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THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville, Menlo, Cloudland
P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

Volume 33, No. 8

"Neighbory News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

August 2014

COLORFEST 2014

Colorfest planning time is upon us once again and the cool mountain evenings make it seem appropriate. Colorfest is organized and produced by the Mentone Area Preservation Association and has been for over thirty years now. Community volunteers spend countless hours to make sure traditional and new events are in place for the enjoyment and education of our neighbors and visitors. The Colorfest planning committee meets every two weeks at 1:00 PM in Kamama Gallery to review status and update plans. Our next meeting is August 6th. If you would like to volunteer please attend.

Most of last years events will be included again – Pumpkin Patch Jubilee decorations, continuous music on the brow with Sounds of Mentone, Scarecrow Holler in Mason Park, Taste of Mentone, Friday and Saturday evening food and music and of course our fantastic art and craft exhibitors. This year we are planning a couple of new events – Scavenger Hunt and A Piece of History silent auction.

Currently, we have a great group of volunteers who agreed to coordinate specific Colorfest events. Kayla Worthey – Marketing efforts

*Pics
from the
2013
event*



including news releases (TV, radio, press, social media), rack card distribution, and signage design/production. Doreen Waters – Financial and exhibitor contact/tracking which includes tracking sponsor contributions and exhibitor fees, paying festival expenses, disbursing applications to exhibitors and tracking our budget. Lisa Crow – Music coordination/

scheduling of musicians for our Sounds of Mentone at Brow Park. Robert Moehr will once again create our festival Public Service Announcements for distribution to radio and TV outlets. Amanda Pope – coordinate Scarecrow Holler and our new event(s) the Ol' Time Harvest Fest of children's activities. Debra & Rick Fey – Festival signage placement around the area from Scottsboro to Summerville. Beverly Bates –

Exhibitor placement and event map creation that includes festival layout, a map showing all events and schedules and assisting exhibitors with set-up. Mentone Business Association (MBA)/Bob Hoffman – Scavenger

(cont'd on page 3)



Little River Canyon Makes Headlines

By Kayla Worthey

Little River Canyon is unique in many ways and known for many things. It is unique because it flows most of its length atop Lookout Mountain and there are more than one hundred rare, endangered, or threatened state or federally listed plant and animal species at Little River Canyon National Preserve. It is known for its forested uplands, beautiful waterfalls, canyon rims and bluffs, pools, boulders, and sheer sandstone cliffs that offer a variety of settings for recreational activities.

Little River Canyon is making headlines

once again with a HuffingtonPost.com list from cheapflights.com of 11 great swimming holes... around the world. Think about that for a minute. A swimming hole, here in our back yard, most of us have grown up swimming in, is on a list of 11 places from around the globe. That is amazing recognition for our "little" canyon.

The canyon is listed alongside Ik Kil in Mexico, Blue Lagoon in Iceland, The Blue Hole in Jamaica, Fairy Pools in Scotland, Devil's Pool in Zimbabwe, Cyprus Lake Grotto in Canada

(cont'd on page 5)



THE GROUNDHOG

P. O. Box 387
Mentone, AL 35984

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 501c3 non-profit corporation.



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Mentone Matters

By Mayor Rob Hammond



Sometimes there is not a whole lot of local governmental news to report—not necessarily a bad thing!

This past June the nation and the world paused to remember the 70th Anniversary

of D-Day. My dad landed at Omaha Beach three days after D-Day. He was with the 2nd Armored Division and had already seen action in North Africa and Sicily. The 2nd Armored Division led the breakout from the hedgerow country of Normandy. The division fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was the first American division in Berlin. My dad never talked about his experiences in the war unless it was humorous. He was like millions of others who served in World War II. I have often wondered why many of the "greatest generation" never spoke of their exploits in war—whether they were heroic or mundane. General Dwight D. Eisenhower may have explained it best. Addressing the leadership of Great Britain soon after Germany's surrender, the supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force said, "Humility must always be the

From The Editor

It's hard to believe summer is almost over. August means the camps in Mentone are hosting their final sessions. School begins, and with it, football season – an important aspect of life in Alabama! The World's Longest Yard Sale comes through the heart of Mentone, bringing folks from all over the world to our little village for a few days. Volunteers are busily preparing for Mentone's next event, arguably the largest and most popular event of the year-- Colorfest. Always held the 3rd weekend in October, this festival is almost always blessed with picture-perfect fall weather, a major factor in crowd attendance.

We hope you enjoy this issue of The Groundhog. The editorial staff is grateful to all the contributors, who never fail to entertain and educate us about life on the mountain.



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idea? Send it to
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Mentone, AL 35984

Colorfest (cont'd)

Hunt and Pumpkin Patch Jubilee. The Scavenger Hunt planned for the Mentone area is new and Pumpkin Patch Jubilee is a fall decorating competition held primarily along the Highway 117 corridor. As always, the local Boy Scouts, under the direction of David Gilbreath, will cleanup, build bonfires and park cars during the festival. Carolyn Nail and Ray Padgett will co-chair this year's festival and will also solicit sponsors and arrange for dumpsters, recycling, port-a-potties, and assist other volunteers as needed.

Other events and volunteers are being discussed and will be announced as planning progresses. We invite everyone to participate and make this year Colorfest the best ever.



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Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Website Address _____

Description of Art Work _____

Circle if needed: Electricity Water (\$25 additional charge for either or both)

Other Special Needs _____

Number of Spaces _____ Amount enclosed _____

This year's Colorfest Festival will be held all over Mentone, but the artists will be located primarily at Brow Park. Show hours will be 9am-5pm Saturday and 11am-4pm Sunday. You may set up your space on Friday, October 17, 12-5pm or Saturday, October 18, 6:30-8:30am. Please be ready for the show to start at 9am. If you participate in the show, please plan to be set up for both days. You may break down beginning at 4pm on Sunday. Cars should be moved to the parking area after unloading.

If you require water or electricity, please indicate on the application. **There is an additional charge for electricity and/or water in the amount of \$25. To avoid outages, electricity is reserved for food vendors and artists who require it to show and demonstrate their art or craft. (i.e. not for lighting or fans). No generators will be allowed.**

You will be notified of your acceptance no later than October 6. Spaces will be assigned the week prior to the show, but please check in with the information tent when you arrive as space numbers can change. All spaces will be on a first come, first served basis, and no spaces can be reserved from show to show.

If you are an artist and this is the first time you have applied for Colorfest, please provide a photo of your work or a website or Facebook address. All art should be handmade by the artist. No ready-made merchandise is allowed. Colorfest is strictly an arts, crafts, music and children's festival; therefore, no political or religious organizations will be accepted.

Thank you.

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This Olde House: MERF Community House



My boards may be a little creaky and my paint a little flaky but I am full of life. I continue to open my doors to the young and the wise so my walls are full of joy, laughter and learning.

July brought lots of fun and laughter at the MERF house as the wild and crazy lunch bunch crew had two summer socials! Mentone Market hosted the first Senior Social on July 16th with homemade ice cream. It's always a party with the Emory and Byrum crowd. The Camp DeSoto girls enjoyed the social so much in June that the new group of Phoebe girls returned on July 22nd for some more fun. My walls are still full of all the fun, fellowship, singing and laughter. Look for signs in town for the August Social. Lunches will start back up in late September.

July brought opportunities to dream about new ways that MERF can enrich the learning and living in Mentone. Hopefully some new

programs will come out of these conversations. MERF is proud to be partnering with St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in offering a Snack Pack program through Moon Lake Elementary School this fall. Ms. Paula Easter will again be available to Moon Lake students in the Arts program with classes focused on art, music and Spanish. She is very excited in her theme for the year and her collaboration with others in the school. Stay tuned to see the art produced and the musical program develop under her guidance. August means the wonderful sound of school children will return. I love to hear their excitement as they begin another school year. Moon Lake student's voices are music to my ears as piano lessons resume in August and tutoring in September.

Hope everyone has found that perfect "Leave Me in Mentone" cap or t-shirt to sport this summer and show your support for MERF. May we all survive the dog days of summer with a smile and a song in our hearts.

MERF: Mentone Educational Resources Foundation is a local non-profit with the mission "To enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources." If you would like to support our programs, tax-deductible donations can be mailed to POB107 Mentone, AL 35984 or contribute online at www.crowdrise.com/MERF.



Penny Lyday celebrating her 90th birthday all day with a stop by the MERF house.



Front table fun! Christine Smith is a birthday girl too!



Walt Pullen's sisters joined us for cake and ice cream from the Mentone Market.



Summer social hosted by Mentone Market



The boys table at the senior summer social

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Stop and Shop On the Mountaintop

By Robert Hoffman, MBA President



It always amazes me when someone comes into our gallery from the Georgia side and asks if there's anything else up the road. Likewise, visitors come to town from the I-59 side and think there's nothing beyond the Wildflower. So, this month I'm going to talk more about our Mentone businesses ... read on, you might learn something even if you're a local!

As I mentioned last month, there are 30 shopping opportunities for you between the Mentone Inn and the Post Office, plus 7 more within a few minutes of downtown. Among these, there are 6 places to purchase some great art, 10 where you can eat, and 19 with a variety of gifts. What I didn't mention is that these 30 shops change, evolve, and move every month, so it's sometimes difficult for visitors to find a shop that was here at their last visit. It's also somewhat of a mystery to visitors as to which days particular shops are open. To help demystify the locations and opening days, we've created several new pages on the MyMentone.com website. There's been a DOWNTOWN page for about 5 years, showing an aerial view of the town with each business shown. We go to great lengths to try to keep that page current, so anytime you want to see when someone's open, how to contact them, or link to their website if they have one, our DOWNTOWN page is the place to go. There's also a new page created recently called DIRECTORY, which is laid out like a

mall map showing the businesses categorized by Art, Clothing, Food, Gifts, Lodging, Storage, and Woodcraft. On the HOME page, you'll find a link to the Daily Openings list, showing who's open each day of the week. There's more, including the NEWS & EVENTS page, where we try to keep up with what's new in the Mentone business community. So, what's new?

You'll find more detail on all this on the NEW & EVENTS page, but here's a summary of what's new. Starting from the West (toward I-59) end of town, the White Elephant that burned down on March 1st has re-opened in the building behind the hotel parking lot on (North) scenic drive. Just go North from the flashing light and you can't miss it. Moving along, at Aunt Fannie's Fudge shop, they're now serving home-made ice cream in addition to all their fudge treats. Across the highway at Log Cabin Village, Tony Wilson has moved his jewelry-making activities to the Virgin Islands - Good Luck, Tony! Mildred Lowry has moved her Spinning Wheel in where Tony was at the end of the big building and AJ Trading Post has moved into the last cabin by the ice cream shop, which is now named Village Ice Cream Shoppe instead of Cones of Mentone. Driving (or walking) down the hill, you'll find a number of new things, including a nice outdoor eating area with umbrellas by the side of Kamama as well as in front of the Mentone Market. Kamama now has their Farmstand open, serving locally-grown produce, cheeses, pickled food, and meats. Mentone Market has set up a Shaved Ice stand at the end of their building with the umbrella'd patio next to it. Inside the market, you'll find a couple of walls of tourist information, including places to shop and things to see in Mentone and in the

surrounding area. All of this and more is on our NEWS & EVENTS page, which is updated whenever something new happens at one of our businesses.

Our August meeting is scheduled for the third Monday, August 18th, from 6-7pm at MERF House. The public and prospective new members are invited. Minutes for all meetings are online at MBA.MyMentone.com.



Little River Canyon (cont'd from page 1)

among others. The article talks about the 12-mile canyon and its many sandstone ledges that are ideal for the adventurer looking for some fun but focuses on what used to be a sacred swimming hole for the locals known as "The Hippy Hole". It mentions the fact that you can "leap into the waters from one of three rope swings outside the hole". I would bet that almost every person that has spent any amount of time in this area, has at some point, swam in Little River. I would also bet that at least half of those have taken a dip or a jump or the aforementioned "swing" into one of the world's greatest swimming holes, our own Hippy Hole.

The Hippy Hole, along with many other hidden swimming holes along the canyon's bed,

have been favorites for many of the locals for years and I am sure will continue to be for years to come. Now, I suppose, we will have to share them with the rest of the world.

As if world recognition wasn't enough, The Little River Canyon was also recommended by AL.com readers as one of the six best swimming holes in the State of Alabama. I think I can speak for most of the locals when I say that the Little River Canyon has definitely captured our hearts!



They Are Coming . . .

By Kayla Worthey



Every year in August, the crowds come to Mentone and the Lookout Mountain Parkway in droves! Who comes, you ask? Yard sale shoppers, of course.

The World's Longest Yard Sale (WLYS), also known as The 127 Sale, always runs from the first Thursday in August to the following Sunday for four days of yard sale heaven. This year it just happens to also be the first day of school for our area, which is somewhat unfortunate, but hopefully won't deter the shoppers or vendors too much.

Named by Alabama's Governor as a Top Ten Event in Alabama, featured on HGTV, seen in Southern Living, Country Living, USA Today, Newsweek, The Tonight Show and more, this event brings visitors from all over the country. You can travel more than 690-miles from its



starting point in Gadsden, Alabama to its ending point north of Addison, Michigan. The Lookout Mountain Parkway's 93-mile stretch from Gadsden, Alabama, to Chattanooga, Tennessee, is said to have around 1,000 vendors each year. You will find everything from antiques, collectibles, furniture, dishware, fresh garden produce, homemade jams and jellies, food vendors, live entertainment and so much more. Mentone will be bustling with shoppers, vendors, sightseers and visitors.

Accommodations, restaurants, stores, boutiques and parking lots will be full of eager "Yard Sellers." Please be very cautious of slow-moving vehicles and watch for pedestrians. If you are a shopper or a vendor, be sure you are aware of your surroundings and protect yourself from the elements. Everyone should wear comfortable



shoes, drink plenty of fluids and wear a hat or sunscreen.

If you are interested in more information about the yard sale or you would like to find a location to set up as a vendor, go to www.ShopLookoutMountain.com. If you have space available for vendors to set up, please contact DeKalb Tourism at info@tourdekalb.com to have your space listed on the website.

Save the Date for the Fall Home Tour!

By Beverly Bates



The Mentone Area Arts Council has moved their Annual Home Tour back to the fall and set the dates for Saturday and Sunday, October 25 and 26. During these two days, visitors will be able to enter the doors of beautiful area homes, both new and historic, rarely open to the public, as well as churches, camps and landmarks. MAAC volunteers are currently securing their slate of new and historic homes, a list of which will be published in the September and October editions of The Groundhog. The tour will begin at Mentone Town Hall on Saturday morning where visitors will be able to purchase tickets and pick up maps to the homes.

Also at Town Hall will be the Annual Silent Auction where visitors can bid on more than 60 items including original art works donated by members of the Mentone Area Arts Council and other area artists. Take home wine, native plants, antiques and Lookout Mountain memorabilia. Bid on weekend stays at vacation cabins and B&B's and meals at local restaurants. There might even be some more adventurous items as well. Hours for both the home tour and silent auction are Saturday 9am-5pm and

Sunday 11am-4pm. For those unable to attend can bid online at www.mentonearts.org.

Tickets are \$12 each and \$10 each for MAAC members. They can be purchased online at www.mentonearts.org or on arrival at Town Hall. If you would like to donate an item for the silent auction or volunteer during the event, please contact Beverly Bates at bjbates@bellsouth.net or 205-520-1556 or Cynthia Stinson at mentoneinn@gmail.com.





Valley Head Fundraiser

The Valley Head Athletic Club will be hosting their Annual Fund Raiser once again this year on Saturday, August 23rd! They are selling only 400 tickets for a chance to win up to \$10,000! Each ticket sold will be eligible for 2 FREE dinners served in the Valley Head Cafeteria beginning at 12pm. The drawing will be held in the Valley Head Gymnasium beginning at 2pm. There will be fifteen \$200 winners, four \$500 winners, one \$1,000 winner and one very lucky \$10,000 winner! You do not have to be present to win cash money drawing; however, door prizes will be given away throughout the day to some lucky winners who are present.

Please see an Athletic Club Member for your tickets. Thank you all for your continued support of the school and we hope to see you all there for the drawing!



Moon Lake and Valley Head Students will return to school on Thursday, August 7th. Valley Head High School will allow schedule pick-up on Tuesday, August 5th according to the following schedule: Juniors and Seniors from 9:00am to 9:30am; Freshmen and Sophmores from 9:30am to 10:00am; 7th and 8th graders from 10:00am to 10:30am. All previous fees must be paid in order to pick up your schedule. Lockers will not be sold at this time. New lockers have been ordered and will hopefully be in around the second week of school. Cost will be \$20 and includes a parking permit for those who drive. More information will be given on lockers after school begins. An open house is planned for Elementary and High School Students in the coming weeks, but a definite date has not yet been set. Look for more information from your school staff.

TIGER

C H A M P S

COMMUNICATE HONOR ADVOCATE MOTIVATE PARENTS STUDENTS

I hope everyone is having a fabulous summer. The students at Valley Head have gotten off to a wonderful start. For this month's article, Tiger CHAMPS would like to highlight the summer program.

During the month of June, the 21st Century Community Learning Center held a summer program for the elementary students at Valley Head. There were approximately 50 kids that participated. Each Friday and most Wednesdays, the children enjoyed a field trip or had guests at the school. These were educational opportunities, but the kids just thought of it as fun and exciting. Representatives from Russell Cave and Lego Bricks came to the school. The students went to DeSoto Park, the movies, bowling, Tigers for Tomorrow, Stevie B's (to make their own pizza), Early Works Museum, and the McWane Center. During their days at the school, the children learned reading, math, science, and enjoyed art activities. They also had plenty of time outside; Tuesdays were usually water day! The program only cost \$40 and included breakfast, lunch, and field trips. This is the second year and has been a big hit with the kids who attend. Mrs. Priscilla Byrum and Mrs. Renae Day have worked hard to bring this opportunity to the students and would love to have more children involved next year. It brings a lot of pleasure to these ladies and the other teachers to see the students having such a fun time.

The 21st Century Community Learning Center plays an active part in the Valley Head school. They offer an after-school program to help children with homework and provide extra learning activities in a fun environment. It is very important that children know that learning

is fun and that they have opportunities to learn when they aren't even realizing they are being taught. On behalf of the children who had such a wonderful experience at the summer program, I would like to say "Thank you!" to everyone who helped make this possible.

Go to Page 24 to see Color Photos of the Summer Program

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Remember When . . .

By Angie Carden

In August of 1989, The Groundhog had a featured article about Mrs. Amelia Kirk titled "Home Is Where The Heart Is". Therein, Mrs. Kirk recalled the days of her youth spent on her grandparent's farm near Alpine in Mentone. "Those times were wonderful", she said. "We did all the things country kids did in those days-milked the cows, played in the creek, worked in the garden and cotton patch and picked berries in the warm summer sun. We hardly ever went anywhere, but there was plenty to do there on the farm."

She continued on about her pranking her aunts, Dorothy and Grace Crow, by throwing their lipsticks into the turkey pens and just making their lives miserable in general. "But they were always a lot of fun to be with", she

stated.

One of Amelia's favorite memories was of sitting on the porch of her grandparent's house listening to friends and family spin yarns. "Grandma would always be cooking something wonderful and all the people would sit around and just enjoy conversation" she stated.

She spoke of Col. Milford Howard who was one of her favorite people, recalling how she would sit on his knee as he told stories of his life and the area. He came to the mountain in the '20's hoping to develop Alpine into a world-class resort and did complete some projects such as a lodge, a school and grist mill.

Most of us around here know Mrs. Amelia from all her days of owning The Mentone Inn. She comes from a long line of people who

believed in hard work and perseverance and in giving life all one has to give.



The Times of Our Lives

Corey Armstrong and Allie Blalock would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Atalie Bree Armstrong, born on June 20, 2014, at 7:27pm. She weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 21 1/2 inches long. Her proud grandparents are Denise Smith, Joey Blalock, Tonni Armstrong and Eddie Burt.



Briley Hope Harrison was born June 25, 2014 at 3:39pm at DeKalb Regional Hospital in Fort Payne. She weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce, and was 21 inches long. Her proud parents are Tylor and Hope Harrison of Valley Head. Her brother is Brayden Harrison.

Duane Blalock and Sarah (Hatfield) Blalock exchanged vows in a sunset ceremony alongside their children, Caden Blalock, Ellie Cox, and Rose Cox. The ceremony took place on Saturday, July 12, 2014, on the brow in Mentone with friends and family present.



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THE
RECIPE CORNER
BY
ANGIE CARDEN

“Dog” Days of Summer

If you think hotdogs are boring, you just aren’t looking close enough! Oh sure, we all see chili, cheese, slaw, chopped onions or kraut as toppings, but seeing how all the fresh veggies are in, let’s broaden our hotdog horizon! I have a few alternatives, but I promise delicious, toppings for you to try. I, myself, am quite a fan of a dog any way you cook it. Grilled, boiled, fried or nuked! I am certainly not a hotdog snob! And I will go one step further and tell my most favorite topping is plain ‘ole potato salad. Any who, here are a few ideas for you to try with those extra yummys from your garden.

Tomato and Onion Dog

Simply thin slice an onion and tomato then cut the rounds in half making strips. Place them on your dog and drizzle with A-1 steak sauce. (Yes A-1 steak sauce!)

Summer Salad Dog

Dice one small squash, cucumber, onion and tomato. Add a bit of salt and pepper, drizzle with olive oil and red wine vinegar and mix, (refrigerate for thirty minutes for optimal flavor). Top your dog and Viola! On second thought, this may be my favorite.

Hot Dog Caprese

Alright, I confess. I can’t decide my favorite! This one is just amazing if you love Italian like I do. You probably guessed by now where I am going with this! Top your dog with sliced mozzarella cheese, sliced cherry tomatoes and chopped fresh Basil. Drizzle with olive oil, add some salt and pepper and I tell you I am a happy girl!

I know that the ones of you who didn’t already think I am crazy with food think that now, but I beg you to try some (by some I mean ALL) of these ideas! You just may be surprised! Happy Cooking!

August Birthdays

- August 2 – Logan Goza
- August 2 – George Raley
- August 2 – In memory of Emmett Bain
- August 3 – Halle Hilyer
- August 3 – Adriana Grace Hall
- August 3 – Wendy Haynes
- August 3 – In memory of Betty Butler
- August 5 – Hope Martin
- August 5 – Amanda Pope
- August 5 – Elizabeth Meadows
- August 6 – Casey Stott
- August 6 – Dallas Bowman
- August 7 – Samantha Blalock
- August 7 – In memory of SSG Jonathan Dean
- August 9 – Martha Browder
- August 9 – Carolyn Martin
- August 10 – Alex Whatley
- August 11 – Dianna Carden
- August 11 – Lila Jane McElhaney
- August 12 – Kinsley Worthey
- August 12 – Amber Smith
- August 13 – Stephanie Potts
- August 14 – Jennifer Ferguson

- August 14 – Alan Black
- August 15 – Michael Langston
- August 15 – Dallas Gregory
- August 17 – Sandra Pruitt
- August 17 - Mattie Belle McGee
- August 18 – Kinsley Mitchell
- August 19 – Michael Flannigan
- August 20 – Carla Warren
- August 20 – Shane Ingram
- August 20 – Joseph Goza
- August 21 – Eddie Langston
- August 21 – Emma Campbell Crawford
- August 21 – Christina Stokes
- August 21 – Michele Black
- August 22 – Casey Gregory
- August 22 – Haven Downer
- August 22 – Keith Langston
- August 22 – Anthony McKenzie
- August 23 – Slade Carden
- August 23 – Lukas Boehringer
- August 23 - Phillip Pannell
- August 24 – Dana Pangle
- August 25 – Jason Gregory
- August 25 – Carolyn Coots
- August 25 – Jason Gregory
- August 27 – Howard Hilyer
- August 27 – Crystal Lee
- August 27 – Tamara Hawkins

- August 27 – Luke Durham
- August 27 – Jack Chambers
- August 27 – Charlotte McGee
- August 29 – Kayla Worthey
- August 29 – Donna Willingham
- August 29 – Susan Chernes
- August 29 – Isaac Browder
- August 31 – Wesley Rhodes
- August 31 – L.C. Bone
- August 31 – Mark Battles
- August 31 – Ian Norman

August Anniversaries

- August 1 – Carolyn & Eddie Coots
- August 8 - Beverly & Jim Bates
- August 11 – Rayford & Cindy Bethune
- August 12 – L.C. & Sarah Bone
- August 17 – Bobby & Sandy Blalock
- August 24 – Dwayne & Laura McKenzie
- August 25 – Mike & Stephanie Potts
- August 28 – Joseph & Mandi Goza
- August 29 – John & Kim Johnson
- August 30 – Richard & Christy Harrison

What To Do Around Here!

August 2014 Community Calendar

Aug 1 - Campfire Talk: Canyon Constellations. DeSoto State Park (CCC pavilion in picnic area.) Learn all about the summer night sky with Jacksonville State University's Astronomer Dr. Laura Weinkauff. Free to the public. Great for all ages. 8-9pm. Seating is limited so bring your own chair. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 1, 13, 16, 18 - Zip Line Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 2 - Storytime at the Canyon Center: Diary of a Worm - Little River Canyon Center, Fort Payne. Staff and volunteers will read aloud. 11pm-noon. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.782.5697 for details. Info on the Little River Canyon Center: www.jsu.edu/epic/canyoncenter/

Aug 2-3 - Bush Craft Weekend. Hosted by DeSoto State Park and provided by One World Adventure Co. Learn outdoor skills and enjoy nature with your family. Adults and youth 14 and up. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. 9am Saturday to 3pm Sunday. \$185 per person (includes meals and all camping equipment); \$135 per person (includes meals); \$105 per person (includes instruction only). Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 2 - Campfire Talk: Stars, Moons and Planets. DeSoto State Park (CCC pavilion in picnic area). Learn more about the stars, planets and their moons with Jacksonville State University's Astronomer Dr. Laura Weinkauff. 8-9pm. Free to the public. Great for all ages. Call 256-997-5025 for details.

Aug 2-3 - Northeast Alabama Hunting & Outdoor Expo. Enjoy product demos, seminars, Q & A, door prizes, and celebrity appearances by Bill Dance, Dr. Lou, Rex Holmes, as well as many others. Booth spaces are now available but are going quickly. Northeast Alabama Agri-Business Center. 256-605-1801.

Aug 5 - Celestial Navigation. This two-hour class is a basic introduction to navigation by the stars. Learn how to navigate without the use of a compass or GPS with the same rules used for almost six thousand years. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 6, 11, 23, 27, 30 - Rappelling Adventure. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. No previous experience necessary. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 7 - First Day of School for DeKalb County and Fort Payne City Schools

Aug 7 - 2Blu and the Lucky Stiffs. Kamama's Music Series. Voted Alabama's best unsigned blues duo. Blend of rock, blues, funk and gospel. Doors open for dinner at 5pm. Concert starts at 7pm. Concert \$10 per person. Reservations

requested for dinner and concert. 256-634-3001.

Aug 7-10 - 28th Annual World's Longest Yard Sale. Travel the scenic byways of America for more than 690-miles of yard sales and unique treasure finds. Follow the Lookout Mountain Parkway from Gadsden, AL to Chattanooga, TN for the southern portion of the sale. Connect with the U.S. Highway 127 in Chattanooga for the remainder of the route to just north of Addison, MI. 888-805-4740.

Aug 8 - Campfire Talk: Amphibian Metamorphosis - From Egg to Frog--What a Leap! DeSoto State Park (Campfire Ring in Improved Campground). Enjoy a fun trivia game with Jacksonville State University's Dr. James Rayburn while exploring how amphibians transform from a single cell to the wonderful hopping creatures we know. 8-9pm. Free to the public. Great for all ages. Call 256-997-5025 for details.

Aug 8 - Zip Line & Sky Swing Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before adventure. 256-997-9577.

Aug 8, 18, 22, 28 - Wild Cave Tour. Go beyond where the average tourist explores! This 2.5 hour adventure is for those of you ready to explore on your knees, on your belly, in the mud and through tight tunnels. Explore in one of NE Alabama's most unique all-weather caves, Manitou Cave, in the heart of Fort Payne. Adventure includes helmet, cave lamps plus a fun informative guide. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 9 - Finger Weaving Demonstration with Keena Graham. DeSoto State Park (Country Store). Fingerweaving is a Native American art form used mostly to create belts, sashes, straps and other similar items through a non-loom weaving process. 9-5pm. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details. Info on Keena G: www.facebook.com/keenagram2.

Aug 9 - Campfire Talk: Poisonous and Venomous Organisms. DeSoto State Park (Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground). Enjoy a fun trivia game presented by Jacksonville State University Toxicologist Dr. James Rayburn. Learn about how some plants and animals really get your attention with their special lines of defense. 8-9pm. Free to the public. Great for all ages. Call 256-997-5025 for details.

Aug 9, 14, 25, 29 - Rock Climbing/Rappelling Adventure Combo. Nestled in the NE corner of Alabama are some of the best and unique sandstone cliffs in the country. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing and rappelling is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 9 - Night Sky Swing Adventure. This is an adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy the thrill of the swing at night. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. Meet at True Adventure Sports 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 10 - Summer Soap-Making Class. DeSoto State Park. Join soap and salt scrub maker Antoine Fletcher on an adventure into the history of soap making. Learn cultures, techniques and medicinal uses. All participants will take home a 2.5 oz bar of soap. 1-3pm. \$12 supply fee. Workshop is limited to 20 so pre-registration is required. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for details

Aug 12 - Knot Class & Application. Introduction and instruction to essential knots and their application for camping, rappelling, rock climbing, outdoor survival, and other applications. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 12 - Orienteering Class. Basic yet essential skills for survival navigation are brought to you in map reading, compass reading, and topography. Bring your own compass or you may purchase one at our store. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 15, 27 - Night Zip Line. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Enjoy the thrill of the zip line at night. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 16 - Guided Archaeology Tour of Calhoun and St. Clair Counties. Jacksonville, Alabama. JSU's Harry Holstein will lead a tour of various sites through Calhoun and St. Clair counties. Participants should bring their own lunch and drinks. Transportation is provided. Space is limited. Register early. 9am-3pm. \$16 per person (Ages 14 and older). Pre-registration is required. Call 256-782-5697 for details.

Aug 17 - Yes, I can! Canning Fruits & Vegetables. DeSoto State Park. Learn all about home canning from Mary Alice Stout, who has canned and taught canning for more than 50 years. This is a "Hands-on" workshop and at the end of the day, you will leave with two jars of finished product and recipes. We will be canning blueberry jam, peach slices, bread and butter pickles and tomatoes. Bring a paring knife and a brown bag lunch. 10am-3pm. \$20 per person. Workshop is limited to 10 so pre-registration is required. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for details.

Aug 16-17 - One World Backpacking Series: Cooking on the Fire. Continuing our food series, you will get a chance to try out some backpacking food and learn about cooking fires. You will get the chance to make bread and some yummy food. Ages: Adults and youth 14 and up. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost: \$110 per person includes meals and all equipment. \$85 per person includes meals (must provide your own equipment). \$65 per person includes instruction

(must provide on equipment and food). Group max: 6 Upon registration, you will be sent a packing list. To register, call 256-634-8370.

Aug 16 - 4th Annual Youth Day in Rainsville Park. Enjoy free hot dogs, soft drinks, inflatables, dunking booth and much more. First 500 kids get free event t-shirt. Free admission. Rainsville City Park 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. 256-638-7800.

Aug 16-28 - Georgia Wade Art Exhibit at Kamama Gallery. Wild Georgia Wade featured artist at Kamama Gallery. Welcoming back Mentone's own upscale undaunted and unfurled outsider artist. Experience colorful, fanciful collage, assemblage of acrylic mixed media creations by this well known and lovable southern personage. Gallery hours are Thursday - Monday. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 256-634-3001.

Aug 19, 23 - Extreme Night Hike. This end-of-day adventure does not slow down just because it's dark. Intended for a large group team-building exercise, this hike has a bit of bouldering, some scrambling, some spelunking, and a whole lot of required working together. Headlamp and enthusiastic guide included. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 20, 21 - Rock Climbing Adventure. Nestled in the NE corner of Alabama are some of the best and unique sandstone cliffs in the country. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 21 - Russell Gulley. Kamama's Concert Series. Muscle Shoals music veteran in concert. Doors open for dinner at 5pm. Concert starts at 7pm. Concert \$10 per person. Reservations requested for dinner and concert. 256-634-3001.

Aug 22 - Campfire Talk: Songs of the Civil War. DeSoto State Park (Campfire Ring in Improved Campground). Join musician Tony Thomas to hear his repertoire of songs that were written during the Civil War period. Also learn some history of the different styles of music and musical instruments used during that time. 7-8pm. Free to the public. Great for all ages. Bring the kids for S'mores! Call 256-997-5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 22 - Bouldering Adventure - Atop Lookout Mountain Come experience first-hand what bouldering is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. We will climb on some of the best boulders atop Lookout Mountain. No prior climbing or bouldering experience is needed. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 22 - Meet the Author, Romey Atchley. Author Romey Atchley will be at the Moonlake library for the "Meet the Author" series, where she will read excerpts from her book to the students.

Aug 22 - Comedian James Gregory at DeKalb Theatre. Well known comedian James Gregory will be performing at the DeKalb Theatre in downtown Fort Payne. Show begins at 7 p.m. Call 256-997-0396 or 256-996-1635 for tickets.

Aug 23 - 10th Annual Fyffe UFO Day. The town's annual UFO Day festival attracts interesting people from all over the country and as far away as Canada. The unique event continues to grow each year. In this case however it is an Unforgettable Family Outing (UFO) for both young and old alike. The festival capitalizes on the town's famous history associated with when Unidentified Flying Objects were sighted over the town by numerous citizens in the area. Beautiful Giant Hot Air Balloons are the center-piece of the adventure that features hour long rides across the Sand Mountain area in lighter-than-air aircraft. They make a truly spectacular sight especially when all fifteen to twenty of them are floating across the early morning and late afternoon skyline. Arts and crafts, children's games, antique tractors, dance and much more make this event fun for the whole family. Vendors and great entertainment comprised of talented local musicians and special guests, along with some of the best vittles and such that this part of the state has to offer make the Fyffe UFO Day a great weekend destination. If you are interested in becoming a vendor at this event, please contact Fyffe City Hall at 256-623-2222 or visit their website for an application.

Aug 23 - 18th Annual Fund Raiser for The Valley Head Athletic Club. The Valley Head Athletic Club will be hosting their 18th Annual Fund Raiser once again this year. They are selling only 400 tickets for a chance to win up to \$10,000! Each ticket sold will be eligible for 2 FREE dinners served in the Valley Head Cafeteria beginning at 12pm. The drawing will be held in the Valley Head Gymnasium beginning at 2pm. There will be fifteen \$200 winners, four \$500 winners, one \$1,000 winner and one very lucky \$10,000 winner! You do not have to be present to win the cash money drawing; however, door prizes will be given away throughout the day to some lucky winners that are present.

Aug 23 - Learn How to Play a Harmonica. DeSoto State Park (Nature Center). Join musician Tony Thomas for this fun class meant for beginners. The student will be shown how to play simple songs. 1-2:30pm. \$15 per person (Harmonica in the key of "C" included in cost of class) Preregistration required as class size is limited. For details or to pre-register, call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

Aug 23 - Homemade Bow Drill Set & Practice Bow Drill Class. DeSoto State Park (Picnic Area). Everything you need will be supplied to make your own bow drill set. Class will start with a basic knife safety course. During the class you will make your own spindle and heath board. 10am-3pm. \$20 supply fee. Preregistration is required, as class size is limited to 10. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 23 - Romey Atchley Book Signing. Come by and meet Author Romey Atchley while she is signing her books at Kamama's in Mentone. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. 256-634-3001.

Aug 23 & 24 - Blacksmith Forging Demonstration with Walter Howell. DeSoto State Park (Country Store). This locally and nationally-known craftsman will demonstrate this interesting art form of usefulness and beauty. See raw materials become works of art using this age-old method of heating and shaping metal known as forging. 10am-5pm. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details. Info on Walter's Forge: <http://www.waltersforge.com/index.html>

Aug 23 - Campfire Talk: Introduction to Musical Instruments of Appalachia. DeSoto State Park. (Campfire Ring in Improved Campground). Join musician Tony Thomas as he introduces acoustic instruments such as fiddle, banjo, guitar and mandolin by using stories and songs to give the audience an appreciation for the sound and history of each instrument. Bring your own instrument if you wish. 7-8pm. Free to the public. Great for all ages. Bring the kids for S'mores! Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 24 - How to Make Netting Needles and Netting. DeSoto State Park (Picnic Area Pavilion). Robert Wilson will teach. Knife safety will be a part of this class as well as techniques in making nets both open and closed and how to tie a netting knot. (no pocket knives for safety reasons) Knives will be available on a first come-first serve basis. 10am-3pm. \$5 supply fee. Preregistration is required as class size is limited to 10. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 26 - Afternoon Rock Climb. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about in the afternoon with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. TAS 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 28 - Treasure Hunt Adventure. Do you enjoy trying to solve riddles and clues? This 5-hour adventure will take you deep into the heart of Manitou Cave. You will have to solve and follow each clue in order to find the next one, and ultimately the Treasure! TAS 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Aug 29 - Campfire Talk: Sandstone Glades of Lookout Mountain. DeSoto State Park (Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground). Join Michelle Reynolds for a slideshow on sandstone glades of Lookout Mountain, Little River Canyon and DeSoto State Park. Learn about this unique environment and the rare and beautiful plants that inhabit it. 8-9pm. Free and open to the public. Great for all ages. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 30 - How to Make a Solar Oven. DeSoto State Park (Picnic Area). Join Robert Wilson in this simple class on how to make solar ovens from tin foil and cardboard. He will demonstrate how to make bread and bake it in the solar oven at the end of the class. Supplies are first come, first serve. 10am-noon. Free and open to everyone. Pre-registration is required as class size is limited to 10. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 30 - Bush Craft Baking Bread Demonstration. DeSoto State Park. Join Robert Wilson for a demonstration on how to bake

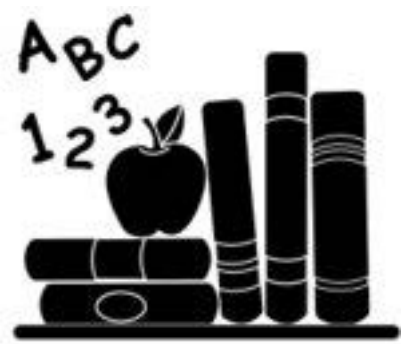
bread in a bushcraft and solar oven as well as making bannock bread and ash cakes on a stick over the campfire. 1-3pm. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 30 - Dog Daze: A furry Event for Canines and their Masters. Little River Canyon Center. Join staff and volunteers for an "all about man's best friend" day which includes treats, doggie games and stories, prizes and more. 10:30am-2:30pm. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 30 - Sandstone Glade Plant Walk. DeSoto State Park (Country Store). Learn about this unique environment and explore the glades in DeSoto State Park with Michelle Reynolds. 9-10:30am. Free and open to everyone. Pre-registration is required. Bring plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/ staff and sturdy shoes Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 31 - How to Make a Noggin Cup. DeSoto State Park (Picnic Area). A noggin cup is a simple wood cup that holds about a cup worth of liquid in it that can be carried on a belt and use to drink from in the outdoors. Join Robert Wilson to learn how to burn out the basic shape of a noggin cup. Class will be open as long as supplies last. 10am-noon. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.

Aug 31 - How to Carve a Spoon and Fork. DeSoto State Park. This class taught by Robert Wilson will start with basic knife safety and then everyone will carve out a spoon and fork along with the demonstrator. 1-3pm. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details.



Ongoing Calendar

MAPA Members meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm at the MERF House in Mentone.

Gluten Free/Diabetic All Natural Cooking classes with Brenda Trace will be held at Little River Hardware at 6pm on Wednesdays. Classes \$10.

Lookout Mountain Parkway Association meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11am. Call to find out how to get involved! 256-845-3957.

DeKalb Quilters meet every 4th Tuesday, 9:30am, Second Baptist Church in Fort Payne.

DeSoto Rescue Squad meets the 1st Saturday of the month at 9am at the MERF house in

Mentone.

Free Square Dance Lessons offered most Thursdays, 6:30pm, at Tom Bevill Center in Rainsville by Duos and Solos Dance Club. 256-638-2780.

Moon Lake Elementary School PTO meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6pm in the Gymnasium.

FREE FOOD for eligible persons and families. Hours: Tuesdays, 9 AM to noon. New applicants welcome during these hours. Joint effort between St. Joseph's on the Mountain Episcopal Church (Community Outreach Ministry) and the Food Bank of North Alabama.

Mentone Fire Department meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 7pm.

Mentone Town Council meets every 2nd Tuesday at 6pm.

The Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month at Rock Ridge Retreat Center in Valley Head at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome! Mentone Farmers Market open year round every Saturday, 10am-1pm.

Storytime at the Canyon Center every first Saturday of the month. 11am-Noon. Free. 256-782-5697.

NPS Green & Gray Saturday every second Saturday of each month at the Canyon Center.

10am. Free. 256-782-5697.

Little River Canyon Center River Rhythms Nature & Art Family Fun Program every fourth Saturday from Jan-Oct. 1pm - 3pm; No Fee. Call Renee Morrison at 256-782-5697.

Valley Head School CHAMPS meet the first Monday of every month at 6pm in the Gym.

The Mentone Business Association (MBS) will meet the third Monday of each month from 6-7pm.

JulyFest Art & Music Festival Award Winners

The 3rd Annual JulyFest Art and Music Festival “went off without a hitch” with the exception of some rainy weather. Festival planners held their breath and checked radar multiple times prior to the day artists arrived to set up. Even though setup was accomplished in stop-and-start drizzle, the festival on Saturday and Sunday was mostly dry.

Forty-five artists participated in the annual juried art show. Four artists were selected by this year’s judge Randy Schoults to take the \$1,600 in prize awards. First place was awarded to Don Hutchinson for his handmade cardboard animals and dragons; Second place was awarded to American Rust (Joe Coker) for his reconstructed lighting, mirrors, tables and other home accessories made from found objects of metal and wood; Third Place was awarded to newcomer Kennen Spivey for his handcrafted knives made of railroad spikes which were accompanied by handmade leather scabbards and packaged in handmade wooden boxes made from old wine crates. Fourth Place was awarded to Penny Wofford Lambert (Miss Penny Whistle) for her folk art and fiber animals and pillows.

Attendees enjoyed music by Lisa Crow, Curtis Strange and Bill Henson during the day and Terry Hutchinson and Jess Goggans and the Magnetics on Saturday evening.



Left to right: MAAC President Cynthia Stinson, First Place Winner Don Hutchinson and Judge Randy Schoults



Second Place Winner Joe Coker with Judge Schoults



Third Place Winner Kennen Spivey with Judge Schoults



Fourth Place Winner Penny Lambert with Judge Schoults



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From the ceilings, to the floors

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JulyFest Pet Parade and Silent Auction

By Harriet O'Rear

The Mentone Area Arts Council, with the help of the Humane Society and Animal Resources of DeKalb County, raised \$1,792, a new record, for the rescue group during the 2014 JulyFest Pet Parade and Silent Auction. The money benefits a dedicated group of foster parents and funds some of the expenses for the dog and cat adoption program in our county.

Thirty three dogs, chickens, goats, a horse, and a passel of children and owners paraded and were pronounced "Best In Show", winning blue ribbons. Thanks to Lookout Mountain Photography, their photographs can be seen and downloaded at: <http://www.lookoutmountainphotography.com/Other/2014-JFPP/i-8VCSHb6> or at www.mentonearts.com

Several rescue dogs, trained, neutered and vaccinated by the foster parent group, found new homes during the weekend.

The Silent Auction featured donations from artists, Mentone and DeKalb area businesses, pet lovers and members of MAAC. Items sold like hotcakes and the financial success of the project is due to the generous gifts.

Thanks go to the following donors:

Jess Goggans
Main Street Deli
The Graceful Giraffe

Helena's Deli
Little River Hardward
Kamama's
Lookout Mountain Realty
Universal Hair Studio
Akins Furniture
The Book Shelf
Ebay Your Way
Ft. Payne Footworks
S House Antiques
Rogers Pawn Shop
Cornerstone Market
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Ryan Keef
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Holly Watson
Don David
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Crow's Nest
Tammy Beane
Steve and Harriet O'Rear
Debbie Wooten
Joyce Hoffman
Stephen Barwick
Doggie Delight
Southern States Log Furture
Grooming by Tinkerbell
Dog Days
Tony Shrader

If we missed anyone, we apologize. Please let us know at www.mentonearts.com





GALLERY

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10:00AM til 4:00PM, Thursday through Monday

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Dinner - 6:00PM until 9:00PM, Friday and Saturday Evenings

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Worship

The Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis is our minister 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; Women on Mission meets at 1PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

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); 6:30pm Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-1001.

Visitors are always welcome at the **Valley Head United Methodist Church**. Please join us each Sunday morning for a traditional worship service at 9:30AM. Tony Gunter is the Pastor. All are welcome.

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: 9:30-10:45AM, Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnel.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Sunday mass in English at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in Spanish. Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in English, Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. bilingual, Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in English, Friday at 9:00 a.m. in English and Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in bilingual.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM Sunday. Bible class or Lent/Advent services every Wednesday at 6:30PM. Steve Schrader, Pastor - 845-4314. Everyone welcome.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church on Highway 11 North of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School 10AM, Worship Service at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night Prayer Meeting at 6:30PM.

The Fort Payne Christian Center and Pastors Ken and Elaine Hollman 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. Sunday School 9:45AM; Sunday Worship 10:55AM. Church office: 256-845-4756.

Menlo Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10AM and 11AM services and evening services are at 5PM on Sundays and Wednesdays. 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 5PM.

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.

St. Joseph's On-The-Mountain Episcopal Church, 21145 Scenic Highway, Mentone. Everyone welcome to 10:30AM Sunday service of Holy Eucharist. Open for daily prayer and thanksgiving. Supporting our community with outreach. Call for more information, 256-634-4476, <http://stjosephmountain.dioala.org>

Mentone United Methodist Church, 415 Cutler Avenue, Mentone, Alabama invites you to come and worship with us. Each Sunday, our Worship Service is at 11AM and Sunday School is at 10AM. Tony Gunter is the pastor. The service of Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month, the second Sunday is Youth Sunday and Fifth Sunday is a service of music and pot-luck lunch. Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:00PM.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to worship with us. Sunday School begins at 9:45AM, with classes for all ages. Morning Worship is at 11AM. The Lord's Supper is observed on the first Sunday of September, December, March and June at the morning worship hour. Discipleship Training is at 5PM and Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM. On Wednesdays, Team Kids, Youth Bible Study, Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30PM. Rev. Terry Turner is the pastor.

Alpine Community Church, 115 Hwy. 337, Menlo, GA. Pastor and Rev. Tommy Pledger welcome each and everyone to worship service Sunday morning at 11AM GA time; Sunday School 10AM GA time; Wednesday night Bible Study 7PM GA time.

Cove Road Baptist Church, County Road 631, Mentone, Alabama. Brother Marlin Stames, Interim Pastor, welcomes all to Sunday School at 9AM (10AM GA time) and Sunday night services at 5PM (6PM GA time).

Summit Church of God invites you to be in service Sunday morning 10:45AM, Sunday night 5PM, Wednesday Bible Study 6:30PM. Pastor Lance Kincer invites everyone.

Mentone Church of God of Prophecy - regular service times are Sunday School at 10AM, with Worship at 11AM. Evening services begin at 5:30PM on Sunday and 6PM on Wednesday. Bro. Whitney Smith invites everyone to attend.

Mentone Community Church, 90 Summerville Rd., Mentone, AL 35984. Sunday Services: Sunday School 9:15AM-all ages; Sunday Service 10:30AM; Bible Study Wednesday

6PM; Youth Services 7PM Sunday and 6:30PM Wednesday (Meet at Mentone Revival Center Building). Pastor Tim Miller.

Cloudland Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone to come join us for services, with Pastor Roger Kvam. Bible Study Sunday at 9AM (EST) and Worship at 10AM (EST).

Since 1889 worshippers have gathered at the Historic **First Presbyterian Church PC** (USA) at 300 Grand Avenue North in downtown Fort Payne. We invite you to join us for worship this Sunday at 10:55AM. 256-845-2915.

New Oregon United Methodist Church located off DeSoto Parkway, would like to invite you to their services. Sunday School for all ages 9:45AM; Traditional Worship Service 11AM. Sunday evening youth activities 5:30PM. Evening Worship 6PM. We have a variety of activities for all ages including Wednesday evening youth activities; knitting ministry for ladies each Tuesday at 9AM; Elderberries for Senior Adults once a month for fellowship and meal. Pastor Jeff Davis, Associate Pastor Keith Davis. Address: 1203 New Oregon Dr., Ft. Payne, AL 35967. Phone 256-845-7446.

The Church of God 7th Day in Hammondville located just off Hwy. 11 N. at corner of Hwy. 117 and Palmer Road. Sabbath School classes at 9:30AM and Worship Service at 11AM. Visitors are always welcome.

Send any changes to The Groundhog at groundhognews@aol.com or P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984.



Back To School

The Life and Legend of Granny Dollar

By Will Dillard

What constitutes a legend? According to the dictionary 'it is a story in which a kernel of truth is embellished to an unlikely degree'. This I believe is a good description of the legend of Granny Dollar. In a series of articles to be published in the upcoming issues of the Groundhog I will attempt to separate fact from fiction and maybe provide some new information to the many Mentone residents who know most of the story.

Let's begin with the question of Granny's age. Granny's tombstone gives her year of birth as 1826 and her death in 1931 which would mean she was 105 when she died. In her interview with the Progressive Farmer in 1928 Granny stated that she was "101 going on 102". This would mean she was born in 1826 or 1827. She also stated that she "was about 35 when the war broke out." The Civil War began in 1861 so subtracting her age then would put her birth in 1826. In another interview she claimed to be 12 or 13 at the time of the removal of the Cherokees from Alabama. The roundup and removal occurred in 1838 which would put her birth in 1825 or 1826. In one of his Vagabond articles for the Birmingham News in 1928 Col. Milford Howard stated that he thought that Granny was at least 106 and maybe more. That would put her birth in 1822 which doesn't agree with any of the other facts to determine the date of her birth. There have been other publications and articles that have given Granny's age as



high as 113 which would mean she was born in 1818 which doesn't agree with any of the other dates. She stated that she was about 79 when she married Nelson Dollar and had pined for a lost fiancé for 40 years which puts her age at 39 when this occurred (more on the fiancé in later issues). She lost the fiancé in 1864 so taking her age then it would leave a possible birth date of 1825.

The volume of evidence based on the different interviews and historical happenings that can be dated I believe it is safe to say that the date of 1826 shown on Granny's tombstone is probably accurate.

In the next article I will tell some of the story of Granny's childhood.



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NEW LISTING



MOVE TO MENTONE and live in this wonderful home on the brow. 1.95 acres. 4 bdrm, 3 bth. Open concept living room, kitchen combo, with gas log fireplace. Formal dining room. Separate 30x40 garage/workshop. Native flora landscaping with rock outcroppings, garden fountain pond. Auto sprinkler system. Screened porch with multiple decks for your sunset views. So many amenities. \$339,000



WILD RIVER LODGE on the East Fork of Little River. Custom Timber Frame, 5 bedroom, 4 bath, Great Room, Dining, Kitchen with full appliance package. Custom Oak cabinets. 2,000sq ft wrap around porch and deck. Screened porch with wood burning fireplace. Gas fireplace inside. Loft with end to end bunks with storage. Outdoor kitchen, 250 gal smoker, sink stainless counter tops. Dual fuel HVAC. Secure gated. 4 acres. So many amenities. \$650,000. (23021)



"THE NUTHOUSE CABIN. Quaint Weekend getaway with open living kitchen design. 2 bdrm 1 bath, covered porch to watch the wildlife. 1 acre wooded with large Rock formations. small shed. located at the end of private drive. complete with furnishings. \$125,000. (22833)



MAINTENANCE FREE vinyl faux brick bungalow. 2 bedroom, 3 bath. Great room with rock, gas fireplace. Eat in kitchen/dining, full semi finished basement. Located on DeSoto Parkway, Mentone. \$169,000. (23036)



9 ACRES located on the east fork Little River with 500 ft on river, and 550 ft on Gilbert branch. Old homeplace. Concrete slab, power, well and septic. Privately located. Great place to build that getaway cabin! \$138,500 (22148)



PALM HARBOR HOME on 6 acres w/ artesian springs, fenced pasture land. 3bdr 1.5 bth living room w/ Gas log FP separate dining area, kitchen with island bar, all appliances CHA, full deck on rear of home. \$110,000. (23030)



36 ACRES on the West Fork little River, 1250 ft on water. 700 ft drive, power and water to this point. Wooded, some clearing, rock outcroppings, and bluff views. One of a kind find. \$255,000 (22995)



THE LOONEY BIN Cedar Cabin in the woods, open floor plan with Great rm, eat-in kitchen. Tiled island and counters, Stainless appliances, Loft area, 2 bdrm 2 tiled baths, Tung and Groove walls, FP, Covered Deck w/ Hottub. Furnished, Lovely setting and investment. \$220,000 (22973)



NEWLY BUILT cottage style, vinyl sided. 1 bdr 1.5 bath open floor plan with living dining combo. Hvac stainless appliance package, hickory cabinets. tung and groove walls throughout. covered front and side porch for outdoor enjoyment. 1.5 acres, garage shop and storm shelter. \$100,000. (23023)



NEW LISTING

1940's VINTAGE Bungalow. 2 bdrm, 1bth. T & G walls, beamed ceilings. Stone gas log fireplace. Heart Pine Flooring, Brow Views, Sun porch, vinyl siding. Old Mentone Charm. \$209,900



SOUTHLAND LOG HOME, on the East fork little River. 5.5 acres. Deck, lighted walkway to lower property. stone patio halfway to river steps and landing to river. 2 bdrm, 2 bths. loft. Vaulted ceiling with exposed beams. fully equipped kitchen with granite counters. stacked stone FP. 2 story with Basement. Separate 30x40 garage, large enough for motor home. Private but with all the comforts. Price reduction to \$275,000. (19919)



ON THE RIDGE TOP. 10.4 acres, 3bd, 2bth, hardy board siding home. Open living room, kitchen, dining area. 2 covered porches, storm shelter, with seasonal view of Lookout Mountain. Located in Hammondville. \$145,000. (23057)



.6 ACRE West Brow lot, 1 mile south of downtown Mentone. Wooded with rock formations. Great building lot. Prime location, great sunsets. 5 lots available. \$114,900. (23043)



.75 ACRE WEST BROW LOT, 1 mile south of downtown Mentone. Wooded with rock formations. Great building lot. Prime location, great sunsets. 2 lots available. \$124,900. (23042)



3.8 ACRES located in East fork little River Estates. Nicely wooded with a portion of the historic Dinky Line Railway. 175 ft. on river (Cherokee Co. Mentone). covenants & restrictions. county water and power available. \$53,000



SOLD

ONE ACRE on Scenic Lookout Mountain Parkway. Level, great building site for that weekend getaway. \$15,000. (23037)



1.8 ACRES on East Fork of Little River. Easy access to river from common trail that runs along the banks of the river. Bluff views. County water available. Gated community. \$115,000. (23022)



CAPE COD COTTAGE in Cloudland, GA. 2bd, 1.5bt. Living room with stone, gas log fireplace. Enclosed porch. Dining room/office. .62 acres, fenced, outbuilding. \$58,000

LOTS AND ACREAGE

OLD HOMEPLACE next to Shady Grove Dude Ranch. 1.7 acres. Great building sites. Non-restricted. Reduced \$18,500 (21599)

5.7 WOODED ACRES with a beautiful view across from Lake Latusage. The driveway has been started to build your Mentone getaway! Paved road frontage, city water available, perc tested. Lightly restricted. Seller is very motivated! REDUCED \$49,900 (19865)

1.66 ACRE TRACT with septic, county water, well, and power. Lightly restricted. Cleared and ready to build that cabin in the woods! \$18,000. (22747)

3 WOODED ACRES on the parkway. Gently sloping to level with many hardwoods. Great location to build your weekend cabin between DeSoto Park and Mentone. \$25,000 (22918) **PENDING**

EAST BROW tract located Valley View Forest. Georgous views of Weiss lake in the distance. Camping shed, hot stove, outside deck, fire pit. Parklike setting, rock formations. \$90,000.

6.1 ACRES with Brushy Creek running through, drive way in place, wooded. \$36,000. (23044)

.67 ACRE with paved rd frontage, wooded, non restricted \$6,500.

NICE LEVEL WOODED PROPERTY. Price was \$65,900. Now \$62,900. (20892)



Young Mentonian Studies in South Korea

Erica Brooke Blalock, 20, formerly of Mentone, is studying in South Korea for the summer. She is attending Chung-Ang University in Seoul and taking a class on how to speak Korean. Erica is the daughter of Barry P. Blalock and Rhonda Crain. Her grandparents are Carolyn and Gene Gazaway and the late Bruce Crain.

Although Erica is very busy with studies, she does find time for sightseeing where she recently went to the DMZ where North Korean soldiers arrived unexpectedly during her tour. Erica is a full-time student at Georgia Southern University where she is pursuing a degree in Computer Information Systems. Her GPA is a 3.8, and she has remained on the Dean's list her entire time there. Erica works at Camp Desoto during her summers and is a community leader at Georgia Southern. She is also a Professor's assistant in one of her classes. Erica will return to the U.S. on July 23 when she will move back to Statesboro, GA, to finish her Junior year at Georgia Southern.



Meet the Author: Romey Atchley

By Jerome Stephens



husband David and two sons in the Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge, a remote natural wilderness area in the center of the state. Living two hundred miles from the nearest road, with no schools, doctors, grocery stores or other families nearby, she has taken care of herself and her family with no one else to depend on. Her wilderness life has included learning to grow a versatile garden, fishing, hunting food, trapping animals and tanning hides for clothes, home schooling her two sons, building cabins, working on engines, milling lumber with a chain saw, making a boat and other activities related to subsistence living. She has kept a daily journal and written poems, short stories and songs related to her life. An avid photographer, Romey has been keeping a photo journal of nature, wildlife and her subsistence activities. Using pen and ink, she draws the woods and animals around her and has done all the illustrations for her new book.

From the Alaskan Wilderness: The Adventures of Barefoot and Boofoot offers a look into an alternative lifestyle more in harmony with nature through the depictions of a child living a traditional, nature-oriented life in modern times. This book is about a boy who explores his relationship with the earth through his adventures with the animals around him, spending all his free time running amongst the woods and learning the simple yet profound lessons that nature imparts.

When Barefoot, an 8-year-old boy, is awakened in the middle of the night by his friend Butternut, a clumsy squirrel, he embarks on a mission to help rescue the cantankerous Grandpa Beaver. His excursion, however, turns into a struggle for his own life when Barefoot falls into an icy river. Boofoot, an injured caribou on a journey to rejoin his herd, unwittingly saves Barefoot's life. Boofoot takes Barefoot to the cabin of a mysterious woodsman Piquat Pearcrumb, a legendary figure who writes poems and doctors grizzly bears. When wolves stalk Barefoot on his way back home, he must depend on his newfound friend Boofoot to save his life once again.

Please come to Kamama's and meet Romey. She will be selling and signing her new book on Saturday, August 23, from 1 to 3 pm. On August 22, she will be at the Moonlake Library for the "Meet the Author" series, where she will read excerpts from her book to the students. For more information on this book, log on to the website at www.BarefootandBoofoot.com.

From the Alaskan Wilderness: The Adventures of Barefoot and Boofoot is the first in a series of children's books written by Romey Atchley. Romey is the daughter of Jerome and Liz Stephens, residents of Mentone, and the granddaughter of Joseph and Betty Stephens, who were longtime residents of Mentone.

For fourteen of her past nineteen years in Alaska, Romey Atchley has lived with her



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.....
LOTS and LAND

WATCH SUNSETS OVER DESOTO FALLS. Seldom available lot to build on near DeSoto Lake along the W Fork Little River. Canoe or boat all the way to Mentone, or just swim, boat or hike along the falls area. 96' water frontage and old boat house. \$162,500. (355152)

W FORK LITTLE RIVER 3.11-acre waterfront lot. Conveniently located just north of Mentone, just above Taylor's Ford. Wooded; 150' river frontage. Get away to this private sanctuary today. \$54,900. (735107)

TWO ACRES WITH DRIVEWAY, public water at the road, building site already prepared. Approx one mile from downtown Mentone on N Scenic Hwy. Unrestricted, wooded, level. \$29,900. (840634)

LAKEFRONT ACREAGE. Solitude & nature await your getaway on this lightly restricted 4.33 acres on Full Moon Lake at Laurel Creek. Property is 2 lots sold as one. \$49,900. (387932)

NEW LISTING! 3-ACRE LOT IN NORTHBEND, a woodsy mountain subdivision located right across from the brow, approx one mile from Mentone's beautiful Brow Park. A world away, but not miles away! 2 lots avail. \$29,000. (960201)

10.8 ACRES ON N. BROW. Approx 340' of brow frontage, half the land on top mountain, other half extends down into valley allowing you to choose your view. Awe-inspiring views; interesting rock formations; large trees. \$199,900. (928654)

4.04 ACRES ON E FORK LITTLE RIVER. Lots 4, 5 & 7 in Hunters Ridge offered for one price. Private; wooded; 350' river frontage & historic. The last remnant of the "Dinky Line" RR bed is still in evidence along the river (most of the old trestle bed is still in place). \$125,000. (835298)

TRANQUIL CREEKSIDE PARADISE, walking distance to downtown Mentone. Inviting, 3.7-acre, wooded lot. Access on both sides of the creek. Public water, underground power. Privacy w/light restrictions & covenants. \$55,000. (564423)

2.45 ACRES, Lot 11, Phase III, Hunters Ridge in Mentone. Lightly restricted, wooded, secluded. Perfect for a real mountain getaway cabin (minimum size 1150 sq ft). \$20,000. (592019)



WALKING TO THE BEAUTY OF LITTLE RIVER CANYON is just a small stroll from this secluded cabin with 3BR/1BA, CH&A, new carpet in bedrooms, Hardwood floors in living room. Small pond on property (shared with the neighbor). Adjoining property also for sale. Great rental package or live in one, rent the other. \$85,000 (718689)



LISTEN TO THE SOUNDS OF LITTLE RIVER CANYON from your wraparound porch. 2BR/2BA cabin adjacent to the canyon. Features include walk-in steam shower in MABA; jetted tub in second bath. Hardwoods & T&G throughout. Small pond on property. Adjoining property also for sale. Buy both for a great rental package or live in one, rent the other. \$125,000 (810171)



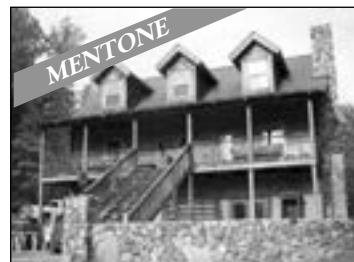
GRACE GLENN, a place to get away from the day-to-day, to unwind, to be at peace. Listen to Brush Creek as it winds through the mountains. Most of the other wooded, 3BR/2BA, 2-story cabin w/screened porch, 2 sunrooms, balcony. Partially furnished. \$179,900 (400932)



DESOTO STATE PARK AREA. Freshly-updated cedar-sided cabin with open, airy feel. New granite kitchen, new tile in baths, new landscaping, 12'x20' shop (or future guest cottage?), quaint little potting shed, many more upgrades. 3BR/2BA; wood-burning, mtn stone fireplace; attached 2-car garage. Outdoor relaxation areas with swing, huge boulders and nice woods. Tucked into the back of DeSoto State Park where hiking opportunities and wildlife abound! \$167,500 (997108)



NOW'S THE TIME. How often does anything come up for sale in downtown Mentone? Exactly. This is one of those rare opportunities to own a place that has been used for a business and living quarters right in the heart of the Village of Mentone. Built as a beauty shop & residence. 1BR (or 2 if you finish the loft) 1.5BA; kit; LR; sunroom; side porch; private back yard; front showroom/ office/ studio. Multi-use space perfect for the weekends, festival times, part-time, all the time. \$120,000 (403324)



LOG CABIN LUXURY. That may sound like a paradox, but this is one VERY nicely-appointed log home! Three levels, including a walk-out basement apartment with gorgeous antique bar. Lake view and common area access to canoe or fish. 5BR/3BA (large loft used as 5th BR). Approx. 3100 sq ft, able to accommodate a crowd or be cherished by a few. Top of the line fixtures, beautiful hardwood floors and tile floors (including handmade tile from Istanbul). Great rental or full-time residence. \$269,000 (541542)



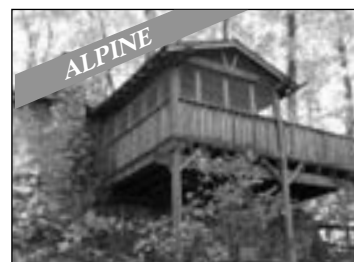
NEW TINY LITTLE CABIN. Cute as a button. Nice front porch; charming interior that puts you in mind of a cabin in the woods. Painted interior walls, efficient kitchen, 1/2 BA, upstairs loft BR & 1/2 BA. A personal mtn getaway or perfect rental. Low-maintenance lot w/small stream. Sweet, simple, small. Brand new! \$115,000 (690127)



WOODSY WATERFRONT ACREAGE. Solitude & nature await your getaway on this lightly restricted 4.33 acres fronting on Full Moon Lake. Located close to Mentone in Laurel Creek SD that also features walking trails and 3 lakes. This property is 2 lots sold as one & could be divided in the future. Priced to sell at \$49,900. (387932)



AFFORDABLE HOME IN MENTONE. 3BR/2BA double-wide home with good-sized, detached, 2-car garage/workshop. Situated on two acres that is part cleared, part wooded, with a small wet-weather stream in the woods. Private back yard for garden spot or additional building sites. Small, patio on the front. Public water. Paved road. Owner financing possible with acceptable terms. Just listed for \$53,000 (672984)



THE ESSENCE OF THE MOUNTAIN in stone and wood, embodied in this quaint, tiny cottage, tucked into the boulder-strewn hillside in the historic East River Park developed by Col. Milford Howard himself before it became Camp Alpine area. Constructed entirely of stone. This unique cottage, with its handmade stone fireplace, truly brings you home to the mountain. Main house has 1BR/1BA, detached guest house with 1BR. Small shop/storage bldg. Fully furnished. \$125,000 (965674)



GET BACK TO BASICS on this affordable, 10-acre farm. A 1300 sq ft, 3BR/2BA older mobile home, with roofover & additions, in "average" condition with a HUGE deck is a tranquil spot from which to sit and gaze across the pond. Fenced and cross fenced, mostly pasture w/small woods, this property also has several outbuildings, gate w/cattle guard, large stream, pond, pad for basketball & workshop. Dwelling and land sold "as-is." Live your "back to the land" dream today for only \$59,900 (568348)



QUALITY SPEAKS FOR ITSELF in this welcoming, cedar-sided cabin on 2.91 wooded acres with small, wet-weather stream. You'll fall in love at first sight as you approach from the winding, private drive. The 8x42 front porch is great, but wait till you see the 12x42 back porch! Kohler fixtures & Corian solid-surface counters throughout. Spacious LR w/19' vault. Main-level MABR. Custom cabinetry. Wide, pine-plank floors. Huge laundry! On-demand water heater. 10x12 shop. \$228,500. (749941)

Also look for our listings at AlabamaMountainLiving.com

Sage Advice: Gardening in August

By Susan Seago, Earthly Elements Garden Center, Summerville, GA

As I sit here thinking about what can be done in the garden in August, my first thought is of the heat in this month. Traditionally, August is hot at least the first half of the month; then, it may begin to cool off some the last half. It is in August that the light begins to change and the cooler winds begin to blow. It seem to be teasing us so that we begin to think about the fall gardening.

August is the best month to do a final fertilization of your plants before winter. I usually tell people that it is easy to remember to fertilize in April and August, the two months that begin with the letter "A". We are fortunate that there are now fertilizers that are time released, from three to four months or from six to eight months (usually used by the professional growers). There are a couple of really good products to use. I prefer to use Osmocote™ but Dynamite™ is another good one. Believe me, fertilizing makes a world of difference to your plants. They add the right amount of each nutrient for an overall feeding. How much to use? Read, read, read the label! It will give you all the info you need. If you still cannot understand, just call me or your local garden retailer. All we will do is read the label, too, but we may understand it a little better.

As August is usually very hot, you may need to do some extra watering. We have had a good

amount of rain this year so most gardens have done well. If you have container gardens, they do need watering on a regular basis. Some annuals may be dying back by now. You can try to revive them with water and a little fertilizer,



or you may want to prepare those beds for fall planting. Now would be a good time to clean them out and get them ready for the new plants.

It seems that the weeds are growing bigger and stronger at this time of year. It's not too late to get in those beds and pull the weeds out. This is the most efficient way as a weed killer is not selective and will kill your flowers and shrubs, too. Once the weeds are out, I suggest spreading around a granular weed pre-emergent, then adding a new layer of mulch or pine straw. The pre-emergent will prevent most weeds from coming back, and the thick (3" to 4") of mulch will keep light away from the roots to also prevent weeds. The mulch also helps to retain moisture. A word of caution: Pull the mulch away from the base of all plants an inch or so to keep from suffocating the growing plants.

Other than the tips I have mentioned, just enjoy your gardens while they are blooming so beautifully. The crape myrtles are doing their thing as are the hydrangeas and reblooming perennials. Come September, the weather will provide cool relief and encourage all gardeners to enjoy the fall planting season.

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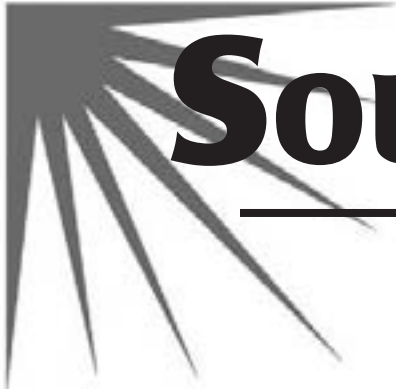


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 Log Cabin near DeSoto State Park! 2BR/1BA, 2.4+/- acres, detached 2-car garage. \$149,900 MLS #741059	 Mountain Laurel Inn...7 acres, Main Residence, Guest House and Gathering House. Call for more details. \$479,000 MLS #917483	 Libby Lane...3BR/2BA dwelling on 2+/- acres. Lots to offer including several outbuildings and detached apartment. \$189,000 MLS #778347	 Custom Log Cabin on 4 secluded acres. This is a great mountain get-a-way for a little price. \$110,000 MLS #564870	 45 ACRES on the West Brow of Look-out Mountain. Main house, guest house, rock walls and so much more. \$648,000 MLS #815966	 Farmhouse situated on 2.7 acres offering 2BR/1.5BA near Camp DeSoto. Possible Owner Financing. \$129,900 MLS #837473
 Lake & Brow View is best of both worlds! Custom home at Lake on the Brow. 4 or 5 BR/3.5BA. \$324,900 MLS #924137	 Custom Log home with gorgeous sunsets offering 3BR/2BA and a rocking chair front porch. \$289,000 MLS #450846	 Investment or Personal Retreat! Open design, 1BR/1BA being sold fully furnished. ONLY \$59,900 MLS #499665	 EAST FORK Little River/Lake Lahusage, stone cottage w/FP, new Porch & deck, new doors/windows, new HVAC, new dock & walkway, new fence, new paint. Most furnishings remain! \$258,982 #765166	 Lake Lahusage in your back door! Bank owned 2BR/2BA cottage AND 2-car garage with apartment potential. \$247,500 MLS #654813	 East Fork of Little River! 200' of water frontage, 3BR/2BA cottage, storage building. \$239,999 MLS #902940
 NEW LISTING! 4+/- acres, Spacious 3BR/2BA dwelling, screened porches, quiet and secluded area near GA line. \$163,500 #637008	 LOOK OUT at DeSoto Falls! Building lot with a darling 1 bedroom cottage ready for use. \$465,000 #970196	 Secluded, Custom log cabin, 2BR/2BA, wooded lot, 2+ acres, security system, privacy gate, detached storage. \$279,500 MLS #332033	 Impeccable Brow View! 5BR/3.5BA home, custom commercial kitchen, with many extra features. Must See! \$545,000 MLS #338039	 Lake on the Brow! 2.37 acre lot, 3BR/2BA cabin, screened porch, incredible view. Lake access. \$259,500 MLS #421306	 1946 Stone Cottage offering 3BR/2BA, river frontage, AND a 2-story guest house on 4 + acres. \$419,000 MLS #902720
 OWL'S ROOST! Adorable cabin in Crestline Subdivision featuring and open living concept. \$128,000 MLS #690326	 Daniel Boon Log Cabin on 2 acres! Plenty of room with 2BR/2.5BA, unfinished basement and large balcony. \$225,000 MLS #621178	 Highland Springs Subdivision near downtown Mentone! 2BR/2BA cabin on 1.23 acres. \$159,900 MLS #359224	 Bear's Lair - Adorable cabin currently in a rental program. 3BR/2BA with a brow view. \$319,900 MLS#692795		

LOTS AND LAND

7.13-acre lot in Mountain River Estates Sub. \$49,500. MLS #656265.

1.95-acre lot at Lake on the Brow Subdivision. \$44,900. MLS #984141.

1.02-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$55,000. MLS #762331.

1-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$50,000. MLS #665968.

1-acre wooded, Lakefront Lot in Private, Gated Subdivision. \$55,000. MLS #945265.

1.06-acre lot at Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$60,000. MLS #867272.

7.8 acres border Armstrong Creek and Webb Branch. \$47,500. MLS #581146.

7 acres - East Fork of Little River. \$29,900. MLS #641045.

40 acres - off the beaten path, hunters paradise. No restrictions. \$110,000. MLS #752857.

400' deep lot located south of Mentone on DeSoto Parkway. \$149,900. MLS #963487.

One or two wooded lots on Cutler Avenue in Mentone. One lot offered at \$19,900 and both at \$37,500. MLS #682942.

Corner lots in secluded and private subdivision walking distance to East Fork Little River. \$29,900. MLS #939357.

106' of prime brow view with paved road frontage. \$109,500. MLS #403694.

Lakefront! 200' of water frontage and 169' on paved road

frontage. \$55,900. MLS #845943.

4.4 acres - located on the North Brow in Mentone. \$190,000. MLS #392849.

1.47 Acre Lot located in Mentone close to DeSoto Falls and West Fork of Little River. Level wooded property with 200' of paved road frontage and public water. \$MLS #548635.

3.37 Acres in Day Spring Subdivision. on County Rd. 165. \$36,500. MLS #528557.

5.8 Acres on N. County Rd. 89 \$199,000. MLS #735984.

Wooded corner lot in private, gated subdivision. Access common areas and use 14-acre Lake. \$30,000. MLS #447820.

Peaceful, secluded gated community. Choice of 2 beautiful, treed Lots fronting on a 14-Acre Lake!! Two lots offered, \$60,000 each. MLS #604194.



The Mountain Herbalist

Berry Delicious Mountain

By L. C. Moon

While I write this article I am riding in a car traveling around the south of France reflecting on how wonderful it will be to see and taste the wild berries when I return home. I feel blessed to have found a home with these delicious wild fruits.

Blackberries, dewberries, blueberries, elderberries, wild red raspberries and wild strawberries all are wild treats found on Lookout Mountain. It is fairly common knowledge that blackberries, dewberries and blueberries are much tastier, picked directly from the vine/bush, than elderberry or strawberry but all of these fruits can be made into a tasty jam. It is less common knowledge that all of these plants can be also used medicinally.

I enjoy eating wild strawberries, though they are often overlooked as weeds simply because they are wild. They contain vitamin C like their family member, the rose. Both the leaves and the fruit of wild strawberry have been used historically to prevent scurvy. A tea of the leaves has also been used to treat kidney and stomach ailments.

Oh, the sweet nectar of the Rubus genus, dewberry and blackberry. Dewberries, in comparison to blackberries, are juicier, sweeter, have smaller seeds and have smaller thorns. They also cascade across the ground weaving through the grasses rather than growing erect.

Both dewberry and blackberry have been used as dyes for fabric, and the Native Americans would make twine from the fiber. Their roots and leaves can be used to treat diarrhea and hemorrhoids. The roots of dewberry and blackberry are more astringent, so they work better than the leaves for most medicinal purposes. The root is also known to be useful to treat sore throat and thrush as well as a mouthwash, though the root and the berries combined were used by Native Americans to treat a sore throat.

Wild or cultivated blueberries are always a treat. The wild are always sweeter to me, maybe because it takes so long to harvest them. I have picked for two hours just to make a pie of wild blueberries, probably partially because my daughter Zoe and I couldn't stop eating them while we picked them.

Blueberries aren't only delicious, they are also a good remedy for diabetes. This fact surprised me the first time I heard it because they are such a delicious sweet treat. The berries and the leaves are both used to help balance insulin levels and the berries can help process glucose efficiently for energy. Blueberries are good to treat urinary tract infection. Drinking unsweetened blueberry juice will work the same as drinking cranberry juice. Blueberries are high in antioxidants and contain Vitamin A, B6 and small amounts of vitamin C.

I have had many healing benefits from blueberries and other berries, though Elderberry is one of my favorite berries for medicinal purposes. Elderberries are known to be great for the immune system because they contain vitamin A (the highest amount of any native berry), C and B6 as well as the minerals calcium and iron. Like other dark fruit, elderberries are also high in antioxidants.



Elderberries are a great remedy and preventative for a cold or flu as well as being helpful for getting rid of sinus congestion or a cough. The leaves and inner bark are known to act as an expectorant, but use caution because they are poisonous. Sambucus Nigra is most commonly used for medicinal benefits and is the only one said to be not poisonous without being cooked, though it is still suggested to cook the berries to aid in digesting them better. The flowers of elderberry are edible cooked also and are often dipped in batter and fried. It is difficult for me to use the flowers knowing the benefits of the berries.

Last but certainly not least wild red raspberry is at the top of my list. It is not native but has naturalized in certain

areas such as around Moon Lake, a private community in Mentone. Holly Midgely introduced me to this, and I am forever grateful to know!

Raspberry leaves have helped me through female complaints, digestion and childbirth. Raspberry leaves are known to aid digestion, tone the uterus and balance hormones. Praise God for their benefits in balancing hormones; for me and those around me! I am eternally grateful each month for red raspberry because it helps cramps and my mood swings. Red raspberry like other colorful fruits are also high in antioxidants and to my joy I found that raspberry berries' ketones help metabolism and help decrease fat cells. Also like all deep colored berries they are an antioxidant, cancer preventative and contain immune supporting vitamins and minerals.

As I finish this article, I am sitting on a terrace in Monte Carlo celebrating my birthday and was blessed with a beautiful dessert fruit. I was sitting alone and was asked if I like chocolate; but I said I do not prefer it--I prefer berries, honey and maple syrup. I got the most divine nutritious healing dessert of local raspberries, blackberries and other local fruits (thank you Antonio and Dominique for a wonderful experience). I remind everyone reading this-- ask and you shall receive, eat well and live in gratitude as much as possible because all around us are blessings waiting to be discovered.

If you have any questions, you can contact me on Facebook at Wildflower Café or at (256) 634-0066. Next month look for an article about my adventures around Mentone, France. Merci, bon jour, bon soir, carpe diem and Dieu vous benisse.

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National Weather Service Recognized Camp Laney for Boys as a StormReady® Supporter

The National Weather Service in Huntsville, Alabama recognized Camp Laney for Boys as a StormReady® Supporter on Tuesday, July 22nd at the Lodge at Camp Laney.

“Through a partnership between the National Weather Service and emergency management, the StormReady program encourages communities to take a proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations and public awareness,” said Chris Darden, meteorologist-in-charge of the National Weather Service Huntsville, Alabama forecast office. Camp Laney officials were presented with a recognition letter and a special StormReady® Supporter sign during the ceremony.

The nationwide community preparedness program uses a grassroots approach to help communities develop plans to handle local severe weather and flooding threats. The program is voluntary and provides communities with clear-cut advice from the local National Weather Service forecast office and state and local emergency managers. The program began in 1999 with seven communities in the Tulsa, Oklahoma area being designated as StormReady communities. Today, there are at least 2,221 StormReady sites nation-wide. Camp Laney is the first Camp recognized as a StormReady Supporter in the state of Alabama and the National Weather Service Huntsville, Alabama county warning and forecast area. Camp Laney is also the seventh camp to be recognized nation-wide.



“The StormReady program is designed to help counties improve communication and safety skills needed to save lives — before, during and after a severe weather event,” said Tim Troutman, senior meteorologist for the forecast office.

To be recognized as StormReady, a community must establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center; have more than one way to receive severe weather forecasts and warnings and to alert the public. Other requirements include creating a system that monitors local weather conditions; promoting the importance of public readiness through seminars with campers and camp workers; and, develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

Disaster preparedness is everyone’s responsibility. Educating yourself and your family on environmental hazards, maintaining a disaster supply kit, and having an emergency plan in place, are all proactive ways you can be better prepared.

The StormReady® program is part of the National Weather Service’s working partnership with the International Association of Emergency Managers and the National Emergency Management Association.



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Mentone Wedding Chapel



Nestled in the woods atop Lookout Mountain, near Mentone, Alabama, this quaint little chapel is surrounded by ferns, forest and flowers. The chapel is a scaled version of traditional Appalachian churches of days gone by. Stained glass windows filtering soft forest sunrays and soft organ music accent an ambience fitting the wedding ceremony. Inside, wooden pews will seat approximately 60 guests.

Linda Patterson, owner of the chapel, said the idea for it began with a bell, and now that bell rings as newlyweds exit the door of the chapel.

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(cont'd from page 7)



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