

**Celebrating
11 Years
in Print**

THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone • Valley Head • Hammondville • Cloudland • Menlo

**Provided FREE
Since 1982
by M.A.P.A.**

Volume 11, No. 10

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

October, 1993

Schedule of Events

Monday-Friday, October 4-9
DeKalb Co. VFW Agricultural Fair

Monday, October 11
Columbus Day

Friday through Sunday
October 15, 16, and 17
11th Annual October Colorfest

Saturday, October 23
Church of God
Fundraising Dinner

Sunday, October 31
Halloween
Daylight Savings Time Ends, 2:00 a.m.

Tuesday, November 2, 4 p.m.-9 p.m.
MAPA Community Picnic
Shady Grove Dude Ranch, Mentone
(See *Mapa Minutes* for details.)

Saturday, November 6
5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Annual Harvest Festival
Moon Lake School Gym, Mentone

1993 OCTOBER COLORFEST



The photos are of the 1992 Colorfest parade, Groundhog Run, and entertainment by Tony Goggans

MOON LAKE HARVEST FESTIVAL!!!

Moon Lake School's annual **HARVEST FESTIVAL** will be Saturday, November 6th from 5:30 p.m. until 9:00 in the school gym. The **HARVEST FESTIVAL**, a long-standing tradition of the community, is the school's annual fundraising event. It involves parents of the children presently attending Moon Lake School, as well as parents whose children went to Moon Lake, 5, 10, 20 plus years ago.

Fundraising efforts are being conducted by each of the classes at the school from now until November 6th. The **FESTIVAL** itself consists of a night of games and fun at the school gym, supper served throughout the evening, the crowning of kings and queens of the competition, an auction, door prizes, and a general good time with folks in the community who support the faculty body of Moon Lake School.

Mark your calendars now, and keep that Saturday night free. Plan to spend it supporting the work of Moon Lake School in this community. There is nothing else quite like it!

The brilliant hues of fall will provide the backdrop for Mentone's annual October Colorfest on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 15-17. The Colorfest begins on Friday evening with a roaring bonfire, the telling of ghost stories, marshmallow roast, and music, all beginning at 7 p.m. Terry Hutcheson will be the emcee.

Saturday begins with a bang of a starting gun at 9 a.m. for the Groundhog Fun Run, followed by the Groundhog Classic Run at 9:30. (See picture above and flyer on back page.) Race winners will be announced at 10:30 a.m. At noon, the winner of the scarecrow contest will be announced. (See contest write up elsewhere.) A parade will be at 2:00 p.m. featuring the stagecoach (see picture above), horses and riders, Valley Head Band, and much more. Crafts will be exhibited on Mentone's Brow Park on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Free wagon rides to the brow park will be provided by Jack Jones and Ed Jones from in front of the White Elephant and Ye Ole

Heritage House Restaurant to the brow (approximately 1.3 miles each way). The North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Department and the DeSoto Rescue Squad will be assisting with the parking of cars in the designated areas behind the White Elephant and on the brow. Throughout the weekend, boat rides at DeSoto Falls will be available for \$2.50 a ticket. Tony Goggans will be providing entertainment both Saturday and Sunday. Capping off the festival is the drawing at 4 p.m. Sunday for the quilt.

The purpose of the Colorfest is to enjoy the fall colors, experience fun on the mountain, enjoy the crafts, and entertainment—and just celebrate fall! Come and participate—join in the festivities.

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1
Mentone, AL 35984

CAR-RT-SORT
Postal Customer
Mentone, AL 35984



The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

It's times like this morning when I am dashing around trying to do two billion things that I think about quick, easy, and good recipes. Today, I am trying to get to Huntsville to a weaving workshop, and my sweet husband has been trying to get me together and organized.

Stay-a-bed Stew

The I Hate To Cook Cookbook
by Peg Bracken

Mix these things up in a casserole that has a tight lid:

- 2 lbs. beef stew meat cubed
- 1 can peas or green beans
- 1 C sliced carrots
- 2 C chopped onions
- 1 can of soup thinned with 1/2 can of water (cream of tomato, mushroom, celery, or your favorite)
- 1 big raw potato sliced
- bay leaf
- salt and pepper to taste

Put lid on casserole and put the casserole into a 275 degree oven. Go on about your chores, and it will be done in 5 hours.

Golden Apple Chunks

- 4 medium cooking apples, peeled, quartered, and cored.
- 1/4 C brown sugar, packed
- 1 t cinnamon
- 2 T butter or margarine

Place apples in 1-quart microproof casserole. Combine brown sugar and cinnamon in small bowl. Sprinkle over apples. Dot with butter. Cook, covered, in microwave on HI (max. power) 7-8 minutes, stirring after 4 minutes. This is good with frozen yogurt, ice cream, or whipped topping; as a dessert, or plain as a side dish.



Scarecrow Contest



A Special Event of the COLORFEST - SPONSORED BY M.A.P.A.

GRAND PRIZE - \$25 CASH

Winner's prize and participant awards also. Winning Scarecrow (and owner) will be featured in next issue of the GROUNDHOG.

Contest Rules:

1. Scarecrows may be male or female.
2. Only one (1) scarecrow per entry form. Families may enter more than one, but EACH scarecrow must have a separate entry form.
3. Harvest time "scenes" are encouraged, but only scarecrows will be judged.
4. All scarecrows must be large enough to be seen easily from the roadway.
5. ANY material(s) may be used—use your imagination!
6. All scarecrows must be completed and displayed in yards NO LATER THAN 9:00 AM, Saturday, October 16th.
7. Entry forms (below) must be received at the GROUNDHOG OFFICE by Friday, October 15th—by 5:00 PM. (Put in box.)
8. Judging will be conducted Sat., Oct. 16th. WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT NOON.

SCARECROW CONTEST

Let's Celebrate the Colors - and Decorate Our Town!

Name _____
Scarecrow's Address _____
Phone # _____
Scarecrow's "Name" _____
(If family of scarecrows, list name(s): _____
Business entry Address _____
Phone # _____

BACK INJURY ON THE JOB!

That sudden sharp pain could mean a pinched nerve or slipped disc. Don't wait for the pain to go away! Get treated immediately! Back injury is a serious matter. Vital nerve functioning can be blocked often resulting in:

- 1 LOW BACK & LEG PAIN
- 2 NECK, SHOULDER & ARM PAIN
- 3 HEADACHE & DIZZINESS
- 4 SWELLING & STIFFNESS



THE ELROD CLINIC combines the most modern equipment and techniques with highly trained professionals specializing in spine and nerve rehabilitation.

So why live with pain? Call now for a consultation.

(205) 845-0047

The Elrod Clinic of Chiropractic

Dr. H. Edward Elrod

1000E Gault Avenue, S. • Fort Payne, AL 35967



Best Western of Fort Payne

1828 Gault Ave., North
Fort Payne, AL 35967

Book Christmas Parties Now

Reservations
1-800-528-1234

Each Best Western is independently owned and operated

DR. STEVE McGEE

Chiropractor

"DRUGLESS Family Health Care"

Open Monday-Saturday

1913 Godfrey Ave., N.E.
Fort Payne, Alabama
(205) 845-2819



Pick-up or Leave Entry's at

LITTLE RIVER HARDWARE
TOWN HALL
KOUNTRY CHEF
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PROPERTIES
(Blinker light)

or

call JANE BOULDIN, CHAIRMAN,
SCARECROW CONTEST
634-4225.



Copiers
Calculators
Facsimile
Machines



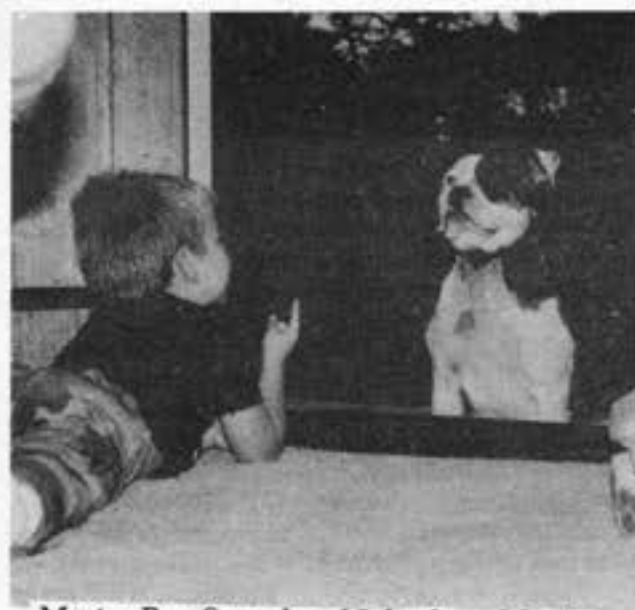
Riddle

OFFICE
PRODUCTS

845-3000
723 Gault Ave. N.



FAX#
845-6396



Master Ben Sword and Jake from Menlo

Fan Letter to Brutus

September 21, 1993

Dear Brutus,

We haven't ever met, but from your column in *The Groundhog*, I feel like I know you. My name is Jake, and I live in Menlo. I am a really big fan of yours.

Things here in Menlo are pretty peaceful, much like life in Mentone, I would imagine. From where I live on the hill, I can see most of what goes on. Occasionally, I hear a siren of a passing ambulance or sheriff's car. That creates quite a stir with all the other dogs in town howling at the noise. I can also hear the chimes at the Presbyterian Church. They add a nice touch to our little town.

One of these days, I'm going to slip off down to Lucky's Supermarket and see if Mike Woodard would slip a pitiful-looking bulldog a big, fat, juicy steak out the back door. While I'm out, I think I'll drop by the post office and leave Vance Adams a note on his tires!

I've seen a lot of commotion going on around the old Chevron building. I overheard someone say that Tim Hegwood was moving his used car dealership to that location. He sure has improved the looks of the building.

Must be almost lunch time. I can smell the food cooking at Maxwell's Restaurant. Maybe I'll go down there and see if they have any scraps. Then, maybe I'll drop by Ballard Hardware to see if Mr. Gene Ballard has any cookies to spare. If not, I'm sure I could catch up on the local news anyway.

Well, I need to stretch out now for a little nap. I can hear the kids out on the playground at the school, so that means it's recess time, and it won't be long before my master, Ben, gets home. When he gets here, all he wants to do is play with me. Of course, you know, I love it! I'm sending a picture of my master, Ben, and I'm in the picture, too.

Take care of yourself behind that counter, and I'll keep in touch.

A fellow canine,

Jake

c/o Ben Swords

Menlo, GA

Ballard
Hardware and Builders
 Main Street
 Menlo, Georgia

Gene Ballard (706) 862-2211

Tim Hegwood Motor Co., Inc.

**2-Day
Grand
Opening
Gala**

Friday, October 22
 Noon (EST)
 Ribbon Cutting
 Dignitaries will be present

Saturday, October 23
 9 a.m.-Until
FREE Cokes, Hotdogs, Balloons
\$5.00 to 1st 100 visitors
(Don't have to buy or test drive)

**Menlo Georgia's
Largest Dealer**

**Highway 48
Menlo, Georgia 30731**

1-706-862-6056

CANADA'S SERVICE CENTER
 -AND AUTO PARTS-
 7th Avenue, Menlo (706) 862-2312

Heavy Duty Shocks • Premium Gas Shocks
 -INSTALLATION AVAILABLE-

Also: Oil Filter, Air Filters (Most Cars)

Maxwell's Restaurant
 Hwy. 48, Menlo, Georgia • (706) 862-6075

Family Style Plates

3 Vegetables	Meat and 3 Vegetables
\$2.49	\$3.49

Breakfast Every Day with Homemade Biscuits

Elaine Maxwell, Owner
 Mon.-Fri. 6-6, Sat. 6-5

Hunters Welcome
 Phone Orders Welcome

MENLO DOINGS

By JoAnne Christian

"Storytime" takes place in the Menlo Library at 3:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month.

All the area is proud of Joe and Sara Pless for the Governor's award their Lookout Restaurant received. It was the first time the Quality citation had been presented.

Menlo's Avon lady, Mrs. Addie Hegwood, is recuperating at home after recent surgery. Mrs. Hegwood is mother to six children: Steve, Tim, Ross, Danny, Mark, and Ann. She is also one of Menlo's sweetest and most popular ladies.

The newly-formed Cloudland Rescue Squad has just completed CPR classes. The group is now beginning rope rappelling. Any volunteers are welcome. The squad is Cloudland-based, but will respond to any emergencies when needed. The group plans to sponsor two ham and turkey shoots. The first is to be held on Saturday, November 13, and the other is set for Saturday, December 11. The events will be held at the Cloudland Nursery, located across from the Cloudland Trade Center. Money raised will be applied to new emergency equipment.

Green Mountain Gallery, located across from the Lookout Restaurant in Cloudland, is now open for business. The Gallery is a health food store and gift shop. Owners Diane Stewart and Rickie Hopkins offer herbs, books, music, cards, magazines, jewelry, and art, as well as many other gift items. Specializing in Native American items, they can also order any book or tape on customer's request.

Lillian and Buster Chamblee have really had their share of company lately! A mini-family reunion is taking place at their house. Mr. and Mrs. Danny Chamblee were here last weekend from Myrtle Beach, SC, with their twin daughters, Betsy and Lillie, and daughter Helen. All three children are child models for such products as Fischer Price Toys. Father Danny has a photography business in Myrtle Beach. The group toured Rock City while on their visit to Menlo.

The weekend of October 25th, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Chamblee Jr., from Greenville, SC, and Mr. and Mrs. David Chamblee of Dunwoody, GA will arrive in Menlo for a stay with their parents.

Tim Hegwood Motor Co. has moved to its new location where the Chevron Station formerly stood. The large sign Tim left at his old location announces the move by stating, "Tim Hegwood Motor Co. has moved just a #4 iron up the street."

**FARMERS
& MERCHANTS
BANK** **YES!** **We Will!**

-Since 1926-

(706) 857-3431

We appreciate Menlo & Cloudland

We Buy Standing Timber

**Menlo Lumber &
Pallet Company, Inc.**
 Highway 48
 Menlo, Georgia 30731

(706) 862-2131

From Between the Counter

By
BRUTUS



Before I pen another word, readers, listen up: the birthday of the magnificent canine pictured above is OCTOBER 20TH. Gifts and tributes can be planned well in advance with this early announcement. Yes, lesser people, I (THE GREAT ONE) will be two (2) years old. Plan now what you will bring to my feet! (Suggestions: chips and dip, ice cream sandwiches, Three Musketeers, creamsicles, blow pops, butterfinger bits, honey buns, etc., etc. All I ask is that offerings be edible!

Josh Baggett was in to give me sugar. But don't think for one little minute that his stingy daddy gave me anything. Oh, no. He bought ice cream (my favorite thing), and I got NONE! Push my buttons just a little more, sucker man, and I'm gonna jerk that black beard off your face. I mean, like bald!

Sible Hopper learned a dear lesson today. Leaned over (close to canine jaws) to give me a little bite of her dreamsicle, and--what could I do--but gulp it ALL. Lordy, I hate to see grown women cry.

Speaking of crying, cute little Karen Cox was boohooing her eyes out for candy the other day. Do you think Mama Teresa would cough up the moola? Wrong again. NOT! And to make it worse, told Karen to hush or Brutus would tell The Groundhog. Bad move, Mama!

Here comes Brenda Keith and her adorable little boy. Now, here's a boy child who appreciates a fabulous specimen of doghood. He'll just sit and adore me while we play. Neat kid!

Why me, Lord? Willie B. Langston just banged in. Watch this, folks--no three Musketeers bar for the resident incredible canine. He buys one can of Beanie Weenie to feed his face, not mine. In fact, he hasn't given me a bite in a week! Pitiful. I'm getting so faint from hunger, the whole store is spinning before my eyes.

Well, this has been a great day! Cody Ballenger, Jessica Jones, and Jennifer Blalock, all have been by to give me sugar. Lordy, I love all these sweet Mentone kids. They make being stomped on by Al bearable.

This was Helen Frazier's cleaning day up at the house. I thought she would never get finished making up that bed I let Pop share with me. I just circled and circled, growling to the tune "Anticipation." Finally, I jumped back in. Oh, joy! Oh, bliss! More beauty rest for the magnificent one! (I don't let Pop get too close because he may have fleas!) Whoa! Then, began the great weekly vacuum cleaner fight. Nobody knows how I hate that invention of the devil--and it sounds like he's inside of it.

All you heartless people out there can take a lesson from Sue and Sonny Crane and Ted Brazeale. Those saints sent me a get-well card after the MAJOR surgery on my paw. They recognized the suffering and pain I went through!

Cathy Crow was in today to see me come in from my walk and go into my crowd-pleasing act. (Humans think I am so cute when I do clever stuff.) In this number, I go over to the bottom candy shelf, select ONE blowpop--just one: cherry or orange--never sour apple (ugh!), go back to my "prison" between the counters, and chomp down. We're talking major pig-out time!!

Cathy says she's coming back with a video camera--certainly no more than I deserve. It will probably be made into a major canine movie!

Okay, those readers who still doubt my charm, virility, magnificence, etc., etc., just check out my EAN mail. Humans who write for this Groundhog don't have a fan club forming for them like the truly great one, ME. (Eat your heart out, Dr. Pat!)

Til next time, it's time to be walking Pop. His "holding power" is not what it used to be!

WILD RIVER RANCH OPENS

Wild River Ranch officially opened on Labor Day weekend during the Southern Mountain Festival. The ranch is located atop Lookout Mountain near DeSoto State Park. Donald Guinn is the manager.

The ranch offers horse rentals by reservation, and reservations for three trail rides into the beautiful back country of Lookout Mountain and the Little River area. Fees are from \$12.50 to \$70 per person. Rides range in length from 1-1/2 hours to 3 days, departing from the stables and exploring various beautiful and scenic areas of the back country wilderness. Trails traverse the ridges and descend into the gorge of the Little River, exploring along the way the numerous caves and rock formations that form rock bluffs and surrounding canyons. Minimum age for riders is 6 years old. The maximum weight that the horses can safely carry is 250 pounds.

Wild River Trail Rides are offered hourly, as well as other rides, such as the River Ridge Ride, the East Fork Ride, and the all-day ride with lunch.

Colorfest trail rides will be offered during the October Colorfest, October 15-17. Wild River Festival Rides will be offered on November 13-14. Trails go all the way to Highway 35 and back.

Directions to the ranch from Highway 35: travel Lookout Mountain Parkway northward through DeSoto State Park, past the Country Store to the dead end; turn right onto County Road 165, at which point you are about three miles from the facility; travel on 165 past Camp Alpine and turn on the next paved right (marked with Wild River Ranch); pass the dead end sign; pass a dirt road to the right called Wester Road on to another dirt road marked with another WRR sign; turn right there, and go a quarter of a mile to the ranch entrance marked with rock columns and an iron gate.

Reservations can be made in person or by calling: 205-997-9207, or by mail to:

Lookout Management Corp.
Route 7, Box 649D
Fort Payne, Alabama 35967

Wild River Ranch

"Colorfest Ride"

Saturday, October 16, 9 a.m.

\$15 Per Person

Bring own horse • Limited rental mounts available

Cookout provided for modest fee charged

Crafts and Live Entertainment

For Information, Call

(205) 997-9207

HORSE CLUBS INVITED

Off DeKalb County Rd. 165
Alpine Camp Road in Mentone, Ala.



HUNTIN' AND FISHIN'

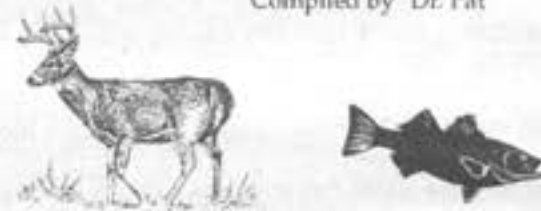
Reel Protection: Drop your fishing cap onto the ground and rest the butt-end of your rod in it when stringing up. Following this simple precaution will help prevent your reel from becoming scratched or dirty.

Tape Tip: In very cold weather, always protect the muzzle of your rifle with a strip of masking tape or electrical tape. The tape will not interfere with the accuracy of the bullet; in fact, the column of air pushed ahead of the bullet will snap the tape before the bullet itself reaches the muzzle.

Wind Indication: One of the best ways to determine wind direction while hunting is to tie a feather onto your gun barrel just in front of the end sight with a short length of durable thread. The feather will detect even the slightest drafts--breezes that customary methods of determining wind direction, such as a wet finger, cannot.

Avoid Sock Sag: Cold weather sportsmen have struggled since day one with socks that slide downward until they are a sodden, painful wad under the wearer's toes. To keep socks up where they belong, put them on first, then the long underwear. The legs of the long johns will provide friction and keep the socks securely up where they belong.

Compiled by "Dr. Pat"



FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS

& Loan Association of DeKalb County

- Convenience
- Safety
- Full Service

"We're More Than Bankers.
We're Your Neighbors & Friends"

1400 Gault Ave. N.
FORT PAYNE
845-1077

486 Main St. W.
RAINSVILLE
638-6342

Hwy. 75 & 117
IDER
657-6255



THE FIRST OFF THE MOUNTAIN

PAGE 5

By Evelyn Graves

It is amazing to me that, after 33 years in Cincinnati, Ohio, Jim Lyday has returned to Mentone unchanged in his attitude toward life, still with a strong sense of humor, and still bearing the same Southern drawl, or, as he refers to it, "the Blalock twang" to his voice. I sat for three hours and listened to him talk about his experiences and never tired, not realizing that the time had passed until the clock struck six.

Jim's recently released book, *The First Off The Mountain*, covers the first 18 years of his life. He put it together for his grandchildren who are always asking, "Granddad, tell us about when you were a little boy." Jim says it is not a research project—it is just memories of his childhood through high school. He was born on July 22, 1920. Jim's minister from Cincinnati came down to perform Jim's son's wedding at the Berry College chapel because the College chaplain was in Mexico for a Christmas vacation and was not available for the wedding. During his pastor's visit, Jim took him around the Mentone and Cloudland areas where he grew up and showed him where he walked off the mountain to Menlo to finish high school. As they made the trip, Jim commented that he was the first of his clan to finish high school. His pastor remarked, "You should write a book and call it, 'First Off The Mountain,'" which is the title he gave to his first book.

He has just completed a second book which comes after high school and covers a 10-year span from 1938-1948. This book covers his working, sawmilling, farming, college, and military service. It is being edited and put on the computer at this time, so that it can go to the publisher. He has begun a third book, which will cover his retirement years. Jim is bargaining with the Lord that he might see the year 2000. He says he does not believe he has the bargaining power that Hezekiah had when the Lord granted him 15 years after his time was up. Hezekiah told the Lord what a good man he had been, and Jim laughingly said he was not able to do that.

Jim's family moved back and forth across the mountain 14 times during his elementary school years, and he happened to be on the Georgia side of the mountain when it came time for him to go to high school. He walked off the mountain to Menlo, Georgia, because there was no school bus at that time to provide transportation.

After high school, he came back home and farmed awhile, and then went to Raymond Gap to a junior college for a period of time. That did not work out, so he came back to Mentone and sawmilled with his uncle Ray Blalock. He then bought a sawmill of his own. The draft began to get close to him, so he sold his sawmill to Ernest Shigley and Frank Green. He signed up in a program with the Navy, served three years, and came back, still not knowing what he wanted to do with his life, so he started cutting logs. Two of his



friends came by, and one of the friends, Bill Edwards, told Jim he would be back for him in 30 days when he finished his time in the military service. He talked with Jim about attending the University of Georgia and majoring in Agriculture, and assured him that this was the right thing for him to do. Jim continued to cut logs, and when his friend mustered out in 30 days, he did come back for him. Jim laid the saw down, put a few things in a bag, and headed for the University of Georgia. He signed up for the winter quarter of 1946. He was totally ignorant of college life and was apprehensive about attending, not knowing how he would do. He came out with excellent grades. While there, he met his wife, Penny, and they were married in the latter part of 1947. Jim was attending college under the GI bill, and Penny was borrowing money to attend school. After they married, she was able to attend as a GI wife, which proved to be beneficial to them financially. Jim finished college in three years and got a job teaching shop in the Agricultural Engineering Department. After three years, they moved to Clayton, Georgia, where Penny taught Home Economics, and Jim taught shop for two years. Melanie, their daughter, was born at Clayton. After two school terms were over, they moved to Monroe, Georgia, where their son, Jimmy, was born. After his birth, Penny decided to stay home with the children until they were old enough for her to leave them. Penny's sister came from Cincinnati and told Jim and Penny what good possibilities there were for teachers in Cincinnati and persuaded them to come up for interviews. They both found teaching positions right away—Jim in General Science and Penny in Home Management. They sold their farm and cattle in

Monroe and moved to Cincinnati. Shortly after they settled, Penny's sister's husband had a job offer in Florida and they moved away, leaving Jim and Penny there alone.

Jim's aunt stayed with Mrs. Millsap at Mentone during Mrs. Millsap's declining years. When Mrs. Millsap passed away, the house was offered for sale. Jim and Penny bought both the rock house and the log house. For many years, the entire family met at Mentone at the rock house for Christmas and other special occasions, but Jim and Penny continued to teach in the Cincinnati schools. Jim was placed in Administration and developed programs such as Adult Education and other special programs that had not been introduced at that time in the Cincinnati area. Money was not a problem in the system where he worked. Most of the students were from affluent families, and he found teaching there to be a very enjoyable experience. He had his first experience in teaching non-white students, and they were exceptional. Jim was pleased to see them later take their proper places in society. One of the girls became a judge in New York, and others filled similarly prestigious positions.

During those years, Jim and Penny had become interested in antiques, and he began to collect antique pieces of furniture, many of them broken down, which he has restored, but many of them are yet to be reworked. He has a building filled with things he still hopes to do.

Jim's house is furnished with beautiful antique furniture. Some of it came with the Millsap house and bears the "Millsap mark" as Jim refers to it. The mark is a beautiful, intricate carving on tables and other pieces of furniture. Jim has refinished some items. (I was especially overwhelmed by an imposing china cabinet that would accommodate much of my china and crystal that my small one will not.)

Jim's other interests are hunting and fishing. He does not engage in hunting any more because it is a strenuous sport, and he has had open heart surgery and wears a pacemaker. His fishing is now limited to sitting on the neatly trimmed edge of Ovie Blalock's pond with a fishing cane, unlike his late brother, "T", who used all kinds of fancy equipment and did serious fishing.

If you have not had the opportunity to meet Jim Lyday, make that opportunity, but call ahead so Penny will be prepared with a delicious pound cake like she served to me on my visit. I do not know when I have enjoyed an afternoon more. Jim has the finesse of his father, but the relaxed, down-to-earth, "easy to communicate with" characteristic of the Blalocks with whom he spent the early years of his life. He has a repertoire of rich experiences of mountain living as a boy and as a young man. His book relates in detail these experiences and is certainly a book you will want in your personal library. Copies are on sale for \$10.00 at Dessie's Kountry Chef, Mentone Superette, The Hitching Post, Morgan Drugs, and DeSoto State Park.

CLEAN CARE

Service NE Ala. Since 1975

- Environmentally Safe For The Chemically Sensitive
- IICUC Certified
- Carpet •Upholstery •Drapery •Hard Floors
- Odor Control
- Emergency Flood & Fire Restoration

Call Jim Howell

1-800-848-0596 or 634-4406

Stop by & Chat with Bernise at CROW'S NEST ANTIQUES

Antiques,
collectibles,
glassware, books

(205) 634-4548



"Imperfectly Adorable" GOURDIES

by Sharon Barron



P.O. Box 123
Mentone, AL
35984

To Order
(205) 634-4767



DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD

Proudly serving our neighbors in Valley Head, Hammondville, and Mentone
P.O. BOX 213
MENTONE, AL 35984

DeSoto Rescue Squad is pleased to announce the acceptance of ten new members at the September 21st meeting. New members include Ricky and Elaine Burt, Brian Langford, Gail and Kenneth Chambers, David Lett, Jeff Clements, Jeff and Abby Grogan, and Juanita Hartline. In the coming months, new members will receive training on the aspects of rescue work they are most interested in. Those who are not interested directly in rescue work, but have some talent or skill to offer the community through the squad, will assist by doing things like helping with maintenance, preparing meals, cleaning, and assisting with fund-raisers.

The newly-acquired rescue truck is painted, thanks to Rusty Chambers, and will be equipped soon with lights, siren, radios, and all the necessary medical equipment including IV fluids and equipment for advanced airway procedures. Equipping a truck like this one takes a little time, but should be finished within a month.

The squad is currently working on a calendar for 1994. The calendar will be distributed free of charge. Money will be collected from the sale of ads on the calendar, which may be purchased by businesses or individuals wishing to contribute. The calendar will be unique in that when January is over and you tear the January page off the calendar, you don't throw it away because the back side of the January page is filled with coupons from local and area merchants intended to save you money in February. Each month has valuable coupons on the back for the next month, so the savings continue year-round.

And for the advertiser, the advertisement continues year-round, as well. To purchase an ad or coupon (for as little as \$15.00), please contact Mike Kennamer at 634-4484, or any rescue squad member. Calendars will be ready around Thanksgiving. Be looking for them at your favorite businesses.

The squad will be on hand at the October Colorfest selling the last of the cookbooks that the squad published. Chances will also be sold on the \$100.00 to be given away at the Colorfest. See any squad member for cookbooks or a chance on the \$100.00. The squad also will be assisting with parking at the Colorfest on Sunday, October 17th.

DeSoto Rescue Squad appreciates the support it gets from the community. Remember, the Squad serves the Valley Head, Hammondville, and Mentone areas. Members from all areas are encouraged to apply for membership in the squad. What better way is there to give something back to your community?



SCHOOL NEWS

Valley Head High School Homecoming Queen was Chrissie Norman.

The Homecoming Court consisted of:

Bridgett Blalock, first alternate

Heather Hulan, second alternate

Lisa Smith and

Adrienne Hall, junior attendants

Sherry Gravitt, sophomore attendant

Tammy Camp, freshman attendant

Terri Campbell and

Jennifer Hammon, eighth grade attendants

The homecoming football game on October 1st was won by Ider.

Valley Head School will be getting \$20,000 from the DeKalb County Board of Education for the purchase of computers.

PTO will meet on October 11 for Open House at 6:30 p.m.

There will be no school on October 8, because this will be the day of the County Fair.

The Alabama Basic Competency Test will be given the week of October 12-14 in grades 3, 6, and 9.

The Valley Head Band will be playing and marching during the Colorfest Parade on Saturday, October 16, at 2:00 p.m. Everyone come out and support them.

The Moon Lake School lunchroom will accept sealed bids until October 18, 1993, on the following items: 5 long tables with formica tops and 35 chairs.

The Harvest Festival is set for November 6, at 5:30 p.m. in the gym (see notice elsewhere).

On TBAS (accreditation), the main committee will be the school involvement plan committee. They will consolidate a number of items that the other committees worked on.

Through a government grant and other local funds, the school was able to purchase a new dishwasher.

Soccer is now in progress. The team is composed of both boys and girls and is being coached by John Corey.

Basketball will begin soon. Pat Brendle will be coaching the basketball team.

VALLEY HEAD TIGERS 1993 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Sept. 3	- Gaylesville	-----	Away
Sept. 10	- Fyffe	-----	Home
Sept. 17	- Sand Rock	-----	Away
Sept. 24	- Cedar Bluff	-----	Home
Oct. 1	- Ider (Homecoming)	-----	Home
Oct. 8	- North Sand Mtn.	-----	Away
Oct. 15	- Crossville	-----	Away
Oct. 22	- Geraldine	-----	Home
Oct. 29	- Collinsville	-----	Home
Nov. 5	- Section	-----	Away

Moon Lake Afterschool Club--better known about the mountain as M.A.C.--is cranking up for its second year. Mentone churches are busy preparing for this fall's program by providing teachers, tutors, table dads, recreation helpers, crafts workers, meal servers, and much more. The M.A.C. program is for children in first through sixth grade and is offered free as a cooperative effort of the churches in Mentone.

This fall, M.A.C. will meet at Moon Lake Baptist Church on Tuesday afternoons from 3:00 until 6:00, October 19 - November 23. Registration forms are available through the Moon Lake School office and through Mentone area churches.

M.A.C. consists of games, snacks, singing, crafts, play practice, tutoring, Bible lessons, and dinner. The highlight of all those great activities is that they are carried out with the help of approximately 40 adult volunteers who come on those Tuesday afternoons to share their love, gifts, care, and experiences with the children in our community.

On October 12, there will be a dinner at St. Joseph's for all workers with the M.A.C. program.

Any questions concerning the participation of a child in the program or signing up to work with the children should be directed to Jean Corey (634-4848) or Marsha Hurt (634-4647).

How To Praise A Child

You're special • Well done • I'm proud of you • You're on top of it • You're incredible • Way to go • Super • Outstanding • Excellent • Great • Good • Neat • Remarkable • Wow • I knew you could do it • Fantastic • Super star • Nice work • Looking good • Beautiful • Now you're flying • You're catching on • Now you've got it • Bravo • You're fantastic • Hurray for you • You're on target • You're on your way • How nice • How smart • Good job • That's incredible • Hot dog • Dynamite • You're beautiful • You're unique • Nothing can stop you now • Good for you • I like you • You're a winner • Remarkable job • Beautiful work • Spectacular • You're spectacular • You're darling • You're precious • Great discovery • You've discovered the secret • You figured it out • Fantastic job • Hip, hip, hurray • Bingo • Magnificent • Marvelous • Terrific • You're important • Phenomenal • You're sensational • Super work • Creative job • Super job • Fantastic job • Exceptional performance • You're a real trooper • You are responsible • You are exciting • You learned it right • What an imagination • What a good listener • You are fun • You're growing up • You tried hard • You care • Beautiful sharing • Outstanding performance • You're a good friend • I trust you • You're important • You mean a lot to me • You make me happy • You belong • You've got a friend • You make me laugh • You brighten my day • I respect you • You mean the world to me • That's correct • You're a joy • You're a treasure • You're wonderful • You're perfect • Awesome • A+ job • You're A-OK my buddy • You made my day • That's the best • A big hug • A big kiss • Saying I love you!

Remember, a smile is worth 1,000 words ©

Family Life Center II

(205)997-9356

100-A First Street S.W. Fort Payne, Alabama 35967

Don't Run Around Looking for It...



Give The Groundhog for Christmas!
Still Just \$10/per year for individuals,
and \$15/year for husband and wife.
Send check today payable to:

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

Your membership/subscription is tax deductible.

Heads up





The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

Books, books, books, all around me!! I'm almost buried in them, and I love it! When the hectic pace of life slows a little, a good book awaits me in which I can find a land of fantasy, or educational material, or poetry—even Tolstoy or Shakespeare, which are difficult reading for me.

There are books written which cover all phases of learning. We need to look no further than our public library to find the book written about our particular subject of interest.

For the vast amount of information available within them, books are the best investment one could make.

If you are a serious do-it-yourself person, there are books to instruct you step by step for any project: carpentry, plumbing, electrical repairs, and much more are all covered.

If you are a gardener, there are books written covering every phase of gardening and for any location, size, and type of garden.

If we sincerely want to learn about such topics, a little reading can go a long way towards making us better at whatever we do. Sometimes, we need to attend special classes in which an instructor explains the text of the book to us and just simply requires us to read more!

A good home library is a great asset, and it doesn't have to be terribly expensive, unless one wanted to buy rare editions or leather-bound volumes. Abraham Lincoln was a great reader, and he became a great president due to his pursuit of knowledge from reading borrowed books.

A book can be a good companion while one is traveling, especially while flying on long trips. It is a good idea to keep a book with you to prevent boredom while waiting in a doctor's office or other public places.

Homer and I have read Jim Lyday's book, First Off The Mountain, and we enjoyed it thoroughly. It is full of good folklore and the history of Mentone and Cloudland. If you have not read this book, one may be purchased at the Kountry Chef or the Hitching Post in Mentone.

We need more books written about this area, which is full of history and fascinating lifestyles. I haven't read John Baty's book yet, but will do so soon. His book is about foxhunting, which was once a popular sport in this area. I remember hearing the horns blowing early in the morning as the dogs were called in. Many hunters stayed at the Mentone Springs Hotel, and the Glover family would prepare breakfast for the hunters at the Hitching post.

I have Bonnie Bailey's wonderful cookbook, Remembrances of Things Passed, for sale at the Hitching Post. Bonnie and her husband, Dr. Bill Bailey, purchased the old Windward Inn which was formerly operated by Miss Clara Moorman. Bill and Bonnie have renovated the place without taking away from its original rustic characteristics. The cookbook has some good reading, which I enjoyed as much as the recipes. It is a quality book.

Maybe someone will put together all the historical articles from our Groundhog newspapers and compile a good book about the Mentone area. Zora Strayhorn wrote a wonderful book about Mentone, but some additional interesting tales concerning lifestyles of our inhabitants could be added to write a lengthier book



About Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN

Fall is definitely here!! The crisp air, the fallen leaves, the turning of the trees and other foliage, and the sniffing noses are all sure signs that winter is on the way. But Mother Nature is kind, and she gives us the beautiful autumn weather to enjoy and to prepare us for the winter. Another sure sign is the VFW Fair in Fort Payne, October 4-9. This is one of the best fairs in the state and I hope everyone in DeKalb County participates in some way. This is a positive thing for our area. We need to "accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative" whenever possible.

Recently, I was walking in downtown Mentone and started to notice the amount of broken glass from brown beer bottles on the ground and in the highway. I picked up a large container full and that was just the larger pieces that could puncture a tire or cut someone. Please, if you drink from these containers, put them somewhere where they won't be broken on the streets. When the Rhododendron Garden Club adopted the mile in downtown Mentone to keep clean, I told the chairperson of the project that, since I would be working most of the cleanup times, I would pick up in front of the post office every time I was by there. I have done this for about three years now, and the amount of trash I have picked up just in that small area has been staggering. Let's all do a better job of taking care of our own trash. Carry it home and put it in a garbage can, don't throw it on the highway! Every litter bit hurts, and every little bit helps.

I am so proud of the North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Fighters!! They have already raised enough money to purchase the Jaws-of-Life! This project was started in June and the hard work of many people has really paid off. The Hurst Tool, which is its name, has been ordered and will be delivered to Mentone soon. Training for use is included in the price, so I'm sure we'll be hearing more about this soon. The barbecue dinner was my first experience of working directly with them, and I was so impressed with the way they all work together and each one does whatever needs doing. I understand better now why they are so dependable in an emergency situation. These men and women really deserve our thanks and praise. A very large insurance premium will soon be due, so any donation at this time will be appreciated and is greatly needed. If you've been meaning to send a donation to the fire department, but keep putting it off, do it today. Mail it to P.O. Box 154, Mentone, AL 35984.

A lot of things are happening in Mentone right now that will determine what our future as a town will be. The date for a hearing by the Board of Adjustment (a part of the Mentone Planning Commission) has been posted. Three cases will be heard by this board. The decision will greatly affect our future. Everyone has a chance to be heard at these meetings, so find out what the issue is, decide where you stand on the issue, and of the same type.

Angelo Rosario, now deceased, worked hard trying to teach high school dropouts to read. It was a wonderful contribution to our community. Illiteracy is a terrible handicap. Reading opens up whole new worlds for us and provides glimpses into the past, foresight into the future, and ability to better cope with the present.

then speak out, let others know where you stand. Nothing upsets me quite so much as those who will not take a stand in public, and then do a lot of talking in small groups, usually negative comments. This is your town, and you will be the one most affected by these decisions. The people who serve on these boards are your neighbors, and they have the interest of all at heart. Sometimes, we may have to give a little or maybe can't do exactly what we want, but stop and consider what will happen in a few years when the people wanting to develop Mentone are not our people and don't care what happens to Mentone. All they will be interested in is making a dollar, and they won't care how they do it. We are part of the world, wake up before it's too late, and let's keep what we have.

Enjoy the season, learn something new, (my latest project is the subject of DNA, which every living thing has in common), love someone when they are not very lovable, look past your prejudices, and see the person and take time to live life to its fullest.

SERVICING ALL CARS:
EUROPEAN, JAPANESE, DOMESTIC
GAS - DIESEL

**GENERAL
AUTO
REPAIR**

H-C 68, BOX 51A - HWY. 117
MENTONE, AL 35984

LEE RODGERS
ASE CERTIFIED
MASTER TECHNICIAN

TELE/FAX
205-634-4361

Whirlpool

RCA

COOPER-LEE APPLIANCE & TV
Phone 635-6874

VALLEY HEAD

JAKIE D. LEE
SHARON C. LEE

Terri's Time Saver
DeSoto Parkway at Fisher Crossroads

Visit Our Deli for:
Homemade Biscuits, Fried Chicken,
Pizza Corn Dogs Deli Sandwiches
Hamburgers Barbecue made fresh daily

Open 7 Days a Week Until 9 p.m.

Family Cuts & Styles
STYLISTS
Marilyn Slaton Amy Willingham
Brenda Key

Marilyn's Head Shed

Highway 11 • Hammondville • Mon.-Fri. 8 til Sat. 8 til 2
Headquarters on Valley Head Road

Treat your children to a hairing Halloween Happening at
Marilyn's Head Shed 635-6740 or at Headquarters, 845-7882
Children under 12 receive a free child's haircut
with an adult's cut and style

CLOUDLAND REALTY32 S. COMMERCE STREET
SUMMERVILLE, GEORGIA 30747**706-857-2425**JO WYRICK WALKER
Broker
Res.: 706-862-2624CAROL HALL THOMASON
Associate Salesperson
Res.: 706-862-2668WILLIE JOE MCGRAW
Sales Agent
Res.: 706-857-3338BEAUTIFUL BROW HOMES NOW LISTED
WITH SPECTACULAR VIEWS JUST IN TIME TO ENJOY
THE COOL BREEZES AND BEAUTIFUL SCENERY

MENTONE, ALABAMA - This year-round 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on 2.8 acres with 200' of brow features a large living room with cathedral ceiling, mountain stone fireplace, 2 ceiling fans, recess lighting and beautiful oak floors, sunroom, eat-in kitchen, a bedroom and bath complete the downstairs. Upstairs features full bath and large bedroom opening on the upper level sun porch. House also has full unfinished basement and carport. Close to shopping at Mentone for only \$85,000. Co-Broker of Southern Properties.

CLOUDLAND - Beautiful wood and mountain rock home on a wooded 2.69-acre brow lot and featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, great room with fireplace, kitchen with breakfast alcove and beautiful oak cabinets, garage and utility, deck, full daylight basement, central heat and air, other amenities too numerous to mention. Call today for your appointment to see this special home. Bargain priced at \$122,000.

CLOUDLAND/WALKER COUNTY - Large three-story home with four bedrooms, deck overlooking Mountain Cover Farms, sunroom, partial basement, utility room, central heat. This is a bargain at \$125,000. Appointment only.

CLOUDLAND - Lovely mountain get-away describes this secluded 2 bedroom, 2 bath home on approximately 5.8 acres with approximately 390' brow frontage. This wood and mountain rock home also offers a great room with cathedral ceiling, sleeping loft, large utility room, stone hearth, central heat/air and stone patio. A bargain at \$130,000. Call today for your appointment.

CLOUDLAND - Rustic 2-story country home on approximately 3 acres of brow property. This special house has living room with fireplace (gas logs), kitchen, dining room, sunroom, bedroom, bath and utility downstairs, large bedroom with fireplace (gas logs), den/bonus room and bath are featured upstairs. Central heat/air, hot tub, decks, porches and a beautifully landscaped yard make this a must to see. Priced at \$135,000 and shown by appointment only.

CLOUDLAND - Located on the lower brow at Cloudland this large 2-story brick home features eat-in kitchen, butler's pantry, dining room, living room with fireplace insert, Florida room, den/study, bedroom and bath downstairs. Second story has 2 bedrooms, sun porch, living room/bonus room and 2 baths. Three-car garage, out-buildings, and fruit trees all on 2+ acres with 264' of brow frontage. Shown by appointment and priced at \$205,000.

Call Us For Information on Other Listings

*"Over 40 Years Experience"***BROWN'S
CLEANING & LAUNDRY***"An old company with new ideas"*

Uniform Rental • Dust Control • Vault Storage for Furs & Woolens • Drapery Cleaning with Machine Decorator Fold
• Suede, Leather & Fur Cleaning • Fire Restoration & Odor Removal • Wedding Gown Preservation • Alterations
• Linen Rental • Pillow Cleaning

817 Gault Ave. N. 845-3241
Full Laundry Service

BRIDGESTONE

BFGoodrich

Westmoreland Tire Co.301 South Gault Ave.
Fort Payne, AL 35967205-845-5656
1-800-443-9149**A SALUTE TO THE
LOOKOUT RESTAURANT**

Joe and Sara Pless, owners of The Lookout Restaurant, located in Cloudland, have been given a first-time award in Georgia. Monday, September 6, they were presented with a plaque from the 1993 Georgia Governor's Conference on Tourism. The Conference salutes The Lookout for its outstanding qualities. The plaque held by Joe and Sara reads:

"Quality is never an accident;
it is always the result of high intention,
sincere effort, intelligent direction, and
skillful execution; it represents the wise
choice of many alternatives."

**The Lookout
Restaurant***"Atop Lookout Mountain"*CLOUDLAND, GEORGIA
(706) 862-2515

• VINYL GRAPHICS
• BANNERS, LOGOS
• MAGNETIC SIGNS
• LIGHTED SIGNS
• WINDOW SIGNS
• CARS, TRUCKS, BOATS

2287-D Gault Av N
(Traditional Square II Shopping Plaza)
Ft Payne, AL 35967
(205) 845-7096

Tom Croley 524-2913 (Home)

TADPOLESFAMOUS brand classic clothing
FOR INFANTS AND CHILDREN1012 N. GAULT AVE. 205-845-7411
FORT PAYNE MC/VISA ACCEPTED

Bill Schwarz, the writer of The River Watch column, took a trip to Big Bend, Texas, along with his wife, Sue, and neighbor, Harol Skelton. Their trip included a visit to Mentone, Texas. The above pictures are of the sign leading into Mentone and Mentone's only cafe. Bill's column will be back next month.

ADAMS OUTDOORS

Located on Lookout Mountain
Lodging • Outdoor Recreation
Environmental Education

Raft Little River
(205) 845-2988

The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



The Moon Lake Baptist Church pastor and wife, deacons and their wives, and the music director and his wife, enjoyed a dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jones on Saturday evening, October 2.

The Mentone Wesleyan Church will hold a District Missionary Rally on Saturday, October 9, at the Fellowship Hall. Their annual homecoming will be on October 24, with Rev. Tom Ward, former pastor, as the guest speaker. Reverend and Mrs. Addison are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Megan Janelle. She weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz.

Reverend L. A. Smith was the guest speaker at the Valley Head United Methodist Church on Sunday, October 4. His wife, Lisa, directed the singing. Reverend Adkins will be hosting a dinner at the parsonage for the people who had birthdays in July, August, and September. The October meeting of the UMW will be held at the home of Mrs. Ted Holleman with Mrs. E.T. Holleman as co-hostess.

Reverend Ron Johnson of the Mentone Church of God states there will be a Northeast Alabama Camp meeting at the Gadsden Church of God on October 13-15. All of the Churches of God in the area will participate. The local church will be selling dinners on Saturday, October 23. (See notice elsewhere.)

St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church has called a new priest, the Rev. Robert Childers, Assistant Rector at Christ Episcopal Church in Tuscaloosa. He and his family will be here in December. His wife, Terry, and he were both lawyers before he became a priest. They have two children, Rob and Elizabeth, ages 6 and 4. A yard sale is planned on October 16 by the Youth of the church. There will be a fellowship supper that night. A dinner on October 12 at the church is planned for the M.A.C. volunteers.

The Valley Head Baptist Church has started the Youth Breakfast again every Friday morning at 7 o'clock. The students may eat breakfast and still be able to walk or drive over to the school to arrive on time.

Reverend Gary Moore of the Lee's Chapel Baptist Church expresses his appreciation to the community for their support in the crusade in September. He is especially grateful for the opportunity for Reverend Randy Hogue, evangelist, to be able to get into the schools. The crusade was quite successful with 146 salvation-related decisions being made throughout the week.

The Union Hill Baptist Church Youth Choir was recently invited to sing at the Little River Baptist Church. They will be singing in competition at the DeKalb County Fair. The church is sponsoring "Fifth Quarter," which follows the home ballgames and is held at the church on those Friday nights. All students who wish to attend from Fort Payne High School are invited for a time of fun, food, and fellowship. Dr. Pat Seymour was the guest speaker on Friday, October 1. She emphasized to all the teen-agers that they are winners, using scripture from Ephesians 6. The church has begun a study among the young couples entitled,

Covenant Marriage, which is being taught by Evelyn Graves. There were fifteen couples present for the first session. Stephen Lucy announced his call to the ministry on Sunday night, October 3.

Reverend Marlon Williamson of the Mentone Revival Center, announced that the second Saturday in each month at noon is youth day, which includes videos, comedy, testimonies, music, and singing. There will be good food, volleyball, and various activities. On the last Friday night each month, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., there will be videos, music, singing, fellowship, and afterwards, there will be a lock-in (everybody spends the night). Guys will go with their youth leader, and girls with their youth leader. Breakfast will be served the next morning. Candy Hanson, their new youth director, will be in charge.

Several members from the Mentone United Methodist Church, attended a Vision 2000 workshop in Birmingham on Saturday, October 2. The UMW meets on Thursday, October 7, at 2:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Several members are attending Fall Fling "Old Fashioned Days" on October 12 at Camp Sumatanga. On Thursday, October 21, at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, there will be a meeting of all those interested in beginning a Christian singles group. Everyone is welcome to attend. This is a joint effort with other churches in Mentone. Contact Rev. David Lett at 634-4881.

The North DeKalb Ministerial Association is planning a Community Thanksgiving Service for Wednesday, November 24, at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. Rev. Jack Woods, Pastor of Valley Head Baptist Church will be the speaker.



From left to right: Back row: Denise, Brandy, Lendle, Alan, Candy, Jeff, Angie (holding Wendy), Front row: Sheree, Natasha, David, Ira Johnson (honoree), Latasha, Jeremy

IRA JOHNSON HONORED

By Marie Dillenbeck

Ira Johnson celebrated her 89th birthday on Sunday, September 26, with many of her 81 family members present. She was born in Henagar on Sand Mountain on September 29, 89 years ago. When she was 10 years old, she moved to the valley. In 1919, she married Clarence Johnson, and they had 8 children; Ruby, Edith, Bernice, Pearline, Leldon (Lee), Edgar (deceased), Diane, and Herman.

There was plenty of delicious food and cake at Mrs. Johnson's party. One item was turkey cooked by Herman Johnson in a mixture of 2 liters of Pepsi and 2 teaspoons of flour. The meat was delicious and tender! When everyone sat down to eat, there were 34 people present. The adult males played horseshoes and the women visited. Of the 34, four were not family members. Friends and neighbors were Mrs. Dolly Watters and Mrs. Arminey Gold; guests were Pat Seymour and Marie Dillenbeck. After a sudden rain stopped, two more friends, Mrs. Vinnie Pierce and Lula Blalock, came by to help their friend celebrate.

Several of the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren lived out of town and were unable to attend. Those attending were: Herman, Frances and Kelly Johnson; Jeff, Kay, and Kandi Johnson; Steve and Sandy Tate; Alan, Kat, Brandy, and David Johnson; Niki Johnson; Tony, Angie, Jeremy, Latasha, and Wendy Edgeworth; Diane Hunt; Woody and Eric Hunt; Glen, Denise, Natasha, and Sheena Tishaw; Pam, Timothy, and Brittany Bain; Myrtle and Lel Johnson; Arthur and Jerry Ritchey; and, of course, the honoree: Ira Johnson.

Blackburn's Nursery

Hwy. 117 • Mentone
634-4675 or 634-4686



Mums
Pansies
Perennials
Trees & Shrubs

Ornamental
Winter Cabbage
and Kale

THE SHED

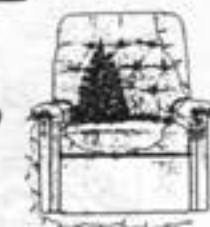
Hwy. 117, HC 68 Box 44A
Mentone, AL 35984

RECLINERS
Good \$149, Better \$209, Best \$249

Indian Pottery - Start \$249

Wicker Baskets (Handwoven)
Moccasins
Cedar Chests
Fall Plants

Pansies
Perennials



A little bit of everything

Clock Doctor
Repair Your
Ticker



Bought & Sold
Member NAWCC (No. 43798)
Hm. 205/634-4544
Wk. 205/634-4031

BUSY CORNER
ANTIQUÉ CLOCK SHOP
RESTORE & REPAIR



Charlie Rogers
P.O. Box 47
Mentone, AL 35984

WE WILL bend OVER BACKWARDS TO SERVE YOU!



Enjoy a fine dining experience on the brow of Lookout Mountain.
You'll love the sunsets and good food at Cragmere.
Friday-Saturday 5-9 p.m. DeSoto Parkway - Mentone
For reservations, call Bonnie at
205/845-2209 or 205/634-4677



WHITE ELEPHANT GALLERIES REVISITED

By Marie Dillenbeck

The White Elephant is an old landmark in Mentone. In the May 1989 issue of *The Groundhog*, the feature story was the White Elephant Galleries. It again "deserves to be recognized as one of the most historically significant structures in North Alabama." The White Elephant is located on Highway 117 at the top of mountain, just before the blinking light at the center of town.

Much information about the White Elephant comes from a book by Zora Strayhorn's: *Mentone, Alabama: A History*, and also from information provided by Mabel Crow Kirk through a booklet entitled, "The History of Mentone, Alabama (1850-1980)."

Between 1884 and 1887, Dr. Frank Caldwell built the Mentone Springs Hotel. Around 1914-1915, a two-story annex with 26 rooms (many of them with private baths) was built next to the Mentone Springs Hotel by A.A. Chapman and Dr. J.N. Chaney of Rome, Georgia. In 1918, John B. and Bert A. Ingram bought the property. In 1920, eight Baptist leaders leased the hotel and improvements for 10 years. From August 1921 through August 1931, the Baptists held meetings and conventions at the site. With the depression, the hotel closed for several years. In 1946, Ed H. Moore, from Birmingham, bought the structure and sold it on July 4, 1950 (at auction) to Ben Hammond, of Rome, Georgia. Mr. Hammond bought the massive building for a summer home. H.L. Murphy bought the annex, remodeled it, and named it The Sunset Hotel. In 1976, Frank Young and Jim Rotch, lawyers from Birmingham, bought the Sunset Hotel, and they renamed it the "White Elephant." Susan Collins of Mentone (also a broker with Southern Properties of Fort Payne) manages the White Elephant for Bonnie Young and Jim Rotch.

The print (above) is by Phyllis Murphy of Scottsboro. It is the artist's water color rendition of the White Elephant. Phyllis will be displaying several of her prints in the White Elephant during the October Colorfest, and also during the Altrusa Club Arts and Crafts Fair in November in Fort Payne.

Barbara Duncan, who has been handling the book-work for the White Elephant for the past six months, also helps oversee the operation on a day-to-day basis. Barbara has returned to the White Elephant, after about a 12-year absence. She was one of the consignors in 1978. Within the White Elephant's walls are several galleries.

Galleries 2 and 4: Barbara Duncan and her husband, John, of Fort Payne, sell old tools, iron skillets, old kitchenware, glassware, and costume jewelry. They also have a good selection of Victorian prints, notecards, and post cards. During this past summer, Barbara's sister, Winnie, rented Gallery 4. Winnie Yates, of Sylvania, and Elma Wigley, mother of both Winnie and Barbara, of Fort Payne, had art work and limited edition prints, including those of Bear Bryant. They also had native jewelry and quilts. Due to other commitments, Winnie and Elma are no longer in the White Elephant.



Gallery 1: Billie Crain and Brenda Crain Davis of Menlo, a mother and daughter team, have been exhibiting advertisements, primitives, and collectible tins and kitchen utensils, along with antique furniture since 1990.

The vestibule has coded merchandise so that when an item is purchased, the hostesses can credit the amount to the correct artist.

Gallery 3: J.P. and Opal Boyd of Fort Payne, share the space, with JP doing the hand-made wooden items and Opal the embroidered and hand-quilted gift items. They also display and sell old glass and have been since 1981.

Gallery 5: Susan Collins, of Mentone, sells glassware, baskets, and collectibles. She has been at the White Elephant Galleries since 1980.

Gallery 6: Glenda Hamilton from Menlo, Georgia, since 1983, has offered old Victorian prints that are framed, as well as brass and antique furniture.

Gallery 8: Margie Purcell of Menlo, since 1983, has been offering hand made quilts, bottles, jars, glassware, and collectible crocks.

Glenda and Margie are a mother and daughter arts and crafts team.

Gallery 7: Kathy Loudon sells antique quilts, hand made porcelain, primitives, old hats, and photography. She is a newcomer to the White Elephant Galleries, having joined the list of consignors this past summer.

Galleries 201, 202, 203, and 212, upstairs, are full of used books and miscellaneous collectibles. Since 1985, *Chattooga Books* of Menlo, has provided a wealth of reading material for all readers.

Gallery 205: Frances Gilbreath, of Rossville, Georgia, another newcomer, has antiques, collectibles, and crafts. She opened her gallery in September.

Gallery 207: White Elephant Library, where all the books are \$1.00 each.

Gallery 208: Rebecca Sweet, and **Gallery 211:** Ann Sweet, from Trion, Georgia, are a mother/daughter team. Ann, the mother, has collectibles (including Avon bottles), crafts, baskets, bathroom sets. Rebecca exhibits and sells her own paintings. They also are newcomers, having just finished putting their items on display in September.

Galleries upstairs, 204, 206, 209, and 210, are available for rent. At the present time, the White Elephant is being offered for sale. The integrity of the structure has remained basically the same since it was built, and neither age nor decay has been able to destroy the inherent dignity of the building.

The hours at the White Elephant are:
Thursday-Saturday 10-5; Sunday 1-5.

The *Groundhog* salutes The White Elephant and its consignors.

The White Elephant

Gallery 2 & 4
John & Barbara Duncan

We Now Have A Good Selection Of Victorian Prints, Notes Cards And Postcards

At The White Elephant

Sept. & Oct. Hours
(Thursday - Saturday) 10am - 5pm (Sunday) 1pm - 5pm
Mentone, Ala

Dessie's Kountry Chef

RESTAURANT

World's Best Catfish

Vegetables Both Night & Day

Mon. - Fri.
10:00am - 9:00pm

Saturday
7:00am - 9:00pm

Sunday Dinner
11:00am - 2:00pm

Closed Tuesdays

Hwy 117 Mentone 634-4232

Open to Public

CLOUDMONT RESORT

SADDLE ROCK GOLF COURSE

"It's Cooler Swingin' on Lookout Mountain!"

OPEN 7 DAYS-DAYLIGHT TO DARK

Carts and Clubs Available

Mountain Chalets & River Lodges with Kitchens

Call (205) 634-4344

SHADY GROVE DUDE RANCH

HORSEBACK RIDING STABLES

Bed and Breakfast Motel Units • Group Accommodations

(205) 634-4344



1



5



2

PROTECT YOUR EARTH



6



3



4



7



8

The pictures as numbered above are:

1. Group picture of 5th graders from Chapman Elementary School in Huntsville
2. Children share the days news report
3. A field group in Indian Cave
4. A surprise visit from Captain Freedom
5. Physics in nature class
6. Crossing the Burma Bridge that they built
7. Outdoor theater—written and directed by students
8. Rayna and company chat over dinner

THE REFUGE, INC./NATURE'S CLASSROOM

By Marie Dillenbeck

In last month's issue, the *Groundhog* ran an article about *The Refuge, Inc./Nature's Classroom*, a unique non-profit, nature based outdoor education program located in Mentone at Camp Saddle Rock. The pictures above are from their first class for this year—5th graders from Chapman Elementary School, Huntsville, AL. Communication is the key. Captain Freedom is an entity that represents the freedom to be oneself, the freedom to experience personal growth, mind growth, relationship growth, etc. A few of the responses from past participants are:

"A most wonderful experience for the children—the knowledge gained, skills learned, interaction with others—a place where education can expand and relate to those things it should relate to—people." —Jesse Cunningham, Teacher, Thompson Elementary School

"I wish I could come back to be in your group again. I will try to make the world a better place for you and me." —Love, Your friend, Adam, Age 11

"Something special for me at Nature's Classroom was that I learned how to be myself." —Kaydee, Age 10

"The long lasting effects of the program are the 'seeds planted [in the students] in a hundred different areas. It will be great to see the 'plants' that grow." —Linda Billiter, Teacher, Westminster Christian Academy

"The long lasting effects will be a desire to help one another, to work together better in many things and an appreciation and love for our environment. All students need to be involved in the experiences offered here. Thank all of you for making a dream a reality for us! —Connie Tatum, Teacher, Pike County Elementary School

"Wonderfully educational! You make learning new things fun for your students. The children will be

more informed about our world in general, and better stewards of their resources than their ancestors." —Rick Peck, Parent

"From the minute we arrived, the staff motivated us to look forward to our next experience. Their smiling faces and humorous comments helped the children feel comfortable. I will hold most special watching my students getting excited about learning." —Kathy Cole, Teacher, Woodland Forrest School

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1.

For further information, please call (205) 634-4443, or write: The Refuge, P.O. Box 400, Mentone, AL 35984. Proceeds from your group's visit will be used to sponsor programs for "special" children and adults. Information concerning the special camps is available upon request.



Mentone Grapevine

By
PAT SEYMOUR

Max Cash's 1st cousin from Fyffe, Jimmie Jones, introduced herself to me after I spoke to the Homemakers of Dekalb County at Camp Ponderosa. She said, "I'll bet you know my cousin in Mentone, Max Cash." I said, "I think I've heard of him!"

Carlotta L. McGee, 20, of Valley Head, was selected from many who responded to the ad for a companion for Mrs. Vinnie Pierce. Thanks to all of you who were kind enough to call about the position. A lot of folks must be reading the Groundhog! Carlotta is the granddaughter of Lula Blalock.

George and Hope Walker entertained eleven of her literary club friends from Birmingham last week. Hope said that some of these ladies have been acquaintances for nearly 50 years! All thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Walkers' exquisite home, Stonehenge.

Six ladies from the Rhododendron Garden Club traveled to the Pell City Civic Center, where Dr. Pat Seymour, Ann Wright, and Marie Dillenbeck presented a program on garden therapy. It was entitled "Digging for Mental Health," and the group was the District II Garden Clubs of Alabama. Helen Hill, Hope Walker, and Jo Beube also made the trip.

Congratulations and best wishes to Betty Harris who married Len Finster of Summerville on September 25th. The couple will live in Menlo.

Good news from Mable Kirk! She is responding well to her daily recovery regimen of plenty of rest and relaxation. She is catching up on some long postponed reading. On September 23rd, Mable felt well enough to attend a birthday celebration at the Lookout for her sister, Dorothy Crow. Sister Grace Crow and daughter Amelia Kirk also enjoyed the party.

Friends of Ovie and Barbara Blalock were distressed to learn that their new Chevy van was stolen from a hotel parking lot in New Orleans. Ovie and Barbara returned to Mentone with friends who were also attending the Woodmen of the World event.

Herb Martin, although much improved, is still traveling to Birmingham for further tests. He is sorely missed by his many friends in the Ft. Payne Rotary Club.

Ann Wright is preparing an educational display on the Hosta plant at the DeKalb Co. VFW Fair in Ft. Payne. She will give instructions on planting, proper pesticides, and fertilizer to use for best Hosta results. Jo Beube and Hope Walker are working together to prepare a full flower arrangement for judging. All three are members of Mentone's Rhododendron Garden Club.

Carrie Ruth Kirby, Katherine Bailey, and Barbara Blalock are gearing up for their annual trip to the Smokies. They will pick up sister Sara Harris in Cleveland, Tennessee.

On September 23, Leonard Shigley had a real shock in the Ft. Payne Wal-Mart parking lot! When he came out of the store, he found that someone had stolen his white Chevy truck! Here's hoping for a quick and undamaged return, Leonard.

Bradley Wright had a BIG 10TH birthday on Saturday, September 25. Grandparents Bill and Ann showed up with ice cream and birthday cake. Sister Amanda will be eight on October 12.

The Sammy Collins family was treated to a Roper

Company all-expenses-paid employee trip to Lake Winnepesaukee recently. Garrett Collins took friend Eric Crane as his guest and Emily Collins took Brandi Jackson. I guess Sammy took Susan!

Helen Turner called and told me that the stone for Pat Wadkins was placed in Ft. Payne's Lankford Cemetery last week. Helen is selling subscriptions to the DeKalb County Advertiser by telephone and is doing a fantastic job—which should come as no surprise to those who know how efficient she is.

Lucille and Chester Crow have been visiting in Jackson, Mississippi, with their son Olen, who is pastor of the Jackson Church of God of Prophecy. Preachers just run in that family!

Have you driven by Joel and Sue King's new home on Cove Road? They are "fixing up" the place beautifully: flower trellises, new split rail fence, flower beds, etc. Take a drive from Little River Church toward Ponderosa Camp Road. The Kings are in the second home on the left after you turn at the church.

Speaking of fixing up! Drive by Roy and Jean Mathews home on Cove Road. Roy is remodeling the home, and now the two of them have a front porch to sit on.

Sure was sorry to hear that Margie Coots has been battling an internal infection. Although she is somewhat improved, Margie is still a sick lady. Why do bad things happen to good people?

Also on the sick list is Max Cash's sister, Helen Crabtree. Put her on your prayer list, too.

Congratulations to Rachael Golden and David Lee who are engaged to be married in December at the Mentone Wesleyan Church. The ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Randy Addison, pastor. Rachael is the daughter of Mattie and Herman Golden of Mentone, and David is the son of Jackie and Sharon Lee of Valley Head.

IT'S A GIRL! Rev. Randy Addison and wife, Kathy, are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Megan Janelle, born October 1st at BMC, where Kathy is an RN. The Addisons have three other children, Kristen, Randy Jr., and Lauren.

Also, best wishes to John McKune and Melissa Davis who were married October 2 at the Mentone Revival Center. Pastor Marlon Williamson performed the ceremony.

Rev. Williamson said that on October 23, portraits will be made for a congregational directory. The time is 8:00 a.m.—until at the church.

Polly and Alfred Chambers have traveled to California to visit sick relatives. Hope everything is going well on their long journey.

Bobbie Smith, active member of the Church of God, has been in the hospital with a serious heart problem. She is now back home to consider further treatment.

A big surprise birthday bash was held for Ruby Brock at Don and Yvonne Brock's lovely home on September 27. Chester and Lucille Crow and Joel and Sue King joined in the fun, which included delicious food for all and festive balloons for decoration. Ruby's granddaughters, Connie and Donna, also attended, with great granddaughter Meagan squealing with delight. A dozen red roses capped off the night for Ruby.

Mae Hunt's 21-year-old daughter, Shannon, wrecked her Chevy Z24 the day of the last heavy rainstorm. Shannon, mother of Dillon and Lauren, skidded and hit a tree at Elizabeth Jones' corner.

Hoyt Potts, a recent heart surgery patient, went back in the hospital for a second surgery to open arteries in his neck. He and wife, Naomi, also a surgery patient, are now recovering at home.

I hear from all the construction men that Joe Gregory is a master electrician. It's really impressive to have such a great professional reputation. Way to go, Joe!

Slim Easler and Wanda Stuzman really made me feel welcome at the singing at the Revival Center recently. Heart and Soul and the Go Forth Family provided the music. A delicious covered dish dinner in

the newly-painted fellowship hall followed the singing.

Speaking of singings, friend Dot Crow really organized a "stem winder" at Little River Church on Sunday, September 19. Among the many others who shared in the joyous occasion, were Clara Cash, Lola Mae Blalock, Willie Haynes, Bea Crow, and Berthena Cagle. The Union Hill Baptist Church had the most singers and most attendees. I tell you, folks, that church is one singing bunch of God's people!

I really enjoyed joining Dr. Malcolm and Maureen Brewer for lunch last Sunday at the Kountry Chef. I get to see Malcolm at Rotary every Tuesday, but I rarely have the pleasure of visiting with Maureen. She is one fantastic lady!

My uncle Charles O'Flinn and Nancy, my first cousin, will be visiting me in Mentone on their way back home to Rockville, Connecticut on Friday, October 15. Hope and George Walker have graciously invited a group of friends for lunch at Stonehenge. Uncle Charles is an Air Force veteran from WWII, as is George. Both are also originally from Meridian, Mississippi, where my uncle will be attending his 55th high school reunion in early October. Can't wait for my kin to get here and see beautiful Mentone!

Have you noticed the litter-free 117 mountain road? Lynette McCary organized members of St. Joseph's congregation and conducted a pickup of the mountain road. She asked that everyone be made aware that littering is against the law in Alabama. Violators will be prosecuted! When you observe people littering, get a tag number, state, vehicle color, note date, time and place, and type of litter person threw out; and turn them in at (205) 845-7031. Lynette plans to put up PAL signs (People Against Littering) and place these along Hwy 117. Remember, "Don't drop it on Alabama. It's the law!"

Tom and Tookie Anderson announce the marriage of their son, Tim, to Marilyn Christie, both of Utah. The wedding will be on Saturday, October 23, at 4:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain. The reception will be at the Anderson's home in Fort Payne.

Thanks to Clara Cash's neighbors, Faye Smith, and David and Jackie Sammons, I was able to find Clara's home deep in the woods. It was well worth the adventure...I met some great people.

Carolyn Coots is carrying the whole load at Clene's for 10 days. Ilene Green is on a well-deserved vacation.

Eddie Coots has a bad case of the stomach virus making the rounds. Snap back quick, Eddie.

"Slow down, biddies crossing" is a sign Hobson and Martha Kirby need to put up at their lovely home on Cove Road. The cutest bantam rooster, hen, and new chicks cross the road back and forth all day.

If Ed and Dean Jones didn't throw a barbecue shindig at their house on October 1st! I got invited when I ran into Ed buying ice at the Superette. Maybe you've seen me there holding up my sign that says, "I have no plans for supper tonight that I can't change!"

Stock Up On Supplies Cloudland TRADE CENTER

ONE Stop Shopping

Hours: Mon.-Thur. 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 7 a.m.-Midnight • Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

(706) 862-2711

1-800-548-5013

- Sub Sandwiches
- Pizza
- Exxon Gas
- Fresh Bar-B-Que and Ice Cold Beverages
- Deli Meats and Cheeses
- Groceries
- Kerosene
- Plumbing & Electrical Supplies
- Well Pumps
- Water Filter Systems
- Propane Bottles Filled
- Videos
- Building Hardware
- Tools



Beauty Tips

By
CHARLYNE O'REAR

Score An Easy "10" With The New Fall and Winter Fashions!

My relentless search through fashion catalogs and magazines to find the "hottest" items for fall and winter '93 was an eye opener. I tried to keep it short and simple. Since anything goes and there's so much to choose from, this was not an easy task. I was able to condense the list to thirty "must have" items. Heeeeerrree they are!

A beret of crochet or felt; a white long-sleeve blouse (ruffles, ruffles, ruffles); a long side-buttoned skirt; a choker; chenille tunic; boots; dark pair of tights; mules; long silk skirt; a scarf; lace vest; short, short, layered haircut—curls if it's you; something crushed velvet; a sleeveless denim jacket; lycra spandex stirrup pants; new fragrance; new eye shadow colors; a "twenties" something; a watch; brocade jacket (the new bomber styles are great); a bolero jacket (if your body type permits); a "Christmas" theme sweater; Edwardian shoes; a leather compact; mini-backpack; octagonal sunglasses; a cashmere button-down-the-front dress (cardigan); flared legged pants; a slip dress; and anything in jewelry with a cross on it (if that's to your liking).

That's the list. There are lots to choose from. A "lot" can be just one item or two, it's up to you and how far you care to take the new 90s look. At some time or other, everything comes back "in," granted it may be just a bit of a change, yet enough to make the item seem "new," so be careful when putting the old with the new.

The little beret is the rage now and is an easy way to add "fashion" to what you already have. The same is true of the little choker—a strip of velvet ribbon, velvet, and an old charm, locket, or pin is all you need for this new style.

The cardigan dress works great with a big, draped scarf (a scarf can make the simplest outfit a dramatic statement). This season, they are touchable textures, rich fabrics in opulent hues, in sizes that range from extra-long oblongs to bedspread squares that can be double wrapped. If your body type is that of heavier on top than bottom, the cardigan dress works great paired with a blouse worn under it with soft ruffles filling the neck and extending from the cuff.

Don't be afraid of the tunic. Almost every body type can wear it. If you're short, you'll want to wear a more "tailored" style. The tunic, worn with long flowering skirts or pants, is comfortable for school or office. It can be worn at night with stirrup pants for an evening on the town.

The new ankle boots are very stylish with long skirts and all pants. Just remember, don't wear them with short pleated skirts. Also, wearing shorts boots with short slim skirts can make stocky legs look more so.

That lace vest will wear with just about everything—over pants, skirts (long and short), and body suits.

A long silk shirt, tunic, ankle boots, choker with a cross, new cologne, watch, beret, and a "twenties" dress pin will put you in a "safe" fashion "10."

As we well know, the really good additions to this or any season will stick and we will be seeing them again and again. The rest will be filed under "trendy or fad" and those are the things to avoid. If you just have to



A Friendly Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN

The Sunshine Club met with Judith Lollik-Andersen, August 25, with Vernitice Young assisting. Those present were: Bess Bauerle, Gladys Cobble, Addie Hall, Anna Daniel, Evelyn Clark, Sue Cooper, Geraldine Hawkins, Ruth Picket, Leona Chadwick, Lilly Bowden, Carmel Gifford, and Eloise Brown. The Devotional was given by Sue Cooper. Gladys Stott read a poem entitled, "Just For You." I read an item about olden wash days.

Gladys Stott continues to suffer as the result of two falls. We wish for her a quick and complete recovery.

Jewel Palmer, Gail and Richard Barnman, Terci and Bill Askwiski, visited Savannah, Georgia, and saw the Light House, Catholic Cathedral, haunted house, and other points of interest.

The Valley Head U.M.W. met at the home of Helen White for the August meeting. Melinda Adkins was co-hostess. Eleven members were present and Venna Livingston continued the Bible study of Amos.

Dot Blackburn, and Martha and Hoot Gibson have returned from Houston, Texas, where they attended little Mathew Blackburn Gibson's 2nd birthday party and the going away party for his parents, Jane and Mark Gibson, who are moving to Dallas, where Mark has a business. They also visited Barbara and Neil Salter.

Willene Cooper had the misfortune to collide with a deer on the way home from the ball game last Friday night. Both the deer and car were casualties.

Laura Margaret Allison has returned home after a visit with her daughter, Ansley McGinnis and family in Florence, S.C. They took her granddaughter, Allison, to Clemson University, where she is majoring in International Trade. Allison had spent a month at the University of Madrid in Spain. Laura Margaret also spent a while with her son Tommy and Irma Allison in Clinton, S.C.

Peachie Cearley of Irvine, Georgia, has returned from Washington, D.C., where she represented Identification Cards and Devices Co. at the Trade Fair.

Venna Livingston accompanied daughter, Sue Mosley and family, to Tuscaloosa, where they enrolled Carmen Mosley in the University.

Mary Crow, and Jane and Kent Kerby attended the reunion of the 21st Ordinance Company of World War II, in Kellogg, Idaho. They went through a silver mine and rode the world's longest gondola ride up Silver Mountain. It was a little cold as it had snowed the night before.

The Nolan Steeles of Fort Payne, spent the afternoon with Sue and Foyl Cooper recently.

Congratulations to Anthony Windom, who passed the examination and achieved Grade 3 Status as an operator at the Water Works. We are proud of the

have them, don't invest too much in them. For instance, grandmother would probably crochet a beret for you; the new fashion watches are not at all expensive; we all can use a pair of dark tights; and almost everyone has a big beautiful "Christmas" sweater. So, with a little imagination, we can all look "trendy" without really being so.

The sky's the limit!! Just be sure it looks right for you, your life style, and your body type. If not, it matters little how much you did or did not spend. See Ya!!

Water Board Office. They do a good job. Anthony and his wife, Judy, have returned from a trip to Germany, where they visited Judy's grandmother and toured points of interest.

Jean and John Jones visited their son Doug, Fire Control Technician, first class. They stayed on Doug's sail boat in Chula Vista, California, marina. They met his fiancée, Jamey Basham and her daughter, Kendra, age four, and her son, Michael, age eleven. The wedding will be in January in California. Jean and John went to Birmingham last Sunday to attend the ordination of Jean's brother, Donald Holcomb, at the Carson Road Baptist Church. The service was conducted by his twin sons, Barry and Larry. Jean and John then attended the Deacon Ordination of David Benefield at the First Baptist Church in Albertville.

Take time to enjoy the blue skies and, hopefully, the beautiful foliage of October.



MORGAN DRUGS

Donald R.
Morgan

Valley Head
635-6812

PRESCRIPTIONS

CHARLYNE O'REAR
Owner

PHONE
205-635-6657

THE CHRYSLIS

Ladies Apparel & Accessories

Annual Fashion Watch Sale - October 11-16

Hundreds to choose from - \$10 Up. Free watch to be given away on October 16. Please sign for drawing. Layaways welcome

Commerce Avenue
Valley Head, Ala.

Mon.-Thurs. 11-7
Fri. 1-7, Sat. 9 until



•Organic Foods • Beans • Grains • Juices • Breads • Spices
•Snacks • Cereals • Chips • Cookies • Cold Drinks

LIFE ABUNDANT

Herbs • Supplements • Books • Health Foods

U.S. Hwy. 11 & 117
Hammondville, AL
(205) 635-6625 (Home)
(205) 635-6688 (Store)

Owners
Karen Dittmore
Judy Millican

Herb & Health Food Store



VALLEY HEAD HARDWARE

635-6151



MCCLAIN-CHAMBERS

Alfie Chambers of Mentone and Kristi McClain of Birmingham, were wed on June 5, 1993 in Birmingham. Alfie is the son of Juanita Hartline and stepfather Sanford Hartline; Milton Chambers, father, and Gail Chambers, stepmother; and the grandson of Polly and Alfred Chambers, all of Mentone.

BRENDA GOSS COMPLETES COURSES

Brenda Goss, of Mentone, has recently completed coursework from Gaither Beauty School in Scottsboro. She was awarded a diploma in Cosmetology and will take State Boards in Montgomery on November 8 to become a Certified Cosmetologist. Brenda is currently working at Looks Unlimited in the English Village complex across from the old athletic field on Gault Avenue South in Fort Payne.

Brenda is the mother of two boys, Jason and Josh, and one girl, Jana. She is the wife of Benny Goss, the Mentone Postmaster.

LITTLE RIVER CANYON NATIONAL PRESERVE INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

There will be two meetings to provide information on the planning process for Little River Canyon National Preserve. These meetings are for everybody concerned about Little River Canyon and the land protection plan and alternatives. Both Mr. Farrell Saunders, Superintendent, and Don Forester, Planner, of the Little River National Preserve, will be present to answer any questions. These meetings are:

Cherokee County: October 14, 7 p.m. in the courtroom at the Cherokee County Courthouse in Centre.

DeKalb County: November 2, 7 p.m. at Fort Payne High School

NOTES FROM A NEWCOMER

By an anonymous runner

I used to live in the big city, Birmingham, where I averaged three to four workouts a week at the big sports complex. It was convenient to throw my aerobics gear in the car in the morning and stop by the sports complex on the way home from a hard day's work. I'd make a quick change and join dozens of fellow fighters-of-fat in the pursuit of health, happiness, and a better body. It was easy to stay in shape in the big city. Rain or shine, just pay the yearly fee, and mindlessly follow the leader as you bounce up and down on the carpeted floor to a very loud "pump your body" disco beat. The music blocked out the stress of the day, the air conditioning was great for the yuppie crowd. After numerous knee lifts, squats, and correctly done sit-ups, I was rejuvenated only to be immersed, once again, into the city sea of cars, traffic lights, and billboards. Home was only five miles away, and I could make it in 25 minutes.

But, it was easy to stay in shape in the big city where there are health conscious restaurants that serve entire, virtually fat-free meals. In the big city grocery stores, I found Tarragon vinegar, sun-dried tomatoes, and any shaped pasta and accompaniment known to man. So, it took a while to get through the quarter-of-a-mile line to the checkout counter, the car was only a few blocks away. After paying for the parking, once again, I made my way through the big city traffic and retreated into my basement apartment. There I had only to muster the energy to prepare the healthy meal.

I moved away from the big city several months ago. Upon moving to Mentone, though I love and adore this mountain with all my heart, I began to complain about missing my healthy routines, which I had left in the big city. Then, one day, my husband, who'd rather not hear me complain, brought home a pair of ladies' running shorts and a professional looking runner's T-shirt. As he pulled the outfit from the bag, he announced that I had 10 weeks to get ready. "Get ready for what?" I asked, thinking that it would take me longer than 10 years to get into those shorts. My husband had signed me up for Mentone's annual event for runners—for the Groundhog Run, of course!

Well, here we are, almost two months, and 80 miles later. Once my body got over the shock of running the first few miles, training for the Groundhog Run on the parkway has been a most pleasurable experience. It's not always easy. One of the most difficult things about exercising for me is making myself start. My husband leads, and we both are competitive enough to keep each other to the task. I must say that staying in shape in Mentone is convenient enough. We just put on our running shoes and start aerobicizing at the front door. We have run at sun-up, or shortly thereafter, sunset, and mid-day. The scenery certainly beats the mirrors and concrete at the big city sports center. Unlike the sea of traffic and pollution of the big city, there is always something delightful to experience on the parkway—a bird's song, a neighbor's garden, the smells of the woods.

I still miss some of the conveniences(?) of big city life, but I know that the past several months in Mentone have spoiled me forever—and there's never a long line at the Superette!

See you in the Groundhog Run!

**Mother-in-Law's
Day** is October 28th

Valley Head Woman's Club

By Maurine Donahue

The meeting of the Valley Head Woman's Club at Nippersink Lodge in Mentone heralded the end of summer and the beginning of autumn and the 1993-94 club year. Hostesses were Mrs. Edward Disney, Mrs. Alex Hamilton, and Mrs. Jimmy Wright.

The president, Mrs. Alex Hamilton, presided and commended the club members on the success of the Homecoming Tea held last April for Mr. Ralph Hammond, Poet Laureate of Alabama and native of Valley Head.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs' theme of the year is "Concern, Courage, Commitment—a Better World For All." The program this month was "A Better World Through The Valuing Of Human Life."

Mrs. Ted Holleman gave the devotional basing it upon Proverbs 21, "Every way of man is right in his own eyes: but the Lord pondereth the heart." She read a poem, "What I Did In September." From a devotional by Norman Vincent Peale, she said one should make dreams come true, make a difference in the world, and ask yourself whose best friend are you.

Mrs. Van Cooper introduced the guest speakers, Donna Dawson, director of The Shelter, and Ann Foster, director of Sav-A-Life. Mrs. Cooper said good works are going on all around us.

Ms. Dawson said The Shelter provides shelter, support, and assistance to victims of spouse abuse and their children and serves Etowah, DeKalb, and Cherokee counties. She asked, "Are you doing negative things to other people instead of positive things?" Abuse results from a desire for power over other people. It can be physical, moral, or economic. It is a desire to control every aspect of life." The motto of The Shelter is "Peace on Earth begins at Home."

Ms. Foster said Sav-A-Life is a Christian ministry dedicated to helping young women deal with crisis pregnancies. Sav-A-Life offers alternatives to abortion by helping meet their needs—physical, emotional, and spiritual. They offer confidential pregnancy testing, a maternity and infant clothes closet, housing, and other assistance. Adoption services are offered through Lifeline Children's Services of Birmingham. She cited Psalm 139:13-16 as a reason against abortion.

The club voted to allow the Fort Payne Garden Club to plant flowers around the Historical Marker of the churches of Valley Head.

Guests were Mrs. Bonnie Barnett, Mrs. Peggy Bentley, Mrs. Garretta Newman, and Mrs. Helen Segreist.

Delicious plates of refreshments were ready for members and guests on the dining tables, which were beautifully decorated with fall flowers.



THE MENTONE BLALOCK FAMILY

By Evelyn Graves

Shortly after having the opportunity to interview Jim Lyday, I was privileged to have his first cousin, Floyd Crow, from near Collinsville, come by my house and bring beautifully assembled records of the Blalock family. There was so much contained in the albums he brought that it would be utterly impossible to cover it all in one segment. Floyd is the son of Stella Blalock Crow. He is an interesting person with a vast knowledge of history and of the family legacy. He also brought with him a beautiful dulcimer that he had made, and he attempted to teach my husband how to play it— but no luck!

For the benefit of PRODIGY members, and others who may be interested in a line of descent, I am listing the Mentone Blalocks in the order of their births:

Name:	Married:
James Madison Blalock b. 8-29-1815 d. 7-14-1885	Elizabeth Lucinda Cathey
1. David S. Blalock b. 12-26-1838 d. unknown	Nancy Hilburn Jones
2. Spencer C. Blalock b. 9-20-1841 d. 3-24-1862 (in Civil War)	Rebecca H. Cordell b. 3-15-1847 d. 1-15-1937
3. William Burton Blalock b. 9-16-1843 d. unknown	Nancy Cassandra Ellison b. 8-21-1861 d. 3-21-1899
4. George B. Blalock b. 10-3-1846 d. 2-23-1860	Laura Mabry b. 5-5-1875 d. 1-21-56
5. John Thomas Blalock b. 1-22-1849 d. 5-20-1939	
6. Nicey Adaline Blalock b. 3-23-1853 d. unknown	Mary Elizabeth Ellison b. 7-11-1864 d. 2-13-1942
7. Joseph (Joe) Murray Blalock b. 1-27-1854 d. 6-13-1931	Rebecca (Becky) Wallin b. 1858 d. 6-14-1920
8. James (Jim) Robert Blalock b. 10-20-1856 d. 6-13-1934	Mrs. Victoria Anderson Sarah Francis Anderson b. 8-27-1875 d. 12-19-1953
9. Willis Clark Blalock b. 9-16-1859 d. 2-9-1926	John Wilson Bartow (Bart) Davis b. 4-12-1862 d. 4-7-1935
10. Sarah (Sallie) Lucinda Blalock b. 3-27-1862 d. 5-10-1937	Florence Melinda Kirby b. 12-15-1875 d. 10-22-1915
11. Henry Tilmon Blalock b. 4-13-1865 d. unknown	Mary Ellen Hendricks b. 10-24-1880 d. 7-30-1975
12. Alfred Moore Blalock b. 9-1-1867 d. 1-24-1953	Benjamin Franklin Locke b. 1-16-1855 d. 7-19-1929
13. Mary Ellen Blalock b. 4-8-1871 d. 10-17-1940	J. A. Hunter



Standing: Joseph, Sarah Lucinda; sitting: James Madison holding Elizabeth, and Mary Ellen

Children 1 through 8 came with their parents from North Carolina to Polk County, Tennessee, to Head River to build a cabin. Child #9 was born in Tennessee; and Children #10 through #13 were born in Alabama.

The surname of Child #3, William Burton, was spelled Blaylock at the time he fought in the Civil War. This same spelling has been carried through each generation of William Burton's descendants.

James Madison Blalock was drafted as a scout in Union troops. He led the troops off the mountain by way of Alpine. Spencer was killed at Williamsburg, VA, in the Confederate Army. George (#4) was killed by lightning and was buried in the Blalock Cemetery. Nicey (#6) was born in North Carolina and died on the way to Head River. She was buried at Head River. Willis (#9) was born in Tennessee; and Sarah (#10), as well as the rest of the younger children, were born in Alabama.

David (#1) was the great grandfather of the present generation of Blalocks (Martin, Ovie, Willis, Ann Wright, Floyd Crow, Jim Lyday, etc.). James Madison Blalock was the great-great grandfather.

The Morgans, Campbells, and Blalocks (all relatives) settled Head River, in Chattooga County, GA, and the upper part of Mentone, AL. A load of Morgans, Campbells and Blalocks left this part of the country and settled in Oklahoma. James Robert (#8) was the first to go. After his father died, John Thomas (#5) came back for his mother and the younger children. Willis Clark Blalock went for the land rush. He got there before anybody else did. Henry Tilmon and Joseph Murray had farms near the river at Mentone. All the Blalocks in this area are related according to the history available.

Floyd Crow told me the following little story, which I thought was delightful. He then said, "You are not going to print this in the Groundhog, are you?" I did not tell him I would not print it. The story goes that, in 1886, Nancy sent David outside to get an armload of wood, and he came back three years later. He had gotten in the wagon and had gone to Oklahoma. It seems that she had been "on his case" for about a month, and this was just the splinter that broke the mule's back. At least—she did not get her firewood, and the mule was gone. Anyway, ladies, we had best take heed and back off before something like this happens!

Next month, I will continue with segment 2 of the Blalock family—that is, unless Floyd is angry with me now, and won't share it with me.

Madaperca B&B

A RIVERSIDE RETREAT
"Atop Lookout Mountain"

DON & YVONNE BROCK
Highway 117, Mile Marker 5
HC 68, Box 20, Mentone, AL 35984
Reservations (205) 634-4792



MADAPERCA

NIPPERSINK LODGE

On Lookout Mountain at DeSoto Falls
P.O. Box 172
Mentone, Alabama 35984
(205) 634-3610

Advance Reservations Required

MENTONE INN

For Reservations Call
(205) 634-4836

or Write P.O. Box 284,
Mentone, Alabama 35984

Amelia Kirk, Owner

Little River Hardware

and Miscellaneous Mercantile
HWY 117 Mentone, AL 35984
(205) 634-4757
1-800-634-4787



GLADYS STOTT HONORED

Mrs. Gladys Johnson Stott of Route 1, Valley Head became an Honorary Member of the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame at the Annual Awards and Induction Ceremony held at the Montgomery Civic Center on Sunday, September 19.

Mrs. Stott is very active in community and civic affairs and has served and chaired a number of boards. She is a member of Valley Head Baptist Church and Fort Payne Eastern Star.

She is past president of AARP and was selected as Retired Person of the Year. A lifetime member of Landmarks, she is a past trustee of the board. She served as vice president of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program and is a past president of its advisory board.

Additionally, she is president of the DeKalb County Council on Aging Advisory Board; a board member of the DeKalb County Adult Activities and Training Center; honorary member of the Fort Payne Jaycees; and a former board member of DeKalb County Mental Retardation.

Mrs. Stott, a former president, is now vice president of the Advisory Council of TARCOG Area Agency on Aging, which serves five counties.

She is the mother of Jesse B. Stott, Jr., of Fort Payne, and Brenda Stott Loveless of Centre. Mrs. Stott has six grandchildren.

The Hall of Fame recognizes honorees in the following categories: Class Members, wherein eight persons are nominated, voted for, and become members of the Hall of Fame; Special Awards, wherein professionals and individuals are nominated in eight categories, voted for, and honored in specific categories as befitting their contributions affecting the elderly in Alabama; Honorary Members, wherein persons are nominated and honored as honorary members; and In Memoriam, wherein persons are nominated, and honored after death for their contributions in life to the elderly populations.

Honorary Members are presented with a Golden Eagle Honorary Eagle Pin.



Rhododendron Garden Club News

The Rhododendron Garden Club met on September 14, at Nippersink. The hostess was Gerry Disney, assisted by Elizabeth Stephens, Helen Hill, and Theresa Bosworth.

Hattie Lide gave the devotional on planting and reaping, citing Psalm 126:5-6.

Ann Wright, president, welcomed the 21 members and three guests: Benny Campbell, Penny Lyday, and Maureen Brewer.

The minutes were read and the treasurer's report was given.

Committee reports were heard. Jean McGehee gave a detailed, horticultural report; as did Lynette McCary, special projects.

The club's participation in the VFW Fair scheduled for October 4-9 was discussed. The club was assigned the registration of roses. Ann and Linda are to prepare an educational display of Hostas; and Jo Beaubé is responsible for an arrangement entitled, Autumn Splendor.

Six members signed up to attend the District II fall meeting in Pell City on September 23. Those members are: Ann Wright, Hope Walker, Helen Hill, Jo Beaubé, Pat Seymour, and Marie Dillenbeck.

Jo Beaubé, chairman of the Flower Show Study Program, introduced the speaker, Benny Campbell. He provided much useful information on how to make beautiful arrangements.

The next meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club will be Tuesday, October 12, at 2:00 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Crow. The hostess will be Bernise Crow, assisted by Frances Rosario, Shirley Hessel, and Pat Seymour. Sue Schwarz will present the program, "Xeriscaping."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Blossom Hill Bed & Breakfast & Herb Farm

Blossom Hill Bed & Breakfast & Herb Farm, is now open to the public, offering a rustic "Touch-of-Class" setting on Lookout Mountain in the historic Town of Mentone. The bed and breakfast facility borders Little River Canyon near DeSoto Falls.

A separate, four-room guest house with private bath and air conditioning is featured at the facility. Available are rooms such as the Bridal room, the Wildflower room, the Skier's room, or the Wildlife room. It also offers a library, hiking, and herb and native plant gardens.

Herbal delights, teas, potpourris, baths, and plants propagated in Blossom Hill's own greenhouse are also available.

Blossom Hill, located next to the Mentone Wedding Chapel and Shady Grove Ranch, also has fly-in capability with a 2,600 foot grass air strip adjacent to the site.

Rates are \$55 a night for single occupancy and \$65 a night for double occupancy.

For additional information and reservations, contact hosts Bonnie and Jim Schmidt at (205) 634-4673 or (205) 870-2759.

By mail, write, Blossom Hill Bed and Breakfast and Herb Farm, Route 1, Box 177-C, Mentone, Alabama 35984.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN Properties

Specializing in Mountain Homes, Woodlands,
Canyon, River and Brow Properties

Angela J. Wood
Broker, Owner

Office: 634-4672
Home: 634-4169

ROCKY TOP ESTATES - West Brow and wooded tracts priced from \$10,000 to \$35,000. Located across from the back entrance of DeSoto State Park on Scenic Dr. North. Restricted covenants.

VACATION COTTAGE - 1 1/2 acre, Mentone, 2 bedroom, 1 bath completely furnished. The lake and comes with a canoe and duck boat. **SOLD** - \$55,000.

BROW ON DESOTO PARKWAY just minutes from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. 100x300 lot with a beautiful view of the Fort Payne Reservoir, and valley. \$27,000.

Charming Mountain Home nestled on a wooded acre with lots of dogwood trees. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, city water. Vaulted ceilings in greatroom and master bedroom stone fireplace. Located on the DeSoto Parkway, Mentone. Priced at only \$53,000.

2-3 Acre Tracts located next to the Comer Scout Reservation and minutes to Mentone on the Lookout Mtn. Parkway. Upper west brow with sunset and partial valley views. City water available. Priced \$27,000 and \$30,000.

OWN THIS ISLAND PENINSULA, on the East Fork of Little River, 1/2 mile of river surrounding 15 acres, plus 800 ft. of Laurel Creek as the back boundary line. Electric, roughed in plumbing and a large basement foundation in place. Must see to believe. \$68,000 call for appointment.

PRIME LAKE LAHUSAGE LOT (East Fork of Little River) 167 ft. of lake frontage good for building. Level to gently sloping. Good access to water. \$26,000.

THE ONE AND ONLY CANYON VIEW FOREST, Autumn is almost upon us and the Little River Canyon is at its most spectacular. Available are 5 acre tracts overlooking this colorful site, priced from \$25,000 to \$40,000. Many to choose from, some with waterfalls, and creeks. Private access behind locked gates. (restricted), shown by appointment only.

BROW OVERLOOK FOR SALE - Panoramic view from this 5 acres above Fort Payne. Located on Citadel Rock Rd. Would make a lovely homestead or restaurant spot. \$20,000.

EAST BROW, GEORGIA, a Get Away Mountain Home, beautifully decorated with 6 acres and 400 ft. of brow frontage. Security System, 2 BR, 2 bath, large cathedral beam great room, loft, and kitchen fully equipped. Ceiling to floor window overlooking a rock patio with a view to the Blue Ridge Mountains. Priced \$130,000 firm. Co-broke with Cloudland Realty.

-In Rising Fawn, Visit- CURETON HOUSE ANTIQUES



HISTORIC HOME AND GROUNDS
Filled With Antiques & Such...
Sale Now Through October 19th - New load of
antiques, contents of house and large yard sale.

This is the Victorian house built in 1872
1-59, Exit 1 to Hwy. 11 (Rising Fawn, Ga.)
Turn right one mile (Across from the Post Office)

GRACIE OLIVER SEWELL (706) 462-2270

CITIZENS BANK OF VALLEY HEAD

Large Enough to Serve You—
Small Enough to Know You!

Valley Head 635-6292

Member FDIC

Ider 657-5122



The
Humble House
A
Bed & Breakfast

Your Hosts
John And Jean Jones

Rt. 1, Box 303
Valley Head, AL 35989

Telephone
(205) 635-6682

REMEMBRANCES OF THINGS PASSED

by Evelyn Graves

They say that a woman who will tell you her age will tell you anything. Bonnie Bailey not only tells you her age, but she shares her five decades of growing up in Birmingham, Alabama, and New Orleans, Louisiana, with her readers and cooks and would-be-cooks. Her cookbook, *Remembrances Of Things Passed*, is a play on the title of Marcel Proust's five volume tome, *Remembrances of Things Past*. Proust wrote of Aix-en-Provence, in southern France, and Bonnie, in an entirely different manner, writes of the southern United States. Food memories, smells, and tastes of foods, and reading cookbooks are all a part of anyone who is at all interested in the world of food. Men and women have avidly read and enjoyed Bonnie's book.

Bonnie is from Birmingham. She grew up in Forest Park in the 1940s, during the "War Years," where she lived with her grandparents, John and Ellie Oates, and her mother, Virginia, and sister, Molly. In 1950, Bonnie moved into a house a block away from her grandparents when her father returned from the Philippines. Her younger sister, Molly, was born that year. Virginia, Bonnie, and Molly are all Mentonians at heart. Virginia and her husband, Dr. Bob Johnson, from Nashville, bought Frank and Bonnie Young's house on the brow, and Molly and her four children visit Bonnie and Bill frequently at Ms. Clara Moorman's Windward Inn. Bonnie and Bill Bailey bought the Windward several years ago from Millie Moerlins.

Bonnie graduated from Ramsay High School in Birmingham, and then went to Newcomb College at Tulane University, where she graduated in 1962. She met Bill that last year at Newcomb when he was in his first year of Tulane Medical School, and they were married in 1963. They lived in New Orleans for 12 years of their 30-year marriage, while Bill did all of his medical training at Tulane. Bill is Board certified in Internal Medicine, with a specialty in pulmonary diseases. He is a full professor of medicine at UAB. During the Viet Nam war, Bill was, oddly enough, stationed in Birmingham, Alabama, which was Bonnie's home town. He was assigned to the Public Health Service in tuberculosis in Jefferson County, Alabama. Military service was mandatory during those years, and since all of their friends were being shipped to Viet Nam, they realized God must have some plan for them in Birmingham, Alabama. They did not even know to request it. There is no military base there, and there never has been!

After two years with the Public Health Service in Birmingham, they went back to Tulane for Bill to finish his medical training. All three of their sons, Charles, John, and Evans, were born in New Orleans during those years.

The Baileys had become born-again Christians in Birmingham during those two years of military duty there, and their hearts were homesick for Alabama and their spiritual roots there. In 1973, Bill was offered an excellent position with UAB, and all five of them moved back "home."

Their sons wanted to attend summer camp in Mentone, Alabama, so Bonnie took them to the "camp movies" in Birmingham that fall of 1973. One of her friends from Newcomb College, Alice Gandy, was now "Mrs. O'Ferrall of Alpine Camp for Boys." Bonnie didn't know that until she saw Alice in the camp movies! Charles, John, and Evans faithfully attended Alpine for the next 15 years! Evans was the youngest camper Dick and Alice ever took; John was Honor Camper three years in a row; and Charles was "Great Son" his last year. Bonnie was the Birmingham representative almost all of those years, and the Alpine days were not easily put behind them.

During camp days, a patient of Bonnie's brother-in-law, Bob Johnson from Nashville, recommended their



staying at the Nippersink in Mentone. Thus, began a wonderful mid-summer tradition of the Baileys' meeting Virginia and Bob from Nashville and going to visit sons and nephews at Alpine.

Determined to find a house in Mentone, Bill and Bonnie began to come up on weekends and "drive around." Bill did a lot of detective work and finally found the owner of a house by the Falls that they loved. The owner was a doctor from Mobile, and he and his wife graciously agreed to let the Baileys stay at their wonderful home several times a year.

Finally, the Bailey's sons all went off to college. At the same time, a small house on the brow came up for sale, and Bill and Bonnie bought it. The nest at home had been empty, but it suddenly filled to overflowing when the "boys" found out about their parents' house in Mentone.

On a walk one day, Bill and Bonnie ended up at the Windward Inn; and, like so many others, fell in love with it. An old newspaper article described the Windward as having been run by Miss Clara Moorman "who attended Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois, and who was known for her fine food." Her father, a Presbyterian minister, moved to Mentone because he "suffered from a debilitating and chronic lung disease, probably asthma."

Bonnie was absolutely convinced that the Windward was meant for them! Charles and Evans Bailey, the oldest and youngest of the three sons, both went to "Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois;" Bonnie ran a restaurant in Birmingham (The Highland Gourmet, Inc., on Highland Avenue), and "was known for her fine food." Bill was a physician in chronic lung diseases, especially asthma!!!

Bill was convinced, too, finally, and he began his detective work again. The first person he called to find out who owned The Windward said that it belonged to "the Valley Head Cemetery." Bill kept trying. When he finally did track down Millie Moerlins (who had once lived on Highland Avenue herself!), Millie said she would sell it to him, and she did.

Ms. Clara had run an inn at The Windward. There were actually three other houses that were originally a part of the Windward Inn. All of the meals, however, were served in the main house on the brow. Millie graciously gave Bonnie and Bill all of the old guest books dating from the early 1920s. One of the first names in it is "Mildred Hodges, Birmingham, Alabama," who is, of course, Mil Ferry.

Bonnie was too exhausted from her eight years in The Highland Gourmet to consider "going public."

Her family continued to grow. Charles and Evans married women who were also Wheaton College students and graduates. John went to Gordon College in Boston. But they all come back several times a year. (Mentone is their "soul's rest.") And it was time for family.

Much of Bonnie's cookbook was written in Mentone at The Windward. It contains recipes that her sons and their wives called for long-distance at all odd hours of the day and night. She found, she said, that she was quickly forgetting how to cook, and she had better get the recipes recorded. Millie had given her a lot of Miss Clara's recipes; Bonnie's grandmother, Mrs. Oates (whose best friend was Sally May Vann, Jim Vann's mother), left Bonnie boxes of recipes; and, as word got out that Bonnie was recording some of these recipes, others sent treasured, "secret" recipes from the years and decades past.

Remembrances Of Things Passed is a book of about 200 recipes, 300 pages. Recipes for old favorites, such as real banana pudding, coconut cake, chicken and dumplings, turnip greens, and the like, are in the book, as well as the New Orleans' years with red beans and rice, gumbo, bread pudding, eggs benedict (the easy way: ahead of time); and her restaurant years: chicken salad, wild rice salad, several pasta salads. The "signature cake" of The Highland Gourmet is on the cover with easy directions in the book on how to make the cake. In fact, it is a very easy-to-do book, because, in the restaurant years, and just with her busy lifestyle, Bonnie and her family had to keep life as simple as possible! The recipes are easy. They are easy to read and to do, and are very, very good.

The book came out in July 1993 and is already in its second printing. The first printing will have sold 5,000 copies by November 1993.

Bonnie and Bill spend as much of their time as possible in Mentone. Bonnie has taught the women's Friday Bible Study at St. Joseph's in the past. She has written an overview type of Bible study of the Old Testament and has recently completed one of the New Testament. These are taught in a program in her church in Birmingham (Briarwood Presbyterian Church) and in several other churches in a program she and her close friend, Arden Franklin, wrote called "Basic Bible Study Training." The program is based on Bonnie's many years of teaching Neighborhood Bible Clubs to grade-school children in the Birmingham area. After college, Bonnie attended Katharine Gibbs School in New York City, and later got her Master of Religious Education from the Birmingham Extension Seminary. She has continued to teach and lead large and small group Bible studies over the years.

Bonnie's second cookbook, which is due out in 1995, is about Mentone.

BRUCE'S FOODLAND

2000 Gault Ave. North
Fort Payne

A Place for
the Whole Family

Personal Fax Service
Now Available

Owner Shan Bruce





The Recipe Corner

By
SUE SCHWARZ

It's times like this morning when I am dashing around trying to do two billion things that I think about quick, easy, and good recipes. Today, I am trying to get to Huntsville to a weaving workshop, and my sweet husband has been trying to get me together and organized.

Stay-a-bed Stew

The I Hate To Cook Cookbook
by Peg Bracken

Mix these things up in a casserole that has a tight lid:

2 lbs. beef stew meat cubed

1 can peas or green beans

1 C sliced carrots

2 C chopped onions

1 can of soup thinned with 1/2 can of water
(cream of tomato, mushroom, celery,
or your favorite)

1 big raw potato sliced

bay leaf

salt and pepper to taste

Put lid on casserole and put the casserole into a 275 degree oven. Go on about your chores, and it will be done in 5 hours.

Golden Apple Chunks

4 medium cooking apples,
peeled, quartered, and cored.

1/4 C brown sugar, packed

1 t cinnamon

2 T butter or margarine

Place apples in 1-quart microproof casserole. Combine brown sugar and cinnamon in small bowl. Sprinkle over apples. Dot with butter. Cook, covered, in microwave on HI (max. power) 7-8 minutes, stirring after 4 minutes. This is good with frozen yogurt, ice cream, or whipped topping; as a dessert, or plain as a side dish.



Scarecrow Contest



A Special Event of the COLORFEST -
SPONSORED BY M.A.P.A.

GRAND PRIZE - \$25 CASH

Runner-up prizes and participant awards also.
Winning Scarecrows (and owner) will be featured
in next issue of the GROUNDHOG.

Contest Rules:

1. Scarecrows may be male or female.
2. Only one (1) scarecrow per entry form. Families may enter more than one, but EACH scarecrow must have a separate entry form.
3. Harvest time "scenes" are encouraged, but only scarecrows will be judged.
4. All scarecrows must be large enough to be seen easily from the roadway.
5. ANY material(s) may be used—use your imagination!
6. All scarecrows must be completed and displayed in yards NO LATER THAN 9:00 AM, Saturday, October 16th.
7. Entry forms (below) must be received at the GROUNDHOG OFFICE by Friday, October 15th—by 5:00 PM. (Put in box.)
8. Judging will be conducted Sat., Oct. 16th. WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT NOON.

SCARECROW CONTEST

Let's Celebrate the Colors -
and Decorate Our Town!

Name _____
Scarecrow's Address _____
Phone # _____
Scarecrow's "Name" _____
(If family of scarecrows, list name(s): _____
Business entry _____
Address _____
Phone # _____

Pick-up or Leave Entry's at

LITTLE RIVER HARDWARE
TOWN HALL
KOUNTRY CHEF
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PROPERTIES
(Blinker light)
or
call JANE BOULDIN, CHAIRMAN,
SCARECROW CONTEST
634-4225.

BACK INJURY ON THE JOB!

That sudden sharp pain could mean a pinched nerve or slipped disc. Don't wait for the pain to go away! Get treated immediately! Back injury is a serious matter. Vital nerve functioning can be blocked often resulting in:

- 1 LOW BACK &
LEG PAIN
- 2 NECK-SHOULDER
& ARM PAIN
- 3 HEADACHE &
DIZZINESS
- 4 SWELLING &
STIFFNESS



THE ELROD CLINIC combines the most modern equipment and techniques with highly trained professionals specializing in spine and nerve rehabilitation.

So why live with pain? Call now for a consultation.

(205) 845-0047

The Elrod Clinic of Chiropractic

Dr. H. Edward Elrod

1000E Gault Avenue, S. • Fort Payne, AL 35967



Best Western of Fort Payne

1828 Gault Ave., North
Fort Payne, AL 35967

Book Christmas Parties Now

Reservations
1-800-528-1234

"Each Best Western is independently owned and operated"



DR. STEVE MCGEE

Chiropractor

"DRUGLESS Family Health Care"

Open Monday-Saturday

1913 Godfrey Ave., N.E.
Fort Payne, Alabama
(205) 845-2819



Copiers
Calculators
Facsimile
Machines



845-3000
723 Gault Ave. N.



OFFICE
PRODUCTS

FAX #
845-6396

DeSoto State Park Summer Interpretive Programs 1993

DATE	PROGRAM	SPEAKER
Oct. 9	Spaniards In NE AL	Harry Holstein
Oct. 16	Cherokee Indian Legends	Rod Trussell
Oct. 23	Caring for Alabama's Wildlife	Ann Miller
Oct. 30	DeSoto State Park: A Visual Sampler	Paul Franklin

Programs are held in the Campground and are free to the public. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please contact DeSoto State Park at 845-0051. Ken Thomas, Naturalist.



DeSoto State Park
Route 1, Box 210
Fort Payne, Alabama 35967
1-205-845-0051



**FREE
WAGON RIDES
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 16 AND 17,
TO BROW FESTIVAL
FROM IN FRONT OF
"MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL PORCH"
AND "WHITE ELEPHANT"
TO FESTIVAL GATES.**

**ARTIST GUILD BOOTHS ON THE BROW
LIVE PAINTING AND SCULPTURING**

UPDATE ON THE JAWS OF LIFE

The Jaws of Life are here!! The North Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Department, through its fund-raising efforts, and the assistance of the Mentone Community, has purchased and received the equipment. Training was also provided. More next month, with pictures!! THANK YOU, Everybody!



God's Minute

By RUBY BROCK

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Psalm 37:3

The admonition to trust in the Lord will bring peace of mind in a troubled world. This time, like all time, is a very good time if we know what to do with it. Just trust and do good.



The Church of God is having a chicken and dressing dinner fund raiser on Saturday, October 23 at the church. Plates will be \$4.50 and will include yams, green beans, slaw, and cake.

MENTONE GROUNDHOG CLASSIC RUN



*Sponsored by Mentone Area Preservation Association
Saturday, Oct. 16th 9:30 a.m. CST*

ONE MILE FUN RUN: at 9:00 a.m. Pre-registered entrants are guaranteed a SWEAT SHIRT (May be mailed to late registrants). Times called, but no records kept.

AWARDS: Specially designed SWEAT SHIRT to go to all pre-registered runners (May be mailed to late registrants). TROPHIES to top three winners in each division. \$100.00 each to top man and woman winners.

LIGHT BREAKFAST: Fruit and fruit juices will be served free to all runners after the Classic. Water available at half-way point.

COURSE: Begins at Hitching Post to turn-off to DeSoto Falls and back 4.2 miles, flat to gently rolling hills on DeSoto-Lookout Mountain Parkway.

MENTONE: Located on Lookout Mountain on Highway 117. Exits off I-59 between Chattanooga and Gadsden. From the east, through Summerville, Georgia, to Menlo to Cloudland to Mentone, Alabama.

11TH YEAR: This is the 11th year for the race. All proceeds go to the goals of the Mentone Area Preservation Association, dedicated to preserving and protecting the natural heritage, environment, and other unique qualities of Mentone. The race on Saturday, Oct. 16th, is part of the "October Colorfest," which features ghost stories, music, and a bonfire on Friday evening, Oct. 15th. Crafts, boat rides, music, food, drinks, and more will be available on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 16th and 17th.

**Detach and mail or bring to:
The Mentone Groundhog Classic
Attention: Bruce Bon Fleur
P.O. Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984
(205) 634-4828 or 634-4591**



Entry fee of \$10 must accompany each application. After October 12th, fee will be \$12. Make checks Payable to MAPA (Mentone Area Preservation Association)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

AGE as of Oct. 15th, 1993 _____

SIGNATURE _____

(If under 18 years old, signature of parent or guardian is required.)

Circle Sweat Shirt Size S M L XL

Division:

☐ MEN	☐ WOMEN
☐ 14 & UNDER	☐ 14 & UNDER
☐ 15 - 19	☐ 15 - 19
☐ 20 - 29	☐ 20 - 29
☐ 30 - 39	☐ 30 - 39
☐ 40 & OVER	☐ 40 & OVER

☐ CLASSIC RUN ☐ FUN RUN

NO ONE MAY ENTER THIS EVENT WITHOUT SIGNING THIS OFFICIAL WAIVER: In consideration of accepting this entry, I the above-signed, intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any and all claims for losses and damages I may have against MAPA and all other parties and their representatives, successors, and assigns for any and all injuries suffered by me in said event. I attest and verify that I am physically fit. Further, I hereby grant full permission to any and all foregoing to use photos, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event for any purpose whatsoever. Revised by David Cryer July 1992