



The Choctaw Sun
Tuesday, January 23, 2007
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Education

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Choctaw Sun photo by Dee Ann Campbell

Downey wins SCA spelling bee

TOXEY -- Fourth-grader John Downey, pictured seat on left, was this year's winner of South Choctaw Academy's school Spelling Bee. Downey won his class bee and went on to take the top position for the school competition, earning him the right to represent SCA in the county bee later this month. Also winning their class bees at SCA were: Adam Bonner, 5th grade, seated on right; (Back) Dana Downey, 7th grade; Bradley Clark, 6th grade; and Payton Hanna, 8th grade. Each of these students will represent SCA at the AISA District competition on January 30.

Girl Scouts cookie program: It's all about the girls; not the cookies

MOBILE -- Every year, thousands girls across the area gain valuable knowledge while providing the community with a special treat -- Girl Scout cookies. This year will be no exception. The Girl Scout Program, an integral part of Girl Scouting's Business and Economic Literacy initiative for girls 6-17, provides finance, marketing, and public speaking skills, along with valuable experiences that build girls' self-confidence and help them develop their own personal leadership style.

Locally, girls began to sell Girl Scout cookies on Monday, January 8, and the sale will end on Sunday, March 25. We very proud to announce that all varieties of Girl Scout cookies are now "zero trans fat per serving," in compliance with FDA regulations. This change was made because, like most successful businesswoman, Girl Scouts listen to their customers.

Cookies are \$3.50 per box. All proceeds benefit Girl Scouts in Deep South Council area, which includes Choctaw County.

Since 1917, the Girl Scout cookie activity has become a famous annual event that has helped girls develop important leadership skills they will use throughout their lives. Whether they are dreaming of becoming a doctor, teacher, businesswoman, president of the PTA, or superstar athlete, the Girl Scout Cookie Program gives them the self-esteem they need to reach for the stars.

Through the Girl Scout Cookie Program, girls manage inventory, set goals, learn money management, and develop marketing. Essentially, the girls run their own business. The entire troop sets a goal and follows a plan leading toward that goal. Girl Scout troops use funds from the cookie activity to fund a service project or to plan for an exciting trip. Many successful women have credited their business skills to the Girls Scout Cookie Program, making it the premier business and economic literacy program for girls in the United States.

"The Girl Scout Cookie Program is a valuable part of the Girl Scout

experience. The skills girls gain truly helps them develop into future business leaders," said Paula Brewster, Girl Scout Cookie of the Deep South Council CEO. "It is always exciting to see girls developing skills they might not realize they are developing while it is happening."

Proceeds from the Girl Scout Cookie Program also go to support programs for girls and training for volunteers across the area.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program helps girls in unique ways. For example, this activity is a chance to build self-esteem. A shy girl can get over her fear of approaching people by working at a booth with her fellow Girls Scouts or going door to door in her neighborhood with other girls from her troop. A girl who might feel she isn't good with numbers can build her confidences by keeping track of sales and learning to make change.

"Participating in the Girl Scout Cookie Program has definitely made me more confident," said Yvonne Hernandez, a Cadette Girl from Baldwin County. "I know I am learning things that will help me when I go to get a job."

Girl Scouts of the USA is the preeminent organization for and leading authority on girls with 3.7 million girl and adult members. Now in its 94th year, Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. To find out more about the upcoming programs, or Girl Scouts, visit girlscoutsds.org, or call Pat Hall 205-459-2797 or to order cookies Stephanie Bonner 205-459-2696.

Patrician Academy lists honor roll for 2nd 9-weeks grading period

BUTLER -- Here is the Patrician Academy honor roll for the second nine-weeks grading period.

Fourth grade, "A" -- Morgan Clarke, Grey Lewis, Cass McIntyre, Meg Moody, Madison Neely, Skylar Tyson; **"B"** -- Rachel Aldridge, Ashley Callahan, McCaleb Connor, John Matthew Green, Ivey Lewis, Harley Manley, Evan Retherford, Kaylee Scarbrough, Gray Scott and Leann Wright.

Fifth grade, "A" -- Parker Allen, Hayley Anderson, Caleb Bonner, Ashleigh Christopher, Ashton Horton, Chelsea Lewis, Alisa Ann Andrews, Haley Doggett, Peyton McIlwain, Anna Elizabeth Pope; **"B"** -- Madison Beck, Emily Clark, Chynna Ernest,

Dalton Guinn, Trevor Sheffield, and John-John Weekley, Robert Connor, Wood Glass, Sarah Green, Sommer Horshok, Carson Lewis, Harley Loper, Caleb McIntyre, Samantha Thompson, Kameron Watson and Karmon Watson.

Sixth grade, "A" -- Bailey Agee, Danielle Anderson, Dillard Carpenter, Rebecca Morgan, Riley Overton, Dylan Todd; **"B"** -- Reanna Davis, Gray Goodwin, Matthew Lewis, Leighton Lewis, Hope Moore, Jenna Scott.

Seventh grade, "A" -- Courtney Cox, Jordan Randolph, Paige Walker; **"B"** -- Melissa Hendley, Kate Holley, Slade Johnston, Zack Mosley, Logan Scott.

Eighth grade, "A" -- Christie Mathers and

Kristen Tyson; **"B"** -- Lauren Bonner, Kate Christopher, Rhyann Davis and Miranda Luker.

Ninth grade, "A" -- Harley Glass and Dustin Tyson; **"B"** -- Cassidy Gibbs, Ann Marie Hendley, Lenoir Lewis, Amanda Tyson and Tori Walters.

Tenth grade, "A" -- Kyle Scott; **"B"** -- Meagan Busby, Katie Jill Gibson, Kalyn Hall, Benjamin McBride, Savannah Smith and Staci Vice.

Eleventh grade, "A" -- Jessie Boykin, Ciara Smith, and Melissa Snow; **"B"** -- Jenny Carney, Whitney Fuller, Will McBride, Drew Overton and Allie Roach.

Twelfth grade, "A" -- Tony Randolph; **"B"** -- B.J. Bonner, Haley Buchanan, Katelyn Mosley and Kaila Rios.



Submitted photo

SCA Kindergarten visits 'Dorothy'

TOXEY -- The Kindergarten class from South Choctaw Academy took a field trip to the Meridian Little Theatre on January 8 where they were treated to the youth production of The Wizard of Oz. Afterward the students got the opportunity to visit with members of the cast. Pictured are SCA students Andie Stanovich, Dawson Clark, and Kallie Watts with 'Dorothy'.

Bryan Whitfield offers scholarships for local students in healthcare fields

DEMOPOLIS -- The Bryan Whitfield Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is now accepting applications for scholarships for the 2007-2008 academic year for those pursuing careers in healthcare. The Auxiliary offers six \$1,000 scholarships in an effort to not only help students receive an education, but also to help promote healthcare as a career choice.

The scholarship program began in 2005 with the establishment of the Emmett and Carolyn Clinkscales Scholarship and the Carolyn S. (Betty) McCormick Scholarship. While both of the \$1,000 gift scholarships are available to residents of Marengo, Sumter, Hale, Choctaw, Perry, Greene and Clarke counties, the McCormick scholarship is granted only to children and/or grandchildren of employees of the Tombigbee Healthcare Authority.

Now, with a total of six scholarships to present in 2007, three THA family members and three members of the general public will be assisted with their educations.

"This is a one-time, gift scholarship with very few strings attached," explained Alice Boggs, President of the organization, who said the deadline to apply is March 1, 2007. "Students can pick

up an application from their guidance counselors at school or they stop by the hospital to pick up an application."

Eligibility requirements for each scholarship are as follows. The Auxiliary may award up to \$1,000 annually in financial assistance to individuals who reside within the medical service area of the Tombigbee Healthcare Authority and who wish to pursue an education in the field of healthcare, without regard to race, color, creed, or national origin.

Any individual who is a graduating high school senior or above may apply for the scholarships as long as their chosen field of study is within the healthcare professions. The applicant must provide proof of residency in either of the following counties in Alabama: Marengo, Sumter, Hale, Choctaw, Perry, Greene, and Clarke. The applicant must possess a high school education or equivalent GED or other qualification relevant to the field of study applicable.

The Auxiliary reserves the right to deny, limit, or otherwise reject the application of any individual who, in the opinion of the Auxiliary Executive Committee, has failed to demonstrate

acceptable academic performance in previous educational endeavors and meet all criteria, standards, and expectations relevant to the selection process. While the Auxiliary recognizes the right of individuals to select the school that he/she wishes to attend, the group reserves the right to deny, limit, or otherwise reject applicants who wish to attend schools which are not accredited or which, in the experience of the Tombigbee Healthcare Authority, have been found to have high rates of failure on licensure examinations or a high rate of failure among students. The disbursement of funds for scholarship students shall be limited to tuition, books and lab fees. These shall be paid directly to the institution in which they are enrolled.

"We also want to make sure that those who have received or applied for one of these scholarships in the past know that they are welcome to apply for these scholarships each year," Boggs added.

To obtain an application or more information, call the Volunteer Services Director at 334-287-2626. Scholarship applications are also available online at www.bwwmh.com.

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