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THE

GROUNDHOG

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Volume 21, No. 7

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

July 2003

MUSICAL MOUNTAIN STRINGS EVENTS

By Marie S. Dillenbeck

If you are looking for something to do on some Saturday nights in Mentone, the Mentone Tourism and Special Events Committee has begun to promote Musical Mountain Strings on the third Saturday of each month at 7PM. The Committee is coordinating the events, which are sponsored by Little River Lake and Lodge Store (Phil Faircloth), and Mentone Inn, Glenda Hollis, manager and Morgan Campbell, owner.

On June 21, Letty & Georgia were the first to entertain those who attended the event. Letty & Georgia have a rootsy, soulful sound and is described as "Unadulterated Country" by The Chattanooga Times. Their Vocal harmonies are think one part Bonnie Raitt and 2 parts Loretta Lynn. Their latest release, 9 Second Ride, has received a very warm reception in the United States, as well as Europe. You can check them out at Letty&Georgia.com.

See the boxes this page for the next two events--July 19, Bluegrass, Walker Street Opry; and August 16, Kindred Spirits.

Bring your Lawn Chair or Blanket to the Town Square; and come join us for an evening of Great Entertainment each Third Saturday Night at 7PM



**MENTONE
MUSICAL MOUNTAIN STRINGS
PRESENTS**

Letty & Georgia

June 21, 2003

Town Square

7:00 pm

*Bring your own Blanket
Come join us for a great evening*

Sponsored by: LITTLE RIVER LAKE AND LODGE & Mentone Inn



**MENTONE
MUSICAL MOUNTAIN STRINGS
PRESENTS**

Kindred Spirits

August 16, 2003

7:00 PM

*Bring your own Blanket
Come join us for a great evening*

Sponsored by: LITTLE RIVER LAKE AND LODGE & Mentone Inn

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See Page 2.**

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**MENTONE
MUSICAL MOUNTAIN STRINGS
PRESENTS**

Walker Street Opry

MENTONE TOWN SQUARE

July 19, 2003

7:00 PM

Bring your own Blanket

BLUEGRASS

Sponsored by: LITTLE RIVER LAKE AND LODGE & Mentone Inn

THE GROUNDHOG

P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984
www.TheGroundhog.com



Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA was first conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and organized April 6, 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.

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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Contributing Editors.....John Baty, Ruby Brock, Linda Brown, Eloise Brown, Marilyn Campbell, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Evelyn Graves, Sue Schwarz, L.C. Moon

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President.....Bernise Crow
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In case of errors in advertisements, The Groundhog assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement. Call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390 for advertising.

Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be typewritten and of reasonable length.

The DEADLINE for all material for The Groundhog is the 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.

MAPA MEETING

www.MentoneAlabama.org

The July 1 picnic was held at the the Mentone Church of God of Prophecy Fellowship Hall at 7 PM, due to the rain. It had been scheduled for Brow Park where the picnic is held each year.

Present were Homer & Bernise Crow, Jim & Penny Lyday, George & Hope Walker, Page & Margaret Cunningham, Sherman & Mickey Gough, Jimmy & Pat Hathcox, Tom & Lynn Donald, Ruby Brock, Lucille Crow, Dot Crow, Dorothy Shelden, Marie Dillenbeck, Jack Jones, and Joyce Cooper & E. Graves.

Ruby Brock gave the blessing of food, after which those present enjoyed a traditional Fourth of July covered dish meal consisting of barbecue, potato salad, beans, and desserts, including home-made ice cream. This being the annual picnic, there was no business transacted.

The MAPA meetings are held at the Mentone Community House at 7 PM the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be August 5, at 7PM. Everyone is welcome.

The MAPA telephone number is 256-634-8339.

The MAPA website is www.MentoneAlabama.org.

The winners of the quilt drawing at the Rhododendron Festival were Mr. and Mrs. Allen Rushton, who have a home on the river here in Mentone. When the quilt, which was made by Lola Mae Blalock, was picked up, Mrs. Rushton said she was thrilled with the quilt pattern and colors as they matched the colors in her house in Mentone.



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Contact: Jan Wilkerson - 256-845-5048
or
Dianne Koehl - 256-634-4538

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

We want to thank all of the people who signed the petition to have Highway 137 re-stripped and the potholes repaired. The petition was presented to the DeKalb County Commission on Tuesday June 10, 2003. We were told that the State of Alabama has scheduled to widen and repave the highway sometime in the future. We were also told that the county would try and re-stripe and repair the potholes as soon as possible. Thank you again for your signature and help with this project.

Frank Hill
Mary Jane Hunt

The Groundhog

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for a long-term contract on ads.

-PUBLIC NOTICE-

MENTONE PLANNING
AND ZONING COMMISSION
Meeting dates for 2003

•July 17

•October 16

Other special or called meetings
will be posted as required.

The regular meetings are on the 3rd
Thursday; and all meetings are held
in the town public meeting room at
5 p.m., and are open to the public.

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ASSOCIATION (MAPA)

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www.MentoneAlabama.org

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NOTICE

www.MentoneAlabama.org, MAPA's web site, has a "Directory" to help visitors to our community find the places, things, and services they might want--much like the Yellow Pages in the phone book. If you have any information for the Directory, please submit it via e-mail to Listings@MentoneAlabama.org.

If you already have a listing there, please make sure it is correct and up-to-date. Thanks for your help!



A Friendly *Valley View*

By
ELOISE BROWN

I hope everyone had a happy July 4. Twenty of us met at Robert B. and Michole Brown's for a cookout and fireworks. I hear that a lot of barbecued ribs were consumed. That seemed to be the favorite fare everywhere—nothing better!

Mildred and Thomas Lackey, Mona and Sam Cartee, from Tuscaloosa; and Martha and Bobby McKeenan, from Fort Payne, enjoyed three days camping, July 4th weekend at Sequoyah Cave Campground. They had a campfire and fireworks and visitors: Margaret and Gladys Dawson; Martha and Bobby had their grandson, Sage, for one night, Saturday night; and Bobby's children and spouses came. Mildred and Thomas have been going quite often to see Sam play baseball at Tuscaloosa. He is on the Cottdale Angel Team.

John and Jean Jones, their son, Roy and wife, Bonnie, are now operating Sequoyah Caverns. Roy will retire from the Navy Aug. 1, and will move here.

Diane Mosley, from Birmingham, spent two days with her sister, Michole Brown and family, and attended ball games.

Doris and Jim Carmichael attended the annual barbecue for about twenty-five cousins at Trion, GA, July 4.

Christine and Walter Brooks entertained several of their children and grandchildren at their home after church on Sunday, as their celebration.

David and Peachie Cearley, from Alpharetta, GA, came June 6, and spent the weekend with her mother, Laura Margaret Allison and Aunt Elizabeth Coleman.

James Wells and wife and son came by to see me recently. They live in Mobile, now. He will be remembered as the son of Lila (Tillie) Schlicher, a long-time friend and neighbor.

My cousins, Bill and Blanche Fuller, came June 8 and Barry and Emily Brown, they and I, went across the mountain to Fibber's Restaurant, in Cherokee County, near Weiss Lake, for lunch. We also visited the remains of the Confederate Furnace.

Venna Livingston and all of her family, enjoyed a week's vacation at Gulf Shores.

Jane Davenport came from St. Simons Island, GA, and Dr. Rifai came from Berea, KY, to Valley Head to commemorate the one year anniversary of Dr. Rifai's wife, nee Lucretia Davenport's death. They had dinner with Mary, Ted and John Holleman on Monday, joined by Nelson and Elizabeth Ellis. All of them ate dinner together in Fort Payne, Tuesday night. They left for home Wednesday. They stayed at the Winston Place while here.

Betty Bracken came from Chattanooga to spend the day, July 9, with her sister, Ruth Pickett and Bert.

Ben Freeman and three friends from Clemson University enjoyed an extended tour of European countries, including France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Austria, and Hungary. They traveled by train and stayed at Youth Hostels. They flew into Paris and came home from Amsterdam.

Congratulations to Karen and Mark Freeman, who are celebrating their tenth anniversary in business as Inspec Tech.

Howard and Jo Carson spent July 4 weekend with twenty-two members of their family at Weiss Lake.

Sarah Haushalter, Doris Chamlee, and Edith Dean attended visitation for their aunt Aldean Laws, Erwin Telitee Funeral Home, at Summerville, recently.

\$5200 was raised at the benefit yard sale, antique car show, etc., at Valley Head, for 12-year-old Trevor Smith, Saturday, July 5. Trevor had bone marrow transplant at St. Jude Hospital in Memphis and is now recuperating at Target House. We hope he will have a complete recovery.

Sadie, Van, Teresa, Lana, and Tyler Cooper, Shirley Cook and Jordan Fowler, went to Pensacola, FL, July 3, for a long weekend vacation. When they returned home, Lana had an overnight camping party for her Girl Scout Troop and some of the mothers. They enjoyed a picnic and swimming, and a lot of fun.

Martha Joan Killian, from Aiken, SC, spent a week with her mother, Oline Roberts, recently.

Jan and Bob Pullen and children—Robin, Kelly and Dusty from Austin, TX, spent several days with Bob's mother, Grace Pullen, and "Jug" and Dot Crow.

Willard Monroe is feeling much better since his heart surgery.

The Fort Payne All Star Baseball Team has had a good season. It is comprised of Alan Grider, Justin Grider, Jeffrey Bain, Jacob Bain, Justin Brown, Billy Wallace, and Ethan Lewis from Valley Head; and Michael Guest, Kurt Miller, Landon Poe, and Nick Johnson from Fort Payne. Coaches are Lewis, Grider and Poe. They played their last game last night in the district tournament at Stevenson. They won two and lost two.

Joe and Frances Elrod and Elsie Clark went to Madisonville, KY, Saturday to visit the grave of Mr. Ernest Cash, killed in 1954. He was Elsie's brother.

We can't say this July is hot and dry—for dry does not apply to this July. The months all seem to be mixed up and not conforming to usual form. Enjoy each precious moment of sunshine—everything is lush and beautiful.



Refuge of Solitude

When the rush of life takes its toll,
Delicious hush enters the soul
As the body, with gratitude
Seeks the refuge of solitude.

A refuge where sweet silence dwells
And a quiet luminance swells
To spiritual radiance
And the seeking soul has a chance
For a rendezvous with God's voice
To calm and reassure its choice
As perception pierces the mist
Of its origin and is kissed
By the thoughts of its destiny
Sweet and complete its rest can be
While the music of silence soothes
Frantic pulse and rough path smooths
Minds are blest with peaceful mood
In the refuge of solitude.

.....Eloise Brown

Precious Sunshine

How beautiful and precious is sunshine.
Thank you, God, for the gift sublime,
When clouds are dark and hide its face
All earth grieves and feels disgrace,
All creatures feel the pain and gloom
Until your smile causes earth to bloom
And your light so bright to richly bless
Everything of earth with powerful caress.

.....Eloise Brown

Sequel to Yesterday's Gone coming this month

We are excited to announce the publication of our new book, Yesterday's Tomorrow. It is "at the printer now" and will be available on July 25th. Yesterday's Tomorrow is the sequel to Yesterday's Gone, and is the continuing saga of Jack and Mary... Jody and Katie... and Buddy... with some interesting and unexpected turns in the road. If you liked Yesterday's Gone, you'll like Yesterday's Tomorrow.

Please visit our website at www.lamarfine.com for more information or to order online.

To celebrate the release, we are offering Free Shipping (A \$4.00 Savings) on all orders placed before July 25th. This also applies to our other books, Yesterday's Gone and I Remember. Cost is \$16.00 per book (including tax).

To order by mail, send check for \$16.00 per book to: Lamar Fine, 245 Garretts Chapel Road, Chickamauga, GA 30707; Tel (706) 375-2062.

We will put your book in the mail the day we receive the shipment, hopefully on or before July 25th.

We're very excited about Yesterday's Tomorrow and hope you will be too.

Sincerely, Lamar & Mary Agnes Fine

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Innkeeper: Sarah Wilcox

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Lookout Mountain Community Theater Presents Children's Play

By Jane Faile

Yes! We have a Community Theater!!!

Right here in Mentone, on the square at the Mentone Inn, you'll have a chance to see our first production, a children's play by I.E. Clark called **Pandora and the Magic Box**. Look for the circus tent in front of the Mentone Inn on July 26 and 27. Saturday's performance will be at 7 PM and the Sunday matinee at 2:30. Both performances are free, but donations will be appreciated.

The play, based on Nathaniel Hawthorne's re-telling of a Greek myth, is about a paradise where children are always happy and cared for. But the "magic box" holds a secret, and one of the children can't resist the temptation to take a peek at what's inside.

Many children and adults from the area are taking part in this production. Margaret Goldthwait is the director, with Heather Nicely and Sandra Comley handling sets and costumes. Lots of volunteers are helping paint sets, sew costumes, and manage publicity, and we can sure use all the help we can get. If you want to volunteer, come by the Community Center at 3:30 every Monday and Thursday and we'll give you a paintbrush! Children from grades K-12 are participating in the production as actors, dancers, and helpers. The Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center is helping sponsor this event, and the Mentone Inn has offered to let us use the grounds for our performance.

Watch for our banners announcing the play, and come enjoy this lively presentation by our young people!

For more information, contact Heather Nicely at 634-4124.

DeKalb County Master Gardeners

"Incredible Edibles" - A Cookbook for Gardeners is now available for sale

After many months of collecting recipes from members, friends, relatives, and neighbors, the DeKalb County Master Gardeners have begun selling their personalized cookbook with all profits going to beautification projects in DeKalb County. The beautiful spiral bound cookbook entitled "Incredible Edibles", - "A Gardener's Cookbook" features more than 420 recipes from local residents in eight different full-color sections. The book includes: Appetizers, Relishes, Pickles, Soups, Salads, Sauces, Meals and Main Dishes, Vegetables, Bread, Rolls and Pastries, Cakes, Cookies and Desserts, Beverages and a Special Children's Section. There are even recipes to feed the Birds.

The cookbook is tied to gardening, using fresh-from-the-garden fruits, vegetables, herbs, and blooms to grace the table.

The book contains pages of "Kitchen-Garden News & Clues", helpful cooking hints.

Each recipe features the donors' names, so everyone can easily locate the favorite recipes of their friends and local residents. There are even some surprise entries from famous locals and dignitaries!

The book will be sold by DeKalb County Master Gardeners at the cost of \$8.00 per copy. To get your copy, call Christina Vincent at 256-997-9035 or Harriet Turner at 256-845-1213, or visit the DeKalb County Extension office, where there is a supply of cookbooks for sale. Copies are going fast, so be sure to get yours today.

Birth Announcement



John David Heath Blalock II

Heath and Jamie Blalock are proud to announce the birth of their son, John David Heath Blalock II. He was born on February 17, 2003, at DeKalb Baptist Medical Center. John David weighed 7 lbs, 14 oz. and was 21 inches long.

His grandparents are Jimmy and Adele Phillips of Valley Head, and Dave and Yvonne Blalock of Mentone. Great Grandparents are Faye Bell of Valley Head and Charles Bell of Hammondville. He also has a very proud sister named Morgan.

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RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB JUNE 10, 2003

President Mickey Gough called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Mentone Community House. There were approximately 20 members present. Faye Taplinger and Jane Faile were visitors. Isabelle Moody was present and joined the club.

Dailyn Jones gave a devotional on friendship. Hostesses were Mary Ellen Fielder, Mickey Gough and Phyllis Cochran.

Harriett Lillich introduced Ginger Kogelshatz, who presented a program on Medicinal Herbs in the Landscape. Mrs. Kogelshatz and her husband have an organic farm in Shinbone Valley, near Menlo, Georgia.

Dailyn Jones installed the club officers for the new year. They are: Martha Wood, president; Harriett Lillich, first vice-president; Margaret Baker, second vice-president; Cathryn Giles, secretary; Virginia Setze, treasurer; and Mickey Gough, parliamentarian.

The meeting continued with Martha Wood presiding. Minutes for March, April and May were read and approved.

The treasurer report showed that all dues have been paid to state and national organizations and there are no outstanding bills. Today's door prize money will be donated to the Moon Lake Library.

Committee Reports: It was reported that the Flower Show Committee members are: Margaret Baker, Chairperson; Harriett Lillich, Shirley Hessel, Mary Ellen Fielder, Martha Wood and Virginia Setze.

There were no other committee reports.

Announcements: Packets of seeds are available today for anyone who would like to grow flowers for the show. Tours of Huntsville Gardens will be June 21 and 22 from 1 to 6 PM. Cost \$15. On June 12 at 1:00 PM Butterflies from the Huntsville Botanical Gardens will be released at The Shed in Mentone. A meeting on Litter Control will be at 6:30 PM, June 10, Fort Payne Activities Building. The Mentone Christmas Tour will be December 76. Volunteers are needed for the Moon Lake Library Summer Reading Program. The club yearbooks have been mailed to all members. Two names need to be added: Isabelle (Mrs. Oz) Moody and Patti (Mrs. James) Bryan.

Linda Brown won the door prize.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of the DeKalb/Cherokee Federation; The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., District II; and the National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region.

THANK YOU TO THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

From all the residents in Mentone, and others who use Alabama Hwy 117 every day, we thank you for the new striping--yellow and white. Now, when it is foggy, we will be able to see our way up or down the mountain and not cross over the yellow lines as we approach the top.

THANK YOU!!

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LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY

by Linda Brown

The summer programs at the Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library have been wonderful! We have continued to have good attendance for all of our sessions. Some Saturdays we have had only Moon Lake children to attend. Sometimes we have some others from nearby towns along with them. One Saturday, we had children from everywhere! This was a Saturday that a lot of families were on vacation, so they came to visit relatives in Montone. Grandmothers and mothers of families we all know brought their children for our programs. We were overjoyed! It was one of the "funnest" days that we have had all summer.

The programs have been well accepted by the children. They have enjoyed all of the activities. The K-3 group has enjoyed hearing a book read to them by a Montone resident each week. The children always tell the volunteer, "Thank You" but I want to add my thanks, also. The reading has been so diversified in style and tone. I think that this alone has helped the children to realize that everyone reads and reading is important. This group also enjoys all of the crafts that we do. I have made it a point to use things that can be found around the house instead of store-bought items. We have used meat trays, newspapers, paper sacks, clothespins and paper plates and bowls. Did you ever see a turtle made from a paper bowl?

The older children have solved a mystery every week. I don't have much time to look over their way but when I do, they are hard at work with their heads together trying to be first with the answer to the questions. They have learned the location of a country each week as well as some of the more interesting and unusual facts about this country.

The dates for the Longest Yard Sale are going to be earlier this year than in the past years. Therefore, we have moved the Summer Reading Program ending celebration to July 26 from 10 to 11 a.m. in the yard of the Community House. Our overall theme for the programs is, "Books Ahoy". Because of this theme our games and refreshments for the party will continue to use the water theme. We will have games using water balloons and relay races, such as carrying water on our head in a plastic cup. We invite anyone who has attended any of the sessions of the summer program to be there.

Of course, we will continue with our community open hours at the library. Right now, we do not plan any changes, but if the attendance on either day starts to wane we will consider a change. We need some more volunteers to work this fall and winter. Some have moved, some have or will have new babies and others have developed health problems that prevent them from helping. A training will be held this fall for new volunteers. If you are interested, come by the library on Saturdays, 9-12 a.m. or Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m. and sign up on a notebook, which is provided for this purpose. You can also let any member of the Board of Directors know that you are interested. We will contact you as to dates of training.

The members of the Board of Directors will be having a Book Sale in front of the library during the Longest Yard Sale. We plan to be out bright and early

starting on Friday, August 1, and continuing through Sunday, August 3. We will be there all of this weekend and also on the same days of the next weekend, if the books and crowds hold up. We will have lots and lots of books for sale. Many are paperback and others are books that were given to the library by a middle-school library in Marion, Indiana. These are good for young adults. Come by and check us out, our prices are the most reasonable in town!

Please consider becoming a FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY. A donation of \$20.00 or more entitles you to a wonderful tote bag that mentions the library, Montone and Alabama. They are very attractive with our adopted logo for the library and all printing in the dark blue that is Moon Lake School's color. This is all on a buff colored canvas tote bag with blue handles. Those of us who have one are really enjoying them.

Our FRIENDS for this month are: Marie Dillenbeck, Mary Ellen Fielder, Sheba Houts, Jane Falle, Mrs. Roscoe Johnson, Gene Giles, and Linda Brown. Thanks to all of you!

See you next month when school is back in session and everything has returned to "normal". Yes, school starts on August 8, can you believe it? Keep reading and visit our library.

Need a unique gift?

Honor someone special to you
by making a donation in their name to
The Moon Lake Elementary School
Community Library
For information contact:
Jan Wilkinson - 256-845-5048
or
Diane Koehl - 256-634-4538

BABY BOY!



Alexander David McQueen

Congratulations to John and Tiffany McQueen of Peoria, AZ, on the birth of their son, Alexander David McQueen, born March 19. He weighed 7 lbs and was 20 inches. He is the grandson of Douglas Walker of Camden, SC, and Marie Walker of Glendale, AZ, and the great grandson of Helen Frazier of Montone, AL.

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122.5 ACRES, LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, ON BEAR CREEK - over 1/2 mile of creek frontage on Bear Creek. Perfect building site to overlook and hear the tranquil water, nestled in the tall trees, Rhododendron and Mountain Laurel. Paved road frontage. Priced at an unbelievable \$1,900.00 per acre.

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123 ACRES IN MONTONE, AL - level to rolling terrain, streams, several lake sites, pine plantation planted 2001. Excellent for deer and turkey hunting. Price \$1,350.00 per acre.

PELL CITY

400 ACRES WITH NO BUSINESS CREEK RUNNING THROUGH THE MIDDLE! Great location for development, located only 8 miles North of Interstate 20, Pell City. Beautiful rolling hills with a 50 acre lake site. Paved road frontage and county water. Priced at \$1,850 per acre.

999 ACRES ON SHOAL CREEK MTH - Level to rolling terrain. Pine plantations with approx. \$100,000.00 of merchantable timber. 27 acres proposed lake site. Excellent doves and turkey hunting. Priced \$1,499.00 per acre.

ASHVILLE

218 ACRES, ASHVILLE - road frontage on U.S. Hwy 231, 1 mile South of Ashville High School. Level to gentle rolling, small creek, and merchantable timber. Price \$1,450.00 per acre.

DOUBLE BRIDGE RD, ASHVILLE - Approx. 1,300 acres with paved road frontage, 3,000 ft. on Big Canoe Creek. Will consider subdividing. Price \$1,499.00 per acre.

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5000 ACRES ON I-59 - Road frontage on Steel Station Rd., U.S. Hwy 411 and approx. 3 miles on Interstate 59. Excellent industrial and commercial location. Priced at only \$2,500.00 per acre.

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SPOTLIGHT ON GREATER ALABAMA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA A UGF MEMBER AGENCY

DeKalb County has long provided a strong active scouting program for area youth. Currently, programs include: The Learning For Life Program for girls and boys from Kindergarten through 12th grades, the Cub Scouting Program for boys in the first through fifth grades, The Boy Scouting Program for boys in the sixth through the twelfth grades, and The Venturing Program for girls and boys aged fourteen through twenty.

Summer Camp is currently in session at Camp Comer on Lookout Mountain near Mentone. Hundreds of Scouts are attending and are enjoying a full range of fun, exciting, and challenging activities. One of those individuals is Josh Hughes who has been in scouting for about eight years. Josh says, "I started my scouting career in 1995 as a Weblo. I received my Weblo Badge and my Arrow of Light Award, and then began my journey through Boy Scouts. I earned my Scout Rank in Troop 106 in Mentone, and then advanced all the way to the rank of Eagle Scout by December of 2000." Josh says he helped with many projects, including a community cleanup, the construction of an outdoor classroom for a local school, and many other projects, which helped in the beautification of the community. As his Eagle Scout Project, he organized a blood drive. Josh said, "Throughout my years in scouting, I learned many valuable lessons, which I firmly believe will greatly help me both now and later in life. Scouting is a program which strives to build character and instill good morals into the lives of many young people. It is also a place where lifelong friendships can be made and where the dreams of many young people can begin to come true."

Josh is currently serving on staff at Comer Scout Reservation and says, "I highly appreciate and greatly admire all of the many people who help make the scouting program possible; whether it is through donations they make or the volunteering of their time, the Scouting program would not be in any way possible without their support."

The annual Scout Recruitment Drive will be held at each school within the county during August and September. The Fall Camp-OP-Ree will take place on October 24, 25, and 26, and the Cub Haunted Weekends will be held at Camp Comer over three weekends in October.

David Hedgepath is the East Alabama Service Area Executive and says they want to increase the number of youth and adults involved within the Scouting programs. They also want to continue to build an exceptional program for the In-School-Special-Needs Programs. Wayne Garrett is the District Executive for this area.

A UGF Member Agency since 1958, Boy Scouts is one of 13 UGF-funded agencies helping to make a difference in DeKalb County. For more information on the scouting program here in the county, contact Wayne Garrett at 845-9920 or call 1-800-951-5015.

NEWS FROM THE SHED

The release of the butterflies was Thursday June 12. It was a smashing fun event for the children and parents, as well. The Times-Journal ran pictures in the paper for days. Butterfly release was sponsored by Huntsville Botanical Gardens, which is one of the companies we grow for. There are many butterflies for the community to enjoy as they travel on their journey. So, if you see one—especially one of the Zebra Butterflies, have your camera ready, as he is rare.

The Birmingham Botanical Gardens has invited us to grow for them, as well, starting next year.

The Shed has grown and has done a lot for this community, as well as having wonderful support from the community. The community knows by now that a lot of it is for the children.

We are beginning to make extreme changes to The Shed. We started off with just a few greenhouses, and now have several greenhouses. We also started off with a small garden display. For the last 3 years we have put in a new garden each year. The display gardens have grown in size and we have many neat specimen plants to look at as well as enjoy. We have hummingbirds, birds, and birds and butterflies at a free service to the community.

We are clearing the woods, since we have lots of property to play with. Why? Well, we started lining trees and shrub liners out in the fields 2 years ago. Now they are growing and we will be spacing them out for more growth to sell in another year. We will continue to grow trees and shrubs in the field as The Shed has outgrown its space. We will continue to be heavily involved with projects from the following communities: Mentone, Ft. Payne, and Rainsville, as well as be involved in projects with the Botanical Gardens and John Deere Landscapes.

We are launching the biggest secret ever: a larger wholesale and retail division is coming soon. With all the sponsorship, I cannot tell what it will look like or what we will be doing. I can promise you everything you will ever want or need will be here: a one-stop place for the floral dept., fireworks, & the nursery. Because of the support of the community, you have made Spokeys and our children's dreams come true. This means we will be able to do more fun projects for the children and offer just as much customer service to you as we do now. Thank you for the support and effort and also for showing us what your needs and wants are and continue to let us know and one day it will come.

Speaking of fireworks. A special "Thank You" to all businesses for the support of launching something a little different this year. A wonderful fireworks display was held on July 5th at the Mentone Inn, sponsored by the community. David and Cheryl Baker from The Shed put on the fireworks display. During the month of July, they have a Buy One Get One free, Mix and Match.

Once again, "Thank You." We love everyone for helping us get through my sickness, helping us remodel, and helping us know what you want. I am still sick, but by following a special diet and having my family around me and my friends and my church, the bad days will pass and I will have good ones too. Our church was wonderful and I want to thank those who helped my husband cope with the stress.

Cheryl Baker



Feed Sack Dresses

By Mrs. W. F. Clark, Valley Head

After people could afford to buy chicken feed, we got the feed sacks in pretty colors and patterns. We didn't have very many. We would go to Georgia every year to visit—my uncle had chicken houses. I couldn't wait to get to my uncle's to get all the feed sacks I could afford. Our problem was to find enough alike to make a dress. I was so proud of them and made dresses, curtains, quilt linings, table cloths (many uses.) My favorite dress was a printed block with assorted colors and small prints for the girls. The dresses looked so good starched and ironed.

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The Things I Found in the Attic - Part 5

By Evelyn Graves

Time is marching on. Even since I began this series of articles five months ago, there have been so many life-changing events that have taken place. We have lost friends and neighbors to death in that length of time. Only today we laid to rest my father-in-law who was a great influence on our lives. Time does not stand still, and I am reminded of the poem, "Do It Now" by Stephen Grellert:

I expect to pass through this world but once,
Any good thing therefore that I can do
Or any kindness I can show to any human being
Let me do it now.
Let me not defer nor neglect it,
For I shall not pass this way again.

My mother often quoted this poem, and I am more aware as I get older that there is a lot of truth in this. We really do need to be doing for others now because we do not pass this way again.

I found in the attic at my parents' house some hastily written notes my mother had made which appear to have been prepared for an interview with a young person in high school, or maybe something that a young person at church had asked her to do. It may have been for a speech to a young peoples' group. I would like to share this with you because I feel that it has a lot of merit.

"The last three years of my high school were spent in a boarding school. The dormitory also housed about twenty-four teachers. My roommate and I worked in the kitchen and dining room to pay our board. We had no free time except every two weeks when we went home for the week-end. We sometimes went to a movie on Saturday night but always to church on Sunday. The experiences I had helping with the cooking and arranging tables proved to be the most valuable. After we had finished our chores, we were supervised in a study hall in the dining room, and our teachers helped us prepare for the following day. This was of great benefit to me when I went to college because it had taught me good study habits. Much time is wasted watching TV. Some TV is educational, but a lot of it is degrading. Reading good books is a good substitute for TV. Our priorities should be doing things that are edifying to ourselves and to others. We should live as Christ-like as possible.

Accomplishments: Our accomplishments should be the result of worthwhile goals in life. God has a purpose for all of us. When we reach the end, the only things we can look back on with satisfaction are the things we have done to help others who are less fortunate. **Advice:** Take a day at a time. Do your best. Follow the golden rule. If I had my time to live over, there are many things I would have done differently. I would advise you to set a goal when you finish high school and pursue it. I married immediately after graduation and had my two children before I entered college. I would have been wiser to finish college first. The most beneficial/educational experiences I have had were not the years I spent in college, but the 34 years I taught children. I learned more from them than they did from me. I am sure.

Environment: I think the environment here at Montone has a great influence on our lives. We see the handiwork of God in every tree, rock and wild flower that grows. Nature truly is a good teacher. "Poems are made by fools like me, but only God can make a tree." The only time I was without nature was in 1930 (my first year in high school). I spent this year in a city with an aunt because I would have had to walk four miles to catch the school bus had I stayed at home. In the city, I caught a street car to school, transferred in the heart of town. I saw only cars and tall buildings. The only time

I was outside the school building was for the May Day festival. It was most depressing to be deprived of the nature to which I was accustomed. We should protect our land by preservation of trees and wildlife and by reforestation. We can all help by preventing fires and avoiding littering along the highways and other places, and by not polluting streams. The environment I am in is lovely in any season. Spring is so promising with trees and flowers budding and birds singing and building their nests. The smell of blossoming flowers is a pleasant aroma found nowhere else. Autumn is beautiful with all its color. Even after the leaves fall, there is beauty found in the rock formations and in the first snowfall.

Trust/Friendship: Trust is something that must be earned. When I was your age, teen-agers' lives were not programmed like they are today. Parents were never too busy to let children have a friend spend the day, the night, or even a week-end. Friends were very dear to each other. There was a great need for friends then. Of course there is still a great need for friends. We make friends by showing ourselves friendly. A real friend is one who is understanding and unchanging. Times have changed. My friends and I would hold hands, embrace, and show affection toward each other. Now when two girls are seen holding hands, they are categorized as being strange.

Freedom: There is a difference in the amount of freedom today. In a sense, we have sold ourselves to things like technology and government and industries. We are bound to our occupation and our social obligations. The economic situation is such that both parents are required to work. Children suffer neglect and feel the tension. They sometimes resort to drugs and alcohol, and teen-age suicides are sometimes the end result.

Money: Wealth is not too important to me. If I had more than I have, I would probably give it away. Money does not make a man wealthy. I have heard it said that all we have when we leave this world is what we gave away. I have taught my children (as the Bible teaches) that the love of money is the root of all evil. I have taught them to work for the necessities of life and to tithe their money. Success and money are not the same thing. Being happy in what you do and helping others, loving and being loved, is success.

Education: Schools and colleges provide leadership and resources. Wisdom is the quality of being wise and the power of judging rightly and following the soundest course of action. Wisdom comes from school only if one uses the knowledge, experience, and understanding he has gained in school to help him take the soundest course of action and of judging rightly. More and more jobs require a college education. If an individual desires more than a blue collar job, he must pursue a college education. Of course, everyone must be able to read and write, regardless of the job he pursues.

The Past: The parts of my past life I wish were still here is the close relationship families had, especially around the fireside at night listening to tales of the past when neighbors had time to visit until bedtime and pop corn and roast peanuts. I do not long for the good old days of hoeing corn and picking cotton, carrying water for 1/4 mile during the dry summer months, and having no modern conveniences. From the past we should have learned to be content with what we have.

Government: Government should establish laws that will benefit all people not just the upper class. I am excited about the decline in unemployment and programs for the elderly.

Possessions: Possessions have little value in the end. Of course, in the community if you do not have

them, you are not "in." I guess if my house burned I would miss the things that could not be replaced, like family heirlooms, pictures, etc.

The Future: I try to be optimistic. I try to believe there are enough sane people in the world to save civilization. We should fight for peace in the world and be proud of our heritage and believe in God and put our faith in Him and not in man, to uphold and not destroy the principles our forefathers died to protect.

Religion: My religious faith has played a major part in my life. I have had crises in my life when God alone could help. I think we should begin as teen-agers or even earlier to trust in God and ask Him daily for guidance and listen to what He has to say. Our relationship to God as individuals is important, and our priorities as individuals and as a nation should center around God. Our Christian influence spreads through families, communities, and nations. 2 Chronicles 7:14 tells us, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Our nation's survival depends upon God's providence as He has promised in this scripture.

Courage: The bravest person I ever knew was my mother. During the Great Depression, she did not despair. She would work untiringly all day in the field and sew for us at night. She encouraged us to be "somebody" and sacrificed so that we could go as well dressed to school and church as the other children. She reminded us that even though we did not have as much wealth as some of the others that we were just as good because we had love for another. She provided learning opportunities for us and made it possible for us to go to school and excel. She kept her courage when both of her sons were in combat during World War II. She boosted the morale of the family and the neighbors who were affected the same way. In later life she suffered serious health problems, but she never let them defeat her.

Fate: The only guiding force in my life is the Holy Spirit. I feel that there is a destiny for the nation, but that it is in the hands of a just God. The only thing that we as individuals can do is to pray for God's guidance and keep working to bring about peace. God had a plan when He created man, but man was given the freedom of choice. As a result, man has thwarted God's plan in many instances. God still holds our destiny in His hands.

The End - What is the purpose of our lives? God has given us the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." It is very clear that our primary purpose is to spread the gospel of salvation to all the world.

Death is a part of life. It is inevitable to all men unless Christ returns first. Death is a frightening experience, but it should not be to those who are at peace with God.

I think we all want to be remembered. I would like to have my family and the children I have taught in school to remember me as a person who loved them and tried to help them to make a better life for themselves.

For the past five months, I have shared with you the life of my mother as well as sharing with you the things I found in her attic. I am so happy that I found her philosophy in a nutshell and could share that with you in this issue. Please reread the last paragraph. This is her message to us, her natural children, and to you, her school children.

CAMPAIGN GENERAL CHAIRMAN SELECTED BY UGF

Mark Dawson has been selected to head up the 2003-2004 United Givers Fund Campaign scheduled to kick off in early September. Dawson, who is originally from Monroeville, Alabama, is a graduate of Troy State University with a degree in Business Administration and marketing. He serves as president of the Fort Payne Booster Club, is a past chairman of the DeKalb County Chapter of the American Red Cross and is a long-time UGF volunteer. He and his wife, Debra, who is originally from Luverne, Alabama, have lived in Fort Payne for the past twenty years. The Dawsons are active members of the Fort Payne Church of Christ. They have one son, Cody, who is a 2003 graduate of Fort Payne High School and will be attending Southern Union College in the fall.

Employed by United Parcel Service for the past 10 years as an account executive, Dawson's job has taken him to businesses and industries throughout the north Alabama area.

Dawson attended the UGF Board meeting in early June and spoke to the board about some of the campaign plans already in place. UGF President Scott Ross pointed out that this year marks the 45th Anniversary of United Givers Fund in DeKalb County. He said, "This year's Campaign Kickoff will also be a recognition and celebration of UGF's 45 years of service to the people of DeKalb County."

Commenting on the Anniversary Celebration/Campaign Kickoff, Dawson said, "The United Givers Fund is an agency that works for the community and is a very important part of DeKalb County. The citizens of the county are to be commended for their willingness to support the UGF for the past 45 years." He expressed optimism that this year's campaign will be successful in reaching the goal in spite of the uneasy economy. He said, "The upcoming campaign will be another year to show how the people of DeKalb County are always willing to help those in time of need."

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aturday, July 5, we held our annual Crow family reunion at the home of Leroy & Joann Crow, which is the original home place of Lee & Fannie Crow, her's parents. We had a wonderful afternoon with music, games, stories and beautiful weather - to mention the terrific fellowship. Approximately 60 family members attended - some from as far away as Detroit, Michigan and Dallas, Texas. Mildred, Homer's sister, and family hosted the event this year.

And now a word from the Kids...

about the weather: Talk about first experiences...to this year, we have witnessed an earthquake, flooding, tornadoes, monsoons and sinkholes! What do we expect in the way of summer heat? It's a good thing we live on a mountain!

Overheard at the grocery store: Two men looking for wives, decided to join forces to speed up their search. 1st man: "We'll find them. What does your wife look like?" 2nd man: Well, she's blonde, blue eyed, tall with long shapely legs and well endowed. 1st man: "What does your wife look like?" 2nd man: "Aw, forget your wife, let's find yours!"

Local Night Life: One of these kids has declared that this kid goes hunting most every night armed with a one-million candle-power spotlight (also rumored to as high-powered night vision capability which completely eliminates the enemies' night vision causing temporary blindness and headaches). This gives him the upper hand over various critters of the night. Primarily the "Mephitis Mephitis," aka striped skunk, bearer of chemical weaponry. The kid has been known to encounter these varmints under extremely stressful conditions at great personal risk, but has survived to recount his adventures. Other run-ins involve "Procyon Lotor," aka raccoon. These slithery little critters are well known for their thievery and looting. A confirmed albino with a bent ear! Not to worry, neighbors, he says he has them surrounded! Close watch are being kept on their movements! Watch for more updates. (Afternote: Gnats and mosquitoes are now joined the battlefields. It is feared they will eventually have the upperhand. Aerial assaults by the demons are most difficult to counter.)

Latest development: One of the kids has reportedly relinquished sole ownership of a thriving business in the local area and has fled the country, via a large vessel seeking refuge somewhere in the Caribbean. It is believed this evasive action has been taken as a direct result of the threat of chemical warfare due to possible conflict with the aforementioned "Mephitis Mephitis." Remaining kids are not so easily deterred from confrontations. Bless their hearts.

After afternote: In the unlikely event of battery failure, our valiant warrior has invested in another million candle-power night vision instrument and has his sights set on acquiring a significantly improved version. Alas, the dreaded two million candle-power unit is known to induce not only temporary blindness but will also cause headaches to migraines!

On Fireworks: In the spirit of America's celebration of Freedom, the kids thoroughly enjoyed occasion to demonstrate their pyrotechnical skills by lambasting the proverbial serenity of the Mountain with ear deafening explosions accompanied by brilliant sky-filled colors. (And occasionally running for their lives.) Lots of oohs and aahs followed the evening displays.

Hope ya'll enjoyed your 4th as much as these Kids! (They are reporting daily hearing improvement and expect a full recovery on or before July 4, 2004.)

Disclaimer: Homer & Bernice claim no knowledge whatsoever as to the parentage of "The Kids."

Additional disclaimer: Mom made us leave out the part about the light bulb.



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CHECKERS

By John Baty

Yesterday afternoon, I was talking with a friend and my brother's name was mentioned in connection with the game of checkers. Glenn was a serious checker enthusiast. I think that anyone who sat across the board from him will agree.

Now, there are different degrees, or levels, of checker proficiency: We might have the neophyte, the beginner; also, there are casual players who play a "decent" game, but do not profess to any expertise; and, then, there is the checker player, the serious follower of the game.

I am sure that Glenn would fit the latter definition.

Each sport or pastime or game has its own unique group, its own followers, its fans and participants.

Since I "got" to know several of the checker players through Glenn, I had the opportunity to observe a cross-section of personalities who regularly played the game. A very diverse fraternity, from widely different backgrounds, all brought together through a common interest.

Glenn liked to relate stories, little anecdotes of human interest, and most times he told them with humor, with what we might call a "punch line." He enjoyed telling his stories even more so than I, if such is possible.

Once Glenn related the following story, which he was passing on as a middleman so-to-speak. So, I will tell it as a third hand-me-down.

Since the story involves much of the pathos connected with the drama of life, I will try to keep this in mind as we conclude the final lines. In order to avoid personalizing individuals, I will refrain from names, somewhat.

Glenn had a friend and fellow checker enthusiast who we will identify as Roy. One day, over a checkerboard, Roy related the following to Glenn: Roy had a friend who, for some cause, needed hospitalizing in some kind of mental institution. Roy visited this friend and fellow checker player while the fellow was hospitalized. He said that the friend was badly depressed and rather non-communicative as people get sometimes.

Finding his friend in "fair shape," Roy was taking his leave when his friend's doctor took him aside and asked if Roy was a checker player. When the good physician heard of Roy's interest in the game, he related the following:

The psychiatrist revealed that, in some extreme cases, where it was difficult to penetrate the wall of depression, the doctor would use any means of communication available, one such means being the checkerboard.

One day, the doctor carried his checkers and board into the room of Roy's friend. Asked if he wanted to play a game or two, the friend answered in the affirmative. The doctor won three quick games from the patient, and then the patient looked up at the doctor, smiled and said: "Well you have beaten me three games, now I will beat you three games." After three devastating blitzes, the doctor told his patient that he could not compete with such expert playing. The patient smiled and said, "I didn't tell you, Doctor, but these checkers are the reason I am in this place!

I am not a checker player, not even a "decent" one, but I do comprehend enough of the game to understand how it might cause problems of the mind in susceptible persons. Checkers can be a very complex game. There is more than meets the eye, so-to-speak.

To the best of my knowledge, all persons involved in the above are deceased.

Author

BABY BOY!!



Caleb Joseph Miller

Congratulations to Curtis and Annie Miller on the birth of their son, Caleb Joseph, on May 14, 2003. He weighed 8 lbs, 14 oz. and was 22 in. long.

Proud Grandparents are Tim and Suzie Graham, Tucson, AZ; and Glenn and Linda Miller, Mentone, AL. Proud Uncles are Ken and Keith Miller. Proud Aunt is Kara Miller.



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MAY 31 - AUGUST 2 10 - 12 a.m.

(Except July 5th, the library will be closed for Independence Day)

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SUMMER FUN AT MOUNTAIN MAMAS

By Mary Alice Stout

July will be a busy month at Mountain Mamas Craft & Rock Shop. The "ARTIST AT WORK" series will continue with Linda Munoz and Linda Campbell, stained glass and mosaic artists, and a return visit by Andrea Brandon, Ft. Payne painter. In June, Andrea's demonstrations at Mountain Mamas were enjoyed by her fans—new and old! Watching Andrea demonstrate her painting techniques, we were amazed at how she used her fingers to paint the background. She was excellent at explaining and answering questions.

ANDREA BRANDON TO RETURN to Mountain Mamas. Andrea, the popular Ft. Payne artist, will return on Sunday, July 13, from 1:00-4:00 (GA time). Andrea and her fans had so much fun together in June we asked her to return. Come watch and ask questions as Andrea paints plates, gourds, and barn wood.

MAKE A GLASS MOSAIC SUNCATCHER - Linda Munoz and Linda Campbell, stained glass and mosaic artists, will lead an arts and crafts workshop at Mountain Mamas on Saturday, July 19, at 2:00pm (GA time). Those attending will make a glass mosaic sun catcher. There will be a \$5 charge for materials. Pre-registration is REQUIRED and is limited to the first eight people (ages 9 to 90) who sign up. Call Mary Alice at 706-862-2142 to register.

MOSAIC & CONCRETE STEPPING STONE DEMONSTRATION - On Sunday, July 20, at 3:00pm (GA time) Linda Munoz and Linda Campbell, both award winning multi-medium artists, will demonstrate casting a concrete stepping stone with a mosaic stained glass design. Come watch, ask questions, and take home some ideas! See the June Groundhog for more information on Linda Munoz. Linda Campbell is an art teacher in Grouse County, AL. She especially loves to paint gourds and "spirit bottles."

Mountain Mamas is located in Cloudland, GA, on GA Hwy 48, just 1/4 mile from where AL Hwy 117 ends at the GA/AL state line. The shop is open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, noon to 5:00pm (GA time) or by appointment—call Mary Alice Stout at 706-862-2142 or email mountainmamas@alltel.net.

Be sure to see our WEB PAGE
www.mountainmamas.com

151st Engineer Combat Veteran, 2003 Reunion to be held in Marianna, Florida Sept 4-7

From Robert Ringer, of the 2003 Reunion Committee, to the 151st Engineer Combat Veterans:

You and your family members are cordially invited to our 2003 Reunion in Marianna, Florida! If you haven't already, mark your calendars for September 4-7. THE MICROTTEL INN AND SUITES is offering special rates beginning at \$50 per night plus tax. To take advantage of this rate, make your reservations directly with MICROTTEL (850-526-5005) and identify yourself as a member of our group. The motel has agreed to hold a block of rooms for our use until August 15. After that date, rooms will be available at the prevailing rate on a firstcome, firstserved basis. If unforeseen circumstances prevent your coming, you must cancel your reservation by 4:00 p.m. September 3.

A Hospitality Room will be open at MICROTTEL on Thursday afternoon with light refreshments for your enjoyment. Name tags and additional information will be there for you. Please bring your photographs and memorabilia to share in the hospitality room.

Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m., a Dutch treat dinner will be served at Jim's Buffet & Grill. A dining room is reserved at Jim's and the cost is \$8.25 per person, including the gratuity.

On Friday morning, a complimentary tour of the beautiful Florida Caverns has been arranged. Those wishing to attend will go as a group with Tommy. Lunch will be on your own at several local restaurants.

Friday afternoon and evening will be an occasion to remember. We will travel to Panama City Beach for a sunset dinner cruise on the yacht, THE LADY ANDERSON. The cost is \$35.50 per person for the three hour cruise, dinner, and music. The round trip charter bus fare is \$8.00 per person. If you plan to go on the cruise, please send a check for \$43.50 made out to Tommy Grainger, our comptroller this year, no later than August 1, 2003.

Our American Legion Post Home Building will be

open on Saturday for our use. A tour of the adjacent Pioneer Village is scheduled for Saturday along with a display of antique automobiles. On Saturday evening, smoked steaks will be served at the Post Home. The cost of the steak dinner is \$8.00. We can do this because the steaks are prepared by Tommy's neighbor and we are counting on some volunteer help.

As far as I know, this will be the seventh consecutive battalion reunion. The first one was Indianapolis and the past five have been in Lebanon, Tennessee. Interest and attendance has increased and this has been a result of the diligent work and persistence of several fine folks. Our group owes much to the Stewarts, the Catos and Bob Crawford. Alan Stewart was in Headquarters Company and Jack Cato and Bob Crawford were in B Company. Last year, we had folks from as far East as New York (the Hughes), as far West as California (Fleckenstein), as far North as South Dakota and Wisconsin (the Payers, the Liebners, and George Pawlak) and as far South as Florida, plus folks from all across this great land. If you ever want to renew old friendships, and make new ones among those of us who visited the "Land of the Morning Calm" this is the year to do it. I don't need to remind any of you that time is no longer on our side. So come on down to Marianna and join the fun.

You may travel by highway, rail, or air. Marianna is accessible by U.S. Highways 90, U.S. 231 via Cottondale, and Interstate 10. The Greyhound bus station is near the MICROTTEL. The AMTRACK depot is only 20 miles from Marianna. The nearest commercial air service is available at the Dothan, Alabama Airport. Should you need assistance with transportation from either the AMTRACK station in Chipley, Florida, or the air terminal at Dothan, please let us know in advance of the time and place of your arrival and someone will drive you to the motel.

Let us hear from you. You can reach me at (850) 483-3310 or Tommy & Rosie at (850) 526-2800. Our e-mail address is metrob@earthlink.net. Also, be thinking about where and when we will meet again.

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JUNE NEWS FROM DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD

Hello Mentone, It is another summer and our squad is busy keeping its members up to date on the latest rescue training operations. This month we will be having our rope rescue course that consists of four full day classes. The first is general education, the second rope descent, the third rope ascent and the fourth the complete routine of retrieving a victim. We will be conducting our classes the last 2 weekends of June in the classroom and at the Eagles Nest.

In July we will be conducting our water rescue training and August we will be sending members to cave rescue training in conjunction with the Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit. Also in July we will be having an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC), which means we all become certified to drive the ambulance. Lastly, the county association's summer search and rescue refresher is being moved to the fall.

This summer we will be sponsoring a community event to demonstrate Air Evac Lifeteam's service. Lifeteam is a for profit air ambulance helicopter service based out of Scottsboro. They will fly a unit up to educate and demonstrate to everyone how a helicopter works. We have set a tentative date for late August and we will post the official date in a future Groundhog. This event will be a fundraiser for the squad so please come out. Sorry but no rides are available, I already asked.

Speaking of Lifeteam how about a quick word about their service (yes we do get money for you signing up). Air Evac Lifeteam transports critical patients from outlying areas and facilities to larger hospitals and/or trauma centers. They fly directly to trauma scenes, bringing life-saving equipment and highly trained personnel directly to the patient. When they arrive at the scene of a medical emergency, they maintain constant communication with receiving facilities, and continue assisting the patient until they are delivered to the best care. The cost of riding in a helicopter is usually about six thousand dollars with insurance covering no more than a portion. Lifeteam offers annual and lifetime emergency insurance to remove the worry of paying for this bill after the fact. If you would like some further information contact any squad member or our squad captain, Owen Douthal, at (256) 634-0207.

As for this month's safety tips I am going to draw from a few personal experiences. Growing up I spent most of my summers on the mountain and have learned some valuable lessons. Most of you living here should know these so this is intended mainly for you summer visitors.

1. Don't jump off the Falls! While most people survive, almost every year someone is killed or at least seriously injured attempting that first step. My

grandmother once told me the story of a world-renowned diver who created a media event by jumping off DeSoto Falls. The episode was in all the papers and crowds came to witness this professional diver jump off. Following his bows and applause, he boldly leapt off the falls, forming a graceful dive downward. The end result was his being airlifted out never to walk again. It is not only the height that is dangerous but the rocks and limbs you can't see under the water. As with the famous diver, survival is not a result of as much skill, but luck. However, if you are going to do it anyway, despite all warnings, let me suggest you wear heavy shoes or boots before going off. Make sure they are sopping wet when going off then place your arms by your side. Then pray your shoes are heavy enough to keep you falling at a speed fast enough where you stay vertical when you hit the water. That will also absorb much of the shock on impact, assuming that's what hits first. But if you don't make it, the squad will be seeing you down below.

2. The bridges on Highway 117 are not meant for foot traffic. They are so narrow if two large trucks are crossing opposite ways there is no standing room. Most importantly tractor-trailers cannot stop quickly if they see a problem. Last year a camp girl was almost crushed by this very situation. By sheer luck and God, she was able to jump on the guardrail and balance while the trucks collided head on attempting to avoid her. Already this summer, I have seen visitors crossing oblivious to the danger. If you must cross on foot, go very quickly and make sure your side is clear as far as you can see. Do not expect the trucks crossing to respond in time if there is a situation.

3. If you decide to go exploring on the uncharted back roads and trails have a good idea what county and state you are in. It's not fun having your truck stuck in the mud at 2 a.m. calling for help with no way to describe your location. Also take a compass and a comealong, I wish I had. ...

4. If you go kayaking or boating when the river floods, wear a life jacket (actually, always wear a life jacket while kayaking or boating). I am a pretty good swimmer and the river is usually very calm but when I flipped over during the flood I was no match for the undertow. If it weren't for my seat cushion I might have been in trouble. This shouldn't be a problem over the summer but learn from my mistake just in case.

We are always on the look out for new volunteers. If you have any of the following desires: to learn what to do in an emergency situation, help your neighbors in case of trouble or jump off cliffs or roped into caves that you can't see the bottom of, Desoto Rescue Squad has something to offer you! You contribute what you are best at; everyone in our squad has his or her personal specialty. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at the Mentone Community Center at 8pm. Not the second Tuesday as what was mistakenly printed in last month's Groundhog.

State McDorman



Ken Miller

Congratulations to Ken Miller on receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree (Honors) summa cum laude in Bible from Bryan College, Dayton, TN, May 10, 2003. He is returning to Bryan College in the fall for one more semester to finish a double major in Business Administration. His future plans are to receive a master's degree in Business.



Curtis Miller

Congratulations to Curtis Miller on receiving a Bachelor of Science degree cum laude in Missions from Tennessee Temple University, Chattanooga, TN, on May 5, 2003. He and his wife, Annie, and infant son, Caleb, plan on going to China in January for 2 years to teach English as a second language. Their future goal is to become Bible translators in Brazil.



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"Can to Can't" School Community Library
World's Longest Yard Sale

About

Our Town

By
LINDA BROWN



I am writing this on the ninth day of July and guess what? I think summer is finally here! The thermometer states that it is about 86 degrees, but the humidity must be 95 per cent or more. I would really like to know what the "heat index" is. I have known how to calculate how hot it seems, but I seem to have forgotten. The gardens will love this warm weather after all of the rain. We have had beans, squash and cucumbers so far. We have shared all of it with the deer herd that inhabits our woods. This year, they have eaten anything that was young and tender. Of course, the tender part of a plant is always the new growth at the top, so this "nipping" has hindered some of our production. As long as we can keep Sevin dust or spray on the plants, they will not eat them. But with all of the rain that has been almost impossible.

Yesterday, I was talking with someone and we agreed that we needed two lifetimes to get everything done that we wanted to do. We decided that we would come back again and live another life. This time I would do things a little differently, but not a lot. All in all, my life has been pretty much what I wanted it to be. W.E. Henley, the poet who penned this line, "I am the master of my fate" was very wise indeed. I truly believe that we make our own happiness. How we accept the hand that life deals us determines our contentment. I have never accepted the theory that someone else was responsible for our lot in life. A common theme in psychology some years ago was to blame everything on "mama". Supposedly, the mother of a person was responsible for the well being of a person no matter what age they were. What a bunch of bull! We are responsible for our own well being! That's my soapbox sermon for this month.

The frozen meals program for seniors is going really well. We are delivering to 21 persons every Monday morning. I cannot thank enough the volunteers who are helping with this program. They have been wonderful, always on time, of good cheer and willing to listen to my bossiness. I have realized for quite a few years now that bossiness is one of my character traits. But I am so good at it! Modesty is one of my virtues, too. Things just seem to get done faster and more efficiently if someone is willing to take charge. Several of the persons who are receiving the meals are declaring that they are feeling much better. The main things that they are not having are shortness of breath and collection of fluid. These meals are very low fat and low sodium. If you are interested in receiving these frozen meals, you can call Mentone Town Hall (834-4444) and ask them to contact me. The requirements are to be over sixty years of age and not able or inclined to cook for yourself.

There will be a meeting of the Mentone Zoning Commission about the time this issue of The

Groundhog comes out. The date is July 17 at 4:00p.m. in the meeting room of the town hall. If you have a question or just want to know what this commission does, the meetings are always open to the public. As with all regularly scheduled meetings, to be able to speak to an issue, you need to call and get on the agenda for the meeting.

I think that zoning has been great for Mentone. When we organized this commission, our main goal was to control growth in Mentone. We realized that growth was inevitable and we wanted to keep our residential districts nice places to live without someone building too close to your property line or building such things as a hog house next door. Without zoning anyone can build anything anywhere they can find the land to do so. Of course, we have had some people who disagreed with the idea and we expected this from the start. By and large, the conflicts have been resolved with very little effort. Usually it is just a matter of not understanding what the other person is wanting to do.

The grandfather clause seems to cause quite a bit of conflict. When something is in existence when the zoning laws go into effect, then it is said to be grandfathered. This allows a condition to remain in effect until someone changes that condition. A good example is when a mobile home exists in an area that is zoned in such a way that mobile homes are not allowed. That mobile home can remain there forever, but if it is ever moved, another one cannot be put in to replace it. This also applies to a business in a residential zone. Once that business ceases operating as a business, it can never be a place of business again without a major change in the zoning laws.

A matter being considered as of now is the extending of the zoning area where places of business can be. We are about to outgrow ourselves. As with any changes in the zoning laws, all property owners will be contacted and several public hearings will be held. Anyone can speak to the issue at a public hearing.

When people tell my children that they read something in their mother's column, they have started replying, "You mean in her pages." Maybe this article does sometimes get too long, but it seems that I have a lot to say about Mentone. Those who know me know that I dearly love the people here and also this area of our state.

Speaking of the State of Alabama, I cannot decide how I feel about the issue that is coming up for a vote in September. One day I am all for it and think that we need to vote it in and the next day I am against it and think that it is too much too fast. Maybe we will have more details available to us before the voting date. I really don't know what all it does include.

Years ago, I was teaching an adult Sunday School class at the Mentone United Methodist Church and I stated that I believed a certain thing to be true. Ovie Blalock spoke up and said that I stated that I believed the exact opposite in class on the previous Sunday. I have always been like this. I never look into any one belief on an issue. I may find out some more ideas about the subject and change my mind immediately. Of course, I never change my belief in motherhood, baseball and apple pie. Aren't these the beliefs that our country was built upon?

By now most of you know that the World's Longest Yard Sale will officially be August 2 through August 10. We all know that people will be in Mentone before this date. They set up their booths early to catch the

early crowd. Then, people have to come early to get the best buys. So it goes! I would like to urge everyone who lives in Mentone to exercise patience during this period. We all know that this is a trying time for us. It is hard to get around town because of all of the extra people and traffic. Someone has predicted that sooner or later someone will be killed at this event. Let's be sure that this doesn't happen in Mentone. Plan ahead and allow yourself more time to get to your destination. Even going to the post office becomes an ordeal, so plan accordingly.

The Town of Mentone has no control over the dates or any other aspect of the event. I understand that all of this is dictated by a town in Tennessee! Mentone can, however, control the parking on the sides of Highway 117 and any town streets. I hope that our police will be out in full force during these days. Perhaps the most dangerous practice by drivers is that of totally stopping to look at what is in the booths while still in the traffic on Highway 117. This needs to be stopped and, if it takes a ticket by the police to do so, then that is better than an accident. Another hazard is the amount of people running from one side to the other of the highway. Many times they dart out into traffic thinking they will stop. If the on-coming driver is looking at the side of the road, they will not even see the person! More care and caution needs to be exercised by all. I would be in favor of all agencies of law enforcement making a major showing of their presence at this event. We may not control when it happens, but we should be able to control how it happens.

My segment of remembering when, for this month, is how many unusual things my brothers and I ate when we were children. Mom did not know about this or she would have stopped it. Especially during the summer when we were out of school, our favorite thing to do was to go to the mailbox. All three of us would usually go, this was our daily excursion and three could think of more things to do than one. Our mailbox was about a fourth of a mile from the house. We walked down a dirt road, not chert, but dirt. The dirt was soft, hot and very dusty. It was like walking in hot talcum powder. Our garden was planted in an area that we had to pass on the way to the mailbox. Usually we would slip into the kitchen before we left and get some left-over biscuits. These made good sandwiches. We would gather peppergrass on the side of the road and put that in our biscuits. When the vegetables were ready, we would gather tomatoes and green peppers to add to our sandwiches. We would pull the ears of corn and eat those right off the stalk. Cucumbers, cantaloupes and especially watermelons were never safe from our prying fingers. One year, we had so many watermelons that each morning before going to school, I would make juice from one, salt it and put it in the refrigerator for our after school drink. I don't know how we survived! It is a wonder we didn't eat something poison. Better eating has never been found. Our sister was born much later, so she got to eat things like Butterfinger candy bars and RC colas, for breakfast even!

Look for all of the wonderful things that are happening at our local library in another article entitled, Library Libs.

Hello to all of the people who are receiving the meals. I have just gotten to know some of you and some I have known for a long time. I love all of you and you are this town's most precious resource. Take care.

Lookout Mountain Natural Healing: Bug Bites, Stings & Rashes

By L.C. Moon

When it comes to insect bites, stings, poison ivy, oak & sumac I hold fast to theory that "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." There are many plants that help prevent the itchy annoying bites and rashes that distract us from the beauty of summer. When the itches do plague- there are plants that offer relief.

Mountain Mint is a local gem of a plant. The unmistakable silvery leaves (in late summer) and potent minty smell broadcast to the insects to stay away. According to Dr. James Duke's experience, Mountain Mint is even more effective than the well-known pennyroyal as an insect repellent. Dr. Duke says in The Green Pharmacy to pick the leaves and rub them all over your skin and clothes. I believe making a tea of Mountain Mint and drinking several cups would make you even less appealing to pests. Dr. Duke does not mention the insect repelling benefits of Mountain Mint in Peterson's Field Guide to Medicinal Plants Eastern/Central, though he does mention calamint as a good alternative to pennyroyal. Pennyroyal is particularly known for getting rid of fleas. "Caution should be taken if you are pregnant as pennyroyal and other mints are known to increase the risk of miscarriage. If I were going to use any mints as a repellent while pregnant I would choose catnip.

Calamus also known as Sweet Flag is known to deter insects. Goat's Rue (Tephrosia virginiana) Root is known as insecticidal-containing the constituent rotenone-as well as a vermicide. Dr. Duke says it is also known as a fish poison. Lopseed (Phytolacca) is insecticidal, though, in East Asia the roots are also poulticed for bites.

Sneezeweed (Helenium autumnale) is a poison to cattle, fish worms and insects. It is known to rid the

body of intestinal worms. The common polypody (Polypodium virginianum) fern is known for ridding the body of Tapeworms.

Caution should be taken when eating the banana flavored fruit of the Paw Paw, for the seed is toxic; though, if you save it, you can powder it later for careful use in getting rid of head lice. Black Walnut leaf tea gets rid of bed bugs and the walnut hull is good for treating ringworm. Though in truth ringworm is a fungus and not a worm. I've had great results using the juice from the husk of a green walnut.

Poison Ivy, Oak and Sumac are culprits to many of the annoying itches of summer. Folklore says that Jewel Weed (Impatiens Capensis) will prevent you from getting the rash particularly of poison ivy. Once you come in contact with the poison plants, then, immediately rub the juice of jewel weed or a salve made of jewel weed on the rash. My dear friend and much respected herbal comrade, Ginger Kogelschatz, showed her passion by intentionally afflicting herself with the rash and testing her jewelweed salve. She had great results, especially when she immediately applied the salve. Canada Thistle (Cirsium arvense) is also known for relieving a poison ivy rash. My personal best results have come from Tea Tree Essential oil undiluted and applied to the rash and then a salve to help along the healing.

For the itches of insect bites and stings, you can walk out in your front yard and get one of the best plants for the job-Plantain. A poultice of the leaf (mashing up the leaf or chewing it a bit) applied to the bite or sting will ease your discomfort. The juice of Purslane is known to relieve the sting of a caterpillar. Mayweed, Lemon Balm, Hound's Tongue (Cynoglossum officinale) and Jewelweed are all known to be great to stop the itch when applied as a poultice or mixed in a salve. Wild Comfrey is in the Forget-me-not Family with Hound's Tongue, while Comfrey (Symphytum Officinale) is in the Borage Family. I

would not hesitate to use either comfrey for bites, stings, rash etc. because I have had great results with Symphytum in treating all skin afflictions. The most unusual insect bite reliever I found out about was Ragweed leaves as a poultice.

Spider & snake bites are also treatable with nature. All varieties of Echinacea are known to be beneficial in treating spider and snake bites. Native Americans were said to make a tea or chew the root. I would also use a topical application. Black Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia) is known to be beneficial in treating snake bites though I would also use it for spider bites as it has similar benefits to Echinacea. Wild Calla also known as Water Arum (Calla Palustris) Root is poulticed for snake bites as well as the root of Rattlesnake Master (Eryngium Yuccifolium). Wild Yam is known to be one of the best remedies for a brown recluse spider bite. It is also great for insect stings.

It is possible to get relief of nature from nature. The one itchy that I did not find a relief for from local nature was chiggers. Just as with Poison Plant Rashes, Chiggers seem to go away under the treatment of Tea Tree Essential Oil. Again after using the undiluted oil I follow it with a salve for itching and healing with great results.

Garlic and Tobacco are two plants that you may not easily find wild though I believe in the both of them passionately for deterring insects and treating their bites and stings.

Wormwood is another well known insect repellent that won't be found wild unless it escaped from an old home site. Other common natural insect repellants are citronella, tansy and diatomaceous earth. Last but not least Rita Shirley came in and told me she rid herself of her ant problem inside with common table salt.

If you want a quick all natural insect repellent for your skin- Mountain Life carries one that is effective and good smelling. We also carry all natural salves and Tea Tree Essential Oil.

Any questions or comments, come by, call (256) 634-3333, or write: Mountain Life-located behind the Mentone Springs Hotel, P.O. Box 224 Mentone 35984; or aruallove@aol.com

Mentone Wedding Chapel

Nestled in the woods atop Lookout Mountain, near Mentone, Alabama, this quaint little chapel is surrounded by ferns, flowers, and flowers. The chapel is a quiet version of traditional Appalachian churches of days gone by. Stained glass windows filtering soft forest sunrays and soft organ music attend an audience fitting the wedding ceremony. Inside wooden pews will seat approximately 80 guests.



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

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West Brow Lot on Hwy 1 mile
from Mentone. 200 ft of
Brow Frontage. \$85,000.



(3) NESTLED ON A SHADY LOT site this 3 bedroom 2 bath cottage with Rock fireplace and screened porch. A metal roof soothes the sound of summer rain. Located on DeSoto Parkway, minutes from Park and Mentone. \$69,900.



(4) 2 STORY HOME ON CUTLER AVE. MENTONE. 3 Bdrm 1 1/2 bath, updated with Metal Roof, 12x16 deck. Kitchen-dining combo. Living room w/gas free standing fireplace. Large Bdrm with second story balcony. Appliances stay. Located on a level one-acre lot with large Oak trees and lots of wild flowers. REDUCED \$70,000.



(5) HIDDEN BROW ESTATES Clouland, GA. Spectacular Views East side. 7.5 acres. 600 ft. of brow frontage, private, large Rock bluffs. \$142,900.



(6) WEST FORK SUBDIVISION 8.5 acres with paved road frontage. 1.5 miles. Partially cleared with a spectacular view from the building site. \$50,000.



(7) EARLY 1900s TWO STORY FARMHOUSE, located on Cutler Ave. Mentone. High Hedges and Oak Trees make a private setting in town. 2 Bdrms upstairs with sitting area and bath. Living area, eat-in Kitchen & Bath on the main level. Large screened porch. Pine floors, walls, and ceiling throughout. REDUCED \$75,900.



(8) ONE OF A KIND LOG, STONE AND CEDAR SHAKE LODGE. This unique find is complete with Heart Pine Plank floors throughout. Open Great Room and Loft with built-in beds. Stone fireplace in Living area, and the custom kitchen with a stone fireplace. French doors open to the sleeping porches and master Bdrm. A must see, with much more to offer. \$295,000.



(9) GREY COTTAGE, in the Clouland Area. 2 Bdrm 1 bath on 3.7 acres. Spring fed Stocked Pond, Large yard and garden area. \$63,900.



(10) MOUNTAIN RIVER ESTATES A River runs through it! Direct Access from the Lookout Mtn. Parkway, on AL Hwy 117. Minutes from Mentone and Clouland, GA. Three to 7 acre Riverfront Tracts starting at \$35,500. Five to fifteen wooded stream tracts from \$21,000. Restricted covenants apply.



(11) WONDERFUL OLD MENTONE FARMHOUSE, consisting of 10 rooms. A great renovation project. Large Rocking Chair Porch. 2 Bedrooms and sitting room in all. 1.5 acres on Scenic Hwy. 16x20 workshop, which could be converted into a guest cabin. 2700 sq. ft. of living space. Sold AS IS. \$119,999. (Photo to left.)



(12) CHARMING BRICK BUNGALOW, sitting on 1.00 acre corner lot. 3 Bdrm 1 bath. Living room with fireplace, separate dining, wood floors, CMA. Level Fenced Backyard, Quiet setting. Mentone. \$89,000. Photo to left.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(13) LARGE ROCK FORMATIONS and "Old School" Ruins are among the unique features of this 9 series on Little Bluff adjoining the National Reservation. Access from County Rd 600. Mentone. \$79,990.

(14) FARMHOUSE WITH 1.8 ACRES, MENTONE. Oak trees outside, oak floors inside. 5 bedrooms, 5 baths with tile shower and clawfoot tub. Living room with stone fireplace. Open country style kitchen/dining area. Large covered front porch. Detached garage, city water, paved road. \$95,000.

(15) INDIAN TRAIL ESTATES: Building lots on the West Brow, above N. Pl. Payne, county road, city water access. View lots starting at \$10,000; wooded lots starting at \$6,000.

(16) WILD RIVER COMMUNITY (1 Tract left) 229x999 on the East Fork of Little River. Secluded and scenic, with pools and rapids. \$30,000.

(17) 7.8 ACRES AVAILABLE IN CHEROKEE COUNTY, MENTONE. Old Homestead with large trees and field. City Water and Private Rd. Located in East Fork Little River Estates. \$99,999.

(18) WILDLIFE ABUNDANT on these Three 20+ acre Tracts. Mostly Open Land, Rolling hills, ponds. May be purchased individually or together. Priced \$9,800 an acre. Located in Mentone area with wooded access road.

(19) CANYON VIEW FOREST, adjoins National Preserve, and Wildlife Management. 6 acre tract, wooded with drive, power, well installed. Private access behind locked Gate. Overlooks Little River Canyon National Preserve.

(20) WOODED LOTS on Dempsey Ave. Mentone. 200x300 = 1.38 acres. \$15,000.

(21) LITTLE RIVER CANYON, 5-acre tract at Canyon View Forest, 2 streams nicely wooded. Overlooks National Park. \$99,000.

MENTONE MINI STORAGE, NEW OWNERSHIP.
UNITS AVAILABLE. FOR INFO, CALL ANGELA WOOD
AT 256-634-4672.

The Church News

By
EVELYN GRAVES



Sunday morning services at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church are held at 9:00 AM 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 10 AM; Worship Service at 11 AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6 PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6 PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotion at 8:30 AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2 PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

The Valley Head United Methodist Church prayer meeting is Wednesday night at 6 PM. Bible study Wednesday night at 6:30 PM. A prayer chain has been formed. Sunday School is at 9 AM each Sunday and Worship is at 10 AM.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, is currently holding services in the Woodman of the World Hall in Valley Head. All are invited to attend! Sabbath School and Song Service, 9:30-10:45; Worship Service, 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnell.

The Harmony Grove Baptist Church invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Road 230 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45 AM; Morning Worship is at 11 AM; Evening Worship is at 6 PM; Wednesday Night Prayer Service is at 6 PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds mass services at 10:30 AM each Sunday, and Communion Services at 6 PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 63), Fort Payne. Regular worship services are at 10 AM and Sunday School at 9 AM. Steve Schrader, Pastor 845-4314. All are welcome.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10 a.m., Worship service at 11 a.m., Wednesday night youth meeting with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6 p.m., and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in observing the Sabbath and Holy Days, call 845-2240 for time and location.

Presbyterian Church worship service at Cloudland begins at 10 AM, (EST), and the Menlo service begins at 11:15 AM (EST).

Menlo Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10 and 11 AM services and evening services are at 7 and 9 PM. VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

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

Lighthouse Fellowship, Cloudland. Turn at the produce stand, pass the tennis court, and go to the stop sign. Go right two blocks. A church alive is worth the drive. Sunday School - 10 AM; Worship - 11 AM, Alabama time. Everyone is welcome. Phone: 706-862-2607.

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10 AM, Worship at 11AM, Wednesday Bible Study at 6 PM. 256-634-4137.

The Mentone Revival Center and Pastor Alfred Chambers and his wife Polly, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10 AM, Wednesday evening worship begins at 6:30 PM.

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

Mentone Community Church invites you to join us for Sunday School at 10 AM and worship service at 10:45 AM. Bible Study Wed. 7:00 - 7:45 PM. Pastor Randy Addison welcomes all!

The Mentone Church of God of Prophecy wants to invite you to attend their services. Sunday School is at 10 AM, with Worship at 11 AM. Evening services begin at 6 PM. Rev. Charles Flannigan invites everyone to attend regular services.

Mentone Church of God invites you to attend their church. Sunday School - 10 AM; Morning Worship - 11 AM. Sunday evening - 6 PM; Wednesday evening - 6:30 PM. The new Pastor is Brian Hancock, who moved here with his wife Regina and their three children.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, Alabama, regular services are Sunday at 9:30 AM, with a time for fellowship after the services. Contact the church at 634-4476 for more information on any events or services. Everyone is welcome to join in worship services or special events.

The Mentone United Methodist Church services are at 11 AM each Sunday. Sunday school is at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome. The Pastor is Lee Brown. The Ethel Brown Unit of UMW meets on the 1st Wednesday at 1 PM in the fellowship hall; and the Mountain Laurel Unit of UMW meets on the 3rd Monday at 12:30 PM at the church.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to attend any of their services or activities. Two Morning Services with Children's Church are at 8:45 AM, with Sunday School at 10 AM, and the second service at 11 AM. GAs meet at 4:30 PM. Discipleship Training and Youth Choir meet at 5:00 PM, followed by Evening Worship at 6:00 PM. On Wednesday at 6:30 PM, Children's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall, the Youth have Bible Study and Recreation Time, Adults meet for Bible Study and Prayer.

NOTES FROM TOWN HALL

After several months of persistence, Hwy 117 is getting striped, which will make it easier to see at night especially when dark and rainy. One reason it took so long, paint cannot be put down during inclement weather.

The comments by D.O.T. on plans and drawings for the federal grant on curbs and sidewalks at the caution light are being reviewed and corrections are being completed. This grant was approved for funding in fiscal year 2001, which meant we could proceed with the drawings and specifications. Although it has just been released for completion, it will not be released for construction until fiscal year 2004. It just takes patience, perception, time and know how for a small town to get the help it needs from the government.

It appears that our rehab grant/loan of \$1,910,000 for a new tank, water office, and replacement of old lines will be out for bid this month with a bid opening on August 27, 2003.

The Waterworks Board policy regarding an adjustment for a water leak on the customer side is "leak adjustments may be given in extreme hardship cases by the Waterworks Board." To receive an adjustment, the customer must file a "COMPLAINT FORM" with the Clerk, which will be approved by the superintendent to appear before the board at its next regular scheduled meeting which is the 4th Thursday of each month. You will be notified if you are to appear before the board.

Those customers on the new lines that have not yet connected to the meter should do so before the August 11 meter reading. Next month, we will start billing a minimum bill. The Waterworks Board has been absorbing the last water rate increase of 11% in NOVEMBER 2002 from our supplier; but the Board will not be able to absorb the one coming in November 2003.

First Federal Bank

F	Fort Payne	Kaineville
F	845-1977	635-0242
B		637-0233

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Builder's Supply Company, Inc.

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- Business consulting

154 Commerce Ave. 635-0292
Valley Head, AL



Southern Properties Agency, Inc.

845-6000

302 Gault Ave. S., Fort Payne



email:info@Southern-agency.com

Visit our web site at: www.southernpropertiesagency.com



(1) You'll enjoy private living and lots of room in this mountain stone refuge with log siding. Great room with vaulted ceiling, fireplace, large master bedroom and bath, log canopy on front and covered back patio situated on 8 acres with pond. \$249,900.



(2) New Construction. Adorable cabin at Mentone with a private location. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, central heat and air, fireplace with open loft overlooking living area. Private lake. All on 6.741 acres. \$33,000.



(3) This custom built home offers 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large eat-in kitchen area, spacious living room with fireplace and multi-purpose basement and includes 2.9 acres. \$199,000.



(4) Room to room in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offering lots of extras. Great room with cathedral ceiling, wood floors, recreation room, barn and fenced pasture on 46 private acres connecting DeSoto State Park. \$269,900.



(5) Looking for a mountain retreat—a self-contained cabin, office building that could be converted into living quarters, numerous RV and camp sites all on 13+ secluded acres adjoining DeSoto State Park. \$350,000.



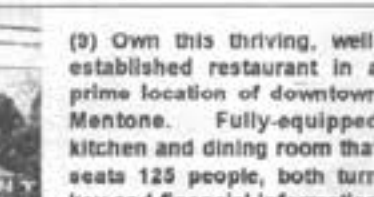
(6) Located on DeSoto Parkway, this home offers 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 lofts, wood floors, screened porch, deck with hot tub, 1 bedroom, 1 bath guest cottage, and more. ONLY \$239,900.



(7) Postcard setting with this 4 bedroom, 2 bath home featuring a 2-story living room with loft and wood burning fireplace, large country kitchen, 2 hot tubs and a 50' above-ground pool, stocked pond, barn, shed, storage building and 21 acres. ONLY \$145,000.



(8) This A-frame chateau sits on 1.9 +/- acres just off Hwy 117 South with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3-car garage, 3 central heat & air units and lots more. \$118,000 (PLS #11618)



(9) Own this thriving, well-established restaurant in a prime location of downtown Mentone. Fully-equipped kitchen and dining room that seats 125 people, both turn key and financial information furnished to serious buyers. \$397,500



(10) Hand-hewn log cabin on the edge of Lookout Mountain.....2 story living area features a mountain stone fireplace and exposed beams. Master bedroom on the main level with a large bedroom and sleeping loft upstairs. \$225,000.



(11) LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN. This home is situated on almost 4 acres near the rim of Little River Canyon and has a beautiful landscaped yard, a barn and tack room, eat-in kitchen with breakfast bar, stacked stone fireplace in the great room and a nice deck deck for entertaining. \$149,000 (PLS #11606)



(12) Almost maintenance-free BROW home with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, large eat-in kitchen with island, cozy living room with fireplace, den/pool room with pool table already there. Great views of the valley \$970,000.



(13) Rustic Mountain Lodge just minutes from DeSoto State Park—possible use as a single family residence or a commercial business. Fine and rock floors, great room with fireplace, 2 loft bedrooms with cat walk, 50 acres, and a 2-room guest house included. \$186,000.



(14) COUNTRY AT ITS BEST describes this rustic style home with spruce ceiling-floors and walls. Add charm to the 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and great room, large front porch looking out at a beautiful field from the 3.9 acre wooded lot. Listed at \$180,000. (PLS #11718)



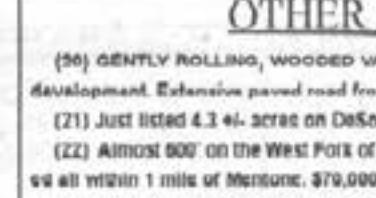
(15) Compelling 2-story home on the West Brow of Mentone with over 4000 sq. ft. featuring 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, great room with fireplace, large living room with fireplace, kitchen bath, hardwood and marble floors, screened porch and views from every room. \$449,900.



(16) Established old home place in historic Mentone. House is over 100 years old and is remarkable with 16.85 acres. This home has several primary beams and shingles all surrounded by huge Oak trees. Priced to sell and gone by far less than \$100,000.



(17) Brow home. Main house features 3 floors each with a bed and bath, living area, office space and/or sitting room. Decks and porches surround the house on all 3 levels. Detached 2 car garage with apartment upstairs, and 2.7 acres. \$168,888.



(18) GENTLY ROLLING, WOODED VACANT LAND IN VALLEY HEAD. Perfect for development. Extensive paved road frontage. 45 acres listed at \$3,000 per acre.

(21) Just listed 4.3 +/- acres on DeSoto Parkway. Only \$44,500.

(22) Almost 600' on the West Fork of Little River, gently rolling and heavily wooded all within 1 mile of Mentone. \$79,000

(23) BUILD YOUR WEEKEND GET-AWAY...on this 1.17 +/- acres filled with spectacular rock formations behind city hall in Mentone. \$14,500.

(24) PRIME PROPERTY on Hwy 11 North. This 130 +/- acre tract enjoys the setting of the valley with pristine views of pastures, ridges and Wills Creek which meanders through the property.

(26) LAND! Surround yourself with trees, gentle rolling pastures, water, and a beautiful view of Lookout Mountain. 67 acres of prime property located on Hwy. 11 between Fort Payne and Hammondsville is a dream come true. Call today! \$499,888

(25) LAND AND LAKE...40 +/- acres with a 541-acre lake and Brush Creek runs through it. This lake was stocked with Bass and Bream 2 years ago and is approximately 55' deep. Don't wait—act today! \$180,000.

(27) Brow Property...1.741 acres on County Road 188 near DeSoto State Park. \$37,500.

(28) 3.85 +/- acres on the Brow near DeSoto State Park. \$59,900.

(29) OPPORTUNITY AWAITS • 10 acres on Hwy 17, East of Mentone. 3 mobile homes and 2 one bedroom apartments and room to grow. Outside the city limits - no restrictions. Let your income pay for the property. \$180,000.

(30) RETREAT, RETREAT, RETREAT - If for any reason you want to or need to, this 40 acres is partly cleared and partly wooded with a large lake and wooded stream. Great for hunting cabins or full-time residence. \$170,000.

OTHER LISTINGS



(19) ENTIRE YOUR AFFECTION BE PRIDE LIVED AND ROOMINESS WITH THIS 5 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home on 5.6 acres. This traditional brick house also includes large eat-in kitchen with an island, Oak cabinets and French doors to living area and large screened porch. Add a large and you have great pastures with a barn already there. Priced to sell at \$399,000. (PLS #11715)



(10) Buy a Little Village called Vothalla - Twenty acres along Lookout Mountain overlooking West Fork Canyon National Preserve & DeSoto State Park including a large farmhouse and four unique cottages all with screened porches, living rooms, dining areas, and full kitchens surrounding security point. Call for details \$800,000 (PLS #11522)

Have a great
summer!



MAY 2003 PARADE PICTURES



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

2 Tim. 2:3-4

Those who have been saved have been chosen to be a soldier of Jesus Christ to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life. To be a good soldier on the battlefield, he couldn't entangle himself with the affairs of this life. To do so would not please the one who had chosen him.

So, please God and be happy.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

•Saturday, July 12, 1-4 PM (GA time), BBQ Dinner or Veggie Burger Dinner, Tri-Co Fire/Rescue Bldg., on GA/AL State Line.

•Saturdays July 12, 19, 26: 9-12 AM, Library for Kids, with the 26th being the Summer Reading Program Celebration

•Monday, July 14, 8 PM, Town Council meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

•Thursday, July 17, 8:00 P.M., Planning Commission Meeting, Town Hall

•Saturday, July 19, 7:00 P.M.,

Musical Mountain Strings, Town Square

•Thursday, July 24, 4 pm, Mentone Waterworks Board Meeting, 4pm, Town Hall

•Sat. July 26 (7PM) & Sun. July 27 (2:30PM), Community Theater Production, Pandora and the Magic Box, Mentone Inn Square

•August 2-11, WORLD'S LONGEST YARD SALE

•Friday/Saturday/Sunday: August 1-3, and 8-10, Book Sale, Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library, front porch

•Tuesday, August 4, DeSoto Rescue Squad Meeting, 6PM, Mentone Community House

•Tuesday, August 4, MAPA Meeting, 7PM, Mentone Community House

•Friday, August 8, SCHOOL BEGINS

•Monday, August 11, 6PM, Town Council meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

•Tuesday, August 12, 12:30, Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House

•Tuesday, August 12, 5:00 PM, Mentone Tourism & Events Committee Meeting, Mentone Community House, to discuss special events for fall (everyone interested, please come and give your input)

•Tuesday, August 12, 8:30 P.M., American Legion Post 216 Meeting, American Legion Hall

•Saturday, August 16, 7:00 P.M., Musical Mountain Strings, Town Square

Come enjoy all the events and meetings in Mentone!!!

The DeKalb County Library

Bookmobile Schedule:

Mentone at Town Hall parking lot on Wednesdays

from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

• July 2 (vacation), July 16, 30

The Bookmobile is in
VALLEY HEAD

on the same days from 1:15 to 2:15

and in HAMMONDVILLE

on the same days from 2:30 to 3:30