

GROUNDHOG

A Publication of the Mentone Area Preservation Association

Angelo Rosario—

Age Is Opportunity . . . And Wisdom

Angelo Rosario believes in making a positive difference in the lives of others, especially those who are for one reason or another at a disadvantage in today's society. He donates much of his time teaching people of all ages to read and has personally endeavored to keep a special group of students from dropping out of school.

Once when Angelo was trying to convince a student that a part-time job and school was possible, the student argued that Angelo could not have any idea of the difficulty of such an undertaking. Angelo answered that few could have better first-hand knowledge than he did, for he had to work full time to send himself to school and had to help with the family expenses as well.

Angelo's father, a manager of a metal artworks company, died when Angelo and his brother were young. His mother remarried and times were good for awhile. Then the Great Depression hit the country, and when Angelo was 16 his stepfather lost his job on Wall Street.

Angelo got a job with RCA as a messenger boy. He took cablegrams all over the city of New York. He would study on the subway and after attending school four hours a night. He got five cents per message, and if someone wanted to send a reply, he was paid five cents for that. Sometimes, a message would mean a long ride on the subway, but mostly he ran on foot to deliver. No matter what the weather, rain or snow, Angelo took the cablegrams. Mostly, it was to offices in Wall Street but sometimes he got to deliver to such famous people as Sarah Roosevelt, Judy Garland, to the ballplayers at Yankee Stadium, Joe Louis, the boxer, and to the Normandy Steamship. People like this were usually good tipsters, so that was a welcome addition to Angelo's income. He gave his entire salary to his mother, keeping only subway fare.

When Angelo graduated from high school in Manhattan, he set out to Miami to find his fortune. He ended up working as a carpenter in Fort Lauderdale, then attended the Embry Riddle School of Aviation in Miami. In 1941, he married Frances Jones and over the years added four daughters to his family: Emelia, Nonnie, Angela and Vicki. In 1942, World War II broke out and Angelo was stationed at Sedalia Army Airfield in Warrensburg, Mo. Upon returning to Miami in 1946, he attended Dade Junior College and Miami University. He worked as a mechanic in the flight industry for 18 years, then in management for another 19 years before purchasing a piece of land in Mentone — from friend Sid Bosworth. Leonard Shigley and Jim Gifford built a house for the Rosarios.

Angelo and Francis have been active in the community since their move here, especially in the Mentone Area Preservation Association. He works with the festivals and is an avid photographer. This skill has enabled him to capture the goings-on and the scenic beauty as well.



Angelo Rosario Receives Outstanding Volunteer Award.

In 1987, he began working with potential high-school drop outs, and was very successful in helping them to stay in school. He helped find them jobs, gave them moral support and interceded on their behalf whenever necessary. "I love every one of them," Angelo mused, "and I feel each one has special potential that would be lost if his or her education was cut off before that potential could be reached."

A few years ago, he visited his mother Gloria Mason's birthplace of Madiera, Portugal. He showed the slides of his trip to students at Williams Avenue School in Fort Payne.

Angelo donated time to the RSVP program helping adults learn to read and write. He then joined forces with Randall White, coordinator of Adult Education in DeKalb, Marshall and Jackson Counties. He has worked with classes at Ruhama School, at Earthgrains in Fort Payne, the Fort Payne Library, and at Rainsville, and works year around trying to reach as many as possible.

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Moon Lake Excels

Moon Lake School is honored with having exceeded county and state averages in improvement for 1985-1987 in SAT scoring and in overall improvements. Moon Lake improved 7.4 percent, DeKalb County 6.8 percent and Alabama 4.0 percent. Moon Lake ranked number one in DeKalb County on the complete battery of the Stanford Achievement Test.

PTA officers are President, Larry Gray; Vice-President, Sibie Hopper; Secretary, Martha Browder; Treasurer, Becky Blalock; Membership Chairpersons, Brynda Hopper and Betty Blalock. School Trustees are Bill Russell, Billy Cash and Larry Gray.

Mr. Charles Bell serves as the principal as well as a teacher at Moon Lake. Other teachers are Joyce Smith, Juanita Smith, Bill Berry, Lisa Shrader, Grace Godbois and teacher aid Martha Browder. The school secretary is Helen Sibert. The lunchroom manager is Delight Pruitt and the lunchroom aid is Cheryl Crane. Anita Meadows is cashier.

James Evans serves as custodian, and Don Ingram is the bus driver. Special classes are held on a scheduled basis by Debra Bowen.

Moon Lake School is the jewel in the crown of the Mentone Area and is a wonderful example of the things that can be accomplished when the community puts its full support into those things which are most important. Moon Lake has much of which to be proud, and all those in the community who have contributed can share in that pride of accomplishment.

Mentone Center For The Arts

Located In The

Mentone Springs Hotel



Autumn in the resort town of Mentone, Ala., promises to be a very special, very colorful one this year. In addition to Mother Nature's usual fall leaf spectacular, a talented and varied group of 14 Lookout Mountain area artists is offering a spectacular show of their own. It's called the Mentone Center for the Arts.

Opening Oct. 15, the Center, which is located in the century-old Mentone Springs Hotel (circa 1884), features a diverse, creatively displayed collection of fine art and quality craft pieces — all for sale to the public.

The hotel's spacious lobby, old dining room and several period guest rooms have been renovated and form an interesting backdrop for the works of the artists represented.

Co-organizer (and participating artist), Lucy Mitchell explains, "This is not just a large house for exhibits — but rather an opportunity to create a unique and interesting space which will be a center for artistic life and expression on Lookout Mountain. Our artists will, at times, be demonstrating their craft to the public."

The Center's grand opening will coincide with the annual Colorfest celebration, held at Mentone the third weekend of October.

According to Mitchell, the Center will be open to the interested public every Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Central Time). She added, "Our other short-term plans include on-going and visiting exhibitions, demonstrations and classes, and a special Christmas showing in late November-early December."

During the Colorfest, something wonderful for children will be happening at the hotel. There will be a "Creation Station" which will consist of a hands-on art experience for children. The fun lasts from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15 and 16.

Local artist Sunny Mays will demonstrate basket-making also.

For further information about the Mentone Center for the Arts, contact Lucy Mitchell, Mentone Center for the Arts, Mentone Springs Hotel, Highway 117, Mentone, Ala. 35984.

New Entertainment At Colorfest

This year's Oct. 14-16 Colorfest offers innovations in entertainment as well as popular activities from past festivals. In addition to the Groundhog Run, crafts, food, dancing and the Friday night bonfire — there will be karate and living history demonstrations.

The Yoshukai Karate Team led by Debra Ginn, instructor at the Fort Payne Recreation Center, will give demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday. This team recently garnered first, second, and third places in a Montgomery tournament. Ginn says her black belt people are "super" and that part of their show will include breaking baseball bats in mid air.

Another entertainment new to Mentone will be the living history group from Mobile. Dressed as Rebels and Yankees, they will set up their tents and actually live in them in the area behind the Log Cabin Deli.

There is a \$25 prize to the best scarecrow in front of a residence or business in town. Entry blanks are available at stores around town.

Roy Matthews and Jack Jones are co-chairing the Colorfest. Shurleen Froehler is in charge of the crafts exhibits and the food. She promises that Moon Lake School will have chili and the Church of God will have cakes and pies. Other food items will include pecan logs, peanut brittle, funnel cakes, hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream, popcorn and cotton candy.

Tony Goggans will once again serve as emcee. Terry Hutcheson is in charge of the entertainment which will include clogging. Terry will emcee the Friday evening bonfire-ghost story telling event. Homer Crow will direct the appearance of the ghost and have marshmallows and hot dogs for those attending. Homer is also arranging for the boat rides on Little River for festival guests to view the fall foliage.

Maggie Cordell has another beautiful quilt to be raffled off on Sunday afternoon. It is a flower garden pattern, queen sized, with a white background. Tickets are just \$1 each and are available all over town.

The sixth annual Groundhog Classic Run will occur at 9:30 Saturday morning, preceded by a one mile Fun Run at 9. Jean McGehee is in charge of arrangements for the runs up to the actual races. Larry Hooks and Mark Pickle of Camp Skyline Ranch, assisted by Phil Hurt of Camp Desoto, will direct the events. Bobbie Riedesel, Registered Nurse, will be present in the event of an accident. The winning runners will receive medallions for each age and sex group, and the overall winners will be presented with jackets from Desoto Athletics. Brant Craig, William Blackburn, owner-manager of the Mentone Superette, is giving paper bags, paper cups, and Gatorade for the race.



Living History Group

Race sponsors include Huby's Variety, the Log Cabin Restaurant and Deli, Batties Grocery, the Gourdie Shop, Crows' Nest Antiques, Cloudmont Ski and Golf Resort, the Mentone Inn, Mentone Realty, the Lake Exchange, Lookout Mountain Camping Association, the White Elephant Galleries, Mentone Hardware, the Mentone Springs Hotel, Cloudland Trade Center, WQRX, Morgan Drugs, the Citizens Bank, Valley Head Hardware, Burt Funeral Home and Mentone Reproducers of Fine Art.

The SPCA (Humane Society) will have a table for donations, and there will also be pumpkins available for purchase, stacked near the old stagecoach. Residents and visitors will get a view of the new bike trail-walking path through town which will benefit from proceeds of this year's Colorfest.

Street Signs In Place



Jack Jones and Roy Matthews Install Street Signs.

In a joint effort by MAPA and the town council, many streets in Mentone are now sporting new green street signs. The idea for signs was the brainchild of MAPA Director Jack Jones who took the names from an old map of the area. Most of these are the original names.

Roy Matthews, local contractor, installed the signs with help from Jack Jones and others. Plans are underway by The Groundhog staff to make a map of the area available soon in order for everyone to become acquainted with the names and locations of the streets in our area. More signs are planned soon.



Moon Lake School Harvest Festival November 5th



From The Editor

By Mickey Strickland

On Sept. 17 and 18, a field in Trion, Ga., was the scene of a reenactment of one of the most costly victories for the Southern forces of the Civil War. A group known as Napoleonic Tactics, Inc., together with Larry and Jane Schlachter of Summerville, Ga., sponsored the event. As the days dawned wet and cool, it was soon evident that the participants would have to brave the elements just as their forebears had braved the battle.

The War Between The States is the most traumatic event in the history of our nation, and the bravery, the horror, the destruction, both of those things judged in monetary terms and those things measured in spirit, still linger in minds and hearts of Americans like some genetic legacy carried forth in the blood of martyrs and demons alike.

No one can discount the iron will and brave hearts of the soldiers on both sides of that terrible war, and even though many are still divided about the issues and reasons for it, the individuals who left home and hearth to fight and die did so with the belief that each was in the right — that the cause was just.

In reenactments such as the one of the Battle of Chickamauga, the bravery, cunning and dedication of the soldier who persevered in the face of terror and pain unlike any other, there is a requiem for a human being who for a span of time transcended himself and gave all for the good of the ideals of country and heritage. With little input into planning and strategy, the soldier obeyed the call to arms in a war that was to divide him from his own countrymen.

It is right that we do not forget this war — neither the outstanding bravery nor the deadly despair. These men should be remembered and honored.

MAPA Minutes

The upcoming Colorfest was discussed at the Sept. 6 meeting of MAPA. A booth at Summerville Arts and Crafts show will be made available to MAPA and Maggie Cordell will be selling raffle tickets for the quilt she made for the October Colorfest. The dates are Sept. 15 and 16.

Jack Jones reported on the Mentone street signs. The names of the streets were gotten from old county and tax maps.

Virginia Ware, of the Alabama Mountain Lakes Association, was the speaker for the evening. She showed a video of different points of interest in Northern Alabama. MAPA voted to become members in the organization.

Condensed from the minutes of Frances Rosario, Secretary.



Maggie Cordell With Lovely Quilt For Colorfest Raffle

The Lookout

"Atop Lookout Mountain"
CLOUDLAND, GEORGIA
(404) 862-2515

The Groundhog

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205-634-4198 or 4185

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor Mickey Strickland
Associate Editor Helen Turner
Contributing Editors ... Linda Brown, Eloise Brown,
Nova Dean Kilgore, Bernise Crow, Vivian Napier,
Howard Cash Marsh, Seth Banks, Bill Pilson and John
Baty.

Advertising Sales: Helen Turner

MAPA OFFICERS

Director Jack Jones
Associate Director Ray Froehler
Secretary Frances Rosario
Treasurer Bill Pilson
Immediate Past Director Bill Riedesel

Letters To The Editor

To The Editor:

Recently my wife and I were visiting your village and were directed to the Log Cabin Restaurant for dinner. As ardent "people watchers" in our travels, we would like to add the name of Colette Forester to one of the "people" who make a difference!

During the time we were eating, we observed this pretty lady — meeting and greeting customers, directing newcomers to the other businesses and sights of the area, supplying ice for a sprained ankle, cleaning tables, etc., while taking the time to stop by each table visiting with the young and old alike.

In addition to this, she found the time to call around the area to locate a repairman for our "not so new vehicle," and when we inadvertently left a valuable package (to us), she personally rushed to return it before we left the area.

Mentone: You are fortunate to have such a person in your midst.

Sincerely,
Bill and Sarah Patterson
Ellensburg, WA

Dear Editor,

In World War II, I was working away from home in a neighboring state, so when I became old enough to register for the draft I chose to come back to my home state to register. I thought if I got killed fighting for my country I would give my home state credit for it, but the way things are going now I don't know if I would do that again.

We were told in the military that democracy stood for freedom of belief, belief of religion, belief of choice to vote for whom you please, without outside interference.

When one party tries to tell you that if you vote in their primary that you are locked in and sealed in their party, that is not democracy. In my way of thinking that is Communism. When they want to build a Berlin Wall around you and lock you in their party that is not democracy, that's Communism. We have mixture in Alabama between Communism and Supremist.

Hitler's Nazi party believed his people were over and above everyone else, he thought he had a supreme race of people. It just happens that we have a small group of people here in Alabama that must come from Hitler's supreme race. When you have a group that thinks their mind is much higher or supreme than the average Alabamian you don't just have a Communist Party you have a Nazi Party.

As for Mr. Rains (Rep. T. Euclid), I read in a recent article he said that if he went to a cafe to eat that he wanted to see a menu, well we had about four cafe meetings in DeKalb County and I didn't see Mr. Rains at a one of them. I'm sure if he had been there he could have seen a menu, all the rest got to see one, and the ones we read voted in favor of redistricting, and I'm sure if Mr. Rains took a little interest in his job and wanted to know what the people wanted he would have been there with the rest of us.

Mr. Rains said he didn't know whether those 4,000 names were registered voters, well if he could see to read he could verify them. I'm not knocking him for his handicap but I don't believe in putting a man in a job that he can't do alone.

MOUNTAIN WATCH

By Jean McGehee

Last year when I was moaning about the drought, Jessie Whitehead said, "It will rain again — always has and always will." Of course, she was right. Sometimes the dry spells just last longer than usual. Still, it was a happy day on Sept. 15 when the Fort Payne Water Board declared the water conservation emergency to be over.

The 14 gallon jugs were refilled and placed in the attic for another emergency; the three tall buckets went back in the garage for garden work. For about six weeks during June and July, I went to Taylor's Ford most mornings to fill these containers. The water went on the vegetable garden and the fig tree. Plants and trees out front had to take their turns on rotation of the water bucket under the air conditioner and on dish water.

Miraculously, everything survived except some of the clematis vines. I imagine they'll return next spring. The rhododendrons maintained themselves but began to flourish when the rains returned. This has been a banner year for fruits. For the first time in seven years the fig tree has abundant fruit. Although the moles enjoyed the first crop of cantaloupes, a second is almost ready to harvest. Peaches have had a good year, too, and grapes, acorns are enormous. The grass has had to be cut several times this year as opposed to only twice last year. On the whole, our area survived the drought rather well. Russell Stalvey's corn has never been better. Ruby says it's because it was raised on "holy ground" made so by her parents' lives.

In an editorial for June 9, Gary Gengozian, editor and publisher of the Fort Payne Times-Journal, urged local officials to "take a serious look at long range water supplies in Fort Payne, and in some other cities in the county... we should begin to take stock of where we might be in a few years..."

Most of the weather does occur regardless of people's activities. For instance, we know that 70,000,000 years ago dinosaurs, who were heat-loving animals, lived in Alaska. Just 15,000 years ago New York was covered by an ice sheet.

Some climatologists believe that the El Nino effect influences weather over the globe. This phenomenon is caused every few years when the surface water off the west coast of South America becomes warmer than usual, heating the air above it and causing patterns of rain and drought to change everywhere. In 1982-83 the worst El Nino event on record occurred. Crops and fishing were affected in this country and in Africa, especially. The most recent El Nino effect ended last March, and some weather experts believe this was the cause of the monsoon in Bangladesh being worse than usual this year. In 1970, over 300,000 people were killed in a hurricane in Bangladesh without the El Nino effect.

And now we have the greenhouse effect which has been caused by heavy concentrations of carbon dioxide pollution and by a shifting of the ozone layer. This is something people can do something about. Foreign automobiles are more energy efficient; foreign public transportation is more efficient. We Americans may have to alter some of our cherished life styles in order to influence the weather. Proponents of the greenhouse theory believe that the temperature will keep rising (and not fall again any time soon) unless something is done to alter the environment.

Folks living on the tip of Cape Cod in Massachusetts had such a short supply of water this summer that their self-service laundries were closed. Many people drove 30 miles to wash clothes. New York City residents were subjected to a media blitz this summer, "Don't Drip New York Dry." They remember the drought there in 1985 which was worse than any since the 1960s, which was worse than any since the 1600s.

Farmers in the Dust Bowl region recall the 1930s as being far worse than this year's drought. Since that time conservation measures such as irrigation, crop rotation, and contour plowing have been instituted. There are things, evidently, that people can do about the weather.

Larry C. White has a new book just published, **The American Tobacco Industry**. He says that cigarettes killed more Americans in 1986 (over 350,000) than died in World War II. Our nation is almost schizophrenic about smoking: Cigarettes cost America more than \$50 billion in health care and lost salaries in 1986. We underwrite price supports for tobacco farmers while also paying the Surgeon General to try to stop people from smoking.

White says that filter cigarettes do not offer any significant protection, but they did increase the industry's profits. One interesting corollary is that the tobacco companies have invested in life insurance companies that charge smokers higher rates.

Years ago I joked that like Mark Twain I could stop smoking any time I wanted to — in fact, I'd done it many times. Finally, however, along with family and friends, I quit altogether. The only way to quit is to quit. If you're still not convinced it's bad for you, then consider the family members who don't smoke, whose health is being affected if you still smoke.

For many people, this time of year is the best. Last year our local leaves were never more spectacular. Our winter weather was relatively mild. There is something invigorating about the turning of the season. It is the time to let the amaryllis go dormant so that it can bloom again for the holidays. Time to prepare for the winter fuel, and holiday gifts. Election time. Time to look backward and forward. A wonderful time to be alive and to affect our own environment.

Mr. Rains talked like it was the Republican party that was wanting the redistricting done. If Mr. Rains would have attended those meetings he would have seen that there were people there from both parties, plus the Independent party also.

William B. McCurdy
Valley Head, Ala.

COUNTRY JOURNAL

By Bernise Crow

We are enjoying a most pleasant tour of the Midwest and Western states, seeing things and places we have only read about in Zane Gray books and in Michener's *Centennial*.

We spent our first night near St. Louis, Mo. — home of the Cardinals and the huge towering metal arch called the Gateway to the West. That was a fascinating sight, just at twilight. A road runs between the giant arch and the Mississippi River and on the river huge paddle wheel boats are all lit up and reflecting beautiful colors on the water. Most of them are restaurants, but some are cruise craft as well.

The next day we drove to Independence, home of a very ordinary little man who became President of the United States — Harry S. Truman. We spent the better part of the day there touring his home, museum and library. How I loved that! He was a no-nonsense, plain-spoken man. How I wish we had someone with his spunk to run things now! I liked what he said about himself: "I don't ever want to forget who I am, where I came from, and where I will go back to."

From there we enjoyed seeing the farms which looked good to us. The drought may have hurt a little but not to the extent we had heard. We drove around a great deal, crossing the Missouri River several times. Finally, we crossed over into the little town of Brownsville, Neb. It was the first town in the territory and is rich in history. The first homestead in Nebraska is nearby. It is most interesting. It has an old mill, an old home which we toured, a theater, and a Post Office in the original building. Then we drove to Council Bluffs, Iowa, crossing the Missouri River again, and from there into Omaha, Neb. There we visited the birthplace of former president Gerald Ford. What excitement! The house in which he was born has been burned but a shrine garden has been put there that is fabulous. Steps lead up to a Grecian-style portico with a fountain in front. There are brick paths through gardens of the most beautiful flowers imaginable. The names of all our presidents through Jimmy Carter are on separate plaques in the portico. A rose garden is dedicated to Betty Ford. I could write more, but we must continue our journey West.

We spent the night at York, Nebraska, and continued South from there to Abilene, Kansas to visit the shrine and memorial to another great president, Dwight D. Eisenhower. In between these places, we enjoyed the farms of the Nebraska and Kansas plains. It is very interesting to watch the huge machines gathering corn. The machine picks it, shucks it and shells it!

Abilene is an old town, and I always imagine cattle drives coming down the narrow streets. Of course, there are lovely old homes here now.

The Eisenhower home has been preserved and is a small, white frame house on the edge of a huge memorial complex. We visited the gravesites of Ike and his wife Mamie which are enclosed in a marble chapel where one may go in and meditate. The library is most beautiful, but we enjoyed the memorabilia in the museum most of all. We read and looked for almost five hours. There was a Knoxville tour bus there, and we met a couple from Birmingham. When we were leaving, the carillon in the chapel was playing "Sweet Hour Of Prayer." Very moving.

We drove on into the night this time in order to make our long trek over the Rocky Mountains before the snow flew!

I was excited when we saw a few old sod houses still standing. We spent the night in Limon, Colo. From there, we started climbing into the mountains — beautiful, beautiful. We enjoyed passing through the mile-high city of Denver, Colo. Out a little way, we climbed even higher on a section called Lookout Mountain. There we visited the gravesite of Buffalo Bill Cody — pioneer scout for travelers West. He is buried with his wife right on a high peak near his old hunting lodge. The view is indescribable. We reached Steamboat Springs, Colo., about 4:30 this same day to visit our daughter Doreen and her husband, Jerry Waters. This is a very clean, well-landscaped unusual Western town — a ski resort where snow piles high in winter. In fact, the mountain tops were covered with snow that had fallen two days before. We enjoyed two days with them, resting and sight-seeing there. The town has a planter of colorful flowers in front of each business. On the road again, we drove north to Utah, Idaho and Montana — oohing and ahing all the way. What a wealth of scenery we have in our United States!

We spent almost a full day in Yellowstone National Park and much of it is untouched. We made many pictures. I hope we got good ones of the buffalo, elk and moose. We loved seeing them as much as viewing Old Faithful geyser spewing hot steam 90 feet in the air. The park is in three states: Wyoming, Idaho and Montana. We will continue to the state of Washington, and will tell you more later.

Happy Birthday Susan And Dorma

On Sept. 4 a joint celebration was held at "Joyful Noise," Dr. Susan Heape's home overlooking DeSoto Falls. She and Dorma Hutcheson (wife of Terry) held a birthday bash in celebration of "growing older but not growing up." Tony Goggans, Mentone Troubadour, provided the entertainment.



Our Town With Linda Brown

The season of fall is here. The days are still hot, but the leaves are beginning to change color. There is a crispness in the air, and the days are getting shorter. All of this is a sure sign that fall is here. One of the prettiest wildflowers of this season is the ironweed. Look for a bright purple cluster of flowers in the top of a stalk about three feet high. They are in all the uncultivated areas of fields and pastures. The common belief is that they grow in iron-rich soil.

Can you believe that it is again time for the DeKalb County Fair? The county fair is a perfect example of the people who live in DeKalb County. For those of you who have not attended the fair, this is an agricultural fair. The produce is brought in by owners of small farms. These men and women like the feel of the earth in their hands and the sun on their backs as they till the soil, plant the seeds and harvest food for the winter. They may have read or heard that there is no profit in farming, but they know better. The food they harvest is clean and free of additives and most of all it tastes so much better than "store-bought" food. With great pride they bring a sample of their harvest to the fair to be judged against their neighbor's. The women bring canned food, often prepared with the idea in mind to carry it to the fair. Other exhibits include handicrafts of cloth, ceramics, yarn, wood and other examples of their creativity. One of the areas that I enjoy is the flower show. It is sponsored by the seven garden

clubs of the county. On display are specimens of horticulture as well as artistic arrangements. It is worth going one night to see the roses. The fair is the people of DeKalb County and I hope that you will make the time to attend.

Moon Lake School has been chosen as a school clean enough to fly a special flag that signifies this. This is a part of the DeKalb County Beautiful Campaign. A group of ladies visited the school last year to evaluate the grounds on the basis of cleanliness, attractiveness and general appearance. Several months later the ladies returned and evaluated the improvements over the first visit. If the school met a number of requirements it qualified for a special flag to fly as long as the qualifications are met. Congratulations Moon Lake! Keep up the good work!

We are all glad to see the work beginning on the bicycle path. This will be a welcome and needed addition to the town. Walking along the side of Highway 117 is very dangerous, but many people do it. The path will give every one a safe place to walk and also tie the village together. Now it will be one large business area instead of two small ones. MAPA is to be commended for having the foresight to sponsor this project.

Say something good about someone, it might get back to them; say something bad about someone and it will get back to them.

Valley View

With Eloise Brown



The former members of Valley Head O.E.S. went on the dinner cruise aboard the Southern Belle, from Ross's Landing, down the Tennessee River. Good gospel music, good food, beautiful scenery and good fellowship were enjoyed by the following: Jim and Doris Carmichael, Maxine Blansit, Howard and Geraldine Hawkins, Adelaide Bidle, Shirley Loudermilk, Phyllis Flarity, Gladys Stott, Evelyn Phillips, Velma Hammond, Charles and Dorothy Laveille, John and Jean Jones, Bill and Dot Blackburn, Pat Bauerle, Stella Pierce and Eloise Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Cox have returned from the Gold Wing Road Riders Association meeting at Eufala, Ala. They were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Riddle and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Foster in Opelika, before their return.

Betty Adams and her husband, James, entertained Betty's sister, Janie Longshore, with a dinner party, at their home in Gadsden, Ala., to celebrate her birthday. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Cordell.

Gladys Cobble, Mae Card and Mae's daughters, Ruth Pickett and Selma McElhaney, visited Mrs. Minnie Hood in McDonough, Ga.

Gladys Cobble and her daughter, Becky Stott, met Mickey Cobble in Chattanooga for Gladys' birthday dinner. Myrna and Jerry Phillips of Butler, Ala., and children, Craig, Robin and Lindsay, were recent guests of Jerry's parents, Evelyn and Robert Phillips.

Erskine Davenport, of Fort Payne, was a recent dinner guest of Janie Longshore.

The sunshine Club met at the home of Bess Bauerle for their August meeting. Those present were Evelyn Clark, Ruth Pickett, Jewel Palmer, Addie Hall, Evelyn Phillips, Sue Cooper, Vernice Young, Geraldine Hawkins, Gladys Cobble, Billie Harper, Gladys Stott, Willie Mae Palmer and Bess Bauerle.

Jim Carmichael is recovering from heart surgery at Carraway Methodist Hospital in Birmingham.

Dr. Coleman and Elizabeth visited with his mother, Mrs. Allie Coleman, in Cordele, Ga.

"Peachie" and David Clearley of Houston, Texas, were Labor Day weekend guests of her mother, Laura Margaret Allison.

Venna Livingston attended a family reunion at Sparks Farm, home of her nephew, J. W. Sparks and wife, near Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. The main attraction was North Georgia Hawaiian Style Roast Pig. (They even had T-shirts honoring the critter). A hole was dug, a big hickory fire burned for two days, down to coals; the pig was wrapped in aluminum foil, put into a wet burlap bag, and buried for several hours, then was resurrected as the most delectable delicacy, according to Venna, that she ever ate. I wonder if I could claim kin to those people!

Motorcycle Safety Group Formed

A group of area residents has formed a new group dedicated to promoting safe use of the motorcycle. It is the ARA/ABATE: Alabama Bike Riders Association/Alliance of Bikers Aimed At Toward Education, a national, non-profit organization. The group supports a committee which works for laws that insure safety for cycle riders. A move is currently underway to make a rider education course with written test be made a mandatory requirement before a license can be issued. This testing requirement would not include current riders.

Anyone interested in joining can contact Barry Roberts at 845-2759. There is a ten dollar membership fee, and members from surrounding areas are welcome, also.

Unemployment Compensation Increases

Gov. Guy Hunt signed into law a bill raising the maximum weekly unemployment compensation benefits for jobless Alabamians to \$145 after bringing business and labor leaders together for an agreement to end a 5-year dispute.

Under the bill sought by Gov. Hunt, Alabamians who qualify for unemployment compensation can receive a maximum of \$145 a week, an increase of \$25 a week. The bill brings the state's maximum unemployment compensation benefits equal to Mississippi's and makes Alabama competitive with other southeastern states at an average of \$109 per week.

Gov. Hunt's director of Industrial Relations, John Allen, pulled business and labor interests together to mold the agreement raising the maximum benefits.



MENTONE

REALTY

Box 126 Mentone, AL 35984

(205) 634-4767/4776

— Cottages & Homes —

Perfect Get-Away Cottage

One bedroom, complete kitchen, living room with Ben Franklin stove. Located within a short walk from Sunset Park. \$27,500.

Cottage With Great Potential

2 BR, 1 bath and garage with apartment possibilities. Ideal for full time residence or weekend get-away. Located on 2 lots inside Mentone City Limits. \$39,750.

Charming Older Home With Privacy

1 Bath, brick home with hardwood floors. Located on 2 acres with fruit trees. \$42,500.

Lots Of Space

4 BR, 2 bath and kitchen with breakfast area. This is a totally electric home located on 5 acres of land on Hwy. 117. \$65,000.

Cedar Home

4 BR home with complete kitchen and full basement. Located on 2 private acres two miles from Mentone with the option of purchasing up to 20 acres of additional land. \$58,500.

Fit It Up

75 year old house with 2 BR, 1 bath on one acre of land. \$12,500.

Within Walking Distance Of Valley Head School

3 BR, 1 bath home located on School Street. \$27,500.

Everything You Need

This cottage has everything — Two bedroom, living room-kitchen combination with glass porch, fully furnished, 1957 jeep and lawn mower. Located on 7 acres within 3 miles of Mentone. Priced upper 30s.

We Manage Weekend Cottages.

Exquisite New Home On Brow



Front View



Rear View



This unique property is located on Desoto Parkway approximately 5 miles south of downtown Mentone (100 yards from Camp Comer). For additional information, call

Additional features of this unique home include:

- * 9' and higher ceilings
- * Custom cabinets with Corian countertops
- * Double-insulated casement windows
- * Hunter ceiling fans
- * Central air and heat
- * Custom window coverings
- * Attic and basement storage
- * Garage with automatic opener
- * TV antenna
- * Alarm system
- * City water
- * Dishwasher, disposal, compactor
- * Microwave, wall oven, walk-in pantry
- * Enclosed laundry area
- * Authentic Mexican tile floor in kitchen
- * Exquisite architectural detailing

— Lots and Acreage — With a View

Enjoy The Sunset

Brow lots starting at \$15,000.

Wades Gap

2 acres with winter view. \$6,000.

Morning Sun Rise

54 acres on the East brow of Lookout Mountain with 600 ft. along the brow. \$49,500.

— Building Sites —

Wooded and Beautiful

3 acres on DeSoto Parkway. \$10,000.

— River Lots and Acreage —

Great Place For a Cabin

7 lots with an easement to the West Fork of Little River. \$13,000.

Outstanding 100 Acres

This property has it all including one-fourth mile on Little River. \$110,000.

— Farms and Acreage —

81 Acres

Farm with pond and three wells, 20 acres cleared. \$700 per acre.

31 Acres

Wooded acreage on ridge in Hammondville. \$22,500.

Broker
Sharon Barron
634-4776

This is only a partial list — Please contact us for more information.

Associate
Susan Collins
634-4695



Reading Classes Available READ.



Avoid Extinction.

Get involved!

Be a friend to someone who cannot read. Support your local reading program.

A non-reader's realistic hope is to be taught on a one to one confidential basis. This confidence is important in the learning process, but there are not enough teachers available for a one to one relationship. The adult education program is in need of your help to volunteer your time once a week for two to three hours to help someone learn to read and write. As with all volunteer efforts, the rewards are intangible; however, helping an adult learn to read can indeed be a very satisfying experience. As one volunteer said recently, "I need the experience of giving of myself as much as my students need help. It makes me feel useful and worthwhile."

Volunteers are needed also for the GED classes as well. Students need a lot of individual attention, and one teacher to a whole classroom of students doesn't allow for enough individual attention. This is where volunteers are invaluable. You would be working under the guidance of qualified, experienced teachers, and you would be helping to improve the quality of instruction. Classes will be meeting at various locations throughout the county.

If you have at least a high school education and would be interested in serving as a volunteer with the adult education program, you may call the Adult Education Office in Fort Payne at 845-0465 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Volunteers Needed

When America was young, the ability to read was less important. Andrew Johnson could grow up unlettered until taught to read by his wife and still become president, but today everyone must process large amounts of information. The number of adults who do not read and write well has increased in the last 20 years because of the rapid change in requirements for literacy in America. As technological advance has hurried toward the 21st Century, many weak readers have been left in its wake. If you or someone you know needs help with reading and writing, there is help available.

The Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program is offering FREE adult reading classes; these classes are open to any adult age 18 or older. Books and material are provided at no charge. The ability to read is one of the most valuable treasures in today's world. Spread the word, and help make this opportunity available to fellow citizens. For further information, call one of the numbers listed below, or call your local board of education, or call the Adult Education Office in Fort Payne at 845-0465 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Classes will begin the week of Sept. 12-16 and will be held at the following locations:

ADULT READING CLASSES
Williams Avenue School
(Fort Payne)

Tuesday
6-9 p.m.
Phone: 845-0465



Dolly's Boutique

FACTORY OUTLET
CATALOG CLOSEOUTS AND SAMPLES
COMPLETE LINE OF LADIES APPAREL
SPECIALIZING IN
FORMALS, WEDDINGS AND AFTER FIVE

Owners
OLLIE JUSTICE
NADINE GLENN

New Shipment

Closing Out All Casual Wear And Sports Clothes
All Priced At \$5.00 And Under
Includes Sweaters,
Sweatshirts, Jeans & More!
511 Gault Ave. South in Fort Payne, AL
205-845-0510

Mentone: A Panorama of Warmth and Culture

The Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel has for some time been releasing articles about special places in Alabama. These are well-written informative articles which capture the feeling of the place and often impart information not often included in less in-depth features. The series is entitled Alabama Traveler, and recently featured Mentone:

Mentone, Ala. — Mentone is a town of legends, quaint customs, winding streets, interesting buildings, charming restaurants and friendly people — a place where history, poetry, art, music and southern hospitality set the backdrop for everyday living and transform the area around it into a panorama of human warmth and culture. It is a combination of steep hills, intersected by green and fertile valleys, narrowing as they ascend the heights of Lookout Mountain. Alabama Poet Sidney Lanier Gibson described it best:

Mentone, a place the Great God built, up near the sunlit sky.

Where life is new and friends are true and days too quickly fly . . .

A peaceful and romantic resort community in northeast Alabama's DeKalb County, Mentone has attracted vacationers, mountain lovers and poets to her placid and isolated setting for the better part of a century. What remains as its focal point is the Mentone Springs Hotel — now more than a hundred years old. It was built as a resort hotel between 1884 and 1887 by Dr. J. Frank Caldwell. When it was complete, settlers started moving into the area. It became the ideal spot for retreats, with music, dancing, tennis, and other recreational activities available to its guests. In 1890, the hotel was sold to Charles Loring and renamed the Loring Springs Hotel. In the years between 1894 and the early 1930s, the popularity of the resort hotel and Mentone escalated. The entire area became a mountaintop paradise for people all over the country. Travelers came from near and far — New Orleans, Atlanta, Birmingham, Philadelphia, New York and surrounding areas — to enjoy the serene mountain climate and the recreation.

After the Great Depression, however, the glory that was once Mentone's began to fade. The hotel's popularity waned until around 1946 when it was sold by the owners to cover debts. Since then, the Mentone Springs Hotel has been sold several times and is currently up for sale. Although it has been used as a summer house by many of its owners and has undergone some renovation, this imposing structure stands at the heart of the mountain as a reminder of another era.

Mentone's oldest structure started as a log cabin and now serves as a church. Saint Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church had its humble beginning in 1870 as the home of Simmie Sherman Vernon. The log cabin Ver-

non built eventually became the center of the church structure. What was once a cabin on a 40-acre land grant, now is a beautifully adorned church on Lookout Mountain Parkway. Much of the church's interior adornments were donated by other churches, individuals and groups. For instance, the stained glass windows, hand painted and fired in France more than a century ago, were received from St. Luke's Church in Scottsboro; the long dark pews found in the chancel area were hand rubbed and stained by George Washington Carver and donated by the Episcopal Church in Tuskegee. Various portions of the building have also been donated and dedicated in loving memory of friends and family of area residents. The heavy, wooden front doors of the church were a part of the original structure. Often they are left slightly ajar to encourage anyone who desires to step inside and enjoy its solitude.

While strolling or driving along in this mountaintop town, visitors can also enjoy Saint Joseph's Westminster Chimes which strike each day on the hour from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. At the end of the workday and on Sunday mornings, entire hymns can be heard drifting across the valleys. This is such a fitting scenario for a town whose name literally means "musical mountain spring." Natural waterfalls, rippling streams, banjos and downhome people add to the area's special harmony.

Just around the corner from the church is the Mentone Inn which epitomizes the best in "Bed 'n' Breakfast" lodging. It is owned by Amelia Brooks and has 12 rooms, each marked with its own distinctive charm. The rooms all have names such as the Cloud Room, Sequoyah Room, Eagles Nest, and Deer Run Room. Guests at the inn can retire to their artfully decorated rooms and relax under the coolness of a paddlewheel fan. Classic novels and books by world famous authors are available in the upstairs hallway for one's reading pleasure and when the crisp morning air sets in, guests are invited to join their hostess for a southern-style breakfast.

Mentone is also a craft lover's haven and a place for special events. Just down the road from the Mentone Inn is the late 1800s building that houses the Crow's Nest and the Hitching Post. Antique and craft shops along the town square offer everything from art and old-timey rockers to Gourdis, which are special, handmade dolls made out of gourds by Sharon Barron. The Mentone Crafts Festival in July is the oldest and best-known of its annual events.

Also at Mentone is the Cloudmount Ski and Golf Resort, the Nippersink Lodge and Cragsmere Manna Restaurant and Gardens, located in one of the oldest houses on the mountain. Mentone also provides a quick getaway to attractions in nearby cities like Desoto State Park near Fort Payne, Sequoyah Caverns in Valley Head and Noccalula Falls in Gadsden. For more information on Mentone, write to the Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel, Dept. AT, 532 S. Perry St., Montgomery, AL 36104.

Alabama Receives Reclamation Grant

Alabama has received a \$1,066,603 grant from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) which will foot the bill for half of the state's mining inspection and enforcement costs, including equipment, supplies and transportation as well as the salaries of 43 state employees.

This grant helps Alabama and OSMRE meet the intent of the 1977 surface mining law by assuring that the

environment is protected during today's active mining and that the land is properly reclaimed after the coal is mined.

Secretary Donald Hodel said OSMRE is working with the state and the coal producers to make sure that land reclamation remains a built-in part of the mining process.

Over the past nine years, Alabama has received about \$10.5 million in regulatory grants from OSMRE.





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Alliance For The Mentally Ill Of Alabama

Q. What is AMI?

A. AMI is an alliance for families and friends for the mentally ill. AMI is a nationwide self-help organization that provides understanding, education and information to those who have a relative or friend suffering one of the mental illnesses. Among the major mental illnesses are schizophrenia, affective disorders that include bi-polar (manic-depressive) and unipolar (major depression), schizoaffective and other disabling depressive disorders.

Mental illness is a real disease causing disturbance in feeling, relating or thinking. Sometimes caused by a chemical imbalance within the brain, this disease affects people of all ages, races, cultures and socioeconomic classes. One out of every ten people in America is affected by mental illness; two out of every one hundred young adults will be affected by serious mental illness between the ages of fifteen and thirty.

Q. What is AMI of Alabama?

A. AMI of Alabama is an organization comprised of local AMI support/advocacy groups throughout the state dedicated to bettering the lives for mentally ill persons in Alabama. The number of such groups is growing rapidly as families become determined to improve treatment and care for mentally ill Alabamians.

AMI of Alabama links affiliates and members so they may more effectively advocate on statewide issues affecting the mentally ill. Local affiliates offer support and education and usually focus on local problems such as housing, jobs, and sharing and caring. AMI Siblings Network of Alabama concentrates on concerns of brothers and sisters of the mentally ill, lending their perspective to the AMI movement. AMI of Alabama works at the state level and shares the overall concerns of all local affiliates and speaks as one collective voice on statewide issues.

Q. What Does AMI Do?

A. AMI of Alabama is active in these areas:

... Networks information about mental illness treatment and resources to the local AMI affiliates.

... Advocates for improvement in systems of treatment and care for those who suffer from severe and disabling mental illness.

... Helps establish AMI support/advocacy groups throughout the state so that no family dealing with mental illness need feel alone.

... Provides information to mental health professionals from the family's perspective.

... Works to eliminate stigma by providing factual information to the public about the true nature of mental illness and its impact on persons, families and society.

... Encourages greater research into the causes of and effective treatment for mental illness.

... Supports programs and services to meet the needs of consumers and siblings.

Q. Who Belongs to AMI?

A. AMI of Alabama includes local AMI affiliates and their members, individuals, parents, relatives, patients and ex-patients, siblings, friends and professionals. Anyone who subscribes to the philosophy of AMI's mission and purpose is invited to join.

Q. How Can I Join?

A. AMI of Alabama membership is open to all persons who are dedicated to improvement in the quality of life for mentally ill persons in Alabama.

To join, please detach this portion and mail with your check made payable to:

AMI OF ALABAMA

Send to:

AMI of Alabama
2061 Fire Pink Ct.
Birmingham, Alabama 35244

- ☐ Family Membership \$25.00
- ☐ Individual Membership \$10.00
- ☐ Agency Membership \$50.00
- ☐ Donation \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Work # _____

☐ Please put my name on your mailing list to receive newsletters and information.

☐ Please have an AMI affiliate member contact me with more details about an AMI group in my area.

☐ Please send information about AMI Siblings Network of Alabama.

All donations are tax-deductible.

All information received is confidential and for AMI of Alabama use only.



"BUT RHETT, DARLIN",
I DO GIVE A DARN ABOUT DINING
IN THE RHETT BUTLER ROOM

AT
Mentone,
Alabama

CRAGSHERE
MANNA
634-4677

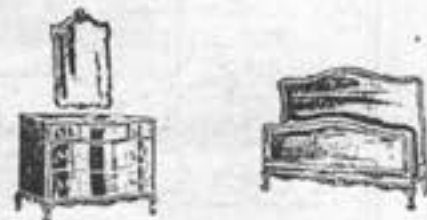
Restaurant

Friday - Saturday 5-9 Sunday Buffet 12-3

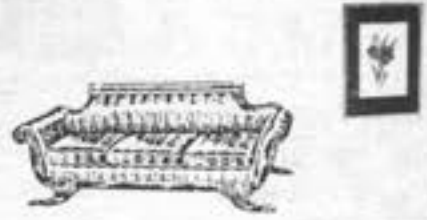


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Mentone Hardware Celebrates Grand Opening Celebration

Bill and Debbie Pilson, new owners of Mentone Hardware, held their big grand opening celebration on Sept. 10 and 11. Many area residents joined in the fun, and several lucky guests won gifts. Moon Lake School was able to raise much-needed funds by selling hot dogs and Cokes which the Pilsons provided.

Representatives from some leading companies were present to greet the crowd: Van Houston of Long-Lewis; Mark Weaver of Moore Handley Paints; and Leonard Brand from the Nolan Company represented Gould's Pumps.

"I want to thank the people of the area for making the grand opening such a success, and for their patronage throughout the year," Bill told *The Groundhog*. "And by helping Moon Lake, I know I help one of the most important parts of the community."

On Saturday, WQRX, local radio station, conducted a live remote program from the store and gave away T-shirts.



UGF Campaign Off To A Great Start

At 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14, this year's United Givers Fund Campaign was successfully launched. The Campaign Volunteers, the UGF Member Agency Representatives, UGF Directors, and Staff were able to enjoy the Kickoff activities in the lovely setting of the Owen home on Alabama Avenue.

After touring the home and enjoying a complimentary breakfast set up and served from the spacious porch, the volunteers were welcomed by Jim Campbell, this year's UGF President. Terry Gillis, who headed up a most successful campaign in 1987, offered the invocation asking God's blessings on this year's campaign and on the volunteers who will work toward the reaching of the \$200,000.00 goal.

Campaign General Chairman, Freda Lucy then expressed her appreciation to Randy and Kelly Owen for providing the Kickoff location; to Gary Gengozian and Jay Ham for the many hours spent in putting together our Campaign Video; to Ike and Peggy Bledsoe of McDonald's for providing the biscuits and coffee; to Shan and Connie Bruce of Bruce's Foodland for providing the orange juice; to Gail Skaggs and Regina Henderson of R & G Catering for their work in arranging for and serving the breakfast; and lastly to the more than 200 volunteers who are involved in this year's campaign.

Mrs. Lucy then thanked the member agency representatives in attendance which included: Barry Cavan, Alabama Easter Seal Society; Ellen Minton, American Red Cross; Mike Goodwin, DeKalb County Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC); Dr. Pheroba Thomas, Fort Payne-DeKalb County Child Development Center; Judy Brewer, Girl Scouts of North Alabama and Sara Malone, Mental Health Association.

In her closing comments, after an inspiring and challenging campaign Kickoff message, Mrs. Lucy said "I want to dedicate this campaign in memory of a dear friend, Mr. Jerris Erwin who passed away this year. Mr. Erwin was the Director of the YES Work Center in Fort Payne, and a dedicated supporter of UGF. I want to make a commitment to my daughter Karen, who attends the Adult Activity Training Center, as well as a commitment to all the 'Karens' of DeKalb County — to all who have a need which can be filled through a United Givers Fund Agency. Most of all, I want to dedicate and commit this entire campaign to God and to the fulfilling of our campaign theme — 'unto the least of these.'"

Happy Anniversary!



Charlie and Linda Drake.

Alabamians Asked To Join Red Ribbon Campaign

Gov. Guy Hunt and First Lady Helen Hunt will co-chair the Alabama Red Ribbon Campaign which is designed to establish a parent-community network throughout Alabama to support drug-free lifestyles.

The Red Ribbon Campaign will be celebrated nationally between Oct. 23-30 with President and Mrs. Reagan serving as honorary chairmen.

The governor asked all Alabamians to join in on the week-long event.

"This campaign originated when federal agent Enrique Camarena was murdered by drug traffickers three years ago. The red ribbon is now the symbol of the fight to reduce the demand for drugs, just as the yellow ribbon recognized the Americans held hostage in Iran. I am asking all Alabamians to participate in the event during the week of Oct. 23-30. Our children are too important to let drugs ruin their lives. This is a perfect opportunity for citizens from both the public and private sector to show our youths how much we care about them," Gov. Hunt said.

"The organizational effort among the Alabama Red Ribbon Committee and local committees must begin today," Gov. Hunt said. "We are asking people from the schools, religious institutions, businesses and industries, law enforcement, government, service organizations, media, health care, elected officials and other concerned citizens to paint the state red. Helen and I are asking every Alabamian to wear a red ribbon during this week in October to symbolize our commitment to living a drug-free, healthy lifestyle. Each entity can plan its own red ribbon projects to show our deep concern about drug abuse."

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IF YOU ARE:

- BUSINESS:**
 - Purchase RED RIBBONS and distribute to your employees, customers, and schools, etc.
 - Display RED RIBBONS and posters on the interior and exterior of your building.
 - Place a RED RIBBON message in your newspapers and mailing materials.
 - Sponsor a RED RIBBON WEEK activity, i.e., Red Ribbon Week, etc.
 - Purchase RED RIBBON WEEK in newspapers, on priority bags, on shopping bags, etc.
 - Advertise RED RIBBON special discounts or sales for customers wearing a RED RIBBON.
 - Include drug education programs for employees.
- CITY/COUNTY/STATE GOVERNMENT:**
 - Purchase and distribute RED RIBBONS for employees.
 - Display RED RIBBONS on interior and exterior of city/country/state buildings.
 - Adopt a representative to be on the community RED RIBBON planning committee.
 - Encourage police and fire departments to participate in RED RIBBON WEEK activities.
 - Contact the press to show your community support for RED RIBBON WEEK.
 - Include a RED RIBBON message in employee pay checks and in water bills.
 - Issue a proclamation declaring October 23-30, 1988, RED RIBBON WEEK in your community. (Sample proclamation on page 2).
 - Include a drug education program for employees.
- FAMILIES:**
 - Purchase or make RED RIBBONS for family members and friends.
 - Display a RED RIBBON on your front door, mailbox, car, and car to show your commitment to reduce the demand for drugs.
 - Communicate a clear, no use message to underage children.
 - Place drug free family contracts.
 - Practice what you say NO to drugs.
 - Set a good example.
- LAW ENFORCEMENT/FIRE DEPARTMENT:**
 - Purchase RED RIBBONS and wear on uniforms.
 - Display RED RIBBONS in a prominent place on all vehicles.
 - Help plan and participate in RED RIBBON WEEK activities.
 - Offer to speak at community programs on alcohol and other drugs.
 - Fire Departments can help decrease light poles and buildings with RED RIBBONS.
 - Include a drug education program for employees.
- LEGISLATORS:**
 - Purchase RED RIBBONS for you, your staff, and constituents.
 - Promote the RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN in newspapers and in speeches.
 - Include a drug education program for staff and colleagues.
- LIBRARIES:**
 - Purchase RED RIBBONS and distribute to everyone during Red Ribbon Week.
 - Decorate the library inside and out with Red Ribbons, posters, signs, etc.
 - Create a permanent drug prevention education resource center. (Contact the NFF office for information on resource material).
- MEDIA/TV/RADIO/NEWSPAPERS:**
 - Purchase RED RIBBONS and distribute to your employees, TV anchor persons, weather persons, news reporters, etc.
 - Display RED RIBBONS on the interior and exterior of your building.
 - Inform the community about the RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN.
 - TV and radio: Make public service announcements, invite RED RIBBON community leaders to appear on talk shows.
 - Editors: Assign the reporters to cover and photograph RED RIBBON activities.
 - Feature drug prevention education information during October 23-30.
 - Newspapers: Publish a special RED RIBBON newspaper with articles and ads to distribute during RED RIBBON WEEK.
 - Include a drug education program for employees.

Valley Head Ceramics

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635-6747

Monday
Tuesday — 5-9
Thursday

greenware
Ceramic Supplies
finished ceramics

free instruction

Downtown Valley Head

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They'll have it ready
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The little store with big service

Groceries, Gas, Sundries
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(Continued From Front Cover)



Family Portrait: Brother, Mother Gloria and Angelo

Last Christmas, Angelo received a Christmas card from one of his older students. "I just wanted you to know," the man told Angelo, "that this is the first Christmas card I have ever sent because I could not sign my name. I want to thank you for giving me the chance to do this, and I want you to have the first one."

Angelo has received many awards and recognition for his service to the community. He was awarded the Outstanding Volunteer for the Alabama Association for Public Continuing Adult Education in 1988 at a ceremony at the Montgomery State Building. He was honored at the Birmingham Civic Center as Tri-County Instructor.

One of Angelo's awards reads of his devotion: "Whereas, Mr. Angelo Rosario voluntarily assists in Adult Basic Education classes in Ruhama Junior High School, Fort Payne, DeKalb County Library, Rainsville City Hall and Earth Grains, Fort Payne and Whereas he drives 174 miles each week to his volunteer assignments and Whereas he is assisting an additional eight students who cannot read and Whereas, he works in the student dropout program in the Fort Payne City Board of Education and Whereas, he has been active in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, the Mentone Area Preservation Association, United Givers Fund, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, his church, and coached a minor league baseball team, NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Alabama State Board of Education hereby commends Mr. Angelo Rosario on his selection as the outstanding Adult Basic Education Volunteer in Alabama for 1988 by the Alabama Association for Public Continuing Adult Education, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Board expresses its appreciation to Mr. Rosario for his outstanding contribution to his community and especially his dedicated service to the undereducated adults." It is signed by Wayne Teague, Executive Officer and Secretary Alabama State Board of Education.

Perhaps the awards that gives the most insight into Angelo Rosario's dedication is the one from another VIP: "... you have contributed to our Nation and have served as an inspiration to us all. I agree with Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, who at 67 said 'Age is opportunity no less/Than Youth itself.' You've certainly made the most of this opportunity by sharing your time, wisdom, skills, and experience with those in need ... please accept our thanks and appreciation for your selfless commitment. God Bless You." It is signed 'Ronald Reagan.'



Angelo In Front of RCA Building.

Mentone's New Bike/Walking Path . . . From Planning To Nearly Complete



VICTORY AT LAST!

Self-threading Sewing Needles.

The Blind can use them. Invaluable for failing sight. Finest needle made. Milward's Gold Eyes do not cut the thread. Sample paper, \$1.00. 1 for 2.00. 10 for 20.00. New England Nockery Mfg. Co., 24 Portland St., Boston, Mass.

INCREDIBLE NATURAL BEAUTY AND TRANQUILITY . . .

Bee Gap

is fishing, riding, hiking, hunting and a get-a-way retreat on West Bluffs of Lookout - Cloudland Canyon and Plum Nelly area. Lake and brow tracts with association owned wildlife and recreation land Acreage - sized and waterfront lots from \$15,000 up. Terms available. George McGee, (515) 821-3351.



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Leaf Rake

3⁹⁹

Steel handle. Width 22", handle
4'. 29-3837 GMLR22



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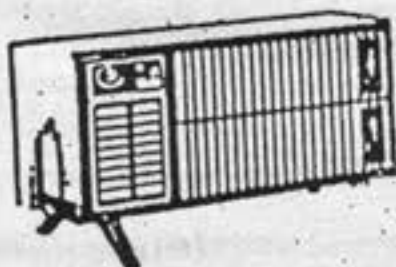
Entry Lock

6⁹⁹

Tylo Style, polished brass finish.
33-6289 400T-3KD

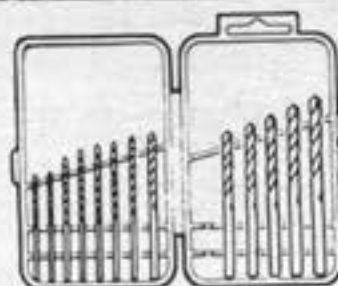


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23⁹⁹

1320 Watts, automatic thermostat control. 120V/60 Cycle AC.
26-0901 30H25-01



13 Piece Drill Set

9⁹⁹

Precision crafted for drilling metal, wood and plastic. Set includes: 1/16", 5/64", 3/32", 6/64", 1/8", 9/64", 5/32", 11/64", 3/16", 13/64", 7/32", 15/64", 1/4". 12-1566 10245



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Super Cop Timer**

6⁹⁹

24 Hour automatic variable timer. 125V, 1875 Watts, 15 Amps.
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9⁹⁹

19" L x 7 1/2" H x 7" D. Quality steel construction, all purpose box.
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Bent Tree Farms

Photo: Times-Journal

When Teddy Gentry received his first big check from RCA in 1980, he faced a decision as to what to do with the money. "I thought about what meant the most to me that I could buy, then I went to my granddaddy and asked him to sell me the family farm," Teddy spoke of his acquisition of the original acres of Bent Tree Farms. "I think there is a special kind of feeling you have for the place where you grew up, worked the land, spent time in the fields raising cotton," he continued. "I wanted to keep this place in the family, because it means giving my children part of what I have always had."

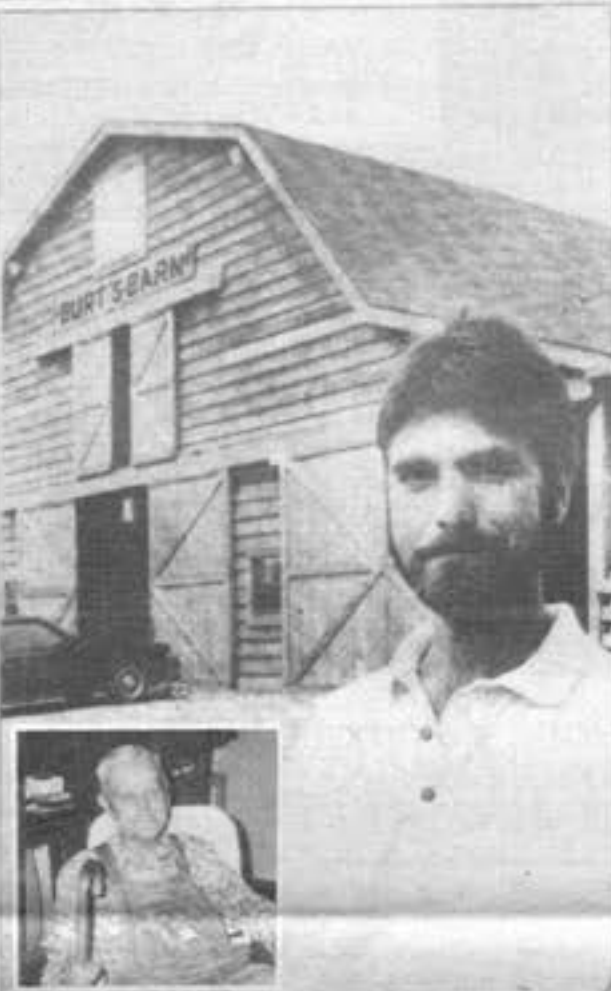
Teddy came home from the hospital to the four-room frame dwelling that had been in the family for over 50 years. His mother and dad were separated, and his mother's father, Burt Eller, brought the new baby and his mother home. "We kept a fire in the fireplace in the bedroom we had ready for Teddy. It was nice and warm; I didn't want the little feller to catch cold," Burt talked of those early days. Teddy would spend the rest of his growing-up years there.

"When Teddy was about nine years old, he came to me because he had overheard his mother talking. He put his arms around my neck and said, 'Pa Pa, Mama's going to get married, and I don't want to live with them, I want to live with you.' I put my arms around his neck then and said, 'Teddy, you've got a home as long as I've got one.'"

That small white house had been home to Burt Eller since his marriage, and the farm nurtured him since he was four, and his family moved to the area from Flintstone, Ga. "I bought this farm from my brother who had bought it from our father. My brother had the house dried in, and I finished it up. I raised six children here. We had seven, but a little girl, Fannie, died when she was four. I felt like David in the Bible — I couldn't bring her back, but I could someday go where she was." Then, my wife died when my oldest child was 13 and my youngest was only two. I would get up at four in the morning to cook a big breakfast — bacon, sausage or ham and usually two big biscuit cakes. I got the children off to school and went to work with a pair of mules from the time I could see 'til I couldn't. All them years, I never missed a crop — cotton, corn, sorghum cane, peanuts, and hogs and cattle too. My farm has always fed me and I've never had to leave it. I raised six children and Teddy on it, and I'm still here.

"I could have sold it many times, but I never would price it, but you know what? Later on Teddy said, 'Pa Pa don't sell your farm, later on you won't even have to take a mortgage, I'll have the cash.' I'll still have it if I live," I told him, and sure enough, he paid me like he said.

"One time Teddy told a fella 'I never asked my Pa Pa for nothing I didn't get and if he lives long enough, I'll repay the favor.' I've got a lot of children, but me and Teddy have been awful close. I can't tell no difference between him and my own. He is my own."



"This farm is a good one — one of the best. It fed us plenty, even during Hoover days. It fed other folks, too, neighbors who would have starved if I hadn't had garden stuff and milk for them. I took flour and meal to them too. The men were sawmillers, and you couldn't sell a foot of lumber anywhere. All the sawmills were shut down, and there wasn't anything else to do. They were good people, and one of the mothers picked cotton for me for 32 years with a pick-sack. Them Hoover times was bad for everybody. I worked for 50 cents a day. I hope we never see nothing like that again."

When Teddy began to build the big barn across the street from Burt Eller's little house, Teddy took a chair up to the site for Burt to watch the proceedings. When anyone would ask why Burt was sitting there, Teddy would reply,

"Why, he's center post here," and that is what he is often called. The barn is the third to sit in that place, and it is made to last, just like its namesake Burt Eller. The barn is called Burt's Barn and he takes pride in the strong look and feel of the huge structure. Across the lot from it sits the offices of Bent Tree Farms where the management of the farm is housed. There Wanda Harris, Linda Gentry's sister, and Gaylin Bryson, farm manager, and his wife Colvina, take care of business.

Colvina talked of the four seasons at Bent Tree Farms: "The farm is exquisite in Spring. When it starts to turn warm, the grass starts to grow, the calves are born, the meadows are filled with flowers and the trees put on their new leaves." In May, Teddy and his cousin Randy Owen hold one of the biggest and best cattle sales in the country. Together with the Kirbys (Kirby Ford Sales) they have people come from all over the country and overseas to participate. "In Summer, we cut and bale hay, hundreds of bales in a good year, but this time we've had to buy hay because of the drought. The place is still beautiful — heavy green foliage, sun-lit fields, together with the smell of the hay. In the Fall, more calves are born and the last of the hay is cut. We have a system of rotational grazing to save the pasture, so periodically, the cattle are moved. The winter is a quiet time — a time of resting and waiting for the Spring. It is special here at Christmas. We decorate, and as in all seasons of the year, we welcome visitors and guests."

Bent Tree Farms get its name from an Indian custom. The Chickamauga tribe of the Cherokees were highly developed and had a sophisticated culture which included an alphabet and written language long before the white man came to call them savages. Travel was an integral part of their lives. They developed a system of trail marking by selecting certain tree saplings and tying them over so the top of the tree pointed in the direction of the trail. Teddy wants the name to reflect the hope that the owners and the farm would always "point in the right direction."

When Teddy had finished building his fine new home, he went to his grandfather and said, "Pa Pa, come and live with me now, I'm ready for you. I want you to make your home with me." Burt Eller replied, "Teddy, I'm going to tell you something; I believe that as long as I can do for myself, your Pa Pa will live longer if you'll just let him stay here." Teddy then said, "Pa Pa, I won't mention it to you again, because I want you to live as long as you can."

There is a dimension in the lives of Burt Eller and his grandson, Teddy Gentry, that lives apart from the publicity, the glitter, the frantic and often tense world outside. The farm, the earth that gave them a home and life and a sense of themselves and their place in the scheme of things is a circle of life, of hope, of days gone by and time to come, and for as long as there is family to care, the circle will remain unbroken.

New Curbs, Pathways And Rock Walls At DeSoto Falls



DeKalb County Tourist Association Hosts Hoedown



The DeKalb County Commission

The Alabama Mountain Lakes Association held its annual meeting in Fort Payne over the weekend of Sept. 22 and 23, with the DeKalb County Tourist Association serving as hosts for the event. The guests took tours of the special places in DeKalb County such as the Earthgrains Bakery, the Fort Payne Opera House and the Fort Payne Depot. Other places of interest visited by the group included Mentone, DeSoto State Park, the 1-59 Welcome Center, Sequoyah Caverns, Little River Canyon, a view of Randy Owen's home, and the Alabama Fan Club and Museum.

The Best Western in Fort Payne provided a welcome reception, compliments of the DeKalb County Commission. All commissioners were in attendance, as well as such local dignitaries such as Judge Paul Thomas, MAPA Director Jack Jones and wife, Olive, represented MAPA, as well as Mickey Strickland, Editor of MAPA's community publication.

The highlight of the tour was a country hoedown at Teddy Gentry's barn near Adamsburg. Teddy provided facilities for the party, and Pat Verzetis of Western Sizzlin catered the affair with barbecued chicken and all the trimmings.

The barn is named for Teddy's grandfather, Burt Eller, and is called "Burt's Barn." Bent Tree farm was the perfect place for the get-together, and the Malibus made the evening special. Tony Goggans and his fellow musicians played and sang songs from the 50's and 60's plus old gospel favorites.

Gaynell Pitts flew especially from California for the event, and Teddy's grandfather attended the festivities. Burt sat in a rocking chair on the porch of the office and graciously received the guests, charming everyone with his wit and ready laugh.

The food was wonderful, the atmosphere friendly and warm. And with the Malibus there, the evening, as well as the rest of the two-day event, gave the visitors the very best possible view of our people and of our homeplace and its hospitality.



The Malibus

Southern Chimney Sweeping

"One in five fires last year in the United States was in some way related to wood heat," Dennis Dobbs told The Groundhog. "And over 90 percent of those were due to improper installation of the heating source." Dennis owns and operates Southern Chimney Sweeping and wants to make people aware of how important it is to take every precaution when using wood or coal as a heat source. "People take a lot of things for granted," Dennis continued, "but safety should not be one of them. I have cleaned several thirty gallon bags of creosote and soot from a chimney of a very expensive home, then the owner would not have it cleaned again. It is a matter of priorities and awareness. A home is the repository of memories, achievements, dreams and treasures. A warm fireplace or wood heater is comforting and special, but that comfort carries responsibility."

Southern Chimney Sweeping covers Jackson, Marshall, DeKalb and Cherokee Counties, but will go most anywhere in the area to inspect and clean a chimney. "Just cleaning the chimney is not the only thing a professional chimney sweep is concerned with, and a thorough inspection of the entire system is part of the package. I check to see if the heat source is properly installed, if smoke detectors work and are in the proper places, if fire extinguishers are in good working order and are the right kind, if clearances have been met and if the flue is safely installed."

"I like relating to people," Dennis talked of his chosen profession, "and making new friends. The job gives me a lot of satisfaction, other than the obvious one of working physically, because I feel I may have played a part in preventing one of the worst tragedies that could happen to a family."

"Wood heat is one of the warmest and cheapest heat sources available, and the wood is a renewable resource also. There are certain cautions which apply when using any heat source: never disconnect the fire detector, and have it placed before the first sleeping area. It is not usually the fire that kills people, it is the smoke. Every second counts in a fire. Also, people do not realize that a combustible material is subject to a process called 'pyrolysis.' This is when the combustion point of the substance is lowered through constant application of heat. For instance, if a wall is too close to a heater, it might not flame at first



for it will not flame until the temperature reaches 300 degrees, but after a few months or years, the constant drying effect of the heater lowers the degrees, thus if one filled the heater full on a cold day and brought the heat to 300 degrees and the wall had lowered to 200 degrees, the wall could catch fire."

"All chimneys should have a liner or they are considered unsafe. However, many homes, especially in this area, are just like they were constructed before proper fire codes were in effect. They need to be brought up to date before using."

"Creosote buildup is a major problem. Not only is burning green wood a contributor to this, but wet wood is too. It must dry out as it burns and this creates more smoke and wood gasses such as creosote. Ideally, a fire should burn cleanly. A fireplace doesn't have as much creosote as when it has an insert because the fireplace loses more heat up the chimney, keeping only about 60 percent in the house. This heats the chimney and doesn't allow as much wood gas to form on the sides as it will when the chimney is cooler. The worst thing that can be done is to install a wood heater to discharge into the fireplace chimney. About 90 percent of the heat is retained in the house, causing the chimney to be too cool. Then the fire is allowed to smolder. This creates more unburned wood gasses as the wood strains to get enough oxygen to burn."

"A chimney needs a good cap to prevent water damage and to prevent small animals and birds from getting in and building nests. I have found snake skins in chimneys; I was just grateful the snakes were not still wearing them."

Dennis Dobbs provides a service that gives the homeowner an edge when it comes to safety from heat-source related fires. In an area of such great importance as this, it is "pound foolish and penny wise" to neglect something so crucial. "I feel the job I do is important, and I take it seriously. I am TVA certified, fully insured and a member of the National Chimney Sweep Guild. I give senior citizen discounts, and complete fire inspections which include planning a fire escape route and procedure. I realize this is serious business."

Dennis can be contacted at 205-845-9814. The National Fire Protection Agency recommends that all wood heat appliances be inspected if not cleaned yearly by a qualified professional.

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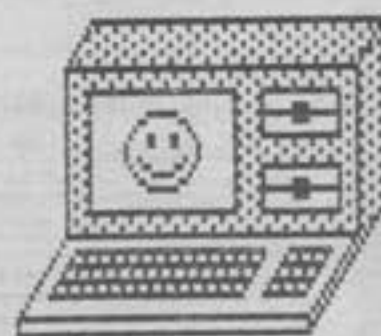
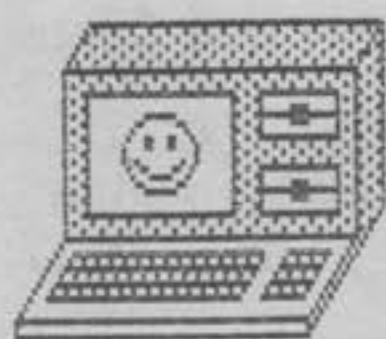
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THE LOG CABIN —Put Another Log On The Fire



Collette Forester

The old cabin sits atop an embankment in the heart of historic downtown Mentone. It is just a stone's throw from the brow of Lookout Mountain, and the view from the rustic porch is of the heritage of a little town which retains a feeling of the old days while making welcome those things which enhance the present, such as the new bike and walking trail that will connect all the businesses together.

When the weather is right, guests enjoy the tables on the porch and just relaxing in the big porch swing. When the rain blows in gusts or the chill fills the air, the cabin waits with roaring fireplace and warm wooden tables, handmade and lit by lamps in bushel baskets.

The cabin has a history of greeting people — it was built as a trading post in the valley between Fort Payne and Valley Head. The highway took a different route then, and the store was on the old road.

When Jack Jones, Mentone Area Preservation Association Director and owner of Cloudmont Ski Resort dismantled the cabin in 1977, he made sure each piece was numbered and reassembled exactly as it was. The dining room floors, ceiling and logs as well as the fireplace are just like they were for over a century, for the cabin was originally built between 1800 and 1836. The Deli was the first structure in the Log Cabin Craft Village and serves as the focal point of that complex of old log cabins and new structures which house shops offering treasures of all kinds.

A tin roof was added to compliment the weathered look and a little dining alcove was built with windows all around so that guests can enjoy the view from inside the building. Hand-tooled leather seats, ladder-backed chairs and priscilla curtains accent the rough planks and wide board floors.

Collette Forester, the present owner, purchased new equipment, updated the heating and cooling system and added special decorating touches throughout the cabin. Collette owned a hunting lodge in South Dakota before coming to the mountain to live. She has a knack for providing those unique touches, both in the atmosphere and feeling of the place and in the sumptuous food. She makes an extra effort to offer the best the area has to give, such as "specially-baked breads from Earthgrains in Fort Payne. "We pride ourselves on foods cooked fresh each day, and nothing is deep-fat fried or cooked on a griddle. It is all prepared the old-fashioned way — from scratch — just like it has always been done in mountain homes."

The guests of the Mentone Inn, Cloudmont and DeSoto Park often dine at the Log Cabin and much of the business is from repeat customers. "We like to make everyone feel at home, tourists and local people alike. We hope that our guests feel welcome and comfortable. We want everyone to be met with a smile, for each staff member is like a member of the Deli family."



Gail Crider, Log Cabin Chef.

The Log Cabin clientele prefer country cooking, and they are not disappointed, for the cooks Gail Crider and Tom White prepare everything from pinto beans and cornbread to chili corn pone. Gail has been with the Deli for eight years; Tom is a recent graduate of Berea College in Kentucky. Brian Evans is part-time assistant cook also. All the staff are from the local area. Waitresses Kim Cash and Dow Clifton attend college and work at the Deli too. So does Lee Ann Parks whose mother is Wanda Simmons, owner of a craft cabin behind the Deli. Vicki Biddle is from Valley Head and dishwashers Betty Novak and Tabitha Howard are too. "The staff here is loyal to the place and I know it means more than just a job to them. They mean a lot to me," Collette talked of her helpers. "We have get-togethers throughout the year — Christmas parties, cookouts, birthday celebrations. I consider these people my family, and I hope they feel the same way about me. "The community has really made me feel welcome. Many have gone out of their way to help — cutting sticks for the fire, a tip about chairs for the porch, a repair job on the chimney, fixing a leaky faucet. People have been wonderful to me and I want to thank them."

The busiest time of the year for the Deli is the summer months, especially during the festivals held in Mentone several times a year. "We mostly depend on local people in the wintertime. We provide a service to the community, and they in turn support us. We give information to tourists and try to help when there is a crisis or special need in the community."

The Log Cabin Deli fare is perfectly suited to the mountain home atmosphere — big sandwiches on specially-baked breads or a simple peanut-butter and jelly or banana on thick slices of whole wheat or white, homemade soup and chili, fresh-cooked vegetables and meats such as country ham with red-eye gravy, country fried steak and liver smothered in onions. Every Sunday chicken and dressing is the treat of the day. Seasonal favorites are offered, such as pumpkin pie in the autumn and meat loaf in the winter. Desserts are delicious year 'round and the Deli hot fudge nut cake is famous. The banana pudding, the cheesecake and the homemade cobblers add the perfect finishing touch to any meal.

There is sometimes live entertainment at the Log Cabin. This past summer, three counselors from the local camps provided musical evenings. "We would like for the Deli to be a meeting place for local people to hold folk musicals. It would be nice to plan community social nights, especially during the winter."

Whether it is just to get a refreshing drink in a Mason jar or a full meal, the Log Cabin offers the hospitality that has been the hallmark of this part of the country for generations. The Deli is Mentone and the mountain at its finest.

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The Fire Tower

A Short Story By

Howard Cash Marsh

Abandoned to the responsibility of the eyes of the surrounding populace, the fire tower no longer serves the purpose for which it was built. In fact, it serves no purpose at all. But this is not a story about the tower in itself, though many tales have undoubtedly originated from its lofty perch, but more so a story which would never have unfolded without its presence.

First dates are often last dates. The awkwardness, the fumbling blunders, the first impressions, the perspiration, the "what should I do and what should I not do," and the whole excitably uncomfortable air of a first date weaves its way into the usual. On this particular occasion, the classic lack of composure ended with my decision to take my date to the fire tower.

She was all heart when it came to climbing the many flights of wooden stairs leading toward our destination — the top of an otherwise metal structure rising 95 feet above the ground. We paused once to catch our breath, then continued to the last platform of boards which punctuated each flight of steps.

We relaxed and enjoyed the setting sun. The moon was just visible hovering over the horizon like a big red ball. The panoramic view held our gaze, and the crickets ushered in the night. The darkness lightened as the full moon climbed into the sky, and if ever there was a romantic setting for a first date, this was it.

We talked for awhile — of the scenery, of this and that, then she declared, "Let's go inside." Thoughts of passion entered my mind and as we climbed through the trap door into the darkened interior of the small room, I was intrigued by the hope of things to come.

Several windows were broken, allowing the wind to flutter the old papers scattered here and there. The center pedestal was still bolted to the floor, but the transit was gone. I wondered what it must have been like to have worked in such a lonely outpost.

We looked into each other's eyes — questioning, longing — and I wonder what the outcome would have been. As I started to close the trap door, I became petrified by what I saw. The stairs were on fire. We were trapped!

The romantic moment we had shared just moments before was gone completely. The fire's heat was intense, the stairs exploding and popping. The flames were leaping upward, engulfing the stairs like a set of tumbling dominoes. Escape down the stairs was impossible, and to stay in that metal box would have meant being cooked.

"The guide wires!" she screamed.

"What?"

"The guide wires! Let's slide down one!"

It seemed like a smart idea at the time, and I could not think of a better alternative. I looked around for something to keep the wire from cutting our hands and found nothing. I had to act fast; the metal deck was beginning to get hot. I tore off my shirt and ripped it in half. My companion was already perched on the window ledge and after I handed her half the shirt, she began sliding to safety. I was right behind her.

Once on the ground she asked, "Do you treat all your dates this way?"

I wondered if she was really angry or just being cute and was about to answer when she yelled. Several dark, naked men had surrounded us. They spoke a language neither of us could understand, and in spite of my macho attempts of heroic action we were quickly subdued.

They bound my wrists with leather straps and led us through the forest woodlands where I had been many times before. But they were somehow different. The oaks and pines were huge. There was no underbrush, and the trail was a soft carpet of pine needles and moss. We crossed a small meadow and descended to a cluster of rock ledges adjacent to the river. There were many people there — some were tending fires, some scraping skins. One was heating a flint rock. I watched in amazement as he took a thin reed and dropped cold water onto the red hot flint. It chipped. He was making an arrowhead!

Children ran up to us and laughed before scampering away. The peacefulness of the whole scene was overpowering. I pinched myself to convince myself that it wasn't a dream.

A man who seemed to be the leader or chief sat unceremoniously cross-legged, unmoving as we were brought before him and forced to sit. He raised his hands and the women took their children and left. The men of the village encircled the three of us and sat in likewise fashion.

The Chief spoke. My companion and I looked at each other in surprise — he spoke in perfect, unbroken English. "You will accompany me to a place I will show you. You will neither speak nor will you try to escape if you wish to see your people again. Take off your moccasins and follow me."

We obeyed his demand and followed him on a series of trails that were wonderfully soft to our bare feet. The short walk ended at a different place on the river.

"Sit here." The Indian pointed to the same rock my date had been sitting on at the swimming hole where we had first met. Only the place was so very different. There wasn't a dam to hold back the water to form the swimming hole, and the trees were magnificent. A doe and her fawn crossed the river, apparently unafraid.

The Chief took a small pouch from around his neck and put some of its contents into a beautifully carved pipe. He took from a different pouch a glowing coal. He looked piercingly into our eyes: "We will now smoke. What you will do about what you see is your decision."

My date and I inhaled the mild smoke, taking turns until the contents were used up. The Chief pointed to the surroundings. It was no longer night, nor was it quiet and unspoiled. He looked at us and we could see the tears in his eyes.

There were strange people, and they were oblivious to our presence. One finished a bottle of beer and threw it near where we sat. It broke into many places, joining the other fragments of glass, cans and discarded food wrappers. Another person tossed a disposable diaper into the water. Still another tossed a cigarette carelessly into the brush.

A moment passed and it was as before. The Chief rose and after placing the pipe into its pouch, he spoke once more: "Close your eyes. Listen to the quiet and smell the way it once was. You cannot retreat from progress, but the earth is your life — and you are killing her."

We smelled the air. We listened to the sounds of the cool forest. Then we opened our eyes. Once again, we were in the fire tower, and looking into each other's eyes. The trap door was open, and there was no fire.

But on the ground below, next to the guide wire, lay my shirt — torn in half.

Governor Files Lawsuit

Gov. Guy Hunt, having exhausted three months of administrative efforts to stop the shipment of 47,000 tons of PCB-contaminated dirt to Alabama from Texas, called on the attorney general Wednesday to file a lawsuit to block the shipment.

Gov. Hunt invited Attorney General Don Siegelman to join him at a news conference where he announced that the full legal resources of the state will be applied to a lawsuit to try to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from allowing the shipment to the hazardous waste landfill near Emelle in Sumter County.

Gov. Hunt and other state officials learned of the planned PCB shipment through newspaper stories, and were not notified by EPA or Texas officials that a decision had been made not to dispose of the wastes in Texas. Gov. Hunt asked the EPA on June 22 to stop the shipment and launch a full investigation of the decision.

Siegelman and the state's congressional delegation promptly joined the governor's efforts, and the group of state officials worked through the summer to get the shipment stalled. But EPA ended an unrelated investigation of Chemical Waste Management's operation at Emelle this week, apparently clearing the way for the shipments to begin.

"In our view we have exhausted administrative remedies necessary to prevent the contaminated Texas dirt from being shipped to Alabama," Gov. Hunt said at a morning news conference. "The attorney general and I have been communicating and we believe that it's necessary at this time to file a lawsuit. We will be cooperating fully with the attorney general, we will be working with him to make sure we bring the best minds together. We believe of course that the EPA has violated their own rules."

Gov. Hunt said that in the wake of EPA's fining of Chemical Waste Management and the ending of the unrelated investigation, "it seems to us that they may be preparing to receive the dirt at this time. We think a lawsuit immediately is timely. The attorney general has given the 60-day notice as is required by the EPA rules, and so he is ready to enter that lawsuit at the present time."

Gov. Hunt believes EPA failed to follow the intent of Congress by allowing the contaminated soil to be shipped to Alabama instead of being treated in Texas. The governor also believes EPA violated the rights of Alabamians by not allowing the state's citizens the same rights to public comment about the matter that were granted to the citizens of Texas.

New Arrival



Mr. and Mrs. Danny Stone of Mentone, Ala., proudly announce the arrival of their 7 pound baby boy, Daniel Jacob Stone, born on Sept. 5, Labor Day.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Fox of Collinsville, Ala., and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stone of Albertville, Ala., and the late Sallie May Stone of Alexander City, Ala.



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Seven Flags Over Alabama

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America . . ."

Reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance" is one of the first lessons in citizenship every child learns. It teaches them to respect their flag and what it represents. Flags have always stood as symbols of a country and its land, people, government and ideals.

Alabama has seen seven flags fly over it since 1519. These include those of the United States, State of Alabama, Confederate States of America, Republic of Alabama, Great Britain, France and Spain. All seven may be seen en masse at Fort Morgan in Gulf Shores. They also fly alone or in assorted combinations at various points in the state.

The Spanish were the first Europeans to explore Alabama, coming here in 1519. Their flag at that time was the Royal Standard of Spain, depicting two red squares with gold castles and two white squares with red lions. The castles symbolized Castile and the lions, Leon. Castile and Leon were the two oldest states of that country.

France was the first to establish a permanent settlement in Alabama — Fort Louis de la Mobile in 1702. During that period, their flag had three gold fleurs-de-lis on a field of white. The fleur-de-lis, a stylized three-petaled iris flower, was an emblem identified with French kings.

France lost Alabama to the British after the French and Indian War in 1763. The fleurs-de-lis came down and the Union Jack went up. This flag, still used by the United Kingdom today, incorporates the symbols of three countries: England's red cross of St. George on a white field;

Scotland's white cross of St. Andrew on a blue field and Ireland's red cross of St. Patrick on a field of white.

The Revolutionary War sent the British home and in 1819 Alabama joined the United States as the 22nd state. It is well known that "Old Glory," as the American flag is affectionately called, consists of 13 alternating red and white stripes representing the original colonies and a blue canton with a white star for each state. Stars for Alabama and Maine, which joined the Union shortly afterward, were added to the flag on July 4, 1820.

Escalating tensions between the North and South led to Alabama's secession from the United States in 1861 and establishment of the short-lived Republic of Alabama, which had an unusual blue flag with different designs on each side. On one, a red-gowned goddess of liberty stood with a sword and flag beneath the words "Independent Now and Forever." On the other, a rattlesnake was coiled beneath a cotton plant in bloom; the words "Noli Me Tangere" (Latin for "Tread Not on Me") appeared under these.

Within a month, Alabama was a state again — this time, as part of the Confederate States of America. The Confederacy's first flag was the Stars and Bars, with three broad stripes of red and white and a blue canton with stars for the seceding states arranged in a circle. It closely resembled the U. S. flag, so troops used a different design for their battle flag. This had 13 stars for the Southern states inside a blue cross, bordered in white, upon a red field.

In 1863, the Confederate Stainless Banner became the new national flag; it depicted the battle flag set in the up-

per left corner of a white field. It resembled a flag of truce when it hung limp, so a red bar was added to the fly end in 1865. This was the last national flag of the Confederacy, which lost the Civil War that year.

During the war, President Abraham Lincoln did not allow the stars representing the Southern states to be removed from the U. S. flag. Therefore, it was not necessary to put any new stars on the flag when Alabama and the other Southern states rejoined the Union.

Alabama's state flag, adopted in 1895, consists of a crimson cross of St. Andrew on a field of white. As a study of history will show, the cross — symbolizing Christianity — has been a great influence in flag designs worldwide. Alabama has one of the most easily identifiable flags of the 50 states; it is the only one that is shaped in a perfect square.

The cultures flourishing under each of these seven flags left their imprint on Alabama. Some examples are Childersburg's DeSoto Caverns (Spain), Mobile's Fort Conde (France), Montgomery's Alabama Shakespeare Festival theatre (Great Britain), various antebellum homes statewide (Republic of Alabama and the Confederacy) and Birmingham's medical center and Huntsville's space program (United States).

For more information on Alabama, the state of seven flags, contact the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel, Dept. AT, 532 South Perry Street, Montgomery, AL 36104.

—Russell Nolen

COUNTRY COOKIN'

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CANDIED RED APPLES

- 10 medium apples
- 3 cups sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup water
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 15 whole cloves
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon cream of tartar
- 2 to 3 drops of red food coloring

Wash and dry apples; remove stems. Insert wooden skewers into stem end of each apple. Set aside.

Combine remaining ingredients in a heavy saucepan; stir well. Cook over medium heat, without stirring, until candy thermometer reaches hard crack stage (300 degrees). Remove cloves.

Quickly dip apples in syrup, covering entire surface; allow excess to drip off. Place apples on lightly buttered baking sheets to cool. To store, wrap tightly in plastic wrap. Yield: 10 servings.

MAPLE-PECAN PIE

- 3 eggs, well beaten
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar
- 1 cup maple or maple-flavored syrup
- Dash of salt
- 3 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 cup pecan halves
- 1 unbaked 9-inch pastry shell

Combine first 5 ingredients, mixing well. Sprinkle pecans evenly in pastry shell. Pour syrup mixture over pecans.

Bake at 400 degrees for 12 minutes. Reduce heat to 375 degrees, and bake 35 minutes or until set. Yield: One 9-inch pie.

BROWN SUGAR PECANS

- 2 egg whites
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
- 2 cups pecan halves

Beat egg whites (at room temperature) until stiff peaks form. Gradually add sugar, beating until well blended. Fold in remaining ingredients.

Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto greased cookie sheets. Bake at 250 degrees for 30 minutes. Remove from sheet to wire racks to cool. Yield: 6 to 7 dozen.

ACORN SQUASH DELIGHT

- 2 acorn squash
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter or margarine
- 1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon sugar
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup water

Cut squash in half, and remove seeds. Place 1 tablespoon butter, 1 teaspoon sugar, and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cinnamon in each squash half.

Place squash, cut side up, in a 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking dish. Pour water into dish. Cover and bake at 400 degrees for about 45 minutes or until squash is tender. Yield: 4 servings.

SAVORY BREAD STUFFING

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup finely chopped celery
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped onion
- 3 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 quart bread cubes, soft
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon savory
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon pepper

Cook celery, onion and parsley in butter or margarine until tender, mix lightly with remaining ingredients. Stuff inside the turkey, or bake covered in separate pan during last hour of roasting turkey. Makes four cups, uncooked.

NOTE: Allow about $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of stuffing per pound of ready-to-cook turkey. For more moist stuffing when baked separately, add one tablespoon of chicken or turkey broth per cup of uncooked stuffing.

VARIATIONS

Oyster Stuffing: Reduce celery to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup and parsley to one tablespoon. Add 12 fluid ounces of oysters, heated for three minutes in their own liquid and drained.

Cornbread Stuffing: Omit bread cubes and savory. Add 1 quart of cornbread crumbs and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of thyme.

Fruit Stuffing: Omit parsley and savory. Reduce bread cubes to three cups. Add $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of chopped tart apple and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of cooked, pitted, chopped prunes.

TURKEY GRAVY

- 1 tablespoon butter or margarine
- 3 tablespoons flour
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups turkey broth

BAKED CARAMEL CORN

- 3 quarts freshly popped popcorn
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped pecans
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup light corn syrup
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon soda
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla extract

Combine popcorn and pecans in a lightly greased 15 x 10 x 1-inch jelly-roll pan; mix well and set aside.

Melt butter over low heat in a medium saucepan. Add brown sugar, corn syrup and salt; bring to a boil, and boil five minutes without stirring. Remove from heat; stir in soda and vanilla.

Pour syrup over popcorn mixture, stirring until popcorn is evenly coated. Bake at 300 degrees for 30 minutes, stirring after 15 minutes. Cool completely, and break into pieces. Store in airtight containers. Yield: Nine cups.

SWEET POTATO MUFFINS

- $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups all-purpose flour
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup coarsely chopped pecans or walnuts
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups cooked, mashed sweet potatoes
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup milk
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter or margarine, melted
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground cinnamon

Combined first six ingredients in a large bowl, stirring well. Make a well in center of mixture. Combine the next four ingredients, stirring well; add to dry ingredients, mixing just until moistened.

Spoon batter into greased muffin pans, filling two-thirds full. Combine $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle over each muffin. Bake at 425 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes. Yield: About $1\frac{1}{2}$ dozen.

PUMPKIN CAKE

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 (16-ounce) can pumpkin
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons soda
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup flaked coconut
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped pecans

Frosting (recipe follows)
Combine sugar, pumpkin, oil, and eggs; beat 1 minute at medium speed of electric mixer. Combine next 5 ingredients; add to pumpkin mixture. Beat 1 minute at medium speed of an electric mixer. Stir in coconut and pecans. Pour batter into three greased and floured 8-inch round cakepans. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes or until cake tests done. Cool in pans 10 minutes; remove from pans, and cool completely. Spread frosting between layers and on top of cake. Yield: One three-layer cake.

FROSTING

- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (16-ounce) package powdered sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped pecans
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup flaked coconut

Combine butter and cream cheese; beat until light and fluffy. Add sugar and vanilla, mixing well. Stir in pecans and coconut. Yield: Enough frosting for one three-layer cake.

CREAMY CORN PUDDING

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup milk
- 1 (17-ounce) can cream-style corn
- 3 eggs

Melt butter in a heavy saucepan over low heat; add flour, sugar and salt, stirring until smooth. Cook one minute, stirring constantly. Gradually add milk; cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until thickened and bubbly. Remove mixture from heat, and stir in corn.

Beat eggs well. Gradually stir about one-fourth of hot mixture into beaten eggs; add to remaining hot mixture, stirring constantly.

Pour into a buttered $1\frac{1}{2}$ -quart casserole. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Yield: Six servings.

FRIED PEACH PIES

- $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup shortening
- 1 egg, beaten
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup plus 1 tablespoon evaporated milk
- 1 (8-ounce) package dried peaches
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups water
- $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar

Vegetable oil
Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt; cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse meal. Combine egg and milk; mix well, and stir into flour mixture just until moistened. Cover mixture, and chill 24 hours.

Cut peaches into quarters. Bring peaches and water to a boil; simmer, uncovered, 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in sugar.

Divide pastry into 22 to 24 portions. On a lightly floured surface, roll each portion to a 3-inch circle.

Place about 1 tablespoon peach mixture on each pastry circle. Moisten edges of circles; fold pastry in half, making sure edges are even.

Using a fork dipped in flour, press edges of pastry together to seal. Prick pastry two or three times.

Heat one inch of oil to 375 degrees. Cook pies until golden brown, turning only once. Drain well. Yield: About two dozen.

New Oregon
United Methodist Church

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Oregon Church was founded in 1877 by a group of people who migrated by wagon train from East Tennessee and Virginia. Their original destination was the state of Oregon. Part of the train decided to settle in this area. There was plenty of land to homestead and the soil seemed fertile. After they built homes the need of a church and school became desirable. William and Mary Costello donated an acre of land and a small log church was constructed. The building was to be used as a school and a "free preaching place" for any ordained minister. The Methodist Episcopal Church South was to have preference on their regular preaching days. When a name was sought someone suggested Oregon since that had been their original goal. This location was about one mile north of the present church.

In 1888 the church was moved to the present location. This plot of ground was donated by Andrew T. and Eliza J. Baker. The present sanctuary is the original structure. The church was then renamed New Oregon. This past summer the Vacation Bible School celebrated the 100th birthday of the New Oregon United Methodist Church.

Over the years the church has been a part of a mission with eight churches located in DeKalb and Cherokee Counties, a part of the Lookout Mountain circuit with six churches, the New Oregon-Pleasant View charge, and in 1976 it became independent with a full-time minister. More than 50 ministers have served the congregation over the 111 years of its existence.

Despite its being an old church, the membership is on the youngish side. Rev. R. Terry Bentley is the pastor.



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