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"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain" — In our 30th year

Sept 2012

They Shall Rest Underneath Alabama Soil

Alabama Soldiers Honored 150 Years Later

By Dale Crawford

Seven score and eleven years after being interred in cold Virginia mud, numerous Alabama soldiers will finally rest beneath Alabama soil. This project started when 16 year old Boy Scout, Dane Smith of Nokesville, Virginia was looking for an Eagle Scout project. He called the Bristoe Station Battlefield Park which is near his home. Officials there suggested that he clean up an old abandoned cemetery inside the park.

Smith organized his forces of about forty volunteers and began cutting trees and clearing undergrowth under the guidance of park officials. As they began to work, history began to unfold. The cemetery was much larger than anticipated and would be identified as the Tenth Alabama Infantry Regiment Cemetery.

This regiment was organized at Montgomery, Alabama on June 4, 1861, and went to Virginia a month later. When it arrived at Winchester, it was brigaded under General E.K. Smith, with the Ninth and Eleventh Alabama, Nineteenth Mississippi and Thirty Eighth Virginia. It saw no battlefield action for several months and lay camped near Manassas and Centerville with General Wilcox in command.

Although they were not seeing action on the battlefield, they had collided head on with an enemy common to both sides and more deadly

than the diametrically opposed forces. This new enemy was sickness and diseases. Diseases were rampant because of lack of sterilization, lack of sanitation, unsanitary vermin ridden food and polluted drinking water. Battles along the creek such as First

typhoid, pneumonia, diarrhea, brain fever, chickenpox, dysentery, meningitis, the dreaded anthrax and many times a combination of two or more.

While camping at Bristoe, the Tenth Alabama made a considerable graveyard. Multiple burials were a

daily ritual as was the rifle salute honoring the fallen comrades. The Battle of Dranesville on December 20, 1861 added battlefield deaths to the already large cemetery.

When the discovery of the

cemetery made national news, the Alabama Division Sons of Confederate Veterans began raising funds to mark the area properly. Park officials requested a rock marker from Alabama. They requested that it not be granite or anything shiny. It should be rustic to match the surroundings.

Fred Hicks of Stevenson answered the call by donating a four-ton brown

river rock. It has already been transported to the site and will have a proper plaque placed on it at the dedication on September 22, 2012. Fred is a member of the Snodgrass Camp: Sons of Confederate Veterans in Stevenson.

In addition, buckets of dirt are being collected all across Alabama and will be transported to the site and spread over the graves. So, those soldiers who paid the ultimate price will finally rest under Alabama soil.

An area adjoining the Tenth Alabama Cemetery is believed to be Mississippi soldiers. Perhaps they will do some research also. The Eleventh Alabama Volunteers were camped in the same basic area. They didn't fare any better than the Tenth. Surely, they have a cemetery somewhere in the vicinity.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans in Alabama and Virginia have coordinated with the Park Service a dedication ceremony for September 22, 2012. The Alabama Division is working on chartering one or possibly two buses for the trip. It is anticipated that the event will be as large or possibly larger than the Stewart Ceremony held earlier this year or possibly the CSS Hunley Memorial Service. So make plans to attend.

The Alabama Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans will be spending several thousand dollars on this project. Jimmy Hill, 1st Lt.

Continued on page 7



Manassas had polluted the water with dead men and horses. Their primary drinking source was infested with maggots. Shallow dug wells, often in polluted areas and without proper walls didn't prove to be much better. Couple these factors with the crowded camp and it is little wonder that diseases spread like the plague. Most common of these diseases were: measles, mumps, whooping cough,

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 1, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, environment, and other qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



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Mentone's history
and impact its future.**

**Just \$10/year individual
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MAPA, PO Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984**

(Groundhog subscriptions are not included)

From the Editor

Porch sitting is such a pleasant pastime, isn't it? There's just something about observing the world from a porch that makes things seem a little less stressful, a little less hurried.

From the porch we see signs of the changing season: the sassafras leaves have become scarlet, the persimmons are a tempting coral-ly orange (they may look ripe, but we know better than to eat one this early), and there's a pleasant late afternoon breeze that hints of still-cooler evenings to come.

It seems the days are passing so quickly. Why, it was just a few days ago that the kids were getting out of school for summer vacation. Yet, here it is September and they're back at the books; football games are being played; PTO meetings are coming up; homework is to be done.

Can you believe it is almost time for Mentone's Annual Colorfest? The third weekend of October is right around the corner, and this year Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) and Mentone Area Arts Council (MAAC) are, again, working together to make this a premier regional event. The entire village of Mentone will be alive with music, arts & crafts, children's activities, and so much more!

There'll be hand-crafted items of all sorts, art in most every medium, music for every taste, foods to tempt even the strictest dieter, and a chance to win a beautiful handmade quilt (chances are for sale by MAPA members for only \$1.00 each). It isn't too late for artists, craftsmen, or folks who own a business to be a part of the festival. A few spaces are still available, so get your application in before the end of September.

Yes, the world and time seem to be hurrying by. Even in this quiet little village called Mentone, time doesn't stand still (though sometimes it may seem to). But, here on the porch, things do slow down a bit. I think I'll sit here just a little longer and enjoy these moments while I can.

C.

Letters To the Editor

Dear Editor,

I picked up a copy of "The Groundhog" at one of the Mentone shops this past weekend while I was in the area for my wife's annual family reunion at Desoto State Park Lodge, which we have been holding there off and on for the past 25 years or so. I was saddened to see the articles about the passing of Jack Jones. I did not know Mr. Jones personally, but I had crossed paths with him from skiing at Cloudmont numerous times since the late 1970's and spending weekends in cabins around Cloudmont and Shady Grove Dude Ranch.

These earlier visits not only to Mentone but to Desoto State Park and Little River Canyon (yes, I too was one of those young fools that kayaked it back in the early 1980's) were the inspiring memories for a song entitled "In the Valley Below" that originally started in the 1980's, eventually transforming to its current form which was just released on roots-appalachian artist Linda McRae's CD, "Rough Edges and Ragged Hearts."

Sincerely,

a little groundhog living in
Birmingham
Charlie Stephenson

Letters to the editor are welcome. They should be typewritten and of reasonable length. Send them to PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984 or email to editor-groundhog@yahoo.com



THE WAY I SEE IT
Chuck T. Groundhog

The Groundhog welcomes Chuck T. Groundhog!

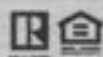
Chuck T. Groundhog (1st cousin to W. Chuck Groundhog), will become a contributing writer in upcoming issues of The Groundhog. W. Chuck was getting tired of running around the area finding hiding places and he knew it was almost time for him to go into hibernation anyway. We eagerly anticipate the first article in the October issue.

The Editor



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Welcome To Mentone!!



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

***** LOTS and LAND

10.8 ACRES ON N. BROW. Approx 340' of brow frontage. Awe-inspiring views; interesting rock formations; large trees. You can see almost forever, but this large tract of brow property won't last forever at this price. \$199,900. (PLS#21467; MLS#928654)

7.59 BROW ACRES, TATUM GULF a "get-away in the making." Roughed-in retreat or guest house on amazing brow lot on Lookout Mtn. Situated on a hillside of rhododendron by a small mtn stream, private & serene. Beautiful forest & great views. \$199,000 (PLS#21592; MLS#604670)

20 ACRES W/NICE FISHING POND & DOCK, corner property, mostly woodland. Great place to take the family, park a camper and enjoy the weekends. Nice land, nice pond, nice price!!! \$115,000. (PLS#21863; MLS#418106)

4.43 ACRES & RV ALREADY SET UP! Unrestricted property holds a lot of promise when you're ready to build. But, while you're waiting to build, you can enjoy weekends in the RV that goes with the property! Private drive off winding country road. \$52,000. (PLS#21853; MLS#311288)

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. \$229,900 (PLS#19492; MLS#313915)

LITTLE RIVER NEAR DESOTO FALLS. Build perched on a hillside looking up and down stream. Deep water access for swimming, fishing & boating. Nature hike to the Falls. \$175,000. (PLS#322036; MLS#708869)

NEW LISTING! TWIN OAKS. Quite possibly the prettiest subdivision in the Mentone area. Level 3-acre lot with plenty of shade. Underground power, city water (fire hydrants, too). \$36,000 (PLS#22366; MLS#644009)

GOIN' UP THE COUNTRY. Slow pace living at its best. Great building lot; unrestricted, level, with lots of trees. Not a big lot, not a big price. Only \$7,500. (PLS#21572; MLS#551773)

35 ACRES WITH 1200+ RIVER FRONTAGE! W Fork Little River, upstream from historic Alpine area. Intriguing rock formations, canoeing/kayaking access, deep natural swimming hole. Private mtn getaway or camp potential! (PLS#21869; MLS#305668)

www.mentonerealty.com
Office: (256) 634-4767



WINDWOOD FARM, 192.28 acres of pastoral beauty, interspersed w/streams, woods, ponds & rolling hills. Great hunting, fishing, pasture/farmland, gardening, or retreat to enjoy lots of wildlife including deer & turkey. Graceful 3178 sq ft, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Main house w/stone WB Fpl; HW floors main level; lg sun porch overlooking pond; detached 2-car garage. 2BR/2BA Guest house w/4-car basement/shop. Barns, 2 creeks, 4 ponds (including stocked fishing pond w/dock); frontage on Hwy 117 & East River Road. 45 minutes from Chattanooga, TN; 2 hours from Huntsville AL, Atlanta, GA & Birmingham, AL. \$1,200,000. (PLS#21978; MLS#966994)



MILLSTONE AT LAHUSAGE. Stone & board-n-batten, 3BR/2.5BA, one-level cottage. Extreme total makeover: new roof, windows, plumbing, wiring, sheetrock, CH/A, cabinets, floors; more. Quaint board-n-batten outbuildings. New board fence around yard shaded by mature hardwoods. Old grist millstone embedded in rock work. Lake is just across the road. Home or getaway. \$175,000 (PLS#22540; MLS#960277)



MOUNTAIN HAVEN. Down a private winding lane, through the woods, is this charming, one-level, 1800 sq ft cabin home w/3BR/2BA; mtn stone, wood-burning Fpl; pine floors & ceilings; unfinished, grooved plywood walls throughout; front & back porches (screened on back!) w/pleasant view of neighboring lake. Stone work along drive, foundation, steps & walkway. 15+ acres. \$239,900. (PLS#21688; MLS#516090)



MENTONE WOODLAND CABIN with all the right stuff: spacious porches on front & back; covered balcony porch upstairs; mtn stone Fpl (gas logs); 2 (or 3) BR; 2 BA; lotsa wood inside & out (wide pine plank floors & local poplar in MABR); easy-care lot that you don't have to spend all your vacation time mowing! Located just off the DeSoto Pkwy between DeSoto State Park & Mentone near Camp Corner. \$169,900 (PLS#22414; MLS#387327)



MOUNTAIN LAKE CABIN on Lake Lahusage. 3BR/3BA, 2400 sq ft get-away. Swim, boat & fish or just relax on the porch. Mountain Lake place w/hand-crafted by "Katie" is a rock w/wood great dock. Property on sides of paved county road. Gated, paved, circle drive. Furnished. \$375,000. (PLS#22204; MLS#798979)



A REAL LOG CABIN in Hunters Ridge, on 2.06 acres. 2BR (or 3 if you decided to turn the DR into a BR)/2.5BA, great covered front porch to enjoy the serenity & quietude of nature's beauty around you. Small stream below the back deck gives wildlife a place to drink and humans a place to spend peaceful mornings with a cup of coffee. Stone Fpl w/gas logs completes the mountain getaway atmosphere. Quite a deal! \$125,500 (PLS#20916; MLS#588906)



1.46 ACRES & HOUSE ON BROW w/breathtaking sunset & valley views! Finding this much property, this much house, at this low price is not something you find every day. 4BR/2.5BA, 2-car att garage; back deck w/hot tub; established, landscaped yard. Over 185' brow frontage. Less than a mile from downtown Mentone. Residence, retreat or rental! \$264,500. (PLS#21259; MLS#580676)



PRIVACY, A POND, A BARN & A VIEW! 13.3 ACRES Mentone woodland property w/2BR/2BA home, designed to take advantage of sunsets & vast view w/lots of windows & screened front porch looking down on pond (with dock) and also see the mountains far in the distance. Barn w/carport & garage, storage & pens. Fruit trees, garden spot, flowering plants. Private & quiet. \$199,900 (PLS#21992; MLS#927892)



GORGEOUS CABIN IN THE WOODS, at the end of a quiet lane. Perfect for those who want to be nestled in the woods, but not too far away from it all. 1 1/2-story cabin has 3BR/2BA; main-level MABR suite w/jetted tub & sep shower. Upstairs 2BR/1BA. Wrap-around porch w/covered front porch. Beautiful HW floors; vaulted beam ceiling & WB Fpl for snuggling on cool evenings. SS appliance pkg. \$170,000 (PLS#22493; MLS#636012)



HOME, 6 ACRES, POND, PASTURE, fruit trees, blueberries, nice woods, waterfall & stream in Mentone! Freshly updated. 2 (or 3)BR/3BA, cedar-sided, one-level home. New cabinets, granite countertops, appliances, paint. Pine floors. Detached 2-car+ garage. Easily accessed from Hwy 117, but hidden behind a nice little woodland w/seasonal waterfall & stream. \$199,900 (PLS#22158; MLS#504329)



THE JOHNSON PLACE. An immaculate, one-level, rambling ranch home in the heart of Mentone. 4BR/3.5BA; det 2-car garage; att carport; dock; family room w/WB Fpl; den w/stone WB Fpl; formal LR & DR; huge kitchen w/b/fast bar & dining; new roof; det office/conference area. On the corner of Lynchney & Cool St. The brow view & lovely sunsets are only a glance away! \$195,000. (PLS#21833; MLS#657739)

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES SEPTEMBER

Birthdays

- 1 - Connie Bell, Cynthia Luck, Bernise Crow (in memory), Bob Baty
- 2 - Huey Matthews, Grace Tucker
- 3 - Dorma Hutcheson, Dianne Tindol
- 4 - Vance Carden, Markettia Crane
- 5 - Daniel Stone, Jo Tullis
- 6 - Cecelia Jackson, Sarah Keener
- 7 - Amelia Saferite, Heather Nicely
- 9 - Diannia Keef, MaKenna Purvis
- 10 - Landon Allen, Sam Langston, Leola Owens
- 11 - Daniel Wilson, Terry Turner
- 12 - Cynthia Stinson
- 13 - Karen Wright, Ann Wright
- 14 - Nathan Tomlinson, Brittany Blalock
- 16 - Haley Saferite, Brooklyn Wright, Jennifer Davis, Kathy Casler
- 17 - Angie Carden, Matt Chesser, Dylan Pannell
- 18 - George Lillich
- 19 - Bruce Wood, Fredia Jones
- 22 - Gwen Foster, Dessie Bailey (in memory)
- 23 - Dorothy Crow, Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones
- 24 - Ian Blair, Wesley Chesnut
- 25 - W.B. McCurdy, Bradley Wright, Collie Griffith
- 26 - Jim Jones, Chloe Griffith
- 27 - Alfie Chambers, Libby Tubberville, Angela Wood, Scott Baty
- 28 - Bailey Kirb
- 29 - Rusty Chambers
- 30 - Harriett Lillich, Kaitee McGee

Anniversaries

- 1 - Donald & Edna Morgan, Jack & Olive Jones
- 2 - Shane & Ashley Ingram
- 4 - Carl & Katy Tubberville
- 5 - John & Jan Wilkinson, Wayne & Cynthia Wooten
- 9 - Don & Rhea Pirch
- 15 - Joe R. & Leola Owens, Charles & Evelyn McGee
- 23 - Kevin & Kayla Worthey
- 24 - Russell & Karen Wright
- 25 - Wesley & Ann Chesnut
- 27 - Stephanie & Steve Moore

Senior lunches at the MERF house will begin again on Wednesday, September 19, 2012.

Flu Shots will be given by Rite Aid Pharmacy from 12:30-2:30 at the MERF House.

SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAPA MEETS every 1st Tuesday. 6 pm Board meets; 6:30 pm general meeting. Join MAPA and help us make a difference in our community!

THE PETTIS FAMILY CONCERT, Sat, Sept 8, 8 pm. DeKalb Theater, Ft Payne. Renowned performers with superb skills of composition, voice and instrument. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be picked up at the Fort Payne Chamber office. Info (256)845-2741

JOE UNDERWOOD GOSPEL SINGING. Sun, Sept 9, 3 pm. Ft Payne City Auditorium. Come and enjoy some of Gospels best. Info (256)845-2741

MOON LAKE PTO Meeting Tuesday, Sept 11. Executive committee meets at 4:45pm in the MERF House. The General meeting is at 6:00pm in the school gym

FORT PAYNE BOOM DAYS Heritage Celebration. Sept 15, starts at 10 am. Some events will take place the week prior to the celebration on Saturday. Downtown Ft Payne in area of Union Park. Info (256) 845-1524

ANNUAL JOHN BENGE MOTORCYCLE RIDE Sept 15. Commemoration of DeKalb County's Cherokee Indian Heritage and the Trail of Tears. Info (256) 845-3957 or 888-805-4740

STORYTELLING/BOOK SIGNING, Sept 15, 10 am. Moon Lake Community library. Join local author Patricia Shavers as she reads brief excerpts from her stories, talks about the writing/publishing process, and invites stories from the audience. Stories about Mentone, Valley Head, Battelle, and surrounding areas especially welcome! Free event, refreshments, and good stories.

ANNUAL QUILT WALK, Sept 21 & 22, Collinsville. Friday hours Noon-5 pm; Saturday 10 am-5 pm. Featuring beautiful hand-crafted quilts and a tour of historic Victorian homes of downtown Collinsville. Info (256) 524-3296

GROWIN' UP WILD: BUTTERFLIES. Sept 22, 11 am-noon. Little River Canyon Center. Fun nature and art program for preschool age children. No fee; may have limited space so pre-registration is encouraged. (256) 782-5697

RIVER RHYTHMS: BUTTERFLIES, Sept 22, 1 pm-2 pm. Program for the whole family. Little River Canyon Center. Free; may have limited space so pre-registration is encouraged. (256) 782-5697

57th ANNUAL DEKALB COUNTY VFW AGRICULTURAL FAIR, Sept 24-29. Gates open at 5 pm each evening. Rides on the midway, food, live entertainment, livestock exhibits, agricultural displays, awards, and Ms. Golden Girl Pageant. VFW Fairgrounds, Fort Payne. Info (256) 845-4752

FREE FOOD FOR NEEDY FAMILIES. New hours: Wednesdays, 9 am-12 noon. The Food Bank at St. Joseph's on the Mountain Episcopal Church. Recipients and new applicants. Joint effort between St. Joseph's Community Outreach Ministry and North Alabama Food Bank.

FREE SQUARE DANCE LESSONS offered most Thursdays, 6:30 pm, at Tom Bevill Center in Rainsville by Duos and Solos Dance Club. For more information (256) 638-2780

DEKALB QUILTERS meet every 4th Tuesday, 9:30 am, Second Baptist Church in Ft Payne.

DESOTO RESCUE SQUAD meets the 1st Saturday of the month at 9am at the MERF house in Mentone.

If you have announcements for the Community Bulletin Board, please email them to: editorgroundhog@yahoo.com; fax to 256-634-0027 or drop them by the Mentone Realty office.

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.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church on N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Mass Services at 10AM each Sunday-English; 1PM-Spanish; 6PM-English; Tuesday 6PM-English; Wednesday 4:30PM-Spanish; Thursday 6:30AM-English; Friday 9AM-English.

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. Sunday School 9:45AM; Sunday Worship - 10:55AM. Church office: 256.845.4756.

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 5PM.

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

21145 Scenic Highway, Mentone
Everyone welcome to 10:30 AM Sunday service of Holy Eucharist
Open for daily prayer and thanksgiving
Supporting our community with outreach
Call for more information 256-634-4476
<http://stjosephmountain.dioala.org>

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. Tom Holt is the pastor. He and his wife, Beth and daughter, Abigail reside in the parsonage which is adjacent to the church. 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 pot-luck lunch.

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.

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: Sunday School 9AM - all ages; Sunday Service 10:30AM; Bible Study Wednesday 6:00PM; Youth Services 7:00PM Sunday and 6:30PM Wednesday (Meet at Mentone Revival Center Bldg.).
Pastor Fred Johns

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.)

Since 1889 worshippers have gathered at the Historic **First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)** at 300 Grand Avenue North in Downtown Fort

Payne. We invite you to join us for worship this Sunday at 10:55 AM. 256-845-2915

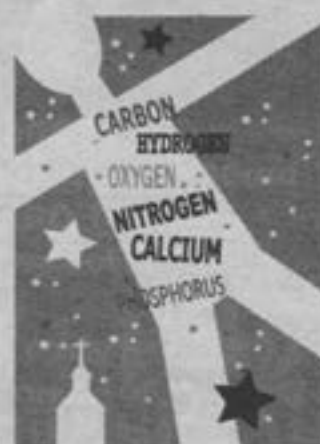
New Oregon United Methodist Church, located off DeSoto Parkway, would like to invite you to their services. Sunday School for all ages 9:45; Traditional Worship service 11:00. Sunday Evening youth activities 5:30 pm, Evening Worship 6 pm. We have a variety of activities for all ages including Wednesday evening youth activities; knitting ministry for ladies each Tuesday at 9 am; Elderberries for Senior Adults once a month for fellowship and meal. Pastor Jeff Davis, Associate Pastor Keith Davis. Address : 1203 New Oregon Dr, Ft Payne AL 35967. Phone (256)845-7446.

The Church of God 7th Day in Hammondville located just off Hwy. 11 N at corner of Hwy. 117 and Palmer Road. Sabbath School Classes at 9:30 AM and Worship Service at 11:00 AM. Visitors are always welcome.

Send changes/corrections to:
editorgroundhog@yahoo.com or
to PO BOX 387, MENTONE AL 35984

Pray For Our Neighbors

Remember That You Are Dust!



"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

Genesis 2:7

Once a year, on Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that we are dust. The original verse comes from Genesis, where our connection with the earth is made explicit: "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." (Genesis 3: 19) For those who would deny their physical or corporeal nature, God is knocking them down a peg. Not only is he not putting us on the level of the angels, but we are quite literally being told that we are dirt. This simultaneously humbles us while sanctifying the dirt out of which we are formed. This is one verse which agrees entirely with science. The human body is composed largely of six elements: carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, calcium, and phosphorus. Had God wished to put his reminder in more modern language he might have said "Remember that you are just another carbon-based life form, and to elemental carbon you shall return." The poetic gloss on this is that we are made from the same materials as the stars, and indeed the atoms composing our bodies were once, billions of years ago, part of the stars, and our bodies shall one day be decomposed and form a part of some star again. Remember man, that you are dust. That is, star dust.

—Christopher Simon

This Old House: MERF Community House

My boards may be a little creaky and my paint a little flaky but I am full of life. This winter and spring have brought the young and the wise through my doors so my walls are full of joy, laughter and learning.

One of my favorite programs at the MERF community house is after school when wonderful community people volunteer their time and talents to tutor and mentor Moon Lake students. During the school year, kids are paired with an adult for homework help, a snack and a listening ear. Thanks to Linda Lawton and Brenda Wisner for enabling Bill Rutledge, Phyllis Bailey, Shirley Hussel, Lucy Fowlkes, Kathy McMunn, Patricia Shaver, Kat Griffith, Priscilla Allworth, Liz Baker, Joyce Smith, Kerri McMunn, Katie Gray and the Skyline Girls (Molly, Wendy and Lindsay) to enrich the lives of the students by coordinating their time together. It's just so much easier to learn your times table or work on spelling and reading skills with a new friend.

And who could not enjoy the Wednesday lunch bunch crew?! From February to April on Wednesdays at lunch time, the rich heritage of our community gathers for lunch to enjoy each other's company, to be satisfied with great food prepared by local volunteers, and to soak in wonderful music and poetry



that lift the spirits. I'm so thankful for those that graciously provide wonderful food: Camp Laney, Camp Riverview, Camp Skyline, Camp DeSoto, Mentone Community Church, the Rhododendron Club, St. Joseph's Church, the Library Board, the Mentone Inn, the Boy Scouts, and the Mentone Market. And great entertainment abounds from all that attend with their great hugs, big smiles, piano playing and reciting. For at least 12 years we've been meeting and eating. Here's what

some of the crew says about senior lunches: "It's a great privilege to come. Great chance to see all these good people." (Polly Chambers). "Everything is nice. Glad to see old friends." (Dot Blalock) "All the friendly people and the wonderful people that cook." (Several guests). "It is one of the best places to socialize and have a meal. I feel better here than any other place." (Nell Kent) "Food and fellowship—there's no place like Mentone." With such grateful and warm people how could you not enjoy the time together?

Over the summer, the senior lunch bunch crew was invited once a month to the MERF house for an afternoon dessert and fun. Can't wait to see everyone soon!

MERF: *Mentone Educational Resources Foundation* is a local non-profit with the mission "To enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources."



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Underneath Alabama Soil

Continued from page 1

spending several thousand dollars on this project. Jimmy Hill, 1st Lt. Commander, Alabama Division Sons of Confederate Veterans is the chairman of the project. If you wish to make a contribution, please send it to:

Jimmy Hill
P.O. Box 375
Capshaw, AL 35742

A few that were killed at the Battle of Dranesville were returned to Alabama for burial. However, the vast majority rest at Bristoe Station. To better understand the severity and enormity of the situation, look at the number of deaths in the latter part of August, the month of September and the first part of October.



Following is a list of the Tenth Alabama deaths:

Company "A" Ashville Guards (St. Clair County)

- Pvt. G.S. Danley killed on 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. Marcus D. Jones died 11-27-1861 of typhoid and pneumonia.
- Pvt. E.J. Machen died 11-6-1861 of typhoid.

Company "B" Jefferson Volunteers (Jefferson County)

- 1st Lt. Alleris T. Owens died 9-3-1861 of typhoid.
- Lt. Robert T. Earle died 10-4-1861 of gunshot wound while in his tent.
- Pvt. V.O. McAdory killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. James L. Parlain killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. Edward Sandifer died 1-11-1862 of pneumonia at Manassas.
- Pvt. Richmond Townley died 8-16-1861 of acute diarrhea.
- Sgt. Stephen Wilks died 8-24-1861 of dysentery.

Company "C" Cahaba Valley Boys (Shelby County)

- Pvt. Thomas H. Benson died 9-9-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Early A. Fancher died 9-30-1861 of chronic diarrhea.
- Pvt. S.M. Fulton killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. George Honeycutt died 9-15-1861
- Pvt. Charles W. Leonard died 9-27-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. George Lyton killed 12-20-1861 at the Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. William C. Rainey died 9-24-1861 of diarrhea and measles.
- Pvt. Sanford Seale died 1-11-1862.

Company "D" Alexandria Rifles (Calhoun County)

- Pvt. Thomas A. Barr died 8-23-1861 of meningitis.
- Pvt. Wyley Hallum died 9-2-1862 of measles and meningitis.
- Pvt. Jessie Leatherwood died 9-2-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Jesse F. Neighbors died 9-2-1861 of acute dysentery.
- Pvt. William D. Nunley died 8-18-1861 of acute dysentery.
- Pvt. Alfred Posey died 9-7-1861 of chronic diarrhea.
- Pvt. James Sims died 9-20-1861 of anthrax.
- Pvt. William I. Smith died 8-31-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. W.M. Ward died 10-3-1861 of typhoid.

Company "E" Talladega Davis Blues (Talladega County)

- Pvt. J.O. Bloxton killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. W.H. Dickerson died 8-10-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. W.E. Dickerson died 10-14-1861.

Pvt. J.W. Graves killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.

Pvt. Tipton B. Harrell died 9-25-1861 of typhoid.

Pvt. Samuel H.H. Haynes died 8-23-1861.

Pvt. John T. O'Neal died 8-26-1861 of typhoid.

Pvt. John M. Patterson died 8-26-1861 of acute diarrhea.

Pvt. Albert Pritchett died in camp.

Pvt. F.D. Pritchett died 9-1-1861.

Pvt. James Pritchett died in camp.

Pvt. Joseph Pritchett died in camp.

Pvt. Benjamin F. Sides killed 12-20-1861 in Battle of Dranesville.

Company "F" Coosa Valley Guards (St. Clair County)

- Pvt. Richard Able died 9-12-1861 of diarrhea.
- 1st Lt. Richard A. Allen died 9-13-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. James Barker died 8-12-1861 of measles and typhoid.
- Pvt. Archibald H. Cannaday died 9-4-1861 of chronic diarrhea.
- Pvt. James R. Clausen died 8-9-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Sidney L. Coleman killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. Sylvester Clausen died 10-21-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. B.H. Danley died 1-3-1861 of gunshot wound.
- Pvt. Cyrus Davis died 9-3-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. R.G. Dunlap killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. Edward Inzer died 9-1-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Charles Lewis died 9-5-1861 of chronic diarrhea.
- Pvt. Andrew J. Love died 12-31-1861 at Manassas.
- Pvt. John F. Martin killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. Thomas J. Martin died 10-1-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Jasper N. Masters died of typhoid.
- Pvt. David McCoy died 10-25-1861 of disease.
- Pvt. John W. Nichols died 9-21-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Jasper L. Richardson died 12-1-1861 of disease.
- Pvt. Alonzo Tuck died 8-29-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. John W. Wright died 9-28-1861 of typhoid.

Company "G" Pope Walker Guards (Calhoun County)

- Pvt. James Plexico died 9-17-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Malachi Ponder died 9-16-1861 of acute diarrhea.
- Pvt. Carter B. Tatum died 8-27-1861 of meningitis.
- Pvt. William H. Smith killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. Elisha Turner died 9-26-1861 of chronic diarrhea.
- Pvt. John W. Weaver died 10-3-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Doctor Franklin Watkins died 8-15-1861 of typhoid.

Company "H" Choccolocco Rifles (Calhoun County)

- Pvt. Thornton Brownlee killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. Stephen J. Bryan killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. James A. Carruthers died 9-7-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. William A. Carruthers died 8-15-1861 of fever.
- Cpl. Napoleon B. Lyon killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.
- Pvt. John Manning died 2-1861 from wounds at Battle of Dranesville.
- Sgt. Charles Pittman died 8-30-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. James Sprinkles died 9-18-1861 of chronic diarrhea.
- Pvt. Carter Tatum died 8-27-1861 of meningitis.
- Pvt. J.S. Walden killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.

Company "I" Yancey Guards (DeKalb County)

- Pvt. William Adams died 9-15-1861 of diarrhea and camp fever.
- Pvt. John T. Cox died 10-10-1861 of typhoid.
- Lt. Benjamin F. King died 8-23-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. William W. King died 8-30-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. James Mullins died 8-29-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Bethel Tabor died 9-6-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. James M. Vaughn died 9-20-1861 of consumption.
- Pvt. Thomas Satterfield died 8-27-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. C.A. Webb killed 12-20-1861 at Battle of Dranesville.

Company "K" Fort Williams Rifles (Talladega County)

- Pvt. John A. Callahan died 12-3-1861 of gunshot wound.
- Pvt. Lewis S. Gardner died 10-1-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. Hiram W. Pike died 8-15-1861 of typhoid.
- Pvt. William H. Pike died 9-25-1861 of typhoid.

From the Meal Bin....

By Diane Smith Mealer

Like many small towns across America, Menlo, Georgia retains most of the characteristics from its origin. It still holds the piney woods feel and friendly atmosphere.

Founded in 1883, A. J. Lawrence formed the Edison Land Company to sell city lots. The rail lines contributed to the town's growth and for a while it was a major crossroads and market town for the surrounding communities. As a child, I remember every store being occupied and a busy main street, but a lull has been a shadow over its growth for years. More cars and the ease of travel let folks venture farther to shop or take part in other activities.

The tourist opportunities have been an asset due to Highway 48 being a direct route to the tranquil, mountain village of Mentone. Hundreds of people pass through each year, but I cannot see that the economic potential was capitalized or marketed to possible new businesses. But, (roll me over and call me a biscuit), I recently spotted a new building being constructed next

door to Lucky's Market on Highway 48. A new pharmacy will be part of our city (clap, clap). It's a much-needed addition for the Menlo community. And....right up the road from this, the old Stokes house is being "fixed-up" for a vintage resale shop. My favorite, last but not least, a new retail business is very possible for the 1908, two story building on Main Street. The talented owner is planning to offer workshops on such things as art, knitting, pottery etc. along with lots of other good things. I, for me, will be anxiously, joyfully awaiting the grand opening. Keep watch and be sure to support and patronize these new endeavors.

I am "tickled-pink" to see our small town taking another step forward: hopefully, things will continue to grow and others will take advantage of the opportunities our area offers. We all should reach out with the vision that Mr. Lawrence had foreseen when he drew the first plans, sold the first lot and called the fertile field Menlo!

(contact me if you have any news or words about our town at 256-294-3663 or email to: Suitcase3@hotmail.com)



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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 Rock Fireplace. Pasture land, wood trails, horse barn with apt, detached dbl garage. Screened sleeping cabin overlooking river. \$595,000 (19355)



BREATHTAKING 3.12 ACRES with 200 ft on the East brow, with partial drive. Watch the sunrise and moonrise overlooking Shindond Valley below. Wooded, Secluded, and located on scenic Lookout Mtn Parkway. \$85,000. (22116)



MOUNTAIN CREST CABINS. 2 fully furnished log cabins nestled in the woods on 3 acres, next to Cloudmont Resort. Both cabins are currently on a rental program. Above the Clouds is 2 bedroom, 1 bath with kitchen/dining combo, and large crawlspace that can be made into a basement. The Hideout is 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths with open floor plan and small loft. Lots of amenities in both cabins. \$219,000 (22094)



9 ACRES located on the east fork Little River with 500ft on river, and 550ft on Gilbert branch. Old homeplace. Concrete slab, power, well, and septic. Privately located. Great place to build that getaway cabin! \$149,900 (22148)



JUST BELOW LAHUSAGE on the east fork of Little River. 5.4 acres M/L wooded with plenty of flora and fauna, and over 300ft on the water. Rock bluff along rivers edge. Priced right at \$60,000 (22187)



WILD AND SCENIC LITTLE RIVER LOTS, privately located off Co. Rd. 628, Mentone. Two lots combined to make 2.2 acres with 337 ft on river. Partially cleared building area. What a View. \$69,000 (21685)



HISTORICAL MARTHA BERRY HOME in Downtown Mentone. Built in 1900's. An original Mentone dwelling, this home features 6 bedrooms, 7 baths, 2 living areas, and large dining area. Remodeled kitchen, 2 large porches, and Deck. Native foliage surrounds the 2-story home. \$397,000 (22160)



LOG CABIN KNOWN AS "KNOWUS ARK" is an artist dream of a property. Unique decor and even a separate artist studio are part of the special qualities that go with the 2BR/2BA, w/FP, covered porches and double decks. Privately located on 3.4 acres. \$199,000 (22069)



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. \$349,000 (19919)



3 ACRES LOCATED on the west fork Little River 1 mile above Desoto Falls. Deep water for boating. Level wooded property with native Holly scattered throughout. Circular drive, perc tested, water meter installed. A beautiful spot to build that retirement home. 70ft on the water. Quiet neighborhood. \$125,000 (21648)



WALTONS MILL SITE PROPERTY. Back in the civil war, there was a grist mill located on this east fork river site. A unique property with 900 ft on the water, 2 building sites, easy access to the water, large rock overhang and flat rock bottom for easy floating down the river. A true Gem, 10 acres. REDUCED TO \$175,000 (20451)



6.1 ACRES on the east fork Little River. Wooded with 370ft on river. Access road and easement for utilities. Privately located, great for canoeing, swimming. Build that getaway or just enjoy camping. \$65,000 (22115)



EAGLES AERIE a unique Octagon-structure Home on the West Brow Of Lookout Mtn. 8.8 acres. 3bdrm 2bth, GreatRoom W/FP Open kitchen/Dining. Heart Pine Floors & Views from every Room. A must see \$429,000 (22539)



WORMAHOOTABOO 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! \$130,000 (20161)



NICE LEVEL WOODED PROPERTY with partial drive and homesite cleared. Previous perc test. Easy access to the middle fork of Little River. Restrictive cov. apply. Located in Mountain River Estates \$73,000 (20892)



TALL MEADOW RUE CHAPEL, in Downtown Mentone. Lush landscaping. Heavenly ordained Chapel, Glass Greenhouse, Koi Pond w/fountain. Rock walls, and Iron Gates. Enjoy the peace and serenity this property gives. REDUCED \$95,000 (21032)

LOTS AND ACREAGE

OLD HOMEPLACE next to Shady Grove Dude Ranch. 1.7 acres. Great building sites. Non-restricted. \$20,000. (21599)

WOODED 39.8 ACRES, level mixture of hardwoods and Pines, some trails through property. Over 2500 ft. of paved road frontage. Could be nice development opportunity. Build a few cabins in this spot. REDUCED

TO \$180,000 (21649)

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. \$23,000 (19164)

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! \$100,000 (19419)

BUILD YOUR DREAM CABIN in the woods! 2.56 acres across from Lake Lahusage. Paved road frontage, city water available, perc tested. Lightly restricted. Owner financing available. \$40,000 (19149)

NICE WOODED 3 ACRES next to

Mountain Crest Cabins. Great building site for yourself or for rental cabins. Wildlife and trees are abundant. Priced to sell at \$30,000. (22095)

HEAVILY WOODED ACREAGE with wet weather spring. Paved road frontage along County Road 106, and just minutes from downtown Mentone. \$110,000 (22248)

The Parable of Snickers

(Part 3)

By Jan Cherbonneau

The evening of his disappearance, Oksana caught sight of him in the woods at the edge of the back yard, and he stood motionless for a moment as she approached him, but after she had taken but a few steps, he turned and was gone. We were back to walking the woods, calling, and putting food out at night. The same little group of feral cats had instantly reappeared, and we glanced outside countless times each evening, hoping to spot him among them, but it was a good two weeks before we even saw him again, cautiously eating from the dish of dry food.

We were more than puzzled by his erratic behavior-- in the house, delightfully affectionate, but once outside, wild and elusive. One day, as we prayed about his inscrutable, schizophrenic personality, Allen thought he heard the Lord say, "Remember:

Snickers have nuts!" We rolled with laughter, and the fact that the Lord could joke about the situation gave me hope. The kids were all desperately anxious that we try the Have-a Heart trap once more, and so we put it out for two or three nights. However, our little black feral friend, driven by his hunger, was our only catch, for Snickers had apparently learned well from his first experience, and it became clear to us that he wasn't about to be tricked again. But we also began to get a sense from the Lord that, this time, he would have to be wooed back, not entrapped. It was about choosing.

Most evenings, we would catch a brief glimpse of him eating, if we happened to look outside at just the right time. After awhile I discerned a pattern, for he and the other cats had evidently established a pecking order, and they would show up at a fairly specified time to eat, each one politely waiting his turn while the one before him ate from the dish. Snickers was generally there at about 9 or

9:30 P.M. It was painful to look out the window above the garage and see him under the pole light, so near and yet so far, the little stranger whom we loved.

Eventually, as a result of prayer, we made the decision to begin leaving the garage door open for several hours each evening, and we also kept a food dish there, hoping that he would be drawn to explore the smells of his old, familiar sleeping and eating place. After some nights of doing this, I caught sight of him taking a few cautious steps into the garage and exiting a few moments later. This was to become his nightly routine.

One afternoon, I walked out towards the edge of the woods, praying that I might somehow see him, but as I stood peering into the trees, I suddenly thought I saw Jesus, standing a few feet away to my left, and laughing so hard that He was holding His sides. Given my longing and my frustration, I was frankly somewhat irritated by His ability to laugh at the painful and frustrating situation, and I asked, "Lord, what's so funny?" He immediately replied, "You're so gullible." To my chagrin, I realized that He was, laughing at me, and that much of the time during Snickers' escapes, the cat was probably not more than twenty or thirty feet away from us, sitting just inside the line of trees and brush and watching our every move. This experience gave me an interesting new sense of the relationship between the Lord and His creation, and I suddenly felt oddly like the outsider. Clearly, He had not only a bond with Snickers but also a wisdom and insight about the behaviors and whereabouts of His little creature that I lacked. It was almost as though he and the cat were enjoying a little joke at my expense.

PART 4 IN NEXT GROUNDHOG

Andy Griffith, Mayberry and Mentone

By Lamar Bray

By now most everyone has heard of the death of Andy Griffith. During the course of Griffith's TV and film career, he played many roles; good guys, bad guys, and a lawyer, but he will always be remembered as America's sheriff Andy Taylor. No flags were lowered to half staff and no badge was draped with a black band, but maybe there should have been.

In every episode of the Andy Griffith Show there was a lesson to be learned. I have read that some episodes of the show are used in Sunday School classes. I believe some should be used at our police academies. When I attended the academy several years ago, and I'm sure it's true today, new officers are taught everything in black and white. But, I have learned there is a gray area in which most all community problems can be settled with common sense advice and consideration.

In many ways Mayberry and Mentone are similar, both are small southern towns, crime rates are low and, like Mayberry for the most part, we all know each other and get along. Both towns employed a small police force, but unlike Andy's Deputy Barney Fife, Mentone is fortunate to have Kirby Johnston.

The fictional Town of Mayberry, during its eight year run, had two mayors. The first was a kooky character, the second was overbearing and always tried to run Andy's department. One particular episode comes to mind where Andy had released a moonshiner (who promised to return) to harvest his crop. The mayor blew a fuse and demanded the man be brought in. So the mayor, Andy and Barney find the man up a tree. The mayor demands he come down. He refuses to do so and the mayor goes up to get him. It turns out the man was up the tree because there was a bear nearby. Of course, the bear attacks the mayor and then gets into the patrol car with Andy and Barney trapped on top. What Andy said was classic, "Mayor if you would let us do our job, you would not be up that tree with your clothes torn off and me and Barney would not be up here with a bear in our car. You beat everything, you know that?"

Unlike Mayberry, Mentone is very fortunate to have a Mayor like Rob Hammond. He allows the town's employees to do their job. I talk to Mayor Hammond just about every day by phone or in person. He calls just to check in and see how things are going. Most of the time I reply, "It's peaceful in Mayberry, I mean Mentone, Mayor."

Mayberry? Nope. But, the Mentone area is a friendly, scenic, quiet, peaceful place. And that's not a bad place to call home.



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Travels close to home – Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, GA

By Sarah Jacoway Chastain

Have your children had their daily fix of rocks and minerals in their diet today? You know the ones I mean. Oh, you don't? I'm talking about hematite, marble and quartz among others all found in peanut butter and bread. I learned this among other interesting facts on a recent visit to Tellus Science Museum in Cartersville, GA.

The 120,000 square foot facility truly has something for everybody. You don't even have to step inside to be impressed. As the museum comes into view, there's an intriguing dome at the front of the property. It houses a telescope. If it's revolving, it's peering into space. As you approach the parking lot there are some interesting old trucks and machines with an explanation about what they are and what they are/were used for. One of the bigger ones is a gigantic truck like one that was used in building the interstate system. My late brother, a heavy-duty equipment mechanic, worked on this type of truck.

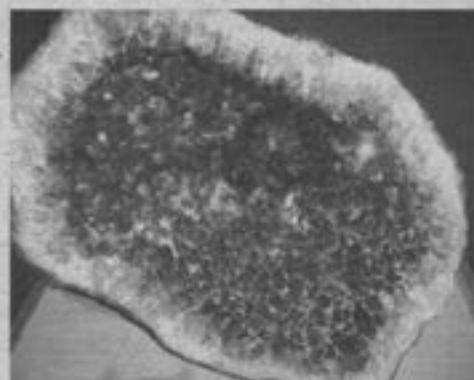
If you choose to walk around

outside before entering the main building, you'll see a solar house. It was built by Georgia Tech engineering and architecture students and faculty for a competition. When we went in, a guide explained some of its features. It is designed with an open, airy floor plan so that it would be conducive for senior citizens with plenty of room for a wheelchair. It has 39

solar panels that help it maintain a constant comfortable temperature and well as powering all the appliances that we've come to expect in a modern kitchen. The guide told us that the students had to use an element that was common to their

area so some of the insulation is chicken feathers.

When you enter the main building, there is a store with books, replicas of some of the things you see and souvenirs to remind you of your visit. I bought a couple of small crosses, one jade and the other a tan stone that are suitable



to wear on a chain or wire. (Hey, I had to support the economy, didn't I?)

After paying our entry fee, we watched a brief film about what we would see when we walked through the museum. You can also see shows in the planetarium for a small additional charge, but there just wasn't time to see everything. After the film, you are greeted by an enormous T-Rex skeleton. Many of us headed off to the right to the Science in Motion Gallery. (I don't think some of the men in the group ever left it.)

If you thought the buzz about electric cars was something new, you'll be surprised. One of the first American electric cars was a 1903 Waverly. It had a range of 40 miles with a top speed of 14 mph. The first modern electric car sits proudly adjacent to its "ancestor". It is a 1996 GM vehicle. It was discontinued in 1999. This one is one of the few that remain since most have been crushed. There are a variety of other vehicles from motorcycles, a replica of the Wright Flyer and replicas of space shuttles. Unlike

most of the men, I didn't spend a lot of time in this gallery.

I eagerly moved on to the Weinmans Mineral Gallery. There are 50 cases filled with a variety of gems, gold and some of Georgia's most prized minerals. The first things to catch my attention were two gigantic amethysts. They would



certainly look good in rings on my fingers. If I wore them, then I wouldn't have to worry about lifting weights. I could just do occasional bicep curls and triceps kick-backs and be in good shape. I particularly enjoyed seeing all the quartz. My brother used to hike on the ridges

Continued on page 12

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Travels close to home

continued from page 11

on our farm and bring these back. They were as beautiful to me as any diamond could possibly be. It was interesting to see my birthstone at every stage from the unfinished "rock" to the finished cut and polished stone.

It was in this gallery that I learned about and saw some of the minerals that are in common food items. After another admiring look at those amethysts, I moved on to the fossil gallery. I saw a T-Rex footprint. It was 33-inches long, 28-inches wide and 9-inches deep. I glad I didn't have to fit him in shoes. I moved quickly through this gallery because my time was limited and there was still so much to see.



I moved into fossil dig and mineral panning room. There I joined groups of school children who were panning for gems. Other than the adults with them, I was probably the only adult in the room except for museum staff. They didn't say that it was just for children and I was still thinking about those huge amethysts. I found quite a

few stones but none that were quite large enough for a solitary setting in a ring. I also captured a fossil from the fossil dig. We were limited to one fossil. I dug up quite a few but I decided that the tooth I found would be my "keeper".

I didn't go to the Collins Family Big Backyard, an area devoted to children. I'm sure that I would have enjoyed it and possibly even understood it but once again there just wasn't enough time. It affords youngsters a chance to play with light, rainbows, mirrors and more in the greenhouse. The shed is filled with sound experiments and the garage is a great place to discover the properties of magnets and work with electricity.



There's an interactive garden for the youngest future scientist with magnet games, sorting activities, raceways and more. There is also an enormous walk-in tree that features a special projection screen designed to educate visitors big and small about the weather.

Although food and drink are not allowed in the galleries, there is a café in the museum that serves sandwiches, soups and salads. The food is prepared to order and is quite good and very reasonable. Although, I didn't eat the day I went with the group, I have eaten in the museum café and highly recommend it.

Our group went on into downtown Cartersville to eat lunch. We enjoy the Appalachian Grill. It has unique décor and the food lives up to expectations. After lunch some of our group shopped while others went to Booth Western Museum which is in downtown Cartersville. There is also a museum of history, also in walking distance. Cartersville is an interesting place to visit and there are a lot of fascinating places to see. Every time I go, I wonder why I don't go more often because it's not very far from our area.

Tellus Science Museum is located at I-75 at exit 293.

Moon Lake Library

By Linda Brown



Never in a million years did I think that I would be the chairperson for the Mentone Community Library Board of Directors. But, by something of a fluke, I am.

Jan Wilkinson, who served 12 years in this position and did a fantastic job, resigned in March 2012. At the next meeting Sue Schwarz and I agreed to be Co-Chairmen. At the June meeting Sue Schwarz resigned which leaves me in this position. I have pledged to hold this place until March 2013.

Sue was the secretary of the meetings of the Board, therefore the first order of business was to elect a secretary. Liz Baker was elected to this position. It was stated that we have trained a new person to work in the library and plan to train several more this summer.

Another event which we hope you will mark your calendar for is the Meet the Author event with Patricia Shaver. The date is September 15, 2012. More about this event at a later date.

I was asked to tell everyone that the library now has an email. The address is: MoonLakeCommunityLibrary@yahoo.com. Beverly will check it regularly and you can tell her what you need. You can ask for her help with renewing books and such. We hope that this will help the communication problem which is presented because of the absence of a telephone.

Harriett Lillich stated that Operation Paperback is still going on. She stated that she is always surprised to find the box full again. She said that she would have thought everyone had put all of their paperbacks in the box. If you have forgotten, this is a project to send books to military personnel. You can still donate your paperbacks to this cause. Look for the box with the flags.

The library is always cool and has some cool things to check on. We have three cases full of DVD's. We are getting new ones every week or so. We have bought new books and have had many donated recently. There is much to look for. We need people to come in when we are open. It makes Beverly and the person working feel better to have a visitor or two. You don't have to need a book, just stop by and find out all the news that's fit to be told.

We plan to have our biggest book sale at the ColorFest in October. The plan is to get a booth and maybe set up a tent and stay during the festival hours. We will be accepting books and DVD's until then. We don't plan to have magazines as they are too heavy to move from place to place. The Longest Yard Sale time is just too hot.

The meeting adjourned until the next meeting in the Moon Lake Library. Everyone is welcomed to attend our meetings. To be placed on the agenda, tell Beverly or call 256/634-8006.

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Manifold Named All-American Scholar

(News Release) The United States Achievement Academy announced today that Molly Manifold from Valley Head, AL has been named an All-American Scholar.

The USAA has established the All-American Scholar Award Program to offer deserved recognition to superior students who excel in the academic disciplines. The All-American Scholars must earn a 3.3 or higher grade point average. Only scholars selected by a school instructor, counselor, or other qualified sponsor are accepted.

Molly Manifold, who attends Valley Head High School, was nominated for this honor by Mrs. Sandy Hulan. Molly will appear in the All-American Scholar Yearbook which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly, students recognized as All-American Scholars should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, Founder of the United States Achievement Academy.

The Academy selects All-American Scholars upon the exclusive recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors and other qualified sponsors.

Molly is the daughter of Toby and Judy Manifold from Mentone. The grandparents are Butch and Denita Manifold of Mentone, and Judith Underwood & Leigh Kane of Fort Payne and Chattanooga, TN.

What's New at the Library

Books: Mary Alice Monroe's latest book, *Beach House Memories*---and more!

DVDs: Veggie Tales (Jonah)
To Kill a Mockingbird
Spirit
Hidalgo
Das Boot
Chicken Little
Serendipity
Leo
Brother Bear
Troy
Chill Out, Scooby Doo
The Lion King
Dora the Explorer Saves the Day
Go, Diego! Great Gorilla

And replacement DVDs for: The Core, The Princess Bride, and Lawnmower Man 2

When We Were Wee

By Larry Smalley

Where does time go? That's an old saying we all have heard at one time or the other. It seems as though years pass now as quickly as months did when I was a kid. I have been talking to some of my old high school classmates about an upcoming reunion that we are trying to plan and it occurred to us that we have lost so many classmates since the last one this will be a bittersweet occasion this time.

None of us are promised tomorrow, but most leave way too early. The only comfort we get is in knowing they have gone on to a better place and, hopefully, we will see them again.

Now, back to the article. I told in the last issue about the pull-offs coming up the mountain on Hwy 117, and I did get some response. Ms. Brenda Slayton from Cedar Bluff said her Dad was a truck driver and used the pull-offs on Hwy. 35 to let the faster trucks around. Thanks, Brenda, for your answer.

I had asked Jim Carmichael in my last article to share some of the memories of his service station days and he has agreed to do that in later articles. He did, however, respond to the mountain pull-offs and told of his Dad hauling bales of ginned cotton for Earnest Jones and Mr. Paul and Ovie Davenport. He would haul them to Rome, Trion, and Berryton and haul back cottonseed meal to be mixed with hay and crushed corn to feed the farm animals during the winter months.

Jim's first recollection of him making the trip with his Dad was



that he drove a Chevy 1 1/2 ton, with a "granny gear" transmission. A "granny" was a gear that you only used when nothing else would pull, it was very low. Jim said his Dad would use the pull-offs to let the truck, as he said, "blow for a few minutes," which meant cool down.

Sometimes, if they had seven or eight bales, it was so loaded they might have to use another "blow" before they reached the top. He also said you knew to carry plenty of water for both you and the truck. If the trip took them all the way to Rome they would have to use pull-offs on the mountain between Summerville and Rome.

I know times are hard now, but nothing was easy back then and, if you didn't plan your trip well, you stood a chance of not getting there and back without a lot of trouble. Now big trucks haul almost all of our products in a fraction of the time in air-conditioned cabs.

This past weekend (I am writing this at the end of June) has been terribly hot and all the weather forecasters were warning us to stay inside. Before air conditioners, our earlier generations carried on because they knew it got hot every summer and cold every winter, so they worked in the sun and found the shade when possible, but they could not stay inside because it was hotter there and if they didn't get things done by winter they knew what would happen.

I think the world was simpler then, but you had to do your part if you were going to make it.

I haven't had any of our Mentone folks write-in and tell us about family or things they remember. I think we could enjoy some of the stories and make some connections to the families. So, as the old saying goes, tell me something I don't know.

(You can send your memories, old photos and responses for When We Were Wee to Larry Smalley, c/o The Groundhog, PO Box 387, Mentone AL 35984)



Each month we try to feature recipes from area cooks, along with some bits of information about its origin, history, photos, etc. Sometimes we go back to the Groundhog archives to get a recipe. We hope you enjoy our Recipe Corner and that you'll give the recipes a try.

(If you have a favorite family recipe, please submit it (along with any history or info that you think might be of interest to Groundhog readers) to The Groundhog, PO Box 387, Mentone AL 35984 or email to editorgroundhog@yahoo.com.)

I ran into Charlotte at Foodland this week and she asked if I would contribute one of my recipes to the next edition of the

Groundhog. I looked into my cart and had all the fixens for "Samsula Swamp Cabbage" that I was making for a fathers day get together. The recipe comes from our Florida hunting camp members with just one change, we don't have palm trees here in Mentone, so I use cabbage. I hope you like my Mentone version of...

SWAMP CABBAGE

Ingredients:

1 lb. bacon cut in small pieces
1 medium head of cabbage cut in bite size pieces
large onion chopped
1-2 tbs. chopped garlic
1 tbs. sugar
salt, black pepper and cayenne pepper to taste.

Directions:

Fry bacon pieces till crisp and remove from pan. Use the bacon grease to saute onion until tender and then add the garlic and cabbage and cook till the cabbage is slightly crisp. Add a little water as needed while cooking the cabbage. Add the bacon back to the pan and the remaining ingredients.

Hope you enjoy this dish as much as my family does.

Betty Perkins



Thirty Years of Cooking With The Groundhog

Throughout its 30 years of publication, The Groundhog has featured favorite recipes of local cooks, many of whom are no longer with us. Thankfully, we still have these recipes and we'd like to share them with Groundhog readers.

We are currently putting together a cookbook which will feature these recipes from past issues of The Groundhog as well as favorite family recipes that are submitted to us.

The cookbook will be titled: "Thirty Years of Cooking With The Groundhog" and it is expected to be available by October's Colorfest Weekend for sale by MAPA. (All proceeds from sale of the cookbook will go to MAPA)

We would love to have area cooks submit their "tried and true" family recipes, along with a very brief history of how you came to have it and, perhaps, any historic photos that would be helpful, for inclusion in the cookbook. Please submit your recipes to The Groundhog Recipes, PO Box 387, Mentone AL 35984. (We will try to return photos, but suggest you send us duplicates or email them to us.)



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 sunrays 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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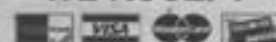
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Colorfest 2012 *October 20-21, 2012* *Mentone, Alabama*

Business Opportunities Abound At Mentone's Colorfest 2012

A GREAT WEEKEND FOR BUSINESSES IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER AT MENTONE'S COLORFEST FESTIVAL

In 2011, there were more people on the mountain during Colorfest 2011 than anytime before. So, we are planning to break the record.

The Mentone Area Preservation Association and the Mentone Area Arts Council are again joining forces to host Colorfest 2012, Alabama's most favorite Festival. A community of artists and skilled craftsmen from throughout the region will assemble in Mason Park and throughout Historic Mentone to display their works. A Children's Festival will be located next to Kamama Gallery that will feature attractions that will be fun for the whole family. There will be entertainment at the Mentone Inn on Friday night to kick off the Festival in a great way. Colorfest will also feature local entertainment during the day on both Saturday and Sunday with a great Colorfest Music Celebration at the Mentone Inn on Saturday night.

This year, Colorfest 2012 will again welcome Business Exhibitors from around the region. The Census says that there are approximately 450 people living in Mentone on a full time basis. We know though that on weekends and holidays, the Mentone population swells to over 3,000 people. Both local and part-time residents need the services of local businesses but often do not know where to find them. Colorfest 2012 will provide a unique opportunity for DeKalb rental agencies, realtors, Camps, associations, builders, hotels, bed and breakfasts, ect. to meet potential customers during a two day Festival that will attract 1,000's of visitors.

Business Exhibitors will be located on the grounds of the Mentone Springs Hotel in downtown Mentone. Camp Exhibitors and other businesses devoted to children's activities will be located at the Children's Festival if they so desire.

This is an opportunity that you will not want to miss. We hope that you will be able to join us for a truly great weekend.

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Vann-McCary Scholarship Winners

St. Joseph's On the Mountain Episcopal Church would like to congratulate the recipients of the Vann-McCary Scholarship 2012. There are 13 students who will be receiving the award from the Mentone/Valley Head area. The fund, established in 1988, has been awarded to many deserving local students through the years as a support and encouragement to area students as they continue their post high school education.

This year's recipients are David LeVance Carden, Susan W. Calzone, Kara L. Young, Christian A. Henry, Kara R. Miller, Brittany R. Bain, Brandi S. Miller, Gary Mitchell Gregory, Jr., Katy F. Meadows, Amber-N. Griffith, Brenda L. Hernandez, Caitlin M. Kirby, Daniel B. Hughes.

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Phillips Honored for Musical Contributions

Don Phillips of Mentone has received the 2012 Roland Walls Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by the Big Wills Arts Council (BWAC). Phillips is a life-long resident of DeKalb County and a master guitarist known for his "finger-picking," influenced by his songwriting mentor and friend, Chet Atkins.



Don's influence on many of the area's guitarists and recording artists stems from the many years that he taught guitar students throughout the area. Jeff Cook, guitarist for the super group ALABAMA and member of the Country Music Hall of Fame, said of Phillips, "Don has had a great influence on many of our local musicians and is very deserving of recognition and this award."

The award was presented to Phillips at the DeKalb County Fiddlers' Convention. The award is named for Roland Walls who served radio station WZOB as chief engineer, morning man, host of Swap Shop, and account executive for over 39 years.

According to Russell Gulley, Director of BWAC, "Roland was more than the morning man at WZOB, he belonged to all of DeKalb County, had a heart of gold and a wonderful wit. Roland served the DeKalb County Fiddlers' Convention as host and emcee since its revival in the 1990s and for all of the recent eight years' anniversary editions as presented by the BWAC. Roland truly loved traditional music whether it was Southern Gospel or Ole Time Music and Bluegrass and supported all of our efforts to preserve, present and encourage an on-going participation in local heritage and traditions. It is in his memory that the BWAC presents the Annual Roland Walls Lifetime Achievement Award."

(Submitted article)

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LAUREL CREEK LAKES - Live on the waters edge in this custom built log cabin. Features include 2 BR, 2 BA, large utility room, 2-car garage and fishing dock situated on 2 lots. \$167,500 (18898)



FIRST TIME OFFERED. Main house, guest house and 45 acres on the west brow of Lookout Mtn. with the ambiance of a true mountain home. Wood floors, wood walls, rock fireplace, walkways and patios with sunset views and heirloom landscaping. A must see for \$799,000. (21010)



ENJOY LIFE UNINTERRUPTED in this custom built log get-away on 4 secluded acres. Loft BR and 1BA with wood floors offering a cozy atmosphere and a front rocking chair porch complete the picture. Hurry before someone buys the cabin of your dreams for only \$110,000. (20551)



VACATION RENTAL CABIN zoned commercial in downtown Mentone next to the new shops! Many updates, \$10,000+ in improvements. 2-3BR, 1BA, laundry, screened porch with hot tub. Completely furnished and at a reduced price of only \$97,500. (20961)



MENTONE - A FRAME CABIN on 5.3 acres. Features 800 sq ft on the main level and 240 sq ft in the second floor loft. Open design living, dining, kitchen with ceramic flooring, tongue and groove ceilings, and a freestanding gas log FP. \$69,900 (21564)



POSSIBLE COMMERCIAL LOCATION or Great residential property near downtown Mentone! House has been completely remodeled with new electrical wiring, new plumbing, new screened porch and deck, plus More! All move-in ready! \$145,000 (22149)



INCREDIBLE BROW HOME offers three levels to enjoy the gorgeous view. Kitchen has 5 fast bar and stainless appliances. MBR has private deck, FP and wood walls and ceilings. Outside enjoy the stacked rock FP/bbq grill, patio and decks. Come see this unbelievable home today! \$589,000 (15736)



BEAR CLAUS LODGE offers 3BR/3.5BA, stacked rock fireplace, vaulted ceiling, full appliance package, granite countertops, outdoor fireplace, spacious living areas with plenty of entertaining space outdoors on 2.2 acres. \$344,900 (21142)



WALK OUT YOUR BACK DOOR to the ski slope from this antique 1-1/2 story log cabin with 2BR/1BA, front screened porch and 17.3 acres of woods with huge boulders. Located off DeSoto Parkway. \$299,900 (22198)



THIS IS IT!!! Custom 3BR/2.5BA cedar sided home on 1 acre in Mentone. Features great room with fireplace, kitchen/dining combo, kitchen appliance package, above-ground pool with decking and lots more. This is the one you want to see! \$199,000 (20051)



YOU WILL ENJOY the warm ambiance of this 3BR/2BA 1-1/2 story cabin on 5.69 +/- acres that adjoins DeSoto State Park. Screened porch, cozy kitchen w/b fast nook, living area w/rock FP, and an open loft. Detached 2-car carport with an unfinished kitchen and bath with a bedroom upstairs. \$324,900 (22129)



COZY COTTAGE with a unique atmosphere offering 2BR/2BA, open living area, rock FP, CH&A, screened porch with hot tub, complete appliance package. Currently on a rental program. A great investment opportunity! Call today. \$154,900 (21905)



THIS ADORABLE 1 bedroom, 1 bath frame cabin has 640 sq. ft. and features a rock fireplace and foundation, wood floors and walls, central heat and air, front and back porches and sits on 1.19 acres. \$128,000 (18990)



YOU'LL FALL IN LOVE with this comfortable 2BR/2BA cabin with large screened porch, open living/kitchen with bar area, and stacked rock fireplace. Currently on a rental program. Call about this investment opportunity today. \$218,000 (21906)



THE BEST OF EVERYTHING has gone into this compelling 1.5 story home on the West Brow of Mentone. Over 4000 sqft featuring 4BR/4BA, great room with FP, large living room with FP, A "view" from every room! Built on 5 acres that was formerly owned by Willie Nelson! \$449,000 (21680)



READY FOR THE COLLECTOR, this 2BR/1BA home has bookshelves everywhere! In the living room...in the den...in the kitchen and in the garage. Also included is a 20x20 storage building with wall to ceiling shelves. All situated on a 1 acre lot. \$89,900 (22109)



LOVE PEACE AND PRIVACY? Own this secluded streamside 3BR/2BA cabin in superb condition. Kitchen offers island, full appliance package, custom lighting, and dining area with exit to the relaxing screened porch. 3.17 Acres. \$259,900 (21135)



MENTONE... You will be amazed at the Magnificent Views from this 3BR/3BA Custom Built Log Cabin. Situated on a Brow Lot, this home offers Open Dining/Kitchen with all appliances to remain. PLUS Unfinished Walk-Out Basement with Full Bath. Located on Lookout Mtn. \$298,500. (18235)



WEEKEND RETREAT OR PERMANENT RESIDENCE! Either way, you will love coming home to this 2BR/2BA cabin located off DeSoto Pkwy near Mentone. Kitchen/Dining combo, eat-in bar and all appliances. Wrap-around deck and walk-out balcony on a nice wooded lot. \$134,500 (19635)



THE SETTLEMENT AT MONK'S COVE. Main Residence with 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. 2 eating areas. The Cloisters includes 5BR/6BA plus an unfinished space. \$428,000 (22167)



CUSTOM BUILT, 2 BR/2BA Log Cabin situated on shaded, woodland acres. Two stone fireplaces, luxurious loft, 3 season sleeping porch, detached storage, additional small cabin, lily pond... Kitchen with 5 Star six burner gas range... REDUCED \$279,500 (20272)



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY is found in this log cabin off North Cool Street. Featuring 2BR and bath on main floor, L-shaped living/dining/kitchen combo. Upstairs has 2 sleeping areas and bath with unique footed maids tub. \$229,000 (18871)



A LARGE VINTAGE WINDOW frames the river view from the living room of this 1946 stone cottage. 2BR/1BA, large kitchen with walk-in pantry, b fast and dining areas, and FP. Downstairs is a huge bunk room with FP and BA. Also on the 5 rock-terraced acres is a 2-story guest house with fireplace. \$449,000 (22065)

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE to purchase 100 to 243 acres on Lookout Mountain (Mentone). \$3900 per acre. (21449)

BUILDING LOT (.59) on DeSoto Parkway near The Cliffs. \$25,900 (21143)

BROW LOT! Gorgeous views all around from this beautiful 1 +/- acre lot in Mentone. \$158,900 (21131)

12.1 ACRES... mostly wooded. \$48,500 (21669)

106' OF PRIME BROW VIEW with paved road frontage. \$109,500 (21055)

PLENTY OF LAND TO BUILD AND FEEL SECLUDED! Wooded 7.13 acres in

Mountain River Estates. Restricted land with possible creek flowing on back views of the valley and mountains beyond. \$275,000 (20120)

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

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. \$325,000 (18278)

SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD... UNIQUE "round" cabin offering an open living space, 2BR/1BA, most all furnishings. 9.58 acres and SPECTACULAR

246 ACRES on Lookout Mountain...\$4400 per acre. (22037)

OFF THE BEATEN PATH, hunters paradise, green fields, tree stands, yearly dove hunts, great 4-wheeler trails, what a steal. No restrictions. \$150,000 (22017)

WATERFRONT LOT in Restricted Lake On The Brow Community! 104 feet of water frontage! Mild Restrictions in File. This Property offers a setting that would be great for a Vacation Home or Primary Residence. Common Areas of Lake On The Brow offer picnic tables on water side and Beautiful Brow Side! Call Today! Only \$52,900! (18038)

Diary of a Chicken Lady

Part 13

By Kristen Emory



The sky is falling, the sky is falling, at least that is what Byrum, my son, thought when he was leisurely sitting outside in our back yard, and was attacked from above, behind and all about the head and shoulders. Scared to death, he reared back and punched his attacker. Guess who? Kirby the Rooster that's who! Kirby took a severe blow to the beak by a 14-year-old teenage boy and lived to crow about it.

What is a mother to do when a Rooster is aggressively challenging her son? I didn't worry about the other four times Tom was challenged by Kirby, he's a big man, and he can take care of himself. Ha Ha. But my baby can't even go outside and play basketball without Kirby the Rooster bowing up at him. Kirby has never challenged Saddler or me (it must be our lack of testosterone). With all of this said, the girls have had their fun and Big Daddy Kirby is likely in search of a new home. Some of my girls will miss him and some of them will be glad to see him go.

Favorite Chicken, continues to stay close to me when I'm outside and when I am not outside she is by the back door. I am currently training her to ride the lawn mower with me. She gets in my way as she follows me all over the yard. She might as well ride. But she definitely keeps her distance from Kirby the Rooster. Pheonna is Kirby's favorite hen because she has fancy pants, feathers on her legs. Pheonna, for her sanity, stays on the roost extra long in the morning and is the first one on the roost in the evening. Poor, poor Pheonna.

The old saying "Birds of a feather flock together" is a true thing at my house. When I see my flock outside and they segregate themselves, that old Psychology degree kicks in. As humans, is this what we do? Do we surround ourselves with other people who are like us, be it by race, religion, or economic class?

Tom just said "Kristen you're kinda getting a little too serious with that story, aren't you?" I just thought I would give you all something to think about. To wonder, do you go outside of your comfort zone and

make friends with people who are not like you or let



your children play with kids who are different from them?

Kirby the Rooster loves every hen, I mean every hen. However, he spends most of his time with the other black hens because he himself is a black Maran. Angel, Laverne and Shirley, are all black hens, and all stick together. When they are out, the three of them and Kirby are most often seen together. Cora, Pheonna, and Charlie stick together and are most often spotted in the back corner of the yard. Their feathers are all light in color. Then we have Cagney and Lacey, also known as, Favorite Chicken and Other Chicken. They are Rhode Island Reds and they, too, are a pair all the time. But, when I'm outside, Favorite Chicken is by my side. We then are a pair and quite a pair we are! Understand that Kirby is not bound to race, religion, or economic status when it comes to "liking" hens.

Enough serious talk. Did you know that a hen will start to "brood" one day and if you are an inexperienced chicken person like Rusty Chambers and myself you think your chicken is dying. Your hen decides that she is going to hatch some eggs, even if there are no eggs to hatch, and she sits in her nesting box all day and night. I'm telling you she will not get up! They will leave the nest just for food and water and nothing else. When you try to move them, this odd sound comes from deep inside their gut and out of their throats. This sound lets you know quickly that you should back away, and we do.

It took Rusty and me a few days to figure out what our chicks were doing. We soon thereafter hatched a plan to put some fertilized eggs under our brooding

hens. We proudly waited the 21-day incubation period needed for hatching. Thanks, Angela Chambers, for having that bit of info. (I think she may have a chicken book of her own.) Nothing happened, nothing at all. Some of the eggs even disappeared along the way, at his house and mine. Needless to say, a major disappointment; we would not be parents. At this point we don't know who has the problem: Kirby or our hens, but somebody is not doing something right. We may never know because it seems that Kirby will be hitting the road soon.

I didn't even tell you how he CROWS ALL THE TIME!! Before the sun comes up, during the day, and after the sun goes down, and all times in between! Kirby the Rooster is a crowing fool. Many of you told me this would happen and you were right. To those of you who love roosters, I applaud you and your patience. As my Great Grandfather use to say, "You come from good blood." I would just add, "You come from good blood with much patience for roosters." It's been quite awhile and many things have gone on over the last couple of months, never fret we will get to it...all of it.

(Kristen Emory and her husband, Tom, reside in Mentone and, in addition to raising chickens, are owners of Mentone Market)



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A Stitch in Time

by Ellen Harris

Using a Civil War Sampler quilt pattern from Reproduction Quilts, I made a quilt for the 150 year anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War in 2011. The quilt is based on a pattern from Reproduction Quilts.



The blocks are associated with quilts during the Civil War, 1861-1865. The fabrics are reproduction fabrics of the time period and are used in the sampler blocks as well as the filler blocks, sashing strips and borders. I began the collection of fabrics in 2009. The center design of 48" x 84" is the size

frequently used during the Civil War because it was practical for bed roll or on a hospital cot. Quilting was typically straight lines and the quilt is hand quilted. The family member with the most interest in the Civil War who received this quilt was Jim Fletcher.

The top half of the quilt contains blocks representing the union and border states. There are 23 pinwheel blocks to represent the 23 northern states. Initially there were 20 northern states after the south succeeded at the beginning of the war but three more states joined the Union during the war. These three pinwheel blocks are below the 20 pinwheel blocks in the top row of blocks.

The Ohio Star block was done in the late 1700's and continues in quilt blocks today. It is above the strip of Underground Railroad blocks and represents Ohio's efforts in helping slaves to freedom. The Nine Patch dates to the

late 1700's and continues today. It was often the first block a quilter would make when learning to sew. Many of the quilts made for the soldiers were probably of this design.

The Order #11 block is representative of the order to evacuate when the area between Kansas and Missouri became so violent during the war. Appropriate to the time period and used as filler are half-square triangles. The Princess Feather is a motif found in Clay County, Kentucky and a quilt sewn of these blocks is believed to be made by Mahulda Mize, a slave girl.



Other blocks in the top half of the quilt include a Baltimore Album Block, Album Block, Square in a Square, Barbara Fritchie Star, Lincoln's Platform (in honor of President Lincoln), Union Square, Log Cabin, Clay's Choice and Kentucky Star.

The bottom half of the quilt is representative of the Confederate states. Robbing Peter to Pay Paul was a popular block for utilitarian quilts prior to as well as after the Civil War in the southern Appalachian region. In other

areas of the country, it was called Orange Peel and Dolly Madison's Workbox.

The applique butterfly block is adapted from a butterfly block in an album quilt from 1850. The wife of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, is said to have stated that the south was like a butterfly, yearning to be free.

A Sun Ray block is based on a nine-patch block and is also the center for another block, Fifty-four, Forty or Fight, a slogan used in the 1830's and 40's as America and Great Britain argued over the ownership of the area which is now known as Oregon.

The Flying Geese included in the quilt are from the pattern dating to the late 18th century

and probably the most common border in medallion quilts of this period. The flying geese are said to point to the north leading the slaves to freedom.

Within two months of South Carolina's succession from the Union in 1860 after Abraham was elected as president, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas followed South Carolina's lead. The Seven Sisters block represents these seven sister states.

Beneath the Flying Geese section and to right of the nine-patch section is Sherman's March block. This block is know by many other names, including Churn Dash and Monkey Wrench. As Sherman's March, it represents General Sherman's march from Atlanta to Savannah in 1864 with his 62,000 troops in which a sixty-mile wide path of destruction destroyed the south.

In the lower left corner, there is a section of eleven, six-inch blocks. Carolina Lily and Evening Star blocks can also be found in the lower half of the quilt. Thirteen stars representing the thirteen southern states of the Confederacy are represented in the lower portion of the quilt. The applique stars are five-pointed, a design made by paper fold cutting and the technique that Betsy Ross supposedly used to cut the stars for the first American flag.

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It's time for the Desoto Rescue Squad 2012 Annual Fund Raiser!

We would first like to extend a special THANK YOU to all who have contributed to the success of Desoto Rescue Squad over the years. Your kind donations have helped fund the purchase of medical supplies, the repairs and upkeep on our rescue vehicles, and the squad operating expenses including fuel and insurance.

This past year we were successful in updating our cardiac monitor to one that meets all the requirements for us to maintain our Advanced Life Support license with the State of Alabama, which allows us to provide a higher level of care before the ambulance arrives. We have also started carrying a few emergency medications that may be given before the ambulance arrives including Aspirin and Nitroglycerin, both of which are vital during a heart attack. We have also been working to make our Squad building into a more usable condition.

Our 2000 Ford Explorer continues to be stationed in Mentone, while our 1989 Ford Ranger continues to be stationed in Valley Head. The Ranger has served us well over the years, but is showing its age and is due for retirement. We continue to work to locate opportunities to replace the Ranger with a more up to date rescue vehicle. So far, our options have been limited due to budget constraints.

Each year we receive approximately \$1300 from the DeKalb County Commission. This funding goes toward paying a large portion of our annual vehicle and liability insurance. The rest of our funding comes from donations from citizens like you. These donations cover the remaining cost of the insurance, our fuel, training, supplies, and upkeep of the equipment.

Our goals for this next year are to purchase an additional chain saw, update and supplement our water rescue equipment, and continue to operate effectively and efficiently, while providing the best possible service to the citizens.

We are continuing to develop a Junior Rescue Squad program, which will encourage our younger generations to become involved in the rescue service and help out the community. This program is open to anyone between 12 and 18 years of age. For more information, please contact our Junior Advisor, Gwen Stone, at 256-364-0150 or by email jradvisor@desotorecue.com.

We encourage anyone with a strong desire to provide medical first response and rescue services to the community to consider joining the squad. No training or experience is required, as we provide in-house training for all members. We meet the 1st Saturday of each month at the Mentone Community Center (MERF House) at 9:00am.

Our Facebook page offers current events and information on the Squad. We also maintain a Squad webpage at <http://www.desotorecue.com> (this is also where you can make donations online)

Your Tax Deductible Donations can be mailed to:

Desoto Rescue Squad, PO Box 517, Mentone, AL 35984

If you have any questions, call me at (256) 755-1023 or email: captain@desotorecue.com.

Again, THANK YOU for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Michael Stone

Captain

Desoto Rescue Squad

captain@desotorecue.com



The Art Gallery @ Mentone



Joyce and Robert Hoffman invite you to the Art Gallery @ Mentone, in the cabin across from the Post Office.

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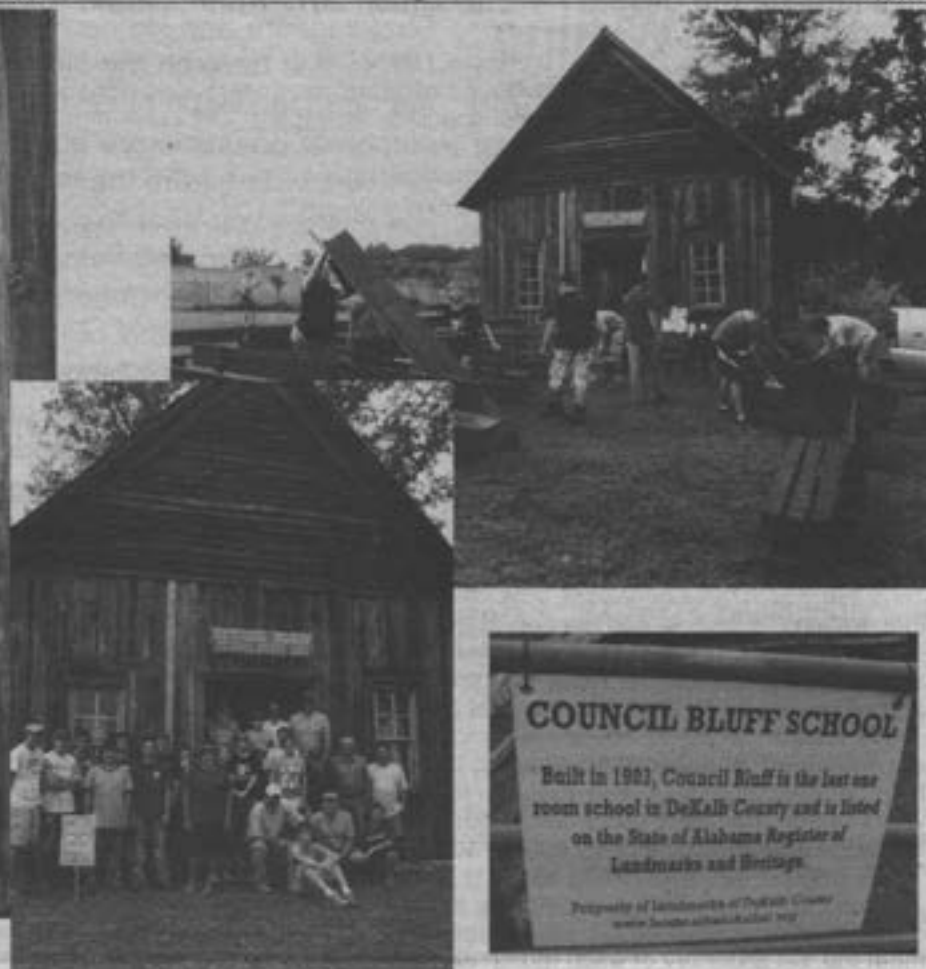
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Council Bluff School part of Eagle Scout project

Mentone's Troop 106 boasts a high number of Eagle Scouts through the years. Recently, Matt Stanley completed his Eagle Project which consisted of a clean up day at the old Council Bluff School. Several of Matt's troop-mates, family members and friends showed up to help. The Council Bluff School is the only remaining one-room school house in DeKalb County. It is owned and maintained by Landmarks of DeKalb County, but was in sore need of cleaning before the Annual Sacred Harp Singing that occurs there the 2nd Sunday in October (October 14, 2012).

(photos courtesy of Matt Stanley and Charlotte Gentry)



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Reading, Writing and Storytelling at the Library

On Saturday, September 15, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., local author Patricia Shavers will be at the Moon Lake Community Library to read from her new book, *When the Tornado Hit the Asylum—the Missing Papers*. In addition to her readings, she will conduct a brief mini-workshop on writing and storytelling. This will include an optional five minute writing exercise, as well as information about sharing our stories in other ways. She will provide information about how to publish your own book or stories, and will be available to sign copies of her book.

Patricia's book is fascinating and contains several kinds of stories. It has been a hit in the Mentone area. Patricia explains the title of her book this way: "In the state asylum, what people call today a mental institution, each patient's history is meticulously documented by the attending psychiatrist. The stories patients tell are many and varied: from facts to fiction, from illusion to delusion, from memory to imagination. When the tornado hit the asylum, all their stories, swept up in a vortex of nature's fury, were scattered far and wide. These are the missing papers."

With a master's in English Literature, Patricia Shavers cut her teeth on writers from Virginia Woolf to Flannery O'Connor, from Zora Neale Hurston to Emily Dickinson, with a nod to Twain, Thoreau, Wordsworth, Swift, Descartes,

Shakespeare and Homer. From barefooted heels in the hills of Alabama to stiletto heels in the corporate boardroom, Patricia Shavers writes from the heart. Sometimes you hear the voice of innocence, sometimes the brutal honesty of experience. Her kaleidoscopic mix of imagination, memory, and fantasy weave unlikely tales. "The only stories worth writing are stories of our shared human condition: birth, death, happiness, despair, love, hate, loyalty, betrayal."

This is a free event offered by the Library Board of Directors and Friends of the Library. Refreshments will be provided. So come on over, sit a spell, sip some lemonade, hear some great stories and maybe tell one of your own! Stories about Old Mentone especially welcome!

Remember this?

Pirch's Grocery was active in the late 1940's. The stone walls still stand between Sallie Howard Memorial Chapel and the river near Camp Alpine on County Road 165, Mentone (near DeSoto State Park). Pictured in front of the store is owner Mike Pirch and stepson J.D. Goza. In addition to running the store, Mr. Pirch drove the school bus from Mentone to Valley Head. He had to sit on concrete blocks as he drove because the bus didn't have a seat. According to his son, Don Pirch, of Mentone, "That's the best Mentone could afford to get the kids to school. That was just after the War." (WWII). (Photo courtesy of Don Pirch)



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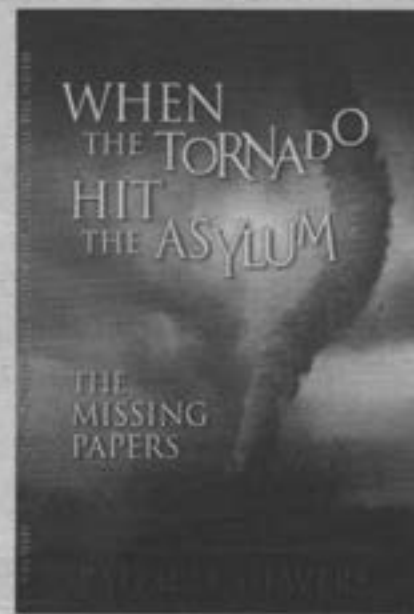
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Type of craft: _____
(Send photo of items you plan to sell)
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Type of food: _____
NOTE: The DeKalb County Health Department issues required permits. Call (256) 845-1931 or (256) 845-7031. Health Department permits must be obtained in advance. The Health Department office is not open late on Friday and is closed on Saturday.

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ONLY IN MENTONE!

By Scott Thomas

This morning at the shop, I noticed Fred Wood, a retired architect from Greenville, SC, looking for a place to set up his easel and paint. His medium is watercolor and he likes to look at the subject as he paints. He wanted to paint the shops across from me. I offered to let him use the porch of my shop. It is up high, more like a balcony, and overlooks the entire block.

Once on the porch, Fred realized that my little perch was the perfect spot. He quickly set up his tools of the trade and began working his magic. I watched in awe thinking, "Wow! Is this a Mentone moment or what?"

Being Mentone, it got better! As I gazed at the subject of Fred's painting, I noticed that Charlotte, editor of our local paper, was working her day job as owner of Mentone Realty. I phoned Charlotte, told her what was going down on my porch and she came over with her camera and interviewed Fred for an article in the paper.

Fred's grandfather built a small cabin on the East Fork of Little River many years ago. The cabin is still in the family.

Where else in today's world could all this happen? For me it was another wonderful day in Mentone!

(Editor's Note: Scott Thomas did such a great job expressing the "Mentone Moment" with Fred Wood painting downtown shops at Mentone while sitting on his porch, that we decided to let his words tell the story. Fred, who started painting when he was 12, says he remembers when his grandfather built the cabin on the river and that it didn't have indoor plumbing in the early days. It's good to know some of these old cabins have remained in the hands of original families and the stories of the old days are still waiting to be told. We hope that prints of Fred's work will be available for purchase in the near future.)

**MAYOR HAMMOND APPRECIATION DAY HELD**

The election results are in and Rob Hammond has been elected to another term as Mentone's mayor. In anticipation of the election, Rob and his wife, San, were the guests of honor at the Mayor Rob Hammond Appreciation Day held in August. Several folks gathered at the gazebo at Mason Park to show their support for the mayor and to enjoy the music, food and fellowship of the afternoon. Music was provided by the talented Curtis Strange. Thanks to Paul and Ginny Zulker of Rock Bluff Rentals, L.C. Moon of Wildflower Cafe, Tom and Kristen Emory of Mentone Market, Charlotte Gentry of Mentone Realty and all the others who helped make the event possible.



Congratulations Mayor Hammond!