

Travel & Leisure



The Choctaw Sun
Tuesday, January 9, 2007
Page 9A

www.choctawsun.com
choctawsun@millry.net

Sucarnochee Revue returns to UWA on Friday

LIVINGSTON — The Sucarnochee Revue kicks off 2007 with its first live performance of the New Year on Friday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. in the University of West Alabama's Bibb Graves Auditorium.

This nationally syndicated radio program, sponsored by UWA and Weyerhaeuser, introduces radio listeners in the nation and world to the artistic community of performers from the Black Belt.

The show kicks off its third year of production with one of the strongest lineups ever. This month's featured act is Rock Killough. As a songwriter, Rock has songs on gold and platinum albums recorded by The Oak Ridge Boys, Hank William Jr. and Sammy Kershaw. Other artists who have recorded his songs include Johnny Rodriguez, Brenda Lee, Carole King, Waylon Jennings, Randy Travis and others.

In addition to Killough, the Kudzu

String Band, Judson College Singers, Earl Hughes, Alaskan Ambassador of Country Music and Track 45 will perform. Sucarnochee Revue regulars Jacky Jack White, J. Burton Fuller, Britt Gully, Mississippi Chris Sharp and Joyce Shearer round out the list of slated musicians.

The Sucarnochee Revue presents Black Belt music in its most authentic manner. The hour-long radio program, taped live and then broadcast on radio stations in seven states and worldwide via the internet, features blues, black gospel, southern gospel, bluegrass and country artists.

Admission is \$5. Sumter County Fine Arts Council members and students attend free. For more information about the show, please call 205-652-6680 or visit www.sucarnocheerevue.com.

AT LEFT -- Sucarnochee Revue producer and host Jacky Jack White brings talented Black Belt musicians together, showcasing them to the world through the nationally-syndicated radio program. The Revue returns to UWA on Jan. 12 at 7 p.m.



BTAPC to present toe-tappin' Smoke on the Mountain

GILBERTOWN — The Ballet and Theater Arts Performing Companies would like to take you back to a simpler time, to the year 1938, where you become a part of the congregation of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

You have been invited to their "first ever Saturday Night Sing". Young Pastor Oglethorpe is determined to move his flock into the "modern world," by inviting the Singing Sanders Family to join him. You will enjoy hearing some of the best

old gospel tunes ever written, songs like "Church in the Wildwood", "Wonderful Time Up There", and "I'll Fly Away". However, the only thing you will hear more than great music will be the laughter of the audience and you will understand why

this stage production has become one of the country's favorite musicals.

Show dates are Friday, Jan. 26, Saturday, Jan. 27, and Monday, Jan. 29, 2007. Curtain times on these dates is at 8 p.m.

There will be a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Jan. 28.

Tickets are \$10 and will go on sale at the usual banks and businesses next week. You may also call (251) 843-5138 for more information and reservations.

Jamestown celebrates 400th anniversary in 2007

JAMESTOWN, Virginia (NAPSI) — Throughout 2007, the United States will recognize one of the most unifying experiences in its history—the commemoration of America's 400th Anniversary. In 1607, English entrepreneurs arrived on the shores of the James River, built a settlement they called Jamestown and laid the foundations of our nation. Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English settlement in North America, changed the world. Established 13 years before the Pilgrims founded Plymouth in Massachusetts, Jamestown was the site where democracy, free enterprise and a culturally diverse society first took root in America.

America's 400th Anniversary tells the story of our nation's early days and serves as a reminder of the shared struggles and achievements of many cultures. But it also encourages Americans to appreciate how far our nation has come. The commemorative events of the country's 400th anniversary not only

place a spotlight on Virginia and its unique role in history, but also recognize and honor the contributions of the European, Native American and African cultures that first came together at Jamestown in the early 1600s.

Americans have observed the anniversaries of Jamestown every 50 years since 1807 in a grand manner. The 1907 Jamestown Tercentennial Exposition drew 1.5 million visitors and featured speeches by Theodore Roosevelt, Booker T. Washington and Mark Twain. In 1957, more than a million visitors came to Virginia for America's 350th anniversary. Queen Elizabeth II addressed thousands of people at Jamestown during her first official trip to the U.S. as monarch.

The events commemorating America's 400th Anniversary also promise to capture the world's attention. Jamestown 2007, an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, has planned community programs, signature events and national festivi-

ties to showcase the spirit, imagination and diversity of Americans. State, national and international commemorative events that salute the legacies of Jamestown have already begun and will continue into 2008. The premier signature event will be America's Anniversary Weekend, a three-day spectacular held at the Jamestown sites on May 11 to 13, 2007.

The story of Jamestown is one of courage and endurance. Nearly 400 years ago, it took 104 brave men 144 days to sail from England to the shores of the James River. But the journey isn't over, and the world is quite obviously still changing. With 2007 upon us, it's time to reflect on our future by honoring our past, recognizing the nation's many accomplishments and understanding how they set the course for our next 400 years.

For more information about America's 400th Anniversary and its signature events, visit www.americas400thanniversary.com

In loving memories of
Flora (Mama Girl) Mitchell
- Today it's been one year since you left us. Nothing has been the same since you left. Our heart is filled with sorrow, our thoughts are often about you. We knew that you were getting tired, and so did God, so he looked down, and said, "I need my beautiful Rose, to put in my beautiful garden." I know that your blossoms are as beautiful as you were, Mama. If love and tears could have kept you here, you would have never left, but I know it was time for you to go be with the Lord, and one day I will see you again in glory land. Until then, the tears that fall, every one, will be in memory of you.

Sadly, missed by your children, and grandchildren
Christine Voncile, Eranstine, Mary, George, Joe, and Henry



Oct. 18 1918 -
Jan. 11 2006



Smoky Mountains among America's most popular second-home locations

GATLINBURG, Tennessee (NAPSI) More and more Americans are realizing the dream of owning a second home. According to industry analysts, second-home sales were up 16 percent in 2005 compared to the year before and accounted for four out of 10 residential transactions.

This growth is fueled largely by Baby Boomers, whose forays into vacation-property ownership include previously undervalued areas like the Great Smoky Mountains. With real estate playing a greater role in their investment and retirement strategies, Boomers have become more aware of issues affecting property values.

John and Bonnie Leinart of Moline, Ill., re-evaluated their plans when faced with the prospect of ever-escalating insurance costs on their beach condo.

"We started looking on the Internet and made trips to develop-

ments in Tennessee and North Carolina," says Ms. Leinart. "We fell in love with the beauty and views in the Great Smoky Mountains."

The Smokies, straddling the border between Tennessee and North Carolina, have been a popular second-home destination for a while, particularly among the "half-backs," Northerners who retired to Florida only to change their minds and move halfway back to take advantage of lower real estate prices.

With the trifecta of low cost of living, low property taxes and no state income tax, East Tennessee is developing into a dream location for vacation and second-home properties. It's been a good decision for those who have invested, with appraised land values in Sevier County, the gateway to the Smokies, increasing by nearly 60 percent in the last five years.

This combination of value and natural beauty is what convinced the Leinarts to purchase mountain

property in the Estates at Norton Creek, a gated luxury development outside Gatlinburg. The couple also saw their purchase as an investment in a lifestyle. "We wanted a family-oriented home where our children and grandchildren would love to congregate," says Leinart. "We love the peace and serenity here, yet there are fun activities for the kids just down the street."

The Leinarts say they look forward to waking up in their new home and seeing the incredible mountain views in the morning. Considering that the Baby Boomer generation currently includes 36 million Americans aged 50 to 59, it's a second-home dream expected to become reality for a growing number of people across the country.

For more information about mountain property in the Great Smoky Mountains, visit www.estatesatnortoncreek.com or call 1-888-657-2798.

The TRAVEL & LEISURE page will be a regular monthly feature in the *Sun*.

Tell us about your favorite vacation destination, or send us some snapshots from your last big get-a-way!