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GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville, Menlo, Cloudland
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"Neighborhood News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

April 2015

AUBURN ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS INITIATE PLANS FOR MENTONE ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER

By Dr. Bill Berry

The Mentone Arts and Cultural Center (MACC) advanced closer to reality with the visit of 55 second-year architecture students from Auburn University on the second Monday of March. Notepads in hand, they eagerly fanned out across the prospective site of the facility just east of Moon Lake Elementary School, observing the gentle roll of the landscape and sketching their preliminary ideas for the plan. Led by Auburn faculty members Justin Miller, John Dunn, and Lida Sease of the university's College of Architecture, Design, and Construction, the students will generate drawings and models of design proposals for the site as part of the Architecture Studio



Students assemble near the Riverview Camp for Girls gym for a group shot, taken just as a fine mist began falling near the end of an overcast but otherwise dry day.

2 course in which they are currently enrolled. According to Associate Professor Miller, "The project presents students with the challenge of designing a public building that responds to the conditions of the landscape and culture of the community of Mentone." He adds that the course stimulates students' consideration of complexities inherent to design and construction within the framework of a structure's physical setting relative to "the planning of the site, the sequence of a visitor through the building, and the materialization of the building in its location."

To achieve this goal, the Auburn students rambled far and wide at the proposed building site, carefully
(cont'd on page 12)

A WESTMINSTER WINNER IS AMONG US

By ANN F. BUTLER

There's many a surprise in the village of Mentone, a wondrous DeKalb County mountaintop filled with artists, craftspeople and a whole lot more "plain" people with interesting lives most folk just don't know about. Such as the IRS (yep! That's Internal Revenue Service) certified fraud examiner, forensic accountant and all-around revenue agent that lives with two real wolves and 14 Tibetan Mastiffs (that's dogs, folks) just down the road near the Georgia line.

What a surprise during the recent February TV showing of the famed Westminster Dog Show held at Madison Square Garden in New York City to see a woman "...from Mentone, Alabama" (I missed hearing her name) and her prized animals parade before the judges and come away with top prizes in the events they entered.



Question – Who was this woman? All that was known was the mention of Mentone...so, to find out the simple answer was to call City Hall. Mrs. Fletcher had no idea as to who had such show dogs in the area but suggested calling Ray Padgett at the Kamama Art Gallery. A phone call to Ray told that he had no knowledge of such a person but promised to find out and call me back. He proved to be a great detective in locating Glenda Nunnally, learning that she was a well-known owner and breeder of the lovable, intelligent Tibetan Mastiffs, a large long-haired dog that does not shed its luscious hair but "blows" it once a year.

"Detective" Ray made an appointment with her and arranged for us to meet at his
(cont'd on page 22)

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



The Annual Community Clean-Up Day will take place Saturday, April 11. Those wishing to help in the litter pick-up should meet Lyle Nicely (256-996-0169) at 9:00 AM in the parking lot of the Mentone Inn. After the litter pick-up, there will be a community cook out at the Mentone Inn pavilion. Electronic recycling will be from 9 AM to 12 PM at Town Hall. Items that can be recycled include: computers, screens, printers, fax machines and telephones.

From The Editor

Escape...

People flock to Mentone like butterflies to flowers – and always have. For generations, families have come to Mentone to relax and enjoy the sheer beauty of the place – rocks and breezes and the cool flow of the river on a hot summer day. Now they even come in winter. Mentone is the perfect escape from the constant pressure, stress and noise of life in the city.

The inviting lure of a family picnic at DeSoto Falls first brought my family to Lookout and Mentone – the haunting beauty and attraction of The Mentone Springs Hotel made us stay awhile. It became a weekly adventure to go and work, and laugh and play and meet interesting people. In the end it was the people who brought us back to stay.

January, February, and March of 2015 with their constant pounding of rain, snow, ice and record setting cold were a test of the sanity of our decision to move back to Mentone. But the people kept coming and talking and sharing

their lives and once again made it the only place to be. Folks raising their kids, farmers, gardeners, chefs, doctors, lawyers, scientists, accountants, carpenters, truck drivers, teachers, bankers, politicians, musicians (of every type and gender), and artists live here, pass through here and share their stories in Mentone. They make even a dismal and cold winter a welcome scene when they open up and share their lives.

Spring (my favorite time of year) will be upon us by the time you read this, and nature lovers will be seeking out the solace of the mountain and stop awhile in Mentone. While they may be escaping to Mentone, they will open up and share their world with resident Mentonians making our lives fuller and richer with every story told. Mentone is indeed – almost heaven.

Ray Padgett
For the MAPA Board

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Rhododendron Festival

By Kayla Worthey

The 2015 Rhododendron Festival plans are off to a blooming start for May 15th, 16th and 17th this year. One of the biggest issues we face each year is people not finding all portions of the festival. Because the festival covers all of town and also stretches up to Brow Park, sometimes people will find one portion, but never make it to another. We want to make sure that all festival goers get the full experience of the Rhododendron Festival and get to see each and every event, vendor, shop and restaurant.

If you are a visitor and not familiar with the area, please be sure that you visit all portions of the festival. There will be festival fliers available all over town with maps of each and every event. If you can't find one, ask a vendor or shop owner. Be sure you cover all areas so you don't miss part of this fantastic festival.

A great start would be to venture down to DeSoto Falls and enjoy a scenic boat ride on Little River (weather permitting). They will offer sightseeing cruises on Friday from 1pm to dusk, Saturday 9am to dusk and Sunday 10am to 2pm. You can enjoy the river and hopefully see some beautifully bloomed rhododendrons.

All show exhibitors, artists, craftsman, businesses and food booths will be located at Brow Park which is north of Hwy 117 on CR 89 and Cool Street. Vendor hours at Brow Park are 9am to 5pm on Saturday and 11am to 4pm on Sunday. The Brow Pavilion will be hosting the "Sounds of Mentone" with a fantastic line-up over the 2 day period. Local musicians performing include Josie Bruno, Amy Snider, Marsha Morgan, Chris Hale, Matty Croxton, Marc Womack, David Lusk, Silivia Constantino, Curtis Strange, Ryan Keefe, Daniel Hughes and Lisa Crow.

You will find local shops, boutiques, businesses, craftsman and eateries all through downtown Mentone along Hwy 117. Each business has their own uniqueness and variety of offerings. Be sure to look for the horse drawn carriage rides!

Don't miss the Children's Festival and music stage located next door to Kamamas on Hwy 117 across from City Hall and Mason Park. The Children's Festival will be full of fun games, live music and entertainment. There will be a variety of youth performers on the music stage throughout both Saturday and Sunday days and then Friday night Will Dooley's Blues Revue will light up the stage with our night time entertainment from 6pm to 9pm. One World Adventure will also be having their Friday Night Fish Fry at the Mentone Inn Pavilion from 5pm to 7pm so you can go grab a plate, mingle and then come back down and enjoy some music! On Saturday night, MAPA will host a Low Country Boil while Pioneer Chicken Stand Band

performs on the Children's Festival music stage from 6pm to 10pm.

For those of you not interested in the music to kick off the Festival, maybe you will be as excited as we are about the newly returned Miss Rhododendron Pageant that takes place Friday night at 6pm at the Mentone Community Church Life Center. We will have last year's Miss Rhododendron Queen returning for the crowning of a new queen and the presentation of the scholarship to Northeast Alabama Community College.

Also returning this year is the beautiful Sacred Harp Singing at St. Joseph's Episcopal

Church on Saturday from 9:30am to 12pm and 1pm to 2pm. Please make time to come enjoy these singers if you have never witnessed sacred harp before.

If you are at the festival in any capacity, whether it be a patron, business owner or operator, volunteer or exhibitor, please encourage all visitors to make their way all over our beautiful little town. We don't want anyone to miss a piece of this spectacular festival or the people here!

Miss Rhododendron



Presented by the Mentone Area Preservation Association

Friday, May 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. CST
Mentone Community Church, Family Life
Center

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35984



Miss Rhododendron is part of the annual
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to Northeast Alabama Community College.

For more information and entry packets please email
rhododendronfestival@gmail.com



ARTS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR FREE ART MARKET

By Scott Thomas

The Mentone Area Arts Council will be hosting "Second Saturday Art Market" here in Mentone starting May 9 and continuing the second Saturday of each month through October. The hours for the events will be 9am to 2pm CDT. Second Saturday Art Market's location will be in the vacant lot across from Mentone Market on Highway 117.

If you are an area artist or musician, MAAC encourages you to go on their website at www.mentonearts.org and register to be part of this event. The Mentone Area Arts Council is making it possible for you to showcase and sell the fruits of your talent at absolutely no cost to you. This is especially a great opportunity for artists that have not attempted to sell their art before. Give it a try! All you have to lose is a little time.

Look for more information about Second Saturday Art Market on the Mentone Area Art Council's Facebook page and website. MAAC will do its best to keep you well informed. All you art and music lovers out there, make plans now to attend these once-a-month fun events. It's free to you too! See you May 9.

AS YOU LIKE IT

Moon Lake Elementary School came alive with the William Shakespeare play "As You Like It" presented by the touring cast of the Alabama Shakespeare Players.

There was an excitement in the air as the students filed in and were seated; they were reminded about being respectful and attentive, but it was easy to see their excitement. Ms. Paula Easter, the Arts teacher for Moon Lake School, had been teaching the students about the play, its characters and plot so the students were knowledgeable and expectant.

The production was sponsored by the Mentone Area Arts Council (MAAC) for the second time in three years.

This year the council is committed to making the arts even more accessible to the students while working closely with Ms. Easter; her position is funded by the Mentone Education Resource Fund (MERF). Prior to the production Ms. Easter took some of the MAAC council members around the gym, showing them the art work of the children; they are studying some of the classic artists and the children are obviously well taught as evidenced by their art work. I was extremely impressed.

The play was introduced by the cast members explaining who they would be playing and the play was on. "As You Like It" is a romantic comedy and one of Shakespeare's later works.

And the play was on.

The cast presented a marvelous production, changing of characters and the scenes. The children, as well as the adults, were thoroughly entertained, with the audience reacting to realistic fight scenes, the unfolding plot as well as frivolity.

Following the production, the cast took time to answer audience questions and the

children had many about Shakespeare, set design, the play and time period of the play. Following the Q & A the players provided a workshop for many of the children. All in all the afternoon was a treat for all in attendance.



The Arts Council would like to thank Moon Lake School, the students, staff and faculty for helping make this possible and especially Ms. Easter for her work with the children every day. Mentone is fortunate to have people in the community who care about broadening the educational opportunities, enriching our community and children.

MAAC will continue to seek opportunities to provide art, art education and opportunities for artists wherever and whenever possible. We have many exciting things in store for 2015. Anyone desiring more information or to become involved with MAAC, please contact us at www.mentonearts.org.

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MBA Election Time



By Bob Hoffman
MBA President

Our Mentone Business Association was formed one year ago, at which time myself and Debra Fey were elected as President and Vice-President. We've now served for a year, so it's time to give someone else the opportunity to lead the organization through 2015.

During our first year, we've spent a significant amount of time and effort trying to come up with ideas on how to stimulate business in and around Mentone. We've tried to inject more awareness of our downtown shopping opportunities and area rentals into the three major MAAC and MAPA festivals by hosting a MBA booth at the festivals. We've made an effort to make advertising materials available to area cabins and Bed and Breakfast rentals around Mentone. We've encouraged local businesses to make sure they have rack cards and other advertisement available at the new Visitor Information Center that's been established by DeKalb County Tourism in the Mentone Market. We've tried to produce articles for The Groundhog each month that highlight local businesses and their owners, as well as some articles to encourage shopping in general, and

others to tell about the MBA and what we're trying to accomplish. We've worked with other local organizations on several projects, including support to the planning and design of the Mentone Arts and Cultural Center.

Over the past year, we've come up with a multitude of suggestions on things that the MBA might do. Most have been oriented toward either bringing more people to Mentone or to making visitors more comfortable while shopping here. Some of the things that we've tried worked out well and others didn't have any apparent effect. Based upon what we've learned this first year, Debra and I have put together a short list of the suggestions that we consider would do the most for Mentone businesses. First would be to have some kind of permanent and more convenient restroom facilities available to the public. We've done extensive research on options and costs, but haven't yet decided on how to proceed. Second would probably be putting up a billboard on I-59. We're attempting to find out what the cost might be on that and how to set it up. Third would be to sponsor a "50's Weekend" and Fourth is adding sidewalks on the North side of highway 117. That's been discussed a lot, but no real progress has yet been made.

So, if you were leading the MBA, what direction would you try to take them in 2015? If you were a member, what suggestions would you add to the discussion? Well, now's the time to think about both of these questions. We're planning to elect new officers at our April meeting and we really hope to have a good representation of the membership at that meeting. If you're not yet a member, join up! If you're ready to take the reins, let us know! There are also some other decisions to be made, such as whether we should start charging dues, whether 6:00 is the best time for our monthly meetings, whether it's time to elect more than just a President and Vice-president, how to improve participation, and several other less

ST. JOSEPH'S ON THE MOUNTAIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH VAN-McCARY SCHOLARSHIP

St. Joseph's is now accepting applications for the Vann-McCary Scholarship which has provided funds to students from the Mentone, Hammondville and Valley Head area who wish to further their academic education post high school. Applications from qualified candidates will be taken until May 1, 2015. Priority is given based on financial need and academic record. Before the scholarship is awarded, proof of admission and enrollment must be provided on an official form from the school. The scholarship is available for a maximum of four years. The student must maintain a course level of 8 credit hours per semester and maintain the equivalent of a 2.8 grade point average on a scale of 4.0 in order to qualify for succeeding years. To obtain an application packet, contact the church office at 256-634-4476.

critical questions.

Our next MBA meeting is the 3rd Monday of April, the 20th, from 6:00 to 7:00 and you're all invited. It will likely be at the MERF House, but check MBA.MyMentone.com to make sure. As we say every month, join us, contribute your ideas, and help us help the local businesses to be as successful as possible.

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THE HISTORY OF MENTONE

By Will Dillard

Many of the residents of Mentone know some of the history of the area, especially related to the Mentone Springs Hotel. But many of the new residents and the occasional visitor might not know how Mentone came to be settled, named and the history of the area before and after the building of the Mentone Springs Hotel.

In a series of articles to be published in the upcoming issues of the Groundhog I will attempt to provide historical anecdotes and maybe provide some new information to the many Mentone residents who know some of the story.

The Mentone Springs Hotel

When John Mason began promoting the area by placing ads in the New York Times he needed a name for the town he was trying to establish. John Mason's young daughter Alice had recently read a news article about Queen Victoria of Great Britain visiting a resort in Southern France named Mentone, which meant 'Musical Mountain Spring'. Because of the springs in the area it was decided that the new town would also be named Mentone.

One of the people encouraged to come and visit the area was Dr. Frank Caldwell of Pennsylvania. He was ill and while staying with

the Mason family he drank from the mineral springs and enjoyed the cool mountain air. His health improved and he was so impressed with the region that he returned to



Pennsylvania, sold his possessions, returned to Mentone and purchased the mineral springs and a large tract of land. In 1884 he began the construction of a Queen Anne Victorian Style hotel and resort.

The construction took 3 years between 1884-1887. In 1890 the

hotel was purchased by Charles Loring and became known as the Loring Springs Hotel. This was about the time that the hotel and the area became popular for its scenic location and mineral springs.

Nineteenth century mountain resorts were used for escape from the summer heat but were also centers for socializing in the days before country clubs. Many boasted about the curative powers of their mineral springs or baths but there is little actual evidence that there was a medicinal effect. The springs on the property

in Mentone were referred to as "ever oozing, life restoring fluids" that could "restore a rundown patient to health and strength in a remarkably short time."

In 1915 The Mentone Springs Hotel and Realty Company bought the Loring Springs Hotel and began renovations. This is when the building took on the name of the Mentone Springs Hotel.

This was the heyday for the hotel. The Queen & Crescent Route of the Southern Railway Line from New Orleans, Louisiana to Cincinnati, Ohio added a stop at Valley Head, Alabama and the hotel would provide transportation up

(cont'd on page 22)



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Moon Lake Community Library

By Jerome Stephens

Each November, the Moon Lake Community Library Board has a fund raiser called "Friends of the Library." The donations are used for operating expenses, to purchase books and DVD's and to improve the infrastructure. In the past, the donation levels were Individual at \$20 and Couple/Family at \$35. This year the library board added two more levels, the Patron at \$50-\$100 and the Angel at over \$100. Each Patron and Angel contributions could be donated in memory of or to honor someone. This year's campaign raised \$1,880. The Library Board would like to thank the following donors:

Individuals: Beverly Ashley, Dianne Gilbreath, Lucie Holland, Cecelia Jackson, Marilyn Knight, Frank Mason, Jane Mauldin, Holly Midgley, Anne Ransom, Charles Shipp, Charlean Smith and Lee Swart.

Couples/Families: Frances and Elizabeth Cline, Roland and Carolyn Hendon, Michael and Madelon Houghland, Terry and Dorma Hutchenson, Al and Dianne Kuehl, Gary and Pat Schoen, Anthony and Eleanor Teverino and Henry and Dianne Tindol.

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Angels: Norman and Elizabeth Baker, Craig and Elizabeth Sheldon and Hazel Bickerstaff.

The Patron's and Angel's donations were in memory of or honored the following people: Verdie Lee Johnson, Mabel Kirk, Jenny Rogers and five in memory of Linda Brown.

If you would like to become a "Friend of the Library," you can stop by the library during operating hours on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning or send a contribution to Moon Lake Community Library, P. O. Box 481, Mentone, AL 35984.

Remember to stop by the library and check out the large selection of used books that are for sale. Price of books is \$2 for hard back, \$1 for large soft backs and \$0.25 for small paper backs.

The Groundhog Needs Your Help



The Groundhog is on the hunt for some missing hard copies of past Groundhog issues and we need your help. We need copies of the following issues:

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TIGER

By Anna Mae Horn

Our March meeting was hosted by the Valley Head Junior Beta Club, and they showcased the many talents they have. There are 27 members that will be attending the Beta convention in Birmingham this year to compete in 25 different competitions. They will be displaying their wide range of gifts from academics to crafts to artistic ability in the following categories:

The Jr. Beta members and their sponsors (Christi Black and Tara Kirby) have worked very hard and did a fabulous presentation for us at the meeting as well as for the students during the school day. I am confident they will do well at the competition. The theme this year is “Betas Rockin’ the Country” and was incorporated into the projects as required. Coach Darwin and Mrs. Black helped change the lyrics of the song “Happy” by Pherrell Williams to include the theme for the VH Jr. Beta to compete as a group against 15 other schools in songfest. Tiger Champs wishes Valley Head Jr. Beta the best of luck in their competition, and we are extremely proud to have these amazing students representing our school.

Valley Head Junior Beta would like to thank everyone who helped with the project. It truly was a group effort. They would like to recognize the following businesses who contributed and helped make this trip possible: Tigers Inn, the Town of Valley Head, Alice Circle, Tiger Champs, Alder & Cox Insurance, and Bruce’s Foodland. Every fundraising donation and purchase is also very much appreciated including doughnuts, scarf, or a cute bag. This is an expensive trip for students, and they could not attend the convention without your support.



Valley Head Beta Club members and Categories are:

Digitally Enhanced Photography	Ellie Cox
Black & White Photography	Rylee Vest
Color Photography	Lanie Henderson
Handmade Jewelry	Laura Boehringer
Woodworking	Gavin Bain
Recyclable Art	John David Blalock
Cross Stitching	Eden Cavitt
Wreath	Kaylynn Hulgán
Quilting	Sadie Durham
Speech	Bailee Carter
History	Jake Gatlin
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Spelling D2	John David Blalock
Quiz Bowl	Madison Clark
	Rylee Vest
	Kristen Miller
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Poster	Mason Vest
	Lanie Henderson
	Ellie Cox
Banner	Katlynn Busby
	Macy Hirst
	Rachel Collins
“Spotlight Your Club” T’Shirt	Lanie Henderson
	Ellie Cox
	Mason Vest
	Gavin Bain
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	Sadie Durham
	Amanda Garcia
	Madisen Smith
	Kallie Ingram
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BY
ANGIE CARDEN

EASTER SUNDAY

In my family, as long as I can think back, Easter has always been referred to as Easter Sunday. I was taught, as a very young girl, just what that means. And we were not celebrating a bunny with colored eggs! Though, he did hop through every year and hide a basket full of goodies! But, at the heart of it, I knew what Easter represented. One of my favorite parts of Easter was always my new shiney shoes and frilly dress!!! The eggs were fun, but I loved my new “Easter outfit”!

And by now, if you had read any of my past articles, you know what I am about to say has always been my favorite part of Easter...the food! I can smell Easter dinner now! A lot of you probably have lamb for Easter--that's very traditional, but

not in my family. Thank goodness for I am not a fan! But, there are other “rack of's” and “leg of's” to choose from! Chicken legs, turkey legs, rack of ribs (beef or pork)! And I'm sorry, but none of the alternatives smell as bad as lamb does while cooking!

Now, all that rambled on, let's get to our recipe, which by the way, is not a leg or a rack! Let's go for a juicy pork roast over a bed of roasted veggies! And I can honestly smell this one right now! And it smells good!

I do wish each and every one of you a very blessed Easter and treasured family time! Happy Easter and Happy Cooking!

Angie

Pork Roast with Roasted Vegetables

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. You can use any vegetables you like for this. I am simply giving a method!

Chop 6-8 Baby red potatoes in half, 1 med onion chopped roughly the same size as your potatoes, 3 large carrots chopped the same, 3 celery stalks and 1 bell pepper chopped. Place them into a roasting pan. Season with salt and pepper, and I like to add rosemary. Fresh is best, but dried is fine!

Next, in a small bowl, mix together 3 tbsp olive oil, 3 tbsp garlic, salt and pepper. Using a pastry brush (or your hands) spread the mixture all over the pork shoulder.

Set the roast on top of the veggies and I like to add several cups of chicken stock to the pan. Not to cover the veggies, just the bottom of the pan. I do that so I can make a little gravy when it is done!!!

Roast for 20 minutes, and then reduce the heat to 325 degrees F. Continue to cook until your thermometer reads 185 degrees F in the thickest part of your roast, about 4 hours. Remember, it is very important to cook pork to the proper temperature! Remove the pork from the oven and let stand until the juices can redistribute, at least 15 minutes.

April Birthdays

- April 1 – Michele Kincer
- April 1 – Angie Miller
- April 1 - Calvin Lanier
- April 1 - Kayla Cronnon
- April 1 – Cayson Hughes
- April 2 - Milton Chambers
- April 2 – Ellie Cox
- April 2 - Jayken Lawton
- April 3 – Ray Padgett
- April 3 – Jessica Battles
- April 4 – Jamie Vest
- April 4 – Mina Blalock
- April 4 – Sherry Barkley
- April 5 – Kaitlyn Dean
- April 5 – Jana Goss
- April 5 - Kenny Chamlee
- April 5 - Steve Rhodes
- April 5 - Chris Black
- April 5 – Donna Busby
- April 6 – Jennifer Cruse
- April 6 – John Chambers
- April 6 – Ethel Manifold
- April 6 – Sydney Ingram
- April 7 – Shannon Chappell
- April 7 – Kansas Lee

- April 7 – Priscilla Monroe
- April 7 – Kyle Miller
- April 8 – Angie Lawton
- April 8 – Jackson Rosson
- April 8 – Sharon Coots
- April 8 - Madissen Chitwood
- April 8 - Hayden Knowles
- April 9 – Josh Goss
- April 10 - Brittany Bain
- April 10 – Newly Ingram
- April 10 – Paul Ethan Blackwell
- April 10- Lindsey Webb
- April 10 – Lisa Moore
- April 10 – Emily McElhaney
- April 11 – Jordan Beasley
- April 11 – Joey Garrett
- April 11 – Josie Crider
- April 12 – Kyle Coots
- April 12 – Tiffany Baker
- April 12 – In memory of Haley Battles
- April 12 – Jeff Stephenson
- April 13 – Brian Blalock
- April 14 – Zoey Chambers
- April 14 – Carl Tuberville
- April 14 – Jason Baber
- April 14 – Ginger Hammac
- April 14 – In memory of Georgette McGee

- April 15 – In memory of Tim Carden
- April 15 – Barbara Busby Rape
- April 16 – Preston Kirby
- April 16 – Danny Hopper
- April 16 – Al Blackburn
- April 17 – Ann Cash Harrell
- April 18 – Taylor Verdon
- April 18 – Shan Smith
- April 19 – Butch Manifold
- April 20 – Lane Ingram
- April 20 – Brenda Clinton
- April 21 – Charlene Smith
- April 22 – Thelma Coots
- April 23 – Lauren McGee
- April 23 – Philip Cash
- April 23 – John P. Smith Jr.
- April 24 – Courtney Meadows
- April 24 – Taylee Keith
- April 24 – Adam Dupree
- April 25 – Cooper Kirby
- April 26 – Molly Manifold
- April 26 – Eloise Lance
- April 26 – John Moore
- April 26 – Phyllis James
- April 26 – Evelyn McGee
- April 26 – Cindy Carden
- April 27 – Kaden Johnson
- April 27 – Emily Miller

- April 27 – Kaylee Cartwright
- April 28 – Stacey Bowman
- April 28 – Austin Reed
- April 28 – Alfred Langston
- April 29 – Linda Stephenson
- April 29 – Katie Hester
- April 29 – Dawson Kincer
- April 29 – John Kincer
- April 30 – Mandi Browder Goza
- April 30 – Anita Meadows
- April 30 – Shane McMahan
- April 30 – Jaimee McGee

April Anniversaries

- April 1 – Raymond & Sharon Coots
- April 7 –Milton & Gail Chambers
- April 10 – Nathan & Lacie Keith
- April 19 – Corey & Abby Davis
- April 20 – Josh & Brandi Rosson
- April 26 – Ross & Jessica VanPelt

What To Do Around Here!

April 2015 Community Calendar

Apr 1 - Enchanted Botany - Join Brittney M. Hughes for this botany trip to "The Pocket" on Pigeon Mountain. Excellent photo opportunities. Easy to moderate short hike. Meet at Little River Canyon Center to shuttle to site. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. \$10 pp. Pre-registration required. 256-782-8010.

Apr 1, 3, 6, 14, 22, 28 - Wild Cave Tour. 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.

Apr 2 - Jess Goggans in Concert - Kamama stage and seating provide the audience an intimate listening experience where live music can be fully appreciated. Admission is \$10 and seating is limited. Reservations are strongly encouraged. Dinner at 5:30 and music starts at 7 p.m. 256-634-3001.

Apr 2, 7 - 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 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 3 - 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 10 a.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 4, 18 - Rock Climbing/Rappelling Adventure Combo. 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.

Apr 4 - DeSoto Scout Trail Hike. For those not familiar with the DST, it connects 2 of the finest parks in the State: Little River Canyon National Preserve and DeSoto State Park. The trail follows the West Fork of Little River and traverses a varied terrain of ridges, valleys, rock formations, rocky plains, and sandy stretches. See original rockwork from the Civilian Conservation Corps era, wonderful views of Little River, and several wet-season waterfalls along the way. This will be a moderate to strenuous hike along rocky terrain. This hike will be mostly in the DeSoto State Park section, with rugged, mountainous terrain and some steep inclines. Meet at Country Store & Information Center; 10 a.m.

to roughly 4 p.m. 4 to 5 miles. Free and open to the public. 256-845-0051.

Apr 4 - Basic Survival Class. A good first course for someone new to bushcraft and survival. It's designed to teach you the most important and practical skills of bushcraft and survival in the Southern Appalachian region Golden Rules of Survival, Clothing, Kits, Kit mentality and the bare essentials, Shelter, Fire, Water, Rescue. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (bring bag lunch and personal water bottle) Desoto State Park Primitive Group Campsite 2. \$65 per person ages 12 and up. Pre-registration is required, as class size is limited. 256-634-8370.

Apr 4 - RTI's Community Easter Egg Hunt. Your children can have their picture made with the Easter Bunny. There will be separate hunts for different age groups up to 11 years of age, free face painting, and golden prize eggs. Held at the RTI Building. 1 p.m. 256-638-7800.

Apr 6, 11, 25, 27, 28, 29 - Rappelling Adventure. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. No previous experience necessary. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 7-9 - High Adventure Trip. This is a 3-day adventure including a Wild Cave Tour, Rock Climbing, An Extreme Night Hike and end with a relaxing canoe trip. Price includes all activities, attractions, permits, fees, gear, and guides. \$137 per person. 256-997-9577.

Apr 7-9 - Spring Break Tours At Tigers For Tomorrow. Visitors can get an up close visit with the animals in The Legacy Living Classroom and even feed the animals at the animal contact area while waiting for the tour to begin. Regular tour prices discounted during this special time. The tour is just \$10 for children ages 3-11 and \$15 for those ages 12 and above. All children under 3 are free! You will learn about the predators we share our world with, their instincts and behaviors as well as why they are here at Untamed Mountain. Bring your camera as tour guests will be allowed to take photos, but no videos will be allowed during this time. Please also wear closed toed shoes or sneakers. This is a 1 ½ hour walking tour. 1:30 p.m. 256-524-4150.

Apr 9 - Diedra The Blues Diva in Concert. Kamama stage and seating provide the audience an intimate listening experience where live music can be fully appreciated. Admission is \$10 and seating is limited. Reservations are strongly encouraged. Dinner at 5:30 and music starts at 7 p.m. 256-634-3001.

Apr 10-12 - The Courage Worship Event. The Courage mission is to heal the broken hearted, to remember the forgotten, to bring hope to the hopeless and courage to the weak. Courage Worship event is designed to create this environment for a constant 72 hours. There will be dozens of Christian Bands, Solo Artists, and Speakers. Hope you can join us. Twilley Fields in Dogtown. 256-997-9577.

Apr 10 - Rock Climbing Adventure. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 11 - Mid-South Paint Horse Show. You can see the horses work and the beauty that each one has in color and talent. Held at the Northeast Alabama Agri-Business Center in Rainsville. 8 a.m. 256-638-1650.

Apr 11 - Run for Uganda 5K. Rainsville Community Church hosting a 5K to raise money for Uganda. Registration forms are available at Straight Up Barber Shop in Rainsville, or register at racesonline.com. Visit the Run for Uganda Facebook page. 8:30 a.m. 256-638-7793.

Apr 11 - 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. Open to all ages (at least 5 years old). 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$35 per ornament. 256-523-3188.

Apr 11 - Earth Day At Little River Canyon Center. Join Jim Lacefield, author of "Lost Worlds In Alabama" for an interpretive tour of Little River Canyon rim habitats. Little River Canyon Center. 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. \$5 per person; pre-registration required. 256-782-5697.

Apr 11 - Spring Plant Sale. The Northeast Alabama Federation of Garden Clubs Spring Plant sale will be on April 11th at the Henagar Ruritan Building 8:30-10:30am.

Apr 11 - Learning to Look, Looking to Learn, Wild and Wackie Discoveries. Join Heather Montgomery, nationally renown children's nature author, for this family friendly hike where you become an explorer and make your own wild discoveries in the forest. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$5 per adult and \$3 children 12 and under. 256-782-5697.

Apr 11 - MERF's Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction. Come support the MERF House and have some fun! Tickets purchased by April 5th are \$30 per person or \$200 per table of 8. Moon Lake Gym. 6 p.m. 256-634-4673.

Apr 11, 17, 20 - Extreme Night Hike. 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.

Apr 13 - Rock Climbing Adventure. 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.

Apr 16 - Maxwell Russell in Concert. Kamama stage and seating provide the audience an intimate listening experience where live music can be fully appreciated. Admission is \$10 and seating is limited. Reservations are strongly encouraged. Dinner at 5:30 and music starts at 7 p.m. 256-634-3001.

Apr 16-19 & April 23-26 - "Into the Woods". Northeast Alabama Community College Theatre presents "Into the Woods". Call 256-638-4418 for more information.

Apr 16 - GPS Basic Training and Navigation Class, Part 1. Learn how to use a map, compass, and a handheld GPS. Learn basic navigation and how to pinpoint a location for quick return, or quick rescue. Also learn how to search by waypoints or coordinates. True Adventure Sports. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 16 - Plant Discovery Walk. Join Robert Wilson from Seven Pines Survival for a short nature hike around the boardwalk area identifying some common plants. This is a short basic plant identification class with some basic info about medicinal, edible, and utilitarian uses. Most of the info that will be given will be from the Peterson Field Guide Books (edible and medicinal). It is suggested to bring a camera and note book. 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Meet in DeSoto State Park Country Store & Information Center. Free & open to everyone. 256-997-5025.

Apr 17, 22 - Mountain Bike Tour. This tour explores some beautiful trails and paths atop Lookout Mountain or Sand Mountain. Come have an enjoyable ride without the fear of getting lost. This three hour tour includes a mountain bike rental, instruction, and a guide for safety, direction, and information. Meet at True Adventure Sports 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 18 - Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative's 75th Annual Meeting. Registration will be held at DeKalb County Schools Coliseum from 8am - 11am and

meeting will begin at 11am.

April 18 Mentone Community Church Spring Indoor Yard Sale and Pancake Breakfast. The Church youth is hosting a yard sale and pancake breakfast to help raise funds for their mission trip to Falmouth Jamaica. “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure!” Please come help support the youth by shopping for some of your own treasures and enjoying some freshly made pancakes. If you had rather turn your “trash” into someone else’s “treasures” and would like to make a donation, please contact the Church. Pancake breakfast and Yard Sale will begin at 8am in the Life Center. 90 Summerville Road, Mentone. 256-634-4210.

Apr 18 - Paperweight Class. This class is designed for those who really just want see what molten glass is all about. Feel the heat, gather from the furnace, sculpt the glass into you own design. It is ultimately about the experience, some experimentation and a couple 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.

Apr 18 - 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.

Apr 18, 24 - 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.

Apr 19 - 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 Sat the 21st. Cost is \$5. To learn more or reserve a spot send an email to cottagepaper@bellsouth.net or call 205.349-4026.

Apr 20 - 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.

Apr 21 - Boulderling Adventure Atop Lookout Mountain. Come experience first-hand what boulderling 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 boulderling experience is needed. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 23 - Treasure Hunt Adventure. Do you enjoy trying to solve riddles and clues? This 5-hour adventure will take you deep into the heart of Manitou Cave. You will have to solve and follow each clue in order to find the next one, and ultimately the Treasure! TAS 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 23 - Marsha Morgan in Concert. Kamama stage and seating provide the audience an intimate listening experience where live music can be fully appreciated. Admission is \$10 and seating is limited. Reservations are strongly encouraged. Dinner at 5:30 and music starts at 7 p.m. 256-634-3001.

Apr 25 - DeKalb County 2015 March for Babies. Join the March of Dime for the 2015 March for Babies. Registration starts at 8 a.m. and Walk starts at 9 a.m. at the Fort Payne City Park. You can register online at www.marchforbabies.org or call 256-585-6243.

Apr 25 - Sculpt Your Own Flower. 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.

Apr 25 - Blacksmith Forging Demonstration with Walter Howell. Locally and nationally-known craftsman Walter Howell will demonstrate this interesting art form of usefulness & beauty. See raw materials become works of art using this age-old method of heating & shaping metal known as forging. Some of Walter’s finished pieces of art will be available for purchase. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. DeSoto State Park Country Store & information Center. Free & open to everyone. Stop by anytime! 256-997-5025.

Apr 25 - 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. Lenton uses raw materials such as natural broom corn and handles to fashion useful & beautiful pieces of art. Some of Lenton’s finished pieces will be available for purchase. (Please note: demo may be postponed due to wet conditions) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. DeSoto State Park Country Store. Free & open to everyone. 256-997-5025.

Apr 25 - Treasure Hunt Adventure. Do you enjoy trying to solve riddles and clues? This 5-hour adventure will take you deep into the heart of Manitou Cave. You will have to solve and follow each clue in order to find the next one, and ultimately the Treasure! TAS 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 25 -26 Gun and Knife Show. This event will be held at the DeKalb County VFW Fairgrounds in Fort Payne. It will house 350 tables of rifles, shotguns, handguns, knives, edged weapons, modern & antique weapons, and related items. Admission is \$5 per person and children under 12 are free with an adult. Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m. 256-845-7140.

Apr 28–May 2 - Spring Carnival. This annual Spring Carnival is fun for the whole family! It is sponsored by the DeKalb County VFW and will be held at the VFW Fairgrounds. The gates will be open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, May 2, gates will be open from 2 p.m. to close. Price is \$10 per person to ride from open to close each day. Food Concessions will be available.

Apr 29 - GPS Basics Training and Navigation Class, Part 2. You will learn to find a beacon placed in the woods as a SAR attempt while knowing your position, and the position of your teammates. True Adventure Sports 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Apr 30 - Ryan Keef in Concert. Kamama stage and seating provide the audience an intimate listening experience where live music can be fully appreciated. Admission is \$10 and seating is limited. Reservations are strongly encouraged. Dinner at 5:30 and music starts at 7 p.m. 256-634-3001.



Ongoing Calendar

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 Bevill Center in Rainsville by Duos and Solos Dance Club. 256-638-2780.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10am. Free. 256-782-5697.

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

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

The Mentone Business Association (MBA) will meet the third 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.

Auburn Architecture Students . . . (cont'd from page 1)

observing the lay of the land and pausing occasionally to confer among themselves or with their instructors. Frequently they discussed Mentone's history and culture with MACC board members and other local escorts.

Miller and his colleagues (along with David Austin, who was unable to accompany the team) will guide the students as they individually create designs for a facility that will preserve, display, and foster the rich heritage of creative arts in the Mentone area. As a multiuse facility, the building's interior will provide space for exhibits and performances, conferences and education, and tourist information.

Elected officials and members of the MACC Board of Directors welcomed the Auburn group's arrival at Kamama on that morning. Before visiting the proposed building site, they were welcomed by Mentone Mayor Rob Hammond and provided an overview of the project by MACC Board President Ray Padgett. State Representative Nathaniel Ledbetter presented a check for \$2,500.

Later in the day, the group visited the iconic Mentone sites of DeSoto Falls and Sallie Howard Memorial Chapel, two attractions that promote awareness of the area's traditional fusion of natural settings and man-made structures through the interaction of stone, water, and

wood. Riverview Camp for Girls hosted the group for a lunch of homemade barbecue provided by Mentone Market, followed by an outdoor group photo and a brief visit to the camp's vintage gymnasium.

Before the semester ends, the students will submit their designs to the MACC board of directors, and elements of their creative genius might eventually appear in the final architectural plan. Their clearly visible enthusiasm for this academic assignment will likewise generate enthusiasm in Mentone as the vision for the



In full splendor following an overnight rainfall, the iconic views of DeSoto Falls provide the Auburn students with both inspiration from and insight into Mentone's local natural beauty.



The Auburn students provide a backdrop of collective enthusiasm as Alabama State Representative Nathaniel Ledbetter (at left) welcomes them and presents a \$2,500 donation for MAPA to Mentone Mayor Rob Hammond and Board President Ray Padgett.



Auburn students and teachers savor a lunch of homemade barbecue and brownies provided by Mentone Market in the Riverview Camp for Girls dining hall.



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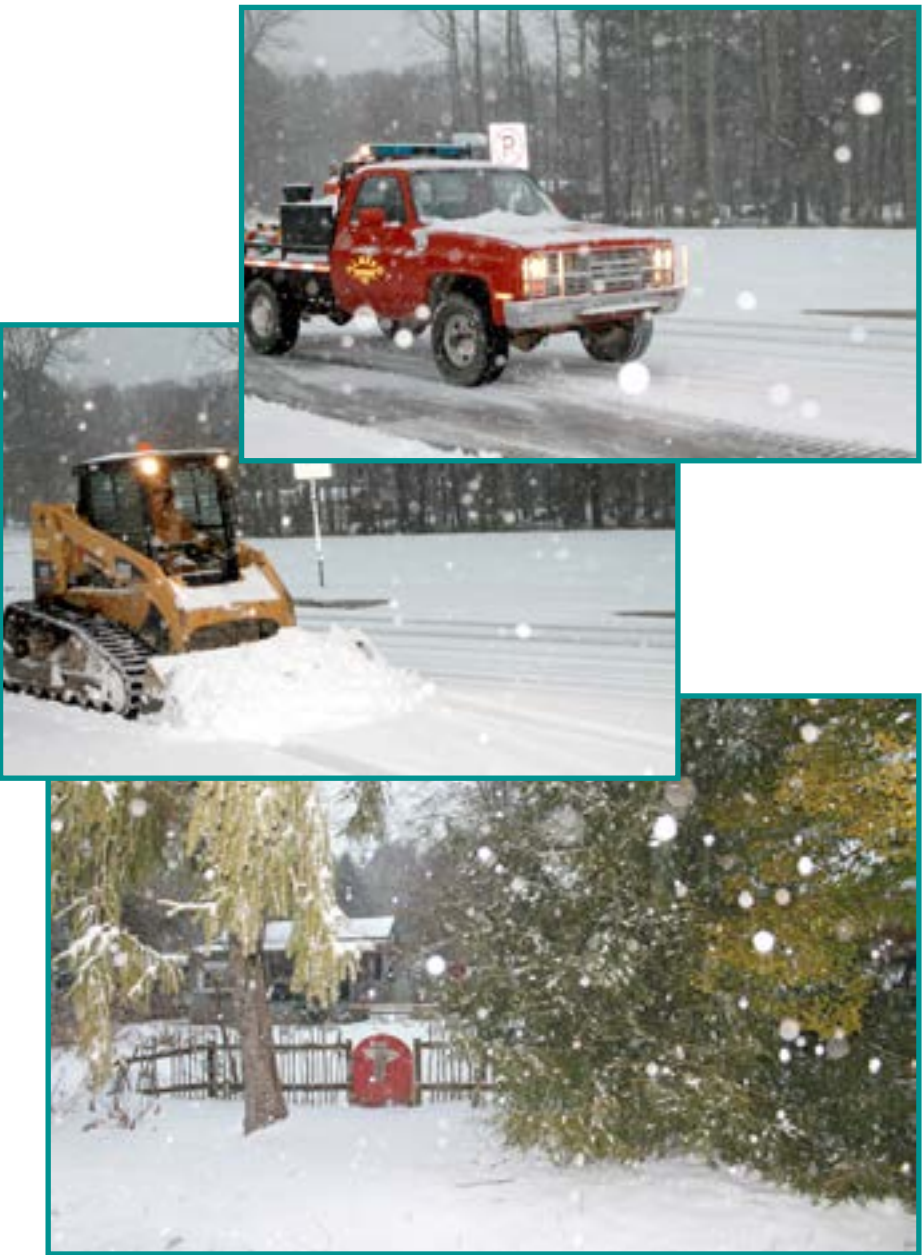
From the ceilings, to the floors

We've got you covered!

Beta club Photos (cont'd from page 8)



Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow!



Mentone Wedding Chapel

*Candle Lite Ceremonies
Music • Photographs
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Lodging
Limousine*



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 wedding vows, call
256-634-4181

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Mountain Grove at Cloudland B&B



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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.

HISTORIC CHURCH SEEKS HELP

St. Joseph's-on-the Mountain Episcopal Church, whose origin is an 1870 log cabin, now finds that its present building has serious problems. Its foundation is unsound, its walls admit moisture and vermin.

This small church finds itself facing a repair bill of \$ 200,000. The active congregation of 35 members wants to preserve this Mentone icon for worshippers and tourists but cannot do it alone.

The church asks those who would like to help, please send your checks to St. Joseph's on- the- Mountain, P. O. Box 161, Mentone, AL 35984, with a note that it is for the Church Renewal Fund.

Remember When . . .

By Angie Carden

The Groundhog did a beautiful cover story in the April issue of 1986 on Doc Coleman. I think anyone and everyone who lived in Mentone or Valley Head knew him. He was an outstanding member of our community for over 50 years. If you had the privilege of seeing that article, here is what you read:

"Scarcely a person lives in Mentone whose life has not been touched by Lloyd M. Coleman, Valley Head Pharmacist. Last Thanksgiving Doc Coleman celebrated fifty years' service to this area.

When he first arrived in Valley Head on Thanksgiving Day, 1935, there was much excitement over the traditional Valley Head-Fort Payne football game. Valley Head was a busy place.

During the late 20's and early 30's Valley Head was well known as a trading center. Traveling salesman for wholesale groceries made the town their base. Goods came in and were hauled out by freight. In addition, crossties for the railroad were cut from both Sand Mountain and Lookout Mountain and sold in Valley Head.

Doc Coleman remembers that there were no paved streets the day of his arrival. Wagons were busy hauling goods. When it rained, there were deep ruts and very muddy roads. Eventually roads were cherted, then paved.

Coleman was born in Edison, GA. He was a 1931 graduate of the Southern College of Pharmacy in Atlanta, GA. For two years he worked in a drug store in Buchanan, Ga, then for about seven months he worked with his friend Lee Garrett in Rockmart, GA.

Garrett's friend S.E. Crow from Chattanooga, had briefly opened a drug store in the old bank building in Valley Head, site of the present pharmacy. However, Valley Head was not to Mr. and Mrs. Crow's liking, and they retired to Chattanooga. Garrett and Coleman talked of coming to Valley Head.



The day before Thanksgiving, 1935, Garrett came into the Rockmart store. 'Shortly', he said, 'You go on alone to Valley Head. If you like it there and work hard, I believe you can make enough to eat-if you stay single.' Luckily for this area, Coleman liked what he saw.

He quickly made friends with N.T. Carden, just out high school and later to be in pharmacy with J.H. MacDonald in Fort Payne. Carden worked with Coleman until he was drafted in World War II. Doc Coleman received deferment after deferment while he worked 80-100 hours a week".

The article went on of his memories of Bell's Grocery burning, and the telephone office being upstairs of the Drug store. And gave his opinion on "how the high cost of medicine and medical attention has gotten completely out of hand".

The concluding paragraphs said, "December2,

1985, Donald Morgan and Dr. Quimby arranged a surprise dinner in Lloyd Coleman's honor. About fifty friends attended. Dr. Quimby says of Coleman, 'He's the most reliable man I've ever known. For 37 years he's never refused to open the drug store, day or night, for a patient who needed medicine.'

"When asked about his vision of the future of Mentone and Valley Head, Doc Coleman replied, 'In the past few years industries such as Shaw, the sock mills, and Fritze Steel have been extremely beneficial to the economy of Valley Head. The Mentone people are really moving on; your wide awake organization is producing results. I like your progressive spirit in Mentone.' People in Mentone like Doc Coleman and are grateful for his continuing caring attitude."

What a great article! Now that I am "aging", I have seen Doc and "Scrooge" (Donald Morgan), say goodbye to the Drug Store. But it's still cheery and homey every time you go in. That's one of the greatest things about living in a small town. People are like family, and lots of times are family, no matter where you go.



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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. Separate 30x40 garage/workshop. Native flora landscaping with rock outcroppings, garden fountain pond. Auto sprinkler system. Screened porch with multiple decks for your sunset views. So much amenities. \$339,000



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



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 river steps and landing to river. 2 bdrm, 2 bths. loft. Vaulted ceiling with exposed beams. fully equipped kitchen with granite counters. stacked stone FP. 2 story with Basement. Separate 30x40 garage, large enough for motor home. Private but with all the comforts. Price reduction to \$275,000



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.



1.8 ACRES on East Fork of Little River. Easy access to river from common trail that runs along the banks of the river. Bluff views. County water available. Gated community. \$80,000. (23022)



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)



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)
.67 ACRE with paved rd frontage, wooded, non restricted \$6,500.
5 ACRES on the East brow tract overlooking Pleasant Valley. Rock

pallacades, wooded. See Weiss Lake in the distance. Private gated area. Joins National Preserve & Forever Wild protected property. \$60,000 (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 bdrms, Den and bath. So many amenities and landscaped naturally with flora and fauna. The Guest Cottage is 2 bdrms, 1 bth, living room with ceramic wood burning insert. Heart pine floors, ceilings, and walls. The old home place on property was built in 1895 when the land was homesteaded. Even the African geese stay and all the wildlife abound! Total of 90 acres. \$974,900 (23094)



The Rhododendron Garden Club

By Mellanie Tuttle

The Rhododendron Garden Club met at the MERF House on March 10, 2015 at 10:00 AM. President, Martha Wood, called the meeting to order. The weather was not cooperative for the planned clean up around the MERF House, but members noted what needed to be trimmed, pulled out, weeded and replanted. Those of you who were disappointed to miss this workday can demonstrate your skills when we re-schedule!

We did have a very productive business meeting with six members present. Horticulture Chairman, Martha Wood explained the invasive nature of the Callery pear cultivars commonly know as the Bradford pear. Although having a lovely shape and colorful foliage, they are short-lived, brittle and the fruit thought to be sterile, is not. Better native alternatives for beautiful foliage, ornamental flower and/or fruit would be the Dogwood, Hophornbeam, American Hornbeam, Redbud, Yellowwood, Blackhaw Viburnum, Red Horsechestnut, Downy Serviceberry, Chokeberry or Blackgum.

Marsha Merrell, in the Conservation Report, shared that she spoke to Senators Shelby and Sessions and Representative Aderholt concerning The Land and Water Conservation Fund. The LWCF Act of 1965, "regulates admission and special recreation user fees at certain recreational areas and establishes a fund to subsidize state and federal acquisition of lands for recreational and conservation purposes." Companies drilling offshore for gas and oil are the primary source of income and even though the original bill states, "Fund monies may be

used only for the purposes for which they were appropriated", Congress regularly diverts funds for other purposes and has amended the Act 11 times. An amendment in 1994 provided funds for projects to reduce crimes. The original budget cap of \$900 million has only been met twice in the 40 years of the Fund.

A bill introduced in the Senate (S.338-113th



Congress) proposes that the authorization for the LWCF be made permanent and monies be made available without further appropriation. Currently, the President makes recommendations to Congress regarding the funding for specific LWCF projects and then the Appropriations Committee reviews those recommendations and sends them to Congress. Marsha hopes that our representatives will support the new bill and that the original intent of the Fund be upheld. Discussion followed as to what measures needed to be taken next. She will keep us updated on further developments.

Our club assignment this year for the Fall Flower Show will be a Functional Table for Four. Quite lively and entertaining suggestions were made as to how we will interpret the theme of Taste of NE Alabama. Now to make those ideas a reality and convince absentees that our table will be tasteful!

The Federation Spring Plant sale will be on April 11th at the Henagar Ruritan Building between 8:30 and 10:30. This sale not only helps offset the costs of the VFW flower show but also provides locally grown, native or heirloom plants not found in the box stores or garden centers. Save your pennies and spend with us!

The Shirley Miller Wildlife Trail on Pigeon Mountain near Lafayette will be the destination for the April 14 meeting. We will meet at the MERF House at 10 AM and car pool to the trail. Hiking shoes would be best if deciding to get off the boardwalk to view the waterfall; otherwise, the stroll is pleasant and the wildflowers amazing. We will stop for lunch at the Cove Farm Restaurant so plan for a pleasant afternoon and hope the weather is cooperative.

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.



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Welcome To Mentone!!



Stop by our Log Cabin office in the heart of Mentone for some great coffee and conversation.

..... LOTS and LAND

40 ACRES ON LOOKOUT MTN. Walker's Chapel area; mobile home; 3-bay garage/barn/shop (w/apartment & 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)

LAKEFRONT @ DESOTO FALLS. Swim, boat, fish, hike where hardwoods, mtn laurel & rhododendron abound. Rarely can one find a place at DeSoto Falls! Build your dream cottage & enjoy approx 94' river frontage. Canoe, kayak or pontoon all the way to Mentone! \$162,500 (355152)

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

4.43 WOODED ACRES, unrestricted. Septic tank, gravel drive, public water & power already in place! Great place for RV or to build your getaway. \$39,900 (311288)

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)

EXCELLENT COMMERCIAL GROWTH LOCATION! 1.26 acres, Rainsville, w/high traffic potential. Frontage/access on 3 sides in busy shopping/business area across Hwy 35 from Plainview School & Civic Center. All public utilities available. \$339,000 (1001805)



PRE-CIVIL WAR-ERA LOG CABIN w/additions, plus 2 add'l income-producing, small cabins. Main cabin has 2BR (one is a loft)/2BA; kitchen & dining area; huge living area divided by a Mountford-style fireplace. Fantastic stone work inside & out: fireplace, sidewalks, patio, etc. Handhewn logs & beams. Screened porch. 2-car carport. Stone garden waterfall & ponds. 3 cabins on approx 1.2 acres. \$197,000 (1014789)



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



DID YOU KNOW THERE WAS A CABIN THERE? Cute little board-n-batten cabin; hidden in the trees so most folks didn't even know it was there. New roof, flooring, appliances, wiring, plumbing, much more. Screened front porch; lots of stone work (inside & out); workshop; nice yard & garden areas (over 1 acre of land). 2BR/1BA. Off Cutler Ave, Mentone. Nothing fancy about the cabin or the price. \$85,000 (1012566)



CABIN & 6.14 ACRES. Enjoy your time in the mountains in this 3BR/2BA cabin w/large front porch, hot tub deck and one level of like-new rustic simplicity. Beautiful stone fireplace; pine floors, walls & ceilings; handhewn, wood-beamed entry to kitchen w/oak cabinets, pantry & stainless appliances. Split BR design. Most furnishings included. \$199,900. (562232)



A REMARKABLE BEGINNING, waiting for just the right finish. What could it be? A wedding venue with antebellum flavor? A B&B & add'l cabins? The groundwork is laid to create something magnificent! 2-story, 5000+ sq ft home w/expansive, open upper level for a ballroom? fellowship hall? banquet room? Small cabin; sheds & creek; 7.5 private acres. Approx 2 miles N of downtown Mentone \$175,000 (498126)



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



HMM. A rare opportunity to own a place that has been used for a business & living quarters in the heart of the Village of Mentone. Built as a beauty shop & residence. 1BR (or 2 if you finish the loft)/1.5BA; kit; LR; sunroom; side porch; private backyard; front office/studio. Multi-use space perfect for weekends, festival times, part-time, all the time. \$110,000 (403324)



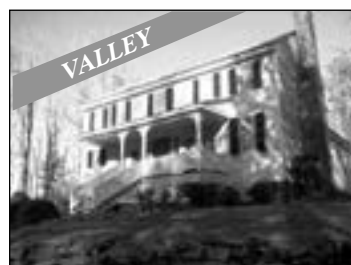
BEAUTY, CRAFTSMANSHIP & VERSATILITY. Log home on 27.7 rolling acres w/stocked, spring-fed lake. 30x60 shop w/30' covered porch, equipment sheds & 2-car det garage. Interior delights include pro appliances & granite in KI; huge master suite (heated floor in MABA); full basement w/WB fireplace & 4-person, cedar sauna room; elevator-ready shaft & so much more! \$449,900 (449728)



THE VIEW IS SPECTACULAR from this approx 1600 sq ft; 2BR/2.5BA, brow-front cottage. Sunroom w/Champion windows & doors to enjoy views any time. Once a part of the historic Brow Park Lodge, this cottage has a great kitchen & spacious bedrooms. Furnished. Single car garage. Potential Plus! Along the Scenic DeSoto Pkwy, near Camp Corner & DeSoto Falls; between Mentone & State Park. \$219,900 (970236)



LET'S GO TO THE MOUNTAIN! Small in size, big on what you'll want in a retreat or in a place to live life more simply. Wood interior; new kitchen; 1BR/1.5BA; rockin' fireplace; fully furnished; view of a backyard, lovely front yard w/fruit trees & garden areas; flower beds; quaint "outhouse-look" well-house. Great rental possibilities, too! \$94,900 (840095)



THE LARMORE HOUSE, a landmark home built in 1836. Hand-crafted doors; wavy window glass; heart-pine floors; massive stone fireplace in the kitchen (there are six in the house altogether); 3BR/2BA; smokehouse w/hand-carved pegs in the rafters; servant's quarters with stone firepit. 3.49 acres w/ancient cedars; walnut grove; 2 streams & spring. \$139,000 (535973)



388 ACRES OF MTN PRESERVE where two creeks converge (Laurel Creek & Gilbert Branch). Combination lush forest & cleared areas; boulders; level to rolling topography; spectacular natural outcroppings & glades; where you can create a large estate or a quiet retreat with elbow room aplenty! Give in to your wanderlust & never leave your own domain. Priced to amaze at \$1,690/acre. \$655,720 (1011611)

PENDING



The Mountain Herbalist

Spring Beauty By L. C. Moon

The sun was shining bright in the brilliant blue sky on March 16th, 2015. I walked outside to feel the sun on my face, the warm grass and rocks beneath my bare feet. It was morning and there was an occasional breeze that put a chill in the air. But, as the day progressed I could feel winter fading quickly into spring.

All around me the buds on the trees were swelling and the evergreen leaves were beginning to perk up. New life was bursting from the ground such as edible delight's like queen anne's lace, wild hyacinth, ground ivy, chickweed and dandelion. In the woods behind my home, just outside Desoto State Park, I saw no signs yet of medicinal herbs such as toothwort or bloodroot. However, later that morning I saw an abundance of toothwort, bloodroot and spring beauty.

Spring beauty is a beautiful delicate white flower and it is appropriately named. So when I say I saw lots of spring beauty I mean that literally and metaphorically. I saw what appeared to be thousands of spring beauties at "The Pocket" with my friend Ginger. It was our tenth annual trip to "The Pocket" at the base of Pigeon Mountain.

We went this year before the spring equinox and did not see the usual sights of redbuds or downy serviceberries on our way in but we did see a beautiful redwing blackbird. Upon arriving Ginger and I took great pleasure in being greeted by blue bells in bud, harbinger of spring and spring beauty blooms. Our eyes began adjusting to the details of the grand lush scenery lying before us and soon we noticed the foliage of celandine poppy and trout lilies scattered across the forest floor.

The awe inspiring landscape felt like it was beckoning us to gaze upon it and observe the many different forms of life there to be appreciated. There were many moments the buds, blooms, foliage, roots, mosses, fungi and rocks seemed as if they were there just for us to love and appreciate. We gladly submitted to the beauty of the pocket and gave thanks for the miraculous life around us.

Ginger and I came upon a stunning display of white hepatica and bloodroot blooms. In amongst them we spotted a blue hepatica bloom and, to our surprise and delight, a white trillium in bud.

Along the boardwalk, and the trail, the

trilliums were abundant as were the blooms of spice bush and cut leaf toothwort. We also saw blooms of trout lily, duchman's breeches, star chickweed and one celandine poppy. We witnessed the buds of blue bells, blue cohosh, purple phacelia, white trillium and a few violets.

The sun was shining bright as we neared the end of the cove. There before me was the brilliant double waterfall cascading down the rocks feeding the immense ecological diversity and habitats of the stream we had been walking along. I couldn't resist taking off my shoes and walking barefoot upstream. There was a peace and serenity that settled over me as I felt the childlike nature bubbling up within me. I really felt like a kid when I squealed with joy after seeing a crawdad making it's way upstream along beside me.



I felt nourished and cradled in the womb of the cove. The experiences of the day gifted me with an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the many ways the flora and fauna of North Alabama and the surrounding areas feed one another and me.

The spring-like day helped inspire a sense of well being within me and among the people I encountered. I shared a dance with my friend Nancy Martin as her husband Bill played and sang old time music with his friend on the boardwalk of the pocket. During the day, I soaked up the sunshine and love at the pocket, at my friend Magnolia's on the West Fork of Little River, alone on the East Fork of the river and then with my daughter Zoe at the end of the day. There seemed to be more laughter, smiles, enthusiasm and gratitude in everyone's nature. The creatures of the forest were singing, chirping and chanting throughout the day. I even saw the neighborhood dogs

had a little more pep in their step as they ran, jumped and played with each other.

I hope to encourage you to notice the simple treasures in the forest ("woods"), fields, trails, along the rivers, streams and the roadsides. However when harvesting edible or medicinal plants it is best to stay at least twenty feet from the roadside. I am excited about the spring beauty to come and the warm sunny days ahead. I will close with some interesting facts about the edible and medicinal botanicals coming alive this spring.

Bloodroot – medicinal – root

Wild hyacinth – edible - root

Violet – edible - leaf & flower - medicinal - leaf and root

Cut leaf toothwort - medicinal – root

Hepatica – medicinal – root

Celandine Poppy – edible - flowers and leaves – medicinal – flower and leaf

White Trillium – edible - flowers and leaves -medicinal - root and leaves

Dandelion - edible - flowers, leaves, root - medicinal – root and leaves

Queen Anne's Lace – edible – leaf, root and flower medicinal – root and flower

Chickweed – edible – leaf and flower

Red bud - edible - flowers and seed pods - medicinal – inner bark and root

Spring Beauty – edible – leaves and flower

Save the date: May 2nd, 2015, Desoto State Park Wildflower Identification Walks at 9am, 1pm and 3pm. Everyone will meet at Desoto State Park Country Store. There will be a welcome social on Friday, May 1st, from 6:00 to 7:15pm and a presentation on Saturday night at 7:15pm at the Desoto State Park Lodge. Check it out on Facebook or online at www.alapark.com/desotoresort.

You can message me on Facebook via the Wildflower Café if you have any questions or comments. Have a blessed spring.

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	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. \$269,000 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. \$157,500. 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		1400 SQ FT house in Mentone with 3 bedrooms & 2 bathrooms, a landscaped lot, large deck and workshop. Can be residential or Commerical. \$44,900. MLS #1007802		1946 Stone Cottage offering 3BR/2BA, river frontage, AND a 2-story guest house on 4 + acres. \$419,000 MLS #902720
	OWL'S ROOST! Adorable cabin in Crestline Subdivision featuring and open living concept. \$128,000 MLS #690326		Daniel Boon Log Cabin on 2 acres! Plenty of room with 2BR/2.5BA, unfinished basement and large balcony. \$215,000 MLS #621178		Highland Springs Subdivision near downtown Mentone! 2BR/2BA cabin on 1.23 acres. \$153,500 MLS #359224		Bear's Lair - Adorable cabin currently in a rental program. 3BR/2 BA with a brow view. \$299,900 MLS#692795		NATURE LOVER'S PARADISE! log home on 5 acres. Bordered by LRC Nat'l Preserve. Wrap around porches, guest cabin, stone fireplace & cathedral tongue/groove ceilings! \$275,000 MLS#1006120.		Brow Property with spectacular VIEW! 3 br/ 3 ba with finished basement. Basement offers 2 bedrooms with a Jack and Jill bath between and Large bonus area with outdoor access to admire the view! \$249,900. MLS #1010897

LOTS AND LAND

7.13-acre lot in Mountain River Esates Sub. \$49,500. MLS #656265. 1.95-acre lot at Lake on the Brow Subdivision. \$44,900. MLS #984141. 1.02-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$55,000. MLS #762331. 1-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$50,000. MLS #665968. One or two wooded lots on Cutler Avenue in Mentone. One lot offered at \$19,900 and both at \$37,500. MLS #682942.	Corner lots in secluded and private subdivision walking distance to East Fork Little River. \$29,900. MLS #939357. 106' of prime brow view with paved road frontage. \$109,500. MLS #403694. Lakefront! 200' of water frontage and 169' on paved road frontage. \$42,000. MLS #845943. 1.47 Acre Lot SOLD to DeSoto Falls and West Fork of Little River. \$229,000. MLS #548635. Great 5 acres tract of wooded land and paved road frontage! \$30,000 MLS#1004370. 1 acre in Hidden Lake Subdivision. \$45,000. MLS #1007350.	Seven Acres! Beautiful Corner Lot in Subdivision on the East Fork of Little River. \$29,900. MLS#641045. Enjoy the natural beauty of Brush Creek from your building site on this wooded .69 acre property. Located on a private road just minutes from downtown Mentone. \$29,900. MLS #1011734. Build here on this gorgeous 4.4 acre tract with a fabulous view of the valley. \$190,000. MLS #392849. Mentone Brow Lot! Beautiful views for miles, paved road frontage. MLS #1014183
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Something New Cooking at the Market

Mentone Market owners have added a new temptation to the store: BBQ

By Elizabeth Manning

For locals, summer people and even the campers who return to Mentone year after year, the Mentone Market is a staple. Even in the short time I've been alive, though--22 years coming to Mentone for camp and my grandparents' front porch--the Market has been through several changes. As a child, it was the Superette, until a family from Selma graced us with their presence. They started with a new name: the Mentone Market.

Over the 13 years since Tom and Kristen Emory bought the Market, they have made plenty of changes, like adding an art gallery, a full lunch and dinner menu and a snow cone cabana. They've kept the traditions, too, though, and brought back many nostalgic trademarks that are all too hard to find these days--like Cokes in glass bottles and rocking chairs that beckon a passersby to sit down and forget where they were going.

The market is still the same community-gathering place it has always been, though. Now, customers have one more reason to stop in and sit for a while --BBQ. By the entrance, a table built from an antique Coca Cola cooler sits waiting for customers. The tabletop features more of the bottle caps that decorate the entire store, continuing the nostalgic theme for which the Market has become known around this area.

The redesigned space houses five tables for customers to sit down and eat. Similar to the Market's previous menu, customers can call in and order for carryout, too. BBQ fiends have a choice between two sauces: Tom's or Kristen's. Both made in house, Tom's BBQ sauce is "a bit of a bite," while Kristen's is "a little sweet," according to Kristen. In the few weeks since the BBQ menu has been available at the Market, the Emorys have served hundreds of people and the food has drawn back several repeat customers. "That's the way you know you're doing something good -- when the repeat customers come back the very next day," Kristen said.

Visitors to the Market have several options to

choose from, even though Kristen describes the menu as "simple and to-the-point." Plates with two sides, several different sandwiches, salads and family packs are all available. Desserts are made fresh



by Tom's mother and include lemon icebox pie, pecan pie, caramel cake and lemon cake.

According to Kristen, they've sold a lot of pork, but she personally likes the chicken. Tom makes his famous Brunswick stew daily for customers

who want something a little different than a pulled pork plate or a sandwich. The family recipe Tom uses is one of which he has fond memories.

"We would visit family every year in the Raleigh-Durham [North Carolina] area; my great aunts would make a big batch of the stew, and we would eat it for days," Tom said.

According to Tom, he and Kristen have discussed offering BBQ at the Market for a long time.

"We had these similar places that we have enjoyed over the years, like Fat Matt's Rib Shack in Atlanta, and BBQ was something Mentone didn't have," Tom said.

The new option comes with things to get used to, though.

"We serve our BBQ with white bread, and that's thrown some people off," Tom said. "The bread soaks up the BBQ so well, though -- that's why we serve it with two pieces on the bottom, so your sandwich doesn't get too soggy."

You'll see and smell the smoke as they fire up the smoker early for fresh, perfectly cooked meat every day. The smoker itself is local, too. Steve Barkley built the smoker for Kristen and Tom on two conditions: he can borrow it when he needs it and if they ever upgrade to a bigger smoker, he gets it back.

"That's a good example of the community atmosphere we love so much about Mentone, and want to push in our store," Kristen said. "We all work together to make this place a home."

And that's just it. The Market is the gathering place; the BBQ is a new common denominator. Before you waste time trying to choose between one of the chain restaurants down the mountain, save the trouble and stop in for a bowl of stew and a pulled chicken or pork sandwich. Don't forget to wind up on a slice of Tom's mother's pie -- you'll regret it if you don't.

To order carryout from the Market, call 256-634-4686. The restaurant is open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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Westminster Winner (cont'd from page 1)

environment, she applied for graduate studies and got a Master's Degree in Environmental Geology. That developed into another Master's Degree, this time in Fluvial Geomorphology (this has to do with flowing water, such as rivers, etc.). "I quickly learned that jobs in that field don't pay much," she snickered, "and I began to explore other fields." An interest in numbers caused her to look at Accounting as being good work that would pay well. In 1994 she signed up for accounting and bookkeeping in courses at Chattahoochee Tech in Marietta, Georgia, and earned an Associate's Degree. Great! Glenda was on her way to the work force but realized a Bachelor's Degree was needed. OK! Got that, no problem...BUT a Master's Degree in that field would be better so she went back to Kennesaw State for that, then decided to go for becoming a Certified Public Accountant and passed that exam on her first try.

That's how she wound up as a special agent for the "world's most hated business." Glenda says the work is very gratifying and that she is able to work at home as her work, for the most part, is done electronically. "The schedule allows me to work with my dogs and attend the various shows that are held around the country," she said.

The story of Glenda's life with her animals is one that could take pages to fill. She was on a trip to Alaska in 1993 when she fell in love with wolf dogs and brought home two three-week old puppies. Now she has one 14-year old male, a 9-year old female and 14 Tibetan Mastiffs who are her life's delight.

In order to show her dogs professionally, Glenda took specialized training to learn all she

could about the proper way to train, groom and present the Tibetan Mastiffs in the American Kennel Club programs. In 2008, she decided she and the dogs were ready for competition and entered their first show which was in Ashville, North Carolina. She took three dogs and won two events – One took Champion honors, another was crowned Grand Champion. Since that time, show after show in city after city, Glenda's Tibetan Mastiffs have garnered trophy after trophy and given her a national reputation as an owner, trainer, show handler and breeder of champion dogs.

It's hard work in the "show dog world" for the woman who specializes in auditing tax records of the very wealthy (people and businesses) and having to deal with chronic back pain. "I have eight titanium plates in my back from injuries suffered during my military career," she said. "The work with my dogs is so gratifying the back problems really don't bother me...except when I bathe several dogs in an afternoon to get ready for a show, that's what really tires me."

The Kamama Gallery was filled with loud guffaws when Glenda told of her recent 5-day trip to New York City. She took three Tibetan Mastiffs, weighing about 120-plus pounds each, in her small Honda and drove the entire 2,500 mile round trip. "No problem for me or them," she said. "That's how we always travel."

The Westminster show, the 2nd oldest sporting event in the nation--the Kentucky Derby is the oldest--is the most prestigious dog show in the USA and is by invitation only. This year's competition was Glenda's third trip to the national televised competition and the third

time her dogs won ribbons. This time, two of her Tibetan Mastiffs (mother and son) received invitations to compete and one of her Finnish Lapphunds also received an invitation.

The hope was that of winning Best of Opposite Sex with Apache, Glenda's female Tibetan Mastiffs, the mother of her male, Cochise, ranked the #1 TM for 2014. Cochise and Apache are AKC gold Level Grand champions.

The 2015 edition of the Westminster program proved to be a winning time for Glenda and her dogs as they won four top awards –

Four-year-old Cochise won "Best of Breed," only the 8th Tibetan Mastiff to have won "Best of Breed" at Westminster. Apache won "Best of Opposite Sex."

Kokopelli (apache's 13-month old puppy) was given an "Award of Merit" (given to the TM at the discretion of the Judge). Kiska, the Finnish Lapphund, won "Best of Opposite Sex."

And to think that one of the USA's top breeders and owner of world-class show dogs lives right here in our home town.

Congratulations, Glenda Nunnally!!

Question: Glenda, I always ask the person I interview – Is there something about you that most people don't know?

Answer: Tibetan Mastiffs are mellow and calm in the house and very devoted to family; four of them sleep with me every night, all snuggled up. It's good sleeping.

In order to learn more about Glenda and her dogs (and wolves), go to her website: www.comancheriatms.com

History of Mentone (cont'd from page 6)

Lookout Mountain to the hotel.

Advertising literature from the time stated, "The grounds are ideally suited as a playground for children; with tennis, bowling alley, croquet, dancing, billiards, box golf and other amusements for everyone." There was also swimming, fishing, hiking and other outdoor activities to enjoy at the "Beauty Spot" for a Summer Vacation as noted in their brochure from 1915.

In 1921 the Alabama Baptist Convention began using the hotel for their summer encampments. The hotel was eventually purchased by several of the Convention members and continued to be used by the Alabama Baptist Convention until 1931. During this time it also continued to be visited by other patrons.

During the Depression and the outbreak of World War II, business fell off sharply and in 1946 the hotel was sold to Edward H. Moore to

cover debts. The property was sold in 1950 to B.F. Hammonds and ceased to be used as a hotel. In 1961 the property was sold to Norville Hall to be used as a private residence and to operate

his pipe organ repair business until his death in 1979.

In the next article: The rescue and resurrection of the Mentone Springs Hotel.



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This Olde House: MERF Community House



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

On Saturday, April 11th at 6 p.m., the best place to be in Mentone will be at the Moon Lake Elementary School's gym, which will be transformed into an exciting venue showcasing the artistry of the mountain. MERF (Mentone Educational Resources Foundation) is hosting its 3rd annual "Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction" fundraiser. Mentone-area restaurants will be offering tastes of their signature dishes and Moon Lake students and artist friends of MERF will be hoping for high bids on their artwork at the auction. Moon Lake students have produced beautiful pieces in the style of artists through the decades such as Piet Mondrian, Monet, Jackson Pollock and Van Gogh. The committee had a difficult time choosing the best ones for the auction. Renae Lyons at Keepsakes Framing will bring the masterpieces to life so our auctioneer, Royal Bruckno (AL lic#5313 -GA lic#AU003991), will have no trouble finding the perfect home for each one and helping to benefit MERF. Artist friends of MERF have been more than gracious this year. Art to bid on will include two metal sculptures from Tim Smith, a Lydia Randolph painting, a Brad

Lackey photo, a gourd from Scott's Happy Art, a quilt from Martha Sprayberry, pottery from Dowe Foreman, a hand woven item from Rita Winters, a piece from Justin Manning at Creo and pottery from Shannon McMichael Goshen. Bidding will begin after some wonderful "tastes of the mountain" from great culinary artists such as Jimmy at Kamamas, Jess Goggans--The Singing Chef, John Bares at JoeJohns, Linda at J. Spencers Treehouse, Tom at Mentone Market, Zelma from Zelma's jellies with help from Paula's biscuits, Moon at Wildflower Cafe, Fontana from Fontana's Catering and Mountain Laurel Inn B&B. A few more food vendors are considering joining us. Tickets are available from any MERF board member and at the Mentone Market. Prices are \$30 per person and \$200 per table until April 6th.

The MERF house has also been busy with Senior lunches finally starting up after a few weather delays. The lunch bunch crew is so happy to be back together again. Lunches will continue until Wednesday, April 29th.

Tutors have been diligent too during the crazy winter weather helping students stay on track. Hope everyone enjoyed the wonderful St. Patrick's Day dinner hosted by St. Joseph's Episcopal church at the MERF house. The house has also been busy with family gatherings, wedding receptions, board meetings, bible studies and just fun get togethers. As always, MERF is thankful for our many volunteers and supporters.

Hope to see everyone soon at the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt! I'm ticklish so be careful when you look for eggs under my eaves and in my corners.

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



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