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THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville

Volume 29, No. 09

"Neighborhood News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

September 2010

Moon Lake Trading Company

By Evelyn Graves

Twelve years ago, Alex and Misty Watters purchased property between Little River Hardware and The Clip Joint on Highway 117. Recently, they decided to take the plunge and build a building on their property.

The beautiful new building is now open for business and is named Moon Lake Trading Company. The brick on the building is from old brick that was used on an old warehouse in Valley Head. Alex and Misty removed the mortar from the brick and got it ready for use. There is no doubt that it made a beautiful, eye-appealing structure for the new business which officially opened on August 5 to accommodate the Longest Yard Sale. Laura Mosher, talented artist from Cloudland, Georgia, made the store sign.

Moon Lake Trading Company has a variety of items for sale, including plants, local artist consignments, wind chimes, birdhouses and feeders, candles, some antiques, baskets, bicycles, and a current line of Boyds Bears which will be discontinued when the current inventory is depleted.

The business is going with "Go Green," and will have rain barrels and compost systems, mulch and pine needles in bulk. They need a loading device to expedite that part of the business. Alex operates Watters Excavating and the two businesses work hand in hand. He has been in that business since 1995. They plan to purchase a greenhouse to store the plants that they have. They will not be growers.

The ultimate dream for the business is to be an outdoor camping



equipment dealer.

This dream is still in the future.

Moon Lake Trading Company has a few consignments already, and they expect to get more as time goes on. If you have an interest in consigning with something that will fit into a rustic setup, contact Misty at 256-899-5622. Store hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 10AM - 5 PM. Alex and Misty and son Noah invite you to come by and visit.



Noah Watters, son of Alex and Misty Watters, standing behind the counter of the Moon Lake Trading Co..

THE GROUNDHOG

PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

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

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**CALL EVELYN GRAVES AT
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Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be typewritten and of reasonable length.

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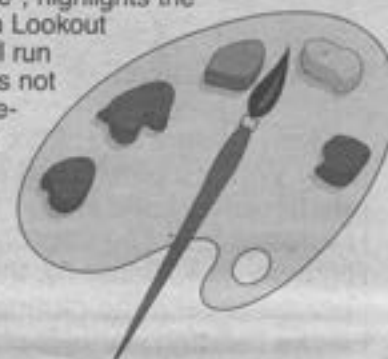
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Crow's Nest (Mentone Hitching Post)
Tourist Association (Fort Payne)
DeSoto State Park
Kilgore Pharmacy
Windwood Farms Restaurant
Little River Hardware
The Clip Joint
Snappy Tee's
Alabama Organics
Mentone Community Library
Second Chances

Mentone Artist Heather Nicely Gallery Exhibition through September 18

Studio 117, the loft gallery
at the log cabin offices
of Mentone Realty

A lifelong artist and long-time resident of Mentone, Heather draws her artistic inspirations from nature. A showcase of her art featuring a variety of mixed media including metal sculptures, pastel landscapes and mono-prints. Her exhibit, "Inspirations from Nature", highlights the beauty Heather finds in her everyday life on Lookout Mountain. It is sponsored by MACC and will run through the 18th of September. When she is not taking in the beauty around her, Heather creates some of her own, not only through her art but as a Landscape Designer.



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

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Please call Evelyn Graves at 634-4390, or email
Egraves37@aol.com. The Groundhog is printed
on the last day of each month.

We appreciate your cooperation and
understanding. Thank you.



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Bill Wise
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256-273-4467

Welcome To Mentone!!



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

.....**LOTS and LAND**.....

NEW LISTING! 1.97 ACRES IN HUNTERS RIDGE. Sloping, wooded building lot in Hunter's Ridge. One of the prettiest lots in the community. Access to Little River via the common area of the subdivision. Restricted. \$47,500. (20374)

REDUCED! HIKE TO DESOTO FALLS! 4.55-ac wooded, level lot covered in hardwoods located on beautiful E River Road in Mentone & offers privacy w/o having to be way out in the "boonies". Across the paved road is DeSoto St Park property w/hiking trail that will take you right to DeSoto Falls. Foundation already in place for a 4BR/2BA, 2,349 sq ft home w/attached 26x26 garage. Second driveway in place for add'l cabin. Now \$45,000. (20159)

5.2 ACRES CANYON VIEW FOREST. Nicely-wooded tract in a very secluded, gated development. Property backs up to Little River Canyon Nat'l Preserve & offers great views of the canyon & the river below. Just listed for \$90,000. (20294)

62.32 ACRES WITH GREAT VIEWS of both valleys and Lookout Mtn from ridge top with great building sites on elevated, level ground! Own your own hunting preserve, secluded woodland retreat, or investment. \$249,900 (19492)

40 ACRE WOODLAND, 2 CABINS. Mostly hardwood forest. One cabin fully furnished, 2nd cabin incomplete. Perfect retreat for a single family or an entire community. \$225,000 (17463)

NEAR COMER SCOUT CAMP, SKI RESORT & DeSoto Falls. One-acre lot covered in mostly hardwoods w/small wet-weather stream. Just off the Scenic DeSoto Pkwy! Perfect place for a tiny little woodland cottage or cabin. \$20,000. (20129)

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BEAUTIFUL EAST BROW VIEWS! Cedar-shake-sided cabin w/views of the Shiloh Valley below you, woods & boulders around you! Just nine miles from downtown Mentone, off the scenic mountain drive of Hwy 48 Cloudland. Very convenient to Atlanta, Rome, Summerville areas. 3BR/2BA, approx 2700 sq ft living area. Garage w/more than enough room for two vehicles, workshop & storage plus large bonus room upstairs to finish as your needs dictate. Beautifully-wooded & boulder-strewn yard (no mowing or lawn maintenance!); concrete drive. Great new price of \$209,000! (19628)



YOU'RE GONNA KICK YOURSELF if you let this one get away! Spacious downtown Mentone building w/wonderful road frontage & parking! Priced right. Potential as farmer's market, retail shops, office spaces, art gallery, meeting center...the possibilities are quite amazing! (Pssst...and so is the price!) Only \$98,000. (20070)



MOSSY ROCK AT MENTONE! One level, 2BR/2BA cabin w/vaulted ceiling in great room; wb Fpl; custom cabinetry; screened side porch off MABR; HW & tile floors; beamed ceilings & walk-in closets in both BRs. The perfect blend of rustic luxury & energy efficiency. Contract now and help select finishes & colors! \$175,000. (20416)



THE TRUE NATURE OF MENTONE'S ALLURE. An original summer mtn retreat. Quaint 2-story cottage. Magnificent views from the porch. Full kitchen & living area. The charm & ease of summers long past, the promise of summers to come. \$375,000. (20273)



CORNER OF PLENTY! 40x100 metal building, erected in 2003, remodeled in 2010, has PLENTY of space, PLENTY of potential & PLENTY of uses! 2 levels of finished, heated & cooled area for retail or residential use. 4-bay shop for add'l retail/commercial use. Level lot w/PLENTY of parking on Hwy 117, frontage on Co Rd 641. Add'l lot avail. Just listed for \$199,900. (20354)



SCENIC PARKWAY COTTAGE between DeSoto State Park & Mentone, near Corner Scout Camp & Cloudmont Ski Resort. Updated & remodeled 2BR/2BA one-level home in a picture-perfect setting in the trees. Beautiful native trees & flowering plants in the yard; screened porch; stone wb Fpl; rustic beams; roomy kitchen; all new baths & CH/A. Now \$140,000 (19531)



A LOG CABIN IN THE WOODS, surprisingly spacious, with 3BR/2.5BA, generous laundry room. Plans call for gaslog Fpl, CH/A. Less than 4 miles from village of Mentone, higher up the mountain. Plenty of wildlife, pleasant walking areas, near Ponderosa Camp. Construction is not quite finished, but will be finished and the price is an amazing \$119,900 (19512)



APPALACHIAN STYLE LOG CABIN on 1.52 wooded acres. Hand-hewn logs; half-dovetail corners; huge beams inside! This is a true handcrafted mountain cabin with rock wood-burning masonry Fpl, 2BR/2.5BA, open vaulted ceiling LR/DR/KJ combination, wrap-around porch; circle drive. A work of art as well as a cabin for only \$234,500 (20275)



THE BARN... But not like any barn you've ever seen! 2BR/2BA split design cabin w/pine floors & ceilings, fabulous wb fpl, open central great room w/17' gambrel ceiling & old tin walls. Fully-furnished. Nicely-equipped kitchen. Screened porch w/hot tub. Currently on rental program at the Settlement at Monk's Cove. Great rental history! \$180,000. (19473)



SANCTUARY IN THE ABBEY... at the Settlement at Monk's Cove! 2BR/2BA exquisitely-furnished 2-level cabin w/leaded glass entry door & transoms throughout; wb Fpl; screened porch w/hot tub; "belltower" observation deck. Divinely decorated in keeping with the Abbey theme. Currently on rental program (history avail.). Sold furnished. \$180,000. (19472)



YOUR NEW CABIN and this is one VERY nicely done cabin! Though not huge on square footage, it is NICE & cozy. Full kitchen, living area, bedroom, bathroom, screened porch, hot tub, appliances. Anderson windows. Full back porch. 1.4 private, wooded acres in Mossy Rock. \$157,500. (19721)

SOLD

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mentone Area Arts Council
Labor Day Art Show
Saturday, September 4, 2010
Sunday, September 5, 2010

Boom Days
Saturday, September 18, 2010
Downtown Fort Payne

MAPA Colorfest
Brow Park, Mentone
October 16-17, 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010
OCTOBER 11, 2010
NOVEMBER 8, 2010
DECEMBER 13, 2010

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

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

OCTOBER 15

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER 22
OCTOBER 27
NOVEMBER 22
DECEMBER 22

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

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

SEPTEMBER 13
OCTOBER 11
NOVEMBER 8
DECEMBER 13

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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

1 - Cynthia Luck, Bernise Crow (in memory), Bob Baty
 2 - Huey Matthews, Grace Tucker
 3 - Dorma Hutcheson, Dianne Tindol
 5 - Daniel Stone, Jo Tullis
 6 - Cecelia Jackson, Sarah Keener
 7 - Heather Nicely
 9 - MaKenna Purvis
 10 - Leola Owens
 11 - Daniel Wilson, Terry Turner
 13 - Karen Wright, Ann Wright
 14 - Brittany Blalock
 16 - Brooklyn Wright, Jennifer Davis, Kathy Casler
 17 Dylan Pannell
 18 - George Lillich
 22 - Gwen Foster, Dessie Bailey (in memory)
 23 - Dorothy Crow, Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones
 24 - Wesley Chesnut
 25 - W.B. McCurdy, Bradley Wright, Collie Griffith
 26 - Jim Jones, Chloe Griffith

27 - Angela Wood, Scott Baty

28 - Bailey Kirby

30 - Harriett Lillich, Kaitee McGee

Anniversaries

1 - Donald & Edna Morgan, Jack & Olive Jones
 5 - John & Jan Wilkinson, Wayne & Cynthia Wootten
 15 - Joe R. & Leola Owens, Charles & Evelyn McGee
 24 - Russell & Karen Wright
 25 - Wesley & Ann Chesnut
 27 - Stephanie & Steve Moore



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SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 North of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School at 10AM, Worship Service

at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30PM.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mentone United Methodist Church, 415 Cutler Avenue, Mentone, Alabama invites you to come and worship with us. Each Sunday, our worship service is at 11:00 a.m. and Sunday School is at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Bill Parker of Glencoe, Alabama is the pastor. He and his wife, Nancy, reside in the parsonage on weekends. The service of Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month, the second Sunday is Youth Sunday and Fifth Sunday is a service of music and potluck lunch. Visitors are welcome and members are expected to attend.

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

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

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

Summit Church of God invites you to be in service. Sunday morning 10:45 a.m., Sunday night 5:00 p.m., Wed. Bible study 6:30 p.m. Pastor Lance Kincer invites everyone. Summit Church of God will be renting spaces for Worlds Longest Yard Sale in Aug. \$10.00 a day. For info, call 265-634-4418

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

Mentone Community Church, 90 Summerville Rd., Mentone, AL 35984

Sunday Services: 9 am and 10:30 am
Adult Sunday School: Sundays @ 9:30 am
Teen and Adult Sunday School: Sundays @ 5:30

Tuesday Night Prayer Service: 6:30 pm
Wednesday Nights @ 6:30 pm: Children's Pioneer Clubs & Youth Group

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

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church welcomed a new rector, The Rev. Lesley Hay, on Sunday the 8th of August. Rev. Hay comes to Mentone from Guilford, Ct. where she served several churches as an interim rector. She came to the United States on an exchange program to study at Yale University, and spent the next several years living in that area.

Rev. Hay is a citizen of Great Britain, but enjoys living and serving her church in the United States. She is looking forward to getting to know the people of Mentone and becoming involved in community events. She is especially looking forward to the Senior Lunch program that will begin soon sponsored by MERF each fall and spring.

We invite you to drop by St. Joseph's and meet our new rector and also to join us in our worship service each Sunday at 10:30AM.



DEVOTIONAL

By Evelyn Graves

As I prayed for God to give me something for the devotional that He would have us to hear, I kept being impressed with, "Be still and know that I am God." I thought the impression was for me to be still and wait for the answer. I kept "being still" and listening. It finally dawned upon me that this is the intended subject for the devotional from Psalm 46: 10 which reads, "Be still and know that I am God."

We are all so occupied with the things in which we are involved that we do not take time to meditate. When we pray, we do not wait for God to speak to us. We wonder sometimes why God does not answer our prayers - it is because we do not listen. Let us spend less time talking and allow more time for God to commune with us, and we may be surprised at how much happier our lives will be.

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TURN OFF THE WORLD! Enjoy a scenario for serenity on two acres. Enchanting 3BR/2+BA Contempo. Metal-roofed two-story complemented by high ceilings, double master suites, plus a large view deck. FURNISHED! \$349,900 (18872)



NEAR DESOTO STATE PARK WITH 5.5 ACRES! This almost new home includes 3BR/2BA, bonus room, or possible 4thBR. Kitchen with b/fast bar, formal dining room, large laundry. Extra large 2-car garage has separate workshop/storage area. \$239,900! (20355)



ROCK HOUSE RETREAT! 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, office, formal dining room, beautiful interior rock walls, large 2 car detached garage with storage room, 5.58 acres with waterfall. \$118,500 (20358)



CUTE LITTLE RED HOUSE! 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living room with wood ceilings, newer CH/A unit, relaxing front porch and beautiful shade trees. \$38,500 (20359)



COUNTRY SETTING AT IT'S BEST! Spacious home with barn, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen and dining area, two-sided porch and a metal roof. Just one slip away. Call today! Only \$69,000!! Reduced to \$99,900 (20003)



NICE BRICK HOME IN VALLEY HEAD!! 3 Bedrooms and 1 Bathroom on almost a 1/2 Acre lot. Fenced in Front Yard. Don't let this one slip away. Call today! Only \$69,000!! (20367)



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



BROW LOT w/Creek on Lookout Mtn! Enjoy the Ridges & Mtns Beyond! 2 1/2 Miles from DeSoto State Park, this Property is Close to Recreation and Scenic Views! \$52,000! (19133)



MOTIVATED SELLER! 3 ac. within walking distance of Little River Canyon! Gated entrance, private road, and underground utilities! Wildlife abundant! \$45,900. (17195)

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Kerry Breithaupt LMT
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IN-TOWN CHARMER - Walk to downtown Mentone from this 2BR/1.5BA cottage featuring wood floors, cathedral ceiling and gazebo all on 1 acre with more available. Call today! \$149,900 (16659)



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY is found in this log cabin. 2BR/1BA on main floor, L-shaped living/dining/kitchen combo. Upstairs offers 2 sleeping areas and bath. Cozy front and back porches. \$229,000 (18871)



LOOKING FOR A MOUNTAIN GET-A-WAY? 3BR/1BA, completely remodeled and is move-in ready. New appliances, updated wiring, new CH&A, fresh interior paint and rock fireplace. \$89,900 (17931)



MOVE UP TO RIVERFRONT... Open and Airy 3BR/3.5BA with an oversized state-of-the-art kitchen, stone fireplace, wood and tile floors, lots of windows, large back deck and boat dock. \$495,000 (17781)



IN-TOWN PRIVACY! Sit on the screened porch of this 3BR/2BA cottage and enjoy the peaceful quiet of mother nature. Just a short walking distance to downtown Mentone. \$119,000 (19082)



BREATHTAKING VIEWS from all around this 3BR/2.5BA home that was recently completed at Lake on the Brow. 2-car garage, access to a private 14-acre lake and so much more. \$489,000 (20031)



WEEKEND RETREAT or PERMANENT RESIDENCE - 2BR/2BA cabin located off DeSoto Pkwy. Kitchen/Dining combo, eat-in bar and all appliances. Wrap-around deck and walk-out balcony. \$159,900 (19835)



BREATHTAKING VIEW! You can enjoy the view year round from this one-level brick home on the brow. 3BR/2BA, living/dining combo, sunroom, large deck and much more. \$450,000 (17082)



INCREDIBLE BROW HOME... 3 levels, family room, kitchen w/breakfast bar and all appliances, stacked rock fireplace/bbq grill, patio and decks. Garage apartment. FOR LEASE or SALE. \$699,000 (15736)



NORTH BROW - Unique log structure that was moved from Georgia. 1BR/1BA, open living space and lots of room for entertaining. 8.3 acres +/- \$279,900 (18256)



BRICK HOME w/lots of native mountain foliage. 3BR/2BA overlooking the West Fork of Little River. Large yard, screened porch, 2 storage sheds and a 2-car garage. \$199,000 (16371)



LIVE & PLAY on the water...200' of frontage on the East Fork of Little River. 3BR/2BA, all appliances, wood burning fireplace, storage building and more. \$347,900 (18278)



CUSTOM BUILT LOG CABIN... situated on 2 lots in Laurel Creek. 2 LARGE BR/2BA, spacious great room with cathedral ceilings, hickory floors, 2-car garage, and fishing dock. \$229,000 (18898)



CABIN & FURNISHINGS!!! 1BR/1BA frame cabin has 640 sqft and features a rock fireplace and foundation, wood walls and floors, CH&A, front and back porches. 1.19 acres. \$132,500 (18990)



LAUREL CREEK... Custom home offering 2BR/2BA, comfortable living/dining area w/cathedral ceilings, rock fireplace, over 600' of screened porches, and access to 3 lakes. \$194,500 (18918)



HEARTWOOD situated on 23.4 acres the main cabin is approx. 1500 SF with an open design floorplan, 2BR/2BA, a sleeping porch, and lots of character. So much more to offer. Unique property! \$395,500 (20352)



SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD... UNIQUE "round" cabin offering an open living space, 2BR/1BA, most all furnishings. 9.58 acres and SPECTACULAR views of the valley and mountains beyond. \$295,000 (20120)



THIS IS IT!!! Custom 3BR/2.5BA, BONUS room, living w/fireplace, kitchen/dining combo, above-ground pool w/deck, 1 acre, overlooking pond. \$224,500 (20051)



UNIQUE 2 BR/2BA property with decks all around overlooking the West Fork of Little River. Stone fireplace. Balcony/Sleep loft. This is a must see! \$239,000 (19844)



THIS WARM & COZY CABIN nestled in the woods offers seclusion, privacy & tranquility in an artful setting. Pine wood floors, wood burning FP, vaulted ceilings w/exposed beams. \$174,900 (19524)



Spectacular ONE-OF-A-KIND residence or vacation home nestled along side Little River. Recently remodeled 4000+SF home that is being sold furnished. 3 large living areas, 4BR/4BA, chef's kitchen and 3-car garage. The list of amenities is long...This is a MUST SEE! \$1,249,000 (20277)



CUSTOM BUILT, 2 BR/2BA Log Cabin situated on shaded, wooded acres. Two stone fireplaces, luxurious loft, 3 season sleeping porch, detached storage, additional small cabin, tiny pond. Kitchen with 5 Star six burner gas range...Ambiance/quality/privacy/dramatic flair. \$299,500 (20272)



MENTONE TREASURE! Over 300' of the most private and panoramic brow frontage in downtown Mentone. Restore this 3BR/2BA home to its original splendor. Also included is an in-ground pool and pavilion. \$600,000 (18271)



MENTONE - Over 200' of breathtaking brow view of mountains and valley located within walking distance to Historic Mentone. Partially finished cabin with 2 rock fireplaces and a 2-car carport. \$275,000 (18270)

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

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

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

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

HIDDEN LAKE SUBDIVISION bordering in File. Great for a Vacation Home or restricted subdivision near downtown Little River Canyon. Private, gated and restricted. (17327)

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

WATERFRONT LOT IN RESTRICTED LAKE ON THE BROW COMMUNITY! 104 feet of water frontage! Mild Restrictions. (17268)

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

BUILD YOUR CABIN HERE on this beautiful water, swimming, canoe to enjoyment. (17268)

GREAT BUILDING LOT situated inside the city limits of Mentone. Property has an existing storage building and split rail fence. \$79,900 (19860)

BROKEN DAM @ LAHUSAGE! Located atop Lookout Mountain on Little River - River tracts offering fantastic year round or... purchase in anticipation of future (17268)

BREATHTAKING... Sunsets and views await you from this 6.5 acre, approx. 300 ft brow lot in Mentone. Build your personal home, vacation home or rental cabin and start enjoying this opportunity or... purchase in anticipation of future (17268)

Travels close to home With the Grandchildren

By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

All of my grandchildren live in the Birmingham area where they go to the zoo, Alabama Adventurers Water Park, McWane Center, the IMAX Theater and the largest state park in Alabama without ever leaving home. So when they came to visit me I wanted to find something unique that they would enjoy. I also had an added problem of ages ranging from six to 14 so I needed to find something that would appeal to all of them. It was July with temperatures hovering at 100 degrees so it needed to be something inside.

We'd save Desoto State Park and the Little River Canyon for another visit.

For our first short trip I chose the Booth Western Museum in Cartersville, GA. I had been there earlier with a group of senior adults and we all enjoyed it immensely. They have an entire floor devoted to younger children so I thought it would provide a fun day full of activity for four young ladies (and one much older one).

As we were getting ready with a lot of nagging from me to the teenagers just like I used to nag their moms, two of the girls found men's hats to wear. After a little rummaging through some hats recently acquired from a storage unit of my late cousin, all were clad in hats. The six year old chose a woman's hat with fur around the brim. The others had men's hats.

We arrived shortly before lunch. I was reminded that getting an early start doesn't mean the same to the younger generation that it does to me. We went immediately to the lower floor called Sagebrush Ranch. It has a lot of interactive activities for children. We had the entire area to ourselves so the teenagers weren't embarrassed to be kids again. There was a "stagecoach" that rocked back and forth giving the feeling of riding on those bumpy "roads" in the old west. There were dress up clothes and a bunkhouse but by far the favorite for all ages was the life sized horse. When you climbed on his back he gave realistic neighs. After the first time of helping the six year old climb into the saddle, she was soon swinging up in the saddle just like her older cousins. There were a lot of interactive stations. We could have checked out a saddlebag when we came in that would have provided materials to use at those stations but we didn't.

After spending about an hour there, we went up to the second level to eat lunch. When I went with my older friends, we ate at a nearby restaurant which was wonderful but since I was paying for the meal, I decided that we would try the soup, salad, sandwich café in the museum. It was a good choice. Two of us got a hamburger which was made to order and was quite good. One had a deli sandwich that she announced was perfect. The ten year old had a grilled cheese. The six year old wanted chicken noodle soup even though I encouraged her to make what I thought was a better choice. She was adamant and ate her soup right down to the last slurp. We spent a few minutes in the gift shop and then joined the guided tour that is a part of the admission price.

I had done the tour when I went before and it is geared for adults (although they offer a tour for younger fans when there is a younger group). I wasn't sure that we would last through the entire tour since I had the only children on the tour. I had a different guide than the first time so the emphasis was different and I

got an entirely different prospective from the first time I came. I was quite proud of my grandchildren. They were attentive and both answered and asked questions. The two younger ones, being shorter, saw things on their level that the guide had never seen.

I made sure that they saw the realistic statue of the solitary cowboy standing by the fence. When my older granddaughters posed with him for a picture, I could almost imagine a hint of a smile on his face.

We finished our trip to Cartersville at Meg Pie Too with ice cream for the two younger ones and a coffee drink for the rest of us. We waited out a storm there. The proprietor was gracious and the shop is so intriguing that nobody was bored.

I was eager to find out what my band of four thought about the museum so I asked them what their favorite thing was about the museum. Hilary, age 14, liked learning that you could tell an Indian tribe by the type of headdress that they wore. She enjoyed the cow with a Navaho theme. Maggie, age six, found it interesting that some Indian tribes thought hats were magic. She liked the picture of Doc Holiday that had exaggerated heels on his boots. She asked the guide why he was wearing high heels. Her field of vision was right on the level with his boots. Josie, age 10, like finding out that cowboys drank coffee for every meal. Kira, age 14, like the realistic painting of a young woman dressed in cowboy garb on a ranch. She also liked the painting that showed a cowboy helping a little calf across the river.

It was a good day. The museum was quite economical. The two 14 year olds got in for a student rate, I had the senior rate and the two younger ones were free. I got an additional discount because I was a member of AAA.

The next day I decided to stay really close to home so we went to Sequoyah Caverns. Although it's just up the road from my

Valley Head home, I must admit that I hadn't been in many, many years. The thing that I think we all enjoyed was the coolness of the cave. It was certainly refreshing on a hot day. Tours leave on the hour so I timed our arrival so that they wouldn't have to spend too much time in the gift shop. There are some things you don't forget about traveling with children.

Immediately up entering the cavern, our guide pointed out some salamanders. Once again being short paid off because the younger two saw several that the guide didn't see. Our guide was knowledgeable and interesting and

allowed time for questions. Once again my group wasn't shy and asked several questions. He told us about school and church groups that spend the night in the caverns. They all thought that would be a wonderful thing to do but I think I'll not try that.

After we finished the tour, I did allow a brief time in the gift shop where I convinced them that they could fill a small bag with the smooth rocks and then share the contents. After we finished in the gift shop, we walked down to the petting zoo area where a friendly goat interacted with them for a snack of leaves that they picked up outside the fence. The same leaves were available inside the fence but



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TOP OF THE LINE DESIGN. Newly constructed Home on the W. Brow of Mentone. 5BR/3.5BA. Formal DR, custom Kitchen, SS appl, b'fast nook and eat-in bar, FP in Living room and also on the porch. Whole house Media and sound system. 2 car garage. A must see, with a sunset view. \$599,000 (19774)



WHIPPOORWILL FARM. 49 acres on the East Fork Little River. 2800 ft. on the water with deep pools and rapids. 2BR/2BA. Rock and log home with all the comfort amenities. Rock FP. Pasture land, wood trails-horse barn w/ apt, detached double garage. Screened sleeping cabin overlooking river. Much more! \$685,000 (19355)



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



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



NATURAL SETTING ON THE WEST FORK LITTLE RIVER. 4BR suites with Baths are part of this lovely home. Open Floor Plan, Dining, Den and sitting room. Kitchen with Complete Appliance package. 400 ft on the water with Rock formations. Located in the only Ski Resort in Alabama. Must see. \$379,000 (20246)



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS. This 58 acres has the combination of all that you could ask for. Brow views, pasture, woods, 3 lakes, 56x42 barn with concrete floor and electric. Darling Log and Rock Cabin with 1 bdrm 1.5 bth, rock and pine floors. CHA. 2 wells RV. hookup. What a setting. \$700,000 (20056)



PARK-LIKE SETTING on the mountain Mentone. 47 acres with 2 stocked spring-fed lakes, open fields, groved wood areas for hiking and horse back riding. Also Franklin Manufactured Home with 3 bdrm 2 bths open great room Kitchen with island Wood burning FP. All this and much more. \$350,000 (20265)



ENCHANTING COTTAGE in Laurel Creek Lakes. Access to 3 lakes for fishing & canoeing. Cypress sided 2 bedrooms, 2 baths with Stack Log and Stone Fireplace. Screened porch & Grilling deck. 1.4 acres \$147,000. (19676)



WALK TO MENTONE FROM THIS COZY COTTAGE! Enjoy the sunsets from the screened porch. 2BR, 1BA. Completely furnished. Great for weekend getaway or home. REDUCED TO \$135,000 (18891)



NATURAL CEDAR CABIN. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Columbian cedar walls (nice aroma) when enjoying the large open great room. Stack stone FP. Screen porch and access to Little River. \$154,900 (18541)



GETAWAY TO THIS MOUNTAIN LAKE HOUSE IN MENTONE. Cedar sided 2BR/2BA two-story with main level Living, kitchen, dining all open for entertaining. Large Fireplace, screened porch. Lower level bedrooms and large covered porch with stairs and multi-decks down to the water. \$309,900 (20215)



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



33 ACRES of Virgin Wooded property. Huge Poplar and Oak trees. level with over 500 ft of paved Road frontage. County water available. A great tract of land in the mentone area. This kind of property doesn't come around often. \$245,000 (20300)



THREE LOTS to choose from or buy any of the combination. 5.1 to 5.6 acres on the East Brow of Lookout mtn. Gated area called Valley View Forest. Very secluded, private, power available, must put in Well. Great buy at \$45,000 each (20298)



EAST BROW PROPERTY IN VALLEY VIEW Forest B section. Gated area. Homesite and drive-way cleared and ready to build. 10x16 building to be used for camping or storage. Beautiful panoramic Views. \$48,000 (20299)



STONEHEDGE. Named for its rock wall & stone veneered home perched on a most desirable 2.3 acres in the Mentone area on the West brow. This home has 4BR/3BA, and large fireplace, all on one level. Entertainment Gazebo and large deck. Detached garage. Weekend getaway, or permanent residence \$329,000 (19170)



MOUNTAIN CHATEAU. Feel like you are among the trees, from this 2 story with basement. Floor to ceiling windows in the great room. 2BR/2BA with whirlpool tub and separate shower in master. Loft overlooking great room and FP. Fully equipped kitchen. Secluded 4.77 acres with 250ft on the Bluff. Reduced to 245,000 (18133)



COMMERCIAL OR RESIDENTIAL. Just outside the city limits of Mentone. 3 Bdrm 2 bath, with living room and Den with Fireplace. Hardwood floors. Mature landscaping. Separate Studio building. Nicely sited on .97 acre \$67,000 (20369)

LOTS AND ACREAGE

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

NICELY WOODED 5 ACRES on DeSoto Parkway with Stream. Can be Residential or Commercial. Land has old homesite and green house. Large Rock formations. Possibilities are Endless! \$128,000 (19419)

40 ACRES located near Mentone. Stillhouse

Branch runs through the middle of tract. 2 waterfalls. Large rock formations along the hiking trails. What a wonderful sanctuary this would make for development or private estate. \$190,000 (18760)

40 ACRES located near Mentone. Stillhouse Branch runs through the middle of tract. 2 waterfalls. Large rock formations along the hiking trails. What a wonderful sanctuary this would make for development or private estate. \$190,000 (18760)

ONLY KNOWN COMMERCIAL ZONED B-1 in downtown Mentone. 120x130 lot located just past Mentone Springs Hotel and the Log Cabin Village

shops. Build your own business in Mentone. City water, paved rd. One block from central business area \$41,000 (20021)

50 ACRES - CLOUDLAND, GA. Great farm with 20x40 Barn, lg workshop, 3 outbuilds, garage, 3 wells, wet weather spring, 3 garden areas, approx: 5 acres cleared, beautiful hardwoods. 12x70 mobile home with rock foundation and so much more! \$199,000 (10251)

MUCH SOUGHT AFTER West Fork deep water. 1 mile upstream from Desoto Falls. Build your dock and gazebo and bring your boat or canoe to cruise

on the river. Great recreational lot. \$35,000 (19164)

WORMHOO TABOO FARM Beautiful land with open pasture, 2 ponds, wooded area with trails for horseback or ATV. Barn with tack or equipment storage. Fenced for livestock. City water and paved road frontage. What a setting \$180,000 (20161)

PRISTINE 18 ACRES on the East Fork Little River, over 1200 ft of river frontage, natural pools, fishing, canoeing, rafting. Build that dream home in this natural setting. \$350,000 (19136)

"Thank You"

After 24+ years at the Log Cabin Restaurant and Deli I have decided to retire. It has been a wonderful journey filled with many "stories" and "characters" and many great friends I have made through my customers.

Thank you to all of my many employees over the past years, each one with a different personality sharing their daily lives with me.

Thank you to the business owners of Mentone who over the years have come and gone, but each one in their own way working toward making Mentone a better place to live.

A special thanks to Rick who has been here since 1990, with a special "knack" with the "little ones," and patience with the very elderly, and of course the bikers.

Thank you to my family members, some of which have worked here over the years and others just waiting for me to retire so we could all spend more quality time together.

Thank you for the last day when tears flowed among us because it all will be missed, but a new journey will begin with the "Moonlight Bistro" which hopefully will be just as memorable.

Thank You,
Collette

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The Grande O'l Lady Art Show

450 Elm St. NW, Fort Payne
Sat., Sept. 18, From 10 a.m./6p.m.

This is also the date for the town's
Boom Days Festival

Sponsored by The Northeast Alabama
Art Council

For More Information: (256) 845-3398

The Northeast Alabama Art Council will sponsor its first Art Show at The Grand O'l Lady, in Fort Payne, Al, on Sept. 18, 2010, between the hours of 10 a.m./6 p.m. The show will be held at 450 Elm St. NW, Fort Payne, Al 35967. This is also the date for the town's Annual Boom Days Celebration.

It might be of interest to those of you who are planning to attend the art show to know a bit of history about The Grande O'l Lady. She was built during what has become known as the "Boom Days" of Fort Payne, Al. The boom days were a bust and left investors the worse for it.

Most came to the town seeking wealth from coal and ore. Many of them constructed what would, at the time, have been known as ostentatious homes, like The Grande O'l Lady. Their dreams soon dissipated when supplies of coal and ore ran out. Some of them went back to their original homes and to the places from which they had come. Others stayed in the town to raise their families and pursue their financial goals. In time, they helped to build a community which continues to thrive and prosper.

Because of this history, Fort Payne holds a "Boom Days" celebration each year in the downtown area. People from all over come to see arts and crafts, be entertained by bluegrass music and other festivities. This year, The Grand O'l Lady will make its debut into the scene with its first art show.

Artists from Dekalb, Jackson, and Madison Counties will be among exhibitors. The works of Artist in Residence Anne Hamilton will also be featured.

The council meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at The Rainsville Public Library and visitors are welcome.

The new non-profit organization was formed to raise the public awareness of all the arts and to promote the advancement of arts in the public school system, to find and provide new venues for artists, and to provide a youth program for at-risk children.

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MOON LAKE School News

September 6 - Labor Day - No School
 September 7 - PTO Meeting - Mrs Mills Class
 has the program
 September 8 - Progress Reports Go Home
 September 14 - Release Time Begins

Character Words for September

September 6-10 Patience
 September 13-17 Creativity
 September 20-24 Punctuality
 September 27 - October 1 Kindness

It is great to see all the old and new
 faces. Please come to the open
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Inspirations From Nature... Heather Nicely's Art and Life

By Charlotte M. Gentry

Environmentalist. Landscape designer. Artist.

Heather Nicely is passionate about her work, whether working to preserve a treasured waterway, planting a butterfly bush or making a monograph print notecard. In all her pursuits, Heather is inspired by her love of Nature's beauty here on Lookout Mountain.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Heather and her husband Lyle have been residents of Mentone since 1979, currently living in the old Holly Crest Guest House. Heather and Lyle's landscape designs, coupled with Lyle's skills as a structural designer and homebuilder, have resulted in a fantastic restoration to the old Mentone landmark and its lush gardens.

Heather describes herself as an environmentalist, a promoter of the arts, and an artist who is basically self-taught, but who has found guidance from a variety of sources.

Her interest in metal work started at a "Boom Days" celebration in Fort Payne a few years ago when she visited the Sloss Furnace's "pig iron" demonstration booth and made a metal tile. "I couldn't get it off my mind. I couldn't wait to get back the next year to do it again," Heather recalls.

She began to visit the historic Sloss Furnace in Birmingham, where she learned how to make molds. Then she taught herself the "Lost Wax" method of making a sculpture casting. She was hooked. "I can't get enough of it. I love the permanence of metal," she says. "I try to go to Sloss any time they have an open studio."

Another area where Heather has received guidance is in the area of mosaics. She had done a few mosaics during her lifetime, but it was Linda Munoz who Heather says "pushed me into it, in a way I'd never been pushed." Their beautiful designs on concrete benches may be found all over, particularly in public locations in Mentone, Valley Head and Menlo, Georgia.

A somewhat more unusual medium that Heather enjoys is wire. "I just started doing wire sculptures because I'm fidgety. I guess it's sort of a continuation of the line drawings I've always done," she states. "I love wire and the things you can do with it. Sometimes it evolves into something entirely different from what I originally had in mind."

Among Heather's works one will find many landscapes done in pastels because, as Heather explains, "you can be more creative with pastels. It's also a quicker medium. I can take my work out into the field, do a

simple drawing of the subject and then finish it when I get home." She adds, "There are so many landscapes to do here. I never run out of subject matter!"

Many visitors to Mentone are familiar with Heather's series of note cards featuring original drawings of wild flowers that are for sale in the Wildflower Café and other shops in the area. She started doing the cards as an offshoot of her pen and ink drawings that she began using as a teenager to enhance her watercolors.

There always seems to be a new project running through Heather's mind. "I'm thinking about creating a line of

Christmas ornaments out of wire, maybe some out of metal, possibly with animals or other things from nature," she muses.

"I like all art," Heather states simply.

Heather Nicely's exhibit, "Inspirations from Nature" is currently on display through the end of September at Studio 117, the upstairs gallery at the log cabin offices of Mentone Realty in downtown Mentone. The exhibit is a showcase of her art featuring a variety of mixed media including metal sculptures, pastel landscapes and monoprints. The exhibit is sponsored by the Mentone Area Arts Council. More information is available at the MAAC website: www.mentonarts.org.

(Charlotte Gentry is a freelance writer, member of MAAC, and Owner/Broker of Mentone Realty)



YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

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PHOTO: AD. BY NATHANIEL LEDBETTER, 715 WINDMILL LANE, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35206

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PHOTO: AD. BY GLENN PHILLIPS, 2962 CO. RD. 239, VALLEY HEAD, AL 35890

Travels, Continued from 8

I think he enjoyed being hand-fed.

Once again, I asked for a review from the group. Hilary said she liked everything about the cave. She said that she was amazed that tour guide knew so much. "I never knew that the cave was an ocean. I would definitely like to go again."

Kira liked the rock formations that looked like Yoda and a bear. She thought the reflecting pools were impressive. She liked all the fossils embedded in the ceiling that proved that there was once an ocean there such as sand dollars and sharks teeth.

Josie also liked the reflection pools because they looked really deep even though the depth was actually only a few inches. She also liked the "fat lady squeeze" because she thought the name was funny.

Maggie's favorite part was the salamanders because "they're slimy and live in a cool place". She liked the formation on the wall that people who lived in the city saw as a buffalo and people who lived on a farm saw as a farm animal. She announced that she saw it both as a buffalo and a sheep.

On our way back to Birmingham, I asked them what they enjoyed most and which place they'd like to visit again. They announced in unison, "the cave". I must admit that I expected them to like the museum more because there was so much to see. Maggie said as an afterthought, "If we can go back to the ice cream shop, I like the museum best." That's my girl.

Next month's trip will be to Mayfield Dairy in Athens, TN. Unfortunately Maggie is in school so I'll just eat ice cream for both of us.



ATTENTION READERS:

It's been quite some time since I've written to everyone. I would like to take this opportunity to Thanks everyone for all your prayers, help and support. It means the world to all of us here in the Gibson Family.

I am very happy to announce that I am now Cancer Free and ready to go back to work.

I thank you all for everything. So without further ado, Gibson Tree Service is back in Business!! Thanks Everyone!!

Sincerely,
Mark Gibson

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MERF is thankful for the gifts of Mentone

Mentone Educational Resources Foundation (MERF) has enjoyed another spring/summer on Lookout Mountain, offering senior lunches on Wednesdays and free after-school tutoring for Moon Lake Elementary School students. The MERF board is thankful for the organizations and individuals that volunteered their time, talent and good food to these programs. MERF continued funding the Moon Lake's Arts program with art, music and Spanish classes that produced wonderful art work, a great Christmas program and lively conversations. Several field trips were funded this year to expose Moon Lake students to life as a pioneer through Burritt Mountain, life as an astronaut through Space camp, life as a team builder and problem solver through Nature's Classroom, and life as a sea creature through the Tennessee Aquarium. Teachers will benefit from workshops this summer to better equip them to serve our Mentone children. Great conversations are occurring at the Community house this summer as Camp DeSoto campers are interviewing Mentone residents to compile an oral history of the mountain that will be produced as a video. As you can see, the current MERF board is actively seeking ways to accomplish our mission "to enrich the learning and the living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources."

Now more than ever, we need your help. The MERF Community House is often used for meetings, baby showers, family reunions, and celebrations. The board is continually working on its upkeep to serve the needs of Mentone. We have recently painted, upgraded the plumbing, repaved the walking track and purchased new chairs but there are more repairs needed. Central heat and air need to be installed which will also require an electrical upgrade. Some structural changes are also needed for safety reasons. We need financial assistance and support from the community. Please consider supporting MERF by sending a donation to P.O. Box 107 or purchasing a "Leave Me in Mentone t-shirt" at Little River Hardware, Crow's Nest Antiques or Mountain Laurel Inn B&B. And for fun, become a fan of MERF on facebook, check out our pictures and tell us what you love about this community! The MERF board is thankful for Mentone and all of our supporters.

.....
Senior lunches will begin again this Fall on Wednesday, September 22nd until Wednesday, November 17th. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. at the MERF community house. Anyone or any organization interested in providing lunch, please contact Sarah Wilcox at 634-4673 or sawilcox@gmail.com.

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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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JOHN BUNYAN (1628-1688)

By John Whitaker

John Bunyan was born November 28, 1628, in Harrowden (one mile south of Bedford, England) and died at age 59 on August 31, 1688. His parents were Thomas Bunyan and Margaret Bentley. Thomas Bunyan was a tinker, one who made and repaired various kinds of pots and kettles.

John Bunyan only received from two to four years of education; the classroom was his father's own house that served as a classroom to educate other boys of his social level. He followed in his father's trade and became a tinker also.

In 1642 the English War began. The war pitted the armies of King Charles I (the Royalists) against those of Parliament (the Puritans). The Royalists lost and Charles I was beheaded in 1649. Bunyan served in the Parliamentary Army from 1644-1647.

Tragically, in the year 1644, his mother and two of his sisters died, all very close together.

Then in 1647 Bunyan returned to his trade of tinker. It wasn't long until he married Mary in 1649. She was a local young woman. They parented four children. The first, Elizabeth, was born blind.

Bunyan's wife, Mary, was very influential in helping to bring about his conversion. He saw there was a better life for him to live and great spiritual struggle ensued. However, the chains of sins fell from him, and he became a member of the Baptist Church, where he was baptized in 1653.

Then in 1655 he became a deacon and began preaching. He was described as a tall man with reddish hair, a prominent nose, a somewhat large mouth, and sparkling eyes. Great masses of people began attending the

services and the church grew.

It is difficult for us to realize that England at this time in its history did not have freedom of religion. We are deeply blessed to have a constitution that permits freedom of religion; and some might even choose to have no religion at all. The founding fathers of our nation exercised great foresight to form a nation that gave each citizen the privilege to worship in the way he/she deemed fit.

What a contrast is seen in England. In 1660 Bunyan was arrested for preaching without a license. Great pressure was put upon him to become a part of the Anglican Church (Church of England). He refused. Thus, from 1660 to 1672 (except for a few weeks in 1666) Bunyan was imprisoned.

Like the great Apostle Paul, he resorted to writing about the Christian faith. Some times he would write while in prison but wait several years before he published. Some of the books he authored are as follows:

- 1) THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS FROM THIS WORLD TO THAT WHICH IS TO COME, (part 1, 1678 and Part 2, 1684). We know this work by its shortened title, THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS;
- 2) GRACE ABOUNDING, 1666; (This is his autobiography.)
- 3) THE LIFE AND DEATH OF MR. BAD-MAN, 1680;
- 4) THE HOLY WAR (1682).

His most popular work was THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS. This book ranks next to the Bible, having been translated in more than 200 countries. The work is an allegory, as we meet a number of symbolic characters:

Christian (Makes his way to the Celestial

City in Part 1)

Christiana, Christian's wife (Makes her way to the Celestial City in Part 2)

Giant Despair

Mr. Worldly Wiseman

Mr. Facing-both-ways

Faithful

Grace

Mr. Great-heart

Old Honest, and many, many more.

Bunyan wrote a total of 60 or more books and booklets. Some of these are as follows:

"Saved by Grace" "The Strait Gate"

"Christ—A Complete Saviour"

"A Holy Life- The Beauty of Christianity" "The Water of Life"

"A Book for Boys and Girls" "The Trinity and a Christian"

He was released from Bedford Jail in 1672 under Charles II, who issued the Declaration of Religious Indulgences. He became pastor of St. Paul's Church, and on May 9, 1672, he became one of the first to receive a license to preach. His congregation soon grew to 4000, and he eventually established more than thirty new congregations.

But in March, 1675, he again was imprisoned. The king, Charles II, withdrew the Declaration of Religious Indulgences. His release came after six months.

Death came to Bunyan August 31, 1688. He had been riding to London from Reading, but on the way he caught a cold which soon developed into a fever. Then death came. Like Christian in THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS he made it to the Celestial City.

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Moon and Chef Ben's Culinary Corner

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By L.C. Moon*

Sauces, dressings and dips are the accents that create magic in meals and party favors! Their accents blend flavors making your taste buds come alive whether you are creating a sauce, dip or dressing for meat, fish, cooked or raw vegetables, fruits or desserts. They can also add beauty to the presentation of a meal. Chef Ben and I believe presentation is always important because you begin your experience of a meal first with the aroma of the food, second with the sight of your meal and third with the taste. The culmination of these three things provides you an opportunity to appreciate the blend of textures and flavors as they grace your palate.

Sauces for Entrees

Before making a sauce or a dip you must first decide is your sauce going to be decadent and rich or is it going to be light and heart healthy. This will help you choose your base ingredients which are the key to great tasting foods. For cream sauces at the Wildflower Café we love to use only real heavy cream and for our herb butter we use sweet cream unsalted butter. While both cream and butter are high in fat, the sauces are usually meant to be only an accent to foods; such as cream sauce for grilled or blackened fish or light herb butter to sauté shrimp and add flavor to noodles. If you prefer you can substitute skim milk in place of heavy cream and extra virgin olive oil can replace butter in a recipe. A tip that I like to use when I am using olive oil in place of butter in a sauce is sautéing fine diced onion and minced garlic in olive oil to infuse the oil with a savory flavor. Infusing olive oil with these flavors creates a nice blend and removes the predominant flavor of the olive oil.

Another type of sauce great for red meat is an au jus. Au jus is a French term meaning meat served with its own natural juices. Fresh roasted Prime Rib with rosemary and garlic is simply delicious; add a fresh au jus and a tasty horse radish sauce on the side and it can be amazing!

Cold Dips and Dressings

Chef Ben and I love to play with ideas for dips and dressings. Our horsey sauce dip was created as a result of Chef Ben playing with some basic ingredients: sour cream, fresh horse radish, a little squirt of Bragg's liquid aminos and a hint of cayenne pepper.

When making our cold creamy dips we usually use sour cream as part of our base ingredients, as Chef Ben did with the horsey sauce. We also usually use Vegemise- a quality mayonnaise alternative- as part of our base ingredients for cold creamy dips and dressings. Vegemise is free of hydrogenated oils and trans-fats yet has an amazing flavor and works well as a sweet or savory dip. So if you want your cold dip to be lower in fat or vegan then use Vegemise without sour cream and you will still create a delicious accent for raw veggies or even fruit. Our favorite dip to make with Vegemise is aoli sauce. We started making aoli sauce (Japanese spicy mayonnaise) two and a half years ago after having it at our favorite Sushi Restaurant- Jinsei.

AOLI SAUCE

1 cup Mayo or Vegemise, 2 tsp minced garlic, 2 tsp Pepper Flake or Cayenne Powder, 1 tsp Sirachi

Simply blend all the ingredients together and chill. You may amend the ingredients to,

taste if you do not care for hot or you may want it hotter! This sauce is great with lightly pan fried vegetables such as tempura green beans, okra fritters and fried green tomatoes. It is also great with crab cakes and grilled or blackened fish!

If you want to make create a creamy salad dressing such as Blue Cheese or Ranch you can use a base of sour cream, vegemise or mayonnaise. Chef Ben and I usually use Vegemise and buttermilk as the base for our creamy dressings. The buttermilk creates the appropriate consistency for a dressing and adds a bold flavor. We love using local Wright's Dairy Buttermilk because the better quality the ingredients the more the flavor pops!

You can also make very heart healthy vinaigrettes at home for flavorful salads or marinades. When making our vinaigrettes we like to use high quality balsamic or red wine vinegar emulsified with extra virgin olive oil, herbs and spices. If you want to create a fruity vinaigrette, you can make a reduction of raspberries, blueberries or the fruit of your choice; then you can blend the fruit reduction with your base vinaigrette.

Sauces and Reductions to accent Meals and Desserts

Reduction is a fancy term for taking a liquid, heating it, evaporating some of the liquid and condensing the flavors whether it may be a fruit in its own juice or balsamic vinegar. We make a balsamic reduction for our Venetian Specials though it also divine on cheese cake, adding a little tart with the sweetness.

We also use the reduction process for making fruit sauces for our desserts and for our stir fry sauce. So if you would like to make a sauce for veggies and rice you can put a little orange juice in a pot, sweeten lightly, add a dash of Bragg's aminos, add your favorite spices, let it simmer on low heat for about an hour and it will thicken leaving you with a sauce perfect to add to your sautéed veggies and rice.

For information on where to find products in this article (some of which you may not have heard of or you may not know where to find them) you may contact us at (256)634-0066, or check out our website www.MentoneWildflower.com.

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(Appointment Basis)

July 26, 2010

Mr. Charles Warren
Superintendent
DeKalb County Board of Education
Post Office Box 1668
Rainsville, AL 35986

Dear Mr. Warren:

We are writing you in regard to the new gymnasium at Valley Head School. Our parents, James and Doris Carmichael, and all four of their children are graduates of Valley Head and we continue to have a deep interest in the school and community.

The Times-Journal recently reported that the new gymnasium is to be named for state senator Lowell Barron. Mr. Warren, the fact that Senator Barron helped obtain state funding for the school is acknowledged; however, he has no connection historically or presently with Valley Head School. Our community would very much appreciate the name recognition to be given to a Valley Head citizen and school supporter.

There have been many prominent citizens of Valley Head who have been active boosters of the school and its activities, particularly sports. Mr. L.M. Coleman, now deceased, was the driving force in obtaining the land for the first football field in the town, as well as being a generous donor to the school's athletic department. More than one former coach is honored in the school's trophy case for their leadership in taking Valley Head to the state football and basketball tournaments.

Again, Senator Barron has performed his job in helping secure the funds to build the gymnasium; the citizens of Valley Head deserve the honor of naming this new building, as a matter of civic pride.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and we look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Linda Carmichael Thomas
Emmy Carmichael Ricketts

CC: The Times Journal, DeKalb Advertiser, Groundhog

RHODODENDRON GARDEN CLUB NEWS**Dianne Kuehl, President**

On Tuesday, August 10, 2010, Rhododendron Garden Club members, Dianne Kuehl, Jill Whitten, Martha Wood, Margaret Baker, Elaine Gauldin, Madelon Houghland, Marilyn Knight and Marilyn Blanton Campbell met for the regular meeting. Dianne called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the M.E.R.F. Community House in Mentone, Alabama.

The floral design on the table consisting of red roses and yellow snapdragons was placed there to celebrate victory over the recent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Marilyn Blanton Campbell gave the meditation on the companionship with nature. She provided the decorations for the food table and those on each individual table and served refreshments fitting for the hot weather.

After the business meeting, Martha Wood explained the schedule for the VFW Fair Flower Show. She gave a complete workshop of floral designing. She explained the different design, size and meaning for each class in the schedule. She showed pictures of most of them. Martha gave a good demonstration of the use of mechanics in making floral designs. The members asked many questions and Martha answered them in detail. The question and answer session lasted so long that the members decided not to get into the planned making of floral designs. The categories of horticulture which can be entered in the flower show will be discussed at the September meeting.

The door prize was awarded to Margaret Baker and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting: September 14, 2010 in the M.E.R.F. Community House at 10:00 a.m. Ann Houston, DeKalb County Master Gardener, will be the guest speaker. She will provide information regarding the entries in VFW Flower Show Horticulture Division.

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

SIDEWALK ASTRONOMY

On Saturday, August 14, 2010 the area in and around the Moon Lake Community Library was buzzing with excitement. A night was planned to honor the memory of Roger Dowiat. Roger was a special friend of the library, a Mentone native and an avid astronomer. Roger was a member of the Atlanta Astronomy Club. The members of the astronomy club and the members of the board of directors of the library combined forces to honor Roger with a program of Sidewalk Star Gazing. More than eighty people gathered for the slide show presentation which prepared for the viewing of the night sky.

After the presentation, the group followed a path marked by luminaries to the walking track of the M.E.R.F. Community House. They congregated around the telescopes and members of the astronomy club guided the viewers as they looked at the moon, constellations and many other different star groups and planets. The whimsical clouds cleared long enough for the two hour stargazing party. Roger's family gathered with people from the Mentone community and the scouts from Boy Scout Troop 106 for a memorable and exciting evening. This was a special night to honor the memory of a special man.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Moon Lake Community Library will be September 15 at 3:00 p.m. Our meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend any of them. To be on the agenda for a meeting, call Jan Wilkinson.

Write to us: Moon Lake Community Library, PO Box 481, Mentone, Alabama 35984.

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