



*Methodist Homes of Alabama &
Northwest Florida*
1520 Cooper Hill Road
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Methodist Homes News

A Publication of Methodist Homes of Alabama & Northwest Florida

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*Joint venture operated by Sacred Heart Health System / Ascension Health.

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DOTHAN

Resident Sees Her Art As A Ministry



Jackie Cole's apartment showcases her paintings & special photographs.

Jackie Martin Cole loves to paint. She has painted the covered bridge about 16 miles outside Dothan. She has painted Providence Canyon which is about 15 miles across the Chattahoochee from Eufaula. She has painted the grand Acapulco Rock at Lake Martin, and much more.

"I'm a cotton pickin' woman and I'm proud of it," said Jackie. "I grew up in the country with the woods, the trees, the squirrels, and that's what I like to paint. I choose very carefully what I... well, I never really make a choice. I see something and want to paint it."

When neuropathy hit Jackie's feet and hands, she began looking for a place that could help take care of her during all phases of her disease. Jackie looked at several retirement communities before settling on Wesley Place on Honeysuckle in Dothan. She said that it was the patio with the outdoor gardening opportunity

that caught her eye.

"Out the glass sliding doors I have a patio, and outside are two large river birch, they are beautiful, and a crepe myrtle, and a gardenia bush, and I've got my bird feeders. I see cardinals, and a house finch which has got red on its chest. Its babies are almost as big as the parents when they begin to fly," Jackie proclaimed. "From my recliner I can swivel it and watch the birds right next to the windows."

Jackie explained that art came naturally to her. At Enterprise State Junior College (now Enterprise State Community College) she had to take an extra course in the arts so she chose painting. Though she did not pursue a degree in art, she did take one art class in Dothan.

"I learned that when you're in a group of painters you learn from each other," recalled Jackie. "I was there maybe a

(continued on Page 2)

**Art As Ministry** (continued from Page 1)

year. Then I was going to the senior center, and joined when I was 60. They put in for me to teach art there, which I did until I got sick.” Jackie explained. “I enjoyed that as long as I could do it. But the Lord doesn’t turn me loose from working for Him.”

Jackie sees her paintings as a way to reach people for Jesus.

“I paint because I love to paint. It was not ever for money. My painting was not expected to be a means of income.”

Discerning God’s prompting, Jackie chose 10 of her paintings and ordered a package of 800 prints of small, 2-sided cards to hand out to people she meets. She ended up with 800 of each of the 10 styles of cards! So began her quest to hand them all out to encourage people she meets. Her paintings are featured on one side of the card and on the other side is an interpretation of the painting offering Biblical inspiration. (See photos of some paintings below.)

As an example, Jackie explained the inspirational message on the back of the card featuring her Acapulco Rock painting.

“The guy who runs and jumps, he is like a person in the church who has total faith in Jesus Christ. He trusts Him and does all he

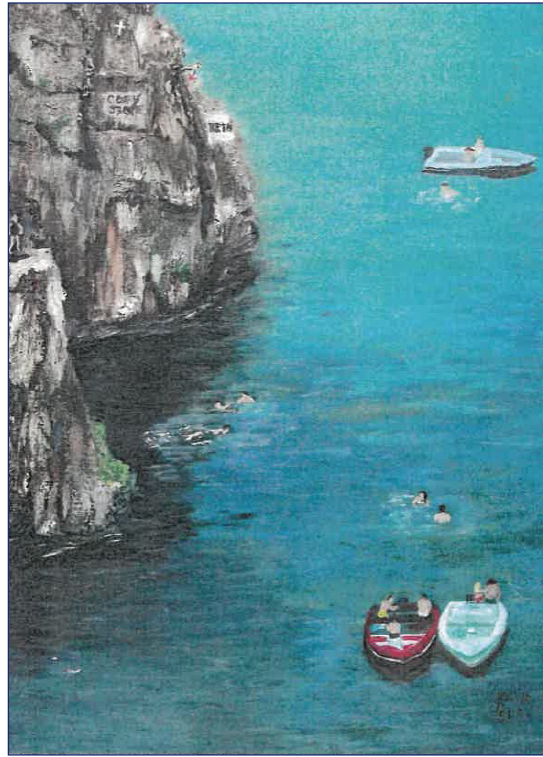
can do to be faithful to Jesus. The ones that are jumping from the lower section, they are Christians, but they don’t have the growth to have the same depth of faith. The one that jumps from the top has to trust God that he can jump, and he’s got to know the water well enough and the depth of the water well enough. Those already in the water, they are the ones who go to church on Christmas, Easter, and other holidays. And then there’s people sitting in boats watching people jump, and they are atheists. They like to just think about what the Christian people have, but they doubt it. Each picture I do, the Lord gives me something to compare to from the Scripture.”

The walls of Jackie’s apartment at Wesley Place on Honeysuckle are covered with her art and action shots her children and grandchildren.

“I have my treasures all around me. I’m at home. I have no regrets leaving my house because it came with me,” Jackie grinned. “Everything I need is right here. I made sure of that before I made the deal.”

If you would like to know more about retirement life at Wesley Place on Honeysuckle (Dothan), contact the admissions team at 334-792-0921 for your personal tour.

story online at WesleyPlaceDothan.org/blog

**PENSACOLA****Out On The Town**

The Epicurean Club at Wesley Haven Villa (Pensacola) enjoyed eating lunch at one of Pensacola’s best. Five Sisters Restaurant boasts of its jazz music and fried chicken. Left side: **Jennifer Colley, Gloria Collins, Rose Christie, and Jane McCloskey.** Right side: **Robert Saxon, Duane Rouser, Faye White, and Inez Pittman.** Gloria and Faye also recently had a productive day of shopping at Cordova Mall.





PANAMA CITY

Floats-N-Tunes Party

While the golden oldies played, we enjoyed root beer floats at Mathison (Panama City) for our first Floats-N-Tunes Party. **Gloria Mattingly** and **Barry McMullen** found a dance floor and showcased some moves! The party was so popular, we plan to hold a similar gathering monthly. Pictured sipping her float is **Gay Sudduth**. Seated below, from left to right are **Joyce Worthington**, **Gayle McGill**, and sisters **Iris Reeder** and **Merle Nelson**.



SELMA

HAPPY
Birthday
TO YOU



Residents of Epworth House (Selma) celebrated the 87th birthday of resident **John Spence**. Pictured with John is his daughter, **Peggy Spence**. John is always very eager to tell people that he owes everything to God for always taking care of him and letting him celebrate 87 years of life!

BIRMINGHAM

Furry Movie Star Visits Fair Haven



Fair Haven (Birmingham) rolled out the red carpet for a very special guest in September. **Detablue Rex**, who is both a therapy dog and a movie star, spent time visiting with residents all over the campus. Special appreciation goes to **Kim Crenshaw** for sharing him with us. You can see Rex in the movie *Mysterious Circumstance: The Death of Meriwether Lewis*, which enjoyed a limited theater release in early September. Pictured is **Nancy Brown** greeting Detablue Rex.

DECATUR

Gospel Sing-Along

Otto Wood with SouthernCare New Beacon led residents at Wesley Acres (Decatur) in singing gospel hymns in July. Those ole hymns touch us deeply!





Our heartfelt thanks to all
of our donors and friends.

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BIRMINGHAM



Complete videos are linked on
the Photo Gallery page of
FairHavenBirmingham.org



"Hello, my name is **Sara Rogers**. I have been a resident at Fair Haven a little over a year. And I believe that we are put in places at God's appointed time and I feel like I am here at Fair Haven for His purpose..."



"My name is **Carl Schinasi** and I live here at Fair Haven...and I am here to tell you that my experience so far has been extremely enjoyable. One of the highlights for me is that the people here are very friendly..."



"...Here at Fair Haven we have a hot meal served to us daily by a staff that is willing to please...And we also have housekeeping once a week...And then we have an activities director...and we can pick and choose what we would like to participate in..."



DECATUR

Happy 102nd B-day!

James "Palmer" Osborne at Wesley Acres (Decatur) had a sneaking suspicion his friends were planning a surprise party. Palmer's two daughters, **Javon** and **Pam**, along with Palmer's girlfriend **Janice** (who is also a Wesley Acres resident) helped plan the event and make it a special 102nd birthday celebration!

A big thank you to SouthernCare New Beacon for providing the cake and ice cream, and some entertainment.

Palmer was featured in a Wesley Acres video back when he was a mere 99 years old. That video can be found on the Methodist Homes YouTube Channel at this address: <https://youtu.be/5YZveLPpt-8>.



The patriotic cake pictured left was from **Joey Borden** and his mother **Judy Borden** honoring his Navy veteran father **Joe** on what would have been Joe's 79th birthday. Joe passed away in January of this year.

SELMA

Hundreds Drive Thru Food Giveaway in Selma

Posted: Sep 20, 2022 6:22 PM CDT
by George McDonald



Epworth House (Selma) residents, **Gloria Varner** and **Vera Riley**, appeared on Alabama News Network/Channel 8 News of Montgomery on Tuesday, September 20th. These two sweet ladies drove to Bloch Park in Selma to pick up food items for all the residents at Epworth. Gospel Tabernacle Church and the Son Light Center of Selma have been hosting food giveaways for the last 15 years to help the citizens of Selma who may be having a difficult time buying food for themselves. Gloria stated, "People bless me. And I'm blessing someone else."

LEGACY GIVING

Legacy Giving is another way to make a significant difference. Let your estate planner know how much you would like to give, and direct the gift to be made to Methodist Home for the Aging. The address is 1520 Cooper Hill Road, Birmingham, AL 35210. If you need more information, call Sherri Easdon, Dir. of Public Relations, at 205-951-2442.

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To enrich the lives of older adults and all those who serve them in faith-based communities, where life is celebrated, relationships are valued, teamwork is embraced, service excellence is expected, and the touch of God's love is ever-present and ageless.

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Fountain
of Love 

MONTGOMERY

"Mildred Budge" Series Author Gives Gene Autry Presentation



Daphne Simpkins
Presentation: "Gene Autry,
The Singing Cowboy"



Residents welcomed Christian author **Daphne Simpkins** at Wesley Gardens (Montgomery) in September with a presentation on Gene Autry, *The Singing Cowboy*. The presentation was both informative and entertaining.

Daphne is the author of the "Mildred Budge" series, a collection of fiction novels and short stories about some mostly quiet and invisible church

ladies that wield quite a bit of influence in their church and neighborhood. She has also written 4 non-fiction books on aging and caregiving, including "The Long Good Night", her memoir on caring for an elderly father as he struggled with Alzheimer's Disease. You can see the full list and buy any of Daphne's books on daphnesimpkins.org.