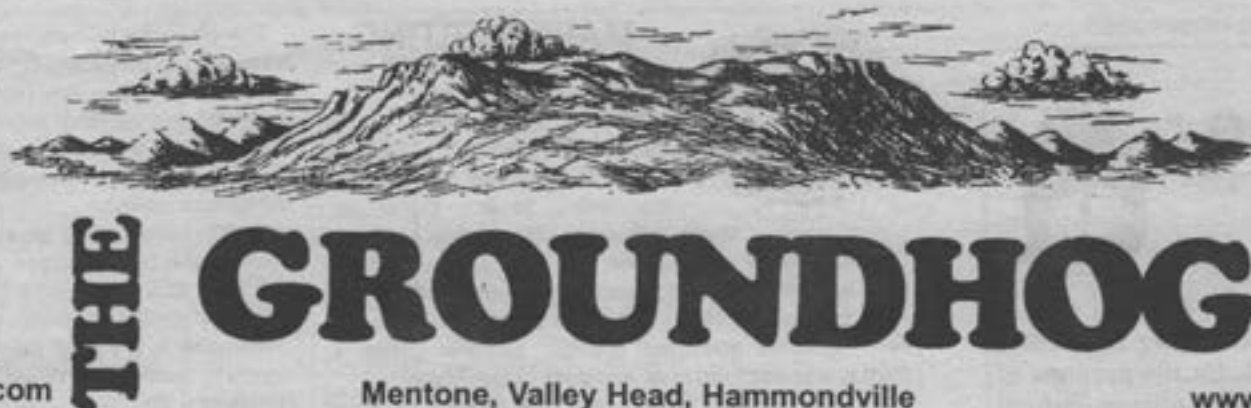


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Volume 23, No. 12

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

December 2005

## A Time to Remember

By Evelyn Graves

It was December 7, 1961, and it was a typical winter day for that time of the year. It really did not matter to Robert and Ruth Hammon whether it was raining or snowing that day because something beautiful was taking place at the old DeKalb General Hospital in Fort Payne. Ruth was giving birth to a precious little girl.

This was before the time of sonograms or ultrasound to determine the sex of a child, and Ruth did not know what her baby would be. She had given birth to three sons prior to this, and she did not know what they would be either. She had prayed before each of the babies was born, asking the Lord to allow her to have a healthy baby, and all of the boys had been strong and healthy.

During her fourth pregnancy, she had so hoped that she might have a little girl. She not only prayed that the baby might be healthy, but she asked the Lord to please give her a baby girl because she felt that she just needed a little girl. The doctor was not too reassuring that the baby would be a girl because the heartbeat was like that of a boy. As soon as the baby was delivered, however, she was told that she had a baby girl. She was so happy and so grateful that she screamed with joy all the way down the hospital corridor as she was taken to a room. Everyone thought something had happened to the baby or a mother would not be so emotional. Ruth remembers that she was doing this, but she just could not stop. As she looks back on this time, she feels that her prayer life might have been affected if the Lord had not seen fit to answer her prayers.

Robin Elizabeth Hammon was named for both of her grandmothers (Elizabeth), but they chose to call her "Robin". All of her family thus far had names that began with an "R", so there was no reason for hers to be different. There was her father, Robert; her mother, Ruth; and her three brothers, Ronnie, Ralph, and Richard. Ronnie, who was seven years old when Robin was born, was so excited about Robin's birth that his feet hit the floor the minute he got to school, and he announced to his teacher and to the class that he had a baby sister! This was out of character for Ronnie to be so bold about something so delicate as a baby sister. He was accustomed to brothers, and this was going to be a new and different experience for them all.

As Robin began to grow, she was a happy, healthy, child. She loved her family, and she loved everyone she met. She was a good student and was popular



Robin Hammon Hulgan

with classmates and teachers. She was elected cheerleader when she was in ninth grade, and she was head cheerleader in her senior year of high school. She was salutatorian of her senior class, president of FHA, and she received the Good Citizenship Award. Her mother never had any trouble with Robin in any way. She was always a joy to her parents.

Robin was famous for baking cakes and taking them to her principal, Tommy Johnson. She loved doing this.

From the time she was a little girl, Robin was in love with Jerry Hulgan. He was a senior when she was in ninth grade. In time, Jerry realized that he loved Robin, too. Robin was nineteen when they married. Five years later, Blake was born. 10-1/2 months later, Jared was born, and ten years later, Reid came along. Robin was a wonderful wife and mother, and her family meant everything to her.

Robin worked for 28 years at Morgan Drugs in Valley Head, as a pharmacy technician. She loved her job and loved helping people who came into the drug store. No one was ever too sick to respond with a smile when Robin was on the scene. She always

had a happy smile and a friendly "hello" for everyone who came into the drug store.

I will always remember how kind she was to me during the sickness and death of my parents and of my husband. During the last two years of my husband's life, he was not able to do a lot for himself because of his inability to breathe, and he had developed diabetes from the steroids he was required to take. Robin told me that the drugstore was now handling diabetic shoes, and to please tell "Mr. Jimmy" to come in and she would fit him with some when he needed them. When I told Jimmy what Robin had said, he was ready for me to drive him to the drugstore right away to get the shoes. He loved Robin as I did, and if she sent him a message, then he must go right away. When we arrived, Robin was so glad to see Jimmy, and she placed him in a chair and knelt in front of him, and with the tenderness and humility that Jesus had displayed when he washed the feet of his disciples, Robin removed his old dirty shoes, cupped his foot in her hand, and placed the new shoe on his foot. He was so pleased with the shoes, but he was not as pleased as Robin was that he had received something that would make him more comfortable, and that she had had the privilege to help him.

As much as Robin loved doing for others, the greatest joy that she received was that of being a wife to

Continued to center pages 12 & 13

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# THE GROUNDHOG

PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984  
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Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA was first conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and organized April 5, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

## THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor.....Evelyn Graves  
Associate Editor/Typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck  
Contributing Editors.....John Baty, Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Evelyn Graves, Sue Schwarz, L.C. Moon

## MAPA OFFICERS

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Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be typewritten and of reasonable length.

The DEADLINE for all material for The Groundhog IS THE 20TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.



## MAPA MEETING

November 1, 2005

The Mentone Area Preservation Association met at 6:30PM, November 1, 2005, at Dessie's Restaurant. Present were Dessie Brown, Dot Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Page and Margaret Cunningham, Lucille Crowe, Evelyn Graves, Homer and Bernise Crow, Jack Jones, Elizabeth Romans, Sue Ann Jones, L.C. Moon and Larry and Jane Schlacter, new members and the speaker, Senator Lowell T. Barron and administrative assistant, Janet Mayo.

President Dessie Brown called the meeting to order and Lucille Crow gave the invocation.

The order of business was changed to allow Senator Barron to speak first. Dot Crow introduced the senator as her friend who was always helpful with the volunteer food program. One time she and her sister, Grace, had a truck load of frozen food and no freezer space to store the food. On the way back from Albertville, they stopped in Fayette to talk to Senator Barron about a freezer. He didn't think it was "NOW", he thought he may have some time to locate a freezer. She explained that it was on the truck NOW. By calling around, he was able to find a place for them to store the frozen food until it could be distributed.

Dessie reminded the group that Senator Barron had done several things and came to the festivals frequently. He helped get the rock wall built.

Senator Barron responded to their comments and said that Mack Roberts of the St. Hwy Dept. helped get the wall up.

The Crow sisters kept the food bank going for over 10 years going using the armory in Hammondville. He got the adjutant general to agree to keep power to the armory a year or two to continue the food bank. He had to buy a refrigerator to keep the food for the people who were less fortunate.

A discussion came up about the road and bridges. Senator Barron said he worked closely with Rob, and the two bridges and the safety of travelers on the road was on schedule. Mr. McGinnis had come to a meeting in Mentone at the Town Hall regarding the bridges.

The contract on Whatley Bridge close to the GA line has been let, and construction will begin in late winter or early spring. The Skyline Bridge bid will be let in Spring 2006. The Bridge is very unsafe and the new bridge will be wider and safer. The design engineer is working to get the right design to protect the environment, stream, and trees.

The bridge was adequate when Homer was a child, (Homer is now 89) and was built in 1927 or 1928.

## The Groundhog

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The only way to preserve the old Skyline Bridge is if somebody or some organization would take on the ownership and upkeep. Any organization can take responsibility for it, but will have to make sure they guarantee that they will do the upkeep and maintenance required, including insurance. If no one will accept ownership, it will be torn down.

He mentioned other areas that the State is looking at, such as the bridge across the railroad in Valley Head, and Hwy 11 in Fort Payne to connect to the interstate. Several potential industries are being considered.

Mentone is a tourist mecca for DeKalb County, and needs to remain so. When God was making the earth, He spent a little more time in Mentone.

Jack Jones mentioned that December 12 is the first time Cloudmont thinks of snow--from the middle of Dec. to Jan. He said can't make snow unless it is below 28 degrees.

LC Moon thanked the senator for all the help he has given to the Mentone handbook project. Lodging tax helps pay for its printing.

The senator accepted the invitation to stay through the meeting and have refreshments afterwards.

Following the presentation the meeting resumed. The minutes of the Oct meeting were read. Page Cunningham made a motion to accept the minutes, and Jack Jones seconded the motion.

Dessie gave a report on the festival. 5 vendors pre-registered for the 2006 October Colorfest and thanked Page Cunningham for the excellent work he did for the Festival. The treasurer's report was handed out. Dot made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Page Cunningham. Page reported he was pleased with all the help he had for the festival, especially Coy Crow and the scouts. There were 45 vendors and 5 preregistered for next year.

Other business: Page made a motion to pay Boy Scout Troop 1012 \$300 for their assistance. Homer Crow seconded the motion, which passed. The funds will help the boys who worked at the festival with their expenses for Philmont.

Homer made a motion to give \$300 to Moon Lake School; and it was seconded by Dot Crow.

A discussion was had regarding a donation to the NLMVFD. Lucille made a motion to pay them \$1000 and Homer Crow seconded the motion.

The next meeting is on December 6 at 6:30 and it will be the annual Christmas party at Dessies. Each person is to bring a \$10 generic gift; and bring a covered dish to the dinner. MAPA will purchase the ham and turkey, and Dessie will cook them.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to have refreshments provided by Lucille Crow and Dorothy Crow.

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## Growing Old

Albert "AL" Jackson  
1848 Co Rd 642, Mentone

I just recently I saw an article in one of the newspapers about "Growing Old." I have heard many explanations about how you will know when you are growing old. Most of what I have read is only "rigmarole."

This is the conclusion I have come to in my thinking. You don't grow old just by living a number of years. Age is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigor of the emotions, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over love of ease. One grows old by deserting their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm, wrinkles the soul.

Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair, these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whether "seventy or sixteen" there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement of the stars and star-like things and thoughts. The undaunted challenge of events. The unfailing child-like appetite for what's next, and the joy and game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt, as young as your self-confidence, as old as your fear, as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

So long as your heart receives messages of beauty, cheer, courage, grandeur, and power from Earth, from man, and from the infinite, so long are you young.

When the wires are all down, and central place of your heart is covered with the snows of pessimism and ice of cynicism, then you are indeed grown old, and may the Lord have mercy on your soul.

### HALLOWEEN

Albert "AL" Jackson

Halloween now rivals Christmas as one of the times of the year during which the most commercialization of a holiday occurs.

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, All Saints Day is instituted to honor all saints, known and unknown.

The Orthodox observe All Saints Day on the First Sunday after Pentecost, while the Roman Catholics, Lutherans, and Anglicans observe it on Nov. 1st.

All that is considered knowledge, and is there if one would but seek it.



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## Announcement

Cedar Bluff, Alabama: The annual **Holiday Tour of Homes** sponsored by the Cedar Bluff Woman's Club will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2005, from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM. The \$5 tour ticket includes a map and driving directions to each of the featured locations and is good for the entire tour.

Ticket sales begin at 2PM on Saturday, December 3rd, at any of the tour stops. To buy a ticket and join the tour, just follow the roadside Tour of Homes signs to the nearest tour site.

Following the tour of homes, everyone is encouraged to join in the "Christmas In The Park" festivities at 6PM across from Town Hall for special music, community fellowship, illumination of the park's Christmas lights, and the arrival of Santa Claus.

For more information on the tour of homes, please contact Jane Rice at 256-779-6518.

## SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCH

WED. DEC. 14TH  
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11:30 AM

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FUN!!

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## Time to shop!

Christmas is here again and **Snappy Tees** has many personalized gift ideas to make your family and friends Christmas exciting this year. We make **photo shirts, caps, cups, mouse pads, tote bags, key chains, can wraps, and ceramic mugs.** These make great gifts. We personalize shirts with your favorite sayings or occasions, such as family reunions, church events, car shows, bike shows, and **school events.** We even have Shirts for your dog. We print one shirt, 100 shirts, or more. Snappy Tees also offers **promotional items** to help your business grow or promote clubs and organizations. Stop in and visit our Gift Shop, too. We have a wide variety of T-shirt designs to choose from or you can create your own shirt design.

Do your shopping in Mentone, save time and gas and have no shipping charges. **Special thru December 31st - FREE T-Shirt with \$25.00 gift shop purchase.** (Select rack only) Also, buy 2 shirts off rack and get third shirt 1/2 price. Snappy Tees wants to say thank you for your shopping with us with a **free gift**, so stop by and say hello.

Snappy Tees is located at 3219 Hwy 117 in Mentone just 3 miles from the AL/GA state line. Hours 'til end of year are **Thursday thru Saturday 10-5, Sunday 12:30-5, 256 634-TEES (8337)** Visit our web site at [www.snappyteesmentone.com](http://www.snappyteesmentone.com)

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## THANKSGIVING 2005 AT THE ROCK HOUSE

Some of the family and friends have been coming to Jim and Penny Lyday's Rock House for 44 years. As the children married, they brought their new families with them to make our extended family. We have had as many as 50 people and about 20 people spending the night. This year's list at Jim and Penny's included: Mellanie Tuttle (daughter), Kendall Tuttle & children, Jacksonville, FL; Kenda Tuttle (granddaughter) Mahalic, FL; Kaylon Tuttle, TX; Beau Lyday (son), Lenoir, NC; Sarah Skye Lyday, (granddaughter) Banneralka, NC; Amalie Li Lyday, (granddaughter) Wilmington, NC; Patrick Martin, friend, from NE; Marion Boyles (sister), Atlanta, GA; Stephanie B Schaefer (niece) & Scott & Savannah, Boulder CO; Marcie Schaefer, Stacey Wright & son, Chris, AL; Penny (sister) & Hugh Starling, Largo, FL; Tracy (niece) & Ben & Samantha Pursley, Ft Wayne, IN; Penny Farrer (niece) Rabon Gap, GA; Pamela Cash & son Chan Cash & daughter, Kenzie Cash, Toccoa, GA; Good friend that is always here for us, Marie Dillenbeck, Mentone, AL; Marrell Mills (sister) in nursing home in Macon, GA, called to say she loved us and missed being here.

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## HOLIDAY MAIL FOR ALABAMA VETERANS

Marilyn Blanton Campbell, President,  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 215,  
Mentone, AL

This article is to remind the readers that there are veterans in the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home who never get any mail. Some who are being cared for have dementia, and some do not know who they are or what season of the year it is. However, they are aware when others get pretty cards, but they do not get any. The fact remains that it is Christmas for them, too.

Again, the holiday season is upon us, and we, the ladies of Unit 215, have long since prepared our 150+ Christmas cards to be hand delivered to the Fann Home and given out to each and every resident when they have their Christmas party. Each year, we encourage the readers to remember our vets who are beyond home care.

This year, we are making it easy for everybody. Below, you will find the address to cut out and tape (securely) on the front of your envelope, as well as a note to clip and put inside your card. Church groups, civic clubs, men's lodges, Sunday School classes, school groups, Scouts, ladies groups can purchase an economy box of Christmas cards, pass them around, and have everybody sign one. Place all your cards in a big brown envelope, take it to the post office, and send it off for far less than it would take to

mail your cards individually. By each one chipping in a nickel, a dime, pennies, quarters, and more, the postage will be paid for.

We have taken all the "work" out of it for you, and all you have to do is write your names and where you are from on your cards. We have talked to the postmaster, and he says that mailing multiple cards in a big brown envelope is indeed economical. Please go ahead and send cards without envelopes as there are people at the Fann Home who cannot manage the envelopes, just enjoy the cards.

Ms. Sharon Hallock, Activities Director at the Fann Home, has promised us faithfully that, if you get your cards to her, she will see to it that those people who usually get very little to no mail, receive a card this Christmas season. You may want to keep this information and do this for other occasions during the year. **Birthday cards** with no specific name can be sent any time of the year to be given to a resident/patient when it is his special day. **Thinking of you cards** will also be enjoyed as it represents mail for no other reason than someone is thinking about them. **They have served our country and deserve to be remembered throughout the year.**

Please save this information; and if you belong to an organization or club, use it throughout the coming year to let our vet-

erans at the Veterans Home know they have not been forgotten. The address to send the cards to is below, as well as a note to enclose to be sure that the cards get to one or more of the veterans who are residing at the Veterans Home.

Thank each of you who takes time to remember our veterans by sending cards!!!!

**Ms. Sharon Hallock, Activities Director  
Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home  
2701 Meridian Street  
Huntsville, Alabama 35811**

**PLEASE SEE THAT THIS CARD GETS  
TO SOMEONE WHO WILL ENJOY IT.**



The

# Church News

By Evelyn Graves



Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis and Rev. L.A. Smith are alternate speakers for these services.

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 8:30AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

Visitors are always welcome at the **Valley Head United Methodist Church**. Please join us each Sunday morning for a traditional worship service at our new time: 9AM. Help us welcome our new pastor, Jimmy Hall, and his wife, Ruth.

**Lea's Chapel Baptist Church** welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship, Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18), 8:30PM Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751. 635-2002.

**Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church**, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services in the Woodmen of the World Hall in Valley Head. All are invited to attend! Sabbath School and Song service: 9:30-10:45 AM, Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood, Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnel.

The **Harmony Grove Church** located on County Road 239 invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM and worship at 11AM. Sunday evening service is at 5PM. Thursday evening service is at 5:30PM.

**Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church** on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Mass Services at 10:30 AM each Sunday. Scripture and Communion Services at 6 PM on Tuesdays.

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM and Sunday School at 9AM. Steve Schrader, Pastor - 845-4314. All are welcome.

**Walnut Grove Baptist Church**, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10AM. Worship Service at 11AM. Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6PM, and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30PM.

The **Fort Payne Christian Center** and Pastor Ken and Elaine Holloman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10AM. Wednesday evening at 6PM. God Bless you.

**Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA)**, 5760 Gault Ave., NE, Fort Payne, AL. Rev. Billy Dempsey, Pastor. Sunday School - 9:45 a.m., Sunday Worship - 10:55 a.m.

Anyone interested in observing the **Sabbath and Holy Days**, call 845-2246 for time and location.

**Alpine Community Church**, 1115 Hwy 337, Menlo, GA. Homecoming Sept. 18, 2005; Special singers and groups. Summerville Group from Summerville, GA. The Mountain Boys from Fort Payne, AL. 11:00 Georgia Time, Sept. 18, 2005. Pastor Rev. Tommy Pledger.

**Presbyterian Church** Worship Service at Cloudland begins at 10AM (EST), and the **Menlo** Worship Service begins at 11:15AM (EST).

**Menlo Church of Christ** invites you to attend the 10-and-11AM services and evening services are at 7-and-9PM. Visitors are always welcome.

**Mount Calvary Baptist Church**, Cloudland, GA, welcomes everyone to come and take part in our church services. Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM. Sunday evening at 6PM, and Wednesday evening at 7PM.

**DeSoto Church of Christ** invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10AM, Worship at 11AM. Wednesday Bible study at 6PM. 256-634-4147.

The **Mentone Revival Center** and Pastor Leroy Nichols and wife, Nell, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10AM and 11AM, and Sunday night at 6PM. Everyone is welcome.

**Howard's Chapel** (Church in the Rock) has regular services 10AM each Sunday. You are invited to attend these services or visit the church at other times. Casual dress is always acceptable.

**Mentone Community Church** Sunday Worship-11AM. Wednesday evening service-6:30PM with Bible study and Teen class. Nursery provided for all services. Senior Pastor Rev. Rick Haworth and Youth Pastor Ryan Haworth welcome all.

The **Mentone Church of God of Prophecy** Sunday School is at 10AM with Worship at 11AM. Evening Services begin at 6PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend regular services.

**Mentone Church of God** invites you to attend their church. Sunday School-10AM; Morning Worship-11AM. Sunday evening-6PM. Wednesday evening-6:30PM. Pastor Randall Beagles welcomes all.

**St Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church** - a place of prayer, thanksgiving, and celebration. Come by any time to pray and give thanks. Open 24 hours every day. Sunday service is at 10:30AM.

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11AM each Sunday. Sunday School is at 10AM. Pastor Les Brown welcomes everyone.

**Moon Lake Baptist Church** invites everyone to attend Sunday School at 9:45AM, Sunday Worship at 11AM, Discipleship Training at 5PM, and Sunday evening worship at 6PM. Sunday evening Bible Study for children and youth is at 5PM, and an Adult Special Studies class is being taught for those who prefer the study to Discipleship Training at 5PM. A membership class is also available at 5PM, taught by Dr. Bill Russell. Pastor. Wednesday evening prayer service is at 6:30, with children and youth activities at 6:30PM, also.

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## Angel Tree at St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church

The Angel Tree at St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church will be set up by November 27, 2005, in the church for those who want to "pick an Angel" for Christmas. Requests from families wanting to add their children will be accepted through December 9, 2005, by calling the church office 634-4476, or coming by the church to leave the information on your children. The deadline for delivery of gifts back to the church for the Angels is December 15, 2005. Please wrap each gift, and include your Angel tag for identification of the Angel. We will be doing our delivery to the children the week of December 19th.

### Dial-A-Devotional 634-0103

is provided daily by Evelyn Graves as an extended ministry of the Moon Lake Baptist Church. Feel free to call any time of the day or night.

### Candlelight Service

There will be a candlelight service at 5:30 PM on Christmas Eve at the Moon Lake Baptist Church. There will be one service on Christmas Day from 10-11AM. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

## Dixie Salvage

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JOHN CROW

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*Dr. Steve McGee  
& Staff  
wish you a very  
Merry  
Christmas*



### The Gift of the Little Magi

Here in Mentone, there is a little girl who found a way to give a gift that would help children all over the country. The gift was her hair. Long beautiful hair had always helped to define Mackenzie Willingham, daughter of Donna and Ladon Willingham. Mackenzie saw a photograph in the *Times-Journal*. She took it to her mother asking that she read the article about the photograph. That's when Mackenzie learned about the organization, Locks of Love.

Locks of Love receives donations of hair to make wigs for children who have lost their hair due to prolonged illness or extreme treatments for life threatening diseases. Locks of Love is a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children under the age of eighteen. These wigs are of the highest quality because of the gift of hair from people like Mackenzie. Immediately, she decided that she wanted to participate in this worthy cause. Like all other little girls, Mackenzie liked having long hair that made beautiful pony tails, braids and long curls. her mom and dad liked it, too. They had never had Mackenzie's hair cut more than an inch. But Mackenzie was determined to follow through and assured her parents that she would not regret having her hair cut short. Helping these sick children was more important.

Donna did more research and found that Mackenzie's hair would have to be washed and dried before it could be cut. It would then be made into a ponytail or a braid, placed in a plastic bag and then in a padded envelope for shipping. Mackenzie's hair had to be 10" long. The decision was made that Mackenzie's aunt, Amy Kirby, owner of the Clip Joint here in Mentone, would prepare and cut her hair. Amy was able to make the 10" cut and leave Mackenzie a short "bob". The donated hair was then mailed to Locks of Love to become some child's gift from Mackenzie.

Mackenzie's gift and her new look caused a lot of discussion. It was soon that Morgan Blalock had her hair cut to make her donation. Word spread quickly and other little girls also gave their gift of hair to Locks of Love. This mountain may be remote from the busy world--and we like it that way. But this did not keep our children from reaching out beyond this quiet place and giving a selfless gift of love that only they could give.

And what is Mackenzie doing now? Growing her hair in order to give it again. Mackenzie says, My hair grows fast. It won't take me long."

And Jesus said, "A child shall lead them." Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Contributed by Joan Byrum

## Lookout Mountain Natural Healing: Winter Skin Care

By L.C. Moon

As the cold winds blow through the valleys and whip across the top of the mountain we know winter is upon us. People of all ages, genders & from all walks of life have skin problems in the winter. Chapped lips & dry skin are obviously the most common. I avoid chapped lips naturally with a beeswax based lip balm that I make so that my lips do not become painful or cracked. However chapped lips are not the only winter skin culprit. Dry skin can lead to other unsightly and uncomfortable skin problems.

Soap is one of the biggest enemies of skin in the winter. Your skin is stripped of all its natural oils and protection. I use a glycerin soap that I make though a castile soap is also a suitable option for a gentle soap. You can also use cleansing oils to clean the skin- apply oil to your face and wipe with a warm wash cloth or mix eucalyptus or tea tree for an antibacterial oil cleanser for the hands. Herbal waters and/or fruits can be used to cleanse the skin.

**Cleansing Herbal Water** - Steep 3 tsp. lemon balm, calendula or lavender in hot distilled water for fifteen minutes.

**Skin cleansing with fruits** - Simply mash fruits, apply to skin and rinse with warm water. Fruits are a natural source of Alpha Hydroxy Acids.

**Egg Cleansing Formula** - You can find organic & pasteurized eggs in order to protect against salmonella.

1 beaten egg, 1 tsp of honey, 1 tbsp ground almonds or coconut, 1 tsp lemon juice

Use immediately by rubbing into your skin and rinsing with warm water.

I prefer to use oil blends instead of lotions to moisturize. I have had great success with keeping my skin moisturized and healthy naturally using moisturizing oils. Lotions, even if they claim to be all natural, often contain alcohol and synthetic preservatives. The commercially mass produced lotions available in most beauty sections also have synthetic perfumes and artificial colors that can cause irritation or toxins that your skin has to process. These lotions often leave your skin feeling dry a short time after they are applied. They also do not provide nourishment for the skin to heal once the winter has caused a problem.

Natural emollients (products that soften, lubricate & provide a protective barrier to skin & hair) such as botanical oils (Almond, Jojoba, Olive, Grapeseed, Apricot Kernel, Avocado, Rosehip Seed Oil) will provide relief from winter skin woes. Baby oil (mineral oil) is prone to clog the pores as they moisturize and do not provide the same benefits as botanical oils. Jojoba oil is the closest to human skin sebum (oil). It is the lightest, least greasy and deepest penetrating of all the oils. Once applied jojoba oil has proved in studies to last up to 4 hours, even after hand washing. Jojoba oil is great at protecting against dehydrated skin though combined with infusions of calendula &/or comfrey (both known as emollient herbs) it can also be even more of a winter skin healer. If I have had to do lots of wood handling, dish or hand washing then I often reach for the moisturizing hand salve or lotion I make from botanical oils and combine with cocoa butter, beeswax and/or glycerin for wonderful extra protection in healing and preventing dry, rough & cracked skin. I use the therapeutic salve with comfrey &/or calendula when I have neglected my skin and there is severe cracking. More often than not the oils & infusions are generally sufficient for preventing & relieving dry skin.

Aromatherapy Sprays, Bath oils & moisturizing oils are very healing this time of year. Supplying your dry skin with needed oils can prevent problems such as ingrown hairs, burning, cracked skin

and rash. Bath and moisturizing oils also help prevent premature aging that happens as a result of skin dehydration- dry skin is prone to develop fine lines and wrinkles. There is a noticeable difference to skin texture and appearance when moisturizers that nourish the skin with proteins and other nutrients are used regularly. Aging is inevitable though it is possible to slow the process with a regular regimen and using skin cell regenerating herbs such as- Lavender, Comfrey and Calendula.

What you put in your body as well as what you put on your skin is important to skin health. Any time of year it is advised to drink a half gallon of pure water per day to help maintain suppleness to the skin & overall health. Eating more oils containing essential fatty acids (hempseed, flax seed, fish oil or supplements containing EFA's) in combination with eating foods like brown rice that are high in b-vitamins (&/or taking a b-complex supplement) is great for skin health for most of us all year but particularly during winter stress. Stress can cause havoc on the youthful appearance or the health of the body including the skin. As most of us know winter can be a stressful time of year.

Your skin is known as your third kidney because it is so important in processing impurities. Without proper cleansing of the skin the impurities are blocked. It is as important to cleanse the inside of our bodies as it is our pores especially when the skin displays an imbalance. We do not sweat in the winter leaving lots of impurities trapped. When we do sweat in the winter it is under our heavy layers of clothing which provides a perfect breeding ground for fungus. Many people get relief from skin problems such as fungus, eczema, psoriasis, rosacea, acne, etc. as a result of taking an extract of burdock, yellow root, yellow dock, Oregon Grape root, violet or red clover to cleanse the blood and body of toxins. Echinacea (or the comparable therapeutic native, Black Eyed Susan), Garlic or Oregano are used to boost the immune system particularly in winter when your body works in overdrive to keep itself warm. Cleansing the blood, boosting the immune system, along with proper diet and topical applications will allow your body the opportunity to heal itself as well as give you the opportunity of getting to know the full potential of your health and your appearance.

In order for your body to respond the way you desire, it is important to get to know what your body needs in order to operate to full potential. Natural therapies are very effective when you use the correct herbs in proper doses. I've adopted and stand steadfast to the philosophy that, "An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure." Nettle, lemon balm, chickweed, cleavers, red raspberry leaf, chamomile and calendula are great herbs for tea that all nourish the skin from the inside out when taken internally- as a result are also great prevention herbs. Drink a warm cup of herbal tea, nourish your body, calm your nerves and enhance your beauty all at the same time.

It is always wise to consult your health care provider before incorporating any new herbs into your regimen particularly if you are taking medications. If you have any questions you are welcome to call, write, email or stop by and see me at Mountain Life in the Heart of Mentone. Visit my website where you can find hand blended herbals mentioned in this article and more plus herbs, oils and essential oils that you may blend yourself. This month you will find great gift ideas on the website as well.

(256)634-3333 [www.MountainLifeMarket.com](http://www.MountainLifeMarket.com)

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## The Country Journal

By  
**BERNISE CROW**

Time flies! Christmas is being celebrated; shops have big promotional sales, and Santa Claus is polishing the runners on his sled. All this comes around so fast, it makes me dizzy! And as children, we thought that anything super-slow was "as slow as Christmas."

November finally brought us some rain, and wonderful leaf coloring, which happened almost over night. It didn't last as long as usual, but was unusually brilliant for a little more than a week.

Thanksgiving day was a great one, and we were pleased to have most of our family with us: my son Barry, his wife, Donnah; their daughter, Christena, and her friend Brad; their son, David; my granddaughter, Lisa Whatley with her husband, Sam and son, Alex; my daughter, Doreen and her friends, Katherine Jones from Morristown Tennessee, and Rebecca Humble from Atlanta; my son-in-law Gregg Cooper and his son, Lee. Our son Coy flew to Texas to be with his family. I baked a 20-pound turkey and a ham, made congealed cranberry salad and helped Doreen make dressing. Donnah made most of the rest of our dinner. She must have cooked all day! Lots of delicious side dishes and desserts. Katherine brought her famous potato salad. I thought of Page Cunningham. He thinks I make the best potato salad, but he had not tasted Katherine's! I have been trying for years to make mine like hers. I found out one secret I didn't know: she puts a little lemon juice in

hers. Lisa brought a good sweet potato casserole and cranberry sauce, and Rebecca brought rolls and a very good pumpkin casserole. The desserts were not eaten as much as usual, because we filled our plates too full of entrees.

Barry brought his keyboard and played music, with David on guitar, after dinner. He played several hymns we could sing along with him. David, who just played and sang last week at the Blue Bird Cafe in Nashville with another group of songwriters, sang a song he had recently written. He hopes to return to Nashville soon to perform.

We were happy to have Gregg and Lee with us. It was a little sad for all of us to miss Joyce, and especially for Gregg and Lee. But we have to be thankful for the many times we shared holidays with her. The memories are beautiful, and it keeps us smiling at times, remembering the little pranks she would pull on Gregg, Lee, and Homer. She would not want anyone to be unhappy now.

Doreen, God bless her, is keeping the Crow's Nest antique shop for me. We are happy to have her back with us. She has cleaned the shop, rearranged things and made it look better. She even got Coy to build some shelves for a closet, and has more plans for him to do. We want to get the shop decorated for Christmas. I use fresh pine and plenty of bows to brighten the place a little. We will put up little white lights outside, as most merchants will do.

God bless all of you, and have a wonderful Christmas.

Stop by & chat with Bernise at

### CROWS' NEST ANTIQUES

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collectibles,  
glassware, books

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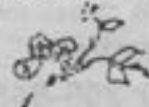


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## Mentone Sparkles Again this Year

Joan Byrum

The Lights along Al. Hwy 117 went up on Nov.26 and suddenly Mentone looked like a winter wonderland. Mason Park has new lighted scenes that should delight the children and adults as well.

We are very thankful to our Volunteer Firefighters who gathered to hang these 5ft. lights on the poles. These men are there for us in fire, medical emergency, vehicle accident, and natural disasters. And now to help make Mentone festive. Thanks guys for taking on the job of hanging these beautiful lights.

And thanks to Charles Flannigan and Steve Flannigan for the use of their bucket truck this year and last year. The job could not have been done without their generosity.

Remember that all of these Winter Wonder Land lights belong to the people of Mentone who donated money for their purchase. Beautiful!

Without a very special person who donates so much of her time and effort to the betterment of Mentone, these decorations would not be here nor would they be up and lighted. Gail Chambers, we thank you!

**Note from John Baty:** A victim of an automobile crash described the long process of rehabilitation following the accident.

On hearing the story, I was inspired to write the following song:

### BACK AMONG THE LIVING®

I can feel the morning sunrise  
Dawning brightly in the shadows of my mind  
Lighting up the deepest darkness  
Where I lingered and  
Believed I'd never climb

Back among the living in  
A world I thought I'd  
Never live to see  
Victim of a crash  
That took away my hope  
And part of me

Sweeter than the purest nectar  
Loving like we'd never felt before  
Blessing with a humble kindness  
By giving back the one  
Who I adore

Back among the living in  
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Never live to see  
Victim of a crash  
That took away my hope  
And part of me

Back among the living...

John Baty

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## MENTONE SOFTBALL TEAM

Back Row: L/R Jason Watkins, Shane Ingram, Jeremiah Jones, Mike Frazier, Jon Peace, Garrett Collins Front Row L/R: Bobby Browder, Brent Black, Jon Browder, James Wells Not Pictured: Tommy Langston, Nathan Owen, Aaron McKenzie, Coby Harrison, Kevin Worthy, Chris Mosely  
Mentone Softball had another good fall league going 11-4 and finishing second. We would like to give special thanks to Marie Dillenbeck. We would also like to thank Southern Properties, Mentone Market, Richard Harrison, and our friends and family who came to the games and supported us.

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# December 2005

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| 4 10-2 Chef Ben's Brunch                    | 5 closed        | 6 closed                                          | 7 10-3  | 8 10-3                              | 9 6-9 5 Course Gourmet Dinner for \$20 !!!!  | 10 6-9 5 Course Gourmet Dinner for \$20 !!!! |
| 11 10-2 Chef Ben's Brunch                   | 12 closed       | 13 closed                                         | 14 10-3 | 15 3-5 Pictures with Santa Claus!!! | 16 5-7 Rock & Miller wedding party           | 17 6-9 5 Course Gourmet Dinner for \$20 !!!! |
| 18 10-2 brunch Cyr 50th Anniversary 2-4     | 19 closed       | 20 closed                                         | 21 10-3 | 22 10-3                             | 23 10-3 Open for Breakfast & Lunch           | 24 Merry Christmas!!                         |
| 25 Merry Christmas!!!                       | 26 closed       | 27 closed                                         | 28 10-3 | 29 10-3                             | 30 6-9 5 Course Gourmet Dinner for \$20 !!!! | 31                                           |

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days gone by. Stained glass  
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sunrises and soft organ  
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Inside wooden pews will seat  
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Linda Patterson, owner of the chapel, said the idea for it began with a  
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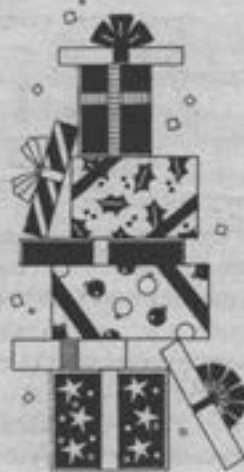
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## Continued from page 1

Jerry and a mother to her three sons. She was very family oriented. She was a wonderful mother who supported her sons in whatever their involvements were. She was sports-oriented, and her sons were always involved in athletics. She carried a cowbell when she would go to their ballgames. Jared, the middle son, said when he played the game in Tyler, Texas, the first game after his mother's death, he listened for the cowbell, and he missed it.

Robin did a week-end of entertaining with three of Jared's friends and one of the coaches, and did an enormous amount of cooking. The next day on Monday, she became ill and had to go to the hospital. She never returned home. It is unbelievable that Robin had the stamina that she had up until five days before her death on October 8, 2005. She surely must have had a lot of pain, but she never complained.

The outpouring of thousands of friends who came to the funeral home to show their love for Robin was overwhelming. They came to just repay a token of what she had meant in their lives. We cannot help but wonder why a young woman in the prime of life was taken on such short notice, but we do know that "God doeth all things well," and He has promised that "His grace is sufficient for us."

It is only human to grieve for Robin, but we must take comfort in the fact that she had made her preparation for the journey that she has taken, and one that all of us must make, when she was only twelve years old and accepted Jesus Christ into her heart. She lived for Him, she served others, and she did what the Bible said that we must do. She is in a place where there is no pain, no sorrow, and she is happily waiting for us to join her. May we all strive to be the example that Robin was!

There have been so many people who wished to express their love for Robin and who have written letters, poems, etc., that *The Groundhog* is printing those expressions of love below:

## To Robin

She was kind to all she chanced to meet.  
At home, in church, or on the street  
Her family was truly and richly blessed  
When God gave them Robin He gave them the best  
By Annie Young  
94 years old

(Mrs. Annie taught Robin while she was in the Youth Sunday school class @ Minvale Baptist Church)

Robin was one of those special people we come in contact with who truly makes you feel at ease. She was an inspiration to all who knew her and she made an impact on all our lives. We were blessed by knowing her and we will greatly miss her.

The girls at Citizens Bank in Valley Head

Robin was one of the happiest people I have ever known. Her face was her personality. She was beautiful inside and out. I never remember seeing her without a big smile on her face and she always seemed to be the happiest person in the world. Robin always had a way of making everything seem perfect even in the worst of times. It doesn't seem possible that she

is gone. I still expect to pass by the drug store and see her vehicle sitting parked up on the hill. I haven't had the courage to venture into Morgan Drugs because I am afraid the reality may just set in. I can't imagine Morgan Drugs without Robin. I can't imagine life, without Robin. I know she is in a much better place, away from all the disaster in the world down here, and I know we will see her again someday. I am sure she is up there right now with Linda, Bobby, Benita, and many others we remember and love, walking around discussing all the things that have changed since they left Valley Head. Robin will NEVER be forgotten and will always be loved and missed.

Lisa B. Smith, Valley Head Water

To me, Robin will always be remembered as a wonderful mother figure. I will always remember the time when my Mom was in the hospital and Robin drove me to and from school each day. She made sure I had breakfast every morning during that time. We would stop by Bo Jangles before school and she would buy breakfast for Blake, Jared, and me. She also never ignored anyone. She would always stop and speak, no matter where you were. I will always remember her warm smiling welcome when I visited the drug store. I miss Robin and will be forever grateful for all the times she took care of me and I am thankful to have had a friend like Robin.

Beth Moore Brooks

Robin shared the same birthday with my son, Ken. She will always be special to me. Myself and all the volunteers at the Valley Head Community Action Center will always remember her for her wonderful personality and will miss her greatly. We always enjoyed the beautiful smile she always wore whenever we visited the drugstore. The place will never be the same without Robin.

Maureen Hammond & the volunteers at the Valley Head Community Action Center

You could always pick Robin out of a crowd, she was always the one with the biggest, prettiest smile, the most sparkling eyes and if she was at a football game she had the loudest cow bell. Robin always had kind words for everyone. I never heard her say any unkind word about anyone and she was the type of person who would probably scold you if she heard you say something bad about someone.

She loved her family and was so proud of her boys. She was always active in any organization that she was involved with, as well as very involved and concerned with our community.

Valley Head has lost a jewel, a rare diamond to be exact, who will never be forgotten or replaced. Robin, we love you and miss you.

Pam L. Dean

Robin was absolutely one of the sweetest people I've ever known. She and my sister have been "best buddies" for years. She misses her so much. But you know...GOD MAKES NO MISTAKES....Robin

## A TIME TO

Hulgan truly lives on. She touched so many lives, and I believe we will see life changing evidence of that in people for years to come.

Barbara Jackson

This is one of my keeper poems that I love to refer back to from time to time. With the passing of one of the sweetest people I've ever known, Robin Hammon Hulgan...I can honestly say, she was a woman who knew how to live her DASH. Her family is truly blessed to have had such a beautiful Wife, Mom, Daughter, Sister, and Friend as Robin. This poem makes me smile that I could call her a friend, and encourages me to be a better person, to live my DASH more fully each day. I hope this poem will make you smile as you remember. She was loved by all.

## THE DASH

I read of a man who stood to speak  
At the funeral of a friend  
He referred to the dates on her tombstone  
From the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came her date of birth  
And spoke the following date with tears,  
But he said what mattered most of all  
Was the dash between those years. (1934-1998)

For that dash represents all the time  
That she spent alive on earth...  
And now only those who loved her  
Know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own;  
The cars...the house...the cash,  
What matters is how we live and love  
And how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard...  
Are there things you'd like to change?  
For you never know how much time is left,  
That can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough  
To consider what's true and real,  
And always try to understand  
The way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger,  
And show appreciation more  
And love the people in our lives  
Like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect,  
And more often wear a smile...  
Remembering that this special dash  
Might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy's being read  
With your life's actions to rehash...  
Would you be proud of the things they say  
About how you spent your dash?

1961-2005

# REMEMBER

I would like to say that it was a pleasure to know someone as nice and polite as Robin Hulgan. She was like a ray of sunshine each time you saw her. She was always smiling and willing to help you any way she could. She loved everyone and treated everyone the same. She had many friends who will miss her dearly. I know all the staff and customers at Morgan Drugs will miss her. It just doesn't seem right to go in there and not see her. I send my deepest sympathy to all of her family. May God be with you and help you in your time of sorrow. I hope everyone will always remember the precious memories she has left behind and the way she touched each person's life who knew her. She was truly a wonderful person.

Here is a poem I would like to dedicate in memory of Robin Hulgan.

## My First Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless Christmas trees  
around the world below  
With tiny lights like heaven's stars,  
reflecting in the snow.  
The sight is so spectacular,  
please wipe away the tears.  
For I am spending Christmas  
with Jesus Christ this year.  
I hear many Christmas songs  
that people hold so dear.  
But the sound of music can't compare  
with the Christmas Choir up here.  
I have so much to tell you  
the joy their voices bring.  
For it is beyond description,  
to hear the angels sing.  
I know how much you miss me,  
I see the pain inside your heart  
But I am not so far away,  
We really aren't apart.  
So be happy for me dear ones,  
you know I hold you dear,  
And be glad I'm spending Christmas  
with Jesus Christ this year.  
I send you each a special gift  
from my heavenly home above  
I send you each a memory  
of my undying love.  
Please love and keep each other  
As my father said to do  
For I can't count the blessings  
of love he had for each of you;  
So have a Merry Christmas  
and wipe away that tear.  
Remember I am spending Christmas  
with Jesus Christ this year.

Author Unknown  
Submitted by Diane Cox

## God's Promise

Seek and ye shall find  
Knock and the door shall be open  
Ask and ye shall be given  
Everlasting life with no questions of time.  
Anonymous

I asked the Lord for perfect words to say  
To honor an Angel in a special way

These words were needed for October 8  
So again I asked for strength to pray

The gray skies cried with sorrow & strife  
Though prayers poured in for this special life

Though heaven cried with tears of pain  
The sun awaited for her to reign

So strong, so good it made me wonder;  
Could she know God's grace was around  
the corner

For an Angel so worthy to be around  
This delicate beauty is heaven bound

She's earned her jewels to fill her crown;  
She's embraced into heaven to walk  
holy ground

No more sickness nor trouble from this  
Angel I know;  
Through heartache or problems from her face  
never showed

Her smile, her glory, her own special way  
God surely had to have her with him to stay

She touched so many with her sacrifice  
For all who knew her...she touched their lives

I hold my head high; like others I could see;  
The angel so perfect; God created to be

For she now found peace,  
love & everlasting life  
Loving memories of her as a Friend,  
a Mother, a Wife

Her special gifts are like no others; I'm sure  
So wholesome, so kind, so blessed so pure.

For those not knowing her... it's sadly a loss  
Many blessings she gave... to the paths that  
she crossed

With her smile she would make you  
feel embraced  
There will never be another to take her place

Her warmth and gentleness so heartfelt  
and true  
For her warmth and friendliness made  
you feel new

She was ready to please in any way  
As I enter the drug store still saying  
"Hello can I help you...I'll be right there"  
"See you later..Bye-Bye now...You take care."  
God Speed



Robin as a baby



Robin as a cheerleader at  
Valley Head High School



Robin and Jerry when she was  
crowned FHA Queen at VHHS

Ed. Note:

*I have found so much comfort in a book I have read since my husband's death, "Ninety Minutes in Heaven," by Don Piper, a Baptist pastor in Pasadena, Texas. It is a true story that will bless your heart and answer many of your questions. I encourage you to purchase and read this book.*

Evelyn Graves

Continued to page 22

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Susan Heape - Cell (256) 996-2309

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**LOWER EAST BROW, CLOUDLAND** - Luxurious mountain home with impressive view of the valley. Main level features entrance foyer, great room w/fp, kitchen laundry, separate dining room, sunroom, half bath, 2 bedrooms a full bath. 2nd level master suite w/balcony open to great room below. Abundance of space & amenities. Garage Apartment w/full kitchen area. (No. G-001)



**CO. RD. 103, MENTONE** - Ranch style home offers great room, kitchen 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath and 1 half bath. Attached garage & detached carport. Lovely 2.41 +/- acre lot. Restricted. (No. G-004)



**LAURAWOOD SUBDIVISION, MENTONE** - Custom home located on the brow of the mountain - Offers great room, custom kitchen, family room, 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, CHVAC, walk-in closet, hardwood/ceramic tile. 3 +/- acres w/500 +/- feet of brow frontage. Call for more information and details.



**County Rd 106, Mentone** - Peaceful country living! Located on private lot, this home was built in 1995 and offers living room, eat-in kitchen, utility room, master w/full bath & second bedroom w/full bath. Amenities include hardwood flooring, detached carport, fenced back yard. 4.88 +/- acres in Mentone area. Good location, private, quiet. Listed for \$136,000. Shown by appointment only. Please call Susan Heape at 256-996-2309.



**ALSOBROOK ROAD, CLOUDLAND** - Away from the hustle and bustle! Located in a secluded area off the beaten path, this ranch-style home has been totally remodeled. Large great room with kitchen/dining area, spacious master suite with walk-in closet, 2 additional bedrooms & full bath, all new flooring, fresh paint, new decking, new kitchen cabinets, new bathroom fixtures. Located on private 1 +/- acre lot. Asking \$64,500. (No. G-013) MLS #540882 REDUCED



**ANNOUNCING "CREST VIEW"** - private 7-tract development - Co Rd. 103 - Water and Power - Brow, great views of Shinnel Valley.



**GADSDEN AVENUE** - Newly constructed home w/low-maintenance hardboard exterior. Offers great room w/stone fireplace, eat-in kitchen, 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths. Also features Canadian maple hardwood flooring, executive quality bath fixtures, corian countertops, custom kitchen cabinets & top of the line appliances 1 +/- acre. MAKE OFFER.



**Holly Springs Rd, Mentone** - Excellent workmanship and attention to detail are obvious in this immaculate cottage featuring wood walls, floors & ceilings. Built in 1998, this lovely home is located in Laurel Creek Subdivision and offers great room, kitchen, loft, 2 bedrooms & 2 full baths. Situated on 2.9 acres - the perfect getaway. Priced at \$188,500. Shown by appointment only. Please call Susan Heape at 256-996-2309.

The Rhododendron Garden Club met November 8, 2005 at the MERF Community House. President, Gethryn Giles, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Lucy Fowlkes gave the devotional and prayed the blessing. Sue Schwarz led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Jill Whitten was introduced as a guest of Dianne Kuehl. Refreshments were served by Sue Schwarz and Dianne Kuehl.

Sue Schwarz introduced the speaker, Andy Talton. Andy is the owner of the Mentone Springs Hotel in Mentone. He is an accomplished floral designer and gardener. Andy presented a program of instructions for the making of wreaths. He demonstrated several methods of stabilizing large objects to a wreath. Andy shared several useful bits of information, including ways to create a secure hanger to a wreath. His most popular creation was a wreath large enough to support a base which would hold a container grown plant or a large artifact. Because of his ability to use large objects and lots of materials, it is always fascinating to watch him work. As always, Andy's creations were much admired and appreciated by the club members. The members were given a chance to ask questions and Andy very graciously answered them with a mixture of knowledge and wit.

Virginia Setze, who has declared war on litter, made the suggestion that the club become a member of PALS (People Against a Littered State). This idea was wholeheartedly embraced by the club members and voted on as a thing that they would like to do. Virginia urged everyone to do their part and pick up litter when they see it.

Due to the lateness of the hour, any further business was dispensed with.

The next meeting of the club will be December 13 in Jim Berry Hall, the official meeting place of the Boy Scouts, at 12:30 p.m. This will be a pot-luck lunch, so everyone should bring a dish of food.

Sue Schwarz and Dianne Kuehl will present the program, "Every Light A Prayer For Peace".

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of the DeKalb-Cherokee Federation; The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., District II; and the National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region.

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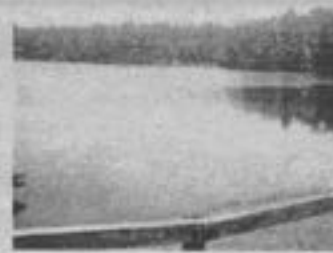
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**LAKE ON THE BROW** this 4 br 3ba mountain home on the lake is the perfect spot to relax, and enjoy the fall color change.



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**MENTONE** come and see our new gated community called the Northbend, under construction with restrictive covenants, underground utilities, paved roads, and walking distance from the downtown crossroads, prices starting at 37,500.

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- Book Club
- Health fair
- Senior Lunches
- After school tutoring
- Teacher training
- Art teacher for Moon Lake School
- Music teacher for Moon Lake School
- Spanish teacher for Moon Lake School
- and more...

For your prayerful support of and generous contributions toward these and other projects, we are truly grateful.

We do have an additional need this year. Estimates for the necessary work on the Community House are in the range of \$5000-\$7000. This will include work on the roof, ceiling, and the wall with the fireplace. The house is used not only for MERF programs, but also for regular meetings such as the Rhododendron Garden Club and MAPA and for special events, such as family reunions, baby showers and bridal showers. It is available for the community to use.

Every tax-deductible gift goes toward the mission of MERF. It is "to enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources." We hope that you will continue to be a part of this exciting commitment to the people of Mentone.

With best wishes to each of you for a joyous holiday season, The Mentone Educational Resources Foundation Board of Directors:

Sara Wilcox, President (*innkeeper of Mountain Laurel Inn*)  
Sue Henry, Vice-President (*director emeritus of Camp DeSoto*)  
Kathy McMunn, Secretary (*mother of four and lover of great books*)  
Carol Hazell, Treasurer (*mother of two and lover of great books*)  
Dr. Bill Berry (*principal of Moon Lake Elementary School*)  
Dorma Hutcheson (*assistant postmaster of Mentone*)  
Walt Pullen (*deacon of Valley Head Baptist Church*)  
Joyce Smith (*retired teacher who still teaches*)  
Linda Lawton (*Elementary counselor at Moon Lake & Valley Head*)

Donations may be mailed to:

MERF, POB 107, Mentone, AL 35984



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**Sunday 11:00am - 3:00pm**

# Ole Heritage Expands Realty, Inc.

Tina Burt-Edmondson has announced the opening of a second office, Mentone Realty, Inc., in downtown Mentone, Alabama. Ole Heritage Realty Associates, Neil Colbert, Broker and Deb Colbert, Associate Broker, will be conducting daily real estate business at the new location.

According to Mrs. Edmondson, President of Ole Heritage Realty and Mentone Realty, the expansion was necessary to better meet the needs of Mentone, Cherokee County and Georgia residents.

Although the office will specialize in residential sales, its services will also include land, lake, and brow properties. Ole Heritage Realty and Mentone Realty currently have 10 agents to help serve all your real estate needs.



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### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **THE VALLEY HEAD WATER WORKS BOARD MEETING DATES**

The meeting dates for the Valley Head Water Works Board will be as follows:

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2005**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2005**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2006**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2006**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2006**  
**MONDAY, MAY 08, 2006**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2006**  
**MONDAY, JULY 10, 2006**  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2006**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2006**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2006**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2006**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2006**

All meetings will be held beginning at **4:00PM** in the Valley Head Water Works office in the board room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted in the lobby of the Valley Head Water Works Building. A notice of any special or called meetings will also be posted in the lobby of the Valley Head Water Works Building prior to the meeting date and time. The location of the meeting will also be posted.

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(5) **BRAND NEW, Weekend Getaway Cabin** with 2 bedrooms 2 baths. Tin roof, Rocking Chair Porch. On a private wooded Acre. \$89,000.



(6) **FOR SALE: 13 acres Large Garage Shop, 2 bedroom 2 bath Home**, located on Hwy 117 in Mentone. Great Commercial potential. Pasture land and Wooded. Much More. \$189,000.



(8) **MOUNTAIN RIVER HOME**, enjoy the tranquility of Open Area Great Room, dining, kitchen combo. Fireplace, Master bed and bath on main level. 2 loft bedrooms and bath. Large deck overlooking river. Full basement, 2 car garage attached with breezeway, and much more. 3.45 acres. \$305,900.

(PHOTOS TO THE LEFT)



(3) **WEST FORK SUBDIVISION** 5.9 acres with 700 ft on river. Trails throughout, Large Hardwoods, and abundance of Unique Foliage. Private yet only minutes from Mentone. \$78,000.



(4) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST**, 5 acres on the East Brow of Lookout Mtn. Spectacular Views and Rock formations. A must see. \$69,000.



(7) **THE CABIN** features a wood burning fireplace, 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Laundry facilities, and a large living area with complete kitchen. A large screened porch with grilling deck opens off the kitchen. Heated and cooled area is 1050 sq. ft., with another 169+/- sq. ft. porch and deck. The exterior of cabin is rough cut siding with a metal roof (30yr.) The interior is finished with drywall and pine flooring. The wooded lot is approximately 1.41 acres. \$145,000 (Photo to left)

## OTHER PROPERTIES

(9) **INDIAN TRAIL ESTATES**, Building Lots on the West Brow, North Ft. Payne. Restricted Covenants, and Owner Financing Available. Brow Lots starting at 15K. Wooded Lots at 8K. City Water.

(10) **OAKWOOD SUBDIVISION**, 3 acre tracts for \$19,500. Also all pasture tracts together containing 15 acres, city water, restricted. \$80,000.

(11) **14 ACRES ADJOINING LITTLE RIVER NATIONAL PRESERVE**, Wooded Canyon across the street. A must see and only minutes from convenient Ft. Payne. Located between Co. Rd. 255 and Hwy 176 (Canyon Road Park). Priced at \$173,000.

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### Daughter Dear

As I looked into the mirror,  
I saw a glimpse of you.  
It caused me to go back in time  
For just a moment or two.

I remembered your tiny hands and feet  
The day I brought you home.  
It's so hard for me to grasp  
THAT YOU ARE REALLY GONE.

I thought about the days  
Of dolls and make believe,  
The time has passed so quickly  
I hardly have time to breathe.

The years of school and dating boys  
Are only a blur, it's true,  
I can still see you that last December day!  
Did I say I'll always be PROUD of you!!!

As my mind drifted back to the present,  
I realized how blessed I've been  
To have had a DAUGHTER like you,  
A daughter my BEST FRIEND!!!

I'll always love you KENYA  
LOVE MOM



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By Wesley Chesnut

The winter when I was six we lived far from town in the old two-story log house on the remaining 60 acres of the family plantation. Originally built as a hunting lodge in far distant better times, the house seemed always dark inside, with its chinked logs and dark varnished wood ceiling and interior walls.

Our living room was about 25 feet square, with paned windows on three walls and a limestone fireplace, representing the only heat source in that large space. A woven rag rug occupied the middle of the room, underneath a large square library table. A sofa and various old chairs lined the walls. And over the table hung a Coleman lantern, offering marvelous light on a winter evening.

In the early 1940s, electricity was slow coming to the rural South, and our family was among the last in the area to see a light pole erected nearby. Installation cost money, and we had very little. Like many families then, ours remained in financial malaise for years following the Great Depression. My father, raised to be a gentleman, was unemployed and thought he could be a farmer on the family property, but his efforts were near futile, and the farm was a failure as a livelihood.

Such things were not my concern, however. I, like all small children, accepted my world as presented and natural. I never noticed that we were less advantaged than others, and my days in December were spent in play and anticipation of magical Christmas, which became imminent on the frosty morning of Christmas Eve, when my father and my teenaged brother, Billy, made ready to cut the Christmas tree. I was allowed to accompany them on the quest. They hitched Ruby, our old mare, to the large wooden sled with its snow-sled runners that allowed it to be pulled over sand and underbrush in the piney forest surrounding us.

The chosen tree was as good as possible, and I rode with it on the sled back to the house, where the long-leaved pine sapling soon filled a corner of the living room by the fireplace. I helped Mother decorate it with colored construction paper chains, vintage glass ornaments, and brightly painted pinecones. Despite its ungainly shape, I found the tree exciting and beautiful, its fresh pine aroma filling the room. It never

## A Child's Christmas

occurred to me that it should have lights on it. The other tree in the room, and the only item on the center table, was crafted from a small, leafless and thorny branch from a plum tree, on which I carefully stuck sugary gum drops.

As I threw metallic icicles on our Christmas tree, Mother became solemn and explained to me that Santa Claus was overburdened with children's requests that year and, since we lived so far out in the country, it was doubtful that he could visit that night. I realized years later that this was her only way to deal with having no money for the toys I had requested from Santa.

I took the news stoically, but insisted still on hanging my red holiday stocking on the fireplace mantel and leaving a jelly sandwich and a glass of milk on the center table. "Just in case," I explained.

Christmas morning, at first light, I left my upstairs bedroom and went to the landing on the stairway. Things below still seemed dark and cold and, satisfied that nothing had happened during the night, I crept back to bed and tried to get warm again under the quilts. Even if Santa Claus had not come, I reasoned, still there was the beautiful tree, and soon I heard fire crackling in the fireplace downstairs.

I walked slowly and maturely down the stairs and into the living room. Astonishment and delight spread over my face as Mother put a phonograph recording of carols on the old wind-up Edison player. My eyes darted around the room again and again, and I dashed from chair to chair, picking up each of the ten brand new comic books placed individually around the large room. Finally, I reached the middle of the table where there lay a new red, plastic mechanical pencil, which I knew cost 29¢ at the 5 & 10 Cent Store in town. I was ecstatic! My red stocking, hung from the mantel with tempered hope the night before, bulged with apples, oranges and pecans. Only crumbs remained of Santa's sandwich, and the glass was empty. Words cannot express my surprise and happiness that morning, remembered over 60 years later with perfect clarity.

The comic books, 5¢ or 10¢ each, occupied me for days, as did the mechanical pencil. As far as I was aware, no other child I knew had one.

It was the best Christmas ever.



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(3) ALMOST NEW! Open plan 4BR/3+BA great kitchen with oak cabinets, exercise room, office and family rooms. Side drive, curved walkways. Foyer. \$234,000. PLS #14291.



(4) Lake Front Lot on Lookout Mtn! 2 to choose from, restricted neighborhood, underground power, paved road. Lots 45 & 47. Priced at \$54,900 each lot. PLS #14235



(5) 152 Acres! Never be without a great place to hunt again. Now is the time for your opportunity to have what you deserve. 152 acres of prime land for \$1650 per acre. PLS# 14233



(6) Close to the GOLF COURSE!! Brick 3 bedroom, 2 baths, central heat and air, double garage, vaulted ceilings in the front bedrooms, large kitchen and dining combo with pantry, great master bedroom and walk in closet, whirlpool tub and separate shower, must see! \$169,900. PLS #14247



(7) VIEW-TI-FUL! Creek along one side of property. Large rocks for climbing or just admiring. Listen to and watch 3 waterfalls that adjoin property. Hike to great swimming hole. Adjoins National Park. You must see this! Only \$107,000. PLS# 14236



(8) SHADED FRONT SCREENED PORCH! 3 bedroom 1 bath has a large eat in kitchen with lots of pine cabinets. 3 finished rooms upstairs. Enjoy your screened front porch on a nice shaded lot. \$59,900. PLS#14239



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Deb Colbert  
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# LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY by Linda Brown

Have you noticed the new sign over the door to the Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library? It adds a lot to the looks of the building and will be helpful to those who do not know where to locate the library. Due to the length of the official name, it only has Moon Lake Library on the sign. Look at it the next time you are over that way. We are very proud of it as this is something the members of the Board of Directors have wanted for a long time.

Once again, we have investigated the possibility of having a paid librarian on duty during the hours that the library is open for the community. And once again, we have hit a brick wall. We do not have the money to pay someone and there does not seem to be a grant available to help with this. Our latest endeavor was to contact TARCOG. They have a very good program of training older persons and putting them to work part time. The only catch is that we have to find someone who would like to do this and is in the low income bracket. Also, this should be a training program to put that person into the work force on a regular basis. It gets to be very complicated, but we keep trying. If we are ever able to accomplish this we would like to have the paid person there every time and still use our volunteers to help them. This would require only one volunteer during each open time.

Mrs. Myra Mills' second grade class was awarded the pizza party as the winners of the Reading for Pizza program for the students of Moon Lake Elementary School. On Friday, November 18, Jan Wilkinson and I went to school and planned the party so that we could serve them as they came back into their room for their afternoon snack. When they were all in their chairs we served their drink and pizza and Mrs. Mills gave them all a serving of chips. They seemed to have a really good time. I know that Jan and I did. It was a lot of fun.

Now we will start over and all of the grades will have an equal chance at a second party toward the end of the school year. This is just one way that the members of the board are trying to get more patrons for the library. You do not have to have a child in that class to have a star placed by their grade. All you need to do is tell the librarian on duty, during the community hours, which class you want your book check-outs to count for.

The Birthday Calendars are here!! They are very pretty this year. We tried a new look with the days having more space for notes and the picture and ads with some color make it very attractive. I do not have all of mine delivered yet, but I am getting to them as fast as I can. The Thanksgiving holiday threw me off by two or three days. We do have extra ones this year. We cannot get your birthdays in the 2006 calendar but you can get one and look for all of the birthdays of your friends. We can get the birthday information from you and get it in the 2007 calendar. If you want one, let a volunteer know or write to us at the address at the bottom of this article. If you want one mailed to you or someone else, send \$7.50 to cover mailing. If we hand deliver the calendar, the cost is only \$5.00 each.

Our next enrichment program with the Moon Lake Elementary School will be the essay contest for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The title for this year is, An American Inventor. I will be bringing all of the details to school during the first week of December. I hope

that all parents will urge their student to enter this contest. This program is very much in keeping with the reading and writing program of the school. An old saying goes, "Well begun is half done." This is where the parents can be very helpful to your child. Help them to select an inventor and get them started on this project. The teachers will help them find research materials and help them with spelling, punctuation, sentence structure and the other things that make a good paper. The top three winners will receive cash prizes and read their essays at the PTO meeting in February.

Remember that our Board of Directors now meet on the third Monday at 3 p.m. This is a change in the time only, not the day. Our meetings are always open to the public and you are welcome to come and see what we do. However, if you want to address the board, we do ask that you call Jan Wilkinson, 845-5048, and request to be placed on the agenda. We will NOT meet during the month of December. Our next meeting will be Monday, January 16, 2006 at 3 p.m. in the Moon Lake Library.

The library will be closed on December 24, 27 and 31 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. You may put your books in the book-drop at any time.

Make visiting and using the library one of your New Year's resolutions for 2006. You will be glad that you did. Recently, a person who has just bought a house in Mentone and moved here, came in and looked through and read a lot of the material on Mentone and DeKalb County. She was looking for information on the old houses in Mentone, but so far as we could determine, this information has never been compiled.

Also, we now have an excellent selection of magazines, so you can come and read these in a quiet and peaceful atmosphere. You can sit in our big rocking chair and relax, sleep, study or read. There are many ways in which you can use the library. One day we had a table filled with ladies who were just talking and visiting with each other. One or two were seated and as others came in they would sit down too and soon there were no more chairs available at that table.

To become a FRIEND, a volunteer in the library, or to receive a calendar you may write to us at this address:

Moon Lake Community Library  
Post Office Box 481  
Mentone AL 35984

**OPEN HOURS:**  
**TUESDAY, 3:00-7:00 P.M.**  
**SATURDAY, 9:00 A.M.-12:00 NOON**

Become a FRIEND of  
*Moon Lake Library*  
Write us at:  
Post Office Box 481  
Mentone AL 35984

## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PLANNING  
COMMISSION OF THE  
TOWN OF MENTONE  
MEETING DATES  
FOR THE FOLLOWING  
MEETINGS ARE:  
NOVEMBER 1, 2005\*\*  
JANUARY 19, 2006  
APRIL 20, 2006  
JULY 20, 2006  
OCTOBER 19, 2006

\*\*November 1, 3PM workshop

All meetings are at 5PM on the 3RD THURSDAY of the months set out above. Meeting are held in the Mentone Town Hall meeting room. Any changes will be posted on the town bulletin board 7 days prior to any scheduled meeting shown above. Notice of the date and time of any special meetings will be posted 7 days prior to any such meeting.

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B





# Southern Properties Agency, Inc.

(256) 845-6000

2107 Gault Avenue North, Fort Payne

www.SouthernPropertiesAgency.com

E-mail: info@southern-agency.com



(1) Leave the world behind in the privacy of this custom built mountain home. Located on 3 acres on the West Fork of Little River with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and lots of charming features including wood and brick floors, wood burning heater, open and screened sleeping porches, large natural boulders and natural landscaping. \$259,900 (PLS #14324)



(2) **SOLD** This finished summer home with 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, 3 living areas (2 wood-burning stoves, fireplace) and access to a large deck overlooking the valley below. Second bedroom and bath underneath the house with access from outside. This home can easily sleep 8. Sitting on over 2 acres with most 500' on the West Fork of Mentone. House and 100' lot for only \$249,999.



(3) Enjoy lazy afternoons and watch the sun set on the large deck of this almost complete home. Features include pine floors, gas log fireplace, vaulted ceiling with loft, stainless steel appliances and lots of windows. Make your way to retire before you retire? Call today for your appointment to see. \$329,000 (PLS #14394)



(4) **KNOTTY PINES CAMPGROUND** - 8 self-contained cabins, office building that could be converted into living quarters, numerous RV and camp sites all on 13+ secluded acres adjoining DeSoto State Park. \$395,000 (PLS #10908)



(5) Create comfortableness in this cozy and comfortable chamber. Walk into the open and inviting great room with built-in bookcases and wood burning stacked stone fireplace with gas logs. The state of the art kitchen features solid countertops and custom maple cabinets. Situated on 3 acres with large storage building and greenhouse. With a view from every room, every day will be a vacation. \$159,900 (PLS #14403)



(6) **THE COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL** is endless in this great location at Frasier's Crossroads. Most recently known as The Barnyard, this rustic building sits on .87 acres and has 2 public bathrooms, gas wall heat and window air conditioning. This property is located inside the Fort Payne city limits. \$115,000 (PLS #14216)



(7) **SECLUSION** just off DeSoto Parkway. 3bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, beautiful Mountain Stone fireplace, central heat & air, wonderful rock formations and much more situated on 1.9 acres in Mentone. \$149,900 (PLS #13846)



(8) Bring a rocking chair and a good book to relax on the front or back porch of this new cedar-sided cabin in Mentone. This new construction offers 2 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths with loft and frontage to 2 ponds. Add it all up to make this one a great place to lounge around. \$129,900. (PLS #14405)



(9) Take a recess from the rat race in this very private and authentic log cabin with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, living/dining/kitchen combo and front porch all on 1.66 heavily wooded acres on a private road. \$119,000 (PLS #14345)



(10) **NORTH BROW** - New construction featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas burning fireplace, front porch, back deck and more with approximately 1000 square feet of living space. \$295,000 (PLS #1311)



(11) Picturesque cul-de-sac location - 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, living...dining and den with wood burning fireplace and great studio over garage. 3 levels of decking with farmable mountain and valley views. Privacy fencing and more. \$450,000 (PLS #13693)



(12) Want a great brow view without the brow price? Then you'll love this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a view of the valley and Sand Mountain. Perfect for a weekend cabin or year round. Under construction and near completion. \$160,000 (PLS #14342)



(13) **Valley Head** - Don't miss your chance to see this recently updated brick rancher in Valley Head offering 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, sunroom and so much more \$134,500 (PLS #13771)



(14) Retreat to Mentone in this NEW construction offering 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large family room with gas log fireplace, spacious kitchen/dining combo, screened front porch, side deck with Jacuzzi and more, sitting on a 1.23 acre wooded lot just minutes from downtown Mentone. \$220,000 (PLS #114394)



(15) **Hwy 117 in Mentone** - This building site offers you a foundation ready for new construction as well as a basement barn. Call for more details. \$49,900 (PLS #13904)



(16) Let your mind explore the possibilities for this distinctive property located near downtown MENTONE just off Highway 117. Begin with 15 acres and a farmhouse (over 100 years old) with 4BR and 1-1/2 BA, wood floors and wood walls, 2 fireplaces, open living area, kitchen with gas stove top and Jenn-air grill, covered front porch and back deck, large garage/storage building, and a barn. \$299,000 (PLS #14299)



(17) A beautiful extra-large yard with huge trees, flowering plants, decorative fish pond and privacy fencing frame this attractive home in Valley Head. This 3BR, 2 bath home features a sunroom, 2 fireplaces and a 3-car garage with a breezeway to the house PLUS an extra storage building. \$195,000. (PLS #13688)



(18) Native mountain foliage creates a level of privacy for this 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick house sitting on 3 acres with 300' on the West Fork of Little River. Amenities include a split bedroom design, large family room with cathedral ceiling and mountain stone wood-burning fireplace, screened porch overlooking a walkway shaded by mature rhododendrons to the river. \$275,000 (PLS #14035)



(19) **GET-A-WAY! HIDE-A-WAY!** In this mountain cottage and enjoy a relaxing evening off the back deck or a restful visit on the screened front porch. As if the view and location was not enough, other features include 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Pine tongue and groove walls, pine hardwood flooring, ceramic flooring, counter-tops and backsplash, wood burning stove, and nature at its best. Don't get relaxed YET, call and we will do the rest. \$142,500 (PLS #13696)



(20) **OPEN FOR BUSINESS IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE!** If you have always dreamed of having your own business, now is the time and place in Mentone for you to make it happen. This retail shop is Zoned B-1 and would make a perfect gift shop or restaurant. Features original hardwood floors and walls with built-in shelving and 3 wood-ed counters. Commercial type kitchen with ceramic tile flooring, stainless steel sink, glassed front porch and side deck. Great business opportunity for only \$89,500. (PLS #14154)

## OTHER LISTINGS

- (21) 4 acre parcel on County Road 627 in Mentone. \$28,000.  
 (22) 1.56 acres on the brow near DeSoto State Park. \$55,000 (PLS #10133)  
 (23) 4.23 acres on Hwy 117, just outside the Mentone City Limits. Property can be used as residential or commercial. \$19,900 (PLS #13271)  
 (24) **JUST LISTED... HIGHLAND SPRINGS** - NEW subdivision located in the heart of Mentone just off County Road 648 (Cove Road). Several lots to choose from with mild restrictions. Lot prices start at \$28,000.  
 (25) Hammondville... Building lots starting at \$5,000/lot. Call for more information.  
 (26) **ENJOY** Mother Nature's beauty while relaxing on these 168 acres in Valley Head. This acreage does offer an old farmhouse. Call for more details. \$432,500 (PLS #13730)  
 (32) Gently rolling, wooded vacant land in Valley Head. Perfect for development. Extensive paved road frontage. **SOLD AS A WHOLE ONLY.** \$186,000 (PLS #10101)  
 (33) Ready for development, or to build your dream home. Gently rolling pastures, water, and a beautiful view of Lookout Mtn. 571 feet of road frontage on Hwy 11 with Wills Creek on the back of the property. Fenced on 3 sides. \$362,000 (PLS #10149)

For other land/lot listings,  
please call our office

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Southern Properties

## Cloudmont Ski & Golf Resort Saddle Rock Golf Course Tournament November 6, 2005



1st Place from L/R: Shane Ingram, Darrin Smith, Rhett Freeman, and Michael Frazier (not shown)



2nd Place from L/R: Jacob Lawrence, Kevin Smith, Bobby Browder, and John Lawrence



3rd Place from L/R: Jeff Edmondson, Don Brown, Jerry Freeman, and Al Brown (photo to the left)



### In Memory of Jerry Wayne Bain

Born 6-21-61; Died 12-9-04

If love could have saved you, you would never have died. The things I feel so deeply are the hardest to say.

We all miss you Jerry in a very special way.

I sit and think of you and cry a million times. No one knows how my heart aches for the loneliness every time I come in and wait for you to come over to see if Mama got home OK, and to see you peek through the blinds. I still wait for you. But I can rest, knowing you are not suffering any more.

With All My Love,

Your mother,

Frances McNutt



(Front) Jerry, Reid, Robin; (Back) Jared & Blake Hulkan



(Back) Brothers Ronnie Hammon, Ralph Hammon, Richard Hammon with Robin; Parents (seated) Ruth and Robert

Continued from page 13

## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE MEETING DATES OF THE  
WATERWORKS BOARD OF  
THE TOWN OF MENTONE  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

2005-2006 ARE:

OCTOBER 27, 2005

NOVEMBER 17, 2005\*

DECEMBER 15, 2005\*

JANUARY 26, 2006

FEBRUARY 23, 2006

MARCH 23, 2006

APRIL 27, 2006

MAY 25, 2006

JUNE 22, 2006

JULY 27, 2006

AUGUST 24, 2006

SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

All meetings are at 4PM on the 4th  
Thursday, except where indicated by \*.  
Any changes will be posted on the town  
bulletin board 7 days prior to any  
scheduled meeting shown above.  
Notice of the date and time of any  
special meetings will be posted 7 days  
prior to any special meeting.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE MEETING DATES OF THE  
MENTONE TOWN COUNCIL  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

2005-2006 ARE:

OCTOBER 10, 2005

NOVEMBER 14, 2005

DECEMBER 12, 2005

JANUARY 26, 2006

FEBRUARY 14, 2006

MARCH 14, 2006

APRIL 11, 2006

MAY 9, 2006

JUNE 13, 2006

JULY 11, 2006

AUGUST 8, 2006

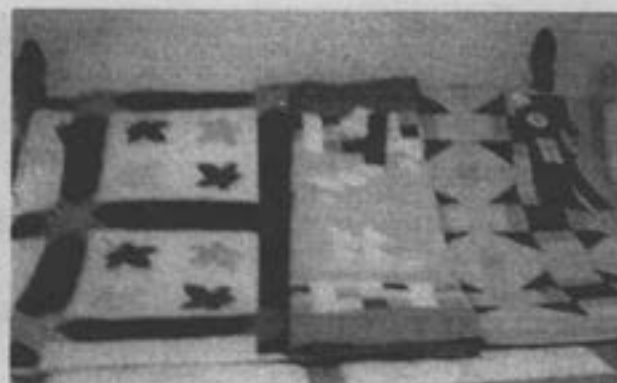
SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

All meetings are at 6PM on the Second  
Monday of each month. Any changes  
will be posted on the town bulletin board  
7 days prior to any scheduled meeting  
shown above. Notice of the date and time  
of any special meetings will be posted  
7 days prior to any special meeting.

## Thank You

I would like to thank everyone  
from Henagar, Ider, Valley Head,  
Hammondville, and Mentone who  
wrote a letter in my behalf that  
helped me at a difficult time in my  
life.

Sincerely, Frances Bain



## Local Quilter Wins Competition

Mentone resident **Charlene Smith**  
entered three quilts into the VFW Fair quilt  
competition in Fort Payne in October. The  
patterns as shown in the photograph are  
"Maple Leaf", "Sail Boat" (baby quilt), and  
"Hole in the Barn Door". All three quilts won  
first place in their categories and the "Hole  
in the Barn Door" quilt won "Best of Show"  
award.

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**Edward Jones**

**Friends of Moon Lake Elementary School**

*present*

**"Nativity Opry"**

*on*

**Saturday, December 17, 2005,**

*at*

**6:30 p.m.**

*in*

**the school's gymnasium.**

**All proceeds will go  
to the Mentone Educational Resources Foundation  
to benefit the Moon Lake Elementary School arts program.**

**Admission**

*12 years of age and over—\$5.00*

*11 years of age and under—one can of food*

 **Valley Head  
Christmas Parade**   
**Saturday December 3rd**

**Parade Line Up at Valley Head School**

**1:00 p.m. December 3, 2005**

**Parade begins at 1:30 p.m.**

***Floats- 1st, 2nd & 3rd place  
prizes***

For More Information call: 635-6814 or 635-6642



**Celebration of Lights in  
Mason Park  
to be in December.  
Watch for an  
announcement or flyer  
to be posted around  
Mentone with the date  
and time for the  
ceremony.  
Everyone is invited!!!!**

**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES**

- Saturday, December 3, 1:30PM, VALLEY HEAD CHRISTMAS PARADE
- Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 PM, MAPA ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY, Dessie's Restaurant
- Monday, December 12, 5PM, Town Council Meeting, Town Hall meeting room,  
open to the public \*\*\*\*NOTE THE HOUR HAS CHANGED TO 5PM Dec. Only\*\*\*\*
- Tuesday, December 13, 12:00PM, Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House
- Tuesday, December 13, American Legion meeting 6:30 p.m., American Legion Hall
- Wednesday, December 14, 11:30 AM, Senior Christmas Lunch (see notice this page)
- Thursday, December 15, Mentone Book Club, 10 AM, Mentone Community House
- Thursday, December 15, 4PM, Waterworks Board Meeting, Waterworks Board Room, open to the public
- Saturday, December 17, 6:30PM, MLS Gym, "NATIVITY OPRY" (see flyer this page)
- Sunday, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY



**A MEDITATION**

By Rev. Charles Flannigan

"And the angel said unto them, fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of Great Joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." Luke Chapter 2  
**Let's Keep Christ in Christmas!**

 **CLOSED**  
*Moon Lake Community Library*  
**December 24, 27 & 31**

**SENIOR  
CHRISTMAS  
LUNCH  
WED. DEC. 14TH  
COMMUNITY HOUSE  
11:30 AM  
FUN, PRIZES, GIFTS  
SANTA  
JOIN US FOR THE  
FUN!!**