



The Choctaw Sun
Tuesday, January 16, 2007
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Opinions

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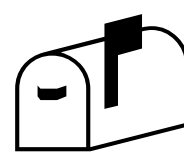
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Letters



Dear Choctaw Sun Staff,
I am a resident of Prichard, Ala., but I am from Womack Hill and I do come back home from time to time. We have for years held our "Homecoming Fun Day" at Toxey Park every first Saturday in August. I was at home some time ago and stopped by your office and took out a subscription for me and my brother, Louis Philon.

By the way, congratulations on expanding *The Choctaw Sun* to two sites and two days a week! Your newspaper is great and ethnically fair (something that is seldom seen in the south), representing all people of color.

Your reporting is laudable. Thank you for maintaining your integrity, your fairness and thank you for giving me an opportunity to keep up on what's happening at home.

It is my prayer that you, your families and staff had a blessed Christmas and I pray that all of you are granted what you have hoped for, if it is in His Will, in the coming New Year.

Enclosed is a check to renew my subscription as well as that of my brother.

Sincerely,

Councilwoman Ossia Edwards
Prichard

Thank You. The words cannot express our sincere thanks for all the prayers, cards, flowers, food and your precious time you took to show your love and support during the loss of our father, grandfather and great grandfather. Rev. G.B. Reed, Jr.

Special thanks to Rev. Randy Abston for the many years of faithful service to our father and

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SoundOff

I think it is a disgrace that officials have allowed the roof of the Courthouse to go unrepaired for more than two years after the hurricanes. Have you been in the courtroom and looked up at the falling-down ceiling tiles? Somebody needs to be held accountable for this. Where were the people who were supposed to be watching over the "people's property" anyway? It wouldn't have cost that much for someone to get up there and at least put a few patches on the roof.

People who read this SoundOff mess are idiots. I wouldn't waste my time with it.

I LOVE the new twice-a-week *Sun*! You guys do a great job. Keep it up!

I would just like to say to Marcus Gates, WELCOME BACK TO CHOCTAW COUNTY! It's nice to know you are now working with the best paper in the state of Alabama!

I wish the *Sun* would let us know how our current legislators vote on different measures when the state legislature is in session. There is nothing like bringing the light of day to what is being done in Montgomery. This will give us voting citizens a better understanding of who we should vote for in the future.

I'm curious about why a little independent telephone company such as Millry can make available to its customers high-speed DSL internet service and a city the size of Butler can't? Does anyone have an answer to this question? I have been told TDS has the capability to carry it yet they still don't offer it, at least not in my area. Dialup is an extremely slow service.

We enjoyed attending the grand opening of your Butler office. Your paper is most welcome here. We pray for you and your staff every day.

Why don't you have SoundOff in your Friday

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Opinions expressed here are those of our readers and do not necessarily represent those of the owners or staff of The Choctaw Sun. Because of the enormous volume received each week, we are unable to publish every comment in the "print" version. Go to our website at www.choctawsun.com to read more of this week's SoundOffs. Comments that contain vulgarity, obscenities, or personal attacks on the character of any individual will not be published.

Even more proof of a Higher Power

Sometimes there's just no doubt.

Sometimes things happen that are just so unexplainable, just so miraculous, just so unbelievable that there can be no question about it - God was there.

For those of us who believe in the existence of an Almighty God, and His work in the lives of his creation, last week's events in Missouri is irrefutable evidence that our belief is valid, that God is alive and well and working in our world today. When a boy was kidnapped last week, with barely a single lead in the case, the whole world must have thought the worst. Just like many other children who are victims of such crimes, the young boy had little chance to be found alive - or so we thought.

Was it coincidence that an hour and half away, in another city, two policemen just happened to be at an apartment



Looking Up

By Dee Ann Campbell
Editor

complex following up on a totally unrelated event? Was it coincidence that they just happened to glance at a truck that fit a general description of a vehicle that had been spotted near the scene of the boy's kidnapping?

And was it even further coincidence that when they pursued the lead, they found not only the 13-year-old boy, but another child that had been missing for over four years?

While some may believe that the circumstances were merely coincidental, that no Divine intervention was present

in the case, for those of us who believe, we know differently.

We know that God was there, that he orchestrated the events, that He led a young teen to glance at the white truck and remember the details of its appearance, that He led the policemen to notice a bulletin containing that description, and that He led those same policemen to the apartment complex where they found the missing boys.

Sometimes God's intervention in the events on earth can not be denied - at least not by

those with a grain of intelligence and an ounce of faith.

It is an insult to the intelligence, for example, for

'thinking' people to believe that this world - with the infinitesimal chance of just the right mix of just the right elements at just the right time in just the right sequence - could have come into existence without the hand of a Divine being. Although many would argue to the contrary, that intelligence and science deny the existence of God, no humanistic scientific theory of our existence has ever been proven without a doubt. Yet, countless Biblical accounts of history has been deemed valid by archaeological findings and other historical accounts of events.

But when it comes down to it, I don't really need scientific or histor-

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Butler "Grand Opening" was a blast

How can we say THANK YOU enough? Your response to our new twice-weekly editions has been overwhelming, and the more than 200 folks who came by Saturday for the grand opening of our new Butler office just put the icing on the cake!

The *Sun* is committed to you, Choctaw County, and we thank you for your support.

There were so many people who dropped by to visit and Katy, Dee Ann and myself want you to know that each of you is special to the *Sun*.

We can't call each one by name here, but we do want to say a few "thank you's" to some of the folks who made it happen - Darryl Jackson, Jr., and the staff of WPRN Radio for an excellent job on the live "remote" broadcast; Betty Bryant for the delicious home-baked cookies; Nancy Gibson and Jennifer James, with the Chamber of Com-



The way I see it ...

By Tommy Campbell
Publisher

merce, for the ribbon-cutting ceremony; Gilbertown Mayor Bobby Graham who has been a friend to this newspaper since before our first issue hit the streets; Chuckles the Clown (the *Sun*'s own webmaster and computer genius, Mickey Bryant) for handing out balloons and delighting the children (and a few grown-ups!) with his balloon art; Butler Councilman John A. Boney and Wylene; Probate Judge D'Wayne May; Sheriff James Lovette; Johnny and Elaine Albers; Sherry Taylor; Jack,

Ethel and Danny Dasis; Ken and Betty Melvin; Bill and Nancy Gibson, and Bill's mother, Rita, who is visiting from Canada; J.K. and Polly Littlepage; Mack Sanders; Randy McKee, from Millry Communications, and his wife, Elaine; William and Ann Tyson; Melton and Barbara Griffin; and every other person who stopped by to share the day with us. You are all #1 in our book and we thank you one and all for being there.

I want to add a special note of appreciation

to our friend, Rev. O.L. Sealey and his wife, Bertha, for his beautifully worded prayer of dedication. In case you don't know, Bro. Sealey is pastor of the Morning Star Baptist Church and heads up the Choctaw Co. Chapter of the NAACP. Bro. Sealey is the very first person that I spoke with when we were thinking of starting a new paper in Choctaw County. Even at that early stage, Bro. Sealey gave the *Sun* a "thumbs up" and his blessing and we will always be grateful for his friendship and his support.

A big thank you, too, to the *Sun*'s staff for being there - Ashley Downing, Colin Merritt, Dan Melvin, Mickey Bryant and the newest members of the *Sun* team, Sue Wyche and Marcus Gates. We couldn't do it without you

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