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THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

Volume 29, No. 05

"Neighborhood News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

May 2010

Second Chances - Kids Konsignment

Valley Head has something new just in time for spring.

It's the Second Chances Kids Konsignment located right next door to the Upscale Resale Shop at 74 Winston Street. It has sizes from infant up to junior sizes. (Upscale Resale Shop begins with junior sizes.) It also has maternity clothes. You can find everything from brand name clothes for spring and summer to gently worn play clothes for those warm days that invite outside play. It's a good place to dress your child and also dispose of those clothes that your child barely wore once or not at all before they were outgrown.

It will also have everything you need for a baby including baby

and children's furniture, toys and all types of baby gear.

Seasonal clothes and other items are taken on consignment. All clothes need to be freshly laundered with no stains or rips and on hangers and still in style. Baby furniture and baby gear must be clean and in good repair. Owner Kayla Worthey prefers that you call before you bring your items.

She does the pricing and you receive 40% of the selling

price. The clothes will be priced at about half of the lowest sale price. It's better than keeping them for the future because even children's clothes go out of style. My oldest child, now 41, wore bell bottom pants and her dresses were short. By the time her youngest sister arrived just four



and a half years later, bell bottoms were out and little girl's dresses were below the knee. I never thought that the styles for

children would change that much. All of those clothes that I had carefully saved were no longer in style and even though my youngest might not have known the difference, her sister was happy to inform her that she was not in style. It's just what sisters do.

The store opened on April 1 with a great response from the community. While there is still a great selection, there's plenty of room for more. Call the store at 635-0220 for an appointment to bring in your children's outgrown clothes and toys.



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.

**THE GROUNDHOG STAFF**

Editor.....Evelyn Graves
Contributing Writers.....John Bety,
Linda Brown, Ronda Bruckno, Sara
Jacoway Chastain, Charlotte Gentry,
Evelyn Graves, LC Moon.

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MAPA dues for the new year are: \$10/individual and \$15/couple. Send your dues to: MAPA, PO Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984

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

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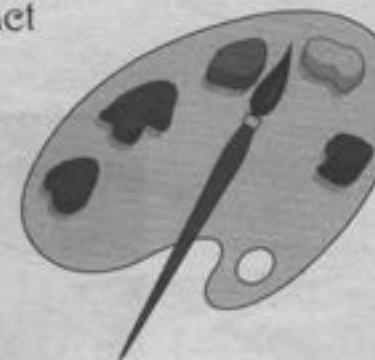
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DeSoto State Park
Kilgore Pharmacy
Windwood Farms Restaurant
Little River Hardware
The Clip Joint
Snappy Tee's
Alabama Organics
Mentone Community Library
Second Chances

**Mentone Artist
Lucy Mitchell
Gallery Exhibition
May 8 through July 10**
Studio 117, the loft gallery
at the log cabin offices
of Mentone Realty

For more information, contact
Mentone Area Arts Council
President Neal Whitt
at (205) 410-5598



Gallery hours 9 till 4
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10 till 2 Saturdays; extended hours,
including Sundays, during exhibition

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Welcome To Mentone!!



Stop by our Log Cabin in front of the Wildflower Cafe, we always look forward to a visit from our neighbors and friends.

LOTS and LAND

WOODED MENTONE LAKE VIEW LOT w/ wooden double garage already in place for material storage or finish it as a rustic retreat until you build? Borders Camp Corner. \$49,000 (19775)

LITTLE RIVER CANYON RIM AREA on the **SOLD** an acre. Seasonal power & water. \$10,346 (19346)

1.69 AC LOT w/view of Rock Lake. Add'l land avail. Lightly restricted. \$27,500 (19225)

200' FRONTAGE WEST FORK LITTLE RIVER. 4.84 acre lot in restricted community offers canoeing, swimming, fishing, rock formations on the property & across the river surrounded by mountain laurel, native holly, huge hardwood trees and yellow root. \$64,500. (19048)

FABULOUS VIEWS! Fabulous new price! Beautiful 1.19 ac. brow lot with gorgeous views of Fort Payne from Hollywood Heights! Land already perked! Survey, restrictions & perk test avail \$29,900. (18902)

12 ACRES LAND located about midway between DeSoto St Park & Mentone. Not too much land, not too little. Mostly level (there is a site, according to the owner, that would make a great place for a lake/pond), wooded, covered w/wildlife. \$79,900. (18970)

WOODED LOT IN BANKHEAD SOUTH 3.6 ac, paved road frontage, public water & power at road. One of only 2 lots remaining. \$38,000. (17865)

CORNER COMMERCIAL LOT ON HWY 117 32'x56' foundation already built. Great access, visibility & traffic count. City water, sewer & high speed internet avail. \$25,000. (19810)



BEAUTIFUL SUNRISE VIEWS! Beautiful cedar, shake-sided, 2700 SQ FT, 3BR/2BA cabin with lots of windows offers great natural light as well as views of the Shonbone Valley below you, woods & boulders around you! Double-sided stone Fpl; gleaming HW floors; main-level MABR suite; decks to enjoy views. Detached 2-car garage w/bonus room. Many extras! 2 wooded acres w/little to no yard maintenance required! Just nine miles from downtown Mentone, 2 hours from Atlanta & Birmingham. Off the scenic mtn drive of Hwy 48, Cloudland. Now \$229,900. (19628)



JUST FINISHED...BEAUTIFULLY! From the moment you drive up, you realize this is no run-of-the-mill cabin. It is substantial in materials & workmanship. 2BR/2.5BA, 1643 sq ft; full, wrap-around 8' porch (w/16' covered & screened extension off MABR), mtn stone w/ Fpl; laundry; pantry; loft area for office/studio; vaulted & beamed ceiling. 1.6 acre wooded lot. \$184,900. (19724)



RUSTIC, YET REFINED, just completed 2BR/2BA, 1.5 story cabin. The rustic feel you want, the little upgrades you desire like furniture-grade cabinetry, wide-plank pine floors & tile baths. Half-log exterior, metal roof, full screened back porch, nice extras. Designed & built to be very energy efficient. Situated on a wooded, 1.4 ac lot in Mossy Rock at Mentone. \$149,900. (19721)



NOSTALGIC AND NICE! 1940s charmer on 3.3 acres, right at the foot of Lookout Mtn on the way to Mentone! Freshly remodeled & updated w/4BR/2BA; formal DR; sunroom; new cabinets & countertops; full appl pkg. Original HW floors beautifully restored. Unf basement w/1-car gar area & tons of storage! Outbuilding; paved drive; great landscaping! Now \$109,000. (18863)



BEAUTIFUL & BRAND NEW! Cedar cabin in Northend. Walking distance to village of Mentone (less than a mile). 3BR/2BA; office or possible 4th BR; stone Fpl; full appl pkg. 2.2 acre. 1.5 story open great room. 1600 sq ft, 1.5 stories; on 3 wooded acres w/small stream. Great price of \$199,900. (18887)



LITTLE RIVER CANYON VIEW FOREST 3BR/3BA cabin situated on 5 VERY private acres. Well-built 1600 sq ft half-log exterior w/10x6 framing; interior (esterior) w/10x6 framing; interior (esterior) w/10x6 framing; interior (esterior) w/10x6 framing. Completely surrounded by Lookout Mtn's natural beauty! \$268,000! (19812)



THE BEST BUY AT MENTONE! 8 acres wooded land & well-crafted new cabin w/front & back porches; lg deck; stone patio; cedar exterior. \$159,900. (19143)



MENTONE BROW VIEW! Perched on the edge of Lookout Mountain at Mentone with a magnificent prospect of valley below & mountains beyond. Almost new cabin sits among the trees and welcomes you with a circular drive, wonderful porches; stone patio w/fire ring at brow side to stay cozy warm on chilly spring evenings; 3BR/2BA; 1700+ sq ft living area; absolutely magnificent stone fireplace built by a local husband and wife team (fireplace is woodburning, of course!); loft office/study area; all appliances. \$385,000 (19433)



SPACIOUSNESS THAT IS POSITIVELY WELL HEAVENLY! Circa 1870 church divinely transformed into a split 2BR/2BA home w/awe-inspiring great room in the middle; 2500 sq ft. Original heart pine floors & walls. Cabinetry made from original pews. MABR wing w/ glorious bath. 2nd BR w/sitting area/office that could be a 3rd BR. Renovations retain character of original architecture. Blessedly reasonable at \$129,900. (19589)



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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

World-renowned speaker and author of the *Haunted Southern Nights* book series, Deborah Collard of Mentone, will be having a book signing at the DeKalb County Public Library at 504 Grand Ave NW in Fort Payne on Monday, May 17th at 3 p.m.

18TH ANNUAL LIBERTY DAY CELEBRATION JULY 3, 2010 CEDAR BLUFF PARK

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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

**MAY 10, 2010
JUNE 14, 2010
JULY 12, 2010
AUGUST 9, 2010
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
OCTOBER 11, 2010
NOVEMBER 8, 2010
DECEMBER 13, 2010**

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

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

**JULY 15
OCTOBER 15**

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

The **2010** meeting dates for the **Mentone Waterworks Board**, 5972 AL

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

**MAY 27
JUNE 24
JULY 22
AUGUST 25
SEPTEMBER 22
OCTOBER 27
NOVEMBER 22
DECEMBER 22**

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

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

**MAY 10
JUNE 14
JULY 12
AUGUST 9
SEPTEMBER 13
OCTOBER 11
NOVEMBER 8
DECEMBER 13**

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

MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

2 - Jill Whitten, Ella Voils
3 - Oline Cochran (in memory)
4 - Oleda McCurdy
5 - Emily Howard
6 - Jessy Mayhew, L.A. Smith
8 - Regan Broome, Lesa Smith
14 - Lois Wood (in memory),
Jeanne Bare, Jay Broome
15 - Gail Gaylord
16 - Amy Kirby
18 - Nelson Kerby
20 - Alexis Manifold, Tom Tullis
21 - Anne H. Ransom, Susan Flynn
22 - Bobby Brown, Caitlin Kirby,
John Streatfield
23 - Colton Baggett, Nathan Baggett
24 - Amber Hilliard
25 - Billy Wright, Jack E. Jones
26 - Norm Baker
27 - Christy Voils,
Hank Van Apeldoorn
28 - Dennis Hicks

30 - Shelly Shanklin
31 - Valeria Blalock

Anniversaries

6 - Claud and Sharron Burke,
Toby and Rachel Manifold
8 - Joyce and Terry Turner
10 - David and Cheryl Baker
16 - Amy and Preston Kirby
20 - Chris and Christina Stokes
27 - Donnie and Ella Voils
31 - Robert and Ilene Green



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SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 North of Fort Payne, welcomes

everyone at Sunday School at 10AM, Worship Service at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30PM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bible Study, 7PM GA time.

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

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

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

Mentone Community Church, 90 Summerville Rd., Mentone, AL 35984. Sunday Services: 9 am and 10:30 am. Adult Sunday School: Sundays @ 9:30 am. Teen and Adult Sunday School: Sundays @ 5:30. Tuesday Night Prayer Service: 6:30 pm. Wednesday Nights @ 6:30 pm: Children's Pioneer Clubs & Youth Group.

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



DEVOTIONAL

By Evelyn Graves

This quarter I am teaching a special studies class at my church on Sunday evenings entitled, "Lasting Legacy: making a difference with my life." There are ten studies in this series, but when I went to the bookstore to look for an appropriate study, this one caught my eye.

I have no money to leave to my children and grandchildren, but I have always hoped that my life would reflect Jesus Christ, and that I might leave this Christian legacy to them. So far the sessions have been about sharing my spiritual story, being vulnerable, becoming an authentic Christian, and my life as a witness. How important it is in our Christian experience that we be able to be witnesses to others and that we be authentic Christians. This means that we must not only "talk the talk" but that we must "walk the walk" as well. Have you ever heard someone say, "If he or she is a Christian the woods are full of them?" I have heard this expression more than once in my life. Let us not be hypocrites. Not only is this detrimental to our own Christian walk, but many times it is a stumbling block to someone else.

May we be able to sing the old song, "Let Others See Jesus in You" and mean it from our hearts.

Moon Lake Elementary School's 5th Grade goes to Space Camp!

By L. C. Moon

MLES 5th Grade, Ms. Karen Prestwood's class, extends a huge thanks to the Mentone Community for helping make a field trip happen! School funds have been low; so field trips have nearly become a thing of the past in DeKalb County. However, since the beginning of the 2010 school year Misty Watters worked tirelessly with Ms. Prestwood and the community to help raise money for a Space Camp field trip. Misty's efforts and the support of the community helped the Board of Education see how seriously we all wanted our 5th grade to maintain the tradition of Space Camp; so they gave permission.

The fifth grade and chaperones left on a charter bus March 5th for three days of education and activities. They were divided up into two groups, each with a team leader. Jeff was the leader of team Endeavor and Rachel was the leader of team Gum Drop. Both teams participated in space shuttle missions, space simulators, climbing wall, team work in making badges to represent their teams, rocket making and launching and more...

The 5th Grade had a blast! Their memories of Space Camp are sure to last them a lifetime! I know as a chaperone, it is an experience I will always cherish. It was strictly Community Support which allowed them the opportunity to go to Space Camp in Huntsville. "Thank Mentone for all the donations for bake sales, dinners, dances, car washes and every other activity you so graciously donated to!" says Misty Watters.

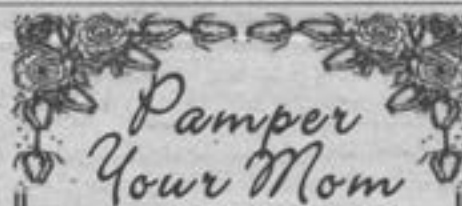
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Clip Joint - Jesse Crabtree - Terry & Dorna Hutcheson
Lucky's Supermarket
Extra Special thanks to Mentone Market!
Mentone Educational Resource Fund - Moon Lake PTO
Smokin' Butts Bar B Q
Wildflower Café & Country Store - Windwood Farms Restaurant

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LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY

by Linda Brown

She didn't think we could do it, but we showed her! The Board of Directors met without Jan Wilkinson. She was out of town and Sue Schwarz was president for a day. Sue did a great job of guiding us through the many items of business. The regular reports were given and approved for filing and the plans for Meet the Author Day with Deborah Collard were finalized.

Sue stated that the Sidewalk Stargazing will be Saturday, August 14, 2010. The Atlanta Astronomy Club will be in charge of this program under the direction of their president, Keith Burns. The meeting will begin at the Moon Lake Library and then go outside, possibly to the walking track, to view the stars, moon and other "things" through telescopes. This will be an exciting time and one which should appeal to all ages of people. This is a memorial to Roger Dowiat, who was a member of the club and an avid astronomer. Watch for more advertising as the time gets nearer.

Sue announced that the Town of Mentone has placed the library in their budget as a line item. This means that the town supports the library and is willing to help with our programs. This will help the library to get certain grants in the future. An often asked question is, "Is your agency supported

by the local government?" This action by the town will now enable us to answer yes and hopefully have a better chance of getting the grant. Thank you, Mayor Hammond and Council Members. The Town Council has also passed a resolution of support to the Moon Lake Elementary School and of course this includes the library.

We agreed to have the annual cook-out for the FRIENDS of the Library. A date and time will be announced later. We will try to secure the M.E.R.F. Community House again for a Saturday sometime in June. You may become a FRIEND with a donation of twenty dollars or more. Talk to Beverly in the library or to any member of the board of directors. The meeting adjourned with a reminder for everyone to attend the Meet the Author Day on Saturday.

Fifteen people turned out to meet Deborah Collard on Saturday morning, April 17, 2010.

Jan Wilkinson introduced Deborah. She lives in Mentone (in the Hattie Bruce house for those who still locate by this method). She operates the Coffee House directly across from Mentone Market. She is an avid ghost chaser and she writes books. Her books include: "Haunted Southern Nights".

Volume I Ghost Hunting, the Basics+, Volume II The Haunted Backyard and Volume III History and Haunting of the Mentone Area. Volume IV is coming soon!!

Deborah's quest for her ancestors has led to the discovery that she has a lot of Cherokee Indian heritage in her lineage. She continues to apply a lot of Native American love and appreciation to the surroundings of her life. She is an animated speaker and said that she had not grown up in that she still has the curiosity of a child regarding things which come into her life. She stated that she was sure most of us were interested in Volume III and we were. This book contains many stories of the Mentone area. Some you may have heard, but Deborah's spin on them seems to be different. She had the books available and they are also available at the Coffee House. Pick one up today. I haven't read it yet, but I am looking forward to checking out the stories and seeing the pictures of places in Mentone.

The open days of the Moon Lake Community Library are: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at 3:00 p.m./ This is a change in the regular meeting date. To be on the agenda for a meeting, call Jan Wilkinson. Write to us: Moon Lake Community Library, PO Box 481, Mentone, Alabama 35984.

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

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Travels close to home Lincoln, AL - "Touring the Honda Plant"

By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

We've had Hondas in our family and they've proved to live up to the hype but a recent tour of Honda Manufacturing of Alabama gave me a new appreciation of Hondas. If I were ready for a new automobile, the Pilot which we watched being made would definitely be a consideration. We also watched the manufacture of the Accord but my first venture into the ownership of an SUV means no turning back. Not only was I impressed with the Honda line but I was also impressed with the plant.

It took a while to arrange a tour because there are times during the year when they aren't open for tours. Information about the tours can be found at their website, www.HondaAlabama.com. If you'd like to take a tour which is free, you need to arrange it well in advance of the date because tour times are often taken up by school groups or other large groups. Tours are given at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On the day of our tour, we were greeted by a friendly knowledgeable tour guide. We were given earphones to wear to block out some of the noise and so that we could hear her talking. I wish I had taken notes because she gave us so much information that I've probably forgotten much of the most important parts. What I absorbed is probably quite different than what the men remember. I can tell you the cars that we saw being made were silver, white and blue. That was important to me. We also saw the drive train assembled and I can't tell you anything about that

except that everybody had a specific task and everything moved smoothly. There are some women on the line but it appeared to be a



The entrance to the Honda Plant at Lincoln.

plush offices for the bosses nor are there cubicles. Everybody sits at a desk in a big open room. Equality extends outside of the building also because there are no assigned parking places for the executives so on those cold rainy days in winter the CEO has to dodge puddles from the back of the parking lot unless he's early enough to get a front spot.

As the case with other automakers, the name, Honda, comes from the name of the founder. He saw his first car in a small village in Japan. It was a Model T. He ran after it until it was out of sight and then knelt down touching the oil left in the dust and knew that someday that he would be a part of building cars.

Honda Manufacturing of Alabama started production in November 2001. It is now Honda's largest light truck production facility in the world with an annual capacity of more than 300,000 vehicles and V-6 engines. There are 4,500 associates with about 98% of them from Alabama. All employees are either high school graduates or have a GED. The average pay on the line is \$24 an hour. The company listens to their employees and offer rewards for implemented suggestions.

Incentives range from cash to the use of a Honda for a month.

The Alabama plant is the sole production source of the popular Odyssey minivan, the Pilot sport utility vehicle and V-6 engines that power both vehicles. In early 2009, they also became the sole production source of the Honda Ridgeline pickup truck.

Their on-site production opera-

small percentage.

Honda is an equal opportunity employer. Everybody from the CEO to the beginner on the line dresses the same in a white jump suit. In the office area, there are no

tions include steel stamping, welding, painting, plastic injection molding, aluminum casting, aluminum and ferrous machining, engine assembly, vehicle assembly, testing and quality assurance.

They have an environmentally friendly facility through their company-wide principle of "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle." They are a Zero Landfill Facility which means that they send nothing to a landfill. They have also cut operating costs by turning off the neon lights in the drink vending machines in the break rooms. Our guide said that this has resulted in a significant savings. In the break rooms you see posted signs that say COD which means clear, organize and discard. Everything is neat and clean.

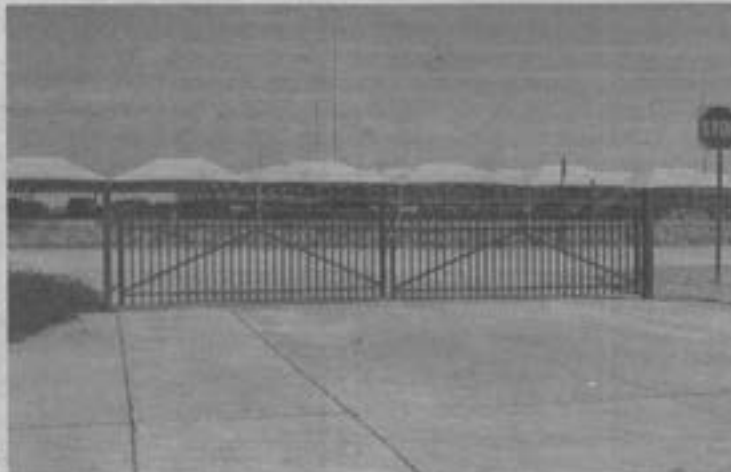
We stopped for lunch on the way at Austin's Seafood and Steakhouse on Highway 77 below Gadsden. The food was good and the portions were generous. We were seated quickly and they are quite able to accommodate large parties or a table for one.



Di Miller, Marilyn Gibson and Robbie Nelson are leaving Austin Seafood and Steakhouse after enjoying a delicious meal.

When our group returned to Fort Payne, we all agreed that this was one of the most fun trips we had taken in spite of a few glitches which were our fault. I learned of this trip from Second Baptist Church in Fort Payne. Their travelers also consider this to be one of their favorite trips.

Next month we are going to Booth Western Museum in Cartersville, GA. We will be eating at the Appalachian Grille in Cartersville.



Behind the fence, finished cars are ready for delivery.

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Linda Brown, Secretary

I wasn't able to attend the meeting on April 13, 2010 and I thank Barbara Blalock for taking notes for me to write from. This was the meeting set to clean and spruce up the Heritage Garden around the M.E.R.F. Community House. Ten ladies met at 10:00 a.m. to rake, pull weeds, prune and do other chores necessary in a successful garden.

When all were hot and tired, they met on the front porch for a delicious sack lunch of chicken salad sandwiches, an apple and brownies. Cold drinks and bottled water were available from a cooler filled with ice. This was the idea of Harriett Lillich and Marilyn Knight, who were the hostesses for the day. The sacks were decorated with stickers depicting the products of a garden.

After lunch, President Dianne Kuehl, called the meeting to order. Barbara Blalock presented the thought for the day by reading the club collect. This poem covers gardening in a few short lines. The regular reports were given and approved for filing. Horticulture Chairman, Martha Wood, brought plants which were left from the Federation Plant Sale. These went for a "steal." The plant sale was very successful. This is the source of money which the Federation uses to fund the VFW Flower Show in September.

Martha made a report of the recent Garden Club of Alabama, Inc. Convention. She stated that she filled the shoe box for a military person and carried it to the Convention to be delivered by the National Guard. Each club in the state was to bring one or more such boxes. They were filled with personal items which are not readily available to the men and women in military service.

Dianne thanked everyone who helped with the recent Home & Garden Show and the Plant Sale.

She made several announcements, one being a pick up of litter next week. This is a good time to remind everyone to pick up around you house and property. Let's all do our part to keep our yards and road sides litter free. Ten ladies who were very tired but had the feeling of a job well done journeyed home for a much needed rest.

The next meeting will be May 11, 2010. This will be a tour of Hydrangea Farm, also known as Snowflake Nursery in Sardis City, Alabama. Martha Aldridge is the owner and will guide the tour. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the M.E.R.F. Community House and car pool from there.

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

A Collect for Gardeners

We thank Thee, Gracious Father, that Thou hast given us a world so beautiful;
We thank Thee for green of grass and tree,
For radiant flowers, for song of bird and hum of bee; For sunny hours and life-giving showers;
For the sunset splendor, evening star, dewy night,
For springtime sowing, summer's growing, autumn's reaping, winter's rest. In return for these, thy manifold mercies,
Teach us, dear Master Gardener, to add beauty and gladness to thy world.
Let us, like the flowers we so lovingly tend, shed abroad the fragrance of a life of kindly deeds.

Give us sympathetic hearts and understanding minds, feet swift to run errands of mercy, hands quick to minister to other's need, and grant that when the winter of death is past, we may grow into perfect flowering in Thy Garden of Immortality.

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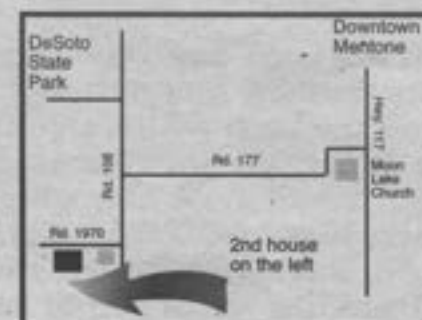
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KING DAVID (1063 B.C.—993 B.C.)

by John S. Whitaker

The sun was just beginning to peep over the Judean hills as a young man stood and surveyed the countryside below where his flock of 50 sheep were just beginning to move around. He was David, the youngest son of Jesse and Nahash (II Samuel 17:25). He thought of his seven brothers (Later one died.) (I Chronicles 2:13-14) and two sister (I Chronicles 2:16). David was proud of his family, his nation Israel, and the little village Bethlehem, Judah. (A second Bethlehem was in the tribe of Zebulun, much further north about 65-70 miles.) In the last four or five years he had learned every cliff and hollow and turn of these. In this terrain he saw God, and committed his thoughts in writing later and wrote them down, then he set music to some as he played his harp. Seventy-three psalms are attributed to David from the total of 150 in the book of Psalms, making him the sweet psalmist of his nation.

Also, David learned to use a sling. Using rocks in his sling almost as big as a baseball, he became a crack shot as he twirled the sling and stone over his head. He had had plenty of time to practice and thus became good, really good with his sling.

David was reflecting about some recent happenings in his life. Just a week ago the prophet Samuel anointed him to be the next king of Israel. Something spectacular happened as the oil touched his body: the Spirit of the Lord came upon David (i.e., anointed him). (See I Samuel 16:13.) And David had felt so different since the anointing: calm, trusting, confident, brave, almost heroic. **GOD WAS WITH HIM.**

Just then, David saw it: a lion had snatched a lamb from the flock. David felt like a superman; he bounded toward the lion and with strong arms broke the lion's jaws. No lion would devour his flock! No way! David felt strong from an inner source of strength. **GOD WAS WITH HIM.**

Then the next day, David saw a bear snatch a lamb from its mother. Again, David felt like Samson. He grabbed the bear by its chin in one hand, and the bear's upper jaw with his other hand, and quicker than the bear could swat him with its deadly paws, he broke its jaws. **GOD WAS WITH HIM.**

"David, David, where are you?" someone called. It was Ozem, the sixth son of Jesse.

"Over here," David replied.

Ozem told David to go home, as their father Jesse

had an errand for him.

At home, Jesse told David, "Son, take these three pecks of parched corn and these ten loaves to your brothers. Carry these ten cheeses to their captain. See how your brothers Eliab, Abinadab, and Shammah are faring. And be careful. The Philistines are a cruel enemy."

"Yes, Father, I shall," said David.

When David arrived at the camp, he gave his three brothers the goods from home. All of a sudden David saw a giant-of-a-man from the Philistine camp tromping across the valley. Then the giant shouted, "Send me a MAN to fight me. If he defeats me, we Philistines will be your servants. If I defeat him, you will serve us. You puny Hebrews!" All the Hebrew soldiers started running away, scared for their lives.,

But David didn't run, not even a step. He couldn't believe what he heard. This giant was defying the living God of the Hebrews; their god was Dagon, the god that looked like a man with a fish tail.

Someone told David the name of the giant. His name was Goliath, and he was 9 feet, 5 1/3 inches tall. He possessed the necessary accouterment for a soldier: bronze helmet, bronze coat of mail that weighed 207 pounds, large spear with a head weighing 25 pounds, bronze greaves to protect his legs, and a large sword. In addition, a soldier always walked in front of him and carried a large shield.

However, David was not afraid. He offered to fight Goliath, but what chance did a shepherd-boy have against a giant? David wasn't even six feet tall. But David had a weapon not possessed by Goliath: his faith in God. David saw Goliath's weak spot, his forehead and face. (Visors were developed later in the Middle Ages.) Placing a large stone in his sling, David ran toward the giant. David felt the same Spirit upon him that he had felt when he killed a bear and lion in their vain attempts to reduce the size of his flock. **GOD WAS**

Continued on page 11

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WITH HIM.

The stone flew from David's sling; Goliath fell forward. Watch out armour-bearer! Don't get in the path of the falling giant Then David ran forward, and with a final stroke of victory, hacked Goliath's head off his body. Pandemonium broke forth in the Philistine army—they ran for their lives as the Hebrew soldiers chased them back to their fortified cities, Ekron and Gath, some 15 to 20 miles distant.

David, maybe 19 or 20 years of age, was catapulted into great popularity with King Saul's army and the populace of Israel.

Soon David married Michal, Saul's youngest daughter. Saul became very jealous of the young hero, even though David was his son-in-law.

The next nine to ten years were years of running away from Saul to hide in the rugged countryside in and around the Dead Sea. David was magnanimous to his father-in-law, King Saul in this period. Twice David spared Saul's life: first, in a cave in the Wilderness of Engedii and second, in a trench in the Wilderness of Ziph.

In the fortieth year of his reign, King Saul and his three sons, Jonathan, Abinadab, and Melchishua, were slain in battle by the Philistines. (I Samuel 31). Saul had been wounded in the battle and then deliberately fell on the blade of his own sword. Indeed, it was a sad, sad day.

David became king over all his own tribe, Judah. Going to Hebron, he made this town his capital. He was 30 years of age (II Samuel 5:4). He held this position of partial-king for 7 1/2 years (II Samuel 5:5). **GOD WAS WITH HIM.**

The next step occurred in David's life when all the tribes of Israel came to him and anointed him king of all the tribes (II Samuel 5:3). This position was held for thirtythree years.

One of the first things the new king did was to make Jerusalem his capital city. Then David and his army

fought and defeated the surrounding nations. **GOD WAS WITH HIM. I**

The low point of David's reign occurred when he took Bathsheba, Uriah's wife, and committed adultery with her. Then, to add to his sin, David had Uriah killed in battle. How could the man "after God's own heart" do these things? One solution is that if David had been in battle, rather than tarrying in Jerusalem, he wouldn't have seen Bathsheba (II Samuel 11:1,2). However, I think the solution can be found in earlier actions of David: "And David took him more concubines and wives out of Jerusalem, after he was come from Hebron" (II Samuel 5:13a). Of course, David was human and we, like David find ourselves weak spiritually when we fail to pray, read our Bible, or attend church. This story of David is not complete until we read Psalm 51, the backslider's prayer. What a prayer for forgiveness!

David accomplished much in his reign:

1) he brought his nation together by setting up a new capital in Jerusalem;

2) he was a red-blooded warrior and gained many victories for his army;

3) he left a massive fortune to aid Solomon in building the temple;

4) he strengthened the worship in the temple by setting up courses of services for the Levites and also for the singers;

5) he left the beautiful Psalms to strengthen our faith in God.

"So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David" (I Kings 2:10).

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-Nathaniel Ledbetter

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April 20, 2010

DEKALB COUNTY'S MOON LAKE CLUB ADDED TO ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Moon Lake Club in Mentone to the Alabama Register of Landmarks & Heritage.

The Alabama Register is a prestigious listing of historic, architectural, and archaeological landmarks. The AHC considers the notable historic properties in this register to be particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition.

"Moon Lake Club is a wonderful example of a resort style private community with architectural and historical significance," said Lee Anne Wofford of the Alabama Historical Commission.

According to Holley Midgley who submitted the nomination, John Mason, known as the founder of Mentone, owned property around the Moon Lake district since 1875. In 1945, five Gadsden, Alabama businessmen and their families incorporated Moon Lake Club. Moon Lake Club consists of 88 heavily wooded acres with a 7.5 acre lake in the middle and is bordered on the west by almost 1/2 mile of the scenic Little River. His son, Ed Mason, operated a saw and grist mill at Moon Lake. The ruins of this early history is still evident today.

The Alabama Historical Commission administers the Alabama Register program, which gives the public a simple way to bring recognition to historic properties.

The Alabama Register officially recognizes and honors buildings, sites, structures, objects, and historic districts that are at least 40 years old.

The Alabama Register designation is honorary and carries no restrictions on property and offers no financial incentives.

To protect, preserve, and interpret Alabama's historic places is the mission of the Alabama Historical Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office.

Indian Wisdom...

My grandfather, Wilson Riley, was part Indian.

He said the way the Cherokees detected the presence of the dreaded copperhead was by its smell: it smelled like a rotten apple.

The 10 Indian Commandments

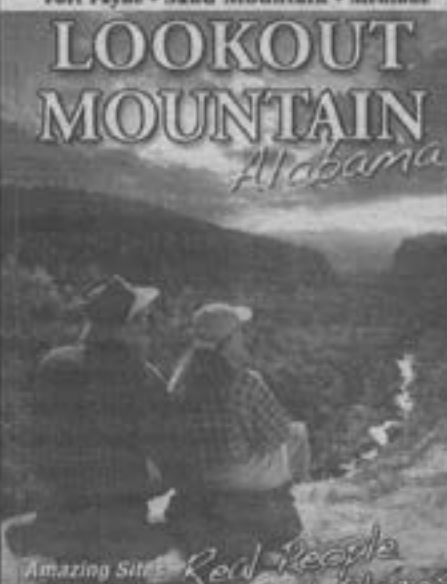
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3. Give assistance and kindness where needed.
4. Be truthful and honest at all times.
5. Do what you know to be right.
6. Look after the well being of mind and body.
7. Treat the earth and all that dwell thereon with respect.
8. Take full responsibility for your actions.
9. Dedicate a share of your efforts to the greater good.
10. Work together for the good of all mankind.

Submitted by John Whitaker

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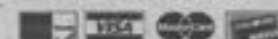
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I am the vine, you are the branches... without me you can do nothing. John 15:5

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



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY is found in this log cabin. Featuring 2BR/1BA on main floor, L-shaped living/dining/kitchen combo with wood flooring throughout. Upstairs has 2 sleeping areas and bath with unique footed maids tub. Cozy front and back porches. This cabin is sold turn key. Make your appointment today. \$229,000 (18871)



LOOKING FOR A MOUNTAIN GET-A-WAY? 3BR/1BA home just minutes from Mentone. Completely remodeled, this home is move-in ready! New kitchen appliances include range, refrigerator, microwave, and washer/dryer. Updated wiring, new CH&A, fresh interior paint, and rock FP. On two lots with a covered back deck, mature trees and outbuilding. \$89,900 (17931)



MOVE UP TO RIVERFRONT! Get an open and airy feeling throughout this 3BR/3.5BA home. Features include an oversized state-of-the-art kitchen with eating area, stone FP, wood and tile floors, oversized back porch and boat dock. Appealing landscaping with large native stones. Many windows to soak up the views. A must see for \$495,000. (17781)



IN-TOWN PRIVACY! Sit on the screened porch of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath cottage and listen to the squirrels play. Completely remodeled kitchen and only a short distance from downtown Mentone. \$129,900 (19082)



THIS WARM & COZY 2 bedroom, 2 bath cabin nestled in the woods offers seclusion, privacy & tranquility in an artful setting. Some features include gorgeous pine wood floors, wood burning fireplace, vaulted ceilings with exposed beams & a covered front and back porch. \$174,900 (19524)



SPECTACULAR VIEWS!! You will call it home when you walk in! Classic Mentone Brow house, c.1955, situated on a beautiful wooded lot...Great room, gourmet kitchen, custom cabinetry, granite countertops, vaulted ceilings, wood floors, FP... Large deck... Guest House... basement workshop... all you've wanted in a Mountain home. \$386,000 (19460)



WEEKEND RETREAT OR PERMANENT RESIDENCE! 2BR/2BA cabin located off DeSoto Pkwy near Mentone. Kitchen/Dining combo with Oak cabinets, eat-in bar and all appliances. Owner's bath also has a free-standing fireplace. Wrap-around deck and walk-out balcony on a nice wooded lot. \$159,900 (19835)



BREATHTAKING VIEW! You can enjoy the view year round from this one-level brick home. Features 3BR/2BA, living and dining combination, wood burning fireplace, spacious kitchen with breakfast bar, sunroom and large deck for entertaining or to enjoy the spectacular view. \$450,000 (17082)



HANDCRAFTED woodwork is found throughout this 2BR/2BA mountain home. Features include a great room with cathedral ceiling, full front and back porch, large utility room all situated on a wooded lot. Located in Laurel Creek Lakes with access to 3 lakes and walking trails. Call today for your viewing. \$184,500 (19135)



COME SEE THIS BROW LOT in Mentone featuring a unique log structure that you can use to get-away from it all. The log structure has been moved to this site and offers an open living space with 1 bedroom and a bath. You'll have plenty of acreage to build something new or just enjoy the atmosphere of days gone by. \$279,900 (18256)



NATIVE MOUNTAIN FOLIAGE creates a level of privacy for this 3 BR/ 2BA brick house overlooking the West Fork of Little River from the back yard. Split BR design, large family room with cathedral ceiling and mountain stone wood-burning fireplace, screened porch, 2 storage sheds, (1 with electricity), an attached 2-car garage and CH&A. \$219,000 (16371)



LIVE AND PLAY ON THE WATER! Enjoy 200' of frontage on the East Fork of Little River in this waterfront home featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, rock floors as well as some carpet, all appliances, wood burning fireplace, and storage building. Call for more details. \$347,900 (18278)



LIVE ON THE WATERS EDGE in this custom built log cabin. Features include 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, spacious great room with cathedral ceilings, hickory floors and oversized windows, large utility room, 2-car garage and fishing dock situated on 2 lots. Set up your appointment today! \$229,000 (18898)



CABIN AND FURNISHINGS! This almost new 1 bedroom, 1 bath frame cabin has 640 sq. ft. and features a rock fireplace and foundation, wood floors and walls, central heat and air, front and back porches and sits on 1.19 acres. \$132,500 (18990)

PRISTINE RIVER LOT with 150' +/- frontage. \$195,000 (17782)

3 +/- ACRES on the E. Fork of Little River. \$150,000 (17568)

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

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

OAKWOOD SD - Great building lot offering 3.5 +/- ac. with possible owner-finance or trade to qualified buyer. Mild restrictions. \$29,900 (18770)

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

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

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

MENTONE - Minutes from Downtown Mentone and DeSoto State Park! Foundation already on property with paved road frontage and city water. 4.55 acres. \$59,900 (18989)

WATERFRONT LOT IN RESTRICTED LAKE

ON THE BROW COMMUNITY! 104 feet of acre lot in West Fork Subdivision in water frontage! Mild Restrictions in File. Mentone. Call for all the details. \$52,500 (19183)

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

WATERFRONT LOT AWAITS YOU!! 3.06

8 +/- ACRES. No restrictions. Pond on property. \$49,900 (16393)

BUILD YOUR CABIN HERE on this beautiful, wooded level lot located in a restricted subdivision near downtown Mentone. \$39,900 (19426)

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Fried Bologna Sandwich\$2.95
(Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles)

Ham or Turkey Sub\$2.95
(Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles)

Chicken Salad Sandwich\$2.95
(Lettuce & Tomato)

Salads
(Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Black Olives, Salad Peppers, Bell Peppers, Bacon, & Cheese)

Fried Chicken Salad\$4.50

Grilled Chicken Salad\$4.50

Chicken Salad Salad\$4.50

Tossed Salad\$3.50
(Dressings: Ranch, French, Thousand Isls, Italian, Honey Mustard)

BBQ Pork Sandwich\$3.00
(Pickles)

Chicken Strips(3)\$3.55
(Honey Mustard/Ranch/BBQ)

Hot Dog\$1.65
(Kraut/ Slaw/Onion/Relish)

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(Tartar-or-Cocktail sauce & Hushpuppy)

Fried Catfish Strips(4)\$3.55
(Tartar sauce & Hushpuppy)

Sides

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Onion Rings\$1.85

Cheese Sticks (6)\$2.95

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LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN! 4BR/2.5BA, Brick/vinyl situated on a one acre level lot, split bedroom design, ceramic tile and hardwood floors, 9' ceilings, and a 3 car garage! Only \$174,900! (19858)



BEAUTIFUL BLUFF VIEWS from the Perfect place to build your new home. See massive towering rock cliffs on one side and views overlooking town on the other. Lots start at \$55,000 (15742)



GREAT LOCATION For Horses! Pick a winner with this custom 4BR/3+BA mountain-view brick Traditional-style on a lovely rural site on 40 acres. Private drive, 2 fireplaces, inviting pool. Gorgeous Views! Ponds! Fenced! \$649,900. (19605)



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BUILD your own cabin on this beautiful 3 acre tract. Property has been perked and partially cleared. Underground utilities, water & phone are available. Driveway is already in place! \$45,900 (17195)

Mountain Herbalist:

Spring Flowers for the Soul, the Supper Table or Medicine

By L.C. Moon

I am so excited to feel the sunshine, see all the spring flowers and watch the leaves sprout their beautiful spring green color. Lots of rain and sunshine have blessed us this spring, raising our water levels and sending the botanicals into a blooming frenzy!

All of nature awakening is exciting me! The layers of green cascading across the landscape throughout April are reminiscent of the colors of fall. Rather than a falling away of the color as in the fall, the spring is a deepening of color and an explosion of blooms.

Driving up the mountain in April you see edible blooms of the redbuds within the first week, dogwoods following during the second week with wisteria not be far behind trailing through the canopy. Along the river and roadsides you will see wild azaleas and many varieties of edible violet blooms. As you read this article in May, you may have missed some of the early spring blooms; though May is equally as brilliant.

Along the water's edge, your soul can be fed by the relaxing sounds of the Little River and the majestic beauty of the immense mountain laurel and rhododendron blooms during the month of May. The rhododendrons and mountain laurels are the most well known showy blooms on the mountain and a favorite of many. Normally I write about how the plants can be used as medicine or food- though for these Bay relatives, it is important to only let them be food for the soul. They are both very toxic. Native Americans knew mountain laurel as the suicide plant.

When it comes to edible plants, Lookout Mountain is abundant! There are many blooms which bless us in the spring and in turn bless us with fruits in the summer. For instance the paw paw, blackberry, dewberry, blueberry and elderberry add to the early spring color and the anticipation of the wild summer fruits.

Wild fruits are a perfect survival food, luxury food for foraging as well as having medicinal uses. Berries- as many know- are filled with antioxidants. Muscadine, while it does not have a very showy bloom, has some of the highest antioxidant properties of any berry.

Elderberry blooms can be used as fritters when battered and fried. They are a great remedy to prevent or treat a virus. I have also had a lot of luck with elderberry for coughs. Jellies, jams and wine can also be made from the berries.

Blueberries & huckleberries are great for people with diabetes or urinary tract infections. For a urinary tract infection you should eat the fruits to treat or prevent an infection the same way as you would ingest cranberries; both cranberries and blueberries create an environment in the bladder that prevents the growth of the bacteria. However, you choose to eat the berries or drink a

tea of the leaves if to aid in treating diabetes.

The native paw paw is a small edible fruit, if you can get it before the raccoons! Paw paw has a custard flavored flesh. After you eat the flesh, you can grind the large poisonous seed into a powder for an insecticide. In the early times it was used to rid lice problems, and yes, the seed is also poisonous to humans.

From berries to blooms and greens Lookout Mountain nourishes us. Ox eye daisies and red clover are showy edible and medicinal plants standing beautiful along the roadsides and in fields. The red clover blooms can be used to help create beautiful skin and heal skin rash. It is known to help cleanse the blood and body of toxins. Red clover is good for PMS and menopausal symptoms; reducing hot flashes and risk of osteoporosis. It has been said that red clover can reduce LDL (bad cholesterol). The leaves of red clover, the sweet tasting leaves of ox eye daisy, corn salad (Valerianella), lamb's quarter (Chenopodium), watercress and chickweed are all native greens which can all be added to mixed greens to create a nourishing, unique, beautiful and flavorful salad.

Chickweed can also be added to teas. It is a wonderful plant to remember during the spring and fall to help with pollen reactions. I blend a tea of it for allergies. It is hard to believe for some that a simple herb tea can do so much to help end their pollen misery. God's miracles are many! I give thanks for God providing these wonder"full" botanicals to nourish and help heal our woes.

The spring is a treasure trove of botanical blessings on Lookout Mountain. There are so many blooms and botanicals sprouting life under foot and over head that I could write a book- and so I am. It is a guide to the native plants and herbs I most commonly use; the book is entitled Moon's Medicine Chest. For now you will have to catch my articles online and in the Groundhog while I finish my book, Experiencing Life Barefoot.

I look forward to sharing more information throughout the year. If you would like to do a guided plant walk, I will be leading free walks "Wildflower Saturday" at DeSoto State Park the first weekend in May- thanks to naturalist Brittany Hughes. I have been asked to do more free walks at DeSoto State Park though no dates have yet been set.

I will be doing private walks/workshops if anyone is interest in a more in depth look at the plants up close and personal. I also offer plant walks at your home or property to identify what you have available on your land. Call me at (256) 634-0066 and ask for "Moon" before 11 AM or between 2 PM & 4 PM any day of the week or email me at LCMoon03@aol.com. I hope the plants bless you as much as they are me though it is wise for me to tell you to consult your health care provider before making any changes to your health care regimen.

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EAST BROW COTTAGE. Behold the spectacular view of Lake Weiss in the distance, from the timbertech deck, and Wall of Windows inside the Open Great Room. 2BR/2BA with heated tiled floors. Maple flooring and cabinets. HVAC & fully equipped kitchen with eat in bar. Amenities galore in this maintenance free vinyl sided Cottage on 5 acres. \$239,000 (19714)



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



NICELY WOODED 5 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway with Stream. Can be Residential or Commercial. Land has old homesite and green house. Large Rock formations. Possibilities are Endless! \$135,000 (19419)



EAST FORK OF LITTLE RIVER. 5.4 acres partially cleared. 200ft on River. Secluded with private road access. Scenic with rapids and pools. \$129,900. (19673)



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



FLAT LANDING EAST FORK. 3 acres with over 250 ft on the River. High wooded bluffs to view the water below. Enjoy the coolness of a mountain swim. \$120,000 (18776)



MUCH SOUGHT AFTER West Fork deep water. 1 mile upstream from Desoto Falls. Build your dock and gazebo and bring your boat or canoe to cruise on the river. Great recreational lot. \$39,000 (19164)



CREEKSIDE ON LOOKOUT, CLOUDLAND, GA. Breathtaking 2.6 acres with 500 ft on the East brow. Watch the sun and moon rise over Shinnel Valley below. Wooded. Secluded, and Located in a gated community on scenic Lookout Mtn Parkway. \$179,000. (19708)



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



THE DRIVEWAY HAS BEEN STARTED to build your Mentone getaway! 5.7 wooded acres across from Lake Lahusage. Paved road frontage, city water available, perc tested. Lightly restricted. \$58,900 (19865)



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ENCHANTING COTTAGE. Located in Laurel Creek Lakes. Access to 3 lakes for fishing & canoeing. Cypress sided 2BR/2BA with Stack Log and Stone FP. Screened porch & Grilling deck. 1.4 acres \$164,000. (19676)



WALK TO MENTONE FROM THIS COZY COTTAGE! Enjoy the sunsets from the screened porch. 2BR, 1BA. Completely furnished. Great for weekend getaway or home. REDUCED TO \$150,000 (18891)



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



WOODED 13 ACRES on the East Fork Little river, 330 ft of water frontage and a stream that meanders through the land. partial drive, privately located. A must see priced \$195,000.



BEST KEPT SECRET ON LITTLE RIVER. 4.6 acres with over 600 ft on the river. Main Cabin - Log with 3BR/2BA, LR/DR combo. Rock FP. 3/4 wrap-around porch. The second is a Unique Stone Bungalow with Mtn Stone facing. Stone FP w/gas logs, LR, an old world Stone baking oven and grill. Sleeping loft. All sold furnished. Must See to appreciate. \$499,000 (18936)



TRADITIONAL HAND-HEWN, DOVETAIL CORNERED APPALACHIAN STYLE LOG HOME. Quality craftsmanship, old style time-honored techniques are featured in this 2BR/2.5BA home. Open vaulted ceiling with open beam construction. LR/DR/KI combo. Stacked stone wood burning FP. 3/4 wrap-around covered porch. Must see to appreciate. \$239,000 (19564)



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

Mentone Annual Community Clean-Up was a Great Success

Dedicated to Virginia Setze for her tireless service to the clean-up of Mentone!

By L.C. Moon

Thank you to the thirty five (35) volunteers who met at the Mentone Inn to help make our roadsides beautiful! The volunteers picked up 134 bags of garbage and assorted pieces of trash large and small. The community is gorgeous and clean just in time for the flowers to bloom.

After the clean-up, the volunteers were treated to lunch on the pavilion of the Mentone Inn. Several businesses and locals joined together to cater a feast for the hard workers who braved the roadsides. While the volunteers feasted, Carl "Crittter" Orand entertained them with his skillful violin/fiddle skills.

Each person who contributes to cleaning up the garbage along our roadsides definitely does a grand service for the community! Join in today and help keep Mentone beautiful!

Business Sponsors of the Clean Up:

BJ's #2 & BJ's #8 from Cloudland, GA
 Body Maintenance Massage - Boy Scout Troop 106
 Bruce's Foodland - Camp Laney - DeKalb County Prisoners Work Crew
 Ecological Designs - Little River Hardware - Lookout Mountain Heritage Alliance
 Mentone Inn - Mentone Market - Mentone Realty
 One World Adventure - Town of Mentone - Wal-Mart
 Wildflower Café & Country Store - Windwood Farms Restaurant



The Daffodils Around The Mentone Community House Sign Are Planted In Memory Of Betty Jo Johnson, Member Of Rhododendron Garden Club And President For The Terms Of 1972-1974 And 1987-1989



Pictured Are: Sarah Wilcox, Chairman Of Mentone Educational And Resources Foundation Board Of Directors And Dianne Kuehl, President Of Rhododendron Garden Club Of Mentone, Alabama

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Decoration Day At Whitehall Cemetery

The Annual Decoration Day Celebration at Whitehall Cemetery in the Valley Head-Hammondville-Ft. Payne, Alabama community will be Saturday, May 8, 2010.

All family, friends and supporters of Whitehall Cemetery are invited. Activities include Flower Decoration at 10:00 a.m.; Decoration Service at 11:00 a.m.; and dinner on the grounds afterward.

There's plenty to eat and all Whitehall friends are encouraged to stay for dinner. Everyone please remember your lawn chairs or folding chairs, and bring some extra ones if you can.

Whitehall Cemetery is on Whitehall Lane, NW (CR 750) off U.S. 11, approximately 3 miles south of Hammondville, Alabama, and about 5 miles north of Ft. Payne from the I-59 north exit.

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The 27th Annual Rhododendron Festival This Month

By Charlotte Gentry

Our mountain takes on a bright new mantle of color in the springtime when the wildflowers are in bloom. One of its showiest blossoms is also the namesake of our spring arts and crafts festival here in Mentone, sponsored by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA). The Rhododendron Festival, held annually on the 3rd weekend in May, will take place May 14th through 16th this year.

Happily, the organizers of this year's festival are bringing the Friday night music and bonfire back to the Square. Last year the bonfire had been moved to the Brow Park area of Mentone. The change of venue just didn't seem to feel the same, and the folks at MAPA decided to bring the opening celebration back to where it all began—in the heart of Mentone next door to the Hitching Post on the grounds of the Mentone Inn.

Folks have been coming to Mentone year after year to renew acquaintances around the bonfire, catching up on the happenings in each others' lives and reliving memories

of past festival weekends. For some, this is the best part of the festival and what they've been looking forward to since the last one faded along with the rhododendron's blooms.

Walking around the area of the square on the first night of the festival one may meet people from all over the Southeast who make the yearly sojourn. Many of them remember the early years of the festival when Mrs. Bernise Crow devoted herself to much of the organization of the event and made it a splendid time, indeed, for all ages. Children listened to storytelling and singing, then ran to play in the grassy areas near St. Joseph's Episcopal Church while their parents and grandparents gathered closer to the bonfire for warmth.

Mrs. Bernise is, sadly, gone now and some things about the festival have changed. But one thing remains the same: it is a celebration of the mountain, its natural beauty and rich heritage. There are skilled artisans who come to demonstrate various arts and crafts. There is the drawing for a beautiful hand-made quilt. There are the assorted food vendors tempting festival goers with everything from good ole pinto beans and cornbread to more exotic fare



such as deep-fried Oreos.

And music. Always music. What would a mountain festival be without the rich sounds of music echoing through the air? Friday night will kick off the event with the sounds of the *Midnight Rounders* from 6:30 till 9:00 p.m. Saturday will feature various musical acts throughout the day at the brow park pavilion.

Hours for festival events

and the arts & crafts will be 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday; 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Vendor Registration will be available until the day the festival begins, but most veterans of the festival know they'd better get their booth space early so as not to lose that prime spot near Brow Park. Applications may be downloaded at MAPA's website (www.mentoneareapreservationassociation.com). For more information about the festival, please contact J.P. Nation at (256) 634-8245; Carole Killian at (256) 638-7709; Pam & Dewey Crow at (256) 634-8023; or Gerald Bailey at (256) 634-4645.

We hope to see you on the mountain at the Rhododendron Festival! And, thank you for shopping locally.

(Charlotte Gentry looks forward to the festival as a member of MAPA, a freelance writer and owner/broker of Mentone Realty)

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