

# THE SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

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## LOOKING BACK AT 2001

Most newspapers do a story at the beginning of a new year about the important events of the past year. It's a good time to record all the important events in one place. Some of these events are things we like to remember and others we would like to forget. Here are some of the things that happened around this area in 2001.

The weather was the big story as the year started. We started the year off with snow and ice on New Years Day and on January 2, power was finally restored to the Bluff City area, which had been without power since Christmas Day. Everyone was trying to recover from the devastating ice storms of December, 2000.

The paper mill in Camden made its last roll of paper in January, 2001 and the smoke-stacks and machines were idle. This had a dramatic effect on the economy of the Ouachita County area as over 600 people lost their jobs.

The country had a new president on January 20 when George W. Bush took office after weeks of controversy over counting the votes in the very close election of 2000.

In February, Steve and Missy Beaver moved from Bluff City to near Holly Springs.

In August, Allen's Grocery in Bluff City ceased to be a grocery store and was converted into a bar-b-que and seafood buffet restaurant.

The biggest news event of the year came on September 11, 2001 when the United States was attacked by terrorists, using passenger planes to crash into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, killing thousands of innocent people. We will always remember where we were when we heard the news. The president vowed we would find those responsible and in October, the U. S. began its war on terrorism.

Millard McBride resigned as mayor of Bluff City in October due to health reasons and the city council voted to appoint Vernell Loe to succeed him as mayor. In November, Jeff Phillips resigned as fire chief due to lack of time to devote to the job. Joe Nordrum was selected to take his place as fire chief.

Several of our friends and neighbors passed on to their reward in 2001. Those buried at Bluff City Cemetery (through 12-23-01) were Edith Bever, Christine Barlow Dewoody Page, Annie Helen Lampkin Hackney, Olyn W. Harrell, Terry Jack Walker, Orville Paul Greer, Monroe Ellis Harvey, Carolyn J. Byrd, James Roland Brown, Ed Stiffler, Emma Meador, Maurice Ramsey, Eldon Jack Martin, Leslie Walthall, Willie Blanche Rowe, Phillip Lynn Hoots, Louis R. Calley, and Theodosia Heldebrand.

Those buried at Ebenezer (through 12-23-01) were Norma J. Ingram, Obie Franklin Odell, William Hartwell Irvin, Beulah Watson Delaney, and Catherine Porterfield.

### **WHEN THE MOVIE STARS CAME TO GOOSEANKLE**

It was during deer season in 1974 when the W. B. Irvin family met with friends and relatives for a get-together at the old home place and deer camp five miles southwest of Bluff City.

On the same day, David Carradine and Barbara Hershey were at Dill's Mill, about two miles south of the Irvin's camp. They had been filming scenes for the movie "Boxcar Bertha" at the old mill site and may have been doing some hunting also. The story I got was that some of their dogs got lost and as they were searching for them, they happened upon the location of the Irvin family's get-together.

This part of Gooseankle is way off the beaten path, but off course in deer season, it is not unusual to see strangers pass by. At some point in the conversation, Miss Hershey asked to use the bathroom in one of the Irvins recreational vehicles parked at the camp.

Miss Hershey was an attractive lady, but from what I can gather, on this occasion she was a little bit on the dirty side and the owners of the camper didn't really want her to use the bathroom in their camper. The Irvins pointed to an outdoor privy behind the camp, which was what they used while camping. Miss Hershey, unaccustomed to such facilities, declined the invitation to use the privy and I suppose made other arrangements. The Irvins still laugh about the incident whenever it is mentioned.

According to the newspaper article these folks were present at the Irvin family reunion that day in 1974:

Mr. and Mrs. Hollie Irvin; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Irvin; Mr. and Mrs. Houston Delaney; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Robinson; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Walthall; Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell Irvin; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Kirk; Judy Hesterly, Shelly, and Paul; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Robinson; Junior Burns; Lou Morgan; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Garrison; Jeff Barlow; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Franklin; Eldry Johnson; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Delaney; Mr. and Mrs. Russell Atkins; Craig Robertson; Robert A. Jackson; Warren Ward; Roy Nash; Glen Spears; Kenneth W. Spears; Jerald Tyson; James Tyson, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Coy East; Paul Steed; John Beard; Dr. John E. Steiles; Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Helsel; Mr. and Mrs. James Nelson; Foy and Scotty Nelson; J. D. Norman; James Plumbley; DAVID CARRADINE and BARBARA HERSHEY from Hollywood, California.

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#### **A POEM FROM 1907**

Little flecks of powder,  
And a little spread of paint  
Makes a girl's complexion  
Look like what it ain't.

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## THE HANGING OF SQUIRE SMITH

The newspaper in 1905 called it "one of the most dastardly crimes which ever shocked the people of this section". The article was referring to the murder of John and Count Gleghorn of Nevada County. They were well-to-do farmers who were working clearing land on their farm west of Rosston near the Hempstead County line. A black man named Will Preston was working with them. A black man named Squire Smith came to the farm and an argument began over a hunting dog. The incident ended with the two Gleghorn men dead. John Gleghorn was about 32 years old and had a wife and one child. Count Gleghorn was 31 and unmarried. Squire Smith escaped into the creek bottoms and a posse led by Sheriff Ed Hood began searching for him. The next day Squire Smith turned himself in. He was indicted for murder in January. The trial was held March 19, 1906 and he was sentenced to be hanged on June 14, 1906. Will Preston was also arrested in connection with the murders.

This was the last legal hanging in Nevada County. Hangings in those days always drew a large crowd of people and seemed more like a church service and a carnival all rolled into one. The accused was given an opportunity to speak to the crowd, religious hymns were sung, and a prayer was offered by a local minister.

Squire Smith spoke to the crowd for 25 minutes. He described how he slept the night before, saying "I rested all night last night and ate as heartily as I ever did." He didn't deny killing the men, but said he had to do it. Smith said, "I shot Mr. Count first, and when I left, Mr. John was still alive and I had four more loads in my gun". He praised Sheriff Hood, saying he had been well cared for and had plenty to eat three times a day. He said, "I have no excuse to make for my pistol except for toating it, and if I had not toated it, I would not be here today to make this talk and to be hung."

Here is the complete text of the prayer by Dr. Godley offered on the day of the hanging and printed in *The Nevada News* on June 15, 1906.

Lord, Thou art our Creator and the final judge of all men. All men are alike before Thee, save as Thou seeist in their hearts and they shall be followers of that which is good and that which is evil. There is neither great nor small in Thy sight. Thou lookest on the heart alone.

As fallen beings, all men are sinful. No one can claim Thy salvation in his own merit. Many times and in many ways we forget Thy laws and transgress them.

But through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer is preached repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thou doest forgive sin wherever Thine eyes behold true repentance and faith in Thy beloved Son. The only star of hope for our fellow race is Thy forgiveness and mercy.

We commend to Thy mercy this man, doomed to die under our law, which is indeed, Thine own law, ordained of old that the murderer should suffer the death sentence of the judge.

If we know that even the murderers were changed in heart and would love and keep the law, we might turn aside from the penalty of death. But we know not the heart, and the high prerogative of forgiveness belongs to Thee, O God alone. If any man is penitent, have mercy: Thou will forgive. *(continued on page 4)*



**PHOTO FROM THE PAST**

Photo of Lucy Lee Barlow and Julia L. Barlow (sisters). Lucy was born July 14, 1887 and died Sept. 19, 1970. She married James I. Harvey. Julia was born Nov. 23, 1884 and died Apr. 06, 1949. She married Walter Moore. All are buried at Bluff City Cemetery.

Years ago a Kentucky grandmother gave a bride the following recipe for washing clothes. Hang this above your automatic washer and when things look bleak, read it again, and count your blessings.

1. Bilt fire in backyard to heat kettle of rain water.
2. Set tubs so smoke wont blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. Shave one hole cake of lie soap in bilin water.
4. Sort things, make 3 piles. 1 pile white, 1 pile colored, 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. To make starch, stir flour in cool water to smooth, then thin down with biling water.
6. Take white things, rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, and then bile. Rub colored, don't bile, just rinch and starch.
7. Take things out of kettle with broomstick handle, then rinch, and starch.
8. Hang old rags on fence.
9. Spread tea towels on grass.
10. Pore rinch water in flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. Turn tubs upside down.
13. Go put on clean dress, smooth hair with hair combs. Brew cup of tea, sit and rock a spell, and count your blessings.

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## **THIS MONTH'S RECIPES**

### **BAKED FISH**

1 egg, beaten  
2 teaspoons lemon juice

6 fish fillets  
seasoned bread crumbs

Mix beaten egg and lemon juice. Wash fish fillets and pat dry. Dip fish in egg mixture, then cover with seasoned bread crumbs. Place in 9" X 13" pan. Bake at 350 degrees until done.

### **Meet the Cook**

This recipe comes from Laverne Green who lives in downtown Bluff City. She works in the cafeteria at Prescott Public Schools. She is active in church work and is a member of the Helping Hands Extension Homemaker's Club in Bluff City.

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### **McKELVY FAMILY WAFFLE RECIPE**

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour  
3 tablespoons sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
3 teaspoons baking powder

2 eggs, separated  
1 3/4 cups milk  
4 tablespoons melted butter

Sift dry ingredients together into mixing bowl. Add egg yolks and milk slowly, beating until batter is smooth. Add melted butter, blending well. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Bake in heated waffle iron.

This waffle recipe has been used in our family for many years.

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### **ELEPHANT STEW**

1 Elephant  
Salt and pepper to taste  
2 Rabbits (optional)  
Cut up elephant into bite size pieces. (Takes about two months)  
Add brown gravy to cover  
Cook about four weeks at 465 degrees over fire  
Serves about 380  
For larger groups add two rabbits,  
but only if necessary, as most people  
don't like to find hare in their stew.