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Volume 23, No. 3

"Neighborly "News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

March 2005

WINNERS OF MOON LAKE SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST: AN AMERICAN PATRIOT

First Place Winner

An American Patriot
Theodore Roosevelt
by Seth Massey

If you ask me what a patriot is, I might say someone who is loyal to his country, or someone who is willing to make sacrifices. A man who did just that was Mr. Theodore Roosevelt who made plenty of these sacrifices for his country. In these next few paragraphs you will see what these things are.

In the beginning of his presidency, he pressured Congress to set aside millions of acres of land, therefore making the U.S. a forest service. He also created some of the first wildlife sanctuaries. He formed the National Conservation Commission, which helped preserve natural resources.

Young Theodore Roosevelt was the governor of New York. Later he was Secretary of the Navy. Republican bosses nominated Theodore for vice-president with William McKinley and they won. It would be later on that McKinley would be assassinated, making Roosevelt the youngest president at the age of forty-two. Later, he helped organize the Rough Riders helping in the Battle of San Juan Hill.

Last but not least, he helped make the Panama Canal. Without the Panama Canal, ferries, boats, and warships would have to travel all the way past South America to go along to Europe. What an accomplishment!

In 1909, Theodore Roosevelt went on an African Safari, and returned three years later. And once again he ran for presidency. This time for the Bull Moose Party. Tragically, while campaigning in Milwaukee, he was shot in the chest by a man. He recovered soon afterward.

At the time of his death in 1919 his last words were, "No man has ever had a happier life than I have led; a happier life in every way."

In conclusion, conservation, the Rough Riders and the Panama Canal are something that is very admirable. America would not have been the same without this wonderful man.

Second Place Winner

An American Patriot
Ronald Reagan
by Trey Kinser

A patriot is a person who stands up for his or her country. I chose a real American Patriot, Ronald Reagan. He wasn't a firefighter or a war hero; he was an actor turned politician.

It all started on February 6, 1911 in Tampico, Illinois. He later graduated from Eureka College. After graduation he became a radio announcer for the Chicago Cubs. He loved being a radio announcer but always dreamed of being an actor. While in Hollywood he got a screen test from Warner Brothers and got a job. He starred in many movies ranging from military to sports. His most famous role was as George Gipp and from that movie at any time in politics they said, "Win one for the Gipper."

He was elected in 1966 as California's governor and reelected in 1970. He was a democrat on Harry Truman's party. Later, he switched to the Republican Party. He ran two times before being elected in 1980 to President of the United States of America.

On March 30, 1981, John Hinckley, Jr. fired four shots hitting President Reagan, two security officers and the president's press secretary. Even being shot, Reagan kept his sense of humor by joking, "I sure hope you guys are Republicans!"

When President Reagan came into office, America thought they had no faith in the government. Ronald Reagan's campaign slogan was, "Let's make America great again." and he did just that.

He signed the INF treaty with the Soviet Union. He gave thousands of Americans jobs. During his presidency, Americans rediscovered patriotism.

After two terms, he was proud to see his vice-president George H. W. Bush become president of the United States. He settled down in California and on November 4, 1999, he disclosed that he had Alzheimer's disease. He finally stopped suffering on June 5, 2004, when he passed away. The American public mourned his death for weeks.

Third Place Winner

An American Patriot
Harriet Tubman
by Savannah Pineagar

Harriet Tubman said, "I have heard their groans and sighs and seen their tears, and I would give every drop of blood in my veins to free them."

Harriet Tubman was born a slave in Bucktown, Maryland in 1820. She was a brave girl who stood up and fought in her own way for the right to be free. When she was young, she tried to save another slave from an overseer and was hit in the head with a two-pound weight. It damaged her skull and left a big, deep scar. But was that going to stop her? No way. First she escaped and then went back to get her family. Her husband was too scared to go, so she had to leave him behind. She ended up freeing more than her family. She freed hundreds of slaves through the Underground Railroad.

She carried a gun so if anyone wanted to turn back, she would threaten to shoot him or her. If you were going with her, you had to go all the way. She knew that if anyone turned back, they would be tortured until they told where the others were.

They had to travel through swamps, thick forests, and terrible weather. She did whatever she could to free them, and so her people called her Moses. Just like Moses freed Jewish slaves, Harriet freed African American slaves.

She was a very caring person who wanted her race to be free. She risked her life for others. I look up to her for being so brave and unselfish, and that to me is a patriot. If everyone looked at slavery from her perspective, everyone would see why she is an American Patriot. She died in 1913 and will always be remembered for what she did for her people and our country.



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THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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

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MAPA MEETING

March 1, 2005

The Mentone Area Preservation Association met at 6PM, at the fellowship hall of the Church of God of Prophecy.

Present were Bernise Crow, Lucille Crowe, Dot Crow, Dessie Brown, Marie Dillenbeck, Dorothy Shelden, Tom and Lynn Donald, Jim and Penny Lyday, Greg Coe, and Page Cunningham.

President Bernise Crow called the meeting to order and Jim Lyday gave the invocation.

The minutes of the November meeting were read, there being no minutes for December and no meetings in January and February. There being no additions or corrections the minutes stand as read.

In the absence of Homer Crow, Treasurer, Bernise passed out copies of the treasurer's report. Homer is recuperating from surgery and unable to attend the meeting. Bernise reported that Homer had contacted the Lakota Indians regarding another quilt for the Rhododendron Festival on April 30 and May 1st.

Bernise said that her daughter, Joyce Cooper, has been mailing out applications to the vendors for the upcoming Rhododendron Festival. Lynn Donald reported that she been getting out the advertising of



the festival to as many areas as possible. She reported that she would do followups with emails and contact radio stations closer to the festival dates.

Tom Donald brought up the bridges in Mentone that are going to be replaced. A discussion followed. At the initial meeting concerning the bridge replacement, representatives of the Alabama Department of Transportation stated that they would be conducting another meeting during the latter part of March.

Bernise asked for volunteers to work during the weekend at the festival. Several members were not able to attend the meeting, but will be contacted to work. Greg Coe and Page Cunningham volunteered for Sunday; Marie Dillenbeck for Saturday.

The minutes of November 2004 stated that all meetings be held at 6PM, except during daylight savings time, at which time the meetings will be held at 7PM. Daylight savings time begins on April 3, and the next meeting will be April 4, so the meeting will begin at 7PM.

The members thanked Dot Crow and Dessie Brown for providing the refreshments.

There being no further business, Penny Lyday made a motion to adjourn to have refreshments.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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IT'S A GIRL!



Chloe Miranda McQueen

Congratulations to Tiffany and John McQueen, Peoria, Arizona, on the birth of Chloe Miranda McQueen born on February 4. She weighed 7 lbs, 9 ozs, and was 19-1/2 inches long. Chloe is the granddaughter of Marie Frazier Walker, Glendale, Arizona; and Doylan Walker, Camden, SC, and the great granddaughter of Helen Frazier of Mentone.



The Country Journal

By
BERNISE CROW

Winter is slipping away, or skipping away like a lamb in March. Daffodils and crocus are blooming and bring hope of warmer days.

My days of hibernation must come to a halt. There are things to do—like cleaning debris from flower beds. Some of them are covered with leaves and tulip bulbs are pushing through them.

MAPA did not meet during January and February and I've missed everyone. We always have a talk session and good refreshments, and I look forward to our visits.

Homer has been busy with preparations for our Rhododendron Festival, which is coming early this year. We have had it the third weekend for many years, but of late, our Rhododendron have bloomed early and are almost gone by that time. And, with the Highway 11 yard sale, the third weekend, we may be losing some of our crowd. **This year, the Festival will be held the last day of April and the first day of May.** This will be a trial date and we will see how things go.

We are happy to get news that our two bridges, Skyline and Whatley bridges, are going to be rebuilt (widened). Skyline bridge work should be started this fall. A major concern for our town is that we may have more big semi-trucks traveling Highway 117. This, I don't care to see. We have too many of those trucks now; and, in a tourist area, people like to be able to cross the road safely—not be terrified by trucks zooming through. If the truckers obeyed the speed limit, it would help, but there must be an alternate route they can take that would be safer for us and for them.

Our daughter, Doreen, came from Florida for Valentine weekend with her friend, Rebecca, from Atlanta. We had a good visit here in Mentone and then went to Chattanooga to meet Joyce and son, Lee Cooper. We celebrated Joyce's birthday (belatedly) with some friends. We then had a dinner party at Mt. Vernon Restaurant on Valentine's Day where our very dear friends, Michael DeYampert and Ralph Miller, played music during the meal. It was nice to have Ruth Ragland join us. The music was great and included classical songs that we could join in singing.

Later that day, a sad message was delivered. J.B. Elrod had passed away. We loved J.B. and were grieved to lose him. He was a former resident of Mentone, even served as policeman for a while when he retired from more than 25 years in the Army. His four children, Joe Elrod of Mentone, Pam Baggett of Mentone, Carol Pogue of Harriman, Tennessee, and Lou Ann Johns of Jasper, Georgia, are my nephew and nieces. During this difficult time, we spent as much time as possible with them.

J.B. was well known in Fort Payne for his work with many community projects. He was civic minded and very patriotic, working with the American Legion and

volunteering for many worthwhile projects. He will be sorely missed at the fairgrounds where he worked hard for many years. I always looked for him when our garden club worked with the flower show during the fair. We bid farewell to a good hearted and beloved gentleman.

Homer and I are in Gadsden Regional Hospital now, as I write. He underwent surgery to remove spurs from his neck and replace 2 deteriorated disks. Naturally, I was terribly nervous about the operation, but all went well and we should be home tomorrow. I am fortunate to have our son, Coy, with me, and my cousins Andy and Iva Lea. They were a comfort during the waiting period. Homer should be up and about shortly, although he will have to wear a neck brace for a couple of weeks. Then, the trick is to keep him occupied, without doing any physical work, during the next couple of months! He doesn't like to be still and/or unable to do yard work, work in his shop, etc. Wonder who his mandatory idleness will be the hardest on?!

Joyce and Lee are still with us. It's so nice to be with them. Lee is now in the Army National Guard and looks so very handsome in his BDU's (Guard talk for camouflage uniform). We are very proud of him as well as a bit nervous as anyone would be during this time in our country. We pray that he stays stationed near his home in Columbia, South Carolina. Joyce and Lee will be leaving soon to head home—Joyce for treatment and Lee for Guard duty. As they say in the Army, "Hooah!"

Things are slow these days at the Hitching Post; however, we are pleased to have a new restaurant open in the back of the Hitching Post. It is called the Wildflower Cafe and is owned and operated by Margaret Baker. Seems her business is already doing well and I'm happy to have her as a tenant.

Please continue to pray for our troops who are in harm's way.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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

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Environmental Committee Update!

By L.C. Moon

The Environmental Committee is still active in beautifying and preserving the beauty of Mentone. Pattie Bryan organized a beautification of the creek running alongside the Fire Hall, which is still underway. There have been clean ups and plantings thus far. Soon to be in place will be a beautiful butterfly garden. The committee's hopes are that the butterfly garden will educate, as well as inspire, the community to put in more butterfly gardens.

Saturday April 2nd is the scheduled Clean Up Day for the roadsides and streams. Please meet at Town Hall at 9AM to help with the clean up. You will be provided with garbage bags, safety vests and convenient trash grabbers. All that attend the clean up will have lunch provided after the clean up. The committee encourages any-

one that cannot make it that day to clean up around their own homes whether it be trash along the roadside near your home or emptying containers that are breeding grounds for mosquitoes. The clean ups last year were every successful and--due to the good turnout--only took a few hours to make a big difference.

Lyle Nicely, the committee chair, is going to attend the Southeast Land Trust & Watershed Association Convention on March 17th-19th in Chattanooga. He is going to get great information to impart to the community as to how we can protect and preserve the bountiful beauty and ecological diversity that has made Mentone a treasure.

If you have any questions about meetings, the clean up or need any information, you may call Lyle at 634-4124, or email me at LCMoon03@aol.com.

Shamrocks signs of spring

March is full of the promise that spring is upon us. What could be greener than St. Patrick's Day? The shamrock is the most recognized symbol of St. Patrick's Day. It is a small, three-leaved plant known as a trefoil, which is in the clover family. Shamrock grows wild in Ireland, and because of the Irish climate of damp winters, the shamrock is fresh and green all year long.

Other than March, it is hard to buy shamrock plants in this area. Seeds can be found, but they usually do not produce shamrocks in time for St. Patrick's Day. The growing time for this plant is approximately three months until maturity. You could buy a shamrock plant that already has leaves on it and replant it into a raised container.

After it produces small flowers, the plant will go to seed. Collect the seeds and keep them in a cool, dry place until you are ready to plant them in December. Next year you will have a home-grown crop of shamrocks for St. Patrick's Day.

This type of plant likes soil that is rich in lime. Lime can be added to any potting soil. So plant those shamrocks and remember to keep the "Luck of the Irish."



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Thank you for your support of our family during the illness and death of our father and grandfather, Fraser Cochran. We want to express our heartfelt thanks for the many thoughts, prayers, cards and phone calls we have received. There is no way to explain what these have meant to us. The floral offerings and the gifts to Howard's Chapel are very much appreciated. The food was a blessing, it is good to not have to think of such things at a time like this. The appreciation of the offering of love shown to us by your attendance during the hours of visitation or the Service of Celebration can never be expressed in words.

So many people have told us how much they liked and admired Fraser. He was truly an amazing person and no one would be more surprised than he to know of the great outpouring of love and respect shown to him in his last days on earth.

One day in the hospital, his daughter, Linda, was teasing him about something. The nurse looked at her in a puzzling way, as if to say, "Don't you know that he is dying, and you joke and tease with him?" To this look Linda replied, "We joked and teased with him all of his life, he will think we don't love him if we stop now." This was the relationship of Fraser with all of his children. Yes, we all called him Fraser and when people would question him about this, his answer was always, "It doesn't bother me in the least, I'm just glad they love me enough to call me something."

Linda Brown and Family

Resurrection

Springtime is the resurrection
Of nature's beautiful perfection
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Of bright, sparkling emerald greens
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In the songs of happy birds' voices
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As its complete and sweet preparation
For the glorious Easter season,
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As Christ died and arose to live again,
Conquering death's hopeless pain,
Promising, "I go to prepare a home for you"
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Heaven's wonderful resurrection
Will outshine and far surpass Spring's perfection
As we join angels' with joyous elation
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...Eloise Brown

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Back to the Basics

By John Baty

Of recent times, DeKalb County has witnessed a sentimental infatuation with some of the lore and pastimes of two generations or so ago. I'm not about to divulge my age, but wish to note that I have a passing familiarity with some of the items on our list of things sentimental.

Before television (BT), entertainment was of a more basic vintage. The most awesome of that day were the theaters at Valley Head and Fort Payne with their "wide screen" Westerns starring Johnny Mac Brown and Tex and the others, maxing out at one-two hours of entertainment a week. Those were heady times!

One of the mementos I have observed around businesses and eating establishments is a display of items from the old. Among these being a checkerboard and some sort of crude checkers.

Now, I have some concern about the dedication of the various persons responsible for providing these "squares" for public consumption.

Although I never had the patience—maybe I was a sufferer of attention deficit—to become even adequate at the game, some of my family did become formidable players. But they spent time at the game. Mr. Ray Cox and my Brother and my Daddy played all night until Mama's old rooster heralded the new day. Mr. Ray heard the crow and suddenly rose from his chair and exclaimed: "I must go. Folks will think I have been over here playing checkers all night."

Yes, I never became proficient at the game but I do recall flipping thru *Lee's Guide* and the titles, "The Bristol," the "Old Fourteenth," and "The Laird and the Lady," do summon up some nostalgic times.

It does put me in a melancholic mood when I witness a Dad and Son playing a game while they wait on Mom. But as I draw nearer and see that the board they are using had the double corners on the left, a sort of shudder racks my frame and I get an urge to shout: "Turn the board around!"

There is another game which employs a board of that kind, but the ones at the general stores of my childhood had those double corners on the right.

Double corners on the Left? Mercy

BOOK SIGNING

The Board of the Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library in Mentone is sponsoring a Book Signing by Frank Chappell. The signing will be held in the Library from 11am until 12 noon, on Saturday, April 9th, 2005.

"Dear Sister" Civil War letters to a sister in Alabama, is a collection of letters written during the Civil War by a group of brothers to their sister and parents in Union Springs, Alabama. Frank Chappell, the great-great grandson of Lucinda Caroline Hunter Branscomb, to whom many of the letters were written, has transcribed the letters, which were a surprise finding while cleaning out his grandfather's house. He researched the history of the brothers army unit; The Third Alabama Infantry Regiment, Company D, and has incorporated some of its history around each of the 100 letters. The letters written by and to members of the Branscomb family of Union Springs, date from before the Civil War to near its end. The book presents insight into how life was during those trying years.

Frank Chappell was born and raised in Union Springs. He attended Georgia Tech and Auburn University, where he received a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is retired, having served with the Air Force and as a civilian with the Army Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal. He and his wife Barbara live in Huntsville.

RECIPE CORNER

March 2005

By Sue Schwarz

March has come in like a lion and we are looking forward to spring and all of its treats. I love asparagus and hope you enjoy the recipes using it in this month's column. The first one is very easy and takes little effort. The second one is a close approximation to one I had at a wonderful little restaurant in Oregon when Bill's daughter and son-in-law lived in Portland. This recipe served with a nice green salad and good bread, makes a delightful meal. Enjoy and enjoy the blessings of your life and of the season.

OVEN ROASTED ASPARAGUS

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Wash and break the tough ends off of fresh asparagus. Put asparagus in a baking dish and drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper to taste. Roast for 20 minutes. Asparagus should be tender, but still a bit crisp to bite. Before serving, sprinkle asparagus with some fresh lemon juice.

PASTA WITH ASPARAGUS, TOASTED BREADCRUMBS LEMON AND GARLIC

2 pounds asparagus
1/3 c plain breadcrumbs*
1/2 C olive oil
4 cloves garlic, minced
1/4 C minced fresh parsley leaves
1/4 C lemon juice
1 t salt

1 pound pasta - small spaghetti or vermicelli

Cook pasta according to package directions. While pasta is cooking, snap off the tough ends from asparagus spears. Cut the spears lengthwise and slice them into 1-inch pieces. Steam the asparagus until crisp-tender, about 2 minutes. Set the asparagus aside. Toast the breadcrumbs in a skillet, shaking the skillet to redistribute the crumbs, until golden brown, about 5 minutes. Set toasted breadcrumbs aside. Heat the oil in the empty skillet. Add the garlic and saute over medium heat until lightly colored, about 2 minutes. Stir in the parsley, lemon juice, and salt and cook for 30 seconds. Add the asparagus to the pan and mix well. Adjust seasonings if necessary. Drain the pasta, making sure that some water still clings to the noodles. Toss the hot pasta with the asparagus sauce and the toasted breadcrumbs. Mix well and transfer portions to warm pasta bowls. Serve immediately.

*The best breadcrumbs are made from stale bread. Crumble into coarse crumbs or pulse stale bread in the food processor.

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HISTORY OF GIRL SCOUTS

Each year, Girl Scouts of the United States celebrate Girl Scout Week during the week in which March 12 falls. The first troop meeting was held in the United States on March 12, 1912. During Girl Scout Week, troops show their communities what they do.

Robert Baden-Powell, a British army officer, began the Boy Scouts in 1907 to give boys training in citizenship. Many girls wanted to belong to a similar group, so he helped work out the principles for a separate organization. The Girl Guides program began in England in 1909 with Baden-Powell's sister, Agnes Baden-Powell, as president. The movement quickly spread to other lands.

The first Canadian Guide Company was formed by Mrs. A. H. Malcomson at St. Catharines, Ont. It was registered with the British Girl Guide Office in 1910. That same year, other companies were formed in Toronto and in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In 1917, the Canadian Parliament granted a charter to the Canadian Council of the Girl Guides Association. In 1920, Baden-Powell's wife Olave called the first international conference. Members from 15 countries met in Great Britain. World Conferences are now held every three years for representatives from all the member countries of the World Association.

Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in all parts of the world celebrate February 22 as "Thinking Day." February 22 is the birthday of both Lord and Lady Baden-Powell. On this day, members give special emphasis to international friendship.

Mrs. Juliette Gordon Low established Girl Guiding in the United States in 1912. She soon changed the name to Girl Scouting. Mrs. Low held the first troop meeting in her home in Savannah, Ga., on March 12, 1912. The organization opened its national headquarters in Washington, D.C., in 1913. The headquarters later were moved to New York City. The national organization was incorporated in 1915, and Mrs. Low became the first president. In 1950, the U.S. Congress issued a charter to the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. in recognition of its service.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. was a founding member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. It has been active in international programs throughout its history, especially since World War II (1939-1945). The Juliette Low World Friendship Fund, made up of voluntary contributions from Girl Scouts in the United States, provides partial financing for international exchange visits of Girls Guides and Girl Scouts. The fund also helps develop Girl Guiding on all continents by preparing training materials in other languages and by providing equipment.

The World Book Encyclopedia

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A Friendly

Valley View

By
ELOISE BROWN



Crystal Beauty Land

Winter waves her magic breezes
Then all earth in splendor freezes
Into a crystal beauty land—
Marvel of nature's lavish hand.
Mountains sparkle with diamond gleams,
Kissed to life by sunshine's beams;
Paths beckon 'neath the canopies
Formed by ice encrusted trees.
Blades of grass are blue sapphire stems
Weeds are crowned with bright diadems
Bushes' drooping limbs like silent fountains
Sculptured wonders fill the mountains.
All earth with icicles gaily hung,
Fantastic scene in tinsel strung—
Miracle of Nature's hand—
Wonderful crystal beauty land!

...Eloise Brown

March, the Beast

March is a wild, roaring beast,
Constantly on the prowl;
Winter's last fury unleashed
To prance, to blast and to howl.

It seeks the warming breezes,
To change their temperature,
Their breath it quickly freezes,
Hoping winter can endure.

It searches by the hour
Any fruits unwary bloom,
To sear, shrivel, and devour,
If they venture from their tomb.

Roaring in the hurricanes,
In brutal destructive force,
It floods all the streams and lanes,
And changes each one's course.

It is a strong fighting beast,
But only for a season
Meek as a lamb snowy fleeced,
It will surrender to April's reason.

...Eloise Brown

March Teases (Tanka form)

March of Spring teases
Tauntingly, takes it away—
Warm gentle breezes
Return in whispers to say—
"We will have our way and stay."
Winter drags its heels
Reluctant to give its ground;
Old and worn it feels
But better in its esteem
Than Spring so young and green.

...Eloise Brown

March has marched in like a lion many places, but once more, we have been spared the worst of it.

Congratulations to **Mark Freeman** for being awarded "Business Person of the Year" at The Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet. He owns Inspec Tech, Inc. in Valley Head.

Sincere sympathy to the **Kenneth Busby family**, whose home in Valley Head was destroyed by fire.

Geneva Smith spent a week with her daughter, Patricia, in Chattanooga, recently. She had an appointment with her doctor, and she and Patricia enjoyed shopping together.

Twenty-one family members from here attended **Jonathan Dean's graduation** at Fort Leonard Wood at Missouri, Feb. 25. He graduated as an M.P. He will have two weeks at home, then go to Fort Campbell, KY.

Mathew Pickett has returned from Iraq. He is Ruth and Bert Pickett's grandson.

Roy Stalvey was injured in Iraq when a heavy weight fell on him.

A lot of bad colds have been going around. Among those hit were **Sadie Cooper**, and **Walter and Christine Brooks**.

Charlie Ingle is in a Gadsden hospital recovering from knee surgery and then took a virus.

Opal Grisham had heart surgery at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga, Jan. 2. She is having a rough time.

Frances Ferguson is also having a rough time recovering from a stroke in Huntsville.

Please remember these patients in your prayers

Lillie Bowden, **Karen**, **Lee**, **Susana** and baby **John Thomas Freeman** went to visit **John** and **Amanda Jankles** in Mt. Pleasant, SC, the weekend of Feb. 26.

I went to the meeting of the **Sunshine Club** Feb. 24 at Ruth Pickett's. Others present were **Lillie Bowden**, **Leona Chadwick**, **Sarah Barnhill** and **Susie Clark**. Lillie read a letter of appreciation from The Way Home for a donation we gave them. I gave the devotional on a new perspective of Heart Care and Leona read another version.

Congratulations to **Valley Head High School** as they broke some state records at the Alabama State Weight meet at Dothan High School, Feb. 26:

Paul Hall - Power Clear 300 in the 275+ class;

Justin Brown - 1st place 1130 in 2751B class

and who was the State Champion. Others were

Brian Phillips - 2nd place 811B class - 270 total;

Newley Ingram - 2nd place - 981B class - 260 total;

Jairo Castillo - 3rd place - 1051B class - 360 total;

Ben Windom - 6th place - 2051B - 845 total;

Aaron Grisham - 4th place - 2581B - 1130 total;

Johnny Ferguson - 3rd place 2518B, 1040 total;

Paul Hall - 3rd place, 275+1B-1135 total.



Pvt. Jonathan Dean

Pvt. Jonathan Dean graduated MP basic training with the US Army in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, on February 25, 2005. He received several awards for expert Marksmanship and an award for scoring high on his final exam. Jonathan will now be stationed at Fort Campbell, KY.

Jonathan is the son of David and Pam Dean of Valley Head and Delaine Dean of Henagar. He is also the husband of Tiffany Hall Dean of Henagar. He is the grandson of John and Edith Dean of Valley Head and James and Diana Sargent of Henagar.

Attending the graduation were: David, Pam, Zack, and Kaitlyn Dean; Tiffany Dean; Steve, Debra, Allie & Wesley Rhodes; Delaine Dean; James & Diana Sargent; Dan, Rhonda & Candace Summerford; and Joe & Sandra Summerford and children.



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North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Report

During this past month our volunteer fire department has responded to the following calls:

Activity Report:

Structure Fire	0
Brush Fire	1
Vehicle Accident	0
False Alarm	0

Members of our North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection Division are now in the process of compiling a fire containment and evacuation plan for each business and public place in Mentone. If you have such a document prepared for your location please send a copy to Fire Chief Rusty Chambers at the address below. If no such written plan exists, your cooperation is requested in allowing the fire department representative to measure your building and draw the document. All fire departments are required to maintain these records.

The firefighters from our Lookout Mountain Fire Protect Division will be participating in the DeKalb County annual firefighter's competition. All the events are based on activities firefighters use in their volunteer fire protection efforts. These are timed to establish a department's skill level.

Ready and Willing

Donations are tax deductible and may be mailed to:
North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District
P.O. Box 154
Mentone, AL 35984

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The second annual Senior Christmas lunch was held December 15, 2005, at the Mentone Community House. There were gift bags with goodies for everyone and door prizes, along with the turkey lunch.

The following merchants donated door prizes:

Dessie's

The Log Cabin Deli

Tom's Tires

Little River Hardware

The Shed

MERF

As always, Mentone is the little town with a big heart. Thanks to those merchants who donated the door prizes.

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RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB

February 8, 2005, Minutes, By Gethryn Giles

The Rhododendron Garden Club met on February 8, 2005, at the Mentone Community House. There were 20 members present. Beverly Holt was a guest. President Martha Wood called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Lyle Nicely gave a program on "Homes for Birds and Bats." He brought several examples of these homes and answered many questions asked by the members. Mr. Nicely is the chairperson of the Mentone Environmental Committee.

After the pledge to the flag, Peggy Roark gave a devotional titled "Keepers." This was an article published in the summer 2004 issue of Hortensia.

Refreshments were served by hostesses, Marilyn Blanton Campbell, Linda Brown, and Barbara Blalock.

The minutes of January 11, 2005, were read and approved. At this meeting, it was announced that there will not be a Landscape Design Course IV in March, but this was an error. The course will be in Huntsville March 8 and 9, 2005.

Old Business: Dorothy Cyr stated that Peggy Roark's devotional on "Keepers" was a good conservation piece and she would like for this article to be considered her monthly report as Conservation Chairperson.

Next month there will be a Clean

Up day in Mentone. the garden club will participate as a part of our litter project.

New Business: The Dekalb-Cherokee Federation will have a plant sale in Henagar on April 2. We have been asked to participate by taking plants and selling them. As no one seems to have plants to contribute, Lucette Dix moved that the club donate \$75.00 to this event. Profits will be used to fund the Fall Flower Show at the Fair. The motion passed. This club also has been asked to contribute desserts for the event. The following members volunteered to provide them: Harriett Lillich, Sue Schwarz, Virginia Setze, Ann Chesnut, Mary Ellen Fielder, Jan Wilkinson, and Gethryn Giles.

As a fundraising project for scholarships to be given by the Garden Club of Alabama, each District of the Garden Club has been asked to contribute a floral arrangement for the state convention in April. Local clubs will vote on these arrangements by donating funds. Harriett Lillich moved that the club send \$50 as our vote on the District II arrangement. Motion passed.

The club's annual Spring Luncheon will be on May 10, 2005. Harriett Lillich, Sue Schwarz and Ann Chesnut volunteered to be the planning committee for this luncheon.

Announcements: The DeKalb/Cherokee Federation luncheon will be on April 23. Time and place to be announced later.

The Atlanta Flower Show will be soon.

The Deep South Convention will be in Tunica, MS, March 20-24.

The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc., Convention will be in Dothan, AL, April 13-15.

The District II Fall Meeting will be at Heritage Garden II in Blount County September 22.

The Fall Flower Show of the Dekalb-Cherokee Federation will be Sept. 26-Oct 1.

Sue Schwarz told the group she and her husband visited with Hope and George Walker in Florida last week. Hope sends her "love" to all members of this club.

Linda Brown's father, Fraser Cochran, is in the hospital.

Dianne Kuehl won the door prize. Smaller prizes were given to others whose names were drawn.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be at 12:30 p.m., on March 8, 2005, at the Mentone Community House.

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

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Daniel O. Akes

Daniel O. Akes is returning home this weekend, March 5, after completing a 7-month tour of duty in Iraq with the U.S. Marines 24th M.E.U. Daniel was promoted to Lance Corporal while in Iraq and is currently billeted as a fire team leader. oohrah!

Welcome Home, Daniel!!

We love you.

Yearbook Sale

The 2004-2005 Moon Lake Elementary School Yearbook is available for pre-purchase now through April 1, 2005. There will be no extra copies purchased this year. So, in order to get a copy, you need to place your order soon! The price for each full-color, hard-covered book is \$25.00. Please make checks payable to "Moon Lake PTO." Orders may be sent to: Moon Lake Elementary School, PO Box 166, Mentone, AL 35984.

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CO. RD. 103, MENTONE - Ranch style home offers great room, kitchen 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath and 1 half bath. Attached garage & detached carport. Lovely 2.41 +/- acre lot. Restricted. (No. G-004)



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



SOUTH BROW DRIVE, CLOUDLAND - 83.25 acres of prime development property. Beautiful brow tract features panoramic & unrivaled brow view. Signature 2-story home with downstairs living area, kitchen, dining area & sunroom. Upstairs offers 4 bedrooms & 3 full baths. Call for details & additional information. Listed at \$1,400,000. (G-111) MLS #11527788



SPRUCE STREET, CLOUDLAND - Lovely mountain cottage - Ideal for second home or retreat. Living room, kitchen, dining area, den, bonus room, sunporch, 2 bedrooms, bath & a half. Large shop. Well-landscaped lot. Asking \$58,900.

There's Gold in Them There Hills

By Homer Crow

Someone in Mentone is sitting on a pot of gold and doesn't even know it!!!

The story begins in the latter part of the 1930s with a well driller named Russell Crowe. Russell lived on Sand Mountain, near Henagar, and was the only well driller in this area at that time. He was an upright, honest and truthful man. I've never heard a person speak a critical word about him.

Russell had finished drilling a well in Mentone and moved his drill to my Granddad's place and was in the process of drilling there. One day, as he stopped for lunch and was sitting talking with his helper and my dad and three other men, he pulled out of his pocket a gold nugget about 1-1/4 inches long and a little larger than a pencil. He passed it around and everyone looked at it, including me. All agreed that it was definitely gold and of high grade (to me it appeared to be almost pure gold). Russell made the comment that if there were just some way to get down in the well, someone would be a wealthy person.

I have never forgotten about that day, and last year, I met Russell's son, Jimmy, and as we were talking, I asked him if he remembered seeing that nugget and he replied that he had seen it many times. I asked where it was now. He said that his sister still has it. Then, I asked if his dad had ever said where he got it; and he said, "Yes, he got it from the well he had just finished drilling down near the park."

I have thought of several ways a person might check his well to see if it is the right one. One way would be to core drill next to the well. Another would be to pump all the water out and get a sample from the bottom. Or you might drop a camera down the well and look for signs of gold. I doubt if the Government Department of Geology, or whatever, would believe me or anyone else. But there definitely is gold in the Mentone area. It's just a matter of finding it. If you live somewhere near the park and your well was drilled by Russell Crowe on or about 1937, check it out!

SENIOR MEALS

The Town of Mentone has been notified that we can now offer meals to senior citizens again. This is a package of five frozen meals with meat, vegetables, bread, dessert and milk. They will be delivered to your door each Monday morning. The requirements are that you have access to a freezer and a microwave oven. You must be at least sixty years of age and not able to do your grocery shopping and/or cooking. Income is not a factor. If you or someone you know qualifies, call Mentone Town Hall, 634- 4444 and leave your name and telephone number. Someone will contact you and get the necessary information.

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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.

The **Valley Head Methodist Church** Sunday Worship is at 10 AM. Pastor is Wayne Nesbitt. Everyone is welcome to attend the services.

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

The **Harmony Grove Baptist Church** invites everyone to come and worship with them. God's Country Church is located on Co. Rd 239 (Hawkins Road). Sunday School is at 9:45AM; Morning Worship is at 11AM; Evening Worship is at 6PM; Wednesday Night Prayer service is at 6PM.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds mass services at 10:30AM each Sunday; and Communion services at 5PM 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 with snacks, lessons, and activities at 6PM, and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 PM.

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

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

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

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, Neil, invite everyone to join in worship on Sunday at 10AM worship and 11AM worship and Sunday night at 6PM. Everyone is welcome.

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 School 10AM; Sunday Worship 10:45AM; Sunday evening service 6:30PM. Wednesday evening service 6:30PM with Bible study and Teen class. Nursery provided for all services. Pastor Rick Haworth welcomes 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 Brian Hancock 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. The Ethel Brown Unit of UMW meets on the 1st Wednesday at 11AM in the fellowship hall and the Mountain Laurel Unit of UMW meets on the 3rd Monday at 12:30PM, subject to change due to scheduling.

Moon Lake Baptist Church welcomes you. The Sunday schedule is: Bible study 9:45AM; Morning Worship - 11AM; Children's Choir Practice - 4:30PM; Youth Choir, Disciple-ship Training & YGAs - 5PM; Evening Worship - 5PM; Adult Choir Practice - 7PM; Wednesday: Team Kids, Youth & Adult Bible Study - 6:30PM. Young Women's Prayer & Share Group meets each Wednesday evening at 5:30PM.

Cove Road Baptist Church invites all children of the surrounding area to attend children's church. Parents are also invited for SS and church. SS at 9AM; Worship at 10AM. Sunday Evening Worship at 5PM. All times CST.

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. 635-1001.

The **Fort Payne Christian Center** and Pastor Ken & Elaine Holleman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10AM. Wednesday Evening at 6:00 PM. God Bless you.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will hold Lenten Services on March 2, 6 & 16, at 6:30 PM, preceded by a light supper at 5:30PM. The theme of these services will be the Blessings and the Blood of Christ.

During Holy Week, there will be services on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, also at 6:30PM. The church is located at 1519 Smith Gap Road NW (County Road 85).

The Wildflower Cafe

presents a traditional music concert featuring

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7:00PM, CST

Saturday, March 19, 2005

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ADMISSION: \$12.00

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LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY by Linda Brown

This month we are featuring the winners of the Moon Lake Elementary School essay contest. The essays of all the students were great and the judges told me that they had a very hard time picking only three winners. These three were chosen: First Place - **Seth Massey**, Second Place-**Trey Kinser** and Third Place-**Savannah Pineagar**. Congratulations to these students!!

This was the second annual essay contest to be sponsored by FRIENDS of the Moon Lake Community Library. The fifth and sixth grade students are asked to write an essay. They are given a subject and the rules that the papers will be judged by. The winning students read their essays aloud to the members of the Parent-Teacher Organization at a regular meeting and cash prizes are presented to them. We add the extra incentive of a cash prize hoping to encourage the students to explore the world of writing. Our goal for the library is to encourage adults and students to enjoy the printed word. Books are indeed our best friends.

I was not able to attend the meeting when the essays were read, but I heard good things regarding the presentations. I was told that the students did a wonderful job of reading their essays. Dianne Kuehl introduced each one and presented the prizes. Thank you, Diannel! The panel of judges also deserve a great big thank you. They read every paper and worked hard at making their decision. Thank you, Judges!

FRIENDS of the Library are planning more events for this year. The next one will be April 9, this will be a book signing. Watch for advertising on the local bulletin boards and in this issue of *The Groundhog*. Another April event that sounds like a lot of fun is a day of "Clowning Around" with Judy Dowlat. The tentative date for this is April 28. This will involve the students of Moon Lake Elementary School and will give them a basic understanding of clown make-up, clown costumes and other clown information.

At this time, we are very undecided about a summer program. Last year the attendance was not good and we have determined that we will not do the same schedule of a reading program. This will be discussed in more detail at our next meeting and I will let you know of our plans through this column.

The appearance of the library shelves continues to change constantly. This is because we are putting new and different books on them weekly. Recently, we were given a box of books that look like they would appeal especially to men. Many of them were placed on the shelves that are numbered by the Dewey Decimal System. When you go to the library, be sure to look on these shelves as well as those that contain fiction, biographies and large print fiction. Also, we have a large selection of books, on a special rolling rack, for young adults and a special section of books that do not contain material that might be objectionable to some readers. These are marked by a bright red dot. We have something for everyone, so come by and see for yourself. Recently, one of our FRIENDS said, "The Moon Lake Community Library is my favorite place to be on Saturday morning." What a great endorsement for the library!

One of the most fun things that we have done recently was to read Dr. Seuss books to each class at Moon Lake Elementary School. This was done on his birthday, March 2. Two persons who volunteer for the library read to each grade during their time to be in the library for that day. To begin the day, Barbara Blalock and I read to Kindergarten students. All students could come to school on Dr. Seuss' birthday dressed in their pajamas and slippers. The Kindergarten class brought their sleeping mats to the library and lay on them to hear the stories. The other classes could bring a favorite blanket, pillow or stuffed animal. We read everything from, *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* to *Horton Hears a Who*. For those of you who are not familiar with Dr. Seuss works, these are the titles of two of the many books that he wrote. He was a master artist with the written word. I'm sure that this day was fun for the students, but I suspect not as much fun as it was for the adults who read to them.

Thanks to Evelyn and Marie for printing the winning essays. May this be the first publishing of many of the works of these students.

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SATURDAYS, 9 - 11:59 A.M.



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Precious Sunshine

How beautiful and precious is sunshine,
Thank you, God, for the gift sublime,
When clouds are dark and hides its face,
All earth grieves and feels disgrace.
All creatures feel the pain and gloom
Until your smile causes earth to bloom,
And your light so bright to richly bless
Everything on earth with powerful caress
So precious is sunshine from dawning to sunset
A blessing so divine we should never forget.

...Loise Brown

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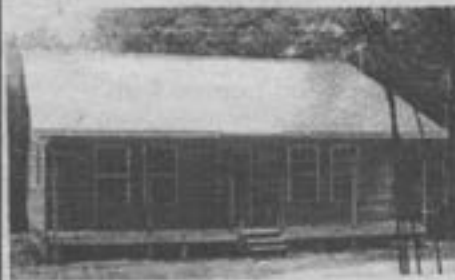
(1) COTTAGE STYLE HOME IN VALLEY HEAD. Original Pine Floors and Old doors. 3 bdrm, 1 bath. Living and separate dining. Butcher Block Island and all appliances. C/H/A. Sunroom. .84 acres. \$74,500. OR 4.46 acres \$88,000.



(2) WEST FORK SUBDIVISION. Private, yet only minutes from Mentone. 2 lots with combined footage on water of 593 ft. 4.4 acres wooded, on the cul-de-sac. \$65,000.



(3) COMPLETELY REMODELED AND LIKE NEW. One level Ranch-style home, with apartment. 3 bdrm, 3 bath, Living room with stone Fireplace. Separate dining room. New kitchen cabinets, counters, flooring. New Roof, lifetime warranty windows. Screened porch and breezeway. Wired Generator. So much more. Containing 3.6 acres M/L. Hwy 117, with commercial potential. MUST SELL \$138,000. (Photo to left)



(4) BRAND NEW. Weekend Getaway Cabin with 2 bedrooms 2 baths. Tin roof, Rocking Chair Porch. On a private wooded Acre. \$89,000.



(5) EAST FORK AND THE DINKY LINE RAILWAY. An historical part of this 75 acres of wooded wonder. 3 Springs and river. Undeveloped with paved road frontage. \$275,000 (10255) LMP145



(6) MENTONE FARMHOUSE. with 4.46 acres to Roam. 2 Bdrm 1.5 bath. Country Kitchen, Pine Floors throughout. Deck and outbuildings. Newly Re-wired, plumbed, C/H/A, Vinyl siding and a Root Cellar. \$118,500.



(7) CHARMING BRICK BUNGALOW. Nestled on a 1.65 acre corner lot. 3 Bedrooms, 1 bath. Living room with fireplace, separate dining, wood floors, C/H/A. Level, fenced back yard. Quiet setting, Mentone. \$72,000.



(8) WEST FORK SUBDIVISION 5.9 acres with 700 ft on the River. Trails throughout, Large Hardwoods, and abundance of Unique Foliage. Private yet only minutes from Mentone. \$78,000.



(9) INVESTMENT PROPERTY 2 bdrm 1 bath cottage in Mentone, with One acre. Needs some cosmetic work. Sold as-is. \$54,900



(10) AN INCREDIBLE, ONE-OF-A-KIND CUSTOM DESIGNED HOME with breathtaking view in Cloudland, Ga., 1.5 acres with 100' road and brow frontage. Approx. 6000 sq ft home with 3000 sq ft heated space. Heart pine floors, all log walls, cedar-lined closets. French doors, four porches, two fireplaces. Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, granite countertops, oversized shower, antique footed tub. Top quality appliances, furniture quality cabinets. Charm and elegance found in custom Millwork and moulding. 100 yr old Chestnut Mantle, and 1000 sq ft dormitory type bedroom, rec room and sitting room upstairs. Full basement with parking for 4 cars. Whole house generator. Gated. Asking \$425,900.



(11) UNIQUE LOG, STONE, AND CEDAR SHAKE LODGE. Custom through and through, complete with Heart Pine Plank floors. Open Great Room with stone fireplace. Loft with built-in beds. Commercial kitchen, with fireplace. French doors open to the sleeping porches and Mastr Bedroom. A must see, with so much to offer. Storage shop which can be turned into guest quarters. Small log cabin on the rivete 2.3 acres also. \$174,900.

OTHER PROPERTIES

(12) 3 acres in Cloudland, Fawn Dr. Power, Well and Septic in place. Joins Camp Juliette Lowe. \$15,000.

(13) 7.25 ACRES, on CO RD 106, City water available, mostly cleared with lake site, Large Oak Trees, where the Old Homeplace used to be. \$56,000. REDUCED \$49,000.

(14) 80 ACRES of WOODED BROW PROPERTY with creek and waterfall. Private drive with bridge. Great views. \$240,000.

(15) HIDDEN BROW ESTATES, Cloudland, GA. Spectacular Views East side. 7.5 acres, 500 ft. of brow frontage, private, large Rock bluffs, \$162,500--will divide.

(16) 10 ACRE PARCEL, Co Rd 633, wooded, drive, quite, private location. \$35,000.

(17) ONE AND ONLY LITTLE RIVER CANYON. 3 acre tracts with a view of the Canyon Bluff. Very secluded and access private rd. with locked gate. Call for appt. \$40,000 and up (11959) LMP143

(18) DEEP WATER FOR BOATING, LAKE LAHUSAGE. Come and enjoy this 3.3 acre tract, with 180 ft. on the water. city water available. Build your dream in Mentone. \$79,000. SOLD

(19) 3.18 ACRES ON HWY 117, Mentone. No restrictions. Wooded with city water available. \$20,000.

(20) 1.14 ACRE BUILDING LOT off Desoto Parkway, Mentone area, City water, private. Joins boy Scout Camp. \$17,500.

(21) INDIAN TRAIL ESTATES. Building lots on the West Brow, above N. Ft. Payne, county road, city water access, view lots starting at \$10,000; wooded lots starting at \$8,000.

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Call Annette @ 845-4449 or 996-5121
or Toni at 845-1966 or 997-7657

Petal Pushers will re-open for Spring on
Friday March 11th (weather permitting).

Community
Library Hours

Tuesday, 3-7 pm
Saturday, 9-12 am



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(1) MENTONE COTTAGE WITH ACREAGE! Cozy cottage with 40 wooded acres near DeSoto State Park featuring 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, double French doors, wood burning fireplace, cathedral ceiling, ceramic flooring and 2 storage buildings. \$229,900 (PLS #12724)



(2) A RARE FIND - Established summer home featuring 1 bedroom, 1 bath with 3 living areas (2 with mountain stone fireplaces) and access to large deck overlooking the valley below. Sitting on over 2 acres with almost 500' on the West Brow of Mentone. Priced at only \$399,000. (PLS #13045)



(3) ALMOST NEW CABIN on the brow near DeSoto State Park! You'll feel right at home in this cabin on the brow featuring 2 bedrooms (1 up & 1 down), 2 baths, open living room with rock fireplace, kitchen cabinets with tin inserts, sunroom, unique wood ceiling, large back deck, enclosed landscaping and so much more. \$269,500 (PLS #12951)



(4) Wide Open Spaces! You'll have plenty of space to roam on this 8 acres complete with a 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with a large pond and stream all surrounded by nature. The home features an open kitchen and living area, wood floors, sun porch with gas, iron stove, large bedrooms, and baths, 3 car carport with storage, front and side deck, and list goes on. Call to make your appointment today! \$179,900 (PLS #12941)



(5) Looking for a MOUNTAIN RETREAT-- 8 self contained cabins, office building that could be converted into living quarters, numerous RV and camp sites all on 13+ secluded acres adjoining DeSoto State Park. \$395,000. (PLS #10906)



(6) LESS THAN 1 MILE from downtown Mentone and sitting on over 1-1/2 acres, this home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, an open porch on front and a sunroom on the back. All appliances to remain including washer and dryer, 2-car carport with workshop and a 20x24 building for extra storage... office... craft shop, etc. \$89,900 (PLS #11605)



(7) GREAT GET-A-WAY! Privately located 2 bedroom A-frame on 2 plus acres. Wood floors and walls, newly remodeled bathroom, double paneled windows, fenced yard, storm shelter, PLUS a large workshop and a 2-car carport. \$139,900. (PLS #12294)



(8) MENTONE ... Rustic Cabin-Currently being remodeled - 1 bedroom with bedroom loft, living and dining room with cathedral ceiling, kitchen with ceramic tile countertops, utility, front porch, wooded area. \$95,000 (PLS #13047)



(9) NEW CABIN ON BRUSH CREEK! You can be the first owners of this all NEW 2 bedroom, 2 bath home with vinyl siding, metal roof, laminate and ceramic flooring, central heat & air, 550' screened porch/deck and so much, much more all on 1.31 acres. Call for more details \$127,500. (PLS #13267)



(10) ESTABLISHED TIRE BUSINESS! This 40x100x14 metal building houses 3 lifts, 4 roll-up doors, concrete floors, Office, 2 restrooms, space heaters & window air unit and all inventory included. Call today for more information. \$89,900. Price reduced to \$199,900.



(11) MAGNIFICENT BRICK COLONIAL on the brow in Mentone!! You'll never want to leave this 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath home with open kitchen and great room with fireplace, sun porch, formal dining room, 10' ceilings, transom windows, authentic Heart Pine floors and so much more. The large back deck overlooks beautiful rock formations with a fabulous brow view. The front of the home is covered with ivy and is accented with a picket fence adorned with roses and surrounds the herb garden. The property also features a detached double garage with storage and an additional bedroom with bath upstairs. Don't wait...this is a must see! \$449,000. (PLS #12933)



(12) Unique with lots of History and 250' of Waterfront! Come home to in-town seclusion in this lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with lots of room to expand. This home was built in 1925 and is filled with character. Features include an oversized living room with fireplace and dining area, spacious kitchen including a large island workspace with a vegetable sink and eating area, sunroom with fireplace, large bedrooms, wood flooring throughout, lots of storage, screened porch with rock floor, front and side covered porches, back deck. Claw-foot tub in the master bath, Sitting area with bay window in master bedroom, and so much more. Enjoy the 250' of waterfront on West Fork of Little River, and is the site of the old covered bridge. Must see to appreciate. \$450,000 (PLS #12965) (PHOTO TO LEFT)



(13) NOW under construction. This cedar-sided home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, open kitchen/dining/living combination, gas log fireplace, central heat & air, large front porch and more. Contract now to customize to your liking. \$145,000 (PLS #12909)



(14) PEACEFUL SURROUNDINGS - This 3 bedroom, 2 bath manufactured home sits on 6 acres and borders Brush Creek. \$74,500. (PLS #12686)



(15) LOTS OF CHARM IN A NEW HOME--This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features a large living/dining areas with 9' ceilings, Cathedral ceiling in the master bedroom with his & her closets, separate tub and shower in the master bath with ceramic tile, and a 2-car garage connected with a breezeway onto the back porch. The full front porch overlooks a 1.136 wooded lot and is located in Mentone. \$149,900 (PLS #12777)



(16) RETREAT TO LAUREL CREEK! You can be the proud owner of this new construction with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen/dining combo, living room with feature window and fireplace. Exterior to be reverse board and batten. Contract now to customize to your liking. \$124,900. (PLS-12892)



(17) CABIN IN MENTONE - you will love coming home to this adorable cabin now being built near DeSoto State Park. Cabin features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, pine floors throughout, and rock fireplace. 8'x40' porches on front and back with Yellow Pine exterior and metal roof. \$149,900.



(18) NEW CONSTRUCTION ON THE NORTH BROW IN MENTONE. This new home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas burning fireplace, front porch, back deck and more with approx. 1000 square feet of living space. Make your appointment to wake up to this magnificent view on a daily basis. \$295,000 (PLS #13110) (Photo to the right.)

OTHER LISTINGS

(19) NEW CONSTRUCTION IN CRESTLINE SUBDIVISION - This new 1 bedroom, 1 bath frame cabin has 640 sq. ft and features a rock fireplace and foundation, wood floors and walls, central heat and air, front and back porches and sits on 1.19 acres. Call today for your appointment. \$96,500 (PLS #13364)

(20) If you have picked your house plans, but have no place to build...call about this 4 acre parcel that has just been listed on County Road 627 in Mentone. \$28,000.

(21) GENTLY ROLLING, WOODED VACANT LAND IN VALLEY HEAD. Perfect for development. Extensive paved road frontage. 62 acres listed at \$3,000 per acre.

(22) 4.3+/- acres on DeSoto Parkway. Only \$44,900.

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

(24) LAND! 57 acres of prime property located on Hwy 11, between Fort Payne and Hammondville is a dream come true. Call today! \$384,750.

(25) LAND AND LAKE...40+/- acres with a 5+/- acre lake and Brush Creek runs through it. The lake was stocked with Bass and Bream 2 years ago and is approximately 35' deep. \$489,000. Price reduced to \$169,900.

(26) 3.68+/- acres on the Brow near DeSoto State Park. \$69,000. Reduced \$54,900.

(27) OPPORTUNITY AWAITS - 10 acres on Hwy 117, East of Mentone. 3 mobile homes and 2 one-bedroom apartments and room to grow. Outside the city limits - no restrictions. \$158,500.

(28) RETREAT, RETREAT, RETREAT - This 40 acres is partly cleared and partly wooded with a large lake and wooded stream. \$439,000. REDUCED TO \$140,000.

(29) MENTONE - If you're looking for just the right place to build your weekend get away or even a permanent residence, this property is waiting on you. Wooded, although a proposed building site has already been cleared, this property is what you have been looking for. \$37,500 (PLS #11854)

(30) Don't wait any longer...we've just listed 3.28 acres priced at \$16,400. (PLS #12291)

(31) MENTONE Brow Property - 2.3 acres on the Brow of Lookout Mtn. Priced at \$200,000

(32) MTN. RIVER ESTATES - Phase I and Phase II-building lots available starting at \$37,300. Restricted Subdivision. Waterfront available. Call for more details. (PLS #12967 & 12968)

(33) BROW Property...1.7+/- acres on County Road 166 near DeSoto State Park. \$37,500 (PLS #10133)

(34) NEWLY LISTED 4.23 acres on Hwy 117, just outside the Mentone City Limits. Property is suitable for residential or commercial, so call today for all the details. \$19,900

(35) HERE'S YOUR CHANCE...Acreage on DeSoto Parkway! 6.05 acres with no restrictions on County Road 89 near DeSoto State Park. Priced at only \$78,500.



2005 Rhododendron Festival Scheduling/Planning Underway!

By Joyce Cooper

This year's Rhododendron Festival will be held April 30 & May 1. (This is earlier than past festivals.). Planning and scheduling for our spring event are well underway. Today, approximately 1/4 of the vendor locations are reserved, with many more applications "in the mail." We are anticipating another great festival with good crowds.

In addition to the return of most vendors from the fall festival, we have reserved spaces for new vendors from Montgomery, Birmingham, Chattanooga, and Atlanta. We heartily welcome new vendors with appealing handmade crafts and/or foods.

Our festival will once again kick off Friday night (April 29) with a bonfire on the lot next to the Mentone Inn. We will have live entertainment that evening and Saturday evening at the closing bonfire. We will begin both evenings' bonfires around 6:30p.m.

Live entertainers will also be performing at Brow Park during festival hours (9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.) We have scheduled music (gospel, country, bluegrass) and dancers (cloggers, line dancers). We are hoping to have the 4-note singers from Henagar on Sunday. That should be a real treat! Come to the Brow Park and sit and enjoy these performances!

So plan your April 30 & May 1 weekend around Mentone's annual Rhododendron Festival. Invite your families and friends.

Sit around the bonfire (Friday and Saturday nights) and sing along and enjoy the music. Come to Brow Park and enjoy the food vendors' wares while you stroll along selecting plants for your yard, purchase a painting, new tee shirt, hand-poured candle, hand-woven jewelry, crocheted pillow cases, a rocking chair for the porch—all this to experience before the much-anticipated drawing for a handmade quilt (Sunday at 4:00pm). We are planning on another spectacular quilt from Norma Blacksmith, the Lakota/Sioux quilter in Oglala, South Dakota.

We're looking forward to a great Festival! Don't miss it! Spread the word! Tell your friends. It's a fun weekend!

This festival is sponsored by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (a non-profit entity). All festival proceeds are directly invested back in our community.

We desperately need volunteers to help with all aspects of the festival (flyer distribution, setting up signs, running the concession area during bonfires, etc.) Please volunteer. (Call Homer Crow @ 634-4664.) We all benefit from these festivals (just ask our local merchants). We would love to see more community involvement in the planning and executing of our festivals. MAPA welcomes all ideas/suggestions regarding the festivals. Send your ideas to MAPA, PO Box, 50, Mentone, AL 35984.

Don't forget to buy a Rhododendron plant for your yard!



God's Minute

By Ruby Brock

**Blessed are the pure in heart;
for they shall see God. Matt 5:8**

For the heart to be pure, all hate, bad talk, even bad thoughts, must be gone; and where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The writer of Proverbs tells us to keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life.

The heart is very special, take good care of it.

Happy Easter!

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Monday, March 14, 6PM, Town Council Meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Thursday, March 17, ST. PATRICK'S DAY
- Friday, March 18, 2005; 7:30-9:15PM, Unitarian Church of Birmingham, 4300 Hampton Heights Drive, Birmingham, AL Seminar on How to Solve Our Anger Problem
- Sunday, March 20, First Day of Spring, and Palm Sunday
- Thursday, March 24, 4PM, Waterworks Board Meeting, Waterworks Board Room, open to the public.
- Sunday, March 27, EASTER
- Friday, April 1, APRIL FOOL'S DAY
- Tuesday, April 5, MAPA meeting, 6PM, Fellowship Hall of Church of God of Prophecy

- Tuesday, April 5, DeSoto Rescue Squad meeting, 6PM, Mentone Community House
- Monday, April 11, 6PM, Town Council Meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Tuesday, April 12, 12:30PM, Rhododendron Garden Club, Mentone Community House
- Tuesday, April 12, 7 PM, American Legion Hall, Post 215 Meeting
- Thursday, April 21, Zoning, 5PM, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public

●April 30-May 1, weekend, Mentone
RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL
Make plans now to come, this is a change of the festival date from previous years

MENTONE BRIDGES REPLACEMENT UPDATE

According to Johnny Harris, Division Engineer of the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), there are plans to have a meeting in the latter part of March. The exact date has not been set, but a notice will be sent out by ALDOT as to the time and place, so that all those interested in attending and/or making comments may have an opportunity to do so. This notice will also be posted throughout the Town of Mentone as soon as it is received. There will be notices in The Times Journal and the Chattanooga paper, and possibly the Birmingham News since many residents who have second homes live in the Birmingham area.

The electrical boxes have been installed along AL Hwy 117 for the blinking lights that will be warning about the bridges. Also, the blinking school zone lights will soon be in place.