM Saturday

Don't miss the **FESTIVAL OF TREES**

ALTRUSA CLUB HOSTING HOLIDAY ARTS FESTIVAL

The Altrusa Club of Fort Payne/DeKalb County is hosting the 16th Annual Holiday Arts Festival, formerly known as the DeKalb County Arts and Crafts Show. The festival is scheduled for this weekend, Nov. 9-10, at the VFW Fairgrounds. Admission is \$2.00 for this annual show. Children 12 and under are admitted free. (See flyer this page.)

Among the items expected to be available at this year's show are toys, woodcraft, floral arrangements, jewelry, dolls, clothes, antiques and tapestry bags. The show will also include entertainment by local choral groups.

New to this year's show is a Festival of Trees, where fully decorated trees will be auctioned off "as is." Local merchants will donate Christmas decorations and their time to decorate a tree provided by Altrusa. A special preview of the trees will be Friday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The silent auction will run through Saturday, Nov. 9, at 5 p.m.

Altrusa helps fund various community projects including: scholarships; Christmas outreach for elderly and needy children, various school projects, Fort Payne Ministerial Association, DeKalb County ARC, CASA, Childcare Resource Network, and Operation Santa Clause.



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

Rom. 15:4

One reason people are so depressed and don't know which way to turn is because they have not studied the Bible and found the comfort and hope of eternal life, for in them, you find the way to Heaven.

Give it a try.

The Dr. Pat Seymour Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Dr. Pat Seymour Memorial Scholarship Fund to help needy young people attend college has been established at Compass Bank in Fort Payne, AL 35967. Those wishing to contribute to the fund may send or take their donations to any Fort Payne branch of Compass Bank.

DEKALB COUNTY LIBRARY

HOURS:

Monday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Scholarship Deadline

High school students who are U.S. citizens and have a grade point average of "B" or better are eligible for a \$1,000 college scholarship. To receive an application, send a request by December 15, 1996, to the Educational Communications Scholarship Foundation at 721 North McKinley Road, P.O. Box 5012, Lake Forest, IL 60045-5012. Fax a request to (847) 295-3972; or e-mail a request to "scholar@ecilf.com".

All requests for applications must include the student's name, permanent home address, city, state, zip code, name of high school, approximate GPA, and year in school during the 1996-97 academic year.

Applications will be fulfilled by mail only, on or about January 15, 1997. One hundred and seventy-five winners will be selected on the basis of academic performance, involvement in extracurricular activities, and some consideration for financial need. A total of \$175,000 will be awarded.

THE LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN QUILTERS GROUP

The newly-organized Lookout Mountain Quilters Group will meet every 1st and 3rd Sunday at 2 p.m. CST at the home of Fran Hawkins in Mentone. If you are interested in being a part of a quilters group, share expertise and stories, make something pretty, and learn new skills, please come.

Dress casually, bring a quilt to show, brag about (or finish), a small snack to share, and your wonderful imagination. Bring a friend if you like.

Fran's house is located on County Road 637, which is the last dirt road to the right (south) off AL Hwy 117. Her gray and white house is the first on the right about 1/8th mile off Hwy. 117.



MAPA Annual Christmas Party for the Children

By Bernise Crow

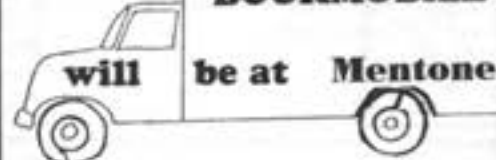
The MAPA annual Christmas party for the children will be Friday, Dec. 13, at the Mentone Town Hall, at 4 p.m. More details will be coming. The North DeKalb Ministerial Association works with MAPA on this project. They do filled stockings, and MAPA members give presents to the children. Santa will be there, of course. We have not worked out a plan for a parade, but hope to have one.

The Community Christmas tree will be lit, with carol singing following the children's program.

Remember this date, and bring your children to the party.

The DeKalb County

BOOKMOBILE



on Wednesdays

from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

November 13 27
 December 11 * (Christmas)