COLORFEST

music, art, crafts, food, children’s activities, boat rides, fun run, farmer’s market

Colorfest is our town’s “after the heat of summer” celebration of all things good that delight our senses and soothe our soul as we welcome the burst of energy and change that comes to Mentone and Lookout Mountain. It is a tantalizing delight of art, music and food that reflects the true beauty and meaning of Southern Hospitality.

As always, arts and crafts will cover the grounds at Mentone’s Brow Park and events are spread throughout the town. Local festival food vendors will provide treats for old and young alike. Musicians are at their very best, and their songs will lift the spirits of all who come. For a good time – come to Mentone.

Enjoy the brilliant colors of the changing river banks with the return of the scenic boat rides on Little River! The boat will leave from DeSoto Falls about every 45 minutes and travel up river before returning. Each ride costs $10 and should last around 30 minutes. Hours of operation are Friday, October 16th from 1pm to dusk, Saturday, October 17th from 9am to dusk and Sunday, October 18th from 10am to 2pm. (All dates and times are weather permitting.)

Exciting, downhome mountain music will wrap our town in a blanket of sound during Colorfest weekend. Zen Dogs, a rock & roll Americana trio made up of James Roberts, Amy Snider and Jordan Brown, will kick off the festivities by performing Friday evening during One World Adventure’s Friday Night Fish Fry at The... (cont’d on page 3)
Mentone Matters
By Mayor Rob Hammond

Construction should begin soon at the pull out on AL 117 next to the Mentone sign coming up the mountain. A couple of years ago, Harriet O’Rear approached me with the idea of making the pull out more attractive by adding railings with rock columns. Local architect Don David submitted plans to ALDOT, which were recently approved. The town signed an agreement with ALDOT to maintain the pull out once construction is completed. MAPA has agreed to pay for the construction. This was another private/public collaboration, which will help Mentone give a positive first impression. The town would like to thank Harriet O’Rear, Don David, Mark Barrentine of ALDOT, and MAPA for making this project possible.

The latest information on the bridge from Johnny Harris, ALDOT North Region Engineer, is that ALDOT has completed all required documents for the project and has forwarded them to the Federal Highway Administration in Atlanta. This is a positive step.

From The Editor

Fall is a spectacular time of the year. For me, the cool crisp air revitalizes my soul and awakens my senses. Since I began living in the Mentone area, I have found fall to be even more enjoyable. Mentone is a unique place with a unique soul that reaches out to our own souls; with friendly people who reach out to other; with members of a community who come together to celebrate, to help others, and to enrich the town and her peoples. Colorfest is a wonderful display of everything Mentone- beginning with the brilliant colors nature has on display. Each year it seems there is some new activity or event added with open arms, just as I felt welcomed as a newcomer to the area. The variety of music in the air at Colorfest is as diverse as the people who find comfort in this town. The food is a combined reflection of Southern hospitality that refresh the soul and the senses. It is comforting to live here and experience these things every day.

Anna Mae Horn
Editor

Join MAPA Today!
Help us preserve Mentone’s history and impact its future.

Individuals - $20 a year
Couples - $30 a year

MAPA
P. O. Box 50
Mentone, AL 35984

THE GROUNDHOG
P. O. Box 387
Mentone, AL 35984

The Groundhog is published monthly by the Mentone Area Preservation Association, MAPA (Website: www.mapamentone.com; Email: mapamentone@gmail.com) and was first conceived on Groundhog Day, April 5, 1982, and organized April 5, 1982, for the purpose of preserving and protecting the heritage, natural environment and other unique qualities of life in the Mentone area, and is chartered as a 501c3 non-profit corporation.

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Have a Letter to the Editor or a story idea? Send it to The Groundhog at groundhognews@aol.com.
The Mentone Area Preservation Association (MAPA) has a long history of active, positive involvement in our community. The first meeting, organized by Bruce BonFleur (owner of Cragsmere Manor), was held on Groundhog Day, February 2, 1982. This initial organizational meeting included Bernise Crow, Donna Buckley, Sandra Padgett, Maggie Cordell, Rev. and Jean McGee and Bruce BonFleur. The date of this first meeting was then used to name their proposed community newsletter—The Groundhog.

A decade passed before MAPA was officially registered as an Alabama non-profit organization. Attorney Terry Hutcheson created the original corporation papers that were filed on July 30, 1990, by Steven G. Noles, Lynn Leroy Bathurst, and Homer Crow. MAPA was approved for 501(c)3 status by the Internal Revenue Service May 8, 2012, under the Presidency of Gerald Bailey.

A friend told me recently that people don’t think before they act; they don’t seem to understand that there are consequences for their actions. Indeed, actions taken with little thought sometimes result in negative or hurtful consequences. The converse is also true—well thought out actions usually bring about positive consequences. It is now obvious that the ideas and actions of the small group of people who started MAPA and The Groundhog have had long lasting, very positive consequences for our Mentone community.

My thanks go out to Bruce BonFleur for the ideas and passion for preservation and communication that he helped instill into our community and to all the dozens of others who shared his vision and sustained and improved MAPA and The Groundhog over the past 35 years. THANK YOU!

Once again, the MAPA Board thanks everyone for their long-term support of MAPA, its events and its publication of The Groundhog. Our MAPA Board meets the first Tuesday of every month, 6:00 P.M. at the MERF House. Visitors and members are welcome to attend.

Mentone’s Colorfest is a community affair where businesses, government, and neighbors open their doors and arms to welcome visitors to relax, sit a spell, and swap stories about family and friends. Mentone businesses will once again be all “dolled up” for the Pumpkin Patch Jubilee and Scarecrow Holler will return to Mason Park.

We encourage you to participate by entering your own unique scarecrow to display and for a chance to win prize money. Applications are available in The Groundhog.

A great addition to Colorfest 2014 was the Scavenger Hunt sponsored by the Mentone Business Association (MBA) and of course it is returning this year. This is a great family/group event!

**MAPA News**

By Ray Padgett

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**Colorfest 2015**

**Brow Park Hours:** Saturday, 9am-5pm, Sunday, 11am-5pm

**Thanks to Our Sponsors:**
- Presenting: Fort Payne Times-Journal
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**Schedule of Events**

**Friday, October 16**

1pm Boat Rides (til dusk)
4pm Fish Fry (til 7pm) - $10 per person
(presented by One World Adventures)
6pm Bonfire and Concert by Zen Dogs (til 9pm)

**Saturday, October 17**

7am Color Crazed 5K Run
9am Boat Rides (til dusk)
10am Trey Headrick
10am Kenny Finlayson & The Anthems
11am Kenny Finlayson & The Anthems
11am Moon Lake Students
12pm Ryan Keef
12pm Larry Joe Hail
1pm Richard Schrei
1pm Ryan Keef
2pm Chris Hall
2pm Jared Cushen
3pm Clare Donohue & Stephen Powers
3pm Dave Holland & The Bootleggers
4pm Butch Ross
4pm The Compound Girls (Sharen Dunn & Trish Wilman)
5pm Chili Cookout (til 8pm) - $10 per person
6pm Uncle Shuffelo and His Haint Holler Hootenanny in Concert (til 9pm)

**Sunday, October 18**

10am Boat Rides (til 2pm)
11am Jesse McLendon & Tom George
11am Curtis Strange
12pm Emma Chambers
12pm Scarecrow Holler & Pumpkin Patch Jubilee Winners Announced
12pm Richard Schrei
1pm Lisa Crow
1pm The Cloggers
2pm David Lusk
2pm Jess Doggans
3pm Jess Doggans
3pm Cooltrane

**Ongoing Activities/Events**

- Taste of Mentone - Mentone Chefs’ Featured Specials
- Arts and Crafts Show
- Farmers Market
- Library Book Sale
- Scarecrow Holler
- Scavenger Hunt

**Colorfest Children’s Fair** is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to enjoy many great activities that the fall season brings our way. Visit us at the old Mentone Springs Hotel site and create lasting memories in our fall photo booth, enjoy a game of old fashioned ring toss, witness the excitement of the hay slide, test your skills at the pumpkin toss, show your artistic abilities with kid crafts, pick your favorite face painting and, my personal favorite, get imaginative with creating fairy houses and dragon lairs and much more!

**Colorfest 2015 (cont’d from page 1)**

Mentone Inn pavilion. The fish fry is from 4pm to 7pm and costs $10 per plate. Music is free from 6pm to 9pm. Saturday evening will usher in our first Chili Cookout (your choice of white, regular, or vegetarian chili with all the “fixins” for $10 per person) featuring the old time sounds of Uncle Shuffelo and His Haint Holler Hootenanny “under the big tent” at the old Mentone Springs Hotel site. Cookout begins at 5pm and music is free from 6pm to 9pm. Our “Main Attraction” of talented, energetic, professional musicians will perform throughout the weekend at the Brow Park pavilion and under the big tent.

Colorfest Children’s Fair is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to enjoy many great activities that the fall season brings our way. Visit us at the old Mentone Springs Hotel site and create lasting memories in our fall photo booth, enjoy a game of old fashioned ring toss, witness the excitement of the hay slide, test your skills at the pumpkin toss, show your artistic abilities with kid crafts, pick your favorite face painting and, my personal favorite, get imaginative with creating fairy houses and dragon lairs and much more!

Mentone’s Colorfest is a community affair

(continues on page 4)
event to do together while you discover hidden gems all over town. Forms and Scavenger Hunt rules/directions will be available from the MBA at the entrance to Brow Park.

While Colorfest will cover much of our town, festival information and our local non-profit organizations (MAPA, MAAC, MERF, MBA) will all have tents at the Brow Park festival entrance. As always, our local Boy Scouts troop will perform the yeoman's chores of cleanup and directing traffic in the parking lots. Our local volunteer fire department, North Lookout Mountain Fire Protection District, will be serving their famous barbecue all weekend at Brow Park.

Colorfest 2015 reflects our community and our county at its best. Local volunteers, businesses, sponsors and government leaders cooperate to help make this an exciting and successful event. Visitors who come for the festival witness our diverse community, its volunteerism, and its true southern hospitality and remember the beauty of our town and its people. We invite you to slow down, listen to the music, revel in the eye-candy of artist's creations and enjoy the taste of Mentone.

As always, THANK YOU to our many sponsors – Fort Payne Times-Journal, Coca-Cola United, DeSoto Printing, Skelton Orthodontics, Snappy Graphics, DeKalb Tourism, Kamama Gallery, Wildflower Café, Mentone Realty, Custom Home Designs, First State Bank of DeKalb, Accel Graphics, Twin City Used Cars, First Fidelity Bank, The Package Store, GH Metal Solutions, Dixie Salvage, Citizens Bank, Westmoreland Tire Co., Valley Head Drugs, Snead Ag Supply and of course Mentone Camps (Desoto, Laney, Skyline, Riverview, and Alpine). We would like to ask that you please support our sponsors.

Thank you for your participation in MAPA's Scarecrow Holler Display during Colorfest 2015. Your participation and support will help make this annual event successful. We want to showcase Mentone and make 2015 Colorfest a success; Scarecrow Holler will be an important part of that. Please see attached contest rules for official rules and regulations.

CONTEST RULES

Our theme for the Colorfest is "Celebrating the Fall Season on the Mountain," focusing on old time traditions. Please keep this in mind when creating your Scarecrow. Entry fee is $5 per entry. The application and entry fee must be received no later than October 2nd. Set up will be on Friday, October 9th. Scarecrows will remain up through the end of October and must be removed by Saturday, November 7th. Any display that is not removed by that time will be discarded. Areas will be assigned for each Scarecrow measuring 5 feet square. Scarecrows should be in good taste, family friendly and keeping in the theme of the festival. They should not reflect controversial, social or political situations. The Scarecrows must be constructed to withstand weather conditions. Tips for constructing Scarecrows will be available via email or the Colorfest website for additional information. MAPA and the Scarecrow Committee reserve the right to remove any Scarecrow that does not meet these standards. No handouts, promotional materials or free giveaways can be associated with any entry. Additionally, we may remove a display at any time due to its condition if it does not hold up to weather or other factors. It is suggested that entrants check on their display periodically.

Judging/Prizes: Prizes will be awarded to winners as follows: 1st place will receive $50 and 2nd Place will receive $25. Additionally, a People's Choice Award will be given to the fan favorite, receiving $50. Judging criteria will be determined by the Scarecrow Committee, to include originality, theme, content, etc. Judges will be provided by sponsoring organization(s). Winners will be featured in the next issue of The Groundhog publication. MAPA and the Colorfest Committee reserve the right to use photographs for future publicity.
Color Craze Run
By Angie Shugart

One World Adventure is excited and looking forward to being a part of another Mentone festival!

Colorfest will mark the 5th year that we’ve been serving up the best catfish dinner this side of the Mississippi River! If you have not tried the special recipe breading and our “just the right spice” Jim Fry’s (hushpuppies), please join us for this popular fundraiser on Friday, October 16, behind the Mentone Inn from 5-7pm or until it lasts. We sell out fast, and we’re asking folks to call in their order ahead of time to make sure they get a plate (256-634-8370). We also ask you not to be in a hurry afterwards because the Zen Dogs are playing on the pavilion and the Boy Scout’s bonfire is always a Mentone tradition. Bright and early Saturday morning, One World will host our 3rd Annual Color Craze 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run. Race opens at 7am at Mason Park (across from Kamama’s) for same day registration and 5K begins around 7:50. The 1-Mile Fun Run will begin after 5K runners have cleared the first mile. If you’re worried about not getting much color on the 1-Mile, don’t! We will have color dousers at the 1/2 mile turn-around point and when you return! Registration is going on now and you can download a form from our website or clip it right out of The Groundhog and mail it in. We encourage you to dress in your silliest race costume and come out for some fun!

Proceeds from the events go towards sustaining One World Adventure’s community environmental education programs. If you would like to find out more about One World and our community efforts, visit our website at www.oneworldadventureco.org or if you would like to make a tax-deductible year-end donation towards our efforts, you can find us at Network for Good, www.networkforgood.com.

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Home Tour (cont’d from page 1)

the previous owners of the Mentone Springs Hotel. They designed and developed this unique property to serve as a location for Mentone community art and music events and weddings. They built the beautiful glass-enclosed tea house for gatherings and the exquisite tiny chapel for worship and meditation. The chapel doors and windows were often open and classical music could be enjoyed throughout the property along with the bells of St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church nearby. With Andy’s death in 2009, the gardens lay unused for a number of years until the property was purchased by Kathy Casler as the build site for her whimsical English style cottage. The cottage was designed by Tony Shrader with Custom Home Designs, located here in Mentone, AL.

Nestled into the landscape so as not to disturb the existing ambiance of the property, the cottage was built by Scott and Angela Gilbert with A&S Construction, along with many contributions from many local craftsmen and artisans. The home features native mountain stone complimented with handmade brick accents, quaint antique English chimney pots and stained and leaded glass windows created by Chuck Peters, a local glass artist. The gardens were renovated with the guidance of Susan Sego, owner of Earthly Elements located in Mentone. SAINT JOSEPH’S ON THE MOUNTAIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH has been completely restored this year. The first service of St Joseph’s Church as a recognized and organized congregation by the Diocese of Alabama was in 1971. Originally, worship took place in a 100-year-old log cabin and the church building has grown around it. The log cabin, dated around 1870, had been the home of the Simmie Sherman Vernon family. Over the years, improvements were accomplished by volunteers using materials reclaimed from old buildings of the same vintage as the log cabin. Please Note that St. Joseph’s will be open for the tour on Saturday from 9am to 5pm, but because of worship service on Sunday, will be available for touring from 1pm to 4 pm only.

Remember When ...

In October 1984, The Groundhog had a beautiful cover story titled “A Town, A Hotel, A Birthday”? The story read as follows;

“Nine days of celebration for some 36,500 days of existence. The town of Mentone reaches its one hundredth birthday at a time when more and more people can make that boast. Yet, it’s young in comparison with the New England towns that have passed the three-hundred mark.

The town celebrates, beginning October 13th, amid autumnal splendor, this small Appalachian community which, according to the 1980 census, had 477 citizens, 306 houses, and 311 water customers.

Without the Mentone Springs Hotel there most certainly would be no recognizable, incorporated town. Probably there would be several smaller communities such as Moon Lake, Berry Patch, or even Tutwiler or Vernon’s Gap.

There it stands, built in Queen Anne architectural style, twin octagonal turrets reaching to the sky, three stories tall. Nearby is Mineral Spring, once covered by a two story gazebo, and, just up the brow, is Beauty Springs. Believed once to have curative powers, they attracted tourists to the town which was named for Mentone, France, a famous resort place. In French, the name Mentone means “musical mountain spring.” Once healthy and free-flowing, Mineral Spring and Beauty Springs now only trickle.

Farther up the mountain is Brow Park, where people go to view stunning sunsets, to enjoy picnic lunches, and where the annual Crafts Festival is held. From here the view is stunning—the peaceful valley below, Sand Mountain beyond.

The hotel is a rustic cathedral, representing the heritage, the inner significance and natural beauty of the town. A river flows through the town. Little River is believed to be the only river in America that runs its full course atop a mountain. It’s a beautiful stream widening as it goes, bordered by rhododendron, holly, dogwood and other foliage.”...

By Angie Carden

Remember When...
This Old House: MERF Community House

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

The cool fall temps and the leaves in their glory make Mentone and Lookout Mountain the perfect place to be. Senior lunches, tutoring, piano lessons and fall fundraising have kept the MERF house busy and full of joy.

MERF is thankful to the area restaurants that hosted the senior lunch bunch crew for our BYOL gatherings this summer. Tiger’s Inn hosted us for the last one in September for a wonderful chicken and dressing lunch with sweet potato pie, green beans, roll and banana pudding. Thanks Judy and Brittany for treating us so well on a busy day! From September 23rd until November 18th, regular senior lunches at the MERF house will occur with great food from many of MERF’s supporters and friends. The meal is served at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays so join us for great food, fun fellowship and toe tapping entertainment.

October brings MAPA’s Colorfest again this year to Brow Park in Mentone. Please stop by the MERF booth to say hello and to pick up some great “Leave Me in Mentone” gifts for you, your friends and your family! MERF will have some new mug colors, baseball caps, ornaments, tees, and sweatshirts. All proceeds will benefit MERF and its programs. We may even have a special surprise for you so come by and check us out.

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. Contact us at merf.mentone@gmail.com or 256-634-4673.

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We are in a campaign to bring new books and DVDs to the library. Several new or “new-ish” mysteries have been donated recently, so we are starting with those. Expect to see several new bestsellers and new DVDs soon, as well!

We have two new mysteries from Ruth Rendell, who probably needs no introduction to mystery lovers. These are The Girl Next Door and No Man’s Nightingale. We have also acquired Vertigo 42 by Martha Grimes.

Donna Leon is the internationally best selling author of the Commissario Guido Brunetti series. We now have her book, The Golden Egg. To please his wife, Brunetti investigates the death of a mentally challenged man who worked at their dry cleaning establishment. But as the investigation unfolds, it appears that he had no birth certificate, and as far as the Italian government is concerned, he never existed. Why would anyone want this sweet, supposedly simple-minded man dead? And why does it seem that he never existed?

Andrew Martin writes the Jim Stringer series. His books, The Night Mail from Calcutta to Jamapur, one of his traveling companions is shot and killed. And someone is placing deadly snakes, including giant king cobras, in the first class compartments. Stringer definitely has his work cut out for him. Filled with atmosphere and historical details, this is a delightful puzzle of a book.

Rhys Bowen writes the Molly Murphy and Constable Evans series. Naughty in Nice is one of “Her Royal Spyness” books. Lady Victoria Georgiana Charlotte Eugenie, daughter of the second Duke of Glen Garry and Rannoch, and 34th in line to the throne, is sent by the queen to recover a priceless, stolen snuffbox. But before she can complete her mission, she gets involved in a dastardly murder. How’s a girl to find time to go to the casino?

Breaking Silence and The Names of our Tears are Amish country mysteries written by Linda Castillo and P. L. Gaus, respectively. Both are great reads!

Michael Robertson writes books about brothers who lease a law office at 221B Baker Street. Their new location comes with an odd stipulation—to answer any mail that arrives for the most famous previous resident of that address, Sherlock Holmes! The Baker Street Translation is a fast-paced, fun and ingenuous addition to the mystery scene.

Jack Fredrickson writes the Dek Elstom series. Dek is a struggling P.I. reduced to living in a cold stone turret. He has quite an assortment of fascinating friends and acquaintances. The series is fast, funny, and well-plotted. We have two of his books, The Dead Caller from Chicago, and Honestly Dearest, you’re Dead.

Come visit us and check out some of our great books and DVDs. Feel free to put in your requests for new acquisitions and we will see what can be done!

**Murder at the Library**

By Liz Baker

BY LIZ BAKER

Night Train to Jamalpur

Andrew Martin writes the Jim Stringer series. And why does it seem that he never existed? Why would anyone want this sweet, supposedly simple-minded man dead?

The Golden Egg

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**MEDICARE 2016 OPEN ENROLLMENT**

By Lynn Hixon

Each year, when Medicare Open Enrollment comes around, it is the time to double-check your Medicare and prescription drug plan coverage for the following year. This year Medicare Enrollment for the 2016 season is from October 15th to December 7th, 2015. Even if your current Medicare plan and its benefits are working for you, it is a good idea to check your plan every year. The only way to save on your health care costs is to annually compare your current plan to other plans that will be available to you for the 2015 enrollment, either offered by your current provider or by other health insurance companies.

The first step is to re-assess your health care needs. Have a look at your current drug prescriptions and how often you currently see your health care providers. Make a list with your current medical needs and all that has changed since you last enrolled in your Medicare plan.

If you get any notices from your plan provider about changes to your plan, even if you would like to keep your current plan, it may be time to take a closer look. You may be able to get more benefits at lower costs. Plan benefits change every year and it doesn’t hurt to check out and compare all benefits and costs. Just remember you can really save money on your healthcare by evaluating the upcoming plans when you get your MEDICARE AND YOU 2016 handbook.

If you have any questions, please call Lynn at the DeKalb County Council on Aging at 256-845-8590.

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THE RECIPE CORNER

BY

ANGIE CARDEN

I could not be more excited that it is Fall! I am a huge fan of Fall and Winter. I have waited, for what seems like my entire life, for Summer to say farewell! I realize this probably puts me in a minority, but I love cold weather! I love fluffy blankets, old movies and a huge mug of soup! ANY soup will do! Here’s one of my favorites! I hope you will try it with a blanket, book or old movie!

Butternut Squash Soup

In a large soup pot, preheat 2 tbsp olive oil, then add 1 diced carrot, 1 diced onion (small) and 1 celery stalk (diced). Cook until veggies begin to soften a bit, or until onion is translucent, usually takes about 3-5 minutes. Now add 4 cups cubed butternut squash, ½ tsp chopped thyme (or 2 pinches dried), salt, pepper and 4 cups of chicken broth. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer until squash is fork tender, around 30 minutes. If you have an immersion blender, puree soup in the pot, otherwise, be very careful and puree in small batches in a blender.

I hope you enjoy this one! I love it with toasted English muffins with butter and a sprinkle of cinnamon and, truth be known, James Bond on the TV! Happy Cooking! Angie

October

Birthdays

Oct 1 – Ron Logan
Oct 2 – Kevin Gifford
Oct 2 – Ben Kirby
Oct 3 – Angie Shugart
Oct 3 – Ansley Blalock
Oct 3 – Elizabeth Gentry
Oct 4 – Casey Cox
Oct 4 – Mandy Corsentino
Oct 5 – Mack Flannigan
Oct 5 – Sadler Emory
Oct 5 – Starla Cash
Oct 5 – Kathy Coots Peterson
Oct 5 – Donald Daniel
Oct 5 – Kathy Peterson
Oct 5 – Stephanie Haney
Oct 5 – In memory of Eddie Kirby
Oct 6 – Tylor Harrison
Oct 6 – Breanna Blalock
Oct 6 – Katy Tuberville
Oct 6 – Casey Hellums
Oct 6 – Tanya Thomas
Oct 7 – Christian Henry
Oct 9 – Donna Hallahan
Oct 9 – Audie Beacon
Oct 10 – Jimmy Worthey
Oct 10 – Sally Muschamp
Oct 10 – Gayla Smith
Oct 10 – Allie Rhodes
Oct 10 – Charles Hammonds
Oct 11 – Michele Wooden
Oct 11 – Amanda Wigley
Oct 11 – Rhett Freeman
Oct 11 – Sam Harrison
Oct 11 – Abigail Wallace
Oct 12 – Ariana Beard
Oct 12 – Leslie Beacon
Oct 13 – Sadie Long
Oct 13 – JayDan Haynes
Oct 14 – Martha Kirby
Oct 14 – Tina Langston
Oct 14 – Olen Crowe
Oct 15 – Lanita Allen
Oct 15 – David “Tater” Hopper
Oct 15 – Pam Manning
Oct 16 – Sarah Blalock
Oct 16 – Tina Gregory
Oct 16 – Jacey Graham
Oct 16 – Glenda Turlington
Oct 16 – Barry Sadowski
Oct 17 – Renae Langston
Oct 17 – Rose Cox
Oct 17 – Alisha Lawton
Oct 17 – Katie Poe
Oct 17 – Tommy Battles
Oct 17 – Eddie Coots
Oct 17 – Andrus Smith
Oct 17 – Aryan Wallace
Oct 17 – Andrea Calvert
Oct 18 – Zoey Kate Baggett
Oct 18 – Ken Busby
Oct 18 – Stacy Smith
Oct 18 – Terry Manning
Oct 18 – Alisha McElhaney
Oct 18 – Avery Burke
Oct 19 – Matt Tillman
Oct 20 – Harry Hopper
Oct 20 – Joseph Lee
Oct 21 – Alex Garrett
Oct 21 – Bradyn Gregory
Oct 23 – Levi McClure
Oct 23 – Sandra Padgett
Oct 23 – Roberta Kirby
Oct 24 – Kyle Rape
Oct 25 – Jordan Bain
Oct 26 – Jeff Harrison
Oct 26 – Cindy Butler
Oct 26 – Cheri Williams
Oct 26 – In memory of Jesse Stott
Oct 28 – Judah Grisham
Oct 28 – Robert Worthey
Oct 28 – Meagan Sutton
Oct 28 – Matthew Patterson
Oct 28 – Roger Brownfield
Oct 29 – Jessica Nelson
Oct 29 – Blake Blevins
Oct 30 – Nell Kent
Oct 30 – Shannon Wagner

October

Anniversaries

Oct 5 – Donnie & Connie Bell
Oct 7 – Eddie & Ashley Manning
Oct 10 – Larry & Andrea O’Tinger
Oct 10 – George & Sandra Boehringer
Oct 18 – Lee & Tina Carden
Oct 25 – Josh & Hope Deal
Oct 27 – Coby & Brittany Harrison

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• Sons provide Lawn Maintenance
• Stay tuned for updates on this project

We Hope To Build Where You Hope To Live!
Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Community Paddle.
Watch the leaves change on Little River each Thursday evening at 5:00pm. Come out for an easy float and enjoy the fellowship, exercise and scenic beauty of Little River (weather permitting). Free. oneworldadventureco.com
Oct 1, 6, 27 - 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. Oct 1 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Oct. 6 & 27 from 12 pm to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577
Oct 2 - Live Music: "Alabama Annie." Blues singer/songwriter, performing artist and storyteller. $10/person. Dinner will be served during the concert. Reservations are highly recommended. See www.kamamamoto neon.com for details. Kamama Gallery & Café. 6 p.m. 256-634-3001.
Oct 2 - Campfire Talk: Turkey Creek Nature Preserve: Where Unique Historical and Natural Wonders Flow Together. In addition to regaling stories of the Preserve, Charles Yeager will bring along some of the Preserve’s scaly inhabitants for visitors to see firsthand. Seating is limited, bring a chair or blanket. DeSoto State Park’s Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (Nature Center if raining) Free for all ages!. 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. 256-997-5025
Oct 2-4 - Communicating with the Animals. Three day Untamed weekend retreat with Debbie McGuilvray and Susan Steffens includes workshop, signed copy of Untamed Voices, workbooks, Lunch, snacks, beverages, and a private tour of the Preserve. (A portion of the proceeds will be donated back to the animals at this preserve). Tigers For Tomorrow. 335. 256-524-4150.
Oct 2, 3, 16, 20, 23, 26, 29 - Wild Cave Tour. This 2.5 hour adventure is for those of you who want to experience a world of wonder that few get to see. Our guides will take you into the belly, in the mud and through tight tunnels. Adventure includes helmet, cave lamps, and a fun informative guide. True Adventure Sports. 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 256-997-9577
Oct 3 - Blacksmith Forging Demonstration with Walter Howell. Walter Howell will demonstrate this interesting artform of usefulness & beauty. Some of Walter’s finished pieces of art will be available for purchase. DeSoto State Park Country Store. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free for everyone. Stop by anytime! 256-997-5025.
Oct 3 - Twine & Wine-Finger Weaving Workshop. Fingerweaving is a Native American art form used mostly to create belts, sashes, straps, and other similar items through a simple process. Instructor Keena Graham will demonstrate and teach the 5 styles of finger weaving. Students who make the most progress will receive a finger woven item made by Keena. All materials will be furnished. DeSoto State Park’s Lodge 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. $10. Workshop is limited to 12, pre-registration required. 256-997-5025.
Oct 3 - John Deeve Day At Down On The Farm. Free John Deeve caps to the first 25 kids that come. Enjoy the maze, pumpkin patch and playground along with free balloons and hot dogs. Down of the Farm. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-638-6200.
Oct 4 - Paint Together! During this fun and engaging class led by Paula Maddox, you will complete an acrylic painting, "Night into Day" No experience is required! $35 includes supplies. Reservations recommended. Kamama Gallery & Café. 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. kamamamoto neon.com/community or 256-634-3001.
Oct 5, 15 - Rock Climbing / Rappelling Adventure Experience. Come learn how to climb and rappelling with guides who are fun, safe and energetic. Trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. No prior climbing experience is needed. TAS 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.
Oct 6-8 - Hi-Adventure Trip. 3 day adventure includes a Wild Cave Tour, Rock Climbing, Extreme Night Hike and ends with a relaxing canoe trip. Price includes all activities, attractions, permits, fees, gear, and guides. TAS 10 a.m. 256-997-9577.
Oct 8 - Flu and Pneumonia Shots offered by Rite-Aid at Mentone City Hall. Please bring insurance card. 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Oct 8-12 - The Courage Worship Event. Courage Worship event is designed to create an environment that supports the Courage mission for a constant 72 hours. There will be dozens of Christian Bands, Solo Artists, and Speakers. Hope you can join us. Twiley Fields in Dogtown. 256-997-9577.
Oct 9 - "Music and the Hero's Journey." A creative and interactive workshop led by Roy "Futureman" Wootten. kamamamoto neon.com/music for details. $15. Reservations are highly recommended. Kamama Gallery & Café. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-634-3001.
Oct 9 - Campfire Talk: Corn-A truly a-maizing Plant! Join geographer Kelly Gregg in a casual discussion of the origins of Native American corn, how it shaped American culture and cuisine, and how it went on to help feed the world! Free & open to the public. Bring a chair or blanket along for fresh popcorn! Seating is limited, so bring a chair. DeSoto State Park’s Campfire Ring (in Nature Center if raining). 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. 256-997-5025.
Oct 10 - 4th Annual Little River Canyon Half Marathon. The Little River Canyon Center will host its 4th annual "Little River Half Marathon". Little River Canyon Center: 8 a.m. $50 fee; pre-registration required. 256-782-5697.
Oct 10 - 2nd Annual Heil Harvest 5K Run. Join the Heil team in the 2nd Annual Heil Harvest Run. This race kicks off the Annual Heil Harvest Festival. This is a great course for ALL AGES! Register by October 2nd for a race shirt. Packet Pick up and Race Day Registration from 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. Race begins at 8 a.m. raceonline.com or call 256-304-2198.
Oct 10 - Hernando DeSoto. Jacksonville State University’s Dr. Harry Holstein will take you through the amazing adventures of Hernando DeSoto, one of the first European explorers, as he searches for the ancient town of “Coosa”. Little River Canyon Center. Free and open to the Public. 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Great for all ages! 256-782-5697.
Oct 12 - Poisonous Plants of Alabama Class. This class is a brief overview of many poisonous plants in Alabama - learn how to spot them and what to do if you are affected by them. TAS Training Center: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 256-997-9577.
Oct 13 - Orienteering Class. Basic, yet essential, skills for survival navigation are explored. In this engaging class led by Paula Maddox, you will learn the basics of map and compass reading, and topography. TAS 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-997-9577.
Oct 13 - Book Club. This month the discussion will be about the book “Loving Frank” by Nancy Horan. It uses historical references to explore the relationship between the architect Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Borthwick Cheney. It is a book whose language is beautifully rendered, and whose theme is sure to garner some interesting discussion. Everyone is welcome to join us at Kamama at 7 p.m. 256-634-3001.
Oct 14, 19, 28, 30 - 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 is fun, boulder scrambling, some spelunking, and a whole lot of required fitness! $35 deposit to reserve spot (deemed non-refundable) with $35 balance due night of event. TAS 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (excluding Oct 30 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) 256-997-9577.
Oct 15 - Book Club. This month the discussion will be about the book “Loving Frank” by Nancy Horan. It uses historical references to explore the relationship between the architect Frank Lloyd Wright and Mamah Borthwick Cheney. It is a book whose language is beautifully rendered, and whose theme is sure to garner some interesting discussion. Everyone is welcome to join us at Kamama at 7 p.m. 256-634-3001.
Oct 16th – Friday Night Fish Fry. Help kick off Mentone’s annual Colorfest with our famous fish fry fundraiser. Come by and support One World Adventure programs while getting the best fish dinner this side of the river. Plates come with handmade catfish, homemade hush puppies, slaw and dessert. Reservations are encouraged because we sell out, quick! $10 each. 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Oct 16 - Ole Time Christians In Concert. The Ole Time Christians will be in concert at Chris Roberts School of Music in Fort Payne. Tickets can be purchased at Chris Roberts School of Music, Gary’s Appliance Warehouse, Roger’s Music, Blackie’s Tire in Rainsville or at the door for $10.7 p.m.
Oct 17 - 3rd Annual RTI 5K Great Pumpkin Run. Come join us as we help abused children in DeKalb and Jackson Counties. All proceeds from the race go to the Children’s Advocacy Center. Dress up in your favorite Halloween costume and enjoy the fun. Race begins at 8 a.m. in RTI parking lot. Register online at raceonline.com
Oct 17 - 3rd Annual Color Craze 5K & 1 MILE Fun Run. One World Adventure will host the 3rd annual COLOR CRAZE 5K & 1 MILE FUN RUN! The race is great for all ages and will begin at Mason Park in Mentone, adjacent to Mentone Town Hall. Sign in and Race Day Registration begins at 7 a.m. The race begins at 7:50 a.m. The cost is $15 – $30. Find out more information by visiting our site oneworldadventureco.com
Page 10                                               The Groundhog                                                    October 2015
Oct 17-20, 28 - Rappelling Adventure. Come experience the thrill of rappelling down the sheer sandstone gems of NE Alabama. Each trip includes all the gear plus basic instruction. TAS 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Oct 17 - Third Saturday Sunset Event. Enjoy an afternoon of family fun activities in downtown Fort Payne and at the city park. Face painting, Big Sam the Balloon Man, races, games, car-cruise-in, music, food, live music, and other entertainment from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. 256-996-3857.

Oct 18 - Tri-State Paper Crafting. Join us to learn, create and be inspired while crafting with papers, stamps, inks, punches, and die cuts. No experience needed. Kamama Gallery 1:00-2:30. Reserve by noon Sat the 17th. Cost is $5. email cottagepaper@bellsouth.net or call 205 349-4026.

Oct 19 - Mountaineering Adventure. This 4-6 hour adventure starts with a rappel into a low light maze where we will stop and anchor part of the way down the rock wall and travel on the rock face mountaineering style to get to our main destination. TAS 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Oct 21, 22 - Afternoon Rock Climb/ Bouldering. 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 or bouldering experience is needed. TAS 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 256-997-9577.


Oct 23 - Rock Climbing Adventure. 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. 256-997-9577.

Oct 24 - Blow Your Own Ornament. Orbix Hot Glass. 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. Ages 5 and up 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. $38 per ornament. 256-523-3188.

Oct 24-25 - The 7th Annual Mentone Area Arts Council Home Tour and Silent Auction. MAAC will present a two-day fall tour of eight homes and other historic landmarks. Tickets good for both days can be purchased at Mentone Town Hall for $10 each during tour hours. A Silent Auction will again be held in conjunction with the Home Tour. Event hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. mentonearts.org.

Oct 24 - Moon Lake Harvest Festival 5K Race. Race registration will begin at 7 a.m. at Moon Lake School in Mentone. You can register by mail for $25 with an application, available at the school or Mentone Market, or online at racesonline.com for $27. All proceeds go to Moon Lake PTO on behalf of the school. 256-899-7403.

Oct 24 - Moon Lake Harvest Festival Car Show. This will be a great family outing for everyone. All proceeds from this event go to Moon Lake PTO. Please come out to this family fun event and show your support for our historic “little” school with strong community involvement. Cars will be on display at the MERF House. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct 24 - Listen, Look and Learn! Sandstone Glades Join Michelle Reynolds to learn about Sandstone Glades on Lookout Mountain. 11 a.m. to Noon Little River Canyon. Free for all ages! 256-845-3548.

Oct 25 - Mentone Boy Scout Troop 106 Annual Chicken and Dressing Dinner. We have this every year to pay the insurance and upkeep on the scout van. There is no set cost, just whatever donation people want to make.

We will also be having the silent auction again this year with it. It will be from 11:30 - 2:00 Jim Berry Hall (scout building). Oct 27 - GPS Basic Training and Navigation Class, Part 1. Learn how to use a map, compass, and a handheld GPS. Learn basic navigation and how to pinpoint a location for quick return, or quick rescue. Also learn how to search by waypoints or coordinates. TAS 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 256-997-9577.

Oct 31 - 4th Annual Spookapalooza! Pumpkin Carving Contest. Entries will be judged overall appearance, creativity, neatness, and originality. Themes can be fall, Halloween, nature, etc. Entries must be turned in by 12 noon. DeSoto State Park. Winners announced at the Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground at 6 p.m. Free for all ages. 256-997-5025.

Oct 30 - Spookapalooza! Storytelling! Campfire Talk: Ghost on the Mountain. Spooky stories guaranteed to put shivers up your spine! Learn about Alabama’s finest spooks, legends and folklore from JSU Field Schools’ Renee Morrison. DRESS WARMLY & bring a chair or blanket, as seating is limited. Great for all ages! DeSoto State Park’s Campground Campfire Ring. In case of inclement weather, the program will be in the DSP Nature Center (next to the Country Store). 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Free & Open to everyone. 256-997-5025.

Oct 31 Spookapalooza! Campfire Talk: Bats Alive! Bats are the only mammals capable of true flight. With extremely elongated fingers and a wing membrane stretched between, the bat’s wing anatomically resembles the human hand. DeSoto State Park’s Campground Campfire Ring. In case of inclement weather, the program will be in the DSP Nature Center (next to the Country Store). 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Free for everyone! 256-997-5025.

Oct 31 - Blow Your Own Ornament. Orbix Hot Glass. 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. Ages 5 and up. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. $38 per ornament. 256-997-5025.

Nov 1 - Spookapalooza! Critter Show. Join Naturalist Mandy Pearson to discover some of the native creatures of Alabama (as well as non-natives) in this fun uncaged presentation. Meet some live critters! Seating is limited so bring a chair or blanket. Campfire Ring in the DSP Improved Campground (indoors in case of rain). 9:00 a.m. Free for everyone. email Brittny.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov or 256-997-5025.
Saturday Night Chili Cookout and Mountain Music Concert

This year, MAPA will once again bring the “Concert and Cookout” to the Colorfest festivities. Be sure to come out and enjoy the chili cookout where you can choose from a variety of chilies—regular, white and vegetarian. The cost is only $10, and all proceeds go to MAPA’s projects.

Then, get on your feet, clap your hands and stomp your feet to the sounds of Uncle Shuffelo and His Haint Holler Hootenanny, an eight-piece old-time string band from Rover, Tennessee. Formed in 2012, their mission is to relieve stress, give off good vibes, and cause a general feeling of well-being in all people, while promoting the awesomeness of old-time music—and while also dressed in period garb. They can be counted on to deliver a high-energy performance influenced by Uncle Dave Macon, Grandpa Jones, the Carter Family, and other old-time greats.

Among their many, many awards are the DeKalb County Fiddlers’ Convention in Fort Payne, AL, the Great Southern Old-Time Fiddlers’ Convention in Chattanooga, TN, the Tennessee Valley Old Time Fiddlers’ Convention in Athens, AL and the State of Tennessee Old-Time Fiddlers’ Convention in Clarksville, TN. Individual members of the group have won numerous awards as well.
Richard Schrei’s eclectic music experiences of Classical, New Age, Ambient, Blues, Jazz, Chinese Modal Music, Tibetan and Sanskrit Chanting, and Native American make him a truly versatile and interesting musician.

In his newest CD, entitled Cold Fusion: Chilled Out Native American Flute, which will be released at Colorfest this year, is a blend of downtempo beats and rhythms with the Native American Flute. Richard will be performing at The Brow on Saturday, October 17th at 1pm and again at the Mentone Springs Hotel site Stage on Sunday, October 18th at 12pm.

Richard combines his knowledge of sound healing, Reiki, Nada Yoga, Suizen, Musical QiGong, and meditations on the Medicine Buddha and Krishna in a unique blending of these healing and meditation techniques and applies them to his music. His music reduces stress while resonating and awakening powerful energies that enhance self-healing and deep meditation.

Richard will have a booth on the brow this year and along with selling his CD’s, he will be selling personally handcrafted Native American flutes. Come welcome him!

Richard Schrei is a Reiki Master/Teacher, and a member of the Sound Healers Association. He is a 2003 graduate of the MindBodySpirit Professional Training Program offered by the Center for Mind-Body Medicine, Washington, DC, and Co-Sponsored by the University of Minnesota Center for Spirituality and Healing.
Meet the Valley Head Tigers 2015 Football Coaches!

By Kim Johnson

The Valley Head Tigers Football program has undergone many changes this year, but one thing remains the same and that is TIGER PRIDE! When Coach Rusty Higdon resigned at the end of the 2014 season, we were left with an opening for not only a head coach, but also a whole staff as many of the supporting staff left as well. This was due in part to health issues or their child(ren) graduating. Although we were saddened by the news that Coach Higdon had resigned, he left behind many great memories and accomplishments as a team, such as region champs for both 2013 and 2014 seasons. We were left, however with a hole to fill. Several qualified candidates applied for the job, and, finally, the DeKalb County School Board made their decision.

Coach Sam Graham is our new Head Varsity Coach. He hails from Sylvania, Alabama originally, and played football and graduated from there. He and his wife Amy have four daughters: Megan, Abby, Sarah, and Grace. They attend Trinity United Methodist Church. He received his degree from the University of North Alabama in Huntsville in the spring of 1996, where he also played football and was on several National Championship teams. His prior coaching experience includes Sylvania High School, when he was a mere 23 years old, and also during his undergraduate studies an UNA, where he coached until 2002. He believes all things are possible through Christ and strives to be a light to our youth. He expects hard work and good attitudes from all our players.

Assistant coach Kyle Cochran is our Head Junior Varsity Coach and Assistant Coach to our varsity program. He is 27 years old, unmarried, and hails from Fyffe, where he graduated and played football, basketball, and golf. He received his degree in High School Special Education from Athens State. He will also be coaching all other male Junior Varsity sports. He believes if you work hard and do your BEST, good things will happen.

Assistant Coach Matt Ogle graduated from Plainview High School and received his degree from Gadsden State. He is currently the Head Caretaker for Glenwood Cemetery in Fort Payne and is a former bull-rider on the local bull-riding circuit. He is married to Adriane (Robertson) Ogle, who graduated from Valley Head.

Assistant Coach Chuck Williams graduated from Geraldine in 1993. He received his degree from Athens State University. He is married to Cheri (Keith) Williams who graduated from Valley Head. They have four children: Avery, Courtney, Sadie, and Patrick.

Assistant Coach Chance Hodges graduated from Valley Head High School in 2013 and is the only remaining assistant coach from last year. He is unmarried and currently attending Northeast College. Chance is the son of Keila Daniel of Valley Head.

As with any team, the support of the community is vital to their success. Please welcome our new coaches and help us get behind them and make them feel welcome and at home at Valley Head High School. We hope this exceptional group of men will stay with Valley Head Athletics for years to come, carry us to many victories, help us to be gracious in the face of defeat, and continue our tradition of TIGER PRIDE!
Worship

The Sunday morning services at Winston Memorial Presbyterian Church are held at 9AM each Sunday, except no services on 5th Sunday. Rev. Jerry Davis is our minister for these services.

The Valley Head Baptist Church invites you to attend Sunday School at 10AM; Worship Service at 11AM; Sunday Evening Worship at 6PM; Midweek Service (Wednesday) at 6PM; Women on Mission 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. Wednesdays 6-8PM A分化 (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 N. Gault Avenue in Fort Payne holds Sunday Mass in English at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in Spanish. Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in English, Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. bilingual, Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in English, Friday at 9:00 a.m. in English and Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in bilingual.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1519 Smith Gap Road (County Road 85), Fort Payne. Regular Worship Services are at 10AM Sunday. Bible class or Lent/Advent services every Wednesday at 6:30PM. Steve Schrader, Pastor - 845-4314. Everyone welcome.

WALNUT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH on Highway 11 North of Fort Payne, welcomes everyone at Sunday School 10AM, Worship Service at 11AM, Wednesday night youth meeting at 6PM, and Wednesday night Prayer Meeting at 6:30PM.

The Fort Payne Christian Center and Pastors Ken and Elaine Hollman invite everyone to join in Worship on Sunday at 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. Casual 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, invites everyone in the Mentone and Cloudland Communities to services--Sunday School 10 AM (GA Time) Morning Worship 11 AM (GA Time) Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 5:30 PM (GA Time) Bro. Brian Keith is the pastor.

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. Pastor Tim Miller; Crosswalk Sunday School K through Adult - 9:15am; Adult Worship Service - 10:30am; JC Kids Worship Service - 10:30am. Van Ministry for Children pick-up/take home, ages k-12, for all surrounding areas 8:15am. For children pick-up and drop-off van, please call Donna Bunn 706-398-0720

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.

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. 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.

Gravel Hill Baptist Church, 14701 Hwy 11 South, Ft Payne, AL 35967 has Sunday School 10 AM & Worship Service at 11AM each Sunday. All welcome! Wednesdays at 6PM we have supper and a brief devotional time together. Pastor George Moses.

Greater Vision Ministries Church of God, 38623 US HWY 11, Hammondville, AL 35989. Come as you are... LEAVE CHANGED! Sunday School 10 am, Sunday Worship *10:45 am, (*Nursery & Kids Church). MidWEEK re-charge Wednesday 6:30pm. Loving God & Serving Others. Pastor Tim Copcock. 256-601-0679.

Send any changes to The Groundhog at groundhognews@aol.com or P. O. Box 387, Mentone, AL. 35984.
LOTS AND ACREAGE

OLD HOMEPACE next to Shady 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 Lahusage. 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)

6.1 ACRES with Brushy Creek running through, drive way in place, wooded. $35,000 (23044)

5 ACRES on the East brow tract overlooking Pleasant Valley. Rock palilacases, wooded. See Weiss Lake in the distance. Private gated area. Joins National Preserve & Forever Wild protected property $60,000 (22866)

NICELY WOODED 5 ACRES with stream located on Desoto Parkway, Mentone. Residential or commercial use. Old Homeste, large rock formations. Possibilities are endless. $90,000 (22874)

.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)

3.77 ACRES located at Canyon View Forest Subdivision. Wooded and joining the bluff of Little River National Preserve. $60,000 (23040)

FULL ACRE on Lookout Mountain, 5.5 acres. Deck, lighted walkway to lower property, stone patio half-way 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 reduction to $275,000.
In Memorium

Litefoot
11/20/64 - 08/13/15
By Susan Cherones

At his memorial service, a diverse group of folks from both mountains and valleys, the lake and his hometown filled Burt’s Funeral Home to say goodbye to a well-loved friend. Litefoot was someone just about everybody knew. He was not connected to the modern grid of internets and phone lines, so it was hard to let everyone who might have liked to have been there know in time. If he was your friend, you might like to know that several people spoke that day of how his kind words of wisdom had restored their self-confidence; many mentioned how his medicines, remedies and extensive healing knowledge had improved their health. Some spoke of the help he had given them, his way with animals, the work he had done, the furniture he made, his caring, his heart. More than one family was grateful for firewood he always made sure they had. His son wrote and read a beautiful poem about the delights and depth of his father’s love.

Litefoot was many things—an artist, a craftsman, a feller of trees, a picker of chicken eggs, a maker of medicines, a builder, a hunter, a fisherman, a guide, a knower of Nature, a marksman, someone who hunted with a spear and atlatl, a cuddler of kittens, a tamer of lions, a joker, a wise man, a scrapper, a Pappy (his grandkids called him “Pappy Feet”), a workman, a father, a friend. He was a man who lived in tipis, healed himself of heart disease he had me explain Cardio Cocktail. One day, just after I came in, the nurse adjusted his tubes and he made a face like she’d killed him—I gasped and she said—“Don’t mind him, he’s been doing me that way all day!” He opened his eye and scanned the room in an exaggerated fashion, winked at me and assumed the “you’ve killed me face” again as she turned back! When our friend got his foot caught in a tractor and was in a room above him, he said “get me a broom,” as he raised his eyebrows upwards, indicating tapping on the ceiling to say hello. He sent another sick friend a laboriously lip read message to eat garlic to get better. He had plenty to say, if you could read his lips.

For a man who liked to talk and loved to move, you’d think the last three months of his life would have been miserable, and there were days... but what I saw as his body and his words failed him—his heart, his spirit, his wings grew large. He managed amazing patience with all of us as we feebly tried to understand him; he exuded love and gratitude. Once, he had us go out into the hall and bring the physical therapist back into the room so he could say a proper “thank you”. He said “I love you” or “Thank you”, or both to all the many people who came to visit him. He sent messages of encouragement even to those who couldn’t come see him. He loved Life, even in its most restricted form.

The accident happened on May 15th. As I understand it, there was an old man sitting on his front porch in Broomtown who was watching. A semi had been trying to pull out of a little church parking lot and just as it got stretched completely across both lanes of the road, the old man heard Litefoot’s truck cresting the hill—“Get the phone,” he’d said to his wife. Sure enough, it was they who called 911 when Litefoot’s truck flipped five times doing everything he could to avoid the accident.

Although the doctors had said he would never move again, he had already been able to move all four of his limbs and, if he had survived the pneumonia, he was determined (as he said to the hospitalist who asked “So, you really think he can walk again?”) not only to walk, but to run. If he was your friend, know he was a warrior until the end.

He was surrounded before, during, and after his death by those who loved him dearly. He was at peace with God and his loved ones and was escorted to the Crossing with the Love and guiding visions of one to whom he was precious. If he was your friend, know he left this world well loved.

Catherine Agnes Brown Bailey
1910 - 2015

Mrs. Catherine Agnes Brown Bailey, age 105, of Mentone, passed away at Crowne Health Care on September 6, 2015. Born in Valley Head in 1910, Mrs. Bailey was always a determined woman on a mission. She was Mentone’s City Clerk for 22 years, where she walked back and forth to work every day before retiring at the age of 88. She was treasurer of Mentone United Methodist Church for 36 years where she taught Sunday School Class for 45 years. Mrs. Bailey taught school in Menlo, GA for four years, while she attended the University of Chattanooga during the summers to further her own education. She became the head dietician at Camp Skyline for four years after owning and operating Bailey’s Grocery Store for more than 30 years. She touched the lives of many people.

Mrs. Bailey was survived by her daughter Barbara (Ovie) Blalock, son Gerald (Phyllis) Bailey, all of Mentone, her sister Sarah Harris, eight grandchildren—Jimmy (Sandra) Blalock, Lesley (Mary Jo) Blalock, Raymond (Becky) Blalock, Barbie (Jimmy) Hester, Barry (Rhonda) Blalock, Sherry Taylor, Tisha (Scott) Walker & Penny (Andy) Hebert, 22 great grandchildren, and 28 great great-grandchildren—Jimmy (Sandra) Blalock, son Gerald (Phyllis) Bailey, all of Mentone, her sister Sarah Harris, eight grandchildren—Jimmy (Sandra) Blalock, Lesley (Mary Jo) Blalock, Raymond (Becky) Blalock, Barbie (Jimmy) Hester, Barry (Rhonda) Blalock, Sherry Taylor, Tisha (Scott) Walker & Penny (Andy) Hebert, 22 great grandchildren, and 28 great great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by Parents Roscoe & Ethel Brown; Husband Floyd Bailey; Brothers Raymond Brown, Gerald Brown and Carlton Brown; Sister Carrie Ruth Kirby; Grandson-in-law Dewayne Taylor and Great-Great-Granddaughter Laney Grace Wagner.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 9, 2015, at 11:00 a.m. at Burt Chapel in Valley Head followed by burial at Bankhead Cemetery. Service was officiated by Rev. Stan Brown, Rev. Tim Miller and Rev. Tony Gunter.

The family is accepting donations in her memory to Mentone United Methodist Church, P. O. Box 344, Mentone, AL 35984.
Welcome To Mentone!!

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

LOTS and LAND

2 ACRES. Wooded. Driveway in place; building site cleared. Level. Approx 1 mile from downtown Mentone. Power & water at road. $20,000 (840834)

FISHING & KAYAKING ON THE LAKE: pleasant walking paths; common area with gazebo on lake. One-acre lot w/135' lake frontage; small beach & a shady tree for when you just want to fish from the bank. Adjacent to Little River Canyon Natl Preserve. $40,000. (1023260)

DOWNTOWN MENTONE lot. Remnants of the old stone foundation and hand-dug root cellar still in place. Septic tank of unknown condition also on property. Commercial or residential possibilities! $39,000. (765396)

4.43 WOODED ACRES, unrestricted. Septic tank, gravel drive, public water & power already in place! Great place for RV or to build your getaway. $39,900. (311288)

LITTLE RIVER CANYON RIM PKWY. 6 acres. If you're thinking of self-sufficiency, here's the place to nestle down. The offerings of Little River Canyon are right there before you: Kayaking, swimming, mountain biking, hiking. No, it isn't your typical residential area, so don't expect it. Expect wildlife, trees, beauty. $45,000 (1024070)

8.9 ACRES WITH APPROX 135' BROW FRONTAGE on Citadel Rock Rd, near the back entrance of DeSoto State Park. Beautiful wooded and large paved road frontage. $89,000 (692925)

2.2 UNRESTRICTED, WOODED ACRES Mentone. Corner property. Public water & power at the road. Great building site for one or a couple of cabins. $20,000 (1011111)


Day Spring. One seldom hears of lots for sale in this private, gated community with its common areas of massive, dramatic boulders; walking paths and access to East Fork of Little River. Lot 14, 1.25 acres. Beautiful hardwoods & level-to-gent-ly-rolling topography. $40,000. (1027151)
In the fall of 1915, Mr. H. Frank Shigley decided it was time to take a stand relative to his religious views and provide a permanent place of worship for his family. Accordingly, he stepped out in faith, almost alone, and became a charter member of the church known as the “Wesleyan Methodist Church of Mentone Alabama.” The members numbered about ten for several years, principally young people, and mostly from two families. At first they met in the upper room of Mason Hall near Moon Lake. The Church was then led by Mrs. Kate Shaffer.

Sometime later, Mrs. Ruth Brown gave the church a boost by donating three acres of land for a church building site. The community became interested and would offer help. Some gave money; others donated time and labor.

In 1917, “The Little Brown Church in the Wildwood” was built. In 1922, the group was able to build the first parsonage next to the church structure. Through the years, the “Little Brown Church” was expanded and painted white. A fellowship hall was added on campus in 1973, and the present parsonage was completed in 1980. Land was purchased to develop a “Wesleyan Retirement Village” as a potential retirement center for Wesleyan adults. In more recent years, a sanctuary addition with seating for 150 people was completed in 1999. A life center began construction in 2000, and was finally completed in 2004. A complete remodel of the parsonage was completed in 2012, as well as the old fellowship hall being remodeled for office space. At present, a 40x50 steel storage building is in the process of being built, this will house the vans as well as the 20 passenger bus, and give much needed storage. This should be completed in October of 2015.

On October 24th and 25th, Mentone Community Church will have a 100 year anniversary celebration. Former Pastors and friends will be returning to a place that has so abundantly touched their lives. As we celebrate 100 years, we are reminded of the impact for Christ this church has had on the Mentone community. As we gather and worship, we do so with the same vision and zeal that our predecessors had in the founding of the church. We now move into the next phase of history, knowing, “If God is for us who can be against us.”
RUSTIC CABIN near Mentone. 1-1/2 stories, 2BR/2BA home, open floor plan, large vaulted ceilings. Loft guest bedroom overlooking living areas. Lge screened in porch. $137,000. MLS #651761.

ENJOY LIFE in this custom log get-a-way on 4 secluded acres. Loft bedroom and 1 bath with wood floors offering a cozy atmosphere and a front porch complete the picture. $110,000. MLS #564870.

TWO FURNISHED CABINS on 6.4 ACRES... One half mile from DeSoto State Park and Downtown Mentone. Downstairs: Home is a 2BR/2BA, Southern Charm offers Loft, 1BR, and 1BA. Space for approx. 7 additional cabins. $279,000. MLS #1026581.

REAL BARGAIN. Lge 3BR/2BA home blocks from downtown Mentone. Screened porch, open floor plan, garage, bonus room, workshop plus storage bldg, fire pit, and more. $264,900. MLS #1026428.

LOVE THE VIEWS! Wrap-around porch, lush landscaping and rock walls. $299,900. MLS #1018579.

Cozy 1 bedroom, bath cabin in Laurel Creek Lakes Subdivision. Kitchen appliances, central heat & air, gas logs. $149,900. MLS #1002623.

LOOK OUT at DeSoto Falls! Building lot with a darling 1 bedroom cottage ready for use. $465,000 #970196.

Daniel Boon Log Cabin on 2 acres! Plenty of room with 2BR/2.5BA, unfinished basement and large balcony. $215,000 MLS #621178.

NEAR LITTLE RIVER CANYON. 3BR/1BA log cabin/out, wood floors/walls/ceilings, open living/dining/kitchen, rock woodburning FP, screened porch, deck, loft/basement/game room. $49,500. MLS #1017450.

HANDCRAFTED WOODWORK throughout this 2BR/2BA mountain home. Great room w/ cathedral ceiling, full front & back porches, lge utility room on a wooded lot. Located in Laurel Creek Lakes w/ access to 3 lakes & walking trails. $174,500. MLS #1017650.

LIVE & PLAY ON THE WATER! 200' of frontage on East Fork of Little River featuring 3BR/2BA, rock floors, some carpet, all appliances, WB fireplace, & storage building. Call for more details. $239,900. MLS #902940.

BEAUTIFUL Mountain Get-Away with gorgeous view year round. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, shake-sided exterior w/low maintenance metal roof. Deck. $239,900 MLS #902940.

SOLD

Iron Horse Log Cabin on 2 acres! Plenty of room with 2BR/2.5BA, unfinished basement and large balcony. $215,000 MLS #621178.

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Six present members and a guest/future? member met at the MERF House on September 8th and then drove to Joe and Yvette Underwood’s home for a tutorial on beekeeping. A brief business meeting followed at Mellanie (Lyday) Tuttle’s home, and, then, the group adjourned to the Lyday workshop to create this year’s scarecrow entry for the fair. Judging was on the 23rd and hopefully by the time you read this she will be holding her place of honor on the screen porch at the Lyday/Tuttles with a winning ribbon hanging on her chest! Drop by anytime to see her!

Martha Wood shared statistics from an OP/ED piece (3/11/2015) that appeared in the New York Times and was written by Douglas W. Tallamy. He writes: "Last summer I did a simple experiment at home to measure just how different the plants we use for landscaping can be in supporting local animals. I compared a young white oak in my yard with one of the Bradford pears in my neighbor’s yard. Both trees are the same size, but Bradford pears are ornamentals from Asia, while white oaks are native to eastern North America. I walked around each tree and counted the caterpillars on their leaves at head height. I found 410 caterpillars on the white oak (comprising 19 different species), and only one caterpillar (an inchworm) on the Bradford pear. This spring, if you live in North America, put up a chickadee nest box in your yard. If you are lucky, a pair of chickadees will move in and raise a family.

While they are feeding their young, watch what the chickadees bring to the nest: mostly caterpillars. Both parents take turns feeding the chicks, enabling them to bring a caterpillar to the nest once every three minutes. And they do this from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. for each of the 16 to 18 days it takes the chicks to fledge. That’s a total of 350 to 570 caterpillars every day, depending on how many chicks they have. So, an incredible 6,000 to 9,000 caterpillars are required to make one clutch of chickadees. And chickadees are tiny birds; just a third of an ounce. What if you wanted to support red-bellied woodpeckers in your yard, a bird that is about eight times heavier than a chickadee? How many caterpillars would that take... By the way, you might assume that my oak was riddled with unsightly caterpillar holes, but not so. Since birds eat most of the caterpillars before they get very large, from 10 feet away the oak looked as perfect as a Bradford pear." Natives go to natives!

A fascinating and informative time was spent with Joe and Yvette Underwood, beekeepers extraordinaire! It’s always fun as members share what interested them. One person, who has allergies, told how eating local honey could fend off those allergies- as long as the honey is purchased within a hundred mile radius. The analytical folks loved the 6-page handout with lots of facts and glossary. The photographer documented the Underwood’s suiting up, pulling a frame out of the hive and trying to locate the queen who was shy this day.

Joe showed the devastating effects of moth infestation and has a successful, thrifty and pollinator friendly deterrent for moths and wasps. Joe and Yvette’s solution for moth control: Recycle a two-liter soda bottle. Add 1/2 cup of sugar and 1/2 cup of water. Shake the bottle until the sugar is dissolved. Add 1 cup of apple cider vinegar. Shake to mix. Add a banana peel. Add more water until the bottle is approximately half full. Cut a 3/4-inch diameter hole in the curved area near the top of the bottle. Put the lid on the bottle and tie it to a tree limb near hives or any place you see wasps. Throw the trap away when it’s full and make a new one to replace it. Those wasps flitting around in the greenhouse - be gone!

Another person appreciated their transparency in sharing mistakes and learning curve as well as their victories. They have bee hives scattered throughout the county and have lost several colonies so honey production is down. All were impressed that the Underwood’s took two hours of their busy schedule to share knowledge and their obvious love of beekeeping.

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

Sage Advice:  Fall Colors and Planting Suggestions

By Susan Seago
Co-Owner of Earthly Elements Garden and Rock Shop

It’s still warm, but the days are getting shorter so the heat is not so intense. We even have some days in the mid 80’s, which is great for gardening. It is time to free our gardens of the weeds and grass; plant new perennials, trees, and shrubs; and spread mulch to protect all the plants from the cold. Join me in the next few weeks as we get our landscaping back to its intended beauty and ready for fall and winter.

There are several plants that can enhance your garden for the coming seasons. Some fall perennials include coneflower, goldenrod, asters, Sheffield mums, toad lilies, garden mums, and beautyberry bushes. Winter color can come from evergreens, camellias, helloberos, pansies, and kale. My favorite is the hellobere (commonly called Lenten Rose) that blooms most of the winter, from January through April. All these can be planted in early fall.

Another fragrant winter bloomer is the ‘Winter Honeysuckle’, an evergreen shrub with very small white flowers that begin blooming after Christmas. Beautyberry bushes are blooming now and producing the lovely purple berries that the birds enjoy during the winter. If you haven’t seen a beautyberry bush, check with your garden center. They should be in stock now.

Did you know there is also a re-blooming rhododendron? It is called “Abby’s Re-View” and has small purple blooms. It blooms in spring and again in early fall. Don’t you think that is great? I surely do, especially in our area where they grow so well. Many of the fall colors come from the trees and shrubs. Nothing gives beautiful fall color like the Japanese maples. The maples and oaks always put on a magnificent display. Some of the most colorful maples are the ‘October Glory’ and ‘Autumn Blaze’, both turning dark red in Fall. ‘Glowing Embers’ presents a combination of colors of red, yellow, and orange. The Sourwood is one of the first to present its fall colors and is doing so now. Oakleaf hydrangeas and fothergilla do a good job of giving red fall color. The ginkgo tree will be a crowning jewel in the garden with its deep yellow, almost gold, leaves.

I could go on and on. The right landscaping can give you color and texture throughout the year. Do your own research or check with your garden center for advice and suggestions to make your yard the talk of the town!
Spookapalooza!

By Kacy Corsentino

It’s that time of the year again! Time to break out the ghost stories, costumes, and Jack O’Lanterns—and what better place to celebrate other than our very own Spookapalooza! weekend in DeSoto State Park and at Little River Canyon Center. The festival will take place from October 30 - November 1, 2015. For specific times and more details, please see the Community Calendar on page 11. Spookapalooza will include several events, ranging from campfire ghost stories, mask making demonstrations, bat presentations, and so much more. All events are free and great fun for all ages. Have your carved pumpkins turned in by Halloween at noon. You can use a theme based on nature, fall, Halloween or the like. Winners will be announced at the Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground at DSP, 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st.

Festivities will kick off with ghost stories at 6pm Friday night at DeSoto State Park. Renee Morrison will share some famous Alabama folklore. Learn about some of Alabama’s finest spooks, legends and folklore... spooky stories guaranteed to send shivers up your spine!

On Saturday, starting at 11am at Little River Canyon Center (JSU Field School), Vicky Beckham will discuss and show off several species of the bat, a fascinating night creature. After the presentation and a lunch break, there will be the story of Brother Leaf along with a mask making project for children.

As soon as you finish there, drive the short distance (about 15 minutes) to DSP where there will be a free afternoon of fun and games. Activities will include pumpkin decorating, moon bounces, temporary tattoos, the classic bobbing for apples, and so much more. Starting at 3:30pm, DeSoto State Park will set up numerous candy stations throughout the park for trick or treaters. Parental guardians are mandatory, and costumes are welcome as are pets on a leash (dress them up too!). At 5pm, hear some more about Brother Leaf and let the children do some more mask making. Ms. Vicky will also have her bats for a presentation at the park.

To conclude Spookapalooza, Mandy Pearson will present a critter show at DeSoto State Park. The show will begin at 9:00am on November 1. It is encouraged to bring a blanket or chair because seating will be very limited. The show will feature creatures native to Alabama, and some non-natives. The animals will be un-caged!

This year Spookapalooza will offer several wonderful events. This is a great way to make memories with the entire family. DeSoto State Park, Little River Canyon Center, and JSU Field School have teamed up to offer excellent, clean fun, and even educational opportunities to all ages of the community for free.

Be sure and make Spookapalooza 2015 a memorable one!
ATTENTION GROUNDHOG READERS!

Copies of The Groundhog are available at the following locations:

FORT PAYNE
Alabama Fan Club
ALFA Insurance
Big Mill & 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
Priceless IGA
Quality Inn
Southern Gold & Silver
Southern Properties
The Healing Tree
The Spot Coffee Shop
The Strand
The Wishing Well
Waffle House
Waffle King

VALLEY HEAD
1-59 Flea Market
Alabama Organics
Burt Funeral Home
Citizens Bank
Dave’s Antiques
Hammondville Quick Stop
Headquarters Beauty Salon
Miracle Pottery
Tigers Inn
Valley Head Drug
Valley Head Food Mart
Valley Head Town Hall
Victory Fuel
Water Board

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Art Gallery @ Mentone
Body Maintenance
Clip Joint
Community Library
Crow’s Nest
Graceful Giraffe
Gourdie Shop
Hair @ The Village
Helena’s
Kamama’s
Little River Hardware

Lookout Mountain Realty
Mentone Inn
Mentone Market
Mentone Realty
Moon Lake Trading Company
Moonlight Bistro
Mountain Properties
Southern Style Log Furniture
Town Hall
Wildflower Cafe

GEORGIA
Auto Parts (Menlo)
Cloudland Trade Center
Menlo Healthmart
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

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Classified Ads

CUTE 1920’S CABIN for rent in the heart of Mentone with a lovely fireplace. Listen to the church bells chime, stroll to all your favorite spots! 2 Bd/2 bath. Call 706-859-1124 for info on day/week/monthly rental.

COX TILE, 706-766-2758 - Sunrooms, marble, baths, shower pan repair. James Pleas Cox, jpcxitile1@gmail.com.

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.
Amato Nominated to the Department of State

Susan Coppedge Amato was nominated by President Obama, at the recommendation of Secretary of State John Kerry, to the position of Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, with the rank of Ambassador at Large, Department of State. This position will allow Susan to be a global ambassador for women’s issues and human trafficking, especially in undeveloped countries. This is an area that Susan is passionate about and has previously made strides in. She uses dignity and respect when working with survivors and makes sure their story is heard, even when they are not able to tell it. Susan also teaches the community, social service agencies, and law enforcement about human trafficking and the signs to be aware of.

Ms. Amato is currently an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, a position she has held since 2001. She has indicted 49 human trafficking cases during this time. Prior to that, she served as Special Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Georgia from 1999 to 2001. Ms. Amato was a Trial Attorney for the Environmental Enforcement Section at the Department of Justice from 1995 to 1999, and a Law Clerk for Judge William C. O’Kelley of the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia from 1993 to 1994. She has received a number of awards for her work, including U. S. Attorney’s Office Awards in 2011 and 2013, a Director’s Award from the Executive Office for U. S. Attorneys, a John Marshall Award from the Department of Justice, and a Fulbright Ian Axford Fellowship in Public Policy. Ms. Coppedge received a B.A. from Duke University, and a J.D. from Stanford Law School.

Susan is a native of Dalton, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren N. and Patti Coppedge, Jr., of Dalton and Mentone. She is the sister of Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Coppedge-Henley of Charlotte, and Warren N. Coppedge, III of Atlanta. As a child, Susan has spent weekends with her family and friends in Mentone, swimming in Little River, hiking the canyon and watching sunsets from the brow. In recent years, she and her husband Lorenzo bring their children Lily and Sebastian to Mentone to repeat these experiences. Susan was a camper and a CIT at Skyline Camp for Girls. She and her husband were married at St. Joseph’s-on-the-Mountain. They had a BBQ rehearsal dinner at Nippersink and a dinner dance reception at the Mentone Springs Hotel. The morning after the wedding, a brunch was hosted at the Mentone Inn for family and guests. Mentone is a treasured part of Susan’s life.

Susan’s friends here on the mountain are proud of her prestigious nomination and her dedicated defense of people’s rights. We wish her well for her confirmation by the United States Senate after a hearing before the Foreign Relations Committee. Mentone promises her a continued place of peace, solitude and renewal from her upcoming stressful duties in Washington (upon confirmation by the Senate) and wherever her worldwide responsibilities find her.

It’s A Boy!

Dallas and Morgan (McElhaney) Gregory proudly announce the birth of their son Jase Reed Gregory. He was born on August 28th at 12:52pm. He was 19 ½ inches long and weighed in at 6lbs, 2oz of total cuteness.