Ida's Notebook
by
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August already!

It is the month of many birthdays in our family. Most of the grandchildren have birthdays this month.

One of them spent his second birthday with us and is now ready to start college in Virginia. Another grandson has just returned from his second trip to Germany. While two sisters in Atlanta have birthdays just a week apart. One of the younger ones will be eight years old at the end of the month.
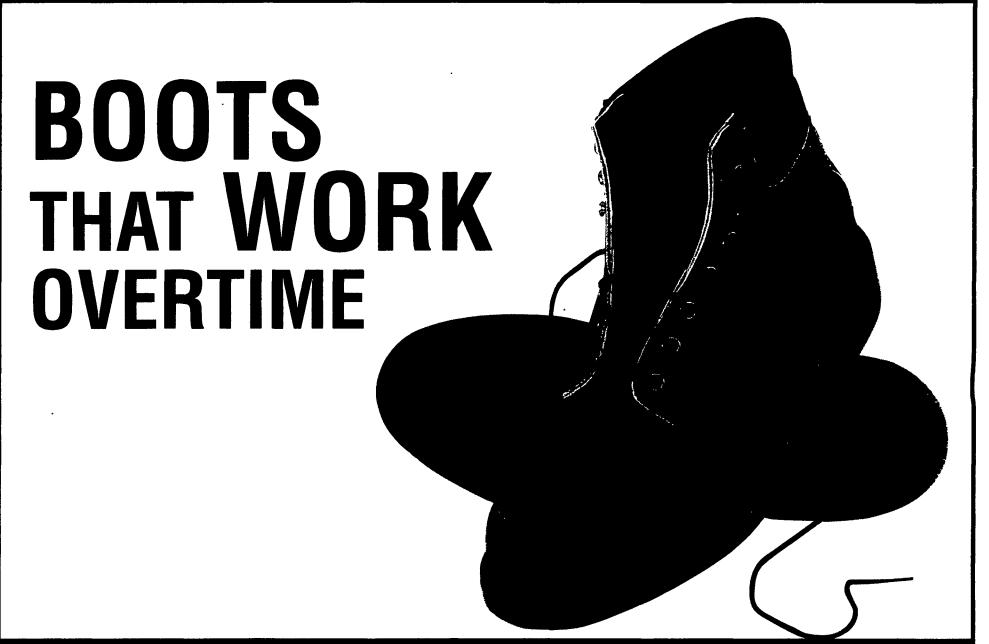
Lately, I've noticed that people are making their own cards. Considering the price of store bought ones, I can understand why they would. We have received some very pretty ones and they are special because they were made especially for us. Some folks can use their computers to help them make these special cards while others use photographs to enhance their cards.

We have so many wild animals in our immediate area. One night they ate all of the apricots on one tree and left the ground covered with seeds. Every night a raccoon comes into our garage through the cat door and empties the food in the cat dish. Groundhogs visit my garden regularly and eat my vegetables. Something even dug up the lima bean seeds and ate them. I enjoy hearing the many birds that we have but they too emptied our cherry tree of fruit.

I've been told that the answer to the problem is to grow enough for yourself and for the animals too. But, that is easier said then done as we simply have too many animals. Each year the opossums eat my tomatoes and we have to set a box trap.