In the June issue of The Groundhog, regular readers will recall a sweet story of the romance between Jim and Dallyne Tilley Jones, of Mentone. The piece was written by their daughter, Sharon Jones Harris. In her story, an old covered bridge in Mentone was a major player. The date of its collapse, June 23, 1945, also happened to be the date chosen by her parents to elope; that’s not a date many would forget. The couple eventually did marry, but not that day.

While many folks around here are not aware there ever was a covered bridge in Mentone, Sharon Harris’ story and the still visible remains of the bridge make clear that there indeed was such a structure. In fact, in the Mentone area, over the years, there have been three!

First, some background. Covered bridges have been around for centuries. They offered protection from the elements to pedestrians, and helped control the tendency of horses to “shy” when crossing high places and water. If the bridge had solid sides and the horses were unaware they were crossing a river or stream, they stayed calm. Covered bridges frequently served as places for local communities to hold dances and other social functions. But primarily they were covered to protect the bridge itself from deterioration by the elements. In the age before treated wood was available, ordinary wood had a tendency to rot, crack, or sag in 15 years or less. But covered bridges could last for decades. It isn’t known when Alabama’s first covered bridge appeared, but the first one constructed in America is said to be the 1789 bridge near Swanzey, New Hampshire. In her book Covered Bridges Today, Brenda Krekler estimates that there were once 12,000 in the United States alone.

The three covered bridges that were located around Mentone were the Mason Bridge, mentioned above; a bridge near Alpine Camp for Boys near present County Road 165; and, the Old Union Bridge, located near River Park, 1931.

Moon Lake School Map Gets a New Coat

The students at Moon Lake School will return this August to a brightly colored map in their front yard. Ten years ago, Jeb Bunch originally painted a large map of the United States at the school as his Eagle Scout project. Since then, time has taken its toll, and some of the states became hardly visible.

Little River Arts Council (LRAC) board member Paula Tally brought this to the attention of the LRAC board, and everyone immediately agreed to take this on as a group project. As luck would have it, when we told Moon Lake fine arts teacher Paula Easter about our plan, she told us the theme of her curriculum for the next school year is “Road Trip U.S.A.!”

First, we outlined the states in chalk, using existing visible boundaries and sometimes referring to an atlas. (I think we were all surprised by how large Alaska is.) We bought traffic marking paint and mapped out the colors. We watched the weather forecast and coordinated when we could meet. It was a wonderful bonding experience for the board, and everyone feels fulfilled by the result.

The school’s circular asphalt drive has other games — such as four-square, hopscotch, and
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) non-profit corporation.

MAPA BOARD
Joe Piscatelli, Acting President
Susan Seago, Treasurer
LC Moon, Parliamentarian
Holley Midgley
Domenic Fulginiti

GROUNDOUGH STAFF
Kelly Leavitt, Editor/Design

JULY CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Paula Easter, Randy Grider, Lynn Hixson, Rob Hammond, Pat Johnson, Tara Kirby, Kelly Leavitt, Holley Midgley, L.C. Moon, Bill Shugart, Susan Seago, Mellanie Tuttle, Sarah Wilcox

Contact The Groundhog
mapamentone.com/groundhog
groundhognews@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984
256-465-1107

Contact MAPA
mapamentone.com
mapamentone@gmail.com
P.O. Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984

Do you have a story idea? Perhaps a poem or recipe? We welcome contributions! Email groundhognews@yahoo.com

Learn about the History of Mentone

Mentone Matters • by Mayor Rob Hammond

A special referendum election will be held July 17. Voters will mark their ballots either yes or no to this question: Do you favor the sale of alcoholic beverages within the community development district for off-premise consumption?

Voters must reside within the town limits of Mentone. Absentee ballots will be available at Town Hall. Voting will be at Town Hall. The town council is in favor of a yes vote. The sale of alcoholic beverages for off-premise consumption will boost local businesses and the town will be able to capture tax dollars that have been going out-of-state.

Clearing the right-of-way on the side of the mountain on AL 117 will begin soon. Residents along 117 have a little more time to maintain the right-of-way before ALDOT begins cutting back foliage in town.

Letter from the Editor

Mentone is largely regarded for its beauty, with a sense of peace that is too-often unique in this 21st century world. This tiny town has been a “destination” since its earliest days, when folks would come for the healing qualities of the old springs. There’s a lot to love about the area. For more than a century, visitors have come to enjoy the cooler mountain breezes during the summertime. Little River beckons with its beauty; swimming, kayaking, canoeing, and fishing are popular ways to enjoy the river. Mentone’s neighbors are a state park and a national preserve, so visitors have easy access to world-class hiking, rock climbing, and rappelling. The views to the east and west afford spectacular views of the sun and moon rising and setting — and at night, we’re just a little closer to the stars.

On weekends, downtown Mentone is often bustling with visitors at the shops and restaurants. This can be fun for both visitors and residents. But it’s definitely a seasonal thing, and sometimes shop owners see little activity. (When an Alabama or Auburn football game is on TV, it can feel like a ghost town!) Most shops are not open during the early part of week, and visitors sometimes feel disappointed. These visitors enjoy shopping, as an activity. But, at least for now, Mentone is not that kind of town. It’s actually a town that offers respite from activity.

When the topic of growth in Mentone comes up in conversation among local residents, usually people say, “I don’t want it to become another Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge.” Then they say, “I like Mentone just the way it is.”

Mentone is a place for visitors to experience “retreat” (and sometimes that takes a period of acclimation). It is a place to enjoy the simplicity of sitting on a porch’s rocking chair or swing...or lying in a hammock, watching the trees and sky...or soaking up the view from a hot tub on the brow. In short, Mentone is a place to do “no-thing”...a place to not “do”, but “be”.

Local residents appreciate the simplicity of life Mentone offers. When we turn from the distraction of the television, cell phone, or internet, and turn to a book, a blank canvas, our garden, making music, and visiting friends, life is good. It’s hard to feel bored.

For such a small town, we generally have lots of weekend activities to be entertained by, whether in Mentone or nearby Fort Payne. Concerts, workshops, and seasonal arts and crafts festivals are often offered by local organizations, and DeSoto State Park schedules a full slate of activities.

During the week, though, things slow down. Our greatest opportunity is to follow suit, remembering the simplicity of days past, listening to the song of birds and frogs and crickets, watching the magical dance of fireflies, cooking a healthful meal, floating on the river, or engaging our own creativity.

This is the town local residents have created. People who visit or move to the area sometimes have ideas of how “Mentone can be better.” If and when residents want change, they will create it. It is theirs to implement. In the meantime, I wish you all the peace of Mentone.

— Kelly Leavitt
Mentone Area Preservation Association • by L. C. Moon

It has been a glorious spring in Mentone. As I write this, we are in the midst of the summer solstice. The light of the fireflies, the songs of the birds from dawn til dusk, blooms bursting and the temperate rain storms are creating a peaceful heaven on earth upon Lookout Mountain in Alabama.

MAPA is grateful to be a caretaker of this beautiful landscape and community. As always, we, as a board, encourage you to engage us with any ideas for projects or grants to keep the love and magic alive and present in Mentone. Grant applications can be found at mapamentone.com.

If you have ideas or are interested in being on the board, please contact us at mapamentone@gmail.com.

L.C. Moon is the parliamentarian of the Mentone Area Preservation Association.

Over twenty-five years ago,

I discovered Mentone. I can’t remember how I came across the idea. My family consisted of six: myself, my wife, and our four children, who were at that time mostly teenagers. After some discussion, we made plans to visit and found a special place. For a number of years, we made annual trips to the area enjoying both sightseeing, hiking, and rest from the daily rigors of work and school. Also, over the years, we spent time there as a couple for our anniversary getaway.

Sadly, through no fault of our own, we experienced a devastating automobile accident. This caused economic troubles, along with ongoing physical limitations. We were no longer able to travel easily or to even afford to spend for vacations. This year, after not making a visit there for 12 years, we had some recovery of health and money. We also approached our 40th anniversary. Mentone had been so special to us that over the years I had kept the contact information for the agent we had used. Happily, I found her still active and she even had records documenting our visits there. Soon I had arranged a nice surprise getaway for my wife. However, like any good and considerate husband, I was compelled to tell my wife about the pending trip. This was not only to impress her that I had remembered, but also so that we could plan to be away from our home and our 2 sons for a time. There are still considerable things that must be tended and we would need to ask extra of them.

Fortunately for us, we live reasonably close to Mentone, as we are also in Alabama. We are, however, still about 200 miles apart. One of the great things about our state is the variety of land. We live on the north edge of the Black Belt in west Alabama where the hills are beginning to settle into the mostly flats of central Alabama. Perhaps that is why we love the views of the mountains, even in early summer. Because of this, we refused to drive on the Interstate System on our way. We enjoyed the side roads and the interesting things we observed along the way. It did cost us a little over 30 minutes in drive time, but that is nothing compared to the traffic we would have faced otherwise. Also, the frantic pace of the driving on the major highways always makes a person develop an attitude of rush, compete, and then, if you can, survive. We never liked that.

We came into town and found a few changes in the look, but the people we found were as friendly as ever. We enjoyed the Farmer’s Market and some interaction about town. We went back to the city park on the brow and found it as enjoyable as in our memory. It made us envy the people who lived nearby. We spent the majority of our time at a cabin ‘on the brow’. We found the road improved and the view unspoiled. I don’t know if it is just a sad fact or a reflection on our home area, but we had better coverage for our phone than we do at home. We had no smart phones back in the earlier visits, so I was a bit concerned about what we would find. One day we didn’t start the engine of our ride. We walked along the property and on the roadside identifying plants. There were numerous ones in bloom. The orange blossoms of the butterfly bush were especially noted as being in prime condition. We came across a few that we could not identify immediately. However, we didn’t come to labor over such things, just to enjoy the area and ourselves. We did make a venture down into the Little River Canyon. It was as unsullied as we remembered.

Thanks to all of the people who labor to keep the area a restful and pleasant place.

- Tony and Patricia Tilley, Reform, AL
The Rhododendron Garden Club met on June 12 at the Boy Scout House. Hostess Brenda Cox served a delicious Fruit Pizza — chocolate cookie covered in sour cream icing and topped with blueberries, strawberries and peaches. Yum! The meeting was called to order, followed by the pledge to the flag and the meditation given by Madelon David. Quotes by William Kent, Gertrude Stein, David Hobson, Alfred Austin, and Claude Monet all gave their perspective on gardening. The one that brought laughter was by Rudyard Kipling, “Gardens are not made by singing, ‘Oh, how beautiful,’ and then sitting in the shade.” Oh, if that were only true!

During roll call, members named plants in their yard which would yield seeds for sharing. Coneflowers, Columbine, Moneyplant and Sunflowers were mentioned. Members were also supposed to bring seeds for sharing, but only Rhea Pirch shared Velvet Sunflower seeds that produce a dazzling deep red flower. We welcomed guest Barbara Umland and hope she will be joining the club and sharing her artistic talents with us. (Her painting was "122 Container Gardening Ideas", providing gorgeous photos for plant combinations using tabletop, hanging, and free-standing containers in both modern and traditional designs. One plant in one pot is considered a container garden. Hostas and hydrangeas both enjoy container living, and in the pot become a feature plant. An advantage of containers is that they can be placed and moved for optimal sun exposure or shade. Tropical plants such as succulents or fruit trees that would not survive Mentone winters thrive through the summer and then need to be moved to a garage or basement to overwinter. Weeds, pests, and water are easily controlled. Sharon said that on one of the biggest "no-nos" for containers is over-watering.

On the mountain, with rock six inches below the dirt, containers can give the grower multiple options for growing vegetables, annuals, or perennials. She also shared photos of containers around her house. She groups containers of like style, colors to give unity. Finding containers that will not crack or break can be one of the hot items at the MERF auction this spring.) Treasurer, Horticulture, and Conservation Chairs were absent, so President Mellanie Tuttle read Dianne Kuehl’s treasurer’s report — dues all paid and still some money left in the bank — and Martha Wood’s horticulture report on “Native Woodies (trees) and the Moths and Butterflies They Support.” Oaks lead in the number of species with a whopping 555! She also provided a handout that listed butterflies and the flowers and plants they attract. Pollinators need nectar and host plants, so consider Dogwoods, Willows, Birches, Poplars, Crabapples, Maples, Hickories and Pines as well as annual and perennial plants for our Lepidopteran friends.

---

**“Matching people to the property of their dreams”**

**HEATHER NICELY**

**REALTOR®**

**Alabama • Georgia • Lookout Mountain**

256.276.8422

BelloraRealtors.com

hnicely11@gmail.com

---

**Discount Building Materials**

3630 Gault Ave. N.

Fort Payne, AL 35967

Business (256) 845-5475

Fax (256) 845-5475

www.dixiesalvage.com

---

The finest traditions of community banking

**First Fidelity Bank**

Fort Payne 256-845-1077

Rainsville 256-638-6342

Ider 256-657-6255

www.bankffb.com

Telephone Banking 800-436-5103

Member FDIC

“We’re more than bankers, we’re your neighbors and friends.”

---

Old and new business was discussed. The schedule is out for the fall flower show, so members will be gearing up for that. Now is the time to start thinking about which plants to enter for horticultural consideration. Annuals, bulbs, houseplants, and perennials must have been in exhibitors’ possession for 90 days and combination plantings like hanging baskets, terrariums, and dish gardens have a six-week timeline. It’s time to get those entries ready. This year’s goal would be for every member and master gardener in the area to enter at least one item in the Horticultural Division. Sad business is that Brenda Cox resigned as Secretary. We will miss her wit and enthusiasm for getting the club out into the community. With relief and thanksgiving, Rhea Pirch offered to step into the Secretary shoes.

Member Sharon Harris graced us with several handouts on container gardening. The Southern Living website offers “122 Container Gardening Ideas”, providing gorgeous photos for plant combinations using tabletop, hanging, and free-standing containers in both modern and traditional designs. One plant in one pot is considered a container garden. Hostas and hydrangeas both enjoy container living, and in the pot become a feature plant. An advantage of containers is that they can be placed and moved for optimal sun exposure or shade. Tropical plants such as succulents or fruit trees that would not survive Mentone winters thrive through the summer and then need to be moved to a garage or basement to overwinter. Weeds, pests, and water are easily controlled. Sharon said that one of the biggest “no-nos” for containers is over-watering.

On the mountain, with rock six inches below the dirt, containers can give the grower multiple options for growing vegetables, annuals, or perennials. She also shared photos of containers around her house. She groups containers of like style, colors to give unity. Finding containers that will not crack or break can be one of the biggest "no-nos" for containers is over-watering.

The RCG meets next month at the Boy Scout House at 10 a.m. on July 10. The program is a hands-on learning experience — all fun, no pressure. Foliage, flowers and containers will be provided, and instruction given, so that everyone will take home a finished design — flower show worthy! Last quotes: “A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust.” And finally, “The love of gardening is a seed once sown that never dies.” Think about Johnny Appleseed’s legacy…

_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._
June has been just as busy as a school month is for me. Some of you might remember that I am one of those people who likes to still be a "student" from time to time. In the first week of June, I had just that opportunity to once more be a student at the Woodruff Arts Center Education Conference in Atlanta. (Thank you MERF for sending me!) It was a wonderful conference, from keynote speakers to my individual classes. It was also nice to see my friend, Rosemary Newcott, and visit with her. Believe it or not, I came away from "Finding Home" (Rosemary’s workshop) with my ideas and plans for my classroom this year! There is just nothing like being in a class of other teachers, like yourself, fully devoted to the Fine Arts, wanting to enhance the lives of our young students. Yes, I came back from Atlanta ready to teach. (I bet if any of my students read that...they rolled their eyes.)

Through our 21st Century program at Moon Lake School, June has been full of wonderful opportunities for area students. Mrs. Lance, Mrs. Ballenger, and Ms. Prestwood have worked very hard planning lessons and field trips for students. I have enjoyed getting to have art classes with them. We have studied the ocean and its inhabitants, gone on an imaginary trip in the jungle with our cameras, enjoyed Larry Beane and DeSoto State Park, and can’t wait until the last week of June to visit the McWane Center in Birmingham.

For the last, I’m not sure, maybe five years, my summer begins in June with working at Camp Laney. Having raised boys, mine and others, I felt like I could conquer the Craft Cabin at Laney with ease. Right? Well…I’m still trying. The nearest thing is when from one year to the next, campers return to the Craft Cabin and they are as happy to see me as I am to see them. I have often felt like a “mom” figure to what I refer to as “Newbies” or “First Timers,” and I like to think that I sometimes bring comfort to one who might be a little homesick. Just recently, I had a little one who reminded me of kudzu as he stood next to me and said in my ear, “You smell like my mommy.” (I hope that was a good thing?) It is such a joy to work with Rob, San, and the rest of the Camp Laney gang.

Finally, I would like to brag on a rising third grade Moon Lake student who I’ve had the privilege of working with in voice and piano. On June 14, Addison Lee took the stage at Northeast Community College, representing Moon Lake Elementary in the “Singing with the Stars” contest sponsored by the DeKalb County Advocacy Center. She took the stage as the youngest contestant that they had ever had, and she did an outstanding job as she wowed the audience. I’m so very proud of this young lady. Well…it’s the end of June folks, what will July bring?

Colorfest is the 3rd weekend in October!
October 20-21

Call for Art & Craft Makers, Food Vendors, and Performers

- Applications for Art & Craft Makers and Food Vendors are available at mapamentone.com/colorfest2018-vendor-application.
- Spaces are $100 for a 12x12 area. Electricity and water are each an additional $25.
- Application deadline — August 28.
- Notification of acceptance — September 2.
- Applications for Performers will be available online July 25 at mapamentone.com.
- Application deadline — September 5
- Notification of acceptance — September 10.
- Applications will also be available in the August issue of The Groundhog.
- For additional questions, email MentoneColorfest@gmail.com.

The Lookout
Restaurant and Tea Room

All-You-Can-Eat Buffet $12.95

Don’t Forget Our
Low Country Boil and Peel & Eat Shrimp $25
AND
All-You-Can-Eat Catfish $15
with hush puppies, cole slaw & fries

ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIALS!

Hours (*Eastern)
Thursday & Friday 5–9pm*
Saturday 11am–2pm / 5–9pm*
Sunday Brunch/Lunch 11am–3pm*
706-862-3060
41 Atlanta Avenue, Cloudland, GA 30731
near flashing light on Hwy 48 @ Hwy 157

Valley Head Drugs

114 Commerce Avenue
Valley Head, AL 35989
256-635-6812

Cynthia and Wayne Wooten, Owners
“We appreciate your business”
What's keeping you cool as a cucumber this summer? The senior lunch bunch crew is keeping busy and cool gathering together and eating! On a stormy day, many braved the rain to join MERF for the first BYOL (buy your own lunch) of the summer at our ever faithful Tiger’s Inn. All who came enjoyed a choice of Judy’s famous meatloaf or chicken and rice, accompanied by a choice of veggies and a drink. And of course, the best part was the homemade banana pudding that cannot be turned down!

On June 14, the first art class taught by Paula Easter to the lunch crew was a great success. Mentone has artists all over, Paula talked to the group about the Freedom Riders and their artistic style, followed by how to produce a watercolor effect with pastels and baby oil. The table was covered with pastels of all colors and shapes, baby oil, cotton balls and Q-tips. Each artist produced a magnificent landscape. Some even morphed in front of our eyes from a house to a Mentone boulder. MERF and Paula hope to offer four summer art classes at the MERF house. The next one will focus on felting in July. If you want to join us, contact Sarah Wilcox.

After the fun art class, several more joined us for an ice cream social — pure joy with ice cream, chocolate sauce, sprinkles and a cherry on top. MERF is grateful for the support received from the community to fund Paula Easter for this summer and for another school year. She is ready for a road trip this year, so watch out. Sarah has been working on grants, too, to ensure at least partial support for the Moon Lake Elementary School students to see professional performances and to produce another book. Hopefully, the renovation of the MERF house will begin this summer. Fall will be here before we know it and the house needs to be ready for celebrating our community!

Sarah Wilcox is the “voice” of the MERF House. Mentone Educational Resources Foundation (MERF) is a local non-profit 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.
There’s a Balalaika in Mentone

by Kelly Leavitt

People can be so interesting, once you get to talking. Peggy Pullen is one of these people, and she has quite a story to claim. If you ever wondered how Mentone might be connected to Russia’s royal dynasty and the Bolshevik Revolution, Peggy is that connection.

She was born Peggy Tcherneshoff, daughter of Petr Ivanovich Cherneshov (Peter John Tcherneshoff) of St. Petersburg, Russia. Peter, his father, and uncle were upholsterers for Tsar Nicholas II. They lived and worked at the famed Winter Palace, where her grandfather was “head of furniture.” As revolutionary rumblings became evident, her father escaped to the United States in 1910.

“Anyone who worked with the tsar, whether you agreed with him or you didn’t — you were considered an enemy of the ones who were revolting and rebelling,” said Peggy. Her grandfather, Ivan Dmitrievich Cherneshov, was arrested in 1923 and executed. Her uncle, Mikhail Ivanovich, was executed, as well. “Aunt Elena, my father’s sister, died during the 1920 siege of St. Petersburg. They had arrested her and put her and her children in a concentration camp, where they starved to death,” Peggy recalled. “500,000 people starved to death. We don’t know what happened to my grandmother, but we figure she was executed.”

Peggy’s father travelled on a ship destined for Ellis Island in New York. He was 21 years old. “He’d stowed away, but they found him right away and put him to work on the ship,” said Peggy.

When young Peter arrived in New York, he was befriended by the Baird family of Denver. “Mr. Baird told Daddy, ‘I’ll take you to Denver and get you a job,’” said Peggy. “He gave Dad some land, where he tried to build a house, but all that would come up was black gook. It turns out that was oil, so he was in the oil business for a while, but got swindled out of all that because he trusted Americans.”

Peter eventually landed a job with the Ford Motor Company and travelled around the west until he transferred to Jacksonville, Florida, where he met Peggy’s mother, who hailed from Tennessee. They married in 1927 and had eight children, two of whom died as infants. In 1945, when Peggy was 8 years old, Peter died of cancer. “We spoke Russian for a while at home, but as Daddy got sicker and sicker, that stopped,” said Peggy. “Once he got sick, we didn’t use it as much, so we forgot it.”

Peggy had kept in touch with his relatives during his time in America. “Most of the letters that came to him from Russia were heavily censored. Things were marked out all through them,” said Peggy. “Once Daddy’s cancer got so bad, he stopped writing them. He thought it was kinder to not tell them about his cancer, and to just fade out of the picture.” His Russian relatives never knew what happened to him.

Being a young girl when he died, Peggy grew up with a simple understanding of her father’s past. As it turns out, modern technology was able to give her a much better understanding of his story.

In April, 2016, her niece, Rosemary, submitted a DNA sample to 23andME, and included the Tcherneshoff surname. Around the same time, a young man named Ivan Kuznetsov also submitted a sample, and 23andME informed the two of their possible familial relation. That changed everything.

“When Ivan found a picture in his grandmother’s archives and sent it to me,” Peggy recalled, “I knew he was family because it was a photo of my parents and eldest siblings. He also sent a photograph of my older sister, June, when she was about six months old.”

A jubilant reunion of the two families was in order, and, last December, 2017, Ivan, his 10-year-old son, Nikita, and his mother, Tatiana Kuznetsova, came to Mentone for a visit. Ivan was born and raised in St. Petersburg and now works for Google in California. Tatiana teaches physics at the university in St. Petersburg. She speaks very little English, so Ivan acted as translator. “He brought me a book called Caught in the Revolution,” said Peggy. “It starts in 1910 in Russia. It was kind of heartbreaking to read because I thought, ‘My family is going through this mess.’ It was awful.”

Peggy explained that “Tatiana’s mother, Antonia, is the reason that line survived. She was the daughter of my daddy’s brother, Mikhail. I believe that makes her my second cousin. I can’t figure relationships, because I never had them to figure!” She continued, “My uncle Mikhail sent Antonia to Finland when things got so bad in Russia. She received her training in medicine and returned to St. Petersburg when things settled down. She worked as a pediatrician until the day she died in 1993.”

After Peggy’s father died, the six children were sent to her mother’s sister and her husband because their mother was unable to care for them. The couple was eventually awarded legal custody of the children. Their uncle was a Baptist missionary, so they moved around a good bit; they lived in Powell Crossroads, Collinsville, Albertville, Pisgah, and Fort Payne.

(continued on page 11)
Mentone Arts & Cultural Center • by Randy Grider

Daniel Foundation, Kids’ Art Class and Clay States Concert

In May, the Daniel Foundation of Alabama awarded the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center (MACC) a $40,000 challenge grant. The grant matches dollar for dollar all donations made to MACC up to $40,000. The money raised will be used to build a permanent multi-use community arts center on the three and half acres of land donated to MACC.

The Daniel Foundation is one of Alabama’s most prestigious charitable foundations and has funded some of state’s most recognized organizations and noteworthy projects. In 2017, the Daniel Foundation was No. 3 on Alabama’s top givers list. Among its regular charities are: the McWane Science Center, Ronald McDonald House, Alabama Ballet, Teach for America, Children’s Harbor, Southern Research, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra and the Alabama Dance Theatre.

The backing of the Daniel Foundation adds to MACC’s growing list of state and regional supporters that include the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Alabama Tourism Department, Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and the Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association.

There are opportunities to make donations “In Honor” or “In Memory” of a family member or distinguished citizen. These naming opportunities can be viewed at mentoneartscenter.org/support-us, where you can also make a donation online. Charitable gifts can also be mailed to: Mentone Arts & Cultural Center, P.O. Box 315, Mentone, AL 35984.

MACC will host two events on July 4 at its temporary home located at 5951 Alabama Hwy. 117 in Mentone.

From 1–3 p.m., Meg Richardson is offering a free Mandala Rock Painting Class for children ages 5–12. Class size is limited, so please call 256-635-8986 to reserve a seat.

Clay States will perform at the gallery from 7–9 p.m. Clay States is a renowned Birmingham musical act rooted in antebellum Americana, and experimental country sounds. Admission is a $15 donation that benefits the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center.

For reservations or more information, call 256-674-3366 or email mentoneartscenter@gmail.com.

We also encourage you to visit mentoneartscenter.org for an overview of our organization and fundraising efforts or MACC-Kamama.com for more information about our temporary location.

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

Randy Grider is executive director of the Mentone Arts & Cultural Center.
People are often surprised when they learn that Moon Lake Community Library is not a government-funded library, but that it’s community-funded, solely relying on book sales and donations for its funding. As such, we don’t enforce any geographic limitations, so we provide free library cards to anyone who would like one (no matter where you live). Come by the library to apply for a card, borrow a book or movie, or purchase a book from our sale shelves. Need a book for the beach? Come on in! Through July, we’re offering a $1 sale on our hardcover books. We have a large selection of fiction, history and other subjects.

Thanks to a generous grant from MAPA, the library now has two brand-new laptops for the community’s use. The board has developed guidelines for use, which are posted on our community bulletin board. We truly appreciate our volunteers who give a few hours each month helping check books and movies in and out, reshelving, and generally being of assistance. If you enjoy books and people, please consider volunteering. Call Dianne Kuehl at 256-634-4538 for more information.

We’re excited about the Summer Community Gathering that we’re hosting on July 28! (See the back cover of this issue for details.) We continue to offer complimentary coffee and great camaraderie. Jerry Megli is at the library every Saturday morning to play chess — if you don’t yet know how to play, he will gladly help you learn.

Our hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3–6 p.m. and Saturday from 9am–1pm. See you at the library!

Kelly Leavitt is the community librarian.

I cannot live without books.
—Thomas Jefferson

Don’t Settle For Low CD Rates.

You Deserve Better!

Get a WoodmenLife® annuity with competitive interest rates and tax-deferred earnings.

Don’t miss out! Call today.

Johnny F. Miller
Office: 256-845-9371
Cell: 256-996-0716
jfmiller@woodmen.org

WoodmenLife
woodmenlife.org

CD0765 3/16
Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society, Omaha, NE

Free Saturday Classes at the Library

Learn the Basics of Playing the Ukulele
with Wiley Selman & Don David
Saturday, July 7 & 14 • 12–1pm

I cannot live without books.
—Thomas Jefferson

Learn to Play Mah Jongg
with Edna Fortner & Donna McComb
Saturday, July 14 • 10am–12pm

“S”-House Antiques

Antiques • Collectibles
Fabulous Vintage Treasures
Fabrics, Attire & Accessories
Thursday – Saturday
10 am – 4 pm & by appointment

256-844-2995
907 Grand Ave. SW, Fort Payne

Ski & Bama

Cloudmont
Ski and Golf Resort
&
Shady Grove Dude Ranch

Southeastern most Ski Resort in the US

721 County Road 614
P.O. Box 435
Montevallo, AL 35075

Accommodations available
For reservations or information
256-634-4944
www.cloudmont.com
Senior Health: What Medicare May Not Cover • by Lynn Hixson

Original Medicare doesn’t cover everything. If you need certain services that aren’t covered under Medicare Part A or Part B, you’ll have to pay for them yourself unless you have other coverage (including Medicaid) to cover these services or if you are in a Medicare Advantage Plan that covers these services.

Some of the items and services that Original Medicare doesn’t cover include:

- Personal care or custodial care, such as help with bathing, toileting and dressing (unless homebound and receiving skilled care), and nursing home care (except in a skilled nursing facility if eligible). You can choose to buy private long-term care insurance for these services.
- Cosmetic surgery (unless it is needed to improve the function of a malformed part of the body)
- Hearing aids or the examinations for prescribing or fitting them
- Most dental care or dentures
- Acupuncture
- Most non-emergency transportation, including ambulance services
- Long-term care
- Concierge care which is retainer-based medicine, boutique medicine, platinum practice, or direct care.
- Although Original Medicare does not cover these services, a Medicare private health plan may cover them. These are commonly called Medigap policies, or Medicare supplements. You must check with your individual plan or policy to see which, if any, they cover.
- If you have any questions or need assistance please call the DeKalb County Council on Aging at 256/845-8590 and make an appointment to see the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselor to assist you.

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

Dirt Roads by Paul Harvey

What’s mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads have been paved.

There’s not a problem in America today, crime, drugs, education, divorce, delinquency that wouldn’t be remedied, if we just had more Dirt Roads, because Dirt Roads give character.

People that live at the end of Dirt Roads learn early on that life is a bumpy ride.

That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes, but it’s worth it, if at the end is home...a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog.

We wouldn’t have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a Dirt Road with other kids, from whom they learn how to get along.

There was less crime in our streets before they were paved.

Criminals didn’t walk two dusty miles to rob or rape, if they knew they’d be welcomed by 5 barking dogs and a double barrel shotgun.

And there were no drive by shootings.

Our values were better when our roads were worse!

People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists were more courteous, they didn’t tailgate by riding the bumper or the guy in front would choke you with dust & bust your windshield with rocks.

Dirt Roads taught patience.

Dirt Roads were environmentally friendly, you didn’t hop in your car for a quart of milk you walked to the barn for your milk.

For your mail, you walked to the mail box.

What if it rained and the Dirt Road got washed out? That was the best part, then you stayed home and had some family time, roasted marshmallows and popped popcorn and pony rode on Daddy’s shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody.

At the end of Dirt Roads, you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap.

Most paved roads lead to trouble, Dirt Roads more likely lead to a fishing creek or a swimming hole.

At the end of a Dirt Road, the only time we even locked our car was in August, because if we didn’t some neighbor would fill it with too much zucchini.

At the end of a Dirt Road, there was always extra springtime income, from when city dudes would get stuck, you’d have to hitch up a team and pull them out.

Usually you got a dollar...always you got a new friend...at the end of a Dirt Road!
Arts Council News (continued from page 1)

Peggy Pullen (continued from page 7)

The children fared well in their adult lives. Peggy had a long career as an elementary school teacher and taught in schools on Sand Mountain and in northwest Georgia. Her brother, John, received his master’s degree in business and founded DeSoto Mills in Fort Payne. Peggy’s brother, Pete, obtained his master’s degree in theology and spent his life as a Baptist missionary in Brazil. One sister, June, was a cardiac intensive care nurse, and her other sister, Martha, worked in office work. Her brother, Bill, trained to be a dentist. “Bill got a job in a bronze factory to pay for college,” Peggy said. “He enjoyed it so much, he made it his career.”

Bill, an accomplished bronze sculptor living and working in Santa Fe, New Mexico, has a strong presence in Fort Payne. “Buck Borders was the accountant for the band Alabama and also a very dear friend of my brother John,” said Peggy. “Buck wanted statues of the Alabama boys and when he learned that Bill worked in bronze, he gave the job to him.”

As fate would have it, one of the family’s newly-discovered Russian cousins, Dimitri Kuznetsov (Ivan’s brother), also works in bronze. Peggy and her husband, Walt, hope to meet other relatives during a trip to Russia next summer.

“I enjoyed spending a pleasant afternoon in the Pullen home as Peggy told me her story. When I was leaving, I noticed an interesting musical instrument leaning against the wall. Peggy explained that it was a balalaika, a traditional Russian stringed instrument. “My father went to school with the tsar’s children. Even though my grandfather was a laborer and of a lower social class, his children were allowed to attend classes with the royal family,” said Peggy. One advantage is that he received musical training, unlike other children of his class. “I remember Daddy playing his balalaika. I bought this from Mickey Luck one day,” Peggy said, “with dreams of learning to play it.”

I was struck by this connection, musing that Peggy’s early days listening to her father play the instrument of his homeland may indeed have influenced the role music has played in her life. She spent many years of her career teaching music to elementary school children, and has long been the director of the Mentone-area community choir which performs a Christmas cantata each year.

Connections are everywhere…once we get to talking.

Jerry and Pixie Bloom will perform at DeSoto State Park on Saturday, July 7.
Covered Bridges (continued from page 1)

Cloudmont Golf and Ski Resort, beside Riverview Camp for Girls. Two structures remain: the supports for the Mason Bridge and the Old Union Bridge.

The Old Union Bridge originally spanned Otter Creek, near Lincoln, Alabama. Built by Union troops during the Civil War, it was purchased and moved in 1972 by Mentone's Jack Jones, founder of the golf and ski resort. Over the years, it has been damaged by storms, rebuilt, and modified. Only part of the bridge is actually covered, and it's difficult to tell if any of the original bridge remains. [NOTE: for the curious among you, this bridge is on private property, so stop at the Ski Resort's main building and ask permission before wandering down to see it.]

The bridge near the current Alpine Camp crossed the river from the west to River Park, an area which was developed in the 1920s and 30s by the legendary Colonel Milford Howard. (The road did not yet extend to the east.) It was the Colonel who built the Sally Howard Memorial Church (the church in a rock) on County Road 165. Over his lifetime, Howard was at various times a lawyer in Fort Payne, a developer, a movie producer, a two-term U. S. Congressman, and a newspaper columnist [see his biography, Vagabond Dreamer, available at the Moon Lake Community Library]. He personally surveyed, on foot, the entire length of what is called the Lookout Mountain Parkway, which ran on top of Lookout Mountain from Noccalula Falls above Gadsden to Point Park above Chattanooga.

Mentone resident Don Pirch has memories of this bridge from his early childhood. His father owned a small store built of stone near the southwest side of the bridge. Don recalls that the bridge had built-in tire tracks that drivers had to maneuver. General information on this bridge is practically nonexistent.

The third bridge is what might be called the Mason Bridge, the star of our story. It crossed over the river near the current bridge on Highway 117, about three quarters of a mile south, connecting West River Road to East River Road, which was the Valley Head to Summerville Road in those days. John Mason, Mentone's founder, and his son, Ed, were early movers and shakers in Mentone. Ed was an entrepreneur and beginning in the 1870s, he owned and operated a mill on the banks of the river at Moon Lake, near where the bridge would eventually be built. Mason was interested in promoting Mentone as an appealing town with great natural beauty and a moderate climate. He built a shallow, rectangular lake behind a low dam on West River Road; the lake extended to about where the current U. S. Post Office sits. It was bounded by what is now Highway 117 (then called Lake Street) on one side and Cutler Avenue (Mentone's main drag in those days) on the other. He had the surrounding land platted, then promoted the lots which he created as home sites. He attempted to develop it (with only moderate success), as he later did at Moon Lake (the location of the future summer home of educator Martha Berry, founder of Berry College in Rome, Georgia). Sometime in the 1960s, the dam holding back the lake was breached, and today any water that accumulates in the old lake bed drains down to the Little River, about 150 yards away. Today there are plenty of houses located around the lake site.

Getting across the Little River a hundred and fifty years ago was a difficult proposition. This was long before the dam at DeSoto Falls was built by A. A. Miller (in the mid-1920s), which significantly raised the depth of the river. Before the dam, the river looked more like a typical Appalachian mountain stream than the way it looks today. One account says that there was a ford across the river in the old days, approximately where the Mason Bridge was later built. Other sources say there was once a ferry on the river, but it is difficult to imagine where a ferry could have found water deep enough to make it work in the days before the dam raised the water level in the river. Still, from Mentone's earliest days, people had to get across the river from one side to the other just to conduct their daily affairs. Even decades after the Mason Bridge was built, getting over the river at places other than the covered bridge was a challenge. The late Homer Crow, life-long Mentone resident, remembered that in the 1920s he would cross the river over a thick board, where Highway 117 is now, so he could go to Moon Lake School.

(continued on page 13)
In around 1880, the Masons decided to donate all the materials necessary to construct a wooden, single-lane covered bridge, which local people then built. Perhaps not coincidentally, the bridge made access to Ed Mason's home and mill, just yards away, pretty darn convenient. The bridge was anchored on either side of the river by stone abutments, and supported by two columns in the middle, nearer the water. One of those columns still remains; the other collapsed during a hurricane in the early 1990s. Since its demise, many of its stones have been pillaged by those eager to acquire building materials the easy way.

An early photo which appeared in print identified the bridge as "the bridge over the DeSoto River" (see page 12). However, long before the invention of photography the official state of Alabama map commissioned by Congress and printed in Philadelphia in 1836, clearly identifies the stream as Little River. Probably whoever wrote the caption for the picture assumed that a river behind DeSoto Falls must surely be the DeSoto River.

There are still a number of people in Mentone who remember this bridge. Amelia Kirk was born here, and recalls crossing over many times in the late 1930s with her uncles and grandfather. "We never had any problem at all," she says. A former owner of the Mentone Inn, Ms. Lolly recalls an attempt to raise funds by the Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) several years ago to rebuild the bridge. However, some residents of West River Road didn't like the prospects of increased traffic, so the project was shelved.

Evelyn Jones, age 93, was raised just a few hundred yards from the bridge. She remembers well the trips she made over it with her father. "I never felt like it was unsafe at the time," she reports. The bridge also accommodated foot traffic. "My father told a story about when he was a boy, walking across the bridge and dropping a stone on a snake sunning itself on the rocks below."

Walt Pullen was born in Mentone three years after the bridge collapsed. "Even in the early 1950s," he says, "some of the floor of the bridge still extended from the east bank out to the first support column. We'd walk out on it as far as we could go, like adventurous kids will do. I remember being there once with my father, and he had told me to stay in the car while he was talking to some men. I snuck out on the bridge's planks and stepped on a nail, so I gave myself away pretty easily," Walt said with a chuckle.

According to Clay Stiles, who lives just a few hundred yards from the bridge site, starting in 1913 his mother's family (the Culps) owned what was then called Riverdale, at the end of West River Road. It was a summer retreat, and was eventually bought by former Alabama Assistant Football Coach Malcolm Laney in the late 1950s. Since then, it's been known as Camp Laney for Boys. Stiles says his uncle, Billy Culp, told him that ironically, in June of 1945, a truck loaded with building materials needed to fix the aging bridge tried to cross over and never made it to the other side. The truck and materials crashed into the river, spilling its supplies, which included a large number of iron spikes. "My uncle and everybody nearby quickly went to the site and scooped up all the spikes they could carry," he says. "For years, people would dive into the river and look for those spikes!"

Rome physician Dr. Soc Sennett owns the house and property immediately adjacent to the old bridge. Although he didn't start coming to Mentone until the late 1960s, he says Mentone's unofficial historian, Jimmy Jones, used to tell him stories about the goings on around the bridge. This is the same Jimmy Jones who was set to elope with his future wife, Dallyne, on June 23, 1945, as mentioned in the preface to this story. Jones told Dr. Sennett that there were two, perhaps three, general stores adjacent to the bridge. Farmers taking cotton from Valley Head to Rome used to stop at the stores and buy "linament", which was heavily laced with alcohol. Maybe it made the two-day trip to Rome more tolerable? "For years when I would do landscaping around my house, I used to find lots of old linament bottles; that stuff must have been pretty popular," Dr. Sennett remembers.

If you'd like to see the ruins of the old Mason Bridge, it can be found about one and three-quarters miles up-river from DeSoto Falls. You can't miss them, but please just look; leave those historic stones where they lay, silent testimony to a time when moving from place to place in Mentone wasn't nearly as easy as it is today.
St. Joseph’s on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church would like to thank all the Mentone post office staff, Brenda Nelson, Amy Brooks, Jennifer Davis, and Debbie Batty for collecting over 500 pounds of food donated by postal customers during the National Mail Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive held in May. The donations will be used to help provide food to the families who shop our weekly food pantry. To the folks who donated food and to the post office staff who collected the donations, we greatly appreciate your generosity.

Valley Head Junior Beta Club

The Valley Head Junior Beta Club recently attended the National Junior Beta Convention in Savannah, GA. The students exhibited exceptional talent in the areas of visual arts, group projects, and essay. Two students placed nationally. Cooper Kirby placed sixth in sculpture and Chance Pearson placed second in woodworking. The students enjoyed visiting the many historical sites of Savannah, and a few enjoyed a personal meeting with Mrs. Paula Deen. The club would like to thank the communities of Valley Head and Mentone for their continued support.

Kerry Breithaupt
LMT, NMT
256.254.9802
mentonemassage.com

Kerry Breithaupt
LMT, NMT
Massage Therapy • Spa Treatments
256.254.9802
mentonemassage.com

IT’S BBQ Time
FRIDAY, JULY 6
MARKET OPEN ALL DAY
TO RSVP: CALL/TEXT (256) 635-8663
OR EMAIL: INFO@THEFARMATWINDYHILL.COM
445 ROAD 942, MENTONE, AL 35984
OPEN 10-7 CDT

Bruce’s Foodland
Home Owned and Operated Since 1979
Fort Payne • Rainsville • Section • Ider • Fyffe • Scottsboro
202 Greenhill Blvd., Fort Payne, AL 35967
We’re Open 7 Days A Week
7am-10pm
256-845-1970

Come visit our large selection of products to fit your healthy lifestyle!
Vitamins, Herbs, and High Quality Supplements

Frisco Popsicle
Come in today and get yours today!
It’s a cool way to stay healthy!

Judy’s Herb Shop
Celebrating 25 Years!
706-857-1667
10900 Commerce Street | Summerville
Nestled in the woods atop Lookout Mountain, near Mentone, Alabama, this quaint little chapel is surrounded by ferns, forest and flowers. The chapel is a scaled version of traditional Appalachian churches of days gone by. Stained glass windows filtering soft forest sunrays and soft organ music accent an ambience fitting the wedding ceremony. Inside, wooden pews will seat approximately 60 guests.

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

To arrange your wedding or renewing of your wedding vows, call 256-634-4181

Mentone Wedding Chapel
Candle Lite Ceremonies
Music - Photographs
Flowers - Receptions
Lodging - Limousine

Pruett Jewelers
69 Main Street East
Rainsville
256-638-3210

BUYING GOLD, SILVER, DIAMONDS, JEWELRY & COINS!
We Pay More!
Free Ring Cleaning & Check
We Retip Prongs & Repair Jewelry
Same Location Since 1959

Pruett Jewelers
69 Main Street East
Rainsville
256-638-3210

Mark Mitchell, Agent
17174 Broad Street
Henagar, AL 35978
Bus: 256-657-6252
mark.mitchell.b2g1@statefarm.com

Join the millions who protect their cars with us. It’s one more way I’m here to help life go right.” CALL ME TODAY FOR A QUOTE.

State Farm®
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
Bloomington, IL

Texas County Mutual
Dallas, TX

1601561

July 2018
The Groundhog
Page 15
River Voice • by Bill Shugart

Remember when you were an eight-year-old kid swimming with your friends, racing each other across to the other side of the river? Remember that feeling of absolute freedom as you felt the water move across your skin? Remember the smile it put on your face? I never thought I would feel that way as a grown-up until the time I swam underneath DeSoto Falls.

For a long time, I was not interested in swimming in the basin. I had an imaginary risk assessment list of things that could go wrong. (I firmly believe that if my current occupation doesn’t stand the test of time, I’d make a great insurance agent.) Anyway, I was concerned about strong currents and things with boats attached in a life-size aquarium scene were washed away during floods and imagined them the falls in the high water. I knew of old docks that timers that there was a hole in the middle of the basin in the basin. I had an imaginary risk assessment list of things that could go wrong. (I firmly believe that

The current I worried about wasn’t all that bad. The current I worried about wasn’t all that bad. Still, I was thankful for my life-vest. The water was cold, clean and dark. I didn’t think the swim would take as long as it did but the pool is huge! The falls came closer and the mist from the waterfall made rainbows as I swam around behind it. The experience of looking up to see the water rushing over me was something I can’t find the words for. But I tell you this, I laughed out loud in pure elation. It was incredible.

I’ve had the opportunity to take a handful of people to have that experience since then. It’s experiences like these that connect us to a place. When we care about a place, we want the best for it. That’s why we started the Swimguide” should pull up a link to theswimguide.org/affiliates/little-river-waterkeeper.

We test nine key spots every week throughout the swim season. The tests cost about $14 a piece, so if this kind of work means something to you and you have a little money to invest in clean water, please contribute. I’d like to thank Rudy Fowler for his recent contribution of $100. Hey, Rudy, we really appreciate it! Thank you! Dad says, “Hello,” and hopes you are doing well. You can send questions, comments, or donations to our office at 215 Grand Ave. SW Fort Payne, AL 35967. I’d love to hear about your river experience, so please share your stories. Shoot me an e-mail to wyshugart@littleriverwaterkeeper.org.

I’ll close today with a reminder that Little River is one of the cleanest rivers in the state of Alabama. We can be proud of it. Just to be clear, I am not saying you should go out and drink a big cup full. The river is not without threats that can take it down a notch or make you sick, so we have to stay on top of issues that arise. Water quality changes. After a heavy rain, we see bacteria levels increase, and that can last a couple of days. Most importantly, we want people to be safe when they use the river, so do your part to “be in the know before you go.” Check water levels and pollution reports. To report pollution issues, call 256-516-2877 and let us know. Thanks!

Bill Shugart is the Little River Waterkeeper.
NEW

WORKING POULTRY FARM with approx. 1.5 acres! Two 42x100 operating Poultry houses built in 2006. House operate on well water with city water back up. Contact currently with Pilgrims Pride. Property has pond and fencing. 2x8x6 8 bay shed. 88x, 28a. house with compost built in 1970 also on the property. $279,000. MLS #1097627

REDUCED

THE HISTORIC CRAWFORD MANSION, on 9+ 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. $499,000. MLS #1062064B8

UNBELIEVABLE brow home on 1.55 acres. 4BR/2BA, open living/kitchen area, formal DR, numerous decks and screened porch. Many gorgeous rock formations, a detached 2-car garage/workshop, and more. $313,900. MLS #1088289

REDUCED

THE VERY BEST of both worlds awaits you in your own custom built home on beautiful Lake on the Brow. Breath-taking views of the valley below in sight from your front porch. $724,500. MLS #1088281

REDUCED

FIRST TIME offered in forty years! Unbelievable brow frontage that includes two lots overlooking the valley below. Call for your private tour. $235,000. MLS #1089665

REDUCED

BEAUTIFUL Mountain Get-Away with gorgeous view year round. 1 bedroom, 2 bath, shake-sided outside w/low maintenance metal roof. Deck. $235,000. MLS #1090691

REDUCED

JUST MINUTES FROM MENTONE & 3.5 mi. from DeSoto State Park. “Stone’s Throw” offers 3BR/2BA with tons of extast! $189,000. MLS #1089979

REduced

A MUST SEE! Downtown Mentone 3BR/2BA fully furnished, redecorated log cabin! Walk to every event, festival, restaurant, then ministry to the front porch of your retreat and enjoy the music! $159,000. MLS #1087805

VINTAGE BUNGALOW, completely renovated, owned Commercial/Residential w/250 on Hwy 117 Bright & study 2940 sq. ft. 3BR/2BA. 2 car garage. Wood walls, period trim details. Updated with new electrical, plumbing, floors & cabinets. $125,000. MLS #1084940

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 #1069565

LIVE & PLAY ON THE WATER! Enjoy 200 feet of frontage on the East Fork of Little River in this waterfront home. $197,500. MLS #1070616

PRIVATE MENTONE COTTAGE! You’ll love this gorgeous Mentone cottage that feels like a private retreat. Hardwood & slate floors, woodburning FP, covered porches, & more $334,900. MLS #1072513

SWEET LIL’ MENTONE HOME! Life is sweet in this two bedroom, two bath home! $104,900. MLS #1068184

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

COME HOME TO PEACEFUL SURROUNDINGS in this large brick ranch-style home. 3BR/2BA situated on 2.7 acres with 2 car garage. $145,000. MLS #1046216

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! $202,000. MLS #1076700

YOU WILL LOVE COMING HOME to this unique and one-of-a-kind log home minutes from DeSoto State Park, Alpine Camp, and Mentone. Built in 2006 and constructed of 6x12 Pine with 9 foot ceilings, four large bedrooms, three full baths, a den, plus covered porches. $235,000. MLS #1082614

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. #1035720 - 2.8 acres on East Fork of Little River with easy access! $44,900. #1034997 - Approx. 6 acres on Middle Fork of Little River. $48,900. #1035809 - 6.1/2 acres with approx. 250’ of road frontage and 1-1/2 acres of level land for a secluded homestead 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. #1066542 - 90 acres on Co. Rd. 89 in Mentone. $360,000. #1066554 - One acre on Cr. 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. $104,000. #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. $44,900. #1085244 - 1.5+/- acres in Mentone! Wooded tract with paved road frontage. $19,000. #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.
**July 2018 Community Calendar**

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

**July 2—Fort Payne Independence Day Celebration.** The City of Fort Payne presents the annual Independence Day Celebration at 5pm with music starting at 5:30pm. *Rain date will be Tuesday, July 3.*

**July 2—Fort Payne Independence Day Celebration.** The City of Fort Payne presents the annual Independence Day Celebration at 5pm with music starting at 5:30pm. *Rain date will be Tuesday, July 3.*


**July 4—“Clay States” Concert.** Admission is $15 donation that benefits Mentone Arts & Cultural Center. 7–9pm. 5971 Ala. Hwy. 117.

**July 4—35th Annual Sand Mountain Potato Festival.** Sand Mountain is well known for its rich diversity of agricultural products, including potatoes. Celebrate our heritage with live music, arts and crafts, entertainment, games and fireworks. Event begins at 10am and culminates with a beautiful fireworks display. 256-657-6282.

**July 5—Art in the Alley.** Bring your friends and let’s have some fun! Join us after work for Art in the Alley, and enjoy local food, music, and art in Fort Payne’s Entertainment District—and Boom Town Makers Market. Look for the festival lights at Boom Town Makers Market and view our Summer Art Opening. 5–8pm.

**July 6—6th Annual Splish & Splash Pool Party at DeSoto State Park.** Join the fun and cool off in our Olympic-size pool, play pool games, eat homemade ice cream, and enter for door prizes! Admission $1/person. 6:30–9:00pm. DeSoto State Park Pool. 256-997-025.

**July 6 & 7—14—Learn Basic Ukulele Skills.** Come to the library and learn the basics of playing the ukulele with Wiley Selman and Mickey Luck. 12–1pm. Moon Lake Community Library, moonlakelibrary.org.

**July 7—Concert: Jerry & Pixie Bloom.** Part of Little River Arts Council’s Summer Music Series. Free for all ages. Enjoy free art activities during the show. DeSoto State Park’s CCC Pavilion (near the Country Store). 6–9pm. For more info: littleriverartsCouncil.org.

**July 7, 14, 21, & 28—Mountain Biking!** Mountain Biking is a great way for the family to spend time together. We will meet at the Family Loop Trailhead at DeSoto State Park and explore an easy, 3.5-mile loop trail. FREE—includes Bike and Helmet. To register, contact One World Adventure at 256-654-8370 or by email at angie@oneworldadventureco.org.

**July 7—Rappelling for Beginners with One World Adventure.** Explore scenic rock outcroppings near DeSoto Falls. No previous experience is necessary to go deeper into nature in this exciting activity! We have different skill levels from families to adventure seekers and everyone in between. Dress in light, fitted clothing with hiking boots or tennis shoes. Long hair should be pulled back. Pack a reusable water bottle and snacks. Great for ages 12 to adult. 9am. Meet at the DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park). $40/person. Call Angie Shugart at 256-634-8370 or email angie@oneworldadventureco.org for any info. www.oneworldadventure.org.

**July 7—Rawhide Rattle Making.** Join Grandma Lulu for a day of creating rawhide rattles. She has created and crafted these rattles for more than 25 years and is excited to once again share this teaching. You are welcome to bring any small stones or treasures you would like to put into your rattle along with what will be provided. Bring a bag lunch or food to share. $65. Materials included. Pre-register, as space is limited. Contact Grandma Lulu for more info at 256-364-9105.

**July 7—Annual Independence Day Parade at DeSoto State Park.** Fun for both children & adults! Decorate your vehicle to show your spirit. Parade starts at 3pm at DeSoto’s State Park Headquarters and ends in DeSoto’s Improved Campground in time for the Ice Cream Social at 4pm. If you wish to ride along, meet at DeSoto Park Headquarters or the Improved Campground gate a few minutes before 3. We would love to have you join us in celebrating our country’s Independence Day! Free to participate! 256-997-3025.

**July 7—Ice Cream Social at DeSoto State Park.** Sit around, relax, eat homemade ice cream, and socialize at DeSoto State Park’s Improved Campground. You are welcome to bring your own favorite homemade ice cream recipe or other desserts to share with everyone. Bring your own comfortable camp chair, as seating is limited. Free to participate and open to everyone! Social begins at 4pm. Campground gate will be open. 256-997-3025.

**July 7—Alabama Forest Classroom.** Seven Pines Survival wants to get you outside in both an instructive educational setting and in a self-educational setting, to learn about the outdoors. You will be learning about local animals and plants that can be found in the park. DeSoto State Park. 9–11am. $25/family. Contact Seven Pines Survival for reservations 209-599-0040 or email sps@sevenpinesav.com.

**July 7 & 27—Sculpt Your Own Flower.** Join the fun and cool off in our Olympic-size pool, play pool games, eat homemade ice cream, and enter for door prizes! Admission $1/person. 6:30–9:00pm. DeSoto State Park Pool. 256-997-025.

**July 7 & 27—Sculpt Your Own Flower.** Join the fun and cool off in our Olympic-size pool, play pool games, eat homemade ice cream, and enter for door prizes! Admission $1/person. 6:30–9:00pm. DeSoto State Park Pool. 256-997-025.

**July 7 & 14—Learn To Play Mah Jongg.** Join us for a fun filled class for the beginners. $20–$30. 256-997-0396. dekalbtheatre@fortpayne.org.

**July 9 & 23—Tiny Tots: Adventures in Nature.** Join the JSU Field School for fun filled classes just for little kids. Your kids (ages 3–5 years) will learn about animals, plants, bugs, and more all while having fun! 9–10am. JSU’s Little River Canyon Center. $5 per child (Limit 10 children). Parents remain with children for this program. Pre-registration required by the Friday before the program is scheduled. Call 256-845-3548.

**July 11 & 25—Canyon Creative Kids Day: Adventure in Nature.** Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and neighbors to The Farm to creatively learn about animals, plants, bugs, and more with JSU Field Schools. Your children (ages 5–10) will want to attend ALL of these hands-on outdoor adventures! 10am–12pm. Little River Canyon Center. $5 per child; pre-registration required by the Monday prior to the program (Limit 15 kids). Parents remain with children for this program.

**July 12—Creative Placemaking Meeting.** Hosted by Little River Arts Council. Brow Park Pavilion. 6:30pm. littleriverartsCouncil.org.

**July 13 & 15 & 20–22—“The Nerd” @ MACC Theatre.** A bumbling, hopeless “nerd” with little intelligence and less tact — comes to dinner! Antics ensue! Friday-Saturday evening performances begin at 7pm, and Sunday matinees begin at 2pm. All seats are reserved, and tickets are $8 each. This show is best enjoyed by audiences ages 13 & up due to mild language. Don’t forget the patron receptions at intermission on both Saturdays of the production!

**July 13 & 14—Best of British.** Join us for a weekend of Rock ‘n Roll featuring tributes to 5 of the greatest! Best of British will kick-off Friday, July 13, with Judas Maiden, an incredible tribute to two of the greatest heavy metal bands of all time: Judas Priest & Iron Maiden. Headlining Friday night will be Absolute Queen: The Tribute Experience. The music continues on Saturday, July 14, with the Ultimate Def Leppard Tribute and Highway to Hell — AC/DC: The Ultimate AC/DC Tribute Experience. *Tickets are available for each night individually or purchase both nights together for a discounted rate! 8–11 pm. $20–$30. 256-997-0396. dekalbtheatre@fortpayne.org.

**July 14—Learn to Play Mah Jongg.** Come to the library and learn to play an exciting game that relies on skill and luck. To get the feel of the game, you will get hands-on play time with two coachees explaining the options that are available as you discard tiles after picking.
July 2018 Community Calendar

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

up new ones. We will teach you how to play 3-handed and 4-handed, so you can practice on your own. Everything needed to play this ancient Chinese game will be supplied. Taught by Edna Fortner and Donna McComb. Moon Lake Community Library. 10am–12pm. Free.

July 14—Learn Basic Ukulele Skills. (See July 7)

July 14—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, call 256-634-8370.

July 14—“The Nerd” @ MACC Theatre. (See July 13) 7pm.

July 14—“The Nerd” @ MACC Theatre. (See July 13) 7pm.

July 14—Canning Fruits & Vegetables Workshop. Learn all about home canning using a hot water bath technique. This is a “hands-on” workshop with Mary Alice Stout and at the end of the day you will leave with two jars of finished product, recipes, confidence and knowledge of how to can at home. You may recall Mary Alice from Mama’s Craft and Rock Shop in Cloudland, GA. Bring a paring knife and a brown bag lunch. 10am–5pm. DeSoto State Park; $20/person. Workshop is limited to 10, so pre-registration is required. 256-997-5025.

July 14—Mountain Biking! (See July 7)

July 14—Blow An Ornament. Come design and blow your own ornament with the help of one of our glass artists. No reservations are needed, it is on a first come, first serve basis. 9am–4pm. Orbix Hot Glass. Cost is $38 per ornament blown. 256-523-3188.

July 14—Christmas in July Experimental Glass Sale. Every August at Orbix Hot Glass, we shut down our furnaces for a bit of a breather from the summertime heat. Just before this break, we want to offer one more opportunity for everyone to step into the mesmerizing world of glassblowing. Watch as we craft many of our favorite Christmas items, including candy canes. We pull long twisted canes of glass across the studio floor that later become bent and polished to our final glass treats. Also, we offer the Last Blow Your Own Ornament class of the summer. Finally, if you want to get a jump on holiday shopping, we will have a slew of seconds or discontinued pieces on the porch to purchase at reduced prices. 9am–4pm. 256-523-3188.

July 14—BBQ Cook-Off & Car Show. Rib & Chicken Cook-Off - $100 entry fee. Cash Prizes for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place! We will have official KCBS Car Show - $25 entry fee. BBQ Lunches will be sold for $5 each. Live Music & Fun! Proceeds go to Cornerstone Christian Academy in Rainsville. Contact Melissa Mays for more details: 256-899-5454.

July 15—“The Nerd” @ MACC Theatre. (See July 13) 2pm.

July 15—“The Nerd” @ MACC Theatre. (See July 13) 2pm.

July 16–19—Adventure Day Camp. (See July 9–12.)

July 16 & 17—Camping 101 for Kids. Kids ages 7–9 will learn the basics of camping with One World Naturalist Robert Wilson of Seven Pines Survival. Participants explore the trails, learning native trees and plants and wildlife along the way. They will cook over an open fire and sleep under the stars in the primitive campsite at DeSoto State Park. Kids will come away with knowledge to pitch a tent, hang a hammock, and start a campfire. Learn Leave No Trace ethics and more. $125/child. To register, contact Angie Shugart at angie@oneworldadventureco.org or 256-634-8370.

July 17–20—Canyon Camp. Join us for this nature- and art-focused camp for kids. Children will get to meet local artists and learn from them all. Along the way, nature time and the Canyon will provide inspiration and time for exploration. Remember that all camps fill quickly, so please register early. 5th-7th graders (grade just completed). 8am–4pm. (Drop-off begins at 7:30am). $150 per child (includes materials and lunch). Little River Canyon Center. Limit 10 kids. 256-845-3548.

July 18—Plant Identification Walk. Join naturalist Robert Wilson for an experiential journey within the forest, taking in every opportunity to learn more about the natural world. Your guide will identify many native plants of the southern Appalachians and teaching you how to recognize these plants. DeSoto State Park. 9–11am. $5/family. Contact Seven Pines Survival for reservations 209-559-0040 or email sps@sevenpinessurvival.com.

July 20—Alabama Forest Classroom. Seven Pines Survival wants to get you outside in both an instructive educational setting and in a self-educational setting, to learn about the outdoors. You will be learning about local animals and plants that can be found in the park. DeSoto State Park. 9am–3pm. $25/family. Contact Seven Pines Survival for reservations 209-559-0040 or email sps@sevenpinessurvival.com.

July 20—Campfire Talk: Canyon Constellations. Join us for fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. For those who live in the northern hemisphere, the summer nights are simply dazzling, filled with hundreds, indeed thousands of stars. Learn all about the summer night sky with Jacksonville State University’s Astronomer Dr. Laura Weinkauf. 8–9pm. DeSoto State Park – CCC Pavilion in picnic area (across road from the Country Store on Co. Rd. 89). Held in DeSoto’s Nature Center in case of inclement weather. Free to the public, great for all ages! For details, 256-997-5025 or email Brittny.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov.

July 21—“The Nerd” @ MACC Theatre. (See July 13) 7pm.

July 21—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.

July 22—“The Nerd” @ MACC Theatre. (See July 13) 2pm.

July 23—Tiny Tots: Adventures in Nature. (See July 9)

July 23–26—Adventure Day Camp. This fun and active camp builds self-esteem and skills in all things adventurous. Activities range from rock climbing, kayaking and thrill-seeking hikes. Campers gain valuable knowledge about the importance of preserving our abundant recreational opportunities. Led by trained and certified Outdoor Instructors. One World Adventure-Mentone. 8am–5pm. Ages 7–13 (Boys & Girls). To register, contact Angie Shugart at angie@oneworldadventureco.org or 256-634-8370.

July 27—Sculpt Your Own Flower. (See July 7)

July 28—Summer Community Gathering at Moon Lake Community Library. 12:30–2:30pm.

July 28—Mountain Biking! (See July 7)

July 28—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. Join us for some in-depth discovery at Orbix Hot Glass. Reservations required. $145/person. 9am–1pm. 256-523-3188.

July 28—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 note book. Meet in DeSoto State Park Country Store & Information Center 9am–12pm. Free & open to everyone. 256-997-5025.

July 30—Back-to-School Clothing Closet. Free men’s, women’s and children’s clothes for those in need. 4–8pm. Ryleigh’s Closet at Mentone Community Church. 90 Summerville Rd. 256-634-4210.
Birthdays

1 John Tyler Lawton
2 Karen Potts
3 Nick Black
4 Jack Carden
5 Steven McElhaney
6 Dawson Crow
7 Jim Blalock
8 Allison Powell
9 Johnnie Lewchuk
10 Steve Laniar
11 Jack Bennett Browder
12 Dusty Burt
13 Corey Powell
14 Diana Phillips
15 Kaylee Tucker
16 Kanissa Smith
17 Christopher Black
18 Sissy Crider
19 Wendy Estes
20 Lisa Cash
21 Bella Harrison
22 Chelsea Stevenson
23 Amanda Smith
24 Jason Davis
25 Jason Davis
26 Tonya Hiler
27 Kelley Hughes
28 Debbie Flannigan
29 Libby Vesser

July 2018

Ongoing Calendar

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

**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 3-7:30pm 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 or to get involved, call Main Street Director 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 of 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 Lookout Mountain Knitters** meet each month at 3:15pm. Call 256-635-8775.

**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, chess and other games of strategy Thursdays from 3–6pm. Enjoy complimentary coffee, chess and other games of strategy.

**The Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center** meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 10am at the Boy Scout House. ‘Green thumbs’ and ‘brown thumbs’ are welcome.

**The Lookout Mountain 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 Monday at 1pm at St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church. For more information, call 256-634-4210.

**The Rhododendron Garden Club**的背后是-mortenlakecommunitylibrary.org.

**The Rhododendron Garden Club** meets each month on the 2nd Tuesday at 10am at the Boy Scout House. ‘Green thumbs’ and ‘brown thumbs’ are welcome! 256-634-4403.

**The Lookout Mountain 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 Monday at 1pm at St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church. For more information, call 256-634-4210.

**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. Come join us and help us grow.

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

**JHH & CLC** meet at 9am each Friday at the DeKalb County Council on Aging, followed by a quilt-making class that is open to the public.

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

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

**Line dancing lessons** are offered at DeKalb County Council on Aging each week from 1:30–3:30pm. 256-845-8590.

**Free Square Dance Lessons** are offered most Thursdays, 7:30pm at Tom Bevill Center in Rainsville by Duos and Solos Dance Club. 256-638-2780.

**Calendar entries are subject to change.**
Zesty Shrimp Avocado Salad
Submitted by Sue Schwartz

1 pound cooked shrimp, peeled and cut to bite-sized pieces
2 avocados, peeled and diced, 1/2 inch dice
1/4 cup red onion, finely diced
Juice of 2 limes
1/2 jalapeño, finely diced
1/2 cup cilantro, chopped (optional)
1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
Salt and pepper to taste

Place diced onion in bowl with lime juice and allow to sit while preparing other ingredients. Add remaining ingredients and enjoy.

Fresh Peach Turnovers
Submitted by Cynthia Stinson, Mentone Inn

“This is a guest favorite. For summer, you can add fresh berries. Granny Smith apple wedges also work well. So good.”

2 fresh peaches, peeled and sliced
2 cans crescent rolls (original)
1 cup butter, melted
1 cup sugar
1 cup Sprite

Roll each peach wedge in crescent roll triangle. Arrange in oven-proof dish. Mix butter and sugar. Add Sprite. Pour mixture over peaches. Bake at 375° until crescent rolls are brown. (Halfway through cooking, take out of oven and spoon mixture over top of crescent rolls.)

Pasta with Sicilian Pesto
Submitted by Sarah Lockhart

“This Western Sicilian recipe relies on summer garden goodies like tomatoes and basil, and requires almost no cooking besides the pasta. Busiate is a Sicilian ribbon pasta traditionally served with this pesto, but fusilli, penne, or even linguini will do in a pinch.”

2 lbs fresh tomatoes (or 28-oz can of Crushed Cento or Red Gold tomatoes)
Handful of fresh basil leaves
4 oz raw almond slices (or blanched)
4 oz grated Pecorino Romano cheese
3-4 large cloves of garlic
Olive oil
Salt & pepper
1 lb. Busiate pasta (or fusilli, penne, linguini, etc.)

If using fresh tomatoes, begin by preparing them: Cover tomatoes with boiling water and let sit for 2 minutes. Remove from water, allow to cool, and then peel. Cut in half and remove seeds.

Toast the almonds and whole, peeled cloves of garlic on a low heat on the stove, or in the oven at 300°. Watch them closely and remove from heat when fragrant.

In a blender or food processor, add almonds, garlic, and basil leaves, along with salt (a pinch or so) and olive oil (a drizzle or so). Pulse until the texture is like breadcrumbs. Add the tomatoes (fresh or canned) and about half of the grated cheese; blend until the sauce is rough creamy. Add pepper to taste, and more olive oil if it seems too dry, or more cheese if it seems too runny. It should have a thick, coarse consistency, but not too dry.

This pesto sauce is absolutely best if it sits for a while, even overnight. When ready to eat, toss with hot pasta, adding a little pasta water if it needs to be thinned out.

Pineapple Angel Food Cake
Submitted by Mary Agricola

“This is a favorite of ours. Easy and light.”

1 (16 ounce) package angel food cake mix
1 (20 ounce) can crushed pineapple with juice
1 (12 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed

Preheat oven to 350°. Spray a 9x13” pan with vegetable oil spray. In a large bowl, combine cake mix and pineapple with juice. Mix until well blended. Pour batter into prepared 9x13 inch pan. Bake at 350° for 25 minutes or until golden brown. Let cool. Serve with whipped topping.

Watermelon Limeade
Submitted by Kelly Leavitt

8 cups cubed watermelon (seeds removed)
1 cup freshly squeezed lime juice
1/2 cup sugar, or more to taste
Lime slices, for garnish, optional

Place half of the watermelon cubes in a blender and process until smooth. Strain through a fine-mesh sieve set over a large bowl; discard the solids. Repeat with the remaining watermelon cubes; you should end up with about 1 quart of watermelon juice.

Add the lime juice and sugar to the watermelon juice, and stir until the sugar has dissolved. Taste, and add more sugar if necessary. Transfer the limeade to a non-reactive (glass, plastic, etc.) pitcher and refrigerate until chilled. Serve over ice in tumblers with lime slices for garnish. 4–6 servings.
Summer brings long pleasant evenings for being outside. Many of you have beautiful gardens that can be enjoyed with some extra special attention. I was thinking of plants that flower in the evening and could only think of one or two. So, I did some research and came up with five night-blooming plants, two of which are perennials (those that return every year) and two are annuals (those that only last one growing season and should be replanted each year). I am going to give the basics of each and let you decide which ones you want in your landscape. Some are available at garden centers and all can be planted as seeds.

My favorite night bloomer is the moonflower, Ipomoea alba, a large tulip-shaped white flower with an intoxicating fragrance. They grow on a climbing vine with heart shaped leaves, so give them a porch column or trellis to wind around. They can grow to 20 feet! I grew one on a metal gate that was tall with a curved arch. Oh, my, what a beautiful sight in the evening! The fragrance could be enjoyed throughout the yard. These lovely blooms produce a good many seeds which can be saved for new plants the next year. They have very hard shells, so I suggest you scratch the surface a little and soak for three days in clear water before planting. It gives them a head start on growth. The flowers begin to open in late afternoon and by darkness, they are in full bloom. Grow them on a porch rail or around a patio so everyone can enjoy their beauty and fragrance.

Oenothera macrocarpa, or evening primrose, is an herbaceous perennial. It dies back in the fall but reappears each spring. Its blooms can be yellow, pink, or white. I received two plants from a friend a few weeks ago and one of them is now about four feet tall! They love full sun and are very low maintenance, needing little water once planted in the ground (still have mine in the pot but hope to have it planted this week!). It will tolerate drought, clay soil, dry soil, and shallow rocky soil (the mountain!). The blooms open as dusk approaches and last until the following morning. It takes about 30 minutes for them to open but it is a wonderful scene to behold. Primroses self-seed easily. They also have a long spring-to-summer bloom period.

Next is the flowering tobacco, Nicotiana alata. This is a tender perennial, which means it will return in south Alabama but not in north Alabama. New seeds will have to be sown each year, so it is really an annual in our neck of the woods. Set out seedlings or purchased plants after the last frost date, usually between April 15 and May 1 on the mountain. It is a spindly plant that can grow 3-5 ft. tall and opens in the evening with fragrant, long-tubed, yellowish green to white flowers. Some compact cultivars (to 2’ tall) are not fragrant and include colors in red, pink, lime green, and white.

Number four is the night-scented stock, Matthiola longipetala. This is an annual garden flower which is very attractive. It is compact in its growth, producing small, lilac-colored blooms with a lily-like fragrance. It also opens in late afternoon and fills the evening air with fragrance. Bees and butterflies really enjoy the nectar of these flowers. This is a good plant for the small garden and needs to be planted near doors or windows, so their scent can be enjoyed by all who pass. The night-scented stock (sometimes called evening stock) thrives in dry soil and sunshine, with some occasional watering. It grows 6” to 12” in sun/partial shade and blooms from spring through fall.

Number five is the night-blooming Cestrum (Cestrum nocturnum) or night-blooming jasmine. Alas, it could only be a house plant on the mountain. It’s grown in Zones 8 and 9, lower Alabama or Florida. It is a white flower, very pretty, and can grow 8 to 10 ft. tall. I really would not recommend it as a house plant unless you have a LARGE sunroom. I just thought you would like to know the number five night bloomer I discovered.

One more thought for an evening garden is to plant white, pink or other light-colored bloomers. With a few lights in the trees, your garden will speak for itself!

Two tips for you as I end this article:

- Start your gourds and pumpkins now. They will be ready for the fall season. Give them a big space and just let them grow!
- On July 4, if you have chrysanthemums growing, cut them back to about six inches. Then, when they have new buds, before they get ready to open, cut off every two out of three buds. The remaining buds will produce much larger flowers and be magnificent!

Happy Gardening!
Menlo School Graduation

Menlo School’s 8th grade graduation was held on May 31 at 6 p.m. in the Menlo School Gymnasium. Ellen Thompson, an alumnus of Menlo School, was the guest speaker. She delivered a very inspiring speech about the joys of growing up in a small town, the importance of the relationships you build along the way, and the positive effect Menlo School has had on her life. The valedictorian, Aleigha Satterfield, and the salutatorian, Aubree Evans, also gave heartwarming recounts of their time at MES. As the 8th grade class was dismissed, they literally danced out the doorway to a musical mix created by one of their fellow classmates, Yohann Agulair. Refreshments were served afterwards by some of the 6th and 7th grade students, along with parent volunteers. Principal Mark Pickle took the entire graduating class out for a celebratory lunch at The Crushed Tomato on Thursday afternoon. Most of the 8th grade graduates will be attending Chattooga High School next year. Following are their names in alphabetical order.

Yohann Agulair
Blake Austin
Tanner Battles
Austin Brown
Alyson Christol
Nerissa Church
Benjamin Colbert
Isabella Cooper
Chayse Culbert
Ramsey Elrod
Aubree Evans
Kayle Godfrey
Audry Sertell-Hall
Madison Hampton
Zoe Hart
Katelynn Holbrook
Gavin Jarrett
Anastasia King
Seth Kirk
Chandlar Laney
Skylar Laney
Keeth Long
Carter Lowenberg
Emma Marshall
Mayzie McKenzie
Alyssa Morgan
Elizabeth Patterson
Issac Ratledge
Aleigha Satterfield
Caden Smith
Hannah Smith
Brylie Stancil
Ryan Storey
Adrian Tidmore
Madison Ward
James Wester
Katie Williams
Olivia Young

Clothing closet offering men’s, women’s and children’s clothes and shoes free of charge for those in need
Open July 9 & 23 from 4–8 p.m.
Special BACK TO SCHOOL closet on July 30, 4–8 p.m.
If you know of a family who is in need but cannot get to our clothes closet, call 256-634-4210 and arrangements will be made to provide for them.
Ryleigh’s Closet is open the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Donations of shoes and clothing are welcome. Contact Gwen Stone for details.
Mentone Community Church Life Center is located at 90 Summerville Road. 256-634-4210 / mentonecc.org

BROWN’S
CLEANING & LAUNDRY
“Continuous service by the same family since 1933”
Vault Storage for Furs & Woolens · Drapery Cleaning with Machine Decorator Fold · Suede, Leather & Fur Cleaning · Fire Restoration & Odor Removal · Wedding Gown Preservation · Alterations · Pillow Cleaning
817 Gault Ave. N. (256) 845-3241

Full Laundry Service

It’s Time to Plan Your Escape!
Little River Escape offers 50 acres of mountain climate, riverside hikes, and tiny community living. We have homes sited for sale, models you can sit on the lot of your choice, or you can order a custom tiny home from another tiny home builder!
Relax by the pool. Fish in the East Fork of Little River, paddle in one of our kayaks under the bridge to Lake Lahasuge, or hike around to the swimmin’ hole to cool off.
Just over an hour from Atlanta, Chattanooga, and Birmingham, we offer a lovely commute for residents, or an easy getaway for vacationers.
Come see if tiny living fits your big life!

Cabin Rentals
1-888-920-8445
LET ME MANAGE YOUR CABIN FOR YOU - Ron Waits
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 651.

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.


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

Lee’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 500 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 Partain 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.

Grace Bible 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 Kilian & Kilian Attorneys). Father Rodney Jackson, 205-405-0055; Deacon Jack Gilbride, 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 (EPC) invites everyone to attend services with us. Sunday School at 10am (Eastern) and Worship Service at 11:15am (Eastern). Rev. Ian Taylor is our pastor. We are located at 70 North 6th Ave., next to the park in Menlo.

As I have loved you, love one another
John 13:34

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. Pastor 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.
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, dispos-al, compactors, gas fireplace, enormous pantry. Large dining room opens onto 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. $419,000 (1062816).

CUTET TILTED LOG CABIN, on a little over an acre. Small in size, big on what you want in a retreat or in a place to live life more simply. Wood interior; new kitchen; 1BR/1BA (new tile shower); rocking chairs on the front porch (it’s being sold already furnished); metal roof; wooded backyard; lovely front yard w/rustic trees & garden areas; flower beds; quaint "outhouse-tolk" well house. (Public water avail.) Great rental possibilities, too! Fantastic price of only $79,900 (1053286).

RELAX, IT'S "MOUNTAIN TIME." You’ve worked hard for it, you’re ready to unwind. Here’s that cabin filled with rustic flavor & mountain charm. All-wood interior; vaulted, open LR/DR/Kit. Spacious, main-level MBR & bath. Large loft BR & wbright shower bath. Front porch & big screened back porch for just kicking back with no worries. Laurel Creek offers 3 lakes and well-kept walking trails to explore wildflowers & native plant life. A sweet package, a sweet price. $173,900 (1086804).

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?! At one time, this was a tea house where Mentone society reportedly gathered on the porches or inside to catch up on all the news. Currently 3BR/2BA, with formal dining room, sitting room, den & sun porches. Unfinished "grandma’s attic" area with intriguing angles and nooks. Wood floors throughout. Mostly wood stoves, fireplaces with stonework. Standing deadwood on 2.66 ac (+/-) with plenty of room for an additional cottage to be built. Wildlife love the natural setting. $235,000 (1074930).

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 flowers!) off Cutter Avenue. New CH/I, insulation & light fixtures. Vintage pine cabinets, new laminate floors; wood interior walls; lots of 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! $90,000 (1086304).

GET AWAY TO YOUR OWN CABIN IN THE WOODS! 2BR/2BA; on 3 wooded acres; away from it all but within minutes of downtown Mentone. All wood interior, vaulted ceilings; wood-burning FPice; master suite w/ jetted tub & sep shower. Great outdoor places, too, including a large screened porch on the side, covered front porch & sweeping open decks. There's also a 10x20 detached building for storage or a workshop for the tinkerer. New siding, 2018. Priced well at only $170,000. (1083660).

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 1920's. Approx 0.45 acre lot in an area where properties are seldom available. Build your own memories! $125,000 (1070474).

JUST ENOUGH IS JUST RIGHT. And we think you’ll find this 11.9 acres to offer just enough land, priva-cy and elbow room. Public water is right there at the road, so is electricity. If you’re resourceful enough, you might even find there’s plenty of lim-ber, the property to have milled into the lumber you’ll need to build. Not too much, not too little, & at a perfect price. $41,900 (1087348).

EASTERN LOOKOUT MTN'S EDGE, expansive views, gorgeous sunrises. 1-acre lot w/approx 120' brow frontage; paved road; public water. Driveway file 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 Natl Preserve. Jacksboro Center & favorite swimming holes of Little River. Less than 15 minutes to Ft Payne. $59,000 (1085939).

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 moun-tain home. Restricted. $39,700 (1034503).

DESO 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 1920's. 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 (5,500 per acre)
Furniture
WALL BEDS (Murphy Bed style) – We have all size Wall Beds. Great for spare room and small areas. Come see our showroom in Collinsville, AL on Hwy 68 at the Alabama Mattress Outlet. Store 9-5 Mon. – Sat. Call 256-523-3622 or Andy Crow 256-490-4025.

Property
NORTH OF MENTONE 23.5 acres with stream, woods, great organically improved pasture & an old home place site. What a great place for a home or farm. $125,000. Call Heather 256-276-8422.

Waterfront access and 8 acres on Little River above Lake Lahunas. Great for rentals. Call 256-276-8422.

Services
COX TILE – Sunrooms, marble, baths, shower pan repair. James Pleas Cox, 706-766-2758, jpcoxtile1@gmail.com.

ATTENTION GROUNDHOG READERS
The Groundhog is available at the following locations:

MENTONE
Body Maintenance
Clip Joint
Community Library
Graceful Giraffe
Gourdie Shop
Green Leaf Grill
Hair @ The Village
Little River Hardware
Log Cabin Village
Lookout Mountain Realty
Lookout Mountain Outpost
Magnolia Rose
Mentone Inn
Mentone Market
Mentone Mountain Getaways
Mentone Realty
Mentone Town Hall
Moon Lake Trading Company
Mountain Properties
Pilowshares Bistro
Southern Style Log Furniture
Triple G Tradin Post
Wildflower Cafe

FORT PAYNE
Alabama Fan Club
Big Mill & Vintage 1889
Blue Jug
Boom Town Makers Market
Brown's Cleaners
Bruce's Foodland
Chamber of Commerce
Days Inn
DeKalb County Library
DeKalb Tourism
DeSoto State Park Lodge
DSP Country Store
First Fidelity Bank
Fischer X-Roads Store
Hampton Inn
Holiday Inn
Huddle House
Priceless IGA
Quality Inn
“S” House Antiques
Southern Properties
The Spot Coffee Shop
The Strand
Waffle House
Waffle King

VALLEY HEAD
Bell Battelle
Citizens Bank
Dave's Antiques
Headquarters Beauty Salon
Tigers Inn
Valley Head Drugs
Valley Head Food Mart
Valley Head Town Hall
Water Board

GEORGIA
BJ's State Line Store
Economy Pharmacy
Ingles
Jim's Family Restaurant
Judy's Herb Shop
Little River Escape Tiny Homes
Menlo Healthmart
Menlo Lucky's
Menlo Town Hall
Menlo Restaurant
Mountain Top Country Store
Reece Tire
The Lookout Restaurant
The Vineyard Cafe

OTHER
Alabama I-59 Welcome Center
Little River Canyon Center
Little River Market
Ralph's Grocery

Subscribe to The Groundhog or become a member of the Mentone Area Preservation Association and receive a free subscription!

Name ______________ Date ______________
Address _________________________________ State ____________ Zip ____________
City _________________________________ State ____________ Zip ____________
Email _________________________________ Phone _______________

 Opr. New Subscription ☐ Renewal
Make check payable to The Groundhog, PO Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984.

 Opr. I wish to become a member of MAPA and receive a free subscription.
Make check payable to MAPA, PO Box 50, Mentone, AL 35984.

Is there someone special in your life who would appreciate a Groundhog subscription?
Just fill in their information above and fill in your name below.
From: __________________________________________

Don't miss an issue • Have The Groundhog delivered to your mailbox. Just $20 a year.

Advertise in The Groundhog
Current Rates & Sizes
All sizes are width x height and measured in inches.
1/8 page $50 / $65* (3.25 x 5 or 5 x 3.25)
1/6 page $75 / $95* (3.25 x 6.75 or 5 x 4.5)
1/5 page $87 / $110* (3.25 x 8 or 5 x 5.25)
1/4 page $100 / $125* (5 x 6.5)
1/3 page $150 / $185* (5 x 8.75 or 10 x 4.25)
1/2 page $200 / $250* (10 x 6.5)
full page $300 / $375* (10 x 13)

*upcharge for color
Deadline for Camera-ready Ad 16th of the month prior to publication month
Deadline for Ad Creation 14th of the month prior to publication month
Layout Charge 10% of ad cost
Classified Ads 45 words or less. $10/advance

mapamentone.com/groundhog
GroundhogAds@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984
256-465-1107

Great news!
The Groundhog is available online...
Visit mapamentone.com/groundhog
Sanctuary in Mentone

I hadn’t visited the Memorial Prayer Garden at St. Joseph’s on-the-Mountain Episcopal Church in a few months, and I recently went by to see the progress. Wow!

Mike Keracher, Memorial Prayer Garden chair and volunteer, has worked with other Master Gardeners to truly create a sanctuary of peace and beauty right in “downtown” Mentone. Many species of birds were singing from the trees, cloaking the highway sounds from 117. It’s a lovely space to sit in silence, or chat with friends. Our community has received a true gift!

Plans are still being implemented, including the construction of a sacred labyrinth. Stay tuned! —Kelly Leavitt

There is always music amongst the trees in the garden, but our hearts must be very quiet to hear it.

— Minnie Aumonier
Summer Community Gathering!

Saturday, July 28 ~ 12:30–2:30 PM
Moon Lake Community Library & MERF Walking Trail

The library is partnering with other local organizations to host a family-friendly afternoon of good ol’ traditional fun! Several organizations will have displays attended by representatives, so you can learn about their various missions.

Corn Hole • Badminton • Three-Legged Race
Croquet • Horseshoes • Water Balloon Toss
& a Pie Baking Contest!

Visit moonlakelibrary.org or our Facebook page to learn more.
Invite your friends and neighbors!

Law Offices of Thomas J. Skinner, IV, LLC
- Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, & Probate Matters
- Business Law
- Real Estate Law
- Real Estate Tax Sales and Redemptions
- General Civil Litigation

Open most Wednesdays from 9am to 4pm, or by appointment.

No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Valley Head 166 Commerce Avenue | 256-674-1111
lawtjs.com

Boom Town Makers Market
Open Wednesday—Saturday 10–5 / Sunday 1–4
www.boomtownmakersmarket.org
A non-profit project of Landmarks, the Historic Association of DeKalb County, Alabama

‘Art in the Alley’ First Thursdays at 5 pm