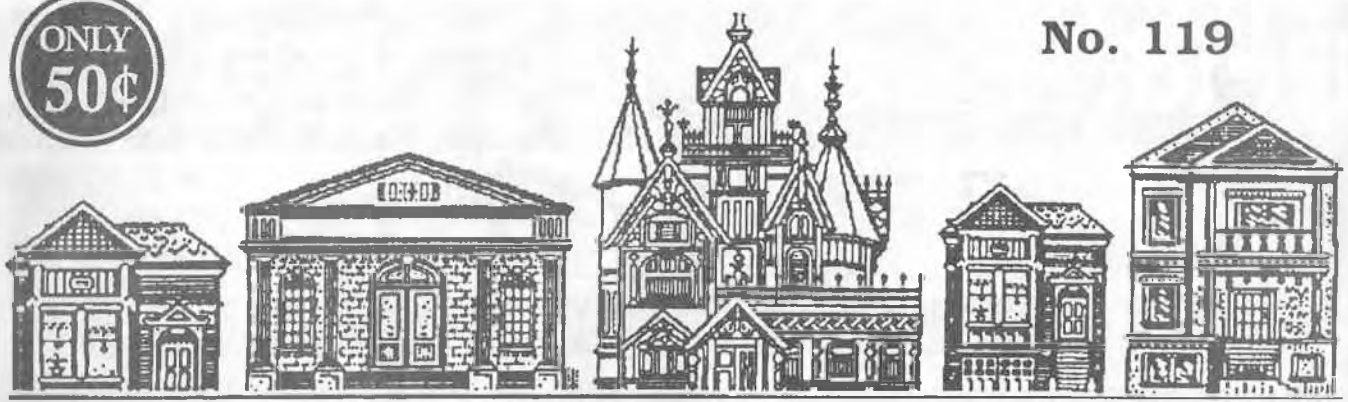


ONLY  
50¢

No. 119



# Old Huntsville

HISTORY AND STORIES OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY



## The Gambler

For nearly half a century Huntsville has been legendary in its ability to produce top-rated poker players. They were part of a small fraternity, willing to bet tens of thousands of dollars on a single card, win or lose.

Whenever these men gather today, they tell stories about the games they have played and the gamblers they have known. Invariably, the name of Charlie Esslinger will come up.

There will be a pause and finally someone will say, with a certain amount of awe, "He was the best - he never lost."

**Also: The Story of Leslie St. Clair**

# Reid Hardware

Serving Huntsville Since 1962

**536-2616**

2402 Mem. Pkwy. NW, Huntsville, Ala.



## RADIO FLYER



Free Peanuts!

### Wagons - All Sizes

Stanley Tools

### Home of Pocket Knives, Red Wagons & Cast Iron Skillets

Smoke Alarms Pipes Paint brushes Canning Supplies

Huge  
Selection Of Pocket Knives

Electrical Needs Wood Stove Accessories Tricycles & Sleds

### Large Selection of Cast Iron Skillets



Screening Sprinklers

Wheelbarrows Shovels

Weatherproofing



Mops & Brooms Paint Mail Boxes Trash Cans

Rope Hoses Kerosene Lamps Handtrucks

Landscaping Materials Plumbing Supplies Nails, Nuts and Bolts

Screw Drivers and Hammers Kitchen Gadgets

Air Conditioner Covers Thresholds Garden Rakes

Fall Garden Supplies Pipe Insulation Fertilizer German Knives

Drills & Bits Grass Seed Wood Stains

Ladders Faucet Sets Lawn Supplies Heating Supplies

Faucet Repair Parts

Pots & Pans

Caulking

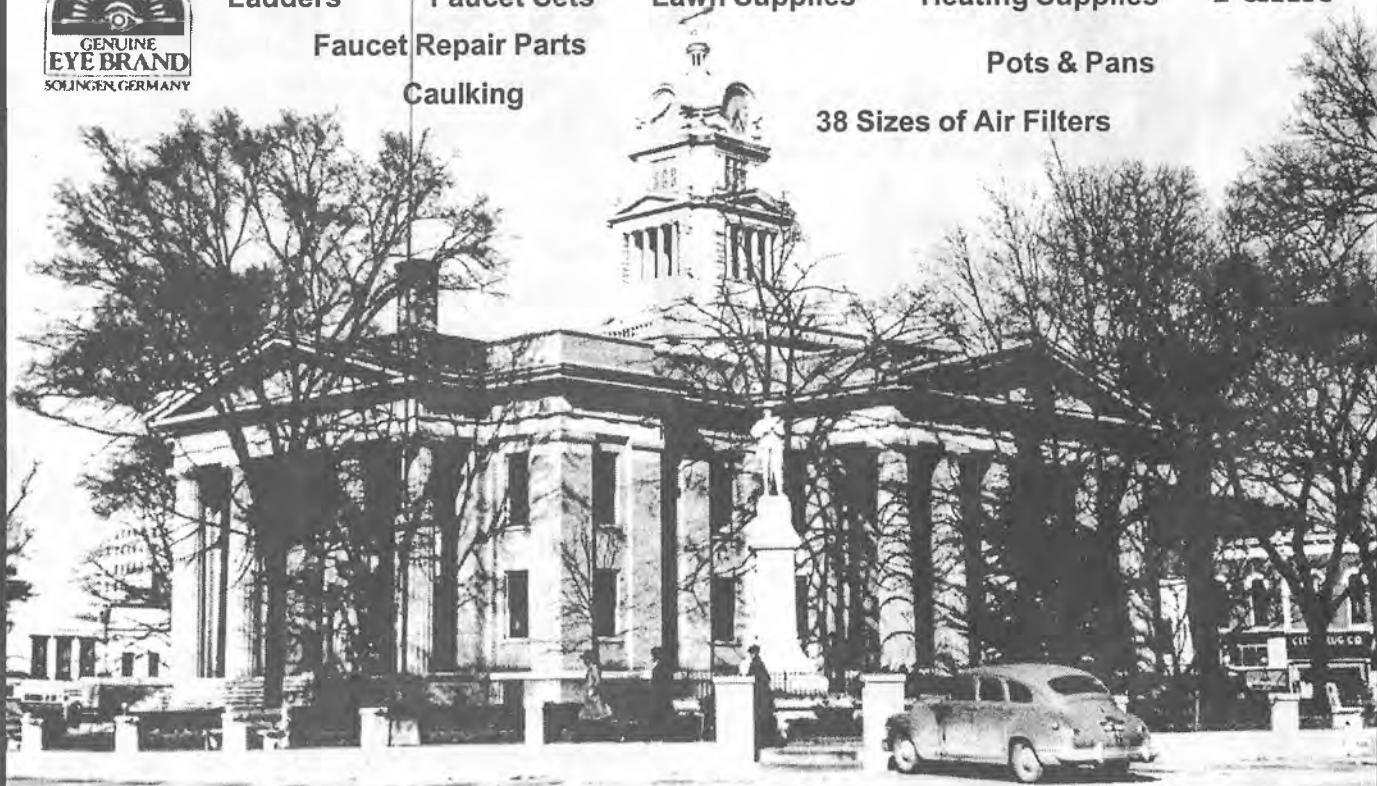
38 Sizes of Air Filters



**W.R. CASE & SONS CUTLERY CO.**

HAND-CRAFTED KNIVES SINCE 1899

## ACE Paint



# Old Timer's Sale



# The Gambler

For nearly half a century, Huntsville has been legendary in its ability to produce top-rated poker players. Many of these players went on to achieve national recognition among their peers. They were part of a small fraternity, willing to bet tens of thousands of dollars on a single card, and win or lose, were always trying to find another game.

Often times, in the wee hours of the morning as the games were breaking up, some of these men would sit around and tell war stories of previous games. Invariably, the name of Charlie Esslinger would come up. There would be a pause in the conversation as each man remembered his favorite story about sitting across a card table from Esslinger. Finally, the silence would be broken when someone would say, with certain amount of awe, "He was good - no, not just good - probably the best in this part of the country."

Charles A. Esslinger was born in 1927 in the Dallas Mill village where both of his parents worked. As a student at Rison School, he was, as one friend described, "a mediocre student; he

just didn't care for book learning."

While in elementary school he received a book on "Card Magic and Tricks" for Christmas. Although he didn't care much for other books, he devoured this one. He would sit in his room and practice for hours with a deck of cards trying to perfect each move. "Everywhere that boy went," recalled a friend, "he had a deck of cards. He had big decks, small decks, trick decks and some decks that he made himself."

Huntsville was a small town and it wasn't long before word of his ability to do card tricks spread. Although still a youngster, he would often hang out at a local pool hall where there was always a poker game in the back room. Many of the players took a liking to the young boy, asking him to show them card tricks and often tipping him to fetch soda and hotdogs.

Sometimes, if one of the players had to leave the table to take a phone call or go to the bathroom, he would ask Charlie to sit in his place for a few moments. They probably thought it was "cute" to let a small boy in their game. Before long, some of them were letting Charlie play their hands and giving him a few dimes or quarters if he won.

Although Charlie didn't care much for "book learning" he was getting an education that no pub-



## Old Huntsville

Old Huntsville, Inc.  
716 East Clinton Ave.  
Huntsville, Ala. 35801  
(256) 534-0502 Fax 489-3712

Email - oldhuntsville@knology.net  
Internet Home Page  
www.Oldhuntsville.com

Senior Editor - Thomas Frazier  
Gen. Manager - Ron Eyestone  
Good Will Ambassador  
Aunt Eunice  
Sales - Clarence Scott  
Copy Boy - Tom Carney

All material contained within is ©2002 and may not be reproduced or copied in any form without written permission of the publisher. Old Huntsville, Inc. assumes no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts.



Breakfast - Lunch  
Dinner

Mon. - Sat.  
4 A.M. - 9 P.M.  
Sunday  
5 A.M. - 9 P.M.

(256) 539-2826

607 Andrew Jackson Way

# R RUSS RUSSELL

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

Sales,  
Leasing &  
Exchanges



Huntsville's First CCIM



Huntsville's First CEA

Website: www.russrussell.com

# 536-7777

923-C Merchants Walk

*Linda's*  
Printing Services

3308 Seventh Avenue, S.W.  
Huntsville, Alabama 35805

534-4452

fax: 256-534-4456

email: linprint@mindspring.com

web: www.linprint.cceasy.com

VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS



Make it a perfect

*Wedding*

beginning  
with your

*Invitations*

Announcements

Toasting Glasses

Thank You Notes

Programs, Guestbooks

Scrolls, Informals, Ribbons

Napkins, Matchbooks, & more

lic school could ever provide. Often times when there was not a game going on, some of the men would invite him to sit and play a few hands for fun. The men, probably amused by the lad's eagerness to learn, would spend hours teaching him the finer points of the game. By the time he was barely a teenager he could quote the odds on drawing an inside straight or filling a flush. He could spot a second deal or a shaved deck, and tell when the man on the other side of the table was trying a bluff.

This was all just a hobby though and most people, Charlie

included, thought he would probably join his parents working at the mill when he got old enough. Fortunately, fate intervened in the form of a summons from Uncle Sam announcing his induction into the United States Army.

Anyone who has ever been in service can describe the scene that greeted Charlie in his new home. The inductees were mostly teenagers, fresh off the farm with no worldly experience. More important, however, were the constant poker games. There were poker games on every other bunk, poker games in the day-room and even poker games in the latrine.

An old friend laughed as he recalled Charlie's Army career. "That boy thought he had died and gone to heaven. He had been used to playing older and more seasoned players and all of a sudden those kids, who had probably never played before in their lives, were lining up to give him money."

Needless to say, he thrived in his new environment and probably would have enlisted for a second term if it had not been for several officers who lost their paychecks to him. "They had me cutting grass all over Texas," he later told a friend.

After leaving the Army, and still poor, Charlie returned to the same Huntsville he had left; with the only prospect of a job being in the cotton mills.

A friend, Larry Buttram, later

told of helping Charlie get a job at Merrimac Mills. "On the very first day he came up to me at lunch and said, 'Larry, I'm sorry but this isn't for me.' He walked out the door and no one saw him for several weeks. We heard later he went to Birmingham and got into a big game."

If there had ever been any doubt about Charlie's career path, the game in Birmingham settled it when he walked away with over \$23,000.00 for one night's work.

It usually takes more energy to keep putting off doing something than it does to actually do it.

Josh Stevens



Popcorn Poppers  
Fire Starters  
Bellows

**Firesets, Screens, Grates & Fireplace accessories**  
"Woodstoves, Gas Logs, Patio Furniture, Gas Grills"

**SOUTHERN HOME & HEARTH, INC.**  
Since 1981

**Closeout Prices On All In-stock Patio Furniture & Accessories**

2611 University Drive  
Huntsville Al. 35816  
534-1715 - 534-8199

**MOODY MONDAY'S**  
One of Huntsville's oldest nightspots  
718 Church St.  
533-4005



**H.C. BLAKE INC.**  
Plumbing, Electrical  
Heating,  
Air Conditioning

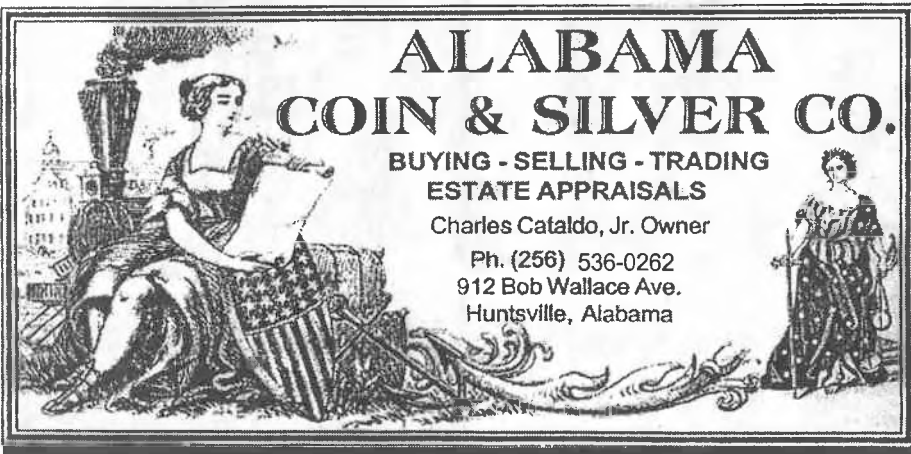


SERVICE IS OUR BUSINESS SINCE 1884

Hall B. Bryant, Jr.  
Proprietor

**534-0781**

**ALABAMA COIN & SILVER CO.**  
BUYING - SELLING - TRADING  
ESTATE APPRAISALS  
Charles Cataldo, Jr. Owner  
Ph. (256) 536-0262  
912 Bob Wallace Ave.  
Huntsville, Alabama



## A Step in the Right Direction

Every step she took was painful...  
except one:

The step toward hip replacement  
at Huntsville Hospital's Joint Camp.

*"The first step I took after surgery  
was instantly better."*

*-Catherine Carney, 51*

Living with joint pain?  
WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

### —4 Your Health—

1. Region's only joint replacement center.
2. An encouraging recovery environment based on patient education.
3. Group dynamics promote faster recovery.
4. Family involvement is the key.

**THE ORTHOPEDIC LEADER**

YOUR  
HOSPITAL for  
**LIFE**



**HUNTSVILLE HOSPITAL**  
256-517-RN4U (7648) [www.huntsvillehospital.org](http://www.huntsvillehospital.org)

"He was a different man when he came back." Buttram recalled. "Probably for the first time in his life he had a purpose - he was going to be a professional poker player."

"One of the first things he did," said a lifelong friend, "was to make his parents leave the cotton mills. He purchased a small general store and farm for them near Farley with part of his winnings. No matter what people might say about his gambling, that boy loved his parents."

Within a few short years he was well on his way to becoming one of the most well known poker players in North Alabama. "You would never have known he was a gambler," recalled Robert Owens. "He was one of the nicest, and most polite, men you would ever meet. He was well over six feet tall, about 250 pounds with dark wavy hair and always immaculately dressed. If you didn't know better you would think he was the CEO of some large company. He was the kind of guy that women would stare at all the time."

**If you're riding ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.**

Will Rogers

Charlie understood there was more than luck involved in playing poker. F.D. Cantrell, a retired gambler in Birmingham, remembered Charlie buying twenty decks of cards at a time and sitting in a hotel room practicing until he wore them out. "That boy would take a deck and turn the cards over one at a time as fast as he could. Then he would try to remember each card in the order it was laid down. He could actually tell you that an ace of spades was the 23<sup>rd</sup> card from the top!"

It is a well known fact that no two cards are exactly the same on the back. Sometimes the design might be a little off-center, the coloring might be a tiny shade different or the cards might have been cut differently. Most of the time the flaws are so small that they are almost impossible to detect.

Charlie, however, spent years training himself to spot the flaws. "I knew he was doing something but I didn't know what," said Cantrell. "Finally one night we were sitting in a hotel room and he told me to call downstairs and get a couple decks of cards. We played maybe a half dozen hands and then he laid all the cards face down and picked out 5 or 6 of them, telling me what they were. Even after I knew what he was doing I couldn't do it, and I practiced for years!"

"Charlie had the most perfect self control I have ever seen in a gambler. We were playing a game in Birmingham one time when he lost about \$5,000. That night we

**Caregivers with character**

Background Checks  
Reliable  
Affordable Rates  
Visiting Angels



(256) 837-1137 or 1-877-400-6400

**You Get Better Service Because... We Don't Work Alone**



**DORIS SISK REAL ESTATE TEAM**

Office (256) 534-1886  
Toll Free (800) 675-6580

or Visit Our Website At:  
<http://www.DorisSiskTeam.com>

2312 - A Market Place





# S&S

## Photography

**We Do Digital Restorations of Your Old Photographs**

**2365 Whitesburg Drive Ph. 533-0088**



**ADMIRAL**  
CLEANING & RESTORATION  
Most Trusted Name In Rug Cleaning

- Hand Washed
- Moth Treatment
- Fringe Finishing
- Pad Replacement



**Pickup & Delivery**

# 829-1010

stopped to get something to eat and the whole time he never said a word; he just set there and kept going over the game in his mind. When I dropped him off at his hotel I asked him what he was going to do the rest of the night."

"I'm going to get a chair and set outside the rest of the night to punish myself," Charlie said.

"Sure enough, I drove by there a couple hours later and Charlie was sitting on the sidewalk in front of the hotel. It must have been about 20 degrees out there!"

Discipline is important to a gambler. One night after a few too many drinks he lost \$40,000 on a craps table in Las Vegas. The next day he swore he would never get drunk or play craps again, two promises he kept all his life from that day forward.

While most gamblers hid the fact that they gambled for a living, Charlie was very open about it, betting his notoriety would draw big money players willing to try their luck against him. For a while it worked, but as his reputation spread it became harder to get a game. Few people wanted to risk their money with a player of his caliber.

In the late 1950s Charlie began "working the road," traveling from city to city, picking up a game and then moving on to the next

one. For a while he worked with an outfit out of Cincinnati that was supposed to "steer" him toward big money games, but the deal collapsed when he realized the games were controlled by the mob and he was supposed to "kick back" a hefty percentage of his winnings.

The lesson about the mob was reinforced several years later when he was in Newark, New Jersey. He had stumbled on to a game and after several days was about \$7,000 ahead when two goons showed up at his hotel room early one morning. The men informed him that they were messengers sent to tell him that he was playing in an "owned game" and "certain people" didn't like "outside" professionals butting in. If he was going to play, they told him, he was going to pay. The first payment was \$7,000.

"I paid," Charlie later said, "but I got the hell out of there and came back south!"

His next, and most valuable,

lesson came in 1959 in Nashville, Tennessee at the old Jefferson Davis Hotel. A hustler by the name of Detroit Red was running a game with players made up mostly of ordinary businessmen. It should have been an easy game

## Furniture

## Factory

## Bar & Grill

*Mexican Pine Furniture and Iron*

Live Entertainment

Wed. Fri,  
& Saturdays

Open for Lunch  
& Dinner



Open Tues. - Sat.  
for fine dining and  
your enjoyment.

619 Meridian Street  
(256) 539-8001  
Huntsville, Alabama

### Lumpkin Stained Glass

Custom Designs  
Repairs & Supplies  
Free Estimates



116 Oakwood Ave. 539-0532

If you haven't gotten all  
the things you want, be  
grateful for the things you  
don't have that you  
wouldn't want in the first  
place.

**Robin Rents Equipment....**  
**We've been around since 1966.**  
(visit our website [www.robinrents.com](http://www.robinrents.com))

for Charlie but at the end of several days he was flat broke, having lost almost \$38,000.

That night Charlie invited Red to have a drink with him. Finally the conversation turned to the game and Charlie asked Red what he had done wrong.

"Charlie," Red laughed, "You were set up. Everybody in that game knew you were a hustler. You had told them! Remember how I kept playing with my cigarette lighter whenever I had a bad hand or how I tapped my fingers when I was getting ready to bet? I knew you were a hustler and I knew you were watching for things like that and all I had to do was set you up. Remember, it's not about winning the hand, it's about winning the money!"

Charlie learned the lesson well. From then on, when working the road, he would lead people to believe he was a wealthy cotton farmer looking for a little excitement.

One of the only fears Charlie

had in life was the Internal Revenue. He had a phobia about any kind of written record with his name on it. As hard as it may be to believe, he never had a social security card, bank account or even a drivers license! His idea of investing was to give the money to friends and let them buy property in their names. According to several close associates, he had interests in a dry cleaning company, a restaurant, and a motel as well as numerous residential properties.

When one of his "partners" questioned him about what would happen to the investments if he died, Charlie replied, "Well, I guess you won't owe me any more money!"

Charlie's method of doing business was cash only. A local retired automobile dealer remembers when Charlie called him about a new car. "I drove the car over there," he said, "and after we set around and talked for a while, he went out to his car and brought in a paper sack of money. He counted out \$22,000 in cash to pay for it."

Another friend told a story about going to Nashville with Charlie. When they realized they were hopelessly lost, "Charlie told me to get the map out of the glove

**A modern husband believes that a woman's place is in the home and he expects her to go there immediately after work.**

## Shaver's top 10 Books of Local & Regional Interest

1. **Huntsville Then And Now: A Walk Through Downtown.** Over 700 old & new photos by Fred B. Simpson, \$29.95.

2. **Historic Huntsville; a City of New Beginnings.** Updated edition by Elise Hopkins Stephens, \$32.95.

3. **Huntsville/Madison County: to the Edge of the Universe.** Over 300 local photos. Was \$49.95 / Now \$29.98.

4. **Sand Mountain Women During World War II,** by Lee D. Marsh, \$19.95.

5. **Old Huntsville Photo Albums on CD Rom.** Vols I, II and III (The Monroe Collection). A priceless collection of Old Huntsville photographs, \$15.95 each.

6. **Lily Flagg - The story of Huntsville's prize-winning Jersey cow,** by Doris Benefield Gilbreath, \$10.95.

7. **Glimpses into Antebellum Homes of Historic Huntsville Alabama -** \$16.95.

8. **Cemeteries of Madison County, Vols I and II,** \$25 each.

9. **Historical Markers of Madison County, Alabama,** \$18.95.

10. **An Alabama School Girl in Paris 1842-1844: the letters of Mary Fenwick Lewis and her family,** by Nancy Rohr, \$16.95.

Mail orders add \$2.50 per/book  
Alabama residents add 8%

**Shaver's Bookstore**

**(256) 536-1604**

shavers@mindspring.com  
2362 Whitesburg Dr.  
Whitesburg at Bob Wallace  
Huntsville, Ala. 35801



# The Masters

FEATURING:

- SPECIALIZED HAIR COLOR DEPARTMENT
- CONTEMPARY HAIRCUTS

JUST FOR YOU BY "WORLD CLASS DESIGNERS"

CONSULTATIONS ON STYLES CREATED

"BEAUTIFUL" BRIDAL & SPECIAL EVENT STYLING

Voted "One Of America's Top Salons" By Ladies Home Journal Magazine



## 883-6270



Main St. South Shopping Village Suite 106 - 7500 Memorial Pkway SW



compartment. When I opened it all I could see was stacks of twenties, fifties and hundreds with rubber bands around them. I bet I dumped a hundred thousand dollars on the floor while I was trying to find that damn map!"

While cash is a necessity in a gambler's life, it also brings problems of it's own. One late night in Jackson, Mississippi Charlie was involved in a game when two armed men broke in and robbed the players of almost \$40,000. In Huntsville, a game was robbed at the Kings Inn with the bandits forcing the players to remove all their clothes. They got away with all the clothes and \$30,000 in cash. In Guntersville, Alabama, Charlie lost another \$15,000 when a pizza delivery man turned out to be an armed robber.

Strangely, none of the thieves ever thought about breaking into his car which he used as his bank. At various times he would have up to \$75,000 stuffed in paper bags lying in the trunk of his car.

While most people have a romantic idea of a professional gambler, the reality is much harsher. True, Charlie lived in hotels most

of his life, ate in fine restaurants and always had plenty of money and beautiful women. But he also spent countless hours every week, sitting in a hotel room by himself, practicing with a deck of cards or on the telephone trying to line up another game. His occupation forced him to be a loner, with few close friends to confide in. The people he associated with daily were the same people who would try to take his money that night. There were no holidays, birthdays or walks in the park like ordinary people.

The only lady Charlie ever professed to love left him once she realized that his true mistress would always be a deck of cards.

By the early 1990's Charlie was recognized as one of the best players in the country. It was a

## The 11 Elements of Prudent Investing

by Andy Karabinos

*The One Book Every Investor Should Read Before It's Too Late!*



**Avoid disasters like Enron!**

Educate yourself and take action. Learn how to make money work for you. This book can help you:

- \* Know your requirements
- \* Know your risk level
- \* Learn how stock fits your investment strategy and these times.

Available at  
**Shavers Bookstore**  
or [dadkarabinos@juno.com](mailto:dadkarabinos@juno.com)



## SPRY FUNERAL AND CREMATORY HOMES INC.

*Family owned and operated  
since 1919*

**(256) 536-6654**

We now have the first phase of  
**Valley View Cemetery**  
open with 100 acres reserved  
for future development.

**(256) 534-8361**



# LAWREN'S

809 MADISON STREET  
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35801

## BRIDAL REGISTRY

China, Crystal, Silver, Pewter, Table  
Linen, Cookware.

Decorative Accessories, Invitations and  
Announcements, Lenox China & Crystal,  
Fine Linens & Cottons For Bed & Bath.

bittersweet tribute, however. He was tired of traveling and it was becoming harder to find a local game with players willing to risk their money against him. His eyes were getting weak and his medical problems made it difficult to play the game he loved so much.

When a friend asked him if he missed not having a family or a regular life like most people, Charlie grew somber for a minute before replying, "I've wondered about it sometimes, but you don't cry over a lost hand."

Then a twinkle came into his eyes. "But it's still been better than working in the cotton mills!"

In November of 1993 there was a high stakes poker game at the Haystack Apartments. Late that evening the game was interrupted by a phone call telling of Charlie's death. The players, all of whom had played with Charlie hundreds of times, sat stunned for a few moments. Finally one of the players threw a bill into the middle of the table. "Raise a hundred for Charlie." The other players covered the bet.

Charlie Esslinger would have liked that.

# Bigamist In Jail

from 1889 newspaper

George Hardy, aged 37, has been committed for trial on \$2,500 bail, on a charge of grand larceny, preferred by his sister-in-law, Dora Rane, who alleges that he stole \$50 from her pocket on the day of his marriage to her sister. The accused denied the charge, and said it was a case of spite. When arrested he had over \$1,200 in his possession. It was said Hardy made a practice of marrying women for money and leaving them on their wedding day. The detectives say he is wanted for a similar charge in Birmingham.



La Treida Moss,  
President

## Comforting Companions

**In Home Assisted Living**

*Specializing in care for Seniors,  
Post Op, and Maternity Care,  
as well as other  
Special Needs Patients.*

*Interdependency simply means  
to live your life independently.*

Office: 256-772-0700

Cell: 256-316-0405

Fax: 256-461-1485

Email:

latreidamoss@aol.com

# Lincoln Center Antiques

1214 Meridian Street NE

Mon - Sat 10 - 5, Sun 1 - 5

Antiques, Fine Furniture,  
Accessories, Books, Artwork  
and a large selection of  
Collectibles. 9000 sq. ft.

536-3117



Quality  
Professional  
Dry Cleaning &  
Laundry  
Service

One of Huntsville's  
Oldest  
Businesses!

Since  
1926



# SANDERS

1215 Jordan Lane 837-6072

7538 Mem. Pkwy. S. 828-0106

## Abraham Meyers Run Out Of Town

**Mob Pelts Meyers With Eggs  
After He Defames Wife**  
from 1902 newspaper

A year ago Abraham Meyers, a tailor, left the town, deserting his wife and little son. Recently he returned, accompanied by a lawyer, and announced his intention to secure possession of his boy and take him to another State.

The deserted wife bears an unblemished reputation, and when Meyers and the attorney were heard questioning her chastity they soon found themselves surrounded by a crowd of determined men armed with some antiquated eggs.

The lawyer pleaded so hard that he was not molested after he promised to leave the town. Meyers, however, became the very

unwilling target for the eggs and was a sorry sight when he got on board a passenger train to leave. The conductor at once put him off, out of consideration for the other passengers who immediately began to complain of the smell. Meyers escaped by the aid of a brakeman on a freight train, who loaded him in a box car and hauled him out of town.

There was no attempt made to arrest any of the participants in the mob, and their work is generally approved in the town and vicinity.

## Taking Care Of Silver

- Put a couple of pieces of chalk in with your good silver and this will prevent tarnishing.

- Try a used cork for scouring cutlery - just dip an end in baking powder and scrub.

- If you slice your banana with a pure silver knife it (the banana) will not turn dark.

- Never put a rubberband around your silverware or you'll have a permanent mark on it.

## WANTED

Do you know of any Old Huntsville stories that have never been written? Complete discretion assured. Stories must be accompanied by factual records or evidence.

Call 534-0502

WELCOME TO AUTHENTIC THAI CUISINE AT  
THAI GARDEN



### DINE IN OR CARRY OUT

All Fresh Meats & Vegetables  
No MSG - No Preservatives Used

Mon - Fri - Lunch 11 am - 2 pm

Dinner 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Sat - Dinner only 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Closed Sundays

800 Wellman Avenue

(In Historic Five Points)

(256) 534-0122

Never slap a man who's  
chewing tobacco.

Will Rogers

HUNTSVILLE BODY & SEAT COVER CO. OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
Auto Collision & Upholstery Specialists  
Custom Painting & Bodywork  
Complete Upholstery  
Free Estimates  
**534-8341**  
116 HOWE ST. (OFF MERIDIAN ST.)

**EVERY  
MONDAY  
IS  
FAMILY  
NIGHT!**

new North Parkway store  
(Hwy. 72 east & N. Pkwy.)  
**852-9882**



**Gibson's  
BAR-B-Q'S**

**Kids Eat  
Free**

Every Monday night  
Kids Eat Free!

One child, 10 and under, eats  
free from our new kid's menu  
with each paid adult entree.  
Offer good for Dine-in only.

3319 MEMORIAL PKWY., SW 881-4851  
Dine in or carry out & our famous breakfast

8412 WHITESBURG DR. SOUTH 882-0841  
Dine in or drive thru & our famous breakfast

YOUR HOSTS: THE SANFORDS & HAMPTONS

# News from Gurley, Ala.

August 24, 1891

Our little city is quiet as usual, moving on "in the even tenor of its way."

Last week the weather was extremely warm, but it has suddenly changed and forced us to put on our overcoats and kindled fire to keep us warm.

Gurley is still enlarging her borders. The new bucket factory of Vorenburg & Bros. is about completed. The workmen are putting up the machinery, and expect to commence the manufacture of cedar Buckets in a very short time.

It would seem to an ordinary thinker that there is great room in the country for cedar bucket factories, there are only about 4 in the United States.

Mr. Vorenburg is in Boston now in the interest of his business.

The new Baptist church will soon be completed, which will be quite an addition to our town. The work of the new building seems to be first class.

Mr. Picken's new residence will soon be completed and will be very convenient and handsome.

Dr. McLain of Maysville has the frame work of a new residence up on a very commanding position near the Baptist church. We will be very proud to have so genial and elegant a gentleman to live among us.

I was thinking about how people seem to read the bible a lot more as they get older, when I realized that they were just cramming for the finals.

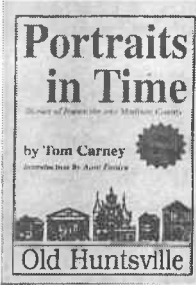
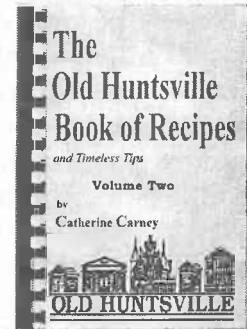
# Old Huntsville Gift Shoppe



## Old Huntsville Book of Recipes and Remedies

Volume 2 \$15.95

Hard to find recipes and wonderful timeless tips! One of the most unique cookbooks you will ever own with some of the best recipes you will ever taste!



## Portraits In Time

\$17.95 Over 300 pages of entertaining stories from Huntsville and Madison County. Famous and infamous - bootleggers, murderers and judges - they are all here in a book you will treasure forever! Now you can read the stories that your ancestors lived through!

## The Old Huntsville Photo Album on CD Rom! Vol 1

The largest selection of Old Huntsville photos ever offered to the public. Photos from the Civil War all the way up to when our city became the Rocket City! Over three hundred photos on one CD!



\$15.95



## The Old Huntsville Photo Album on CD Rom! Vol 2 \$15.95

Volume two of the Old Huntsville Photo Album. A priceless collection of over three hundred rare photographs from Huntsville's past you will find no where else!

## The Monroe Collection on CD Rom

The most extensive collection of Old Huntsville photographs ever assembled in a private collection! Covering over a hundred years of our city's history!



\$15.95

To order by mail send your check to: Old Huntsville, 716 East Clinton Avenue, Huntsville, Alabama 35801. Enclose \$2.00 shipping and handling. Credit card orders call 256-536-1604. All orders will be filled as soon as received.

# JOIN A CLUB SO EXCLUSIVE IT TAKES 50 YEARS TO GET IN.



Senior Friends is a special program that promotes healthy living for individuals age 50 and over through education, social events and other special membership privileges such as:

- *National Magazine*
- *Prescription Discounts*
- *Healthcare Discounts*
- *Travel Opportunities*
- *So Much More*



More than 330,000 individuals, working and retired, benefit from this national membership program.

You gotta have friends... Senior Friends, only at Crestwood Medical Center.



**Call 256-880-4131**

*for more information on Senior Friends.*



[www.seniorfriends.com](http://www.seniorfriends.com)

## Choose Crestwood Medical Center

[crestwoodmedcenter.com](http://crestwoodmedcenter.com)

# News From 1907

- Delsie Long, a young man from Marshall County, was arrested in the Whitesburg precinct yesterday and brought here to jail on a warrant charging bastardy.

A warrant for the young man's arrest was sworn out in Justice Grimmett's court by Miss Daisy Bowers, a young girl of the Whitesburg community, who claims that the man promised to marry her sometime ago. Long is not 21, she claims and his parents have refused to give their consent for him to marry her.

- For Sale - Two .5 acre tracts of land situated on West Clinton Street. This property will be sold

at a bargain. See Boyd and Wellman.

- Lost - on the street between Walker Street and Huntsville Bank & Trust Co., a star and crescent gold scarf pin with pearls. Reward if returned to the Bank & Trust.

- I propose to open a private school for boys at my residence on East Holmes Street on Tuesday, the first day of October, 1907. I will teach whatever is necessary for entrance into the Sophomore class in any college in the state of Alabama. Baseball and football will be in my curriculum, my fee is \$5 per month paid in advance. Chas. O. Shepherd.

- For Sale - the Jim Pollard cottage situated on Madison Street. This is a charming piece of property and will go fast.

- For rent - five room cottage on East Clinton Street, nicely furnished, garden in rear.

## MILLER Appliance & Furniture

"Since 1952"

www.geappliances.com

### FREE DELIVERY

\* SALES  
\* INSTALLATION  
\* SERVICE  
\* IN HOUSE FINANCING

GE APPLIANCES Hotpoint  
**COMPLETE LINE OF APPLIANCES**

REFRIGERATORS    WASHERS/DRYERS    DISHWASHERS  
 RANGES    MICROWAVES    BUILT-INS

**534-3577**

113 CLINTON AV. W., HUNTSVILLE

**HOURS**  
Mon - Fri 8AM - 5:30PM  
Sat 9AM - 3PM

# Advertise in Old Huntsville 534-0502

"If you can dream it, we can create it."

Donny's  
**DIAMOND**  
Gallery



Donny Maleknia  
2510 Mem. Pkwy SW 534-2255

Custom Dsign, Jewelry Repair, Appraisals, Pre-owned Rolxrs

## HOMEOWNERS

LOAN AMOUNT	MONTHLY PYMT.
\$100,000.00	\$435.20
\$200,000.00	\$870.41
\$300,000.00	\$1305.61

Rates effective 09/15/02 based on 1 year ARM & subject to change.

- Purchase
  - Refinancing
  - Debt Consolidation
  - Construction
- 

**LAWHORN**  
ASSOCIATES  
MORTGAGE COMPANY, INC.

**539-0555**  
1-888-736-5319  
AmSouth Center  
200 Clinton Ave, Suite 509  
www.lawhornmortgagecompany.com

## Don't Raise A Yankee!



**DON'T RAISE A YANKEE!** Unless you act, schools, movies, and television will teach your youngsters to be ashamed of their Southern heritage. Start them on the the right track with this great comic strip history that covers the war in hundreds of delightful cartoons. If they read the comics, they will enjoy *The Gray and the Blue*, by Charles H. Hayes (paperback, 100 pp). And they will be learning to appreciate the South and its heroes. Send \$10 + \$2 S&H to:

**GRAY AND BLUE**  
5722 Gloucester Drive  
Tyler TX 75707

## Doctor In Jail After Lively Chase

Dr. B. J. Duckett, a practicing physician of Dallas Village, was arrested today and lodged in Jail on warrants charging him with threatening the lives of two residents of Dallas and resisting arrest. His trial will come up this afternoon.

Complaints against Dr. Duckett were made by John Taylor and Robert Nichols, who charge that he had threatened to kill them. Papers were made out and it was the intention of the court to have the doctor brought in on peace proceedings. The papers were placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff Robinson. The deputy saw the man he was seeking driving along Washington Street today and when he started toward him, Dr. Duckett whipped up his horse. There was a lively chase up the street and Deputy

Miller joined in on the square. The prisoner offered resistance and the scene attracted a large crowd on the street.

## Pet Deer To Be Put in the County Court Yard

from 1907 newspaper

Sheriff William Mitchell is in correspondence with various parties for the purpose of buying a pair of pet deer for the county court yard. They will make the yard look more attractive. The unsightly pathways will soon be obliterated as the sheriff has placed a number of signs up bordering the pavement forbidding anyone from walking on the grass. Whomever violates this rule in the future will be arrested and fined.

*Berryhill*  
*Funeral Home*

**Huntsville's Newest & Most  
Modern Facility**

*Personal, Professional service*  
*Serving all Cemeteries*  
*Honoring all burial & cash policies*  
*Honoring pre-need transfers*  
*Crematory*



2305 Mem. Pkwy North  
**536-9197**

Bureaucracy is a challenge  
to be conquered with a  
righteous attitude, a  
tolerance for stupidity, and a  
bulldozer when necessary.

**REGAL**  
**CINEMAS**

<p><b>Madison Square 12</b> <b>DTS AND DOLBY</b> 5905 University Drive 256-830-6831</p>	<p><b>Hollywood 18</b> <b>DTS AND DOLBY</b> 3312 S. Mem. Parkwy 256-883-1101</p>
---	--

# FIVE POINTS RESTAURANT

"Under New Ownership - Scott & Cheryl Huber"

*Good Fresh Food In A Fresh New Atmosphere*

## Breakfast Specials

Two Fresh eggs, any style, Bologna, Bacon or Sausage,  
Grits or Gravy, Biscuit & Jelly \$2.99  
Country Ham Breakfast \$5.89

## Plate Lunches

Served From 11:00am - 2:00pm  
Your Choice Of  
One Meat  
and Vegetables  
\$4.99

**816 Wellman Ave. 534-7752**  
**Located in Historic Five Points**

**ONE BLOCK OFF ANDREW JACKSON**



# Huntsville Coffee Talk

by Aunt Eunice

*With pearls of wisdom  
contributed by the Liar's Table*



**Happy New Year** to everyone! Now that Christmas is over, I hope you got to see ole Santa. I know he was good to most of you, I think most of you have been pretty good! It was such a wonderful year in 2002 - let's see what we can do with this new year!

The picture of the month was **Chuck Owens**, member and past President of the Golden K Kiwanis. There were more calls this month with guesses than for any month in the past, but the winner was **Joyce Russell** and she came to get her free breakfast last Sunday. She said it was the best breakfast she had had in a long while! Congratulations to Joyce!

I am so happy to let you all know that **Mr. Ray Pearman** is feeling much better and has improved considerably over last month. We hear too that our friend **Cecil Ashburn** is getting out and about and is feeling good. That is wonderful news.

I went to Red Lobster to eat

during the holidays and had a delicious dinner - I can see why they stay crowded all the time. But the best part was the wonderful service we got from a sweet young lady - **Robin Webster** - she was just great. Happy New Year, Robin!

We met a fascinating young couple who moved here from California - they are **Robert** and **Stacie Dodson** and they have been in Huntsville visiting family for several days. They visited **Mable** and **Dick Kennedy** from California, and while Robert and Stacie were here they brought their family to eat with me on several occasions and we had such a good time.

Our sympathy goes out to **Glennice** and **Roy Swaim** and their family in the death of Glennice's mother, **Mrs. Allene Balch**. She was a great lady and friend of mine and she will surely be missed.

We have lost so many of our dear friends this past month. **Mr.**

**Virgil Smith**, the father of **Larry Smith**. **Mr. Ludie Richards**, who was **Mrs. Christine's** husband - and a man who loved animals and did so much for them and the animal agencies in town. Our dear friends **Mr. Joe Fleming**, and **Mr. Chris Spurlock**. **Carolyn Maynard**, who was **Charles King's** sister. Also **Wayne Moore**, **Charles King's** brother-in-law. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all of you, we love you so much.

Hello to my friends in Grant - **Eunice** and **Dorothy Stapler** - stop by to see me sometime!

**Joe Whisenant**, past Sheriff, gave the public the most unforgettable appreciation dinner. There was Barbeque, and chicken and wonderful food and fellowship throughout the whole night. Thanks Joe - you were such a great Sheriff and we appreciate you so much.

## Photo of The Month

The first person to correctly identify the picture of this young man, shown below, wins a free breakfast at Eunice's Country Kitchen.

Hint: Well known political circles.



Sandra Steele, President

**EDI**  
ENFINGER  
DEVELOPMENT  
INCORPORATED



*Creating Distinctive  
Communities with Lifestyle  
in Huntsville, Madison and Meridianville.*

Clift's Cove [www.cliftscove.net](http://www.cliftscove.net)  
Heritage Plantation [www.heritageplantation.net](http://www.heritageplantation.net)  
Heritage Station [www.heritagestation.net](http://www.heritagestation.net)  
King's Ridge [www.kingsridge.net](http://www.kingsridge.net)  
Walker's Hill [www.walkershill.net](http://www.walkershill.net)

[www.enfingerdevelopment.com](http://www.enfingerdevelopment.com)  
256.830.0083





We lost our dear friend **Mr. J. L. Pugh** when he died recently. Our sympathy and love goes out to his family - **Mrs. Pugh, Maggie** and **Buddy Little** (Maggie is Mr. Pugh's daughter), and all the rest of his lovely family who always came by to eat with me. I love you all very much and know you will miss Mr. Pugh so much.

Congratulations **Mr. Cooley** on your retirement! We hope you have a long and happy retirement - you deserve every bit of it! **Fran** - we're betting on you - that you'll make the best Tax Accessor we've ever had.

I had an exciting day in Scottsboro over the holidays. **Mrs. Betty Campbell** invited me over there for breakfast one day with a group. Mary and I traveled there and ate breakfast with 12 of about the finest people I've ever met. To my great surprise the Mayor of Scottsboro was invited also in my honor! He was absolutely delightful and presented me with the Key to the city of Scottsboro! I was thrilled to say the least and he was the sweetest man! The breakfast was so much fun and such a wonderful surprise for me.

My friend **Eddie Levich** and **Michelle** brought Eddie's family in from Florida to have breakfast with me.

It was so sad when I got a call over the holidays telling me that I had lost my young (59 year-old) nephew to a heart attack. He was **Robert Earl (Sonny) Jenkins**, and just had a heart attack in the middle of the night. He was so young and had no previous heart problems. It left us without being able to say "good-bye" to him. It was such a shock to all of us and such a sadness we still have. Sympathy to his sweet wife and brother Larry - we love you so much. I'd like to especially thank

**James, Nell and Peggy Long** - you have been true friends to me during this terrible time. We love you very much.

My grandchildren in Orlando, Fl. didn't get to come home for Christmas. But we hope to see them the end of January - I sure did miss you.

It was an exciting election year last year and we have a bit of a reprieve right now - but soon **Blake Dorning, Mark Craig, Billy Bell, Lynda Hall** and several other winners will be sworn into office. We know they'll be great. We see **Mark Russell** in here all the time and he loves pouring coffee for all our friends!

It is so wonderful when I sit back and see people like **Bob and Genie Adams, Peggy Adams, James and Charles** and **Gay Money** who have such a good time over a hot country ham breakfast and a cup of coffee. It's great to see people talking to everyone and sharing stories.

I hope every one of you has a wonderful and prosperous New Year, and remember that I love all of you.

**One Meal,  
One Customer  
at a time.**



*A Franchisee*

**NO RULES.  
JUST RIGHT.™**

4777 Whitesburg Drive  
Huntsville, AL 35802  
Phone: 205-882-6283

## Crawford Printing

Commercial Offset  
Printing  
Free Estimates

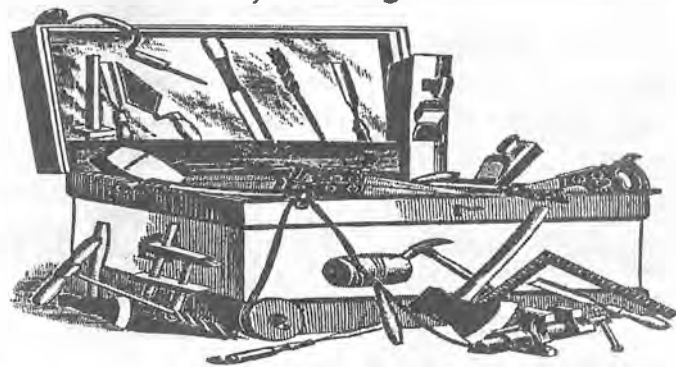
Owned & Managed by  
Betty Crawford



819 Memorial Parkway 534-1641

*Don J. Sweeney*  
**Reid Hardware**

*Home of Pocket Knives, Red Wagons & Cast Iron Skillets*



*Come by and let us assist you for all  
your Hardware & Plumbing needs*

**Serving Huntsville Since 1962**  
**536-2616**  
2402 Mem. Pkwy. NW, Huntsville, Ala.



## Hot Treats For Cold Nights

### Barb's Famous Hot Shrimp Dip

1 large onion, chopped  
 3 cloves garlic, crushed  
 3 mild banana peppers, chopped  
 3 jalapeno peppers, chopped (1 or 2 for less spicy)  
 2 medium tomatoes, chopped  
 2 lbs. cream cheese, cubed  
 ½ lb. cooked shrimp, chopped small

Salt and pepper to taste

In a large crock pot or stew pot put the vegetables in first. Add the cheese and slowly heat til the cheese is melted, mix well with the vegetables. Let simmer for a few minutes, then add the shrimp at the last minutes. Stir well and serve with hot crispy tortilla chips. Delicious!

### Savory Sesame Dressing

1 T. sesame seeds  
 1 ½ T. oriental sesame oil  
 ½ t. soy sauce

Salt to taste  
 Freshly ground black pepper  
 ½ c. peanut oil  
 2 ½ T. red wine vinegar  
 2 garlic cloves, crushed  
 ½ t. red pepper flakes

In a small saucepan toast the sesame seeds over medium heat til they begin to smoke and become fragrant, about 3 minutes. Don't let them burn! Make sure you shake the pan often. Pour the seeds into a small bowl.

Combine all remaining ingredients in a jar with top and pour in the seeds. Shake vigorously and store in your fridge to chill. This is great with a mixed green salad, with cucumber and green onions, with some crispy rice noodles on top.

### Hot Crunchy Chicken

2/3 c. day-old French bread crumbs  
 2/3 c. grated fresh Parmesan cheese  
 1/4 c. minced parsley

½ t. salt  
 1/4 t. pepper  
 ½ t. cayenne pepper  
 1 t. rosemary  
 1/3 c. butter  
 3 cloves fresh garlic, minced  
 3 lbs. chicken breasts

Mix the first 7 ingredients together and set aside. In a saucepan melt the butter and garlic over low heat til the butter is melted - remove from the heat. Coat chicken breasts with the butter/garlic mixture, then coat thoroughly with the crumb mixture.

Place the chicken breasts, skin side up, on a greased cookie pan, using any remaining crumb/butter mixture and sprinkling it on the breasts. Bake for one hour at 350 degrees. To make crispier breasts, cook for an additional 15 minutes.

### Tangy Glazed Ham

1 5-lb. ham  
 ½ c. firmly packed brown sugar  
 1 T. cornstarch  
 ½ t. ground cloves  
 1/4 t. ground ginger  
 ½ c. lemon juice

Place your ham in a shallow baking dish, and begin cooking according to the instructions on the ham. In a small saucepan combine the brown sugar, cornstarch, cloves and ginger. Add the lemon juice and heat over medium heat, stirring constantly.

## The Book Legger



"The Reader's Bookstore"

Good selection of used & out of print Paperbacks. Used & remaindered Hardbacks. We sell or trade Paperbacks at half price.

Mon. - Sat. 10am - 6pm Sun. 1pm - 5pm

4001 - C Holmes Av. - Huntsville, Ala. Phone 895-0082

When it has thickened, spoon the glaze over the ham during the last 30 minutes of heating time.

## Cabbage with Sausage - Old Recipe

Boil the cabbage in salted water til done, then fry a pound of sausages. Layer the cabbage in a deep dish, and cover with the sausage. Set it in a warm oven (200 degrees), and frequently moisten the cabbage with some butter. Bake four hours, and salt and pepper to your taste.

## Hot Mexican Corn

2 T. butter  
 ½ c. minced green pepper  
 ¼ c. minced red pepper  
 3 t. minced onion  
 3 T. minced pimento  
 ½ c. water  
 ½ t. onion powder  
 ¼ t cayenne pepper  
 2 c. cooked shoepeg corn (or crisp yellow, if you prefer)

Salt and pepper to taste

Melt the butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat, add your pepper and onion. Cook for about 10 minutes, til tender. Add the remaining ingredients and heat through.

## Spicy Black-Eyed Peas

1 medium pkg. dry black-

eyed peas

1 medium onion, chopped  
 4 slices thick ham, chopped  
 ½ c. Dale's steak sauce  
 1 t. garlic powder  
 1 t. onion powder  
 1 t. hot & spicy seasoned salt  
 Tabasco Jalapeno green sauce

Soak peas for a couple of hours, then cook til done. Make sure you have at least an inch of water over the top of the peas when fully cooked. Add all ingredients except the green sauce and stir well. Cook over medium heat for another 10 minutes. When serving, sprinkle with the green sauce. This is great for a January meal! (Some people put a penny into one of the bowls and if the guest finds it, it means much luck for the new year, unless a tooth breaks).

## Indian Hot Beans

2 cans red beans, drained  
 1 small can chopped green chilies

1 small onion, chopped  
 1 tomato, chopped  
 ½ t. cayenne powder  
 ½ t. Tabasco hot sauce  
 ½ t. ground cloves

Drain and pour the beans into a saucepan, add the remaining ingredients. Mix well and heat slowly to boiling, reduce heat and simmer for about 30 minutes. This will warm those cold nights!



**Terese Stevens, L.M.T.**  
 AL License #992

**256.337.6989**



**Five Points**  
 Hair Salon

*Walk-ins Welcome!*

**539-7291**

Wed - Sat 9 to 5

813 Wellman Avenue

**Rolo's**  
 Restaurant With  
 The Trains!



505 East Airport Road

**883-7656**

Country Cooking

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Mon. - Fri. 6:30 am - 9:00 pm

Closed Sundays

**Linda's**  
 Printing Services

3308 Seventh Avenue, S.W.  
 Huntsville, Alabama 35805

**534-4452**

fax: 256-534-4456

email: linprint@mindspring.com

web: www.linprint.cceasy.com

VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS

### Commercial

Business Cards, Letterheads, Envelopes, Flyers, Labels  
 Doorhangers, Brochures, NCR Forms, Snapsets  
 Presentation Folders

### Computer Forms & Checks

CUSTOM & SOFTWARE COMPATIBLE:  
 Continuous & Laser Forms, Checks & Labels

### Social & Business

Invitations & Announcements, Napkins, Ribbons  
 Engraving & Foil Stamping, Matchbooks  
 Graduation & Name Cards

### Ad Specialties

Pens, Pencils, Mugs, Caps, Lanyards, Key Tags  
 Magnets, Rubber Stamps, Political Signs, Buttons

— Too Many Items to List —

# Some Unusual Signs Seen in Other Countries

- "You are invited to take advantage of the chambermaid at any time." - *in a Japanese hotel*

- "Please leave your values at the front desk." - *in a Bucharest Hotel Lobby*

- "Because of the impropriety of entertaining guests of the opposite sex in the bedroom, it is suggested that the lobby be used for this purpose." - *in a Zurich hotel*

- "Stop, drive sideways." - *De-tour sign in Kyushi, Japan*

- "You are welcome to visit the cemetery where famous Russian and Soviet composers, artists and writers are buried daily except Thursday." - *in a Moscow hotel lobby*

- "Our wines leave you nothing to hope for." - *on the menu of a Swiss restaurant*

- "Drop your trousers here for best results." - *in a Bangkok dry cleaner's*

- Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m - *in a hotel in Athens*

- "The flattening of underwear with pleasure is the job of the chambermaid." - *In a Yugoslavian hotel*

- "Order your summer suit. In a big rush we will execute customers in strict rotation." - *in a Rhodes tailor shop*

- "Do not enter the lift backwards, and only when lit up." - *In a Leipzig elevator*

- "Please to bathe inside the tub." - *in a Japanese hotel room*

- "For your convenience, we recommend courageous, efficient self-service." *In a Paris store*



## Henry Clay™

Premium hand-made cigars

**SURGEON GENERAL WARNING:**  
Cigars Are Not A Safe Alternative  
To Cigarettes.

### Humidor Pipe Shop, Inc.

Robin R. Morgan  
Owner/Tobacconist

2502 S. Mem. Parkway  
(256) 539-6431



## S. Mitchell Howie

*Attorney and Counselor at Law*

107 North Side Square, Huntsville, Al. 35801  
(256)533-9696 - Fax (256)533-3488

No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

**Toy Store**  
Specializing in the service & restoration of fine British automobiles.



3102 10th Av. SW (256) 535-0703

## RENAISSANCE THEATRE

*at Lincoln Center*

### Some Enchanted Evening

Directed by Lee Deal

Dinner Theater Shows  
Feb. 13 & 14

Corporate parties are invited; call now to reserve your company party. Call 536-3434 or 536-3117 to reserve your tickets.

Tickets available at  
Shavers Book Store & Lincoln  
Center Antique Mall  
or call 536-3117  
1216 Meridian St.

## INTIMATE LINGERIE

### Celebrating 14 Years Serving Huntsville



# SALE

*Your Supermarket of Lingerie*  
**SENSUAL • SULTRY • EXOTIC**

- AREA'S LARGEST SELECTION OF ELEGANT LINGERIE FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON IN YOUR LIFE
- ADULT NOVELTIES & GAG GIFTS
- EXCITING LINE ADULT GREETING CARDS
- DESIGNER SWIMWEAR.

504 Jordan Lane • Suite F • Preston Plaza  
(Corner of Jordan Ln. & Holmes Ave.)

539-9106

## SELECT ITEMS 50% OFF!

# Welcome Back! Mollie Teal's 'in the Alley'

Legend has it that one of Huntsville's most famous and colorful Madams – Miss Mollie Teal – once requested as a stipulation to the City of Huntsville, that if they decided to make a hospital of her house, which she was to donate to the city, a sign would be hung over the front door reading 'WELCOME BACK'. And while no one knows for sure if this sign was ever displayed as requested, such a sign is proudly displayed in the beautiful downtown district where the all new Mollie Teal's 'in the Alley' is located.

Mollie Teal's 'in the Alley' is now open and has instantaneously become recognized as Huntsville 'best kept secret' not to mention its regular clientele promoting its unique metropolitan 'Alley' appearance and distinguished cozy interior as the quintessential pub.

While Mollie Teal's 'in the Alley' has long been known as a traditional 'Meet & Greet' venue, that much has not changed. However, with upgrades come new props and Mollie Teal's certainly has that covered. Included in the new venue are such things as a 24 foot ceiling, antique hand rail surrounding their second story balcony, the city's largest Import Draft selection, the city's largest showcase of publicly displayed 'OLD HUNTSVILLE' photographs, nightly promotions such as 'BOSS Bartending' and best of all... a flair for unique entertainment such as 'Mollies Ivory Cats' Dueling Piano show – *Two Guys, Two Pianos, TWO THE EXTREME!*



*Once you could only see this type of entertainment in Las Vegas, Memphis, Chicago, Miami, and New York, but now Miss Mollie has reached deep into her pocketbook and brought them downtown for your viewing pleasure. Show Times: Every Thursday and Friday at 9pm.*

Mollie Teal's will also be hosting live entertainment at 116 Washington Street (downtown) on Fridays and Saturdays through the Fall and Winter. The 116 Washington venue will soon be bringing to Huntsville national comedy acts as well as regional and national bands.

Mollie Teal's 'in the Alley' is located in the alleyway directly behind the Jazz Factory. Just look for the 2-story 'RED' building (simply a coincidence) at the end of the deep green awning and you will have found the best kept secret in the city! For more information, please contact us at 256-512-5858.

**NEVER A COVER CHARGE**  
**'in the Alley'**  
**HAPPY HOUR DAILY from 4 till 7**

**MOLLIE'S IVORY CATS**  
**Dueling Piano Show**  
**Thursday & Friday**

# Early History Of Huntsville "Commercial Development"

by Brig. Gen. E. C. Betts

Having traced the development and growth of Huntsville from its founding to this period, so Aladdin-like in its brilliancy, the reader of these pages will, no doubt, pursue with keen interest history's record of her unstayed commercial development.

As we have already observed, the census of Madison county, taken in 1820, showed a total population of 19,565, an increase of 5,365 over that of 1816.1 Though this enumeration of the county's inhabitants did not reveal what proportion thereof were residents of Huntsville, the census of the town taken two years later furnishes a fair basis for estimating its population at that date. This census of 1822 discloses that living within the corporate limits were:

- White males over 21 - 308
- White males under 21 - 188
- White females over 21 - 157
- White females under 21 - 180
- Male slaves - 220
- Female slaves - 228
- Free males of color - 12
- Free females of color - 213
- Total 1,306

Huntsville with a total white

population of 833, in these early days was a veritable "center of population." No town in Alabama, and few in this part of the South, had greater numbers. Nor was the country - as a place of residence - deserted. Much of the refinement and wealth of the county was still to be found in the spacious and magnificent homes upon the plantations.

The county, according to statistics of Alabama, gathered in 1821, had within its limits twenty-two doctors and 1,520 free white males subject to poll tax. The assessed value of timepieces belonging to the inhabitants was \$9,264.25, there being in the county fifty-six gold and one hundred and ninety-nine silver watches and thirty-six clocks. The number of doctors, polls taxable, and the chattels mentioned, being three times greater than that of any other county in the State.

The commercial interests of the community developed along with its advance in population, and a healthy condition of thrift and prosperity attended all business interests.

Diversified industry was not lacking; every character of en-

**MARVIN** BY **DALE**  
INCORPORATED  
**WINDOWS**

**MADE TO ORDER  
WINDOWS AND DOORS**



**Penn Dilworth - Chris Craig**

*Your Professional Construction  
Specialists*

**256-539-7704**

2802 Memorial Parkway S.W.  
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

*Brooks & Collier*



Unusual trees, shrubs,  
flowers and unique  
statuaries. & accessories

813 Meridian Str.  
536-0734

*Catering by  
Kurt*

*Serving Huntsville's Social &  
Corporate Catering Needs For  
Over 30 Years*

- Weddings
- Banquets
- Office Platters
- Luncheons
- Cocktail Parties
- Holiday Dinners
- Corporate Meetings



*"From Simple To Elegant, Let Us  
Make Your Event Unforgettable"*

**880-7080 Ext. 239**

**Pager 707-2634**

[www.markfortsonhomes.com](http://www.markfortsonhomes.com)

[www.northalabamaproperties.com](http://www.northalabamaproperties.com)

*"Proudly Representing  
Huntsville's Finest  
Properties"*



**Mark Fortson**  
Phone - 316-0320

*Residential  
Investment  
Commercial  
Farms  
Acreage  
Income  
Properties*



**John Fortson**  
Phone - 316-1308

**RISE**

REAL ESTATE, INC.



Preferred One Group - 920 Merchants Walk - Phone 533-7878 Fax 533 7848

terprise from the brewing of beer, by W M. McNeil & Co., to the tanning of leather, by Martin Miller, was to be found here, including Keys' & Wells' "New Boot and Shoe Manufactory," and the "Huntsville Hat Manufactory," operated by R. H. Champion on Bank Row; also "Watch and Clock Making," by Thomas Cain & Co. as well as the manufacture of "copper stills," which, judging from the number of firms engaged therein, were in pretty general use. In addition to these industries, others, similar in nature, were operated by competitors of the firms just named. Many others of varied and different character supplied the needs of this part of the State.

Only within the past few years - relatively speaking - have candles, as a means of lighting the home, been superseded. During these years there was great demand for them, and to supply this demand a "Candle Manufactory," was operated by I. Windham, on the lot opposite the present county

jail, at the intersection of East Clinton and Green streets, on the southwest corner. Pumps were also manufactured here, to be used in connection with the water works system already established at Huntsville. Just how patrons of the water system used these pumps, the author is at a loss to explain.

The census was again taken in 1825, and there were found to be within the town limits:

- White males over 21 - 308
- White female over 21 - 170
- White males under 21 - 219
- White females under 21 - 229
- Free persons of color - 44
- Slaves - 542
- Total - 111,512

These figures show an increase over the count of 1822 of 206, however, it will be found, upon reference, that the male population over twenty-one years of age, is exactly what it was in 1822, while the females of the same class are more by thirteen, and that the increase is in the infant and colored population.

A relatively similar state of affairs is revealed by the census of 1828, which accredits to Huntsville:

- White males over 21 - 313
- White females over 21 - 165
- White males under 21 - 267
- White females under 21 - 263
- Free people of color - 47
- Slaves - 719

## Loving Companion Pet Memorial Park

*"You'll never forget  
your beloved friend."*

Full Services Offered:

- Burial
- Cremation
- Monuments
- Caskets



7648 Wall Triana Hwy.  
72 West to Wall Triana, right for  
4.2 miles

Call for more information:  
859-6784 \* 539-7212  
\* Cell 603-0682

## Wild Rose Cafe

124 N. Side Square



Breakfast 7-9:30 Lunch 11-2:30  
Available For Private Functions  
Evenings & Weekends  
Catering by Diane  
(256) 539-3658

### Old Coins Wanted

We buy old coins and coin collections,  
all types and sizes. We also buy  
Gold, Silver and Diamonds.



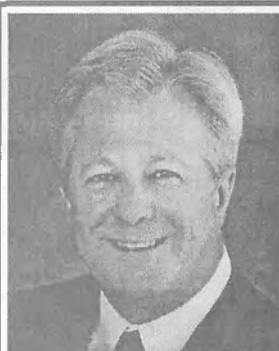
Call 534-3355



*"We Light the Stars!"*

### We've Moved!

Our new location:  
1221 Jordan Lane  
Huntsville, Al 35801  
256-533-7025 www.tlsinc.com



## L. Thomas Ryan, Jr. Attorney At Law

2319 Market Place, Suite B  
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Telephone (256) 533-1103 Fax (256) 533-9711

ESTATE PLANNING, LIVING TRUSTS,  
WILLS, PROBATE

"No Representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers."

Though at this immediate period Huntsville's adult white population was of slow growth, the birth rate would appear to have been such as to gratify the most exacting. While the white population did not increase with any great rapidity, let us remember that the county was fast filling up with newcomers, and becoming thickly settled in its more remote sections. The establishment by the Government of post roads, contributed in no small measure to the accomplishment of this end.

As early as 1820, provision had been made for the consumption of the cotton crop of this and adjoining counties, by the conversion of the raw product into yarn; as appears from an interesting advertisement in the (Huntsville) Alabama Republican, of September 29, 1820, which is here copied "Cotton Factory."

"The proprietors of the Cotton

Factory at Haughtorfs Mill, near the Three Forks of Flint River, would inform the inhabitants of Madison and adjoining counties, that they have made some additions to their machinery, and have constantly on hand an assortment of spun cotton, which they will exchange for good, clean seed cotton on accommodating terms.

Horatio Jones & Company."

The author has been unable to determine just where "near Three Forks of Flint" this factory was located; whether on the west fork, just before it joins the north fork, or a short distance south of the confluence of these two forks. It is certain, however, that water furnished the motive power for this factory.

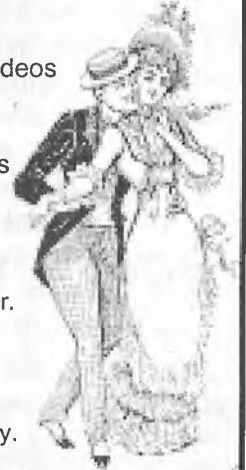
During the first fifteen years of this period there were erected some large factories, which turned out in quantities, far in ex-

cess of the demands of the local market, commodities necessary to the industry and life of the

# Pleasures

## An Adventure In Romance

Informative Videos  
Literature  
Cards  
Toys & Lotions  
Magazines



**Huntsville**  
4925 University Dr.  
830-0069

**Decatur**  
1711 Central Pkwy.  
584-0069

# Big Springs Specialty Care Center

"A Place You Can Feel Good About"



**We offer many specialized services:**

- \* Sub Acute Nursing and Rehabilitation Care.
- \* Alzheimer "Reflections" Wing providing an activity based, secure area.
- \* Long and Short term nursing care areas.
- \* Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy services.

*We have all the care you need!*

**Big Springs Specialty Care Center**

(Located one block from Huntsville Hospital, behind First Baptist Church)

**(256) 539-5111**



South.

In the early part of 1834, a plant for the manufacture of plows was owned and operated by E. T. & R. Parker. This firm enjoyed an extensive business for a number of years, and supplied the trade over an extended territory.

During the later part of this period, new enterprises continued to invade the field of industry. One of these, greater in magnitude than many such which had been in operation here for years, was a coach factory, established some time prior to April, 1851.

The most noteworthy single industrial development of the times, was the "Bell Factory." Though cotton had, as we have seen, been converted into yarn for domestic uses, not until 1832, when "Patton-Donagan & Company" was incorporated for the manufacture of cotton cloth, was the raw product converted on a large scale for commercial purposes. The company's plant was situated about ten miles northeast of Huntsville, on its own lands, very extensive in area, at what is now Bell Factory, on Flint river, a short distance south of the confluence of the three forks of Flint, at the bridges. The power used in the operation of the three thousand spindles and one hundred looms of this mill, was that furnished by damming the water of Flint, and forcing them over a wheel or turbine. Steam not being used in its

operation, signals could not be given by whistle, and in lieu thereof a large bell was used; hence the name "Bell Factory." This was the first cotton manufactory of any consequence in the South. Slave labor was used almost exclusively in its operation. In later years, economic forces, too patent and numerous to discuss here, drove this industry from its field of usefulness, and its operation was discontinued, though at the present time the old building stands.

To summarize, at the close of this period, Huntsville had three

weekly papers: Southern Advocate, Huntsville Independent, and Huntsville Democrat; four architects, twenty-four lawyers, three brick manufactories, three hotels, twelve doctors, a bank with a capital of \$500,000; seven schools, two stage lines, two civil engineers, two saloons, one cotton and woolen manufactory, one cotton gin manufactory, one flour mill, and other industries and enterprises too numerous to mention. However, these alone will suffice to show the thrift and stability of the commercial development of Huntsville.



*properties*

*"Leasing and managing Huntsville's premier office buildings"*

- \* Research Park Office Center
- \* University Square Business Center
- \* Technology Center
- \* 8215 Madison Boulevard

Telephone (256) 830-9160 Fax (256) 430-0881

## VARICOSE & SPIDER VEINS

Amazing new procedure makes your varicose and spider veins disappear. Long term results are achieved with a procedure called Ambulatory Phlebectomy. James D. Surso M.D. is certified by the American Board of Surgery and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Free Consultation

Call 256-772-9744

You Can Finally Wear Shorts Again!



Alabama Vein Center  
44 Hughes Road Suite 2300  
Madison, Alabama

Call For Your FREE Report "How To Make Unsightly Veins & Leg Pain Disappear."

Call Toll Free 800-240-7139 24 Hrs., 7 Days a week

## Star Market and Pharmacy

Your Friendly Neighborhood  
Pharmacy & Grocery Store

Located In Historic Five Points  
702 Pratt Ave. 534-4509



Much of the wealth, culture, and refinement of the times was to be found here. Expression of the aesthetic in Huntsville's domestic life was given full vent, as is mirrored in the elegant and commodious residences erected in the early days.

In 1815 there was erected amid a grove of splendid oaks, on the southwest side of town, on what is now Oak Avenue, probably the handsomest home in the State, for a number of years. The spacious lawn in front of this elegant abode was decorated with beautiful formal gardens, and winding approaches to the entrance were hedged about with rows of dignified box.

Almost at this same time was under construction the home of Col. Leroy Pope, which occupied the eminence of a jagged and picturesque bluff, just north of the present intersection of Adams avenue and Williams street, now known as Pope's or Echol's Hill. The brick for the house were manufactured in Tennessee, and shipped on flat boats down the Tennessee river to Ditto's Landing, from whence they were hauled by wagon to Huntsville.

Through these years, many other notable residences were erected, too numerous to here depict; however, it is worthy of comment that the home of the late Col. W. W. Garth, on the east side of Franklin street, was completed in 1820, by Dr. Thomas Fearn. Contemporaneously, the Clay residence on the north side of Maiden Lane,

was built. Here lived Senator Clement Comer Clay; here also was born and reared his even more illustrious son, Clement Claiborne Clay, who became United States Senator, resigning his seat in that body to enter the same legislative council in the Confederate government.

Probably the most worthy exponent of "Southern architecture," is the Beirne home, on the south side of Williams street, opposite the intersection of Green street. This magnificent edifice, erected in 1837, at a cost of \$32,000, and the expenditure of nine years of labor is, in its present wonderful

## WHO DOES YOUR BROKER WORK FOR?

Do They Have Sales Quotas?

Do They Push Certain Products?

Do You Feel Your Investments Work Better For Them Than They Do For You?

Not with a Montauk Financial Group affiliated broker. We'll provide you with all the investment options, trading capabilities, research and professionalism you expect.

But as one of the nation's leading independent firms, we have no sales quotas and no proprietary products we're forced to sell. What we do have is the flexibility to give you objective advice about investments - and the freedom to offer you only what's right for you.

Who does your broker work for? At Montauk Financial Group, your broker works for you.

### B. Alan Blackmon

900 Bob Wallace Ave. Ste. 124 Huntsville, Al 35801  
Securities Offered through First Montauk Securities Corp.

Call today for more information  
and a FREE Retirement Consultation

**256-533-6108**

**Yes!** Please send me more information.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

CLIP AND MAIL TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE.

**MONTAUK**  
FINANCIAL GROUP

Montauk Financial Group<sup>SM</sup>  
First Montauk Securities Corp.  
Member NASD/SIPC



**Billy's**  
**BARBER SHOP**

Full Service Master Barber  
Call anytime - Leave Message  
534-5714

state of preservation, in the opinion of many worthy critics, the most expressive exponent of the grandeur, dignity and unadorned beauty and simplicity of the times, now extant.

Next to this stately structure, which was erected by Governor Thomas Bibb, for his daughter, Mrs. James Bradley, Henry Minor had built his home on the west side thereof, upon the lot now occupied by the residence of the late Col. A. S. Fletcher. The Minor home, similar in style and character to the Beirne residence, was removed a few years ago to make place for the present beautiful modern structure.

Nor was the aesthetic in the civic and commercial life of the town neglected. On July 5, 1835, the erection of Madison's second temple to the Goddess of Justice was commenced, and in 1836, at a cost of \$52,000 was completed. The materials for the building

came from the county. The brick were made by the contractors on the lot to the rear of the present jail, while the white and blue limestone rock used in its construction were quarried from Monte Sano, and Russell's Hill, respectively.

When the first court house was torn away in 1835, the market house, which up to this time had occupied its basement, was removed to the east side of the square, where a brick structure housed it, situated somewhere upon the property where the Holding block now stands.

Some time in 1832, use of the old wooden jail was discontinued, and a new one of brick, more in keeping with the tendencies of the times, was erected upon the site occupied by the present bastille.



**Act II**  
Consignment  
Shoppe

*The Tennessee Valley's  
Upscale Resale Place*

**Look Great In Name Brand  
Clothes, At A Fraction Of  
The Cost!**

- \* Women's, Children
- \* Misses & Junior
- \* Maternity
- \* Bridal
- \* Formal
- \* Accessories

Across from Wal-Mart Supercenter  
6125 University Drive, Suite D-13  
Huntsville, Alabama 35806  
(256) 971-2282

Monday - Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

# Lawyers Helping Injured People.

We Want  
To Help  
You.

We Make  
Home and  
Hospital  
Visits.

Jeff  
McKinney

Roy  
Braswell

Cliff  
Hill

**FREE CONSULTATION**  
Never any money out of your pocket

- Hurt on the Job • Medical Malpractice
- Nursing Home Abuse/Neglect
- Get Insurance to Pay • Defective Products
- Car Accidents • Workers' Comp
- 18 Wheeler Crashes • Train Accidents

**"Results x 3"**

McKinney  
& Braswell  
cliff Hill  
L L C

501 Madison St.  
Suite 200 B  
Huntsville, AL 35801

256.319.4878 (HURT)  
Fax: 256.319.4877

"No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers."

# An Embarrassing Incident

By Escoe Henley

This event happened to me in 1934 when I was about 14 or 15 years old. I remember it was a Saturday morning, and after collecting on my paper route and paying my bill, I was on the way home by way of Clinton Street downtown.

I spotted my good friend Arnold Jacks and several other guys. They seemed to be having a really great time so I asked them what they were doing. They explained to me that they were playing a game called "Grab". Each one would put a pocket knife or other valuable in an old straw hat that one of them was carrying. Then the one conducting the game would take the hat with all its contents and run back into the alley.

All the valuables were put into a pile with the hat on top, covering up all the prizes. At the count of three, the hat would be lifted

and all of us would grab and whatever each put his hands on was his for keeps. So I added my knife to the pot and the boy took off into the alley. In a few minutes he called us and we went back to huddle around the pile, with the hat on top. My plan was to grab the knife that Arnold had won for selling the most subscriptions to the Huntsville Times.

At the count of three the hat was lifted and my hand shot out like a lightning strike and I grabbed a hand full of something warm, brown and gooey.

In those days, some people in town had been allowed to keep a cow which was always grazing in the alley. I had been hoodwinked, but good.



## Warehouse Furniture

Large selection of solid quality furniture at some of the lowest prices in town!

**Furnish Your Entire Home!**  
Dining, Bedroom, Recreation, Serta Mattresses, Lamps, Decorative Accessories



On Jordan Lane north of Sparkman

2652 Jordan Lane

**(256) 837-8811**

# Tenders!



*Where the chicken is kickin'!*



**533-7599**  
Huntsville

800 Holmes Ave. Five Points

**464-7811**  
Madison

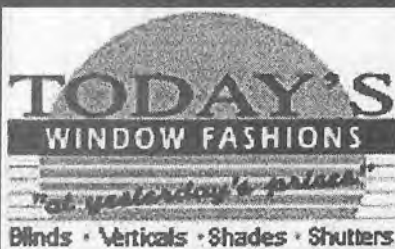
On Hwy. 20 - Across from Walmart

**Dine-in or Carry-out!**

**Yes! We Cater!!!**

**Try Our New Chicken-Stuffed Baked Potato!**

Name Brands At Yesterday's Prices



**Save 10% on**

Kirsch Woven Wood Shades and select Honeycomb shades

Blinds - Shades - Shutters  
Draperies - High Quality  
Free Estimates - Expert Installation

For all your window solutions, call:

**551-0845**

## Are You Diabetic? Insulin or Pill Dependent?

Receive your supplies at little or no cost to you.  
Medicare, Medicaid, Private Insurance Accepted  
Shipped to your door.



wRIGHT medical, Inc.

256-539-9896 - 800-694-1303

3008 Bob Wallace - Huntsville, Al. 35805

# Menu Of The Month

**801 Franklin**  
**Phone (256) 519-8019**  
**Reservations Suggested**



**Potato, Leek & Asparagus Soup – 5.95**  
 Potatoes, Leeks, Onions & Asparagus Simmered in  
 Chicken Broth Served with Diced Ham Hock & Truffle  
 Oil

**Crab Cakes – 12.95**  
 Traditional Style Crab Cake Loaded with Jumbo Lump  
 Crab Meat & Sautéed Served with Classic Lemon  
 Beurre Blanc Sauce

**Foie Gras & Onions – 15.95**  
 Pan-Seared Foie Gras & Grilled Maui Sweet Onions  
 with Grilled French Bread & Veal Reduction

**Cheese & Chutney – 9.95**  
 A Variety of Imported & Artisanal Cheeses Served  
 with Fresh Fruit Chutney & Toasted French Bread

**Warm Goat Cheese Salad – 8.95**  
 Phyllo Wrapped Local Goat Cheese with Organic  
 Spinach, Apple Smoked Bacon & Dried Cranberry  
 Dressing Topped with Crispy Shoestring Sweet  
 Potatoes

**Organic Bibb Lettuce Salad – 7.95**  
 Crisp Hydroponic Bibb Lettuce, Shaved Fennel &  
 Red Onions, Toasted Walnuts, Orange Raspberry  
 Vinaigrette & English Stillton Cheese

**Free Range Chicken "Fricassee" – 19.95**  
 Pan-Roasted Free Range Chicken Breast Tossed with Fresh Spinach, Exotic Mushrooms, Homemade Egg  
 Noodles & White Wine Cream Sauce

**Filet Mignon – 26.95**  
 Marinated in Rosemary, Garlic & Olive Oil & Grilled Then Topped with a Grilled Portobello Mushroom Cap &  
 Mushroom Duxelles Served with Garlicky Baby Broccoli & Herb Roasted Potatoes

**Veal Sirloin Strip – 22.95**  
 Sautéed with a Parmesan Breadcrumb Crust & Served with Wilted Swiss Chard & Grilled Red Onion Relish

**Nyman Ranch Pork Chop – 19.95**  
 All Natural Pork Chop Grilled & Served with Brussels Sprouts, Fingerling Potato & Mushroom Mash, Caramelized  
 Onion Butter & Dijon Rich Broth

**Organic Salmon – 18.95**  
 Rubbed with Fresh Herbs, Lemon Zest & Garlic then Baked & Served with Haricots Verts & Green Lentil Ragout  
 Coarse Mustard Sauce & Crispy Shoestring Potatoes

**Maine Diver Scallop Skewers – 21.95**  
 Marinated Maine Scallops Grilled & Served with Soy Grilled Vegetables, Marinated Shiitake Mushrooms, Sticky  
 Rice & Wasabi Dipping Sauce

**Chilean Sea Bass – 22.95**  
 Grilled & Rubbed with Pesto & Served with Roasted Red Peppers, Sautéed Fresh Spinach & Grilled Fingerling  
 Potatoes Topped with Grilled Gulf Shrimp

**Atlantic Scamp – 21.95**  
 Porcini Dusted & Pan-Seared Served with Soft Yellow Polenta & Roasted Vegetable Ratatouille Drizzled with  
 Olive Oil & Balsamic Reduction

Executive Chef Matt Martin

Pastry Chef Becky Vibbart Lechner

18% gratuity may be added to parties of 6 or more

*Featuring A New Restaurant Every Month*

# Before The Depression

By Newman Ward


Here's the geezer, made it back again, still trying to get it right. I remember one period in Huntsville around 1926 when all the rage with the kids was speaking Pig Latin. They seemed to think that it was their secret way to communicate with each other. It was pretty much a secret to me

for a while, as no one bothered to explain how to do it. It is really pretty simple. Take a word like "happy" and move the first letter 'h' to the end of the word, and add 'ay' after it, thus 'happy' becomes 'appyhay' and 'day' would become 'ayday,' etc. Well, Pig Latin faded in, and faded out, and it seems that no harm was done, so that was O. K. It was 'unfay' while it 'astedlay.'

Before paving, West Clinton Street and Pike Street used to be muddy messes. They looked like the streets in Western movies, deep in mud. In dry weather, cars used to race, maybe even 25 or 30 miles an hour, so a speed bump was built just north of J.C. Brown's corner. I remember seeing cars going fast, hitting the bump, then bouncing straight up in the air about a foot or so. Beautiful.

Our first traffic light in West Huntsville was at Brown's Grocery corner, Pike Street and 8th Avenue. It was said to have cost \$500 and it was a modern day wonder, a village sight to behold. Doc Champion's Drug Store was

across Pike Street from Brown's store. One day I bought a pack of cigarettes, charged it to Daddy,



**Bishop's Flowers**  
Flowers For All Occasions

- Weddings
- Funerals
- Sympathy Plants
- Quality Roses
- Fresh Flowers
- Personalized Delivery

**539-2711**  
Now located at 1207 Meridian St..

**Beer is proof that  
God loves us and wants  
us to be happy.**  
Benjamin Franklin



**United Fire & Water  
DAMAGE  
Restoration**  
**533-7163**

**United Cleaning Service**  
209 Parkway Drive

Specializing in: Carpet, Drapery & Upholstery, Oriental Rugs, Mini-Blinds, Removal of Unwanted Odors

*Louie Tippett,  
Owned and Operated*



**Fun & Funky**



Open Mon-Sat 11-6 PM

**None Such**



**NoneSuch Gifts**  
603 Pratt Avenue  
Huntsville, AL 35801  
256-534-5430

www.nonesuchgifts.com

**Executive Lodge Conference Center**



Plan your meeting with us - we can accommodate 5 to 500 guests for:

- Banquets - Wedding Receptions
- Rehearsal Dinners - Seminars
- Small Private Meetings
- Luncheons / Breakfasts

Outside catering or you can cater your own

Our facility is conveniently located, private and quiet. And reasonably priced. We take care of your meeting needs - from a private meeting with a few people to the large Magnolia Ballroom with cathedral ceilings and beautiful stained glass windows.

Now showing - Friday night Classical Movies with Dinner - call for more information.

Contact: Donna Carter, Mgr.

**Phone - (256)830-2668**  
1600 John Wesley Way  
www.rentthelodge.com

and thought that I would learn to smoke. I was about 8 and made myself so sick that I've never smoked since. I've been talked into trying chewing tobacco too, but it also made me pretty sick. Now at age 87 my lungs and everything else are very thankful.

When Champion's Drug Store closed, George Savas' cafe moved from downtown Huntsville into the drug store space to become west Huntsville's first restaurant. I was offered my first full time job there at \$4.00 a week with meals. However, I was working supper-relief for some movie projectionists at 75 cents an hour and turned down the cafe job.

About this time, Doc Stanley opened a drug store next to Brown's store. He had circulars distributed that invited people to come by for a free ice cream cone. They were usually a nickel. Boy, was that a mistake for Doc. In the depression a nickel seemed like five or ten dollars today. The response was staggering. So many people crowded into the small store wanting ice cream that they began pushing the fountain and had Doc backed up against the wall. So Doc Stanley had to lock the doors and cancel the free ice cream.

A distribution of circulars by Fowler Brothers Clothing Store was also a big fiasco. The circulars stated that the store was

closing, and that the circulars would be good for 60 cents in trade. As you might guess, you couldn't move through the crowd. Some people were picking up small items and tearing up the circulars, saying that they were even.

Sometimes small airplanes would fly over and drop Baby Ruth candy bars or other items with little parachutes. You can't imagine the rush to grab one. Because these planes were about the only ones we ever saw, any airplane noise brought everybody out of the house.

You really would have had to experience a long, bad depression to appreciate what people went through. For our family and lots of other mill families, the depression started early. Mr. Tracey Pratt owned the West Huntsville Cotton Mill, and when he died in 1928 no one took his place to keep the mill going. Our family and so many others were out of work. The depression began the next year, and then nearly everyone was out of work.

We owe so much to President Roosevelt for getting the country going again. The Works Progress Administration (WPA), and

the Civilian Conservation Corp.(CCC), and other such agencies, along with surplus food distribution, were like gifts from Heaven. Come to think of it, wouldn't be a bad idea to start them up again.

North Alabama's  
**Caring Place** 

**Warm,  
Friendly &  
Relaxed**

**NEW 11:00 AM - Worship Service**

- No Coat or Tie needed
- Special Guest Parking
- No Crowds
- People That Care

**Complete Sunday Schedule**

Sunday School 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00

Worship 9:30, 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM

More & different ministries than any church in North Alabama. Ministering to all ages and every stage of life.

Whitesburg Baptist Church

6806 Whitesburg Dr

256-881-0952—www.wbccares.org

Staying physically and mentally active, one can combine the wisdom of age and vigor of youth.

**Dost M. Khattak M.D.**

*Internal Medicine with*

*Special Interest in Senior Care*

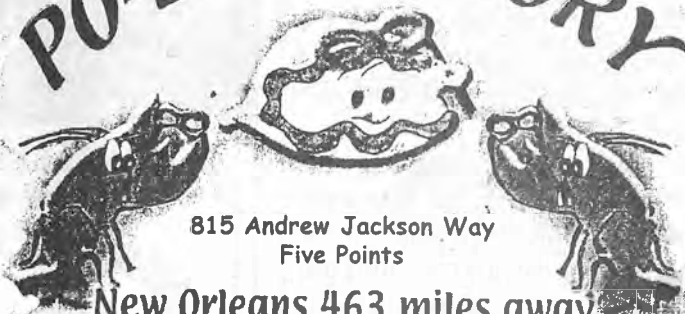
**880-0800**



Accepting Medicare, BC/BS, and most major insurances.

**nawlins' style**

**PO-BOY FACTORY**



815 Andrew Jackson Way  
Five Points

New Orleans 463 miles away.

**Po Boys, just around the corner**

We are known for great food, great folks and great prices!

Tues. - Sat 11-9 Closed Sunday and Monday

# Interesting Predictions from the Past

- "One result of the automobile) will be the passing of the housefly ... If there are no stables in the city and no horses on the streets, there will be no flies. A good portion of the filth of the city will go with the horse ... With the passing of the horse will be a very material lessening of the noise of the city." *Ralph W. Pope, Secretary of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, 1900.*

- In 1913, German philosopher Hans Horbiger published a 790-page book called *Glazial-Kosmogonie* which theorized that all the planets, except the earth, were covered in layers of ice that were several miles deep. Ice was also floating throughout space causing sunspots and landing on earth as hail. Horbiger had many proponents.. including Adolf Hitler.

- "Nuclear powered vacuum cleaners will probably be a reality within 10 years." *Alex Lewyt, President of the Lewyt vacuum cleaner company quoted in the New York Times, June 10, 1955.*

- "That any general system of conveying passengers would ... go at a velocity exceeding ten miles an hour, or thereabouts, is extremely improbable." *Thomas Tredgold, British railroad designer, 1865.*

- "There are not enough troops in the army to force the Southern people to break down segregation and admit the Negro race into our theaters, into our swimming pools. and into our churches." - *Senator Strom Thurmond, 1948.*

- "Plans are already drawn for a lawn mower that stays in a little shed. Then when the grass grows

to a set height, out comes the lawn mower, automatically cuts the lawn.. then returns to the shed." - *James W. Armstrong addressing the Henderson County High School class of 1959.*

- In 1967 futurist Herman Kahn told U.S. News and World Report that by 2000 we would develop, "a method that will let people decide, before they doze off. what they want to dream about."

"Typewriter" is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.

## Jackson Family Restaurant

### Breakfast Specials

Country Ham - Homemade Biscuits - Gravy  
Hash Browns - Bacon - Grits - Sausage

Plate Lunches and Country Cooking!

Mon. - Fri. 6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Sat. 6:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Closed Sun.

234 Lime Quarry Road  
Madison, Alabama

# 772-0191



## GREEN HILLS GRILLE

### Senior Citizen Discount Program

Join us at the Grille and receive **10%** off your entree with this coupon!

**Call ahead for preferred seating!**

(256) 837-8282

5100 Sanderson Road  
Corner of University and Wynn Dr.



### Are Your Floors Shaking? Do You Have Cracks In Your Walls? Are Your Floors Swagging Are Your Doors Hard To Close?

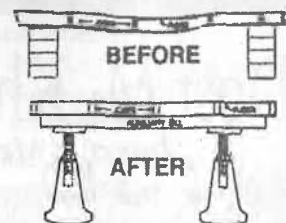
**35 YEARS EXPERIENCE / HOME OWNED & OPERATED**  
All Work Guaranteed, Insured & Bonded

**ECONOMY FLOOR SUPPORTS INC.**

830-4942 or 1-800-877-3502



Member of Better Business Bureau  
North, AL



## Specializing In Old & Historic Homes



# Strange News From Around The Country

- AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months, saying he lacked intellectual leadership. He received a \$26 million severance package. Perhaps it's not Walter who's lacking intelligence.

- Police in Oakland, California spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing ten tear gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them in the police line, shouting, "Please come out and give yourself up."

- An Illinois man, pretending to have a gun, kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines, wherein the kidnapper

proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

- A man walked into a Topeka, Kansas Kwik Stop, and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

- Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a lineup. When detectives asked each man in the lineup to repeat the words: "Give me all your money or I'll shoot," the man shouted, "That's not what I said!"

- A man spoke frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!" "Is this her first child?" the doctor asked. "No!" the man shouted, "This is her husband!"

- In Modesto, California, Steven Richard King was arrested for trying to hold up a Bank of America branch without a weapon. King used a thumb and

a finger to simulate a gun, but unfortunately, he failed to keep his hand in his pocket.

## Long Term Care Insurance

It's not a question of if. It's a question of when you decide to protect yourself and your family from the hardship of uninsured Long Term Care costs



Call Long Term Care Insurance expert

**Mike Funderburg**  
(256) 534-1123



*We bring good things to life*

Insurance products underwritten by General Electric Capital Assurance Corp

## Cousins CAR & VAN WASH

ALL CLOTH  
FULL SERVICE WASH  
COMPLETE DETAIL  
SERVICE



11399 S. Mem. Pkwy 880-9899

It's frustrating to know you have all the answers, but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.

# Decorative Concrete

*Bringing Beauty & Design To Concrete*

Resurface old and new concrete to add value to your home.

**Ask about Acid Staining** - Adds a beautiful marble look to your concrete. **Change the look of:**

Stain & Mildew Resistant - Slip Resistant

**10 Year Guarantee**  
**On All Work!**

- Driveways
- Walkways
- Pool Decks
- Patios
- Garage Floors

# Free Estimates

**(256) 883-1394 or (800) 895-8919**

# West Station Antiques

*In Historic Downtown Madison*

- Books - Paper Items
- Postcards - Linens - Quilts
- Pottery - China - Glassware
- Sterling Silver - Jewelry
- Furniture

Visit us at our website:  
[www.gibsonbooks.com](http://www.gibsonbooks.com)

**256-772-0373**

112 Main Street  
Madison, Al. 35758

565 to Exit 8 - Exit North  
to Main Street

Hours: Mon - Sat 10 - 5 Sun. 1 - 5



# News From The Year 1909

## News From Huntsville and Around The World

### Naval race shocks U.K.

**March 21**, "I am forced to the conclusion that now, for the first time in modern history, we are face to face with a naval situation so dangerous that it is difficult to realize all its import." That's how Sir Arthur Balfour, leader of the opposition in Parliament, reacted to reports that Britain's navy has lost its supremacy. Earlier this week, Reginald McKenna, First Lord of the Admiralty, revealed that Germany has a capacity to build big battleships rapidly. The revelation shocked many Britons, with the notable exception of Sir John Fisher, the naval expert, who said, "There's no need for alarm. You can sleep easy."

According to new calculations, Germany will have 13 ships the size of England's own mammoth Dreadnought ready by late 1911, and 17 more vessels by 1912. These estimates are up from previous reports of nine and 13, respectively. McKenna pointed out that two years ago the idea of Germany building ships so large and so quickly would have been laughed at.

New proposals to allocate \$15 million for construction of two more battleships received support in Parliament. McKenna, arguing for the allocations, said, "The safety of the country stands above all other considerations, and no

matter what the cost, the safety of the country must be assured."

### Taft Sworn In As President

**March 4**. As thousands shivered outdoors in a blinding snowstorm, William Howard Taft was sworn in today as President in the warmth of the Senate chamber.

Plans to hold the inaugural ceremony on the east front of the Capitol were hurriedly abandoned when the unexpected blizzard blanketed the city of Washington.

## Antiques on the Avenue

Come visit our showrooms filled with beautiful antiques and accessories from around the world. We specialize in American, French, English and Italian pieces. You will find everything for your home and garden including furniture for every room, rugs, lamps, chandeliers, paintings clocks, grand pianos, mantles, tapestries, fine porcelain, sterling, crystal, and bronze statuary; all at the lowest price around. Our friendly staff is eager to help you find the special piece you have been looking for or to help you select the perfect gift for that special someone. Visit us seven days a week, 10AM until 6PM Monday through Saturday; 1:00PM until 5:00PM Sunday.

708 Pratt Avenue in Huntsville's Historic Five Points  
256-539-3383

## U.S. Army raises strength to 77,000

**April 11.** Recruiters have been told to contain themselves as the U.S. Army ranks have grown to full strength for the first time since the Spanish war. Some 77,000 men are now in uniform. According to some reports, the hard economic times forced many to enlist. Yet one officer claims an article entitled "The Army as a Career," published in The New York Times, attracted many young men. The Army is now ridding itself of all undesirable soldiers to make way for the new recruits

**"She stated that she had been constipated for most of her life, until she got a divorce."**

Statement on patient's medical chart

## Exotic Harvest Nursery

Exquisite & Unusual Designs

Consultation & Installation

Owned & Managed by  
Debra Walker & Debbi Andersen

1452 Harvest Road 830-4305



## Sponsor of voting rights act dies

**April 23.** William M. Stewart, former United States Senator from Nevada and author of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution, died today at the Georgetown, Maryland, hospital.

Passed in 1870, the amendment says that the right to vote shall not be denied because of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

A familiar face in Congress, Stewart lost a fortune during the Civil War, but regained it when he took a 12-year break from politics to resume his mining interests.

## Three great powers recognize Bulgaria

**April 27.** Bulgaria made a big step toward world recognition this month as the Triple Alliance, comprised of Austria-Hungary, Italy and Germany, acknowledged her sovereign independence. Many international observers speculate that the crisis that erupted in February fortified the Black Sea country.

## Marathon Painting

Free Estimates  
Licensed & Insured  
References

We Specialize in Historic Homes  
John M. Bzdell 326-8053

## C.T. Garvin Feed & Seed

Lawn & Garden Supplies

2215 Holmes Ave. 534-5637

## CLOCK TOWER Restaurant

Open daily for lunch and dinner.  
Wedding Receptions  
Rehearsal Dinners  
Banquet Area  
Private Meeting Rooms

256-881-0904  
7500 S. Memorial Parkway  
Suite 115-A

# Gates Auto Repair Co., Inc.

Dehaan Gates  
Owner / Manager

In 1939 Huntsville was recovering from the Great Depression. Money was hard to come by and people depended on Gates Auto Repair for honest and dependable service. Over a half century later - they still do.

60 Years At Same Location!

534-1221 615 Minor Str., N.E.

# The Deacon

Deacon Johnson is a great temperance man, and sets a good example of total abstinence to all his church-going neighbors.

Not long ago he employed a carpenter to make some alterations in his parlor. In repairing the corner near the fireplace it was necessary to remove the wainscoting, when, lo! a discovery was made that astonished everyone. A brace of decanters, a tumbler and a pitcher were costily reposing there, as if they had stayed there from the beginning. The deacon was quickly summoned from prayer, and as he beheld the bottles, he exclaimed,

"Well, I declare! That is curious, sure enough. It must be the same that old Bains left when he left this home for greener pastures, thirty years ago!"

"Perhaps he did," offered one of the carpenters, "but, Deacon, the ice in that pitcher must have been froze mighty hard to last all these years!"

*Taken from 1893 Alabama publication*

# Teach Your Children

Teach your boys that a true lady may be found in calico quite as frequently as in velvet or white silk.

Teach them that honesty is the best policy, that it is better to be a poor man than to be a rich one on the profits of "crooked whiskey," etc., and point your precept by the example of those who are now suffering the torments of the damned.

Teach them to respect the weak and the helpless.

Teach them that smoking in moderation, though the least of

vices to which men are heirs, is the most disgusting to others and hurtful to themselves.

Teach your boys that by indulging their depraved appetites in the worst forms of dissipation they are not fitting themselves to become the husbands of pure girls.

Teach them that it is better to be an honest man seven days in the week than to be a Christian one day and a villain six days. Do all this and you will be sure to have brought them up in the way they should go.

*from 1878 newspaper*

*Ellen's Creative Cakes, Inc.*

**Customer-Designed Works of Art. European Quality Made From Scratch. Taste What You Create!**

- Wedding Cakes
- 3-D Sculptured Cakes
- Appetizers / Catering
- Gourmet chocolates and Candies
- Baked pies, muffins and cheesecakes
- Sugar-Free Cakes



**Free Samples To Taste!**  
**Call for directions and appointment**  
 cakes3d@highwaay.net  
 www.ellenscreativecakes.com

**(256) 828-1007 - 9899-G Pulaski Pike - Toney, Al 35773**

We're Jazz And Blues

Smooth Jazz 90.9 FM

**WJAB**

Cool-Vocals

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND DISTANCE LEARNING CENTER

Alabama A&M University

STATE FARM Auto Life Fire INSURANCE

24 HOUR GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICE

**STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES**  
 HOME OFFICES - BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

**Tony Farmer**  
 Agent

7525C S. Memorial Pkwy.  
 Huntsville, Al. 35802

Bus. 256-883-7252  
 Fax 256-883-7288

# News From The Year 1880

- Last Saturday night some malicious scoundrel killed a horse belonging to Mr. H.W. Helm, the well known blacksmith. The horse, a very fine one, was in the pasture bordering the spring branch, and was killed by being struck just above the eye with a brickbat. We trust the perpetrator may be discovered and appropriately punished.

- Yesterday, in the Big Cove, a man named Stewart Wishard was shot and mortally wounded by a man named R.S. Buford, who was arrested. The trouble arose about a dispute in regard to crops. Wishard was cropping on Buford's place. It is thought Buford was justifiable.

- We understand it is reported through the country that yellow fever is in Huntsville. This is untrue. There has not been a single case of yellow fever in Huntsville up to this time city. Mr Murphy received a dispatch last Friday from Canton, Miss., conveying the sad information that his wife, daughter and granddaughter were all down with yellow fever. He left on the next train for Canton, and it is reported he has been seized with the dread disease.

- EO. Since writing the above we have been informed that all of Mr. Murphy's grandchildren have the fever, and that one of them has died of the disease.

A modern husband believes that a woman's place is in the home and he expects her to go there immediately after work.

- Miss Kate Erskine will open a School at the residence of Mrs. S. C. Erskine, on Franklin Street, on Monday, the 2d of September. The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited.

Charles Rice, the one-eyed Negro from Mr. Frank McClung's place in Little Cove, was tried on a complaint before Justice Figg, last Saturday, charged with an attempt to rape Linda Beasley, aged 10 years. Rice was arrested after an investigation of the facts committed. He came from Jackson

County.

- Wanted - 10,000 pounds dried fruit, for which the highest price will be paid. T. J. Humphrey, Hotel Building.

- Thomas Renfro was arrested again yesterday at the depot again for drunken brawling. Perhaps the court will take notice this time.

If you have a lot of tension and get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: "Take 2 aspirin and keep away from children."

The  
**Purple  
Peanut**



A Specialty Store  
For Children

Celebrating  
20 Years!

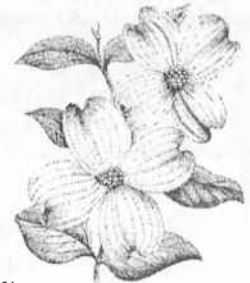
(256) 534-5767

2357 Whitesburg Drive

*Be most certain thing about the future is its uncertainty.*

*It's never too early to be responsible.*

*Our Family Care Programs free families from emotional and financial decision-making when numbed by the loss of a loved one.*



**LAUGHLIN SERVICE**

Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.

2320 Bob Wallace Ave. S.W. 534-2471

**The Neighborhood**

**Hot Spot**

**Sports Bar & Cafe**

Live entertainment / Karaoke / Outside Deck

Also featuring fine dining / nightly specials

1407 Jordan Lane 489-5201



# My Home Is In Alabama

by Anonymous

Thirty years ago I visited my first cousin in Chicago. While hanging out with his friends, the discussion turned to popular movies of the day. When I offered my two-cents on the authenticity and social relevance of the movie *Billy Jack*, one of the boys, asked, in all seriousness- "Do you guys have movie theaters down there?" To which I replied, "Yep. We wear shoes too."

Just three years ago, my wife and I were attending a covention in Aspen, Co. We were seated with two couples from Las Vegas. One of the Glitter Gulch gals was amused and downright rude when I described a restaurant in our

home town as a fine-dining establishment. "Alabama doesn't have fine-dining restaurants!" she demanded and nudged her companion, smirking.

I wanted badly to defend my state and my restaurant with a 15-minute soliloquy and public relations rant that would surely change her mind. It was at that precise moment that I was hit with a blinding jolt of enlightenment, and in a moment of complete and absolute clarity it dawned on me — my south is the best-kept secret in the country. Why would I try to win this woman over?

She might move down here.

I am always amused by

Hollywood's interpretation of the South. We are still, on occasion, depicted as a collective group of sweaty, stupid, backwards-minded and racist rednecks. The south of movies and TV, the Hollywood south, is not my south.

This is my south.

My south is full of honest, hardworking people. My south is the birthplace of blues and jazz, and rock n' roll. It has banjo pickers and fiddle players, but it also has B. B. King, Muddy Waters, the Allman Brothers, Emmylou Harris and Elvis.

My south is hot. My south smells of newly mowed grass. My south is creek swimming, cane-pole fishing and bird hunting.

In my south, football is king.

My south is home to the most beautiful women on the planet.

In my south, soul food and country cooking are the same thing.



## WOODY ANDERSON FORD

Corner of Sparkman and Jordan Lane - Huntsville  
(256) 539-9441

My south is full of fig preserves, cornbread, butter beans, fried chicken, grits and catfish. In my south we also eat fois gras, caviar and truffles.

In my south, our transistor radios introduced us to the Beatles and the Rolling Stones at the same time they were introduced to the rest of the country. We also watched the Partridge Family, Hawaii Five-0, Bonanza and Ed Sullivan with the rest of the country.

In my south, grandmothers cooked a big lunch every Sunday.

In my south, family matters, deeply.

My south is boiled shrimp, blackberry cobbler, peach ice cream and banan pudding.

In my south people put peanuts in bottles of Coca Cola and hot sauce on almost everything.

My south has air-conditioning. My south is camellias, azaleas, dogwoods, wisteria and hydrangeas.

In my south, the only person that has to sit on the back of the bus is the last person that got on the bus.

In my south, people still say, "yes, ma'am," "no ma'am," "please" and "thank you."

In my south, we all wear shoes... most of the time.

My south is the best-kept secret in the country.

Please continue to keep the secret... it keeps the idiots away.

**"I'm not going to have some reporters pawing through our papers. We are the President!"**

Hillary Clinton on the release of subpoenaed documents

# Iveys Restaurant

Home owned & Home Operated

Hearty, Homemade Meals, Southern Style!

Meat & Vegetable Plates, Homemade Desserts



Located in Huntsville Mall (old Heart of Huntsville) behind Gold's Gym  
Hours 7 a.m - 7 p.m Closed Sat & Sun

721 Clinton Ave. West  
534-2828

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

## ROPER'S FLOWERS



534-8454  
2008 Whitesburg Dr. S.

SINCE 1938  
SAME LOCATION

Across From Huntsville Hospital

**Madison Avenue**  
Bridal & Formal

Featuring new fashions from today's top designers

- Prom Gowns
- Bridal
- Pageant
- Bridesmaids

**Prom 2003 Stock Arriving Daily!**

6125 University Drive, Suite D-20 • (256) 971-4030  
(Across from Wal Mart-Super Center, just west of Madison Square Mall)

Residential - Investment - Commercial - Farms - Acreage - Income Properties

**"A Huntsville Native Who Knows Huntsville"**

Specializing in Horse Properties  
2 - 800 acres \$14,000 - 10 million  
Free Market Analysis

Direct Line: (256) 337-0210 Office: (256) 882-2224  
holmessockwell@hotmail.com

Buying or Selling?  
We Have Information On All Properties In All Areas.

**Holmes Sockwell**

**RISE REALTY** **MLS**

3601 South Memorial Parkway, Suite C, Huntsville Alabama

# Holmes Avenue

## Named For The Territorial Governor

by Jack Harwell

The earliest streets in Huntsville were named for famous Americans, such as presidents (Washington and Jefferson) and Revolutionary War heroes (Lincoln and Greene). The main east-west thoroughfare, Holmes Street (now Holmes Avenue), was given the name of the territorial governor of Mississippi, which at that time included what is now the

state of Alabama.

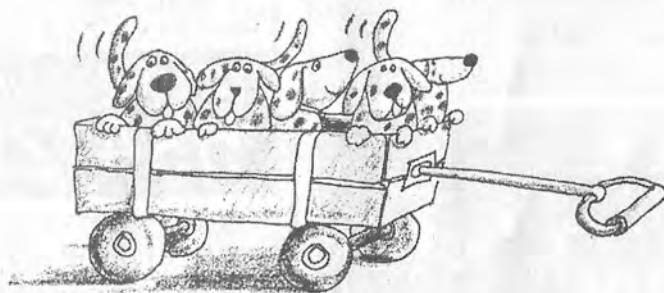
David Holmes was born in Frederick County, Virginia, on March 10, 1769. His father, Irish-born Colonel Joseph H. Holmes, was a Revolutionary War veteran. The younger Holmes served six terms in the House of Representatives, from 1797 to 1809. On March 4, 1809, Thomas Jefferson, in one of his last acts as president, appointed Holmes as governor of Mississippi Terri-

tory. He was sworn in by Chief Justice John Marshall five days later, just before his 40th birthday.

As governor, Holmes gained a reputation for fairness and temperance. "By temperament, he was easy going and charming, tactful but firm, moderate in his behavior, and cautious in taking action," wrote one historian. Holmes' even-handed manner would serve him well in the difficulties he would face as a territorial governor

Mississippi in 1809 was frontier territory. The Louisiana Purchase had pushed the boundaries of the republic far to the west, but Spanish Florida lay just to the south. Relations with Spain had cooled considerably after Napoleon placed his brother on the Spanish throne in 1809 - many Americans feared the French were attempting to expand their empire into North America. At that time, Florida included all of the Gulf Coast east of the Mississippi River, as well as large parts of present-day Louisiana. But many American settlers had moved into the Spanish lands, and in 1810 the Americans in Baton Rouge revolted, with the help of Mississippians. Not long afterward, the United States annexed western Florida - the area between the Pearl and Perdido Rivers became part of Mississippi. For the first time, the United States would have ports on the Gulf of Mexico.

One of Holmes' tasks as governor was the appointing of officers to the territorial militia, which was responsible for defending the



*We can simplify your life  
by consolidating all your insurance and  
financial planning under the umbrella of the  
J. Smith Lanier & Co. family of world  
respected carriers. One company for all  
your coverages, often at substantial savings.  
Doesn't that sound good?*



*Insuring People And  
Business Since 1868*

*J. Smith Lanier & Co.*

*Call for an analysis or quote.*

206 Exchange Place • P.O. Box 6087 • Huntsville, AL 35824 • 256-890-9000

© 1999 EHA

**Perk of being over 45:**

**You quit trying to hold your  
stomach in, no matter who  
walks into the room.**



borders. This authority became even more important when the United States and Great Britain went to war in 1812. Although Mississippi militiamen never fought British forces, they did play one minor role in protecting the nation's security when Holmes sent troops to occupy Mobile - the Spanish commander in that city had refused to recognize the American annexation of his territory.

In 1817 Holmes presided over the Mississippi constitutional convention. That same year, he was elected the state's first governor. (The new state occupied the western half of the Mississippi Territory - the eastern half, where Huntsville was located, became the new Alabama Territory). He served one two-year term as governor, then in 1820 was appointed to the U.S. Senate. He resigned from the Senate in 1825 to run for a second term as governor. He won the election but resigned due to ill health on July 25, 1826. The following year, he returned home to Winchester, Virginia where he died on August 20, 1832. The state he had served as governor and senator named Holmes County in his honor.

The Huntsville street named for Holmes became one of the city's main arteries. To the west, it connected with the road to Athens. It was at the corner of Holmes and Greene streets where Andrew Jackson's soldiers camped on their way to the battle of Horseshoe Bend. A commemorative plaque now marks the site. In 1859 the Memphis & Charleston railroad built its Huntsville depot just north of Holmes. Armies from both sides of the civil war would be seen marching down the street.

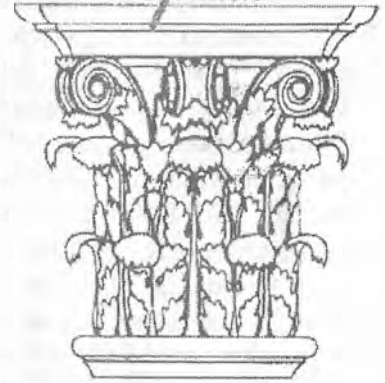
In her book *Changing Huntsville 1890-1899*, Elizabeth

Humes Chapman introduces readers to her city by describing the route into town from the west along Athens Pike and Holmes Street. "The traveler coming to the top of Russell's Hill has before him an expanse that any artist might envy him," she writes, "a wide valley encircled by long, blue, flat-topped mountains." She then describes the sites visible from that point - the mountains, such as Monte Sano and Chapman, as well as the church spires, the city's most prominent structures, "The houses on West Holmes Street are shaded in summer by maples and oaks. They are set on large lots, large enough to yield vegetables, fruits, and flowers for the table. Each is enclosed by a fence - two fences to be exact - the front one iron or paling, the back solid impenetrable boards, yielding the privacy that a home connotes." Chapman was describing a scene from 1890, but much of her narrative could have been written today.

In the first half of the twentieth century, Holmes Street was the address of three Huntsville land-

# FINDS

*Unique finds for Home & Garden*



RON COOPER

256-534-2337

Interior Design - Paint Finishes

Weddings - Special Events

### *Sign of Menopause:*

You're on so much estrogen that you take your Brownie troop on a field trip to see the Chippendales.

## Protect Your Investment!

Mold Removal and Odor Elimination for both in and outside your home - No harmful chemicals used - no bleach or acid - New patented biodegradable and non-toxic cleaning product - Leaves fresh, clean scent! Safe for pets, people and plants - unlike bleach products!

Uses low-pressure cleaning - not high-pressure washing that damages your home!

### *We restore:*

Basements - Roofs  
Walls - Siding  
Brick - Ceilings  
Baseboards  
Decks & wood floors



# EnviroSafe

704-4570 [www.ensafe.us](http://www.ensafe.us)

marks - the Times building, the Yarbrough Hotel, and the U.S. Post Office. The Times building, Huntsville's first skyscraper (with 13 floors), opened in 1928. The Yarbrough, opened in 1924, was one of a number of downtown lodgings in the days before hotels became motels. When the Post Office opened in 1936, some of Huntsville's mail was still being delivered by horse-drawn wagon.

Holmes Street lost some of its appeal when Memorial Parkway opened in 1955, and businesses began to move out to the four-lane highway. Curiously, Holmes was the only street from which access to the Parkway was denied - as it still is today. The Huntsville Times moved its presses out there, leaving the Times building to other local businesses - today it is nearly empty. The Yarbrough Hotel is still there, although it is no longer a hotel. Law offices now occupy the building, and a remnant of the ornate entrance can still be seen on the side facing Holmes. The Post Office remained until it outgrew its depres-

sion-era structure and was moved to Clinton Avenue in 1988.

In 1958, Holmes Street became Holmes Avenue. That same year, Athens Pike west of Jordan Lane also became Holmes Avenue; by that time the entire street was within the city limits. U.S. Highway 72, which originally included Holmes Street, was shifted to a new four-lane road, University Drive, although the name "Old Athens Pike" appeared on the zip code map in the telephone directory as late as 1984.

It is still possible to drive east on Holmes from Jordan Lane and enter the old city following the same route as did the traveler in Elizabeth Humes Chapman's narrative. Coming up over Russell Hill and seeing the tall downtown buildings, one can imagine what it was like to come to Huntsville a century, or even a half-century, ago.



## Washington Square



Coffee

Sandwiches

Dinner to Go

Bicycle Delivery  
(within 4 blocks)

Open 7am - 6pm  
Monday - Friday

109 Washington Street  
704-5555

# Allied Photocopy

Quality Reproductions  
Black & White & Color



1821 University Drive  
539-2973

"We've got to pause and ask ourselves - how much clean air do we need?"

Lee Iacocca



Certified Angus

Fresh Seafood

Extensive Wine List

Banquet Facilities Available

Reservations Please

Open

Tuesday - Saturday

Bar: 4pm - 11pm

Kitchen: 5pm - 10pm

Lee Iacocca



COME FOR THE FOOD ...

STAY FOR THE FUN!

## Live Music

## Nightly!

OPEN 11AM - 2AM

Monday - Sunday

"3 Different Restaurants - One Great Location"

# Schooling

by Tommy E. Allen

I was only six years old in 1950, and one of my first memories is of my father and me driving down Whitesburg Drive on the way to the river armed with rods and reels, tackle box, two Double Colas and a brown sack full of Baby Ruths and Moon Pies. We would set up shop on the small slough just upriver from Whitesburg Bridge (now apart of Ditto Landing). I would bait a hook and try to stick my arm out far enough to get it over some limbs into the Tennessee River. I was raised in Huntsville and on the river during a time when all you needed to catch a fish was to get your bait in the water. On the banks of this river, I received my real schooling.

My father was a butcher, never earning more than \$75.00 a week. He had only a third grade education because he had to work in the fields as a child. His father ran a farm on what is now Redstone Arsenal. Even with only a third grade education, he could do almost anything he wanted. He was self-taught and I can still see him wetting his pencil on his lips, looking into space and figuring out where to cut, nail or screw. But

he was really best sitting on the banks of the Tennessee with three rods out drinking a Double Cola and eating a Baby Ruth. This is where he held school for me and prepared me for life.

On the river, he would talk about his early days and lessons he had learned. His teachings were about a hard life as if he never suspected just how many opportunities would be available to me. He told of his hobo days as he traveled this country. These stories made me believe that the world held many strange and beautiful things, but he assured me there was nothing that couldn't be found between the Tennessee River and the Tennessee line. He would tell funny stories and make me realize that he was much more than a butcher and knew about life's treasures and problems. Here he would listen to me as the peacefulness loosened my tongue and I poured out my problems and feelings. He came to the river when life closed in on him, problems seemed too big, or he felt happy. It was a place to experience emotions.

I always enjoyed those trips, even after I became a teenager and finding the time was difficult. One day, when I was 18 and we were at the Whitesburg bridge, my father told me he was dying. I guess he chose this place because it seemed best to discuss such

## Stanlieo's Sub Villa



Phone in your order and it will be ready at our Call-In window. (usually 15 minutes)

Over 31 different Subs to choose from!

Two convenient locations to serve you.  
607 Jordan Lane 837-7220  
602 Governors Drive 536-6585

### Open 7 Days Weekly

Monday-Friday	9:00am-10:00pm
Saturday	10:00am-10:00pm
Sunday	11:00am-9:00pm

A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words.

**NEW LOOK TUBS** **852-5708**  
Free Estimates  
Licensed Insured

Senior Citizens Discount  
Bathtub & Tile reglazing  
Fiberglass & Acrylic Repairs  
Antique Tub Restoration & Sales



## 3H Stables

Scenic Trail Rides for the family

Day Camp - Now Enrolling

Children of all ages taught basic horsemanship, safety and care  
Camp hours- 8 a.m - 5 pm daily - located along the Flint river  
Only 7 miles from downtown Huntsville. Gentle, ranch quarter horses

Lessons - Boarding  
Nature Trails  
Beginners Welcome!

FUN for the ENTIRE Family  
(256)883-8615 Barn - 776-9177  
[www.3hstables.com](http://www.3hstables.com)

things. That day was the only time we cried together as he instructed me about how he wanted matters handled and I accepted the responsibility for my mother's welfare. Then the water just sort of swept away our tears and our fears retreated to hide within, never to be mentioned again.

My father died when I was 19, but the river feels like an eternal gift he left for my pleasure. Since his death, I have raised four sons that I am very proud of. A great deal of their schooling took place on the river. I have tried to relate to them a part of him and leave them with at least a hint of gratefulness for the hard times he suffered. Today when I fish from a nice bass boat with a high-powered motor, I sometimes think about us sitting on the bank and wish that he could enjoy the

luxury that my sons and I enjoy.

Recently, on an October afternoon while cruising down the river, I passed Ditto Landing and actually thought, for just a split second, that I saw my father on the bank at one of our old fishing spots. I then realized that he is part of this place and that's why it always calls me home when I'm down, hurt, tired, or just plain empty.

I hope that all little boys have a hometown as nice as Huntsville was in 1950, but most of all, I hope that every father has a place where he can really school his sons. A place where laughter, tears, stories, love, and happiness are shared. A place that will be special throughout life, a safe and peaceful refuge from the world.




**Bennett Nurseries**  
 Voted Best Nursery 5  
 Years In A Row!  
 7002 Memorial Parkway. N.

If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant's life, she will choose to save the infant's life without even considering if there is a man on base.

**MARATHON PAINTING**

*"We go the extra mile"*

# Hill Lawnmower & Chainsaw, Inc.

Visit our website at [www.hilllawnmower.com](http://www.hilllawnmower.com)



**HONDA**  
Power  
Equipment

**STIHL®**

**TORO®**

*Selling and Servicing Top Of The Line Outdoor Power Equipment Since 1976*

**1018 Andrew Jackson Way NE**

**(256)536-7331**

# Only Half Guilty

from 1902 newspaper

A fellow named Donks was tried recently for entering a boarding house and stealing the owner's wallet containing \$84.

The testimony showed that he had once been employed there, and knew exactly where the owner kept his wallet; that on the specified day he raised a window, reached in and took the

wallet off the dresser and then ran off. Jim Buller, the principal witness, testified that he saw the window being raised, saw the man reach in, and heard him run away. "I rushed after him at once," continued the witness, "but when I caught him I didn't find the wallet. But it was found afterward where he had thrown it."

"How far did he enter the house when he took the wallet?" asked the counsel.

"Well, he was stooping over, halfway in, I should say," said the witness.

"May it please your Honor," interposed the counsel. "The indictment isn't sustained, and I shall demand an acquittal of the court. The prisoner is on trial for entering a dwelling in the night time, with intent to steal. The testimony was clear that he, made an opening, through which he protruded himself about halfway, and stretching, committed the theft, But the indictment charges that he actually entered the dwelling. How, your Honor, can a man enter a dwelling when one half of his body is in and the other half

out?"

The jury brought in a verdict of "guilty as to half of the body and not guilty as to the other half."

The judge sentenced the guilty party to two year's imprisonment, leaving it to the prisoner's option to have the innocent part cut off or take it along with him.



CERTIFIED  
PROPERTY  
MANAGER®

**James C. Vaughn CPM®**

**South Realty Inc.**

3313 S. Memorial Parkway

Suite 100

Huntsville, Alabama 35801

(256) 881-4800

## Pearson's Flooring

*for quality*

**Sanding & Refinishing**

**Fire and Water Restoration**



Pearson's Flooring  
536-9558

2021 Clinton Av. West

Everyone has a  
photographic memory.  
Some folks just don't have  
the film.

## FLU SHOTS

Every Year Thousands of needless deaths occur due to the flu. It is important to protect yourself against this serious disease by immunization. We are offering the flu shot during our normal business hours throughout the flu season. We also offer pneumonia, hepatitis A & B and most other vaccines. We are available to give shots at your place of work. The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy staff wants to keep you healthy for life.

**THE MEDICINE SHOPPE®**

2701 Patton Road Huntsville, Al 35805

Phone 536-1910

## Salon Bella

Audra Wilson  
Janice Johnson

*Specializing in Cuts,  
Coloring & Highlighting*



1701 University Dr.

(corner Church and Pratt)

(256) 534-5002

# Leslie St. Clair

By Austin Miller

I met him in the summer of 1960, the year I graduated from High School. We were both working for the county cutting off road right of ways. We cleared along-side roads in Ryland, Brownsboro, Maysville, Cedar Gap and Yankee Town. It took us all summer; we should have done it in three weeks. With the exception of two or three students, this was a crew of poor, uneducated, environmentally and mentally challenged white men who lived way below the poverty level. They were not pillars of the community even by Ryland standards. It was the best job most of them ever had or ever expected to have. Only one of the adults in the crew could read or write; his name was Leslie St. Clair.

I noticed Leslie my first day on the job. He was tall and lanky with light sandy colored hair. He was about 40 and worked harder than most of the others, which was not saying much. Most days he had great difficulty getting by the local bootlegger's house. Some mornings he didn't. His favorite bootlegger was a black man named Cope Haygood who lived just outside of Brownsboro. Cope was one of two notorious black bootleggers in the area. The other was Caleb Daniel who lived at Ryland. On those mornings when his thirst was real powerful, Leslie didn't meet the work truck at the county shed in Maysville. When he didn't, we knew he was setting on Cope's front porch rocking and drinking bootleg whiskey. We

always yelled and waved as we passed. I don't think he ever raised that porch on Friday.

His scarecrow appearance, bib overalls and his dilapidated flat bed half-ton dodge truck on first appearance blended him in with the other men on the crew. I instinctively sensed that Leslie was different and it bothered me that the workers my age treated him in a disrespectful and condescending manner. I was drawn

to him out of curiosity and made it a point to get acquainted. It was not easy; he was clearly a loner who talked only when he had to and then only with the fewest words possible. He kept his own company and had nothing to do with the other workers. I hung close by him and he eventually started talking to me. I found out that he was a graduate of Auburn University and was once the agriculture teacher at New Market

## The Fundamental Things Still Apply



1. A Kiss Is Just a Kiss
2. A Sigh Is Just a Sigh
3. Don't Run Out of Money

Today, more and more people are living longer and longer. With NYLIAC Asset Preserver we can help make sure the money you've earned throughout life can be there in your retirement years to provide life insurance protection and long-term care.

Call me today to discuss how

Visit my website at  
[www.gannbryan.nylagents.com](http://www.gannbryan.nylagents.com)



The Company You Keep®

NYLIAC Asset Preserver® a universal life insurance product which can provide funds to help pay for long term care expenses can help prevent this.

You'll be glad you did, as time goes by



Gann Bryan, LUTCF  
2309 Starmount Cir.  
Huttsville, Al. 35801  
256 - 551-2700

NYLIAC Asset Preserver® is issued by  
New York Life Insurance and Annuity  
Corporation  
(a Delaware Corporation)  
51 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010

High School. In those days, this was the best school teaching job there was because the salaries were supplemented by the government and they made as much money as a high school principal. It was a very important job in farming communities. I also found out that he had been a Naval officer who served with distinction in the Pacific during World War II. His family owned several hundred acres north of Ryland across Flint River. In the thirties and forties, his family did not allow outsiders on the land. Jody St. Clair, who I believe was Leslie's uncle, patrolled the property armed on horseback. Three or four hundred acres adjoining the river could not be farmed because it was in a flood plane. It was rich untended river bottomland perfect for wildlife, The abundance of game made for good hunting. It was a temptation too strong for Daddy and others to resist; he along with my Uncles, Clyde Gossett, Ulan Golden and others often slipped across the river to hunt despite the persistent efforts of Mr. St. Clair, This land always held high intrigue for me. There were several reasons - one was the stories I heard from Daddy and others about various encounters Ryland people had with Jody St. Clair, another was

the river created a barrier and divider that made it seem foreign. Perhaps most important, it was pristine, it was land that had not been farmed or changed by man. Wildlife was not the only bounty; it also had an abundance of wild plums and blackberries.

One summer when I was little, daddy and Uncle Malcolm were trotline fishing. About sundown, when they finished running and baiting the lines, they paddled quietly to the St. Clair side, tied up to a tree limb and the three of us got out of the boat. We walked about fifty feet to a sea of tall blackberry laden bushes. Both Daddy and Uncle Malcolm had two buckets apiece that they quickly filled to the brim. I remember that they talked in a whisper and insisted that I stand in silence; my job was to listen for any noise that might indicate

## Stephens Countertop

*No Need To Move If You Can Renovate!*

\* Kitchens \* Bathrooms \* Wet Bars

Add lasting beauty with solid surface countertops.

Each job carries a 10 year guarantee.

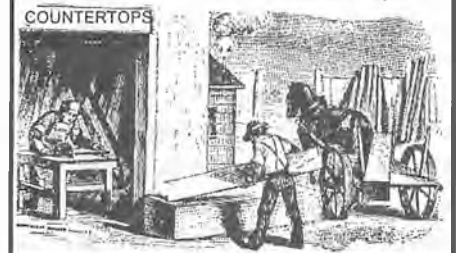
### FREE ESTIMATES

within 50 miles of Huntsville

### Residential & Commercial

WilsonArt - Corian - Gilbralter

Solid Seamless, lasting and no need to seal



171 Garden Way, Hazel Green

## 828-5190

## Red Rooster Antique Mall

- \* 10,000 Sq. Ft. of Antiques & Collectibles
- \* 36 Dealers
- \* Furniture, Jewelry Art Work, Glassware Lamps, Clocks & Much, Much More!



2 1/2 miles South of Haysland Square

12519 S. Memorial Pkwy.

## 881-6530

## Home Buddies

### Reasons For Using Home Buddies

- \* We celebrate 18 years of caring, compassionate, loving concern for your quality of life, independence and empowerment.
- \* You will experience less concern and worry about your loved one because we require an extensive background checks with application and references.
- \* Your Home Buddy will listen and respond quickly to your medical, personal and household needs.
- \* You will benefit from years of experience, wisdom, and our impeccable reputation.
- \* Your costs are lower because our overhead is lower.
- \* Your "buddy" is licensed and bonded and will take her "orders" from you.
- \* We file long term care insurance, have very little turnover in caregivers, and provide substitutes in emergencies.
- \* The best and most capable, dependable, and trust worthy girls want to be "buddies." They make more money. You receive greater value and less stress.
- \* We'll see to it that your Buddy is a good feel and good fit for you. We are "the Caring Connection."
- \* We're proud of what we're good at - Let us get to know you. For the first choice and best choice, turn to us.

Call Mary Alice Cannon, Owner  
(256) 882-1299

Permanent Nanny Placement For Children



the approach of Mr. St. Clair, luckily he didn't show up. It was a successful fishing trip, we got gallons of blackberries and when they ran the lines the next morning they caught a large string of fish.

Finally, I found out why Leslie was working for the county. He had been engaged to marry the love of his life. He said he had never had any interest in any other woman before or since. Just before they were to be married she met another man and broke the engagement. He quit his job as agriculture teacher, started drinking, didn't stop and soon was cutting bushes to buy whiskey. Before the summer was over, he warmed up to me to the point that he would find me for lunch if for some reason we were not working close to each other at noon. Just before I quit to go to college, he wished me luck and advised me about college and the kind of courses I should take the first year. I felt proud to know him.

One time, while I was in college, I heard that he almost drowned drunk in a shallow ditch in Maysville. After that, I didn't hear anything about him for 37 years. In October 1997, when I was home painting the house at Ryland, I was visiting Uncle Gib. He was telling me about this man who wrote the editor of the Huntsville Times at least once a week. It seemed he never gave the politicians and city, state and local government leaders any rest. Some thought he was a genius, others thought he was a kook. In any event, he had a lot to say and people listened. His opinions were topic of discussions in the newspaper and on local television.

As we talked I soon realized that it was the same Leslie St. Clair that I knew in the summer

of 1960. He had quit drinking, married, got a good job and became a political activist. The land his family owned was worth a lot in 1960; by 1997 it must have been worth a fortune. Somehow, though, I doubt that a fortune meant much to Leslie.

This is a story that will never be complete. I will never know what turned him around - did he do it of his own will, was it caused by a catastrophic event in his life or did he meet a woman that gave him the incentive to change? These are questions I will not be able to answer. Leslie died a couple of years ago, he was in his eighties. All the old timers around Ryland have heard of him but there is nobody to be found that knew him personally; somebody did tell me that he retired from a high level State job.

I was truly glad to learn that he had straightened out his life,



**Health and Nutrition Products for All Your Wellness Needs**

- Bulk Herbs
- Mineral Supplements
- Children's Vitamins
- Weight Loss Products
- Organic Products
- Aromatherapy
- Books
- Reflexology

Computer database of Health Solutions and Aids is Available in Our Store for Your Personal Research and Use.

Every First Mon. of the Month

**20% off**

2101 Triana Blvd.  
Huntsville, AL  
(256) 533-7569

<http://www.potogoldshop.com/>

**Subscribe To North Alabama's most popular magazine!**

If you have enjoyed reading *Old Huntsville Magazine*, we will be glad to send you an issue every month! With *Old Huntsville Magazine* you'll get the stories about your home town you will never get any other place. So don't delay. Subscribe today and be in the know with *Old Huntsville*.

*Yes, I would like Old Huntsville delivered to me. I've enclosed \$15.00 for a full year's subscription.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If you are sending Old Huntsville as a gift please let us know and we will send a gift card with your name.



**Old Huntsville**

**Old Huntsville Magazine**  
716 East Clinton Avenue  
Huntsville, AL., 35801



somehow I knew in 1960 that he would. I sometimes wonder if he remembered me in the years after we worked together on a job that was the closest thing to a chain gang you could get without being a prisoner. He may not be the most interesting person I ever met but I believe he was the most eccentric. In any event, I am glad that I got to know him even if it was for only a short while.

## Southern Superstitions

- Don't look at your neighbor through a piece of broken glass, or else a violent quarrel will ensue.

- When a holly's branches are laden with berries, bad weather is in the immediate future.

## Clothing For The Orphans

Clothing partially worn or outgrown, sheets or bedding of any description, remnants of calico or domestic, such as always accumulate in families - any of all these articles are earnestly solicited for the Orphans of the plague-stricken city of Memphis, and will be received and immediately forwarded if sent to Mrs. S. R. Cruse, Adams Avenue.

from 1880 newspaper

## Writers

Send us your stories to be published in Old Huntsville. Stories must be about Huntsville and have factual basis. Please do not send original manuscripts. Send your stories to:

Old Huntsville - 716 East Clinton, Huntsville, Al. 35801

# Crispy Chocolate Tortoni

- 1 8-oz. pkg. baking chocolate, semi-sweet
- 2/3 c. light corn syrup
- 2 c. heavy cream, divided
- 1 1/2 c. broken chocolate wafers
- 1 c. coarsely chopped walnuts or pecans

Line twelve 2 1/2 -inch muffin cups with paper liners. Take a 3-quart saucepan and stir your chocolate and corn syrup over low heat just til the chocolate melts, remove from heat. Stir in 1/2 cup heavy cream til blended, refrigerate 15 minutes.

Beat the remaining cream til soft peaks form, gently stir into the chocolate mixture. Stir in the wafers and nuts. Spoon into muffin cups. Freeze for 6 hours, garnish with tablespoons of whipped cream and chopped nuts, or chocolate and corn syrup topped with shaved chocolate. You can freeze these for a month.



11120 S. Memorial Pkwy - Huntsville, Al  
Phone 256-650-6300 Fax 256-650-6287

3417 S. Memorial Pkwy. - Huntsville, Al  
Phone 256-881-3354 Fax 256-881-3376

43190 University Dr. - Huntsville, Al  
Phone 256-464-5309 Fax 256-464-5309

8969 Hwy. 20W - Madison, Al  
Phone 256-464-5309 Fax 256-464-5309

Try our delicious selection of pizzas and sandwiches.  
Catering Available Too!

Visit our website for money saving coupons.  
[www.cooldeli.com](http://www.cooldeli.com)

**GIFT CERTIFICATES NOW AVAILABLE! ASK US!**

## Alpha Estate Sales & Appraisals

One of Huntsville's oldest personal property liquidation services for Antiques, Fine Art, Furnishings and Collectibles.

Downsizing - Moving - Estate Liquidation - We Sell it All!

**Just added!** Thursday January 9 at 6-9 p.m Early Bird Sale Friday & Saturday January 10 & 11, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - A house full of Victorian, country and Vintage antiques and accessories located in Alexandria, Ala.



*Experience, Professionalism and Excellence to each of our customers*

Bob Baker, H.S.C.A.,  
Owner  
Gary Lee Knight,  
Sales Manager

Visit our website for upcoming sales

[www.alphaestatesales.com](http://www.alphaestatesales.com)

**1214 Meridian Street (256) 536-3117**

# Remembering the Madison County Fair

by Marian Dendy

The Madison County Fair meant so much to the people of Huntsville - what follows are some of my memories of it. The rides, the noise that was music to my ears. The smells of food - it was a wonderful and memorable time. The friends and fun we had. The excitement and total anticipation. I can't remember the exact year - maybe 1935 or so - but there was a terrible fire where most of the fair building burned. We could see the glow of the fire across the mountain from our home in Hur-

ricane Valley.

After reading the possibility of demise of the county fair my reaction could be summed up by a saying of Jimmy Durante - "What a revolting situation this is!" One of the most anticipated events of the year for the youth of Madison County would always be the County Fair every September.

We saved money that we earned by picking cotton or by doing other chores. One might not have more than a dollar or two and it was spent with much care so that you always had a little left at the end of the day.

One day of the week-long affair would be proclaimed "School Day." Students would board the usual bus to school, check into



**THE JEWELRY CENTER**

**John Sparrow**  
General Manager  
Accredited Gemologist

---

**Fine Antique & Estate Jewelry - Buy & Sell**  
2010 Jordan Lane  
**536-9990**




Toll Free: 1-877-721-0765  
Email: [jsparrow@jewelrysuperstore.com](mailto:jsparrow@jewelrysuperstore.com)  
[www.jewelrysuperstore.com](http://www.jewelrysuperstore.com)

# Hartlex Antiques



Chandeliers - European and American - Furniture - Rugs  
Depression Glass - Antique Toys - Oriental Rugs - Oil Paintings  
All Types of Collectibles - Fenton Glass - Home and Garden - Lamps - Crystal  
Mirrors - Antique & Estate Jewelry - Period Antiques - Chairs - Tables

**464-3940**

**181 Hughes Road  
Madison, Alabama**

**OVER 30,000 SQUARE FEET OF EXQUISITE ANTIQUES**

Hours 10 - 7 Monday thru Sat. - Sundays 1 - 6      Across from the Madison City Hall

home room, then get in the buses that were to take us downtown. It was so exciting to finally pull up to the entrance of the fair, which had an arch over it proclaiming "Madison County Fair."

There were usually two people - a man and a woman - who were hired by the city to work as directors of the fairgrounds year round. There were beautiful flowers (I remember the red Canna Lilies) that were very well tended. Those two folks did a wonderful job to make sure the building and grounds were taken care of.

As you entered the fairgrounds, to your left, were the livestock and agricultural building. Each school could have a booth, and everything that grew on a farm was used in some decorative way. One year we used bolls of cotton to cover the ceiling of our booth. I remember several of us going on the bus with our principal to each home in the valley in hopes of getting something special to help make our booth a winner. There were canned fruits, vegetables, jellies, jams and fresh items like potatoes, okra, toma-

toes, eggs, etc. One entire day was spent arranging the items in the booth in a way you hoped would appeal the most to the judges. I believe first place paid \$100 to your school, and there were also 2nd and 3rd prizes.

There was always a grandstand with a stage in front where special acts were performed several times a day. A most exciting part of this day was the harness race event - held between the stage and the grandstand. This event I believe is still held in Fayetteville every year.

The Jaycees insisted on clean entertainment and wanted to do away with the games of chance that were held along the midway. Children would spend large portions of their money on these games and not win a thing. They sponsored the fair in later years but my fondest memories have to do with the earlier Madison County Fair.

I seem to remember that there were two fairs held during the last year of the Madison County Fair, but the officials declared that there was not enough money generated for two fairs. What a sad day for those of us who had so many wonderful memories from this event, to have it go away.

**T·H·E  
FRET  
SHOP**

Guitar • Banjo  
Mandolin  
Sales • Instruction  
Repair

309 Jordan Lane

Huntsville, AL 35805

Tel: (256) 430-4729

Fax: (256) 430-1081

## First Baptist Church

### Sunday

9:00 Bible Study

10:30 Worship (Broadcast live on WHNT Channel 19)

5:00 Discipleship Training

6:30 Worship

### Wednesday

5:00 Fellowship Supper

5:45 Prayer Meeting

428-9400 - [www.fbchsv.org](http://www.fbchsv.org)

"Your Place For Life"

600 Governors Drive

just East of Mem. Pkwy

  
**Holiday  
Inn**

Lake Guntersville  
Holiday Inn Resort

2140 Gunter Avenue,  
Guntersville, Al.  
256-582-2220

## The Book Shelf

**WE SELL OR TRADE**

Stocking New and Used Books

Whitesburg Shopping Center  
881-5040  
Madison Plaza  
830-4424



## "Old Tyme Friendly Service"

717 Pratt Ave, NE

Open 8 AM - 10PM - 7 Days A Week

Prescriptions Compounded  
Computerized Profiles

BellSouth Payment Center  
AT&T Phone Center

US Gov't. Post Office - UPS Shipping

(256) 539-7443 - Fax (256) 539-1012



**"The Only Discount Drug Store With Service"**

**PROPST**  
DISCOUNT  
DRUGS

# A Letter of Denial

Washington, July 19, 1862.  
Hon. E.M. Stanton: *Secretary of War.*

Sir: In my note of July 18 I made a distinct denial' of the charges made against me before the Military Committee of having failed to do my duty in repressing pillaging and plundering by the troops under my command.

I now desire to lay before you positive evidence of having done my duty in this particular in the most earnest and energetic manner.

First. I send you copies of the orders issued by me against all irregularities of every kind.

Second. The record will show that, notwithstanding the fact that my troops were perpetually in motion and almost daily engaged in repelling the attacks of the enemy, I managed to keep a division court-martial in session during the whole time that I had command in middle Tennessee and

northern Alabama; and that offenders, wherever they could be found, were brought before the court, tried, convicted, sentenced, and punished.

Third. In the special cases of the excesses committed by the soldiers of the Eighth Brigade on the recapture of Athens, I visited the town, addressed the citizens, induced them to organize a committee to hear indirectly, one particle of personal pecuniary advantage from any of the transactions in cotton.

I trust that my former character is a sufficient guarantee to yourself and my countrymen that I am perfectly incapable of doing anything to the injury of the Government and to my private advantage.

The positions in which I have been placed and the duties which have devolved upon me as a commanding officer have been responsible and arduous, but never for a moment have I halted or hesitated. I have done my very utmost to discharge my duties faithfully and honestly, and it is with proud satisfaction that I now declare that since I have been in the

service of the United States my head has never rested at night upon my pillow with one solitary particle of the day's duty unperformed. Each day brought its new duties and responsibilities, but no fragments of those of the former day remained to be gathered up. I have assurances that I have heretofore enjoyed the confidence of yourself, of the President, and of my countrymen.

I am guiltless of anything which should in the smallest degree diminish that confidence, and here I rest my case.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O.M. Mitchel, *Major-General, U.S. Army*

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.

Sam Keith

R.G. NAYMAN CO. INC.

# RG N

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

General Contractors  
Residential & Commercial  
Specializing In  
Fire Damage Repairs

"A Contractor You Can Trust"

# 533-9016

## Do You Have Any Of These Postmenopausal Symptoms?

- \* Vaginal Dryness and/or Soreness
- \* Vaginal Itching and/or Burning
- \* Discomfort During Intercourse, Or,\* Bleeding During Or After Intercourse

If you are troubled by these symptoms, you are not alone. Around 20 million American postmenopausal women experience these symptoms that may be caused by vaginal atrophy.

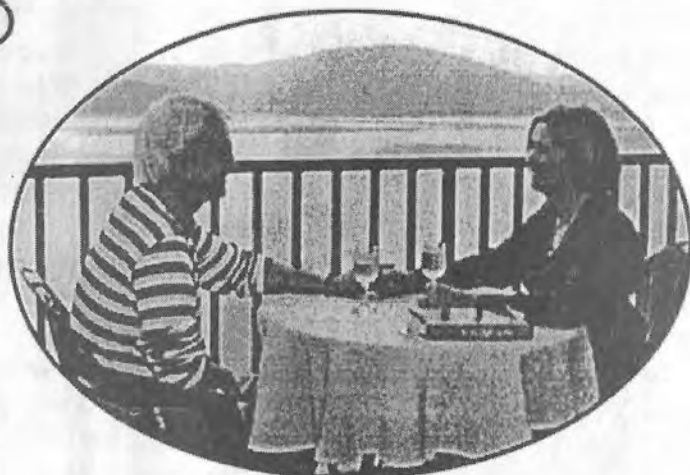
You may qualify to join a research study testing an investigational drug designed to treat those symptoms. Qualified participants will receive free confidential study-related medical exams, blood work and study medication. Financial compensation for your time and travel may be available.

To qualify, you must be at least 45 years old, postmenopausal for at least 3 years and have *not* used any type of estrogen or hormone replacement therapy for the past 3 months. Other eligibility will be determined by a comprehensive medical evaluation.

For more information or an appointment please call:

Bridget Fox, RN - nTouch Research  
303 Williams Ave., Suite 1031 - Huntsville, Al. 35801  
(256) 539-4122 or 1-800-RX-STUDY

# You're Minutes Away from Paradise Romantic Senior Packages



*Remember this Music?*

*Harbor Lights  
To Each His Own  
Under the Boardwalk  
Earth Angel  
Star Dust*

*Hear it again on  
Monday Nights*

Please mention and present this coupon  
to receive our  
**Special Senior Romantic Package Rates**  
(55 years and over)  
\$55 without Breakfast plus tax  
\$65 with Breakfast plus tax  
**Guntersville Holiday Inn Resort**  
Expiration May 31, 2003.  
Special event dates excluded

**Senior Special Package** (55 years old and over) **Includes**

- ~ Lakeside Rooms with Patio overlooking Lake ~
- ~ Special Monday Night Senior Mix in the Lounge ~

## Lake Guntersville Holiday Inn Resort

*Featured Nationally on ABC Television Show "The Bachelor"*

2140 Gunter Avenue ~ Guntersville, Alabama

256-582-2220 or 1-888-882-1160

# Home Tips

by Liz

- Want some hot food in your motel room late at night? Prior to your trip, wrap buttered, toasted cheese sandwiches in foil and re-warm them by ironing them with the room iron.

- Your bacon won't curl if you sprinkle it with flour before frying.

- If your tot burns his tongue, just sprinkle a few grains of sugar on it - the pain should diminish right away.

- Don't burn colored newspapers or magazines in a home fireplace. Such paper contains lead and can reach perilous levels - especially for children - when burned.

- Pulling off band-aids can be very painful, especially to children. To make it easier, simply

use your hot hair dryer for a few seconds on the band-aid, and it will come right off when heated.

- Keep a regular blackboard eraser handy in your car to wipe off steamed windows. There will be no smear marks or streaks.

- Never use water to put out an electrical or cooking fire. Keep a large pot lid and a large box of baking soda ready to smother such fires. A fire extinguisher is good to have, also.

- Save the water you used to boil eggs. When cool it can be used to water your plants with the eggshell minerals serving as a real bonus for wilted flowers.

- Save your soap fragments in a jar. When you get about half a jar add 1/2 cup of water, dump it all in a blender and mix for half a minute. Now instead of buying expensive soap for your dispenser, you've got a freebie.

- Do you find you have small holes developing in your outdoor screen? You can seal them up with clear nail polish.

- That key that comes with a

can of sardines can make a dandy screwdriver for tiny screws.

- If you have a pet who likes to travel, save all your margarine tubs with lids. Then when you go on a trip with your pet, you can take food, water, etc. and throw the dish away when used.

**Buying or Selling a house?  
Let Bill get it done!**



**F.N. (Bill) Sefton, CRS, GRI**  
Broker Associate

Office: (256) 881-9676

Fax: (256) 882-0604

Pager: (256) 535-1843

Email: bsefton@benporter.com

3409 S. Memorial Parkway  
Huntsville, Alabama 35801



# Take A Closer Look

At Slaton Press, our history proves that we are printing experts. Our commitment to a state-of-the-art process shows our ability to continue to serve our customers with an ever-improving technological base. Our customer-service orientation means satisfied print customers every time.

*Aren't you ready to take an even closer look at Slaton Press?*

**SLATON**  
**PRESS, INC.**  
*Printers & Publishers Since 1828*

645 Walnut Street • P.O. Box 398 • Moulton, AL 35650 • 800-927-4015 • 256-974-4005 • Fax 256-974-7548

# Lewter's Hardware Store



In 1928 our great-grandfather, D.A. Lewter, and our grandfather, J.M. Lewter, started the family business in a small store on Washington Street. They believed in offering fair prices, treating each customer with special respect and giving great service.

A hand saw cost \$2.50, a padlock 8 cents and a hammer could be purchased for 85 cents. A lawn mower sold for \$6.50 and a 100 lb. barrel of nails was \$2.25.

While our prices have gone up slightly we still provide the same quality service our fore-fathers insisted on. We are the same family, doing the same business in the same location. Stop by and visit with us.

**A Hardware Store....**

**The Way You Remember Them**

**222 Washington St - 539-5777**

*Domie Lewter*

*Mac Lewter*



*The finest full-service culinary experience possible.*

382 Slaughter Road  
Madison/Huntsville, Alabama 35758  
256-971-5200 tel · 256-971-5207 fax  
[restaurant.com/sistergooch](http://restaurant.com/sistergooch)

**Open 10 am to 9 pm  
Tuesday through Saturday**