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No. 159  
May 2006



# Old Huntsville

HISTORY AND STORIES OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY



## I Will Love You Forever

We each have a past and we deal with it in our own way. It may contain something so trivial, like being caught in a small lie that we are embarrassed to talk about. Or, it may be something so painful that we have consigned it to the back recesses of our mind, afraid to remember but terrified to forget.

For twenty minutes on a beautiful spring evening in 1989, Anna Kempka would see her past come rushing forward to confront her in a way she had never imagined.

**Also in this issue: The Story of Bulldog Daniel**

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# I Will Love You Forever

by **Caroline Parker**

As Anna waited for the waitress to bring her a glass of wine she casually glanced around the restaurant lounge. The Fogcutter was a popular place in town and already it was starting to fill up with the after-work crowd. Anna knew she was early but didn't really care, this was her 42nd wedding anniversary and she wanted to spend it dancing with her husband.

The couple were popular at the restaurant. The waitresses called them "Mrs. Anna" and "Mr. Bill" and would often stop to watch as they danced to the music of Roberta and her band. Anna smiled as she thought of her husband Bill. He was tied up with a late appointment at the office but promised he would be there as soon as he could get away.

Anna had often tried to imagine what her life would have been if she had not met Bill. In 1945 she was a displaced person, liv-

ing in a camp near Salzburg, Austria and he was an American soldier. She had no family or friends. Her only possessions were a pair of Luftwaffe overalls she had salvaged from an abandoned German army truck.

Anna Kempka was born in 1923 near a small village in southwest Poland. Her family were ethnic Germans who, although they had lived in Poland for over two hundred years, still considered themselves to be Germans. In 1939 the Nazis invaded Poland and the farm they lived on was confiscated. It became part of an artillery range and the family was forced to move.

Everyone was required to work for the "war effort." Anna was assigned to a factory that made shoes for the German army where she labored ten hours a day, six days a week. Her job was sewing the soles on the boots, but the machines were so old and worn out that often they would break down for days at a time.

The machinist assigned to repair her machine was Hans, a young man only a year older than her, with bright blue eyes and a shaggy mane of blond hair. The couple began seeing one another after work and within a short time had fallen in love.



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In 1944 the couple was married and life would have been perfect except for the war. They still considered themselves lucky though as Hans' job was considered vital to the war effort and there was little chance he would be called up

Germany was losing the war and basic necessities were almost impossible to obtain. Air raids had halted the transportation of food and many people were starving. Hans began stealing leather from the factory to trade on the black market for food. It was small amounts, just enough to trade for a few potatoes or a piece of fish.

Exactly six months from the day they got married Hans was arrested as he attempted to sneak some leather out of the factory. Germany was experiencing a severe manpower shortage so rather than being sentenced to jail, he was assigned to a penal battalion. These units were often assigned to the German army as ammo carriers, freight handlers or ditch diggers, thereby freeing more German soldiers for combat.

Anna never saw Hans again. Although she spent days walking from one office to another, no one had any information of his whereabouts. He was just another name, among millions of others, who had been swallowed up in a horrible world war.

In the final days of the war the Russians began entering the city. There were still some die hard German units who refused to give up and the Russians began obliterating large parts of the city with bombs and artillery. Anna's apartment was destroyed and both parents killed. With nothing but the dress on her back she fled to the safety of a nearby train station that had been turned into a refugee center. Anxiously she searched the crowds trying to find someone she knew, but there was no one. She was alone with no friends and nowhere to go.

Her home had become about twenty square feet of a bombed out railway station.

At that time, in the closing days of the war, it had become a custom to place small notices on the walls of the train station inquiring as to information on missing loved ones. People who had been bombed out would post a notice to let their family know where they were. Soldiers returning from the front, if they had a comrade from that city, would tape up notices letting families know what had happened to their sons or husbands.

**"I'm not crazy. I've just been in a very bad mood for 24 years."**

*Patty Jacobs, Decatur*

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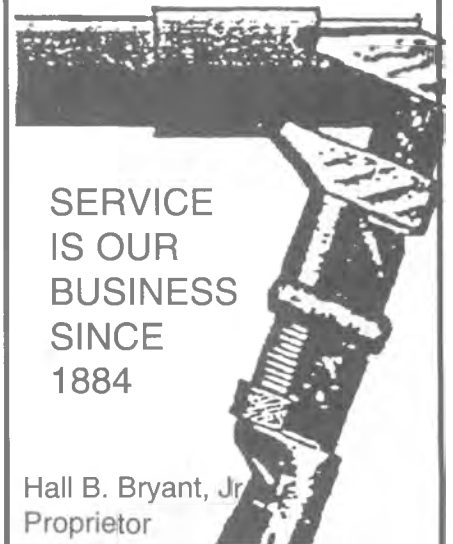
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"Because of your experienced staff

Betty's life was saved."



Steadman, Dr. Gilbert and Karen

As Anna searched the walls for the notice she had placed for Hans weeks earlier, her worst fears were confirmed. Someone had written on the bottom of it: "Killed - Cracow."

The following months were an unending, horrifying nightmare - searching garbage cans for a scrap of food - drunken Russian soldiers dragging screaming women off into the darkness - stepping over dead bodies to get a drink of water.

Every morning she would join long lines of people hoping to be selected for work in clearing the war damage. The only reward was a bowl of thin porridge, but it was enough to keep thousands of starving people coming back every day.

Anna met a truck driver who made trips back and forth to the American lines. After much pleading and begging he agreed to smuggle her across the border in exchange for her wedding ring and a few other pieces of jewelry she had managed to hold onto.

Several miles from the border the truck stopped on a dark side road. After opening the rear door the driver motioned for her to get out, telling her in no uncertain terms that he expected her to be nice to him before they went any further.

Screaming and fighting, Anna finally struggled to escape and began running into the darkness. Daylight found her at the edge of a large forest where several Ger-

man army trucks had been abandoned. There was no food but she salvaged a pair of Luftwaffe overalls which she put on in place of her ripped and tattered dress.

That afternoon while walking across a field she was picked up by American troops and sent to Salzburg, Austria where a huge camp for displaced persons had been set up. Going from the Russians to the Americans was like leaving Hell and going to Heaven. Things were still bad but there was now hope for a future.

That night as she lay on an army cot she began to listen to the conversations around her. Everyone was talking about where they were from, what they had lost and the horrors of the war.

Anna made a silent vow to herself that night. She would forget the past, erase it like it never happened, and live in the future.

After weeks of searching, Anna got a job as a cleaning woman for the American army. The pay was almost nothing but occasionally some G.I. would give her a pack of cigarettes or a piece of worn out clothing which she could trade. Her boss was a young red headed soldier named Bill, who was always playing practical jokes on everyone. Despite her misgivings Anna found herself attracted to him and when he finally asked her out, she readily agreed. On their first date Bill gave her a dress, "so he would not be seen with the enemy."

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The overalls quickly disappeared and Anna and Bill began seeing one another regularly. When he proposed getting a room in town and living together she did not hesitate. Being a soldier's mistress was better than starving to death.

Bill never asked questions about her past. Several times Anna tried to talk to him about her experiences but it was too painful. She was afraid to tell him about having been married before for fear he would ask if she still loved Hans.

Almost from the beginning Bill had talked about getting married but Anna never took it seriously. Every soldier told every girl friend the same story. Much to her surprise, right before Bill's enlistment was up he announced that he had started making arrangements for her to go to the United States.

In 1947 Bill was discharged. Eight months later, after countless interviews and stacks of paperwork, Anna joined him in Chicago where they were married. She still was not sure if she really loved him but was determined to live in the future and make the

best of it.

Years passed. Bill became an engineer and they had two children. In 1966 he was transferred to Huntsville where he worked on missile development. They made friends and became active in the community.

From all appearances they were a happy couple, but there was a dark secret constantly in the back of Anna's mind. Regardless of how long she was married to Bill, Hans would always be her husband.

Anna and Bill had always enjoyed going out for dinner and dancing and when the Fogcutter opened it became a favorite of theirs. Often times if he worked late, she would go on ahead so they could get their regular table.

As Anna waited for Bill she glanced casually around the dimly-lit lounge. It was still too early for most of the regulars. Most of the people there were business people from out of town, having a quick dinner before going back to their hotel rooms.

She didn't notice him at first; it was more like she felt him staring at her. Curious, she shifted her chair to get a better look at him.

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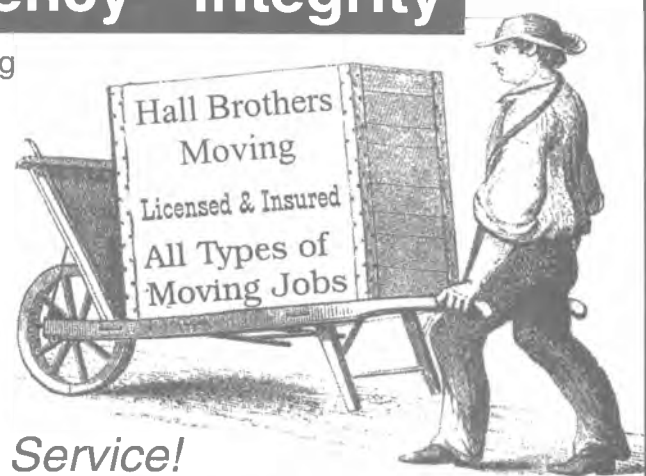
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He was a handsome elderly man, tall, well dressed and sitting by himself. She would have turned away had it not been for his eyes - they reminded her of someone whom she had known a half century earlier.

Suddenly she felt as if she was about to pass out.

The man got up and walked over to where she was sitting.

"Anna.....," he said. It was half question and half statement. "I knew it was you as soon as you walked in."

Anna was speechless but finally managed to say the name. "Hans..... I thought you were dead."

The words came pouring out. Hans told of being arrested, being sent to the front lines where he worked unloading trucks. When the Russians swept through he was captured, given a Russian uniform and a rifle, and sent back to the lines. The war ended but instead of being released he was sent to Russia where he was tried and convicted for allegedly helping the German war effort. The next eight years were spent in a prison camp where he worked in a lumber mill. When he was finally released he went home but no one was there. Neighbors told him that everyone in the apartment had been killed during the war.

He told of emigrating to the United States and living in Chicago, ironically only a few blocks from where Anna and Bill lived.

Anna finally managed to explain how she had found a notice

at the railway station saying he had been killed.

Almost as suddenly as they had began, the words quickly died out with neither knowing what to say.

After what seemed like minutes of silence Hans asked her, "Are you married?"

"Yes," replied Anna. "Two children." Noticing the ring on Hans' finger she asked, "You too?"

"Yes. Two boys and a girl." Hans instinctively reached for his wallet as if to show their pictures, then decided against it.

More silence passed as Anna stared into his eyes as if trying to remember someone from long ago. There was nothing else left to say. They set there silently for the next few minutes just watching each other, both think-

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3. *Dr. Space: The Life of Wernher von Braun* by Bob Ward \$29.95

4. *Through the Garden Gate: The Gardens of Historic Huntsville* by Donna Castellano \$30.00

5. *Alabama's Canyons: The Bankhead National Forest* by Charles Seifried & Jim Felder \$29.95

6. *Life in the Skillet; Memories of Lick Skillet, Ala.* by Pastor Harold Fanning \$13.99

7. *Tales of Huntsville Caves* by Huntsville Grotto, National Speleological Society \$12.95

8. *Why is it Named That? 250 Place Names in Huntsville/ Madison County* (new edition with a few corrections) by Dex Nilsson \$13.95

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ing of questions they knew they would never ask.

Suddenly her attention was drawn to a man walking into the lounge.

"Is that your husband?" asked Hans

"Yes."

"Do you love him?"

Suddenly Anna thought back about all the years she had known Bill. She thought about the hours he had spent patiently helping her learn English and about all the times he had been there to comfort her when she felt bad. She remembered how proud he was when their children were born and how he never let a day go by without saying he loved her.

Finally Anna replied, smiling for the first time. "Yes," she said in a soft voice, "I love my husband very much."

The look on Anna's face answered all of Hans' questions.

"It is best I go." Hans said as Bill approached the table. There was a trace of tears in his eyes. Taking a napkin from the table he wrote something on it before placing it gently in her hand and walking away.

When Bill sat down he imme-

diately sensed something was wrong. "Are you all right?" he asked.

"I'm fine," Anna replied. "I want to dance. I just want you to hold me."

As Anna and her husband danced to the slow tunes of the music she watched over his shoulder as Hans paid his check and walked out.

Late that night, hours after her husband had fallen asleep, she got up and went into the den. After turning a lamp on she retrieved the napkin from her purse. The words were simple but beautiful; a poignant reminder of what might have been.

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# The Quilt Story

by James T. Syler

My mother passed away one week before my third birthday. At this point in my life, I was brought to live with Mom's mother and dad, my grandparents. My father was a Methodist minister who, at that time, was preaching in Morgan County which adjoins Madison County, where I lived.

In a few years my father retired and moved to Gurley. He and his mother had deeded a small house to the Methodist conference and he was allowed to live there for the rest of his life. After his death in August of 1941, the Methodist conference gave the house to me. (Dad died when I was a senior in high school.) I never lived with him after Mom died. I would see him maybe one time each month. I knew very little about the Syler family due to the fact that I never lived with my dad after Mom's death.

At this point in time I didn't know where I had been born. My good wife secured my birth certificate later on.

So to begin the quilt story, our family had visited an aunt and uncle near New Hope. That morning I decided to try to find my birthplace. We headed for Scottsboro, Al., and went to the courthouse there. We were informed that the courthouse had burned and all the records for 1924 had been destroyed.

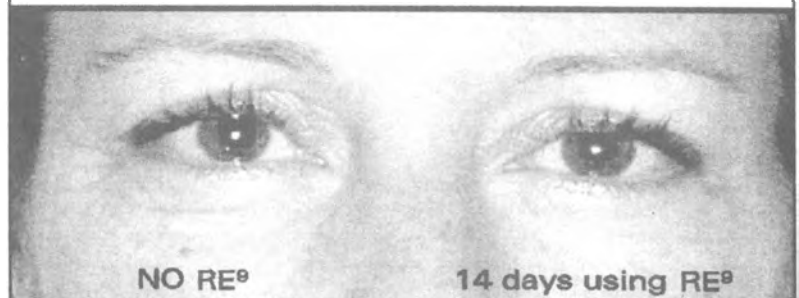
I had heard my father mention Stevenson, Al. so we headed there and found the Methodist church. Luck was with us that day and the pastor was in his office. I discussed my problem with him and he informed me that the church had burned, thus no records were available.

He thought for a few minutes, then told me that there was a lady who lived out of town, a Mrs. Graham, and if anyone remembered my father it would be her. He tried to give us directions to her home. I had never heard of this lady and didn't even know she existed. After trying a few gravel roads in vain, we finally found her home. All the roads we traveled on were dead ends. The road where

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she lived went so far back into the mountains we thought it would never end. Finally it did, at her home.

Before we meet Mrs. Graham, let me tell you about her home. It stood about 75 cement steps from the road. The home was made of logs, hand cut. There was a screened walkway from the house into a large cave. There was a large stream of cold water running from the cave, going under the house, then under the road and down into the valley. She had some butter, milk and cheese in containers tied to wires fastened to nails driven into cracks in the rocks. The cave had lights, and felt like it was air-conditioned.

Now to meet Mrs. Graham. I walked up the steps and knocked on the door. The door opened about six inches, and there was a step down to where she stood. She was very short in stature, so I was almost looking down at her. I spoke and asked if she had heard of a minister by the name of Syler. Well, that door opened wide and up the step she came and her first words to me were "And you are little Tommy!" I told her that yes, I was little Tommy.

By this time tears were flowing from both of us. She said the Lord had answered her many prayers. She hugged me as

though I were her long lost son. She said, "My children kept telling me, 'Mother, you will never see that boy, no telling where he is.' But I knew that one day you would come to this house before the Lord called me home."

She insisted that I go get my family and bring them in. I got the wife and two children and introduced them to Mrs. Graham. We entered her home.

Inside the room it was beautiful, it was made of solid cedar - walls and ceiling. After we were seated she said, "I have something for you."

You can imagine my thoughts at this time - what could a lady who I didn't know even existed have something for me? She came from a back room with a large paper sack and pulled out a quilt. She told me that my mother had made it to help raise


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money for a church building. There were small squares in which she had spelled each of the names with different colored thread. She also put the amount that each gave. There was no amount greater than \$1. I recognized several of my relatives' names on the thin quilt.

Mrs. Graham then told us that we needed to bring her over to her brother's home so that she could show him that I really existed. "My children will not believe me if I don't have someone to back me up!"

I have always believed that God led us to that home, and to Mrs. Graham that day. Later on I visited with the good lady on two different occasions. After my second visit Mrs. Graham went to be with her maker. That first day I met her was one of the greatest days of my life, and convinced me that with God's help, miracles do indeed happen.

## Dead Body Found On Porch

*from 1918 newspaper*

Yesterday morning E. C. Cary, of Merrimac, discovered a dead body on his porch as he prepared to leave for work. The body had one bullet hole in the back of the head and it is presumed he was shot before attempting to seek help at the Cary residence. The victim, yet to be identified, had a sizable amount of cash on his person.

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# Huntsville News From 1885

- A number of cows have been disobeying the city ordinance by not being in their beds, like all good cows at the right hour.

These naughty creatures have been doing much damage. Some of them broke into the gardens of our citizens the other night and created sad havoc among the rose bushes and other plants. The authorities would do well to watch east Holmes street and impound the bovines.

- For Rent - the valuable plantations belonging to the Estate of the late Josiah Springer, deceased. Apply to Allen R. Campbell and Lawrence Cooper

- In the case of Binder, the man who, a few weeks ago, placed a cross tie on the track of the M&C Railway three miles below Huntsville, Judge Richardson decided yesterday to send him to the State Lunatic Asylum at Tuscaloosa. Binder, it will be remembered, was the party who attempted to hew down the flag staff at the National

Cemetery, in Chattanooga, and also raised considerable cain at the engine room of the Bell Factory, recently.

- Two days ago the "Stick Ringing" man took possession of the corner of Randolph Street and the square, and he did quite a thriving business. Yesterday the "Electric Shock Battery" man installed himself on the other corner and his machine attracted a large crowd all day.



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**Sometimes Nothing Else Will Do!**

# Social News From 1881

- Mrs. Gen. Drake left today, for Hot Springs, Ark., for the benefit of the baths.

- We regret to learn that the wife of J. Henry Landman is seriously ill.

- The sad news reaches us, today, that Fulton, a son of Mr. B.C. Lancer 14 years old, died yesterday, after about six weeks illness.

- Mr. D.H. Caswell of Nashville, is again in our city, looking after the interests of the Cooton Seed Oil Factory. He has 15 or 20 men engaged in removing old frame buildings and preparing the ground for other buildings.

- Robert L. McCalley, Esq. has been here several days, and left for his home at Brierfield, Bibb Co., Ala. today. He looked hale, hearty and happy - as though marriage agreed with him. He was especially elated at having acquired one-third interest in the Brierfield Iron Works, of which we'll have more to say next week.

- Harry C. Faris, a Huntsville boy, arrived here from Texas, on Thursday morning last, after an absence of about three years. He left on Monday last to visit his mother, in Jackson county.

- Postmaster Reed returned last Sunday, after several weeks absence in Massachusetts.

- Horace Clay, son of Mr. Theo. S. Clay, and Joe McDonald, son of Jos. B. McDonald Esq. had a difficulty at Madison yesterday, in which Horace was severely, and dangerously, cut in the side of his neck with a pocket knife. Both are young men.

*From 1881 newspaper*

## Looking for Information!

My name is Doug Raney, and I would like to correspond with anyone who attended third grade at Grace Lutheran in Huntsville, during the years 1970-71.

If you did, please call me at (703) 927-6716

Thank you!

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# Building A Home

by Nell Rutledge Porter

In 1912 my parents bought a track of virgin timber. They cleared enough trees and underbrush to build a house. They built a very small building in which to rive boards. The boards would be used to cover our house.

They spent alot of time riving boards. First, they sawed a log into the proper lengths. Then each rounded side was split off. That made it square, sort of resembling a small railroad cross tie.

You could use a smooth stump, cut off about 3 feet high, on which to rive boards.

First they decided how thick to make the boards, then by using a froe (a thick-bladed ax), gave it a quick tamp with a maul. If the proper wood was used, the

boards would quickly fall forward.

After the correct number of boards were made, they were seasoned. Boards used too soon would shrink, making holes in the roof.

Daddy would use a dry stable in the barn. He used a long plank, across the stable, tacking it at each end. He stood the shingles, teepee style, across the plank. Thus they would season.

Usually they worked at riving boards at night by using a lantern or on rainy days when they couldn't get outside.

Building a house today is much easier.

**"For sale - An antique desk suitable for lady with thick legs and large drawers."**

*Seen in recent classified ads*

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# Dynamite and Hogs Don't Mix

A remarkable case of dynamite explosion is related by Henry Simpson, a resident of this county. Simpson has been using dynamite for the purpose of blowing several old stumps out of the ground. Yesterday he carelessly left the dangerous compound lying by the side of a stump on which he intended to begin operations this morning.

The dynamite was mixed with sawdust, and gave an exceedingly pleasant odor, which attracted the attention of two of Simpson's hogs, which soon had converted themselves into gigantic cartridges.

The stuff, when eaten, creates a particular sensation, which annoyed one of the hogs to such an

extent that it entered Simpson's stable and began rutting inside against a post at the mouth of a mule's stall.

The mule remained passive for but a few moments, when It gave the hog a terrific kick in the side. A tremendous explosion followed, and after the clearing away of the smoke and dust the hog was to be found only in detachments, while an enormous aperture marked the spot where it stood. The mule received a tremendous shock, but was still intact. The other hog

is now running at large, greatly to the terror of the entire neighborhood. No reward is being offered for its capture. Neither of those hogs belongs to Mr. Joseph P. Mulhatton.

From an 1887 Newspaper



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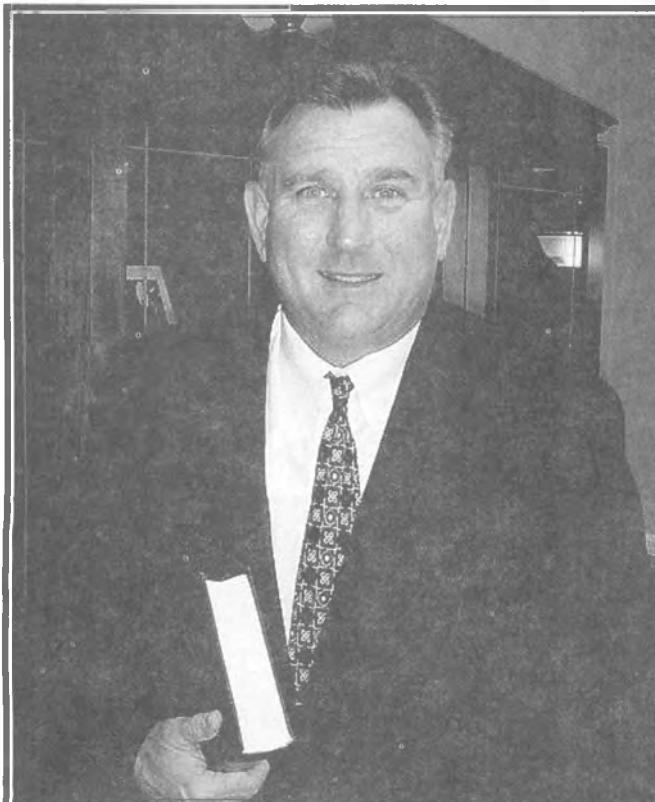
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# Heard On The Street

by *Cathey Carney*



We had so many calls for the Photo of the Month last month, but only the first one wins - and that caller was **Glenn Brackin**. The adorable baby in the bathtub was **Richard Van Valkenburgh**, of Van Valkenburgh & Wilkinson. **Glenn**, as many of you remember, worked for Channel 48 years ago, and knew Richard's dad **Dick Van Valkenburgh** when he was associated with Channel 31. Congratulations, Glenn!

We were so sorry to hear that **Fred Webster** died, at the young age of 63. Fred was a dear friend to many in Huntsville, and worked for Ashburn & Gray/APAC for 42 years. He will certainly be missed.

If you've ever been to C.T. Garvin, you probably saw **Emma Wilbanks**. She loved gardening and people. Emma died in April and we send our deepest sympathy to her family & friends.

It was great to see **Ann** and **Ed Trentham** at the performance of "Lord of the Dance." Their daughter, **Susan Trentham** and son-in-law **Brandon Owens** now live in Tucson, AZ and love it.

We are sure proud of **Rick Jobe**. His ordination as a minister took place in late April. This is the culmination of lots of hard

work and preparation.

Last week while I was shopping for flowers at Earth Touch on south Whitesburg Drive, I talked with **Tera Wilder** who lives in Old Town too and is getting ready for the **Old Town Hidden Gardens Tour** in early June. I was thrilled to find some really unusual plants there!

Congratulations to **Jack Farrington** and his beautiful wife **Beverly** on their 21st wedding anniversary. They make a great couple & are still honeymooning!

It was good to see **Parker Griffith** recently. He's running against **Phil Dotts** for State Senate. That's going to be an interesting race to watch!

We were sad to learn of the death of **Luther Wikle**. We send our deepest sympathy to his daughter **Ruth Ann Dean**, son-in-law **Pluitt Dean**, and all their friends and family.

My favorite ladies at the Clinton Avenue Post Office are **Linette Fortenberry** and **Shirl McCorkle**. They make going to

the post office fun, even if you're going with your tax returns!

Many in Huntsville worked for **Thiokol Chemical Corporation** years ago. Even though the company has changed and no longer has a presence here in Huntsville, the former employees still like to get together each year and catch up with each other.

We attended their breakfast in April, and some of the folks we spoke with were **Linda & John DeHay, Jane & Tony Guzzo, Sam & Nora Zeman, Jack and Judy Godsey, Chuck & Annelie Owens, John D. Brown, "Foots" McCauley** and **Nita Boyd**.

**Tom Bryant**, President of the Huntsville Division Alumni Asso. (Thiokol) is well known for riding his bicycle to work at UAH every day. He had a bad accident recently on his bike, but is doing fine with sweet wife **Carole** taking care of him.

It was good to see **Helen Acuff**. She and **Ann Schrimsher** are working on the Rison-Dallas Association cookbook that will be wonderful! I can't wait to see it.

We were so sorry to hear that

## Photo of The Month

The first person to correctly identify the youngster below wins a full one-year subscription to "Old Huntsville" magazine.

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Hint: This little girl knows all about Huntsville's society.



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**Bill Drake's** younger brother, **Don Drake** of Atlanta, died recently, much too early. We send our love to **Bill & Linda**, and their family and many friends.

**Johnny Johnston** spoke recently at Redstone Village to a packed room. He talked about the old airport when it was on Airport road; many of our readers may remember that. He was a hit with the group and has some really funny stories!

In the group was a petite lady, **Anjelica Wilhelm**, who told me she has a birthday in May. She said she is turning 100! Happy birthday to you Anjelica!

**Beta Sigma Phi** sorority is certainly seeing a lot of new grandbabies recently! **Vivian** and **Bill Kruse** welcomed little **Lauren Abigail Phillips** into the world recently. Parents are **Jason & Anita Phillips**, of Mandeville, La. **Barbara** and **Chuck Saunders** are the proud grandparents of **Lillian Alexandra Saunders**, born to parents **Kyle** and **Holly Saunders** and living near Chattanooga. **Joyce Russell** recently welcomed little grandson **Hayden Edward Keefer**. Parents are her daughter **Wendy & Wyatt Keefer**.

**Jane & Louie Tippett** were recently shopping for bushes at Bennett's Nursery on north Parkway, and told me how much they enjoyed being there. It's like a huge peaceful park with music, amazing plants, soft drinks and food. Like therapy for the soul! **George Bennett** was giving good advice on when & where to plant, etc.

**Karen Dekko** was seen eating recently at Thai Garden and is sure looking good!

The Sheriff's primary is going to be a difficult choice. We have two good friends, **Tim Clardy** and **Tommy Hooper**, competing to run against our friend **Blake Dorning**. We're lucky to have such quality candidates to choose from!

It was great to see our good buddy **Hall Bryant** recently. That man has more stories than Books A Million and we sure love listening to them!

Get out those walking shoes and come visit the beautiful old homes in Old Town & Twickenham! It's great exercise! See you this time next month.



## New Arrivals!

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by Shelli Segal

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# Carol Christopher's Favorites

*Carol Christopher, of Southern Home & Hearth, recently shared some of her favorite recipes with us!*

## Tasty Olive Spread Snack

- 6 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 c. mayonnaise
- 1 c. chopped green salad olives
- 2 T. liquid from olives
- Dash ground pepper
- 1/2 c. chopped pecans

Combine the cream cheese and mayonnaise in a medium bowl and mix well. Add the liquid from olives & pepper - mix well. Fold in pecans and salad olives. The mixture might be a little thin at first, but will thicken. Spread on crackers for a snack or make a sandwich with lettuce and tomato. Spread can be refrigerated for up to 2 weeks.

## Easy "No Bake" Peanut Butter Pie

- 3 oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 1/4 c. peanut butter (crunchy or smooth)
- 1 c. powdered sugar
- 8 oz. carton non-dairy whipped topping
- 1 graham cracker pie crust

Blend together first three ingredients. Fold in whipped topping and pour into crust. Top with chocolate chips (optional). Refrigerate until ready to serve. (You could also drizzle caramel syrup over the top.)

## 5-Minute White Chocolate Hazelnut Pie

- 1 1/4 c. cold milk
- 2 T. hazelnut flavor instant coffee

- 2 pkgs (4-serving size) white chocolate flavor instant pudding
- 1 8 oz. tub non-dairy whipped topping, divided
- 1 chocolate pie crust

Beat milk, instant coffee, pudding mixes and 1/2 of the whipped topping in a medium sized bowl with wire whisk for 1 minute. Spread thick filling into crust. Top with remaining whipped topping, serve immediately or refrigerate until ready to serve. Garnish as you like.

## Quick Strawberry Dessert

Stir strawberry jelly or jam into sliced strawberries, let stand at least 10 minutes for berries to exude their juices.

Spoon over shortbread cookies, add some rich vanilla ice cream and top with more crumbled cookies.

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## Cream Cheese Cookie Cake

2 pkgs. (3 oz.) cream cheese,  
softened

1 c. powdered sugar

1 pkg. sugar cookie dough,  
softened

1/2 c. canned milk

1 t. vanilla

1 can fruit pie filling (cherry  
or blueberry)

Preheat oven to suggested  
temperature on cookie dough  
package. Grease a 9" springform  
pan.

Press cookie dough on the bot-  
tom and sides only bringing the  
dough half way up the sides. Bake  
until golden brown. The cookie  
will rise.

Once you remove cookie from  
oven, while still warm, press  
down cookie to the original form  
of dough to make room for the fill-  
ing.

Let cookie cool.

Mix softened cream cheese,  
powdered sugar, milk and vanilla  
until creamy smooth. Pour mix-  
ture onto the cooled cookie crust.  
Top with the fruit filling.

Chill for 2 hours. Remove  
from ring before serving.

## Alligator Pecan Pie

1 unbaked, 9 inch, deep dish  
pie shell

### 1st Layer:

8 oz. cream, cheese, room  
temperature

1/3 c. sugar

1 egg

1/8 t. salt

1 t. vanilla

1 3/4 c. pecan halves

With electric mixer, beat  
cream cheese until smooth. Add  
sugar and mix for 3 minutes at  
medium speed. Beat in egg, salt  
and vanilla. Spread evenly  
in bottom of pie shell. Place pecans  
next in single layer on top.

### 2nd Layer:

3 eggs

1/4 c. sugar

1 c. dark corn syrup

1 t. vanilla

Beat eggs with sugar for 2  
minutes at medium speed. Beat  
in corn syrup and vanilla. Pour  
mixture over pecans. Bake in pre-  
heated 375 degree oven for 35 to  
40 minutes. Cream cheese will  
puff over syrup layer and will  
thicken. Cool before cutting.

"School books say now that  
our sun is really a star. But it  
still knows how to change  
back into a sun in the daytime.

*Hannah Troup, age 5 1/2*



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# News From 1923

- Henry Cable and Charley Webb, Negroes, were up in city court this morning on a charge of violating the traffic law. They had a collision with a car and a buggy on Washington street Wednesday night. It seems that it was unavoidable accident and the Mayor discharged both of the men.

An amusing part of the testimony in this case was told by Cable, who said that Webb was driving his buggy faster than he (Cable) was driving his car and that he was driving his car about ten miles an hour. He said that Webb's wife was chasing close on behind him and that Webb was trying to get away from her for he had another woman in the buggy with him.

- An automobile wreck occurred last night at the corner of Church and Holmes streets when a Standard Oil truck driven by S. H. Bice and a taxi owned by A. E. Overton collided in which the car of Mr. Overton was slightly damaged. None of the drivers were injured too badly.

- There was only one case in City Court this morning, that of Floyd Wallace, who was up on a charge of disorderly conduct. He pled guilty to hitting a Negro woman in the head with a hatchet and was fined \$10.

- George Tinny was arrested last night, for the fifth time this month, on charges of public drunkenness. The judge is not expected to be very lenient this time.

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Andy Karabinos - Hartwell Lutz - John Martin - Hank Miller - Archie Murchie - Tom Neely  
Robert Overall - Chuck Owens - Wilbur Patterson - Pasqual Rico - Roscoe Roberts  
Donald Royston - Bill Russell - Bill Sevey - Reggie Skinner - Joe Sloan - Walt Terry - John Vaughn  
Ben Vizzier - Ray Weinberg - James Winning - Sam Zeman

# Famous People

by Johnny Johnston

We all know about Dr. Von Braun, one of the very famous Huntsville people who claimed this as home for years while heading the Marshall Flight Center. I also remember other people who occupied a spot light or two and for one reason or another crossed my path.

I was a very young 18 or so when someone told me that Tallulah Bankhead was coming through the Huntsville Airport Terminal. Now, I had heard that name all my life. My Father had pointed to the third floor window of the I. Shiftman building and told me that Miss Bankhead, a famous movie star and daughter of a U.S. Senator, was born in that room.

If my Father had not pointed to the window and told me of her fame I would not have known who she was. Matter of fact at my ripe old age I still could not name one movie she appeared in without looking it up. However, I did make an effort to meet Miss Bankhead on that day just so I could write this article and say "I met Tallulah Bankhead". I remember

that she was getting up in years but still had that very, very deep voice which ( I am told) was her trademark in the movies. "Dahling", as she was known, starred in 19 movies from 1918 through 1936. She was famous as a "naughty girl". I love some of the quotes she is attributed with, like "I'm as pure as the driven slush". And "If I had to live my life again, I'd make the same mistakes, only sooner" and "Nobody can be exactly like me. Sometimes even I have trouble doing it".

She was the first household name I had met. After joining Eastern Airlines we had another visitor come into the building who was definitely a movie star. Cornell Wilde had made several movies that did well before, during, and just after World War II. Mr. Wilde was here to determine if he should participate in a move which was to be filmed in some of the local caves. I don't think the move was ever filmed. I was very impressed with his presence. He was tall, dark and I guess handsome. He was accommodating to all us locals who hung around just to hear him say a few words and also

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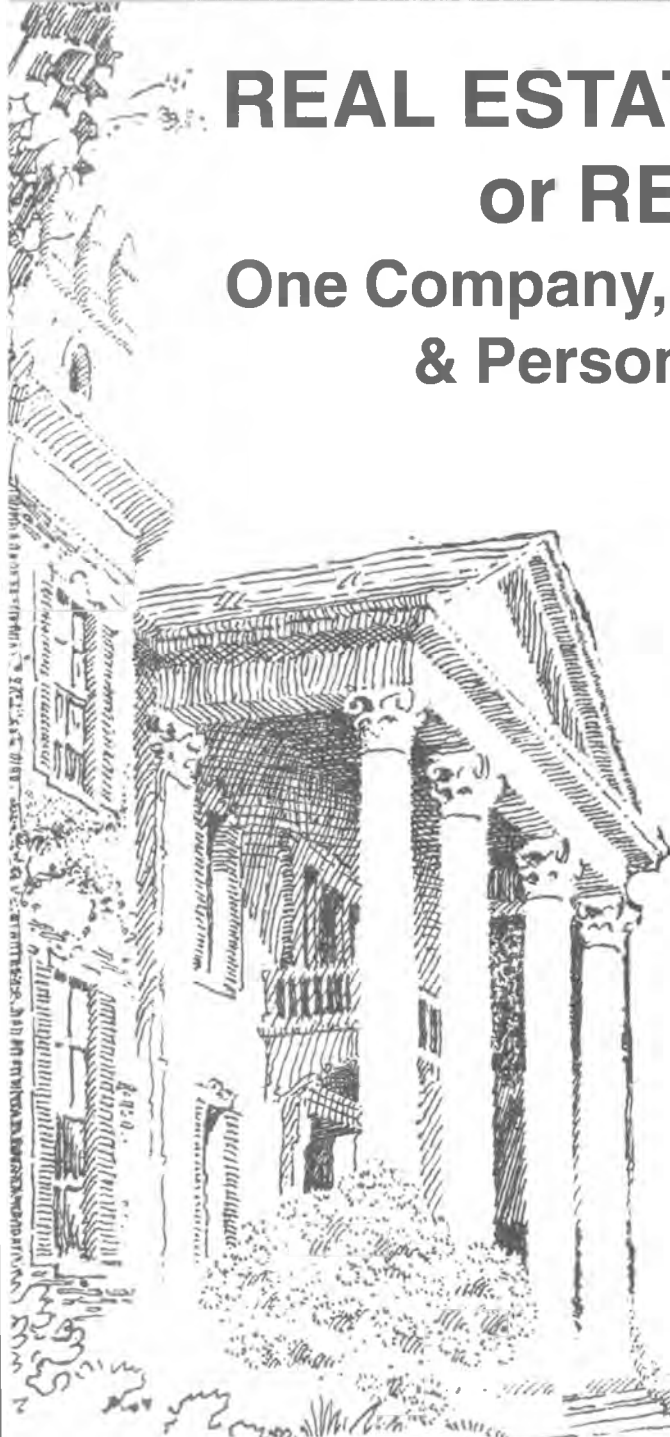
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to add the experience to this article. I kept waiting for him to bring his beautiful wife, Miss Jean Simmons by to say hello but somehow she waited at the local Motel for him to get the airline business taken care of. What I always wondered was where did he get such a cheap suit?

In the 60's we began having a lot of well known people around in addition to the Von Braun group. They were the original Astronauts. It was not unusual to see all seven of them in the terminal at one time. Most were very friendly, one or two were not. They appeared to be very much like everyone who worked at the "Bullitt Plant" as we locals called it in those days. They were focused, friendly and always on a mission.

I remember looking into the baggage bin one day to see a fellow employee playing a guitar which belonged to a country music star named Earnest Ashworth. It was out of the case and my friend was having a ball playing that instrument. Earnest actually went to Lincoln School in my sister's class. He was playing at a night club in Germany in the 50's while my sister and her husband

were stationed there. Mr. Ashworth called her to the stage and made quite a deal of their connection. He wrote and performed a song which became a "standard" called "Talk Back Trembling Lips". Many radio stations still play that song after over 50 years.

Donnie Mincher was our homegrown hero in the professional sports field. Donnie was one year behind me beginning in Lincoln School so we knew each other for many years. That didn't help one night in 1972, at the Kansas City Ballpark. The Rangers were playing Kansas City

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and my old friend Donnie was First Baseman for the Rangers. I remember it well; it was the exact day that George Wallace was badly wounded in an attempted assassination. I was in Kansas City on Eastern Airlines business and was determined to say hello to Donnie.

I was staying at the Muehlebach Hotel; so was the team. I located several members of the team in the restaurant of the hotel but didn't see Donnie. I asked several of the players where I could find him. Protecting his privacy, they played dumb. The Manager of the Rangers took over and said "If you know Donnie you must know where he lives." I said "Yes, he lives in Meridianville, Al.", he said "No, he lives in Huntsville so I guess you don't really know him."

I went to the game anyway, sent him a note, yelled at him during warm up, all the things a groupie does; but he never knew I was there.

Twenty years ago I approached the players of the newly formed Huntsville Stars in the gate house of the Atlanta Terminal. Since I was the only Huntsville citizen there, I decided to welcome them home to Huntsville and had a really nice visit. Some of those players are now the most "Famous or Infamous", baseball players in the U.S.A.

Probably the person from Huntsville who got the most exposure over the longest period of time was Broadway Stage, Movie and TV star Harry Townes.

Mr. Towns was born in Huntsville Sept. 18, 1914, on the corner of Eustis Avenue and Greene Street. He appeared in several movies which became standards after a few years. His first acting job was the Broadway Production of "Tobacco Road" which began in 1936. Movies he appeared in were "Brothers Karamazov", "Cry Tough", "Operation Manhunt", "The Mountain Sanctuary", "The Hawaiians" as well as numerous TV shows including "Bonanza."

Mr. Townes recorded a television commercial in the 80's for Oreo Cookies which most people will remember him for. In the commercial he was sitting with a small boy who offered him an Oreo. He felt disturbed by the boy and took a cookie just to get him off his back. It was so good that Mr. Townes asked the Flight Attendant to bring them milk and to the delight of the audience they had a wonderful time.

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Mr. Townes later told that when he left California to retire in Huntsville that friends gave him a farewell party and presented him with a large Oreo Cookie made of plaster. They also gave him a Sterling Silver Cookie Jar which was filled with Oreo Cookies.

During the 50's Huntsville also had other stars in its presence. Maxine Walker was the winner of the National Cherry Pie Baking contest. She was presented at the White House where Mrs. Eisenhower actually ate some of her pie. Maxine was a student at Butler High School.

And we can't forget our own 1955 Butler Graduate, Songwriter, Singer, and all around great guy Norman Stephens. Norman wrote several hits including "Daddy Don't You Walk so Fast" and others. He appeared on several Television shows and the Grand Ole Opry. Norman was also known to help aspiring artists. He has related stories to me of future star Eddie Rabbit cutting his grass in Nashville and mentioned other stars who wrote songs in his home, also in Nashville.

I have mentioned before Michael Christian who was my playmate when we were very small. His grandmother, Mrs. Durham, lived next door to us on Maple Street in Lincoln. That

is where Michael and his sister, Pat, spent summers. Michael has been hailed as a hero by Senator John McCain of Arizona and others. They were both POW's and shared a cell together during the Vietnam war. Michael was home for a while after being freed in the 70's and one of my big regrets is that I didn't see him before he died a few years later. Michael was a true American Hero.

I am proud to have called him my friend.



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- 2 2/3 c. light brown sugar
- 3/4 c. milk
- 3 T. butter
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 1 c. chopped pecans

Boil sugar, milk and butter, stirring as little as possible til it forms a soft ball in cold water (236 degrees).

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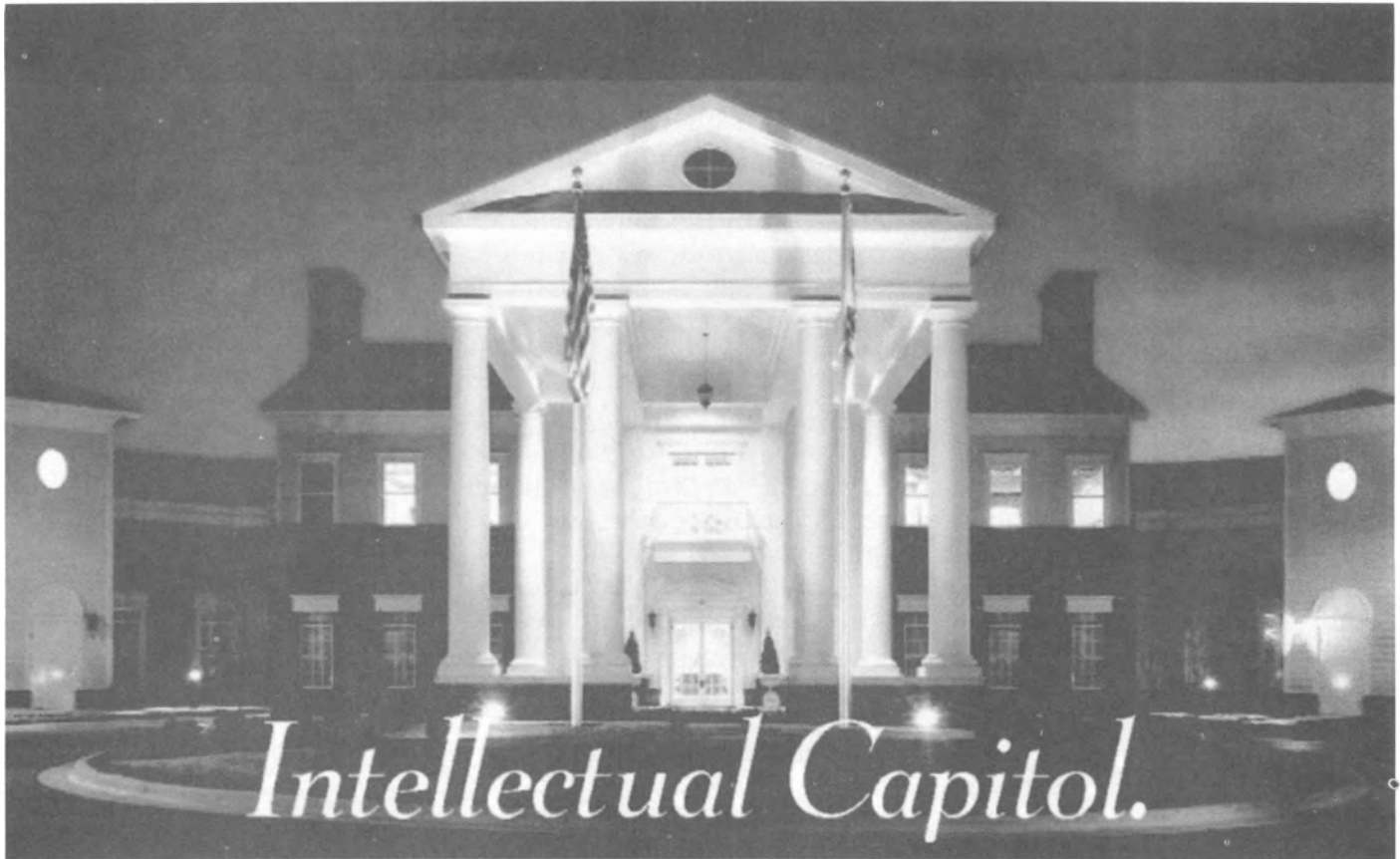
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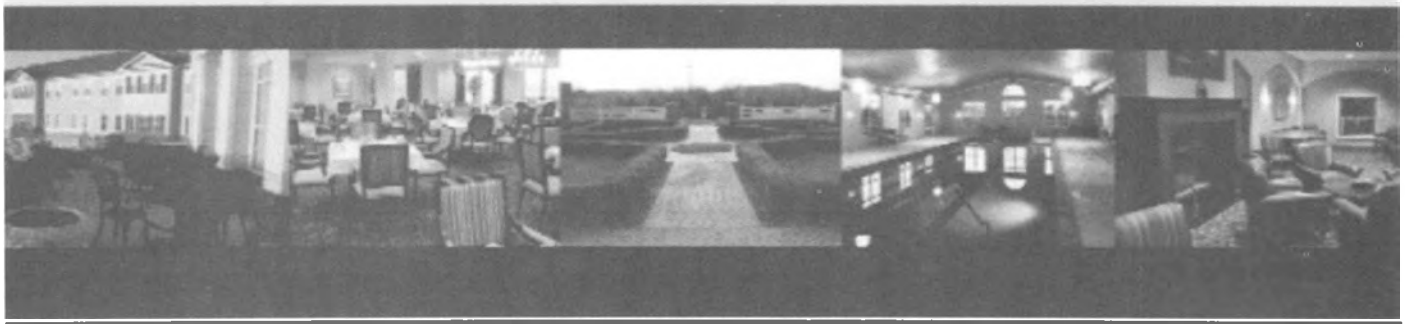


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# Household Tips From Liz

- For a cool, wet and FREE fun day, take your grandkids to the Children's Fountain behind Early Works, at the corner of Williams & Fountain. You will all LOVE it!

- If you can see air under your doors - inside doors or outside - hot air is getting in. To save money on your utility bill, buy one of those 3-foot "Draft Dodgers" that you can put against the crack for each door and keep the hot air out. (Looks like a long hot dog). I found a good one at the Senior Center Gift Shop on Drake Avenue and it's made a huge difference! Keeps cold air out during winter too!

- When eating out, be sure and check the glasses & silverware - often times they are not cleaned properly and you should request clean ones.

- Some plants that will tolerate drought in your garden are Vinca, Verbena, juniper, geranium and Ivy.

- Raw sugar (turbinado) is just

refined sugar with molasses added for color - don't pay the extra price for it.

- Cottage cheese and sour cream will last longer in the fridge if you store it upside down. Many chefs swear by this, as the effects of oxidation are slowed down.

- Don't buy frozen foods if there are large ice crystals on the packages, foods may have been thawed and re-frozen.

- If you can stop eating by 7:00 p.m. each evening, and are a bit overweight, you will very likely lose 10 pounds at the end of a month. It's not easy though!

- A dull knife works better to cut cheese. Warm the knife and the cheese will cut like butter.

- The best quality olive oil is "Extra Virgin", made from finest plump olives. Next is Virgin, then Pure olive oil.

- To avoid a hangover, take your vitamin & mineral tablets during the period you are drinking. Take Vit. B1, B2, Niacin, pantothenic acid & biotin, in amounts per the bottle. Also, eat a cup of yogurt prior to your party.

- Dripped coffee has almost twice the caffeine as instant.

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# Life At Home During The Civil War

by **Walter Fleming**  
(written in 1911)

Before the war, most articles of clothing were purchased in the North or imported from abroad. Now that the blockade shut Alabama off from all sources of supply, the people had to make their cloth and clothing at home.

The factories in the South could not even supply the needs of the army, and there was a universal return to primitive and frontier conditions. Old wheels and looms were brought out, and others were made like them.

The state government bought large quantities of cotton and wool cards for the use of poor people. The women worked incessantly. Every household was a small factory, and in an incredibly short time the women mastered the intricacies of looms, spinning-wheels, warping frames, swifts, etc.

The area devoted to the cultivation of cotton was restricted by law, but more than enough was raised to supply the few factories then operating, principally for the government, and to supply the spinning-wheels and hand looms of the people.

As a rule, each member of the family had a regularly allotted task for each day in spinning or weaving. The young girls could not weave, but could spin; while the women became expert at weaving and spinning and made beautiful cloth.

All kinds of cotton goods were woven, coarse homespun, sheetings, coverlets, counterpanes, a kind of muslin, and various kinds of light cloth for women's dresses. Wool was grown on a large scale as the war went on, and the women wove flannels, plaids, balmorals, blankets, and carpets. Gray jeans were woven to make clothing for the soldiers, who had almost no clothes except those sent them by their home people. A soldier's pay would not buy a shirt,

even when he was paid, which was seldom the case. Nearly every one wove homespun, dyed with home-made dyes, and it was often very pretty. The women took more pride in their neat homespun dresses than they did before the war in the possession of silks and satins.

At the close of the war my mother was twelve years old; for more than two years she had been doing a woman's task at spinning. Her sister had been spinning for a year, though she was only six years old.

Many of the heavier articles woven during the war, such as coverlets, counterpanes, rugs, etc., are still, after forty years, almost as good as new. But they could not make enough cloth to supply both army and people, and old clothes

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stored away were brought out and used to the last scrap.

When worn out, the rags were unraveled and the short threads spun together and woven again into coarse goods. Pillow-cases and sheets were cut up for clothes and were replaced by homespun substitutes, and window curtains were made into women's clothes.

Carpets were made into blankets. There were no blanket factories, and the legislature appropriated the carpets in the capitol for blankets for the soldiers. Some people went to the tanyards and got hair from horse and cow hides and mixed it with cotton to make heavy cloth for winter use, which is said to have made a good-looking garment.

Once in a long while the father or brother in the army would send home a bolt of calico, or even just enough to make one dress. Then there

would be a very proud woman in the land.

Sometimes fortunate persons succeeded in buying for a few hundred dollars some dress material that had been brought through the blockade. A calico dress cost in central Alabama from \$100 to \$400, other material in proportion.

Sewing thread was made by the home spinners with infinite trouble, but it was never satisfactory. Buttons were made of pasteboard, pine bark, cloth, thread, persimmon seed, gourds, and wood covered with cloth. Pasteboard, for buttons and other uses, was made by pasting several layers of old papers together with flour paste.

Sewing societies were formed for pleasure and to aid soldiers and the poor. At stated intervals great quantities of clothing and supplies were sent to the soldiers in the field and to the hospitals. All women became



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expert in crocheting and knitting - the occupations for leisure moments. Even when resting, one was expected to be doing something.

After dark, when one could not see to sew, spin, or weave, was usually the time devoted to knitting and crocheting, which sometimes lasted until midnight. Capes, sacks, vandykes, gloves, socks and stockings, shawls, underclothes, and men's suspenders were knitted. The makers ornamented them in various ways, and the ornamentation served a useful purpose, as

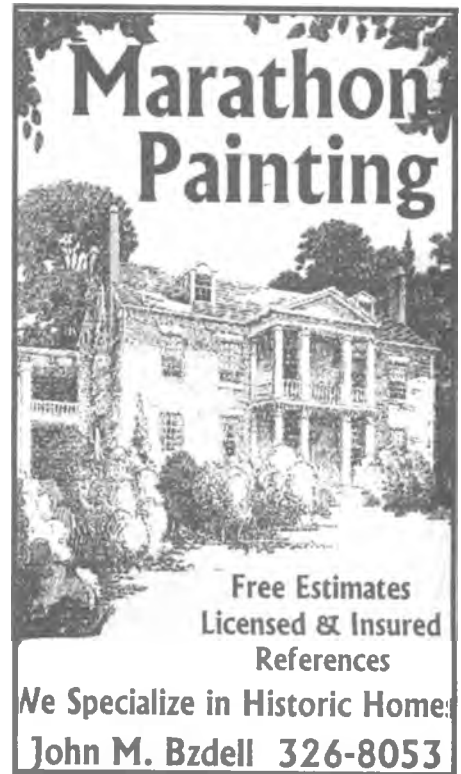
the thread was usually coarse and uneven, and the ornamentation concealed the irregularities that would have shown in plain work.

The smoothest thread that could be made was used for knitting. To make this thread the finest bolls of cotton were picked before rain had fallen on them and stained the fibre.

The homespun cloth had to be dyed to make it look well, and, as the ordinary dye materials could not be obtained, substitutes were made at home from barks, leaves, roots, and berries.

Much experimentation proved the following results: Maple and sweet gum bark with copperas produced purple; maple and red oak bark with copperas, a dove color; maple and red walnut bark with copperas, brown; sweet gum with copperas, a nearly black color; peach leaves with alum, yellow; sassafras root with copperas, drab; smooth sumac root,

bark, and berries, black; black oak bark with alum, yellow; artichoke and black oak, yellow; black oak bark with oxide of tin,



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- 1 box brown sugar
- 3 eggs, beaten lightly
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 2 c. plain flour
- 1 can coconut, 3 1/2 oz.
- 1 c. pecans, chopped

Mix butter & brown sugar in bowl. Add eggs and vanilla, gradually stir in the flour; add coconut & nuts.

Bake for 40 minutes at 300 degrees in 9 x 12" greased pan.



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pale yellow to bright orange; black oak bark with oxide of iron, drab; black oak balls in a solution of vitriol, purple to black; alder with alum, yellow; hickory bark with copperas, olive; hickory bark with alum, green; white oak bark with alum, brown; walnut roots, leaves, and hulls, black.

Copperas was used to "set" the dye, but when copperas was not to be had blacksmith's dust was used instead. Pine tree roots and tops, and dogwood, willow bark, and indigo were also used in dyes.

Shoes for women and children were made of cloth or knitted uppers or of the skins of squirrels or other small animals, fastened to leather or wooden soles. A girl considered herself very fortunate if she could get a pair of "Sunday" shoes of calf or goat skin. There were shoemakers in each community, all old men or cripples, who helped the people with their makeshifts. Shoes for men were made of horse and cow hides, and often the soles were of wood.

Shoe blacking was made from soot mixed with lard or oil of ground-peas or of cotton-seed. This was applied to the shoe and

over it a paste of flour or starch gave a good polish.

Old bonnets and hats were turned, trimmed, and worn again. Pretty hats were made of cloth or woven from dyed straw, bulrushes, corn-shucks, palmetto, oat and wheat straw, bean-grass, jeans, and bonnet squash, and sometimes of feathers.

Hair-oil was made from roses and lard. Thin-haired unfortunates made braids and switches from prepared bark.

The ingenious makeshifts and substitutes of the women were innumerable. They were more original than the men in making use of what material lay ready to hand or in discovering new uses for various things. The few men at home, however, were not always of the class that make discoveries or do original things. In an account of life on the farms and plantations in the South during the war, the white men may almost be left out of the story.

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**Vee Connely, age 4**

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# Shootout Leaves Editor Wounded

*From 1896 newspaper*

The rapid firing of pistol shots a few minutes of 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon alarmed the citizens and caused many to run up near the Masonic Hall to learn the cause. Those first on the scene found Mr. Frank Coleman, surrounded by several ladies and gentlemen, standing with a pistol in his hand and a few feet distant. Mr. R. E. Spragins, also a pistol in his hand, talking to several gentlemen.

The two gentlemen had been firing at each other with pistols. The facts, as gathered by witnesses who saw the shooting, show that Mr. Spragins was passing up the street toward his home, and when in front of the Masonic Hall, Mr. Coleman came

up rapidly following him and when within a few steps, Mr. Spragins looked back and saw him. Mr. Coleman immediately cried, "What you said yesterday was unwarranted! Defend yourself!" and fired two shots before Mr. Spragins could get his pistol out.

Spragins fired and Coleman began retreating and fired two more shots. Spragins fired a second shot, the ball striking Mr. Coleman's watch in his vest pocket, shattering it. Mr. Coleman immediately cried out, turning to Col. Scruggs, "I am hit and my pistol is empty."

Scruggs raised his hand to Spragins who was in the act of firing, and asked him not to shoot. Spragins replied, "All right, Colonel," and raised the muzzle of his pistol in the air.

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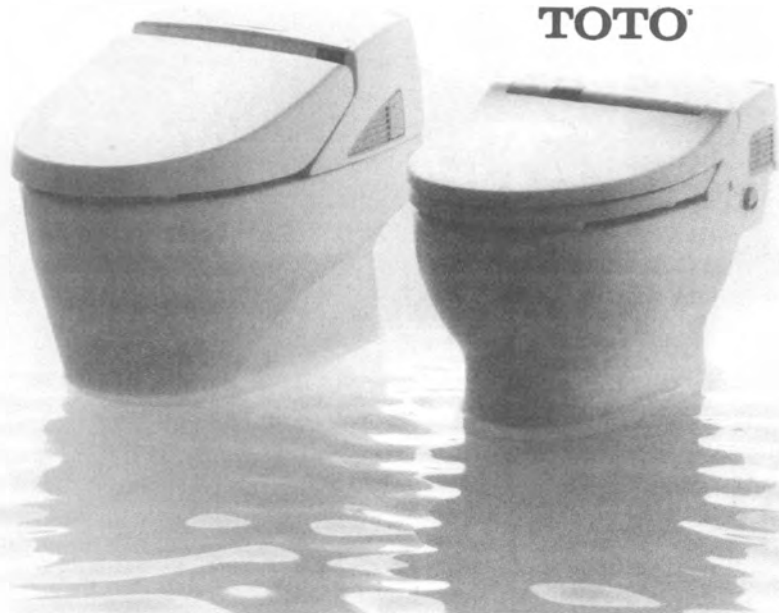
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Coleman then stepped out from behind Scruggs and fired again, the ball going through Spragins vest pocket and out through a bank book in his coat pocket. Spragins answered the shot quickly, the ball entering Coleman's body under his right arm and passing into his lungs.

Coleman then claimed again his pistol was empty and Col. Scruggs took it from his hands, asking Spragins not to shoot again. This pistol had an undischarged round in the chamber.

Mr. Coleman did not fall but was assisted into a buggy and carried to his home where he was attended to by several physicians.

The cause of the matter originated last week when Mr. Coleman published an article critical of the County Democratic party and especially so about their solicitation of Mr. Spragins to become a member of the Central Committee. Many people believed this as a direct and unwarranted attack on

Spragins.

The following Friday morning, meeting Coleman on the street, Spragins called his attention to the article. Not receiving a reply, Spragins then called Coleman a liar and a cowardly puppy.

There the matter rested until yesterday afternoon when the shooting occurred.

The affair is much regretted by our citizens, but the fact that Mr. Coleman used his paper, The Argus, to vent his personal spleen upon citizens precludes the possibility of his receiving the sympathy that would naturally be extended one who is worsted in an encounter of this character.

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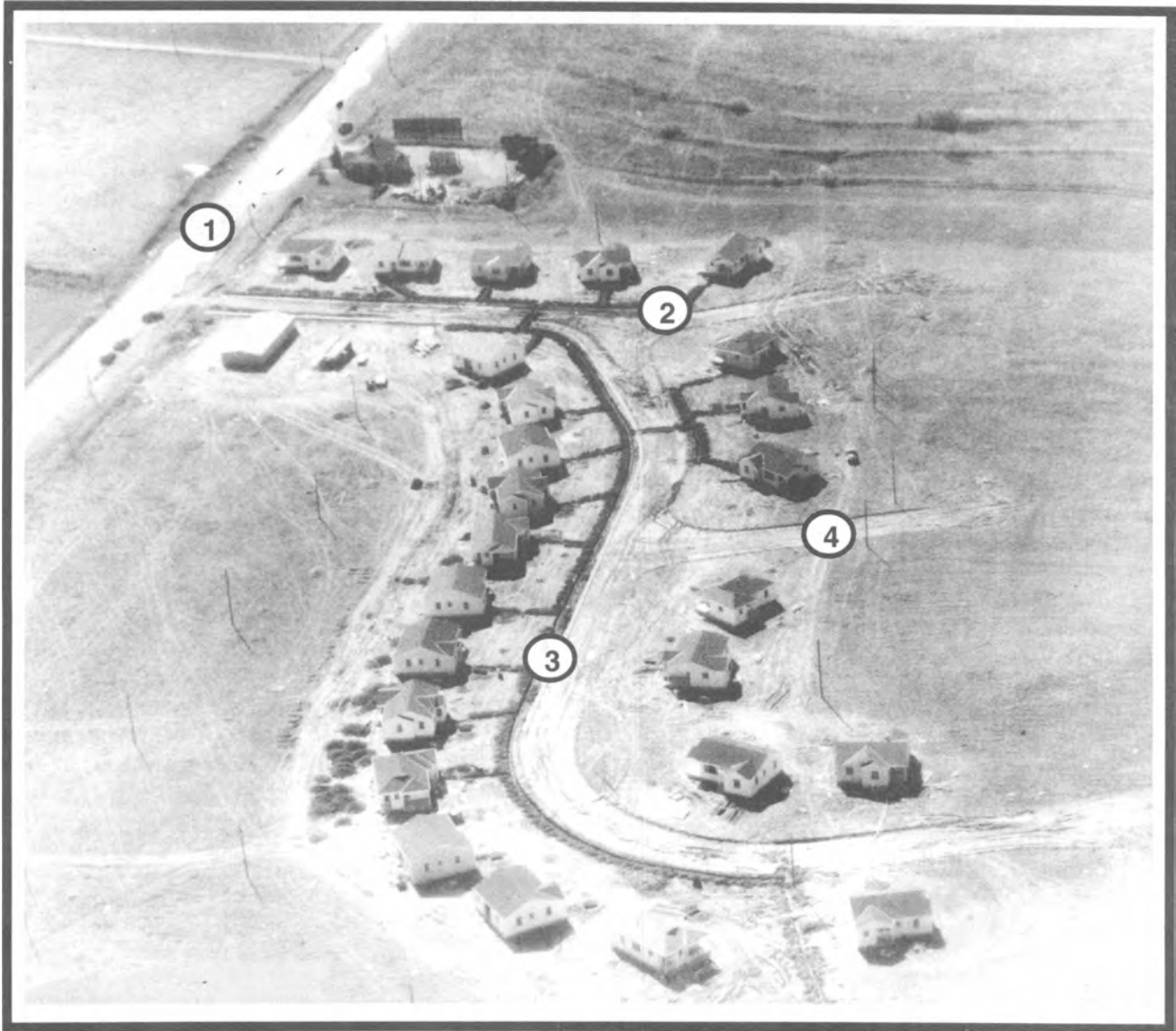
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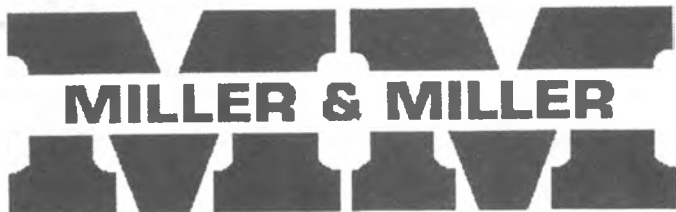
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# News From The Year 1952

## News From Huntsville and Around The World

### Von Braun Talks About Going to Mars

Wernher von Braun, German rocket scientist who is now living in the United States, has never been content to dream about earthly matters. His mind has wandered in the stars. Today, he suggested that it is time to really start wandering in space. Von Braun says the scientific community should start building a space vehicle that could transport pilots through the solar system to Mars.

The idea may seem preposterous since the most farsighted of American scientists are only starting to dream about putting men on the moon.

Von Braun first started dreaming about space flight when he was 18. He joined the German Society for Space Travel more than 20 years ago and shared his fantasies with more seasoned scientists. He also started to help develop liquid-fueled rocket motors. Von Braun continued to work on the motors

at the University of Berlin and at the secret rocket center at Peenemunde where he built the V-2 rockets that terrorized London. Since 1950, von Braun has been in charge of the U.S. Army's ballistic weapons program in Alabama.

### Kennedy Defeats Henry Cabot Lodge

A major upset occurred in Massachusetts when young John F. Kennedy defeated Republican heavyweight Henry Cabot Lodge. The election stunned the Republican Party because it was the incumbent Lodge who generated the presidential nomination of Dwight Eisenhower and stirred support for the general in GOP ranks. Kennedy is 35 years old.

### Eisenhower Elected

Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected President of the United States, swamping his Democratic opponent, Adlai E. Stevenson.

The Republican landslide also swept Senator Richard M. Nixon of California into the office of Vice President as he defeated a fellow member of the Senate, Democrat John J. Sparkman of Alabama.

General Eisenhower, who until a few months ago was the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in Europe, received word that he had won the presidential election as he mingled with Republican supporters in New York City.



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## General Motors announces Air Conditioners in Autos

General Motors has perfected an air conditioning unit for automobiles and will offer it as an added option on some of its 1953 models, C.E. Wilson, the company's President, announced today.

The unit, which works on the same principles as air conditioners in offices and railroad trains, was developed in several years of research. Tests in Arizona and Texas have shown that the unit can reduce the heat of a car that has been standing in the summer sun to comfortable levels in minutes.

Development of an automobile air conditioner was a challenging problem because it had to be small enough to fit in cars and yet achieve quick cooling, Wilson noted. The G.M. system has a sealed refrigeration unit that uses non-toxic freon as the cooling liquid.

No prices have been announced but it is expected to be to expensive for most autos.

## Mr. Jorgenson becomes Miss Jorgenson

A tall blonde with blue gray eyes stepped off an airplane in New York last week. She is Christine Jorgenson, and a year ago the name on her passport was George. While not the first transsexual (a European could make the claim), the 26-year-old is the first to make the change very public.

George Jorgenson was a scrawny G.I. for two years before an honorable discharge. Feeling "in affections like a woman," he flew to a Copenhagen hospital to undergo 2,000 hormone injections and six operations. The result is Christine.

Some reporters at the airport thought she trotted awkwardly in heels; others gave a wolf whistle. Christine has sold her life story to American Weekly for \$30,000.

### No Communists In Huntsville

The City Council has approved a resolution outlawing Communism in Huntsville. The vote was unanimous and endorsed by veterans groups.



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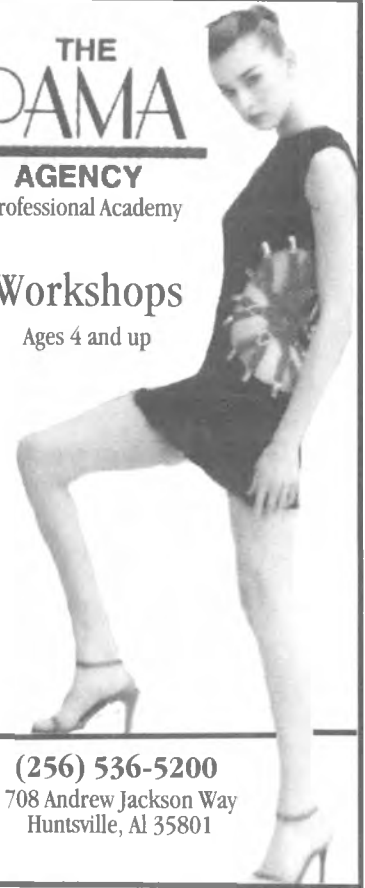
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# Did You Know That in 1904...

- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

- Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California.

- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.

- The average wage in the U.S. was 22 cents an hour.

- The average U.S. worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year.

- More than 95 percent of all births in the U.S. took place at home.

- Ninety percent of all U.S. physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press as "substandard."

- Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.

- Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

- Most women washed their hair only once a month, and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

- Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.

- Two of 10 U.S. adults couldn't read or write. Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated high school.

- Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drug-stores.

- Eighteen percent of households in the U.S. had at least one full-time servant or domestic.

- There were only about 230 reported murders in the entire U.S.



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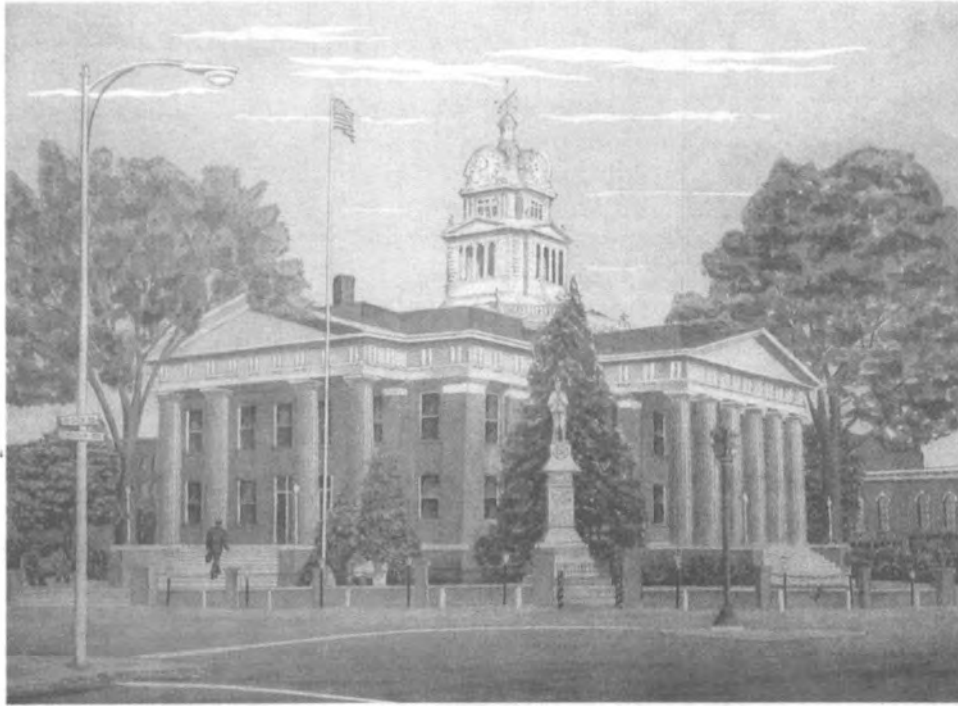
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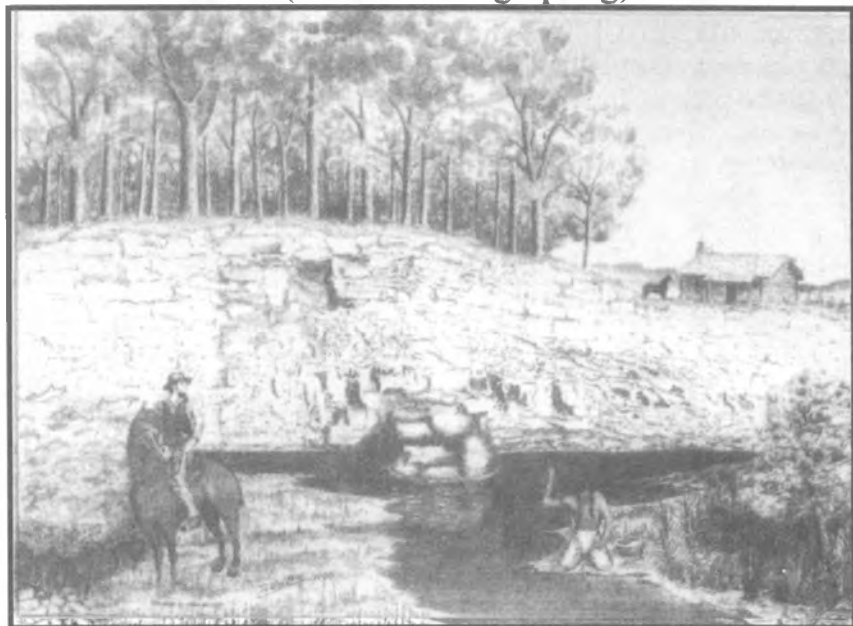
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# Huntsville's First Pizza Family

Louis Pejza first moved to Huntsville in 1958, working with IBM to open a regional office for the repair of IBM typewriters with his wife Doris. His sister Theresa Alger and her husband Earl ran "The Pizza House" on the south side of Chicago, and when Louie moved to Huntsville she convinced him that this city needed a good Italian pizza parlor.

"Construction was going strong on North Parkway and Chester Pearsall was willing to build a place for us north of Corman's doughnut shop," remembered Louie several years ago. "It was for us and Nu-Kleen cleaners."

"Terry's," named for his sister Theresa, opened "around Labor Day" in 1959. Most people in Huntsville, used to more conventional southern fare, had never tasted a pizza before but Louie and Theresa were convinced that people would like it once they tried it.

"For the first year or so," remembered an old customer, "every time a stranger walked in the door they were given a slice of pizza."

The business became a success and was soon followed by second location on South Parkway and a third on Governors Drive.

In the early days the business was truly a family venture. With Louie and Doris both working, and no baby sitter, they often put their babies in empty dough tubs while they made the pizzas. It was probably good training as each of their six children worked at Terry's Pizza at some time during their lives.

When Doris had a stroke in 1965 the burden of running the restaurants and tak-

ing care of the family fell on Louie, who still worked for IBM.

Louie was a strong family man who, despite working at the restaurant many times until 2 a.m., still insisted on cooking breakfast for his large family every day, according to daughter Janet D'Agostino.

"Louie was the kind of man," said a friend, "who refused to accept the fact there were only so many hours in a day. He was always running, trying to do more."

According to Terry's long-time employee Irma Shaneyfelt and Billy Schaaf, manager at the South Parkway location for over 10 years, "Louie was a gentle, hard-working man with a heart of gold. He would help those who were down and out, oftentimes giving people a chance



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to work who normally wouldn't have a prayer of finding a job."

Jim Bertoldi, who worked with Louie since the 60's, remembered one night the power went off with many pizza orders pending and a lineup of customers. Louie lit candles, grabbed some rolling pins and never missed an order. "If there was a hall of fame for hard work and good work ethics, Louie would win it," Jim says.

Huntsville has really changed over the years since 1959, but the pizzas at Terry's still retain their unique taste and popularity. When Louie Pejza died in 2005 at the early age of 73, he and Doris had been married for 47 years, and had owned and operated the three Terry's Pizza locations for 46 years.

He left behind an important part of Huntsville's history.

# News from New Hope in 1892

- Mr. W. P. Brazelton has again broken his leg, this being the third time. It will surely have to be taken off this time.

- Miss Hattie Peevey of Huntsville is teaching a class in music here at Dr. Hinds' residence.

- The beautiful and bewitching Miss Frank James is spending a week or two here. We think there will be some very long faces when she leaves, especially among the gents.

- Dr. J. R. Simpson is having his buggy repaired preparatory to his long journey to the World's Fair.

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# Albert Gallatin

## American Statesman

by Jack Harwell

When the brand new town of Huntsville was first laid out in 1810, the names of the streets were selected to honor well known Americans of the day. The four men who had served as President up to that time - Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Madison - all had streets named for them, as did other great statesmen such as Benjamin Franklin.

One other prominent individual who was so honored, though highly regarded in his day, has been somewhat neglected on the pages of history, his memory all but lost in the shadows of his more famous contemporaries.

Albert Gallatin, for whom Gallatin Street was named, served his country in both houses of Congress, as well as in the cabinet of President James Madison. His greatest achievements, however, were in the field of international diplomacy.

He was born Abraham Alfonse Albert Gallatin in Geneva, Switzerland on January 29, 1761. He was descended from nobility, and as befitted his position, received an excellent education at the Geneva Academy. But Europe was too small to contain his ambitions, and in 1780, at the age of 19, he emigrated to America.

When Albert Gallatin arrived in the new world, the American Revolution was in a decisive phase. Just a year later, Cornwallis would surrender his army, as well as British sovereignty over the colonies at Yorktown. Gallatin personally

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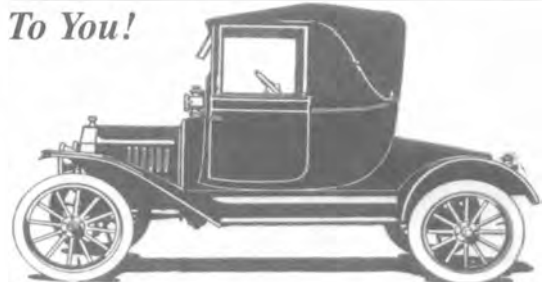
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played no part in the war; he first went into private business in Maine, and later taught French at Harvard.

After the war Gallatin settled in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Many British colonists had migrated to southwestern Pennsylvania, where Fayette County is located, after France's defeat in the French and Indian wars had ensured British control over the frontier. Though not yet 30 years old, Gallatin soon became a wealthy landowner in Fayette County. He also operated a general store.

It was inevitable that someone of Gallatin's means would become involved in politics. He was strongly opposed to the Federalists, who believed in strong central government, and was a delegate to the state anti-Federalist convention in Harrisburg in 1788. The following year he was named a delegate to the state constitutional convention, and in 1790 he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives where he served three terms.

As a state legislator, Gallatin displayed exceptional financial ability by working toward reducing the state debt. Also among his top projects was the aboli-

tion of slavery and the development of public education.

When western Pennsylvania corn growers initiated the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794 as a protest against the federal government's taxation of corn liquor, Gallatin sided with his fellow Pennsylvanians. This was the first test of the new government's authority, and his association with it was a source of much regret to Gallatin, although he came to oppose the more radical elements of the rebellion and worked to restore peace.

Gallatin was elected to the United States Senate in 1793, but was expelled soon afterwards. The reason stated was that he had failed to meet a requirement regarding length of citizenship, but some believed he had been victimized by political enemies. His constituents responded by sending him to the House of Representatives, where he served three terms.

In the house, Gallatin helped organize the Democratic Republican party, the



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ancestor of the modern day Democratic party. As a leader of the opposition he continued to speak out against Federalist policies, particularly in the area of spending. He inaugurated the house committee on Finance, which later became the House Ways and Means Committee.

In 1800 Thomas Jefferson became the first Democratic-Republican elected President. He was able, for instance, to justify Jefferson's purchase of Louisiana in 1803. He also enforced an embargo against England and France and urged Congress to levy taxes as war with England approached.

It was during the Jefferson administration that Meriwether Lewis and William Clark undertook their exploration of the Louisiana Territory. They followed the Missouri River until it split into three branches in what is now southern Montana. The longest of the three forks they named the Jefferson, after the President. Another was named for James Madison, then Secretary of State. For the third they chose the name of another public figure who was much admired - Albert Gallatin. That is how a Huntsville city street came to have the same name as a river in Montana.

When Congress declared war on England in 1812, Gallatin

made it his mission to bring the war to an end as soon as possible. War, he felt, would be fatal to the prosperity of the nation, which he had worked so hard to build up.

His opportunity came in 1813, when the Czar Alexander of Russia offered to mediate negotiations to end the hostilities. The British, however, refused mediation, preferring to negotiate with the Americans directly. So Gallatin joined the U.S. Peace Commission in Ghent, where he was largely responsible for arranging the peace treaty.

Because of the diplomatic abilities he had displayed in ending the war of 1812, Gallatin was named Minister to France in 1816. During his service in France, Gallatin helped resolve disputes with the British regarding fishing rights and the U.S.-Canadian border.

Albert Gallatin retired from public service in 1831 and died in Astoria, New York on August 12, 1849.

He left behind a legacy that endures until this day, and even though here in Huntsville thousands of people drive down Gallatin Street every day, few people know anything about the remarkable man for whom it was named.



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# Bad Career Decision

In the spring of 1872, a young soldier visited Huntsville with an interesting proposition for our city's leaders.

He wanted to supply Huntsville's police force with uniforms. Although many Northern policemen already wore uniforms, the idea had not caught on very well in the South, partially because of the cost.

For the small towns still recovering economically from the Civil War, even a small item like uniforms was considered exorbitant.

The young soldier, however, had an idea. At the end of the war he had seen hundreds of thousands of Federal uniforms lying useless in warehouses. After purchasing a quantity of them for a pittance, he had a tailor in Cincinnati alter them.

Now he was traveling the South, offering the modified uniforms at a price much lower than the competition.

Whether or not he was the salesman who actually persuaded the city to clothe its policemen in blue has been lost in history.

We do know for a fact, however, that a short time after his visit our policemen had uniforms.

Despite his skills at salesmanship, the young soldier's business never really got off the ground. Faced with the prospect of failure, the young warrior once again returned full time to his military career.

Unfortunately, that too ended in failure. A few years later, the young soldier, George Armstrong Custer, was killed at the battle of Little Big Horn.



# Looking For Mother

I am looking for my mother, named Louise, who was sold to a family in Madison County in 1861. She is about 60 years old and has a scar on her forehead. Contact me at the paper.

from 1872 newspaper

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A young lady of Huntsville has brought suit against a young man for breach of promise in marriage. The trial will come off at the Court House, next Tuesday night April 9, at 7 1/2 o'clock. The following lawyers will represent the case:

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# The Story of Bulldog Daniel

District Attorney Fred Simpson was at home on the evening of July 23, 1977 when he received the telephone call. Breathlessly, the caller relayed the news-- "Bulldog Daniel, Chief Deputy Sheriff of Madison County, has been found dead in the park off of Drake Avenue."

"It's too early to know for sure," the caller continued, "but it looks as if he was killed by two shots from a shotgun."

Residents of Huntsville didn't have to wait for the news that evening to learn the details. Bulldog had been a highly popular law enforcement officer and news of his death swept across town like a brush fire. Rumors took the place of details and conjecture became facts as the news was passed from one per-

son to another.

Within days it became almost impossible to separate the facts from the fiction.

In a city where the vast majority of people had moved here from other places, Marcus "Bulldog" Daniel was a rarity. Born in Huntsville, he played football for Joe Bradley High School and was trying out for the Samford University football team when he received his draft notice in 1951.

Though Daniel took part in some of the bloodiest fighting of the Korean War, it was his assignment as an

M.P. that would have the most effect on the rest of his life. His superiors praised him as a natural born law enforcement officer for his ability to control drunk and unruly G.I.'s, a feature probably enhanced by his two-hundred fifty pound muscular physique.



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After his discharge, Daniel returned to Huntsville and went to work at Hills grocery store as a meat cutter. Though the position was considered, "a good job," Daniel missed being an M.P. One day while cutting a pork roast for J. Lauin Carroll, the Chief of Police, Daniel asked about becoming a policeman.

The chief, after eyeing young Daniel carefully, told him "Go on down, get you a uniform and report in the morning." "Bulldog didn't even wait to wrap the meat or pull his apron off," recalled an old friend. "Fifteen minutes later he was being fitted for a uniform! There wasn't no such thing as police training back then. They just put you in a uniform, gave you a gun and told you to walk a beat. If you stayed out of trouble for a few months they would then assign you a patrol car."

"We had some damn good policemen back then," recalls one veteran. "We didn't get paid hardly nothing, the cars wouldn't run half the time but we still managed to keep the law. To be a policeman back then you had to be a stand-up guy and you had to have honor."

Daniel quickly earned the respect of the other officers on the

force. "He was a cop's cop," recalled Bobby Smith. "When he would get hold of a case he just wouldn't turn loose until he solved it. That's why they named him Bulldog."

To some people however, the name Bulldog had a different meaning. When a fight broke out in the yard of J. B. Webb, a well-known bootlegger, Daniel answered the call. Pulling up in his patrol car Daniel got out and casually lit a cigarette while watching some men go at it tooth and nail.

"Aren't you going to call for a backup?" Asked an incredulous bystander.

"Hell, I am the backup," re-

plied Daniel in a slow drawl as he carefully stomped out the cigarette before wading into the melee with both fists.

Daniel soon found out that being a policeman was much different than being an M.P. In Korea, it was a simple choice to arrest someone breaking the law, but in Huntsville the decision was much more complicated. You had to know who was friends with who and who supported who in the last election and who was paying off-- well, you get the picture.

The fact that bootleggers and gamblers were allowed to operate in Madison County was an accepted fact. "What were we go-

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ing to do?" Asked one old-time deputy. "If we closed down one place, another would open up. If we arrested a bootlegger, he simply paid a small fine and was back in business the same day. At least this way we had some type of control over them."

According to one small-time bootlegger who ran a shothouse in West Huntsville, "It was called, having an understanding."

Adding to the troubles of enforcing the law was the fact that the police force was woefully under-manned and under-paid. The county police worked on the fee system, meaning they got paid according to how many arrests they made. Deputies received a fifty cents bounty per arrest while the sheriff received compensation for every prisoner who spent the night in the jail.

"We spent more of our time arresting drunks rather than patrolling," remembered a veteran of the force. "Often times the sheriff would come in on a Saturday night and check how many people we had locked up. If it wasn't enough, he would tell us to hit the streets and find some more." Left unsaid was the fact that the political system actually expected the sheriff to supplement the meager funds allocated to the department. As one old-time member of the county commission said, "If the bootleggers were going to break the law, why not have them help

pay the law?" Bulldog Daniel, having grown up in Huntsville, was well aware of how the system worked. After all it was virtually the same system that had been in place and thrived since the turn of the century.

Dave Headrick remembered

when he joined the police force, "First thing Bulldog said to me was, "Get a haircut, get rid of them damn cowboy boots and learn to keep your mouth shut."

Headrick said later he would have been better off if he had listened to Daniel!



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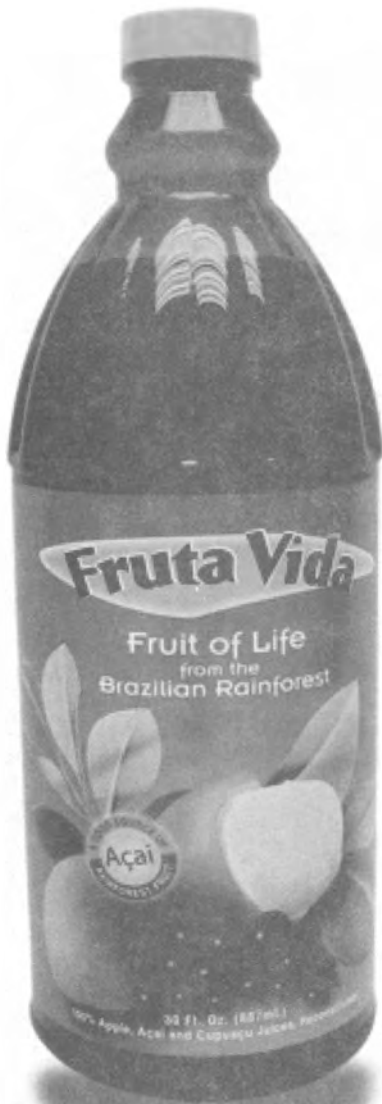
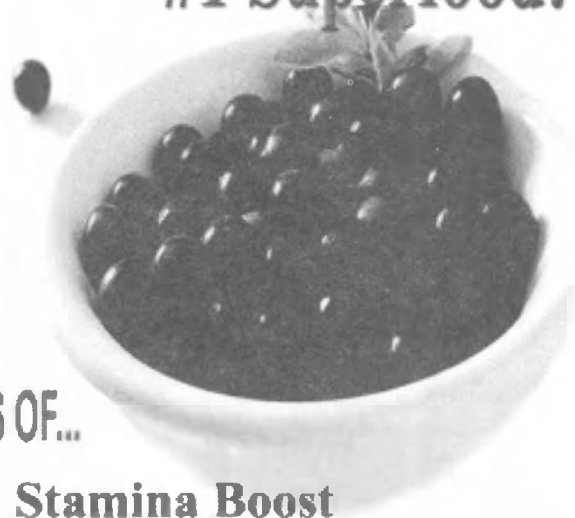
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Keeping your mouth shut was an important part of being a policeman in Huntsville and people soon learned that Bulldog never talked.

Within a few years Daniel became an important part of the system. Whether it was a gambler wanting to make a "contribution" to a politician or a bootlegger wanting a message delivered, he was the one everyone went to. Some people also claimed he was the person to see if you wanted to make a payoff or buy protection.

"He also became a damn good cop," a friend said. "His uniform and badge were the most important things in his life. He was just born into a system that was different than today's."

By 1967, when Jerry Crabtree was elected sheriff, the

sheriff's department was going through a transition. Veteran police officers who had once patrolled half the county by themselves now found themselves riding in a patrol car with

a college graduate half their age. "Used to, if we knew someone had done something, we'd just arrest them and that was that," said one veteran. "Now we had to read them their rights, fill out

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reports and, if something went wrong, worry about our partners telling the same story. Hell, we had civil rights lawyers crawling out of the woodwork back then trying to make cases against us."

"Huntsville was growing up," as one local put it, "and so was the sheriff's department."

After hiring Daniel as his chief deputy, Crabtree began trying to modernize the department. He successfully lobbied to get rid of the fee system and hired additional deputies. New equipment was purchased and a merit system introduced. Unfortunately, part of the new equipment included over \$4000 worth of electronic listening devices, commonly known as "bugs." The sheriff's department later justified the purchase by stating the equipment was used to gather information on suspected members of the militant Minuteman organization as well as organizers of a city garbage strike. In a report to the Alabama Law Enforcement Planning Agency, the sheriff's department stated the devices were used to compile over 200 files on people in Madison County.

Before long, rumors began spreading that certain officers, acting on their own, were bugging the phone of a local judge. Other rumors claimed that a bug had been hidden in the room where the grand jury met.

"My office was even bugged," said Fred Simpson, "and I was the district attorney."

The bugs worried Daniel. Although he sup-

ported almost anything that would help law enforcement, he thought the officers had crossed the line. "It's going to bring in the FBI," Daniel warned a friend.

Though the FBI never investigated the wiretaps--the State Attorney General did, and with Daniel being the chief deputy he became the focus of most of the

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questions.

"Bulldog had been a cop for almost twenty years," recalled a fellow officer, "and he was loyal to the force. There was no way he was going to inform on another officer."

"They (the investigators) talked to Bulldog several times but when they couldn't find out anything the investigation just fizzled. Later on though, there was hell to pay. Bulldog called the officers into the squad room and cussed them out for almost a half hour. When he got done they (the officers) were more scared of him than the F.B.I., and the Attorney General both!"

During the sheriff's election of 1974, the department was bitterly divided. Most of the newer officers favored Crabtree, who was the youngest sheriff to be elected in the state's history, while the veterans favored Dave Headrick, a long time member of the city police force.

Earl Frazier later described the campaign as one of the dirtiest he had ever seen. "One of the cops had placed a bug on Headrick's phone trying to dig up dirt, and Headrick had half the department feeding him informa-

tion about Crabtree."

Daniel had supported Crabtree for almost eight years

but now he was starting to have doubts. "The bug on Headrick's phone was what finally did it,"

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Frazier said. "Daniel figured that Crabtree didn't have anything to do with it but was scared that if things like this went on any longer it was going to leak out and cause another investigation."

It was no surprise to anyone when, after Headrick was elected sheriff in 1975, he kept Bulldog Daniel as his Chief Deputy. They had known each other for over twenty years and were best friends. It was an odd relationship for many people to understand though, for Daniel was not just the chief deputy, he was also Headrick's mentor and sometimes a father figure.

"I remember one time when Bulldog came to work one morning in a bad mood," said a veteran of the force. "I was standing in the hallway talking to the sheriff when Bulldog came up and angrily asked me why I wasn't out on patrol. Before I could reply he turned and started to walk off when suddenly he stopped abruptly and looked back at the sheriff."

"Get a damn haircut!"

Headrick said later that his first day in office was an eye opener. "I had only been sheriff for a few hours when a man, claiming to represent local bootleggers, asked for an appointment to establish payoff prices! I didn't even let him finish. I hollered for Bulldog and told him to get this man out of my office."

"I could just see the headlines in the paper: 'New Sheriff Takes Payoff On First Day!'"

Whether intentionally or not, that set the pattern for many events to follow. If someone wanted to talk to the new sheriff they had to talk to Bulldog first. Any changes in the department had to be cleared with him as well as any statements to the press. This caused a certain amount of talk in the department, especially among the officers who had supported Crabtree.

And there was plenty to talk about. Everyone, friend or foe, agreed that Dave Headrick was not exactly your typical sheriff.

"Wine, women and song are all right for the person on the street," recalled Headrick. "But once you become the sheriff you are supposed to become holy. I got accused of a lot of things, but I was never accused of being hypocritical! I liked to drink, I liked pretty women and I liked to play poker-- but so did everybody else in

Huntsville."

"Hell, I thought they were electing a sheriff. I didn't know they wanted an angel."

Before long everybody in town had their favorite story about the sheriff. "He was seen singing on stage with Frankie Lowery at a local nightclub; he lost \$1200 in a poker game; he got into a fight on an airplane when they refused to let him drink his own liquor; he was seen partying with go-go dancers."

Headrick was a talented country music singer and that, too, got him in trouble. In one incident after just cutting a new album, he walked into the Peppermint Lounge, got on stage, announced that he was the High Sheriff of Madison County and had a new record for sale. "Anybody that wants a copy can pay Chief Daniel who is stationed beside the door and will be watching everyone who leaves." Needless to say, many bar patrons were more than happy to oblige the sheriff.



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"We were just having fun and everyone knew it," said Headrick. "But the way the story came out it sounded like extortion!"

Regardless of Headrick's wild antics, no one ever accused him of not being a good law enforcement officer. Several months after taking office he met with Daniel and talked about his plans to, "Clean up Huntsville."

After listening patiently for a few minutes, Bulldog interrupted the sheriff. "Who are you going to arrest?" He asked. Are you going to arrest "X?" He uses the mayor as a character reference. Or how about "Y?" He was the best man at Judge "X's" wedding and is in tight with "Z." You want to go after "X"? Forget it! You try that and the people in Montgomery will have your job next week! You better remember that Huntsville's a small town and you have to work with these people."

"I laughed," said Headrick, "but the next day at the courthouse I started looking around. Bulldog was right. They didn't want a sheriff to enforce the law, they just wanted a sheriff to arrest the murderers and keep the riffraff off the street."

To a community used to a sheriff keeping a low profile, Headrick was a radical departure from tradition. Unfortunately, he attracted the attention of the wrong people.

The State Attorney General's office, still smarting over the wiretapping episodes a few years earlier, began taking a quiet look at the new Sheriff of Madison County and the F.B.I. began questioning friends and associates about possible corruption in the department. Even the Internal Revenue Service got into the act by probing into Headrick's income and expenses.

Probably more dangerous,

though Headrick didn't realize it at the time, was the attention he was attracting to the local gambling and bootlegging industries.

Federal authorities had been working on an indictment of the Schlitz Brewing Company of Milwaukee, when they uncovered allegations that the company had paid a local beer distributor \$42,000 to promote their beer. Investigators then began prob-

ing beer sales in Madison County and soon discovered it to be one of the "wettest counties in the nation."

The tiny town of Triana, Ala., with a population of only 228 people, sold 320,064 cases of beer in one twelve month period. That was equal to 1,404 cases of beer for each resident. New Hope, population 1,300, sold 379,265 cases of beer in the



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same period. Many people assumed Headrick was being paid to turn a blind eye and as he became the focus of investigations it began to draw more attention to the bootleggers. It would almost be an understatement to say they were not happy with the current publicity.

And then there were the gamblers. Bookies and card games had been operating openly in Huntsville for years but now that authorities were taking a close look at bootlegging and payoffs, they too came under the magnifying glass. The fact that Bulldog and Headrick both were avid card players only made matters worse.

"Things got so bad," said one bookie in business then, "that the F.B.I. was parked out in front, state investigators parked in the alley and the Huntsville News on the telephone, all at the same time."

"It wasn't any secret that Dave Headrick had to go. His partying and carousing was bringing the heat down on everyone."

"Bulldog knew I was in trouble before I did," remembered Headrick. "He came in my office one day and after closing the door, told me to sit and listen. He told me that rumors were flying all over town about investigations and that the word on the street was they would continue until something was found to indict me with."

"At first I was incredulous but after thinking about it for a few minutes I realized the seriousness of the situation and asked Bulldog what he thought I should do."

"Just do your job and keep your mouth shut," he replied, "and let me see what I can do!"

If Daniel thought he could make the investigations go away, he quickly learned differently when he himself became the focus of the criminal probes. The

investigators had long suspected that Bulldog was the middleman and the only person that could connect Headrick with the alleged payoffs.

The campaign against Daniel was subtle at first. An investigator would call him at work to pass on gossip about which of his friends were talking to the F.B.I., and odd things like the week's menu for Kilby Penitentiary, began arriving in the mail.

Strange cars would park in front of his house with the motor running, rapidly driving off whenever someone approached.

Try as they might however, the investigators soon realized they had reached a stalemate. No one was going to provide any information about Headrick or Daniel as long as they were in office.

Ironically, it was the sheriffs department which finally pro-

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vided the authorities with the break they needed. On June 15, 1977, Headrick was involved in an altercation with two young soldiers at a local nightclub. When the sheriff ordered the soldiers to leave and they refused, they were taken to the county jail. What happened next soon became the subject of controversy.

One of the soldiers testified in court that Headrick and another police officer, Lt. Graves, assaulted him in the jail. Headrick claimed that any beating was done by Graves alone, and while Graves admitted his participation, he swore that Headrick was also involved.

"I know it sounded bad," recalls an old veteran, "but you gotta remember in 1977, people just didn't cuss out cops and get away with it."

The jury chose to believe the soldiers' version of the events and on November 10, 1977, Sheriff Dave Headrick was sentenced to ninety days in jail on a federal misdemeanor charge.

"Getting only ninety days was the worst thing that could have happened to Headrick," recalled a local attorney. "If he had gotten at least a year they would have probably dropped the other investigations."

After Headrick was convicted, Governor George Wallace appointed Bob Eddy as the new sheriff. Immediately after being sworn in he called Herman Daniel, Bulldog's brother and also a long time deputy sheriff, into his office.

"Bulldog's got to go." Herman recalled Eddy saying. "My people don't want him and if he stays he's

going to be indicted."

"He just wasn't the same after he left the force," recalled Eunice Merrell. "He used to come by the restaurant all the time and he had always been a quiet person but now he would sit there and drink his coffee and stare into space. He used to carry his gun in his pocket and whenever he sat down he would reach for it and move it out

of the way. Now when he reached for it there was nothing there. I thought he was one of the loneliest men in the world at the time."

"He was in one hell of a situation," remembered a close friend. "If he didn't cooperate with the authorities he could literally spend the rest of his life in jail. But if he did, he would become a pariah. Hell, everyone in Huntsville had something they wanted to hide and now they were all wondering what Bulldog would say about them, if he talked."

With Headrick and Bulldog



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**"When I was born the doctor  
took one look at my face,  
turned me over and said,  
"Look, twins!"**

**Rodney Dangerfield**

out of office it became easier for the prosecutors to find people willing to testify.

"I admitted making payoffs to "X" and "Y," remembered one prominent bookie, "but this was ridiculous. I told them I had never given a penny to Bulldog and why should I? I was operating in the city and Bulldog was the county law. If I was paying off the county where was the city supposed to have been? Playing tiddly winks?"

"They accused me of lying and said they were going to call me before a grand jury. If I told the same story they would indict me for perjury."

"I figured this was a good time to take a vacation. A long one-- out of state."

"I heard from Bulldog while I was serving my sentence at Lampoc in California," recalled Headrick. "He seemed almost resigned to what was happening." "It's just a matter of time," he wrote.

On June 7, 1978, Dave Headrick and Bulldog Daniel were indicted on felony racketeering charges. The indictment alleged thirty-nine counts of conspiracy and bribery involving organized gambling in Huntsville and Madison County. If convicted they were facing up to forty years in jail.

"After I got out, I went to Montgomery to talk to "X" about the indictment but he wouldn't talk to me in his office," recalled Headrick. "I met him that evening at the Holiday Inn and he told me there wasn't nothing he could do. The whole thing was causing trouble for too many people and someone had to take the fall."

"About a week before the trial was scheduled to begin Bulldog called me and said he wanted to talk. "X" had already told me the state was trying to cut a deal with Bulldog to get him to testify



## The Hidden Gardens of Old Town Tour

Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>

1:00 – 5:00 pm

(Rain Date Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup>)

Tickets \$10

Advance tickets available from:

Antiques on the Avenue (Pratt Avenue), In Bloom (Pratt Avenue) and Shaver's Books (Whitesburg Drive). Tickets also available from participating gardens on the day of the tour.

Gardens located on Clinton, Holmes, Dallas and Calhoun in Old Town, Downtown Huntsville.

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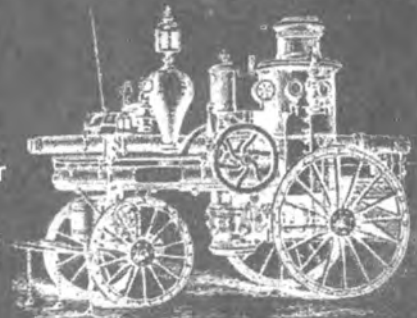


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against me but we had been friends for too many years for me not to meet him."

"We met on Bankhead Parkway at one of those scenic pull offs where you can see all of Huntsville down below. Neither one of us spoke about the upcoming trial. We just sat there on the rock wall in silence watching the flickering lights below.

"Several times Bulldog started reminiscing about something that had happened many years earlier and began to chuckle about it. Then his voice would trail off and there would be silence again. I asked him if he remembered my first day on the force.

"Yeah," he replied laughing, "and you still need a haircut!"

**If everything seems to be going well, you have overlooked something.**

**Paul Firenzi**

As we walked back to the car we shook hands and he told me good luck. I told him that he was my friend and to go ahead and do what he had to do. I would understand.

"I never saw him alive after that."

Three days after the death of Bulldog Daniel, Dave Headrick appeared in Federal court in Florence and pleaded guilty to

one count of conspiracy to accept bribes to protect gambling operations in Madison County and was sentenced to four years. Without Bulldog much of the government's case had essentially collapsed.

"I believe I could have fought and won," said Headrick, "but it just wasn't worth it any more. My best friend was dead, my career was destroyed and I was broke. All I wanted to do was to go some-

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where and crawl in a hole."

Though Coroner Sam Spry had ruled the death of Bulldog as suicide, many people refused to accept this. Most people in Huntsville had heard the rumors of Bulldog supposedly implicating prominent people in the rackets and now it was easy to believe he had been murdered to keep him quiet.

"I heard the same rumors and that's why I asked for a grand jury," said Fred Simpson. "So many stories and exaggerations had been told that I knew no one would believe it until the facts were laid out. The bottom line is the grand jury, the coroner, the state toxicologist, the Attorney General's office, the FBI, the Sheriff's office and the Huntsville police all investigated it and they all agreed it was suicide. If it was murder, every one of these offices would have had to conspire to keep it a secret and that's impossible."

"Huntsville can't keep a secret that well!"

With Bulldog's death officially ruled suicide only one question remained -- why?

Perhaps the best answer was given by Earl Frazier, the old-time veteran of the sheriff's department, who when reminiscing several years ago, was asked why he thought Bulldog committed suicide. Frazier was silent for a long time, almost as if he was remembering his own days of wearing a uniform. Finally after what seemed like an eternity he slowly replied.

"Would you turn against all of your friends?"

In 1985, Dave Headrick was awarded a pardon from the State of Alabama.

## Pan-Fried Cauliflower

1 head fresh cauliflower  
4 T. Olive Oil  
1 t. salt  
1 t. black pepper

Heat oil in frying pan and add cauliflower pieces flat side down. Cook in oil over medium-high heat til pieces are browned on one side, then turn to brown other side. Sprinkle with salt & pepper and serve hot.

Wash cauliflower and cut each floweret into 1/4" pieces.

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# News From 1886

- 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.

- Mr. Timothy Murphy, of this city, received a dispatch last Friday from Canton, Miss., conveying the sad information that his wife, daughter and granddaughter were all down with yellow fever. Mr. Murphy left on the next train for Canton, and it is reported he has been seized with the dread disease.

PS. 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.

- Appeal to Mothers - 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.

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

- Charlie 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.


**"Sex at age 90 is like trying to shoot pool with a rope."**

*Camille Paglia*

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Another issue close to his heart is early childhood education. This period of life is critical to a child's development and impacts the rest of his/her life. Parker Griffith is dedicated to promoting quality education in Huntsville, at all levels. His Family Foundation has already given many grants to our schools.



Parker Griffith has always been a leader - as a physician, a businessman, and in our community. In the State Senate, he will put his leadership to work for us. He will be an independent voice in Montgomery, not tied to any special interest.

Paid for by friends of Parker Griffith, P.O.Box 2482, Huntsville, AL 35804  
Amy Garrison, Treasurer

# Memories

by Elizabeth Duggan

My husband and I were living in Toledo, Ohio in 1943 when he received a transfer to Huntsville to work on the Arsenal as a quality control manager.

The biggest thing I remember about the trip is the flat tires. Tires were rationed at that time and impossible to buy. Most people just put more patches on top of the patches.

We got to Huntsville on a Sunday and tried to check into the hotel. They laughed at us and told us that unless we were a General or a Congressman there was no way we could get a room. All the rooms were reserved for months in advance.

We spent the first night sleeping in the car. The next morning I drove my husband to the Arsenal gates and then set about trying to find a place to stay. Someone told me that I would have better luck in West

Huntsville so I drove there, parked the car, and started walking up and down every street asking about a place to rent.

I finally found a woman who agreed to rent us a small building in her back yard. It looked like a coal shed and I found out later that it once was. Our landlady used to sit on the porch all day, chewing tobacco and talking about yankees and bloodlines.

I remember toward the end of the war when two German POWs escaped from the Arsenal and were caught on the street where we lived.

Actually, they didn't escape - they just walked off and went to


town where they had dinner and went to a movie before turning themselves in. The next day there were Government people all over the neighborhood telling us not to talk or say anything about it.

My husband bought a glass chess set from one of the POWs on the arsenal but it got lost in one of our moves.

We moved to Florida in 1986, but I still call Huntsville home.

**"The law of gravity says no fair jumping up without coming back down."**

*Seen on 3rd grade student's science paper*



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While our prices have gone up slightly and we have a few more employees, 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.

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*Doris Lewter*  
*Mae Lewter*

# When life was simple...



In the 1950's Huntsville was booming. Rocket scientists, engineers and military contractors were flocking to the Arsenal to become part of the space program.

For many people prosperity was an elusive dream. Born in a cotton town and raised in a cotton mill, these people had few of the skills needed for the new industries.

They persevered however, continuing to work in the mills and live in run down housing so their children could get the education needed for the new era.

They are part of what has made Huntsville great.

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