

Celebrating  
24 years  
in print.

THE

# GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

Provided  
FREE  
Since 1982  
by M.A.P.A.

Volume 24, No.6

"Neighorly "News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

June 2006

## MERF HOUSE NEEDS NEW ROOF



(L) Photo of the Community House--back view. (R) Community House sign on AL 117

In 1993, a dream came true for many in Mentone as the Mentone Education Resources Foundation was established as a non-profit organization and purchased the old Shigley home next to Moon Lake School. Renovations with the communities' help produced a wonderful meeting place to be used by the Mentone Community. Anyone can use the building for meetings, family reunions, baby showers, wedding showers or any other type of gathering.

The mission of MERF is to enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources. In the Spring and Fall, senior lunches are provided on Wednesdays and enjoyed by all who come. Food is provided by people and organizations of the community. Every third Thursday, the Book Club meets to discuss the monthly read. Recently, it was Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. Many take advantage of the walking track provided in front of the community house. MERF also provides a teacher for the art, music and Spanish pro-

grams at Moon Lake Elementary. November always brings the annual Health Fair. And this last December, the Nativity Play, written and produced by Patty Bryan, raised money for the arts programs that MERF supports. Additionally, Field trips at Moon Lake have been supplemented with funding from MERF such as the recent trip to the High Museum in Atlanta.

Boy Scout troop 106, local churches, all of the camps, many of the bed and breakfasts, the Rhododendron Garden Club, the Mentone Library, Little River Hardware and local artisans, carpenters, musicians, story tellers and others have given of their time, talent, and expertise to maintain the community house. MERF is grateful for all of the support given in a variety of ways by the community.

Now, the Community House is in need of specific support to put a new roof on the community house so that all of the functions and activities can continue. The money raised for 2006 is earmarked for the arts program at Moon Lake so an additional

\$4000 needs to be raised to replace the roof. If you would like to join MERF in offering a wonderful gathering place for the community, please send your tax deductible donations to MERF at P.O. Box 107, Mentone, AL 35984. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sarah Wilcox at 634-4673 or [info@mountain-lau-rel-inn.com](mailto:info@mountain-lau-rel-inn.com). Thanks for being a great community to call home.

### SUBSCRIBERS:

#### PLEASE NOTE YOUR MAILING LABEL.

If the words, "Subscription Expired" appears or your subscription date is highlighted, please renew as soon as possible, as there will be no other notice. Thank you.

Standard Mail (A)  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 1  
Mentone, AL 35984

CAR-R-SORT  
Postal Customer  
Mentone, AL 35984

# THE GROUNDHOG

PO 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 5, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

## THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

Editor.....Evelyn Graves  
Associate Editor/Typesetter.....Marie Dillenbeck  
Contributing Editors.....John Baty, Linda Brown, Bernise Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Evelyn Graves, Sue Schwarz, L.C. Moon

## MAPA OFFICERS

President.....Dessie Brown  
Vice President.....Dot Crow  
Treasurer.....Gregory Coe  
Secretary.....Marie Dillenbeck  
Parliamentarian.....Bernise Crow  
Member at Large.....Lucille Crowe  
Member at Large.....Page Cunningham  
Member at Large.....Evelyn Graves

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 20TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.



## Thanks from MAPA for a wonderful Rhododendron Festival

By Dessie Brown, MAPA President

Mentone, Alabama was the setting for one of the greatest Rhododendron Festivals ever. The weather was great on Friday night and Saturday. Spring on the mountain was popping out with color and beauty of the Rhododendron plants.

It takes a lot of people working together behind the scenes to have a successful festival. I want to thank all of the long-time members of MAPA and to all the newer members of MAPA that joined in to help make this festival a success. Without the newer members it could not have been done.

I couldn't begin to name everyone individually for their help for fear I would leave someone out, but to each and every one of you that stuffed envelopes, helped with the planning of activities, music, vendors, food, advertising, sitting at the MAPA booth, sold a Rhododendron plant and those that bought them, and to all that bought a ticket on the gorgeous hand-made quilt. All of us want to thank the Vendors for participating in the event and every visitor that attended. A great Big Thank You To ALL.

The parade and the entertainers were enjoyed by all present.

I would like to invite more Vendors with "hand-crafted Arts and Crafts" to register for our fall

'Colorfest'. It will be the third Weekend in October. Dates this year will be October 21st and 22nd. You can request an application by E-mailing to Page Cunningham at [pages@bellsouth.net](mailto:pages@bellsouth.net) or Dessie Brown at [dessiebrn@charter.net](mailto:dessiebrn@charter.net) or call Page at 1-256-997-9051 or Dessie at 1-256-634-3682. Looking forward to hearing from you soon. We would love to add you to our list of great vendors.

Mentone Area Preservation Association or 'MAPA' of Mentone, Alabama sends a Great Big Thank You to 'ALL THE VENDORS' for participating in the event. To: John Adams, Sabrina Anthony, Devin Breithaupt, Mark Berryman, Pat Brown, Carol Chaney, Anne Marie Coughlin, James Connell, Catherine Cook, Becky Dooley, Ruth E. Ellis, Phil & Kathy Faircloth, Kelly Farley, Joe Grizzard, Susan Hill, Charles Holcomb, Debra Lester, Bobbye Land, Kay Lollar, Moon Lake Church, Moonlake Alumni, Mentone Realty, MERF - Sarah Wilcox, Carolyn Nation, J. P. Nation, Dot Pippin, Delciha Poe, Rising Fawn Fiber Studio-sponsor Crystal Lake Lodging, Mentone Area Arts Council-Beverly Smith, Sue Sides, Pigeon Creek-Tommy Sprayberry, Mary Shaw, Joe Walker, Linda Watwood, Arnold G. Young. We are looking for all of you back in October.

See you in the fall!!!



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Nippersink Lodge  
April 28, 2006

Dear Evelyn,

Nippersink Lodge opened the 2006 season on Friday, May 5th, with a Sunday School Class Group from the Methodist Church in Bessemer, Alabama.

The members of the class now are not sure how long the group has been coming this date each year, but know it is 40 years plus. Some of them still remember Annalee and Elizabeth.

Ed and I are keeping on and Therese will be up full time from Rome as soon as St. Mary's closes in early June.

You and your Staff do a great job with The Groundhog. Thanks and keep up the good work.

Gerry Disney

Use this form to subscribe to

**The Groundhog**  
www.TheGroundhog.com

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Have The Groundhog delivered to your mailbox! Give The Groundhog for a birthday present or as a special gift for someone you love. If gift, give name and complete address of recipient. Renew your own subscription. Still just \$10/year. Send your check payable to:



MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION  
ASSOCIATION (MAPA)  
P.O. BOX 50, MENTONE, AL 35984  
www.MentoneAlabama.org

Your membership/subscription is tax deductible.

## The Groundhog

www.TheGroundhog.com

### Advertising Rates

|                                          |          |
|------------------------------------------|----------|
| Full page.....                           | \$305.00 |
| 1/2 page.....                            | \$205.00 |
| 1/3 page.....                            | \$145.00 |
| 1/4 page.....                            | \$110.00 |
| 1/6 page..... 3.25x5.8.....              | \$ 60.00 |
| 1/9 page.....                            | \$ 40.00 |
| Business Card Size.....                  | \$ 25.00 |
| Classified Ads (minimum of 3 lines)..... | \$ 3.00  |
| Set up charges.....                      |          |

Photos .....initial shot \$ 5.00

No charge if the ad is camera ready.

Changes: \$2.50 up --

depending on the extent of the change

We will negotiate prices for a long-term contract on ads.

## NOTICE

We reserve the right to reject, without explanation, any ad or article submitted to The Groundhog for publication, and we reserve the right to edit the article.



# Keep Danny LaMunyon Circuit Clerk

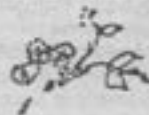
*"I take public service very seriously."*

**Vote June 6 Democratic Primary**

Pd. for by Comm. to Elect Danny LaMunyon Circuit Clerk, 12254 County Road 72, Fyffe, Alabama 35971

**COPPERLEAF INTERIORS**  
Antiques, Art, Appraisals  
and Estate Sales  
Lyn Barnes  
(256) 634-3006

a "rustic touch of class"



**Mountain Laurel Inn**

Innkeeper: Sarah Wilcox  
For Reservations, Call (256) 634-4673 or (800) 899-4244  
or write P.O. Box 443, Mentone, AL 35984  
[www.mountain-laurel-inn.com](http://www.mountain-laurel-inn.com)

**Little River Hardware**

5190 AL Hwy 117

Mentone, Alabama 35984

Voice: 256.634.4757 ~ Fax: 256.634.4105  
Toll Free: 800.634.4787



**T & C  
Lawn Care**

Valley Head, AL 35989  
(256) 630-3201

Free Estimates  
Commercial and Residential  
Ask for Tom or Chris

"Continuous service by the same family since 1933"

**BROWN'S  
CLEANING & LAUNDRY**  
"An old company with new ideas"

•Uniform Rental •Dust Control •Vault Storage for Furs & Woolens  
•Drapery Cleaning with Machine Decorator Fold •Suede, Leather &  
Fur Cleaning •Fire Restoration & Odor Removal •Wedding Gown  
Preservation •Alterations •Linen Rental •Pillow Cleaning

817 Gault Ave. N (256) 845-3241  
Full Laundry Service

**Ecological Designs, Inc.**

Custom building  
a more beautiful home for you

Lyle Nicely

Alabama State Licensed Contractor

Ph: 256-634-4124

Low Maintenance  
Superior Quality

•Construction  
•Design  
•Site Prep

# PRIME REALTY

HUD HOMES REGISTERED BROKER

FHA Loan Amount Maximum \$172,632--3% Down Payment

1065 Commerce Street • Summerville, GA 30747

•Phone (706) 857-5980 •Fax (706) 857-5970 •e-mail primerealty@atttel.net

•GA/AL BROKER •HUD 203K CONSULTANT INSPECTOR

Visit our website at www.primerealty-ga.com



Licensed Sales Agents:

Steve Baker, Owner/ Broker - (706) 506-6609

James H. Herb Cole III - Mobile (706) 857-8880

Susan Heape - Cell (256) 996-2309

Elaine Dillard - Mobile (706) 331-6980



Nothing is Freeing, Nothing is



OAKHILL-ALPINE ROAD, MENLO--Country living conveniently located between Menlo & Lyerly. 8+/- acres of ground wiremodeled farm house, barn & pond. House offers entrance, living room w/sunroom, kitchen w/large pantry, 2 bedrooms & 1 bath. Completely remodeled & new roof; features pine flooring & CHVAC. Shown by appt. \$129,000



LAURAWOOD SUBDIVISION, MENTONE--Custom home located on the brow of the mountain--Offers great room, custom kitchen, family room, 3 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, CHVAC, walk-in closet, hardwoods/carpets/tile. 3+/- acres w/300+/- feet of brow frontage. Call for more information and details. REDUCED



OLD STATE ROAD, CLOUDLAND--Investment property. Built in 1993, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Rural area, 4.62 -acre lot. Proof of funds/earnest money required by seller. \$99,750



ANNOUNCING "CREST VIEW" - private 7 tract development- Co Rd 103 - Water and Power - Brow, great views of Shinbone Valley.



HIGHWAY 48, MENLO-COMMERCIAL PROPERTY--Excellent opportunity! Building w/front office area & shop area w/5bays. Nice paved lot, 2 storage trailers & 20 storage units. Listed at \$175,000.



EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER ESTATES Custom home approximately 8+/- acres.... country-style home features spacious wraparound porch & private lot. downstairs offers living room w/fireplace, custom kitchen, dining room, laundry room, half bath, master bedroom & master bath w/walk-in shower & whirlpool tub. Upstairs offers family area, 2 bedrooms-each w/private bath. Priced at \$219,000.



LYERLY DAM ROAD, LYERLY--Lovely period home sits on approx. 3.5 sheltered acres of ground and offers the charm of another era. An abundance of space, this home features downstairs entrance foyer, front parlor, formal dining room, living room, casual dining room, kitchen, laundry, downstairs master bed/bath w/sitting room. Upstairs offers 3 add'l bedrooms/sitting areas, family room & full bath. CHVAC, hardwood floors and many extras. Convenient to town & complete w/city sewage, this home would be ideal for a B&B. Shown by appt. No. G-027



HIGHWAY 117, MENTONE - Country Cottage w/old Mentone charm. Convenient to everything--walk or bike to downtown. Nestled on lovely lot shaded by huge trees & landscaped 2 w/irhododendrons, this getaway offers a garden spot, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath & furnishings. Call Susan Heape for appt. at 256-996-2309

## SUBSCRIBE TO



## THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone • Valley Head • Hammondville • Cloudland • Menlo

It's Easy...Have The Groundhog delivered to your mailbox!

Still Just \$10/per year for individuals and \$15/year for husband and wife. Send check today payable to:

MENTONE AREA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (MAPA),

P.O. BOX 50

MENTONE, AL 35984

Your membership/subscription is tax deductible.



Angela J. Wood  
Owner and AL/GA Broker

6090 Highway 117, South  
P.O. Box 44  
Lookout Mountain Parkway  
Mentone, Alabama 35984

# LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN

Preferred Realty, LLC  
L M P R

Office: (256) 634-4672  
Home: (256) 634-4169  
1-888-256-1276

Fax: (256) 634-4702

E-mail address • AngelaWood@Earthlink.net

Website - www.LookoutMountainProperties.com



(1) and (2) **SPEND WEEKENDS ON THE LAKE.** Choose to stay outdoors on the many decks and pavilion or come and enjoy the inside of the cottage with open living/kitchen with rock fireplace. 3 bdrms, 1 bath. All pine floors, C/H/A, Great Boating, canoeing, or go for a swim. \$269,500

(3 & 4) **COTTAGE ON LAKE:** Cottage on Lake Lahusage, Mentone. 3 bdrm 2 bath, open Great Room design. Double sided stack Rock Fireplace. Large screened porch. 2 Decks, one with Hot Tub, walkway to the Dock. Float, Boat, or Fish from this wonderful Home. \$350,000.



(5) **MENTONE LIVING,** Historical Martha Berry Home in downtown. This unique 6 bedroom 7 bath home. Four Fireplaces, dining room 2 living areas, and two Large Relaxing Porches. This home also features a recently remodeled Kitchen and a Hot Tub with Wood Deck. Fully furnished on 1.3 acres with Native Foliage. Much more amenities. \$449,000. Check Out photos on www.mentoneliving.com Photo to the left



(6) **SECLUDED EAST BROW VIEW TRACTS:** Great view of the valley below. 3 to choose from or buy combination for more privacy. Over 5 acres each. \$50,000.

(7) **CANYON VIEW FOREST** on the East rim of Little River Canyon. 5 acres wooded with Canyon View and access. private Gated area. A must see. \$70,000.



(8) **ONE AND ONE HALF LITTLE RIVER CANYON.** 5 acres in Canyon View Forest Subdivision, Adjoins the Little River National Preserve, Bluff View of the canyon below. Wooded gently sloping. Private gated roads. \$77,500 (PLS 14847)

(9) **VALLEY VIEW FOREST.** 5.3 acres on the East Brow of Lookout Mountain. Private, wooded and adjoins Wild Life Management and Little River Canyon just minutes away. \$50,000. (PLS 14893)

## OTHER PROPERTIES

- (10) **OAKWOOD SUBDIVISION.** 3 acre tract for \$24,000. Restricted.
- (11) **WOODED RECREATIONAL LOT** in Mentone. \$9,500
- (12) **5.7 ACRES** with a view of Lake Lahusage. Driveway and partially Cleared for Homesite. Paved road and city water available. \$58,000.
- (13) **WHAT A FIND ON LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.** 62 acres with **SOLD** Creek. The Homesite has been cleared. Gravel drive. Lots of trails and wildlife. A must see. \$310,000.
- (14) **WILD RIVER COMMUNITY.** 1 tract left 220x300 on the East Fork Little River. Secluded and scenic, with Pools and Rapids. \$60,000.

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

List with the Company Specializing in: Mentone, Mountain Homes, Woodland, Canyon, River and Brow Properties

## Body Maintenance

**Donna C. Sutton**  
Nationally Certified in  
Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork  
#01929300  
AL #95  
Establishment # E-1013



AL Hwy 117  
Mentone, AL 35984  
256/634-3032  
256/634-4688  
By Appointment Only

## DIXIE'S

Handcrafted jewelry and more  
Located between Boy Scout Camp  
and DeSoto State Park  
On Brow Road and Co Rd 600  
**256-634-4137**



*Cakes by Larry  
&  
Catering*  
**LARRY GRAY**  
Phone: (256) 634-4655

Cakes for all occasions. Wedding Cakes, Birthday Cakes, Character Cakes



*Your support helps St. Jude patients like Macy and Jesús.*

## ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL® News Release

Shady Grove Dude Ranch, Contact: Ms. Janis Carrier  
Mentone, AL 35984; (256) 634-4344

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® has announced that plans are being made for the June 17, 2006, **Saddle Up for St. Jude Trail Ride**. Ms. Janis Carrier will serve as the coordinator for this event and she encourages all residents to support this important community effort.

At St. Jude, scientists and physicians are working side-by-side seeking not only a better means of treatment, but also the causes, cures, and prevention of leukemia, Hodgkin's disease, sickle-cell anemia, pediatric AIDS, and other child-killing diseases. All findings are shared with doctors around the world to ensure that children everywhere will benefit from the work being done at St. Jude.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® is internationally recognized for its pioneering work in finding cures and saving children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases. founded by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, and based in Memphis, TN, St. Jude freely shares its discoveries with scientific and medical communities around the world. No family ever pays for treatments not covered by insurance, and families without insurance are never asked to pay. St. Jude is financially supported by ALSAC, its fundraising organization.

For more information, please visit [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org).

For further information regarding this event, contact Ms. Janis Carrier at (256) 634-4344.

## Prizes for Participants

Participants raising \$175: Cap, Sweatshirt, Sports Bag, T-shirt & Lapel Pin

Participants raising \$125: Sweatshirt, Sports Bag, T-shirt & Lapel Pin

Participants raising \$75: Sports Bag, T-shirt & Lapel Pin

Participants raising \$35: T-shirt & Lapel Pin

All participants turning in money: Lapel Pin

**Date:** Saturday - June 17, 2006

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Place:** Shady Grove Dude Ranch, 830 Rd 948, Mentone, AL 35984

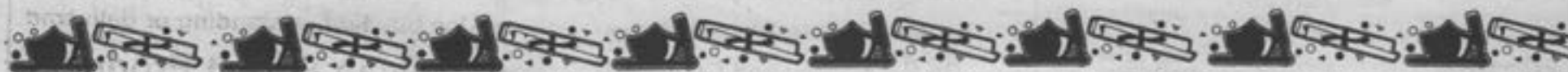
**Coordinator:** Janis Carrier

**Local Saddle-Up Headquarters:** Shady Grove Dude Ranch

**Local Phone Number:** 256-634-4344

### How to Participate:

1. Pick up sponsor form and start signing up sponsors today
2. Check your riding gear for safety. Dress comfortable.  
Be sure to wear your helmet.
3. Bring your completed forms to register at the time and place listed. If under 18, be sure your parent/guardian has signed the forms.
4. Collect and turn in pledges.



Call 256-634-4344

## LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY by Linda Brown

Beware!! Forewarned is well armed! Now you have been warned that all of the books have been moved on the community side of the library! The FRIENDS of the Library held a workday on Saturday, May 27 and one of the many things that were accomplished was to rearrange the books. The fiction now starts where the Dewey Decimal System of numbered books were, on the wall between the windows. The books of fiction continue around the room in the shelves against the wall. The last ones (X, Y, Z) are now where the Christian fiction was.

The only books in the same shelves are the large print editions. That section now has plenty of room to grow as that will be all that is put there for some time to come. The Christian fiction is on the opposite side of these freestanding shelves. There will be room to grow there also.

The Dewey Decimal System (numbered) ones are now in the other two freestanding shelf units. They start on the other side of the aisle from the Christian fiction and continue and end across the aisle from the window seat. As you know, the Dewey Decimal System starts will number 00 and continues to 999. Look for blue labels to help you find what you need.

The biographies are in the same place under the room divider at the front entrance. They were shifted to make more room. This put the DeKalb County, Mentone and Moon Lake Elementary School materials on the two bottom shelves. At this writing they are in a state of disarray, but I will work on straightening them the next time I work in the library. We have such a wonderful collection on these subjects. I could just go to the library and sit in the rocking chair for hours and read these materials. We may have an almost complete set of MLES yearbooks, we have gathered them from many sources. I will put them in better order soon. You are welcome to read and copy material from any or all of these, but they cannot be checked out of the library.

Hopefully all of this work will enable our patrons to find what they want to read much faster and easier. Our library has grown so fast that we had put books wherever we had space available. So when we had a lot of willing hands available, we took advantage and moved the books into a more sensible order.

Some of the volunteers performed other much needed tasks. Many prepared and covered newly processed books for the shelves so that they could be placed before we left. Others dusted, cleaned windows and did other housekeeping chores.

While we were there, Dianne Kuehl processed books and trained a new person to keep the library. Dianne will start to work at Camp Skyline in June and will not be working at the library for two or three months. You can continue to bring any books that you want to donate. Sue Schwarz and Jan Wilkinson are the committee to determine if we already have that book on the shelves and if we do whether to put the donated books in the yard sale or take them to McKay's for credit to purchase other books with. Bring your books during any open hours of the library. Now that school is not in session, the library will be closed except on the days that the community is using it.

The members of the Board of Directors have been preparing for the August Longest Yard Sale since we loaded up the books left over from the 2005 sale. We have a lady who will come from Birmingham to Mentone and take any books that we have left at the end of the sale. She has a used book store and uses these books to stock her shelves. We have been asked if she throws them in a landfill and we have been assured by her that she does not. She seems to love books enough that she would never do that.

The dates for the Moon Lake Library Book Sale are Thursday, August 3, 2006 through Saturday, August 5, 2006. This will be the same dates as part of the Longest Yard Sale. The times will be 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The place will be under the cover of the front porch of the Moon Lake Library directly on Alabama Highway 117. We have found that being open on Thursday gives vendors coming into Mentone to set up their booths a chance to buy new books to read during the weekend. Most of our buyers on Friday and Saturday are visitors who are in town to buy items from the sale.

I have found that there are several people in Mentone who sell books on the internet. I would urge them or anyone who is interested in stocking a used book store to come and buy on Thursday when the selections are better. Also, we have many local people who like to check books out of the library but have stated that they like to have at least one or two paperbacks to take along on trips or to read in waiting rooms. We will have all of our paperbacks on display on Thursday. We put all of the books out on Thursday, we do not replenish the stock each day. So come early for the best buys. Our books are very reasonably priced.

Our two newest members of the board, Ann Chesnut and Mickey Luck, have been welcomed aboard and put to work. Ann will be in charge of the FRIENDS of the Library program and Mickey will be contacting someone to be our next author for our Meet the Author program. Ann takes over for Sue Schwarz who is the secretary and Mickey is doing his job because Gene Giles will now be doing the annual calendar. If you want to have your birthdays and anniversaries included in the 2007 calendar, contact a member of the board or mail them to the address at the end of this column. This will also serve as your order for a calendar next year and it will be delivered to you well before Christmas. You can always call me with this information at 634-8006.

The library will continue to be open all summer with the exception of Tuesday, July 4. We will have at least two volunteers on duty at all times to assist you in finding a book or doing research. Remember that we now have access to the internet but not the capability to send, read or receive e-mail. This is because the library is also a school library.

During the summer we like it when parents and grandparents bring children to the library and read books with them. The temperature stays at 72 degrees inside and tables and chairs are available. All school books are available to you.

Come visit the library, you will be surprised to find over 5,000 books and wonderful volunteers to make you feel welcome.

To become a FRIEND, a volunteer in the library or to make a suggestion, you may write to us at this address: Moon Lake Community Library  
Post Office Box 481  
Mentone AL 35984

**OPEN HOURS**  
**TUESDAY, 3:00 - 7:00 P.M.**  
**THURSDAY, 3:00 - 7:00 P.M.**  
**SATURDAY, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON**

Readers: **DO NOT** email any articles or pictures to the website [www.TheGroundhog.com](http://www.TheGroundhog.com) as we are not receiving any items. We have removed the listing of the website from the paper.  
Editor

## ALABAMA MOUNTAIN CABIN MENTONE WILDLIFE AREA

Approx. 6 acres Little River  
3 BDR, Log burning fireplace,  
baseboard heating. Completely  
furnished. \$182,700.  
Call 630-655-1210

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**  
10 acres on a ridge with views of  
both mountains. Also 1.7 acres  
located 2 miles from Mentone in  
Valley Head. Nice neighborhood  
with mature hardwood and pine  
trees.

**256-635-6400**

**BANDSAWED LUMBER,  
FLOORING, MOLDING, SIDING,  
V-GROOVE PANELING AND MORE.**

Custom orders welcome.  
Also buy timber standing or delivered.

**Millican Forest Products**  
Call 256-516-2410

# Mentone Realty

5846 AL HWY 117  
Mentone, AL 35984

*Escape to the Mountains of North Alabama*



#### INTRIGUING CABIN!

Savor the welcoming air in this beautiful 3BR/2BA Cabin. Designer wood walls, ceilings and floors. Discover great looks as well as great living! \$229,000



#### RUSTIC FLAVOR REFINED TASTE

Cypress log cabin on 6 ac in wading distance of Little River Canyon. Wraparound porch, stone FP, antique oak floors, hot tub. New. \$350,000



#### YOUR OWN PIECE OF THE WORLD!

Great rock formations surround you on this 1/2 acre wooded lot. There is a septic tank and water on the property. \$39,900



#### HISTORIC TREE LINED STREET!

Downtown location in Valley Head. 3 bedroom home with metal roof has large yard and a garage shop. Admired by many but can be owned by you. \$69,900



#### LOOKOUT! LAND!

21.8 acres on Lookout Mountain! County Water down the paved road. Septic at the end of chert drive. Call TODAY! \$110,000



#### DESOTO PARKWAY GETAWAY

Minutes from DeSoto St. Park, this 3BR, 1BA cabin is freshly-decorated inside, newly-landscaped outside. Weekend retreat or rental. \$65,000.



#### IDEAL FOR MINI FARM

With creek as N border, this 3.71 +/- ac. tract offers mixture of woods and overgrown pasture, level to gently rolling. Lightly restricted. \$18,000.



Neil Colbert  
Broker  
256-899-3810

**256-634-4767**

[www.mentonerealtyinc.c.com](http://www.mentonerealtyinc.c.com)



Charlotte Gentry  
Sales Associate  
256-996-5995

## ST. JOSEPH'S ON THE MOUNTAIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH VANN-MCCARY SCHOLARSHIPS

St. Joseph's is now accepting applications for the Vann-McCary Scholarship Fund. This fund has provided many scholarships to students from the Mentone and Valley Head area for quite a few years and applications from qualified candidates will be taken until June 10, 2006.

Priority is given based on financial need and academic record. Before the scholarship is awarded, proof of admission and enrollment must be provided on an official form from the school. The scholarship is available for a maximum of four years. The student must maintain a course load of 8 credits per semester and must maintain the equivalent of a 2.8 grade point average on a scale of 4 in order to qualify for the succeeding years.

To obtain an application, contact the church office, 634-4476, or Gethryn Giles at 634-3661.

## MENTONE TIRE AND AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

Oil Change Specials  
(regular price \$23.95)

|          |                |         |
|----------|----------------|---------|
| MONDAYS  | SENIORS DAY    | \$19.95 |
|          | (65 and older) |         |
| TUESDAYS | SENIORS DAY    | \$19.95 |

\*Vehicles requiring over 5 qts of oil and diesel vehicles require an additional charge.

Detailing & hand washing available each  
Saturday by appointment.

See us for all your automobile needs.

3394 Hwy 117  
Mentone, AL 35984  
256-634-0008

Hours  
M-F 8:00-5:00  
Sat 8:00-Noon

By Sally S. King

The floodwaters of Hurricane Katrina had barely receded from the ghost town that was New Orleans and all along the Gulf Coast to the east and far inland there was total devastation.

The many displaced were now living all points east and west in shelters and temporary housing supplied by relief agencies and a good deal of them were relieved to be removed from the dangers they had survived. They would begin new lives away from the Big Easy. Not one of them would have wished themselves back onto the roofs of their houses or into the flooded streets rife with snakes, dead bodies and disease or back into the stench and starvation at the Superdome.

Help had been slow in coming. School buses that should have been used for evacuation sat idle under three foot of water in a city parking lot. Food sat rotting in refrigerated trucks just outside the city and the troops sent to the area did little more than create chaos at times. Little supplies found their way to the Superdome where thousands waited in need.

There were those who had remained behind by choice to protect their property or for the thrill of it, refusing aid when it was offered and daring the troops to set foot on their property.

Now less than a month later evacuees who had relocated farther west into Texas would be forced to flee the coming wrath of yet another storm as Hurricane Rita tore into the gulf after passing over Key West like a second dose of Witches Brew and well might finish the job Katrina had started. The troops were leaving New Orleans bringing with them stragglers who remained behind, moving further inland toward Oklahoma City and Little Rock while resources of nearby states were set low by the arrival of over a million evacuees and more were coming every day seeking help because of the lack of planning and preparation by big government.

The job of providing for these eventually fell on private agencies and groups. Yet not since the Dust Bowl had there been so many people on the move and no one had seen such numbers of Military personnel on southern soil since the Civil War.

The Gulf Coast now looked more like a third world country than America. It would take years to fully repair the damage Katrina had caused, years to rebuild those expensive homes along barrier islands and on the edge of wetlands where none should have been in the first place and it was possible some areas along the Coast might never recover.

The Army Corp of Engineers was questioning the integrity of New Orleans canal and levy system which had failed to do their job against the onslaught of water. The system was old and never designed to

## PORTRAITS OF KATRINA

sustain a Category 5 storm.

The National Weather Service did little to make the future of the gulf brighter. The bad news was that this was a longterm weather pattern as predictions were made that category five storms could become the rule in upcoming years.

The fear could be felt inside the cars moving in a constant line away from the coast, cars full of screaming babies, barking dogs and personal belongings.

The fear was palpable at the sight of "No Gas" signs along the Evacuation Routes and the presence of Military Personnel posted along the way. It felt like the end of the world to the twice removed evacuees riding the buses from Texas clutching bags of donated items they now called "belongings".

The entire Gulf Coast took on the feel of an abandoned kingdom and all along the "Redneck Rivera", the kingdom lay in ruin.

The words of these people caught on the pages of this book speak of confusion, loss and struggle but above all hope.

These are their stories.

### I SAW A MAP...

Now I've been watching the weather a lot lately since we've got one storm after another coming into the gulf. I've been horrified when I see all those people down there begging for help there in the Superdome and all along the coast.

I used to live down in New Orleans when I taught at Tulane. But after I retired, we moved back up toward Memphis where I was born and I'm glad we did. I sure wouldn't want to be caught up in that drama.

This weather is unnatural and I've been aware of it for several years now. I guess it all started back in the mid-eighties and just kept getting worse.

Now everyone knows that New Orleans is nothing but a big bowl just waiting to be filled with some wicked gumbo and right now she's full to the brim.

But I am reminded of something I saw once when I was on a fishing trip up in the Ozarks with a buddy of mine. His name was Ross Redhawk and he was a full blooded Cherokee born and raised over in Northeast Alabama and he took me to see an old man who lived way up in the hills of Arkansas in a cabin all by himself.

We had to hike two hours to get up there from the road along the river but Ross said the hike was well worth it to hear what he had to say. John Davis cabin was filled with every kind of book and document you could imagine. It was more like a library that a home but that's the way he liked it. He had his own system of knowing where everything was. That was because he hadn't moved anything in fifty years.

We sat there around an old table with him and by the dim light of the oil lamp hanging overhead, he unrolled a yellowed map of the United States and we weighted the crumbling corners down with coffee cups.

He told us he had drawn the map after World War Two when he returned for his tour of duty in Germany. He said he had been having dreams of these things and voice told him one night to get a pen and paper.

Along the border of the map he had written in notes. These notes were the predictions he had made. They spoke of the assassination of a president and the war in Viet Nam. Of social unrest in America between those brought here as slaves and the whites and of evil secrets in the White House.

He wrote of trouble in the Middle East and the battle over oil and the downfall of the Soviet Union. He wrote that an actor would become president and that the cold war would be ended. He made notes about attacks against America, a hidden war fought on our own soil and terrorism in our cities. He said that many would die on American soil. He said the war would continue for many years unnecessarily.

He spoke of weather manipulation and extreme changes to our climate and certainty of earthquakes along the west coast and the mid west. But most amazing of all was the timeline he drew of the coming storms which would trigger other natural events and alter the map of the United States dramatically.

The map was a frightening thing and although I know that earth changes have occurred for millions of years, it was hard for me to imagine it actually happening. Most of California, Oregon and Washington State were gone and the coast was far inland near Colorado and New Mexico. Only half of Texas remained. Louisiana, most of Mississippi and Alabama and the whole of Florida were gone.

The headwaters of the Mississippi were widened into a great lake and continued down into Missouri, covering most of that state as well as the whole of Memphis where the Mississippi blended with the Tennessee river to form a massive lake across Tennessee to Nashville and down to the top of Alabama. The coastline along the east coast was much further inland and most of New York was now underwater.

I still remember how I felt looking at those changes and now that I see what Katrina and the other storms have done, I think about it every day. I wonder what happened to him and all of his things. Lately I have been trying to call Ross Redhawk to see if I can find out. I think the world should see that map. It might wake everybody up.



## NIPPERSINK LODGE

On Lookout Mountain at DeSoto Falls

PO Box 172

Mentone, Alabama 35985

(256) 634-3610

Advance Reservations Required

## Dixie Salvage

3630 N. Gault Avenue  
Fort Payne, Alabama 35967

JOHN CROW

Business (256) 845-5475

FAX (256) 845-5475

## Arts & Jazz on Town Square

by L.C. Moon

On the lawn of the Mentone Inn Saturday, May 20th was a display of some of the best artists in the region. Sandra Comley did a wonderful job of coordinating the Wildflower Art Show with the help of the Mentone Area Arts Council. What great fun the entire day was for the guests, locals and artists.

Later in the evening we had wonderful Jazz performed by Karen Gruber and the Sonny Harris Trio. All that were in attendance enjoyed the beautiful weather and great Mentone atmosphere coupled with Jazz.

To acquire quality entertainment it is not free so I would like to thank the following businesses for their support of Mentone in helping me provide a wonderful gift of music to the locals and the guests:

Mentone Inn (Ms. Gloria provided 2 rooms for 2 nights which is a wonderful gift)

Mentone Area Arts Council, Mentone Realty (Neil Colbert), Gourdie Shop, Mountain Laurel Inn, Ecological Designs/Enchanted Gardens, Hummingbird House, Stone Ridge Cottage, Chestnut Tree Antiques, Cones of Mentone. Special thanks to Mike Campbell - owner of the Mentone Inn for allowing Mentone Area Arts Council to use the lawn for the Art Show.

It is community involvement of businesses and great events like the Wildflower Art Show, music & festivals that help support the revenue and quaintness of Mentone so the town can continue to be a place that is great to live and visit. We hope you can join us on the town square each 3rd Saturday of the month.

If you are interested in donating to the Independence Day July Fireworks Show in Mentone please please contact me 634-3333. The more money we raise the better the show will be. We plan to have music and fireworks the weekend before the 4th of July. How great to not have to leave the mountain and fight crowds to enjoy a spectacular event.

*No one can occupy  
a neutral position; He who  
does not give himself wholly  
to God is under the control  
of another power.*



## HEARTWOOD RETREAT CENTER open house



Interactive Demonstrations & Sessions  
with Lookout Mountain Area Healers  
& Wholistic Health Practitioners

Saturday, June 10 & Sunday, June 11

Schedule of activities on the web  
[www.heartwoodsanctuary.com](http://www.heartwoodsanctuary.com)

- ☞ We invite you to enjoy Heartwood's walking meditation trails through 40 acres of wooded land.
- ☞ Lunch and Dinner will be available for a donation.
- ☞ Bonfire and Spiritual Open Mike Night Saturday night at 7 p.m.

Find Peace on Lookout Mountain - Rejuvenate Your Spirit - Light Your Soul

[www.heartwoodsanctuary.com](http://www.heartwoodsanctuary.com)  
256/634.0503

### Mentone Inn

*Celebrating 17 years  
of Service*

*Southern Hospitality*

*Simple Elegance*

*Another World, on The  
Historic Town Square*

**Retreats for Church,  
Business,  
Friends & Family.**

*Or your own romantic getaway*

Phone: 256-634-4836

T. Free 800-455-7470

Email: [Us@mentoneinn.com](mailto:Us@mentoneinn.com)

## OPEN HOUSE AT HEARTWOOD RETREAT CENTER

**Demonstrations and  
Sessions with Lookout  
Mountain Healers and  
Wholistic Health Practitioners  
June 10th and 11th**

For centuries people have been coming to Lookout Mountain for the peace and healing power of this special place. The Native Americans recognized the healing energy of the mountain and the Mentone Springs Hotel was founded around the rejuvenating powers of the spring located near the hotel.

Today there are many people who have been called to the Mentone and Lookout Mountain area because of the restorative environment that the mountain offers. Following a long history of offering practices that heal and rejuvenate the body and spirit, there are many individuals that are now offering wholistic health practices in our area.

Many of these people are coming together to let the community know more about their practices and services through an Open House that will be taking place at Heartwood Retreat Center in Mentone on June 10-11th. This will be a special opportunity to visit one of the many retreat centers in the area and participate in experiential demonstrations and presentations by local healing and wholistic health practitioners. You may have wondered about certain practices such as hot stone treatments or acupuncture; this will be a unique opportunity to meet practitioners, ask questions and experience a small amount of their work.

The Open House is free of charge. Lunch, dinner and refreshments will be available

throughout the day for a donation. There will be sessions that will take you through the trails of wooded land at Heartwood, as well as down to a private section of the East Fork of the Little River. Tours of the cabins and meeting areas at Heartwood Retreat Center will be conducted. There will be information and brochures of other retreat centers, healers and wholistic health practitioners available at the Open House. Individual sessions with practitioners can be scheduled and can take place during the weekend. This is a special opportunity to connect with the many people who are in our area wanting to share their special healings services with others. These practitioners want to help support you to have to a body and spirit that is in balance, health and vitality.

A complete schedule of events during the weekend is listed on the Heartwood website at [www.heartwoodsanctuary.com](http://www.heartwoodsanctuary.com) or by calling 256 634-0503. Some of the scheduled sessions are a Hot Stone Treatment session with Kerry Breighthof, a session with LC Moon on native plants, Donna Sutton, massage therapist from Body Maintenance will be sharing information about all of the wholistic practitioners that she is bringing to Mentone, from acupuncturists to naturopaths; Gregg Wilhite will present a interactive intuitive angel reading session and Cathy Haven Howard will be doing self forgiveness session at the river.

Please join us for this event and connect with the special people and energy that are part of the mountain experience.

*Simply Elegant*  
A LADIES BOUTIQUE

You'll Simply Love What You See!



We Look Forward To Meeting You  
Lynn Johnson • Lisa Johnson  
Open Mon-Sat 9-5  
104 GREENHILL BLVD NW  
FORT PAYNE  
256-845-5022  
(in the Foodland Plus Parking Lot)  
(Next Door To Cranberry Corner)



### HUNTER'S RIDGE

#### MENTONE'S MOUNTAIN WONDERLAND

Phase III is now open with 20 new and exciting lots. Four river front bluff lots are now available. This is the last phase, so don't miss out. All lots will have access to the river by a common area with picnic area and hiking trails.

#### 40 acre tract located in the Valley Head area

This investment property would make a great private hunting area with great future value. It is priced at only \$1,800 per acre. It is being sold as one tract only.

#### COMMERCIAL BUILDING

Dessie's restaurant building and lot next door is now for sale. Take advantage of this key location and high traffic area. perfect for an antique store, or, of course, a restaurant. Call today.

#### 23 acre tract in Mentone

This property is located in Mentone convenient to the Little River. It would make a great subdivision, or secluded home site. This property is owned by a realtor, and won't last long. \$7,000 an acre sold as one tract only.

**RON WAITS 256-634-0022**

OWNER/BROKER [rdwaits@hiwaay.net](mailto:rdwaits@hiwaay.net)

### PERFECT STARTER HOME

3 Bedroom home located in wonderful neighborhood. It is just minutes from shopping and restaurants. Located on 2 acre lot. \$59,000.

Beautiful rustic cabin on wooded lot in scenic Mentone. All the amenities of city life in your Mountain Retreat. Presently under Construction. \$249,900



Mentone Log Cabin located in scenic Laurel Creek. Pasture land also is included. This cabin is in a wooded area located on small lake. \$195,900



Mentone Brow front home with incredible view awaits you. Enjoy sunsets, train whistles, and a breathtaking view of the valley below. \$295,000.

## THE CITIZENS BANK OF VALLEY HEAD

Large Enough to Serve You—  
Small Enough to Know You!

Valley Head 635-6292      Ider 657-5122

Member FDIC

## Mentone Wedding Chapel

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



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

[ *Candle Lite Ceremonies • Music • Photographs*  
*• Flowers • Receptions • Lodging • Linens* ]

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

**256-634-4181**



## 3rd Annual Wildflower Art Show a Success



**Betsy Scott and Carl McCleskey (not pictured) received the Best of Show at the third annual Mentone Wildflower Art Show**

(Photo by J. Faile)

By Ellen Spangler

Saturday May 20th was a beautiful sunny day on Mentone's Historic Square. A large crowd turned out to see the works of 33 artists at the 4th Annual Wildflower Art Show. Each year there have been more artists participating in this juried fine art show. With the vast variety of artists and art forms, it was difficult to name a personal favorite. The three judges selected for First Place, Betsy Scott, Cloudland, GA, for her bronze sculptures and photography. First Honorable Mention was wood carver Gabriel Sellers. There was a tiebreaker for Second Honorable Mention between painters Lynette McCary and Rebecca Parrish, each with their own individual style, who happen to be mother and daughter. They are both from Birmingham.

The Mentone Area Arts Council (MAAC) sponsors this Art Show each year and members were there selling colorful wildflower T-shirts, mugs, mouse pads, and caps, and signing up new members. MAAC welcomes all people interested in helping provide venues for educational arts programs, shows, and performances, to get involved by becoming members. The Arts Council Board meets the 4th Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm (AL time) at the Mentone Community Center.

**For more information call Sandra Comley  
256-634-3334, or e-mail  
MAAC35984@aol.com**

### Wildflower Art Show

by L.C. Moon

On the lawn of the Mentone Inn Saturday, May 20th was a display of some of the best artists in the region. Sandra Comley did a wonderful job of coordinating the Art Show with the help of the Mentone Area Arts Council. What great fun the entire day was for the guests, locals and artists.

Betsy Scott was awarded best of show for her bronze sculptures and nature photography. Gabriel Sellers won 1st honorable mention for woodcarvings- a piece of his work was purchased by Andy Talton and is on display at the Mentone Smokehouse. Lynette McCary and daughter Rebecca McCary Parrish shared the win for second Honorable Mention for canvas art. There was lots of diversity among the art--so I am sure it was difficult for the judges to make a decision on what artists work to choose as the best of show.

Later in the evening, we had wonderful Jazz performed by Karen Gruber and the Sonny Harris Trio. All that were in attendance enjoyed the beautiful weather and great Mentone atmosphere coupled with Jazz.

To acquire quality entertainment it is not free so I would like to thank the following businesses for their support of Mentone in helping me provide a wonderful gift of music to the locals and the guests:

Mentone Inn (Ms. Gloria provided 2 rooms for 2 nights which is a wonderful gift)

Mentone Area Arts Council, Mentone Realty (Neil Colbert), Gourdie Shop, Mountain Laurel Inn, Ecological Designs/Enchanted Gardens, Hummingbird House, Stone Ridge Cottage, Chesnut Tree Antiques, Cones of Mentone. Special thanks to Mike Campbell - owner of the Mentone Inn for allowing Mentone Area Arts Council to use the lawn for the Art Show.

It is community involvement of businesses and great events like the Wildflower Art Show and music that help support the revenue and quaintness of Mentone so the town can continue to be a place that is great to live in and visit. We hope you can join us on the town square each 3rd Saturday of the month.

If you are interested in donating to the Independence Day July Fireworks Show in Mentone, please contact me 634-3333. The more money we raise the better the show will be. We plan to have music and fireworks the weekend before the 4th of July. How great to not have to leave the mountain and fight crowds to enjoy a spectacular event.

## Celebrating Spring with the Rhododendron

by L.C. Moon

This year on the brow we had several new quality vendors and demonstrators. The festival was canceled and then revived at the last minute so with that in consideration we are happy with the overall turn out.

Friday Night bonfire with Tony Goggans- the Mentone Troubadour- was such fun. Tony is a master entertainer, engaging the crowd and performing songs that people of all ages can enjoy and tap their foot to. Between Tony playing- Ms. Gloria of the Mentone Inn and Susan Cherones of Mountain Grove entertained us with some stories and performance. Then Tony Goggans took the stage again and L.M. Flannigan took the stage and sang I'll Fly Away. Then L.M. and the crowd danced the night away while Tony was accompanied by the Musical Mountain Goddesses. Friday night really set the tone for a weekend of great fun.

Saturday the weather was ideal and the Rhododendrons were in full bloom to compliment the day. The Mentone Springs Hotel had a great pottery show that complimented the festival. Entertainment on the brow was provided by Russell Gulley, stories from local writers group and The Bridge Between. The boat rides (provided by the McDormans) up the West fork of the Little River were a great hit. There were about 45 vendors in all on the brow. Thanks to Page Cunningham for coordinating the vendors as well as Kari (DeSoto House) and Ellen Spangler (Mountain Mamas) for helping the vendors with what they needed.

Saturday night bonfire began with great quality music of the Northeast Community College jazz band. Then Brian Bush played and the sound system blew. In a true to life dedicated performers style he jumped off the stage, moved in closer to the crowd with his acoustic guitar and finished his set. Chas of the Wildflower Cafe was up next and had to rig up a make shift sound system. His group pulled it off wonderfully and were accompanied by Miss Gloria of the Mentone Inn.

Again there was dancing in the square and a good turn out despite the misty weather.

Sunday the weather did not hold out quite so well for us. We appreciate our local dancers The Cloggers and The Silverliners for braving the rain and performing. We also appreciate Anna Crow for coming and allowing her beautiful voice to echo through town at the close of the festival.

There have been mixed reviews as to whether it was a total success. The visitors were pleased with the overall atmosphere of Mentone, the quality of the artists on the brow, and the great shops in town. The vast majority of the vendors were also happy. There is always room for improvement. We hope for the Fall Colorfest celebration and the next Rhododendron Festival to include even more vendors--especially local artisans as well as regional art. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact me, L.C. Moon, at (256)845-6030 or Page Cunningham (256)845-9031. We hope to make upcoming festivals even better from what we learned from this experience. We would love any suggestions from the community and/or guests to the town.

I would like to thank MAPA and all of the board members for sponsoring, allowing the businesses to join and become involved in continuing the festival even though it was last minute. I would also like to thank individuals and businesses for very helpful involvement.

The Boy Scouts of Troop 106 for SO much help. Dessie's, Mountain Laurel Inn, Mentone Inn, Wildflower Cafe, Stoneridge Cottage, Hummingbird House, Crystal Lake Lodge, Chesnut Tree Antiques, The Cliffs, Mentone Area Arts Council, Patty Tucker of DeKalb County Tourist Association, MERF, Windwood Farms, Greg Coe, Ken Kirby, Leroy Crow, Pattie & Rachel Bryan, Tom Donald, Stan Gunter, Clarence and Slate McDorman and Lee, I am sure there are some I am leaving out. Everyone that helped in any way was a great help!

*Yielding to temptation  
begins in permitting the  
mind to waver, to be  
inconstant in your  
trust in God.*





# Southern Properties Agency, Inc.

(256) 845-6000

E-mail: info@southern-agency.com

2107 Gault Avenue North, Fort Payne

www.SouthernPropertiesAgency.com



(1) On the Parkway! Most recently known as Little River Cafe and minutes from Fort Payne and Mentone. Building offers a fully equipped kitchen, dining room and large porch, stage for entertainment and a rustic atmosphere in a charming renovated old home. \$165,000 (14532)



(2) Nestled amongst the trees you'll find this cozy and comfortable NW cabin waiting for a new owner. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, large family room with gas log fireplace, spacious kitchen/dining combo, screened front porch, side deck w/ Jacuzzi and lots more on a 1.23 acre wooded lot. \$199,000 (14394)



(3) Located on 2 1/2 lots within walking distance of Brow Park and downtown Mentone, you can have a retail business or a weekend rental in this 3 BR, 1 BA cottage with new CHSA, metal roof and storage building. \$87,500 (15023)



(4) Looking for country living? This 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home offers hardwood and carpet, family room with fireplace, fully equipped kitchen, front and side porch and is surrounded by 8 acres in a restricted subdivision could be a. \$219,000 (14536)



(5) So much room in this in-level home! Features include built-in bookshelves, fireplace, completely remodeled kitchen/dining room, 3 BR, 2 BA, basement den, and possible 4th BR and additional bath. \$112,500 (14647)



(6) The commercial potential is endless in this great location at Fischer's Crossroads. Most recently known as The Barnyard, this rustic building sits on .67 acres and has 2 public bathrooms. Located inside Ft. Payne city limits. \$115,000 (14216)



(7) Tucked away in downtown Mentone - This home offers 4 BR, 2 BA, fully equipped kitchen with granite countertops, antique mantle, RV carport, large storage/ hobby building/ garage and a Sauna. \$159,500 (14671)



(8) Comfortable 3 BR, 2 BA home with a cathedral ceiling, gas log fireplace with built-in TV cabinet and bookcases, 12" pine flooring, paved drive, storage building and is situated on 2 beautiful wooded acres in Mentone. \$159,500 (14671)



(9) Take a respite from the rat race in this very private and authentic log cabin with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, living/ dining/ kitchen combo and front porch all on 1.60 heavily wooded acres on a private road. \$99,500 (14345)



(10) The perfect first investment! Rustic cabin in Hunter's Ridge featuring 2 BR, 2 BA, Columbian cedar walls and ceilings, hardwood floors, front and back porches and a stacked rock fireplace. \$162,500 (14670)



(11) Walking convenience! This quaint in-town bungalow is located in downtown Valley Head and offers 1 bedroom, 1 bath on a 1/2 acre lot. \$28,000 (15018)



(12) 42.32 acres with a beautiful view of Lookout Mountain on one side and adjacent to and overlooking "The Highlands" on the other. Nice building site for that dream home or great property for future development with paved road frontage. \$396,000 (15022)



(13) Beautiful Traditional brick home and farm with 5 BR and 4 BA. This one-of-a-kind is situated on 40 rolling acres with circular drive, picture windows and gorgeous views. Large barn and livestock pond also on property. \$429,000 (14651)



(14) On DeSoto Parkway - 3 BR, 3 1/2 BA home with 2 decks, wood floors, screened porch, deck with hot tub, 1 BR guest cottage, greenhouse and spacious great room for relaxing. MUST SEE! \$429,000 (14449)



(15) Enjoy the sounds of nature on this private 7 acres in Valley Head with quick access to Interstate 59. This property offers a 3 BR, 1 BA frame home with room to grow. There is also a storage building on the property. \$59,500 (14899)



(16) You'll never regret the convenience! Located within walking distance of downtown Mentone, this 1920's cottage offers 3 BR, 1 BA, rock fireplace, screened porch, storage and basement on 3 lots. \$72,000 (14302)



(17) Enjoy the beautiful view of Lookout Mountain and the surrounding wildlife from your newly remodeled rancher with unfinished basement. Sitting on a 1 acre lot with new carpet, vinyl, windows and more. The possibilities are endless. \$509,900 (14429)



(18) Be the first to own this new construction on the West Brow of Mentone. Features include 3 BR, 2 BA, large living area with stacked rock fireplace and vaulted ceiling, pine floors throughout, screened porch and deck. \$299,000 (14715)



(19) Native mountain foliage creates a level of privacy for this 3 BR, 2 BA brick home sitting on 3 acres with 300' on the West Fork of Little River. Mountain stone wood-burning fireplace, screened porch overlooking a walkway shaded by mature rhododendrons to river. \$265,000 (14535)



(20) Mountain cottage offering relaxation on a gorgeous back deck with a spectacular view or from your very own screened porch you can enjoy nature at its best. 3 BR, 2 BA, pine walls and floors, wood burning stove and lots more. \$142,500 (13696)



(21) The builder is putting on the finishing touches! Be the first to live in this 3 BR, 2 BA home with cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, stacked rock wood burning fireplace, custom kitchen with Hickory cabinets and more on a 1 acre lot. \$179,500 (14763)



(22) Enjoy the view of Little River Canyon from the decks of this 3 BR, 2 BA cabin with wood floors and walls, fireplace, central heat & air, finished basement and more. A world away awaits you in this home away from home. \$259,500 (14730)



(23) Stressed for morning time? This in-town home offers walking convenience and 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room/den and 3 finished room upstairs. Relax on the large screened porch under huge shade trees. \$59,900 (14772)



(24) Bordering DeSoto State Park and within walking distance of Little River, tennis courts and restaurant - this property offers 2 camp houses and a laundry house. Main house offers 1 BR, 1 BA, living, dining, kitchen combo with screened porch. Quiet camp-like setting. \$225,000 (14862)



(25) Gorgeous 4.4 acre tract with a fabulous view of the valley below. This property is ready to build with its existing septic system and well. Located on the North Brow in Mentone, this lot has unique rock formations that will capture your eye from all angles. \$299,000 (14998)



(26) Bring a rocking chair and a good book to relax on the front or back porch of this new cedar-sided cabin in Mentone. This new construction offers 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA with loft and frontage to 2 ponds. Add it all up to make this one a great place to lounge around. \$129,900 (14405)

- (27) 1.56 acres on the brow near DeSoto State Park. \$55,000 (10133)
- (28) Highland Springs - New subdivision located in the heart of Mentone off Cove Road. Several lots to choose from with mild restrictions. Prices starting at \$28,000
- (29) Build your Mentone cabin on this beautiful wooded building site with gorgeous brow view! Approx. 1 1/2 acres for \$159,000. (14681)
- (30) Ready for development or to build your dream home. Gently rolling pastures, water and 571' of road frontage on Hwy. 11 and Wills Creek is the back property line. \$362,000 (10149)
- (31) Approximately 100' brow front per lot. Located at the intersection of Tuheller Gap and County Road 89 with 2 additional lots available. \$97,000 per lot. (14598)
- (32) Wooded 2 acre building lot in established area of Mentone. \$35,000 (14563)
- (33) 3.32 +/- acres just outside the Mentone City Limits. This property has no restrictions so you can build or have a mobile home. \$28,500 (14350 & 14351)
- (34) Just minutes from historic Mentone, you'll find 2 gorgeous building lots. Common areas include a stocked lake and 2 parks. These lots are located near the golf course. (15014 and 15015)
- (35) 12 acres of gently rolling, heavily wooded paradise. Great for getting close to nature with city water available. \$79,900 (14534)
- (36) On the golf course and just minutes from downtown Mentone. Restricted building lots are now available in Rock Bluff. Common areas include a stocked lake, two parks with rental cabins available for your out-of-town guests. Each wooded lot is approx. 1.5 (+/-) acres and will have public water and power. \$100,000 (15016)

For other listings, please call our office at 256-845-6000

## NOW IN MENTONE: JOHN LEE, M.A.

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, THERAPIST, COUNSELOR & LIFE COACH

relationships • recovery • grief & loss • anger

As seen on:

Oprah • 20/20 • The View • CNN • PBS

In addition to publishing fifteen books, he is considered an international leader in the fields of personal growth, recovery, anger and men's issues. He has consulted and trained thousands of counselors, therapists, and mental health professionals at prestigious institutions worldwide.

John Lee is seeing clients (individuals, couples & groups) at **Body Maintenance** in Mentone, Alabama (at the top of Bankhead at 3808 Highway 117). To schedule a consultation, please call **256-634-4000**. You can also e-mail John Lee at [theflyingboy@aol.com](mailto:theflyingboy@aol.com) or visit his web site at [www.jlcsonline.com](http://www.jlcsonline.com) for complete bio, speaking schedule and to order books, tapes & CDs.



## Best-Selling Author Calls Mentone, Alabama Home

By John Lee

It was love at first sight. I'd grown up in Northwest Alabama, but had never seen anything like Mentone. For my wife, Susan, Mentone grew on her gradually, or should I say she grew on Mentone. Now both of us enthusiastically call it "home".

I found this magical place back in 1983 when you could buy a house on the brow for a song. There were no signs on the interstate pointing passersby to it and if I remember correctly, it wasn't even on the Rand McNally map.

But the rhododendrons were here, the azaleas, and the interesting, eccentric and really nice people were here too. Though I lived in Austin, Texas at the time, I knew I'd be here full-time someday.

After my first book, *The Flying Boy*, became a best-seller (thanks to three appearances on Oprah) I started renting cottages on the brow to write my second and third books. I kept coming here for the views and the quiet. Back then, I especially loved Mentone in the winter when I was the only one staring into the Log Cabin Deli's great fireplace, warm-

ing my body and soul or eating with the local folks at Dessies.

Finally in 1991, I decided that I was going to have a second home somewhere. I looked at Asheville's majestic blue mountains, Santa Fe's other-worldly landscape, San Francisco's beauty and culture and Boulder's healthy lifestyle, and settled instead in Mentone, Alabama, which is majestic, other-worldly, beautiful and now the center of my world.

I found a little cottage close to Alpine Boys Camp situated on the top of a hill where the wind finds its way to the chimes on my porch many times a day and the view of pastures, valleys and further south - mountains - makes my spirit soar, my mind rest and my body refreshed and rejuvenated.

It is here that I have written part, if not all, of my sixteen books. In Mentone, I've held a national men's conference with my friend, Robert Bly, for thirteen years, conducted writer's workshops at the Mentone Springs Hotel, and seen clients from all over the country at my studio. Those who visit rave about the hospitality that Mark and Andy provide at

the hotel and Dave and Claudia offer at the Crystal Lake Lodge and they think Little River Canyon is too beautiful to be kept such a secret.

About ten years ago, I met Ms Susan, a Miami girl who had never lived in--or thought she could ever live in--the country. She knew how much I loved Mentone and when I asked her where she would like to get married, she quickly replied, "There is only one place - Sally Howard's Chapel." Now we live less than a mile from that beautiful church.

Gradually, and very slowly at first, Susan went from barely feeling comfortable at the cottage to feeling at home here. We would stay in Mentone during long weekends while we called our main home Atlanta. Susan brought her writer's group for a retreat here each year and fell in love with the area. We finally agreed to sell our cosmopolitan residence and moved to Mentone for a six-month trial period. The rest of the year we would live in Fairhope, Alabama, or Austin, Texas. I thought this compromise was fair and generous of her.



# TO OUR GRADUATES

1434-440 (2002)

## THE DAY SADIE JONES GOT HER WISH

By Sally S. King

It started way back in the one room schoolhouse when Sadie Jones was only nine years old and Clara Hill, the prettiest and meanest girl in school dipped Sadie's yellow blonde pigtails into the inkwell.

Then it was the Maypole Dance when they dressed in white summer frocks and strung flowers in their hair to spin the brightly colored ribbons around the pole and Clara put the bumble bee down Sadie's frock, causing her to cavort wildly about like some crazy thing.

And there was the Church social when Sadie turned fourteen ...a coming out of sorts for the girls of her age and the boys came dressed in their Sunday suits and her mother had ordered her a store bought dress from the Sears Catalogue.

It was an organdy dress of the palest yellow with tiny flowers along the sleeves and hem and Sadie stood preening in front of her mirror.

It must have been a total look of horror on her face when Clara Hill marched into the Church Social wearing exactly the same thing.

Then it was the barn dance at Brother Rogers' when Sadie had waited all night for a dance with Clem Porter but just as he was making his way courageously across the barn floor to her, up stepped Clara to block his way, hauling him out onto the dance floor with a swirl of her calico skirts.

But it was Decoration Day of her 18th year when things took a turn. She had baked a double layered triple chocolate cake for the occasion and had carried it to the long outdoor table with a flourish only a proud baker could show and sat it down among the other desserts when along came Clara with a dish of her Apple Betty and carelessly sat it down directly beside Sadie's cake, knocking it to the ground, upside down and crumbled.

"I wish a big rock would come crashing from the sky and just knock you silly!" Sadie cried as she hovered over the cake's remains and people stood looking. "Oh, you do...do ya!" Clara yelled as the two girls hit the dirt and a great catfight ensued. They rolled around in the cake and the mess for a good five minutes when suddenly from above there came a racket like no one had ever heard and from out of the sky came a meteor the size of a watermelon!

"Run!" Someone cried and there was a scattering of folk in every direction as the watermelon sized thing came crashing down right onto the place the two girls had been!

When the dust cleared the astounded Sadie stood holding what was left of her cake and Clara stood nearby, covered in her own Apple Betty and they began to laugh.

Brother Rogers sidled up to Sadie and announced to the astounded crowd. "Folks...looks like Sadie Jones almost got her wish...! Was all he said.

## THE HOBO

By Sally S. King

"Now, you see...them hobos had signs to look for along the tracks. Most of 'em had their own mark they'd leave somewhere on a rock or a fence post or the side of a barn. It was like a secret language they used to let one another know they had been there or was comin' or to let their buddies know it uz' a safe place to jump off.

Our barn had a bunch o' them marks on the side near the track and many a time I'd go out into the barn to milk the cows early in the mornin' and find one of them asleep in the hay and most of the time, Papa would ask 'em in for breakfast, feed 'em good and send them on their way 'cause mama always said..."there by the grace of God go I"

One time, though we had this new bull that Papa had put up in the barn...couldn't do nothing with the thing and had him shut up in a pen. Papa told me he didn't want me to get near that bull when I went in to milk the cow and I was real careful. If you just looked at him, he'd start snortin' and carryin' on like a crazy thing.

Well, one night it was stormin' and lightnin' and we was all asleep. When the train come by, this hobo slipped off the train and made for the barn. He edged the door open to the barn and made for the big pile of hay that he could see in the lightnin' flashes when all of a sudden, he saw the bull and the bull saw him. There was such a rucus you would have thought the world had come to an end!

It woke us all up in the house...what with the screamin' and bellowin' goin' on. That old bull gave that hobo the beatin' of his life and by the time Papa got out there, he was just in time to drag the man to safety.

Mama spent a good three days doctorin' that hobo back to life. He got on the train when he was well enough and left. We never saw him again but pretty soon, a new mark appeared on the back of our barn. It was a big red "X" Papa said that meant. "Stay Away!"

### MENTONE'S FAMILY LODGE

1-800-998-1956

#### FAMILY REUNIONS

Day or week rental

Large 4 bedroom, 3 bath cabin, pond, barn.

We are a family lodge where 20 acres are exclusively yours for rental time, hiking, fishing, recreation.

www.mentonelodge.com

### Home Maids

Specializing in residential, commercial, rental and real estate cleaning

Affordable rates and free estimates.

**\*\*10% off if you mention this ad.\*\***

**845-7867**

## BURT FUNERAL HOME

50 Years of Continuous Service

First Funeral Home in DeKalb County to offer pre-need services

R.J. Burt, Jr., Owner

Fort Payne  
845-3232

Valley Head  
635-6247



**DINE-IN  
OR  
CARRY OUT**  
Mentone  
Across from  
City Hall  
Closed  
Tuesday

**OPEN M-W-Th-F-S: 11 AM - 7 PM**  
**OPEN Sunday: 11 AM - 2 PM**

### Triple G Tradin' Post

Phone: 256-634-8800

Now carrying vintage and reproduction country and English furniture.

Antiques & unique gift items

Located 1 mile on left behind Mentone Market on County Road 649.

Hours 10AM to 6PM Friday and Saturday

"Y'ALL COME"

Southern Heart Videos available

The movie filmed in Mentone

Open to Public

### CLOUDMONT RESORT

www.cloudmont.com

#### SADDLE ROCK GOLF COURSE

"It's cooler Swingin' on Lookout Mountain!"

"9 hole executive course, 18 tees

atop Lookout Mountain!"

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

Carts and Clubs Available

Mountain Chalets & River Lodges with Kitchens

Call (256) 634-4344

Enjoy hiking, rhododendron and mountain laurel trails, fishing, and accommodations. We have added to our fleet of golf carts and the golf course is beautiful and ready for this golfing season.



### SHADY GROVE DUDE RANCH HORSEBACK RIDING STABLES

Group accommodations atop Lookout Mountain

**(256) 634-4344**



Patricia Culpepper (seated, front center), Hollie Thomas and daughter Maycie (left), Dee Melvin (standing center), and Deena Thomas (right). Deena is the daughter of Deanna Melvin and George Cash

## FIVE GENERATIONS CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY

Five generations of Culpepper family descendants gathered at New Hope Baptist Church on Sunday to celebrate Mother's Day and the dedication of Maycie Thomas, the youngest generation.

During the dedication, Maycie, who wore the same christening gown her mother, Hollie, wore 20 years ago for her own dedication at New Hope Baptist, was presented her first Bible.

Special to the St. Clair News-Aegis  
Article provided by the family of Patricia Culpepper

### CLASSIFIED

#### dreamkingdom

Vintage Fabrics, Buttons, Sewing Patterns  
One-of-a-Kind Wearable Art  
[www.dreamkingdom.us](http://www.dreamkingdom.us)  
[www.dreamkingdom4u@yahoo.com](mailto:www.dreamkingdom4u@yahoo.com)  
256.418.2167



#### The Last Resort VACATION RENTALS

Bill & Terry Grissom  
205-853-9361 16263 County Road 89  
[www.mentonerentals.com](http://www.mentonerentals.com) Mentone, AL 35984  
*enjoy beautiful sunsets on the brow*



We Buy Standing Timber

## Menlo Lumber & Pallet Company, Inc.

Highway 48  
Menlo, Georgia 30731  
(706) 862-2131

## Vote For and Re-Elect CECIL REED

Democratic Candidate for  
**Sheriff**

DeKalb County, AL

**"KEEP OUR COUNTY SAFE"**

SUBJECT TO DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY JUNE 8, 2006, AND GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 7, 2006  
PD. POL ADV. BY CECIL REED, 1304 SCENIC RD, LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, FORT PAYNE AL 35967

### NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS

Please e-mail your photos to composing @times-journal.com.  
Please mark it for Groundhog.

This will expedite the procedure because Times-Journal  
ultimately prepares the photos for printing.



### HILLTOP HOUSE ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES JUNQUE

2220 AL HIGHWAY 117 S.  
MENTONE, AL 35984

FRIDAY 10:00 - 5:00  
SATURDAY 10:00 - 5:00  
SUNDAY 12:30 - 5:00

Ron & Sue Ann Jones  
Owners

PHONE: 256-634-0009  
e-mail: rkjfab@earthlink.net

## Classy Critters

*Boarding and Grooming*

Grooming by Appointment

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

Boarding 7 Days A Week - Group Rates May Apply

**706-734-0812**

5871 Trion-Tolosa Rd., Summerville, GA 30747

## Mrs. Betty Lankford McLaughlin Celebrates her 80th Birthday at Mountain Grove Bed & Breakfast in Cloudland

On the occasion of her 80th birthday, Mrs. Betty Lankford McLaughlin returned to the land of her birth, in the company of her many children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The family, all of whom reside in the Washington D.C. area, chose to celebrate Betty in the Lookout Mountain area where she came from. Betty's family has deep ties to the area although she herself only lived in and around Fort Payne area during summer visits after her parents moved to Florida when she was three. Her first cousin, city councilman Herschel Lankford, is still an active resident.

Betty and her descendants toured the region with Herschel Lankford, visiting places of family significance including her birthplace above the cemetery at Adamsburg and the historic rock encased Howard's Chapel, which was built in memory of her Aunt Sally Lankford Howard by her husband, the colorful author, actor, and US congressman, Milford Howard, for whom Betty's father, Milton Jefferson Davis Howard was named and about whom the book *Vagabond Dreamer* was written. Betty's Grandfather, Jefferson Davis Lankford, son of confederate hero Lt. Peter Green Lankford, was once quoted in the *Times-Journal* as saying he "remembered when Fort Payne was a peach orchard." The family certainly goes back a long way. When Alabama entered statehood in 1819 the Lankfords, who can be traced back to Jamestown in the 1600's, were already residing in Fort Payne on land that would eventually belong to the famous Randy Owens family.

"Papa" Lankford, as Betty's grandfather was known, remembered watching the first train pull into Fort Payne and was one of the first people in this part of the state to have a telephone. Betty recalls how they literally pulled the wire up the mountain, stopping at houses along the way to see if others wanted to be connected. Once it was all hooked up, each family had their own series of long and short rings to indicate the call was to them. It was commonly expected at the time that others would pick up their lines to listen in on conversations. Betty said if there were only six or seven "clicks" from others picking up the line they would wonder where everyone else had gone.



Betty remembers the family Model T Roadster which had a starter, though it rarely worked. The car could be hand cranked by her father but her mother devised an elaborate system. She would park the car heading down the mountain placing a block under the front tire to which she tied a rope. She would tie little Betty into the front seat with two diapers, pull the rope and pop the clutch as they headed down the mountain.

Betty is a brilliant woman who earned three degrees from the University of Florida. She was the very first woman to gain a Ph.D. in Pharmacology. In spite of her advanced degree, she tells of her first day working in a pharmacy which happened to be the day before Father's Day. Because she was a woman she was put to work wrapping Father's Day gifts instead of filling prescriptions! Today, because of pioneering women like Betty, more than half of all pharmacists are women. Betty had intended to go on to medical school but changed her path to raise her family. She does not regret her change in priority and mentions that goals unattained are sometimes more successful than

goals accomplished.

This ability to accept situations, together with her adaptability, sense of purpose and faith in God have been the cornerstones to Betty's long, strong life. She advises those growing up in Fort Payne today to think about what they want to do and take an active role in planning their future. She says if they want to stay in Fort Payne to think about for how long and for what purpose and then to decide what is positive about that and support it knowing they've made a choice. Betty tries to live her life so that anyone who comes into contact with her will be affected positively. She advocates this simple, yet powerful, form of spiritual practice.

Betty also recommends a good cigar now and then. Individual taste varies and she says the only way to find a cigar you really like is to try different ones. She favors a cigar with a pleasing flavor which is not overly strong such as the Macanudo Jamaican, the wrappers for which are grown in Connecticut under shade.

Miss Betty turned 80 at Mountain Grove at Cloudland Bed & Breakfast on Lookout Mountain ([www.mgbb.com](http://www.mgbb.com)) where an elegant birthday celebration was planned around a meal featuring Southern favorites including catfish, corn bread dressing, squash casserole, and Vidalia onion relish. Exotic orchids were flown in from Hawaii to decorate her birthday cake, the table and in the form of a Mauna Loa lei which she wore. Tony Goggans brought his guitar and delighted the crowd which included her brother, Milford Richard Lankford and his wife Carolyn from Orlando, Herschel and Barbara Lankford from Fort Payne and Betty's children Elizabeth Simpson, Mary Landini, Joe McLaughlin and Tim McLaughlin and their children and grandchildren.

Mountain Grove is just minutes from Mentone and is available for special dinners, parties, weddings and weekend get-a-ways. Call Susan at 800-226-5585 for more information.

## Independence Day Celebration

Fireworks & Music

Saturday, July 1st

Mentone Town Square

Tony Goggans "The Mentone Troubadour" will entertain with Special Guests Musical Mountain Goddesses.

Don't miss the Fun!

Music begins at 6:30 PM



## The Rhododendron Garden Club celebrated its 40th Anniversary

Pictured are Barbara Blalock, Ann Wright, Dallyne Jones and Marjorie Berry at the Anniversary Party of the Rhododendron Garden Club on May 9, 2006. All were chartered members of the club and were at the organizational meeting 40 years ago.

By Linda Brown, Secretary

Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the Rhododendron Garden Club of Mentone! The club was organized May 31, 1966 in the home of Dallyne Jones. Dallyne was elected to the office of president of the club. According to the recently found charter issued August 1, 1966, fifteen ladies were charter members. Charter members Barbara Blalock, Dallyne Jones and Ann Wright are still members of the club. Several others who are now members joined in the first year or two.

The birthday party was held May 9, 2006 in the Jim Berry Scout Hut beginning at 10:00 a.m. President, Gethryn Giles welcomed twenty-one members and eight guests to the celebration. The guests were: Jane Kerby, daughter of member Mary Crow, Celestine Darnell, member of Fort Payne Garden Club, Ann Houston, member of Rainsville Garden Club, Jill Johnston, member of Fort Payne Garden Club, Reita Grant, member of Flowering Dogwood Garden Club, Susan Collins, daughter of charter member, Ann Wright, Linda Stephens, member of Rainsville Garden Club and Marjorie Berry, charter member. Included in the count of members were charter members, Ann Wright, Barbara Blalock and Dallyne Jones.

Lucy Fowlkes offered a prayer of praise and thanksgiving as a devotional. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by Beverly Ashley.

A brief history of the club was given by Gethryn Giles and Linda Brown. The information was

gathered from scrapbooks, records of minutes and yearbooks. Former club presidents and other members were given the chance to share some of their memories. Dallyne Jones, Jan Wilkinson, Marie Dillenbeck, Marilyn Blanton Campbell and Martha Wood shared some of their recollections of past events. President Giles concluded the time of sharing with the reading of a card from former president, Beverly Hoyt.

President Giles stated that many years ago Dallyne Jones had been told she had a Life Membership in the Garden Club of Alabama, but she has never received a certificate or other official notice. After a recent search of the state records, one could not be found for her. Therefore, to put things right, President Giles presented a life membership to Dallyne Jones and one to Mary Crow, who has had an uninterrupted membership since 1967. The presentation was a surprise to both recipients.

Martha Wood was congratulated for receiving first place, the Rene H. Miller Award, given for a wildflower project by the Garden Club of Alabama. Martha's book of evidence was also submitted to the Deep South Region where it was the first place winner of the Wildflower Award which includes a traveling silver trophy.

The hall was beautifully decorated for a party! Marilyn Knight, Harriett Lillich and Jill Whitten were the hostesses for this gala event. The individual tables were covered with round white tablecloths and centered with arrangements of blooms from the native rhododendron plant and

pink candles. Rising from each arrangement was a bouquet of pink and green balloons. The serving table was covered with white and held a large design of rhododendron blooms and wild white roses. The table for coffee and punch held a design of one perfect pink peony blossom. The party fare consisted of nuts, mints, cheese straws and pink cake in the shape of a ladies hat. The cake was decorated with pastel colors of spring flowers. Coffee and punch completed the refreshments.

Scrapbooks of the club were on display and everyone stayed to look at these and reminiscence until about 12:00 noon.

The old adage, "The more things change, the more they remain the same," once again proved to be true. When looking at the yearbooks from years gone by, the members realized that the goals of the club remain the same. The record of the organizational meeting showed that the colors selected to represent the club are lavender and green and the flower is the rhododendron. The motto was to, "Preserve and Beautify" and the cleaning and planting of the park beside the Mentone Town Hall was taken as the project. These are listed the same in the 2005-2006 Yearbook. The mission of the club remains to promote the preservation and to enhance the beauty of the Mentone area.

This Collect for Gardeners was adopted in 1966 and has been said at almost every meeting since that date:

We thank Thee, Gracious Father, that Thou hast given us a world so beautiful;

We thank Thee for green of grass and tree,  
for radiant flowers, for song of bird and hum of bee,  
For sunny hours and life-giving showers,  
for the sunset splendor, evening star, dewy night,

For springtime sowing, summer's growing,  
autumn's reaping, winter's rest.

In return for these, thy manifold mercies, teach us, dear Master Gardener, to add beauty and gladness to Thy world  
Let us, like the flowers we so lovingly tend,  
shed abroad the fragrance of a life of kindly deeds.  
Give us sympathetic hearts, and understanding minds,  
feet swift to run errands of mercy, hands quick to minister to other's need.

And grant that when the winter of death is past,  
we may grow into perfect flowering in Thy Garden of Immortality.  
Mrs. Edward Flinn

The next meeting will be at the M.E.R.F Community House on June 13 at 10:00 a.m. Members will meet inside for a short business meeting and then work in the Heritage Garden on the grounds of the building. You are invited to come and join us.

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

## THE FIRST TIME

Gethryn S. Giles

Written for The Mentone Life Writing Group

I'm sure we all remember many baptisms of babies, especially the ones of our own children. But recently our granddaughter, Anna Margaret Strickland, age 3-1/2 months, was baptized. Although we have two other grandchildren, she is the first one to be baptized.

When Anna's parents, our daughter Kim, and her husband Jeff, suggested that she be baptized in Mentone, we were thrilled. This event was very special in many ways, but it was particularly important to my husband, Gene, and me, as it was most surely a Mentone occasion.

The ceremony was a private one, taking place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 13, at St Joseph's On-the-Mountain Episcopal Church. The Rev. Dr. Oscar Hussel was the celebrant. The flowers were beautifully arranged by Wesley Chesnut, a member of the church. Other gorgeous flowers were brought to Mentone from Huntsville by Anna's paternal grandparents, Diana and Dr. Chalmus Strickland.

Our other daughter, Kelly Stephenson, and Gene were the lecturers for the service. The God Parents are Rebecca (Becca) and Brian Oberlander of Nashville. Becca and Kim are long-time friends as they attended college together at The University of the South at Sewanee. Kim and Jeff are God Parents for Becca and Brian's 10-month-old-son, Matthew.

After the service, we had lunch on the porch of the Mentone Inn, which is next door to the church. This was a very special affair in many ways. First, Kim wanted to have lunch outside on the church grounds, but we weren't sure what the day would be like weather-wise. Gloria, the innkeeper at the Mentone Inn, graciously offered to let us move tables and chairs to the porch and have lunch there. Chas, the manager of the Wildflower Café across the street from the inn and two of the Wildflower employees offered to move the tables and chairs for us. The owner of the Wildflower Café, Margaret Baker, worked with me to plan a box lunch for the event. When we got to the porch, the boxes were stacked on a table. They were very pretty--white boxes tied with pink ribbons.

Larry Gray, a local cake maker, had prepared a cake for dessert. It was pink with flowers on the outside and delicious yellow cake on the inside. We served it on pink plates and used pink napkins.

Mentone is an extraordinary place. In this tiny town, we were able to get everything we needed--a unique church, a well-known priest, an excellent floral designer, a caterer, a cake maker, a wide shady porch at a beautiful inn, and, best of all, neighbors and friends who were more than willing to help move tables and chairs, or do anything else to make this a special occasion.

Anna received many special gifts, which Kim opened for her after lunch.

Anna and her parents, the Stephensons and the Oberlanders all stayed at the Simmons house, Dusk Downing Heights, next door to our house on the brow. Since the next morning, Sunday, May 14, 2006, was Mother's Day, Jeff prepared a very special brunch for all 13 of us--of course, Anna is still too little to eat Hashbrown Casserole, Bacon, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit and Blueberry Muffins, but the rest of us, including Matthew, enjoyed the feast.

Except for 4-year-old Arden and two-year-old Maggie, all of the females at the breakfast are mothers. We opened cards and gifts. My gift from Kim and Kelly came in a large "Red Envelope" box. It was a hat filled with many special items such as green tea, nuts, mints, honey, and other things to make you feel good. After everyone had left to go back to their homes, I began to think about Anna's baptism and compare it to Kim's, her mother. I realized that the hat I had gotten for Mother's Day is very similar to the one I wore for Kim's service. Gene took a picture of me in my new hat and I found a picture taken in 1972 at Kim's baptism. I certainly look different, but the hats look almost the same. It's amazing how we change, but some things stay the same.

## LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN & MENTONE Jeremy McDowell

[www.lookoutmountainland.net](http://www.lookoutmountainland.net)



the real estate company, inc.

**DIRECT 706-506-0715**

**TOLL FREE 866-642-6485**



**MENTONE, WEST FORK OF THE LITTLE RIVER** you have the opportunity of owning riverfront property near the town that has attracted people since the late 1800's prices starting at \$45,000. Hurry! Only 3 left!



**MENTONE BROW** come and see all the mountain stone surrounding this historic residence that has been secretly coveted for many years. This real estate treasure will be a gem for any trophy buyer.



**LAKE ON THE BROW** this 4 br 3ba mountain home on the lake is the perfect spot to relax, and enjoy the season's change. Priced at only \$235,900.



**SPECTACULAR LOTS AVAILABLE**, contiguous to the 14,000 acre little River Canyon National Preserve Atop Lookout Mountain. Hurry! Only 3 to choose from.



**45 ACRE MINIFARM** in Mountain Cove Farms 15+ acres of pasture, bordering WMA, with native trout stream. \$339,000.



**MENTONE** come and see our new gated community called the Northbend. Under construction with restrictive covenants, underground utilities, paved roads, and walking distance from the downtown crossroads, prices starting at \$45,000.

## Lookout Mountain Natural Healing: Itches, Rashes and Summertime Pests

By L.C. Moon

When it comes to insect bites, stings, poison ivy, oak & sumac I hold fast to the theory "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." There are many plants that help prevent the itchy annoying bites and rashes. Nature can also offer relief when itches and stings occur. I hope you enjoy reading about friends, family, research and my own experience of how to embrace nature naturally in the summertime.

I was walking along the Little River and what a gift I found among several large patches of poison oak. There stood many jewel weed plants. It was a great affirmation that what you need is provided for you in nature.

Jewel Weed (*Impatiens Capensis*) can prevent poison rashes- particularly of poison ivy. I used it to help ward off the poison oak. I said a thank you, pulled off the tops of the jewel weed and rubbed the leaves and stems all up and down my bare legs coating them with the juice therein. Then I enjoyed the rest of my walk along the river even more.

My friend & much respected herbal comrade Ginger of Shinbone Valley Farm makes a jewelweed salve that I sell in store. Ginger is so dedicated that she put the jewelweed to the test by intentionally exposing herself to the itchy plant. The results were definitely that the jewelweed helped lessen her breakout irritation as well as the length of duration. One thing she also learned is that persistence in applying the salve is key to success. It is good to have the jewel weed salve on hand while in the outdoors so that once you come in contact with the poison plants you can then immediately rub the jewel weed salve on the exposed area particularly when you are not near cold water and soap or a jewel weed plant.

Ginger's salve has helped many. Also in my personal best results undiluted tea tree or lavender essential oil along with the salve helps heal the rash faster if the rash is already well established. Bleach is often said to help the rash. Just recently my friend Nancy Cammack mentioned baking soda will prevent the rash if you wash with a paste of it with in a few hours after exposure. Baking Soda, like clay, helps dry it up after you have acquired the rash. I recommend washing the rash with cold water rather than hot.

Another very well respected herbal comrade is Darryl Patton. He talks of his teachings from Tommie Bass in his book *Mountain Medicine*-available at Mountain Life. Tommie recommended eating small young leaves to prevent allergic reaction to the plant. I have never tried this but Darryl has, and he really believes that it works.

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 though it may not heal it as fast as also using Tea Tree essential oil &/or a salve. Comfrey (*symphytum officinale*) is common in herb gardens and great in treating and healing all skin afflictions. The most unusual insect bite reliever I found out about from Peterson's Field Guide was Ragweed leaves as a poultice. A household item to utilize for bug bite itches is ammonia. It takes the itch out right away though not really a healer.

Garlic and Tobacco are plants that you may not easily find wild though I believe in the both of them passionately for treating bites and stings. I believe Tobacco is the best for drawing out the poison of stings and poisonous insect bites. The juice of purslane is known to relieve the sting of a caterpillar.

Mountain Mint is a local gem of a plant. The potent minty smell broadcasts 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. This summer I plan to consume lots of garlic and mint tea to ward off the biters.

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. My friend Dana Goggans swears by mopping with pennyroyal to get rid of ants. I can not testify to it though I have heard that catnip essential oil is even more effective than citronella as an insect repellent.\*\*Caution should be taken if you are pregnant as pennyroyal and other mints are known to increase the risk of miscarriage

Walnut leaf tea is said to get rid of bed bugs. Never had experience with the bed bugs but I have with ringworm. In truth ringworm is a fungus and not a worm though lots of people still think it is a worm. I've had great results using the juice from the husk of a green walnut. Bruise the green walnut and rub the juice on the round patchy area. It will sting and scab up a bit but in my experience it was done itching immediately and gone by the time the scab healed.

My Great Grandfather Hank was a renowned naturalist and he is the only one that I have heard say that he found a sure fire way to prevent chiggers. Most of society is not going to go without bathing while spending lots of time in the woods as he recommended. So natural bug repellents such as Swy Flotter by Kiss my Face or sulfur are the only other natural preventions I know of. 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.

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

The most effective & convenient insect repellent that I know of is Swy Flotter by Kiss My Face. I carry it in store at Mountain Life/L.C. Moon Herbs in the heart of Mentone. It is deet-free, so effective and good smelling. Any questions or comments- come by call or write: LCMoon03@aol.com- (256)634-3333 [www.LCMoon.com](http://www.LCMoon.com) or

P.O.Box 224 Mentone, AL 35984.

### Dedicated to John Baty

When the family of Raymond Brown was going through his papers after his death, this paper, yellowed by age, was found. There is no author's name at the end of the poem. I thought that it fit the picture in last month's copy of *The Groundhog* and since that was attributed to John, I thought that this should be dedicated to him. Linda Brown

### THAT PLACE IN OUR BACKYARD

We had a place in our backyard with  
a little quarter-moon vent,  
Remember that little back-house  
where everybody went?  
There were two big holes in the seat-board  
and a little one down low;  
The wasps built their nests up near the  
ridge over the seats in a row.  
A box of old newspaper was there  
well in reach of the hand,  
It looks kind of crude to us moderns  
but we used to think it grand.  
There was a long pole pry in the corner  
to use when the pile got high,  
You could sit and read the papers and  
occasionally swat a fly.  
But when it came to winter there was  
quite a lot of grief,  
That time of year in early morn,  
you made your visit brief.  
The seats were covered with the frost  
and the wind blew up from under;  
How we used to stand it then, makes  
one stop and wonder.  
You'd sit down so gingerly and  
hurry all you could,  
And dash back fast into the house -  
Most anybody would.  
Then back yourself up to the stove,  
and shiver now and then,  
And sort of think how nice 'twould  
be when summer came again.  
Summer with it's odors, flies, wasps  
and smothering heat;  
When Nature called you could take  
your time. It really was a treat.  
Company for Sunday dinner - You  
felt anything but gaunt;  
Walking around garden paths trying  
to look nonchalant.  
Someone's in the (doniker), their foot  
against the door --  
If people don't like company, what  
are the other seats for?





THE WILDFLOWER CAFÉ

THEWILDFLOWERCAFEINMENTONE@HOTMAIL

WELCOME BACK CAMPERS!!!!

10% DISCOUNT TO ALL CAMP EMPLOYEE'S

HERE ARE THIS MONTH'S 5 COURSE DINNER'S

FOR AROUND \$20

- 2ND & 3RD SALMON WELLINGTON OR FILET MIGNON  
SIRLOIN STEAK OR LOBSTER STUFFED TILAPIA
- 9TH & 10TH PRIME RIB  
CALIFORNIA CHICKEN
- 16TH & 17TH BRAISED PORK TENDERLOIN  
BLACKENED GROUPER
- 23RD & 24TH CAJUN WEEK!!!!  
CREOLE CHICKEN  
SEAFOOD GUMBO
- 30TH & 31ST BUTTERN AND BOW PASTA  
STEAK ANNE

COME ENJOY THE BEST MUSIC FROM MUSICIAN'S KNOWN NATIONWIDE  
AND AWARD WINNING ARTIST!!!!

BRIAN BUSH NACHAI BEST VOCALIST AND PERFORMER

MISS GLORIA WHO HAS WORKED WITH BONNIE RAITT & DUDLEY MOORE &  
JOHN LEE HOOKERCHAS WHO HAS PERFORMED ON MTV AND OPENED FOR BLUE OYSTER CULT  
AND HAS BEEN LISTED ON THE ALLMAN BROTHERS WEB SITE

## JUNE 2006

### 256-634-0066

| Sun                                  | Mon          | Tue          | Wed                          | Thu                                             | Fri                                                  | Sat                                                  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 10-2<br>CHEF<br>BEN'S<br>BRUNCH      | CLOSED       | CLOSED       | 9-3<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH       | 1 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>OPEN MIC  | 2 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC  | 3 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC  |
| 4<br>10-2<br>CHEF<br>BEN'S<br>BRUNCH | 5<br>CLOSED  | 6<br>CLOSED  | 7<br>9-3<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH  | 8 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>OPEN MIC  | 9 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC  | 10 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC |
| 11 10-2<br>CHEF<br>BEN'S<br>BRUNCH   | 12<br>CLOSED | 13<br>CLOSED | 14<br>9-3<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH | 15 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>OPEN MIC | 16 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC | 17 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC |
| 18 10-2<br>CHEF<br>BEN'S<br>BRUNCH   | 19<br>CLOSED | 20<br>CLOSED | 21<br>9-3<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH | 22 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>OPEN MIC | 23 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC | 24 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC |
| 25 10-2<br>CHEF<br>BEN'S<br>BRUNCH   | 26<br>CLOSED | 27<br>CLOSED | 28<br>9-3<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH | 29 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>OPEN MIC | 30 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>MUSIC         | 9-9<br>B-FAST<br>LUNCH<br>DINNER<br>LIVE<br>MUSIC    |

# Happy Father's Day!

## Sunday, June 18th

**Southern  
Properties**  
Agency, Inc.

2107 Gault Avenue North  
Fort Payne, AL 35967  
256-845-6000

## BRAND NEW & BEAUTIFUL



Nestled amongst the trees you'll find this NEW construction offering 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, large family room with gas log fireplace, spacious kitchen/ dining combo, screened front porch, side deck with Jacuzzi and more sitting on a 1.23 acre wooded lot just minutes from downtown Mentone. \$202,000 (PLS #14394)

To see more  
Southern Properties  
listings, please go to  
[www.SouthernProperties  
Agency.com](http://www.SouthernPropertiesAgency.com)

**Pam Wheeler**  
Realtor  
(256)-996-0687



*The events of tomorrow,  
which are hidden from  
your view, are open to the  
eyes of Him who is  
omnipotent.*



## GRANDPARENTS STAY YOUNG LONGER THAN EVER BEFORE

Thanks to better living habits, advances in medicine, and a wider variety of appropriate activities, people are not only living longer but staying active longer. The so-called "generation gap" is a lot narrower than it used to be, because Grandma and Grandpa no longer sit at home in their rocking chairs. They go to senior citizen lunches, play bingo, and organize political action groups to secure better health care, insurance, etc. Some continue working, or even find new careers for themselves. In any case, we can learn much from their ability to enjoy and make the most of every day that remains of their lives.

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR,  
STATE FARM IS THERE.  
WE LIVE WHERE YOU LIVE.



For your Auto, Home, Life and Health insurance needs,  
see State Farm Agent:

**Mark Mitchell**  
17174 AL Hwy 75 North  
Henagar, AL  
256-657-6252

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR



STATE FARM IS THERE.™

PG2720

State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois

0402

## Third-9 Weeks Honor Roll

Moon Lake Elementary School  
March 2006

### GRADE 1 ALL -A'S

John Brown  
Anna Carden  
Kacy Corsentino  
Valarie Dewberry  
Byrum Emory  
Mason Hester  
Bailey Kirby  
Justin Langston  
Sam Langston  
Molly Manifold  
Lexi Owen  
Laura Easler  
Zoe Lovechio

### GRADE 1 ALL-A'S & B'S

Noah Durham  
Gavin Millican  
Lukas Boehringer  
Ethan Harrison  
Samantha Harrison  
Dale Howard  
Phyllis James  
Matthew Phillips  
Noah Watters  
Tristan Strickland

### GRADE 2 ALL-A'S

Emily Brown  
Sierra Chambers  
Eli Durham  
Justin Easler  
Kara Goss  
Kateland Grider  
Dawson Kincer  
Jimmy Swain  
Elizabeth Meadows  
Mackenzie Willingham  
GRADE 2 ALL-A'S & B'S  
Dylan Lewis  
Andrew Williams  
Isaac Browder



### GRADE 3 ALL-A'S

Kaitee McGee  
Levi Owen  
Samantha Purvis  
Amelia Saferite  
Marysa Wigley  
Brooke Wright  
Jakob Gilbreath  
Courtney Roden

### GRADE 3 ALL-A'S & B'S

Alex Davis  
Amber Frazier  
Kalee Hatfield  
Shelby Jackson  
Caleb Johnson  
Alexis Manifold  
Orion Nicely  
Taylor Purvis  
Alicia Shafer  
Paige Smith  
Megan Sutton

### GRADE 4 ALL-A'S & B'S

Hunter Blalock  
Blue Davis-Stone  
Veronica Kinoshita  
Jaimee McGee  
Michael Langston  
Adam Miller  
Kanissa Smith

### GRADE 5 ALL-A'S

Landon Crowe  
Lily Harrison  
Danielle Powell

### GRADE 5 ALL-A'S & B'S

Beth Durham  
Amber Hilliard  
Jill Hope  
Austin Jones  
Taylor Poff  
Augusta Smith

### GRADE 6 ALL-A'S

Haley Saferite

### GRADE 6 ALL-A'S & B'S

Raven Brown  
Hope Carden  
Tiffany Easler  
Alley Hatfield  
Kaylee McMunn  
Brandi Miller  
Caitlin Kirby  
Daniel Phillips

## Retreat Realty, Inc.

Cell: 706-978-9906  
Email: jbazan@myretreatrealty.com



### CHARMING RUSTIC CABIN IN SOUGHT AFTER LAUREL CREEK!

Fully furnished, 2 bedroom, 1 bath on lakefront, wooded 1.55 acres. Cozy kitchen and living area, upstairs loft has 2nd bedroom. Rocking chair front and back porch, laundry room, stone fireplace, tin roof, custom hardwood floors. Split rail fence, mature landscaping. Immaculately maintained. \$192,900



### DOUBLE LOT IN SOUGHT AFTER LAUREL CREEK!

Beautiful 6.05 acre pasture at entrance to Laurel Creek with pond and triple rail wood fence has 6 stall barn with tack and feed room, exterior lean-to and storage room. Build your dream home and bring your horses. \$92,500 - Lot No. 7 & 8, Seller will consider selling separately.



The new standard of Excellence, Experience & Service





## SAND MOUNTAIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Sand Mountain Electric Cooperative is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs or activities.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Mike Simpson, General Manager. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Stop 1510, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20250-1510; or the Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410; or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.



Mary Alice Stout and Ellen Spangler  
"Rock Shop" Mountain Mamas



Katie Bird Cobble, Local Potter

## Mountain Mamas—More Potters, More in the Rock Shop

By Ellen Spangler

Eight women potters have pottery at Mountain Mamas Crafts and Rock Shop. Six have recently restocked the shelves. Our newest potter, **Katie Bird Cobble**, has lived near DeSoto State Park for 13 years. She has had a lifelong passion for pottery. After hundreds of hours of practice and improving her skills at Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC, she set up a studio at her home. Receiving her creative energy from nature, she named her studio "The Singing Trees" from the sounds of the wind.

**Helen Helwig** of Villa Rica, GA, joined the "Mamas" last year. She's known for her mugs and platters with animals, like cats & dragonflies. **Kate McAninch** and **Angela Goff** are from Carrollton, GA. Kate has lots and lots of big mugs at special prices, and wheel-thrown bowls of various sizes. Angela has bowls and mugs with some new and eye-catching glaze colors.

Roopville, GA, has been **Trudy Duncan's** life long home. She grew up playing with the clay in a backyard stream. As a youngster, mud pies and sculptured animals were her specialty. Over the years, Trudy graduated with degrees in art education and graphic art. She has wheel-thrown bowls and vases in colors from nature. Trudy also makes one-of-a-kind wind chimes from bottles she melts in her kiln.

**Sarah "Liz" Nunen** supplies the shop with a wide variety of art. She has slab and wheel-thrown pots. Her small bowls and soap dishes are a favorite of many customers. Liz has a rubber stamp addiction! She makes and sells our most popular greeting cards. This year she has filled a whole card rack. Just like potato chips, it's hard to have only one!

Mary Alice Stout and Ellen Spangler just returned with a truckload of **crystals & stones** from the Franklin Rock Show. Large mineral specimens of amethyst, calcite, rose quartz and smaller ones of beautiful zoelite and pyrite are some of the rocks you will see displayed. Mary Alice, a former biology teacher, found an assortment of fossils to bring back, as well as a variety of small-carved animals.

While Mountain Mamas has more than 60 regional women artists with their work on consignment, we are always interested in more. We are open EVERY Saturday and Sunday, noon to 6:00pm GA time, through Dec. 3rd, as well as Memorial Day, July 3rd & 4th, and Labor Day. Also, we open by appointment. Call Mary Alice 706-862-2142 for either of the above.

Mountain Mamas is located in Cloudland, GA, on Lookout Mountain, on GA Hwy 48, just ½ mile East of the GA/AL state line.

## Put Your Money To Work, Invest It!

Low Yield currently 4-10% APY  
High Yield currently 15-30% APY

## Little River Financial

6053 Al Hwy 117  
Mentone, AL 35984  
(256) 273-4023

www.littleriverfinancial.com



## Mountain Mamas Crafts & Rock Shop

50+ Regional Women Artists  
Pottery • Fine Art • Candles • Folk Art  
Soaps • Fabric Art • Yard Art  
Bird Houses • Collectibles

May-Nov • Sat & Sun • Noon-6pm (GA Time)  
(706) 862-6481 • Hwy 48, Cloudland, GA  
On Lookout Mountain  
½ mile east of GA/AL state line  
www.MountainMamas.com



## Buy life insurance and get your money back.

Protection, peace of mind and money back? With Alfa's Return of Premium 20-year level term policy, you'll get the coverage you need at an affordable price. Best of all, if you're still living and the policy is in force when the 20-year term expires, you will receive all of your base premiums and policy fees back. It's a win-win situation, both for you and those you love. Call me today to learn more about it.



**Vickie L. Vaughn**  
501 Campbell Blvd NE, Ste. 410  
PO Box 60077  
Fort Payne, AL 35967  
256-675-5000



*Call Alfa*

## Morgan Drugs

114-Commerce Avenue  
Valley Head, AL 35989  
256-635-6812

Donald R. Morgan and  
Cynthia and Wayne Wooten, Owners  
*"We appreciate your business."*

## Douglas E. Hoyt CPA

- Bookkeeping
- Payroll Service
- Tax Returns
- Business Consulting

131 Mountain St. 635-0292  
Valley Head, AL



## THE CHESNUT TREE



Quality Antiques and Accessories  
21279 SCENIC DRIVE, MENTONE, AL  
BEHIND THE HISTORIC MENTONE HOTEL  
256-634-3007

ANTIQUES, OLD TOYS &  
DOLLS CHEERFULLY  
BOUGHT AND SOLD

Wesley and Ann Chesnut  
**OPEN**

FRIDAY, SATURDAY,  
SUNDAY & MONDAY



## White Elephant Antique and Gift Galleries

Located next to the Mentone Springs Hotel  
OPEN every day from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
CLOSED Tuesday  
Antiques, Collectibles, Uniques  
Owner, Judy Pierce (256) 634-4529



## Real Estate - Auctions

35 Riverhaven Lane • Cloudland, GA 30731  
David Tidmore, Broker Office (404) 357-1130  
dtidmore@prodigy.net Fax (706) 862-2545



Offering cabins located both in the  
downtown Mentone area and beyond.  
**We have something for everyone!**  
Amenities include brow views with a 3  
State view, gas log fireplaces, hot tubs,  
Jacuzzi tubs, golf, hiking, boating, fishing and more!!!

**888-560-0492**

Check our online availability and booking at  
**mentonecabins.com**

## Builder's Supply Company, Inc.

- ✓ Concrete Blocks
- ✓ Building Materials
- ✓ Roof & Floor Trusses

Fort Payne  
611 Godfrey Ave. S.  
845-1451

Sylvania  
Highway #75  
638-2244

## First Federal Bank

**F** Fort Payne 845-1077 **R**ainsville 638-6342 **I**der 657-6255

**F** "We're more than bankers,  
"We're your neighbors and friends."



Stop by & chat with Bernise at

## CROWS' NEST ANTIQUES

Antiques  
collectibles,  
glassware, books

256-634-4548



## LOOKOUT MTN LOG HOMES

Bill & Terry Grissom

PO Box 54  
Mentone, AL, 35984

Toll Free 866-441-LOGS (5647)  
205-815-2000  
www.dblh.com

Exclusive Dealer of DANIEL BOONE LOG HOMES in  
Northeast Alabama & northwest Georgia



Ron Waits Owner/Broker  
Ph....256-634-0022  
Fax. 256-634-4646



15259 Co. Rd. 89  
Mentone, Al. 35984  
E-Mail..rdwaits@hiwaay.net

CALL ME FOR ALL OF YOUR PROPERTY NEEDS:



Visit The  
**GOURDIE  
SHOP**



In Picturesque  
Mentone, Alabama  
For Unique  
and Unusual Gifts  
256-634-4776  
Open Weekends

Chert, Gravel  
& Topsoil Hauling

Septic Systems  
& Field Lines, Etc.

**KENT LEE**  
824 County Rd. 673  
Henagar, AL 35978

Home: (256) 657-6604  
Mobile: (256) 996-3158

**KL**  
657-6604  
**EXCAVATING**

**Free Satellite TV**

FREE PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION  
UP TO 4 ROOMS • DIGITAL QUALITY PICTURE

PROGRAMMING AS LOW AS **\$31.99** PER MO. FOR OVER 65 CHANNELS

Local Channels Included  
Call C&A @ 546-9790  
OR TOLL FREE  
1-866-812-3388

DISH NETWORK

**d'sh**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**The Water Works Board  
of The Town of Mentone**

Meetings are at 4PM in the  
water board meeting room. The  
dates for the remainder of fiscal

year 2005-2006 are:

**APRIL 27, 2006**

**MAY 25, 2006**

**JUNE 22, 2006**

**JULY 27, 2006**

**AUGUST 24, 2006**

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2006**

Any changes will be posted 7 days prior  
to any scheduled meeting shown above.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**The Valley Head  
Water Works Board**

Meetings are held at 4PM in the  
Valley Head Water Works office  
board room. For the remainder of  
fiscal year 2005-2006 they are:

**APRIL 10, 2006**

**MAY 08, 2006**

**JUNE 12, 2006**

**JULY 10, 2006**

**AUGUST 14, 2006**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2006**

Any changes will be posted 7 days prior to  
any scheduled meeting shown above.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**The Mentone Town Council**

Meetings are at 6PM in the town  
hall meeting room. The dates for  
the remainder of fiscal year

2005-2006 are:

**APRIL 10, 2006**

**MAY 8, 2006**

**JUNE 12, 2006**

**JULY 10, 2006**

**AUGUST 14, 2006**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2006**

Any changes will be posted 7 days prior to  
any scheduled meeting shown above.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**The Planning Commission  
of the Town of Mentone**

Meetings are at 5PM in the town  
hall meeting room. Th dates for  
the remainder of fiscal year

2005-2006 are:

**April 20, 2006**

**JULY 20, 2006**

**October 19, 2006**

Any changes will be posted 7 days prior to  
any scheduled meeting shown above.

The

# Church News

By Evelyn Graves



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

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Brotherhood breakfast and devotional at 8:30AM the first Sunday of each month; Women on Mission meet at 2PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

**Lea's Chapel Baptist Church** welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship. Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18); 6:30PM Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-2002.

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

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

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

Our **Lady of the Valley Catholic Church** on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Mass Services at 11:00AM each Sunday; Scripture and Communion Services at 6PM on Tuesdays.

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM and Sunday School at 9AM. 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 10AM, Worship Service at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30PM.

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

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

Anyone interested in observing the **Sabbath and Holy Days**, call 845-2246 for time and location.

**Alpine Community Church**, 1115 Hwy 337, Menlo, GA. Pastor Rev. Tommy Pledger.

**Presbyterian Church** Worship Service at Cloudland begins at 10AM (EST), and the **Menlo** Worship Service begins at 11:15AM (EST).

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

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

**DeSoto Church of Christ** invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10AM, Worship at 11AM. Wednesday Bible study at 6PM. 256-634-4147.

The **Mentone Revival Center** and Pastor LeRoy Nichols and wife, Nell, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10AM and 11AM, and Sunday night at 6PM. Wednesday night 6:30PM. Everyone is welcome.

(See May 6 Yard Sale info this page.)

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

**Mentone Community Church** Sunday Worship-11AM, Wednesday evening service-6:30PM with Bible study and Teen class. Nursery provided for all services. Senior Pastor Rev. Rick Haworth and Youth Pastor Ryan Haworth welcome all.

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

**Mentone Church of God** invites you to attend their church. Sunday School-10AM; Morning Worship-11AM, Sunday evening-6PM, Wednesday evening-6:30PM. Pastor Randall Beagles welcomes all.

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

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11AM each Sunday. Sunday School is at 10AM. Pastor Les Brown welcomes everyone.

**Moon Lake Baptist Church** invites everyone to attend Sunday School at 9:45AM, Sunday Worship at 11AM., Discipleship Training at 5PM, and Sunday evening worship at 6PM. Sunday evening Bible Study for children and youth is at 5PM, and an Adult special studies class is being taught for those who prefer the study to Discipleship Training at 5PM. A membership class is also available at 5PM, taught by Dr. Bill Russell, Pastor. Wednesday evening prayer service is at 6:30PM, with children and youth activities at 6:30PM, also.

June 2006 / The Groundhog/Page 27

## Dial-a-Devotional 634-0103

is provided daily by Evelyn Graves as an extended ministry of the Moon Lake Baptist Church. Feel free to call any time of the day or night.



Enjoy a fine dining experience on the brow of Lookout Mountain. You'll love the sunsets and good food at Cragmere.

Friday-Saturday 5-9 p.m. DeSoto Parkway - Mentone

For reservations, call Bonnie at

(256) 634-4677

## DESOTO HOUSE

"A WOODLAND RETREAT"

3/2 Vacation home. Fully furnished.

Great place for a romantic getaway,

or large family gathering.

Call Kerry 251-401-9409



## WOODLAND

202 GREENHILL BLVD.  
FT. PAYNE, AL 35967

WE'RE OPEN

7 A.M. - MIDNIGHT

7 DAYS A WEEK 845-1970

WE ACCEPT

- WIC VOUCHERS •FOOD STAMPS
- QUANTITY RIGHTS RESERVED
- NONE SOLD TO DEALERS

### WE FEATURE ALL THIS AND MORE

- Money Orders
- Incoming & Outgoing Fax Service
- Video rental
- Postage Stamps
- Copies
- Deli/Bakery
- Floral dept.
- Fresh Seafood
- Extended Lines of Gourmet, Specialty & Diet Food



## 'You May Have Won...' The Chance To Be Cheated

All of us have received sweepstakes offers in the mail, some of them promising us the moon. Before you enter another sweepstakes or respond to another telemarketing offer that all but guarantees you're going to win, ask yourself these questions:

### Do I have to act "immediately to have a chance to win?"

Don't be pressured into making a sudden decision. Get the information in writing before you enter a contest, make a purchase, or give a donation.

### Do they want my personal or financial information?

Don't give out your financial information--your Social Security, credit card or bank account numbers--to people you don't know.

### Do I have to pay to receive the "prize" or enter a sweepstakes?

You should never have to pay to receive a prize or enter a sweepstakes contest. If you do, it's illegal.

### Is the lottery offer from a foreign country?

Any lottery that involves a foreign country and is conducted through the mail is illegal.

### Is this a charity or sweepstakes - or both?

Legitimate charities don't ask for donations in conjunction with a contest. The problem is that many phony charities use names that sound or look like respected organizations. If the solicitation says, "By returning your entry form, you could win \$20,000 cash!" it's a charity sweepstakes, and your best course of action may be to decline.

For more information about how you can protect yourself from fraud or personal identity theft, go to [USPS.com/postalinspectors](http://USPS.com/postalinspectors). If you suspect fraud, contact your local Post Office™ or call the Postal Inspection Service at 800-ASK-USPS (800-275-8777).



## **3rd Annual Mentone V.F.D.**

## **Golf Tournament**

**June 10 2006**

**@ Lil Mole Golf Course**



**4 man best ball \$200 per team**

**Tee off @ 7:00 a.m.**

For more info, contact Rusty Chambers or Richard Harrison  
(256) 516-2009 (256) 996-3916

### **North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District**

The Volunteer Firefighters based in Mentone respond to the following types of calls at personal risk and without compensation:

- Structure Fire
- Brush Fire
- Vehicle Accident
- Natural Disaster
- Residential Medical Alert

#### **Ready and Willing**

Our financial assistance is needed to support the activities and maintain the equipment of our local Fire Hall. Your donations are appreciated. No amount is too small.

Donations are tax deductible and may be mailed to:

**North Lookout Mountain  
Fire Protection District  
PO Box 154  
Mentone, AL 35984**

**NORTH LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN  
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 154  
MENTONE AL 35984**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES**

- Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 PM,  
MAPA Meeting, Dessie's
- Saturday, June 10, 3rd Annual Mentone  
V.F.D. Golf Tournament at Lil Mole Golf  
Course. See flyer this page.
- Monday, June 12, 6PM, Town Council  
Meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room,  
open to the public
- Tuesday, June 13, 10:00 AM,  
Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone  
Community House
- Tuesday, June 13, American Legion  
meeting 6:30 p.m., American Legion Hall
- Wednesday, June 14, FLAG DAY
- Sunday, June 18, FATHER'S DAY
- Thursday, June 22, Mentone Book Club,  
10 AM, Mentone Community House
- Thursday, June 22, 4 PM, Waterworks  
Board Meeting, Mentone Waterworks Board  
Room, open to the public