

MIDWEEK

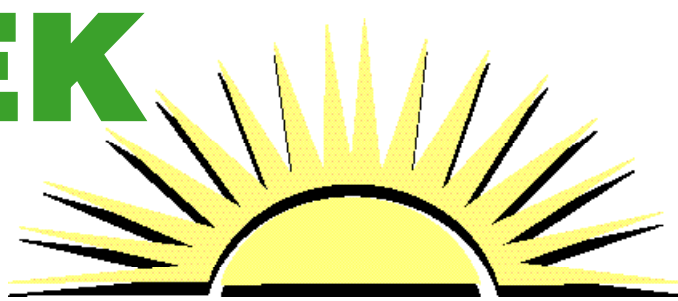
February 6, 2007

Our Fourth Year • No. 17
16 pages, 2 sections, 1 insert

Inside

- News & Events 2A
- Obituaries 5A
- Editorials/Opinions 6A
- Lifestyles 7A
- Sports 1B
- Education 7B
- Classifieds/Legals 9B

www.choctawsun.com
choctawsun@millry.net



The Choctaw Sun

Shining Brightly Over Southwest Alabama



Page 1B
SCA Girls are Area Champs

Pennington
Police Office
Jame
Johnsto

Choctaw Sun photo b
Dee Ann Campbe

Briefs

DA to print list of persons wanted for writing bad checks

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

GROVE HILL — District Attorney Spencer Walker has advised that beginning on Feb. 20th, his office will publish a list of names of all persons who have outstanding "bad" checks with the DA's Worthless Check Unit.

The only way to have a name removed from that list is for the person to take care of the amount due before that time.

All old and new warrants will be published, he said.

"There will be no agreements or extensions in these cases," Walker said.

BTAPC adds three more performances of *Smoke on the Mountain*

SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN will be presented by the Ballet and Theatre Arts Performing Companies; 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9th, and Saturday, Feb. 10th, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 11th.

Tickets are \$10 and on sale now at local banks and businesses.

You may also call 251-843-5138 for reservations.

Almanac

TUESDAY, FEB. 6

Sunny
Hi 63 • Lo 37
Rain chance 10%
Sunrise: 6:43 a.m.
Sunset: 5:32 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7

Sunny
Hi 68 • Lo 44
Rain chance 10%
Sunrise: 6:42 a.m.
Sunset: 5:33 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEB. 8

Partly cloudy
Hi 60 • Lo 39
Rain chance 10%
Sunrise: 6:41 a.m.
Sunset: 5:34 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 9

Mostly cloudy
Hi 55 • Lo 33
Rain chance 10%
Sunrise: 6:41 a.m.
Sunset: 5:35 p.m.

Landfill books to be audited

Independent CPA to go over finances; new Probate Judge D'Wayne May says he does not intend to allow landfill issue to continue to sit "dead in the water"

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

BUTLER — Financial records regarding the operation of the Choctaw Co. Regional Landfill will be voluntarily turned over for an independent audit that will be performed

on behalf of the Choctaw County Commission.

The Commission voted unanimously on Monday to call for an independent CPA to look at the records in an attempt to get the stalled landfill sale moving forward.

Probate Judge D'Wayne May said that

the landfill situation represents a challenge, and not necessarily a problem.

"We all know that there has to be a resolution to this challenge," he stated. "It needs to be resolved."

May said he understood that at some point last year, some of the commissioners had decided to take no action until after the 2006 elections when any new members were seated. May commented that he has had extensive discussions with County Attorney Lee McPhearson about the issue.

SEE LANDFILL, PAGE 3A



Choctaw Sun photo by Dan Melvin

Remembering the good 'ol days ...

Dr. John McCormack had 'em rolling in the aisles Saturday night at the annual banquet of the Choctaw County Cattleman's Association with his stories of life in Choctaw County in the mid-1960's, years that he spent here as the county's first "official" veterinarian. Dr. McCormack has since retired and spends his time writing books about his life a country vet. His latest book, "Santa Makes House Calls", is being well-received across the country.

Ridgeway replaces Heaton on EMS board

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

BUTLER — The Choctaw Co. Emergency Medical Services Board of Directors has a new member.

Callie Ridgeway was appointed Monday by the Choctaw Co. Commission to serve a six-year term on the board that governs the local ambulance service.

She replaces former board member Mirian Heaton whose term expired on Dec. 31st, 2006.

At the Feb. 5th meeting, Probate Judge D'Wayne May read a letter from J.W. Cowan, Jr., Executive Director of the EMS, asking that the board either reappoint Mrs. Heaton or another person of its choosing.

Commissioner C.D. "Budd" Ruffin nominated Ridgeway for the position.

Attorney Lee McPhearson, however, questioned whether Mrs. Heaton's appointment was made by the Commission or by the Town of Butler.

May advised him to leave the meeting and check on it.

When McPhearson returned, he reported that the EMS board's bylaws are not on file at the Courthouse, but that he called the EMS office and was told that the vacant position is, in fact, appointed by the Commission.

There are 13 directors in all, two of whom are appointed by the Commission; one each by the towns of Needham, Gilbertown, Toxey, Silas, Lisman and Pennington, and five by the Town of Butler.

The motion to appoint Ridgeway to the ambulance board was made by Commissioners Ruffin and Henry Lovette and passed unanimously.

Above-ground water lines causing problems

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

BUTLER — Persons who have water lines running on top of the ground on county rights-of-way may eventually have to take steps to cover those lines.

At Monday's meeting of the Choctaw County Commission, board members discussed the exposed water lines and residential water meters that are installed in ditches on county ROW, and agreed that something has to be done about the

problem.

"I've got some roads with water lines on top of the ground on both sides of road," Lovette said. "There is no way to work that road. We have broke four water lines since I have been commissioner. It costs \$50-\$60 or more to repair each line. I think we should work with them and give them time, but they need to move those lines and get them off the top of the ground."

In one case, Lovette said, water lines run along a county

road for almost one-quarter of a mile from the meter to the person's house.

"There are meters on the right-of-way, in ditches, they even run water lines through drain pipes and cut through drain pipes," Brown said. "I have places I can't 'ditch' because there's a meter sitting in the middle of the ditch."

Commissioner C.D. "Budd" Ruffin said he has the same problem in District Two.

"The utility companies should come and ask permission

before they install meters or water lines on the right-of-way," he said. "We also have cable companies that run lines without permission."

Brown said he has even found live electrical wiring running from a water well across county roads in his district.

There is no county-wide ordinance that deals with such problems but May suggested that the commissioners think about it and be prepared to discuss it in greater detail at next week's meeting.

Go
use

Magnolia Traditions
SHOP EARLY FOR VALENTINES!
NEW • Jewelry • Candy • Balloons & More
(251)843-2002 • Gilbertown, AL

Serenity Hospice Care *A Special Way of Caring*
206 S. Mulberry St.
Butler, AL 36904
205-459-4080 • Toll Free 1-877-843-4494 • serenityb@tds.net

YOUR Ad could be here..
Call Ashley for details
251-843-6397

Phillips Monument Company
Hwy. 17
Gilbertown
251-843-5290
Hwy. 17 - Millry
251-846-6200

Franklin Primary Health Center
Medical Care
8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mon-Fri.
Dr. Julian Fields
& Dr. Seba Mazumber
251-843-5537
Dental Care
7 a.m. - 6 p.m., Mon-Thur.
Dr. Andrea White & Dr. Alexander Coleman
Call about Sat. Dental Service.
251-843-2152

L&L Tile and Floor Coverings
Wide Selection of Flooring Available
FREE ESTIMATES SALES & SERVICE
1734 US 43
Demopolis, AL
334-289-9627

Choctaw Therapy Services
NEW ADDRESS!
1951 Riderwood Drive, Butler
(205) 459-7655
Physical therapy for all ages

New Russ Berens JUST ARRIVED! New Shipment of Candles just in time for Valentine's Day!
The Village Shoppe
Gilbertown

Caring Angels Hospice
Caring for the terminally ill and their families.
(251) 843-5355
Gilbertown