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THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

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Volume 24, No. 9

"Neighborly "News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

September 2006

By Evelyn Graves

Remembering A Special Lady

Bonnie Bernise Cooper was born September 1, 1925, at Rising Fawn, Georgia. She had two younger sisters, Paulette, who passed away at five years of age, and Imogene who was later known as Jean. She, too, has now passed away. She had a half-brother, Don Castleberry, also deceased.

Bernise fought a hard battle with cancer, but she never despaired. I had a nice visit with her at the beauty shop only two weeks before her death. She did not allow the disease to rob her of the beautiful smile that was so much a part of her radiant personality. She demonstrated to all of us that we can be beautiful even in death. God, in His infinite wisdom, saw fit to relieve her of the pain she was suffering on August 12, when He took her home to be with Him.

Bernise is survived by her husband, Homer Crow, sons Barry and Coy, and daughter, Doreen Waters. She had six grandchildren and one great-grandson. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Joyce Cooper and her granddaughter, Jennifer Crow Pullen.

To say that Bernise loved her family is definitely an understatement. She had suffered many hardships in her own life as a child and young adult, beginning with the loss of a little sister, the divorce of her parents when she was twelve, and the necessity of being shifted from one place to another--with her father for awhile, with grandparents for a period of time, with her mother for a period of time, and finally when the family moved to Mentone, she was a teen-ager, and she was able to work for various people to make some much-needed money and send herself through high school. All of these hardships, no doubt, helped to mold her life and make her the truly extraordinary person that she was, and it caused her to appreciate the good family life that she enjoyed with her husband, Homer, and their children.

I can remember Bernise as a young woman when she and her sister, Jean, would sing at various gatherings. Bernise played the guitar, and Jean played the mandolin. The most vivid recollections I have of her singing are when she sang in a quartet with her father-in-law, Lee Crow. He



**Bernise Cooper Crow
1925-2006**

was a wonderful man, and it was obvious that he was very proud of Bernise. Other members of the quartet were Louie Cash and Kelly O'Rear.

Bernise always enjoyed the Crow reunion when all of Homer's family would get together. She looked forward to those times, and she always made a lot of pictures. I am sure that Homer's family compensated for the family life she was denied earlier in her life.

Bernise was a wonderful wife and mother, and she was always active in school, church, and community affairs. She taught at Moon Lake School one year before the family moved to Chattanooga. She always had a strong devotion to Mentone, and this is where she and Homer returned for their retirement. She was active in and held offices in the Lookout Mountain Parkway Association, Mentone Heritage Foundation, Mentone Area Preservation Association, Rhododendron Garden Club, St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, and she always sang

in the Community Christmas Cantata.

Bernise was talented in many different areas. She owned and operated "Crow's Nest", which she loved. She has beautifully and tastefully decorated her own home, which reflects much of her personality. She was an avid reader, and her library is indicative of her love for books.

It was Bernise's dream that someday a museum would be built in Mentone. She had collected various things to place in the museum, and it is our hope that someone may share her dream, and that it may yet come to be a reality.

Bernise kept daily journals of her life, and I have read parts of them. They are so well written and interesting that her family is willing to share these with *The Groundhog*. She was one of the founders of *The Groundhog*, which was established in 1982, and she was a strong supporter of the newspaper. Everyone enjoyed her column, "Country Journal", and many people have remarked to me that they will really miss her column. We will print a segment of her journals each month in the space where her article always appeared, and I am sure that you, too, will enjoy reading it, and it will keep her memory alive in our hearts.

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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.

THE GROUNDHOG STAFF

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MAPA OFFICERS

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Vice President..... Dot Crow
Secretary..... Marie S. Dillenbeck
Treasurer Leroy Crowe
Parliamentarian.....Bernise Crow
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In case of errors in advertisements, The Groundhog assumes liability only for the actual space that is incorrect in the advertisement. Call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390 for advertising.

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

The DEADLINE for all material for The Groundhog is the 20TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.

MAPA MEETING

August 1, 2006

President Dessie Brown called the meeting to order. Leroy Crowe gave the opening prayer. Present were Dessie Brown, Dot Crow, Marie Dillenbeck, Leroy Crowe, Joanne Crowe, Lucille Crowe, Ann and Wesley Chesnut, and Claudia Wassom. The last meeting was the picnic at Brow Park on July 11th.

Leroy Crowe gave the treasurer's report and the final festival report.

Dessie talked about the upcoming October Colorfest and the need to get out letters to the vendors and letters to the members regarding the quilt to be raffled off on Sunday, October 22nd. The absence of many members lead to a discussion regarding how to encourage them to come to the meetings and get involved in the MAPA committees and on-going projects. One suggestion was a telephone committee to call the members reminding them of the meetings on the 1st Tuesday of each month. With the festival on the third weekend of October, October 21 and 22, the need is great to get members to be preparing for this event.



Ann Chesnut stated that the Rhododendron Garden Club has a program to distribute information regarding the clear cutting of property with no thought to saving native plants. She suggested that possibly MAPA would look into this matter as a preservation project. The club is printing brochures to be distributed to all the realtors in this area.

Dessie announced that the MAPA bulletin board at the post office was in the process of being rebuilt.

Several matters regarding Brow Park were mentioned as needing to be repaired and checked out before the next festival. Dot Crow made a motion to get the items fixed and Ann Chesnut seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Wesley Chesnut made a motion to adjourn to have refreshments, and Dot Crow seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, September 5, at 7PM at Dessie's on AL Hwy 117.

Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in the meeting and enjoy the refreshments.



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.

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The Groundhog

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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

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.

Angela J. Wood

Owner and AL/GA Broker

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(1) MENTONE LIVING, Historical Martha Berry Home in downtown. This is a unique 6 bedroom 7 bath home. Four fireplaces, dining room, 2 living areas, and two Large Relaxing Porches. This home also features a recently remodeled Kitchen, and a Hot Tub with Wood Deck, fully furnished on 1.3 acres with Native Foliage. Much more amenities. \$375,000. Check out photos on www.mentoneliving.com.



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



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



(4) 5.7 ACRES WITH A VIEW OF LAKE LAHUSAGE. Driveway and partially cleared for Homesite. Paved road and city water available. \$58,000. (PLS 15068)



(5) MINI FARM IN MENTONE. 9.25 acres, includes 1 bdrm cottage, garage, Garden Area, Large Shade Trees, City Water, Paved Rd Frontage. \$135,000 More acreage available. (PLS #13989)



(6) CUSTOM BUILT CHALET STYLE COTTAGE, large wrap-around porch with woodland views and sunset vistas. 2Bdrm, 2 Bath, Open Great Room with 19ft. Rock Fireplace. Tung and Groove walls and Ceilings. Much more, all on 3.25 private acres. \$209,000. (PLS #15131)



(7) WILD RIVER COMMUNITY, (1 tract left) 220x300 on the East Fork Little River. Secluded and Scenic, with pools and rapids. \$60,000. PLS #10250

OTHER PROPERTIES

(8) BLUFF LOT IN MENTONE: approximately 1 acre, surveyed and perked. City water available, paved road frontage, rock formations. \$125,000. (PLS #15323)

(9) MENTONE LIVING: Historical Martha Berry home in downtown. This unique 6 bedroom 7 bath Home. Four fireplaces, Dining Room, 2 living areas, and two Large Relaxing Porches. This home also features a recently remodeled Kitchen and a Hot Tub with Wood Deck. Fully Furnished on 1.3 acres with Native Foliage. Much more amenities. \$375,000 Check out photos on www.mentoneliving.com (PLS# 15059)

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

(11) VALLEY VIEW FOREST: 7.3 acres on the East Brow of Lookout Mountain. Private, wooded and adjoins Wild Life Management and Little River Canyon just minutes away. \$85,000. (PLS #15117)

SOLD

"THE SETTLEMENT AT MONK'S COVE"

(1) THE RETREAT CABIN: One bedroom, 1.5 baths, stacked rock fireplace, wood floors throughout. Rough cut siding, CH/A, screened porch and covered grilling deck. \$89,900 (PLS# 15317)



(3) THE CHURCH IN THE WILD: WOOD features 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, wood-burning fireplace 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 its copper steeple. \$179,900 (PLS #15321)



(2) 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 (PLS #15322)



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

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

Subject: AADD-Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder

email of August 8, 2006, to ERGraves from Lora Pendergrass

Recently, I was diagnosed with A. A. A. D. D. - Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder.

This is how it manifests:

I decide to water my garden. As I turn on the hose in the driveway, I look over at my car and decide my car needs washing. As I start toward the garage, I notice that there is mail on the porch table that I brought up from the mailbox earlier. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car.

I lay my car keys down on the table, put the junk mail in the garbage can under the table, and notice that the can is full. So, I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the garbage first.

But then I think, since I'm going to be near the mailbox when I take out the garbage anyway, I may as well pay the bills first. I take my checkbook off the table, and see that there is only one check left.

My extra checks are in my desk in the study, so I go inside the house to my desk, where I find the can of Coke that I had been drinking. I'm going to look for my checks, but first I need to push the Coke aside so that I don't accidentally knock it over. I realize the Coke is getting warm, and I decide I should put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold.

As I head toward the kitchen with the Coke, a vase of flowers on the counter catches my eye--they need to be watered. I set the Coke down on the counter, and I discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning. I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers.

I set the glasses back down on the counter, fill a container with water, and suddenly I spot the TV remote. Someone left it on the kitchen table. I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV, I will be looking for the remote, but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back in the den where it belongs, but first I'll water the flowers. I pour some water in the flowers, but quite a bit of it spills on the floor.

So, I set the remote back down on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill. Then, I head down the hall trying to remember what I was planning to do. At the end of the day:

- the driveway is flooded;
- the car isn't washed;
- the bills aren't paid;
- there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter;
- there is still only one check in my check book;
- I can't find the remote;
- I can't find my glasses;
- and I don't remember what I did with the car keys.

Then, when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled, because I know I was busy all day long, and I'm really tired. I realize this is a serious problem, and I'll try to get some help for it, but first I'll check my e-mail. Do me a favor, will you? Forward this message to everyone you know, because I don't remember who I have sent it to.

Don't laugh--if this isn't you yet, your day is coming!

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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 (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM and Sunday School at 9AM. Steve Schrader, Pastor - 845-4314. All are welcome.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10AM, Worship Service at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30PM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 from 10-11AM throughout the summer. No evening services except for the youth. Wednesday evening services remain at 6:30PM.

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.

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 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 5:00PM. 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.

Fall Revival
Moon Lake Baptist Church
September 10th-14th
Rev. Anthony Barnes Preaching
Sunday Services 11AM and 6PM
Monday-Wednesday Services 6:30PM
Special Music Every Night.

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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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Senator Lowell Barron presented a donation to the Mentone Educational Resources Foundation at the Mentone Town Meeting on Monday, July 24. MERF provides volunteer services in the Mentone community including senior lunches, tutors for Moon Lake Elementary students, an annual health fair, a walking track and a community house for public meetings. They also help provide an art teacher, a music teacher and a Spanish teacher every year for Moon Lake Elementary students. Pictured above: Rob Hammond, Mayor of Mentone; Sarah Wilcox, President of MERF; Senator Barron; and Dorma Hutcheson, MERF Board Member.

Holistic Health Faire at Heartwood Retreat Center October 14th and 15th A Call for Teachers, Healers, Artists, and Vendors

By Kregg Wilhite and Nancy
Cammack

There are many people who come to the Mentone area for Lookout Mountain's rejuvenating energy. A sense of healing and well-being is a common feeling for visitors and residents. Following the tradition of the healing Mentone Springs, there are now many individuals who offer holistic health practices in our area.

Last spring, many of these people participated in the Open House at Heartwood. The excitement and success of this event was the inspiration for the larger, upcoming Holistic Health Faire, which is still in the planning stages.

The Faire is an opportunity to connect with the many people in our area who want to share their services or products with others. Healers, artists, teachers, and vendors will have displays and do presentations. If you are a health practitioner, teacher, or artist, or have holistic products or a retreat center you would like to promote, you are invited to participate in this event. Space for tents or booths is available.

A healthy, balanced life includes fun and community celebration. Among the plans are activities for children and teenagers, music on Saturday night, vending booths, food, and excursions to local places of interest. People from Chattanooga, Birmingham, Huntsville, Rome and surrounding areas will also be participating.

If you would like to share your gifts at the Faire, information is available at www.heartwoodsanctuary.com or by contacting Cathy Haven Howard at 256-634-0503.

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Alma Ruth Biddle Crabtree
May 15, 1906 - August 5, 2006

Alma Crabtree enjoyed 100 years of productive living, taking care of her family, serving the Lord, and being the kind of neighbor that everyone loved. She had a wonderful attitude toward life and stayed busy doing good things.

Mrs. Crabtree was a pioneer in church life. She organized a Sunday School at the church where she was a member on Sand Mountain. She had a passion to see children learn about the Bible, and she ordered literature and began the first Sunday School in that church. It was quite successful under her leadership.

Alma and her family - husband Jesse, daughters Rovene and Dorothy, and son Jesse, moved to Mentone many years ago, and they enrolled in church at the Moon Lake Baptist Church right away. She was always active in this church and community, and will be missed by all who knew her.

Alma passed away on August 5, 2006, leaving behind a son, Jesse, a daughter, Dorothy Callahan, a brother, Archie Biddle, and a sister, Laura Mae Clark. She is also survived by a granddaughter, Angela Anderson, and a grandson, Jay Wideman. She leaves one great-granddaughter, Chasidy Brown, and one great-grandson, Rusty Mallard. She was preceded in death by her husband, J. J. Crabtree, and her daughter, Rovene Wideman.

Alma was happy living here with her family, but she looked forward to the time when she would reach her eternal home. We can all rest assured that she is in a much better place.

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Desoto Rescue Squad

PO Box 517
Mentone, AL 35984
(256) 273-4037

<http://desotorecue.stoneslife.com>

desotorecue@stoneslife.com

2006 Officer Contact Information

Captain

Gwen Stone

203 Road 946

Mentone, AL 35984

(256) 364-0150 - Cellular

(256) 845-8573 - Work

captain@desotorecue.stoneslife.com

1st Lieutenant - EMS/Communications

Michael Stone, EMT-P

203 Road 946

Mentone, AL 35984

(256) 755-1023 - Cellular

1lt@desotorecue.stoneslife.com

2nd Lieutenant - Equipment

Richard Douthat

420 34th ST NW

Fort Payne, AL 35967

(256) 997-7935 - Cellular

(256) 845-5810 - Home

2lt@desotorecue.stoneslife.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Alton Greeson, EMT-I

506 34th ST NE

Fort Payne, AL 35967

(256) 997-6520 - Cellular

(256) 845-5453 - Home

secretary@desotorecue.stoneslife.com

Who is Desoto Rescue Squad?

The Desoto Rescue Squad was first incorporated in 1965 by a small group of volunteers who wished to provide basic rescue and first response medical services to the residents of the communities of Mentone, Valley Head, and Hammondville. Since that time, the Desoto Rescue Squad has gone through a number of changes, both good and bad, while still providing the same services to the citizens.

Today, Desoto Rescue Squad responds to various types of emergency and non-emergency calls for service including Motor Vehicle Accidents, Medical Emergencies, lift assists, and rescue calls at the DeSoto Falls. Our response area currently includes Mentone, Valley Head, and the surrounding area. We will respond on any call we are dispatched on. This year, we have over a 90% response rate to all calls dispatched.

We are currently working on expanding our capabilities to include Advanced Life Support, which will include IV lines and advanced airways. This will help improve survivability in a cardiac arrest situation.

Our membership includes trained First Responders, licensed Emergency Medical Technicians, and Licensed Paramedics. We currently operate 1 rescue truck equipped with basic rescue tools, with plans to expand to a second vehicle in the future.

Our funding each year primarily consists of the generous donations from the citizens we serve, as well as a contribution from the DeKalb County Commission. Without the generous donations from the citizens, however, we would not be able to afford to operate.

Our plans for the next year are to generate enough funding to add the Jaws of Life or

some high pressure lift bags to our rescue capabilities, as well as purchasing much needed personal protective gear for our members. We are always looking for dedicated individuals to volunteer their time to help save the lives of the community.

**The Squad meets on the First Monday of every month
at the Mentone Community Center at 6:30pm.**

If you are interested in volunteering your time or would like more information about the Rescue Squad, please contact our Captain, Gwen Stone, at 256-364-0150 captain@desotorecue.stoneslife.com; or our First Lieutenant, Michael Stone at 256-755-1023 1lt@desotorecue.stoneslife.com. The Squad's mailing address is
PO Box 517 Mentone, AL 35984.



Several members of the golf tournament planning team met at Terrapin Hills to discuss the tournament (L-R) Randall Young - Vice President and Chief Supply Chain Officer, Heil Environmental, Chris Bowman - Board Member, CAC, Elizabeth Wheatley - Executive Director, CAC, Jeff Stanley - Counselor, CAC, and Steve Cutler - Golf Professional, Terrapin Hills.

NEWS RELEASE - Contact:

Elizabeth Wheatley 256-997-9700

Charity Golf Tournament Planned Heil Environmental Partners with the Advocacy Center

Fort Payne, AL - The DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) is partnering with Heil Environmental for their First Annual "Fore!" The Kids Golf Tournament. The event will take place September 28th at Terrapin Hills Country Club.

"The services rendered by the Advocacy Center are vital to our community and exactly the type of organization Heil Environmental is proud to associate with. With continued support from our entire community, these services will be available for all children in need," said Randall Young, Vice President and Chief Supply Chain Officer with Heil. The Advocacy Center is a staple in DeKalb County, providing services to children who have been physically and sexually abused. "Support from the community and companies such as Heil, helps the Advocacy continue to offer our services free of charge," says Elizabeth Wheatley, Executive Director of the Advocacy Center.

"The Advocacy Center is very fortunate to have such a giving community," says Mrs. Wheatley. "Over the last several years, grant monies have decreased significantly, requiring us to rely strongly on community support. The golf tournament is one way we have decided to reach out to the community for even more support," said Mrs. Wheatley. "There are so many children who need us, and so much more we need to do. Without fund-raisers, the CAC would be unable to continue our services."

You can help! Call the Advocacy Center to learn more about our services and find out how your participation can make a difference. For more information, call 997-9700.



Veterans

The Tigers Inn in Valley Head has a wall designated for veterans.

Joy Hester, owner, requests that veterans of any war share a 5x7 photograph to be placed on the wall in this section of the restaurant.

By Evelyn Graves

Twenty-five years ago, I waited nervously with my daughter as she was in labor at the DeKalb General Hospital in Fort Payne, Alabama. I was secretly hoping that the baby that she was delivering might just be a girl. I kept thinking, and praying, that Sandra would be all right, and that whatever the baby happened to be it would be strong and healthy. Then it happened! The most beautiful baby boy I had ever seen was presented to us by Dr. John B. Isbell, who was so happy to be the bearer of good tidings! Never once did I think of that vision of a little girl in a pink blanket that I had experienced earlier. Our baby boy was here! He was beautiful with dark hair, very fair skin, and the epitome of perfection. I was so happy and could not wait to hold him.

By six o'clock that evening, Dr. Charles Isbell, the pediatrician, came to Sandra's room and told her that the baby was running a fever, and he asked for permission to do a spinal tap. He was rushed to Huntsville Hospital by ambulance and placed in the neonatal unit where it was soon determined that he had listeria, a rare bacterial infection. The doctors were very candid in their discussion of his condition. We were told that there had been only three cases of listeria in the hospital there, including Allen, and that the other two had not survived. The listeria led to spinal meningitis. He continued to survive with a lot of care by the staff at the hospital, and after a month, it was time for him to come home. We were told that he would suffer possible mental and physical impairments because the diseased spinal fluid had flowed over the brain and had left it diseased. I would not believe that there was anything wrong with our beautiful baby, and four years later he was dismissed with a clean bill of health. It was a mystery to the doctors, but it was a wonderful miracle for us because God had answered prayer.

I absolutely adored this little boy. He was the sweetest, most affectionate child I have ever seen. He learned at a very rapid rate, and possessed an incredible vocabulary by the time he was fifteen months old. He continued to grow and learn, and he did extremely well in school.

Six years later, I waited again for the birth of Sandra's second child. It really did not matter to me what the sex of the baby was because I was prepared for another sweet little boy if that was the case. Dr. John brought a beautiful pink bundle to the window for our viewing. I just had to ask for confirmation. It is a girl? He assured me that she was indeed a girl. She was beautiful with a head of black hair that reached to her shoulders. It was so thick that Sandra used the blow dryer because she was born in November and it was rather chilly to allow her hair to dry on its own. Right away, she developed a distinctive personality, and we did not have to wonder whether she was happy or not. She would hold her breath until she turned blue and passed out momentarily. As soon as she came out of the breath-holding episode, she would do it again. Dr. Charles said it did no harm, but he did believe she should win an award for holding her breath the longest of any baby he had ever seen. This went on for several months before she decided to give it up. She was a precious little girl, beautiful, talented, and intelligent. I knew then that she had a lot of determination, and I just hoped that she would channel it in the right direction.

Ode to the Empty Nest

Allen finished high school with honors, and left for college. It was difficult to see him go, but he was excited about it, and we just had to be happy for him. We were all still busy with Katie, taking her to school, to T-ball, to soccer practice, gymnastics, art lessons, piano lessons, church activities, and helping her to follow in her brother's footsteps. Her main goal in life was to do as well as Allen had in school. He was her idol. When they were together, they were fussing and fighting and being normal siblings with too much space in age between them. They loved each other, but there was a lot of sibling rivalry.

Katie was a good student and actively involved in a lot of things. My time with her became more scarce as she entered high school. However, she still had time to come by in the afternoons to use the computer, or if she had a little bit of spare time, she liked to come by and work on her quilt. She always left her quilt pieces at my house, and this gave her an excuse to come by and get me to help her cut out the pieces for her quilt, or shall we say "quilts". She had many quilts underway. She would tire of one pattern and decide to choose another. Sometimes we would play scrabble. Sometimes she was there for me to proofread her essays or term papers. She made definite plans for the time when she would be entering college. She always said that she wanted a degree in education because she expected to teach elementary school. She even made the statement after going to Jamaica for two summers as a summer missionary that she felt that the Lord might be calling her to be a missionary teacher. I remember when Jimmy pastored churches he always hoped that some young person in the church would surrender to the call to be a foreign missionary, and then he would secretly tell me, "I just hope it is not one of mine." He was half kidding, but it is so easy to want to hold onto our own children.

This summer was very busy for Katie. She worked at Riverview Camp, and when she had time off, she was getting ready for college.

Then the big day came! I was asked to accompany Katie, her mother and stepfather, on the 5-hour journey to Southern Wesleyan University in South Carolina. I wanted so badly to go and see where my baby was going to be staying, to see if she had a roommate who was worthy of her, and to be sure that the staff all recognized that they had a real treasure in their midst. I wanted them to know that she was not just an ordinary child, but that she was special and must be treated as such. I am sure all grandmothers feel the same, and we all make blubbery idiots of ourselves in the process.

After two days of orientation for parents and students (and blubbery grandparents), the time came to leave Katie there and come back home. She was brave. Her mother was brave. She quietly said to her mother, "Don't you cry, and I won't either." Sandra has always amazed me that she can hold those tears when she needs to do so. I was sitting in the back seat of the car with my dark glasses on, attempting to hide any sign of tears that might be forming (and believe me, they were). Katie crawled into the back seat with me, and it seemed an eternity before she got out to go to her dorm. We drove off, and we were all three quiet for a period of time. Finally, Hershell broke the silence by saying, "I think she will be o.k. She may call after awhile." About a hundred miles down the road, the cell phone rang, and a little voice

on the other end of the line wanted reassurance. She was crying, but a few reassuring words from her mother was all she needed. They have such a special bond. Katie termed her dilemma as a "meltdown." We reached home that evening around ten-thirty, and my house seemed so empty. The next day I went to Sandra's house for a few minutes because Allen had come home to attend a wedding, and their house was so empty. I looked into Katie's room and I saw one of her teddy bears that had been left behind. I turned around immediately and met Allen's glance. In one of those beautiful big eyes, there was a huge tear ready to fall. It was at that point that I needed to go home. When the fussing and fighting had run its course, and the real test of love was made to manifest itself, it was difficult for me to stand by and watch it happen.

This was not the first empty nest I had ever been in. Sandra had left one some thirty years ago. I survived that. I have not had any telephone calls from Katie, and I have not made any to her, but I am saving those seven e-mails that I have received to read them just one more time.

Today I wanted to stay busy so I cleaned out the cubby holes and drawers of my computer desk. The first thing I picked up, mingled with other papers, was a book review that Katie had written, and the Analysis of the Theme was on top. It read, "The theme of the short story, 'Why I Live at the P.O.', by Eudora Welty is that sometimes a person must break ties with their family to benefit themselves." I read that analysis, and said to myself, "Of course! This was necessary! I must give her this opportunity. Lord, please give me the strength to accept life's changes without being selfish."

Underneath this paper, the next one was entitled, "Why a College Education is Important to Me and My Future". Her opening paragraph read, "Since early childhood, I have had a passion for teaching. My great-grandmother was an elementary school teacher and principal for thirty-four years. She has always been my idol, and she wanted me to become an elementary teacher as well. My great-grandmother had many sample textbooks in her attic. She would let me play with them and let me teach the imaginary students I had while I was visiting her..."

Through my tears, I could see an image of my mother standing before her classroom, doing what she loved best, and I found myself smiling, and I whispered, "Do well, Little One, I love you and you have my blessing."

Since writing this story, I have received several phone calls from Katie, and numerous e-mails. She is doing well, and I am doing better also. My "meltdowns" are farther apart now.

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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.

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Dear landowners of Lookout Mountain,

I am writing this letter because I am so disturbed by the rapid deforestation of our beautiful mountain. Mentone was my summer home as a child when I came to Alpine Lodge Camp for Girls, before my Great Aunt Alice sold it and it became a boy's camp. When I was forty and a teacher in Florida, the mountain called me home and I bought a cabin near Alpine. I came every summer and for every break, and after three years, I realized I had to stay. Mentone hadn't changed very much in the 30 years since I had been away. The forests were plentiful, the wildlife diverse, and Little River was clean and magical. Even the fairies were still dancing under the moonlight in the woods behind my cabin.

Sometimes I could hear the sounds of someone cutting trees and witnessed how the locals would occasionally hire the local log companies to thin out their woods to have logs for building or to earn money for their livelihood. The loggers were careful to leave a wide variety of trees and to cut just enough to leave space for the remaining trees to grow and for the native plants and animals to thrive.

When I moved to Cloudland in 1993, I began noticing a different form of logging. More and more trucks were hauling out trees every month, then every week, and now every day. The areas they are cutting are being "clear cut" with nothing left but disaster zones. In many places there is no cleaning up of leftover debris, and no new trees are being planted. Nature will gradually grow up around the trunks creating bushy thickets, but few birds or animals will survive in such an environment.

A few years ago when the "clear cutting" happened on two sides of my property, I did some research. I discovered that the trucks were from Rome and that the trees were being cut for the paper mills that had moved to the Southeast in large numbers after deforesting the Pacific Northwest. Even our 100-year-old hardwoods were being used to make paper. Quietly and with no restrictions, these huge companies are offering more money to landowners than the local saw mills. Increasing numbers of landowners have been accepting their offers, hopefully out of ignorance for the consequences to Lookout Mountain's ecology.

These companies don't care about the loss of our animals, birds, our native wildflowers, or the resulting pollution of Little River due to the runoff from cutting up to the very edge of the creeks and River. The Federal Government requests that states leave 30 feet of greenspace on either side of a tributary, to help prevent erosion. However, Alabama does not enforce this, and the companies are only here for profit.

I have just witnessed my neighbor having his 20 acres of forest "clear cut" along a stretch of road leading to my neighborhood. The area looks as if it has been bombed, without even a tree barrier left along the road to block the view. It breaks my heart because I know this is happening all over our mountain and that it will eventually destroy the beauty and diversity of our sacred home.

I am writing this letter to encourage every landowner to become aware of the impact of these practices. If you are considering selling your "timber," please hire the local loggers instead. You will earn less money, but you will be helping our local economy, preserving our wildlife and saving Lookout Mountain for the generations to come.

Sincerely, Morgana MacVicar

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM

John Baty

Someone e-mailed me a copy of Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's July 31 speech.

The Prime Minister's passionate reaction stirs one from lethargy and passivity well enough, but the bottom line in our mind is not the dead women and children nor any atrocities committed by one people against another. It is rather that any defiant proclamation should express that the world is far past the time when "intelligent" men should fight over divergent beliefs, over Holy Lands and Holy Places, over which Founding Fathers demarcated which boundaries and which countries are intent on obliterating which other countries. It is time when thinking people should put aside jealousies, hatreds, competition and mythical beliefs and begin to consider what is and what might be.

Nowhere else has man illustrated his inadequacies so effectively as in his lack of decency toward his fellowman.

In a lighter view:

After all, isn't it rather "narrow" to consider ownership (either individual or national) of a piece of the Earth's crust which is sliding around on a molten sea of rock beneath, on a planet spinning at 1000 miles an hour, orbiting a sun which is itself moving through space with unknown destination. All people everywhere face the same dilemma, and as one beast among many have a long history of competition for existence. If we wish to proclaim our sophistication as greater than other species, we might begin acting like it.



Pvt. Andrew M. Bolin

Pvt. Bolin is the son of Chief Petty Officer (Ret) Charles T. Bolin and Melanie Bolin of Stafford, VA, and is the grandson of Marris and LuJean Pierce of Mentone. Marris and LuJean, along with their son Brian and Andrew's parents and his younger brother Steven, attended his recent graduation ceremony with the A Co. 2nd Bn. 58th Infantry at Ft. Benning, GA. After a short leave, Pvt. Bolin will report to duty with the 172nd Stryker Brigade, Ft. Wainwright, AK.



**Seaman 1st Class
Jarrod M. Bolin**

Seaman Bolin is the son of Chief Petty Officer (Ret) Charles T. Bolin and Melanie Bolin of Stafford, VA, and is the grandson of Marris and LuJean Pierce of Mentone. He is stationed aboard the USS Emory S. Land out of Sardinia, Italy. He recently enjoyed a 2 week leave with his grandparents and his parents and his younger brother, Steven. He was able to visit his paternal grandparents in Birmingham, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bolin. He was also able to go to a drag race in Bowling Green, KY where he got to see his aunt and uncle, Kat and Eric Lotz from Claremont, CA. A tour of the Corvette Museum added to the enjoyment of this trip.

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.

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CHRISTMAS DECORATION COMMITTEE REPORT

It's very hard to think of Christmas at this time of year since the weather is so hot, but Christmas is only a few months away. It is time for the Christmas Decorations Committee to start planning for the "Celebration of Lights" in Mentone.

The Committee is hoping to raise more funds this year so Mason Park can be electrically wired to accommodate the many light displays. Plans are also in the works to hopefully build a Gazebo in the park where picnics and social events might be held. All these plans hinge on the fact of whether we can raise enough money to cover the cost or not.

A new patriotic section will be added to Mason Park this year. Perhaps you saw the "God Bless America" light display in the park during the 4th of July weekend or the picture of it in *The Groundhog* last month. This light display can be used on other holidays as well. The members of American Legion Post #215 based in Mentone donated \$100.00 towards the purchase of this display. (The cost was \$660.00 with a balance of \$550.00).

Anyone wishing to purchase one of the light displays or make a donation towards the purchase of the light displays, wiring the park, or building the Gazebo may send your donation to:

Mentone Christmas Decorations
P.O. Box 13
Mentone, AL 35984

If you, your Church, a group, or organization choose to purchase a light display, a sign will be made and placed by that light display showing you as the sponsor.

All donations are applied exclusively to what they are specified for and are deposited into the bank to be used for Christmas decorations and supplies only.

Thank you for your continued support in this effort.

Christmas Decorations Committee: Gail Chambers, Joan Byrum, Brenda Goss, Kristen Emory

We would like to share a few of the comments that we have received about the Christmas decorations and lights in Mentone.

"We enjoyed seeing all the lights. You've done a wonderful job in your wonderful little "slice of Heaven" called Mentone!!!

"Please consider outlining the bare branches of a large tree with the small white lights. The fire department in Mountainbrook, AL, keeps 4 trees done (lights in trees year round) lit for the holidays--very nice. Thanks for your good work!

"Great work! I loved having the Snowflakes still up after the holidays. Thanks.

"Thanks so much for what you are doing... wonderful lights! They add a warm feeling.

"What a wonderful idea! Thank you so much for adding more beauty to Beautiful Mentone!

"Thank you for all your hard work involved with the Christmas decorations. Everything was so beautiful and we enjoyed the displays every time we drove through town. It really makes the season bright!

"The lights were beautiful! After passing through Mentone and seeing the lights, it reminded me of the song "It's Good To Be Back Home Again". Thank You.

On this page are some other light displays that are being considered for Mason Park and the Mentone area.



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Water Works Board of The Town of Mentone

Meeting dates for the remainder of fiscal year 2005-2006 are:

AUGUST 24, 2006

SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

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

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ATTENTION!!

Moon Lake Library Beginning September 9, 2006
Each Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

Come join us at the Moon Lake Library, beginning Saturday, September 9 and continuing each Saturday as long as there is an interest for a Koffee Klatch, starting at 10:00 a.m. Come enjoy a cup of coffee and learn a new skill or craft (or practice one you already know). We will have someone on hand who is experienced in a featured craft and also will have books available for browsing or checking out. Bring a friend, everyone welcome!



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Phase III is now open with 16 new and exciting lots. Four river front bluff lots are now available. This is the last phase, so don't miss out. All lots will have access to the river by a common area with picnic area and hiking trails.

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

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Rhododendron Garden Club News By Linda Brown, Secretary

"That was the best program I've been to in a long time." "I was so glad to be able to buy antique roses and not have to drive so far." "Jason Powell really knows plants, I've never learned so much in such a short time." These are just a few of the many comments heard after Jason Powell finished speaking to the members and guests of the Rhododendron Garden Club on Tuesday, August 8, 2006.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President, Gethryn Giles, in the Woodmen of the World building in Valley Head, Alabama. Refreshments were served to fifty or more people as they arrived. Those attending came from every town in DeKalb County, Scottsboro, Gadsden, and other places in north Alabama. One couple was from Mississippi. All of those attending seemed to have a very good time.

Jason and Shelley Powell run a family business in Jemison, Alabama called, Petals From The Past. This is a demonstration garden of twenty-six acres of which three acres are devoted to propagation. With the help of a power-point presentation, Jason had all of those present planning a visit to the gardens as he described the wonderful sights and smells that await the visitor. He described the garden on the west side as one where you could catch the scent of tea olives and find cabbage roses nestled together with tuberose, foxgloves and delphiniums. An exit through an arbor of climbing roses puts you into the vegetable and herb gardens.

Beginning in May, visitors can pick their own blackberries, blueberries, apples, figs, muscadine and persimmons. He stated that you might want to complete your tour by stopping by the water garden when you could enjoy the relaxing sound of the gentle stream and see the blooms of lotus and water lilies.

Jason spent the next hour telling those present how easy it is to grow his antique roses, heirloom shrubs and hard-to-find perennials and herbs. We got the impression that Jason's entire family lived and breathed plants. He said that his wife, Shelly, could identify plants from the window of a car going fifty-five miles an hour. The distinction that he attributed to his mother, who does all of the propagating for the gardens, was that she could root a toothpick. He said that he learned most of what he knows from his dad and that his dad's idea of a vegetable garden was an acre or more. His two small children are learning to water and pick up dead leaves but their favorite activity is to chase frogs. Evidently they had put one in the van to come to Mentone with their dad as a little green tree frog was found on the wall of the building as everything was being packed up. One of the gardeners put it back into the van with the plants.

Jason described some of the antique roses that are grown in the gardens. These seem to be his own personal favorite to grow. He said that you would find over one hundred and eighty-five different roses from the Tea, Polyantha, Noisette, Alba, Damask and Hybrid Musk classes. Some of these varieties were grown in the gardens of

Napoleon's Empress Josephine. An Antique Rose is one that was in existence prior to 1867, has a great shape, a wonderful fragrance and is disease resistant. Some of the names are: Lady Banks, which was introduced in 1824, Rosa Multiflora Carnea, Petite Pink Skotch, Old Blush, Isabella Sprunt, Madame Lombard, Prosperity, Moonlight, Lavender Lassie, Ballerina and Leontine Gervais. One that really appealed to all in attendance was the Swamp Rose, from at least the 1820's, because it can stand much rain or total drought.

Flowering shrubs native to the Southeast or introduced before 1900 qualify as Heirloom Shrubs. These can be incorporated into your landscape in such a way that you can enjoy blooms year round. Some suggestions were, Fragrant Wintersweet, whose blooms appear December through February, spireas and native azaleas for early spring, buddleias for summer and camellias for fall and early winter bloom.

Also featured on the farm are old and new varieties of fruit trees and bushes adapted to Southeast soil. These include Arkansas Black apples, Belle of Georgia peaches, Celeste and Brown Turkey pears, Lemon figs, Rabbiteye blueberries and Kiowa and Chickasaw blackberries.

Every gardener likes perennials for their variety of color, texture and size as well as ease of maintenance. Some varieties found at Petals From The Past include Balloon Flower, Blackberry Lily, Dame's Rocket, Foxglove, Gaura, Lamium, Mallow Rose Campion and Yarrow.

A wide selection of herbs are available, from the unusual (anise, chamomile, pennyroyal) to the common (basil, mint, chives). Herbs for creating potpourri include lavender and scented geranium. There is orange mint for your iced tea and many other fresh herbs.

Jason gave this brief outline for successful growing of antique roses. Plant in the fall of the year; dig a hole ten to twelve inches wide and the same depth as the container the rose is now in; add composted manure on a one to one ratio with your soil; loosen the roots of the rose; after planting, layer around the rose with newspapers and cover with pine straw; fertilize every five to six weeks beginning in March and ending in September and prune the first time in March and then again in June or July.

The mission statement for Petals explains the success of this family endeavor. It reads: "Jason and Shelly approach gardening from an educational standpoint, providing not only quality plant material, but information and assistance to ensure that Petals' customers have successful and rewarding gardening experiences."

Jason provided a van load of antique roses, perennials and herbs for purchasing. He even gave those present a really good bargain because as he put it, "I don't want to have to unload them when I get back to the gardens."

He left all present wanting to visit the gardens soon and to help you with information about the gardens, here is the phone number and website: 205/646-0069

petalsfromthepast.com

Next meeting: September 12, 10:00 a.m. at Nippersink Lodge, Benny Campbell will be the featured speaker.

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

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Announcement

Welcome Bill
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Brown Town - Charming older 2 B/R, 1 BA home near Henegar. Finished attic offers room for 2 additional B/R or other useable space. Peaceful, rural setting in Brown Town community. \$44,900. Call Bill Grissom @ 205-919-3025



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HARD TIMES

Julia Baxter

Starting out is never easy; and when you're poor, it is even harder.

My parents were married December 8, 1918, in Bartow County, Georgia. They pulled up in front of the preacher's house. Reverend Adair and his wife (Their witness) came outside and performed the ceremony while Mother and Daddy sat in a horse-drawn buggy. This union lasted 67-1/2 years.

They were not wealthy or even well educated. Mother went to the fifth grade. She had to quit school so she could take care of her Mother who became sick. She also took care of her Brother and Sisters. Daddy could not read or write. After they were married, Mother taught him how to write his name and count his money. Mother walked to school. The schoolhouse was the back room of the teacher's house. The house still stands.

They farmed for most of their life. Daddy always planted a garden no matter where they lived. When the garden came in, Mother would start canning. Daddy would pick berries and fruit and Mother would make jellies and jams. She did her canning and cooked our meals on an old wood stove.

Like all the families, we had hogs for the meat, cows for the milk. (Mother would churn milk for butter and buttermilk.) They raised chickens for meat and eggs.

Mother would piece quilts, then put the batten and cotton and the pieced quilt on a frame for quilting. Daddy made the frame.

The first house that they lived in that was wired for electricity was in 1951. They got their first electric stove and refrigerator in 1952. Before the fridge, they had an icebox. Mother never had an automatic washer. She went from a scrub board to a wringer washer. (I got my hand caught in between the wringers and my sister Rose got her hair caught.)

The first running water was in 1942. A bellows pump was put in the spring and pipes run to the house. The first inside bathroom was in 1962. Before that, no matter what the weather, we went to that little brown house in the back.

The landlord had the first telephone put in. It was a four-digit number. It was in 1954.

The first T.V. was a gift from one of Mother's sisters. It was a round screen in a large cabinet. Daddy bought a new one in 1958.

Their first car was a 1931 Chevy, bought in 1944. They finally bought a place of their own, a trailer from Cecil and Tommy. They put it in Rose's back yard.

Other than farming, my Daddy worked on the Southern Railroad in 1941 for fifty cents a day, at Burlington in Shannon, Georgia, in 1946; and in 1962 he went to work at S. I. Storey Lumber Company. Mother never worked (just at home). Then around 1975 she started selling Avon.

All this information has been handed down to me by Mother, Daddy, and Daniel's family, Brown, Bernard, Cecil, Betty, Rose, Leon and Tommy. I had to have help — you see I'm the baby of the nine children.

Jewelry as ART at MOUNTAIN MAMAS

"Wear your ART on your EARS," says earring designer Ellen Spangler from Cloudland. She creates handmade, one-of-a-kind earrings with gemstones and other sources from nature. They range from elegant to whimsical. Terry Pizzuto makes fine delicate bracelets and earrings, many with gemstones. Marijo Olanyk of Cumming, GA, creates necklaces bubbling with unusual beads and striking in their subtle colors. Jewel creates delightful designs with tiny beads-like Santa's face earrings. Some of the most beautiful beadwork you will see is found in the small beaded bags, worn as necklaces, made by Melanie Korner. She works magic with the tiny beads. These make a very special gift for an important friend.

On the subject of unusual things, check out the Rock Shop for the many new mineral specimens. Some clusters with pastel pink or green crystals include stilbite, heulandite, and apophyllite from India; barite from Cave in the Rock, IL; emerald and aqua marine; fossils of ferns, petrified wood, ammonites (snails), orthoceras (insects); and blue kyanite. The kyanite is considered to have qualities that can help develop a deeper spirituality. It is thought to help the mind open to more realms of discovery, especially in the area of understanding people's differences and finding more compassion for others.

The Rock Shop's largest collection of minerals is the amethyst. It is such a beautiful purple stone, and you will see small amethyst caves, clusters made into lights, candle holders and more.

As the weather begins to turn cool, we all enjoy lighting candles and Susan Bradley, our main candle maker, has just brought in more of her handmade rose petal candles. There is a variety of scented votives and other candles, large and small, of many colors.

Mountain Mamas is open each Saturday and Sunday from noon to 6pm, GA time. We are just a half-mile east of the GA/AL state line, on Hwy 48 at Cloudland, GA. Open by appointment call 706-862-2142. See our website www.mountainmamas.com.

Correction!!!

Although we would not refuse your offer of \$320.00 to become a Friend of Moon Lake Community Library, as was quoted in the August issue of The Groundhog, we will gladly accept the actual amount of \$20.00. There are forms in the Moon Lake Library, or call me, Ann Chesnut, at 634-1025, and I will provide you with one. Become a Friend today!

July 26, 2006 - PRESS RELEASE

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SPOTLIGHT - FORT PAYNE/DEKALB CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER A UGF MEMBER AGENCY

The purpose of the Child Development Center is to provide optimum care for children, in an environment where each child feels secure, loved and wanted. Where they learn to share with, work with, play with, and laugh with other children. They also want to develop creativity, self expression and a sense of responsibility. The children will develop attitudes and concepts that will form a foundation for realizing their full potential in every way.

Jay Luke Brown started attending the Child Development Center when he was three years old. He is unique in that when he was born he weighed 1 pound and 7 ounces and was only fourteen inches long. After spending four months in the hospital in Birmingham, he finally came home, weighing four pounds and five ounces, he was healthy despite his size. By the time he was three years old he was capable of keeping up with any other three year old.

He receives quality child care from the Child Development Center. A quality child care program should embody all that is now known about what young children need to make their lives healthier, safer and happier. He also receives good physical care that allows for wholesome growth. He receives sufficient quantities of rest, the stimulation of active play, a safe place to run, climb, dig, yell, watchfulness and protection against accidents.

The Child Development Center provides Jay Luke and all the children a feeling of belonging, success, praise, friendliness, a chance to take part in the life of the group, control, discipline, affection and approval.

Jay Luke, now five, is reading at a much higher level than his age, is well adjusted and a happy little boy.

With all the Child Development Center's philosophies for working with children, they will likely produce generations that are healthy, creative and productive citizens in society.

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September 20th The Groundhog/Page 17

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



(2) **Nestled amongst the trees** you'll find this cozy and comfortable NEW cabin waiting for a new owner. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, large family room with gas log fireplace, spacious kitchen/dining combo, screened front porch, side deck w/ Jacuzzi and lots more on a 1.23 acre wooded lot. \$180,000 (14394)



(3) **Situated on 2 1/2 lots** within walking distance of Brow Park and downtown Mentone, you can have a retail business or a weekend rental in this 3 BR, 1 BA cottage with new CH&A, metal roof and storage building. \$97,500 (15023)



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



(5) **HOME WITH ACREAGE!** Nearly new w/ 3 BR, 2 BA, vaulted ceiling LR, large kitchen, oversized 2-car garage, 2 stocked ponds & creek, 21x24 metal building with concrete floor. \$239,500 (15315)



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



(7) **Tucked away in downtown Mentone** - This home offers 4 BR, 2 BA, fully equipped kitchen with granite countertops, antique mantle, RV carport, large storage/tobacco building/ garage and a Sauna. \$159,500 (14871)



(8) **Comfortable 3 BR, 2 BA home** with a cathedral ceiling, gas log fireplace with built-in TV cabinet and bookcases, 12" pine flooring, paved drive, storage building and is situated on 2 beautiful wooded acres in Mentone. \$137,500 (14999)



(9) **Take a recess from the rat race** in this very private and authentic log cabin with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, living/ dining/ kitchen combo and front porch all on 1.66 heavily wooded acres on a private road. \$99,500 (14345)



(10) **Cozy cabin in Hunter's Ridge!** 2 BR, 2 BA, Columbian cedar walls and ceilings, hardwood floors, front & back porches, upstairs deck and stacked rock fireplace. Common access area to the East Fork of Little River. \$162,500 (14670)



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



(12) **Enjoy the view of the valley below** from this Brand NEW cabin on the Parkway in Mentone. Cabin features rustic wood siding, 3 BR, 2 BA, living/dining/kitchen combo, stacked rock fireplace, balcony, wood walls and pine floors. \$359,500 (15340)



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



(14) **Enjoy the sounds of nature** on this private 7 acres in Valley Head with quick access to Interstate 59. This property offers a 3 BR, 1 BA frame home with room to grow. There is also a storage building on the property. \$59,900 (14899)



(15) **Now that you've conquered the world**, separate yourself from it! Brick Colonial w/4BR, 3.5 BA, 200 year heart pine floors, wood burning FP, picket fence, deck & detached 2-car garage with upstairs apartment. \$495,500 (15198)



(16) **Be the first to own this new construction** on the West Brow of Mentone. Features include 3 BR, 2 BA, large living area with stacked rock fireplace and vaulted ceiling, pine floors throughout, screened porch and deck. \$319,900 (14715)



(17) **Mountain cottage offering relaxation** on a gorgeous back deck with a spectacular view or from your very own screened porch you can enjoy nature at its best. 3 BR, 2 BA, pine walls and floors, wood burning stove and lots more. \$146,900 (13696)



(18) **The builder is putting on the finishing touches!** Be the first to live in this 3 BR, 2 BA home with cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, stacked rock wood burning fireplace, custom kitchen with Hickory cabinets and more on a 1 acre lot. \$179,500 (14783)



(19) **Enjoy the view of Little River Canyon** from the decks of this 3 BR, 2 BA cabin with wood floors and walls, fireplace, central heat & air, finished basement and more. A world away awaits you in this home away from home. \$200,000 (14730)



(20) **Stressed for morning time?** This in-town home offers walking convenience and 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room/den and 3 finished rooms upstairs. Relax on the large screened porch under huge shade trees. \$58,900 (14772)



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



(22) **Be CAR FREE** in this convenient in-town get-a-way or full-time residence. This 3 BR, 2 BA home with formal living room and large eat-in kitchen sits on a large 1.1 acre lot with barn and view of pasture behind. \$99,500 (15157)



(23) **The WELCOME mat is out to this classic Southern home.** 3 BR, 2 BA, great room, laundry room, open balcony living area upstairs, front and back covered porches overlooking 2.42 acres offering a relaxed feeling. \$194,500 (15263)



(24) **Tranquility Acres...** 47-acre country estate with an 80' waterfall, 2800 square foot Southern Yellow Pine log home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, formal gardens with a gazebo and water garden, 1200 sq. ft. barn with 2 horse stalls, greenhouse, tool shed and a smoke house, 2 wooden bridges and so much more. (15007)



(25) **ATTENTION INVESTORS!** Duplex apartments, 2br/1bath, CH&A, appliances remain, rented. \$89,900. (15399)



(26) **11.7 acre farm** - Main house features 4 BR, 3 BA, large kitchen and den, separate guest cottage with living/ dining/ kitchen combo, bedroom, bath and private screened porch. Throw in a 3-stall barn, fenced pasture and frontage on Wills Creek. \$229,500 (15306)

- (27) **Highland Springs** - New subdivision located in the heart of Mentone off Cove Road. Several lots to choose from with mild restrictions. Prices starting at \$28,000.
- (28) **Build your Mentone cabin** on this beautiful wooded building site with gorgeous brow view! Approx. 1 1/2 acres for \$159,000. (14681)
- (29) **Ready for development** or to build your dream home. Gently rolling pastures, water and 571' of road frontage on Hwy. 11 and Wills Creek is the back property line. \$362,000 (10149)
- (30) **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. \$94,000 per lot. (14598)
- (31) **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)
- (32) **Just minutes from historic Mentone**, you'll find 2 gorgeous building lots. Common areas include a stocked lake and 2 parks. These lots are located near the golf course. (15014 and 15015)
- (33) **12 acres of gently rolling, heavily wooded paradise.** Great for getting close to nature with city water available. \$79,900 (14534)
- (34) **On the golf course** and just minutes from downtown Mentone. Restricted building lots are now available in Rock Bluff. Common areas include a stocked lake, two parks with rental cabins available for your out-of-town guests. Each wooded lot is approx. 3 (+/-) acres and will have public water and power. \$100,000 (15018)
- (35) **62.32 acres** with a beautiful view of Lookout Mountain on one side and adjacent and overlooking "The Highlands" on the other. Nice building site for that dream home or great property for future development with paved road frontage. \$396,000 (15022)

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

LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY by Linda Brown

The Book Sale was a huge success! We sold what seemed to be thousands of books. No book was priced over five dollars and most were under one dollar. At these prices, we are very pleased to report a profit of over nine hundred dollars! The only problem that we encountered was the extremely hot temperatures.

The volunteers who worked were wonderful. They stayed out in the heat and were very helpful to all who came to buy. I went by there several times each day and they were always pleasant and unhurried with everyone. It would have been easy and very understandable if they had become disgruntled, but that never happened. I really appreciate their help.

Most of those who helped to sell books were the FRIENDS of the library. They are a great group of people and are such a help to the library. They came the day before and helped put all of the books outside for the sale. When the sale was finished, many came back and helped load the books that didn't sell into the truck of, "Miss Rebecca". I never learned her last name, but she came and got all of the books that were left after the sale. She is the care-giver of Gertrude Killingsworth.

Another group of people who helped in any way needed was several men who are associated with the library either by living with a member of the Board of Directors or by being a member of the Board. They moved tables, carried books from various places, covered books each day with tarps and did many other tasks. They are really appreciated!

Now, we will start collecting books for the Winter Sale. I believe that this sale is in February, so the weather should be much cooler. If you have books that you want to give, bring them by the library during OPEN HOURS only. You will not be allowed in the library during the hours of school. We have lost some of our storage space so we ask that you bring books which are in fair condition and that you think will sell. The space to set up for the Winter Book Sale is much smaller, so we cannot use as many books.

The volunteers who work in the library have told the members of the Board of Directors that when they are working there is not much activity in the library after six o'clock on Tuesday and Thursday. In view of this, the members of the Board passed a motion to change the hours to being open from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The hours for Saturday will remain at 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

The members of the Board have decided to initiate a new program for the library. This will be called The Koffee Klatch and beginning Saturday, September 9, will meet every Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. so long as there is an interest. This will be an informal gathering of people interested in learning a new crafting skill or just honing up on a familiar one. We will have a person who does a particular craft available each time to answer questions and give some short-cut suggestions. This will include any and everything that YOU are interested in doing.

I am organizing this project and at this time I do

not have a schedule of topics for the sessions. I do want this to include projects that are interesting to both men and women. Some of the things that I have in mind are: woodworking, painting, quilting, knitting, scrap-booking, photography, drawing, writing and any other that craft that is of interest to the community. This will be a time to enjoy a cup of coffee with your neighbors, talk, visit and catch up on community happenings as well as a time to renew your interest in a craft. Plan to attend any and all of them. This sounds like a lot of fun.

Our next fund raiser will be the community calendars. This will be our Fourth Issue. We are limited on the number of ads that we can sell. Therefore, we will be contacting those who have an ad in the 2006 calendar first. If you are interested in placing an ad in the calendar, call a member of the Board or write to us at the address at the end of this article. We will contact you with all of the details.

If you have purchased our calendars in the past, you will be contacted soon to renew. If you have changes that need to be made in your information, be sure and tell the person who contacts you. If you want a calendar for the first time, call any member of the Board of Directors or write to the address below. You can put all of the birthdays and anniversaries of those in your household on the appropriate dates and receive your calendar for only \$5.00. In addition to letting you know who is having a birthday on what day, you will have the Moon Lake Elementary School schedule of events for the year, the dates and times for club meetings, the Character Terms for MLES, the telephone numbers for many of the establishments in Mentone and surrounding areas and other pertinent information. This is a bargain and all of the profit is used for the expenses of the Moon Lake Community Library. Order your calendar today!

The meetings of the Board of Directors are open to the public. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 18, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. and we meet in the library.

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

OPEN HOURS

TUESDAY, 3:00 - 6:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, 3:00 - 6:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON

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CRYSTAL METH SPEAKS

I destroy homes, I tear families apart,
I take your children and that is just a start.
I'm more valued than diamonds, more precious than gold.
The sorrow I bring is a sight to behold.

If you need me remember I'm easily found
I live all around you, in schools and in town.
I live with the rich, I live with the poor,
I live down the road and maybe next door.

I'm made in a lab, but not like you think,
I can even be made in the kitchen sink.
In your child's closet or maybe the woods,
If that scares you to death, then maybe it should.

I have many names but the one you know best,
I'm sure you've heard it, they call me Crystal Meth.
My power is awesome, just try me you'll see,
But if you do you may never break free.

Try me once I may let you go,
Try me again and I'll take your soul.
When I get you, you'll steal and you'll lie,
And do what you have to just to get high.

The crimes you'll commit for my narcotic charms,
Will be worth the pleasure you'll feel in my arms.
You'll lie to your mother and steal from your dad,
When you see their tears you won't even feel sad.

Forget all your morals and how you were raised,
I'll be your conscience and teach you new ways.
I take kids from parents and parents from kids,
Turn you from God and even your friends.

I'll take everything, your looks and your pride,
I'll always be right by your side.
I'll take and I'll take 'til you've no more to give,
When I'm finished with you, you'll be lucky to live.

If you try me be warned that it isn't a game,
If given a chance I'll drive you insane.
Ravage your body and control your mind,
I'll own you completely, your soul will be mine.

The nightmares I give you while lying in bed,
The voices you'll hear from inside your head,
The shakes and the sweats, the visions you'll see,
I want you to know are all gifts from me.

By then it's too late, you'll know in your heart,
That you are mine and we'll never part.
You'll regret that you tried me, (they always do),
But you came to me, not I to you.

You knew this would happen, many times you were told,
But you tested my power, now choose to behold.
You could have said no and then walked away,
I you could do it over, now what would you say?

I'll be your master, you'll do as I say,
Even when I tell you to go to the grave.
Now that we've met, what will you do?
Will you try me or not, it's all up to you.

I'll show you more misery
Than mere words can tell.
Come take my hand,
I'll escort you to Hell!

But there is an answer, JESUS CHRIST,
Who gave His life that you might live.

Submitted by Bonnie Easter

PRESS RELEASE: AUGUST 16, 2006
UNITED GIVERS FUND OF DEKALB COUNTY
CONTACT: DEBRA DAWSON - 845-4006

PARTNERSHIP FOR A DRUG FREE DEKALB COUNTY

The Partnership for a Drug Free DeKalb County, Inc. was incorporated in March 2000 for the purpose of formulating and implementing a comprehensive strategy for the education and prevention of youth drug/alcohol abuse. The two primary goals of our coalition are (1) to reduce substance abuse among youth, and over time, among adults by addressing our community risk and protective factors; and (2) to establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, agencies, and governments to support the efforts of the coalition to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth.

The Partnership draws upon and coordinates community resources to promote youth substance abuse as a priority in DeKalb County. The project director coordinates programs, and works to coordinate and enhance community involvement by increasing youth and volunteer participation in drug prevention activities, and solidify funding sources to insure the long-term endurance of the Partnership. The four problems identified as major concerns include (1) Youth substance abuse; (2) Increasing use of methamphetamine; (3) Lack of strong community coalition; (4) Prescription drug abuse.

We have worked cooperatively between local groups to establish a strategic plan designed to

- Facilitate regular meetings between involved agencies to discuss progress in terms of access to services and success of on-going programs.
- Establish and implement early intervention strategy in an effort to get children to services before they become part of the juvenile justice system.
- Coordinate referral of services to existing at-risk populations. (family counseling for juvenile offenders, parenting classes for drug-court participants)
- Encourage top-down commitment to research-based, tested, effective programs as a solid approach to prevention education.
- Coordinate planning and implementation of program services to ensure that cultural competency issues are addressed on a continuous basis.
- Cooperative work between sectors as a method of assuring that youth of our community remains our priority.
- Evaluate needs assessment progress and evaluation data to adjust plan as necessary.

As part of the United Givers Fund program, we salute this year's campaign "Reaching Out To Your Neighbor." The theme for this year's fundraising drive fits well with the partnership because community involvement is one core of our prevention efforts. We urge participation in this year's fundraising campaign as UGF agencies depend on community support to continue providing much needed assistance and provide services throughout DeKalb County.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Moon Lake Elementary School Community Library is to provide resources and experiences that will develop reading skills, encourage literary experiences, and provide technological opportunities that are designed to enhance the learning and living of local students and residents and to nurture and perpetuate the strong bond between school and community.

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MENTONE CHATTER

Hello, I would like to introduce myself and a new column that will be starting in The Groundhog beginning in October.

First, the new column, "Mentone Chatter." This is really to be your column. I want to talk about you: your families; friends; trips; who has visited; fun things you have done; birthdays, anniversaries; whatever is significant to you. I also want to talk about any sickness, prayer needs, or anything else you want to share with the community.

Now, a little about me. My name is LuJean Pierce. I am married to Marris Pierce. We attend Moon Lake Baptist Church. We have lived in the Mentone area since 1994. Marris was raised right up here, but moved to Birmingham in 1957 where he met a city girl who really likes being a country girl.

This city girl-turned country girl will need your help to make "Mentone Chatter" a success. Remember, it is your column. Send me your news by e-mail to mentonechatter@earthlink.net or if you do not use a computer, just use regular "snail mail" which David Tucker gets to my mailbox very quickly. Send it to:

Mentone Chatter
1056 county Rd 629
Mentone, AL 35984

As with all other Groundhog information, the deadline is the 20th of each month. Thanks.

Stop by & chat with Doreen at

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MLS



OLD STATE ROAD, CLOUDLAND--Investment property. Built in 1993, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Rural area, 4.62 -acre lot. Proof of funds/earnest money required by seller. Reduced to \$72,500



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



GADSDEN AVE, CLOUDLAND - Lots of space - Some Remodel work completed, needs finishing. Living room, large kitchen, dining room, three bedrooms, 1 full bath. Room for additional bedroom/bath. Large lot - great location near park @ Cloudland. Listed for \$76,000.



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



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



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



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



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



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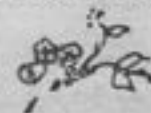
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NEW MOUNTAIN HOME. 3BR, 2BA, lovely hardwood floors, vaulted ceiling, stacked stone FP, custom knotty Alder wood cabinetry...the list goes on. Outside are those gorgeous old trees and a new pole-barn/rustic shed for storage. Adjacent lots available for sale to purchaser of cabin. First time offered \$294,600. (15391)



BIG DREAMS, LITTLE MONEY? Stretch your budget with this rewarding home...2 bedroom 1 bath Log home with 2 car detached garage with a room above, large decks and seasonal views all on over an acre of land. 2 miles from Little River Canyon! \$99,900 (14837)



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FIND HAPPINESS IN THIS CABIN! 3BR/2BA cabin with great brow views. Custom kitchen with full Stainless Steel professional series appliance package, custom wood counter tops, stone fireplace, spectacular large living room, Loft. Artful beamed cathedral ceilings, natural woodwork. Hardwood flooring. Metal roof, large view deck, large trees. \$339,000 (15019)



SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL. This 3BR, 2BA brick home is close enough in for convenience, far enough out for privacy and quietness. Beautifully decorated, immaculately kept, this one-owner home offers one-level living space, 2-car attached garage and over 4 acres nestled at the foot of Lookout Mtn. Just listed at \$179,900. (15277)



DYNAMIC MOUNTAIN CABIN! A lucky find with idyllic Brow views. Mountain quietude sets off this 3-bedroom wooded-lot home featuring master suite and hardwood flooring. Wood burning mountain stone fireplace. Large view deck, screened porch for summer suppers, covered front porch. Warm & welcoming! \$289,000 (15020)



LOOKING FOR A WEEKEND GETAWAY? How about a possible weekend rental opportunity? This A-frame cabin on DeSoto Pkwy, just minutes from DeSoto St. Park, is clearly a contender! Freshly decorated interior featuring new beaded board paneling, fresh paint, new floor coverings, new carpet, new plumbing and all new fixtures in kitchen and bath, beautifully landscaped exterior. Corner lot with great curb appeal \$65,000. (14894)



A SUPERB SANCTUARY! Enjoy stylish simplicity in this mountain home. This 3BR/2BA wooded-lot residence on a tree-fringed street has a brow view. Hardwood flooring, screened porch and decks. Great lifestyle setting! \$399,900 (14566)

Lot and Land Listings:

ACREAGE OFFERS OPPORTUNITY for small farm or development. 14.5 ac, mostly pasture, some woods. Septic tank & water line in place. Approx. 1000' paved road frontage. \$70,000 (15271)

THE SETTING YOU DESERVE! 53 acres on Lookout Mountain with beautiful open fields and some wooded areas 35 acres are in DeKalb County and 18 acres joining in Etowah County. \$132,500 (14700)

SWIM, CANOE OR FISH ON LITTLE RIVER. 100 x 300' recreational lot in the wild water area of Little River with nothing around you but woods. For those seeking true off-the-beaten-path moments, this is the lot for you \$28,000! (14873)

YOUR HEART'S DESIRE! Build on this appealing lot providing pleasant lake front living with over 100 feet on Lake Windmill. Restricted neighborhood with underground utilities. It will capture your heart! \$59,900 (14234)

A SITE TO BEHOLD! Build on this 1-acre piece of ground with big trees and very level. Just north of Historic Downtown Mentone. Don't let this great lot get away! 2 lots to choose from. \$25,000 (14743 & 44)

IDEAL FOR MINI FARM. This 3.71 acre tract (comprised of 3 separate lots) is bordered by Horsehead Creek and has some beautiful hardwoods. Level to gently rolling terrain. Consider it pastureland gone slightly wild for the most part. Lightly restricted. \$18,000 (14878)

13 ACRES NORTH FORT PAYNE. Barn, garden shed with green house already in place. Partly cleared, partly wooded. Sitting up high and dry. Near I-59. Tremendous possibilities for this acreage. \$123,500. (14880)

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Ron & Sue Ann Jones
Owners
PHONE: 256-634-0009
e-mail: rkpsab@earthlink.net

My Mentone Heritage

By Evelyn Graves

As I read L. C. Moon's article entitled, "Lookout Mountain Heritage Alliance", in the August issue of *The Groundhog*, I experienced many different feelings. I have always appreciated my heritage, and it brought back experiences from my childhood that I wanted to share.

Following the Masons and O'Rears, there were other families who came to Mentone, among them being my own family. The Jones family was made up of talented men who were able to build houses on this mountain and who not only built their own dwellings, but helped other families who continued to come into the area to build theirs as well. By looking at old church records, it is apparent that there was a strong bond among the people in the community as they came together to construct the Moon Lake Baptist Church. The clerk who recorded the events gave a very detailed account of the progress of the building by stating, "Hardie Jones brought a saw, Joe Jones brought an axe, Fred Jones brought a saw, hammer, and nails, Ernest Shigley brought a saw and hammer, W. S. Perkins brought other tools. Mr. Perkins left the job with his horse and wagon to go to the sawmill to get more logs which had been donated to the project. When he returned with the logs, they all sawed them to resume work on the building." After the building was completed, a beautiful account of the various people in the community who attended the first service was given. Even the scripture was given. The names of the charter members were listed, and as people were added to the church, there was an account given of the names, the dates they joined, and the dates they were baptized.

Mentone was always a delightful, fascinating place to live. I was always glad to see new and different people who came to Mentone in the summer. My grandfather and my father and uncles built many of the houses along the brow of the mountain, and they made it their business to get to know the people for whom they worked. As a child, I found this delightful as Daddy would take me to meet various families who came to Mentone to live in the summer or to retire here. I sensed early on that they brought with them different cultures that quickly blended with our own. I was always impressed by the staff at the summer camps who took an interest in us. The riding classes from Camp DeSoto always took a ride every day up Cutler Avenue where I lived, and my brother and I would hide in the ditch alongside the road, thinking we were hidden from view. The girls on the horses of course spotted us right away and waved and smiled at us. I can still hear the hooves of the horses as they traveled our road. What an exciting experience for two little children.

Life was always exciting at Mentone. Even as a child, I recognized that I was living in a very special place. My maternal grandparents lived in Georgia in a beautiful valley, but it was nothing to compare to life on the mountain. My mother's brothers and sisters loved coming to Mentone to spend a week at a time because they, too, recognized something special here.

Little River always played a large part in activities at Mentone. We particularly enjoyed swimming in the shallow water at what is now Camp Laney. At that time, there was a hotel named Riverdale which was

filled during the summer. Daddy had worked for the Mitchells who owned it, and they were always happy for us children to come and play in the water there. It was warmer than it was farther north up the river. The water there was deeper and colder, and was not as much fun. My parents lived in a cottage on the river when they first married, and my brother was born there. My mother did her daily laundry on the bank of Little River. She took buckets and tubs and dipped water from the river to wash and rinse diapers and other wearables. Invariably, Miss Martha Berry came down the river rowing a boat, and she always stopped and had a lovely conversation with my mother. She adored my brother who was just a baby at the time, and one day she asked if she might take him in the boat for a ride. Mother went along just in case there was any problem and he might fall out of the boat.

All the children in my community walked to school at Moon Lake - autumn, winter and spring. We had been taught the proper side of the road to walk on to avoid any traffic that might come along. There was very little traffic, so we were in very little danger, but it was good to know anyway. Bobby Brown always walked on top of the rails as we walked across the bridge. We would beg him to come down because we were afraid he might fall into the river, but he was always a daredevil, and he loved the thrill of it. I remember quite distinctly his walking on the rails when they were icy. My mother, who was teaching at the school, ordered him to come down, but he loved the challenge. I cannot imagine that a group of children could possibly walk to school and cross that bridge. They would all have to take to the rails, I am afraid. Just this week, I met a large transfer truck as I reached the bridge, and of course it was necessary for one of us to stop to allow the other to pass, and guess who the one was? Me, of course. They never show any courtesy by stopping to allow smaller traffic to pass. I watched as he crossed the bridge and observed the width of the vehicle, amazed that it covered almost three-quarters of the width of the bridge. It goes without saying, when that bridge was constructed, the vehicles that were to cross were narrow enough to be able to pass with no problem. We also had the covered bridge which we used as an alternate route.

It was always a thrill when Camp DeSoto held their water pageant. The entire community was invited to sit on the bank of the river at Riverside and watch the pageant. It was absolutely phenomenal as campers arranged themselves in various formations, and the lights under the water allowed us to view the pageant perfectly. They presented one of the most delightful programs you can ever imagine. That same spot was the location for baptismal services. I remember quite distinctly, even though I was only ten years old at the time, the Sunday afternoon when all of the community gathered to witness perhaps the largest baptismal service that had been held in many years. The water was clean and clear, and as I was dipped into the baptismal pool, I came up out of the water with the greatest feeling that I had ever experienced. Some thirty years later, I was looking at a small picture of my baptismal service with a magnifying glass, and in the corner of the picture, I spotted a young man dressed in a light colored suit holding a towel. His stance was very familiar to me. I quickly asked Jimmy, my husband, if

he had ever attended a baptism at Little River. He said, "Yes, I came with Floyd Crowe to do a service over at Riverside. I held his towel until he had finished." This was just another of the marvelous coincidences surrounding our lives. He was twenty years old at the time, and there I was - only ten - with my future husband looking on.

Little River was just as beautiful in the winter as well. I remember a winter when I was just a teenager and David Nation and I went down to DeSoto Falls, only to find the river frozen. We got out on the ice just above the dam and walked and slid around on the ice. That was quite a dangerous thing to do. For one thing, I could not swim, and even if I could have, if the ice had broken, I doubt very much that being able to swim would have mattered when I went over the dam in icy water.

We were taught to respect the river by our parents. We were not allowed to go into the river without proper supervision, and we were taught to not contaminate it in any way. I am sure that many of the natives in this area can tell many stories about Little River and how it played a part in their lives.

I am reminded as I grow older of the custom of the Indians when their time came to die. They would climb a high mountain and stay there until their death came, at which time they were removed by family or tribe to their final resting place. I have lived in various places as my husband pastored churches in Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee, but I always knew that someday I would return to the mountain, and there I would live until my death, and that Mentone would be my final resting place. When my oldest niece was a toddler, she would spend many week-ends with Daddy, Mother, and me, and as we approached Hammondville on our trip from Chattanooga with her, she would look up toward Mentone and with glee she would say, "There's Granddaddy's Mountain." She loved him so dearly, and she always associated this part of Lookout Mountain with her granddaddy. I am happy to be back on "Granddaddy's Mountain" even though he and my mother are both gone. Jimmy loved Mentone as much as I do, and I am so grateful that he chose to be buried here with me in my beloved Mentone. When my time comes, I will be buried in Bankhead Cemetery with my family awaiting the Lord's return.

If anyone has a story you would like to submit about your heritage on the mountain or remembrances of Little River, I would love for you to share also.

 **CLOSED**
Moon Lake Community Library
September 2, 2006
Labor Day Holiday

North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Planning Commission of the Town of Mentone

Meeting dates for the remainder of
2006 are:

October 19, 2006

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Mentone Town Council

Meeting Dates for the Remainder
of Fiscal Year 2005-2006 are:

AUGUST 7, 2006

SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

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



DEVOTIONAL

1 - Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.
2 - Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.
3 - But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand now what thy right hand doeth: 4 - That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

Matthew 6:1-4 (KJV)

Have you ever done something in secret for someone? Doesn't it make your heart rejoice? We should be careful that the things we do are done from the heart and not to impress others. What we do for the Lord should be from a pure heart also. When we do this, our Father will see it in secret, but He will reward us openly.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND OTHER DATES

- Saturday, Sept. 2, 8PM, Mentone Springs Hotel, Broadway Under the Stars, by Northeast Choir
- Monday, Sept. 4, LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
- Sunday, Sept. 10, GRANDPARENTS' DAY
- Monday, Sept. 11, 6PM, Town Council Meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Tuesday, Sept. 12, 10:00AM, Rhododendron Garden Club, Nippersink Lodge
- Tuesday, Sept. 12, 7 PM, American Legion Hall, Post 215 Meeting
- Sunday, Sept. 17, CITIZENSHIP DAY
- Saturday, Sept. 23, AUTUMN BEGINS
- Wednesday, Sept. 27, 6:30PM, (monthly on 4th Wednesday of each month) Mentone Area Arts Council (MAAC) Board Meeting, at the Mentone Community House, open to the public
- Thursday, Sept. 28, 4PM, Mentone Waterworks Board Meeting, Board Room, open to the public
- Monday, Oct. 2, 6:30PM, DeSoto Rescue Squad meeting, Mentone Community House
- Monday, Oct. 9, 6PM, Town Council Meeting, Mentone Town Hall meeting room, open to the public
- Oct., 20, 21, 22, October Colorfest Brow Park, Mentone



Can anyone identify the mill in this photo?
Homer Crow asked that this be put in
The Groundhog in hopes it can be identified.