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GROUNDHOG

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

Volume 33, No. 9

"Neighborhood News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

September 2014

COLORFEST--A CELEBRATION!

BY RAY PADGETT

The winds of autumn are coming; excitement is in the air; and our band of volunteers are busily defining events, arranging schedules, and soliciting sponsors and more volunteers. Colorfest is a time of joy, when nature and people seem to come together to celebrate this time and place in our history. Our team is creating nostalgic events that we all miss from our "not so long ago". It is a happening for old and young alike, to be shared by the whole family.

The Mentone Inn has once again graciously contributed their pavilion and grounds for the Friday evening Fish Fry and the Saturday night dinner. Billy and Angie Shugart are arranging the Fish Fry and L.C. Moon will prepare the Saturday evening feast. If scheduling permits, music will be performed immediately after each meal. These evenings will be filled with taste and sound treats.

The Scavenger Hunt and A Piece of History Silent Auction are new events in the early planning stages. The Mentone Business Association is agreeing on the rules of the game for the Scavenger Hunt, and MAPA is identifying items for the silent auction.

Local businesses are encouraged to decorate their buildings and grounds for the fall festivities. Local pumpkins, hay bales, corn stalks, wagons, and stuffed suits adorn Mentone during the Pumpkin Patch Jubilee. The Pumpkin Patch Jubilee is a competitive decorating event with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Last year's winner was the Mentone Market. Let's push this competition to a new level this year. Lisa Schad, our newest volunteer, agreed to coordinate this year's Pumpkin Patch Jubilee.

Doreen Waters mailed the "Call for Artists" Colorfest application and some responses

are already coming in. Doreen is responsible for vendor contact and tracking and will also create and monitor the budget for this year's festival.

Other Colorfest responsibilities are:

Sounds of Mentone	- Lisa Crow
Marketing	- Kayla Worthey
PSA Creation	- Robert Moehr
Public Promotion	- Laura C. Moon
Festival Signage	- Debra & Rick Fey
Children's Festival	- Amanda Pope
Scarecrow Holler	- Amanda Pope/Greg Clore
Color Run	- Angie & Billy Shugart
Friday Night Fish Fry	- Angie & Billy Shugart
Saturday Night Feast	- L.C. Moon
Waste Management	- Carolyn Nail
Sponsorships	- Carolyn Nail & Ray Padgett
Vendor Spaces, Event Map	- Beverly Bates

(Cont'd on page 3)

Menton, France Meets Mentone, Alabama

By L.C. Moon

A couple of years ago, I went to Monaco and attended a gala at the Oceanographique Museum. After leaving the gala, I walked over to gaze at the ocean in front of the museum. I was intrigued with the city of lights just around the bend of the ocean. I asked a man, "What city's lights are those across the water?" and to my surprise he said, "Menton, France"!

With only hours left before my departure, I could not go visit Menton. However, from that moment on, I was determined I would go back to the Mediterranean to visit the city that was the inspiration for the namesake of my glorious home in Mentone, AL. My dream came true this past July, and I got to spend the day in Menton (or "Montohn" as it is pronounced in France).

The day we went to Menton, Zoe and I first travelled through the mountainous areas

headed to San Remo, Italy, which is located just across the French/Italian border. Imagine a narrow winding road lined with stonewalls and flowering vines cascading across the top and down the sides of the walls. As we climbed the steep mountain around each turn you could catch a glimpse of the lush green forest, peak at the crystal clear blue-green ocean or the coastal cities of Monte Carlo, Menton or Eze.

This scenic path led to a pull off on the side of the mountain and provided us a majestic view of the city and the rural areas of Menton. There were homes and greenhouses nestled into the wooded mountainside. As the trees became sparse the pastel historic city of Menton burst into full view, complete with a cathedral and stone buildings stair stepping

(Cont'd on page 22)



THE GROUNDHOG

P. O. Box 387
Mentone, AL 35984

The Ground is published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA (Website: www.mapamentone.com; Email: mapamentone@gmail.com) and 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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Contact The Groundhog

P.O. Box 387 256-465-1107
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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 portion of any man who receives acclaim earned in the blood of his followers and the sacrifices of his friends." This line is engraved over his tomb in Kansas.

Our apologies for inadvertently cutting off the end of Mayor Hammond's article last month. Hope you enjoy it this month in its entirety.

From The Editor

Mentone Heritage

The western brow, river, canyon, countless rock formations, and Lookout Mountain itself feel as if they have been here for all eternity. And yet, Mentone's cultural heritage appears as just a tiny blip on this endless stream of time. Our primary goal at MAPA is to help protect and preserve our natural and our cultural heritage.

Federal, state, and local governments continue to make tremendous strides in protecting the natural beauty of this place we call home. Laws are established and funds are allocated for parks, preserves, waterways, as well as hiking, biking and equestrian trails. Local governments, non-profits, and individuals are working on projects to improve access to and use of these natural treasures for citizens and visitors alike. Our local businesses are especially dependent on and heavily vested in assuring that this access and use continues to improve but is not detrimental to the long term health and beauty of Mentone's natural environment.

While this area's natural heritage seems never changing, cultural change is never ending. Cherokees hunted, fished, settled, and gardened here for millennia, yet we have little to show that represents and celebrates their heritage. Early settlers who formed the town of Mentone and began the slow process of convincing others to come are mostly memories found in family bibles, scrapbooks, local crafts, and music.

For over thirty years MAPA has worked to keep historic crafts and music alive through education and old time arts and crafts festivals. Our local Groundhog newspaper highlights

stories and pictures of native families, places, skills, and events that helped shape Mentone's cultural heritage. Mentone's most visible historic structure, The Mentone Springs Hotel, was lost to fire on March 1 of this year.

Mentonians and visitors alike cherish the quaint, old-time spirit that makes our part of the world so unique – yet change is unrelenting. New businesses open, new farmers move in (now even organic farms), streets are paved and homes and cabins are everywhere – we may one day get a new bridge. Managing change in a manner that preserves the nature and flavor of Mentone is a job for all Mentone citizens--mostly through their elected officials. MAPA, through The Groundhog, attempts to communicate to everyone about Mentone's unique heritage and inform them about newcomers and local people, events, and businesses.

A facility where Mentone's art, crafts, music, and traditions could be performed, taught, and protected would be instrumental in making sure that Mentone's cultural heritage is around for future generations to enjoy and appreciate. Let's build one--for the past, the now, and the future to come.

Ray Padgett,
For the MAPA Board

**Have a Letter to the
Editor or a story idea?
Send it to The Groundhog
at groundhognews@aol.com.**

Colorfest (Cont'd from page 1)

- Festival Photography - Christy Miller-Evans
- Parking/Cleanup/
campfire - Boy Scouts (David
Gilbreath)
- Taste of Mentone - Greg Clore
- Vendor Hospitality - Elaine & Jack Gauldin

If you would like to help out on any of these activities, before or during Colorfest, please contact one of the above or e-mail MentoneColorfest@gmail.com and let us know what you would like to do.

Colorfest sponsors are the lifeblood of our festival. They provide financial assistance that allows the festival committee to purchase signs, marketing materials, advertising, festival supplies and great musicians throughout the festival.

We would like to say “Thank You” to our current Sponsors.

Major Sponsors are:

- DeKalb Tourism
- Skelton Orthodontics for the Children’s Fair
- Kamama & Wildflower Café for a Taste of
Mentone
- Mentone Realty & Custom Home Designs for
the Sounds of Mentone
- Mentone Camps for Scarecrow Holler

Supporting Sponsors are:

- Wilson Funeral Home & Crematory
- Accel Graphics
- First Fidelity Bank
- Dixie Salvage

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact us at MentoneColorfest@gmail.com. I encourage everyone to support our sponsors.

2014 COLORFEST
SHOW APPLICATION

OCTOBER 17-19

\$75 FOR A 12’ X 12’ SPACE
APPLICATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 3

Name_____

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. Please contact MentoneColorfest@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Send completed application form to:
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SCARECROW HOLLER CONTEST RULES

Our theme for the Colorfest is “Celebrating the Fall Season on the Mountain,” focusing on old time traditions. Please keep this in mind when creating your Scarecrow.

Entry fee is \$5 per entry. The application and entry fee must be received no later than October 3rd.

Set up in Mason Park will be on Friday,

October 10. Scarecrows will remain up through the end of October and must be removed by Saturday, November 8.

Areas measuring five feet square will be assigned for each Scarecrow. Scarecrows should be in good taste, family friendly and keeping in the theme of the festival. They should not reflect controversial social or political situations. The Scarecrows must be constructed to withstand weather conditions. Tips for constructing Scarecrows will be available via email or the Colorfest website for additional information.

MAPA and the Scarecrow Committee reserve

the right to remove any Scarecrow that does not meet these standards. No handouts, promotional materials or free giveaways can be associated with any entry. Additionally, we may remove a display at any time due to its condition if it does not hold up to weather or other factors. It is suggested that entrants check on their display periodically.

Judging/Prizes: Prizes will be awarded to winners as follows: 1st place will receive \$50 and 2nd Place will receive \$25. Additionally, a People’s Choice Award will be given to the fan favorite. Judging criteria will be determined by the Scarecrow Committee, to include originality, theme, content, etc. Judges will be provided by sponsoring organization(s). Winners will be featured in the next issue of The Groundhog publication.

MAPA and the Colorfest Committee reserve the right to use photographs for future publicity.

(Colorfest Info cont'd on page 12)

COLORFEST 2014 SCARECROW HOLLER DISPLAY

Official Application/Entry Form
Please Print Clearly

Applicant Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Application/Entry Cost: \$5

Deadline for entry and fees is October 3, 2014. Entry fees must be by check or money order. Do not send cash! Please mail this form with your entry fee to:

Amanda Pope
PO Box 387
Mentone, AL 35984

Email: MentoneColorfest@gmail.com

Thank you for your participation in MAPA's Scarecrow Holler Display at Mason Park during Colorfest 2014. Your participation and support will make this annual event successful. We want to showcase Mentone and make 2014 Colorfest a success; Scarecrow Holler will be an important part of that. Please see contest rules for official rules and regulations.



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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.

Hasn't the weather been delightful?! Perfect cool mountain air in the morning to start the day off right that gives a hint of the beautiful fall to come. Just about time to start wearing long sleeve "Leave Me in Mentone" t-shirts again and sweatshirts too. I love to watch the beautiful trees around me sparkle in their new colors. And I can hear the fun the children are having as they begin art over in Ms. Paula's class at Moon Lake Elementary.

September is here so senior lunches will be starting soon. The senior lunch bunch crew will gather again on Wednesday, September 17th, with lunch being served at 11:30 a.m. followed by singing, poetry and fun. MERF is thankful for everyone that helps to make the house a great

place to be on Wednesdays. Afternoon tutoring will also start mid-September. Anyone wanting to volunteer, please contact Sarah Wilcox at 256-634-4673 or merf.mentone@gmail.com.

Safe places to walk or bike in Mentone are getting harder to find lately so it is great to see the walking track used in front of the MERF house. So glad the walking track was an Eagle Scout project many years ago for everyone to continue to enjoy. Boy Scout Troop 106 is so impressive in all that they do to make Mentone the best place to live and to visit. So thankful for our local leaders instilling in Mentone's young men the values and knowledge needed to become community leaders.

What a treasure to have many adults in our community giving back to the children whether it is through scouts, sports, teaching, tutoring, the arts or church activities. Life is good in Mentone.

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.

DeKalb Tourism Information Station Opens in Mentone

By Kayla Worthey



Mentone has been referred to as the "craft village" of Lookout Mountain and is considered a major tourist town. During peak season, Mentone will receive up to 400 visitors on some weekends, which almost doubles the population.

Since Mentone is a major attraction for visitors and holds many of our accommodations, The Town of Mentone and DeKalb Tourism decided that a small information station in the Mentone area would be a great addition for the town and a sort of branch location for DeKalb Tourism. It would also give DeKalb Tourism one major location in the Mentone area for tourist's to locate information. An ideal location would be centrally located, open every day for long hours and already have a lot of foot traffic from visitors.

After much consideration and discussion, it was agreed that the Mentone Market would be the perfect location. As some of you may have already noticed, the Mentone Market has made some minor changes already. First, the new information station was installed in the corner. Custom built with the market's current décor in mind, the rack was made from rough-cut lumber right here in Mentone. A little bit later, we added some creatively designed information headers for the racks. Currently, the station is stocked and ready for visitors looking for information about our area. The next project is to have the outdoor sign installed to let visitors know that the information station is located inside.

DeKalb Tourism and the Town of Mentone would like to Thank Tom and Kristen Emory and the Mentone Market for allowing us to set up a station in their space.

"SAVE THE DATE" FOR FALL HOME TOUR OCTOBER 25 & 26

The Mentone Area Arts Council will turn back the hands of time with its 7th Annual Home Tour to be held on October 25 & 26. Visitors will experience a peek into authentic turn of the century homes and places that are rarely seen. In addition to some historic homes will be a camp and church. Watch for the list of homes and landmarks in next month's Groundhog. The Home Tour and Silent Auction will be headquartered at Mentone Town Hall for the weekend. The Home Tour will be open Saturday, October 25, 9am-5pm, and Sunday, October 26, 11am-4pm. Two-day tickets are \$12 each--\$10 each for MAAC members.

A fantastic Silent Auction will again be held in conjunction with the Home Tour and is a major source of funding for MAAC projects such as the rock entries, flower planting and classes. Most of this this year's event proceeds will be used to create a lookout point at the Hwy. 117 rock "Mentone" sign complete with rock

and beam fencing and landscaping. Visitors can bid on quality original arts and crafts donated by talented members of Mentone Area Arts Council--landscapes, pottery, glass jewelry, weavings, ceramics, woodworking and more.

Also available will be signed prints, native plants, antiques, furnishings, weekend trips at fabulous weekend rentals and bed and breakfasts, certificates for meals at Mentone's restaurants, gift certificates, memorabilia, interesting books and much more. This year for your convenience the auction will once again also be held online to allow for early bidding.

If you are interested in donating an item for the Silent Auction or becoming a sponsor for the Home Tour, please contact Beverly Bates at bjbates@bellsouth.net or Cynthia Stinson at mentoneinn@gmail.com.

Visit www.mentonearts.com.



What's an MBA?

By Robert Hoffman, MBA President

If you ask a college student, they'll tell you that an MBA is a Master of Business Administration, the degree of choice for those planning to make a million dollars operating a business. If you ask someone in Mentone, they might say it's the Mentone Business Association ... or they might not. The next question would be "what is the MBA doing?" or "what is it going to do?" Our MBA is new, still rather small, and we collect no dues so have no treasury yet, thus we really haven't completed any earth-shaking projects ... yet. We have, however, accomplished a few things and have plans for many more over the coming years. Which projects we pursue and how successful we are will depend largely on how much participation and support we get from our local businesses. We continue to encourage everyone, business person or not, to join and add your ideas and effort to ours.

Our accomplishments thus far have been totally due to the efforts and sometimes the financial contributions of our members. First thing we needed was a logo and a window sticker to announce those businesses that are members. We managed to agree on which logo we wanted and Beverly Smith at Snappy Graphics created our window stickers, which you'll see displayed around town at our member businesses. Only a few so far, but we're hoping to see many more in the future.

Our next undertaking was to establish a relationship with the Mentone Town Council and with business organizations in Fort Payne, in order to profit from their experience on what sort of activities work and which ones don't. We got several great ideas from the Fort Payne Area Merchants Association and one of our newest members is Carol Beddingfield, director of the Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce. One of their suggestions was that we combine our advertising efforts to be able to afford a larger ad space. We've done that for the Chattanooga Times-Free Press

magazine, Glimpse, that comes out as an insert in their August 31st edition. We've managed to work with them to put together a full-page of advertising and editorials about Mentone, which we hope will encourage some of our Chattanooga neighbors to visit our town and our businesses.

These are small activities compared to the grand festivals being sponsored by MAPA and MAAC, but are a good start for our MBA. We hope to have a booth at each of their festivals, where we'll hand out free information about our businesses and town. Our booth at Julyfest was a great success and the information we made available seemed to be appreciated by our visitors. We also got back a few reports from members that had been visited by shoppers that heard about them at the MBA booth. We're hoping to do the same at Colorfest and other future festivals, as well as to provide support to MAPA and MAAC in putting together these festivals.

We view our organization as being not just for the downtown businesses on Highway 117, but also for all of those operating rentals and Bed & Breakfast establishments in the area. One of the hand-outs that we distributed at Julyfest was the lodging map, showing the location and contact information for over 30 lodging opportunities in our areas. We got some great feedback on that from visitors. One of the things we're doing now is putting together a business package to give to local lodging managers to hand out to their guests. This package could also be provided to local realtors to give to their customers. These packages will include a Mentone map, the Daily Openings List from MyMentone.com, and rack cards and other information from local businesses. We're hoping that this information will result in more of the renters "coming into town" to shop for those items that they won't find at their local Walmart. If you have a business that you'd like included in this lodging package, use the form at MBA.MyMentone.com to join us or simply email rjhoffman@yahoo.com. If you have a rental cabin, B&B, or are a local realtor and would like us to send some of these packages to you, you can also join and we'll make sure we keep you supplied

with the information.

Regarding future MBA activities, we have a list of over 20 ideas for projects, but will be pursuing them slowly to try to avoid biting off more than we can chew. As we've said several times, join us, contribute your ideas, and help us help the local businesses to be as successful as possible. We meet the 3rd Monday of each month from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at the MERF House and you're all invited.



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TIGER
C H A M P S
COMMUNICATE HONOR ADVOCATE MOTIVATE PARENTS STUDENTS

Welcome back to school!! I hope everyone is enjoying the new school year. The high school students and faculty at Valley Head certainly think it is nice to be in a newly-renovated building...well mostly renovated anyway. New HVAC units have been installed; all the walls have a new coat of paint; there is new tile on the floors; some new desks were brought in; and windows have been repaired or replaced. I spoke with Principal Monroe about the process. He said there is still work being done, but with only very minimal disruption to the classes (due to the installation of a new fire alarm system). Touch up painting is being completed on weekends and the heat is being worked on after school hours. High school office personnel should be out of the library and back in the HS building by the time you read this. It is an ongoing process, and Mr. Monroe asks for continued patience as work progresses. The auditorium, restrooms, and courtyard still have to be renovated. The first focus was on cleaning and renovating the classrooms before students

returned, and the remainder should not be as much of an inconvenience. Students have been asked to take pride in the new building and show respect for it by keeping it clean and not having food, drinks, or gum inside. Mr. Monroe says the students have been very receptive and are enjoying the new building very much. Most of all they are excited about the NEW lockers that will be delivered soon!!

This is an exciting time for our school--lots of improvements and things to look forward to. I would like to remind everyone that the after-school program is continuing again this year and looking for more students. Please contact Mrs. Renae Day at mrday@dekalbk12.org for more information. Also, Mrs. Lesa Smith is once again overseeing the Valley Head Volunteer Band. All Valley Head students are welcome and so are volunteers and instruments. These kids are very much worth the investment of time and the reward is priceless.

I hope everyone has a wonderful school year!

~Anna Mae Horn~



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SOMETHING TO
DO AFTER
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**The Valley Head 21st Century After School
Program provides after school child care, tutoring,
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Grades: Kindergarten – 8th Grade

Phone: 256-635-6228

Contact: Renae Day

**Students who attend the after-school program must be picked up at
the school by 5:30 P.M. each day.**

**There is a \$10.00 registration fee that is due with the registration
form.**

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.

This is the second in a series of articles published in 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.

Granny's Childhood

Nancy Em Evageline or Nancy Emmaline Callahan was born in Buck's Pocket on Sand Mountain (Raccoon Mountain) sometime in 1826. Her father, William Callahan, was a Cherokee "Goliath", by accounts 6' 5" tall and weighing 275 pounds. Her mother, Mary Sexton, was a combination of Cherokee, Creek and Scotch-Irish.

As a child, Nancy or sometimes called Em, would have played the games that most Cherokee Indian children would have played. They would have played a game of "Dog and Fox" similar to chase and would have pitched "quoits" a game similar to horseshoes but the throwing pieces are round with a circular hole in the middle.

While her brothers were probably making and using bow and arrows, Nancy and her sisters were probably learning about the native plants and food sources and how to prepare them. Nancy later became an herb doctor dispensing native

cures for all types of ailments so it would be safe to claim that this is what she was learning as a child.

One day, her father seemed to be depressed and when questioned by her mother Mary he confessed that he had a wife and three children in South Carolina that he feared might be going hungry. It was not unusual for a Cherokee male to have more than one wife so Mary told him to go and find them and bring them back to live with them. When he returned he brought his other wife Cassie, a Cherokee, and two sons and a daughter. Nancy later stated that they all lived together without any conflicts with both wives tending to the children and home life.

Around 1836, when Nancy was about 10, her father went to fight in what Nancy called the "Florida War." The Second Seminole War took place between 1835 and 1842. At that time each of the wives had 10 children. While he was gone both wives gave birth to triplets. Nancy's mother Mary gave birth to girls and the other wife Cassie gave birth to boys. Sadly, when the last boy was born Cassie died. When William returned from the war he named the girls, Roxie Ann, Georgia Ann and Texie Ann. He named the boys Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego, names from the Bible.

Because of all the children being born into the Callahan family, it is not surprising that Nancy became a midwife at an early age and assisted in many of the births in her own family as well as in the surrounding area.

Although William Callahan had a total of 26 children, it didn't prevent him from fathering other children outside of his family, a child that was termed a "wood's colt". He asked Nancy once when she returned from delivering a baby if it was a boy or a girl and when she said it was a boy, her father said, "he's your half-brother."

When Andrew Jackson signed the New Echota Treaty in 1835 for forced removal of the Cherokees, it spelled the end of the carefree and natural way of life of the Native Americans. When the different tribes would not agree to sell their land and move to unknown lands in the west, Jackson's successor Martin Van Buren ordered the round-up that became known as the Trail of

Tears where over 4000 Cherokees died during the march.

When the round-up began in Alabama, William Callahan tried to save his family by hiding in Saltpeter Cave on the west side of Sand Mountain. But Nancy was not with them. According to her accounts and descriptions she has given about the capture and the march, I believe she was being truthful about her capture.

In May 1838, when Nancy was about 12 years old, she was captured and taken to the fort that had been built by Capt. John Payne and named by his men as Fort Payne. The Cherokees that were rounded up over a period of weeks were kept in the cellar under the log building or in a stockade by a large ditch adjacent to the cabin.

During the march from Ft. Payne to Ross's Landing (now Chattanooga), Nancy was able to escape and being "a keen runner" was able to allude the soldiers chasing her and make her way back to Sand Mountain where she found her family hiding in the cave.

Because William would be highly visible if he went out, it was left to the young Nancy to sneak out at night and travel to their home for food to keep them alive. This was luck on their part because years later the bones of adults and children were discovered in some of the Sand Mountain caves that had starved during this ordeal.

She would also watch for the movements of the soldiers and know when it would be safe for her family to leave the cave. Eventually the soldiers left the area and the remaining Cherokees living there were allowed to remain.

Although living during this time could be a struggle, Nancy always said that she and the children were happy. By Nancy's account, life continued without conflict for the next few years until an incident with a man named Jukes caused her father to fear for his family.

More on this in the next article.

Mentone Mountain Getaways

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THE
RECIPE CORNER
BY
ANGIE CARDEN

Labor Day “Chews”!

For most of us, Labor Day marks the end of Summer and means time for a mouth-watering, tongue-tingling, pants-busting BBQ free for all!!! Who can resist the smell of the grill, the mounded bowls of super sides and the sweetness of mile high desserts? Backyard BBQ’s are the best! Last year I shared my Bacon Burger Dogs with you, and to me, those are hard

to beat. But then pork and beef tenderloins come to mind and wow are those tough to top! Of course, you all know by now that I LOVE food! And I can never pick a favorite anything. So, after long deliberations, I finally decided what to share this year. But first, may I just wish you all a fantastic Labor Day full of family fun and food! God Bless!

“THE SMELL OF THE GRILL” BEEF TENDERLOIN

How could you not love a meat with “tender” in it’s name? Oh my yes! Start by letting your beef come to room temperature, PLEASE! This step is so important. When it’s close, preheat your grill around medium-low heat. You don’t want to rush this one. A 6 lb tenderloin will take just about an hour to reach temp once on the grill. I suggest omitting the salt on this one, to keep from pulling that wonderful moisture out. All you need to do is lightly sprinkle with a little Garlic Salt and then roll the entire thing in crushed peppercorns to completely coat. (I

know that sounds like a ton of pepper, but when you slice her up, it’s not much per slice!) Now, I recommend searing all sides directly on the grill just to set a little color on her. Then, place her in a disposable aluminum pan for around thirty minutes per side for the actual grilling part. When it comes to beef, you need to reach an internal temp of 130 degrees. And that’s ALL she needs! Don’t overcook your glorious tenderloin! When you remove her from the grill, I beg you to let her sit and rest for 15 minutes before you slice her up! I guarantee, you will have the most succulent piece of beef ever!

“MOUNDED BOWL OF SUPER SIDES”
MACARONI SALAD

Potato Salad is great, but let’s think “inside” the box and go for a fantastic macaroni salad this time. It’s wonderful with beef. You will need 1 pound of cooked, drained macaroni, and

4 boiled eggs set aside. In a large mixing bowl add 2/3 c mayonnaise, 2 tbsp dijon mustard, 3 tbsp pickle relish (I am not a fan of sweet relish - gasp - so I use dill, but by all means use the one you like!), 4 oz. drained pimentos, a little salt and pepper. Combine until smoothed out, then add 1 diced shallot or small onion, 2 diced

stalks of celery, 4 oz diced cooked ham (any kind works fine), and dice your 4 boiled eggs. Now mix that together and add your pasta and gently fold together. It’s best after refrigerating for an hour, but it’s great without also!

“MILE HIGH” STRAWBERRY TRIFLE

Dessert doesn’t get much easier than this! Or tastier! Trifles are so beautiful and take no time at all! This one is super simple and delicious! You will need a store bought pound cake, cubed

(two if they are small), 2 pints of sliced or halved strawberries (your preference) and two tubs of cool whip. In a trifle bowl or inverted cake stand, layer the bottom with your pound cake cubes, then add a layer of strawberries then a layer of cool whip. Just repeat until you reach

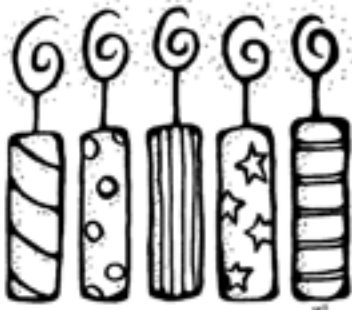
the top and make sure you end with the cool whip. I like to keep a few of the prettiest berries to garnish the top. And, if you don’t really like whipped topping, you can just use vanilla pudding instead!

September Birthdays

Sept 1 – Connie Bell
Sept 1 – Yvonne Brock
Sept 1 - Dustin Burt
Sept 2 – Grace Tucker
Sept 4 – Vance Carden
Sept 4 – Markettia Crane
Sept 4 – Karen Smith
Sept 5 – Evelyn Jensen
Sept 7 – Amelia Saferite
Sept 8 – Van Freeman
Sept 8 – Adele Phillips
Sept 8 – Melba Fuller (in memory of)
Sept 9 – Ashley Harrison
Sept 9 – Emma Harrison

Sept 9 – Dillon Kirby
Sept 10 – Morgan McElhaney
Sept 10 – Angela Downer
Sept 10 – Sam Langston
Sept 11 – Amanda Collins
Sept 12 – Shane Burt
Sept 12 - Cynthia Stinson
Sept 13 – Macy Hirst
Sept 14 – Jacob Rosson
Sept 15 – Betty Blalock
Sept 16 – Haley Saferite
Sept 17 – Sam Easler
Sept 17 – Angie Carden
Sept 17 – Matt Chesser
Sept 18 – Connie McElhaney
Sept 19 – Taylor Chaparro
Sept 22 – Addison Shoults
Sept 22 – Cade Henderson
Sept 25 – Nicole Stott

Sept 26 – Amy Henderson
Sept 26 – Kenneth Busby
Sept 27 – Alfie Chambers
Sept 27 – Libby Tubberville
Sept 28 – Bailey Kirby
Sept 28 – Alley Hatfield
Sept 28 – Tommy Langston
Sept 29 – Rusty Chambers
Sept 29 – Amy Keith
Sept 29 – Braden Henderson
Sept 30 – Gracie Welden



September Anniversaries

Sept 4 – Carl & Katy Tubberville
Sept 6 – Jeff & Melissa Couch
Sept 13 - Zach & Ashley Jones
Sept 19 – Joseph & Crystal Lee
Sept 23 – Kevin & Kayla Worthey
Sept 23 – Casey & Kayla Hellums
Sept 24 – Tom & Kristen Emory
Sept 26 – Josh & Melissa Shoults

What To Do Around Here!

September 2014 Community Calendar

Sep 1 - Ider Mule Days. This annual event showcases Sand Mountain's rich agricultural heritage. Enjoy a parade of mules, horses, carriages, antique tractors and more. A horse pull, mule pull, antique tractors and cars, arts and crafts, food, children's games, and so much more make this day one you won't want to miss. Event takes place in the town of Ider and begins at 9:30 a.m. 256-657-4184.

Sep 1, 28 - Medicinal Herb Walk. Join Robert Wilson on an easy meandering walk along the trails of DeSoto State Park to see several species of plants & learn some of the ways that plants have been used for food & medicine in the past. Bring a day pack with water & snacks if you wish. 10:00-12:00 noon. Meet at Country Store. Free & open to everyone; but Pre-registration is required. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details. www.Alapark.com/desotoresort.

Sep 1 - Herbal Salves Demonstration. Join Robert Wilson for a demonstration on how to make a healing salve from plants for several different skin ailments. 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Meet at Country Store. Free & open to everyone; but Pre-registration is required. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details. www.Alapark.com/desotoresort.

Sep 2 - 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.

Sep 3, 6, 11, 15, 19, 30 - 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.

Sep 3-4 - Overnight Camping Skills Class. Most needed camping skills are brought to you as well as advanced skills such as how to find dry fuels, how to build a fire without smoke, how to start a fire without matches or flint, lean to construction, and safety barriers. True Adventure Sports 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. 256-997-9577.

Sep 4 - Kamama Music Series. Alabama Annie in Concert. Kamama's. Singer/songwriter, storyteller and performing artist. Doors open for dinner at 5:30pm. Concert

starts at 7pm. Concert \$10 per person. Reservations requested for dinner and concert. 256-634-3001.

Sep 4 - The DeKalb County Master Gardeners Presents "Fall Flowers". This is bring your lunch and learn program about fall flowers. Program will be given by Park Naturalist, Patti Donnellan. Drinks will be available, so just bring your lunch and enjoy learning about flowers. The Coal and Iron Building on the corner of Gault and 5th Street NW. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sep 4 - Sky Swing Adventure. This is an adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy the thrill of the swing. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. Meet at True Adventure Sports 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Sep 4 - An Evening with Eli Gold. Enjoy music, dinner, and more. 5:30 p.m. at the DeKalb County Schools Coliseum in Rainsville. Tickets from \$25 to \$125. Call 256-605-1801.

Sep 5, 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.

Sep 6-7 - Fall Survival Class With One World Adventure. An early fall survival class for Wilderness Survival 101. A weekend long class with a specific for the lower Appalachian mountain range and spring weather conditions. We will cover a broad range of topics from Clothing, Kits, Shelter, Fire, Water, and Rescue. Saturday 9 a.m. to Sunday 3 p.m. 256-634-8370.

Sep 6 - Storytime at the Canyon Center. The Story of Cotton and a Celebration of Farming. Little River Canyon Center staff and volunteers will read aloud unique children's literature every first Saturday of the month. Storybooks will be available for purchase. Little River Canyon Center. 11:00 - Noon. Free and open to everyone. Call 256.782.5697 for details. Info on the Little River Canyon Center. www.jsu.edu/epic/canyoncenter/

Sep 6 - 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 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Sep 6-14 - Lucy Mitchell Retrospective. Kamama presents Lucy Mitchell's works from

private collections and the artists selections from the 70's, 80's & 90's. Opening Reception on Sunday, September 7th from 2pm to 4pm.

Sep 8 - 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.

Sep 10, 23, 29 - 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.

Sep 11 - GPS Basic Training and Navigation, Class, Part 1. Learn how to use a map, compass, and a handheld GPS. Learn basic navigation and how to pinpoint a location for quick return, or quick rescue. Also learn how to search by waypoints or coordinates. True Adventure Sports 10 a.m. to 4 pm. 256-997-9577.

Sep 12 - Mountain Bike Tour. Come have an enjoyable ride without the fear of getting lost. This three hour tour includes a mountain bike rental, instruction, and a guide for safety, direction, and information. \$65 per person. Meet at True Adventure Sports 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Sep 12 - GPS Basics Training and Navigation Class, Part 2. You will learn to find a beacon placed in the woods as a SAR attempt while knowing your position, and the position of your teammates. True Adventure Sports 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Sep 13 - NPS Green & Gray Saturday. The National Park Service staff and volunteers will present "Green & Gray" programs on the second Saturday of each month. Topics include park resources and activities, climate change, recycling, energy conservation, eco-gardening, exotic plants, native landscaping, pollution prevention, green energy, and more! Little River Canyon Center. 10:00 am. Free; for more information contact the National Park Service at 256-845-8548.

Sep 13 - Basic Pine Needle Basketry Class. Learn the basics of pine needle basketry, an old craft with a long history. Join DSP staff and volunteers to learn the basic steps to making a coiled basket from longleaf pine needles. Each participant will learn the basic skills of pine needle basketry and take home their very own creation. The art of coiling baskets is universally common to indigenous peoples. Coiling is the technique of creating baskets and art from pine needles and was a part of pre-Columbian Native American

crafts. Today, pine needle baskets and art are made primarily for decorative purposes. All materials (pine needles, thread, and small center for basket) will be furnished. Class is for ages 12 to adult. DeSoto State Park Nature Center (Next to the Country Store). 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (Central Time Zone). Fee: \$20 supply fee - Payable to DeSoto State Park. Pre-registration required; class number is limited to 10. For details, 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

Sep 13 - Little River Canyon Trivia Challenge. Join Dr. James Rayburn (JSU Biology) for this fun trivia challenge which includes questions (and answers) about the Natural History of Little River Canyon and Lookout Mountain. Participants will be divided into teams and use "clickers" to answer questions during this fun competition. "Prizes" will be awarded to the top performers. Little River Canyon Center. 10:00 am - Noon. Fee: \$5 per person; pre-registration required. Call 256.782.5697 for details.

Sep 13, 20, 27 - 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.

Sep 13 - 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.

Sep 16 - 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. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Sep 16-18 - High Adventure Trip. This is a 3 day adventure including a Wild Cave Tour, Rock Climbing, An Extreme Night Hike and end with a relaxing canoe trip. Price includes all activities, attractions, permits, fees, gear, and guides. 256-997-9577.

Sep 16 - Alabama Ballet. Come and enjoy a spectacular show by the Alabama Ballet. Tom Beville Lyceum on NACC campus. Tickets are \$10 each. 7p.m. For tickets, call 256-638-4418, ext. 248.

Sep 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.

Sep 18 - Kamama Music Series - April Mae and the June Bugs in Concert. Americana under the influence of Jump Blues, Rockabilly and Swing. Kamama's. Doors open for dinner at 5:30pm. Concert starts at 7pm. Concert \$10 per person. Reservations requested for dinner and concert. 256-634-3001.

Sep 19 - 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. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Sep 19 - Campfire Talk: Beautiful Butterflies. Join lepidopterist and photographer, Vitaly Charny, co-author of 'Butterflies of Alabama' to learn about the many species of butterflies in the great state of Alabama. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. DeSoto's Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center). 7:00-8:00 p.m. Free to the Public; Great for all ages! Call 256.997.5025 or see www.alapark.com/desotoresort for more details!

Sep 20 - Growing Up WILD & Living Wild Family: Fun Butterflies & Flutterbys. Join Canyon Center staff and volunteers every fourth Saturday of the month for fun nature and art programs for preschool age children. Learn about beautiful Butterflies, Dragonflies, and Damselflies and do some fun activities. Little River Canyon Center. 1:00 – 3:00 pm. No fee; some programs may have limited space so pre-registration is encouraged. Call 256.782.5697. for details.

Sep 20 - Campfire Talk: Dragonflies & Damselflies. Join lepidopterist and photographer, Vitaly Charny, to learn more

about the fascinating life-cycle of Alabama's Dragonflies and Damselflies. Stunning photographs to see! Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. DeSoto's Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center). 7:00-8:00 p.m. Free to the Public; Great for all ages! Call 256.997.5025 or see www.alapark.com/desotoresort for more details!

Sep 20 - 14th Annual John Benge Commemorative Motorcycle Ride. We welcome you to join us as we ride in commemoration of DeKalb County's Cherokee Indian Heritage and all Indian Nations who were forced to walk on the Infamous Trail of Tears. The ride is strictly voluntary and you Ride at Your Own Risk. The John Benge Ride is in remembrance of those who walked this trail and brings awareness to this tragedy. 256-845-3957 or 888-805-4740.

Sep 20 - The 5th Annual Haulin' for Hannah 5k Run/Walk & 1 mile Fun Run. Come enjoy a Saturday filled with fun! Our 5k will begin at 8:00 am. Your family can cheer you on and then enjoy our annual Boom Day celebration. Profits go towards the Hannah Martin Scholarship Fund www.haulinforhannah.racesonline.com.

Sep 20 - Boom Days Heritage Celebration. This annual art and musical event displays citizens of Fort Payne taking a second look at their past and the heritage passed down to them through the arts and crafts of our area. Many events will take place the week prior to the celebration on Saturday. The Boom Days Heritage Celebration will feature many of these facets in the presentation of musical performances as well as art displays in City Park. 10 a.m. 256-845-1524.

Sep 20–21 - One World Backpacking Series. Bush craft fun while camping (Chairs): For our last Backpacking club of 2014 you will learn the art of bush craft. Make a stool and cool little tripod chair that will make the time you spend in the woods more fun and relaxing. 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.

Sep 20 - Book Signing with Deborah Robillard - Author Deborah Robillard will be at the Book Shelf for a book signing from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. 256-844-8663.

Sep 20, 27 - 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.

Sep 21 - Tri-State Paper Crafting Meetup. Join us to learn, create and be inspired while crafting with papers, stamps, inks, punches, and die cuts. Take some time-out, meet new friends, and relax while doing fun projects. No experience needed. Kamama Gallery in Mentone AL 1:00-2:30. To learn more or reserve a spot go to - www.meetup.com/Tri-StatePaperCrafters 206.349.4026.

Sep 22 - 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.

Sep 22-27 - The 57th Annual DeKalb County VFW Agricultural Fair. Rides on the midway, great food, live entertainment, livestock exhibits, agricultural displays, awards, and so much more. Held at the VFW Fairgrounds. Gates open at 5 p.m. 256-845-4752.

Sep 24 - 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. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

September 26 & 27 Collinsville Annual Quilt Walk. Stroll through the beautiful historic Victorian homes of downtown Collinsville and view some of the most wonderfully handcrafted quilts you have ever seen. Hours are Friday Noon to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 256-524-2323.

Sep 27 - How to Make Hunting Shirts. This interesting class will give you a choice of making a simple pull-over hunting shirt from wool or canvas. Participants may finish in class or be able to finish at home. 10:00-12:00 noon. DeSoto State Park Nature Center (Next to the Country Store). \$30.00 supply fee. Pre-registration is required, as class size is limited limit to 10. Call 256.997.5025 for more details. www.Alapark.com/desotoresort.

Sep 27 - How to Make Pocket Alcohol Stove. Join Robert Wilson to learn how to build an ultralight portable stove from an altoid can. These simple designs are also called hobo stoves, and are useful for outdoor use. This class will be a make & take, and there will be a demo of one in use at the end of the class. All supplies will be provided. 1:00-3:00 p.m. DeSoto State Park Nature Center (Next to the Country Store). \$10.00 supply fee. Pre-registration is required, as class size is limited limit to 20. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details. www.Alapark.com/desotoresort.

Sep 28 - Fall Herbal Teas. Join Robert Wilson & Jenny Turner for a taste-test of teas made from certain plants found in the great outdoors. Some dried herbs will be provided with tea bags and some boiling water. Participants will need to bring a cup or bottle to use. 1:00-3:00 p.m. DeSoto State Park Country Store. Fee and open to everyone. Call 256.997.5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more details. www.Alapark.com/desotoresort.

Ongoing Calendar

MAPA Board meets 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.

Announcing A New Colorfest Event: A Scavenger Hunt

By Debra Fey

The Mentone Business Association (MBA) is excited to join forces with MAPA to sponsor the first ever Scavenger Hunt which will be held during Colorfest weekend. Scavenger hunts have been around for a very long time and they are popular activities for all age groups. They are structured so that individuals or teams set out on a quest to "discover" or "find" all items on the scavenger hunt list. Scavenger hunts are a great way to bring families together, and the Colorfest Scavenger Hunt will be a fun, family-friendly game to play during the festival weekend. The focus of the Colorfest Scavenger Hunt will be to challenge game participants to discover what the local businesses of Mentone have to offer.

How it will work for game participants: The Scavenger Hunt will contain a list of "Businesses to Discover" which the gamers must find based on clues. The clue might be based on the name of the business or its location, or perhaps what specialty item or service the business offers. Once the gamer has "discovered" the business, the gamer must then "find" an item in the business based on another clue. Once this item is found the business owner will initial the participant's game list to verify that their shop and item



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were found, and the gamer will be given a reward. The reward might be a gift, a gift certificate, or a goodie bag. Each business found puts the game participants closer to the grand prize. Each gamer who completes the Scavenger Hunt by “discovering” every business on the list will be eligible for the grand prize drawing of \$50.00 – sponsored by MAPA.

Registering to play the Scavenger Hunt is simple and absolutely free. The Scavenger Hunt’s List of Businesses to Discover will be at the MBA Colorfest booth. Along with the list of businesses to find, game participants will have a verification sheet that business owners will initial when gamers find their business. When gamers complete the Scavenger Hunt they will return their completed business verification sheets to the MBA booth before the end of the festival weekend. The winner of the grand prize drawing does not have to be

present to win.

How your local business can join in the fun: To participate, your business needs to be within walking distance of the festival area, you must provide a clue for gamers to “discover” your place of business, be willing to provide a small reward or gift for those who find your business, and be a member of the MBA (which is free to all local business owners). Over the next several weeks, I hope to speak with many of our local business owners personally about including your business in the Scavenger Hunt list of “Businesses to Discover;” but for more information about how your business can participate in the Colorfest Scavenger Hunt, please feel free to call me at 404.630.2918 or email me at debrajfe@gmail.com.

Have fun! Join in the Scavenger Hunt!

SIGN UP NOW FOR COLOR CRAZE RUNS



2nd Annual One World Adventure
Color Craze 5K & 1 mile Fun Run
Saturday October 18, 2014
Mason Park – Mentone
REGISTRATION FORM

One World Adventure is a community based outdoor education program, connecting participants to the outdoors through adventure programs and eco-tourism. Find out more by visiting our website:
www.oneworldadventureco.org
Thank you for attending our fun - raiser!!

Name	Cell Phone
Address	Home Phone
City, State, Zip Code	Email Address
Division: Child Adult Male Adult Female Team	Age Group: 4-12 13-17 18-22 23-27 28-32 33-37 38-42 43-47 48-52 53-57 58-62 63-70 70+ 80+
Emergency Contact	T-Shirt Size YS (6-8) YM (10-12) AS AM AL AXL
Type of Entry: Individual Team	Team Name:

Forms must be received by Friday October 10th for T-shirt order deadline.
* Only limited number of T-shirts on Race Day

Race Details: The Race is a 5K course with multiple Color Stations that douse you in color. Sign in & Race Day Registration begins @ 7am Saturday morning at Mason Park, adjacent to Mentone Town Hall. Registration Closes @ 7:30am. Race Map: <http://www.mapmyrun.com/events/596666/>

First wave begins @ 7:50, second wave – 8:00, third wave – 8:10
Race ends at Brow Park with Color Finale and Awards beginning at 9:30
1 mile Run, Bike or Walk begins at 8:30. Begins & ends @ Mason Park

REGISTRATION FEES

- \$25 Adult 5K
- \$20 Child 5K (4-12)
- \$20 Senior 5K (65 - older)
- \$15 1 Mile Fun Run/Bike/Walk – Everyone
- \$30 Day of Race 5K – Everyone
- \$20 Day of Race 1 Mile Fun Run/Bike/Walk – Everyone
- I would like to make an additional tax – deductible donation
 - \$10 \$20 \$50 \$100

Please make check payable to One World Adventure and mail form to:
PO Box 106 Mentone, AL 35984



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. Pastor Tim Miller; Crosswalk Sunday School K through Adult - 9:15am; Adult Worship Service - 10:30am; JC Kids Worship Service - 10:30am. Van

Ministry for Children pick-up/take home, ages k-12, for all surrounding areas 8:15am. For children pick-up and drop-off van, please call Donna Bunn 706-398-0720. Wednesday small group study - 6:30pm.

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.

Wanda Sue Ashley, age 59, of Foley, AL, passed away on April 30th. Although she was living in Foley, she never did forget about growing up in Mentone. Survivors include: sisters, Brenda Hall (Valley Head), Jean Powell (Cloudland), Bobbie Placient (Texas); daughters, Amanda Israel (Edgefield, SC) and Bobbie Johnson (Gulf Shores, AL); 5 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service in her honor was held at DeSoto State Park on July 26th.



The Courage

By Roger Haney

Lookout Mountain in DeKalb County is well known for its rhododendrons and their namesake festival each May. It is also well known for Little River, the deepest canyon east of the Mississippi River and the national preserve that surrounds it. Displaying species of plants and fish that exist nowhere else in the world, Little River National Preserve registers over 250,000 visitors annually. Randy Owens and the group Alabama also put Lookout Mountain on the map for visitors with their unique style of home grown country music. For many years, fans traveled for hundreds of miles for the annual June Jam. The group and our area came full circle as they performed once again for hundreds of fans in another historical concert this past June.

Now, Lookout Mountain and DeKalb County are becoming well known around the globe for yet another reason: THE COURAGE. Last year, a handful of people worked diligently to put together an event they were not even sure what it would become. In looking back, 37 different artists performed on stage. Rumor has it to be the most ever gathered for any one event in the county.

Speakers at The Courage came from as far away as Ireland and Oklahoma just to talk about Jesus. In a span of 72 hours, over 4,000 people gathered to listen, spend time with friends and family, and to worship. The mission of The Courage was to heal the brokenhearted, remember the forgotten, give hope to the

hopeless and give courage to the weak. Many of us came away feeling the mission was accomplished, and wanted this event to continue so that others could have this same unique experience.

So, The Courage is back for 2014. It will begin at noon on Thursday, October 9th, and continue until noon Sunday, October 12th. Artists will include McKenzie Lockhart, Hanna, Joe Guerra, Cloe, Noah Cleveland and many others. You, your family and friends can join in The Courage experience at Twilley Field in Dogtown, near the rim of Little River Canyon. Organizers are exchanging T-shirts for donations to help cover the expenses. The Courage T-shirts can be purchased locally at The Strand in Fort Payne, Faith & Hymn in Rainsville, True Adventure Sports in Dogtown, or online at www.thecourage.org. You may also go to this website to get free tickets, to become a sponsor or to volunteer for the event.

We want people who pass through to feel something different, and to experience something here that they may not experience anywhere else in the world; to feel the love of people, to experience the Love of God, and to be excited about the chance of coming back to Lookout Mountain and DeKalb County at every opportunity. We hope and pray that The Courage will help make that happen.

Remember When . . .

By Angie Carden

In September 1983, Mrs. Sandra Padgett wrote an article for The Groundhog about the DeKalb County Tourist Association. It went like this:

"In 1982 when the welcome was a small trailer parked at the service station on I-59, we registered 17,169 tourists. This represented a 14.13% increase over 1981. We now have a beautiful two million dollar center and the response has been incredible. On a mid July Saturday, 1,700 guests registered, and that only represents ten percent of the visitors for that day because people do not take time to sign the guest book. Brochures have been given out in record numbers and the staff under the management of Mrs. Pat Shippey is doing a terrific job. The tourist industry does not have the requirements such as utilities, transportation and educational facilities that must be provided to attract most industries. It is not a polluting or waste-producing industry. When a tourist leaves, all he leaves behind is his dollars. It takes everyone working together to promote our area and attract people to come. There is no doubt that we have an abundance of the things that appeal to tourists. Nature has bestowed a spectacular array of scenic wonders on DeKalb County; caverns, canyons, mountains, falls and rivers, all enveloped in a gentle climate. And the people are the friendliest in the state".

My sister, Kayla Worthey, Marketing Manager,

(Cont'd on page 19)

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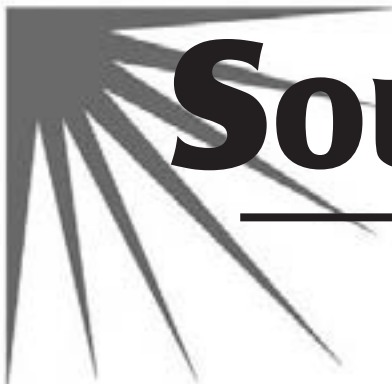
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 SOLD Log Cabin near DeSoto State Park! 2BR/1BA, 2.4+/- acres, detached 2-car garage. \$149,900 MLS #741059	 Mountain Laurel Inn... 7 acres, Main Residence, Guest House and Gathering House. Call for more details. \$479,000 MLS #917483	 REAL BARGAIN. Lge 3BR/2BA home blocks from downtown Mentone. Screened porch, lge BRs, open floor plan, garage, lge bonus room, wood burning stove, workshop plus storage bldg, fire pit, and more. \$289,900 MLS#1001478	 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	 NEW LISTING HOME ON WOODED 1/2 acre lot near DeSoto State Park. Open LR/DR/KIT, 2 BR, 2 BA, +office/3rd BR. Screened porch, 2-level deck, 2-car garage, storage bldg. New roof. Some furnishings remain. \$169,000 MLS#1001423.
 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	 NEW LISTING BEAUTIFUL Mountain Get-Away with gorgeous view year round. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, shake-sided outside w/low maintenance metal roof. Nice eating area in open kitchen. Deck. \$269,000 MLS#1000691.	 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
 OWLS 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/2 BA with a brow view. \$319,900 MLS#692795	 NEW LISTING 12.1 ACRESmostly wooded on CR641. \$48,500 MLS#632461	

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.

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

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

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.

Old Theatre Still Holds Memories

By Jane Kerby

One afternoon a couple of years ago while at my mother's house, I discovered some old newspapers. As I picked through these silver-fish-riddled articles, which once belonged to my grandparents Ralph and Nell Libby, I realized if they were important enough for them to keep, there must be something worth reading. One newspaper, which had survived the decades of time quite well, was a September 20, 1944 issue of The Fort Payne Journal. An ad for coming attractions at the DeSoto Theatre caught my attention. Yes, Valley Head once had a movie theatre. I vaguely remember how the building looked which was located on Commerce Avenue where the Masonic Lodge Pavilion presently sits. I began to ask various friends and relatives what their memories of this once very popular establishment were, and I got a variety of responses and smiles.

Although Mr. Ed Ringer was away serving in W.W.II, he did recall details of the theatre in the late 1940's. The owner at this time was E.M. Box, and to attract a crowd Mr. Box would give cash prizes and other items away to the vehicle with the most people in it. He said it didn't take long for people to figure out to park their cars just outside of town and pile into one vehicle. He was sure Mr. Box had caught on to this practice, but it was to his advantage also to bring in a large audience. Mr. Ringer also provided a photograph of politician, Big Jim Folsom, campaigning for governor around 1947 in front of the theatre. Harry Smith remembered well his first after school job as popcorn boy, which included the duty of sweeping out the theatre, which also had a balcony. He later advanced to running the film projector. Harry said around 1945 or 1946 the interior of the building was destroyed by fire that apparently started from the intense heat of the film projector, but it was restored and business was back to normal.

Another movie fan of the 1940's and 50's was Mozelle Crow. She recalled there would be a night specified for the ladies and another for the men. Around 1945 she said Valley Head School

dismissed class for students to attend the movie "Song of The South". She sold tickets during the 1950's for Jack McGlinchy.

Treva McElhaney remembers walking to the theatre from their home near Bethel Church with her sister Linda and brother Kenneth Windom. The most vivid memory they had was when Fuzzy Q. Jones, a famous actor in western films, made a personal appearance to the theatre around 1952. Kenneth also provided a photo of him. His sidekick was Lash Larue in movies. He also had a ticket stub for 35 cents. Treva also had a photo of a Valley Head High School couple posing at the theatre for the 1955 year book. They were Carroll Daniels and Billy Faye Wagner.

As a young boy in the early 1950's John Holleman remembered being in the packed theatre one night with his parents and grandmother on the "Hot Seat" night. All the seats were numbered, and just before the feature started a number was pulled from a basket. That night his grandmother, Mrs. Marie Ellis, was sitting in the "Hot Seat" and won forty dollars. Soon after this the theatre closed, but one last effort was made to reopen it around 1956 or 1957. John remembered going on Saturday afternoons with his cousin Billo Holleman to mostly shoot'em up westerns.

Due to the increasing popularity of drive-in movies and other factors the DeSoto Theatre closed its doors, and only memories remain now of a once very popular establishment.



Wednesday, September 20, 1944

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"The Sullivans"
"Sing Neighbor, Sing"
"4 Jills And A Jeep"



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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)



CHARMING rock and vinyl home outside of Mentone. Relax in this completely remodeled 3br, 2ba dining/kitchen combo, large living room, with hardwood & ceramic tile. Amenities include CHA, wood burning stove, and separate workshop for your projects, along with a fenced in garden area. Sit on the front covered porch overlooking the nicely landscaped yard with fruit trees, and enjoy a cook-out on the back patio. A must see! Appt Only. \$175,000. (23091)



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)



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



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



CAMBRIA BLEU COMPOUND. California style in serene country setting. 2 story Herringbone brick home complete with archway entrance. Porches overlooking lake, fields, old home place and the ridges beyond. Inside on main level, walk-in to the foyer that opens into the great room, dining with travertine FP. Gourmet kitchen with high end appliances, granite counters, eat-in bar, cherry cabinets throughout entire house. Master with glamour bath, dressing room. 2 additional bedrooms and bath. Large utility w/ built in cabinets, freezer, w/d. Downstairs suite has 2 bdrms, Den and bath. So many amenities and landscaped naturally with flora and fauna. The Guest Cottage is 2 bdrms, 1 bth, living room with ceramic wood burning insert. Heart pine floors, ceilings, and walls. The old home place on property was built in 1895 when the land was homesteaded. Even the African geese stay and all the wildlife abound! Total of 90 acres. \$974,900 (23094)



NEW LISTING

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 Lahusage. 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)

5 ACRES on the East brow tract overlooking Pleasant Valley. Rock pallacades, wooded. See Weiss Lake in the distance. Private gated area. Joins National Preserve & Forever Wild protected property. \$60,00 (22866)

NICELY WOODED 5 ACRES with stream located on Desoto Parkway, Mentone. Residential or commercial use. Old Homesite, large rock formations. Possibilities are endless. \$90,000 (22824)

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)

Fort Payne Boom Days Heritage Festival

By John Dersham

One thing for sure, there is always plenty to do in DeKalb County. If you don't think so or don't try to follow, just take a look at our Calendar of Events listed on our DeKalb Tourism website at www.DiscoverLookoutMountain.com. The first thing you will think when you see our list of events is you had no idea there would be so many offerings all year long.

Our focus here is the Ninth Annual Fort Payne Boom Days Heritage Festival. This event emanates out of the rich cultural history of Fort Payne. In 1889, wealthy New Englanders mostly from Boston came to Fort Payne to establish an Iron and Coal industry. In doing so, they brought their culture to us...an Opera House, large Victorian homes, a much better than average railroad station, a fantastic hotel and many beautiful downtown buildings. Many Boom Days era buildings still exist today. The Boom Days Festival takes place in the historic area of downtown Fort Payne. It incorporates the 1889 Iron and Coal block, the city park which was the former front yard for the DeKalb Hotel which burned in 1918. The railroad station, the

Alabama walking park and Rotary Amphitheater are all included, including several blocks of downtown from 1st to 5th streets. Boom Days has events beginning on Sunday, September 14th, with the Joe Underwood Gospel singing at the Ft. Payne City Hall Auditorium at 3 P.M. and terminating on Saturday the 20th with a full day of more than 30 music acts on six stages. On Thursday, September 18th, the highly successful movie "Muscle Shoals" will be featured in the DeKalb Theater at 7 P.M. with a meet and greet with legendary Shoals artists Jimmy Johnson and David Hood. New features this year include Katie Sunshine, a Hula Hoop dancer extraordinaire, and Dean's High Flying Disc Dogs. Matt Mullins from Duncan Yo-yo will demonstrate and teach you how to REALLY use your yo-yo. In addition, you will see top notch artisans from oil painting to wood carving, pottery and glass, and the list goes on. There will be lots of food and beverages including a beer garden and wine tasting at Hunt Hall. There is a classic car show, kid's inflatables and much, much more. This festival has so many things going on you need to stay the

whole day because the entertainment and venues are changing all day long. The event concludes Saturday night with legendary Wet Willie performing at the DeKalb Theater at 8 P.M.

Last year, Boom Days Heritage Festival won two major awards. These awards are hard to get. There are more than 300 festivals competing just in North Alabama each year and thousands in the southeast region. Southeast Tourism Society who covers the 12 state southeast honored Boom Days with the fall event of the year and Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourism Association (northern 16 counties in AL) honored Boom Days with the Festival or Event of the year award. The criteria include quality and diversity of the agenda--it must be unique and it must support the integrity of the community.

You will not want to miss Boom Days Heritage Festival 2014 on Saturday, September 20th, starting at 8 A.M. and running all day on into the evening. For all the details about the event and the schedule of events and musical artists visit www.Boomdays.org

Remember When (Cont'd from page 15)

has worked at DeKalb Tourism for many years now, and things have truly changed in this industry. Technology has certainly played a role in the evolving mechanics of tourism today, the beautiful sign out front of the DeKalb Tourism building in Fort Payne is a fine example.

John Dersham, Executive Director at DeKalb Tourism, had this to say of tourism today. "Moving forward since 1982 tourism in our area has grown stronger each year and has become an increasingly important economic growth mechanism throughout our area. During the years of a sluggish economy, since 2008, tourism has continued to grow. This growth has helped provide our communities with tax revenue that has declined from job losses but is partly recovered by our visitor's expenditures. They spend money on lodging, eating, buying gas, shopping, visiting attractions, etc. Last year

tourists spent 71 million dollars in DeKalb County. This number is calculated by the state for each of the 67 Alabama Counties. The number evolves from the average spending habits for anyone who spends the night in any hotel, B&B, campground or rental cabin. This number has doubled in ten years. Interestingly enough this number is exclusive of day trippers who also are tourists adding to the incomes in DeKalb too. The habits of our visitors are changing with each generation. Our regular visitors are from 45 and up (Baby Boomers) and they are leisure tourists. In the USA, Generation X is now the biggest contributor to tourism and they prefer entertainment tourism over leisure. This means as our Baby Boomer tourists to DeKalb decline we will need to increase the categories that are growing with the younger generations which are entertainment (music, food, theme parks, etc), adventure (hiking, biking, kayaking, zip lines, etc) and electronics

(entertainment based on technology usage). We are addressing our changing demographics and several service providers are already offering some of these functions and more are being planned right now. We have a wonderful area to promote and our visitors love it. We, as DeKalb Tourism will work toward helping our cities, parks, county and private enterprise in helping in the development of strategies that will supply the desires of our ever changing demographics".

I would like to say "Thank You" to John, Kayla and the entire staff of DeKalb Tourism for the amazing job they do promoting our gorgeous area. To see how you can help, or find out what's happening in our area, you can contact DeKalb Tourism at www.DiscoverLookoutMountain.com or by phone at 256.845.3957 or 888.805.4740.

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LOTS and LAND

8.9 ACRES WITH APPROX 136' BROW FRONTAGE on Citadel Rock Rd, just down the road from the back entrance to DeSoto State Park. Several building sites on property. Beautiful wooded land with large paved road frontage. \$89,000 (692925)

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)

4.3 ACRES WITH STREAM, mostly wooded. Convenient for commuting to Chattanooga, Trenton or Fort Payne. Driveway in place. Pleasant areas to access stream. Priced at only \$29,900. (810160)

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

270' RIVER FRONTAGE ON WEST FORK LITTLE RIVER 3.01 acres. Beautifully landscaped. Natural mountain views. Mountain driveway already in place. \$48,500. (808634)

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)

THE RAREST OF OPPORTUNITIES. Almost an acre, right next to the picturesque "red boat house" at DeSoto Falls, w/approx 94' frontage on the prime part of West Fork, Little River, the truly navigable part where you can canoe, kayak or pontoon all the way to Mentone! So much natural beauty, so rarely available to be purchased. \$162,500.

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. \$55,000.00 (564423)



THE LARMORE HOUSE, a landmark home built in 1836, and one of the few remaining early homes in DeKalb County. Feel the history in its hand-crafted doors; wavy window glass, well-worn heart-pine floors; massive stone fireplace in the kitchen (there are six in the house altogether); the smokehouse with its hand-carved pegs in the rafters; the servant's quarters with massive stone firepit in the middle of the floor. Surrounded by ancient cedars & walnut grove. 3.49 acres w/2 streams & spring. \$139,000. (535973)



BEHOLD THE BEAUTY OF LITTLE RIVER CANYON! 3BR/2BA cabin, bordered by LRC Nat'l Preserve. The rim of the canyon is just outside your back door. Enjoy the changing colors of the mountain from the 12x24 deck or from one of the balconies. Main-level bedroom & bath; open LR/DR/KI; wood-burning Fplc; wood floors; all appliances. Full-time living or true getaway. \$159,000. (1001006)



SWEET! 2BR/1.5BA cabin in the heart of Mentone. Steps away from sunsets, views from Brow Park, dining, shopping & festivals. Wide-plank pine floors throughout. Frame exterior & metal roof. Nice front & back porches. Nearly new kitchen appliances. Small, private back yard. There are so many possibilities for this neat little cabin! Great rental, too! \$109,000. (1000723)



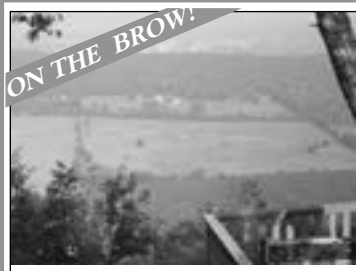
GRACE GLENN, a place to get away from the day-to-day, to unwind, to be at peace. Listen to Brush Creek as it winds its way through the mountains. Over 300' of brow frontage. Mostly wooded. 3BR/2BA cabin w/screened porch, 2 sunrooms, balcony. Partially furnished. \$179,900 (400932)



HMM. A rare opportunity to own a place that has been used for a business & living quarters 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 backyard; front office/studio. Multi-use space perfect for weekends, festival times, part-time, all the time. \$110,000 (403324)



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! Residential or Commercial property. Rustic cabin-style building could be a residence. Currently structured as a campground w/14 RV sites & 8 primitive campsites (water & power at each site); bathhouse; barn; picnic areas; country store/office building with a large front porch, tin ceiling & rustic decor inside with counter space, sep office & bath; 1BR/1BA apartment in basement. Multi-use business property, residence or whatever one might envision. 4 acres w/300' frontage on Hwy 117. \$150,000. (479473)



THE TIME HAS COME for your home on the brow at Mentone, with breath-taking views of the valley, mountains beyond & those fabulous sunsets! 4BR/2.5BA; 2-car garage; hot tub; 1.46 acres w/over 185' brow frontage. Beautifully landscaped with view & seating areas outdoors. Great, old stone & ironwork entry. New HW floors & SS appliances. Less than a mile to downtown Mentone; 40 min to Chattanooga via I-59 or Hwy 11. Residence, retreat or rental! \$325,000 (1000824)



NEED SPACE? 4BR/3.5BA home w/office; 2-car gar./shop; small shop; att carport; deck; family room w/woodburning Fplc; den w/stone, gaslog Fplc; formal LR; formal DR; huge kitchen w/ bar & b'fast area; new roof. On the corner of Linchpney & Cool St. Brow views & lovely sunsets are only a glance away! \$172,500 (1001780)



VINTAGE BUNGALOW, freshened up & ready for use as Commercial or Residential. 250' along Hwy 117. Charm galore! Bright & sturdy, 1940's-era, 3BR/1BA gem. Wood walls; period trim details. Updated electrical, plumbing, floors & cabinets. Inviting front porch, back deck & screened back porch. Beautiful big trees in the yard. \$125,000. (518993)

Also look for our listings at AlabamaMountainLiving.com

The Rhododendron Garden Club

By Mellanie Tuttle

The Rhododendron Garden Club met in the MERF house on Tuesday, August 12. Eight members and one guest were present. Mellanie Tuttle was hostess. Martha Wood called the meeting to order. For the meditation, Dianne Kiehl read A Collect for Gardeners by Mrs. Edwin Flinn and gave the Treasurer's report. Committee reports followed.

In July, President Peggy Rourk, on behalf of the garden club, wrote to Gov. Bentley concerning the Alabama Dept. of Transportation's plan to put a four-lane through the Historic District of Eufaula. Gov. Bentley's response letter was read and the members discussed the state of the 100 year old trees. Eufaula residents are urging all Alabamians to "Save North Eufaula Avenue" (www.no4lant.com has a link to sign a petition). Members also discussed the clear cutting

of trees in and around Mentone. A motion was made and passed to write a letter to the Nature Conservancy and/or Forever Wild in support of buying land to conserve natural habitats.

Martha Woods presented two native orchids for the horticulture report. *Spiranthes* (in Greek means spiral flower) or Lady's Tresses prefers marshes, bogs or swamps and has small densely arranged flowers in vertical, slightly spiral rows on spikes growing 9-18 inches. The other specimen, a Yellow Fringed Orchid (*Platanthera ciliaris*), has showy bright yellow to

orange flowers with distinctive fringed lips and clustered in racemes. It grows in sunny, wet areas with acidic soils and along roadsides. Mentone's population has been affected by the spraying along the power lines.

New business and the program concerned planning for the upcoming Flower Show on

Sept. 22- Sept. 27 at the DeKalb County VFW Agricultural Fair. The horticulture division is open to all residents of DeKalb County, so we were encouraged to scour yards for flowers, foliage, and get potted or hanging plants ready to enter and remind our neighbors to do likewise.

Op Art, Stabile and Exhibit Table, Type II are the new designs for the show. Martha Wood demonstrated making a Stabile design

with lots of "help" and comments from fellow members. Mellanie Tuttle discussed OP Art and handed out info sheets on pollinators which is the topic for the club's entry in the Educational Exhibit at the Fair.

Food (muffins), clerks for the judging and check-in folks for horticulture were assigned and the meeting closed.

The next meeting for the Rhododendron Garden Club will be on the second Tuesday of September (Sept. 9). A guest speaker, Barbara Wilson, will be sharing her expertise of

manipulating/ abstracting foliage for designs. We are very excited about the upcoming Fall Fair and invite the community to view our award-winning (no false modesty here) designs and Horticulture and Educational Exhibit on pollinators.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of Northeast Alabama Federation of Garden Clubs, The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., District II, Deep South Region and National Garden Clubs.



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 sunrises 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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Menton, France (Cont'd from page 1)

down to the sea.

We continued our journey through the mountainous terrain and down the valley to San Remo to get a view of Italy and eat Italian gelato before going to Menton. The weather in San Remo went very quickly from sunny to a huge rainy down pour. This shift in weather is common in the Mediterranean and adds to the lushness of the area. Though as a result of the unexpected torrential down pour, the stone streets in San Remo had streams of water flowing as we hopped from store front to store front getting our feet soaked. Luckily we bought an umbrella from a man walking down the street selling them to ill prepared tourists because to our surprise the stores were closing one right after the other.

We arrived in San Remo at about 12:30pm and by 1pm all the storefronts were shut and their doors were locked. Zoe and I, at that moment, learned about the luxuries of traditional Italian culture. In the mainly tourist areas where I travelled before, such as Rome or Florence, I had not experienced these closings but in the smaller towns the stores maintained the culture of quality of life and closed for three hours for lunch and rest. This lesson of Italian culture was a welcome teaching even if it cut our time short in Italy, yet I hope to find this sort of balance in my own life. No complaints from me for early departure because we headed on our way to Menton. I was so eager to get to Menton, as if I were meeting someone very important for the first time, who seemed to also be awaiting me.

It was interesting to observe the various stores as we neared the border of Italy and France on the coastal road because the stores had both Italian and French languages displayed on their signs to advertise their business. I was also intrigued by the beauty inside the cities along the Mediterranean because of the character of the historic buildings, the history they held, and the care the towns took to line the streets with exotic planters bursting with colorful blooms, some of which were up to six feet tall.

My heart skipped a beat as I saw the Menton sign indicating we had officially arrived. The streets weren't paved with gold

and the landscape was nothing reminiscent of our glorious Mentone on Lookout Mountain Alabama, nonetheless it was exciting. I felt like someone should pinch me as I walked on the streets of Menton. The first place I came to was a fresh vegetable stand with a small grocery selling local cheeses and walls lined with French and Italian wines. Next door was a clothing store with big floppy hats, scarves, flowy dresses and jewelry; this was my style of town so far.

After walking a few steps further it was quickly apparent what Menton, France is known for... Citrus. Menton is especially known for lemons. They have lemon sorbet, glacier, mojito, honey, parfum, candies, macaroons, soaps, etc. There is absolutely nothing lemon based that you will not find in Menton. They also have mandarin oranges in abundance and I must say the mandarin honey was one of the sweetest most flavorful honeys I have ever tasted!

Before I go on about the deliciousness that comes from Menton I will tell you first about the old town. The historic streets are lined in small pebbles often in flower shaped patterns. The stonewalls and pebble laden sidewalks caused me to concentrate intently on the artistry and time it must have taken to create as I climbed the stairs to the St. Michal cathedral.

The 1600's pastel cathedral, made a Basilica in 1999, had two bell towers, a clock tower and statues built into its outer walls. All of the buildings surrounding the city were pastel in color and reflected French architecture, however France did not own Menton until 1860. Menton was originally founded by the Genoese and soon after, in 1346, was owned by Monaco.

Tourism in France was booming in the late 1800's, and Menton was no exception, often visited by city dwellers, artists and many British including Queen Victoria. Like Menton tourism, Lookout Mountain's Mentone began booming in the late 1800's, and for many of the same reasons as Menton. Alice Mason read an article about Menton during this time. While sitting in the late Mentone Springs Hotel, Alice named our Alabama town for this beautiful French town.

The climate, and as a result ecological beauty and diversity, has made Menton & Mentone, AL attractive for

tourists and residents. Artists still flock to both places because of the exquisite unique beauty and landscapes. Also both have been notoriously known as great places to heal from a sickness, especially anything that affects the lungs. In many ways you can find similarities between the two towns, such as beautiful views, clean air and a relaxing, soul-connecting experience, though these towns are really as different as night and day.

While Mentone has fairly moderate temperatures three seasons out of the year, our winters are very cold because of our elevation and being situated on top of a mountain. On the contrary, Menton has a moderate climate year round. The mountains cradle the town of Menton making it one of the most attractive sights of the French Riviera, and especially in the winter because it is protected from the northerly winds.

I spent most of my time in the old town and tourist area. So I was unable to get to know true Menton culture and sub-culture, just as people who come to Mentone only get a taste of something they want more of that only time spent can bring. I did have a delicious taste of Menton before I left, in more ways than one. I actually had one of the best meal experiences of my life. Coming from me, that is a really big statement because I am so picky. I have eaten some of the most wonderful food in Europe, Costa Rica, Hawaii and continental United States, including that of my grandmother and friend Ginger who have prepared me some of the best meals ever with love from their gardens.

The name of the restaurant that exploded my palette and senses was Mirazur, which also has its own gardens growing some of its own food and herbs. Upon arriving, we walked up a sidewalk and few steps, lined on either side with blooms, to enter a large room that appeared bright and sparsely, yet tastefully decorated with art and flowers. The entire experience was the perfect blend of comfort, elegance and magic. We were seated with a panoramic view of the ocean where we could see the horizon,

(Cont'd on page 24)



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Menton, France (Cont'd from page 22)

Menton and part of Monte Carlo. This was especially wonderful because, weather permitting, we were going to see fireworks. It was Bastille Day, France's version of America's Independence Day.

One of the things that made the experience so wonderful for me was the presentation of a poem on the table when we were first seated. It was about embracing life, appreciating food and blessings. Shortly after we were seated the beautiful hostess came over, with a big welcoming smile handed us our menu and asked if we spoke French. I said "Parlez vous anglaise?" Thankfully she did speak English because what was to come was a completely unique experience. We had a choice on the menu of: from the land, from the sea or beef. Those were our only choices and from that point on everything we were brought was the chef's choice. He chose perfectly.

Zoe and I started out with parmesan encrusted anchovies, cucumber scoops filled with ricotta and symmetrically cut cooked beets topped with sheep's cheese. Next we had onion tortellini with thyme flowers and a green bean cucumber salad with pistachio vinaigrette. For our main course, both perfectly prepared, I had scorpion fish and artichokes and Zoe had duck with nasturtiums. For dessert, they brought us chocolate in the shape of tree twigs, shortbread and macaroons. Then, just after they brought our dessert, the chef, Mauro Colagrecio, who owns and hands-on exquisitely operates the restaurant, came out to greet the tables.

I complimented him until I thought he might blush. Just as I got up to take a photo

with him, the fireworks began, lasting for about a half hour. During that time everyone at Mirazur stood up and gathered around the open-air windows. As the colorful lights lit up the sky, the beauty was magnified as the glows of the fireworks were mirrored in the calm ocean below. Before leaving Mirazur, we were presented with a small folder, which the chef signed for me "Avec passion pour Moon". It had the restaurant's logo on the front and inside was a description, in detail, of each of the dishes we had been served.

My time in Menton was surely not long enough though the memories will last forever within me. I hope you have enjoyed experiencing Menton through my written word. I also hope to bring Menton to Mentone with a Mirazur meets Wildflower Café night. I have already been creating dishes at Wildflower inspired by my Mediterranean trip, though the



art of surprise will be a very different experience I hope many of you will enjoy. Wildflower Café is approaching its 7 year anniversary so be looking for a Menton celebration in Mentone soon. Be looking on Facebook, in the Groundhog and on the web for details.

Last but not least I want to express thanks to Ruth Ann Steele at Travel Designers, Rob Mathews European Tour Guide, Le Meridien staff, John Williamson for inspiration to experience life to the fullest and the MAPA crew for inspiring this article.



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