

The Plott Balsams are a mountain range in western North Carolina, in the southeastern United States. They are part of the Blue Ridge Mountain Province of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. The Plott Balsams stretch from the city of Sylva in the Tuckasegee River valley to the southwest to Maggie Valley in the northeast. The Great Smoky Mountains border the Plott Balsams to the north and the Great Balsam Mountains border the range to the south. The range comprises parts of Jackson County and Haywood County. Eaglenest Mountain (also known as Eagles Nest Mountain) is a mountain located 2 miles south of Maggie Valley, North Carolina in Haywood County. It is part of the Plott Balsams, a range of the Appalachian Mountains, and less than a mile south of North Eaglenest Mountain, a higher mountain which used to be called Mount Junaluska and is the highest mountain overlooking Lake Junaluska from the southwest. The closest town that is accessible by road is Hazelwood. Hazelwood was absorbed into the larger incorporated Town of Waynesville in 1995. Willie Mae "Big Mama" Thornton (December 11, 1926 – July 25, 1984) was an American rhythm-and-blues singer and songwriter. She was the first to record Leiber and Stoller's "Hound Dog", in 1952, which became her biggest hit, staying seven weeks at number one on the "Billboard" R&B chart in 1953 and selling almost two million copies. However, her success was overshadowed three years later, when Elvis Presley recorded his more popular rendition of "Hound Dog". Similarly, Thornton's "Ball 'n' Chain" (written in 1961 but not released until 1968) had a bigger impact when performed and recorded by Janis Joplin from 1967. North Eaglenest Mountain is a mountain located less than 2 miles south of Maggie Valley, North Carolina in Haywood County. It is part of the Plott Balsams, a range of the Appalachian Mountains, and less than a mile north of Eaglenest Mountain. It used to be called Mount Junaluska and is the highest mountain overlooking Lake Junaluska from the west. The Bernese Mountain Dog (German: "Berner Sennenhund" ) is a large-sized breed of dog, one of the four breeds of Sennenhund-type dogs from the Swiss Alps. The name "Sennenhund" is derived from the German "Senne" ("alpine pasture") and "Hund" ("dog"), as they accompanied the alpine herders and dairymen called "Senn". "Berner" (or "Bernese" in English) refers to the area of the breed's origin, in the canton of Bern. This mountain dog was originally kept as a general farm dog. Large Sennenhunde in the past were also used as draft animals, pulling carts. The breed was officially established in 1907. In 1937, the American Kennel Club recognized it; today, the club classifies it as a member of the Working Group. The Entlebucher Sennenhund or Entlebucher Mountain Dog is a medium-sized herding dog, it is the smallest of the four Sennenhunds, a dog type that includes four regional breeds. The name Sennenhund refers to people called "Senn", herders in the Swiss Alps. Entlebuch is a region in the canton of Lucerne in Switzerland. The breed is also known in English as the Entelbuch Mountain Dog, Entelbucher Cattle Dog, and similar combinations. The Plott Hound is a large scent hound, originally bred for hunting boar. Twelve states of the United States have designated an official state dog breed. Maryland was the first state to name a dog breed as a state symbol, naming the Chesapeake Bay Retriever in 1964. Pennsylvania followed the year after, naming the Great Dane as its official breed. Dog breeds are mostly affiliated with the states that they originated in. North Carolina chose the Plott Hound as it was the only dog breed indigenous to the state. Oscar The Grouch is a dog that was featured in a two-part series on the front page of the Wall St. Journal as the dog to root for at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. Living in New York City, Oscar was able to walk to the dog show. Also seen on the opening promo for the Dog Show on the USA Network and on Bloomberg, Oscar is a top-ranked Greater Swiss Mountain Dog. Oscar is currently Facebook's top show dog with over 55,000 followers. The Georgian Shepherd (Georgian: ქართული ნაგაზი "qartuli nagazi") is a molosser-type livestock guardian breed of dog with ancient working origins in the Georgia Caucasus. The Georgian shepherd is related to the Caucasian Shepherd Dog. There are two kinds of Georgian mountain dog: the short haired Kazbegian dog, also called "Nagazi", and the long haired Georgian mountain dog. The Plott Hound is a large scent hound, originally bred for hunting boar. The Entlebucher Sennenhund or Entlebucher Mountain Dog is a medium-sized herding dog, it is the smallest of the four Sennenhunds, a dog type that includes four regional breeds.