

# Fifth annual Dunson Mill Village reunion planned

A year ago, the reunion committee for the Dunson Mill Village faced some tough facts: the weak economy, rental of the facilities and falling attendance were making it an almost impossible task to continue the annual event, leading them to consider holding it less frequently.

"Thanks to an anonymous donor and some concessions by the facility owner this year, we are happy to announce there will be a reunion this year," said Joe Thrower, one of the original organizers. "Also, we have had more contributions by various businesses in LaGrange to help support the event."

The reunion was established to reunite the people who grew up in the



Committee members are Sybil Yarbrough Brown, Peggy Key Johnson, Linda Mims Clark, Joe Thrower, Lois Hunt, Lee Daniel and Teena Harvey McManus.

Dunson Mill Village, attended Dunson School, Dunson Baptist Church or Dunson Methodist Church in the 1950s, '60s, '70s and '80s. It now includes those connected with the former Dixie

Mill. "It was just a way to bring all the people back together, even if just for a short time," said Sybil Yarbrough Brown. "Now, both mill villages are included because many of

those people had such close relationships to the Dunson Mill Village people."

Committee member Jerry Key said, "We seem to be losing more of our Dunson family each year.

The moms and dads of the baby boomer generation are really getting up in age now, so it's important to keep it an annual event."

This year's reunion will begin with a family event at 6 p.m. Sept. 23 at Hoofers on Hogansville Road. Attendees are encouraged to take their children and/or grandchildren with them. Finger foods and drinks will be available, and the country band New River will begin playing at 7 p.m. for dancing.

The Sept. 24 activities begin at 9:30 a.m. Advance registration is required so adequate food is available for those attending.

"We've modified registration prices this year in an attempt to get more of

our oldest members to attend," said Key. "Registration is \$25 for adults and \$6 for children younger than 10. We've added senior plates for those ages 75 through 79 for only \$18, and our Super Seniors, those 80 and older, eat for free."

More information as well as a registration form is available on the Dunson website at <http://www.dunsonmillvillage.com> or <http://dunsonmillvillage.shutterfly.com>.

"Last year's entertainment was probably the best we have had and this year's promises to be even better," said Linda Mims Clark, another original organizer. "I can't really reveal any of the details, but I don't think anyone will be disappointed."

# Don't let bedbugs keep family from visiting

**Dear Annie:** My husband's mother lives three hours away, not far from his sister and her family. The problem is, my sister-in-law has had a bedbug infestation for more than a year. She has sprayed the mattresses and covered them with plastic, but won't hire a professional. Six months ago, she got new mattresses and living room furniture, but her husband thinks there is still a problem in one bedroom.

My sister-in-law's home is cluttered and not well-maintained. Over the years, they have had several flea infestations. Their daughter has a drug problem, and she and her kids move frequently between local area shelters and her mother's home. She also sometimes stays with my mother-in-law. Our exterminator advised me to steer clear of my sister-in-law's house and not even bring their Christmas gifts into our home. We have avoided visits for more than a year.

This is causing problems in my marriage. My husband thinks I am overreacting and believes it is unlikely we can get bedbugs if we visit or invite his mother to visit. He dismisses the facts about how easily bedbugs are transferred between homes, autos and clothing, and how difficult they are to get rid of.

Mom is losing patience and desperately wants to see us and our new grandchild. She claims there are no bedbugs in her home, but I don't see how that is possible due to the frequent exposure. I miss my in-laws, but don't want to risk our exposure or that of my son and his family. How do I resolve this? - Can't

## Annie's Mailbox



**Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar** are long-time editors of the Ann Landers column.

### Handle Bedbugs

**Dear Bedbugs:** We understand your reluctance to expose yourself to bedbugs, but there also is a price to pay for avoiding your in-laws. You need to explain your concerns to Mom, and then enlist your husband's help in finding a solution. Perhaps you could stay in a hotel or with other family members or friends whose homes you trust and meet with Mom in a neutral setting. Or have Mom visit you, watching carefully for signs of infestation. Your grandson can then see Mom in brief spurts. She may, in fact, be bedbug-free, and frankly, as unpleasant as it could get, it's worth the cost of an exterminator if it saves your marriage.

**Dear Annie:** My son and his wife have been married for 20 years. I thought we had a close relationship until my husband pointed out that our daughter-in-law never wishes us a "happy birthday." I did notice that she never gets on the phone to say "happy Mother's Day" or "happy Father's Day," but I just

assumed she felt uncomfortable since we aren't her parents.

However, during a recent birthday celebration for my husband, my son and both of his children entered the house and said, "Happy birthday!" Our daughter-in-law simply walked in and busied herself putting gifts on the table. Why? - Bewildered

**Dear Bewildered:** It's possible your daughter-in-law has unpleasant associations with such wishes and has developed superstitions that prevent her from saying the words. You won't know unless you ask. Mention this to your son and see whether he can shed any light on the subject. But if this is the only flaw in your relationship, please don't make a fuss over it.

**Dear Annie:** "Midge" wrote that her group had given a scholarship to a young woman who never sent a thank-you letter.

Fifty years ago at Michigan State University, I worked three part-time jobs to support myself. Then, several wonderful things happened, one of which was a check awarded by the Faculty Wives. I never wrote a thank-you note. The reason? I was from a poor family and had never written such a note in my life. I had no idea it was the proper thing to do. - Blacksburg, Va.

E-mail questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net) or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Ste. 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

## In our community

### Events

#### Tuesday

The Interfaith Food Closet at 416 Pierce St. is open from 1 to 2:45 p.m. to help people in need of food. (706) 882-9291

#### Wednesday

Preschool story time at LaGrange Memorial Library is at 10:30 a.m. (706) 882-7784

### Meetings

#### Today

Boy Scout Troop 10 meets at 7 p.m. in the Troup County Sportsman Building on Roanoke Road.

#### Tuesday

Salvation Army Home League meets at noon at 806 Murphy Ave.

The LaGrange Shufflers meet at the Active Life center at 140

Ragland St. for regular square dance from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (706) 812-8840.

Listings for 'In our community' are printed for events happening in the next three-day period, space permitting. To submit an item, email it to [dbaker@lagrangenews.com](mailto:dbaker@lagrangenews.com), fax it to (706) 884-8712 or drop it by our office at 105 Ashton St. For more information, call (706) 884-7311, Ext. 234.

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