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THE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 36, No. 10

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

November 2017

CREATIVE SPIRIT MARKET RETURNS TO DeSOTO STATE PARK

by Rhea Pirch

The Little River Arts Council will once again team up with DeSoto State Park to present the Creative Spirit Market, an open-air showcase of unique artists and craftsmen, to be held November 11 and 12 at DeSoto State Park's picnic area (across from the Country Store), from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

Visitors can meander along the wooded path of the picnic area to watch local and regional fine and folk artists demonstrate their skills and shop from premium hand-crafted items on display for purchase. There will be an interactive art area where kids and adults can create their own works of art, along with one-of-a-kind food vendors and a line-up of exceptional local musicians to entertain audiences on both days. The whimsical setting also offers a playground area, and paths to stroll down to the river amongst the autumn leaves.

This is the second year for the Creative Spirit Market, which is primarily organized by Little River Arts Council board member Brittney McAlister-Hughes, who is the Naturalist at DeSoto State Park. The first year's event was well received, bringing a steady stream of visitors to enjoy a crisp autumn



weekend in a prime setting among nature and creativity.

If you are an artist or know of one who would like to participate in this diverse artistic opportunity, visit the events page at littleriverartsCouncil.org and click on the artist application link. Vendor fees are free for members of the Little River Arts Council and \$20 for non-members. We hope to see you all at this distinct Little River area gathering!

Rhea Pirch serves as board secretary for the Little River Arts Council.

Veterans Honored

Read about

Cecil "Ted" Howard (Vietnam War)
Seaborn "Pete" Walker (World War II)

Pages 16 & 19



A Farm-to-Table Feast

The Farm at Windy Hill is hosting their Harvest Meal on Saturday, November 11, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. CDT. This is the second year for Windy Hill to celebrate its final harvests with the community and other friends by inviting everyone in for a farm-to-table feast. The farm hosts events several times throughout the year so guests can

get to know their local farmers and enjoy the beauty of the farm. All ages are welcome.

Reservations for tickets (adults \$17/ children \$10) can be made by emailing info@thefarmatwindyhill.com or calling the Farm at 267-644-5426. Though reservations are requested, tickets may also be purchased the day of the event.

For more information, stop by the Farm on Friday afternoons from 3 until 6 p.m. CST for their regular Friday Market or visit thefarmatwindyhill.com. The Farm at Windy Hill is located at 445 Road 942 in Mentone.



Left: Carrots, broccoli, and cabbage flourish in Windy Hill's fall garden.



Little River Arts Council News

by Kelly Leavitt

Cave art is the most primal form of art that's yet to be discovered. It seems humans have forever found ways to creatively express. Imagine how strong the impulse must have been, to have created colorful art inside the black depths of caves. Members of the Little River Arts Council will have the opportunity to put that imagining into action, with a private tour of Manitou Cave in Fort Payne.

The cave has had an illustrious history, at one point being Alabama's top tourist draw, but in recent decades it fell into disrepair. Two years ago, Annette Reynolds followed her vision of protecting and preserving Manitou Cave, and with the help of anonymous donors, the cave was purchased. Annette is an art therapist who has created a non-profit organization, Manitou Cave of Alabama, whose mission is "to respect

and protect this historic, sacred site through conservation and education so that the cave, land and water are preserved for visitors and wildlife as a place of peace."

Current members of the Little River Arts Council, as well as new members who join before November 30, 2017, will be invited to a guided group tour of Manitou Cave (manitoucaveofal.org). The tours will begin after January 1.

The support of members and donors directly helps the Arts Council fulfill our mission of encouraging individual creativity and broadening community participation, appreciation and support for the visual, performing, and literary

Annual membership dues are \$25 for individuals or \$40 for couples. We also welcome donations at higher levels. Members and donors are recognized on our web site (littleriverartscouncil.org), where you can join online and learn more about the Little River Arts Council. You may also join by mail at P.O. Box 370, Mentone, AL 35984. Your support truly makes a difference.

Kelly Leavitt is the president of the Little River Arts Council.



Photos by Alan Cressler



arts in the Mentone area. It makes it possible for us to fund our free "Music for the People" summer music series and the upcoming Creative Spirit Market, as well as the Spring 2018 performance of "Much Ado about Nothing" by a troupe from the Alabama Shakespeare Festival for the students at Moon Lake Elementary School, and other projects that are in the works.

Happy Thanksgiving

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THE GROUNDHOG

P. O. Box 387
Mentone, AL 35984

The Groundhog is published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA). It 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 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.



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MENTONE MATTERS



The new water line under the river is the first step in preparing for construction of the bridge. Other utilities will also have to be moved and there are agreements in place

by Mayor Rob Hammond

to do that. The ALDOT plans for the bridge are complete. Pending right of way acquisition, the contract letting for the bridge is scheduled for December 1, 2017.

"Sign, sign, everywhere a sign" is a line from the 1970 song "Sign" by the Five Man Electrical Band. Unfortunately the lyrics from this song describe what is happening in Mentone. We are suffering from sign pollution, which detracts from the beauty of our area. First and foremost, there can be no signs on a public right of way—city, county, or state. A section of our zoning ordinance, Article IV, specifically governs signs. The zoning ordinance is on our website at mentonealabama.gov. Individuals and businesses should review it to make sure they are in compliance.

Letter From The Editor

I have found, in my days, that gratitude truly is "the attitude". In Mentone, things to be appreciative of are clearly abundant to me. I am grateful for the folks who wave to me as I drive the back roads. I am grateful for the beautiful view, wherever I am—whether at home, in my car, or deep in the woods. I am grateful for the genuine friendliness of people—from local shops, to the post office, to the visitors I meet on the street. I am grateful whenever I return home from being off the mountain.

I was out of town on Colorfest weekend, but from all accounts, it was a smashing success. The one refrain I've heard from those who attended has been, "I'm so thankful that our little town can pull off something of this magnitude." Those thanks were earned by a band of dedicated volunteers, and they must be shared with the organizers who conceived the festival, as well as those who have kept it going for over three decades. The thanks must also extend to the individuals within our community for their support, and for their willingness to welcome so many thousands of people to our wee enclave.

Mentone is a community whose attitude is most often marked by genuine expressions of gratitude. We are thankful that we have healthy food readily available at our local restaurants and year-round, weekly farmers market, as well as through the fine folks who manage the local food bank. We are thankful for the many non-profit organizations who provide both needed services and opportunities for an enhanced quality of life. We are thankful that, at the end of most days, we can sit along the brow and enjoy the sky's show of

colors, and feel the fresh air blowing freely across the mountain's edge.

Mentone is special indeed. Nature has given us the gift of exceptional beauty, and we give to each other the gift of our varied selves. May I say, thank you. I am so very grateful to call Mentone home.

Kelly Leavitt



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or a story idea?
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MAPA NEWS

by Anna Mae Horn

The Mentone Area Preservation Association is a non-profit organized to preserve and protect the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area for current and future generations.

Colorfest was fabulous! MAPA is very thankful for the volunteers and sponsors who made it happen. Colorfest is a terrific display of artists, craftspeople, cooks, and musicians. It is also a terrific display of teamwork and volunteerism. Everything has to be planned, coordinated, scheduled, and carried out: vendor locations, musical performances, parking accommodations, advertising, even clean up. What makes it wonderful is that all this is done by volunteers.

Several people donated many hours to make this festival a reality. If you enjoyed your favorite festival foods, the music, activities, or any of the many handmade vendor items, or if you used the map or schedule listed on the handout, it is because of these volunteers. If you know them, tell them thanks. That is all the compensation they need: being appreciated. MAPA does appreciate each volunteer and each moment of his or her time; thank you all.

This year, those volunteers and all the plans

were overseen by volunteer festival coordinator Kerry Breithaupt. She devoted many hours to making sure this Colorfest was absolutely fantastic. MAPA is most grateful for her efforts, time, money, and talents spent toward Colorfest. Thank you Kerry!

Sponsors also play a major role in Colorfest. Sponsors donate money for festival expenses, or donate items that can be used for the festival. They are all much appreciated. Be sure to check out the sponsors in this issue. If you enjoyed the festival, I challenge you to say "thank you" to at least one sponsor listed.

Why are sponsors and volunteers so vital? Colorfest is essentially a fundraiser. Not only does it allow a tremendous community gathering to take place and give the local shops a great crowd of shoppers, funds raised through sponsors and vendor fees are what MAPA uses to fulfill its mission. We don't charge admission, but we do accept donations. Over the years, MAPA has contributed several things to the community—the bulletin board at the post office, for example. At the October meeting, MAPA was honored to give

\$650 to the DeSoto Rescue Squad. These first responders give their all to not only save lives but to enhance the quality of life for many. MAPA is happy to be of help to them. These are just a couple of ways MAPA contributes.

Within our broad mission statement, MAPA desires to make a difference in the community. We are proud to continue the traditions of the festivals and The Groundhog, while looking for new ways to help the greater Mentone area. If you would like to know more about us, please "like" us on Facebook or go to our website (MAPAmentone.com) to learn what we are all about.

MAPA meets at 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Moon Lake Community Library. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings. Thank you again to all the volunteers and the sponsors who helped make the 2017 Colorfest a great event!

Anna Mae Horn is the president of the Mentone Area Preservation Association.

MBA Mix: Thank you for making a difference!



by Charlotte Gentry

This month we'll be celebrating Thanksgiving. We have so much for which to be thankful, not the least of which is the amazing spirit of volunteerism that exists in our little town of Mentone.

We've just finished with what most are calling one of the largest Colorfest events ever. The success of this year's festival was made possible by a small, but dedicated (and maybe a little crazy!) group of volunteers who had never organized an event of this magnitude before. This was their first time (and I'm sure they are thinking right now it is their last) to handle this enormous venture. But, handle it they did!

Thank you to all those who joined MAPA and jumped in with both feet to get things done. Thank you to the businesses and organizations who sponsored Colorfest events. Thank you to the musicians, artists, craftsmen and food vendors who took part. Thank you to the Town of Mentone for your support.

We also want to thank Robert and Joyce Hoffman for their vision in starting the Mentone Business Association and for their continuing voluntary work, even though they now reside in

Florida. We were thrilled to have them back in Mentone for Colorfest! Mentone holds a big place in their hearts, and they hold a big place in ours.

To our volunteer fire fighters and rescue squad workers; to the scout leaders, the tutors, the MERF volunteers and all others who give of themselves: THANK YOU! You are making a difference.

We believe the MBA is making a difference, too. Be a part of the future of Mentone by joining MBA. We generally meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 6 p.m. This month's meeting is scheduled for November 13 at Mentone Realty's office. Upcoming holiday events in the village at Mentone will be on the agenda. Find us on the web at MentoneBusiness.com or visit our Facebook page.

Charlotte Gentry is the president of the Mentone Business Association.



We want to thank Robert and Joyce Hoffman for their vision in starting the MBA and for their continuing voluntary work, even though they now reside in Florida.

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by Barb Stoll

Thanks (for) Giving to Your Library

It is that time of year to reflect on all we have, and here at your Community Library that is just what we are doing. From all of us at the library, we would like to say 'thank you'. Thank you to those who have donated books, purchased books, and borrowed books and movies. Thanks, too, to the knitters, game players, patrons, and volunteers for the just plain ol' great energy that each one of you shares with us. We are grateful for everyone. It is all of you who make our library so great.

So, at this time, please accept our deepest appreciation and our thanks for all you do to keep your Community Library humming along. Here's what we have for you this month; also check out our Facebook page for ongoing happenings.

BOOKS

A Column of Fire

Ken Follett, who has enthralled millions with *The Pillars of The Earth*, continues the saga with a magnificent new epic. The story is again set in the Middle Ages in the fictional city of Kingbridge during one of the most turbulent and revolutionary times in history. This will delight longtime fans of the *Kingbridge* series and is a perfect introduction for readers new to Follett's work.

Origin

Whoever you are. Whatever you believe. Everything is about to change. This next novel by bestselling Dan Brown, author of *The Da Vinci Code*, is stunningly inventive and one of Brown's most brilliant and entertaining novels to date. Once again Robert Landon, now in Balboa, Spain, must follow a trail illuminated by modern art and enigmatic symbols that ultimately leads him to a shocking discovery and the breathtaking truth that has long eluded us.



The Girl Who Takes An Eye For An Eye

This is the latest in the continuing Stieg Larsson's *Millennium* series. Lisbeth Salander and Mikael Blomkvist return in this furiously-paced fifth book in the internationally best-selling series that began with Larsson's *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*. Lisbeth is not given to forgiveness. And now she is prepared to exact some revenge with a cold fury.

D V D s

Wonder Woman

Before she was Wonder Woman, she was Diana, princess of the Amazons, raised on a sheltered island paradise and trained to be an unconquerable warrior. Fighting alongside man in a war to end all wars, Diana will discover her full powers...and her true identity. Rated PG-13.



John Wick 2

You asked for the next installment, and here it is. Legendary hit man John Wick is forced out of retirement again by a former associate. Bound by a blood

oath to help him, John travels to Rome to square off with some of the deadliest killers. Rated R.

Game of Thrones—Season Six

This year, after the shocking developments at

the end of season five, survivors from all parts of Westeros and Essex regroup to press forward towards their uncertain individual fates. Familiar faces will forge new alliances to bolster their strategic chances at survival, while new characters emerge to challenge the balance of power. Rated 16+.

Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius

Jimmy Neutron is trying to make contact with an alien civilization. Unbeknownst to him, a satellite he launches (okay, it's the kitchen toaster, but it works) is picked up by an alien species. Jimmy and the rest of the kids in Retroville take to the skies on a trip that's sure to be a blast. Rated G.



There you have it folks. May your Thanksgiving be filled with lots of turkey and the blessings of the season. Again, thank you all for your support of your Community Library this year.

Barb Stoll is a member of the board of the Moon Lake Community Library.

Library Notes

- On November 7, the library's hours will change to Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3–5. Our Saturday hours will remain the same, from 9–12.
- Our group of game players is growing. If you enjoy chess and other games of strategy, join us Saturdays at 10. All ages are welcome; we encourage multi-generational games!
- At Colorfest, we were able to sell about half of our collection of donated books. This is one of the primary sources of funding for the community library, so we're grateful for book buyers. Books are for sale during open hours.
- Please let us know if you are interested in volunteering your time for 2 or 3 hours a month.
- We love readers!

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Interested in Genealogy?

The DeKalb County Genealogical Society will meet Saturday, November 11, at 10 a.m. at the DeKalb County Public Library, and then travel to the "Loose Papers" building for a tour. Doug Brandon will tell about all the different kinds of documents that are available for help in genealogy research. Lunch will be served at the library after the tour. Anyone interested in genealogy is invited to attend this free meeting. If you have questions, email dekalbcoalgenealogy@gmail.com or mail The DeKalb County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 681087, Fort Payne, AL 35968.

DeSoto Rescue Squad . . . PROTECTING OUR TOMORROWS

by Ray Padgett

“Tomorrow, tomorrow, I love ya, tomorrow” was always my favorite line from the little orphan Annie play. It inspires one to believe that things will be better tomorrow, and it’s only a day away. Our local DeSoto Rescue Squad’s mission is to help assure that friends, neighbors and families in our community have a tomorrow. They VOLUNTEER to help save lives.

Our Mentone community has at least four non-profit organizations dedicated to the teaching and preservation of the artistic culture and heritage of this area of Northeast Alabama and Lookout Mountain. These mostly-volunteer citizens do a great job of making Mentone a better place to visit and live, and they have become astute fund raisers—getting donations, grants and tax dollars for the cause of art, music, and history. However, we have an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that helps save lives and desperately needs financial help for equipment maintenance and upgrades, daily operating supplies, facility space, and training—the DeSoto Rescue Squad.

The DeSoto Rescue Squad is a non-transport Advanced Life Support Provider at the Intermediate level, licensed by the Alabama Department of Public Health Office of EMS and Trauma. Their goals are to be the first responder for medical emergencies and to assist in search and rescue operations. Their 16 members are our neighbors; they live in Mentone and Valley Head and are made up of Paramedics, Advanced EMTs, EMTs, EMRs and First Responders. Most of their equipment is donated—they now have a drone, donated by one of the members, to help in search and rescue efforts.

Their service to our community and need for financial assistance was highlighted at our Mentone Town Council meeting in October. Captain Michael Stone and 2nd Lieutenant JD Trammell

“First responders were there in less than five minutes after Sandra’s 911 call, with an IV and immediate communication with the ambulance and helicopter services. My doctors said this probably saved my life and all my dreams of tomorrow.”

attended to request help from the town. The town council voted to help, and we were told that MAPA has also provided a grant. The only regular funding they receive (\$1,667) is a tax appropriation from the DeKalb County Commission—all other funding is from donations. Their typical yearly expenses are about \$10,000.

Volunteers like Michael and JD hold a special place in my heart because of an emergency I had about nine years ago. Sandra and I lived on the farm where I grew up, as she liked to say “15 miles from

nowhere”, when I had a stroke. First responders were there in less than five minutes after Sandra’s 911 call, with an IV and immediate communication with the ambulance and helicopter services. My doctors said this probably saved my life and all my dreams of tomorrow.

The DeSoto Rescue Squad is much more than I can describe in this article. For specific questions and information on what they do, or to donate, please contact Captain Michael Stone (256-755-1023 or captain@desotorecue.com).

Please donate and help the DeSoto Rescue Squad (our own local volunteer heroes) maintain and improve their ability to serve our community. The life they save may be a neighbor, friend, family member, or even yours. If you are unable to donate, please tell members thank you and let them know how much you appreciate their service.

Ray Padgett serves on Mentone’s Town Council.

Editor’s Note: *Recently, my partner Steve was driving along Cutler Ave. when he heard someone call out, “Hey!” Steve waved and looked out the window, thinking it was a friend, and instead he saw an elderly woman who had taken a fall from the top of the steps leading to her front door. He stopped and learned she’d been there a while, as only one other car had passed by. He checked her injuries, offered her some water, and called DeSoto Rescue Squad. Mike Stone was there within minutes. This is vital work they do here in our community, which has limited resources. I join Ray in encouraging you to donate, if at all possible.*



Back row, left to right: Slate McDorman, Chris Whalen, Captain Michael Stone, 1st Lieutenant Gwen Stone, Jr Member Ashley Stone

Front row, left to right: Jr Member Virginia McDorman, Richard Douthat, Anthony Clifton, Jr Member Emily Stone, Jr Captain Michael Stone

Not shown: 2nd Lieutenant JD Trammell, Raven Brown, Michael Chambers, MacKenzie Willingham, Secretary Vicki Stone, Drone Commander Charlie Stone, John Sprague, Trish Sprague, Jr member Mary Sterrett, Robert Grisham, Christa Curtis-Grisham, Katherine McDorman, Sarita Merideth, Dustin Burt, Dewayne Grisham, Alicia Shafer, Katie Meadows



AFFORDABLE CARE ACT OPEN ENROLLMENT STARTS!

by Jan Newhoff

Open Enrollment for Affordable Health Care for 2018 will take place from November 1 through December 15, 2017. DeKalb County has no paid certified Navigators, so volunteers from the Progressive Women of Northeast Alabama will be available to assist the public with their healthcare enrollment needs. Our Navigators are federally trained and certified, and our services are free of charge. This is the fourth year we have provided this service. We are available to anyone in DeKalb and Jackson Counties from now through December 15. Enrollment can be made over the phone with the government at 1-800-318-2596 and online at healthcare.gov. For those who prefer to sit down with a live person, they can call us directly at 256-254-8020 to make an appointment with a free local Navigator.

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DOTS, DOTS, DOTS...THEY ARE EVERYWHERE!

by Paula Easter

I am seeing “dots”, are you? Big ones, little ones, green ones, blue ones, red ones...all kinds of DOTS! One of my favorite months in school is September (and hopefully my Moon Lake students’ too) because of all the fun activities that we participate in...especially “International DOT Day”! (Bet you didn’t know there was such a thing, did you?) Well, if you ask any Moon Laker, they will gladly tell you about the story, or maybe even sing you part of “The Dot Song!” (Yep—there really is a “Dot Song.”)

Several years ago, I found this adorable book and was intrigued—then I read the story! Oh my!! It was exactly the mindset that I wanted to instill in my Moon Lake students in the Fine Arts classroom. (My sweet students will be the first to tell you that my number one rule in the Fine Arts classroom is that “I CAN’T” is not allowed!)

Vashti, the character from “The Dot”, is

certain that she cannot draw, even when her teacher encourages her to “just make a mark and see where it takes you.” A short time later,

Vashti is transformed when she discovers that her teacher has framed and celebrated the simple dot that she grudgingly jabbed on her paper. In no time, she is not only exploring, experimenting and growing as an artist, but she is encouraging another student to make his mark and, most importantly, to sign it. So what begins with a small dot on a piece of paper becomes a breakthrough in confidence and courage, igniting a journey of self-discovery and sharing. Isn’t that the greatest!



As I did research on lesson plans using “The Dot”, I found that there are other teachers who have been inspired by the book, and in 2009 a teacher introducing “The Dot” to his students began “Dot Day.” On September 15, Moon Lake students celebrated “International Dot Day” with 10,106,382 other students and their teachers from 170 countries! We dressed in dots, we painted dots, we sang about dots, and even had candy dots to munch on!

So, for anyone who has been afraid to express themselves—from a student in art class to an adult whose fear has shut down a long-held dream, Peter Reynolds’ book “The Dot” is there to remind us all to “Make your mark, and see where it takes you.”

Paula Easter is the Fine Arts teacher at Moon Lake Elementary School.

Senior Health: Types of Retiree Plans

by Lynn Hixson

Retiree Insurance is health care coverage that you get from a former employer upon retiring. Some retiree plans work with Original Medicare, which is when you receive your Medicare benefits directly through the federal government. Other retiree plan benefits are combined with Medicare benefits under a Medicare Advantage plan, which is when you receive your Medicare benefits through a private insurance company. There are three (3) general types of retiree plans: fee-for-service retiree plans, managed care retiree plans, and employer-sponsored Medicare

Advantage plans.

Fee-for-service retiree plans are plans that pay for care from any doctor or hospital. These plans generally help pay Medicare costs and may also pay for care that Medicare does not, such as routine dental and vision care.

Managed care retiree plans are private health plans that generally pay for care only from in-network doctors and hospitals. If you use an out-of-network doctor or hospital, check with the retiree plan to see whether the plan will pay for some of the costs that Medicare does not pay for,

such as the 20 percent coinsurance for doctors’ services.

Employer-sponsored Medicare Advantage plans are private health plans for retirees who are eligible for Medicare. In some instances, you can get both your Medicare benefits and your retiree health benefits by signing up for a Medicare Advantage plan that has a contract with your former employer.

If you have any questions about Medicare, please call the SHIP Counselor at the DeKalb County Council on Aging at 256-845-8590.



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HAPPY DAY!

November Birthdays

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 Nov 1—Austyn Young
 Nov 2—Michael Potts
 Nov 2—Taylor Brown
 Nov 2—Triston Goss
 Nov 2—J.R. Hurst
 Nov 2—Larry O'Tinger
 Nov 2—Gequetta Darwin
 Nov 2—Taylor Brown
 Nov 2—Caleb Rogers
 Nov 2—Susan Watson Goodman
 Nov 3—Aubrey Shields
 Nov 3—Sandy Hulgan
 Nov 3—Hudson Brownfield
 Nov 3—Kay Sadia
 Nov 4—Barrett Wilkinson
 Nov 4—Rita Chapman
 Nov 4—Pat Lewis
 Nov 4—Daniel Hawkins
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 Nov 5—Luke Wright
 Nov 5—Ginger Kearney
 Nov 5—Cathy Haven Howard
 Nov 6—Tommy Harrison
 Nov 6—Duane Blalock
 Nov 6—Mike Smith
 Nov 6—Annette Reynolds
 Nov 6—Jeffrey Manning
 Nov 6—Alanis McKenzie
 Nov 6—Grayson Gatlin
 Nov 7—Melissa Bain
 Nov 7—Brooklyn Johnson
 Nov 7—Brian Smith
 Nov 8—Michael Harrison
 Nov 8—Mary Beasley

Nov 8—Toby Crider
 Nov 8—Mary Beasley
 Nov 8—Gibson Roberts
 Nov 8—George Boehringer
 Nov 8—Bob Tate
 Nov 8—Joy "Pam" Lewchuck
 Nov 9—Kowen Worthey
 Nov 9—Laura McKenzie
 Nov 9—Ed Turner
 Nov 9—Bonnie Easler
 Nov 9—Emily Hodge
 Nov 10—Toby Manifold
 Nov 10—Michael Kelley, Sr.
 Nov 10—Valinda Miracle
 Nov 10—Jessica Easler
 Nov 11—Gerry Bain
 Nov 11—Amber Griffith
 Nov 11—Allen McElhaney
 Nov 12—Kynlee Baggett
 Nov 12—Megan McElhaney
 Nov 12—Major Frost
 Nov 13—Addison Prestwood
 Nov 13—Lendell Chappell
 Nov 13—Kim Raley
 Nov 13—Mindy Loudon
 Nov 13—Colton Hadley
 Nov 14—Bud Jones
 Nov 14—Don Brock
 Nov 14—Austin Harrison
 Nov 14—William Hughes
 Nov 14—Amanda Garcia
 Nov 14—Greg Hughes
 Nov 15—Laura Boehringer
 Nov 15—Rory Quinn
 Nov 15—Lee Carden
 Nov 15—Ian Roberts
 Nov 15—Chris Stallings
 Nov 15—EJ Bickerstaff
 Nov 16—Dink Tillman
 Nov 16—Jeff Wigley

Nov 16—Johnny Mann
 Nov 17—Jordan Hammond
 Nov 17—Colton Ditmore
 Nov 17—Judy Kean
 Nov 17—Jeff Callahan
 Nov 17—Layne Hawkins
 Nov 18—George Boehringer
 Nov 18—Kim Foshee
 Nov 19—Caden Blalock
 Nov 19—Margo Tate
 Nov 19—Macrae Bailey
 Nov 20—Brandi Miller
 Nov 20—Kevin McElhaney
 Nov 20—Angel Carson
 Nov 21—Pam Wooten
 Nov 21—Keith Hadley
 Nov 21—Deedra Battles
 Nov 21—Nancy Brown
 Nov 21—Rachell Givens
 Nov 21—Judy Carter
 Nov 21—Yvonne Blalock
 Nov 21—Ashley Manning
 Nov 21—Brandy Clure
 Nov 21—Judy Carter
 Nov 21—Brettley Smothers
 Nov 22—Amber Carson
 Nov 22—Cason Garner
 Nov 22—Collin Coots
 Nov 22—Gerald Bailey
 Nov 24—Pam Baggett
 Nov 24—Hayley Crider
 Nov 24—Sarah Tucker
 Nov 24—Staci Winn
 Nov 24—Bradley Tyler Smith
 Nov 25—Billy Tramel
 Nov 25—Billy Shugart
 Nov 25—Ginger Kearney
 Nov 26—Krissey Harris
 Nov 26—Heath Kirby
 Nov 26—Renee Pruitt

Nov 26—Brinley Ware
 Nov 27—Kim Johnson
 Nov 27—Timbo Carden
 Nov 27—Clay Stiles
 Nov 27—Charlton Bell
 Nov 27—Ross Smith
 Nov 27—Lesley Blalock
 Nov 28—Lily Harrison
 Nov 28—Chance Hodges
 Nov 28—Almeda Bickerstaff
 Nov 28—Taylor Smothers
 Nov 28—Jean Powell
 Nov 29—Karen Powell
 Nov 29—Brian Blalock
 Nov 29—Kerry Bailey
 Nov 29—Kyleigh Barkley
 Nov 29—Steve Barkley
 Nov 29—Aric Collins
 Nov 30—Sandy McNutt

November Anniversaries

Nov 1—George & Kim Raley
 Nov 1—Matt & Jana Sharp
 Nov 8—Andrew & Penny Herbert
 Nov 12—Brittany & Adam Wooten
 Nov 12—Gerry and Melissa Bain
 Nov 14—Ronnie & Sandy Hulgan
 Nov 16—Dewayne & Melanie Grisham
 Nov 16—Dallas & Morgan Gregory
 Nov 21—Mark & Deedra Battles
 Nov 21—John & Michele Kincer
 Nov 23—Kenneth & Carol Busby
 Nov 25—David & Barbara Rape
 Nov 27—Loy & Beck Langston



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What To Do Around Here!

November 2017 Community Calendar

Nov 1—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. True Adventure Sports. 10am–2pm. 256-997-9577.

Nov 1—It's All in Your Head Songwriter Workshop. Songwriters at all levels of experience gather to critique songs and elevate their craft. Emmy-award-winning, No.1 hit songwriter Debi Smith Cochran will present a brief lesson, and attendees will play their songs for a group critique. Coal & Iron Building 501 Gault Ave. N. Fort Payne. 256-979-1910. Nashville Song Mentoring @ Nashvillesongmentoring. Bring your songs, pieces of songs, melodies, lyrics, critiquing skills and most of all, your camaraderie. First Wednesday of every month, guests welcome. \$20 fee. Doors open at 6pm. Program is from 7pm – 9pm.

Nov 2—Holiday Arrangements & Designs with Benny Campbell. Presented by DeKalb County Master Gardeners. Community Room of the Coal and Iron Building on the NE corner of Gault & 5th St. 11:30 am. Bring your lunch and learn with us! Water will be provided.

Nov 2, 7, 12 & 16—Sky Swing Adventure. This is an adventure of a lifetime. Enjoy the thrill of the swing at night. Pre-registration required. True Adventure Sports. Noon–2pm. 256-997-9577.

Nov 3, 10 & 17—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. 1pm. Orbix Hot Glass. Reservations and full payment required. \$75 per person. 256-523-3188.

Nov 4—9th Annual Canyon Fest: A Celebration of Arts and Nature. Little River Canyon Field School and Interpretive Center want you to come and enjoy live music, nature and arts activities, arts demonstrations and sales, great food, vendors, children's activities and more. 10am–3pm. 256-782-5697.

Nov 4—KitKat Kite Flight. Looking for a fun and interactive activity for you and your littles? Join One World Adventure Company for a splendid hour of kite flying and KitKat munching over DeSoto Falls! That's right, we will provide kites and KitKat treats for you and your kiddos. Don't miss out on this unforgettable family event! 11 am – 12 pm DeSoto Falls \$10pp (includes kite and KitKat treats) To register, contact Angie Shugart: angie@oneworldadventureco.org

Nov 4 & 22—Extreme Night Hike. This

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

Nov 4 & 25—Apple of My Eye Couples Yoga. Enjoy a relaxing morning of restorative yoga with your loved one. There's no better way to begin the day with than with a great morning stretch to open you up for the rest of the day. Bring your loved ones, friends, or children to this wonderful outdoor yoga flow. 8 - 9 am. Meet at DeSoto State Park Country Store (or Never-Neverland Trail Head). \$5. To register, email angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Nov 4 & 5—DeSoto State Park Backpacking Trip. Join One World Adventure, Seven Pines Survival, & DeSoto State Park for an exciting weekend of backpacking and camping at DeSoto State Park! Backpacking and camping basics will be taught by Naturalist/Survivalist Robert Wilson. Guided trips will be led by Robert Wilson. He will teach you how to do all things camping! Everything from how to pack your bag properly, how to prepare the campsite, how to locate a clean water supply, how to make a sustainable fire for warmth and food preparation, and teach you all about LNT (Leave No Trace). You'll be in GREAT hands with him along for the trip. Unguided trips will consist of a morning meet-up at the DeSoto State Park's Nature Center. Robert Wilson will meet you here and go over general camping etiquette and procedures along with passing out gear, maps, and answering any questions you may have before leaving for your backpacking trip. The rental fee includes everything but your clothes, personal items, & food. Backpacks will be provided. There is a LIMIT of 6 people for this trip so don't wait to reserve your spot! This is a family friendly event and WONDERFUL for BEGINNERS. Please contact Angie Shugart @ angie@oneworldadventureco.org for more information or to reserve your spot.

Nov 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 & 26—Tigers For Tomorrow "Big Cat Pumpkin Toss". Visitors who want to help support the Tigers for Tomorrow Wild Animal Preserve can donate medium and large pumpkins for the animal of their choice. Pumpkins must be donated at the admissions window by 1:30 p.m. Keepers will present the animals with their pumpkins around 2p.m. Tigers for Tomorrow at Untamed Mountain, 708 County Road 345, Attalla. 256-524-4150. tigersfortomorrow.org

Nov 4, 11, 18, 24 & 25—Blow an 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-served basis. We welcome people of all

ages (at least 5 years old). 9am–4pm. Orbix Hot Glass. Cost is \$38 per ornament blown. 256-523-3188.

Nov 4, 11, 18 & 25—Chase that Squirrel Dog Friendly Hike. What better way to spend a Saturday morning than with your furry best friend while making MORE puppy dog friends! This hike will be focused on all things dog and helping you and your best friend to bond even more while hiking the beautiful trails at DeSoto State Park. We will be using the Never-Neverland Trail for this spectacular hike. This hike is perfect for everyone! P.S. Dog that spots the most squirrels wins! 9–11am. DeSoto State Park Never-Neverland Trail Head. \$10/person (with dog); \$5/person (without dog); kids 10 & under are FREE. To register, email angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Nov 4, 6, 8, 13, 18, 21, 24 & 25—Rock Climbing / Rappelling Adventure Combo. Experience first-hand what rock climbing and rappelling is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. Includes all the gear, plus basic instruction. 10am–2pm. True Adventure Sports. 256-997-9577.

Nov 4, 11, 18 & 25—Rappelling Adventure. Explore scenic outcroppings along Lookout Mountain–Alabama at a place known as "Chicken Rock". No previous experience is necessary for this rappelling adventure. It is GREAT for the entire family. 10am–1pm or 2–5pm. Meet at DeSoto Falls. \$40/person (ages 10 and up). To register, contact Angie Shugart: angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Nov 4, 11, 18 & 25—S'mores & More Campfire Nights. Looking for a fun and interactive activity for you and your little One? Join One World Adventure Company for a splendid hour spent around the campfire making tasty s'mores at DeSoto State Park! We will provide yummy s'mores ingredients. Don't have a kiddo? Come join us and make new friends! 7–8pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring. \$10/person (includes s'mores ingredients). To register, contact Angie Shugart: angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Nov 7—Moon Lake School Veterans Day Program. 9am. Moon Lake School Gym.

Nov 9 & 17—Night Zip Line Adventure. Pre-registration required. True Adventure Sports. 6–8pm. 256-997-9577.

Nov 10—Veterans Day Parade. Downtown Fort Payne. 4 pm.

Nov 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 & 19—Play: "The Diviners". A moving, emotional slice of Americana set in depression-era Indiana that weaves an epic tale of faith and truth! Friday-Saturday evening performances at 7pm; Sunday matinees at 2pm. All seats are reserved. \$8/person. This show is best enjoyed by audiences ages 13 & up. Tom Beville Lyceum at Northeast Alabama

Community College, Section, AL. Tickets at <https://www.showclix.com/events/1135>.

Nov 11—Yoga on the Mountain. Start your morning off right with Dee Brown. DeSoto State Park. 8–9am. \$5. Call 256-634-8370. to register.

Nov 11—Farm-to-Table Feast. Join us to celebrate the goodness of the season at our second annual Harvest Meal. We'll be serving up a farm-to-table feast straight from our garden and pastures (\$17, including a drink and dessert) for your enjoyment. Children's plates can also be purchased for \$10. Reservations at info@thefarmatwindyhill.com; tickets can also be purchased the day of the event. Come eat, drink, and make merry! 10am–1pm. The Farm at Windy Hill, 445 Road 942, Mentone.

Nov 11—Guided Archaeology Tour of DeKalb and Cherokee Counties. Join JSU archaeologist Dr. Harry Holstein for a guided tour of sites throughout Cherokee and DeKalb counties. Participants will visit the 19th century Cornwall Iron Furnace, a Spanish contact site at Coosa village, a rock shelter in use as early as 3000 B.C., and much more. This will be an unforgettable all-day event. Bring your own food and drinks. Transportation is provided. Space is limited so register early! Near Fort Payne, AL (meeting location disclosed at registration). 9am–3pm. \$15/person (ages 14 and over); pre-registration required by calling 256-782-8010 (limit 10).

Nov 11—DeKalb County Genealogical Society Meeting. Meet at 10am at the DeKalb County Public Library, and then travel to the "Loose Papers" building for a tour. Doug Brandon will tell about all the different kinds of documents that are available for help in genealogy research. Lunch will be served at the library after the tour. Anyone interested in genealogy is invited to attend this free meeting. If you have questions, email dekalbcoalgenealogy@gmail.com.

Nov 11 & 12—Creative Spirit Market. Hosted by Little River Arts Council & DeSoto State Park. Adding a new twist to a typical art fair, this event is designed as an open air showcase, with artist demonstrations, locally & regionally created fine & folk art, premium hand-crafted goods, live acoustic music, as well as interactive kid's art area. Shoppers can browse and watch artists in their creative process, listen to music, plus purchase goods from fine and folk artists such as painters, potters, quilters, weavers & basket makers, fabric spinners, culinary artists and craftsmen. Some unique and one-of-a-kind gifts will be available for purchase. Stop by and get some early gift-shopping in! 10am–3pm each day. DeSoto State Park. Country Store/Picnic Area on County Road 89. Event is free & open to everyone. Rain or

What To Do Around Here!

November 2017 Community Calendar

shine. Call 256-997-5025 for details.

Nov 11—OWA Pre-Winter Adventure Fest. Join One World Adventure Company for our 1st Annual Pre-Winter Adventure Fest! This will be a fun family-friendly event dedicated to all of our favorite outdoor activities: Hiking, Kayaking, Rappelling, and MUCH MORE!!! Spend your Saturday enjoying the great outdoors with us! 10am–4pm Meet at DeSoto Falls. \$75/adult; \$55 (child). To register, email angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Nov 12—Serious Skills Series: Steel Barn Quilt Workshop. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors. Barn quilts are beautiful pieces of art, found all over the country, usually mounted on barns or other buildings. Join artist Nathan Winkler of The Steel Quilt Company for an opportunity to express your own creativity while building your own 1 ft. x 1 ft. steel quilt square to hang at home or give to someone special. Spaces are limited, so sign up today! 10am–2pm. Little River Canyon Center. \$55 supply fee (all materials supplied). Adults only. Bring a friend and get \$5 off your fee. Pre-registration required by Nov 9. Call Niki Wayner at 256-845-3548.

Nov 14—Orienteering Class. Basic yet

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

Nov 17 & 18—Photography Workshop. Join Fine Art Photographer John Dersham for a two-day seminar on how to improve your photography by learning tried and true compositional rules. Learn about lighting and strategies that will provide more visual impact to your pictures. Hikes are short and are easy to moderate (optional). Nov 17 (6–9 pm) & Nov 18 (8 am–3pm). Little River Canyon Center. Bring a day pack with lunch/drinks. \$20/person; pre-registration required.

Nov 18—DeKalb County Heart Walk. DeKalb Regional Medical Center is hosting a free community event and Heart Walk with local community businesses and leaders. The Heart Walk is the American Heart Association's premiere event that brings communities together to raise funds and celebrate progress in the fight against this country's No. 1 and No. 5 killers, heart diseases and stroke. Rotary Pavilion in downtown Fort Payne. Race at 8am.

Nov 24—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. 9am. Orbix Hot Glass. Reservations and full

payment are required. \$75 per person. 256-523-3188.

Nov 24, 25 & 29—Night Zip Line Adventure. Pre-registration required. True Adventure Sports. 6:30–8:30pm. 256-997-9577

Nov 25—You're Not You without a Snickers Hike. Join One World Adventure on a family fun hike focused on the importance of keeping up nutrition levels during physical activities. And yes, this hike will include a Snickers bar! Family, friends, and furry companions are all welcome on this amazing hike at DeSoto State Park. 11am–12 pm. DeSoto State Park Never-Neverland Trail Head. \$10 (adults) \$5 (children 12 & under). To register, email angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

oneworldadventureco.org.

Nov 25—Adventure Scavenger Hunt. Look for clues, explore amazing places, and find prizes during One World Adventure Company's Scavenger Hunt through DeSoto State Park. This family fun event will take you to amazing places and views throughout DeSoto State Park while putting your thinking caps on to find your next clue! Don't miss out on this fun event! 1–3pm. DeSoto State Park. \$75 per family of 4. To register, email angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Nov 30—Night Zip Line Adventure. Pre-registration required. True Adventure Sports. 7:30–9:30pm. 256-997-9577

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Ongoing Calendar

The Little River group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Saturday AND every Tuesday night at 6pm at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church in Mentone. 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 6pm at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Church in Mentone. Same time and location as the AA Meeting. Come join us and help us grow!

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

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

Mentone Town Council meets the 2nd Tuesday every month at 6pm at Mentone Town Hall. Everyone is welcome.

MAPA Board meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6pm at Moon Lake Library.

Gluten Free/Diabetic All Natural Cooking classes with Brenda Trace are 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 at 9:30am. Second Baptist Church in Fort Payne.

DeSoto Rescue Squad meets the 1st Saturday of the month at 9am at the MERF house in Mentone.

Free Square Dance Lessons offered most Thursdays, 6:30pm, at Tom Bevill Center in Rainsville by Duos and Solos Dance Club. 256-638-2780.

FREE FOOD for eligible persons and families. Wednesdays, 9–11:30am. New applicants are 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.

The NLMFPD Board meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 7pm.

The Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center meets monthly on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at Rock Ridge Retreat Center in Valley Head at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome!

Mentone Farmers Market is open year 'round on Saturdays from 10am–1pm.

Storytime at the Canyon Center is held every 1st Saturday of the month. 11am–Noon. Free. 256-782-5697.

The Mentone Business Association (MBA) meets the 2nd Monday of each month from 6–7pm.

The Rhododendron Garden Club meets each month on the 2nd Tuesday at 10am at the MERF House. 'Green thumbs' and 'brown thumbs' welcome! 256-634-4403.

The DeKalb County Genealogical Society meets the 2nd Saturday of every month in the DeKalb County Public Library, 10am.

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 is open at the Dekalb County Council on Aging each week, Monday through Friday (except for certain holidays), from 8am to Noon.

Little River Arts Council meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6pm at Moon Lake Library.

The Farm at Windy Hill hosts an Open Farm Friday Market every Friday from 3–6 pm (through November). 445 Road 942, Mentone.

Valley Head Town Council meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday at 6pm.

Writing anyone? You are welcome to meet with our small supportive group for a casual sharing time with other writers interested in life stories, poetry, and fiction. Come to St. Joseph's the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1pm.

Chess players and others who enjoy games of strategy meet on Saturday mornings at 10am at Moon Lake Community Library. Casual games, for all ages.

*Calendar entries
are subject to change.*



Rhododendron Garden Club

By Mellanie Tuttle

entered the Scarecrow contest. Our "Lady Liberty Bell" received a blue ribbon but lost to Moon Lake School for Best in Show. Congrats to Moon Lake for their awesome Lady Liberty. She was beautiful.

Twenty-seven Moon Lake students participated in making floral designs the week before the fair, with the hope they would enter the designs in the flower show. Although no one entered, the designs were creative, fun and amazingly good for a first effort! We'll be ready for next year! The raised flowerbeds were moved to a new location to make room for the new greenhouse! Two additional beds were built to make a pollinator garden. Excitement abounds with all the



possibilities!

Members were encouraged to attend the Master Gardeners' Lunch and Learn on November 2 at the Coal and Iron Building in Fort Payne. Mentone's own Benny Campbell will be the speaker. He is a treasure and will dazzle us once again with his expertise!

Rhea Pirch presented a PowerPoint program, "Nature Paints with a Full Brush", and gave handouts on the top 10 trees for fall color. She answered "Where, What, Why, How, and When" questions about the

changing of leaf colors in the fall. Chlorophyll provides the green color of leaves. As the daylight

(cont'd on page 17)

Jo Anne Glover graciously opened her home for the October 10th meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club. Hostess Carol Argo provided delicious morsels from Eddie's Bakery Café. President Mellanie Tuttle read the "Garden Meditation" by Rev. Max Coots for the meditation.

Mellanie Tuttle called the meeting to order. During roll call, members shared which plants they will be overwintering and an item they use in holiday decorating. One fourth of the group had nothing to overwinter, but others were trying to save orchids, philodendron, succulents and begonias. Christmas cactus, sweet gum balls, holly, pinecones, boxwood, magnolia, painted willow and Jackson vine were decorating choices, with two members boldly admitting to the use of artificial Christmas trees.

Horticulture Chair Martha Wood's choice this month was the native perennial Dianthus 'Bath's Pink', although the plants she brought to share were a different variety of Dianthus. Features of 'Bath's Pink' include: deer-resistant; attracts butterflies; evergreen; fragrant clove scent; good for cut flowers; blooms for four weeks or more; and heat-tolerant. It grows in a low mat of blue-green foliage and prefers a loose soil.

Conservation Chair Marsha Merrell reported that the Little River National Preserve hosts 1069 vascular plants, 47 species of fish, 142 bird species, 35 mammal species, 352 insect species, 58 arachnid species and 21 amphibian species. A Catis fly species is unique to the Preserve and over 100 plants are considered rare. So much diversity and beauty is just down the road!

Design Chair Mellanie Tuttle thanked all who participated in the flower show with their time, food and entries. Martha Wood received the Sweepstakes Award for most blue ribbons (first) in horticulture, as well as a blue, red and yellow in her design entries. Marsha Merrell had a fourth place in her design and sported the Award of Merit and a Grower's Choice Award for her tansy and beautyberry entries! Dianne Kuehl placed second with her design and also had a second for her container entry. Mary Shurrett's basil received a second. Rhea Pirch entered a design for the first time and her breakfast tray was third. New member Honey Ennis also entered a design. Mellanie Tuttle had three blues in horticulture and three blue ribbons in design. She also received a Tricolor Award for a reflective entry and the Designer Choice Award and Design Excellence Award for a construction entry. The club also



Garden Meditation by Rev. Max Coots

Let us give thanks for a bounty of people.

For children who are our second planting, and though they grow like weeds and the wind too soon blows them away, may they forgive us our cultivation and fondly remember where their roots are.

Let us give thanks;

For generous friends...with hearts...and smiles as bright as their blossoms;

For feisty friends, as tart as apples;

For continuous friends, who, like scallions and cucumbers, keep reminding us that we've had them;

For crotchety friends, sour as rhubarb and as indestructible;

For handsome friends, who are as gorgeous as eggplants and as elegant as a row of corn, and the others, as plain as potatoes and so good for you;

For funny friends, who are as silly as Brussels sprouts and as amusing as Jerusalem artichokes;

And serious friends as unpretentious as cabbages, as subtle as summer squash, as persistent as parsley, as delightful as dill, as endless as zucchini and who, like parsnips, can be counted on to see you through the winter;

For old friends, nodding like sunflowers in the evening-time, and young friends coming on as fast as radishes;

For loving friends, who wind around us like tendrils and hold us, despite our blights, wilts and witherings;

And finally, for those friends now gone, like gardens past that have been harvested, but who fed us in their times that we might have life thereafter.

For all these we give thanks.

GREAT TURNOUT FOR COLORFEST

BY ANNA MAE HORN

Colorfest 2017 drew a fantastic crowd! This means that not only was money raised for MAPA to put back into the community, but also local business owners had a boom in sales before the slow winter season. Increased business sales also means increased tax dollars for the town.

The other side of success is the fact that festival goers had a fabulous time. There were smiles on many faces and many people asking about other events in town as well as future festivals. Festival attendees enjoyed the free music that accompanied the wide variety of arts, crafts, food, and activities from almost 100 vendors at Colorfest, several of which were our local non-profit groups that were fundraising.

MAPA is honored to organize these festivals that bring so much to the community. It is all made possible by the donation of time, money,

resources, and muscle! Generous sponsorships from organizations and businesses in the area provide funds for the festival. Dedicated volunteers make it all happen. Coordination from Boy Scout Troop 106, the town, local law enforcement, and emergency services ensure everyone's safety. Many thanks to each and every one who made this event possible!

Mother Nature donated beautiful weather for the event. Nice weather always brings big crowds to our gorgeous community. Unfortunately, that means the roads get pretty backed up. (The price of success, right?) Let me assure everyone that the

MAPA board and festival committee are working closely with local officials to continually improve the traffic and parking situation. We want to bring great festivals to town with as little impact as possible to the natural order of our unique town.

Thank you again to all who helped and all who attended. Congratulations to all the contest winners!



Thank You All!

When I volunteered for Festival Coordinator of Colorfest, I am not sure I knew exactly what I was getting into. Thanks to the dedicated volunteers who worked along with me during the planning and on festival weekend, I survived. Without the many volunteers who stepped up and gave selflessly, Colorfest could not happen, much less be such a terrific event. Words can not express the depth of my gratitude to those who hung in there through it all. "Thank you from the bottom of my heart!" is the closest I can come. I want to extend a tremendous thanks to the many sponsors in and around town. They provide funding for the festival expenses. Their support is crucial to the festival and its success. As always, Colorfest received fantastic support from Town Hall, city officials, local law enforcement, and local Boy Scout Troop 106. Again, my heartfelt thanks to each of you who helped make the festival a great event for our special community.

Sincerely,
Kerry Breithaupt
Festival Coordinator for Colorfest 2017

SCARECROW HOLLER WINNERS



- 1st place
Cynthia Stinson
& Fontana Stinson
- 2nd place
Wildflower Café
- 3rd place
Mentone
Business
Association

PUMPKIN PATCH JUBILEE WINNERS



- 1st place
Mentone Inn
- 2nd place
Triple G Tradin' Post
- 3rd place
Village
Ice Cream
Shoppe

MORE WINNERS AND FESTIVAL FUN!

PET PARADE WINNERS

Best Costume: Mili, owner Gay Godbois
Most Original Costume: Daisy, owners Phil and Judy Hill
Pet Owner Look-Alike: Ranger, twins Emi and Ellie Tucker
Best Dog Trick: Bella, owners Wayne and Kimberly Richie
Judges Choice: Ranger, twins Emi and Ellie Tucker



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Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Johnson



Lisa Schad presents a \$50 check to Colton Hadley for winning the MBA Scavenger Hunt



Mentone Wedding Chapel



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Nestled in the woods atop Lookout Mountain, near Mentone, Alabama, this quaint little chapel is surrounded by ferns, forest and flowers. The chapel is a scaled version of

traditional Appalachian churches of days gone by. Stained glass windows filtering soft forest sunrays and soft organ music accent an ambience fitting the wedding ceremony. Inside, wooden pews will seat approximately 60 guests.

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

To arrange your wedding or renewing of your wedding vows, call
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Worship

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 Bunnel.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30PM.

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 (eastern) and Worship at 10AM (eastern).

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@yahoo.com or P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984.





SAVING LIVES, AND BEING SAVED

by Kelly Leavitt

The motto of the Vietnam Dustoffs was, "So others may live." Cecil "Ted" Howard's story is one of heroism, no doubt, but also of gratification, because his service as a Vietnam Dustoff pilot led to well over 3,000 lives being saved.

Ted has lived in Mentone for over 15 years. His brother, Bob, had moved to the area in the 1980s, and when Ted retired from civilian service with the United States Army War College in Pennsylvania, he made the decision to settle somewhere nearby in Georgia. Fate, though, led him to meet and marry his wife, Cathy, who had moved to Mentone in 2000.

Ted's service with the Army War College involved his acting as a liaison for command-level officers in the International Fellows Program, a global cadre of senior military officers who were invited to the program by the Army Chief of Staff. Ted loved his work, and he became (and remains) friends with many of the fellows.

He retired after 30 years, marking a life devoted to serving his country. His service began at age 17, when he enlisted in the Army. He was 24 when his unit, the 25th Infantry Division, was sent to Vietnam. He served 18 months as an artillery sergeant during the early build-up in Cu Chi.

After his return home, he was sent to helicopter flight school. After completing the nine-month course, he was offered further training with Cobras or with Dustoff. "I chose Dustoff for only one conscious reason," Ted explained. "I asked where the Dustoff training was held. It was at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. I knew that's where they trained all the nurses, so I said, 'Well, I'll take Dustoff!'"

Dustoff, part of the 44th Medical Brigade, is an air ambulance rescue team that flies unarmed



Ted (right) greets the man who saved his life.

helicopters into battle areas to rescue wounded soldiers. The Geneva Convention dictates that medical personnel cannot carry assault weapons and are not authorized to use anything other than personal weapons for self-protection. Each Dustoff helicopter has two pilots, a medic, and a crew chief. Their mission is to get the wounded out of harm's way, provide basic medical care, and deliver them to treatment.

As a medical brigade, the mission of Dustoff MEDEVAC was to rescue U.S. military personnel in Vietnam. "We carried anyone who needed help, though. We did not refuse based on politics. When a mine detonated under a school bus, we were there to move the children to an American facility for treatment.

"I cared to help those who had to either go to Vietnam or go to jail. Some who went should not have been sent. I went back as a rescue pilot to help other GIs who could not avoid being there.

"We only lost one patient on the aircraft, and we could have saved him if we'd had the right equipment. Our unit, the 159th Air Ambulance Detachment, only lost three of our own people in the five years our unit was in Vietnam. All three were pilots. One was killed on April 5, 1968, one on April 7, 1970, and one on April 7, 1972."

On April 7, 1970, Ted flew as the co-pilot. Doug MacNeil ("Mac") was the pilot in command. "We had been on a mission north of Tay Ninh and had come back and dropped off the patient at the hospital. We'd moved over to the refueling station and were refueling, listening to the radio at all times. We learned there was a mission going on in the Straight Edge Woods, south of Tay Ninh, close to the Cambodian border, so we flew out to the area, just in case we were needed.

"We made contact with the ground troops. We were circling to the west, almost but not quite over the Cambodian border. The action was about a mile or two away, inside the Vietnam border.

"We were circling, we could hear the fire from the gunships, we could see the smoke. Mac, as the pilot in command, decided not to wait any further but to come in, so instead of coordinating with the ground people, he radioed, 'This is Dustoff 163 coming in southwest to northeast, and coming in low.'"

In fact, they were coming in very low—hardly above tree level. "You can't see very far when you're down this low," Ted continues. "Mac asked if anyone saw the ground unit and I said, '12 o'clock close.'

"At that point, he did a side flare, a maneuver he was well practiced in, turning the aircraft sideways while at the same time pulling on the collective, which made sort of an air brake. When we were in this position, about 12 feet off the ground, the enemy opened up on us with heavy caliber machine guns and small arms fire. Mac was killed instantly. I was monitoring the controls, with both feet on the pedals. Both of my feet were blown off of the pedals when a round came up through my left leg and into my right thigh.

"We crashed, the helicopter landing on its left side. I remember looking around and seeing my crew gone; my medic and my air chief were both gone. I didn't know if they'd been thrown out of the aircraft when it landed, or if they'd escaped. I turned off the battery and the fuel because I was afraid of fire. I was still strapped in.

"About that time I heard the death rattle, the



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air escaping from Mac's lungs. When I unstrapped, I fell down onto him, and I remember saying, 'Excuse me, Mac, didn't mean to do that.' I knew he was dead even as I said that. I checked for a pulse, found none, no response whatsoever. I began to look around in the back for some way of getting out.

"There was still a lot of small arms fire going on and I didn't want to go over the side for fear of being shot, so I tried to find something to knock out the plexiglass window. It was not easy to maneuver around with a bullet through my leg and my thigh.

"The medic crawled back to the aircraft, saw me inside, and picked up a piece of the wreckage to knock out the window closest to the ground. I said, 'Let's get Mac's body out.' He said, 'No, we don't have time.'

"Well, when he said that, it meant to me that either the enemy was about to charge, or there was an aircraft on the ground, waiting for me. So I got out of the aircraft, low-crawled back to

the waiting aircraft, and was flown back to the hospital.

"The medic, Ed Iannuccilli, was the only one who was not injured. He came to visit me the next day and explained, 'I crawled back to the aircraft to see if you and Mac were OK, and there you were in the window with a great big smile on your face, giving me the peace sign.'

"I asked why we were in such a hurry to get out of there. He said, 'Didn't you see the fire? The whole back of the aircraft was on fire, and you were walking around in it.' To this day, I can tell you that I saw no flames. I'm convinced that my mind refused to acknowledge the presence of flames, otherwise I would have gone over the side and been shot. The mind is a pretty nice thing to have around," Ted mused.

In July of this year, Ed Iannuccilli was presented the Silver Star for his bravery in saving Ted's life. "Rumor has it that he didn't think he deserved it when it was first offered to him, so he never picked it up. He had risked his life, so he

certainly deserved it," says Ted, who was able to fly to San Antonio to witness the ceremony, all these 47 years later.

Ed once said, "When there's nothing you won't do to save a life, that's when you're doing your job." Ed, on behalf of Ted's fellow Mentonians, may I say, "Thank you." We're glad Ted's here today, and part of this community we all love.

In Memory Allen Ray Smith (1967–2017)

Mr. Allen Ray Smith, age 50, of Valley Head, passed away on September 27, 2017. Allen was a loving husband to his wife Renee for 29 years, a great father to sons Corey Drew Blalock, Cody Allen Smith, and Trevor Owen Smith; and a spoiling grandfather to Kama "Peanut" Blalock, Hudson "Huddie" Smith, Amelia "Millie Bug" Smith, Reagan Owen and Riley Owen. He will also be missed dearly by his mother-in-law, Kay Blackstock Hayes; his brothers, Gary "Biscuit" Smith and Carl "Goo Baby" Smith, and sisters-in-law; several nieces and nephews, and extended family; and a host of friends.

Allen was a proud veteran of the Army National Guard and a former Valley Head football player who helped bring home a state championship. Allen enjoyed reminiscing about those good ol' days. Well known for being a great hunter and fisherman, Allen also enjoyed cooking, so much so that he catered the food to all three of his son's weddings including his youngest son, Trevor's, the weekend before his passing. Allen Smith's kind nature will be missed by all who knew him.



Rhododendron Garden Club (cont'd from page 11)

hours shorten and the nights become cooler, the chlorophyll decreases and the carotenoids, which have been present all along, can show off with colors of brown, orange and yellow. Anthocyanins, not present during the growing season, start to develop late in the growing season and produce the reds and purples. Cranberries, apples, cherries, strawberries and plums also get their color from anthocyanins. As light levels and temperatures drop, the flow of the plant hormone auxin slows and another hormone, ethane, rises. The weakened cell walls become like torn perforated paper and the leaves drop, becoming mulch. The Yellow Poplar is the first tree to display its buttery yellow. Sweetgum can be a nuisance with those ornery balls, but the yellow to red to purple fall color is beautiful.

Plant Sweetgums away from walking areas. Native Hickories will show off in the forest with their deep yellow and the Blackgums have deep maroon color. The Sourwood is another native commonly seen on the side of the road with brilliant red color. Dogwoods have it all—Spring's flowers, and deep red foliage and berries for the winter! The Red Maple is the most widely planted shade tree in Alabama for fall color. They are tough and adaptable, so are good choices for an urban setting to replace the dreaded Bradford pear. The small ornamental Japanese Maple has beautiful green or red summer foliage that turns yellow, orange or red for the fall. Fort Payne Park boasts some lovely Ginkgo trees with their pure yellow foliage. They are truly spectacular! The number one choice for fall color in the mountains is the Sugar Maple. Its yellow/orange color is the king of fall color! Rhea's presentation fired us



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up for the fall display, and maybe we'll be able to match the tree with its signature color.

Our November 14 meeting will be held in the home of Martha Wood. Mary Shurett has asked Louise Ladonovich to speak on Oaks. Visitors are always welcome and can call Mellanie Tuttle (256-634-4403) for any info about the club.

Mellanie Tuttle is the president of the Rhododendron Garden Club, which is a member of the Northeast Alabama Federation of Garden Clubs; The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., District II; Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.; and National Garden Clubs.



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LOTS and LAND

30 ACRES (+/-) IN MENTONE of mostly hardwood forest, some pasture land. Slight slope to offer a great elevation for future cabins, a farm, hunting cabin or whatever your Mentone dream dictates. \$105,000 (\$3,500 per acre)

DESOTO FALLS AREA LAKE-FRONT LOT with approx. 94' frontage on the prime part of W Fork Little River, the truly navigable part where you can canoe, kayak or pontoon all the way to Mentone! So much natural beauty, so rarely available. \$155,000 (355152)

OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE! 2 WOODED ACRES with a tiny little rustic one-room camping cabin (no plumbing, water or septic installed). Sort of a getaway or place to stay until you're ready to build your mountain home. Restricted. \$39,700 (1034503)

DAY SPRING. One seldom hears of lots for sale in this private, gated community with its common walking path, a park of Little River. Beautiful and level-topography. A place to build your mountain retreat. Restricted. \$40,000.

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

BROW-FRONT LOTS WITH STUNNING SUNSET VIEWS; each offers a panorama of the valley and mountains beyond. Perfect combination of wooded and cleared, ready for you to build your Mentone mountain getaway cabin (or a rental cabin on the brow!) Located along the scenic DeSoto Pkwy, just a mile or so from downtown Mentone. Quaint split-rail fence along roadway. Lot 16 offers 0.78 acres and approximately 90' of brow frontage and is priced at \$107,500. (1055395)

SOUTH COOL STREET brow-front property with a beautiful old stone fireplace chimney, part of the foundation, plus a small garage. New survey. An original Mentone summer home once stood here, built and owned by the same family since early 1920s. Approx 0.45 acre lot in an area where properties are seldom available. Build your own memories! \$125,000 (1070474)



JUST PLAIN ADORABLE! "Carpenter Gothic"-style cottage w/the steep gables, pointed arches, wood moldings, charm & quaintness that is the hallmark of this style. This is a peaceful, peaceful, peaceful place 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. \$115,000 (1006846)



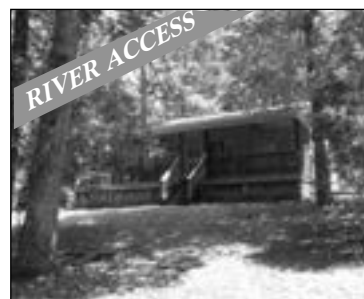
HOLY MACKEREL! A commercial & residential property all rolled into one, in downtown Mentone, and at a super new price! 1BR (or 2 if you finish the loft)/1.5BA; kit; LR; sunroom; side porch; private back yard; front showroom/office/studio. Yes, it needs some work. No, it isn't enormous and it isn't new. But, if you're looking for a place to live, work or just enjoy downtown Mentone, this is a deal. Now priced at \$98,500. (403324)



THE VIEWS, THE SPACE, THE LOCATION... it's all here. Lovely frame & stone cottage on the brow at Mentone. 3000+ sq ft; 3BR/4BA; lg bonus room for 4th BR, office, exercise or play room. Main-level Master Suite. Dream kitchen with granite counters, commercial gas cooktop, double wall ovens, wine cooler, disposal, compact, gas fireplace, enormous pantry. Large DR opens onto brow-side screen porch & decks. New wood floors & ceiling; new paint; new windows in MA BR & Living. Partial basement. Hard-wired propane generator. Detached 3-car garage w/efficiency apartment & shop. Wrought-iron gated entry; circular, paved drive. \$468,500 (1062816)



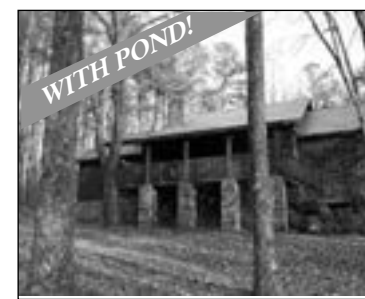
NOT YOUR AVERAGE HOUSE! 4BR/2BA, open floor plan, 2240 sq ft home; 2-car garage; lg covered front porch; rear deck; 1.4 acres level land w/fruit trees. Add'l office & lg laundry room. Open kitchen/dining/living area w/great cabinetry, work island & plenty of counter space! Industrial-grade, dual CH/A units. 2x6 construction. Cement board exterior. Lotsa features, lotsa space, lotsa savings! Mentone \$150,000 (1067538)



CUTE-AS-A-BUTTON COTTAGE with deeded access on Middle Fork Little River at Lake Lahusage; plus a little workshop that could easily become a guest cottage. Screened front porch. Open KI/living; 2BR/1BA w/laundry; CH/A; deck on back & side; fenced backyard; 1+ acre w/great shade trees & yard; path to the river (w/a place to secure your kayaks or canoes when not in use). The next best thing to being on the water, affordably priced at \$115,000. (1076521)



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 Fpce; 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)



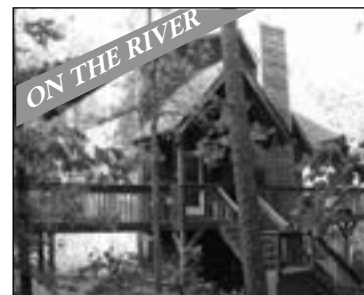
TIMBER-FRAME CRAFTSMANSHIP in a cabin, privately nestled in 9.5 acres, surrounded by state park land, with small pond, rock outcroppings & majestic woods. Gated drive. Post & beam construction with vaulted, open, living/dining/kitchen. 3BR/3.5BA. Wide-plank pine floors throughout. Mountain stone, wood-burning fireplace with raised hearth. Full front porch, extra-large back porch with ramp. \$259,900 (1062482)



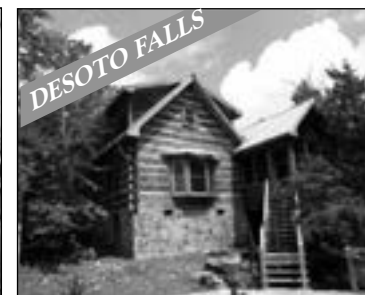
COOL MOUNTAIN BREEZES & casual elegance of an "old" downtown Mentone brow-front cottage, expanded & updated. Metal roof; vinyl "cedar shake" siding; "smart" system to control utilities remotely; 3BR/2BA. Beautiful pine-plank floors; mtn stone & masonry, WB fplce w/rock wall & raised hearth. Gorgeous kitchen! Quaint white picket fence. Near Brow Park & so close to everything Mentone. \$268,000 (1022983)



NEW SIDING & PAINT! WHITE-TAIL CABIN, fresh exterior, updated interior! 2BR/2BA; on 4 lots (approx 1 acre) adjoining Camp Comer Scout Reservation. Original heart-pine floors & tongue & groove pine wood interior retain all the character of yesteryear. New cabinets & appliances; new MABA; new windows, plumbing & electric; CH/A; much more. Fruit & nut trees, plenty of space for a garden spot. \$143,500 (1062364)



CHALET-STYLE CABIN on Middle Fork, Little River. Pine floors; stone, woodburning Fpce; 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 walkout 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. \$229,900 (1019875)



HOW DOES ONE PUT A PRICE ON SOMETHING SO SPECIAL? Overlooking DeSoto Falls. Log cabin home w/heart pine floors; 3BR/3BA; library; wood-burning mtn stone fireplace; large kitchen; hand-made doors...the list goes on. Spacious. Rock formations, woods and a fence separate the property from State Park-owned land. So much beauty. So seldom does something like this come on the market. \$645,000 (1052152)



OUR LOCAL HERO – CORPORAL PETE WALKER

by David Allgood

Seaborn “Pete” Walker joined the Army in 1940, leaving the peace and tranquility of the life he had grown to love in Mentone in order to serve our country. Pete was raised by his loving parents, John and Willie Walker, in a house behind what is now the Plowshares Bistro. However, with the chances for jobs growing scarce in 1940, Pete decided to leave his mountain home to make his career in the Army. When he enlisted in Fort McPherson, Georgia, he had no idea that the events of 1941 would propel him into service during a period when his nation was at greatest need.

After completing basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, Pete was assigned to Camp Bowie, Texas, where his fellow soldiers formed the 760th Tank Battalion. The 760th fought victoriously under General George Patton throughout the North African Campaign and were then desperately needed to advance the Allied efforts in Italy. After landing in Naples, Pete and the 760th proceeded toward Rome, having to pass through the bitterly cold mountainous terrain near Cassino during the dead of winter.

On January 5, 1944, with the ground covered in snow and completely iced over, the 760th shelled enemy positions the entire night. The following morning, his unit was called upon to



Pete and Margaret Walker

lead the attack, and during the assault, Pete’s tank was hit by two artillery shells. Landing inside the tank, the explosions sent shrapnel throughout, injuring all five members of the crew. Miraculously, “everyone but me managed to get out of the tank and run for safety. I crawled to the battery box and pulled the switches to extinguish a fire that had started. I then took my sulfa drugs, as all the soldiers had been instructed to do. After several attempts to crawl out of the tank, I realized my legs had crumpled. I looked down and saw my feet sitting by my knees.”

Corporal Walker gathered his remaining strength and managed to pull himself up and over the turret, but as his arms gave out, he fell head

first into the snow. Bleeding heavily but with a strong will to survive, he crawled about 50 feet away from the smoldering tank into the meager safety of a terrace row. There, he acted quickly to tie his combat pants around what remained of his legs, stopping the bleeding as best he could while he waited for help. As the battle raged on, his comrades were unable to reach Pete’s position, but by 6:30 p.m., in the cover of darkness, his tank commander and a team of medics were finally able to rescue him.

Twelve days later, doctors amputated both of Pete’s legs below the knee in an Army field hospital. After being evacuated through several other hospitals, Pete was finally transferred back to the States and was assigned to McCloskey General in Temple, Texas, for recovery and rehabilitation. During his stay at McCloskey, Pete was fitted with prostheses made by the J.E. Hanger Limb Company, a company that would later benefit from his ingenuity and experiences. After being fitted with his first artificial legs, the doctors told Pete to get up and “Walk, you’re a country boy. You can do it.” Determined to do just that, Pete was walking within two days with the assistance of two canes, confident he could eventually do better.

Although recovering well, it was only nine months after he had been wounded that his dream of a military career ended. Upon his honorable discharge, Pete was six inches shorter than when he had entered the service, and he continued to struggle walking. Also, his injuries left his hands numb for two years, and shrapnel continued to work itself out of his knees and thighs for

(cont’d on page 21)

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Incredible Opportunity! Beautifully perched atop the West Fork of Little River in Mentone, AL, this large tract, scenic property presents a compelling opportunity to own a significant piece of paradise. Over 1,400 ft. of waterfront amidst 157 total acres. \$2,900,000. MLS #1077059.



A piece of history is found in this tiny cottage constructed entirely of stone and wood sitting quietly on the hillside in East River Park developed by Col. Milford Howard before it became Camp Alpine. \$112,000. MLS #1077206



A RARE FIND! Mentone home w/acreage & guest home! 2BR/1.5BA, wood walls, hardwood floors, new appliances, Trane CH/A system. Fisher cast iron wood stove, tankless water heaters w/city & well water. 20 acres. \$199,500. MLS #1075132.



A MUST SEE ... 3BR/2.5BA home within walking distance of Lake Lahusage. Call today for more info. \$150,000. MLS#1069455.



CRYSTAL LAKE LODGE in Mentone... Fifty breathtaking acres surround you in this one-of-a-kind property. Call today for your private tour! \$899,995. MLS #1070805



MENTONE CABIN! Delight yourself in this furnished two bedroom, two bath cabin with screened porches, pine floors & more! \$154,900. MLS# 1070469.



PRIVATE MENTONE COTTAGE! You'll love this gorgeous Mentone cottage that feels like a private retreat. Hardwood & tile floors, woodburning FP, covered porches, & more! \$154,900. MLS #1072513.



MENTONE BROW HOME! 2BR/2BA brow home with tons of character! Enjoy all the extras like hardwood floors, rustic wood walls, gas log fireplace & more. Being sold furnished. Call today! \$339,000. MLS #1076700.



ENJOY SUNRISE & SUNSET VIEWS in this cozy Mentone home located on Scenic Hwy. Open family room, dining and kitchen. Call for appointment today! \$325,000. MLS #1069365



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



BEAUTIFUL Mountain Get-Away with gorgeous view year round. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, shake-sided outside w/low maintenance metal roof. Deck. \$235,000 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.



SWEET LII' MENTONE HOME! Life is sweet in this two bedroom two bath home! \$109,900. MLS #1068148.



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



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.



SOLD

SECLUDED MENTONE CABIN. 2BR/2BA home on 3.25 acres in West Fork Sub. Pine floors & walls, vaulted ceilings, wood burning FP, lots of windows. Lge. deck, screened porches. \$179,900. MLS#1065642.



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. \$749,000. MLS#1066488.



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. \$139,900. MLS #1052557



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.



SOLD

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



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.



BEAUTIFUL MENTONE CABIN w/2BR, 2BA, oak flooring and woodburning fireplace. Extra's include large screened porches, large walk-in closets, marble bathroom floors. \$199,900. MLS#1066473.



One of the most photographed landmarks in Ala..... The iconic "Red Boathouse" on Little River is less than 500' from Desoto Falls. One-acre w/186' on navigable part of the river. Mid-century wood cabin w/living & dining, 3BR/2BA, eat-in kitchen, rock FP, & screened porches. \$369,000. MLS #1054645.



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



LAKEFRONT LIVING! Custom decks & walkways to your dock on Lake Lahusage. 2BR/2BA, pine floors, gas or wood burning fp and screened porch, 2-story. 2-car garage w/apt. potential. \$247,500. MLS#654813.



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.



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.



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.

LOTS & LAND

#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.
#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.
#1027934 - Lot on River Lane. \$29,900.
#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.
#1056358 - 3.2 acres on Co. Rd. 89. \$369,000.

#1057228 - 5 acres overlooking Little River Canyon. \$69,999.
#1057429 - 4 acres in Valley View Forest. \$79,900.
#1061651 - 1.5 acres in Eagle Rock Subdivision. \$79,000.
#1061943 - 5 acres on Hwy 117 just before GA line. \$40,000.
#1065542 - 90 acres on Co. Rd. 89 in Mentone. \$360,000.
#1065504 - One acre on Co. Rd. 89 in Mentone. \$149,900.
#1069783 - Building lot with possible view. 2.11 acres. \$38,000.
#1070628 - 3.01 acres. 152' on west Fork of Little River. \$49,700.
#1070629 - 3.01 acres. 152' on West Fork of Little River. \$59,500.
#1071359 - Water views! .37 acres. \$35,000.
#1072189 - Lake on The Brow, \$39,000.
#1073207 - .62 acres. \$23,500.
#1073864 - Brow Lot! .78 acres. \$109,500.

#1074480 - 5.45 acres on CR 89. \$79,500.
#1076191 - 12.10 acres mostly wooded. \$42,350.
#1076239 - Cleared & wooded 3.6 acres on Scenic Hwy. \$78,500.
#1076286 - 1.75 acre building lot in West Fork Subdivision. \$42,000.
#1076577 - Lot 6, Hunter's Ridge. \$16,900.
#1078002 - Brow view, 4.4 acres. \$150,000.
#1078140 - 18.3 acres, unrestricted, partially wooded! \$66,800.

#1079713 - Gorgeous lot in Mentone with .81 +/- acres in Hunter's Ridge Subdivision.



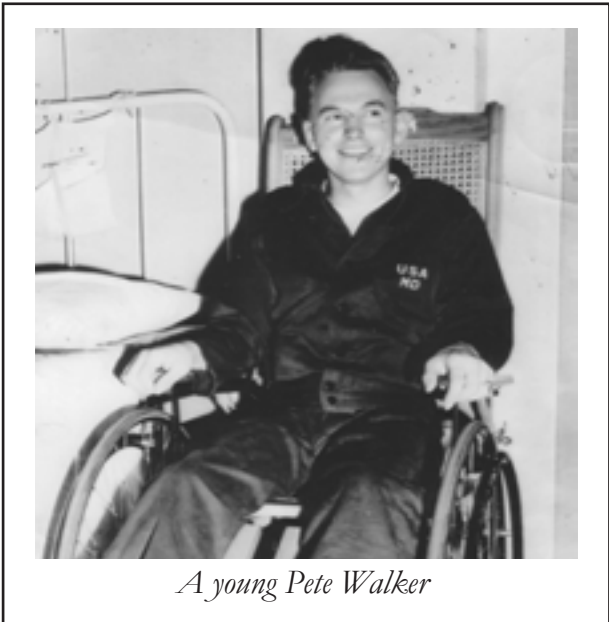
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Our Local Hero (cont'd from page 19)

the next 15 years, with some of it remaining embedded in his hips for the rest of his life.

After his separation from the Army in 1944, Pete returned to Mentone, where he married Margaret McNew of Collinsville. A year later, in 1945, Pete needed a new prosthesis. The Hanger Company sent a couple of their specialists from their Birmingham office to the Walker home in order to cast Pete a new prosthesis. After carrying in their heavy equipment for the casting, they set Pete up on the dining room table for measurements and to complete the procedure. During the process, one of the men commented, "There are three good men in this room, but only one good leg." Astonished, Pete and Margaret had no indication up until that point that either of the men had a prosthesis. That simple statement became motivational for Pete, as he realized he was not "handicapped" at all. After the men left, Pete picked up the two canes he had been using for over a year and threw them across the room. Then he turned to Margaret and said, "Get dressed, we're going to town!" After a great night out without the confounded canes, Margaret was asked about the outcome of the evening. "I won't say he didn't get blisters, but they healed, and we were on our way to living as normal a life as anyone."

After being discharged from the Army, Pete set up an automobile upholstery shop in Mentone. He then decided to make a go at the restaurant business, moving to Collinsville where he owned and operated "The Village Drive-In." Upon advice from a physician concerning his daughter's



A young Pete Walker

health, the family decided to move to a warmer climate where the child's situation could more quickly improve.

In 1954, Pete and his family moved to Orlando, Florida. Initially working for an auto glass company, Pete finally got the job he had set out for by 1970, working for the company he had been a patient of, J. E. Hanger. "That's when I began a new career as a certified prosthetist with Hanger Limb Company... my youngest patron was 8 months old, and my oldest was 102 years." Pete's first-hand experience with the challenges amputees face gave him unique and valuable insight into the development of special new devices to meet their needs and expand opportunities to rejoin their previous lifestyle.

In 1975, Pete achieved his goal of receiving

a certification in prosthetics. As a certified prosthetist, Pete's revolutionary ingenuity provided other amputees with innovative, more capable prosthetic arms and legs, allowing them to triumph over their disabilities. Due to his own experiences as an amputee, Pete had valuable insight and was truly able to empathize with his patients. Being blessed with a kind and gentle nature, he was especially adept at fitting children with prosthetic devices. An example of one of his breakthrough innovations was his work with a patient to develop a foam-filled, waterproof leg. Pete created the leg with acrylic laminated skin and a crepe sole that was both cosmetically acceptable and could withstand immersion in water. Finally amputees had the ability to go back to the beach or pool!

Pete continued at Hanger until his retirement in 1984, at which time he moved to Rainbow City, Alabama, where he passed away in 2005. Pete's sister-in-law, Peggy McNew Bailey of Collinsville, knew him since she was a young teenager when he married her older sister. "I never once in all those years saw Pete with anything but a positive, confident attitude. He's one of the most remarkable people I've ever known, and he spent his life making the lives of other people better." "God spared my life on the battlefield because he had better plans for me," Pete once said. He could have given up after losing both his legs in World War II, but he did not, and as a result, not only did Pete walk again, but he allowed countless others to be able to do the same.

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5 ACRES on the East Fork Little River. Driveway in place. Homesite cleared. Septic, power, well installed. 245ft on the water. Privacy a plus, lightly restricted. \$125,000 (1080261)

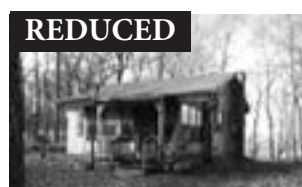


LEVEL WOODED LOTS in Crestline Park Subdivision in Mentone. Lot 25. 1.27 acres. Great area to build that getaway cabin in the woods. \$25,000 (23184).



REDUCED

6 ACRES with 200 ft on West Fork Little River. Hardwoods, hollies, and easy access to river. Level to rolling terrain. \$69,000 (23183).



REDUCED

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. \$164,500 (1059858)



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)



SOLD

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! \$103,000.



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



REDUCED

1.8 ACRES on East Fork of Little River. Easy access to river from common trail that runs along the banks of the river. Bluff views. County water available. Gated community. \$65,000 (1063624)



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)



REDUCED

LAKE WINDMILL ESTATE.. 103 ft. on 13 acre lake on the brow. Wooded, sloped. Build your home here restricted. \$42,900.



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



6.7 ACRES on the east brow overlooking Shinbone Valley. Weiss Lake in the distance. \$30,000. (1061387)

SECLUSION AND TRANQUILITY are nestled in this 2 story luxury 3BR/3BA Heritage Log Home. Located on 20 acres of breathtaking views & woods on the East Brow of Lookout Mountain, Cloudland, GA. This furnished home features vaulted ceilings in the great room and kitchen/dining room, both of which have hand-crafted 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. \$775,000. (23208)



REDUCED



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



SOLD

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)

LOTS AND ACREAGE

Oakwood Subdivision - 6.1 acres. Wooded, level, lightly restricted. \$37,500 **REDUCED**

WOODED 3.4 ACRES located in established subdivision called Oakwood in nearby Mentone. Restrictive covenants. \$22,000.

LEVEL BUILDING LOT in downtown Menlo, GA. Great site for Residential or Commercial use. Non-restricted. Many possibilities! \$12,500 **REDUCED**

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MERF COMMUNITY HOUSE - NOVEMBER



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.

MERF could not follow its mission “to enrich the learning and living of the community” without the help of volunteers, local businesses, other Mentone non-profits, in-kind donors and financial donors. Thank you for joining us in continuing to make Mentone the best community to live in. Let’s all enjoy this season of Thanksgiving and express it to each other in our great Mentone community.

MAPA hosted another wonderful Colorfest. Thank you to all the volunteers who made the weekend happen. And thank you to those who stopped by our booth to pick up a great “Leave Me in Mentone” item. How did you like MERF’s new tote bag and Christmas cards? Christmas is

percentage of your purchase from Amazon.

Do you know what Tuesday, November 28, is this year?! Not Black Friday and not Cyber Monday, but Giving Tuesday! A national day for giving. If you are participating in #givingtuesday, please consider MERF as a recipient of your generosity. Follow us on facebook @merfhouse and Instagram @leave_me_in_mentone to donate online.

Applications for the Sue McLaurin Henry Scholarship are available at the Mentone Market, by email, or from the counselors at Valley Head, Fort Payne, JSU and Northeast. Scholarships are available for spring semester 2018 to assist in paying for college or technical degrees. Due date is Friday, December 1, 2017. Students must be full-time with at least a 2.8/4.0 average and live in Mentone or Valley Head.

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 P.O. Box 107 Mentone, AL 35984, or you may contribute online at www.merfhouse.org. Contact us at merf.mentone@gmail.com or 256-634-4673.

Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow. —Melody Beattie

Thank you doesn’t begin to express the gratitude of the Mentone Educational Resources Foundation for all of the support from our community and those who believe in MERF’s efforts.

coming soon so there are still some great gifts that give twice! Contact Sarah for availability.

Don’t forget that shopping on Amazon Smile can benefit MERF, too, when you choose Mentone Educational Resources Foundation as the non-profit you support. MERF receives a



Kenya & Aydn Heinrich



Christmas Cards
created by Ms. Paula’s art class



Aubrey Gregory & Cayden Collins

MERF’s Sue McLaurin Henry Scholarship Applications for spring semester are available at the Mentone Market, by email merf.mentone@gmail.com, or from counselors at Valley Head, Fort Payne, JSU, and Northeast.

Due date is Friday, December 1.
For more information, call
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DeKalb County Master Gardeners
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Thursday, November 2, 2017
11:30 a.m.

Community Room
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Bring your lunch and learn with us!

"In Memory of" 5K Run/Walk

by Sherryl Lewis

The Valley Head Cemetery hosted our 2nd annual "In Memory Of" 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 30, 2017. Beautiful weather made for a great turnout and some impressive results.

Overall Male: Jayden Parris
 Overall Female: Angie Maxwell
 Male 12 and under: Eli Day
 Male 13-19: Matthew Marshall
 Female 20-29: Rachel Rich
 Female 30-39:
 1st Kelly Meadows
 2nd Melissa Lea
 3rd Heather Andrade
 Male 40-49:
 1st Brian Bearden
 2nd Jason Maxwell

Female 40-49:
 1st Amy Simmons
 2nd Wendy Holbrook
 3rd Jennifer Barnett
 Female 50-59:
 1st Kim Dalton
 2nd Kathy Cortner
 Male 60-69: Gene Ogle
 Female 60-69:
 1st Rita Boydston
 2nd Gail Sparks
 3rd Adele Phillips
 Female 70-79: Brenda Burnett

Thanks to Valley Head Police and Fire Departments, Hammondville Fire Department, DeSoto Rescue Squad and all the volunteers who helped make our event a success. Thanks to everyone who participated and congratulations to all our winners! See you



again next year!

Sherryl Lewis is the director of the Valley Head Cemetery Association.



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Still \$1 a gallon!**

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9:30 - 6:00**

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the harvest meal
AT WINDY HILL



FARM to table

from 10 - 1PM

**Saturday
NOVEMBER 11**

**The Farm at WINDY HILL
MENTONE, AL**

to reserve tickets, email info@thefarmatwindyhill.com



It's Time to Plan Your Escape!

Little River Escape offers **50 acres** of mountain climate, riverside hikes, and tiny community living. We have homes sited for sale, models you can site on the **lot of your choice**, or you can order a custom tiny home from another tiny home builder!

Relax by the pool, **fish** in the East Fork of Little River, **paddle** in one of our kayaks under the bridge to Lake Lahusage, or **hike** around to the swimmin' hole to **cool off**.

Just over an hour from Atlanta, Chattanooga, and Birmingham, we offer a lovely **commute** for residents, or an easy **getaway** for vacationers.

Come see if tiny living fits your big life!



LITTLE RIVER ESCAPE
A Riverfront Cabin Community Also Lookout Mountain

**Tours Fri-Sat 11-5; Sun 1-5 EDT; weekdays by appt.
 11987 Hwy 48, Cloudland, GA www.LittleRiverEscape.com**