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THE

GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

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Since 1982
By M.A.P.A.

Volume 25, No. 5

"Neighborly "News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May 2007

"STATE OF THE TOWN" UPDATE FROM THE MAYOR

THE RIVER

In October 2006, the National Park Service began water quality testing at eleven different sites on all three forks of Little River. In October and November, the levels of e.coli for most testing sites were above the EPA recommended guidelines for recreational use (the exception in November, the tests from the sites at DeSoto Falls and DeSoto State Park indicated the water at those sites did come within the guidelines). The December through April tests show e.coli levels well within the acceptable range at all sites and virtually none present at some sites. To view the NPS data go to <http://www.nps.gov/liri/parkmgmt/water-quality-data.htm>

According to Dr. J. P. Lofgren, state epidemiologist, Alabama Department of Public Health, there is some e.coli present in all natural bodies of water. E.coli is present in the intestines of warm blooded animals and wildlife live in and around streams, rivers, and lakes. Dr. Lofgren reports there are hundreds of strains of e.coli and 99% of the strains are harmless to humans. The most dangerous strain is E.coli 0157:H7. Cattle are the principal source (as in undercooked ground beef) and the strain can be passed human to human. Last year in Alabama there were approximately thirty reported cases of persons infected with e.coli. The individual cases were not related to a single source. None of the reported cases was linked to swimming in a natural body of water.

The Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments (TARCOG) did a sub-watershed study on the west fork of Little River in 2005, a sub-watershed study on the Little River in 2006, and a sub-watershed study on the east fork in 2007. The bacteriological samples from these studies have all been within normal parameters. In addition, on March 7 & 8 of this year, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) tested the tributary (for identification called Harrison's Creek) and the west fork of Little River above and below where the tributary enters the river (near the intersection of East River Road and Gray Road). The ADEM report concluded "Based on the data collected at the time of the survey, the West Fork of Little River and Harrison Creek appear to be meeting their water use classifications" (Public Water Supply/Swimming/Fish & Wildlife; designated as **ONRW** - Outstanding National Resource

Waterway).

The results of these recent tests are encouraging and indicate that the river is "clean" most of the time, and is able to recover after an extended drought followed by heavy rain events. However, as a community, we should continue to support the monitoring of the river. Remembering that Little River drains over 200 square miles, we should also seek to partner with all levels of government, business, agriculture, and individuals in protecting the river.

THE BRIDGES

The bridge project at "Whatley's" is nearing completion. The bridge opened for traffic April 13. The binder asphalt is down with another layer to be added. Most of the old bridge has been removed. Two arches will remain because of their architectural and historical significance.

There will be another public involvement meeting for the "Skyline" bridge, Thursday, May 24, 4:30 to 6:30 PM at the Moon Lake Elementary School Gymnasium. The official notice will be in *The Groundhog* (see back page), and notices will be placed around town.

POLICE

Lamar Bray, chief, and Josh Summerford, assistant chief, are our new officers. They are enjoying getting to know the citizens of Mentone and plan to be highly visible in the community. In an emergency, they can be dispatched through 911 and in non-emergency matters can be dispatched through the DeKalb County Sheriff's Dept. 845-3801. The local police number is 634-0704.

ZONING

Nelda Bowen has been appointed zoning administrator for Mentone. Nelda holds the same position in Ft. Payne and does her work in Mentone after hours. We feel fortunate in having an experienced professional in this position.

The planning commission has recommended several amendments to the zoning ordinance, and the council will consider these amendments at the June 11th council meeting.

STREETS

The spring "patching of the pot holes" has been completed. The county paved sections of DeKalb 89 from Tutwiler Gap to AL 117, and the town contributed to this project. Through the efforts of County Commission Chairman Sid Holcomb, a

guard rail was installed at the power company right-of-way at Tutwiler Gap. The town also contributed to this project.

New street signs with white lettering on a brown background have arrived. We will be installing them soon and hope to have them throughout the town.

RECYCLING

The City of Fort Payne has received a grant "to purchase necessary recycling containers, equipment, and signage to combine with the container already owned by the Town of Mentone and thereby set up a small satellite recycling center in the Mentone area, which will initially recycle four paper products--old corrugated containers, mixed residential paper, newspaper, and office paper." The City of Fort Payne will empty the containers when full at no cost to the Town of Mentone.

We thank Mayor Bill Jordan, the Fort Payne City Council, and Solid Waste Coordinator John Walker for including Mentone in their recycling efforts. Hopefully, the recycling center will open sometime this summer.

APRIL CLEAN-UP

The original clean-up day was postponed due to weather to April 21. Volunteers picked up more than a dumpster full of litter off the AL 117 right-of-way. Thanks to Lyle Nicely for organizing this event, and thanks to all the volunteers who participated. We would also like to thank the Rhododendron Garden Club for their ongoing project of picking up litter in town.

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THE GROUNDHOG

PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984



Published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA was first conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and organized April 5, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment, and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a non-profit organization by the State of Alabama.

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MAPA OFFICERS

President Dessie Brown
Vice President..... Dot Crow
Secretary..... Marie S. Dillenbeck
Treasurer Leroy Crowe
Parliamentarian.....
Members-At-Large.....Lucille Crowe,

Evelyn Graves, Joanne Crowe
Festival Chairman..... Page Cunningham
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.



MAPA Meeting

The Mentone Area Preservation Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2007, at 6PM. President Dessie Brown called the meeting to order. Leroy Crowe gave the invocation. Members present were Dessie Brown, Dot Crow, Leroy and Joanne Crowe, Marie Dillenbeck, Page Cunningham, Lucille Crowe, Amelia Kirk Lolli, Wesley and Ann Chesnut, Jerome Stephens, Claudia and Dave Wassom, Kim Albrecht, Sarah Wilcox, L C Moon, Sha-lee Regling, Gloria Sitz, Susie Morrow, Clarence McDorman, S. Cash, and????

Leroy Crowe gave the treasurer's report, which included receipts from the upcoming Rhododendron Festival, expenses paid and projected expenses. President Dessie Brown then called for reports on the upcoming May 19 and 20 RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL. Motions were made and seconded to provide funds for the entertainment, advertising, and

boat ride signs. Plans have already been in progress and members have been assigned specific tasks to complete in preparation for the festival. There is still a lot of work to be done, and volunteers are always welcome.

Festival Chairman Page Cunningham is already receiving applications from vendors. There will be a Friday and Saturday night bonfire on the 19th and 20th, with singing on the Town Square next to the Mentone Inn on Alabama Highway 117. Volunteers signed up to man the MAPA booth during Saturday and Sunday. If others would like to help out, contact Dessie Brown.

Following the discussions, the members then enjoyed the refreshments provided by Dot Crow, Lucille Crowe and Joanne Crowe, and Dessie Brown.

The next meeting is Tuesday, May 8, at 6PM at Dessie's Place on Alabama Hwy 117. All members are invited and those wishing to learn more about the upcoming events are also welcome to attend the meeting.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

04-14-07

Please renew my subscription to the "Groundhog". This \$10.00 for a year's subscription to "Groundhog", gives me a monthly dose of Mentone. The town I so dearly love, from afar. My thanks to all of you who make this newspaper possible.

I say dose, because it's like an elixir for me. When I see it in my mail box, I can feel the smile forming on my face. You fill in all of the days and months between my 2 yearly visits, so nicely.

Barbara Jones
Seminole, FL

Happy Belated Birthday

Lucille Crowe - April 17!!

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

April Birthdays

27- Kaden Johnson
29 - John Kinzer
- Dawson Kinzer
- Greg Henry
30 - Jaimee McGee
- Eddie Goodwin

May Birthdays

2 - Jill Whitten
- Ella Voils
3 - Oline Cochran, in memory
4 - Oleda McCurdy
6 - Phil Harris
7 - John Johnston
11 - Wymer Knight
14 - Lois Wood, in memory
18 - Randy Carson
20 - Alexis Manifold

21 - Anne H. Ransom

- Susan Flynn

22 - Bobby Brown

Shelly Brown

23 - Cotton Baggett

Jack Jones

25 - Jimmy Wright

Billy Wright

26 - Christy Voils

30 - Shelly Brown

31 - Gus Spahr

Valeria Blalock

ANNIVERSARIES:

6 - Toby & Rachel Manifold

Claude & Sharron Burke

10- David & Cheryl Baker

20 - Chris & Christina Stokes

30 - Donnie & Ella Voils

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

Editor

Valley Head Deaths

3/20 James Duell Culver, age 79

3/26 Charles Robert Allen, age 66

4/10 Mary M. Taylor, age 92

4/15 Mary Thompson England, age 99

Death of a Former Mentone Resident

3/31 John Wilbur Price,
McDonough, GA. age 64

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.

The Groundhog

Advertising Rates

Full page.....\$305.00
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We will negotiate prices for a long-term contract on ads

NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS AND INDIVIDUALS

Please e-mail your photos to composing@times-journal.com and mark it for The Groundhog. This will expedite the procedure as The Times-Journal prepares the photos for printing. All photos must be in by the 20th of any month, as their new policy is that they will return the photos to us 7 days after they are received by The Times-Journal. The issues of The Groundhog are printed by the last Thursday of each month. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Thank you.

Use this form to join MAPA and receive a free subscription to The Groundhog for one year.

Name: _____

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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 membership/subscription. Still just \$10/year. Send your check payable to:

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ASSOCIATION (MAPA)
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Father Sky Dawns on Lookout Mountain

A companion shop to Mountain Mamas in Cloudland, Georgia, will be opening the first week-end of May. **Father Sky Originals and Collectibles**, an artists' co-op, was called into existence by popular demand. A store similar in nature to Mountain Mamas which honors male artists has finally become a reality. Mary Alice Stout and Ellen Spangler asked business partners Armand Coutu and Philip Lofe to create a shop to complement the Mamas. "It took very little time to see Father Sky appear on the horizon," said Philip, a property manager and Associate-Broker with Mentone Realty. The plan is to showcase one-of-a-kind artwork as well as collectibles. Most of their current artists are from the Southeast with a few from California.

Though the shop is primarily touted to be home to male artists, some females are being welcomed because of unique couplings such as Jeffrey and Rebecca Hiatt of Chattanooga who are rural and nature photographers. Another pairing will be Florida photographer and fine artist Margaret Warren and her Pulitzer Prize nominated father Earl Warren, Jr. from Tennessee. Two other Floridians are clay artist Steve Phillips and painter Pat Hayes. Father Sky is always on the lookout for additional local and regional artists who want public exposure. If you are interested, call them at 866-370-1597.

Besides original art, vintage collectibles and contemporary mountain items will be for sale. "You never know what's going to show up on the shelves," added Armand whose background is fine art, manufacturing, and promotion. "We've included random curiosities through out the shop. You might find antiques from the 1800s or World War II memorabilia mingled among ethnic and foreign items." If you are looking for pieces to furnish your mountain cabin or city home, you'll find both the unusual and the whimsical.

And when the womenfolk are spending hours at Mountain Mamas, their men can rest on Father Sky's outdoor deck and enjoy a cup of fresh-made coffee, iced tea or lemonade. The ladies can join them later.

Father Sky is located on GA Hwy 48, 1/2 mile east of the Alabama-Georgia border, in a small 1930s log cabin overlooking the Little River atop Lookout Mountain. The shop will be open Fridays and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (GA time) and Sundays 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.



Mountain Mamas OPENS For The Season May 5th

Mountain Mamas Craft and Rock Shop is open for the season. Our many local and regional women artists have been busy making wonderful handmade items that make the perfect one-of-a-kind gifts! Unusual handmade soaps, a variety of pottery from 9 potters, jewelry, fabric art, weavings, candles, paintings, dolls, folk art, stained glass...and more and more-in any price range that suits your pocket book. AND, check out our Card Shop. We have a great selection of unusual cards from 5 different artists.

Mother's Day at Mountain Mamas--You can find the perfect Mother's Day gift (or a gift for any occasion) for your mother, grandmother, aunt, or favorite women friends. While thinking about gifts, you will find just the right graduation gift, or just what Dad wants for Father's day next month. Maybe it's something from the Rock Shop, a landscape painting, or key chain? Come by and browse on any **Saturday or Sunday, noon to 6:00pm, GA time.**

New Neighbors! Opening for the first time this year, in the little log cabin right next to us (formerly the Mostly Shop) is Father Sky, a place for men's art and crafts, and some collectables. Stop by and see us both.

Mountain Mamas is located on GA Hwy 48 in Cloudland, GA, a half mile east of the GA/AL state line, where AL hwy 117 ends. Be sure and check out our web page www.mountainmamas.com.



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Dessie's Kountry Chef



By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

In the 16 years that Dessie's has been a fixture in Mentone, the restaurant has developed a loyal following. It doesn't take long for first time customers to become regulars. Although the friendly family atmosphere is an added bonus, it is unquestionably the food that brings them back. One family from Michigan who stays at DeSoto State Park each spring makes a meal to Dessie's a part of the family vacation.

The daily lunch special, meat and two vegetables, is just down home good cooking. Meat varies daily. Dessie's is known for being home to the "world's best catfish". The catfish is Mississippi pond raised and fried to a golden brown. When they opened in March 1991, it was one of the few restaurants in the area to serve catfish. It is one of the two oldest restaurants in Mentone, the other being the Log Cabin Deli.

Other than the catfish that comes as a whole catfish, fillets or strips, another favorite is their fried okra. Tena Cryer, who is a

waitress and cooks the specials each day, said that people sometimes order up to three orders of the fried okra for one meal. That's a lot of okra.

Dessie's homemade pies, which can be ordered by the slice or as a whole pie to take home, are also favorites. Her buttermilk coconut pie, an old family recipe, has been featured in *Southern Living Magazine* three times. The pecan pie is also a family recipe, but the buttermilk coconut pie is unusual because not many people make it.

The Saturday lunch special is chicken and dressing with alternate meat that varies; and the Sunday lunch special is chicken and dressing or roast beef with gravy. Lunch specials are served daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., except for Tuesday when they are closed. They are only open for lunch on Sundays and during their summer hours, they are open until 7 p.m. in the evenings (except for Tuesday).

They have both regular sandwiches and jumbo sandwiches. For smaller appetites, they serve

mini-plates and regular sized hamburgers, cheeseburgers or corn dogs with fries.

Dessie is also famous for her fudge, which is available at Dessie's, some area grocery stores, or it can be mailed.

The restaurant seats 70. It's a quaint place decorated with pictures of local points of interest and a wall of awards that Dessie has won including being voted DeKalb's best cook for five years.

It's not unusual that Dessie's has such a family atmosphere. Tena is Dessie's daughter-in-law, married to oldest son, Mike, and the short order cook, Danielle, is Dessie's granddaughter.

"We try to be on a friendly personal basis with as many customers as possible," Tena explained. She added, "our main goal is good country food and country hospitality. We want them to feel at home."

Dessie has a personal message for her loyal customers. "I want to thank my many friends and customers who have made it possible for me to be here 16 years. I've made a lot friends through the years." She added that because of repeated requests, she is working on a cookbook.

Dessie's is located on Highway 117 in downtown Mentone. Since hours vary seasonally, if you are a first time or summer only returning customer, check with them at 634-4232 for current hours.

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MENTONE - Lake Labusage area - PERFECT GET-AWAY! Three bedroom, 2 bath home with large living room, kitchen and dining combination with plenty of room in the kitchen for breakfast table, inviting front porch on a wooded lot. \$125,000 (15813)



DON'T LIMIT YOUR POSSIBILITIES. 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, 1BA cottage with new CH/A. A great buy at \$97,500. (15023)



YOU WILL LOVE COMING HOME to this cabin with 3.3 acres in Mentone. SELLING FURNISHED. 3BR/2.5BA cabin has everything you need! Main level master BR and glamour bath with jetted tub, separate shower and walk-in closet. Upstairs are 2BR/1BA. Call now and make your move to Mentone today! \$214,000 (16059)



RUSTIC CABIN IN MENTONE - hand hewn log home now under construction. This cozy cabin offers a family room, kitchen, 1BR, 1BA, sleeping loft, wood floors and wood walls. Conveniently located between DeSoto State Park and Mentone. \$130,000 (15682)



ADD YOUR PERSONAL TOUCH to this under construction log cabin in Mentone. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, wood floors, screened porch and gas log fireplace make this a perfect retreat for any season. \$184,500 (15545)



YOUR NEW HOME IS AWAITING YOU on Lookout Mountain! Come see this 1-year-old home offering 3/4BR with walk-in closets, 2BA, great room, kitchen and dining area, above ground pool and double carport. Situated on 1.5 acres. \$185,000 (15665)



WHY GO ANYWHERE ELSE when you can enjoy all the amenities with the 3BR/2.5BA home on 6.49 acres? Large great room, oversized bedrooms, sun-room, den with fireplace, workshop, barn, pond and so much more to offer. A true paradise and priced for \$329,500. (16056)



Sold with 10 sq ft room, 1 car garage, storage, one basement and large porch and deck to relax and enjoy the view. \$179,900 (15390)



RELAX... that's all you'll want to do in this almost-new 2BR, 2BA home in Mentone on Brush Creek. Features cathedral ceiling living/dining/kitchen combo, screened porch, all appliances including washer & dryer. Come see this one before the opportunity passes. \$146,500 (16079)



THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE MANY, BUT PROPERTIES LIKE THIS ARE FEW!! This beautiful traditional 5BR/4BA brick home on over 40 rolling acres has ceramic kitchen w/island and all the extras. Approx. 18 acres cleared, nice large barn and livestock pond. \$429,000 (14651)



BE THE FIRST to own this new construction on the West Brow of Mentone. Features include 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large living area with stacked rock fireplace and vaulted ceiling, pine floors throughout, screened porch and deck. Call today to see! \$296,500 (14715)



A MOUNTAIN TREASURE FOUND! Historic Mentone cottage and cabin on the brow within walking distance to town...Formerly an old carriage house, features wood walls, pine and slate floors throughout, CH/A, 2BR and baths, kitchen, and great room with beautiful rock fireplace. \$479,000 (15522)



PANORAMIC BROW VIEW from this rustic designed frame and rock home. Greatroom with rock FP, formal dining, kitchen and breakfast area. Master suite, plus 2 guest bedrooms, upstairs has 2 additional BR plus sitting area. Make your appt. today! \$695,000 (15856)



ENJOY THE GORGEOUS VIEW OF THE LAKE from this NEW construction in Mentone offering 2BR/2BA, large open living room with fireplace, spacious kitchen with dining area, master bath with garden tub and more. Call for your appointment today. \$229,000 (15985)



VALLEYS AND MOUNTAINS. The view is SPECTACULAR. Custom built log home, wood walls and floors, stacked rock fireplace, large kitchen and dining area, 3BR/3BA, screened-in porch and back deck. Restricted subdivision. Get away from the busy life in this mountain hideaway. \$369,000 (15616)



THE QUALITY SHINES THROUGH in this new home now being built near Mentone. Features great room, hardwood floors and stacked rock fireplace. Split bedroom design, master bedroom and a glamour bath with ceramic tile, jetted tub and separate shower. \$192,500 (15700)



FIRST TIME OFFERED! Enjoy the gorgeous view of the valley below. Kitchen has breakfast bar and stainless appliances. Huge master bedroom has private deck, master bath offers clawfooted tub placed in front of the fireplace. Outside enjoy the stacked rock fireplace/bbq grill. Garage apartment has separate entrance. Kitchenette, BR & BA. \$749,500 (15735)



THE WELCOME MAT IS OUT to this classic Southern home. Downstairs offers 2BR, bath, and great room. Upstairs you'll find another large BR with walk-in closets, bath and an open balcony. 2.42 acres creates a relaxed feeling. It can be yours for only \$194,500. (15263)

BUILDING LOT IN A NEW DEVELOPMENT in Mentone called Northbend. Lot contains 3.21 acres. \$51,500 (15734)

PARTIALLY CLEARED LOT containing 3.34 acres in West Fork Subdivision on Lookout Mountain. This property is lightly restricted and would be a great place for you to build your NEW home. \$39,900 (16126)

BUILD YOUR NEW HOME ON THIS BROW LOT in Mentone with a breathtaking view of the valley below. Lot offers approx. 100' on the brow with 2 additional lots available. \$92,500 per lot. (14598)

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)

JUST MINUTES FROM HISTORIC MENTONE is the perfect place for your dream cabin. Common areas include a stocked lake and 2 parks. Located near the Golf Course, this restricted 2.03 acre lot won't last long. \$45,675 (15014/15015)

12 ACRES OF GENTLY ROLLING, HEAVILY WOODED PARADISE. Great for getting close to nature, city water is available. \$79,900 (14534)

ON THE GOLF COURSE and just minutes from Historic Mentone. Restricted building lots available in Rock Bluff. Common areas include a stocked lake, two parks, and

rental cabins available for your out-of-town guests. Each wooded tract is 3.1 acres (+/-) with 300' fronting the Golf Course. Public water and power available. This is a beautiful area to build your perfect dream home. \$100,000 (15016)

THE SITE PREPARATION IS ALMOST COMPLETE on 2 building lots located on a heavily travelled highway in Mentone. Property is located outside the city limits with no restrictions. Have your plans ready and get started immediately. \$19,500 (15865/15866)

BUILD YOUR FULL-TIME RESIDENCE or your dream get-away on this .69 acre lot in Mentone. Brush Creek runs across the back of this property offering recreation and

relaxation. This lot is being offered at \$29,900. (15862)

BUILD HERE on this gorgeous 4.4 acre tract with a fabulous view of the valley below. Ready to build with existing septic system and well. Located on the North Brow in Mentone, this lot has unique rock formations. Don't wait too late or this one will be gone! \$299,000 (14996)

NATURE AT ITS VERY BEST describes these wooded acres. 1000 feet of valley views, nice timber and a small stream are found as you walk or ride the trails on this special 78 acres tract with access from 3 roads. Call for more information. \$897,000 (15933)

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(1) Come and see this Custom 3br 2.5 ba Heritage Log Home on 2.53 acres with mountain stream, and waterfall in front yard. Showcased in the Northbend Subdivision, house includes loft, mountain stone fireplace, exposed beams, just too many amenities to include for \$400 K



(4) Come and enjoy the mountain craftsmanship in this new 3br 2.5 ba with loft in the Northbend Subdivision. Relax on the large sitting porch, or balcony while taking advantage of the 3.20 acres. Home includes wood burning fireplace, cypress hardwood flooring throughout, and many more bonus features. Priced at \$245,900.



(2) Prestigious 5.31 acre brow tract with 246' of brow frontage overlooking historic Mountain Cove Farms. With a paved, and gated private drive we're sure you will enjoy the beauty of this unique lot. Priced at \$180,000



(5) 2br, 2.5 ba, Cedar sided mtn. home with loft, fireplace, vaulted ceilings showing exposed beams, on 3.48 acres in the Westfork Subdivision. Long range vistas and walking distance to Little River access make this the perfect 2nd home. Priced at \$189,900.



(3) New 2br, 2.5 ba, Heritage Log Home with post & beam construction, vaulted ceilings, large dual pane windows, and hardwood floors throughout. Located on 3.32 gently rolling acres in cul-de-sac at the Northbend Subdivision. Priced at \$285,900.



(6) Northbend Subdivision. Come be a part of our new gated community within walking distance of downtown, and Mentone's Brow Park. These wooded estate lots would make a perfect 2nd home or a full time residence. Creek lots also available. Prices start at \$50,000.

Retreat Realty, Inc.

Cell: 706-978-9906

fax: 404-816-1314

mail: jbazan@myretreatrealty.com
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LOG HOME UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY LOOKOUT MTN LOG HOMES -

Hunter's Ridge. 2 Master BRs, 2.5 baths, LR/Kit, wooded lot, many unique features. \$189,900. Owner/Agent: Bill Grissom 205-919-3025



RUSTIC CABIN HIDE-AWAY IN LAUREL CREEK

2 BR, 1 Bath, rustic cabin on 1.75 wooded acres. Wrap around deck, screened in porch, exposed beams, rustic wood interior, stone fireplace, beautiful hardwood floors, city water. Owner/Agent \$163,500



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MENTONE

2007 Rhododendron Festival

(A Family oriented Event)

May 19th & 20th, 2007

Mentone Area Preservation Association
P. O. Box 50; Mentone, Alabama 35984





Ron Waits 256-634-0022
Owner/Broker rdwaits@farmerstel.com



MENTONE RUSTIC HOME
Located just minutes from downtown.
Situating on 1 Wooded acre, this is a perfect weekend retreat. \$149,900.



BEAUTIFUL MENTONE 3 bedroom mountain cabin with fireplace, screened in porch, and the charm of Mentone. \$189,900.

23 ACRE TRACT LOCATED IN MENTONE

This can be bought as one parcel, or in 2-1/2 aced wooded lots. Road is now under construction. After completion, this property will be gated with electric gating system. \$20,000 per acre

DOWNTOWN MENTONE

This is a once-in-a-lifetime offer.
Two lots located in the middle of town.
Perfect retail locations. \$90,000 each.



MENTONE LOG CABIN located in scenic Laurel Creek. This cabin is in a wooded area located on small lake. Pasture land is included. \$195,900.



PRIME HOME
With two bedrooms located in a wonderful neighborhood just minutes from shopping and restaurants. \$54,900.



West Fork Little River Mentone, AL
158 foot river frontage lot in historic Mentone, Alabama, on the West Fork of Little River below Camp Laney. Wooded with large rhododendron and mountain laurel. Boat or canoe down river to DeSoto Falls, a 104 foot class three waterfall. Deed Restricted.
Available by owner. Please phone 706-862-2442 for additional information.

SECOND PSA RELEASE - NORTHEAST - GED GRADUATION

The Northeast Alabama Adult Education Program along with Northeast Alabama Community College are excited to remind you about GED Graduation next week for the Northern part of the tri-county area. The ceremony will take place on Friday, May 4, 2007, at 7:00 PM in the Tom Beville Lyceum at Northeast Alabama Community College. Graduates are asked to arrive at 6:00 PM for necessary preparations and procedures. Please join us along with Master of Ceremonies James-Paul Dice of Channel 19, WHNT-TV as we recognize the accomplishments of these adults. Anyone interested in taking classes or participating in the GED Graduation should contact the Office of Adult Education at 638-2957 or 228-0021 between 8:00 and 4:00 PM or visit them on-line at www.nacc.edu/adulted.

Lookout Mountain Natural Healing: Best of Both Worlds by L.C. Moon

Lookout Mountain is a natural display of the best of both worlds; a mountain and a river, moderate temperatures and as a result, immense ecological diversity. Lookout provides clean air and a wonderful atmosphere to restore our gratitude, health and balance.

The real key to living the best of both worlds is discovering balance. Optimum health occurs through a healthy balance of mental and physical activity, rest, as well as creating quality nutritional routines and/or therapies that work best for you.

Now Mentone has the best of both worlds in alternative therapies. The St. John Family and I are working together to create a one stop health shop in Mentone behind the Mentone Springs Hotel and the White Elephant--St. John's Mentone Health Foods and L.C. Moon Herbs.

The new store will provide the community with health & stress management consultations, massage/stone therapy/body wraps, the very best quality herbs, supplements, body care, natural and organic foods (including organic coffee and chocolate), books and local hand-made gifts.

We will also be able to regularly weekly order most any health related product you desire at a discount. Our gracious shop keeper Charlotte Rice (or whoever is working the register) will be glad to take your orders. Most any immediate needs for health products can be filled within 24 hours.

Since moving here 9 years ago, I've intensely studied the native medicinal and edible plants, folk medicine and the concepts behind many alternative therapies. It brings me great pleasure to provide information, herbs and services to Mentone and the surrounding areas. During my studies, I opened my health food store in Mentone at which time I met Matt St. John N.D.

Matt St. John will be available at the new store for health consultations in Mentone toward the end of May. He is the only Naturopathic Doctor certified by the State of Alabama. Matt is dedicated to the message of natural health and donates much of his time to doing radio shows and has also been featured on the TBN network. He has had a love for Lookout since his childhood when he lived at Fisher Crossroads and attended Second Baptist Church.

The St. Johns, myself, and our staff look forward to bringing you the best of both worlds--the best of city convenience and luxury in a small historic town in the mountains. Consultations from a traditional N.D., a Folk

Herbalist and/or the spa luxury (of Kari Breithaupt) to help you discover the key to your greatest health potential.

Come see us for our **Grand Opening Friday, May 18th. Our hours of operation will be Wednesday - Sunday 10:30 AM - 5:30 PM**

"Life isn't about finding yourself, it's about creating yourself." Create your health today!

Helpful hints for your medicinal herb garden:

- Rosemary and Thyme- for steams when sinuses are stuffy
- Peppermint chamomile and/or Lemon Balm- for tea to relieve stress and upset stomach
- Fennel-digestion and acid reflux aid

INTRODUCING....

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Mentone Bluffs

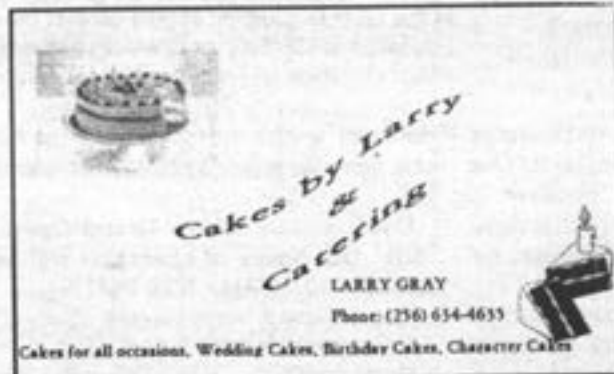
Mentone's only bluff front, private gated community
Spectacular year-round sunsets and breath-taking rock formations

Mentone Bluffs is now available, with city water, & perk approval.

Mentone Bluffs is located on County Road 89, 2 miles north of Mentone
Springs Hotel (intersection 117/89).
Look for the wagon wheel gates.

Lot prices start at \$125,000

Offered by REALSOUTH Properties (251) 981-7325
Mentonebluffs.com



Lookout Mtn. - Fischer Crossroads

House and 9.5 acres

3 br, 1 bath, large living room,
eat-in kitchen, full basement, 2 car garage, 1300 sf -
1100 ft paved road frontage, excellent building lots,
great pasture land

Special Pricing!

House on .70 acres \$55,000

8.85 acres land only \$115,000

Both house and 9.5 acres \$150,000 By
Owner (256) 845-4522, (336) 454-1624

Spring Celebration in Historic Mentone

Rhododendron Festival & Wildflower Art Show

3rd Weekend in May (18-6:30pm, 19 & 20-9am-4pm)

Entertainment - Fine Art - Crafts - Boat Rides -
Food - FUN - Prizes...

Rhododendron Festival celebration begins 6:30 PM

FRIDAY MAY 18TH - BONFIRE AND MUSIC

The Headliners will kick off the festivities playing music everyone
can enjoy and tap their foot to.

The Headliners musical line up will include oldies but
goodies, classics and some originals.

SATURDAY MAY 19TH - Festivities at Brow Park hosted by the
Mentone Area Preservation Association

Shop for handmade, unique arts and crafts while experiencing the
breathtaking views from the brow of the mountain.

While you soak in the arts and scenery, you can also treat yourself
to food as well as entertainment from the

Mashburn's 9:30 til noonish - Lydia Johnston 1 - 1:45

FESTIVAL PARADE - 2PM JOIN US AT BROW PARK

BOAT RIDES all weekend!

Take a journey on the Little River with a guided Boat Ride.

The Rhododendrons are even more spectacular
when you see them along the river's edge.

WILDFLOWER ART SHOW

Saturday- Lawn of the Mentone Inn

The Mentone Area Arts Council brings one of the best
quality juried art shows in the region.

Shop and discover the finest quality art including
pottery, paintings, glass, wood, baskets, photography and more...

Saturday Night Bonfire and Music at 6:30 on Town Square
Southern Vogue kicks off the evening- joining us shortly after a
showcase at Nashville's Country Music Marathon.

Will Dooley - 7:30-ish- performs soulful Appalachian music
reminiscent of the tunes that have echoed through these
mountains for centuries.

Pierce Pettis -8:30-ish- performs all over the world with great
reviews. Artists such as Garth Brooks have recorded his songs.

Some of Pierce's reviews-

"...Speaks to the head and the Heart" *San Francisco Chronicle*

"...Vital and Critically acclaimed folk star of our time."

Performing Songwriter Magazine

SUNDAY, MAY 19 - FESTIVAL ON THE BROW CONTINUES

The Lookout Mountain Cloggers and Silverliners
will wow us with their fancy foot work.

Take a Sunday stroll while you are entertained,
eat, shop and enjoy arts, crafts and old time skills.

If you are in the mood for Cornbread and Pinto Beans,
you can also help support MOON LAKE SCHOOL
in their efforts to raise money for Space Camp.

***REMEMBER TO BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS to win a handmade quilt.

You will also have chances to win other prizes from area B&B's
and shops. All monies raised for the Rhododendron Festival and
the Wildflower Art Show go toward supporting
the community, its culture, and the arts.

Ole Heritage Realty, Inc.

604 Gault Ave. S.
Fort Payne
oleheritage.com

997-0008



WELL MAINTAINED HOME in a beautiful area atop Lookout Mountain. Includes 3BR/2BA, large country kitchen, and extra large master bedroom. Fenced back yard on private wooded lot with 2 car garage, 10x30 deck, and workshop/storage building. Only \$125,000! (16086)



A HOME RUN! This welcoming one owner home has been well kept. Master bedroom offers a private master bath with whirlpool tub, separate shower and double vanity. Laundry room with built-in cabinets, and 9.15 acres. \$164,900 (15968)



MAKE YOUR HOME ON LOOKOUT MTN! This full brick on 4.5 acres features a solid brick double fireplace that open to living and family room, master includes huge walk-in closet, master bath with two vanities, separate shower and jetted tub. \$199,500 (15963)



YOUR OWN HAPPY REALM ON 3 ACRES atop Lookout Mtn. Brick residence offering formal dining, den, 3BR/2.5BA. Dramatic brick fireplace in great room, dual vanity in master bath, all-white appliances in kitchen. Two-car garage, 3-year old roof. \$189,900 (15867)



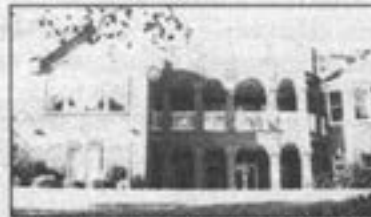
CONVENIENCE STORE in busy crossroads location. Store is currently in operation and all inventories will go with store. Gas pumps owned and serviced by Mapco. Only \$89,900. (16075)



THE SETTING YOU DESERVE Sparkling 4BR/2+BA woodland-view brick Traditional-style sited on 8.62 acres. Multi-gabled, one-owner 1-1/2 story boasting screened porch, a cool pool, plus a patio, large rooms. Security system. \$285,000. (15549)



WOODED LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN SETTING New construction. 2BR/2.5BA wooded-lot log cabin on 3 acres accented by beamed ceilings and rock wood burning FP. Main-level master suite. Wrap-around front porch with Jacuzzi tub. \$179,000 (15728)



THE LIFESTYLE YOU SEEK Don't miss this fabulous 5BR/5+BA lake-front brick Traditional-style ideally sited on 10 acres. Felicitous character, with French doors, main-level master suite and private drive. Architect-designed. \$975,000 (13140)



SECLUDED 3BR/2+BA CABIN RETREAT ON 3.1 ACRES Main-level master suite and loft. Light and airy floorplan, gracious living room, rustic looking rock fireplace. Kitchen has eating bar and custom maple cabinets. \$217,000 (15570)



KEEPSAKE VALUES; TODAY'S FLAIR! MENTONE! Enjoy old-style ambiance in this 4BR Vintage on 15 acres. Two-story foyer, plank flooring, comfortable large bedrooms. Country kitchen, full-appliance package, CH/A. Well-maintained. Only \$239,900. (15916)



A CHARMING SETTING! Lead a serene life in this pristine-clean 4BR/2+BA Traditional-style ideally set on 2.35 acres. Some of the treasures of this outstanding two-story are eating bar, CH/A and garage. Loft. Only \$184,700 (14921)



CHARMING COUNTRY RETREAT! Custom 2-story 4BR/3+BA brick Traditional-style with a valley-view on 75 acres. 2 FP, attractive pool, main level master. Breakfast room, formal dining room. Rocking-chair front porch. \$875,000 (15089, 15092)



THE SWEET TASTE OF DREAMS REALIZED! 3BR/2+BA country home with wrap-around deck and mtn view! Airy and bright floor plan, spacious living room, country kitchen, butler's pantry, eating bar. 5.22 acres. \$289,900! (16108)



DELIGHTFUL Demeanor! Realize your dreams with this well-kept 4BR/2+BA country home on 1.80 acres. Dining room, country kitchen, butler's pantry, eating bar. 5.22 acres. Price reduced! Now only \$199,900. (15076)



LIVE RENT FREE! Want to own your home, but don't want a big mortgage? Look no more! This well kept, vinyl sided home has it all. Nice metal roof and open, airy floor plan. ALL APPLIANCES INCLUDED! \$25,000 (15794)

LOTS & LAND

BACK TO NATURE - Take long walks in the woods or just relax and listen to the birds sing on this 6 acres. Great place for a mobile home. Priced at only \$20,000. (16016)

BEAUTIFUL 43 ACRE PARCEL WITH POND SITE. You have wooded and pasture land on the Lookout Mountain property. Well water, city water, and electricity at property. Mostly fenced. Call for details! \$125,000 (15395)

9-ACRE BEAUTIFUL BUILDING SITE has foundation and septic already on property! Looking for that perfect place near Mentone, wait until you see this setting. Large trees surround you completely, with this property near Desoto State Park Area! Call today! Priced at \$195,000 (15396)

PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE HILLS & VALLEY'S BELOW! This unique private location has views of massive towering rock cliffs on one side and a bluff view overlooking town on the other. Tracts from 1 to 4 acres start at \$55,000! Survey & Restrictions available. (15742)

YOU CAN SEE FOR MILES from this brow property, this 26.5 acres features, natural rock formations, utilities to property, and paved road frontage on two roads. A MUST SEE! \$109,900 (15348)

14.5 ACRES. Located just off of I-59 North in Valley Head/Hammondville. Wooded, County Water available. Unrestricted for your use. Only \$48,500. (15639)

2.7 ACRES ON LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN. Perfect lot for a mobile home. Offers county water and no restrictions. Creek on back of property. \$12,000. (15640)

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN - 1.6 Acres on Fruit Farm Rd. Excellent location for building your dream home, with the benefits of DeSoto State Park, Little River Reserve, and Fort Payne all within minutes. Call today \$45,000. (15137)

HAMMONDVILLE - Building lots convenient to I-59, wooded and in quiet neighborhood. Don't let these get away. \$6500 (14799)



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Broker
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Anita Stephens
899-6718



Kevin Burt
996-0003



Lynn Crow
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Mentone, AL 35984

Mentone Smoke House BBQ & Grille

Now Hiring all Positions for Local Restaurant in Mentone. Cooks, Dishwashers, Hostess, and Wait Staff with Previous Experience. Apply at Mentone Springs Hotel by appointment. Call 256-634-4040 to make appointment. Opening Mid-April

Douglas E. Hoyt CPA

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- Payroll Service
- Tax Returns
- Business Consulting

131 Mountain St.
Valley Head, AL 635-0292

Angels on Georgia Highway 157

By Evelyn Graves

On March 23, I was returning from a trip to see my brother in Rossville, Georgia, via the mountain road on Highway 157, when I went to sleep under the wheel. My car left the road, went down an embankment, and hit a tree. I was awakened when I heard a crunching sound and realized that my car was uprooting small trees in its path and was traveling at a high rate of speed. I began to pray, "God help me."

A large tree was ultimately my destination. The impact of the air bag on deployment was something I will never forget. The pain was so severe that I was totally unaware of the trauma to my lower abdomen from the seat belt for a few minutes. My first thought as I saw my car crumpled around me was, "There will be no one else traveling this road today, and I won't be found." I was suddenly aware of someone standing beside my car on the driver's side. Two beautiful blue-gray eyes met mine as a very petite lady said to me, "Honey, I have to get you out of the car because your car is smoking." My first response was that she would not be able to do that. She was insistent that she could and that she must. None of the doors would open except mine. With her help, I managed to turn around and get my feet on the ground. She helped me get to my feet and we started back up the embankment to the highway. It was then that I was painfully aware of the injuries from the seat belt. I walked a few feet, thinking as I went, "A wreck victim should not be moved until emergency help arrives." . . . a wreck victim should not be moved until emergency help arrives" . . . a wreck victim should not be moved..." and then my weak legs would no longer hold me. I fell to my knees on the ground. Out of nowhere, a tall man appeared, picked me up, supported my right side while the little lady supported my left side, and they safely got me to the highway. I realized that I was very short of breath from the air bag injury and that I was going to pass out. They told me to sit on the road. I kept saying, "I can't sit on the road." Another lady appeared from nowhere and said, "I have a chair in my car. I will get that." She returned immediately with a red canvas lawn chair, and they gently placed me in it. I looked up, and there were beautiful people all around me holding cell phones and saying, "Who may I call for you?" There must have been 40 people. One handsome young man stepped forward and said to me, "I am a minister. May I pray for you?" I said, "Please do." He prayed a heartfelt, sincere prayer that I have no doubt was received in the portals of heaven, heard by Jesus Christ in His intercessory role, and given to God the Father. I suddenly felt that I was in the presence of angels, and I could feel the very presence of God around me! This was the most awesome experience I have ever had!

By this time, the ambulance had arrived, and I was transported to Erlanger's trauma emergency room where scans were made and tests were done, and I was placed in a room in the trauma unit for the night. The only significant injuries were the bruises from the seat belt and airbag. In the scanning process, a mass was found on my adrenal gland which had nothing to do with the accident. I have not yet been able to have further testing on it. I am hoping and praying that it will not be anything too serious. I am scheduled for sleep apnea testing the latter part of this week, more MRIs, and various blood testing, etc. I am coming along nicely, but slowly.

Thank you to the Angels on Georgia Highway 157. I love you!

E.T. YORK HONORED BY FLORIDA STUDENT ASSOCIATION FOR LIFETIME SERVICE TO HIGHER EDUCATION

March 23, 2007 / Photo available at <http://news.fas.ufl.edu>

By Tom Nordlie tnordlie@fas.ufl.edu

Source: E.T. York, 352-392-6545

GAINESVILLE, Fla.

E.T. York has devoted most of his life to serving Florida's university students, and this week the state's leading college-student organization thanked him on behalf of several generations who benefited from York's efforts.

York is a native of Mentone.

The Florida Student Association presented the educator with its Ken Pruitt Lifetime Achievement Award in a ceremony Wednesday at the Governor's Club in Tallahassee.

"I feel very honored to be recognized by the group and it's particularly meaningful to come from the students," York said. "I'm very familiar with the student association - they've done a good job of representing the students' interest in Tallahassee. I've worked with them in the past and appreciate what they do."

York, a major figure in Florida agriculture throughout the latter half of the 20th century, is a former chancellor of the State University System, UF interim president and UF vice president for agricultural affairs.

The award was presented to York by UF Student Body President John Boyles. Given annually, it recognizes one leader for promoting higher education on behalf of students. It is named after state Sen. Ken Pruitt (R-District 28), a champion of student issues.

It was one of three awards presented this year by the association, the advocacy group that represents the students of Florida's State University System. Besides York, this year's honorees were state Sen. Alfred "Al" Lawson Jr. (D-District 6) and state Rep. Anthony Trey Traviesa (R-District 56), who each received the Florida Student Association Distinguished Service Award.

Student officers from Florida's universities attended the ceremony, along with representatives of the Florida cabinet, state legislature and Florida Board of Education.

York is responsible for organizing UF's agriculture program in its current form, the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, in the mid-1960s. He also led the effort to establish the state's first veterinary college.

Mentone Wedding Chapel

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

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

Candle Lit Ceremonies • Music • Photographs
• Flowers • Reception • Lodging • Limestone

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

256-634-4181

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Monday, April 9, 2007
 Monday, May 14, 2007
 Monday, June 11, 2007
 Monday, July 9, 2007
 Monday, August 13, 2007
 Monday, September 10, 2007
 Monday, October 8, 2007
 Tuesday, November 13, 2007
 Monday, December 10, 2007
 Monday, January 14, 2008

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The 2007 quarterly meeting dates for the **Mentone Planning Commission**, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be as follows:

Thursday, April 19
 Thursday, July 19
 Thursday, October 18
 Thursday, January 17, 2008

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

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is the perfect gift for



Mother's Day

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Donna C. Sutton, L.M.T.

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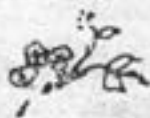
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By appointment only



Mother's Day:
Sun, May 13th

a "rustic touch of class"



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Innkeeper: Sarah Wilcox

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B



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EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER ESTATES-Custom home on approx. 8 acres. Country-style home features spacious wrap-around porch & private lot. Downstairs living w/fp, custom kitchen, dining, laundry, half bath, master suite w/ walk-in shower & whirlpool tub. Upstairs offers spacious family area, 2BR, each w/ private bath. Priced at \$219,000. Add'l 25+/- acres available for purchase.



HWY 337/HAIR LAKE RD -279+/- acres, pasture/row crop. Paved road frontage off Hwy 337 & Hair Lake Rd. Water-owner-gas. Will consider some subdividing.



LAHUSAGE-MENTONE, AL - A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. New development which will be featuring Little River frontage tracts off County Road 103, starting at the dam on Lake Lahusage. Amenities include private entrance, power, public water, common area on Lake Lahusage, plats available soon. Owners/Brokers. C.S. Baker, Broker/Developer. Call for more information. Broker participation invited.



THE VILLAGE on Lookout Mountain, Cloudland--New development with 10 unrivaled and unobstructed brow lots. Breathtaking views of Shinebone Valley. Restrictive covenants, private, public water. Call for more information.

ANNOUNCING "CREST VIEW" - Private 7 tract development off County Road 103; water & power. Some brow views of Shinebone Valley. Restrictive covenants.

COOPER ROAD -119+/- acres, cutover; county road, gently rolling; excellent lake site. Will consider some subdividing.

RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL-LAND/ACREAGE-FARM-DEVELOPMENT

No Buyer's Premium

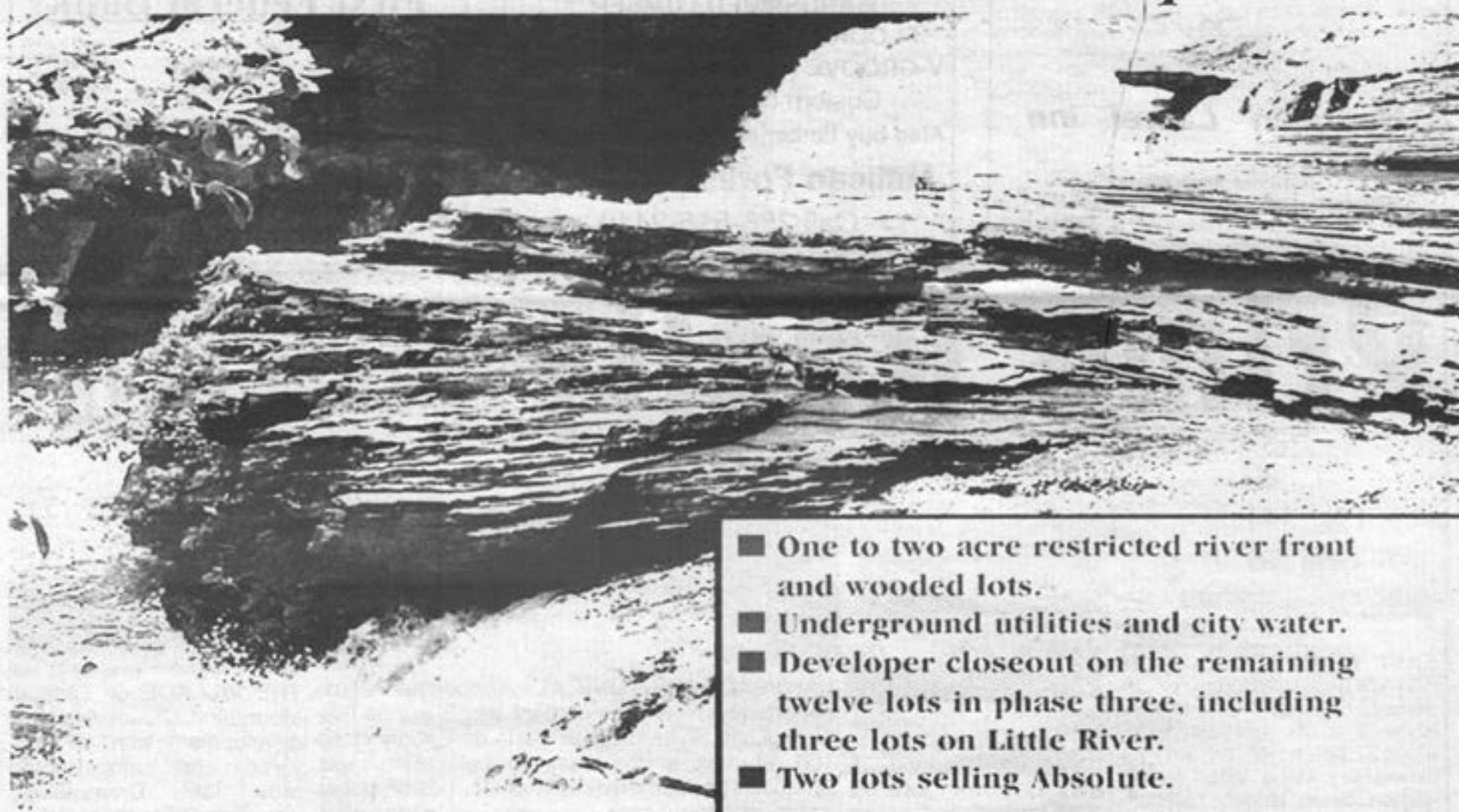
Auction

Saturday, May 19, 2007, 10 A.M.

MENTONE, ALABAMA

Hunter's Ridge

Lookout Mountain's Premiere Development



- One to two acre restricted river front and wooded lots.
- Underground utilities and city water.
- Developer closeout on the remaining twelve lots in phase three, including three lots on Little River.
- Two lots selling Absolute.

The American Way
American Auctioneers

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Keith Baldwin, AL #1416, ALRE 64960, GAL AUNR2860, GARE 247207

Ron Baldwin, AL #800, GAL AUNR2927

LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY

by Linda Brown

The Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library continues to grow. Recently, more books than usual have been donated to the library. Many of them are chosen to be placed on the shelves for you to check out and enjoy. This task falls to Dianne Kuehl and she has been very busy. After she puts the books into the computer system, the volunteers on duty to keep the library prepare them for use by covering them with a protective material.

The big item of interest this month is the Meet the Author program. On Saturday, April 21, 2007, twenty-one persons gathered in the library to meet Mentone's very own author, John Baty. John is what we call a Native Mentonian. He was born in Mentone and spent his entire childhood here. He has spent most, if not all, of his adult years here as well. John and his wife, Mary Sue, have a home in the Baty Community. It would be an understatement to say that they like and enjoy the mountain.

John spoke to those present about his love of writing and how he gets his ideas for his books. Many of them are stories that have been told around the campfire at fox hunts or tales that have become legends. John is quick to explain that his books are fiction and all the people in them are fictitious.

Brandon Ford is the featured book for this promotion. This book is based on a true story that happened sometime before 1900. It is a tale of adventure, fun and sometimes fear. The plot revolves around a feud between a lawman and a man trying to establish a home in a new land. The pioneer has quite a few adventures as he tries to escape being caught. John stated that sometimes readers of his books tell him that they do not always have a happy ending. John's response is, "Truth is worth more than a happy ending."

John has another book in the making. John and his wife do their own publishing, including designing and making the covers and putting the books together. It is truly a remarkable process, but John and Sue just seem to think that anyone could do it.

As John was speaking, I was sitting in the back row so that I could observe the reaction of the audience. They were totally absorbed in what he was saying. John had them charmed, and as we say in Mentone, "They were eating out of his hand." Way to go, John!

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library will be Thursday, May 17, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. We will meet in the library. The library will be open for the public during this time and we urge you to continue to use the library during our meeting. Call Jan Wilkinson, 845-5048, to be placed on the agenda.

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

MOON LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

OPEN HOURS

TUESDAY, 3:00 - 6:00 PM.

THURSDAY, 3:00 - 6:00 PM.

SATURDAY, 9:00 AM. - 12:00 NOON

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB NEWS

By Linda Brown, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club was quite different. On April 10, 2007, twenty-three persons gathered with tools in hand in the Butterfly Garden of Moon Lake Elementary School. The object was to clean the weeds and debris from the flower beds. The work was progressing nicely, but something seemed to be missing. Suddenly there were young people everywhere. The sixth grade class, under the direction of Leslie Bunch, was on the scene! These are strong, eager young people who have grown up in the Butterfly Garden. They hoed, raked, loaded debris and pushed the wheelbarrow loaded with rocks or mulch. Just watching them made us tired. Their contribution made our task much easier and was greatly appreciated.

After about two hours of hard work, the workers all stopped for a break in the gazebo. Drinks and snacks were provided by the hostesses of the day. The students seemed to enjoy being with the adults and the adults certainly enjoyed being with them. They are the future of tomorrow and the gardeners of tomorrow. What an awesome responsibility we have placed upon their shoulders, they have the job of literally saving the earth!

When it was time for the students to return to their studies, the other workers also decided to call it a day. The garden now looks 100% better than it did when the work began and the members hope that it is ready for the next phase of improvement. On April 30, 2007, members of the club and students of MLES will be transplanting annuals into the garden. Members have been assigned a grade to work with and given the time that the students can work. This is the celebration of Earth Day at the school and in Mentone.

After all of the flower beds have been cleaned, planted and mulched, it is a sight to see. Everyone is invited to visit the school and tour the garden. You do need to go to the office and obtain a visitor's pass. The goal is to have an attractive school campus and to help restore and preserve the habitats for the birds and butterflies. By May 1, this will have been accomplished!

The roadside clean up day was a huge success! The members of the club concentrated on the mile of Alabama Highway 117, which they have adopted. This has been an ongoing project of the club for many years. The report is that twelve members participated in the cleaning and eighteen bags of trash were gathered and placed for pickup by the garbage company. This is a lot of garbage! As a society we can do better. Carry a litter bag in your vehicle. Don't throw anything out of a vehicle window. If you have a truck, don't put your trash loosely in the bed of the truck, it will blow out and becomes litter. Help keep Mentone clean and preserve the beauty for which we have become known.

The next regular meeting will be May 8, 2007, at the M.E.R.F. Community House beginning at 10:00 a.m. The program will be a slide show of Flower Design. We are planning our own flower show in July and will need this information.

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



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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.

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RUSTIC CEDAR SHAKE EXTERIOR, and Exquisite Interior, describes this New 3BR/3BA home in Mentone. Wood Floors and 30 ft wood Ceilings. Rock FP. Open Great Room. Oversized Laundry. Master Suite has 3 closets, Built-in Furniture, Hot Tub and a 2 person Block and Tile Shower. 2550 SF of Heated space, 3 sets of French doors leading to the 2100 SF wrap-around porch. Many more amenities awaits. Located with 2 acres of wooded property. \$360,000. (15512)



2 STORY HOME ON CUTLER AVE, MENTONE. 3 bdrm 1.5 bth, updated with metal roof, 12x16 deck, kitchen dining combo. Living room w/gas fireplace. Cozy den. Large bdrm with balcony. All appliances stay. Located on level one acre lot with large oak trees and lots of wildflowers. Short walk to downtown. \$113,000 (15815)



DESOTO FALLS GORGE. Spectacular views from this wooded 4 acre tract. Overlooking the Rock Gorge and the water below. 185 ft. on the west fork Little River. A must see. \$201,900 (15967)



EAST FORK LITTLE RIVER. Prestine yet Wild and scenic. 3 acres with 800ft of Laurel Creek and 175ft of River frontage, with woods in the middle. Private access. \$165,000 (15814)



OWN A PIECE OF PROPERTY ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON. One and Only Canyon View Forest. 5 acres with rocks and stream with a view of the bluff of the Canyon. Very private with gated access. \$75,000 (14630)

"THE SETTLEMENT AT MONK'S COVE" OPEN HOUSE

May 19 and 20 1:00-4:00 p.m.

THE NEST COTTAGE: consists of 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, open living area, rock fireplace, CH/A, wood ceilings and floors. Insulated windows, batt and board siding, stained glass dormer. \$145,000 (15322)



THE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD: 2BR/2BA, woodburning FP and large screened porch. This cabin is equipped with thermal windows, CH/A, open living area, wood floors and ceilings. The bell tower reaches 35' to it's copper steeple. \$179,900 (15321)



THE BARN: It is a lofty 2 bedroom, 2 bath cabin. The living area features 17' gambrel wood ceilings with old tin end walls. Large wood burning fireplace, wood floors throughout. Screened porch, CH/A. Come see for yourself. \$169,000 (15320)



COTTAGE ON LITTLE RIVER CANYON. 5 acres with 250 feet of canyon frontage. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, sleeping loft, large screened porch. Newly remodeled kitchen with all appliances. Privately located in Gated Community. \$225,000



THE GATE HOUSE is a charming farmhouse style, with 3bdrm 2 bath masonry Mountain Rock fireplace. All wood walls and floors. Would make a great weekend retreat or investment for a rental program. sits at the entrance to recreational retreats. \$165,000 (16211)



CABIN IN THE WOODS. Pine Bark siding. Rustic, new! 2 screened porches for outdoor enjoyment. HVAC. Loft bedroom and downstairs bedroom. Cozy living area with fireplace. \$127,500 (16245)

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Postal Rates Increase May 14, 2007

The price of a 1-ounce First-Class letter will increase from 39 cents to 41 cents beginning May 14, 2007. The Postal Service's new "Forever" stamp went on sale April 12 for 41 cents and will be good for mailing 1-ounce First-Class letters anytime in the future--regardless of price changss. The stamp features the Liberty Bell image and the word "forever".

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WON'T LAST LONG! If you are looking for an inviting cabin in the heart of historic Mentone, just drive down Shady Ave and look under the mighty oak tree for a 3 bedroom charmer. This historic cabin looks rustic but has all the modern conveniences. The cabin boasts a real stone fireplace (converted to gas), a screened porch with large hot tub, laundry room, CH/A, and much more. \$149,900 (16111)



SECRET GARDEN MENTONE HOME Charming, classic old Mentone home with rhododendron, chestnut tree, flowers of all sorts, all nestled within the privacy of a true privet hedge. Screened sleeping porch, interesting nooks. Just listed at \$129,000 (16116)



SET FOR LIVING! Life is lovely in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Huge foyer, center entry, main-level master bedroom, whirlpool tub. Ceramic tile baths. Details galore! \$169,900 (15869)



THE CASUAL LIFE! Tune in to this 2 bedroom, 2 bath wooded-view cabin! Terrific single-story plus screened porch, fireplace. See this lovely place. \$99,900 (15430)



A PLACE TO HANG YOU HEART. This Southern Living 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1½-story with brow view. Main-level master bedroom, vaulted ceiling living, wood floors, covered front and back porch for those evening sunsets! \$279,900 (15513)



NO STRESS HERE! 2 bedroom mountain cabin on 36 acres. With modern kitchen, gas fireplace and city water, oak cabinets. Outbuildings. A status-style home. \$299,900 (15675)



POSTCARD SETTING! Mountain cabin with brow view. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, desirable amenities include large rooms and hardwood flooring. Beautiful stone fireplace. \$329,000 (15019)



THE NATURAL LOOK! Cedar cabin 1½-story, cathedral ceilings and wood flooring. Mountain stone wood burning fireplace, beautiful woodwork, main-level master bedroom. Cook and relaxing screened porch, covered front porch. Water access to Little River. \$167,000 (15696)



GET AWAY FROM IT ALL! Paradise recaptured on 6.30 acres. Live serenely in this nicely-kept 4BR/3BA two-story on enchanting rural site commanding valley views. The special features include double-entry doors, fireplace and formal dining. Main-level master, country kitchen with pass-through counter, breakfast room. Handy workshop, horses okay! \$168,000 (16071)



SMALL, SWEET AND SIMPLE Offering large rewards in charm and quality of living. Cute little 2 bedroom, 1 bath home on 0.87 acre with large, mostly-fenced yard, tiled den area for pets. \$72,000 (16088)



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY IN MENTONE Currently used as an antique shop, this cute little former residence provides ample parking, welcoming screened-in porch, chain-link fenced area for outdoor storage, small outbuilding that could be repaired for additional storage, bathroom, large front showroom, 2 separate back showrooms. CH/A. 200' Hwy 117 frontage with high-traffic flow, out of zoning area. \$59,900 (16020)



ENTONE LAKE HOME - 160+ feet on East Fork of Little River at Lake Lahusage. 2 bedroom, 2 bath cabin, 2-car detached garage with future apt. space, decks, dock, pontoon boat, screened porch, on 2 lots. You can own it all. \$499,900 (16038)

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LOT IS LOCATED IN HISTORIC MENTONE on a storybook lane called Cutler Avenue. The old growth trees make this a perfect setting for your cabin or lodge. Stand under the majestic yellow pine and poplar during a sunny day or starlit night and you will fall under the spell! Lot has been perk-tested and septic certified. It has been cleared for road, parking, drain field, with options for the home site. The shared road and parking are complete. \$49,900 (16112)



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By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

Little River Hardware, proudly claimed by Mentone's citizens is often referred to as the Mentone Hardware. However, when summer camps open and other summer residents arrive along with a constant influx of Valley Head and Hammondville customers, it is, because of its central location, a community hardware.

It has been a part of the area for a number of years having several owners through the years. It has evolved into a unique business that all the area citizens have come to depend on.

They cater to seasonal needs. For the spring season, you'll find mulch, topsoil, potting soil and a good selection of chemicals and fertilizers for the yard. There are a variety of bird supplies including feeders and seed. In the summer season, they have needed items for gift packs including toys and other necessary items to make the camp experience fun.

Summer is their busiest season because summer residents arrive, the camp families come and tourist season begins. Beginning in June, they extend their hours to accommodate those needs. Summer hours, beginning June 1, are from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays; 8:30 to 4 on Saturdays and they open on Sunday at 9 a.m.

For summer residents and all the rest of us who need repair items or new projects materials, they have a good selection of plumbing supplies, paint and stain, electrical supplies, nails, screws, construction materials, etc. You'll find almost anything that you can purchase in larger hardware stores at competitive prices with the added bonus of lower sales taxes.

They also have some unexpected items such as galvanized tubs and "Grandma's Lye Soap" reputed to be good for the discomfort of poison oak and poison ivy.

They offer UPS shipping, faxing and a copy machine. They have two notary publics so there is one on the premises every day. They also serve as a "information center" for summer residents who may call to see what the weather is like in the area or check on community events so they can determine when to return. Wireless Internet is available on the front porch.

They make keys and at your request will keep your key code on file so that in the event that you lose your key, they can make new keys and save the expense and inconvenience of rekeying your home. They also do rekeying but prefer that you bring the locks in. Manager, Karen Britt, explained that she was "getting a little too old to go out and rekey" but I suspect that in an emergency, she would come to your rescue.

As another service, they have Phil Gamble who repairs small engines and sharpens chain saws.

They have straw hats, T-shirts and ball caps for summer comfort and as souvenirs. Other gift items are also available.

Karen invites you "to come in and give us a chance to serve you." And by the time you leave, you'll appreciate their selection of snack items and cold drinks.

Their motto says it all, "If we don't have it, you don't need it; but we can get it by Tuesday."



Bicycles Race Through Cloudland

By Ellen Spangler

On Wednesday, April 18th, in the blink of an eye, more than 100 bicycle riders raced around the corner at the Cloudland blinking light where GA 157 ends at GA Hwy 48. This was Stage 3 of the international Tour De Georgia, going on all week. Coming up Lookout Mountain from Menlo, the lead group of 13 made it to the turn in less than 10 minutes! Ten minutes later, the rest of the riders arrived in one huge group. For Stage 3, Riders left Rome in the morning and arrived in Chattanooga late afternoon.

An exciting local event in Cloudland, the Chattooga High School Band played while local residents lined the roads and cheered as the bicycles rounded the corner. Inspired by the race, many locals rode their bicycles to the event.

WATER RATE INCREASE

The Mentone Water works announces a rate increase effective with the May 2007 bill. Our water is purchased from Ft. Payne Water Works and they have increased their rate to us.

With this new increase, there now will be two rate structures: one for customers within the Mentone Town limits and a second one for those outside the town limits. More information is available at our office on the new rates.



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PEACHES

By John Baty

Some twenty years ago, we tried to have some home-grown peaches. Put out three or four trees and got set up for a spraying regimen. Every year after they were mature enough to bear, the beautiful weather in February would spur them into the reproductive mood and the blossoms would come, beautiful, fragrant, promising...only to be wiped out in March when the mercury dipped to shivering lows. Then, one March, an ice storm stripped the limbs to the point of no return. Reluctantly, I put the saw to the trees and resigned to buy my peaches elsewhere.

Three years ago, I was walking through a flea market and saw some very nice fruit trees. It being the right time for planting, I bought three or four. I guess that thinking back to those great Bell's of Georgia we had when I was a child, sort of obscured the facts of twenty years ago.

I cared for them and this past winter and early spring I pruned the three - four-year-old trees and cleaned around the bases, placed a circle of old bricks around each, sprayed the dormant oil and waited. True to form and past experience, the trees bloomed beautifully in the early March sunshine.

Watching the weather, when the warning came, I decided to take protective measures. I fastened two heat lamps with reflectors to posts and put a pair



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opposite for each tree. The blooms had dropped and I bought spray and gave them their first spraying. As an extra precaution, I placed two 50-gallon steel drums in position for fires with a box fan behind each to distribute the heat downwind over the trees. For two nights, I have "kept the home orchard fires burning," stumbling around of daytime for want of sleep. Last evening, I hauled wood and prepared for the freeze which the weathermen said would surely come. I turned on the heat lamps before bedtime and prepared to rise early to start the fires.

At 2:20 this morning, I awoke and rubbed my eyes and reluctantly dressed, taking kerosene and lighter, I went outside. The wind was high, gusting to high velocities. A covering of snow made the ground some whiter than a large frost, the leaves on the peach trees seemed to droop a little. I lit the fire in one barrel and turned on the fan. The warm smoke drifted over the trees just as planned. I felt a little encouraged, but my hands were cold. Returning to the house for coffee, I checked the thermometer at the back. It read 23 degrees Fahrenheit. I drank the coffee, then checked on the fire. The wind was so turbulent that despite the box fan, about half of the time the wind would change direction and the smoke would heat the Maples down in the hollow.

Standing there shivering, the mercury at 23 degrees, the heat bulbs ineffectual, smoke going the wrong direction, and three more nights of worse predicted, I recalled what some smart Chinaman said many centuries ago: "To persist after an error is to commit another error."

I did what John L. Sullivan did after Fighting Jim Corbett had beaten him to the floor of the ring: I threw in the towel.

It is now 5:30 a.m., the coffee made me about half sick and I don't feel hungry. I crave something bitter - maybe Bologna w/mustard. Don't have any. I wonder if there is a beer left over? OH, it was an interesting experience. If one looks hard enough, Mentone does have its downside. I go to the cabinet and search wishfully. What is that? Canned peaches! Well, why the Hell not?

PUBLIC NOTICE

The 2007 meeting dates for the
Mentone Waterworks Board,
5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL

will be at 4PM, as follows:

Thursday, March 22

Thursday, April 26

Thursday, May 24

Thursday, June 28

Thursday, July 26

Thursday, August 23

Thursday, September 27

Thursday, October 25

Tuesday, November 13

Thursday, December 20

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

**THIRD 9-WEEKS HONOR ROLL
MOON LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MARCH 2007**

Grade 1 All-A's

Kattie Bain
Eli Battles
Caroline Baty
Breanna Blalock
Caitlyn Collins
Matthew Dowdy
Hannah Durham
Saddler Emory
Caylie Miller
Kyle Miller
Haley Neal
John David Nelson
Dylan Pannell
Macy Smith

Grade 1 All-A's & B's

Madysen Barnwell
William Chitwood
Triston Goss
Austin Huskey
Courtney Meadows
Brianna Powell

Grade 4 All-A's

Jakob Gilbreath
Kristin Nelson
Amelia Saferite

Grade 4 All-A's & B's

Caleb Flannigan
Shelby Jackson
Kaitee McGee
Levi Owen
Sammy Purvis
Taylor Purvis
Paige Smith
Meagan Sutton
Marysa Wigley
Brooke Wright

Grade 2 All-A's

Lukas Boehringer
Anna Carden
Kacy Corsentino
Laura Easler
Byrum Emory
Ethan Harrison
Mason Hester
Phyllis James
Bailey Kirby
Justin Langston
Sam Langston
Zoe Lovechio
Molly Manifold
Alexis Owen
Matt Phillips
Noah Waters

Grade 2 All-A's & B's

Matthew Bain
Dale Howard
Annlyle Johnson

Grade 5 All-A's

Bleu Davis-Stone
Veronica Kinoshita
Wyatt Lepper
Adam Miller
Kanissa Smith

Grade 5 All-A's & B's

Hunter Blalock
Kelly Haney
Brittney Harrison
Michael Langston
Jaimee McGee
Christian Muir

Grade 3 All-A's

Sierra Chambers
Eli Durham
Justin Easler
Dawson Kincer
Mackenzie Willingham

Grade 3 All-A's & B's

Paige Brooks
Isaac Browder
Kara Goss
Kateland Grider
Savannah Leper
Dylan Lewis
Elizabeth Meadows
Mikayla Owen
Jimmy Swain
Tommy Tullis
Andrew Williams

Grade 6 All-A's

Lily Harrison

Grade 6 All-A's & B's

Beth Durham
Amber Hilliard
Jill Hope
Taylor Poff
Danielle Powell
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6.1 ACRE LEVEL BUILDING LOT near Sylvania with approximately 250 Ft. on the west fork of Bengis Creek. Only \$26,000. (14652)



VIEW FOR 10 MILES IN BOTH DIRECTIONS - Overlooking North Fort Payne - Brow Lot in Pell's Gap - Restricted community. Only \$45,000. (14963)



DESOTO PARKWAY - New 3 BR, 2.5 bath, 2 story home with wrap around porch. Ceramic tile, 9 ft. ceilings, wooded lot, over 2000 sf, and only \$195,000. (15771)



CLASSIC BRICK 1.5 story on 33 wooded acres adjoining Oakdale Subdivision. Completely remodeled. Huge stone fireplace, steam shower, sun room and lots of wild life. Only \$300,000. (15543)



3BR/3BA CABIN ON LOOKOUT MTN. Centrally located between Mentone, Fort Payne, and Little River Canyon. Cabin has Large Master Suite and Bath all on a wooded lot bordered by forest and rock formations. Reduced to \$144,900. (15561)



DESOTO BLUFFS - WEST BROW OF LOOKOUT MTN. 4.5 acres with Valley and mountains as far as you can see. Plenty of room and Only \$100,000. (15602)



VINTAGE HOME IN DOWNTOWN MENTONE. 3 BR, 1 BA, screened front porch, privacy fence and a small branch running across rear of property. Must see to appreciate. Only \$75,000. (15501)



12 ACRE FARMETTE with 4 BR, 2 Bath home between Ider and Sulphur Springs. 5 minutes from I-59. Detached shop, oak cabinets, central vac. Pella Windows. Only \$259,000. (15847)

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By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

Ben Keener has always been interested in drama. His high school class ring had as a part of it, the drama symbols, the mask of comedy and tragedy and his college major was drama. As a young man, he thought his future would be a dramatic actor in theater. Now years later, there is drama in his life but not quite in the way he thought it would be. The drama isn't as Ben, the actor but as Chef Ben, chef extraordinaire and part owner of Wildflower Café. The drama comes in the amazing variety and the presentation of food he prepares.

His interest in cooking isn't unusual. He explained, "I started cooking when I was about 10. My grandfather had a restaurant in the Gadsden area for 50 years. As a young man, I cooked at a lot of restaurants including well-known chains and I learned something from each one."

He received his formal training from Chef Steve Pilkanos in Gadsden, who at the time, was one of the few professionally trained chefs in the area.

He wanted a venue where he could change the menu on a daily basis developing his own recipes and adding his own talents to existing recipes. His chance came at the Wildflower Café when he started preparing the Sunday brunch.

His flair for the dramatic in cooking was a natural complement to Margaret Baker's vision. She started Wildflower Café a little more than two years ago so she would have a place to meet a friend for an espresso. It has become that and more.

From Sunday brunch, he began preparing dinners on Friday and Saturday nights and then added Thursday night. He and his wife, Sha-Lee, became Margaret's partner about a year ago.

The building, constructed in the 1890s, has a rustic casual atmosphere but there is nothing casual about the menu. Breakfast, which is served on weekdays beginning at 9 a.m., has some familiar favorites such as fresh biscuits smothered in sausage gravy. You can also enjoy French toast made on fresh baked Ciabocha bread dipped in a cinnamon egg batter or Eggs Benedict also served on Ciabocha bread or light airy crepes filled with sweetened cream cheese topped with sweetened strawberry puree.

The lunch menu includes soup of the day that might feature the green tomato soup or a satisfying gumbo or perhaps the cheesy potato soup. These

can be combined with a mixed green salad made with organic mixed greens with tomatoes and fresh Parmesan. Other salads include a grilled or blackened chicken salad with the organic mixed greens. The chicken salad has green grapes and toasted almonds and served with specialty bread. Olde World Bakery in Chattanooga bakes the breads fresh.

The sandwiches include Panini and Muffaletta served on Focaccia bread. You can order a side salad or a cup of soup with any of the sandwiches. They serve fresh gourmet pizzas and there is a kid's menu.

To accompany Margaret's espresso, there are Sha-Lee's homemade desserts including Derby Pie, chess pie and hummingbird cake. You can also enjoy a variety of hot teas, Wildflower's Latte or a cappuccino along with more standard drinks.

Sunday brunch that is a culinary treat is served from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It offers such staples as crepes and quiches along with a variety of hot and cold items.

The dinner menu changes weekly but always includes steaks, seafood and chicken but the recipes vary. There are a lot of pecan encrusted seafood items. My personal favorite is pecan-encrusted basa, which is mild fish somewhat similar in taste to tilapia, my previous favorite.

Ben is going to have an herb garden on the premises this summer which ensure the freshest possible complements to the highest quality meats and produce that is already on the menu.

The café seats from 22 to 24 on the inside with the porch providing additional seating when the weather permits. They will be adding additional seating adjacent to the herb garden this summer. They will be open seven days a week beginning in late May. You can call 634-0066 for hours and for reservations.

The Wildflower Café has been featured in The Birmingham News, The Atlanta Constitution, The Times-Journal and The Groundhog. They will soon be featured in Southern Living. They are going to be a test kitchen for Cook's Illustrated.

Ben stated, "As long as I cook, I'm happy." It shows in the quality of the food and in the friendly way he greets customers. Even though you may not be a regular customer and his friend when you enter, you will feel like a friend when you leave. You know, one of those friends who wants to visit again and again.

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May 5th - 8AM-3PM at Cloudland Park under the shelter located past Lookout Restaurant, next to the fire hall.

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Local residents Nancy Jones and Bo Clark
admiring art work at the Wildflower Art Show 2006
**5th Annual Wildflower
Art Show 2007**

By Ellen Spangler

A special part of the week-end Festival the 3rd week-end in May, the Wildflower Art Show will be Saturday, May 19, 10am to 5pm (AL time), at the TOWN SQUARE in historic Mentone, AL, by the Mentone Inn. The 5th Annual Wildflower Art Show will be another in the series of excellent juried art shows. There will be more than 25 regional artists-some returning from last year. Their work will include paintings (oils, acrylics, water colors), pottery, bronze sculpture, photography, wood carving, glass art, basketry, and gourd art.

This popular Art Show is sponsored by the Mentone Area Arts Council (MAAC). MAAC

welcomes all people interested in helping provide venues for educational arts programs, shows, and performances. The Arts Council Board meets the 4th Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm (AL time) at the Mentone Community Center. In May, the meeting will be May 23, at 6:30 PM. Get involved by becoming members.

Memberships to the Arts Council will be available at their booth.

For further information, call Sandra Comley, the Show Coordinator, at 256-634-3334 or email the Mentone Area Arts Council at MAAC35984@aol.com.

MENTONE

'RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL'

(A Family oriented Event)

May 19th & 20th, 2007

Mentone Area Preservation Association
P. O. Box 50; Mentone, Alabama 35984

Presents

'2007 Rhododendron Festival'

Starting Friday evening May 18th at 6:30, a bonfire party and music will kick off our celebration of 'SPRING' on the MOUNTAIN!!!

On the Square in Downtown Mentone

Saturday evening May 19th at 6:30 we will have another bonfire party and music.

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THE HISTORY OF MENTONE ALABAMA

1850 - 1980 - Excerpts from Nelda E. Howe's book

All rights of this paper given to the Rhododendron Garden Club of Mentone, Alabama 35984 (only) with one requirement—that it be printed as written with nothing deleted. Signed Nelda E. Howe, November 18, 1980

The older mountain families who were here prior to the 1900's are the Crows, the Joneses, the Smiths, the Bialocks, the Greens, the Perkinses, the Masons, the O'Rears, the Vernons, the Shileys, the Libbys, the Cashes, the Ellisons, the Allison, the Keiths, the McNews, the Culbertsons, the Matheneys, the Batys, the Kirbys, the Browns, the Howes, the Yorks, the Forces, the Bryners, the Reynolds, and possibly others whom I cannot recall.

One of the two older homes in Mentone is the home that was owned by Mrs. Katie Oarrah, built by Mrs. Frances Rhea Berry of Rome, Georgia, the mother of Miss Martha Berry, Mesdames Sam Graham, Mose Wright, Laura Berry Campbell, Frances Berry Bonneman, Princess Eugenia Berry Ruspoli, and sons Thomas Berry and Ike Berry. This home was built in the 1890's as a summer home for the family.

The other older home was the log cabin used in the center of the Episcopal Church, built prior to the 1870's by Robert Vernon, and was the first house in that locality. The gap down the mountain is known as the Vernon Gap. Earlier residents building summer homes in the 1900's were the Berrys, the Grahams, the Wrights, the Bonnymans, the Garlands, the Tutwilers, Dr. Mallicoat, the Rouths, the Battys, the Olivers, Dr. Travis, the Sudduths, and the Fleds.

Note: The History of Mentone will be printed in segments in following issues of *The Groundhog*

The

Church News

By Evelyn Graves



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

The **Valley Head Baptist Church** invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; 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 11AM each Sunday; Scripture and Communion Services at 6PM on Tuesdays.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road NW (DeKalb County Road 85), Fort Payne. Phone: 256-845-4842. The community is welcomed. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM and Bible Class every Wednesday @ 6:30PM. Steve Schrader, Pastor 256-845-4314.

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 10 AM, Wednesday evening at 6PM. God Bless you.

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

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.

The **Mentone United Methodist Church** services are at 11AM each Sunday. Sunday School is at 10AM. Daniel Lee of Rainsville is the pastor. Everyone is 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.

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.

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 Services are 9:30AM Sunday School; 10:30 AM Worship; 6:30PM Sunday evening (Third Sunday of each month are Small Group Home Meetings); 6:30PM Wednesday: Adult Bible Study, Youth Group, Pioneer Club.

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. 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.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to worship with us. Sunday School begins at 9:45AM, with classes for all ages. Morning Worship is at 11AM. The Lord's Supper is observed on the first Sunday of September, December, March, and June at the morning worship hour. Discipleship Training is at 5:00PM and Sunday Evening Worship at 6:00PM. On Wednesdays, Team Kids; Youth Bible Study and Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30 p.m. The pastor at Moon Lake Baptist is Dr. Bill Russell.

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

Potters House Church. We are a small community church filled with the love of Jesus, where everyone of all denominations is welcome to join us. Our Sunday Worship is at 2 PM with Bill Miracle Pastor. We serve a meal at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, and our Bible Study starts at 6:30 with Sabra Gann, Teacher.

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

New Oregon United Methodist Church, 1204 New Oregon Drive NE, Ft. Payne, AL 35967. The activities of New Oregon include: Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m. and Evening worship at 6:00 p.m. Sunday morning fellowship time is from 9:20-9:40 a.m., followed by Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship and all activities of the church.

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The **United First Methodist Church of Birmingham's McDorman/Allen Sunday School Class** will be having a picnic Saturday afternoon, May 12th at the McDorman home. The McDorman picnic was an annual event from 1960 to 1983, the time of Clarence McDorman Sr.'s death. The class is looking forward to returning to Mentone and the class's new teacher, Clarence McDorman Jr., welcomes everyone to stop in for some refreshments and home cooking.

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.

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**Alabama Department of Transportation
Project BR-0204 (512)
Bridge Replacement on Alabama Highway 117
over the West Fork of Little River
Town of Mentone / DeKalb County**

The Alabama Department of Transportation will conduct a Public Involvement Meeting for the above project as follows:

Thursday, May 24th, 2007

4:30 pm until 6:30 pm

**Moon Lake Elementary School, Gymnasium
5866 E River Rd
Mentone, AL 35984**

The proposed project is the bridge replacement on Alabama Highway 117 over the West Fork of Little River.

The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that any interested parties, including local governments, metropolitan, regional, state and federal agencies, and the general public have an opportunity to provide input regarding how this project might affect any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and share their views and comments regarding these potential impacts. There will not be a formal presentation at the meeting, but rather an "open-house" format. Interested parties may arrive at any time during the meeting schedule. Representatives of ALDOT will be available to answer any questions relative to the project.

Written comments, which will become part of the official project record may be made at any time prior to, at, or within ten days following the meeting and may be mailed to:

**Johnny L. Harris
Division Engineer
ALDOT
PO Box 550
Guntersville, AL 35976-0550**

Any individual requiring special assistance due to a disability or sensory impairment should contact Troy Bell at the above address, by phone at 800-819-7418 ext. 234, by fax at 256-582-8922 or by E-mail at bellt@dot.state.al.us. Requests for assistance should be made no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 17, 2007.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The 2007 meeting dates for the Mentone Town Council, 5972 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL will be on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6PM, as follows:

**Monday, March 12
Monday, April 9
Monday, May 14
Monday, June 11
Monday, July 9
Monday, August 13
Monday, September 10
Monday, October 8
Monday, November 12
Monday, December 10**

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

Many Thanks from MERF.

Spring has finally sprung which means that Senior lunches on Wednesday at the Mentone Community House have come to an end. We have had lots of good fun and plenty of fellowship with singing and playing. MERF would like to thank all of those who helped provide a wonderful time this Spring for our community. Thanks go to many that enriched us with wonderful food and service this Spring and last Fall: Tony and Eleanor Teverino (Raven Haven B&B), Mae Hilburn, Susan Petty, Laura Foote, the Library board, Glenda Ingram, Mentone Community Church, St. Joseph's on the Mountain Episcopal Church, Georgia Wade, Mentone Methodist Church, Mentone Church of God of Prophecy, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Boy Scout Troop 106, Camp Laney, Camp DeSoto, Camp Riverview. Thanks to the librarians: Ann Chestnut, Jill Whitten and Virginia Setze that keep our noses in good books. We also appreciate the wonderful piano playing and guitar strumming by Elizabeth Romans and Harold Broyles. We hope that all who came enjoyed themselves. If you would like to help with food or serving in the Fall, feel free to contact Sue Henry or Sarah Wilcox. Thanks to all Mentone residents and friends that help support MERF and its mission. Hope you like our new Red Roof!

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

- Tuesday, May 1, MAPA MEETING, 6:30 PM, Dessies Place
- Monday, May 7, 5:30PM, DeSoto Rescue Squad Mtg
- Monday, May 7, 6PM, Mentone Town Council Meeting, Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Tuesday, May 8, 10 AM, Rhododendron Garden Club, M.E.R.F. Community House
- Tuesday, May 8, 6:30 PM, American Legion Hall, Post 215 Meeting
- SUNDAY, MAY 13, MOTHER'S DAY
- Thursday, May 17, 10AM, Mentone Book Club, at the M.E.R.F. Community House, open to the public
- May 19 & 20, RHODODENDRON FESTIVAL AT BROW PARK
- Sat./Sun., May 19 & 20 - 9AM - 5PM, The Wildflower Art Show, Lawn of the Mentone Inn
- Sunday, May 20, DECORATION DAY, Little River Baptist Church
- Wednesday, May 23, 6:30PM, Mentone Area Arts Council MAAC) Board Meeting, at the M.E.R.F. Community House, open to the public
- Thursday, May 24, 4PM, Mentone Waterworks Board Meeting, Board Room, open to the public
- Sunday, May 27, DECORATION DAY, Bankhead Baptist Church
- Monday, May 28, MEMORIAL DAY
- June 2, 9 AM, Water Testing Certification Classes, 5450 East River Rd.



Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. Proverbs 31:10
May is the month that we honor our mothers. The scriptures say quite a lot about the influence that the mother has in the home-with her husband and her children-and in the community where she lives. Mothers are challenged to be the best that they can be, and her husband "will safely trust in her," and "her children will rise up and call her blessed."

Happy Mother's Day!

**More stories
on Mentone**

will be in the JUNE ISSUE that will come out the last week in May. Sarah Chastain's computer developed a problem that she has not been able to resolve in time to complete the articles for this issue.

MENTONE

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(A Family oriented Event)

May 19th & 20th, 2007

*Mentone Area Preservation Association
P. O. Box 50; Mentone, Alabama 35984*

Presents

'2007 Rhododendron Festival'

Starting Friday evening May 18th at 6:30, a bonfire party and music will kick off our celebration of 'SPRING' on the MOUNTAIN!!!

On the Square in Downtown Mentone

Saturday evening May 19th at 6:30 we will have another bonfire party and music.

Don't miss these fun affairs



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