

Downs Syndrome

(Continued from Page 1)

has a speech problem, "we have little difficulty in understanding him.

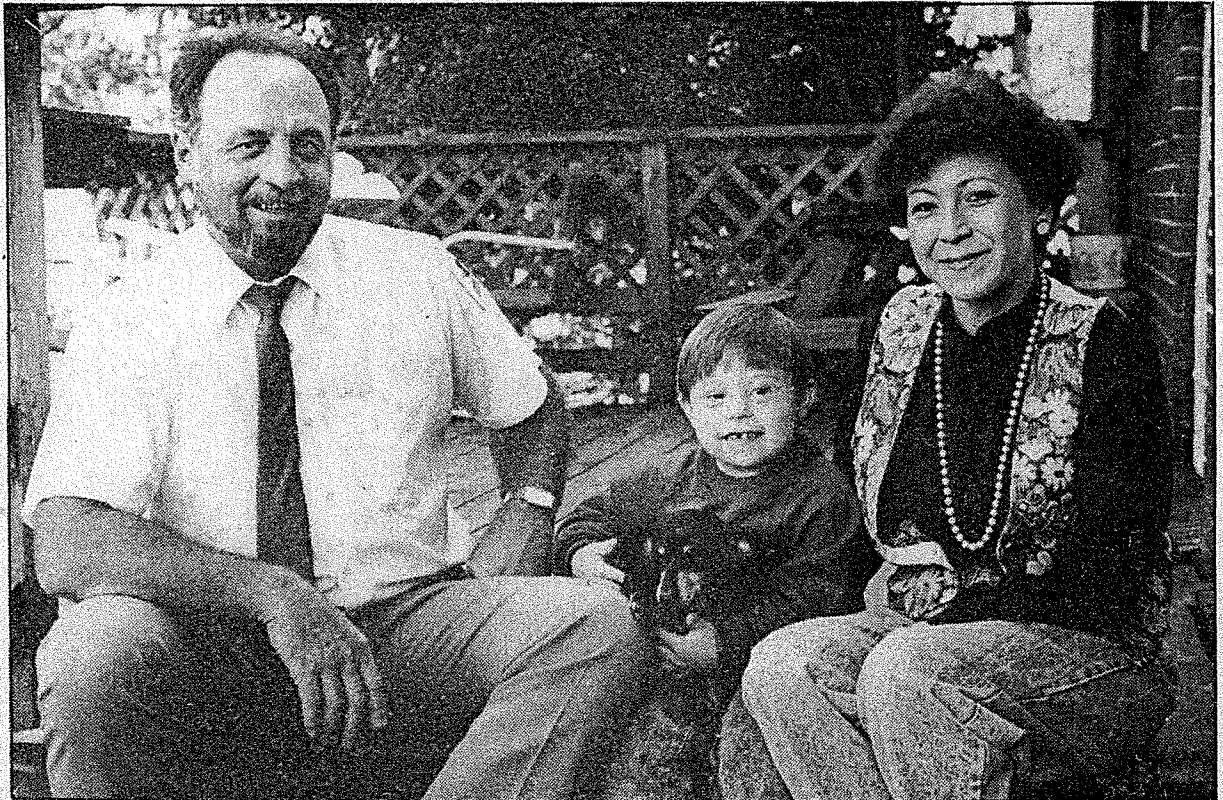
"But he gets so mad when we can't understand what he is saying. Down's Syndrome children are bright, and they can do anything if

they set their minds to do it, although it may take them a little longer, and they may have to work a little harder at it."

Mrs. Seals said Jonathan will always remember a person who is nice to him. But if a person is mean to him, he will never have anything

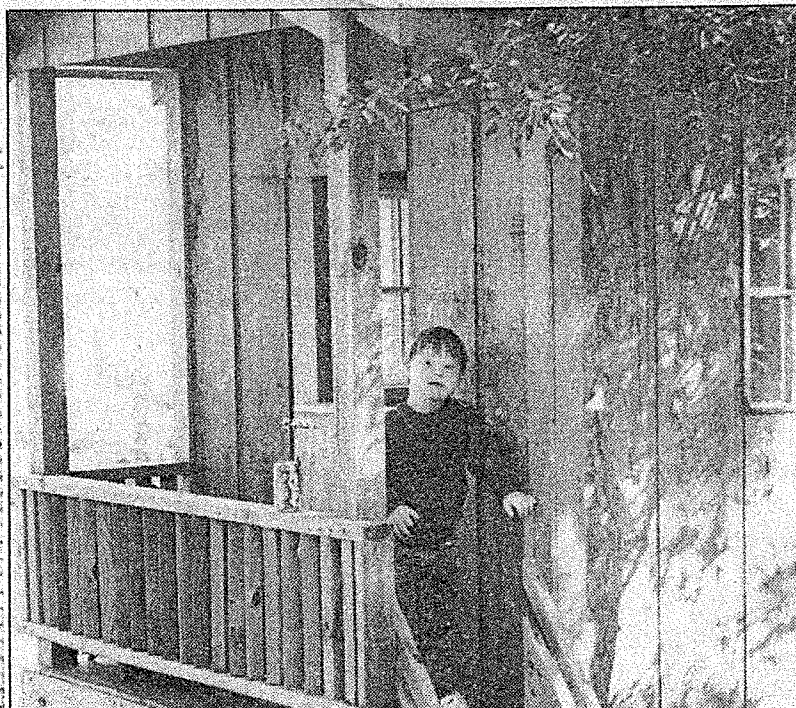
else to do with the person.

"When you get on to him about something, he'll just give you a big old kiss or look up at you with that special look in his eye," his mother mused. "People who have a Down's Syndrome child are blessed. It's not a burden."



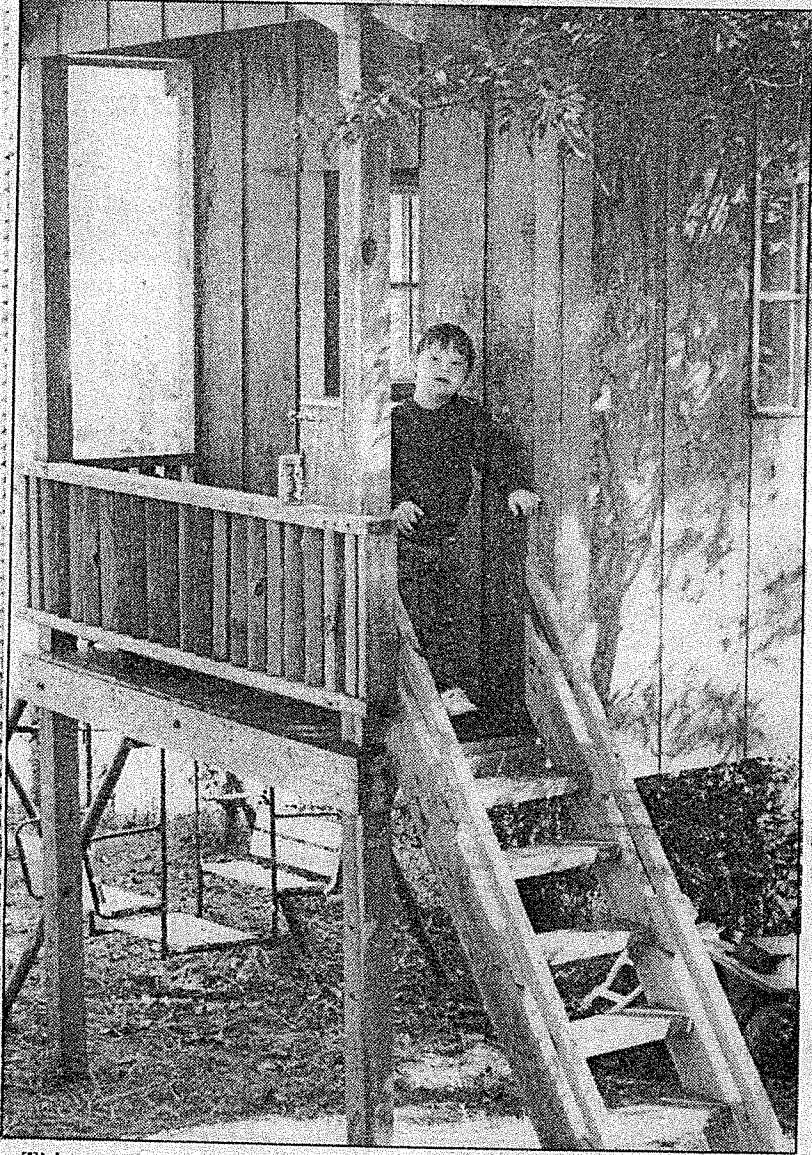
Frank and Diane Seals with the "pride and joy of their lives," six-year old Jonathan, born with the genetic alteration of Down's Syndrome. His name,

Jonathan, means "Gift of God," and the Seals feel he has truly been a gift to them. (Bob Crisp photo)





Frank and Diane Seals with the "pride and joy of their lives," six-year old Jonathan, born with the genetic alteration of Down's Syndrome. His name, Jonathan, means "Gift of God," and the Seals feel he has truly been a gift to them. (Bob Crisp photo)



This poem, author unknown, is to a Downs Syndrome child, just like Jonathan. "If apples were pears and peaches were plums, and the rose had a different name. If tigers were bears, and fingers were thumbs, we'd love you just the same. (Bob Crisp photo)

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Pell City horse show

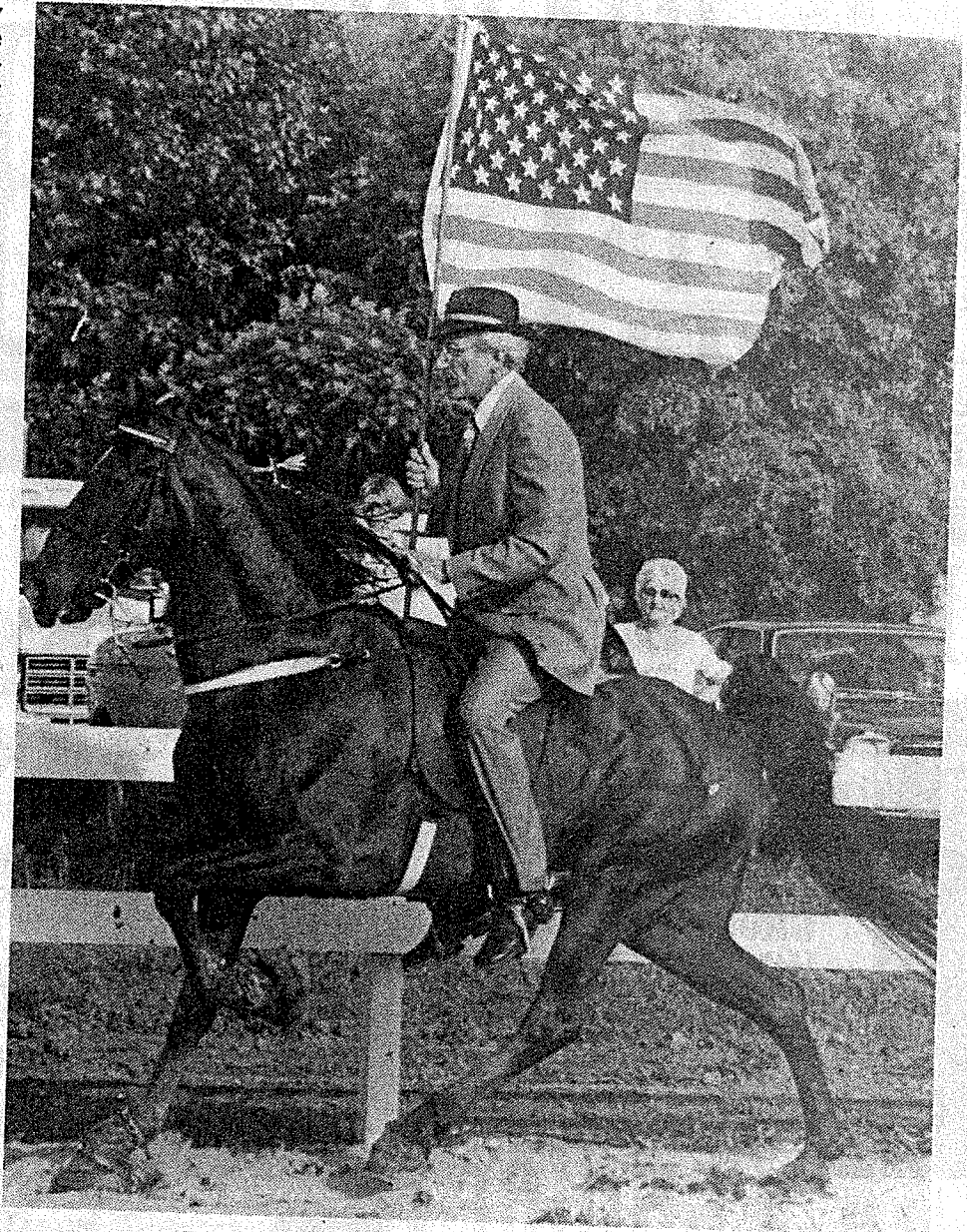
Declaring Saturday night's first-ever horse show in the newly constructed Tom Tucker Arena, organizers are anxiously looking forward to next year's show. According to Nan Strickland, over \$5,000 was raised for the Boys Ranch after nearly as much was paid for expenses.

Mrs. Betty Turner estimated 150 horses in 27 classes competed in the show for cash awards and ribbons.

The show marked the first time the arena had been used and was dedicated by Pell City Mayor Hugh Williamson to the memory of Tom Tucker, a native St. Clair Countian who was a life-long promoter of horse shows.

Mrs. Tom Tucker, his wife, son Jack and Mrs. Tucker, and neice Miss Naomi Lee were on hand for the dedication ceremonies. The National Anthem was sung by Rita Foster, who was accompanied by Connie Concord, and Dr. John Haynes made the inaugural ride around the show ring carrying the America flag to kick off the night.

Over 750 sandwiches was served the hungry crowd and all associated with the show declared it a smashing success. (News-Aegis photos by Mike Moser)

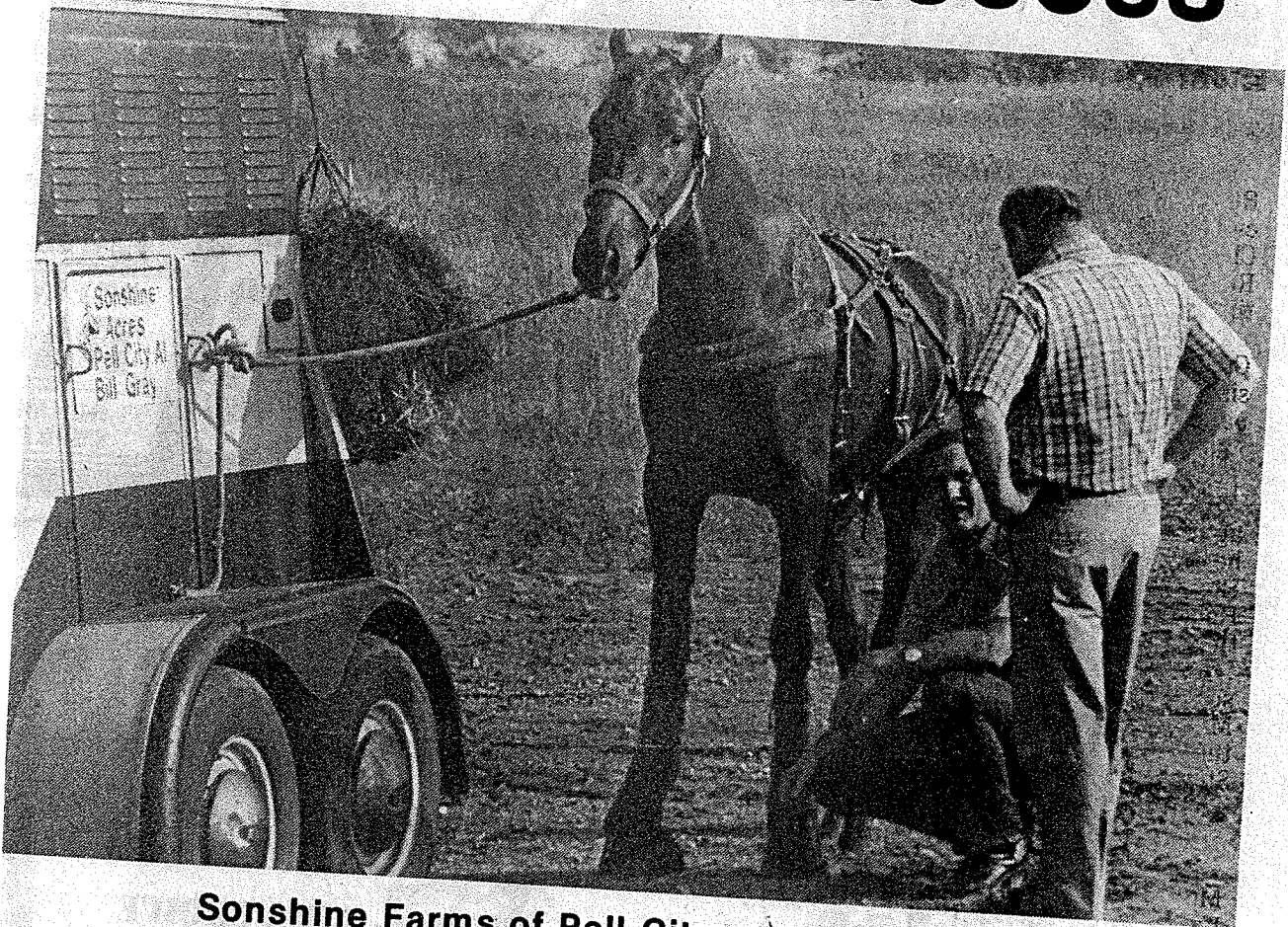


Dr. Haynes carried the flag

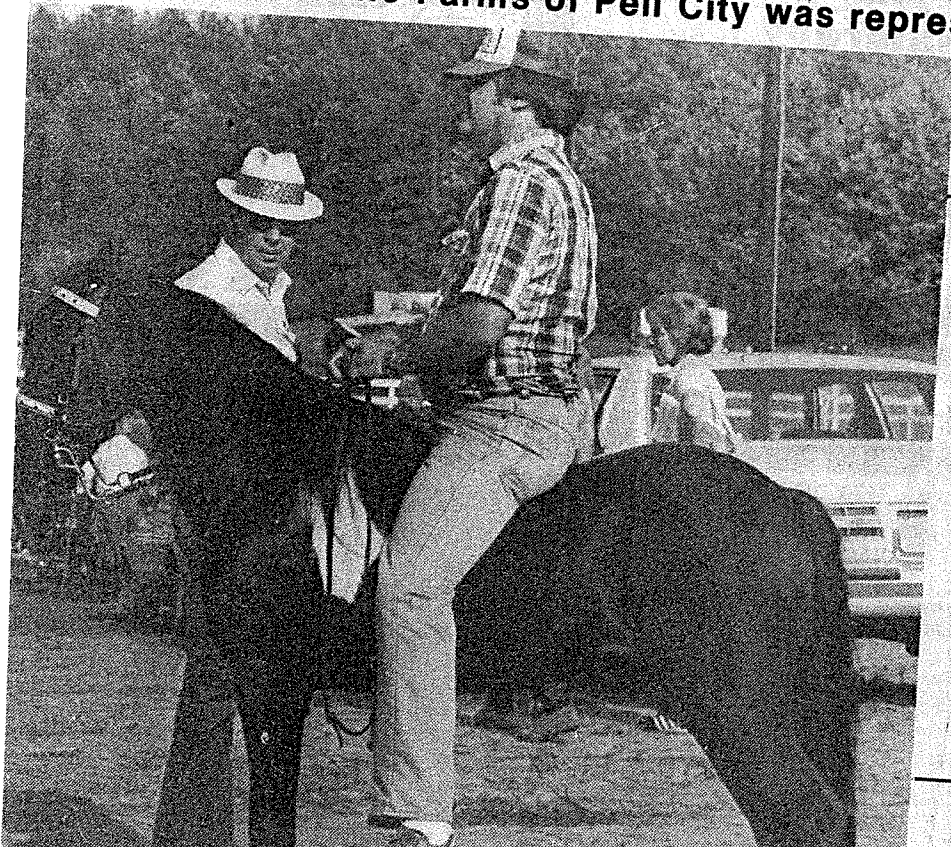


Johnny Turner,
Hugh Williamson
enjoy show

saluted as success



Sonshine Farms of Pell City was represented



Tall in
the saddle

08:00
0:01

0:01

0:01

He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry in action. He was reluctant to talk about this but said it came about after he flew in his helicopter after some wounded men after he had been warned action was to hot at this place to go in there.

The enemy in Viet Nam are in the main guerillas and the fighting is guerilla war fare. There is no such thing as a front line, or trenches or warefare of that nature. Capt. Sprueill said an enemy Viet Cong might be with a guerilla unit fighting us today and be working his rice paddy right next door to us tomorrow. He said great progress had been made in winning the people of Viet Nam over to our aids and that this phase of the war had to be won before we could win the fighting and "we have been doing a wonderful job along this line". Capt. Sprueill seemed to have nothing but contempt for the draft card burners, other in this country who are doing everything to hinder the war effort. "We must stop Communism someplace and if we withdrew from Viet Nam now we had just as well throw everything we have done right out the window", he said.



CAPT. JERRY SPRUIELL
Home From The Wars

After slightly more than a year in the Viet Nam war zone, Capt. Jerry Sprueill is at home with his wife and child and his parents and friends. After graduation from the University of Alabama the popular former Pell City Panther football star went in the service as a 2nd Lieutenant.

He was later promoted to first lieutenant and shortly after arriving in Viet Nam he received his captain's commission. He was a member of the Medical Service Corp, was pilot of a helicopter engaged in a new phase of evacuating the wounded from the battlesfields and bringing them in to hospitals. "This is a great morals builder for the men fighting the North Viet Nam forces", Capt. Sprueill said. "They know that no more will they have to lie where they are wounded and wait for medical attention, but that a call by radio will bring a helicopter crew in a very few minutes. Usually they were brought in from 15 to 25 minutes after being hit", he said. Buddy, as he is better known in his hometown, said the helicopter crews were in the air 3 to 5 minutes after being notified. He said he had flown as many as nine missions in one day to bring in the wounded. "It was the most satisfying thing I have ever done in my life. It was wonderful to see the faces, the eyes of the wounded when we got them in our 'copters' and on the way home. I know I have never had such a wonderful sense of accomplishment", he said.

CONT'D FROM FRONT PAGE
CAPT. JERRY SPRUIELL

Captain Sprueill is a graduate of Pell City high school. After one year of football he won a football scholarship to the University of Alabama and played end for three years under Coach Paul Bryant. His wife before marriage was Miss Gloria Beavers and they have one very pretty little girl named Stacy. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ed Sprueill. After three or four weeks at home he will report to Ft. Benning, Ga., for further duty. He expects to make the army his career.



ST. CLAIR COUNTY'S PROBATE Office is undergoing some personnel changes as Sara Bell (center), who has served as chief clerk for 32 years, steps down to retire. Johnnie Bagwell (right) becomes the chief clerk in Ashville, and Terri Thornton becomes the chief clerk in Pell City. Jane Franklin (left) will transfer to the Ashville office, and Phyllis Goggans transfers to Pell City. (Bob Crisp photo)



GLORIA ROBERSON, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Union State Bank, presented the city of Pell City with a \$3,000 check to help offset the costs of supplying police officers with bullet proof vests. Shown are, from the left, Sargaent Joe Davis of the Pell City Police Depaertment, Gloria Roberson of Union State Bank, and City Councilman James McGowan Chairman of the Police Committee. (Bob Crisp photo)

Funeral Today at Four O'clock

Sam Burt's Death Shocks Community

The people of Pell City will sorrowfully bury one of their top citizens this afternoon.

Samuel F. Burt died unexpectedly late Tuesday afternoon. He would have been 67 years old March 8.

Sam Burt was a great citizen, a real gentleman. He loved people and in turn he was loved, respected and admired by many people in all walks of life. He was a native of Mississippi and loved to talk about his young days in his native state. He spent most of his working years in the textile business, started in New Orleans where he rose to the rank of foreman. He later was a department head for Avondale Mills in Sylacauga,

came to Pell City as assistant superintendent of Avondale's Pell City plant in the late 1930's. He was made Pell City superintendent on the retirement of the late J. T. Edmunds, a position he held through World War 2.

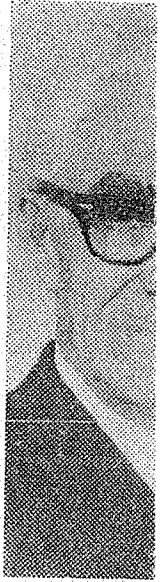
Leaving Avondale he went to work selling for a textile supply company based in Atlanta. On the death of the owner of the company, Mr. Burt and three other salesmen bought the plant which they sold a little more than a year ago.

He was one of the prime men in the establishment of the St. Clair Federal Savings and Loan Association and at the time of death was Chairman of the Board of the savings and loan

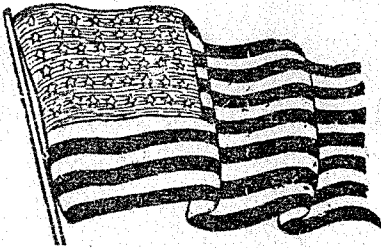
company which has enjoyed tremendous success since starting operations.

Sam Burt was keenly interested in politics—not as a candidate but as an observer. He served one term as mayor of Pell City but declined to run for a second term. His four years in the mayor's office stacked up the very best in the history of his adopted city. He also served two terms on the County Board of Education.

The sudden death of this man was ascribed to a heart attack. He had been the victim of a severe heart attack but this occurred 12 years or more ago. Reports say he and his beloved wife, "Miss Ruby" were fishing



SAMUEL



ST. CLAIR

ALABAMA'S BIG W

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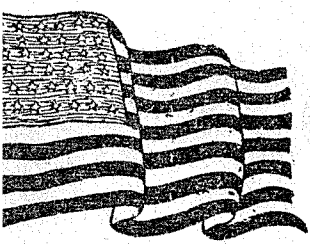
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SAMUEL F. BURT



ST. CLAIR NEWS

ALABAMA'S BIG WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

EAR NUMBER 6

PELL CITY, ALABAMA HEARTLAND OF DIXIE'S WATER WONDERS

It'll do it again. The... of these he quit...

nity



F. BURT

at a small close-in lake, but had stopped fishing to put out a grass or brush fire when the attack came. An ambulance was called and he died on the way to the hospital or shortly after arrival.

He was interested in many things. He gave of his time and money to the Red Cross, to the Boy Scouts and other activities.

He loved the Baptist church and was an active and interested member of the Pell City First Baptist, was a member of the finance committee when the new church was constructed. He was for three years president of the Barraca Class of his church. He was a Mason, member Ben M Jacobs Lodge n

Shriner, member Zamora Temple, Birmingham.

His survivors include his wife, Mrs. Ruby Griffin Burt, one son Ferrell G. Burt, six grandchildren, and one brother Jesse Burt, Jacksonville, Florida. The family here received word that one of Mr. Burt's brothers, Charlie Burt of Meridian, Miss., had died early on the morning of the same day (Tuesday) that Mr. Burt in Pell City passed away.

The Funeral will be held at four o'clock this afternoon (Thursday) from the First Baptist church. Interment will follow at Valley Hill cemetery, Dr. Austin F. Staples te. Kilgroe will di-

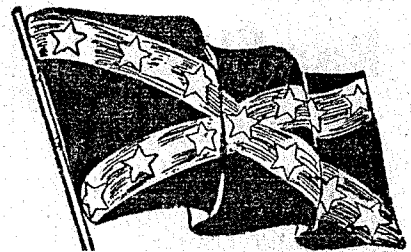
rect. Pallbearers will be Paul Turner, Paul Pope, Howell Henderson, Edwin Holladay, Harold Williams and Heflin Haynes. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Barraca class, Officers and employees of St. Clair Federal Savings & Loan, Mayor and members City Council Pell City and officials of Avondale Mills.

Sam Burt was a real friend, a little man in physical stature but big as all the world in heart and mind and in spiritual thought and culture. He leaves big footprints on the sands of time as he departs for the Vall-halla of Christian Gentlemen. (eb).

James V. Gray
2001 19th. St. So. 96

NEWS—AEGIS

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER



This Is Your Story



Rev. Marvin R. Heflin

Had Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Heflin any conception of the heights their nine living children were to soar in prominence, it would only be natural for them to experience a tremendous surge of pride. For not just one of them was successful, but all of them were stand-outs in some great cause, whether it was medicine, politics, or the ministry.

Take, for instance, their tenth child, who was later to become one of the most beloved Methodist Ministers in the North Alabama Conference. He was born May 10, 1887 in Louisiana, Alabama and was to be called Marvin R. His mother, who had given birth to eleven children by the time she had reached forty five, 2 daughters of whom died in infancy, was the former Lavicie Phillips, of Randolph County. His father, Dr. Wilson Heflin, was born in Fayette County, Ga. and moved to Alabama when he was a strapping youth. He was a rising young doctor when he met and married Lavicie Phillips in December, 1859.

Marvin R. Heflin, who was later to be fondly known here as Bro. Heflin, was only six years old when his comparatively young mother died. Wyatt, the eldest of the Heflin Children, was attending Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Penn. when news of his mother's death came. Dr. Wilson Heflin, although grief-stricken at his wife's death, was determined at this point to assume the responsibility of rearing eight children.

When Marvin R. Heflin was 14 years old, his father decided to set up practice in Roanoke, Ala. Dr. Heflin practiced medicine in Randolph County for 60 years. Other children who grew into manhood

onta, Leighton, Pell City, and others in Alabama, in addition to the following in Georgia; Macrae, St. Paul, Columbus, and Cordele. He served as pastor of Oneonta Methodist Church from 1942 to 1945.

1945 . . . an eventful year. Rev. Heflin and his wife came to Pell City that year, and endeared themselves to the people in this community and St. Clair County so much, that they are still with us. And that is the way we want it to stay. From 1945 to 1949, Bro. Heflin served as pastor of the local Methodist Church.

Due to the deep love and appreciation for Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Heflin, friends of all denominations in this area erected a home as a love gift to a man who had and still means so much to this community. Although Bro. Heflin retired from the Ministry in 1949, he is never idle, is always helping people, listening to their tales of woe, visiting the sick, and praying. Since his retirement he has been in constant demand for talks at banquets, civic gatherings, and various churches.

Only three of the nine children of the late Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Heflin are living. They are; Dr. Wyatt Heflin, Rev. Marvin R. Heflin, and Mrs. Lavicie Heflin. Deceased are; Rev. Walter Wilson

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When Marvin R. Heflin was 14 years old, his father decided to set up practice in Roanoke, Ala. Dr. Heflin practiced medicine in Randolph County for 60 years. Other children who grew into manhood and womanhood and found their place in prominence were, Harrington, Walter, John, Howell, Thomas, Robert and one daughter Lavicie.

Of all the nine children of the late Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Heflin, Marvin R. is the most beloved to the people in St. Clair County. He answered God's call to preach when a very young man. He studied for the ministry in some of the greatest colleges the North and South have to offer. He attended the University of Alabama, Birmingham Southern College, University of Chicago, Vanderbilt, and Harvard. He was licensed to preach in 1901.

Rev. Heflin met and married Louise Strudwick, of Demopolis, Ala. in 1912. They met in Tuscaloosa at the time Miss Strudwick was teaching school.

Sept. 19, 1913 . . . Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Heflin announced the birth of their first child, a son whom they named Wilson L. It was not until July 19, 1921, that the second son joined the Heflin Home. His name was to be Howell.

Wilson, the eldest son, received his PHD Degree in English from Vanderbilt College in September 1943. He has been a member of the faculty at United States Naval Academy for the past eight years. He married the former Mary Katherine Rochester, of Birmingham, and they are parents of two daughters. Mary Katherine, aged 9, and Ann, aged 6.

Howell, the younger son, completed law school at the University of Alabama and Birmingham Southern. He served two years in active duty during world War II and participated in three major campaigns. At the present time he is practicing law in Tusculumbia and is in charge of a Federal Housing project. He married the former Elizabeth Ann Charmichael, of Tusculumbia. They are parents of one son, Howell Jr., four months old.

Rev. Marvin Heflin has served as pastor of the First Methodist Churches at Cullman, Tuscaloosa, One-

in this area erected a home as a love gift to a man who had and still means so much to this community. Although Bro. Heflin retired from the Ministry in 1949, he is never idle, is always helping people, listening to their tales of woe, visiting the sick, and praying. Since his retirement he has been in constant demand for talks at banquets, civic gatherings, and various churches.

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Oct. 2, 1969



Ends 27 Years Service

Pell City Postmaster Roy Banks announced the retirement of Mrs. Jewell Matthews, Assistant Postmaster at the Pell City Post Office, ending 27 years service with the Post Office Department.

Mrs. Matthews, who established a record of more than 20 years service without being absent on sick leave, was presented the Superior Performance award, with \$100.00 cash, the postmaster said.

Postmaster Banks has appointed Philip B. Polk (shown above with the outgoing assistant postmaster) to the position of Assistant Postmaster. Polk, a graduate of Pell City High School, is married to the former Melba Sue Smith. They

have two children, Greg and Sheila.

The new assistant postmaster began his postal career as a substitute clerk at the Birmingham Post Office in 1961 and was transferred to the Pell City Office in 1967.

Alabama Amblings

And so, a new life at 60

BY BOB HAWKINS, News staff writer

PELL CITY, June 29 — Whatever could possess a man to pull up the stakes of over half a century, leave home, hearth and lifelong friendships to take on a new means for existence?

For the Rev. Laney Bain, Alabama's Rural Minister of the Year of 1965, it was a matter of conscience, pure and simple. Something he had to do.

The ministry was nothing new to him. He had been at it better than 20 years. But his churches had been small and he had subsidized his family as a furniture salesman. More likely, he sold furniture in order to preach.

But at 60, when most men his age are casting wistful glances at the rocking chair and satisfaction of retirement, Rev. Bain is off for new ground to break.

He had put his ministry on the block. Take it or leave it. He had decided to be a full-time preacher. Calvary Baptist Church of Town Creek in Lawrence County asked him to deliver a trial sermon, and in the truest Baptist tradition he had stood before the good brethren and sisters there like a young seminarian with an ax to grind with the devil.

Day after the sermon, a deacon called him at the store and said the folks at Calvary Baptist would like him to pitch in with them for good. This struck Rev. Bain with a degree of finality. Actually, it knocked the stems right out from under him. But as a preacher of the Gospel he had no choice but to accept.

How in the world was he to break the news to Mrs. Bain that they were leaving the town they had lived in all their lives and raised their family?

HE SAT THERE in the store in stunned silence and

pondered his predicament. His family's attachment for Pell City was deep, indeed. Their children had all grown up here and made their marks. William, the oldest, was in New Jersey, Jimmy and Bob had been outstanding athletes. As a quarterback, Jimmy had dazzled the SEC at Mississippi State University; Bob, likewise, at Delta State. The two girls, Helen and Betty, both had children of their own. (Jimmy is now pastor of the North Oxford, Miss., Baptist Church.)

Selling furniture and preaching had worked out splendidly for the Rev. Bain. Though this combination had been drudgery — 80 hours to the average week — it had allowed his children to obtain fine education, and he could see himself continuing at this pace for several more years.

This was a strong argument for staying put. But I'm a preacher, he thought, and always wanted to be able to preach full-time with no other thought than that of the Lord's work.

Selling had been an honorable way to make a living, but to a man who had his heart on a greater calling, it was no substitute at all. Should he break the news to his wife in adamant, demanding language? Use his familiar soft-sell approach? Preach her a sermon on evangelism?

Laney Bain was just fooling himself, he thought. I'll just phone her and ask her what she thinks, he decided.

THE VOICE on the other end of the line, who could read the Rev. Bain's book of habit and mood as if she wrote it, didn't give her preacher husband a chance to say anything at all. She had anticipated the call.

"You call those deacons in Town Creek right back and ask them when they want us. We'll be there," she told her caller.

And come July 3, Calvary Baptist Church of Town Creek will listen to a country preacher who fought a formidable foe, his conscience, came to grips with what he had to do and came through the ordeal a thoroughly honest man.



HAWKINS

Alabama Amblings

She's a fireball neighbor

BY BOB CORNETT, News correspondent

PELL CITY, Oct. 22 — You never, ever would say that Mrs. Jean S. Brandli is an ordinary, run-of-the-mill, everybody's next door neighbor.

For one thing, she sued this city for a quarter million dollars and in less than a year after the suit she wound up as president of its Chamber of Commerce.

For another, she is president of the local telephone company, which is how she came to make a tour of Europe last summer, including a 10-day stint behind the iron curtain.

She also happens to be the only female president of a chamber of commerce in Alabama.

On Dec. 10, 1963, a gas explosion gutted her telephone company building. She claimed the city was negligent and slapped a suit on them. Although she didn't collect a dime, her spunk became an object of local admiration.

FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT to the city she ordered a building full of telephone equipment, wrapped the whole thing up like a gift and tied it together with a tremendous ribbon. A truck hauled the thing 250 miles to Pell City and everybody, including local dignitaries, came out for a big ceremony to celebrate a renewal of communications.

Mrs. Brandli's performance earned her the title of Telephone Woman of the year at the Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana convention.

Mrs. Brandli was in Moscow at the time and sent the convention her thanks.

When the Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce decided to get moving again, there was only one person the merchants would consider to head up the organization. The chamber hadn't met in more than three years. There were no officers and the till was bare as the industrial prospect list.

Pell City had been clamoring for industry with the temerity of the soap opera salesman who used to knock on doors and say to himself, "Well, I guess there's no one home today, I hope, I hope, I hope."

This lethargy was shaken off pronto once Mrs. Brandli took over. Within a week after her election she set up an office, hired a fulltime secretary and set up an employment service for local plants. The membership drive was spirited and decisive. Nary a merchant escaped the touch.

To the delight of everyone there, more than 60 showed up for the first meeting and now membership is courting 100.

Mrs. Brandli has already talked with industrialists from Chicago to the Deep South about opening branches in Pell City, and she feels a couple will locate here within the near future.

Nobody knows who's minding the store at the telephone company, but Pell Citians are a mite too busy at being optimistic to care.

Though Mrs. Brandli lost her lawsuit against the city, it may be the last time in her life she loses anything.

Pell City has placed its hopes for an industrial future in her hands. And Pell City thinks it has a winner.



BOB CORNETT



MRS. BRANDLI

The beginning of "Talks with Daddy"

Sometimes the sweetest conversations are in the strangest places. Daddy fell and broke his wrist, while waiting for cast we just "talked". The old hotel at Cook Springs, the railroad from Cropwell to Coal City, the back water, growing up poor...everyone was poor during the depression. The treat was finding apples for snacks still on the trees. Running barefoot and playing in the dirt streets. Plowing a mule named Maude and how pretty the rows were when just laid off. The dark soil and dropping the corn and how to hoe the garden to it keep looking good. Laughing about moon shine and how you could make more money out of the shine than the corn during hard times. And how he never made shine but always wondered about it..... Coal City was named for its coal and there is enough coal and natural gas to do a lifetime, cotton on wagons coming from Mays Bend to the railroad station where David Tim's Antiques is today and that was a store and you could get everything you needed from groceries to leather good, riding his bike from the mill village to swim in Easonville Lake and it was 5 miles each way, but boy howdy it was fun..... I love my Daddy and I hang onto his every word.

Bobby Ray Hollis was born May 4, 1930 in Pell City, Alabama.

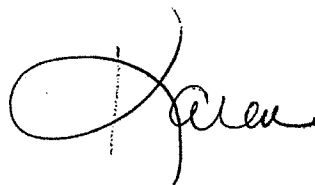
Parents were Grady Hollis Sr. and Viola Rose Perkins Hollis

1 brother, Grady Jr..... 2 sisters, Elizabeth Hollis and Laura Rose Hollis.

Bob married Norma Geraldine Adkins Oct. 15, 1949.....Geraldine was known as "Jeri". Jeri's parents were Fredrick Homer Adkins and Mildred Lucille Bradshaw Adkins.....Jeri had one sister, Carol Anne.

Bob and Jeri had 2 daughters. Karen Hollis, Jan.4, 1953 and Cynthia Rae June, 9, 1958.

Daddy's talks give us a glimpse into growing up in the 1930s. Every generation has much to share and prepares the way for the next. Take time to listen....we have many lessons to learn.



1936....."Our Job"

"Lived at the end of Rail Road Ave in a house on the corner. This is across from Arbor Baptist Church area where the red house is today. I was 7 and Grady Junior was 9. Streets in village were dirt, no underpinning under houses, needed open for the air to help keep cool, every house had big trees in front yard. Walking the streets in the afternoon would starve you to death. The smells from each house would let you know what was for supper. We had electricity for a light bulb hanging from a drop cord in center of room but that was it. Heat came from a fireplace that burnt coal, had to use wood in the cook stove. The refrigerator was made of wood and had a place on top for a large block of ice. Mine and Junior's job was to walk to the ice house that was on the mill property and get the block of ice for the refrigerator. We would nick out a place in all sides of the block of ice and tie with rope, this would keep the rope from sliding off, then we would tie the rope to the broom stick and each of us would carry one end. Too heavy for just one. Had to walk past the school and some boys were always out playing marbles in the school yard in the summer. Junior was oldest and wanted to play, so we stopped.....the ice melted and we got in trouble with Mama. That was NOT the last time Junior got me in trouble, it was just the beginning."

GRADY JR.



Bobby Ray



1936....."Train Trouble"

"I was 6 and the highlight of the day was the train coming by. We lived on Railroad Ave, it is the street that runs in front of the red house across or near Arbor Baptist Church. Train ran from the mill to Coal City. Train would start blowing its whistle when it got in front of Friendship Freewill Baptist Church. We would run to see the train, the conductor would throw each of us a penny. Loved to hear that whistle and Robert and I would run real close to the tracks. The conductor thought we were too close and kept blowing and we just kept running along side the train. Robert's mama came running, the long whistles and the screeching of the train brakes scared her to death. Mrs. Rook grabbed me by the overalls and got Robert in the other hand and drug us up the street. She pulled a peach limb and whipped us both , walked me home, told mama and I got it again.it was worth it. I will never forget the whistle blowing so long and the screeching brakes."



1937..... "Hat"

"Railroad ran in front of Freewill Baptist Church. There was a big drain pipe under the railroad. We always walked to church. Mama took in washing and ironing for extra money. She had a big wash pot in the yard. People would bring the laundry to her. Every fall Mama would buy a bolt of white fabric and make Junior 7 shirts and me 7. On wash day it looked like the seven dwarfs clothes on the line. Junior was the oldest but the smallest so there were 7 of each size. Mama would boil the shirts and keep them white. Mama saved up and bought me and Junior a hat just for church. It was like the men wore but for boys. She dressed us in our best overalls and a freshly ironed white shirt and put the hats on us. She was so proud of those hats. Well, as we walked to church, Junior said if we wore those hats to church we would have to fight off every boy there. We decided to hide the hats in the drain pipe under the train track for safe keeping. We went on to church and afterwards got our hats out of the drain and wore them home. I was seven and Junior was nine. We did not want to hurt Mama's feelings but we did not feel like fighting over wearing those hats. When we got grown we told Mama what we did and she laughed."



1938....."Shoes"

"Got new shoes once a year...Mama ordered from Sears and Roebuck catalog. Did not wear shoes except cold winter and dress up. I saw a pair of WHITE shoes and begged for them. Everybody else wore black and I wanted something different. Miss Iola Roberts announced a photographer was coming to the school to make an important picture to be hung in the lobby forever. I had been chosen to represent my grade. Gonna get to wear the new shoes! When photo was given to Miss Roberts she had a fit about my white shoes messing up the picture and she colored them black with a pencil. When the school was torn down, someone got this picture and gave to me. They were nice shoes."



1939....."Meat Fork"

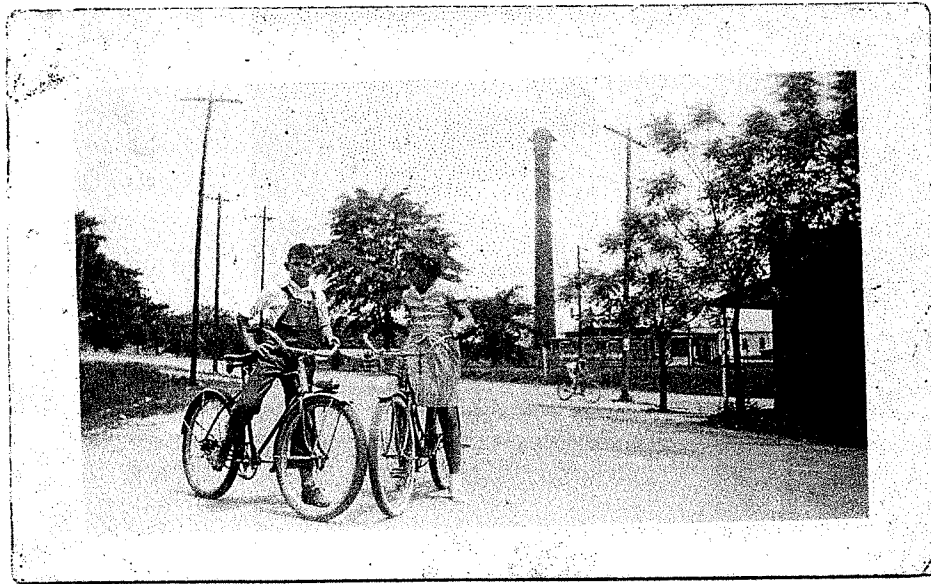
It was July and HOT. Us kids were playing in the yard. Back yards faced each other where we were playing. We heard a lady scream "I'm dying, I'm dying". We ran over to see what was going on. Mrs. Gussie was in the kitchen and two women had towels wrapped around Mrs. Gussie's behind. Blood was running down her leg into her shoes. I was trying to see what was going on and at the center of the towels was a meat fork handle sticking out! One lady said we got to get her to the hospital. A neighbor at the end of the street had a car. When the man got there they opened the car door and I was wondering how they could get her in the car . They put her head and shoulders in first and she hung over seat and the last thing I saw was her butt wrapped in towels and the the fork handle shining. She was on her knees. Mrs. Gussie was a real heavy set woman. Somebody went and got her husband that was working in the mill.....Now, Mrs. Gussie was Little Monk's step mother. Little Monk was hiding under the house. His Daddy asked me to go get him . I said I would ONLY if Little Monk did not get in trouble. You see, Mrs. Gussie was mean to Little Monk and slapped him around and everybody knew it. The Dad told me to crawl on under the house and tell Little Monk that from now on everything would be alright. Little Monk did not get in trouble and the slapping stopped.



"Wearing hat from Mill Village Band Uniform"

1939....."Look Out"

Hickory Street, 1st street over from where the railroad was in village. Saturday evening after dinner, around 1:00 or 2:00 the men would sit on the front porch. Within an hour the men would have gathered at the end of the street. There was a cleaned out spot where the honeysuckles and bushes were. The men had wooden crates to sit on and these five men would play poker for change. My friend, Jim Wadsworth and I were paid 25cents to climb a big hickory tree and watch the street for their wives. After an hour or two the women would start coming out one by one and walking up the street looking for their husbands. We would say "here they come" and the men would shut down the game and walk down the other side of the hill and go home the back way. The men would all be sitting on their own front porch all innocent by the time the women got back home.



Bobby Ray and Cousin PEGGY SUE -
THIS IS CROSS ROAD BY STEAKHOUSE

1940's during war....."Shortcut"

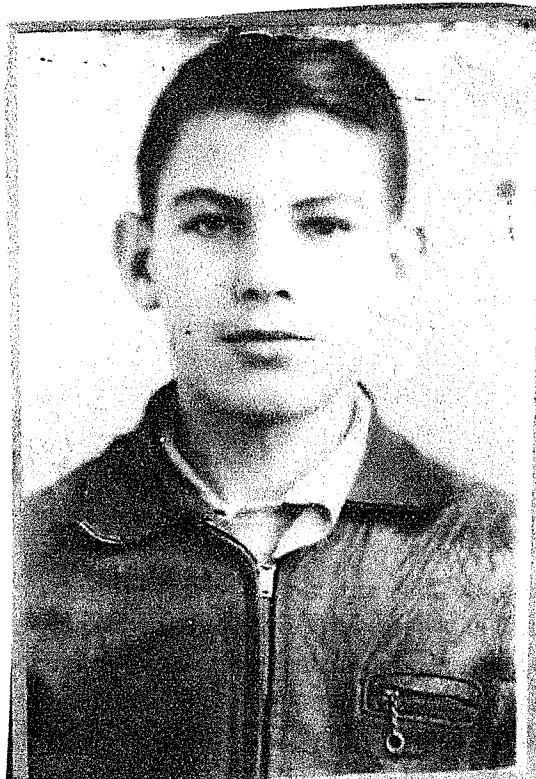
The mill had a community center. It was on mill property. You could get a sandwich, play pool and it had a rockola so you could dance. There was a softball field too. I went over for a while and left by 9:00. I had to walk home to Park Hill which is the road that KFC is on today. I always carried a big stick cause I walked over the hill where the Lola Roberts School is now and it was hard steep climbing. It was a shortcut for me. I only had moonlight to find my way, but I did fine. I had climbed the steep side, was at top of big hill and headed down when the moon was covered by a cloud. It was dark! All of a sudden I heard something coming at me. I could not run back up the hill so I just started hollering and running down the hill and slinging my big stick. I heard something rolling but I kept running home. I never stopped, I ran all the way home. Next day I saw Thomas in town and he was all skint up. Everybody walked everywhere they went, no other choice. I asked ole Thomas what happened to him and he said he was taking a shortcut the night before and then he said "Bob, a crazy man got after me with a stick!" I said, "he did!" I never told it was me till now.



House on Park Hill
(past KFC)

1940s....."Victory Garden"

"An old man went to Daddy and wanted to sell his mare, just too old to plow her. Daddy agreed to buy her on time and let me plow her to make money for payments. I was 12 and excited about my job...I now had a mare! She was a fine one, named Maude....everyone in Mill Village wanted a victory garden so I plowed the garden for \$3.00 and for an extra \$1.00 would use hand plow and lay off the rows. The money earned would pay for Maude, her food and place to live. Avondale Mills was good to their people and provided a barn to keep horses and cows in. They even provided water but you had to furnish your own feed. The barn was where Mc'Donald's and Dixie Auto are today. We also had a Jersey cow named Baby and Mama would walk to the barn, milk Baby and walk back home. There was also a pig pen. In the fall everyone would meet and have the hog killing. The meat was put in smoke houseeverybody had one in the back yard of the house. Food was getting more plentiful since times were getting better....with meat in the smokehouse and vegetables in the garden and even some to can for later....things were looking up."



1942....."Rabbit Huntin"

You have to keep in mind that everything was rationed during the war. One Monday morning I was getting ready for school and there was a knock on the back door. It was Bill Howell. He had a single barrel shot gun and one shell. He was a fool about rabbit hunting. I had one shell and a single barrel too. Bill wanted to go huntin and I told him I had to go to school. Bill thought we needed to play hookie and hunt since we each had a shot gun shell. I had two huntin dogs, a beagle named Queenie and a black and tan hound named Frank. We went to the Donahoo farm which is where the industrial park is today. The dogs struck a trail and ran the rabbit out of the honeysuckle patch. Bill shot and missed and I shot and missed. As the rabbit ran across the field me and Bill threw rocks at him. One hit him and laid him out. I picked him up and put him in the pouch on my back to take to Mama to cook. In a little while the rabbit woke up, jumped out of my back pack and ran away. That day was a total loss.....we missed school and the rabbit.



1942....."Ghost Hunter"

"Rumor was that ghost lived in the cemetery. Tomb stones lit up at night.. My cousin lived on Park Hill, that is the area where Hazelwood's Nursery is today. My cousin asked me to spend the night so we decided to go ghost hunting. Gathered some things up to make a tent and headed to the cemetery. We were boy scouts and knew we could handle anything. We were going to catch us a ghost! We laid watch all night, there were not many cars in town and when one topped the rise the lights hit the tomb stones.....mystery solved. Now that I think about it, I don't know what we would have done with the ghost if we had caught it.

1942..... "Prisoners"

"Uncle Tom Perkins had a saw mill, he lived on hwy 144. Uncle Tom got prisoners to contract labor to cut trees. Truck load of prisoners came out to work. There was about 12 or 15 total including the guards. I was working that summer for Uncle Tom too. My job was to keep the slabs of pine away from the saw so they would not build up and to keep saw dust cleared away. At the end of the day the big truck with the tall slat sides would come get the prisoners. These boys were German. After everyone left the rest of my job was to clean up and get ready for the next days work. When I started walking back to Uncle Tom's house a small blonde headed German was sitting on the side of the road crying. We could not understand each other but he pointed to his back where the POW was on his shirt. He had gone to the bathroom in the woods and got left behind. He was so afraid to move, afraid he would be shot. He was not a lot older than me, maybe still in his teens. I signaled for him to come with me and pointed to Uncle Tom's house. He held my hand, he was so scared. Uncle Tom called the fort and told them the boy was there and they came back and got him. I'm glad I was still there cleaning up and the little fellow was not alone. He was so scared."



“1944, PCHSGadsden game with Hollywood connection”

“The same year we played Anniston, we played Gadsden....Gadsden had lights so we could play at night. Big deal for us to play at night because Pell City had no lights and had to play in daytime. Now, Camp Sibert was an army camp near by. We were playing Gadsden because it was a big team and we were still working on raising money for uniforms and equipment...we were not near as big as Anniston or Gadsden. In the course of the game the score was 45-0.....we were the 0. There was a big tackle boy on Gadsden’s team that kept beating up on me. Near the end of the game he pointed at me and said....I’m gonna get that left kidney and I replied...come and get it. When the play started he came after me. I was a blocking back and he was a tackle. As he came at me, I accidently kicked him between the legs....I knew he was gonna take my left kidney and had no choice. The fellow fell on the ground hollering and as they took him off the field he shook his fist at me and said real loud....I’ll get you, you little SOB! A few minutes later the game was over, I took off my helmet and started walking off the field, looked up and 3 players came charging at me. I put my helmet back on and braced for the fight. One guy grabbed my right side and one on my left and one punched me right in the kisser and just beat the stew out of me... Well, remember I said Camp Sibert was near...well, 50 soldiers were in the stands. They came running to the field to help Pell City..we were little and Gadsden was big. The 50 soldiers fought for the Pell City boys. After we got on the bus, Mr. Turner our assist coach came over to me and asked how I was doing...I showed him my tongue and it was split right down the middle..he told me it would grow back. Coach Turner told me I was doing pretty good and that he was trying to get to me to help but couldn’t get through the crowd. Coach told me not to tell anyone but he thought he had broken his hand in the brawl.....now comes the fun part.. We never forgot those 50 soldiers for helping and never knew who any of them were until one became famous. This soldier was asked a question on stage one time and someone wanted to know if he had ever been in a fight....he answered YES, one time when I was at Camp Sibert in Alabama, I was helping out a small football team.....Thanks Mickey Rooney, we appreciated your help ☺”



1944....."The Tooth"

PCHS, during the war all of our football equipment was just scraps. If somebody got hurt he was pulled over to the side and his jersey was taken off and put on new man, then the game started back up. Our coach was the principal and assistant coach was our history teacher. We got invited to play Anniston. This was a chance to make money for new equipment. Anniston was a big school and had lights and we could play at night. During the game Little Billy yelled to stop the game, he had lost his tooth. You see, Little Billy had his front tooth knocked out playing in the yard at home and his parents had saved nearly \$100.00 to get this new tooth on a wire for him. Both teams coaches, referees and players stopped to look for the valuable tooth on a wire. One of the Anniston players yelled out that he had found it and the game resumed. Anniston beat us as usual.



1945....."New Girl"

"PCHS, 10th grade. This girl was walking to school, I was on my bicycle. She was cute so I darted at her just enough to make her jump. She was the "new" girl from Trussville. Later on I was driving my 1929 truck and dusted her shoes when I flew by. That girl was so mad! Never forget that day, she had on a sloppy Joe sweater, pleated skirt, penny loafers and bobby socks. What I noticed most was this girl was always dressed up and had a pretty scarf and a pocket book. The Pell City girls never carried a pocket book much. I approached this new girl and asked her if she could dance and she said she could a little bit, so I asked her to meet me at the Club at the mill and teach me. She agreed. That girl tried all afternoon to teach me to dance and I could not get it. Finally the girl gave up and said she had to go and could not teach me. When she got to the door I ran to her and told her that I thought I had it! Just one more try.....well, I was one of the best dancers in town and could jitter bug like crazy and I had always taught people to dance. That new girl could have killed me but that's ok because in 1949 I married her and her name was Jeri Adkins....you see, she had come to Pell City with her parents in 1945 when her mother started the Pell City Flower Shop and from that first day I saw her I knew she was the one."



Jeri Adkins

Jeri



1946....."Waldo"

Pell City High School, FFA.....1946 age 16. Fess Locke was the teacher. Fess had a brand new Chevrolet. Every morning he would go to the post office. Fess called us out and wanted all us boys to see his new car. Waldo asked if he could pop the hood and all us take a look at the engine. Fess was excited to show off his new car. We went back to the school room. Fess left whistling on his way to post office. He came back in and asked if anybody knew anything about cars. The new car would not start. Waldo said, "pop that hood, I'll take a look." Well the funny part is when we were all admiring the new car earlier, Waldo disconnect 3 spark plugs....so he connected them back. Waldo told Fess to give it a try and it cranked right up. That Chevrolet purred like a kitten. From that day on Fess thought Waldo could do anything. He told everybody how smart Waldo was....that day Waldo and I became friends. We played football at school, went to service together, came home, got jobs at Hayes Aircraft, rode back and forth to work together. Now, Waldo had a volkswagon bug, one of the first. Every weekend Waldo would take the VW apart, screws and bolts all over the place and his son Jimmy would play with the parts. Amazing thing was that Monday morning that VW was back together for another week and we headed out to Hayes. No airconditioner and driving old Hwy 78. After work we would stop at the curb market and get raw peanuts. To this day there is probably a trail of hulls from Birmingham to Pell City. Waldo was the best friend I ever had.....I miss Waldo

"Best Buddies"



1946....."Halloween"

Now this story is kinda bad but funny. Six of us were out fooling around on Halloween. We ended up on 19th Street. There was a little honkey tonk in the black section of town. There was drinking, music and dancing. No indoor plumbing and there was a little out house behind the honkey tonk. There was a long drop cord from the main building to the outhouse. The path to the outhouse was lit with only one light bulb. This place was behind where the First Baptist Church is today on 19th Street. Well, we moved the outhouse a few feet back and hid and waited. In a little while a chubby man in overalls and white shirt came staggering down the path. He was singing and dancing on his way to the outhouse when all of a sudden he fell knee deep in the hole full of pee and poo. We had moved the outhouse just enough so that when you reached for the door you fell in the hole. He was mad as a wet hen and kept hollering "who dun, who dun, who dun moved the shitter" . We all ran. Today I feel bad about it cause that was probably his best outfit and shoes and they were ruined.



1948....."Played Hookie"

"Spring and nice weather. Was a senior and had a girl named Jeri Adkins. My buddy Bill Howell had a girl named Norma Rose Adams. We decided to play hookie and go fishing. I had a new Frazier and just wanted to go and ride. I was working 3rd shift in the mill to pay for it and going to school ½ day since I was ahead on classes. Me, Bill and the girls had a great day of fishing. Jeri caught a brim big as my hand and she was so excited. We all went home that night and said nothing about our day to our parents. Well, as you might know, Jeri" could not keep the secret. She told her dad about the big fish she caught and all about us playing hookie. Mr. Adkins said since she caught a fish that was ok to play hookie... Mr. Adkins loved to fish and I guess he understood. We took some pictures that day, now I'm glad we did."



"Jeri + Norma Rose"



"Jeri + her catch!"



Bob's
LOVE
forever!

"Jeri"





"Talk" with Daddy today..... 10-01-13

.....Fun Facts

"Talk" with Daddy today. We rode around the "Mill Village" and he showed me the places some of the stories took place. Mama and Janet Weldon Jones went with us. Janet is "Waldo's" daughter and Waldo was Daddy's best friend. Things have changed so much in the village.

Original names of streets in village . Don't hold us to them being perfect but as far as he remembers they are as follows:

27th Street.....Chestnut Street

28th Street.....Hickory Street

29th Street.....Cherry Street

30th Street.....Beech Street

Granddaddy Hollis never owned but one car...saved and paid cash. He and grandmother were very young not even sure if married yet. Went to movie, man came into movie and said a car was burning up. Yep, it was Granddaddy's and he swore to never have another car and never did.

Granddaddy Hollis was from Dykes Mill in Pell City area and Grandmother Hollis from Oklahoma.

Hollis homesteaded Dykes Mill property in 1800s , over 500 acres.

Hwy 231 was dirt in the 1930s. This road led to Easonville and Cropwell. Was not paved til after war started.

Corner of 5th and 26th Street where the double wide side walk is today....is where the hospital was. It was torn down early 1940s. The hospital was 2 stories tall, no screens and the curtains would blow in the breeze out of windows.

Where ball field in village is today is where there were 10-15 bins in a barn to keep a cow and a pasture. Down from that were pig pens. Mill provided water and for a fee you could keep your cow and pigs here. The rent for your stall was cut from paycheck. You had to grow everything you ate even meat so this was a good deal. It was up to each family to feed his pig and cow. Usually the children did the feeding and watering. Also barns on vacant lot next to walking track in mill village area.

The water that was used in the mill came from a large round pool on the property, kids would play in it during hot summers. Children were no longer allowed to play in pool after one of the management men's sons dove in and hit support in bottom of pool. It broke his neck and he died.

The round kindergarten building that was on mill property was originally a gazebo. Had benches all around the inside area to sit and visit. Sometimes there would be a band in the gazebo and you could dance in the grass around it. The gazebo was open. Later years this was moved to Lola Robert's grounds.

The mill had a "Club". The employees could go there for a sandwich, juke box to play music and dance floor, pool table. This was for employees only, also had a softball field.

Where Judy's Craft Mart is today, (also where Hagan Drugs was) was the first funeral home in Pell City. The man had a shiney black horse and carriage. He had one funeral came back and put up for sale, this was not for him.

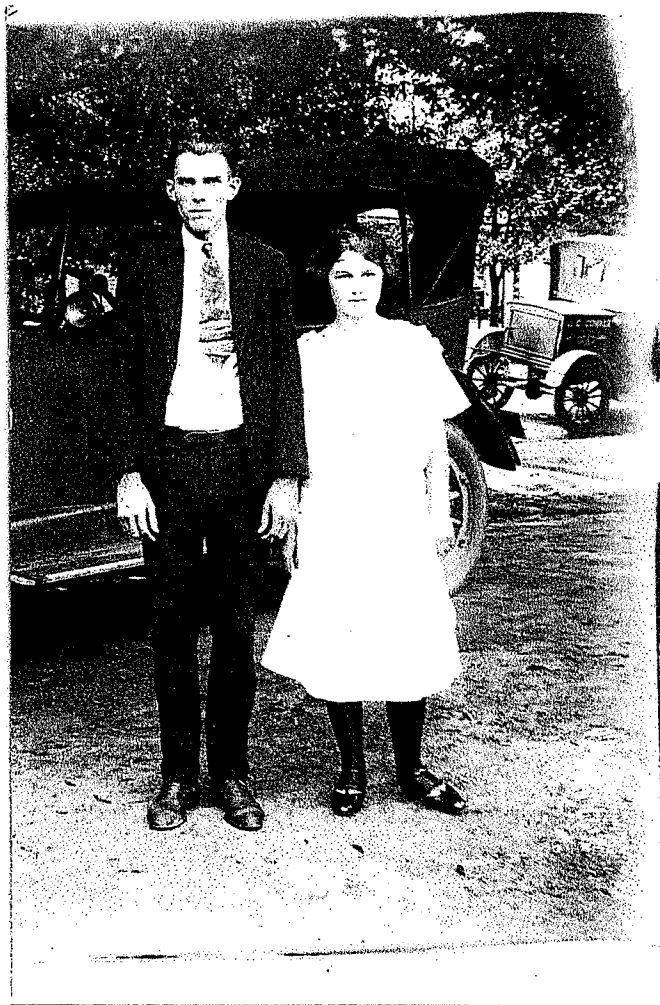
Railroad bed was where Comer Ave is today.

Mrs. Gussie (fork story)....lived on corner of 27th Street where red house is today.

The end of 28th Steet today on left if where poker games were held and Daddy was look out.

Grady Hollis and Viola Rose Perkins Hollis.....(Bobby Ray's parents)

Grady saved and bought a brand new car. He went to the movie and had this picture made. Someone came in movie and said a car was on fire out front. It was Grady's....he swore he would never own another car and he didn't.



"Talk with Daddy"my thoughts this morningOct. 19, 2013

So many thoughts in my head about "talks" with Daddy. Yes, the stories are about my Daddy and his adventures growing up. A different time, some say the "Good Ole Days" were the best, some say not. In those days everyone was poor, grew their food, fed the ole pig, milked a cow, never enough to eat, homemade clothes...even for boys, working from daylight till dark, walking everywhere you went. I agree there are two sides to the good ole days but what I have seen is that a young boy flirted by peddling fast on his bicycle and making dust go on a girl's shoes. I think of the scared prisoner left at the mill and how two young boys from different worlds trusted each other. One was the scared POW the other a kid from the mill village willing to reach out a hand and help. I see simple clean fun like the day four kids played hookie from school to go fishing. Not one word of alcohol and drugs only fun, trust and laughter. It did not matter if you had holes in your shoes. Today as I sit and "talk" with Daddy I see an 83 year old man, his beautiful black hair is silver but what I see is priceless. He still laughs about the hard times and every story had a good ending no matter how bad. I have learned that life is how you see things. Daddy said when things got bad something always good happened. You just gotta look for it. It is the way we choose to look at life that counts and I have learned that each of us is responsible for own happiness.

Karen

*Take time to
listen -
I Love you Daddy*



BRO. HEFLIN

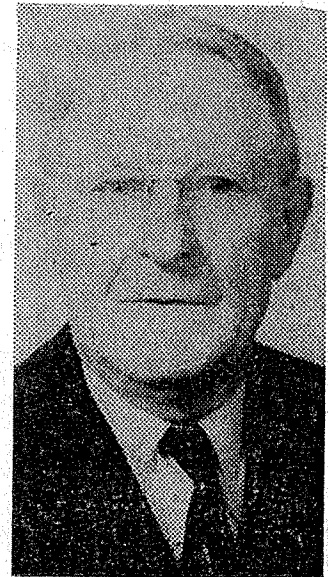
CONT'D FROM FRONT PAGE

He attended Birmingham Southern College and the University of Alabama. He did his theological work at Vanderbilt University and later attended Harvard University, where he did special work.

Rev. Heflin is married to the former Miss Louise Strudwick of Demopolis, Ala.

TUESDAY was spent quietly at home, but a family gathering is scheduled for June, when the Heflin's oldest son, Dr. Wilson L. Heflin and his family of Annapolis, Maryland visit Alabama. Dr. Heflin has taught for the past 19 years in the Academy in Annapolis, his position being a Math Professor. Howell T. Heflin, who is President of the Alabama Bar Association, will also be present with his family. In addition to having an active law practice in Tuscumbia, Howell Heflin, has taken an active part in North Alabama politics for the past several years.

*St. Clair News - Annapolis
May 12, 1966*



**REV. MARVIN HEFLIN
... 89 Years Old Tuesday**

REV. MARVIN HEFLIN, well known and beloved Pell City resident and retired Methodist Minister, observed his 89th birthday, Tuesday, May 10th.

The eleventh and only living child of the late Dr. Wilson L. Heflin and Mrs. LaVicie Heflin, he was born in 1877 at Louina in Randolph County.

He has been a Methodist for 75 years, was licensed a Methodist Minister in 1901 and was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Church in 1905. He has been a member of the North Alabama Conference and Georgia Conference for approximately 48 years and a retired supply minister in St. Clair County for 3 years.

Avondale officials have invited a number of friends, neighbors, and fellow workers to honor Mr. Whitten at a dinner to be held Monday night at the South St. Clair school.

The retiring superintendent literally worked his way through the mill. Starting as an electrician after being employed by the Alabama Power Company in Pell City, he later transferred to the mechanical department in 1941 was named Master Mechanic. In 1945 he was made Weave Room foreman and a year later in 1946, assistant superintendent. In May 1954 he was elevated to plant superintendent.

In all his years at Pell City Mr. Whitten has been a valued citizen, has always taken part in civic work and in many civic organizations. He is a charter member of the Pell City Civitan Club and the Greater Pell City Chamber of Commerce and various other groups.

He has been an almost lifelong member of the Methodist Church and in his lifetime of devotion to his church has held with honor just about every office in Pell City's First Methodist. He has been a member of the Board of Stewards for more than 35 years, has been chairman of the Board, is at present serving as vice-

chairman, has been Sunday School Superintendent, church secretary, church treasurer and held other offices.

He is a native of St. Clair in the Easonville community where he went to school. Mrs. Whitten was Miss Anne Smith before marriage. She was born in the same community and they were childhood sweethearts. They are the parents of four children, Mrs. Jane Hammett and Dan Whitten of Birmingham, and Mrs. E. L. Love Jr., and French O. Whitten Jr., Pell City.



FRENCH O. WHITTEN
... After 42 Years

F. O. Whitten

Retiring:

Ends 42 Years

After this week F. O. Whitten, for 42 years an employee of Avondale Mills will lay down his tools of the trade and join the rapidly increasing number of happily retired people in this community.

Mr. Whitten joined Avondale as an electrician in 1921, has been superintendent of the Pell City plant since 1954. His plans called for him to retire about two years ago, but Avondale officials persuaded him to stay on for one more year, then one more year to superintend the important installation of new machinery and a change over from weaving blue denim to grey goods taking place in the Pell City plant.

Dudley Martin came to Pell City from the Avondale Plant at Alexander City, will succeed Mr. Whitten as superintendent at Pell City. Mr. Martin came to Pell City about one year ago.



DR. J. H. NEWMAN

Girls' college gives nod to UA official

FARMVILLE, Va., May 22—(P)—Dr. James Heflin Newman, executive vice president of the University of Alabama, was named president of Longwood College Saturday.

Newman's appointment becomes effective Sept. 1. It was announced by Douglas A. Robertson, rector of the college's board of visitors.

Dr. Newman is 57. He is a native of LaFayette, Ala.

He succeeds President Francis G. Lankford, who has been head of the state women's college here since 1955. Dr. Lankford resigned to return to the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, where he will serve as a member of the faculty in the department of education.

DR. LANKFORD held this position prior to coming to Longwood 10 years ago.

In announcing the selection of Dr. Newman, Robertson said

Turn to Page 4, Column 8

From Page 1

the educator is a veteran in the field of education and a proven administrator.

"In Dr. Newman, the board of visitors has a man of much college experience who has a great understanding of problems confronting higher education today," Robertson said.

Dr. Newman is a former dean of students at the University of Virginia.

The newly appointed Longwood president is married to the former Dixie Ann Jones of Pell City, Ala. They have two children — James Blair, 17, and Ann Dickson, 20, a student at Randolph-Macon Woman's Col-

748, 1966



**MISS NIOMA LEE
... "Favorite" Nominee**

Miss Nioma Lee, former Pell City High School Librarian now serving as Librarian at St. Clair County Training School, has been nominated in the "Favorite Teacher" contest being conducted by the Birmingham News and Post-Herald.

She has received high recommendation from local school officials, ministers and civic leaders.

Miss Lee was Librarian at Pell City High School before accepting a similar position at St. Clair County Training School last year.

O. D. Duran's Death Shocks Comm

Our town should be getting used to shocks. A few weeks ago a fine young man and a beautiful little girl of our community lost their lives in an automobile wreck.

Tuesday morning it was the sudden unexpected death of Orville David Duran that was a shocker, a real jolt to the happiness of this community. When death comes to anyone it is an awesome thing, but when news of the death of a well known and highly respected and loved member of the community comes singing over the wires early of a morning it is something that

gets hard to live with.

O. D. Duran, as he was known to a legion of friends, was 50 years old. In that comparatively short span of half a hundred years he had accomplished more than many, many of us do in more than a lifetime. He was born on a farm near Albertville in Marshall county. He formed early plans for an education, after high school attended Jacksonville State, Howard College and finally the University of Alabama where he won his Masters Degree after an earlier degree at Howard.

He worked hard for his education. He taught school and returned to college, going in the summer months, at any time he could make a chance for himself. He came to Pell City in the late 1930's, first worked in the then new farm program with the Extension Service. Then he started teaching school, at Pell City's Grammar school, and as his own personal education progressed at Pell City's junior high school, and then after his Masters degree was principal of Pell City high school. While principal at Pell City he was

a candidate for and was elected County Superintendent of Education, a position he held with distinction at his death.

Along the way he felt the call to preach. A devout Baptist he studied hard again to prepare himself for this calling. Then he was ordained a Baptist minister and along with his already heavy workload he held part time and full pastorates at several churches in the county.

Perhaps his great love at the time of death was teaching the Men's Barraca Class at the First Baptist church.

July 1, 1965

Community

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...his great love at
...of death was teach-
...Men's Barraca Class
...irst Baptist church.

Members of the class will al-
ways like to thing so. Members
of the class will tell you he
was the finest teacher they
ever heard, and they came
eagerly every Sunday morn-
ing to hear his words. His in-
terpretation of and memory
of the Bible was amazing.
We buried this most useful
man Wednesday afternoon on
the last day of June. His pas-
tor, Dr. Austin F. Staples, Jr.,
flew back from a Baptist con-
vention in Miami to conduct
the services. He was assisted
by two other devout ministers,
Rev. Marvin Heflin and Rev.

Laney Bain. Services were
conducted at the First Baptist
church, where he was a mem-
ber for many years and a
church to which he had de-
voted so much service and
where he had spent so many
happy hours. Interment was
in Valley Hill cemetery. The
gracious funeral was directed
by the ever reliable Joe Kil-
groe and his able assistants.
He leaves behind a devoted
wife, Mrs. Janice Duran, two
children, James Edward Du-
ran and a daughter Mrs. Saun-
dra Barrett, and two sisters
Miss Lellia Duran and Mrs.

Deland Crowe.
Pall bearers were Paul
Turner, Judge Hoyt Hamilton,
Ed Holladay, Hugh Hardy
Williamson, David Jackson
and Elza Sims. Honorary pall-
bearers were members of the
Barraca Class, County Board
of Education, all ministers of
the county, all school princi-
pals in the county, Pat Rober-
son, Roy Gibson, Travis Du-
Boise and Carl Riddle.
Orville Duran's life could
be well written with this
sentence; "A lifetime of serv-
ice dedicated to Christian re-
ligion and to education." (eb)



ORVILLE D. DU

Several years ago he started the City Hall Sunday School class, inviting those who did not attend any other class or church. The class was an instant success and many men gather each Sunday morning. More than many have been turned from a wayward and aimless life into a Christian pathway through attendance at the City Hall class.

He has been pastor of the Sedon Baptist church for nearly three years, plans to continue this work. In addition he plans for an hour of radio time every Sunday morning. The first half of the Sunday hour will be devoted to church announce-

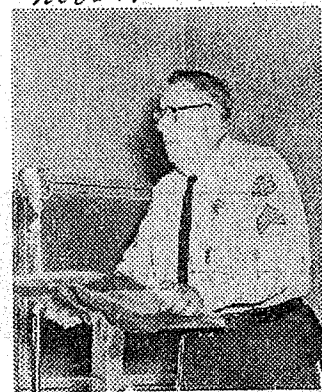
Cont'd From Front Page Capt. Edward L. Lightfoot

ments, news of the ill in hospitals and announcements of deaths and funerals. The last half to the Sunday School lesson.

Capt. and Mrs. Lightfoot are the parents of two children, one daughter, and one son. His wife before marriage was Miss Cora Lee Taylor. Their daughter is Mrs. Elizabeth Allen, Augusta, Ga., and the son is John E. Lightfoot of Richmond, Va.

He is a native of Millen, Ga., lived first on a farm and then worked as a railroad fireman and engineer. He came to Pell City from Ragland, worked for over 20 years as International Representative of the AF of L-CIO.

Nov. 1966



Capt. Edward L. Lightfoot
Will Retire January 1

Capt. Lightfoot Will Retire January 1st.

A man who has endeared himself in the hearts of people throughout the Pell City community and indeed throughout St. Clair County plans to retire from the Pell City Police Force Jan. 1, 1967.

Capt. Edward Lee Lightfoot has been a great Christian influence in our community since he came among us between 5 and 6 years ago.

Capt. Lightfoot plans to be in semi-retirement as far as the police force is concerned. For many years he has been a familiar figure at the Iola Roberts school, standing as a sentinel, guarding the lives of the school children, directing traffic on busy highway 231 every morning and afternoon. His police work will be confined to work at the school.



Mr. and Mrs. Herman Darrah and her father

Mary Darrah to celebrate 100 years

Mrs. Mary Riggs Darrah remembers the first automobile she ever saw. She thinks back to watching the first man step foot on the moon. And, she can tell of living in Indian Territory, known now as Oklahoma.

Today, Thursday, March 27, "Granny Darrah" as she is affectionately known marks her 100th birthday with a spirit that some half her age could envy.

A reception will be held in her honor at her home, directly across from the Coal City Grocery from 4 to 7 p.m.

Darrah, a native of Talladega County, married her husband, Herman, a miner, when she was but 16-years-old. She then marks off the years with places the couple moved to and the six babies that she had.

Though she has been in the hospital over the last year and has not fully recuperated from a broken

hip, Darrah does not focus on her problems other than to apologize for not being able to hear every word. Instead, she concentrates on the things she has seen change.

Her mother carded wool and cotton to make stockings for Darrah to wear and sheets for her to sleep on. "When I got my first pair of nylon hose, I thought they were the greatest things in the world. And, I kept them wrapping in tissue paper so they wouldn't run," she smiles.

Every piece of food she put in her mouth as a child came from the neighboring fields or hogpen. She can recall vividly when her father was taking wheat to be ground at the mill into flour. He could not quite fill the bag, and cornmeal was thrown in. That night at dinner, Darrah's father, a religious man, thanked the Lord for everything except that little bit of meal he had to use.

The first car that drove by caused a stir, because as Darrah remembers it, it had wheels like a wagon and was "roaring like you never heard."

After spending time rearing her children—Robert Darrah, Viola Darrah, Lenora Donahoo and Catherine Alberts—Darrah spent time raising beautiful flowers that enticed drivers to stop and admire.

She also kept busy, until recently, with crocheting, tatting, and knitting. And, that is the secret, as she explains it, for long life—keeping busy.

She regrets seeing children go the extra mile to "not mind" their parents. "It breaks my heart to hear the children talk back to adults. My kids minded me."

Darrah is proud of each of her 13 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and six great, great-grandchildren.

What is her birthday wish for today? For good health, she answers.



Mary Riggs Darrah to celebrate 100 years



Celebrating their 65th Valentine's Day together

Herman Dollar never misses an opportunity to show love and affection for his wife, Essie. The Pell City

the past 65 years of marriage they have shared since Dec. 24, 1922, when they stood before the minister and



MILDRED AND JACK HAZELWOOD celebrated their golden wedding anniversary June 30. A tea was held in their honor at Pell City Recreational Center. Joining in the celebration were ten children, 23 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter, plus many friends and other relatives. The Hazelwoods attend Mt. Zion Freewill Baptist Church. Mr. Hazelwood worked for Southern Railroad until seven years ago. Mrs. Hazelwood has devoted these 50 years to family and home.



Isbell's celebrate anniversary

Jessie and Lella Isbell of Pell City had their 57th wedding anniversary on November 23. They celebrated the event on Thanksgiving Day with their 12 children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of Alabama. Mrs. Isbell is 81-years-old and Mr. Isbell celebrated his 83rd birthday on Thanksgiving Day.

Kilgroe dies- part of a Pell City institution

21
791

BY WAYNE RUPLE
News-Aegis Staffwriter

Joe Kilgroe, the moving force behind what has become one of Pell City's major institutions, died Wednesday, January 14 in the St. Clair County Hospital at the age of 68.

Kilgroe was owner of Kilgroe Funeral Home which he started in 1937. Since that time the home has served Pell City and St. Clair County well.

Friday, the institution which he and his son Sonny built helped place Joe in his final resting place at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Services were held in the Kilgroe Chapel with the Reverends A.L. Courtney and Douglas Ford officiating.

Joe is survived by his wife Josephine, his son and one sister, Mrs. Janie Jones of California and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his funeral home business Kilgroe served his city and community in many other ways and will long be remembered for the work he did.

He was elected to the Pell City Council in 1940 and served as mayor from August 1941 to

September 1944. He was elected mayor in 1952.

He was appointed to the council again in 1967 and elected mayor in 1968.

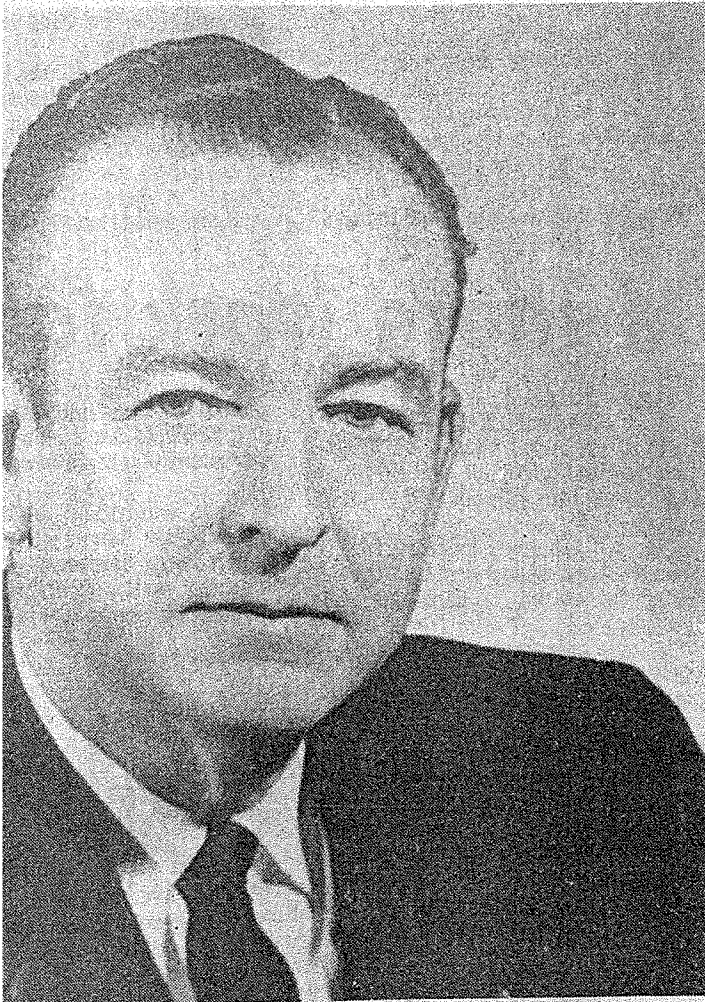
Kilgroe was again appointed mayor in August 1970 after Mayor Perry resigned and he held that position until his own resignation in 1971.

In serving the community Kilgroe was on the board of directors of Union State Bank, St. Clair Savings and Loan and the Pell City Civic Chorus.

He was a member of the Pell City First Baptist Church and the Sons of the American Revolution. He was also a Chamber of Commerce member and had served as the first president of the Chamber.

Kilgroe was past president of the Alabama Funeral Directors Association and had served on the board of directors of the National Antique Dealers Association. He was also owner of the Kilgroe Antique Shop.

He had served two terms on the St. Clair County Board of Education and as chairman of the St. Clair County Chapter of the American Red Cross.



Former Mayor

er mayor of Pell City Joe Kilgroe contributed many years to service to th in the mayor's seat, as a councilman and through community ac- is photograph hangs in its place among those of other Pell City mayors.



MR. AND MRS. HERMON DOLLAR
will celebrate their 60th wedding
anniversary Feb. 13 from 2-4 p.m. at

their home, 2001 3rd Avenue South,
Pell City. All friends and relatives are
invited to attend. (1)

Alabama Amblings

Freeways are for walking

BY FRANK SIKORA, News staff writer

PELL CITY

I've always wondered what happens to you when your car conks out on a freeway — say, midway between two exits.

There's nothing in between, and quite often you don't even see a farm house on some distant hill.

I was driving along Interstate 20, headed for Anniston. Somewhere west of Pell City my car began sputtering, steaming, and giving off the smell of burning wires.

Curse the luck, curse the hot June air, curse the manufacturer of the car! It went dead, and I pulled over to the side.

Cars whizzed by while I poked around the motor, making a pretense at seeking the cause. My wife and our five children knew it was a ruse, because all I know about a car is how to drive it.

It was late in the afternoon. Finally I went to look for a phone.

I hadn't gone 15 yards before a car screeched to a halt.



SIKORA

Alse Scott, his wife and their son, Larry, were returning to Pell City from a visit to Birmingham.

He told me to get in, saying, "I don't generally pick up strangers, but we saw all those children and I figured you were with them."

This is when he told me who he was. He drove me to the Baptist Home, a place for the elderly.

I thanked him as I got out, but his wife said they'd wait and carry me back to the freeway. It was more than I expected.

A call to Pell City put Cecil Gray and his tow truck on the road. Gray, it turned out, is Scott's nephew.

"WE'LL JUST CARRY YOU back to your car," Scott, who is the tax collector in St. Clair County, said. To do this meant going back to the west bound lane, and going five miles back toward Birmingham before turning back to the eastbound lane.

During the ride, Scott's car overhauled, which made me feel guilty. We made it to my car, then he went on, with the Baptist Home his destination again.

Gray arrived, looked at the motor, shook his head, and hooked the car to his truck.

He pulled us in to his garage. So there we were: Night was coming on, the car wouldn't be fixed for at least a day, and no wheels.

Gray offered to carry us back to Birmingham in his car. But I thought that would be an infringement, because he was long overdue for supper.

Anyway, within minutes, there came Scott back, this time driving a different car. It was a neat 1964 station wagon. The same as mine, only his would run.

HE APOLOGIZED FOR it being a little dusty (it's his fishing car). Then he said, "But you're welcome to use it. You can bring it back when you come for your car."

"You don't even know me," I told him.

"That's all right," he replied, "I trust you."

Gray broke in. "He wouldn't offer it if he didn't mean it. Take it."

It was unbelievable. We headed back for Birmingham.

There's a moral to this. If I hadn't been walking, the Scotts might never have stopped. In other words, if I still had my head under the hood . . .

Don't hit the motor, the manufacturer, and the weatherman. Hit the road!

Hugh and Amelia Williamson
First Baptist Church, Tall City, AL
November 16, ~~1954~~ 1952



Miss Elsie Dunn Dies At Her Home

Miss Elsie Dunn died at her home in Pell City early Wednesday morning.

Oct 5, 1969
Miss Dunn was the beloved friend, confidant and nurse of thousands of people in the Pell City-St. Clair county area. She died in her sleep and was found in her bed between 8:30 and 9 o'clock Wednesday morning. She was 80 years old. She was found by Mrs. Clara Wood, a friend who had been living with her for a short time. Mrs. Wood was preparing Miss Dunn's breakfast when she made the discovery.

The deceased woman had been in ill health for more than a year and had spent some time in a local nursing home. No reason was assigned for the cause of her death.

Miss Dunn was a registered nurse, trained for her life's work in Philadelphia, came to Pell City soon after completion of her training and went to work for the late Dr. R. A. Martin. She was supervisor of nursing at the old Gertrude Comer hospital and later at the Martin hospital.

She served her beloved profession for a lifetime, in her adopted home community, retired only a few years ago because of ill health.

Funeral services will be at the First Methodist Church in Pell City at 2 p.m., today (Thursday). Interment will be in the Heflin Cemetery at Heflin. Kilgroe will direct.

Survivors include two nephews, Jack Meacham, Los Angeles, Frank Meacham, Pell City, three nieces, Mrs. Elsie Beck, Montgomery, Mrs. Elizabeth Pitts, and Mrs. Bernice Reeves, Atlanta and other relatives.



Maggie Capps

An open house will be held Saturday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. to honor Mrs. Maggie Capps' 90th birthday.

The reception will be held at her home on 1800 Second Ave. North in Pell City.

Mrs. Capps was born Aug. 10, 1900 to John Allen and Sarah Frances Squires Hill in Marengo County, Ala. She was married to the late Newton Ellis Capps. The couple had five children: Gladys Butts, Eurel Capps, Dorothy Allaway, Myrtice Hammett and Tommy Gray Capps.

Relatives and friends are invited to share this happy occasion with Mrs. Capps and her children.

13/10 6/9/49

ALIAS WARRANT OF ARREST

News-Aegis Printing

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
CITY OF PELL CITY



CITY OF PELL CITY, RECORDER'S COURT
ST. CLAIR COUNTY

To any Lawful Officer of said County—Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to arrest Leon Tuck

Rt. 5 Box 229

Talladega

and bring him before me at my office at City Hall, to answer the State of Ala-
bama on a charge of Failing to Appear

Handwritten signature/initials

preferred by Brown Goldsmith

Witness my hand, this 17 day of March, 19 75.

Handwritten signature of Recorder

Recorder's Court

Family cemetery to be dedicated to Nixon, veterans

By CAROL PAPPAS

PELL CITY — When the A.E. "Dill" Nixon family wanted a special way to pay tribute to their deceased father and husband, they wanted it to be a lasting tribute.

On Sunday, June 10, that tribute will take the form of dedicating the family owned cemetery, Valley Hill Memorial Gardens, to Nixon, who died of a sudden heart attack June 11, 1976.

The dedication will take place in a special ceremony at the cemetery, where a special marker dedicating the cemetery to Nixon will be placed. Also honored in that special ceremony will be all other veterans buried there, and U.S. flags will be placed at their graves.

From here forward, each second Sunday in June will be set aside as a memorial day for the cemetery. Friends and relatives of those buried there are encouraged to participate in this year's ceremony and in the years to come.

Sunday's ceremony will be at 4 p.m. and will follow the city's dedication of the nearby Lakeside Park, which will be dedicated to all mayors of Pell City.

Nixon served as mayor from 1972 to 1976 and also served more than one term as city councilman.

In an editorial appearing in the St. Clair News Aegis at the time of Nixon's death, it states: "Nixon died at the relatively young age of 55 but he leaves behind a series of accomplishment that will aid Pell City for years to come."

Among accomplishments under his leadership were: a new and expanded water system, the beginnings of a sewage treatment facility, expansion of recreation facilities with the building of the Civic Center and several new industries locating in Pell City.

Jan. 10, 1975, when a tornado devastated downtown Pell City, Nixon worked tirelessly in the rebuilding effort.



The portrait of former Pell City Mayor A. E. "Dill" Nixon in the lobby of the Civic Center, a recreational complex he instrumental in getting built. The Civic Center is dedicated memory, and now, his family's cemetery will be dedicated to (Bob Crisp photo)

*You are cordially invited to attend
an appreciation dinner honoring
James Oliver McGowan*

*upon his retirement as
Telecommunications & Cisco Networking Instructor
with the St. Clair County Board of Education
Thursday June 19, 2003, 6:00 P.M.
Pell City Civic Center
Pell City, Alabama*

*RSVP: June 12, 2003
205-594-7055 Mr. James King or
205-338-2404 (hm) Mr. Guin Robinson*

RETIREMENT & APPRECIATION PROGRAM

HONORING

JAMES OLIVER McGOWAN

Telecommunications & Cisco Networking Instructor
John Pope Eden Career Technical Center
St. Clair County Board of Education



Pell City Civic Center
Pell City, Alabama

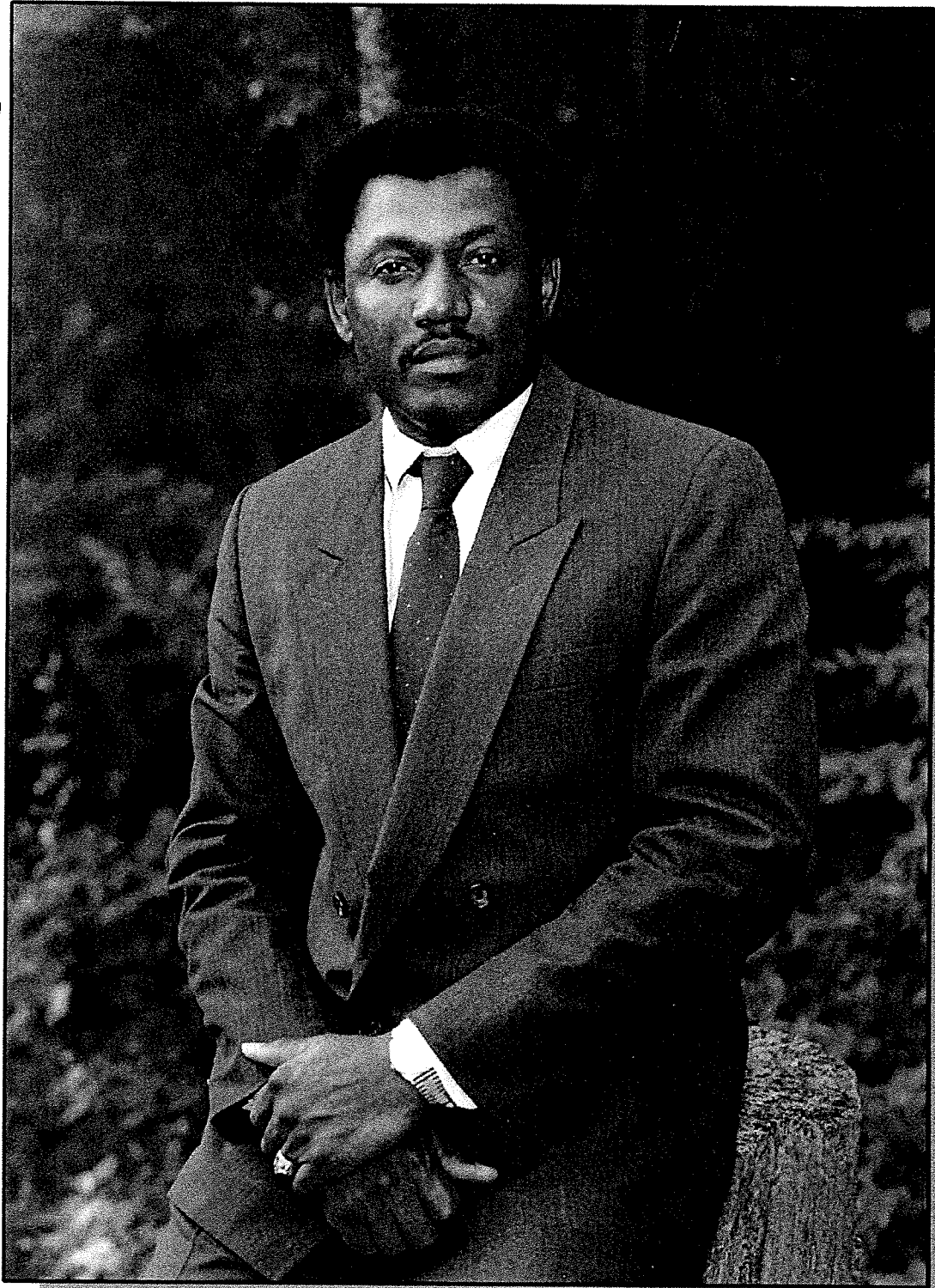
June 19, 2003
6:00 P.M.

Welcome

Friends and colleagues of
James O. McGowan
take this opportunity to
welcome you with pleasure and enthusiasm
to this retirement celebration
for such an
honorable educator.

We congratulate him for
the excellent service rendered
to the educational system.

It is with pride that we
salute him on this
special occasion as we
bid him farewell!



James Oliver McGowan

The Life of James O. McGowan

Mr. McGowan began his career in education as a telecommunications instructor at the John Pope Eden Career Technical Center in the St. Clair County School System. During those years, he taught basic installation and repair, installation of telephone systems, pole climbing and outside plant construction. As technology changed and communications advanced into the new millennium, his curriculum changed to meet the new challenges of the computer age. His last assignment was teaching Cisco Computer Networking and Aries A-Plus Certification in order to meet those challenges.

During his years as a teacher, Mr. McGowan made a decision to run for public office in June of 1984. He won the majority vote in every beat except one and took office in October as Pell City's first black city councilman. He continues to serve the citizens of Pell City as councilman and Mayor Pro-Tem.

After a year into his term as councilman, he was appointed by the mayor as chairperson of a committee to oversee the Pell City Police Department. Mr. McGowan began to attend classes at Jacksonville State University on weekends, at his own expense. He completed the class with 280 hours of law enforcement training—the equivalent of a full-time police officer.

Mr. McGowan served as sponsor and co-sponsor of the VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) for several alternating years. He also served as a member of the St. Clair County Education Association, Alabama Education Association, National Education Association, Alabama-Mississippi Independent Telephone Association, State Vocational Education Association and National Vocational Education Association.

Throughout his career, Mr. McGowan has taught numerous students who have gone on to make careers out of their training. Some of his students are in management positions for large companies and some are in big business for themselves.

Mr. McGowan is married to Elsie Henderson McGowan, Director of the St. Clair County Head Start Program. They have two children and one grandson, Jaylond. Their son, Kenneth, served in the U.S. Navy and is now an officer at the St. Clair County Correctional Facility. Their daughter, LaCindra, is a pre-law student at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

BIOGRAPHICAL JOURNEY OF JAMES MCGOWAN

Mission:

To train students so that they will be able to find a challenging and responsible position where skills, education, expertise and practical experience as a telecommunications specialist will be effectively utilized.

Experience: Twenty-seven years in telecommunications. Advanced from entry level to planning, instructing and management; installation, service and repair of electronic key systems, data switching equipment and data circuitry, reading schematics and diagrams. Also, familiar with test equipment.

Education: Rank II/BS Degree in Vocational Education from Alabama A & M University; Telecommunications Certificate from Tennessee State Vocational School; Certified Teacher in Telecommunications from the State of Alabama; Certified with ITT, TIE and Mitel for Electronic Key Systems, PBS EPABX; Cisco Systems Computer Network Certification and Aries Technology.

Work History: Instructor at Eden Career Technical Center in Telecommunications, 1976 to present; Cisco Computer Networking and Aries Technology Instructor, 2000 to present.

Community/Civic Activities: 5-term member of the City Council of Pell City; Member of Local, State and National Education Associations; Graduate of the Certified Municipal Officer's Training Program; Past Executive Board Member of the St. Clair County Dept of Human Resources; Co-Advisor of the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America; Graduate of the Northeast Alabama Police Academy at Jacksonville State University; served as Mayor Pro-Tempore for past 4 years; served as Chairman of Police, Fire, Park & Recreation, Street & Sanitation and Finance Committees; member of the Pell City Planning Board; Alabama-Mississippi Independent Telephone Association; Outstanding Young Men of America 1982-83.

PROGRAM

Prelude/Music.....Zache Horton

Welcome/Occasion.....Guin Robinson
Mayor, City of Pell City

Invocation.....Rev. A. L. Courtney, Ret.
First Baptist Church, Pell City, Alabama

Dinner

(Power Point Presentation by Tim Sweezey
Director, Pell City Parks & Recreation)

Music.....Zache Horton

Roasters..... Judge Bill Hereford
Mayor Guin Robinson
Attorney Billy Church

Dedicatory Song.....LaCindra McGowan

Expressions of Appreciation & Presentations.....Friends,
Co-workers & Students

Unveiling of Portrait.....Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Spradley

Remarks.....Honoree, James O. McGowan

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Mr. Larry Ward
Hon. & Mrs. Randy Wood

Program Committee

Paula Hereford
Penny Isbell
Jim King
Marie Manning
Guin Robinson
Phil Seay
Cathy Smith
Tim Swezey

Photographer

Ed Tyler

On behalf of the family
and program committee,
we gratefully acknowledge and appreciate
your friendship and support
at this momentous occasion
honoring our friend and colleague,
James Oliver McGowan.

SOUTHERN LINES

AT&T Long Lines
Vol. 17, No. 13
December 17, 1979



Forest Walls: Pell City's man about town

A few years ago the little town of Pell City, Alabama, was nearly destroyed by a tornado. But through a federal grant and the efforts of its 6,000 residents, the town has come back.

One of those residents is Long Lines Communications Technician Forest Walls, who also happens to be one of Pell City's five city councilmen.

When a visitor first comes to Pell City, Forest points with pride to the rows of flowers that line the sidewalks along the town's main street, Cogswell Avenue, and talks of the beautification program the townspeople undertook after the tornado hit.

And he's quick to name some of the town's accomplishments since he's been in office.

"There's the recreation complex. We've always wanted one and we got that during my two terms" begins

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"There's the recreation complex. We've always wanted one and we got that during my two terms," begins Forest, who oversees recreation for

as a city councilman, and who went into his second term without a runoff, got interested in being a city councilman in the first place.

"We were having problems with the sewers and problems getting the streets paved in the area where I lived. We couldn't get any help out of the city and I felt I should get into a position where we could get help, so I ran and I won," Forest explains.

And Forest, who has almost 28 years of service with Long Lines, speaks with as much pride about his job as he does about his town.

He's responsible for route maintenance of the L-3 route from the Alabama-Georgia line to Cook Springs, Alabama, outside of Birmingham, a total of 70 miles of coaxial cable.

"I have inside work and I have outside work. I like being involved in a different situation everyday. As part of my job, I'm a public relations man between the company and the property owners," says Forest.

"For example, I will locate our cable for property owners who want to put in a boat ramp or a pier where our cable crosses the Coosa River."

In city government, Forest admits that the picture isn't all rosy.



Forest Walls:

continued from page 1

Long Lines role is in providing interstate services and I contact the independent company representative to let him know about any complaints I might get about phone service."

At the same time Forest feels that being on the city council is a definite asset on his Long Lines job.

"Because," says Forest, "you get involved in the community and you know what's going on.

"For example, our cable goes through the Pell City Industrial Park. I know what new construction is coming up and what to expect," Forest says.

In addition to recreation, Forest heads up the utility department of Pell City, which includes responsibility for water and gas and, he says, "I know at all times when new lines are coming in, which comes in handy when I perform my plant protection duties."

Does Forest have any future political ambitions?

"I imagine I'll run for a third term, but I'm undecided," he proclaims.

His wife Linda, daughter Jackie and son Blythe are supportive of his community involvement.

"They're my best campaigners and they help me pass out cards," Forest says.

But if Forest does run again, it won't be a decision based on politics, but on love of city, because, in his words, "I get to do things that help the community."

And the community appreciates his help and holds Forest in high regard. If you don't believe it, just ask Pell City Mayor Hugh H. Williamson.

"He's a real fine councilman," says the Mayor. "Very cooperative . . . very industrious. When problems come up, he's willing to carry more than his fair share. We're really fortunate to have him as a member of the Council."



Forest (second from right) chats with Pell City Police Chief Williamson and City Clerk Bettie Scott outside Pell City Hall on the second and fourth Monday nights.

R.J. Reynolds

continued from page 1

cutover chairman and network control manager; marketing's Herb Martin and Ed Standard who were responsible for network routing, Jim Register who served as switched services coordinator, and Gloria Myers who coordinated the training of RJR

High marks

Glen Withers, RJR's manager of voice communications planning, gave the ETN cutover this month a 9.5 rating on a 10-point scale—an incredibly high mark when considering the size and complexity of an electronic network that encompasses some 850 lines (private line and WATS); 22 new PBX's including five Dimension 2000's, four Dimension

takes a few seconds.

Many of RJR's rotary phones have been replaced by Touch Tone® or Electronic Custom Telephone Sets (ECTS) allowing employees to access the Dimension system. Floyd says the Touch Tone phones and the quick response of the network along with Dimension features such as call pick up, automatic call back and call forwarding are proving popular among

their system employees from network hesitation. Other distribution about

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His wife Linda, daughter Jackie and son Blythe are supportive of his community involvement.

"They're my best campaigners and they help me pass out cards," Forest says.

But if Forest does run again, it won't be a decision based on politics, but on love of city, because, in his words, "I get to do things that help the community."

And the community appreciates his help and holds Forest in high regard. If you don't believe it, just ask Pell City Mayor Hugh H. Williamson.

"He's a real fine councilman," says the Mayor. "Very cooperative . . . very industrious. When problems come up, he's willing to carry more than his fair share. We're really fortunate to have him as a member of the Council."



Forest (second from right) chats with Pell City Police Chief R. E. Bowlin (far left), Mayor Hugh H. Williamson and City Clerk Bettie Scott outside Pell City Hall. The city council meets twice a month on the second and fourth Monday nights.

High marks

Glen Withers, RJR's manager of voice communications planning, gave the ETN cutover this month a 9.5 rating on a 10-point scale—an incredibly high mark when considering the size and complexity of an electronic network that encompasses some 850 lines (private line and WATS); 22 new PBX's including five Dimension 2000's, four Dimension 400's, a centrex and a Horizon; more than 10,000 new telephone sets; and about 18,000 new phone numbers.

Some 12,000 RJR employees were trained prior to cutover on how to use the system, according to Myers. Others are provided detailed use instructions.

"For the new system to work well, it was important that RJR employees

takes a few seconds.

Many of RJR's rotary phones have been replaced by Touch Tone® or Electronic Custom Telephone Sets (ECTS) allowing employees to access the Dimension system. Floyd says the Touch Tone phones and the quick response of the network along with Dimension features such as call pick up, automatic call back and call forwarding are proving popular among RJR employees.

"In fact, we've just requested that the automatic call back feature be adapted to the whole network," Floyd comments.

Named in a contest

The new system was named Reynolds' Reach in an RJR-sponsored contest in which the winning

their research capacity using this system. Now a manufacturing employee can check on a shipment from another location by calling on the network. Before, he would have hesitated to do that because it would have meant a long distance call."

Other savings will be realized through electronic document distribution with the network handling about a million documents a month (about half of them at night when the network is in lower use).

In January, RJR will trial intra-company conferencing and electronic blackboards at its headquarters and affiliate locations.

So the system is now and promises in the future to provide those