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GROUNDHOG

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

Volume 34, No. 6

"Neighborhood News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

June 2015

Miss Rhododendron Pageant

By Kayla Worthey

The 2015 Miss Rhododendron Pageant was a great success again this year! Presented by MAPA on Friday, May 15th, at the Mentone Community Church Family Life Center, the pageant began at 6pm with 31 wonderful young ladies from six different counties in the surrounding area that competed for the titles. We had an auditorium full of family, friends and loved ones from DeKalb, Cherokee, Marshall, Jackson, Madison and Chattooga Counties cheering and supporting their favorite contestants. Our emcee for the evening was Darlene Rotch, and crowning was done by Miss Rhododendron 2014



Alexis Manifold. Our panel of Judges traveled in from all over the state of Alabama. Mrs. Cecilia Pezdec, Miss Kristen Robbins, and Mrs. Sandra Adrian had a packed afternoon judging private interviews for the Teen and Miss divisions before enjoying BBQ dinner from the Mentone Market and plates from the fish fry by One World Adventure. By the end of the evening, the judges had chosen some amazing and beautiful young ladies to

represent the Rhododendron Festival as Miss Rhododendron.

Frankie Hilyer of Fort Payne was chosen Baby Miss Rhododendron, First Alternate was Taylee Keith of Mentone and Second Alternate was Lolah Hilyer of Fort Payne. Emma Sipsy of Fort Payne was named Tiny Miss Rhododendron, First Alternate was Miley Cruz of Fort Payne and Krimsyn Garrard of Crossville was Second Alternate. Mini Miss Rhododendron was Marissa Blevins of Rainsville, First Alternate was Aubrey Evans and Second Alternate was McKenna Jackson, both of Fort Payne. Rebekah

Ward of Guntersville was crowned Pre-Teen Miss Rhododendron, First Alternate was Candace Wells of Fort Payne and Second Alternate was Sidney McKoy of Oneonta. Teen Miss Rhododendron was given to Joy Cushen of Fort Payne, First Alternate was Bayle Jordan and Second Alternate was Hannah Jordan, both of Valley Head. In our Miss Division, Madison Townson of Fort Payne was

(cont'd on page 12)

CELEBRATION TIME AT ST. JOSEPH'S-ON-THE-MOUNTAIN

By Joan Byrum

Mayor Rob Hammond has proclaimed June 19-21 as *St.-Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Weekend*. The building renewal and restoration of this historic landmark has been completed. "Now it's time to celebrate! And the entire community is invited," said the Rev. Bill Winters, rector of St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal church. "The events planned for this special weekend are to celebrate and express our thanks to God and all our friends who have helped us with gifts and their interest and encouragement."

June 19, 7:00 PM - FREE Concert featuring *Microwave Dave and The Nukes* on the green behind the church; bring your lawn chair. Concert moves inside the church in case of rain.

June 20, 6:00 PM - Alabama Shrimp Boil (very reasonable price) held in the Mentone Inn

pavilion.

June 21, 10:30 AM - Morning Worship Service Celebrating God's goodness and giving thanks for His mighty blessings.

Restoration of the church has been extensive. "Working from the foundation to the belfry," Ron Merrell, Building Renewal Chairman, said, "we strengthened the foundation, shored up the sagging floor joists, installed two original windows found in storage, repaired the exterior with board and batten like the old, and gave the entire interior a face lift. With a gift from the Ellen Powell estate, a beautiful and updated kitchen was completed in her memory." "Our simple desire is to remember who we were, rejoice in where we are, and look forward in faith to where God is leading us," Rev. Winters.

With work completed, the congregation of St. Joseph's invites all their friends and

neighbors to this special weekend celebration. Listen for the original bell, now secured in the belfry, to ring loudly before each event begins. For more information contact the church office at 256-634-4476. If you would like to know more about Microwave Dave and The Nukes: microwavedave.com/bio.htm.



THE GROUNDHOG

P. O. Box 387
Mentone, AL 35984

The Groundhog 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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MENTONE MATTERS

By Mayor Rob Hammond



With the opening of the camps in a couple of weeks, the population of Mentone will more than double— and that is accounting only for the camps in the town limits. The summer tourist season officially opens Memorial Day. In addition, many families with second homes will begin spending considerable time on the mountain. The number of people walking, jogging, and riding bikes increases dramatically. Please be vigilant and share the road.

The much needed paving of North Cool Street through Brow Park was completed just in time for the Rhododendron Festival. Thanks to all the volunteers who made the festival another successful event.

From The Editor

New Groundhog Editor

The MAPA Board is excited and pleased to introduce you to our new Editor of The Groundhog, Anna Mae Horn. Anna lives in Valley Head with her husband Bill, and two of her children, Waylon and Olivia. Her older daughter, Harli, has already left the nest. In addition to her job of being a full time homemaker, mother, and wife, Anna also cares for her own mother.

In her spare time, Anna Mae enjoys bargain hunting, long drives through our mountains and working in her flower garden. She recently taught herself to sew and finds it very rewarding to imagine, create and complete each sewing project. But most importantly for our benefit and enjoyment, she loves to write.

Anna always enjoyed writing and over the last year wrote and contributed the Valley Head Tiger Champs column for The Groundhog. She will continue with the Tiger Champs column; however, we are most excited about her desire to meet, interview and write about all the interesting, unique people, families, and history of our area.

Please join the MAPA Board in welcoming Anna Horn to our Groundhog family and

helping her with stories, information and pictures of this place we call home. We believe her hard-working, laid back style and passion for everything local will quickly integrate her into the community fabric of this great area and its diverse and interesting people.

Thank you, Anna.

Ray Padgett
For the MAPA Board



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MAPA
P. O. Box 50
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Rhododendrons, Rain and Festival Magic

By Ray Padgett

Festivals are for the people, out of town and local, who come out to enjoy the magic of Mentone in the spring and to taste, hear, and view in amazement the creations of our talented citizens. While operational glitches occurred, we believe our primary goal of creating fun events for everyone was a huge success. Our hope is that visitors will remember the 2015 Mentone Rhododendron Festival and smile at how good it made them feel.

While the official festival start time was Saturday at 09:00, festival events kicked off Friday afternoon with boat rides up the Little River, a fish fry and Moonlight Music at the Mentone Inn pavilion, and The Rhododendron Festival Beauty Pageant at the Mentone Community Church on Friday evening. The weekend saw about fifty (50) vendors at Brow park, over thirty-five (35) musical performances spread between the Brow Park Stage, the Town Square Stage, and our new stage under the "Big Tent". Of course, the ultimate in old time southern music, Sacred Harp, was performed Saturday at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Church. The Children's Festival included face painting, a water slide, pony rides, a carriage ride, and snow cones and hot dogs to eat. The Low Country Boil and Moonlight Music under the Big Tent on Saturday evening was something new for the Rhododendron Festival.

Dozens of volunteers and sponsors made it possible for MAPA to host this huge (for Mentone anyway) array of events, talent, food and fun. Please support our sponsors listed on page 12 and thank our volunteers. Our thanks go to MAAC for kicking off their Summer Music Series during the festival on the Town Square Stage, and to our North Lookout

Mountain Volunteer Fire Department for helping with banners and installation of the Big Tent and for serving great barbeque. Special thanks are given to our local Boy Scouts Troop who park cars, set up and pick-up trash bins, move chairs for music events, build bon-fires, and pick up litter after the festival - WOW!

In addition to volunteer help already mentioned, this is just a short list of "things" done by our Rhododendron Festival volunteer planning committee (beginning in February): solicit sponsors, identify and design new signage, design and purchase brochures/flyers, find and schedule musicians, setup festival signs and banners, arrange toilets/dumpster, setup/breakdown tents, solicit/layout/assist vendors, provide festival information, arrange and monitor children's events, coordinate beauty pageant, track financial transactions, and most importantly develop marketing for the festival. While there are many volunteers who devoted hours to help make this a great festival, a small core of volunteers met each week for the past few months to create what everyone enjoyed on the third weekend in May. They embody the community spirit of Mentone, THANK YOU!

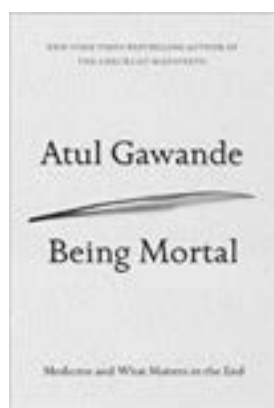
Did I mention rain? Turned out that the weather was almost perfect. While it finally rained on Saturday evening, festival revelers and musicians still enjoyed a great Low Country Boil and fantastic music under the Big Tent.

Thanks to all the vendors, musicians, Mentone Mountain Chefs, and visitors, this was indeed a festival to remember.



Moon Lake Community Library

By Sue Schwarz



**BEING
MORTAL:**
*Medicine and
What Happens
in the End*

Author:
Atul Gawande

This book, in a nutshell, asks the question, "Have we made longevity more important than quality of life?" Atul Gawande is a surgeon who has become aware of the prolongation of life, sometimes at the loss of quality of life. He cites instances in his personal life and in his medical practice where he seriously considers the options people make. He questions whether there was an open discussion with patients about what they really wanted for their end of life, and some examples of friends, family and patients and the choices made for them or by them.

Although this is not a book with solutions for how we make decisions about the way we live

our last years, it opens some doors for thoughtful discussions. In the book, he has examples of options that may make it easier for people to maintain their independence and lifestyles that are important to them in their waning years. One I found interesting was the 'Village' concept. Not a physical village, but an organized group of care and services that would be provided to members of the village, and thereby enabling them to

maintain their independence for a longer time. He also discusses at length informed decision making for the patients with terminally ill conditions.

I found the book to be a thoughtful examination of many problems surrounding the process of aging and being able to live productive lives as long as possible. Gawande asks us to look at improved options for making better and more informed choices for ourselves.

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JULYFEST 2015 ART AND MUSIC FESTIVAL PLANNING IN THE WORKS



By Rhea Pirch

The Mentone Area Arts Council is in the final stages of planning this year's Julyfest 2015 Art and Music Festival, another MAAC event, to be held July 18th and 19th at Brow Park in Mentone.

Artists are encouraged to fill out an application for Julyfest 2015, Mentone's only juried art show, with cash prizes ranging from \$650 for first place, \$450 for second place, \$250 for third place to \$150 for fourth place. The region's best artists and skilled craftsmen will gather to display and sell their finest array of visual arts, pottery, sculpture, wood, basketry, fiber, photography, glass, jewelry, and other

ART MARKET

By Scott Thomas

The Mentone Area Arts Council kicked off their new program, Second Saturday Art Market, on May 9th. MAAC, along with Mentone Market, is offering a free venue for local artists and musicians to showcase their talents and for shoppers to meet and interact with this talented group of individuals. The Second Saturday Art Market will continue, second Saturday of each month, through October, across from Mentone Market.

The first market included novice artists, attempting to sell their work for the first time, as well as established artists well known in the area. The star of the day was 86-years-young Jim Farquhar, a walking stick and cane maker from Rome, Georgia. There was never a large crowd but a nice, almost constant flow of customers. The event can best be described as a "laid back mini festival."

Second Saturday Art Market was a delight for customers and vendors alike. MAAC received a lot of positive feedback during and after the event. If you missed this first one, plan now to join us this month.

June 13th is the date for MAAC's next art market. It will start at 9am and last until at least 2pm. For more information about this and other Mentone Area Arts Council events, go to www.mentonearts.org. MAAC is planning a lot of fun, free events this summer.

quality art.

This year, local artists and craftsmen will volunteer to demonstrate their art and craft-making in a demonstration area where visitors will be able to watch and participate in making their own pieces of art.

Local musicians will provide entertainment on the brow during the festival both Saturday and Sunday, and a concert will be held Saturday evening at the Mentone Inn Pavilion. A barbeque dinner before the concert, provided by Mentone Market Barbeque, will be available for purchase to the public and offered free to the vendors as part of their participant vendor fee.

Applications can be found here in the Groundhog, or on-line at mentonearts.org.

Julyfest 2015 Art and Music Festival is made possible by a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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JULYFEST 2015

July 18-19, 2015

ARTIST APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Website Address _____

Telephone Number _____ Cell Number _____

of Booths Required _____ Is electricity and/or water required? _____

Description of artwork, craft or food for inclusion in show _____

Please send two (2) images of your work for review by the Jury. Images should be photographs or on CD Rom. You may provide a website address in lieu of photographs or CD if it is current and accurately represents the body of your work. Some of your images may be used for marketing purposes for show if supplied by CD or website/facebook.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS/DEADLINE

Please mail your signed Exhibitor Application, images and check by July 1, 2015, to:

Mentone Area Arts Council, P. O. Box 370, Mentone, AL 35984

I, the undersigned, agree to be responsible for my own booth space, my art work, and possessions at all times during and surrounding the show. The Mentone Area Arts Council or anyone affiliated with this entity will be not held responsible for items lost, stolen, or damaged, nor for injury to any person on the show grounds or any place connected with JULYFEST 2015. I release any of the above from any and all liability. I also agree that any photographs or videos containing my image may be used by MAAC for publicity.

JULYFEST 2015 Art Show information as well as an application will be posted online at www.mentonearts.org. For further information, please contact Beverly Bates at bjbates@bellsouth.net or 205-520-1556. You will be notified of your acceptance by July 3 and space location the week prior to the show.

Signature _____

MBA Mix



The Mentone Business Association is working with Mayor Rob Hammond and Mentone City Council to try and make Mentone's business

district a safer, more pleasant experience for residents and visitors to our area. We were able to present some of our ideas toward this end at the May, 2015, City Council meeting. We feel the mayor and council members were very receptive to our suggestions and thank them for hearing us.

With our main street being a busy state highway, implementing change will be a challenging endeavor. But, with the cooperation of pedestrians, drivers, law enforcement and the state highway department, we believe positive changes can take place. The first place to begin is with our own driving habits: SLOW DOWN!

Rhododendron Festival 2015 is now behind us and it seemed those who decided to ignore

By Charlotte Gentry, MBA President

the gloomy weather forecasts and make the trip to Mentone were well rewarded. The music alone was well worth coming to Mentone. Thanks to Sharon Habin for manning the MBA booth during the festival. Also, thanks to Lisa Schad for the use of her awning; Bob Hoffman and Jim Rodgers for set up.

The MBA meets every 2nd Monday at 6:00 pm. We will be meeting at different businesses in Mentone each month. Our June meeting will be held at Kamama's. If you are a business owner, or if you are considering doing business in Mentone, please join us. There is no cost to becoming a member of MBA. For more information, visit our Facebook page or find us online at MentoneBusiness.com.

Remember When . . .

The Groundhog ran a cover story in June of 1988 titled "Mentone's Summer Camps—An Investment In Living?" The Issue was a special edition and gave histories and backgrounds of all the camps. I felt this article pertinent since June is opening camp season, and as most of you know, I am a long time employee of Camp Laney's. I have the blessing of working alongside my mother, Connie, who has run the kitchen there for almost three decades! It has always been home away from home.

The article read: "Mentone is famous not only for it's beautiful location, friendly people and gracious hospitality, but also for the places in the hearts of thousands of children who come to have the time of their lives. Susan Hooks, Director of Camp Skyline (at the time), said: '...an investment in living, a lifetime of memories.' They come from all over the world to our mountain camps, and everything is ready and waiting—the cool green woods, the sleek horses, the tireless workers, the sumptuous food, and the immaculate grounds welcome the first arrivals in June.

As early as 1922, Mentone was recognized as one of the best places in the world for a child to spend a summertime interlude. Camp Alanita was built that year on a ledge below Eagle's Nest rock on the north



brow. The camp's brochure claimed: 'it is the ideal spot for developing the girl with a mind that thinks, a body that acts, and a heart that loves,' and that is still the criterion for the development of campers today.

Another pioneer is Camp DeSoto which is perhaps the oldest camp in Mentone. It was originally a boy's camp built in the 1920's by a Mrs. Newton. At her death, Eloise Hart Temple leased it and turned it into a camp for girls. Martha Berry, the famous educator, assisted in an advisory capacity and sent students from Berry School in Rome, Ga., to work in the dining room. In 1944, Camp DeSoto was purchased and operated by Norma Bradshaw and Bess Heron.

Sue McLarin Henry became a staff member in

1947, and stayed to purchase the complex in 1975.

Another historically significant camp is Skyline which was begun by Eloise Temple after she sold DeSoto. Mrs. Temple founded the traditions which are still a part of Skyline today. Skyline has more acreage than most other camps, for when Edmond and Edward Cash of Cash Construction purchased the camp, they added some of the scenic land on the mountain to be used for camp activities...

In 1887, Dr. John Edward Purdon and his wife Katherine came from Althone, Ireland to Mentone, servants and all. He had been a Major Surgeon in the British Army. He practiced medicine in Mentone, often without pay. The Purdons' friends, Mary and Thomas Sproule, built a home on the adjoining property to house the Irish servants... They are buried in Bankhead Cemetery. The remains of an old fireplace are all that's left of the original structures, but in 1959, something new was added: Malcolm Laney, assistant coach at the University of Alabama, and his wife Louise began Camp Laney for Boys. There had also been a hotel on the site known as Riverdale Lodge, but it had burned.

The site is a popular one, evidently because it

(cont'd on page 6)

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JURY PICKS FINAL DESIGN FOR MENTONE ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

By Don David

Each spring for the last forty nine years the Alabama Forest Products Association sponsors a competition for the second year architectural studio at Auburn University. The focus of that competition is determined by the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture. In late 2014 Auburn and representatives of Mentone began discussions about having the Mentone Art and Cultural Center as the project for the competition in 2015. A program was developed describing the space allocations and sent to Auburn. It was a happy day when we were notified we had been selected.

On April twenty-ninth the first and fourth floors of the architecture building at Auburn were adorned with sixty designs for the Mentone Arts and Culture Center. It was overwhelming to walk into the building and see our project everywhere. Each of the designs had a large drawing posted on the wall. Each drawing contained floor plans, elevations and other descriptive drawings. Below each drawing was a model of the student's design. The designs were very advanced for second year students. Their work was impressive. Very impressive indeed to think

that this much creative effort had been expended on behalf of our town and our new center.

This was the culmination of weeks of work by the students. Many, many long hours, some all-nighters and weekends were spent working on these designs. This involved the entire second year class of architecture and their professors. The winner,



second and third place receive cash awards. After their second year the students spend a year studying aboard or at the Rural Studio in Hale County Alabama. This prize money helps defray some of that cost so each student puts forth their very best.

The jury started reviewing the project at 10:30. Sitting on the jury from Mentone were Rob

Hammond, Mayor; Ray Padgett, President of the Board of Directors of the Mentone Arts and Cultural Center; Don David, Architect; and Clay Birchfield, Architect. The rest of the jury consisted of faculty and other design professionals. During a break for lunch the jury narrowed the sixty submissions down to fifteen. The designers of the selected projects

brought their projects to the jury room and presented their ideas and the rationale for their designs. After that the jury ranked the projects and selected the winners. The projects were so good that the selection of a winner was very difficult. After much discussion it was decided that there would be a first place winner and a tie for second place. Four projects received honorable mention. Later this spring these projects will be on display in the Mentone Town Hall.

When you visit Town Hall to see the designs, you will see the future of the Mentone Arts and Cultural Center. While the final design will not match any of the

projects exactly, many valuable ideas from this process will be incorporated in the final design. Booklets, brochures and DVDs will be developed to showcase the work of the students and to promote the new center.

Remember When (cont'd from page 5)

includes a broad stretch of the most scenic area on Little River. Here the river is deep and wide and smooth, perfect for summer sports and winter contemplation.

In 1974, staff member Rob Hammond and his wife San purchased the camp and have operated it ever since."

The article went on to tell about Camp Juliette Low, Camp Cloudmont, Camp Saddle Rock, Lookout Mountain Christian Conference Center, Camp Ponderosa and more.

I worked and camped at Skyline as a young teen, and have lived here near these camps my entire life. It never ceases to amaze me what an impact these camps have on young children. And most of them return as adults just to look around once again, and

many bring their children and grand children!

I know that we have been bustling for a couple of months now preparing for this year's camp season, and I know that all the other camps have been also. I wish each camp a wonderful Opening Day and a fantastic Camp Season!

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The NLMFPD is an all-volunteer Fire Department that covers an area of approximately 40 square miles. We provide firefighting services for structures, brush fires, and other fire emergencies. We also respond to other situations such as road clearing after storms, and we provide assistance to other emergency agencies as the need arises.

We receive partial funding from the DeKalb County Fire Tax Fund, and partial funding from the Alabama Forestry Division. However, donations from individuals like you are the major source of income. We maintain 3 fire stations, a dozen vehicles, and equipment, as well as provide protective clothing, boots, radios, and gloves for our firefighters. We also have fuel costs, as well as utilities and insurance for property and personnel.

Our fire department is completely voluntary. No member of staff or the board receives any compensation for their time. Our volunteers attend training to assure you that they are dedicated and able to protect your home and property. We are audited by the International Standards Organization (ISO) which reviews our compliance with professional standards. We have recently been upgraded to a 5/SX, which should help some of you with your homeowners insurance cost. The department recently purchased three defibrillators, one for each station.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Your monetary donations, or purchase of items that we need, helps us to protect each and every Mentone area resident. We look forward to hearing from you, and thank you in advance for your support. All donations to NLMFPD are 100% tax deductible. Please mail your donation to the post office box listed above.

Thank you,
North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Volunteers and Board Members

A Very "Buzzy" Spring

By Angie Shugart

Co-Founder of One World Adventure,
a Non-Profit Outdoor Education
and Eco-Tourism Provider

Do you ever wonder, "Where does the time go?" As we approach the middle of this glorious spring, I wouldn't mind if time could stop. The weather is perfect! Spring rains bring warm sunshine days that are once again, brand new. Alabama wildflowers are abundantly blooming. Every shade of green imaginable canopies our county roads. Little River is sparkling and flowing. If you look close enough, you may see the river smiling. With the arrival of warm weather, my need to balance work and play is on my mind, right now. However, I am staying focused on One World's exciting summer season.

One World's Teen Adventure Travel programs range from 4-12 days, during which teens ages 13-17 participate in a combination of activities including backpacking, whitewater rafting, rock climbing, mountaineering, fishing, cultural immersion and community service projects. Our travel experiences provide a variety of exciting adventures designed to develop skills in the elements of nature. We know firsthand that challenge builds character. Check our trips to the French Broad River, Asheville, North Carolina, Alabama Gulf Coast, and our Alaska Wilderness Expedition!

For the younger youth ages 7-13, we will offer 4 sessions of our popular Adventure Day Camp at Nippersink Lodge! Each day, young explorers will be lead in exciting adventure activities such as rock climbing, rappelling, kayaking and bushcraft lessons and a theme that will instill knowledge and new skills of the great outdoors.

By popular demand, we have added 1 day Adventure Travel for ages 8-12. Eager participants will learn about the beauty our region has to offer while exploring new places. Rafting the Nantahala and Oostanaula Rivers and exploring cities like Chattanooga and Atlanta are just a few of our young explorer treks we added to make summer even more memorable!

You can visit our site for more information about pricing and registration. www.oneworldadventureco.com/2015-adventure-day-camps/.



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COMMUNICATE HONOR ADVOCATE MOTIVATE PARENTS STUDENTS

By Anna Mae Horn

The Valley Head School Library was recently the gracious recipient of approximately 60 new books from the Library of Congress Surplus Books Program. This donation was facilitated by the staff of Congressman Robert B. Aderholt. Norma Hulan, the Media Specialist at Valley Head felt blessed to accept these books for the students to have access to.

She said that since 2008 the library collection has suffered greatly due to a lack of funding for Alabama school libraries. Prior to that, the Valley Head School Library received monies each year for the specific use of purchasing books. Currently, she only receives the standard classroom supply amount and must select a few choice books each year to update the library's collection with funds left after other supplies are purchased. Mrs. Hulan explained that strong books are a necessity- "When we have money, we buy specially made library-bound books which are designed to last longer than normal 'trade' books found at book stores. Trade books only last for ten to twenty circulations before the spines break. Our more popular books may circulate 75 to 125 times. I hope more of our citizens and former students will remember the school library in their charitable endeavors." She also said that fifty books a year would be a tremendous help and could be achieved if only

fifty people donated \$15-\$20 each year. (That's less than \$2 a month for a really good cause!) She puts forth a lot of effort toward keeping the books and other media supplies available that the students need to assist them in their educational advancement.

Mrs. Hulan does a wonderful job



maintaining an environment inside the library that encourages not just reading, but the love of reading, as well as the love of learning in general. With the elementary children, she reads aloud, does activities to supplement the teachers' lessons, has reward parties for the students, teaches them how to do the tasks needed for higher classes, and instills in them the traits they will need to mature. The junior high/high school students often meet in the library for

research projects and other class assignments, but they know they are always welcome and can depend on Mrs. Hulan to help with their needs anytime. She strives to have a pleasant, fun learning atmosphere even though the library is a "quiet" environment. Students know they must behave, use manners, and respect the material and equipment. She teaches them to take care of what they have so that new items can be purchased with what money she does receive, instead of replacing items. The students are held accountable and if something is accidentally damaged, she is quick to repair it if at all possible.

She runs the library budget as she would her own; pinching pennies and selecting carefully where each precious dollar is spent. She was elated to receive her new books from the Library of Congress Surplus Books Program. I only wish Congressman Aderholt and his staff could have seen the delight in her eyes when she told me the great news. She is very thankful not only for this large gift, but for any size or type of donation. Monetary donations (of any amount) are the most helpful, given that it can be used for exactly what the library is in need of. What matters is that our students have enough learning tools in their hands. Those hands were very excited to see all the new books that were donated; you would have thought they were opening birthday presents!

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THE
RECIPE CORNER
BY
ANGIE CARDEN

CONTINENTAL CUISINE AT VALLEY HEAD

On May 14, 2015, I had the esteemed pleasure of being invited to the Valley Head Home Economics Department’s “Continental Cuisine” luncheon prepared by some very talented students. With the masterful and creative leadership of Mrs. Barbara Neel, these four groups of “Culinary Chefs In Training” took myself, along with several other parents and teachers, on a tasteful tour of Japan, Colombia, France and Ireland.

Each group represented one country, and the tables were elaborately decorated according to true custom, accompanied by power point tours of each country, appointed seating, flowers, linen napkins, flags, beautiful menus and more!

Each group prepared drinks, appetizers, main courses and desserts. By prepared, I mean homemade and authentic! Not only did these teens research, prepare and serve, they cleaned up everything!

Japan was represented by Brook Moore, Katlyn Ewing and Megan Kelley. Colombia was represented by Anna Carden, Carol Rosales and Ricky Gutierrez. Team Ireland was Gerald Cruz, Bailey Kirby and Blake Blevins. And last, but not least, team France consisted of Phyllis James, Alisha Kellar, Breanna Boozer and Lucas Boehringer.

Mrs. Neel had a representative from each group stand and speak of their experience throughout the entire process.

Ireland’s representative was Gerald Cruz who stated, “It was absolutely the most stressful thing I have ever done.” Maybe Gerald, but you guys did an amazing job!

From Japan, Brooke Moore said, “Continental Cuisine was such a great experience. Team work is a big priority in the culinary field. I definitely would not do culinary!” Respected Brook, but you guys certainly could!

Speaking for the France team, Alisha Kellar submitted, “Continental Cuisine for me, was hard. The hardest thing was getting the ingredients and washing the dishes. You would think, just by watching, it was easy, but really it was the hardest thing I have ever done. In the end, I was so proud of myself and my group. Nothing is too big if you believe you can do it!” Absolutely correct Alisha!

From team Colombia, Anna Carden said, “I learned so much about all of these countries! It was very difficult though.” That aside, your team nailed it Anna!

The majority ruled that it was difficult! But I have to say, no one that ate these meals was disappointed! Everyone of these kids deserved a standing ovation!

Here’s what Mrs. Neel had to say to me about this process: “I am constantly amazed at teens when given a challenge. This class encourages creativity, research, team work and individuality, with lots of perseverance. I expect a lot... therefore, the students perform with stamina and excellence.” Yes ma’am they do!

In closing, I have to say, though the kids felt the process very difficult, the end result was phenomenal! I went so far as to beg Mrs. Neel to invite me back every year!

My suggestion to anyone reading this, if you ever have the opportunity to dine at “Continental Cuisine” DON’T miss it!

June Birthdays

- June 1 – Sible Hopper
- June 1 – Kayla Hellums
- June 1 – Rebecca Guinn
- June 1 - Braden Busby
- June 2 - Skylar Venable
- June 3 – Brittney Harrison
- June 3 – Donald Stephens
- June 3 – Byron Haynes
- June 4 – Lisa Crowder
- June 5 – Doris Chamlee
- June 6 – Angela Valentine
- June 6 – Keegan Johnson
- June 6 – Christy Harrison
- June 6 - Brayden Harrison
- June 6 – Kenneth Aiden Busby
- June 7 - Jean Crabtree
- June 7 – Donnie Goodman
- June 7 – In Memory of Kenya Bain
- June 8 – Ethan Harrison
- June 8 – Gail Smalley
- June 8 – Rachel Manifold
- June 8 – David Dean
- June 8 – Vince Wright
- June 9 – Sydney Vest
- June 9 – Denita Manifold
- June 10 – In Memory of Dwight Gray
- June 10 – Amanda Gray

- June 10 – Michelle Chappell
- June 10 – Patty Tucker
- June 10 – Joyce Wright
- June 11 - In Memory of Hoyt Potts
- June 13 – Kristi Chambers
- June 14 – Luke Harrison
- June 14 – Jerry Stokes
- June 15 – Campbell Smith
- June 15 – Brad Wright
- June 16 – Sara Langston
- June 16 – Kayla Crow
- June 16 – Mason Vest
- June 16 – Sara Langston
- June 17 – Hope Carden Harrison
- June 17 – Andy Beason
- June 17 – In Memory of Lucille Griffith
- June 18 – Ashley Ingram
- June 18 – Ozell Thornberry
- June 18 – Josh Smith
- June 18 – Carlotta Sharpton
- June 19 – Sierra Chambers
- June 20 – Keri Miller
- June 20 – Logan Chandler
- June 20 – Brandy Rosson
- June 21 - Catherine Bailey
- June 21 – Katherine McDorman
- June 21 – Nick Langston
- June 21 - Nancy W. Smith
- June 21 - Hannah Stinson
- June 21 - Betty S Morrison
- June 22 – Judy Smith

- June 22 – Zachary Potts
- June 22 – Nathan Keith
- June 23 – Bo Eltzroth
- June 23 – Jack Johnston
- June 23 – Benny Goss
- June 23 – In Memory of Lou Langston
- June 24 – Brenda Goss
- June 24 – Kenneth Chambers
- June 25 – Briley Harrison Turns 1!
- June 26 – Andrew Crowe
- June 27 – Ashtynn Carden
- June 28 – Josh Baggett
- June 28 – Chris Stokes
- June 29 – Jacob Bain
- June 29 - JoAnn Bain
- June 29 – Jacqueline Tipton
- June 30 – Cooper Hilyer



Happy 21st Birthday, Hopie Harrison. We love you!



June 21 – Catherine Bailey, 105 years young, loves doughnuts, Mountain Dew and Pizza!

June Anniversaries

- June 1 – Wink & Stacie Painter
- June 5 – Alfie & Kristi Chambers
- June 6 – Tom & Joyce Tate
- June 12 – Tom & Jacqueline Tipton
- June 15 – Michael & Jennifer Owen
- June 18 – Phil & Krissy Harris
- June 19 – Josh & Emmy Smith
- June 19 - John & Trish Sprague
- June 19 – Matt & Traci Hulkan
- June 22 – Andy & Jimmie Sue Beason
- June 23 – Rusty & Angela Chambers

What To Do Around Here!

June 2015 Community Calendar

May 31-Jun 5 - Vacation Bible School. Moon Lake Baptist Church, 6pm - 8:30.

Jun 1-5 - Vacation Bible School, Valley Head Baptist Church, 9am - Noon.

Jun 1, 13, 25 - 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.

Jun 1, 4, 5, 12, 17, 29 - 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.

Jun 2, 8, 20 - 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.

Jun 3 - 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.

Jun 4 - Kamama Music Series. Don't miss a rare solo performance from Dennis Gulley "The Voice of Jackson Highway." Dinner at 5:30pm; music starts at 7pm. Reservations recommended. 256-634-3001.

Jun 4 - 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 10am - 4pm. 256-997-9577.

Jun 6, 13 - Blow Your Own Ornament. Come design and blow your own ornament with the help of one of our glass artists. No reservations are needed, it is on a first come, first serve basis. For this we welcome people of all ages (at least 5 years old). 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$38 per ornament.

256-523-3188.

Jun 6 - Blacksmith Forging Demonstration with Walter Howell. Locally & nationally-known craftsman Walter Howell will demonstrate this interesting artform of usefulness & beauty. DeSoto State Park Country Store & information Center. Free & open to everyone. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 256-997-5025.

Jun 6 - Appalachian Broom-Making Demonstration with Lenton Williams. Locally & nationally-known craftsman Lenton Williams will demonstrate the interesting art form of making hand-tied brooms & brushes in the Appalachian style. DeSoto State Park Store. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 256-997-5025.

Jun 6, 19 - 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.

Jun 6 - 12th Annual Latino Festival. Live Mariachi band, pony rides, face painting, authentic Mexican to Tex-Mex food vendors and so much more. Northeast Alabama Community College campus. Free Admission; 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. 256-638-4418.

Jun 6, 26 - Night 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. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jun 8-11 - "Kayak Camp". Learn all about river systems, the wonders of wetlands, and how finding special creek critters equal clean water. Our camp staff is certified in the skills they teach and are caring and professional with each camper. Our camps sessions are small and limited to only 20 campers, ages 7 - 13. Staff to camper ratio is 6:1 with at least 2 instructors per age group. Nippersink Lodge 256-634-8370.

Jun 8-12 - Vacation Bible School. This is a free event for all age kids and parents. Dinner is served nightly and adult classes are available. New Oregon United Methodist Church in Fort Payne on Lookout Mountain Parkway. 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 256-418-5202.

Jun 9-12 - Canyon Camp for Children (at Little River Canyon Center). Hands-on environmental education, outdoor fun, arts and exploration of the natural world abound in this camp. These camps leave children begging for more JSU Field School fun! Children learn all about Little River Canyon National Preserve and DeSoto State Park... the river, the plants and the animals! These camps fill quickly so register early. Fee includes lunch and supplies. Ages 6 - 9 years. Little River Canyon Center (and some off-site travel) 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$150 per participant; pre-registration required (limited to 10 campers) 256-782-5697.

Jun 9-11 - High Adventure Trip. This is a 3 day adventure including a Wild Cave Tour, Rock Climbing, An Extreme Night Hike and ends with a relaxing canoe trip. Price includes all activities, attractions, permits, fees, gear, and guides. \$137 per person. 256-997-9577.

Jun 9, 27 - 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.

Jun 11 - Kamama Music Series. Catch Lon Eldridge's pre-war blues and jazz fresh from his European tour! Dinner at 5:30pm; music starts at 7pm. Reservations recommended. 256-634-3001.

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

Jun 13 - 2nd Saturday Art Market. The Mentone Area Arts Council is making it possible for local artists and musicians to have a place to showcase their talents that is absolutely free to them. Located in the empty lot across from The Mentone Market. Plan now to attend! 9am-2pm. www.mentonearts.org.

Jun 13 - Orienteering Class. Basic yet essential skills for survival navigation are brought to you in map reading, compass reading, and topography. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jun 13 - Magazine Signing with Sally Gentry. Sally Gentry will be at the Book Shelf for a magazine signing. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-844-8663.

Jun 13 - Bluegrass on the Rim. Come and enjoy a great night of Bluegrass music. Little River Canyon Center. Advanced tickets are \$10 and \$15 at the door. Kids are free Music starts at 5 p.m. 256-845-3548.

Jun 15-19 - Vacation Bible School. Mentone Community Church, Starts at 6pm.

Jun 15 - 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.

Jun 16 - Bouldering Adventure Atop Lookout Mountain. Come experience first-hand what bouldering is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. We will climb on some of the best boulders atop Lookout Mountain. No prior climbing or bouldering experience is needed. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jun 18 - Mountaineering Adventure. This 4-6 hour adventure starts with a rappel into a low light maze where we will stop and anchor part of the way down the rock wall and travel on the rock face mountaineering style to get to our main destination. True Adventure Sports 9:30 a.m. 256-997-9577.

Jun 18 - 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.

Jun 18-21 - Alabama Band Fan Appreciation Weekend. Fort Payne's own Country music group ALABAMA invites you to their Fan Club & Museum and weekend activities throughout DeKalb County. Tour the Fan Club, attend an autograph session, enjoy concerts, and much more. 800-557-8223.

Jun 18 - Sing with the Stars. Presented by the Children's Advocacy Center. The show will start with the songwriter symposium open forum, announcements of winners will feature Teddy Gentry and the Rockit City Band. Held at the NACC Lyceum. Tickets are now on sale! \$10 for adults, \$15 for adults day of the show (18 and older). \$5 for students (K-12). Tickets are available at the CAC office in Fort Payne or over the phone. Doors open at 4 p.m. 256-997-9700.

Jun 18 - Kamama Music Series. Tony Brook, Roots/Americana singer/songwriter. Dinner at 5:30pm; music starts at 7pm. Reservations recommended. 256-634-3001.

Jun 19 - DeSoto State Park Campfire Talk: Snakes Alive! Join us for a fun campfire talk in the great outdoors! Learn about the different snake species of NE Alabama, both venomous & nonvenomous; & learn how to tell the difference between the two! Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. DeSoto State Park's Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center) Free to the Public; Great for all ages! 256-997-5025.

Jun 19 - Jeff Cook Fan Appreciation Daze. Show Come enjoy Jeff Cook and the Allstar Goodtime Band for their annual fan appreciation concert. Will be at DeKalb Theatre in downtown Fort Payne. Doors open at 5 p.m. and show starts at 6:30 p.m. Get tickets now and pick up at the door. \$20 each 256-845-2286, ext 7.

Jun 19 - 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.

Jun 20 - 7th Annual Freedom Fest 5K & 10K. Don't miss the area's largest fun run/walk. There will be hundreds of dollar in cash prizes for the winners in several age categories, plus dozens of valuable door prizes to be given away. Early registration through June 14, 2014 is \$25; after June 14 it is \$35. The first 400 to register will receive a dri-fit t-shirt and race bag. Registration, Packet pickup (7-7:45am) and starting of race (8am) is at Broadway Baptist Church in Rainsville. For online registration,

contact info and more, visit the <http://rainsvillefreedomfest.racesonline.com/>

Jun 20 - Paperweight Class. This class is designed for those who really just want to see what molten glass is all about. Feel the heat, gather from the furnace, sculpt the glass into your own design. It is ultimately about the experience, some experimentation and a couple of nice paperweights to take home or to the office to show your friends. Class size at the largest will be five students so everyone has adequate time at the bench working. There will be material provided before the class for you to review and become familiar with concerning safety and basic glassblowing vocabulary. Please join us for some in-depth discovery. Reservations Required \$135 per person. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-523-3188.

Jun 20 - Third Saturday Sunset Event. You can come out and enjoy an afternoon of family fun activities in downtown Fort Payne. This public event will include food, live music, a car show, and more from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. 256-996-3857.

Jun 20 - Fandemonium On The Farm. Join Country singer Randy Owen for a fan day concert to be done on his farm. You must be a member of the fan club to attend. Autograph session after the concert. Gates open at noon and concert is at 5 p.m.

Jun 20 - DeSoto State Park Campfire Talk: Spiders! Join us for a fun campfire talk in the great outdoors! Join Alabama State Park Ranger Mark Jackson to learn about common spiders of Northeast Alabama & how to identify the beneficial spiders from the ones that are dangerous to humans. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. DeSoto State Park's Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center) Free to the

Public; Great for all ages! 256-997-5025.

Jun 21 - Father's Day

Jun 22-25 - "Forest Explorers". Go on an insect safari, learn forest ecology, Geocache for treasure and learn safety tips to stay on the right trail! Our camp staff is certified in the skills they teach and are caring and professional with each camper. Our camps sessions are small and limited to only 20 campers, ages 7 - 13. Staff to camper ratio is 1:6 with at least 2 instructors per age group. Nippersink Lodge 256-634-8370.

Jun 22 - Poisonous Plants of Alabama. This class is a brief overview of many poisonous plants in Alabama. There are many types of poisonous plants, learn how to spot them and what to do if you are affected by them. True Adventure Sports Training Center. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jun 23, 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. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jun 25 - Kamama Music Series. The Match Coats/New Americana-Folk. Dinner at 5:30pm; music starts at 7pm. Reservations recommended. 256-634-3001.

Jun 26 - 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. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

256-997-9577.

Jun 27 - Sculpt Your Own Flower. Have you ever wanted to actually sit at the gaffer bench and feel what it is like to shape hot glass? It's all about hands-on experience in a safe and fun atmosphere with a final product we know you will love. There is a minimum of 3 people and a maximum of 5 in each class. Reservations are required. 256-523-3188.

Jun 27 - The Crossroads Freedom Fest. Come and enjoy the family fun at Rainsville City Park. There will be music, food, inflatables, and a big fireworks show to end the day. 3 p.m. 256-638-7800.

Jun 27 - Bike Night. Invite your riding friends to come out and enjoy 4th Saturday Bike Night in downtown Fort Payne. It's a great time with music, food and fun! Held at the Rotary Pavillion in downtown Fort Payne. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Jun 28 - Tri-State Paper Crafting. Join us to learn, create and be inspired while crafting with papers, stamps, inks, punches, and die cuts. No experience needed. Kamama Gallery in Mentone AL 1:00-2:30. Reserve by noon Friday the 26th. Cost is \$5. To learn more or reserve a spot send an email to cottagepaper@bellsouth.net or call 205.349-4026.



Ongoing Calendar

AA Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Thursday at 6:00 P.M. at St. Joseph's on the Mountain Church, Mentone, AL. Questions? call 256-634-3060.

MAPA Board meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm 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 Bevell 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.

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

The Rhododendron Garden Club meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 AM at the MERF house in Mentone. (No meetings in June and July) For more information, call 256-634-4403.

MAAC 2nd Saturday Art Market, second Saturday of every month from May-October.

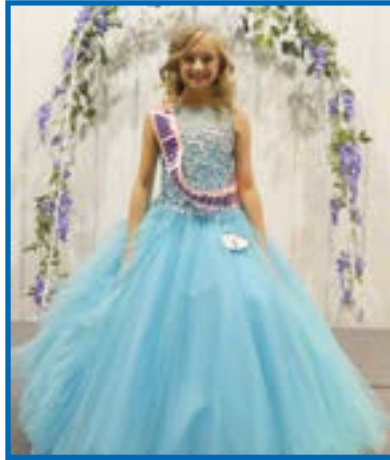
Miss Rhododendron Pageant(cont'd from page 1)

selected as Second Alternate and Tori Olinger of Pisgah was chosen First Alternate. Our new 2015 Miss Rhododendron, Paige Smith of Sylvania, was crowned and presented with a one year scholarship to Northeast Alabama Community College. Paige was present at the Rhododendron Festival and will be making appearances throughout her year as Miss Rhododendron in the Mentone and Valley Head community. We would like to congratulate Paige Smith, Miss Rhododendron, and all other division winners, and also say Thank You to all of our contestants that participated and our guests for

joining us to cheer them on!

We would like to extend our upmost appreciation and gratitude to some of the community for their contributions. First of all to our sponsors, Riverview Camp for Girls, Camp DeSoto, Camp Laney, Camp Skyline and Alpine Camp for Boys, Thank You for your sponsorship. Our stage decorations were once again provided by the Moon Lake Trading Company in Mentone. Thank You, Misty. And last but not least, Thank You to Mentone Community Church for your hospitality and kindly providing our location.

We are looking forward to seeing you all again at next year's Miss Rhododendron Pageant.



2nd Saturday Art Market Images From May Event



Thanks Once Again to Our Rhododendron Festival Sponsors



THREE DAYS IN THE LIFE OF THE RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL



Boat
Rides on
Little River



Friday Night
Concert



Friday
Night Fish Fry



Music



Childrens
Festival



Arts/Crafts
Vendors



Saturday
Night Concert



Sacred
Harp Singing

Earth Day at the Park

On April 22nd, Valley Head Town Park was filled with children, the air with shrills of laughter, and Big Wills Creek with ducks (rubber duckies that is). The 6th annual Earth Day at the Park brought joy to everyone in attendance. This is a community wide event sponsored by Legacy of Alabama, Valley Head School, and The Town of Valley Head.

This event is made possible through an Earth Month Sponsorship obtained each year from Legacy, Partners in Environmental Education. The Earth Month Sponsorship program is designed to assist communities, organizations, and schools by providing funding for the educational components of their program. These programs must center around Earth Month or Earth Day, celebrated during April. More information on the program can be found online at www.legacyenvd.org. Legacy, Partners in Environmental Education uses money from the "Protect Our Environment" car tags to help sponsor events such as this throughout the state. The objective of Earth Day at the Park is to help students and community members develop a deeper appreciation for the diversity of life on our amazing planet and better understand the impact that humans have on our environment.

The sixth graders at Valley Head School, under the guidance of Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Camp, work hard to plan, organize, and set up the school's part of Earth Day at the Park. The Town of Valley Head is also a generous sponsor and a big part of the event. They make sure the park and creek are clean and well-manicured for Earth Day. They also always give plenty of terrific prizes. The AL DOT donate road signs to ensure the safety of the kids. Other school groups, teachers, and members of the community participate at the event by providing an educational activity. This year some of our activities included: making pine cone bird feeders, a recycle center, Clean Up Earth, several art activities, cookie decorating, making Chia Pets, Wheel of Earth game (sponsored by The Town of Valley Head), and a scavenger hunt- all free for everyone to enjoy. Heil Environmental (Dover Corp) also had a new waste disposal vehicle on display. Students also paint and color grocery bags that are handed out at Bruce's Foodland in Fort Payne. These bags have an environmental message and an invite to Earth Day at the Park. Of course they save the best for last; the Earth day event concludes with a rubber duck race down the creek and excited children following them downstream to see who wins.



Mentone Wedding Chapel



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

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

*To arrange your wedding or renewing of your
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Worship

The Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis is our minister for these services.

The Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Women on Mission meets at 1PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

Lea's Chapel Baptist Church welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship. Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18); 6:30pm Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-1001.

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

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

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

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

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

The Fort Payne Christian Center and Pastors Ken and Elaine Hollman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10AM, Wednesday evening at 6PM. God Bless You.

Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA), 5760 Gault Ave. NE, Fort Payne, AL. Sunday School 9:45AM; Sunday Worship 10:55AM. Church office: 256-845-4756.

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

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

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10AM, Worship at 11AM, Wednesday Bible study at 5PM.

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

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

Mentone United Methodist Church, 415 Cutler Avenue, Mentone, Alabama invites you to come and worship with us. Each Sunday, our Worship Service is at 11AM and Sunday School is at 10AM. Tony Gunter is the pastor. The service of Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month, the second Sunday is Youth Sunday and Fifth Sunday is a service of music and pot-luck lunch. Bible Study Wednesdays at 6:00PM.

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

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

Cove Road Baptist Church, County Road 631, Mentone, Alabama, invites everyone in the Mentone and Cloudland Communities to services-- Sunday School 10 AM (GA Time) Morning Worship 11 AM (GA Time) Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 5:30 PM (GA Time) Bro. Brian Keith is the pastor.

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.

Gravel Hill Baptist Church, 14701 Hwy 11 South, Ft Payne, AL 35967 has Sunday School 10 AM & Worship Service at 11 AM each Sunday. All welcome! Wednesdays at 6PM we have supper and a brief devotional time together. Pastor George Moses.

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



Jess Goggans Takes the Stage at Riverbend

By Susan Cheronos

If you were planning to book Jess Goggans this year, you better have already done it! This dynamic local performer is almost booked for 2015! Her star is on the rise, and if you've watched Jess growing up in this community over the last 20 years, you really see her rising to the occasion, as well! She is taking her gift seriously and is endeavoring, on and off the stage, to be... stellar. She's practicing a lot, staying authentic, and taking time to write. As her band hones it's sound, she is carving out her message with meaning and intention; it shows in her dress and demeanor, in the way she can reach an audience and in her power. Like a gathering storm, Jess Goggans is full of potential and electricity, the air fully snaps to her attention when she throws back her head and boldly sings from the depth of her soul and the breadth of her heart. She is our own force of nature; her band is the cloud that completes this powerful storm. They are the bold, rhythmic atmosphere that surrounds her and cycles her energy.

Jess calls Mentone home and was raised here by Dana and Tony Goggans and is now raising her daughter, 15 year-old Ft. Payne High School student, Teah Landress, here, as well. Dana is an encouraging mother and contributed her gifts as an artist, creative thinker, kitchen magician, and beloved friend, wise in the ways of plants and all things natural.

Jess started singing at the Mentone festivals with her famous dad, Tony Goggans, "The Mentone Troubadour," when she was just five years old. In addition to watching (and joining) Tony perform and record, her early influences



Photo taken by Christy Miller Evans

include watching The Mailbu's, Tony's band with his brothers and sisters. She also received support from her former English teacher at Fort Payne High School, Paul Crawford. An influence even to this day, it was Crawford who wrote and produced the first music video from her debut album for a song called Storytelling Blues. You can see the video on Youtube or on her website: www.jessgoggans.com. Dad Tony is a big fan and played keyboard on her last album which includes three of his own songs updated by Jess Goggans and Band, as well as her original tunes.

Jess has sung with a variety of performers including Microwave Dave and Bernie Worrell, a founding member of Parliament Funkadelic. Today, she's booking across the Southeast, but she blocks out the Mentone festival weekends in advance to share her talents with her community. Jess is very community-minded. As the Singing Chef, she instituted "Beans and Ham, Pay What You Can" while running the Hardware Café so that anyone in the community could

have a hot meal. After three years, she has just recently given up her spot at the Hardware store and joined the lunch crew at Kamama, bringing along some of her tasty recipes and affording herself more time to focus on her ever-growing music career. Being freed up from entrepreneurial duties has been a boon to her creativity; she's written 6 songs in the first two weeks after she retired! Last month, she single-handedly organized two full days of music on her own stage on the TownSquare during the Rhododendron festival with the sponsorship of MAAC (who will be doing a "Summer Music Series" this season) and Mentone Realty- bringing in an array of fine talent to festival go-ers and delighting the crowd, herself.

June 6th is a very important day for Jess and her band. June 6th of last year, they released their first CD, Reality. On June 6th of THIS year, she's going to be appearing in Chattanooga at the famous Riverbend Music Festival! A Chattanooga fan gave the Riverbend committee a tip about Jess, they took a listen to her tunes and not only found her a spot, but put her on the Tennessee Valley Credit Union stage in a prime slot from 7:45 – 9pm (EDT) on Saturday night right after War and just before Martina McBride. Also performing this year will be Gregg Allman, the Little River Band, and Merle Haggard. The band is comprised of several talented individuals. Jay Chadwick gets down with lead guitar. Scooter Hilyer beats the drums. Arrie Bozeman makes music with the mandolin and does harmony vocals. Matt Hood slaps the bass. Jess herself, besides lead vocals, also plays the harmonica and guitar.

Coming up for the Jess Goggans Band is a Gulf tour including stops at the FloraBama July 26th in the Main Room 10pm-2 and also 4 Venues in Destin. Before the tour, on May 30th, she will be opening for rising star Jocelyn Arndt at The Camp House in Chattanooga. Next year, they plan to tour the Northeast and are beginning to organize a Western tour as well.

If you've heard Jess Goggans sing, you know you need to sop her up like sorghum with a biscuit while she's still within our reach. Her sweet Southern sound is just that good. Once you've heard her, you know she's going places. If you haven't heard her yet, do yourself a favor- go see her and the band at Riverbend and come out to the Mainstreet Deli as she performs with Regi Wooten June 19th. You'll be treated to the fearless deep and soulful singing of a local rising star. Her hushed and whispered tones will draw you in and her fierce, full and free ones will blow you away.

May 30 - The Camp House- Chattanooga, 7pm
June 6 - Riverbend Festival, Chattanooga, TVCU Stage, 7:45-9pm
June 19 - Mainstreet Deli w/Regi Wooten, Ft. Payne, 9pm

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LOTS and LAND

40 ACRES ON LOOKOUT MTN, Walker's Chapel area; mobile home; 3-bay garage/barn/shop (w/apt & kennel); frontage on both sides paved road; rock formations; wet-weather stream; abundant wildlife & native plants! \$199,000 (316165)

2.2 UNRESTRICTED, WOODED ACRES Mentone. Corner property; hardwoods; public water & power at the road. Great building site for one or a couple of cabins for rental, full-time or part-time enjoyment. \$20,000 (1011111)

BEAUTIFUL 3-ACRE LOT, NORTH-BEND, a woodsy mountain subdivision right across from the brow, approx one mile from Mentone Brow Park & downtown. Light restrictions; underground utilities; public water. \$24,000 (960201)

BE INSPIRED! Take the meandering drive along DeSoto Pkwy to Citadel Rock Rd (the giant boulders on this road are a favorite of rock-climbing enthusiasts). 3.2-acre lot to build your mountain home. Near DeSoto St Park & Mentone. \$53,500 (1003658)

YES, WE HAVE 388 ACRES IN MENTONE FOR SALE! 2 creeks, open areas for pasture, rock outcroppings. Private. Quiet. Secluded. Priced to amaze at only \$1,690 per acre. \$655,720 (1011611)

CREEKSIDE 3.7 ACRES, walking distance to downtown Mentone. Access on both sides of the creek. Privacy w/light restrictions & covenants. \$55,000 (564423)

180' LAKE FRONTAGE. 3 lots being sold together (2 of which are on the lake). 3+ acres total. Nice walking trails along the lake; common areas with gazebo. Gated entry into subdivision. Near Little River Canyon Nat'l Preserve. \$75,000 (1010792)

RARE DOWNTOWN MENTONE building lot. Remnants of the old stone foundation and hand-dug root cellar still in place. Septic tank of unknown condition also on property. Commercial or residential possibilities! \$45,000 (765396)

NEW LISTING! 1.72 WOODED ACRES at the end of a shady, winding lane. A place to build a tiny house (minimum 800 sq ft) or a larger cabin in the woods. Small, wet-weather creek on the property. Just a hop and a skip to Camp Corner, DeSoto St Pk, DeSoto Falls, camps & Mentone \$38,200 (1019850)

REDUCED! TWO ACRES WITH DRIVEWAY, public water at road, building site already prepared. Approx one mile from downtown Mentone on N Scenic Hwy. Unrestricted, wooded, level & just the right size! Just the right price, too. \$20,000 (840634)



NATURE PRESERVE & CHALET-STYLE CABIN on Middle Fork, Little River. Custom-built, 2700 sq ft (+/-) home w/stone, wood-burning Fplce; pine floors; high-end windows & doors; gas range w/elec oven; 3BR/3BA+loft 4thBR. Screened porch, covered deck. Three levels, including a finished, walkout basement guest suite w/den & bar; french doors leading outdoors where the pathway winds down to the bluff areas & an intriguing wet-weather stream bed w/fabulous stones, ledges, & multiple falls; then on to beautiful Little River. \$265,000 (1019875)



WOODLAND COTTAGE, just off DeSoto Pkwy, near scenic DeSoto St Pk, DeSoto Falls, Cloudmont skiing, Comer Scout Res & camps. 2BR/2BA; oak floors & cabinetry; all appliances; gas-log Fplce; Master suite w/balcony & upgraded bath. Wrap-around deck; back porch; wood patio & walk to firepit & seating areas. Furnished. Add'l half-acre lot goes with it. \$154,500 (1019490)



ACTIVE, SMALL BLUEBERRY FARM with old farmhouse & rustic cabin, outbuildings, garden spot, fruit trees, small pond, and more. 11 acres +/-, tons of blueberry bushes plus cherry, crabapple, apple, peach & mulberry trees. All this for only \$125,000 (1016824)

SOLD



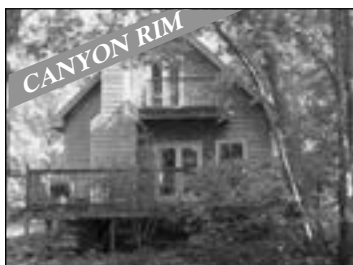
QUAINT BOARD N BATTEN CABIN, on over an acre, off Cutler Ave, Mentone; new roof, flooring, appliances, breaker box, plumbing, much more! Gorgeous plantings, trees, flowers & garden spot. Small stream, cute little bridge. Hidden in the trees so most folks don't even know it's there. Screened front porch; lots of stone work (inside & out); shop; 2BR/1BA. Nothing fancy about the cabin or the price. \$85,000 (1012566)



100 ACRES, 3 CABINS, SPRING-FED LAKE, STREAM, WOODS, only 2.5 miles from downtown Mentone. Acreage consists of mostly-wooded land w/some cleared/thinned areas (maybe 15 acres), stream & springs on property. Ideal family compound, farm or private estate w/income. The cabins are income-producing vacation rentals with great rental history; each comes fully furnished w/hot tubs included. Large shop/garage; screened gazebo; picnic pavilion; horseshoe pit. Foundation, septic permit & water line in place for 4th cabin. Hard to beat at only \$599,900 (1016963)



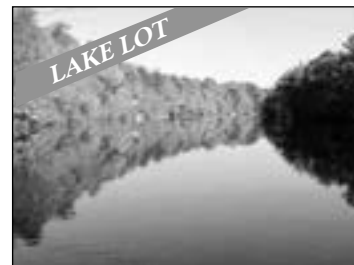
JUST PLAIN ADORABLE! "Carpenter Gothic"-style cottage, sweetly-situated on a naturally-landscaped yard w/wildflower gardens; a carpet of green moss for most of the yard (no mowing!); wet-weather stream; peaceful woods. Built to be energy efficient. Screened back porch to enclose for add'l living area if you choose. Comfortable, cozy & so, so cute! 2BR/1.5BA. \$129,000 (1006846)



BEHOLD THE BEAUTY OF LITTLE RIVER CANYON! Hear the river rushing below you from this attractive, quiet & secluded 3BR/2BA cabin, bordered by LRC Nat'l Preserve. The canyon rim is just outside your back door! Enjoy the mtn splendor from the 12x24 deck or one of the two balconies off the upstairs bedrooms. Main-level BR & bath; open LR/DR/KIT; wood-burning Fplce; all appliances. \$159,000. (1001006)



OVER 725' OF BROW FRONTAGE and 13 acres on which to build an estate like no other on Lookout Mtn! Divided into 11 lots as Mentone Bluffs, but this land, with its 2 levels of bluff views; gorgeous boulders; rock formations; & spectacular forever views, is just meant for something special. Only 3 miles from downtown Mentone, this much brow & acreage is rarely available. \$750,000 (1020617)



RARE, DESOTO FALLS-AREA LOT! Just down from the picturesque "red boat house," this lot offers approx 94' of frontage in the prime part of West Fork, Little River; the truly navigable part where you can canoe, kayak or pontoon all the way to Mentone! Swim, boat, fish, hike to the falls. Hardwoods, rhododendron, mtn laurel.. Build your cottage at DeSoto Falls. \$162,500. (355152)



GET AWAY TO LAKE LAHUSAGE, Mentone's mountain lake where the East & Middle Forks of Little River come together. Beautiful, cedar-shake-sided cottage. Granite kit; vaulted living w/stone gaslog Fpl; 2BR/2BA; sleeping loft & full, walk-out basement for add'l BRs or games. Screened porch; outdoor deck w/fireplace & stone BBQ; covered stone patio; stone walkway to dock. \$239,000 (558629)

THE HISTORY OF MENTONE

By Will Dillard

Mentone and the Summer Camps

This is the final article about the history of Mentone. For such a small town, Mentone has a vast history. Many generations have connections to Mentone, either as residents or as visitors. Although the Mentone Springs Hotel was a huge part of making that history, no story of Mentone would be complete without noting the impact the summer camps had and still have on Mentone.

When Col. Milford Howard established the Master School for Southern Mountain Boys and Girls in 1923 near the present day Comer Scout Reservation, the die was cast. He began the development of River Park, and the lodge he built there is now part of **Alpine Camp for Boys**. As more visitors came to the mountain because of the Mentone Springs Hotel and the Mineral and Beauty Springs, the word spread of the natural beauty of the area.

One of the first camps formed was **Lookout Mountain Camp for Boys** founded in 1928 by Dr. J.A. ("Jake") Gorman and Dr. Gray D. ("Uncle Charlie") Morrison. The original hand-hewn buildings are still there, including the lodge with its massive fireplace that overlooks the river.

The original motto for the camp that still holds true is "Dedicated to the Youth of America" The camp is for boys age 7-15.

www.lookoutmountaincamp.com/

Woody Morrison

277 County Road 632, Mentone, AL 35984

256-634-4758 Phone, 256-634-4758 Fax

Email – LookoutMountainCamp@gmail.com

Another of the long standing camps is the **Camp Skyline Ranch for Girls** founded in 1947 by Mrs. Eloise Hart Temple and owned by her for 33 years. When the camp first began, the campers arrived by train and stayed for two months; the camp session is now for two weeks.

Although equestrian activities have been, and still are, a focus of the camp, there are many other activities for the campers to enjoy. Mrs. Temple gave some advice to campers that is still given today, "When you come to Skyline, come prepared to be FRIENDLY to all. Come prepared to be CHEERFUL. Come prepared to be UNSELFISH."

www.campskyline.com/

Sally Johnson

P.O. Box 287, Mentone, AL 35984

800-448-9279 Toll Free, 256-634-4001 Phone

256-634-3018 Fax

Email – Info@campskyline.com

Camp Laney for Boys was founded in 1959 by Coach Malcolm Laney, who had coached high school football and also at the University of Alabama until 1958. He bought what had been a summer resort known as Riverdale on the Little River and added additional acreage and built new facilities including a gym, bath house, stables and tennis courts. The camp was bought in 1974 by Rob Hammond. The camp is comprised of two-week sessions during June and July and is for boys age 7-14.

www.camplaney.com/index.asp

Rob Hammond

P.O. Box 289, Mentone, AL 35984

256-634-4066 Phone, 256-634-4098 Fax

Email – info@camplaney.com

Because of the natural beauty and splendor of Lookout Mountain and summer weather, it is not difficult to see why many would feel a spiritual connection. Because of this, there are several Christian-based camps located in the Mentone area.

Alpine Camp for Boys was founded in 1959 by Dick O'Ferrall and Rufus Hyde and was formerly known as Alpine Lodge Camp for Girls. Today the camp covers over 350 acres. In addition to Father/Son weekends the camp also has a three-week Junior Camp for Grades 1-5 and a three-week camp for Grades 2-9. Their stated purpose for the camp is "That They May Increase in Wisdom and Stature in Favor With God and Man."

www.alpinecamp.com/

Dick O'Ferrall

Dick Keefer

P.O. Box 297, Mentone, AL 35984

256-634-4404 Phone, 256-634-4405 Fax

Ponderosa Bible Camp is a division of Ponderosa Student Ministries established in 1947 and operating from Mentone since 1976.

Weekly sessions are held during the month of June for ages 7-13. New for 2015 is a High Adventure week for teens 13-18 during the month of July. There are also Day Camps during the month of June.

www.discoverlookoutmountain.com/camps.shtml

Jeff & Ann Nelson

1018 County Road 734, Mentone, AL 35984

256-634-4397 Phone, 256-634-3087 Fax

Email – office@ponderosabiblecamp.com

Camp DeSoto for Girls began in the 1940's under the direction of Norma Bradshaw and Bess Herron. Today as well as for the last 24 years, the

camp is directed by Phil and Marsha Hurt. The camp encompasses 185 acres and is a month-long session for girls age 8-16.

www.campdesoto.com/

Phil Hurt

P.O. Box 432, Mentone, AL 35984

256-634-4394 Phone, 256-634-4059 Fax

Email – campdesoto@gmail.com

Riverview Camp for Girls is owned and operated by Dr. Larry and Susan Hooks and has been a girls camp since 1983. The camp is located on the former site of Saddle Rock Camp for Girls, but Cloudmont Camp for Boys was the founding camp on this site in 1926. Riverview offers both Long Term (13 day) and Short Term (6 day) sessions for ages 6 to 16. They also offer Mother/Daughter Weekends in the spring and fall. Weekend groups lease the campus for a variety of programs, including youth groups during the weekends in the fall and spring. Riverview also hosts Nature's Classroom Atop Lookout Mountain which is an Experiential Education program for schools across the Southeast. Riverview is accredited by the American Camping Association and the Association for Experiential Education. They are members of Christian Camping and Conference Association.

www.riverviewcamp.com/index.asp

Susan Hooks

P.O. Box 299, Mentone, AL 35984

800-882-0722 Phone, 256-634-3601 Fax

Email – info@riverviewcamp.com

All of the summer camps offer a variety of outdoor activities, including hiking, swimming, horseback riding, archery, riflery, watersports, fishing, wilderness camping, mountain biking, and golf, and some camps offer activities focusing on team sports like basketball and lacrosse. Most of the camps also have activities relating to arts and music as well.

Lookout Mountain and Mentone have one of the highest concentrations of summer camps in the U.S., and no matter the interests of the youth attending these camps, the camp experience and friendships they develop there will be carried with them throughout their lives.



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ENJOY LIFE in this custom log get-a-way on 4 secluded acres. Loft bedroom and 1 bath with wood floors offering a cozy atmosphere and a front porch complete the picture. \$110,000. MLS#564870



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, open floor plan, garage, bonus room, workshop plus storage bldg, fire pit, and more. \$289,900 MLS#1001478



West Brow of Lookout Mountain. 3BR/2BA, 2,500+/- sq. ft. main house, rock walls on 2.9+/- Acres. \$349,900 MLS #815966



Custom Home. 4500 sqft+ w 5BR/3.5BA, LR, wood burning Isokern fireplace. Master w/sitting room. Pro landscaping, screened porch, courtyard, 2 decks on 1.37 acres, community lake. \$499,900. MLS #1011520.



FIVE APARTMENTS. large retail space and storage building located on Hwy 117 minutes from downtown Mentone. 1.5 acres, totally fenced. Appointment only! \$187,500. MLS #1013991



BEAUTIFUL Mountain Get-Away with gorgeous view year round. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, shake-sided outside w/low maintenance metal roof. Deck. \$239,900 MLS#1000691.



18-hole Golf Course situated on 92.5 acres w/3 stocked ponds, inviting 3BR/2BA home built over Pro-Shop. 7440 sq. ft. metal bldg.; excellent investment for civic or religious camp. \$925,000. MLS# 1010954.



UNIQUE!!! Main House, Guest House, Boathouse and approx. 470' of frontage on Little River. \$850,000 MLS #1007556



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



COZY 1 BEDROOM, 1 bath cabin in Laurel Creek Lakes Subdivision. Kitchen appliances, central heat and air, gas logs. \$149,900. MLS #1002623.



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



Waterfront Property! 2 story home w/ 3BR/2BA. Master on main level. Large fireplace in main living area. Big screened in porch w/ gorgeous view of the river! outdoor stone pizza oven! \$129,900. MLS #1016195



MANY POSSIBILITIES! This commercial building offers office space w/ restrooms, open warehouse space & covered back open area. 4.5 acres with plenty of parking. \$185,000. MLS #1015365.



Owl's Roost! Adorable cabin on wooded lot, furnished with brass bed and country antiques. \$118,000 MLS #690326



Daniel Boon Log Cabin on 2 acres! Plenty of room with 2BR/2.5BA, unfinished basement and large balcony. \$215,000 MLS #621178



Highland Springs Subdivision near downtown Mentone! 2BR/2BA cabin on 1.23 acres. \$143,500 MLS #359224



Bear's Lair - Adorable cabin currently in a rental program. 3BR/2 BA with a brow view. \$299,900 MLS#692795



One bedroom, one bath cottage on DeSoto Parkway with 2.7+/- acres AND a BROW view! Surrounded by mature landscaping and rock walls. \$299,900. MLS #1018162



BROW PROPERTY with spectacular VIEW! 3 br/ 3 ba with finished basement. and Large bonus area with outdoor access to admire the view. \$249,900. MLS #1010897.



1946 stone cottage on 5 acres w/river view. 2 BR/1 BA, lge kit with walk-in pantry, breakfast and dining areas, FP and wood floors. Huge bunk room downstairs with fireplace and bath. 2-story guest house with FP. \$419,000. MLS #902720



NEAR LITTLE RIVER CANYON. 3BR/3BA log cabin w/lake, wood floors/walls/ceilings, open living/dining/kitchen, rock woodburning FP, screened porch, deck, Loft/basement/gameroom. \$249,500. MLS #1017450.



HANDCRAFTED WOODWORK throughout this 2BR/2BA mountain home. Great room w/ cathedral ceiling, full front & back porches, lge utility room all on a wooded lot. Located in laurel Creek Lakes w/ access to 3 lakes & walking trails. \$174,500. MLS #1017650.



Ready for the person yearning to be self-employed. Thriving convenience store and restaurant in a small resort town. Covered gas pumps and newly paved parking lot. \$375,000. MLS #1015475.



BROW PROPERTY! 2BR/1BA home on 2.3 +/- acres. Lots of wood features inside the house, enclosed porch and more. \$239,000. MLS #1015755.



LOG HOME minutes from DeSoto State Park & Mentone. One of a kind built in 2006 & constructed of 6x12 Pine Logs w/ Dovetail cornering. Tongue & groove cathedral ceilings, exposed beams & beautiful oak floors. \$182,500. MLS #1016783.



Beautiful Log Home near Mentone & DeSoto State Park features vaulted ceilings and wood burning FP. Kitchen has all appliances. Main level Master BR/BA.. 2BR/ BA upstairs. Screened porch, deck and carport. \$235,000. MLS #1018895



Cedar cabin on 3.48 acres. 2 BR plus loft, 2.5 BA, living/kitchen/dining area, some hardwood, wood heater, covered porch and side deck. BBQ pit, 2-car garage, utility shed and pole barn. Most furnishings negotiable. \$214,500. MLS #1019354



Little River/Lake Lahusage/Mentone! East Fork of Little River, cottage has FP, wood floors, P&B ceiling in living area, NEW porch, deck, some doors & windows, HVAC, dock, walkway, fence, paint! Most furn. remains! \$245,000. MLS #1019742



This 4,000 sq. ft. brow home on 7.5 acres is suited for private home or bed&breakfast. 6 BR's w/private BA's & exterior doors. Common area w/rock FP & industrially-equipped kitchen. \$525,000. MLS #1018579



Cabin overlooking the water features pine walls & floors, vaulted 23' ceilings and fireplaces. Enjoy your own relaxing paradise wplenty of Mountain Laurels and rocks. Built to preserve the property's natural beauty. \$495,000. MLS #1019610



LAKE ON THE BROW. 4-5 BR, 3.5 BA, LR w/vaulted ceiling, hardwoods, FP. Screened porch. Main level master & guest BR's w/ full BA. Bonus room w/2 balconies. Basement w/ Rec/Media Room, 2BR, BA. \$362,300. MLS #1017985

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR LOTS AND LAND LISTINGS

The Rhododendron Garden Club

By Mellanie Tuttle

Since the March clean-up was rained out, several members of the Rhododendron Garden Club arrived early on Tuesday, May 12, to weed and clean the yard around the MERF House. Special thanks to visitor (and hopefully future member), Cecille Nabors who also came early for the clean-up. President and Horticulture Chair, Martha Wood, graciously potted Dutchman's Pipe Vine from her yard to share with members. This native vine provides larval food for the Pipevine Swallowtail. In the Horticulture report, she discussed other native vines. An info sheet listed vines to plant for foliage, flowers, or fragrance.

The program topic was "Deadheading" which is the removal of old or spent flowers, including any developing seed. Tom Hodgkinson says, "One of the least arduous but most productive of gardening jobs, the magic of deadheading never fails to delight me. It was a revelation when the principle was explained to me: that flowers are the attempt by the plant to reproduce itself. So if you cut the heads off before the flower turns into seeds, the plant will continue to flower." Reasons to deadhead are to prolong the bloom period for plants, to prevent self-seeding, and improve the overall appearance of the plant. A 'deadheaded' garden looks tidy and well-groomed.

The simplest way to deadhead is to remove the dead flower to a new lateral flower or to a new lateral bud. If the stem is long, cutting to the first lateral leaf will take away the unsightly stem. Daylilies, with a leafless stem, can be cut down at the base of the plant to remove the entire stem. New research on Roses and the preferred method for pruning is to cut to the first leaf below the

flower rather than cutting at the first set of five leaves!

For Geraniums, Coreopsis, or plants with multiple small flowers, shearing is the way to go. "Salvia is one to cut back after the first round of bloom. Shear all the spent flowers off for a great second show" is garden writer Wendy Brister's suggestion.



Finally, when all the blooming is done in perennials with a single, bare flower like Heuchera, Hosta or Lily, deadhead down to the ground. Pulling the old flowering stem right to the root from Geraniums and Mums will not only tidy the bed, but often the pulled stems will have roots attached and can be planted elsewhere in the garden. Plant fall bloomers and when they are done, cut them to the ground and clean-up is done!

By NOT deadheading, seeds can set and baby plants will appear. Echinecea, Columbine, Globe

Thistle, Butterfly Weed are all great self-seeders. If you do want to encourage your plants to self-seed, do not use any pre-emergent herbicides in your yard. Some plants have beautiful seed heads and attract birds with the decorative pods.

Jerry Garcia, one of the original "Deadheads" is quoted as saying, "We have a certain amount of faith that the Grateful Dead is a special thing in ways that we aren't able to articulate. But we know it experientially because it's an experience rather than a thought or an idea; it's something that's somehow fundamental to humanness and whatever ritual and celebrations are all about." Gardening, too is an experience. Fundamental to our existence. Gardeners are a faithful people, joyfully celebrating the the ritual of sowing and reaping and sometimes awed into silence with its beauty. Each garden reflects its creator. To seed or not to seed, to deadhead or not to deadhead--always, choices to be made.

The Garden Club has no meetings in June or July. We convene in August on the second Tuesday with great expectations and plans for the fall flower show. Please join us.

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.



For Sale By Owner 2-BR, 2-BA newer log cabin on brow in Cloudland,

just minutes from Mentone. 133 feet of brow, dramatic rock outcroppings w/pastoral view of Shinbone Valley; Cathedral ceiling, mountain rock fpplc, rock patio on brow, c/air + heat, full stand-up basement, 2-car garage, 2-car carport, large screened porch on brow, private, quiet setting.

\$244,500

ph: 706-862-6322

(sorry, no texting)



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Oversized 4-car garage and additional storage/workshop areas. View photos at: www.browcabin.webstarts.com or call 706-862-6322 or Heather Nicely/Bellora Realtors at 256-276-8422.

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 MOVE TO MENTONE and live in this wonderful home on the brow. 1.95 acres. 4 bdrm, 3 bth. Open concept living room, kitchen combo, with gas log fireplace. Formal dining room. Seperate 30x40 garage/workshop. Native flora landscaping with rock outcroppings, garden fountain pond. Auto sprinkler system. Screened porch with multiple decks for your sunset views. So much amenities. \$339,000	 NEW LISTING ADORABLE LOG CABIN on the west brow, GA. Open floor plan, stainless steel appliances. 2 bdrm, 2 bth, partially furnished, stone woodburning fireplace, 3 acres, porch and deck overlooking the valley. Great views! \$175k	 TUCKED AMONG THE RHODODENDRONS, Hemlocks, Oak trees is a rustic 1 3/4 story, 3 bdrm, 2bth home. on 3.85 acres Listen to the creek run over the rocks from the screened porch. Open floor plan, wood burning FP. Hot tub. Furnished. Located in Cloudland, GA. Seasonal views. \$182,000	 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)	 A SPECTACULAR SUNRISE/ Moonrise on the East Brow in Cloudland, GA. Wooded with 200ft on the brow. Secluded 4.36 acres. A must see!! \$45,000	 SOUTHLAND LOG HOME, on the East fork little River. 5.5 acres. Deck, lighted walkway to lower property. stone patio half-way 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. Seperate 30x40 garage, large enough for motor home. Private but with all the comforts. Price reduction to \$275,000
 CHARMING LOG CABIN circa 1920s in Cloudland, GA. Renovated but kept with its original logs, windows, floors & doors. 4 bdrm, 2 bth. Living room with stone FP. 3 french doors leading to the screened porch & large deck, that overlooks stone picnic tables, stone FP, and BBQ chimney. Seasonal view. A must see! \$135,000 (23096)	 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)	 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. \$45,000	 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. \$199,900.	 NEW LISTING IDEAL HUNTING PRESERVE. Feed plots already planted, and creek runs through property. Hollows, a great spot to build a lake. Wildlife such as bear, deer, turkey abundant. 150 acres available. \$270k (23116)	 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. (22996)
 COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON. What a peaceful setting and private. 2 bdrm with sleeping loft, 2 baths. Great room with Rock Fireplace. Covered front porch and grilling deck. Adjoins on the back side Wildlife management and in the front the canyon preserve. Private access. Appt Only. \$150k (22865)	 PENDING RANCH STYLE 3 bdrm, 2 bath, living, dining combo. 2 car garage. Open front and back porches. 4.2 acres. Vinyl siding, handicap accessible. Sold as-is. \$135,000 (23108)	 NICE LEVEL WOODED property with partial drive and home-site cleared. Previous perk test. easy access to the middle fork of little river.. Restrictive cov. apply. Located Mountain River Estates. \$57,000	 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. \$49,000 (23086)	 HISTORIC DINKY LINE Railway runs through the property. 3.8 acres on the East Fork Little river. 175 ft on water with a deep swimming hole, and rapids. Lightly restricted. County water and power available. Located on Lookout Mtn Mentone area. \$46,000	 3.77 ACRES located at Canyon View Forest Subdivision. Wooded and joining the bluff of Little River National Preserve. \$60,000

LOTS AND ACREAGE

OLD HOMEPLACE next to Shady Grove Dude Ranch. 1.7 acres. Great building sites. Non-restricted. Reduced \$18,500 (21599)
5.7 WOODED ACRES with a beautiful view across from Lake 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)
6.1 ACRES with Brushy Creek running through, drive way in place, wooded. \$36,000 (23044)
5 ACRES on the East brow tract overlooking Pleasant Valley. Rock pallecades, wooded. See Weiss Lake in the distance. Private gated

area. Joins National Preserve & Forever Wild protected property. \$60,000 (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)
.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)

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 bdms, Den and bath. So many amenities and landscaped naturally with flora and fauna. The Guest Cottage is 2 bdms, 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)



Sage Advice: Rhododendrons & Others

By Susan Seago
Co-Owner of Earthly Elements
Garden and Rock Shop

What a beautiful weekend for the Rhododendron Festival. Yes, it was cloudy with a little rain, but it was so comfortable to be outside. And the rain we had Saturday evening refreshed the earth. I truly enjoyed meeting all those who came through our shop in the log cabin village. We talked gardening all weekend! It was great! I met some of Mentone's finest citizens, some just moving here, and others who are longtime residents.

As Spring moves toward Summer, what can you do to keep your garden beautiful? My suggestion is to plant varieties that need less water. How often does the established garden need to be watered and how deep?

I suggest watering deeply (1") twice a week. And the easiest way to do it, unless you just want to stand and admire your garden while you water with a hose, is to install a simple drip system to send the water directly to the plants. Sprinklers are used a lot but much of the water evaporates before it gets to the plants, thereby wasting water and allowing unwanted weeds to grow. With a few instructions, you can do it yourself.

Before I go further, I had a lot of questions about rhododendrons and azaleas this weekend.

These shrubs are planted with about an inch of their roots above ground. Planting deeper can cause suffocation and eventual death of the plant. Also, be sure to dig the hole two to three times as wide as the pot for the bush, and a few inches deeper. Put in enough good quality organic soil amendment so the plant sits above the ground as I indicated above. The soil will settle

when you water it after planting, so place the plant a little higher. With the plant in the hole, fill halfway with the organic soil, add a small handful of time released fertilizer only, and finish filling with the soil. Without patting down the soil, water thoroughly. If you use a time-release fertilizer, there is no need to add any more until August. (Other fertilizers can burn the plant and add too much salt to the soil). Finish with a mulch of two to three inches deep. A hardwood mulch or pine straw is fine.

If you have some sun (5 to 6 hours a day), some water saving sun lovers are sedum, coneflowers, lantana, salvia, dianthus, creeping phlox, daylilies, lambs ears, and ornamental grasses. Keep in mind that every plant newly installed will need regular watering for the first year. For those of us who have lots of shade, there are many other plants to fill your garden – hostas, ferns, toad lily, astilbe, hydrangeas, rhododendrons, etc.

The magic of the mountain is enhanced by the beautiful flowers, shrubs, and trees that grow naturally here. There are many native plants which cannot be bought easily at nurseries, so enjoy yours. Some of these are the grancy greybeard tree, deciduous azaleas, spiderwort, rhododendrons, mountain laurels, fothergilla, and sweetshrub. If you are not sure that these plants are growing in your landscape, feel free to call us or your favorite garden center for identification.

Progressive Womens Plant Sale

By Reita Grant

Mary Alice Stout, Plant Sale Chairman, for Progressive Women of Northeast Alabama (PWNA) reported a very successful booth at the Rhododendron Festival. The club will be able to give at least two more scholarships next year with the proceeds. THANK YOU to all who purchased cookbooks, tee shirts and plants. On May 2nd, PWNA held its second Banquet honoring women. The event was held at Little River Canyon Center on Lookout Mountain, and guest speakers were Lilly Ledbetter, Gadsden, and Elizabeth Rose, a storyteller from Tennessee. You may remember that the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was the first act signed into law by President Obama, in her honor. The "Glass Ceiling Award" was won by Arlene Grede. The beautiful cut glass award was made by local artist Kaye Kiker, Mentone. Kiker also made a special cut class award for Ms. Ledbetter. The event was well-attended by members and guests from DeKalb, Jackson, and Marshall Counties.

Dr. Toni McGriff serves as president of the club, and many talented members served on the banquet committee, as well as the plant sale committee.



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The Mountain Herbalist

By L. C. Moon

Spring is turning to summer as the mountain laurel and rhododendron blooms fade away. The landscape is becoming more full and green each day. The fruits of the mountain will soon be ripe for the picking.

The brambles find any sunny spot available to set their roots. And lucky us, we get a free feast with lots of nourishment! One cup of blackberries or dewberries provides 50% of the vitamin c recommended as well as containing vitamin A, calcium, magnesium and iron. Raspberries contain 53% vitamin C as well as B6, iron, calcium and magnesium. Raspberries are not common here, but I have seen a big stand of them in Mentone.

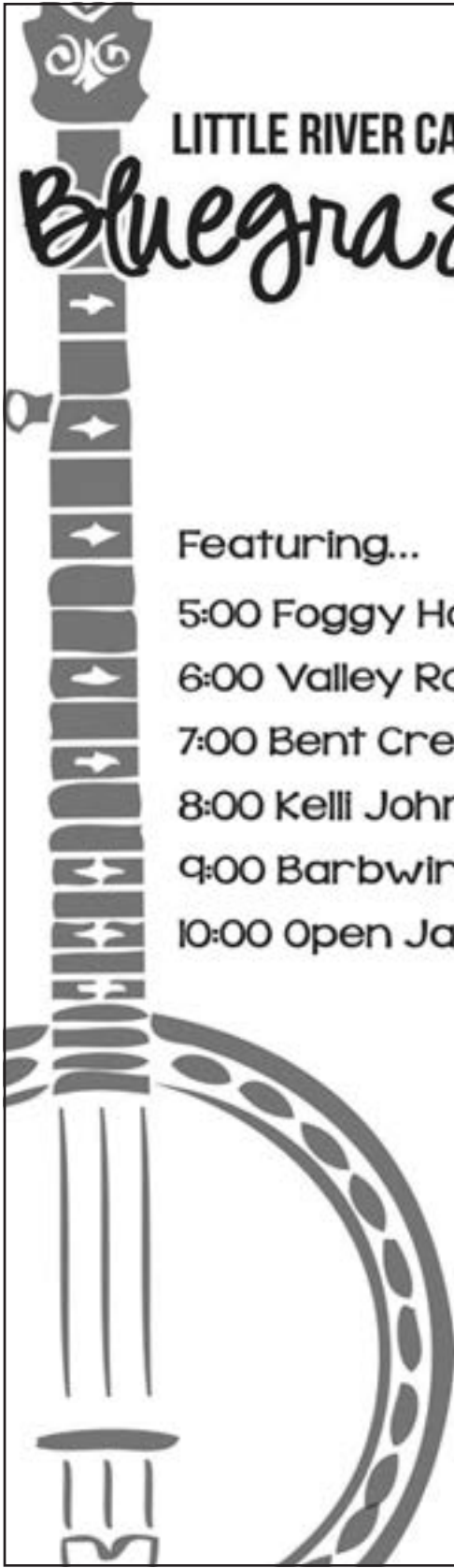
In addition to being a delicious fruit, the leaves also have practical uses. I drink raspberry leaf tea regularly. It has helped me with balancing hormones, curb morning sickness/upset stomach, ease menstrual cramps, increase breast milk production and healthy digestion. I have even used it successfully to treat conjunctivitis by simply putting hot tea bag compresses and alternating cold occasionally.

Blackberry leaf is packed with benefits. However, it is more tricky to use medicinally than raspberry leaf. If you have a liver disorder or anemia, this herb is not for you. It can interfere with calcium and iron absorption. It's not recommended to drink with meals, though drinking with milk is said to be helpful. Blackberry leaf can be infused to help treat stomach ulcers, bloating and digestion. The leaves can be made into a decoction to treat a sore throat, a leaf can be chewed to treat canker sores, and the leaves can be used as a compress for skin rash.

Blackberries and raspberries are in the rosaceae (rose) family which you can see if you look closely at the flowers. Rosehips are commonly known to be packed with vitamin C, so it is not surprising that other fruits of the same family would be packed with the vitamin as well. I was surprised though when I learned the leaves are packed with nutrients.

The rosaceae family are some of the many edible nutritious botanical delights we have on Lookout Mountain. The mountain is a special place with treasures abounding in the woods and in the hearts of those blessed to call it home. May you enjoy the fruits of the mountain.

If you have any questions or comments you can contact me on Facebook via the Wildflower Cafe or stop in the Wildflower. May all your weeds be Wildflowers!



Bluegrass On the Rim

LITTLE RIVER CANYON CENTER

JUNE 13, 2015

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6:00 Valley Road

7:00 Bent Creek

8:00 Kelli Johnson and Jason Bailey

9:00 Barbwire Bluegrass

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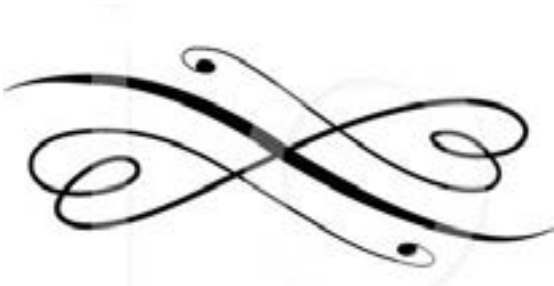
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OBITUARY

James
Stanley
“Bud”
Jeffery



Mr. James Stanley “Bud” Jeffery, 83, of Valley Head passed away on April 28, 2015. He left behind a loving companion Lura Bell Henderson, son Stanley Jeffery (Glenda), daughter Susan Darlene Duncan (Roger), and a host of other loved family members. He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Betty Sue Goode Jeffery, and his parents, Luke and Lucy Jeffery. Bud worked as a welder for Ava Hammond, as a night watchman for the Town of Valley Head, and retired from the Heil Company. Later, Mr. Jeffery served as a member of the Valley Head Town Council. He is remembered with fondness by family and town members alike.



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This Old 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.

It's a little quieter over here without the children in school learning and having fun and without the seniors coming to lunch every Wednesday. So glad the library is open in the summer for kids to keep reading and for adults to have time for that perfect poolside read. Mentone is very fortunate to have a great library with wonderful volunteers so keep them hopping all summer.

The MERF house will host several summer socials for the seniors this summer so watch for signs around town and on our facebook page. It's always fun to celebrate the sunshine with goodies like watermelon and homemade ice cream.

Thanks to everyone that came to MERF's booth at the Rhododendron Festival. Great job MAPA!

Our new "Leave Me in Mentone" mugs and ornaments were a big hit. They make a great Father's day present, Christmas gift or a gift for yourself. Both are handmade in the USA! The mugs are dishwasher, microwave and oven safe. Pictures and ordering available on MERF's website www.merfhouse.com or contact Sarah at 256-634-4673. The mugs are also being sold at The Wishing Well in Fort Payne and DeSoto State Park country store. We also added some new colors to MERF's caps and tees. Wear MERF~Share MERF!

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. Contact us at merf.mentone@gmail.com or 256-634-4673.



THE CLOCKS

by: Doug Kiker

*Many words have been written about clocks.
Perhaps the things they say, mainly "tick-tock."
Some just say "tick-tick."
But I knew a man who could make them talk...no, this isn't a trick.
Andrew was his name. Though he looked the part, he was no hick.
Repairing a broken clock of this he did his part.
But when the job was finished, Andrew put in a piece of his heart.
I don't say that he had an evil scheme.
Andrew could never be mean.
Inside every clock it seems
He put a little note--usually in rhyme for another to glean,
containing the why and when - so the next person would know
In which direction he should go
in repairing the clock again.
Then, Andrew gave the note a different spin--
how to keep away from sin
and have a peace that lives within.
It was his way
of getting attention to what he had to say.
Whether the clock was of iron or brass or wood,
that is unimportant, it's understood.
Andrew wanted to be heard
So, in his own way, he passed the word.
He never had much money to fold -
But his 'clock words' were pure gold.*



CAFE'
Winter Hours (Nov. thru April)
Lunch - Fri.- Mon.: 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Dinner - Thur., Fri. Sat.: 5-8 p.m.
Summer Hours (May thru Oct.)
Lunch - Everyday: 11 a.m. -3 p.m.
Dinner - Thur. Fri. Sat.: 6-9 p.m.

GALLERY
Winter Hours - Fri.-Mon.:
10 a.m. -3 p.m.
Summer Hours - Everyday:
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

MUSIC
Every Thursday: 7-9 p.m.

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