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THE GROUNDHOG

Mentone, Valley Head, Hammondville, Menlo, Cloudland
P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

Volume 37, No. 9

"Neighborly News from the Heart of Lookout Mountain"

September 2018

Mentone Community House: A Home for the Ages • by Kelly Leavitt

One day in early August, I was working at Moon Lake Library when a gentleman came in, browsed for a bit, and then began chatting with me. He introduced himself as Ken Shigley and said that he'd lived in Mentone as a child, and had driven up to Mentone from Atlanta that day to look at a house that was listed online. He



The present-day "MERF House"

then mentioned that his great-grandparents had once lived in the MERF House. My curiosity was immediately piqued. We sat down for a short chat and he later connected me with the Shigley family historian, Marie Crowe Noah of Rome, GA. Following is a brief history of the home that once belonged to the Shigleys, and that now belongs to the community. I extend my deep gratitude to the Shigley family for sharing so many stories and pieces of information about their grandparents and great-grandparents. Please note: This history is largely based on oral recollections. I have verified facts to the best of my ability.

The Mentone Educational Resources Foundation (MERF) is celebrating its 25th year of providing valuable resources to our community, especially to our children and seniors. In 1995, the newly formed organization purchased a house from Rudolph and Dee Bell which they transformed into the Mentone Community House (popularly called "the MERF house") near Moon Lake School. Countless events have taken place in the MERF House, including the always-popular senior lunches, music lessons, student tutoring, family and community gatherings, and more.

The house was built around 1915, when it was purchased by the family of Henry "Frank" and Rebecca "Melissa" Shigley. The family owned the home for 48 years. The Shigleys raised

(continued on page 5)

Colorfest

October 20–21, 2018
On the brow in Mentone

Mentone's annual Colorfest is quickly approaching. Presented by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, this fall festival is traditionally held on the third weekend of October. This year's dates are October 20 and 21. Held at Brow Park on the western edge of Lookout Mountain, more than 70 vendors will offer handmade arts and crafts at booths lining North Cool Street. A variety of delicious food will be available, and live music from regional artists will be performed on the Brow Park stage. Colorfest vendors will be open on Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and on Sunday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The view from Brow Park is phenomenal, especially in the fall, with the display of colors in the valley below. Pontoon boat rides will depart throughout the weekend from DeSoto Falls and journey up the West Fork of Little River for a unique perspective of fall's beauty. Pony rides will be available for young children to enjoy. Scarecrow Hollow will once again showcase a variety of imaginative scarecrows made by members of the community. If you'd like to make a scarecrow, see the details on page 4. Prizes will be awarded!

If you'll be visiting Mentone for the festival, now's the time to reserve a room or cabin to stay in. Visit mymentone.com/LodgingMap.html for a list of lodging possibilities. "Like" our Facebook page (Mentone Alabama Festivals) or visit mapamentone.com/colorfest2018 for the latest updates.

Community Meeting with Moon Lake School Principal Mary Lance • Monday, September 10



Mary Lance

Are you curious about Moon Lake School and how you can support the education of Mentone's children? Moon Lake Community Library will host a gathering on Monday, September 10, at 5:30 p.m. so our entire community can meet Principal Mary Lance to learn more about the school and its plans and needs.

We are fortunate to have such a wonderful school in our little (rural) corner of the state. Founded over 100 years ago, historic Moon Lake School has educated thousands of children, many of whom have gone on to make great contributions to our town and the world beyond. Let's continue that tradition by learning how we can best support the school's needs and dreams. Moon Lake is a small school

with a limited pool of parents to support it. The possibilities broaden when more individuals become involved. If the idea of supporting children in ways you've not considered is appealing to you, this is an opportunity to directly see how your assistance can be most valuable.

When Mrs. Lance came to Moon Lake School four years ago, the school was struggling. Since the end of her second year as principal, it has been ranked the best school in DeKalb County. This accomplishment is reflective of Principal Lance's vision and drive, along with the dedication of Moon Lake's teachers, parents, and other supporters such as the volunteer tutors which MERF coordinates. Let's see how we can improve on such a solid foundation and truly serve our children. Light refreshments will be served. Children are welcome.

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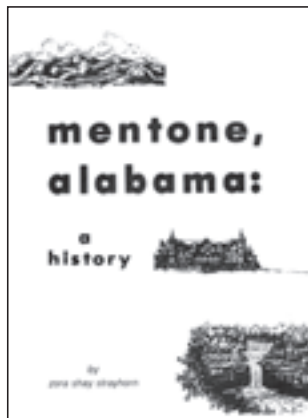
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***Do you have a story idea?
Perhaps a poem or recipe?
We welcome contributions!***

Email groundhognews@yahoo.com

Learn about the History of Mentone



On sale at the Wildflower Café, Moon Lake Community Library, Green Leaf Grill, Little River Hardware, Mentone Market, DeSoto State Park, and 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



As mayor, you always keep in mind that you are representing your town wherever you are—even on vacation. Recently, we were on vacation in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Inside the Grand Teton National Park is a small log chapel. Probably 45 people can attend a service. Behind the altar is a picture window with a great view of the Tetons. I attended the ten o'clock Sunday morning service. I signed the guest book and listed my hometown as Mentone, Alabama. A couple from Virginia sat next to me and asked had I just signed in and asked if I was from Mentone. I said yes, and they told me their son had attended Alpine and had also worked there. During the service the minister asked guests to identify themselves and their hometown. Again I gave my name and said I was from Mentone, Alabama. A woman looked over at me and said, "Hello, Rob." I talked with her after the service. She was from Dalton, Georgia, and her son had been a Camp Laney camper. A young mom holding her baby then approached me. She was a former camper and staff member at Camp DeSoto and is a great friend of the Hurts. I thought it was pretty remarkable that at a church service in Wyoming, Mentone was so well known! Thousands of boys and girls have attended summer camps in Mentone. That fact alone makes Mentone the most well-known small town in Alabama.



Friends enjoying a peaceful moment on the western brow, August 2018

Letter from the Editor

The crispness of fall is quickly approaching, which means that MAPA's annual Colorfest arts and crafts festival is in the final stage of preparation. Volunteers are always needed to help before, during, and after the festival. Volunteering is proven to be good for the soul, and it's a fun way to meet new friends. If you can offer a few hours of time, see page 4 for the link to an online form where you can designate your interest.

One aspect I truly appreciate of being editor of *The Groundhog* is following the tradition of documenting local history in these pages. Each month, we try to offer something historical, and it's always a pleasure for me when I research the past. I particularly enjoy unraveling the history of people. I have made many new friends in the process. I most often find that if I can get someone to talk long enough, they eventually reveal nuggets of fascinating information about their life or the lives of family members who preceded them. Folks really are terribly interesting, if we can get beyond superficial interactions, and dive more deeply.

In this issue, I have written about the Shigley family, and I thoroughly enjoyed the process. I was invited to join the family's "secret" Facebook group, where I had free access to historical files and photos, but more importantly to people, many of whom shared sweet memories with me. Thank you, Shigleys—you are a remarkable family. (There are about 220 direct descendants of Frank and Melissa Shigley!)

To emphasize the wonder of making personal connections, I have a story to share. I asked one of our *Groundhog* volunteers, Anne McLeod, to proofread my story on the Shigleys. After reading it, she quickly emailed me to say that one of the great-granddaughters named in the article had been her supervising teacher when she student taught in Athens, GA, in 1978. When she graduated, they lost touch. "I thought the world of her," said Anne. "I'd hoped I could find someone who knew her, but that was just too easy!" It's been a pleasure to give Anne her teacher's contact information. You see? Volunteering really is good for the soul! —Kelly

Mentone Area Preservation Association News

by Mark Hoffman



I hope everyone is enjoying these last few weeks of summer. Personally, I can't wait for that first little cold front to come blowing through! Thoughts of a warm, glowing fireplace make me happy. That being

said, it never ceases to amaze me how fortunate we are to be in an area (atop Lookout Mountain) that stays consistently 10 degrees or more cooler in the summer than our surrounding urban centers. I guess the elevation, forests, rivers, etc. and lack of concrete and asphalt play a huge role in that. Let's keep it that way.

We have scheduled a MAPA membership get together (meet and greet, food and beverages) for Sunday, September 23, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Wildflower Café. Laura Moon is being gracious enough, and extremely generous, to share her wonderful facilities for this event. Please put this on your calendar and make a point of coming by and visiting with the Board and other MAPA members. It should be a wonderful event.

We were pleased to have been able to approve several grant applications at our last Board meeting, including \$300 to the DeSoto Rescue Squad to help provide food and beverages as host for the 3rd quarter state meeting of the Alabama Association of Rescue Squads, and \$3,894 to enable them to replace the

ancient, and failing, batteries and charger for their Lifepack 12 cardiac monitors. This vital equipment allows them to help evaluate and monitor those in cardiac distress prior to arrival of an ambulance on the scene, and has literally been life saving on numerous occasions. Many thanks for all of the effort and hard work Mike Stone and his team devote to our community. We also approved a donation of \$1,215.44 to Little River Waterkeeper to enable them to purchase lab equipment and supplies which allow them to maintain and improve their water monitoring program. LRW works to protect Little River and its tributaries from degradation caused by pollution and development, and we certainly appreciate their ongoing efforts on behalf of this cherished and unique resource we all love and share.

Lastly, don't forget to clear your schedule so that you and your family and friends can take part in this year's upcoming Colorfest. It should be a fantastic event, and we are expecting a record turnout this year both in the number of vendors and patrons. Volunteers are needed, and there are many different opportunities to help out. If you would like to be a part of the team, please contact Sharon Habin at MentoneColorfest@gmail.com.

I hope to see you soon. Don't hesitate to contact me directly if you would like to share any ideas for how we can help make MAPA a better organization serving you and our community. My email is mhoffmanatty@yahoo.com.

Mark Hoffman is president of the Mentone Area Preservation Association.

Mentone to Celebrate State's Bicentennial • by Holley Midgley



In 2019, the State of Alabama will celebrate its 200th birthday with a year-long bicentennial celebration. The Mentone Town Council has established a committee to look at ways the town can honor and remember our own rich history and heritage during next year. The committee has decided to produce a 20-minute video documentary that will cover Mentone's history from the Native Americans of the Woodland era through the Cherokees; the arrival of the first settlers; the Civil War in the area; early development of the town; the legacy of our summer camps; the Depression Era; prominent

families; the contributions of people with second homes here as well as retirees to the area; our historic elementary school; the incredible natural wonders here; civic leaders over the years; and much more.

The committee is beginning to look for resources which might be available to be used in telling Mentone's history. Old photographs and movie film or videos, diaries, newspaper articles, interview subjects who know the area's history, etc. are being sought. If you think you have such resources, or know someone who does, we'd like to hear from you. I am serving as the documentary's producer and as co-chair with Cynthia Stinson of the Bicentennial Committee. You may email me at duckman1@centurytel.net. The project is in the earliest stages of development, so put on your thinking cap and let us know if you think you have something of interest. All photographs, etc., will be carefully cared for and returned after they are copied.

Look for more information in future issues of *The Groundhog*. The finished production will be premiered on a big screen at a party for the whole community, to be held around the 4th of July in 2019. Additionally, there are plans to mail a copy of the video, on DVD, to all households in the Mentone town limits.

Mr. Holley Midgley is co-chairman of Mentone's Bicentennial Committee.

Become a MAPA Member Today!

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(includes a subscription
to *The Groundhog*)

MAPA
P.O. Box 50
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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.

Colorfest

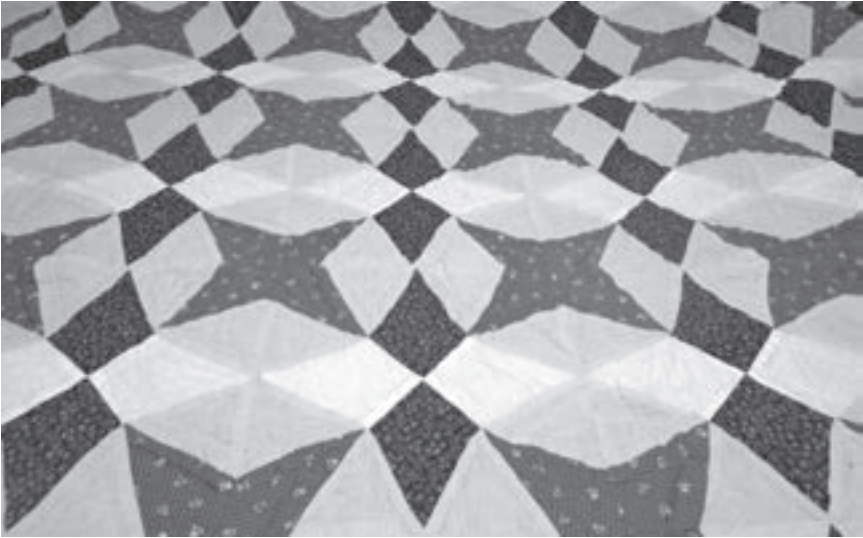
Saturday October 20 • 9am–5pm
Sunday October 21 • 9am–4pm

Performer Application

Deadline September 5, 2018

We pay a small stipend of \$50 per performing member of your group. Your performing time will be 45 minutes long. Performances will be spaced to allow time before performance and after performance for set up and take down. We will also provide a table close by where you can have someone to sell CDs, etc. Notification of acceptance will be on the 10th of September. Only the application is necessary if you performed at 2018 Rhododendron Festival, unless you would like a different Bio or Picture. Please email MentoneColorfest@gmail.com with any questions.

Apply online at
mapamentone.com



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 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 Moon Lake Community Library.

Raffle tickets cost \$1 each and will be available at the library and other locations to be announced on September 6. Check MAPAmentone.com or our “Mentone Festivals” Facebook page for more details. For more information, or if you would like to support MAPA by selling raffle tickets, email festivalraffleinfo@gmail.com.

Lend a Hand!

Be a Colorfest Volunteer

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

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Children’s Activities
Organize activities for children; lead and/or supervise activities | Raffle
Drop off raffle tickets to the places selling them; take raffle item to MAPA booth early Saturday morning; pick up tickets and money on Sunday morning and deliver to designated person. | Signage
Inventory all signage; set up promotional, shuttle, parking lot, and directional signs; put up sponsor banners |
| Photographer
Take pictures at festival and of teams working for online media and <i>The Groundhog</i> . | Scavenger Hunt
Get clues from merchants, prepare sheets and answer sheet. | MAPA information booth
Time slots are available throughout the weekend. |
| Scarecrow Hollow
Prepare site, recruit judges. | Vendor Committee
Help mark booth spaces during week before; Friday & early Saturday—check in vendors. | Sponsors
Help secure Colorfest sponsors |
| Performer Committee
Select performers from applications; select sound provider. | | Odds & Ends
Folks who are willing to do odd tasks as needed! |

Colorfest Activities...

Beau-ti-FALL 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*.

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 either be in the woods at the back of the old hotel site, as in the last two years, or in Mason Park (to be determined). Enter as an individual, organization or business. Go to mapamentone.com/scarecrow-hollow for details and to enter.

Mentone Community House: A Home for the Ages *(continued from page 1)*

12 children and for many decades the house was filled with the joy, laughter, and learning of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Frank Shigley was born in Indiana on April 15, 1865, the day President Lincoln died, six days after the Battle of Appomattox. In about 1883, he suffered lung damage while saving animals from a barn fire in Holland, Michigan. (It seems his own survival was something of a miracle.) The family's doctor—a Dr. Powers, who was a minister and a prominent physician—said Frank's best hope for healing was to move south. Dr. Powers then realized he should heed his own advice for himself, and so before winter set in, he accompanied young Frank on the journey to Alabama.

Dr. Powers secured land at what is now DeSoto State Park, and opened a practice in Fort Payne. As a carpenter, Frank found plenty of work during Fort Payne's boom days. He helped build the Fort Payne Opera House and the DeKalb Hotel, both of which were completed in 1889. In 1887, Frank's parents and younger siblings moved south to be near him. Around this time, Frank was riding his horse when he met Melissa Keith, a teenager whose family were 1820s-era settlers in the Valley Head area. Family accounts vary as to which was attracted to the other first, but one thing led to another and the couple married in 1888 when he was 23 and she was 18. They moved into a log cabin on a homestead of 189 acres of land that Frank had settled in 1887 in the Alpine area. The land was on the eastern side of Little River's West Fork, in the vicinity of Shigley's Hole, a large swimming hole less than a mile south of DeSoto State Park's Lodge.

Over the course of 26 years, the couple had 14 children. Two died in infancy but twelve—two boys and ten girls—survived into old age, several passing their 100th birthdays. Some spent their childhoods on the homestead and moved on, but the younger



Front row, L to R: Mrs. Melissa Rebecca Keith Shigley, Margaret, Mr. Henry Frank Shigley, Stella.
Back row, L to R: Edna, Elizabeth, Bell, Ernest, Ruby, Clarence, Rona, Grace, Nona, and Ethel.

Photo of the Shigley family taken in May 1932, the month Margaret (the youngest child) was Salutatorian of her graduating class at Valley Head High School.

ones moved with the Shigleys when they sold their land and relocated closer to Mentone in 1915. Their new home was located just east of Moon Lake School, surrounded by woods and open areas. This was around the time that Moon Lake School was founded, as well as the Mentone Wesleyan Church (the current Mentone Community Church). Frank Shigley was a driving force behind the creation of the church, which was Alabama's first Wesleyan Methodist church. He, his wife, and other family members were charter members of the church, which Frank helped build.

As an aside, Frank's father, the Rev. John Nelson Shigley, was a charter member of the Mentone Methodist Church on Cutler Avenue and was one of a handful of men who constructed the church. According to Marie Crowe Noah, "Grandmother Dollie [Frank's mother] was all for Prohibition. I was told she was a very fiery little woman. She would go into saloons and preach to the patrons. Supposedly she worked

with Frances Willard, leader of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union."

Dollie's funeral in 1893 was the first to be held at the new church. A picture of her famous cousin, General Douglas MacArthur, hung in the living room of the Shigley house from World War II until the house was sold after Melissa died in 1963.

The recollections of the Shigleys' grandchildren and great grandchildren tell a story of a loving and faithful family. Warm memories are still rich in their minds of the time they spent with Frank and Melissa in their humble, always lively, home. Much time was spent on the screen porch which wrapped the house on the western and northern sides. They remember Frank's facility for telling stories on the porch and by the large

stone fireplace that once stood in the middle of the house, and they remember the joy of sinking into the luxurious comfort of the Shigleys' feather beds.

"For some reason, we always called our great-grandparents 'Little Grandma' and 'Little Grandpa,' recalls great-granddaughter Darlene Spruiell Jordan. "I was very young when Little Grandpa died, but when we visited my Granddaddy he would often take my brother and me to see Little Grandma at the homeplace. I can remember that beautiful little woman coming out on that front porch with a loving smile and her arms open wide to greet us. She always gave us soft peppermint sticks on our visits. I can remember, even as a child, recognizing how deep the

(continued on page 8)

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Moon Lake Community Library News • by Kelly Leavitt

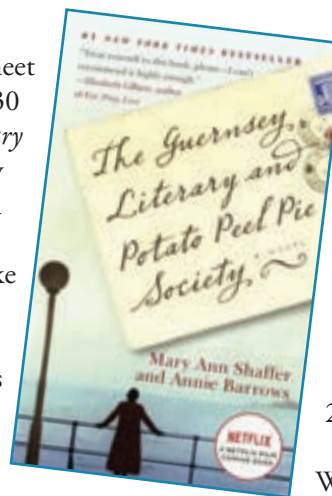


The community has a new “little library” which has been installed outside the Mentone Post Office. This is a free library that’s open 24/7. You’re welcome to take a book that interests you, or to leave a book you think others might enjoy. Many thanks to local artist Lydia Randolph, who painted a scene on the box reminiscent of Vincent Van Gogh’s painting, “The Yellow Books”. It’s a lovely addition to the artistic landscape of Mentone. Thanks also to Mickey Luck for masterfully constructing the box, to Holley Midgley for setting the post, and to Little River Arts Council, who put out a call for artists and offered Lydia a stipend for her service. The library board paid for Lydia and Mickey’s supplies and offered them each a stipend. Your donations make projects like these possible.



Thanks to a grant earlier this year from MAPA, the library has two new HP laptops available for use by the community at no charge. Patrons can now easily use a computer to access the library’s online

This month, we’re initiating the Moon Lake Book Club that will meet on Saturday, September 22, at 10:30 a.m. to discuss *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. A book club group has been formed on Facebook (search for Moon Lake Community Library Book Club). We’ll keep you up-to-date with future dates and book titles on this page as well as on our web site at moonlakelibrary.org. Please join us to meet new friends and enjoy unique perspectives of this bestselling book.



catalog. We also have wireless printing available for 10 cents per page.

We’re pleased to host a town hall-type community meeting with Moon Lake Principal Mary Lance on Monday, September 10. (See page 1 for details.)

We’re looking forward to hosting Mike Burrell for an Author Talk and book signing on Monday, September 24. (See page 22 for details.)

Moon Lake School Nurse Cheryl Wilborn will offer a free basic sewing class at the library on Thursday,

September 13, at 3 p.m. If you’ve always wondered how to sew on a button, or make a simple hem, this is a great opportunity to learn these simple skills. Cheryl will have fabric to practice on. Feel free to bring an item that need basic mending, and Cheryl will teach you how to mend it yourself.

If you’re interested in volunteering at the library for 3 hours a month, please contact Dianne Kuehl at 256-634-4538. It’s easy (and often fun) work. Our volunteers are deeply appreciated.

The library is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3–6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Library cards are free to residents of the area; there are no geographical limitations. See you at the library!

Kelly Leavitt is the librarian of Moon Lake Community Library.



Have you ever played Mexican Train dominoes? Come by the library at 10 on Saturday morning, September 15, when Sharon Habin will teach us how to play this fun and strategic game.



THIS MONTH AT THE LIBRARY...

Monday, September 10 at 5:30 p.m....Community Meeting with Moon Lake Principal Mary Lance

Thursday, September 13 at 3 p.m....Basic Sewing Skills class with Cheryl Wilborn

Saturday, September 22 at 10:30 a.m....Moon Lake Library Book Club

Sunday, September 23 at 3 p.m....Block Printing class with Meg Justice

Monday, September 24 at 6:30 p.m....Author Talk with Mike Burrell

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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.

MERF
celebrates
25 years of
enriching the
living and learning
in Mentone.

Sitting at the foot of a tree today on MERF's land, feeling a wonderful breeze and hearing the joy and laughter of Moon Lake students playing outside...what else can you say but it's a two scoop day and "Leave Me in Mentone"! It has been 25 years of growing and life is really good at the MERF house. So grateful for the visionaries and the charter board members as well as the many volunteers, supporters and donors that have "enriched the learning and living in Mentone" through the vehicle of the Mentone Educational Resources Foundation. MERF celebrates those who have given their time, their ideas, and their financial support during our first quarter century. Together we have all built a wonderful community that makes possible the common desire to Leave Me in Mentone.

In 1995, a devoted group of visionaries with a heart for community—Sue Henry, Bill Berry, Marsha Hurt, Phil Hurt, Jean Corey, and John Corey—met in a living room to discuss and dream of ways to support and increase services for the educational and health needs of Mentone. Edna Morgan and Don Brock soon joined as the charter board members to establish the 501(c)(3) with its first purchase of the MERF house and land next to Moon Lake Elementary School to provide programs and to offer a place for community gatherings. Dee and Rudolph Bell sold 4.2 acres to MERF and to the school. The emphasis on education and community had long been the spirit of the MERF house and land as for most of its existence, it was owned by the Shigleys. Beginning in 1915, Henry and Melissa Shigley raised their family and cared for the community in what many locals refer to as "the Shigley house". See the corresponding article to learn about the rich history and impact of the Shigley family on this land in Mentone. I love the image of the school children running over to the Shigleys' for freshly baked cookies and of the pansies smiling as you came up on the porch. Thank you for all who have enabled MERF and the Shigley house to serve the community.

As school and fall begin, the MERF house is hopping again. Volunteers are needed for our weekly tutoring program and for the senior lunch bunch



This photo was taken in Spring 2013 at a Senior Lunch attended by Margaret Shigley Crowe and her daughter Marie.

Front row: Elizabeth Romans, Dorothy Crow, Margaret Shigley Crowe, Marie Crowe Noah. Second row: Ilene Green, Herman Golden, Mattie Lee Golden, Amelia Kirk Lolli. Third row: Doug Kiker, Ovie Blalock, Barbara Blalock, Robert Green, Thomas Qualls, Gail Crider, Dee Thompson

crew. Contact Sarah immediately, if interested. MERF Moms is a sweet group of moms and their little ones meeting at the MERF house on Monday mornings. Please join them if you have a little one under 3.

If anyone has a rocker or comfy chair to donate for story time, please let MERF know.

The senior lunch bunch crew will start gathering again on Wednesday, September 19, at the MERF house. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. every Wednesday until November 14. Come early to visit and stay after for singing and poetry. Musicians that can lead us in good old singing, please join us.

The lunch crew brought the summer to a close with a BYOL at Tiger's Inn. So thankful to have some of Judy's great fixins before she retires. She never hesitates when called for us to gather at Tiger's Inn—thank you and your crew for gracious hospitality!

Unfortunately, in August we lost another sweet lunch friend in the passing of Herman Golden. We will miss his sweet smile, playful spirit and sincere friendship. So glad we were able to send him some of Jimmy Roger's award-winning catfish in the spring

Sarah Wilcox is the "voice" of the MERF House. MERF is a local nonprofit with the mission, "To enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources." If you would like to support our programs, tax-deductible donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 107 Mentone, AL 35984 or contribute online at crowdrise.com/MERF. Contact us at merf.mentone@gmail.com or 256-634-4673.



Margaret Shigley Crowe played the piano for us in her old homeplace.

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Mentone Community House: A Home for the Ages *(continued from page 5)*

love was between my granddaddy and his mother! It was a special bond. I always loved the look of that house as we pulled up to it....up on the hill, under the trees, with that welcoming porch. I can recall her happiness over our coming. I remember visiting her after she was bedridden, also [in the early 1960s]. She was in a back bedroom, a room filled with framed photos around her of her loved ones. It was a family home!"

Granddaughter Marie Crowe Noah recalled, "The Shigley granddaughters used to play for hours under the old oak trees and we would build our playhouses around the tree using the roots as room dividers. We broke open acorns and used the empty shells for dishes. There was no end to our imagination."

"Grandma and Grandpa did not have a farm, per se," Marie continued, "but they always grew vegetables, had chickens for eggs, and had an orchard with fruit trees. They had cows for milk, buttermilk and butter. Since there were 10 girls, there was always help in the kitchen and for housework. The girls also had to learn to sew. There were no idle hands in the Shigley household. The family's clothes were washed in a black wash pot in the backyard. Grandma used an iron that she heated on her wooden stove. Bless Grandpa, he only had two sons who lived to adulthood, but they did their share of outdoor chores. There was a smokehouse outside the kitchen where they cured meat and dried fruits. There was no lack of food in the Shigley household. Not even during the Depression."

The house had a cellar, which still exists, that was lined with shelves of canned vegetables. "What I

loved most was the old smoke house," said Marcella Shigley Campbell, a great-granddaughter now living in Valley Head. "There were barrels with hams packed in salt, and bacon and other pieces of meat hanging from the ceiling. I loved the smoke, the smell, and the beautiful caramelized walls after years of smoking the great cuts of meat."

"I loved walking over to Grandpa's early in the morning," Marcella continued. "I always knew Grandpa would be cleaning around the plants for the rare weed sprouting up. His humming was contagious. There was a path to all the plants but there was a main path that was covered with vines... green beans...leading to the grape arbors. Rhubarb was growing close to the grapes. Grandpa always said they just went together. Everything was laid out so pristinely...the yellow squash was on mounds like they were ranked a bit above some of the other luscious vegetables. Grandpa and Grandma grew just about everything."

An apple orchard existed in the location of the current-day Community Walking Park, where three original apple trees still stand. (Some of the others recently died and have been replaced by Walt Pullen, a great-grandson of Frank and Melissa Shigley, who cares for the landscape both at the MERF House and at Bankhead Cemetery, where the two are buried.) The Shigleys' orchard had a variety of different kinds of apples, as well as peaches and plums.

"On the eastern side of the house were a barn and apple drying shed," explained great-grandson Ken Shigley. "My mom married into the family at 18 in 1945, when Dad returned from World War II. That

summer, my great-grandmother put Mom to work cutting and drying apples."

"One of my earliest memories was when I was not quite three years old," Ken continued. "I remember walking out toward the barn with my great-grandfather, holding his hand, not long before he died. His primary impression on me was of great kindness."

Ken's father, the late Dr. Bob Shigley, told of being a student at Moon Lake School and heading over to the Shigley home during recess with his cousins and other schoolmates for a snack of freshly baked tea cake cookies his grandmother would have waiting for them. Bob Shigley also described how before electric power lines went further than Moon Lake School, Frank and Melissa's younger son, Clarence Shigley, rigged up a wire from the school so neighbors could gather at the house to listen on an early radio to broadcasts of Charles Lindbergh's first transatlantic flight.

Frank helped build many of the homes along the western brow and Little River in and near Mentone, as well as many of the trusses for the wooden bridges which crossed the river. Grandson David Crowe said, "I remember loving to play in Granddad's workshop. He had a great tool shed since he was a carpenter. He had a grinder that turned with a crank and I would crank it up as fast as I could get it to spin."

Granddaughter Rebecca Black recalled, "It was a fun time for us kids. Of course, we were afraid of Grandpa's rooster who would chase us and we didn't like the outdoor bathroom," which was "2 holes and

(continued on page 9)



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Mentone Community House: A Home for the Ages *(continued from page 8)*

a Sears-Roebuck catalog,” according to granddaughter Doris Cordell. “But we loved the well on the back porch and the cold, cold water,” Rebecca continued. “And we loved waking up to Grandma and whichever aunt was there cooking breakfast—biscuits and sausage gravy.”

“Both of my grandparents passed away there,” said Marie Crow Noah. “They were never put in a home. Several of their children made their homes in Mentone and helped with their care right up to the end. The Shigleys have always been a very close-knit family.”

The connection between the Shigleys and the mission of MERF is both poignant and powerful. According to Who Was Who in DeKalb County, Volume I, Frank Shigley “was such a staunch supporter of education that on one occasion he made oyster stew, which he kept hot on a pot belly stove in the first Moon Lake School house and sold it by the bowl in order to pay the teacher. One year when the school closed, he employed a teacher, Juanita Anderson, to teach his own children in one room of his home.” Another account recalls his selling pancakes to raise funds for teachers’ salaries.

Granddaughter Marie Crowe Noah said, “I feel the MERF House is a blessing to Grandpa Shigley, as he was a great advocate of education. When Grandpa and Grandma married, she could neither read nor write, so Grandpa taught her. He was determined that all of his children would receive an education. Grandpa loved history!”

Some of the Shigley children attended high school in Fort Payne. They would travel to Valley Head and take the train to Fort Payne, where they would board during the school week. Others in the family later attended high school in Valley Head or at Central Wesleyan Academy (now Southern Wesleyan University) in South Carolina. Two of the great-grandchildren of Frank and Melissa (Sue Johnson Rickman who grew up at Mentone and Henry Shigley who is now retired at Mentone) are now



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frank Shigley celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary, 1953

trustees at Southern Wesleyan University.

Frank held Sunday School in his home for several years and organized many other Sunday schools. Singings often took place on Sunday afternoons at the Shigley home. “Grandpa loved to sing. I still have one of his songbooks,” said Marie. “Grandma used to say she didn’t know how many to cook for because she never knew how many young people Grandpa would bring home.”

The Shigleys’ elder son, Ernest, taught at Moon Lake School and went on to later to become the pastor of the Mentone Wesleyan Church. (His own son also taught at Moon Lake before becoming principal of Menlo High School.)

While at Moon Lake, one of Ernest’s pupils was

his youngest sibling, Margaret. Margaret’s daughter, Marie, said, “One story I remember Mom telling was about Martha Berry, who founded Berry College in Rome. Miss Berry had a summer home at Moon Lake and she bought butter and buttermilk from Grandma. Mom would sit on the front stoop and talk to Miss Berry. Mom was so fascinated with her that she decided that one day she would go to Berry College and, sure enough, she did. After raising her family, she graduated in 1965 with a degree in education. She went on to teach school for the next 19 years.”

The late Dr. Bob Shigley told of a different memory of Martha Berry. One summer day around 1930, he and his brothers and cousins, about 6 to 10 years old, were skinny dipping in Little River when Miss Berry’s entourage came up the river on a boat. The boys remained submerged until the dignitaries had passed.

Marie recalled that her grandmother nearly always had pansies in two wooden wash tubs that sat on stumps on each side of the front walk. She said, “Grandma loved pansies because they looked like happy smiling faces.” It is wonderfully appropriate that this fall, the students of Moon Lake School will be selling pansies which they are currently growing in the school’s new greenhouse, just across the driveway from the old Shigley home.

Great-granddaughter Darlene Spruiell Jordan enthusiastically summarized life in the Shigley home: “It was a home filled with faith and family and love! And community spirit! A most appropriate beginning for a place now used by the community!!” Appropriate, indeed. Congratulations to MERF for providing the Community House and many meaningful services to our community for 25 years, and beyond.



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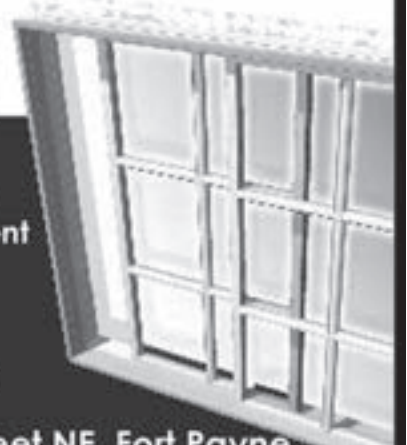
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Turn back the clock for the night! Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 8, so you don't miss the screening of *Southern Heart*, a movie that was filmed in Mentone in 1999. It's a sweet "feel good" movie that is sure to make you smile. Local filming locations included the Mentone Springs Hotel, Mentone Inn, Nippersink Lodge, Log Cabin Deli (currently the Green Leaf Grill), Cragmere Manna, and many more.

Limited seating will be available on the lawn. Bring your chairs and a blanket in case it's chilly. In case of rain, we'll huddle up together on the pavilion.

Fontana Stinson will serve hot dogs with chili or slaw, home fries, and a drink for \$6/plate, and Fried green tomatoes and fried Oreos \$5/each.

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Movie starts after dusk, around 7:30 p.m.

7th Annual Little River Canyon Half Marathon Set for October 6

Jacksonville State University and the Little River Canyon Center will host the seventh annual "Little River Half Marathon" on Saturday, October 6. Possibly one of the most scenic half marathons in the country, the certified course loops 13.1 miles on paved roads, starting and ending at the Little River Canyon Center.

To start at 8 a.m., the first five miles of the run will follow the Little River Canyon National Preserve's incredibly scenic and sometimes challenging rim of the canyon, as the remainder winds through gently rolling farm country.

The half-marathon will feature water stations, music, ample law enforcement, shirts, trophies, finishing medals, and much more. Proceeds go to outdoor education programs and local conservation efforts at Little River Canyon. Pre-registration is required; call 256-782-8010.

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Rhododendron Garden Club • by Mellanie Tuttle



The August 14th meeting of the Rhododendron Garden Club was held in the Boy Scout House. The designated hostess missed the memo about hostessing, so members and guests suffered the pangs of hunger and thirst during the meeting. Perhaps a more timely memo will remedy that situation. Guests included a neighbor of Sharon Harris, Sandra Lefstad, and Kerry Breithaupt. Kerry paid her dues and joined the club! Whoo hoo. (Now if she can just be persuaded to enter horticulture or make a design for the flower show!)

The meeting was called to order by President Mellanie Tuttle; pledge and roll call followed. During roll call, members were asked to bring an herb and name a plant they will be entering in the Federation Fall Flower Show. Herbs on hand were dill, basil, and mint; others mentioned were cilantro, parsley, lemon thyme, lemon balm, lemon grass and sage. With six weeks until show time, members were reluctant to commit to specific flowers or foliage but all promised to peruse their yards for show worthy entries. A terrarium, a dish garden, and hanging planters were the only items guaranteed to make a showing.

JoAnne Glover read a garden meditation from the Book Of Prayers by Leon and Elfreda McCauley. One line that stood out was "Build a New Life of Love." We have choices everyday; building offers all sorts of possibilities—breaking down the old, beginning with something new, life versus death, love or hate, passion or indifference. Why not choose to build on positives. (Sidebar: my mother-in-law, age 91, has chosen to leave her home of 30 years, move to Mentone, and start a new adventure with us—that is definitely building a new life of love!)

Conservation Chair Marsha Merrell started off with the statement she wanted to discuss straw. We waited expectantly, wondering what could be wrong with straw and realized the topic was drinking straws! DON'T USE THEM! When trash is picked up along Highway 117, straws are a major litter culprit. The plastic does not break down. Several businesses are declaring a moratorium on straws or at least deciding to switch to paper straws. When offered a drinking straws, "Just say 'No.'"

Horticulture Chair Martha Wood offered suggestions for getting plants, flowers, and foliage ready for the flower show. Cut annuals and perennials in prime condition the night before and place in water up to the flower head. Leaves should be trimmed or removed if insect damaged. Wash off any mold or spider webs and make sure no water spots remain. Leaves may not be waxed nor products used to give a leaf shine. A natural wool cloth will get off dirt and leave a natural shine. (A homemade solution of five parts water to one part milk and one teaspoon of vinegar applied with a soft cloth will rid leaves of water or white spot residue caused by hard water.) Combination plantings must have been in the exhibitor's possession for six weeks. The length of possession for annuals, bulbs, houseplants, perennials, and vegetables is 90 days and for troughs or arboreal is six months. A branch must show the apical tip, which is the growing end. Each entry must be correctly identified and written on the entry tag prior to coming to the show. "Grandma's Rose" may be what you called that gorgeous and deliciously fragrant item but will not win a top award with that identification! Correct Genus and cultivar in single quotes Rosa 'Eden' would suffice for Dahlias, Roses, Hosta or Huechera. Sometimes the cultivar is not known so the Genus (capitalized) and specific epithet (formerly species in lower case letters) would be correct. For the native American Beautyberry, the correct binomial would be *Callicarpa americana* (it's hard to italicize handwriting so the title is underlined on the card). To help the overworked folks at the fair, google your plant ahead of time, find the one that looks like Grandma's and fill out the cards. Lots of rules from the National Garden Club. Don't be discouraged. People will be able to help; just do your due diligence first.

Only members of garden clubs affiliated with the National Garden Club are permitted to enter designs. This year's theme is "America the Beautiful", so lots

of red, white and blue will be seen. Everyone in DeKalb County is eligible and encouraged to enter horticulture. For a fair catalog and schedule of the flower show, go to dekalbcountyvfwfair.com.

Our flower show is set up with four Divisions: Design, Horticulture, Education, and Youth. Each Division is titled and numbered: "Land of the Free" for Horticulture (DIVISION I); "Home of the Brave" for Design (II); "Plant America" for Education (III); and "Yankee Doodle Dandy" for Youth (IV). Each division is further divided into Sections (also titled but use capital letters). There are twelve Sections in Horticulture (A through L). The Section states the plant category, the award given and the length of a branch or the size of container. Sections are then divided into classes. The classes list only plants found in that category of section. For instance: Section A - Arboreal is named "Redwood Forest" and states Evergreens, Deciduous Trees, or Shrubs with a maximum length of 30" and 24" wide and must include several nodes and an apical tip. It is eligible for the Arboreal Award, Award of Horticulture Excellence and the Sweepstakes Award. Classes are numbered and listed alphabetically according to their binomial names. (Class 1. *Aucuba japonica*, Class 2. *Acer palmatum*, etc.) Entry cards have blocks to write in the Division, Section and Class and the correct scientific and common name.

For Design, there are three sections determined by the award given. The Tri-color Award (Section A, "By Land") requires that only fresh plant material be used; no wood is allowed. With the Designer's Choice Award (Section B, "By Sea"), the designer can choose either fresh or dried plant material. The Petite Award (Section C, "By Air") is given to a design under 12" in any direction. The Section also states the staging parameters—where the design will be located (niche, table, pedestal, shelf); the dimensions in height, width and depth; and whether a staging panel or underlay will be required. Each Section has three classes which are also titled to fit with the Section title. The Class also states what type design is required. (For Section A "By Land": Class 104 "Airborne"—A Cascade Design; Class 105 "Infantry"—An American Traditional Design; Class 106 "Semper Fi"—A Multi-rhythmic Design). The rules for each type of design are located in the Handbook for Flower Shows, 2018. Also, judges are bound by a point scoring system based on 100 points. Designs are judged on conformance to design type and schedule requirements; design principles based on balance, contrast, dominance, proportion, rhythm, and scale; selection and organization of components; expression, and distinction. People ask, "This one is the prettiest. Why didn't it win?" When judging, seven points are taken off if the design does not conform to type. A traditional design in a creative class automatically loses seven points, knocking it down to a 93, and then more points will be taken off for selection and organization of components and distinction, and suddenly the "prettiest" is only worthy of a lesser ribbon.

Mellanie Tuttle presented the Design Division entries for the flower show. The PowerPoint presentation listed the schedule requirements for the Sections and classes and had examples of the designs according to type, hoping to inspire members to sign up quickly for the show. For some, it's intimidating to come up with a design that carries out the theme of the class, meets the requirements of the type, and then get it all executed and be critiqued for their efforts. Brave souls committed to the Multi-rhythmic, Spatial Thrust, Cascade, Traditional Mass and Creative Transparency designs. Personally, I've had designs fall down, judges tear designs apart, and plant material completely wilt. Designers need a sense of humor, confidence (but not arrogance), tough skin, and the willingness to try again and again and again. Hopefully, the flower show will be an inspiration or at least stretch ideas about what floral design can be.

Next month's meeting will be at the home of Mary Shurett. She will be sharing ideas to enhance the garden. Her address is 19337 Scenic Highway in Mentone. Staring time is 10am.

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

Christmas Cantata

Are you interested in singing in the Community Christmas Cantata? Please call Peggy Pullen at 256-634-3036.

Moon Lake Baptist Church to Dedicate the George and Arlene Fowler Youth Center

by Rev. Mike Ellis



You are invited to come and celebrate the completion of Moon Lake Baptist Church's "George and Arlene Fowler Youth Center" during an Open House on Saturday, September 8, from 1-3 p.m. A special dedication service will be held on Sunday, September 9, at 3 p.m. This new building represents the fulfillment of a decades-long "dream" and a commitment to the future.

The Moon Lake Baptist Church family has always had a heart for the children and students of our community. Some who currently serve as deacons fondly recall the plays, dramas and activities of their youth, as a part of Moon Lake Baptist. A fund was begun years ago to build a new building to further enhance the Church's investment in the lives of young people. With occasional special offerings, designated gifts received from time to time, and a few special fund raisers, funds were made available but were never quite enough to construct a building. With the transition of church members and leadership, the dream of a new building always seemed to be in the future and just out of reach.

The distant dream became a present reality thanks to a generous investment by the Fowler Trust Fund. George Fowler and his sister, Arlene, lived next door to each other east of Mentone, off Highway 117.

They attended Moon Lake Baptist Church. David Gilbreath, a friend of the family, had this to say about them: "They were a quiet and humble brother and sister who lived a conservative and modest life.



Because of their love for the church, a trust was set up at Moon Lake Baptist Church. The ones who knew George and Arlene Fowler will always remember their sweet smiles. They touched our lives greatly." Through their love and generosity they will continue to touch the lives of others for many years to come.

I am grateful for the completion of the Fowler Youth Center and I am most grateful to pastor a generous and loving church family. Many who are involved in our church today have given abundantly

and sacrificially to make this new building a reality. With the additional gift of the Fowler Trust Fund, we were able to manifest a long-held dream.

We want this building to be a great resource for our community. The Center has a full-size basketball court, a volleyball court, a stage, storage areas, and a room we plan to develop into educational space. We plan to host special events and activities here and it will be available for special gatherings for families in our community. Here at Moon Lake Baptist, it is our desire to "reflect the light, life, and love of Jesus to all we meet" and the Fowler Youth Center will be a great resource in helping us to do just that.

The Moon Lake Baptist Church family is looking forward to having you drop by during our open house to see the Fowler Youth Center. You are also invited to join us for the dedication service. Light refreshments will be served during each event. Our address is 4671 AL Highway 117 in Mentone. Come on out and see what's new here in Mentone at Moon Lake Baptist Church.

Rev. Mike Ellis is the pastor of Moon Lake Baptist Church in Mentone.

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A Unique Running Experience at Valley Head Cemetery

by Sherryl Lewis



The annual Valley Head Cemetery 'In Memory of...' 5K Walk/Run and Fun Run will be held at Valley Head Cemetery on Saturday, September 29. Come run or walk through the 128-year-old grounds of the cemetery. The course will loop runners through the cemetery, then out and back along Carmichael Road. The 5K begins at 8 a.m. A Fun Run will immediately follow the 5K.

Register online at racesonline.com by September 8 to guarantee a t-shirt. Online registration closes September 15. Race day registration will be available from 7–7:30 a.m. The fee for the 5K Run/Walk is \$25; \$20 for the Fun Run; \$15 for a t-shirt only. All proceeds will be used for upkeep and maintenance on the cemetery.

Valley Head Cemetery is located on AL Highway 177 at Carmichael Road. For more information, contact Sherryl at 256-657-1616 or sherryllewis62@yahoo.com. Visit facebook.com/valleyheadcemetery5K.

Plein Air Paint Out at DeSoto Falls



Artist Joe Mullican at DeSoto Falls

On Saturday, September 29, Little River Arts Council (LRAC) will host a "paint out" for plein air enthusiasts. Local plein air artist and LRAC board member Barbara Umland will greet artists at the beautiful DeSoto Falls, where the day will be spent painting outdoors, facing the challenge of capturing the light, colors, and motion unique to outdoor scenes.

Painting will begin between 9–9:30 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m. Feel free to visit the artists at the Falls while they paint and have a look at their progress.

At 4:30 p.m., a reception for the artists will be

held at the Mentone Inn Pavilion. The public is invited to meet the artists and view their artwork of the day.

If you would like to participate as an artist: There is no fee for this event. You must supply your own easel and supplies. Clean water for brushes will be refreshed during the day. We suggest you pack a lunch to bring with you; snacks and water will be provided. Please contact Barbara Umland for questions and registration at 256-619-1004.

If you'd like to learn more about plein air painting, visit paintoutside.com or alabamapleinairartists.com.

Herman Golden April 4, 1929–August 16, 2018

Herman Golden, age 89 of Mentone, passed away on Thursday, August 16, 2018. Mr. Golden was born on April 4, 1929 in Jefferson County, Alabama to the late Herman and Lena Tillman Golden, Sr.

He was a retired Fleet manager with Farmers Telecommunication and a member of Mentone Community Church.

Mr. Golden is survived by his wife, Mattie Dickey Golden; son, Keith Golden; daughter, Rachel Lee; brothers, Monroe Golden and Larry Golden; sister, Jean Kring; grandchildren, Andrew McCole, Ashley Ferguson, Wesley Ferguson, Abbey Lee, Amelia Lee, and Andy Lee; great-grandchildren, Hallie Grace Lee, Andie Harper McCole and Logan Shepphard.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and daughter, Phyllis Renee Ferguson.




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Mentone Arts & Cultural Center News • by Randy Grider

MACC partners with Northeast Community College, visits Eastern Band of the Cherokee

Fall Arts Kickoff
Saturday, September 8
10am–4pm

The event will feature entertainment and showcase new art in the gallery, which is located at 5951 Ala. Hwy 117, Mentone.

The Mentone Arts & Cultural Center (MACC)

has a new partner.

In mid-August, representatives from MACC and Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) met in Mentone to discuss

how the two organizations might work together.

NACC President Dr. David Campbell, Executive Assistant Brenda Stringer, and Event Planning and Alumni Relations Director Chasley Bellomy attended the meeting with MACC Board Member/Fundraising Chairman Ben Shurett and myself.

One aspect of the discussion focused on synergies between the MACC and the college in respect to potential arts-related classes and events including performing arts, visual arts and culinary arts.

Dr. Campbell expressed enthusiasm for a partnership that would include these type activities, as-needed leasing/rental of the facility for college-related programs/events, as well as the college having a greater presence in this area. MACC feels it would be equally advantageous to have Northeast Alabama Community College as a partner

MENTONE
ARTS AND CULTURAL
CENTER



Architectural rendering of the interior of the multipurpose room that will be part of Phase 1 of construction of the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center. Courtesy of Clay Birchfield.

because of the school's excellent reputation for higher learning. It was agreed that a partnership is mutually beneficial to both organizations and Bellomy and I will serve as each organization's respective liaisons.

During the same timeframe, representatives from MACC (President Ray Padgett and consultant Bruce BonFleur) visited Cherokee, NC, the Qualla Boundary or reservation/homeland for the Eastern Band of the Cherokee.

The purpose of the visit was: to learn more about the Cherokee Nation; to begin a dialogue/relationship with a tribal leader(s), and inform them of our plans here to establish an art and cultural center.

The MACC delegation met with Bo Taylor, executive director of the Museum of the Cherokee and elected member of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council. Taylor offered insight into the workings of the Cherokee museum and offered professional advice to MACC in regards to how to focus its

mission to make it successful. Taylor also discussed a willingness to travel to Mentone in the near future to meet with the full MACC board of directors and others in the area.

At Taylor's recommendation, the Mentone group (that also included Sandra Padgett and Marsha BonFleur), visited the nearby Stecoah Valley Cultural Arts Center, which is similar in scope and size of the proposed MACC facility. The group also attended the long-running outdoor drama, *Unto These Hills*.

Nationally acclaimed actress Sandra Lafferty and I are working to turn a monologue based on Granny Dollar into a full play that will be performed regularly at the center.

For updates, check out the MACC Facebook page, facebook.com/mentoneartscenter.org, and websites MentoneArtsCenter.org or MACC-Kamama.com.

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



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

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St Joseph's Offers Celtic Worship Service

by Rev. Bill Winters

On Sunday evening, September 30, at 5 p.m., St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church in Mentone will celebrate its first Celtic Service.

This service is very different from our normal Sunday morning service. So, if anyone in the community is interested but unsure, don't worry—long time Episcopalians will be just as curious as to what is happening. Nonetheless, this beautiful service is for everyone, no matter who you are or where you come from. The service is offered as a gift to the community.

A Celtic service combines Celtic music, mostly derived from the music of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and Britain. The theology and worship of the service is very creation-oriented. At St. Joseph's, we hold the belief that all creation was by God for our pleasure and dominion. This allows this type of worship to be very earthy.

Another characteristic of Celtic worship is that it is distinctively Trinitarian, with numerous references to the triune God. During a Celtic service, the church is adorned with candles signifying the Light of Christ that shines through creation. Sure and begory ya'll enjoy it, friend.

Rev. Bill Winters is the rector of St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church in Mentone.



Papa Joe's Coffee House Low Country Boil & Concert by Rebecca Henderson

We might live high on a mountain, but everyone loves a taste of the Low Country! Summer is coming to an end, and St. Joseph's is ready to tune up for the return of the Papa Joe's Coffee House series. All are invited to gather Thursday, September 20, from 5–7 p.m. at the Mentone Inn Pavilion and Lawn to dig into some great food and relax to music by Terry Hutcheson. The show is free, even if you don't purchase a meal. Tables and chairs will be provided by St. Joseph's.

Dinner will be \$15 a plate, and all proceeds will go to Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD), which provides disaster relief assistance around the world as well as funds that aid children's and maternal nutrition and health programs. ERD is currently aiding those affected by the California wildfires and has also played a key role in helping tornado victims both in our region and internationally.

The menu will include fresh shrimp, country sausage, potatoes, corn on the cob, spicy grits, slaw, homemade desserts, and beverages. Purchase dinner tickets at the Mentone Market, Tiger's Inn in Valley Head, or by calling St. Joseph's at 256-634-4476. In case of rain, dinner and music will move to the St. Joseph's Parish Hall.



Terry Hutcheson

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River Voice • by Bill Shugart



The other day, some friends of mine and I were talking about a very serious condition that is loosely associated with swimming and summer activities. I know all of you river folks need to hear this, so I wanted to take a minute to make you aware of it. This very serious affliction is called End of Summer Grief and it happens every year to millions of people. The stages may include but are not limited to shock, denial, anger, bargaining for more summer, depression, regret, and finally, acceptance. Depending on how long the denial stage lasts, the effects of this condition can be debilitating.

One of our kids had it last year and I'll just say that it wasn't pretty. I woke up one Saturday and found her playing outside with the garden hose, with her mermaid tail on. It was 65°. I heard a loud high pitched squeal and looked out the door to see what it was all about. There she was, with a wet head, blue lips, and goose-bump skin saying, "Okay, Daddy! I'm done! Can I have a towel?" She moped around for days.

Once, I knew a guy who refused to give up his shorts and sandals. He wore them clear through the coldest parts of January. Now that I am aware of it, I'm convinced that he may have had this, too.

I'm going to ask you some questions so you can determine if you might be at risk. I want you to answer honestly. You are not being judged, here.

1. Are you experiencing a slight unexplained sadness, anxiety or depression, lately?
2. Did you see some bright orange or yellow leaves and shout, "NOOOO!"
3. When no one is looking, have you been aiming the remote control at the window and pressing the go-back button in hopes that it might take you back to the 1st of June?
4. Is there still fresh Margarita mix in your fridge? What about Pina Colada? Daiquiri?
5. Have you been listening to Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Radio for more than a week straight without changing?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, go ahead and assume you are one of us. As your Riverkeeper, I'm here to tell you that it will be okay. We will get through this together. My sources tell me that the faster you can get a sufferer to accept that cold weather is coming on, the faster they get acclimated and functioning again. So with that in mind, I have some bad news. Let me go ahead and get this out there. The hard truth is, we can't go back to Summer.

But we can throw beach parties, wear Hawaiian shirts and drink umbrella drinks from a coconut.

Denial? Okay, you may be right.

Then, I want you to try the following. Think about how a pumpkin spice candle smells. Remember how much you enjoy sitting next to a fire. Think comfort food! Chili season is just around the corner, along with SEC football and hunting season. No snakes or bugs! It's not all bad, right?

I get the end of summer grief because river season is winding down. That means Swim Guide, where we post weekly water sampling reports, will finish up on Labor Day Weekend. During this season, we've collected 150 samples from the waters of Little River and its tributaries. We have posted those results on our web site (littleriverwaterkeeper.org) and social media where, according to analytics, we have informed hundreds of people about the condition of the water. I want to thank our volunteers for everything they have done to make the water testing program a success. Please give kudos to Casey and Angela Harp, Lisa Schad, Nancy Martin, and Lab Tech Gene Beck. These fine folks attended a water sampling training, became certified, and faithfully fulfilled their obligation. And a special honorary water tester shout-out to Jane Mauldin. We are much appreciative. If you happen to see any of them out and about, thank them for helping to keep you informed.

Last week we attended an Environmental Management Commission (EMC) meeting to ask ADEM to require a minimum standard that Waste Water Treatment facilities would be required to follow for reporting sewer spills. We didn't get everything we asked for, but ADEM did respond to most of the things we requested. Now, citizens can sign up for SSO (Sanitary Sewer Overflow) notifications in their area and receive alerts if something happens via text or email. I feel like we moved the needle and the people of Alabama are a little bit better off because we were there doing the work.

In the coming months, we will continue to work on local and statewide issues

that could effect our watershed and waters of the state, like nutrient pollution which causes harmful algal blooms, better sewer spill reporting, and protecting sensitive areas from herbicide spray. I will be on patrol working to identify problem areas and correct them. If you spot pollution, call 256-516-2877. Ask to speak to your Little River Waterkeeper.

I want to leave you with a thought. Waterkeeper Alliance has a quarterly publication that highlights the work that waterkeepers do. This month, I really liked an article called "I am the river. The river is me!" by Poudre Waterkeeper Gary Wockner. He tells us that, "New Zealand's Whangnui River is the first river on earth to gain the same legal rights as an individual. The river's Maori people, who have been fighting for the designation for 150 years, saw it that way all along."

Founded in 2012, Little River Waterkeeper serves as the voice of Little River and works to empower everyone to enjoy, connect with, and advocate for a clean river. We connect citizens to Little River. If you would like to support our work, you can mail your tax-deductible donation to Little River Waterkeeper, 215 Grand Ave. SW, Fort Payne, AL 35967.

Be awesome to one another! Cheers to the River!

Bill Shugart is the Little River Waterkeeper.

Creative Placemaking Discussion & Planning

Saturday, September 8

1 p.m. • Moon Lake Community Library

Learn how we can make a difference in our community, on many levels, using culture and the arts as a foundation.

To learn more about this exciting concept, visit arts.gov and search for "creative placemaking".




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Birthdays

1	Connie Bell Yvonne Brock Dustin Burt Lindsay Elkins	9	Makenna Stalvey Emma Harrison Dillon Kirby Ashley Harrison	15	Betty Blalock Mikhaila Potts Watkis Tina Cooksey Bryant Ware	27	Alfie Chambers Libby Tubberville Adam Hilliard John Meadows Jacob Meadows Edris Gardner Allen Wheat Jordan Cordell	1	Shane & Ashley Ingram
2	Grace Tucker Lincoln Carden	10	Morgan Gregory Angela Downer Sam Langston Anna Lee Jake Easler Paul Miller Chasity Smith Autumn Lewchuk	16	Haley Jacobs Kathy Casler			3	Josh & Mamie Miller
3	Callie Ann Shoults Stella Mae Akins Katie Smith Morgan Spencer	11	Amanda Collins Robert Johnson Brittney Johnson Chandler Johnson	17	Sam Easler Angie Godwin Brittany Villarreal	28	Bailey Kirby Alley Hatfield Tommy Langston	4	Carl & Katy Tubberville
4	Vance Carden Markettia Crane Karen Smith Cloyce Allen	12	Shane Burt Wyatt Spencer Cynthia Stinson Soni LaRock	18	Connie McElhaney Stacey Brown Ann Kelley	29	Rusty Chambers Amy Keith Braden Henderson Larry Bone Dillon Bone Kayla Mitchell	5	Benny & Kathy Graham
5	Evelyn Jensen John Kirby Payton Miller Sawyer Putman	13	Macy Hirst Marcus Pardue	19	Taylor Chaparro	30	Melissa Roe Gracie Welden	6	Jeff & Melissa Couch
6	Craig Stanfill Terri Gilreath Austin Farmer Benjie Mason	14	Jacob Rosson Pat Hunter Benjie Crabtree Griffin Winn	22	Addison Shoults Cade Henderson Cody Tedder Scout Smith			11	Tom & Tonya Shanklin
7	Amelia Saferite			23	Bailey Grace Ware			13	Zach & Ashley Jones
8	Van Freeman Adele Phillips Anastasia Pittman Herman Johnson Steve Watkins			24	Darrel Clark Rusty Morrison Bill Parker			15	Donald & Phyllis Stephens
				25	Nicole Stott Gavin Bain			19	Joseph & Crystal Lee
				26	Amy Henderson Kenny Busby Carley Collins			23	Kevin & Kayla Worthey Casey & Kayla Hellums

Anniversaries

1	Shane & Ashley Ingram
3	Josh & Mamie Miller
4	Carl & Katy Tubberville
5	Benny & Kathy Graham
6	Jeff & Melissa Couch
11	Tom & Tonya Shanklin
13	Zach & Ashley Jones
15	Donald & Phyllis Stephens
19	Joseph & Crystal Lee
23	Kevin & Kayla Worthey Casey & Kayla Hellums
24	Tom & Kristen Emory
25	Jeff & Linda Stephenson
26	Josh & Melissa Shoults
30	David & Marsha Tucker

Happy Day!

Ongoing Calendar

Mentone Town Council meets the 2nd Tuesday every month at 6pm at Mentone Town Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Mentone Water Board meets monthly on the 2nd Thursday at 4pm.

Valley Head Town Council meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday at 6pm.

Mentone Farmers Market is open year-round on Saturdays from 10am–1pm in the Town Square.

The Farm Market at Windy Hill sells fresh produce, eggs, beef, and pork every Friday from 3–6pm Central. 445 Road 942, Mentone.

Fort Payne Main Street Fresh Farmers Market is open Tuesdays 5–8pm and Saturdays 7am–Noon. Locally grown fruits and vegetables. For more information, call Tim Harris at 256-996-2131.

FREE FOOD for eligible persons and families. Wednesdays, 9–11am. New applicants are welcome during these hours. Joint effort between St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church (Community Outreach Ministry) and the Food Bank of North Alabama.

DeSoto Rescue Squad meets the 1st Saturday of the month at 9am at the MERF house in Mentone.

The North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District Board meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 7pm.

Moon Lake Community Library is open on Saturdays from 9am–1pm, and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3–6pm. Enjoy complimentary coffee, wi-fi, and use of 2 computers. Visit moonlakecommunitylibrary.org.

The Rhododendron Garden Club meets each month on the 2nd Tuesday at 10am. 'Green thumbs' and 'brown thumbs' welcome! 256-634-4403.

The Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center meets monthly on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at Rock Ridge Retreat Center in Valley Head at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome!

Writing anyone? Point of the Pen is a small, supportive writing group that welcomes anyone to join us for a casual sharing time with other writers interested in life stories, poetry, and fiction. Come to Moon Lake Community Library on the 1st Thursday of each month at 3:15pm. Call 256-635-8775 for details. (NOTE: There will be no meeting in August.)

The Lookout Mountain Knitters meet each Tuesday at 3pm at Moon Lake Community Library.

Ryleigh's Closet is a clothing closet that provides men's, women's, and children's clothing to those in need on 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 4–8pm. Mentone Community Church. 90 Summerville Rd. 256-634-4210.

Lookout Mountain Strummers mountain dulcimer group meets on alternate Thursdays at 1pm at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church. For a schedule and directions, send an email to normbaker194@gmail.com. Beginners are welcome.

DeKalb Quilters meet every 4th Tuesday at 9:30am. Second Baptist Church in Fort Payne.

The DeKalb County Genealogical Society meets the 2nd Saturday of every month in the DeKalb County Public Library, 10am.

The Little River group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Saturday & every Tuesday night at 6pm at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church in Mentone. Both meetings are Open AA Discussion Meetings. Anyone who thinks they might have a problem with alcohol is welcome. Questions? Call 256-634-3060.

AL-ANON family and friends support group meets every Tuesday at 6pm at St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain Church in Mentone. Same time and location as the AA Meeting.

Hope AA/NA, a Christian-based support group, meets each Friday at 6pm at Church of God of Prophecy on Hwy. 117 in Mentone.

Exercise Room is open at the DeKalb County Council on Aging each week, Monday through Friday (except for certain holidays), from 8am to Noon. 256-845-8590.

Ballroom dancing lessons are offered at DeKalb County Council on Aging on Mondays from 6–8pm. 256-845-8590.

Line dancing lessons are offered at DeKalb County Council on Aging on Tuesdays from 1:30–2:30pm (beginners) and 2:30–3:30pm (experienced). 256-845-8590.

Free Square Dance Lessons are offered Thursdays, 5:30–8:30pm, at Tom Bevill Center in Rainsville by Duos and Solos Dance Club. Everyone is invited to watch, and if you can round dance or square dance, you are welcome. Call 256-244-5320 to register.

Calendar entries are subject to change.

September 2018 Community Calendar

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

September 1—Yoga on the Mountain.

Start your morning off right with Dee Brown. Classes are held from 8–9am at DeSoto State Park. Cost is \$5. To register contact 256-634-8370.

September 1, 2 & 3—Boating at the Falls with One World Adventure.

The Boat Shack will be open to welcome you! Rent sit-on-top kayaks and canoes to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Can paddle around 4 miles round trip. Perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area. 3 hour rental \$30 kayak (single) or \$45 tandem kayak or canoe (double). Walks-ups are welcome but reservations are recommended. Friday 10am–4pm, Saturday 9am–6pm, Sunday 10am–1pm. Reservations can be made by calling 256-634-8370. Visit alapark.com/kayaking-canoeing.

September 1—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–2pm. Orbix Hot Glass. Cost is \$38 per ornament blown. 256-523-3188.

September 1—Pierce Pettis plays on the outdoor stage on the lawn of the Mentone Inn as part of the Little River Arts Council's Summer Music Series, family-friendly and FREE. Held at the Mentone Inn Pavilion. 7–10 pm.

September 3—2nd Annual Collinsville Mule Days. Bar C Farms will host the 2nd annual Collinsville Mule Day. Activities will be held in and around Collinsville Trade Day and Bar C Farms. Children 5 years old and younger are admitted free. The day's festivities will start with a parade at 9:30am that will come through the town of Collinsville and end at Bar C Farms. Bring your own horse and participate in some of our fun events and our trail competition! We will have concession stands, a tack trailer, pony rides, games, and much more for the whole family to enjoy! And what is Mule Day without the mules? We will have a working mule competition! For more information or if you're interested in becoming a vendor call Sarah Bangs or Jonathan Chastain at 256-499-5730 or 706-669-7377.

September 6—Art in the Alley,

Downtown Fort Payne. 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.

September 7—Grandparents Day at Moon Lake School.

September 7—Mentone Area Homeschool Group Informational Meeting. This group is open to homeschool families of all types in Mentone and the surrounding areas, regardless of homeschooling styles or religious preferences. 4–5pm. Moon Lake Community Library, Mentone. Email mentonehomeschool@gmail.com for more information.

September 7 & 22—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. There is a minimum of 3 people and a maximum of 5 in each class. 1pm. Orbix Hot Glass. Reservations are required. 256-523-3188.

September 8—Creative Placemaking Meeting. 1pm. Moon Lake Community Library, Mentone.

September 8—Open House/George & Arlene Fowler Center. Everyone is welcome to come see the new community center at Moon Lake Baptist Church. Light refreshments. 3–5pm. 4671 AL Highway 117, Mentone

September 8—Fall Arts Kick-off/ Mentone Arts & Cultural Center. The event will feature entertainment and showcase new art in the gallery, which is located at 5951 Ala. Hwy 117, Mentone. 10am–4pm.

September 8—Mentone Movie Night. Enjoy "Southern Heart", filmed in Mentone, at the Mentone Inn Pavilion. Free music featuring Jerry & Pixie Bloom at 6 p.m. Movie starts after dusk - around 7:30 p.m. Free popcorn, no charge for the movie. Sponsored by Mentone Realty and the Mentone Inn.

September 8—Plant Identification Walk.

"Forest Discover Walk" was one of my first classes I did for Desoto State Park back in 2014, it has been an ever-evolving class with new plants and information. This walk is what it says, a discovery of all the great plants that are in DeSoto State Park and their potential uses. Over the years, my walks have always lasted one to two hours, usually the latter. We will start on time but we will walk as long as there is interest, something to talk about, and nature lets us. Even though this is a "Plant" Discover Walk, it may not be limited to just plants. In truth, this is a discover walk of all things and given enough time and distance walked, who knows what we will find or see. 256-997-5025.

September 9—Dedication of George & Arlene Fowler Center at Moon Lake Baptist Church. 3pm. Light refreshments. 4671 AL Highway 117, Mentone.

September 10—Community Meeting: Moon Lake School. Moon Lake Community Library hosts Moon Lake Principal Mary Lance, who will discuss the vision and the needs of the school. 5:30pm. Children are welcome. Light refreshments. Email moonlakecommunitylibrary@yahoo.com with any questions.

September 11—Moon Lake School PTO Meeting & Title I Community Meeting. 5pm. Moon Lake School, Mentone.

September 12—Bingo. Free lunch included. 9–11am. Wills Valley Rec. Center.

September 13—Basic Sewing Skills. If you've always wondered how to sew on a button, or make a simple hem, this is a great opportunity to learn these simple skills. Cheryl Wilborn will have fabric to practice on. Feel free to bring an item that needs basic mending, and Cheryl will teach you how to mend it yourself. 3pm. Free. Moon Lake Community Library, Mentone.

September 15—Mexican Train Dominoes. Learn to play this fun game at Moon Lake Community Library. 10am. moonlakelibrary.org.

September 15—Boom Days 5K/Fun Run by Three Arts Club. Come enjoy

a Saturday filled with fun. We will be hosting our annual 5K walk/run and a fun run for the kids! The course is through the City of Fort Payne and down several side streets. Your family can cheer you on and then enjoy our annual Boom Days celebration with various art vendors, entertainment, food and lots of fun for the kids. Prizes will be awarded to the overall 5k winners. Our 5k will begin at 8am with the fun run immediately following. Register online now at racesonline.com/events/fort-payne-three-arts-club-boom-days-5k.

September 14 & 15—Boom Days Heritage Celebration. Art, music, and fun in Fort Payne! See boomdays.com.

September 15—Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-in. A family fun event featuring a cruise-in, children activities, food, art show, and live entertainment! Gault Avenue in Downtown Fort Payne is closed from 1st-5th Streets for the event. A car cruise-in, music, and other entertainment will take place throughout the event as well. 5–9pm. Contact Amelia at 256-996-3857 or Terry at 256-996-2668.

September 15–16—Guided Backpacking Trip: Overnight Survival. Learn the basic survival skills needed to survive in the wilderness (don't worry, this trip you will have your backpacking gear to fall back on!). Discover important skills related to survival to include shelter building, water pasteurization, core temperature control, rescue, medicinal and edible plants, and other skills you need to know to help you survive in the woods—skills everyone should have. Hiking is moderate, about a mile one-way to a backpacking campsite in DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne. Check-in 8am on 9/15, Check-out 12pm on 9/16. Meet at DeSoto's Nature Center, next to the Country Store on County Road 89. \$75 per person; includes all equipment. You will need to provide your food. If you want to register as a family call for special prices. Discounts if you have your own backpacking equipment. Pre-registration is required, as class size is limited. Have questions? Call 209-559-0040 or email Robert Wilson (Seven Pines Survival) for more details: sps@sevenpinessurvival.com.

September 2018 Community Calendar

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

September 19—MERF Senior Lunch.

MERF Community House, Mentone.
11:30am.

September 20—Papa Joe's Coffee House: Low Country Boil & Concert with Terry Hutcheson.

Dig into some great food and relax to music by Terry Hutcheson. The show is free, even if you don't purchase a meal. Tables and chairs will be provided. \$15 a plate; all proceeds will go to Episcopal Relief and Development. The menu will include fresh shrimp, country sausage, potatoes, corn on the cob, spicy grits, slaw, homemade desserts, and beverages. Purchase dinner tickets at the Mentone Market, Tiger's Inn in Valley Head, or by calling St. Joseph's at 256-634-4476. 5–7pm. Mentone Inn Pavilion and Lawn. In case of rain, dinner and music will move to the St. Joseph's Parish Hall.

September 21—Paperweight Class. This class is designed for those who really just want to see what molten glass is all about. Feel the heat, gather from the furnace, sculpt the glass into your own design. Please join us for some in-depth discovery at Orbix Hot Glass. Reservations required. \$145/person. 12–4pm. 256-523-3188.

September 21—DeSoto State Park Campfire Talks: A World in Miniature: Lichens.

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. Lichens cover 6% of the earth's surface and there are around 20,000 known species. They are capable of growing on any surface that is stable and sufficiently well-lit to allow photosynthesis; they grow on rocks, tree bark, branches, on top of other lichens and mosses and also on the soil surface. Lichens are found on every continent on earth, including Antarctica. Join lepidopterist and photographer, Vitaly Charny, naturalist and co-author of 'Butterflies of Alabama' to learn about the many species of lichens that can be found in Alabama. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 7–8pm. DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne. 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.

September 22—Moon Lake Library Book Club.

Come prepared to discuss the book, "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society" with fellow book lovers. 10:30am. Moon Lake Community Library, Mentone. moonlakelibrary.org.

September 22—Yoga on the Mountain.

Start your morning off right with Dee Brown. Classes are held from 8–9am at DeSoto State Park. Cost is \$5. To register, contact 256-634-8370.

September 22—Campfire Talks:

Butterflies of Alabama. 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. Join lepidopterist and photographer, Vitaly Charny, co-author of 'Butterflies of Alabama' to learn about the many species of butterflies in the great state of Alabama. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 7–8pm. DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne. 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.

September 23—Block Print Class with Meg Justice.

Learn the basics of block printing from local artist and printmaker Meg T. Justice of Bee Spring Studio. Presented by Little River Arts Council. Be inspired by fall's beauty as you create your personal design. The ability to draw is not required, though; patterns will be available to use, if you choose. All ink is water-soluble, eco-friendly, and should not stain, but please wear old clothes that you don't mind getting dirty, just in case. Participants will take home 5 handprinted greeting cards with envelopes from your own hand carved design. You will keep your carved block so you can print more of your own creation at home. 3–5pm. \$25 includes supplies. Pre-registration is required. Class is limited to 5 students. Email

info@info@littleriverartscouncil.org.

September 24—"Resurrecting Elvis"

Author Talk with Mike Burrell. In his talk, entitled, "Resurrecting Elvis", Mike will read a selection from his newly-released book, "The Land of Grace", to acquaint readers with the book's narrative voice. After a short synopsis, he'll tell the eerie true story that inspired the book and talk about how he rescued the story from the graveyard of failed novels. The author will have books for sale and will be glad to sign them. Light refreshments will be served. There is no charge for this program. Moon Lake Community Library, Mentone. 6:30pm. Email moonlakecommunitylibrary@yahoo.com with any questions.

September 24–29—DeKalb County VFW Agricultural Fair.

Rides on the midway, great food, live entertainment, livestock exhibits, agricultural displays, awards, and so much more. Held at the VFW Fairgrounds, Fort Payne. Gates open at 5pm. 256-845-4752.

August 25—Sacred Harp Singing. DeKalb County Council on Aging, 600 Tyler Ave. SE, Fort Payne. 6:30–8:30pm. 256-845-8590.

September 25—Community Paint Class.

4–6pm. Moon Lake School, Mentone.

September 26—MERF Senior Lunch.

MERF Community House, Mentone.
11:30am.

September 28—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.

September 29—Yoga on the Mountain.

Start your morning off right with Dee Brown. Classes are held from 8–9am at DeSoto State Park. Cost is \$5. To register, contact 256-634-8370.

September 29—Plein Air Paint Out at DeSoto Falls.

Pack up your paints and brushes and meet fellow plein air artists for a fun day at DeSoto Falls. Sponsored by Little River Arts Council. Painting will

begin at 9am. A reception will be held at Mentone Inn Pavilion at 4:30pm. There is no fee for this event. For details and registration, visit littleriverartscouncil.org.

September 29—Valley Head Cemetery 'In Memory of...' 5K Walk/Run and Fun Run.

Come run or walk through the 128-year-old grounds of the cemetery. The course will loop runners through the cemetery, then out and back along Carmichael Road. The 5K begins at 8 a.m. A Fun Run will immediately follow the 5K. Register online at racesonline.com by September 8 to guarantee a t-shirt. Online registration closes September 15. Race day registration will be available from 7–7:30am. The fee for the 5K Run/Walk is \$25; \$20 for the Fun Run; \$15 for a t-shirt only. All proceeds will be used for upkeep and maintenance on the cemetery. Valley Head Cemetery is located on AL Highway 177 at Carmichael Road. For more information, contact Sherryl at 256-657-1616 or sherryllewis62@yahoo.com. Visit facebook.com/valleyheadcemetery5K.

September 29—Cruisin' for the Kids.

A poker run with stops at local scenic destinations. Proceeds go to the Children's Advocacy Center. 10am registration, 11am kickstand up. \$20 per bike, \$5 for passengers. Food available at the end of ride. Everyone is welcome. Event is not only for bike riders. Ride starts at the CAC Center at 104 Alabama Ave in Fort Payne. Come out and support our local CAC. No alcohol please. For more information contact the CAC or Capt. Morgan 256-630-3072.

September 29 & 30—Plant Discovery Walk.

Join Robert Wilson for a short nature hike around the boardwalk area identifying some common plants. This is a short basic plant identification class with some basic info about medicinal, edible, and utilitarian uses. It is suggested to bring a camera and notebook. Meet in DeSoto State Park Country Store & Information Center. 9am–12pm. Free & open to everyone. 256-997-5025.



Charlotte Gentry
Broker/Owner
256-996-5995



Mentone Realty



Holly Watson-Houston
Assoc. BROKER®
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Melody Sellers
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Welcome To Mentone



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

LOTS and LAND

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)

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)

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)

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)

FREE OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, September 8.
Music at 6,
Movie at 7:30.
"Southern Heart"
presented by
Mentone Realty and
Mentone Inn.



MID-CENTURY MODERN MEETS MOUNTAIN SIMPLICITY ON COOL STREET. This one-owner, single-level cottage is quite plain on the outside, simply delightful on the inside! Great location, too. Just a couple blocks from Mentone's Brow Park, just a couple blocks from dining & browsing Mentone's little shops. Built by local stone/block artisan Lee Crow, this place is virtually unchanged from its beginnings in 1962. Beautiful, wood-burning, mountain stone fireplace is central to LR/DR/KIT areas. Vaulted wood ceilings throughout. And, this place includes additional lots on Scenic Dr for privacy or future building projects. Yes, it needs some updating & TLC, but this is a sweet opportunity. \$175,000 (1100784)



JUST WHAT YOU'VE BEEN SEEKING! Mini farm. Barn w/2 stalls & large tack room; small, spring-fed pond (well-stocked w/fish); 4.56 acres, fenced & cross-fenced, with approx 3 acres of pasture. 24'x40', 3-car "dutch barn"-style garage, with large storage room overhead (future apartment?) & great workshop area. 4-stall pole barn for vehicles, tractors, etc. Small outbuilding for storage or gardening shed. 3BR/2BA farm house has original pine floors, country kitchen, mini-split H/AC unit, attic storage. House has perfect elevation to enjoy sunset views from large front porch. Fruit trees, garden area, shade trees...an instant homeplace! Properties like this in Mentone are seldom for sale. \$165,000 (1100725)



MENTONE SWEETHEART! Here's your chance to own this sweet little 2BR/1BA cottage sitting on over an acre (with great garden spot and lotsa flower beds). A quiet street, a great location, a light and airy interior with new carpeting, new windows for natural light, mountain stonework inside & out. Wet-weather stream, split-rail fencing & quaint garden shed add to the charm. This one is a must see! \$83,000 (1086304)



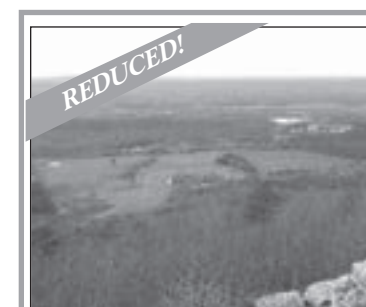
SIMPLY STUNNING. Cedar-sided cabin, perfectly-situated on 1.43 acres; level, shady yard & small woodland. The perfect pairing of simplicity & refined taste in a beautiful mountain home or getaway. 4BR/3BA; dining w/bay window; sun room; b'fast nook; library; Pella windows; hickory floors; wood-burning fireplace. Only a mile or so from downtown Mentone. \$269,500 (1101468)



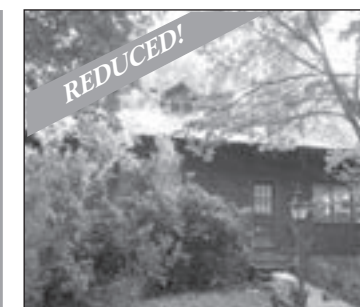
SOMETHING TRULY SPECIAL. Lovely, 3BR/2BA, custom brick home on 50 rolling acres, mostly pasture, fenced and cross-fenced with two stocked ponds (one is spring-fed); large shop; barns; feed lot; garden area with tall, chain-link fence, and so much more. Fabulous kitchen with granite counters, lots of cabinets and two pantries. Beautiful hardwood floors; 10' ceilings; spacious laundry/sewing room w/office area; cozy and inviting sunroom den. A place where you find that perfect combination of elegance and homey comfort. Home has partially-finished upstairs to create whatever space you find yourself needing. 3-car, attached garage with lots of storage. Winding drive with meadow views. \$685,000 (1067586)



"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)



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, compactor, 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)



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)

Cloudland News • by Pat Johnson

Cloudland Community Park is having its annual Burning Leaf Festival on October 27 at Cloudland Park. It will run from 9 a.m. (Eastern time) until 3 p.m. There will be craft vendors, music, games, and food. If you are interested in being a vendor or performing at the festival, please email your interest to cloudlandcommunitypark@yahoo.com. We hope to see you there!

Cloudland Park invited vendors to set up in the park during the 400-mile yard sale the first weekend in August. There were many vendors who took part and it turned out very well for everyone. This may become an annual activity for the park.

Most mornings there are walkers on the park's walking track and anyone is welcome to join them. The walking track is about 1/4 mile. The park also has two tennis courts and a wonderful playground with swings, slides, etc., for children. This is a community park and everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the facilities. It is also for rent by the day for family or special gatherings. Email cloudlandcommunitypark@yahoo.com or call Maggie Johnson at 706-862-3040 for information.

As planned, the money the park has raised through the July Fun Run and the Burning Leaf Festival has allowed the renovation of one of the bathrooms, and allowed the purchase of more picnic tables, railing and trash cans. Hopes are that future improvements will include renovating the kitchen. We encourage everyone to come support our activities and enjoy our lovely park.



Boom Days Heritage Celebration September 14 & 15 Fort Payne

The Boom Days Heritage Celebration, Fort Payne's annual art and music festival, invites citizens of Fort Payne to take a second look at their past and the heritage passed down to them through the arts and crafts of our area. Dozens of the South's finest visual artists and traditional craftsmen will be featured, as well as dozens of the area's most talented musical groups.

Four blocks of the city's downtown district will be closed to traffic while art shows occupy Alabama Park and City Park, and a variety of music will flow from four outdoor stages. Downtown merchants will operate sidewalk sales, and cultural and historical displays will be mounted at the Fort Payne Culture & Heritage Center and the Depot Museum.

For details, including the musical line-up, visit boomdays.com.

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318 Brow Drive, Menlo, GA 30731
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“Resurrecting Elvis”

Author Talk with Mike Burrell • by Kelly Leavitt



Author Mike Burrell at Graceland's iconic gate

Moon Lake Community Library is pleased to host Mike Burrell for an Author Talk on Monday, September 24, at 6:30 p.m. In his talk, entitled, “Resurrecting Elvis”, Mike will read a selection from his newly-released book, *The Land of Grace*, to acquaint readers with the book’s narrative voice. After a short synopsis, he’ll tell the eerie true story that inspired the book and talk about how he rescued the story from the graveyard of failed novels.

What’s the story about? The book’s publisher, University of West Alabama, calls it “a wild roller coaster ride through the land of an insane Elvis cult. “When a beautiful young woman takes Elvis

impersonator Doyle Brisendine to a replica of Graceland, he first thinks he’s landed in some kind of amusement park staffed with actors playing characters from Elvis’ life, including some of Elvis’s relatives, the Memphis Mafia, and an impersonator who looks like Elvis in his last days. But Doyle quickly learns that he’s in the midst of a zealous cult built around the worship of the King, led by a ruthless high priestess called Mama. Since childhood, Doyle has secretly dreamed of being Elvis. Soon he’ll have to decide if he’s willing to pay a very high price to become the King of Rock and Roll.”

Pinckney Benedict, author of *Miracle Boy*, *Town Smokes*, and *Dogs of God*, a New York Times Notable Book, calls *The Land of Grace* “a terrific comic novel, a kind of *Confederacy of Dunces* for the Elvis crowd. Beneath the pompadour and the ashy jumpsuits and the great good humor of its prose, there’s remarkably serious commentary here.” Naeem Murr, author

of *A Perfect Man* and winner of The Commonwealth Writers’ Prize says, “It’s almost impossible to put down this...impressive and compulsively readable novel.” *Kirkus Reviews* says, “Overall, the book artfully asks probing questions about the basic human need for mythology of whatever kind and about the point at which the tensile cord of innocent fascination snaps. An intoxicating tale that’s simultaneously gaudy and exquisite.”

Mike Burrell is a native of DeKalb County, Alabama and a graduate of Valley Head High School, Jacksonville State University, The Birmingham School of Law, and Queens University of Charlotte,

where he earned an MFA in creative writing. His short fiction has appeared in: *Still: The Journal*, *Southern Humanities Review*, *The MacGuffin*, and the Livingston Press anthology, *Climbing Mt. Cheaha: Emerging Alabama Writers*. *The Land of Grace* is his first published novel.

The author will have books for sale and will be glad to sign them. Light refreshments will be served. There is no charge for this program. Moon Lake Community Library is located at 4607 AL Highway 117 in Mentone. Email moonlakecommunitylibrary@yahoo.com with any questions.

Mentone Area Homeschool Group

by Angela Hadley

Local families are welcome to attend an informational meeting of the newly formed Mentone Area Homeschool Group. Our mission is to create a supportive group setting to enhance a child-led and parent-facilitated environment for socialization, academic enrichment, and group activities. This group is open to homeschool families of all types in Mentone and the surrounding areas, regardless of homeschooling styles or religious preferences.

Join us for an informational meeting of the Mentone Area Homeschool Group on Friday, September 7, from 4 until 5 p.m. at Moon Lake Community Library (4607 AL Highway 117, Mentone). Special activities will be offered to the children, and light refreshments will be served. There is no fee to join. This is also a great opportunity to explore the resources the library offers homeschool students. Email mentonehomeschool@gmail.com for more information.



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Introduction to Block Printing WITH Meg T. Justice

In this introductory workshop on Sunday, September 23, from 3–5 p.m., participants will learn the basics of block printing from local artist and printmaker Meg T. Justice of Bee Spring Studio. Be inspired by fall's beauty as you create your personal design. The ability to draw is not required; patterns will be available to use, if you choose. All ink is water-soluble, eco-friendly, and should not stain, but please wear old clothes that you don't mind getting dirty, just in case.

Participants will take home five handprinted greeting cards with envelopes from your own hand-carved design. You will keep your carved block so you can print more of your own creation at home. The cost is \$25, which includes supplies. Since we will be handling sharp tools, the minimum age is 13 years. Safety will be highlighted. The class is limited to five students, so sign up early by emailing info@littleriverartscouncil.org.

This workshop will be held at Moon Lake Community Library in Mentone. It is presented by Little River Arts Council. Visit littleriverartscouncil.org.

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.

Lynn Hixson is the SHIP counselor at the DeKalb County Council on Aging.



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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.

Pastor Mike Ellis and the **Moon Lake Baptist Church** family invite you to a very special weekend celebration for our church and community. On Saturday, September 8, from 1–3pm, we will hold an open house for the "George and Arlene Fowler Youth Center." We look forward to meeting you and showing you around our new building. It is our desire to use this building for our church and community to impact the lives of children and their families. A dedication service will be held on Sunday, September 9 at 3pm. There will be special music, testimonies, a prayer of dedication and light refreshments for all who attend. 4671 Alabama Highway 117. Contact Pastor Mike at Mikels-STCL@gmail.com.

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 Bunnel.

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.

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 ENJOY SUNRISE & SUNSET VIEWS in this cozy Mentone home located on Scenic Hwy. Open family room, dining and kitchen. Call for appointment today! \$299,900. MLS #1069365	 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	 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. \$323,900. MLS#1048899.	 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	 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	 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
 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	 3.3 ACRES of historic property in the heart of Mentone. Starting at \$325,000. Call for details. MLS #1045206	 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	 REDUCED 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	 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
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LOTS and LAND

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

#1027934—Lot on River Lane. \$29,900.

#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.

#1076577—Lot 6, Hunter's Ridge. **REDUCED TO \$13,900.**

#1078002—Brow view, 4.4 acres. **REDUCED TO \$125,000.**

#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

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A River Runs Through It

by Kelly Leavitt



Sketch by Brittney Hughes

DeSoto State Park (DSP) recently became an artists' workshop for an exciting project that's actively in the works. Earlier this year, DSP Naturalist Brittney Hughes conceived the idea of installing an ambitious public art project at DeSoto Falls, transforming the plain cement stairs leading to the viewing platform into a mosaic work of art.

Picture this: You're standing at the bottom of the long flight of steps at DeSoto Falls, looking up to the top of the steps. On each of the 43 'risers' is a mosaic of colorful stained glass pieces—each riser is a separate piece of art, but seen collectively they create a design that is pleasing to the eye. Brittney's design will feature the West Fork of Little River flowing down the length

of the steps, and a quote by John Muir in the middle of the design: "Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul."

The evolution of Brittney's idea has been made possible thanks to the dedication of glass artists Linda Munoz and Jane Nuckolls, who have dedicated many hours to the planning, logistics, and execution of the project to date. Little River Arts Council has also supported this project with a financial donation to purchase supplies, and Kay Stone from Auburn University's Museum of Natural History has donated seven boxes of scrap mosaic glass to the project.

The step riser project will be done using the mesh technique, which will allow the project to be mobile so that anyone can get an opportunity to work on the design. A series of 'design days' will be planned this fall in different locations where the community is invited to work on the risers and inspire a sense of 'ownership' in the project. Participants of all ages can work on the project and will learn the process of cutting and attaching the glass safely.

The technique incorporates 'tile mesh', which is cut to the size of each riser (and no, none of the risers are the same size!). As the accompanying photos show, pieces of plywood have been cut to support the mesh and serve as the foundation for the glass work to proceed. The riser design is drawn on each board, plastic wrap is then laid on top of the wood, and the mesh taped down on top of the plastic. The mosaic glass will then be glued onto the mesh, and the plastic will allow the mesh to be removed from the board on installation day at DeSoto Falls. The mesh will be attached to each riser with mastic, and once dry will be grouted into place.

The 'design days' will be announced in this paper and at ALAPARK.com/desotoresort and littleriverartscouncil.org. If you would like to be placed on the contact/volunteer list for this project, contact Brittney Hughes at 256-997-5025 or email brittney.hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov. If anyone would like to make a financial donation specifically to this project, email info@littleriverartscouncil.org.



The creation of the river begins, using pieces of mosaic glass in shades of blue and green.



Artists Barbara Umland, Linda Munoz and Jane Nuckolls begin the project by cutting glass and getting the boards ready for the mesh.

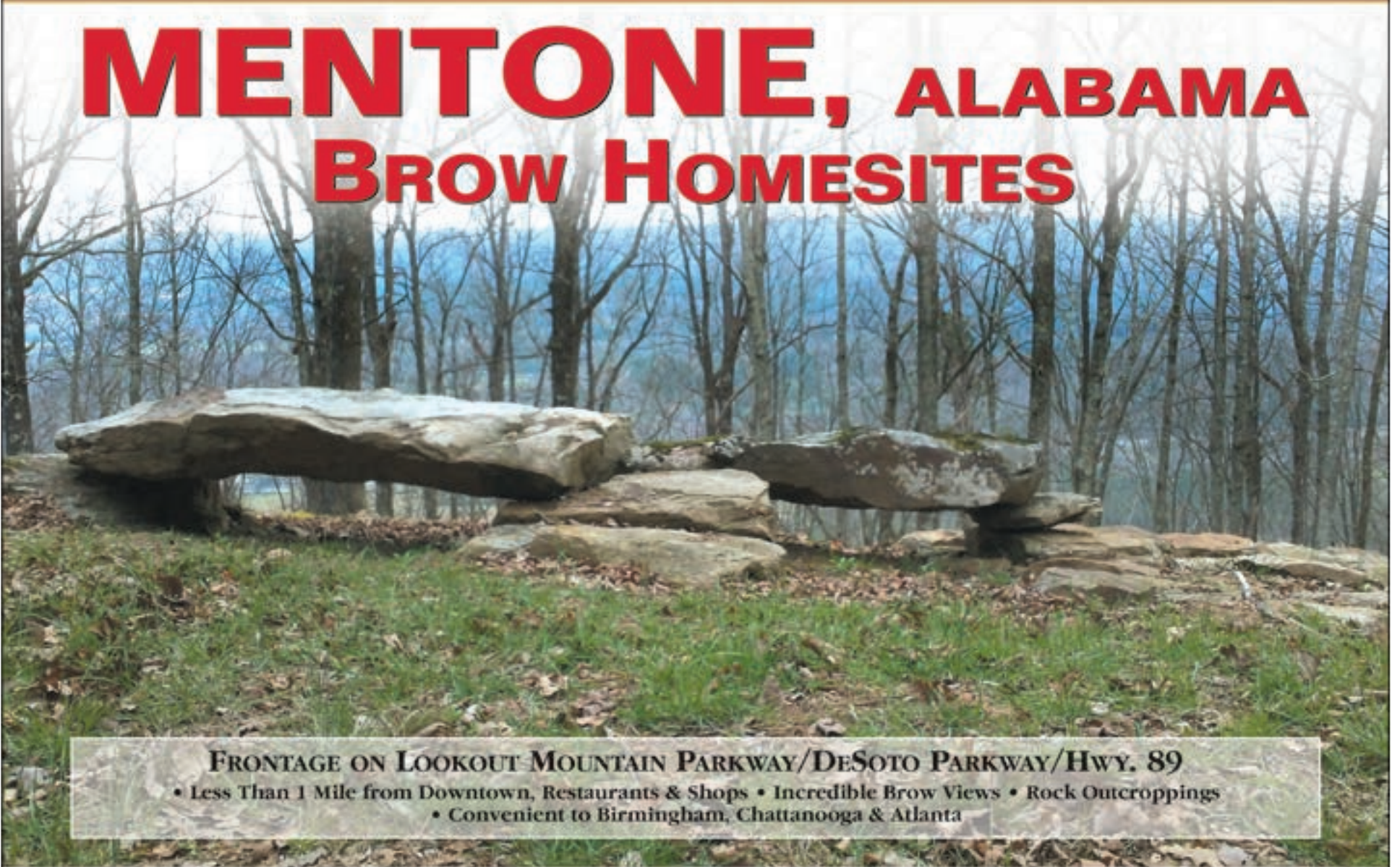
Moon Lake Students Dig In!

Plants 'R Us' is the name the students at Moon Lake School have chosen to call their new greenhouse. They've been enjoying learning about the greenhouse, and now they're also learning about plants. Students recently planted mums, ferns, and pansies which will be available for sale to the community. Orders for mums were recently taken (the deadline has passed). Pansies will be sold this fall, and the ferns will be sold in the spring. All proceeds will benefit the school.



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