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THE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 36, No. 2

"Neighboring News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

March 2017

MACC Hires Randy Grider as Executive Director

By Ray Padgett

The Mentone Arts and Cultural Center moved a step closer to becoming a reality with the recent hiring of an executive director.

Randy Grider assumed the position on February 15. He is the former publisher of *Lookout Alabama* magazine and most recently the publisher of two newspapers in Texas. The award-winning journalist and 25-year veteran of the publishing industry brings talent and energy to the project. Randy grew up on Sand Mountain, graduated from Sylvania High School, and earned a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Alabama.

"I'm thrilled to be back home and around lifelong friends and family. As the person



charged by the MACC Board to oversee making a dream into a reality, I'm honored to have been chosen to represent the Mentone Arts and Cultural Center," Grider said. "I'm confident that supporters of the center will be pleased to see the momentum pick up as we move forward."

The Mentone Arts and Cultural Center, which has a primary purpose to educate, promote and preserve area culture, will be located on Highway 117 at the Eastern edge of Mentone, on a three-acre tract of land donated by Marsha and Phil Hurt. The state-of-the-art facility will feature a multi-purpose room, museum, gallery, indoor and outdoor classrooms and amphitheater and other amenities.

(cont'd on page 5)

What is the Boom Town Makers Market?

By Anna Mae Horn

This enticing historical venue--a celebration of local artists and makers hosted by a preservation association--is intended to stimulate the economy and lure passerby inside.

On the outside, it is colorful and inviting; inside it's creative and inspiring. When you drive by the corner of Gault Ave. and Fourth St. North in Ft. Payne you will see the recently renovated Sawyer Building and its store windows filled with a wide variety of hand made items. This is just a sampling of the treasures to be found inside. Behind each is a talented individual who sculpted, sewed, painted, wrote, or created each piece. The story behind the development of the Boom Town Makers Market is just as moving as the creations themselves.

Landmarks of DeKalb County, Inc. is the county's historical association dedicated to preserving and sharing our county's history, people, and places. This non-profit organization has been actively working toward their mission since 1969 taking on projects such as the renovation of the Opera House and the exhibit at the Fort Payne Hosiery Museum. They own and upkeep properties such as the Fort Payne Cabin Historic Site, Richard C.

Hunt Reception Hall, and Council Bluff School--the last remaining one room schoolhouse in DeKalb County. They also have several books published which portray local history and serve as documentation to hand down to posterity.

The organization was looking for a way to preserve and exhibit the diverse creative talents that are prominent in North Alabama. Their vision included the desire to help promote these gifted individuals as well. Members approached Mr. Westmoreland about the historic Sawyer Building he had purchased in 2014. Landmarks board member Olivia Baxter Cox describes it as "a pleasure to have like-minded individuals who care about our community and the intrinsic value of historic properties in DeKalb." The Westmoreland family has been most accommodating for the organization, giving them leniency on the plans for the use of the renovated building. He had one stipulation: "as long as it benefits the community."

Having someone so committed to helping the community made it easier to turn this project passion into a reality. Being able to use the two-story historic Sawyer Building made the project even more special to Landmarks of DeKalb. The Sawyer Building is the oldest building in Fort



Payne. In existence since 1878, the building has served a multitude of purposes: an auto parts store, architect's office, a title and insurance agency, and the town's first telephone company. Now, it serves as a makers market and a teaching studio.

Landmarks gave a name to their project with all the meaning they dedicate to every

(cont'd on page 24)

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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Send it to
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MENTONE MATTERS

By Mayor Rob Hammond



ALDOT North Region Engineer Curtis Vincent told us at our last meeting that the Federal Highway Administration approved ALDOT's environmental documents for AL 117 bridge project and that the next phase of the project would be right-of-way acquisition. Hopefully the repaving project on 117 is nearing completion.

Saturday, April 1, will be Community Cleanup Day. Volunteers should meet Lyle Nicely at 9:00 AM in the parking lot of the Mentone Inn. Bobby Hamby of Custom Word will be at

Town Hall from 9:00 AM to noon to receive electronics (computers, screens, keyboards, fax machines, telephones) for recycling. There will be a community cook out at the Mentone Inn pavilion at noon for all volunteers.

The Town of Mentone received a grant to do a comprehensive plan. The plan will articulate goals and approaches pertaining to "the immediate and long-range protection, enhancement, growth and development" of the municipality in an effort to boost economic vitality within the community. Please help us in this project by completing a short online survey at mentonealabama.gov. Paper copies can be picked up at Town Hall. If you completed a survey and left it at the Mentone Market, it was lost in the fire.

Community Cleanup Day
Saturday, April 1
9am-Noon

Meet at Mentone Inn Parking Lot at 9am
Community Cookout afterwards at noon

From The Editor

This is an exciting time of year in Mentone, especially this year with all the warm weather. (I hope this doesn't jinx us.) We are having mild weather and sunny skies with just enough rains to help the crops. Buttercups are prominent and spring bushes are starting to blossom. Fruit trees are seeing blooms. Some folks are getting outside and working the land. Many are taking advantage of the rainy or cooler days to be creative and do artwork, or even redecorating their homes.

New life is everywhere: all over Mother Earth, in our yards, along the roadsides, and in our souls--even the skies seem especially blue and refreshing many days as of late. It seems everything and everyone has been rejuvenated by the brief winter season. Plans are being made for MERF's Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction as well as the Rhododendron Festival; new projects are going on in town, including the rebuilding of the town's central hub--the Mentone Market. It's hard to keep up sometimes.

Be sure to check the events page for local activities happening this month. You can also log onto MyMentone.com to see all the daily openings in town. There are plenty of links to everything Mentone. I even saw a great new video of downtown on the Area Tour tab; be sure to check it out. Our area sure is beautiful as it's bursting into bloom this spring, don't miss any of it. If you're local, feel blessed to live here. If you're visiting, come back every chance you

get. No one should miss any more of our local treasure than they have to.

Until next time,

Anna Mae Horn, Editor



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

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

You may join online at
mapamentone.com

MAPA
P. O. Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984



MAPA NEWS

Non-Profit Economic Impact

By Ray Padgett, MAPA President

The Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA), along with all the other non-profits in Mentone (NLMFD, DRS, MERF, LRAC, The Rhododendron Garden Club, LMPA, etc.), works to fulfill their mission. These

volunteers are busy preserving, protecting, promoting, beautifying, educating folks, and making Mentone a better place to live and visit. However, their efforts are also having another important impact on our community. They have a very positive financial impact on the Mentone area.

These organizations focus on and highlight the natural and cultural beauty of our area and its people. They show the world the talent and spirit that has been this area's mainstay for generations--neighbors reaching out to neighbors. Because of our community's co-operating and welcoming nature, people want to visit and stay awhile.

Visitors are the primary economic source of the fuel that feeds our businesses and government. Mentone area non-profits contribute not only to the cultural and spiritual

well-being of our neighbors, but are also an integral part of our area's economic success.

Another aspect of the economic benefit of non-profit organizations is the money saved when people volunteer to take on tasks that would normally have to be paid by the town, businesses, or schools--for example, the community clean up that is happening in April. Many MAPA members will volunteer alongside other organizations and community members to make our town clean and visually appealing. MAPA also helps with funding various projects around town. When you give your time or your money to MAPA it helps locally. It helps many. It is also very rewarding to know you are doing good for others.

Please join MAPA and participate in our volunteer community. Thank you for helping!

MBA Mix: Will It Be A Wet Year For MENTONE?



By Charlotte Gentry
MBA President

We know what a devastatingly dry Fall we experienced in 2016, and we also realize we are still considered to be in a drought situation in much of the southeast. Thankfully, we've had enough rain to see DeSoto Falls falling and Little River flowing again. We have the expectation we'll see more rainfall in the spring months to, hopefully, alleviate the drought.

When we ask if it will be a "wet" year for Mentone, it isn't the weather of which we speak, though. It is the sale of alcohol in Mentone that was okayed by legislative action last year. The Town of Mentone is working diligently to follow the mandates of the new legislation and progressing toward the legal sale of alcohol within the coming months.

The Mentone Business Association is often asked, "When?" The exact timing of when there will be alcohol available for sale in Mentone is still unknown. However, the district in which it can be sold is already being drawn up. Surveying has been underway to get a "metes and bounds" description of the district, which is in accordance with the legislation's mandates.

It is our understanding that the Town of

Mentone has already crafted the ordinances which will govern alcohol sales and, once the district is designated, these ordinances will be put into place. Once this is done, individual businesses in the district that meet the criteria of the legislation (currently, this would most likely pertain to restaurants) can apply for licenses in order to sell alcohol.

In an effort to get more reliable information out to business owners and those interested in the business of Mentone, the MBA's March meeting will include a discussion centering around alcohol sales. We hope to have someone from the Town of Mentone to update us on the progress and the timetable expected before sales can begin. We welcome all MBA members and those who might be interested to join us.

The MBA meets every 2nd Monday of the month. Our next meeting will be March 13th at 6 pm at the Mentone Inn Pavilion. There is no cost to join. We also have a Facebook page and send out a "Daily Openings" list of business hours/days for Mentone shops and businesses to those on our email list.

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Festival Planning in Progress

By Anna Mae Horn

The Rhododendron Festival is always something to look forward to. This year, there is something new that attendees can get excited about. There will be beautiful artistic creations from local artists raffled off. Brad Lackey and John Dersham will each be donating an elegant photographic creation of local flora. Lydia Randolph and Mary Margaret Binkley each are using local flowers as inspiration for a painting being created especially for this raffle. Are you feeling lucky? Would you like a beautiful piece of art at a steal of a deal? Be sure to pick up a raffle ticket at the MAPA tent during the festival.

Right now is the time to gather your dresses, shoes, and makeup if you are submitting an application for the Miss Rhododendron Pageant. Be sure to pick up an entry packet at your school, a local merchant, or contact the committee and request one be mailed to you. This year, the pageant will be held the weekend prior to the festival to prevent scheduling conflicts with local high school graduation ceremonies. Remember, one senior student will win a scholarship to Northeast Alabama Community College!

There will be a lot of activities in and around town starting on Friday, May 19th. One of these will be the fantastic annual Scenic Boat Tours that so many of us look forward to. Cruise from DeSoto falls at a leisurely pace and enjoy the scenery of the banks while you hear some interesting information about the area from your tour guide.

The Rhododendron Festival vendors will be open for business on the brow the following morning starting at 9 am. They will close at 5 pm and be open on Sunday 11 am to 4 pm for your shopping pleasure. The festival committee is still taking applications for vendors, but only through April 1st. Only handmade/homemade items will be allowed. If you will be serving food or need electricity, be sure to fill out the additional parts of the application.

Terrific musical talent is being lined up once again for brow stage. Grab some great food and head over to the pavilion for some great music while you eat. Here is a small sampling of the talented local favorites that will be performing: Lisa Crow, James Roberts & David Lusk (duo), Jeff & Hayden Young (duo), Trey Headrick, Larry Joe Hall, Matty Croxton, and Jay Chadwick.

Sacred Harp singings will be happening at St. Joseph's on Saturday. Activities are being planned for the former Mentone Springs Hotel site as well. There will be a variety of

entertainment throughout the weekend with some new ideas being tossed around by our committee members. Be sure to follow our facebook page to get the latest updates or stop by Kamama at 1 pm any Thursday if you want to be a part of the action and help out. Lots of work needed and never a dull moment!

Need more information?
mapamentone.com
rhododendronfestival@gmail.com
Mentone Alabama Festivals on facebook.com
Facebook event "Rhododendron Festival"



2017 RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL
SHOW APPLICATION
MAY 19-21
\$100 FOR A 12' X 12' SPACE
APPLICATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 1

Contact Name _____
Business Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
E-mail _____
Website Address _____ FB Page _____
Type of Vendor: ☐ Art/Craft ☐ Food (see pg. 2) ☐ Business(promo only) ☐ Organization
Description of Art/Items _____
Electrical - Show number of outlets needed: ☐ 110V Electricity (\$25) ☐ 220V Electricity (\$50)
Water - ☐ Water (\$25)
Vendor Special Needs _____
Handicap Accessibility Needs _____
Number of Spaces _____ Amount enclosed _____

This year's Rhododendron Festival will be held all over Mentone, but the artists will be located primarily at Brow Park. Show hours will be 9am-5pm Saturday and 11am-4pm Sunday. You may set up your space on Friday, May 19, 12-5pm, or Saturday, May 20, 6:30-8:30am. Please be ready for the show to start at 9am. If you participate in the show, you MUST set up for both days. Cars MUST be moved to specified vendor parking area after unloading. You may break down beginning at 4pm on Sunday--no earlier.

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

You will be notified of your acceptance no later than April 15. We reserve the right to limit the number of vendors within a category. Spaces will be assigned the week prior to the show, but please check in with the information tent when you arrive as space numbers can change. No spaces can be reserved from show to show. We reserve the right to deny your application.

If you are an artist and this is the first time you have applied for the Rhododendron Festival, please provide photos of your work or a current website or Facebook address. Your application will be declined if there is no way to view your work. **ALL ART MUST BE HANDMADE BY THE ARTIST. NO READY-MADE MERCHANDISE IS ALLOWED.** The Rhododendron Festival is strictly an arts and crafts festival; therefore, no political or religious organizations will be accepted. Please contact **RhododendronFestival@gmail.com** if you have any questions. Thank you.

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

For Food Vendors Only

Name/Business Name _____
Please specify exactly the type and quantity of electrical outlets you will require:
☐ 110V Electricity (\$25)
☐ 220V Electricity (\$50)
What amp do you need? _____
If bringing a food trailer:
Length (including tongue) _____
Service window opens from: ☐ Passenger Side ☐ Driver Side
Please list all food and drink items you will be selling: _____

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Reason _____

CHANGING THE WORLD STARTS WITH ME

By Melanie Blair

One afternoon, after reading a post on Social Media about the many things wrong in our country, I began to think about how I could change the world. This thought seemed overwhelming because there are so many issues and I had no idea where to even begin. After sharing these thoughts and some ideas with my husband and a friend, I came to the conclusion that I couldn't single handedly change the world, but I could make a positive impact in my own community. Instead of being overwhelmed and feeling helpless, I could find local organizations that I could help in some way.

What I found was that there are many organizations in and around DeKalb County that I could volunteer with or donate to. I could make an impact in the world by starting locally in my community. I will be sharing the information I find with you all and encouraging everyone to help in the way that they can.

Individually, we can't fix everything, but we can make a difference.

I will start with foster kids. I have family members that are foster parents and have adopted children through the foster care system. I have personally witnessed these families making a very real positive impact in the world by their actions. I asked one of those family members how I could help if I couldn't actually foster children in my home. She told me about an organization that her family is a part of called The DeKalb County Foster and Adoptive Parent Association. There are over 100 foster children in DeKalb County, and there are several ways to help them even if you can't foster them.

One is through donations. There is always a need for all sizes newborn through teen. Provide nice, gently used clothes and shoes for the clothes closet. You can donate for special occasions and holidays such as Easter,

Valentines, Christmas, etc. With Easter only a few weeks away, items to fill Easter baskets such as bubbles, sidewalk chalk, books, balls, or stuffed animals can be donated at DHR. You can sponsor a child for Christmas, or sponsor a back-to-school list for a child.

Also, groups can make meals for the association training and meetings. To work directly with children in the Foster Care System you are required to pass a background check and get approval from the Department of Human Resources. If you would like to learn more, contact Erica Dukes at the DeKalb County Foster and Adoptive Association, P.O. Box 681556, Fort Payne Alabama 35968, or call Angie Bell or Suzanne Thomas at the local Department of Human Resources, 256-844-2700.

Whatever way you choose to be involved, know that you are making a difference. Even though I am not solving all the world's problems, it feels good to know that I can make a difference. I don't feel overwhelmed trying to help one organization, or one child. I am making a difference in my community. The world is simply a group of communities. I am making the world a better place.

MACC Hired Grider (cont'd from page 1)

Among the near-future (this spring) goals are educational classes that will feature a wide-range of media and artists. Plans are to start these programs as soon as possible, even as fundraising efforts continue toward the construction of the center. The programs will be held at Kamama, as well as other offsite locations depending upon the nature of the programs.

A schedule of the educational programs will be updated on the MACC website, mentoneartscenter.org as well as the center's Facebook page and in The Groundhog.

Another goal is to establish partnerships with various businesses and organizations.

"We are already talking with the Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association to help us create a professional video that will be used in fundraising and to serve as a virtual persona of the center's mission," Grider said. "We also plan to work with colleges and area schools. We believe one of our missions is to empower future generations and embrace their artistic ambitions."

Grider said he would love to hear from individuals who would like to volunteer to help with making the center a success. He can be reached by phone at 256-674-3366 or by email at mentoneartscenter@gmail.com.

"We also welcome and appreciate financial support," Grider said. "We have several ways people can give including a matching gift program when applicable. And, of course, we have naming opportunities available where a person, business, or organization can have a name memorialized on or around the center."

Miss Rhododendron



Presented by the Mentone Area Preservation Association

Friday, May 12, 2017 at 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 19th, 20th & 21st



Age Divisions for girls ages 0 to 18
Miss Rhododendron (Senior Division) will receive a
One Year Scholarship to NACC.

(NACC Admission Requirements apply)

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

This Old House: MERF Community House



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

Despite the crazy winter weather, there’s been lots of calm and energy at the MERF house as tutors work with Moon Lake Elementary school students, senior lunches have begun again and fun plans are being made for MERF’s 5th annual Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction. MERF is so grateful for volunteers that have tutored this fall and spring-Kat Griffith, Carl Ferguson, Helen Pullen, Anna Mae Horn, Bill Rutledge, Kara McMunn, Byrum Emory and Kristen Emory. Many of these individuals have been tutoring with MERF for years and we are very thankful!

Of course, there is always great joy when senior lunches start back so everyone can get together for great food, laughter and singing. Lunches began on Wednesday, February 15th with a lunch of Valentine love from the Rhododendron Garden club and will continue until April 19th. The meal is served at 11:30 a.m. If you want to provide a meal, contact Sarah soon.



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Planning for MERF’s Art Auction is just fun! The Moon Lake Elementary school gym is the place to be on Saturday, April 22nd to support MERF and its programs. Local restaurants will showcase their culinary artistry by providing a “taste of the mountain” treat for ticket holders and local artists from Moon Lake School and the professional art community will be providing great pieces for the silent and live auctions. Tickets need to be purchased in advance from a board member. A Table of 8 is \$200 and a single ticket is \$30. MERF’s facebook page will showcase auction items beginning in late March. Come join the fun!

Did you see MERF’s new comfort color long sleeve shirts?! What’s your favorite- Chambray or Crunchberry? Pick one up at DeSoto State Park’s Country Store today before they are all gone.

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



BRING THE WORLD TO ALABAMA

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Your Library News Your Library News Your Library News



By Barb Stoll

Relax at Your Library

Happy March everyone, I hope everyone stayed warmed during these winter months. I, for one, am looking forward to spring. But whatever season you enjoy, your Community Library is always ready with a great supply of books and DVD's, though people often forget we are also here for you to come and just relax. We have magazines, large print books, a reference section and tables you can spread your latest research project on. Have a group you would like to begin and need space, check out your Community library. We are here for YOU. Come, check out our latest additions, and put your feet up for a spell.

Books

Night School: a Jack Reacher Novel--This latest novel by Lee Child is "utterly addictive"

raves The New York Times. It's 1996, and Reacher is still in the army. In the morning they give him a medal, and in the afternoon they send him back to school. That night he's off the grid. Out of sight. Out of mind.

From Langley to Hamburg, Jalalabad to Kiev, Night School, moves like a bullet through a treacherous landscape of double crosses, faked identities, and new and terrible enemies, as Reacher maneuvers inside the game and outside the law.

No Man's Land--This bestseller by David Balducci brings back Special Agent John Puller, combat veteran and the army's most tenacious investigator.

John Puller's mother, Jackie, vanished thirty years ago from Fort Monroe, Virginia, when Puller was just a boy. Paul Rogers has been in prison for ten years. But twenty years before that, he was at Fort Monroe. One night three decades ago, Puller's and Roger's worlds collided with devastating results, and the truth has been buried ever since. Until now.

Carve the Mark--From Veronica Roth, the bestselling author of *The Divergent Trilogy* comes this new science-fiction fantasy series. Cyra is the sister of the brutal tyrant who rules the Shotet people. Cyra's currentgift gives her pain and power--something her brother exploits, using her to torture his enemies. Amos is the son of a farmer and an oracle from the frozen nation-planet of Thuvhe. Protected by his unusual currentgift, Akos is generous in spirit, and his loyalty to his family is limitless.

Then Akos is thrust in Cyra's world, and the enmity between their countries and families seems insurmountable.

On a planet where violence and vengeance rule, in a galaxy where some are favored by fate, everyone develops a currentgift, a unique power meant to shape the future. While most benefit from their currentgifts, Akos and Cyra do not--their gifts make them vulnerable to others' control. Can they reclaim their gifts, their fates, and their lives, to reset the balance of power in this world?

Carve The Mark is Veronica Roth's stunning portrayal of the power of friendship--and love--in a galaxy filled with unexpected gifts.

DVDs

Trolls - Dreamworks latest movie is a musical adventure critics are calling "terrifically funny". When their village is invaded by the grumpy Bergens, two mismatched friends must work together in perfect harmony to save the day. Featuring hit songs by Justin Timberlake, Anna Kendrick and more.

Deepwater Horizon - Mark Wahlberg leads an all-star cast in this unforgettably powerful film inspired by a thrilling story of real-life heroes. For the one hundred and twenty-six people aboard the Deepwater Horizon offshore oil rig, April 20, 2010, began like any normal day. Before day's end, the world would bear witness to one of the greatest man-made disasters in U.S. history. Deepwater Horizon reveals the brave acts of the men and women who rose to the challenge--and risked everything to lead others to safety.

The Magnificent Seven - In Director Antoine Fuqua's modern version of a classic story, the desperate townspeople of Rose Creek employ protection from seven outlaws, bounty hunters, gamblers and hired guns after the town falls under the deadly control of industrialist Bartholomew Bogue. As they prepare the town for the violent showdown that they know is coming, these seven mercenaries find themselves fighting for more than money.

So put up those feet, sit back and enjoy yourself with our new library additions. Don't forget there is something new and happening at your Community Library!



It's Application Time for College Scholarships!

Now is the time to get excited and motivated if you are planning for a post high school education! St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain is grateful to continue its partnership with students in the Mentone area to offer college scholarships. We invite you to submit an application for our Vann McCary Scholarship, beginning March 1st through May 1st, 2017. This opportunity is open to you as a high school senior or someone interested in embarking on the challenges of further education or even a career change. The Vann McCary Scholarship is based on financial need and academic record. It is available to those who live in, or in the close vicinity of, Mentone, is available to students for four years, providing each submits an application, and adheres to the stated guidelines each year. Students at Valley Head High School can receive an application packet in the Counselor's office after March 1st or packets will be available at St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church at the corner of Highway 117 and Scenic Highway, CR 89 after March 1st. If you have questions, or need more information, you can call the church at 256-634-4476 Monday-Thursday from 9am-2pm, or Kat Griffith, Scholarship Chairperson, at 256-418-0092.



Community Egg Drop & Carnival

April 8, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Mentone Community Church Campus

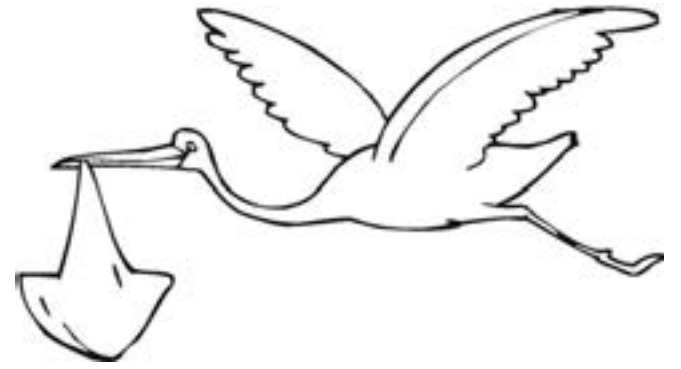
10,000+ eggs dropped from a helicopter

Inflatables, Carnival Games, Carnival Snacks, & Lots of Prizes!

Sponsored by local businesses, summer camps,
and local Mentone Churches



The Times of Our Lives



Yes Sir, That's My Baby!



Will and Lori Blackburn are excited to announce the arrival of their son, Wyatt Graham Blackburn. Wyatt was born at Floyd Medical Center on February 8 at 2:30p.m. He weighed 6lbs 3oz and was 18 in long. Wyatt joins big brother William, age 2. Grandparents are Robert Tillman of Loganville, GA, Dink Tillman of Mentone and Al and Vicki Blackburn of Mentone.



Cornelia Qwinn Copeland was born January 29, 2017, at 1:03 am. She was 20 inches long and weighed 6lb 12oz. Qwinn was named after her father's great great grandmother Lillian Cornelia White. Brittany Streeter (Mother) grew up in Mentone, AL and moved to Anchorage, AK in 2015 where she met her husband Perry and step daughter Chloe Ann (age 4) who has warmly welcomed home her new baby sissy. The Copeland family is beyond blessed to have this precious new addition and looks forward to raising two amazing, beautiful girls.



Anne "Annie" Lucas Durham was born February 1, 2017 at 8:16 pm. She weighed 8 lbs 14 oz and was 21 inches long. Parents are Luke & Ivey Durham who currently reside in Nashville but will soon be permanent residents of the Mentone area. Luke has been the Program Director at Camp Laney for more than 10 years.



Ryan and Ashley Pounders are happy to announce the birth of their son, Michael Shepard Pounders. Shepard arrived at 3:11 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, 2017, at Naval Hospital Jacksonville in Jacksonville, FL. He weighed 6 pounds 14 ounces and measured 20.5 inches in length. He joins older brother, William, age 2. Maternal grandparents are Greg and Beverly Henry of

Decatur. Paternal grandparents are Mike and Maria Pounders of Belmont, MS. Great-grandparents include Hughey and Sue Johnson of Mentone, Jimmie Norton and the late Howard Norton of Fort Payne, Gary and Joan Henry of Rainbow City, the late Sherry Gattis of Belmont, MS, and Larry and Carolyn Pounders of Golden, MS.



Daxton and Tara Stone announce the birth of their daughter, Haven Collette Stone, born February 7, 2017 at 5:38pm at DeKalb Regional Hospital. She weighed 7lbs 1oz and was 19 inches long. Proud grandparents are Danny and Kim Stone of Mentone and Daniel and Beverly Eakins of Valley Head. Great grandparents are Joseph Stone of Gadsden and the late Sally Mae Stone. Other great grandparents are the late Rodney & Annie Eakins and the late Ottis & Mabel Hamilton.



Jaden Lydia Turner made her grand entrance into this world on January 23, 2017 at 11:56pm at DeKalb Regional Medical Center in Fort Payne. She weighed an even 6 lbs and was 19 inches long. Proud parents are Darius Thomas Turner and Hope Carden Turner and she has one happy big sister, Briley Hope Harrison.

Birthday Wishes!



Rhett Colston Dean will celebrate his 1st birthday on March 8th. Rhett is the son of Zack Dean of Valley Head & Madissen Chitwood Shultz of Boaz. His proud grandparents are David & Pam Dean of Valley Head & Neil & Tanyel Chitwood of Rainsville. Rhett will be celebrating with a party at the home of Aunt Kaitlyn & Uncle Cody Tedder in Rainsville.

THE
RECIPE
CORNER
~
March

By
Tema Flanagan
of The Farm
at Windy Hill

Creamy Linguine with Italian Sausage and Sun-Dried Tomatoes

With Italian sausage and tangy sun-dried tomatoes, this creamy, comforting pasta dish packs a flavorful punch.

- 1 pound ground Italian sausage (or Italian link sausage, removed from casings)
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 red onion, diced small
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 cup sun-dried tomatoes in olive oil, roughly chopped (do not strain olive oil)
- 1/4 cup red wine
- 1/2 cup cream or half-n-half, plus more as needed
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese, plus more for serving
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- Pinch of crushed red pepper flakes (optional)
- 1 pound linguine pasta, cooked al dente
- Fresh basil, chopped, for serving (optional)

Brown the sausage in a skillet over medium-high heat. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the sausage to a paper towel-lined plate to drain. Pour off all but 1-2 tablespoons of the grease, add the olive oil, and return the skillet to medium heat. Add the red onion and garlic and sauté, stirring frequently, until the onion is soft and beginning to brown. Add the sun-dried tomatoes, their juices, and the wine then cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Reduce the heat to low and add the cream and Parmesan cheese, stirring just until the cheese is melted and the sauce is creamy. Turn off the heat and season the sauce with salt and pepper to taste. Stir in the crushed red pepper flakes, if using.

Place the pasta in a large serving bowl. Add the sauce and toss to evenly coat the noodles. Add a little more cream, as needed, if the pasta seems dry.

Serve with grated Parmesan cheese and fresh basil.

HAPPY DAY!

March Birthdays

- Mar 1 – Ally Smith
- Mar 1 – Jonathan Cuzzort
- Mar 2 – Jimmie Sue Beason
- Mar 2 – Dewayne Pierce
- Mar 2 – DR SUESS
- Mar 3 – Kama Jade Blalock
- Mar 3 – Dawson Bone
- Mar 4 – Corey Ingram
- Mar 4 - Jeff Bain
- Mar 4 - Lance Woods
- Mar 4 – Clara Lee
- Mar 4 – Becky Stott
- Mar 5 - Ashley Gifford
- Mar 5 – Maci Hammon
- Mar 6 – Annabelle Grace Grider
- Mar 6 - Randy Hilliard
- Mar 7 – Paige Ware
- Mar 8 – Whitney Smith
- Mar 8 – Mayson Bailey
- Mar 8 – Rhett Dean
- Mar 10 – David Rape
- Mar 10 – Autumn Hulkan
- Mar 10 – Frances Day
- Mar 11 – Bo Hammond
- Mar 11 – Jay Chadwick
- Mar 12 – Tonya Shanklin
- Mar 12 – Jeremy Hope
- Mar 12 – Krystal Johnson
- Mar 12 – Tommy Hairel
- Mar 12 – Emily Allen
- Mar 13 – Josh Pullen

- Mar 13 – Kelsey Wade
- Mar 13 – Gracie Shank
- Mar 13 – Julia Ross
- Mar 13 – Adam Brown
- Mar 14 - Elizabeth Hodge
- Mar 14 – Hunter Robertson
- Mar 14 – Benton VanPelt
- Mar 15 - Ronnie Hilliard
- Mar 16 – Raymond Coots
- Mar 16 – Jesse Bone
- Mar 16 – Johnny Crider
- Mar 16 – Van Battles
- Mar 16 – Finley Darwin
- Mar 17 – Camden Bell
- Mar 18 – Sydney Johnson
- Mar 18 – Jeremy Henderson
- Mar 18 – Kendall Israel
- Mar 18 – Alexis Nance
- Mar 19 – Dean Freeman
- Mar 19 – Olivia Harrison
- Mar 20 – Zach Jones
- Mar 20 – Hobson Kirby
- Mar 20 - Koley Thompson
- Mar 21 – Mary J. Chambers
- Mar 21 – Paul Peppers
- Mar 22 – Kallie Ingram
- Mar 22 – Lue Smith
- Mar 22 – Jon Bain
- Mar 22 - Steve Patton
- Mar 22 – Robert Baker
- Mar 23 – Guy “Squeak” Smith
- Mar 23 – Wyatt McGee
- Mar 23 – Lori Manifold
- Mar 23 – Roberta Cash
- Mar 23 – Cutter Battles
- Mar 23 – Kathy Graham

- Mar 24 – Dylan Lee
- Mar 24 – Jimmy Phillips
- Mar 24 – Lydia Wright
- Mar 24 – Bobbie Zakary
- Mar 25 – Vickie Blackburn
- Mar 25 – Evelyn Graves
- Mar 25 – Skylar Haney
- Mar 25 - Skeeter Hilliard
- Mar 25 - Robert Smith
- Mar 26 – Anna Carden
- Mar 26 – Stephanie Worthey
- Mar 26 – Sandra Boehringer
- Mar 27 – Abby Davis
- Mar 27 – Jamie Darwin
- Mar 28 – Holly Owen
- Mar 28 – Cindy Bethune
- Mar 28 – Charles “Peanut” Bell
- Mar 28 – Arden Shanklin
- Mar 29 – Sara Lee
- Mar 29 - Donna Hilliard
- Mar 31 – Marlana Beasley

- Mar 31 – Lindsey Blalock
- Mar 31 – Chad Wooten

March Anniversaries

- Mar 3 – Darrin & Amanda Smith
- Mar 3 – Jimmy & Gaynell Worthey
- Mar 7 – Tommy & Ruth Battles
- Mar 8 – Garrett & Amanda Collins
- Mar 10 – Tom & Alice Shanklin
- Mar 11 –Hobson & Martha Kirby
- Mar 18 – Rodney & Christine Ballenger
- Mar 19 – Tommy & Joan Harrison
- Mar 21 – Shaunathan & Abby Bell
- Mar 23 – Nick & Tina Langston
- Mar 25 – Tommy & Christie Langston

Ski *Bama

Cloudmont
Ski and Golf Resort
&
Shady Grove Dude Ranch



721 County Road 614
PO Box 435
Mentone, AL 35984



Accommodations available
For Reservations or Information
256-634-4344
www.cloudmont.com

Southeastern most Ski Resort in the US

What To Do Around Here!

March 2017 Community Calendar

March 1 - Orienteering Class. Basic skills for survival navigation are brought to you in map reading, compass reading, and topography. True Adventure Sports. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 1 - Van McCrary Scholarship Application. Packets will be available at St. Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church. If you have questions, or need more information, call (256)634-4476 Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or call Kat Griffith, Scholarship Chairperson, at 256-418-0092.

March 2, 27 - Rock Climbing / Rappelling Adventure Combo. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing and rappelling is all about with guides who are fun, safe, and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 2 - Make your Heart Smile Blood Drive. The Skelton Orthodontics Team would love for you to donate with us to Blood Assurance. Everyone who donates will be entered into a drawing for \$200.00 cash from Dr. Aimee Skelton. Noon to 6 p.m.

March 3 - Windy Hill Farm Opens for the Season. 3-6pm. Farm tour at 4:30pm.

March 4, 6, 8, 9, 14, 22, 24, 25, and 26 - Free Backwater Paddle Trips. Park Ranger Larry Beane will lead paddle trips in the backcountry portion of the Little River Canyon National Preserve with stops along the way to learn about safety and special resources in the park. Paddlers will need to bring their own kayak/canoe, paddle, life preservers, food, water, hat, and sunscreen. Limited equipment available for reservation. Tentative dates based on conditions. Please call (256) 845-9605 or email Larry_Beane@nps.gov for more information. RSVP is required.

March 4, 11, 18, 30 - Rappelling Adventure. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE AL. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 4 - Soup & Song at the Farm at Windy Hill. The event will feature a performance by friend of the farm and Atlanta singer-songwriter, Caroline Herring, as well as a soup-and-sandwich lunch showcasing seasonal produce and meat grown on the farm. Tickets are \$5 (children 12 and under are free) and can be purchased the day of the event. Please RSVP in advance to megan@thefarmatwindyhill.com. Lunch will be sold à la carte & our farm market will be open. Indoors; rain or shine. 11am to 2pm.

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

March 7, 17 - 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. 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 8 - Night Zip Line Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 9 - Lunch and Learn with Sarah Stahl. Eat, chat, and enjoy a dynamic speaker during a sponsored training session on marketing & social media. Take-home-and-put-to-use information will be provided. Held at the Vintage 1889; \$15 ticket includes training session & choice of a house special lunch with drink. For every ticket, \$5 is also donated to Fort Payne Main Street project initiatives. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 256-845-3380.

March 9 - Sky Swing Adventure. This is an adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy the thrill of the swing at night. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. Meet at True Adventure Sports 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

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

March 11 - American Indian Ancestry. For this month's DeKalb County Genealogical Society meeting, the speaker will demonstrate how anyone with American Indian Ancestry can apply for written documentation proving the ancestry. Anyone interesting in genealogy is invited to this free meeting. DeKalb County Public Library. 10 a.m.

March 11 - 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 your own design. Please join us for some in-depth discovery. Reservations Required \$135 per person. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-523-3188.

March 12 - Cystic Fibrosis BBQ Fundraiser for Emma & Eli Goggans. Come out to Fischer Crossroads on Lookout Mt. for lunch and a good cause from 11 a.m. until the food is gone. Plates include BBQ, baked beans, bread, dessert, and drink for only \$7. All money raised will go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Great Strides (Emma & Eli's DREAM TEAM). For more information call Jess Goggans at 996-2461 or Miranda Chambers at 256-630-3310. Donations can also be mailed to Dusty Goggans, 300 Crystal Lake Dr NE, Ft. Payne, AL 35967. Check payable to Cystic Fibrosis for Emma & Eli's Dream Team.

March 12 - Hands in Clay Class. We will be working by hand with stoneware clay to create pinch and coil pots for dinnerware, cookware, and/or hanging planters. You must be able to return at a later date to pick up your pieces after they have been kiln fired. You may have time to finish more than one project. Cloudland Farms. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. CST Class fee: (sliding scale, you decide) \$25-50. Materials fee: \$5-\$15 per project. Go to WildEarthCrafts.com for more info.

March 13, 16, 24 - Afternoon Rock Climb. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about in the afternoon with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. TAS 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 14 - GPS Basic Training and Navigation Class Part 1. Learn how to use a map, compass, and a handheld GPS. Learn basic navigation and how to pinpoint a location for quick return, or quick rescue. Also learn how to search by waypoints or coordinates. True Adventure Sports. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 16 - Hiker Series: Canyon Mouth Trail. Join the staff from the JSU Field School, DeSoto State Park, and the National Park Service for an exciting hike. This is a dirt path along the river leading you through the woods. It is 0.90 miles long and ends at Johnnie's Creek. Difficulty: Moderate (some uneven terrain). Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress for seasonal temperatures/weather. Meet at Canyon Mouth Picnic area. 1 p.m. Free and open to the public; for details contact:

256-845-3548 (note: day use fee waived for hikers).

March 17 - St. Patrick's Day--wear green!

March 17 - Forest & Field: Yoga. Experience yoga in Desoto State Park with teacher Deidre Brown and park naturalist Brittney Hughes for a great outdoor experience of strengthening yoga poses and hiking along the orange trail to see Laurel Creek, Laurel & Lost Falls, and loop back to the Talmadge Butler boardwalk trail to see Azalea Cascade. Moderate hiking, there and back, about 2 ½ miles. 10 a.m. to Noon. Meet at DSP Country Store. Free, but pre-registration is required. Open to all ages. Email renee@galandtrust.org for more info.

March 17 - Watters/Felts Project at Kamama. Kamama will host an evening of jazz featuring the Watters/Felts Project on St. Patrick's Day from 7-9 p.m. Admission is \$10 per person. All proceeds will go to the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center. Reservations are recommended. For more information, please contact Ray Padgett at 256-634-3001 or MACC Executive Director Randy Grider at 256-674-3366.

March 18 - Take a Hike: Waterfalls Tour. Join JSU Field School and DSP staff exploring LRC National Preserve and Desoto State Park waterfalls. Easy to moderate hikes on rocky dirt trails. Meet at Little River Canyon Center. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. JSU Van shuttle for tour; noon lunch at DSP Lodge (included in price). \$25 per person; pre-registration is required by the 15th by calling 256-845-3548 or 256-782-8010.

March 18 - 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. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Reservations and full payment are required. \$75 per person 256-523-3188.

March 18 - Exile in Concert. Canyonland Vocal band and guests will begin the evening followed by Exile in concert at the Chris Roberts School of Music in Ft. Payne. Tickets can be purchased at the following locations: Roger's Music and Pawn, Blacks Tire in Rainsville, & Chris Roberts School of Music. Admission is \$30 per person. Show begins at 7 p.m. 256-996-1547.

March 18 - MHA Spring Quilt Show. Join us at the Lawrence Center for some wonderful local handiwork. Enter your own work or just browse and fellowship.

What To Do Around Here!

March 2017 Community Calendar

The Spring Quilt Show is sponsored by the Menlo Resident Society. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. CST (AL) time. Call 256-294-3663 or 706-862-2240 for info.

March 19 - Tri-State Paper Crafting. Join us to learn, create, and be inspired while crafting with papers, stamps, inks, punches, and die cuts. No experience needed. Kamama Gallery in Mentone AL 1:00 - 2:30. Reserve by noon Sat. the 18th. Cost is \$5. To learn more or reserve a spot send an email to cottagepaper@bellsouth.net or call 205-349-4026.

March 20 - Forest Friends Meet up. We'll be playing in the woods and talking about trees at Cloudland Farms. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. CST All ages welcome. Go to WildEarthCrafts.com for more info.

March 21 thru 23 - 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. 10 a.m. 256-997-9577.

March 21 - Zip Line & Sky Swing Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before adventure. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 21 - Mentone Trade & Gift Circle. Everyone is welcome to join us at the MERF house for this sharing event. There

will be a potluck along with a trade circle and then a gift circle.

March 23 - Healing Arts Circle. The topic will be Plant Medicine: simple recipes from plants in your backyard...and we'll be sampling some of my own herbal concoctions while sipping on dandelion mochas.

March 25 - Blow Your Own Ornament. Come design and blow your own ornament with the help of one of our glass artists. No reservations are needed, it is on a first come, first serve basis. For this we welcome people of all ages (at least 5 years old). 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$38 per ornament blown 256-523-3188.

March 25 - Rappelling Certification Class. This class covers rappelling basics indoor and basics outdoor. Meet at T.A.S. Training Center \$165/person. Note: You will receive a class 1 rappelling certification photo ID card upon request and successful completion of this class and exams for a card processing fee of \$15.00. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 26th - Fingerweaving Class. We will be learning simple fingerweaving techniques while creating handwoven bracelets, knotted water bottle holders, and/or hanging planters for our clay creations from our previous class. You will have time to create 1-2 projects in this class. Cloudland Farms. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. CST. Class Fee: (sliding scale, you decide) \$25-\$50. Materials fee: \$5 per project. Go to WildEarthCrafts.com for more info.

March 27 - Council on Aging Senior Prom. Local senior citizens are invited to dress up and dance the night away at the DeKalb Theatre. For more information, call 256-845-8590.

March 28 - Knot Class & Application. Introduction and instruction to essential knots and their application for camping, rappelling, rock climbing, outdoor survival, and other applications. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 29 - Sky Swing Adventure. This is an adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy the thrill of the swing at night. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 p.m. the day before the adventure. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 29 - 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. TAS. 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. 256-997-9577.

March 31 - Forest & Field: Spring Fairies, Fairy Houses & Observation Hike. Join author Renee Simmons Raney for fairy stories, fairy house building, and a fairy observation hike in DeSoto State Park. Funding for Forest & Field is made possible by a grant from the Stringfellow Health Fund of the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama. Meet at DSP

Nature Center. Program is FREE including supplies, but registration is required. Space is limited. 10 a.m. to Noon. For more information or to register, contact Renee Raney at renee@galandtrust.org or (256) 447-1006.

March 31 - Forest & Field: The Art of Awareness. Join naturalists and artists for this creative nature observation hike, combining art & nature. Learn how to keep your own nature journal while strolling along trails in DeSoto State Park. Create a sensory map recording our experiences as we walk along, focusing on what we see, smell, hear, and feel. Art materials are provided, bring a notebook. Meet at the DSP Nature Center. 6 p.m. Free, but pre-registration is required. Hikes are open to ALL ages; minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Email renee@galandtrust.org for more info.



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 First Monday of month at 6:00 P.M. 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.

FREE FOOD for eligible persons and families. Hours: Wednesdays, 9 to 11:30am. 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 on the second Tuesday at 10:00AM at the MERF House. 'Green thumbs' and 'brown thumbs' welcome! For more information, call 256-634-4403.

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.

Moon Lake PTO meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Everyone is invited to attend.

JHH & CLC meet at 9am each Friday at the DeKalb County Council on Aging followed by a quilt making class that is open to the public.

Exercise Room open at the DeKalb County Council on Aging Monday through Friday (except for certain holidays) from 8 am to Noon..

Moon Lake 21st Century After School Program Expands with Parent/Community Classes

By Anna Mae Horn

The 21st Century After School Program at Moon Lake is continuing to grow. Classes are now being offered to the parents of students with extra seats available to the community. These are free! Childcare is also provided at no extra charge.

On the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, computer classes will be available in the computer lab in the Moon Lake Community Library. They can be tailored to fit the needs of those attending- beginning or advanced.

Once a month, the 21st Century After School Program is offering financial classes based on the Dave Ramsey method. For parents of Moon Lake students, everything is free for this class as well. For other community members, there is only a minimal, one time fee of \$10 for the workbook.

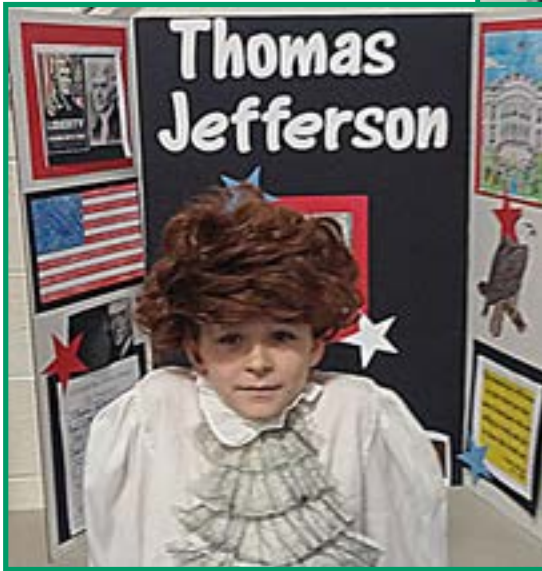
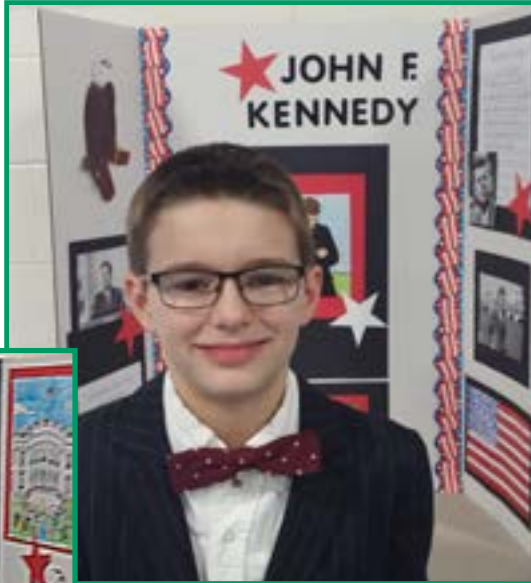
For more information on these classes,

email rharrison@dekalbk12.org or call 256-635-8775 and make plans to attend. Participation is vital to the success of these programs. Learn from the teacher and from each other.

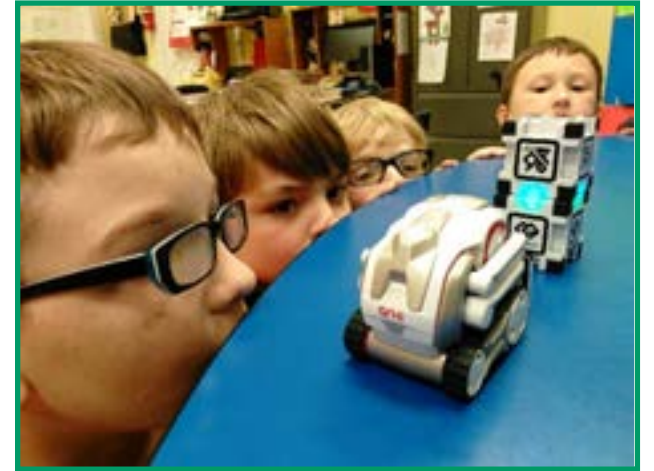
In other after school news, the students are very excited to be a part of the robot and drone programs. Master Gardeners are continuing to work

with the students weekly on the raised beds. You can see these behind the library, near Ms. Paula's art room. Various projects are completed each week by all the students in after school. The staff is making learning fun and interesting.

In PTO news, the 4th graders made a terrific presentation in honor of the Presidents. They



dressed like them, rapped about them, and answered questions about whom they represented. Next month, Kindergarteners will delight the audience. Join us in the gym at 6 pm on March 14th, the 2nd Tuesday, to see what they have in store. Moon Lake Elementary School--Firmly Planted, Forward Moving.



Firefighters/First Responders Appreciation Dinner



ALABAMA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS ENABLES MERF TO EXPOSE MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO A VARIETY OF ART EVENTS

By Sarah Wilcox, MERF Executive Director



MERF is pleased to announce that a \$2,150 grant was received from the Alabama State Council on the Arts (ASCA), the state arts agency. MERF is working with Moon Lake Elementary School to expose students to the arts through several artistic performances at the Orchestra in Huntsville in February, the Alliance Theater in Atlanta in March, and Afternoons with local artists in their studios and on campus in April and May. For many of the students, this is the first time to experience a live, professional performance. Ms. Paula Easter, the school's Arts program director funded by MERF, will prepare the students before each event and continue their enjoyment of what they experienced afterwards.

On February 2, 2017, Moon Lake's fourth grade headed to Huntsville for their first experience of a live symphony orchestra. The concert was "Compose Yourself" and included Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro". A local high school pianist had earned the chance to play one of Mendelson's sonatas from memory. Fourth

grader Isaac Crow, a piano student himself, said "Wow, I've got a ways to go!" The students were introduced to the different instruments. Owen Crouse loved the harp while Kane Bates loved the percussion instruments. The most exciting part was the students composing their own piece by picking favorite melodies that the orchestra played. Now when the fourth grade is in Ms. Paula's class on Fridays they listen to classical music as they create. MERF is so pleased to be able to help these students enjoy the arts.

ASCA grants are awarded through a multifaceted competitive review process. This grant signifies that MERF provides programs of artistic quality, serves the needs of the community

and demonstrates high-level administrative standards, as well as enhancing education of students at all levels.

This grant awarded by the Alabama State Council on the Arts is made possible through funding from an annual appropriation from the Alabama State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. This public support enables MERF to reach new audiences, foster community development, provide the highest quality programming, and demonstrate the importance of arts as a component for quality of life in Alabama.



Congratulations to Moon Lake first grade Student of the Month Carson Bullock! His favorite subject is PE, and he loves his teacher Mrs. Gorham. If Carson had one wish, he would wish for a motorcycle.

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Worship

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

Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to come and worship with us. On Sunday, Bible Study is at 11:00 AM & Morning Worship is at 11:00 AM; Kidz Connection is at 5:00 PM, Evening Worship at 6:00 PM. Kidz Connection & Youth meet on Wednesday from 5:00 – 6:00 PM & a snack supper is provided. On the second Wednesday of the month, there is a church wide covered dish Fellowship Meal at 6:00 PM.

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 Bunnell.

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. John Inman 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 just off Desoto Parkway 1/4 mile south of Fischer Crossroads. We would like to invite you to worship with us on Sundays. Sunday School for all ages 9:45am, Traditional Worship 11am, and

Sunday Evening Service 6pm. Sunday Evening youth meet at 5:30pm. We have Wonderful Wednesdays during the school year with Bible studies for all ages, meal at 5:30pm and classes at 6:15pm. We also have Wednesday morning Bible study at 8:45am, and knitting every Tuesday at 9am. Pastor Ian Conerly. Address 1204 New Oregon Drive NE, Fort 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.

Menlo Presbyterian Church (ECO) invites everyone to attend services with us. Sunday School at 10am (EST) and Worship Service at 11:15am (EST). Dr. Roger Kvan is our pastor. We are located at 70 North 6th Ave., next to the park in Menlo, GA.

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

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Performance
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Good Manners are Always Welcome



By Ben Shurett

We shouldn't assume good manners are simply southern in their origin. Nice people are everywhere, although those of us in these parts might argue we are more attuned to the habits of courtesy and civility.

Many have spoken on the subject. Mark Twain, in his stand-alone style of humor once noted, "It is a mistake that there is no bath that will cure people's manners, but drowning would help."

Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas once opined, "Good manners will open doors that the best education cannot." We should all note the converse is true and admit that poor manners will also slam a door shut.

Ralph Waldo Emerson is worth quoting on a plethora of subjects. His take on manners was quite succinct when he said, "Good manners are made up of petty sacrifices."

Fred Astaire was on his toes when he

addressed the subject by saying, "The hardest job kids face today is learning good manners without seeing any."

Ouch. At the time Mr. Astaire said that, he was addressing my generation.

Years ago, my own mother used an occasion of an upcoming wedding to lecture me about my "younger generation" and our ill manners. She specifically addressed my friends and our failure to properly act to "repondez s'il vous plait" requests on invitations. Current invitations have shortened and translated the French request to RSVP, of course.

I love the example she cited and how it illustrated her point, in her own convoluted way. She once sent her RSVP to a wedding she hadn't been invited to attend. Perhaps that needs an explanation. These are her words.

"Well, the Randall girl was getting married and, though I didn't get an invitation, I knew I should have been included on the list, and it just had to be an error. It would have been extremely rude to be offended that they accidentally failed to invite me and even worse to show up without letting them know in advance.

"So I did the proper thing. I called the mother of the bride to tell her I wasn't upset by this mistake and that I would be attending so they'd know exactly how much food to prepare."

You cannot argue with logic like that, can you?

The lecture continued about the woes of my generation and "you young people." I should point out that I was about 50 years old at the time I was being admonished.

"Your group isn't much better at thank you notes either," Mom added. "The same goes for all kinds of notes. No one writes notes any more

when someone has lost their husband or they've been sick."

I had to take issue with that one, and my Mary can back me up.

As a member of the Susannah Wesley United Methodist Women's subgroup, Mary had the responsibility of writing such notes. It was her job to express the group's feelings of congratulations, condolences or best wishes to church members who qualified as a result of being touched by one of life's signature events.

To get such a card, you didn't have to be a member of the Susannah Wesley group, you just had to be related to the church to some degree. Mary was diligent at her job and every Sunday took down the names of those listed as in need of prayer in our bulletin. I bet your church has a similar tradition of spreading prayer requests.

One such gentleman was listed, a man who didn't attend regularly but that didn't matter. God's healing powers are available to all His children. This man needed his spirits lifted up in his time of need. Mary resorted to the telephone book to find a home address for the man and would send him a handwritten note, maybe every couple of weeks or so.

That note was among the five or six she wrote each week. She could quickly perform that duty and often it was a simple "Thinking of you" notation to help him on the road to recovery. The closing in her beautiful handwriting said, "Susannah Wesley."

She used our home address on the envelope, to be sure all notes reached their destination and, if not, would be returned.

It was returned, all right. Perhaps eight weeks later, the postman delivered a note to our address. It was quite curious to get a letter addressed to Susannah Wesley.

You can't always tell a person's attitude by their writing but I think I'm correct in saying this note was tersely written. It too was written by a feminine hand and had a simple message.

It read, "Susannah, I don't know who you are but you stay away from my man. I'm tired of you thinking of him."

It turns out the notes had been sent to the wrong man and the lady of his house wasn't happy about it one bit.

All things considered, I'd say this lady exercised her very best manners in her reply.

Ben Shurett was publisher of five different newspapers in his 34-year career and served as president of the Alabama Press Association in 2004-5.

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DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD FUNDRAISER

*To the residents
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Valley Head, and
surrounding areas,*

It is time for our
Annual Fundraiser

and Newsletter.

We would first like to extend a special THANK YOU to all who have contributed to the success of the Desoto Rescue Squad over the years. Your kind donations have helped fund the purchase of medical supplies, the repairs to our rescue vehicles, and the squad operating expenses including fuel and insurance.

As a reminder, we receive approximately \$1600 per year from the County Commission. This funding goes towards paying most of our insurance for the year, and is the only tax money we receive. The rest of our funding comes from donations from citizens like you. These donations help cover the remaining cost of the insurance, our fuel, training, supplies, and upkeep of the equipment. We are NOT part of any fire department, and do not benefit from the tax money the fire departments receive.

We continue to be an Advanced Life Support first response agency with our Advanced EMTs

and Paramedics we have. Being an Advanced Life Support provider allows us to better serve our community by beginning advanced care such as IV lines and cardiac monitoring before the ambulance arrives. We also carry medications to treat low blood sugar, allergic reactions, chest pain, and breathing problems. This past year was a busy year for us with multiple responses including multiple disaster responses. We were on scene and on standby for the brush fires on County Road 89. We also had units on scene during the tragic Mentone Market fire. We were requested as mutual aid by Ider Rescue Squad to assist with their tornado disaster, as well as by Rosalie Rescue Squad for their tornado disaster. We sent units to both disasters while maintaining our coverage here. We want to personally extend our thank you to the community for the support received during all of the disasters.

We are still planning to hold Community CPR courses this next year. We held off this past year some due to the new guidelines coming into effect and waiting on the new materials to be published. The new materials are out and we are getting ready to purchase the training materials to hold class the first of the year.

We have had SEVERAL new members join the rescue squad this past year. We are grateful

for the additional members to help provide service to our great communities. We have had some increased costs in purchasing radios and equipment for these members to be able to respond. We also held an internal Emergency Medical Re-sponder course to increase the knowledge base of our members.

We are continuing to develop our Junior Rescue Squad program to reach out to the future rescuers. The Junior Program is open to anyone between the ages of 12 and 18 years of age. For more information contact our Junior Advisor, Gwen Stone, at 256-364-0150.

We encourage anyone with a strong desire to provide medical first response and rescue services to the community to consider joining the squad as well. No training or experience is required, as we provide in house First Responder training. We meet on the first Saturday of every month at the Mentone Community Center (MERF House) at 9:00 am.

We will also be doing our annual photo fundraiser again starting around June. We partner with the photographer in a 50/50 partnership for his efforts of going door to door for us. We as always appreciate your support!

Thank you for allowing us to serve our communities!

Menlo Notes - Spring Quilt Show

By Diane Smith-Mealer

Quilting has always been a large part of my family. I suppose I could admit that it is in my DNA. I personally am not a master quilter, and I tell people I am a utility quilter. Sometimes it takes a long time for me to finish a project because I see things that need to be changed, added to, or reworked. I adore those who design and create exquisite pieces, but I must admit I do not have that talent. I create to fulfill the need of carrying on the traditions of time passed.

Those who are interested in quilts come from varied backgrounds, both artistically and socially. There are young and old; country women, city women; and, yes, many men. We all love fabrics. It may be the color, the

feel, or the joy of spending the whole day in a fabric store, surrounded by the beauty around them. Some quilters have been artists in another medium or needle workers of another genre. But all quilters have in common the desire to create.

All quilt lovers have much in common, yet are different. Some like to piece and quilt by machine, while others, like me, are dedicated to total hand work. There are those who love only to piece tops, but not to quilt them. Thankfully there are those who will finish the quilting for a fee, but if you are lucky, you might find someone who will quilt with you or do it for you without a charge. I have several tops still packed away, and I promise myself that someday I will finish them. But secretly, I am doubtful.

The Menlo Resident Society will be hosting their Spring Quilt Show on Saturday, March 18, at the Lawrence Center in town. If you are a quilter, enter your pieces. Maybe you have a vintage piece that you want to share. There is a category for machine, hand, and smalls- which covers embroidery, cross stitch, crochet, etc. The favorite part of this event is the mingling and fellowship, just spending the day with friends. If you need more information call me or Glenda, and we will be happy to answer your questions. The MHA telephone is 706-862-2240, Monday through Friday. We hope to hear from you and see you there!

An Evening of Jazz with the Watters/Felts Project

St. Patrick's Day, March 17 - 7-9pm - at Kamama

All proceeds benefit the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center

\$10 per person

Reservations are recommended.

For more information, please contact Ray Padgett at 256-634-3001 or MACC Executive Director Randy Grider at 256-674-3366.

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Medicare – Special Enrollment Period

By Lynn Hixson

Medicare has Special Enrollment Periods--called "SEPs"--that allow you to leave your Medicare Advantage Plan or your Part D Prescription Drug Plan and enroll in a different plan, even if it is not the annual open enrollment period.

If you believe your plan did not follow Medicare rules, you may have the right to change plans. Here are some examples of rule violations:

1. Your plan did not send you a notice telling you it wasn't going to cover one of your drugs in 2017.
2. Your plan did not provide benefits in a timely manner.
3. Your plan did not provide benefits that meet Medicare's quality standards.
4. Your plan gave you misleading or inaccurate information that enticed you to enroll.
5. Your plan did not give you information about benefits in a timely manner.

If Medicare determines that your plan broke rules, you will qualify for an SEP. The SEP starts once Medicare decides that your plan broke rules. If you enroll in a new plan right away, coverage starts on the first day of the next month. Otherwise, you have 90 additional days to choose a new plan once you disenroll from your current plan. Your new coverage generally starts the first day of the month following the month that the plan receives your enrollment application. In the meantime, Original Medicare covers you.

To see if you qualify for SEP, you can call 1-800-MEDICARE and explain your situation. To qualify for this SEP, you must be able to demonstrate how the plan broke Medicare's rules, so you should keep plan notices.

You may also have an SEP if your plan ends, which is called a termination. What if your plan decides to end coverage in the midst of a coverage year? You can get an SEP to enroll in a

new plan starting two months before the plan ends and up to one month after the month that plan ends. If your plan violates its contract with Medicare, you will also get a SEP to enroll in a new plan starting one month before the plan ends and up to one month after it ends. **THIS CAN HAPPEN AT ANY TIME DURING THE YEAR**, so pay attention to all notices you receive from your plan and from Medicare.

Your State Health Insurance Assistance Program--called SHIP--or your Senior Medicare Patrol program--called SMP--can also assist you in understanding Medicare's enrollment periods and the rules that plans must follow. If you have any questions, please call Lynn at the DeKalb County Council on Aging at 256-845-8590.

SAGE ADVICE: MARCH - A GREAT MONTH FOR GARDENING



By Susan Seago

Ilove the month of March for gardening. I can see hostas, many bulbs, and even daylilies pushing through the soil. Shrubs such as forsythia, flowering quince, flowering almond, Florida jasmine and flowering fruit trees are blooming or are about to bloom. Other bulbs are in full bloom also. I had some friends in Douglasville, Georgia who had many thousands of daffodils in many varieties planted in their whole yard. It was amazing to see them in bloom from February through March and April in past years. Along with bulbs, flowering pears and cherries are showing their beauty.

There are usually some warm, pleasant days to get outside to work in the landscape. If you have not done so, remove all leaves and spent flowers

from the beds. Many perennials die back to the ground and should be sending up new shoots and leaves by now. Removing dried material helps the roots to focus on new growth.

Perennials and shrubs love the cool temperatures of March for planting and becoming established in the garden. A good mix of deciduous and evergreen plants results in year-round beauty. Some good shade tolerant perennials would be columbine (aquilegia), hosta, fern, coral bells (heucheras), or my favorite, Lenten Rose (hellebore). Shade tolerant shrubs could include azaleas, hydrangeas, aucuba, camellia, mahonia, rhododendron, and mountain laurel. There are many other perennials, but these like some filtered or morning sun and afternoon shade.

For the sun garden, consider daylilies, sedum, black-eyed Susan, bee balm, coneflower, aster, coreopsis, yarrow, Shasta daisy, chrysanthemum, and tall phlox. Shrubs for sun include roses, spirea, viburnum, weigela, lilac, deutzia, forsythia, butterfly bush, winter honeysuckle, and quince. A variety of flowering shrubs

can assure that there is color in the landscape throughout the year, even winter.

When planting perennials and shrubs, give them plenty of room to grow. Do some research to learn the mature size of the plants you choose. If you want to keep a rose bush to five feet in height or width, give it at least two to three feet of space from the next plant. Also consider the mature height of the plant so you can put the taller ones in the back of your bed or the center if it is round. Your beds will fill in quickly so don't worry about them looking skimpy the first year or two.

The cooler days of March when you are inside can be spent planning for annuals to add color throughout the spring, summer, and early fall. April 15 is the average last day for frost so annuals can be planted then. Remember, the ground needs to be about sixty eight degrees in warmth for seeds to germinate.

I hope you enjoy planting and revitalizing your gardens as much as I plan to enjoy mine. Happy Spring, everyone!



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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)



PENDING

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



TREETOPS is a wonderful rustic log cabin nestled amongst giant boulders and hardwood trees. A large stone fireplace is the centerpiece of this cozy cabin. The timber walls and antiques add more charm to this mountain get away. The large bedroom has a vaulted ceiling and expansive views of the tree tops. A full width screen porch and multilevel decks provide plenty of room for outdoor entertaining. Fully renovated bath with stack w/d. This charming cabin comes fully furnished and includes all appliances. It's ready for your enjoyment! \$112,000.



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).



1940s VINTAGE BUNGALOW. 2 bdrm, 1bth. T & G walls, beamed ceilings. Stone gas log fireplace. Heart Pine Flooring, Brow Views, Sun porch, vinyl siding. Old Mentone Charm. \$179,900 (1059858)



PRIVATE PRESERVE on 64.26 acres with great views! 3BR/3BA with full, mostly-furnished basement bonus areas & garage, barn, and equipment shed. Charming guest cottage/studio over workshop. \$250,000 (1060287)



6.7 ACRES on the east brow overlooking Shinbone Valley. Weiss Lake in the distance. \$27,900. (1061387)



SOLD

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. \$40,000



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. \$140k (22865)



3.77 ACRES located at Canyon View Forest Subdivision. Wooded and joining the bluff of Little River National Preserve. \$60,000



SOLD

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 (23155)



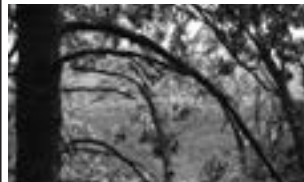
NESTLED AMONG LARGE ROCK FORMATIONS is a quaint 2 bdr, 2bth cottage with open living/dining room with gas fp. Sun-room/office off master suite. Screened front porch multi level decks, outdoor shower, garage workshop. Quiet and Serene this setting makes for a great getaway or home. \$143,900 (23164)



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. \$42,000



LAKE WINDMILL ESTATE.. 103 ft. on 13 acre lake on the brow. Wooded, sloped. Build your home here restricted. \$45,000.



Hidden Brow Tract. 5.1 acres of level, wooded East brow views of Shinbone Valley. Located in Cloudland, GA. \$127,500 (23213)

SECLUSION AND TRANQUILITY are nestled in this 2 story luxury 3BR/3BA Heritage Log Home. Located on 20 acres of breathtaking views and woods on the East Brow of Lookout Mountain, Cloudland, GA. This fully furnished home features vaulted ceilings in the great room and kitchen/dining room, both of which have handcrafted rock fireplaces. Fully equipped kitchen with granite and concrete countertops, stainless steel appliances, and eat-in bar. Amenities include 4 CHA units, laundry room, and separate potting shed/workshop. The detached 2-car garage has a full upstairs 1BR/1BA and extra storage room. An ideal mountain escape! Craftsmanship and attention to detail makes this property one of a kind. Appointment only. \$825,000. (23208)



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)

Oakwood Subdivision - 6.1 acres. Wooded, level, lightly restricted. \$39,500

5 ACRES on the East brow tract overlooking

Pleasant Valley. Rock pallacades, wooded. See Weiss Lake in the distance. Private gated area. Joins National Preserve & Forever Wild protected property. \$60,000 (22866)

VALLEY VIEW FOREST East Brow view 6.7 acres \$27,900

LEVEL BUILDING LOT in downtown Menlo, GA. Great site for Residential or Commercial use. Non-restricted. Many possibilities! \$14,000



3.89 ACRES at Mtn River Estates. Hwy 117 frontage. Wooded, Rock formations, level along the river. Over 200 ft on Middle Fork of Little River. \$38,000. (1060565)

ESCAPE to the mountains in this beautiful 4BR/4BA home, with full basement in Cloudland, GA. The main level offers a great room with vaulted ceiling and wood burning fireplace. Equipped kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. The master bedroom has a walk-in closet, along with a large bathroom with separate tile shower, Jacuzzi tub, and double vanity. Hardwood floors and ceramic tile throughout. Sit and enjoy the sunrises from the covered porch or deck that overlooks the bluff. The lower level offers 2BR/2BA with a large centered family room that leads



out to the backyard and hiking trails. The unfinished portion of the basement is perfect for extra storage and is equipped with a safe room. Amenities include CHA, laundry room, and alarm system. The detached 2-car garage has a full upstairs 1BR/half bath. A must see! Appointment Only. \$275,000 (1061190)



Rhododendron Garden Club

By Mellanie Tuttle

The Rhododendron Garden Club met at the MERF House on February 14, 2017. Hostess, Mary Shurett, used her collection of oversized candy boxes as decoration and the food was a spread of Valentine-themed deliciousness. President Mellanie Tuttle called the meeting to order. The pledge to the flag was followed by Marsha Merrell's meditation with several quotes and timely words from About the Master's Business Ministry... "I want to encourage you this morning if you are going through a winter season...it's not dead, it's just dormant. The trees don't die in wintertime just because they have no leaves on them...they are just dormant. They are taking a rest, drinking in the nutrients, getting prepared for the next season when they will have to put on new buds and leaves. The sap may be low, but it's still there. The tree still has life in it. You may feel 'dead' but you aren't... the sap is just low. God has allowed you to have a 'resting' period in order to prepare you for the next season in your life...which will be the season to blossom. So, enjoy the 'winter', you're still alive. Take advantage of this time to 'regroup'. Each season doesn't last forever, so make the most of each one as it comes (We need them all)."

Roll call is always an opportunity to share, and this month's theme was "Name and bring a weed growing in your yard." Henbit, a blooming dandelion and an unidentified very thorny vine were named

and since a "weed is a plant that is not valued where it is growing," ivy and privet were a bit controversial. Some valued the privet for its showy blossoms in the spring but others were concerned about the invasive non-natives taking over the woods and byways.

Old business and new business were discussed. Martha Wood will be the Club of Distinction Chairman and Mellanie Tuttle, Co-Chair for the Garden Club of Alabama. Marsha Merrell being named the Chairman of Roadside Improvements/ Plantings/ Wildflowers, as well as being the club's Conservation Chairman, prompted a discussion about the trash along Highways 117 and 89. Tutwiler Gap is NOT the dumping ground for old tires, mattresses, and household garbage. (You know who you are in the white pick-up truck. Shame on you.) The Blue Star, Amsonia, was named Perennial Flower of 2011. Martha Wood, Horticulture Chairman, shared pictures of the clump-forming native (Arkansas and Missouri) perennial that is deer resistant and grows in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. It is an all season plant; having delicate blue flowers from March to May and feathery foliage that turn a bright gold in autumn. It has no serious insect or disease problems.

The program "Deer Resistant Perennials" was presented by Dianne Kuehl. She mentioned that deer and rabbit resistant plants don't come with a "Do Not Eat" sign and so may get nibbled or devoured if the animal is hungry enough. She recommended visiting the Rutgers University website for a list of landscape plants rated by deer resistance. The plants are coded from A-D. Plants from the 'A' list are considered

Rarely Damaged. Dianne's 'A' list plants included: Bleeding Hearts (*Dicentra spectabilis* and *Dicentra eximia*); Catmint (*Nepeta*), Common Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*); Bearded Iris; Lamb's Ear (*Stachys byzantina*); Salvia and Lavender (*Lavandula* sp.) Dianne's list also included Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra*), an early spring bloomer and Basket of gold (*Aurinia saxatilis*) that provides amazing gold color during April and May. She warned that the flowers, leaves, stems and seeds of the Foxglove are extremely poisonous (*digitalis*) so should be used cautiously if children or pets are involved.

The next meeting of the RGC will be on March 14 at 10:00am at the MERF House. Gertrude S. Wister states, "The flowers of late winter and early spring occupy places in our hearts well out of proportion to their size." Who knew daffodils were bulbs of winter and would be the topic for next month? Wear yellow and join us.

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



Little River Canyon National Preserve Prepares for a Prescribed Burn

Little River Canyon National Preserve is preparing for a prescribed burn within the Wildlife Management Area. The potential burn will be conducted before the end of April, and the exact days will be based on weather and environmental conditions. More information will be released when an exact date is determined. This project will focus on the SW portion of the WMA in the Edna Hill Burn Unit.

This area is bounded by SR 35 and Cherokee CR 103 along the southernmost eastern edge, continuing north along Rd 2 and Rd 4, with the river as the western boundary. During and after the burn, park roads 1, 2, and 4 will be closed for firefighter and public safety.

Lately, conditions have not been favorable for a successful burn. In particular, a southern wind is needed to keep smoke off of SR 35.

Our professional team of firefighters are a part of the

Natchez Trace Zone Fire Management Team and will lead this project with the assistance of park staff. This team will continue to monitor and assess the conditions in order to implement the burn at a strategic time.

The exact dates of the burns may vary, so please call the office if you need more information on when road closures will be enacted. You can follow our updates and find park maps and pictures on Facebook at "lirinp".

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Welcome To Mentone



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.....
LOTS and LAND

BROW-FRONT LOT WITH STUNNING SUNSET VIEWS; a panorama of the valley & mountains beyond. Ready for your mountain getaway on the brow! Just a mile from downtown Mentone along the parkway. Quaint split-rail fence. Seven lots available. Lot 14 offers 0.68 acres; approx 90' brow frontage. \$107,500 (1055392)

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. \$33,900. (311288)

WEST FORK AT DESOTO FALLS. Located just down from the picturesque "red boat house," this beautifully-wooded lot offers approx 94' of river frontage in the prime part of Little River; the truly navigable part where you can canoe, kayak or pontoon all the way to Mentone! Hardwoods, rhododendron, laurel. So much natural beauty, so rarely available to be purchased. \$162,500 (355152)

READY FOR YOU TO BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME! 2.75 unrestricted acres with underground utilities, & septic tank! Just minutes from downtown Mentone, but tucked quietly into the woods! Call today before this one's gone! \$35,000 (1054586)

2 WOODED ACRES with a tiny little rustic "cabin" (no plumbing). Build your getaway cabin here amongst the hardwoods, picturesque boulders, wild turkey, deer...most any kind of wildlife found in these hills. Restricted. \$39,700. (1034503)

4.33 ACRES ON SMALL LAKE. Property consists of two lots being sold as one on Full Moon Lake in Laurel Creek Lakes, Mentone, \$45,000 (1048869)

2.2 UNRESTRICTED, WOODED ACRES Mentone. Corner property; excellent areas to walk, bicycle or keep a few chickens. Public water & power at the road. \$18,000 (1011111)

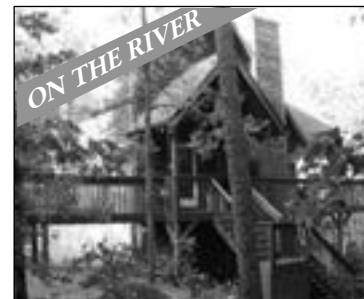
WOW! WHATTA VIEW!! Build your dream home on this 3-acre lot overlooking beautiful Weiss Lake. Already cleared & ready to build upon with mature trees left for shade, utilities at the road. \$30,000! (1051832)



MENTONE
CEDAR-SIDED HOME ON 6.3 EQUESTRIAN-FRIENDLY ACRES. Rugged good looks, inside & out, with all the creature comforts. Full, covered front porch; screened back porch. Pine walls & ceilings; vaulted living w/stacked stone, gas-log Fplce; tile kitchen; 3BR/2.5BA. Main-level Master suite. Property is open & gently rolling w/perfect site for barn & pens. Add'l acreage avail. 5 min from downtown Mentone. \$215,400 (1060588)



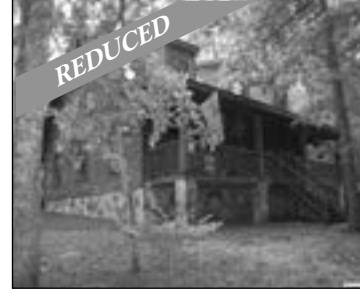
NEW LISTING
TIMBER-FRAME CRAFTSMANSHIP in a cabin, privately nestled in 9.5 acres, surrounded by state park land, with small pond, rock outcroppings & majestic woods. Gated drive. Post & beam construction with vaulted, open, living/dining/kitchen. 3BR/3.5BA. Wide-plank pine floors throughout. Mountain stone, wood-burning fireplace with raised hearth. Full front porch, extra-large back porch with ramp. Everything one could want in a mountain escape or residence. No light pollution, no traffic noise...just you, woodland wildlife, and privacy. Worlds away, not miles away. Custom-built, one-owner cabin can be yours for \$299,700 (1062482)



ON THE RIVER
CHALET-STYLE CABIN on Middle Fork, Little River. Pine floors; stone, woodburning Fplce; high-end windows & doors; gas range w/elec oven; 2640 sq ft; 3BR/3BA+loft 4thBR; on-demand hot H2O. Screened porch, covered deck. Three levels, incl walk-out basement guest suite. Bluff areas & an intriguing wet-weather stream bed w/fabulous stones, ledges & multiple falls; then on to beautiful Little River. 3.81 acres. \$237,500 (1019875)



CLOUDLAND
PRIVATE PRESERVE ON 64.26 ACRES WITH GREAT VIEWS! 3BR/3BA w/pine plank floors; wood-burning fireplace in living area; spacious kitchen w/gas range & lots of cabinetry! Main-level Master BR & bath. Sunroom w/deck access. Full basement, mostly finished, w/large rooms, work areas & garage. Quaint red barn; equipment shed; workshop w/studio apartment overhead w/pine floors & lots of potential. Yes, there's work to be done, but the privacy, views, woods & space offer much for the person wanting privacy & elbow room! 10 miles from downtown Mentone in Cloudland, GA. Only \$250,000 (Co-brokerage with Georgia-licensed company, Lookout Mtn Preferred Realty, Angela Wood) (1060014)



REDUCED
BEAUTIFUL CEDAR CABIN on 2.91 wooded acres with small, wet-weather stream. You'll fall in love at first sight as you approach from the winding, private drive. The 8x42 front porch is great, but wait till you see the 12x42 back porch! Kohler fixtures & Corian solid-surface counters throughout. Spacious LR w/19' vault. Main-level MABR. Custom cabinetry. Wide, pine-plank floors. Huge laundry! On-demand hot H2O. 10x12 shop. Reduced to \$219,900 (749941)



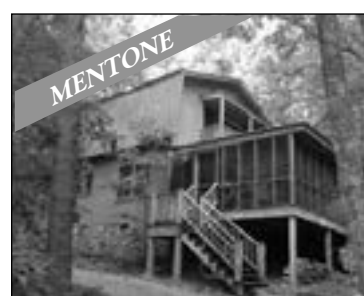
MENTONE
TALL MEADOW RUE. Charming "storybook" cottage in the heart of Mentone. Details, details, details! Transom doors; tall windows; stained glass; craftsmanship in stone & brickwork; arched entry & front door; curved lines; English chimney pots; storm room; custom cabinetry & quartz counters; antique mantel & brick fplce w/bookshelves both sides. Gorgeous gardens w/fishpond, tea house, lighting & tiny chapel. \$321,500 (1031360)



MENTONE
JUST PLAIN ADORABLE! "Carpenter Gothic"-style cottage w/the steep gables, pointed arches, wood moldings, charm & quaintness that is the hallmark of this style of architecture. Naturally-landscaped yard; wild-flower gardens; wet-weather stream; peaceful woods. Built to be energy efficient. Screened back porch to enclose for add'l living area if you choose. Comfortable, cozy & so, so cute! 2BR/1.5BA. \$119,900 (1006846)



NEW LISTING
THE VIEWS, THE SPACE, THE LOCATION... it's all here. Lovely frame & stone cottage on the brow at Mentone. Over 3000 sq ft; 3BR/4BA; lg bonus room for 4th BR, office, exercise or play room. Main-level Master Suite with wall of windows to enjoy the view. Huge kitchen is a dream for those who love to cook & entertain: granite counters, commercial gas cooktop, double wall ovens, wine cooler, disposal, compactator, gas fireplace, enormous pantry. Large dining room opens onto brow-side screen porch & decks. New wood floors & ceiling; new paint; new windows in MA BR & Living. Detached 3-car garage w/efficiency apartment & shop. Wrought-iron gated entry; circular, paved drive. \$495,000 (1062816)



MENTONE
"THE BURREN." 3BR/2.5BA mountain retreat cabin, just off DeSoto Pkwy, nestled among intriguing rock formations, surrounded by woodlands. Metal roof; screened porch; wood-burning mtn stone fireplace; private back deck w/hot tub; 2nd floor balconies. Convenient to DeSoto St Park & Mentone. 1.9 acres. Large screened porch offers expanded living area outdoors. Furnishings negotiable. Active rental. \$199,900 (1052151)

Healing Artists Circle

By Lisa Schad

Ten folks interested in the healing arts gathered at Kamama Gallery for the February meeting. The meet and greet was so enjoyable that it lasted two and a half hours, as we each spent time sharing and asking questions about our healing passions and professions as well as learning more about each other and our creative projects of healing artists and how they are creatively “healing” the world.

We were all surprised by the variety represented in the group. Annette Reynolds talked about Manitou Cave in Fort Payne and her mission to restore the spiritual aspect of the site as well as honor the healing nature there, particularly the pure water that emerges from the mountain above. Email Annette at manitouscaveofal@gmail.com for more information.

Audry Wild shared her practice of wildcrafting along with some samples of her product line of personal care products. She is organizing several classes and gatherings that encourage nature



education and Earthskills. Her next Trade and Gift Circle will be March 21 at MERF.

Ginger Bogue, of Wellness Ways in Dutton, was accompanied by two colleagues, Cassie Ann Ross and Sharon Stephens. Wellness Ways is an educational organization that is devoted to teaching healing arts to the public through

bodywork sessions and classes. Debbie Happy Cohen, a fellow Mentonian, supports folks in being their most joyous and fabulous self through coaching and a new program called Joy Based Living. See joybasedliving.com. Lynn Holloway shared her ability to “read” people’s hands to provide helpful information. After introductions, Juli Jordan presented information about ASEA, a supplement that has changed the life of her family and which she sells to the public. Fay Henry returned with her Aura Imaging machine and we were WOWed by the changes in the imaging as we did an experiment of adding one of us at a time to see how the group aura changed. Join us March 23 at Kamama at 5 for a meet and greet followed by a 6:30 presentation.

Photo (from left clockwise): Ginger Bogue, Cassie Ross, Juli Jordan, Lisa Schad, Audrey Wild, Faye Henry, Lynn Holloway, Annette Reynolds, Sharon Stephens, and Debbie Happy Cohen.

THE LIGHT BULB

By Doug Kiker

We finally had “lights.”
A forty watt bulb hanging from the ceiling,
burned only at night.
A “lightard” splinter in the fire place
provided a going to bed light,
So everyone could find their rightful place.
After the night work, my school lessons I had to face.
Darkness was quick to come,
It was a race.
Soon I tired of this demanding pace.
I asked Mother, but there was worry on her face.
“Surely,” said she, “a bigger watt bulb was needed in the 40 watt’s place.”
We asked Daddy after practicing the “light bulb” speech.
He happened to be in a good mood, had plenty of snuff,
was listening to an owl screech.
Our nerves were tight, then Daddy said “might.”
I could hardly believe it, there would be more light.
There was no money. Times were always tight.
Scrap iron money, field work money, went together

hoping to have a better night.
The “Home and Auto” man ordered my bulb,
one I thought would be just right.
When it did come, it was better than Christmas night.
We screwed it in the forty watt’s place.
Boy!!! Was it a sight!!
That three hundred watt clear bulb looked like the sun.
In the room, there was no night.
But now, we had another problem,
on this, daddy couldn’t be moved.
He was quite solemn.
The light was too bright...
No lessons would be done that night.
The next evening, we put it on the front porch,
there it shown on my papers and way out in the yard,
where dogs were doing funny capers.
Neighbors heard of my light bulb.
Word got around.
Churches borrowed it, even one hunting club;
That bulb went to parties, funerals and weddings,
becoming quite legendary.
People brought peas and beans, talked and tarried.
Ten years passed...then to the bulb graveyard it was carried.

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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. \$199,000. MLS #1017671.



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. \$114,900. MLS #1036084.



FURNISHED CABIN on Parkway! Minutes from DeSoto St. Pk. and Downtown Mentone. Approx. 864 sqft with 2BR/2BA, wood-burning FP, wood floors/walls, fully equipped kitchen, W/D, CH&A, 5-person hot tub.. \$135,000. MLS #1026581..



CUSTOM CABIN w/vaulted great room and kitchen, oak flooring, and wood burning fireplace in this 2BR/2 1/2BA home. Sleeping porch w/FP. Secluded w/ gated entrance near downtown Mentone. \$247,500. MLS #1051679.



TWO Residences on the Brow with 45 +/- acres! Rock walls, walkways and patios. Call for more details. \$495,000. MLS #815966



CUSTOM log cabin, 2+ acres. 2 fireplaces, log/wood walls, floors & windows, lge. loft, sleeping porch, kitchen w/6-burner gas range, detached storage bldg, additional small cabin. \$305,000. #332033.



ENJOY THE BROW VIEW from porch of this Two-story home with vaulted and open living has 3BR/2BA, furnished and gas log fireplace. \$268,900. MLS#1048786



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.



Vintage bungalow, completely remodeled, zoned Commercial/Residential w/250' on Hwy 117. Bright & sturdy 1940's-era, 3BR/1BA gem. Wood walls; period trim details. Updated with new electrical, plumbing, floors & cabinets. \$125,000. MLS #1046940.



LIKE-NEW CABIN, 3BR/2.5BA on 11 +/- acres. Living area w/wall of windows and wb fireplace. Open kitchen & dining area. Screened porch & a deck accessible from 3 rooms. Workshop/Storage room below. \$283,500. MLS #1056091.



TWO-STORY Mentone cabin w/2 BR/2BA,, loft, dining area & lge. living. Screened front porch, 9' ceilings, pine floors, & fresh paint! Sleeps 10 comfortably. Great rental investment. \$169,900. #1062659.



3.3 ACRES of historic property in the heart of Mentone. Starting at \$325,000. Call for details. MLS #1045206.



3BR/3BA HOME on 2.8 acres w/brow view walking distance to town. 2 master suites, each w/access to porches & views, lge screened porch, open deck, irrigation system, full-house generator. MLS #1037784. \$350,000.



UNBELIEVABLE brow home on 1.95 acres. 4BR/3BA, open living/kitchen area, formal DR., numerous decks and screened porch. Many gorgeous rock formations, a detached 2-car garage/workshop and more. \$323,900. MLS#1048899.



GORGEOUS 11.27 acre lot with fabulous view of the valley. Included is a 2BR/1BA mobile home with a screened porch and deck. 2 rock bluff points with trails for easy access. \$144,900. MLS #1052557



UNIQUE CABIN with a VIEW in Valley View Forest. 3BR/3BA, Den and Formal living area with lots of rustic features. Open kitchen and Den. Living area w/rock FP and built-ins. \$269,900. MLS #1054116.



THE HISTORIC CRAGSMERE MANOR, on 5+ acres serves as rental lodging and/or event hosting. Perfect setting for large or small groups, 6BR/4BA, Large kitchen, dining, and living area, covered pavilion. \$775,000. MLS#1053226.



CHARMING RETREAT! 2 BR/2BA vintage log cabin in Mentone. Master suite has private screened porch leading to native rock water fountain. Included are 2 guest cabins connected by decks & walkways. \$197,000. MLS #1046823.



Furnished Cabin on Parkway! Minutes from DeSoto St. Pk. & downtown Mentone. Approx. 650 sq ft w/loft BR and downstairs BR, 1 BA, wood floors/walls, fully-equipped kitchen, W/D, CH&A, 5-person hot tub. Currently in rental program. \$125,000. MLS #1059325.



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.



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



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.



In the heart of Mentone, this updated 3BR/2BA home features hardwood floors, custom cabinets, FP & storage space. New carpeting upstairs. Barn w/storage & workshop. \$219,900. MLS #1051222.



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..\$459,900. MLS #1019610



GATED COMMUNITY! 3BR/2BA in cul-de-sac of Hidden Lake Sub. Access to 14-acre lake. Living w/hardwood floors & FP, open kitchen & breakfast, formal DR, screened front porch, back deck, 2-car garage. Property adjoins Little River Canyon Preserve. \$215,000. MLS #1025640.



2 BR/2 BA with full appliance package, storage building, screened front porch, back deck. TOTALLY remodeled with an addition within the last 5 years to include windows, doors and wiring. FURNISHED! \$149,900. MLS #1056385



DOWNTOWN MENTONE. Enjoy sunset from this brow side cabin. Open design living/dining w/wall of windows, vaulted ceilings, wide plank floors & gas FP. Kitchen has stainless, granite & breakfast bar. Main level Master BR/BA. 2BR, bath & loft upstairs. \$255,000. MLS #1055545.



Golden Opportunity! Let the tenants pay your mortgage. 5 apartments, large retail space and storage building located on Hwy 117 just minutes from downtown Mentone. Sitting on 1.5 acres, totally fenced. Appointment only! \$187,500. MLS #1013991.



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



LESS THAN ONE MILE from downtown Mentone. 3BR/2BA house w/new range, microwave and dishwasher, instant heat hot water, front porch, above ground pool with decks, 2 out buildings, hobby greenhouse. 1.35 acres. \$139,900. MLS #1060570.

LOTS AND LAND

#392849 - 4.4 acre tract on brow. \$190,000
 #403694 - 106' of prime brow view. \$109,500.
 #656265 - 7+ WOODED ACRES in Mtn. River Estates. \$35,000.
 #665968 - 1 ACRE LOT in Hidden Lake Sub. \$40,000.
 #762331 - 1.02 ACRE lot in Hidden Lake Sub. \$40,000.
 #845943 - 200' of water frontage \$42,000.
 #945265 - 1 ACRE LOT in Hidden Lake Sub. \$49,000.
 #1011734 - .69 ACRE wooded lot on Brush Creek. \$27,900.
 #1014183 - 1.5 ACRES. Brow Lot on CR 89. \$124,900.
 #1021165 - 2 ACRE LOT offering lake and brow footage. 59,900.
 #1026589 - Build on the water's edge....approximately 100' of waterfront on West Fork Little River. \$162,000.
 #1027934 - Lot on River Lane. \$29,900.

#1032720 - 2.8 acres with travel trailer, water, septic, dock. \$82,500.
 #1034997 - Approx. 6 ACRES on middle fork of Little River. \$48,900
 #1038089 - 6.4 acres on Co. Rd. 89, Lot 8, in Mentone. \$138,000
 #1039769 - 6.32 +/- waterfront building lot in Mountain River Estates! \$49,950
 #1045110 - 7.9 acres on brow. \$149,000.
 #1046743 - .81 acres, Hunter's Ridge, Mentone. \$19,900.
 #1053367 - 9.93 acres in Mentone. \$45,000.
 #1056358 - 3+ acres on Brow Property. \$369,000.
 #1057191 - 2 acres, Co. Rd. 922. \$15,000.
 #1057228 - 5 acres overlooking Little River Canyon
 #1057429 - 4 acres in Valley View Forest. \$79,900.
 #1058121 - 2.07 Acres in Laurel Creek Lakes, Mentone. \$24,500.
 #1059301 - 5 Acres in Gaylesville. \$135,000.



One of the most photographed landmarks in Alabama....The iconic "Red Boathouse" sits on Little River less than 500' from Desoto Falls. One-acre w/186' on the navigable part of the river. Mid-century all-wood cabin w/living & dining area, 3BR/2BA, eat-in kitchen, rock FP, & screened porches. \$389,000. MLS #1054645.



Water Front Vacation Home. 2BR/2BA 1-1/2 story cabin located in the Laurel Lake subdivision, Mentone. Open floor plan. Master Suite has its own entrance to a large screened in back porch that could serve as a whole new living area in pleasant months. \$174,500. MLS #1017650.

#1061651 - 1.5 acres in Eagle Rock Subdivision. \$89,000.

#1061943 - 5 acres on Hwy 117 just before the Georgia Line. \$40,000.

www.southernpropertiesagency.com

Volunteers Needed



- Little River Canyon Center needs event staff as well as program assistants for environmental education to help with field trips and other educational programs.
- MAPA is looking for people to help with the Rhododendron festival for planning as well as during the event.
- MERF is in need of people to help with tutoring K-6 students in Math and Reading for 1 hour per week.
- Mentone Community Library is asking for helpers 2-3 hours per month.



Classified Ads

WALL BEDS (Murphy Bed style) - We have all size Wall Beds. Great for spare room and small areas. Come see our showroom in Collinsville, AL on Hwy 68 at the Alabama Mattress Outlet. Store 9-5 Mon. – Sat. Call 256-523-3622 or Andy Crow 256-490-4025.

COX TILE - 706-766-2758 - Sunrooms, marble, baths, shower pan repair. James Pleas Cox, jpcotile1@gmail.com.

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Boom Town Makers Market (cont'd from page 1)

thing they work on. After coal and iron ore were discovered in 1885, Fort Payne became a "boom town" with big beautiful buildings erected throughout town. That industry was short lived, but the town survived and reclaimed its success through the sock industry. This was a long lived era, but eventually came to an end. Now, Fort Payne flaunts its natural beauty and its alluring hand made items from local artisans in order to attract tourists and to encourage locals to take advantage of what is right here in DeKalb County. Ms. Olivia believes that "Boom Town Makers Market is a nod to our past, and a perfect reflection of what the community has become – a mecca for the creative." All of this wrapped into this building on the corner; what's not to love?

What, specifically, is inside this dark red and green brick building that has the multicolored framing and vintage scrolling in the window labeled "Boom Town Makers Market"? One large section is dedicated as a teaching studio for popular local artist Lydia Adele Randolph who also has work in the market- including some of her fractured glass pieces. Lydia held a free make-your-own valentine class that was filled with excitement and more classes are in the near future.

The remainder of the space hosts a variety of hand crafted goods including artwork, textiles, books written by local authors, local music, and even more. With around 1000 square feet of gallery space, there is sure to be something for all. About thirty local and area artists are featured. Many of these being from here in Mentone, most are from DeKalb, and there are a select few from other parts of Northern Alabama.

Walter Howell, from Henagar, brings fire and iron to life in his nature designs such as the snake sunning on a log in a southern forest. After a career in law, Neal Whitt started working in clay as a creative expression of his sense of humor. Mentone resident Carol Davidson encapsulates nature items into necklaces, makes barn quilts, and transforms other items into uniqueness. Look for her brand called Fresh Beans. Judy Peet and Katelyn Worley make a marvelous mother/daughter team who express themselves by making hand-painted silk scarves and handmade quilts that capture scenery in unbelievable detail. Gina Locklear's Zkano line of socks is also available. You will find hand blown

glass, sculptures, and handmade furniture as well.

"We opened Boom Town to test the viability of a maker's market, by featuring the wealth of local artistic talent we have in the area, and raise the awareness of Landmarks, one of the oldest non-profits in the County," stated Darlene Rotch,



project curator and Landmarks board member. It also draws attention to the downtown area which is in the process of revitalizing through the Main Street program. According to ALDOT, there are more than ten thousand cars passing through daily. In Darlene's words, "What better way to preserve the past than bringing a beautiful building back to life with a vibrant offering?"

This being a market, of course all these items are for sale. There is a price range to meet everyone's budget, from \$2 magnets to a \$17,000 statement piece. The variety, uniqueness, and sheer talent are overwhelming. Boom Town Makers Market

is open Thursdays through Saturdays from 10 to 5 and on Sunday afternoons from 1 to 4. If you want more information, search Boom Town Makers Market on Facebook and the web, or go to landmarksdekalb.org to learn about this project and others from Landmarks of DeKalb County.

Keep in touch to know when Lydia's classes are and what new pieces are arriving. Stop by for a visit, and enjoy Landmark's latest vision, Boom Town Makers Market, in Fort Payne's oldest building.



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
256-634-4181*

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