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THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

Volume 29, No. 08

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

August 2010

Voice of DeKalb

■ Longtime radioman Roland Walls remembered

By Lindsay Slater

lslater@times-journal.com

Many won't soon forget Fort Payne radioman Roland Walls, who worked the WZOB airwaves for about 38 years.

Walls died Saturday at his home. He was 71.

Doris Hobbs worked with Walls for more than 27 years at WZOB and said he was one-of-a-kind, who was only interested in helping the community that he loved so much.

"He was never a man that had an ego," Hobbs said. "Even as much as he was in the public, it was never about him. It was about the community and how he could help the community, but it was never anything that amplified him."

Hobbs said she has many fond memories of Walls, too many to remember.

"He was such a man of depth," Hobbs said. "He was always quick-witted and made me smile. He used to say he wouldn't leave WZOB until I did, and he would stay here with me forever. The good times here at the radio station will always be remembered, like when we would have a covered dish dinner and his birthdays. He loved to eat."

But most of all, it was Walls' desire to help those in his community.

"It was all about his talents could help someone else or make something better," Hobbs said. "He was not about material things. He was a humble, Christian man. He had a lot of questions for God, and he said one day we would know those answers. He had such a big heart for everyone."

Walls was multi-faceted when it came to his community.

Walls, most known for his work with Swap Shop each morning on WZOB, participated in numerous community events such as the Krazy Kudzu Follies, Golden Girl pageant, Sand Mountain Potato Festival, DeKalb County Fiddler's Convention, Northeast Alabama Home and Garden Show, DeKalb County Chapter of the American Red Cross, United Giver's Fund, Community Christmas Pageant, DeKalb County Jail and Bail, Ms. Macho pageant and Toys for Tots, just to name a few.

"The community did a roast of Roland several years back, and it was a good time," Hobbs said. "I believe they gave him the Golden Mic award then."

Hobbs said the community honored Walls several times over the years, but it wasn't something Walls talked about.

"He got all kinds of different plaques from the community for different things," Hobbs said. "He never hung any of those up and never really talked about them. He wasn't one to brag about the recognition he got. He was always very faithful and dedicated to his commitments. If he said he was going to do something, he was there in full-force."

Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce Director Carol Beddingfield said Walls was always supportive and ready to help in any way he could.

"I don't think he ever turned me down for anything I needed his help with," Beddingfield said. "He did so much for us."

Beddingfield said she will miss having Walls in the Follies, something he did for more than 10 years.

"He was just so funny," Beddingfield said. "He never had to rehearse. It just came



Times-Journal photo

Longtime radio personality Roland Walls served as emcee of the Miss Golden Girl pageant for several years during the DeKalb County VFW Fair.

natural for him. I will definitely miss his sense of humor."

Beddingfield said Walls loved his community, and his positive attitude was contagious.

"I think every life in this community was touched by him," Beddingfield said. "He's going to be missed. He was one of those valiant, not for glory volunteers. He was always there. It's a sad time for Fort Payne."

Fort Payne City Council President Richard Pridmore said Walls was as much a part of Fort Payne as anyone he knows and will be sorely

■ See Walls, 10

THE GROUNDHOG

PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA 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 non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

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Saturday, August 7th, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON

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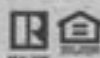
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THE TRUE NATURE OF MENTONE'S ALLURE. An original summer mountain retreat. Driveway meanders through towering trees & lush vegetation & leads to a quaint 2-story cottage w/magnificent brow views. 3.3 acres extends from Scenic Pkwy to Tutwiler Gap. Furnished w/just the right eclectic mix, from hickory "tramp art" beds & other furniture to paintings done by original owner (all circa 1930). This place is full of the charm & ease of summers long past, promises of summers to come. Brow-side screened porch to sit a while or sleep on the hanging bed. There's so much to take in, inside & out. One of those rare specimens that embodies the reason folks have made Mentone their getaway. Approx. 200' of brow frontage. \$375,000. (20273)



NEW CONSTRUCTION! and this is one VERY nicely done cabin! Though not huge on square footage, it is HUGE on quality and beauty. 30' x 40' in fl. St. 1.4 private, wooded acres. \$157,500. (19721)

PENDING



APPALACHIAN STYLE LOG CABIN on 1.52 wooded acres. Hand-hewn logs; half-dovetail corners; huge beams inside! This is a true handcrafted mountain cabin with rock woodburning masonry fl. 2BR/2.5BA, open vaulted ceiling LR/DR/KI combination. 3/4 wrap-around porch; circle drive. A work of art as well as a cabin for only \$234,500. (20275)



SMALL IN SIZE, BIG ON VALUE! Enjoy all new appliances in this 2BR/1BA neat little place located on Hwy 48 in Mentone. Back yard area is beautiful. 1000 sq ft, w/1/2 bath. It's probably the best-priced home in Mentone that you can move into & start enjoying right away! \$69,900. (20068)

SOLD



BEAUTIFUL CABIN, BEAUTIFUL VIEWS! Cedar-shake-sided cabin w/views of the Shinbone Valley below you; woods & boulders around you! Just nine miles from downtown Mentone, off the scenic mountain drive of Hwy 48, Cloudland. Very convenient to Atlanta, Rome, Summerville areas. 3BR/2BA, approx 2700 sq ft living area. Det garage w/more than enough room for two vehicles, workshop & storage plus large bonus room upstairs to finish as your needs dictate. Beautifully-wooded & boulder-strewn yard (no mowing or lawn maintenance!); concrete drive. Great price of \$229,900! (19828)



LAUREL CREEK LAKES Charming 2BR/2BA fully-furnished cabin w/water view, HW floors; striking w/ fl w/antique columns accent; granite in KI. Wonderful wrap-around decks overlooking mostly-hardwood-covered 2.52 acres. Nicely landscaped, lots of upgrades. Beautiful walking trails and 3 fishing lakes (1 stocked) in a woodland setting. This cabin is being offered at \$187,500. (19278)



WOODLAND RETREAT within walking distance of Eberhart Point Overlook at Little River Canyon! 2BR/2BA cedar & log-front cabin w/6x20 front porch & fabulous 14x24 screened back porch; stone WB fl; all appliances; MABR suite w/jetted tub; cathedral ceilings. Well-insulated, low heating/cooling bills. Like new! On 3 wooded lots; offering little or no lawn maintenance! \$155,000. (19959)



THE LITTLE WHITE COTTAGE, picturesquely nestled amid the trees & oakleaf hydrangea in downtown Mentone, behind the Log Cabin Village Shops, just across the way from Brow Park. 2BR/1.5BA. Totally new interior. All new appliances, wiring, plumbing, CH/A, roof. Single att carport, fenced backyard, extra-wide lot. Perfect location for getaway, shop or rental. \$129,500. (20249)



YOU'LL BE IMPRESSED! From the moment you drive up, you realize this is no run-of-the-mill cabin. It is substantial in materials & workmanship. 2BR/2.5BA, 1643 sq ft; full, wrap-around 8' porch (w/16' covered & screened extension off MABR!); mtn stone w/ fl; laundry; pantry; loft area for office/studio; vaulted & beamed ceiling. 1.6 acre wooded lot. \$174,900. (19724)



HUNTERS RIDGE. Peaceful, secluded cabin features 2BR/2.5BA. Main-level MABR. Upstairs guest BR suite w/room for 2 queen beds; guest bath w/antique clawfoot tub, galvanized tin walls & vessel sink. The large covered front porch is perfect for rockers and swings. Prewired for telephone, Internet, security and satellite television. A Daniel Boone log home. Now \$199,900. (19587)

40 ACRE WOODLAND, mostly hardwood, with 2 cabins (one is incomplete, but most of the materials needed to complete are available). Perfect retreat for a single family or an entire community. Back on the market at a great price! Now only \$225,000 (17463)

BEAUTIFULLY WOODED LEVEL LOT just off the scenic drive between DeSoto St Park & Mentone. Very light restrictions, public water & power at the road make this 1.19 acres an attractive place to build that little cabin getaway or rental property. Add'l lots avail. \$28,000. (20131)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mentone Area Arts Council
Labor Day Art Show
Saturday, September 4, 2010
Sunday, September 5, 2010

Boom Days
Saturday, September 18, 2010
Downtown Fort Payne

MAPA Colorfest
Brow Park, Mentone
October 16-17, 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

The **2010** meeting dates for the **Valley Head Water Works Board**, 101 School Street, Valley Head, AL will be as follows:

AUGUST 9, 2010
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
OCTOBER 11, 2010
NOVEMBER 8, 2010
DECEMBER 13, 2010

All meetings will be held beginning at 4:00PM in the Valley Head Water Works office in the board room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted in the lobby of the Valley Head Water Works Building. A notice of any special or called meeting will also be posted in the lobby of the Valley Head Water Works Building prior to the meeting date and time. The location of the meeting will also be posted.

The **2010** quarterly meeting dates for the **Mentone Planning Commission**, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be on the **3rd Thursday** of the following months:

*** OCTOBER 15**

All meetings will be held beginning at 5:00PM in the Mentone Town Hall meeting room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted on the bulletin board at the Mentone Town Hall. A notice of any special or called meeting will also be posted on the same bulletin board prior to the meeting date and time.

The **2010** meeting dates for the

Mentone Waterworks Board, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be at 4PM, on the 4th Thursday as follows:

AUGUST 25
SEPTEMBER 22
OCTOBER 27
NOVEMBER 22
DECEMBER 22

All meetings will be held beginning at 4:00PM in the Mentone WaterWorks office in the board room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted on the bulletin board of the Mentone Town Hall, adjacent to the water office. A notice of any special or called meeting will also be posted on the same bulletin board prior to the meeting date and time.

The **2010** meeting dates for the **Mentone Town Council**, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6PM, as follows:

AUGUST 9
SEPTEMBER 13
OCTOBER 11
NOVEMBER 8
DECEMBER 13

All meetings will be held beginning at 6:00PM in the Mentone Town Hall meeting room. Should there be any changes in the date, time, or place, a notice will be posted on the bulletin board at the Mentone Town Hall. A notice of any special or called meeting will also be posted on the same bulletin board prior to the meeting date and time.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

1 - Lucy Fowlkes, Bill Wise,
 Dorothy Sheldon (in memory)
 4 - Gwendolyn Erikson
 5 - John Wilkinson
 6 - Chris Collins, Dessie Brown,
 Steve Moore, Alicia McManus
 7 - Samantha Blalock, Jean Streatfeild
 9 - Daniel Smith
 14 - Jakob Gilbreath, Susan Akes,
 Fraser Cochran (in memory)
 15 - Katherine Brown, Michael Langston
 16 - Donald Morgan
 17 - Jason Broome
 18 - Kendra Stone
 19 - Marilyn B. Campbell
 20 - Jo Carson
 21 - Layne Holoway, Shristina Stokes,
 Paula Leftwich
 22 - Tony Hendon
 23 - Kumi Dillenbeck, Flo Kirby
 25 - Jan Wilkinson
 27 - Jeff Holaway, Ann Wootten,
 Jane Falie
 28 - Brittany Gilbreath
 30 - Scott Blalock
 31 - L.C. Bone

Anniversaries

3 - Hank and Susan Van Apeldoorn
 9 - Brynda and Harry Hopper
 12 - C.E. and Karen Britt,
 L.C. and Sarah Bone
 15 - John and Jean Streatfeild
 16 - Jerome and Liz Stephens,
 Sid and Karen Holcomb
 18 - Cynthia and Mickey Luck
 23 - Dallyne and Jim Jones
 30 - Bernise and Homer Crow,
 Jeanne and Mike Bare



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SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH

The Sunday morning services at **Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church** are held at 9AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis and Rev. L.A. Smith are alternate speakers for these services.

The Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Women on Mission meet at 1PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

Lea's Chapel Baptist Church welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship. Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18); 6:30PM Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-1001.

Visitors are always welcome at the **Valley Head United Methodist Church**. Please join us each Sunday morning for a traditional worship service at 9AM.

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: 9:30-10:45 AM, Worship Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor- Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnell.

The Harmony Grove Baptist Church located on County Road 239 invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM and worship at 11AM. Sunday evening service is at 5PM. Thursday evening service is at 5:30PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Mass Services at 11AM each Sunday; Scripture and Communion Services at 6PM on Tuesdays.

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

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 North of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10AM, Worship Service

at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30PM.

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

Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA), 5760 Gault Ave., NE, Fort Payne, AL Rev. Billy Dempsey, Pastor, Sunday School 9:45AM; Sunday Worship - 10:55AM.

Mentone Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10- and 11AM services and evening services are at 7-and-9PM. Visitors are always welcome.

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

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10AM, Worship at 11AM. Wednesday Bible study at 6PM.

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

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church - a place of prayer, thanksgiving, and celebration. Come by any time to pray and give thanks. Open 24 hours every day. Sunday service is at 10:30AM.

Mentone United Methodist Church, 415 Cutler Avenue, Mentone, Alabama invites you to come and worship with us. Each Sunday, our worship service is at 11 :00 a.m. and Sunday School is at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Bill Parker of Glencoe, Alabama is the pastor. He and his wife, Nancy, reside in the parsonage on weekends. 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 potluck lunch. Visitors are welcome and members are expected to attend.

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 Lords Supper is observed on the first Sunday of September, December, March, and June at the morning worship hour. Discipleship Training is at 5:00PM and Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00PM. On Wednesdays, Team Kids; Youth Bible Study and Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30PM. Rev. Terry Turner is the pastor at Moon Lake.

Alpine Community Church, 115 Hwy 337, Menlo, GA. Pastor and Rev. Tommy Pledger welcome each and everyone to worship service, Sunday morning, 11AM, GA time; Sunday School 10AM GA time; Wed. Night Bible Study, 7PM GA time.

Cove Road Baptist Church, County Road 631, Mentone, Alabama. Brother Marlin Starnes, Interim Pastor, welcomes all to Sunday School - 9AM (10AM GA time); Church Services 10AM (11AM GA time); and Sunday night services 5PM (6PM GA time).

Summit Church of God invites you to be in service. Sunday morning 10:45 a.m., Sunday night 5:00 p.m., Wed. Bible study 6:30 p.m. Pastor Lance Kincer invites everyone. Summit Church of God will be renting spaces for Worlds Longest Yard Sale in Aug. \$10.00 a day. For info, call 265-634-4418

Mentone Church of God of Prophecy regular service times are Sunday School at 10AM, with worship at 11AM. Evening services begin at 5:30 on Sunday and 6 on Wednesday. Rev. Dean Clair invites everyone to attend.

Mentone Community Church, 90 Summerville Rd., Mentone, AL 35984

Sunday Services: 9 am and 10:30 am
Adult Sunday School: Sundays @ 9:30 am
Teen and Adult Sunday School: Sundays @ 5:30

Tuesday Night Prayer Service: 6:30 pm
Wednesday Nights @ 6:30 pm: Children's Pioneer Clubs & Youth Group

Cloudland Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone to come join us for services, with Pastor Roger Kvam. Bible Study Sunday at 9:00 a.m (e.s.t.) and Worship at 10:00 a.m (e.s.t.)

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal church has opened a thrift shop located in the north corner of the church building. The area is called 'Mary's Corner', in honor of the stained glass window in the room of Mary, Joseph, and the Christ Child. We are offering for a small fee, clean used clothing for the family, bedding, and small household items such as toasters, coffeepots, dishes, and irons. We hope to add more items that will serve those in need in our area. The shop is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10AM till 12Noon. Please visit us and take advantage of good used items at a very low fee.



DEVOTIONAL

By Evelyn Graves

I always pray before I write the devotional for the month and ask the Lord, "What would you like me to share this month?" Before I had gotten those words out of my mouth, these words came back to me, "Take my yoke upon you". These words are found in Matthew 11 :29; however, I would like to share verses 28,29, and 30 because they are so comforting to all of us who may be working under duress or perhaps just the every day burdens of life with family, friends, health issues, frustrations, misunderstandings, and strife may plague us, and we seemingly have no one to listen so that we may share some of these burdens, and then Jesus gives us an open invitation: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Doesn't that just relieve all of the anxiety, weariness, and physical exhaustion we feel and replaces it with peace, rest, and refreshment for our weary bodies and our troubled souls. Don't let life overcome you when you can go to Jesus for strength and relief for all of your problems!

"What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear,
What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer.
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry, Everything to God in prayer."

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YOU'LL WANT FOR NOTHING in this custom built 4bd/2.5ba home on beautiful Lookout Mountain! This home boasts an open floor plan, custom cabinets, and so much more! \$215,000 (19783)



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN! Near to Bear Creek! 3B,2B rustic cottage situated on one acre! Private location! CH/A, Wood Floors, covered porch and a side open deck! FURNISHED!! \$99,900. (20045)



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RUSTIC HOME! 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. Minutes From Little River Canyon, Enjoy Nature at It's Best! The Inside Features Pine Walls, Maple Cabinets, Exposed Beams, Open Floor Plan, & Fireplace! \$110,000!! (17020)



YOU GOT to SEE IT! Brow View, Near to Downtown Mentone, and Built Right! 2B/2B, Jenn-aire pkg., wood burning F/P, cozy loft, nice deck! Hot Tub! Excellent Rental History. FURNISHED! \$269,900. Agent/Owner (18440)



A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO OWN! 3 adjoining Incredible Brow Lots with beautiful views. Each individually priced at \$149,900 (18230,18231,18232)



LOOKOUT MTNI 1550 sq ft home in need of a little TLC. Rock fireplace, carport, and large kitchen. Sited on 1.5 level acres. REDUCED to \$35,000 (19377)



GREAT LOCATION! 3 ACRE TRACT between DeSoto State Park and Mentone. Take a winding road back into this secluded, scenic area. MORE ACREAGE AVAILABLE! \$34,900 (17412)

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IN-TOWN CHARMER - Walk to downtown Mentone from this 2BR/1.5BA cottage featuring wood floors, cathedral ceiling and gazebo all on 1 acre with more available. Call today! \$149,900 (16659)



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY is found in this log cabin. 2BR/1BA on main floor, L-shaped living/dining/kitchen combo. Upstairs offers 2 sleeping areas and bath. Cozy front and back porches. \$229,000 (18871)



LOOKING FOR A MOUNTAIN GET-A-WAY? 3BR/1BA, completely remodeled and is move-in ready. New appliances, updated wiring, new CH&A, fresh interior paint and rock fireplace. \$89,900 (17931)



MOVE UP TO RIVERFRONT... Open and Airy 3BR/3.5BA with an oversized state-of-the-art kitchen, stone fireplace, wood and tile floors, lots of windows, large back deck and boat dock. \$495,000 (17781)



IN-TOWN PRIVACY! Sit on the screened porch of this 3BR/2BA cottage and enjoy the peaceful quiet of mother nature. Just a short walking distance to downtown Mentone. \$119,000 (19082)



BREATHTAKING VIEWS from all around this 3BR/2.5BA home that was recently completed at Lake on the Brow. 2-car garage, access to a private 14-acre lake and so much more. \$530,000 (20031)



WEEKEND RETREAT or PERMANENT RESIDENCE - 2BR/2BA cabin located off DeSoto Pkwy. Kitchen/Dining combo, eat-in bar and all appliances. Wrap-around deck and walk-out balcony. \$159,900 (19835)



BREATHTAKING VIEW! You can enjoy the view year round from this one-level brick home on the brow. 3BR/2BA, living/dining combo, sunroom, large deck and much more. \$450,000 (17082)



INCREDIBLE BROW HOME... 3 levels, family room, kitchen w/breakfast bar and all appliances, stacked rock fireplace/bbq grill, patio and decks. Garage apartment. FOR LEASE or SALE. \$699,000 (15736)



NORTH BROW - Unique log structure that was moved from Georgia. 1BR/1BA, open living space and lots of room for entertaining. 8.3 acres +/- \$279,900 (18256)



BRICK HOME w/lots of native mountain foliage. 3BR/2BA overlooking the West Fork of Little River. Large yard, screened porch, 2 storage sheds and a 2-car garage. \$199,000 (16371)



LIVE & PLAY on the water...200' of frontage on the East Fork of Little River. 3BR/2BA, all appliances, wood burning fireplace, storage building and more. \$347,900 (18278)



CUSTOM BUILT LOG CABIN... situated on 2 lots in Laurel Creek. 2 LARGE BR/2BA, spacious great room with cathedral ceilings, hickory floors, 2-car garage, and fishing dock. \$229,000 (18898)



CABIN & FURNISHINGS!!! 1BR/1BA frame cabin has 640 sqft and features a rock fireplace and foundation, wood walls and floors, CH&A, front and back porches, 1.19 acres. \$132,500 (18990)



LAUREL CREEK... Custom home offering 2BR/2BA, comfortable living/dining area w/cathedral ceilings, rock fireplace, over 600' of screened porches, and access to 3 lakes. \$194,500 (18918)



40 ROLLING ACRES. circle drive, 5BR/4BA, 3400+ sqft brick home, barn and livestock pond. Many beautiful building sites w/pasture and woods. Properties like this are few. \$429,000 (14651)



SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD... UNIQUE "round" cabin offering an open living space, 2BR/1BA, most all furnishings, 9.58 acres and SPECTACULAR views of the valley and mountains beyond. \$295,000 (20120)



THIS IS IT!!! Custom 3BR/2.5BA, BONUS room, living w/fireplace, kitchen/dining combo, above-ground pool w/deck, 1 acre, overlooking pond. \$224,500 (20051)



UNIQUE 2 BR/2BA property with decks all around overlooking the West Fork of Little River. Stone fireplace. Balcony/Sleep loft. This is a must see! \$239,000 (19844)



THIS WARM & COZY CABIN nestled in the woods offers seclusion, privacy & tranquility in an artful setting. Pine wood floors, wood burning FP, vaulted ceilings w/exposed beams. \$174,900 (19524)



LOG CABIN NEAR LITTLE RIVER CANYON - 2 BR, 2 BA w/ hot tub & rock fireplace. Short hike to Eberhart Point & Weaver Overlook which have views of the Canyon & Little River. \$245,000 (16149)



NEW CABIN near Little River Canyon - 2 BR, 2 BA w/covered porches & fireplace. Nearby Eberhart Point & Weaver Overlook have panoramic views of the Canyon and Little River. \$205,000 (17123)



MENTONE TREASURE! Over 300' of the most private and panoramic brow frontage in downtown Mentone. Restore this 3BR/2BA home to its original splendor. Also included is an in-ground pool and pavilion. \$600,000 (18271)



MENTONE - Over 200' of breathtaking brow view of mountains and valley located within walking distance to Historic Mentone. Partially finished cabin with 2 rock fireplaces and a 2-car carport. \$275,000 (18270)

PRISTINE RIVER LOT with 150' +/- 43 +/- ACRES IN MENTONE! 800' on Brush Creek. Possible Owner financing available to qualified buyer. \$259,000 (18729)

CAND and LAKE! 40 +/- ac with a 5 +/- ac lake with Brush Creek running through it. \$225,000 (18869)

2 LOTS on the middle fork of Little River near Lake Lahusage. \$69,900 Each (18627)

HIDDEN LAKE SUBDIVISION bordering LRP offers a gated community for people of like interests. \$85,000 (18406)

BEAUTIFUL BUILDING SITE - MENTONE! 3.22 ac. tract offers Lots of Hardwoods, Level Building Site, Pwr and water at CR 648! Priced at \$44,900. (18037)

BUILD YOUR CABIN HERE on this beautiful, wooded level lot located in a restricted

WATERFRONT LOT IN RESTRICTED LAKE ON THE BROW COMMUNITY! 104 feet of water frontage! Mild Restrictions in File. Great for a Vacation Home or Primary Residence. Only \$59,900! (18038)

5.62 ACRES Beautiful wooded building lot with stream located on CoRd 106 (Lahusage Drive) in desirable Mentone. Minimum square footage per dwelling is 1200 sqft heated. \$63,500 (18827)

GREAT BUILDING LOT situated inside the city limits of Mentone. Property has an existing storage building and split rail fence. \$79,900 (19860)

subdivision near downtown Mentone. \$39,900 (19426)

FORECLOSURE PROPERTY! BEAUTIFUL BUILDING PROPERTY AT A GREAT BUY!! LOCATED IN THE MENTONE AREA OFF 1171 Tract I and Tract II. Foreclosure Property!!! Priced to Sell \$27,500 (20033)

BREATHTAKING... Sunsets and views await you from this 6.5 acre, approx. 300 ft brow lot in Mentone. Build your personal home, vacation home or rental cabin and start enjoying this opportunity or... purchase in anticipation of future enjoyment.

BROKEN DAM @ LAHUSAGE! Located atop Lookout Mountain on Little River - River tracts offering fantastic year round mountain water, swimming, canoe to Little River Canyon. Private, gated and restricted. (17327)

Former Mentone Visitor Dies In England

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

Many Mentone people will remember the two visits Marilyn Blanton Campbell's friends, Miss Josephine Thexton and Mrs. Carol Cutts, from Wilmslow in Cheshire, England (near Manchester), made to Mentone several years ago. During the first of those visits, Marilyn hosted a nice reception at the Mentone United Methodist Church's social hall for the purpose of allowing anybody at Mentone, who wanted it, a chance to meet and get to know the ladies. Everybody was invited, and it was not intended to be a "hen party," but only women and girls showed up.

Miss Thexton and Mrs. Cutts greatly enjoyed their visits to Mentone and the trips other places in the South as well. After the first one, they went home thinking that all the weather in Alabama ever did was rain. While they were here for that visit, first, the moribund remains of a hurricane and, then, a tropical storm moved into North Alabama to die and promptly stalled making a fine art of lingering.

GONE WITH THE WIND was one of their favorite books as well as a movie they liked very much. It was during all that rain that Marilyn took the ladies to Clayton County, Georgia, so they could actually see the area where GONE WITH THE WIND was set. At the museum in the old depot building at Jonesboro, they were fascinated with the fact that there they could actually purchase patterns for Miss Scarlett's infamous green dress (the one she made from the "Miss Ellen's portieres" so she could go see Rhett "Butler in the horse jail).

In Atlanta, they toured the Margaret Mitchell Museum at the apartment Miss Mitchell called "the dump" where she actually wrote much of her famous book while recovering from an ankle injury. By then, the great rain had moved to over to Georgia. It is untelling how many of those disposable plastic rain ponchos the three of them went through on that trip.

The original plan was for Marilyn to take the ladies outside Jonesboro to a working plantation, but the pouring rain soon convinced them that the plantation was not the best idea any of them ever had, so they basically stayed in Jonesboro and toured the exhibits there. At the funeral home, they saw the hearse that had actually carried the body of CSA Vice-President Alexander Hamilton Stephens to its final resting place. In Atlanta, they also visited the King Center between dodging downpours.

Marilyn also took the ladies to Selma where they met up with Mrs. Teresa Kelly, crossed the Edmund Pettis Bridge by car, and spent the night at the bridge tender's house. In Montgomery, they toured the Rosa Parks Museum. In Birmingham, they saw several sites sacred to the Civil Rights Movement.

It was a source of great pleasure to Mrs. Cutts and Miss Thexton that, on their first visit, they got in on the last of the peaches and the first of the apples. They enjoyed fresh fruit anyway, but those were especially good. Because of the latitudes, their growing season in England is short compared to ours, so they get a lot of fresh produce that has been shipped in from no telling

where, and we all know fresh is better.

On a trip to the Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina, they visited an apple orchard sales house at Ellijay, Georgia, and greatly enjoyed the fresh apples Marilyn bought there. There was no doubt about the apples they got being fresh because family members of the people doing the selling had gathered the apples that morning.

The second trip the ladies made was in the spring because they wanted to see everything in bloom. The colors of autumn had impressed them so on their first trip that they thought the colors of spring, while different, would be every bit as pretty. They set up their trip hoping to miss the cold weather, but that was the year spring came on an entire month early. There was very little spring left when they got to Mentone.

On their first trip, neighbors in the Baty community had "a pickin' and grinnin'" for the ladies, and they enjoyed that very much. Some of those same neighbors hosted a fish fry during their second visit. That was a most enjoyable event. That gathering featured some picking and grinning as well as some of the best eating imaginable.

Marilyn still laughs about some of the things the ladies enjoyed the most while they were in Alabama. They considered Wal-Mart's store brand of pancake mix to be a delicacy and took several boxes of it home with them. The ladies insisted that American ice cream was the best to be had anywhere. While Miss Thexton tried as many flavors as she had the opportunity to sample, Mrs. Cutts stuck with vanilla. She insisted that was the kind she liked best. When they were getting ready to leave, Mrs. Cutts allowed as how she wished it would be practical for her to empty the clothes out of her suitcase and take it home filled with American ice cream.

Marilyn took the ladies up into Tennessee to tour the Mayfield ice cream plant at Athens. They truly enjoyed that, and, after their tour, they all indulged in a large serving of that wonderfully sweet and cold concoction in their individual choices of flavor before they took on a through investigation of the gift shop. On the way back, they stopped in Chattanooga and had a ride on the riverboat on the Tennessee River. The weather was especially nice for that, and they were grateful.

After their first trip to Alabama, the ladies went back to find that a Wal-Mart super-center type store had opened at Manchester. It was 17 miles away, so it was a major undertaking to gather up their cooler and make the trip over there in the hope of getting some American ice cream. They were quite disappointed when all the ice cream their new Wal-Mart store was British. Marilyn could not keep from laughing when they told about the person on the public address system at their new Wal-Mart store making an announcement. "We listened. It was an American voice, but it wasn't a southern voice." They insisted that southerners spoke slower and softer than other people.

To Marilyn, it was an awakening experience to see Mentone in particular (and America in general) through the eyes of people from another country. Mrs. Cutts and Miss Thexton insisted that people at Mentone seem to care more about each other and look after each other better the way people did back when they were children in England.

After one of their Mentone visits, Mrs. Cutts and

Miss Thexton went to the local garden center in the area where they live to get some plants for their garden. People in England refer to their yard as their "garden." While they were at the garden center, they opted to have a light lunch at the tearoom that had been only recently opened there.

They had a full evening meal cooking at home, so they did not want to eat a heavy lunch. When their food came, it was quite good, and they were sitting there enjoying it when they heard somebody in the kitchen talking with what sounded to them like an Alabama accent. The waiter came by to see if they needed anything else, and they asked if that was somebody from Alabama talking in the kitchen. With a very surprised look, the waiter told them that the chef was indeed from Alabama. It was only a few minutes until the chef came marching out to meet those most definitely English ladies who recognized his accent. When he asked, "You know Alabama?" They replied, "We know Mentone." As it so happened, while the chef was from Mobile, he had actually spent several of his childhood summers at camp in Mentone and spoke very fondly of the experience. If he said which camp he had attended, they did not remember. It was a source of great pleasure to them to find somebody that far away who knew and loved Mentone the way they did.

At some point, a ladies' group (with whom they were associated) undertook to read Harper Lee's TO KILL A MOCKING BIRD. In view of the fact that Mrs. Cutts and Miss Thexton had actually been to Alabama, those ladies (some of whom had looked upon Alabama as an odd travel destination for anybody) automatically saw them as a great source of information and asked questions accordingly. Apparently, there are some things about being Southern we can explain while others we simply have to accept the way they are handed to us, and those ladies realized that.

Last winter, Miss Thexton battled bladder cancer, and that left her somewhat exhausted. Back in the spring, the cancer returned, and she was not doing well until her really wicked lung infection, but after everything she had been through, her resistance was so low that the infection overwhelmed her. She was hospitalized and treated, but the infection resisted any and all antibiotics. She got weaker and weaker and died on Friday, June 11. Miss Thexton's funeral was on Tuesday, June 22. She is survived by her brother, Richard, his wife, Kita, their daughter, Abigail, and their grandson, Leonard, as well as by Mrs. Cutts and her grown son, Andrew.

Anybody, who remembers the ladies and would like to send a pretty card, is very much encouraged to do so. Here is the address:

Mrs. Carol Cutts
14 Tranmere Drive
Handforth Wilmslow
Cheshire England SK9 3BW

Angela J. Wood
Owner and AL/GA Broker

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TOP OF THE LINE DESIGN. Newly constructed Home on the West Brow of Mentone. 5BR/3.5BA. Formal DR, custom Kitchen, SS appl, breakfast nook and eat-in bar. FP in Living room and also on the porch. Whole house Media and sound system, 2 car garage. A must see, with a sunset View. \$599,000 (19774)



EAST BROW COTTAGE. Behold the spectacular view of Lake Weiss in the distance from the timbered deck, and Wall of Windows inside the Open Great Room. 2BR/2BA with heated tiled floors. Maple flooring and cabinets. HVAC & fully equipped kitchen with eat in bar. Amenities galore in this maintenance free vinyl sided Cottage on 5 acres. \$229,000 (19714)



INDIAN TRAILS. 2 lots for sale. 1) 2.71 ac. (lots 12, 13) sold together for building purposes. Brow view city water, power, & paved rd. 2) 1.32 ac. brow frontage & creek at boundary. Wooded, city water, paved rd. power. Both priced at \$45,000 ea. (19933)



NICELY WOODED 5 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway with Stream. Can be Residential or Commercial. Land has old homesite and green house. Large Rock formations. Possibilities are Endless! \$128,000 (19419)



40 ACRES located near Mentone. Stillhouse Branch runs through the middle of tract. 2 waterfalls. Large rock formations along the hiking trails. What a wonderful sanctuary this would make for development or private estate. \$190,000 (18760)



SOUTHLAND LOG HOME. on the E. Fork Little River. 5.5 acres. Deck, lighted walkway to lower property. 2BR/2BA, loft. Vaulted ceiling w/exposed beams. Kitchen with granite counters. Stacked stone FP. 2-story with Basement. Sep. garage, large enough for motor home. \$475,000 (19919)



ENJOY SWIMMING in the river, canoeing, floating. Your own private 3 acres with over 250 ft. on the river. Wooded with Bluffs to view the water below. On the East Fork Little River on the historic Flat Landing Ford Rd. Two 3 acre tracts available, side by side. \$87,000 ea., or buy both and have 6 acres on the river. (18776)



ONLY KNOWN COMMERCIAL ZONED B-1 in downtown Mentone. 120x130 lot located just past Mentone Springs Hotel and the Log Cabin Village shops. Build your own business in Mentone. City water, paved rd. One block from central business area \$41,000 (20021)



50 ACRES-CLOUDLAND, GA. Great farm with 20x40 Barn, lg workshop, 3 out-bldgs, garage, 3 wells, wet weather spring, 3 garden areas, approx. 5 acres cleared. Beautiful hardwoods, 12x70 mobile home with rock foundation and so much more! \$199,000 (10251)



STORYBOOK FARM. 4.5 acres, pasture, pond, and a New Rustic Cottage, situated on the old Homeplace. 2BR/2BA, handcrafted details throughout. A wonderful setting for horses, or whatever kind of animals you prefer. A must see. \$179,000 (19736)



NATURAL SETTING ON THE WEST FORK LITTLE RIVER. 4 bdrm suites with Baths are part of this lovely home. Open Floor Plan, Dining, Den and sitting room, Kitchen with Complete Appliance package. 400 ft on the water with Rock formations. Located in the only Ski Resort in Alabama. Must see. \$379,000 (20246)



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS. This 58 acres has the combination of all that you could ask for. Brow views, pasture, woods, 3 lakes, 56x42 barn with concrete floor and electric. Darling Log and Rock Cabin with 1 bdrm 1.5 bath, rock and pine floors. CHA. 2 wells RV, hookup. What a setting. \$750,000 (20056)



PARK-LIKE SETTING on the mountain Mentone. 47 acres with 2 stocked spring-fed lakes, open fields, groved wood areas for hiking and horse back riding. Also Franklin Manufactured Home with 3 bdrm 2 bath open great room Kitchen with island Wood burning FP. All this and much more. \$350,000 (20265)



ENCHANTING COTTAGE. Located in Laurel Creek Lakes. Access to 3 lakes for fishing & canoeing. Cypress sided 2BR/2BA with Stack Log and Stone Fireplace. Screened porch & Grilling deck. 1.4 acres \$147,000. (19676)



WALK TO MENTONE FROM THIS COZY COTTAGE! Enjoy the sunsets from the screened porch. 2BR, 1BA. Completely furnished. Great for weekend getaway or home. REDUCED TO \$135,000 (18891)



NATURAL CEDAR CABIN. 2 bdr, 2 bath. Columbian cedar walls (nice aroma) when enjoying the large open great room. Stack stone FP, screen porch and access to Little River. \$159,900 (18541)



MUCH SOUGHT AFTER West Fork deep water. 1 mile upstream from Desoto Falls. Build your dock and gazebo and bring your boat or canoe to cruise on the river. Great recreational lot. \$35,000 (19164)



WORMAHOOTABOO FARM Beautiful land with open pasture, 2 ponds, wooded area with trails for horseback or ATV. Barn with tack or equipment storage. Fenced for livestock. City water and paved road frontage. What a setting \$160,000 (20161)



GETAWAY TO THIS MOUNTAIN LAKE HOUSE IN MENTONE. Cedar sided 2BR/2BA two-story with main level Living, kitchen, dining all open for entertaining. Large Fireplace, screened porch. Lower level bedrooms and large covered porch with stairs and multi-decks down to the water. \$309,900 (20215)



OLD SCHOOL LOG CABIN. 2.3 acres with full basement. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, open living area. Log walls. Kitchen with appliances. Front and Back covered porches. ~~\$85,000~~ DRASTICALLY REDUCED TO \$55,000 (19354)

Walls: Remembered as funny, humble person

Continued from 1

missed.

"He was a part of our every-day being," Pridmore said. I'll never forget him in the Follies. He was hilariously funny. His whole heart was in everything he did. I think that's why he continued to work as many years as he did. He did it because it was Fort Payne, Alabama and he was very dedicated to our town. He's going to be missed. When I think of him, it will be all good thoughts. He left us with a lot of great memories."

Funeral services were July 13, 2010 at 11 a.m. at Second Baptist Church in Fort Payne with burial following at Glenwood Cemetery.

Burt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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Submitted photo

Roland Walls also served as emcee of the DeKalb County Fiddlers Convention and was scheduled to be at the 102nd event.



Air Force Airman Logan Chambers has completed technical training in Civil Engineering/Construction Equipment Operator conducted by the 366th Training Squadron at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Airman Chambers is stationed at Kunsan Air Base, South Korea.

He is the son of Rusty and Angela Chambers of Mentone and a 2007 graduate of Valley Head High School.



U.S. AIR FORCE



Left: Catherine Bailey with lifetime friend Polly Chambers.

Below left: Catherine Bailey with cousin Mary Murdock Gilbreath

Right: Sisters Sarah Brown Harris, Catherine Brown Bailey, and Carrie Ruth Brown Kirby.

Below Right: Catherine Bailey with her birthday cake

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR 100 YEAR OLD

Catherine Brown Bailey was 100 years old on June 21, 2010. On Saturday, June 19, 2010, she was honored with a birthday party in the second floor dining room of Crowne Health Care Center. The party, hosted by her children, Barbara Blalock and Gerald Bailey, was complete with cake, punch and ice cream. During the afternoon, at least one hundred people came by including seven grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, thirteen great-great grandchildren, two sisters, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins and many friends. She received many beautiful cards, a certificate from the Governor of Alabama and a letter from Willard Scott of the Today Show. Barbara and Gerald would like to thank all of you who came by and made "Miss Catherine" feel special and appreciated on her day.





The Mountain Herbalist;

A meeting with Ila Hatter, North Carolina's mountain herbalist

By L.C. Moon

Desoto State Park's naturalist Brittany McAllister-Hughes is doing a great job creating and hosting very informative programs. If you have not already been to one, you should! I went to see Ila Hatter, a renowned herbalist, give a presentation and a hike, on Saturday, July 17th (One day before my birthday!) She, and her husband, Jerry Coleman, blessed me and about a dozen others with their testimony and wisdom.

It was over two decades ago, Ila began making a career out of teaching the art of "wild-crafting" native plants; writing books, doing workshops and even filming programs for some major television networks. Though, she has studied native edible foods, and herbal remedies, most of her life; her knowledge began in her childhood from ancestral wisdom handed down through family, and her education continued with learning from Cherokee Native Americans, particularly Cherokee Marie Mellinger.

Ila's presentation was woven with interesting historical facts, plant knowledge and general wisdom about nature. She gave informative accounts of how she learned the Cherokee language, particularly of the native plants. For instance, in the Cherokee language two different objects may carry the same name and translation; such as the names of a poplar tree and of an airplane can be the same, and both translate to something like, "way

up there", speaking of how an airplane is high in the sky and a poplar tree extends taller and straighter than any other tree in the southeastern United States.

So, after sharing with our group how she learned about the Cherokee names of the poplar tree; she told us about a man who had mistaken a poplar for a balm of Gilead tree. A salve of balm of Gilead is great for burns. She said the man made a salve of *poplar* for burns, and it *actually* worked! Then, she leaned over the railing of the boardwalk and plucked a leaf off the nearest poplar tree. She showed the group how to make a cup out of the leaf to hold water; which is not only really cool to watch, it is also very important and useful information in a survival situation.

Ila, and her husband Jerry, were pleasantly humble while sharing their treasure trove of wisdom at DeSoto State Park. I am sure their humble attitude of gratitude helps them effectively teach so many as they travel the United States; though as Jerry Coleman, wisely said, "We always learn from our students."

For everyone, no matter how long they have been a student of nature, there is always something new to learn. Ila's presentation of the information made what I didn't know, and even what I already knew, interesting to hear. I did learn something new in one of Ila's stories, about plantain (*plantago major*); even though I have used plantain over the years for bug bites, bruises, inflammation and all manner of skin disorders, there is more...

She told us a story about a man- the "plantain" man, or so we will call him for now- who, several months before the workshop, went to the dentist with tooth pain and for a checkup; the report came back that he had gum disease and was eventually going to lose his teeth. After

reading about plantain in some of his natural therapy books, he made a strong tea out of the leaves, drinking the tea and gargling with it regularly every day. He got to keep his teeth and has no more pain either! Now he keeps plantain around at all times for his immune system, bruises, cuts, stings, for mouthwash and more.

She said the man approached her at one of her workshops, before she knew his story, and asked her to guess, "What is my favorite plant to heal all that ails me?" She guessed, "Plantain!", and she was right. He asked, "How'd you know?" Well, herbalists who use native plants will opt for the common guess of plantain to heal all woes because it is so prevalent any where the soil has been disturbed, and so diverse in its uses.

Ila, then, completed her talk about plantain and its uses as natural fiber and mild laxative to aid the intestines. She suggested you grind the seeds, soak them in water and then drink the mixture the same way people use psyllium (*plantago ovata*).

It is always wise for me to tell you to consult your health care provider before making any changes to your health care regimen. If you want to learn more information, Ila Hatter has books and videos that you can purchase online and, if all goes well, they will soon be available at the Wildflower Café! If you would like to order loose herbs you may do so online at www.MentoneWiThanks.com again to Naturalist Brittany McAllister-Hughes, Superintendent Ken Thomas and the staff at DeSoto State Park for taking a heartfelt interest in our environment. Everyone from the office, to the restaurant, the campground, maintenance and more does a great job of creating a great atmosphere for all of us to enjoy. Thanks y'all for making it fun to learn and experience nature!

A Tribute to a Great Lady

by Linda Brown

When I married into the Brown family at the age of nineteen, I inherited many relatives. At first, it was hard for me to get them all straight. There was, Aunt Marjo, Uncle Luther, Aunt Sadie, Aunt Chant, Uncle George,

Uncle Carlton, and two Uncle Paul's. This was just a few as my mother-in-law had eight siblings and my father-in-law had four. By this time at least three generations were present in each family so you can imagine how many cousins and spouses this added up to.

As a young mother and member of the Mentone Methodist Church (later United) I became especially close to one aunt, Aunt Catherine Brown Bailey, the sister of Raymond Brown, my father-in-law. She was the proprietor of the local grocery store when I moved to Mentone, Alabama. She was the mother of Barbara Bailey Blalock and like myself Barbara had married and had children at a young age. We attended the Mentone (United) Methodist Church together and Barbara and I became friends.



Aunt Catherine was always active in the Sunday School and other activities of the church, especially if they involved children. She was always the teacher of one of the classes. It was my privilege to sit at her feet and observe her vast knowledge of the scriptures and of her view of life. She was fascinated with the sources of the Bible, especially the Dead Sea Scrolls. We all thought that these parchments were the most wonderful documents in the world, because she did.

We bought our groceries from her store and this was a great experience because in the summer, Bailey's Store was the hub of the community. This was where you would see the local people as they went about their daily business and where you would meet the people who came to the mountain for the summer or to camp in Mentone. In the winter, the store was cosy and warm. There was a big heater in the middle of the store and Uncle Floyd and Pap-paw were always around close to stay warm. Most of the time, a checker board was set up on a nail keg with two straight chairs close to the heater. If none of the men of the community were playing, Uncle Floyd and Pap-paw would play checkers with my children. Of course, my children thought this was a very grown up thing to do.

On one occasion, my husband, Bobby, fell twenty-eight feet from a pole which holds the electrical lines. When I received the call, I was home with three very small children. I couldn't think who might be home, but I called Aunt Catherine. She was taking care of the store but she said to bring them over. I carried them to her before going to the hospital to see how serious the accident was. I collected them that night after establishing that there were enough people at the hospital to take care of Bobby.

Aunt Catherine gave up the store after Uncle Floyd died. She became the Town Clerk of Mentone. Most of the time she walked from her home on Cutler Avenue to the town hall. She walked back home after work unless H.P. Goss could get free of his duties of the town in time to take her home. She became the

Chamber of Commerce and the welcome wagon for the town, always helping the new comers and directing the travelers to sites in the area.

She was always in good spirits. Her laugh was infectious and quite unique.

When you heard it you knew who was laughing. She never criticized anything or anybody, always praising and uplifting those around her. As I observed her life, I realized that it is better to light one little candle than to curse the darkness. She made the best of what she had. She loved her husband and two children with all of her heart but there was still room for everyone who came into her life.

Aunt Catherine will always have a special place in my heart and she was one hundred years old on June 21, 2010!!



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Mentone Rustic Home Furnishings

By Evelyn Graves

An exciting new business is opening on Highway 117 East, in the former location of Tom's Tires. The Opening Day is scheduled for August 3. Philip McElhaney from Valley Head is the owner of the business.

Philip is a very friendly, personable young man, and it was my pleasure to meet him and learn more about his plans for the business. He builds rustic furniture of all types, including willow and wicker furniture in tables, benches, and beds. He has been doing flooring of all types for several years, and has just now gotten into a building for his business. David Dugas, a friend of Philip, who specializes in cabinet building will be placing kitchen and other types cabinets on display, and they may be purchased through Philip also. For you art lovers, there will be paintings by Bobby Owens of Monk's Cove available for sale.

There is a large display room with samples of Philip's work, and he will work by order. Customers can choose what they want and leave the order with Philip. He sells wholesale Eastern white pine V-groove and flooring. He will sell and install flooring of all



sage, and Philip will return the call immediately.

Philip expects to be fully equipped and open for business on August 3. On Opening Day only, all furniture will be 20% off.

This does not apply to the yard sale items which will be on display. Regular hours will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10 AM - 4 PM. After the Opening Day, there will be a big yard sale beginning August 5, which will coincide with the annual Longest Yard Sale.

- If you need a space for the Longest Yard Sale, Philip will have 50-75 spaces for rent.



Green Egg Designs

By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

The name is intriguing and the store located at 205 Gault Ave. N in Fort Payne next is even more so. One question that is sure to be asked is how they came up with the name. Sisters Cathy Lynn Cortner and Pam Collins, owners, explained. "As children, we were big fans of Dr. Seuss (Green Eggs and Ham) and our grandmother had an egg farm so it seemed a natural to name our business Green Egg Designs".

It's easier to explain the name than to explain exactly what the store is. Pam calls it "a boutique gift shop and home décor workshop."

The spacious store is full of regional art. There's pottery by a young girl in Valley Head. Some of the jewelry is made by a girl in Albertville and the rest of it is made by a Mentone native. The table runners are made by a Boaz seamstress. The quilts, crocheted items and aprons are made by the wife of Grace Presbyterian's pastor. The intriguing steel structures are made of found items by a Kentucky designer. Much of the artwork is done by teenage girl from Henegar. She's already been "discovered" by customers that can't wait for her next piece. Large framed photographs are made by a sister-in-law. They continue to discover new talent so you need to visit the store or check them out on Facebook to find out what is currently

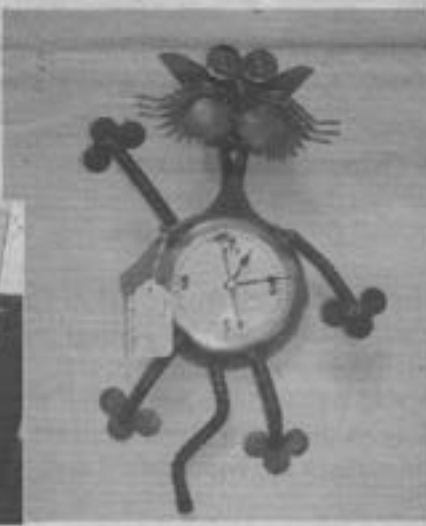
there. They post new pictures and descriptions almost daily. The site is Green Egg Designs.

Home design is an important part of the services they offer. They work with their customers in accommodating both their taste and budget. Pam explained it this way. "We take somebody's dream and make it a reality in their home." Cathy makes drapes and bedspreads. She has more than 20 years of experience as a seamstress.

Everything in the store is American made. They continue to add new items from new artists. Pam explained that they have a lot of luck finding regional artists. By the time you read this, the store will have a lot of items for football season showcasing local high schools and those college teams that we love (or hate).

They also have an extensive inventory of Watkins products, also an American company.

The store is calm, attractive and relaxing in direct contrast to backroom workroom where many projects are underway. It's a perfect picture of what you "see" when you picture a workroom. Rest assured when the finished product leaves that workroom it will either complement the store and your home.



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Da Bayou

By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

There's no shortage of good restaurants in our area. That's good because there certainly isn't a shortage of people who enjoy a good meal. For those of us who like something just a little different on occasion, Da Bayou is a welcome addition. As the name implies, the menu has a Cajun influence but there are many items for those who have a less adventuresome palate.

Kellie Rutherford and her husband, George, opened their restaurant on April 1. It didn't take long for several menu items to become favorites. Fried gator tails, Andouille on a stick and Boudin became popular starters. (The menu has a clear explanation of these and other items on the menu for those of us who didn't grow up with Cajun food like Kellie did.)

The special lunch menu has sandwiches and plate lunches with one side. These are smaller portions but still generous.

Other lunch favorites include PoBoys which are served on New Orleans bread with one side (gator tators are a popular side). The large salads are another lunch favorite. There are seven different PoBoys and three meal-sized salads plus a side salad.

The Bayou Catch for an evening meal includes an extensive list of catfish and salt water seafood including grouper, mahi mahi and shrimp prepared in a variety of ways including grilled. There's something special about the steaks served at Da Bayou. There're fresh, cut in house and then marinated for 24 hours. There's even variety in the hushpuppies, either regular style or cracklin hushpuppies. Hamburgers are hand patted and they make their own chicken tenders



In addition to the menu items, there are several popular specials with a New Orleans flavor. A blue crab and shrimp casserole was a recent special. Gumbo with crab meat and shrimp was a big hit recently. You can call and see what that day's special is.

Senior adults aren't forgotten at De Bayou because the kids menu is also available for seniors and the four items on the menu are generous portions of kid's favorites whether those "kids" are 12 and under or 65 and older. These specials include also include one side item.

Some of the dessert favorites include homemade pound cake, moon pie sundaes, cookies and cream cake, lemon pie and homemade peach cobbler with ice cream.

The restaurant seats 70. One room is devoted to a salute to the military and law enforcement, something near and dear to George who retired from heading up Morgan County's drug enforcement unit.

You will often find the Rutherford's two daughters, Kalie, 11 and Brittany, 9 at Da Bayou. When they're there and when they aren't you'll also be greeted by Boudreaux, a friendly gator draped in Mardi Gras beads for the children. The kids love Boudreaux but you often find adults patting him on the head and talking to him.

Da Bayou is located at Fischer Crossroads at 4608 Desoto Parkway. Their phone number is 256-845-6048 or 256-630-7716. Their hours of operation are Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11:00 - 9:30 and Sunday from 11:00 - 3:00. There are always Sunday specials or you can order from the menu.



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For additional information write to
MAPA, P.O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984
or Call J.P. Nation at 256-634-8245.

High Horse Lodge

High Horse Lodge, built by Harriet and Steve O'Rear, opened the doors on the first of July to visitors who want to spend vacation time in a house that reflects the unique beauty of the Lookout Mountain and the incredible abilities of those who worked with the logs, wood, stone, clay, iron, paints and quilting needles.

Located on Lookout Mountain between Mentone, Al., and Cloudland, Ga., and overlooking a twenty five miles of forested ridges and distant mountains, the lodge is in a wilderness landscape and is surrounded by the flora and fauna, rocks and water that are indigenous to the mountain. It is private, but close to shopping and restaurants of Mentone, Al. And...you can bring your horse!

Work began in the fall of 2009 with the procuring of nine cedar logs. Paul Deering of JP Forestry Products called to say he had the timbers located and downed near Menlo. Dilan Deering, an eleventh grader at Trion High School who has been driving logging equipment since he could reach the clutch, picked up the logs with a skidder and lowered them onto a trailer for Steve to take to the High Horse location.

Mark Wright and Phil Key of Mentone did some remarkable tweaking of a band saw mill to cut the timbers vertically, and then placed them as the supports for the long screen porch. They, with the help of Steve Hawkins, did the framing for the structure, which was square and true within a quarter of an inch. Even the building inspector was impressed. Hawkins was always the one hanging off the chimney, or reaching out from the scaffolds for the soffit, or dangling from a ladder to place a beam. The saw and hammer skills of Mark and Phil are legendary.

Harriet and Steve used a plethora of native materials in construction. Daniel Millican of Millican Forest Products in Valley Head supplied Virginia pine beams for the ceiling and wall supports as well as the hickory flooring and the v groove yellow pine for the handmade doors. Valley Timber of Ft. Payne sliced a large diameter pine log lengthwise for Mark and Phil to section into stair steps. They bolted these treads between two slanted timbers and pegged them to produce a stately- and really heavy - set of half log stairs.

In the winter of 2010, when it rained 15" in one day, a flood deposited a pile of mountain laurel onto a tree trunk near a creek on the O'Rear property. Steve pulled limbs from the pile as if he were shopping at a building supply store. He took the pile of twisted sticks to Mark and Phil, who were not impressed with the Gordian knot of limbs. After a night of consideration, they began weaving the

mountain laurel into railings for the half log stairs and had to admit that the result was stunning. An antique iron horse head hitching post tops the newel post.

The rocks for the fireplace came from the creek below High Horse Lodge. Steve hauled them up the hill with the front end loader and Harriet laid them, putting a fossil of a fern's vascular system into the center, and a peg for a handmade broom at the side. Mark offered a board from his cache of wondrous lumber for the mantle, a half log cut from a cypress tree that his daddy had planted on the mountain years before. The mantle is riddled with worm tracks, a feature that adds value, said Mark with a twinkle in his eye.

With the construction completed, Mark and Phil again demonstrated their woodworking ability and creativity when they crafted most of the furniture for High Horse Lodge. First came the sofas. Heather and Lyle Nicely, who have a museum quality Arts and Crafts Stickley oak sofa at their house in Mentone, let Harriet measure and draw. With pine from Millican's saw mill, the carpenters reproduced the Nicely sofa into a pair of stunning sofas for High Horse Lodge living room. They were expertly upholstered in Summerville by Kenneth's Upholstery.

The dining table which seats six, is crafted from red oak, the legs from some 4 X 4's that Steve and Harriet cut in Forsyth County, Georgia, on an gargantuan 1895 English saw mill about 1985. The saw marks are circular. The top was again drawn from Mark's treasured lumber

pile. It is two pieces of red oak cut from a centuries old tree that fell in the front yard of the rock mansion in Mountain Cove farms twenty five years ago. At that time, the farm manager asked Mark to help take the usable parts to J.P. Smith Lumber mill in

Summerville. Mark kept these two 2" X 18" planks, the largest that the mill could cut on the band saw. The table is so heavy that its position in the dining area is permanent. No one can budge it. The benches on both sides came from Texas, where Harriet served smoked brisket to cowboys and 4-Hers many years ago. The water rings probably came from Lone Star beer bottles.

Finally, Mark and Phil were put to the test on making queen beds. They crafted two poster beds, one oak with walnut inlay in a parquet design, and the other of pine with a tester which holds drapes at the back and

side. Using marble supplied by Harriet, they crafted bedside tables with walnut pegs. Mattresses were made in Summerville at Southern Bedding, which has been making people sleep better on the mountain for decades.

At one of the first 400 mile garage sales on Lookout Mtn. Parkway, Harriet negotiated with Rooster Hagewood on the price on a 48" diameter iron saw blade. Rooster, known for his buy/sell expertise, won the negotiation of course, but Harriet brought the rusty old blade home. It is now a table top on a cypress stump on the porch of High Horse Lodge. Steve welded a smaller circular saw blade to the top for a lazy susan. Pass the salt, please. Mark and Phil recycled some 18" diameter logs and made them seats which are padded with Delray O'Rear quilted pillows.

The glass top table in the living room was once an enormous 55 gallon still that came from—oops, can't tell that—on Lookout Mountain near High Horse Lodge. Look inside to see the large diameter copper worm that condensed the mash to make white lightning pour out a spout at the bottom, probably over and over and over, year after year.

The lighting was made by Steve and Harriet who design and manufacture silhouette chandeliers and sconces under the name of Iron Age Crafters, Inc. A large circular silhouette chandelier of stampeding horses swings between the beams of the cathedral ceiling. Sconces light the stairs and the halls. The cutting for the lighting was done at GH Metal Solutions in Fort Payne, again by a wizard who guided the laser through the Harriet's design.

With a huge enclave of artists producing in the area, Harriet and Steve chose an original Ginger Lowry race horse chalk painting for the mantle, wildlife photos by Paul Schoffner for the bedrooms, a pencil drawing by Betsy Scott McCleskey for the hall, and table linens quilted by Steve's mother, Delray O'Rear, who has the straightest seams, smallest stitches, and most intricate designs in the south. Porch chairs of willow were woven by Mentonian Casey Brown, whose book on how to make willow furniture is available at The Little River Hardware.

Not to be left out of the list of unsung talented heroes is Nick Price who did the clearing and ditching for the septic tank and the power lines. Using a track hoe as a surgeon would use a scalpel or an artist a pencil, Nick wove the bucket in and out of the trees and azaleas with speed and accuracy, and sometimes a little cussing. Again, the building inspector, who is known for nit picking a septic tank site, gave Nick's work a large check on the first inspection.

The landscaping is just beginning. With backgrounds in landscaping and wholesale nursery production, Steve and Harriet are propagating their plants for transplant to High Horse: hearts-a-bursting, mountain laurel, American Beauty Berry (the origins of which are the plant beside LMPR building in Mentone), blueberries, and wildflowers.

High Horse Lodge is a monument to usually unsung but incredibly talented craftsmen living on the mountain and working with their hands on the beautiful materials offered by the mountain itself. Vacationers can find availability, rates and photos on www.VRBO.com, DeKalb County Tourist Association in Fort Payne and at the website www.highhorselodge.com.



Evening of Cool Indulgence Marks A Hot Time For Cecil Baty's Birthday Celebration

By Marilyn Blanton Campbell

On July 16, 2010, the occasion of his 82nd birthday, Mr. Cecil Baty was feted by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Debbie Baty (number two son, Billy's, wife), his granddaughter, Miss Jennifer Davis, and ever-faithful neighbor, Mrs. Marilyn Blanton Campbell, with a celebratory "pizza pig out" at Mr. Baty's home in the Baty community. Mr. Baty's sons, Edward of Trenton, Georgia, as well as Billy and Ricky of Mentone had planned a birthday cookout to honor Mr. Baty and celebrate his birthday for the following day, but Mrs. Baty, Miss Davis, and Mrs. Campbell all had prior and unavoidable commitments for Saturday, July 17, so they held their quite cool and tastefully small celebration for Mr. Baty the night before.

Since it had already been so miserably hot this summer, anything that allowed for as little exertion as possible on everybody's account and not only accorded everybody a chance to have a good meal but also to remain pleasantly cool at the same time seemed like a really good idea and improved with each passing day. About two weeks before Mr. Baty's birthday, the concept of a "really cool pizza pig out" started to take shape. The ladies considered that pizza is one of Mr. Baty's special things to eat, so they let pizza provide them with a solution to their hot weather dilemma.

More than one small gathering, where everybody could remain as comfortable as possible, as opposed to a mass gathering outdoors in the unrelenting heat among the bugs, seemed like a better and better idea to the ladies as the oppressive summer weather dragged on and on with little to no hope for a break. Heat and the exhaustion that comes with it have plagued everybody this summer to varying degrees, and, even in the strongest of the population as well as people who are not especially young and

robust, the extreme heat can very quickly become life threatening. Therefore, getting out of it became as much a matter of medical necessity as it did comfort.

Knowing that many men do not take kindly anyway to being served frivolities such as soup and salad when there is some "serious eating" to be accomplished, the ladies did not even pretend to serve a vegetable beyond what was already on the pizzas when they left the store's ovens. How is that for summertime indulgence? That way, everybody could get right to the "serious eating" with no encumbrances in the name of etiquette, nutrition, or anything else.

Mrs. Baty and Miss Davis cranked up Mr. Baty's air conditioning system and ordered pizzas (pepperoni, beef, bell pepper, and onion, as well as fully loaded) from the Pizza Hut in Fort Payne. Mrs. Campbell fixed a sinfully delicious dessert that she called "Black Forest Delight" - she thought it up, so she got to name it. That label made it sound quite elegant and brought to mind images of highly work intensive show-off type gatherings with fine china, silver, crystal, lace tablecloths, and numerous hours cooking multiple course meals, but it was only brownies made from a good quality mix by way of Betty Crocker and served in white Styrofoam bowls with big blobs of vanilla ice cream and cherry pie filling. In the spirit of totally indulging Mr. Baty on his birthday, Mrs. Campbell made sure that he had his own carton of strawberry ice cream, since he always maintains "that's the best kind." The pizzas and dessert were served with lots and lots of ice, soda pop of various kinds, water, tea, and other drinks.

Mr. Baty had to make do without lighted candles this year because any and all sources of heat had been banished from the premises at that particular celebration. The table was set with Happy Birthday design paper plates, cups, and a generous supply of napkins (since so very few people can actually enjoy pizza without making a considerable mess). Those were in various shades of red, blue, yellow, and green with red plastic cutlery. After the celebration was

concluded all the decorative table setting supplies were restored to the garbage so that a minimum of effort went into the clean-up operation.

In the name of self-preservation, everybody was dressed as coolly, casually, and comfortably as possible. Doing otherwise would have easily qualified as torture, and nobody in that group was in the mood for any such thing.

Among the gifts Mr. Baty received was a package of bubble gum balls to refill the colorful bubble gum machine he got for Christmas, a supply of kitchen towels-many with western designs on them-as well as a set of oven mitts, and a nice book about the settling of the western frontier with all the cattle drives, fights, shootings, killings, murders, dyings, hunting outlaws, warring hostiles, primitive ground transportation, and everything else involved in that continuing process. Mr. Baty has always liked to read, and, all his life, his favorite subject

has been cowboys and things western, so he does not mind books and movies about that era. He does a lot of his own cooking too, so he needs kitchen things just like everybody else does.

The entire group enjoyed Mr. Baty's birthday celebration very much because it was such an interlude of total and complete indulgence. That was something none of them had actually taken the time for this whole miserably hot summer. In the time of Mr. Baty's birthday celebration, that small group proved to themselves that it is not what one does to mark an occasion that makes as much difference as it is what one does not do.

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The Mentone Collective

"If it wasn't for the camps, Mentone wouldn't be here," says Charles Flannigan, lifelong resident of Mentone. Likewise, if it wasn't for the people of Mentone, the camps couldn't function. For decades, girls and boys have traveled from all over the country to the haven of Mentone, seeking solace and play in the mountain landscape and peace in the whispering breezes. Mentonians have participated as patrons and campers at the camps, as well as faithful workers. However, the interaction between the summer camps and Mentone's residents has been sparse considering the number of years the campers and Mentonians have been neighbors. "I never realized there was such a vibrant community and colorful people right outside the gates of DeSoto," comments one camper from Camp DeSoto. This year we hope to change all that with a project called "The Mentone Collective."

Spearheaded by staff at Camp DeSoto and Mentone's own Bill Berry as the community facilitator, "The Mentone Collective" project seeks to facilitate relationships between campers and residents based on sharing stories. "Collecting and connecting our past, present, and future" is the project tagline as they aim to facilitate intergenerational relationships. This week seven residents of Mentone congregated with seven campers from DeSoto in the MERF Community House, where they were given markers and green paper. Instructed to draw a map or image of their favorite place on the mountain, the 16-year-old campers and Mentonians illustrated a variety of places as stories were shared in friendly conversation across the table.

"Our generation rarely interacts with people outside our age. We are missing out on a great wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and perspective by not knowing people older than us," says Ashley Zeiger, facilitator of the project. The founding principle of "The Mentone Collective" is intergenerational dialogue, where youth and adults congregate to listen and be heard by one another. The world seems increasingly segregated by generations to the point where we don't understand each other and struggle to find com-

mon ground. One place of disjunction is technology. "I'm 22 and even I have trouble keeping up with technology!" notes Ashley. With our increasingly technological age, the differences in what generations know and understand have become even more drastic. "We want to turn technology on its head. Where technology has at times served as a dividing force between generations, we want to use it to bring generations together," Ashley points out. The campers and Mentonians use video cameras to record interviews between the participants. "Having the camera gives us a reason to ask questions" says one camper. They believe that the cameras promote active listening of all the participants and focus the energy in the conversation.

To emphasize the importance of each person's story, both the youth and adults participate as interviewer and interviewee. "By breaking down the lines between the filmmaker and subject, we hope to support the notion of equal exchange" explains Ashley. The cameras promote dialogue because both participants in the conversation are filmed for a set period of time. The campers have been able to gain a glimpse into the community of Mentone and the Mentonians have been able to see inside the gates of camp. Camp DeSoto office manager Bill Berry adds, "The people of Mentone have an amazing array of stories about their lives and their community, and I'm thrilled that these stories now have a place where they can be collected, preserved, and shared."

Staff member Rachel Williamson notes, "It was fun watching the girls get totally wrapped up in the person's stories. We have enjoyed seeing girls and Mentonians connect on common ground." Haley, a 16-year-old camper from Mississippi, adds "One lady I talked to emphasized the closeness and smallness of the town of Mentone. Also being from a small town, I was able to easily relate to this lady that I had only known for a few minutes. My favorite part was when this lady told us that the camper's mail each summer really helped boost the economy of Mentone. This is my fifth year on the mountain and this thought would never have crossed my mind. It was an awesome feeling hearing a citizen say that I was a part of this community that I don't even live in for the majority of the year."

"The Mentone Collective" held a screening of a 30-minute

film comprised of a montage of all the interviews taken last month. Multicolored flags hung between towering oaks on the Camp DeSoto gym lawn, where the campers and Mentonians involved in the project reunited. Mimi Lanier, who has spent every summer on the mountain since she was a little girl, visited with her two granddaughters who camp at DeSoto.

Later in the gym, Camp DeSoto co-director Phil Hurt welcomed everyone, and then Ashley briefly introduced the concepts behind the project: equal exchange, civic engagement, and intergenerational relationships. Fifteen Mentonians and 225 campers settled into the gym's wooden benches and enjoyed stories of Bonnie Easler's painted saw, Mary Halley's bookmark, Hoyle Smith's wheels, Charles Flannigan's stories of Little River, and Robbie Corey's commentary on the abundance of bugs. From humorous to poignant moments, eight-year-old girls and 86-year-old women engaged in the film as everyone learned new things about each other and the mountain.

After the film, all the campers were eager to meet the local movie stars as they made connections and pointed out their favorite parts of the film. Then all of the participants enjoyed a picnic dinner on the gym lawn as more stories flowed over camp kitchen manager Gazelle Parker's delicious chocolate chip cookies. Several campers and Mentonians lingered on the lawn amidst twinkling fireflies as Hoyle Smith and camp counselor Jane Armstrong played "When the Saints Go Marching In," improvising together on their guitar and fiddle. Mimi Lanier and Evelyn Graves joined in with their soulful voices, creating a joyous organic mountain concert.

"The Mentone Collective" continues this month and will conclude with another screening at the beginning of August. Long-range plans call for the project to continue beyond the current camping season. If you have interest in participating in this exciting project, please contact Bill Berry or Ashley Zeiger at 256-634-4394.

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Mentone Wedding Chapel



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 sunrises 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.

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FANNY CROSBY (1820—1915)

by John Whitaker

Who has written more hymns than any other person in the history of Christendom?

Was it Vep Ellis, Albert Brumley, Clevant Derricks, or J. W. Vaughan? Or was it Otis McCoy, John Newton, Virgil o. Stamps, or Charles Wesley? Maybe R.E. Winsett, G.T.Speer, Thomas A. Dorsey, P. P. Bliss? Then maybe it was Adger M. Pace., or Ira D. Sankey, or A.J. Showalter? No! No! It was none of these great songwriters—it was Fanny Crosby.

Frances Jane Crosby (or Fanny) was born March 24, 1820, in Putnam County, New York, in a one-story cottage, the daughter of John and Mercy Crosby. She had two sisters and a brother.

When Fanny was six weeks old, she had an eye infection. An ignorant country doctor applied mustard plasters to her inflamed eyes; this resulted in destroying the optic nerves and caused Fanny to be blind the remainder of her life.

A second tragedy occurred when Fanny was one year old: her father, John Crosby, died. Fanny's mother began working as a maid. The grandmother was very helpful. She often took Fanny for walks in the country and described the various things she saw to Fanny.

Throughout her life, Fanny was not bitter about her handicap. Those who knew her noted that she never harbored a pessimistic thought.

During her childhood, Fanny began to develop her memory by memorizing portions of the Bible. She could recite the Pentateuch, Psalms, Proverbs, Ruth, and most of the New Testament. Also, she began writing poetry from the age of eight years.

At age nine, the family moved to Ridgefield, Connecticut.

Then on March 3, 1835, Fanny became a student in The New York Institute for the Blind in New York City. The methods for teaching the blind were the reading and lecture methods, as the Braille system was not developed until 15 years later. Here she learned to play the piano, guitar, organ, and the harp. And she learned singing. After eight years as a student, she graduated (1842) and became a teacher at the school for the ensuing 15 years.

At the of 37, in 1858, Fanny married Alexander Van Alstyne. He had been a student at the institute and then attended and graduated from Union College in Schenectady. Then he became a teacher at the institute. Soon he Fanny were married. Their only child, a son, died soon after his birth. Fanny and Van remained together for 44 years and until his death in 1902.

Fanny had an extensive writing career. She wrote:

THE BLIND GIRL, AND OTHER POEMS (1844);

MONTEREY AND OTHER POEMS, (1851);

A WREATH OF COLUMBIA'S FLOWERS, AND OTHER VERSE (1858);

BELLS AT EVENING, AND OTHER VERSE (1897);

ODE TO THE MEMORY OF CAPTAIN UNDERHILL (1902);

FANNY CROSBY'S LIFE-STORY (1903);

MEMORIES OF EIGHTY YEARS (1906).

In 1857 she began writing popular songs with composer George F. Root. Some of these songs were "Rosalie, the Prairie Flower," "Hazel Dell," and "There's Music in the Air." Fanny wrote the words and Root wrote the music.

However, of all her writings, Fanny is best remembered for the 9000 hymns she wrote. (It is difficult to determine the exact number of hymns written by her because she used over 200 pseudonyms.) She wrote for two publishing firms and also for the producers of gospel song books. The first hymn she wrote she penned in 1863 and titled it, "There's a Cry from Macedonia." I'm sure you know these great hymns by her:

"Blesses Assurance" "To God Be the Glory" "Rescue the Perishing" "Praise Him! Praise Him!" "Tell Me the Story of Jesus" "I Am Thine, O Lord" "Pass Me Not" "Near the Cross"

Note that she wrote only the words of the songs; someone else wrote the music.

In November, 1851, Fanny was converted at the John St. Methodist Church. It happened during the singing of "At the Cross." She related how that on the last verse a celestial glory filled her soul. From this turning point, she devoted her life to helping the needy and the missionaries. She became an active member of the Methodist Church for the remainder of her life.

100,000,000 copies of her songs appeared in various publications and church hymnals.

And many of these songs continue to bless multitudes of people even today.

Fanny continued to write her poetry until shortly before her death. Her last lines were, "You will reach the river brink, some sweet day, bye and bye." She died February 12, 1915, in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and is buried there in the Mountain Grove Cemetery. On one gravestone are these words: "Aunt Fanny" and "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine." Another stone contains "She hath done what she could."

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Moon and Chef Ben's Culinary Corner

By L.C. Moon

Hi, Chef Ben and I, L.C. Moon, are the fun-loving proprietors of the Wildflower Café. People often come to the Wildflower and think we are strictly a "health food" café and store. While we do have healthy options, and great tasting alternatives to the common American diet, both prepared and in the store; we also sell Buffalo Jerky, serve Bacon Cheese Burgers at lunch and incredible steaks at night. Most say that overall we are pretty unique; and some might even say we are a bit unusual. However one of the most common comments we hear is that people are amazed our food is so delicious when it is also healthier than the average cuisine.

In the coming month's we are going to share with you some tips on how you can make your meals at home lower in fat, healthier and overall more...Tasty! Chef Ben says that "the ingredients you start out with makes the biggest difference.", and I agree! We use fresh foods, real butter, cream, cheese, and no artificial flavors or colors. In our experience, the fresher and more pure the ingredients the more the flavors "pop"! At the Wildflower we also use local ingredients and cook with the seasons when possible; and if you do this at home, your food will not only taste better, it will be more nutritious.

Sponsored by the Clean Food Network, Ben has done free cooking demonstrations and tastings with fresh locally farmed foods which are sold at the Mentone Farmer's Market (An affiliate of the Sand Mountain Farmer's Market taking place at the Mentone Inn town square every Wednesday from 3pm until about 6pm). The market challenges him to prepare only foods which are at the market that day; and he can only bring with him oil, water, salt and some cooking utensils.

His first performance, I do mean performance when I am speaking of Chef Ben being in front of any size crowd, was a cooking demonstration where he sautéed baby broccoli florets, diced bok choy and thinly sliced onions in extra virgin olive oil. He then paired the cooked ingredients with raw, thinly sliced, mild radishes and sweet, juicy strawberries. Chef Ben enjoys combining hot and cold temperatures for the palate, as well as sweet and hot for the taste buds- as in the case of radishes and strawberries, or muscadine and chipotle. If goat cheese crumbles had been available at the market, we would have also garnished the dish with some crumbles to add a bold flavor and a creamy texture to compliment the cooked, raw and crunchy textures of this dish.

So, if your garden is only producing squash, cucumbers and tomatoes this year then make a Garden Vegetable Salad with sautéed squash, diced tomatoes and cucumbers. Your favorite Italian or Greek dressing can be used as a marinade or you could just blend a little red wine or balsamic vinegar and oil, with crushed garlic, a dash of basil and oregano, and a sprinkle of thyme; and for a taste of the "wild" you could also add some diced "wild onions" or day lily blooms to add a fresh flavorful accent. A crumbled or grated cheese topping (such as goat, feta or fresh parmesan) would be an excellent garnish and then you can pair the Garden Vegetable Salad with pasta and/or some healthy local bread baked by Lookout Mountain's very own Barbara Bleeker in order to make a simple healthy meal, side dish or snack; or create a well rounded light meal with Chef Ben's Gluten Free Trout Almondine; fresh trout encrusted with homemade almond meal (fine diced and chopped almonds with garlic powder and sea salt) then bake in the oven at 350 degrees to your desired texture.

Next month we will discuss ideas for making decadent and healthy homemade sauces, dips and dressings. Though last but not least I am going to share Chef Ben's Summer Grill tip of the month! It is about grilling fresh salmon since Chef Ben's secret to cooking, rare to medium steaks tender enough to cut with a butter knife, is simple, yet complicated; he carefully hand trims quality filet mignon and sirloin, which is an art in itself, and cooks fresh, quality, hormone free prime ribs each night.

So back to the salmon, Chef Ben says in order to cook fresh, skin-on salmon on a grill, "place the salmon on the grill skin side up first, let it cook for 3 minutes, then rotate (do not flip), cook for 3 more minutes, then flip, with skin side down. The proteins of the salmon will bubble up between the fish and the skin, allowing the skin to freely release, with the flick of a spatula, and leave you with a moist delicious, nutritious entrée. For more tips on healthy eating and herbs read next month's Groundhog and you can check out www.MentoneWildflower.com! "May all your Weeds be "edible" Wildflowers!"

Mentone Area Arts Council

Labor Day Art Show

Saturday, September 4, and Sunday, September 5, 2010

Mentone, Alabama

The Mentone Area Arts Council is pleased to present its Labor Day Art Show to be held on Saturday, September 4th and Sunday, September 5th in Mentone, Alabama. Labor Day weekend is one of Mentone's busiest weekends as visitors from all over the southeast descend upon Mentone to enjoy the summer's end in clear and refreshing mountain air. The Art Show will be held on the grounds of the Mentone Inn in the Town Center of Mentone and will run from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM on Saturday, and 11:00 AM until 5:00 PM on Sunday. There is no charge for participating in this Show. You will be assigned a general location for your booth and setup is on a first come, first serve basis at the assigned location.

The Show will be advertised throughout the region and a large turnout for the Show is anticipated.

Please reserve your place in the Show by emailing Neal Whitt, President of the Mentone Area Arts Council at nealwhitt@aol.com.

As always, please feel free to pass this information along to anyone you think might be interested in participating.

We hope to see you there. We think you will have a really great time.

Neal Whitt

President, Mentone Area Arts Council

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Mentone Magazine

This magazine will be out on October 8, 2010, just in time for Colorfest. This exciting publication will showcase the Mentone area giving readers a unique look at the beauty of the nature, various recreation, as well as some great folks from Mentone.

We will be distributing 7,000 copies to cabins and chalets, Desoto State Park, Mentone business and real estate offices. Your business is important to this area. Please join with us to show off all that Mentone and the surrounding area has to offer.

Reserve your space by September 3, 2010!

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Libs From The Library

by Linda Brown

Star Gazing!! This is the latest thing on the minds of the members of the Moon Lake Community Library Board of Directors. This will be a wonderful time for everyone to learn more about the stars, moon and other bodies in the sky. The members of the Atlanta Astronomy Club will be at the library on August 14, 2010 to present a program of star gazing. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. inside the library with a review of what we will be seeing. We will then go outside, probably to the walking track of the M.E.R.F. Community House, and look at these objects through telescopes. This is a memorial event to Roger Dowiat who was a member of the astronomy club and a great supporter of the library. Everyone is invited and this promises to be a very rewarding time of learning and fun.

Don't forget!! Summer Book Sale will be in front of the Moon Lake Library on Thursday, August 5, 9 am-4 pm, Friday, August 6, 9 am-4 pm and Saturday, August 7, 9 am-12 noon. We have books on every subject. We have hardbacks, paperbacks and magazines. We have a storeroom full of books and more to be carried out of the library. Come early on Thursday and get the best selections. Another plus, our prices are the most reasonable you will find on the Yard Sale. This is in conjunction with the World's Longest Yard Sale.

So much interest was shown in the art of tatting that a follow up class has been arranged. Although this may be over by the time you read this, I am going to give the details. The class will be conducted by Anita Hebert, author of the book, Tatting Revisited: A Shuttle Approach. She spoke to a group of ladies on the subject of tatting at the library on June 19th. The classes will be at the M.E.R.F. Community House on Friday, July 30th with one class beginning at 9:30 am and another at 1 pm. Probably there will be more lessons so watch for this space and I will try to get them in before The Groundhog comes out. This one happened too fast. You do need to have one of her books available to you to participate in these classes.

This may also be a thing of the past by the time you read this, but it promises to be a fun time. The annual FRIENDS Appreciation Luncheon will be Saturday, July 31, 2010 in the M.E.R.F. Community House. I will report on this next month.

Come and visit us at the Moon Lake Community Library. We are the "happening place" in Mentone. You are welcome to come and look around. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be August 19, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. Our meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend any of them. To be on the agenda for a meeting, call Jan Wilkinson.

Write to us: Moon Lake Community Library, PO Box 481, Mentone, Alabama 35984.

Star Gazing

Moon Lake Library
Saturday, August 14, 2010
7:30 p.m.

**Program presented by the Atlanta
 Astronomy Club**
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Mentone Area Arts Council

Boom Days celebrates the cultural heritage of Fort Payne, Alabama, and is one of the most well attended events of the year. This year, the event falls on Saturday, September 18, 2010. It is held in downtown Fort Payne and features arts, crafts, fine art, and lots of music, food, and downright fun.

Organizers of the event are offering arts and crafts and fine arts vendor spaces (12 x 12) for \$25. Vendor application forms are downloadable at www.boomdays.org Vendors must provide a canopy or tent. Fine art will be placed together.

This is a great event and will be better if you choose to participate. Contact them today to reserve your spot. As always, please feel free to pass this email along to anyone you think might be interested in participating.

Neal Whitt

Mentone Area Arts Council

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Travels close to home Whitwell, Tennessee - Buttonwillow Church Confederate Dinner Theatre

By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

We crossed the state line into Tennessee just a little more than an hour away and found ourselves in the 1860s. We began with what would have been a typical company meal in the middle of the day in the old South during the Civil War. This was not lunch; it was dinner. There's a big difference in a modern midday meal and one served in the past in the South. We had chicken because you couldn't have a company meal in the south that didn't include chicken. The menu was completed by Charleston style green beans, South Carolina style carrots flavored with Alabama molasses purchased at Sequoyah Caverns. Buttered biscuits and sweet tea, because this is the South and that's the only way to drink tea, accompanied the meal. The generous servings were topped off with hot blackberry cobbler with coffee for those who wanted it. Our attentive server was dressed in a period costume.



While our food was being served our host, Steve Gipson, kept us entertained with interesting facts about the evolution of "table furniture" or silverware as we know it. It made us grateful that we could eat with modern utensils. In the past, we would have been eating with a broad knife and a two-tined fork. The knife would have been in our left hand because the French came up with the idea that holding the knife in your right hand was "too aggressive". Baby table furniture included a "food pusher" that looked like a miniature hoe that pushed the food onto a spoon. (I think I might have chosen the baby utensils.)

The meal was over and the entertainment began. It was so lively that it made us forget that the perfect accompaniment to the meal we had just eaten would be a nap. We found ourselves in a Yankee camp in Tennessee in 1864.

Our host was dressed in an authentic Yankee colonel's uniform. He explained that all his clothes were handmade. He was standing alone in the camp when out of nowhere his sister (played by his wife, Allison) appeared. She was taking supplies to a nearby southern camp. They bantered back and forth as only a sister

and brother can especially if they have opposite views. Through their banter, they were able to teach us a lot. Some of their expressions were priceless. One of my favorites was the definition of a vegetarian that they attributed to the Indians: "A vegetarian means a very poor hunter". Allison said that "Lincoln looked like three stalks of corn stuck together."

As they argued, they managed to get in a lot of facts. For instance, slave labor was a part of the work force in the North until the Irish came over and worked for next to nothing so the North sold their slaves to the South. A black man, William Ellison, owned 900 slaves. Only 26% in the Deep South had more than 100 slaves. In 1860, a male slave in good condition was worth \$2,000 and the average income was \$500 per year.

They joked about southerners marrying their

cousins. "Are you my cousin? Do you want to get married? In Europe, they call this a royal wedding."

I have always been a big fan of trivia so their presentation, full of well-researched interesting facts presented with a lot of humor, was the sort of thing that I particularly enjoy. For instance both Missouri and Kentucky had two governments with allegiances to both the North and the South.

We learned about the evolution of the Confederate Flag. There were many flags for the Confederacy. Some were so similar to the American (Union) flag that the Confederate soldiers couldn't tell which flag to follow into battle. Those were quickly changed. The flag that we know as the Confederate Flag was a battle flag that many troops never fought under. The design



came about as the result of a contest.

As much as we hate to admit it, we all know how the Civil War ended but Steve pointed out the last Confederate soldier outlived the last Yankee soldier by 37 years dying in 1953 at age 117.

As an acknowledgement of the natural superiority of the South, Allison pointed out that you don't see southerners retiring and moving north. She added, "Now we don't shoot Yankees, we shoot them with a radar gun." (Ever tried speeding in Florida?)

Their Old South Gift Shop has a lot of interesting items. In a glass

case, you can find some "table furniture", tear catchers, a glass vial where the southern women collected their tears so they could show their returning husbands or boyfriends how many tears they shed for them while they were gone. There is also a cookbook that has many authentic Southern recipes including the ones on the menu. There is also a section telling you how to prepare 'coons and 'possums for consumption. If the economy gets much worse, I may check out that section.

The theater is open every Friday and Saturday night with the doors opening at 5:30. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m. They will book any group of 20 or more any day of the week for lunch or dinner. The address is Post Office Box 37; Whitwell, TN 37397, 423-658-7478. You can get more details at their website at www.ButtonwillowChurch.com. As they say in the South, "Ya'll come."

Next month's trip will be some sites to take children or visiting grandchildren.

