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THE GROUNDHOG

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

Volume 35, No. 5

"Neighboring News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May 2016

Something for Everyone--Rhododendron Festival, May 20-22!

It's that time of year again--Rhododendrons are flourishing, and the festival is nearing! Lots of wonderful things are lined up for the 34th annual Rhododendron Festival including music at the Mentone Inn Pavilion from the "Best Local Band in DeKalb County" and the Fort Payne High School Group that has stolen the talent show most of their high school years along with local acts on the Brow Park Pavilion for two days. Boat rides and the Miss Rhododendron Beauty Pageant are back along with lots of vendors, activities, and delicious festival food--as well as the Friday night fish fry and Saturday night chicken wings. Though there won't be a "Children's Festival," there will be plenty of activities for all the kids to enjoy. New this year is the Rhododendron 5K Dash from Mason Park to the Brow presented by One World Adventure.



Continue on to page 4 to see what's in store for you this year at the Rhododendron Festival.



Harvest Roots Takes Root in Mentone

By Holley Midgley

Mentone's newest business, Harvest Roots, is a dream becoming a reality for Lindsay Whiteaker and Pete Halupka, two young plant enthusiasts- "orchardists"- on a mission.

The couple produces a wide range of food items using the ancient process of fermentation, history's oldest form of food preservation. Containing no alcohol, their product line includes several sauerkrauts; a light, slightly effervescent drink called Kombucha; pickles; and kimchees made from nettle and horseradish. Fermentation is becoming something of a trend in the food world, and Harvest Roots intends on riding that rising wave of interest.

The name of their company was inspired by the little town where the couple grew up: Harvest, Alabama. Much larger now, it's

(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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Have a Letter to the Editor
or a story idea?
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MENTONE MATTERS

By Mayor Rob Hammond



Thank you to the many volunteers for another successful spring cleanup. Lyle Nicely again organized the event. Over 130 bags of litter were collected on our roadsides. Bobby Hamby of Word Perfect collected electronics for recycling. Cynthia Stinson made the Mentone Inn pavilion available for the community lunch following pick up, and local guitarist/singer Larry Joe Hall entertained during lunch.

On behalf of the water board, the Town of Mentone is applying for a Community Development Block Grant to replace the water line on Cutler Avenue. The numerous breaks on this line have inconvenienced individual customers and have had a negative effect on local businesses. The breaks have, at times, jeopardized the ability of the entire system to supply water and have cost the water department a lot of money. We are seeking letters of support

From The Editor

What an exciting month... festival time! Looking forward to all the beautiful items, delicious food, and wonderful sounds. I dare say the founding fathers of Mentone would be proud that we are sharing our fine town. Alice Mason would be very excited with all the activities going on. No doubt they would all be impressed by the handmade wares that will be available. In my own opinion, when you make handmade items, serve homemade dishes, share an inspired song, or play your heart out with your favorite instrument, it's like you are sharing a piece of yourself with your neighbors of the world. You are passing down traditions and values from the past. I can just imagine when Mentone was first being settled. If they had jewelry, they probably made it. If they gave it as a gift, it was treasured for the thoughtfulness, time, and work that went into the handmade item. Today, we do invest time and money into gifts, but most of us purchase them from an assembly line where workers thoughtlessly labored to earn a wage, and the money we bought the item with was usually earned the same way. Of course, thought is put into picking it out. Each time I give a gift or wear an item purchased from a craftsperson, I feel special knowing that it was made with care and pride. I also feel secure in the knowledge that when I walk into that special event, no one

for this project from both businesses and individuals. If you would like to write a letter of support for the application, please send it to Mentone Water Works, P.O. Box 235, Mentone, AL 35984. Please describe the impact these breaks have had on your household or business.

At the April meeting, the town council approved the paving of South and Pine Streets (connecting N. Cool St. to DeKalb 89). Work should be completed by the Rhododendron Festival.

THANK YOU!!!! THANK YOU!!!! THANK YOU!!!!

The Annual Mentone Clean Up is a great way to see big impact in just 3 hours of focused trash pickup each year. Thank you to all the volunteers that picked up trash along the road side on Saturday April 2, 2016 !! You make our community great!!!

Many thanks to our great Sponsors:

Camp Laney	Boy Scout Troop 106
Town of Mentone	BJ Foodmart
Wildflower Restaurant	Mountain Top Store
Mentone Inn	Little River Hardware
One World Adventure	Mentone Market
Ecological Designs	Kamama Cafe
House Music in Mentone	
Rhododendron Garden Club	
Mentone Police for blue light assistance	
Dekalb Co Sheriff for cleaning Hwy. 117 up the Mountain	
Special thanks to David Mays for smoking the meat for the picnic	

will be wearing an identical piece of jewelry or apparel!

See you at the festival!

~Anna Mae



Join MAPA Today!
Help us preserve
Mentone's history
and impact its future.

Individuals - \$20 a year
Couples - \$30 a year

MAPA
P. O. Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984



MAPA NEWS

By Ray Padgett

The last five months of MAPA News recapped the first thirty-four (34) years of MAPA and The Groundhog – it was a long journey of re-membering the dozens of volunteers who spent countless hours helping to make our community a better, more fun place to live and visit. They even created some history in the process. Thanks to all of them and the many more who did just as much but were missed in the original articles or in our research.

During this time, MAPA and The Groundhog continued to seek out and record pieces of Mentone history. We completed our support of the new Overlook down the mountain on Hwy 117 and are once again focusing on work needed for Mentone's Rhododendron Festival. MAPA participation in the Mentone Arts and Cultural Center fund raising effort is just beginning. Community volunteers make it all happen; there are many different ways to be a part of this new adventure.

Working together for the good of Mentone is also good for the soul. New friendships are formed and new things about the history of Mentone are learned. Fresh faces at organizational meetings also means fresh ideas. MAPA is always looking for new ways to preserve the treasured heritage of Mentone and new ideas to continue making Mentone a great destination for visitors as well as locals.

While new members of our community step up and help with Mentone events, MAPA needs new faces to become members, serve on our board, and bring new dreams to life. Working as a volunteer for your community is an emotionally rewarding experience and a great way to meet your neighbors and give back to the community. Please join us. We welcome anyone who is interested in the preservation of our area to come to a meeting.

Once again, the MAPA Board thanks everyone for their long-term support of MAPA, its events and its publication of The Groundhog. Our MAPA Board meets the second Wednesday of every month, 6:00 P.M. at Kamama Gallery. Visitors and members are encouraged to attend. MAPA is a community organization and needs everyone's ideas, energy and input.

Happy
Mother's
Day

Sacred Harp singing to be held the week BEFORE the festival this year!!!!

By Susan Cheronos



Sacred Harp singing has many charming traditions. The song book, The Sacred Harp, was published in 1844 and has been in publication ever since. DeKalb County, Alabama is known for having preserved this very special, a capella, shape note singing. Folks from all over the world find their way here to experience singing with 6th and 7th generation singing families in our area.

One of traditions of Sacred Harp singing is that Singings are recorded in the Minute Book and published in the Singing Directory in relation to which Sunday they precede.

The official Mentone Rhododendron Festival Sacred Harp Singing is recorded for all posterity as THE SATURDAY BEFORE THE THIRD SUNDAY IN MAY. The benefit to it being an actual singing is that actual singers come to actually sing! The down side is- we're going to miss being a part of the actual festival itself this year! Because May 1st falls on a Sunday this year, it creates an atypical situation. Since we elected to host an actual Sacred Harp singing for festival goers to participate in, rather than an artificial "demonstration" singing, it seems that once every seven years or so, we will be out of pace with the festival when this happens. We can't change our appointed time slot; other singings,

some of which may have been going on for more than 150 years on the same weekend, have singers obligated for other dates. Also, because the information is broadcast to singers with no attempt at collecting an RSVP, we don't know who might come to a singing. Singers may be planning a special trip just to sing with us, or may happen to be travelling through and stop in. We have had three singers from ENGLAND come sing with us over the last three years!!

This year affords a different opportunity. My hope is that everyone who is interested in Sacred Harp singing, but is usually too busy during the festival to join us, will be able to come and sing or listen! There will be loaner books if you'd like to sing along, and people are welcome to come and go at will, even just to listen. It is not a performance, so there's nothing to disturb- just come in when you can. The singers are once again grateful to hold the singing at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church in downtown on Saturday, May 14th from 9:30 'til about 2:00. The singers will take a short break every hour and will break for an hour at noon for lunch. For more information, please contact this year's chairwoman, Elizabeth Gentry at 251-301-1098.

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Rhododendron Festival, May 20-22

By Anna Mae Horn

FRIDAY

This year's Rhododendron Festival starts with vendor check-in around Noon at MAPA's booth at the entrance to Brow Park. Relaxing boat tours up Little River will be launching from the beautiful DeSoto Falls throughout the weekend, and sounds of the Porch Pickin' will be resonating from Mentone Realty. Mentone Community Church Family Life Center host

Miss Rhododendron. One of the lovely ladies winning the senior division will be awarded a one-year scholarship to Northeast Alabama Community College.

Meanwhile, over at the Mentone Inn Pavilion, there will be food and music. At 5, Fontana Stinson from the Kamama kitchen will be serving delicious fried catfish, coleslaw, hushpuppies, brownies, and a drink. Free music will start at 6 pm. Probate Judge Ronnie Osborn and his group of cronies are playing those good ol' songs we all love to sing along with and dance to. The "Still Kickin' Band" has once again been voted as Best Local Band of DeKalb

County. They are a cover band and that's exactly what they do--cover all the best oldies in classic country and Motown, as well as southern and country rock. They play "Old Time Rock and Roll" and other Bob Seger songs, as well as CCR and Lynyrd Skynyrd. They know plenty of Merle Haggard, George Jones, and Hank Jr. Playing guitar and singing right alongside Ronnie is his son, Heath. Ronnie Ross helps with vocals while keeping rhythm on the drums. Larry Burke plays lead guitar while Larry Barton does the pedal steel guitar. (How long has it been since you saw someone play that?) Tony Morgan sings and plays keyboard, adding in the occasional

Rhododendron Festival

Miss Rhododendron
Pageant Information
and Call for Vendors Application

Miss Rhododendron



Presented by
the Mentone Area
Preservation Association

Friday, May 20, 2016
6:00 p.m. CST

Mentone Community Church
Family Life Center
90 Summerville Road
Mentone, Alabama 35984

Miss Rhododendron is part of the annual
Rhododendron Festival
May 20th, 21st & 22nd

Six Age Divisions for girls ages 0 to 18
Miss Rhododendron (Senior Division)
will win a
One Year Scholarship to NACC.
(NACC Admission Requirements apply)

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

CALL FOR VENDORS
RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL 2016
MAY 21 & 22

\$75 FOR A 12' X 12' SPACE
APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 6

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____ E-mail _____
Website Address _____
Category (please circle): Artist Crafter Retailer Business Food
Please provide a complete list and description of art, craft, products, food

Circle if needed: Electricity Water (\$25 extra)
Other Special Needs _____
Number of Spaces _____ Amount enclosed _____

All vendors **MUST** fill out an application to be considered for the festival. Please don't assume an email or prior participation secures your space. You will be notified of your acceptance no later than May 9. You will be notified of your space assignment the week prior to the show, but please check in with the information tent when you arrive as space numbers can change. All spaces will be on a first come, first served basis, and no spaces can be reserved from show to show.

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

If you are an artist/crafter and this is the first time you have applied for the Rhododendron Festival, please provide photos of your work or a website or Facebook address. **ALL art/crafts should be handmade** by the artist. No ready-made merchandise is allowed. The Rhododendron Festival is strictly an arts, crafts, music and children's festival; therefore, no political or religious organizations will be accepted. Please contact RhododendronFestival@gmail.com if you have any questions.

This year's Rhododendron Festival will be held all over Mentone, but the vendors will be located primarily at Brow Park. Show hours will be 9am-5pm Saturday and 11am-4pm Sunday. You may set up your space on Friday, May 21, 12-6pm, or Saturday, May 22, 6:30-8:30am. Please be ready for the show to start at 9am. If you participate in the show, please plan to be set up for both days unless prior arrangements have been made. Please unload your vehicle and move to the parking area prior to setting up your space. You may break down beginning at 4pm on Sunday. Please clean up around your area prior to leaving. Also, if you are a food vendor, please do not dispose of grease on the ground at Brow Park.

Send completed application form along with payment to:
MAPA, P. O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984
Make Checks payable to MAPA

sound effects. Tony’s wife, Stacey Rivera, adds an incredibly strong and amazing female voice to this terrific group. She previously sang and danced in shows in the Smoky Mountains, with full costume attire. This group is not only talented but fun, don’t miss out!

SATURDAY

Saturday starts early on the brow with vendor check in between 6:30 and 8:30 at the MAPA booth at the Brow Park entrance. This year’s newest activity is the Rhododendron Dash 5K Run. You can walk, jog, bike or race along County Routes 648 and 89 with your end destination being Brow Park. This event is being presented by One World Adventure. They love the natural beauty of this area and encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunities this presents. One World Programs focus on skill based outdoor learning and discovery which empower participants to explore the great outdoors with confidence.

Brow Park will get busy around 9. Moon Lake Community Library will be having a book sale only a couple of miles from the Brow on Hwy 117. Be sure to look for “Taste of Mentone” signs to enjoy local cuisine or get lost of festival food on the Brow. Mentone Farmer’s Market will be open during the festival with foods, bakery items, soaps, veggies, crafts, jams, etc from local farmers and artisans.

Saturday evening at 5, MAPA will be at the Mentone Inn Lot to serve up chicken wings and veggie sticks with dressing, dessert, and a drink. Get ‘em while they last or until 8pm. Take your food to the pavilion to hear Fort Payne High School’s hottest young group--The Inputs! Joshua Johnston, Regan Anderson, Cody Noles, and Dallas Dotson are getting ready to graduate, but already have made a name for themselves. In eighth grade Chris Roberts asked them to be part of a fabulous event known as Discover DeKalb--and this band has been discovered! This was the inspiration they needed and the start of this band that has placed well in several high school talent shows. You also might have heard them at Colorfest in 2014. They have also played at local venues like the DeKalb Theater, Third Saturday Drive-In Car Shows, The Spot, Kamama, and The Vintage 1889--including a concert series after each ball game this past fall (what a way to spend your senior year!). The Inputs have been influenced by the sounds of John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Eric Clapton

Sign Up for the Rhododendron Dash 5K Run
Presented by One World Adventure

Rhododendron Dash 5K Run
Saturday, May 21, 2016 8:30am
Mason Park - Mentone
REGISTRATION FORM

Hosted by: One World Adventure - a community based outdoor education program, connecting participants to the outdoors through adventure programs and eco-tourism. Find out more by visiting our website: www.oneworldadventureco.org. Thank you for attending our fun - raiser!! 256-634-8370

Name	Cell Phone
Address	Home Phone
City, State, Zip Code	Email Address
Division: Child / Teen Young / Adult / Adult Senior	Age Groups - Children: 5-12/ Teens: 13-17/ Young Adult: 18-30 /Adult: 31-50/ Senior: 51 +
Emergency Contact	T-Shirt Size YS (6-8) YM (10-12) AS AM AL AXL
Type of Entry: Individual Team	Team Name:

Forms must be received by Friday May13th for T-shirt order deadline.
*Only limited number of T-shirts on Race Day
Race Details: The Race is a 5K course along county road 648 and county road 89 in Mentone. Sign in & Race Day Registration begins @ 7:30am Saturday morning at Mason Park, adjacent to Mentone Town Hall. Registration Closes @ 8:00am Race begins at 8:30am.
Race Map: <http://www.mapmyrun.com/events/596666/>
First wave of 20 begins @ 8:30, second wave – 8:32, third wave – 8:35
Race ends at Brow Park with awards immediately following race under music pavilion

- REGISTRATION FEES
- o \$25 Adult & Teen 5K
 - o \$20 Child 5K (5-12) & Senior 5K (65 - older)
 - o \$30 Day of Race 5K – Everyone

Please make check payable to One World Adventure and mail form to:
PO Box 106 Mentone, AL 35984 or email to angie@oneworldadventureco.org

Questions: 256-634-8370

and the like. They do They know covers of classic and modern rock as well as their own original songs. No telling what the future holds for these young adults, so be sure to catch them at the Rhododendron Festival!

SUNDAY

Sunday, May 22nd, is your last chance to enjoy this year’s festival. The Brow will be

bustling with activity, boat rides will be cruising the river, the library will be open, and you can have a “Taste of Mentone” for lunch. We look forward to seeing you!

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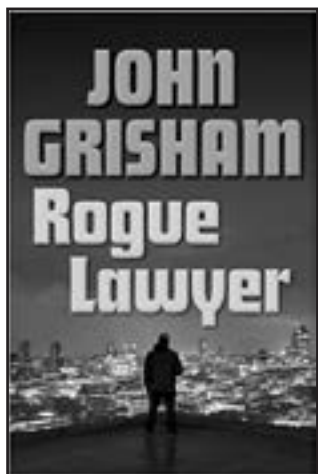
By Barb Stoll

It's Festival Time!

Hello everyone, don't you just love spring. It is ripe with possibilities and loads of festivals. Our own Rhododendron Festival will be here on May 21st; what a great event!

Just so you know, your local community library will be open during the festival with extended hours for you to enjoy. We will have our book sale in full swing with lots of new books for sale at our usual low prices, and remember all proceeds go to support the Moon Lake Community Library.

We have a couple of new books and a new DVD to review this month that you are sure to enjoy, so let's get to it.



Rogue Lawyer: John Grisham has done it again with another great bestseller. Sebastian Rudd is not your typical street lawyer. He works out of a customized bulletproof van, complete with WiFi, a bar, a small fridge, fine leather chairs, a hidden gun compartment,

and a heavily armed driver. He has no firm, no partners, no associates and only one employee-his driver, who's also his bodyguard, law clerk, confidant, and golf caddie. Sebastian defends people that other lawyers won't go near. Why these clients? Because he believes everyone is entitled to a fair trial, even if he, Sebastian, has to cheat to secure one. Sebastian Rudd is one of John Grisham's most colorful, outrageous,

and vividly drawn characters yet. Gritty, witty, and impossible to put down, *Rogue Lawyer* showcases the master of the legal thriller at his very best.



The Steel Kiss: Forensic detective Lincoln Rhyme returns in *New York Times* bestselling author Jeffrey Deaver's new blockbuster thriller. Amelia Sachs is hot on the trail of a killer. She's chasing him through a department store in Brooklyn when an escalator malfunctions. The

stairs give way, with one man horribly mangled by the gears. She and famed forensic detective Lincoln Rhymes soon learn, however, that the incident may not have been an accident at all, but the first in a series of intentional attacks. They find themselves up against one of their most formidable opponents ever: a brilliant killer who turns common products into murder weapons.

DVD - Star Wars: The Force Awakens - Yup, we have it here in the library. Hey, it's *Star Wars*; how could we not have it! Do I really need to do a review? I didn't think so. You know what it is all about, although I will say they did a great job. Visionary director J.J. Abrams brings to life the motion picture event of a generation, and does it beautifully. We also have a bonus disc with all kinds of goodies on it, so make sure you get both discs when you check it out, and "May the force be with you."

That is just a couple of the great bestsellers you will find at your community library, so stop in during the festival and check some out. Also remember, we have loads of books for sale just waiting for you to take them home. We will be open extended hours, and we look forward to seeing you. Have fun at the festival!

Moon Lake Community Library

Rhododendron Festival Hours At the Library

Saturday, May 21 - 9am to 4pm

Sunday, May 22 - Noon to 4pm

BOOK SALE at the Library

DVDs - \$2 & \$1

Hardback Books - \$2

Large Paperback Books - \$1

Sm. Paperback Books - 25 cents

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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.

Thank You, Thank You, ThankYou!! Words are not enough to say how appreciative MERF is for everyone in the community that made our 4th Annual Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction successful! So sorry for anyone that missed a wonderful night of delicious food, fabulous art and a fun, festive Japanese atmosphere. Thanks to the decorating crew that

transformed the gym into a Japanese garden: Lea Long, Marsha Merrell, Kat Griffith, Gail Jones, Paula Easter, Bill Berry, Yon Hopper, Carl Ferguson, Kathy McMunn, Joan Byrum and Mary Lance. Thanks to Jan Newhouse and Mike Keracher for a great Auction and Robert Moehr and his sound system for a perfect tone and stage set. Renae Lyons at Keepsakes Framing made the artwork look spectacular again. Set-up and clean-up went smoothly thanks to the Boy Scouts, Allen and Jill Crow, the Hendons, the McMunns, the Worthneys, Paul Pepper and the aforementioned decorating committee. Bountiful and fabulous food was served by Mentone Market, The Outpost, Wildflower Café, Roger's Real Homemade, Valley Head's Continental Cuisine team, Kamama, Green Leaf Grill, Sugarville Bakery in Summerville, Joe John's Catering, McMunn Picklery, and Paula's biscuits. Great artwork came from Moon Lake Students, Emily G Collections, Caden Blalock, Megan Kelley, LookoutMountain Photography, Scott's Happy Art, Tim Smith, Lydia Randolph,

Martha Sprayberry, Creo, Nightingale Pottery, Shannon McMichael Goshorn pottery, and Rita Winter's handwovens, Thank you to Riverview Camp, Mentone Community Church, Anna Mae Horn at the Groundhog, Fort Payne Times-Journal and Camp DeSoto for providing tablecloths, tables, chairs, the stage, PR and programs. Thanks to Brooke Moore, Leslie Bunch and Karen Prestwood for registering everyone. And the evening would not have been fun without all of you that purchased tickets or tables. Thank you to everyone that supports MERF!

MERF: Mentone Educational Resources Foundation is a local non-profit with the mission "To enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources." If you would like to support our programs, tax-deductible donations can be mailed to POB107 Mentone, AL 35984 or contribute online at www.crowdrise.com/MERF. Contact us at merf.mentone@gmail.com or 256-634-4673.

MBA News: Mentone is OUR Business!



By
**Charlotte
Gentry
MBA
President**



The month of May will be a very busy one, with Mother's Day weekend and Rhododendron Festival weekend bringing scores of visitors to the area. Rhododendron activities start on Friday night, May 20, and wind down on Sunday afternoon, May 22. Mentone saw large crowds at our Colorfest in October, and we're hoping for an even bigger, better event for our spring festival weekend.

Most shops in Mentone's downtown area are open on weekends only. We're hoping to have a "Daily Openings" list prepared and online soon so that visitors to our area can see which shops

are open, the days they are open, and their hours of operation. We are seeing an increase in the numbers of folks walking around the downtown area throughout the week, not just on weekends, so maybe the list will help them decide to stay or come back and shop locally.

The Mentone Business Association held election of officers at our April meeting, which was hosted by Ray and

Sandra Padgett of Kamama Gallery. Officers for 2016-17 are: Charlotte Gentry, President; Sharon Habin, Vice President and Lisa Schad, Secretary. The goal of the MBA is to help all the businesses in Mentone be successful and grow to their full potential, thereby benefitting all of Mentone's citizens and visitors.

Membership in the MBA is free and open to anyone interested in the business of Mentone. Come to one of our meetings, and we'll be happy to add you to our email list. Meetings are a time of interesting discussion and, generally, we have a light snack. We meet the 2nd Monday of the month. We've changed our meeting time to 7 pm during the summer months. Our next meeting will be May 9th at the pavilion (weather permitting) at Mentone Inn. Also, "like" us on Facebook and look for upcoming events like our Mentone Outdoor Movie Night, coming up in late August.

Valley Head Drugs

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Valley Head, AL 35989

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What To Do Around Here!

May 2016 Community Calendar

May 5 - RadioVizions with Blues & Rock by Chris Simmons. RadioVisions is a series of musical "House Concerts" that are produced before a live audience for syndication to radio networks. Artist reception-6 p.m., concert at 7 p.m. The Fort Payne Coal and Iron Building, 501 N. Gault Ave. \$10 donation, includes an artist reception at 6pm. Due to limited seating, reservations are suggested. 256-979-1910 or 256-845-0203.

May 6-7 - Wildflower Saturday. Springtime at DeSoto State Park is truly beautiful, with wildflowers & trees blooming around every corner. Join DeSoto State Park staff & guest speakers for a wonderful weekend of learning about the many species of blooming plants found on Lookout Mountain. Choose to stay the whole weekend, or just come for the day to enjoy the hikes and programs. Weekend starts off with a welcome social and guest speaker program on Friday night, a day full of hikes to choose from and a guest speaker on Saturday night. More information on speakers and schedule of programs will be added closer to time. DeSoto State Park Lodge. Free & open to everyone, no pre-registration required (groups over 10 please RSVP). For info, call 256-997-5025.

May 6 - 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 6pm the day before the adventure. 10am-12pm. 256-997-9577.

May 6, 20 - Extreme Night Hike. This end-of-day adventure does not slow down just because it's dark. Intended for a large group team-building exercise, this hike has a bit of bouldering, some scrambling, some spelunking, and a whole lot of required working together. True Adventure Sports. 7:30-10pm. 256-997-9577.

May 7 - Sculpt Your Own Flower. Have you ever wanted to actually sit at the gaffer bench and feel what it is like to shape hot glass? It's all about hands-on experience in a safe and fun atmosphere with a final product we know you will love. Minimum of 3 people and a maximum of 5 in each class. Reservations are required. 9am. 256-523-3188.

May 7 - Mid-South Paint Horse Show. Come and enjoy a day of it! 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. 9am. 256-638-1650.

May 7 - 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. 10am-1pm. 256-997-9577.

May 7 - Canyon Fiesta! Come to this annual tradition and fun day at the Canyon Center which celebrates Hispanic culture with games, arts and crafts, music, door prizes, nature education programs and more!! Hosted by JSU Field Schools at Little River Canyon Center. 11am-2pm. Free & open to everyone; donations accepted. 256-845-3548.

May 7 - Zip Line & Sky Swing Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6pm the day before adventure. 11am-3pm. 256-997-9577.

May 9, 13, 14, 31 - 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. True Adventure Sports. 10am-2pm. 256-997-9577.

May 9 - Drawing Landscape Miniatures at Miracle Pottery. Drawing from Miracle Pottery's Tree House overlooking the mountainside. Max Mitchell will share techniques to bring to life the impressions of the Look Out Mountains woods in small form. Supplies included. 1pm. \$60 per person. 256-635-6863.

May 10, 21, 28 - Rappelling Adventure. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. True Adventure Sports. 10am-2pm. 256-997-9577.

May 12 - 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. True Adventure Sports. 10am-2pm. 256-997-9577.

May 11, 24 - Treasure Hunt Adventure. Do you enjoy trying to solve riddles and clues? This 5-hour adventure will take you deep into the heart of a cave. You will have to solve and follow each clue in order to find the next one, and ultimately the Treasure! True Adventure Sports. 3-8pm. 256-997-9577.

May 12 thru 15 - 18th Annual US 11 Antique Alley Yard Sale. Follow the

scenic U.S. Highway 11 from Meridian, MS to Bristol, VA for more than 500-miles of yard sales! Explore charming historic communities and downtown districts like the 1889 boom town district of Fort Payne. discoverlookoutmountain.com. 877-871-1386.

May 13, 14, 27, 31 - Wild Cave Tour. Go beyond where the average tourist explores! This 2.5 hour adventure is for those of you ready to explore on your knees, on your belly, in the mud and through tight tunnels. Adventure includes helmet, cave lamps plus a fun informative guide. True Adventure Sports. 5-7:30pm. 256-997-9577.

May 14 - Relay for Life 5K Fun Walk/ Run. Join the team at GH Metal Solutions for a Relay For Life fun run and walk. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. All ages are welcome. 8am. GH Metal Solutions. 256-273-0263 or 256-273-0096.

May 14 - Blow Your Own Ornament. Come design and blow your own ornament with the help of one of our glass artists. No reservations are needed, it is on a first come, first serve basis. For this we welcome people of all ages (at least 5 years old). 9am-4pm. Cost is \$38 per ornament 256-523-3188.

May 14 - DeKalb County Genealogical Society. Mr. James Douthat, publisher of the Genealogy Gazette, Signal Mountain, TN. His topic will be: "The Use of Family Bibles in Genealogical Research." DeKalb County Public Library, 10am.

May 14 - 8th Annual Cody Renfroe Rod Run/Poker Run. Come spend the day looking at Vintage, Street Rods, Hot Rods, Motorcycles & Tractors. This car show is in memory of Cody Renfroe. There will be kid entertainment, great food and more. All proceeds go to Crossville Volunteer Fire Department. Crossville City Park. 4-8pm. 256-659-8352 or 256-302-3637.

May 15 - 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 1:00-2:30pm. Reserve by noon on Sat the 14th. Cost is \$5. To learn more or reserve a spot send an email to cottagepaper@bellsouth.net or call 205-349-4026.

May 16 - Orienteering Class. Basic yet essential skills for survival navigation are brought to you in map reading, compass reading, and topography. True Adventure Sports. 10am-1pm. 256-997-9577.

May 17 thru 19 - High Adventure Trip. This is a 3-day adventure including a Wild Cave

Tour, Rock Climbing, An Extreme Night Hike and end with a relaxing canoe trip. Price includes all activities, attractions, permits, fees, gear, and guides. 256-997-9577.

May 17- Zip Line & Sky Swing Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6pm the day before adventure. 10am-2pm. 256-997-9577.

May 19 - 21 - American Saddle Bred Association of Alabama Show at the Northeast Alabama Agri-Business Center in Rainsville.

May 20 & 21 - Spring Vintage Pickin' Barn Sale. Shop from some of the best vendors from around the South! Vintage marketplace featuring: Farmhouse • Primitives • Rustic Junk • Industrial • Shabby & French Country • Repurposed goods and more. There will be live music and local food vendors! Priority Pickin' Passes for both days are \$15 for private 3-hour shopping day of the event from 9am-Noon. General admission tickets are \$6 per day and sale runs from noon-5pm.

May 20 - Miss Rhododendron Pageant. Mentone Area Preservation Association presents the Miss Rhododendron Pageant 2016. The categories for the pageant are as follows: Baby Miss 0-3; Tiny Miss 4-6; Mini Miss 7-9; Pre-teen Miss 5th grade-7th grade; Teen Miss 8th grade-11th grade and Miss 12th grade. (Receives a scholarship from NACC) The Pageant will take place at the Mentone Community Church Family Life Center at 6pm. Email rhododendronfestival@gmail.com or come by Dekalb Tourism office to get an application.

May 20 thru 22 - Mentone Rhododendron Festival. A bonfire and delicious local food always get this event off to a great start. Enjoy an event that highlights the best of Mentone! Local musicians, arts of all mediums, and a "Taste of Mentone" are some of the things you can expect for this year's festival. rhododendronfestival@gmail.com.

May 21 - 1st Annual Rhododendron Dash. Walk, jog, run or race! All ages are invited to participate. Pre-registration is encouraged. Forms must be received by Friday May 13th for T-shirt order deadline. The Race is a 5K course along county road 648 and county road 89 in Mentone. Sign in & Race Day Registration begins @ 7:30am Saturday morning at Mason Park adjacent to Mentone Town Hall. Registration closes @ 8am and race begins at 8:30am. Pre Registration fees are \$30 Adult & Teen;

\$25 Child (5-12) & Seniors (65+); Day of Race \$35 for everyone. Race ends at Brow Park with awards immediately following race under music pavilion. Awards will be given in each category! Please contact Angie Shugart at angie@oneworldadventureco.com or 256-634-8370.

May 21 & 22 - Book Sale Drive. Moon Lake Community Library will be open special hours for the Rhododendron Festival. Stop by and purchase books and DVDs from our sale selection. Prices \$2 and under. Proceeds go directly to the library. Saturday hours: 9am-4pm. Sunday hours: 12-4pm.

May 21 & 22 - Wildcrafting Weekend. Explore the fields, forests, rivers & streams of our beautiful region to discover wild foods and medicines growing everywhere. You will work with the top 10 most important plants of their area, cooking with them, making natural products and be able to identify their look-alikes. \$325 per person. Pre-registration before April 8th - \$275.00 per person. Please contact Angie Shugart to register by email angie@oneworldadventureco.com or by calling 256-634-8370.

May 21 - 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 of nice paperweights to take home or to the office to show your friends. Please join us for some in-depth discovery. Reservations required \$135 per person. 9am-1pm. 256-523-3188.

May 21 - Medicinal Plants and Alternative Medicines. This workshop is designed for

the adult homesteader/prepper to make alternative medicinal salves, tinctures and liniments. This program will be presented by Darryl Patton, well-known herbalist and author of "The Southern Herbalist." JSU Field Schools at the Little River Canyon Center. 9am-4pm. \$20 per person; pre-registration required. 256-845-3548.

May 21 - Appalachian Broom-Making Demonstration with Lenton Williams. Locally & nationally-known craftsman Lenton Williams will demonstrate the interesting art form of making hand-tied brooms & brushes in the Appalachian style. DeSoto State Park Store. 9am-5pm. 256-997-5025.

May 21- Third Saturday Downtown Cruise-In. 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 5-9pm. 256-996-3857.

May 21 - Southern Gospel Concert featuring The Anchormen and The Sharps. A great night of music. Tom Beville Enrichment Center in Rainsville. 6pm. 256-638-7800.

May 21, 30 - 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 6pm the day before the adventure. 7:30-9:30pm. 256-997-9577.

May 22 - Serious Skills Series: Drawing for the Absolute Beginner. Join artist Starr Weems for a one-day class to get you started. Learn some basics and get some tips on creating engaging drawings... even if you think you can't draw a stick person! Participants will need to bring a sketchbook, pencil, portable camp chair

(optional) other supplies will be provided. DeSoto State Park Nature Center, next to the Country Store. 9am-4pm. \$15 per person. Class is for teens to adult. Space is limited. Pre-registration required by Friday, May 13th. Call Brittney Hughes at 256-997-5025.

May 23 - Bouldering Adventure Atop Lookout Mountain. Come experience first-hand what bouldering is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. We will climb on some of the best boulders atop Lookout Mountain. True Adventure Sports. 2-6pm. 256-997-9577.

May 24 - National Tourism Day Celebration. We invite you as a business or an individual to join us for our celebration or just a visit. 10am-3pm. 256-635-6522.

May 25 - Sky Swing Adventure. This is an adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy the thrill of the swing. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6pm the day before the adventure. Meet at True Adventure Sports 2-4pm. 256-997-9577.

May 27 - The Steeldrivers in Concert. Grammy Award winning bluegrass group The Steeldrivers will grace the stage at the historic Dekalb Theatre in Fort Payne. Show at 7pm. Reserved seating is available. eventbrite.com.

May 28 & 29 - Northeast Alabama Cutting Horse Association Competition. Enjoy the team cutting competition at the Northeast Alabama Agri-Business Center in Rainsville. 256-638-1650.

Mentone Farmers Market

**Saturday & Sunday
May 21 & 22
during festival hours**

featuring
Back Forty Farm and Orchard
The Cobb Farm
Mildred's Meadows
Old West Farm
Roger's Real Homemade
Your Mystic Delights
Zenflower Organics

Locally-designed t-shirts
for sale

**Friday
Front Porch Pickin'
Friday, May 20**

**3:00 til about 5:00
Mentone Realty
front porch**

Fair weather finds pickin'
on the porch; inclement weather
brings the music indoors.

Anyone of any skill level is
welcome to join in. Extra
instruments are on hand such
as ukelele, mandolin, and
mountain dulcimer.

Everyone is welcome to stop by
and enjoy the sounds.

Ongoing Calendar

The Little River group of Alcoholics Anonymous is adding another meeting. They will meet every Saturday and every Tuesday night at 6pm at St. Joseph's on the Mountain Episcopal Church, Mentone, AL. Both meetings are Open AA Discussion Meetings. Anyone who thinks they might have a problem with alcohol is welcome. The meetings are also open to members of AL Anon. Questions? call 256-634-3060.

AL-ANON family and friends support group. Meets every Tuesday at 6:00 pm at St. Joseph's on the Mountain Church in Mentone, AL. Same time and location as the AA Meeting. Come join us and help us grow!

Ballroom dancing lessons offered at DeKalb County Council on Aging on Monday nights from 6pm to 8pm. 256-845-8590.

Line dancing lessons offered at DeKalb County Council on Aging on Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30pm. 256-845-8590.

Mentone Town Council meets the 2nd Tuesday every month at 6pm in the town council room. Everyone is welcome.

MAPA Board meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm at Kamama Gallery.

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 Beville 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: Wednesdays, 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.

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

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

Valley Head Band meets on Tuesdays 4-6 pm at Smith Nursery at the top of Sand Mountain off of Hwy 117. 256-605-5404.

Scrabble club will meet the first Monday of the month from 11-1 at Kamama Gallery and Cafe. Call Kaye Kiker 205-609-8100 or Clare Donohue 954-292-8130 with questions.

The DeKalb County Genealogical Society meets the second Saturday of every month in the DeKalb County Public Library, 10 AM.

More Than 50 Arts and Crafts Vendors

By Anna Mae Horn

This year, we have more than 50 vendors that will be on the brow with a wide variety of handmade objects--from earrings to canoes and plenty in between. There should be something for everyone. Many of these artist/craftspeople have touching stories about how/why they started their hobbies that now bring in some income. Every purchase I make from talented folks at our festivals makes me feel like they have shared a little piece of their soul, along with the time and energy they have poured into each customized item.

Plate Breaker Jewelry began as a kind gesture. Trisha Kennamer, from Henagar, helped many people clean up their treasured debris after the 2011 tornadoes that ripped across Sand Mountain. From the rubble in one woman's home, Trisha salvaged a piece of the tile from the family's fireplace and handcrafted her first necklace. This gave her a new perspective. Over the last few years, she has learned the trade. Now, she picks up pretty pieces at yard sales and thrift stores to break for her jewelry, but Plate Breaker still exists in order to bring out the beauty in a broken object.

There will be several jewelry vendors, each with a unique twist on fashion. Stephanie Wingard fell in love with Mentone, and Brow Park in particular, as a child and was very excited to be able to participate in the festival last fall and again this spring. She has worked all winter on fabulous vintage themed jewelry to display. She uses high quality supplies such as fresh water pearls and aged antiqued brass to produce pieces that shoppers fall in love in and will last. Be sure to stop by The Vintage Clover and see for yourself! Rustic Denim Barn will return again this year with their denim cuffs. Other vendors will have various bracelets and unique rings as well as crochet and knitted items: something for every style. Rita Winters, a local favorite, will be at Rhododendron Festival with her fine, hand-woven apparel.

Nancy Sutton of Blue Universe Designs previously did jewelry (in fact she started when she was about ten) using wire, beads, glass, and even Scrabble tiles. She has quilting and fabric experience, but glass is her "true love." She now primarily uses a process called kiln-fused glass to make wind chimes, sun catchers, ornaments, or whatever she is inspired to do. Nancy also uses recycled bottles for cheese plates and ornaments. She has also made glass quilt blocks and plant stakes. Makes me wonder just what she will be bringing to Brow Park! Nancy, from Acworth, GA, is excited about the festival and says Mentone is one of her favorite places to do a show. She says, "I love the cool, artsy vibe I always feel in Mentone! Everyone is so nice and I've met some great artists there, too." Nancy takes her work personally and believes that a work of art is infused with the emotions within the artist who created it which are transmitted through it. "Artwork is personal, and must resonate with the person who chooses to buy it, so I feel that when you choose something of mine, you and I have a connection through that piece of art." Nothing makes her happier than creating one-of-a-kind works of art in hopes that

others will love to have them in their homes as much as she enjoys making them.

Of course, if none of her pieces speak to you, there will be plenty of variety. Others will have wind chimes, ornaments, and the like made from various mediums. That's the beauty of hand-made festivals. Even when people make the same thing, they are wonderfully unique.

Sweet Tea Pottery will be returning this year with her handiwork. Celia Waters combines clear glazes and underglazes to give her wood fired porcelain a beautiful look. Her kitty, Sweet Tea, use to watch her "throw" pots on her screen porch and inspired the name of her business. There will be a few vendors on the Brow this year with custom knives. Oden Knives, out of Fort Payne will return with knives made from D2 Steel or Damascus that have custom handles made from elk or deer horns or stabilized woods. Also, Randy Yates from Little Cove Creek Knives in Glencoe makes hand made, bone-bladed knives. Handles are made of deer antler or leg bone with genuine leather sheaths are, handmade and hand sewn and some are even decorated.



Once again, we will have several talented woodcrafters joining us at the Rhododendron festival. Great Meadows Canoes & Kayaks will be returning with custom, hand crafted wooden canoes and kayaks. Ken Kocienski uses traditional construction methods to produce a premium ultralite product. He is very kind to explain a lot of his process when you stop by his tent. We are also looking forward to seeing Richard Schrei again with some of his bamboo flutes. He also has some CD's with both inspiring and relaxing flute music. Daniel Kandasammy's booth will have a variety of items--wooden chairs and wind chimes... He has also been known to have rain sticks and hummingbird feeders as well as a variety of pickles, salsa and chow chow from time to time.

You know you can't have a festival without homemade edible goodies--like nice, pure honey. The Eastaboga Bee Company will be at the Festival with quality honey and beeswax products such as lip balm, soap, lotion, and furniture and boot polish. Be sure to ask about the origins of their unique logo. Hint: It pays homage to the family history and legacy. Other folks will have some home made health, beauty, and bath products as well. For example, Spicy Kudzu makes Chocolate Espresso Caffeinated Luxury Soap. That just sounds delightful! Their products are truly a labor of love for us and an outlet for artistic expression.

Brow Park Musical Line Up

By Anna Mae Horn

Lisa Crow inherited musical talents from both of her grandmothers who were musicians and sang beautifully. She has been singing most of her life and started playing the guitar at 24. She enjoys singing the songs that touch her heart and moves her listeners.

Jared Cushen is a regular on the stages of Fort Payne singing local favorites, his own original music, and special renditions of his favorites. Music has always been in his life. Songs flow from him as easy as conversation, and it's easy listening as well. Jared is the perfect beginning for our music at Brow Park.



Dr. Rob & Curtis Strange are taking the stage to perform all your favorites- old and new! Together, they cover one of the largest varieties of genres and sounds for music lovers.

Kenny Finlayson is from Valley Head and has enjoyed singing since he was barely able to talk. He started playing the guitar when he was around 16 and started writing original songs within a few weeks of playing. He writes songs about personal experiences that made an impact on him or that brought out an intense emotion.

Jess Goggans plays a little of everything - funk, country, alternative, reggae- but always in a style that is completely her own. She has a powerful voice that reaches the heart of the audience. Jess puts her soul in every performance and wants every listener to feel it.

Chris Hale stomps his feet and picks his banjo to bring back the spirit of old time Appalachian mountain music from the 1920's era. His vocals are timeless. His performances are simply captivating.

Larry Joe Hall inherited musical talents from his mother who would sing with her sister on a local Atlanta radio station. Family members would gather frequently to sing. He became involved

Trey Headrick focuses primarily on original music. He plays both the guitar and the harmonica. Sure to be an entertaining performance.

David Lusk is best known for his sets of 50s, 60s, and 70s music, as well as entire sets of Beatles songs. He sometimes intersperses that music with his original songs.



Dana Owens enjoys playing folk, folk rock, and Americana- either cover music or his own original songs. He also has a long standing love affair with a magical little instrument known as the Ukulele.

Amy Snider has enjoyed playing, folk, rock, acoustic and reggae music for over 20 years. She is a singer, songwriter, and guitarist with her own wonderfully unique stage presence. Amy even operates a studio from her home (Hippie Hilton Studios) and is getting ready to release a new album.

Marc Womack from Collinsville, plays many shows locally as a solo act, as well as collaborating with many other musicians/friends. Although his musical interests are diverse, he plays mostly recognizable classics, but perhaps not typically heard in local venues. Marc is always a wonderful addition to our brow stage.



Sweet Tea Pottery



Stainless Braids



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5951 Alabama Highway 117
256-634-3001

Kamama is the Cherokee word for "Butterfly"



Schedule of Events

Friday, May 20

1pm	Boat Rides - \$10 (til 6pm)	DeSoto Falls
5pm	Fish Fry by Fontana Stinson - til 8pm (\$10)	Mentone Inn
6pm	Miss Rhododendron Pageant (\$5)	Mentone Community Church
6pm	Concert - <i>Still Kickin'</i> (til 9pm)	Mentone Inn Pavilion

Saturday, May 21

7:30am	Rhododendron Dash 5K Run Registration	Mason Park
	Race starts at 8:30am	Brow Park
9am	Festival opens for the day	DeSoto Falls
9am	Boat Rides - \$10 (til 6pm)	Brow Park Stage
10am	Jared Cushen	Brow Park Stage
11am	Marc Womack	Brow Park Stage
12pm	Dana Owens	Brow Park Stage
1pm	Amy Snider	Brow Park Stage
2pm	Larry Jo Hall	Brow Park Stage
3pm	Lisa Crow	Brow Park Stage
4pm	Dr. Rob and Curtis Strange	Brow Park Stage
5pm	Wings Dinner (\$10) by MAPA (til 8pm)	Mentone Inn
6pm	Concert: The Inputs (til 9pm)	Mentone Inn

Sunday, May 22

11am	Festival opens for the day	Brow Park Stage
11am	David Lusk	Brow Park Stage
12pm	Chris Hale	DeSoto Falls
1pm	Boat Rides - \$10 (til 5)	Brow Park Stage
1pm	Trey Headrick	Brow Park Stage
2pm	Jess Goggans	Brow Park Stage
3pm	Kenny Finlayson	Brow Park Stage

Other Events:

Taste of Mentone	Brow Park & Individual Restaurants
Arts and Crafts Show	Brow Park
Library Book Sale	Moon Lake Library, Sat 9-4, Sun 12-4
Farmers Market	Mentone Inn, Festival Hours
Front Porch Pickin'	Mentone Realty Porch Pickin', Friday, 3-5pm

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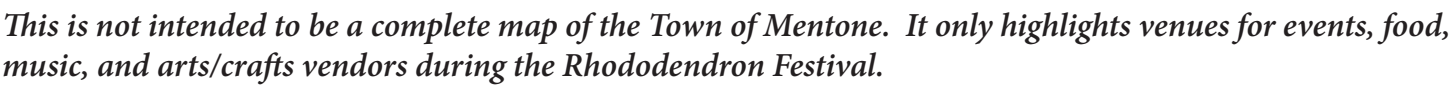
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A portrait of Amy Snider, a woman with long, light brown dreadlocks, wearing a blue headband, dark sunglasses, and a black top. She is smiling slightly. The name "Amy Snider" is printed in white text at the bottom of the image.

Mentone Wedding Chapel



*Candle Lite Ceremonies
Music • Photographs
Flowers • Reception
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*

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New approved residential customers only (equipment lease req'd). Credit card req'd (except MA & PA). Pro-rated ETF fees (up to \$480 for TV; up to \$180 for Internet) and Equipment Non-Return fees apply.

Geographic and service restrictions apply to U-verse services. Call or go to www.att.com/uverse to see if you qualify.

BUNDLE PRICE Offer ends 7/13/16. Includes SELECT All Included Pkg (\$50/mo), U-verse® High Speed Internet 6.0 or above (\$30/mo) and U-verse® Voice Unlimited North America (\$9.99/mo) and monthly fees for Wi-Fi Gateway and HD DVR + up to 3 add'l receivers. Must purchase all services in the same transaction & maintain all bundled services for 24 mos. to receive advertised pricing. After 24 mos, then-prevailing monthly rates apply (currently \$88 for TV, \$30 for Internet and \$30 for Voice Unlimited), unless customer cancels/changes services prior to the end of 24 mos. Pricing excludes taxes, add'l equip fees and other charges.

PREMIUM MOVIES OFFER After 3 mos., then-prevailing rate for all four (4) premium movie pkgs applies (currently \$53.99/mo.) unless canceled or changed by customer prior to end of the promotional period.

DIRECTV SVC TERMS Subject to Equipment Lease & Customer Agreements. Must maintain a min. base TV pkg of \$29.99/mo. Add'l Fees & Terms: \$7/mo. for each add'l Receiver and/or Genie Mini/DIRECTV Ready TV/Device; \$5/mo. for TiVo service for TiVo HD DVR from DIRECTV. Taxes not included. \$19.95 Handling & Delivery fee may apply. Programming, pricing, terms and conditions subject to change at any time. Visit directv.com/legal or call for details.

U-VERSE VOICE including 911 dialing, will not function during a power outage without battery backup power. It is your responsibility to purchase necessary battery back-up units for your service. U-verse Voice Unlimited North America: Includes unlimited wireline to wireline calling within the U.S., Canada, Mexico and U.S. Territories; otherwise, per minute rates apply. An additional per minute rate may apply for international calls terminating on mobile phones.

GENIE HD DVR UPGRADE OFFER includes instant rebates on one Genie HD DVR and up to three Genie Minis. Req's SELECT Pkg or above; OPTIMO MÁS Pkg or above; or any int'l service bundle w/PREFERRED CHOICE Pkg. \$99 fee applies for single-room setup. Whole-Home HD DVR functionality req's an HD DVR connected to one television and a Genie Mini, H25 HD Receiver(s) or a DIRECTV Ready TV/Device in each additional room. Limit of three remote viewings per HD DVR at a time. Visit directv.com/genie for complete details.

Offers may not be combined with other promotional offers on the same services and may be modified or discontinued at any time without notice. Other conditions apply to all offers. ©2016 AT&T Intellectual Property. All Rights Reserved. AT&T, GLOBE logo, DIRECTV, and all other DIRECTV marks contained herein are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property and/or AT&T affiliated companies. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

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. Rodney Blaylock 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. Pastor Jeff 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.

Greater Vision Ministries Church of God, 38623 US HWY 11, Hammondville, AL 35989. Come as you are . . . LEAVE CHANGED! Sunday School 10 am, Sunday Worship *10:45 am, (*Nursery & Kid's Church). MidWEEK re-charge Wednesday 6:30pm. Loving God & Serving Others. Pastor Tim Coppock. 256-601-0679.

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



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608

RUSTIC CABIN near Mentone. 1-1/2 story, 2BR/2.5BA home, open floor plan, large vaulted ceilings. Loft guest bedroom overlooking living areas. Lge screened in porch. \$239,000. MLS #1017671.



220

TWO CABINS minutes from DeSoto State Park and Mentone. Cabin 1 has approx 640 sq ft. Cabin 2 has approx 432 sq ft. Both cabins have 1 BR/1BA and sold furnished with all appliances. \$119,000. MLS #1036084.



617

TWO FURNISHED CABINS on 6.4 ACRES.... One Price! Minutes from DeSoto State Park and Downtown Mentone. Down Home offers 2BR/2BA. Southern Charm offers Loft, 1BR and 1BA. Space for approx. 7 additional cabins. \$279,000. MLS #1026581.



603

REAL BARGAIN. Lge 3BR/2BA home blocks from downtown Mentone. Screened porch, open floor plan, garage, bonus room, workshop plus storage bldg, fire pit, and more. \$249,700. MLS#1001478



606

West Brow of Lookout Mountain. 3BR/2BA, 2,500+/- sq. ft. main house, rock walls on 2.9+/- Acres. \$329,000. MLS #815966



612

COZY, COMFORTABLE charmer. Open great room w/built-in bookcases & stone fireplace w/gas logs. Kitchen has Corian countertops and custom cabinets. On 2 brow lots w/ storage building and greenhouse. \$399,000. MLS #1024616.



602

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



211

"Like New" near DSP & Mentone, LR w/ vaulted ceiling, hardwoods, wb fireplace. Custom kit w/stainless appliances (includes w/d). Covered front porch, lge back deck. 1.22 acres. \$188,000. MLS#1021858



600

UNIQUE!!! Main House, Guest House, Boathouse and approx. 470' of frontage on Little River. \$749,000. MLS #1007556



607

Lake Lahusage in your back door! Bank owned 2BR/2BA cottage AND 2-car garage with apartment potential. \$247,500. MLS #654813



601

CUSTOM Heritage Log Home, 2.5 acres. 3BR/2.5BA, open floor plan. Stone FP, vaulted ceilings, bonus room, 2-car garage, outdoor fireplace, and more. Located in gated Northbend Subdivision. \$379,000. MLS#1035384



613

3BR/3BA HOME on 2.8 acres w/brow view walking distance to town. 2 master suites, each w/access to porches & views. Cathedral ceilings, exposed beams, pine floors, wb fireplace, lge screened porch, open deck for grilling, irrigation system, full-house generator. MLS #1037784. \$375,000.



632

BEAR CLAUS LODGE! Open floor plan, 3BR + loft/3 1/2BA stone fireplace, beamed ceilings, wood floors, granite countertops, stainless appliances. Covered deck w/ fireplace, hot tub, outdoor kitchen, and more on 2.20 +/- acres. \$329,000. MLS#1035859



909

Secluded, Custom log cabin, 2BR/2BA, wooded lot, 2+ acres, security system, privacy gate, detached storage. \$279,500. MLS #332033



1400

3BR 2BA home in Hidden Lake Sub. Use of 14 acre lake. LRw/hardwoods & FP. Open kit/breakfast, DR w/built-in cabinet, screened front porch, back deck, 2-car garage. Adjoins Little River Canyon. \$220,000. MLS#1025640.



208

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



722

1.6 ACRES in Lake on the Brow Sub w/120' water frontage!! 3 BR/2BA home, main level master, walk-in basement, screened front porch, storage bldg, workshop & lge back deck. lake privileges. MLS#1037179. \$198,500.



624

Owl's Roost! Adorable cabin on wooded lot, furnished with brass bed and country antiques. \$116,000. MLS #690326



611

2BR/3BA. 3+/- year old roof. Garage apt w/BR & BA. Balcony, gallery w/storage, winter sunsets, downtown location, gas heater in kitchen, garage and apartment. WB fireplace. 2-car garage. Built in 2004. \$289,000. MLS#1029587.



615

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY! Let tenants pay your mortgage. 5 apts, lge retail space & storage bldg on Hwy 117 minutes from Mentone. 1.5 acres, fenced. Appointment only! \$187,500. MLS #1013991.



604

Bear's Lair - Adorable cabin currently in a rental program. 3BR/2 BA with a brow view. \$284,900. MLS#692795



605

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



107

Incredible View! Brick home on 5 acres features 5000+ sq. ft. with 5 BR/3BA/2HB, decks, patios, beautiful landscaping. Kitchen with top-of-the-line appliances, keeping room w/ FP, formal entry, living and dining areas, two levels of patios and decks for entertaining and enjoying the view. \$369,000. MLS #1038938.



908

Little River/Lake Lahusage/Mentone! East Fork of Little River, cottage has FP, wood floors, P&B ceiling in living area, NEW porch, deck, some doors & windows, HVAC, dock, walkway, fence, paint! Most furn. remains! \$225,000. MLS #1019742



910

NEAR LITTLE RIVER CANYON. 3BR/3BA log cabin w/lake, wood floors/walls/ceilings, open living/dining/kitchen, rock woodburning FP, screened porch, deck, Loft/basement/gameroom. \$224,000. MLS #1017450.



610

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



619

LIVE & PLAY ON THE WATER! 200' of frontage on East Fork of Little River featuring 3BR 2BA, rock floors, some carpet, all appliances, WB fireplace, & storage building. Call for more details. \$239,999. MLS #902940.



618

BROW PROPERTY! 2BR/1BA home on 2.3 +/- acres. Lots of wood features inside the house, enclosed porch and more. \$209,000. MLS #1015755.



707

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

LOTS AND LAND

#403694 - 106' of prime brow view with paved road frontage.
 #656265 - 7+ WOODED ACRES in Mtn. River Estates. \$41,000.
 #665968 - 1 ACRE LOT in Hidden Lake Sub. \$40,000.
 #845943 - 200' of water frontage and 169 feet on paved road front age. \$42,000.
 #902940 - 3BR/2BA on water. \$239,900
 #945265 - 1 ACRE LOT in Hidden Lake Sub. \$50,000.
 #1011734 - .69 ACRE wooded lot on Brush Creek. \$27,900.
 #1014183 - 1.5 ACRES. Brow Lot on CR 89. \$124,900.
 #1016112 - 3.46 WOODED ACRES in Oakwood Sub. \$25,500.
 #1016118 - 3.04 WOODED ACRES in Oakwood Sub. \$25,500.
 #1021165 - 2 ACRE LOT offering lake and brow footage. \$78,000.
 #1026589 - LIBBY LANE. .49 acres West Fork Little River. \$162,000.
 #1027934 - 4.42 ACRES on River Lane, W. Fork Sub. \$29,900.



820

RUSTIC CABIN with gas fireplace, kitchen, and sleeping nook, private porch downstairs. Lge BR/BA and sitting area upstairs. Laurel Creek Lakes with access to lakes & walking trails. \$139,900. MLS#1041437



205

BRICK HOME w/hardwood and tile floors. Kitchen w/granite, keeping room w/double-sided fireplace, sunroom. Master suite, master bath w/ jacuzzi tub, double vanity, and tile flooring. \$285,000. MLS#1041482



403

LAKE ON THE BROW - one level w/living/kitchen/dining area, 3BR/2BA, office, laundry room. Kitchen w/stainless. Living area w/stone gas FP. Master w/adjoining bath & double closets. Screened porch, covered deck, rock patio. \$209,000. MLS#1041993



401

WHIPPOORWILL FARM. 2BR/2BA rock/ log home w/sunroom, FP, updated kitchen. Historic barn, 2-stall stable w/1BR/1BA apt. Screened sleeping cabin, dbl garage, fenced pastures, trails, rock walls/patio, gazebo, outdoor shower, old spring house & fire pit. \$995,000. MLS#1042624



104

4-ACRE RETREAT in Mentone. Vaulted ceiling great room, 2-3 BR (or 2 BR w/ office), 2 tile baths, and lge laundry room. Wood walls & floors, fireplace, wrap-around porch, garage/workshop. Convenient to downtown. \$219,000.

#1032720 - 2.8 acres with travel trailer, water, septic, dock. \$82,500.
 #1034400 - 1.29 ACRES with gorgeous brow view. \$110,000
 #1034402 - 1.3 ACRES with gorgeous brow view. \$110,000
 #1034997 - Approx. 6 ACRES on middle fork of Little River in Mtn. River Est. \$48,900
 #1037600-1037604 - PANORAMIC VIEWS from 6.62-8.9 acre brow lots in scenic Mentone. \$180,000 each.
 #1038089 - 6.4 acres on Co. Rd. 89, Lot 8, in Mentone. \$155,000

#1038473 - 7.7 acres of brow property in Mentone (2.5 acre building area). \$125,000
 #1038477 - 6.9 acres of brow property in Mentone (.7 acre building area). \$59,900
 #1038482 - 7.1 acres of brow property in Mentone (.8 acre building area). \$59,900
 #1038483 - 7.5 acres of brow property in Mentone (1.2 acre building area). \$69,900
 #1038485 - 7.3 acres of brow property in Mentone (1.7 acre building area). \$69,900
 #1038697 - 7.8 acres of brow property in Mentone (1.9 acre building area). \$69,900
 #1038949 - 5.8 acres of brow property in Mentone. \$95,000
 #1039769 - 6.32+/- waterfront building lot in Mountain River Estates! \$51,750

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May Birthdays

May 1 – Junior Bell
May 1 – Kathleen Johnson
May 1 – Jennifer Owen
May 2 – Morgan Blalock
May 2 – Ella Voils
May 2 – Cory Dobbins
May 2 – Isaac Vaughan
May 3 – Abel James Baggett
May 3 – Paula Coots
May 3 – Steven Barkley
May 3 – Annabelle Gifford
May 4 – Kathy Clure
May 5 – Alex Blackburn
May 5 – Bobby Browder
May 5 – Emily Hilliard
May 5 – Jessie Baggett
May 5 – Jeffrey Bain
May 5 – Kathy Clure
May 6 – LA Smith
May 6 – Lee Worthey
May 6 – Phil Harris
May 6 - Laurelle Brooke Miles
May 6 - Carlie Kirby
May 6 – Cody Hodge
May 6 – Taylor Williams
May 6 – Dewayne Grisham
May 7 – John Johnson
May 7 – Tracy Coots

May 7 – Jessie Baggett
May 7 – Carl Griffith
May 7 – Kelly Blansit
May 8 – Connie Clark
May 8 – Ella Kate Wagner
May 8 – Sherry Durham
May 10 – Gail Jones
May 10 - Angela Flanagan
May 11 – Jessie Coots
May 11 – Ricky Barkley
May 11 – Merle Stokes
May 12 – Hubert Blalock
May 12 – Allison Kirby
May 13 – Andrea O’Tinger
May 14 – Ann Nelson
May 14 – Madi Owen
May 14 – Logan McGee
May 14 – Raymond Evans
May 14 – Christy Miller Evans
May 15 – Shirley Zange
May 16 – Amy Kirby
May 16 - Riley Mae Owen
May 16 – Kaylynn Hulkan
May 17 – Shuan Flannigan
May 17 – Melinda Miller
May 18 – Chad Smith
May 18 – Nelson Kerby
May 19 – Dillon Brown
May 20 – Alexis Manifold
May 20 – Jessica McKenzie
May 20 – Susan Elliott
May 20 – Elli Stone
May 20 – Joyce Tate

May 20 – Kenzlee Callahan
May 21 – Lisa Crow
May 21 – Katie Villarreal
May 21 – Desiree Cash
May 21 – Jackson Mann
May 22 – Sandy Blalock
May 22 – Caitlin Kirby
May 23 – Terry Pangle
May 23 – Adrienne Guice
May 23 – Nathan Baggett
May 23 – Ronald “Cotton” Baggett
May 23 – Jackson Mann
May 23 – Amelia Stott
May 24 – Joe Elrod
May 24 – Amber Hilliard Parker
May 24 – Adam Miller
May 24 – Sadie Durham
May 26 – Paige Smith
May 26 – Rodney Mitchell
May 27 – Keila Hammon
May 27 – Amanda Smith
May 27 - Christy Voils
May 27 - Hunter Villarreal
May 27 – Crystal Gravitt
May 27 – Labron Poe
May 28 – James Cox
May 28 – Mikayla Owen
May 29 – Mackenzie Willingham
May 29 – Justin Blansit
May 30 – Patti Carden
May 30 – James Tubberville
May 30 – Ethan Webb
May 31 – Richard Barkley
May 31 – Tracy Cartwright

May Anniversaries

May 3 – Corey & Amanda Blalock
May 4 – Donnie & Carlotta Sharpton
May 8 – Wayne & Angie Miller
May 15 - Doug & Karen Powell
May 15 – Keith & Dawn Langston
May 15 – Shane & Valerie Burt
May 16 – Preston & Amy Kirby
May 17 – Casey & Jessica Battles
May 18 – Chad & Amber Smith
May 20 – Jeremy & Lindsay Webb
May 20 – Doug & Judy McMahan
May 26 – Soni & Sheila Larock
May 28 – Adam & Wendy Haynes
May 28 – Easton & Anna Bailey
May 29 – Alfred & Eddie Langston
May 29 – Johnny & JoAnn Bain
May 30 – Tommy & Cindy Harrison
May 31 – Jimmy & Adele Phillips



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 CEDAR CABIN in the woods, open floor plan with great room, eat-in kitchen, 2 bedrooms, 2 tiled baths, pine floors, tile counter and island in kitchen, loft, tung and groove walls, covered deck with hot tub. Fireplace. Stainless appliances. Nice quiet setting. Appt Only. \$219,000 (22973)	 LEVEL WOODED LOTS in Crestline Park Subdivision in Mentone. Lot 24. 1.27 acres. Great area to build that getaway cabin in the woods. \$25,000 (23184).	 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	 7182 OLD STATE RD. What a view. 11.2 acres with over 600 ft. on brown with 2 rock bluff points. Power, water, septic installed. The mobile home with 2 BR, 1BA and covered deck is a bonus. Place to stay while building that dream home. Nicely wooded. \$172,000. (18543)	 SOUTHLAND LOG HOME on the East fork little River. 5.5 acres. 2 bdrm, 2 bths. loft. Vaulted ceiling with exposed beams. fully equipped kitchen with granite counters. stacked stone FP. 2 story with Basement. Separate 30x40 garage, large enough for motor home. Private but with all the comforts. Price reduction to \$275,000 .(19919)	 8.75 ACRES with 200 ft on West Fork Little River. Hardwoods, hollies, and easy access to river. Level to rolling terrain. \$89,000 (23183).
 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! \$115,000 (23096)	 HIGH ROAD, Cloudland, GA. 5.5 acres with stream and small waterfall. 3bdrm, 2bth, ranch style home. Living room, new flooring, kitchen with built in pantry, CHA. Guest cabin with 1 bdrm, 1 bth. 3 bay garage/ workshop. 2 wells. \$148,000. (23152)	 3.8 ACRES located in East fork little River Estates. Nicely wooded with a portion of the historic Dinky Line Railway. 175 ft. on river (Cherokee Co. Mentone). covenants & restrictions. county water and power available. \$53,000	 DIXIELAND DELIGHT Farm in Mentone, AL. Beautiful 19.3 acres with open pasture, 2 ponds, wooded area with trails for horseback or ATV. Barn with tack or equipment storage. Fenced for livestock. City water and paved road frontage. What a setting! \$150,000	 3.77 ACRES located at Canyon View Forest Subdivision. Wooded and joining the bluff of Little River National Preserve. \$60,000	 THE SHADOWS, A UNIQUE LOG CABIN. Sunroom, 2 bdrm, 1.5 baths. 2 fireplaces. Living Dining combo, sitting room. Native Landscaped yard. Covered porch. \$189,000. (23143)
 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)	 NESTLED AMONG LARGE ROCK FORMATIONS is a quaint 2 bdr, 2bth cottage with open living/ dining room with gas fp. Sunroom/office off master suite. Screened front porch multi level decks, outdoor shower, garage workshop. Quiet and Serene this setting makes for a great getaway or home. \$148,900 (23164)	 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	 ONE OF THE BEST VIEWS on Lookout mountain, Cloudland GA. 2-BR 2 bath Log Home on Brow with dramatic rock outcroppings & pastoral view of Shinbone Valley. Cathedral ceiling, solid wood floors, rock FP. Lots of windows & built in storage. Screened porch and patio on brow. HVAC. 2-car garage, 2-car carport, workshop, etc. \$259,000	 CAMBRIA BLEU compound. California style in serene country setting. 2 story Herringbone brick home complete with archway entrance. Porches overlooking lake, fields, old home place and the ridges beyond. Inside on main level, walk-in to the foyer that opens into the great room, dining with travertine FP. Gourmet kitchen with high end appliances, granite counters, eat-in bar, cherry cabinets throughout entire house. Master with glamour bath, dressing room. 2 additional bedrooms and bath. Large utility w/ built in cabinets, freezer, w/d. Downstairs suite has 2 bdrms, Den and bath. So many amenities and landscaped naturally with flora and fauna. The Guest Cottage is 2 bdrms, 1 bth, living room with ceramic wood burning insert. Heart pine floors, ceilings, and walls. The old home place on property was built in 1895 when the land was homesteaded. Even the African geese stay and all the wildlife abound! Total of 90 acres. \$974,900 (23094)	

LOTS AND ACREAGE

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. \$33,000 (23044)

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)

.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. \$90,000. (23043)

.75 ACRE WEST BROW LOT,

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

3 County Road 66.

(23186)

Remember When . . .

By Angie Carden

The Groundhog ran a cover article in 1996 titled "J.R. Bain"? When I ran across this article, I sat in my office and cried. Mr. John Ranzy Bain was my Great-Grandfather. And Great he was! If any of you had the esteemed pleasure of knowing him, you will agree. And if you ever had the blessed honor of hearing him preach, you truly understand what I mean by "Great"!

This article was written by my Aunt Pat, the youngest of his children. I hope you all enjoy reading about my family. I have been blessed my entire life with a huge, loving extended family. And none that we have lost will ever be forgotten.

The story began; "Having careers in farming, lumbering, mining and railroading, John Ranzy Bain--better known as J.R.--is living a very full and rewarding life. Born eldest of 9 children (6 boys and 3 girls), to Ed and Lula Bain on March 22, 1914, in Cherokee County, Alabama, he remembers one of his earliest duties at age 4 was to remove insects from the cabbage and green beans and place them into a small can of kerosene. This simple skill of gardening was the beginning of his life long love of farming.

Along with his continuing aid to his father on the farm, at age twelve, he followed in his fathers footsteps to acquire the knowledge of the woods. The woods provided the habitat for the game he hunted for food and the resources of the products he could harvest as a lumberjack.

J.R. also worked at odd jobs to earn money and build character as a young boy. One of these jobs was yard keeper for a retired lawyer, Cebe Wright. Cebe and his wife developed a great affection for him, and Cebe's wife recognized his potential and offered to take J.R. into their home and educate him through Berry College. But J.R.'s father refused to allow him to leave home. He was needed too badly to help with the family chores to attend school past the 10th grade.

Throughout his teens, J.R. continued to work in the woods and on the farm. He hauled cross-ties to town on a horse-drawn wagon to sell for his father and other people. He also helped his father deliver fresh vegetables on an old 1925 T-model which had had the back cut off, converting it into a pickup truck. They delivered vegetables to the two large hotels in Mentone and the two hotels on the east side of Lookout Mountain near Cloudland. The 'summer folk', as the part time residents were known, would rely on the Bain's farm to provide the best vegetables available. Ed Bain's vegetables were



known throughout the area for decades.

In 1932, J.R. became enamored with a young lady from Rising Fawn, Georgia, whom he met during a visit to her sister, Ethelene Simmons, in Mentone. This young lady was Kathryn Hale. J.R. and Kathryn were married April 21, 1932, in Mentone at the home of Earnest Shigley.

After starting their new life together, the newly weds resided in Mentone only a few months. Then, hearing of an offer, they moved to Rising Fawn, Georgia, to house sit and care for a two-year old son of Owen Woodward while he, accompanied by his wife, worked out of town as a lineman for the electric company. During this two-year period, J.R. and Kathryn operated a little convenience store and service station. When the Woodwards returned, J.R. managed to get on with the WPA building roads and side walks for Dade County, Georgia. This lasted just two years. Over the span of the next four years, from 1936 to 1939, J.R. and family would move several times between Rising Fawn and Mentone, doing whatever necessary to provide for his family, even making elderberry wine and home brew to sell.

In late 1939, J.R. took advantage of another job in Bluefield, West Virginia, to work for the Jacobs Fork Coal Co. He quickly advanced and was made foreman. When WWII broke out, J.R. was one of the first called, but the officials of the mine were successful in getting him deferred from the army twice. The production of coal was extremely important during the war.

Upon medical advice, in 1944, J.R. quit the coal mines and returned to Mentone and lumbering. While working in the woods one day in 1945, he

survived being crushed under a load of green lumber. His

recovery was slow and painful. This accident proved to be a major factor in his physical complications throughout his life.

Through the next few years, J.R. struggled, as many did at that time, to provide for his family, even for a while receiving Government "relief." In 1949, he received religious salvation which changed his life. He began to dedicate his life to God. He fasted and prayed diligently. Upon receiving a sign from God, J.R. returned to the coal mines where he felt a job could be waiting. There, as God had promised him, a job just became available. He was a miner again from 1950 until 1953.

Seeing many friends and co-workers suffering and dying from black-lung disease caused by the coal dust in the mines, J.R., fearing for his own health, quit the mines and once more returned to his beloved Mentone. For the next three years, he worked for Chattanooga Boiler and Tank Company until his lay-off.

Then, in 1956, while visiting his daughter, Ethel Manifold and son-in-law, Jim, in Harvey, Illinois, he found the job of his life. He became a railroad switch-man for the Indiana Harbour Belt Railroad. It was hard, unreliable and, at times, very dangerous work. During his 21-year railroad career, he was arrested for tying up a major highway crossing with the train because he could not get the yardmaster's approval to move the train. He also suffered a traumatic head injury in an accident while riding in the caboose, but he loved trains and his work.

During his railroad career, he always managed to pursue his love of farming. If not a small garden in the back of the house, it was acres of land loaned to him by a couple of widows. He provided fresh vegetables to many church members, family and friends, and even sold produce to a large grocery chain.

They lived a very full and rewarding life in Harvey until a heart attack in 1977 caused J.R. to take early retirement. In 1978, J.R. and Evelyn retired to Mentone, where they still live.

J.R.'s contributions to life are his six children by wife Kathryn: Bobbie Sue Smith, Ethel Manifold, Mary Porter, Charles Bain, Johnny Bain and Pat McKenzie; 19 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren. Throughout his Christian life, he has been very active in the Church of God. J.R. attributes his richness of life to his faith in God, a loving family and hard work."

Since this beautiful article was released, we have lost my pawpaw J.R., my Uncle Charlie and now my Aunt Bobbie. I consider myself extremely privileged to have known and loved all three.

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•••••
LOTS and LAND

BEAUTIFULLY PREPARED, RARE DOWNTOWN MENTONE building lot. Ready for your sweet little tiny cabin or cottage. Newly-planted fruit trees & bushes! Part of old stone foundation still in place. Perfect place for a rental cabin! Easy walk to brow park or downtown shops & dining. New landscaping plus old, comfortable trees makes it pretty as a picture! Commercial or residential possibilities! \$39,000 (765396)

9.5 ACRES WITH A BEAUTIFUL POND; hardwoods. Adjacent to DeSoto State Park. Build a dream cabin overlooking a picturesque pond. Convenient to Mentone. Possibilities for more than one cabin? Maybe a compound for multiple tiny cabins? This location would be ideal for rentals! Buy it, dream it, build it! \$125,000 (1040913)

DAY SPRING. One seldom hears of lots for sale in this private, gated community with its common areas of massive, dramatic boulders; walking paths & access to E Fork Little River. Lot 14, 3.25 acres. Beautiful hardwoods & level-to-gently-rolling topography. \$40,000. (1027151)

4.43 WOODED ACRES, unrestricted. Septic tank to accommodate a 3BR/2BA home, gravel drive, public water & power already in place! Great place for RV, ready to build. You'll not find a better price in Mentone. Now only \$33,900. (311288)

30.89 ACRES OF GORGEOUS WOODS, with year-round stream & mostly hardwoods; wildflowers; wild blueberries; blackberries; abundant wildlife. Level to gently rolling in topography. Only 2 miles from downtown Mentone. Quiet and private, yet having some 268' of frontage on paved County Road 89 N. Nice spot for a future pond. Unrestricted. \$115,838 (1039175)

2 WOODED ACRES with a tiny little rustic cabin (no plumbing!) & a whole lot of promise for your future mountain home site. Hardwoods, picturesque boulders, wild turkey, deer...most any kind of wildlife found in these hills. A quiet place to find yourself returning at the end of the day, or as a weekend getaway. \$45,000. (1034503)

8.9 ACRES WITH APPROX 136' BROW FRONTAGE on Citadel Rock Rd, near the back entrance of DeSoto State Park. Beautiful wooded land with large paved road frontage. \$89,000 (692925)

FRONTAGE ON WEST FORK, Little River. 3.69 acres, lightly restricted, private. Rhododendron, mountain laurel, sandy riverbank & seasonal creek. Water meter already in place, adjacent lot also avail. Own your own piece on Mentone, riverside! \$65,800. (1032896)

2.2 UNRESTRICTED, WOODED ACRES Mentone. Corner property; excellent areas to walk, bicycle or keep a few chickens. Public water & power at the road. Great building site for one or a couple of cabins. \$20,000 (1011111)

Happy Mother's Day



CASUAL MOUNTAIN ELEGANCE of an "old" downtown Mentone brow-front cottage, expanded and updated. Standing-seam metal roof; vinyl "cedar shake" siding; composite deck; "smart" system to control utilities when you're away; 3 spacious bedrooms; 2 baths. Gorgeous kitchen! Stone, masonry fireplace. Quaint white picket fence. Right at brow park and so close to everything Mentone; festivals, shops & dining. Fantastic price! \$299,000 (1022983)



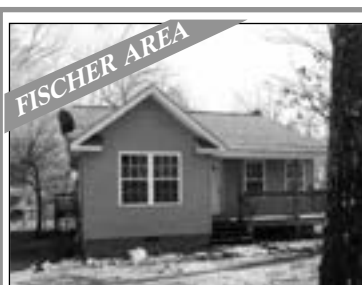
WHERE DO WE START in describing this place? One might look upon it as a writer's sanctuary, with a main cottage & guest lodge. It might be seen as a family compound, with places for folks to gather & then head off to their own private sleeping areas. Maybe a home & detached art studio (with a fabulous view from the front deck!) It is currently an active rental (with monthly income of \$1000-1500). Owner lives in one cottage & rents the other. The basics? 2.93 acres with quaint wooden gates leading to tended walking paths through the woodland & between cottages. Main cottage w/1BR/1BA, wood-burning fireplace, large decks. 3 other buildings: Guest cabin; "bunkhouse;" laundry house w/office. \$189,500 (1041186)



SWEET CABIN IN THE WOODS w/full front & back porches; small, covered balcony off the upstairs. Cedar siding & metal roof. Great room w/mtn stone, gas-log fireplace; comb of wood & painted walls. Pine floors throughout. Local poplar on MABR walls. Small room off upstairs BR used as 3rd BR. Shower baths (2nd bath w/plenty of room for a tub if wanted). Great getaway or rental. Most furnishings to remain. On almost an acre. \$164,500 (1030655)



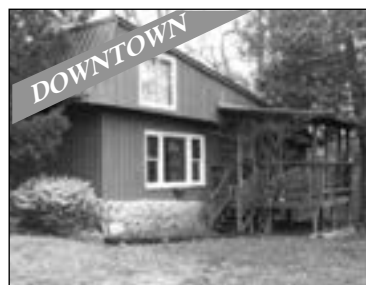
MULTI-USE PROPERTY WITH HOME, 3.31 ACRES & GUEST QUARTERS (office, classroom, business?) 2BR/2BA w/mtn stone fireplace; lg sunroom. Guest house w/kitchenette & full bath. Various outbuildings, woods, partially-fenced grounds. Build add'l cottages or a shop for antiques, woodworking, what-have-you. If gardening is your thing, the land has great drainage & sun exposure for crops/fruit trees, etc. In area of future arts ctr. \$152,500 (1041985)



HAVE YOU BEEN DREAMING of a place? A smaller home, perhaps, with a bit of land? This might be what you've been searching for! 2BR/2BA home; 5 acres (on both sides of stream w/waterfall); 2BR/1BA guest cabin; garden spot w/rich, dark soil; workshop; woods; fun & funky "cool huts" (studios? guest quarters? limitless uses!); large creekside "treehouse" for fair-weather gatherings; privacy at the end of a small lane. Lookout Mtn location between Ft Payne & DeSoto St Park lets you be only minutes from scenic natural beauty or needed trips to town. You'll find yourself putting down roots & not wanting to leave this charming little paradise. Public water, but there's also a good well. \$165,000 (1038209)



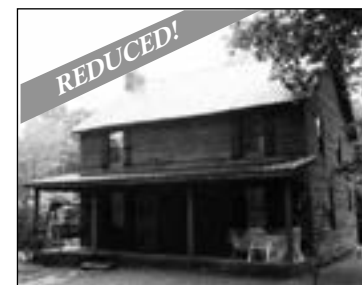
YOU CAN SEE FOR MILES... from this 3BR/2BA cabin situated on the brow in downtown Mentone! Peeled pine handrails; exposed beams; rock foundation; granite countertops; hickory cabinetry; wood & tile floors; gorgeous tile work in master shower; front porch; double back porches; stone fireplace. Close to Brow Park for festivals & downtown shops & dining. The list goes on! What are you waiting for, call now for appointment! \$268,000 (1041591)



COTTAGE OR SHOP? OR BOTH? Downtown Mentone. This is one of those rare opportunities to own a place that has been used for a business & living quarters right in the heart of the village. Built as a beauty shop & residence. 1BR (or 2 if you finish the loft)/1.5BA; kit; LR; sunroom; side porch; private back yard; front showroom/office/studio. Multi-use space perfect for the weekends, festival times, part-time, all the time. \$110,000 (403324)



MOUNTAIN ELEGANCE, CHARM AND GRACE, located on deep water on the lake at DeSoto Falls. Craftsmanship throughout. A place that is at once inviting & warm, spacious without being intimidating. Custom cabinetry, shelving; lots of storage. Wide-plank pine floors taken from the land on which this home is built. Screen house near lake w/fireplace; wide boardwalk to dock. Mooring available for pontoon boat; storage for canoes/kayaks, etc. \$750,000 (1040909)



3 ACRES NEAR CAMP LANEY. 4BR/2BA classic 2-story summer home on property that has been in the same family since 1900. Welcoming front porch; spacious LR w/mtn stone & masonry fireplace. Main-level updated (but original heart pine floors remain). Renovations started on 2nd level but incomplete. The 3-acre parcel consists of a level yard & gorgeous, ancient trees. Corner property; great walking/biking area. New price of \$130,000 (1027048)



13.34 ACRES, 3 PONDS, OLD FARM HOUSE, SHOP & OUTBUILDINGS. Fruit trees of all sorts. Great garden areas. We're not giving the old house much value. Best feature is the stone fireplace. Nice front porch, too. Ponds are stocked & owner says there's good fishing in all of them. 3 wells on the property, one of which is clear, freestone water with working pump. (Public water, too.) It isn't in A1A condition, so don't expect it. \$100,000 (1040912)

Rhododendron Garden Club

By Mellanie Tuttle

On April 12, members of The Rhododendron Garden Club met at the MERF House for a not-so-brief business meeting and then traveled to the Shirley Miller Wildflower Trail (The Pocket). We were excited to have two visitors come along - one even joined the club. We welcome Mary Shurett as our newest member!

Fog and misty weather did not deter our enthusiasm. Sharing the tales of eight women in one vehicle is an article that will remain unwritten. Driving along the Dougherty Gap; trillium, Wild Blue Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*), Dogwoods (*Cornus florida*) and ferns were spotted throughout the woods and along the roadside. After last year's trek across the overflowing creek, the majority wore waterproof shoes in anticipation of another wet adventure, but the crossing was uneventful.

At the edge of the parking lot, the Crossvine (*Bignonia capreolata*) could not be missed - it looks like a Trumpet Vine (*Campsis radicans*) but has a rich maroon colored trumpet edged with yellow. The Wildflower Trail boardwalk allowed for easy walking and viewing and the Bent White Trillium (*Trillium flexipes*) showed off along the boardwalk and covered the hillside. Sweet Betsy's (*Trillium cuneatum*) were dotted throughout and the Trailing Trillium (*Trillium decumbens*) hugged the ground. The abundance of trillium was amazing. Purple Phacelia (*Phacelia bipinnatifida*), Virginia Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*), Wild Geranium

(*Geranium maculatum*) and several violets all showed hues of purple. Solomon's Seal, Solomon Plume (*Maianthemum racemosum*), Star Chickweed (*Stellaria pubera*), Sweet Anise (*Osmorhiza longistylis*) and Rue Anemone (*Thalictrum thalictroides*) sported lots of greenery and hints of white flowers as did the Heartleaf Foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*). The Wood Poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*) surprised with a pop of yellow. Bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) and Hepatica leaves were noted but blossoming was over.

Gerry posted on the 14th his identification of 39 species blooming at The Pocket. We didn't quite find that many on the 12th, but with the help of several wildflower books we did identify (or maybe misidentify) several species. Before next year's trek, an investment in a wildflower leaf identification book would be helpful in matching the leaves with the withered, drooping blossoms so we'd know what we missed. Still, it was another great but chilly time of viewing wildflowers at The Pocket!

May 10th will be a day of clean up at the MERF House: leaves need to be raked, bushes trimmed, and flower beds weeded and replanted. Everyone is asked to bring tools (clippers, trowels, rakes, shovels), gloves, hat, a sack lunch and a good attitude. Drinks and dessert will be provided. 10:00 is dig in, dig up and pull out time.



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Harvest Roots (cont'd from page 1)

part of greater Huntsville, but when they were young, Harvest provided enumerable opportunities for kids to get outside and get their hands dirty. In middle school, they shared the first kiss either had ever experienced, and they remained good friends through high school. Then they went their separate ways. Lindsay pursued a degree in cultural anthropology from UAB, and spent three months studying the subsistence farmers on the Fijian island of Nayau. Deeply impressed with their ability to survive solely on what they could grow or catch, she began thinking about getting involved in some way with agriculture.

Pete attended art school in New York, and became what Lindsay calls an “apple historian.” He then went west to learn about farming (particularly small, community based agriculture) and discovered the joys and rewards of foraging for the food he needed. Eventually, both came back to Alabama and, as Lindsay says, “We discovered we had a mutual interest in growing food, and a love of agriculture and plants.”

The couple first began growing organic foods and making fermented products for sale at farmer’s markets. Ultimately, the demand for their things began exceeding their capacity to produce them. So finding themselves at a transitional crossroads, they started looking around for a place to change gears and move in a new direction. One absolute requirement for establishing a fermentation business was a certified kitchen, a facility not easily found in Alabama. Coincidentally, in their childhood, Pete had attended nearby Camp Comer and Lindsay had once taken a hike with her dad around DeSoto Falls. They both remembered Mentone as a nice place with a higher altitude that might benefit the fruits they hoped to grow. They also liked the size of the community, the striking scenery, and the very evident southern Appalachian culture. Then by chance, as these things sometimes happen, a friend who knew of their special kitchen needs suggested they go to Mentone and ask the owner of Little River Hardware, Stan Lawton, if he knew of any such facility in the area that might be available. Then, a final twist of fate:



on the day of their visit, they learned that the certified kitchen at the cafe in Stan’s store had become vacant. Next stop for Mr. Halupka and Miss Whiteaker: Mentone.

First, their new facility had to meet the stringent requirements of the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Federal Department of Agriculture. Having successfully jumped those hurdles, Pete and Lindsay are now producing and selling a wide variety of fermented products. Lindsay says, “This is not canning, and it’s not vinegar based. It’s a live, fermented, raw product. We preserve food like your grandmother did. Our products have probiotic, beneficial bacteria, which many nutritionists recommend. It’s tasty and flavorful with a long shelf life that doesn’t require preservatives, and it has good nutritional density.”

Right now, Harvest Roots items can be found at small grocery stores in Birmingham and Chattanooga, as well as some farmer’s markets. Within a few months they hope to be in Whole Foods at several locations. But best of all, if you want to taste for yourself, you can just drop by the Little River Hardware store and check out the cold case, or look for it at the Wildflower Café’s gift shop.

Harvest Roots will be a boost to the area in several ways. The anticipated growth means the couple will have to hire some local folks to help them in the months ahead. Although

they are planting a variety of perennial fruits, medicinal herbals, and berries to use in their product line, they are not much interested in growing their own veggies. So as they expand they will be looking for area suppliers as nearby as possible. “Right now,” says Pete, “we have contracts for at least 8,000 pounds of vegetables from the people at Mentone’s Farm at Windy Hill, which is an amazing resource for this town. They are only about a mile from us, and we joke they can just roll the cabbages downhill to us!”

Expansion also means Pete and Lindsay would like to find more land in the area on which to grow their cultivars (a combination of the words “cultivation” and “varieties”). Right now they are growing such things as elderberry, lemon grass, sage, basil, fennel and about 25 apple trees, Pete’s particular interest. And, they are growing a business with deep roots right here in Mentone. Want to know more about Harvest Roots? Go to their website at harvestrootsferments.com, find them on facebook, or stop by the hardware.

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Moon Lake Students go to the Theater

By Paula Easter

Moon Lake Fine Arts Teacher

What is the saying, "I love it when a plan comes together!" Well, plans for a field trip to Atlanta came together fantastically. Moon Lake Fifth and Sixth grade students, along with some faculty members, boarded a chartered bus on Saint Patrick's Day bound for the Alliance Theater at Woodruff Arts Center in Atlanta, GA. This was the first time that many of these students had the opportunity to see a play performed, and they were looking forward to it.

Arriving with time to spare, students had time to enjoy exploring the architecture and exhibits on display at the High Museum of Art, a different area of the Woodruff Arts Center. Then, on to the Alliance Theater to see the play "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." Having all read the book, both grades were anxious to see how the play would compare to the book. I'll give you a hint-not a word was heard from a single student until the very end of the play when they cheered and applauded! After the play, I had the opportunity of introducing my friend and the director of the play, Rosemary Newcott, to Moon Lake students. The students had fun talking to Ms. Newcott, answering her questions, and voicing their thoughts about the play. As an added treat, Victor Smith, Director of Production at the Alliance Theater, came out to meet our Moon Lake students. He, along with Daviorr Snipes, an associate, walked the students on a guided back stage tour of the Alliance Theater. (Moon Lake students were the only ones who were privileged to enjoy this special treat!)

After a great time at the Alliance, we were all ready for lunch and headed to the Varsity-another first for many students. Once we

had finished lunch, it was on the bus and back home to Mentone.

A tremendous "THANK YOU!" to the Mentone Educational Resources Foundation and the Alabama Arts Council for making this memorable field trip possible.

What students had to say about the experience:



Shaq Hawkins-- "Best field trip ever!"

Ian Thomas-- "Hard to believe Ms. Newcott only used nine actors in the play. I loved how the battle scene was choreographed."

Daniel Hawkins-- "The play was very creative and I loved the backstage tour!"

Pacey Cooper-- "I loved everything and the Varsity was awesome!"

Cameron Collins-- "The play was awesome, and the actors were incredible!"

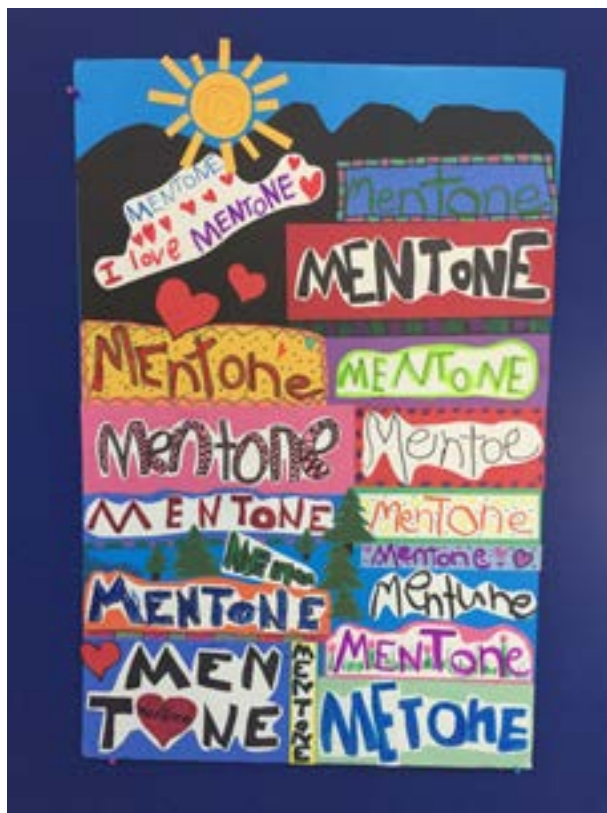
Emma Harrison-- "I loved everything about the trip!"



Moon Lake Elementary School students wrote and illustrated a book focused on Mentone and its people. Each family has received a copy. The cover was created by the kindergarteners and the second graders.

Each class has a chapter resulting from their classroom studies.

Extra copies are available for \$20, but must be requested and paid for by May 2nd at the school or to Sarah





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