



The Choctaw Sun
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News/Events

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Choctaw Sun photo by Marcus Gates

Gilbertown fireman Mark Kelley tries out the Power Hawk® tool.

Gilbertown firemen see demonstration of new, lightweight extraction tool

By Marcus Gates
The Choctaw Sun

GILBERTOWN — The Gilbertown Volunteer Fire Department held their weekly meeting last Tuesday night with two special guests on hand — Buddy Gray, of Buddy Gray Fire Equipment and Miles Butler of Power Hawk Technologies.

Butler demonstrated the latest thing in rescue equipment, a new product called "Power Hawk", a smaller version of the Jaws of Life® tool that runs on battery power.

"The Power Hawk® is smaller and easier to use than the Jaws," said Butler. "We are not taking any-

thing away from the Jaws tool, but the Power Hawk® can be put to use faster and easier and can do as much work without tiring the arms, shoulders and backs of your firemen."

After about 30 minutes of instruction from Butler, the firemen got into the act using the Power Hawk® on an old passenger van.

"I thought the tool worked super and it had a lot of power," said fireman Mark Kelley, who was the first to try his hand at using the device. "I think it is a very good tool."

The second fireman to get to use the tool was Frank Sellers, who used it on the rear doors of the van.

"I thought the tool was easy to use and I like the adjustability," said Sellers. "I think it would be nice to have one."

According to Gray, Power Hawks® were used at "Ground Zero" in New York after the 9/11 tragedy, and are now being used in Iraq by the U.S. military.

None of the volunteer fire departments in Choctaw County have one of the "Power Hawks®" yet, Gray said.

"All of the fireman liked what they saw," said Gray. I know that Birmingham, Montgomery and Daphne all have one or two of these tools."



Obituaries

John Norris Carney

GILBERTOWN — Services for John Norris Carney were held Feb. 19, 2007 at the Gilberttown Seventh Day Adventist Church in Gilberttown, with Rev. Clovis Lewis, Pastor Jamie Pembro, and Rick Hutchinson officiating. Interment was in the Gilberttown Cemetery.

Mr. Carney, who was 69, passed away at his home in Gilberttown on Feb. 17th.

The eldest of six children of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Carney, he was born on Dec. 11, 1937, in Toxey and chose to remain in Choctaw County to live with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wood Carney, when his parents moved away. He enjoyed being nearby and being close friends with his relatives, Glynn and Woody Carney.

He was affectionately called "Toss" by most of his school friends and family. He graduated in 1956 from Southern Choctaw High School, where he was a standout athlete — lettering in all varsity sports. When not playing some sport, he was a member of the S.C.H.S. Marching Chiefs Band. Norris is remembered by his classmates as being so very kind, polite, clean-cut, low-key, and handsome.

After high school, Norris joined the United States Marines Corps where he had an exemplary record. He remained patriotic to his country.

After returning home, he soon began his career with a company which most of us know as Georgia Pacific. He mar-

ried the former Jane Todd and they were the parents of one daughter, Tammy Rhee Carney, whom he idolized, adored, and who is a United States Navy veteran, herself.

Later, Norris was married to Jewell Clark Franks for over 30 years. They both worked and were active members of the Gilberttown Seventh Day Adventist Church. She retired after many years with the Choctaw Co. Board of Education, and Norris later retired from Georgia Pacific. He then, occasionally worked with Phillips Funeral Home and greatly enjoyed the work and his friendship with the owner and other workers.

He is survived by his wife Jewell Clark Carney, of Gilberttown; one daughter, Tammy Carney of Needham; one son, Robert Taylor Leftwitch (Ann) of Tuscaloosa; two step-sons, Donnie Franks (Brenda) of Gilberttown, and Ronnie Franks (Judy) of Silas; one step-daughter, Jan Franks of Gilberttown; three brothers, Donnell Carney of Meridian, MS, Terry Carney of Jackson, MS, and Jerry Carney of Meridian, MS; one sister, Sue Carney of Meridian, MS; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Johnny Edward and Margie Underwood Carney, and one brother, Juanell Carney.

Pallbearers were Will Lewis, Don Carney, Jr., Mike Loper, Isaac Johnson, Mike Hutchinson, Anthony Clark, Clark Carney, and John Michael Knowles.

Honorary pallbearers were Gaines Todd, Jimmy Frank Doggett, Don Griffith, Dean Lewis, Perry Dixon, Ramey Stokley, and the employees of Phillips Funeral Home.

Phillips Funeral Home in Gilberttown was in charge of the arrangements.

Arthur William Beard

GILBERTOWN — Services for Arthur William Beard were held Feb. 22, 2007 from the chapel of Phillips Funeral Home in Gilberttown with Rev. Michael Boutwell officiating. Interment was in the Barrytown Cemetery in Gilberttown.

Mr. Beard, 52, died Feb. 19 at Jeff Anderson Medical Center in Meridian, MS.

He was a member of the Chappell Hill Baptist Church and served in the Army National Guard for seven years.

Survivors include his wife, Sybil Abston Beard of Gilberttown; one son Greg (Karrie) Beard of Souwilpa; one daughter, Jennifer (Mike) Beard Thompson of Chappell Hill, and six grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his adoptive parents George and Connie Beard.

Pallbearers were Donnie Landress, Steve Landress, Scott Pickens, Gary Landress, Danny Brunner, and Ted Abston.

Honorary pallbearers were James Pickens, Roy Landress, James Abston, Don Abston, Joe Bozone, Billy May, Maurice Abston, Tony Abston, Shirley Pickens, Ben

Lewis, Nelline Landress, and Ruth Merchant.

Phillips Funeral Home in Gilberttown was in charge of arrangements.

Ronnie L. Mosley

NEEDHAM — Funeral services for Ronnie L. Mosley were held Feb. 21, 2007 at Shady Grove Assembly of God with Rev. Nate Ballard and Sis. Mae Jewel Moore officiating. Interment was in Shady Grove Cemetery near Butler.

Mr. Mosley, 50, died Feb. 19 at Jeff Anderson Medical Center in Meridian. He was a truck driver for Mid South Timber Harvesting.

Survivors include his wife, Angela Mosley of Needham; two sons, Ronnie Lewis Mosley, Jr. of Needham, and Tim Mosley of Foley; one stepson, Jonathan Adams of Needham; two daughters, Angela (Greg) Busby and Christina Mosley both of Needham; three brothers, Johnny Dale (Claire) Mosley of Mobile, Kenneth (Shelby) Mosley of Talladega, Bobby Mosley of Needham; two sisters, Jean (Truman) Sellers of Needham and Mary Ann (Lamar) Todd of Butler, and four grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Riley and Allie Busby Mosley of Butler.

Pallbearers were Michael Coody, Jason Allen, Claude Diamond, Claude Pearson, Johnny Hollingshead, and John David Pruitt. Honorary pallbearers were Matthew Mosley, Joshua Busby, Anthony Busby, Wesley Mosley, and Jonathan Adams.

Bumpers Funeral Home in Butler was in charge of arrangements.

Sun Country Calendar

There is no charge to list an upcoming non-profit or charitable event for your church, school, civic group, fire department, etc. Meetings of governmental entities may also be included. Send your announcement as far in advance as possible. Calendar items may be mailed, faxed, emailed, delivered in person to our offices in Butler or Gilberttown, or left in our drop box at The Country Corner in Butler.

Every Tuesday and Thursday
CHOCTAW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER After-School Programs, from 4-6 p.m. Adult computer classes every Tuesday, beginning Feb. 27.

Every Sunday
CHOCTAW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER hosts Choctaw vs. Marengo Basketball Shoot-Out, 2:30-5:30 p.m. Admission \$1.

Through Friday, March 2nd
BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM, Morning Star Baptist Church, Ala. Hwy. 17N, Butler, 7 p.m. each night. Sponsored by the Indian Springs Branch of the NAACP. Rev. O.L. Sealey President, Bro. Frank Rogers, Vice President.

Tuesday, Feb. 27th
PUBLIC MEETING FOR ALL INTERESTED IN CLEANING UP LITTER IN CHOCTAW COUNTY, 7 p.m., Old Buddies Restaurant, Butler. Elected officials, school administrators and teachers, pastors, youth leaders, business owners and other concerned citizens are encouraged to attend. Volunteers are needed to help plan a CLEAN UP CHOCTAW COUNTY WEEK which is planned for late March. *Your presence, participation and enthusiasm will be the keys to the success of this project.*

Wednesday, Feb. 28th
BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM at Choctaw County High School, 2 p.m. Rev. O.L. Sealey, guest speaker.

Sat., March 3rd and Sun., March 4th
CHOIR DAY, St. Thomas AME Zion Church, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. All choirs, groups and soloists are invited. Sis. Mary Law, Choir President, Rev. Charles Phillips, Pastor.

Saturday, March 3rd
RELAY FOR LIFE ROADBLOCK, Lismian. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

SPIRIT OF LUKE FOUNDATION, free medical screenings, free food, free medicine, free clothes! Games for the children! NO COST TO ANYONE. Gilberttown Sr. Citizens Nutrition Center, 10 a.m.

SINGING EXTRAVAGANZA, Slater C.M.E. Church, located on Slater Landing Road (off Ararat Road), 6 p.m. Fish and hotdogs will be served, everything is FREE. All groups, choirs and soloists are invited. Marjorie Bonds, Pastor.

HORSE SHOW, 1 p.m., Choctaw Co. Saddle Club Arena (three miles west of Butler on Hwy. 10) Butler. Timed events will start immediately following gaited and western classes. For more information call Dale Allen at 205-459-3245 or Pete Gibson at 251-843-5262.

Sunday, March 4th
ALABAMA NEW SOUTH COALITION of Choctaw County, 2007 meeting, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Yantley, 5 p.m. All members and non-members are invited.

FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH on Bobwhite Road in Silas is changing their service times. Beginning March 4, Sunday morning services will be held at 10 a.m. and Evangelistic services at 6:30 p.m. Thursday night Bible Study will remain at 7:30 p.m.

25th ANNUAL CHOIR DAY, Church of God Pentecostal, 1:30 p.m. Elder Sherwood Bradford will be the speaker. All choirs, groups and soloists are invited. Sis. Essie Ezell, Choir President.

Wed., March 7th – Sat., March 10th
MUSICAL CHOIR WORKSHOP, Gooden Hill Missionary Baptist Church, 6 p.m. nightly. The Workshop will climax with a concert on Saturday, March 10 at 6 p.m. The workshop presenter will be Kenneth Braxton, Minister of Music First Missionary Baptist Church, Biloxi, MS. Registration is \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth ages 5-18. For more information contact Essie Landrum (334) 736-4288 or Victor Johnson (205) 398-3037. Rev. Bobby Johnson, Pastor.

Thursday, March 8th
SILENT AUCTION AND GUMBO/POTATO SOUP SOCIAL GATHERING, A Secret Safe Place for Newborns 2nd Annual Fundraiser Auction, Gumbo Gathering. Sponsored by District Attorney Spencer B. Walker, Chatham Community Center, 6-8 p.m. Children are welcome. Call 251-847-2070 or 251-275-3144 to reserve tickets, or pick them up at First United Security Bank in Gilberttown. All donations of items for auction will be appreciated. Auction items will include trips, gift certificates, home decor and much more.

Friday, March 9th
CHOCTAW CO. ASSOCIATION OF VOL FIRE DEPARTMENTS, Butler Fire Hall, annual meeting to elect officers, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 10th
BENEFIT PROGRAM for Akeria and Janae Williams and Jeanifer Monghan, New Mt. Mariah M.B. Church, Nanafalia, 6 p.m. Rev. Alphonso Bowen, Pastor and Sis. Sheila Spears, Chairperson. CHOCTAW BOW HUNTERS, Relay For Life Bow Tournament, Gilberttown Bow Range, 10 a.m. All proceeds will go to Relay For Life. A \$15 entry fee is required for all entries. For more information or questions contact Janet Downey at 205-673-2253.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 11th. Remember to set your clocks, watches and other timed appliances FORWARD one hour before going to bed on Saturday evening, March 10th.

Now twice weekly, on TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS ... *The Choctaw Sun.*