Art, Music and More Atop the Mountain

MAAC’s JulyFest is set for July 19-20

Presented by the Mentone Area Arts Council, JulyFest Art and Music Festival made its debut in 2012 attracting thousands to the mountaintop town for a weekend of free family fun. Atop Lookout Mountain in Mentone, the third annual event is set for July 19-20, offering two days of fine arts and crafts, music by notable Alabama artists plus a pet parade, silent auction, dog adoption and more.

On Saturday, July 19th, the two-day event opens at 9 a.m. with the prestigious juried arts and crafts show featuring the works of about 50 talented artists and craftspeople who specialize in oil paintings, pastels, watercolors, photography, sculptures, wood art, pottery, basketry and jewelry. The juried show will be held both days under the trees in Mason Park in the center of Mentone where you can enjoy a leisurely stroll as you shop for one-of-a-kind art.

Registration for the pet parade starts at 9:30 a.m. at Mason Park with the parade taking to the streets at 10 a.m. Following an awards presentation, there will be an exciting animal act and new for this year is a photo center where your pets can pose for portraits. Be sure to also take part in the silent auction, a plant sale and dog adoption to benefit the Humane Society and Animal Resources of DeKalb County.

Live entertainment is slated for all day Saturday and includes performances by saxophonist Bill Henson at 11 a.m., Curtis Strange at 1 p.m., and Lisa Crow at 3 p.m. At 5 p.m., Old Tymer’s Barbecue of Fort Payne will fill plates with their famous barbeque on the grounds of the Mentone Inn as you enjoy great music by Terry Hutchinson. Cost is $10 per plate. You will want to stick around for a free concert by Mentone’s own Jess Goggans and the Magnetics. The concert, slated for 7:30 p.m. in the Mentone Inn Pavilion, is also a CD release event for the local group. Be sure to bring a lawn chair and picnic blanket.

On Sunday, July 20th, Mentone's Larry Joe Hall is slated to perform from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Mason Park gazebo. Categorized as folk, rock and country, Larry's style is punctuated with strong clear vocals and precise guitar playing.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, July 19 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 20 (Central Standard Time). In the event of inclement weather, the festival will be held the following weekend, July 26-27.

JulyFest Art and Music Festival is made possible through a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts along with Title Sponsor The Mentone Inn.

For more information, visit www.mentonearts.org or contact Festival Chair Cynthia Stinson at mentoneinn@gmail.com. Questions from exhibitors should be directed to Beverly Bates at bj Bates@bellsouth.net or 205-520-1556.

And Don’t Forget the Popular Pet Parade!

The Mentone Area Arts Council will present the third annual Pet Parade, Silent Auction and Dog Adoption at Mason Park during JulyFest weekend to benefit the Humane Society and Animal Resources of DeKalb County.

New this year will be an Animal Photography Center where you can pose your dog/cat/husband/goat/child to be represented as a Police Dog, Ballerina or Brown Bat. You can also purchase plants that grow well in Mentone, like cone flower, phlox, daisies, columbine and red bud, at our “Plant Parenthood to Prevent Unwanted Dog/Cat Parenthood” plant sale.

You can play a part to help make this year’s event a success:

- Bring your dog/cat/canary/milk cow/buffalo/frog/goat/chicken/horse to be in the parade. There will be ribbons for every possible category, and there will be a category to fit
Mentone Matters  
By Mayor Rob Hammond

Summer time is here and Mentone is hopping. With the opening of the camps our population more than doubles and that is just including the camps in the town limits. If you include the other camps in the Mentone area, people staying in bed & breakfasts, cabins, and their own cabins, we have quite a population explosion. This time of year we have an increased number of people walking, jogging, and riding bikes. Please be alert and “share the road”. For those who do jog, walk, or ride, remember the bridge on Alabama 117 is extremely dangerous and should be avoided.

The paving on Cutler Avenue is complete. Our paving funds are now depleted, but when we build up funds we are committed to future paving projects.

From The Editor

A Magnet for Creative Talent

Music filled the Lyceum, and the appreciative audience of family, friends, and music lovers voiced enthusiastic cheers and applause for the young finalists in the Singing With The Stars concert presented by the DeKalb County Children’s Advocacy Center. The concert featured Teddy Gentry and the Rockit City Band; but this night’s stars where Payton, Jacee, Alexa, Bri, Ezzi, Avery, Taylor, Kenadie, Abigail, Kristen, Tatum, Hannah, and Shelby – all finalists in the competition to win scholarships, guitars, and the big prize of being the opening act for an Alabama Band concert. Tatum Campbell won the night and performed at the Alabama Band Fan Club Concert the following weekend in Fort Payne.

Neighbors and visitors alike recognize the creative talent found in our part of Alabama. I am never quite sure if it’s the sheer natural beauty of the place, the natives who inhabit the area, or the newcomers who contribute their own diverse element to the mix–but something frees the soul and spirit to create magic. The great young voices we heard on June 12 at the Northeast Alabama Community College Lyceum are just a small example of the talent that abounds in these mountains and coves.

The Mentone Area Preservation Association is not only committed to protecting the natural and historic beauty of the area but also to the cultivation and promotion of our creative and talented citizens. Join us!

Ray Padgett,  
For the MAPA Board
MAPA ELECTS OFFICERS

During MAPA’s monthly meeting on June 3, new and renewing officers and board members were elected.

MAPA welcomes Rick Fay to the Board. Rick and wife Debra own the Graceful Giraffe and are relative newcomers to Mentone. They joined MAPA last year and quickly became active volunteers in our community. Rick replaces Amelia Kirk-Lolli on our Board. The entire MAPA community thanks Amelia for her many years of volunteering and serving as a board member and various officer positions with MAPA.

All other MAPA Board members agreed to serve another year. The slate of officers and board members are as follows:

Ray Padgett - President
Kayla Worthey - Vice President
Doreen Waters - Treasurer
Jerome Stephens - Secretary
Laura Moon - Past-President
Rick Fay - Member at Large
Elaine Gauldin - Member at Large

MAPA was formed more than thirty years ago and has been a stalwart supporter of Mentone’s heritage and natural beauty ever since. The Rhododendron and Colorfest Festivals are sponsored by MAPA each year, and our local volunteer newspaper, The Groundhog, continues to keep neighbors and visitors informed about our history and current happenings around Mentone. MAPA is a 501c(3) organization.

Ray Padgett, President
Mentone Area Preservation Association
(MAPA)

Subscribe to The Groundhog!

Have The Groundhog delivered to your mailbox!
Subscribe now or renew your own subscription.
Just $20 a year.

Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________
City ___________________ State _______ Zip ______
Email ___________________ Phone ________

Is this a new or renewed subscription? ___________________

Is there someone special who would love to
have a Groundhog subscription? Just fill in their information above
and fill in your name below:
From ________________________________

Send your check payable to:
The Groundhog, P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984

Custom Home Designs

- New Homes
- Renovations
- Additions

Tony Shrader
(423) 637-5177

“Designs in harmony with nature and your needs.”

Serving Northeast Alabama for 50 Years!

877-272-1451

BUILDERS SUPPLY CO., INC.

Fort Payne
(256) 845-1451

www.bsupply.net

Sylvania
(256) 638-2244

Andersen

Concrete Block
Roof and Floor Trusses
Clark + Kensington Paint
Lumber and Building Materials

In-House Factory Certified Technician

Pallets & Crates
Plumbing & Electrical
Window and Screen Repair
Industrial Janitorial Supplies

LIBS FROM THE LIBRARY

Books, Books, Hardbacks to Paperback, available for sale now in the Library. Ask someone to point the way to the book room and have a ball with books! This room will also be open for all festivals or until all books are gone!

Summer Fun at the Moon Lake Library


“Writing Book Wonders” - Saturdays, July 12, 19, 26 from 10:00-12:00. Ages 9 and up.

“SPLASH” extravaganza for all children in the reading program. Tuesday, July 29 at 3:30.
This Olde House: MERF Community House

My boards may be a little creaky and my paint a little flaky but I am full of life. I continue to open my doors to the young and the wise so my walls are full of joy, laughter and learning.

Summer fun has begun with sunshine, rain showers and many children laughing and playing on the mountain. The first Senior Summer Social was a blast with a visit from the Camp DeSoto girls. This will be their last summer in Mentone as campers. The Camp DeSoto kitchen sent over homemade vanilla ice cream and everyone topped it with peanut butter and honey. This is a Sunday lunch tradition at Camp DeSoto so the campers had to show the seniors the joy of it. After eating and visiting, the camp girls led with some great songs accompanied by both staff and camper musicians. Everyone kept saying “just one more.”

Our black hat poet shared the One Hundredth Psalm and Elizabeth and Wilma ended our singing with some traditional senior lunch songs. It was a great afternoon of fun-thanks Camp DeSoto girls for joining us.

July’s Summer Social will be on Wednesday, July 16th at 1:30 p.m. The hosts will be the Mentone Market so it will be a great summer party with wonderful treats!

Unfortunately, the beginning of summer has also brought the senior lunch bunch crew a loss of a wonderful friend named Margaret Rice. When Margaret moved to Mentone to live with her daughter, Dee Bell, she began joining us on Wednesdays for lunch. She loved coming as much as we loved having her. Her sweet, joyful and giving spirit will definitely be missed. Here are pictures of her enjoying two of the senior summer socials in 2013. Thank you for your friendship, Margaret.

The MERF board appreciates the many ways each of you support MERF and its programs. Have a happy and safe 4th of July!

MERF: Mentone Educational Resources Foundation is a local non-profit with the mission “To enrich the learning and living of the community by identifying needs and coordinating resources.” If you would like to support our programs, tax-deductible donations can be mailed to POB107 Mentone, AL 35984 or contribute online at www.crowdrise.com/MERF.

Lookout Mountain Parkway Association
By Kayla Worthey

The Lookout Mountain Parkway spans three states as it stretches across Lookout Mountain from Gadsden, Alabama, through Mentone and on into Chattanooga, Tennessee. Within it’s almost 100 miles, you will find waterfalls, canyons, scenic brow vistas, state and national parks and preserves, many more natural wonders, and right in the heart of it all is the unique mountain village of Mentone.

The Parkway is also home to The World’s Longest Yard Sale! It begins the first Thursday of every August and more than 5,000 yard sale vendors will line the Lookout Mountain Parkway and the US 127 Corridor for some 650 miles of bargains this year on August 7–10. The town of Mentone will be running over with vendors and bargain hunters alike.

The Lookout Mountain Parkway has already been named by Reader’s Digest as one of “America’s Most Scenic Drives”. It has been featured in National Geographic’s Traveler Magazine as a “Best Driving Tour” of Appalachia. It is a favorite among motorcycle and vintage car clubs and is a well-deserved route for scenic leisure travelers. The Lookout Mountain Parkway is already a state scenic byway in Alabama, and we are working towards the same in Georgia and Tennessee. After that official status has been acquired through those states, we will move on to becoming a National Scenic Byway.

Would you like to join us and help us become a National Scenic Byway and help promote your business or attraction along the way? For more information, go to www.LookoutMountainParkway.org or call 866-638-4936.
MBA @ JulyFest

Be sure to check out the Mentone Business Association booth at JulyFest 2014! We’ll be showing some of the many products available at our local shops, with discount coupons for many of the businesses. After you’ve enjoyed the arts and crafts, food and music offered by the Julyfest in Mason Park, we then invite you to visit our town. We have 30 shopping opportunities for you between the Mentone Inn and the Post Office, plus seven more within a few minutes of downtown. Among these, there are six places to purchase some great art, 10 where you can eat, 19 with a variety of gifts (many locally hand made), plus several other shops with unique specialty items. Our three downtown realtors also invite you to stop in to visit and see some of the great homes available in our area. Mentone is a nice place to visit, but you might also decide you’d like to live here!

At our MBA booth, we’ll be showing products provided by our members, including Art Gallery @ Mentone, Artisans LTD, Crystal Lake B&B, Graceful Giraffe, Kamama Gallery, Mentone Inn, Mentone Realty, Raven Haven B&B, Snappy Graphics, Southern Style Log Furniture, Spinning Wheel, and anyone else that joins between now and then. If you’re not yet a member but plan to join, come by, join up (for free); and we can include some of your products in our display.

We’ll also have a supply of FREE information, including Mentone Maps and guides to area dining, lodging, attractions and entertainment opportunities.

We held our June meeting on Monday, June 16th, from 6:00 to 7:00 at MERF House. It was well attended, and we had two prospective new members. We had some lengthy discussions about new signage around town, sponsoring a possible cruise-in in the fall and advertising in Birmingham area newspapers. Minutes from the meeting are online at MBA.MyMentone.com.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 21st, from 6:00 to 7:00 in the MERF House. The public and prospective new members are invited.

Pet Parade (cont’d from page 1)

every entry.

• Bring something to donate to the Silent Auction--homegrown vegetables, potted plants, art work, handwork, antiques.

• Purchase items from the Silent Auction and Plant Parenthood areas.

• Take home a rescue dog presented by the DeKalb County SPCA; these animals are neutered, have all vaccinations and have been specially selected for this event.

• Volunteer to help with the Pet Parade and Silent Auction.

Schedule of Pet Events:

Saturday, July 19

9: 30am – Registration for Pet Parade: entry donation from $0 to $10

10am – Pet Parade

10:30am – Awarding of Ribbons to Pet Parade winners - and there will be plenty!

10:45am – Special Animal Act

11am–5pm - Silent Auction, SPCA Animal Adoption Center and Pet Photography Center

Sunday, July 20

11am–4pm – Continuation of Silent Auction, Pet Adoption Center and Pet Photography Center

3:30pm  – End of Silent Auction and pick up of sale items

Pet Parade (cont’d from page 1)

By Bob Hoffman, President

With competitive rates and personal service, it’s no wonder more drivers trust State Farm®.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7.
2014 Moon Lake 6th Grade Graduates

in alphabetical order: William Beasley; Laura Boehringer, Valedictorian; Rachel Collins; Randy Cook; Tanner Gatewood, Salutatorian; Jordan Henderson; Branson Huffstutler; Kallie Ingram; Rylee Kirby; Mattie McGee; Ethan Peridore; Ian Roberts; Ally Smith; Madisen Smith; Aryan Wallace

Mission Statement: To open the lines of communication and unleash the unlimited potential of our students and educators by engaging the community as a reliable resource for ensuring unparalleled education.

Hello everyone! My name is Anna Horn, and I am the secretary for the newly reorganized Valley Head School PTO called Tiger CHAMPS. This organization is more than the typical PTO, so we wanted a name that truly reflects what we hope to accomplish. Tiger CHAMPS is founded for the sole purpose of improving the education of the students at Valley Head School - to help them become CHAMPS in education. We want to make it easier for parents and school personnel to COMMUNICATE with each other. We will HONOR student accomplishments and ADVOCATE their needs. We hope to MOTIVATE them to live up to their full potential. This is a traditional PTO in the sense that we want to welcome PARENTS, guardians, school faculty and any concerned community members in the surrounding areas to join us, be involved and stand together for the enrichment of educational programs and facilities at Valley Head School. The education of our STUDENTS is our main concern. We believe this is best achieved through improved communication and increased involvement.

We have started a Facebook page and established a website (www.tigerchamps.weebly.com) which includes important information, lists contacts and has a calendar with school and area activities that may be of interest to students and families. There are also places for comments, questions and suggestions. We truly would like for this to be an interactive site. I have recently added a forum to the site as well.

There is also a volunteer form that can be filled out to let us know any skills and time you have available to give. There are no dues for Tiger CHAMPS at this time, but we do ask members to be involved and volunteer if at all possible. Even 30 minutes can make a difference -- all skills are useful. Not only will today's students benefit but so will future generations.

We have a lot of fun ideas and activities in mind for next year and are open to suggestions. We will be discussing these over the summer, so look forward to hearing about these once the plans start! Also, we would like to create new educational programs and recognize more academic achievements of our students. I am currently working on a web site. There are a lot of great kids at our school, so I look for this page to fill up quickly!

Times change and we have to change to keep up with them. We are hoping to take the accomplishments of previous PTOs and build on these. The website is definitely a sign of the times. We hope this will reach people in a way that is convenient for them. We are also sending out a newsletter monthly with the elementary students, and I will now be posting this article monthly as well. All officers would like to make ourselves available and our information is provided on the website. You can also mail, send or drop off a letter at the school -- ATTN: Tiger CHAMPS (PTO). Valerie Logan is our President; Kim Johnson -- Vice President; Laura McKenzie -- Treasurer; and, as I mentioned, Anna Horn -- Secretary. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or information at any time.
CONGRATULATIONS TO VALLEY HEAD STUDENTS
ABIGAIL ROMERO AND DANIEL SMITH
State Champions in the VEX Robotics Competition

Abigail Romero and Daniel Smith were on a robotics team from DeKalb County Technology Center with teammate Collin Kittle from Geraldine. This was the school's first year to place a team in the competition and were considered underdogs. They placed 3rd in the district tournament and then went on to state and finished AT THE TOP. Their three-team alliance placed first over approximately 50 teams in their division and went to Anaheim, California, to represent Alabama in the Vex Robotics World Championship. There were 28 countries and a total of 430 high school teams there. The Tech School team placed 74th in their division. Not bad for beginners, if you ask me. I congratulate these students on their hard work and their courage to try something new. They said the trip out to California was "Awesome". The journey itself was even an experience. The plane had some problems which caused a delay; they made a bad situation better by making friends with some Canadians.

It really highlighted the fact that this was an international competition and they were exploring a new part of the country.

Both students are hoping to participate in the competition again next year at the college level. They graduated on Friday, May 23rd, from Valley Head and will be attending Northeast Community College in the fall. Both students were also in the band this year at Valley Head. Abigail will be going into Industrial Electronics. Her favorite part of the competition was getting to be creative and competitive. She enjoys music and has a wide variety of hobbies from keyboarding to skateboarding. Daniel likes the pressure of competition. He also enjoys music and has received the Northeast Alabama Community College Encore Show Choir Scholarship. He plays several things from the guitar to soccer. I would like to wish both students well on their new endeavors as they begin this new phase in life. No doubt that their enjoyment of pressure and competition will take them far in their careers. Best of luck!!

I would also like to note that these two graduates are leaving two empty spots on the robotics team for next year! Northeast offers summer "camps" for robotics for those as young as the 6th grade, but the class is not required to be on the team. Check out their website to see what they offer. Summer classes may be closed, but they will do this again next year. I am very excited to see these kinds of opportunities for our children. It means they are getting the best of both worlds-modern technology experiences and small town community environment.

Valley Head to Host Fundraiser

The Valley Head Athletic Club will be hosting their 18th Annual Fundraiser this year. They will be selling tickets with a chance to win up to $10,000! Tickets will be sold up until the day of the event. Drawing will be held at the Valley Head Lowell Barron Gymnasium on Saturday, August 23, 2014, at 2pm. You do not have to be present to win cash money. Each ticket sold will be eligible for 2 FREE dinners served in the Valley Head Cafeteria beginning at 12pm. Door Prizes will be given away throughout the day to those lucky winners that are present. Please see an Athletic Club Member for your tickets. All tickets will be drawn and winners will be as follows:

1st TICKET DRAWN WINS..................$500.00
25th, 50th, 75th, 100th, 125th, 150th, 175th, 200th, 225th, 250th, 275th, 300th, 325th, 350th, & 375th TICKET DRAWN WINS..................$200.00
396th TICKET DRAWN WINS.............$500.00
397th TICKET DRAWN WINS.............$500.00
398th TICKET DRAWN WINS.............$500.00
399th TICKET DRAWN WINS.............$1,000.00
400th TICKET DRAWN WINS..........$10,000.00

Our clinic now offers Weight Management Services. Medicare now pays for Obesity therapy.

Valley Head High School 2014 Scholarship Recipients

- Athletic Club Scholarship-Hayley Crider
- Distinguished Young Women Scholarship - Lauren McGee
- Don and Martha Smith Memorial Scholarship - Madi Owen and Josie Crider
- EGS Electrical Group Scholarship - Josie Crider
- Faulkner University Football Scholarship - Trever Manley
- Jacksonville State University Elite Scholarship - Mary Elizabeth Sudberry
- Lincoln College of Technology Scholarship - Richard Sanders
- Lookout Mountain Holistic Center laptop computers - Maria Hidrogo, Ana Rosales, Mary Elizabeth Sudberry, Kanissa Smith, Hayley Crider, Daniel Smith, Candy Manuel, Ryan Wooten, Trever Manley, Christian Muir
- Masonic Scholarship - Allie Rhodes
- Northeast Alabama Community College Art Scholarships - Maria Hidrogo and Ana Rosales
- Northeast Alabama Community College Presidential Host Scholarship - Kaitlyn Dean
- Northeast Alabama Community College Visual Art Scholarship - Lauren McGee
- Northeast Alabama Community College Encore Show Choir Scholarship - Daniel Smith
- Scholarship in Honor of Maureen Hammond - Kaitlyn Dean
- Scholarship in Memory of Sheila Yamada - Allie Rhodes
- Valley Head Women's Club Scholarship - Ana Rosales, Hayley Crider, Maria Hidrogo
- Vann McCary Scholarships - Bree Wallace, Jasmin Boyzo, Celeny Hernandez, Hayley Crider, Josie Crider, Sydnee Grider, Lauren McGee, Madi Owen, Ana Rosales, Kanissa Smith
- Willard T. Adcox Achievement Scholarship - Josie Crider
**Remember When ...**

Twenty-six years ago Governor Hunt announced in July 1988 that the Coca-Cola bottling facility in Montgomery had been chosen to produce a special printed 24-bottle series exclusively for the North American Shrine Membership.

The Shrine Commemorative Series was to feature each of the 22 Shiners’ Hospitals for crippled and burned children, along with one depicting the International Shrine Headquarters in Tampa, Florida, and one featuring “The Editorial Without Words” which reflects the heart and soul of the Shrinedom.

My Grandfather Jim Manifold was a member of the Shrine until he passed, and I remember how strongly he believed in them. Little did I know that my own daughter would be treated by the Shriners years later. We were driven to Louisville by two of the sweetest, most generous men I have ever met. The staff at the Shriner’s Hospital was absolutely fantastic to Hope and me. I have never seen so many friendly, smiling faces in any institution.

With it being the month for our celebration of independence, we will all be remembering our fallen soldiers and hero’s. I hope you will also think of all the Shriner’s (most of which have been or are soldiers) and the marvelous job they do each and every day coming to the aid of our sick and injured children! If you are looking for a charity to give to, please remember the Shriners.

**CORRECTION:**

Haley Stinson of Troy, AL, daughter of Cynthia Stinson of Mentone Inn, welcomed Waker Reece Stinson on April 16, 2014. Seven pounds and 18 3/4 inches.
It’s that time of year again. Fireworks everywhere! There are so many different types of them now, I think I would need to take a class to learn what’s what! But what great memories we all have of our own childhoods watching the fireworks!... and anticipating the “Big Finale”! I remember going through the bags and boxes and lining them up in the order they were to go, always smallest to largest! And we all remember the “Big Clean” the next morning in the yard!

I wish you all a very Happy and Safe Fourth of July Celebration with your families. And to help kick off your party, here is a “Crackers of Fire” recipe for you!

**Crackers of Fire**

In a plastic bag combine 1 2/3 cup of olive or vegetable oil, 1 tsp each garlic and onion powder, ½ tsp crushed black pepper, 3 tbsp crushed red pepper flakes (Yes! 3 tablespoons! We want Fire Crackers remember?) and 2 envelopes of Ranch dressing mix. Shimmy your bag until it’s all combined. Then add 1 sleeve of any Saltine cracker you like. Shake ‘em a bit to coat your crackers and repeat every few hours. They need to sit overnight; or if you mix them early in the morning, they will be ready by nightfall. Now, I am a bit different. Most folks let them sit and then just take them out and serve them. That’s great and they are good, but I prefer to lay mine on a lined baking sheet and toast them in the oven for about 3-5 minutes.

Try a few both ways and see which one you prefer! I am just a sucker for that big crunch!

**Happy Independance Day to you all!**
What To Do Around Here!

July 2014 Community Calendar

**Jul 1 - Bouldering Adventure** – Atop Lookout Mountain. Come experience first-hand what bouldering is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. We will climb on some of the best boulders atop Lookout Mountain. No prior climbing or bouldering experience is needed. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

**Jul 2 - Poisonous Plants of Alabama Class**
This class is a brief overview of many poisonous plants in Alabama. There are many types of poisonous plants, learn how to spot them and what to do if you are affected by them. Also learn the vital role they play in our wildness. Meet at True Adventure Sports Training Center. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 256-997-9577.

**Jul 3 - Summers Eve Sunset Tour.** Tigers For Tomorrow will be offering for the first time Sunset tours! Tours will educate visitors on the animals at the preserve, as well as their instincts and behaviors. Gates will open at 5:30 and the tours will begin at 6:00. Photos will be permitted on these tours. No reservations are needed. Admission for this adventure is $10.00 for children and $20.00 for adults. 256-524-4150 or 256-364-0143.

**Jul 5, 7, 19, 21 - Rappelling Adventure**
True Adventure Sports. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. No previous experience necessary. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

**Jul 3 - Independence Day Celebration in Fort Payne**
The City of Fort Payne invites you to a wonderful celebration with free hot dogs, soft drinks, American flags, live entertainment, and a fantastic fireworks display. Event takes place at the Fort Payne High School football stadium and begins at dusk. Rainout date is July 5. 256-845-1524.

**Jul 4 - 31st 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 10 a.m. and culminates with a beautiful fireworks display 256-657-6282.

**Jul 4 - Splash & Splash Pool Party.** Join the fun at our 2nd Annual Splash & Splash Pool Party at DeSoto State Park! Cool off in our Olympic-size pool, play pool games, watch a movie in the great outdoors, enter for door prizes, & eat home-made ice cream! $1 per person. 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. 256-997-5025.

**Jul 4 - DeSoto State Park Independence Day Celebration.** DeSoto State Park offers its annual star-spangled celebration with a parade, homemade ice cream social, and a flag making contest. Make your own homemade flag to be judged in this fun contest. All ages are welcome to participate! Materials & flag-making rules will be available at the campground pavilion in DeSoto State Park’s Improved Campground starting Wednesday, July 2nd. Flags MUST be turned in no later than 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 5th. The parade begins at DeSoto’s Lodge and makes it way to DeSoto’s Campground, just in time for the Homemde Ice Cream Social in the Campground Pavilion. Guests are welcome to bring their own favorite recipe for homemade ice cream to share while enjoying summer’s favorite treat. 3 p.m. is parade and 4 p.m. is ice cream social. 256-997-5025.

**Jul 5 - 6 - Bush Craft Weekend with One World Adventure.** Bring old school camping back to the 21st century learning outdoor skills and enjoying nature with your family. During this bush craft weekend learn projects you can do with your family while camping. Saturday 9 a.m. to Sunday 3 p.m. 256-634-8370.

**Jul 5 - Sculpt Your Own Flower.** Have you ever wanted to actually sit at the gaffer bench and feel what it is like to shape hot glass? It’s all about hands on experience in a safe and fun atmosphere with a final product we know you will love. There is a minimum of 5 people and a maximum of 5 in each class. 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Reservations are required. 256-523-3188.

**Jul 5 - Storytime at the Canyon Center: The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle.** Little River Canyon Center staff and volunteers will read aloud unique children’s literature every first Saturday of the month. Storybooks will be available for purchase. Little River Canyon Center. 11 a.m. to Noon. Free and open to everyone. 256-782-5697.

**Jul 5 - Night Zip Line.** All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 p.m the day before adventure. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.


**Jul 11 - One World Adventure After Dark Teen Adventure.** Teen’s ages 13-16 can sign up for group activities including kayaking, bouldering and hiking. Desoto after dark scene gives teenagers a chance to meet new friends during glow-in-the-dark recreational activities and movie showings. $35 per person Minimum: 4 Maximum: 20 Sessions: Each Friday, July 11-25, August 1 & 8 DeSoto State Park 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**Jul 11 - Extreme Night Hike.** This end-of-day adventure does not slow down just because it’s dark. Intended for a large group team-building exercise, this hike has a bit of bouldering, some scrambling, some spelunking, and a whole lot of required working together. Headlamp and enthusiastic guide included. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 256-997-9577.

**Jul 11 - Campfire Talk: Weather Wonders.** Join us for a fun campfire talk located in the Great Outdoors! Meteorologist Tim Troutman with the National Weather Service will be providing a severe weather safety presentation that will highlight all of the weather hazards that affect residents in north Alabama. Some of the topics that Tim will discuss will include: Severe storms, tornades, flash flooding, lightning safety, winter weather and weather safety. DeSoto State Park’s Campfire Ring 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Free to the Public; Great for all ages! Call 256-997-5025.

**Jul 12 - Blow Your Own Ornament.** This has become very popular here at Orbix Hot Glass. 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. For this we welcome people of all ages (at least 5 years old). 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Cost is $35 per ornament blown 256-523-3188.

**Jul 12 - T.G. Shepard At The Pickin Post.** Rogers Music and Pawn in Fort Payne. $25 each. Show starts at 6 p.m. 256-996-8910.

**Jul 12 - YES, I CAN! Canning Fruits & Vegetables Workshop.** Join National Park Service archaeologist Larry Beane for a demonstration of how Native Americans utilized natural resources to hunt and gather food, to make weapons, to start fires, and more! Little Free & open to everyone; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 256-845-8548.

**Jul 12 - T.G. Shepard At The Pickin Post.** Come enjoy a night of great singing. Tickets are available now at Black's Tire in Rainsville, Rogers Music and Pawn in Fort Payne. $25 each. Show starts at 6 p.m. 256-996-8910.

**Jul 13 - YES, I CAN! Canning Fruits & Vegetables Workshop.** Learn all about home canning. This is a “hands on” workshop 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. We will be canning blueberry jam, peach slices, bread and butter pickles and tomatoes. Instructor is Mary Alice Stout, who has canned and taught canning for over 50 years! Bring a paring knife and a brown bag lunch.
Ongoing Calendar

MAPA Members meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm at the MERF House in Mentone.

Gluten Free/Diabetic All Natural Cooking classes with Brenda Trace will be held at Little River Hardware at 6pm on Wednesdays. Classes $10.

Lookout Mountain Parkway Association meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11am. Call to find out how to get involved! 256-845-3957.

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

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

Great for all ages! Info on Roger Reid at www.rogerreidbooks.com.

Jul 19 - 20 - One World Backpacking Series: Food. Hosted by DeSoto State Park and provided by One World Adventure Company. Nothing says a good time on the trail like a good meal on the trail. We’ll be talking about food; we’ll have a small class before we hit the trail about idea as to how to make some good backpacking food that will impress. Then we’ll hit the trail and learn how to make some cool trio-pots and cooking stands. Adults and youth 14 and up. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Desoto State Park $110 per person includes meals and all equipment. $85 per person includes meals (must provide your own equipment). $65 per person includes instruction (must provide equipment and food!). Upon registration, you will be sent a packing list. To register, call 256-634-8370.

Jul 19 - 20 - JulyFest Art & Music Festival in Mentone. Presented by the Mentone Area Arts Council. Two-day event featuring 50 talented artists and area musicians. Barbecue and concert by Jess Goggans and the Magnetics on Saturday evening. Pet parade Saturday morning and silent auction, photo center, plant sale and dog adoption all to benefit the Humane Society and Animal Resources of DeKalb County. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. 256-634-4836. www.mentonearts.org.

Jul 19 - Glen Alan Burke Book Signing. Glen Alan Burke will be signing her books at The Book Shelf downtown Fort Payne. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. 256-844-8665.

Jul 22 - Rock Climbing Adventure. True Adventure Sports. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-5577.

Jul 23 - Afternoon Rock Climbing. True Adventure Sports. Come experience first-hand what rock climbing is all about in the afternoon with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. This trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. TAS 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jul 24 - Zip Line Adventure. All our zip lines are set up just before the adventure to ford a gorge or cross from one high point to another. Pre-registration required at True Adventure Sports by 6 pm the day before the adventure. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jul 25 - Wild Cave Tour. Go beyond where the average tourist explores! This 2.5 hour adventure is for those of you ready to explore on your knees, on your belly, in the mud and through tight tunnels. Explore in one of NE Alabama’s most unique all-weather caves, Manitou Cave, in the heart of Fort Payne. Adventure includes helmet, cave lamps plus a fun informative guide. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jul 25, 26 - Extreme Night Hike. This end-of-day adventure does not slow down just because it’s dark. Intended for a large group team-building exercise, this hike has a bit of bouldering, some scrambling, some spelunking, and a whole lot of required working together. Headlamp and enthusiastic guide included. Meet at True Adventure Sports. 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Jul 25 - Campfire Talk: Salamanders of Alabama. Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Hidden among the nooks and crannies of the outdoors is a treasure trove of interesting creatures, and salamanders are one of them. There are over 40 of these secretive creatures in Alabama. Join Jacksonville State University’s Dr. George Cline and learn what species we have here in Alabama and how to identify them. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. DeSoto State Park’s Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center) Fee: Free & open to the Public & Great for all ages! 256-997-5025.

Jul 27 - Basic Tracking Class. Join Robert Wilson for a basic class on how to look for ground tracks as well as learn some simple tracking techniques. DeSoto State Park Lodge. 10 a.m. to Noon Free & open to everyone; but Pre-registration is required as class is limited to 12. 256-997-5025.

Jul 27 - Sign Post Tracking Class. Sign post tracking is a way to prep an area to lure animals in to collect or see their foot prints. Join Robert Wilson on a short hike to see some examples of these areas and to identify any animal tracks along the way. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. DeSoto State Park Lodge Free & open to everyone; but Pre-registration is required as class is limited to 12. 256-997-5025.

Mentone Fire Department meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 7pm.

Mentone Town Council meets every 2nd Tuesday at 6pm.

The Lookout Mountain Wholistic Center meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month at Rock Ridge Retreat Center in Valley Head at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome! Mentone Farmers Market open year round every Saturday, 10am-1pm.

Storytime at the Canyon Center every first Saturday of the month. 11am-Noon. Free. 256-782-5697.

NPS Green & Gray Saturday every second Saturday of each month at the Canyon Center.

7:00pm. DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring.
Congratulations
You did it!
GRADUATING SENIORS

Christie Heather Renee King  Michael Carey Langston  Trevor Michael Manley  Candelaria Manuel  Jaimee Lyn McGee  Lauren Paige McGee

Adam Dewayne Miller  Christian James Muir  Jensen Madison Owen  Charity Elaine Pulido-Garcia  Allie Elizabeth Rhodes  Eduardo Robles Martinez

Abigail Favela Romero  Ana Valeria Rosales Nunez  Richard Terry Sanders

Kimberly Paige Sinns  Daniel Leon Smith  Kanissa Michelle Smith

Tristan Layne Smith  Mary Elizabeth Sudberry  KayLee Faith Tucker

(Kenama)

Visit our Featured Artist each week.
More than 40 artist works on display!

July 4th Bar-B-Que Blast
Ribs, butts, beans & taters
for lunch 10:00 til 02:30

Open Thursday–Monday 10:00 til 4:00
Lunch served 10am–2:30pm
Dinner served 6:00–9:00pm Friday and Saturday
Proudly Prepared by Chef Jimmy Rogers
Reservations Requested

Mentone, Alabama  256-634-3001

(Senior Photos continued on page 24)
Pastor - 845-4314. Everyone welcome. Wednesday at 6:30PM. Steve Schrader, class or Lent/Advent services every Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in bilingual. Friday at 9:00 a.m. in English and Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in English, Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. bilingual, at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in Spanish. Church Our Lady of the Valley Catholic and Ryan Bunnel. Atwood; Lay Pastors - James Hartley Service 11:00-12:15. Pastor - Wilbur Song Service: 9:30-10:45AM, Worship invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Women on Mission meets at 1PM the second Tuesday of each month at different homes. Everyone is welcome to come.

Lea's Chapel Baptist Church welcomes you to worship with us. 10AM Sunday Bible Study, 11AM Morning Worship, 6PM Evening Worship. Wednesday 6-8PM Awana (ages 4 to 18); 6:30PM Praise and Prayer time. Located at 4212 County Road 751, Valley Head. 635-1001. Visitors are always welcome at the Valley Head United Methodist Church. Please join us each Sunday morning for a traditional worship service at 9:30AM. Tony Gunter is the Pastor. All are welcome.

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

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic 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. The Fort Payne Christian Center and Pastors Ken and Elaine Hollowan invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 10AM, Wednesday evening at 6PM. God Bless You.

Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA), 5760 Gault Ave. NE, Fort Payne, AL. Sunday School 9:45AM; Sunday Worship 10:55AM. Church office: 256-845-4756.

Menlo Church of Christ invites you to attend the 10AM and 11AM services and evening services are at 5PM on Sundays and Wednesdays. Visitors are always welcome.

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

DeSoto Church of Christ invites you to attend Sunday Bible Study at 10AM, Worship at 11AM, Wednesday Bible study at 5PM.

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


Mentone United Methodist Church, 415 Cutler Avenue, Mentone, Alabama invites you to come and worship with us. Each Sunday, our Worship Service is at 11AM and Sunday School is at 10AM. Tony Gunter is the pastor. The service of Holy Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month, the second Sunday is Youth Sunday and Fifth Sunday is a service of music and pot-luck lunch. Bible Study Wednesdays at 6:00PM.

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. Rev. Terry Turner is the pastor.

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

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

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

Mentone Church of God of Prophecy - regular service times are Sunday School at 10AM, with Worship at 11AM. Evening services begin at 5:30PM on Sunday and 6PM on Wednesday. Bro. Whitney Smith invites everyone to attend.

Mentone Community Church, 90 Summerville Rd., Mentone, AL 35984. Sunday Services: Sunday School 9:15AM-all ages; Sunday Service 10:30AM; Bible Study Wednesday 6PM; Youth Services 7PM Sunday and 6:30PM Wednesday (Meet at Mentone Revival Center Building). Pastor Tim Miller.

Cloudland Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone to come join us for services, with Pastor Roger Kvam. Bible Study Sunday at 9AM (EST) and Worship at 10AM (EST).

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

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

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

Send any changes to The Groundhog at groundhognews@aol.com or P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL 35984.
A Birthday Wish

As Told By Harold Carden

When James O. Carden was asked what he wanted for his 93rd birthday he replied “I want to have lunch at the Wildflower in Mentone with my family”. This came as no surprise, for James has always been very family oriented and has always loved Mentone and Valley Head.

That wish came true on May 22, 2014 when James and his wife Arlene, son Gary and wife Lynn, son Carlton and wife Joy and grandson Jared were met at the Wildflower by family members Glen and Harold Carden, Linda Story and Charles and Cindy Carden. And I myself was very fortunate to be invited to take photographs of this wonderful celebration.

Another example of his love for Mentone is that James, along with sons, Gene, Gary, Carlton and daughter Neva Jo, have planned semi-annual golf outings at Lil’ Mole Run Golf Course for over 20 years. He remains very proud of the 75 he shot in 1994 on his 73rd birthday!

James O. (or “Jimmy”) Carden was born on May 20, 1921 in Valley Head to Balem Dempsey Carden and Martha Jane Gilbreath. He is the youngest of 8 children. When he was only 6 years old, his father died leaving him, his mother and 12 year old brother Vance at home. They survived by working odd jobs and selling butter and eggs. In the summer, they raised cotton and James also worked the summer camps and for Davenport Lumber Co. He is very grateful to Paul and W.O. Davenport for that opportunity.

James graduated from Valley Head High School in May of 1939. While working at camp that summer, he learned that Martha Berry was spending time at her home in Mentone. He visited Mrs. Berry at her home and applied directly to her for admittance to Berry College. She informed him that classes were full, but to report to the college in the Fall and he would be admitted. While at Berry, he majored in Agriculture and in April of 1943, upon being drafted into the Army, he was presented a Diploma.

While in the Army, James and his friend, Lloyd Crumbly were assigned to the 10th Mountain Group. They received their training in Camp Hale, Colorado. The 10th Mountain Group were assigned to the Italian Front where they participated in the Pa Valley and Apennine Mountain Campaigns. To James’ great sadness, his friend Lloyd died in combat two weeks before the war ended.

Upon the end of the war, James returned home to Rome, Ga. To his wife, Myra and son Lloyd Eugene, named in honor of his fallen friend. For 43 years he operated the Coosa Valley Livestock Barn. In that time, he and Myra raised 4 children whom inherited the fine traits of their parents. In 1978, James and his children lost Myra. James married Arlene Durham of Plainsville, Ga. in 1981 and they have enjoyed 33 years of marriage and continue to live in Rome, Ga.

James O. Carden is truly one of Tom Brokaw’s Greatest Generation. He survived the Great Depression and the terrible combat of WWII, raised a wonderful family and and to this day leaves a wonderful impression on all he meets.

And I would like to say Thank you to Harold for included me in this wonderful journey into his Uncle James’ life and give James O. Carden a heart felt Thank you for serving this country, being a great citizen and living such an exemplary life that is an inspiration to us all.

GRANDMA’S COMB

By: Doug Kiker

It's kind of funny, when you can look at an object
And be flooded with memories of home.
The old battered water bucket with the side pocket
For Grandma's comb.
Silly, you may say—but there it was as pretty as you please.
Like yesterday, I remember, we were on the front porch shelling peas.
The water bucket with the dipper was on the shelf
And Grandma had to sneeze.
What happened next, that question is still hanging in the air.
Well, partly, because in the commotion of the sneeze,
One of Grandma's combs flew out – they were a pair.
It went, but nobody knew where.
We looked high and low, but there was no sign of it.
Not a hide nor hair.
Grandma was getting mighty upset,
Of that we were aware.
Now, when Grandma gets upset, everybody walks softly,
I'm here to declare.
Important, yes! But the pea shelling came to a stop.

'Cause when Grandma's upset, everybody has to hop.
All this searching had caused us to get almighty hot.
And it seemed that a cool drink of water would hit the spot.
I can't rightly say who got to the dipper first,
But the unwritten law was that the oldest never had to wait-
This was not up for debate,
But I do know what happened next and that I can relate.
For there in the drinking water that was not so clear –
Was Grandma's comb that she held so dear.
Everyone was relieved, for Grandma's combs were again a pair,
And soon were in their rightful place – Grandma's hair.
The excitement died down,
And there was no frown on our faces.
Mother said the lesson we should learn when something is lost,
Look in the most unlikely places.
To remind us of that fact, Mother knitted a pocket-
A sort of socket
And hung it around the water bucket.
Thereafter, when we saw the socket around the bucket
That held the drinking water -
that was not so clear,
We thought of Grandma's comb that she held so dear.
Welcome To Mentone!!

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

Stop by our Log Cabin office in the heart of Mentone. Porch sitters welcome!

LOTS and LAND

TALL MEADOW RUE, beautiful plantings, quaint tiny champ, lots tea house, $429,000 (496861)
The dreamiest place to build a tiny stream. Photography the mind's eye, serenity of nature. $75,000 (496861)
W FORK LITTLE RIVER 3.11-acre waterfront lot. Convenienly located just north of Mentone, just above Taylor’s Ford, Wooded, 180’ frontage. Get away to this private haven! TODAY at $54,900 (735107)

LITTLE RIVER CANYON area. 40 acres with 2 streams; part wooded, part pasture; 2 creeks w/beautiful waterfalls & ledges. Nature’s beauty, privacy & room for whatever the outdoor enthusiast wants to do! $130,000 (335437)

LAKEFRONT ACREAGE. Solitude & nature await your getaway on this lightly restricted 4.33 acres on Full Moon Lake at Laurel Creek. 2 lots sold as one. $49,900 (387932)

TRANQUIL CREEKSIDE PARADISE, walking distance to downtown Mentone. Inviting, 3.7-acre, wooded lot. Access on both sides of the creek. Privacy restrictions & covenants. $55,000 (564423)

EAST RIVER ROAD. River View parcel near the bend in West Fork upstream from Desoto Falls. Approved for building a small cabin. Town limits of Mentone in nostalgic area. $44,000 (699304)

3.01 ACRES W/270° RIVER FRONTAGE in West Fork Subdivision. Building site already prepared. Public water on place. Just the right place to build your lakefront retreat! $48,500 (809884)

4.3 ACRES WITH BOLD STREAM. Convenient for commuting to Chattanooga, Trenton or Fort Payne. Driveway in place. The land is mainly wooded, with an easy walk down to the stream. Priced to sell at only $29,900 (810160)

Also look for our listings at AlabamaMountainLiving.com
A Return Home

Logan Russell Chambers was born July 23, 1989, to Rusty and Angela Chambers of Mentone. He was raised in Mentone and attended Moon Lake Elementary School and then Valley Head High School. After graduating from Valley Head in 2007, Logan tried his hand in the workforce here at home. He operated heavy equipment with his Dad’s company and even tried the corporate world at Lowes. But what he really wanted to do was much bigger and would come as a big surprise to his family.

In 2008, Logan joined the Air Force. Just before Christmas, his family was forced to bid him well as he departed for San Antonio, Texas, for basic training. After weeks of rigorous work outs and a completely new way of living, Logan graduated as Airman Basic (AB) and was stationed in Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri for tech training. Then in June 2010 he was given his first assignment overseas in Kunsan, South Korea, where he would station for a year. After his year in South Korea, he would get a 30-day leave. While home on leave, Logan married his high school sweetheart and fiancé Courtney Heiser on July 9, 2011, in a very patriotic ceremony at the historic Lebanon Courthouse in Fort Payne. After spending some quality time with family and friends, Logan and Courtney were then transferred to Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany. Scheduled to be stationed there for three years, the newlyweds decided to secure housing off base in a town called Rheinland-Pfalz and enjoy the foreign country they would now call home. Logan’s first request from mom and dad back home was his Chevrolet Duramax 4x4, because “a southern boy cannot live without his truck!” What are parents to do for their only child but pack and ship him his truck!

Logan began working in Civil Engineering where his duties included maintaining the base, setting up security, providing direct support to any and all missions down range for all commands, and keeping the only category 3 runway in Europe open and operational twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. In June of 2012, Logan was promoted to Senior Airman (SrA) and his squadron won the Balcheon Post Award twice with Logan in charge of snow removal ops, then also received Overall Team of the Year. Most recently, Logan was named Airman of the Year for 2013 and his family says they are so proud of him and his accomplishments!

Since moving to Germany, Logan and Courtney have been allowed a few short trips home where they were greeted with big family cookouts and trips to the beach! In their 3 years abroad, they have traveled to Trier, Garmish-Partenkirchen, Austria, Munich, Amsterdam, Heidelberg, Paris, Mainz, Frankfurt, Dachau and Saarbrucken. Earlier this year, they received notice that they would be moving back to the states and tentatively stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada. Logan, Courtney and their dog Eva arrived in Las Vegas the first of June and say they enjoyed their time in Germany, but are excited about being back stateside, where visits with family and friends will be much easier and more frequent.

On behalf of family, friends and local residents, we would like to first say Happy Birthday to you, Logan. Happy Anniversary and Welcome Home to you and Courtney. Most importantly, to you and your fellow service men and women, Thank You for your Service!
FALLING LEAF LODGE. Charming rustic cabin nestled in the woods. Lots of porches to enjoy the outdoors of this 2 bdrm 1.5 bath with loft. Custom floors and doors. Lots of windows, WB FP open living room/dining area. Also a Workshop for the Hobhiest a must see. $149,900. (22190)


THE NUTHOUSE CABIN. Quaint Weekend getaway with open living kitchen design. 2 bdrm 1 bath, covered porch to watch the wildlife. 1 acre wooded with large Rock formations. small shed. Located at the end of private drive, complete with furnishings. $125,000. (22833)

MAINTENANCE FREE vinyl faux brick bungalow. 2 bedroom, 3 bath. Great room with rock, gas fireplace. Eat in kitchen/dining, full semi finished basement. Located on DeSoto Parkway, Mentone. $169,000. (20356)

9 ACRES located on the east fork Little River with 500 ft on river, and 550 ft on Gilbert branch. Old Homemace. Concrete slab, power, well and septic. Privately located. Great place to build that getaway cabin! $138,500. (22148)

36 ACRES on the West Fork of Little River, 1250 ft on water. 700 ft drive, power and water to this point. Wooded, some clearing, rock outcroppings and bluff views. One of a kind find. $255,000. (22995)

THE LOONEY BIN. Cedar Cabin in the woods, open floor plan with Great rm, eat-in kitchen. Tiled island and counters, Stainless appliances, Loft area, 2 bdrm 2 tiled baths, Tung and Groove walls. FP, Covered Deck w/ Hottub. Furnished, Lovely setting and investment. $220,000. (22973)

NEWLY BUILT cottage style, vinyl siding. 1 bdr, 1.5 bath open floor plan with living dining combo. Hvac stainless appliance package, hickory cabinets, tung and groove walls throughout. Covered front and side porch for outdoor enjoyment. 1.5 acres, garage shop and storm shelter. $100,000. (20356)

NICE LEVEL WOODED PROPERTY with partial drive and homesite cleared. Previous perk test. Easy access to the middle fork of Little River. Restrictive cov. apply. Located in Mountain River Estates. $65,900. (20892)

SOUTHLAND LOG HOME. on the East fork little River. 5.5 acres. Deck, lighted walkway to lower property. stone patio halfway to river steps and landing to river. 2 bdrm, 2 baths. Loft. Vaulted ceiling with exposed beams. Fully equipped kitchen with granite counters. stacked stone FP. 2 story with Basement. Separate 30x40 garage, large enough for motor home. Private but with all the comforts. Price reduced to $373,000. (20191)

THE APPALACHIAN CABIN is a furnished log cabin nestled in the woods in Crestline Park Subdivision. 3br/3b with kitchen/dining, combo. open floor plan, and loft. Amenities include CHA, gas log fireplace, hot tub, 1/4 wraparound covered porch, kitchen appliances, furniture, etc. Great investment opportunity or make this your weekend getaway! $110,000. (23038)

NEW LISTING
NEW LISTING
NEW LISTING

.6 ACRE West Brow lot, 1 mile south of downtown Mentone. Wooded with rock formations. Great building lot. Prime location, great sunsets. 5 lots available. $114,900. (23043)

75 ACRE WEST BROW LOT, 1 mile south of downtown Mentone. Wooded with rock formations. Great building lot. Prime location, great sunsets. 2 lots available. $124,900. (23042)

ON THE RIDGE TOP. 10.4 acres, 3rd, 2brb, hardy board siding home. Open living room, kitchen, dining area. 2 covered porches, storm shelter, with seasonal view of Lookout Mountain. Located in Hammondsville. $41,000. (23057)

ONE ACRE on Scenic Lookout Mountain Parkway. Level, great building site for that weekend getaway. $15,000. (23037)

1.8 ACRES on East Fork of Little River. Easy access to river from common trail that runs along the banks of the river. Bluff views. County water available. Gated community. $115,000. (23022)

3.8 ACRES located in East fork Little River Estates. Nicely wooded with a portion of the historic Dinky Line Railway. 175 ft. on river (cherokee Co. Mentone). Covenants & restrictions, county water and power available. $53,000

1.66 ACRE TRACT with septic, county water, well, and power. Lightly restricted. Cleared and ready to build that cabin in the woods! $18,000.00. (22747)

SOLD
SOLD
SOLD

3 WOODED ACRES on the parkway. Gently sloping to level with many hardwoods. Great location to build your weekend cabin between DeSoto Park and Mentone. 25,000. (22918)

EAST BROW tract located Valley View Forest. Geourgeous views of Weiss lake in the distance. Camping shed, hot stove,outside deck,fire pit, Parklike setting,rock formations, $90,000.00.

6.1 ACRES with Brushy Creek running through, drive way in place, wooded. $36,000. (23044)

.67 ACRE with paved rd frontage,wooded, non restricted $6,500.

LODGE MOUNTAIN
Prefered Realty, L.L.C.

L M P R

LOTS AND ACREAGE

OLD HOMELACE next to Shaddy Grove Dude Ranch. 1.7 acres. Great building sites. Non-restricted. Reduced $18,500 (21599)

5.7 WOODED ACRES with a beautiful view across from Lake Lahugse. The driveway has been started to build your Mentone getaway! Paved road frontage, city water available, perc tested. Lightly restricted. Seller is very motivated! REDUCED $49,900 (19865)

6.4 ACRES. Partly open field and wooded tract of land in Oakwood subdivision. Lightly restricted. Surveyed, Perk. 2 lots 9, 10. $45,000. (22650)
104 Years Young

Catherine Agnes Brown Bailey celebrated her birthday on June 21st with friends and family at Crowne Health Care in Fort Payne where she now resides. Born in Valley Head in 1910, Ms. Bailey has always been a determined woman on a mission and celebrating her 104 years with her family proves that.

For many years, Ms. Bailey walked up and down the mountain from Mentone to Valley Head to earn her diploma. After graduating from Valley Head High School, she decided to continue her education at Valdosta State School for Women where she earned a degree to teach school. After returning home, she met the love of her life, Mr. Floyd Bailey. They were soon married and had two children, Barbara Bailey Blalock and Gerald Wayne Bailey.

From 1939 to 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey owned and operated Bailey’s Grocery store in Mentone, supplying the necessities to the locals. During that time, Ms. Bailey also taught school in Menlo, Georgia for the winter months. Once school was out for summer, Ms. Bailey, along with a friend, would catch a greyhound bus each day and travel to the University of Chattanooga to help further her education.

After closing the store in 1971, Ms. Bailey became the dietician for Camp Skyline. She worked there for a few years before finding her retirement job as the Mentone Town Clerk. She walked back and forth to work at City Hall on a daily basis before retiring at the young age of 88.

Ms. Bailey is still a member of the Mentone United Methodist Church where she attended regularly and even taught Sunday School for many years. She still reads her Bible and the newspaper every day!

Happy Birthday Ms. Bailey! 104 years young looks great on you!

By Kayla Worthey
### LOTS AND LAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>MLS Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.22-acre lot in West Fork Subdivision. $29,900.</td>
<td>#81041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.13-acre lot in Mountain River Estates Sub. $49,500.</td>
<td>#656265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.95-acre lot at Lake on the Brow Subdivision. $44,900.</td>
<td>#984141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.02-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. $55,000.</td>
<td>#762331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-acre lot in Hidden Lake Subdivision. $50,000.</td>
<td>#659658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-acre wooded, Lakefront Lot in Private, Gated Subdivision. $55,000.</td>
<td>#945265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.06-acre lot at Hidden Lake Subdivision. $60,000.</td>
<td>#867272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.8 acres border Armstrong Creek and Webb Branch.</td>
<td>#81146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.1 acre...mostly wooded. $48,500.</td>
<td>#632461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 acres - East Fork of Little River. $29,900.</td>
<td>#641045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 acres - off the beaten path, hunters paradise.</td>
<td>#110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400’ deep lot located south of Mentone on DeSoto Parkway. $149,900.</td>
<td>#653487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One or two wooded lots on Cutter Avenue in Mentone. One lot offered at $19,900 and both at $37,500.</td>
<td>#682942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corner lots in secluded and private subdivision walking distance to East Fork Little River. $29,900.</td>
<td>#939357</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Southern Properties**

**Agency, Inc.**

256-845-6000

www.southernpropertiesagency.com
Majestic Mullein
By L.C. Moon

Driving along 117, admiring the view as you come up or down the mountain, you will notice a stand of tall pale silvery green plants lining the side of the road along the rock wall. The plant you are gazing upon is Mullein. It has tall slender flower stalks covered with tiny yellow flowers. Mullein is a “wildflower” that you do not soon forget if you have ever paid it any attention.

I use the dried leaves of mullein, along with several native herbs, every winter when I prepare a cough syrup. It helps to break up congestion and soothe irritated throat and lungs. I also use mullein by itself and it has helped me in a coughing spasm. Mullein can be drank as a tea or smoked in a pipe. The taste of the tea is not particularly pleasant but it has worked well for me. Native Americans often smoked the dried leaves as opposed to drinking it in a tea.

Mullein has become known among hikers and campers for its diverse uses including creature comforts. Mullein is plentiful, often growing in clusters. It grows so large sometimes that the leaves can grow a foot long and 6 inches wide. As a result of its abundance in the summer, there are usually plenty of leaves to be used to make a small pillow to cushion the head while primitive camping. Also the leaves and the stalk of mullein can be used to make a torch. Dip the leaves or stalk in tallow or put pine resin on them to help them burn especially if they are fairly fresh.

Fresh mullein leaves can be used for insulating shoes, work great as toilet paper and they can also be used as a bandage to help protect a wound. If you have a wound in the wild and need to use mullein as a bandage, nature also provides natural infection fighters to help healing; i.e. pine resin or dirt from a dirt dauber’s nest. Using pine resin will help infection and help the mullein leaf stay on as a bandage. Mullein leaves were also used in primitive times by women to rosy up their cheeks and give them a nice glow and after that the ladies of the house could even dust with the mullein leaf.

It is not just the leaf that is helpful when it comes to mullein. The small flowers are divine for helping to heal an earache. The flowers can be infused in olive oil. It has been very soothing and therapeutic in my experience to heat mullein oil and put a few drops in the ear. When I combine garlic, willow and a little tea tree with the mullein oil it has become super oil for the ear. The flowers infused in oil have been successfully used in combination with other herbs such as Calendula, St. John’s Wort and Tea tree to aid in healing eczema and ringworm. Mullein flowers combined with St John’s Wort in oil are also helpful for burns.

The root of mullein is known to be helpful in treating urinary tract disorders. It can be used to help the integrity of the lymphatic system or swelling of most any kind. It is known to help treat back pain and align the spine. Mullein root is known to be helpful for Bell’s Palsy according to herbalist Jim McDonald though there were many other antiviral herbs that helped me while having Bell’s Palsy, such as oregano, Echinacea, Pau Darco and Cats Claw.

The seed of mullein contains rotenone and coumarin. I am not clear how to implement this as tribal people once did, but the seed has been used by many tribal cultures as a fish poison. It is said to interfere with the fish’s breathing while apparently having no poisoning effects to the humans.

Mullein is an herb that I always want to have handy. I hope you will take the time to feel the leaf of a mullein plant soon and experience a moment of gratitude for all the many blessings that it possesses. It is wise for me to tell you to ask your health care provider before altering your health care regimen. If you have any questions you can contact me on Facebook by sending a message through the Wildflower Cafe page. Blessings and “May all your weeds be Wildflowers.”

“What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered.” ~Ralph Waldo Emerson

MOUNTAIN GETAWAYS
CABIN RENTALS
1-888-920-8445
LET ME MANAGE YOUR CABIN FOR YOU - Ron Waits

MENTONE FARMERS’ MARKET
SATURDAY 10:00 AM-1:00 PM ON MENTONE SQUARE AT THE MENTONE INN (THE CORNER OF AL HWY 117 & CO. RD. 89)
FRESH and LOCALLY-PRODUCED VEGGIES, FRUITS, and HERBS
IN SEASON EGGS, PASTURED RAISED PORK
SORGHUM, BREADS, BAKED GOODS and SWEETS
SOAP, TEAS and HERBAL REMEDIES
www.mountainmarket.org

BUY FRESH BUY LOCAL
www.buyfreshlocal.org
Jim Marbutt
Moves to Summerville, GA

Well known wood carver Jim Marbutt now shares his talent and energy with the Summerville community. The site of the Hardware Store in the old Jakeville area south of Summerville is now a multi-purpose enterprise. The building has general mercantile, antiques, art, woodcarvings, appliance parts and miscellaneous items. The business is across from the Mason Funeral Home. 706 857-2747.

Mentone's tourist and citizens have enjoyed the impressive woodcarvings that Jim creates. He is a philosopher, sculptor and storyteller who enhances our mountain town. On many weekends you can enjoy Jim's work at the Mentone Market. He does demonstrations as well. Visit the Marbutt's General Store and enjoy Jim's story.

Canoe and Kayak Rentals
on weekends at DeSoto Falls!

Cool down with a flat-water paddle on scenic Little River in DeSoto State Park!

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, AL
DeSoto Falls Picnic Area - 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park. Perfect for individuals or groups!

Hours - (Memorial Day to Labor Day)
Fridays: 1:30 to 6:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sundays: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
(Monday-Thursday afternoons by reservation 4:00 pm-6:00 pm)

Individual Rentals:
Single-person 'Sit on Top' Kayak: $15 per hour or $70 per day (5 hours)
Canoes & Tandem Kayaks: $25 per hour or $120 per day (5 hours)
Any boat with paddles & life-vests.
Group rental rates also available.

Call 256-634-8370 for any details! One World Adventure Company (http://www.oneworldadventureco.com) or One World's Facebook page.

DeSoto State Park
Summer Camp Schedule
for July

All activities require pre-registration and deposit.
Sponsored by DeSoto State Park and provided by One World Adventure Co.

Fun Hours
Activities during Fun Hours include group play, nature studies, arts & crafts and science experiments.
Session dates: Any Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
July 9th thru July 26th, 2014
Age/Grade: Ages 9-12
Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (contact for exact location)
Time: 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
Fee: $45 per day per child.

DeSoto Adventure Club
The DeSoto Adventure Club takes children on an exciting journey of Desoto's unique history and location through creative age-appropriate wilderness activities and nature inspired art projects.
Session dates: Any Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday July 9th thru August 1st, 2014
Ages 9-12
Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (contact for exact location)
Time: 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Fee: $65 per 3 day sessions.

Tadpole Adventure Club for Tikes
The Tadpole Adventure Club is an introduction to a camp setting with creative play, arts and crafts.
Session dates: Monday & Tuesday, July 7th & 8th/July 14th & 15th/July 21st & 22nd/July 28th & 29th
Ages: Pre-K ages 2-4
Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (contact for exact location)
Time: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Fee: $55 per 2 day session or ($75.00 with lunch option).

Pre-registration required. Must sign up at least 2 hours ahead of time. For inquiries call (256) 634-8370. Visit www.oneworldadventureco.org to download registration form. Sign up by calling (256) 634-8370.

Website:
ATTENTION GROUNDHOG READERS!

Copies of The Groundhog are available at the following locations:

**FORT PAYNE**
- Alabama Fan Club
- ALFA Insurance
- Big Mill and Vintage 1889
- Brown’s Cleaners
- Bruce’s Foodland
- Chow King
- Days Inn
- DeKalb Library
- DeKalb Tourism
- First Federal
- Ft. Payne Chamber of Commerce
- Hampton Inn
- Holiday Inn
- Huddle House
- Off The Boat Seafood
- Priceless IGA
- Quality Inn
- Southern Properties
- The Healing Tree
- The Spot Coffee Shop
- The Strand
- The Wishing Well
- Waffle House
- Waffle King
- Wright Properties

**VALLEY HEAD**
- Alabama Organics
- Big Jim’s
- Burt Funeral Home
- Citizens Bank
- Country Boys
- Dave’s Antiques
- Hammondville Quick Stop
- Headquarters Beauty Salon
- Miracle Pottery
- Sunshine Café
- Tigers Inn
- Valley Head Drug
- Valley Head Food Mart
- Valley Head Town Hall
- Victory Fuel
- Water Board

**MENTONE**
- Body Maintenance
- Clip Joint
- Community Library
- Crow’s Nest
- Graceful Giraffe
- Gourdie Shop, The
- Helen’s
- Kamama’s
- Little River Hardware

**GEORGIA**
- Auto Parts (Menlo)
- Cloudland Trade Center
- Menlo Lucky’s
- Mountain Top Country Store
- Restaurant (Menlo)
- State Line Store

**OTHER**
- 5 Points Handi-Mart
- Alabama Welcome Center
- DeSoto St. Park Lodge
- DeSoto State Park Store
- Fisher X-Roads Store
- Little River Canyon Center
- Ralph’s Grocery

---

**Built to Last**

Remember when things were made to last? Alfa Insurance® does. For more than 65 years, we’ve offered affordable protection backed by friendly, hometown service. You can count on Alfa® to be Right There With You™ when you need us most. Call Alfa® for great rates and service that have stood the test of time.

**Alfa Insurance**

Call Alfa®, The best agents in the business.

---

**FOR SALE**
- 1950 Vintage Cottage, 2BR/1BA, 1000sq. ft., Brow views, T&G Pine, FP, Sun porch. Appraised at $220,000/$10,000 allow. for improv. Offers accepted. 256.601.1384.

**LOG CABIN RENTAL**
- Original Log Cabin, completely new inside, one bedroom, downtown Mentone. 256-418-2879.
St. Josephs Awards Scholarships

St. Joseph's On the Mountain Episcopal Church would like to congratulate the recipients of the Vann-McCary Scholarship 2014. There are 12 students who will be receiving the award from the Mentone/Valley Head area. The fund, established in 1988, has been awarded to many deserving local students through the years as a support and encouragement to area students as they continue their post high school education. Each recipient is eligible to receive the scholarship for four years, provided the criteria is met.

This year’s recipients are Jasmin Boyzo, Haley Crider, Josie Crider, Sydnee Grider, Celeny Hernandez, Lauren McGee, Madison Owen, Ana Rosales, Kanissa Smith, Bleu Stone, Bree Wallace, and Amber Griffith. Not pictured in the photo are Bleu Griffith and Amber Griffith.

By Kat Griffith

Local Produce, Meats and Cheese
OPEN Daily
from 10:00 AM til ‘bout dark
256 · 634 · 3001

KAMAMA FARMSTAND

You’ve Tried the Rest, Now Try the BEST!

 Gibbon
Expert Tree Service, L.L.C.

256-634-4809
Cell 256-717-3333
Licensed & Insured
30 Years Experience
Professional Climber
Call Mark Gibbon

Will Trade . . .1.39 acre lot in desirable equestrian subdivision at Big South Fork, TN. Lot has been developed with three campsites, power and water, and septic for a two bedroom home. Fenced with a 1/2 acre paddock and 1/4 mile from White Oak river and Big South Fork trailhead.

Will trade for...
Income/Rental property in Mentone, Cloudland area.

Call Kay at 423-364-7343 or email kay@cppproducts.com for more information.