



THE GROUNDHOG

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Volume 37, No. 10

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

October 2018



Colorfest

October 20–21, 2018
On the brow in Mentone

It's almost time for Mentone's annual Colorfest! The full beauty of fall is just around the corner, and Colorfest weekend is a great time to experience it, with shopping, music, boat rides, and more. The view from Brow Park is unparalleled, and the cool mountain breezes make for a relaxed and enjoyable time.

This year, 65 vendors of handmade arts and crafts will have booths set up along North Cool Street and at the site of the former Mentone Springs Hotel. Six local non-profits will have booths where you can learn more about their missions. Fifteen food vendors will offer a variety of festival foods, including Mentone's volunteer firefighters and DeSoto Rescue Squad. Both organizations raise important funds during Colorfest for their work throughout the year.

Painting by Lydia Randolph

Live music will be performed on the Brow Park Stage throughout the weekend by regional musicians.

Presented by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, the funds raised by this fall festival are distributed into the community in the form of grants to local non-profit organizations.

Colorfest vendors will be open on Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and on Sunday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Festival parking will be available only at designated lots for a fee of \$5 per car. A shuttle service will take festival-goers to and from Brow Park and the former Mentone Springs Hotel site, with stops along the way. There will be no parking allowed on CR 89 or Cutler Avenue. Please respect the homeowners and businesses on these roads.

We're looking forward to a great festival!

To learn more, please see pages 15–18.

Mentone Market Changes Hands

by Holley Midgley



When Tom and Kristen Emory moved from Selma, Alabama to Mentone and bought the Mentone Market in 2002, they weren't sure how they would be received. They weren't Yankees. They weren't Martians. But they weren't born and raised here, either. The late Willis Blaylock came by one day early in their tenure

and set them straight right away: "That's my rocking chair!" And he let them know that he considered them to be "flatlanders." But, for years afterwards, he was a fixture in the store, like the lights or the gas pumps. Tom and Kristen knew they had been accepted.

On October 1, the Mentone Market's ownership passed from the Emories to new owners Mike and Kathryn Norris. The Norrises have owned a home here for several years, and Katherine went to Camp Skyline as a youngster. The Emories leave behind a successful business—a Mentone icon—and 16 years of great memories. "For us, the thing we will miss most is the customers—the friends—we have made over the years," says Tom.

Before taking over as owners of the Market, Tom

(continued on page 6)



**Pancake
Breakfast**
Saturday, October 6
8–11 a.m.
Mentone Community Church

Tickets are \$10 per plate and benefit DeSoto Rescue Squad. Each plate has pancakes, sausage, and hash brown casserole. Each ticket is also an entry for a \$100 door prize.

THE GROUNDHOG



The Groundhog is published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA). First conceived on Groundhog Day, 1982, and then organized on April 5, 1982, *The Groundhog* has been in continuous publication

for 36 years. MAPA is dedicated to preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area. MAPA is chartered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

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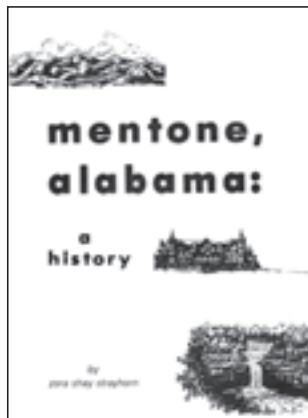
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***Do you have a story idea?
Perhaps a poem or recipe?
We welcome contributions!***

Email groundhognews@yahoo.com

Learn about the History of Mentone



On sale at the Wildflower Café, Moon Lake Library, Green Leaf Grill, Little River Hardware, Mentone Market, DeSoto State Park, Earthly Elements & Bell Battelle. \$15; proceeds benefit MAPA.

The opinions, beliefs, and viewpoints expressed by the various authors in this paper do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs, and viewpoints or policies of the Mentone Area Preservation Association.

Mentone Matters • by Mayor Rob Hammond



The Town of Mentone applied for a TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) grant from the Alabama Department of Transportation to build a sidewalk on the north side of SR 117 from Cove Road to Dempsey Avenue. In this round of funding, out of approximately 90 project applications, only a little over 30 projects were funded. Mentone was recently notified that we will receive a grant. The total project cost is \$478,000. Federal tax funds will provide \$382,400. The town is required to provide \$95,600 in matching funds. In the future, the town would like to extend this sidewalk to

Moon Lake Church/School, the Moon Lake Community Library, MERF House, and the proposed arts center.

Colorfest is fast approaching. The town is working with MAPA to improve the parking and traffic flow. All out of town visitors are being directed to a paid parking lot to be shuttled to the festival. Historically, if it is a pretty weekend, the heaviest traffic is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Hopefully, some of the problems we have experienced in the past will be alleviated. Sharon Habin reports that more vendors applied than there were spots and a full slate of activities has been planned.



Letter from the Editor

How do you like our new groundhog?! Artist Meg Justice created our new logo using the block print technique she has become known for. Meg is based in Scottsboro, Alabama. She and her husband Jerry own property in Mentone and come as often as they can on the weekends to camp on their land. They're in the process of planning the construction of their home so they can permanently relocate. We'll be thrilled to have them join the community on a full-time basis. Thank you for your generous gift of a groundhog, Meg!

This issue has been extraordinary in how it came together. Often, around the middle of the month preceding publication, I have a vague idea of what will be in the next issue. Then, around the 15th, submissions start coming in and the substance of the issue begins to reveal itself. What's extraordinary with this issue is that on the evening before publication, submissions were still coming in. That's the sign of a vibrant community! There are a lot of fun and interesting events happening in our region of Lookout Mountain over the coming weeks, including the always popular Colorfest. This issue features art classes, an author talk, three festivals, an animal blessing, a pancake breakfast, a tour of homes, a silent auction, a free concert, a community art project, and Spookapalooza. I have much gratitude for the folks who make these events happen. They add that certain flavor that Mentone is so loved for.

I briefly stopped by the MERF senior lunch late in September and, as always, thoroughly enjoyed the feeling that this group of elders create when they come together. It's just a lot of fun. While I was there, Doug Kiker read some of his poetry, and the seniors had a few good laughs. Paula Easter played the piano and everyone joined together in song. This is an enriching way to volunteer (if you're not quite old enough to have a seat at the table, that is).

Changes are coming to Mentone. The Emories will no longer be at the Mentone Market. Construction on the bridge on Hwy. 117 at Camp Skyline has begun again and will presumably continue until the job is complete. Mayor Hammond reports that a new sidewalk is in the works (although that will take a while). Black bears are being seen more and more often. New homes are being built. And new residents are integrating into the community, often bringing a lifetime of skills, talents, and interests with them.

What remains constant is the extraordinary beauty that surrounds us, and the friendliness of the people who call this area home. I've lived in many places, from Maui to Paris and various cities in between. As I've walked our dog lately down to the pond at the bend in our road, I've reflected often on the enormity of the sheer kindness of the people I've gotten to know over my years here. It's unusual, I believe, this kind of constancy. Truly some of the world's nicest people live in northeast Alabama.

It's going to be great fun to share this beauty and friendliness with the thousands who will soon come to Mentone for Colorfest. Festival Chair Sharon Habin has been working tirelessly with her small team of volunteers to present another fun fall festival. Here's to sharing the spirit of Mentone with the world! —Kelly

Mentone Area Preservation Association News

by Mark Hoffman



As I write this, I envision a cool, crisp day for publication – such a pleasure! It reminds me, however, of how much we sometimes long for what is the opposite of where we are. I listened to Tim Tebow on talk radio the other day, and I must admit I was super impressed. His vision and mission is simple: take care of and embrace today. Our time here is precious. My precious time today was as simple as feeding the dogs, buying some apple butter from Jason at the Farmer's Market, cooking a wonderful shrimp/pesto dish and watching Alabama do a number on Texas A & M. And speaking with both my children—Elec in Montana and Erin in Ashville, NC, who, by the way, will be doing her nuptial vows here in Mentone next May.

Anyway, I have rambled enough. The MAPA board was very excited about helping Holley Midgley and the Mentone Bicentennial Commission pursue a wonderful video project exploring and celebrating Mentone's rich history. Please give Holley a big pat on the back when you see him, as he is donating his time and expertise to the project.

Lastly, it sure was a pleasure meeting all of the MAPA members who came out to the meet and greet at the Wildflower Café on September 23. Thank you for your support, and I look forward to seeing you again soon. Please let us know what we can do to help make this organization even better.

Mark Hoffman is president of the Mentone Area Preservation Association.

Town of Valley Head to Conduct Leak Test on Sewer Collection System

Notice to All Valley Head Residential and Commercial Sewer Customers
by Mayor Lamar Bray

The Town of Valley Head will conduct a day of leak tests on the sanitary sewer collection system beginning at 8 a.m. on Monday, October 10. A non-toxic smoke will be blown into the system to reveal leaks that allow storm water and other surface waters to enter. Locating and correcting these leaks will conserve expensive capacity at the treatment facility. A record of the leaks will be made.

The smoke is manufactured specifically for this purpose, leaves no residual or stains, and has no effect on plants or animals. It has a distinctive, but not unpleasant odor. The visible smoke and odor only last a few minutes, where there is adequate ventilation.

The smoke should not enter your home. However, if smoke does enter your home, any of the following items are the probable cause:

- The vents connected to the building's sewer lateral are inadequate, defective, or improperly installed.
- The traps under sinks, tubs, basins, showers, floor drains, etc. are dry, defective, improperly installed, or missing.
- The pipes, connections, and seals of the building's sewer system are damaged, defective, have plugs missing, or are improperly installed.

During the week prior to October 10, pour water down ALL drains in your home or building to ensure that all traps are full.

If traces of the smoke or its odor enter your house or building, it is an indication that odor from the sanitary sewer system may be entering. This can be unpleasant, dangerous, and a potential health hazard. We urgently advise you to locate, identify, and correct the source of any smoke entering your house. The Town of Valley Head can provide assistance in locating the source of smoke entering your house. However, correction of any defects in the pipes and sewer on private property is the responsibility of the owner.

If smoke is observed in your home and the source is not readily identified, or if you have any questions, please call the Valley Head Town Hall at 256-635-6814.

Become a MAPA Member Today!

Help us preserve Mentone's history and impact its future.

Individuals \$20/year
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(includes a subscription to *The Groundhog*)

MAPA
P.O. Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984

www.MapaMentone.com

Join the Groundhog Team!

We always welcome our community's contributions to *The Groundhog*. If you enjoy writing or have ideas for stories that you think would interest our readers, let us know!

Do you enjoy talking to others about local history or memorable events? Do you recall with fondness certain people who made Mentone what it is today? Help us sustain *The Groundhog's* tradition of preserving Mentone's history and serving its current population.

The Groundhog staff and MAPA board are here to assist you if you will help us get these important stories and biographies written down to share and save for posterity. (If you are worried about your writing skills, everything is edited before print.)

We'd also appreciate your ongoing submissions of photographs, artwork, poetry and recipes. Email us at groundhognews@yahoo.com or give us a call at 256-465-1107 to let us know how you would like to be a part of this great paper.



Moon Lake School Community Meeting

by Anna Mae Horn

At a community meeting at Moon Lake Library on September 10, Moon Lake Elementary School principal Mary Lance, Mentone Educational Resources Foundation (MERF) Director Sarah Wilcox, and Moon Lake Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) president Gwen Stone helped citizens better understand how our local school is funded. Moon Lake Elementary School in Mentone is one of the most important institutions in our community. With its low student-teacher ratio and the caliber of student achievement, it is known as the place to get a private education in a public school.

While people often think of public education as free, everything comes at a cost. This public meeting came about when a concerned citizen, Angela Hadley, learned that the school's lawnmower was no longer usable and that the needed replacement would be around \$8,000. After she raised the issue on social media, local lawn care business owners Daniel and Adriana Martinez first answered the first call for help by donating their services. Moon Lake parents Mitch and Emily Gregory have subsequently volunteered to cut the grass on school property for the rest of the season. The online conversation and questions this topic generated led the school and the community library to schedule the September meeting to inform citizens about current school funding and ongoing needs.

Mrs. Lance explained that school funding comes from a variety of sources: school district and state funds; federal money like Title I; various grants and donations from organizations like MERF and the school's PTO; and fundraisers.

In DeKalb County, the school board covers every school's expenses for heating, Wi-Fi, and transportation. The Board of Education (BOE) reimburses 90% of the electric and water bills, but the school must pay those charges up front, only being reimbursed about every other month. Schools have a lot of operating expenses and budget items that add up quickly—from copy paper to brooms. County schools are entirely responsible for their own waste disposal, custodial supplies, phone bills, and miscellaneous supplies. These items are covered through the snack store and school-initiated fundraisers throughout the year.

Public funds, especially federal grants, are held to strict accountability and allotted for specific purposes in most cases. Federal funds provide for the Child Nutrition Program. They also provide salaries and educational expenses based on factors such as the number of students, the percentage of free and reduced lunch (81% at Moon Lake), and annual test scores—Moon Lake is currently the top-performing elementary school in DeKalb County. As these numbers fluctuate, so does the funding, and the school seeks other sources for supplemental technology and instructional resources.

The 21st Century Community Education Grant covers the cost of the extended day program. This year there are activities before and after school, including yoga and art classes, which community members can participate in at no charge. Several technology items, such as remote control drones, have been bought and used for educational purposes.

Mrs. Lance has been successful in securing grants to fund various programs at Moon Lake, including

the school's one-to-one technology program. Each child has access to a Chromebook (a type of laptop computer) during the school day, thanks to a technology grant. This means that today's technology is at the fingertips of every student to supplement textbooks and educational curriculum.

Another grant-funded program is Moon Lake's new greenhouse that is not only educating students, but providing income through the sales of plants that the students grow. Mr. L.A. Smith, local nursery owner and former Valley Head High School agriculture teacher, volunteers his services to provide science and math lessons for the children as they grow plants, conduct experiments, and calculate supply needs in the greenhouse. Students took orders for chrysanthemums late this summer. Watch for sales of pansies and ferns over the coming months.

MERF is a significant source of support for Moon Lake. Perhaps the largest financial asset that MERF provides is a Fine Arts teacher, Ms. Paula Easter. Ms. Paula provides fun, in-depth lessons in art, music, and Spanish for all students of Moon Lake every Friday. She produces a Christmas play each year that all students have a part in. Ms. Paula also does activities with after-school students on Thursday evenings. Her salary is paid for primarily from fundraising during MERF's annual "Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction" and other fundraisers, including merchandise sales throughout town and at the local festivals, like the upcoming Colorfest. Ms. Paula and MERF Director Sarah Wilcox also apply for grants that enable children to see live plays, meet local artists, and experience a variety of artistic environments.

MERF funds professional learning opportunities for teachers and coordinates a tutoring program for students who would benefit from focused, individualized help. Tutoring is available two days a week free of charge at the MERF community house. Children are chosen based on academic need by the teachers and Principal Lance. Homework, enrichment activities, and instructions are sent with the students by their teachers, and supplies, including snacks for the students, are provided by MERF.

The Moon Lake Parent-Teacher Organization promotes many fundraisers, including their main one, the school's Harvest Festival. Gwen Stone said the popular community festival raises around \$10,000 through sales of game tickets and donations that allow folks to enter drawings for items which have been donated. Over the years, PTO funds have provided transportation for student field trips to Nature's Classroom, Space Camp, and other sites of interest. Funds are also spent to support the school's annual Field Day and to provide supplies for teachers who request them. PTO has previously coordinated funding with the BOE to provide campus improvements, such as the covered walkways. The PTO and Mrs. Lance are committed to working together to provide whatever is needed for the students, teachers, and school.

The meeting was informative and well attended. Many attendees remarked on how much they had learned about funding for our local school. The meeting planted seeds of ideas that we hope will be harvested in the form of increased support for Moon Lake Elementary over the months and years to come.

What You Can Do to Support Moon Lake Elementary School

Mentone has a lot to offer. The brightest gems of the community are the helping people. Any time there is a need for help, people step up to the task—locals, part-timers, parents, retirees, vacationers—everyone. Thanks for making Moon Lake a school we all can be proud of.

- Donate directly to Moon Lake School. Donations can be used wherever needed, unless donated for a specific cause. This allows the school to use discretion and take care of the most important needs.
- Help the PTO through donations or by volunteering to help with Harvest Festival or other events. Please contact Gwen Stone at 256-364-0150 or the school at 256-634-4113 to leave your contact information.
- Volunteer to be a mentor in MERF's tutoring program. At the time of the meeting, MERF needed five more community volunteers to work with students on basic reading and math skills.
- Support MERF's annual fundraiser, "Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction". Purchase MERF merchandise locally or online. See their website (merfhouse.com) for complete details on all their community programs and ways to donate.
- Contact Moon Lake Elementary to find out about other volunteer opportunities. Community members can help in a variety of ways, such as making copies, assisting on library day, or simply listening while a student reads. Mrs. Lance encourages community members to use their special talents for projects such as cooking with after-school students, flying drones, and working in the greenhouse. (You might be surprised at how much math and science children can learn from cooking a pizza!) Help is also needed with the technology that has been purchased. While the county provides a technology repairman, time must be spent on basic computer maintenance at the school level, such as clearing the cookies on a regular basis.

Little River Arts Council's Annual Tour of Mentone Homes & Silent Auction



Saturday, October 27 | 10–4
Sunday, October 28 | 12–3



The striking 3-story home of Debra Fey and Jerry Megli features a theater, an elevator, a state-of-the-art peat moss septic system, and exterior self-cleaning windows.

The Little River Arts Council, founded in 2006, hosts its annual main fundraiser, a tour of homes in the Mentone area which have been selected for their historic, architectural, or artistic characteristics.

This year's tour will feature the home of Debra Fey and Jerry Megli, a stunning contemporary structure designed by Debra's late husband, Rick Fey. The McFarlands' "Berry House" will be on the tour, where attendees will enjoy seeing an impressive art collection of Mentone landmarks. Artists Wayne and Phyllis King will welcome people to their home, which features artistic touches throughout. Steve and Gina Gilbert's renovated brow home will be featured. The home's lawn has a trampoline, swingset and treehouse with an unrivaled view! Also on the tour is the Livingston's "Y2K" house on Little River, which was designed to be able to go completely off the "grid". Additional homes will be announced soon.

St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church, which is built around the oldest surviving structure in Mentone, will be open during tour hours, with docents on hand to explain the building's history.

The Sallie Howard Memorial Chapel ("the church with the rock in it") near DeSoto State Park will also be on the tour, and a docent will be available to explain the history of the church and the role Colonel Milford Howard played in creating it. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Museum at DeSoto State Park will be open as well. The museum displays many historic photographs which tell the story of the importance the CCC had in our area.

Weekend passes will be sold at Mentone Town Hall. The cost is \$8 for LRAC members and \$10 for non-members.

Concurrent with the tour will be a silent auction at Town Hall, featuring donated art work and other items, as well as gift certificates.

The funds raised on this weekend allow the Arts Council to pursue its mission throughout the year—to encourage individual creativity and to broaden community participation, appreciation and support for the visual, performing, and literary arts in the Mentone Area.

Visit littleriverartscouncil.org or the council's Facebook page for further information.

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Times-Journal, April 2018

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AL.com, April 2017

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Voter Poll, AL magazine

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Mentone Market (continued from page 1)

was the dietician for the hospital in Selma and Kristen was a fundraiser for the March of Dimes for Dallas County. Kristen's mom and dad had moved here and Tom came up to help them remodel their home. He learned that the market was for sale, so the couple bought it. "We moved here on Friday night and were running the store the following Tuesday," Tom reports. They had never owned a store, and there was a learning curve, which they quickly mastered.

It turned out that breaking into the community was not as hard as they had anticipated. Having their kids in the local school helped. And as the years passed, they saw children who could barely look over the counter grow up to be drivers or get married. Mighty satisfying.

"When we moved here our children were ages three and four," says Kristen. "We wanted them to go to Moon Lake School, and we wanted to be near my parents." Kristen became president of the Parent Teachers Organization, and it seemed like the store was pretty much constantly involved in various fund raisers to support the school. "Fudge, cookies, spaghetti dinners—we did all kinds of things to raise money," she says. If one drove past the store on most weekends, someone had a table set up outside laden with goodies for sale. They estimate that over the years they raised tens of thousands of dollars to support Moon Lake Elementary. And all the while they were becoming deeply enmeshed in the life of Mentone. Through the store, they knew most everybody in town, and quickly developed the practice of not discussing anyone's private business. After all, they might be talking to someone's cousin!

In November of 2016, the Market burned to the ground. The support from the community was a real boost to the Emory's spirits. There was even a Go Fund Me effort started by a counsellor at Camp Laney. They soon rebuilt, bigger and better, expanding their food offerings in the process. Legal sales for on-premise consumption of beer and wine started in November of last year and has been a positive for the store. There have been absolutely no problems with patrons, and those who belly up to the bar must surely feel somewhat like going into Cheers, where everybody knows your name. Sales of beer and wine at the store for off-premise consumption is now a reality, as a result of the overwhelming public vote to make it legal this past summer.

Owning and operating a mom-and-pop, small town store is a demanding lifestyle. Like a dairy or poultry farm, there are few days off. In fact, until a few years ago, the Market was even open on Christmas and Easter. With the addition of four or five employees, the Emorys have gotten a little relief from the seven days-a-week grind.

It hasn't been all work and no fun, however; there have been some laughs. Tom remembers the time when a parked car, which had not been put in gear properly, rolled out into Highway 117, did a perfect loop, and ended up coming to rest right at the curb in front of the store. However, people will be people. At a recent Rhododendron Festival, a Georgia couple parked their car at the gas pumps and walked off to spend three hours at the festival. "It's the only time I ever had to have a car towed," says Kristen.

The Emories are looking forward to a little down time before they get "real jobs." Selling the store seemed right to the couple, and they are looking forward to taking some time off to enjoy a store-free life. They have no plans to move away; Mentone has been their home for a long time and that won't change. "We don't know exactly what we're going to do," says Tom. "But we're willing to try."

Life for the Emories will change, however. "I haven't had to buy gas in years," says Tom. "And it will be strange to come in here as a customer and have to actually pay."



Community Paint Class Thursday, October 30

Artist Jonnie Frost teaches an art class for the community on the last Thursday of every month. This is a free class for the entire community. All supplies are provided. The 2-hour class meets in the Moon Lake School Gym at 4 p.m.

Moon Lake Community Library

Tuesdays, Thursdays
3–6 pm

Saturdays
9 am–12 pm



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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. I continue to open my doors to the young and the wise so my walls are full of joy, laughter and learning.

In order to provide different perspectives of how the Mentone Educational Resources Foundation (MERF) enriches life in Mentone, we hope you will enjoy hearing from some of our volunteers in the next several issues of The Groundhog. Our first guest writer is Anna Mae Horn, who has been a MERF volunteer tutor, a Moon Lake School parent, and a supporter of MERF's Taste of the Mountain and Art Auction. Anna Mae has also given her time and gifts to the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA), The Groundhog, the Moon Lake School PTO, and the Moon Lake Community board of directors.

My parents taught me the joy of learning, the value of knowledge, and the importance of an education. Mentone Educational Resource Foundation (MERF) embodies those same values. I was drawn to the organization as soon as I learned about it. The name alone is enough to inspire, but upon hearing of the activities, projects, and funds provided by MERF, I was very impressed by this large educational presence in a wonderful small community.

"What great goals! How can I help?" I asked Sarah. Before long, I was stepping into the MERF house for my first tutoring session. The old house did have some paint that was a little flaky, and some boards that were a little creaky, but the walls were truly filled with joy, laughter, and learning. I was a little nervous about taking on the responsibility of helping teach another person's child. I wasn't a teacher. I was merely a mother who places a high priority on learning, and I enjoy



MERF's senior lunch bunch crew enjoyed one last great meal from Tom and Kristen Emory as Mentone Market's creators and owners. Thank you, Emories, for serving MERF in many ways through your business and your love for the community.

Pictured: MERF kitchen elves DeeDee Dunkerley and Vicky Patrick with Tom and Kristen Emory

seeing all children reach their full potential. Did I have the right skills? What about supplies? Would the children like me? There were so many unknowns.

The only skills I truly needed was knowing how to read and do basic math, and having a desire to help children who are struggling with homework or certain skills. Teachers send work or communicate what is needed during the one-hour tutoring sessions.

(Educators are just awesome like that!) Ms. Sarah has a box of supplies and even snacks, so that base was covered, as well. And then, there are the precious children. Like me, they are sometimes a little unsure of meeting a new stranger—especially one who will be making them study in an area where they are not excelling. However, the snack at the beginning of the session always puts a smile on their face and breaks the ice. Whenever you help them sound out that first word or calculate those first numbers correctly, you have earned a friend for life. I have received many heartfelt words of gratitude from their parents, and I still get warm hugs from my past pupils any time I see them. It is very rewarding to see a student's attitude about learning change as they overcome obstacles.

MERF supports the school in many ways. As parents of a Moon Lake student, my husband and I were able to see first-hand the impact the foundation has on Moon Lake students in general. Olivia started attending Moon Lake in the fifth grade and an immediate interest was sparked after her first class with Ms. Paula. "Mother, she teaches Spanish! And art! And music! Ms. Paula is so nice and fun!"

She couldn't get all the exciting news out fast enough.

Personally, I had never been interested in attempting to paint. Unfortunately, I passed that lack of interest to my children. However, a lot changed after Olivia started Moon Lake. She looked forward to classes with Ms. Paula. They weren't



Come see us at the MERF booth at Colorfest and check out our new merchandise.

simple painting classes; she was taught about the color wheel, art and music history, a variety of styles, and about the talented artists and musicians behind the masterpieces.

She was elated when one of her very own pieces of artwork was chosen for the annual MERF art auction. As parents, we experienced great

pride seeing strangers, and even local artists, bidding on our daughter's artwork in excess of \$100. As I encouraged her to explore her artistic talents, I also became interested in painting. I am no Lydia Randolph of course, but I have found it very relaxing and gratifying to work on a piece and see it to completion. It's interesting to manipulate colors and blend them together to create a scene or object. I can't help but wonder how being encouraged to paint at her age would have impacted me.

The foundation also provides educational artistic experiences for the students. Olivia's class went to see *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* in Atlanta. She had a fun time with her classmates in a relaxing atmosphere off campus and thoroughly enjoyed the play. Ms. Paula was able to arrange a backstage visit, so Olivia was thrilled to see what happens behind the scenes. Students were able to get a glimpse of the actors and even meet the director, Rosemary Newcott, the Sally G. Tomlinson Artistic Director of Theatre for Youth & Families. Olivia came

(continued on page 14)



Mentone Arts & Cultural Center News • by Randy Grider

*MACC to hold Dedication and Blessing of the Grounds
with the Unveiling of Sequoyah Statue
Saturday, November 3 • 10 am. – 1 p.m.*

The Mentone Arts & Cultural Center (MACC) will host a public Dedication and Blessing of the Grounds on Saturday, November 3, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the future site of the facility on Alabama Highway 117. The event is being planned by the MACC's Special Events Committee.

There also will be an unveiling of the pre-casting form of the Sequoyah statue, which will be the centerpiece of the facility's sculpture garden. Sequoyah lived in this area when he created the Cherokee syllabary. Renowned sculptors Carl McCleskey and Betsy Scott have donated their work on what may be their masterpiece.



Donations are being accepted to pay for the bronze casting of the statue.

The committee has invited representatives from all three of the federally-recognized Cherokee Nations, as well as elected officials and members of local non-profits to the dedication event.

MACC Board Vice-President Meg Richardson says this special event is intended to be a "solemn one" that will honor and recognize those who first inhabited this region, as well as those who came later and those who live, work, and call Lookout Mountain their home today.

Look for updates about the event on MACC's Facebook page and www.mentoneartscenter.org.

For more information on the event or quilt raffle, please call me at 256-674-3366 or email me at mentoneartscenter@gmail.com.

Randy Grider is executive director of the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center.

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The Lookout Mountain Knitters



The Lookout Mountain Knitters meets on Tuesday afternoons at 3 p.m. at Moon Lake Community Library. You don't need to be a knitter to join, but if you enjoy any kind of needlecraft, feel free to bring your yarn and needles and enjoy time socializing while doing handwork.



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Mentone Area Homeschool Group Aims to Satisfy Children's Curiosity • by Angela Hadley

The word of the night was “curious”, and you could hear it purposefully repeated throughout the library on September 7 at the first meeting of the Mentone Area Homeschool Group. The meeting began with introductions and a simple question, “What are you curious about?”. The answers to that question became the beginning of a “Master List of Curiosity” that will serve as the inspiration for our future meetups.

Colton, 10, wants to know how to make cheese and is very curious about medieval life. “What’s inside your brain and how does it work?”, asked one of the youngest boys, who is curious about nature, survival skills, and how the human body functions. Many of the curiosities on the 25-item list began with the question, “How?”. The structure and function of things was a common curiosity among the six boys, who range in age from 7 to 13.

Curiosity-driven, hands-on learning is exactly what the organizers of the group envisioned when we set out to plan the first meeting. We hope to fill a gap in homeschool enrichment for the Lookout Mountain area. We didn’t want to create another co-op where parents pay for preselected classes and drop their children off for a few hours. Instead, at the Mentone Area Homeschool Group, the kids choose the subject matter, and the parents work together to provide the hands-on projects, mentors, and events to satisfy their curiosity and possibly spark a future interest.

The families in the group come from different faith backgrounds and homeschool for various reasons and in just as many styles. Some are brand new to home education and others have decades of experience in multiple states. As a group, we

agreed to respect each family’s individual beliefs and homeschool style and to focus on facilitating as many opportunities as possible based on the children’s Master List of Curiosity.

Marie DePaul jumped in to help organize the group field trips and secure the important discounts. “I am excited to be part of an inclusive homeschool group that will provide both social and educational opportunities,” she said. Marie’s 7-year-old son, Ian, wants to make a record-winning Lego tower with his new friends and is looking forward to attending a Renaissance festival with them in November.

“Friends” was another word repeated during the afternoon. Riley is 10 years old and a recent arrival to the mountain. He and his family moved to Mentone from Texas by way of

Costa Rica, and mom, Christy Plunkett, has helped get the homeschool group off the ground. Their family is excited to make friends in their new forever home and become part of the community. Riley hopes to learn about engines and build a go cart and he hopes more families will join the group.

The Mentone Area Homeschool Group meets the second and fourth Friday of each month, and although there may be costs associated with projects, activities, and field trips, there are no other fees involved to join and participate in the group. The first step in becoming a member, and gaining access to the group’s private Facebook page, is to attend one of our public events and meet the other families. The group will be hosting a public “Tinker and Take it Apart” activity from 3–5 p.m. on Friday, October 12, at the Mentone Inn Pavilion. Bring a screwdriver.

The Master List of Curiosity will continue to

update during the year, but the current list includes learning to grow and cook food, take care of livestock animals, fly a drone, fix an engine, and exploring how movie special effects are created. The group is always interested in meeting and working with community members who would like to share their skills, hobbies, and knowledge with a group of bright and curious learners. Get in touch with the Mentone Area Homeschool group by email at MentoneHomeschool@gmail.com.



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Ryan Keef and Friends

Friday, October 19 • 7–10 P.M.

Mentone Inn Pavilion

Little River Arts Council presents Ryan Keef & Friends. Ryan is known for his wide-ranging musical interests and skills, and for this evening he plans to entertain with a bluesy, improvisational set.

"From Boston to Baton Rouge and beyond, Ryan Keef has put miles upon miles under his feet for now over a decade, performing either with or in support of some of the business's major names. Releasing a steady stream of art, he continues to aspire and to be inspired."

Seating on the lawn is limited, so bring a chair or blanket to enjoy an evening under the stars. This concert kicks off the Colorfest weekend and is made possible in part with a grant from the Mentone Area Preservation Association.

Photo by Christy Miller-Evans



Watercolor Christmas Card Workshop with Artist Caroline Nuckolls

Caroline Nuckolls lives in Marietta, GA, and has painted and taught at Giverny, France, since 2001. On Saturday, November 3, she will teach how to watercolor Christmas motifs. Two sessions will be offered—a morning session from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. and an afternoon session from 1 until 4 p.m.

This class is presented by the Little River Arts Council. Each session is limited to 10 adults. Email info@littleriverartscouncil.com to register or for more information.

The cost is \$15 for LRAC members, and \$20 for non-members.



Congratulations to Andrew Gentry of Boy Scout Troop 106. On September 27, Andrew was honored with the rank of Eagle Scout as well as the Order of the Arrow.

Pictured: Andrew Gentry and his grandmother, Charlotte Gentry

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—KAHLIL GIBRAN



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Wow! Almost two months of school completed...time still flies when you're having fun! • by Paula Easter

It seems like only yesterday I was playing "Pomp and Circumstance" at the 6th grade graduation, and now we've just finished our second month of our new school year here at Moon Lake School.

We are off and painting in the Fine Arts classroom. I've had so much fun introducing my Moon Lake

students to new amazing artists and can't wait to share their art with you.

Karla Gerrard's landscapes have been the inspiration for 4th grade students as they work diligently with fluorescent oil pastels, watercolors, and puffy paint—and, oh, do we love us some

puffy paint! Upper grades have been studying about abstract artist Sandra Silberzweig and her amazing portraits. When asked by a student why all of Ms. Silberzweig's art was so colorful, I had the opportunity to share with them about a condition known as "synesthesia", where someone basically has sensory overload. From an early age and throughout her life, Ms. Silberzweig has suffered with synesthesia and has

often said that for her art is healing. She once she said, "I have no fear of color. It lives in my soul, dances in my heart, and spills out of my fingers flowing down the canvas."

Last, but certainly not least, what a wonderful bunch of new Kindergarten students we have this year at Moon Lake. I love having the opportunity of sharing one of my favorite books, "The Dot," with them.

As they begin their school year, I hope they will always remember the book's message—to "mark their mark and see where it takes them." We celebrated "Dot Day" at Moon Lake, along with over 200,000,000 people around the world, and fun was

had by everyone.

Since I'm talking about kindergarten...when I was young there wasn't a kindergarten or preschool class in school. Elementary school started with the 1st grade, but we were so lucky to have three wonderful private kindergartens in Summerville, Georgia. Thanks to Mrs. Emily's kindness, she let me come to kindergarten when I was three (and you know she had



Art by Sandra Silberzweig

to feel sorry for my mom, since I was what you would call a "Hot Mess" today.). My daddy used to tease me about "needing" to go to kindergarten for three years. Oh, but he was wrong because I loved Mrs. Emily and her kindergarten class. I thought her backyard was the neatest place

ever with all the swings, slide, and toys. At the end of the year we always got to have a circus and we all performed different acts. I was one lucky girl! In later years, after I had begun my teaching career, I saw Mrs. Emily at a local church service and she came up to me and said, "Paula, I understand you are teaching now, and doing a very good job. I'm glad you are putting all that talent and energy I saw in that little girl to good use."

I'm still a lucky girl and so happy to be "Ms. Paula...the Crazy Art and Music teacher" at Moon Lake.



Art by Karla Gerrard

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Sibyl Holle Sadowski December 4, 1947 — July 18, 2018

Sibyl Holle Sadowski passed away on July 18, 2018. She resided in Mentone for 32 years with her loving husband, Barry Sadowski. Sibyl was born in Munich, Germany, and raised in Burbank, CA. She devoted her life's work to the field of nursing. She served as a nurse with the U.S. Navy, as a Lieutenant JG, during the Vietnam years, having been based in Norfolk, VA, from 1968–70. In all, she was a nurse for 48 years. She spent the last 17 years commuting weekly to her job at Emory St. Joseph's Hospital, where she specialized in working with critical care and heart transplant patients and served as a nursing instructor.

Sibyl was an avid reader, her favorite topics being religion, spirituality, gardening, and native Americans. She also enjoyed collecting art, particularly Native American art and Audubon prints.

Sibyl is survived by her husband, Barry, of Mentone; her son, Rob Wright and wife Tate, of Atlanta; her sister, Shirley Torres of Washulla, WA; and three nieces, Alisa, Vanessa, and Laticia of Huntington Beach, CA. Sibyl Sadowski was buried in the National Cemetery in Chattanooga, TN.



Samuel Grady Weldon Whatley January 7, 1941 – September 24, 2018

Mr. Samuel Grady Weldon Whatley, 77, of Mentone, AL passed away at his residence on September 24, 2018. He was born on January 7, 1941 to Edward & Mayfred Willingham Whatley. Mr. Whatley was a longtime member of the Mentone's volunteer fire department and the DeSoto Rescue Squad.

He is survived by his children—Garnett Lee Smith (Mickey), Karen Kay Powell (Richard), and Samuel E. S.

"Hoss" Whatley (Valerie); his special friend, Joyce Blankenship; his sister, Mary Jo Cheatham; and his grandchildren—Cassidy Marie Cox, Joseph Edward Hudgins, Megan Rose Brown, Brian Dale Smith, Jennifer Lynn Smith, Keisha Marie Dobbins, Kayla Nicole McKenzie, Alexander Tristan Whatley, Tiffany Shae Long, and Daniel Robert Wilson; his great-grandchildren—Kara Dawn Eberhart, Austin Brantley Cox, Dexter Lay, Colter Hudgins, Alexis Rose Brown, Ryder Alan McKenzie, Ryan Harrison Dobbins, Jasper Shane Loftey; and one great-grandchild on the way, as well as a great great-grandchild on the way.

Samuel was preceded in death by his wife of 38 years, Rosemarie "Toots" Whatley; his parents, Edward & Mayfred Whatley; and his sisters, Billy Alice Whatley and Patricia Green.

In lieu of flowers, the Family has requested donations be sent to the Mentone Fire Department, P.O. Box 154, Mentone, AL 35984, or the Desoto Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 517, Mentone, AL, 35984.



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Everyone must take time to sit and watch the leaves turn. —Elizabeth Lawrence

Rhododendron Garden Club • by Mellanie Tuttle



The Rhododendron Garden Club had a change of venue for the September 11 meeting. Mary Shurett graciously shared her screened porch and garden and Dee Kelley supplied delicious cookies, fruit and punch. Dianne Kuehl read a scathing commentary on the state of gardening practices today with a dialogue between God and St. Francis which starts "... and then God said: 'Frank, you know all about gardens and nature.

What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, milkweeds and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought, and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees, and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.'" The conversation continues with a funny but sad commentary on how humans have "improved" on nature.

A variety of flowers that were blooming at the time were passed around the table: a rescued begonia; Hearts a Burstin'; the Rose 'Alicia'; a winter hardy succulent; two Dahlias; and an unidentified lily that turned out to be an Abyssinian Sword Lily. The yellow Coneflower, orange Cosmos, and Asters were named, and Mary had beautiful Black and Blue Salvia blooming in her garden, which the hummingbirds were sampling with great zeal. Committee reports followed: Treasury has money; the Conservation Chair was visiting a foreign land; Design Chair Mellanie Tuttle discussed the upcoming flower show and thanked the five people who are braving the judgment of their creations. Martha Wood, Horticulture Chair, suggested plantnative.org as an excellent source for all things native, with regional plant lists of trees, shrubs, flowering perennials, and ferns; how to get started; and books and local nurseries that sell natives. Natives are disease-resistant and a natural food source. Trees and shrubs for this region which offer seeds for animals and pollinators would be Beautyberry, Serviceberry, Dogwood, Red Cedar, Hearts a Burstin', Holly, Sassafras and Chokeberry. Business included planning for the senior lunch at the MERF House, naming the new slate of officers, announcing the Master Gardeners Lunch and Learn with Hayes Jackson expounding on Hydrangeas (October 4 at 11:30 a.m. in Fort Payne's Coal and Iron Building), and bragging on the awesome students and staff at Moon Lake.

The joint venture with the RGC, Master Gardeners, and Jr. Gardeners at Moon Lake has resumed with the new year. Last month, students weeded the raised beds (one has a sunflower stalk at least 12 feet tall), harvested seeds from the marigolds, created individual terrariums, and manufactured seed bombs. A seed bomb is a little ball made of compost, clay and seeds that, when dried, can be tossed or even launched into places that are inaccessible or too hard to dig. The beauty of the seed bomb is that seeds are protected so they don't get blown away or eaten and the clay is tough so that the bomb doesn't break apart on impact. Seeds get nutrients from the compost but remain dormant until their environmental needs are met (water, correct temperature and a good position to grow in). Josie Jeffery said, "Here you have in the palm of your hand a little revolution, something that can change the face of the earth, something that contains the early stages of a wild field, edible crops or an herb garden. You can use seed of one plant for your seed bombs or

combinations of compatible seeds. This is called 'companion planting,' where you use plants that grow well together and assist each other in a number of ways, such as pollination, deterring pests and soil conditioning. With a little help from Mother Nature, something as small as a seed bomb has the potential to improve the natural structure of an area in one fell swoop." A whole new way of guerrilla warfare—Viva La Revolution!

Mary Shurett presented "Outdoor Treasures—Garden Art" that culminated in a tour of her garden. She has numerous treasures—fairy gardens, fairy doors for trees, gazing balls, witch's balls, barn quilt paintings made by Don Pirch, a bottle tree, lots of moss for fairies to romp and a Chihuly-type blown glass sculpture. The popular bottle trees that seem so trendy have actually been around for years. The book by Felder Rushing is the standard for all things bottle tree. He gives the ancient history and has beautifully colored examples. It was believed that evil spirits could be captured in the glass. The movie *Because of Winn Dixie* has an awesome bottle tree with the bottles on stings hanging from the oak. Too much wind on the mountain for that one. Mary's students created a Chihuly-inspired chandelier and were given other opportunities to learn about outdoor artists. (Seeing a

Dale Chihuly large-scale glass exhibition in full sunlight is a sight to behold; the glass just comes alive. His show at the Biltmore in North Carolina is on until October 7.) I was not familiar with George Rodrigue's Blue Dog sculptures, so it was fun googling him. In the upper crust English gardens, gazing balls were strategically placed so the help could unobtrusively watch to see when Madame needed attendance. Yard art—useful, tasteful, or tacky? Mary quoted Felder Rushing, "You hang stuff out of holes in your ears. I hang bottles."

A timely note and right on point. My brother, Beau Lyday, has been winning awards for his outdoor sculptures. His website is farmsteadstudio.com and maybe his philosophy

can be words of encouragement for all—"I feel that a piece of art does not have to be shocking to have worth. Instead a work can mesmerize a person, moving one to a place of safety or sanctuary and instilling a sense of peace. In these unfathomably violent times there is a special need for healing art. That is my hope."

The next meeting will be on November 13 at 10 a.m. at the Boy Scout House. The topic will be "Thanksgiving Centerpieces".

The Rhododendron Garden Club is a member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region, The Garden Club of Alabama - District 11 and the Northeast Federation of Garden Clubs.



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This Old House *(continued from page 7)*

home and did some research on theatre production.

Olivia was also able to get some “backstage” experience herself at Moon Lake. Each year, Ms. Paula works with the children to put on a delightful Christmas play at the December PTO meeting. Every child is involved. Olivia’s first year, she was a too nervous to be on stage, so she helped with costumes, prop changes, and such. However, by the next year, Ms. Paula had her confident enough to perform on stage. That does a Mama’s heart good.

MERF also provides “An Afternoon with Artists” at the school. As a parent, I know that Olivia was intrigued and enthusiastic to observe these talented people first-hand—artists, musicians, authors, and more. As an involved community member, I volunteered once to be an assistant for the day. The children and I were impressed as Lenton Williams made a straw broom by hand, as if he had done it all his life. I was even more impressed to learn that he began at age 59. (You are never too old to start something new!) It was uplifting to see interest in the eyes of the students and hear their questions. Various artists set up in different classrooms and the grades visit on a rotating basis. It seems to brighten the artists’ day to interact with these enthusiastic students.

Mentone Educational Resource Foundation enriches the learning of Moon Lake Elementary School students, including my daughter, in many ways. It has also enriched my life through my participation as a volunteer. Mission accomplished! However, it’s a never-ending mission. I look forward to seeing my granddaughter participate in the many programs in a few years. My thanks to Sarah Wilcox as well as each and every board member who is or has been a part of ensuring the success of this foundation that reaches into many parts of the community. May the MERF house always be open and full of joy, laughter, and learning. —**Anna Mae Horn**

There’s a new bake shop in town!



Congratulations to Rebecca and Tim Henderson for opening the Tip Top Bake Shop at the rear of the Hitching Post. The shop offers cookies, cakes, fudge, savory treats, unique gifts, and gift baskets. Current hours are Thursdays 10am–3pm, Fridays and Saturdays 10am–4pm.

Pictured above: Kat Griffith offers a sweet sample to a visiting customer.



DeSoto State Park camper’s decoration

SPOOKAPALOOZA!

On Halloween weekend, October 26–27, “Spookapalooza” is the place to be! Join the staff and volunteers of Alabama State Parks, JSU Field Schools, & the National Park Service for a weekend of fun events guaranteed to run shivers up and down your spine! Trick or treating, live animals, storytelling, and more are in store during this popular annual event held at DeSoto State Park. All events are free to the public and appropriate for all ages.

7th Annual Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest

Entries will be judged on overall appearance, creativeness, neatness, and originality. Entries can have any theme or design. All ages may enter the contest. Entries must be turned in no later than 12 p.m. on Saturday, October 27. Turn in your pumpkin at the Nature Center, next to the Country Store. Winners will be announced at the Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground at 7 p.m. that evening. All entries will be on display during DSP’s Spookapalooza festivities.

Trick or Treating in DeSoto State Park’s Improved Campground

Wear your favorite costume if you wish, for trick or treating on Saturday night starting at about 3:30 p.m. and ending around 5:30 p.m.! Candy stations will be located throughout the campground. Parents must accompany children at all times. Dress up your pets and bring them along! (Always on a leash.)

Due to high visitation, parking for trick or treating will be in DeSoto’s Picnic Area this year, across the road from the Country Store on County Road 89. Shuttles will be available, or guests are welcome to use the gold trail which leads to the campground (behind the Country Store)

Campfire Talks

On Friday and Saturday evenings at 7 p.m., enjoy educational and entertaining programs around the campfire. Friday’s program is “Owl Prowl” and Saturday’s program is “Bats Alive!”. Visit alapark.com/DSP-Spookapalooza for complete details.

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Sunday October 21 • 9am–4pm

Colorfest Raffle Quilt sewn by Lola Mae Blalock

Colorfest's traditional raffle benefits MAPA's funding of grants that support our community. This year's item is a lovely quilt made by Mrs. Lola Mae Blalock that was purchased by her niece, Phyllis Roberts, in 1999. It is new and has been stored in protective wrapping. The quilt measures 86" x 76" and is crafted in shades of cream and blue. It is currently on display at Southern Style Log Furniture. For many years, Lola Mae's quilts were Colorfest's traditional raffle prizes. We're glad to once again honor this tradition.

Raffle tickets cost \$1 each and are available at Moon Lake Library, Southern Style Log Furniture, Earthly Elements, The Graceful Giraffe, and Mentone Market. For more information, or if you would like to support MAPA by selling raffle tickets, email festivalraffleinfo@gmail.com.



Collectible posters featuring the art of Mentone artist Lydia Randolph will be on sale for \$10 at the MAPA information booths during Colorfest.

Visit MAPAmentone.com or our "Mentone Festivals" Facebook page for more details.

*We appreciate
the support of*

TIMES-JOURNAL

as a Colorfest Sponsor

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the support of*



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Sugarcane Jane



Aaron Willmon

Live Music at Brow Park Stage

Saturday

- 10:00 Craig Hendricks
- 11:15 Sugarcane Jane
- 12:30 Ryan Keef
- 1:45 Lisa Crow & James Arthur
- 2:30 Brett Greer
- 4:15 Trey Headrick

Sunday

- 11:15 Curtis Strange and Rob Bouchard
- 12:30 Prophecy
- 1:45 Aaron Willmon
- 2:30 Quilt raffle drawing
- 3:00 Stuart Douglas, Jack Dotson

Scavenger Hunt

A fun and creative way to explore our downtown shopping area. Grab a game card, and as you proceed around the 27 businesses, search for hidden treasures. Drop off the game card at the end of your visit to enter the raffle to win \$50 prize money.



Scarecrow Hollow

Everyone is invited to create a scarecrow and enter the contest for three place-prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25. The location will be in the woods at the back of the old hotel site, as in the last two years. Enter as an individual, organization or business. Go to mapamentone/scarecrow-hollow for details and to enter.

Thanks to

FSB

FIRST STATE BANK

for supporting Colorfest

Thanks to

Blue Jug
Dixie Salvage
Fort Payne Pediatrics
Kathy Kasler
Southern Properties
Westmoreland Tires

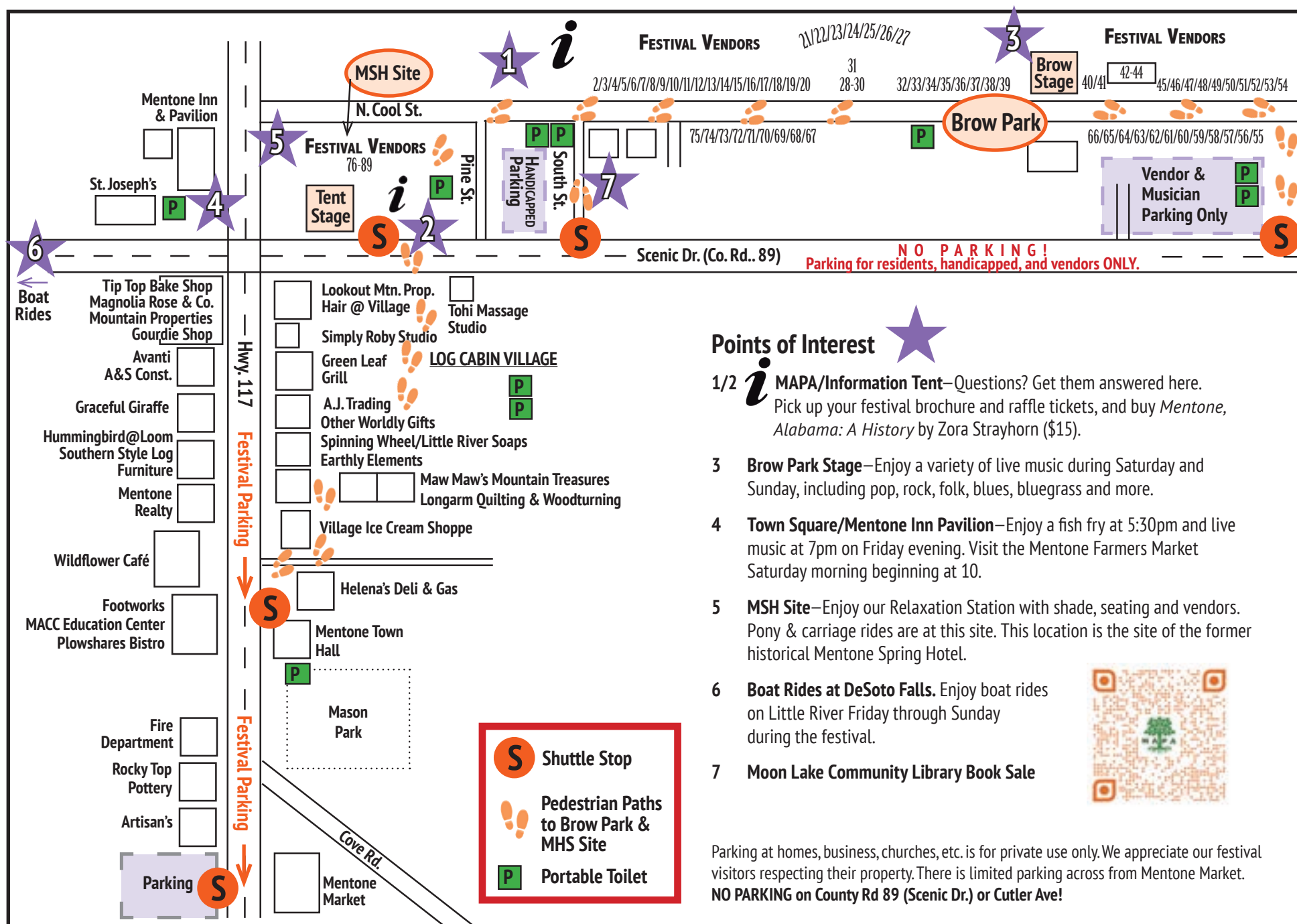
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Thanks to

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for being a Colorfest Sponsor

Map of Mentone Town Center & Festival Vendors



NOTE: This is not intended to be a complete map of the Town of Mentone. It only highlights venues for activities, events, food, music, and arts/crafts vendors during the festival.

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the support of*

**Mentone
Farmers
Market**

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Thanks to



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Colorfest Arts & Crafts

3rd Generation Creation
American Rust
An Untwisted Heart Art
Appalachian Rustic
Ashes to Beauty
Robert & Jimmye Bain
Barn Crafts Our Way
Barnyard Pics
Barney's Handcrafted Dulcimers
Bows and Doll Clothes
by a.t.l.e.a.h
Cabin Fever Crafts
Dianna Cantrell
Louisa Clingan
Cotton Picking Pottery Company
Creative Stitches
Deep South Designs
Dink's Bobbiepin
Dreamers Jewelry Art
Eastaboga Bee Company
Dexter Gentle
Kay Gentle
Happy Campers Crafts & Creations
Heartstrings and Stitches
Heavenly Hillbillies
Heerten Family Woodworking
J & R Originals
JW Jewelry
Glenda & Larry Jones
Daniel Kandasammy

Knotholes and Notions
OH - Only Handmade
Lickskillet Creations
Lookout Mountain Photography
Mary Mc's Jewelry ETC
Mrs. Rushton's Cottage Kitchen
Nightingale Pottery/ Reiko Rymer Pottery
Oden Knives
Personalized Wooden Trains & Woodcrafts
Photography by Jim and Frieda
William Pitcher
Pretty Wear by Sher
RBArt
Rethina Ray Crochet
Rezin Kreation
Roadside Recyclers
Richard Schrei
Scrap Happy Art
Valerie Sheffield
ShyleeRae's Boutique/The Chalkin Shed
Simple Creations
Slightly Different Jewelry
Soap Alchemy Boutique
Stardust Mama's
Still Stitchin' & Brandi Still
Sweet Tea Pottery
Tattered Treasures
u name it
Unique Lamps and Lighting
Velvet Rocks
The Vintage Clover
Wood & Bean
Patty White
Wooden Creations
The Woodshop

Food

Coty Still
Crit 'n Pucks
DeSoto Rescue Squad
Dixieland Funnel Cakes
Granna's Goodies
Havana Street Food
Lil Donut Factory
McIlwain Kettle Corn
North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District
Papi's Roasted Corn
Pritchard Farm
Red's Deli
Tasso's Kettle Korn
The Last Straw
Wildflower Cafe

Organizations

DeSoto Rescue Squad
DeSoto State Park
Little River Arts Council
Mentone Area Preservation Association
Mentone Arts & Cultural Center
Mentone Educational Resources Foundation
Moon Lake Community Library
North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District

Stop by MAPA's information booths for schedules, maps, collectible festival posters, and raffle tickets, or to become a MAPA member!

Lend a Hand! Be a Colorfest Volunteer

Photographer

Take pictures at festival and of teams working for online media and *The Groundhog*.

Vendor Committee

Help mark booth spaces during week before; Friday & early Saturday—check in vendors.

Signage

Set signs up for promotional, shuttle, parking lot, and directional signs; inventory banners; put up sponsor banners

MAPA information booth

Time slots are available throughout the weekend.

Sponsors

Recruit Colorfest sponsors

Odds & Ends

Folks who are willing to do odd tasks as needed!

Complete the online interest form at
mapamentone.com/colorfest2018-volunteers



Pony & Carriage Rides

On Saturday, children will enjoy carriage rides around the festival area and pony rides at the old hotel site.

BeautiFALL Bizzness

Although this event was formerly called "Pumpkin Patch Jubilee", the purpose is the same—to dress up the storefronts of Mentone in their fall finery. The top three, as judged to best represent the theme of "Celebrating the Fall Season on the Mountain", will receive a gift certificate for advertising space in *The Groundhog*.



Enjoy Little River

See the fall colors on the banks of Little River from a boat! Go to DeSoto Falls to catch a pontoon boat ride or rent a kayak.



Charlotte Gentry
Broker/Owner
256-996-5995



Mentone Realty



Holly Watson-Houston
Assoc. BROKER®
256-996-0552



Melody Sellers
Assoc. REALTOR®
256-996-5297

www.mentonerealty.com

"The Natural Choice" Office: (256) 634-4767

Welcome To Mentone



Stop in and see us at our log cabin office in the heart of Mentone. Porch sitters welcome!
.....
LOTS and LAND

SOUTH COOL STREET brow-front property w/beautiful old stone chimney, part of the foundation, plus a small garage. New survey. An original Mentone summer home once stood here; owned by the same family since early 1920s. Approx 0.45 acre lot in an area where properties are seldom available. Build your own memories! \$125,000 (1070474)

DESOTO FALLS AREA LAKE-FRONT LOT with approx. 94' frontage on the prime part of W Fork Little River, the truly navigable part where you can canoe, kayak or pontoon all the way to Mentone! So much natural beauty, so rarely available. \$155,000 (355152)

EASTERN LOOKOUT MTN'S EDGE, expansive views, gorgeous sunrises. 1-acre lot w/approx 120' brow frontage; paved road; public water. Driveway tile already in place. Just right for your mountain home or getaway. Lake on the Brow Subdivision allows for use of lakes in common areas. Only a mile or so from famed Little River Canyon Nat'l Preserve, Jacksonville Center & favorite swimming holes of Little River. Less than 15 minutes to Ft Payne. \$59,900 (1088539)

OWNER FINANCING AVAILABLE! 2 WOODED ACRES with a tiny little rustic one-room camping cabin (no plumbing, water or septic installed). Sort of a getaway or place to stay until you're ready to build your mountain home. Restricted. \$39,700 (1034503)

30 ACRES (+/-) IN MENTONE of mostly hardwood forest, some pasture land. Slight slope to offer a great elevation for future cabins, a farm, hunting cabin or whatever your Mentone dream dictates. \$105,000 (\$3,500 per acre)
.....

See you
at Colorfest
October 20
through 21!



PRE-CIVIL WAR ERA LOG CABIN with additions, plus 2 additional potential income-producing small cabins. 2BR/2BA Main cabin (BR & BA in loft); kitchen & dining area; huge living area divided by Mountford-style stone fireplace. Fantastic stone work inside & out: fireplace, side-walks, patio, etc. Hand-hewn logs & beams. Screened porch. Detached 2-car carport. Wood walkways between cabins. Stone garden waterfall & ponds. Beautiful flowers & plantings throughout property. Studio cabin & efficiency-sized cabin (creating a total of 4BR/4BA) on approx 1.2 acres. \$153,500 (1083512)



CLASSIC BUNGALOW-STYLE COTTAGE in the heart of Mentone, built in 1910. Fully restored & updated in 2003. (New CH/A installed May 2018) Unexpectedly spacious, light & airy, with lots of windows & high ceilings. Open living, library & sunroom; two large bedrooms; one bath. Kitchen with breakfast bar & great pantry space. Separate dining room. Front sun porch (heated), back screened porch. Approx 2 acres \$174,900 (1086659)



ANTEBELLUM FARMHOUSE, built by the McGown family in the 1850s. Large front porch facing Lookout Mtn. Some of the rooms have been restored to original style and grace. High ceilings, original pine floors, fireplaces, architectural details aplenty inside & out. Picturesque outbuilding believed to have been the cook house before a kitchen was put inside house. Current B&B. There's still work to be done, but the price is right at \$89,000. (1101135)



MID-CENTURY MODERN MEETS MOUNTAIN SIMPLICITY ON COOL STREET. Single-level cottage is quite plain on the outside, simply delightful inside! Gracious, comfortable, functional, wood interior w/vaulted ceilings, open kitchen/dining; master suite w/jetted tub & sep shower. Great outdoor places, too, including a large screened porch on the side, covered front porch & sweeping open decks. 10x20 det bld. New exterior paint & gutters. New internet & TV installed! \$170,000. (1083660)



WOODLAND CABIN; 2BR/2BA, perfectly nestled into 3 wooded acres; away from it all, but within minutes of downtown Mentone. All wood interior w/vaulted ceilings; stunning stone, wood-burning Fplce; open kitchen/dining; master suite w/jetted tub & sep shower. Great outdoor places, too, including a large screened porch on the side, covered front porch & sweeping open decks. 10x20 det bld. New exterior paint & gutters. New internet & TV installed! \$170,000. (1083660)



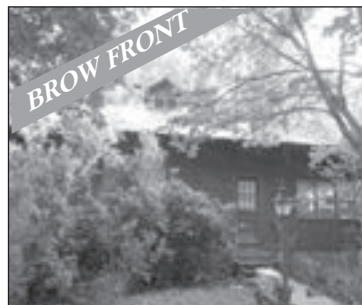
RELAX, IT'S "MOUNTAIN TIME" NOW. You've worked hard for it, you're ready to unwind. Here's your opportunity to get away in a cabin filled with rustic flavor & mountain charm. All-wood interior; vaulted, open living, dining & kitchen. Spacious, main-level MABR & bath. Upstairs is a large loft bedroom with reading nook & bright shower bath. Big front porch; screened back porch for just kicking back with no worries. \$173,900 (1089804)



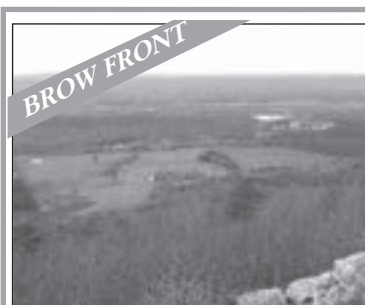
FUNKY, QUIRKY, ARTSY, CLASSIC MENTONE "Secret Garden" home, nestled in a privet hedge, complete w/screened sleeping porch, interesting nooks & crannies; library nook; 2 large BRs; 2 BAs (one has a claw foot tub); open kitchen/living area; studio or 3rd bedroom on main level; & laundry room w/great storage. All wood interior. Yes, there's work to be done, but this is a place in the heart of Mentone to put your heart into. \$99,000 (1100721)



"THE BURREN." Snuggled into intriguing rock formations, huge boulders & woods on 1.9 acres you'll find this 3BR/2.5BA mtn retreat, just off the DeSoto Pkwy. Metal roof; screened porch; wood-burning mtn stone Fplce; private back deck w/new hot tub; 2nd floor balconies. Large screened porch offers expanded living area outdoors. Active vacation rental with great rental history! \$185,000 (1087665)



OH MY! THE POSSIBILITIES! What could one do with this marvelous old Mentone heritage property, with approx 210' of brow frontage and spacious gardens & walkways?! 3BR/2BA, with formal dining room, sitting room, den & sun porches. Unfinished "grandma's attic" area with intriguing angles and nooks. Wood floors, walls & ceilings. 2.66 acres(+/-) Now \$229,900 (1074930)



THIS IS WHAT WE CALL A VIEW! And this place has so much more! Lovely frame & stone cottage on the brow at Mentone. Over 3000 sq ft; 3BR/4BA; lg bonus room for 4th BR, office, exercise or play room. Main-level Master Suite with wall of windows to enjoy the view. Huge kitchen is a dream for those who love to cook & entertain: granite counters, commercial gas cooktop, double wall ovens, wine cooler, disposal, compact, gas fireplace, enormous pantry. Large dining room opens onto brow-side screen porch & decks. New wood floors & ceiling; new paint; new windows in MA BR & Living. Detached 3-car garage w/efficiency apartment & shop. Wrought-iron gated entry; circular, paved drive. \$399,900 (1084334)



River Voice • by Bill Shugart



Little River is the lifeblood of our community. For generations, the cool water and the fresh mountain air have attracted visitors seeking solitude and rejuvenation or an escape from the fast pace of life where they come from.

Little River is the lifeblood of our community. For generations, the cool water and the fresh mountain air have attracted visitors seeking solitude and rejuvenation or an escape from the fast pace of life where they come from.

Little River has the federal and state designation of an Outstanding National Resource Water, (O.N.R.W.) meaning it is a high quality water because of its rare and endemic plants and animals. Its classifications for

use are Swimming, Fish & Wildlife, and Public Water Supply.

Through my work with Little River Waterkeeper and as director of One World Adventure, my day-to-day routine during tourist season includes interactions with visitors who come here in search of an experience. Maybe they are looking for a scenic overlook to watch the sunset or maybe they want to find one of Little River's popular swimming holes. These are the places that make this area so special and it is a priority for us to protect them from degradation.

When poor water quality comes into play, we see damage to the ecosystem that is in place which keeps a natural balance. Polluted water can make us sick as well. Children, older folks, and those of us with immune system issues are especially vulnerable. So, during those key times of the year when folks swim, we work hard to keep everyone informed.

A team of dedicated volunteers take water quality samples each week from popular swimming holes along Little River during the summer months. We then test those samples to determine whether or not swimming is safe and inform the public of the results by posting them on our website and on the Swim Guide site.

Created in 2012, the Little River Waterkeeper program is the official voice of Little River and its tributaries. The program not only patrols and monitors

Little River, it advocates for clean water policy in Alabama, along with 10 other Waterkeepers in the state. There are threats to Little River that most people do not think about. That is why it is important to have a watchful eye to monitor what is going on in the watershed diligently and proactively. The biggest threats we face on Little River are sediment pollution from large tracts of land that are clear cut for development or timber, nutrient pollution runoff, herbicide spraying, and litter.

This year, the LRW gained support from Patagonia, EBSCO Industries, and MAPA to carry out our work of protecting Little River. Funding from these sources allowed us to purchase water quality monitoring equipment and supplies to inform the public about the health of our river. While these funders play an important role, your donations played an equally important role and showed you love Little River as we do and believe it is worth protecting.

In DeKalb County, tourism is a large part of the economy and in order to keep visitors coming to the area, we must address these issues that compromise our quality of life. We want to see the tourism increase in a sustainable way that protects and glorifies this beautiful area we call home. We pledge to you that we will work tirelessly to make sure our citizens and visitors have clean and healthy water to enjoy.

Last but not least, I am excited to be able to say that our parent organization, One World Adventure, is celebrating its 10th year as an organization. Ten years of programs! It started with a true grassroots beginning. A small group of people held a common vision to create a better quality of life through Outdoor Recreation, Education, and Conservation. You all said, "Yes, I'll sign my kids up!" and thanks to your support and involvement, local youth have learned to swim and kayak in Little River, hike the nearby trails, climb and rappel the sandstone cliffs nearby, discovering just how awesome the area in which they live is. Having positive experiences outdoors endears us to this place. We believe the people who have participated in our programs have gained a sense of stewardship and love for Little River that will last a lifetime. We wouldn't be here without your support, so THANK YOU for 10 years of an incredible Summer Job! Cheers to Little River!

Bill Shugart is the Little River Waterkeeper.



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DEKALB CO., INC.**

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Free - Public Invited • October 14, 2018 at 2 pm

Council Bluff School*

Directions & More Info: www.landmarksdekalbal.org

Landmarks Annual Membership Meeting & Reception

Free - Public Invited • November 11, 2018 at 2 pm

Honoring Veterans

Video histories of local veterans by Robert Moher

WW II Art of the Great War Poster Exhibit

Hunt Hall - 516 Gault Ave N, Fort Payne, AL 35967

**Become a member of Landmarks today.
Visit our website at www.landmarksdekalbal.org**

**In the event of rain: Opera House - 510 Gault Ave N, Fort Payne, AL 35967*



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October 2018 Community Calendar

All Times are Central. This calendar is subject to change.

October 4–13th Annual “Fore the Kids Golf Tournament”. DeKalb County Children’s Advocacy Center. Lunch at 11am and Shotgun start at Noon. 4-man team best ball. Terrapin Hills Country Club. 256-997-9700.

October 4–The DeKalb County Master Gardeners Lunch and Learn. This is a program for you to bring your lunch and learn all about hydrangeas with Hayes Jackson. Drinks will be available, so just bring your lunch and enjoy learning. The Coal and Iron Building on the corner of Gault and 5th St. NW, Fort Payne. 11:30am–12:30pm.

October 4–Art in the Alley. Bring your friends and let’s have some fun! Join us after work for Art in the Alley, and enjoy local food, music, and art in Fort Payne’s Entertainment District - and Boom Town Makers Market. Look for the festival lights in the Alley behind the theater. 5–8pm.

October 5, 12 & 26–Sculpt Your Own Flower. Have you ever wanted to actually sit at the gaffer bench and feel what it is like to shape hot glass? It’s all about hands-on experience in a safe and fun atmosphere with a final product we know you will love. Orbix Hot Glass. Minimum of 3 people, maximum of 5 in each class. 1pm. Reservations required. 256-523-3188.

October 5–Campfire Talk: Parasites of Little River. Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Parasitic organisms such as ticks, fleas, lice, etc., comprise the majority of species on earth, outnumbering non-parasitic animals by as much as 50%. Larger organisms like plants can be parasitic, such as Indian Pipe, Mistletoe, & Indian Paintbrush. Microbiologist Dr. Benjie Blair from Jacksonville State University returns to talk about more creepy crawlies that would like to make a home...inside of you! 7–8pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved campground, next to campsite 93. Gate will open 30 minutes before program starts. (Held in nature center in case of inclement weather.) Free to the public. Great for all ages! For details, 256-997-5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

October 5 & 6–National Trappers Convention. The National Trappers Association is committed to defending and promoting the safe and ethical harvest of furbearing mammals and to the preservation and enhancement of their habitats. Agri-Business Center Show hours from 8am–6pm. 256-638-1650.

October 6–DeSoto Rescue Squad Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. The DeSoto Rescue Squad will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser. Tickets are \$10 per plate. Each plate has pancakes, sausage, and hash

brown casserole. Each ticket is also an entry for a \$100 door prize. You don’t have to be present to win. Mentone Community Church. 8–11am.

October 6–Blessing the Animals. ALL PETS WELCOMED! Please bring your pet on a leash or in a carrier. 3pm. St. Joseph’s on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church Front Lawn, Mentone. For more details: 256-634-4476 or stjom@centurytel.net.

October 6, 13, 20, 27–Blow an Ornament. Come design and blow your own ornament with the help of one of our glass artists. No reservations are needed, it is on a first come, first serve basis. 9am–4pm. Orbix Hot Glass. \$38 per ornament blown. 256-523-3188.

October 6–Little River Canyon Half Marathon. Jacksonville State University and the Little River Canyon Center host the 6th annual half marathon. Possibly one of the most scenic half marathons in the country, this certified course loops 13.1 miles, follows the rim of the canyon before winding its way through the area’s beautiful farm country on paved roads. The course starts and ends at the Little River Canyon Center. The half marathon will feature water stations, music, ample law enforcement, shirts, trophies, finishing metals, and much more. Proceeds go to outdoor education programs and local conservation efforts at Little River Canyon. 8am. Pre-registration required; call 256-782-8010. For most GPS devices, use address 472 AL Highway 35, Fort Payne, AL 35967.

October 6–Pumpkin Painting. Come out and paint a pumpkin. The cost is \$7, which includes pumpkin & all supplies. Nena’s Produce, Valley Head. Call 256-674-1090 to reserve your spot!

October 6-8 – Guided Backpacking for Beginners. SPS Beginner backpacking is a great way to get outdoors for a weekend and enjoy nature. Robert Wilson has been teaching the backpacking class at DeSoto since 2014 and started backpacking when he was 6 with his father. This is a special 3-day and 2-night backpacking trip. Learn all you need to know so that you can head out on your own outdoor adventure! A fall backpacking class, and a great class for beginners. Sign up for this fun trip soon! DeSoto State Park. 9am Saturday 10/6 until 12pm Monday 10/8. \$100 per person includes equipment. Contact Seven Pines Survival for reservations 209-559-0040 or sps@sevenpinessurvival.com.

October 6–Campfire Talk: Invisible Wonders of Little River Canyon. Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Microorganisms such as bacteria, algae, fungi, etc. make up a large part of the planet’s living material and play a major role

in maintaining the Earth’s ecosystem. Join Jacksonville State University’s microbiologist Dr. Benjie Blair as he explains how the creatures you can’t see affect you every day. 7–8pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved campground, next to campsite 93. Gate will open 30 minutes before program starts. (Held in nature center in case of inclement weather.) Free to the public. Great for all ages! For details, 256-997-5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

October 9–Courtyard Concerts: Songwriters Night. This will be the first in a series of shows dedicated to showcasing our local original talent. We will feature select artists each night of the series to perform songs they’ve written and/or recorded. Something you definitely do not want to miss. #supportlocalmusic Courtyard Concerts takes place every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at The Courtyard (Located beside DeKalb Theatre). Featuring local and regional artists performing a variety of themes, styles, and genres. Admission is free. Gates open at 5:30 pm, music begins just after 6pm. A cash bar is available, as well as food, drink, and merchandise.

October 10–DeSoto Falls Art Project. Help create the new glass mosaic step risers at DeSoto Falls. DeSoto State Park Nature Center. 9am to ?. See littleriverartscouncil.org for more information.

October 11–The Art Gathering. A wonderful evening filled with art auctions, live music, food trucks, live art demonstrations and a block party. Hosted by DeKalb County Children’s Advocacy Center. 5–8:30pm. The Gathering Place, 1214 Forest Ave, Fort Payne.

October 12–Tinker and Take it Apart.. What’s inside this? How does this work? Join the Mentone Alabama Homeschoolers and let’s find out! Bring a screwdriver and come tinker with toasters, heaters, computers, blenders, vacuum cleaners, and other electronic devices and find out what makes things work. We will also have a demonstration about the insides of a computer and how all the pieces work together to bring your favorite game or website to the screen. This meeting is FREE and open to the public, so invite your friends. Mentone Inn Pavilion. 3–5pm.

October 12–12th Annual Mayor’s Cup. Join the Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce and the City of Fort Payne for the 12th Annual Mayor’s Cup. Tee off will be at 9am at Terrapin Hills Country Club. Sponsorship opportunities include hole sponsors and teams along with gold, silver and bronze sponsorships. Lunch will be provided. Cutter & Buck polos for every golfer, door prizes and giveaways. Cash prizes for winners and we plan on making this a fun day for everyone. To learn more email us at info@fortpaynechamber.com or call us at

256.845.2741.

October 12–Campfire Talk: Frogs. From egg to frog, what a leap! Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Since we were in elementary school, we’ve been taught about the life cycle of frogs. But our teachers only scratched the surface. Come and join JSU’s Dr. George Cline (aka Dr. Frog) as he tells the truer story of how frogs breed. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 7–8pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground, next to campsite 93. Gate will open 30 minutes before program starts. (Held in nature center in case of inclement weather.) Free to the public. Great for all ages! For details, 256-997-5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

October 13–DeSoto Falls Art Project. Help create the new glass mosaic step risers at DeSoto Falls. DeSoto Falls picnic area. am–3pm. See littleriverartscouncil.org for more information.

October 13–Run for Rescue. 5K/1 Mile Run to raise funds for the homeless animals of DeKalb County. All proceeds benefit the animals that are cared for by Friends of DeKalb County Animal Adoption Center. These funds will enable FODCAAC to continue to help sick, injured and abandoned animals in the DeKalb County area. Come out and support our efforts! 8am. 5k – \$25, 1 Mile Run/Walk – \$12. Same day registration will be from 6:30–7:30am. Race starts at 201 5th Street NW, Fort Payne. Andrea McCurdy, 256-996-4676, akmccurdy75@gmail.com; racesonline.com/events/run-for-rescue5k; facebook.com/events/221265625222198.

October 13–5th Annual Dog Daze. Bring your dogs and human family to this event where the Canyon Center staff features dog games and presentations on all topics canine such as dog adoption, dog advocacy, service dogs, and much more! Little River Canyon Center. 11am–3pm. Free. 256-845-3548.

October 13–I Love Yarn Day Celebration. Join us in celebrating yarn! We will have a blast as we yarn bomb around Boom Town Makers Market & downtown Fort Payne. What you’ll need to bring: step ladder (if you have one), scissors, crochet book, knitting needles and/or tapestry needles. *We will provide the yarn. Contact Katelyn Worley with the Boom Town Makers Market. 9am–4pm.

October 13 & 14–Christmas at Eddie’s. Over 150 Christmas trees, each sporting a different theme, with ornaments ranging from western to whimsical, cartoons to retro, Victorian to collegiate. Festively decorated rooms provide endless decorating ideas for the upcoming holiday. Eddie’s is located at

October 2018 Community Calendar

All Times are Central. This calendar is subject to change.

9112 Alabama Highway 40 in Henagar. 256-657-3841.

Oct 13 - Alabama Forest Classroom.

Enjoy being outside in both an instructive educational setting and in a self-educational setting, to learn about the outdoors. You will be learning about local animals and plants that can be found in the park. DeSoto State Park. 9-11am. \$25/family. Contact Seven Pines Survival for reservations 209-559-0040 or sps@sevenpinessurvival.com.

October 13—Campfire Talk: Voices of the Night.

Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Famous biologist Carolus Linneaus referred to them as 'foul, and loathsome creatures' with 'harsh voices'. Others find the calls of our frogs and toads to be quite pleasant and calming. Join JSU's Dr. George Cline (aka Dr. Frog) and his friends as he teaches us how to identify these often beautiful beasts that may be heard just a short hop from your home. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 7-8pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground, next to campsite 93. Gate will open 30 minutes before program starts. (Held in nature center in case of inclement weather.) Free to the public. Great for all ages! For details, 256-997-5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

October 14—Bowdrill Class. Survivalist Robert Wilson of Seven Pines Survival will teach you about the Bowdrill. Everything you will need to make your very first Bow Drill set will be provided. Including all the information you need to succeed. DeSoto State Park. 9am until you're done. \$40 per student. Pre-registration is required. Limited to 5 participants. 209-559-0040 or sps@sevenpinessurvival.com.

October 20 & 21—Mentone Colorfest. Come and enjoy the Fall season at the annual Mentone Colorfest. This event is filled with arts, crafts, great food, live entertainment and much more. It is held at the scenic Mentone Brow Park and downtown Mentone on Saturday and Sunday. Colorfest captures the spirit of fall... mentonecolorfest@gmail.com Saturday 9am-5pm; Sunday 9am-4pm.

October 20—RTI 5K Annual Great Pumpkin Run. Dress up in your Halloween Costume and come run or walk. Pre-registration is \$25. Race Day registration is \$30. To be guaranteed a dry-fit shirt, you must be registered by October 6. All proceeds go to the DeKalb County Children's Advocacy Center to help abused children in DeKalb and Jackson Counties. Overall Male & Female Winner cash prizes: 1st place - \$100, 2nd place - \$75, 3rd place - \$50. Best Costume Winner: 1st place - \$50 and a medal. Race begins at 8am in RTI parking lot, 189 RTI Dr., Rainsville.

October 20—Orbix Studio Fall Open Studio.

The annual fall open studio is back again! We welcome everyone to come to Lookout Mountain and join us for a day of blowing ornaments and watching some amazing glassblowing demonstrations. This event kicks off our fall and holiday Saturday ornament-making sessions. It is also a wonderful time to enjoy a fall day on Lookout Mountain with the peak of autumn leaf changes. We hope to see you on our porch. 9am-4pm. 253-523-3188.

October 20—Ride for a Drug Free Dekalb.

Join us for a ride through each DeKalb Co School. Hosted by the DeKalb Co. Sheriff Department and Northeast Corner Chapter Widow Sons MRA. Door prizes for all ages and live entertainment. All vehicles are welcomed. We will leave from Fort Payne City Park. Kickstands up at 10am.

October 20—Serious Skills Series: Dutch Oven Campfire Cooking.

Hosted by DeSoto State Park. Dutch ovens have been in use for hundreds of years; especially when our country was expanding and families were on the move. Unable to bring their large cook stoves with them, women learned how to cook entire meals from stews & soups to bread & desserts, in their Dutch ovens. Learn the basics about Dutch ovens, how to clean & care for your cookware, AND cook (& eat!) dinner & dessert at the same time! Starts around 4pm, located at the DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. This is a demonstration, so the best part is when food is just coming off the fire! Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. Drop in whenever you like & check out the food! 4-6pm. Free & open to everyone. Great for all ages! Call 256-997-5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for details.

October 20—Campfire Talk: Corn—A truly a-maizing Plant! Join us for a fun campfire talk in the great outdoors! Join geographer Kelly Gregg in a casual discussion of the origins of Native American corn, how it shaped American culture and cuisine, and how it went on to help feed the world! Free & open to the public, bring the family along for fresh popcorn! Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 7-8pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground, next to campsite 93. Gate will open 30 minutes before program starts. (Held in nature center in case of inclement weather.) Free to the public. Great for all ages! For details, 256-997-5025 or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

October 22-26—Red Ribbon Week at Moon Lake School.

October 25, 26 & 28—CCA Presents "Tom Sawyer". Cornerstone Christian Academy Theatre presents "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer", a Broadway Musical. Tickets \$5 in

advance, \$7 at the door. 6:30pm. on the 25th & 26th; 2pm. on the 28th.

October 26—Ryan Keef & Friends Concert.

Presented by Little River Arts Council, funded by a grant from MAPA. Free. 7-10pm. Visit littleriverartscouncil.org for details.

October 26—Fall Farm to Table Dinner at The Farm at Windy Hill. 5:30pm. RSVP by 10/22 to info@thefarmatwindyhill.com.

October 26, 27 & 28—

Spookapalooza! Treats, Fun, & Games! Join the staff and volunteers of DeSoto State Park, National Park Service, JSU Field Schools, & the Conservation Education Institute for a weekend of fun events guaranteed to run shivers up and down your spine! Trick or treating, games, live animals, storytelling, and more are in store during this popular annual event. Grab your favorite costume, bring the family, and come stay with us! All events are free to the public & great for all ages! DeSoto State Park. Call 256-997-5025 or see alapark.com/DSP-Spookapalooza for complete details.

October 27 & 28—Mentone Home Tour & Silent Auction.

Visit private homes and historical landmarks on the 11th annual home tour presented by Little River Arts Council. Sat. 10am-4pm, Sun. 12-3pm. Silent auction is held during same hours at Mentone Town Hall, where tickets for the home tour can be purchased. \$8/LRAC members, \$10/non-members. Visit littleriverartscouncil.org for details.

October 27—Moon Lake School Harvest Festival.

Like a mini-carnival! Fairway-style games & food. Benefit fund raiser for Moon Lake School. Hosted by Moon Lake PTO. 4-7pm. Moon Lake School, Mentone.

October 27 - Alabama Forest Classroom.

Enjoy being outside in both an instructive educational setting and in a self-educational setting, to learn about the outdoors. You will be learning about local animals and plants that can be found in the park. DeSoto State Park. 9-11am. \$25/family. Contact Seven Pines Survival for reservations 209-559-0040 or sps@sevenpinessurvival.com.

October 27—5th Annual Burning Leaf Festival.

Join us for family fun for all ages! Our many vendors include arts and crafts, foods and snacks, small businesses and organizations, and direct sales. We will have a live music lineup from a variety of performers. There will also be a variety of games and activity for children, including a costume contest. 9am-3pm Eastern time. Cloudland Community Park, Cloudland, GA. Email cloudlandcommunitypark@yahoo.com with questions.

October 28 - Plant Discovery Walk. This walk is designed around creating a Materia Medica, herbarium, and a plant press while learning about your local plants. The walk

will last around 3 hours and will focus on select plants. Participants will identify the plant, draw the plant, take a small sample to press, and use the senses to discover the properties of the plants. DeSoto State Park. 9am-12pm. \$10/Family + \$10 per kit. Contact Seven Pines Survival for reservations at 209-559-0040 or sps@sevenpinessurvival.com

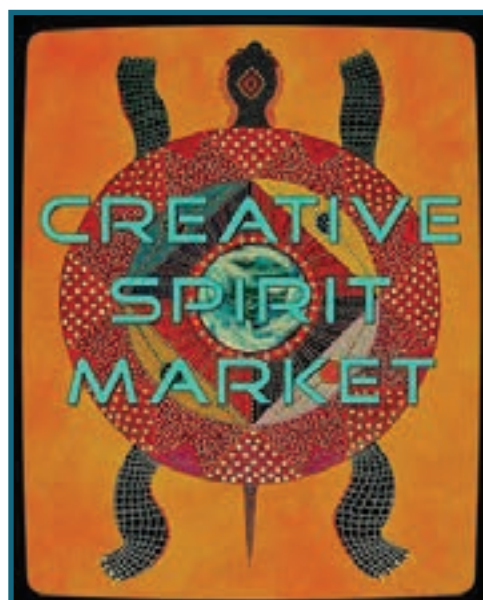
October 27—Ghost Fest III. The Ghost is Back! Ghost Fest 2018 is happening! A day dedicated to local music, ghosts and having a good time with good people. DeKalb Theatre in downtown Fort Payne. Doors at 3pm; show starts at 4pm. \$5/person. annasghost.com/ghost-fest-1.

October 29—Author Talk & Book Signing: Ramey Chanell. Chanell will read from The Witches of Moonlight Ridge and talk about her writing. Books will be available for signing. This is a free, family-friendly event. 6:30pm. Moon Lake Community Library, Mentone.

October 30—Community Paint Class with Jonnie Frost. Free. All supplies provided. Moon Lake School Gym. 4-6pm.

October 31—HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

October 31—Fort Payne Chamber of Commerce After Hours Block Halloween Party. Come and enjoy an afternoon with door prizes, refreshments and merchant discounts. Downtown Fort Payne. Everyone is invited to attend. 5-7pm. 256-845-2741.



Save the Date!

**Saturday & Sunday, November 10 & 11
10am-3pm**

DeSoto State Park

**Handmade Arts & Crafts
Food Artisans
Artist Demonstrations**

**Presented by Little River Arts Council
and DeSoto State Park**

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NEW



A unique business opportunity in the heart of Mentone! Largest retail property in this tourist-oriented resort community w/ 4,931sq.ft. Fully furnished property with equipment, furniture and fixtures. The building currently accommodates a coffee bar, restaurant, office space, art gallery, live music and approved for an alcohol license. Only \$395,000! MLS#1102896.

NEW



Mentone Cottage! Fully remodeled spacious two bedroom with bath in each room and additional half bath. This home comes completely furnished and just in time for the beautiful Fall season. Property has been used as resort rental and can easily transition to your primary residence. Only \$189,900! MLS#1102065.



MENTONE BROW HOME! Just around the corner from Desoto State Park and Desoto Falls. Home features split bedroom design offering 3 bedrooms and 2 baths, open living and dining combo with vault ceiling, wood burning fireplace, spacious kitchen with breakfast bar, sunroom/den area, large deck for entertaining and an enclosed garage. \$350,000. MLS#1099721.



BROW HOME with ADDITIONAL BUILDING LOT! 3 bedroom, 2 bath with possible 4th bedroom! Large sunroom with vaulted wood ceilings. \$315,000. MLS #1089656



From BIRMINGHAM, ONLY AN HOUR & 15! Convenient to MENTONE & CHATTANOOGA, Secluded home sited on the rim of LITTLE RIVER CANYON. Over 8 acres extending down to Little River. Property features a stream w/2 waterfalls & a trail alongside... The hard-board/stacked rock house features 3 BR/2.5 BA, Wood Floors, High ceilings, Views from every window, \$349,000. MLS#1072851.



DOWNTOWN MENTONE is where you want to be? Don't miss your chance in this mountain hideaway! Within walking distance of downtown shopping, antiques, festivals, and fun. Three-bedroom, two bath, with a light and airy design, gas logs and CH/A. What are you waiting for? Call TODAY for your own private tour! \$98,000. MLS#1100993.



THE HISTORIC CRAGSMERE MANOR, on 5+ acres serves as rental lodging and/or event hosting. Perfect setting for large or small groups, 6BR/4BA, Large kitchen, dining, and living area, covered pavilion. \$699,000. MLS#1066488



VINTAGE BUNGALOW, completely remodeled, zoned Commercial/Residential w/250' on Hwy 117. Bright & sturdy 1940's-era, 3BR/1BA gem. Wood walls; period trim details. Updated with new electrical, plumbing, floors & cabinets. \$125,000. MLS #1046940



JUST MINUTES FROM MENTONE & 1.5 mi. from DeSoto State Park. "Stone's Throw" offers 3BR/2BA with tons of extras! \$189,000 . MLS #1089979



A MUST SEE! Downtown Mentone 1BR/1BA fully furnished, redecorated log cabin! Walk to every event, festival, restaurant, then mosey to the front porch of your retreat and enjoy the music! \$159,000. MLS #1087805



UNBELIEVABLE brow home on 1.95 acres. 4BR/3BA, open living/kitchen area, formal DR, numerous decks and screened porch. Many gorgeous rock formations, a detached 2-car garage/workshop and more. \$318,900. MLS#1048899.



LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!! Own your Mentone mountain retreat in the heart of downtown. Walking distance to "HAPPENINGS", restaurants and shopping! Great rental potential. Take advantage of this property and be ready for the Fall foliage in beautiful Mentone, AL. Only \$89,900! MLS#1100305.



MENTONE BROW HOME! 2BR/2BA brow home with tons of character! Enjoy all the extras like hardwood floors, rustic wood walls, gas log fireplace & more. Being sold furnished. Call today! \$329,000. MLS #1076700



PRIVATE MENTONE COTTAGE! You'll love this gorgeous Mentone cottage that feels like a private retreat. Hardwood & tile floors, woodburning FP, covered porches, & more! \$148,500. MLS #1072513



CRYSTAL LAKE LODGE in Mentone... Fifty breathtaking acres surround you in this one-of-a-kind property. Call today for your private tour! \$734,900. MLS #1070805



3.3 ACRES of historic property in the heart of Mentone. Starting at \$325,000. Call for details. MLS #1045206



LIVE & PLAY ON THE WATER! Enjoy 200 feet of frontage on the East Fork of Little River in this waterfront home. \$197,500. MLS #1090616



EREMOS—A COMPLETELY FURNISHED EUROPEAN-STYLE CHALET. 2 bedroom, 1 full bath. Open beams. Private balcony with additional sleeping quarters. Two lots offering 200' along the brow. \$364,900. MLS#1098060



GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY! Let the tenants pay your mortgage. 5 apartments, large retail space and storage building located on Hwy 117 just minutes from downtown Mentone. Sitting on 1.5 acres, totally fenced. Appointment only! \$187,500. MLS #1013991



BLUEBIRDS NEST Located in Laurel Creek Lakes, nestled on a wooded corner lot w/ a small lake in the back yard. Screened porch, open kitchen/dining/living area w/ custom features throughout. Gas log fireplace w/ stone surround, main floor master bedroom w/ vaulted ceiling & sitting area. Spacious laundry room w/ storage, main level bath w/ more storage. \$194,500. MLS#1099514.



GREAT BEGINNINGS & OPTIONS are endless in Mentone with an unfinished home! Approximately 4,800 sq ft on 7.5 acres. Great investment opportunity to create a neighborhood of cabins leading to the Owner's Estate or Common Gathering Area. Great Investment Opportunity, especially with the growth of the Mentone Resort area! \$165,000. MLS #1099079



CHARMING CABIN IN MENTONE - Tongue and groove vaulted ceilings, wood floors and exposed beams gives this custom log cabin that rustic feel. Peacefully situated among the large rock formations on the north brow with 110 feet of frontage overlooking the valley below. Selling furnished with all appliances, plus washer & dryer. \$265,500. MLS #1094088



WORKING POULTRY FARM with approx. 16 acres! Two 42x500 operating Pullet houses built in 2006. Houses operate on well water with city water back-up. Contract currently with Pilgrim's Pride. Property has pond and fencing. 25x50 3-bay shed. 3BR, 2BA house with carport built in 1970 also on the property. \$279,000. MLS #1096127



GORGEOUS COUNTRY SETTING with a Modern 1-level, 4BR/3 Full BR home. Built in 2014! Open floor plan with a split bedroom design. Many upscale touches include a wood-burning fireplace that heats the home through the central unit duct work, full stainless steel appliance package, crown molding, tile flooring, security system. \$375,000. MLS#1099363.

LOTS and LAND

#1014183—1.5 acres. Brow Lot on CR 89. \$124,900.

#1021165—2-acre lot offering lake and brow footage. \$59,900.

#1034997—Approx. 6 acres on Middle Fork of Little River. \$48,900.

#1038089—6 1/2 acres with approx. 250' of road frontage and 1-1/2 acres of level land for a secluded home site. \$138,000.

#1039769—6.32+/- waterfront building lot in Mountain River Estates! \$49,950.

#1056358—3.2 acre lot on the brow in Mentone near DeSoto State Park. \$269,500.

#1057429—4 acres in Valley View Forest. \$79,900.

#1065542—90 acres on Co. Rd. 89 in Mentone. \$360,000.

#1065504—One acre on Co. Rd. 89 in Mentone. **REDUCED TO \$139,900.**

#1070628—3.01 acres. 152' on west Fork of Little

River. \$49,700.

#1070629—3.01 acres. 152' on West Fork of Little River. \$59,500.

#1073864—Brow Lot! .78 acres. **REDUCED TO \$94,900.**

#1076239—Cleared & wooded 3.6 acres on Scenic Hwy. **REDUCED TO \$74,500.**

#1076286—1.75 acre building lot in West Fork Subdivision. \$42,000.

#1078002—Brow view, 4.4 acres. **REDUCED TO \$99,900.**

#1078140—18.3 acres, unrestricted, partially wooded! \$66,800.

#1079713—Gorgeous lot in Mentone with .81+/- acres in Hunter's Ridge Subdivision. \$15,000.

#1080922—.54 acres, Mentone Bluffs. \$59,999.

#1081506—7 wooded acres within walking distance to DeSoto State Park. \$70,000.

#1083789—2.11 acres with 300' of waterfront in beautiful West Fork Subdivision. \$40,000.

#1092235—Building lot in Laurel Creek Lakes. \$24,500.

#1092172—Spend your summertime on the LAKE... or spend forevermore! 1.70 acres with over 200' of waterfront at beautiful Lake on the Brow. \$49,000.

#1094616—ON LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN. Lakefront lot in Gated Community. \$32,500.

#1098750—Beautiful, wooded BROW lot with Winter Views! \$77,640.

#1099911—LAST CHANCE to buy open land before entering into Georgia!!! This 26 acres has lots of road frontage. Old farmhouse on property. Lots of potential with this property. \$189,000

#1100905—A RARE FIND! Don't miss the opportunity to own 239 rolling wooded acres in Mentone with multiple pond sites, streams and abundant wildlife and "trophy deer"... \$669,200.

#1102175—Beautiful Treed Lot in Mentone! Lot offers underground utilities, restrictions in the subdivision to help maintain the beauty and the value, and a gated entrance! \$20,900.

www.southernpropertiesagency.com

Cloudland News

by Pat Johnson

On October 27, Cloudland Community Park will hold its 5th annual Burning Leaf Festival from 9 a.m. (Eastern time) until 3 p.m. (Eastern time). Admission and parking are free and it will be lots of fun for young and old. There will be many craft vendors, music, food, a costume contest, and a cake sale. We will have a fire in our fire pit with hot chili for sale, or roast your own hot dogs and/or delicious s'more!

Come eat lunch! There will be lots of food for sale. Cloudland Volunteer Fire Department will have Bobby Cavin's famous barbecue. They will have plates that include a barbecued pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, potato salad, and a drink for \$10. They will also have baked potatoes loaded with barbecued pork. The park will also be serving lots of delicious things to eat including hot dogs (already prepared or you can roast your own over the fire), homemade iron-pot venison chili kept warm on the fire, homemade vegetable soup, cornbread, baked potatoes with chili on top, hot apple cider and hot chocolate, and lots of desserts including s'mores you can cook yourself over an open fire.

There will be live music with an open mic, so come prepared to sing along! At 1 p.m. (Eastern time) there will be a cake auction and at 2 p.m. (Eastern time) there will be a costume contest. We will have tee shirts for sale.

Anyone interested in being a vendor, volunteer, sponsor, or performer, please contact the park via email at cloudlandcommunitypark@yahoo.com. Vendor applications can be found on our Facebook page, Cloudland Community Park. Come and join the fun!

In other news, Cloudland Volunteer Fire Department held a Barbecue and gospel-sing at the Park on Labor Day. It was a huge success and everyone had a great time. They plan on doing it every Labor Day.



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NEW! CANYON CABIN. 2 bdrm/1bth. Open living, kitchen, large covered porch. 5.1 acres of lush foliage and fauna. 2 creeks come together and make 2 cascading waterfalls. A great getaway! (1092904)	NEW! HIDDEN BROW. 5.1 acres of level, wooded East brow views of Shinbone Valley. Located in Cloudland, GA. Lightly restricted. (1102406)	LAKE WINDMILL ESTATE. 103 ft. on 13-acre lake on the brow. Wooded, sloped. Build your home here. Restricted. \$42,900. (1044127)	SOLD! WOODED 3.4 ACRES located in established subdivision called Oakwood in nearby Mentone. Restrictive covenants. \$20,500. (1068304)	3.89 ACRES at Mtn River Estates. Hwy 117 frontage. Wooded, Rock formations, level along the river. Over 200 ft on Middle Fork of Little River. \$38,000. (1060565)	3.77 ACRES located at Canyon View Forest Subdivision. Wooded and joining the bluff of Little River National Preserve. \$60,000. (1013604)
REDUCED Oakwood Subdivision - 6.1 acres. Wooded, level, lightly restricted. \$31,000 REDUCED (1057247)	LEVEL WOODED LOTS in Crestline Park Subdivision in Mentone. Lot 25. 1.31 acres. Great area to build that getaway cabin in the woods. \$25,000 (1032494)	REDUCED 5 ACRES on the East Fork Little River. Driveway in place. Home-site cleared. Septic, power, well installed. 245ft on the water. Privacy a plus, lightly restricted. \$115,000 REDUCED (1080261)	1.8 ACRES on East Fork of Little River. Easy access to river from common trail that runs along the banks of the river. Bluff views. County water available. Gated community. \$65,000 (1063624)	REDUCED LEVEL BUILDING LOT in downtown Menlo, GA. Great site for Residential or Commercial use. Non-restricted. Many possibilities! \$11,500 REDUCED (1062897)	



SAGE ADVICE: THE BEAUTY OF FALL'S COLORS

by Susan Seago



Ginkgo biloba



Trycirtis (Toad Lily)

As the leaves rain down and the fall colors appear, gardeners head outside. FALL IS PLANTING TIME!!

There are drier conditions (to be sure), but as the days shorten, plants require less water, giving us more time to design and enhance our garden landscape.

Roots have a much better chance to get established, as they do not have to also try to produce blooms. The cooler weather helps the garden to maintain water longer, again helping the roots to become stronger.

Autumn is the gardener's respite. We can reflect on the successes and, alas, failures of the spring plantings. We have a chance to remove those flowers and shrubs that may have been planted in too much sun or shade and place them in a more favorable environment. New plants can be added to the landscape. While doing this, there are a number of perennials and shrubs, as well as some annuals that are great for fall and winter color.

Let's start with trees and shrubs. For fall color, add some maples. They have dynamic colors in red, yellow, and orange. 'October Glory' and 'Autumn Blaze' are two favorites. They grow to about 45 feet, so they are good for shade, too. Japanese maples are good for dollops of fall color in small spaces. Dogwoods have their lovely white blooms in spring but turn a dark red in the fall. They also have some red seeds

that can be used during the Christmas season in decorating. Sassafras has three different shaped leaves that are some of the first to turn to their fall colors. And don't forget the hollies. 'Nellie R. Stephens' is a good tree-sized specimen that has loads of red berries in winter, another good decoration for the holidays. They make a good nesting location for the birds in winter.

A good native shrub for fall is the beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*). There are several varieties, either with purple or white berries. They are doing "their thing" now with the colorful berries. An added benefit is that they provide winter food for the birds. For a spectacular fall presentation, plant a ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*) in your landscape. It is among the oldest trees in the world and grows very well in our area. As a moderate grower, a six-foot-tall tree will grow to ten feet in a few years, maturing over many years to fifty feet or more. It is the only species left in the division Ginkgophyta. All others are extinct. The ginkgo is known to date back 270 million years. BUT, the reason I suggest that it be in your landscape is its exquisite yellow gold beauty in the fall. When the leaves fall, there is one big gold carpet at your feet!

Perennials for fall color may include the trycirtis or toad lily, which has several varieties in purple, lavender, or white. It blooms on each leaf node in September and October (one of my very favorites).

Grasses with their pink or off-white plumes make a great statement in the landscape. They range in height from two feet to over ten feet. They also provide winter protection for the birds. Two other beautiful fall perennials are 'Sheffield Mum', which has peachy/pink daisy blooms on stalks about two feet high, and the sedums. Sedums are drought tolerant and grow in most any soil. Then in autumn, they bloom! And the blooms are also seed pods that can be planted in other parts of the landscape. They also like hot weather (good for here, right?).

Garden colors do not all have to come from plants. Wind chimes, colorful hangers, and birdbaths also add to the landscape beauty. Garden art or mosaics, like the Desoto State Park mosaic step project, create year-round interest and add to community participation. We have been helping, and it is a lot of fun. Join us at the Nature Center on October 10 as we continue to create beauty for the landscape. (See ittliverartscouncil.org/desoto-falls-art-project for details about this project.)

Now, you have a reason to get outside, get some exercise, and make your landscape even more beautiful!



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Mentone Area Church Directory

Mentone, Alabama

Cove Road Baptist Church invites everyone in the Mentone and Cloudland Communities to services—Sunday School 10am (GA time) Morning Worship 11am (GA time), Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 5:30pm (GA time). Bro. Brian Keith is the pastor. 2415 County Road 631.

Howard's Chapel (Church in the Rock) has regular services at 10am each Sunday. You are invited to attend these services or visit the church at other times. Casual dress is always acceptable. County Road 617.

Mentone Church of God of Prophecy has Sunday School at 10am, with Worship at 11am. Evening services begin at 5:30pm on Sunday and 6pm on Wednesday. Bro. Whitney Smith invites everyone to attend. AL Hwy 117 (across from Mentone Post Office).

Mentone Community Church invites you to Crosswalk Sunday School (K through Adult) 9:15am, Adult Worship Service 10:30am, JC Kids Worship Service 10:30am. Pastor Tim Miller. Van Ministry for Children pick-up/take home, ages K-12, for all surrounding areas 8:15am (please call Donna Bunn 706-398-0720). Wednesday small group study 6:30pm. 90 Summerville Rd. 256-634-4210.

Mentone United Methodist Church invites you to come and worship with us. Each Sunday our worship service is held at 9am and is led by Pastor Carol Gullatt. Sunday School is at 10am. The service of Holy Communion is held the first Sunday of each month and fifth Sundays are a service of music. 415 Cutler Avenue. 256-634-8006.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to worship with us. Sunday School begins at 9:45am, with classes for all ages. Morning Worship is at 11am. The Lord's Supper is observed on the first Sunday of September, December, March and June at the morning worship hour. Discipleship Training is at 5pm and Sunday Evening Worship at 6pm. On Wednesdays, Team Kids, Youth Bible Study, Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30pm. Pastor Mike Ellis. 4671 AL Hwy. 117. 256-634-4568.

Moon Lake Baptist Church invites you to worship with us. Sunday School begins at 9:45am, with classes for all ages. Morning Worship is at 11am. The Lord's Supper is observed on the first Sunday of September, December, March and June at the morning worship hour. Discipleship Training is at 5pm and Sunday Evening Worship at 6pm. On Wednesdays, Team Kids, Youth Bible Study, Adult Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are all at 6:30pm. Pastor Mike Ellis. 4671 AL Hwy. 117. 256-634-4568.

St. Joseph's on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church welcomes everyone to 10:30am Sunday service of Holy Eucharist. Open for daily prayer and thanksgiving. Supporting our community with outreach. 256-634-4476. 21145 Scenic Highway. stjosephmountain.dioala.org.

Spirit Expression Ministry, a Chapel of the Alliance of Divine Love, invites you to sit with us in sacred circle on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 11am Central at Heartwood Center, 7 miles from downtown Mentone. Reverend Cathy Haven Howard facilitates a spiritual wisdom topic. Email havenhoward1@gmail.com for directions and questions.

Summit Church of God in Mentone invites you to be in service Sunday morning 10:45am, Sunday night 5pm, Wednesday Bible Study 6:30pm. Pastor Lance Kincer.

Hammondville, Alabama

The **Church of God 7th Day** invites you to Sabbath School classes at 9:30am and Worship Service at 11am. Visitors are always welcome. Located just off Hwy. 11 N. at corner of Hwy. 117 and Palmer Road. 256-717-5040.

Greater Vision Ministries Church of God invites you to Sunday School 10 am, Sunday Worship *10:45 am, (*Nursery & Kid's Church). MidWEEK re-charge Wednesday 6:30pm. Pastor Tim Coppock. 38623 US Hwy 11. 256-601-0679.

Valley Head, Alabama

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 4-18); 6:30pm Praise and Prayer time. 4212 County Road 751. 256-635-1001.

Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to come and worship with us. On Sunday, Bible Study is at 10am & Morning Worship is at 11am; Kidz Connection is at 5pm, Evening Worship at 6pm. Kidz Connection & Youth meet on Wednesday from 5-6pm & a snack supper is provided. On the second Wednesday of the month, there is a church-wide covered dish Fellowship Meal at 6pm. 265 Church Street. 256-465-1242.

Visitors are always welcome at **Valley Head United Methodist Church**. Please join us each Sunday morning for a traditional worship service at 9:30am. Tony Gunter is the Pastor. All are welcome. 146 Church St.

Wildwood Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mentone Chapter, holds services in the Woodmen of the World Hall. All are invited to attend. Sabbath School and Song Service 9:30-10:45am, Worship Service 11am-12:15pm. Pastor - Wilbur Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley and Ryan Bunnell.

Fort Payne, Alabama

Since 1889, worshippers have gathered at the **Historic First Presbyterian Church PC (USA)** at 300 Grand Avenue North. We invite you to join us for worship this Sunday at 10:55am. 256-845-2915.

The **Fort Payne Christian Center** and Pastors Ken and Elaine Hollman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10am, Wednesday evening at 6pm. 3610 Grand Ave. SW. 256-997-0047.

Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA) invites you to Sunday School at 9:45am; Sunday Worship at 10:55am. 256-845-4756. 5760 Gault Ave. NE.

Gravel Hill Baptist Church welcomes you to Sunday School at 10am & Worship Service at 11am each Sunday. All are welcome. Wednesdays at 6pm, we have supper and a brief devotional time together. Pastor George Moses. 14701 Hwy 11 South.

New Oregon United Methodist Church is located just off DeSoto Parkway, 1/4 mile south of Fischer Crossroads. We invite you to worship with us on Sundays. Sunday School for all

ages 9:45am, Traditional Worship 11am, and Sunday Evening Service 6pm. Sunday Evening youth meet at 5:30pm. We have Wonderful Wednesdays during the school year with Bible studies for all ages, meal at 5:30pm and classes at 6:15pm. We also have Wednesday morning Bible study at 8:45am, and knitting every Tuesday at 9am. Pastor Ian Conerly. 1204 New Oregon Drive NE. 256-845-7446.

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church holds Sunday mass in English at 10am and 1pm in Spanish. Tuesday at 6pm in English, Wednesday at 5pm bilingual, Thursday at 6pm in English, Friday at 9am in English and Saturday at 6pm in bilingual. 2910 Gault Ave. N. 256-845-4774.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church holds regular Worship Services at 10am Sunday. Clifford Herd, Pastor. Everyone is welcome. 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85). 256-845-4842.

St. Stephen Anglican Church invites you to attend service on Sunday mornings at 8am. 411 SW Grand Ave. (in the basement of Killian & Killian Attorneys). Father Rodney Jackson, 205-405-0055; Deacon Jack Gilbreath, 256-845-2605.

Walnut Grove Baptist Church, on Highway 11 north of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School 10am, Worship Service at 11am, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6pm, and Wednesday night Prayer Meeting at 6:30pm. 3606 Greenhill Blvd NW. 256-996-0929.

Cloudland, Georgia

Cloudland Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone to come join us for services, with Pastor Jan Warren-Taylor. Bible Study Sunday at 9am (Eastern) and Worship at 10am (Eastern). 150 Partain Road.

Menlo, Georgia

Alpine Community Church Pastor and Rev. Rodney Blaylock welcome each and every one to worship service Sunday morning at 11am GA time; Sunday School 10am GA time; Wednesday night Bible Study 7pm GA time. 115 Hwy. 337. 706-862-6641.

Menlo Church of Christ invites you to attend 10am and 11am Sunday services and evening services at 5pm on Sundays and Wednesdays. Visitors are always welcome.

Menlo Presbyterian Church (ECO) invites everyone to attend services with us. Sunday School at 10am (Eastern) and Worship Service at 11:15am (Eastern). Rev. Jan Taylor is our pastor. We are located at 70 North 6th Ave., next to the park in Menlo.

Summerville, Georgia

Redemption Worship Center invites you to "Find Love, Encouragement, & Purpose!" Wednesdays: Hour of Power Bible Study 6:30pm; Chosen Generation Youth 6:30pm. Sundays: Sunday School 9:30am; Morning Celebration 10:30am. Pastors Dr. David & Penny Reeves. 174 West First Avenue. 706-808-0909.

Send any changes to *The Groundhog* at groundhognews@yahoo.com or P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984.



AUTHOR TALK: Ramey Channell at Moon Lake Library Monday, October 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Moonlight and magic on an Alabama mountain, witches and a mysterious stagecoach inn—who can resist? Come to the Moon Lake Community Library and meet author Ramey Channell on Monday, October 29 at 6:30 p.m., when she will read from *The Witches of Moonlight Ridge* (St. Leonard's Field, 2016), the follow up to *Sweet Music on Moonlight Ridge* (St. Leonard's Field, 2010). Channell will talk about her writing and autograph books for readers. This is a free, family-friendly event.

The Moonlight Ridge series will beguile readers looking for southern stories told with lyrical voices and healthy doses of magical realism. Channell, a native of Leeds, Alabama, says "I learned every precious thing I know from the mountain folk who made up my family and community, and the animals who were our constant companions. I can't stop writing about the surprising magic and mystery of the world I was born into."



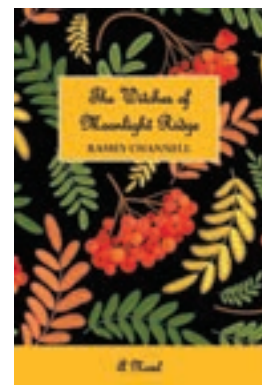
Sweet Music on Moonlight Ridge
(Book 1 of *The Moonlight Ridge Series*)

What happens when two precocious 8-year-old cousins are set free in the backwoods of 1950s Alabama, unfettered, unrestrained, and virtually unsupervised, in a world where magic, superstition, and enchantment are as ordinary as the trees, the mountain, and the abundant animal life? Lily Claire and her "almost twin" cousin, William Theophilus Greenberry Nock, explore the wooded trails and enchanted bowers on Moonlight Ridge, are touched by grief when a member of the family loses his life on the railroad, and save the community from tragedy by rescuing a missing baby who is lost in the woods. Willie T. is declared a hero, has his picture published in the local newspaper, and Lily Claire learns what it means to be a real hero.

The Witches of Moonlight Ridge

(Book 2 of *The Moonlight Ridge Series*)

Autumn has come to Moonlight Ridge, bringing unusual weather, startling hauntings, shadows, and strangers, as Halloween and "the witchin' season" arrive. Lily Claire and Willie T. find a new friendship when their jovial fourth grade teacher is replaced by the just-turned-twenty-year-old Erskine Batson, the town's charismatic garbage collector and "man of letters." Erskine's budding romance with a mysterious and beautiful young woman, who haunts the abandoned stage coach inn on the mountain, awakens memories and local legends of tragedy and possible witchcraft on Moonlight Ridge. When Mr. Vales, the school principal, goes missing, the town sheriff and the leader of the local Ku Klux Klan are on the prowl, and Erskine narrowly escapes a fatal encounter with a falling tree, Lily Claire and Willie T. bravely sort things out and learn to accept those things that can't be changed.



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

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

256-634-4181

SENIOR HEALTH: Advance Directive • by Lynn Hixson

An advance directive is a written statement that explains how you want medical decisions to be made if you are unable to make them for yourself. It is important to think about who should be responsible and what choices they should make on your behalf. Some states have a standardized or statutory form, while other states allow you to draft your own document.

A Health Care Proxy is a document which allows you to appoint another person (called a proxy or agent) to make health care decisions for you if you are unable to do so. Your proxy should make health care decisions for you according to your wishes or according to his/her assessment of your wishes, including your religious or moral beliefs.

There are two circumstances when a health care agent will be needed.

- Temporary inability to make health care decisions: For example, if something unexpected happens while you are having a surgical procedure and are under general anesthesia, and you are temporarily unable to make your own decisions. If a health care decision needs to be made, your health care agent may make the decision.
- Permanent inability to make health care decisions: For example, if you are in a persistent vegetative state or suffer from an illness that leaves you unable to communicate, your health care agent can be your voice and make your health care decisions.

A Power of Attorney is a document that allows you to appoint another person (your agent or attorney) to make health, financial, and other legal decisions on your behalf if you are unable to do so. For example, your power of attorney can deal with issues of medical insurance, such as choosing health insurance policies for you (selecting your Medicare health or drug plan), paying for health care, and appealing coverage denials, when applicable.

A Living Will describes the type of care you'd like to receive in specific situations, if you are incapacitated. The living will directly provides information for your physician and does not appoint an agent to make decisions for you. For example, you can express your desire to not be resuscitated if your illness or injury progresses to a certain stage, or you can state that all viable medical options are to be used as aggressively as possible in all situations, or that certain treatments should not be administered under any circumstances.

If you need more information please call the DeKalb County Council on Aging at 256-845-8590.

Moon Lake Library Book Club

Review: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*

by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows (Dial Press, 2008)

by Anne McLeod

The first title selected by the Moon Lake Community Library's book club for its inaugural meeting was, very fittingly, about a book club. *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* is a novel about the people of Guernsey during World War II. The island, not far from the coast of Normandy, was the only British territory occupied by the Germans during the war, and both the citizens of Guernsey and the German soldiers would suffer during the five-year occupation, as food became increasingly scarce.

Despite its setting in the aftermath of the war and its often dark subject matter, the book's tone is warm and sometimes humorous. The club itself was the accidental creation of Elizabeth McKenna, who makes up an imaginary book club as an excuse when she and her friends are stopped by German soldiers after their gathering for an illicit roast pig dinner. Forced to then create a book club, they begin a series of meetings where various islanders, some of them readers and others not so much, share books that speak to them. Through their meetings they develop an appreciation for reading and, just as importantly, create a tight knit community of friends whose ties will strengthen them in times of hardship and tragedy.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society is what is known as an epistolary novel, one told in a series of letters—in this case letters between the islanders and London author Juliet Ashton, who hopes that their experiences might provide the basis for her next book. Through Juliet's correspondence with the book club members, she is soon drawn into their lives and decides to visit the island to meet the characters whose letters have so intrigued her: Eben whose orphaned grandson Eli has returned home to Guernsey after a five-year-long evacuation during the war; earthy and free spirited Isola; the quiet pig farmer Dawsey, who first contacted her when one of her books ended up in his possession; Amelia, hostess of the dinner that first gave rise to the club.

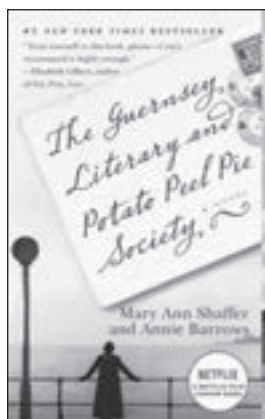
The person Juliet most wants to meet is Elizabeth McKenna, whose spirit and bravery has been repeatedly mentioned in letters from the islanders. She arrives on Guernsey to find that Elizabeth is missing, and her young daughter Kit is being collectively raised by the literary society. The war may be over, but it casts a long shadow as survivors on Guernsey are still awaiting news of Elizabeth's fate, hoping that she will soon return to the island.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society is an engaging read with plenty to draw in readers looking for historical fiction, family drama, and just enough romance. The setting on Guernsey offers a World War II story that is not well known, at least not by American readers.

The publication of the book was itself bittersweet. Mary Shaffer had just sold the manuscript to this, her first novel,

when she became ill and was unable to complete the required revisions. Her niece Annie Barrows, author of the popular children's series *Ivy and Bean*, as well as other books, took over the manuscript, and the novel was eventually published after Shaffer's death.

The Moon Lake Community Library has a copy of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* available for check out. The book club's next meeting is Saturday, November 3, at 10:30, when we will discuss *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan, a novel about the long-term relationship between Mamah Borthwick Cheney and architect Frank Lloyd Wright.



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On my 80th birthday, I painted my toenails periwinkle blue. On my 81st birthday, I painted them Kelly green. That now got to be a bore, so on my 82nd birthday, I decided it would be nice to re-learn how to play the piano.

I managed to get online and ordered a piano book titled A Method for Adults 50-plus, which made me feel a bit over-qualified. Meanwhile, awaiting its arrival, I saw on YouTube a 5-year-old child playing like Mozart on an electronic roll-up keyboard. Due to my lack of a piano to practice on, I then ordered one for \$69.95 and set about starting my home schooling lessons. I soon discovered I was unable to follow the so-called easy lessons in the book.

Then, quite by accident (serendipity), while talking with someone I was informed that there was a local piano teacher who teaches at the MERF house right here in Mentone. She taught the school children but I wasn't sure about adults. I managed to contact her and was delighted to find that she had an opening for an adult. I took my book along with me for the first lesson and she agreed to teach from it.

My little keyboard worked well for a few months but then began to play an octave higher at middle "C", which drove me crazy, so I began asking around if anyone had a piano for sale, with no results. St. Joe's had two pianos, one in the social hall and another in front of the church next to the altar. Thanks to my being a volunteer there at the Food Pantry, Father Bill offered the use of the piano in the social hall. I began practicing there as often as I could. One day, the room was being used for a church function, so I was allowed to practice in the church itself. It was an electric piano and when I finally figured

out how it turn it on, I was awed by it and the whole setting—it was a mystical experience!

I mentioned to my neighbor how tedious it was, however, having to drive six miles into town three or four times a week to practice and she suggested that I practice at Howard's Chapel, which is about a mile from where I live. The chapel is at all times open to the public and she was sure it was permissible. When I went to investigate, sure enough, there was a note attached to the piano that stated, "Feel free to play—just don't move me". It was like divine intervention! There was no air conditioning but I sweated it out and always left a little money in the donation box near the entry.

One Thursday, I had just arrived and barely hit the first note when a couple appeared in the doorway. I welcomed them in and we discussed the interesting history of the chapel. I confessed to them how I came to be there. "Don't mind us, keep practicing and we'll look around" was their reply. As I then commenced to practice, another couple showed up and I found myself welcoming them, as well. Before I could explain my presence there, the first couple left and three more groups of people had entered and started filling the pews.

To my amazement, they began lifting the hymnals out of the brackets! They were very quiet and looking very solemn as they gazed straight ahead while waiting for me to start playing. Since I had just mastered "Mary Had a Little Lamb", the enormity of the situation dawned on me and I panicked. I slowly closed my practice book, covered the piano keys, and fled without a backward glance!



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qualifies for a drawing to win **\$1,000**. These chances are sold by the 6th graders. If you don't know a 6th grader, call Gwen Stone or the school to buy your chance. The drawing for the \$1,000 prize will be at 7 p.m. Winner does not need to be present to win.

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