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THE GROUNDHOG

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

Volume 36, No. 9

"Neighborhood News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

October 2017

NEW FEATURES AT COLORFEST

by Anna Mae Horn

Colorfest has been a Mentone tradition for decades. Hosted by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA), Colorfest features the talents of regional artists and craftsmen, as well as local musicians. In addition, we'll have an array of foods to satisfy your appetite.

Situated at Mentone's Brow Park along North Cool Street—with a stunning westward view across the valley—Colorfest captures the spirit of fall, with the beautiful changing colors and a certain crispness to the air.

This year, we're expanding! We had a tremendous response from vendors, and 94 have been approved to set up booths. With so many wanting to be a part of the festival, the Colorfest Committee was left with a dilemma, since Brow Park only offers 76 booth slots. Not surprisingly, our terrific MAPA volunteers found a solution! Not only will Brow Park be filled with Colorfest vendors, but there will also



be additional vendors set up on the lot where the historic Mentone Springs Hotel once stood.

Also new this year will be an array of free kid's games along the brow and at the hotel site, so parents can offer their children a fun distraction between browsing the vendors. Be sure to look for

the red 'Kid Stop' signs. Other Saturday children's activities will include face painting, pony rides, and carriage rides.

A 'relaxation station' will offer seating under the covered tent at hotel site, so you can rest a while and then enjoy the festival some more. Be sure to stroll through the nearby 'Scarecrow Holler' and enjoy the creatively-crafted scarecrows. (If you'd like to build a scarecrow and enter the contest, see the application form on page 5.)

Be sure to read our center pull-out section for all the details, including a schedule and a map of town. MAPA is honored to host Colorfest each year for the local community and thousands of visitors to enjoy. It wouldn't be possible without the dedication and commitment of a host of volunteers who, under the leadership of festival coordinator Kerry Breithaupt, have been working to make this year's festival the best yet!

Be A Tour-ist! Mentone Home Tour & Silent Auction

Saturday & Sunday, October 28 & 29

by Kelly Leavitt

It's almost time for the Little River Arts Council's Mentone Home Tour and Silent Auction! This will be the tenth year that artists and others in and around Mentone have opened their doors and invited the public to view their homes. All of the homes featured this year are either historic, have art collections, or are homes of artists.

Bill and Christina Wise's historic home, "Summer Haven," built in 1920 by A. A. Wise, will be on the tour, as well as the other buildings on their property—two rental cabins and "Bill's Bunker," which houses his library and impressive collection of military memorabilia. Artist Balpha Noojin will welcome folks to his newly built cottage (two houses down from the Wises). Each of these properties offer spectacular views of DeSoto Falls. Hoot Owl Hollow, owned by Juli Jordan and Pat Martin, is a renovated historic cottage nestled in the woods and filled with art. LRAC secretary Rhea Pirch and her husband Don will welcome folks to Moonglow Farms, with a tour of Don's studio and a visit to their alpacas! Kathy and Jim Park will open their newly renovated cottage near the West Fork of Little River. Their home will feature a temporary installation of the works of several local artists, all of which will be for sale. Also on the tour will be artist John Miller's newly completed guest house, which he has fully decorated with original artwork. Valley Head's



Winston Place is on the slate as well. Now serving as a bed and breakfast, it is a well-preserved antebellum home with sweeping porches and views of Lookout Mountain.

Weekend passes cost \$8/members or \$10/non-members. Tour hours are 10–4 on Saturday; 12–3 on Sunday. (All times are Central.) Passes can be purchased at Mentone Town Hall 30 minutes before the tour starts, and throughout the day.

A silent auction is held in conjunction with the home tour. Auction items will be on display at Town Hall during tour hours. This year, we're doing something different, and holding two different auctions, one on each day. Bidding for Saturday's

auction ends at 4:30; Sunday's auction ends at 3:30. High bidders must be present to win! Bid on a Windsor chair crafted by artist and LRAC board member Wil Henry Cobble, photography, paintings, boat rides, lodging, jewelry, antiques, restaurant meals, books, and more. We are still soliciting items, so if you'd like to donate anything, please let us know!

These events are the main source of funding for LRAC projects, so please come on out, view some inspirational homes, and help support the arts in Mentone. Visit littleriverartscouncil.org to learn more.

Kelly Leavitt is the president of Little River Arts Council.

Camp Juliette Low in Cloudland, Georgia, traditionally schedules their open house on the weekend of our tour (free to the public.) This is the only camp that was directly established by Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low. Enjoy a walking tour which highlights the 90-year history of the camp. A number of historical photographs and documents will also be available for viewing. Members of the Board of Trustees will be on-hand to lead the tours and answer your questions. Tours will take place Saturday from 11–4 and Sunday from 1–4pm (Eastern). The guided walking tours last about 45 minutes. Visit www.cjl.org.

Commemorating the Trail of Tears

by Larry Smith

Anyone who has done any amount of driving in DeKalb, Cherokee, or Marshall County must have surely seen the many similar brown "Trail of Tears" signs along the roadways, and wondered how they wound up there.

The signs mark the several historic sites associated with the Cherokees, and the routes they took during their removal 179 years ago. They represent many years of research and planning by various federal, state, and local groups regarding this tragic event.

In May of 1838, the federal government began rounding up Cherokees in the Southeast in preparation for their forceful removal to the West. The Native Americans were then placed in different holding areas that had been established by the government. Among these posts locally was a major facility that gave Fort Payne its name. Rawlinsville, located a few miles north, also held some of the Cherokees.

Another DeKalb County removal facility was situated eight miles south of Fort Payne near the present community of Lebanon. It was here in late September of 1838 that the groups of Native Americans from northeast Alabama and northwest Georgia were assembled into one party. On September 28, they were given the order to move out, but it took until early October for all the party of 1,079 souls to leave the area.

The detachment stretched for miles. There were 60 wagons, and over 600 horses, but many of the Cherokees had to walk the entire route.

These Cherokees were members of the John Benge Detachment, one of 13 different organized groups



scheduled for removal. Benge was a Cherokee from Rising Fawn, Georgia, and was the son-in-law of George Lowrey of Willstown. While a few of the Cherokees from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia, made the journey via the Tennessee River, the Benge party travelled the entire length of some 800 miles by land.

Recognizing the importance of this tragic event, in 1987 Congress established the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. It is administered by the National Parks Service, Trails Division, of Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 2005, the Parks Service awarded a grant to a group of researchers from the Alabama Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association, who used

original surveyor maps and other primary source documents to locate and track the route taken by the Benge Detachment. The report, "Alabama Collection Camps, Forts, Emigrating Depots, and Travel Routes Used During the Cherokee Removal of 1838-1839," is a 640-page document detailing the Benge route from Fort Payne to the Tennessee border.

The researchers then secured funding from the Parks Service for the brown original Trail of Tears signs to be erected from Fort Payne to Marshall County, a distance of over 35 miles. The result was over 60 signs, marking not only the removal route, but also other sites associated with the Cherokees, such as the Andrew Ross House, Cabin Site, and Willstown Mission Cemetery sites in Fort Payne.

Olivia Baxter Cox of Landmarks of DeKalb County supervised the erection of the signs in DeKalb County. Labor was furnished by DeKalb County road employees.

The historic route has attracted visitors from many parts of the country and Canada. To take the driving tour, it is best to begin at the Fort Payne Cabin Site on Gault Avenue, which contains markers telling of its role in the construction of Fort Payne. Then head east on Gault (US 11) and follow the signs eight miles to the present community of Lebanon, where the Cherokees assembled before their departure.

From Lebanon, follow the signs up Sand Mountain, across the mountain, and down to the Five Points community in Marshall County. The signs end here, where the trail is inundated by waters of Lake Guntersville. A portion of the trail picks

(cont'd on page 6)



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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 and was first conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and organized April 5, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a 501c3 non-profit corporation.



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**Have a Letter to the Editor
or a story idea?**

**Send it to
The Groundhog
at groundhognews@yahoo.com.**

MENTONE MATTERS

by Mayor Rob Hammond



The MDA Professional Group submitted the 2016 audit to the town council at our regular September meeting. The Town operates on a budget of approximately \$260,000. Revenue sources include sales and lodging taxes, property tax, TVA in lieu tax, gasoline tax, licenses, and donations. In the two previous years, we were able to pave some streets. This year, we do not have sufficient extra funds to pave. At this time, the town owes no money. The camps paid off the loan on the police Tahoe. At the September meeting, the council voted to raise the sales and lodging tax a penny, starting November 1. This will bring Mentone in line with most of the municipalities in the county. Hopefully, this will increase revenues sufficiently enough so we can invest in infrastructure. Last year, the town considered applying for a TAP grant to build a

sidewalk but did not have enough money for matching funds.

The equipment parked across from Little River Hardware is being used to drill for a new water line under Little River at the bridge. A water line cannot be hung below the new bridge.

Thanks to B & B Crane for resetting a picnic bench at Brow Park and a rock column at the Mentone sign coming up the mountain, at no cost to the town.

ALDOT Area Operations Engineer A. R. Camp has responded to letter from the Mentone Business Association, dated July 31, 2017, regarding the speed limit and speed limit signs in Mentone. I had spoken to Mr. Camp about MBA concerns.

Below is his response:

"The speed zone signing entering town from this direction dictates that the speed reduces to 35 mph 400 feet north of CR-89 (ordinance 110 dated August 3, 1981). The current signing does not reflect this and will be corrected by ALDOT personnel. Given the steep grade and the trucks climbing the grade, it is not practical to lower this speed limit (currently 45 mph) further down the mountain.

"The current signing does not match the ordinance referenced above. ALDOT personnel will move the signs to match this ordinance (35 mph should be from CR-89 to Dempsey Street and 45 mph from Dempsey Street to the southern city limits). A speed study was conducted to determine if the speed limits are appropriate. Based upon the results of the speed study, the speed limit should be raised through the 35 mph to at least 40 mph; however, at this time we are recommending the speed zone remain 35 mph per the ordinance."

Letter From The Editor

We who live in and near our beloved town of Mentone may have things in "common", but it's when we come together in unity that we truly have a "community". For such a small town, we have a gratifying (and surprising!) number of organizations made up of people who come together—in unity—to make our community stronger.

Local organizations support: the preservation of Mentone's history and way of life; the future of our children through education; basic needs of survival; spiritual and social needs; the creative mind through the arts; a love for beauty and growing from the earth; our local businesses; and the expansion of knowledge.

Many of our local organizations will have a presence at Colorfest. I encourage you to get to know these folks who often work tirelessly to continue the age-old tradition of serving others. If our little town didn't have these active groups, we'd be just another little town, with common aspects, but without the soul that makes Mentone so evidently special.

I look forward to my new role as editor of The Groundhog, supporting the mission of the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA), which publishes the paper, while also supporting the many groups who make Mentone a rich community. In a time when it seems as if the world is becoming more divisive, we have a sort of sanctuary here—let's celebrate the unity which has been so strongly nurtured through the years.

~ Kelly Leavitt



**Become a MAPA
Member Today!
Help us preserve
Mentone's history
and impact its future.**

Individuals - \$20 a year

Couples - \$30 a year

(includes a subscription to The Groundhog)

MAPA

P. O. Box 50

Mentone, AL 35984

www.mapamentone.com



MAPA NEWS

MAPA Supports the Tradition of Giving

by Anna Mae Horn

The mission of the Mentone Area Preservation Association is to preserve and protect the heritage, natural environment and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area.

Webster defines many words; however, their interpretation is a completely separate notion. Even though an organization's mission may stay the same, the meaning of its immediate goals may be interpreted differently and pursued in various ways by its changing board over the years.

Mentone has numerous outstanding attributes. When one speaks of 'preserving and protecting' the 'natural heritage' and 'unique qualities of life' in the area, what does that mean to you? To the current Mentone Area Preservation Association board, it

means helping to maintain all of Mentone, including nurturing the giving spirit of the area. One recent example of local generosity: two weeks before school started, one person inquired about helping Moon Lake students with school supplies. That led to a heartfelt response from a small group of locals, and several children were provided for. With only a few calls and a couple of emails, a need was filled.

MAPA wants to carry on this generous community spirit evident since its founding. At the September board meeting, the MAPA Board of Directors voted to approve a grant request for local outreach programs. St. Joseph's church, as a part of the North Alabama Food Bank system, oversees the programs. Other local churches, along with various community members, give of their time, their funds, and miscellaneous donated items to support the programs as best they can, but the need is large.

One of the outreach programs is designed to help the general community with immediate hardships in dire situations. It prevents utilities from being disconnected, helps with transportation for medical care, and the like. Applicants must meet guidelines to be approved. Recipients of services often volunteer around town, as they are able, in appreciation of the kindness shown to them.

The other program is called the Snack-in-a-Backpack Program. It sends two days' worth of healthy, non-perishable food home with local school children in their backpacks. It also provides two days of food per week in the summer for children whose caregivers receive help at the local food bank. MAPA is honored to help preserve the quality of life for

these students.

The board encourages MAPA members and the public in general to consider helping these worthwhile causes. Time is a precious commodity and is most appreciated by the food bank and other outreach programs. Reach out and help someone today! Simply call or stop by St. Joseph's Monday through Thursday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to see how you can help.

Southerners are known for their kindness, especially in others' most difficult moments. The people of Mentone and the surrounding areas are no different. MAPA plans to continue to carry on the heritage of helping others as part of its mission. Another wonderful part of local heritage that MAPA is continuing is Colorfest! Be sure to join us at Brow Park and the old Mentone Springs Hotel site for our annual festival. Many events will be going on around town to help celebrate. MAPA is proud to continue this fun tradition. See you there!

MAPA meets the first Tuesday evening of each month at 6 p.m. at Moon Lake Community Library. All MAPA members are encouraged to attend, and the public is invited to observe. Come early and check out a book!

Anna Mae Horn is the president of the Mentone Area Preservation Association (mapamentone.com).



Update:

MACC constructs entryway, implements artist-in-residence program at Fort Payne High School

by Randy Grider

Despite a rainy summer that included the lingering remnants of Hurricane Irma, the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center (MACC) Board of Directors managed a first step into making the center a reality. Utilizing a grant from the Tillotson-Menlo Charitable Foundation and the Alabama Council on the Arts, MACC contracted with an area engineering firm and local contractors to build an entryway along Alabama Highway 117 that provides vehicle access onto the property where the facility will be constructed. This included a state-required 120-foot culvert along the right-of-way. Landscaping and signage will be the next step of the MACC entryway construction and design. This is a big step for MACC as it will allow us to drive onto the property. In addition, it allows us to utilize the property for events prior to actual construction, if we so choose.

Plans are to begin construction of the first phase of the facility in Spring 2018. The estimated cost of the first phase is \$800,000 and will include the multi-purpose room with a stage, classroom and restroom,



as well as a dried-in wing to house the facility's electrical infrastructure.

We are in the process of raising capital. We have several options for donors to give, including naming opportunities for various sections of the facility. We encourage anyone interested in honoring a loved one or someone who has had an impact on this area to give me a call (256-674-3366) or email me (mentoneartscenter@gmail.com) for more information. As we near the end of the year, many people start thinking about charities they would like to donate to. We definitely encourage everyone to consider the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center—we are a 501(C)3 organization.

MACC recently implemented its first educational outreach program. Nationally acclaimed actor Sandra Lafferty, who has more than 50 movie and television roles to her credit, including *Walk the Line* and *The Hunger Games*, is MACC's theatre artist-in-residence. She will be working with the Fort Payne High School Drama Department, helping instructor Paul Crawford and his students with monologue assignments this school year. I would like to thank multi-talented Sandra Lafferty, Fort Payne Schools Superintendent Jimmy Cunningham, and drama teacher Paul Crawford for partnering with MACC.

MACC plans to expand its artist-in-residence

program to other art-related disciplines to work with other area schools. I encourage any educator in the area who would like to find out more or establish a program in an arts-related field to contact me. We will work to find professionals and make it happen. MACC will have a booth at the upcoming Colorfest festival. We encourage anyone who wants to know more about the center and its future program to stop by and talk to us.



Randy Grider is the executive director of the Mentone Arts and Cultural Center (mentonearts.org).

The Mentone Arts & Cultural Center presents

"The Night of the 10th Moon Costume Ball"

Saturday, Oct. 28, 7-10pm

4128 Alabama Highway 117, Mentone, AL 35984
(across from the entrance to the Farm at Windy Hill)

Music, Food, Drinks and Door Prizes

Costumes are suggested, but not required.

\$30 per person or \$50 per couple

All proceeds go the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center.

For reservations, call 256-674-3366

or email mentoneartscenter@gmail.com.

MBA Mix: It's Fall Y'all!



by Charlotte Gentry

The busy fall season in Mentone has started early, with scores of folks coming to the mountain to get away from hot weather, hurricanes, wild fires and the fast-paced lives wherever they call home. They come here for the scenic beauty, quaint shops, good food, and arts and crafts, and take back home a warm place in their hearts for our little town and its people.

September's annual "Outdoor Movie Night" was a great success, with an estimated crowd of 150 folks. Among those attending were several evacuees who had come from Florida to escape Hurricane Irma. Their experience in Mentone "blew them away" (pardon the phrase). They lingered around the bonfire after the showing of "Southern Heart," and talked at length about their time spent in Mentone. "We'll never forget this," they said. They came as strangers and left as friends.

Mentone's favorite festival, Colorfest, is the 3rd weekend of October, and the Mentone Business Association will once again be hosting the "Scavenger Hunt." This is a fun way for visitors to get to know the many shopping venues in the village of Mentone. A huge thanks to MBA secretary Lisa Schad for coordinating this event, along with MBA member Debra Fey.

Since the MBA is not a "non-profit," and takes in no dues, we generally don't handle any money. However, twice during movie nights we have sold

soft drinks/water in an effort to raise money. First, we had the idea of establishing a "Mentone Relief Fund" to help build public toilets. We raised about \$76, but that project hit a dead-end and the money was used to help offset the cost for the next year's movie night (it costs \$150 to hire the projectionist and his equipment each time). This year we made \$34 in water sales. This money will go toward September's "porto-john" rent at the pavilion where the movie was shown. MBA members cover all other costs associated with the event.

Many thanks to our active MBA members, especially those who helped make movie night such a success: Sharon Habin, popcorn proficianado; Cynthia Stinson, for her generosity in the use of the Mentone Inn Pavilion (yet again); Lisa Schad and Kelly Leavitt, doing whatever needed doing.

Looking for a way to get involved? Got some great ideas? How about joining the MBA? We meet the 2nd Monday each month and there are no dues. Join us at our next meeting, October 9 at 6 p.m. at the Moon Lake Community Library. Find us on the web at MentoneBusiness.com, or visit our Facebook page.

Charlotte Gentry is the president of the Mentone Business Association.

COLORFEST 2017 SCARECROW HOLLER CONTEST

Official Application/Entry Form

Please Print Clearly

Applicant Contact Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Scarecrow Name _____

Deadline for entry is **Sunday, October 15, 2017**, at 8pm.

To enter, please mail this form to: MAPA, PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

or email/scan to: MentoneColorfest@gmail.com

Thank you for your participation in MAPA's Scarecrow Holler Display during Colorfest 2017. Your participation and support will help make this annual event successful. We want to showcase Mentone and make 2017 Colorfest a success; Scarecrow Holler will be an important part of that.

CONTEST RULES

- Please maintain the Colorfest theme of "Celebrating the Fall Season on the Mountain" for your scarecrow.
- The application must be received no later than Sunday, October 15th, at 8pm.
- Areas measuring 5 feet square will be assigned and numbered for each Scarecrow. You will be contacted with your assigned number, using the information listed above, no later than Sunday, October 15th at 8pm.
- Set up will be Sunday through Friday, October 15th-20th at the Mentone Springs Hotel Site.
- Scarecrows will remain up through Halloween and must be removed by Sunday, November 5th.
- Any display that is not removed by that time will be discarded.
- Scarecrows should be in good taste, family friendly and keeping in the theme of the festival and should not reflect controversial, social or political situations. No handouts, promotional materials or free giveaways can be associated with any entry.
- No electricity will be available for displays, but hay bales and construction tips will be available.
- MAPA and the Scarecrow Committee reserve the right to remove any Scarecrow that does not meet these standards. Scarecrows must be constructed to withstand weather conditions. It is suggested that entrants check on their display periodically.
- Judging/Prizes: Judges will be provided by sponsoring organization(s) and the judging criteria will be determined by the Scarecrow Committee, to include originality, theme, content, etc. Prizes provided by Dr. Halaseh of Fort Payne will be as follows: 1st place—\$75, 2nd place—\$50 and 3rd place—\$25. Judging will take place on Saturday, October 21st at 9am and winners will also be ribboned and announced on the Brow stage during the festival and featured in the next issue of *The Groundhog* publication. MAPA and the Colorfest Committee reserve the right to use photographs for future publicity.



Congratulations to Moon Lake School for their award-winning scarecrow! Miss Paula and her students won 1st place in their division and Best of Show at this year's county fair. "Every Moon Lake student is a unique individual, like Lady Liberty and each red square and blue handprint they created on this flag, but together they can create a masterpiece!" —Paula Easter



MERF Community House - October



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.

Fall is a season of change as the beautiful leaves on the mountain transition from green to nature's beautiful fall hues. MERF is having some changes this fall, too, as senior lunches are being held at Moon Lake Baptist Church while the MERF house gets some much-needed foundation support

and renovations. Thank you, Moon Lake, for providing a place for this fall's gatherings. A great meal and fellowship will be offered at the church from one of MERF's many supporters and friends each Wednesday through November 15. The meal is served at 11:30 a.m., so join us for great food, fun fellowship and toe-tapping entertainment. Be on the lookout for efforts to help with necessary improvements to the MERF house. Information will soon be available on MERF's website, on our Facebook page and in local businesses, so stay tuned.

October brings MAPA's Colorfest again to Brow Park in Mentone. Stop by the MERF booth to say hello and to pick up some great "Leave Me in Mentone" gifts for you, your friends and your family! MERF will have mugs, baseball caps, ornaments, long- and short-sleeved tees, and sweatshirts. There will also be a new item created by the Moon Lake Elementary School students, so come check it out. These items are also on sale at DeSoto State Park's country store, Little River Hardware, Moon Lake Trading (mugs and ornaments only) and from Sarah Wilcox. All proceeds benefit MERF and its programs.

The Alabama State Council on the Arts awarded MERF with two matching grants for programs with Moon Lake Elementary School Students. One grant will help send students to Atlanta in December to see a performance of "A Christmas Carol" and to Huntsville in February for the Huntsville Orchestra's performance of "Peter and the Wolf". The second Arts in Education grant will help fund a book being written and illustrated by K-3rd grade in Spring of 2018. MERF is thankful for the support from ASCA and cannot wait to see and to hear about the students' experiences.

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 contributed online at merfhouse.org. Contact us at merf.mentone@gmail.com or 256-635-8193.

Trail of Tears (cont'd from page 2)

back up at Lake Guntersville State Park, which has constructed a walking trail with interpretive signs on a small portion of the route.

In early October of 1838, the weary travelers arrived at Gunter's Landing at the southern bend of the Tennessee River, where they crossed on a ferry. It took three days for them all to be transported across the river and resume their journey. The route

they took from there approximates present U.S. 431. Small Trail of Tears signs mark the detachment's trip through Huntsville, where it stopped to get water at the big spring.

The party then travelled through Tennessee, into Kentucky, and as far north as Illinois before turning west at Missouri. They arrived at their destination in what is now northeast Oklahoma on January 11, 1839. There had been three births and 33 deaths on their march toward the setting sun that took 106 days.

Similar signs have been erected in nearby Cherokee County marking routes taken by Cherokees to get to the removal posts. Jim Lewis, Cherokee County historian, headed this project. All nine states involved in the removal have identified trails taken by the Cherokees and placed signs similar to the ones here.

Because of changes in road locations over the years, some detours are necessary, but the overall route from Fort Payne to Lake Guntersville is basically the same as the one taken 179 years ago. Some of the route is on the actual trail, while a few unpaved portions can still be seen.

Several other sites across the state associated with the removal have been marked with signs or exhibits. The Elliott Community Center in Gadsden has a permanent interpretive exhibit sponsored by the Etowah Historical Society. A small exhibit explaining the Benge Detachment's journey through Guntersville is located at the Guntersville Historical Society's headquarters on Blount Avenue. Gunter's Landing, predecessor of the present city, was a hub of activity during removal of not only the Cherokees, but the Creeks as well.

The City of Decatur recently erected a number of

interpretive signs at Rhodes Park relating to Water Routes taken by the Cherokees through that town. The 2018 national conference of the Trail of Tears will be held near the site in 2018.

A major interpretive site is being developed

at Tuscumbia Landing in extreme northwest Alabama.

A wealth of information regarding removal of the Cherokees and the routes they took is available on the Internet. A number of excellent books have recently been published about the removal, including Steve Inskeep's *Jacksonland: President Andrew Jackson, Cherokee Chief John Ross, and a Great American Land Grab*. To find locations of historic Cherokee sites, see Vicki Rozema's *Footsteps of the Cherokee: A Guide to the Eastern Homelands of the Cherokee Nation*. It lists several local sites in northeast Alabama, including those in DeKalb, Cherokee, Jackson, and Marshall Counties.

This area of northeast Alabama is fortunate to have access to the best collection of Native

American history in the state. The nearby Northeast Alabama Community College Archives and Special Collections near Rainsville house the Gail Tate King Native American Research Center. It contains over 700 books centered on Southeastern Native American Tribes, anthropology, archaeology, and Trail of Tears history. It also features maps, an extensive collection of microfilm, and many other primary source material and has drawn researchers from as far away as New Hampshire. Contact Blake Wilhelm at 256.228.6001 for the hours of operation.

Larry Smith is the vice president of the Alabama Trail of Tears Association (nationaltota.com).



Save the date!

Creative Spirit Market

co-hosted by

Little River Arts Council
and DeSoto State Park

November 11 & 12

DeSoto State Park

littleriverartscouncil.org



Jamie Godwin of Grove Oak stands beside one of the Trail of Tears signs near her grocery store. A similar sign was stolen a few years ago and was recently replaced. It should be noted that the signs are federal property and subject to stiff penalties for theft or destruction of the markers.



by Barb Stoll

BOO-TIFUL AUTUMN!

Well it's October and that means crisp nights, leaves changing, and of course, Halloween. That wonderful time of year when candy corn makes its stand and reigns supreme. We here at your community library invite everyone to come and stop by and visit and borrow some books and/or DVDs for these evenings that are getting longer. Also, we would love to have you come volunteer with us. We sure could use the help and we really enjoy new people. So come by, volunteer, and be a part of your library and community.

Here's what we have new for you this month.

BOOKS

Y is for Yesterday. New from Sue Grafton, this thriller is the darkest and most disturbing case report from the files of Kinsey Millhone. It begins at an elite private school in 1979. Four teenage boys sexually assault a freshman and film the attack, but the tape goes missing and the prime suspect is murdered.

Ten years later, one of the perpetrators is released from prison and making trouble. Kinsey Millhone is called in to help, but the vicious sociopath (last seen in X) has a grudge with Kinsey and is leaving traces for her to find.

The Wrong Side of Goodbye. Detective Harry Bosch must track down someone who may have never existed in this new Michael Connelly thriller. Bosch is hired by one of California's biggest billionaires to track down a baby he may have fathered years before, while he is also tracking down a serial rapist for a tiny police department. This is one of the most baffling and dangerous foes he has ever faced.

DVDs

Game of Thrones Season Five. This season begins with a power vacuum that Westeros and Essos look to fill. At Castle Black, Jon Snow struggles to balance the Night's Watch and Stan is Baratheon. Cersei scrambles to hold on to power. This season features some of the most explosive scenes yet, as the promises that "winter is coming" become more ominous than ever before. Rated 13+.

Allegiant. The final chapter in the Divergent Series, the team of rebels escape over the city wall into a strange new world when they face a threat more dangerous than they ever imagined. Together, they wage a furious battle for survival, fighting not only for their factions and loved ones, but for the future of an entire city. Rated PG-13.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid. The hysterically funny, best-selling book comes to life in this family comedy. Greg Heffley is headed for big things, but he must first survive middle school. That won't be easy, considering he's surrounded by hairy-freckled morons, wedgie-loving bullies and a moldy slice of cheese with nuclear cooties! Rated PG.

The Never Ending Story. When young Bastian borrows a mysterious, ornately bound book, he never guessed that turning a page would draw him into a shimmering fantasy world of racing snails, hang-glider bats, puckish elves, a childlike empress and a host of other amazing characters. Rated PG.

There you have it folks, one hit after another. Enjoy these cool evenings and come to visit us at your library. Don't forget to celebrate with some candy corn too!

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



LIBRARIAN'S NOTES

by Kelly Leavitt



Wow! During the week the remnants of Hurricane Irma blew through town, we had well over a thousand books donated to the library! Since they were dropped off on our front porch and left unattended, many of the books got wet before we had a chance to sort through them. Sadly, most had to be disposed of. We love donations, and must insist that all books be brought into the library during our open hours (T, Th 3-6pm, Sat 9am-12pm). All books MUST be in clean condition, with no damage, mildew or odor.

Hundreds of the donated books that we were able to salvage are romance novels, so we're selling them for a dime a book. Come by and browse through them, as well as all the other books in a variety of genres which are part of our ongoing book sale. And please stop by our booth at Colorfest to say hi and browse our collection.

Do you enjoy chess and other games of strategy? On Saturday mornings from 10-12, come to the library to find a partner! Age does not matter—these are intergenerational games! We have both "young" and "mature" players who enjoy the fun of strategy... It's a great way to make new friends!

Every day, a volunteer is on duty at the library to assist the librarian. If you'd like to volunteer one day a month for a few hours, please let us know.

Visit the library's Facebook page for the latest news.



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Snack in a Backpack Program Helps Feed our Children

by Rev. William M. Winters

Did you know that each Friday, 15% of our children at Moon Lake Elementary School receive a special package to bring home—a backpack chock filled with nutritious food? This backpack gives these children enough food to carry them through the weekend. The snack is lovingly put together and delivered by several volunteers at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church, here in Mentone.

Although St. Joseph's runs and coordinates the Backpack Program, we would be the first to say that this program does not start nor end with us. The program is built and strengthened by the generosity of many within the community.

Recently, the employees of Plasman Corp. in Fort Payne gathered a large amount of supplies and food for the program. Their food drive was headed up by Krista Linman and the Social Committee at Plasman Corp. Not only did the Social Committee supply the program with food, but also zip lock bags as containers. Thankfully, the food gathered by Plasman Corporation will be enough to supplement the food in our backpacks for



many weeks.

Next, we received notice from the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) with the news that they have awarded the Backpack Program a grant of \$1,500. Due to the generosity of MAPA's grant, the cost of Snacks in a Backpack will be covered for an

additional year. This funding allows us time to develop additional funding to strengthen the program in years to come.

What a wonderful testament to our community when businesses, churches, agencies, and schools come together to make our community strong, healthy, and happy.

The success of this program is guaranteed by the gracious help of many of our local churches who also generously contribute to the Snack in a Backpack program. Special thanks go to the Mentone United Methodist Church, and Cove Road Baptist Church who support the effort each month. Other churches who graciously and consistently give are Moon Lake Baptist Church, Valley Head Baptist Church, Mentone Community Church, as well as other agencies and individuals.

We believe the success and security of the Backpack Program is due to the concern of our community to build strong and healthy children.

Rev. Winters is the rector of St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church.

Sacred Harp Singing at Area Landmark

Do you love one-room school houses and sacred harp singing? Landmarks of DeKalb County brings the two together every other year. This year, they will host a singing on Sunday, October 8, at Council Bluff School, DeKalb County's last standing one-room schoolhouse (listed on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage). The singing begins at 2 p.m. Council Bluff School is on a small, unmarked

road off CR 120 atop Sand Mountain. From Mentone, travel west on AL Hwy. 117. to CR 120 (first CR on the left after crossing I-59) and turn left. Proceed for approximately 1.6 miles, then turn left on a small, unmarked road (just before the yellow sign warning of sharp curve ahead). A brown Council Bluff School sign is at the turn—the school is down this road on the right.



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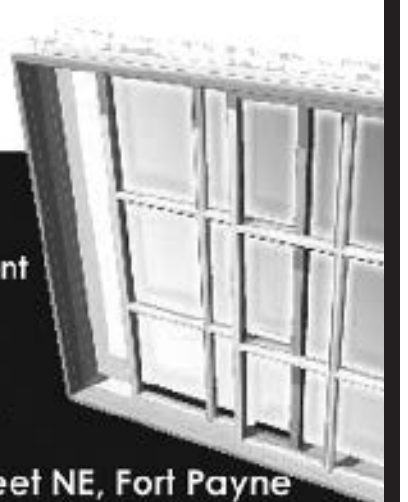
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A Mentone Icon for the Ages

by Holley Midgley

When the 130-year-old Mentone Springs Hotel burned to the ground in March of 2014, one of our most striking historic buildings disappeared forever. Now the Mentone Inn, the Hitching Post, Moon Lake School, and St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Church are almost all that survive from the town's public architectural past. But one other iconic structure remains, and not even Mrs. O'Leary's cow, with a blow torch, could it bring down: the Miller Dam at DeSoto Falls.

Built by A. A. (Arthur Abernathy) Miller in 1924, the approximately 20-foot-high dam created an impoundment that provided the water power needed to generate electricity to light homes and businesses in the area. It also created a small lake about two miles long in a section of the Little River stretching from behind DeSoto Falls all the way north to Camp Skyline on Highway 117, in Mentone. For nearly 100 years, the impounded river has been providing opportunities for fishing, boating, and swimming fun for generations of residents and visitors. And when one considers that a chief characteristic of concrete is that it almost never stops curing, thus getting stronger and stronger as the years pass, the Miller Dam may be with us for a very long time indeed.

Mentone resident Bill Wise is A. A. Miller's grandson. He and his wife Christina live at Summer Haven, a striking home situated on the stone cliffs above the pool that forms at the bottom of DeSoto Falls. Miller built the home at the same time he built the dam, and it features an 18-inch airspace between the outer and inner walls to provide a novel form of insulation against the elements.

Wise remembers his grandfather as someone whom we would call a go-getter today. "He was an entrepreneur who had built several power-generating dams in Virginia and West Virginia. But the ice that would form in the winters behind his dams was a

constant source of problems. He wanted to work in a warmer climate, so he came to Chattanooga in the early part of the last century looking for promising locations." Before long, he had discovered that DeSoto Falls on the Little River (sometimes known in the old days as the DeSoto River) might provide a good spot for a hydroelectric facility.



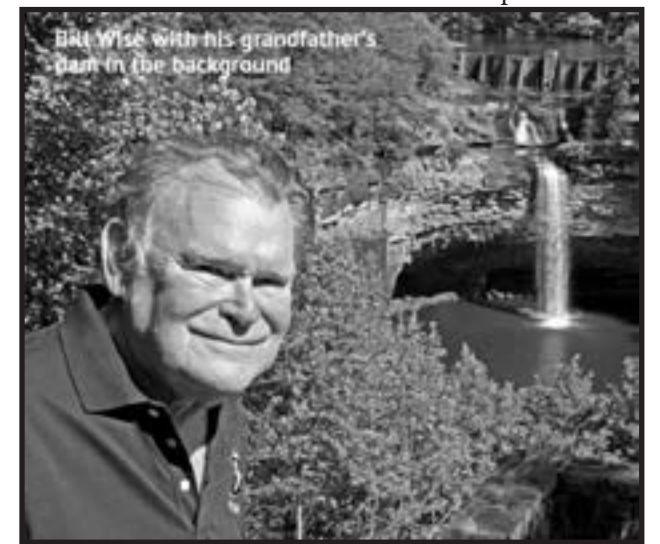
Miller arrived in Fort Payne driving a Stanley Steamer automobile. It had the distinction of being the first in Summers County, West Virginia, where he had been living before coming to Alabama. The trip south that he made in 1906 must have been an epic undertaking, but once he got here, Miller's creativity and drive took over. Over the years he built an ice plant in Fort Payne, and owned and operated a phone company and a Chevrolet dealership in Valley Head. He built a steam-powered electric plant in 1921 in Fort Payne, and that town's first apartment building, in 1937. Clearly, A. A. Miller hated an idle moment like roofers hate July.

Once he identified the location for a dam at the falls, he needed an access road through the woods to bring in supplies and workers. Previously, the only way to reach the falls was via an old Indian trail. "He built the first road from the brow down to the falls," says Wise. "To me, that was one of the greatest things he ever did."

Miller was not a trained engineer; he got his Schoolin' by Doin', not at the College of Knowledge, and quickly acquired a body of experience as he constructed dams in the Virginias. "He was a big reader and studier," says Wise. For instance, Miller read extensively about Paris' Cathedral of Notre-Dame, and the "flying buttresses" which helped strengthen and support the massive walls of the church. So, he incorporated buttresses into the DeSoto Falls dam.

Mr. Miller began by building a coffer dam, about ¾ of a mile upriver from the present dam, in order to hold back the river's water during construction. Sharp-eyed folks can still see the base of that dam as they float by. Next, he drilled holes in the bedrock above the falls and inserted railroad rails to serve as massive rebar. His workers then created wooden forms around

the rails and poured concrete into those molds. A large pipe channeled water down an almost 100-foot drop to a small building on a concrete pad where a hydrostatic dynamotor harnessed the power of the falling water and produced electricity. You can still see the pad where the generator was housed. Over time the height of the dam has been increased and a relief spillway added. Many area folks will remember the diving platform which stood at the dam for many years. For about 10 years, the low-power DC current Miller produced was supplied to customers in Collinsville, Fort Payne, Valley Head, Mentone, and Menlo, Georgia. Power was available from sundown until 10pm, and on Wednesday afternoons so people could do their weekly ironing. It has the distinction of being the first such hydroelectric power generating facility in North Alabama. The job was so well done that some of the power poles in the system were still in use by the Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative as



recently as the early 2000s. And in spite of almost 100 years of floods and storms, the little dam at the falls still seems as solid as the day it was finished.

Generating electricity was only part of the reason Miller built the dam. In partnership with Pfiffer Smith, of Baltimore, the DeSoto Falls Development Company was created. Plats around the falls area were laid out and a promotional effort was begun to sell lots. Recreation was key, and the two men brought in tons of sand to create a small beach for swimmers to use. But time and the ravages of the volatile river have erased any trace of the beach, and the 1929 stock market crash that began the Great Depression caused the development scheme to collapse. Miller sold the property to Alabama Power and, soon after, the State of Alabama acquired it and created DeSoto State Park.

A 26-year Army veteran who did two tour tours of duty in Viet Nam and earned a degree in engineering and a masters in international relations, Bill Wise has nothing but admiration for his ancestor. "If my grandfather could see the crowds that flock to the dam and the falls today, I know it would bring a big smile to his face," muses Wise. "He'd be very happy that his scheme has worked so well."

Holley Midgley is a freelance writer who lives in Mentone.

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“Aloha” From Ms. Paula’s Surf Shack!

August came and found Moon Lake students surfing into a new year in the Fine Arts classroom. I was ‘totally stoked” about the new art techniques I had learned this summer and couldn’t wait to dive in with my students.

Students were first introduced to a “sea” of incredible artwork by a group of painters known as the “Florida Highwaymen,” a group of twenty-six African American landscape artists in Florida. Self-taught and self-mentoring, they created a body of work of over 200,000 paintings during the late 50s and 60s. Mostly from the Fort Pierce area, they painted landscapes of the natural wetlands and seascapes in Florida and made a living selling them from the trunk of a car as they traveled down Florida’s A1A and US 1 highways. Moon Lake students really made waves with their seascapes and ocean scenes in the style of the Florida Highwaymen,

using pastels with baby oil. (And yes, I did say baby oil!)

Students then caught a wave with a side trip to the islands of Hawaii to look at sea life and ocean scenes. While checking out the scenery, students also learned that Hawaiians paint pictures with their hands when they do their native dance, the hula.

The Kindergarteners’ and first graders’ fish pictures turned out just beachy! The sounds of Hawaiian music could be heard, with a few of our own ukulele chords added. I have to say, the most fun had by all students was learning about the state fish of Hawaii—the humuhumunukunukuapuaa—and singing his song. Someone said it sounded romantic, like a walk on the beach at Waikiki (NOT!) Actually the name means “a little trigger fish with a nose like a pig!”

So, until next time from the Fine Arts classroom—

Hang Ten and Cowabunga Dudes!
Paula Easter teaches art, music and Spanish at Moon Lake Elementary School.



Moon Lake School News

- Moon Lake Elementary School will have a volunteer work day on Saturday, October 14. Things that need fixing around the school will be tended to, and work will begin to prepare for the construction of a greenhouse the school received a grant for.
- School will be closed October 9–11.
- The PTO’s annual Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday, October 28 from 4–8pm. Enjoy carnival games, hay rides, food, and bingo. Proceeds benefit the Moon Lake PTO.
- Parent Night will be held on October 30 from 5–7pm. Come visit your child’s classroom and meet fellow parents!

Happy Day!

October Birthdays

Oct 1 - Brian Baine
Oct 1 - Kerry Breithaupt
Oct 1 – Ron Logan
Oct 2 – Kevin Gifford
Oct 2 – Ben Kirby
Oct 2 – Avery Burke
Oct 2 – Brian Brandon
Oct 2 – Tim Ledford
Oct 3 – Angie Shugart
Oct 3 – Ansley Blalock
Oct 3 – Elizabeth Gentry
Oct 4 – Casey Cox
Oct 4 – Mandy Corsentino
Oct 4 – Reagan Shankles
Oct 5 – Mack Flannigan
Oct 5 – Sadler Emory
Oct 5 – Starla Cash
Oct 5 – Donald Daniel
Oct 5 – Kathy Peterson
Oct 5 – Stephanie Hester
Oct 6 – Tylor Harrison
Oct 6 – Breanna Blalock
Oct 6 – Katy Tubberville
Oct 6 – Casey Hellums
Oct 6 – Tanya Thomas
Oct 6 – Adyson Hughes
Oct 6 – Timdavid Wheat
Oct 7 – Christian Henry
Oct 7 – Maggie Coots
Oct 9 – Donna Hallahan
Oct 9 – Audie Beason
Oct 10 – Jimmy Worthey

Oct 10 – Sally Muschamp
Oct 10 – Gayla Smith
Oct 10 – Allie Rhodes
Oct 10 – Charles Hammonds
Oct 11 – Michele Wooden
Oct 11 – Amanda Reed
Oct 11 – Rhett Freeman
Oct 11 – Sam Harrison
Oct 11 – Abigail Wallace
Oct 11 – Caison Allen
Oct 12 – Grace Wright
Oct 12 – Ariana Beard
Oct 12 – Leslie Beason
Oct 13 – Sadie Long
Oct 13 – JayDan Haynes
Oct 13 – Terry Brandon
Oct 14 – Martha Kirby
Oct 14 – Tina Langston
Oct 14 – Olen Crowe
Oct 14 – Ashley Phillips
Oct 15 – Lanita Allen
Oct 15 – David “Tater” Hopper
Oct 15 – Pam Manning
Oct 15 – Casey Cartwright
Oct 15 – Tony Crow
Oct 16 – Sarah Blalock
Oct 16 – Tina Carden
Oct 16 – Jacey Traffanstedt
Oct 16 – Glenda Turlington
Oct 16 – Barry Sadowski
Oct 16 – Kurt Winn
Oct 17 – Renae Langston
Oct 17 – Rose Cox
Oct 17 – Alisha Lawton
Oct 17 – Katie Poe
Oct 17 – Tommy Battles
Oct 17 – Eddie Coots

Oct 17 – Andrue Smith
Oct 17 – Aryan Wallace
Oct 17 - Andrea Calvert
Oct 17 – Megan O’Shields
Oct 18 – Zoey Kate Baggett
Oct 18 – Ken Busby
Oct 18 – Stacy Smith
Oct 18 – Terry Manning
Oct 18 – Alisha McElhaney
Oct 19 – Charles Robert Hammon
Oct 19 – Matt Tillman
Oct 20 – Harry Hopper
Oct 20 – Joseph Lee
Oct 20 – Jamie Shankles
Oct 20 – Koralyn Parker
Oct 21 – Darius Turner
Oct 21 – Ross Van Pelt
Oct 21 – Donna McClure
Oct 21 – Joan Harrison
Oct 21 – Alex Garrett
Oct 21 – Bradyn Gregory
Oct 21 – Alyssa Poe
Oct 22 – Kendra Cartwright
Oct 23 – Levi McClure
Oct 23 – Sandra Padgett
Oct 23 – Roberta Kirby
Oct 23 – Edith Dean
Oct 24 – Kyle Rape
Oct 24 – Tytan Blevins
Oct 25 – Jordan Bain
Oct 25 – Ethan Smith
Oct 25 – Nicole Wolf
Oct 26 – Jeff Harrison
Oct 26 – Cindy Butler
Oct 26 – Cheri Williams
Oct 26 – Jacob Garner
Oct 27 – Teresa Verdon

Oct 27 – Charity Pulido
Oct 28 – Judah Grisham
Oct 28 – Robert Worthey
Oct 28 – Meagan Sutton
Oct 28 – Matthew Patterson
Oct 28 – Roger Brownfield
Oct 28 – Rayford Bethune
Oct 28 – Wesley Frost
Oct 29 – Jessica Nelson
Oct 29 – Blake Blevins
Oct 29 – Dylan Newberry
Oct 29 – Grady Gilbert
Oct 30 – Shannon Wagner
Oct 30 – Jennifer Collins
Oct 30 – Emmy Smith
Oct 30 – Karen Prestwood
Oct 31 – Ashley Sanderson
Oct 31 – Charlotte Gentry
Oct 31 – John Dersham

October Anniversaries

Oct 1 – Chuck & Cheri Williams
Oct 5 – Donnie & Connie Bell
Oct 7 – Eddie & Ashley Manning
Oct 8 – Casey & Madie Gregory
Oct 8 – Steve & Carry Pope
Oct 9 – Nelson & Brenda Kerby
Oct 10 – George & Sandra Boehringer
Oct 15 – Nathan & Holly Owen
Oct 17 – Adam & Alex Dupree

Enjoy This Handy Pull-Out Section!

(Pages 11-18)

Find out what's going on in and around Mentone

Navigate your way around Colorfest...don't miss a thing!

What To Do Around Here!

October 2017 Community Calendar

Oct 2—Mountain Bike Tour. This tour explores some beautiful trails and paths atop Lookout Mountain or Sand Mountain. Come have an enjoyable ride without the fear of getting lost. This three-hour tour includes a mountain bike rental, instruction, and a guide for safety, direction, and information. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 3–6pm. 256-997-9577.

Oct 3—Rock Climbing / Rappelling Adventure Combo. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing and rappelling is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. 10am–2pm. 256-997-9577.

Oct 4—Zip Line Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required. True Adventure Sports. 12–2pm. 256-997-9577.

Oct 4—It's All in Your Head Songwriter Workshop. Songwriters 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. Bring your songs, pieces of songs, melodies, lyrics, critiquing skills and most of all, your camaraderie. \$20. Doors open 6pm. Program 7–9pm. Coal & Iron Building, 501 Gault Ave. N. Fort Payne. 256-979-1910. Nashvillesongmentoring.com.

Oct 5—Rock Climbing / Rappelling Adventure Combo. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing and rappelling is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. 10am–2pm. 256-997-9577.

Oct 5—Children's Advocacy Center 12th Annual "Fore the Kids" Golf Tournament. Enjoy a great day of golf and help the CAC continue their mission to provide hope and healing for abuse and at-risk children. All golfers registering for the tournament will receive a duffle bag filled with donated items from local businesses. Team Fee is \$350 (4 players). 11am lunch and a Noon shotgun start. Four player best ball. Terrapin Hills Golf & Country Club. To register or for more information call 256-997-9700.

Oct 6—Fall Table Scapes Demo. Let's craft in well structured, well fed environment! Join us for an evening of fall decor training complete with wine and light refreshments. You will learn the latest fall season styles from decor master Moe and her apprentice Sarah in a relaxed environment. Bring a friend and let's decorate! The class is \$15 each and includes several fall décor demos, wine and finger foods. 5:30–7pm. Hosted by Farmhouse Finds Fort Payne.

Oct 6—The Stepping Stones in the Boarding Room at Vintage 1889. The Steppin Stones is an American rock 'n' roll band formed in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina in 2006 by Hannah Wicklund at the age of nine. While most were accomplishing third grade reading lists, Wicklund was forming a rock 'n' roll band. Playing over 1,500 shows, sharing stages with acts including Kansas, Jefferson Starship, Outlaws, Lyle Lovett, Jason Isbell, and Rusted Root before legal voting age, Wicklund and The Steppin Stones have evolved over a decade. Now in Nashville, Tennessee, Wicklund, guitarist, pianist, singer and songwriter is accompanied on stage by Egan Miller on bass and Houston Mathews on drums. With the band's musical influences from Jimi Hendrix, Fleetwood Mac, Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers and Jeff Beck, Wicklund's classic rock look get fans listening, but her guitar skills keep them wanting more. www.thesteppinstones.com.

Oct 6–8—Ponderosa Bible Camp Fall Retreat Weekend for ages 7-11. Hosted by Ponderosa Student Ministries. \$95/person. You can register online using the "get tickets" link here: ponderosabilecamp.com/fall-retreats.

Oct 6—Zip Line & Sky Swing Adventure. Ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Must pre-register. True Adventure Sports. 2–6pm. 256-997-9577.

Oct 7—Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. All funds raised support the DeSoto Rescue Squad in operational costs, equipment maintenance, medical supplies, etc. \$7 per plate, dine in or carry out. Each plate has 2 pancakes, 2 sausages, and hash brown casserole. 8–11am. Mentone Community Church.

Oct 7—Annual Little River Half Marathon. Possibly one of the most scenic half marathons in the country, the certified course loops 13.1 miles on paved roads, starting and ending at the Little River Canyon Center. The course follows the rim of the canyon before winding its way through the area's beautiful farm country. The half marathon will feature water stations, music, ample law enforcement, shirts, trophies, finishing metals, and much more. Proceeds go to outdoor education programs and local conservation efforts at Little River Canyon. Please come Friday October 6 for early registration and packet pickup from 2–5pm. Packet pick up and registration will also begin at 7am on race day! Registration is \$50 prior to October 7 (active.com) or \$70 day of race (October 7). For most GPS device use address 472 Alabama Highway 35 Fort Payne, AL 35967-7138. Race begins at 8am. 256-782-8010.

Oct 7—Sculpt Your Own Flower. Have you ever wanted to actually sit at the gaffer bench and feel what it is like to shape hot glass? In this class, it's all about a hands-on experience in a fun atmosphere with a final product we know you will love. After watching us shape glass into a flower, it's your turn to sit at the bench to a sculpt your own from an array of colors. Our artists are there to step in and lend a hand or guide you as you shape the glass. We have two classes available this day, one at 10:30 & one at 12:30. Each class is about one hour in length with a minimum of three people and a maximum of five. Reservations and full payment are required. Please call us 256-523-3188 or email us (info@orbixhotglass.com) for more information or to reserve a spot. \$75 per person. Minimum age 13 years old. Shipping \$8. each, or you may pick the pieces up on the following Tuesday or later.

Oct 9—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.

Oct 8—Council Bluff Sacred Harp Singing. Bi-annual sacred harp singing at DeKalb's County's last standing one-room schoolhouse. 2–4pm. Council Bluff School on Sand Mountain.

Oct 12—Lunch & Learn with Paul Long. "The Power of Influence." Paul Long will teach how to be an influential individual, spouse, or business owner, as well as the ways influence is developed by body language, attitude, and words. \$15 includes training session, networking, and lunch. Vintage 1889, Fort Payne. 11:30am–12:30pm. 256-845-3380.

Oct 13—Campfire Talks: Parasites of Little River. Parasitic organisms comprise the majority of species on earth, outnumbering non-parasitic animals by as much as 50 percent. JSU Microbiologist Dr. Benjie Blair will talk about creepy crawlies that would like to make a home... inside of you! DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved campground, next to campsite 93. (Held in Nature Center in case of inclement weather.) 7–8pm. Free to all ages. 256-997-5025.

Oct 14—Yarn Bombing. Visit the streets of downtown Fort Payne and see an explosion of color! Temporary art installation sponsored by Boom Town Makers Market. All day.

Oct 14—Work Day at Moon Lake School. Come help us get ready for constructing our new greenhouse that we received through a grant! We'll be fixing things and tidying up. Moon Lake Elementary School.

Oct 14—4th Annual Dog Daze. We have moved our Annual Dog Daze event to October to avoid the heat! Just consider this a "cooler" version and Bring your dogs and human family to this event where the Canyon Center staff features dog games, and presentations on all topics canine such as dog adoption, dog advocacy, service dogs, and much more! No More Monday farms will return this year with sheep herding demonstrations and McCreary K9 will be back with the Police dog demonstrations! It promises to be a blast! Little River Canyon Center, 472 Al Highway 35, Fort Payne. 11am–3pm. Free; call 256-845-3548 for more details/schedule.

Oct 14—Campfire Talk: Invisible Wonders of Little River Canyon. Microorganisms make up a large part of the planet's living material and play a major role in maintaining the Earth's ecosystem. JSU microbiologist Dr. Benjie Blair will explain how the creatures you can't see affect you every day. DeSoto State Park. Campfire Ring in the Improved campground, next to campsite 93. Gate opens 6:30pm. (Held in Nature Center in case of inclement weather.) 7–8pm. Free for all ages! 256-997-5025.

Oct 14—Oktoberfest & Cornhole Tourney. Little River Waterkeeper & One World Adventure Company present the 1st annual Oktoberfest, a fun & FREE event for the entire community to help raise awareness about the importance of clean water! There will be a cornhole tournament, German brats, beer, and football streaming on the big screen! For the kids, we will have face painting, pumpkin carving, and traditional fall games that are sure to be lots of "Spaß" (FUN)! 5–8pm. Vintage 1889, Fort Payne. To sign up a Cornhole Team (\$30) contact Angie Shugart angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Oct 14—Heil Harvest Festival 5K. Heil will host its 4th annual Harvest 5K. All proceeds go to Ponderosa Foster Kids Camp and Long Ranch 4 Boys. This race kicks off the Annual Harvest Festival sponsored by Heil. Both events are open to the public and fun for all ages! This is a family friendly 5K. Runners, walkers, and strollers are welcome! Race bags and T-shirts will be guaranteed to the first 100 participants. 9am. 256-304-2198.

Oct 14—Heil Environmental 5th Annual Harvest Festival. Heil Environmental is hosting it 5th Annual Harvest Festival on their campus. The event is open to the public and tickets can be purchased at the gate for \$1. This year's proceeds will go to the Ponderosa Foster Kids Camp and Long Ranch 4 Boys. Event is from 10am–3pm. 256-304-2201.

Oct 14—Run For Rescue 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Kid's Run/Walk. Proceeds benefit Friends of DeKalb County Animal Adoption Center,

What To Do Around Here!

October 2017 Community Calendar

Daisy Spay and the Humane Society of DeKalb County. Fort Payne City Park, Rotary Pavilion. 8am: 5K start, 1 Mile to follow; 6:30am: Bib Pick-Up and Day-of-race Registration. On-line registration: racesonline.com/events/run-for-rescue5k/registration or call Andrea McCurdy at 256-996-4676.

Oct 14—Rappelling Adventure @ Chicken Rock. Explore scenic rock outcroppings along Lookout Mountain! No previous experience is necessary. Ages 10 and up. \$40. Meet at DeSoto Falls. 10am–1pm. Contact Angie Shugart angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Oct 14—Paperweight Class. This class is designed for those who really just want see what molten glass is all about. Feel the heat, gather from the furnace, sculpt the glass into you own design. It is ultimately about the experience, some experimentation and a couple nice paperweights to take home or to the office to show your friends. Please join us for some in-depth discovery at Orbix Hot Glass. Reservations Required \$145 per person. 9am–1pm. 256-523-3188.

Oct 14–15—33rd annual Christmas At Eddie's. Eddie's Garden Center is where you need to be to get the holiday season on its way. Over 150 Christmas trees, each sporting a different theme; ornaments ranging from western to whimsical, cartoons to retro, Victorian to collegiate; and festively decorated rooms provide endless decorating ideas for the upcoming holiday. 9112 Alabama Highway 40, Henagar. Come and see this Winter Wonderland. 256-657-3841.

Oct 14–21—Finders Keepers Fall/Winter

Consignment Sale. You will find gently used, good quality name brand children and adult clothing and shoes, home furnishings, electronics, books, toys, furniture and more, all at great prices. Sign up NOW to become a consignor! Will be held at the VFW Fairgrounds. Special pre-sale hours for consignors. Call for more details! 256-632-2420.

Oct 20—Jerry Bloom & Friends. Kick off Colorfest weekend with the traditional bonfire and music. Jerry Bloom plays a variety of everyone's favorite songs. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to the Mentone Town Square for great music. Chili, corn beard and hot apple cider starting at 6pm. Music starts at 6:30pm.

Oct 20—Campfire Talk: Corn~A truly a-maizing Plant! Geographer Kelly Gregg will discuss the origins of Native American corn, how it shaped American culture and cuisine, and how it went on to help feed the world! Free & open to the public, bring the family along for fresh popcorn! Seating is limited, so bring your camp chair if you wish. 7–8pm. DeSoto State Park's Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. (In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center). 256-997-5025.

Oct 21–22—Mentone Colorfest Arts & Crafts Festival. Mentone Area Preservation Association continues the tradition of this fall festival that brings vendors and tourists to Mentone for a festival filled with a variety of music, activities, delicious food, and an amazing selection of handmade arts and crafts. More than 90 vendors will be located around Brow Park and at the old Mentone Springs Hotel Site (at the caution light) on Saturday until 5pm and on Sunday until 4pm.

Both days of festivities start at 9 am. See the insert in this issue for details!

Oct 21—Kayak Rentals @ DeSoto Falls. Rent sit-on-top kayaks and canoes to enjoy a peaceful paddle on Little River. Launches at 10am & 1pm. DeSoto Falls Boat Shack. 3-hour rental: \$30 kayak; \$45 tandem kayak or canoe. Reservations can be made at 256-634-8370.

Oct 21—Open Studio Day at Orbix Hot Glass. Enjoy a day of natural and artistic beauty from the studio's porches, perfectly timed with the peak of autumn colors of Lookout Mountain. The day includes demonstrations by Cal Breed and his team of artists, a chance to blow an ornament, and a few other surprise treats. 3869 County Road 275, Fort Payne. 256-523-3188. orbixhotglass.com.

Oct 21—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. For this we welcome people of all ages (at least 5 years old). 9am–2pm. Orbix Hot Glass. \$38 per ornament blown. 256-523-3188.

Oct 21—RTI 5K - 5th Annual Great Pumpkin Run. Dress up in your Halloween Costume and come run or walk. Pre-Registration is \$25. Race Day Registration is \$30. To be guaranteed a dry-fit shirt you must be registered by October 6. Preregister on line at racesonline.com/events/rti-5k-the-great-pumpkin-run. All proceeds go to the DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center. 8am. Rainsville Technology Inc, 189 RTI Drive, Rainsville.

Oct 21—Serious Skills Series: Dutch Oven

Campfire Cooking. Dutch ovens have been in use for hundreds of years; especially when our country was expanding and families were on the move. Unable to bring their large cook stoves with them, women learned how to cook entire meals from stews & soups to bread & desserts, in their Dutch ovens. Learn the basics about Dutch ovens, how to clean & care for your cookware, AND cook (& eat!) dinner & dessert at the same time! This is a demonstration, so the best part is when food is just coming off the fire! Seating is limited, so bring a camp chair if you wish. 4–6pm. DeSoto State Park—Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (gate will open to the public). Free & open to all ages. 256-997-5025.

Oct 21—Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-in.

Family fun event featuring a cruise-in, children activities, food, art show, and live entertainment. Gault Avenue, downtown Fort Payne. 5–9pm. [facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl](https://www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl)

Oct 21—Campfire Talk: The History of Moonshine. Moonshining began very early in American history; for early moonshiners, making and selling alcohol wasn't just for fun or a few extra bucks—it was a means of survival. Learn about the history of moonshining in the Appalachian chain. Bring the family along for fresh popcorn! (Sorry, no samples of the moonshine.) Seating is limited, so bring your camp chair if you wish. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. (In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center.) 7–8pm. Free to all ages. 256-997-5025.

(cont'd on page 18)

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 Beville 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.

Chess players meet on Saturday mornings at 10am at Moon Lake Library. Casual games, for all ages.

"Point of the Pen", Mentone writers, meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1pm at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain in Mentone. All writers are welcome. Membership is free of charge. 256-634-0402.

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS COLORFEST SPONSORS!



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DeKalb Tourism
Welcomes You To
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Enjoy The
**SOUNDS OF
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Welcome To
**COLORFEST
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Presents
**TASTE OF
 MENTONE**



Mentone Wedding Chapel



*Candle Lite Ceremonies
 Music • Photographs
 Flowers • Receptions
 Lodging
 Limousine*

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

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

*To arrange your wedding or renewing of your
 wedding vows, call
 256-634-4181*

**1199 MOON LAKE ROAD
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FOR SALE



Wonderful craftsman cottage built in 2011 on 26+/- acres on the Brow of Lookout Mountain with stunning view towards Alabama and Tennessee. Great personal lodge home or use as a vacation rental.

Priced at \$300,000.

Contact Agent for details.

Susan Thompson

Cell: 404-915-9440

or svathompson@yahoo.com

Keller Williams Buckhead

404-604-3800

WELCOME TO THE 2017 MENTONE COLORFEST!

Brow Park Hours: Saturday, 9am-5pm; Sunday, 9am-4pm



Music Schedule at Brow Park Stage

Saturday, October 21

MC - Cathy Haven Howard

10am	Richard Schrei (Native American Flute)
11am	Loree Brownfield (New Age Classical) - accompanied by Craig Hendricks
12pm	Curtis Strange & Dr. Rob (Electric Soul)
1pm	Jess Goggans (Mountain rock-infested blues, funk, soul)
2pm	Clare Donohue, Stephen Powers & RT Bolden (Jazz)
3pm	The Vegetators (Hillbilly Banjo Bluegrass)
4pm	Ryan Keef (Acoustic Soul)



Sunday, October 22

MC - Tobey Miller, 11am-1pm
Terry & Dorma Hutcheson, 2-3pm

11am	Larry Jo Hall (Sojourner Soul)
12pm	John Lathim & Michelle Young (Celtic)
1pm	James Loy Roberts, Lisa Crow & Jordon Brown (musical diversity including Bluegrass)
2pm	Contest Winners Announced
2pm	Terry Hutcheson (Southern Folk Americana)
3pm	Camp Fire Girls (Southern Satirical Sisters)



Visit our website www.mapamentone.com to learn more about each of these musicians

HERE'S THE SCOOP ON EVERYTHING TO DO DURING COLORFEST



Stop by MAPA's information booth for schedules, maps, and raffle tickets, or to become a MAPA member!

Stop by Mentone Realty's cabin on Friday afternoon for the weekly foot-stompin', hand-clapping "porch picking" session with local musicians. On Saturday and Sunday, Mentone Realty will serve their annual complimentary cider and cookies (while they last!).

Boat Rides

Enjoy the fall colors on the banks of Little River from a boat! Go to DeSoto Falls to catch a pontoon boat ride or rent a kayak or canoe launching at 10am and 1pm. Cost is \$30 for a 3-hour rental of a kayak and \$45 for a 3-hour rent of a tandem kayak or canoe. Boat rides will be from 1pm to dusk on Friday. 10am to dusk on Saturday. 11am-4pm on Sunday. Rides will be \$15/person; children under 3 are free.



Scan for Colorfest Info



WELCOME TO THE 2017 MENTONE COLORFEST!

MAP OF MENTONE TOWN CENTER & BROW PARK

The map shows the layout of Mentone Town Center and Brow Park. Key locations include the MSH Site, Festival Vendors, Brow Stage, and various businesses like Aunt Fanny's Fudge, Magnolia's Gourd Shop, and the Fire Dept. Numbered stars 1-10 indicate specific points of interest. A legend identifies the MSH as the Mentone Springs Hotel Site and 'P' as a Portable Toilet. A note at the bottom states: "NOTE: This is not intended to be a complete map of the Town of Mentone. It only highlights venues for activities, events, food, music, and arts/crafts vendors during Colorfest."

Points of Interest

- Scavenger Hunt** - Have fun learning about Mentone and its merchants. Pick up a game form at the Mapa/Information Tent.
- Boat Rides at DeSoto Falls** - Enjoy boat rides on Little River Friday-Sunday during Colorfest.
- Town Square/Mentone Inn Corner** - Enjoy music on Friday evening
- Kid Stop** - Pony rides (watch for Kid Stop signs throughout the festival)
- MSH Site Tent** - Enjoy our Relaxation Station with shade, seating and food vendors.
- Arts/Crafts Vendors** - Start shopping the more than 85 arts/crafts and food vendors and continue in Brow Park. Spaces H1-H28.
- Scarecrow Holler** - Wander through the pine thicket at the MSH site and check out the whimsical and spooky scarecrows the locals have created for your enjoyment.
- Mapa/Information Tent** - Questions? Get them answered here. Be sure to pick up your festival handout here--and your Scavenger Hunt Game form too!
- Brow Park** - Shop more than 76 more local and regional vendors offering everything from food and books to jewelry, pottery, woodworking, art from reclaimed materials, plus much more.
- Brow Park Stage** - enjoy a variety of music during Saturday and Sunday of the festival including pop, rock, folk, blues, bluegrass, and more.

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOD & MUSIC

An old Colorfest tradition returns this year, with music at the Town Square, where MAPA will present Jerry Bloom & Friends from 6:30–9:30 p.m. Jerry & Pixie Bloom have been singing since they were kids. He enjoys singing Neil Young and she enjoys singing Stevie Nicks. Pixie began singing in church, while Jerry sang in bars. Originally from Indiana, Jerry even sang in Las Vegas for years. Pixie is from Louisiana but they both fell in love with beautiful Mentone many years ago. Jerry and Pixie will be playing with Charlotte and Hollis Gentry. Warm yourself by the fire pit, and enjoy chili, corn bread and hot apple cider served by Fontana Stinson.

SCAVENGER HUNT

A family-friendly way to discover what Mentone’s businesses have to offer is our 4th annual Scavenger Hunt, sponsored by the Mentone Business Association.

Here’s how to play!

- Pick up a game sheet at the MAPA booth at Brow Park, then set out on a quest to find all the items on the list.
- Using the clues on the game sheet, find as many businesses as you can (all business are within walking distance of the festival.)
- Once you find the business, you must find a “treasure” item that is also clued on the game sheet.
- When you’ve found both the business and the “treasure”, ask the owner to initial your game sheet.
- The owner will then give you a small gift of some kind (one reward per team, at the owner’s discretion).

Once you have completed the Scavenger Hunt, return your completed list to the MAPA booth by 3 p.m. on Sunday. Every player/team that completes the list will be eligible for a Grand Prize of \$50, courtesy of MBA! (If no player completes the whole game, the winner will be based on a drawing of those who completed the most “finds”.

Have fun visiting Mentone’s businesses!

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Bruce's Foodland
Kathy Casler

DeSoto Printing
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Ft. Payne Veterinary
Center
GH Metal Solutions
Lowe's
Scott Lloyd

Mentone Inn
Mi Casita
Moon Lake Trading
Southern Properties -
Pam James
Southern Properties -
Sarah Quinn

Southern Properties
Stoneridge Cottages
The Gourdie Shop
Tigers Inn
Valley Head Drugs
Westmoreland Tire
Winston Place



**LANDMARKS OF
DEKALB CO., INC.**

*Saving Our History
for Future Generations*

Founded in 1969, Landmarks is the nonprofit historical association of DeKalb County, Alabama. Landmarks issues publications, maintains interpretive exhibits and conserves historical properties as part of its mission.

** free events*

September 16*

Landmarks Boom Days Book & Publication Sale: Many books 1/2 off. New Legend available. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., John Hunt Hall, a Landmarks property

Boom Days Heritage Celebration: Boom Town Makers Market, 324 Gault Avenue, a project of Landmarks. Open 10am - 6 pm.

October 8*

Sacred Harp Singing: 2-4 p.m., Council Bluff School, DeKalb County's last remaining one-room school house, a Landmarks property

October 29*

Landmarks' Annual Meeting: Featuring speaker/author/artist Rev. Dr. Bobby Welch, 2 p.m. (reception to follow), Fort Payne Opera House

November 10*

Art of the Great War Poster Exhibit and Opening Reception: For Veterans and the public, at John Hunt Hall, 6 p.m., immediately following Veterans Day Parade

December 10

"The Sounds of Silents" Christmas-themed silent movies presented by Landmarks and the Atlanta Theater Organ Society: Accompanied by Landmarks own 1927 Kilgen pipe organ, 2-4 p.m. (reception to follow), Fort Payne Opera House, a Landmarks property, tickets \$10

Landmarks' 2017 Calendar:

Rev. Dr. Bobby Welch to speak at Landmarks' Annual Meeting Oct. 29 at the Fort Payne Opera House



Born in Fort Payne, Ala., Rev. Dr. Bobby Welch is a decorated Vietnam veteran and a graduate of Jacksonville State University and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as the pastor of First Baptist Church in Daytona Beach from 1974 until his retirement. He was president of the Florida Baptist Convention in 1989 and president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 2004 to 2005. He and his wife, Maudellen, have two children, Matthew and Haylee.

Welch is author of *You, The Warrior Leader*, a book analogizing military strategy to spiritual warfare. He has also created a body of art titled "Boom Buddies," a sculptural presentation of colorful local characters, representing pieces of Fort Payne's past.

Record Number of Vendors

by Anna Mae Horn

With so many vendors set up, there is bound to be something to appeal to everyone. All booths will feature handmade items. Woodcrafts are always popular. This year, there will be art and furniture, as well as trains, candleholders, frames, and other items carved from wood.

For the musically inclined, there will be handcrafted dulcimers and flutes available. For those of us who can not make music ourselves, there will be wind chimes that create beautiful melodies.

For the art lovers, there will be a wide variety of selections. Artists will have original paintings in several mediums, as well as photographs. There will be signs and accessories, and possibly even some decorated ostrich eggs.

Jewelry fanatics probably already know this is a great place for buying one-of-a-kind pieces. Several vendors will offer jewelry, and each one is unique. From antique spoon bracelets to necklaces with freshwater pearls,

you will find the perfect piece to reflect your own personality. There will also be jewelry crafted from leather, copper, silver, and more to please the most specific shoppers.

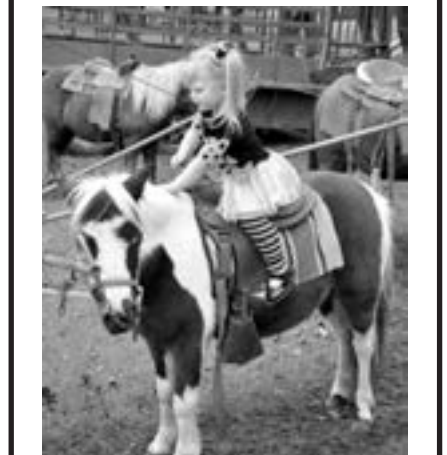
Outdoor enthusiasts will surely enjoy the bird houses, bird feeders, and other yard art to beautify your lawn or patio. Candles and body bath items will be available. Even a wide variety of fabrics and materials will be on hand: everything from burlap and denim to macramé and quilts. There will be books, baskets, and brooms. Everyone will enjoy something. Be sure to remember the holidays are close at hand. You might see something unique a loved one will enjoy. This is the perfect time to shop, and enjoy yourself at the same time!



FARMERS MARKET

Support local farmers! The Mentone Farmers Market will be open on Saturday and Sunday during festival hours, selling fresh food, breads, and other homemade items.

On Saturday, children will enjoy carriage rides around the festival area and pony rides at the old hotel site. Want to look like a butterfly or a tiger? a skeleton or a super hero? Face painting is always a fun activity! (Note: these activities are not free.)



One of this year's new features is the "Kid Stop" areas, where children and parents can take a break from browsing and just have some good ol' fun. Watch for the signs along the brow on N. Cool St. and at the old hotel site! Enjoy tossing a witch's hat, mini-golf, and more.



Arts and Crafts and Food, Oh My!

Arts/Crafts Vendors

3rd Generation Creation
American Rust
Appalachian Rustic Furniture
Bad Dog Rustic Design
Bags, Bows & Doll Clothes
Beads by Me for You
Scott Brumbeloe
Dianna Cantrell
Chelley Walker Art
Louisa Clingan
Creative Stitches
Cromer's Creations
Dreamers Jewelry Art
Expressions for Your Home
Faith and Mustard Seed
Dexter & Kay Gentle
Gettin Knottie
Goat Island Driftwood
Barney Grimes Dulcimers
Heartstrings & Stitches
JCM Candles
JW Jewelry
Jewelry Designs by M&D
Glenda Jones
Daniel Kandasammy
Knot Holes & Notions
Lacy Hope Art
Lickskillet Creations
Lookout Mountain Photography
Lucky Buck Jewelry
Mary Mc's Jewelry, Etc.
Eddie & Raymond McCoy
John McFarland
Amanda Miller
Mountain Mosaics
Paw Paw Jack's Woodworking
Personalized Wooden Trains
Photography by Jim and Frieda
Nightingale Pottery/Reiko Rhymer
Pottery
Norman Christina Jewelry
Oden Knives
Alana Ozment
Carolyn Ray
Ring of Fire Pyrography
Roadside Recyclers
Richard Schrei Wood Flutes
Scrap Happy Art

Zandra Shaver & Vickie Chaney
Slightly Different Jewelry
Southern Charm
Stardust Mama's
Steampunk Butterfly
Still Stitchin'
Sunset Mountain Wood Art
Sweet Tea Pottery
Tattered Treasures
The Rusty Wren
The Vintage Clover
The Wood Shop
Marsha Thrift
Unique Lamps & Lighting
Andrew Wadkins
Wild Acres Homestead
Woven Works

Food

Ronnie Beard Roasted Corn
Creative Cakes & Cookies by Michelle
Crit's Pucks
Fontastic Foods at the Mentone Inn
Kettle Brothers Gourmet Kettle Corn
Leeburg Italian Ice
Lil' Donut Factory
McIlwain Kettle Corn
Mrs. Rushton's Cottage Kitchen
N. Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District
Papis Roasted Corn
Plowshares Bistro
Pritchard Farm
Red's Deli
Coty Still
Venice Gelato
Wildflower Cafe

Organizations

American Red Cross
DeSoto Rescue Squad
Little River Arts Council
Mentone Area Preservation Association
Mentone Arts and Cultural Center
Mentone Educational Resource Foundation
Moon Lake Library
Safe Haven Pet Rescue

TASTE OF MENTONE



MAPA is proud to present "Taste of Mentone", featuring Mentone's local restaurants. Mentone is home to some of the best cooks in North Alabama. Wildflower Café and Plowshares Bistro will serve up their specialties at Brow Park, as well as at their regular locations. Other local restaurants participating in the "Taste of Mentone" directly from their locations include the Green Leaf Grill, Mentone Market, Lookout

Outpost, and the Cones of Mentone. Our volunteer fire department (the North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District) will be selling their famous barbecue at Brow Park, and there will be numerous other food vendors set up in various places at the festival. Be sure to bring your appetite!



PUMPKIN PATCH JUBILEE

Many of our local businesses are participating in MAPA's annual "Pumpkin Patch Jubilee" by decorating their businesses to help set the Colorfest "spirit"! Independent judges will pick the winners on Saturday, October 21 at 9 a.m., and ribbons will be placed on the winning displays at 11 a.m. Contest winners will be featured in the November issue of The Groundhog.



SCARECROW HOLLER

While you're walking between North Cool St. and the hotel site, enjoy a stroll through enchanting Scarecrow Holler, where creatively-crafted scarecrows will grace your path. Feel free to stop and have your picture made with your favorite one!

PAWS FOR THE CAUSE PARADE

Dress up your pets in their costumes for a "Paw Parade"! Line up at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Safe Haven Pet Rescue booth (Booth 56), and parade with your pet down Cool Street to the hotel site stage, where awards will be given for: Best Costume, Most Original Costume, Pet Owner Look Alike, Best Pet Trick, Judge's Choice. Registration fee is a minimum donation of \$10 to Safe Haven Pet Rescue.



HELPFUL WEB SITES

FESTIVAL INFORMATION
MAPAMENTONE.COM

LOCAL BUSINESS & LODGING INFORMATION
MYMENTONE.COM

WIN A PIECE OF LOCAL HERITAGE!

by Anna Mae Horn

You could take home this beautiful paddle arm rocking chair for \$2 or less! One lucky raffle winner will be chosen at Colorfest. The chair (valued at \$595) was made and donated by Phil Faircloth at Appalachian Rustic Furniture. MAPA will use the raffle money (and other festival proceeds) to carry on their mission of "preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area for current and future generations."



Pick up your tickets today in Valley Head at Bell Battelle (where you can see the rocker), in Fort Payne at The Times Journal, or at The Wildflower Cafe and Green Leaf Grill in Mentone. You will also have an opportunity to see the rocker and purchase tickets at Colorfest. Be sure to stop by the MAPA tent. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Drawing will be held on Sunday at noon at Brow Park Pavilion. You do not have to be present to win.

What To Do Around Here!

October 2017 Community Calendar

Oct 27-29 - Spookapalooza! Treats, Fun, & Games! Join the staff & volunteers of DeSoto State Park, National Park Service, JSU Field Schools, & the Conservation Education Institute for a weekend of fun events guaranteed to run shivers up and down your spine! Trick or treating, games, live animals, storytelling, & more are in store during this popular annual event. All events are free to the public & great for all ages! DeSoto State Park. 256-997-5025. See alapark.com/DSP-Spookapalooza for complete details.

Oct 27 - Campfire Talk: Owl Prowl. Ever wonder whooo's going "hoot" in the night? Get better acquainted with everyone's favorite nighttime raptor with the Alabama Wildlife Center, Alabama's oldest and largest wildlife rehabilitation and education center. Learn what makes these captivating predators so unique, meet live owls up close, and much more. Bring your own camp chair or blanket, as seating is limited. 6-7pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. (Large CCC Pavilion in the Picnic Area in case of rain.) Free & open to everyone. 256-845-0051.

Oct 28-29 - Little River Arts Council Home Tour and Silent Auction. Fall tour of homes and

historic buildings. Tickets good for both days can be purchased at Mentone Town Hall during tour hours. \$10 / \$8 for LRAC members. Silent Auction. Saturday 10am-4pm; Sunday 12-3pm. Visit littleriverartscouncil.org for details.

Oct 28 - Moon Lake School Harvest Festival. Carnival games, food, hay rides, bingo. Fun for all ages! Proceeds benefit the Moon Lake PTO. 4-8pm.

Oct 28 - 6th Annual Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest! Hosted by DeSoto State Park. Entries will be judged on overall appearance, creativeness, neatness, and originality. Entries can have any theme or design, i.e., Halloween, nature, fall season, etc. All ages may enter contest. Entries must be turned in no later than 12pm on Saturday, October 28. Winners will be announced at the Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground, 6pm. on October 28. DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne. All entries will be on display during DSP's Spookapalooza festivities. Entries may be picked up at the DSP Country Store on Sunday, October 29. Free and open to all ages. 256-997-5025.

Oct 28 - "The Night of the 10th Moon Costume Ball". Music, food, drinks and door prizes. Costumes are suggested, but not required. \$30/

person or \$50/couple. All proceeds benefit the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center. 4128 AL Hwy 117 (across from the entrance to the Farm at Windy Hill). 7-10pm. For reservations, call 256-674-3366 or email mentoneartscenter@gmail.com.

Oct 28 - Burning Leaf Festival. Family fun with arts & crafts, food, live music, games, costume contest and more. Cloudland Community Park. 9am-3pm. Free.

Oct 28 - Rappelling Adventure @ Chicken Rock. Explore scenic rock outcroppings along

Lookout Mountain! No previous experience is necessary. Ages 10 and up. \$40. Meet at DeSoto Falls. 10am-1pm. Contact Angie Shugart angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

Oct 28 - Ghost Fest. The Ghost is Back! A day dedicated to local music, ghosts and having a good time with good people. DeKalb Theatre, Fort Payne. 3-11pm. \$5. annasghost.com/ghost-fest-1.

Oct 31 - Trunk or Treat. Hayride, food, trunk or treating. Sponsored by Mentone area churches. Held at Mentone Community Church. 6-7:30pm.

DIXIE SALVAGE

3630 N. Gault Avenue
Fort Payne, Alabama 35967

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Worship

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.

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.

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).

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

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

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.

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.

Gravel Hill Baptist Church, 14701 Hwy 11 South, Ft Payne, AL 35967 has Sunday School at 10am & Worship Service at 11am 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 10am, Sunday Worship *10:45am, (*Nursery & Kid's Church). MidWEEK re-charge Wednesday 6:30pm. Loving God & Serving Others. Pastor Tim Coppock. 256-601-0679.

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

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 4–18); 6:30pm Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-1001.

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

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.

Mentone Church of God of Prophecy invites you to 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. Pastor Tim Miller; Crosswalk Sunday School K through Adult at 9:15am; Adult Worship Service at 10:30am; JC Kids Worship Service at 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 at 6:30pm.

Mentone United Methodist Church, 415 Cutler Avenue, Mentone, 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 6pm.

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.

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.

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. 1204 New Oregon Drive NE, Fort Payne, AL 35967. 256-845-7446.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Sunday mass in English at 10am and at 1pm in Spanish. Tuesday at 6pm in English, Wednesday at 5pm bilingual, Thursday at 6pm in English, Friday at 9am in English and Saturday at 6pm 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. 256/845-4314. Everyone welcome.

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>

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.

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.

Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to come and worship with us. On Sunday, Bible Study is at 10am & Morning Worship is at 11am; Kidz Connection is at 5pm, Evening Worship at 6pm. Kidz Connection & Youth meet on Wednesday from 5–6pm & a snack supper is provided. On the 2nd Wednesday of the month, there is a church-wide covered dish Fellowship Meal at 6pm.

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.

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 11–12:15. Pastor Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors James Hartley and Ryan Bunnel.

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



TRUNK OR TREAT

Mentone Community Church
October 31st
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Hayride, Food, Trunk or Treating
Sponsored by the Mentone Area Churches



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA

DO YOU LOVE TO SING? THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA IS A POPULAR ANNUAL TRADITION. CHOIR REHEARSALS HAVE JUST BEGUN, AND IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN! THIS YEAR, REHEARSALS WILL BE HELD AT VALLEY HEAD BAPTIST CHURCH. REHEARSALS ARE ON TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 7 P.M. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING, COME TO REHEARSAL ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 OR OCTOBER 10 TO LEARN MORE. VALLEY HEAD BAPTIST CHURCH IS LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF 2ND AVE. AND CHURCH ST. NEAR DOWNTOWN VALLEY HEAD.

The Hitching Post's Newest Shop

by Kelly Leavitt

The Hitching Post is Mentone's oldest mercantile building. Built around 1900, it has seen generations of folks and business establishments come and go. It was the home of the local town market for many years, and in the 1930s the second story was added, where dances were held on Saturday nights. The addition was constructed by a bridge builder, so the floor was made to sway with the movement of the dancers. (Some old timers considered these dances to be "scandalous!")

The Gourdie Shop holds the distinction of being Mentone's oldest established business, having opened in 1983. In its early years, the shop exclusively sold "gourdies"—owner Sharon Barron Burke's whimsical hand-painted gourds, which were each signed and dated. These days, the shop offers a unique and wide variety of goods, from clothing, jewelry and hats, to decorative items and ethnic art. It's a great place to shop for Halloween costumes!

At the corner of the building (Hwy. 117 and CR 89), Sheri Zimmerman, locally known as "Magnolia", opened her shop, Magnolia Rose & Co., in spring of this year. On a recent Sunday morning, I enjoyed a front porch chat with Magnolia and she told me about her shop, and her dreams.

"I always knew I would own a shop in this space," she begins. "I love this building. I approached owner Doreen Crow Waters, when Homer was not well, and let her know that I was available to work with her. She took me up on it, and I worked with her at Crow's Nest Antiques for three years.

"Doreen always knew that I wanted this space to be mine one day," Magnolia continued. "When Doreen closed her shop last year, I went by her house, knocked on her door, and made my proposal.

"I used to sit in my living room and share my dreams with my friends," she explained. "This was the year for this dream to manifest. This is what I'm to do. I love to decorate, I love to buy and sell, I love to talk with people."



Magnolia owned a similar store called Rose of Sharon in Crossville, TN, from 1990 until she moved to Mentone in 2001. This is her fourth business in Mentone, including Magnolia Joe's (also in the Hitching Post building, where the fudge shop currently is). She's known for her eclectic style and has a knack for finding unusual items and repurposing or refinishing them. "I've always been drawn to old doors, shutters and windows, bringing new life to them." In addition to selling items that she has repurposed, three other local vendors sell their vintage products on consignment.

Other goods in the shop include antiques, accessories, home décor, essential oils, and organic skin care. "I'd like to get into selling organic teas and other locally-made organic products," she explains. "As I grow, I want to reinvest my money to include more products from local artists and vendors."

Magnolia currently sells her own artwork, as well as her daughter's (Sunshine Girl Designs), and the work of several local artists, including potter Max Mitchell, stained glass artist Chuck Peters, sculptor Jim Marbutt, and barn quilt painter Don Pirch. Soy

candles by Therese Cox, soaps, scarves and hats from Zenflower Organics, and wool items from Cheri Miller are also available. Lauren Haynes of Wooden Spoon Herbs collects herbs in the woods around her Little River home in Cloudland and all along Lookout Mountain to create tinctures and wildflower skin cream which are sold at Magnolia Rose & Co. (and other stores as far away as New York City). Local author and farmer Tema Flanagan's book, "Corn" is also for sale.

A bit of the magic of Mentone revealed itself as we neared the end of our conversation. Magnolia told that when she first moved to Mentone, Bernise Crow and artist Lucy Mitchell were the first two women she met. Local potter Katie Bird Cobble stopped by just then for her first visit to the shop. She picked up one of the first items she saw—a clay sculpture made by Lucy Mitchell—and exclaimed with joy, "Oh, I remember the day Lucy visited my pottery studio and made this very piece! I'm buying it!"

Magnolia Rose & Co. is open Thursday through Monday. During the winter months, the shop will be open Friday through Sunday. You can find Magnolia Rose on Facebook.

Two other businesses are currently housed

at the Hitching Post. Mountain Properties, owned by Broker Rhonda Bruckno, shares the front porch with Magnolia Rose. Their web site is almountainproperties.com. Aunt Fanny's Fudge sells homemade fudge, baked goods and drinks. This shop is located in the rear of the building and is open on Saturdays. You can find Aunt Fanny's Fudge on Facebook.



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The Mountain Herbalist

By LC Moon

Patchwork Beauty: Food for the Soul and Health for the Body

Driving toward Mentone on Lookout Mountain Parkway in mid-September, I saw the first signs of fall. The red tones were lightly settling in on the dogwood leaves. Dogwood trees tell us a story of the seasons. They usher in spring with their showy white blooms. And just as the white blooms in spring reflect the warming of the days, the scarlet foliage of dogwood is indicative of cooling nights and the grand display of fall.

Dogwood's folklore has a rich history. The "blooms" are known to depict the crucifixion of Christ. It appears to bloom in a cross formation, with symbolic bloodstains at the end of the petals and a thorny crown-like image at the center of the blossom. Dogwood flowers are medicinal and were used by Native Americans to achieve a soothing tonic effect on the body and stomach, similar to chamomile flowers. Native Americans, Civil War soldiers, and homesteaders chewed dogwood twigs to keep their teeth white and they used the splintered dogwood twigs as a natural toothbrush. The dried bark is the most commonly used medicinal part of the tree, best known to aid in subsiding malarial symptoms. Sourwood's colorful display is not far behind dogwood's fall color. Sourwood is also called the honey tree because it blooms in late summer, providing sweet nectar for the honeybees. The deep green sourwood leaves turn to a rich shade of red and/or purple. Occasionally, they have bright yellow leaves scattered along the branches.

In the spring and summer when I am out hiking through the forest, I like to quench my thirst with

a sourwood leaf. The leaf gives a lemony kick that instantly activates my saliva glands. The leaves are used medicinally for stomach ailments and female complaints, while the inner bark and sap are used for mouth sores and skin irritation. Another one of my favorite things about sourwood is that its dry, cured wood makes the perfect wood to start a blazing hot fire.

Sourwood and dogwood are complimented by the burnt orange, orange/yellow and deep orange/red foliage of sassafras. Sassafras spring leaves are a wild sweet edible delicacy in the woods. In the fall, the sap settles into the roots of sassafras, creating medicinal benefits and a culinary treat.

Sassafras, an overall tonic for the body, aids in liver function and has been used as a folk remedy to prevent or treat cold and flu symptoms. Sassafras root was the main ingredient in root beer until the mid 1900s. It got a bad reputation when studies were conducted about the carcinogenic nature of the safrole contained within the root. Since safrole is oil-based, though, boiling up the root for a delicious tea is known to be safe and has been helpful to many mountain folks for cleansing the blood. As many Lookout Mountain natives have told me, "Sassafras will help heal what ails you."

Red maple is one of the most sought-after sights for its fall beauty, displaying magnificent bright red, melon, and yellow leaves. Native Americans used the leaf tea for lung problems, as well as for female complaints during menstruation and menopause. A tea of red maple leaves and inner bark is said to help greatly with hot flashes.

Tulip poplar leaves turn a deep to golden yellow. Poplar is known to be a great wood for craftsmen to carve. It was used by the Cherokee for canoe building because of its fine-grained, long, straight trunks and lack of knot producing by low-growing limbs. Medicinally, the Cherokee were said to use the inner bark of the root and trunk, as well as the leaves, as a remedy for fever, rheumatic fever, and indigestion. Oak comes in a multitude of fall colors, though most range from deep red to a reddish brown. Oak is known to have been a staple of civilizations, past and present, for building homes, furniture, and barrels, in addition to being used as medicine. The

inner bark of the limbs of both red and white oak is known as a wonderful folk remedy, and is used as a poultice/compress for skin disorders and rashes such as poison oak, eczema and psoriasis. It is also known to be a styptic (it slows bleeding) and the tea is said to counteract poisons, such as accidental ingestion of poisonous plants or snakebite venom.

So what is it that causes the beautiful patchwork display? As the cool sets in and fewer hours of sunlight are available, the trees respond by stopping the photosynthesis process of making food. As a result, the production of chlorophyll stops.

Chlorophyll is what provides the green color to leaves. Pigments called carotene and xanthophyll create the yellow and orange color in the leaves. These pigments are within the leaves year-round, but are masked by the chlorophyll. Red leaves, though, do not contain the pigment anthocyanin throughout the year; instead it is synthesized during the breaking of the chlorophyll. Anthocyanin pigment is said to aid the tree in keeping its leaves longer, in order to get more nutrients, because it protects the leaves from sun damage and lower temperatures.

The beautiful miracle of nature and its interdependent dance continues to be awe-inspiring, to bless us with beauty and to nourish us through all seasons here on Lookout Mountain. As much as I will miss the blooms of summer and swims in the river, I am looking forward to the crisp mountain air, bonfires and bundling up for a canoe ride down the river to see the colors reflecting off the water. I am eager for a breathtaking autumn after a year with plenty of rain and moderate temperatures. I trust Mentone will bring a bountiful harvest of blessings, beauty, and joy for many this fall.

LC Moon is a writer and business owner who lives in Mentone.



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MEDICARE 2018 OPEN ENROLLMENT

by Lynn Hixson

Each year, when Medicare Open Enrollment comes around, it is the time to double-check your Medicare and prescription drug plan coverage for the following year. This year, Medicare Enrollment for the 2018 season is from October 15 to December 7. The 15th is on Sunday this year, but we will be available Monday, Oct. 16, to assist you. Even if your current Medicare plan and its benefits are working for you, it is a good idea to check your plan every year. The only way to save on your health care costs is to annually compare your current plan to other plans that will be available to you for the 2018 enrollment, either offered by your current provider or by other health insurance companies.

The first step is to re-assess your health care needs. Make a list of your current medicine and

note the changes that have occurred since your last enrollment. If you get any notices from your plan provider about changes to your plan, even if you would like to keep your current plan, it may be time to take a closer look. You may be able to get more benefits at lower costs. Plan benefits change every year and it doesn't hurt to check out and compare all benefits and costs. Just remember you can really save money on your healthcare by evaluating the upcoming plans when you get your "MEDICARE AND YOU 2018" handbook.

If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment, please call Lynn at the DeKalb County Council on Aging at 256-845-8590.

Lynn Hixson is the SHIP Coordinator at the DeKalb County Council on Aging.

SOUTHERN PROPERTIES

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311 Gault Ave. N., Fort Payne



NEW

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.



NEW

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. \$209,000. 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. 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.



ADORABLE MENTONE HOME with-in feet of Mentone Brow Park and walking distance to downtown. 3 bedroom/3bath, hardwood floors, screened porches & more! \$257,600. MLS #1067063.



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.



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.



2 BR/2 BA with full appliance package, storage building, screened front porch, back deck. TOTALLY remodeled with an addition within the last 5 years to include windows, doors and wiring. FURNISHED! \$139,900. MLS #1056385



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.



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.



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.



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.



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



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.



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.

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.

\$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.

#1073204 - 18.60 acres. \$68,000.

#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.



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.

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Rhododendron Garden Club

By Mellanie Tuttle

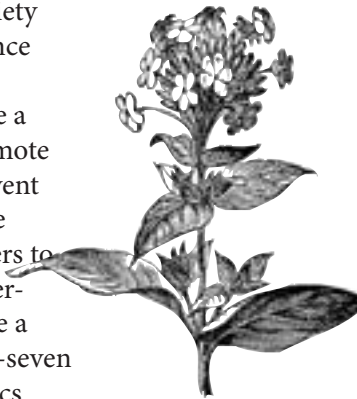
The pending hurricane threat caused the Rhododendron Garden Club to reschedule its meeting until September 19

and since the MERF house is under renovation, the club met in the home of Mellanie Tuttle. Karen Kruse trucked in a delicious spread of savories, sweets and punch. President Mellanie Tuttle called the meeting to order. Dee Kelley gave the meditation "Golden Rule" which stated, "It would be great if human beings were great at being human and if all of mankind were made up of kind women and kind men. It would be wonderful if common knowledge was knowledge commonly known. If the light from being enlightened into every heart would shine. It would be glorious if neighbors were neighborly and indifference a forgotten word. It would be awesome if we shared everything and being greedy was absurd. It would be spectacular if the Golden Rule was golden to every man. And the good things that we ever did, was everything we can." Members named the Aster, Beautyberry, pink and white Cleome, Dahlias, Phlox and Zinnias as fall blooming flowers which hopefully

will also be entered in the flower show.

Committee reports followed, with Horticulture Chair Martha Wood encouraging the inclusion of Phlox paniculata in the garden. Phlox prefers full sun and fertile, well-drained soil. Blooming from mid to late summer, the rich nectar in the clusters of white, lavender, pink, rose, red or bicolor blooms attracts pollinators. The cultivar 'David' is a white variety that has good resistance to powdery mildew. Deadhead to preserve a tidy appearance, promote new blooms and prevent self-seeding. Mellanie Tuttle invited members to help Moon Lake's after-school students create a floral design. Twenty-seven folks learned the basics of line, flower gradation, and fillers. An hour of organized chaos ensued and creations ranged from free form whimsical to stunning! The hope is to have an actual flower show in the spring.

Carol Argo gave the program "Garden Enemies and a Few Friends" in an informational PowerPoint



presentation. Several insects have a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde aspect. The larval stage of the cabbage butterfly will destroy crops, but the butterfly itself is quite pretty. Flies are nuisances, but in the maggot stage are useful to clean up refuse, and home-destroying termites in the woods turn fallen trees back into mulch! Aphids, scales, cutworms, and Japanese beetles all are harmful, but the vast majority of insects are beneficial. Ladybugs, praying mantis, lacewings, bumblebees, and ground beetles (40,000 species) battle victoriously against the harmful insects and are the best form of biological control. Know your insects and avoid indiscriminate use of pesticides and herbicides. Planting native annuals and perennials will attract the good guys. A handout from the Planet Natural Research Center lists 25 tips and tricks for organic gardeners and pest maintenance.

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

SAGE ADVICE: IT'S FINALLY FALL!



by Susan Seago

The autumn season is upon us. I can see change in the leaf colors and a great deal of change in the sunlight. Cooler weather will soon be here, as will the shorter days. With less light, the chlorophyll begins to withdraw from leaves, creating the appearance of shades of brown, red, orange, yellow, and deep purple. Autumn is my favorite time of the year with all its warm colors and festive surroundings. It's a great time to be outdoors!

As you prepare your landscaping for fall and winter, let me offer some suggestions. Let's begin with cleaning and refreshing. Annuals will soon die

and need to be removed from the garden. Leaves will be taken away and some fresh mulch or pine straw added as needed. Some perennials that die back can be pruned, while others such as lantana and sedums



as hellebore (Lenten Rose), or Tassel or Autumn ferns, or heucheras (Coral Bells). Another beautiful fall flowering perennial is the toad lily (Tricyrtis), with its orchid shaped blooms—usually white with purple spots. It really is a wonderful perennial. One of my favorite fall blooming flowers is the 'Sheffield' mum. A true perennial, it presents as a beautiful green leaf plant during the summer, and then in October it blooms with pale pink daisy-like flowers which continue to bloom throughout the month.

The usual array of fall annuals such as pansies, violas, kale, and dianthus add to the winter bed, blooming through winter until early spring. Of course, chrysanthemums are beautiful UNTIL first frost! Don't throw them away. Just cut them back, plant them, and watch them come back in greater glory next spring. They will bloom in late May to early June; cut them back around the fourth of July and watch them bloom again in late September through October! And, there's a secret to making the blooms larger. E-mail me at susanandreesa@aol.com and I will let you in on it!

Don't forget the bulbs. Late October through November is good for planting daffodils, tulips, and other spring-blooming flowers. Throw a little bulb booster in the hole with the bulb when you plant. Follow directions on the package for how deep to plant—the bigger the bulb, the deeper the hole! To enjoy the fall season totally, plan to be in Mentone the weekend of October 21-22 for Colorfest in Brow Park and in town. I look forward to seeing you then.



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should be left alone until spring. The flower heads of the sedums serve as winter food for the birds. And lantana has hollow stems that can hold water and cause the roots to freeze if cut back now. In the spring, when these plants send up new growth at ground level, prune the browned stems back to the ground.

If your beds need some refurbishing, plant some evergreen perennials such



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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)

2.2 UNRESTRICTED, WOODED ACRES in Mentone. Corner property on paved roads; hardwoods; unrestricted. Public water & power at the road. Great building site for one or two cabins. \$18,000. (1011111)

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)

4.33 ACRES ON A SMALL LAKE HIDDEN IN THE WOODS. Lightly restricted fronting on Full Moon Lake in Laurel Creek Lakes. Walking trails and 3 lakes. Property consists of two lots being sold as one. \$45,000 (1048869)

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)

See you at
Colorfest October 19 through 21!



BEAUTIFUL CEDAR CABIN on 2.91 wooded acres with small, wet-weather stream. Picturesque setting with winding drive. The 8x42 front porch is great, but wait till you see the 12x42 back porch! 2 or 3BR/2.5 BA. Great kitchen with Kohler fixtures, Corian counters, lotsa cabinets. Spacious LR w/19' vault. Main-level MABR. Wide, pine-plank floors. Huge laundry! On-demand hot H2O. 10x12 shop. Reduced to \$209,000 (749941)



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)



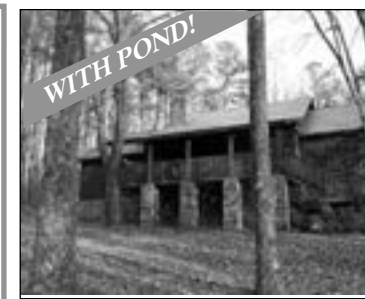
THE VIEWS, THE SPACE, THE LOCATION... it's all here. Lovely frame & stone cottage on the brow at Mentone. 3000+ sq ft; 3BR/4BA; lg bonus room for 4th BR, office, exercise or play room. Main-level Master Suite. Dream kitchen with granite counters, commercial gas cooktop, double wall ovens, wine cooler, 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)



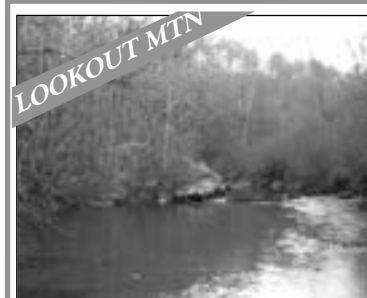
CUTE-AS-A-BUTTON COTTAGE with deeded access on Middle Fork Little River at Lake Lahusage; plus a little workshop that could easily become a guest cottage. Screened front porch. Open KI/living; 2BR/1BA w/laundry; CH/A; deck on back & side; fenced backyard; 1+ acre w/great shade trees & yard; path to the 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)



IT'S ALMOST MAGICAL! 1950s brow-front lodge, surrounded by boulders and punctuated with amazing rock work by mountain craftsmen stonemasons of yesteryear. (The rock work alone would cost this much if done today!) Privately situated on a little-known drive in downtown Mentone; board-n-batten exterior; metal roof; all wood interior; handmade "Dutch" doors; stone-floored sunroom; 3BR/2BA; huge, mountain stone, wood-burning fireplace. Brow-side, in-ground pool and pool house. And everywhere you turn, there's that awesome view! Screened gazebo/sleeping porch. Awaiting a resurrection back to what must have once been a glorious getaway. Discover it for yourself! \$375,000 (1068806)



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)



OWN YOUR OWN LITTLE CANYON with Johnnie's Creek cascading through the forest below. 36 acres mostly-wooded land (on both sides of creek) & a fabulous, custom-built cypress-sided home. Approx 3600 sq ft of deliciously-designed living inside, tremendous tree-top decks & porches outside! Two wood-burning fireplaces (one w/insert); Brazilian floors, windows galore, fab light fixtures throughout. Huge, open kitchen/living area. Tons of cabinetry, commercial-grade gas range, granite countertops; large pantry. A mountain escape, with simple luxury in a residence, hunting lodge or getaway. \$599,000 (1010510)



40 ACRES IN WALKERS CHAPEL COMMUNITY with single-wide mobile home, a three-bay garage/barn/shop (with apartment & dog kennel) & frontage on both sides of paved road. Interesting rock formations, wet-weather stream and so many deer! A nature lover's paradise with possibilities as a farm to boot! Located atop Lookout Mtn just a few miles from Little River Canyon National Preserve. Dogtown area. \$175,000 (1076802)



"THE BURREN." 3BR/2.5BA mountain retreat cabin, just off DeSoto Pkwy, nestled among intriguing rock formations, surrounded by woodlands. Metal roof; screened porch; wood-burning mtn stone fireplace; private back deck w/hot tub; 2nd floor balconies. Convenient to DeSoto St Park & Mentone. 1.9 acres. Large screened porch offers expanded living area outdoors. Furnishings negotiable. Active rental. \$185,000 (1052151)

Rescues and Evacuees

by deJoly Labrier



The connection between us and our pets is palpable. They see us, and they forgive all our quirks and forgetfulness. They know our weaknesses and love us anyway. They become a part of our hearts and even if they aren't with us physically, they are with us in our thoughts.

For most people, leaving these family members behind in a hurricane would be out of the question. However, sometimes they are forgotten in times of disaster or the death of an owner. And sometimes there isn't enough time or man-power to get pets to safety. The storms and fires that have plagued our country in the last few months have brought this issue to our attention.

During the onslaught and arrival of Hurricane Irma, I had the opportunity to host four South Florida evacuees and their two dogs. They contacted me to see if I had space for them, and, by the way, would I take their dogs as well. I immediately responded YES! They were in the path of Irma and were evacuating before the full rush of mandatory evacuation from their areas. Still, a trip that would normally take about 10 hours took Cydné, Em and

their Skipper Key dog, Joey, 18 hours. They were tired and exhausted from the emotions of leaving their home in St. Petersburg, but grateful they were all together.

My other guests from Gulfport took two days to travel north, with multiple stops for gas that wasn't there, and a search for hotels that weren't full and news about the storm that wasn't so daunting. Nadine and Ardis and their three-pound Chihuahua, Ruby, arrived tired and also fearful of what might happen.

I knew that as adults we can endure anything for a short time that we might not want to do the rest of our lives. But my concern was whether the dogs would get along and whether the stress of being in a new place without the routine of home might make them more irritable. They didn't know each other and were from close families. Would that be a factor in helping to ease the stress of what might have been, back in Gulfport or St. Pete? My hopes were high. Amazingly, both Joey and Ruby took some time but finally bonded and even began sleeping together. They watched out for each other, much the way we adults were watching out for each other. A week after arriving, my guests decided it was time to go back to the uncertain results of Irma. Each family said good-bye, saying how grateful they were for my help. I truly was blessed by these women and two dogs. I

couldn't have had better guests.

Unlike many others, Nadine, Ardis and Ruby, and Cydné, Em and Joey had very little damage to their homes. The power was restored within a few days of their return. They are tired, but safe. Now comes the task of getting on with life. All four women have decided they are going to look into property in this area and move north. They fell in love with the mountain, the weather, and the people...

SPOOKAPALOOZA 2017!

by Kacy Corsentino

Mark your calendars for nights full of delights this fall! DeSoto State Park will present Spookapalooza on October 27-29. Spookapalooza is an annual family event with activities for all ages in celebration of Halloween. There will be live animals, storytelling, trick-or-treating games, pumpkin carving, and plenty of entertainment for all. This gathering is a splendid way to have community fun this fall.

Spookapalooza is hosted by the staff and volunteers of Alabama State Parks, the National Park Service, and JSU Field Schools. All activities of the weekend are free and open to the public. For additional information, call 256-997.5025 or visit alapark.com/DSP-Spookapalooza.

Don your spookiest apparel and costumes! Spookapalooza is certain to create memories for all this fall.



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VALLEY HEAD HOMECOMING



Moon Lake School News

- Moon Lake Elementary School will have a volunteer work day on Saturday, October 14. Things that need fixing around the school will be tended to, and work will begin to prepare for the construction of a greenhouse the school received a grant for.
- School will be closed October 9–11.
- The PTO's annual Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday, October 28 from 4–8pm. Enjoy carnival games, hay rides, food, and bingo. Proceeds benefit the Moon Lake PTO.
- Parent Night will be held on October 30 from 5–7pm. Come visit your child's classroom and meet fellow parents!

BOOM TOWN MAKERS MARKET



Visit our permanent retail art gallery featuring over 30 local artists, showcasing watercolor & oil paintings, pottery, sculpture, clothing, cabin décor, jewelry, post cards, books, textiles, food, and curated collections.



Mark Your Calendar!

October 14

"I Love Yarn"–Yarn Bombing
Downtown Fort Payne

October 28 & 29

"Into the Glass" Workshop with
mosaic artist Linda Munoz

November 3–5

Holiday Open House Weekend

November 24–26

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Yarn Bombing in Fort Payne!

by Katelyn Worley



Visit the streets of downtown Fort Payne on Saturday, October 14, and you'll see a unique temporary art installation! "Yarn bombing" is a type of street art used to bring color and character to the streets of cities. It is believed to have started in Houston, Texas, by Magda Sayeg, who decorated her shop with a cozy on her door handle in 2005. Since then, yarn bombing has spread worldwide and numerous items have been "bombed", including trees, bicycles, posts, bridges, statues, tanks and

more.

The folks at Zkanos Socks have graciously donated seconds that will be sewn together like a patchwork quilt and attached to light poles, trees, and benches downtown. Ms. Vinzini's art class at Fort Payne High School is participating in the project, along with other community volunteers. There will be plenty of yarn available for any who want to participate in the event. This yarn can be wrapped about items for a simple project or, if desired, more intricate patterns can be used with knitting or crochet.

If you're interested in being involved with this event, please contact Katelyn Worley at 256-548-2623 or KatieRosenm@gmail.com.

This event is co-sponsored by Boom Town Makers Market (a project of Landmarks), the Historic Association of DeKalb County Alabama, and Fort

Payne Main Street, and it's part of "I Love Yarn Day", a national event sponsored by the Craft Yarn Council. There will be yarn bombings and scavenger hunts all over the country on this day. Based on Fort Payne's heritage of making socks, Fort Payne Main Street's new slogan is "Tightly Woven, Perfect Fit", a perfect tie-in to this event.



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Mermaid Sighting at DeSoto Falls!

Jan Wilkinson's future granddaughter-in-law, Christiana Brandel (aka "Ariel") enjoyed a cool dip while visiting Mentone this summer.



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.

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