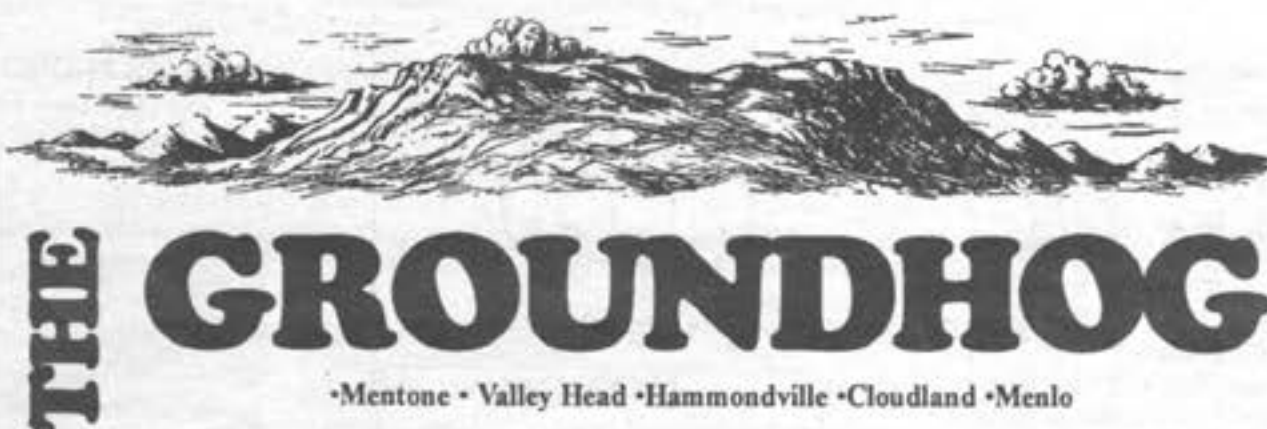


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Volume 21, No. 9

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

September 2003

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS

Pandora & The Magic Box

Pandora & The Magic Box



(L/R) **Back Row:** Keisha Powell, Kevin Flory, Brittany Streeter, Megan Smith, Sierra Nicely, Jacqueline McGee; **Mid Row:** Tiffany Easler, Meagan Sutton, Brooklyn Wright, Hope Carden, Kayla Powell, Austin Jones; **Front Row:** Kaylee McMunn, Jessica Easler, Nathan Jones, Chloe Griffith

By Heather Nicely

Saturday night, July 26, 2003, brought together a talented group of young performers and an enthusiastic crowd of around 175 to see the first production of the Lookout Mountain Community Theatre. The play "Pandora and the Magic Box" by I.E. Clark was a children's summer theater project that will be just the first of many more to come.

The performers were all local kids that did such a great job many people thought we brought them in from somewhere else. The audience was captivated by the wonderful performances of Jessica Easler and Nathan Jones as Pandora and Epimetheus. Kevin Flory had them laughing as the sneaky messenger, Quicksilver; and Sierra Nicely was delightful in the role of Hope. Brittany Streeters' solo as Ariel, and the Dancing Princess Pandora played by Brooklyn Wright were very well received. The troubles of the world were convincingly played by Austin Jones, Brian Jones, Jacqueline McGee, and Maggie Hollis. The happy dancers Megan Smith, Keisha Powell, Kayla Powell, and Hope Carden were great; as well as our girl Meagan Sutton. Kaylee McMunn as Boy, and

three children Chloe Griffith and Tiffany Easler completed the troupe. I am very proud of these kids and the amount of effort they put into their parts in this first project.

I am Heather Nicely, and feel very privileged to have been the coordinator of this project. It was one of the most enjoyable community experiences I have had, due mainly to the solid group of volunteers and the enjoyment and dedication of the children. The time for theatre in our area is here and now for children and adults.

I have always known there was a need for the theatre in our area. To allow my child to enjoy this kind of experience in the past, I have traveled about an hour each way. This time, knowing how many of these kids would really benefit from a summer theater program, I decided to invest my time here where it is really needed and look for the funds to make it happen. A budget for the production was prepared and after making the rounds of local groups, the Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center welcomed the opportunity to fund the summer theater project so that it would be free to all who wished to participate. Generous dona-

tions were also received from Charles and Rose Mary Reid and Patti Bryan.

So many people made this project work well, but a few I could not have done without. Sandra Comley, your knowledge of the theatre from the initial proposal to costumes and architectural elements made all things seem easy even when they were not. Lyle Nicely, without your constant support of my pursuits and giving of your time and materials, this would have been a difficult task. Our director, Margaret Goldthreath, as well as her assistant, Brittany Flory, did a great job with the kids. Jane Faile, you were there for everything I needed and with such a generous spirit. Patricia Flory, seamstress extraordinaire, veteran stage mother and costumer of all. We were so lucky to have you. Karen Wright, thank you for taking time to be part of this project. Your choreography added so much to the performance. Glenda Hollis from programs to lemonade, your help was indispensable. Technical direction of Adam Comley, so quiet and competent, as well as a really good ebay shopper. We were proud to have you with us. Pandora's box was also quite an undertaking, but an emerging local artist, A.J. Gass, did a superb job with it as well as spreading the word about our production from his job at Desoto State Park. Cindy Jones and Tammy Davis were there at each practice helping with a wide

Continued to page 6.

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

The DEADLINE for all material for The Groundhog is the 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.



NOTICE

www.MentoneAlabama.org, MAPA's web site, has a "Directory" to help visitors to our community find the places, things, and services they might want--much like the Yellow Pages in the phone book. If you have any information for the Directory, please submit it via e-mail to Listings@MentoneAlabama.org.

If you already have a listing there, please make sure it is correct and up-to-date. Thanks for your help!

MAPA TELEPHONE
256-634-4041



NOTES FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

It is imperative that a driveway permit must be obtained either from DeKalb County, the Alabama DOT, or the Town of Mentone, as our drainage is in bad shape. While the Town has not determined the proper size pipe to be used in all cases, the County and the State has, and it appears that, in most cases, not less than 18 inches. The Town of Mentone will follow these same guidelines in order to begin to improve our drainage, which is a prerequisite for improving our roads. It is requested that, when you are cleaning your yards, please do not rake the leaves and limbs into the drainage ditches, as they get filled up and stop up the culverts.

There will be a Board of Adjustment Hearing in October to consider an application for a Memorial Prayer Garden and parking immediately to the South of the St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. Watch for a notice posting the time and place.

The Mentone Musical Mountain Strings every third Saturday night on the Mentone Square is great! If you have not been, try it, you might like it. The Tourist and Events Committee is planning great things for the season's enjoyment. Watch for their announcements and notices posted around town.

The Mentone Waterworks Board is trying to get water on County Roads 631, 643, and Alpine and Gray Roads. We need certain areas of our Rehab Program finished in order to have sufficient water pressure and flows to properly service those customers in those areas. We are pushing the contractor every day. But the portions of the Rehab Grant, which are needed to assist with this part of the program, are not in his contract. We are hoping to have water on Alpine and Gray Road before the end of September, and also there is the possibility of water being furnished to Co Rd 643.



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-PUBLIC NOTICE-

MENTONE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
Meeting dates for 2003

October 16

Other special or called meetings will be posted as required.
The regular meetings are on the 3rd Thursday; and all meetings are held in the town public meeting room at 5 p.m., and are open to the public.

HOUNDS



By John Baty

The picture which heads this article is from the earliest surviving photo of your author.

It looks as if I needed a haircut and probably a bath. Back then, I didn't place too high a priority on personal appearance nor cleanliness.

I recall my older sisters telling of the times when I needed "freshening" up that Mama would put them after me like dogs chasing game, and they would run me down and drag me back to be bathed and haircut. I am proud to say that I got over that distaste for water and bathing. Recently, I volunteered to get in the shower.

That old dog there in the foreground appears to carry some amount of hound bloodline.

I have always had a soft spot in my heart for good hounds. I started hunting when I was about nine years old. The major portion of my hunting life was spent with foxhounds. However, from about nine years old to twelve years or so, we had tree dogs, coon dogs that would tree just about anything that climbs.

Hunters are a strange lot. A rare breed. Hunters (Hound men) are born not made. Some aberration of the genetic materials occurs early on and thereafter a fellow is powerless to resist the hounds. Like the old man said when reprimanded for watching the young girls: "I can't help it!"

Back when we hunted, one could see little groups of two or three men around Valley Head on Saturday morning. The group up by the railroad depot would be the foxhunters; the group over by Bell's store would be the coon hunters; the rabbit dog men would be out at the barber shop. Maybe two or three people down at the triangle by Chester's grease rack discussing bird hunting. Each group speaking of hound characteristics unique to their favorite type of hunting.

One of the topics for the coon hunters was cold-nosed hounds; those who could smell the scent trail of a coon long gone. Some people are still hunting with hounds but their number is small.

Recently, a reverend friend, who I will refer to as "Preacher," related the following story about a coon hunt:

Preacher and Preacher's old boyhood friend, Tom, were catching up on each other's lives after twenty-five years of separation when Preacher asked if Tom still coon hunted.

"I'm glad you asked," Tom told him. "I finally raised the coldest-nosed Bluetick hound in the South Eastern United States. Why, that dog, Ol' Blue, can smell a track so cold. . . ." Tom then carried his bragging to the point of disbelief.

Finally, Preacher told Tom to bring Ol' Blue over come Friday night and they would test his ability to smell a cold trail.

Friday evening they waited over coffee till it was dark enough, then Preacher told Tom to follow him. They went out to the concrete driveway in front of the carport and Preacher showed Tom a large coon track in the cement. "We poured this cement six years ago," Preacher said. And that night before the cement set up a big coon walked across it. Do you think Ol' Blue can track that coon?" "We will just have to see," Tom said. They put Ol' Blue's nose down on the coon track and he smelled for what seemed like several minutes. Then he cautiously tested the grass on the lawn and before he left the yard he barked coon. Then Blue did a strange thing. He stopped for a few seconds, and then he leaped high into the air, landing maybe four feet farther on. Then he resumed trailing the coon trail. Tom and Preacher followed with their flashlights for maybe another quarter mile, then Blue stopped and again leaped high into the air. Then Blue resumed trailing; and, as the track grew "warmer," the men decided the race would go a long way. They returned to the house for coffee and talk of days gone by and waited for Blue to return. Near midnight, they heard a noise in the carport. Preacher opened the door and there was Blue with a bleached and weathered bone in his mouth. Tom took the bone to the light and they agreed that it was a weathered femur from a very large raccoon. "Are you convinced?" Tom asked. "Yes," Preacher answered, "Blue is the coldest-nosed hound I ever saw."

"Something puzzles me, though" Tom said. "I never saw Blue jump like that before. I can't explain that."

Preacher was thoughtful for a minute, and then he said, "I think I have the answer to Blue's strange jumping behavior. When I bought that adjoining forty-acre tract of woods about twelve years ago, there was a tightly woven, four-foot high cattle fence around the entire forty acres. Recently, I dismantled it because it was getting old and an eyesore. But it was there in good shape the night that coon walked across the wet cement. Ol' Blue was just . . ."

UNITED GIVERS FUND TO CELEBRATE 45-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

When the annual UGF Campaign kicks off early next month, the event will also be a celebration of the organization's 45 years in DeKalb County. Incorporated in 1958, UGF has remained an independent, local organization. It continues to be governed by an all volunteer board whose members represent the various communities throughout DeKalb County.

UGF President, Scott Ross, along with Linda Sterling, Past President and Past Campaign General Chairman and Mark Dawson, this year's Campaign General Chairman, met recently with UGF staff members, Barbara Turner and Debra Dawson, and long-time UGF volunteers and supporters, Walter Weatherly and Chris Kuykendall, to discuss plans for the celebration of this important milestone for the organization.

Both Weatherly and Kuykendall shared memories of UGF's early years. They recalled with admiration a number of community leaders who were involved in the very first UGF Campaign that kicked off on November 3, 1958. Then, as now, each community in the county had a set goal and a community chairman. Community involvement and support continues to be a vital part of each UGF Campaign.

The 45th Anniversary Celebration/Campaign Kickoff activity took place on Wednesday, September 10 at 4:00 pm. at the DeKalb Theatre in downtown Fort Payne. All past presidents, board members, campaign general chairman, as well as all UGF supporters were encouraged to attend the event.

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"CHARLIE'S POEM"**Charlie Brown with the first guitar he made****By Karen Saferite**

I'm sure most of you read "Charlie's Poem" in last month's edition of *The Groundhog*, which was written about my father, Taylor "Charlie" Brown. At his request, I'm writing this article so you will know the story behind it. He had told his dream many times since his open heart surgery in May.

Before I start this story, I want to tell you a little bit about him. My daddy is the fifth child of Lee and Rose Blalock Brown's thirteen children. As one of the older sons, he started working in the woods logging and sawmilling when he was ten to twelve years old to help support the family. He continued to work cutting timber until his retirement seven years ago, spending 50 years in the woods. He married my mother, the former Nancy Flarity on January 24, 1964, and had two children, my sister Joann and me. Woodworking of all sorts has been a hobby of his for many years. Probably 75% of the homes in Mentone have axe, hammer or shovel handles that he has made. Through the years, he has made wood-carvings, gunstocks, furniture,

and musical instruments. He made his first fiddle in 1972, and started teaching himself to play. Since then, he has made eleven mandolins, four guitars, sixty-seven fiddles, and rebuilt and repaired lots more.

In mid February on a cold and rainy day, he was sitting out by the heater listening to fiddle tapes. He listened to hoe-downs, breakdowns, and finally settled on waltzes, playing along on his fiddle. After the tape ran out, he kept playing a tune he had in his head and trying to remember the name of it. Mama came in and told him she was going to the post office. So he put his fiddle down and the next thing he knew he was in a beautiful forest...

The trees were the biggest, straightest, prettiest trees he had ever seen. He wondered where he was. He could hear a sawmill way off in the distance, so he started walking toward it. As the logs went through the sawmill, it made the sound of the old fiddle tune he had been playing. And as he began to walk, then run, then walk again, leaves began to fall. But they weren't really leaves; they were music notes and he followed

them.

Finally he came to a clearing and there were many men standing everywhere and he noticed that some were higher than the rest. The sawmill sound had changed to fiddles, banjos, and guitars being played by people on a giant stump. It was 100 or 200 feet straight across and covered with people. He thought he knew them, so he went closer to see, but, as he got closer, they turned away from him. As he walked around the stump, they kept turning their faces away.

He noticed there was a fallen log. It was hollow and 10 to 12 feet high. He pulled the brush back and looked inside and there was his daddy looking at him grinning and said, "What are you doing here, Charlie?" Charlie said, "I just followed the music. What are you doing here, I figured you went the other way?" and pointed his thumb down. "No, I made things right before I done what I did," Lee replied. Charlie noticed a copper still behind his father and asked "What about that?" "Oh, they wanted me to make refreshments. They ain't nothing in there but tea," Lee said.

Charlie walked back over to the stump to see if he could tell who was there. He saw Glen and Jimmy Baty; his uncles, Joe, Mack, John, and Ray Blalock; Colquitt Jones; Leonard Keith; Buck Ellis; and T. Lyday. There were so many faces that he couldn't see them all, but he knew them every one. They were all men that had logged, sawmilled, and made music together that had passed away. Some were young and some were old, but they all looked just like they had the last time he saw them. He hollered, "Hey! Look at me. It's Charlie Brown." His Uncle Mack said, "Hey, come on up." So Charlie started to climb the stump, but the bark had been peeled off and he kept slipping back down. Finally, Mack said, "Go on back, boy. It ain't your time." And went back to making music.

Charlie asked Glen Baty what the name of the song that they were playing was, and he

told him, "That's 'The Sawmiller's Waltz'."

Then, Mama came back from the Post Office and Daddy woke up. He didn't tell her the dream for two or three weeks. In late March, Daddy's doctor told him at his routine checkup that his EKG didn't look like the one he had the year before and that he wanted him to have further tests. Since heart disease runs in his family and all but two of his living brothers and sisters have had problems of some sort, he began to prepare himself for the worst. He confided his dream to me, my sister and his siblings. Of course, I got chill bumps and shed a few tears, but my feeling was that it was meant to be reassuring. That it wasn't his time and even if it was, it didn't seem like a bad place to be—surrounded by your friends and family, with beautiful trees that you didn't have to worry about cutting, lots of good music, and no women to nag you!

Daddy had heart catheterization on May 8. It revealed four blockages, one of which was referred to as a "widow maker" by his cardiologist Dr. Steven Hetter. He contacted heart surgeon Dr. Edward Ferguson immediately, and he was scheduled for surgery the next morning. A triple bypass was done and he came through it all very well. The waiting room was full of a dozen or so friends and family members. In the next few days, he continued to do well and had several more visitors. Two of the first were Ross Sumner and Earl Griffin.

Ross brought a basket of fruit and goodies and a get-well card. The card was stood up in Daddy's room, but he never noticed what was on it until a few days later when his sister, Virginia, and her husband, Ed Coker, were visiting. She laughed and said, "Who sent you the stump?" Every monitor attached to Daddy at the time suddenly went wild, beeping. That's when he realized that the card had a stump with a basket of flowers sitting on it—but otherwise it was empty. He said that it was then that he knew that he had escaped "the stump" for a while. When he asked Ross about the card later, he told him that his wife Joyce, had chosen it—neither of them had yet heard Daddy's dream.

Over the past few months, Daddy's had several setbacks and two more surgeries, for a total of 28 days in the hospital and almost that many more spent at doctors' offices and emergency rooms. He continues to tell his story to people he knows and people he meets. Big strong men have cried when they heard his story, so don't feel bad if you cried, too. I hope I've retold his story okay; but if you see him, get him to tell it to you. It's much more powerful hearing it from the man himself. Through this whole ordeal, Daddy and Mama have been surrounded by people who care about them. I have wonderful parents and I know that, but it has meant so much to me to see just how many other people realize it, too.

Continued to page 7.

**Nancy and Charlie Brown (4/15/2001)**

MOUNTAIN LIFE: ORGANIC GENERAL STORE

What is Organic?

By L. C. Moon

Organic is a way of life for a lot of people. It is a choice of food and medicine for others. A plant or a piece of nature was the definition of organic, but today, the term "organic" now needs more specific guidelines.

Organic standards have been put on all food sources and medicinals by the U.S. government, as well as by some states and other countries. The only way to be sure that something is organic is to know the person who is producing the product or for it to be certified. Below are some basic guidelines for organic:

1. No pesticides or herbicides that are man-made chemical poisons.
2. No fertilizers that are a man made chemical
3. No direct run off from roads or other chemically treated pastures
4. No radiation treatments
5. No Growth hormones
6. No Antibiotics
7. Seed & Feed for plant & animals must also meet above standards.

In order for the quality to be present in organics, it takes a lot of hard work and love. I have seen and tasted the benefits of this love locally. My dear friends, Ed & Ginger Kogelschlatz of Shimbone Valley Farm show through aesthetic beauty of their farm and the richness in flavor of their food just what the difference in quality will be when you apply the natural sources of nourishment and pest control. I have been out in their fields (as Ginger & Ed always do) with a hand shovel digging weeds, helping Ginger pick beetles off the asparagus one by one, harvesting herbs and vegetables by hand. Many people have said to me, "Why is organic so expensive?" Once I explain the man hours involved in cover crops, working compost piles, companion planting, weeding gardens, pest control, harvesting, etc. (in order to ensure natural enzymes and nontoxic foods)--it is easy to see that man hours are much more expensive and valuable than chemicals.

Corn and Soy are the two most highly genetically altered plants. Organic corn chips and Organic Soy milk, along with several other organic products with organic corn and soy are sold at Mountain Life. Organic manufacturers are conscious of the consumer's desire to eat healthy, great tasting food. The organic prepackaged snack foods are healthier; and even potato and corn chips are cooked with non hydrogenated oils.

You support quality of life when you buy organic. The environment benefits when you buy organic. You also support the farmers and merchants that provide us with the benefits of having organic products. As my friend Paula said, "Even if organic did not have health benefits, I would buy organic because it just tastes better."

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Lookout Mountain Natural Healing Sinus Soothers

By L.C. Moon

As we come into fall, the pollen and change in weather does not allow many people to fully enjoy this beautiful time of year. Allergies are the worst culprit to put a damper on the festivities of fall. The unstable temperatures rapidly changing from hot to cold also cause the body to work harder than usual to acclimate so the immune system can potentially be more susceptible to infection from virus or bacteria.

I reach for nettle if the sinus problems are as a result of allergies. Nettle is known to be great for allergies and it has been used by many cultures for congestion in the head and respiratory. Nettle has a high nutrient content--iron, B-complex vitamins, potassium, carotenes, selenium & more--which is great when your immune system is vulnerable.

Eyebright is one of the most overlooked herbs for sinus problems. As the name spells out, it is great for the eyes, but should not be overlooked for the sinuses. Chickweed is also known as being great for treating the watery eyes, eye infections & sometimes allergy. Chickweed boosts the immune system with nutrients such as iron, zinc, calcium, chlorophyll, potassium, proteins, carotenes & more.

Mountain mint, Peppermint and other mints are helpful to clear up sinus congestion when taken in tea form in conjunction with Eyebright. Nettle and/or other herbs depending on the person and the reason for congestion. Peppermint by itself will help to relieve the pressure in the sinuses immediately, though combining the other herbs gives a more balanced approach to health as opposed to getting temporary relief of the symptoms.

Eucalyptus, Rosemary & Sage are great sinus soothers. They open up the sinuses and help dislodge the mucus if you diffuse the essential oil either in a humidifier, the bath, a diffuser, or used in an aroma therapy spray. Another way I use these herbs is to lean my head over a bowl or pot with either eucalyptus, rosemary or peppermint, and cover my head and the bowl with a towel so that the steam and herb penetrates deep into my sinuses. I've also successfully used an Eucalyptus beeswax salve as a rub around my nose and across my sinuses. Last, but not least, I have burned white mountain sage as an incense to fill the room to clear my sinuses, as well as disinfect and cleanse the room, especially if I or someone in my family has an infection.

Whenever I notice Tsai, my 4-year old daughter, is getting all stopped up, I immediately start administering Echinacea/Eyebright and a single Echinacea glycerin based extract. If she sounds like she is having some trouble down her throat and chest, then I start rubbing a Lobelia/Cayenne/Peppermint preparation made by Ginger Kogelschlatz of Shimbone Valley Farm--this preparation is also good for muscle spasm--and administer valerian at night. If a cough begins, I then give a horehound & elderberry extract blend.

Most of us have trouble sleeping when we cannot breathe properly--in this case I recommend valerian first. Rest is essential when healing from an infection or fighting off an allergy. Valerian helps decrease mucus in the body, as well as being the best sleep aid (without morning after side effects for most) that I've experienced in the botanical world. Lemon Balm aids sleep and is an antiviral herb. German Chamomile is known to aid sleep, as well as treating coughs, fevers, and colds.

Garlic and Echinacea are very common herbs to use to help boost the immune system and clear the sinuses whether it is a result of allergy or viral or bacterial infection. I've added Oregon to my recipes for immune system boosters & sinus aids. Dr. James Duke says of the 60 herbs that he has studied for antioxidants--oregano is in the top two for having the most. It is also known to aid coughs and inflammation of the bronchial mucous membranes according to PDR for Herbal Medicines. Local raw honey is also a type of homeopathic remedy for allergies and is also filled with essential amino acids.

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Mountain Life & L.C. Moon Herbs comes many of the herbs and herbal remedies listed. If we do not have what you need, then we are always happy to order or refer you to someone nearest you that may have what you need. I have given some examples of herbs to aid in heating the sinuses as well as herbs to help in case of respiratory congestion, though there are so many and each person is different. If you have questions, then you may contact me at Mountain Life. It is wise to consult your healthcare provider before incorporating any new herbs into your regimen, particularly if you are taking medications.

Mountain Life is located behind the Montone Springs Hotel. (256) 634-3333

E-mail: www.MountainLifeMarket.com

September Showers

September showers

Remember Flowers

They grow in the spring

With shattering speed

They're scattering seed

With blowing free fling.

With fierce and quick thrust,

They pierce and nick crust

Of every seed pod.

They pound them down deep,

Then round up a heap

Of very real sod

There they leave them sleep,

Neither grieve nor weep,

No dirge can they sing.

September showers

Remember flowers

Emerge in the Spring!

---Eloise Brown

Summer Unfulfilled

Summer, I would hold you close to me,
And do the things that mean most to me;
Let your gentle breezes caress me,
Sweet perfume from your blossoms bless me,
Bask in each golden moment you give--
That awakens all perception to live.

Alas, as much as I care for you--
By the time that I prepare for you--
Your gentle, warming breezes have chilled
Your fragrant lovely flowers are killed
And I am left bewildered and bereft,
Amid unrealized dreams you left!

---Eloise Brown

Pandora & The Magic Box

Continued from Page 1.

It as well as spreading the word about our production from his job at Desoto State Park. Cindy Jones and Tammy Davis were there at each practice helping with a wide variety of projects from art to signs and moral support. Rick Bottomly and Wayne Gautreau, thanks for your time on stage and sets. Marty Taylor and Chuck Peters for your time at the camera, many thanks. It is always great to look back on these events through scrapbooks and video. Jack Jones, thanks for being our MC. James and Rachel Bryan for the music Saturday night, and Jack Martin Sunday. Your performances were marvelous. Gregg Wilhite also deserves a big thank you for his community spirit angels that brought in many donations to our theatre fund. The kids were amazing and made this performance into something really magical. For all, thanks to all of you and your many parents for being there.

Many local businesses and organizations also helped with this project. MERF and the MERF house were so great to allow us the perfect place to rehearse and create. The Mentone Inn for allowing us a great place to perform. St. Josephs and Rector David Crippens for the use of their facilities to dress the kids and a cool place for the cast party afterwards. Ruby's and Jim Roberts for our signs. Dixie Salvage for vinyl. Mentone Council for Cultural Creativity for the programs, and Enchanted Gardens for crew time and materials for the stage set up.

The Lookout Mountain Community Theatre held an organizational meeting at the Community Library at Mentone on August 19 from 5:00pm till. I would like to encourage anyone who would like to become a part of the Community Theatre to be a part of something really great. We have high hopes for a future adult production, as well as some ideas for in school and library programs, for the children during the school year. We need your support, so please volunteer your time or contribute to the future and funding of the Lookout Mountain Community Theater and help make our next project a reality.

Contact for more info: Heather Nicely; 256-634-4124, or mail contributions to LMCT, 5460 East River Road, Mentone, AL 35984.



L/R: Meagan Sutton & Kaylee McMunn



Jessica Easler as Pandora
Nathan Jones as Epimetheus



Brittany Streeter as Ariel



Brooklyn Wright
as Princess Pandora



L/R: Jessica Easler, Margaret Goldthreath, Director;
Brittany Flory, Assistant Director, Maggie Hollis,
and Hope Carden



Fiddle #51 made by Taylor "Charlie" Brown April 2002 for Jeff Holleman's daughter, Cassie Lynn Holleman

Continued from page 4.



Charlie's Poem

The "Sawmiller's Waltz" was playing;
The music was very quiet.
The woods around are beautiful;
There was no one else in sight.

Just beyond the distant tree line
Stood a stump so tall and grand;
Atop were several musicians
Who hold instruments in their hand.

The music stopped when I approached;
I saw to my great surprise,
All the men had "gone before";
I could not believe my eyes.

I looked around, there stood my Dad,
A big smile upon his face.
"Tis not your time yet, son," he said,
First you must run YOUR own "race."

The stump for now is still empty;
A wondrous land still awaits.
I must be sure that I'm ready
To enter Heaven's gates.



Guitars made by Charlie Brown



First mandolin made by Charlie Brown



First Guitar made by Charlie Brown

CRAIN WEDDING



Angela Marie Logan and Kevin Matthew Crain

Angela Marie Logan and Kevin Matthew Crain were married on August 23 at the Mentone Wedding Chapel.

Angie is the daughter of Billy and Shirley Logan, Trion, GA. Her grandparents are James and Faye Logan, Trion, GA. She has a sister, Kerry Jones, Trion, GA.

Kevin is the son of Bruce and Carolyn Crain, Menlo. His grandparents are Bert Crain, Menlo, and Billie Crain, Menlo, and Flora Jennings, Summerville, GA. Kevin has two sisters, Tracy Payton, Cloudland, and Rhonda Blalock, Mentone.

A reception was held following the ceremony at the American Legion Building in Mentone. After a honeymoon to Gulf Shores, the couple will reside in Menlo GA.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Chuck and Angela Flannigan would like to announce the birth of their son Charles Cleveland Flannigan, III, "Chase," born at DeKalb Baptist Medical on August 15, 2003, weighing 7 lbs, 5 oz, and 20 inches long.

Grandparents are Charles and Mary Flannigan of Mentone, and Quinn and Deb Simpson of Summerville, GA. Great Grandparents are Mrs. Gladys Lea of Rainsville, and Mr. Arthur Goss of Mentone.

Chase also has 2 older brothers, Trevor 9, and Caleb 6.

Time (monometer)

Time plays
With days
Always

Sweet time
All prime
Sublime

Time lapse
In naps
Collapse.

Time creeps
Youth weeps
Then reaps.

Time flies,
Man cries--
Hope dies.

One time
Done time
Untime.

--Eloise Brown

HAPPY 40TH ANNIVERSARY!!!



Coley, Don and Edna Morgan

Robin Hulan and Coley Morgan were hosts for a nice surprise party honoring Donald and Edna Morgan for their **40th anniversary**.

A large crowd of family and friends enjoyed a delicious barbecue dinner at the Promenade hall, September 7.

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 May 2008



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CECIL BATY'S 75TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

Every year, when it is their father's birthday, Edward, Billy, and Ricky Baty (sons of Cecil and the late Jewel Land Baty) have a cookout in Mr. Baty's yard to honor of the occasion and try to literally feed the multitude. This year's crowd was smaller than usual, but the food looked like it might well have been more than usual. The sons baked corn—Billy had actually grown some of the corn—on the grill and boiled corn in a very large pot with a lid on it. Hamburgers and hot dogs, as well as barbecued chicken and deep fried fish, were piled high on the serving tables (plural). Buns, sauerkraut, sliced tomatoes, coleslaw, lettuce, okra, two bowls of potato salad, and deep fried onion rings were complemented by the expected condiments—mustard, ketchup, sweet relish, cheese, and barbecue sauce in addition to mayonnaise that various ones used to make their own tartar sauce. Potato chips were served in vast quantities.

Jane Galloway made Mr. Baty's birthday cake. It was—you will notice the use of the past tense purely because it was devoured—a vanilla pound cake with a sprinkled brown sugar crumb topping. There was also a homemade custard pie—it was rapidly devoured as well. Nobody is really sure who brought that, but it was very definitely good. In addition, the table contained several boxes of bought snacks—doughnuts, honey buns, Little Debbie's, etc. Several coolers containing various kinds of canned drinks were sitting about the yard easily at hand.

The serving tables were set with red print tablecloths, and some of the guests used paper plates and napkins in a shade of cream with various barbecue paraphernalia pictured on them while others used plain white oval shaped Chinol plates.

The cooks were complimented throughout the meal because everything tasted so very good. When it comes to cooking out, the Baty sons really do know what they are doing.

In attendance were Ricky Baty (Mr. Baty's youngest son), Edward Baty (Mr. Baty's oldest son) and his wife, Veronica; Billy Baty (Mr. Baty's middle son) and his wife, Debbie; Jennifer Davis; Mrs. Mergie Cools (Mr. Baty's sister) and her great-granddaughter, Abby and Savannah Wallace; Colby Baty (Ricky's son and Mr. Baty's grandson); Mrs. Sheila Meadows and her sons Jacob and John Meadows; R. L. Land (the late Mrs. Jewel Baty's brother) and his cousin, Mrs. Joyce Hickock; Jane Galloway, Elvira Fitzgerald, Marilyn Blanton Campbell, and Becky Jones.

When asked how old he would be this birthday, Mr. Baty quipped that he was "thirty-nine and holding." In view of the fact that this was his 75th birthday celebration, he must have been holding for quite a while. Seriously, the food was wonderful, and everybody in attendance seemed to have a wonderful time. As a matter of fact, they were so caught up in having a good time that they forgot to either sing "Happy Birthday" to Mr. Baty or to take any pictures.

On the evening of July 16 (the day that was his real birthday), Mr. Cecil Baty celebrated all over again with a dinner party given to honor him on the occasion of his 75th birthday by his friend and neighbor, Marilyn Blanton Campbell at her home in the Baty's Sawmill Community at Mentone as is her yearly custom. The group sat down to eat at approximately 6 p.m. and enjoyed a leisurely meal in the calm and cool atmosphere. Casual dress added to the comfort of the occasion.

The table was set with a pristine white tablecloth and an elegant white lace overlay. White napkins were folded and tied with narrow, pastel, blue ribbons featuring rather non-descript bows. Taper candles in a pale shade of powder blue stood in crystal candleholders and were lit to add a cheerful yet charming glow to the festive gathering. The centerpiece for the table was an asymmetrical floral design made up of artificial Shasta daisies in shades of pale blue ranging from pastel baby blue to cerulean and bright yellow centers set in a teacup that matched the china service. The truth of the matter is the only flowers Marilyn could find in the particular shade of blue she wanted just happened to be artificial, so forgiveness should be in order. It was only after they sat down to eat that it occurred to her as how many people use artificial flowers purely for the purpose of not upsetting their guests' allergies.

The antique china for the table setting was "Margaret" by Misaka featuring miniature blue flowers in its design. Marilyn inherited the china from an uncle on her mother's side, but that uncle is still very much alive—long story, but the china is pretty. The cutlery was a stainless copy of "Grand Baroque" by Wallace. Iced tea was served in leaded crystal tumblers by Cristal d'Arques in the Longchamp design with a fresh Bing Cherry as an accent. Ice water was served in simplistically elegant goblets in the Nuance pattern by Durand, and a pink champagne toast was drunk to Mr. Baty, his good health, and his 75th birthday, using flutes in the same Nuance pattern by Durand.

A white ceramic tureen on the credenza contained homemade chicken noodle soup that was reported to have been especially good. The molded—that means they were shaped as opposed to being rotten—salads were an orange-pineapple congealed creation and homemade chicken salad with pimiento accents served next to each other and accented with miniature tomatoes and seedless grapes on a bed of leaf lettuce in a small bowl that was part of the china service. The entrée was eye-of-the-round beef pot roast cooked long and slow with fresh mushrooms in the gravy. Vegetables served were green lima beans cooked in butter sauce, pan-fried turnips, and whole miniature potatoes in butter sauce.

In preparation for the meal, Marilyn read her cookbook (the one she has had forever) how the turnip was a much-neglected vegetable and that one could do to a turnip almost anything one could do to a potato. It was with that information in mind that Marilyn proceeded to wash, peel, and slice turnips (that Billy and Mr. Baty had grown) and go about pan-frying them just like her mother always did potatoes and onions—dust with flour, fry in grease, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and add the onions later purely because onions require less cooking time. The result was much better than anybody would expect it to be. It really was. Cold dishes consisted of coleslaw, fresh tomatoes, fresh cucumbers (Billy and Mr. Baty grew them, too), and fresh pineapple. Homemade yeast rolls and hot cornbread were also served.

In the name of adding an especially elegant touch to the occasion, Marilyn allowed real butter to soften and placed it (into what are presumably candy molds) in the freezer. Just before the arrival of her guests, she popped out the butter roses and rosebuds onto the bread plates that matched the china service.

After the main meal, Marilyn cleared the table and served Chocolate pound cake that she had made using a recipe from the new DeKalb County Master Gardeners cookbook called INCREDIBLE EDIBLES. Come to think of it, she used a recipe from that book

Come to think of it, she used a recipe from that book for her yeast rolls, too. Along with the chocolate cake, strawberry ice cream (Mr. Baty's favorite) and vanilla ice cream were served with homemade chocolate sauce. The number 75 decorated the cake and the assembled group serenaded Mr. Baty with their own (minus music) version of Happy Birthday. While he appreciated the serenading, there is reason to believe Mr. Baty would have appreciated the singing more had it been graced with musical accompaniment.

Low Country Boil

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Moon Lake Elementary School fundraiser Sponsored by The Shed

A special thanks to all of our neighbors and friends for helping make the fundraiser become such a success. As of this date, it has produced \$552.00, with 10 more days to go. All proceeds will be donated to Moon Lake School On October 1.

A list of patrons will be printed in the next issue of The Groundhog.

JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER!!

The fundraiser for Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will begin November and run through December.

Moon Lake Elementary School Fund Raiser Sponsored by The Shed

As you know each and every year we sell, "Hundreds & Hundreds of Mum," as well as Snap Dragons, Violas, Pansies, just released Perennials, Trees & Shrubs. This year we will be doing a fund raiser for Moon Lake School. Bill Berry and the Staff at The Shed are looking forward to this to make improvements to the school. The community has greatly honored fundraisers through our Nursery in the past and hopes to continue to do so. For every mum that is sold 50 cents will be donated, for every flat of Snap Dragons, Violas, & Pansies sold 10 cents will be donated, Perennials we will donate 25 cents, Trees & Shrubs one dollar. We also will be doing Scare Crows, Home Interior, Floral Bushes, Fall Leaves & Sprays we will be donating 10% of the sales. This will be a great fundraiser for the school and hope you can help participate in raising funds for the school. I know the community will participate they always have. Businesses, Organizations & Churches names will be listed on next issue as well on who helped Moon Lake School. Our plants for several years have been rated the best quality you can purchase and always at good prices, sometimes we have crop failures everyone does but not this year, this has been the best season yet to grow in for us. Some Nurseries went out of business due to, too much rain but a true grower knows to use Band Rot to protect their crops from rotting. I also found out there are not many Alabama Growers left just all Retail Nurseries. How ever we are growing each and every year and have been family owned for ever and do not tend to go anywhere. The Huntsville Botanical gardens as well as John Deere Landscapes & Birmingham Botanical Gardens would not have chosen us if we were not top quality growers. John Deere Landscapes they only buy from the best for they advertise best quality plants all over the world. Huntsville and Birmingham Gardens will not have our plants at their plant shows if they were not quality, nor would Huntsville Botanical Gardens have our plants out in their Butterfly house or on the property for display, nor would they have sponsored our Nursery with Butterflies for a special project we are doing for the children, if we were not top quality plant growers. The Shed would not also be listed as the largest Certified Perennial grower in Alabama for Proven Winners Plants, and our Add would have not been listed in *The Times Green for the SNA SHOW in Atlanta*, thanks to Proven winners. Just remember one thing we are only 5% tax that will be a great savings to you there as well as our prices are great. I will also be doing a Fall Show it is called Discover The Fall Magic by Proven Winners. The Show will consist of true Perennials that are frost resistance and annuals that are hardy into the teens that way we can get some sponsorship from Dekalb County as well. We are sponsored by many Businesses one of them is "Proven winners", &

Huntsville Botanical Gardens. At Proven Winners, Penny and I are working closely together to make things easier for the customers when they have questions we will answer them. We are the only Nursery that is working closely and is truly sponsored by Proven Winners and what I mean by that, you have many Nurseries that are selling Proven Winners Plants, but they are being shipped in from a grower to go to a retailer and we are actually growing them here so they are acclimated to this climate as well as we can answer all your questions about their plants such as what kind of conditions they will live in, soil conditions, are they heat tolerant and cold tolerant to this climate, how much fertilizer do you give them, as well I can speak hand on hand with Penny or Marshal at Proven Winners who also can help us on what ever our questions may be, and last all plants are tagged true there names. You will not see banners as the ones we have, not **Poster signs, Banners** due to the fact we are working closely with the sponsor ship at Proven Winners. We are sponsored by Proven Winners and yes what we will be selling may or may not be found at regular Retail Nurseries. There are only 2 certified Wholesale Growers listed with Proven Winners, Penny said and we are one of them and happen to be the largest perennial grower for them that is **certified in Alabama**. We have a lot of new things for the fall and you will have to come by and check it out all this fall. In the month of August we worked very hard to try to get our displays ready for the Fall Show and Fund raiser for the school, may I say it is very hard work in doing so but you will love it because **the Fall Magic starts inside and goes outside**. We will also be doing Fall Arrangements as well & Wreaths for those of you that do get them from us you may want to pre-book them for with the fund raiser, I'm sure we will get a lot of calls on arrangements but you know **"we are never too busy for our customers we make time to take care of them no matter what the expense is"** that is why our fund raiser's has been a success in the past and will remain to be a success. I want to make certain I mention one more fund raiser coming up. Both the Cub Scouts Pack 106 and Boy Scouts troop 106 will be doing a fund raiser starting in "November." We have already Pre-booked our Christmas items for the Fundraisers are done months and weeks in advance for preparation to make them a success. I'm making it apart of our Christmas tour as well, for every Wreaths, Garlands, Swags, Christmas trees-cut or Bald, & Christmas Ornaments, funds will be donated to them for their needs. Those little guys are a big help to our community as well as this will help them earn community hours they need. Businesses, Organizations & Churches by now you got the order form to book your Poinsettia's, Wreaths, Trees, Etc. if not please contact my office we will make sure you get one, it shows what colors we will have and what sizes. All Businesses, Organizations, & Churches will always be published to let everyone know who is supporting the community and to also make those People recognized for the hard work they have done and great leadership they are to Mentone, for they help Mentone bring business to your area as well as they help keep Mentone Beautiful. Once again thank you for supporting our community and helping the children of our future to grow and see they have the supplies and equipment they need rather it is for School or for our Troops. I will be also doing a follow up on both fund raisers as well as keep mentioning the fund raiser, to keep everyone posted and updated on what is going on with it. I want to also give special thanks to our sponsorships: David Gilbreath, Mike Bare, & Bill Berry. As it gets closer to November I will update you on the fund raiser for the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Just want to make sure we let everyone know there will be a fund raiser for them too. If you or your business would like to do a fund raiser please contact Cheryl at The Shed.

From the Editors:

Cheryl L. Baker requested that the above article not be edited in any way and run exactly as it was written. We have run it exactly as it was written.



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About

Our Town

By

LINDA BROWN



Today is officially the first day of Autumn. My calendar is marked, "Autumnal Equinox", but to all of Mentone residents that simply means cooler weather, longer nights and beautiful foliage. Fall is one of the greatest things about living on Lookout Mountain. Number one is always and foremost the wonderful people. The fall season is always one of great beauty and yet it is a little sad, because we know that many things will die with the first frost. Isn't that why the word bittersweet was coined? That word is an apt description for this season of the year in Mentone.

This morning I was talking with a resident of Mentone who is from one of the families who have been here for many years. He is such a joy to talk to and knows so much history of this area. He told me that he has some pictures from long ago and would like to give them to someone where they would be preserved. After talking with him, I was thinking that Mentone doesn't have a really permanent place to preserve our history. Then I said to myself, "Self, we do have a place that is permanent and we could display such treasures for everyone to see. The library would be a wonderful place for such memorabilia." I will get back to him and also bring this to the attention of the members of the Board of Directors of the Community Library. We already have several of the pen and ink drawings that were done by the late Donna Bukley. They are of the covered bridges and other places of interest in Mentone. If you haven't seen them, please stop by when the library is open and look at them. It is worth the time.

I have been so busy lately that I feel like the old fox who told the wolf that he was so tired his tail was dragging out his tracks. My dad, Fraser Cochran, was in the hospital for almost two weeks and I wanted to be with him as much as possible. He seemed to eat better if some of us were there to keep him company while he ate. Eating healthy meals was one of the most important things for his full recovery. His red blood cells were in short supply and

we have to work out a way to make sure that this doesn't happen again. He is home now and doing well. How could he not be with all of the tender, loving care that Jude gives him? Her real name is Jewel and that describes her perfectly. While he was in the hospital, Linda Lawton's mother was there also. One day I was talking with Linda and told her that Fraser was doing much better that day. She asked me if I called my dad, Fraser. We all call him that and the grandchildren and great-grands all call him, "Granddaddy Fraser." I was the only grandchild in the family for four years. I literally grew up with adults for playmates. That was when I started calling my parents, Oline and Fraser. The custom has carried down through the years and to the next generations. With us it is a term of great respect and admiration.

Also, the VFW Fair has opened in Fort Payne this week. I am always involved in the preparation of the Flower Show that is sponsored by the DeKalb-Cherokee Federation of Garden Clubs. This year has some of the most beautiful flowers I have ever seen. There is a dahlia that can only be described as being brown. It is absolutely perfect in every way. One of the classes in the designs is entitled, Send in the Clowns. There is a design in there that will blow your mind. It was made by a lady from Ider Garden Club. Look for it if you get down there. It has a circus tent made of wire, but the amazing thing is the way she has used parsley in the arrangement. These two things alone make it worth your time and effort to go to the fair. The gates open at 5:00 P.M. each evening Monday, September 22 through Saturday, September 27. I could write this entire article about the fair, but I would like for you to go and see for yourself.

Several people are delivering meals to some of those who are not up to the task of buying and preparing food. These are wonderful little frozen meals that come with bread, butter, juice and a light dessert. A half-gallon of milk is also provided. This service has been well received and most of the recipients look forward to having them. The volunteers are wonderful. If the person receiving the meals desires to do so, they can pay a nominal amount. This is strictly a volunteer action for them. This money is in turn given to the Council on Aging in Fort Payne and I would think used for the expense of getting the meals to the center there. Many thanks to the Town of Mentone for providing a place of distribution for these meals. The volunteers pick them up at the town hall and if someone is

not home the are stored town hall. Allen Ruske and get the Mentone. T and if you these meals 634-4444. back and ge home and th each Monday primary req 60 years shopping f meals. It get a new o route, so c will want t

The w MERF Commun back. Some added that Watch for t and maybe t Groundhog a tutoring pr Lunch progr Community H track are a community. advantage o help with t time, talen sure that t of MERF wou leaving a f jar in the do have to like all ot

I hav (non-paying two years. compile the published i the Garden book of inf club member helped with new officer was a total for which I knowledge o Scott of Fo and she kno never dream involved fo This is tru you haven't particular imagine the especially

Sever that they e articles wh were like i that I didn because not long ago we my mother w morning and the cow and animals. T unusual abo ground woul the tempera single digi

day then the meals the freezer at the town also allows to go to Fort Payne and bring them to is a great service I'd like to receive all Mentone Town hall, someone will call you directions to your will be delivered morning. The two elements are to be over and not able to do and preparing of es about two weeks to r on the delivery now if you think you soon.

er programs at the House have started w ones have been and like a lot of fun. notices around town are listed in The I know that the am and the Senior have resumed. The e and the walking nderful asset to our e should all take he programs and also e programs with our nd donations. I'm wonderful organization not object to your dollars in a cup or hen. After all, they utility bills just households.

aken on a new job (course) for the next will be helping to formation to be

small magazine for b of Alabama. It is a ation for all garden n Alabama. I recently e first issue that the ave published. This new experience and one va no experience or uch things. Chrystal Payne is the editor exactly what to do. I eo much work would be omething so small. or most things. If en involved in that ivity then you cannot rk involved, the job is done well. people have told me cially enjoy the

I tell of what things he "old days." Notice add the word good l of the activities of good. I remember when d get up early in the to the barn to milk ed all of the other e is nothing too this, except that the e covered with ice and e would be in the I can still see her

slipping and sliding down the hill as I watched her from the window. As I have said before, my dad worked long hours and almost always left home before sunrise. Mom did all of the barn work as we called it. Once when I was about four years of age, she placed my newborn brother, Howard, in my lap and told me to sit very still and hold him until she could go and do the chores at the barn. It seems that I did sit but not necessarily still. We were in what we called a straight chair and I'm sure that I was going to "bump" him in the chair as I had seen my parents do. Anyway, the chair went backwards and we went through a large plate glass window. The window opened onto a back porch and when mom returned to house what she saw must have caused her heart to rise into her throat. There were her two children halfway through a glass window. I had stayed still enough so that she was able to ease Howard out through the window from the porch side and then ease me out the same way. Neither one of us had a scratch! We must have had ten thousand guardian angels considering the things that happened to us as we were growing up. I still may write a book someday just for my grandchildren and future generations. Wouldn't it be interesting if our grandparents had written of their experiences? One of my grandmothers reared a family of five on what she earned doing home nursing and the other one reared three girls on a farm during the Great Depression after her husband was accidentally killed. What stories they could have told!

It seems that some time ago I offended some precious people with one of my comments in this column. For this I sincerely apologize. It was never my intention and as everyone who knows me can tell you, sometimes my mouth works faster than my brain and maybe this time my fingers were doing their own thinking as I sat at the keyboard. I have said before that I try to write this column as though you and I were sitting at the kitchen table talking over coffee. If this had been the case, you could have disagreed with me immediately. So since I can't see you and tell by the look on your face that you don't like something I say, please call or write and let me know. You will not hurt my feelings and I really want to know.

Marie and Evelyn are pushing me to finish this up and I still need to write the Libs from the Library column, so I will hush for this month.

Remember those less fortunate than you, help someone and always know that I love you.

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LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY
by Linda Brown

The day I am writing this, September 23, is the last day to order a community calendar. The Board of Directors of the Community Library have chosen this as an annual money making project. We have had a great response to this effort. If you didn't get your order in for a calendar, we will have a few extra ones to sell when they arrive. The unfortunate part is that you won't have the birthdays of your family members in it. But you can do this next year. We hope to do this for many years to come and that the number of calendars we sell will increase each year.

We have had a wonderful response from the local merchants in buying the ads that will appear around the picture on the calendar. Many thanks to Don Sharp for making a picture of the library and allowing us to use it. The ads will appear around the picture and at the bottom of the calendar. The birthdays of everyone will be listed on the appropriate day of the month of their special day. It will be exciting to see who has a birthday and either send them a card or give them a call.

We have just received word that seven boxes of books of fiction suitable for young adults are waiting for someone to come pick them up. These were sent by Anita Banks from Marion, Indiana. She is so gracious to do this for us, but then Anita is a wonderful person! We will be having more book sales after the acquisition committee determines which books we want to stay in the community side of the library.

The books for young adults is a priority right now. This is an area that is often neglected in Mentone because Moon Lake School has six grades. After that our students must go on to Valley Head or Fort Payne to finish their education. The reading material for that age has not been addressed before. We would like for those in seventh grade and above to use our library for reading pleasure, for research and for a quiet place to study.

I hear that the program by the cellist, Gwendolyn Watson, and the students of Moon Lake Elementary School was a great success! I was at the polls all of that day and missed it. Music appreciation is a great asset to everyone and I am glad that this day was made available to the students. This may be the start of something big. We may have a budding Mozart, Elvis or even another group like Alabama in our local school!

We need more volunteers to be trained to work in the library. This is rather easy and there are always two persons working. What one can't do the

other one usually can. Don't be intimidated by the computer work, it will be explained to you and the correct screen is always ready when you arrive at the library.

After seeing the picture of the library that was made to be used for the calendar, I realize how badly we need a sign on the building. Maybe we can have one in place before next spring. The Town of Mentone has recently obtained signs to be erected along Alabama Highway 117 stating that a library is there. These are a beautiful color of blue with the word "library" and the logo of a reading stick person. They are very impressive. They should be up soon.

The local bed and breakfast inns are planning a Christmas Tour of their establishments. They have very graciously agreed to allow the library to be on the list of places to visit. We will have the library open on that day and decorated in a holiday motif. We hope that many of you will stop in and view the library and then make regular visits during our open hours. Please watch for the dates and times a little later.

Our open days will remain the same during the winter months. The hours for Tuesday will probably change to 4-6 P.M. when the time changes in October. This will give everyone a chance to come to the library and then get back home before dark.

We have two more special events scheduled for Moon Lake Elementary School students for the school year of 2003-2004. The next one centers around local and state history. An essay contest will be sponsored for the students with some very good prizes for the winners and some classes will do skits depicting historical events. This will take place during the month of February.

The last special event will be in April and will be centered around poetry. The plans for this are not yet final, but it sounds like a fun time. As soon as we know the titles of the essays and also more details regarding the poetry sessions, we will let you know through the classrooms and also in The Groundhog. Watch for it!

Come by and see the MLESL, we should all be very proud of it! The research we have done shows that we are probably one of only two such libraries in the state of Alabama. No one should be surprised that Mentone would have something unique and unusual, the area itself is very unique and unusual.

Mentone Wedding Chapel

Nestled in the woods atop Lookout Mountain, near Mentone, Alabama, this quaint little chapel is surrounded by ferns, forest and flowers. The chapel is a scaled version of traditional Appalachian churches of days gone by. Stained glass windows filtering soft forest sunrises and soft organ music accent an ambience fitting the wedding ceremony. Inside wooden pews will seat approximately 60 guests.



Linda Patterson, owner of the chapel, said the idea for it began with a bell, and now that bell rings as newlyweds exit the door of the chapel.

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Moon Lake Elementary School News

By Dr. Bill Berry

Thursday, October 9, will be the first of three student holidays. On that evening, Moon Lake Elementary School will hold its annual Parental Involvement Night activities, with a program in the gym followed by an Open House and refreshments beginning at 6:30.

October 10 and 13 are the other student holidays.

Report cards will go home for the first nine weeks on October 14.

The following two short stories were selected from several stories written by 5th graders in their creative writing class at Moon Lake School.

My Perfect Day

By Brittany Bain

It was the first day of September, and my family was planning on going to Virginia next week. Everyone was so excited that we couldn't wait. In the day we were to leave, we got up extra early to make sure we got to the airport on time.

When we got to Virginia, we went to the hotel where we would be staying. My brother, Zack, turned on the television and said, "What's that." My dad said, "That must be the Amusement Park." Can we go? I asked. Well, I guess, he said.

The next morning we went to the Amusement Park. We went on lots of rides, but my favorite was the rollercoaster.

The Bomed Roller Coaster

By Tyler Blansit

I was riding a roller coaster and all at once it stopped. I looked back to see nothing but flames and parish. Then I saw someone running away. I got out of my cart and ran after him. He went into mirror madness. so I went in after him. I look around all of the mirrors, except for one. So when I looked behind it, I saw the manager with a knife in his head! Then I saw him leaving and I went after him and he went into the music shop. Then it happened, I caught him red handed and when I mean red handed his was covered in blood. So he was a carnival thief. Well that was it, so farwell.

Christmas in Mentone

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE ACTIVITIES IN MENTONE FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER. THE TOWN WILL BE DECORATED THE WEEKEND AFTER THANKSGIVING. SHOPS WILL BE EXTENDING THEIR HOURS TO ACCOMMODATE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING. ON DECEMBER 6TH, THERE WILL BE CHRISTMAS CRAFT DEMONSTRATIONS. ON DECEMBER 7TH, FROM 2PM TILL 5PM THERE WILL BE A TOUR OF B&B'S, A GUEST HOME, AND THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY. TICKETS WILL BE \$5.00, AND THE MONEY WILL GO TO M.E.R.F. AND THE LIBRARY. TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE AT THE LITTLE RIVER HARDWARE, MENTONE TOWN HALL, WHITE ELEPHANT, AND THE DEKALB TOURIST ASSOCIATION IN FT. PAYNE. ON DECEMBER 10TH, THE SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCH, OFFERING A TURKEY DINNER AT THE COMMUNITY HOUSE. MORE ACTIVITIES TO BE ANNOUNCED FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER. THE MENTONE TOURISM AND EVENTS ASSOCIATION HOPES EVERYONE ENJOYS THE HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES.

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The
**RECIPE
CORNER**
By
SUE SCHWARZ

This summer it has been a pleasure to use two new cookbooks that have local connections. One is *Incredible Edibles*, which was put together by the Master Gardeners of DeKalb County, and the other one is *Savor the Spirit*, published by the Alabama Society United States Daughters of 1812. Both of these cookbooks are available locally from members of the respective groups or at Mentone Springs Hotel. They would make great gifts and/or additions to your own cookbook collection. I have had the pleasure of sampling both of these recipes and highly recommend them.

CORNBREAD SALAD - *Incredible Edibles* -
- Ann Wright

- 1 C self-rising cornmeal
- 1(8oz) carton sour cream
- 2 eggs
- 1 T sugar

Mix ingredients well and pour into a greased skillet. Bake at 450 until brown; cool, and crumble. Mix in large bowl with following ingredients:

- 1 C chopped tomatoes
- 1 C chopped bell peppers
- 1 C chopped Onions
- 1 C sweet pickle cubes

Mix 1 C mayonnaise and 1 T sugar. Pour over salad and stir.



MILE HIGH PEANUT BUTTER PIE - *Savor the Spirit*

- 1-1/2 cups Oreo cookie crumbs
- 2 T sugar
- 2 T unsalted butter, melted
- 12 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1-1/2 cups creamy peanut butter
- 1-1/2 cups confectioners sugar
- 3 t unsalted butter, softened
- 1 T vanilla extract
- 3/4 cup whipping cream, chilled
- 8 oz bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- 1 T vegetable oil.
- 2 cups whipping cream, chilled
- 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar

Mix the cookie crumbs, sugar and 2 tablespoons butter in a bowl until blended. Press evenly in a 9-inch pie plate, spreading over the bottom and up the side to the rim. Bake at 350 degrees on the lower oven rack for 10 minutes. Remove to a wire rack to cool. Beat the cream cheese in a mixing bowl until light and fluffy. Add the peanut butter and mix well. Add 1-1/2 cups confectioners sugar, 3 tsp. butter and the vanilla and beat until smooth and fluffy. Beat 3/4 cup whipping cream in a mixing bowl until soft peaks form. Fold 1/3 of the whipped cream into the cream mixture. Fold in the remaining whipped cream. Spoon into the cooled pie crust, mounding slightly in the center. Chill in the refrigerator.

Melt the chocolate in a double boiler over low heat. Remove from the heat and cool to lukewarm. Stir in the oil. Beat 2 cups whipping cream and 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar in a mixing bowl until soft peaks form. Add the chocolate mixture and beat just until combined and stiff. Spread over the chilled pie, mounding as high as possible in the center. Chill until ready to serve. Garnish with chocolate curls.

SEWING CLASSES

Fall is definitely the time of year to get excited about new fashions. Butterick has beautiful patterns for fleece wear. Vogue takes a step backward in time to fashion exciting tailored suits for women.

Faux furs are definitely good for another season. School clothes have gone to the limit in embellishments and exciting colors.

The marvelous thing about all of this is that you can learn to create them all. If you are interested in sewing classes, Call Evelyn Graves at 6534-4390 to discuss time, place, and other details.

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(1) **RESORT AREA RIVERFRONT PROPERTY.** Building lot with 299 feet on the West Fork River. Woods and rocks. Call for appt. to view. \$43,500.



(2) **MOUNTAIN CHATEAU** in quiet upscale neighborhood, Cloudland, GA. Open Greatroom Rock FP, 2 bdrm with master Loft Suite, C/H/A, 2 full baths, wood accents. 16x13 screened porch, New Deck. Partial finished basement with garage. \$191,500.



(3) **RIVER PROPERTY.** East Fork Little River Estates. 4.4 acres nicely wooded and 120 ft on the river. City water, private road. \$50,000.



(4) **BREATHTAKING VIEW** on the West Brow, GA. 5.25 wooded acres and 230 ft on th Bluff. City Water. Paved Road. \$89,000



(5) **ONE OF A KIND LOG, STONE AND CEDAR SHAKE LODGE.** This unique find is complete with Heart Pine Plank floors throughout. Open Great room and a loft with built-in beds. Stone fireplace in Living area, and the custom kitchen with a stone fireplace. French doors open to the sleeping porches and master Bdrm. A must see, with much more to offer. \$295,000.



(6) **NESTLED ON A SHADY LOT** sits this 3 bedroom 2 bath cottage with Rock fireplace and screened porch. A Metal roof soothes the sound of summer rain. Located on DeSoto Parkway, minutes from Park and Mentone. \$69,900.



(7) **MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES.** A River runs through it! direct Access from the Lookout Mtn. Parkway, on AL Hwy 117. Minutes from Mentone and Cloudland, GA. Three to 7 acre riverfront Tracts starting at \$35,500. Five to fifteen wooded stream tracts from \$21,000. Restricted covenants apply.



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(9) **CHARMING BRICK BUNGALOW** sitting on 1.85 acre corner lot. 3 Bdrm 1 bath, living room with fireplace, separate dining, wood floors, C/H/A. Level Fenced Backyard, quiet setting. Mentone \$69,000.

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- (10) **SECLUDED** wooded acreage, with power, septic, well, driveway installed. Homesite area cleared. Lightly restricted. 11 ac M/L. \$40,000.
- (11) **INDIAN TRAIL ESTATES.** Building lots on the west Brow, above N. Ft. Payne, county road, city water access, view lots starting at \$10,000; wooded lots starting at \$6,000.
- (12) **WILD RIVER COMMUNITY** (1 tract left) 220x300 on the East fork of Little River. Secluded and Scenic, with pools and Rapids. \$50,500.
- (13) **WILDLIFE ABUNDANT** on these three 20+ acre tracts. Mostly Open Land, Rolling hills, ponds. May be purchased individually or together. Priced \$2,000 an acre. Located in Mentone area with deeded access road.
- (14) **CANYON VIEW FOREST** adjoins National Preserve, and wildlife Management. 5 acre tract, wooded with drive, power, well installed. Private access behind locked Gate. Overlooks Little River Canyon National Preserve.
- (15) **WOODED LOTS** on Dempsey Ave. Mentone 200x300 = 1.36 acres. \$10,000.
- (16) **COZY COTTAGE** in the Cloudland Area. 2 bdrm 1 bath, on 3.7 acres. Spring fed stocked pond. Large Yard and garden area. \$53,500.
- (17) **2 STORY HOME ON CUTLER AVE. MENTONE.** 3 Bdrm 1-1/2 bath, updated with Metal roof, 12x16 deck, kitchen-dining combo, dining room w/gas free etanding fireplace, cozy den, Large Bdrm with second story balcony. All appliances stay. Located on a level one-acre lot with large Oak trees and lots of wild flowers. **REDUCED \$70,000 SOLD**
- (18) **EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER ESTATES.** 3.8 acres with 1.75 ft on water. Located in Cherokee County. City Water, wooded, private road. Restricted Covenants. \$35,000.
- (19) **SECLUDED WOODED ACREAGE EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER.** 25 acres, with 2,500 feet of river frontage. Private drive. \$300,000.
- (20) **BUILDING LOTS, ADJACENT TO BROW.** 4 lots over an acre. Level, surveyed, perked. Paved Road 89 North. Mentone. Lightly restricted. \$15,000 each.

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The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Sunday morning services at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church are held at 9:00 AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis and Rev. L.A. Smith are alternate speakers for these services.

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

The Valley Head United Methodist Church prayer meet-ing is Wednesday night at 6 PM. Bible study Wednesday night at 6:30 PM. A prayer chain has been formed. Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday and Worship is at 10 AM.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services in the Woodmen of the World Hall in Valley Head. All are invited to attend! Sabbath School and Song Service: 9:30-10:45. Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnell.

The Harmony Grove Baptist Church invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 239 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45 AM; Morning Worship is at 11 AM; Evening Worship is at 6 PM; Wednesday Night Prayer Service is at 6 PM.

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

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 65), Fort Payne. Regular worship ser-vices are at 10 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM. Steve Schrader, Pastor 845-4314. All are welcome.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10 a.m., Worship service at 11 a.m., Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6 p.m., and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 pm.

Anyone interested in observing the Sabbath and Holy Days, call 845-2246 for time and location.

Presbyterian Church worship service at Cloudland begins at 10 AM, (EST), and the Menlo service begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

Menlo Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10 and 11 AM services and evening services are at 7 and 9 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

The Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Cloudland, Georgia, welcomes everyone to come and take part in our church services. Sunday School at 10 AM; Worship Service at 11 AM; Sunday evening at 6 PM, and Wednesday evening at 7 PM.

Lighthouse Fellowship, Cloudland. Turn at the produce stand, pass the tennis court, and go to the stop sign. Go right two blocks. A church alive is worth the drive. Sunday School - 10 AM; Worship - 11 AM, Alabama time. Everyone is welcome. Phone: 706-862-2607.

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10 AM, Worship at 11AM, Wednesday Bible Study at 6 PM. 256-634-4137.

The Mentone Revival Center and Pastor Alfred Chambers and his wife Polly, invite everyone to join in wor-ship on Sunday at 10 AM. Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM.

Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) has regular ser-vices at 10 AM each Sunday. You are invited to attend these services or visit the church at other times. Casual dress is always acceptable.

Mentone Community church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 AM and worship service at 10:45 AM. Bible Study Wed. 7:00-7:45PM. Pastor Fred Rick Haworth welcomes all!

The Mentone Church of God of Prophecy wants to invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is at 10 AM, with Worship at 11 AM. Evening services begin at 6 PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend reg-ular services.

Mentone Church of God invites you to attend their church. Sunday School - 10 AM; Morning Worship - 11 AM. Sunday evening - 6 PM; Wednesday evening - 6:30 PM. The new Pastor is Brian Hancock, who moved here with his wife Regina and their three children.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Alabama, regular ser-vices are Sunday at 9:30 AM, with a time for fellowship after the services. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more infor-mation on any events or services. Everyone is welcome to join in worship services or special events.

The Mentone United Methodist Church services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. The Pastor is Les Brown. The Ethel Brown Unit of UMW meets on the 1st Wednesday at 1 PM in the fellow-ship hall; and the Mountain Laurel Unit of UMW meets on the 3rd Monday at 12:30 PM at the church.

Moon Lake Baptist Church welcomes you. The Sunday schedule is: Bible Study - 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.; Children's Choir practice - 4:30 p.m.; Youth Choir, Discipleship Training & VQA's - 5 p.m.; Evening Worship - 5:00 p.m.; Adult Choir Practice - 7 p.m. Wednesday: Team Kids, Youth & Adult Bible Study - 6:30 p.m. Young women's Prayer & Share Group meets each Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m.

Dial-A-Devotional

634-0103

is provided daily by Jimmy Graves. Feel free to call any time of the day or night.



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 (256) 634-4677

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THAT MAGIC TOUCH



Andy Still, 16, frequently incorporates this zombie ball into his magic routines. Andy has been performing magic for eight years.

Photo by Kathleen Cole, Chattanooga Times Free Press

By Karen Nator Hill

Staff Writer, Chattanooga Times Free Press
Don't be fooled by Andy Still's boyish good looks. This fiery-headed young man has a few tricks up his sleeves. Andy, 16, is a magician.

Having nabbed a first-place award in the junior category at a magician conference last January in Gatlinburg, Tenn., Andy is working his way up in the world of magic.

"It's something I really love doing," he said. "I never get tired of it."

Andy said he became interested in magic after seeing a television show, "The World's Greatest Magic," when he was 7-years old.

Andy's parents, Randy and Annie Still, soon purchased him a magic kit. Today, they continue to support his passion by taking him to competitions across the country.

Andy said the magic kit got him off to a good start. "I began performing for my family right away," he said. "By the time I was 12, I was really into it. I joined the International Brotherhood of Magicians. About the same time, I met a magician, Robert Jones, who encouraged me and introduced me to other magicians."

Mr. Still said he also joined the magic because he had to drive his son back and forth from the meetings. "I don't do magic, but I do help him out by building his sets and helping him with the props," Mr. Still said.

Andy said the best way to learn magic is from magicians. "Seeing them do it is a lot easier than figuring it out yourself," he said.

For those interested in getting started, Andy suggested getting a magic kit and practicing as much as possible.

"The presentation of all magic tricks is based on illusion," he said. "When it comes down to it, there are very few secrets in magic. The key to a good magician is how they present the magic. When magicians go to conventions, they don't go to necessarily learn magic, they go to watch how other magicians perform."

Mr. Still said he and his wife enjoy watching their son perform. "The boy has the fastest hands I've ever seen--fast as a streak of lightning," he said.

Andy, like most magicians, is dedicated to keeping the mystery in magic. In other words, he said, he won't tell you the tricks of the trade. "It takes the

fun out of it," he said. "When you take the fun out of it, nobody cares anymore and nobody would want to hire a magician. Magicians keep the magic for the future of magic."

Andy said he admired David Copperfield. "He practices his routine more than anybody I know. Sometimes he'll do four shows in one day," he said.

On a local level, Andy said, his mentors are magicians Steve McDaniel, Robert Jones and Scott Fillers.

Andy said he has three decks of cards with him at all times (in case he needs to perform at a moment's notice). "I'm a pathetic loser," he said laughingly, "Most of my friends don't want to see my magic any more. They just want me to be me."

Magic is not his only passion. The Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe rising sophomore is also a percussionist in the school band and a performer in local productions at the Colonnade North Georgia.

He practices magic at least one hour a day with his No. 2 fans, mom and dad, serving as his audience.

Andy plans to go to college after high school graduation and major in theater "because it plays an important role in magic," he said. "I want to be successful and to make people forget about their problems for a while. If my entertainment does that, it's magic."

(From the Monday, August 4, 2003 issue of the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*.)

Note: Andy performed on Saturday, Sept. 20, at 8 p.m., at The Southeastern Association of Magicians Convention at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo. The show was open to the public.

Local people will remember Andy's parents, Randy Still, former owner of and gourmet chef from Cragmere Manna, and his lovely wife, Annie, who sang on occasion, with a voice that would thrill your soul.

September 2003 / The Groundhog/Page 19 Grandchildren's Thoughts

By Elsie Clark

When my grandchildren were small, when they came to visit, I would read to them. When I went to town, I would buy more children's books.

Jason said, Grandmother, can't you buy us something besides books?

Lee was on the way to Florida. He was very tired. Grandmother, you know who I thought of - YOU.

Lee, looking for Santa. Grandmother let's us go outside and look in the sky to see if we can see the Reindeer.

Brian, very hurt, put his arms around my neck, will Santa come to see me at your house? SURE!

Brian, Grandmother, I thought you was never coming back to spend the night.

Brenna, fixing to go home. Grandmother, I am about to cry. Why? I want to stay with you.

Brenna, upstairs changing clothes. Mother, I hear grandmother coming. Popping her heels.

Jaron, finishing his lunch: I am trying to put my napkin back in the ring. Is this the way Grandad does it?

Enjoy The Groundhog.



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I hope everyone had a happy Labor Day weekend of relaxation and recreation. My granddaughter, **Robin Darby**, came from Collierville, TN, for the weekend. On Sunday afternoon, **Cindy Meadows, Emily and Barry Brown, A.J., Patti, and Justin Brown**, met us at Ruby Tuesday's in Fort Payne, for lunch.

Janice Cooper went to Aurora, CO, for a week's visit with her sister, Mitzi Thomas, and husband Gary, and her niece, Sonia Elkins.

Rev. and Myra Ellis went to Au Claire, WI, to visit their former church and took Katie and Lilly Meadows to Lacon, IL, for a week's visit with Katie's parents, Charles and Debbie Frazier.

Gail and Bobby Hawkins, from Brewton, AL, spent the weekend with Sadie Cooper, recently.

Robert Quimby has been to Valley Head for a short visit.

Christine and Walter Brooks had most of their family with them for dinner after church, Sept. 7.

Jim Carmichael had a birthday, Sept. 6, and received lots of calls and cards. He was especially glad to hear from D.A. Moore. It had been a long time since he had heard from him.

Ada and Tom Campbell's daughter, Lynette Hancock, from Prescott Valley, AZ and daughter, **Clarissa**, spent a week with them, then her son David and wife Debby from Hewitt, NJ, came for a long weekend; and daughter, **Suzanne Campbell**, came from Thomaston, GA, for an overnight visit.

Ed Ringer's brother, Dr. Robert Ringer, from Marianna, FL, came Aug. 14 and spent the weekend with him and attended the reunion of the 151st Com. Engineers' Battalion at Fort Payne. His son, **David Ringer**, also came from Florence, MS, for the weekend.

Mary Crow had a birthday, Sept. 8, and celebrated with her family at dinner at granddaughter, **Angela Chambers'** home. Mary is recovering from cataract surgery. Best wishes to her.

Christy Poston is staying with her mother, **Marion O'Dell** for a while until her house at Trenton is ready for her.

Ansley McGinnis came from Florence, SC, and spent the weekend with her mother, **Laura Margaret Allison** and Aunt **Elizabeth Coleman**. She brought her mother to church (Valley Head Methodist, Sept. 7). **Peachie Cearley** had surgery last Thursday at St. Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta. We hope she will have a complete and quick recovery.

Chrissie Frazier is visiting her sister, **Kelly Dykstra** and family in Zimmerman, MN.

Rev. Wayne Nesbitt, pastor of Valley Head Methodist Church, is recovering after spending a few days in Gadsden Regional Hospital.

Ben Freeman has moved to Fayetteville, AK, where he has a job.

Lillie Bowden spent a week with her daughter **Joe Welch**, in Chattanooga, and assisted her with an estate sale.

Joyce and Harold Allen from Centre, AL, spent the day, Sept. 7, with her brother, **Ed Ringer**.

Robert and Ruth Hammon had a great trip in August. They spent 17 days in Hawaii and visited four different islands and Pearl Harbor. They enjoyed seeing the sugar cane and pineapple fields and several volcanoes and went to a Luau!

Estie Palmer had a week full of visitors recently: her nephew, **Don Hartline** and **Michael** from Akron, OH, spent two days and nights; friends she had worked with in Menlo, came for a belated birthday celebration (her birthday was Sept. 2); **Joyce Arden** from Trion, GA, **Jean Mitchell** from Menlo, and **Ann Wright** from Mentone; (They ate lunch at the Cracker Barrel.); and **Milton and Mary Lou Palmer**, from Cleveland, TN, spent the night and two days.

Joey Pickett and his daughter, **Shauna**, from Chattanooga, and her brother, **Jared**, came Sept. 13 for the weekend with **Ruth and Bert Pickett**.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** is planning a trip to Gatlinburg, Sept. 22-24.

Adelaide Biddle's birthday was Aug. 17. **Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis**, and **John and Mary Holleman** went to **Mary Lou Carmichael's** home in Dallas, GA, for her birthday party. 35-40 family members and friends helped her celebrate.

Mary Holleman's birthday was Sept. 13. On Sept. 11, **Mary Lou Carmichael**, **Adelaide Biddle**, **Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis**, **Ted**, **Mary and John Holleman** had her birthday dinner at Ruby Tuesday's Restaurant in Fort Payne.

Aug. 24, **Robert, Michele**, and **John Bob Brown** and I attended the **Forester reunion** at Cloverdale Church. There was a large crowd, lots of good food and fellowship. Different ones spoke of memories of people and events of the past. My husband **Donald's** mother was **Ella Forester**. I got home in time to spend some time with cousins, **Bill & Blanche Fuller** from Madison, AL, who were at **Emily & Barry Brown's**. They had lunch at **Larry's Restaurant** in Trenton.

Doug and Dael Hoyt went to Tallahassee, FL, the weekend of Sept. 6 for the football game, **Florida State University** (Doug is alumni), as it beat the **Terrapins** from Maryland 35-10, and made them happy. They stayed at a Bed and Breakfast in St. Marks, FL, and enjoyed the **St. Mark's Wildlife Refuge**. They saw hordes of **Monarch Butterflies** and learned some interesting facts about them as they fly 100 miles per day and up to 2000 feet high. They have a festival for the butterflies in October.

I enjoyed a little visit from **Dael**, Saturday morning, Sept. 13. She said they are delighted to have her mother, **Kiyo Morris**, who has moved from Augusta, GA, to be with them. She is due to have knee replacement, Oct. 7, at Erlanger in Chattanooga. **Dael** brought me an origami, a lovely and intricate object of Japanese art, which she spent hours making and which I shall treasure.

I received a telephone call from **G.W. McMahan**, a former student of Valley Head High School, who lives in Columbia, SC. He spent 23 years in the Air Force and has retired from the post office after 17 years. He wanted all former and present students of Valley Head High School, and especially the **Class of 1948**, to be sure and attend the Homecoming Game, Oct. 31, at 7 PM, at Valley Head, and make it a real homecoming.

George is a subscriber to The Groundhog.

Maureen Hammond, Thelma Johnson, Ken Hammond and wife, Cathy, attended the Little reunion at the Methodist Church in Langston, AL, July 26. **Ruben Little** and wife, **Ruthie**, from MI, came after the reunion and got together with their brother, **Douglas**, and his wife, **Alisa**, and sister, **Thelma**; and nephew, **Bill Little** and his wife, **Angela**.

Elliott and Camilla Yamada spent the last week of August with their Yamada family in New Hampshire. Camilla is not going to teach this year as she is going to college in New York and working on her masters degree this year.

Mike and Julia Quarles of Roswell, GA, are enjoying entertaining family and friends in their new home, **Grace Glen**, in Mentone. **Aryele and Savannah Forte** of Canton, GA, had a fun few days at Grandparents Camp. **Janice and Granison Garrison** came from Huntsville. They enjoyed eating at **Dessie's**. **Hammond and Linda Cobb** from Montgomery spent the night before picking up their son, **Richard**, at **Alpine Camp**.

Lucy Allison, **Julia's** sister from Mountain Brook, AL, came for several days and they enjoyed hiking at **DeSoto Park**. Then, **Marilyn Beard**, **Carolyn Campbell**, **Kay Gresham**, and **Catherine Trinkle**, members of **Julia's** prayer group in Birmingham, came for the day. They had lunch at **Magnolia Joe's**. Over Labor Day, they entertained **Dr. Wes and Elizabeth Duke** of Atlanta and **Ruth and Charlie Jones** of Franklin, TN, and showed them some sights like **DeSoto Falls** and the view from **Brow Park**.

Ashley Tuxbury graduated from high school through the home schooling program on September 21, 2003. Graduation was at **Lea's Chapel Baptist Church**. Her parents are **Buddy and Ginger Tuxbury**.

I hope everyone has a beautiful Autumn and a bountiful harvest of all good things.

September Drama

September draws her curtains of smoky haze
On the last acts of summer's dramatic plays,
And lights the stage with Sumac's torches ablaze
All set with new acts to delight and amaze.

Squirrels are acrobats from tree to tree,
Wild ducks do aerobics gracefully;
Crows are comedians, laugh gleefully—
Perform in the corn as scare crows they see.

Bull frogs the bull fiddle and base drums play
Dry flies and Crickets join final roundelay,
Bob White gaily whistles at strutting Blue Jay,
Hawk's villainous whistle threatens each bird's day.

The Deer swiftly races, kicks high their heels
In pure exuberance at freedom each feels,
The cute Chipmunk appears, each scene it steals
The tree waves its leaves, for encore appeals

The raindrops clatter in spatter of applause,
All nature performing in a worthy cause,
The seasons change scenery with hardly a pause,
Staging constant drama that interests and awes.

---Eloise Brown



MENTONE COMMUNITY ATOP LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN - formerly "The Bistro" Restaurant, Loc. on 2.34 ac. tract w/200+ ft. frntg. along AL Hwy 117, property is centrally located. Only 15 mi. from downtown Ft. Payne and minutes from Mentone & Cloudland, this uniquely attractive bldg. has approx. 1,275 sq. ft. floor space w/575 sq. ft. apt. loc. at rear of the bldg. Complete w/2 dining areas, it will seat approx. 50 guests & incld. outdoor patio that will accommodate approx. 32 during warmer months. Most windows, carpet & linoleum, plumbing, electrical & CHVAC are all new. 3 septic systems serve the property, more than adequate for the 3 BA. Property also incld. 16'x30' workshop & 24'x24' carport. No equipment. (A-107)



CLOUDLAND AREA, Co Rd 103, Mentone - Mountain living at its finest. Located in a peaceful community, this cedar-sided home offers living room, eat-in kitchen, home office, utility, master suite, 2 additional bedrooms and full bath. Enjoy the well-landscaped acre from the screened back porch. Also features attached garage, CHVAC & new metal roof. Asking \$130,000. (No. A-000)



LOWER EAST BROW OR LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN - This magnificent cypress home is truly one of a kind. Tiled entry leads into 24x34 great room with beautiful oak flooring, massive fireplace and dentil molding. The wall of Anderson windows in great room provides panoramic view in all directions. Wonderful deck with hot tub overlooks the valley. 2 bedrooms, tiled sunroom, kitchen, dining, wet bar, 1-1/2 baths, utility also on main floor. Large master loft and bath with marble tub grace the second floor. Separate guest house walled garden, heated garage and shop are included. Call for more details. (No. G-001)



STATE LINE ROAD - Great starter home. Living room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bath. house and 3+/- acres. Additional 9+/- acres available. Both sites w/new wells. (No. G-103A) Reduced

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LAKE ON THE BROW - Lot #66 - 2+/- acres.
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(1) You'll enjoy private living and lots of room in this mountain stone refuge with log siding. Great room with vaulted ceiling, fireplace, large master bedroom and bath, log canopy on front and covered back patio, situated on 5 acres with pond. \$249,900.



(2) CLOUDLAND, GA - New listing with 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, over 3500 square feet. This log home was built in 1928 and is filled with character. Priced at \$172,500. (PLS #11007)



(3) This custom built home offers 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large eat-in kitchen area, spacious living room with fireplace and multi-purpose basement and includes 2.9 acres. \$199,000.



(4) Room to roam in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offering lots of extras. Great room with cathedral ceiling, wood floors, recreation room, barn and fenced pasture on 46 private acres connecting DeSoto State Park. \$249,900.



(5) Looking for a mountain retreat—6 self contained cabins, office building that could be converted into living quarters, numerous RV and camp sites all on 13+ secluded acres adjoining DeSoto State Park. \$395,000.



(6) Located on DeSoto Parkway, this home offers 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 lofts, wood floors, screened porch, deck with hot tub, 1 bedroom, 1 bath guest cottage, and more. ONLY \$239,900.



(7) Postcard setting with this 4 bedroom, 2 bath home featuring a 2-story living room with loft and wood burning fireplace, large country kitchen, 2 hot tubs and a 30' above-ground pool, stocked pond, barn, shed, storage building and 21 acres. ONLY \$145,000.500.



(8) Own this thriving, well-established restaurant in a prime location of downtown Mentone. Fully-equipped kitchen and dining room that seats 125 people, both turn key and financial information furnished to serious buyers. \$397,500.



(9) COUNTRY AT ITS BEST describes this rustic style home with spruce ceiling-floors and walls. Add charm to the 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and great room, large front porch looking out at a beautiful field from the 3.5 acre wooded lot. Listed at \$150,000. (PLS #11719)



(10) Compelling 2-story home on the West Brow of Mentone with over 4000 sq ft. featuring 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, great room with fireplace, large living room with fireplace, his/her bath, hardwood and marble floors, screened porch and views from every room. \$449,900



(11) Lookout Mountain. This home is situated on almost 4 acres near the rim of Little River Canyon and has a beautiful landscaped yard, a barn and back room, eat-in kitchen with breakfast bar, stone fireplace in the great room and a nice back deck for entertaining. \$143,000 (PLS #11803)



(12) Almost maintenance-free BROW home with 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, large eat-in kitchen with island, cozy living room with fireplace, den/pool room with pool table already there. Great views of the valley. \$270,000.



(13) Rustic Mountain Lodge just minutes from Desoto State Park—possible use as a single family residence or a commercial business. Pine and rock floors, great room with fireplace, 5 loft bedrooms with cat walk, 20 acres, and a 2-room guest house included. \$199,000.



(14) Established old home place in historic Mentone. House is over 100 years old and is restorable with 18.39 acres. This home has several primitive barns and sheds all surrounded by huge Oak trees. Retreat to an era gone by for less than \$199,900.



(15) Brow home...Main house features 3 floors each with a bed and bath, living area, office space and/or sitting room. Decks and porches surround the house on all 2 levels. Detached 2-car garage with apartment upstairs, and 2.7 acres. \$195,000.



(16) SATISFY YOUR APPETITE for private living and roominess with this 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on 54 acres. This traditional brick house also includes large eat-in kitchen with an island, Oak cabinets and French doors to living area and large screened porch. Add a fence and you have great pastures with a barn already there. Priced to sell at \$299,000. (PS #11715)



(17) Own a little village called Valhalla—Twenty acres atop Lookout Mountain bordering Little River Canyon National Preserve & DeSoto State Park, including a large farmhouse and four unique cottages all with screened porches, living rooms, dining areas, and full kitchens surrounding serenity pond. Call for details. \$650,000. (PLS #11425)



(18) NEW LISTING! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with 1500 square feet, large great room, single garage, central heat and air, fenced vegetable garden and waterfall. \$130,000. (PLS #11820)



(19) NEW LISTING! 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 9.89 acres with 1800 square feet, appliances to stay, rock fireplace and located near DeSoto State park. \$190,000. (PLS #11809)



(20) WEEKEND RETREAT OR PERMANENT RESIDENCE! Either way you will love coming home to this 2 bedroom, 2 bath cabin located off DeSoto Parkway near Mentone. Kitchen/Dining combo with oak cabinets, all appliances. Living room with hardwood floors and fireplace. Wrap-around deck on nice wooded lot. \$119,000.

OTHER LISTINGS

(21) MENTONE - Build your cabin on this secluded yet convenient lot located near Desoto State Park. \$20,500 (PLS #11730)

(22) WEST FORK SUB. - 254' of river frontage (Little River) Gently sloping with great building sites. Lightly restricted. \$40,000 (PLS #10134)

(23) LAND - Wooded Corner Lot just South of Downtown Mentone. \$5,500. (PLS #11805)

(24) GENTLY ROLLING, WOODED VACANT LAND IN VALLEY HEAD. Perfect for development. Extensive paved road frontage. 62 acres listed at \$3,000 per acre.

(25) Just listed 4.3+/- acres on DeSoto Parkway. Only \$44,500.

(26) Almost 600' on the West Fork of Little River, gently rolling and heavily wooded all within 1 mile of Mentone. \$70,000.

(27) BUILD YOUR WEEKEND GET-AWAY...on this 1.17+/- acres filled with spectacular rock formations behind city hall in Mentone. \$14,500.

(28) PRIME PROPERTY on Hwy 11 North. this 130+/- acre tract enjoys the setting of the valley with pristine views of pastures, ridges and Wills Creek which meanders through the property.

(29) LAND! Surround yourself with trees, gentle rolling pastures, water, and a beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. 57 acres of prime property located on Hwy 11, between Fort Payne and Hammondville is a dream come true. Call today! \$422,000 Reduced to \$384,750

(30) LAND AND LAKE...40+/- acres with a 5+/- acre lake and Brush Creek runs through it. The lake was stocked with Bass and Bream 2 years ago and is approximately 35' deep. Don't wait—act today! \$180,000.

(31) Brow property ...1.7+/- acres on County Road 166 near Desoto State Park. \$37,500.

(32) 3.68 +/- acres on the Brow near Desoto State Park. \$59,900.

(33) OPPORTUNITY AWAITS - 10 acres on Hwy 117, East of Mentone. 3 mobile homes and 2 one bedroom apartments and room to grow. Outside the city limits - no restrictions. Let your income pay for the property. \$158,500.

(34) RETREAT, RETREAT, RETREAT - If for any reason you want or need to, this 40 acres is partly cleared and partly wooded with a large lake and wooded stream. Great for hunting cabins or full-time residence. \$170,000.

The Mentone Colorfest is quickly approaching... Order Your Quilt Tickets Now!

Complete the form below, and send in your donation (\$1.00 per ticket). Your ticket(s) will be entered in the drawing for the gorgeous handmade quilt to be given away Sunday, October 18, at 4:30 pm., at the Pavilion on the Brow.

Please enter my name in the drawing for the handmade quilt. I am ordering _____ tickets @ \$1.00 donation each. I am enclosing my check/money order in the amount of \$ _____.

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Color Fest

Mentone, Alabama



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Music! **Live Entertainment!** **Fellowship!**
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Civil War Re-Enactors! And Much More!

For more information, call 256-634-4041 or 256-634-4664, or visit our website at www.MentoneAlabama.org

**Mentone
Post Office Hours**
Monday - Friday
Open 8:00 am - 12 noon
1:30-4:15 pm
Saturday 8:30 a.m.-10:30 am
United States Postal Service
Mentone, AL 35984
256-634-4588

VALLEY HEAD TIGERS 2003 Varsity Football

Sept. 26 Plogah.....Home
Oct. 3 Section.....Home
Oct. 10 Appalachian.....Away
Oct. 17 Gaylesville.....Away
Oct. 24 Collinsville.....Away
Oct. 31 North Sand Mtn.....H.C.
(recognizing former cheerleaders & football players)

* All Home games start @ 7:00 p.m.
COACH CHARLES ROBERT HAMMON

Dial-A- Devotional 634-0103

is provided daily
by Jimmy Graves.
Feel free to call
any time of the
day or night.



SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Saturday, Sept. 27, 3PM, 10th Anniversary Celebration of Boy Scout Troop 106, Jim Berry Hall, Mentone,
- Tuesday, Oct 7, 7PM, MAPA Meeting at Fellowship Hall of Church of God of Prophecy
- Monday, Oct. 13, 6PM, Town Council Meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Tuesday, Oct. 14, 12:30PM, Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House
- Tuesday, Oct. 14, 5-7PM, Spaghetti Dinner

Fundraiser, Summerville Civic Center, Lookout Mountain Animal Resources

- Tuesday, Oct. 14, 6:30PM, American Legion Post 215 Meeting, American Legion Hall
- OCTOBER - 18 & 19 COLORFEST
See flyer in this issue.
- Sunday, Oct. 26, Daylight Saving time Ends
- Friday, Oct. 31, Halloween



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

We want to wish Ruby Brock a speedy recovery from her fall in which she broke her hip. She has been in DeKalb Baptist Medical Hospital in Fort Payne and also at the rehab facility in Collinsville. We hope she will be back writing for God's Minute as soon as she is able.